

**Chairman**

Rev Ruth Wilson  
7 Sandygate Close  
Redditch B97 5RY  
01527 541885

**Booking Secretary**

Mary Garrett  
The Hollies, Chapel Lane  
Rowney Green, Alvechurch  
Birmingham, B48 7QH  
0121 445 1308  
E-mail:- [bookings@peckwood.org](mailto:bookings@peckwood.org)

**Treasurer**

Keith Thomas  
2 Ashperton Close  
Redditch B98 7NG  
01527 544005  
E-mail:- [treasurer@peckwood.org](mailto:treasurer@peckwood.org)  
More information:- [www.peckwood.org](http://www.peckwood.org)

# Peck Wood Brochure 2024

Peck Wood Centre

Rowney Green

Alvechurch

Worcestershire

B48 7QE

Property of the Methodist Church



## What is Peck Wood?

Peck Wood is a residential centre set in 19 acres of beautiful ancient woodland in the North Worcestershire countryside, close to Alvechurch, 12 miles from the centre of Birmingham and 3 miles from the M42.

Mr. J.A. Patrick of Patrick Motors donated Peck Wood to the Methodist Church in 1948 to provide holidays, training and educational opportunities for children, young people, youth workers and the general community. Peck Wood is run on Christian principles and is currently managed by the Bromsgrove and Redditch Circuit of the Methodist Church.

## Who Uses the Wood?

The historical understanding of the deed of gift is that we enable deprived children to have holidays. We try to be faithful to this understanding as far as possible. We can and do however cater for many other groups.

We are recognized as a suitable site for Brownie pack holidays. The site is particularly suitable for uniformed organizations, youth clubs and church groups to come for weekends or full weeks.

We welcome schools for day and residential visits.

The major part of the wood is a mixture of broad leaved woodland with mature oaks and has been woodland continuously since it developed after the last Ice Age. Coppice management in parts of the wood is being restored. Part of the ditch and bank boundary of the Deer Park that surrounded the Bishop of Worcester's palace at Alvechurch in medieval times, runs through the middle of the wood and towards the river Arrow. With these varied habitats, it contains a great diversity of fauna and flora and, in spring time it is covered with a carpet of bluebells and other woodland flowers. The accommodation is set in the eastern end of the wood, an area of secondary woodland that was a field some fifty years ago.

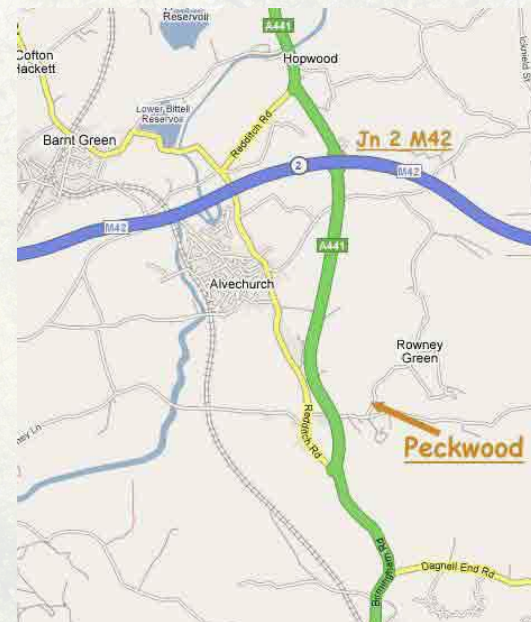
## Woodland Work

Regular work parties are held, usually the first Sunday in each month. They do a variety of tasks such as hedge laying, care of the newly planted young trees, control of the bracken and clearing pathways.

If you would like to join one of these parties, details can be obtained by e-mailing [woodland@peckwood.org](mailto:woodland@peckwood.org).

## HOW TO FIND PECKWOOD

### Directions from M42



- Exit at junction 2
  - Follow the signs for Redditch
  - At roundabout turn right towards Alvechurch
  - Up the hill and over the bridge
  - Peckwood is on the left hand side next left then into gates after 100m
  - The journey from central Birmingham takes about half an hour; from the M42 (junc 2) about 10 minutes.
- Parking for 15 cars on site





## The Letting Agreement continued

- 14 Use of powered wood cutting machinery (e.g. chainsaws) is forbidden on the site.  
Hand tools can be used by suitably qualified, insured and experienced users, but only on fallen timber lying on the ground, not on timber that is stacked in the wood or under shelters.
- 15 The Centre is not to be responsible to the Hirer or to anyone at the site expressly or by implication with the Hirer's authority for any accident happening or injury suffered or for any damage to or loss of any article or item sustained in the site provided that this clause is not to be construed as relieving the Centre from liability for breach by it of any of its obligations under this agreement and is to be construed as if the provisions of the Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977 applied to it.  
In the event of any accident occurring during the period of hire this must be reported in the Accident Book, found in the Leaders Cabin, completing the detail first set out in the book.
- 16 Save as aforesaid the Hirer must keep the Centre fully indemnified against all losses arising directly or indirectly out of any act omission or negligence of the Hirer or any persons at the site expressly or impliedly with its authority or any breach or non observance by the Hirer of the obligations, conditions or other provisions of this Agreement or any of the matters to which this hiring is subject.

## GLOSSARY

Centre	The management committee of Peckwood.
Site	The woodland area & the building collectively known as Peck Wood.
Hire Period	Period for which the hirer has requested to use the site.
Gambling	Any activity undertaken for fiscal gain including transfer of monies, tokens and their equivalents by wager.

We hope that you have a valuable and enjoyable stay at

Peck Wood and that you will come again.

Please make use of the visitors' book in the cabin to make any comment.

## Accommodation

There are five wooden cabins, which provide comfortable self-catering accommodation for up to 36 people. The site is all electric and buildings are electrically heated.  
All beds have quality vapour proof mattresses and waterproof covers. Visitors are required to provide all blankets, sheets, sleeping bags, pillows etc.

**The Bunkhouse** comprises 4 rooms. 2 dormitories which each have seven pairs of bunk beds and a room with two single beds. (Sleeping 32 in total)

**The Leaders Cabin** is for the leaders and comprises 2 bedrooms each with 2 single beds, an office area, a toilet/washroom and a separate shower cubicle.

**The Ranch House** has an entrance lobby to be used for drying outer clothes and wellies; a dining area 35' x 16' has trestle tables which can be moved to open up the room; a stainless steel kitchen with a commercial style cooking range, microwave, 4 sinks, refrigerator and freezer. Crockery, cutlery and cooking utensils are provided for 36 people.

**The Games Hut** 50' x 15' games room, linked to the Ranch House with protected windows and carpeted floor to give shelter and an activity base in poor weather



The Games Hut



## The Log Cabin

Donated by the Patricks of Patrick Motors, this building gives an alternative area for activities away from the Ranch House. It has one large single room and a covered veranda overlooking the central grassed play area and other buildings.

## Toilet Facilities

Brick built with two separate washrooms, both with hot and cold water, several washbasins, two showers and two lavatories, one of which in each room is suitable for disabled visitors. The leaders' cabin has a separate toilet.

## Laundry

The shed adjacent to the Ranch House has been converted into a Laundry with washing machine and toilet, and has direct access from the Ranch House

Cleaning equipment is stored in the shed next to the laundry



The wood at bluebell time

## The Letting Agreement continued

- 6 The Hirer shall indemnify the Centre for the cost of repair of any damage incurred to the site, including the curtilage thereof, contents of buildings and woodlands during their stay or as a result of their hiring, including any costs arising from the refilling of fire extinguishers discharged during the period of the hire.
- 7 The Hirer is responsible for ensuring that there is adequate supervision when the play equipment is in use. This is tested regularly to ensure that it is safe when used correctly. Injury can occur when this equipment is not used as intended. The Hirer is responsible for ensuring that safety instructions are adhered to at all times.
- 8 The Hirer is responsible for setting up and clearing away any furniture or equipment that they use. The Hirer is obliged to return all articles, or equipment to the place from which it was obtained and to ensure that all electrical items, including the cooker, water heaters and lights are appropriately isolated. No items belonging to Peckwood are to be removed from the site.
- 9 The Hirer is responsible for removing any item accrued during their stay. All refuse and unused foodstuffs from the stay shall be sealed in black refuse bags. These are to be firmly tied and pieced in the refuse container adjacent to the main gate.
- 10 The Hirer shall ensure that there is no smoking or naked flames in any part of the buildings. In the woodlands and elsewhere on the site, care is to be taken to ensure that no fires are started by the disposal of cigarette ends. If the campfire is used, that it remains attended at all times and kept well under control.
- 11 The Hirer is responsible for their own goods and equipment. The Centre will not accept liability for the loss or damage to any of the Hirer's equipment or goods, or damage wilful or otherwise to vehicles parked on, or adjacent to, the site. The nature of the site is living woodland. Debris will move about the site due to seasonal and weather conditions; the Centre will not accept any claims for damage as a result of this.
- 12 The Hirer is required to provide adequate insurance cover against third party claims for personal accident or public liability and shall indemnify the Centre against such claims.
- 13 Our insurers insist that the adequacy of your insurance is checked. A copy of the policy and a receipt to show the premium has been paid must be supplied at the time of booking. Further evidence of insurance may be required at the discretion of Peck Wood Management Committee or its insurers.



### PREFACE

It is to our mutual benefit that you are fully aware of the conditions, obligations and responsibilities that you undertake when you hire the Centre. In the following paragraphs are detailed the booking conditions. Apologies are made for the legal language but we believe the document makes sense. If you have any queries or doubts about the contents listed below please contact us.

### THE LETTING AGREEMENT

The hirer agrees to observe and perform the provisions and special conditions set out in the schedule. An understanding of which the hirer acknowledges by signing the declaration on the booking form.

### THE SCHEDULE

- 1 During the period of the hire, the Hirer will be responsible for the supervision of the site, the fabric and its contents; its care; safety from damage however slight or change of any sort. All persons using the site, whatever their capacity, must ensure that no vehicle is parked in such a way as to prevent ready access to the site for emergency vehicles at all times.
- 2 The Hirer shall not sub-let or use the site for any unlawful purpose or in any unlawful way or do anything or bring onto the site anything that shall endanger the same or any insurance(s) in respect thereof. **The supply sale or consumption of alcohol is not permitted on the site.** The site may not be used in any way to advertise or promote the use of alcohol or any substance legal or otherwise that is detrimental to the moral or physical wellbeing of the visitors.
- 3 Gambling of any sort is prohibited on the site. The playing of card games or games of chance are permitted only when played purely for pleasure.
- 4 **The Hirer shall be solely responsible for obtaining any licences that may be required and for observance of same and all other regulations appertaining to the site, stipulated by the Fire Authority, Local Authority, the Local Magistrates Court and any other regulatory body including carrying out a FIRE DRILL PRACTICE.**
- 5 The Hirer shall ensure that all doorways and fire exits are kept clear of chairs, any furniture, personal items or any other obstructions at all times.

### Play Area

It is essential that children are supervised at all times especially when using the play equipment.

A grass area between the Ranch House and the Bunkhouse is available for games, although it is on a slope.

The play equipment consists of

1. A combination unit with a climbing frame and slide (ideal for younger children).
2. Levelled play area
3. Scrambling net
4. Wooden combination climbing net and Wendy house
5. Log walk

All have a safe bark landing area.

There is a designated area where a campfire may be lit using any broken branches or twigs from the wood.



Care should be taken in damp conditions as wooden play equipment can become slippery.



## How much does it cost to use Peck Wood?

Please consult the scale of charges on the next page.

We cater for and have facilities for 36 people. Our prices are for this number.

Electricity is additional; meter readings will be taken on arrival and on departure. These are recorded in the file for 'meter readings' held in the Leaders' Cabin.

From this information an invoice will be forwarded and payment by cheque or BACS should be sent to the treasurer after the letting period.

## Booking Arrangements.

Contact the booking secretary to determine site availability and make a provisional booking, **which will only be held by the centre for 30 days.**

Confirm your requirements by submitting a booking form giving details of hire period. The booking form must be signed and returned with the specific non-returnable deposit (as per the current scale of charges) and proof of insurance in accordance with Paragraph 13 of the letting agreement.

On receipt of the deposit a booking confirmation form will be issued. This document forms a legal and binding contract.

If it becomes necessary for the Hirer to cancel this contract the following will apply:

If notice is given in writing at least one calendar month prior to the hire period no surcharges will apply (The deposit is non returnable)

If written notice is given less than one month prior to the hire period, the full cost of the hire is still payable.

**All hire charges are payable in advance. The balance of the charges to be made one month prior to the hire period.**

**Cheques are to be made payable to 'Peck Wood Centre' please.**

The centre reserves the right of unlimited access for its representatives to visit the site for any reason at any time during the hire period.

## Safeguarding Children

Legislation requires that if children are present, you confirm your procedures are broadly compliant with Home Office Guidelines on Protection of Children and vulnerable adult.

## SCALE OF CHARGES 2024

	Period	Times	Hire Cost	Deposit
Day visits with use of main hall & toilet block	Day	09:00-17:00	£105.00	
Residential Monday-Friday	2 Days 1 Night	0900 arrival 1700 depart	£180.00	£30.00
	3 Days 2 Night	0900 arrival 1700 depart	£240.00	£30.00
	4 Days 3 Night	0900 arrival 1700 depart	£300.00	£30.00
	5 Days 4 Night	0900 arrival 1700 depart	£360.00	£30.00
Weekends	18:00 Friday 18:00 Sunday		£360.00	£50.00
Full Week	18:00 Friday 18:00 Friday		£720.00	£50.00

Please leave the Centre clean and tidy, **otherwise we will have to charge you for the additional cleaning needed to bring it back to an acceptable state. This can be up to £50.00.**

The Management Committee's decision on this is final.

All charges exclude electricity, which is assessed from a meter reading taken by the hirer.

Please refer to the letting agreement for other terms, conditions and exclusions.