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The Selborne Society Bulletin

November, 2014

Whats on, whats happening, and what has happened ...with the Selborne Society
and at the Perivale Wood Local Nature Reserve.

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The Next Stage ...



So the Accessible loo is as close to finished as it can be until the drains are installed - and today we have placed the order for the Contractor and the Pump supplier; hopefully the job will be done in January!

But the team have not been idle ... the old hut now sports better electrics and a half built partition; the new Education Centre site is being prepped, and on Thursday 6th there will be a digger on site doing a variety of jobs, including removing some trees that are, alas, in the way.

Work will continue, to complete the partition, move the tools from the tool shed into the hut, and then take the tool shed (an old garage) down.

We are in touch with Building Control about the foundations and expect to get moving putting those in soon; we will be looking for volunteers to help ..
contact@selbornesociety.org.uk

What's on

The Society's activities for the next couple of months

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3 Nov (Mon) **2pm. A visit to the Linnean Society in Piccadilly to see the Society's collection of Books that are housed there; lead by expert Dr June Chatfield, former Curator at the Gilbert White House in Selborne Village; free, but booking essential ... make your own way to the Linnean. Places still available, To book visit <http://snipurl.com/sslinnean> -**

4 Nov (Tue) **Evening meeting: 7.45pm Greenford Community Centre** The Zoological Society of London's Thames region Citizen Science programme leader, Joe Pecorelli will be speaking to us about Citizen Science, the conservation of the European eel and river monitoring – a great opportunity to learn, and find out how we can use the Reserve more in Citizen Science programmes.

8 Nov (Sat) **Junior Section, 2.00 pm at the Reserve** Scavenger hunt – chasing the bear through the forest.

9 Nov (Sun) **Conservation Management at The Reserve. 10.00 am**

2 Dec (Tue) **Evening meeting: 7.45pm Greenford Community Centre** - did you know that there is a proposal to make Greater London a National Park? Daniel Raven-Ellison, who's vision it is – will be explaining the proposal and what it needs to progress –

6 Dec (Sat) **Field Meeting 1.30 pm (note earlier time!) at the Reserve** . John Winget will lead a winter walk around the Reserve.

13 Dec (Sat) **Junior Section, 2.00 pm at the Reserve**

Christmas and a New Year soon to come! Come and see this year's last surprise! Remember – dress warmly and bring something to eat!

14 Dec (Sun) **Conservation Management at The Reserve. 10.00 am**

2015

Sat 3 Jan 1:30 PM **Perivale Wood Nature Reserve** Rendezvous at the Reserve for our annual walk over Horsenden Hill with Martin Smith, wear appropriate clothing (warm. Waterproof) and footwear (boots recommended). Back to the Reserve Hut after for warming refreshments. Fascinating information about local history

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Sun 4 Jan	01:00 PM	Perivale Wood Local Nature Reserve	<p>etc.,</p> <p>Winter in the Wood – a chance for all members to visit the Wood in the Winter, and bring guests, family and friends. We'll be having a bonfire, and some warming food – tea and coffee but feel free to bring other beverages. You ll be able to see progress with the build, and hear about the next steps.</p> <p>Tue 6 Jan</p> <p>There is no meeting this evening.</p> <p>Sat 10 Jan</p> <p>1:45 PM</p> <p>Perivale Wood Local Nature Reserve</p> <p>Junior Section: Animal Homes – the wood in winter.</p> <p>Sun 11 Jan</p> <p>10:00 AM</p> <p>Perivale Wood Local Nature Reserve</p> <p>Conservation Management -one of our regular volunteer sessions to carry out essential work at the Reserve; see note at the foot of page 2 for more information</p> <p>Wed 21 Jan</p> <p>10:00 AM to 4:00 PM</p> <p>Perivale Wood Local Nature Reserve</p> <p>Hedgelaying Course: expert Clive Leeke will tutor hedgelaying on one of the Reserves Hedges ... perhaps the first in a series of similar courses in the future. Limited to 10 places, so early booking advised - £50 for the day; all tools etc. supplied. Plus a warming lunch, and all the tea you can drink. See Clives website, www.traditionalhedgelaying.co.uk for more information. Hint; a perfect Christmas prezzie for the mad axeman or woman in your life!</p>

Conservation Management:

Every month we have a conservation management session at Perivale Wood - an important time when we carry out essential jobs to preserve the Reserves biodiversity, and to carry out any maintenance or improvements that are needed. The current joblist includes building a post and rail fence, pulling brambles, finishing off the boundary fence - there is plenty of work for willing hands. Even if you can not help with physical work, wielding the teapot is a valuable role much appreciated by our eager volunteers.

If you can help, we will be delighted to see you ... 2nd Sunday of every month from 10:00 am to about 12:30 or beyond.

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We now have £432 donated through Ealing Council's Green Redeem project ... This is amazing, thank you so much if you are one of the Donors!

For those of you who are not using the project, our Education Centre project has been accepted by Green Redeem as one of their projects. GreenRedeem is a new scheme under which you get points for recycling, and those points can either be converted to rewards, or donated to the project of your choice (gentle hint here! Please make the Selborne Society your choice!). The maximum is £1000, and we have bid for this.

If you live in Ealing (or anywhere that the GreenRedeem scheme operates) please register ... **add the code HFR when you register**, and the Society's account will immediately be credited with 25 points; As you recycle you will accumulate points, and when you have 200 points please donate these to the Society's Project (200 equals £1); If all our local members do this, we will **very quickly** reach our £1000 target!

You can see more about [GreenRedeem](#) here. Our project is listed as "Education and Research Centre" and has our Gilbert White Logo (Top Left) as it's Icon. You can download instructions on how to donate from [here](#)

Coach Outing to Wrest Park



What a delightful place. The Mansion and formal gardens are quite beautiful, and then to wander through the parkland, filled with magnificent, old trees just beginning to wear their glorious autumn colours was sheer, unadulterated pleasure.

Next coach Outing

the Wildlife and Wetlands Trust Nature Reserve at Welney, on the 10th February; we are also planning trips to Sissinghurst (2nd June) and Hever Castle (7th September) --- full information in the respective mailings.

Library:



The Society's Honorary Librarian, Frances Hounsell, organised the purchase of new cupboards to house our Library of historic

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We had not heard of this place, and on reading of the many things to see in the grounds, we were really looking forward to the trip. It did not disappoint.

Preferring to amble, and potter around our own, we did not book any of the tours, so having explored the mansion itself, and absorbed the most interesting family history, which was excellently displayed, off we went, armed with "the map" and a picnic lunch, to discover the grottoes that apparently awaited us.

We did our best to follow our map's numerical sequence, and for the most part, managed to do so. We took a few wrong turns and got lost a couple of times, but gradually found our way. Statuary is everywhere, most of them in white marble and quite lovely. But some of the places we came upon, often quite suddenly, out of nowhere, were incredible. The Bath House was a Joy, set in a fairy - like grotto, as was the dairy, which looked like Hansel and Gretel's Gingerbread House. The Orangery is magnificent, and the amphitheatre so still, and rather moving. Another unexpected sight is the Chinese Bridge and Temple, based on the designs of the Willow Pattern Plate (complete with a willow tree). Wherever you go, wherever you look, one treasure after another is revealed, and each one is unique, so varied and so diverse. It is a photographer's dream.

We were snap happy~! At the start of the long water, with a splendid view of the pavilion at the far end, and looking back, the avenue of trees leading to the big house, we stopped to have some lunch. We were immediately treated to two skeins of geese, honking their way in a perfect "V" right over our heads. Then, as we were tucking in, four swans in perfect unison, flew straight towards us, right along the water, and with feet outstretched, and much flapping wings, skidded to a noisy, splashing,

books, and their installation in Lambing

Broadway Central Library, close to the Local History Library - the books are in and is nearly complete! So now the Library is centrally located and much, much more accessible. We are planning a celebration to welcome them to their new home, where they can be used as the focus of activities such as exhibitions, and study sessions, in addition to being available to academics and researchers.

Donations

We are very happy to accept donations towards the new building; payment can be made by cheque drawn to the Seborne Society Ltd and sent to 36 Ferrymead Gardens, Greenford, UB6 9NF the Society's Registered Office. If you are a UK taxpayer we can claim the tax back; there's a gift aid form [here](#) you can download and fill in.

We'll be setting up an on line donation page in the near future!

Still looking for a Minute Secretary!

It would be great if there was someone willing to come to Council Meetings (and the AGM) - typically only 4 or 5 meetings a year, take notes, and turn them into typewritten (ok, word processed) minutes! offers to

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undignified halt right under our noses. Sadly, so involved were we with sausage rolls, salad and quiche, that we couldn't get our camera's out in time. But it was all, just perfect. After Lunch, we pressed on and reached the pavilion at the end of the water, which is an incredible building.

The weatehr on the day was kind, and though muddy underfoot from recent rains, it was dry and not cold. We felt this was just right, as it seemed we had the whole park and woods to ourselves. We hardly saw anybody, and all you could hear was the crackling of leavs and twigs as we walked, and intermittent birdsong. Tranquility itself, and shared only with scampering squirrels. We completed the route, with still two hours to spare, but as we had missed a couple of the listed sights, unfortunately the furthest away, we determined to go back and find them. So we walked the whold tour again, and succeeded, though the map ws not too helpful (which is why we missed them the first time) and we did blunder off the beaten track, and had to jump across - and sometimes through - several waterlogged ditches. But, in the end, we completed our round trip, and were very pleased to finally visit the dog cemetery, wher the family's pets were laid to rest over the years, as it was very sweet and poignant. We had a lovely day, and thoroughly enjoyed it all, as I think did everybody else in our group. At 4:30pm we clambered on to the bus, feet, knees and hips complaining, and went home - two very tired and happy ladies. Our thanks to the Organiser, for a most enjoyable outing, to such a lovely place, practically on our doorstep.

Elf. Hastie.

contact@selbornesociety.org.uk.

Perifest 2014

will take place on Sunday 2nd November at Ealing Central Sports Ground Horsenden Lane South, Perivale., Middlesex, UB6 8A with fireworks, food and live entertainment.

Doors open at 5pm and the fireworks are due to start at 7pm. Entry is £4.

Times and prices are subject to change. Contact venue before setting out.

Still looking for ... Jars and Fruit ... and Lavender

Open Day Jam sales raised over £700 ... fantastic, thanks to the Jam makers Clare and Elsa ... but they need

- JARS, 1/2 and 1 lb jars please with metal or plastic lids., and
- FRUIT fruit - all kinds and tomatoes -- surplus from allotments and gardens, to be frozen down and Jammified for next year.

Email clarecvernon@hotmail.co.uk or elsapawley@hotmail.com to offer either Jars or Fruit.

And Lavender ... Gillian Brown would

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like Lavender (with the heads cut off the stalks please) to turn into fundraising lavender bags. Please keep any you have spare for Gillian,

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