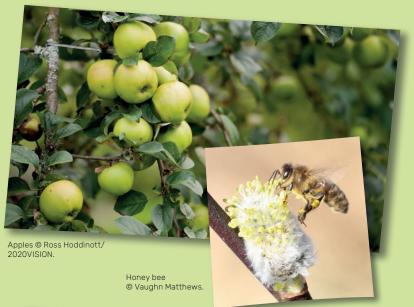


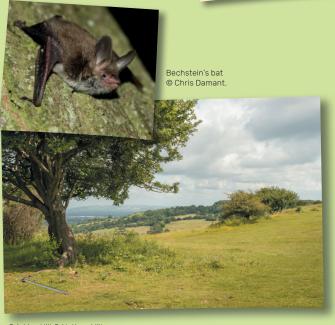
Traditional orchards, hedgerows and wood pasture have disappeared across

Gloucestershire. Protecting what is left of these vital habitats and connecting
them to existing tree cover will create a corridor of life where wildlife can thrive.



Traditional orchards

with blossoming fruit and nut trees in spring, pollen-rich wildflowers and long grass in summer and fallen fruit in autumn, traditional orchards provide a remarkable haven for wildlife of all shapes and sizes. Once a key feature of the county, orchards in Gloucestershire have declined by 75% in the last fifty years, putting critical species like honey bees at risk.



Wood pasture

Characterised by large, old trees growing in open grassland. Full of nooks and crannies, ancient, gnarled trees offer food and sheltering opportunities for a huge range of wildlife including the incredibly rare Bechstein's bat, while fallen dead wood is a haven for bugs, beetles, fungi and invertebrates.

Crickley Hill © Nathan Millar

Hedgerows

One of our most familiar habitats, hedgerows are often the only link between isolated patches of habitat. Bumblebees and bats use them as navigation aids, caterpillars and invertebrates call them home and they provide vital foraging for a huge range of wildlife like tree sparrows, hares, bats and pollinators.

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