

Friends of Selsdon Wood Newsletter

December 2020

Work of FSW during this Difficult Time - Due to Covid restrictions the scheduled programme of work was cancelled this year. However, the Friends continue to work alone or in small groups at times convenient to them. Some of the tasks undertaken in the last month have been:

7th November - Clearing fallen trees in Broad Walk, Courtwood Grove and Farleigh Border.

8th & 29th November - Clearing bracken and brambles in The Gorses area to allow gorse and sapling trees to grow freely.

17th November - Fitting a lock to the door of the ladies toilets which had been standing open after the original disappeared.

22nd November - Clearing a massive fallen tree at the Avis/Beech Grove junctions.

22nd November - Clearing vegetation near the Jubilee pond so that it can be seen from the adjacent path.

Litter clearance by numerous volunteers continues on a daily basis.

Full reports of their work are given on the Workdays page of the website

<http://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/workdays.php> .

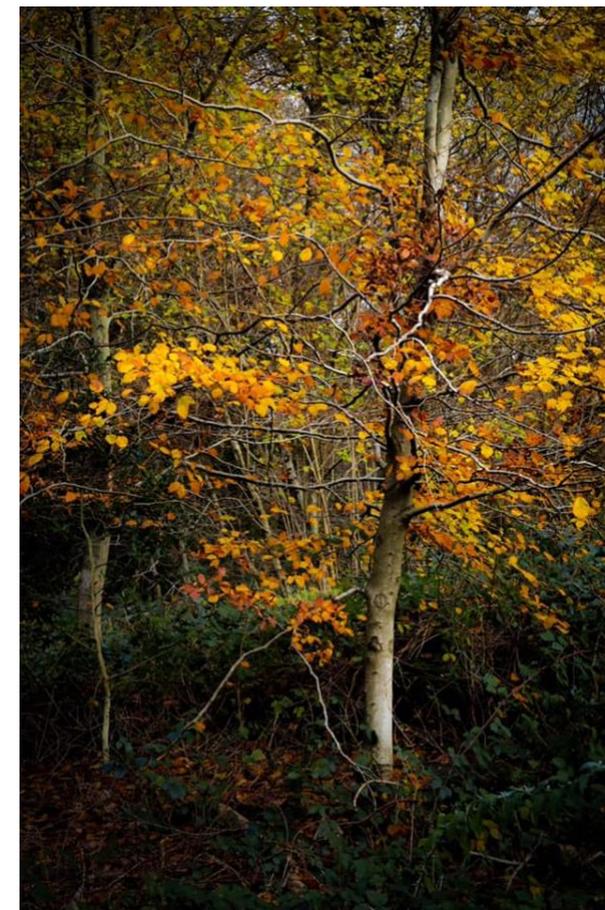
Please Do Your Bit to Help Take Care of Our Wood - We all know not to drop litter but perhaps it is not so obvious that banana skins and orange peel should also be taken home or carefully binned. Although these are natural materials that will rot down in time they are not native to this country and can be hazardous to wildlife and to dogs. Pumpkins were also left in the wood after Halloween, These are poisonous to some UK wildlife such as hedgehogs so please do not leave them in our wood next year.

FSW Facebook Group - Do join the FSW Facebook Group to keep in touch with things happening in our wood and in the surrounding area. There are posts and photos of lost and found items, sightings of flowers, fungi etc and reports of tree falls and other happenings. On November 16th Steven Budd posted this lovely photo of a little late colour still clinging to Beech trees in Leafy Grove.

Your Membership Subscription is soon due for renewal - Our Membership year runs from January 1st to December 31st and it would be very helpful to us if you could pay your 2021 subs as soon as possible. Of course, this does not apply to those of you who have standing orders and we thank you for past and future payments as these certainly make our life much easier. If you currently pay annually, please do consider a taking out standing order. We need your financial support especially this year to help plug the gap left by the reduction of Council funding for the wood and Friend's work because of Croydon Council's bankruptcy.

The FSW Calendar 2021 is still available for a donation of £5 - To get your copy phone 020-8657-0423 or email govierh@gmail.com or contact us on the addresses given in the footer below.

FSW Programme 2021 – Our program of walks, workdays and meetings for 2021 is now complete - see overleaf. All of this is subject to a declining pandemic and the rules at the time. Please add these dates to your calendar and check the website for updates.



Programme for 2021

GUIDED WALKS of DISCOVERY

All our walks are slow and easy – a meander rather than a hike! Meeting in Selsdon Wood car park, Old Farleigh Road, at time shown.

March - Sat 6th 2pm 'Family Woodland Walk' with Meike Weiser (for families with children aged 5+)

April – Sat 3rd 2pm 'Spring Walk' with the Friends

May – Sat 1st 2pm 'Bluebells and Birds' with the Friends

June - Fri 4th 8.50pm 'Bat Watch' with the Friends

June - Sun 13th 11am 'Summer Flowers' with the Friends

July - Sat 10th 11am 'Butterflies' with the Friends

July - Thurs 15th 9.00pm 'Moth Trap' with the Friends

August - Wed 18th 2pm - 'Mini-Beast Hunt' with Roger Hawkins (of interest to young children)

August - Fri 20th 7.50pm 'Bat Watch' with the Friends

September - Sun 5th - 12noon to 4pm - FSW Open Day & Selsdon Community Fun Event

October – Sat 30th 10am - 'Fungus Hunt' with the Friends

November – Sat 13th 1pm - Autumn/Winter Trees with the Friends

WORK DAYS

Habitat management and general maintenance – helping to improve our wood! You work for as long as suits you and choose jobs to suit your strengths.

*Tools are provided but please bring food and drink if you feel you need them. Meeting in Selsdon Wood car park on **Sundays at 10am.***

January 3rd & 31st, February 7th & 28th, March 7th and 28th, April 4th, May 2nd, June 6th, July 4th, August 1st, October 3rd and 31st, November 7th and 28th, December 5th

AGM & MEMBERS' MEETINGS

All are welcome to come along – we would value your opinion. If you are interested in the future of Selsdon Wood, we need your views.

Members meetings are generally on the last Monday of alternate months (except where this is a bank holiday) at 8pm at The Forum, Forestdale.

AGM – Monday March 29th

January 25th, May 17th, July 26th, September 27th, November 29th

To make enquiries or to check the above see the Walks and Workday pages of the website.