

FSW Open Day - 13th September 2015 - Our Open Day was a great success - see the Events page of the website for a full report. The main work of planning and preparation was all down to our secretary and Open Day Organiser, Linda Morris so we owe her a huge vote of thanks. The rest of the FSW Committee - and members of their families - also worked hard on the day - thanks to each of them for their efforts. On behalf of the FSW, I should also like to say thank you for prizes and sweets donated by Snappy Snaps, Vintage 62, Clarks Newsagents and Friends. Thanks too to Jon Wren of Croydon Council for arranging for the grass cutting and subsequent clearing.

FSW Photo Competition 2015 - There were 15 entrants who submitted over 60 photographs. From these, a shortlist of 42 were selected and printed for display on the FSW Open Day on 13th September 2015 when the public were invited to participate in a secret ballot to select the winners. Almost 100 visitors voted and the winners are:

First Prize - of £50 + Snappy Snaps Voucher - Goldcrest by Tony Flecchia - shown right - taken in Court Wood with a Canon SX40HS on 27/4/15. (Tony has donated his prize to the FSW - many thanks Tony!)

Second Prize - of £20 + Snappy Snaps Voucher - Large Fungi by Mark Shoesmith taken in Green Hill Shaw with a Nikon D7000 on 6/2/15.

Third Prize - of £10 - The Eye of the Hornet by Mark Shoesmith taken in Steven's Walk with a Nikon D7000 on 5/10/14.

See all winners and shortlisted photos on the Photo Competition page of our website and get snapping now for the 2016 Competition!!



The FSW Calendar 2016 is now available for a donation of £5 - Phone 020-8657 0423 or e-mail selsdonwood@gmail.com















FSW Logs and Charcoal - We now have available some air-dried logs and there is still a very small amount of the charcoal we made last year. We will be delighted to let you have bags of charcoal (3 kilos) now for a discounted donation of £5 each and sacks of logs for £4 each. Please contact Neale Fox for information or to arrange collection – phone 020-8657 0384 or e-mail logs.selsdonwood@btinternet.com.

Redecoration of the Toilet Block - Sharp-eyed walkers amongst you will have noticed a fresh coat of paint on the doors to the toilet block. The interior has also been repainted and a new door put on the Ladies as the old one was rotten. All this work was completed by contractors for the Council in August. Sadly the toilets remain closed except when someone from the FSW is around to open them up as they are subject to vandalism when left open and unattended. However, they are now much cleaner looking and can be made available for FSW walks and events or when schools visit our woods.

Wildlife in Selsdon Wood - Our website Flora, Fauna and Fungi pages show much of the wildlife to be found in our wood but it is interesting when other websites also report on their sightings. See two fascinating illustrated accounts by Will Penrose of his visits to our wood and encounters with our White Squirrel and Great Spotted Woodpecker wildsouthlondon.wordpress.com. Also take a look at this great blog about the Selsdon Wood white squirrel written by our regular contributor and photo competition winner Mark Shoesmith <http://www.shoeyphoto.com/blog/2015/3/22/albino-squirrels-in-selsdon-wood>.

FSW Autumn Walk - Fruit and Fungi on Sunday October 11th @ 10am - Ted and Tony will again lead this walk and have already started the advanced spotting to ensure that there is lots to show.

Our spotters' guide this month shows the diverse shapes and colours of some fungi you might hope to see on the day.

<p>Diverse Fungi you might hope to see on our walk on 11th October - all were seen on last year's walk</p> <p>The notes give a clue as to where they may be found. See the FSW website for further information and lots more fungi.</p> <p>All photographs taken in Selsdon Wood.</p>	<p>Beefsteak</p>  <p>Seen on last year's autumn walk in Noakes Way. Often appears to be "bleeding" as here.</p>	<p>Honey Fungus</p>  <p>Widespread, growing on dead wood. A destructive parasite that kills trees.</p>	<p>Amethyst Deceiver</p>  <p>Seen in David's Path on last year's autumn walk. Loses its colour quickly - hence "Deceiver".</p>	<p>Jelly Ear</p>  <p>Grows on old, dead or dying Elder trees. Also called Jew's Ear - see FSW website for explanation.</p>
<p>Yellow Stagshorn</p>  <p>Regularly seen on a Pine stump in West Gorse and another in The Wend.</p>	<p>King Alfred's Cakes</p>  <p>Grow on logs and stumps of Ash. Hard and spherical, it looks like burnt cakes.</p>	<p>Leafy Brain</p>  <p>See this year in Avis Grove. The shape of this specimen shows where the name comes from.</p>	<p>Stump Puff Ball</p>  <p>Small, common fungus growing on tree stumps. Spores are released in a puff when it is touched.</p>	<p>Twig Parachute</p>  <p>A tiny fungus that grows on Bramble stems. You will need to look closely to spot them.</p>
<p>Saffrondrop Bonnet</p>  <p>There are many different "Bonnet" fungi - this one named by its colour. Most are very small.</p>	<p>Birch Polypore</p>  <p>A large, bracket fungus growing on Birch. The underside is white and has pores not gills.</p>	<p>Sycamore Tar Spot</p>  <p>Spots on Sycamore and Maple leaves. Does not damage the tree but causes early leaf fall.</p>	<p>Turkeytail</p>  <p>A small, widespread fungus with banded colours like the tail of a turkey. Grows on logs and stumps.</p>	<p>Candlesnuff</p>  <p>A small fungus that looks like the snuffed wicks of candles. Common on mossy stumps.</p>