

Rent-a-hive is another practical event where new beekeepers borrow a colony of bees for the season at our 'state of the art' Apiary in Durleigh. There is then the option of returning the bees or buying them. Full support is given by experienced beekeepers.

The Teaching Apiary at Brymore School is used and maintained by us in return for helping with their Bee Club.

The Spiller House Apiary has been one of our projects. A 60 year old House Apiary has been donated, restored and erected at the New Apiary.

Regular beginners courses in the Autumn and Winter to prepare for starting to keep bees in the Spring.

Learn how to keep bees well, safely and enjoy learning with each other. Most of our activities are free to members.

Everyone has started from knowing nothing about beekeeping

We aim to use gentle bees so that beginners start the craft with confidence.

There are about 90 Full members and 45 Associate members.

For more information contact the secretary on 01278 671544, on line at

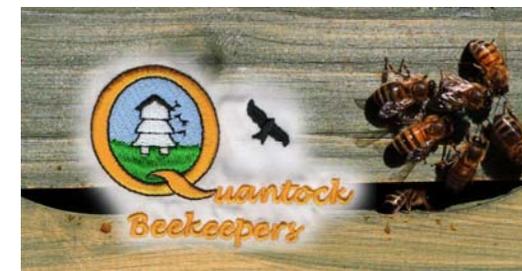
[*ken@bush-cottage.freeserve.co.uk*](mailto:ken@bush-cottage.freeserve.co.uk)

or

Quantock Beekeepers at
[*www.somersetbeekeepers.org.uk*](http://www.somersetbeekeepers.org.uk)

We often host visits from organisations – such as Schools, Beekeepers, Womens Institute, Young Farmers, Conservation groups and other like minded people.

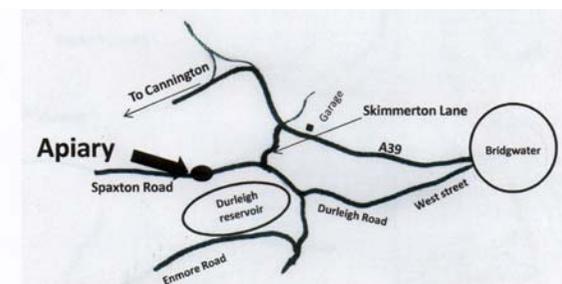
If there were no beekeepers there would be no honeybees!



Would you like to keep bees ?

Make friends with others who enjoy the craft of beekeeping in the Quantocks.

On the Spaxton Road, 500 metres from Skimmerton Lane. TA5 2NU



Quantock Beekeepers Spaxton Road Apiary TA5 2NU
Map ref 51.07.38.75 N – 3.03.08.39 W

Our new Apiary at Durlleigh has features that provide an ideal setting to learn about bees: an 'all weather' sheltered teaching colony, an acre of landscaped wild flower area, bees in a tree, a wildlife pool, excellent access and parking.

The development of our Apiary is the subject of a documentary by 'The Engine Room' in Bridgwater and can be seen on YouTube with the title 'Quantock Beekeepers New Apiary, parts 1 & 2'.

Winter Courses are run by experienced beekeepers for beginners and improvers. Usually in 6 week blocks.

Practical courses are run by us at our new Apiary during the Spring and early Summer.

Veils and protective clothing are on loan and always available at our practical sessions

Support and advice is on offer so that the difficulties of beekeeping can be kept at a minimum.

Sentinel Apiary We are part of the 'Fera' programme to monitor exotic pests and bee disease.

Microscopy We have a number of sets of microscopes (with wifi) and equipment that can be used to explore pollen, bee anatomy, honey analysis and bee disease.

Honey handling equipment can be expensive - so we lend it. Thanks to grants from the QAO&NB we have a full range of equipment for members to borrow usually free or at a minimal charge.

An extensive Library provides for the loan of bee books free to members. The full list of titles is on the website.

Apiary meetings at members' apiaries are some of the regular social events, others include quiz nights, skittles and more.

Public events are attended by Quantock Beekeepers, such as the Wild Wednesday at Fyne Court,

Teddy Bears Picnic, The Wysteria Festival, Brymore School Open Day, and the Bridgwater Flower Show.

Bee Diseases can be diagnosed and we run sessions to help members to recognise and combat them.

Varroa is a parasite that is in all colonies in the UK. We run special sessions to ensure that the varroa can be controlled with effective methods. Because of varroa, honeybee colonies can only survive in the wild for about 3 years in the UK.

Specialist days are on offer on bee breeding, increase, swarm control, honey handling, microscopy and husbandry.

Insurance is important so membership includes public liability cover.