Friends of Selsdon Wood 🚿

Working to improve our wood

Newsletter

September 2015

Please Come to Join our Litter Pick on 30th September 5.30-6.30pm in Fox Shaw - Our highly successful litter pick back in February prompted an approach in August by the leader of a local Beaver Colony who suggested a joint litter pick during one of their weekly meetings. The stretch of Selsdon Wood where we did the litter pick before is fairly clear at the moment and there are no other major litter problems within the wood but we had noticed lots of litter in the strip of wood called Fox Shaw that runs along the north western border of the wood, adjacent to the bird estate (Quail Gardens/Turnstone Close). This location was acceptable to the Beaver group so we contacted the Clean and Green Coordinator at the Council who readily offered their support. Do please come along to join in. The Council will provide litter-pickers, glove and bags and will clear away everything that we collect. Badges and t-shirts will also be supplied to those who would like them. Back in February we managed to collect half a ton of litter - let's see if we can beat that this month.

Minibeast Hunt - Wednesday 19th August 2015 - led by Roger Hawkins & Vic Wallace -

This event was attended by more than 25 adults each of whom was accompanied by at least one child. After a brief introduction from Roger & Vic, all the children were issued with collecting tubes and set off around the car park field to see what could be found. With better hearing than us oldies, almost all were able to find the chirruping grasshoppers and crickets and with better vision they could even count the spots on the tiniest of ladybirds. To finish the session we all walked up into David's Crook to look for butterflies on the marjoram patch and to beat the hedgerows on the way to knock the minibeasts lurking there onto a catching sheet. More than 25 different species of minibeasts were found and identified - including even a small frog (see photo) - and a good time was had by all. Many thanks to Roger and Vic from Croydon Natural History Society for their excellent leadership and for freely providing all the equipment.



Our next walk is the annual Autumn Fruit and Fungi Walk on Sunday October 11th @ 10am - be sure to put this date in your diary.

FSW 2016 Calendar is now available and will be available on Open Day - for the usual donation of £5. The calendar contains beautiful seasonal photographs of our wood including the winner and runners up from last year's Photo Competition. To order your copy please get in touch through phone, email or website.

FSW Open Day - Sunday September 13th from 12 noon until 4pm - The event is held beside the Selsdon Wood car park in Old Farleigh Road. The FSW have a meet-and-greet information stand, a tombola and white elephant stall and a display of the shortlisted entries for the 2015 Photo Competition. As usual the winners will be chosen by you so do come along and take part in the secret ballot by choosing your 3 favourites. There will be guided walks suitable for all and a story-time session for the children. Other guest stallholders include East Surrey Woodturners, Selsdon Ceramics and Friends of the Earth and this year we have two new attractions - a Sri Lankan Toy Stall and some rescued ferrets.

We always need more help on this day. If you could spare an hour or two, please let us know there is sure to be a job to suit you.

- From 9-11.30, we need help putting up the gazebos and setting out the displays.
- Then, from 11.30 until about 3.45 we need general help on the stalls selling tickets, books, logs and white elephants, encouraging children to take part in the Scavenger hunt and talking to them about what they can see in the wood, telling adults about the wood and what FSW does in and for it.
- Of course, after 4pm, there is the clearing up to do but, with sufficient help, this should all be done by 5pm.

Do please come along to help and support us in any way you can!

Our spotters' guide this month shows some of the stalls we shall be hosting on Open Day.

