



See page 2 for a note from the Chair about the updated Constitution and a request for help with the calendars from the Secretary.

Upcoming events

Guided Walks of Discovery – join us for a gentle walk of around 2 hours.

See this page for more information: <https://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/walks.php>



Wednesday 12th August: 'Mini Beast Hunt' with Roger Hawkins

Suited to children and their accompanying adults. Meet in the car park at 2pm. We recommend wearing trousers and closed shoes (due to the present of ticks), plus a sunhat.



Saturday 19th September: Autumn/Winter Trees with Frank Oko. Meet in the car park at 1pm.

Volunteer sessions – come along and help: Habitat management and general maintenance. We have jobs to suit all strengths, help for as long as it suits you. We provide the tools but please bring snacks/drinks if needed. We would really appreciate some new volunteers joining in – contact us for more information or see <https://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/volunteer-sessions.php>

Meet in the car park at **10am** on these dates:

Sunday 9th August

Sunday 6th September

Sunday 27th September



Volunteer sessions in July 2026

Raise money for Friends of Selsdon Wood while you shop online.

Easyfundraising partners with over 8,000 retailers, so we can earn cashback. Sign up here:

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/friends-of-selsdon-wood/zz8ljy/c2s/PDCY81lu/CE995/facebook/16.01>



Thanks to Colin and James for your work managing fallen trees and resetting signposts. Thanks to Ted for caring for the Wild Service sapling and removing a fallen tree. Thank you to Linda and David for clearing brambles round Linden Glade pool. Thank you to John Z and Lucinda for topping up the Jubilee Pond water level. Thank you to Chris Green for taking over the bat surveys.

Message from the Chair, David Debenham

Constitution Update

The [revised Constitution is now available on our website](#) following the recent consultation. A number of helpful suggestions were received, mainly relating to clarity and small amendments, and these have all been incorporated into the final version. As no Friends raised objections to the proposed changes, the updated Constitution will now come into use immediately. The formal ratification will take place at the AGM in April rather than at a Special General Meeting. Our updated Safeguarding Policy is also now live on the website.

Fly-tipping and Fallen Trees

A reminder to all Friends: please report any fly-tipping, large fallen trees, or similar issues that are beyond our capacity to manage. These tasks fall within the Council's woodland management plan, and they should respond promptly once notified. To help them act quickly and accurately, please use the following tools when reporting:

What3words app to pinpoint the exact location

LoveCleanStreets app to submit the report (photos can be uploaded directly through the app)



Your vigilance helps keep Selsdon Wood safe, clean, and enjoyable for everyone.

Volunteering opportunity: Our Secretary now has the stock of 2027 calendars but would like someone to take over the distribution of them from her in the interests of sharing out FSW tasks. This is a job that is not too onerous as we now have only 50 to 'sell' by January 1st.

To avoid tax complications and maintain our Gift Aid status, we ask for a minimum *donation* of £5 each (plus postage costs when required of £2.50 for 2nd class and £4 for 1st class) rather than quoting an actual price.

We will be asking for all orders to be placed through the FSW email and the Secretary will pass them on to whoever is holding the calendars for their distribution and the collection of the monies. The calendars will be available on our stall at the Community Event on 6th September so whoever volunteers to help with the 'sales' could perhaps take them home after then. If they could look after them on that day too, that would be even more helpful as we do not have a lot of help with the stall generally.

The help with the calendars could be the ideal job for a Friend who cannot join in the work sessions in the wood. Please think if you could assist with it: reply via selsdonwood@gmail.com if you need more information or wish to offer your help.

News from the Butterfly Bank – text and photos by Valerie Baldry



Some solitary bees, notably the Mason, Leafcutter and Yellow-faced, use hollow stems to nest and lay their eggs. I was given some hollow stems and tied them into little bundles which I affixed to the bank fence (see the example on the left). I am now calling these bee hovels as you will see from the photos that I have since been given a bee mansion by Karen, our Treasurer. Then I received another gift of bamboo stems which Jim, another committee member, has made into a bee house. Our bees now have plenty of choice.

I only hope this will be more successful than my attempts at bee drinking water containers. I have tried flat dishes and all shapes of glass jars but every container is emptied of water by other thirsty animals and birds. I fill them each day and they are upturned and empty by the evening. Last week I came across a crow standing by one of my empty containers. I spoke harshly to him but he stood his ground looking expectantly at me. I realised he knew what I am doing and was waiting for me to refill his water. We walk through the woods observing its denizens and learning their habits. They are watching us and learning too.



We want to see your photos!

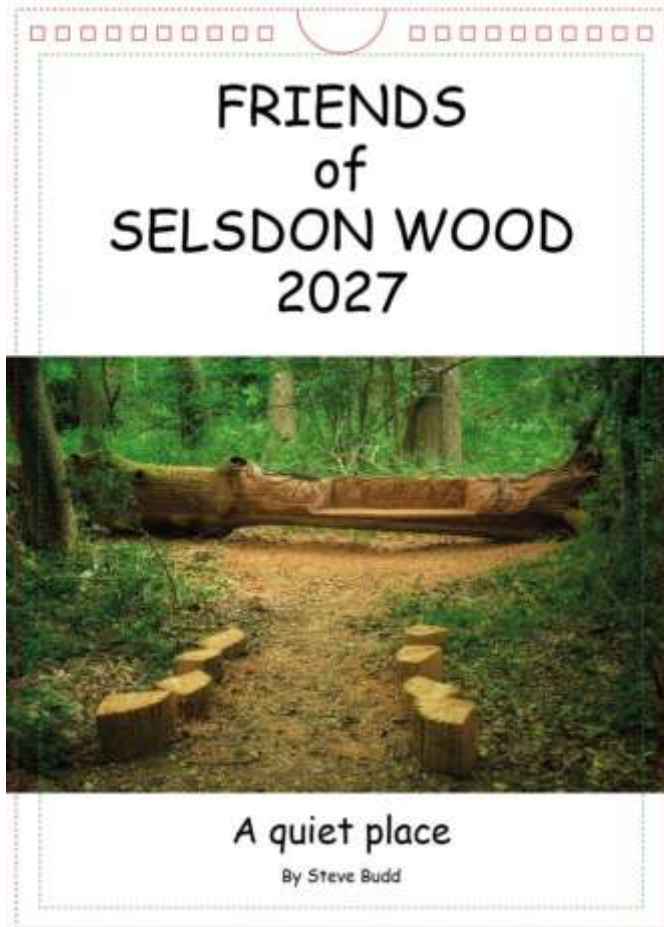
- You don't have to own a dedicated camera; camera phone images are welcome.
- Photos must have been taken **in Selsdon Wood between 20th August 2025 and 19th August 2026**. There is no limit on how many photos you can enter. **Closing date: 20th August 2026**
- A selection of the photos submitted will be put to a secret ballot at the Selsdon Community Event on Sunday 6th September 2026 and the three receiving the most votes will receive cash prizes - 1st £50, 2nd £20 and 3rd £10.
- Email full sized images with a title and details of where you took them to: selsdonwood@gmail.com
- By sending your photographs you agree that they may be used and displayed by the FSW.



2027 CALENDAR NOW AVAILABLE

for a minimum donation of £5

plus post and packing costs of £2.50 for 2nd class or £4.00 for first class



Calendars will be available at our stall at the Selsdon Community Event on 6th September

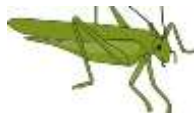
Or you can order via

selsdonwood@gmail.com

giving your address and contact details so we can arrange payment and collection/delivery.



Mini-Beast Hunt



with Roger Hawkins and the Friends
Wednesday 12th August @ 2pm

This event is great fun for accompanied children aged approx. 5-11years
Come to have fun and learn all about minibeasts!

Meet in Selsdon Wood car park off Old Farleigh Road CR2 8QF

Participants are loaned collecting pots/nets.

They are taken on a walk to hunt in the fields and hedgerows for minibeasts of all shapes and sizes.

Then they show them to our team of experts who will try to name each specimen.

Any queries: e-mail selsdonwood@gmail.com

or enquire via the secretary [by text to 07979 002547](tel:07979002547).

See our website www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk and our Facebook page for our full programme and more information about our wood.