

Secretary Report

Yet another year has passed with some new faces on the committee. This has brought fresh ideas for talks and this year we are hoping to have a wider, more environmental flavour for our talks.

Again in Spring we will have some face to face meetings and we have settled on Smailholm Hall as the best venue in terms of accessible facilities, parking, reasonably central venue- though with the spread of the Borders it is more central for some more than others- catering facilities and cost. The caretaker is very helpful and accommodating for our meetings.

This coming year the face to face Beginners course sessions will also be held there and to finish off the pre-Summer meetings we are fortunate to have one of our BBA members, Anne McClelland giving a talk on "A Beginners' Guide to Wax, Comb /Section Honey and Mead, Melomel and Honey Beers and Drinks" which we hope will inform members and help encourage more entries to the Honey Show. Anne did very well in the Honey Show in November 2023 which was also held in Smailholm Hall and was very well attended.

We managed a few Apiary visits last year and also a visit to the Chainbridge Honey Farm which was very well attended. Willie Robson from Chainbridge will be coming to Smailholm to give BBA a talk in April 2024.

As an association we attended the Education Day for schools at Kelso and also the Berwickshire Show where honey was sold as well as lots of information given to the public. I am always looking for volunteers to help at these events.

The Items for Sale webpage again did well last year and I will be continuing this going forwards. Anyone who has any items for sale please let me know and please check these pages if you are looking for any equipment.

Again, if any members have subjects for talks they would like to hear in the future, please get in touch with me at the e-mail address on the website – secretary@bordersbeekeepers.org

Fiona Hawke