

# Rough Close Update

May 2018



## Challenges and Opportunities

It cannot have escaped everyone that we have and are experiencing a very wet cold winter. This has hampered a lot of work being done at Rough Close. Although the Service crews go out in all weathers ground conditions sometimes means that not a lot can be achieved.

We are currently running behind on some of our projects and in need of some help from our members.

Rough Close and the Trading Post are very important assets to the County helping to finance activities within the County and providing our young people with the activities they have requested.

Can you help, we urgently need help from Districts, Groups or individual who can spare a little time to help us recover. Whether it is working with the Crew at weekends or in the week, you will be welcome. This **UPDATE** brings you up to date on our current situations.

## Maclean Field

Work has continued over the winter on building our Tepee's. All four are now constructed and just being finished off we would hope to be able to use them by summer.

We expect these to be very popular but we have had severe problems with the field being so wet. We have now had field drainage installed but we still need to put grass seed down. The 36<sup>th</sup>/51<sup>st</sup> group came and planted a number of trees, the field now needs raking and levelling. We are also waiting to install a path linking all the Tepee's.



It is also intended to build a kitchen/ dining area on the field. This will enable groups who have difficulty with kit and transport to enjoy the experience of Rough Close.

The base has been laid and most of the materials are available.

## Camper's Car Park

Another area, which has suffered greatly over the winter, is the Campers Car Park.

We currently have a quote to level and resurface. Although this will be done during the week because we are, becoming busy finding the right time is a challenge

Work has already started on improving the path from the car park to the Trading Post. We also have to repair the fence alongside the path.

## Activities

We are always looking to increase the range of activities we can offer at Rough Close. Some being leader led, some will require instructors. One of the intended activities will be a tunnelling complex. The large pipes have been donated to Rough Close and work is underway to build the joining sections, the first is completed but we are now anxious to recruit a group of people to build three more joining sections.

## Climbing Tower

At the recent 'YOU SHAPE' forum, one of the requests our young people came up with was a climbing tower. We have always wanted to install one at Rough Close.

At last, an opportunity to purchase a used tower presented itself, after inspection the County Executive has given permission to buy it. It will be delivered to Rough Close by mid- May.



This is not the actual tower but similar

To use the tower we need to recruit and train instructors. We will run courses for potential users. This can cover Explorer Scouts, Young Leaders and anyone who would wish to hold this qualification for their young people. Is this a skill you would wish to acquire?

## Activity Centre Service

Have you thought of asking your Scouts, Explorer Scouts or Network to consider gaining an Activity Centre Service Activity Badge? Not only will they learn new skills, gain another badge whilst adding a further experience for their C.V.

Rough Close can provide a programme of work for all the skills needed to obtain the badge.

### Conservation

Another important area of our award schemes there you can learn about our plants, trees and wild life whilst learning the skills on how to protect and enhance the important environment at Rough Close.

### Duke of Edinburgh Award

Those Explorer Scouts and Network working towards their DofE can complete their service part of the award by working with the Service Crew at Rough Close

### Rough Close Trading Post

The Trading post is an important part of the County, not only serving Coventry but many of our neighbouring Counties.

We are currently looking for volunteers to help in the Trading Post.

Knowledge of Badges and uniforms for all sections would be an advantage but not essential as training will be provided.

Opening hours are 9.30a.m to 4.00p.m on Saturdays and 9.30 a.m. to noon on Sundays.

Please apply to [badges@coventryscouts.org.uk](mailto:badges@coventryscouts.org.uk) or speak to a member of staff

## Opportunities

Last year Rough Close was fortunate in that it applied for and attracted funding amounting to £17,400 to use on the Tepees and kitchen dining area.

### New Building

An opportunity has risen to apply for a grant for another residential building. The grant application needs to be completed by 30<sup>th</sup> June, in that time we need to be able to answer some questions:

What do we want?

Where do we want it?

How many should it sleep?

What do we want in it?

Do you have ideas of what you would like to see at Rough Close, would you wish to be part of the decision-making process for a new building?

Please contact Dave Hart or Nigel Stapleton, remember time is of the essence.

### Friends of Rough Close 200 Club Draw

Another important aspect in the Fund Raising for Rough Close is our '200 Club'.

Run along the lines of a monthly raffle it brings in much needed funds for helping finance new equipment, activities etc.

Current prizes are £70, £28, £14, each month with an annual draw for £285, £145, and £75

This last year it helped, pay for the replacement site vehicle.

Please contact Nigel for more information,

#### April Draw

1<sup>st</sup> 12 2<sup>nd</sup> 13 3<sup>rd</sup> 9

## REMEMBER ROUGH CLOSE IS YOUR CENTRE

Rough Close is a legacy handed down over the last 73 years for young people of Coventry Scouts to enjoy. In Rough Close, you have a centre to be proud of, visitors from many Counties and organisations take great pleasure in what is on offer.

We are a movement and as such should seek to improve on what we can offer.

### 'How can you help?'

Can we introduce District working weekends, camp for free?

Can you bring your Group, Section, etc to carry out specific tasks, camp for free?

Do you have skills we could use?

Woodworking

Painting

General Maintenance

Ground works

**Please come and join us in making Rough Close a place we can all be proud of!**