

**Last Month's Walk** - It was a beautiful autumn day and 15 people joined us for the Tree Walk. We enjoyed strolling in the warm sunshine for 2 hours and saw 35 different tree species, many decked in autumnal colours. For a full report of the route and species seen see the Walks page of the website. [www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/walks](http://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/walks) .

We take a winter break from walks now as conditions underfoot are likely to worsen but we look forward to seeing you next April for our Spring Walk.

**Last Month's Work** - The Work Session on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November was mainly spent on the installation of two new dedicated benches in Great Hill. In addition, a couple of branch falls were cleared.

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> the Jubilee Pond area was tidied by one of our members who removed dead leaves and branches. On Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> clearance work was carried out by the Work Sessions team around the Centenary Plantation and the Butterfly Bank and in the corner of David's Crook where a plaque had become obscured by vegetation. The fence around the Butterfly Bank was also completed.

Full reports of the work, with photographs, are given on the Workdays page of the website. [www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/work-sessions](http://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/work-sessions).

## **A Magical Installation**

For many years a white squirrel was spotted near the intersection of Beech Grove and Langford's Way - which therefore came to be known as White Squirrel Corner. As there are few benches in that area and none on Beech Grove, that always seemed a good location for a bench.

There was something magical about that white squirrel, but it seems that the magic persisted even several years after the last sighting in 2021. On 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 a bench appeared, where we always wanted one, at White Squirrel Corner!! (See photo.) It had been secretly installed by its creator and his helper.

Thank you so much to the spirit of the white squirrel that put it there:-)

**Your Membership Subscription is soon due for renewal** - Our Membership year runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> and it would be very helpful to us if you could pay your 2024 subs as soon as possible. Of course, this does not apply to those of you who have standing orders and we thank you for past and future payments as these certainly make our life much easier. If you currently pay annually, please consider taking out a standing order.

**The FSW Calendar 2024 is still available for a donation of £5** - To get your copy phone 020-8657-0423 or email [govierh@gmail.com](mailto:govierh@gmail.com) or contact us on the addresses given in the footer below.

**FSW Programme 2024** – Our programme of walks, workdays and meetings for 2023 is now complete - see overleaf. Please add these dates to your calendar and check the website for updates.



# Programme for 2024

## GUIDED WALKS of DISCOVERY

*All our walks are slow and easy – a meander rather than a hike! Meeting in Selsdon Wood car park, Old Farleigh Road, at time shown.*

- April – Sat 6<sup>th</sup> 2pm 'Spring Walk' with the Friends**  
**April – Sat 27<sup>th</sup> 5am Dawn Chorus Walk with Chris Green**  
**May – Sun 5<sup>th</sup> 2pm 'Bluebells and Birds' with the Friends**  
**May - Fri 10<sup>th</sup> 8pm 'Bat Walk' with the Friends\***  
**June - Fri 21<sup>st</sup> 8.45pm 'Bat Walk' with the Friends\***  
**June - Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> 11am 'Summer Flowers' with Malcolm Jennings**  
**July - Sat 6<sup>th</sup> 11am 'Butterflies' with Daniel Bound**  
**August - Wed 14<sup>th</sup> 2pm - 'Mini-Beast Hunt' with Roger Hawkins (of interest to children & their adults)**  
**August - Fri 16<sup>th</sup> 7.45pm 'Bat Walk' with the Friends\***  
**September - Sun 8<sup>th</sup> - 12noon to 4pm - FSW Open Day & Selsdon Community Fun Event**  
**October – Sat 26<sup>th</sup> 10am - 'Fungus Hunt' with the Friends**  
**November – Sat 16<sup>th</sup> 1pm - Autumn/Winter Trees with the Friends**

*\* Bat Walks are limited to 30 participants and must be pre-booked.*

## WORK SESSIONS

*Habitat management and general maintenance – helping to improve our wood! Meet in Selsdon Wood car park on **Sundays at 10am.***

**January 7<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, February 4<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, March 3<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>, April 7<sup>th</sup>, May 12<sup>th</sup>, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, July 7<sup>th</sup>, August 11<sup>th</sup>, September 29<sup>th</sup>, October 6<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>, November 3<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>, December 1<sup>st</sup>**

## AGM & MEMBERS' MEETINGS

### **AGM Monday March 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Members Meetings – February 5<sup>th</sup>, May 20<sup>th</sup>, July 29<sup>th</sup>, September 30<sup>th</sup>, November 25<sup>th</sup>**

*To make enquiries or to check the above contact us at the details given in the footer.*