BEEKEEPING FOR BEGINNERS Somerset Beekeepers Association - Central Division

*An introduction to the honey bee and its life cycle, beekeeping, equipment, pests, diseases and colony management.*

**Location:** Whitstone School, Shepton Mallet, BA4 5PF

**Dates:** Theory course - six Wednesday evenings – 7:30 – 9:00pm

02/03/22, 09/03/22, 16/03/22, 23/03/22, 30/03/22, 06/04/22

Dates for practical apiary-based sessions TBC.

**Cost:** £40

* Numbers are limited to a maximum of 30 participants.
* Associate membership of Central Division SBKA for 2022 is included in the fee.
* We can only refund fees paid in advance if we are able to resell your place.
* Book early to avoid disappointment!

Please fill in the form below and return to: lingauthier@gmail.com

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| Beekeeping for Beginners Course Registration Form |
| Name |       |
| Email address |       |
| Phone number |       |
| Address (including postcode) |       |
| Do you currently have any hives? | Yes [ ]  No [ ]  |
| Date payment made on-line |       |

To secure your place, please pay £40 per participant on-line to **SBKA Central Division**; **CAF Bank**; Sort code **405240**; a/c **00013248**; reference **course**.

If you have any questions about the course, or are unable to pay on-line, please contact Lin Gauthier on the email address above.

Beekeeping for Beginners – Course Outline

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| **Session 1 - Introduction*** What is a honeybee?
* A beekeeper has to …
* Why keep bees?
* How much time will it take?
* How much will it cost?
* Will I get stung?
 | **Session 2 - About the Bees*** The castes
* Honeybee Anatomy
* The life cycle of the individual
* The life cycle of the colony
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| **Session 3 – Equipment*** Which hive?
* Frames and Foundation
* Hive Stands
* Apiary Siting and Layout
 | **Session 4 - Principles of Bee Handling*** Basic rules
* Personal requirements
* Tools of the trade
* Opening the hive
* What to look for
* Swarming
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| **Session 5 - Bee Forage and Honey*** Bee forage
* Honey production
* Harvesting the crop
* Extracting and extractors
* Preparation for winter
 | **Session 6 - Diseases, Pests, Predators and General Recap*** Diseases
* Pests and predators
* Veterinary Medicines Regulations
* General recap and open forum
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| **Practical Course and typical Central Division’s summer programme*** + - Assembling Frames and Hives
		- Meeting a few thousand bees
		- Swarm Prevention & Control
		- Making a Nucleus
		- Queen Marking
		- Clearing the Supers
		- Honey Extraction
		- Feeding & Treating
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