

Community Report April 2012

It is April once more and we enjoyed a week of incredible sun-shine and the beauty of the daffodils and first tender leaves. There was the smell of BBQs and most of us enjoyed many meals outside. Living in Scotland you learn to cherish the warmth you get – whatever time of year! Now it is cold again and Easter last week was rather chilly.

The last Community Report ended in September and some of you might have visited the Community in October for our Foundation Stone laying of the new shop. It was a wonderful event that many of our friends joined and for many of us it was the first time we really went into the new shop building. Every workshop had prepared a little contribution that represented their working life and also their connection to the new venture. All the different thoughts and wishes were put into a lovely box made by our wood workshop and buried in the entrance.

From there on the dark time of year drew near quickly, celebrated with a Halloween Disco and a lantern walk by the children. Since we don't have an Autumn Fair anymore we had a tiny Advent Sale just for the Community where we sold little handcrafted gifts and donated the money to a charity working with AIDS victims in Uganda. St Nicolas came for the little ones and many people were involved in rehearsals for the Christmas Play which Maria had taken on, supported by Denis. Christmas arrived quickly and we enjoyed another shining play, full of laughter and warmth and moments of real reference. The following Holy Nights were a time of meeting each other's, having the possibility of going for long walks or just recharging for the new year to come.

And come it did with a quiet but joyful gathering at midnight and in good tradition a happy party afterwards at Stable Cottage. It wasn't an easy start for many of us. Maria and Marko had decided that for family reasons they needed to leave the Community and move to Denmark. For all of us this was a huge adjustment and many conversations and meetings took place to prepare for this transition.