

**Volunteer
Newsletter**
Autumn 2022



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Welcome
to the seventh VWT
Volunteer Newsletter.

This newsletter celebrates you, our dedicated volunteers, who have a passion for wildlife – without you we wouldn't be able to do half as much as we do.

In this issue, we take a look at what happened over the summer, both in UK and in Ireland; we bring news of our latest carnivore project; and we let you know of an online volunteer event happening soon that we hope many of you can join in with.

We've also updated our Volunteer Handbook – do take a look and find out more about volunteering with Vincent Wildlife Trust.

Change of details

Have you moved address since you started volunteering with VWT? Or updated your contact details? To help us to keep in touch with you and send you any materials relevant to volunteering (as well as to thank you), it's important that we have your up-to-date information.

On the Registered Volunteers webpage, <https://www.vwt.org.uk/registered-volunteers/> you can download a 'Change of Details' form and send it back. Alternatively, you can email enquiries@vwt.org.uk and request a form.

This is my last newsletter as I leave to join Scottish Wildcat Action. It's been great working with you but now I'm handing over to Rowena Staff, who will complete the last five months of this maternity leave cover.

Best wishes,
Lara Semple
Volunteering and Community
Engagement Officer (Maternity Cover)



And welcome to Rowena Staff, VWT's new Volunteering and Community Engagement Officer (Maternity Cover)

Since studying zoology at university, I've worked in a number of roles with wildlife conservation charities including The Mammal Society, Bat Conservation Trust and RSPB whilst also squeezing in a few years working in South Africa.

Prior to joining VWT I was with Animal and Plant Health Agency in Gloucestershire, managing projects on badger ecology and TB.

I have a lifelong passion for UK wildlife and a love of volunteering and I'm really excited to be joining you at The Vincent Wildlife Trust.

I look forward to meeting you.

Rowena Staff
Volunteering and Community
Engagement Officer (Maternity Cover)

Volunteers

Please send any enquiries about volunteering or returning equipment and associated paperwork to...
Rowena Staff at rowena.staff@vwt.org.uk

In this issue



Recording mammals – what, why, how? p6
Why recording mammals is difficult but important and how you can help...



Counting bats in Ireland p4
A new volunteer's experience.



Martens on the Move p12
Find out about VWT's potential new pine marten project to help them thrive in Britain.



Sussex Bat Appeal update p14
How it all started and the latest in our efforts to save a vital bat roost.

Also featured

- Summer nights and bat surveys **p5**
- Staff spotlight: Henry Schofield **p7**
- Tracking barbastelles **p8**
- Volunteer Conference **p9**
- Natur am Byth! **p10**
- Autumn puzzles **p15**

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Counting bats in Ireland a new volunteer's experience

Gail Jonas

Having retired to Kenmare, Co. Kerry, two years ago, I had anticipated getting involved in some sort of wildlife or animal rescue volunteering – however, like everything else, all was delayed by COVID-19.

Before moving to Kenmare, I had been a rehabilitator of hedgehogs for the Irish Wildlife Matters website for around 11 years. So although my interest in wildlife was very much there, I had not anticipated being involved with bat counts! But through a fortuitous meeting with Ruth Hanniffy and Kate McAney, who head up Vincent Wildlife Trust (VWT) here in Ireland, I joined VWT as a volunteer earlier this year.

Three other new VWT volunteers and I met with Ruth in Kenmare to talk through the work of VWT, the

emergence counts and to answer any questions we might have. The main purpose of this first night was for us to experience the lesser horseshoe bats emerging and to have a go at recording with tally counters, but with no pressure to produce accurate accounts. The count was being filmed as well so this recording could be played back at a later date.

Personally, until we had experienced that night, I really didn't have any accurate idea of what the evening would be like. Having received Ruth's advice on clothing to be worn to protect ourselves from the cold and the midges that were beginning to emerge at this time of the year, we sat at dusk focused on different windows of the large uninhabited farmhouse, just east of the village of Kilgarvan.

As we focused intently on the exits and returns of the bats from our assigned windows, I did think this was a good exercise for mindfulness as I maintained my watch for a full 45-50 minutes, almost without blinking. With the use of bat detectors, we were able to hear the build-up of vocalisation as the bats started light sampling and began to exit the building. This particular species has a frequency pitch of around 110kHz, which is much higher than other bat species and helped me to identify them in their emergence and flight.

I really enjoyed the evening and have since taken part in a second emergence count in late June. The main difference in doing this in June was the increase in the number of midges flying at night, and the need for better bug protection!

Did you know...

that we have a Facebook group for [registered volunteers](#)? Search Vincent Wildlife Trust Volunteers and request to join. It's a space for volunteers to share experiences and news.



Lesser horseshoe bat ©Frank Greenaway

Summer nights and bat surveys

Summer Keeble-Carter

Greater horseshoe bat: ©Andrew McCarthy

After being asked to become lead volunteer coordinator for the Brockley Hall reserve in Somerset, I was excited to see what the count for the 2022 season would bring!

For the first count we had a great number of volunteers, who were all very excited to see the greater horseshoes at Brockley. The reserve is well known by bat enthusiasts, and we attracted a few extra fans to come along. On the side of the horseshoe roost, there was a common pipistrelle roost containing 20+ adult individuals, which was also great to see. Alas, the pipistrelles were overshadowed by the much rarer greater horseshoes once they had begun their emergence.

It was great to see that VWT bat programme manager Dan Hargreaves had bought an extra infra-red camera to catch more of the action once it had got dark. Another of the volunteers brought along a set of IR binoculars, which gave us a fantastic view into the inside of the horseshoe roost. We could see the bats hung up inside, communicating with one another. After the last few adults were seen emerging, Dan went inside and counted 125 pups, which was a great number. Emergence numbers plus pups added up to a total of 678 bats.

For the second count, we were unsure of how the extreme hot temperatures would affect the horseshoes. After the emergence, we tallied up the counts from the volunteers, and we had fewer emergences than the previous count. It was concluded that the bats may have moved to a cooler roost to escape the heat, potentially at the nearby Kings Wood.

Overall it was a really exciting two counts that hopefully shows that the conservation efforts at Brockley are working. It will be interesting to see how this year's crazy weather will affect next year's count, which I am hoping to be part of again. I can definitely say it has been an extremely busy summer this year, which has included completing my first season as an assistant ecologist and undertaking many hours of bat surveys. I think I can say I am officially 'batted out' for this year!

Out of all the surveys I've carried out this year, I can confidently say Brockley has been the most exciting and I can't wait to see what 2023 brings. Thanks to everyone who helped with the counts this year!

Share your experience

If you are interested in writing a piece about your volunteering experience, please email **Julia Bracewell** at julia.bracewell@vwt.org.uk



Wood mouse



Mole



Hazel dormouse

Recording mammals

what, why, how? Lizzie Croose

For those of us who have an interest in, or work with, mammals, we have chosen a challenging animal group!

Most mammals are notoriously hard to see. When was the last time you saw a common species such as a mole or wood mouse, let alone a rarer and more elusive species such as a polecat or hazel dormouse? On the occasions we do see mammals, particularly if it is a rarer or less commonly seen species, it can be a memorable occurrence and something you might tell your friends, family, or colleagues about. But what more can be done with this information?

Why record mammals?

Mammals are some of the most under-recorded species in Britain, particularly when compared with other groups like birds or invertebrates. Even common mammals such as rabbits and moles are under-recorded, and what is common today may not be common in the future.

For some mammals, we know little about their distribution, and often nothing about their population status and trends (whether a species is common or rare, increasing or decreasing). By the time a

population decline is noticed, it is sometimes at such a stage that reversing it is very challenging.

By recording mammals, we can build up a picture of their distribution (where they are present in a county, region, and country) and derive estimates of population density and size. When recorded regularly, we can compare differences in species distribution and population size over time, allowing us to detect changes. This is critical for knowing when conservation interventions may be required if a species is declining significantly, and this knowledge will be increasingly important in the future as it will help us understand how mammals are responding to climate change and other environmental change.

One example of the importance of recording mammals is highlighted by the national otter surveys carried out by VWT starting in the late 1960s and continuing into the 1990s. The early surveys highlighted that otters had declined significantly, prompting a range of conservation actions, with the later surveys tracking their subsequent recovery. Similarly, VWT carries out periodic national polecat surveys at ten year intervals, which rely on naturalists and members of the public reporting

sightings of polecats, alive or dead. These surveys have tracked the range expansion and changing distribution of polecats, as they re-colonise their former range after becoming nearly extinct in the early 20th century.

Ultimately, any records of wildlife contribute to in-depth datasets that provide invaluable information on the current state of nature in Britain and allow comparisons over time to detect changes.

How to record mammals

The Mammal Society's [Mammal Mapper app](#) allows you to submit records from your phone and includes photos to help with identification.

Alternatively, you can submit records online via the mammals species recording form on the **Biological Records Website**. Records are stored with the [Biological Records Centre's](#) (BRC) iRecord database, where they are verified for accuracy, and subsequently uploaded to the **National Biodiversity Network** (NBN) dataset, to add to existing records and other sets on NBN.

Happy recording!

Lizzie Croose

Senior Carnivore Conservation Officer

Staff spotlight

Henry Schofield

Dr Henry Schofield is Head of Conservation at VWT with an overview of the Trust's conservation policy and research projects. After studying the ecology and biology of the lesser horseshoe bat for his PhD, he set up the Trust's first bat reserves for this species.

It has been a huge privilege to work for VWT for more than 30 years and, as you can imagine, things have changed dramatically in that time – both within the Trust and in the wider conservation landscape within which we operate. It's good to look back over that period and see where things we take for granted today actually started.

I had been working as a biology teacher in the 1980s, doing bat conservation work as a hobby and becoming more and more intrigued by these fascinating creatures. The questions I had around one species, the lesser horseshoe bat, just got the better of me and I wrote them all down as a big research project and shared the ideas with Paul Racey, a professor at the University of Aberdeen specialising in bats. He kindly wrote back to me and said he would like to supervise the work as a PhD and recommended that I write to Vincent Weir and ask for a grant. A few weeks later, I was pulled out of a class to take a call from Vincent, who said he really liked the research ideas and would I like to put them in place while working for him!

One of greatest pleasures of working for VWT has been the financial resources it gave me to take elements of my PhD research findings and use them to make a real conservation difference. It was particularly successful around studies of lesser horseshoe bat roosting ecology, something we knew next to nothing about at the time.

Early on I persuaded Vincent to lease and renovate Hendre Cottage, a derelict building in North Wales where I had found a small colony of lesser horseshoe bats. Based on the findings from a wide range of other roosts across southern Britain, I was able to try out different ways to make the building more optimal for the bats. I changed

entrances, provided them with warmer roosting areas, increased the range of micro-climates in the building, and tried to connect the building to the nearest piece of woodland by planting vegetation around it. The cottage was wired up with old style infra-red security cameras so that I could monitor the effects on the colony's behaviour from a small lean-to room on the side of the building. I was then able to tweak or reverse the alterations if necessary. The colony counts from the site just went up and up, which was a real conservation success!

Vincent loved this sort of thing – being able to spend his money and see concrete results really excited him. It led to the acquisition of the horseshoe bat reserves that we still have today in Wales, England, and the western counties of Ireland. Those early roost enhancements have been further developed over the years and the same designs are now widely used across Europe to enhance horseshoe bat roosts. If you have taken part in maintenance or building work around VWT's bat reserves, you will have been repairing or fitting some of these conservation interventions. For those of you counting emerging lesser horseshoe bats at our reserves as part of the National Bat Monitoring Programme (NBMP), this had its early origins in the colony counts at Hendre Cottage.

Based on those counts and the infra-red monitoring of the colony, I was able to advise on the protocol and timing for the lesser horseshoe bat monitoring scheme in Wales, subsequently adopted across the UK as part of the NBMP.

Finally, a thank you to all of you who volunteer around our bat reserves, it's great to see that so many of you get so much pleasure from the work you do on them. I can retire early next year knowing that they are in safe hands!

Tracking barbastelles

Inés L López-Dóriga

In 2021, Wiltshire Bat Group invited me to get involved with barbastelles as part of Kieran O'Malley's PhD research and I've had the pleasure of being involved during the last two years. Kieran aims to obtain data on the distribution of maternity roosts of this enigmatic bat within the wider landscape.



Having also completed a PhD, I have a great admiration for Kieran's project involving volunteers to collect data. The ambitious targets and deadlines of PhD projects can be very stressful; your future career can depend on meeting your aims on time. In my experience as a volunteer in this project, it was well organised. Well done, Kieran! Kieran's research focuses on four areas (Herefordshire, West Sussex, Wiltshire, and Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, and Northamptonshire), each of which has a network of volunteers. Within each area, he identified suitable woodlands where maternity roosts of barbastelles might be found, based on the information available from the few known colonies and the types of habitat characteristics favoured by these bats. Next, with the assistance of Gareth Harris (Wiltshire Bat Group and county recorder) and Simon Smart, he obtained permission from landowners to survey in woodlands with the help of volunteers.

The first stage of surveying (2021) involved placing bat recorders for a few days to ascertain the presence or absence of barbastelles. Kieran planned how many detectors needed to be employed in each and where they needed to be located. My partner and I acted

as base coordinators for the SW Wiltshire volunteer network. This sounds demanding but it involved just providing a location for storing survey equipment and ensuring its availability to volunteers for collection and return in suitable conditions. An online system allowed volunteers to choose a woodland to survey and book the survey kits for specific dates. Kieran was the point of contact for all volunteer enquiries. All the volunteers returned the kit as instructed, and we had only to charge the batteries and save the contents of the SD cards in between uses.

We were also volunteer recorders, so one evening we placed survey kits in one of the woods. We were provided with a map with marked points near which we were to choose suitable locations to place the acoustic detectors. After three days, we found (hooray!) and collected the survey kits from the woodland locations, to find that one of the cards had not recorded anything at all. Luckily, all the other seven kits had recorded correctly and, as Kieran told us some months after, barbastelle colonies were likely present.

In 2022, I had the opportunity to return to this wood with Kieran,

Fiona Mathews (his supervisor), Gareth Harris, and other volunteers. Surveying this time consisted of trapping bats with the help of mist nets and harp traps, in the hope of finding a female barbastelle to fit with a radio-tag in order to find out exactly where the roost was located.



Barbastelles roosting in a tree: ©Daniel Hargreaves

My role consisted of helping to put up and monitor the mist nets. Unfortunately, no barbastelle bats were found on the first night of trapping. However, I am told the second night of trapping was successful and a barbastelle was trapped and tracked, providing Kieran with information on the location of the colony... but I am disappointed to have missed the important lesson on how to fit a radio-tag to a bat.

I have greatly enjoyed this volunteering experience, learning about bats and how to conduct citizen science projects, and I wish Kieran all the best for completing his PhD research. I would also like to thank VWT and Gareth Harris as the Wiltshire liaison for providing this opportunity and congratulate them on the good level of information provided for volunteer roles.

It's rewarding to take part in citizen science.

Volunteers' Conference 2022

We are holding a volunteer-exclusive online event **7pm to 9pm on Tuesday 18 October 2022.**

This is an opportunity to meet staff and students and also to find out more about the work of VWT, including the following:

- the lesser and greater horseshoe emergence surveys in Britain and Ireland
- the barbastelle and Bechstein's bat box checks
- the recent research from VWT's PhD students
- the latest work from the Carnivore Team
- the upcoming volunteering opportunities.

We welcome all active volunteers to join us and get some updates on the work they have been involved with.

We have sent out details, including the Zoom link, on VWT's Volunteers' Facebook group and via email.

If you have not received the link, please contact us on enquiries@vwt.org.uk

Natur am Byth!

Adfer rhywogaethau dan fygythiad yng Nghymru
Saving Wales' threatened species



Natur am Byth! (Nature Forever) is a partnership of nine environmental charities with Natural Resources Wales that aims to deliver the country's largest heritage and outreach programme to save species from extinction and reconnect people with nature.

VWT is proud to be a core partner in Natur am Byth!, taking the lead in the conservation efforts for barbastelle bats. The barbastelle is a rare and elusive bat that lives in ancient woodland and is classified as Near Threatened internationally and Vulnerable in England and Wales. Declines in the quality of ancient woodland habitat are considered a key threat to the species. The newly emerging threat of ash dieback disease is likely to result in the significant loss of tree roosts for the barbastelle over the next ten years.

The species' British distribution is largely restricted to southern England, with connected

populations in the Welsh borders. There is an isolated population in Pembrokeshire, and therefore there is a real need to better understand the distribution and status of the barbastelle in this region.

The project aims to train volunteers from local communities in acoustic surveying to help us identify woodlands used by important maternity colonies. Engagement combined with spatial modelling techniques will locate key places for action on the ground, help us highlight important areas for appropriate woodland management, find opportunities to enhance foraging habitat and improve connectivity in the wider landscape.

Appropriate woodland management and habitat enhancement work will also benefit other woodland species such as hazel dormouse, willow tit, and saproxylic invertebrates (*invertebrates that are dependent on dead or decaying wood for part of their lifecycle, either directly or indirectly*).

The nine core partners are:

- 1 Amphibian and Reptile Conservation
- 2 Bat Conservation Trust
- 3 Buglife
- 4 Bumblebee Conservation Trust
- 5 Butterfly Conservation
- 6 Plantlife
- 7 Marine Conservation Society
- 8 RSPB
- 9 Vincent Wildlife Trust

62 'Target' Species

The map shows various regions of Wales highlighted in different colors, with lines connecting these regions to specific species photos:

- North Wales (Yellow/Orange outline):** Chough, Water vole, Snowdon rainbow leafbeetle, Euphrasia cambrica.
- West Wales (Blue outline):** Seagrass beds, Cliff mason bee, Crawfish, Barbastelle, Pink sea fan.
- Central Wales (Green outline):** Giffach nature reserve, Lecanographa amylicca.
- South Wales (Pink/Magenta outline):** Sand lizard, Burnt Tip Orchid, Lesser horseshoe, High brown fritillary, Shriill carder bee.
- Other species shown:** Scarce Yellow Sally.

44 at risk of extinction in Wales



You can be part of this partnership though volunteering...

look out for volunteer opportunities in Pembrokeshire in late 2023!

Martens on the Move

Stephanie Johnstone

A new era for pine marten conservation has begun in Britain. Pine martens have slowly been recovering naturally in northern and central Scotland and Ireland in recent decades, but reintroduction programmes were required to help the species become re-established in Wales and England. In addition, small-scale translocations have helped the species to inhabit southern Scotland. Breeding pine marten populations are now present again in all four nations of the UK. However, the recovering and reintroduced populations are still small and isolated and they need the support of local communities to help their long-term survival and to ensure gene flow between populations, as well as their expansion across the counties.

VWT is trying to achieve this goal through a new project – Martens on the Move (MotM) – that will focus on natural recovery through community action. It has secured funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to spend a year developing this project that aims to deliver pine marten conservation across the Scottish/

English border counties, the counties of the Welsh Marches and strategic areas for pine marten expansion in mid and southern Wales. This project aims to bring together conservation organisations, landowners, volunteers, and communities from across the three nations to work collectively to help pine martens to thrive and expand.

I joined VWT as the MotM Project Manager at the start of the Development Phase in May 2022. With a background in conservation biology and endangered species management, I have more than 20 years' experience of working with landowners, stakeholders and volunteers to achieve landscape-scale conservation outcomes.

This new conservation project will aim to support recovering pine martens across vast swathes of the border counties and will involve many organisations and individuals. I am being supported by a great team of people at VWT who all are working together to achieve the varied objectives of the Development Phase.

We are just four months in, but already we are delighted with the positive response that we have received from organisations and community representatives from across our focus areas.

The MotM project aims to establish six long-term Monitoring Hubs for pine martens in strategic areas of recovery, with two hubs located in each of the three nations. Each Monitoring Hub will contain between 30 and 50 den boxes that will be monitored annually by volunteers using thermal imagers and trail cameras. Initial discussions with a number of local landowners who may host these den boxes in their forests and woodlands have been very positive, and we have been greatly encouraged knowing that the returning pine martens will be welcomed by many.

MotM will also work with the Men's Shed charity, whose members have offered to build the required den boxes in their workshops where individuals come together to connect, converse, and create.

MotM also plans to work with project partners to create three accessible green spaces, one in each of England, Scotland and Wales. These spaces will be transformed into 'Havens' for pine martens with food and shelter resources. In collaboration with our project partners, each site will be improved through appropriate planting to enhance and diversify the habitat to help support a robust and diverse prey base; installing den boxes to provide pine martens with essential den sites for breeding and over-wintering; and introducing feeding stations to support pine marten establishment in the short term.

Pine martens require diverse and resilient ecosystems to sustain their populations and our hope is that these 'Havens' will become best practice demonstration sites for other land managers across Britain. Each pine marten 'Haven' will also help to stimulate ecotourism and inform and educate visitors about the return of this native carnivore through accessible wildlife viewing hides and interpretation trails.

Over the remaining eight months of the Development Phase, we will be trialling a range of activities, including working with the Peebles Men's Shed in the Scottish Borders to build den boxes; creating and trialling education resources for primary and secondary schools; attending local events; giving talks; and promoting pine martens and the MotM project through social media.

In May 2023, we will submit our stage two application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund, with the hope of securing funding, which would result in a four-year project and more conservation success for pine martens in Britain.

Watch this space!
Stephanie Johnstone
Martens on the Move Project Manager





Greater horseshoe bats return to West Sussex

Photo: @AndrewMcCarthy/andrewmccarthyphotography.co.uk

A Significant Find

Valentine's Day 2019... and a different kind of love story began somewhere in West Sussex when ecologist Scotty Dodd discovered a greater horseshoe bat roosting in a derelict Victorian stable block earmarked for re-development.

Greater horseshoe bats largely disappeared from the southeast in the mid-1990s with only a few sightings in hibernation roosts in West Sussex. Scotty showed an infra-red image of the bat to local bat workers Martyn Phillis and Tony Hutson of Sussex Bat Group, who both confirmed the identification.

The study

The building's owner was made aware of the significant find and welcomed the Bat Group's additional involvement with further surveys planned. Several members of the Bat Group formed a Steering Group to investigate the feasibility of conserving the building should it prove to be significant.

The group installed temperature and humidity loggers plus a static detector to log calls, as well as trail cameras to monitor the bats' activity – along with human activity and predators, such as cats and owls. Emergence counts then began in spring. In addition, and without causing disturbance, bats could be seen by peering through missing windows and ceiling gaps within the roost. It soon became clear that a growing number of bats were using the building as the weather warmed.

On different occasions, four ringed bats and two unringed bats were seen, suggesting a minimum of six bats.

Occasionally it was possible to photograph the bats and to read the ring numbers. The team discovered that one of the bats was ringed in situ in February 2019, two were bats previously ringed at hibernation sites, one in December 2018 and the other in 2003, and the fourth was ringed during an independent swarming study to the south two weeks before being seen at the site. All four were ringed as young females, not having previously given birth, but the 2003 bat had given birth previously. It seemed that this must be a small maternity roost, but monitoring during 2019 was inconclusive as the bats frequently concealed themselves in the warmest part of roof and couldn't be seen without causing disturbance.

Scotty scoured static detector recordings for social calls, in particular those of juvenile bats. One call, thought to be an infant bat, was sent to bioacoustics expert Maggie Andrews who, after much deliberation, identified the recording as that of a new-born pup attached to its mother in flight. Further calls resembled those of juveniles, but it was not known if they had been born in this roost. The roost was used on and off until the following spring and two more bats were ringed during this period. Most of the ringed bats were also recorded at hibernation sites.

The Proof

By late spring in 2020 there were six bats present. By mid-summer, one of Martyn's photographs revealed a baby clinging to its mother. Finally, this was the proof that this was a breeding colony, 100km east of the nearest colony in Dorset! Using Scotty's infra-red camera, a total of three pups were observed with their mothers

and a later emergence survey confirmed nine bats coming out to forage.

Acquired at last

Once sure of the building's status and with a deal struck with the owner to purchase 'as is', the Steering Group looked at ways of funding the acquisition and restoration. It also needed an appropriate organisation to take on the ownership and future management responsibilities. The group approached Vincent Wildlife Trust, which rose to the challenge. A public appeal was launched to raise funds to purchase the building and an appeal for further donations to fund essential roof and structural repairs followed. If we can reach our target of a further £200K, there are many enhancements planned.

The future

Scotty and Martyn continue as dedicated volunteers, looking after the day-to-day maintenance of the site and the monitoring of this extremely important pioneer colony. Monitoring in 2022 was very successful, with ten adults and five pups recorded in mid-summer. What will 2023 bring? Hopefully, by then the bats will be safe and secure from predators under a new roof. As we said at the beginning, a different kind of love story, but a love story, nonetheless.



Autumn puzzles

Take a few minutes to have a go at these puzzles. Find these items of field equipment in the wordsearch below and tick off how many you have used. Then try your hand at the VWT Crossword. Good Luck!

Field Equipment

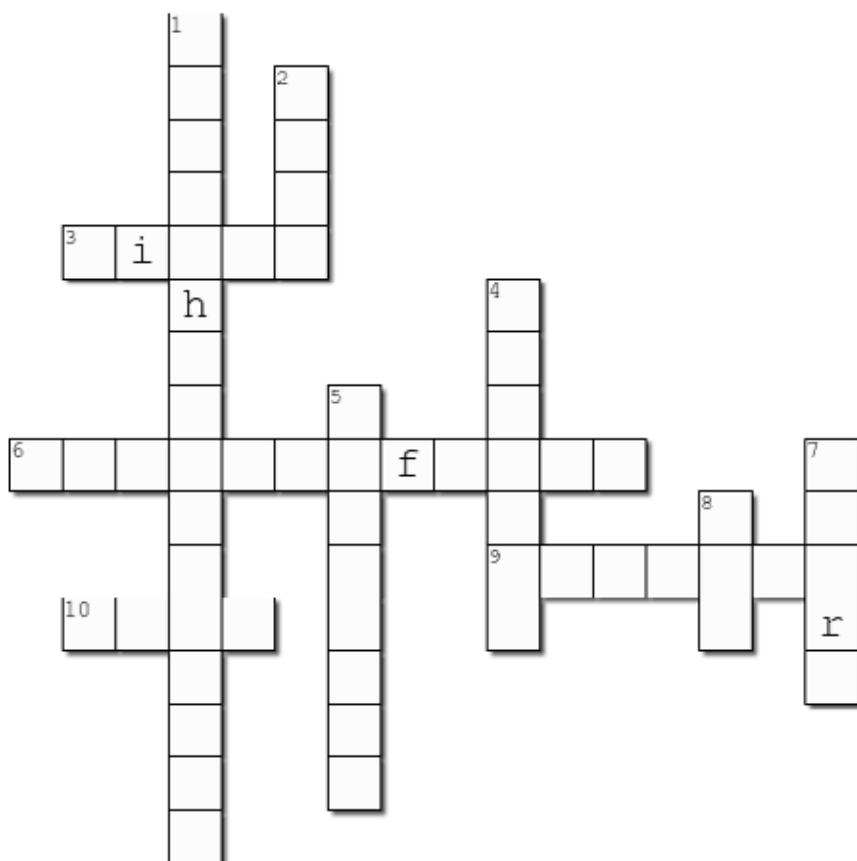
E	R	C	L	B	C	H	A	I	R	B	S	M	B
D	C	D	R	A	O	B	P	I	L	C	D	R	I
A	A	S	U	O	B	T	S	O	O	E	E	L	N
T	M	D	E	T	I	D	E	I	E	T	S	A	O
A	E	T	P	R	S	E	T	B	N	E	P	D	C
S	R	I	H	U	C	T	T	U	O	A	G	D	U
H	A	M	O	L	U	E	O	E	U	O	H	E	L
E	T	A	N	E	I	C	T	L	N	A	T	R	A
E	R	S	E	R	T	T	L	H	T	T	M	S	R
T	A	K	N	E	S	O	A	N	H	A	S	E	S
T	P	E	C	C	A	R	P	P	E	N	C	I	L
T	U	H	D	N	S	E	V	O	L	G	I	C	M
B	R	E	P	F	O	O	R	P	R	E	T	A	W
B	A	I	T	O	H	C	R	O	T	S	D	C	C

- bait
- binoculars
- biscuits
- boots
- camera trap
- chair
- clipboard
- counter
- data sheet
- detector
- gloves
- GPS
- hat
- ladder
- mask
- mist net
- pencil
- phone
- ruler
- torch
- waterproof

Wildlife Riddle

- 1 A man walks out of a house that has four walls all facing north. A bird walks past him. What is it?
- 2 I grow down as I grow up. What am I?

VWT Crossword



Horizontal

- 3 What should you check your body for after fieldwork.
- 6 In 2016, VWT, Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and Forestry England began a project to release pine martens where?
- 9 Where does the invasive mink species threatening our water vole and seabird populations originate.
- 10 What colour are juvenile barbastelle bats.

Vertical

- 1 What delicious, slow-flying beetle is a great food for greater horseshoe bats in May.
- 2 Baby bats are called?
- 4 Which mustelid is the ancestor of the domestic ferret?
- 5 Which VWT bat reserve is home to western Europe's largest known maternity roost of greater horseshoe bats?
- 7 What can be placed in a fyke net to prevent otters becoming trapped?
- 8 The lesser horseshoe bat is found in how many counties in Ireland?

Contact us

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