

# MAKE YOUR MOTHER'S DAY WITH THE BBKA'S ADOPT A BEEHIVE GIFT

Submitted by: Twelve PR

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Hundreds of dewdrops to greet the dawn,  
Hundreds of bees in the purple clover,  
Hundreds of butterflies on the lawn,  
But only one mother the wide world over.

George Cooper 1838 – 1927

Everyone knows mothers are the queen bees of their children's lives. The 25th of March will see countries all over the world celebrate Mother's Day, with families coming together to honour the support and love mothers give throughout the year.

The British Beekeepers Association's (BBKA) Adopt a Beehive

([http://www.bbka.org.uk/about/adopt\\_a\\_beehive/](http://www.bbka.org.uk/about/adopt_a_beehive/)) scheme is a great gift for Mother's Day that raises funds to help Britain's honey bees, creatures that equally have a lot to thank the female of the species for. Honey bees are the only insects which live in a managed colony with one queen, up to 50,000 "sister" workers and, at most, 2,000 male drones all in one colony in the height of summer.

With virtually no wild honey bees left it is the vital work of beekeepers across the country which supports the British honey bee. The BBKA is a unique organisation made up of 22,500 amateur beekeepers, which also raises funds for education and applied research projects to help protect the honey bee through its Adopt a Beehive scheme.

The Adopt a Beehive ([http://www.bbka.org.uk/about/adopt\\_a\\_beehive/](http://www.bbka.org.uk/about/adopt_a_beehive/)) campaign allows everyone who is not able to keep bees themselves to share in the life of a beehive and its beekeeper. A one year Adoption pack comes with a range of delightful goodies, and costs just 30 GBP plus postage and packaging, with all the profits going toward the BBKA's projects to help save Britain's honey bees

This year the rapidly growing number of the BBKA's female beekeepers will be tending to their bees over Mother's Day. Hannah Hodgson joined the BBKA four years ago and is delighted to be part of the Adopt a Beehive campaign and provide armchair beekeepers across the country with updates of the highs and lows of her honey bees in the North West:

"With many threats to the honey bee due to the parasitic varroa mite which also spreads viruses and other infections, Adopt a Beehive is a great way to raise funds to help protect the honey bee. Spring is a time when crops with plenty of nectar should be sown to make sure there are many plants for the honey bee to feast on during the height of summer – so anyone who is planning some gardening over Mother's Day weekend can consider what they can plant to help Britain's honey bees. Adoption packs come with a packet of seeds for bee friendly plants."

Mother's Day brings whole families together and as the Hobbs family from Reigate show, beekeeping is an activity the whole family can get involved with. Stuart Hobbs said:

"Last year we had a bumper harvest of honey that all the children got involved with extracting and

bottling – their favourite job! The BBKA holds education stalls at fairs across the country that appeal to all ages, spreading appreciation of how honey bees impact our day to day life, such as accounting for one in three mouthfuls of food we eat. " Mother's Day is a fantastic chance to Adopt a Beehive and give a gift that will be enjoyed for a whole year. "

Adopt a Beehive can be purchased online at [http://www.bbka.org.uk/about/adopt\\_a\\_beehive/](http://www.bbka.org.uk/about/adopt_a_beehive/) ; or by phone on the local call rate number 0845 680 7038.

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