



## BEEKEEPING WEEKEND COURSES FOR BEGINNERS 2017

*One to be held at Swanley Grange, Fountains Abbey, near Ripon and the other at RHS Harlow Gardens Harrogate*

If you have decided that you would like to keep bees, or if you would like some more detailed information before committing yourself then this course is a good place to start. This two day course over a single weekend is intended to provide adults or young people (age 16+) with a more detailed insight into bees and beekeeping than can be achieved in our one day Taster Course. There will be talks, demonstrations and as much practical beekeeping as time and weather allow. In addition the course will include material on bee biology, beekeeping equipment, swarming, apiary sites, forage, diseases and honey extraction and other hive products .

If the course convinces you that you want to keep bees then the level of information should enable you to start at once, with assistance from an experienced beekeeper as a mentor. We would recommend that you join your local Beekeeping Association (search the Internet for details), who should be able to provide a suitable person to help you. Alternatively, if at the end of the Course you feel that you would like a more extensive understanding of bees and beekeeping before you start, then you will be well equipped to take a more in-depth course with an improved level of understanding.

Each day will commence at 10.00 am and run through until about 5.00 pm. Coffee and tea refreshments and lunch will be provided on both days. Protective jackets and gloves will be provided on loan and you will need loose fitting trousers and Wellington boots or stout walking shoes/boots.

In 2017 one course will be held on the weekends of the 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> June in the classroom at the Swanley Grange buildings on the National Trust's Fountains Abbey site and a second Course will be held on the weekends of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of July in a classroom in the Learning Centre at the RHS Gardens at Harlow Carr Harrogate. Each course will use honeybee colonies in nearby apiaries belonging to the Beekeeping Association.

The course fee of £90 covers the cost of tuition, clothing hire, coffee and tea, and a light lunch on both days,.

To apply for a place on this course please complete the Application form below and return it with your cheque for £90 (payable to HRBKA) to:

**Anne Saul, HRBKA Course Bookings Administrator, 48 Hollins Lane, Hampsthwaite, Harrogate HG3 2EG.**

*Places are allocated on a first come first served basis.*

**PTO for further information**

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### APPLICATION FORM FOR WEEKEND BEEKEEPING COURSE 2017

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Post code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to apply for the **Weekend Beekeeping Course** on:

**June 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> 2017 at Fountains Abbey**  **OR July 1<sup>st</sup> /2<sup>nd</sup> 2017 at RHS Harlow Carr**   
(please tick the appropriate box)

**I enclose a cheque for £90.00 made payable to HRBKA.**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

To help us improve our marketing, can you please indicate how you found out about the course?

You will be notified as soon as possible to confirm that your name is on the course list, and joining instructions will be sent nearer the time.

Further information on the course can be obtained by e-mail [hartrandj@gmail.com](mailto:hartrandj@gmail.com), or by contacting Judith Hart on 01423 865873.

### **Beekeeping Information.**

Beekeeping has increased greatly in popularity in recent years. There are over 25,000 beekeepers in England and Wales belonging to independent Beekeeping Associations that are in turn affiliated to the British Beekeepers Association..

If you live in or near the Harrogate District then the Harrogate and Ripon Beekeepers Association is recommended and can be contacted at [www.hrbka.org.uk](http://www.hrbka.org.uk), Alternatively you may prefer to contact the Association's Hon. Secretary, Grace Dunlop by email at [secretary@hrbka.org.uk](mailto:secretary@hrbka.org.uk)



**Hands on beekeeping at a Course**

This Association runs an excellent Long Course for Beginners starting in January each year. This long course will give you a great deal of knowledge and practical experience of beekeeping and is an excellent follow on from a Weekend Course if you decide that you would like to take up beekeeping as a pastime and to learn much more about it.

Harrogate and Ripon Beekeepers Association was founded in 1921 and currently has an overall membership of over 460. The Association provides stands promoting beekeeping at a number of large Shows and events in and around the Harrogate District every year. It also provides a range of meetings and courses enabling beekeepers to improve and develop their skills further.

Beekeepers of today are joining a long tradition, as human beings have kept bees in hives (of various sorts) for well over 6,000 years, and honey harvesting probably goes back to the very dawn of human development.



**Weekend Course in the apiary**