

Friends of Camp Mohawk Newsletter

The Woodland Centre Trust

www.campmohawk.org.uk

registered charity number 278681

Our aim is simply to give the Camp Mohawk team independent financial stability - so that they concentrate on providing the very best facilities for special needs children. They have achieved so much with very little resources that they deserve our fullest support. My personal target is to find 100 Friends who are happy to sign a standing order for just £10 per month. So far, we have achieved £150pm which might not seem much but with Gift Aid this equates to a very useful £2,250 - each and every year. I just need to find the other £850pm !!

Fireworks Night - 3rd November 2011

Another spectacular evening when the weather could not have been better. A big vote of thanks is due to Neville and his team at Starfield Fireworks who travel a long way every year to put on a superb show at minimal cost for us, Tony & Diane from 2Js Catering who fed us well and Tim from Cafe2U who kept the caffeine levels up.

Ernst & Young

Special mention must also go to the team from Ernst & Young who are helping us with various projects to bring more people on board and develop our Corporate Days programme.

Trustees

We are now making excellent progress on our new board of Trustees and the splitting of East Beckton and Camp Mohawk into two strong and independent bodies. Everything is being done to start the new financial year in March 2012 with a clean sheet.

We are also looking to undertake a small re-branding exercise to lose the somewhat confusing prefix "Camp" and show everyone what we are now about.

Fairground Organ

Robin Hester has a Fairground Organ available for hire for Carnivals, Fetes, parties and corporate events.

Whilst he is the first to admit that Organ music is not to everyone's taste - for many years now, he has been regularly taking it to local events with all the proceeds being donated to Camp Mohawk. He is keen to do more; so if anyone knows of a suitable venues or events; please ring him direct on 0118 934 5200.

Chelsea Building Society

I am delighted to report that we received a cheque for £1,000 from Tracy Horner and her staff at the Reading branch of the Chelsea Building Society in October.

The money was collected from customer donations and the staff chose Camp Mohawk as their favourite local charity thanks to Emily Douglas.

BG Group

Amazingly in the same week, we have also received a £1,000 donation from the BG Group TVP Community Involvement team and this was thanks to Elaine Raven's efforts.

Music Festival

This was an outstanding success with everyone enjoying a fantastic day's music and the weather could not have been better.

Many thanks to all those people who made it possible and we raised over c£3,000.

We are already planning to make the Festival bigger and better next time with two stages, even more bands and extended hours to allow for families to come along in the afternoon and everyone else to stay for the evening.

The venue will be the same and the date is Saturday 16th June 2012, so please put it in your diaries now.

Alliance of local charities

We are very keen to build mutually beneficial and long term flexible partnerships with local organisations and we are already talking to the Thames Valley Air Ambulance, the Berkshire Autism Society, Wokingham Crossroads Care and CATS.

Therefore, if you are aware of any other group who would like to work with us to share ideas and perhaps undertake some joint ventures; then please let us know.

Wargrave Piggott senior school helped us with the Music Festival and we are making a donation to their new sixth form building. We are now planning how to involve their students in the longer term.

Feed the Children UK based in Twyford (www.feedthechildren.org.uk) are helping us and are looking for donations of dried foods such as pasta, rice, pulses, salt, sugar etc. Please contact them direct if you are able to help (0118 932 0095).

Text Giving

Anyone wishing to support us can now make a quick and easy donation by Text Message.

Simply text MHWK24 £5 to 70070

You can donate either £1, £2, £3, £4, £5 or £10. You will receive a text message receipt, and the chance to add Gift Aid.

Camp Mohawk will receive 100% of the donations direct.

Night of Music

Billy Ocean wanted to appear with his old friend Sandy Newman of Marmalade at our Music Festival but his existing commitments prevented it. Therefore we are looking to set up another event so please watch this space !!

Wargrave Village Open Day

We are also beginning to put together a new event for 2012 concentrating on working with the immediate local community in Wargrave.

Golf Day

I am delighted to report that a marvellous day was had by all and a grand total of £1,551 was raised in 2011. I would like to repeat the vote of thanks to everyone who supported the event.

More importantly, please make a note in your diaries that we will be doing it all again - on Friday 6th July 2012 !!

Please email me if you are able to enter a team.

Wargrave Business Network

The Wargrave Network have been extremely supportive and I would strongly commend any local business people to come along and meet them to see how you could benefit as well.

<http://www.wargravenews.co.uk/wargravenetwork.html>

Become a Friend of Camp Mohawk

We are asking for cash donations (preferably by standing order) but all help is gratefully received.

Please use this link for an application form <http://www.camp-mohawk.com/friends-of-camp-mohawk.html>

Local Committee

We meet every month or so on a Wednesday at 6pm at The Horns in Crazies Hill. Everyone is welcome to come along and please be assured that no-one will be asked to do anything more than they wish to.

Volunteer Thursdays

We have evolved a nice tradition of a small team of helpers getting together on Thursdays to tackle a few maintenance issues at the camp e.g. pool repairs and painting the undersea mural in the new dark room.

We now wish to start a similar group to help out with the back-office administrative duties e.g. simple bookkeeping, correspondence and telephone calls.

As ever the emphasis will be on fun and informality; so please let us know if you would like to become involved.

The ever-present Wish List

Children's Equipment

Children's Toys (indoor and outdoor)

Swimming Pool Toys

Swimming costumes/trunks

Face Paints

Children's Tables and chairs

Table Tennis Net, Balls and Bats

Badminton Rackets and Shuttlecocks

Board Games / jigsaw puzzles etc

Consoles & Console games

Children's videos and DVDs

Site

Outdoor Tables, chairs & benches

Golf/Fishing Umbrellas

Gardening equipment: rakes, shovels, pick axes etc.

Maintenance tools & power tools

Gardening power equipment (especially leaf blowers and ride-on-mower)

Plants (bulbs, shrubs, young trees, grass seed etc)

Building materials (sand, aggregate, timber, fencing materials, roofing felt, loft insulation etc)

Servicing / maintenance on tools & equipment

Tree surgery / tree surgery training / equipment

Office

General stationary

PCs / laptops

Flat screen monitors

Consumables

Pool chemicals

Squash, tea, coffee etc
Plastic / paper cups, plates, cutlery etc
Swimming nappies

Ebay

Our Wish List has proved so successful recently that we actually now have a few surplus items that we intend recycling via Ebay.
In fact, we are thinking that there is potential for us to raise further funds by asking supporters for any item that we sell on Ebay.
We just need to find a Volunteer with the time/inclination/experience to oversee this project for us !

Photo Gallery

Please follow these links to view images, that I have personally taken :

Music Festival 2011

https://skydrive.live.com/redir.aspx?cid=f122edc3b67c6cc3&page=play&resid=F122EDC3B67C6CC3!9847&authkey=W0ClqTE9*ts%24

Golf Day 2011

<https://skydrive.live.com/redir.aspx?cid=f122edc3b67c6cc3&page=play&resid=F122EDC3B67C6CC3!6962&authkey=UR5qb2kMjoU%24>

Camp Mohawk in the Spring 2011

<https://skydrive.live.com/redir.aspx?cid=f122edc3b67c6cc3&page=play&resid=F122EDC3B67C6CC3!6440&authkey=95y!OqLsLnc%24>

<https://skydrive.live.com/redir.aspx?cid=f122edc3b67c6cc3&page=play&resid=F122EDC3B67C6CC3!6391&authkey=CScJ9Ke5qXI%24>

Work in progress 2011

<https://skydrive.live.com/redir.aspx?cid=f122edc3b67c6cc3&page=play&resid=F122EDC3B67C6CC3!5582&authkey=dCX!su!R1MI%24>

<https://skydrive.live.com/redir.aspx?cid=f122edc3b67c6cc3&page=play&resid=F122EDC3B67C6CC3!6365&authkey=zynBVeXuyUE%24>

Fireworks night 2010

<https://skydrive.live.com/redir.aspx?cid=f122edc3b67c6cc3&page=play&resid=F122EDC3B67C6CC3!5560&authkey=1sbsUKjGF8Q%24>

Christmas open day 2010

<https://skydrive.live.com/redir.aspx?cid=f122edc3b67c6cc3&page=play&resid=F122EDC3B67C6CC3!5725&authkey=OUKCPWF9w5k%24>

Winter Snow 2010

<https://skydrive.live.com/redir.aspx?cid=f122edc3b67c6cc3&page=play&resid=F122EDC3B67C6CC3!5743&authkey=WUB!GICBdkc%24>

Volunteer Tree surgeons hard at work 2010

<https://skydrive.live.com/redir.aspx?cid=f122edc3b67c6cc3&page=play&resid=F122EDC3B67C6CC3!5337&authkey=VzSIUofXkws%24>

Autumn work 2010

<https://skydrive.live.com/redir.aspx?cid=f122edc3b67c6cc3&page=play&resid=F122EDC3B67C6CC3!5406&authkey=k3VeQODvLSg%24>

Another Open day 2010

https://skydrive.live.com/redir.aspx?cid=f122edc3b67c6cc3&page=play&resid=F122EDC3B67C6CC3!5312&authkey=*UiPvk4GtLs%24

My background

I would like to explain that my involvement with Camp Mohawk was a direct result of setting up Gift 2% to help all charities gain more legacies (www.gift2percent.co.uk) with Alasdair MacArthur. This was following my very lucky escape from a road accident in 2009 when the North West Air Ambulance and the emergency services helped save my life.
It is my 22 years experience as an independent Will Writer and businessman (www.countywills.co.uk) that has enabled me to continue my work with Gift 2%, Camp Mohawk and other charities.

Please follow this link, if you would like to view my LinkedIn profile: <http://uk.linkedin.com/in/keithdouglas289>

Site Visits

If you have never had the chance to visit our beautiful site (or if it has been a while); then we would love to give you a guided tour. It really is a difficult place to describe but everyone who visits seems to be really impressed with the tranquillity of the setting, the facilities on offer and the amount of good work that goes on.

Please just email me with some dates and times that would suit you and I will liaise with Luke to set it all up. If you can arrange to bring some family and/or friends with you, then so much the better.

Any questions or suggestions, please just shout.

Keith Douglas

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If you do not wish to receive further emails; please reply with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line.