


[Subscribe](#)[Share ▼](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

The Selborne Society

Pioneers in Conservation

July, 2013 bulletin

Forthcoming Events:

- 6 Jul (Saturday) **Field Meeting at Perivale Wood Local Nature Reserve, 2.00 pm** – pond dipping with Peter Warne
- 6 Jul (Saturday)  **7:30 pm The Mikron Theatre Group** will visit the Reserve with their new production “**Beyond the Veil**” a play suitable for all ages. Free, but suggested donation £11.00 (£9.00 concessions) at the end. Bring a picnic and something to sit on. More information from <http://www.mikron.org.uk>. Gates open at 6:00 pm so you can picnic and explore the Reserve. Download a poster from <http://snipurl.com/ssmikron13>
- 13 Jul (Saturday) **Junior Section, 2.00 pm at the Reserve Dragonflies** – pondfield survey and making a reed hut.
- 14 Jul (Sunday) **Conservation Management** at the Reserve. 10.00 am
- 27 Jul (Saturday) **Bat Evening at Perivale Wood Local Nature Reserve; 8:00 pm**; join our local bat expert and others for a memorable evening in the wood; see Rescued Bats, and go for a walk in the wood and along the canal with bat detectors!
- 3 Aug (Saturday) **Field Meeting, 2.00 pm Perivale wood Local Nature Reserve**; Ken and Rita Merrifield will lead us on a Minibeast hunt and tell us of the importance of minibeasts in the food web
- 10 Aug (Saturday) **Junior Section, 2pm at the Reserve** Conservation game - picnic in the meadow.
- 10 Aug (Saturday) **9.00 pm A Moth evening ... at the Reserve** another chance to explore the Reserve at night, armed with moth traps, and in the company of experts

[Subscribe](#)[Share](#) ▼[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#) ▼

Beyond the Veil

Hives...Honey...Homicide

CSI meets Camberwick Green in a tale of sleuths and bees in this crime thriller with a buzz.

The gardeners of Thistledale Allotments feature in this lively show full of music, fun and facts about bees and beekeeping. After a year of shenanigans with the council, Thistledale allotments are safe, but the fragile peace in this idyllic setting is about to be shattered.

A body is discovered on and foul play is suspected, Detective Starkey has plenty of suspects but just can't find a motive. The allotmenters give him beekeeper April's advice; "talk to the bees", but will understanding the bees and their ways really lead him the clues he needs?

Mikron Theatre company are unique, the only company in the world to tour professional theatre by narrowboat, bringing performances to places that don't often see theatre; pubs, village greens, canal basins, and this year, to allotments and apiaries.

Beyond the Veil is a gentle comedy with larger-than-life characters, live music and a fascinating insight into bees, beekeeping and all things apicultural.

Marianne McNamara, Mikron's artistic director explains why she was drawn to this subject, "Deborah McAndrew, wrote our 2012 show "Losing the Plot" and set the show on Thistledale Allotments, she wrote such a fabulous script with such colourful characters and one of them, April, is a bee keeper. We got a glimpse into the art of beekeeping and I just wanted to develop that, I wanted to know more! Deborah is a beekeeper herself, so it seemed like a natural choice. Of course, bees are in the news at the moment, as they risk becoming an endangered species, so I am hoping that the show will fire some people's enthusiasm and help people to understand what vital little creatures they are!"

Beyond the Veil will be shown at:

Perivale Wood Local Nature Reserve rear of 36-38 Sunley Gardens, Perivale, UB6 7PF

Saturday 6th July at 7.30pm

You do not need to buy tickets for this performance as a collection (suggested £11 / £9.00 concessions) will be taken by the cast after the performance.

Bring your own picnic, chairs and blankets. Feel free to come early to explore the woods or picnic in the meadow – gates open at 6pm.

download a poster for display, circulation at schools and so on from [here](#)

[Subscribe](#)[Share](#) ▼[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#) ▼

Volunteer Stewards Required

If you are able to help us steward this event, please email contact@selbornesociety.org.uk; Thanks!!



Coach Outings

The Selborne Village outing on the 19th was well received by all who went on it, despite a slightly slow journey home - traffic!

Our next outing is on the 16th October, and will be to the [National Arboretum, Westonbirt](#) in Gloucester, a booking form can be downloaded from [here](#) - paper copies went out with the mailing. One error on the previously circulated fliers - the free admission for members of the RSH and Friends of Kew is no longer available - alas Westonbirt only let us know too late to amend the flier.

We've another coach outings planned to the WW at [Slimbridge](#) (February 2014), and we will be planning the 2014 outings soon - we'd like to do a couple; Ideally we like to have a coach journey of an hour or less, and suggestions for future destinations will be gratefully received!

Situations Vacant:

Many thanks to Maggie Bannister, who has been our Minute Secretary for the past couple of years, attending Council Meetings and the AGM taking notes and turning them into neat, typewritten Minutes! But Maggie is moving away, and so the situation is vacant. If you feel you could help us with this (there are usually just 4 meetings a year, and it is a huge help!) do email contact@selbornesociety.org.uk or phone Andy on 07878 594290 to discuss.

We'd also like a "Commissioning Editor" for the newsletter - someone to suggest suitable articles and invite worthy people to write them! again, if you are interested phone or email as above.

New Building -

Steady Progress! - we've registered with Entrust, an organisation who helps administer the "landfill" tax grant scheme; and have initiated a couple of grant applications; We've been invited to the 2nd round of the application by Veolia the design group had a long Skype conversation with Strawworks, the designers, and finalised the design. The next steps are a soil survey to help specify the foundations, and then submitting planning application. That ought to go in quite soon and I might take the liberty of sending another email around once it is in, as the Designer advises that it would be very useful for letters of support to be written to the Council as part of the consultation process.

Financcially, we think that we'll need about £180,000 to do everything, including some (discrete) path and access improvements and with luck put a proper composting toilet in the wood to replace the present chemical ones (the new

[Subscribe](#)[Share ▼](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

building will have mains drainage and proper toilets too). And we are well on track to raise that - a recent £500 donation from a member is another stride along the way and a wonderful endorsement of the Society's proposal by a member. Many thanks (you know who you are!).

Costs are inclined to escalate, but we've plans to use, if we can recycled fixtures and fittings where they are sound and there are plans afoot to harvest some bits and pieces, including some wonderful tongued and grooved boards that will make wonderful panelling in one of the rooms of the new building, plus some electrical fittings and windows - those will be from the Rickyard Building in Walpole Park (the one we originally hoped to move complete) and the raiding party will take place at the end of July; We have several volunteers already but if you would like to help that would be much appreciated - email contact@selbornesociety.org.uk.

We expect to use some second hand furniture - kitchen units have already been donated, and are in storage, and we may be able to get some good, free chairs too; There are a couple of charities who "upcycle" furniture and we'll be talking to them about refurbishing and supplying furniture for the new building - but that is further down the line.

All this is not only good economic sense, but environmental sense too - the waste hierarchy is to reduce, reuse recycle and we'd like to reuse as much as we can, to live up to our tagline of "pioneers in conservation".

Immediately we are about to organise a "Soil Survey" to inform the designers so they can specify foundations, Car Tyre Foundations are the current favourite - using old car tyres filled with compacted hardcore, to create concrete free, low impact foundations.

Grants ...

It was a bit of a long haul, but, eventually, we got confirmation that we've £8293 grant. This is to fund the high level hide in the wood and some fencing work. So many thanks to the Awards for All / Big lottery fund.

We've also been awarded £1000 towards renewal of sections of the boundary fence to the north east, from the Heathrow Community Fund. This is the least secure section of the Reserve, adjoining the Horsenden Hill "Perivale Recreation Ground" area, and there have been a number of incursions into the Reserve from there. We've had people camping, rough sleeping, collecting mushrooms, and leaving lots of litter. It will be excellent to finally plug that hole!

Educational Work

Although we own what is undoubtedly the finest Nature Reserve in Perivale, the Society is principally a Conservation and Education Charity, and the summer is a busy period - we've recently hosted a number of local schools, and look forward to more! The level varies, from Primary through to students who are using us for AS level field work, and one MSc. The Met Film School, based at Ealing Studios are filming "All good things" a feature film as part of their studies, using the Reserve as one of their locations on 2 days during July. We are intending to buy in some suitable equipment so that is available for loan - but don't want to use our own funds so may apply for grants towards this.

Perivale Library

It is good to see that the Library has reopened after it's 6 month refurbishment.

The Society was invited to the official opening and put up a small display, that was allowed to stay for a week.

At the moment the Reserve Keys remain at the Rendezvous Cafe, next door to the Library, further announcements about the key loan scheme coming soon.

HS2 ... again ...

The news was - and remains - that HS2 is to be tunnelled through Ealing and past the Reserve - which is excellent; none the

[Subscribe](#)[Share](#) ▼[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#) ▼

less there was a "Consultation" in June at Perivale Community Centre.

The tunnel is shown as going under the existing Central Line Track, and there will be an access and ventilation shaft in Rockware Avenue, Greenford - a couple of hundred metres to the West of the Reserve. The implications of this for the Reserve ought to be negligible.

All this is welcome, however there are still implications for the wider community, including the formation of that shaft that will be a major construction project in itself and will involve the removal of many hundreds of lorry loads of spoil by road - with implications for traffic and air quality locally.

The tunnel will terminate at Old Oak Common, and Ickenham, and be bored from both ends, meeting in the middle (at the Rockware Avenue shaft) so there will be intensive activity there with massive construction sites - going through Ickenham recently I saw a sign suggesting that there would need to be 800 lorry movements a day associated with the site, bringing plant, equipment, and removing spoil; theres good information about the effects on Ickenham on the [stop HS2 website](#)

And, of course its recently been announced that the estimated cost has increased to £50Billion.

Responding to the consultation is very important even though the implications locally are so much reduced; There is useful information and a link to the consultation and response [here](#). The consultation closes on the 11th July. We have a complete set of documents in the Reserve hut if anyone wants to see them or they can be viewed on line.

If you are able to respond to the consultation, please do - it is important even though the local implications are much reduced.



Like



Tweet



Forward to Friend

Heathrow Community Fund

Part of BAA Communities Trust

**LOTTERY FUNDED**

Copyright © 2013 The Selborne Society Ltd, All rights reserved.

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)