

an innocent spotter's guide to

# BEEES



Matthew Oates is the bee man at the National Trust. He's been studying bees for about 45 years (having learnt bee keeping at school) and has put together this handy guide to help you tick off who's who in the world of buzz. To find your nearest National Trust hive, just go to [www.innocentdrinks.com/bees](http://www.innocentdrinks.com/bees) Happy spotting.



## Honey bee

(*Apis mellifera*)



**Job:** Maker of honey

**Lives:** In bee hives

**Favourite flowers:** Clover, lavender, thyme and daisies

## Red Mason Bee

(*Osmia rufa*)



**Job:** Pollinates apples and all sorts of fruit trees and does a fine line in cryptic handshakes

**Lives:** Holes in sunny walls, bee boxes

**Favourite flowers:** Fruit tree flowers



## White-tailed Bumblebee

(*Bombus lucorum*)



**Job:** Pollinator of many garden flowers

**Lives:** In old mouse holes

(mouse presumably on holiday)

**Favourite flowers:** All sorts



inspiration?

## Tawny Mining Bee



**Job:** Pollinates spring shrubs

**Lives:** Holes in lawns

(not on the 18th green)

**Favourite flowers:** Blackthorn & pussy willow



## Common Flower Bee

(*Anthophora plumipes*)

**Job:** Pollinate spring flowers

**Lives:** In holes in sunny spots

**Favourite flowers:** Hovers like a hummingbird round spring flowers.

**Also known as:** Hairy-footed Flower Bee