



Thank You for booking for the Common Ground Annual Gathering. Our theme is Finding the Wild Self.

We have organised a couple of workshops on that theme and open exploratory time. Dinner on Saturday night will be an Indian food feast cooked by Bangor Community Kitchen and later there will be Ecstatic Dance with James Hunter. I want to express my huge gratitude to James and the volunteer cooks.

Part of the evening will be an open mic – please bring poems, stories, jokes, songs, musical instruments – whatever you need to make some wild craic.

If you bring your own tent you will be allocated a pitch in the Holm Field (picture above) your pitch will have a tree name. You will be using a barrow to move your gear to the field which is 5-10 minutes from the farmyard.

If you are using one of our tents there are already a couple up in the field. Barrow kit as above. We also have some indoor spaces available by arrangement.

I want you to be aware that this is 'wild camping' - rough and ready and offering a deep connection to the land. There are two wild toilets in the field - one is a hole in the ground and the other a bucket with a seat. Both screened for privacy. If you wish to wild-wee in the grass during the night, feel free...There is an outhouse loo with a cold water sink up at the farmyard. There is no shower for your overnight stay.

If you wish to dip in the river or use the hose up in the gardens that is possible.

Please bring anything you need to make yourself comfortable. If you need advice, please ask.

Here is a list of recommended kit:

Tent

Sleeping mattress

Sleeping bag (or duvet?)
Hot water bottle
Camping light
Head Torch or Torch
Camping folding chair or stool
Picnic or outdoor blanket
Insect repellent
Range of outdoor clothing - layers that you can adjust for hot/cold
Waterproof Over-clothing
Boots or Wellies (you may be happy in flip flops?)
Water bottle
Camping mug / plate / cutlery
Covid kit - sanitizer and mask
Snacks for between meals
Swimsuit and towel
Sun lotion (being optimistic)

Bring a sense of humour and the spirit of adapting or going with the flow. Looking for your Wild Self may push your edges and it may be joyful. We will actively support each other in getting the most out of being on the land, being with each other, in nature. There will be a fire pit by the river and one in the large silo/barn. If you have firewood handy then bring some to add to the communal fire. You are welcome to bring all kinds of camping stoves yet not start your own open fire. There are lots of spaces where you can be alone and quiet if need be.

Food will be provided by Bangor Community Kitchen – there will be plates, cutlery etc yet if you prefer to use your own then that's OK.
There may be moments when we need some help with moving things, washing up and so on – so be prepared to pitch in.

Finally, a word about the covid virus – please fill out our declaration form before leaving for the event. Please use the usual measures to minimise risk – handwashing, mask in enclosed space with other, social distancing. We intend to be outdoors as much as possible, yet the weather may have other ideas – so please pray for fine weather.

Looking forward to connecting and finding some wild
Robbie