

## Project Update: August 2016

The project work has progressed well, with repeated trips to Lusaka and Northern Provinces and a trip to Southern Province. More roost owners, wildlife enthusiasts, academics and farmers have been in touch as word gets round that we are interested in bats. Everywhere we go we have been met with great hospitality - especially when our car broke down!

We have encountered fantastic diversity of bats and recorded many exciting roost sites. The limited information available on the complex identification features for many species has at times been frustrating – but we are up to the challenge and have been collecting lots of DNA to add value to our data.

With colder weather in Zambia, the bats have spent less time out - less fieldwork means more time to collate the data and prepare for the next fieldwork season. We are looking forward to carrying the momentum forwards!



Left: A 'bat' presentation at a rural school. Right: Children learning how bat detectors work



Left: Horseshoe bat species. Right: Releasing a bat after taking biometrics.