

Glenny Wood District Camp Site – report April 2017 to May 2018

Even if I say it myself I think Glenny Wood is really looking a picture this year and thank you to the many who have commented on how lovely the site is

We are so lucky in the District to have Glenny Wood campsite, many are so envious of us! It stretches for some 23 acres of woodland and plateaus. The site owned by Gordano District, is there for all to enjoy, learn and develop skills within the Scouting Skills for Life programme and have loads of FUN.

Since the last report to the AGM a considerable amount of activity and work has been undertaken at our campsite, a summary of some of this is below.

Glenny Wood badge – our new badge has been introduced during the year and we are now onto a reprint along with a “We’ve camped at Glenny Wood” new badge

Big Thank You’s - Community Support teams.

The Lloyds Bank teams. We saw Caroline Hill and her team help us commence the Tunnels installation, a fabulous start. Shortly afterwards a larger team led by Angus Wardle made a big difference to the site with a foot bridge built and the tunnels assembly completed and put into action. They came along again and built two new fabulous obstacles on the confidence course, wobbly bridge and tyre walk.

A team from the Bristol based Environment Agency joined us for a day and worked very hard, clearing the foliage around the Wetlands area and moving and partly reassembling two obstacles.

Activities – the major new activity this year has been the tunnels. We now have a fabulous new Glenny Tunnelling system with around 46 metres of tunnels to crawl along and 12 escape hatches. We have also introduced two new karts for Beavers and Cubs.

The confidence course has been extended this year as described above plus zig zags courtesy of one of the World Scout Jamboree Units in Avon. We have also added a crawl netting thanks to Triple X Explorers, who have also redesigned the kart track and are part way through building a new activity, Snookball, as well as planting hedging around the gas tank and moving logs.

We have also had help from various sections including 1st Nailsea Cubs and Scouts, and 1st Crockerne Scouts moving wood and planting which is very much appreciated. 1st Portishead Cubs have also put up bird boxes.

Website et al – the website has been significantly developed over the past 12 months, loads of info, factsheets and draft risk assessments. We also have our own Glenny email for bookings along with a dedicated phone number, which is transferred normally to my phone for bookings, queries and any problem solving on site. Technology helping us.

Site Usage – Glenny continues to be very popular with the lodge booked most weekends of the year and the camping areas heavily used especially in the Late spring, Summer and Autumn. Evenings continue to be very popular. Overall at Glenny we have hundreds of young people and adults enjoying the site throughout the year.

Maintenance – Significant amount of time is taken in maintaining the site, keeping nature at bay, repairing wear and tear, unblocking loos!, as well as other damage on site. The list of work undertaken and the hours spent is just too many to list. We have a record!

Vegetation Management – Nature is fantastic and so resilient and plants, weeds and brambles grow at a rapid pace at Glenny. We have spent a lot of time this year maintaining the site and controlling the vegetation.

Helping at Glenny - Due to family reasons Jill and Andy Derrick have stepped back from helping on site on a regular basis, although Jill continues as our treasurer.
Ruth Ham, after 11 years, has stepped down as our booking secretary in December 17.

New help - I am delighted that Angus Wardle, now fully retired, has joined me at Glenny and most Wednesdays you will find us on site working hard! Having Angus's help has made a fantastic difference as so much more can get done.....what a star!

Looking forward – we are looking to further extend the confidence course, more obstacles, monkey bridge and much more. Snookball activity will be up and running in the next couple of months and we are adding a cresta run to the grass sledging course.....We have further ideas which we will continue to develop and of course ensure the site is maintained to its current high standard and further improved. Ideas for activities on site welcome.....
Volunteers to build their ideas or help out also very welcome.

Scout Shop – This is based at Glenny. We will now take individual large orders from group for specific items, e.g. neckerchiefs, camping kit etc. We are currently selling off the stock as most people find it more convenient to purchase on line or locally themselves.

To help remind users of good Scouting on site, our Glenny Wood slogan is
“take nothing but photographs and memories – leave nothing but footprints”.
and we do hope this is taken on board and followed by all our users, from within Gordano and elsewhere.

And finally and most importantly Massive thanks to our small but fantastic team of Kath Woolcock, Adam Whiting, Kev Nelson, Jill Derrick, Paul Fox who joined us last summer, Tony Tween, yes the DC rolled his sleeves up!, and of course Angus Wardle.....

Phil Woolcock
Glenny Wood Camp Site