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The Monthly Bulletin from the Selborne Society ... March 2013



Open Day 2013

Approaches fast ... and one reason this bulletin is a few days early ... Hope you will forgive.

The photo of the bluebells on the 23rd April ... they are definitely coming on and ought be good for open day!

Of course open day is 28th April, 10:00 to 16:30 (last entries) ... the weather forecast for the day is not available at the time of writing ... but Saturday looks wet. Ohh Err.

We still need volunteers, please register your willingness to help contact Tom Berry on [0208 422 3284](tel:02084223284) or Andy Pedley via contact@selbornesociety.org.uk or tel 07878 594 290 . Leave a message if no answer. download and display a poster from [here](#) to display at work, in local shops, and so on, please.

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News from Perivale Wood

The Reserve is Drying out, and hopefully will not be too wet for Open Day.

A number of School Groups are now using the Reserve for Field Trips - if you know a School that would like to visit the Reserve then there is a booklet that can be downloaded from the website ([link](#)). Sheetal has been doing great work on this - contact her via visits@selbornesociety.org.uk.

We've been preparing for the new Education Centre - fences are being realigned, and new paths planned.

We've got a grant! just over £8K for the High Level Hide and some fencing materials; that is from the National Lottery "Awards for All"; we've also bid for some more fencing materials for our North Eastern Boundary.

And we will be having 24 Volunteers from DTZ, a company in Central London, coming to the Reserve on the 17th May to do some Voluntary Work. We will need to provide lunch ... anyone interesting in volunteering to help with this.

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High Speed Rail

The other reason for this being sent a bit early ... to share good news! When I started drafting this bulletin, there was no news. but then there was the announcement that HS2 will be tunnelled through the area. This is great news; there is no doubt that the presence of a high speed rail line with trains whooshing by at 200 mph every few minutes would have greatly reduced the biodiversity of the Reserve.



New Education Centre

A design brief has been finalised and sent to Strawworks for a fee estimate; this is keenly awaited. All being well, they will be signed up soon and start working for us the deadline for a planning application to be re-submitted is end of July. We will be working on fundraising and grants, and hope to have a "Community Build" commence in the Spring of 2014.

Forthcoming Events:

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 27 Apr (Saturday) | Preparation for Open Day; our open day is a major event in the Society's year drawing usually over 1500 visitors to the Reserve. It is vital that it is set up well and staffed well so if you are able to assist then do please turn up from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm on the Saturday to help prepare, and on Sunday 28 th to steward. Contact Tom Berry 020 8422 3284 for more information |
| 28 Apr (Sunday) | Open Day – the annual opening of the Reserve to visitors – come if you can, bring friends, relatives and neighbours. Tea, cakes, honey, jams, cakes, books displays by local conservation societies etc. ... Delightful surroundings, and of course bluebells. |

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4 May (Saturday) **Field Meeting 2.00 pm at Perivale wood Local Nature Reserve**, John Wells will share his prodigious knowledge of natural history generally.

5 May (Sunday) **DAWN CHORUS WALK: 04:00 AM Perivale Wood Local Nature Reserve**

Rendezvous at the Reserve Hut at 4:00 am – a wonderful experience, hearing and seeing the new day dawning, in the company of sharp-eared experts who will identify the songs that we hear. Bring a torch and wrap up warm! something to sit on is quite a good idea too (a large "jiffy bag" works fine, soft, warm, dry!)

11 May (Saturday) **Junior Section, 2:00 pm at the Reserve** Find a newt, dragon fly larvae, water boatman - come and pond dip.

12 May (Sunday) **Conservation Management** at Perivale Wood. 10.00 am

1 Jun (Saturday) **Field Meeting at Perivale Wood Local Nature Reserve, 2.00 pm**, Peter Edwards will talk about the Trees and Shrubs in the Reserve.



AGM

Our annual General meeting was a great success; there were just 34 members there, which is a bit disappointing bearing in mind the membership is nigh on 1000 people. but we were quorate and all the necessary business got done!



Coach Outings

A booking form with full information about the "Selborne Village and the Gilbert White House coach trip on the 19th June 2013 can be downloaded from [here](#) - places on this are still available, though it is filling nicely! it is a brilliant place and a brilliant outing. Do come, and bring a guests ...

We've 2 other coach outings planned; , one to the National Arboretum at Westonbirt, (October) and another to the WWT at Slimbridge (probably February 2014)



Keys

A reminder that you can borrow keys to the Reserve, at the moment from the Hope Community Church Cafe Rendezvous. The Cafe is only open on Monday to Friday 10 to 4, and the keys have to be returned there in person - no longer possible to put them through the letterbox as it was with the Library.

You can also visit the Reserve when there are events on there - so you can come at 2.00 pm on the first or second Saturdays of the month when there are field or junior meetings, for a walk round but not take part in the organised activity, or conservation management sessions at 10am on the 2nd Sunday of each month, and enjoy the wood without doing

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any work - although we'd prefer it if you helped, of course!

And in exchange for a £10 deposit you can have a key of your own. Request this by replying to this email.

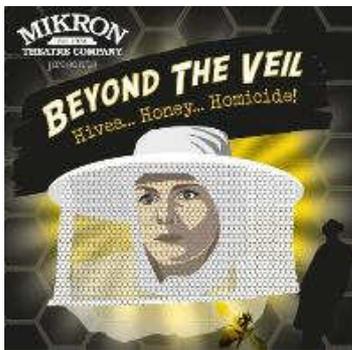


Legacy

It was a delight a few months ago to get an email from a firm of Solicitors, who advised that the Society had been left a "small legacy" - how should the payment be made.

Excited, I sent the necessary information, with an expression of thanks. And the payment eventually came through. Not a huge sum, but nice to be remembered!

If you've not made your Will, or intend to change it, you could consider making a legacy to the Society; speak to your Solicitor who will arrange it for you - thank you (hopefully a long way in advance!).



On Saturday, 6th July We WILL welcome the [Mikron Theatre Group](#) for a performance of their "beyond the veil" ... we'll need a team to Steward this event, so please advise if you are available. 6th July from about 6pm onwards. More information nearer the time ...



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