

## Extent: Spring 2023

Welcome to the Folk Camps newsletter. This issue has news from Folk Camps and information about this year's holidays, and the upcoming season.

Find out more about our holidays including prices, staffing, dates, venues and booking at the website: <http://www.folkcamp.co.uk>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/folkcampsholidays>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/folkcampsholidays/>

### Contents

Message from the Chairman .....	2
Our Site for 2023.....	3
Folk Camp AGM & Reunion 2023 .....	4
Putting catering contract out to tender .....	5
Are you vegan or vegetarian and want some input into food at camp?.....	6
Obituaries .....	7
Derek William Hammond (1933 – 2022) .....	7

## **Message from the Chairman**

Our spring season is now underway, and I hear many had a great time at Loxwood at the Early May Bank Holiday. Numbers were over 30% higher than last year. That bodes well for other camps this year.

Our Winter Craft Break had 15% more people than last year at the new venue, Halsway Manor in Somerset.

Our 2 late Spring Bank Holiday events (later in May) already have more bookings than last year, and I expect more people to book before the camps start.

In summer we only have 3 weeks, due to complicated date issues, and one is full already, with a waiting list. If you are planning to make a late decision, you might not get in at all!

There are also our “Workshop Weekend” camps during June if you want even more weekend Folk Camps experiences, where each of these weekends targets particular interests.

I’m looking forward to my first Folk Camp of the year soon, with more to follow later. Are you?

**Patrick Self**

## Our Site for 2023

There will be a new site for the 2023 camps – Peakhill.

Situated North-East of Ipswich, some campers may recognise the area as near our Beddingham site we camped in some years ago. Whilst the name may suggest a slog up steep inclines, the site at Peakhill offers nice flat field and excellent surroundings.

Peakhill is near not one, not two, but three excellent beaches – Southwold, Aldeburgh, and Dunwich beaches all a drivable distance away. The pier at Southwold also boasts beautiful views as well as some seaside sites to fill your (hopefully) sunny days.



For those with a more peaceful inclination, historical Leiston Abbey is sure to be of interest, as well as the plethora of protected green space sanctuaries east and south of the site – make sure you pack your walking boots!

Peakhill looks to be an excellent site for a new year of camping, and we can't wait to see you there, Summer 2023!

**Anthony Keen**



## **Folk Camp AGM & Reunion 2023**

The 2023 Folk Camps reunion and AGM will take place at Toddington Village Hall Bedfordshire LU5 6AN on Saturday November 25th.

The evening ceilidh will have music for dancing provided by The Unexpected Polka Band led by Alastair Gavin and Chris Jewell. All tunes played will be taken from their Unexpected Polka Tune book, and anyone and everyone is welcome to join in playing in the band.

**This year's AGM on 25<sup>th</sup> November will take place at Toddington Village Hall, Bedfordshire, but it will be the last year at this venue.** In 2024, we will be changing venue and are also considering changing its format. So, to you, the people who really matter, we ask:

- Do you still want a joint event for the reunion and AGM?
- Do we want a reunion at all?
- Could the AGM be online?

Council is now looking for ideas on how and where to reboot it for 2024. All comments and ideas are gratefully received, so please send your thoughts to

[Reunion\\_plans@folkcamp.co.uk](mailto:Reunion_plans@folkcamp.co.uk)

**Barry Pollard**

## Putting catering contract out to tender

*Reprint – Luckily for us, Jenny Hopper has agreed to continue for this year in the role of Provisioning contractor but we are still looking for 2024. Please ask for more details.*

The Provisioning Contractor will be responsible for negotiating with traders for the supply of food and provisions to summer catered camps. In 2023 there will be one site at Peakhill Farm, Theberton, Norfolk with 3 weeks of marquee camps only. In 2024 we intend to have 4 weeks of summer catered camps, though probably only at one site

This role will involve liaising closely with the Catering Sub-committee of the Council of Management to establish the requirements for each camp and translate these into orders with a Cash and Carry company and local suppliers. It involves finding local suppliers and establishing a good working relationship with them. The role will also involve the creation of folders with all paperwork relating to Food Hygiene requirements, ensuring the kitchen has all items relating to Food Hygiene and that caterers are aware of their responsibilities regarding Food Hygiene. The provisioning contractor will be expected to be available to support set up and break down of the kitchen including liaison with suppliers at these points and sorting out/ disposal of any surplus food at the end of the camps.

As well as the specific tasks outlined above, the contractors will be expected to attend the council meetings on Zoom and some face-to-face meetings.

This post is paid, on a self-employed, contract basis, initially for 12 months. We estimate that this role will involve approximately 200 hours' work over the year.

Please contact Liz Cooper by email if you want more information:

[cateringideas@folkcamp.co.uk](mailto:cateringideas@folkcamp.co.uk)

(Please email to arrange a call if you would rather speak to someone).

If you would like to apply, please send an email outlining how and why you think you can fulfil the role.

**Liz Cooper**





## Are you vegan or vegetarian and want some input into food at camp?

I am very aware that more and more people are changing their diet. We have tried hard to produce menus to suit all sorts of dietary requirements but as palettes change, we need to think about adaptations to our meals. If you have some great ideas about how we can upgrade the offer for vegans and vegetarians, please do get in touch.



I have been experimenting with my vegan meals at home and they seem to be very popular with my family. There are so many new ideas about cooking and ingredients which are available. Do you have some handy tips and hints?

Please email [cateringideas@folkcamps.co.uk](mailto:cateringideas@folkcamps.co.uk) with suggestions and thoughts relating to this and we can then include your input into our discussion.

**Liz Cooper**

## **Obituaries**

### **Derek William Hammond (1933 – 2022)**

Derek, together with wife Jill, were the mainstays of the Folk Camps music during the years of growth of the Society, acting as camp musicians and leaders on many occasions, especially during the 1970's, after joining the Folk Camps Family in 1968.

Derek was originally from Surrey, but had been living in Wootton-under-Edge for a long time. Derek also served a spell as a member of the Folk Camps Council.

He had an impressive history in the Folk Music World, as a staunch EFDSS member since 1968; the founding member of Cup Hill Morris Men; a member of several Bands and keen supporter of all things connected with Folk Song & Dance; a writer (with Jill) of a number of Dance, Music & Song books; especially remembering the well regarded 'Folk Campers Tune Book' which is a collection of 200 tunes composed by nearly 50 different Folk Campers. It was a real labour of dedication to pull together such a wide range of compositions, some of which were supplied to Derek just as a tape recording. The finished article, which was published by FCS in 1998, is a really professional publication.

Up until the time when Jill died, he was still playing and calling for dances in the South Gloucestershire area.

Derek will forgive me for mentioning that whilst being an encouraging and skilful tutor, he was also inclined to get a little 'tetchy' at those who didn't show the level of respect that he thought was due to performers and the music they were playing. But beneath that potentially 'grumpy' exterior was a kind and sensitive man, utterly trustworthy and reliable and a good friend to those who chose to be his friend.

I have many happy memories of being on camp with him & Jill and I'm very grateful for his support and assistance during my Folk Camp years.

**Roger Conway, February 2023**