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The Selborne Society Bulletin

June 2015

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

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Progress with the new Education Centre





progress continues, and the building is really taking shape - the roof trusses are mostly up, some boarding is in place, and the straw bales have been delivered.

There will be a Strawworks Building with Straw Bales course on the 15th June for a few days, during which time much of the bales will be put in place and the building will then have walls ... the team will not be idle in the mean time!

and the full story, can be read on our Blog, www.selbornesociety.wordpress.com.

And, of course MASSIVE thanks to the Volunteers who are making it happen!!

What's on

The Society's activities for the next couple of months

Sat 13 Jun	2:00 PM	Perivale Wood	Rangers: Meadows and Paddocks ... finding out about the different flowers and invertebrates, making a suncatcher and something made from Elderflowers. Oh, and sweep netting and pooters!
Sun 14 Jun	10:00 AM	Perivale Wood	Conservation Management *
Tue 16 Jun		Perivale Wood	Austrian Scything Course with Clive Leeke of http://www.austrianscythes.co.uk/ – bookings www.tinyurl.com/selbscythe
Sun 21 Jun	1:00 PM	Perivale Wood	A return of the Mikron Theatre Group; after their hugely popular appearance in 2013, Les Artists return with "Raising Agents", a play to celebrate the first 100 years of the Womens Institute, who are co-hosting this event. More details about the play and a trailer can be seen here: http://snipurl.com/mikron2015

Sat 4 2:00 Perivale **Adult Field Meeting – Fiona Barclay, will take us round**
 Jul PM Wood **the Reserve, looking at our insects generally. Always**
fascinating!

Sat 11 2:00 Perivale **Rangers: Exploring our Hedges ... what lives in, under,**
 Jul PM Wood **and off them; just how important are they for nature?**

Sun 10:00 Perivale **Conservation Management ***
 12 Jul AM Wood

..

Perivale Wood Rangers

The Junior Section has been renamed as the Perivale Wood Rangers,

They were successful in winning £500 grant from "Bubble" to fund new wildlife equipment for use at their meetings so there are shiny new microscopes, sweep nets, pooters, and a host of other goodies for them to play with

Photography Course

We are setting up another Photograhly Course with Matt Martin of Wildlife Photography Workshops <http://www.wildlife-workshop.co.uk/>

This will be quite specialist, macro photography, including bees, and we hope to hold it in mid-July. Matt, the most excellent tutor, says that "Photographers will need specialised equipment for this one: tripod, compact with macro setting OR DSLR with macro lens or standard lens with extension tubes. "

and it will be intense! Matt is intending to take just 8 people maximum and the cost will be £70 to selborne Society members / £80 to non members.

Final details soon, or check on line at <http://www.wildlife-workshop.co.uk/calendar/dates>, and book through that.

Scything Course

Want to learn to Scythe, like Aiden Turner (aka Ross Poldark)?

Then come to our Austrian Scything course at Perivale on the 16th June, £50 including lunch. book via www.tinyurl.com/selbscythe (**sorry Ladies, Aiden is NOT expected**)

Wolf Fields

Are in Norwood Green and there will be an Open Day there on the 6th June 2pm to 5pm. They're behind the Wolf Pub, 170 Norwood Road, Southall UB2 4JS - go up the alley just to the left of the Pub.

Coach Outing to Hever Castle

the next coach outing will be to [Hever Castle](#) in Kent - the childhood home of Ann Bolyne. The outing will be on the 7th September, and these always prove hugely popular! booking form etc. with the next mail shot.

Litten Local Nature Reserve

Open Day 27th June 2015.
1pm to 5pm

We are situated on Oldfield Lane South Greenford, UB6 9JX - adjacent to the Neem Tree Nursing home - please park in adjacent roads. Come along and enjoy our little gem of a reserve, you can just walk around and enjoy yourself or go on one of the Guided Nature Walks. There will be Pond Dipping and Stories telling in the woods for the children with some stalls and refreshments.

Coach outing to Essex Gardens with Ealing in Bloom:

Member Gill Crouch is organising an outing on the 6th June to [BETH CHATTO GARDENS](#) (morning) and the afternoon visit will be to [RHS HYDE HALL](#) .

cost £22 each includes entry to both gardens. cheques should be made payable to 'Ealing in Bloom' and sent to Gill Cousins Outing Organiser 31 Webster Gardens, Ealing , London W5 5Na email / phone enquiries to



It is with great sadness that I heard that Fire had had to be put down. Fire had spent the last several summers at the Reserve and was a good age; He'd been suffering from an arthritic leg and not been able to put weight on his rear leg, and was clearly in pain. Reine, the other horse, left as Clare, Fire's owner was no longer able to keep an eye on her, so the Reserve is currently without horses. This is significant as they are an important part of the management! Replacements have been organised, and will arrive at the Reserve quite soon. And we'll be having a bit of a rethink about how we have horses in future ...

Mikron Theatre Group

Will perform on the 21st June their "Raising Agents" ... this has been sponsored by the Middlesex Federations of Woman's Institutes to celebrate the

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Greenford Community Association

have written to us - we are affiliated and of course use the Greenford Community Centre to house both our evening meetings and our Council meetings,

With the present cuts in local government spending, the future of the association is under threat - but it provides great facilities for all sorts of activities at reasonable cost.

They ask that you contact your local Councillor about this to lobby in their support; if you are in Ealing then you can find information about your Councillor from [here](#) and putting in your postcode.

Little Wild Sleep Out:

Just back from the Little Wild Sleep Out, one of the rare occasions when we allow camping in the Wood; Limited to our own Perivale Wood Rangers (and their parents) and we invited members of the Amateur Entomologists Society, we 29 slept in tents and had a range of activities including a bat walk, pitfall trapping, and pond dipping; Despite heavy rain

100th anniversary of the WI (Congratulations!!) and though the performance will be at 1pm, the Reserve will be open from 11 am to 5pm for picnics and exploration.

Free but donation requested at the end. All welcome.

Oak Processionary Moth

a quick recap for those who are unfamiliar with this story; Oak processionary moth is an "exotic" (it came from abroad) so non native species. It arrived in the UK about 7 years ago, and has been spreading from where it was first found, Richmond, slowly since.

It was found at Perivale Wood last year, and is significant as it produces highly irritating hairs, which it sheds in huge numbers, and these will cause rashes and irritation.

The Forestry Commission have been tasked with trying to control its spread, and require that areas of Perivale Wood are sprayed with an organic insecticide (BT) in the very near future to eradicate any nests that exist. This requirement is a legal obligation but fortunately the Forestry Commission are paying. The Society is very anxious about the situation as the spray will affect other moth larvae too so have an impact on the biodiversity of the Reserve. Of course the caterpillars

overnight (a couple of tents flooded) and a bit on the Sunday Morning, we had a great time and there was real enthusiasm and expertise for the weekend. Photos below ...

If we can, we'll be doing another event in August, part of the [Big Wild Sleep Out programme](#) organised by the RSPB. Just need to be sure we've got sufficient volunteers to make it happen.

are an important food source for our bird population so whilst the insecticide is not harmful to vertebrates, it will reduce the food resource available to them and again impact on our biodiversity. However, untreated the moth could apparently damage the oak trees, and severely weaken them. Which is the lesser evil?

More information on developments in future bulletins, I am sure.

Small Mammal Survey

the London Wildlife Trust want to undertake a small Mammal Survey (mice, shrews, voles, etc) across London, and will include Perivale Wood Local Nature Reserve; this is an excellent chance to take part in a regional survey and we'd be looking for volunteers to be trained up to assist; If you'd be interested in learning about this then please [email](#) to let us know. There is a bid in to the Heritage Lottery Fund at the moment so this is dependent on funding.



Conservation Management:

once a month our wonderful volunteers help us maintain our Wonderful Perivale Wood in tip top condition; all welcome; tools gloves, etc provided.

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

2nd Sunday of each month, 10 am till about 1 pm.

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!

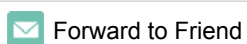
Warren Farm

There are proposals to develop the Warren Farm site in Southall (close to Tentelow Lane and the "Three Bridges" for sport. - full information [here](#)

The story of the proposals is long and controversial, and you can catch up with it [here](#) - the present application includes

- closing footpaths;
- building a road on a Site of Interest for Nature Conservation, where Little Owls frequent.
- many thousands lorry delivers to deliver spoil to level the site
- buildings over 10 metres high and
- a 550 space car park

many will want to object to this proposal, and there is a petition on line [here](#) - and now would be a great moment to contact the Council to object to the Proposal = you can do this by clicking [here](#) and filling in the form





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