

# The Wilderness Gathering 2006

1st - 3rd September 2006 – Bush Farm, West Knoyle, Wiltshire

**A**nother great year at the Wilderness Gathering, held at the Bison Farm, Wiltshire. Hundreds of people travelled from across the country to be at the largest Bushcraft event in the UK, which was bigger than ever. Despite grizzly weather for most of Saturday, spirits were high as groups gathered around the trade stands to watch demonstrations and buy the latest bushcraft kit. Thank you to all the new subscribers who visited our stand and we hope that you enjoy reading and building your collection of Bushcraft & Survival Skills Magazine. Max from Shadowhawk was promoting his new book **'Animal Tracks ID'** at this year's gathering where our editor drew the winner – S. Walker from Yorkshire – for his competition to give away a signed copy! Look out for our review of his book in the next issue and a chance to win a signed copy.

There were numerous classes throughout the weekend filled with practical knowledge and tips from some of the best bushcraft experts, including most of our writers. Sunday was a lovely day, the rain had finally given up as it knew that nothing was going to stop us 'hardy bushcrafters' from having a good time.

All over the site, tents, basha's, and tipi's stood and the embers of fires remained from the night before, having provided a meal and warmth whilst people sat chatting around the



Islay's trade stand

campfires. Classes ran from morning until evening ranging from tracking to lightweight backpacking alongside the Coyote Kids Club for children. The Children enjoyed the weekend just as much as the adults. If they were not doing an Coyote Kids Club activity then they would be playing in the adventure park, visiting the bison, deer, racoons or just carving a stick using their new knife safety skills that they had been taught.

Roger one of the organisers who owns Bison Bushcraft said that "our aim is to make a marked improvement yearly and we feel we have achieved this and will definitely do so for the next event... next year the event will be running for three days (30th Aug to 2nd Sept), starting on the Thursday night with Friday being a day reserved for weekend pass holders only. We are aiming to have more hands on activities to promote even more involvement.

"We've had loads of excellent feedback, not only from within the bushcraft community but also from visitors who just dropped in to look around."

**For further details visit [www.wildernessgathering.co.uk](http://www.wildernessgathering.co.uk) which is due to be updated for the 2007 Wilderness Gathering.**

■ Congratulations to Neil from Denbighshire who won the two weekend tickets to the Wilderness Gathering, kindly donated by the organizers, Roger from Bison Bushcraft and Domonic of Wilderness Gathering Ltd.



Our stand



Shadowhawk's tracking masterclass

Photos: Ian Cresswell