

In this Newsletter:

- Day Camps
- NWC Experience Weekends (plus new additions)
- Smallholder and Countryside Show and Buschraft Show
- Questionnaire and Prize Draw!



Hello everyone!

The summer season is getting off to a busy start for us in the Nearly Wild Camping team. We met lots of new potential location providers at the Smallholder and Countryside Show in Builth Wells a few weeks ago.

We were joined by board members Rupert Loch (who is also running an [experience camp this summer!](#)) and Jim Langley at the Buschraft Show, where Irene ran weaving workshops, Jim led a tree identification walk and Steve took to the main stage to talk about wolf tracking in Slovenia.

And this is just the beginning of summer! This weekend (7th - 9th June) Ben is running an Experience Weekend on nature-photography in Cumbria, and Emma will be leading a weekend of sensory foraging and willow weaving between 14th - 16th June.

It's busy, but we're having a lot of fun meeting members and location providers across the country - we'd love to see you at our upcoming events, and to hear your feedback in our questionnaire (more info below on how to enter our PRIZE DRAW!) so read more to find out how to get involved this summer!

What	Where	When
Landscape Photography with Benjamin Barendrecht	Cumbria	7 th – 9 th June
A Weekend of Foraging and Willow Weaving with Emma Finch	Somerset	14 th – 15 th June
Woodland Survival Crafts with Dave Watson	Staffordshire	12 th – 14 th July
Foraging with the Wild Cooke	Powys	26 th – 28 th July
Feral Science with Rupert Loch	Lancashire	2 nd – 4 th August
Wilderness Gathering	Kent	15 th – 18 th August
Foraging for Edibles, Medicinal Plants and Willow Weaving with Lizzy Maskey	West Sussex	20 th – 22 nd August
Into the Wild	Sussex	22 nd – 26 th August



Introducing Day Camps

Our Experience Weekends aren't just for overnight campers. If you want to join for one - or all the days - without spending the night on-site, you can! Simply sign up for the Experience Weekend and drop us a line to let us know you won't be staying over.

Many of our locations also offer alternative accommodation for those who want a little more comfort than a tent. Check the location details for more information!

Here are the Experience Weekends we have coming up this month...

Nearly Wild Experience Weekend: Landscape Photography with Benjamin Barendrecht - 7th - 9th June Cumbria

Ben loves being outside and capturing the landscapes around him. When he's not working on the hill, he's photographing them, thinking about how the light plays in the depiction of the landscape before him, planning when exactly to head up for the perfect combination of weather, light and shadow.



What to expect:

Ben will teach us everything from photography basics to how to improve on your existing skills. The best part? Anyone with a camera can join in – even if you come simply with a phone camera.

“The weekend will be about photographing the natural world in order to understand the relationship between us as the photographer and everything that is around us,” says Ben.

Anyone who saw Ben’s Nearly Wild Camping Winter Talk will know just what an engaging presenter Ben is. The delight with which he talks about the natural world is infectious and inspiring, and we are sure this weekend will be an unmissable one.

Nearly Wild Experience Weekend: Foraging and Willow Weaving
14th - 16th June

Emma is well versed in the ways of wicker weaving, having been trained in by the late English Master Weaver, Mr. Ivor Hancock. The weekend will combine willow weaving with foraging sessions for a holistic experience outside.

**What to expect:**

- Skills to identify wild foods by working closely with your senses and intuition.
- How to identify at least (depending on the season) a dozen wild edible plants
- How to harvest safely and for our future
- How to work with herbs: drying for teas; making infused oils; cooking with then and eating them fresh
- How our relationship with the wild edibles helps in our wellbeing (both mental and physical)

See the Community Page for booking information.

2024 Questionnaire - and Prizes!

We are launching our newest questionnaire! As a member-owned cooperative, we're always looking for ways to improve your camping experience and the support we can give you.

We'd really appreciate your feedback, and every completed form automatically enters you into our prize draw!

Be in it to win: a years NWC membership; official NWC merchandise including t shirts and hats; cooking boxes courtesy of Certainly Wood; merino wool blanket from Outhaus; The Green Camping Book; a £50 voucher for Base Camp Food and a suitcase BBQ from Pacmat - with more prizes being confirmed!

The prize draw will end on the 6th October, with the prize draw winners announced shortly after!



SHOWS AND FESTIVALS

Smallholding and Countryside Festival, 18th & 19th May Builth Wells, Wales



This weekend was a great opportunity to meet location providers (new and old!), talk to them about the member-owned element to Nearly Wild Camping, and explain a little more about our "Wild-ness" system - whether you have a field or a fully equipped campsite, Nearly Wild Camping members can rock up and camp. The lack of facilities is often part of the fun!

The Bushcraft Show, 25th - 27th May Lutterworth



Nearly Wild Weaving; tree identification; Kenyan coffee; talks on wolf-tracking...the Bushcraft Show is one of our favourites and it did not disappoint! We were joined by two friends and board members, Jim Langley and Rupert Loch who were fantastic additions to the Nearly Wild Camping team!

Wilderness Gathering, 15th - 18th August, Kent

"A unique Bushcraft event with a relaxed and family friendly atmosphere which is the longest running and still the original festival of bushcraft, survival and primitive living skills."



Come for a chat and meet other campers every day at 5pm on our stand!

Into the Wild, 22nd - 26th August Sussex

"Into the Wild is the UK's number one nature festival. Helping to support rewilding and nature recovery. Rewilding people and landscapes for a wilder future for all being to thrive!"



DOWNLOADS

Don't forget, you can **download the Nearly Wild Camping passport** to record where you have been, what you did and learnt and some of your special experiences. A great way for the children (or adults) to build up their Nearly Wild Camping Club experiences and prompt new challenges. See the **downloads section** of the Community page along with **activity badges** for younger children.

For general enquiries email hello@nearlywildcamping.org

For member communications

email meg@nearlywildcamping.org

