

Founded
1881



Re-established
1919

CORNWALL BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

(Cowethas Gwythysy Gwenyn Kernow)

An Area Association Member of the BBKA

Charity number 298470

www.cbka.co.uk

Cornwall Beekeepers' Association (CBKA) 2026 Membership Application / Renewal Information

Introduction

As a new or existing member planning your membership, we look forward to welcoming you to the Cornwall Beekeepers' Association (CBKA) for the 2026 season.

The CBKA is a registered charity whose aims are to promote, sustain and increase individual and collective knowledge of apiculture in the County of Cornwall. They will;

- a) Promote and further the craft of beekeeping, by educating beekeepers and prospective beekeepers in apiculture;
- b) Advance the education of the public in the importance of the honey bee in the environment.

We regularly exhibit at the main agricultural shows in the Duchy and receive a great reception from the general public.

Our education programme continues through our own meetings and events, attended primarily by members of the CBKA but also open to members of the public who are interested in joining. We hope that this encourages more people to take up the craft who will then attend regularly and then join and support the CBKA.

At group meetings of the CBKA a wide range of topics are covered – in the winter these tend to be an opportunity to learn new techniques, about new threats or opportunities and to exchange views. You are free to attend any CBKA group events as you wish in addition to your own local one.

In the warmer months these may take place in group or member's apiaries where you are able to "have a go" and gain practical experience and share knowledge. More experienced beekeepers are able to pass on their knowledge and it gives new members a great forum to try out handling bees and to ask questions.

Full members of the CBKA automatically become "Registered" members of the British Beekeeping Association (BBKA) and receive additional benefits, which include:

- Information and advice on beekeeping
- Public and Product Liability Insurance
- The BBKA news magazines
- Access to Beekeeping Examinations to the highest level
- Representation at a National and International level
- Annual Spring Convention and Exhibition
- Audio Visual Aids and Slide Libraries
- Bee Disease Insurance through BDI Ltd
- BBKA Education and Training resources

CBKA members additionally get a copy of our own **Gwenyn Kernow Magazine** – a great publication sent direct to your mailbox every month which has details of news and events across CBKA and other great articles.

Subsidised Rates for Magazine Subscriptions

Beekeepers' Quarterly

These magazines are full of useful information including beekeeping hints and tips. They often include articles on the testing of equipment, research findings and disease and predator news and are valued by our members as useful resources to keep up to date with the latest national and international bee news.

We have negotiated special annual subscription rates for our members, and they are available in either magazine (£25) or online (£15) formats.

Just opt in, or out, on your joining link.

Please note that applications must have been received by 31st January 2026 to take advantage of these discounted subscription rates. Subscriptions are all for 12 months.

BeeCraft Magazine

BeeCraft Subscriptions are now managed directly by BeeCraft.

If you currently subscribe you will receive communications direct from them to renew.

If you wish to subscribe for the first time, then you will find a special promotion code on your membership receipt when you join or renew, so that you can manage this yourself via the BeeCraft website.

You can also set up Direct Debit Payments ensuring that your BeeCraft subscription renews automatically and receiving an even greater discount.

Bee Disease Insurance (BDI)

CBKA Full membership automatically includes BDI cover for your first 3 colonies.

Please note the terms of the Insurance below:

For new or renewal subscriptions after 31st January 2026 a 40-day waiting period from your application exists before cover is effective.

“Where, at the time of an inspection by a duly authorized Bee Inspector, the number of colonies managed exceeds the number of colonies for which the premium has been paid, no cover will apply under this policy. (When determining the number of colonies to insure potential increase must be taken into consideration)”.

Members must therefore indicate on the membership form the number of colonies they are likely to be operating during the membership year, including nucleus colonies. Additional insurance is available. It is advisable for members to insure for one level above the level operated at the start of the year. It is the responsibility of the member to predict the number of colonies likely to be operated throughout the season.

Additional BDI Premium Rates for 2026 – unchanged since 2023

Anticipated Number of Colonies	Premium
1 to 3	Included
4 to 5	£1.20
6 to 10	£4.70
11 to 15	£7.75
16 to 20	£9.50
21 to 25	£11.10
26 to 30	£13.60
31 to 35	£16.10
36 to 39	£18.10

For beekeepers owning 40 or more hives an insurance scheme known as Scheme B operates. For more details please contact the BDI Scheme B Manager:

sharon.blake@beediseasesinsurance.co.uk

2026 Membership and Subscription Rates

Full Member: £34	Persons 18 years or over
Partner Member: £23	Adult living at the same address as a full member
Junior Member: £10	Persons under 18 years.
Country Member: £18	Persons who wish to support the CBKA & BBKA, but without insurance
Local Member: £14	Persons who wish to support the CBKA, but without insurance
Schools: £34	Application by a named teacher on behalf of a school <i>* please see below and BBKA website for insurance exclusions</i>

Membership is valid from date of joining to 31st December 2026

Please, if you can, gift aid your subscription payments. We are able to claim money from HMRC which increases the funds we have available to carry out our objectives.

Membership Application / Renewal Instructions

Subscription payments should be made direct to our bank as follows:

The Cornwall Beekeepers' Association 30-99-50 85930060

We can still accept postal and emailed application forms (and cheques) however the time (and cost) to process remains high and therefore if you can proceed online please do.

Postal applications (send us the same details as above and we will contact you to complete your application) and cheques please to:

Mrs Vanessa Tyler
CBKA - Membership Secretary
Cleveland
Hallworthy
Cornwall
PL32 9SH

Renewal reminders are sent out to existing members every year starting in September ready for membership to start on 1st January.

- **Note to Schools Applicants**

School membership excludes the public liability insurance benefits – you should approach your existing school insurer who will be happy to provide a quote to cover your needs.

Beebase from the National Bee Unit

We strongly advise that in addition to becoming a member of CBKA you register (free) as a beekeeper on BeeBase www.nationalbeeunit.com.

On the application screen there is a tick box for you to mark if you are happy for us to share your details with them but it is best to register yourself anyway in the meantime so you are up to date as below.

At the moment this application is being used to communicate local Asian Hornet sightings.

BeeBase is the Animal and Plant Health Agency's (APHA) National Bee Unit website. It is designed for beekeepers and supports Defra, and other national, Bee Health Programmes. BeeBase supports the aims of the Healthy Bees Plan for 2030 which focus on protecting and sustaining our valuable national bee stocks.

Their website provides a wide range of apicultural information for beekeepers, to help keep their colonies healthy and productive. It provides a wide range of beekeeping information, such as the activities of the NBU, honey bee related legislation, pests and diseases information which includes their recognition and control, publications, advisory leaflets and key contacts. Knowing the distribution of beekeepers and their apiaries across the country helps them to effectively monitor and control the spread of serious honey bee pests and diseases, as well as provide up-to-date information in keeping bees healthy and productive. By telling them who you are you'll be playing a very important part in helping to maintain and sustain honey bees for the future.