



Folk Camps is a company limited by guarantee (Reg No 931434) and a registered charity (No 255901)

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Folk Camps – Who we are and what we do?

Folk Camps started in 1961 and evolved into the Society it is today. Running 4 weeks of summer camps and 10 different weekend camps. As a charity our objective is ‘to preserve, for the benefit of the public, English (and other) folk music, dance and song, to make them known and encourage the practice of them’

Our summer family camps take two forms: “Hall” camps and “Marquee” camps. Those attending our camps stay in tents, campervans or caravans.

Our campers come from all over. The people attending our camps are of all ages - from new-born babies to octogenarians and most camps, apart from a few special interest ones, are true family affairs. Everybody over 18 attending one of our camps is required to become a member of the society and all camps are pre-booked. We never accept bookings on site.

Hall Camps – Summer Weeks and Year-Round Weekends

A hall camp will normally and be based on a rural village hall. The campsite will be adjacent, either on the village playing field or a local farmer’s field. All activities - eating, workshops, craft work, singing, playing music, dancing and socialising take place in the hall. We normally cap the attendance at 100.

The weekend camps are all hall-based but are self-catering. Some offer a more specialist approach such as the singers’ or the musicians’ weekends or the craft camp.

Marquee Camps – Summer Weeks

The marquee camp is not dissimilar but tends to be in a more remote location, preferably in a field in beautiful countryside, away from centres of population, and usually lasts for four weeks. A large marquee fulfils the same function as the village hall but can cater for around 125 people per week.

Supporting the local community is very important to us, and we aim to source all our fresh produce from local suppliers.

The Folk Camp Community

On camp, all tasks – cooking, cleaning the hall, the marquee, the toilets, washing pots and pans, peeling mounds of potatoes, etc. - are shared; everyone over 12 has a duty. We take pride in leaving a field and any premises at least as clean and tidy as they were when we arrived and can supply excellent references. Each camp has at least four “staff” roles– all volunteers but with clear responsibilities – a leader, warden, caterer (where necessary) and a musician.

The society is run by its members via an elected council of 9 trustees. We have the services of four self-employed contractors, all Folk Campers themselves, who handle bookings, camp logistics and equipment, catering, site-finding and publicity.

Our camps are very easy-going community and whilst we welcome new campers every year, many of our campers have been coming annually for many years – this means our camps run smoothly, safely and are enjoyable for all.