



To The Kite Trust

See you at Camp 100

From
The Woodcraft Folk DFS



DFs

DFs is short for district fellows (you can see why we shorten it). It is the 16-20 age range of Woodcraft Folk.

Some regions will run regular DF events, but DFs might meet up more casually, or just see each other at the 4 annual social events (plus business events) we run for DFs around the country.

How are you run?

We're an autonomous organisation within [the Woodcraft Folk](#), completely led by our members. Every year, at Business events called Things, members vote on our policies and elect new members to [DF Committee](#).

From the website

DFs may also help out other groups in their districts, and many will have village or central roles at camp 100.

This zine was made with answers from a few DFs around the country

The Woodcraft Folk logo



The DF logo



What would you have wanted to know in the run up to your first international camp?

That different Woodcraft Folk groups have slightly different variations of woodcraft traditions. My own experience was very different to some others.

Snacks!!!

I think I got a bit too caught up with my village and people I already knew - I should have visited other areas more.

My first international camp will be camp 100 But having been camping a lot my advice is to bring some body spray or cheap perfume

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What's a phrase or term that you hear used at Woodcraft Folk that might be new to someone from outside the organisation, and what does it mean?

(Merry) Moot = Kind of a talent show but no-one wins (Can also be conjugated as Mooting)

I have literally never heard this conjugated in my life

The age groups within Woodcraft:

- Woodchips - 5 and under
- Elfins - 6 to 9
- Pioneers - 10 to 12
- Venturers - 13 to 15
- DFs - 16 to 20
- Kinsfolk - 21 plus

Folkcest (this is more of a jokey one among DFs) is basically when two people in Woodcraft get together romantically or sexually on camp

Woodies, the Folk = Nicknames for people in Woodcraft

KP, as in Keeper of the provender (?), being the person who organises the clans to prepare food for the groups.

I got a request to explain some of the odd traditions and history here. There's honestly far too much, and I expect there will be a lot talked about on camp, but to get you started - folk names

Folk names are pseudonyms used by woodies, that when woodcraft started, helped create a sense of equality between all ages (rather than calling adults 'sir' and 'miss'). In my group, we all picked these just based on what we liked, and largely forgot about them. However other groups have members suggest them for their friends, and they can be much more sentimental, and bestowed in a ceremony.

I learnt this after following some really heartfelt folk names by gifting my friend a really stupid one.

**What might be reassuring to
LGBTQ+ folks to know
about how
Woodcraft Folk welcome
and include them?**

What was really helpful for me was knowing that people didn't care if I changed my name and would call me whatever I wanted

Woodcraft Folk was one of the first scouting spin off movements to be mixed gender. The woodcraft experience is not and has never been tied to your gender identity.

Pronouns are introduced just as casually as names. People might ask your pronouns when they meet you and whenever we do an introductory circle people always give pronouns.

I'm going to run a trans workshop at the Planet Utopia centre , If you want to come :)

MEST-UP

Standing for Mediation, Education Support Team

Umbrella Program, MEST-UP is a programme of workshops delivered by a trained and impartial team of DFs that aim to educate people on event, as well as provide emotional and conflict resolving information to aid the mental wellbeing and enjoyment of camp to all of the individuals there; equally and unbiased.

MEST-UP reps are the absolute best - on our DF events they volunteer on a shift rota to look out for other DFs and run a quiet space you can go to for support or if you are feeling overwhelmed. Our amazing MEST-UP coordinator* recently redesigned some of the training to focus on issues most relevant to DFs - including gender dysphoria, and ensuring reps have a clear understanding of a range of identities and sexualities.

MEST-UP will have a centre you can visit on camp 100, and many DFs you see out and about on camp will have benefited from this training.

*(an elected committee role)



Lots of DFs will refer to Woodcraft as 'gay scouts' or 'hippie scouts' - or a cult.

Woodcraft folk was the place I first really started to meet trans people, and that helped me figure out who I am. Now I have plenty of queer friends in DFs!

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Where might we see you at camp?

Under-12's tent and wrangling my Elfins (until Day 4 when they leave then I'll be lingering with DFs)

A lot of people are saying the radio will be very cool...

Almost certainly frolicking and doing embroidery feel free to talk to the red hair gender mess about fashion, fish or anything else

At the printing press!

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Any other top tips?

Everyone at woodcraft is really nice and friendly so don't feel scared to approach people <3

If you also make zines, please bring me a copy, I will try to have some fun art ones to trade :)

Maybe learn a card game or two?





Link your hands together
A circle we make;
This bond of our friendship
No power can break.
Let's all sing together
In one mighty throng;
Should any be weary
We'll help them along;
Should any be weary
We'll help them along!

This is sung to close a circle, and
we link our hands while we sing.
If you don't like hand holding like me,
I just hover my hands and no
one minds.



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Thanks to
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Pip of the Kite Trust, for the questions

Made by *Enrica* ☺

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