

Annual Photographic Competition - There are just a couple of weeks left to enter our 2023 Photo Competition! Please send in up to 6 of your favourite photographs taken in Selsdon Wood between 1st September 2021 and 20th August 2023. A shortlist of the 50 best entries will be selected and printed for display at the FSW Open Day on Sunday 3rd September when the public will be invited to participate in a secret ballot to select the winners. The photograph with the most votes will win a cash prize of £50, donated by a generous sponsor. An entry form and details of how to submit your photos are on the website Photo Competition page <http://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/photo-competition.php> .

Last Month's Work Session - Sunday 2nd July – The Butterfly Bank fence is in need of repair and we made a start on this job by replacing several stakes and strimming some of the long grass on the top side of the bank. More work will be done on this at a later date. We cleared encroaching vegetation around several seats in Great Field & David's Crook and cut down one large Laurel. Laurel is an invasive species, and we try to keep it under control in our wood. The cut Laurel branches were placed on top of old dead branches to prevent them touching the ground where they could reroot. Finally, two fallen trees were cleared from blocked paths.

Linden Glade Pool Project – The repair and refurbishment of the pool in Linden Glade is an ongoing project which will, we hope, be completed in the next month or two. The pool has been leaking badly for a few years now and we plan to reline it with fiberglass, erect a fence around it to keep out people and dogs and then refill it. The surrounding area will be landscaped, and the pool planted with vegetation to encourage rich biodiversity. A full account of the project can be seen on our website at <https://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/linden-glade-pool-development.php> . Many thanks to everyone who has donated to help us fund this work. If you would like to chip in too, you can do so by direct payment to our bank account or through Just Giving at <https://checkout.justgiving.com/c/3088192> .



















Last Month's Butterfly Walk - Saturday July 9th – In less than favourable conditions, and with a threat of thundery showers, Daniel Bound led a group of 18 on the Butterfly Walk. The Butterfly Bank was a disappointment but elsewhere in Field 1 we saw Meadow Brown, Large White, Marbled White and Small Skipper. Crossing the corner of Field 2 we entered David's Crook where we found more Marbled Whites and added Large Skipper and Gatekeeper. Via Pool Grove and Linden Glade we followed West Gorse and saw many Ringlets which were the most numerous species seen during the walk. In The Wend there was another Meadow Brown, a definite Essex Skipper and more Ringlets. On the route back to the car park we saw a Red Admiral in Great Field. In three places during the walk we felt raindrops but nothing developed until after the walk when quite heavy rain fell. Many thanks to Daniel Bound for leading the walk ☺

This Month's Mini-Beast Hunt - Wednesday August 16th at 2pm - with Roger Hawkins - This is a fun event of interest to young children and their parents. After an introduction from Roger, the children will be equipped with nets and collecting tubes and sent off to hunt around the car park field to see what they can find. There will be several of us back at base to help identify all findings. See overleaf for some of what you might expect to find and **happy minibeast spotting** ☺

This Month's Bat Walk – Friday 18th August 7.30pm – All Bat Walks are limited to 30 participants and must be pre-booked. Contact Steve Budd at danceswithwolvezs@gmail.com to reserve your place.

The FSW Calendar 2024 is now available for a donation of £5 - For your copy e-mail govierh@gmail.com or phone 0208 657 0423

Open Day - Sunday 3rd September - We do hope you will be able to help us have a successful Open Day - either by donating items for the white elephant stall & tombola, helping on the day, or just coming - and bringing your friends and family too. If you have any suitable folding tables we could borrow to use for our displays, do please let us know via the links below. A poster is attached for you to circulate as you wish or perhaps just display in your window.

<p>Minibeasts - to be found in Selsdon Wood.</p> <p>Bring your children and grandchildren and join us to hunt for them on 16th August All photographs taken in Selsdon Wood.</p>	<p>Ladybird - 7 spot</p> 	<p>Ladybird - 14 spot</p> 	<p>Comb-footed Spider</p> 	<p>6-Spot Burnet Moth</p> 
<p>Burnet Moth Chrysalis Case</p> 	<p>Oak Bush Cricket</p> 	<p>Ant Damsel Bug</p> 	<p>Roesel's Bush Cricket</p> 	<p>Cuckoo Bee</p> 
<p>Earwig</p> 	<p>Silver-washed Fritillary</p> 	<p>Small Copper</p> 	<p>Small Tortoiseshell</p> 	<p>Speckled Wood</p> 
<p>Ladybird larva</p> 	<p>Shield Bug</p> 	<p>Hoverfly</p> 	<p>Snail</p> 	<p>Swollen-legged Flower Beetle</p> 