



# The Natterer

Spring/Summer 2008

## NEWSFLASH

Bat Conservation Ireland is now operating from our new office in Dunshaughlin. It is very exciting to see how our small charity has gained such momentum since 2004. It is a credit to all of the committee members, BC Ireland members and county bat groups as well as the continuous funding support from The Heritage Council, NPWS, EHS and Waterways Ireland. Also thanks to funding provided by Meath County Council, Vodafone Conservation Volunteers Nature Fund, EENGO Core Funding and the support of the numerous Heritage Officers around the country.

### **Nathusius' pipistrelle *Pipistrellus nathusii*, a new bat species in the Republic of Ireland**

Nathusius' pipistrelle is the largest of our three resident pipistrelle species. It is a species widely distributed across Europe and considered to be a woodland bat preferring lowland woods and parks. It is also well documented as a long-distance migratory species with movements typically from northeast to southeast continental Europe in autumn (Hutterer *et al*, 2005). In the mid-80's it was considered to be a vagrant species in the UK with occasional records reported from the south and east coasts. But since then, a greater number of observations have been recorded from a greater geographical spread (Altringham, 2003). All of this evidence suggested that this migratory species may be extending its range to more western parts of Europe.



Photograph courtesy of Phil Richardson

The first Nathusius' pipistrelle individual in Northern Ireland was identified in the hand on the 19<sup>th</sup> of September 1996 by members of the Northern Ireland Bat Group. This individual was recorded from Windsor Park in Belfast and was later confirmed by Tony Hutson of Bat Conservation Trust, UK.

Detector records from Sligo were reported by a visiting Dutch bat worker in 1996 while Dr Jon Russ recorded Nathusius' pipistrelles by detector from Moneymore, Co. Derry on the 26<sup>th</sup> August 1996. Maternity roosts of this species were then identified in an old stable block in Co. Antrim on 30<sup>th</sup> April 1997 by Dr Russ (Russ *et al*, 1998 & Russ *et al*, 2001) and it is likely that similar summer roosts are also present in the Republic of Ireland.

### **BATLAS 2010**

**Are you interested in collecting records about the bats in your local area? Help Bat Conservation Ireland map the distribution of Ireland's ten bat species over the next two years.**

**\*\*BE INVOLVED IN THE  
BATLAS 2010  
PROGRAMME\*\***

**Register on our website  
[www.batconservationireland.org](http://www.batconservationireland.org)**

As a result, bat workers in the Republic of Ireland are tuning their bat detectors to 39kHz and listening for the slower and deeper pipistrelle echolocation calls at 39kHz. Nathusius' pipistrelle calls are lower in frequency than the typical echolocation calls of the common pipistrelle (42-48 kHz) and soprano pipistrelle (48-56 kHz). A feeding individual was noted by Brian Keeley (pers. comm.) in May 2003 in Ballinahinch, County Tipperary while singing males were recorded in Farnham Estate, County Cavan yearly from 2003. Since 2003, a number of records have been submitted to Bat Conservation Ireland including an individuals recorded in 2004 at Lough Ramor, County Cavan, Castle Saunderson, County

Cavan and Carrig Glas Demesne, County Longford. This species was recorded by visiting bat workers during the European Fieldcraft Workshop visit to Killarney National Park on the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> August 2005 (Kelleher, 2006). A singing male was also encountered in Cong Abbey during the BC Ireland Bat Detector Training Course in May 2006 and a male roost was recorded in a church in Belturbet, County Cavan in the same year. The All-Ireland Car-Based Bat Monitoring Scheme first recorded this species in 2005 from a location in Kilmainhamwood, County Meath (Roche *et al*, 2006). In 2006, during the same survey, a dramatic increase in the number of encounters was documented with records for the species in seven new locations (Roche *et al*, 2007). In 2007 this species was also picked up by three All-Ireland Daubenton's Bat Waterway Survey volunteers in Galway (pers. comm. Chris Peppiatt), Cavan and Dublin. Additional records were also recorded during bat detector surveys of Phoenix Park (Scott Cawley, 2007) and Crossdoney, County Cavan in 2007 (Paul Scott pers comm.).

Although it is migratory in continental Europe, it is thought that the *Nathusius' pipistrelle* may be more sedentary in the UK and Ireland. However we cannot answer this vital question because there is still a great paucity of information on this species in Ireland. Bat workers; register your interest in receiving training to

participate in the BATLAS 2007-2010 and help to increase our knowledge of this species' distribution.

#### **Acknowledgements**

Records collated by Brian Keeley, Conor Kelleher, Tina Aughney, Jon Russ, Niamh Roche, Chris Peppiatt, Bee Kessopersadh and Scott Cawley Ltd.

#### **Bibliography**

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- Scott Cawley (2007) *Surveys to record bat roosts in structures in Phoenix Park, Phase 1*. Scott Cawley, Dublin.

#### **BCIreland awarded two Heritage Council Grants 2007/08**

Bat Conservation Ireland was awarded a €12,000 grant by The Heritage Council to investigate bridges identified during the All Ireland Daubenton's Bat Waterway Survey as potential roosting sites. In addition, we were awarded a second grant of €12,000 to undertake bat surveys of developments. The main purpose of this is to compare bat populations before and after the development and to investigate the mitigation measures put in place to assist the bats. BC Ireland will be employing a Summer Co-ordinator and field assistant to complete these projects. If you are interested in working with BC Ireland please send your CV to [tinaaughney@eircom.net](mailto:tinaaughney@eircom.net).

#### **Bat Conservation Ireland Committee**

Chairperson	Mr. Conor Kelleher	Vice Chairperson	Mr. Austin Hopkirk
Secretary	Ms. Mairead Stack	Membership Secretary	Dr Caroline Shiel
Treasurer	Dr Sinead Biggane	Monitoring Co-ordinators	Dr Niamh Roche, Dr Tina Aughney

**Committee Members:** Mr. Ger Stanton, Ms. Donna Mullen, Mr. Brian Keeley, Mr. Daniel Buckley, Dr Fidelma Butler, Ms. Elizabeth Byrnes, Dr Áine Lynch, Dr Chris Peppiatt, Mr. Barry Ryan & Ms. Faith Wilson.  
**Honorary Committee Members:** Dr Kate McAney (VWT) & Ms. Enda Mullen (NPWS)

Contact us at: 01 8011474 or 046 9242882 [www.batconservationireland.org](http://www.batconservationireland.org)

Office 8, Unit 8D, Dunshaughlin Business Park, Dunshaughlin, County Meath



*The Natterer, Autumn/Winter Edition 2008 – if you are interested in submitting an article or, as a member, you wish to read material on particular topics. Please send an email with details to [tinaaughney@eircom.net](mailto:tinaaughney@eircom.net). Articles to be submitted by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008.*

## Leisler's Bat (*Nyctalus leisleri*) Survey of Clare

by David Lyons

Last summer the Clare Bat Group was funded by Clare Biodiversity Group to undertake a survey of Leisler's Bats in Co. Clare. The aim of the survey was to identify the presence or absence of Leisler's bats throughout the county and record details of the associated habitats. Leisler's bats are thought to be common in County Clare; however their distribution is currently unknown. The Clare Leisler's Bat Action Plan identified the need for survey work to establish the distribution of the species in the county.

The Leisler's bat is considered rare and possibly vulnerable in Europe and is therefore protected under the European Habitats Directive 1992. In Ireland they are listed in the Irish Red Data Book 2 and are also protected under the Wildlife Act (1976) and Amendment Act (2000).

### Methodology of Leisler's Bat Survey of Co. Clare

A wide range of survey points were chosen with a good geographical spread across the county.

- The survey points focused on water bodies, predominantly lakes, as we know that Leisler's bats prefer to forage over large open spaces.

- Leisler's are also commonly found foraging around light sources in towns and villages and therefore a survey of the nearest town/village to the water body was included.

- All surveyors were trained to use heterodyne bat detectors to identify typical Leisler's bat echolocation calls.

- The survey started 15 minutes after sunset at the selected waterbody.

- A pair of volunteers with heterodyne detectors walked a 1km transect over a period of one hour. They then travelled to the nearest town/village and spent thirty minutes surveying street lamps.

### Results of Leisler's Bat Survey of Co. Clare

A total of thirty-two spots were surveyed in August and early September 2007. This consisted of 16 areas in close proximity to a large water body and 16 street light surveys in nearby towns/villages. Leisler's bats were recorded at 15 of the 16 urban areas surveyed. Of the 16 water bodies surveyed, 13 had Leisler's bats present (see distribution map). This distribution information is also available on the Clare Biological Records Centre (CBRC) web site at [www.clarebiodiversity.ie](http://www.clarebiodiversity.ie).

Leisler's bats were recorded in a variety of habitats within the 1km transects. The descriptions of the

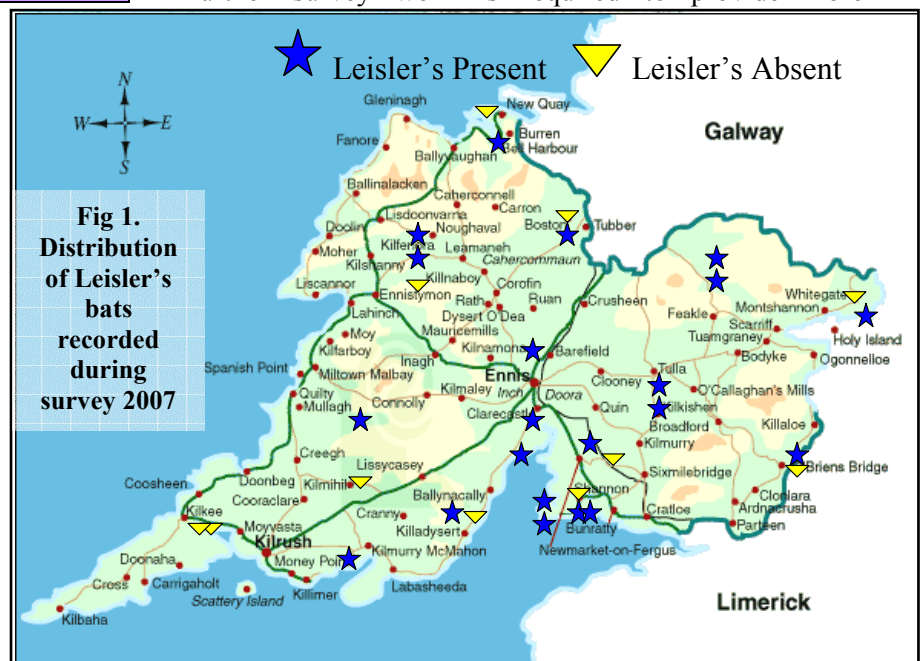
surrounding habitats varied greatly. It is therefore quite difficult to draw concrete conclusions on preferred habitat types. However, from this survey, it is considered that this species is generally found in areas which have a mixture of open space, such as grassland or water bodies with surrounding deciduous trees and hedgerows.

During the urban surveys the number of street lamps does not appear to have affected the presence or absence of Leisler's bats, although there may be a preference for orange street lamps. This is not conclusive, however, because there could be some confusion over surveyors' perception of colour of lamps.

One roost was discovered during the survey in southwest of the county, and 20-40 bats were seen foraging in an area in East Clare, suggesting a possible roost lies nearby.

### Conclusions of Leisler's Bat Survey of Co. Clare

This survey has provided some initial information on the distribution of Leisler's bats in County Clare. It appears that Leisler's bats are widespread in the county although further survey work is required to provide more



comprehensive information on the distribution. The Clare Bat Group hopes to broaden the survey this year, taking in some new areas as well as re-surveying last year's points. However, this will depend on volunteer numbers.

A big thank you to all the surveyors who participated in this survey, particularly those who did so on a voluntary basis. A thank you also to the NPWS and the Clare Biodiversity Group. If anyone would like a copy of the full report or take part in the Clare Leisler's Bat Survey 2008 please contact David Lyons at [davida\\_lyons@environ.ie](mailto:davida_lyons@environ.ie)



Batline: 046 9242882 / 01 8011474  
batline@batconservationireland.org  
www.batconservationireland.org



## BAT CONSERVATION IRELAND, LOCAL BAT GROUP & NPWS EVENTS AROUND THE ISLAND

All events are listed on the  
Events Page on our website

[www.batconservationireland.org](http://www.batconservationireland.org)

Please keep an eye on the  
Events Page for updates.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Bat Conservation Ireland AGM 2008 will take place in Rathdrum Hostel, Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow on Sun June 8<sup>th</sup> 2008 at 12.00 noon following the detector workshop (see below). All members are very welcome. Refreshments will be provided.

#### CAVAN

*Fri 30<sup>th</sup> May, 8.30 p.m.* Jampa Ling Centre, Bawnboy, Co. Cavan. Bat Talk & Walk

#### CLARE

Please contact [Davida.lyons@environ.ie](mailto:Davida.lyons@environ.ie) 065 6822662, [Sinead.Biggane@environ.ie](mailto:Sinead.Biggane@environ.ie) 065 6823125 & [elainekeegan1@hotmail.com](mailto:elainekeegan1@hotmail.com)

*Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 8.30 p.m.* Burren College of Art, Ballyvaughan, Bat talk followed by bat walk.

*Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> June, 10.15 p.m.* White Sand, Flagmount, Bat walk.

*Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> July, 10.15 p.m.* Twomile gate/Ballycuggaran, Killaloe, Bat walk

*Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> July, 10.15 p.m.* O' Briensbridge, Riverside carpark, Bat walk

*Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> August, 10.15 p.m.* Clare Museum Ennis – Talk: Abbey Street carpark, Ennis - Walk

#### CORK

*Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30 p.m.* 'Captive Care of Grounded Bats' Talk by Chelsea Collins & Conor Kelleher, CCBG in SMA Centre, Wilton, Cork.

*Sun 18<sup>th</sup> May* 'Introduction to bats' Talk and Walk by Conor Kelleher, CCBG in Manch Estate, Ballineen, Dunmanway, Co. Cork. Biodiversity Day in conjunction with Irish Natural Forestry Foundation. Contact Ian at 028 21889 or [wrighton@eircom.net](mailto:wrighton@eircom.net).

Additional survey dates including bat box inspections, training and bat surveys will be organized over the summer period.

#### DUBLIN

*Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> May 8.30 p.m.* Carysfort Park, Blackrock Bat Walk and Talk

Additional Bat Walks will be organized throughout Biodiversity Week by Colum Fitzgerald. Please contact for more details on 087 9982628.

#### GALWAY

*Wed 20<sup>th</sup> August, 7.30 p.m.* 'Bat Research and Conservation in Ireland over Three Centuries' a talk by Conor Kelleher, CCBG, in Connemara National Park, Co. Galway.

The Galway Bat Group (GBG) will be organising events around the county over the summer months. As part of Biodiversity Week in May there will be an evening bird chorus followed by a bat walk in Coole Park. During June and July, bat walks will be held in Glinsk, Galway City and Oughterard. In August there will be a bat talk given in Coole Park followed by a bat walk in the area. To wrap up the season, European Bat Night will be celebrated at Aughnanure Castle where we plan to watch the dawn swarming – a truly inspiring event. Galway Co. Co. and NPWS will both be collaborating in some of these events.

Apart from organising events for the public, members of the GBG will also be involved in the national monitoring programmes – the car-based monitoring scheme, the Daubenton's survey and the Brown Long-Eared bat survey.

After going through a bit of a lull, GBG is hoping to use this summer's events as a springboard to a more active future, so anybody who would like to be more involved with the Group is welcome to any of the events.

**Bat Detector Workshop, Rathdrum, County Wicklow 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> June 2008**

Contact Tina Aughney, [tinaaughney@eircom.net](mailto:tinaaughney@eircom.net), for details. Please note that if you have any bat specimens in your freezer please, bring them along because we are sending a batch of specimens for EBLV testing. Specimens preserved in alcohol are not suitable for testing, only specimens stored in freezer are suitable.

**KILDARE**

*Tues 22<sup>nd</sup> April 8.00 p.m.* Donadea Forest Park, County Kildare

**WESTMEATH**

*Sat 18<sup>th</sup> April 8.00 pm.* Belvedere House and Gardens, Mullingar. Bat Talk followed by bat walk.

*Sat 17<sup>th</sup> May, 8.30 pm.* Belvedere House and Gardens, Mullingar, BATLAS 2010 and Daubenton's bat training.

*Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 8.30 pm.* Belvedere House and Gardens, Mullingar, Bat Talk followed by bat walk.

*Sat 13<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30 pm.* Belvedere House and Gardens, Mullingar, Bat Talk followed by bat walk.

*Sat 25<sup>th</sup> October, 7.00 p.m.* Belvedere House and Gardens, Mullingar, Halloween Bat Talk followed by bat walk.

**WICKLOW**

*6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> June*, Rathdrum, County Wicklow

**Bat Detector Workshop** Contact Tina Aughney, [tinaaughney@eircom.net](mailto:tinaaughney@eircom.net), for details ASAP. Please note that if you have any bat specimens in your freezer please bring them along because we are sending a batch for EBLV testing, see above.

*Sun 8<sup>th</sup> June* Rathdrum Hostel, Rathdrum, County Wicklow, **Bat Conservation Ireland AGM**, 12 noon.

*Sat 19<sup>th</sup> July* 'Introduction to bats' Talk and Walk by Conor Kelleher, CCBG in the gardens of T.J. Maher, Kiltegan, Co. Wicklow as part of the Wicklow Gardens Festival 2008.

**Wicklow National Park Summer Bat Events**

*Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> July @ 9.15 p.m.* Bat Walk

*Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> August @ 7.45 p.m.* Talk followed by a bat walk

Lectures in Glendalough Education Centre, Walks begin from the Information Office, Glendalough. Please bring a torch and midge repellent! (For more information contact 0404 45425)

Events taking place between the dates 18<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> May 2008 are organised as part of National Biodiversity Week. BCIreland has received funding from the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government through the EENGO Network to hold these events. Details of all national events are listed on Notice Nature website.

**TRAINING COURSES FOR MONITORING SCHEMES WILL BE POSTED ON THE BCIRELAND WEBSITE. VOLUNTEERS REGISTERED FOR PROGRAMMES WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY NOTIFIED OF DATES BY EMAIL. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING, PLEASE REGISTER VIA WEBSITE OR CONTACT PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATORS DIRECTLY:**

BATLAS 2010:	Dr Tina Aughney <a href="mailto:tinaaughney@eircom.net">tinaaughney@eircom.net</a>
Brown Long-Eared Bat Monitoring:	Dr Tina Aughney <a href="mailto:tinaaughney@eircom.net">tinaaughney@eircom.net</a>
Car-Based Bat Monitoring Programme:	Dr Niamh Roche <a href="mailto:niamh.roche@demersal.net">niamh.roche@demersal.net</a>
Daubenton's Bat Waterway Survey:	Dr Tina Aughney <a href="mailto:tinaaughney@eircom.net">tinaaughney@eircom.net</a>

**Daubenton's Bat / BATLAS 2010 Training Courses**

*(Evening courses consist of a 1 hour lecture followed by discussion of survey sites. Then there is a short excursion to a local river to practise the use of bat detectors to identify foraging bats)*

15 <sup>th</sup> April	Antrim	Six Mile Water Guardians, Clotworthy Arts Centre, Castle Gardens, Antrim Town 7.30 p.m.
24 <sup>th</sup> April	Mayo	GMIT, Castlebar lecture starting at 7.30 p.m.
10 <sup>th</sup> May	Kildare	Venue to be confirmed
24 <sup>th</sup> May	Laois	Venue to be confirmed
28 <sup>th</sup> May	Offaly	Birr, County Offaly with excursion to Birr Castle 8.30 p.m.

Additional courses to be confirmed: Counties Waterford, Donegal, Down, Fermanagh, Cavan, Leitrim in addition to other counties. Courses are organised in association with Heritage Officers in the Republic of Ireland and Biodiversity Officers in Northern Ireland.

## Bat Conservation Ireland Membership Renewal

It is that time of the year again when Bat Conservation Ireland is seeking your continued support towards promoting conservation and monitoring of bats and their habitats in Ireland.

Please renew your membership TODAY!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone no.: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership: Individual (€15)  Family (€20)

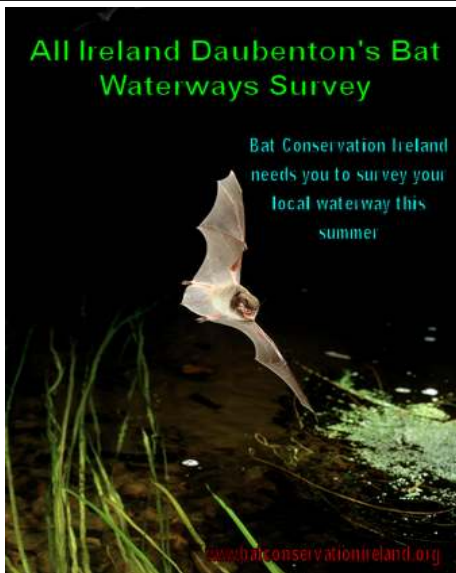
Please return membership fee to: Bat Conservation Ireland, Office 8, Unit 8D, Dunshaughlin Business Park, Dunshaughlin, County Meath. Cheque/postal order should be made payable to Bat Conservation Ireland.

**If you come across dead bats during routine surveys, please freeze them and submit to BCIreland.**

Bat corpses to be sent for passive EBLV testing will be collected from the Bat Detector Workshop in Rathdrum in June. Fresh frozen specimens are ideal for testing, dried bats or bats preserved in alcohol are not usable.

Contact the membership secretary, [membership@batconservationireland.org](mailto:membership@batconservationireland.org) if you would like more details.

If you are bringing a frozen specimen with you to Rathdrum please use ice packs and make sure it does not defrost en-route.



Are YOU interested in volunteering in 2008?

**ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR THE BATLAS 2010 AND DAUBENTON'S BAT WATERWAY SURVEY**

Please email [tinaaughnev@eircom.net](mailto:tinaaughnev@eircom.net) to register or register through the website: [www.batconservationireland.org](http://www.batconservationireland.org)

**TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED IN APRIL, MAY, JUNE AND JULY**



## Barn Owls

by John Lusby, Birdwatch Ireland

A glimpse of the ghostly white form of a Barn Owl as it silently drifts over its foraging grounds at night is, unfortunately, an all too uncommon sight nowadays. This much-loved farmland bird, once a more abundant and widespread feature of the countryside, has suffered quite dramatically in recent times. Numbers appear to be at critically low levels, and overwhelming anecdotal evidence (as voiced by farmers, birdwatchers and members of the public) suggest that a substantial population decline has taken place. Recent survey work, carried out by BirdWatch Ireland has provided evidence to support this decline, and the species is one of 25 Red Listed Birds of Conservation Concern in Ireland. Although they are an elusive species, and due

to their nocturnal nature they can be difficult to census, rough estimates would put the nationwide population in the region of 250 – 300 pairs.

The reasons behind their decline are not fully understood, but are likely to be directly related to changes in agriculture which have taken place in the recent past. Specific alterations to the countryside which would have negatively impacted on the Barn Owl population would be the loss of small scale tillage, the change from hay to silage and the removal of hedgerows. The increased use of more toxic rodenticides is also likely to have played a role, as have the loss of traditional nest sites (through

destruction, dilapidation and demolition) and the increased network of major roadways.



Although these are the main factors involved in the Barn Owls decline, unfortunately we currently don't know to what extent each has played. The Barn Owl has actually received very little attention in Ireland in the past and most research to date has focused on their diet (through pellet analysis). As a result, there are large gaps in our knowledge of the Barn Owl's ecology in Ireland. In order to understand the reasons behind their decline, and to develop research-based conservation measures to help the species, first of all we need to understand its ecological requirements. John Lusby, a Ph.D. student of University College Cork also working with BirdWatch Ireland is currently aiming to gain insight into specific aspects of the owl's ecology. The research project which began in late 2006 is primarily concerned with determining the owl's foraging and habitat requirements. In the past there has been a tendency to draw from research on Barn Owls carried out in the UK and apply it here in Ireland. However, due to the fact that the prey bases between Ireland and the UK are quite different, there is the potential for differences in other areas of their ecology also.

The research project has already shown that such differences do occur, thus stressing the need to find out more about Barn Owls in Ireland. Radio tracking 5 adult male owls during the 2007 breeding season provided very interesting insights into their habitat use and home range. In terms of home range size, Irish Owls appear to hunt over much greater distances than their UK counterparts. Information such as this will be essential in developing future conservation measures such as the installation of nest boxes. This summer it is planned to fit radio transmitters to 6 adult males and to track their movements over the breeding season. In

addition to researching habitat use and home range, the project is also concerned with other aspects of their ecology. These include breeding and roosting behaviour, productivity, and the potential impacts that rodenticides are having on the population.



Bat workers, while out surveying ruined buildings and castles, are in a great position to help the Barn Owl project by reporting any sightings that they have, either dead or alive!

Sightings of birds, in particular during the breeding season will help to build on current knowledge of their distribution and abundance. However, dead owls are also just as useful as they can be tested to see if they have been exposed to poisons, and in this way we can judge the extent of the risk that rodenticides are having on the population. John Lusby would be delighted to receive any reports you may have of owls, please email: [jlusby@birdwatchireland.ie](mailto:jlusby@birdwatchireland.ie).

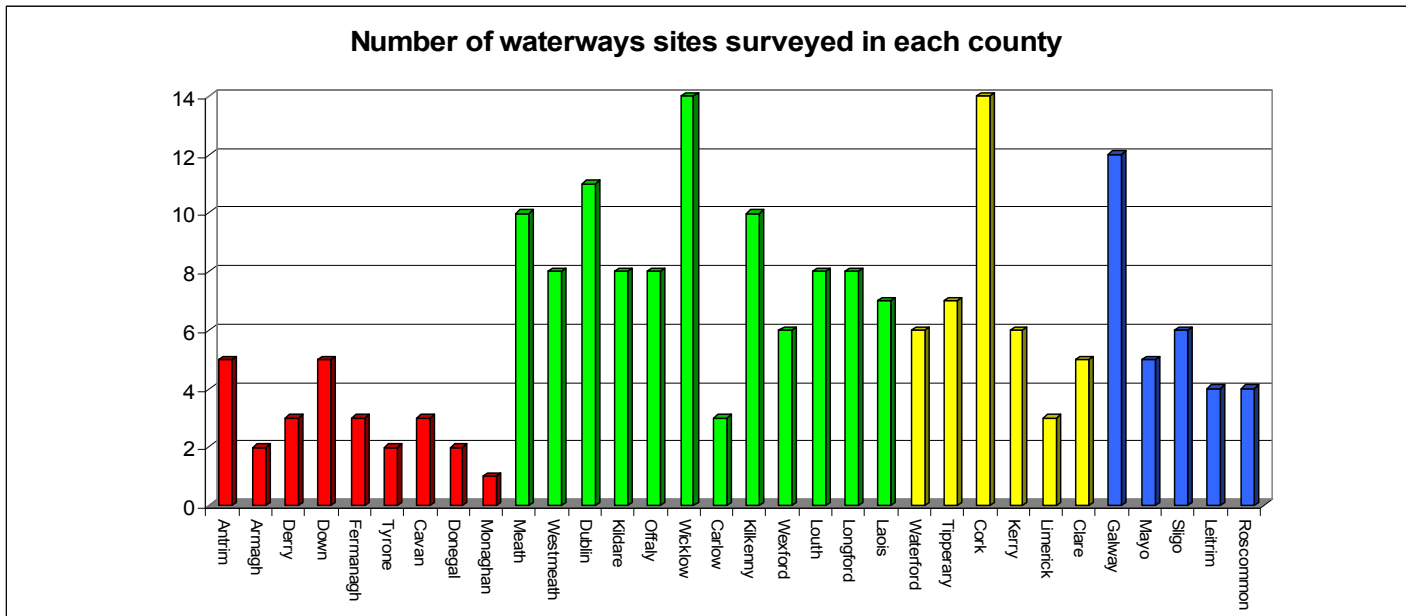
P.S. Please note that bat species generally constitute a very small percentage of the Barn Owl diet.

## DAUBENTON'S SURVEY IS A CONTINUED SUCCESS IN 2007

by Tina Aughney

total of 199 waterway sites were surveyed by 189 volunteer teams in every county on the island. The largest number of waterway sites surveyed were located in Counties Wicklow (14) and Cork (14), followed by County Galway (12) and County Dublin (11).

The All-Ireland Daubenton's Bat Waterway Survey was piloted throughout the island in August 2006 and continued in 2007. A



**Figure 1:** Number of waterway sites surveyed (n=199) in each county surveyed (n=32) in August 2002.

**KEY TO FIGURE** ■ Ulster ■ Leinster ■ Munster ■ Connaught

A total of 384 completed surveys from the 199 waterway sites were returned to BC Ireland. Overall, a greater number of completed surveys were undertaken in Leinster (101 waterway sites, 194 completed surveys). One hundred and eighty-five waterway sites were surveyed twice with the remaining 14 waterway sites surveyed once. A total of 117 rivers, 9 canals and one channel (North Slob, Wexford) were surveyed.

Daubenton's bat 'bat passes' were recorded on 171 waterway sites (86%) while 'Unsure' Daubenton's bat 'bat passes' were recorded on 148 waterway sites (74%). In total, bat passes were recorded on 184 waterway sites; 92% of the total surveyed. Daubenton's bat 'passes' were recorded during 318 completed surveys (83%) while 'Unsure' Daubenton's bat 'passes' were recorded during 258 completed surveys (67%). A total of 352 completed surveys (92%) recorded bat 'passes'.

The success of this survey was due to the large number of volunteers who carefully mapped and surveyed sites. BC Ireland will continue this scheme in 2008. Our aims for 2008 are to resurvey sites from 2006 and 2007 and, where possible, increase the number of waterway sites surveyed in counties with less than five waterway survey sites. BC Ireland will be organising another series of training courses throughout the island in June and July 2008. Full details of the results are available in Aughney *et al.*, (2008), which will soon be available on our website.

