

# Friends of Selsdon Wood Newsletter

# July 2024

**Please Send in Your Entries for the Photo Competition & Calendar - Closing date 20<sup>th</sup> August** - Sadly, the 2022 Photo Competition had to be cancelled as there were not enough entries. Worryingly, we have had only 7 entrants so far this year, most submitting only one or two photos. We really need at least 30 photographs to make a viable competition so please, look back at all your photographs from the past 12 months and send in your 6 favourites.

**Moreover**, we will be choosing 13 of the photographs from the competition to make up the FSW Calendar for 2026 (one for the cover). So they really do matter to us. We have just put together our 2025 Calendar containing seasonal photos from last year's competition and copies will be on sale at our Open Day event (see below).

As usual the competition winners will be chosen by a secret ballot of the visitors to the FSW Open Day in September. Winners will receive cash prizes of **£50 first, £20 second and £10 third**. Please submit your photographs to our competition organiser, Heather Govier, in electronic format by email to [govierh@gmail.com](mailto:govierh@gmail.com) or via the FSW Facebook page. Please send full sized images (not reduced edits). Alternatively, you could submit prints to Heather Govier, 219 Osward, Courtwood Lane, Croydon. CR0 9HG. Include the entry form (available from the website) or the following information: your name, address, email address and phone number and for each photo: - a title and details of where and when taken and with what camera. By entering the competition, you agree that your photographs may be used and displayed by the FSW.

**FSW Open day & SRA Selsdon Community Picnic – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September from mid-day** – Be sure to mark the date in your diary. We are collecting prizes for the tombola so please let us have any unwanted gifts or other suitable items. If you have anything to donate, please let us know asap by text or email to the contact details below. We have limited storage space so please hang on to the actual items until nearer the time. Also, we have room this year for anyone who would like to sell goods from their own gazebo or just from a table. Book a pitch through the FSW email or 07979 00 2547 - no direct charge is made for the site, we simply ask for a donation as the sellers see fit. We are always short of tables so if you have a folding table you could loan, or an unwanted one you could donate, do please let us know. Help for the Friends on the day - setting up, on the stall or clearing up afterwards - would also be greatly appreciated. If you prefer a seated job rather than standing behind a stall table, could you perhaps help with logging any subs paid?

**Work Session – Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June** – While two of our volunteers weeded, planted, and watered the Butterfly Bank the remainder of the group went to the tree fall near the Green Man on Farleigh Border. It was a complicated puzzle with trees down on both sides of the path and across the inner bypass path created to avoid mud and problems on the main path. One of us dealt with a smaller tree problem further along the path while decisions were made about what to cut, and in which order, to relieve the problems of fallen trees being tangled up in other trees. It was all eventually sorted out and both paths were cleared and made safe.

**Butterfly Bank** – A group of volunteers have been very active on the Butterfly bank again this month, planting, weeding and watering. A total of 25 different species of plant have flowered so far this year. Fifteen of these have been new plantings, including Salad Burnet, Horseshoe Vetch, Greater Celandine and Harebell. For a full list see the website Butterfly Bank page <https://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk/butterfly-bank.php>.

The Kidney Vetch has provided a riot of colour all over the flat part of the BB and has proved an attraction to 5 species of butterflies and moths: Common Blue, Red Admiral and Meadow Brown butterflies and a Large White Plume Moth and a Burnet Companion Moth (shown right). Again, see the webpage for details and photographs of all of them.



Much work has also been carried out around the Linden Glade pool which is looking considerably rejuvenated with increased species diversity both within and around the water. Many thanks to everyone involved in the development of both areas.

<p><b>Flowers to look out for in Summer</b></p> <p>Here are some of the most interesting flowers (and one fruit) we have spotted in the past. How many can you find this year?</p>	<p><b>Bee Orchid</b></p>  <p>Found in Fields 1 and 2</p>	<p><b>Common Spotted Orchid</b></p>  <p>Found in Great Field</p>	<p><b>Pyramidal Orchid</b></p>  <p>Widespread in fields</p>	<p><b>Grass Vetchling</b></p>  <p>Found in Great Field</p>
<p><b>Wild Carrot</b></p>  <p>Widespread in fields Look for the pink spot in the centre</p>	<p><b>Cinquefoil</b></p>  <p>Found in David's Crook</p>	<p><b>Marjoram</b></p>  <p>Found in David's Crook</p>	<p><b>Wild Strawberry</b></p>  <p>Found in David's Crook</p>	<p><b>Viper's Bugloss</b></p>  <p>Found on the Butterfly Bank</p>
<p><b>White Helleborine</b></p>  <p>Found between Fields 2 and 3</p>	<p><b>Greater Yellow Rattle</b></p>  <p>Widespread in fields</p>	<p><b>Birds Foot Trefoil</b></p>  <p>Widespread in fields</p>	<p><b>Comfrey</b></p>  <p>On the car park bund</p>	<p><b>Scabious</b></p>  <p>Widespread in fields</p>