## Friends of Selsdon Wood Working to improve our wood

## Newsletter

## May 2020

**Fairy Trees**— Scenes like that shown in the photograph have been popping up all over the wood. Clearly, in this time of lockdown the fairies are keeping very busy and they much appreciate our NHS<sup>®</sup> We hope that you enjoy these Fairy Trees but ask that you would please make sure that they do not grow too large and that everything should be easy to remove once things get back to normal. Feel free to photograph but do not touch to avoid the danger of virus transmission and please also have regard for the wildlife and environment by not adding strands of ribbon or string, paper, sharp objects or painted CDs which can frighten birds and break up to release aluminium pollutants.

**Take Care of the Wood**— With more people using the wood litter is more of a problem. Please take your litter home and dispose of dog poo bags in the bins provided. We would also ask you to be tolerant of other users and, of course, to obey social distancing guidelines and the ban on picnics and BBQs.

**Get snapping now for the 2020 Photo Competition!** – With summer definitely on its way now is a good time to get out there with your cameras. Each entrant may submit up to 6 photographs taken in Selsdon Wood between 20th August 2019 and 19th August 2020. Hopefully, the winners will be chosen by a secret ballot of the visitors to the FSW Open Day on 6th September. If the event is cancelled due to the pandemic we will set up an online voting system. Please submit your photographs to our competition organiser, Steve Budd, either in electronic format by email to <a href="mailto:danceswithwolvezs@gmail.com">danceswithwolvezs@gmail.com</a> 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.

The Wood is Still Open to Walkers – although all our events and workdays are cancelled until further notice. We hope that you will take a camera with you when you walk and take photos to share with those of us who are unable to get out. Keep an eye on the Sightings page of the website <a href="http://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/sightings.php">http://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/sightings.php</a> to see the first spotting of each flower species as it opens - plus insects, birds and fungi. The FSW Facebook page is also a rich source for sharing of photos taken in our beautiful woods.

What Flowers Can You Spot? – At the start of April we sent out a Spotters Guide to April flowers. Most of them have now been spotted as you can see from the FSW website Sightings page but there are a few that have not yet been reported and these are shown below along with some to look for in early May. If you see any of them do let us know via the FB page or direct to me at <a href="mailto:govern@gmail.com">govern@gmail.com</a>.



**A Local Ghost Story** – Finally this month, you might be interested to take a look at the following clip which tells the legend of how Baker Boy Lane (adjacent to the east side of our wood) got its name. <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TWGkuzIJEv0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TWGkuzIJEv0</a>.

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## Shepherd's Purse **Mouse Ear Common Vetch** Bramble **May Flowers** We have not yet had reports of any of these flowers being spotted in the wood. The earliest of the sightings for each flower is shown in bold. You will see that Wild Garlic has only - 15/5/15 - 1/6//16 - **13/5//17** been seen once - it was in Linden - 26/4//15 - 4/7/16 - 23/5//17 -- **30/4/15** - 15/5/16 - 11/5/18 -- **5/5//15** – 19/5//16 **–** 11/5//17 -23/5/18 -Glade. 6/5//18 - **26/4/19** 1/5/19 -7/5//18 - 12/5/19 White Dead Nettle Birdsfoot Trefoil **Red Dead Nettle Wood Sorrel Common Sorrel** - 13/5//15 - 26/4/16 - **24/4//17** -- **18/5/15** – 29/5//16 – 28/5//17 -- **10/5//15** - 19/5//16 - 13/5//17 -- 12/4/15 - 23/4/16 - **30/3/17** -- 24/3/15 - 22/4/16 — 12/4/17 -30/5//18 - 6/6/19 -7/4/18 - 23/3/19 -12/4/18 - 7/4/19 -31/4/18 - 25/4/19 -14/5//18 - 6/6/19 -Plantain Sanicle **Hairy Bittercress** Herb Bennet Wild Garlic - 9/5/15 - 7/5/16 - 25/4/17 - 10/5/18 - **1/4/15** - 15/4/16 - 7/5/17 --- **30/3/17** - 13/4/18 -- 6/5/16 -- 12/5/15 - 19/5/16 - 13/5/17 -- 25/4/19 -14/4/18 -- 5/4/19 -10/5/18 - **30/4/19** -Sanfoin Black Meddick **Red Clover** Hawkweed Forget-me-not - 7/5/15 - 15/5/16 - 7/5/17 - 9/5/18 -- 16/5/15 - 19/5//16 - 13/5//17 -- 26/5/15 - 17/6/16 - **19/5/17** -- 27/4/15 - 7/5/16 - 1/5/17 - **26/4/18** - **18/4/15** - 15/5/16 - 1/5/17 -30/5/18 -- 3/5/19 -7/5/19 -16/5//18 - 9/5/19 26/4/18 - 27/4/19 -

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