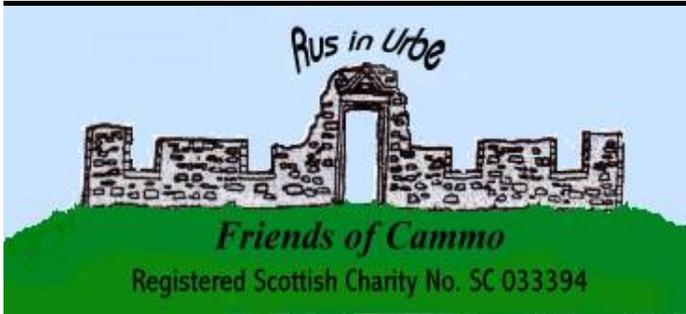


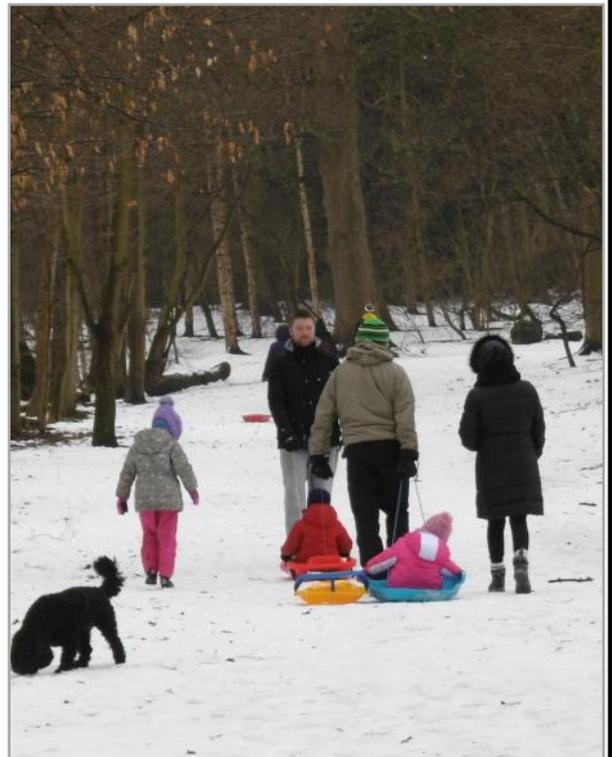
Newsletter

Spring 2018 Volume 14 Issue 1

Email: friendsofcammo@yahoo.co.uk



At the beginning of March, *The Beast from the East* swept across the country and Cammo Park became full of children and their families sledging, snowboarding and enjoying the snow. There were hundreds and hundreds of thrushes and blackbirds feeding in the woods. What a great space Cammo is for all sorts of reasons and how lucky we are to have it.



Woodpeckers, resident in Cammo Park, turned up to enjoy the coconut and sunflower kernels provided in our garden.



20th Annual General Meeting

This event was held on 6th March 2018 in Cammo Lodge. Angela Geddes had stepped down before the meeting; Nick Bengé was elected as the new Chairman. Lynn Whitehead (Treasurer), Simon Gillam (Secretary) and Shay Dean (Membership Secretary) were re-elected. Michael Roe and Marcel Crolla were elected onto the Committee.

Nick spoke about the main activities in 2017. In addition to those listed below, 200 trees and shrubs had been planted in January 2017, bringing the total to around 2300, and the Canal had been cleared of silt and debris in early 2017.

The accounts showed we ended 2017 with £3155 general funds and £594 restricted funds (grant money still to be spent). We had received a grant of £1000 from Baillie Gifford, spent on yellow rattle seed in late 2017 and bird boxes in early 2018.

Group membership had reached a total of 163 households, but 33 had not renewed their membership by March 2018, so will be removed from the membership list.

Friends of Cammo had submitted comments on the options presented in the Council's second public consultation about their potential Heritage Lottery Fund bid.

Year at a Glance: March 1st 2017 - February 28th 2018

1st March: 2017 Friend of Cammo held their 19th Annual General Meeting

9th April: Carried out Litter Pick within Estate. 6 volunteers collected 8 bags of rubbish

14th April: Comfrey planted in silt in Low Meadow and gorse planted, funded by Postcode Lottery

April-July: Cammo Estate visitor survey carried out by FoC, 234 interviews (April-July 2017)

7th-8th July: Four guided walks for Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society event at Cammo

16th July: Guided walk at Cammo led by Nick Bengé for Love Parks Week

4th August: New bee colony installed in enclosure, volunteers to maintain

13th August: Summer Barbeque attracted approximately 400 people

October: Yellow rattle seed, funded by £510 from Baillie Gifford grant, spread in fields

12th November: Carried out Litter Pick within Estate. 5 volunteers collected 6 bags of rubbish

November: Third edition of Short History of Cammo Estate completed and printed

6th December: FoC meeting includes first illustrated talk; intended to have talks twice-yearly

10th December-7th January 2018: Cammo Lodge opened by volunteer on Sundays over Christmas break

14th and 21st January 2018: Put up 3 jackdaw boxes and 6 starling boxes, funded by £490 from BG grant

28th-30th January: Wood debris removed from Canal

31st January: Angela Geddes resigned as Chairperson

18th February: Tall, mesh tree guards put on 130 trees and shrubs to prevent deer damage.

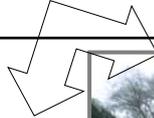
Environmental Report



On Sunday 14th January and Sunday 21st January Nick, Callum and Ian put up 3 Jackdaw boxes and 4 starling boxes.



On Sunday 18th February about 22 volunteers spent the morning replacing green tubes and putting mesh around the trees we planted last February in order to protect them from the deer.



The green tubes are shelters for young trees that protect them from roe deer. When dogs rip the shelters off to play with them, the result is damage to the trees from the deer which come into the park at night, browse on the bark and rub their antlers on it. We hope that the mesh will deter the deer but won't be so vulnerable to the dogs.



The Cammo Bees

Unfortunately the latest bee colony in Cammo has failed. We think this is maybe because the site is too exposed so we are considering the option of trying a hive in the walled garden again. More news on this will be forthcoming. In the meantime, David and Bron Wright, who have been helping with this project, will be giving a talk on bees (including wild ones) at our meeting on 6th June.

Dates for your Diary

	<u>Date:</u>	<u>Time:</u>	<u>Meet at:</u>
Litter Pick: Help tidy up Cammo for Summer (equipment supplied)	Sunday 8 April	10:00am	Cammo Lodge
Meeting: Open to all. Includes illustrated talk	Wednesday 6 June	7:30pm	Cammo Lodge
Summer Barbeque: All welcome	Sunday 12 August	From 12:00 noon	Top of the drive
Meeting: Open to all. Put forward your views	Wednesday 5 Sept	7:30pm	Cammo Lodge
Litter Pick: Help tidy up Cammo for Winter (equipment supplied)	Sunday 10 November	10:00am	Cammo Lodge

N.B. It is difficult to predict when volunteer days will be required. However, such work-days will be notified by email, giving as much notice as possible. Notice is also given on our Facebook page.

And don't forget to ...



*Look out for the swallows!
They should be arriving on April 19th!!!*

HLF Bid Update

There will be no bid put in this year. This is because the Parks for People Grant that the Council was going to apply for has been scrapped. The bid will now have to go in under a different category or may be split up into different projects with applications for each. In the meantime, the landscape consultants are still putting the ideas presented for consultation in Options One, Two and Three together as one project. Once this is done, we believe there will be another opportunity to comment.