

FSW Work in the Wood - Although the workday at the end of the month was cancelled due to rain, at the beginning of the month, on 3rd October, a group of Friends spent their time on Vale Border, first cutting overhead branches which were forming a tunnel then concentrating on removing a large tree in Field 2 which had fallen over a bench. They also removed and demolished one of the seats on the side of the field which had fallen into serious disrepair. The plaque from that seat, dedicated to Murray Silverstone, will be attached to the adjacent bench

The remaining volunteers returned to The Gorses to continue opening up the area by selectively removing sycamore saplings, bramble and bracken, whilst retaining any rowan, oak and gorse seedlings. A pile of branches which were cut two years ago, along with one of the many recent piles of cut materials were disposed of in the nearby woodland. Full reports of their work are given on the Workdays page of the website <http://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/workdays.php> .

Open Day 2022 Help Required - Most of you will have received a message from us last month about our need for help if Open Day is to go ahead on 4th September 2022. This year's event was very successful as reported in the October newsletter but was organised pretty much single-handedly by our secretary, Linda Morris and more hands are needed to lighten her work for next year's event. Thank you so much to all those who have already replied, offering their services both with the planning and with hands-on activities on the day. If you are able to help in any way to ensure that we can all meet again in 2022 it is not too late to respond. Do please get in touch to let us know what you can do.

A new Bench on the Vanguard Way In 2020 we saw that, in their Annual Review, the Vanguard Way Trust had made reference to a promise by FSW to install a seat on the Vanguard Way. We had no memory of such a promise but we did know that there was a need for a resting place at the top of the steep pull from Vale Border up the Addington Border to Broad Walk. Wheels turned a little slowly because of the pandemic but in September 2021 we installed this bench at the junction - see photograph.

Disc Golf in our Wood? In mid-October we were approached by a representative of Croydon Disc Golf Club proposing the installation of a disc golf course in our wood. Consultation with the FSW Committee via email and the wider membership of FSW via Facebook showed that there is universal, vehement opposition to the idea of a disc golf course in our wood. The overwhelming consensus is that Selsdon Wood is a nature reserve, not a park and that all games and sporting activities are totally inappropriate in this setting. We fed this back to the Croydon Disc Golf Club and they have decided to abandon the idea 😊

Last Month's Walk – Fungus Hunt – Ted Forsyth led the walk on 30th October. Twenty hardy souls gathered in the car park all dressed to deal with the expected rain showers. Despite the forecast, they met no rain and even had a period of bright sun. After several weeks of research by Ted, he was able to point out 49 species on this very successful walk (see the Walks page of the website <http://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/walks.php> for details).

This Month's Walk – Autumn/Winter Trees on Saturday November 13th @ 1pm – Join us at the car park for a 2 hour walk to enjoy the autumn colours. This is our last guided walk of the year so we hope to see you there.

The FSW Calendar 2022 is 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 - See below for a reminder of some of the beautiful photographs included in next year's calendar



FSW Calendar 2022

Cover Photo - Bluebells by Terri McNally



January

Albino Grey Squirrel by Tony Flecchia



February

Drone snow photo by Lee Butcher



March

David's Crook by Janet Jones



April

This Will Make A Nice Nest by John Zareba



June

Meadow in the Rain by Mogens Holmen



August

Roe Deer by Stuart Simms



December

Ball Of Fluff by Steve Budd

