

The British Naturalists' Association

The National Body for Naturalists

Founded 1905

Membership Grades of the BNA

The British Naturalists' Association, founded in 1905, is the national body for naturalists promoting the study of natural history in Britain. The Association encourages members to share their knowledge and, through its grading scheme, recognises the gaining of relevant skills and expertise.

Ordinary members whose skills and expertise meet the required criteria may apply to become a **Registered Associate, Registered Member** or **Fellow** of the BNA.

A successful registration will entitle the member to use the appropriate post nominative initials and the entitlements detailed below.

HonFBNA	Fellow of The British Naturalists' Association (Honoris Causa).
FBNA	Fellow of The British Naturalists' Association.
MBNA	Registered Member of The British Naturalists' Association.
ABNA	Registered Associate Member of The British Naturalists' Association.

Fellow of The British Naturalists' Association.

A member of the Association recognised for their expertise and standing in natural history by the conferring of the David Bellamy Award is entitled to become a Fellow. In addition, the holding of academic standing (doctorate, and/or degree in relevant subjects) and relevant publications showing significant appropriate involvement for this level of membership, plus evidence of significant field experience, can lead to Fellowship being conferred by the Association. Very significant contributions in the practise of natural history in field work and publication can also lead to recognition as a Fellow.



Fellows may use the title Fellow of The British Naturalists' Association and are entitled to use the post nominative letters FBNA and to wear the Fellowship robes of a master's black gown, and a simple hood in the colours of the Fellowship (Honoris Causa) of darker green with paler green lining (excepting that there shall be no gold edging, but a silver edging to the hood). The headwear shall be a black cloth bonnet. These entitlements are retained for as long as their name remains on the Register of Registered Members and Fellows.

Registered Member of The British Naturalists' Association.

Those naturalists that have established an expertise in the practise and understanding of natural history, and have become skilled and experienced in identification and other field skills, may be considered for full Membership recognition. Becoming a Registered Member carries with it the status of being a proven field naturalist; it is an acknowledgement of gaining a high standard of competence in natural history.

Demonstrating active participation in natural history, including being a member for 10 years of the BNA, a field club or similar organisation, with evidence of continuing field work and an appropriate level of skill and expertise can bring recognition as a full Member.

Alternatively full membership can be gained after two years membership of BNA, a field club or similar organisation, with evidence of continuing field work and an appropriate level of skill and expertise plus either

- (a) the publication of at least 2 natural history papers or 10 natural history articles, or
- (b) led at least 10 field walks for BNA or field clubs, or
- (c) gained 20 credits by attending BNA specialist topic workshops, or
- (d) had a natural history book published, or
- (e) obtained a degree in relevant natural sciences, or
- (f) substantial experience of presenting natural history in the media, or
- (g) some other comparable and acceptable evidence of a good standard of competence as a natural historian.



Registered Members may use the title Registered Member of The British Naturalists' Association and are entitled to use the post nominative letters MBNA and to wear the Membership robes, which is a bachelor's black gown with a simple hood of dark green and pale green lining. Headwear is a simple mortar square. These entitlements are retained for as long as their name remains on the Register of Registered Members and Fellows.

Associate Member of The British Naturalists' Association.

This is the membership grade of those over 18 years of age that have a keen interest in natural history which they demonstrate by joining and supporting the Association. Ordinary Members are allowed to apply for recognition as a Registered Associate and to use the post nominative letters ABNA after they have been an Ordinary Member for one year and can show evidence that they have attended natural history lectures and taken part in field work to gain 5 credits. [Existing BNA Members as of 31st December 2006 have an automatic entitlement to apply for recognition as Registered Associates without need of further evidence].

Associate Members are entitled to wear the Associate's robes, of an appropriate black gown.

Grade Registration Board

Application forms are available from the following address:

The Grade Registration Board, BNA, PO Box 5682, Corby, Northants, NN17 2ZW.
or from the BNA website, www.bna-naturalists.org

Registration Fees

A registration fee is payable to cover processing costs as follows:

ABNA	£5.00
MBNA	£7.00
FBNA	£12.00

Annual Membership Rates

Ordinary Member	£20.00 (£15.00 Senior Citizen)
Associate Member	£20.00 (£15.00 Senior Citizen)
Registered Member	£30.00 (£20.00 Senior Citizen)
Fellow	£50.00 (£30.00 Senior Citizen)

Existing Ordinary Members of the Association as of 31st December 2006 who are invited or apply to become Registered Members or Fellows may continue their payment level at that of an Ordinary Member. Those who are Honorary Life Members remain exempt from payment regardless of their Grade of Membership.