

Friends of Selsdon Wood Newsletter

July 2020

Please Support the FSW Photo Competition and win £50!! – Since 2010 we have held an annual photo competition. All photographs taken in the wood in the previous year are eligible and from those submitted we draw up a shortlist of around 40-50. These are usually exhibited at our September Open Day event and the public invited to vote for their favourite. However, we are not yet sure that there will be an Open Day this year because of the pandemic. Nonetheless we still hope to run a competition with the voting taking place online.

We are disappointed to report that we still have had very few entries. There are probably enough photographs taken by our active committee members to make a display for judging but it would be far preferable to be able to draw from a wider pool.

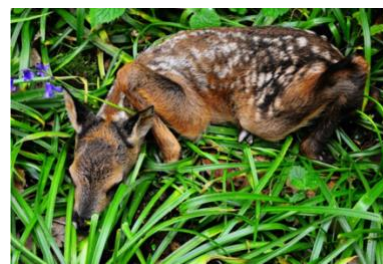
Please look back over photographs you have taken in the past year. You may submit up to 6 photographs taken between 20th August 2019 and 19th August 2020. Winners will receive cash prizes of **£50 first, £20 second and £10 third**. Submit your photographs to our competition organiser, Steve Budd, either in electronic format by email to danceswithwolvezs@gmail.com or via the FSW Facebook page. Please send full sized images (not reduced edits). Include the entry form (available from the website <http://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/photo-competition.php>) or the following information:

- your name, address, email address and phone number
- for each photo:- a title and details of where and when taken and with what camera.

By entering the competition you agree that your photographs may be used and displayed by the FSW.














Alternatively, you could join our Facebook Group, Friends of Selsdon Wood and post your photos there.

Photographs can be of anything in the wood, flora, fauna, fungi, views etc – and may include people with the permission of those shown. Voters tend to choose interesting subjects and snaps taken on phones can be just as effective as photos taken with sophisticated equipment. We also make use of the photos in our annual calendars so we welcome images from all times of the year. To give you a feel for what is possible, those below were the winners in the first 6 years of the completion and are, from left to right, 2015 Goldcrest by Tony Flecchia. 2014 Squirrel Portrait by Mark Shoesmith, 2013 Tawny Owl by David Malins, 2012 Fawn in Court Wood by Dave Evans, 2011 Afternoon Sun and Snow by Linda Morris, 2010 Fairy Village by Ian Somerscales.



Guided Walks and Workdays – are still suspended until further notice but we are hopeful that at least the workdays will resume soon. Of course you are very welcome to walk in our wood unaccompanied but do please take your litter home with you. There is plenty to see as you walk. Deer have been spotted almost daily this summer and our famous white squirrel has also been seen many times. Take a look at the Sightings page of the website <http://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/sightings.php> to see what others have seen and be on the lookout for these and for new sightings of your own.

July is a peak month for butterflies so do be on the lookout for those shown overleaf - all of which have been seen in our wood in the past.

<p>Butterflies Butterflies to be seen in field areas Selsdon Wood</p> <p>All photographs taken in Selsdon Wood.</p>	<p>Meadow Brown Butterfly</p>  <p>Most common butterfly in the fields.</p>	<p>Meadow Brown (underside)</p>  <p>At rest most commonly with wings closed.</p>	<p>White Admiral Butterfly</p>  <p>Uncommon with dramatic black and white colouring.</p>	<p>White Admiral (underside)</p>  <p>The underside of this butterfly has much more colour.</p>
<p>Small Tortoiseshell</p>  <p>Once a common butterfly but now in decline.</p>	<p>Caterpillar of Small Tortoiseshell</p>  <p>Less colourful but also distinctive and found on nettles.</p>	<p>Ringlet Butterfly</p>  <p>Small brown butterfly with rings on the wings. Found in fields.</p>	<p>Ringlet (underside)</p>  <p>The ring markings are even clearer on the underside</p>	<p>Large Skipper Butterfly</p>  <p>A small butterfly in spite of the name.</p>
<p>Small Copper</p>  <p>Here seen on Marjoram in David's Crook</p>	<p>Common Blue (male)</p>  <p>The female is brown.</p>	<p>Comma</p>  <p>Widespread in field areas.</p>	<p>Caterpillar of Comma Butterfly</p>  <p>Spectacular and distinctive on nettle food plant.</p>	<p>Silver Washed Fritillary</p>  <p>Here seen on Buddleia - a plant very attractive to many butterflies.</p>