

World famous community celebrates its own X FACTOR

PRESS RELEASE

FINDHORN FOUNDATION

12TH NOVEMBER 2007

The Findhorn Foundation and Community is gearing up to celebrate its 45th anniversary. The community, now a world famous centre for economic, environmental, social and spiritual sustainability, was founded on 17th November 1962 when Eileen and Peter Caddy and Dorothy Maclean set up their caravan at the Findhorn Bay Caravan Park. They imagined they would stay for only six months whilst Peter found a new job. This was not to be so however, and days grew into years as gradually the community took root and grew.

In the 60s the community exploded onto the international scene with news of miraculous 40lb cabbages being grown in their garden. At the time the soil association tested the soil but could find no physical explanation. They concluded that the huge vegetables were due to a 'factor x'.

The three founders attributed their success to being able to connect and work with the intelligence of nature. This attracted the first flood of visitors who came from all over the world to join the new age community.

It is this very desire to work harmoniously with nature that led to the gradual transformation of the land from desolation to floral abundance, from damp caravans to beautiful eco houses. While visitors to the community in the 60s came to see the amazing vegetables, visitors in 2007 come to see a variety of innovative eco buildings and technologies.

The Findhorn Foundation and Community has attracted government and business delegations from all over the world who come to view their renewable energy systems, biological waste water treatment and ecological building techniques.

The Foundation is a United Nations approved International Training Centre for Local Authorities, one of only 12 in the world and a founding member of

the Global Ecovillage Network.

Aside from their work in the field of sustainable living, the Findhorn Foundation offers over 250 holistic courses each year attracting participants from as far afield as Japan, Iceland and Australia who come to experience life in a spiritual community as well as learn about such subjects as holistic leadership, social ecology, nonviolent communication and the arts.

On the 17th November community members are planning a day of celebration, and there is a lot to celebrate.

Bettina Jespersen, Chairperson of the Foundation's management team said 'At 45 , the Findhorn Foundation has matured and through partnerships has also expanded into new directions making it ever more relevant to the world today.'

The community has proven its staying power and continues to thrive as a model of cooperative living and as an education centre.

This year the community recorded the lowest ecological footprint ever recorded in the developed world - just half the UK national average. It continues the journey to both carbon neutrality and holistic wellbeing for itself and for people everywhere.

A spokesperson for the Foundation said, "what's most exciting is that recent events around climate change have highlighted just how visionary our work has been and how much we have to offer a world urgently seeking more sustainable lifestyle solutions".

Eileen Caddy, who died last December, aged 89, would be very proud.

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For more info contact Communications
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Phone and TV interviews available

Recommended photos: the Park in the 60's, The Park now, The giant cabbages in the 60's. Please contact PR@findhorn.org to request these images.

To download general images please go to
www.findhorn.org/contact/media.php