

## Who Are We?

Formed in 1973, the Baptist Campers exists to provide opportunities for camping in a Christian atmosphere, usually away from the restraints of commercial sites. We usually hold 3 camps per year, at the Spring Bank Holiday, 2 weeks in the summer (end July, beginning of August) and at August Bank Holiday.

Christians from any denomination, who sleep in a tent and cater for their own meals are welcome to join us, be they families, couples, singles or a small group from your Church.

Our intention is to keep formality to a minimum and to provide a 'Big Family' atmosphere.

Indeed, new members often have trouble working out who's children are who's as they all tend to go around and play together, joining in the never-ending games of football, cricket etc., in total safety away from the dangers that can be lurking on larger, more commercial sites. Friendships formed are often carried on through the year, away from camps, with families getting together for weekends at their homes.

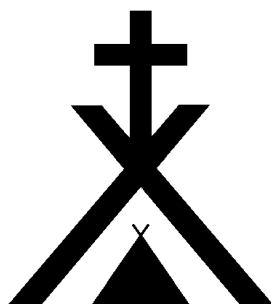
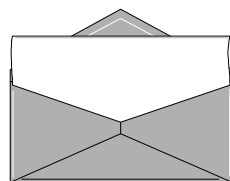


## Organisation

It was agreed very early on that formal structure be kept to a minimum.

Every year, normally on a Saturday in February, we hold a reunion, (in a Church, not under canvas), where we get the chance to renew friendships as well as plan the camps for the coming season, and to look at ideas for future years.

Each camp is put into the hands of a volunteer family or individual, who take responsibility for the finding of a farmer or suitable site, and the making of all the necessary arrangements, together with publicity.



## Our Sites

We frequently use farmer's fields for camps, and this keeps fees to a minimum, (typically a few pounds per night per unit, often going to a local Church or charity). This also means that our sites are frequently 'basic' and therefore toilet tents are often needed, but don't worry if you don't have one, as most people are usually willing to share their facilities.

For some of our camps, we do occasionally find small commercial sites that we can 'take over' or use an area for ourselves, which whilst costing a little more, do provide some basic facilities. Most August Bank Holidays we camp in the grounds of Downton Baptist Church, Wiltshire, and the church provide toilet & shower facilities for us.



Unfortunately, due to planning laws we cannot normally accept caravans at our camps.

## Are We Religious?

No attempt is made to organise formal bible studies or teaching. At the start of morning get-togethers we hold a short devotional period. Volunteers lead these sessions, so if this is your forte, bring along some material.

On Sundays we usually attend a local church and, when the opportunity arises, campers sometimes share in the planning and leading of worship at these churches. Over the years, many churches have found our presence a great encouragement.

## Activities

Most camps have some organised activities, both on and off camp, but the choice is up to you as to whether to join in or do your own thing.

Typical activities may include a family walk, picnic or bike ride along with other joint trips such as swimming or a visit to an attraction.

Barbeques are often held, especially on summer camps.

Each morning, around 9.30am ish. (all GBC times are ish!), we usually gather in a circle in the field for a short devotional time followed by any notices and information before communal coffee.

The campfire, held on some evenings, is an important part of camps, when we can join together in fellowship and praise. Accompanied



by various instruments (depending on who has brought one) we sing a variety of modern and

traditional songs, along with various action songs for the

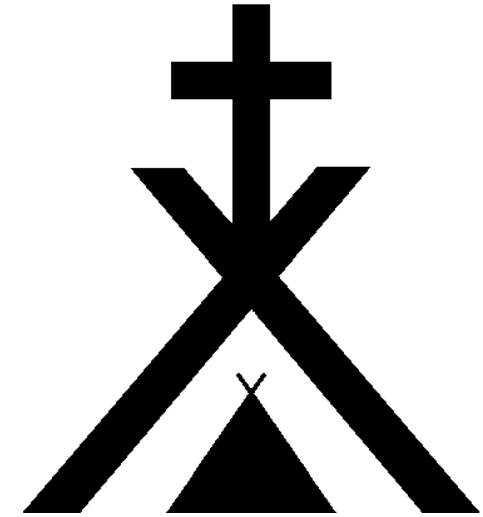
younger members (not forgetting the young at heart!) After a short epilogue, the kettles are boiled and fellowship continues over coffee and toasted marshmallows etc. around the fire, or people retire to each other tents for fellowship or silly card games!

**For more information on forthcoming camps or the campers in general you can;**

Visit our website  
**[www.baptistcampers.org.uk](http://www.baptistcampers.org.uk)**

Ring our Honorary Secretary on  
**(0116) 271 3960**

Or speak with someone who has camped with us.



**Baptist  
Campers**

*Est; 1973*

*Over Thirty Years Of*

***Christian Fellowship  
Under Canvas***

**[www.baptistcampers.org.uk](http://www.baptistcampers.org.uk)**