

**The SUMMARY of this Survey is reproduced below.
The original is kept by Members of the Heritage Steering Group**

- An invertebrate and bat survey was carried out in the churchyard of St. John the Baptist church, Ruyton-XI-Towns, Shropshire during the period June 2003-April 2004.
- A total of 318 species of invertebrates were recorded by various recognised methods.
- Important species were represented by a RDB2 solitary bee *Stelis phaeoptera*, and three Nationally Scarce species of other aculeate hymenoptera, *Stelis punctulatissima*, *Chrysura radians* and *Crossocerus distinguendus*.
- The south and west facing walls of the church were found to be the most important for the aculeates and any work carried out to replace old decaying stones should take this into account.
- Mitigation suggestions relating *Stelis phaeoptera* were made.
- A good assemblage of aculeate hymenoptera and diptera were recorded. The ecology of many of the species of diptera recorded suggests the churchyard habitat borders on 'woodland edge' situations, being sheltered.
- The areas not cut regularly that achieved a good floral diversity were the most suitable habitats for a good range of invertebrates. These 'wildlife' areas should be encouraged.
- Bats were seen to use the churchyard, and some recording of species and analysis was carried out.
- Recommendations were made regarding publicising the importance of the churchyard sites as wildlife havens, even within countryside areas where modern farming methods have degraded biodiversity.