

# COMMUNITY GARDENING BESIDE THE SEA



**NORTH BERWICK IN BLOOM 2022-23**

**The Royal Burgh of North Berwick** is a vibrant coastal town on the shores of the Firth of Forth. With a population of 6,500 residents, a small harbour, golf courses, sand dunes and beaches it is a popular holiday destination, and a great place to live.

North Berwick in Bloom (NBIB) started in the early 1990s when volunteers created thirty permanent beds in the town. 40 volunteers now look after one hundred planters in the High Street, at the Railway Station and around the town, as well as one hundred hanging baskets in the town centre in summer. We have responsibility for a restored rock garden, tropical garden, dry garden, fernery and stumpery in the Lodge Gardens (our public park). NBIB volunteers do their best to keep the town looking beautiful all year round. We plant summer flower displays, spring bulb festivals, winter bedding and maintain an everchanging pallet garden display in front of the Abbey Church in the High Street. The pallet helps to publicise our work, enhance our profile and introduce gardening to young people. During lockdown East Lothian council placed 15 large planters in the High Street to help with traffic management and we have planted them with different displays of vegetables and herbs, along with story boards for interest. We could not do any of this without the excellent relationship we have with East Lothian Council's ground care team.

We attract new volunteers from locals as well as new residents and this year we have concentrated on working with young people. NBIB runs a gardening club for Primary 3 pupils and helps with projects for the John Muir awards. We also have two Duke of Edinburgh High School volunteers. We organised planting of a community orchard and wild flower meadows which have been very popular with local families who have brought along their young children. We help the Brownies, Beavers, Primary School, Nursery School and Playgroup to plant daffodil bulbs in November and take part in the Caley spring bulb competition. This year all the groups won certificates, and the Beavers were delighted to win the cup for the best display. We joined the Queen's Green canopy initiative and planted 400 trees donated by the Woodland Trust to help the environment and raise awareness of climate issues. The K.S.B. theme for this year is Health and Wellbeing and our displays demonstrate how growing is good for your health as well as being beneficial for the environment. NBIB is a member of the Community Connections group, a 'good neighbours' initiative which was founded during lockdown to combat isolation and loneliness and we offer a buddy system for anyone who is referred to us or would like to join us. The P3 Gardening Club pupils sent a potted daffodil bulb and Easter card to all those who go along to the Scone Café (Community Connections friendship café).

We have an enthusiastic core group of gardening volunteers as well as others who help with important tasks such as watering, publicity and fundraising. We have close links with nature groups who look after other wildlife areas round the town such as the marsh and the community orchard and we work closely with North Berwick gardening group, with joint plant sales and twice-yearly flower shows. In addition to growing and planting, we clean notice boards, paint benches and pick litter.

Our principal aim is to enhance our town all year round, but we also like to promote it by entering Keep Scotland Beautiful (KSB) competitions. We have won the coastal category in Beautiful Scotland eleven times, the Rose Bowl five times and five Gold Medals in RHS Britain in Bloom including Champions of Champions. Last year we had the privilege of representing Scotland at the Britain in Bloom awards and we received a Gold medal and 'Best Coastal Town in the UK' award as well as a 'Community Champion' for our chair.

We use digital communications for regular updates with our volunteers. We enjoy huge local support, with requests for help with new planting for community groups, playgroup, and Primary School and High School. Our plant sales and coffee mornings keep our profile to the fore as well as raising funds for our annual expenses. Our volunteers join in with many other groups such as the Scottish Sea Bird Centre volunteers, Harbour Trust volunteers and Bass Rock Community Group to maintain and spruce up all areas of the town.





## THE NORTH BERWICK YEAR 2022-23

On 4<sup>th</sup> August 2022, we welcomed two judges from Britain in Bloom, coinciding with our local 'Fringe by the Sea' festival which takes place outdoors and features our own floral displays as well as our 'Incredible Edibles' display boxes in the High Street and guided walks along the coast and in the Lodge. We will be repeating all these activities this year. Our pallet display advertised our annual sunflower challenge competition for local children and families. Many of our community groups met the judges, along with our East Lothian Council amenity team colleagues and councillors. We were very proud of our restored seating area in the High Street which was inspired by a picture from an old book of cuttings, showing the area outside the Police station in the High Street with benches and floral displays. During lockdown it had become rundown, with bins and rubbish making it an eyesore. With support from the community council, Police Scotland agreed to spruce up the outside of the building and remove the bins. The restored area with new benches and new window box displays is now very popular with visitors, school pupils and clients from the Day Centre who come along for a seat in the sunshine to view life in the High Street. Many locals and visitors stop to look at the displays and pick up ideas.

The theme for KSB was 'Year of Storytelling' and we enlisted help from local knitting groups, schools, shops and voluntary groups to celebrate the work of local authors Robert Louis Stevenson and Maggie O'Farrell. The planted displays in the High Street and Railway station performed well thanks to our team of waterers who deliver regular watering via water bowzers to minimise the amounts we use. We continuously monitor our use of water, and the vast majority of our plants are in the ground. We use bedding displays sparingly in the places of maximum interest and have installed water butts to reduce the use of tap water. In October we changed our High Street pallet to a Halloween theme with pumpkins and vegetables. The hanging baskets were taken down at the end of October while cannas, bananas and other tender perennials were returned to the council nursery. In November the planters in the town and station were cleared and planted up with winter bedding of violas, polyanthus and wallflower. Our Remembrance pallet was inspired by the work of the Women's Land Army who worked on local farms and grew food and vegetables during the war. This prompted many moving stories from local people who remembered those times and from some who had met their future spouse while working on a farm. We continued to work with the Lime Grove community garden by helping to build a raised bed and dig over the new 'Beach Garden' area. This local community garden sits on a derelict plot of land between houses and is a part of the Community Connections project mentioned earlier. It is part of the Keep Scotland Beautiful 'It's Your Neighbourhood'. 2022 was our second year of being a registered charity which has enabled us to fundraise more effectively. On 21<sup>st</sup> November we held our AGM in one of the local golf clubs, followed by a buffet lunch for our volunteers. We planted over 3000 tulip bulbs in our planters among the violas, polyanthus and wallflower. 'Jet fire' daffodil bulbs were potted up with the children of Law Primary and Nursery Schools, Beavers and Brownies for the RCHS spring bulb show. Our volunteers helped to knit Christmas toppers for the post-boxes and our Pallet was transformed into a miniature winter forest. On the 5<sup>th</sup> of December we held a thank you party in the Scottish Seabird Centre for all the volunteers groups and supporters who had helped us to win the Best Coastal Town award in Britain in Bloom. The December edition of Edinburgh Life featured an article about the year of NBIB. We took part in the Business Association Christmas shopping evening and the Brownies helped us to produce winter displays for the notice boards.

We held a planning day where we discussed plans for the coming year, talked about composting, climate change, and choice of plants to enable wildlife to thrive and reduce the amount of watering required. In early spring polyanthus were potted up in the greenhouse.





The first snowdrops appeared on 6<sup>th</sup> January, and teams of volunteers weeded and tidied the large perennial beds to prepare them for spring. The begonia tubers were started off in the greenhouse, and our Christmas pallet changed into a spring bulb pallet with snowdrops and polyanthus followed by daffodils then tulips. In February we repaired and renovated the raised planters in the primary school garden. The first tulips for our Tulip Festival appeared at the end of February and by April the Tulip Festival displays were putting on a great show.

In March some of our volunteers joined the Restoration Forth Project to plant 40,000 sea grass seeds off the coast near NB. This project aims to restore seagrass habitats and native oyster populations in the Firth of Forth. It is managed by the WWF and hopes to ultimately improve water quality and store carbon.

We take safety seriously and every year in March have all the brackets tested in preparation for hanging the baskets in the High Street.

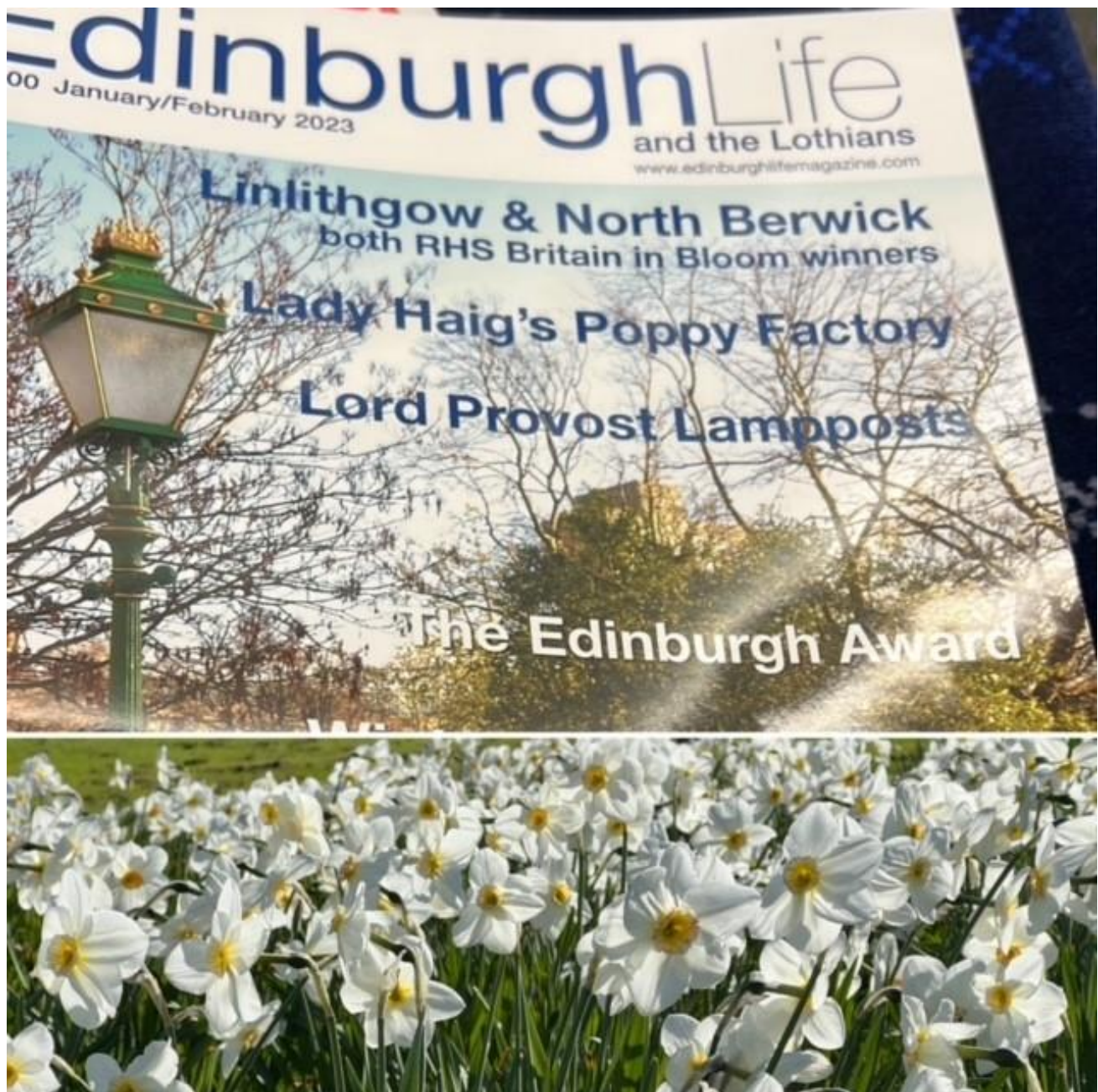
North Berwick Gardening Club Spring Show took place at the end of March with displays of club bulbs and spring flowers. The Caley children's bulb show in Edinburgh awarded medals to the Primary school, Nursery School, Brownies and playgroup. The Beavers won the cup for best in show. The two High School beehives in the park were joined by two further beehives. The daffodil display in the Lodge showing the 13 different divisions of bulbs was impressive this year. Annual flower seed mixes were sown in many locations around the town.

On 15<sup>th</sup> April we held a fundraising Tulip Festival Coffee Morning with stalls including baking, tombola, and plant sales. There was a talk on 'All you need to know about tulips' and pots of tulips for sale. The stumpery puts on a fine spring display with erythroniums and corydalis which grow well alongside Hellebore orientalis and Helleborus corsicus. In April, sea birds including gannets and puffins return to nest on the islands. Several of our volunteers also work alongside the Seabird centre to monitor the birds on the islands and control invasive species such as mallow.

In June the tender plants for the dry bed and the tropical beds in the Lodge were planted out again and our 'Lighthouse Corner' which celebrates the life of the author Robert Louis Stevenson was spruced up. The fundraising lighthouse remains very popular with young visitors who can put a 20p coin in the slot to light it up to view the interior. Every year we lift the tulips at the end of May for our annual plant sale. This year over 500 tulip bulbs were given away and the sale of plants raised £1000 for our funds. The water butt on the side of the church kitchen supplies water for the planters and pallet, and we have had discussions with Scottish Water about plans to store rainwater and make it available for plants. These discussions are ongoing. Our local hospital has been closed for over a year and there is a local campaign to raise awareness of its importance in the community. We support this by maintaining a second pallet garden in the High Street which is refreshed regularly.

In June the planters were planted with summer bedding and the blue traffic-calming boxes in the High Street with vegetables and drought resistant perennials. New planters at the harbour were donated by a local trust, with donations of compost from our local brown bin recycling centre and sponsorship of the flowers by the harbour takeaway (The Lobster Shack). A new group of harbour volunteers have helped with weeding clearing and painting around the harbour to smarten it up for summer visitors.





## Horticulture

Seasonal displays of bedding are concentrated at key sites for maximum impact. One hundred hanging baskets are placed along the High Street each summer. Over one hundred planters and tubs are planted twice a year, with spring bulbs and winter bedding in the autumn, and summer bedding in May/June. Bedding is grown on either in our own greenhouses or for us by East Lothian Council. We have supplemented the regular supplies of plants with vegetables and flowers raised by seed in our greenhouse, and by donated herbs from local group Herbspace which are grown by High School pupils.

**Permanent Planting.** The soil by the coast is exceptionally sandy while further inland it is heavier and more water retentive. These soil types determine the natural flora and plants which can be successfully cultivated. Our climate is dry by UK standards - annual rainfall of around 710mm. We normally have little frost however, in December 2022, hard frosts damaged several plants. With frequent exposure to wind, our permanent beds dry out easily, so we have tried and tested planting schemes using perennials and shrubs that can cope with these conditions. These plants provide colour and interest all year round. Spring bulbs are very important; there are more than a million planted around North Berwick. A few years ago, 3,000 trees and shrubs were planted to enhance new social housing and school extensions and NBIB joined with Sustaining NB group and community volunteers to plant over 1,400 trees during 2020 -1, a further 400 in 2022 and Queen's Green canopy planting and a community orchard of 57 trees in 2023. This community orchard was planted in a local park in March, with many organisations such as Brownies, Guides, Rotary and the Community Council planting their own tree. Benches were donated by a local trust and it is close enough to the local school to enable use as an outdoor classroom.

**The Lodge Grounds.** 'The Lodge' is North Berwick's 11-hectare public park in the centre of the town. It had a £1 million historically accurate restoration in 2008. Our volunteers played a crucial part in the restoration, from initial surveys to hands-on work in the garden. NBIB worked closely with East Lothian Council, creating a series of gardens within a garden. The Edwardian rockery, reconstructed by our volunteers, consists of a series of compartments planted with different species. We believe this may be the only surviving example in the country. The Fernery is a shady area with twenty-two different types of ferns. An arid bed has a collection of plants including cacti that can cope with dry and semi-desert conditions. In summer a sub-tropical bed is planted with exotic species, most of which are overwintered in the East Lothian Council (ELC) nursery. Extensive perennial planting includes a bee friendly lavender garden. A Japanese bed commemorates the end of WWII, with plants popular in Japan such as azaleas and bamboos. The Stumpery, created with logs from a nearby beach, is planted with hellebores, ferns, and primulas. A daffodil display has more than thirty different varieties of narcissus from each of the thirteen Daffodil Society divisions. A carpet bed is planted by ELC gardeners, and this year will celebrate the 650th anniversary of the Burgh Charter. Five years ago, we provided space for threatened conifers from Chile, Morocco and elsewhere as part of the International Conifer Conservation Programme and Arran whitebeams as part of the Scottish Native Plant Initiative at RBGE. They are all flourishing.

**Residential & Community Gardening** We have close links with NB Gardening Club and provide advice to local gardeners while our ELC colleagues' Garden Aid scheme helps elderly and disabled people. We help local schools with gardening projects and we run a gardening club in the Primary school. We provide displays at three churches including two beds showing plants of the Bible. We have organised a buddy system to help people who are referred for gardening therapy by the local Community Liaison Officer and GPs. Our volunteers have increased in numbers and we now have active connections with many community groups including Sustaining NB, Scottish Seabird Centre, Community Connections, The Bass Rocketeer community group, and have helped and advised two community gardening projects – Lime Grove Community Garden and the Gilsland Wood. This last is an area of woodland which is now being managed by local residents under the direction of ELC amenities team.

**Business Areas** All our baskets and many of our planters are in the main shopping area. Many local businesses have added planters or window boxes to their shop fronts, and we continue to add extra baskets when requested. We work with ELC to add perennials, shrubs and trees to car parks, some streets and the railway station. We ensure that the traffic calming boxes in the High Street are full of seasonal displays including vegetables and herbs that we have grown from seed.

**Open Spaces** North Berwick has a range of extensive open spaces each managed in a different way. Along the coast the raised beach has two putting greens, two golf courses and a wildflower meadow. The Lodge



Grounds has nine hectares of grass with many mature trees and is managed for informal recreation. The ten-hectare Recreation Park has three grass sports pitches, a full size all-weather 3G pitch as well as a children's play area with play equipment, a skateboard area with half-pipe and an enclosed basketball court. The park is the location of our annual Highland Games in August, which attract over 10,000 visitors and over 50 pipe bands from across the world. The 613 ft Law covers 36.6 hectares of unimproved grassland and scrub of high conservation value, and attracts many walkers for its summit views of the Firth of Forth and East Lothian countryside. The wooded valley of the Glen with its burn is the largest area of woodland in the town. Including the Glen, Coos' Green, Castlehill and the Greenheads this area covers 14.8 ha. This includes a 'Lady's Walk' which was constructed over one hundred years ago and is still popular today. We have helped to publicise its history with a new leaflet on our website and printed off for visitors.



## ENVIRONMENT

Evidence based management plans are in place for all the significant open spaces in North Berwick. These plans stress the importance of co-operation between statutory and voluntary groups. NBIB is involved with or linked to them all.

The coast comes under the Firth of Forth Special Protection Area as well as being a Ramsar site - internationally important wetland - and the islands of the Forth are all also SSSIs. On land, the Law is an SSSI botanical site with considerable geological interest. To inform the management plans, monitoring is necessary; 200 species have been recorded in and around North Berwick. Gannets are counted using aerial surveys; other seabirds and seals are counted by volunteers from the Forth Seabird Group. Several members of NBIB take part in SOS Puffin to cut down non-native tree mallow on islands. Volunteers make monthly counts of shorebirds as part of the national Birds of the Estuaries enquiry. Along the coast, breeding eider ducks are monitored by volunteers organised by the East Lothian Ranger Service. Bee and butterfly transects are carried out while volunteers also monitor breeding songbirds in the Lodge and Glen. The countryside ranger co-ordinates conservation tasks and feeds results into local authority management plans and the Lothians Wildlife Information Centre. The ranger-led volunteer group works once a month on the Law, Glen and Coos' Green, assisted by NBIB volunteers. Tasks include removing ragwort to safeguard a group of Exmoor ponies which carry out conservation grazing; tree planting and protection, removing non-native plants. Reducing mowing to one cut each in autumn on part of Coos' Green has created a c. 2 ha wildflower meadow with up to 30 species of flowering plants all of which were in the ground but suppressed. Wild orchids have increased in damper spots with spikes of Northern Marsh orchid and Common Spotted orchid. Orchids are also present on the west side of the town on the edge of the Golf Course. Bat and bird boxes have been erected in the Glen and checked by appropriate licence holders. In one part of the town a pond is a breeding site for the specially protected great crested newts and volunteers check nearby drains to rescue any trapped amphibians. In conjunction with the council's arboriculture team non-native sycamore has been reduced to create a more diverse habit for birds and small mammals on the Greenheads bankings. No giant hogweed or Himalayan balsam occurs while Japanese knotweed has been virtually eliminated from its two sites in the town. Our local golf courses are managed on environmentally friendly principles. The aim is to maintain turf that is adapted to our relatively dry and windswept conditions. Irrigation and applications of fertilisers and chemicals are kept to a minimum. The path verges and rough at the edge of the fairways provides a habitat for a range of wildflowers, insects and birdlife. Experience gained by creating a native plants bed at the harbour, planted with wildflowers that flourish on local coasts, has helped to demonstrate the value of native plants. The award-winning Scottish Seabird Centre attracts over 200,000 visitors to North Berwick annually and provides educational activities to thousands of visiting children, as well as running the weekly Wildlife Club for local pupils. The ranger also works with local schools taking groups into the local environment. Several of our NBIB volunteers work with the Seabird Centre clubs and groups. We work with the Harbour Trust to provide plants for their planters including herbs and vegetables such as native cabbages and kale.

We now use relatively little bagged compost: 30 bags for the baskets with another 20 to top up planters. This compares to at least 50 tons of recycled green waste mainly used on permanent beds. We re-use spent compost from our baskets and tubs as mulch on our beds. Between NB in Bloom and ELC we use a maximum of 20,000 bedding plants for the whole town over summer and winter. Our hanging baskets are equivalent to an area of 12 sq. metres while our planters are equivalent to around 40 sq metres in total approx. equivalent to one small and one of the larger 30 perennial beds. The range of plants we grow means there are nectar sources from February to October. Throughout the town, weed killer use is now limited to glyphosate on pavements and gutters. Two small areas of high amenity grass in the Lodge receive selective



weed killer treatment; all other permanent grass does not. No chemical treatments are used on any of the flower and shrub beds. Leaf mould from the Lodge is used when we make or replant our perennial beds. NBIB often makes use of recycled plants and plant donations. Local plant sales and exchanges are held twice a year, including tulip bulbs from the Tulip Festival. A water butt collects water from the roof of the Seabird Centre and children attending the Friday club use this to water the tubs at the harbour. We have installed a second water butt at the church to collect rainwater to water planters in the town centre. All of our plastic items are re-used, mainly pots and seed trays. Even old compost and gravel bags are re-used when we weed and collect litter. All these policies contribute to reducing our use of carbon. Major works to manage coastal erosion along the west golf course and beach are ongoing.



We use several different types of signage: individual plant names, small information notices and acknowledgements to donors. The traditional iron railings and chains around the town used to require expensive annual maintenance and these have now been replaced with more sustainable galvanised materials. The slate wall celebrates our achievements.

Both of North Berwick's beaches again achieved a Seaside Award in 2022. East Lothian Council is increasing its kerbside recycling collections in North Berwick, with householders required to separate more kinds of waste. This will help to meet Scottish Government targets. ELC has installed two 'big belly' solar bins in the town centre and a group has raised funding to buy 9 more: these allow waste to be compacted leading to fewer bins. The new ones have been decorated with artwork showing local sea birds with a QR code with a link to information on the birds. 45 cubic tons of waste from these bins is sent for recycling every week and 80% of it is recycled. We have now had three years of no polystyrene from takeaways thanks to efforts of volunteers from Sustaining NB and NBIB.

## **COMMUNITY**

Litter picks are a regular feature of the NBIB calendar and litter prevention is heavily emphasised in our local schools. The Seabird Centre now organises weekly litter picks on the beaches and NBIB volunteers join the Bass Rocketeers on their frequent litter picks.

### **North Berwick Nursery School**

The nursery has been awarded its third Green Flag for the EcoSchools programme (the top level of award). The nursery playground is a wildlife garden, outdoor learning space and playground all in one. A bird-cam allows the children to follow the progress of their nesting box, and they feed the birds daily. Garden waste is composted whilst a wormery deals with food waste. The children plant, grow and tend their own fruit and vegetables. In their playground there is a native wildlife hedge, a wild corner, a water butt to collect rainwater and a log pile. NBIB volunteers join in with these activities and are available for encouragement and advice. The Nursery School will be moving to new premises on the main school Campus and volunteers will be helping to build an outdoor classroom.

**Law Primary School** Three NBIB volunteers run a primary three gardening club at Law Primary. The children planted bulbs, nasturtiums, sunflowers and marigolds, tidied up leaves in the sensory garden and planted and harvested potatoes. A team of NBIB volunteers renovated the raised planters in the playground.

Every year the Primary 5 classes work towards the John Muir award, which is an environmental scheme focussed on wild spaces. They also litter pick the beaches with the Countryside Ranger.

**North Berwick High School** was the first High School in East Lothian to achieve the Green Flag award. Two students from the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme chose NBIB as their volunteer module and spend an hour each week with us. NBIB partners the Seabird Centre with activities for children and ideas for Friday afternoon club.

**North Berwick Day Centre** provides a safe environment for frail elderly people and those with dementia, and has an enclosed garden with raised planters where the clients enjoy caring for flowers and vegetables. NBIB helps maintain the garden on behalf of the centre and helps clients to plant out the beds with herbs and vegetables.

**Festival by the Sea in August.** NBIB is once again a partner with the festival this year, featuring in the programme, and providing two guided walks and floral displays outside the various festival venues.





## ORGANISATION

North Berwick in Bloom celebrates its 28th anniversary this year. We have a Board of eight, one of whom has been involved since the start. At our monthly meetings we are joined by the local ELC Amenity Officer. Our volunteers carry out over 3,000 hours of unpaid work each year, which is greatly appreciated by people in North Berwick. We provide our volunteers with training; assist other Bloom groups through visits and talks, and have organised judges training days for Beautiful Scotland.

@NBinBloom is our Twitter account with over 1000 followers and we also have a NBIB Facebook page and Instagram site. Our website is maintained by one of our volunteers. All our beds feature signs with our logo. We hold regular fundraising events and apply to local shops and businesses for sponsorship. Our volunteers wear distinctive green hi-vis North Berwick in Bloom tabards. We produce our own posters for all our fundraising and other events. Our pallet garden in the High Street supports local and national causes with its displays. We have twice featured on the Beech grove Garden.

## **FUNDRAISING**

We try to tie in fundraising to events that also raise our profile. We apply for grants for major projects. Many local shops and businesses have a North Berwick in Bloom collecting can by the till. Our quiz sheets are provided by a local newsagent and are popular with visitors and locals alike. We hold coffee mornings and afternoon teas where volunteers serve refreshments and man stalls. The lighthouse at Quality Street has raised hundreds of pounds since it was installed. Scotrail support our many planters at the station. We plant up North Berwick Golf Club's displays twice a year in return for annual sponsorship. Local Clubs also donate proceeds from their annual fundraising. Several local eateries sponsor planters outside their businesses. One of the town's dental practices sponsors some of our planters.

## **THANK YOU**

Thank you to all our sponsors, supporters and volunteers for their generosity and support.

NBiB very much appreciate grants from:

North Berwick Trust, The Stella Moffat Trust, North Berwick and Coastal Area Partnership, North Berwick Golf Club Community Fund, Co-op Community Fund, Scotrail

And donations from:

A2B Private Hire, Anderson's Butchers, Bella Italia, Boots, Cake Café, Co-op Funeral Care, Coulters, ETC, Garden Stirling Burnett, Gannon Sports, GEO Foundation, Gilson Gray, Heart & Sole, Home Hardware, L'argenette Jewellery, Lockett Brothers, Meg Maitland, Merryhatton Garden Centre, Move Yoga, No 12, North Berwick Barbers, North Berwick Dental Practice, NB Pharmacy, North Berwick Fry, North Berwick Holiday Homes, North Berwick Opticians, North Berwick Pipe Band, Paris Steele, Rock & Bird, Sweet News, Ship Inn, SO&CO, Tippecanoe, Westgate Clinic, Wilson Fresh Farm Produce, Zitto. Other individuals have donated but prefer to remain anonymous.

NBiB also thank the following for their support:

ELC Landscape & Countryside team, ELC Ranger service, Law Primary School & Nursery, North Berwick Community Council, North Berwick Day Centre, North Berwick & District Business Association, North Berwick Gardening Club, North Berwick High School, Rotary Club of North Berwick, The Bass Rock Community Group, The Harbour Trust, Scottish Seabird Centre.

All the Quiz-selling and can-holding traders. John Skillen at Sweet News for compiling Quizzes.

Everyone in the town who supplies water from their taps: The Abbey Church, Tantallon Golf Club, Police Station and NB Fry.

The Abbey Church, for giving a home to pallet gardens and plant sales. The Abbey Residential Home, for our greenhouse. The Bank of Scotland for providing a home for the edible plants boat. Alastair the Carousel Man for watering duties. Others too numerous to mention.



## PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

We would like to renew some of the flower beds in the historic area of North Berwick known as 'Coos' Green' the original public grazing land for the town. This was also the place where people met, hung out their washing and held annual fairs and gatherings. We will continue to explore ways of conserving water, including further replacing planting with drought resistant species, installing more waterbutts and finding innovative storage solutions. We will join in with the town project to showcase the original shops in the High Street, and link with the displays in the Museum commemorating the 50 anniversary of the Town Council.

Most importantly, we want to continue caring for our community and our volunteers and ensure the longevity of our group.



**North Berwick in Bloom (Charity and SCIO)**  
**Summary accounts for year ended 30 September 2022**

**12 months to  
30 Sept. 2022**

<b>Income:</b>	<b>£</b>
Donations received	11,426
Golden Giving	215
Gift Aid recovered	25
Lighthouse collection box	238
Plant sales/North Berwick Gardening Club	2,352
Richard Evans books	1,310
Walks and talks	90
Lime Grove Community Garden	4,000
Obelisks sold	0
Tabards sold	<u>0</u>
<b>Total income</b>	<b><u>19,656</u></b>
<b>Expenditure:</b>	
Plants & materials	8,987
Barrels	0
Bench NBET	938
Repairs, maintenance, health & safety	4,912
Insurance	190
Catering & hospitality	440
Tulip leaflets	130
Miscellaneous	<u>121</u>
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b><u>15,718</u></b>
Surplus (Deficit) for year/16 months	3,938
Plus balance from previous period/entity	<u>6,895</u>
<b>Balance at 30 September 2022</b>	<b><u>10,833</u></b>
<b>Reserves</b>	
Balance at Bank	<u>10,833</u>
<b>Reserves at 30 September 2022</b>	<b><u>10,833</u></b>