Bob and Jude go on another Jersey Jaunt.

Bob was invited back to some more training with the Jersey Bat Group. He did an indoor session on ID by physical features and one on using detectors to ID bats in the field. The theory dealt with, we had two evenings trapping, as two members of the Jersey Bat Group have now got their licence to trap.

It was lovely to see how far the Jersey Bat Group had come since we were there last year. Lots of enthusiasm from new members and old hands.

Highlight of the night was a bat caught, that puzzled both Bob and Ani. They peered at the bat closely and came to a conclusion, but avoided jumping to conclusions. It was definitely a WAB (whiskered Brandt's or Alcathoe). Bob took the photo on this page to help identify the bat. In reality the only way to be sure is to have the DNA analysed, and we waited with bated breath for the results.

The initial analysis did not provide an ID, but the second analysis did. Ladies and gentleman the bat before



you is the extremely rare Alcathoe Bat and is the first ever record of the species in Jersey. You may have seen this photo, which Bob took of the bat,

on reports on the BBC News website and elsewhere in the media.

A remarkable Noctule

Dave Parsons has been a long term member of the bat group, but for years has been on nights and has not been able to join us at events. This year he retired (which surprise surprise he is loving) and celebrated by coming along to the AGM Shortly afterwards he sent us these amazing pictures of a Noctule flying in daylight. It had an erratic flight which can be explained by the huge tear in its left wing.

Dave has been able to join us on one of the trapping events and he had a great time.

