



## ***An introduction to Beekeeping with Stowmarket Beekeepers 2021***

If you are interested in becoming a beekeeper, and live in the Stowmarket area, then this is definitely the course for you.

Our expert beekeepers will take you through the basic understanding of bees and beekeeping and introduce you to the skills and equipment you will need to get started.

We start with evening courses with presentations, discussions and a chance for you to ask questions. It is possible that due to the Covid19 pandemic, classes next year will be held online. Following that, usually in May, we hold Sunday morning practical sessions each covering a different practical beekeeping skill. You will have the opportunity to open up hives, and handle bees. This is all subject to the regulations related to the pandemic at the time.

**Dates for our 2021 course are:**

-  **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7.00pm**
-  **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.00pm**
-  **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.00pm**
-  **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.00pm**

**If we are able to meet in a class, we usually use a hall at Red Gables in Stowmarket.**

Topics covered are beekeeping equipment, types of hives and best locations, lifecycle of the honeybee, the beekeepers calendar, honeybee products, stings, swarms, diseases and hive manipulation.

**The practical sessions will follow at member's apiaries on Sunday mornings in May 2021 at 10.30am, weather permitting. Dates to be confirmed.**

The course is run at the very beginning of the beekeeping year to set you up with the knowledge and skills you will need to start beekeeping effectively in the 2021 season. We will provide you with a free copy of one of the top beekeeping handbooks to take away from the course.

The fee for the course is £55 per person and there are 20 places available. The full fee is required to secure your place.

It is recommended that participants on the course join Stowmarket Beekeepers Association for the 2021 season. Currently the annual fee (from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021) is £26 with a reduction for a second member at the same address. This includes insurance cover for up to 3 hives in case of bee disease and public liability insurance. You will also receive a monthly magazine and be able to attend informative meetings held by the Club and any beekeeping clubs in Suffolk. A full explanation can be found on the Club website.

[www.stowmarketbeekeepers.co.uk](http://www.stowmarketbeekeepers.co.uk)

If you have any questions about the course or wish to reserve your place please email the address below and we will send you the club's bank details.

[sdbka.training@gmail.com](mailto:sdbka.training@gmail.com)