



Baby Bugle

25.05.2020

WEEK 9

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Celebrating 80 years
- Camphill House, personal recollections.
- Rainbow
- Friendships
- Treasure Hunts
- Nature

"do their work out of love for the children, the sick, the suffering, out of love for the soil, the gardens, fields, woods, and everything that is embraced by the Community."

Dr Karl Koenig

Celebrating 80 years of Camphill Cherry How

Exactly 80 years ago on 1st June 1940 a small group of women and children moved into a large house on the outskirts of Aberdeen in Scotland.

They were refugees from Nazi occupied Vienna who had been granted sanctuary by the British government just before the second world war began and they needed larger premises in which to continue to develop the work they had begun. This had started a year before together with the men, their husbands and friends who, despite their Jewish background, had the month before been



Camphill House. From Karl König's Photo Album. Taken on the first visit there, 1940

interned on the Isle of Man as enemy aliens because of their Austrian nationality.

The new house was called Camphill and that is how their endeavour received its name.

They were all working to build up a community together and with children with disabilities who they had taken into their care. They were young, most of them in their early twenties, and inexperienced but they had high ideals:

- to live and work together to uphold each other and the true human values which were being destroyed in Europe
- and to work out of love and service

Later that year the men returned and joined in life again.

And the rest is history!



The founding group of Camphill Communities

“to work out of love and to strive to live with and alongside different kinds of people out of a feeling for our shared humanity.”

“The Camphill Movement grew out of the darkest of modern times, was always focused on present needs and always looking to prepare the future.”

Celebrating 80 years Cherry How

Since then the Camphill Movement has grown, developed and spread throughout the British Isles and the whole world, today numbering about 100 centres. And by now it is truly international, as coworkers come from all parts of the world.

Thousands of people, with disabilities and without, have lived and worked together for months and years, sometimes for their whole lives, building up a way of life which benefits and fulfils everyone.

The way Camphill manifests itself has changed, just as the world has changed. But the founding principles remain the same: **to work out of love and to strive to live with and alongside different kinds of people out of a feeling for our shared humanity.**

As Dr Karl König,



Dr Karl König, 1902—1966

founder and inspirer of Camphill, wrote in 1945:

(to) do their work out of love for the children, the sick, the suffering, out of love for the soil,

the gardens, fields, woods, and everything that is embraced by the Community.

May we keep these ideals alive into the next 80 years.

Karl König

Karl König was born in Vienna in 1902. In his youth he experienced very strongly how humanity was suffering through the First World War and how Europe – particularly his home in the Austro-Hungarian Empire – was being destroyed. How could he offer a healing impulse? At an early age he

was burning

with empathy and a deep feeling of responsibility for his times. Although he was born into a Jewish family, he was always moved by the words of Christ: „What you have done to the least of my brethren, you have done unto me.“

He saw the task of healing for the human being, for

society and for the earth, as one whole and interconnected task. He studied medicine in Vienna and was then assistant for Dr. Ita Wegman in the early days of anthroposophic medicine and curative education in Switzerland.

Credit to the Karl König Institute for words and photos.

Personal reflections on Camphill House

Michael & Heidi Reinardy

Under the eaves of the roof of Camphill House one can find a date: 1879.

This refers to the 1st rebuild of it. The exact date of its original build we do not know.



Heidi and Michael on their wedding day, Heidi in a dress woven and handstitched by a master Camphill weaver

We moved into Camphill House at Michaelmas 1969, newly married and after a long honeymoon, ready for challenges. Camphill House is a very solid building, built of local grey granite in a traditional local style. The entrance leads into a spacious hall with a grand staircase leading upstairs. A special feature in the hall is a tall sculpture of Mary with child in an alcove, it is the first thing you see when coming in. The other is a lit up fish tank in the wall. From this hall lead various doors into other rooms; library, music room, dormitory, dining

room, kitchen. In the spacious library were/are Dr. König's books and his furniture from Vienna, it was continuously used for meetings. In the music room were/are more books and a grand-piano on which Dr. König used to play. A folding door could open into the library with its fire place to join the 2 rooms into 1. The dining room with its large bay window looking over the garden below and over the river Dee, had 5 octagonal tables each seating 8. In the kitchen with its very large Aga were more dining tables. Lunches were approx. 42 people. Upstairs were 4 more dormitories, each for 5 children as well as family and co-worker accommodation. Dr. König's original flat with more library and meeting space was/is above the kitchen. On the ground floor, somehow detached, had been the schools' sick room with the resident nurse's quarters. That is where 4 of our 5 children were born as well as many others. Camphill House in the 70s and 80s was home to 20 resident children aged 4 – 16, 6 staff children, 14 co-workers and 2 more senior co-workers, one of which was a Camphill founder member, were attached. This was the social setting where we lived for 12 years, 10 of these as 'house-parents'. We enjoyed every minute of it!

This house was surrounded by a most beautiful estate and 4 more



Camphill Hall the venue for the wedding reception.

residential houses. Any time one would look out of any window one would see children playing and people going from house to house.

An exception to this would be the very secluded and sheltered 'Rosegarden' with Dr. König's memorial and fountain, overlooked by Dr. König's windows. Here are buried the urns of many former co-workers in the large cross-shaped rose border.

To this day Camphill House provides a home for children and people in need.



The getaway car!

*"our spirits exist
far more
tangibly than
our abilities*

*What a lesson.
What an
inspiration"*

*Roy Kinnear
talking about his
sister who
passed away*



Celebrating life

Eighty years on and so much has changed in this world, In Camphill too life has changed, moved, adapted and grown. But the fundamentals have remained constant. To

work and live with one another, to create community together, to do this with love and respect for the earth.

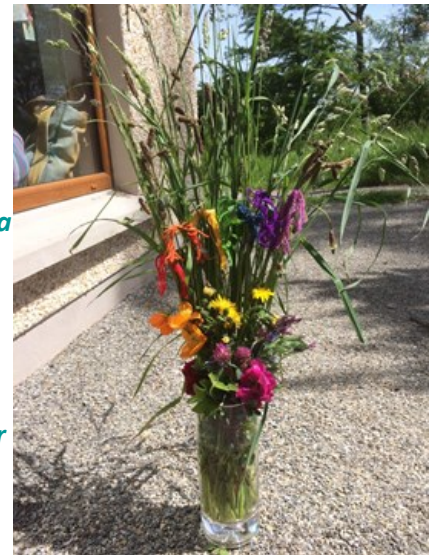
So today 80 years on we celebrate together, we

recognise each others commitment and contributions, we embrace the natural world and we celebrate festival and we do this out of community.

Making rainbows with wool and wood

Rainbows are everywhere right now, not in the sky, but everywhere else. The bright bursts of colours giving thanks to key workers in the era of lockdown. The Riverstown woodwork team and the Sunrise weavery team wanted to be part of this and decide to create Rainbows to show their appreciation.

*Right: the
weavers
Kate, Emma
Jane and
Claire used
wool and
flowers to
create their
Rainbow.
Stunning*



*Meanwhile in the Wood
workshop, Alison, Anna,
Glenn and Michal were busy
cutting, sanding and painting
their rainbows*



Celebrating friendship

Kate's Cottage needed a bit of external decorating, the garden needed something else, so friends to the rescue. As Michael and Glenn moved heaven and earth to help out their friend, in the end they decided a tidy up and a newly refurbished statue was more appropriate.



Celebrating festivals

To mark Ascension Day there was a community treasure hunt. House groups walked around the river path answering questions such as: what is the name of the black ducks that live at the 3rd pond and name a yellow, pink and purple flower you saw on the walk. Also where did you see the oak tree, the lime tree and the horse chestnut tree. This encouraged everyone to observe nature and connect with it in a deeper way, Every group did very well but the winner was Rainbow house with Sunrise house just one point behind.



Above, Kathrine G is loving this treasure hunt and she completed the entire Riverwalk with a smile on her face at the end of it.

Left: Meanwhile Christopher has to get his work done before he can start hunting, the pizza tray isn't going to leave itself back.

Below: Jo and Linda get all wrapped up and ready to go.



Celebrating Festivals



Left: Paul Jerome, James, Neil and Pauline get started with James taking notes.

Above: Kathryn leads the Riverstown march toward the prizes

Below: Brendan and Martin are doing some serious planning, their preparation paid off, worthy winners.

Celebrating Nature Cherry How



Many of us walk along the river path everyday to get some exercise and to enjoy nature and our beautiful estate. Next time you pass the third pond look out for the little chicks of the black moorhen. There are 4 tiny cute chicks hiding in the reeds and sometimes following their mother. The pond is covered with weed because of the warm weather so there will be plenty of food for the moorhens.

