

## Hardwicke's woolly bat at Lower Peirce forest

**Subject:** Hardwicke's woolly bat, *Kerivoula hardwickii* (Mammalia: Chiroptera: Vespertilionidae).

**Subject identified by:** Contributor & Kelvin K. P. Lim.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Island, Central Catchment Nature Reserve, Lower Peirce boardwalk area; 24 February 2014; 1553 - 1859 hrs.

**Habitat:** Secondary lowland rainforest.

**Observer:** Contributor.

**Observation:** An example of about 6 cm body length was observed crouching with its head pointing downwards on a tree trunk some 4 m from the ground at 1553 hrs. It was motionless and apparently asleep. By 1854 hrs, it had started to move about, and then flew off into the forest about 5 minutes later.

**Remarks:** The species identification is tentative for the animal was not observed up close. *Kerivoula hardwickii* is the only species of woolly bat known thus far from Singapore Island where it was first discovered in 2008. There, it seems to be confined to the Central Catchment Nature Reserve, and has been obtained in harp traps at Upper Peirce, Upper Seletar and Chestnut Track (Leong & Lim, 2009: 87). The present record is the first from Lower Peirce, and also the first to be observed at a roost, unusually a rather exposed one. The species is known to roost in hollow trees and among clumps of dead leaves (Francis, 2008: 255).

### References:

- Francis, C. M., 2008. *A Field Guide to the Mammals of South-east Asia*. New Holland Publishers (UK) Ltd. 392 pp.  
Leong T. M. & K. K. P. Lim, 2009. Noteworthy microchiropteran records from the Bukit Timah and Central Catchment Nature Reserves, Singapore. *Nature in Singapore*. 2: 83-90.



Fig. 1. Bat when it was first sighted at 1553 hrs. Fig. 2. The same bat when it was becoming active at 1859 hrs. Photographs by Nick Baker



Fig. 3. Position of bat on the tree trunk (indicated by arrow) at 1842 hrs. Photograph by Nick Baker

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