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Bat Preserve in Queensland

Dr. Les Hall reports that the Pine Rivers Shire Council recently zoned a disused railway tunnel as a bat reserve for educational and scientific use. The tunnel contains a permanent colony of Large-footed Bats (*Myotis adversus*) and is occasionally used by Schreiber's Bent-winged (*Miniopterus schreibersii*) and Southern Horseshoe Bats (*Rhinolophus magaphyllus*). Several attempts were made to establish a mushroom farm and an "underground" restaurant in the tunnel, and local vandals had dumped cars and lit fires in the entrance. The local council now has organized a clean-up of the area and has erected suitable gates across the entrance to create a bat sanctuary.

Researchers will be allowed to monitor the bats, and school children, under supervision, will be allowed to visit the tunnel to see the bats.

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