

A week at Camphill

Monday 7:45am

It's the start of a new week in Camphill. Everybody's had breakfast at home and is on their way to the workshops. There's lots of chattering and greetings. Bruce kisses his girlfriend Nancy good-bye, Roy jogs down to the vegetable garden to keep himself fit, Ronnie informs Rugby results to his friends over quite a distance, everybody in the vicinity now knows who won. Duncan, Richard and James from the estate team are already waiting for Fila, their team-leader, to tell them which lawn has to be mowed today. Garry, the farmer, has his morning meeting with the farm-team to discuss the tasks of the day. In the dairy Zingisa is busy transforming the milk of the weekend into tasty Feta, Gouda and Yoghurt. Dani is melting the wax in the candle workshop for today's production of candles, whilst Hendrik is busy preparing the wicks and Merle is packaging last week's production. The craft workshop is humming with weaving, knitting, crocheting, ladies chattering and, Hendrik preparing the next batch of empty flour bags to be turned into fancy shopping bags.

In the bakery the dough looks delicious! Bongani is baking Monday's bread of Light Rye, while discussing with Eddy, his assistant, the most important subject to all young men from all over the world: women. The beds in the vegetable garden need weeding. Sam and Fuzile team up with some residents to get it done.

In Weidehof House, Jane decides what to cook today and prepares it with Claudia, her assistant. Later Claudia folds the laundry and helps with the cleaning. Mark is carefully harvesting Evening Primrose in the herb-garden, which, when dried, will be added to our flavoursome herb-tea.

In the office Christine is answering all sorts of queries and Anne holds everything neatly under control.

A normal, busy Camphill week has started. At 12:00am everybody will hurry home for a delicious lunch and a short snooze. At 2:30pm work starts and carries on until 5:00pm, when the pace slows down on the way home and appointments are made for the evening.

Wednesday 7:pm

Tuck-shop! Music! Wednesday night fever! Chocolate, chips and cool-drinks! Nobody misses this weekly event. On Thursday evenings our young volunteers offer cultural groups like painting, acting, baking, gymnastics, music appreciation, poetry, computer skills, drums and whatever interests are available. The small but devoted table-tennis team plays passionately with results and challenges being constantly exchanged.

Saturday morning is cleaning day and everything gets a good scrub. Afterwards, at last the weekend can start. Chill-out time, some go the library, others watch rugby on TV, some go for a brisk walk and others have a loong snooze... If the weather is fine some houses communities skip the cleaning bit and go for an outing to the beach or somewhere else, others do this on the Sunday after service. However, they might then miss "Coffee Bar" at the hall. Home-baked cakes, coffee and tea are served to the whole community by Frank and his assistants. What a wonderful way to relax, sitting in the sun around the village green, sipping coffee and watching some of the more energetic people like Derek, George, Ronnie and even some ladies play soccer. The Sunday ends with a sumptuous evening meal in all house communities before Monday morning comes and a new week starts.