

# Meet Our Team...

Small but mighty, with our strength being 'family'.



## Emma Thompson, Beekeeper, Founder & Managing Director. 45y/o (2024)

Emma founded, what is known today as Bee Haven Bodycare, in 2018 after discovering a cure for her acne that plagued her from a young teenager until her late 30's.

5 years prior to that discovery her obsession with honeybees and their behaviour began. After eating raw honey, for the first time (again to try to help her acne by eating probiotic foods), she randomly googled 'how is honey made?'. That internet search was to change her life.

Struggling with her skin, and now a hobby beekeeper with a few hives, she decided to use the honey and beeswax she had to make a balm and the results were astounding. You can read the full story here: [HOME PAGE > SKINCARE MAGAZINE COLUMN > MY ACNE RECOVERY STORY.](#)

Emma handmakes over 250 certified, unique skin and body care products which are not only sold in their retail shop in Ballygowan, Northern Ireland, but also shipped all over the world.

She shares her day to day beekeeping, soap making, skin care manufacturing and shopkeeping journey on her social media channels to an audience of over 120k [@missbeehaven123](#) (Insta, Tiktok, Facebook & Youtube)



## Brooke, Finance & Compliance Director. 28y/o (2024)

Brooke (Emma's daughter) joined the family business in 2022 when the brand had grown beyond the ability of Emma on her own. Luckily Brooke had studied Finance and Business Management in University and also had experience with a large, local brand, so was able to input new operating systems which made the whole business run more efficiently. Brooke is also responsible for:

- Banking & Finance (Sage)
- Cosmetic Compliance & Portals
- Customer Service Queries
- Website Operations
- Making Bee Haven's Perfumes
- Picking and Packing Orders
- Running the shop with Emma
- Keeping Emma in-line :)



Brooke is a vital spoke in the 'Bee Haven wheel', as you can see from her long list of duties (the last being the toughest), nothing would happen without her!

Emma still hopes to get her into a bee-suit one day, however due to her crippling fear of bees and wasps this is not likely to happen any time soon.



## David, Beekeeper 72y/o (2024)

David helps to tend to the Bee Haven hives alongside his daughter Emma. David was a late-comer to beekeeping, only undertaking the hobby when Emma's interest in bees peaked. They both attended a beekeeping course together and have not looked back since. David specialises in the engineering side of beekeeping by coming up with unique solutions to problems and also building all of the hives, equipment and stands. David also helps in the shop by delivering all of the local 'doorstep-deliveries'. You may have met him at your front door already!

## The Bee Haven BEE'S!

As ethical beekeepers Bee Haven only take beeswax and honey that the bees themselves do not need. Using 100% of this in their skin and bodycare products.

They prefer not to clip the Queen Bee's wings, and interfere with the natural balance of the colony as little as possible.

Emma and David tend to approx 14 hives (that number can change from year to year).

They keep Native Irish Black Honeybees and their main apiary is in a re-wilded landfill site in County Down, Northern Ireland. They also have colonies on an island in the middle of a private wetland, known as Bee Island.

Together they breed, and rear, their own native Queen bees (known as Queen Rearing). A complicated, but fun, addition to the usual beekeeping tasks. Queen Rearing native species not only helps to replenish and grow their own stock, but also helps the numbers of Ireland's native bee which is sadly in decline.

They are truly blessed to feel so connected to nature.

