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CAMPHILL



PAGES

VOLUME 34 SPRING/SUMMER 2023

Welcome

For this edition of Camphill Pages our theme is 'partnerships'. Our lives and our communities are formed in part by the partnerships we have with others. These partnerships can shape who we are. They are also reciprocal, meaning that we can shape others who we meet and build a connection to them.

My grandparents had friends from all other the world. This puzzled me when I was younger because I knew that my grandmother had never travelled further than Scotland from England. But she and my grandfather made friends simply by talking to the many people that passed the foot of their garden. These people were tourists enjoying a day out on Lakeland fells. But they also enjoyed the friendly interest, the warmth and the stories that my grandparents would share. So much so that they would continue to write for many years after.

At the heart of Camphill is interest in the world around us, a desire to change things for the better, and a wish to share the humanity that each of us brings to the world.

We do this in so many ways in Camphill it is hard to reflect all of these in just one short edition of Pages. So if you have a story to tell we would love to hear from you.

Tom Marx



Ewan's interpretation of his friends taking part in work experience at Hinton Admiral.

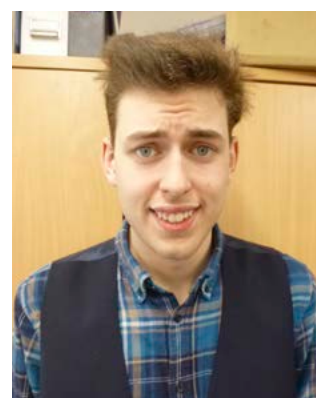
Sheiling College adopt a train station

By Claire Mitchell

In September, Sheiling College students and staff were delighted to be accepted as Community Rail Network members and this community link has progressed with the wonderful news that the college have successfully adopted Hinton Admiral station in Christchurch.

Adopting a local train station provides Sheiling students with additional opportunities. The key aims are for students to support the upkeep and maintenance of the platforms, ticket office and surrounding areas of the station, ensuring the station is welcoming and inviting to all visitors.

Continues on page 2...



Ewan

The ReStore and us

By Liz Wilkinson, Camphill Devon

For many years now, we have been committed to recycling various materials into beautiful arts and crafts. The people we support definitely see this connection, and the thought of making crafts out of items such as a broken dining chair, an old penny or recycled clay is exciting and adds to their story to tell. Everyone loves seeing their work valued by the wider community, and to feel that they are making their contribution.

We hold annual fairs on site and usually have at least one external exhibition a year, but we don't have our own outlet. (This is a plan for the future!) So, we are so happy that THE ReSTORE in Dartington, displays and sells the work that we make alongside other local craft makers. THE ReSTORE is a wonderful project that combines the skills of volunteers and local upcycling artists to Rediscover, Recreate & Rejuvenate items of donated furniture and furnishings. They have always worked in partnership with other community sector reuse organisations, local authorities, Environment Agency, Care/Support organisations and others to help minimise waste going to landfill and increase the quantity of goods which are reused.

Continues on page 3...



The ReStore



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Keeping Culter clean

By Tom Marx

For three years now Tigh a'Chomainn has had a small team out picking litter from around Peterculter, the small village on the edge of Aberdeen where we live. Over the years our team has become a familiar sight to our friends and neighbours.

Most of us think about litter picking as that thing that we do occasionally, perhaps as something organised by the local council or scout group. But at Tigh a'Chomainn it is the people who live there that are leading by example.

This is important, it shows that everyone can lead. It demonstrates the type of behaviour (being respectful of your environment) that we want to see from others.

Over the years people we have met have begun to ask us to go to certain areas, to take care of our public spaces. This is amazing for us as it demonstrates the real value of our work. We are very proud to be a part of our community and it is fantastic to feel valued in return.



Shieling College adopt a train station continued from front page...

On a weekly basis, small groups of students, supported by Shieling staff will undertake a variety of jobs including sweeping, cleaning and clearing rubbish. With Spring on the way, they will also prepare the station's green spaces in readiness for planting.

Students who may find accessing the station more challenging will also make a positive contribution and develop their skills by creating artwork and designing displays for platform and waiting area notice boards. All students will be involved in the design and creation of ideas that will transform a wildlife garden. So far, ideas include bug hotels and butterfly feeders.

Building links within our community can provide rich and enabling opportunities for student work experience and additional environments in which our young people can develop and practise skills which help them prepare for adulthood.

A wonderful example is a current student who aspires to become an illustrator. He has drawn an interpretation of his friends taking part in work experience at Hinton Admiral and hopes it can be displayed there in the coming weeks.



A rewarding partnership at Gannicox

Tom has really enjoyed his visits to see Bailey the horse each week, helping to look after him with brushing, feeding and walking him.

Keep a look out!

For our new accessible articles throughout Pages.



Aidan under-glazing a boat.



Maureen weaving.

You could say it is a perfect partnership!



Some upcycled furniture.

The ReStore and us continued from front page...

We sell metal work, jewellery, pottery and rugs through their shop and this helps generate an income for us both. We also sell some of the products people make through Etsy, and occasionally via our website, but we do not take orders. Our focus for arts and crafts is to ensure that they provide a therapeutic and artistic outlet for people, who work on crafts that motivate them, and at a pace which suits their interest and concentration levels.

The pleasure of seeing someone comment so positively about a piece of work made by someone here, and enough to 'put their hand in the pocket' is an absolute joy and does wonders for people's self-esteem.

THE ReSTORE provides opportunities for volunteering, work experience and employment opportunities for long term unemployed or retired people. They run affordable drop-in sessions for learning

furniture repair, surface finishes, seat caning, some basic upholstery, wild weaving & peg looming. They also host monthly Repair Cafés and offer affordable private repairs and commissions.

A gentleman called William who comes to us for day activities, where he is learning pottery and painting, also volunteers at THE ReSTORE on a Saturday with his dad. He also waxes and buffs up furniture ready for sale. Using a cloth, he rubs the wood which he says it gives it a nice glossy effect. He said that sometimes he has to sand a lot! Furniture that is quite dark ends up being light brown. William also creates a lot of artwork at home and sells his work independently through THE ReSTORE; any money he makes he donates to Autism charities.

THE ReSTORE is fantastic and supports so many people in different ways and it is great to have an ongoing partnership with them.



Duncan making a street scene.



William's art and cards for sale.



Some of our pottery and metal work.



Ben hammering some copper.



Richard making a street scene.

PARTNERSHIPS

Esk Valley Camphill Community: Building networks for change

By Mark Barber

Around Candelmas of last year, we in the Esk Valley Camphill Community staged a ‘Community Earth Festival’. This initiative arose out of growing calls from members of our community that we address ourselves more consciously to the unfolding global ecological crisis.

In the aftermath of last year’s event, the community was canvassed by our newly formed Sustainability Group. It became clear that there is now strong support across the community for placing environmental issues at the centre of our community, going forward.

Community Earth Festival, 2023

There seems to have been a growing sense in our community that our task today should be to open ourselves to the increasingly urgent conversations of our times. At the end of last year’s Community Earth Festival, Eddie Thornton asked if we could imagine staging a similar event in the future, but this time in conjunction with the wider locality around us.

With the enormous energy of Nicola Chalton (an outside member of our own Council) we have spent months building a network of community groups and individuals in the area who could help us to make such an event a reality.

We are now planning such a festival for May/June of this year. We envisage a series of events taking place in Botton, the wider Esk Valley and Loftus (where there is an enthusiastic and well-connected group of community activists).

The Community Earth Festival is a grassroots community initiative spearheaded by Esk Valley Camphill Community. It will run from 22nd April to 8th July 2023 across the Esk Valley and Cleveland.

There will be a launch event on International Earth Day in Loftus (22nd April), at which local choirs and poets will contribute. This will launch an exciting series of practical workshops and activities over the coming weeks. These will include both the very practical, and the creative: foraging, bee-keeping, natural dying, willow weaving, habitat restoration, cooking with wholefoods, wildflower and historical walks, and writing and painting to ecological themes.

Another part of the festival will aim to initiate a conversation in the area about whether we can begin to envisage a wilder Esk Valley. We will hear from speakers about the need to create wildflower meadows, expand tree cover, and how the re-introduction of keystone species like the beaver can begin to transform the area. We will put on a public showing of the film ‘Riverwoods’, which shows how the Scottish Highlands have been denuded of biodiversity over many centuries and urges us to begin to turn the tide.

The festival will conclude with a large event in Botton, in which the workshops will have a chance to showcase their work, and EVCC hopes to stage a dramatic production that speaks to the ecological crisis.

It is our fervent hope that this event can help our community connect with others in our area working towards the great transition ahead.



Claire, the cheesemaker, and John, a member of the farm team, with some of their cheese products.

Newton Dee Farm using partnerships to widen its product range

By Simon Beckett

In 2019 Newton Dee Farm was looking for a cheese maker and Claire, a local cheese maker (The Cheese Bothy) was looking for a good source of high quality organic/bio-dynamic milk. So began a partnership which sees Newton Dee being supplied with a wide range of cheeses which include:

- A Farmhouse cheddar
- A White Laggan
- Cream cheese
- Halloumi
- Feta
- Specials around Christmas time

The cheeses are delicious and have won a number of awards at the 2022 Melton Mowbray Artisan Cheese Awards including: Best hard cheese, White Laggan and best micro producer, the Cheese Bothy. Claire says, “This is the best job I have ever had ... it is really good to work with Newton Dee”. Looking ahead Newton Dee is looking forward to tasting a washed rind cheese with cider.

The warming climate has made it possible for Newton Dee farm to grow wheat and the first harvest was in the late summer of 2022. A trial quantity of the wheat was sent down to Fife for milling into flour. The flour was then supplied to Newton Dee bakery which was trialled in their bread baking.

The trials have been very successful, and the bakers are hoping that soon all the wholemeal breads will be made from flour milled from Newton Dee wheat and hopefully next year rye too. Hussain, one of Newton Dee’s bakers



Arjen in his field of wheat.

Partnership in everyday life

Interview with Tolly Monk

What does partnership mean to you?
Working together in a kind and cooperative way.

What is your role at Orchard Leigh?
I have worked at the farm there and in the gardens in the past. I really enjoyed working with Phil Rowe, who was the farmer, because he had a great sense of humour and we would often joke around which made the tasks really enjoyable and fun.

Now on Fridays I work in the bakery with Ellie and Caroline. I make the dough, cut up onions and ham and help to put the toppings on. I enjoy this because it is practical and meaningful. It feels really good to be part of a team making lunch for the community. I always hold the intention to get on well with everybody and I enjoy learning about other people. I think these qualities help me make the most of the opportunities at Orchard Leigh and I have made a lot of friends there. This also applies to Scrubditch Care Farm as well.

What do you do at Scrubditch Farm?
I feed the pigs. I take the goats for a walk. I feed the chickens and goats. I groom Baz, the horse. I’ve helped to mend fences and gates with other people and this is a vital task on a farm, so it feels really good to be useful in this way. I enjoy all of the work I do there.

In what other ways in partnership important do you think?
Well, partnership has played an important part when I’ve been involved in putting on shows and performing. I’ve played Leontes, King of Syria, Scrooge and Peter from The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. Doing this was brilliant good fun and when doing something like that team work is essential.

Any final comments?
Partnership and learning to work with others is good because there are times when you have to do it. It can be challenging at times because it’s all about give and take and sometimes if people don’t want to give that can be draining and difficult. But most of the time, at Orchard Leigh, Scrubditch and Gannicox, everything works smoothly and it all helps to make me feel part of a community and somebody who is appreciated within the community which makes it all feel really worthwhile. Successful partnership is essential for a fulfilling life I would say.

The two organisations Tolly discusses are Orchard Leigh Camphill Community www.orchardleigh.org and Scrubditch Care Farm www.scrubditchcarefarm.org.uk

Partnership - Working together in a kind and cooperative way



Tiphereth Camphill:

A unique partnership with the City of Edinburgh Council

By Gordon Hudson

Each week, garden waste is collected from 500 houses in the Colinton area by a crew consisting of four members plus co-workers. The council pay Tiphereth as a subcontractor. The waste is taken to our processing site where it is turned into organic compost. This is then sold back to the local community.

The process takes 12 weeks. During which the Tiphereth community members sieve through a rotary trommel and bag it for sale.

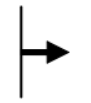
The compost can be used as a soil improver or for growing plants in containers.



Garden waste is



collected



from

500
500



households



and



turned into



organic



compost.



Tolly working on the compost heap at Gannicox with Gannicox gardeners Daniella and Robin.

Poster artwork by Annelore de Vos, of EVCC.

PARTNERSHIPS



A Beautiful Whisper

By Peter Brown

*In a clear shaft of bright light,
I felt the infinite presence of a divine god,
And acknowledged such a real presence,
With an eager nod.*

*I heard him gently whisper,
But felt no needless surge of fear,
Only a new awakening of a deep
spiritual peace,
That such a profound presence can
be so casually near.*

*I watched him forgive my sin,
And then wept with an obvious happiness,
That such an unfair weakness,
Can be so easily forgiven by him.*

Portrait of Peter Brown,
by volunteer Pia Haase.



Camphill Community Mountshannon

By Nara Maeoca

Just as the beginnings of spring are bursting into to life all around us and with Holy Easter fast approaching, we are in contemplation of the rebirth taking place in Camphill Mountshannon also.

New meaningful workshops are thriving, firsts buds on trees and shrubs coming to life and having the joy of new baby lambs gracing us in our newly verdant pastures of Ireland which have also just welcomed a couple of horses few weeks ago! Spring is certainly kicking off all around us!

After a long time, Camphill Community Mountshannon is back to being able to welcome new co-workers, coming all the way from Germany and Italy, bringing new forces to our social life.

In our weavery we have been busy creating magnificent table runners, rugs and blankets. This not only helps to stimulate the creative expression of each individual's inner artist but also through its rhythmical and harmonious movements creates space to grow and root a robust structure for our thinking process.

In early fall we started our candle-making workshop just in a time of inspiration for human forces in which our souls and homes need to be shone with more and

more light. We acquired the beeswax from local sources, and it has been a privilege to work with such splendid material.

All these activities are only possible due to the loving care of all the people living and working in our Community bringing with them a sense of balance and serenity to the little microcosmos we call our homes. Through the gentle art of cleaning we take care of ourselves and of the people around us, through cooking we grow daily an inner consciousness of the art of giving which is then exalted by the act of eating together in an inner sentiment of gratitude, and, finally, with the embellishing of our houses and workshop, warmed up by the tireless work of our great wood managing team, we offer a precious gift for the souls.

The fruits of our labour are shared with the community through the monthly market taking place in heart of Mountshannon where the local people come joyfully together to share their arts and crafts.

Spring and Summer will bring our gardens back to life, already wisely shaped by the winter pruning, and ready to donate colourful and nutrient food for our bodies.

Our basket workshop, as soon as possible, will be coming back in our weekly plans which will bring much joy.



We would like to end this article with a deep sense of love for our dear friend Carmen, mother of our co-worker, but really grandmother to all us. Her soul has departed from us to undertake her next journey. She was a "great friend of Camphill Movement" and will continue to inspire us in our daily life and work.

For more information about Camphill Mountshannon, please visit www.camphillmountshannon.ie



West Moors Community Group

By Lee Doran, Sturts Farm

West Moors Community Group was first established almost by accident when Gullivers Farm Shop & Kitchen set up an initiative to give free school meals to the people in need within the wider community in 2020. Through this initiative we reached out to local groups & organisations where we met Reverend Andy Muckle of St Mary's Church and Head Teacher, Roy Sewell, of St Mary's School in West Moors. The group has recently had a visit from his Grace, the Right Reverend Stephen Lake, Bishop of Salisbury to find out a little more about the work we do.

As a group of people we knew something more was needed to be done and the 3 organisations formed West Moors Community Group. We have passion for tackling food poverty, loneliness & food waste. The group meet regularly and have recently taken part in *The Great Winter Get Together* hosted at Sturts Farm where the wider community came together to enjoy a volunteer work day in our woodland and took part in a community art project. The day then finished with a lunch prepared by Gullivers Farm Shop & Kitchen. Everybody enjoyed a shared meal in our barn on the farm.

The community group are currently looking into involving children with growing food. Each school year will be linked with a season and they will learn how to sow and grow vegetables. They will then be able to harvest what they have sown and take a recipe card home to cook for the whole family to enjoy.



Partnership: West Moors Community Group consisting of St Mary's School, Roy Sewell, St Mary's Church & Sturts Community Trust.



We have passion for tackling food poverty, loneliness & food waste

Keeping active

At Thornage Hall Independent Living

Hugo & Guy have been keeping active with their new personal trainer in Gregories Barn. This visit takes place weekly and contains a wide range of activities to help keep them both fit and healthy.



Hugo & Guy with their new personal trainer in Gregories Barn.



GET INVOLVED!

We want to hear from our Camphill Community members!

If you have a story to share please email pages@camphill.org.uk

Alternatively share it on social media @camphillpages



PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships at Thornage Hall Independent Living

Partnerships form part of our everyday lives at Thornage Hall Independent Living and we would like to share some of these with you.

North Norfolk Foodbank, The Trussell Trust December 2022

The staff at the North Norfolk Foodbank in Cromer were delighted to see us and very grateful for the donation of eight bags, boxes of food and household products, all distributed during the Christmas week to those in need.

Thornage Hall Independent Living were able to provide these items through generous donations which we had received from staff and families.



Fundraising for East Anglia Air Ambulance

October 2022
to January 2023



On Thursday 5th January, the community at Thornage Hall Independent Living visited East Anglia Air Ambulance; one of our four nominated charities who we fundraise for, to receive a tour around their site.

Thornage Hall community walked a collective 111 kilometres to raise £1034.00 for this fantastic charity.

The visitors were provided a wonderful opportunity to view the hangar, sit in the helicopter and test a wide range of equipment which has been used on their many missions throughout the years. An overall amazing experience which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

GoGoDiscover Dinosaur Project, Break Charity

October 2021
to September 2022

Break Charity is another charity we have helped support by being involved in the GoGoDiscover Dinosaur Project 2022. This was a much loved project as everyone worked together to demonstrate their artistic skills which had been developed within the Arts & Crafts Workshop. This project had a theme of diversity, equality and inclusion.

Johnny who lives at Thornage named the dinosaur "Rudy the Thornsaurus". Rudy was available for the public to view in the Castle Quarter (Norwich) alongside many other dinosaurs from local charities before returning to Thornage.



Coffee Mornings From March 2023

Thornage will be hosting coffee mornings going forward and the first one took place on Friday 24th March. Those who attend our Cooking & Life Skill workshops will be working alongside staff to provide a unique location for local people to socialise with friends, meet others and enjoy a hot drink with an option of purchasing Thornage goods.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our first-ever coffee morning and well done to everyone who made it all possible!



Quarter Days and Candlemas at Loch Arthur

By Susanne Salthammer

It is this time of year again - the earth is quiet, the weather often questionable, cold and too wet, and we are all waiting for the beginning of spring. It always seems a great blessing to me that we are so connected to nature and the natural cycle of the earth, as well as Christian festivals and that we as Camphill Communities take the time and effort to celebrate those special moments. They are often turning points in the year, often celebrated in some glorious way - the Christmas Play or our spectacular St John's fires.

And then there is Candlemas. It is a quiet festival, no grand gestures but so welcome in a bleak time of year, drawing our attention to the earth and its hidden powers, to the gentle but strong snowdrops, reminding us of all those flowers that will grace our lawns and gardens soon, but also of the strength that lies in us as individuals and as a community of people.

We mark this festival in a smaller way, with earth candles and small fires, warming the earth and celebrating its treasures. Being outside together if the weather allows us to, and connecting with the stars, the planets above us and the earth we are standing on.

Loch Arthur is a very rural Community with a big biodynamic farm and garden, and this festival feels very important to us.

This year, our celebration turned out a bit different, in a very special way, and I would like to share this with you because it was an evening of connections and born

out of a shared interest. We have some good friends who are musicians and very connected to the Community. One of them, Gavin Marwick, recently started a project about the Scottish Quarter days. These are four days in the year when traditionally servants were hired, school terms started, and rents were due. They fell on four religious festivals, roughly three months apart and close to the two solstices and two equinoxes. They are different in Scotland, England and Ireland, and in Scotland the old quarter days (this changed in the 19th century slightly) were Candlemas, Whitsun, Lammas and Martinmas.

Gavin wrote music for all these days. After some inspiring and interesting conversations, the idea was born to invite him and two other musicians (Ruth Morris and Aaron Jones) to join us for this year's Candlemas, and to bring their music and share it with us. We also decided not to "just" celebrate as a Community, but to invite some of our good friends who have, in some way or other, been involved with the Community over its nearly 40 years.

The invitation list grew quickly, and it was wonderful how keen people were to come and join us for the evening. In the end there were nearly 100 people in our hall, which is about as many as we can fit in. But before we started the evening together, we walked out in the dark, following a trail of candles and feeling blessed by the moon and the stars. We arrived in our walled garden, a special place that feels a bit like the heart of the Community, where a circle of earth



Gavin and Michael standing in the snowdrops.



Michael, digging a hole for his candle.

candles shone brightly and gently, inviting quiet contemplation.

After everyone enjoyed a quiet time under the stars, we met in the hall where the evening was filled with beautiful music, stories about Candlemas, both from the view of our Community, and from Gavin who did his own research and interspersed with his Candlemas music. Later we enjoyed a beautiful rendition of the story of Persephone, told by Denis. There was also time to catch up with our friends, around bonfires with cake and juice.

It felt really special to open up our celebration, to take in new perspectives and to connect them to our own

celebrations. We are blessed that our Community is so strongly anchored in the locality. The connections and friendships are so important to us and have grown in all sorts of ways over the past four decades, adding depth and new colours to this place that is so manifold and beautiful.



Catherine and Debbie preparing earth candles.



Earth candles warm the earth and celebrate its treasures.

PARTNERSHIPS



Kate Bradbrook filming in our workshop.

Partnerships at Camphill Milton Keynes

By Lucy Davies

Like many Camphill settings, Camphill Milton Keynes was formed in partnership with a range of people and organisations including other Camphill Communities and partners; specifically, Delrow Camphill Community in Watford, The Milton Keynes Development Corporation and perhaps most importantly - family members of people seeking a caring and safe place for their loved ones to live, work and learn together. Without these founding partnerships we may never have had the resources and opportunities to build our place and from there to create our community.

Camphill is and always has been about people working together to build community, it's not something that happens by accident – it takes vision, forethought and constant renewal. What's often noted though is how Camphill so often finds the right people, at the right time to meet needs and create something to fill a void or overcome a challenge.

We need partnerships to make things happen. As a community, we're all about collaboration and partnerships because if we don't continue to work together, we have fewer opportunities to do great things.

These partnerships continue to come from many places and often revolve around our beneficiaries – the people we support day to day.

Martha Kearney, acclaimed BBC Broadcaster and journalist, has a long history of association with our community in Milton Keynes as her brother-in-law, Alastair, was a much-loved resident at Camphill MK for c. 30 years. Often on-site with her husband Chris, the family have for many years welcomed Alastair's housemates from Blackthorn to the family home each year for a summer party. Even following Alastair's sad passing in 2021 this tradition has continued, and the friendships continue to grow and develop.

We are so pleased to note that Martha has now joined our community as a Patron to support our ambitious Capital fundraising campaign.

As a Patron, Martha will advocate for our community, attend fundraising events, help the community to engage on a greater level, and fly the flag for our charity that is so vital to social care in Buckinghamshire and beyond. Her expertise and connectivity will help raise our profile. Martha is supported by our CEO Tim Davies and Head of Development, Lucy Davies, with strategy development, advocacy, and partnership



Martha Kearney.

in the hope that together, they will secure inward investment for the Capital Plan.

Martha explains, *"I am thrilled to be supporting Camphill MK as a Patron. The community is dear to my heart, and I look forward to working with the team in any way I can to help them to secure such much-needed funding. Camphill MK is unique in its approach and enables adults with learning disabilities to live full and rich lives."*

We've already received some invaluable press coverage on the BBC (details on our blog), largely thanks to Martha's connection and Kate Bradbrook, BBC Look East's reporter. In addition, several news features have been filmed and recorded on BBC Three Counties Radio. Kate visited our community and spoke to our residents in our workshops about what life is like living, working and celebrating together at Camphill MK, but she also highlighted the pressing need to secure funding to raise £15 million to build accessible and sustainable housing and facilities.

These partnerships are essential for us when our ageing residents need more care and want to stay at Camphill MK when their needs become more complex.



Martha enjoying lunch with residents.

12th Nite production at Camphill Milton Keynes

By Lucy Davies

Our recent production of 12th Nite showed real partnership - a collaboration between the people who we support and the Theatre Workshop, the 'punked panto'. The production was over two nights in February and was created and performed by our residents. The adaptation of William Shakespeare's 12th Night was a witty steampunk take on a classic text performed in our purpose-built Chrysalis Theatre in Willen Park, Milton Keynes, attended by the wider community. The ultimate partnership between the cast of residents and day workshop attendees, producers, tech team, staff, volunteers - the community as a whole!

Here's what some attendees had to say about our production of 12th Nite.

Karen Phillips said, *"Such a lovely evening! The standing ovation was well deserved, and many congratulations to all the cast and crew. Simply fantastic!"*

Jo Fensome agreed, *"I agree. An amazing night. I think there were some Oscar-winning performances tonight. I loved the percussionists too. Well done to everyone putting this production together."*

Jane Mackenzie said, *"It was absolutely brilliant! Such an uplifting night. What a great performance!"*

The idea of doing a Shakespearian play came during our visit to Stratford Upon Avon in August 2022. There are many challenges when putting on Shakespeare, but these increase for adults with support needs when some members of the cast struggle with memory, physical movement, reading, and hearing. Therefore, this adaptation of Shakespeare's classic "romcom" has been created to enable all our Camphill Performing Arts Workshop (PAW) participants to engage with Shakespearian drama, regardless of support need.



Our four theatrical workshop groups have each contributed to the performance. Our "Open Stage" Group has written a sea shanty and other musical pieces, while "Up Stage" has devised and will perform the prologue, "Back Stage" has designed make-up, lighting and props, whilst "Centre Stage" has undertaken the main body of the performance. By devising the script in workshops, we have made it accessible for all through improvised scenes, storytelling, written and picture scripts, and sign language. During the planning, the group opted for a Panto performance style, a style our groups love and have experience with, with a Steampunk theme so that each actor could choose their own costume and be creative in its adornments.

Camphill Milton Keynes aims remain true to our founding principles, encourage

"Such a lovely evening! The standing ovation was well deserved, and many congratulations to all the cast and crew. Simply fantastic!"

lifelong learning through engagement and experience. By tackling such a theatrical giant as Shakespeare, we demonstrate the inclusive nature of performance, and participants build confidence and communication skills. Of course, this is not the traditional version of Shakespeare's classic, but through this adaption, we have made a version that is accessible to all while staying true to the essence of the play. Hence it is Bill Shakespeare's 12th Nite: A Punked Panto.

Download the script & programme here - www.camphillmk.co.uk/12th-nite/



Friends of Mourne Grange, a life-long partnership

By Margaret Fegan

Working in Partnership is just another way of describing people who help and support each other, for the benefit of all. Partnership working is a key phrase we like to use often in Social Care, and when we do so we are referring to the importance of drawing on each other's resources, knowledge and strengths. Implied in Partnership is that we are meeting a common goal and facing the same way into the world through good times and not so good.

The story I would like to share is about a Partnership that has been going strong for over 50 years – a Camphill Community and a circle of outstanding people from a small town in Northern Ireland.

The story began 1971 when a group of 14 adults, two children and two beehives arrived at Mourne Grange House, in the fishing town of Kilkeel. Despite the challenges they faced with the buildings in disrepair, an overgrown estate, no heating or hot water and very little money, the enthusiasm and determination was unflinching.

The town of Kilkeel would have had every reason to stand back and wonder what on earth was happening on the estate that had housed a respectable boarding school for boys for 70 years. In the foothills of The Mourne Mountains, and by the Irish Sea, during the troubles, there were very few 'foreigners' to be found in Kilkeel, especially ones who were determined to build a new kind of Community, grow biodynamic vegetables and milk their own cows.

Instead, from the very beginning, the small group of pioneers were embraced and supported by neighbours and locals. Help was offered in all kinds of ways, and within a few months a committee for organising fundraising had been established.

These funds were used for renovations and buildings, for purchasing vehicles and machinery, for equipping the workshops as the community grew and expanded.

People devoted their weekends to collecting donations on pavements all over Northern Ireland and raised vast sums of money literally penny by penny.

Mourne Grange Open Day was established early on as a major fundraiser, and it was entirely organised and carried by the Friends. The first Saturday in June was synonymous with the Camphill Open day in Kilkeel and beyond for decades and it was awe-inspiring to experience the organisation that went on behind the scenes.

It became a tradition that the May Pole celebrations was an annual event celebrated with the Friends – a treat for the whole community, with music, dancing around the may pole, a fabulous cake and sandwiches, all enjoyed on the Main Lawn in friendship and sunshine.

In the 80's, a New and Nearly New outlet was established by the Friends in Kilkeel, and incredibly, this shop is still going strong today. Staffed by a dedicated group of volunteers who have spent many years giving their time and effort, the shop is a fixture in the town. People are always guaranteed a warm welcome and a chat, as well as a bargain to take home.

It would be impossible to imagine Mourne Grange without the support of the Friends; workshop equipment, buildings, minibuses, kitchens and furniture, instruments, therapy and arts equipment, curtains, the roads we walk, cycle and drive on, the street lights that light up our way, the chairs we sit on in our hall and workshops, the screens and audio equipment we use every day, tools, dishwashers and ovens, homes and equipment for our animals, tractors and trailers. Five decades later there is no corner of our community that has not benefited and continues to benefit from the support of the Friends.

Over those decades our partners and friends and neighbours have raised a staggering amount of money, and they have done it all locally out of the goodness of who they are and long before GoFundMe and JustGiving took over the world of fundraising.

All the above describes one aspect of the Partnership between Camphill Community Mourne Grange and The Friends of Mourne Grange, but there is so much more to it. From those early days of welcoming a group of strangers into the area and taking on the

mammoth task of raising funds, The Friends carved the path and opened the door to the local community and facilitated a wide network of friends and local knowledge and resources.

Over the decades Camphill Community Mourne Grange has developed and changed and at times the determination, hope and vision of that original founding group can be hard to find in a modern and more complex world. I say this both personally and on behalf of the entire community, that I will always be utterly grateful and humbled by, not only the support, but for the lifelong friendships I have been blessed with and the wonderful people I have had the privilege of working with through the Friends of Mourne Grange.

I want to finish this story about the partnership between Camphill Community Mourne Grange and The Friends with a quote from Margaret Mead:

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever was".



Friends of Mourne Grange then and now.

Loch Arthur ice skating

Everyone had great fun ice skating and we met new people from different countries. (Switzerland, Belgium, Germany, England and Scotland)



Everyone had great fun ice skating and we met new people from different countries.

(Switzerland, Belgium, Germany, England and Scotland)

PARTNERSHIPS



The High School's Interact Club have formed very special bonds with our School learners.



Camphill Hermanus School's High School Friends

By Genevieve Linney, Camphill Hermanus

Our School has been blessed with various friends, sponsors and donors internationally and locally throughout the years, but one of the most significant friendships, particularly with our learners, is with the Hermanus High School.

The High School's Interact Club does incredible work within our Greater Hermanus Community, working and interacting very closely with certain organisations to enrich and improve lives. Some of the High School learners voluntarily join this Interact Club at the beginning of their high school career and some have spent five years growing alongside our School learners. Some know our learners by name and have formed very special bonds. We have been blessed since 2015 to have had a relationship with our High School friends; always cherishing these relationships and commitments and time spent with our learners.

We spend time with our Friends throughout the year and in the first quarter of the year our learners are invited to the High School in Hermanus. Our High School friends always

thoughtfully plan a fun filled day for our Children. From cupcake icing with a million treats, paper windmill making, face painting, ball playing, pebble painting, dancing to bear scavenger hunts. Our time together always ends with a picnic of special treats.

Every visit is unique and thoughtful with different exciting ideas and plans for the day spent together. The next visit takes place at our School to celebrate the beginning of spring, where another day is planned with paint, colours, fun and sometimes a swim in our pools. Our friends are always onboard with all our fundraising endeavours and are one of the biggest supporters of our Casual Day campaign, usually buying the most stickers. The highlight on our calendar is in December, when our friends come to distribute their beautifully made Santa Shoeboxes for each of our learners. Father Christmas accompanies them to hand out these beautiful gifts, beautifully prepared with so much love and care.

The time spent with the High School Interact Club is also very much about

creating public awareness for our Children and for their plight to fit into society. Our High School friends represent the future of our country and could determine how our special learners will be treated when we are no longer here.

The time together is incredibly special and the tight bond between them all is truly heart-warming to see. We thank them for their commitment to our Children and for always keeping our Children so close to their hearts. Thank you for always sharing your light and your love with us all.



Receiving the beautifully made Santa Shoebox.



Our High School friends always thoughtfully plan a fun filled day for our Children.



The Valentine's themed photo booth.



Love is all around at Camphill Village West Coast!

By Janine Strumpher, Camphill Village West Coast

At Camphill Village West Coast (CVWC) South Africa, one of the top, if not THE top event, on the calendar is Valentine's Day, the day where we celebrate love, love for each other, love for our environment, our animals and our friends. Here it is truly celebrated by young and old as the village is painted in red. This year, instead of a dance we had an outdoor movie night. Here is what Geornelle De Villiers had to say about the special evening:

A Valentine's special outdoor movie experience
"The people we support at Camphill Village West Coast were treated to an outdoor movie experience to celebrate Valentine's Day. Initially some were quite sceptical about the activity for they were used to a Valentine's dance, but once they started to arrive at the community centre, under our Bedouin tent recreated as an outdoor movie experience, with lights, movie decor and a popcorn machine, they soon became very excited.

On arrival everyone was able to take pictures in the Valentine themed photo booth and were given snacks to enjoy during the movie. They moved towards the 'cinema' area and began to huddle together in groups of friends or partners. We watched the movie "Me before you" and it was beautiful to witness how everyone connected emotionally to the storyline.

At the end of the evening everyone commented that they thoroughly enjoyed the evening. The highlights were the experience of watching a movie outside at night, the cake and for the music lovers, it was most definitely the mini dance party at the end of the event. All in all, there were big smiles all around!

An event like this always reminds one that it is not necessarily the big things that make an impact, but the little things done from a genuine place. We hope to have a similar event soon, for this one was surely a big hit."



Everyone dressed in red.



Enjoying the pre-movie snacks and drinks.



Watching the movie 'Me before you' in the cinema area.



PARTNERSHIPS

Love that stood the test of time and everything else...

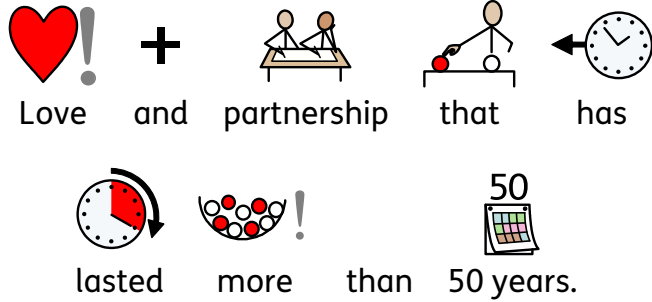
By Janine Strumpher, Camphill Village West Coast

In life one of the most important things of being human, of giving us the will and the want to live, to be happy and to get up in the morning is CONNECTION. That one person out of billions who puts a smile on your face. Many connections have been made here at Camphill, some for a fleeting moment and others that have stood the test of a lifetime.

I remember Renate once mentioning to me there are two halves placed on earth, the yin and yan, and how at Camphill you so clearly see when those two halves find each other and clicks in, like two pieces to a puzzle. One example of such a puzzle is Derick and Rosheen, they have had a special relationship from the first time they laid eyes on each other as youngsters. This love has grown even more in the last 50 years at CVWC, they have had a formal commitment ceremony, a happy

celebration of their love at the chapel. They are a perfect unit where the one fulfils the other's shortcomings. Derrick is physically stronger, always looking out for Rosheen, making sure she is warm enough and taken care of, saving for a chocolate or picking flowers. Rosheen is emotionally strong and keeps Derrick calm and content. You always see them hooked into each other walking on the farm, Derrick making sure Rosheen is comfortable and does not fall, Rosheen happily chatting and smiling in Derrick's ear.

In celebration of Valentine's Day, the happy longstanding couple went out for a special Valentine's meal and milkshake. Love truly is what makes the world go around and there is a lid for every pot, you just have to keep on looking and fitting!



Esk Valley, sharing our lives

By Tom Burkin

In February, Esk Valley Camphill Community hosted an inclusive conference for life sharing communities in the English region. This involved around 30 community members from Sturts Farm, The Mount, Gannicox, as well as several other small life sharing initiatives.

Attendees arrived on Saturday evening, to open the conference with a bible evening. Over the next three days the programme involved a Leading Thought for each day. These were based around different perspectives on community. We were then split into three groups for creative activities. In the afternoon we split into small conversation groups for free discussion around the leading thought of the day, life sharing, and community life in general. We then

came together to feed back to the whole group to close each day. These discussions were very fruitful and by the end there was a clear desire to keep the initiative going and meet again in the coming years.

Throughout the four days there was also games, eurythmy, singing and shared meals within our Esk Valley Camphill households. This conference was intentionally started as a small and intimate event, in the hope that it may grow in the next years.



"...there was a clear desire to keep the initiative going and meet again in the coming years".

The Lantern Community, everyday partnerships

By Rick Hambleton

Greetings to you all from the Lantern Community, near Ringwood on the Hampshire and Dorset border.

For all of us around the world, the last few years have seen an enforced need for change. Whilst this proved difficult for us as a community, it also allowed us to have a pause for thought. We have had new community members join and breathe new life into what we do here and this has encouraged us to think positively about the changes we have gone through. It has given us the opportunity for growth and a huge part of that has been forging new partnerships and strengthening the old. We have examined our values, created new opportunities and created a positive path together into the post pandemic world. We would like to take this opportunity to tell you about some of us, the workshops we provide and how we work together. Our workshops provide beneficial vocations for the Companions who live at The Lantern and for visiting day placements. We believe we provide valuable, meaningful work for all who attend.

During the pandemic, we built our new gym. This is the base of operations for our new Healthy Living Workshop, led by Alice. The wellbeing of the Companions being our primary concern, this workshop is now an integral part of life at The Lantern. From dietary support, carefully tailored exercise and even the occasional dance party, we are looking at a fitter, happier community.

The Café Workshop is led by Matt and provides lunch for our staff but also for the members of the public who visit the Lantern. The café has become frequented by cyclists and walkers as we are positioned next to the Castleman Trailway, a popular exercise route for the neighbouring towns and villages. The café is also favoured by the staff, students and parents of our neighbours, the Ringwood Waldorf School. Right next to the café, in the Lantern Centre building, is our shop. Dom leads the Shop Workshop. The shop

stocks a range of household staples, sourced from ethical suppliers, who specialise in vegetarian, organic and sustainable goods. They partner with local producers and promote quality products from Dorset and Hampshire. They also specialise in Camphill books and crafting materials to supply the school and kindergarten. They have a refill station for cleaning products and toiletries. The prime role of the shop is the work it provides for our Companions but the additional revenue is useful for the day to day running of the Community. There seems to always be a crowd at lunchtimes, gathered around the section of the shop dedicated to the daily fresh produce created in our Bakery.

Ashley leads the Bakery Workshop from our very own onsite bakery. They have a dedicated and skilful team of staff and Companions, baking bread, cakes, pasties and more. During the pandemic they kept incredibly busy supplying four Co-ops with goods from Portsmouth to Southampton and local bakeries in the area. This was the subject of a previous Pages article. The Bakery provides baked goods for Lantern Community itself, including items for any festivities celebrated.

In the shop, there are many items displayed for sale, produced by our various craft workshops.

Ruth runs our Weavery Workshop. She tailors each project to suit individual companions. A weaver may be more suited to a floor loom or a table loom, thick yarn or thin yarn, wool or cotton or linen. We help the companions to weave beautiful fabric that we sew up into products, such as table liners, kitchen cloths, bags and hangings.

The Art Workshop is led by Isolf. In our shop you can see huge Swan and Elephant sculptures made from papier mâché. The Art workshop also provide cards and artwork for sale, create individual cards



Simon, one of the gardeners within The Land Workshop.

for all the Community birthdays, as well as decorations for the various festivals we celebrate throughout the year. A sculpture of the Queen herself was created for her Jubilee party we celebrated on a gathering field, accompanied by a corgi. It provided a great photo opportunity for all in attendance.

The Pottery Workshop is in a state of flux as our pottery building undergoes renovations, but this does not mean the clay is dormant. Currently being run by Alice, the potters of The Lantern create a great variety of individually crafted items. With pots and incense burners, signage and sculptures, it continues to be a vibrant hub of creativity. Visitors to our grounds may spot a multitude of gnome doors and houses dotted around, perhaps even the gnomes themselves.

Our Seasonal Workshop is led by Clare and Rose. They create crafted items from a supply of natural materials dictated by and in tune with the changes of season. They plant, grow and harvest, observe and engage with the surrounding flora and fauna. They strip willow, card wool for felting creations and build lanterns and decorations to enhance the festivals and the Lantern as a whole. They gather the materials they need from the estate,

cultivated and managed by the Land Workshop.

The Land Workshop is led by Rick. The team are the gardeners of the Lantern Community. They provide the maintenance and care for the outside spaces around the workshops and communal areas. The aim of the workshop is to cultivate the connection between the people, the wildlife and the spirit of the landscape. They have recently reignited the production of food crops as a vocation and hope to supply the café and homes within the community. Early 2023 has seen the reintroduction of livestock residents, with chicken providing eggs, a compost system and much enjoyment.

Together with all the staff at The Lantern, the trustees, the families of the residents, the local community, all who have worked here or just visited, and of course all the Companions, we have a unique partnership that simply wouldn't work as well without each other.

It has given us the opportunity for growth and a huge part of that has been forging new partnerships and strengthening the old.



Kate and Claire baking.



Nigel in the café kitchen.



Scott painting.

PARTNERSHIPS

The Camphill Foundation, forming partnerships with the Camphill Communities

By Pete Marx

The Camphill Foundation (formerly the Thomas Weihs Trust) is a UK based charity, founded in 1984, with the objective of supporting the development of new initiatives within the Camphill Communities of the UK and Ireland. This support comes in the form of both small grants and low interest loans which are often required to kickstart a project. The funding received to enable this support comes from legacies and donations.

Over the years, many of the Camphill Communities have received support from The Camphill Foundation for a

wide variety of projects ranging from residential buildings, workshops, cultural activities, conferences, training, publications, and research. The Camphill Foundation is a 'not-for-profit' organisation - the interest rate on loans is very low so, it provides a more affordable solution than approaching high street banks, for example.

The Camphill Foundation would like to invite Communities to approach them for support. Details of the application process and other projects they have been involved with can be found at www.camphillfoundation.com

Case Study

Esk Valley Camphill Community (EVCC)

Over the last 5 years The Camphill Foundation has provided grants and loans to EVCC to help them with a variety of community projects – in the more recent years, a grant towards their Homefield Project and this year, a grant towards their electrical vehicle charging project.



Electric vehicle charging project 2022/23

The EVCC is committed to removing the carbon emissions from their vehicles by 2028. More walking and cycling will be done by those who can and electric bikes and scooters for those who need a little extra help.

The main source of their carbon emissions is their car share scheme. Over the last 5 years, they have been replacing their petrol / diesel run vehicles with electric cars and now have 5 vehicles and 1 scooter in their electric scheme. They currently only have one charging point within the community and an essential step in achieving their goal is to increase the number of charging points to 5.

The Camphill Foundation has provided a grant to fund half of the project and EVCC are seeking donations to help raise the remaining £10,000.

eskvalleycamphill.org/new-projects/

Homefield Project 2019/20

Homefield Garden is a biodynamic community garden which gives members of the EVCC the opportunity to care for and be responsible for nature and their environment. The daily work in the garden enables everyone to gain new skills and grow in confidence. The garden provides fresh biodynamic produce which is also sold through a local health shop. In addition to the vegetables, the pasture raised hens provide enough eggs for the whole community whilst fertilising the soil.

The grant provided by The Camphill Foundation helped EVCC to set up the Homefield project and primarily the market garden.

eskvalleycamphill.org/homefield-garden/

“Since Esk Valley Camphill Community launched, The Camphill Foundation has always been a great supporter. With its help, we turned a compacted horse paddock into a biodynamic market garden. We were able to buy new tools and a trusty old tractor and now our team of growers deliver a seasonal veg box each week to our community households”

Eddie Thornton EVCC

Camphill Benevolent Fund

By William Taylor

The Camphill Benevolent Fund was established in 2008 to meet the anticipated retirement needs of long term co-workers who lived vocationally in member Camphill Communities from the beginning of each community until March 2008. Initially nine Charities joined as members and while there have been changes with resignations, mergers and demergers there are still eight charities in the fund.

Starting with 17 applicants in 2008-09 the fund now supports thirty two individuals. Grants are available on an annual basis for items not covered by state pensions

or benefits. Other income and savings are taken into account and the trustees set a maximum disbursement level each year.

Payments are made proportionately from the funds paid in by each community that the applicant has lived in. The funds each member community pays in are restricted to individuals who lived at that community, a small proportion covers core administrative costs. These are kept to a minimum by the collective working of the member communities.

In addition to the member communities, the

fund works in partnership with the other regional and charity funds for individuals where time has been spent in more than one country or community. There are meetings between the separate funds and sharing of good practices and paperwork.

We are always happy to welcome an application to the fund from qualifying individuals. The trustees consider applications four times a year.

For further information, please www.visitcamphillbenevolentfund.weebly.com

Applewood Foundation: The place of birth

By Julia Harley and Judy Bailey

So many initiatives have sprung out of Camphill communities. We are a new seed - a way of re-imagining Camphill - in Stroud.

Having left the Grange, we find ourselves in Stroud, a town noted for being “lively, local and fiercely independent”, home to both the early weaving industry and Extinction Rebellion. We live in two houses in Applewood, a new housing estate built on the grounds of an old hospital. Here we aim to offer homes to people in need of support, under the “Shared Lives” umbrella, and to build community together. People who have lived in Camphill communities are natural ambassadors for the task of social renewal.

The estate was imaginatively designed by Kevin McCloud circa 2014 with an eye for sustainability and to encourage a sense of community and a loving connection to nature. We are surrounded with fruit-bearing bushes, a wildlife corridor and green spaces, to encourage people to get together as we do for common meals, games, or simply to chat.

The old hospital garden is now divided into small allotments, where we grow vegetables. Every Wednesday we have a “Down to Earth” gardening morning with local people, some referred by their GP and so far, we have made together a lovely pond, raised beds, foot paths and compost containers.

With the help of many friends from our Camphill days, we are bringing more arts and crafts to our neighbourhood, with sessions in the Community Centre for local children in felting, glasswork, wool work, basketry, card making, knitting, weaving and clay work. The children have already sampled these and are keen for more!

Ian and I came to live here in December 2019, Julia Harley left the Grange in November 2021 and came to live with us – a pioneer of our new project. We became Shared Lives Carers and others are joining up too under Gloucestershire Shared Lives, who are keen to support us.

Hannah and Darshan Robson will join us soon with their baby, May Blossom, and Peggy Grimshaw is also in the final stage of becoming a Shared Lives Carer.

We are now a charity - ‘Applewood Foundation for Shared Lives’ – raising funds to grow our little community. We are registered with the AoCC, and have had several helpful meetings with the Alliance for Camphill and are in touch with Camphill Families and Friends.

We have made a small beginning in a welcoming place, where we can grow organically, hoping to find more homes for people who wish to join us, and more Shared Lives Carers to help them.



The old hospital garden is now divided into small allotments, where we grow vegetables.



We are bringing more arts and crafts to our neighbourhood, with sessions in the Community Centre for local children.



The estate was imaginatively designed with an eye for sustainability and to encourage a sense of community and a loving connection to nature.

NEWS

Beannacher's advent sale

On the 7th December we had our Advent Sale! We all took it in turns to browse and buy some of the goodies made in the houses and our workshops! What a talented bunch we have!

Our wonderful beeswax candles are available to purchase all year round. Please email joanne.mccombie@beannachar.org for an order form or to enquire about any of our other products from our amazing workshops!




**CAMPBILL
FOUNDATION**
UK & IRELAND

Seeking Trustees

The Camphill Foundation UK and Ireland provides financial support to a diverse range of projects which enhance and enrich the lives of vulnerable people with learning disabilities and extra support needs in Camphill and associated communities.

We are seeking Trustees to expand our membership. We currently have a management committee comprising three Director Trustees in addition to six Trustees who help to inform and guide the decision-making process.

Who are we looking for?

People who have a connection with Camphill and have a background in finance or law.
People who can bring fresh ideas to the table and enjoy networking to help us achieve our objectives.

If this sounds like you, we would love to hear from you.
Please contact our Chairperson, Simon Beckett to discuss the role in more detail.

01224 868701 | info@camphillfoundation.com

Further information about our work can be found at www.camphillfoundation.com



Lucy and Tim meeting King Charles III.



Mandala flags held by Camphill MK residents.

Milton Keynes' Guard of Honour for King Charles III

By Lucy Davies

On Thursday, 16th February, King Charles visited Milton Keynes to celebrate the city's status. For the Royal visit, the city's residents and well-wishers were able to gather and welcome King Charles III. Camphill MK residents and staff were among the charities chosen to meet His Majesty.

The Camphill community in Milton Keynes has positioned itself to not just be in the city but to be part of it. Embedding into the community in this way has been achieved through years of taking part in city events, supporting partner organisations, and finding synergies for working with others.

The visit by King Charles III was confirmed just 4-weeks prior to his arrival and it was suggested by the Lieutenantancy that Camphill MK residents should form a guard of honour.

Arriving at the City Church, The King was greeted by crowds of supporters keen to see His Majesty as part of his walk around. Some of the Camphill MK residents joined these crowds and were excited to get a wave and a smile from King Charles before he headed into the building.

His approach to the church was lined with 8ft tall, brightly coloured Mandala flags held by Camphill MK residents as they formed a guard of honour. His Majesty commented on the vibrancy

and size of the flags as he went in. These flags had been commissioned for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Parade on the Mall in London, created by The Stables Theatre and Kinetika, and paraded by the people of Milton Keynes, including Camphill MK representatives.

Inside the church, seventeen charities had been invited to an intimate reception to celebrate Milton Keynes becoming a city, a title bestowed on the town by the King's mother, HRH Queen Elizabeth II before her passing. King Charles met four team members from Camphill MK who shared craft items made by the residents. In addition, they talked about tree planting on site and Camphill MK's involvement in the Queens Green Canopy.

Camphill MK felt privileged to be part of this historical event, with sixteen members of staff and residents actively involved in the event. Last year the community was presented with the Tree of Trees, a gift from the Queens Platinum Jubilee. The large, crested, aluminium pot was displayed in the church filled with craft items. The King was pleased to see the pot which he recognised from its time outside Buckingham Palace, commenting that it was lovely to see it displayed like it was, jokingly adding that they also make excellent waste paper bins!

King Charles was warm, welcoming and interested; it was a day the community will never forget.



Julia, Lucy and Tim on the stall.



Norman and Liam at the drinks reception.

The Mount - Visit to the Houses of Parliament

By Vicky Phillips

On Wednesday 22nd February, Students from the Mount had a trip to London to visit the Houses of Parliament. During their tour they had the opportunity to view both the House of Commons and the House of Lords, debating in their chambers.

Afterwards, the students got very involved in their own debating workshop discussing their ideas on new laws they would like to see passed. They discussed their ideas of more homes being built for the homeless and improved recycling schemes.

The day finished with a visit from and discussion with Nus Ghani, our local MP.



Tiphereth Camphill is celebrating its 30th birthday

By Gordon Hudson

Tiphereth was started in one house on the edge of the Pentland Hills and has expanded to have additional houses on the Torphin site and two in the Colinton area of Edinburgh. This makes it unusual, as it is not all on the one site and it is partly in the city.

Tiphereth consists of residential houses, supported living accommodation and day service workshop groups. Around 75 people take part in activities each day.

Several celebrations are planned to mark our 30 years. The first of these, a Ceilidh, took place in early February. Members, co-workers and families enjoyed a great night of dance and music.



Tiphereth has a new logo for 2023 designed by Simeon Newbatt.



Newton Dee Camphill community - Youth Conference 2023

By Juan Sebastian Giraldo Armilla

There have been many attempts to do a youth conference at Newton Dee over the past 3 years. It started as a collective effort between individuals from various Camphill Communities in Scotland, Northern Ireland and England (Newton Dee, Clanabogan, Glencraig, Esk Valley) and the Youth Section at the Goetheanum in Switzerland.

These individuals were moved by how many young people in cities there are, looking to live in a community or to find a different way of living, yet did not know where to go or who to ask. Another common interest that those individuals shared was getting to know and form friendships with people from other communities like those in Camphill from older generations, who have friendships in other communities across the world and some sort of awareness of how the other communities are.

That group planned a youth conference, but the pandemic came, and they were forced to do a pre-conference event online. The zoom event was very good, and many people kept very hopeful of this event. After this, the organising group changed a bit and they tried once again, this time in the summer of 2022. Unfortunately, Newton Dee was not prepared to receive so many people at that time since the concerns of the pandemic were still very pressing.

The new organising group met in Newton Dee in November last year and discussed various themes including those discussed before but with a new approach as the team had changed. There were burning questions about community, the future and personal development.

Together the group agreed on the new theme of the conference 'Creating and Re-imagining the Future of Communities' and organised new dates and the program. It will take place in Newton Dee Camphill Community, Aberdeen, Scotland from 11th - 14th May 2023.

It will be a place to discuss questions about community, the future, and personal development to meet and shape that future. The registration fee includes meals and basic accommodation and participating at the conference events.

Newton Dee is a Camphill Community in Bieldside, Aberdeen, Scotland. A community where around 200 people all with different backgrounds, nationalities and abilities, work and live together.

The Newton Dee Youth Conference is being supported by the AoCC.



Photo from the Youth Conference held at Esk Valley Camphill Community, photo credit Ikuko Tsuchiya.



Photos from The Youth Conference in Camphill Community Clanabogan in 2018.

STOP PRESS!

You can now follow Camphill Pages on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.

Please like, share and tag us in your news and events.



NEXT TIME IN PAGES:

Our edition theme is 'Living, growing, learning and aging well in Camphill'

We want to hear from our Camphill Community members!

If you have a story to share, email pages@camphill.org.uk with your story and photos.

The deadline for contributions is 29th September 2023.



7-day Joyful Leadership training course, Glencraig

By Martin Schwarz

Leadership is an integral part in the success of an organisation and it is important to consider how we can inspire current and future leadership in our strive for continual improvement and development within our communities. Finding creative and ground-breaking approaches will help us carve the way for successful leadership and connecting with other organisations to share ideas will help us achieve our common goals and discover our potential.

What is 'Joyful' Leadership?

Joyful Leadership is the process of influencing others with joy in accomplishing shared goals for the benefit of all. The Joyful Leader is the leader whose foremost motivation is to care about the people he/she has an influence on - meaning that they feel privileged to lead and serve as a leader.

It is an approach that sparks interest from around the world. In spring of 2019, three Glencraig co-workers attended a 7-day training programme in Croatia. The experience was life-changing – a shared passion for new ideas and inspirational ways to improve leadership were found.

Motivated and excited for the future, this inspired Martin Schwarz who, together with a team from Glencraig, hosted the joyful leadership training programme in Northern Ireland.

The Training Course in Northern Ireland

In September 2022 Glencraig was privileged to host a total of 36 leaders and aspiring leaders from 16 different nationalities in Lorne House, a venue near by. The partner countries were Croatia, Hungary, Greece, Portugal, Italy and North Macedonia. Four Leadership experts guided the participants for the 7-day training alongside the dedicated Glencraig organising team. The course was set out to give the participants first-hand experience of what it means to be a good leader.

The project objectives were to:

- Strengthen capacity and professional skills in the field of leadership so individuals can become better leaders in their organisations.
- Promote the concept of Joyful Leadership and its benefits for leaders.
- Increase the partners' capacity to implement leadership education and widen their recognition in the field.

JOYFUL LEADERSHIP
Creating a New Generation of Leaders

Being part of the global Camphill Movement offers opportunities for sharing the fruits of Joyful Leadership more widely and to encourage other organisations in the Camphill network to make use of this wonderful resource

You can read the full article about the Joyful Leadership conference, written by Martin Schwarz, in the news section of the Camphill Community Glencraig website www.glencraig.org.uk

The joyful leadership website is available here: www.joyful-leader.com

Glencraig have produced a beautiful 6-minute video about the Joyful Leadership programme which you can view here: www.bit.ly/JoyfulVideo



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AoCC Individual Membership 2023

The Association of Camphill Communities (AoCC) is a membership organisation. Traditionally the membership has been made up of Camphill Communities from across the United Kingdom and Ireland, with further memberships for affiliated organisations with aligned objectives and values.

At the AoCC Annual General Meeting this year the membership agreed to an exciting new membership type - individual membership.

Individual membership is now available to anyone with an interest in the work of Camphill in the UK and Ireland and beyond and is for people wanting to establish or maintain a connection with the Camphill Movement.

Individual members can attend the AoCC AGM and assembly, they have access to AoCC benefits including the Camphill insurance scheme for business, home and car insurance. Members will receive regular news and updates on work in the UK & Ireland and from the Africa region and will of course receive copies of Camphill Pages.

Membership is for 12 months from April and costs £10 per year. The renewal subscription fee invoices for all categories of membership will be issued at the end of March 2023.

To request an application form and further information please email: aocadmin@camphill.org.uk

