



Britain in Bloom Judging Day.
August 2016

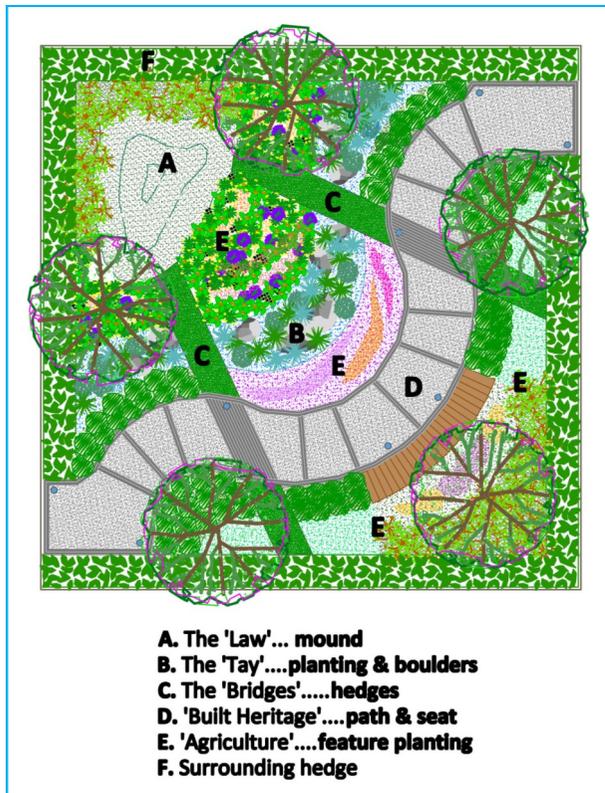
INTRODUCTION

Welcome to our entry for the 2016 Beautiful Scotland Campaign. Bonnie Dundee, which is a partnership of Dundee City Council, community groups, organisations and individuals in the city, continues to support Dundee's entry into the City category. Dundee had great success last year in the 2015 Britain in Bloom Finals, being awarded overall winner in the City category and the University of Dundee receiving the Environmental Award.

Bonnie Dundee has been busy throughout the year, working in partnership with other businesses, individuals and groups to help improve the built and natural environment of Dundee. Projects have ranged from litter picks and tree planting sessions to growing on plants in their shared poly tunnel for the group's It's Your Neighbourhood Container Garden Project. This year, thanks to funding from Tesco 'Bags of Help' the group will have a garden in the new Slessor Gardens called 'Reflections of Dundee' as part of the Dundee Waterfront Development.

The annual Garden and Allotment Competition continues to be popular with the local residents, businesses, allotment holders and schools in the city. This year a 'Best Kept Close' competition has been introduced to encourage residents to work together with their neighbours. The group has also been active in supporting Dundee's Take Pride in Your City campaign.

We hope that you enjoy our portfolio which shows you a sample of the many projects and groups in Dundee.



The design for the Bonnie Dundee Group's garden at the new Slessor Gardens.



HORTICULTURAL ACHIEVEMENT

AUTUMN/WINTER



Harvest time at Whorterbank Tattie Patch. October 2015



The Bonnie Dundee group working in their poly tunnel. October 2015



As part of the development of the new Harris Academy on Perth Road, major landscaping and planting has taken place.



Overgate Shopping Centre corner bed. September 2015

One of the youngest members of Douglas Community Garden helping to harvest parsnips. February 2016



Dundee Urban Orchard pruning training day. January 2016



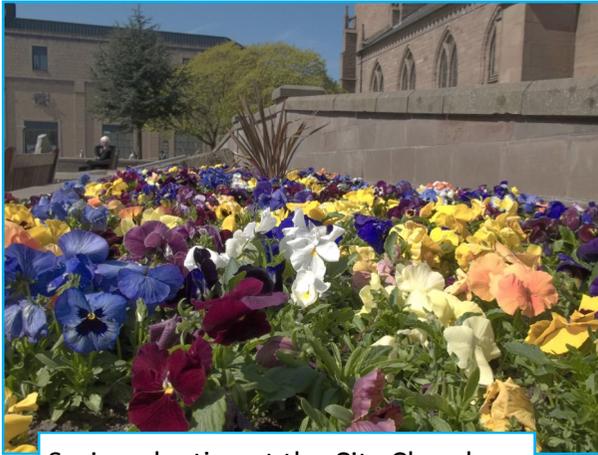
Over the first weekend in September, the annual Dundee Flower and Food Festival is held at Camperdown Park. The three day extravaganza includes a packed programme of cookery demonstrations, children's activities, a craft fair, live music and much more.

In the Floral Marquee, visitors can enjoy stunning displays of top-class cut flowers, along with wonderful examples of floral art. Local community groups can also show off their horticultural expertise in the pallet garden competition.



HORTICULTURAL ACHIEVEMENT

SPRING



Spring planting at the City Churches (above) and West Marketgait (right). April 2016



The Bonnie Dundee group's spring clean of their planters and at work in their poly tunnel. March and April 2016



Green Flag Awards

Four sites in Dundee received a Green Flag Award in 2015, Baxter Park, Templeton Woods, Barnhill Rock Garden and Trottick Mill Ponds LNR. The four sites were judged again this year and the outcome will be announced this summer.

Internal Green Flag Sites

Dundee City Council carries out 'Internal Green Flag' assessments on a number of Dundee's public parks and open spaces. Using the criteria from the Green Flag Awards, these assessments act as a bench marking tool. Each rating provides an evidence base for demonstrating continued improvement and ensures a consistent standard so that over time every area within the city boundary has public parks and open spaces of excellent quality.



Daffodils at Drumgeith. March 2016



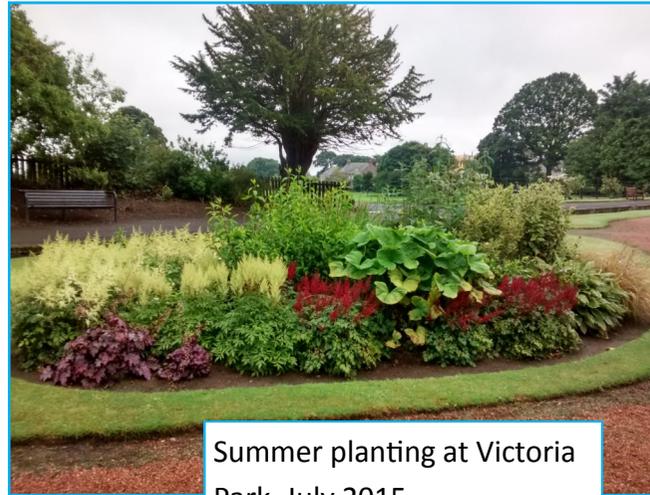
Bonnie Dundee planter at Dundee Science Centre. April 2016

HORTICULTURAL ACHIEVEMENT

SUMMER



Urban Orchard and Wildflowers at Dundee Science Centre. August 2015



Summer planting at Victoria Park. July 2015



Edible planters in City Square being enjoyed by some of Dundee's youngest residents. August 2015.

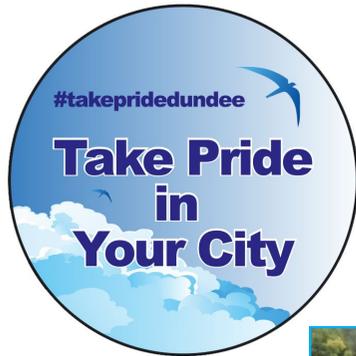


Wildflower displays at Crescent Lane (above) and West Marketgait (right). July 2015



New sustainable planting at the Dundee Waterfront Development. June 2016





ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

There are currently 70 schools and nurseries in Dundee registered with the Eco-Schools programme, of which 9 have a Green Flag.

Clean Up of the Dighty Burn by the Dundee Conservation volunteers. October 2015



Ahmadiyya Muslim Youth Association held a New Year's Day litter pick (left) on the Law and Dundee University kept up the good work with a campus litter pick in February 2016 (above).

The 'Take Pride in Your City Campaign', launched in May 2015, aims to encourage Dundee's residents, schools and businesses to work together to help improve the city as a cleaner and safer place to live, work and visit. The campaign focuses on the five key themes of litter, dog fouling, graffiti, fly-tipping and discarded chewing gum. Initiatives to improve the city's environment are encouraged and supported.

A lot of great work has been done since the campaign launched with lots of new opportunities for residents to get involved in their local area. We hope that the second year of the campaign will see even more of Dundee's residents taking part.



The Friends of Dudhope Park and members of the Gate Church held a litter pick in Dudhope Park. May 2016



Litter picks and clean up events have been held by community groups and individuals throughout Dundee. Nine have been registered with Clean Up Scotland since August 2015, we hope to continue this great work during the next year and get even more people involved.

Dog Walking

A number of initiatives have been introduced in Dundee to promote responsible dog walking. The Professional Dog Walkers Scheme launched this spring and a Green Dog Walkers Scheme will be launched later in the year. A 'Taking the Lead' leaflet outlining the best places to take your dog for a walk and the dog walkers responsibilities has been produced and a series of Doggy Health Trails have been developed.



Recycling plastic bottles at Craigebarns Nursery. June 2016

The Council is committed to sustainable waste and recycling practices, and has given a commitment to sign up to the recently published National Charter for Household Recycling. To this end, the Council has revised its waste and recycling collection methodology which is designed to meet the requirements of the new code of practice. This new service methodology will be implemented over the next year.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY



Children from the Laughter Club at Whorterbank with the bird box they made. March 16



Bonnie Dundee tree planting at Middleton Wood (above) and the Friends of Riverside Nature Park hedge planting (right). March 2016



Kingspark School tree planting. December 2015



The University of Dundee has an excellent record for recycling and sustainability. In June 2016 they were awarded a Cycle Friendly Campus Award with distinction by Cycling Scotland (above) and opened a fully accessible Cycling Hub, complete with an inner tube vending machine and bike repair stand (left). June 2016



COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION



Graffiti Wall being created during WestFest, an annual community led celebration. June 2016



Local residents at the Whorterbank Tattie Patch. August 2015



In 2016, six groups in Dundee registered with It's Your Neighbourhood.



Local primary school children mini-beast hunting and sampling harvested rhubarb at The Maxwell Centre. May 2016



A selection of children's competition entries in the Children's Marquee at the Dundee Flower & Food Festival. September 2015



Members of Greenbuds clearing vegetation at Riverside Nature Park. December 2015

As part of the Dundee Law Heritage Project a Community Participation Officer has been employed to strengthen links with the local community, to develop events and increase the educational value of the site.



Dundee Law Community Celebration Day. June 2016

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION



Members of Craigowl Communities at their first harvest. June 2016



HM Frigate Unicorn staff and volunteers filling their summer planters. May 2016



Community celebrations at Celebration in the Park in Baxter Park (August 2015) and WestFest on Magdalen Green (June 2016).

The Wildlife Club and Dundee Countryside Ranger Service controlling invasive species at Templeton Woods. February 2016



HM Frigate Unicorn staff and volunteers filling their summer planters. May 2016



STV news camera visiting Douglas Community Garden. August 2015



The Or Wullie Bucket Trail is a public art project on display over the summer. Members of the public are encouraged to find the 55 sculptures in the parks, streets and open spaces throughout the city, including the Dundee Law. June 2016



Entries to the School & Nursery Garden Competition. June 2016



Roundabout Sponsorship

The Roundabout Sponsorship Scheme is assisting in directing investment into upgrading roundabout planting, there are currently 23 sponsored roundabouts in the city.



Construction of Bonnie Dundee's 'Reflections of Dundee' garden at Slessor Gardens. June 2016

Tesco Bags of Help Funding

Money raised from the 5p carrier bag charge in Tesco stores is available to fund community environmental projects. In spring 2016 both the Bonnie Dundee Group and the Friends of Riverside Nature Park were awarded funding.

The Bonnie Dundee Group were awarded £12,000 for a garden at Slessor Gardens in Dundee's new Waterfront Development. The 'Reflections of the Tay' garden will be an area for locals and visitors alike to enjoy.

The Friends of Riverside Nature Park were awarded £10,000 to build Accessible Composting Toilets at Riverside Nature Park. The toilets, which are due to be installed in August 2016 will be eco-friendly and sustainable and will improve the comfort of the park's many visitors who come to enjoy this wonderful site.

FINANCE



Dundee Law Heritage Project

The Dundee Law Heritage Project is a two year Heritage Lottery funded initiative to make improvements to this iconic Dundee landmark. Work has already been carried out to improve access to the site and a Community Participation Officer has been employed to increase links with the local community and recreational use of the site.

Improving access, recently refurbished steps on the Dundee Law. June 2016



Flow and Tone at Dudhope Park. June 2016



Coca-Cola's ParkLives are working with Leisure and Culture Dundee to offer a programme of free activities for all ages. The scheme launched in May 2016 in six of Dundee's parks; Baxter Park, Castle Green, Camperdown Park, South Road Park, Dawson Park and Dudhope Park.



PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Dundee Law Heritage Project

This two year project includes a range of enhancements to the Law as well as measures to encourage recreational use of the site by the people of Dundee.

Future plans include the thinning of trees to open out views, new signage and wildflower planting on some of the slopes. There will also be an exciting new digital project on a custom built website giving digital views around and perhaps even inside the Law.

As part of the Neighbourhood Services review, capital funding has been allocated in 2016/17 to allow major landscape improvement projects covering three housing estates in the east of the city; Wellgate, Crescent Lane and Watson Street. Work is to begin in Autumn 2016.



Dundee City Council is continuing to make major investments in the environment through the development of the Waterfront Project.

The Dundee Fairness Commission's May 2016 report, 'A Fair Way to Go' recommended increasing community gardens and projects for low cost food and to create social and community connections. In Financial Year 2016/17 the Council has committed £100,000 to the creation of community gardens.



Green Flag Awards

A Green Flag Award application will be submitted for the Dundee Law with a view to it becoming Dundee's fifth Green Flag site.

The Council is currently finalising the development of a reed bed area at Riverside to assist with future sustainable disposal of post-collected street sweepings.

The construction of the Regional Performance Sports Centre at Caird Park provides the city with the opportunity to extend the woodland planting in the area, improve core paths, and improve landscaping and biodiversity at Den o' Mains.



A Green Dog Walkers Scheme, in which volunteer dog walkers act as good ambassadors to encourage other dog walkers to clean up after their dog, will begin in Dundee later this year.



Sustainable planting at the City Churches. April 2016

Bonnie Dundee and the Council are working together to access funding to replace the existing trees in their Union Street planters.

APPENDIX

Dundee residents urged to Take Pride in woods

BY CONNOR MCCANN

DUNDEE residents have been urged to Take Pride in the area's woodlands amid fears dogs and horses could be injured by rubbish.

Animal lovers recently took a 'four-legged' walk through Templeton Woods as part of the Take Pride in Your City campaign.

This month's theme of the project, which is led by the council and backed by the Tele, is focusing on the city centre and also the woodlands. The four-legged event highlighted the dangers of leaving rubbish in parks and the countryside, with posing a threat to dogs, horses and other wildlife.

Ruby McLaughlin, who works at the Murhead Stables, said keeping the countryside clean helped create a 'better image' for Dundee.

"The 19-year-old from Ardeer said: 'It is really important that people make a conscious effort to keep the countryside clean and unspoiled by rubbish being around. As well as being harmful to the environment, it also brings down the area's woodland beauty.'"



Dog walkers and horse riders at Templeton Woods as part of the Take Pride in Your City campaign.

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'Best close' contest launched

A BID to find the city's best kept close has been launched by Dundee City Council.

Incorporated as part of the annual garden and allotment competition, the new category will recognise the pride and interest neighbours take in their stairs, landings and other communal areas.

Launching the contest, John Alexander, convener of Dundee City Council's neighbourhood services committee, said: "The garden and allotment competitions have proved in past years to be a great way to encourage the community, including schools, tenants, home owners and businesses to take pride and interest in their local environment."

"Adding the best kept close category this year will boost that interest and hopefully capture the imagination of the great number of Dundonians who live in tenements."

An entry form is available from libraries, community centres and other public buildings as well as online at dundee.gov.uk/outtakepride Dundee, closing date July 22.

From moths and trees to camouflage, a special event will highlight the wonders of biodiversity in Dundee this weekend.

During what will be the first in a year-long programme of Meet the Expert events at Dundee Science Centre, Bug, Botany and Biodiversity will bring together a host of local experts to discuss the different types of life found in and around the city.

There will be an array of hands-on activities and fun workshops throughout the day. Visitors can investigate the mimicking skills of moths, branch out with tree study and discover the diversity of our world within Dundee and beyond.

Experts will include Dundee University STEM Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics ambassador Laura Jeacock and Geoff Squire from the James Hutton Institute.

Laura will deliver a minibeast workshop, while Geoff will take a closer look at life under the microscope and decoding biodiversity in the Tayside area.

Keep countryside clean

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AHMADI Muslim Youth volunteers carried out a clean-up of Dundee Law on New Year's Day following the winter festivities.

Youth group cleans up the Law



The AMYA members with their bin collections.

Biodiversity explored in Dundee

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Laura will deliver a minibeast workshop, while Geoff will take a closer look at life under the microscope and decoding biodiversity in the Tayside area.

Activities, which will run regularly between 11am and 4pm, are included as part of normal admission to Dundee Science Centre.

Rebecca Erskine, exhibition and community engagement manager, said: "We are part of a living planet that plays host to a range of plants, animals, and more besides."

City gardening plans

A COMMUNITY gardening group has revealed major plans to make the city even more beautiful.

Off the back of its recent AGM Dundee City Council, will be one of the first green spaces people will be able to see when crossing the City Road bridge and entering the city.

By Dundee City Council, will be one of the first green spaces people will be able to see when crossing the City Road bridge and entering the city.

The report says that the quality of public spaces in the city was assessed and they were well maintained. Being close to the city and near the city back in Angus, judges named Dundee as the most beautiful city in Scotland.

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Slessor Gardens spruced up

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Baxter Park in the running for major improvements

Dundee is looking to boost sustainability and demonstrate that edible planting can be functional and attractive.

The Dundee Urban Orchard (DUO) volunteers have been planting on Slessor Gardens, with help from Dundee City Council.

The group plan to have six Scottish heritage apple trees, eight varieties of herbs and a number of different types of soft fruits on the allotment.

The group have been inspired in their choices by the farmyards of Angus and berry growing in the Cairns of Gowrie.

All of the plants have been supplied by the group, and the work has been done in their own free time.

The DUO is a public art project that "re-imagines Dundee as an orchard city".

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Groups' awards for city work

Neighbourhood projects recognised

The Dundee City Council has awarded prizes to several groups for their work in improving the city.

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Bloom awards showcased

Dundee's Britain in Bloom awards are on display in the Orange shopping centre until Friday.

Dundee was awarded a silver gilt medal and took home the City category, beating Oxford and Norwich, in October.

The University of Dundee was also awarded the Britain in Bloom Environmental Award.

Environment deputy convener Councillor Neil McDonald said: "I am sure the Dundee public appreciate all the hard work by community groups and staff that has gone into gaining these awards."

Platinum and Merit Dundee, corporate manager Christine Lawson, Graham Cross, Marjorie Green and Neil McDonald, all Dundee in Bloom, with the awards and certificates.

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Dundee plants seeds of success to pick up Britain in Bloom title

ACCOLADE The city was also given a silver gilt award for the quality of its green spaces

Dundee has been named top city in the year's Britain in Bloom awards. The city took home the overall City category at the 2014 Royal Horticultural Society Britain in Bloom Awards.

Just one of Dundee's silver gilt awards and recent that the quality of public spaces in the city was assessed and they were well maintained.

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