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## COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **25 December**  
Christmas: Community Meal
- **1 January**  
New Year: Community Meal
- **25 January**  
Burn's Night Celebration
- **2 February**  
Candlemas Celebration
- **21 February**  
Pancake Day Activities
- **5 April**  
Maundy Thursday Celebration

## Appeal update - Downing Street

The end of September marked a significant turning point for our Development and Appeal.



**Staff and residents outside No.10**

In our last newsletter we celebrated the opening of Eastwood; our new Woodwork and Estate building.

Over the following months we have seen the difference that purpose-built premises can have on the wellbeing, happiness and learning of all our students. How exciting then to see construction commence in late August on the new Craft and In Touch workshops. We aim to have these second two workshops open for use in the springtime.

The New Year will also see work starting on the first two of our planned residential houses. With this building comes an incredible marker; we will be a third of the way through our ambitious vision to secure the future of our community.

All of this work has been achieved through the hard work of the whole community, not to mention the generosity of many individuals and organisations. To date the latter have raised just over £4m.

September also gave us the fabulous opportunity to celebrate our various successes with a reception hosted by the Prime Minister's wife, Samantha Cameron at No. 10 Downing Street. Whilst we would have loved the chance to invite the whole community to share this event, we would have filled the Prime Minister's residence in the process. Instead we were allowed just a small number of spaces, which we offered to our existing donors as a thank you for their role in all we have achieved.

We also had the chance for a small number of staff, residents and Camphill representatives from all over Scotland to share this success. The event also launched the next exciting stage of our fundraising Appeal; the extension and refurbishment of Clockhouse.

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## ...Downing Street continued

It was a real privilege to celebrate the life and work of Camphill and the success of our Appeal at No.10. All who attended praised the 'Camphill magic' which pervaded, making the event a truly special occasion. The resulting press has raised the bar for our community; many who were not previously aware of our work and ethos were amazed that such a relatively small charity

could achieve such a great deal. This is credit indeed to all who live and work at Camphill Blair Drummond, and to all those who have supported us financially and otherwise.

The Downing Street reception was, without a doubt, the biggest and most ambitious event we have undertaken and it marks a tremendous turning point for us all. The publicity and financial support which has resulted has been heartening and provided a welcome boost as we move into the next exciting phase of our Development and Appeal.



John and Lisa with Samantha Cameron

## Fundraising made easy

### [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

When shopping on-line at Christmas or at any time, please register with [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and nominate Camphill Blair Drummond Trust Ltd, as your registered Charity. This means that every time you shop via their website, we will receive a donation from the retailer. Nothing could be easier! So please, register today and the donations will start to mount up.

### [www.justgiving.com](http://www.justgiving.com)

This is a new easy way to give a donation at any time to Camphill Blair Drummond. JustTextGiving is a new service that allows a charity in the UK, to receive donations via text message. It's completely free to set up and run, and 100% of the donation, plus Gift Aid, goes to charity. Text messages are free to send on all networks. Simply text BLDR11 and the amount to 70070, leaving a space in between ie. BLDR11 £2.

Please note that the maximum you can give via text is £10. If you wish to give a larger gift you can use the website [www.justgiving.com](http://www.justgiving.com). Many thanks! Visit [www.justgiving.com](http://www.justgiving.com) for more details.

## CDL Support

The early stages of a Capital Appeal can be very daunting. Success relies on a small number of individuals and companies making a significant contribution. We were delighted, therefore, when Roger and Eileen Powell announced that CDL Vehicle Services would be supporting Camphill Blair Drummond on an annual basis for the foreseeable future. Their first two, very generous, gifts made a huge impact and knowing that we will receive regular, unrestricted donations allows us to plan ahead.

So why did they decide to support us? Roger says: 'with our business growing at the rate it is, it is good to take a step back to ensure we help others less fortunate than ourselves'. In addition to offering financial support, Roger is keen to use CDL to raise awareness and publicity for our Appeal.

The Powells know very well the impact this support will make. Their daughter Zoe has been a resident here for over 15 years and is well known for her cheeriness and friendly smile. As Eileen says: 'a whole new world has opened up for her. She has progressed so much since coming here. Now she makes very beautiful pottery- she has a real talent for it. I'm so proud of her!'

The photograph below shows the Powells at No.10 Downing Street. They were delighted to attend as representatives of CDL Vehicle Services and to act as ambassadors for our cause. The event was just one highlight in a long-term relationship which we know will be a huge bonus for both our organisations.



## Community Italian Meal



Camphill Blair Drummond had an Italian Themed meal during the October workshop holidays. Nikko, a German co worker, organised the event and sourced recipes and planned what each house would make.

Nikko chose Italian food as it is simple, healthy, tasty and popular. The recipes chosen gave everyone the opportunity to experience the authentic taste of Italy.

All co workers and residents were involved with preparing the room and cooking the meals. The Library was decorated with Italian flags and the tables had an Italian theme. This was all topped off with Gerry trying out his Italian when he welcomed everyone, before we tucked in and enjoyed our meal. We finished off with Italian ice-cream of course.

After the meal we watched an Italian film "The Italian Job", which everyone really enjoyed. Overall it was a great afternoon, with the opportunity for the community to get together over a meal.

**Nigel Munt, Residential Care Leader**

## All Stars

Stirling City All Stars held their annual player of the year disco in September this year. Camphill Blair Drummond was well represented with medals being presented to Lisa, David, John and Ryan.

Mark was presented with a trophy for top goal scorer. The All Stars have taken part in competitions and tournaments in Scotland and England in the past year. Their most memorable game was in the summer when they had the opportunity to play at Stirling Albion Football Ground during half time of a testimonial match between Rangers and Stirling Albion, where they played in front of several hundred people.

**John Robertson, Tourmaline House**

## Celebrating Michaelmas with a Harvest Meal

The Garden Workshop knows when Autumn has arrived when preparations for the Harvest Meal start. We walk round the garden to see which vegetables and flowers will be ready for displaying on the Harvest Table. This year we were in a bit of a panic, due to the terrible summer, that we may not have enough for the display, but fortunately we did.



All the vegetables are then washed. The co-workers at first think that we are a bit barmy when asked to polish apples, pumpkins and marrows but we assure them it will all be clear when we set up the display. The picture of St Michael is put up in pride of place at the south end of the gallery. This usually involves the tallest people in the workshop, two standing on ladders either side of the picture and some poor soul underneath pushing with all their might hoping the other two can put the wire over the nails before their arms give out (luckily in the years we have been doing it, we haven't lost a single co-worker).

It's all hands on deck to help get the tables up from the old wine cellar and put down the middle of the gallery. The tables are decorated with seasonal flowers, cones, leaves and seeds, plates

for fruit from the Pottery Workshop and candles from the Craft.

The Harvest Table is decorated with beautiful range of plates, baskets and vases which are made in the workshops and display our organic vegetables and flowers. This year apples took pride of place as we had such a wonderful harvest. The Bakery Workshop produces a harvest loaf which is placed below St Michael.

The Harvest Meal always involves lots of singing, eating and catching up. The admiring glances and comments about our vegetables make all the hard work worthwhile.

**Martyn Steedman & Louise Cross, Garden Workshop**

## Christmas at Camphill



Loudon Wainwright III wrote "suddenly its Christmas right after Halloween" and those of us who shop know that it begins earlier each year usually in September when last year's Christmas cards appear in the sale area.

There are a plethora of jolly Santas, we are encouraged to buy early and avoid the rush, and the same twelve popular hits played in each shop in a random fashion where, if timed right, could be the same twelve bars of "do they know it's Christmas" playing out as we move round the shops.

At Camphill Blair Drummond our Christmas festivities begin with the Advent sale where goods that the residents have made are sold. The whole community is decorated for the festive season and the main

communal areas are dressed up in greenery and decorations. As well as the always welcome Christmas trees, there is a real feeling of excitement and anticipation as Christmas approaches.

In the weeks leading up to the 25th, we have the Christmas Panto where the community goes as a whole to see a show, The community also organises a concert for everyone (x-factor eat your heart out); and most houses make the outing to the Christmas markets in Edinburgh and enjoy a meal out. It all helps to keep the excitement going as we approach Christmas.

Within each house there is always a tree and each morning at the gathering we usually sing a Christmas Carol to keep us in the mood. This has been our way for the last several years and it appears to work for everyone, especially for those who may not know what day it is but can tell you that Christmas is coming. So when the day arrives, we all wish you a very happy Christmas.

**John Hunter**  
**Residential Care Leader**

## Co-worker's story



**David, John, Bori, Angela**

Bori is a second year Co-Worker from Hungary and is a volunteer at Camphill Blair Drummond (CBD) "I like helping residents to enjoy their lives and support them in their houses and workshops."

Last year, I enjoyed getting to know a new country and learn English. Residents also helped me learn makaton, a sign language that supports residents communication. "I like that everyone helps each other here". We like to go for walks nearby (there are some lovely walks and gardens to explore around CBD), cycling to Doune, going for coffee and cakes, shopping, working and having fun.

I enjoy the textiles workshop because we do sewing, beading, knitting and fabric work. In the Basketry workshop I have learned to weave, whilst supporting residents.

Last year I enjoyed Halloween as the residents were excited and in fancy dress. I also enjoyed Christmas.

My favourite celebration was the garden party held for the Royal Wedding. I enjoy festivals because this is when everyone spends more time together. I am looking forward to my second year and would like to be part of CBD for a long time."

*(Article and interview by residents, Lisa, John, David and Angela)*

## CONTACT US

This newsletter is published by Camphill Blair Drummond. If you would like more information about any of the articles in this issue please contact Jason Glass, Director of Operations.

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