

St Mary's Tattingstone

Newsflash re Bats!



Results of bat survey:

This summer we had a survey of the bats in St Mary's performed by Alice Mutimer, ecology student at Suffolk University on behalf of Bats in Churches. This was done using both audio analysis of bat calls and DNA analysis of the droppings. The final results are now in and show the following:

Species identified:

Common Pipistrelle	Sound and DNA
Brown Long Eared	Sound and DNA
Natterer's	Sound and DNA
Serotine	Sound and DNA
Barbastelle	Sound only
Soprano Pipistrelle	Sound only
Myotis sp. not further identified	--Sound



'Pug-faced' Barbastelle bat (quite rare)



Common Pipistrelles are the commonest British bats, weighing around 5 grams (same as a 20p piece). A single pipistrelle can eat 3,000 tiny insects in just one night!



Natterer's bat

Its broad wings enable it to fly slowly and prey on a wide variety of insects, even snatching spiders from their webs!

Simon Harley said: 'I was delighted to find out about all these bats. We knew we had quite a few in the Church due to the need to frequently clean up the droppings.

Bats in Churches are clearly quite excited we have so many species in our Church.'