

Bee Improvement and Bee Breeders' Association

U.K registered charity number 273827

Trustees' Report for Year Ended 31st December 2007

Legal and Administrative details.

The Bee Improvement and Bee Breeders' Association is registered with The Charity Commissioners (No. 273827) and governed by Rules dated 27th April 1997. Its principal address is National Beekeeping Centre, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 2LG.

The Charity's working name is the Bee Improvement and Bee Breeders' Association known by the acronym BIBBA.

The Association's bankers are:- The Alliance and Leicester, Bootle, Merseyside, GIR 0AA and CafBank Ltd., POBox 289, West Malling, Kent ME19 4TA.

The Independent Examiners are Townends Accountants Limited.

Organisational Structure:- The Charity is administered by an Executive Committee (who are The Trustees) comprising Micheal Mac Giolla Coda (President) Brian Dennis (Chairman to November), Terry Clare (Chairman from December), John Hendrie, (Secretary – resigned November), Tom Robinson (Treasurer), Dr. Mervyn Eddie, Janet Hinchley, Richard Jackman, Brian Milward, and Dr. Dorian Pritchard. Additionally Committee members appointed by the British, Welsh, Scottish, Ulster and Irish National Bee Keeping Associations either attend committee meetings or correspond as full committee members.

Structure of the Organisation

BIBBA comprises an Central Committee with seven sub-committees: (a) Finance and General Purposes, (b) Membership, (c) Technical, (d) Education, (e) Media, Sales and Public Relations, (f) Groups and (g) Conferences. The Finance and General Purposes Committee comprises the Officers of BIBBA .

The sub-committees deal in detail with issues relating to subjects that they have been charged with and after scrutiny by the Finance & General Purposes Committee submit reports to the Central Committee for decisions to be made.

The Central Committee meets up to four times a year. The Charity has no paid employees and relies on the goodwill and voluntary work of members.

Charity Objectives: The objective of the charity as set out in its rules is "The Conservation, restoration, study, selection and improvement of native and near native honeybees in Britain and Ireland.

2.

The Trustees provide educational activities such as conferences, workshops, and seminars along with the publication of pamphlets, books and a magazine. Lectures are given to beekeeping organisations to encourage the formation of breeding groups working to breed and conserve the native bee.

As specialist members of the British Beekeepers' Association, BIBBA was represented at its Delegates' Meetings. Meetings of CONBA and various DEFRA meetings including the Annual Bee Health Meeting had BIBBA representatives.

The Association's main income is from members' subscriptions, sales of publications and donations from members and charitable trusts.

Activities during 2007

The Association had stands at the Welsh Beekeepers' Convention, the British Beekeepers' Association Spring Convention, the Kent Show, the Shrewsbury Show, the Scottish Beekeepers' Convention and The National Honey Show.

Two lectures were given at the National Honey Show as well as a lecture and workshops at the Federation of Irish Beekeeping Association's Summer Course in Gormaston. A workshop was held for Lancashire beekeepers plus lectures to local beekeepers in the UK and Ireland.

Membership as at 31st December 2007

Ordinary	320
Honorary	13
Life	33
Total	366

Technical

The survey of *Apis mellifera mellifera* was launched in April. This survey is being undertaken to locate pockets of near-pure native bees, with a view to supporting both conservation and improvement breeding. Its implementation was delayed due to protocol modification necessitated by scientific considerations.

A parallel and complimentary survey is being undertaken in the Republic of Ireland by the Galtee Breeding Group.

Plans for the future

It is planned to survey the honeybee population in the islands of the British Isles, to run workshops and to educate the members of the Association in good beekeeping husbandry.

Eleven workshops have been organised in England and the Republic of Ireland for 2008 plus a series of lectures including the BBKA Spring Convention and the Cambridge Conference.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities.

The Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare a financial statement for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing the statement, the trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently; making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees have the power to invest in such assets as they see fit. Monies not required for immediate running costs of the association are held in an interest bearing account at the Charities Aid Foundation in a CAF Bank account.

Signed on behalf of the trustees

Terence Edward Clare

Chairman

John David Hendrie

Secretary

24th February 2008.