



## BSWI MONTHLY REPORT

6 FEBRUARY 2025



### INTRODUCTION

The February meeting was held at our new venue in St Michael's Hall at the Windhill Churches Centre. The President welcomed 38 members and one guest and explained the Health and Safety regulations. She introduced the evening's speaker Karen Davis.

### BEEKEEPING

Karen has been keeping bees locally for only a few years and has experienced a steep learning curve in her understanding of all aspects of beekeeping. She inherited her first hive from a local allotment and explained how she had to learn from scratch with the feeling that she had no idea what she was doing!

There were several amusing anecdotes of her early months and she described the workings of her colonies and the roles of the queen, the drones and the worker bees. She identified the dangers of the Asian hornet pest which needs to be eradicated in the UK and answered many questions from our members who were interested in the amazing lifecycle of these bees and how Karen developed her enthusiasm for this hobby.

The President thanked Karen for an interesting and entertaining talk and asked members to buy her jars of honey for sale.

### NOTICES

Members were asked to sign up for various forthcoming activities, the £ in the bucket raffle was drawn, birthday cards were distributed and raffle tickets for the Quiz raffle were also on sale. The Valentine's competition was won with a beautiful heart shaped cake by Sally Marriott.

The President then explained the concerns of the Committee about the future of BSWI once again. Several members of the current Committee have served for some years and would like to stand down and she does not wish to continue as president. Serving on the Committee is all about teamwork but new blood with fresh ideas is needed for next year. The new membership fees of £51 are due soon but if new officers cannot be found then BSWI may be forced to close.

The next meeting will be on 6 March when Suzi Clark will talk about her Eventful Life.

(Notes compiled by Barbara Bradbear, Secretary BSWI)