

Devon Bat Survey

Information for Monitoring Centres

Overview

The Devon Bat Survey is a 5 year seasonal survey which is run by the Devon Greater Horseshoe Bat Project. The aim of the survey is to gather as much information about bats in Devon as possible while engaging with the general public.

How the Devon Bat Survey Works

Booking out the detector

The bat detector kit is hired out for time slots of 4 days/3 nights, for example collected on Monday and returned on Thursday. The kit will be available for hire again the following day (e.g. Friday after the detector is returned on a Thursday). Devon Wildlife Trust manages the bookings online through the www.devonbatproject.org website.

Making sure it runs smoothly

The main role of the monitoring centre is to provide a location where people can pick up and drop off the detector kits. However, there are a couple of important tasks we request you to do in order to ensure the survey runs smoothly:

- Make sure that the detector kit box is signed in and out by the person hiring it (see form 'Signing in and out'). It may be helpful to use the wall planner provided to keep a track of bookings as confirmation emails arrive.
- Look through the kit box when it is returned to make sure that all the equipment has been returned (check the 4 batteries have been removed from the detector itself – there are 2 sets of 4 in box), see photo overleaf for kit list.
- Make sure that at least one SD card, one pre-paid envelope and a recording form are included in the detector kit box when it is hired out. Plus 1 bamboo cane.

The pre-paid envelopes, small box for spare SD cards, recording forms and signing in and out forms are all kept in the 'Devon Greater Horseshoe Bat Project' canvas bag.



Replacing SD cards in the detector kit box

Data collected from the bat detector is recorded on to an 'SD card'. These cards are posted directly back to Devon Wildlife Trust (in the pre-paid envelopes provided) by the person who has hired out the kit box. The Bat Project team will then remove the data from the card and post it back to you – you can keep these in the 'spare SD cards' box whilst the detector is on loan, ready for it to be placed back into the detector kit box for people hiring out the kit. With 5 cards circulating you should always have at least one ready for the next booking.



This means:

- Replace SD cards sent back to the centre into the small plastic box in the detector kit box as soon as they arrive.
- OR**
- If an SD card arrives back at the centre whilst the kit box is on loan, then keep it in the plastic box labelled 'Spare SD cards' in the canvas bag until the kit returns.

If there are any problems or questions then please contact:

Devon Greater Horseshoe Bat Project:

Call 01392 279244 and ask for a Bat Project team member, email bats@devonwildlifetrust.org or contact us via our website www.devonbatproject.org

Detector Kit Box contents:

