



# StroudBeekeepers

supporting beekeeping in the five valleys

## Beginners Beekeeping Course

Date	Topic	Leader
Week 1	<b>Introduction</b> Introduction to the course, the branch Starting beekeeping (Branch apiary for first year, getting bees and equipment, taking the Basic exam) Importance of beekeeping Video Beekeeping in UK Wasps, bees, hornets, honeybee races	
Week 2	<b>Honeybees</b> Queens, workers, drones The colony Eggs, larvae, pupae - brood Division of labour in hive Lifecycles Swarming, supersedure, queen cells Basic anatomy	
Week 3	<b>Equipment</b> Clothing Hives Hive tools Smokers Brood chambers, supers, queen excluders, floors, roofs Frames Setting up an apiary, sources of bees and equipment	
Week 4	<b>Managing the colony</b> Why manage bees? Swarming, swarm control - swarm cells Artificial swarm Finding marking queen Concepts of queen rearing Controlling varroa Integrated pest management Mice, woodpeckers etc Brood diseases (in brief)	
Week 5	<b>The beekeeping year</b> <div> <div>           Spring            - colony build up            - inspections            - record keeping            Summer            - supering            - honey extraction         </div> <div>           Autumn            - treatment            - feeding            - supersedure cells            Winter            - preparing for winter            - the colony in winter         </div> </div>	