

Last Month's Walk – On 16th November 15 people joined us for the Tree Walk. We saw over 25 different tree species, most decked in autumnal colours. For a full report of the route and species seen see the Walks page of the website. www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/walks .

We take a winter break from walks now as conditions underfoot are likely to worsen but we look forward to seeing you next April for our Spring Walk.

Last Month's Work - The Work Session on Sunday 3rd November was mainly spent on the installation and repair of a couple of Tawny Owl boxes.

In addition, last month, clearance work was carried out in Linden Glade and on the Butterfly Bank. Both are now neatly trimmed for the winter.

Full reports of the work, with photographs, are given on the Workdays page of the website. www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/work-sessions.

Flower ID Guide planned for the Butterfly Bank – At last month's meeting of the FSW it was decided that the enjoyment of those viewing the BB would be enhanced by a glossary of the names of all the plants blooming there. The committee discussed various ideas for this and concluded that there was too much information to display well on a notice board.

However, it was agreed that we would set up a separate page on the website which could be accessed via a QR code. This would give photos of all species with full names below. We hope to get that up before next Spring.

Area of Natural Beauty – FSW have submitted a further request to the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Boundary Review, asking for Selsdon Wood to be included in the extended AONB. A copy of our letter can be found on the Home page of the FSW website under the section "About Selsdon Wood".

If you would like to add your voice to the appeal please respond by 10th December to: <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/ne-landscape-heritage-and-geodiversity-team/surrey-hills-boundary-variation-2nd-consultation/consultation/subpage.2024-09-03.2170874825/>

Your Membership Subscription is soon due for renewal - Our Membership year runs from January 1st to December 31st and it would be very helpful to us if you could pay your 2025 subs as soon as possible. Of course, this does not apply to those of you who have standing orders and we thank you for past and future payments as these certainly make our life much easier. If you currently pay annually, please consider taking out a standing order.

The FSW Calendar 2025 is still 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.

FSW Programme 2025 – Our programme of walks, workdays and meetings for 2023 is now complete - see overleaf. Please add these dates to your calendar and check the website for updates.



Programme for 2025

GUIDED WALKS of DISCOVERY

All our walks are slow and easy – a meander rather than a hike! Meeting in Selsdon Wood car park, Old Farleigh Road, at time shown.

April – Sat 5th 2pm 'Spring Walk' with the Friends

May – Sun 4th 2pm 'Bluebells and Birds' with the Friends

June - Sun 22nd 11am 'Summer Flowers' with Malcolm Jennings

July - Sat 12th 11am 'Butterflies' with Daniel Bound

August - Wed 13th 2pm - 'Mini-Beast Hunt' with Roger Hawkins (for accompanied children)

October – Sat 25th 10am - 'Fungus Hunt' with the Friends

November – Sat 15th 1pm - Autumn/Winter Trees with the Friends

WORK SESSIONS

Habitat management and general maintenance – helping to improve our wood! You work for as long as suits you and choose jobs to suit your strengths.

*Tools are provided but please bring food and drink if you feel you need them. **We do need more help and would welcome your assistance.***

*Meet in Selsdon Wood car park on **Sundays at 10am***

January 5th & 26th, February 2nd & 23rd, March 2nd & 30th, April 6th, May 11th, June 1st, July 6th,

August 10th, September 7th, October 5th & 26th, Nov 2nd & 30th, December 7th

AGM & MEMBERS' MEETINGS

All are welcome to come along – we would value your opinion. If you are interested in the future of Selsdon Wood, we need your views.

All meetings start promptly at 8pm at The Forum, Forestdale.

AGM Monday March 31st

Members Meetings - February 24th, May 19th, July 28th, September 29th, Nov 24th

To make enquiries or to check the above contact us at the details given in the footer.