## Newsletter

## Friends of Selsdon Wood Working to improve our wood

**July 2018** 

Herb Paris Clearance – Herb Paris is a strange and rare plant which the FSW have adopted as our logo – see the header above. It grows in a couple of places in our wood and we always look out for it in all the known sites in later spring. This year we discovered that one of the patches in Court Wood failed to produce any flowers although there were plenty of leaves. We felt that the problem was that the area had become too shady and so set aside a workday to clear some of the overgrowth and let more light in. On the June 3<sup>rd</sup> workday we dragged our trolley up to the large Yews where we found the Herb Paris clump. With Cyril's chainsaw and several pruning saws we cleared Yew, Hazel and some Sycamore which were tending to shade the plants. While we were finishing, Malcolm Jennings came with his camera to take a photograph of the sun-lit Herb Paris in its new more open area. We now look forward to next spring when we hope to see the plants in flower.

### Get snapping now for the 2018 Photo Competition! -

Your photos of our wood could win you £50 in our annual Photo Competition. Each entrant may submit up to 6 photographs taken in Selsdon Wood between 20<sup>th</sup> August 2017 and 19<sup>th</sup> August 2018 (closing date for entries is 20<sup>th</sup> August). As usual the winners will be chosen by a secret ballot of the visitors to the FSW Open Day in September 2018. Please submit your photographs to our competition organiser, Heather Govier, either in electronic format by email to <a href="mailto:selsdonwood@gmail.com">selsdonwood@gmail.com</a> or as prints to 219 Osward, Courtwood Lane, Croydon. CR0 9HG.



<u>Last Month's Walk – Summer Flowers</u> – 25 people joined the walk led by Malcolm Jennings which took a route through field 1, field 2 (noting emerging Pyramidal Orchids), Great Field (noting several Common Spotted Orchids), Leafy Grove, Linden Glade, Pool Grove, David's Crook, Greenhill Way and back to the car park. More than 50 different species of wildflower were seen and we also spotted 6 different grasses and 3 varieties of butterfly. For full details of sightings see the website.

This Month's Walks Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July @ 11am – Butterflies and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July @ 9pm – Bats & Moths - both walks with FSW – On our July walks we hope to see some of the species of Lepidoptera shown overleaf and on Thursday evening we shall set up a moth trap near the car park and will walk up through the fields taking bat detectors to help us seek out the Pipistrelle Bats. Do join us for these much loved regular events.

SRA Selsdon Community Picnic – Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July from mid-day – Come to meet and make friends with your neighbours and others. Bring your own picnic, chairs, rugs etc (sorry no BBQs or stoves). The 2<sup>nd</sup> Selsdon & Addington Scouts will sell tea, coffee and cold drinks and provide a variety of fun games and easy races in conjunction with SRA. At 1.30pm the FSW will lead a woodland wander.

Page 2 of our newsletter this month, shows some of the butterflies & moths to look out for on our July walks.

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# Lepidoptera Butterflies and Moths to be seen in Selsdon Wood All photographs taken in Selsdon Wood. Caterpillar of Comma Butterfly









At rest most commonly with wings closed.

white colouring.

The underside of this butterfly has much more colour.

Spectacular and distinctive on Less colourful but also distinctive

Caterpillar of Small Tortoiseshell

**Ringlet Butterfly** 

Small brown butterfly with rings on the wings. Found in fields.

Ringlet (underside)



The ring markings are even clearer on the underside

**Large Skipper Butterfly** 

A small butterfly in spite of the name.

Six-spot Burnet Moth

nettle food plant.



Day flying moth. Pupates in case attached to grass stems

**Burnet Moth pupal case** 

and found on nettles.



Empty case attached to grass stem after moth has emerged.

Jersey Tiger Moth



Day and night flying moth - seen on the 2017 Bat and Moth Walk.

**Brimstone Moth** 



Night flying moth - seen on the 2016 Bat and Moth Walk.

#### **Orange-spot Piercer Moth**



A day flying Micromoth on Hogweed food plant.

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