## Newsletter

## Friends of Selsdon Wood

Working to improve our wood



## September 2018

**Selsdon Wood Pools - Update** – Since our last newsletter there has been some substantial rain and the pool in the Jubilee Plantation is now reasonably well stocked and once again serving as a water source for the native wildlife – see photo.

Investigation of the water supply to the Linden Glade pool has also taken place this month. On 22<sup>nd</sup> August two of the Friends met with two representatives of Sutton and East Surrey Water (SES) to trace the supply and to attempt to locate the position of the leak in the pipe. They traced the supply pipe from Vincent Avenue gate to a junction pit in Stevens Walk by the bottom of Great Field. At the pit the trace vanished so they then restarted from the former drinking fountain in Pool Grove at the edge of David's Crook to try to trace the pipe back to the pit. It went on a straight line along the eastern edge of David's Crook and into the strip of woods where it suddenly stopped within sight of the junction pit. It seems that at some stage the missing section of pipe (about three meters) was replaced with plastic pipe which does not echo on their machines.

After further investigation and the careful closure of some leaking taps we are delighted to say that the supply from the Vincent Avenue gate SES water meter is now intact and there is no leak whatsoever in the pool supply system. After 22 hours of the water being fully on, only a little over one cubic metre of water was used. Formerly, due to leakage, it would have been many times that.

Since the addition of a water supply for the country fairs in the 1980s, the pool supply has been shared with that to Great Field. That system was vandalised in the late 1980s and 1990s and is leaking and not in a fit working state, so it's now completely shut off. Distribution is at a hatch in Stevens Walk which is now disquised by woodland detritus and this should not be interfered with or the taps altered in any way.

The pool feed is now shut off at the pool tap pending repair of the pool, but not shut off at the meter where the meter disc is stationary, showing no leakage loss. Thus the system is back to its pre 1980s fully working status.

The next step, will be to have another go at the surface of the Linden Glade pool to stop the leaks and we are currently exploring the options. Many thanks to Tony Flecchia, Christian Kuepers and Neale Fox for all their work on this.

**2018 Photo Competition!** – A good selection of entries have been received for the Photo Competition. As usual the winners will be chosen by a secret ballot of the visitors to the FSW Open Day in September 2018. Do, please come along on the day to cast your votes.

Last Month's Event – Minibeast Hunt – There was a good turnout for the Minibeast Hunt - a total of 43, comprising many children with accompanying adults. Despite the premature grass cut the children soon found a number of grassland insects. Shaking the shrubs and trees was very productive too, dropping out many spiders and insects. We mainly confined ourselves to Field One since there were no flowers elsewhere, but despite that two Holly Blue butterflies were caught and all the children really enjoyed themselves. See the Walks page of the website for photographs and a full list of species identified.

FSW Annual Open Day - Our Open day will be held on 9th September - see overleaf for details. We hope to see you there



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Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September – 12 noon – 4pm @ Selsdon Wood Car Park – off Old Farleigh Road

We hope to welcome a variety of charity and craft stalls including -

RSPB – Natures Home,

East Surrey Wood Turners
Beekeepers
Local Potter

FSW Tombola with lots of prizes

White Elephant Stall with books and bric-a-brac





There will be activities including Our Annual Photo Competition – Come along to cast your votes for the winners
Guided walks in the wood for about an hour
A just for fun Dog Show

Scavenger Hunt, Activities and Storytime for children







Refreshments and Games provided by local Scouts & Brownies Parking is limited – Bus 433 stops nearby

