

## **2022 Global Bushcraft Symposium Theme Camps** **– Workshop and Demonstration Descriptions and Details**

This document contains descriptions and details of workshops and demonstrations happening in the GBS Theme Camp areas. The workshops are grouped by Theme Camp and then by the provider. The information here has been supplied by the respective workshop and demonstration providers and collated by our Theme Camps Coordinator Jamie Dakota. The information here is correct as of 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

**For the timings of these sessions please see the Theme Camps Timetable, also available to download from the GBS website.**

**For Theme Camp sessions with maximum class or audience sizes, please sign up on the morning of the day of the workshop, at the sign-up desk in the main hall (sports hall) between 08:00 and 09:00.**

### **Primitive Technology Camp**

- Thijmen Apswoude
  - **Scissor Traps**
  - **2 hours**
  - **Class size: 12 participants**
  
  - **Fish Hides**
  - **2 hours**
  - **Class size: 20 participants**
  
- Theresa Emmerich Kamper
  - **Skin Preservation for Furs and Skins Workshop**
  - **90 minutes**
  - **Class size: 10 participants**

Teresa says “This 90 minute class will cover the basics of how to preserve skins prior to tanning. We will look at skins such as deer, goat or sheep, and furs such as Fox, Squirrel and Mustelids. The class will cover skinning methods, de-fleshing, wet salting, dry salting, freezing and air drying techniques for a variety of species as well as introduce you to different tool sets for these species.”
  - **Pre-Processing for Fat tanning and Vegetable tanning Workshop**
  - **90 minutes**
  - **Class size: 10 participants**

Theresa says “This 90 minute class will cover the second step in the chain of pre-processes needed before tanning skins such as deer, goat and sheep. The content will cover how to dehair hides for tanning skins with the grain-on and how

to de-grain for producing grain-off tans. It will cover the two most commonly used types of tanner's beams (pull and push) as well as discuss the use of frames."

- Patrick McGlinchey
  - **Fibre Craft Workshop**
  - **1-2 hours**
  - **Class size: 5 participants**

Patrick says "Fibre is essential to many skills we use in bushcraft and by applying simple techniques we can transform this raw material into thread, string and utility ropes. This class will look at processing different fibres, cordage construction and application."
  - **Fishing Nets Workshop**
  - **90 minutes to 2 hours**
  - **Class size: 5 participants**

Patrick says "Nets can be used for many tasks when out fishing, this class will focus on the basic net making process, styles, uses and rigging up (floats, weights etc)."
  - **Netting Needles Workshop**
  - **90 minutes to 2 hours**
  - **Class size: 5 participants**

Patrick says "The ability to carve netting needles and gauges is an essential skill, it's a key that opens other doors. This class will focus on looking at different styles, materials and carving techniques to achieve a working set."
  - **Primitive Fishing Kits Demonstration**
  - **1 hour**
  - **Audience size: 10 people**

Patrick Says "A show and display of various hooks, lines, sinkers and other kit used in the procurement of fish - discussion on materials, construction, uses etc."
- Siegurd van Leusen
  - **Birch Bark in the Slavic Culture Workshop**
  - **2 hours**
  - **Class size: 10 participants**

Siegurd says "During Siegurd's time in Russia he was taught by the great Vladimir Yarish, and a great passion arose for this beautiful natural product. Siegurd has shared that passion for years by giving unique courses on working with birch bark according to the old Slavic culture. This is what will be covered during this workshop:

    - Piece of history
    - The birch bark (harvest, store, use)
    - The preparation
    - Braiding a bookmark"

## **Woodland Skills Camp**

- Adam Logan

- **Tillering a Bow Demonstration**

- **1 hour**

- **Audience size: 15 people**

Adam says “The art and technique of creating a symmetrical bend in both limbs of a bow on either side of its handle can be challenging to achieve. This is especially true when attempting to impart the technique to customers who may be unaccustomed to working with traditional tools and woods including more complex grain.

In this one-hour demonstration there will be a variety of bows and tillering tools available to demonstrate and explain the key aspects of tillering when crafting traditional wooden bows.

This workshop should be of interest to practitioners new to bow building or already making their own bows who may just want a little guidance or confirmation on the process of tillering. For established instructors, the workshop aims to explore how to go about teaching tillering to others.”

The demonstration aims to cover the following topics:

- Material selection and assessment for bow making
- Tillering jigs – understanding how to set up your own for best effect
- What is a bow? The mechanics and forces involved when bending a bow
- Examples of both long bows and flat bow designs
- Explanation of desired shapes and symmetry when tillering
- How to assess the bend (or not bending!) of a bow, tips and tricks
- Tool progression for various stages of tillering
- Common problem avoidance, recognising hinges early
- Green wood vs seasoned wood

- **Orientation and Navigation with the Sun Stick**

- **1 hour**

- **Class size: 10 participants**

Adam says “Many bushcraft and survival books cite this technique for direction finding and confirmation but how easy or quick is it to use? How accurate is it and what value could it have to you out on a day hike?

In this one-hour workshop we will look at how to set up a sun stick (hopefully with a little help from the sun!) and then look at the practical understanding necessary to utilise this technique throughout the year.

The sun creates and maintains so many of the natural directional signs and indicators that we might observe whilst outdoors and the sun stick is a great way of thoroughly getting to grips with the origins of all the other signs you might want to interpret.”

During this workshop we will look at:

- Setting up a sun/ shadow stick
  - Understanding the apparent rising and setting of the sun through different seasons
  - Using the sun's position and time to orientate yourself throughout the day
  - Useful map reading techniques using the sun's position
  - User error when reading a shadow stick
  - Using the sun's position to work out the directional bearing of the moon through its various phases
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- Julia Kaltoff
    - **Axe workshop 1 and 2**
    - **2 Hours**
    - **Class size: 8**

Julia says "Some people think carving is done with a knife only. But it's easier to first carve the wood to shape with an axe and then use the knife just to make it smooth and clean. The axe is more efficient, and with some practice it's very precise. To carve with an axe can be divided into six different techniques. Chopping, fine carving, making convex and concave shapes, splitting and hewing. If you are comfortable with these techniques, you have the skills to carve anything you want!

In this workshop we will start with basic safety and ergonomics, and then practice these techniques one by one. Julia will then demonstrate how to carve a spatula followed by everyone carving their own spatula using their new carving skills."
  
  - Siegurd van Leusen
    - **Axe Use and Safety Demonstration**
    - **1 hour**
    - **Audience size: open to all**

Siegurd says "Working with an axe can be a dangerous undertaking, especially in remote areas. Whether you're splitting, carving, limbing or just doing minor work around your camp. What we often notice in our courses is that people are not always aware of what an axe can do if you use it incorrectly. Even the simplest things like storing your axe incorrectly results in dangerous situations. The following topics will be covered during this workshop:

    - working safely with an axe (chopping, splitting, carving and small work)
    - walk safely with an axe
    - store an axe safely
    - maintaining an axe (sharpening and general maintenance)

We will mainly work with a model forest axe but we will display a wide range of axes."

- Jon McAuthur and Kelly Harlton
  - **Roycraft Pack Frame Demonstration**
  - **2 hours**
  - **Audience size: 15 people**

Jon says “Tom Roycraft had taught Mors Kochanski how to build this simple triangle pack frame. Having learned this project from Mors, I wish to bring more light on the subject. It has become a simple way to devise load bearing equipment while on land. We will teach the various measurements, material selection, knots (Canadian Jam Knot and Constrictor) and lashings (diamond). Also speak to the history, how to structure the lesson and finally the use and securing of load to the pack frame in order to convey loads.”
  
- David Delafield
  - **Burtonsville Rig Manufacture and History Demonstration**
  - **1 hour**
  - **Audience size: open to all**

## Youth Engagement Camp

- Terry Longhurst and the BushScout Team
  - **Fire Bundle Making Workshop**
  - **1 Hour**
  - **Class size: 8 Participants**

Terry says “Bundle baskets are what we use with young people when fire lighting, using a bundle it prevents them getting burnt, it also helps if they have special needs.” Bush Scout are asking for a small voluntary donation for this workshop to go towards their charitable aims.
  - **Fire Challenge and Kelly kettle challenge**

These are timed challenges held in the Youth Engagement Camp during the allocated time slots, so pop in and give it a go!
  
- Paul Moseley
  - **Forest School and Bushcraft Workshop**
  - **1 hour**
  - **Class size: 15 participants**

Paul says “Exploring where forest school and bushcraft overlap and also have unique qualities to their approach. Also looking at how bushcraft skills and knowledge is employed within a forest school community and where the forest school ethos might contribute to bushcraft teaching practice.”
  - **Connection and Kinship Workshop**
  - **1 hour**
  - **Class size: 15 participants**

Paul says “Developing themes covered in my main talk on stage, this workshop will cover the differences between nature contact, connection and culture, also regarded as kinship.”
  
- Jon McArthur
  - **Hugging that Tree and Surviving Workshop**
  - **1 hour**
  - **Class size: 15 participants**

Jon says “A look at the use of the Adventuresmart.ca in Canada to help educate youth to be safe when exploring on the land. Explaining how the system works, tips when dealing with youth, important details and resources. There will be some educational materials delegates to see as well as a small give-away at the end to a lucky participant.”

## **Fire Craft Camp**

- **Mattias Norberg**
  - **Fire workshop**
  - **2 hours**
  - **Class size: 6 participants**

Mattias says “Learn how to make and use the bow drill step by step. What suitable wood and tinder bundles you can use and so on.”
  
- **Dave Watson**
  - **Advanced Bow Drill Workshop**
  - **90 minutes to 2 hours**
  - **Class size: 10 participants**

Dave says “This session is designed for those who have a basic competence in creating embers but would like to refine their technique. The focus will be on the finer levels of efficiency as well as looking at different combinations of Base Board and Drill. Time permitting we will also look at simple variations used for young people.”
  - **Hand Drill Workshop**
  - **90 minutes to 2 hours**
  - **Class size: 10 participants**

Dave says “For people who have gained some success with Hand Drill this session will highlight some top tips which will help improve your technique and efficiency of this well known skill which often frustrates people.”
  
- **Rupert Loch**
  - **Energy Transfers In Bushcraft**
  - **1 hour**
  - **Class size: 15 participants**

Rupert’s workshop for the Symposium is based around the ideas of Energy Stores and Transfers, in particular Thermal Energy, as taught in secondary physics. The workshop will investigate Insulation and Heat loss through Conduction, Convection, Radiation and Evaporation, energy from the Sun and some of the principles of Friction.
  
- **Gordon Dedman**
  - **Australian Friction Fire Woods Demonstration**
  - **1 hour**
  - **Audience size: open to all**

## **Expedition and Canoeing Skills Camp**

- Ray Goodwin
  - **Teaching a novice to canoe workshop**
  - **90 minutes**
  - **Class size: 10 on the water (but anyone can observe from the jetty)**

Ray says “Some ideas and discussion on what to teach to get people started in canoe. Methods of teaching and critical skills/strokes. What folk get wrong and what they need to know.”
  - **An introduction to canoe poling workshop**
  - **90 minutes**
  - **Class size: 10 participants**

Ray say “The art of standing tall with a big stick. One of the traditional ways of moving a canoe in shallow water. Be prepared to get wet: there are only two types of poler, those of us that have fallen in and those of you that are going to. But we will try to stay dry.”
  - **The J-Stroke (and Canadian), the defining stroke of canoeing workshop**
  - **90 minutes**
  - **Class size: 10 on the water (but anyone can observe from the jetty)**

Ray says “Folk can be anything from novice to expert already. Refinements to make it a successful expedition tool.”
  - **Canoe rafting and improvised sail rigs workshop**
  - **90 Minutes**
  - **Class size: 10 on the water (but anyone can observe from the jetty)**

Ray says “Quick rigs and more substantial rafts. From two to four canoes. Gear knots and knowhow. And hopefully a chance for a quick sail.”
  - **How I outfit my canoes demonstration: for work and for personal ones.**
  - **90 Minutes**
  - **Audience size: open to all**

Ray says “We’ll look at painters, airbags, kneeling thwarts and all. From a bare boat to all geared up. Including rigging GoPro cameras to achieve that POV.”
- Joe Flowers
  - **Machete and Junglecraft Demonstration: Safety, and tips from the jungle that transition to the rest of the world of bushcraft**
  - **1 hour**

- **Audience size: open to all**

Joe says “The jungle environment is one of the best places in the world to observe and practice what we call bushcraft. Join me, a Jungle Expedition guide and owner of Bushcraft Global, while I share some of the advanced large knife techniques, and unique perspectives from Amazon indigenous.”
- Rupert Brown
  - **Water filtering demonstration**
  - **1 hour**
  - **Audience size: open to all**

Rupert says “Finding water and making it safe is an essential wilderness skill for every backcountry traveller. It enables us to stay out for longer periods of time, keep hydrated and avoid water borne sickness. It is a skill that is often overlooked due to misinformation, lack of understanding, confidence as well as an over reliance on modern equipment. This workshop will help explain and clarify the process providing the information needed to prepare dirty water for drinking. Starting with the importance of water, the potential contaminants, following onto the different techniques we can apply to make the water safe.”
- Gordon Dedman
  - **Survival Priorities and Essential Equipment Demonstration**
  - **1 hour**
  - **Audience size: open to all**
- Fraser Christian
  - **Using Beach Rubbish for Survival Demonstration**
  - **1 hour**
  - **Audience size: 10 people**
- Mattias Norberg
  - **Plant ID Walk**
  - **1 hour**
  - **Class Size: 10 Participants**

Mattias says “I’ll take you on a walk around the area and we look and talk about useful wild plants. How to identify them and what they can be used for.”
- André-François Bourbeau
  - **Advanced Knot Tying Workshop**
  - **2 hours**
  - **Class size: 10 participants**

André says “Most books on knots could be entitled ‘1000 knots, 10 uses.’ I would entitle mine ‘10 knots, 1000 uses’. Learning the knots is easy, knowing when to use each one isn’t. I like a problem solving approach, for example: you are pulling a car out of the ditch with a climbing rope, immense pressure, which knot? Or: you need to hang a bag of food on a very slippery aluminium flag post, which knot? I also like to compare solving the same problem with 5 different knots, and analysing which one is best.

I like to categorise knots according to their principle: for example, bowline, sheet bend, alpine loop and Carrick bend all work on the same principle of squeezing a bight the more you pull. So some theory is helpful. And then there are very detailed techniques for tying each knot faster!”

- Peter Magnin
  - **First Aid Kits for Remote Expeditions Demonstration**
  - **1 hour**
  - **Audience size: 20 people**

Peter says “This class will help you learn the necessities you need to travel in remote backcountry for long expeditions with a group. Getting past the personal first aid kit and being what is important and leaving behind any extra fluff.”
  - **Common Backcountry Injuries and First Aid Workshop**
  - **1 hour**
  - **Class size: 10 participants**

Peter says “Learn the most common injuries you will experience while travelling in the backcountry and learn how to treat them. A practical class covering blisters on feet to dislocated joints. Talk about the difference in short term injury care and long term. How to analyse the decision tree to wait for evacuation or utilise self evacuation.”