

FSW Work in the Wood – The recent work on the Linden Glade Pool has now been completed and there were a few bags of sand left over. On the first Work Session these were spread in muddy hollows around Linden Glade and on Farleigh Border. The team also cut back a few Holly bushes that were growing into the path at the junction of West Gorse and Farleigh Border.

On an unscheduled workday our seats and benches coordinator, Jim, repainted the Croydon National Trust bench in Great Field by the Centenary Plantation (see photo). Later in the month work was started on preparations for two new dedicated benches to be installed in November in Field 3. Some bushy vegetation was removed from the sites and the holes were dug ready for the bench legs.

We also met up again with a team from Grow Wild Outreach a support service that supports people with disabilities and mental health needs to help them contribute and take part in local environmental projects. Oliver Connolly, Director of the project, led a group of 3 who helped us by removing the arisings as Jim and Linda cut back the wildflowers and grasses that had grown on the Butterfly Bank during the summer, in preparation for regrowth next year.

It is hoped to complete the tidy-up of the area by adding new stakes to the lower section of the fence to repair some of the gaps.

We are looking forward to welcoming Grow Wild back again to offer us some help on the 14th November - possibly tidying around seats so there are not too many overhanging branches to drip on them over the winter or cutting back brambles from field edges etc.

Last Month's Walk – Fungus Hunt – Ted Forsyth led the walk on 28th October. Over the previous weeks Ted, Tony and others had been searching the woods for fungi and recording every new species seen. The warm dry weather in September had not been good for fungi and we had been concerned that there would not be much to see. However, October's rain had been more favourable, and over 50 different species were found.

Ted led the group of 15 up Greenhill Way and through David's Crook to Pool Grove where they spotted Honey Fungus, The Blusher, Lilac Fibrecap, Glistening Inkcaps, Russula, and Lumpy Bracket. The walk continued through the Gorses and The Wend then back via Noakes Way, Leafy Grove, Bluebell Grove and Steven's Walk. Over 30 of the fascinating fungi were photographed and are displayed with a full report of the walk, on the Walks page of the website - <https://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/walks.php>.

This Month's Walk – Autumn/Winter Trees on Saturday November 11th @ 1pm – Join us at the car park for a 2 hour walk to enjoy the autumn colours. This is our last guided walk of the year, so we hope to see you there.

The FSW Calendar 2024 is available for a donation of £5 - To get your copy phone 020-8657-0423 or email govierh@gmail.com or contact us on the addresses given in the footer below - See overleaf for some of the beautiful photographs included in next year's calendar.



FSW Calendar 2024

Cover Photo - Spring Evening Sunset
by Michelle Butcher



February

Selsdon Narnia by Lee Butcher



March

On the lookout by John Zareba



April

Gates of Heaven by Balázs Dukát



May

Bluebell Extravaganza by David Pinkney



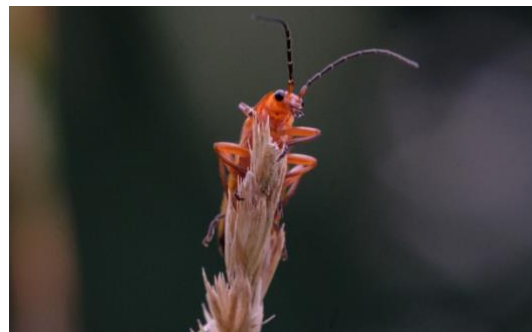
June

Looking at Me, Looking at You by Ruth Budd



July

Curious Red Soldier Beetle by Lorna Wall



December

Robin by Steve Budd

