

The Knapp and Papermill nature reserve



Worcestershire
Wildlife Trust

There has been a mill on the site just below the cottage since at least the mid-17th century, although milling ended when the last mill was washed away in an 1852 flood. The mill here used to take rags from the Black Country and make them into a coarse grade of paper ('cap paper').

This stone cottage, perched on the lip of the brook, was lived in until 1960 and there is an old cider press and stone well in the abandoned garden. Once home to large families of people, it's now home to families of bats. Lesser horseshoe bats have taken up residence in the cottage so we've secured and enhanced the space to make them, and other species of bat, feel at home. As well as natural nooks and crevices, there are extra bat boxes and two

different bat lofts in the roof space that allow bats to choose between different temperatures.

The wildflower-rich meadow on their doorstep combined with mature hedgerows and adjacent woodlands provide the perfect place for hunting and make natural networks through the landscape to help the bats move from one good feeding ground to another.



Herald moth

Did you know?

The Knapp and Papermill is home to 11 of the UK's 17 species of breeding bat. They thrive on the variety of habitats found here – from woodland trees (and cottages) to roost and breed in to the meadows, woodlands and brook supporting the food they need to survive.

Star species

Why not give bats a helping hand where you live?

- Install a bat box on your house
- Fill your garden with plants that support insects and moths
- Always check before undertaking any work in roofs and outbuildings

Search for bats on
www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk



Lesser horseshoe bat



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