

Hello to all our guests...and welcome to any new friends who have recently signed up to receive our news. You won't be bombarded...just maybe 3 each year.

Since the pre-Christmas 2018 letter, we have enjoyed great weather and have been busy with lovely guests including a return visit from Dave Gosney who came with his wife and sister in law. They came early in the new year for a holiday and also to revise Dave's "Finding Birds in The Gambia" booklet (which should be available late summer).

Birding guests have seen many species and have taken some excellent photographs...please add them to our bird blog if you can...send to kevin.otton@btinternet.com .Kevin is our website manager and will add a watermarked copyright protected label.

While our own gardens, tree sanctuary and local environment have proved to be the usual haven for birds, we have also welcomed the guiding of a British expert (resident in Gambia) on butterflies and dragonflies this year, who has taken guests out to lesser known areas where water attracts various species.

The art studio has proved to be a place to relax and enjoy some workshops...several guests have used the studio. Others have also tried their hand at batik at the nearby Tunbung art village. Next season, I am hoping to welcome more guests who want to focus on creating art during their stay. Below is a simplified version of a flyer that I will give to my local galleries and studios back in UK.

Art holidays in The Gambia, W.Africa

Stay in a comfortable lodge set in beautiful grounds in the south of the country away from the tourist development. With a dedicated studio, guests can join different workshops for inexperienced/amateur artists who want to try something new. All materials provided.

Farakunku Lodges is a haven for birds, trees and flowers and we welcome guests who want to enjoy the 'real' Gambia. You can visit the colourful fishing boats, produce markets, unspoilt beaches and river banks, traditional village scenes, cultural events, batik and tie/dye establishments to inspire your work.

With half board accommodation designed for single travellers or couples, super king size beds and airport service this could be your chance to capture the colour and atmosphere of Africa.



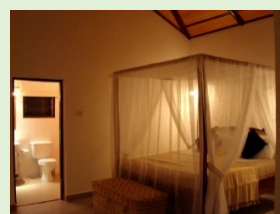
Scenes with guests in the studio



Heather in her Studio



Part of extensive Lodge grounds



Interior of lodge

Best wishes to everyone and here's hoping we see you here again next season. (If you are still hoping to come *this* season, we do have some limited availability in March but February is completely booked.) We will be closing at the end of March and returning to UK early April.

Heather and Moses