

Beautiful Scotland & It's Your Neighbourhood Newsletter

February 2016

Scottish UK finalists

We are delighted to announce that the following groups will represent Scotland in the 2016 'Britain in Bloom with the RHS' final this year: [Dufftown in Bloom](#); [Growing Smarter, Granite City Aberdeen](#); [Blooming Haddington](#); [Beautiful Perth](#); and [Bute in Bloom](#).

You can find out more [here](#). Congratulations to everyone involved in these entries, and we wish you all the best for this year.



2015 – what a fantastic year

We have pulled together the stats, looked through your feedback...and you all deserve a massive thank you for the amazing work you and your groups' volunteers carry out to make your communities the vibrant, clean and green places they are – between you all, you donated over 200,000 hours of your time last year!



Highlights for 2015 can be found [here](#). If anyone would like a high resolution version of this emailed, please contact juliette.camburn@keepscotlandbeautiful.org

Registration for 2016

Both Beautiful Scotland and It's Your Neighbourhood are annual campaigns, so don't miss out on being supported, getting national recognition, and being part of the network. On-line registration is now open!

Click [here](#) to register for Beautiful Scotland

Click [here](#) to register for It's Your Neighbourhood.

Regional workshops

[For It's Your Neighbourhood groups](#)

There will be three regional workshops in April for groups registered, or interested in community growing. These will be free to attend (2 people per group - must be booked in advance – and on a first come, first served basis) and will include advice on sustaining the work of your group; planting; activities to increase community participation; and a chance to meet other groups from your region and find out about the support and resources available from Keep Scotland Beautiful, RHS Scotland, and the local authority. Workshop details:

Timings: 9.45am – 4.30pm

12 April: Aberdeen

13 April: Dundee

Date & location TBC: Glasgow / the west.

To find out more and to book your places, please email juliette.camburn@keepscotlandbeautiful.org

[For Beautiful Scotland groups](#)

There will be three regional workshops in May for groups registered in the Beautiful Scotland campaign. These will be free to attend (2 people per group – must be booked in advance) and again, these will include

advice for creating your tour, presentation and portfolio; a chance to meet other groups and share ideas; and a chance to meet some of the judges. Workshop details:

Timings: approx. 10am - 3pm

25 May: Uddingston, South Lanarkshire

Date TBC: Cupar, Fife

Date TBC: Aberdeen

To find out more and to book your places, please email juliette.camburn@keepscotlandbeautiful.org

Thanks to our judges and assessors

On the 21 January, we held an afternoon tea for our wonderful volunteer judges and assessors, who between them donated over 2,000 hours of their time to ensure the campaigns were a success last year.

When asked why she volunteers, Lorna Graham from Aberdeen City Council said: "I deal with quite a lot of negativity in my work. Volunteering for It's Your Neighbourhood is a great opportunity to get out and meet people who are positive and are doing great work in our communities."

The 50th logo

East Haven Together, a Beautiful Scotland group in Angus, has added the 50th logo to its website – which we think looks great.

Visit www.easthavenangus.com/385962721 to get some inspiration of how you could use the logo too – available by emailing beautifulscotland@keepscotlandbeautiful.org



Keep Scotland Beautiful News

[Get more from your Clean Up events](#)

Litter Pick Plus is a new innovation in the [Clean Up Scotland](#) campaign, which looks at all of the additional factors that link together to make an area clean and green. We have developed a [toolkit](#) which has been designed to assist you to get even more out of your Clean Ups. It offers suggestions on how to add extra activities to your Clean Ups, how to communicate about your events and how to turn these into an effective local campaign. Find out more [here](#).

Do you need any litter picking equipment? If you order before the end of March you will receive an extra 15% off the prices quoted on our equipment order forms available [here](#) – please quote the discount code: CLEAN16 when ordering.

RHS Update

[RHS support](#)

As part of this year's Britain in Bloom campaign, the RHS is looking for community gardening projects which benefit local health and wellbeing. You might be using gardening to bring new groups together and reduce social exclusion, to encourage outdoor activity in the fresh air, reconnect people with seasonal food or simply promote good mental health.

The RHS will select a number of projects from around the UK, providing hands-on gardening support as well as up to £500 worth of materials. To find out more about the opportunity and to put your project forwards, visit the RHS [website](#). Deadline for applications is 22 February.

The RHS also has a fantastic on-line hub for groups taking part in Beautiful Scotland and It's Your Neighbourhood groups – click [here](#) to explore.



The Caley Update

The Caledonian Gardener

Members of the Caley receive a glossy annual Journal called The Caledonian Gardener. The 2016 edition included a wonderful article on the 50th year and the Beautiful Scotland and It's Your Neighbourhood campaigns, and is packed full of beautiful images from communities throughout Scotland. You can view the full article [here](#), and find out about membership [here](#).



The Caley Grow and Learn is a horticultural award scheme that recognises individual progress and achievement through experiential learning and personal development. The award offers the learner a structured framework to work within, but is also flexible enough to ensure a person centred approach at all times, making the award ideally suited for those with a learning disability or complex learning need. Read the first newsletter [here](#), and find out more about the scheme [here](#).

Events, Activities, Advice, and Information

Getting your community growing finances well-rooted

25 February, 10-2.30pm. Central Edinburgh A practical workshop for people who are responsible for managing the finances of their organisation or project. It is aimed at small and medium sized groups, and will help you make sure your finances are 'well-rooted' to enable your garden to grow. Find out more and book [here](#).

Growing Well Together

3 March, 10-4pm. North Glasgow Homes, Saracen House, 139 Saracen Street, Glasgow, G22 5AZ This event of presentations, garden tours and workshops will share best practice and collaboration between community gardens, the NHS and other health care services. The event is organised in partnership between Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens and NHS, with support from Urban Roots, Growing Together, Ng Homes, and Concrete Garden. Find out more and book [here](#).

Pass it on Week 5-11 March

Scotland's annual week to encourage keeping things in use for as long as possible by passing on, swapping, sharing or donating things you no longer use. Find out about the support and resources available [here](#).

Trellis Annual Conference

11 March. The Bield at Blackruthven and Southton Smallholding, Perth. You can now book your place and find out more about this inspiring and action packed day [here](#).

Community Gardening Networking Day

22 March 10-4pm. The Grove Nursery, Aberdeen. Organised by the Federation of City Farm's and Community Garden's, this event includes a get together and tour of the innovative and exciting Grove Nursery project. Take part in some fun and practical skill sharing taster sessions. [Book here](#)

greenspace scotland - working with you

greenspace scotland can help you in a range of ways: transforming your spaces using Community Placemaking; preparing plans for urban greening or climate-proofing your community; or creating a growing map of your town to find new places to grow fruit and veg. If you are interested in working with [greenspace scotland](#) (on these or other projects), [email](#) or telephone 01786 849757 to find out about the services, support and training that the organisation can provide to help you make a difference to your greenspace, street, neighbourhood, town or city.

Garden bioblitz

Ever wondered what is actually living in and using your green areas and gardens? Then why not take part in a 'Garden Bioblitz' over the weekend of 4-5 June. Find out what it's all about and how to get involved [here](#).

Community Events in Renfrewshire

There are lots of interesting community growing events happening all over Renfrewshire – click [here](#) to explore.

[Scottish Government's Climate Change campaign](#)

View the Scottish Government's Climate Change video, which is being shown on TV, at cinemas and on social media, [here](#).

Funding Opportunities & Resources

[New funding for local groups in Mid Scotland and Fife](#)

Active Communities is a funding programme for not-for-profit groups with an income of less than £350,000 a year, or an average of £350,000 over two years, seeking investment of between £5,000 and £50,000 for projects lasting up to two years. Projects could be almost anything that encourages strong connections between people, and that help people to make their communities or neighbourhoods even better places to grow, live, work and age. People's Health Trust which is running the fund, is looking for small and local projects, genuinely designed and run by local people. Find out more [here](#). Deadline 16 March.

[Action Earth Grants](#)

Any group of volunteers can apply for Action Earth grants of between £50-250 to run environmental activities in Scotland's green spaces. This could include creating or improving wildflower meadows, ponds, woodlands or community gardens. There are also grants available for Local Nature Reserves. Find out more [here](#).

[Community Path Grants](#)

Does your group have a great paths project idea but does not have the finances to carry out the work? If the answer is "yes" then Paths for All can help you. The charity is offering individual grants of up to £1,500 to help community groups improve, maintain and promote their local community paths. Find out more [here](#).

[Help with fundraising](#)

Resourcing Scotland's Heritage has a number of events which explore the seven steps of fundraising; how to develop an effective fundraising strategy for your group; and advice on how to secure corporate sponsorship. For further details, click [here](#).

[Environmental grants from Greggs Foundation](#)

Greggs Foundation aims to make a difference to people in need at the heart of their local communities. It has a number of funds which aim to address the needs of disadvantaged local communities. A new programme with small grants of up to £2,500 and large grants up to £10,000 is now open. Find out more [here](#).

[Support & resources for woodlands](#)

Making Local Woods Work is an exciting pilot project working to help support and grow woodland-based social enterprises across the UK. The project is led by the Plunkett Foundation and involves a range of partners. The Foundation is now accepting expressions of interest for this project. Find out more [here](#).

[Community Learning Exchange Programme](#)

Members of the Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens can apply for up to £750 to visit other groups on a learning exchange. Those hosting receive £300 for their time. The fund has now been extended so that visits can be carried out up until June 2016 as long as applications are received and processed before 31 March. To find out how to become a member, click [here](#), and contact ally@farmgarden.org.uk to apply and discuss.

Your stories

[Carnoustie Clean Up campaigner congratulated](#)

Rod McLeod from Carnoustie, who provides ongoing guidance, encouragement and support to the Beautiful Scotland group East Haven Together, has received the prestigious Clean Up Scotland 'Hero of the month' award in recognition of his continued commitment to keeping his local community litter free. Read the full story [here](#).



[Dundee's 2015 UK finals experience](#)

Following on from its success at the 2014 Beautiful Scotland Awards, Dundee was invited to take part in the UK 'Britain in Bloom with the RHS' campaign in 2015. The entry into the campaign offered Dundee in Bloom the opportunity to showcase the fantastic partnership working in the City and show off Dundee's wonderful setting on the banks of the River Tay.



The three main partners in the Britain in Bloom campaign were Dundee City Council, [Broughty Ferry in Bloom](#) and [Bonnie Dundee](#). All three share a common vision of improving the environment for all, creating Greener Streets and Better Lives through working together, involving others and just getting out and doing it! This partnership working adds value to the campaign and engages a wide cross section of our communities.

Read the full story [here](#), including insights into the judging day, the work of the three partners, and why Dundee is officially the Best City in the UK!



Keep Scotland Beautiful is the charity that campaigns, acts and educates on a range of local, national and global environmental issues to change behaviour and improve the quality of people's lives and the places they care for. We are committed to making Scotland clean, green and more sustainable.

Find out more at
keepsotlandbeautiful.org

