



Student Filming in Selsdon Wood 9th and 11th November - In November our wood had a visit from a group of students in Filmmaking, at Kingston University. They were led by Jade Lederer who was directing an adaptation of "The Wonderful Musician", a Grimm's fairytale, as part of her assessed coursework. We gave her and her art director a tour of the wood looking for suitable locations and after they had cleared everything with the Council they came to film on 9th and 11th of November. The weather was kind to them on both days and I saw them shooting by one of our significant landmarks at the junction of Bluebell Grove and The Wend on Monday and near the Monster Trees in Beech Grove on Wednesday (see photo). We are told that the film will be available on the web in due course and we shall be sure to let you know when it appears.



FSW Workdays - Winter Season 2015/6 - On our November workdays volunteers continued creating glades in the woodland on the right of Greenhill Way removing Sycamore and other straggly species to let in more light and to encourage more flora. Our chainsaw expert cut well-seasoned logs and we filled about 30 sacks for use in wood-burning stoves (see below). In addition to the workdays, on two separate occasions Ted and Malcolm Bridge tackled the Ash saplings in the Centenary Plantation with a brush-cutter - see the Management section of the website for details. Our last workday of the year is on Sunday December 6th - we would love you to join us.

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) 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.

Display and Museum - The FSW has been given permission by the Council to use the old warden's room in the toilet block as a visitors' room for displays on occasions when we have events and activities in the wood. We had a lovely display of fungi and fruits photos on the occasion of our October fungi walk and we are building a little "museum" of natural items found in the wood including the skulls of badgers, foxes, deer and squirrels. Our latest addition is a display showing an owl pellet and all the bones to be found within it. If you can't get along to see the real thing take a look at the photos on the website.

Green & Red Walks - For those walking unaccompanied, the Friends have produced a Guide to the Red and Green Walking Routes through Selsdon Wood. These are marked by wooden posts and start at the car park. The guide may be downloaded from the website where there is also an accompanying illustrated guide to Autumn Leaves. Alternatively you can access a seasonal version of the guides on your smartphone using the QR codes attached to the numbered wooden posts.



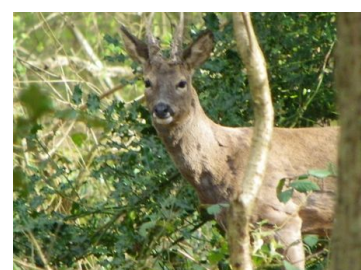


Our next Guided walk entitled Winter Trees is on Saturday 9th January 2016 at 1pm. - We shall be looking at how bark and buds can be used to identify trees in winter and there will be an accompanying display in the visitors' room. Do join us to walk off some of the Xmas excess.

A few copies of the FSW Calendar 2016 are still available for a donation of £5 - Phone 020-8657 0423 or e-mail selsdonwood@gmail.com to reserve your copy.




Lost Property Box - Next time you visit the wood take a look in the lost property box on the back of the notice board by the car park - there may be something of yours in there. Currently contents include a scarf, several hats and gloves and a child's toy police helmet.

See the December Spotters' Guide for some of the sights that may be seen in our wood this month.




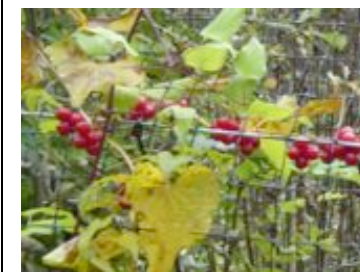

Five Vertebrates - Mammals or Birds

				
<p>White Squirrel - if you are lucky - at the junction of Beech grove and Langford's Way</p>	<p>Grey Squirrel - sure to see somewhere - the most common wild mammal in the woods</p>	<p>Roe Deer - if you are lucky - anywhere in the woods and fields</p>	<p>Crow - in the fields - see them pecking for worms - often in pairs</p>	<p>Magpie - in the fields- often in flocks - how many can you count?</p>

Five Evergreen Trees or Shrubs

				
<p>Laurel - widespread- the glossy leaves are pretty but poisonous</p>	<p>Corsican Pine - in Linden Glade - spot the cones in the high branches</p>	<p>Yew - the largest are in Beech Grove and Court Wood Grove</p>	<p>Spruce - in Avis Grove - spot the cones up high and on the ground below</p>	<p>Gorse - between East Gorse and Middle Gorse - sadly not in flower this year</p>

Five Fruiting Bodies

				
<p>Holly Berries - spot the one in Linden Glade - berries only found on female trees</p>	<p>Old Man's Beard - the seed heads of the flower, Traveller's Joy - field boundaries</p>	<p>Ivy Berries - widespread on climbing shoots of Ivy - many birds eat the berries</p>	<p>Black Bryony Berries - in The Wend twisting along fences - highly poisonous</p>	<p>Larch cones - in Stevens Larch or Gorses area - in high branches & on the ground</p>