



FRIENDS OF FAN WOODS CAMPSITE GOMERSAL

January
2021

Message from the FWAC Chair:

Fan Woods has existed as our District Campsite for over 80 years, over that time there has been thousands of campers and visitors with fond memories of their experiences. As Chair of the Fan Woods Activity Centre I have become increasingly aware that our site is still of interest to many people not currently involved in Scouting or Guiding. Friends of Fan Woods Campsite is intended to be a way of informing those people, by issuing periodic bulletins on site events and developments. Currently we are in contact with nearly 100 Friends of Fan Woods Campsite, many still in Spen Valley, others are now living further afield including different continents who in many ways can still be involved in the running, upkeep and future of our site.

Please pass on the message to others you know who may be interested in Fan Woods Campsite and spread the word that despite Covid our campsite has never looked better and is ready to welcome back visitors.

Then and now

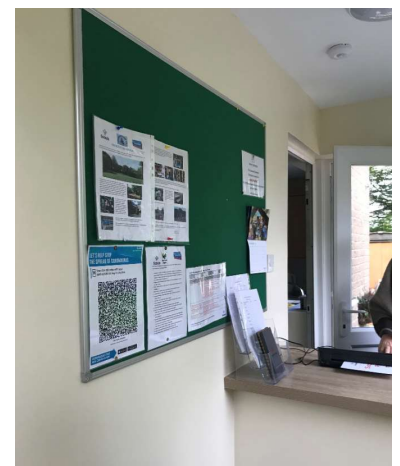
The photo on the left is Fan Woods Campsite taken in the early 1960's looking from the Cliffe Lane entrance (then the main entrance to the site) looking towards the bowling green – the photo on the right is same view today.



Reopening:



Preparations for our eventual reopening are well underway. The Warden's House now has a refurbished, bright and welcoming reception. We have also been busy making the site Covid compliant to allow open air meetings for Scouts and Guides.



The campsite has been open for Covid compliant outdoor activities and to date a number of visits have been made, including Scouts for outdoor games and a Beaver Colony who made Christmas Reindeers



A project we are currently engaged on the refurbishment of the flagpole. The photo on the right shows what was then referred to as the flag staff in the 1960s. We understand that this was dedicated in September 1952 to Richard Kimberley who had been killed in the Second World War (if anyone as any further details please let us know). The photo on the left is the same view today. We are currently thinning the trees and hope that a flagpole can be replaced for use of visiting groups.



Our defibulator is regularly checked and charged – thanks go to the Scout Active Support for financing the replacement of the defibulator pads.



As well as maintaining the defibulaor we have refurbished the old phone box which has been cleaned and fitted with new perspex glass panels.



A further pressing project is to refurbish the doors to the garage next to the warden's house. What is needed is simply to make the doors fit the doorframe and make the garage both watertight and neater looking.

Do we have any joiners in the friend of Fan Woods who would be willing to come forward and help with this?

A more longer term project is the refurbishment of Derek's Range (being the building used for air rifle shooting). These repairs will be taken forward when funds become available.



Do you remember how it used to be...

How times have changed:

The rules relating to the 1964 Field Day included the request that due to the unpleasant nature of unblocking the toilets, campers were requested to use toilet tissue rather than newspaper!

The photo to the right is the toilet block in 1966 along with an old shed (does anyone recall this building?).

If anyone has any old photos they would like to share or would like to support us in the future or would like to be included on future circulation lists, please see the contact details below.

