

From: contact@selbornesociety.org.uk
Sent date: 07/02/2015 - 09:52
To: david.bender@btinternet.com
Subject: Urgent update from the Selborne Society



The Selborne Society Bulletin

February 2015 supplementary

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

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Apologies:

there was an error in the last bulletin; the date for the Conservation
Management Session was wrongly given for February; it ought to have been
tomorrow, the 8th Feb.

I can though say that we re expecting to do

- There is more to do on next boxes. If Andy or John M can cut pieces of wood on the rotary saw, that would be great. Gillian knows the correct sizes, etc.

- It would be good to rake up the cuttings that came from our contractor's mowing of the edge of the meadows. That will encourage the grass to re-colonise and compete with the bramble.
- We also ought to do some hedge trimming. Hedge laying is only needed where the hedge is old and 'derelict' – regular trimming is all that is needed most of the time.

So there's plenty to do; 10:00 till about 1pm; you know you want to, and you can see what we've been doing with drains and all (pump connection next week).

Too good an opportunity though not to remind that John Wells is leading a walk round the Reserve this afternoon, 1:30 start, on Mosses and Liverworts.

Bee Research - Request for help!

From: L.Birkin@sussex.ac.uk

CC: E.Nicholls@sussex.ac.uk

Subject: Citizen Science from the University of Sussex

Date: Tue, 27 Jan 2015 18:16:53 +0000

Dear Solitary Bee volunteers,

My name is Linda Birkin, and I am co-ordinating the 'Bees 'n Beans' project (and a couple of others attached to that work). This is an at-home project, where volunteers grow plants from a provided kit and perform a simple pollination experiment to look at pollination levels in gardens / allotments /etc across the

UK. The project involves growing 3 dwarf broad bean plants and / or 4 'rat tailed' radish plants. One plant from each is left alone to the attentions of local pollinators; one is bagged with garden fleece to keep any pollinators out; and one is hand-pollinated to make sure it gets the maximum. The yields at the end of the experiment are then counted and compared.

I will be looking for volunteers for this project this year, and other things to take part in under the Bees 'n Beans umbrella (including a schools' version). If this sounds like something you would be interested in, or interested in finding out more about in general – we have a sign-up form for project announcements / news on the project website (www.ljbees.org.uk) (or directly here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/bnb2015>).

There is already an online survey live as part of the associated projects, which is looking at the Need For Bees – what people are growing in their gardens, what sort of growing spaces they have, and so on. This is at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Needforbees>, is multiple-choice, and shouldn't take more than 15 min or so to fill out.

Thank you for your time, and I hope we can provide something fun for you to take part in this year as well!

Best wishes

Linda Birkin

School of Life Sciences

University of Sussex

[\(Guardian Article here\)](#)

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 next date is the 11th Jan, and we'll be major-ing on getting the nest boxes completed and installed for the spring brood!

Other jobs includes building a post and rail fence round the new Pond, pulling brambles, finishing off the boundary fence, and clearing vegetation around Little Elm Meadow Pond.

General clearance around the pond dipping platform is also needed in Pondfield

A longer term vision is to turn the eastern boundary from a scrappy line of sbrubs into a hedge. The resultant hedge , well managed, could mean that the fence would became, if not redundant, only a part of the boundary defences ... and of course hedges are brilliant habitats!

So 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. Bring some Sarnies, we usually end up nattering afterwards.

And finally!

Reimagine London: What if we made London a National Park?

a reminder that this Event is on the Southbank Centre, on Tuesday, 24 February 2015 from 10:00 to 16:00k tickets from [here](#)

[Use the Promotional Code "Selborne"](#) to get your ticket for £5.00.



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