



Scottish Gardeners' Forum *Newsletter*

PROMOTING SCOTLAND'S GARDEN CLUBS



Recycling, upcycling and growing vegetables in the Arran Community Land Initiative polytunnel

Summer 2019

Vol 17: Issue 2

Contents

Letter from the Acting Chair	2	The Caley's Grow and Learn Awards	12
The Caley Awards	3	Gifford Show	14
Roger Evans' Funeral Tribute	3	Gifford HS Programme	14
A DIY Compost Bin Design	6	The Kilwinning Garden Awards	15
Wanted: Bikini Vases	7	Nairn Schools' Pallet Challenge 2019	16
Stewarton Gardening Club	8	Keep Beechgrove Garden on Air	19
Extending the Bloom	8	Badenoch Gardening Club Winners	19
Helensburgh Plotters' Tattie Challenge	8	North Berwick GC Autumn Show	20
Helensburgh & Gareloch HS Society	9	Re-opening Saughton Park, Edinburgh	21
H&G School Bulb Competition	10	Regional Co-Ordinators	22
Arran	11	Your Council	23
Community Land Initiative	11	SGF AGM	24

Letter from the Acting Chair

The death of our Chair, Roger Evans, in June came as a great shock to many of us. Roger had only felt well enough to take up the role in January and he had clear objectives in mind, namely to trial a new show database, to prepare for handover of the Pallet and Planter competition and to negotiate an alliance with a third party to ensure the continuance of the Forum.

Sadly, Roger was unable to fulfil his vision for SGF but other members of the council are determined to carry his legacy forward. As one of the Vice Chairs I have been busy making plans to hold the AGM in Lanark this year. Roger was an active member of Lanark Gardening Club and was keen to showcase the activities of local community groups.

This year we awarded grants to three groups to help encourage the participation of young people in gardening: West Linton, Nairn and

Cowdenbeath. We have a report from Nairn with lovely photographs of happy children showing off their pallets, and we hope to have more from the later shows to display at the AGM.

It's time to start thinking ahead, so if any clubs would like to mentor a local school or nursery group to exhibit at their show or even participate in the competition at Gardening Scotland, we want to hear from you. I was at Ingliston when the children came in to find out the results of their hard work and the whoops of delight had to have been heard far across the showground.

Within the Council, we often share photographs of our gardening success and failures and have discussed posting more on our Facebook page. We would be keen to include any photographs from members in addition to your written contributions

to the Newsletter.

We have also been active in protesting the BBC cuts to transmission of the Beechgrove Garden programme over the summer which interestingly leads on to other issues related to how older people engage with broadcast and social media (p 19).

We look forward to seeing you in Lanark for the AGM (p24).

Enjoy the time in your own gardens and if things don't go quite according to plan, remember there is always next year.

Kathryn Pitts
Acting Chair



The Caley Awards

Nominations are now open for The Caley's annual award presentations. The Caley issues a number of awards to recognise achievements from the world of Scottish horticulture that cover professional, student and amateur horticulturists so, if you want someone you know to be rewarded for all their hard work, fill in an award nomination form today.

The simple online form can be found on the Awards page of the website:

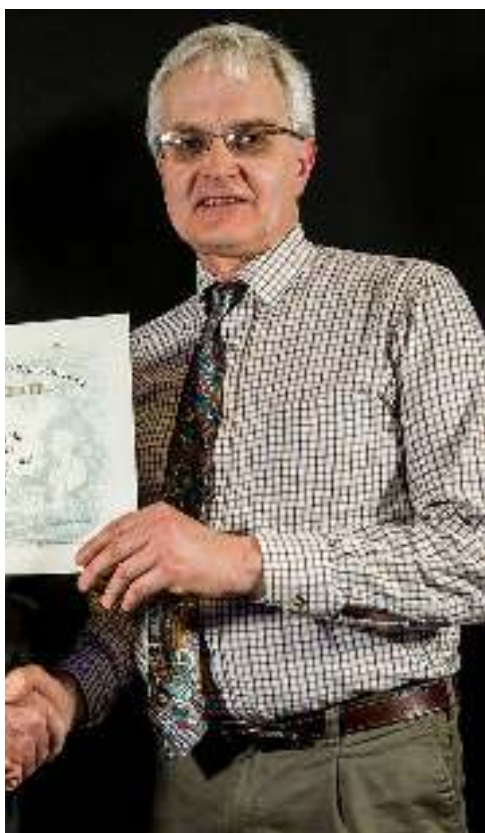
www.thecaley.org.uk/awards/

Nominations close on 15th November 2019. Awards will be presented at a ceremony on 3rd March 2020.

Julie Muir

Roger Evans' Funeral Tribute **Wednesday, 3rd July, 2019**

I first met Roger at the Scottish Gardeners Forum AGM in 2011. I was delighted to have a new member joining our Council – particularly as Roger had had a long standing and ongoing involvement with a local horticultural



*Roger receiving his
RCHS Certificate of Merit, 2017*

society – Lanark Gardening Club – so he came with knowledge of how local clubs functioned and where the Scottish Gardeners' Forum could offer support and advice. Furthermore,



Roger brought IT skills to a Council where we were still very wary of social media!

Roger was no newcomer to the Scottish Gardeners' Forum – he had, in fact, been involved at its birth when, as President of the Lanark Gardening Club, he represented the club at the inaugural meeting of the Liaison Group of Scottish Horticultural Societies on 30th June 1998. His interest and enthusiasm for the establishment of a group that would support local horticultural societies was noted, and he subsequently became a member of the sub-group which drew up the terms of reference and objectives for the proposed Scottish Gardeners' Forum. Having achieved the goal of establishing the group, Roger stood down from the liaison group in 2001.

Rejoining the Scottish Gardeners' Forum in 2011, Roger initially took on the role of Secretary – moving on to Treasurer in 2015. Inevitably, with his IT background, he has also been a keen supporter of increasing the Scottish Gardeners' Forum visibility on the internet, linking the Forum to Facebook, and introducing the 'blog'.

When I intimated my intention to retire from Council in 2018, Roger, by then Vice-Chair, was happy and enthusiastic to take over the role of Chair.

Unfortunately, his illness intervened, and whilst he was elected as Chair in November last year, he was not able to assume the role until January of this year. He recognised that time was not on his side, but not withstanding his ill

health, Roger was determined to set his objectives for the year and make as much progress as possible in the time left to him.

His contributions to the world of horticulture in Scotland at a local level was recognised in 2017 when he was awarded a Certificate of Merit by the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society. I recall that he and Christine had a memorable evening at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh where the award ceremony took place.

Working with Roger, as myself and my colleagues on the Council would agree, was a pleasure. He was always a constructive, enthusiastic contributor in discussions and in our activities. He was a calm presence – I cannot recall him ever being ruffled! His attention to detail was impeccable – so necessary as Secretary and Treasurer. He would have continued to promote the Scottish Gardeners' Forum enthusiastically, with particular emphasis on encouraging local clubs to work with schools and younger people groups. He will be missed, not only by ourselves, but undoubtedly also by Lanark Gardening Club where he was a member for over 30 years.

So thank you, Roger, and thank you, Christine for giving him your support particularly over the past nine months.

Shiona Mackie





17 members of Milltimber Garden Club plus our own Mary Finch enjoying a visit in May to Brighter Bervie's Voyage of Life Garden; and below, our two newest young volunteers, Logan and Leon, starting to bring Bervie's RNLI Flag Feature back to life.

Tom Campbell
Brighter Bervie



A DIY Compost Bin Design

Ever since living in New Zealand, I have been a fan of a versatile compost bin design, consisting of wooden frames that stack on top of each other. Why do I like them so much?

- You can build up the compost heap as you go, starting low and adding more frames as the heap grows.
- When the heap starts to sink you can remove the top frames and use them to start another heap.
- You can site your heap in a different place each time – great if you want to convert a weedy area to a border as you can just keep moving the heap along, leaving good soil behind.
- You can use them as frames over growing veg and drape with netting, plastic, wire etc. for protection.
- I have used several in the greenhouse stacked to make a temporary hotbed.
- And last, but not least, they are easy to make yourself and cheap!

For each frame you will need:

4 planks: 900mm x 150mm x 22mm

4 "legs": 180mm x 80mm x 80mm

5 nails or screws for each corner
(about 75mm long)

These measurements reflect what materials were available to us. We have used old fencing sometimes, or new wood. You do need to be able to pick up the frame to move it, so you don't want it to be too heavy. I can manage this size and I am a 5 foot, 67 year old female!

See the diagram for how to assemble a



frame. You want it to be square so that it will fit the frame below it regardless of which way round you place it. With the measurements given above, each side will measure $900+22=922\text{mm}$ (the length of one side + the width of the joining side).

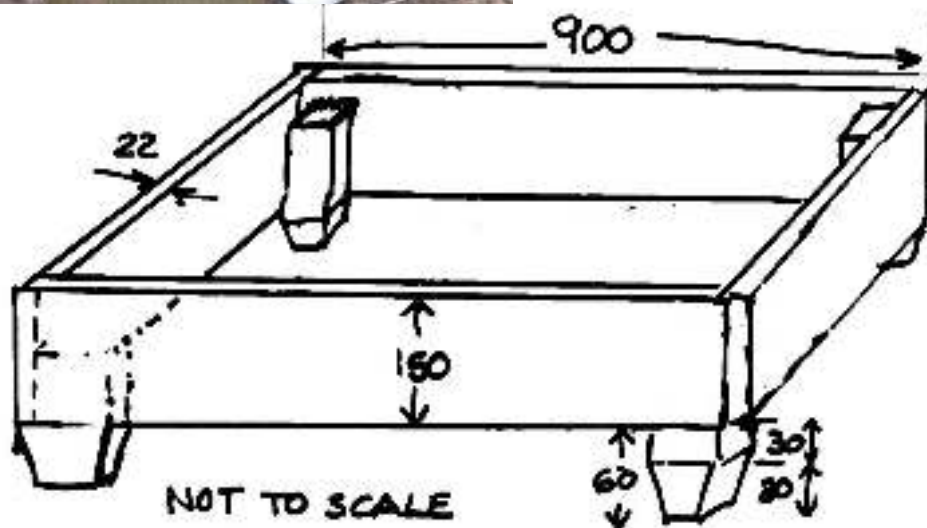
Note that the legs at each corner are displaced 30mm downwards to form a small platform at the top and 60mm sticking out below. The feet are tapered on the two outer sides. This makes it easier to stack the frames on top of





each other. Once stacked there is an air gap along each side. I was pleased to see a wren slip into the gap to feed on the insects in the heap!

Sue Thomas



Wanted: Bikini Vases

Badenoch Gardening Club needs some more bikini vases (the green ones in two parts) – the 7 inch size. Does your Club want to sell any surplus? We have plenty of the bigger sizes but need more of the smaller ones (in fact we have some tops and no matching bottoms!).

If you can help, please email

badenochgardeningclub@gmail.com

Sue Thomas

Stewarton Gardening Club

The Club had a very successful Plant Sale and Coffee Morning on Saturday 11th May at John Knox Church Hall with a record number of visitors, both bringing and buying plants. Fortunately the weather was very kind to us with sunshine and a light breeze.

The annual Flower Show was the next event and the club gardeners were very busy over the Spring and Summer months getting ready to display their exhibits with the hope of winning a prize. The mixed weather and thunder showers had not done too much damage to the plants – gardening is always a bit of a challenge!

The Stewarton Gardening Club Flower show was held on Saturday 7th September in John Knox Church Hall, Stewarton.

Hazel Mulberry
Club Secretary

Helensburgh Plotters' Tattie Challenge

A glorious morning and the Helensburgh Plotters (Helensburgh & Gareloch Horticultural Society Allotment holders) gathered at the Allotments at Ardardan where they have been preparing for their first Grand Tattie Challenge Weigh-in to find out who had grown the highest weight of tatties in a bag.

Each Plotter chose from a selection of Sarpo Una Seed potatoes earlier this year. All were grown in the same type of bag at the allotments.

Results varied from – 8oz through to 12lbs 11/2oz. The winner was Bill Davis; the winner of the tattle peeler booby prize remains a well-kept secret!! Our five and 10 year old competitors each produced a very healthy crop. Well done all !

Veronica Davies

Extending the Bloom

After success last year with hanging baskets in the town of Dollar, a small dedicated team have worked very hard to further enhance Bridge Street with planters as well as baskets. The efforts of the organisers and watering teams have been much appreciated by residents and visitors.

Margaret Stephenson
Dollar in Bloom



Helensburgh & Gareloch Horticultural Society



Annual Flower & Vegetable Show 2019

We have had a lot of weather this year: drought in May, Deluge in July and August, unseasonable cold, unseasonable heat – you remember, I'm sure. That's why the marvellous display at this year's show was such a pleasant surprise. Despite all that the weather could throw at us (and it did!) our determined and resourceful members managed to produce:– perfect blooms, pest free foliage, great big, beautiful vegetables, tempting fruit and elegant floral arrangements, not to mention the handicrafts, honey and other exhibits. I always love to see the children's entries: they never fail to surprise and delight.

In addition to our usual excellent judges, an international rose specialist dropped in and enjoyed a look around our exhibits: her friend and fellow judge had urged her to come and see what he described as 'a fine show'. And indeed, it was.

One of our judges commented on the 'consistently high quality' of the Helensburgh and Gareloch Horticultural Society Show, and I'm proud to be one of the number who triumphed (a bit) over the weather, slugs, snails,

deer and rabbits to grow something of beauty or utility.

There was a very good turnout, both from members and from the public who came to admire the produce and enjoy the superb home baking and teas.

While many prizes were won – deservedly so – by established stalwarts of the society, it was pleasant to see 'new blood' also winning prizes and cups.



We enticed a few more folks to join our happy crew on the day, and I know that they'll find a great deal of pleasure in the joys of our society – attending the talks, enjoying the company of fellow enthusiasts and, possibly, 'catching the bug' and putting their own entries in the show in years to come.

Adrienne Kerr

School Bulb Competition

Every September the Helensburgh and Gareloch Horticultural Society give spring flowering bulbs to about 600 local pupils in thirteen schools. Primary 4 pupils receive a Hyacinth 'Blue Jacket' and Primary 5 pupils three Narcissi 'Tete-a-Tete'. Included with the bulbs are a one litre pot, growing medium and instructions for growing.

The bulbs may be grown as part of a

classroom project or taken home to grow individually.

In February, to coincide with the schools half term the bulbs are displayed at Ardardan Walled Garden Nursery and judged. All students that return and display bulbs are given certificates, as are the individual winners.



Christine Hands
H&G Committee



Self-watering pot (see opposite)

Arran

The conversations between gardeners on Arran will no doubt be on a parallel with gardeners round the country. A mild winter going into spells of heavy rain, some gales, bits of frost et al. Heads nodding and shaking, hands spread, then wrung – but at the end of the day, fine. We had a good Spring show on the 30th March with the primary schools excelling again. The creativity displayed by the children was wonderful, especially in the class a decorated 'Easter Bonnet'. But the adults did very well also, other than perhaps a bit of a sprachle with the tulips.

The summer show on the 14th August held up well despite an horrendous downpour a few days prior. Like the spring show, the children again excelled, this time without the back-up of the schools. Perhaps the strongest section was the vegetables, but overall a good show with a record number of visitors.

The 'Community Land Initiative', continues to expand with great diversity and could well be a model for many small communities.

Our committee meets at the end of September to assess these shows, and start planning for next year in the knowledge that the 'seasons' as we knew them are virtually gone.

Now there's a challenge!

Best wishes from Arran.

**John Sillars,
Arran Horticultural Society**

Community Land Initiative

Having read John Sillars' account of the *Arran Community Land Initiative* (SGF Newsletter, Spring 2019), when visiting Arran in June we went to have a look at the Community Gardens resting on a shoulder of land overlooking Whiting Bay.

Growing organic produce is only one of several strands to their activities. They are making walking and cycling routes, encouraging wildlife, and propagating the Arran Whitebeam, which is an endangered tree.

At the Gardens, besides a large area of traditional allotments, there are two large polytunnels which are shared by the allotmenters.

All manner of clever contraptions are being used to grow luscious fruit and vegetables. Besides a variety of raised beds made with recycled wood, there was a suspended aluminium ladder supporting large pots growing strawberries and tomatoes (see below). One member had found a cunning way with old plastic milk bottles to make self-watering pots for growing his cabbages (see opposite).

The gardeners on site were very welcoming, so if you are in the area do go and have a look.

Alison Murison



The Caley's Grow and Learn Awards



HYG and Potters awards

HRH the Princess Royal.

- We were also delighted that one of our projects, Green Routes, and Angus McGibney, a participant from Potters Garden, were awarded The Caley's prestigious 'Certificate of Merit' at our annual awards ceremony this year.

Grow and Learn is The Caley's flagship learning opportunity, recognising individual progress and achievement in horticulture. Our awards are inclusive, individualised and offer life-skills based education for all, across Scotland. Since April, we have achieved the following:

- Presented a total of 48 awards to participants from 7 projects. These projects have included FE colleges, community gardens, NHS hospital settings, social care providers and training centres.
- Registered a further 11 new projects, including schools, training centres, social care providers a farm setting and residential care settings.
- Welcome our first ever participants from Shetland (Nathan and Callum) to register for our award. The boys will be undertaking the award in their own garden with support from their green fingered parents and grandparents.
- SRUC, Oatridge College (Pathways) and Balgreen Primary School represented Grow and Learn at the official opening of Saughton Park by

'Train the Trainer' sessions

With thanks to our funders RS MacDonald Trust we have delivered two Grow and Learn 'Train the Trainer' sessions, with a further two planned before December. Demand for this training has been exceptionally high and feedback very positive.

"Valuable in-depth session, great clarity about what to plan and how to evidence learning and assessment." (participant)

Grow and Learn projects visits to Greenbank Garden, Glasgow NTS

With support from the National Trust for Scotland (NTS) and volunteers George and Marie, we were able to facilitate a visit to Greenbank Garden, for two Grow and Learn projects based locally. On the day, Enable Scotland enjoyed an informative woodland tree ID session, guided by George Rowan. The group were also treated to a fascinating tour of the walled garden by NTS Head Gardener, Graham Duncan. The Richmond Fellowship also enjoyed the tranquillity of the garden, exploring



Martin from Richmond Fellowship

the sensory aspects of the plants and surrounding nature.

"I've never seen a garden like this before, the place was stunning and I felt good."
(Martin, Richmond Fellowship)

Grow and Learn in Nature (GLiN) at Saughton Park, Edinburgh

With thanks to our funders Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) (Outdoor Learning in Nature), since April, we have been developing and delivering GLiN to five participating local schools. Weekly sessions see a total of 48 pupils and up to 12 teachers and support workers enjoying learning outdoors at Saughton Park. Our aim is to connect pupils and teachers to the benefits



Grow and Learn in Nature

of learning outdoors, teaching new skills and connecting the Curriculum for Excellence in a practical way in the Park.

School staff also have the opportunity to get involved in our monthly CPD sessions, which aim to offer training and support in breaking down the barriers to learning outdoors. An important element of this work is also collaborating with school

staff and pupils to develop our new GLiN award and resource, ensuring that it is both relevant and fit for purpose. We anticipate that by 2020 GLiN will be fully launched to all projects and people interested in delivering our new horticultural award Scotland-wide.

"Grow and Learn in Nature not only focuses on the horticultural aspect of the Park but also the community and social connections. It includes learning about the seasonality of the Park, local history, biodiversity and nature."
(Shona Nelson, GLiN Facilitator)

Jean Gavin
Grow and Learn
Development Officer

Gifford Show



Gifford was blessed with fine weather for its 171st Annual Flower Show organised by the local Horticultural Society in August. Held in a marquee on the village green, the two-day show attracted exhibitors and visitors from far and wide and despite some testing summer weather we were rewarded with a spectacular show. The flowers and pot plants provided some stunning and colourful displays, and there was a large number of entries in the floral art section where a very high standard of exhibits was on show.

We were particularly pleased with the Junior Section for children under 16, not only because of the huge number of entries but also because of the high quality exhibits.

The show also featured a Scarecrow Competition, a children's Dog Show (organised by local Rotarians), a plant stall selling plants donated by members, face-painting, musical entertainment – and, of course, delicious afternoon teas served in the Village Hall!

It was a very busy and satisfying weekend for a large number of volunteers – and plans have already begun for next year's event on 15th and 16th August 2020.

**Joe Clark, President
Gifford Horticultural Society**

Gifford HS Programme 2019-2020

All talks take place in Gifford Village Hall, usually on Wednesdays at 7.30pm

9 October

Colin Wren,

NTS Gardens & Designed Landscapes

13 November

AGM and Horticulture Quiz

Quizmaster – Joe Clark,

GHS President

8 January at 2.30pm

George Anderson – Travels in Chile

12 February

John Marshall – Tattie Talk

11 March

Richard Baines – Logan Botanic Garden

– Scotland's Most Exotic Garden

Saturday 16 May 2020 at 10.00am

Annual Plant Sale in the Village Hall

Sunday 12 July 2020 at 1pm

Gardens of Gifford open under the
Scotland's Garden Scheme

Saturday 15 & Sunday 16 August 2020

Annual Gifford Flower Show

The Kilwinning Garden Awards Return

After over a decade away, the Kilwinning Garden Awards are back with the Horticultural Society (KHS) in partnership with the Kilwinning Community Council (KCC). The main aim of resurrecting this is to promote gardening for all ages and enable local people to take pride in their community. We promoted the event on social media and the local press and the initial response was overwhelming. We received 68 nominations in a short period prior to the deadline, with four categories to apply for:

Best Front Garden

Best Back Garden

Best Vegetable Garden

Best Community Garden

The rules were straight forward: the gardener and garden must reside in the town and the garden must be personally maintained. Application forms were available online or from the local library. Two committee members from each organisation, myself and my wife Grace (Treasurer of KHS) with Nairn and Aaron McDonald of the KCC, judged the gardens out of 10 points for each of Design, Diversity, Upkeep and Visual Impact, a total score out of 40 points.

The weather was in our favour on judging day – the previous few days were awful and we took that into consideration – and there were some outstanding gardens to visit:

32 on the final day.

All winners were awarded their trophies and certificates at the KHS annual Flower Show on the 29th August by a local community champion (aged 97) who has dedicated her life in just about every club and society in our home town. She is also very passionate about our Local Heritage Society.

We have received a lot of positive feedback from all the keen gardeners we spoke to, are and very hopeful for even more interest next year.

It has been a pleasure to help kick-start this annual community event, after a long absence, and we would like to say a special thanks to the KCC for their support, engagement and help in organising this event. Let's hope that it carries on for many years to come.

James Burns

Show Secretary

Kilwinning Horticultural Society



Nairn Schools' Pallet Challenge 2019

The morning started for the judges of the Schools' Pallet Challenge, organised by Nairn and District Gardening Club, with an encounter with a Hielan' Coo and ended at the Mad Hatter's tea party. In addition, our palates were tempted by a fine selection of herbs and other edible plants all nurtured with great enthusiasm by the young gardeners.

At Millbank, the members of the school gardening club had clearly been inspired by Steven Brown's artwork, specifically the rainbow colours of his McCoo. The cow's face was centre stage in the pallet and alpines around the outside provided definition and set the animal in the context of rugged terrain. Pink begonia and bacopa were very effective as the cow's forelock. Curved pieces of wood represented the long horns and

the muzzle was formed from alpine grit. This was a highly enterprising entry and an excellent take on this iconic beast.

The gardening club was again very pleased to have an entry from Junior World. Their theme this year was 'We love our planet' and it conveyed a strong environmental message. Plastic bottles had been recycled and planted with French marigolds. The garden represented the earth's surface with cress, lettuces, radishes and beetroot forming the continents while blue ageratum represented the oceans. In addition, to this being a highly topical theme, Junior World had been awarded their first green flag by Keep Scotland Beautiful and were keen to celebrate this achievement.

At Croy, the focus turned to matters culinary and the judges were shown a

wood fired pizza pallet. The crust of the pizza had been represented by split logs arranged in a circle. Tomato, basil and parsley plants peeped up between the slats of the pallet and provided the topping of the pizza. Wedges of wood represented the cheese. This was an original entry although the judges felt that the pizza could have been spiced up by the inclusion of more plants.

Cawdor's entry had involved a whole P4/P5 class and had started with each pupil



Millbank

drawing a design for a garden. Highlights from the individual plans were then amalgamated to form their 'Natural Garden'. This had a small pond constructed from pieces of slate as the centrepiece and four flower beds filled with lavender, allysum, potentilla and chamomile. The judges were impressed by this well constructed entry and the fact that it had captured the interest of the entire class.

Auldearn had used their topic on Farming and Growing as the stimulus



Rosebank



Aldearn

for their vegetable garden. The P1 class had suggested the vegetables and they had grown lettuce, parsley, carrots, beans, cabbage, kale and sweetcorn very successfully from seed. The pallet was beautifully presented with labels and artwork produced by P5 around the edge. What better way to encourage children to eat their greens and other coloured vegetables!

On arrival at Rosebank, the judges were consumed by the magic of the Mad Hatter's tea party. The pallet was

brimful with a profusion of mixed annuals grown from seed. A tea table formed the centre piece with large coloured cups planted with dianthus and violas. The crowning glory was the Hatter's topper complete with price tag. The artwork surrounding the pallet was impressive and the finishing touch was the looking glass at the back.

We awarded the first prize to Rosebank, with Millbank a very close second. Cawdor's entry was placed third. The gardens from Auldearn, Croy and Junior World were highly commended. The Nairn Gardening Club is most appreciative of the financial award from Scottish Gardeners' Forum which has enabled us to give generous prize money to the participating schools. The trophy will be presented at The Annual Show, which this year is taking place on Saturday, 24th August at Nairn Community and Arts Centre.

Anne Vincent
Nairn and District
Gardening Club



Cawdor



Junior World

Keep Beechgrove Garden on Air



Beechgrove

The BBC moved the highly popular Beechgrove from BBC2 first to BBC Scotland and then OFF AIR for two months over the summer growing season, although the team made a noble effort to keep gardeners informed by posting video clips, photos and text on Facebook and elsewhere.

This move was most unwelcome for many of us, and if you agree you may like to sign the online petition at

you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/keep-beechgrove-garden-on-air/

"A show which has celebrated 40 years of popularity and still attracts viewers worldwide should not be removed from our screens during the peak season for gardeners. Their gap of almost 2 months is completely unacceptable!" it says.

If there are enough signatures to this petition, it will trigger a response from Government. Meantime you may want to write to your MSP or MP.

Alison Murison

Badenoch Gardening Club Show Winners



*Back L to R: Beth Alder, Sheila Friend, Sue Thomas, Lynne Munro, Lynda Dodd, Ann Connolly, Adeline Balharry, Valerie Macpherson, Laura Pierce.
Front: Fiona McGill and Rory McGill*

North Berwick Gardening Club Autumn Show

The show was held in the North Berwick Community Centre on the evening of 29th August and members excelled themselves; despite encountering drought, monsoon, and the usual gale force winds, they put on a glorious, extremely colourful show of flowers and produce. The hall was at bursting point; literally every table that could be found in the community centre was used.

In total, 157 entries were received, with the class for "Three Stems - Hydrangea" being the most popular (below), closely



followed by the displays of "Mixed Garden Flowers in a Jam Jar" and "Three Stems of Flowering or Berried Shrubs". Other highlights included displays of some excellent begonias and pelargoniums.

We were also delighted to see entries

from local children of Law Primary School. Two classes were dedicated to them: the best decorated vegetable and a jam jar of garden flowers and foliage. For the first time this year, free sunflower seedlings were distributed to primary aged children at both the Gardening Club plant sale and the North Berwick in Bloom tulip tea. The challenge was to send a photo of the tallest sunflowers to the Autumn show. The winning sunflower was a magnificent 2.6m

Whilst the judging was being conducted in the main hall, members old and new were entertained by taking part in a gardening quiz testing both horticultural and local knowledge. It was fun and informative, everyone a winner here!

Exhibitors entered the hall to admire all the exhibits, also to discover how their entries had fared. As well as many members delighted to find they had a first, second or third in class, there were four trophies awarded.

Congratulations to Ian Bowie who was awarded the John Wightman Cup

for the most first prizes overall.

The Sir Hew Hamilton Dalrymple Trophy for first in class with the most entries was awarded to Sheila Montgomery for her hydrangea exhibit. The Rose Bowl for the Best indoor



Pot Plant went to Nan Howe for her outstanding orchid.
Claudia Gehrig retained her trophy, the North Berwick and District Horticultural Society Cup for Best in Show, with a varied and full crate of

beautiful vegetables. (above)
You can catch up with our activities and view our programme for 2019/20 at www.northberwickhortisoc.com

**Cathie Wright, Vice Chair
North Berwick Gardening Club**

Re-opening Saughton Park, Edinburgh

On 6th June 2019, HRH the Princess Royal, Patron of the Caley, re-opened Saughton Park after its complete redesign and refurbishment.
Right: Pam Whittle introduces Caley Council member Jasmin Cann, who created the planting plan, volunteering her professional skills.



Re-opening Saughton Park, Edinburgh (Continued)



The Princess admired the bandstand, looking magnificent after its refurbishment. It was found filthy and in pieces, lurking in a City of Edinburgh Council warehouse.

Below, Andrew presents a posie.



Regional Co-Ordinators



North	Ann Vincent, Nairn and District HS north@scottishgardenersforum.org.uk
North East	Tom Campbell, Brighter Bervie northeast@scottishgardenersforum.org.uk
East	Kathryn Pitts, Penicuik HS east@scottishgardenersforum.org.uk
Fife	Mike Rossi fife@scottishgardenersforum.org.uk
Lothian	<i>Vacancy</i>
West Central	Andrea McDowall, Kirkintilloch HS westcentral@scottishgardenersforum.org.uk
West	Veronica Davis west@scottishgardenersforum.org.uk



Your Council

Honorary President:

Jim McColl

Honorary Vice-President:

Jim Jermyn

Acting Chair:

Kathryn Pitts (Penicuik HS)

chair@scottishgardenersforum.org.uk

Vice Chair:

Mike Rossi

Secretary: Kathryn Pitts (Penicuik HS)

secretary@scottishgardenersforum.org.uk

Treasurer:

Andrea McDowall (Kirkintilloch HS)

treasurer@scottishgardenersforum.org.uk

Membership Secretary:

Mrs Mike Rossi (Scottish Bonsai Association)

98 Main Street, Coaltown of Balgonie,

Glenrothes, Fife KY7 6HZ

Tel: 01592 771541

membership@scottishgardenersforum.org.uk

Registers (Speakers and Judges):

Veronica Davis (Helensburgh and Gareloch HS)

registers@scottishgardenersforum.org.uk

Council Members:

Ann Burns (Oatridge College)

Tom Campbell (Brighter Bervie)

Alison Murison (The Caley)

John Smith (Pallet Garden & Planter/Gardening Scotland)

Anne Vincent (Nairn and District Horticultural Society)

Newsletter Editor:

Alison Murison

editor@scottishgardenersforum.org.uk

www.scottishgardenersforum.org.uk



Scottish Gardeners' Forum

PROMOTING SCOTLAND'S GARDEN CLUBS

AGM and Forum

2nd November 2019

10am to 4pm

**Symington Suite, Lanark Agricultural Centre,
Hyndford Rd, Lanark ML11 9AX**



Speakers:

**Anne Armstrong and
Duncan Arthur**

*Clyde Valley Orchard
Cooperative*

Kirsty Wilson

*Head of Herbaceous,
Royal Botanic Garden
Edinburgh*

Beechgrove Garden

Stuart Richie and

Melissa Reilly

Castlebank Park, Lanark

To register please send £15 per person

(includes lunch and refreshments) to:

Andrea McDowall, 29 Second Avenue, Auchinloch, G66 5DZ

Cheques should be made payable to Scottish Gardeners Forum.

(NB SGF is not good enough for the bank)