

Advanced Bat Survey Techniques 2012

11th – 15th June 2012



Stourhead National Trust Estate

All inclusive cost of course \$1000

This is a new specialist course from Greena Ecological Consultancy, aimed at enthusiastic bat workers or professional ecologists. This course will build on understanding gained at other courses, or act as an in depth introduction for those with limited experience. Survey methods by trapping, passive and mobile acoustic monitoring, visual ID and camera use will be taught.

It is a five day/four night course with field trips based at the beautiful Stourhead National Trust Estate, Wiltshire. This is the second course to be run here in 2011 we caught 11 bat species on the first night.

Accommodation and meals will be provided in The Old Ship Inn and Hotel at Mere, which is three miles away from Stourhead in double (for couples), twin or single rooms, a supplement will be payable to guarantee a single room. Indoor sessions will be held in the meeting room in the Old Ship Inn and Hotel. Field visits will be made to the nearby Stourhead Estate woodlands and gardens.

The course will run from 11th June until 15th June and the cost includes all meals, packed lunches and comfortable accommodation. The aim will be to learn a range of different advanced bat survey techniques.

Participants will need to be equipped with bat detectors, recording devices and be prepared for lengthy field visits at night, at times possibly through pathless sections of woodland if radio tracking.

Field visits to include:

Day time

- ❖ Planning a transect walk
- ❖ How to erect a mist net
- ❖ How to erect a Harp Trap
- ❖ How to Radio track exercise in locating tree roosts
- ❖ Actual roost location of radio tagged bats

Night time

- ❖ Erection of harp traps
- ❖ Erection of mist nets, single, double and triple high net systems
- ❖ Use of acoustic lure
- ❖ Transect walks
- ❖ Fixed point recording devices set up
- ❖ Infra red camera and night vision scope use
- ❖ Radio tracking of tagged bats
- ❖ In hand bat Identification *



Classroom sessions to include:

- ❖ British bats: ecology and identification including in hand ID
- ❖ Bat detectors – various types over view
- ❖ Static survey equipment
- ❖ Transects lecture
- ❖ Sound analysis - analysing previous nights recordings including use of auto ID software
- ❖ Infra red video use
- ❖ Use of the Lure - pros and cons
- ❖ Trapping and netting – when and where to use a mist net or a harp trap
- ❖ Radio tracking theory and methodologies
- ❖ Licensing requirements
- ❖ Practical application of techniques – when is it appropriate to radio track? When is it appropriate to mist net? When is it appropriate to use static monitoring?

The tutors will be among the most experienced bat surveyors/researchers in the country with extensive knowledge of acoustic monitoring, radio tracking, harp trapping and mist netting, led by Geoff Billington from Greena Ecological Consultancy.

You should plan to arrive at The Old Ship Inn and Hotel at Mere for the start of the Advanced Bat Survey Techniques Course 11th June at 15:00 aiming to start at 15:30 and the course will finish on 15th June at mid day.

Spaces are limited, so for further details or to book this course please contact:

Geoff Billington Tel: 01749 850993, Mob: 07748 742475

Email geoff@billingtoneco.freeserve.co.uk

and you will be sent a booking form



The Old Ship Inn and Hotel
Castle Street Mere Wiltshire BA12 6JE

* Please note in hand bat identification in the field will only be possible providing proof of an up to date rabies vaccination