



Camphill Scotland

The membership body for Camphill communities in Scotland

April 2017

Dear Members & Supporters

We are now producing an e-bulletin every two months, to better keep you updated on the work we are doing on your behalf. We have included information relevant to Camphill in Scotland as well as our own work, with articles about Discovering Camphill courses, Camphill Dialogue and a Social Pedagogy Practitioners Network. As ever, please contact us if you have any comments.

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Parliamentary and Public Affairs

Cross party interest in Camphill

Robert engaged with a range of senior politicians at the spring conferences of the *Labour Party*, of the *Conservatives Party*, of the *Liberal Democrats* and of the *SNP*. We were pleased with the significant interest across the different political parties in Camphill communities, and by the support for their work.

We arranged a series of meetings with the front bench spokespersons of the different political parties to update them about key aspects of the work of Camphill communities. This included meetings with the Liberal Democrat Leader (Willie Rennie MSP), John Swinney MSP (Deputy First Minister), Maurice Golden MSP (Conservative Party's Shadow Cabinet Secretary for the Environment) and Jackie Baillie MSP (Labour's Spokesperson for the Economy).



Robert with Jackie Baillie MSP

Children & Education

Robert and Margaret Snellgrove (Ochil Tower School) met with senior Scottish Government civil servants to discuss the *National Improvement Framework for Education*, and how it will improve outcomes for children with learning disabilities.

We are supporting CCPS's campaign, *Planning4Children* policy, which seeks to influence candidates in the forthcoming local government elections on key issues around children's services planning.

Health & Social Care Integration

We submitted evidence to the *Scottish Parliament's Health and Sport Committee's inquiry* into the extent to which the Integration Authorities (IAs) are doing enough to involve patients, carers, the third sector and other stakeholders in the design and future delivery of health and social care in their local area. Our evidence focused on ways in which the IAs could increase levels of consultation across Scotland.

A Fairer Scotland for Disabled People

The *Minister for Employability and Training*, Jamie Hepburn MSP, has agreed to visit Tiphereth to find out how communities are helping people with learning disabilities to access employment and training. This is a key part of the Scottish Government's 'A Fairer Scotland for Disabled People' strategy.

Highlights

Website Development



Draft website, community page

Our second consultation event with Members to discuss plans for our new website proved useful in developing our ideas. We have now made some changes to the design and begun the detailed writing of content, assembling case studies and photos etc. *Will you help us?* We would love to include new stories about how great it is to live and work in Camphill. Please [get in touch](#) if you would like to submit a story for our website, either in writing, film, sound, pictures or photos.

Media Skills Training

We commissioned a media skills training course to support Members in their PR and media work. Feedback from participants showed participants found the day very helpful. It was attended by members from Camphill School Aberdeen, Tiphereth, Blair Drummond, Newton Dee and Simeon.

Discovering Camphill Courses

Staff who attended the latest Discovering Camphill courses found them useful and informative both in appreciating Camphill ethos and practices, and in meeting members we would not otherwise have much contact with, such as the short term co-workers (foundation students).

The next two Discovering Camphill courses will explore Being Human and The 12 Senses in May at Corbenic. Full details are on [our website](#). For further information please contact [Sandra Sabiston](#) (Blair Drummond).

Social Pedagogy at AoCC AGM

Neil attended this event in Ireland in March. The Irish Neighbourhood organised a Festival to accompany the AGM and over 150 people attended. Neil's presentation to the gathering on the social pedagogy pilot was well received.

Strategic Finance Group

The CS strategic finance group met last month to discuss the process of fee negotiation as well as longer term financial strategy. Members from Tigh a'Chomainn, Blair Drummond and Corbenic attended. We also discussed the latest ideas from CCPS about implementation of the Scottish Living Wage.

Meeting with L'Arche

The aim of this meeting, which took place in Edinburgh last month, was to explore common challenges with leadership and succession. It was attended by Members from Milltown, Simeon, Blair Drummond, Corbenic, Newton Dee and Beannachar along with the senior leadership team from L'Arche UK and Scotland. The day was very positively evaluated and a number of follow up contacts have taken place between L'Arche and Camphill in Scotland.

Scottish Neighbourhood Meeting

Neil and Robert attended the SNM in March and gave a brief verbal report on some of our activities.

Getting to Know You

This year the CS team are visiting one community per month for a day. We have now met three times in communities, at Tigh a'Chomainn, Simeon and Milltown, and feel that this is helping us to build connections with Members. We will be visiting Beannachar this month and Ochil Tower School in May. If you would like to meet with us, either to find out more about what we do or to tell us about your work, please [get in touch](#).



Neil
Henery
Director

Robert
McGeachy
Policy &
Engagement
Manager

Jennifer
Leiper
Admin &
Finance
Officer

Christine
Johnson
Chair

Looking ahead

Care Inspectorate (CI)

Neil has arranged another *meeting for members* with Gordon Paterson, Head of Inspection (Adult Services), Care Inspectorate in August. The aim is to help strengthen and develop links between members of Camphill Scotland and the CI. If you would like to participate in the meeting, please contact us.

L'Arche and Leadership

Following on from the successful Members meeting between Camphill and L'Arche, which explored common challenges with leadership and succession, Neil will meet with L'Arche to review the day and consider next steps.

Help us influence Scottish Politics

How we can best support you to raise your community's profile with the Scottish Government, with the opposition parties and with MSPs of all parties? We have arranged a *meeting for Members* on 10 May to discuss opportunities for influencing key policy makers along with effective strategies. Contact us if you would like to attend.

Camphill Families and Friends (CFF)

Following CFF's helpful response to our consultation on our new website Neil has arranged to meet with CFF in June to look more generally at drawing upon the perspectives of parents and carers in our marketing and public affairs work.

A Stakeholder Survey

Camphill Scotland Council has commissioned Why Research to conduct a study of the perceptions and attitudes held towards Camphill in Scotland. A key task for us is to build positive public profile for our members and this survey should help us know how Camphill currently stands in the eyes of others. It will help us to tailor our messages to particular groups in our marketing and publicity.

Social Pedagogy Practitioners Network

The first Social Pedagogy Practitioners Network meeting will take place in Blair Drummond on the 11th May. We hope to share some ideas from last week's social pedagogy network development meeting in Kent where the theme was, 'Nurturing places in terms of social best to make use of these network to meet in future. For more

Heart, Head & Hand



Cross Party Groups (CPGs)

Cross-Party Groups (CPGs) provide an opportunity for members of all political parties, outside organisations and members of the public to meet and discuss a shared interest in a particular cause or subject. Having a seat at the table means that we can ensure that Camphill perspectives and experiences are heard at a national level, and that we keep up to date on legislative changes that might affect communities.

Presentation to CPG on Disability

Neil will be part of a small group, along with Enable and People First, leading the next session of the CPG on Disability which will focus on 'where people live'.

Forthcoming CPGs

We will be attending meetings of the Scottish Parliament's CPG on *Learning Disability*, on *Volunteering* and on *Older People, Age and Ageing* soon. We will keep members updated on key business dealt with by these groups.

Camphill Dialogue next month



Camphill Dialogue is the international conference for Camphill Communities and Board members. We look forward to attending this event, and hope to see you there.

Leadership Development Programme

Camphill Scotland Council has approved a new Leadership Development Programme to assist communities with the complex challenges of leadership and succession. This builds on the success of the 2016 programme but is more ambitious in scope, including facilitated dialogue between established and aspiring and emerging leadership generations. If you are interested in hearing more please contact Neil.

Wellbeing'. We will then share from our different pedagogical activities and finally discuss how meetings and how often and where we would like information please contact Vibeke Alfred (CSA).