

Taking Logs from Selsdon Wood – A month ago we were approached by someone who wanted some logs to build a treehouse. We knew we are not in a position to give such permission, so we forwarded the request to the Council who replied as follows:

“Thank you for your e mail to the Friends of Selsdon Wood, which they have forwarded to me. Unfortunately, we cannot give permission for you to take wood from the woods. We get numerous requests from people wanting to take wood from all of Croydon’s woods for various reasons. If we allowed it for one, we would have to allow it for all and we would not be able to control it, resulting in dead wood habitat being removed, not to mention the health and safety risks and liability issues. Good luck in your search for logs and building your tree house.”

Wood Carvings Project – Alasdair Craig’s carvings of the Owls and the Green Man (see photo) have been so loved by all that our JustGiving page to raise money for more of them reached the target of £1,200 in little over a month. We have thus commissioned Alasdair to carve another sylvan scene, which he started on 1st May. If this proves equally popular, we hope to commission more and eventually to have enough carvings to make a special trail.

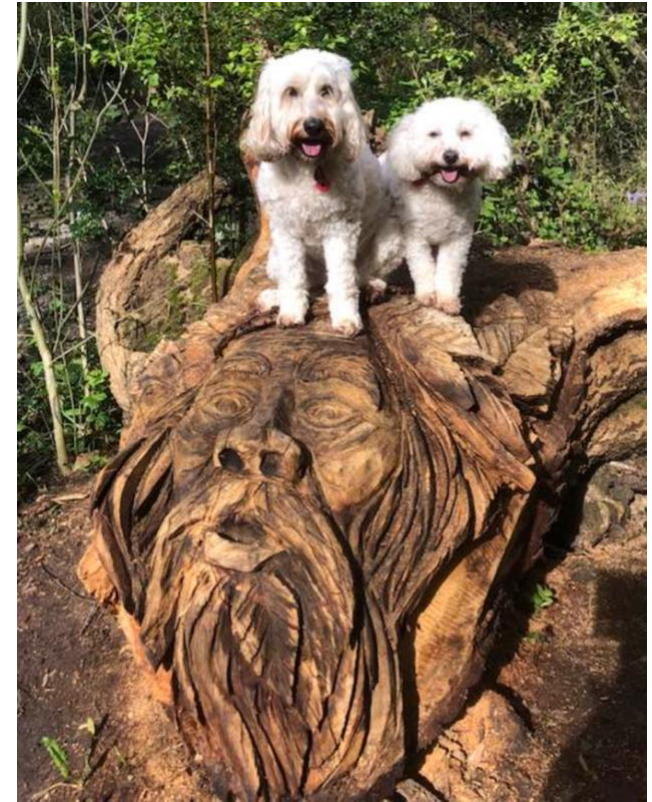
If you would like to help pay for the next carving, please make a donation at -
<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/selsdonwoodcarvingsproject>.

April Work Sessions – Much of the work this month has involved planting on the Butterfly Bank and around the Linden Glade pool. Our teams have cleared away some of the grass, dug over the soil, added fertiliser to the chalk and planted more native flowering species. These will now be tended and watered until they are established.

An additional job was clearance of the pavement access to the car park and the dropped kerb at the end. This was undertaken in response to a report from the user of a mobility scooter who had found it impossible to gain access to the wood via the footpath. We hope that prams and mobility scooters will now be able to use the path and dropped kerb ramp.




















Get snapping now for the 2024 Photo Competition! – With summer definitely on its way now is a good time to get out there with your cameras. Each entrant may submit up to 6 photographs taken in Selsdon Wood between 20th August 2023 and 19th August 2024. The winners will be chosen by a secret ballot of the visitors to the FSW Open Day on 8th September. Please submit your photographs to me, either in electronic format by email to govierh@gmail.com or via the FSW Facebook page. Please send full sized images (not reduced edits) and for each photo supply a title, date and the area of the wood in which it was taken (if known). We also need your full name and contact details. There is no need to wait until you have a full set of 6 as you can always add more later.

May Walk - Bluebells and Birds Sunday 5th May @ 2pm – It is looking very likely that the bluebells will have lasted and there will be lots of other species of flowers to see and many birds to hear and to spot. I look forward to seeing you there.



March winds and April showers bring forth May flowers!

Overleaf are photos of some of the flowers to look for this month. If you see any of them do let us know via the FB page or direct to me at govierh@gmail.com .

<p style="text-align: center;">May Flowers</p> <p>Here are some flowers to look out for this month with dates of sightings for past years. The earliest of the sightings for each flower is shown in bold. You will see that Wild Garlic has only been seen 3 times - it was in Linden Glade.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mouse Ear</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 30/4/15 - 15/5/16 - 11/5/18 - 1/5/19 - 22/6/20 - 9/5/21 - 4/5/23</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Common Vetch</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 11/5/17 - 7/5/18 - 12/5/19 - 26/5/20 - 5/5/21 - 1/5/24</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bramble</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 15/5/15 - 1/6/16 - 13/5/17 - 23/5/18 - 4/5/20 - 31/5/21 - 12/4/24</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Shepherd's Purse</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 4/7/16 - 23/5/17 - 6/5/18 - 26/4/19 - 27/6/20 - 29/5/21 - 28/4/22</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">White Dead Nettle</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 13/5/15 - 26/4/16 - 24/4/17 - 31/4/18 - 25/4/19 - 9/5/21 - 25/3/24</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Birdsfoot Trefoil</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 18/5/15 - 29/5/16 - 28/5/17 - 30/5/18 - 6/6/19 - 6/5/20 - 26/5/21</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ox-Eye Daisy</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 18/5/15 - 23/5/16 - 13/5/17 - 16/5/18 - 5/5/20 - 21/5/21 - 10/5/22</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cleavers/Goosegrass</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 15/5/15 - 20/5/16 - 18/6/17 - 10/5/18 - 22/5/21 - 9/5/22</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bittersweet</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 8/6/15 - 1/7/16 - 12/6/17 - 30/5/18 - 3/6/20 - 15/6/21 - 4/6/22</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Ribwort Plantain</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 30/3/17 - 13/4/18 - 18/6/20 - 11/5/21 - 19/4/22 - 1/4/24</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sanicle</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 9/5/15 - 7/5/16 - 25/4/17 - 10/5/18 - 25/4/19 - 18/5/20 - 8/5/21 - 16/4/24</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Common Catsear</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 24/5/15 - 28/5/16 - 28/5/17 - 31/5/18 - 16/5/20 - 2/6/21 - 4/5/22</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Wild Garlic</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 6/5/16 - 1/5/19 - 4/5/22 -</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Herb Bennet</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 19/5/16 - 13/5/17 - 10/5/18 - 30/4/19 - 15/5/20 - 9/5/21 - 12/4/22</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sainfoin</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 26/5/15 - 17/6/16 - 19/5/17 - 30/5/18 - 27/5/21 - 29/5/22</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">White Clover</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 19/5/15 - 28/5/16 - 10/5/17 - 24/5/18 - 14/5/20 - 2/6/21 - 16/5/22</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Red Clover</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 7/5/15 - 15/5/16 - 7/5/17 - 9/5/18 - 7/5/19 - 4/5/20 - 7/5/21 - 1/5/22</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Hawkweed</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 16/5/15 - 19/5/16 - 13/5/17 - 16/5/18 - 9/5/19 - 14/5/20 - 10/5/22</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Forget-me-not</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">- 18/4/15 - 1/5/17 - 26/4/18 - 27/4/19 - 12/5/21 - 29/4/22</p>