

**Get your entries in for the 2021 Photo Competition!** – As a glance at the FSW Facebook page shows, many people are taking their exercise in our woods and taking photos of what they see. Do please send your favourite photos in for our annual photo competition.

Each entrant may submit up to 6 photographs taken in Selsdon Wood between 20<sup>th</sup> August 2021 and 19<sup>th</sup> August 2022. The winners will be chosen by a secret ballot of the visitors to the FSW Open Day on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September. Please submit your photographs to our competition organiser, Heather Govier, either in electronic format by email to [govierh@gmail.com](mailto:govierh@gmail.com) or via the FSW Facebook page. Please send full sized images (not reduced edits) and for each photo supply a title, date and the area of the wood in which it was taken (if known). We also need your full name and contact details.

**Bat Walk – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 8.45pm** – This walk will be led by Steve Budd. The meet will be 8.45pm in the car park off Old Farleigh Road, for 9.00pm departure to Leafy Grove. Please come with suitable footwear and a torch for the walk back. Keys need to be stowed somewhere they won't jangle or will show up as 'Noctule' bats on the bat detector.

As this is a 'weather dependent' event Steve will post on the Facebook Page by midday on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June whether the walk will go ahead.

**Summer Flowers Walk - Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 11am** – As in previous years this walk will be led by Malcolm Jennings who will show us the rich diversity of flora in our wood.

For those of you who like to identify flowers on unguided walks, the number of summer flowers in our wood is far too great for a simple one-page guide such as the one we published last month for the spring flowers. We have thus produced a series of guides each focussed on a single colour. These are available to download from the Flowers page of the website <http://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/wildflowers.php> .








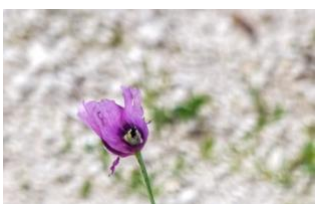












We love to record first sightings each year so if you see any of them do let us know (with a photo if possible) via the FB page or direct to me at [govierh@gmail.com](mailto:govierh@gmail.com) . They will then be shown on the Sightings page of our website <http://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/sightings.php> . Here there are also listings of animal species seen in the wood and we would also love to hear of any you can add to the list (with photos if possible)

**FSW Open Day- Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September** – As well as having our annual Photographic competition to be judged by the visitors, we hope to welcome back the craft and charity stalls: the Woodturners and the RNLI have already booked their pitches. We would love to have some new craftspeople or hobbyists who would like to display (and sell) their creations. Please do pass this message on to anyone you know who may like to come. Contact FSW via email to [selsdonwood@gmail.com](mailto:selsdonwood@gmail.com) or by text to 07979 00 2547 for more information.

**Butterfly Bank - Developments** – In April we took delivery of more plug plants to top up the planting on the Butterfly Bank. We had been told to expect the planned balance of our plug plants in September 2021 but they never arrived. Now that the Brilliant Butterflies project has ended we can no longer get the plants from them so FSW has bought plants that should have been in last year's selection, namely: Hairy Violet; Small Scabious; Kidney Vetch; Marjoram; Rock Rose; and Wild Thyme.

On 8<sup>th</sup> May, our Work Sessions team planted all the plugs and gave them a good watering in. Fortunately there has been some rain periodically ever since and many of the plugs seem to be establishing well.

It is early yet to be looking for butterflies but we are keeping a record of this year's first opening of each flower species. So far we have 22 species seen during last year and this, 20 of which are shown overleaf. The majority of the photographs were taken by Ruth Budd. The missing ones are Salad Burnet, a very unassuming flower and a tall spiked yellow flower called Weld, was seen but not photographed last year. It is growing strongly again and the flowers will be open soon.

<p><b>Ox-eye Daisy</b></p>  <p>This was the first flower to appear on the new BB on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2021</p>	<p><b>Bird's Foot Trefoil</b></p>  <p>This appeared next on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021. Many flowers are already open this year.</p>	<p><b>Corn Chamomile</b></p>  <p>Opening on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2021 this has continued flowering ever since - all through the winter!</p>	<p><b>Scabious</b></p>  <p>Many others were seen on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2021 including these half-open Scabious.</p>	<p><b>Smooth Sow thistle</b></p>  <p>11/8/21. Barely open, this is a yellow flower with a thistle-like leaf.</p>
<p><b>Cornflower</b></p>  <p>The first Cornflower appeared on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2021.</p>	<p><b>Knotgrass</b></p>  <p>A pretty and delicate flower - also on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2021</p>	<p><b>Poppy</b></p>  <p>This one, seen on 16/8/21 was purple but we have a red one flowering already this year.</p>	<p><b>Common Field Speedwell</b></p>  <p>18/8/21. There are many varieties of speedwell difficult to distinguish but we believe this ID is correct</p>	<p><b>Common Groundsel</b></p>  <p>18/8/21. Usually considered to be a weed but attractive to butterflies</p>
<p><b>Scarlet Pimpernel</b></p>  <p>18/8/21. The first time this species had been seen in our wood</p>	<p><b>Autumn Hawkbit</b></p>  <p>25/8/21. An unassuming dandelion type flower.</p>	<p><b>Corn Marigold</b></p>  <p>25/8/21. This was the first showing but it lasted well into the winter</p>	<p><b>Hedge Mustard</b></p>  <p>14/9/21. Probably the dominant flower on the BB at this time.</p>	<p><b>Knapweed</b></p>  <p>14/9/21. The first to show but many others came later in the month</p>
<p><b>Mallow</b></p>  <p>1/12/21. Another that carried on flowering throughout the winter</p>	<p><b>Dandelion</b></p>  <p>15/4/22. Surprisingly we had to wait until this year to see this.</p>	<p><b>Coltsfoot</b></p>  <p>13/3/22. The first time this species has been seen in our wood</p>	<p><b>Kidney Vetch</b></p>  <p>8/5/22. New this year but masses of it as it was in the 2021 planting.</p>	<p><b>Vipers Bugloss</b></p>  <p>31/5/22 Another new this year, but not in the list of flowers supplied so probably arrived with the chalk.</p>