

JERSEY BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION



HONEY BEE SWARM COLLECTION 2022

The Jersey Beekeepers' Association offers a public service of collecting and homing any honeybee swarms. Swarm collectors are appropriately experienced members of the Jersey Beekeepers' Association (JBKA), are registered with the British Beekeepers' Association (BBKA) and are insured for carrying out beekeeping activities, both at their own apiaries and whilst collecting swarms.

Honeybees swarms may be seen as:

- A mass of flying bees. People should stay back, go indoors and close windows. The bees will usually move away or settle. If they settle they should not be disturbed.
- A settled swarm. A mass of gathered bees on a wall, roof, branch, bush or occasionally other stranger places ... the underside of a trampoline! The mass may be smaller than a football to a couple of footballs in size, sometime hanging in a "teardrop" shape. Some bees will be flying to and from, but generally, if not disturbed they will be quiet and present little risk.

If you come across a swarm it should be reported to one of the following contacts. Reporters should call the east or western number as appropriate, but if there is no answer, call the other:

- West Jersey Swarm Coordinator – Alastair Christie – 07797 732009
- East Jersey Swarm Coordinator – John de Carteret – 07797 715979

The coordinators will then arrange for a swarm collector to contact the reporter, provide advice and hopefully be able to have the swarm collected and given a new home.

Jersey Beekeepers carry out this service on a voluntary basis and may not be able to attend immediately. Depending on the circumstances they may not be able to collect all swarms, eg. too high or inaccessible.

Any suspected **Asian Hornet** sightings should be reported immediately to the Asian Hornet Coordinator at asianhornet@gov.je or telephoning 441633 or via the "Asian Hornet Watch" app (available for Apple and Android)