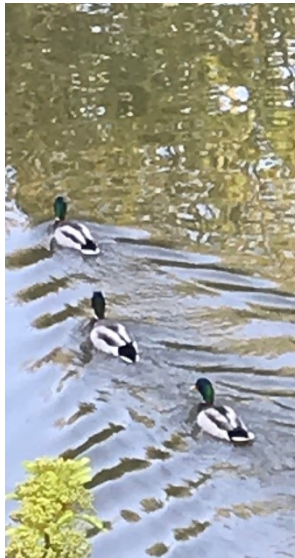




**REFLECTIONS IN ISOLATION**



**and SOCIAL DISTANCING**

Now we're into May. Lighter mornings and longer evenings. Summer is on the way.



This is the path into Drews Pond Wood on 18<sup>th</sup> March when I started recording my daily walks. Now in the photo right taken this week the edges of the path are gone under the stems of the cow parsley – and the growing stinging nettles, which I'm less enthusiastic about. The only day I've missed the walk was last Tuesday when it rained much of the day. So many times I've heard the comment on how this lockdown has brought us closer to nature. **Time to stop, observe, appreciate, think, reflect.**



**Leisure**

**William Henry Davies**

What is this life if, full of care,  
We have no time to stand and stare.  
No time to stand beneath the boughs  
And stare as long as sheep or cows.  
No time to see, when woods we pass,  
Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.  
No time to see, in broad daylight,  
Streams full of stars, like skies at night.  
No time to turn at Beauty's glance,  
And watch her feet, how they can dance.  
No time to wait till her mouth can  
Enrich that smile her eyes began.  
A poor life this if, full of care,  
We have no time to stand and stare.

**Be still and know that I am God**

Be still and know that I am God,  
be still and know that I am God,  
be still and know that I am God.

I am the Lord that healeth thee,  
I am the Lord that healeth thee,  
I am the Lord that healeth thee.

In thee, O Lord, I put my trust,  
In thee, O Lord, I put my trust,  
In thee, O Lord, I put my trust.



In some ways I've found this isolation harder this week, and there is also the uncertainty of what the future holds in the 'new normal'. Can we plan ahead anymore? But we also know we have to be patient and hold fast, there is light at the end of the tunnel. We will meet again. Our God is with us every step of the way.