

Cubs & Scouts Litter Pick - Saturday 2nd February 2019

The FSW were approached in January 2019 by Paul Burns, Group Scout Leader, to tell us that the Scout groups would like to do a litter pick in our wood on 2nd February. We were delighted to be involved and we advised them that the area of Court Wood adjacent to Courtwood Lane would be the best location as the litter has been building up there over this winter, worsened by the fact that for some reason the Council have removed the bin by the bus stop. The last litter pick in this area was carried out in 2015 - also by local scout groups. Tracey Bellamy confirmed that the Council Clean and Green team would be able to support the activity by providing orange collecting bags, hi-viz jackets, gloves and litter pickers.

All the volunteers and the Council team met at 10am beside the wood and, suitably equipped, the volunteers worked tirelessly for an hour and a half in cold weather with some lying snow. By 11.30 we had collected around 20 bags of rubbish - see photo. The Croydon team returned to collect their kit and the rubbish was left by the roadside to be collected by Veolia (Croydon's waste disposal contractor).

The photo shows some of the cubs, scouts and families who helped. Around a dozen youngsters turned up to help although most of them had left before the photo was taken. **Thank you so much to everyone who came to help!**

The photo also shows the Don't Mess With Croydon logo. You can get a "Don't Mess With Croydon" App for your phone which allows you to report fly-tipping. You just take a photo with your phone and send it to the App. We recommend this very highly as, in cases where we have used this, the rubbish has been removed the next day.

















This Month's Walk on Saturday 9th March @ 2pm - Family Woodland Walk' with Meike Weiser

Meet Meike Weiser, Community Partnership Officer, for a ramble through the wood: find seasonal things, make leaf crowns, look for animal tracks and maybe build a den or fairy house. Please come dressed for the Outdoors - wellies and waterproofs as well as a drink and a snack to have a mid-afternoon picnic in the woods. 2-3 hour event aimed at children 5+ and their families. For further information please contact biodiversity@croydon.gov.uk or call Parks on 020 8726 6000

FSW AGM - Monday 25th March 2016 8pm at the Forestdale Forum - All members of the FSW are invited to the Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Selsdon Wood. Agenda items will include: election of Management Committee and Officers, report from Chair, Treasurer's report & approval of 2018 accounts and an annual review of membership arrangements including the proposal that the membership fee should be held at £5 for a further year. The reports from the Chair and Treasurer will also be posted on the FSW website in due course.

Subscription Reminder - Many thanks to everyone who has now paid their subs for 2019. If you have not yet paid do please let us have your £5 asap or better still set up a standing order so that you won't have to give it another thought in future years. Please make the payment to: Friends of Selsdon Wood at Barclays Bank, Croydon Branch, Account No. 80883832, Sort Code 20-24-61 - or by cash or cheque to FSW Treasurer, 68 Greville Avenue, South Croydon, CR2 8NL

The Bird Sanctuary - To many Selsdon Wood is known as The Bird Sanctuary. Winter is much the best time for spotting birds when they are not hidden amongst the foliage. **Our page 2 feature this month shows some of the birds that have been seen (or heard) in our wood in the past few months.**

<p>Selsdon Wood Birds</p> <p>Although not all the photographs are from this season all of these birds have been photographed in our wood at some time and seen or heard during the winter of 2018-19. Crows and Magpies are also seen daily in fields</p>	<p>Buzzard</p>  <p>Seen soaring over David's Crook on 17/1/19.</p>	<p>Chaffinch</p>  <p>Seen bathing in the Jubilee pool on 19/1/19</p>	<p>Blackbirds</p>  <p>Male and female together, Photographed by Tony Flecchia on 21/1/19</p>	<p>Ring-necked Parakeets</p>  <p>The lower one gnawing at the bark for food. Photographed by Tony Flecchia on 21/1/19</p>
<p>Wood Pigeon</p>  <p>Taking shelter in the ivy. Photographed by Tony Flecchia on 21/1/19</p>	<p>Wren</p>  <p>Seen in Vale Border hedgerow on 21/1/19</p>	<p>Jay</p>  <p>Seen from behind showing its colours. Photographed by Tony Flecchia on 25/1/19</p>	<p>Treecreeper</p>  <p>Seen by Great field by Ruth & Stephen Budd on 30/1/19.</p>	<p>Robin</p>  <p>On marker post at SE corner of David's Crook. Photographed by Tony Flecchia on 12/2/19</p>
<p>Redwing</p>  <p>A winter visitor from Scandinavia. Photographed by Tony Flecchia on 13/2/19</p>	<p>Great Tit</p>  <p>Many heard calling throughout the wood on 15/2/19</p>	<p>Great Spotted Woodpecker</p>  <p>Heard rapidly hammering on several trees in turn in Court Wood on 15/2/19</p>	<p>Black Headed Gull</p>  <p>Inland for the winter. Photographed by Tony Flecchia on 19/2/19</p>	<p>Nuthatch</p>  <p>Heard giving its distinctive "weep,weep" call in Broad Walk on 20/2/19.</p>