## Friends of Selsdon Wood Working to improve our wood

## Newsletter

June 2023

**Get your entries in for the 2023 Photo Competition!** – There are so many lovely photos of the wood on our Facebook page. Do please send your favourites in for our annual photo competition. Sadly, the 2022 Photo Competition had to be cancelled. After a bumper entry in 2021, with a total of 26 people sending in their photos, hardly anyone submitted an entry in 2022. By the closing date of 20<sup>th</sup> August we had just 5 entrants despite advertising on the FSW website, in the FSW Facebook group and on posters. This was really not enough to give an interesting selection to choose from so we cancelled the competition for the year.

Please don't let this happen again!! Get your photos to me asap.

Each entrant may submit up to 6 photographs taken in Selsdon Wood between 20<sup>th</sup> August 2021 and 19<sup>th</sup> August 2023. The winners will be chosen by a secret ballot of the visitors to the FSW Open Day on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Please submit your photographs to our competition organiser, Heather Govier, either in electronic format by email to <a href="mailto:govierh@gmail.com">govierh@gmail.com</a> or via the FSW Facebook page. Please send full sized images (not reduced edits) and for each photo supply a title, date and the area of the wood in which it was taken (if known). We also need your full name and contact details.

Butterfly Bank - Developments — We are delighted to tell you that Small Blue butterflies have been seen on the Butterfly Bank already this year. They were visitors to our woods for the first time last year so it is lovely to see them come back again. The food plant for their caterpillars is Kidney Vetch and there is a good crop of this on the bank already which we hope will encourage them to stay.

Eleven species of flower have been seen on the Butterfly Bank already this year:- Buttercup, Coltsfoot, Common Sorrel, Common Wintercress, Cowslip, Dandelion, Groundsel, Hawkweed, Hairy Bittercress, Kidney Vetch and Black Medick. Of these there are 4 species not seen before on the BB - Buttercup, Groundsel, Hairy Bittercress and Wintercress. The first 3 of these are fairly common elsewhere in the wood but the Wintercress (see photo) is a complete newcomer.

Bat Walk – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 8.45pm – This walk will be led by Steve Budd. The meet will be 8.45pm in the car park off Old Farleigh Road, for 9.00pm departure to Leafy Grove. Please come with suitable footwear and a torch for the walk back. Keys need to be stowed somewhere they won't jangle or will show up as 'Noctule' bats on the bat detector.

As this is a 'weather dependent' event Steve will post on the Facebook Page by midday on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June to let you know whether the walk will go ahead.

<u>Summer Flowers Walk - Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June 11am</u> – Local natural history expert Malcolm Jennings will again lead our Summer Flowers walk. Join us for a leisurely stroll to enjoy the scents and views and to see how many flowers we can spot. At least 70 different species have been seen so far this year! Some of those were early spring flowers but there are plenty out now. So this month the spotter's guide overleaf is a checklist of 28 species we hope to see.

We love to record first sightings each year so if you see any of them do let us know (with a photo if possible) via the FB page or direct to me at <a href="mailto:govierh@gmail.com">govierh@gmail.com</a>. They will then be shown on the Sightings page of our website <a href="http://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/sightings.php">http://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/sightings.php</a>. Here there are also listings of animal species seen in the wood and we would also love to hear of any you can add to the list (with photos if possible)

FSW Open Day- Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – As well as having our annual Photographic competition to be judged by the visitors, we hope to welcome back the usual craft and charity stalls. We would love to have some new craftspeople or hobbyists who would like to display (and sell) their creations. Please do pass this message on to anyone you know who may like to come. Contact FSW via email to <a href="mailto:selsdonwood@gmail.com">selsdonwood@gmail.com</a> or by text to 07979 00 2547 for more information.

phone: 020 8651 4010 mob 07979 002547 e-mail: <a href="mailto:selsdonwood@gmail.com">selsdonwood@gmail.com</a> website: <a href="mailto:www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk">www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk</a>

## White Flowers Bladder Campion White Dead Nettle **Bittercress** Hedge Bedstraw Garlic Mustard White Clover Ox-Eye Daisy - in fields -- May-Sept - fields -- in Great Field -- woodland path edges -- in field edges -- path edges -- leaves trefoil -- 4 petals - tiny flowers - leaves pointed oval -- has no sting -- leaves - in whorls leaves smell of garlic also available in pink - large tall flowers -Field Rose Hogweed Wild Strawberry Common Daisy Sanicle Stitchwort Mouse-ear - field edges - 5 petals woodland path edges -- woodland path edges -- in field borders -- in field border - path edges -- in fields in cut grass -- may also be fruits -- shiny dark leaves -- 10 petals - hedgerows -- flowers very tall -- many petals -Blue/Purple/Pink Flowers Comfrey Speedwell Pyramidal Orchid Scabious Ground Ivy Dog Rose Marjoram - in Jubilee -- in field borders -- in fields -- in fields -- in field borders -- field border - in field edges -- tall -- 4 petals -- large solitary flowers - round velvety leaves hedgerows -- attracts butterflies -Yellow Flowers Greater Yellow Rattle Medick (Black) Hawkweed Yellow Archangel Birds Foot Trefoil Goatsbeard Buttercup - widespread in fields -- David's Crook path -- scattered in fields -- widespread in fields woodland path edges -- in fields -- solitary flowers -- trefoil leaves -- flowers in clusters -- seed heads rattle -- long bracts -

phone: 020 8651 4010 mob 07979 002547 e-mail: <a href="mailto:selsdonwood@gmail.com">selsdonwood@gmail.com</a> website: <a href="mailto:www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk">www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk</a>