



**Last Month's Events – Minibeast Hunt, Bat Walk & Walk and Talk with the Police** – Attendance at this year's Minibeast Hunt was very disappointing. There were only 3 children there, a baby and 2 boys under school age. They spent a happy hour bashing the grass with collecting nets and running about after the few Meadow Brown butterflies.

Our guest leader as usual was Roger Hawkins with three of the Friends helping out and Roger was again accompanied by two colleagues from the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society entomology section, Graham Collins and Jovita Kaunang. After the children lost interest, the experts themselves spent a while Minibeast Hunting - especially around the Butterfly Bank. They collected several pots of specimens that interested them including a bee, *Andrena hattorfiana*, remarkable for the fact that the pollen sacks were pink - apparently because it collects pollen almost exclusively from Field Scabious which has pink pollen. We have this species on our website but sadly with no pollen sacks showing.

The Bat Walk was postponed to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September because of poor weather. It is now fully booked.

The Walk & Talk with the police on 22<sup>nd</sup> August was not a FSW event. Just the day before this was scheduled Ruth and Steve spotted an ad for it on the local police FB page. They posted it on the FSW FB page and on seeing the post one of the Friends went to the event to meet the police. There were three officers there and two people came along for the chat, one of whom had experienced a couple of scary encounters in our wood. They too had only found out about the event via the FSW FB page. We walked up via the Bird Feeding Station to look at the newly restored pool in Linden Glade discussing safety concerns and also the recent work of FSW. We recommended that, to increase participation in future walks, it would be helpful if FSW could be informed about them earlier in advance.

**Work Session in August** – On Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August the team cleared Falls in Middle Gorse and East Gorse. Further work this month was on the Linden Glade Pool - see below. Many thanks to all for their hard work☺

**Development of the Linden Glade Pool** In spite of all the work in 2016 on the Linden Glade Pool in 2018 the pool started to leak again badly. It seemed that the concrete liner was being cracked by growing roots of the Lime trees. In February this year the Council contractors cut back the Limes and this summer we have worked to restore the pool and to raise funds to pay for the fencing and fibreglass coating. We moved back the stones around the periphery and cleaned out all the mud from the existing pool. On 1<sup>st</sup> August a new stock fence was erected by Fab Fencing, to safeguard the wildlife and the pond area. On 16<sup>th</sup> August the contractor came to coat the pool surface with fibreglass. There was heavy rain overnight and on Saturday morning we saw the first visitor to the new pool - a Common Toad on top of the cairn. A small frog was also seen in the undergrowth and a couple of dragonflies were hovering over the water. Looking closely, a small trace could be seen in the sediment on the bottom of the pool showing that something had been under the water already. The photo shows the pool almost filled. We now plan to landscape the surrounds and put plants into the pool to encourage the growth of a rich ecosystem.

We are very grateful to those Friends who have responded to our requests for donations to fund this project so far. We will still need financial help to complete the work around the pool and get suitable natural plants to regenerate the surrounding area. Donations can be made via Easyfunding, JustGiving or directly to our bank account. All details are on the website

**The FSW Calendar 2023 is now available for a donation of £5** - Copies will be available on the FSW stand on Open Day or get your copy by phone 020-8657-0423 or e-mail [goviierh@gmail.com](mailto:goviierh@gmail.com) or [selsdonwood@gmail.com](mailto:selsdonwood@gmail.com)



**FSW Annual Open Day** – Our Open day will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September – see overleaf for details. We hope to see you there☺



# FSW Open Day



with (SRA) SELSDON COMMUNITY BYO PICNIC  
and the Rotary Club Fun & Games afternoon

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup> - 12 NOON - 4PM**  
@ Selsdon Wood car park - off Old Farleigh Road

Come to browse stalls and join in activities



## Many varied stalls including:

FSW Information / Tombola and book sale  
White Elephants (FSW + others) - Woodturners - RSPB - Downlands  
Refreshments provided by the Scouts - Sand Art Stall and various other crafts  
SRA Subscription Point etc.

## Activities (Times are approx)

Walk - 12.30-13.15  
Hear Lauca sing 13.20-13.40  
Storytime 13.45 -14.15  
Fun races (SRA/Rotary club) 14.00 - 15.30

**PARKING IS LIMITED - Bus 433 stops nearby**

