

# The Selborne Society Diary, Autumn and Winter, 2017 / 8



- Sat 4 Nov 2:00 PM** Field Meeting at Perivale Wood - TBA
- Tue 7 Nov 7:45 PM** Swifts – House-hunting for Survival The Swift is now Amber Listed as a Bird of Conservation Concern in the UK. Catherine Day, RSPB Swift Volunteer from the RSPB Central London Local Group, will describe its life-cycle, how electronic tagging has revealed the story of its migratory route, and how there are new London and nationwide initiatives to try and prevent its move onto the UK Red List of Threatened Species. Despite leading the most aerial existence of any bird on Earth, the Common Swift is suffering its own severe housing crisis. Come and find out more about these dashing summer visitors, how to choose and site ready-made or DIY swift nest boxes, and hear about some very varied swift projects from cottage bathrooms to church towers and supermarket car parks. Catherine will also talk about her own Chiswick Swift Project.
- Sat 11 Nov 2:00 PM** Perivale Wood Rangers. We're finalising the programme but it is likely to include exploring the wild depths of Perivale Wood, visiting places no Ranger has ever been before. Plus craft activities – acorn collage, sticky headbands, finding out why trees lose their leaves and why animals hibernate \*\*\* Adults must be accompanied by a Ranger. \*\*\*
- Sun 12 Nov 10:00 AM** Conservation Management - please see the note about volunteering.
- Tue 28 Nov 10:00 AM** Conservation Management - please see the note about volunteering.
- Sat 2 Dec 2:00 PM** Field John Winget will lead us on a Ramble round Perivale Wood
- Tue 5 Dec 7:45 PM** Winter Wildlife in London with Brenna Boyle.  
Discover what the plants, birds and animals of London are up to during the winter months. Uncover some fascinating strategies for survival and what to look out for during Dec, Jan and Feb
- Sat 9 Dec 2:00 PM** The Perivale Wood Rangers will be doing Winter activities – making Yule Logs or beeswax candles, and enjoying warming food and drink. Yes, its Christmas Party time. \*\*\* Adults must be accompanied by a Ranger. \*\*\*
- Sun 10 Dec 10:00 AM** Volunteer Working Morning \*
- Tue 26 Dec -** Its Boxing day, so there will not be a volunteer morning.)

## **2018 - Happy New Year**

- Tue 2 Jan** (no evening meeting this evening)
- Sat 6 Jan 2:00 PM** Martin Smith and a sortie to Horsenden Hill – please dress appropriately for the weather, and wear good boots or shoes – can be muddy. Martin is a proper expert – he's live near, and worked on the Hill for many years, and knows it, and its secrets, intimately. Join us for a fascinating time.
- Sat 13 Jan 2:00 PM** Perivale Wood Rangers – Adults must be accompanied by a Ranger.
- Sun 14 Jan 10:00 AM** Conservation Management - please see the note about volunteering.
- Tue 23 Jan 10:00 AM** Conservation Management - please see the note about volunteering.
- Sat 3 Feb 2:00 PM** 'An Introduction to the Lower Plants'. How to understand the purpose and identify mosses, liverworts and lichens. Field Meeting at Perivale Wood - John Wells will lead
- Tue 6 Feb 7:30 PM** Entomologist Gino Brignoli will tell us about ANTS ... wonderful social creatures that live in complex communities. Gino is an expert on Yellow Meadow Ants, and we have plenty of nests in Perivale Wood, so look forward to finding out about these major, but tiny, players in the Reserve's ecology.
- Sat 10 Feb 2:00 PM** Perivale Wood Rangers ...
- Sun 11 Feb 10:00 AM** Conservation Management - please see the note about volunteering.
- Tue 27 Feb 10:00 AM** Conservation Management - please see the note about volunteering.

- Sat 3 Mar 2:00 PM** Provisional - Nic. Ferriday our Reserve Management Officer will lead a walk around the Reserve, explaining our newly written Reserve Management Plan, and the proposals that we have to put it into effect.
- Tue 6 Mar 7:45 AM** Dr Poppy Lakman from the Open Air Laboratory (OPAL) will speak about their programme of Citizen Science and – a the beginning of the surveying season – tell us of their latest programmes and chances to take part.
- Sat 10 Mar 2:00 PM** Perivale wood Rangers
- Sun 11 Mar 10:00 AM** Conservation Management - please see the note about volunteering.
- Tue 27 Mar 10:00 AM** Conservation Management - please see the note about volunteering.
- Sat 7 Apr 2:00 PM** Field Meeting at Perivale Wood - TBA
- Sat 14 Apr 2:00 PM** Perivale Wood Rangers
- Tue 17 Apr 7:30 PM** AGM – in the Bluebell Centre of Perivale Wood Local Nature Reserve. Our most important meeting of the year, where our Members review the finances, and the Activities, for the year, and elect new members for the Society's Governing Council. All paid up members welcome
- Sat 21 Apr** Open Day preparations – your help will be needed, please ... 10:00 set up commences, and finishes when we ve finished. Volunteers welcome to put up gazebos, erect stalls and so much more!
- Sun 22 Apr** Open Day ... the time to showcase the Reserve to the public, promote the Societys work, and recruit new members! Volunteers will be needed too to staff stalls, Steward the event, and so on!
- Tue 24 Apr 2:00 PM** Conservation Management - please see the note about volunteering.

#### **Volunteering at Perivale Wood**

*There are several opportunitites to volunteer at Perivale Wood each month; if you are into "Conservation" work - maintaining and improving the natural features, coppicing, hedgelaying, scrub clearing, then there are two opporortunities - 10:00 am on second Sunday and 10:00 am on the last Tuesday of each month are for you.*

*If you want to help maintain and improve the infrastructure, with jobs like building a new store aor Pond Dipping Platform, then most Tuesdays at 10;00 am is your chance.*

*You ll be welcome to join our established and skilled teams, learn new skills - hedgelaying coppicing and the like, have some fun, drink some tea and eat some biscuits!*

*Wear old clothes and suitable footwear. Contact Nic Ferriday (020 8930 4119) for further details. Please help if you can!*

**Events are now held at The Perivale Wood Local Nature Reserve**, Sunley Gardens, Perivale, Middlesex UB6 7PE – either exploring Perivale Wood or using the Bluebell Centre, our newly constructed Bluebell Centre. Sometimes the Reserve will be the rendezvous and for coach outings, separate information will be given.

When Travelling to Society Events do please consider your carbon footprint; Car Bad, Bike, Bus, Train, Shanks Pony good! - If you are coming by Public Transport the Central Line Perivale Tube Station is a couple of hundred metres away; the nearest buses are 297, 95, and the E5; The Grand Union Canal runs to our North and makes a great way to travel by bike or walking. More information about the Society and the Reserve can be found on the Society's website:

[www.selbornesociety.org.uk](http://www.selbornesociety.org.uk)

We are also on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/PerivaleWood>) and Twitter @selbornesoc

The Society publishes monthly email bulletins for our members, with updates and if you are not receiving these then please register, contact@selbornesociety.org.uk

If you d like to set up a group visit to the reserve, or a school trip etc. do please get in touch.

We welcome suggestions for outings, future talks or sessions at the Reserve or offers to lead sessions and give talks etc.. If you have knowledge or expertise that you are willing to share, then please contact the Society (see below) to discuss.

**P&P:** The Selborne Society Ltd,  
Registered Office 36 Ferrymead Gardens, Greenford, UB6 9NF;  
telephone 07878 594 290,

email contact @selbornesociety.org.uk.  
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