

## EBN6 in the Czech Republic

The European Bat Night was held at ten sites in the Czech Republic in 2002, with the total number of about 800 participants.

- **Liberec:** Concerning the number of participants, this is traditionally the most successful EBN event in the country. On 30 August, almost 300 people came to the "Panský lom" quarry. After the dusk, talks on bats and their conservation (including a slide show) were given in a large tent. Postcards, folding picture-books and hide-games with bat photos and other materials were sold. In total, 35 netted bats of five species and a captive handicapped individual have been demonstrated to the visitors. The event was announced in five newspapers and its results were presented in a newspaper and a regional TV channel. It was organised by the Czech Bat Conservation Trust and the Czech Union of Nature Conservationists (Daniel Horacek and Miroslav Joza).
- **Mikulov:** Like in the previous years, the event was held by the Tuřold cave. Despite huge numbers of mosquitoes present in the region, 131 people (90 adults and 40 children) came to participate in the bat night on 31 August. In total, 17 bats of seven species were netted and ringed (one individual was a retrap from the previous event and some participants remembered it), the use of bat detectors was also demonstrated. Interesting facts about bat biology and their conservation were discussed and a BBC video on bats was shown. The event was organised by the Czech Union of Nature Conservationists in co-operation with the Palava Protected Landscape Area Administration (Josef Chytil and Dagmar Chytilova) and was presented in the media (regional newspapers).
- **Podyji National Park:** This time, the European Bat Night in the Podyji National Park was a transboundary event. At a quiet border crossing (Hardegg, Austria – Cizov, Czech Republic), netting and detectoring of bats was demonstrated, a talk on bats with a slide show and a lecture on the history of the site were given, while children could make toy bats. About 80 Czechs and a similar number of Austrian people came to see the event. It was organised by the administrations of the two neighbouring national parks, the South-Moravian Museum in Znojmo and the Czech Bat Conservation Trust (about 15 people in total, including Vladimir Hanak, Antonin Reiter and Anna Hoffmannova).
- **Benesov:** The event was held in the Children and Youth Centre in the town of Benesov on 29 August. There was a small exhibition on bat life, their conservation and distribution of particular species in the Czech Republic and in the Benesov region. A talk on bats with a slide show was given. Then there was a night walk to the nearby park where bats caught in mist nets and the use of bat detectors were demonstrated (3 species have been identified). Altogether, about 60 people (mostly children) participated in the event. It was organised by two NGOs, Ochrana fauny CR and the Czech Bat Conservation Trust (Petra Nova, Ales Novy, Eva Cepakova).
- **Chrudim:** About 25 people (both adults and children) came to the municipality house on 30 August to listen to a lecture on bats (including records of bat voices and a slide show). Later in the evening, the group went to the town park where netting and detectoring of bats was demonstrated. In total, 5 bat species were detected. The event was organised by the Czech Union of Nature Conservationists and the "Zelený dum" ecocentre (Vladimir Lemberk and Frantisek Barta).

- **Ostrava:** The European Bat Night was held in the centre for ecological education, called Vita, on 31 August. The series of slides by M. Tuttle ("Just Bats") was shown, a lecture on bat species of the Czech Republic and their conservation was given, records of voices of different bat species were presented. An example bat box was made by the participants and there was also a short test of bat knowledge. At the end, the group of 26 participants walked in the city park and were demonstrated the use of bat detector. The event, organised by Martin Gajdosik, was presented in both regional radio and newspapers.
- **Ceske Budejovice:** A lecture on bat biology and conservation was given by Radek Lucan at the Faculty of Biology on 7 September. Later on, netting of bats was shown and four bat species were demonstrated. The event was announced in regional radio and was visited by about 25 people.
- **Moravsky Kras:** report not available

The European Bat Night was also held in two show-caves which are administered by the Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection. At both sites, talks on bats were given (including a slide show), records of bat voices, netting and detectoring of bats were demonstrated and the participants were also shown the cave.

- **Chynovska jeskyne** (district of Tabor): 23 August, about 50 participants, organised by Vladimir Hanzal
- **Jeskyne Na Spicaku** (district of Jesenik): 21 August, about 50 participants (mostly children and young people), organised by Jiri Safar and Dusan Duhonsky