



14 Feb 2020

## **Your Woodcraft Folk. Your Voice. Your Gathering.**

Dear Friend

You are an essential part of Woodcraft Folk and as always, we need your voice in shaping the way we work and the issues we focus on as we head towards our centenary in 2025.

This year we have merged the 2020 Annual Gathering with the Common Ground Pre-camp. Please join us for the weekend, where we **celebrate** our achievements over the past year, **share** skills & experiences, **elect** our General Council and Standing Orders Committee, **discuss** future plans for the movement, and **enjoy** each other's company in true Woodcraft style; alongside **planning** for Common Ground International Camp, **discovering** the site, **meeting** people you will camp with and having lots of **fun**.

The weekend event will be held from 29 to 31 May 2020, at Kent County Show Ground, Detling, Maidstone ME14 3JF. The formal Annual General Meeting of Woodcraft Folk, will take place on the Saturday afternoon from 4-6pm and this year we are delighted to let you know that you will be able to access this part of the Gathering either at our Kent location or from our Glasgow Hub.

The Glasgow hub will be at 260 Bath St. Glasgow G2 4JP and will run from 1:00 – 8:00pm. The Glasgow programme will give attendees the knowledge to take part in the AGM and the confidence to discuss and vote on motions and elections, with training and structured workshops, open space discussion and socialising, food and fun for all ages. **At 4-6 pm** the two events will be linked together through video technology to enable combined debating and voting. Those participating at the Glasgow hub are also able to, and encouraged to complete a proxy voting form which will only be used in the case of technology failure.

This is the first year we are testing the remote participation model with the Glasgow hub. It is a really exciting opportunity and there may be challenges, particularly over the time taken to debate a motion across two locations with technological constraints. We ask groups and districts to consider carefully whether their motion needs to be submitted this year because if technology fails us we may not be able to have a full debate on every motion if there are a lot of motions.

**Bookings for Kent open on Friday 14 February, and soon after for the Glasgow hub,** and there will be discounted prices for those who book before Friday 13 March, so please start discussing who will represent your District and groups. There are reduced rates for DFs, and those



under 16; we would love to see as many young delegates as possible representing our groups and districts from across the country.

There will also be evening entertainment brought to you by the organisers of Common Ground, and plenty of new people to meet and friends to make.

All the details and deadlines are in the attached convening notice or on our website at:  
<https://woodcraft.org.uk/annual-gathering-2020>.

Annual Gathering is also your chance to **hear from your General Council**, to hold them accountable and to **elect new members**. A nomination form for General Council and Standing Orders Committee (who run our internal democracy) is attached. We are very keen to encourage women and minority gender people to join the Council as they are currently underrepresented. Please do think about standing for election. For an informal chat about what it is like to be on General Council please email Pip on [Pip.sayers@woodcraft.org.uk](mailto:Pip.sayers@woodcraft.org.uk).

We look forward to welcoming you!

Blue Skies

Sarah Welsh & Debs McCahon  
Joint General Secretaries

Pip Sayers  
Chair, General Council

Jeni Dixon  
Chair, Standing Orders Committee