

## 3

# The Scottish Beekeepers’ Association

### 3.1 Introduction

The Scottish Beekeepers’ Association is the National organisation of Beekeepers in Scotland. It provides the central focus for all our Local Beekeepers’ Associations and most of the rest of the information in this manual is intended to help you make use of the services it aims to provide to all beekeepers in Scotland. Not every member of the SBA belongs to a Local Association — some because no active Local Association is available to them, others because they choose to remain independent.

Nevertheless a large proportion of SBA members do belong to a Local Association and it is through their Local Associations that they can most easily access the services provided. As a Local Association Secretary it is therefore vital that you should become aware of what is on offer and that is what this chapter and the rest of the Manual aims to describe for you.

### 3.2 A Brief History

#### 3.2.1 The Founding of the Scottish Beekeepers’ Association

(Condensed from Mrs. Una A. Robertson’s article “*Bees, Books and Beekeepers*” in “*The Scottish Beekeeper*”, June 1993.)

The Minutes say: ‘THE SCOTTISH BEEKEEPERS’ ASSOCIATION was founded on the 25th. May 1912, to unite the beekeepers of Scotland, for their mutual benefit, in a national confederation and to promote, by the concerted action of its members, the extension and general advancement of beekeeping throughout the land.’ Twelve principal objectives were listed, which included readily-available lectures and expert advice for everyone, an annual show at “The Highland” where medals would be awarded, the extirpation of disease, the setting up of a library and the holding of exams — much of which continues to this day.

The impetus for a national association came from G. W. Avery, newly appointed Senior Lecturer in Beekeeping at the Edinburgh and East of Scotland College of Agriculture. A preliminary meeting was held there to discuss plans for such an organisation, which were well received and at a public meeting one month later the SBA was set up and its constitution drafted.

Two earlier attempts to establish something similar had both failed to survive. First in the field was, “The Caledonian Entomological and Apiarian Society” (C.E.A.S.) of 1874. The immediate cause

for this initiative, although other, longer term elements lay in the background, came from C. N. Abbott, the appliance dealer. He launched *The British Beekeepers' Journal*, the first British magazine of its type, on the 1st May 1873 and called for a great exhibition to promote beekeeping. In September the following year, 300 exhibits in 40 different classes were massed in London's Crystal Palace. Scottish honey, produced in Stewarton hives, proved a revelation and won the major prizes. The C.E.A.S. was founded the next month. In 1875 and 1876 exhibitions were mounted in Glasgow and at the then-peripatetic Highland Show thereafter.

The C.E.A.S. was formed as a national association but although it had many branches in the west it attracted no representatives from the east. Instead, a rival show was held in Dundee in 1876 which led to the setting up of the East of Scotland BKA and a great revival of the craft in the area. Its emphasis on humane beekeeping through modern methods was reflected in the early show schedules whereby classes for skeps and skep honey were soon replaced by others.

By 1889 the C.E.A.S. was unable to participate in the Highland Show, held that year at Melrose. Mr (later Sir) Thomas Gibson Carmichael of nearby Chiefswood staged his own exhibition and then, under his auspices, the first Scottish Beekeepers' Association was established on 8th April 1891. It had seven branch associations (but only one in the west) and 320 individual members, while many of its aims would be familiar today. A supply of lantern slides and beekeeping books were collected together. Sir Thomas resigned as Secretary in 1895, on becoming MP for Midlothian, and by 1898 the Association had dwindled although it was at this point that the SBA launched "*The Scottish Beekeeper*", a fortnightly magazine dealing with a wide range of topical issues. It ran for just over two years, then disappeared without warning. The Association also vanished.

Meantime G. W. Avery was in Cumberland, successfully transforming the beekeeping scene, in spite of foul brood and Isle of Wight disease and it was a sad day for beekeepers there when he was appointed to Edinburgh.

Although the initial response to the idea of a national organisation for Scotland was favourable, only a handful of individuals joined and Midlothian BKA (founded 1894) was the sole Local Association. An amended constitution replaced affiliation with federation. Membership soared. In 1916 Robert Steele (of Steele & Brodie) spoke of its "phenomenal success" — 1400 Members and 12 Associations and numbers increased rapidly thereafter.

One cannot have beekeepers without books, it seems. Both the previous national organisations had gathered together a supply of suitable material and in 1912, after the present SBA was formed, John Moir began collecting the books for the Library that now bears his name. SBA committees looked after Shows, Marketing, Education, Propaganda and the Library. Some years later a Ladies' Committee was added; examinations were introduced in 1917 with the Insurance scheme coming in 1924.

The latter was also the year of "*The Scottish Beekeeper*", the second of that name. The decision to publish was taken at the very end of May and the first issue was out by July! From that date on, evidence is plentiful regarding beekeeping activities, management methods and equipment, along with every other topic relating to the bee.

What of beekeeping itself since those early days? By 1912 the moveable frame was becoming commonplace. Equipment was recognisably the same as today's but there have, of course, been developments. Clover and heather provided the main sources of forage but others were raspberry, strawberry, wild mustard, fruits such as apple, currant and gooseberry, field beans (reckoned as poor), sycamore and lime. Interestingly, in the first magazine (July 1924) G. W. Avery wrote: "We have noticed that there is an increasing number of folks who keep bees in places such as city or suburban gardens, where there must seldom be any chance of a paying honey harvest. . .", but he conceded that such beekeepers might be "lessening the point of view of the city and the country dweller". Present-day agricultural practices might cause him to revise his opinion, while city parks and gardens have much to offer the beekeeper.

Since 1912 the SBA has been carrying out its fundamental objectives. Honey shows are held at local and national level. Excellence in beekeeping is rewarded; and Local Association meetings are a time for discussion and learning, whether at the winter lectures or the apiary outing. Two further

reasons to count our blessings lie in the Moir Library which is in good order, with well filled-shelves and new material coming in all the time and in *The Scottish Beekeeper* which continues to be 'instructive, educative and interesting'.

The SBA was founded at a time when apiaries were being devastated by Isle of Wight disease and beekeepers were demoralised. Council's first Report included the words: "Union is Strength: and Scotland needs a strong national beekeepers association to unite her beekeepers to secure the greatest possible advance . . . by training and working together . . . to our mutual advantage, and to present a united front to the ravages of bee diseases. Never was a strong central association so necessary as now, to co-ordinate the efforts that are so essential."

The words are as true today as they were when they were written.

### 3.2.2 John Moir and the SBA Library

(from an article by Mrs Una A. Robertson)

The Scottish Beekeepers' Association was established in 1912 and one of its principal aims was the founding of a library. It was due to the unremitting efforts of John William Moir that the S.B.A. now possesses one of the finest collections of beekeeping material in the world. His personal story is almost as remarkable as the collection that now bears his name.

Livingstone's adventures in Africa were an inspiration for many people of his generation. The cornerstones against the slave trade were seen to be the establishment of Christianity, together with the development of trade and agriculture and in 1877 John and Fred Moir went from Edinburgh to what later became Mozambique, as joint managers of the newly formed African Lakes Trading Company. Their aim was to create a route inland from Quilimene on the coast to Blantyre, Lake Nyasa and beyond, if practicable. They were to trade with the local people, set up permanent trading posts and assist in exploration.

Their years in Africa were full of drama, as Fred Moir recalled in his book aptly entitled, "After Livingstone". The first step was to create an alternative, easier route to convey ivory and other goods out of the country, so as to obviate the need for slave transport. Two hundred miles of mountainous country required surveying and sites bought for trading posts. New crops of rubber, tea and coffee were tried and in this respect it is worth noting that their first coffee plants were supplied by the Edinburgh Royal Botanic Garden. The brothers had to cope with disputes between native tribes, trouble from fellow settlers and animosity from rival colonial powers. In 1887 the Arab slavers, thwarted at every turn, decided on a showdown. The Karonga War lasted for over two years and, although both brothers were severely wounded, was totally successful.

John Moir settled in the Shiré Highlands and it was here that beekeeping entered his life as his crops required to be pollinated. In 1890 ill health required his return to Edinburgh but, once fit again, he entered enthusiastically into charitable work and beekeeping became his hobby. In 1912 he was an original Member and first Vice-Chairman of the SBA and in 1917 he was elected President.

In January 1913 he began collecting books on every aspect of beekeeping; not only the rare and old volumes as befitted the bibliophile, but also the latest manuals to assist the working beekeeper. The collection grew rapidly. There were 167 books in 1916, over 500 by 1925 and by 1933 the number had doubled again.

John Moir always intended to bequeath his books to the SBA and made arrangements so that they could be borrowed in his lifetime. In 1932 a Deed of Gift transferred the actual ownership of the collection to the SBA on certain conditions, but he himself continued as Librarian and kept the books in his own house in Polwarth Gardens. However, increasing age and infirmity caused a review of the situation and Edinburgh's Public Library agreed to house the collection in George IV Bridge if necessary. The books were transferred into their care in November 1939.

Items continue to be added, although not quite at the same rate as when Mr Moir was in charge! He was insatiable in his quest. Until 1931 every purchase was made from his own personal funds and at the outset he considered five shillings a fair price for any bee book — 25p today! He calculated that in the first nine years 497 bee books had cost £70 19/2 (about £70.96 in decimal currency). He estimated a like sum for the next nine years. So, the thousand books gifted to the SBA in 1932 had cost about £140.

Even at those prices he kept exhausting his resources. After the handover in 1932 he received £10 a year from the Edinburgh Public Library; he also set up a library fund to which he encouraged people to contribute. Still he overran his resources and more than one work eluded him because of lack of funds.

There were, however, many successes, thanks to his patience and determination. An early work, printed in 1637 was bought for £3 10/- (£3.50), which caused him much rejoicing. An old Latin text of 1525, beautifully printed and bound with leather, cost £1.50; while for another edition, in three volumes and bound in white parchment, he paid 75p although a London dealer was asking £18.50 for the same work! He waited 15 years for one particular volume and at the age of 86, said he was quite prepared to wait a further 15 years for another important work which was eluding him.

If funds were stretched to the limit, so was the space in which to house his collection. As purchases were made they were shelved according to size rather than on more recognisable methods of classification, with the result that four different editions of the same book might be found in four different locations. If John Moir had not had such an unfailing knowledge of his collection chaos might have ensued.

The Library continues to prosper and fresh material is added every year. Some books are purchased, others are donated. However they arrive, they cover every possible aspect that a beekeeper could possibly wish to know about and range all the way from lively biographies through to scientific papers containing the latest up-to-date information.

Equally wide-ranging in their scope are the pamphlets welcomed into the collection, while periodicals arrive monthly from countries world wide, wherever beekeeping flourishes.

The rarity/value of many of the books was realised. They were removed from the Moir Library Lending Collection and housed for safe keeping in the Rare Books Section of the Edinburgh Public Library, George IV Bridge. On 27th July 2000 the roof of the section which housed them collapsed during extreme weather causing disastrous damage to our books. The cost of repairing them was estimated at £26 000 and under the agreement with the EPL we were responsible for the repair. This was beyond the scope of the SBA. After negotiations with the National Library of Scotland the rare books were transferred on a long term loan into their care, while still remaining the property of the SBA. The National Library agreed to undertake conservation work on them during their own programme. Access to the books is governed by the NLS regulations which are reasonably easy to comply with.

The remainder of the Moir Library had previously been moved to the Fountainbridge Lending Library in 1993 and is still available to Members and indeed anyone with a serious interest in beekeeping.

### 3.3 CONSTITUTION, RULES AND STANDING ORDERS OF THE SCOTTISH BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

(AS AGREED IN 1970 AND AMENDED 1972/78/90 AND 99)

#### 1. NAME

The Association shall be entitled "The Scottish Beekeepers' Association" (SBA).

#### 2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Association shall be:

- (a) to promote beekeeping and encourage all interested in the art and science of beekeeping, stressing the benefits that beekeeping confers on agriculture and horticulture
- (b) to provide helpful educational facilities through:
  - i. the publication of a monthly magazine
  - ii. the maintenance of the Moir Library
  - iii. the publication of informative leaflets
  - iv. the promotion of community lectures
- (c) to conduct examinations in the science of apiculture and the art of beekeeping and in furtherance thereof but not otherwise
- (d) to provide Public Liability and Products Liability Insurance cover
- (e) to operate a Compensation Scheme
- (f) to provide advice on the detection and treatment of bee diseases

#### 3. MEMBERSHIP

The Association shall consist of:

- Full Members
- Family Members
- Life Members
- Affiliate Members
- Local Associations

- **Full Members**

Anyone may become a Full Member of the SBA on payment of the appropriate annual fee and shall be entitled to receive free copies of the Association's current publications, except any that may be exempted by the Executive Committee. Anyone who has not paid his/her fees by the 31st March will forfeit the benefits of membership. After 30th June new members may be enrolled for the remainder of the year on payment of a pro rata fee.

- **Family Members**

Family Membership shall be available to anyone who permanently resides in the household of a Full or Life Member of the Association, on payment of an individual fee to be fixed annually. Family Members will be entitled to all the rights of Full Membership except the right to receive free copies of the Association's current publications.

- **Affiliate Members**

An Affiliate is a member of a Local Association who has paid the Affiliation Fee to the SBA and is not a Full, Family or Life Member of the SBA. The Affiliate must have joined the Association prior to 31st December 1999. The Affiliate Membership Fee becomes due on 1st January each year and shall be paid direct to the SBA Membership Convener before the 31st March annually. Anyone failing to pay the Membership Fee by the 31st March will only be re-enrolled as a Full Member.

An Affiliate does not have direct access to the Moir Library but may gain access through the Local Association.

- **Life Members**

The Association as a mark of esteem may grant Life Membership. A Life Member will be entitled to free membership with whole rights of a Full Member.

- **Local Associations**

(a) Any association of beekeepers in Scotland may become a Local Association of the SBA on fulfillment of the following conditions:

- (i) acceptance of the Constitution and Rules of the SBA
- (ii) submission of its Constitution and Rules to the SBA for approval

(b) A Local Association may consist of Full, Family, Life and Affiliate Members of the SBA and Non-Members of the SBA and may levy its own fees. Non-Members of the SBA shall not be admitted into the Insurance and Compensation Schemes of the SBA nor have individual access to the Moir Library.

(c) In the event of a Local Association ceasing to function the SBA may, at the request of the Local Association, hold any funds and records on agreed terms.

(d) Local Associations are divided into Areas on a geographical basis, at present, North, East and West<sup>1</sup>. An Area Representative shall be elected from within each Area. The Executive Committee shall supervise the election.

#### 4. STRUCTURE

##### **President's Committee**

There shall be a President's Committee consisting of the President, Vice-President, Immediate Past President, General Secretary, Treasurer and Editor.

The President's Committee shall be empowered to act forthwith on matters of extreme urgency.

##### **Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee shall consist of:

- (a) the President's Committee plus their deputies or Assistants, if appointed
- (b) the Conveners of Standing Committees
- (c) the Representative from each Area

##### **Procedures**

- (a) the President shall not serve for more than three consecutive years
- (b) an Area Representative shall not serve for more than three consecutive years
- (c) five members of the Executive shall form a quorum and the members of the President's Committee shall be ex-officio members of all Standing Committees
- (d) the Executive shall meet as required and before each Council, AGM or EGM.

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<sup>1</sup>A separate Aberdeen area was added in 2003.

(e) the Executive shall implement all the decisions of the Council and transact all necessary business in the affairs of the Association

(f) the Executive shall appoint Conveners and Officers as they consider necessary from time to time, subject to their being confirmed at the next AGM.

#### **Council Meeting**

There shall be a Council consisting of:

(a) all Full, Family and Life Members of the SBA

(b) (i) the President or Secretary (or a deputy) of each Local Association

(ii) one additional representative for each fifty or part of fifty Affiliate Members of the SBA in the Local Association

(c) the Executive Committee

The Council shall meet in November and items for discussion must be in the hands of the Secretary by the end of September. The Council shall make decisions on general policy of the SBA.

#### **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

The Annual General Meeting of the SBA shall be in March. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted:

(a) the adoption of the minutes of the previous AGM and any business arising therefrom

(b) presentation of reports from the Secretary, Treasurer and Editor

(c) adoption of accounts and fixing of all fees for the ensuing year

(d) reports from Conveners, Officers and Area Representatives

(e) election of all Honorary Office Bearers and Office Bearers

(f) intimation of all Standing Committee Members appointed by the Executive

(g) business of which notice of motion has been received by the calling of the meeting

(h) any other competent business.

At the AGM all members of the Council shall be entitled to vote.

#### **Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM)**

Extraordinary General Meetings may be called on the instruction of the President or on written requisition of twenty members or of seven Local Associations. The notice calling an EGM must specify the business and no other business can be transacted at such a meeting.

Should a quorum of twenty not be obtained the cost of the meeting shall be borne by the members or Local Associations requesting such a meeting.

### **5. FINANCE**

The financial year shall end on the 31st December and audited accounts be presented at the AGM. The Auditor shall be appointed annually at the AGM. Membership Fees become due on the 1st January annually and must be paid by the 31st March to maintain membership.

Accounts, in the name of "The Scottish Beekeepers' Association", shall be maintained with banks and operated on as mandated by the Executive. Approval for permanent overdraft facilities must be obtained at a Council Meeting, AGM or EGM.

The Treasurer shall have overall responsibility for the financial affairs of the Association. No member of the Executive Committee shall bear any financial responsibility provided he/she has acted in good faith and in accordance with the Constitution. Surplus funds may be invested in the name of "The Scottish Beekeepers' Association" under advice of a licensed Financial Advisor and with the approval of the Executive Committee.

**6. POSTAL VOTE**

The Constitution may be altered only by a postal vote and then only if two thirds of those voting vote in favour. Any proposed change to the Constitution must first be considered by an EGM or Council Meeting. The changes must be quoted in full in the notice summoning the Meeting. They must be signed by not less than ten members and be received by the General Secretary by the 31st August. No alteration shall be made to the Association's Constitution which would have the effect of causing it to cease to be recognised as a Scottish Charity.

**7. DISSOLUTION**

If the Executive, by a majority, decide at any time that on the ground of expense or otherwise it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the Association, it shall call an EGM of which the relevant period of notice has been given stating the terms of the resolution to be proposed there at. If such a decision is confirmed by a majority of those members entitled to vote the Association shall be dissolved.

Any assets remaining after the settlement of such debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to such other charitable organisation or organisations having objects similar to the objects of the Association as the Executive may determine.

**RULES**

1. SBA Conventions shall be held at various centres throughout Scotland. The AGM and Council Meeting shall be held at Perth or at such other place, as the Executive shall decide.
2. The Association shall meet at such times as shall be decided by the Executive Committee. Notices of meetings shall be published in "The Scottish Beekeeper" for the month preceding that of the meeting and shall be considered good and sufficient notice.
3. (a) Voting at the Council Meeting, the AGM and any EGM shall be by:
  - i. Full, Life and Family Members on production of current Moir Library Cards
  - ii. Local Associations by Moir Library Cards provided to their Secretary.
- (b) On a vote by show of hands each voter shall have one vote, but if a card vote is called each voter shall have one vote for each card held.
- (c) In any division the Chairperson shall have a deliberative vote (or votes) and a casting vote.
- (d) A quorum shall be twenty.
- (e) Where a postal vote is required, a ballot paper shall be enclosed or printed in The Scottish Beekeeper. In addition a ballot paper shall be sent to each Family Member and to the Secretary of each Local Association there shall be sent one or more ballot papers (as justified by the number of its Affiliate Members). A postal voter shall have the same number of votes as under the rules of a card vote.
- (f) Completed ballot papers shall be valid only if:
  - i. the General Secretary or other designated officer receives them by the specified date
  - ii. those voting have paid the current year's subscription.
4. No Standing Committee shall exceed five in number, exclusive of ex-officio members, but such a Committee may co-opt temporarily any person.
5. Before each Executive Committee Meeting any Convener unable to attend shall provide the Secretary with a written report of the work of their particular committee since the previous Meeting.
6. Standing Committees (including ex-officio members) shall be summoned by the respective Conveners at such times and places as may be decided.

7. Reasonable travelling and subsistence expenses (including hotel expenses if necessary) of members of the Executive Committee to all meetings shall be, when claimed, a charge on the funds.

### STANDING ORDERS

1. No speaker shall speak for more than five minutes, except with permission from the Chairperson and or a majority of the voting members present.
2. No motion or amendment shall be spoken to except by the mover until it has been seconded and no other discussion shall take place on a motion unless or until any amendment is moved and seconded.
3. If there is more than one amendment to the original motion it shall be at the discretion of the Chairperson to put the amendments against one another and the final successful amendment against the motion. Order of voting shall be at the discretion of the Chairperson.
4. It shall be competent at the conclusion of any speech in support of a motion or amendment, other than that of mover or seconder of the motion or amendment, to move that the question be now put. Such a motion, if seconded, shall be put forthwith to the meeting and, if carried, the voting shall be taken after the mover of the motion shall have closed the debate.
5. It shall be competent at the conclusion of any speech to move without comment that the meeting proceed to the next business. If seconded this motion shall be put forthwith. If carried the question under discussion shall be considered as dropped.
6. Except the proposer of the motion, who may reply to the debate, no speaker shall speak more than once on any question except to answer questions or to explain, with the consent of the Chairperson, any point that has arisen. After the proposer of a motion shall have replied no other speaker shall be heard.
7. Standing orders can be suspended only by two-thirds of those present voting in favour.

Dated 6th November 1999.

As printed in "*The Scottish Beekeeper*", Feb. 2000, pp. 41–44.

## 3.4 Membership of the Scottish Beekeepers' Association

### 3.4.1 Contact

The Membership Convener, whose name is printed inside the front cover of each issue of *"The Scottish Beekeeper"*, and is also given later in the *Contacts* section of this Manual.

### 3.4.2 Types of membership

As stated earlier in the Constitution there are five different types of membership.

1. Full Member — someone who has paid the current Full Members' subscription to the SBA. Each Full Member receives a personal copy of *The Scottish Beekeeper* monthly by post. Those full members residing overseas pay a supplement to cover the additional cost of posting the magazine to them.
2. Family Member — any person residing in the household of a Full or Life Member who has paid the Family Member's subscription. The Family Member is entitled to full benefits of the SBA, except for a personal copy of the magazine.
3. Life Member — a person who has been given this honour by the SBA. It is only given in recognition of extraordinary services. A Life Member receives free membership of the SBA.
4. Affiliate Member — A member of a Local Association who has paid the Affiliation Fee to the SBA and is not a Full, Family or Life Member of the SBA. The Affiliate must have joined the Association prior to 31st December 1999. The Fee becomes due on 1st January each year and has to be paid direct to the SBA Membership Convener before 31st March annually. Anyone failing to pay the Affiliation Fee can only be re-enrolled as a Full SBA Member. An Affiliate qualifies for all benefits of the SBA apart from receiving the magazine and direct access to the Moir Library.
5. Local Association — This is the actual Local Association which is affiliated to the SBA. The Association receives one card for borrowing from the Moir Library, and a copy of the magazine by post every month, normally posted to the Local Secretary. An affiliated Local Association receives membership free.

In addition to members of the SBA, others also are sent *"The Scottish Beekeeper"* every month.

1. Libraries — Throughout Scotland and elsewhere libraries subscribe to receive copies of *"The Scottish Beekeeper"* for their reference departments. The Annual Subscription is equal to that for a full member, plus the appropriate additional charge to cover overseas postage for libraries overseas.
2. Free and Exchange subscriptions — The Moir Library receives copies of many beekeeping journals published throughout the world. Many of the publishers of these journals are prepared to send them to the Moir Library free of charge in exchange for our reciprocating by sending to them a free copy of *"The Scottish Beekeeper"*.
3. Copyright Library subscriptions — The law requires every publisher in the UK to supply to certain Copyright Libraries a free copy of every item published within the UK. In order to comply with this law, the SBA sends one free copy of the magazine each month to the British Library and another to the National Library of Scotland.

The amounts of the current subscriptions are given later in the *Current Information* section of this Manual.

### **3.4.3 New Members**

Every member of your Local Association should be encouraged to become a Full Member of the SBA. A supply of the SBA's Application for Membership is provided among the consumables supplied with this Manual, and will be renewed on request by the Membership Convener. If any change in the format of the Application Form makes it necessary, fresh supplies will be sent to all Local Association Secretaries. The form will also be available in .pdf format on the SBA's web-site

<http://www.scottishbeekeepers.org.uk>

### **3.4.4 Payment of Affiliation Fees**

These should be paid direct by the Affiliate to the SBA's Membership Convener.

### **3.4.5 Local Association Membership Records**

The SBA's Membership Convener, for statistical purposes only, will seek from you a return of your Local Associations Membership as at 31st December each year.

## 3.5 Prizes and Awards

The SBA has several funds laid aside specifically to provide for Prizes and Awards to those who are judged to have served some particular aspect of beekeeping in an outstanding manner.

Below are brief accounts of their origins, and of the terms under which the awards are made. Do note these carefully, and when your Local Association Committee meets, think whether someone in your Association might be worthy of one of these awards.

### 3.5.1 The Dr. John Anderson Memorial Award

John Anderson was born in Orkney and in 1905 graduated M.A., B.Sc., with distinction in zoology, from Aberdeen University. He became the science master at the Nicolson Institute in Stornoway. Evidence from his research projects on bees in 1913 established as untenable the theory sponsored by scientists at Cambridge that Nosema was the cause of Isle of Wight disease. This led the way for researchers at Aberdeen University to discover a tracheal mite as the probable real cause. In 1915 he became the first lecturer in beekeeping at the North of Scotland College. For a thesis on his "*Contributions to the Natural History of the Hive Bee*" he was awarded a Ph.D. by his alma mater in 1929. He retired in August 1938 and died in April 1939. He held many positions of great influence on Scottish beekeeping, including being President of the SBA in 1919 and Editor of the *Scottish Beekeeper* from 1926 until his death. In recognition of his valuable research work he was made a Fellow of the Apis Club, the forerunner of the International Bee Research Association and was appointed a Vice-President of the British Medical Association, an unusual distinction for a layman. He was a strong advocate of the large hive and was the originator of the 15 bar Glen hive.

Harry Anderson succeeded his father as Editor of "*The Scottish Beekeeper*". He wrote that much of his father's lasting popularity was due to the unique combination of a scientific background, a sound knowledge of practical beekeeping and the ability to expound both in the simplest possible way. Yet as an educator he often encountered violent opposition, probably because he was also a pioneer. "The more charitable thought him mistaken, the more dogmatic were incredulous and simply said he was a liar. Some of those in authority were even consumed with hatred and malice, yet he was immensely popular as a lecturer, both in England and Scotland. He stood up in front of an audience of beekeepers and told them that so much of the knowledge they had already was wrong, but he said it so charmingly that they were, if not convinced the first time, at least much entertained and they asked him back again and again".

The Dr. John Anderson Memorial Fund was raised by the SBA in recognition of his pioneer work for beekeeping generally over the years. The objects of the Fund shall be to stimulate education in beekeeping throughout Scotland, to further the work of research in practical beekeeping and to perpetuate the memory of the late Dr John Anderson. The appeal raised £250 of which £100 was given to his widow and family. The income from suitably investing the remaining £150 was "devoted to the provision of a prize, prizes or awards to Members or Affiliated Members of the SBA, in recognition of special work or service for the furtherance of beekeeping in Scotland and beyond."

Associations and Members are invited to nominate candidates in April and October, through a notice in "*The Scottish Beekeeper*". These nominations, with the reasons for making the nomination, should be lodged with the General Secretary by the 31st December. The Executive Committee will decide on the recipients at their next meeting. The decision of the Committee will be final and the award need not be presented every year. Presentation of the award will be made at the AGM of the SBA in March.

### 3.5.2 George Braithwaite Bequest

George Braithwaite was a very respected Expert Beemaster and Honey Judge from the East of Scotland Beekeepers Association. Mr Braithwaite was always keen on improving the standard of beekeeping and it

was to that end that the bequest was made. The bequest consisted of £5 000 to be used for Educational Purposes.

An obituary appeared in the February 2000 issue of "*The Scottish Beekeeper*".

### 3.5.3 Harry Brown Memorial Fund

Harry Brown was President from 1941–43 and General Secretary from 1960 until his death in 1963. His widow presented the SBA with £130. The income from this capital was to be used to stimulate interest in *The Scottish Beekeeper* and to provide awards for competitions held in the magazine. In recent years it has been awarded for the best article, series of articles or winner of a photographic competition, during the year.

The Executive Committee shall have complete jurisdiction over the administration of the Fund and allocation of prizes. Competitions need not be held each year and the prizes are not necessarily in cash. Intimation of prize winners shall be given in "*The Scottish Beekeeper*" magazine.

### 3.5.4 Dr. & Mrs. Tennant Memorial Fund

Dr. Tennant from Glasgow was President of the SBA from 1938–40 and received the Anderson Award in 1967. He succeeded John Moir as the Library Convener in 1941, an office he held until his death in 1967. This Fund came into being in February 1973, after the death of Mrs Tennant. The wills of the two benefactors stated that the bequests had to be invested in a Fund, the income of which had to be used for the benefit of the Moir Library. It was agreed with the family that it would be used primarily for the purchase of new books for the Library but could also be used to repair or bind valuable books already in the Library.

### 3.5.5 J. M. Fraser Memorial Fund

This Fund was donated by Mrs Fraser in memory of her husband and was established in 1976. Mr. and Mrs. Fraser came from Troon. The income from this fund is currently used to help finance the Lecture Tour.

### 3.5.6 A. J. Levy Memorial Fund

This Fund was donated by Mrs Levy in memory of her husband A. J. Levy who had been Secretary of the Inverness Association for many years and the Membership Convener of the SBA from 1977 until his death in 1983. In fact he started the system of reference numbers for members which has only been slightly modified to its present format with the advent of computers.

The Fund is for Senior Citizens who find it hard to meet the cost of the SBA's subscription.

### 3.5.7 Miss Margaret Logan Memorial Fund

Miss Logan was a Lecturer in Beekeeping at the North of Scotland College of Agriculture for over 30 years. Her area was from Inverness northwards. In 1950 with A. R. Cumming, a Past Secretary of the Inverness Association, she published the textbook "*Beekeeping — Craft and Hobby*". She received the Anderson Award in 1969. She died in 1973 and bequeathed £100 and all her bees, slides, films and equipment to the SBA and her library of books to the Moir Library.

### 3.5.8 Local Association Award

The Executive Committee offers this Award in recognition of outstanding service by a member to a Local Association. This Award is intended to complement the Anderson Award previously described.

Recipients will merit recognition because of the quality of their contribution to the operation of their Local Association and their active promotion of the art of beekeeping in the environment of that Association.

They must have been members of the Association for not less than 10 years.

Local Associations will be invited to nominate candidates in September, through a notice in "*The Scottish Beekeeper*". These nominations, with the reasons for making the nomination, should be lodged with the General Secretary by 31st December. The Executive Committee will decide on the recipients at their next meeting. The decision of the Committee will be final and the awards need not be presented every year. Presentation of the awards will be made at the AGM of the SBA in March.