

The stuff of nightmares



Any bat worker spends a lot of their life reassuring the public that the evil vampire bat thing is a hoax perpetuated by Hollywood and that bats – at least those found in Britain are benign cuties. This serotine might seem to blow this benevolent façade out of the water.

This is a serotine, found grounded in Essex, that Colin Edwards is looking after at the moment. It was brought in very underweight but otherwise uninjured. When presented with mealworms his response was very positive, though somewhat scary. Luckily for us Colin's nephew, Robert Chapman, had a camera to hand.

As you can see from the bottom photograph once it had feasted it turned back into very reasonable serotine.

My thanks to Colin for bringing these photos along to the talk on bat boxes and to Robert for letting me use them.

Photos by Robert Chapman

