

SALISBURY & DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
(S&DBKA)

PROSPECTUS 2017/18

Introduction

Every Beekeeper wants healthy and productive bees. Many have been beekeeping for years and have built up a wealth of knowledge and skills; others learn from books or from watching the more experienced.

All beekeepers have felt the effect of the Varroa parasite, which can wipe out complete colonies. It is here to stay and can only be controlled by beekeepers working together.

Less than half of all beekeepers actually belong to their local Association. Assuming this applies also to the Salisbury area, this is a considerable waste of experience & knowledge.

What are the benefits of joining the Salisbury & District Beekeepers Association?

Periodic Meetings

***Summer.** On certain weekends between May and July we hold outdoor apiary meetings at selected members' apiaries where techniques are explained. This is an opportunity for beginners to handle bees under guidance. You can see how others run their apiaries & learn some tips.*

***Winter.** At 7:30 pm on the third Wednesday evening of each month between October & March we hold a Members' meeting, when invited external lecturers and S&DBKA members speak and demonstrate aspects of beekeeping. This is followed by refreshments when you can talk to fellow members.*

***Training.** We run a series of practical meetings in the Spring for new and experienced keepers as well as theory and practical classes for those wishing to take the BBKA Basic Exam.*

***Newsheet/Website.** We post periodic updates on our activities and forthcoming events to members on our website at www.salisburybka.co.uk and publish a Newsletter approximately every two months.*

***Automatic Affiliation** to the British Beekeepers Association (BBKA). The BBKA produces a newsletter on a monthly basis which tells us what is happening at national level and gives advice on beekeeping techniques.*

***Automatic Indemnity and BDI Insurance.** £5M of public and product liability insurance cover. This offers security for Full members in these increasingly litigious times for accidents arising out of beekeeping activities. Plus, automatic bee disease insurance for your first 3 colonies should*

your hives and colonies have to be destroyed through contracting American or European Foul Brood. There is a small premium for additional colonies.

***Loan of Books, Videos & Equipment.** Free use of our comprehensive book (more than 150), video and DVD library, wax melters, honey extractors and other equipment.*

***The Annual General Meeting.** The AGM gives a chance to hear a review of the past year, and elect the committee for the next year. We usually follow the AGM with a Members' meeting at which Members are invited to talk on subjects having wide appeal.*

***Swarm Collection** When requested, our Swarm Officer can inform you when members of the public report seeing swarms to him. Collected swarms may also be made available to members for a small donation..*

These are just the tangible benefits; there is also the friendship of those with a common interest in bees whether expert or beginner, with or without their own colonies.

What does it cost to enjoy all these benefits?

Our annual subscription runs from 1st October and is currently £26.00 for a Full Member & £5.00 for an Associate Member (without colonies), who does not enjoy all the benefits of Full Membership. Juniors in full-time education are free.

What do I do if I want to join?

Speak to any member of the Salisbury & District Beekeepers Association, to whoever gave you this leaflet, or to the Membership Secretary who will invite you along to one of our meetings. Details are held by: