

## Ranging for Nature – community log

Two volunteers. One colony of beavers. A cauldron of bats. What could possibly go wrong?

Last week (27 March 2024) we took the Beavers from Culter on a guided bat walk around Templars Park. After an animated game of 'Bat, bat, moth', we ventured into some ace habitat on the lookout for flying mammals with some fun facts along the way. They were a little shy (the bats!) but the beavers did their best to catch a squeak or two. The evening was topped off with hot chocolate and marshmallows around the campfire.

A huge thank you to the Leaders and Young Leaders of the Culter Beaver group. Photos courtesy of Fiona and Nicola.



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In September 2023 some of our volunteers led the 46<sup>th</sup> Aberdeen Scout group on a moth trapping session and bat walk around Westfield Park. We set the scouts to work painting sticky moth lure on trees and posts near the moth trap before setting off, detectors in hand, in search of bats. En route we talked about a bat's diet and lifestyle and their echolocation skills. The scouts also learnt about the amazing evolutionary tactics that moths have adapted in their attempt to evade predators – both visual camouflage and the more stealthy acoustic camouflage. The evening was rounded off with a very lively game of Roost!

The bats were a little shy on the night but we did catch a Square spot rustic and some Spruce carpets. A huge thank you to Kirsten and Shona for all their help.



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What a fab family fun day at the BioBlitz in Seaton Park yesterday (27 May 2023) with our Ranger friends from Duthie Park and Countryside services. It was great to see so many children with an interest in nature. They asked loads of questions and told us their wild, wildlife stories.

A big thank you to Rose and Nick for setting out camera traps and acoustic monitoring equipment earlier in the week. And thank you to Nick for collating and editing the footage/recordings to show to our visitors at the stall. The private life of Seaton Park's mammals 🐭.

