

# Scottish Badgers



## Training Course Prospectus 2017-2018

Welcome to the Scottish Badgers Training Course Prospectus. We run courses throughout the UK and maintain the Register of Level 1 and Level 2 trained Badger Workers. Our courses cover all aspects of badger biology and ecology and range from our “Badgers for Beginners” introductory courses, through our Level 1 Registered Badger Worker training to specialised Licensing and Crime Scene Management courses.

As well as our standard courses we are able to provide training tailored to client’s specific needs so if you do not see what you want in this brochure, do get in touch and we will be pleased to help.

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## Badgers for Beginners Course

This is our entry level course and lasts for a single day. The morning is spent indoors covering basic badger biology and ecology using a Powerpoint presentation. We also cover survey techniques and learn to identify badger hair, skulls and paw prints. In the afternoon we head out to look for signs of badgers in the field and visit an active sett. The threats that badgers face are also covered briefly.

No previous experience is required but participants should be reasonably fit and be equipped to walk moderate distances outdoors.

The course costs £5.00 for members and £35.00 for non-members.



## Level 1 Registered Badger Worker Course

This course is nationally recognised as providing a high level of competence in badger surveying and general badger work. The training generally takes a year. There is an initial two-day course followed by a series of guided surveys and a final written test and practical assessment. The morning of day 1 takes place indoors and covers badger biology, ecology, survey techniques and law. These topics are covered in much greater depth than in the “Badgers for Beginners” course, using a Powerpoint presentation and practical work. In the afternoon we look at field signs and visit an active sett. On day two we spend the day surveying in the field, identifying signs and using them to locate, identify and map badger setts.

After the initial course trainees will attend surveys with an experienced surveyor who will guide them through locating and identifying field signs to survey for badger presence and setts. They will also be allocated a sett to monitor over a one year period so they are able to see and log the changes that occur in the different seasons.

Once the trainee feels confident and they have completed at least five accompanied surveys and monitored their allocated sett for a year they can apply for assessment. This consists of a written examination lasting forty-five minutes and a practical test during which they will be asked to conduct a survey in the field. On satisfactory completion the candidate will be awarded a certificate and be entered on the Register of Badger Workers maintained by Scottish Badgers. They will also be eligible to take any or our Level 2 training courses.

The course costs £120.00 for non-members, which includes one year's membership. Pre-existing members pay £100.00.



## Level 2 Registered Badger Worker Training Courses

Scottish Badgers offers a number of specialist training courses for those on our Level 1 Register.

A brief outline of each course and its price is detailed below.

### Badger Problems:

A short course outlining some typical problems that badger workers encounter and showing how to deal with them. A combination of classroom and practical work.

Duration; One Day plus independent study.

Cost; £45.00

Award; Attendance certificate.



## Leading & Managing Groups in Outdoor Situations:

A classroom and field work based course for those leading groups out of doors. Covers health and safety, legal liability and insurance as well as how to plan and record a survey.

Duration; Evening/Half Day.

Cost; 15.00

Award; Attendance Certificate



## Media & Lobbying:

A combination of classroom and practical work on both the proactive and reactive uses of the media including social media.

Duration; Evening/Half Day plus independent study and regular practice.

Cost: £15.00.

Award; Attendance Certificate



## Basic Wildlife Crime Course:

A short course on how to recognise deal with a wildlife crime scene between discovery and police attendance. This covers all aspects from initial discovery to making a statement to the police.

Duration; One Day.

Cost £15.00

Award; Attendance Certificate





## Scrub Clearance around Badger Setts:

A course intended for those organising or supervising scrub clearance around badger setts. Covers legal, practical aspects including when and how to obtain a licence. This will be of particular interest to people managing volunteer groups clearing rhododendron ponticum in woodlands. **Duration; One day Cost; £20.00 Award; Attendance certificate.**



## **Badgers & Forestry:**

A course intended for those with a serious interest in forestry works in areas where badgers are present. How to survey, plan and licence mitigation works.

Duration; One Day plus independent study.

Cost; £165.00

Award; Certificate on successful attendance and passing assessment.



## **Badgers & Licensing:**

A course covering all aspects of licensing in relation to badgers. Explains when a licence is needed, how to gather and submit application evidence, how to monitor work under licence and how to submit the final report.

Duration; One Day plus independent study.

Cost; £165.00

Award; Certificate on successful attendance and passing assessment.



## **Badgers & Mitigation:**

Covers all common aspects of mitigation. Explaining clearly how to plan and executed basic mitigation measures.

Duration; One Day plus independent study.

Cost; £165.00

Award; Certificate on successful attendance and passing assessment.



## **Wildlife Scenes of Crime Course:**

A specialist course to equip selected individuals to assist law enforcement officers to gather evidence at a locus, produce reports for court and take part in judicial proceedings.

Duration: One Day plus independent study.

Cost £165.00.

Award; Certificate on successful attendance and passing assessment.



## Specialist Training for Law Enforcement Officers

Scottish Badgers provides specialist training for Police Wildlife Crime Officers, S.S.P.C.A Investigators and C.O.P.F.S. throughout Scotland with regard to badgers. This nationally recognised training is provided free of charge as part of our commitment to combating badger crime.



## Tailored Courses

We provide specialist training for groups, companies and organisations. Our "Badgers and Forestry" course sets the industry standard. If you do not see the course you want above and would like to discuss your specific requirements then please contact our Training Co-ordinator at [info@scottishbadgers.org.uk](mailto:info@scottishbadgers.org.uk) or telephone 07376-636341 or 07792-142446

