



Linden Glade - You may have noticed some changes in Linden Glade. This special place in the wood gains its name from the five Lime trees planted in a semicircle around the edge of the glade. At the centre is the cairn and memorial bird pool presented by Colonel and Mrs Wood of Kensington at the time of the opening of Selsdon Wood as a public Nature Reserve in 1930. Colonel H S Wood's ashes are scattered here and there is small memorial stone with the inscription of this quotation from Henry Van Dyke's poem 'God of the Open Air' followed by the appeal: **We dearly loved the birds - Be kind to them.**

These are the things we prize and hold of dearest worth:

**The light of the sapphire skies, Peace of the silent hills,
Shelter of the forests, comfort of the grass,
Music of birds, murmur of little rills.**



The old pond Linden Glade disappeared when Croydon Council disconnected the water supply many years ago. It had gradually filled with mud and leaf litter - so much so that some walkers have reported that they did not even know there was a pond in that location. The Friends decided to have a general clean up in the area and we discovered that the liner was filled with heavy mud with no animal life except worms. The Iris growing there were carefully lifted and put aside and a start was made to remove some of the vegetation around the edge. When the surface of the concrete is cleaned we might be able to see whether we could make a repair and revive the pond. A newt was found sheltering under a rock and a calling Canada Goose flew over as we were working.

FSW Logs - We still have a few air-dried logs available for a donation of £4 per sack. Please contact Neale Fox for information or to arrange collection – phone 020-8657 0384 or e-mail logs.selsdonwood@btinternet.com

Get snapping now for the 2016 Photo Competition!! - Since 2010 we have held an annual Photographic Competition and details of last year's winners can be seen on the website. There are cash prizes to be won and now that the woods are looking so lovely with the Bluebells it is a good time to get out there with your cameras. Each entrant may submit up to 6 photographs taken in Selsdon Woods between 20th August 2015 and 20th August 2016. As usual the winners will be chosen by a secret ballot of the visitors to the FSW Open Day in September 2016. Please submit your photographs to our competition organiser, Heather Govier, either in electronic format by email to selsdonwood@gmail.com or as prints to 219 Oswald, Courtwood Lane, Croydon. CR0 9HG.

The Oak is out before the Ash☺ - The old wives' tale has it that: "If the Oak comes out before the Ash, then the summer will be a splash. But if the Ash comes out before the Oak, then the summer will be a Soak." You will be delighted to know that the Oak leaves started bursting over a week ago whereas the Ash is only just peeping through. So with luck we should be in for a dry(ish) summer. Read more at www.theweatherclub.org.uk/features/article/behind-the-folklore-oak-and-ash
The photo, taken on 26th April, shows the beautiful Oak in Great Field backing Steven's Larch.



This Month's Walk Saturday 7th May @ 2pm - Bluebells & Birds with the FSW

- Although the wood anemones are past their best the bluebells are looking splendid and we are hoping that they remain that way for another week until our next walk. Join us for a leisurely stroll to enjoy the scents and views and to listen for birdsong and see how many birds and butterflies we can spot. This month's Spotters' Guide (see over) shows 14 of the birds you might hope to see with a hint about how to recognize their calls.

<p>Birds in Selsdon Wood</p> <p>Here are some of the birds you may spot on our May walk. Ted will be leading and will draw attention to their calls & songs but these are some hints of what to listen out for. Look out too for shed feathers and perhaps also for broken shells found on the ground below nests after the broods have hatched.</p>	<p>Crow</p>  <p>In the Fields. Loud "Caw Caw"</p>	<p>Magpie</p>  <p>Widespread in fields & woods. Rattling alarm call</p>	<p>Jackdaw</p>  <p>In flocks in fields especially F1. Distinctive "Jack Jack"</p>	<p>Jay</p>  <p>In fields and woods. A loud "Squawk"</p>
<p>Blackbird (with leucism)</p>  <p>This unusual b&w blackbird was spotted by Ted in April. Keep a look out for it.</p>	<p>Buzzard</p>  <p>Soaring high over fields, especially David's Crook.</p>	<p>Collared Dove</p>  <p>Fields and woods. Monotonous "Coo,COO,COO".</p>	<p>Woodpigeon</p>  <p>Fields and woods. "I love you people, I love you people, I do"</p>	<p>Nuthatch</p>  <p>In woodland. Usual call is "Weep Weep" but spring song is a sustained rapid trill</p>
<p>Robin</p>  <p>In hedgerows. Rich and varied singing.</p>	<p>Great Tit</p>  <p>In woodland. "Teacher, teacher"</p>	<p>Song Thrush</p>  <p>In woodland. Varied phrases, each repeated 3 times</p>	<p>Greater Spotted Woodpecker</p>  <p>In woods. Loud drumming and a "Tchick" call - repeated rapidly when alarmed.</p>	<p>Pheasant</p>  <p>Occasional in woodland & fields. A rattling "Squawk, squawk".</p>