As the woodland turned gold and the fruits ripened in Hardmuir, we had the great pleasure of welcoming Phakchok Rinpoche to “Gomde Scotland”.

The first evening was a special surprise as, even after his long and tiring journey, Rinpoche took the time to answer our questions in the atmospheric and warm glow of the butter-lamps in the shrine room.

We learnt that Rinpoche is a fan of the film Braveheart, so we got the kilts, bagpipes and swords out and Rinpoche went to Culloden Battlefield.
Rinpoche also went to the Universal Hall in Findhorn to give a public talk on the "The Key to Happiness" and gave a beautiful Medicine Buddha empowerment, as well as teachings on the land.

Rinpoche’s teachings were direct, personal and very helpful to all of us, as you can see from extracts from just a couple of the many email we received, thank you Rinpoche La!

Patrick wrote:

"I wanted to send you a short email to let you know how much the two days of teachings offered at the retreat centre meant to me. It was a great privilege to meet Rinpoche and to learn from him. He helped clarify a lot of confused notions (derived from reading many books!)."

Margo wrote:

"Thank you so much for hosting Phakchok Rinpoche. I really enjoyed his teachings this morning, it was blissful! And I rejoice in the beautiful hermitage."