




## About The Berkshire and South Buckinghamshire Bat Group

The Berkshire and South Buckinghamshire Bat Group is one of over 100 local volunteer bat groups in the UK which work to help protect and conserve Britain's bats. We are a Partner Group of the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT).

Our main aims are:

- To promote and further the conservation of bats and their habitats.
- To raise awareness of bats and their conservation status.



Bats eat a wide variety of small, flying insects including mosquitoes and moths.



## Get involved...

Whether you want to become more involved or just follow our various activities we are always pleased to have new members no matter what your level of experience.

Membership of the bat group only costs £10 per year. Members receive a quarterly newsletter, will be invited to join our newsgroup and will be eligible to join in all the group's activities.



For more information email us at:  
[info@berksbats.org.uk](mailto:info@berksbats.org.uk)

[www.berksbats.org.uk](http://www.berksbats.org.uk)

Your local bat group



## What we do...

The Bat Group undertake a variety of activities in the area, including:

- Providing bat walks and talks.
- Surveying, monitoring and recording local bat populations.
- Running a bat care helpline which provides advice to roost owners and members of the public who have found bats.
- Organising working parties to undertake habitat and roost enhancements.
- Assisting Natural England by visiting bat roosts.

## Did you know...

Bats have undergone a severe population decline in the last 20 years primarily due to loss of foraging habitat and roosting sites caused by modern land use changes.

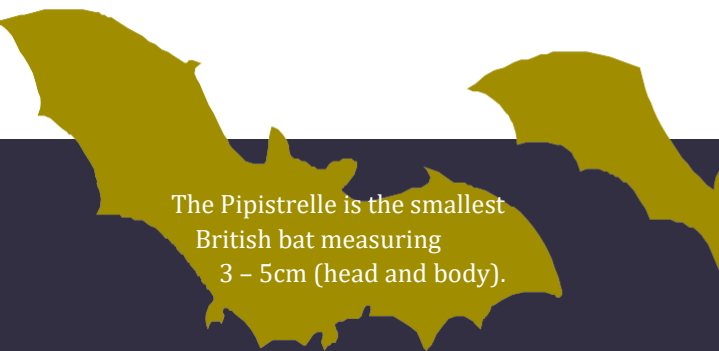
Bats and their roosts are protected by law.

Bats are the only true flying mammals.


All British bats are nocturnal and use echolocation, along with sight and sound, to navigate and catch their prey which consists predominantly of insects.

## If you find an injured bat...


- Always wear gloves when handling bats. This is because bats can carry a rabies virus known as European Bat Lyssavirus (EBLV).
- Place the bat in a secure container (shoe box or ice cream tub sized) with air holes no bigger than 0.5cm. Hang an old cloth or kitchen roll on the inside of the box. Place a very shallow container (e.g. milk bottle top) of water in one corner so the bat can drink.
- If you find a bat please contact the bat helpline on 0345 1300 228. You will be put in contact with an experienced bat handler who will care for the bat with the aim of releasing it back into the wild.




The Pipistrelle is the smallest British bat measuring 3 – 5cm (head and body).



The Brown Long Eared Bat can hear ladybirds walking across leaves.



The oldest bat ever recorded was 48 years of age.



The phrase 'blind as a bat' is not true as they actually have good eyesight.