Friends of Selsdon Wood

Newsletter

Beavers Litter Pick in Fox Shaw on 30th September - Around 25 Beaver Scouts

supported by 8 teenage Explorer Scouts and half a dozen leaders and parents assembled in Quail Gardens by the footpath to Selsdon Wood at 5.30pm on Wednesday 30th September. The objective was a litter pick in Fox Shaw and also along a stretch of the London Loop and Vanguard Way running along footpath 515. The Croydon Clean and Green team handed out lots of litter-pickers, collecting bags and gloves and hi-viz jackets for the children to wear. All the children were also fitted with Fantastic Foxes badges - see right. After about 30 minutes of successful litter hunting in Fox Shaw we regrouped and walked into the wood and along Vale Border in the direction of Yew Tree Way. We stopped by the badger setts and fox holes where the lovely picture of a baby fox used on our badge was taken (by FSW member and Photo Competition regular Sheila Woolcock in the spring of this year). We showed the children the full photograph and explained where it was taken and pointed out the badger diggings. We then walked along the London Loop footpath to Goldfinch Road picking up a huge amount of litter along the way. We pretty much managed to fill the Council van with the results of our work and all went our separate ways at 6.30pm after a very fruitful hour. A big thank you to Diana Walters and the 5th Selsdon and Addington



November 2015

Beavers group and to Tracey Bellamy and the Croydon Clean and Green Team for all their support. (You can see photos of this event on the FSW website).



FSW Autumn Fungi Walk on Sunday October 11th - About 35 people joined us for the fungus walk on 11th

October in fine weather. Our leaders Ted and Tony had undertaken much preliminary work to pin-point the positions and make initial identifications of many mushrooms, brackets and jellies and they had planned a route to show as many as possible. Before setting off many of the walkers popped in to our new visitors' room to look at the display showing some of the species we hoped to find. Our agreed list of species identified - available on the website Walks page - appears to contain 70 species. Highlights included Crest Coral some Stinkhorn "eggs" and Green Elfcup. It is not unusual to find "green oak" showing the green effect produced by a fungus but it is much less usual to see the culprit in full growth - see photo. We hope that this month many of you will be spending time peering into vegetation, under logs, behind tree stumps, on fallen wood, and in grasslands, and making an attempt to put an identification to a few of the fungi you find. Let us know how you get on!

FSW Workdays - Winter Season 2015/6 - Our main task this season will be to work in the area at the top of Greenhill Way on the right-hand side of the path, cutting down thin Sycamores and generally opening up the woodland. We will be working there on the first and last Sunday of November (1st and 29th) and would love your help if you are able to join us. Meet as usual at 10.00am in the car park.

FSW Logs and Charcoal - We now have available some air-dried logs and there is still a very small amount of the charcoal we made last year. We will be delighted to let you have bags of charcoal (3 kilos) now for a discounted donation of £5 each and sacks of logs for £4 each. Please contact Neale Fox for information or to arrange collection – phone 020-8657 0384 or e-mail logs.selsdonwood@btinternet.com.

The FSW Calendar 2016 is now available for a donation of £5 - Phone 020-8657 0423 or e-mail selsdonwood@gmail.com

We ordered fewer calendars this year so if you want to make sure of yours please get your order in as soon as possible.

See this months Spotters' Guide for a preview of some of the beautiful photographs included in the calendar - all taken in Selsdon Wood. The November 2014 Newsletter had a Spotters' Guide to 14 autumn leaves. Download it from our website Newsletter page and see if you can find them all again this year.

