Dear supporters,

On behalf of everyone connected to Keep Scotland Beautiful I am delighted to welcome you to the 50th anniversary celebrations for Beautiful Scotland. What a milestone, and it is so wonderful to be able to celebrate Scotland’s longest running environmental improvement campaign at the superb Beach Ballroom in Aberdeen. We are indebted to Aberdeen City Council for the wonderful support provided by members and officers.

Importantly, the Beautiful Scotland awards give us the opportunity to reward the efforts of the amazing volunteers who work so hard year on year to present Scotland’s cities, towns, villages and local communities at their very best. Over the last ten years, we estimate that over 500,000 volunteer hours have been committed to Beautiful Scotland which is worth approximately £5m in economic terms. What an outstanding contribution.

For everyone involved at Keep Scotland Beautiful over the many years that we have been managing the Beautiful Scotland programme, I should like to say an enormous thank you. To our unstinting volunteers, to our judges and to our local authorities, your respective contributions have, and continue to be, greatly appreciated.

It is also appropriate for me to mention the leaders of the past who put so much effort in to give us the programme we have today. So a hearty thank you is also extended to May and Douglas Wright and John P Summers.

As we all know, in these very difficult financial times, your work continues to have an increased importance so it is very encouraging for me to note the continued enthusiasm that there is for Beautiful Scotland and how positive it is to see the increase in number of our It’s Your Neighbourhood groups in particular.

You are all an exemplar and demonstrate the important role that local people play in helping to keep their place beautiful.

Thank you everyone, for helping us to keep Scotland beautiful.

Derek A Robertson
Chief Executive
Keep Scotland Beautiful
Trophy Winners

Category Awards

City
Growing Smarter, Granite City Aberdeen

Small City
Growing Kirkcaldy

Medium Town
Forres in Bloom

Small Town
Brighter Bothwell

Urban Community
Uddingston Pride

Flatted Community
Powis Residents Group

Coastal Town
North Berwick in Bloom

Coastal Village
East Haven Together

Large Village
Coupar Angus Pride of Place

Small Village
Kinnesswood in Bloom

Wee Village
Beautiful Kilconquhar

BID
Dunfermline Delivers

Discretionary Awards

Community Horticulture Award
Coupar Angus Pride of Place

Jim Murdie Trophy for Sustainability
Powis Residents Group

Garden for Life Biodiversity Award
East Haven Together

VisitScotland Award for Tourism
Melrose in Bloom

Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society Award
East Lothian Council (for Haddington, Dunbar and North Berwick)

Wright Sustainability Award
St Andrews in Bloom - for The Links

Community Involvement Award
Bonnie Dundee

David Welch Memorial Award for Something Special
Growing Smarter, Granite City Aberdeen - for David Welch Winter Gardens

New Entrant Trophy
Freuchie in Flower

Royal Horticultural Society Award for Overcoming Adversity
Growing Smarter, Granite City Aberdeen - for Seaton Park

Keep Scotland Beautiful Award
Brighter Bothwell

Premier Award

The Rosebowl - North Berwick in Bloom
Medals

**Key**

- Gold Medal
- Silver Gilt Medal
- Silver Medal
- Bronze Medal

**City**

- **Bonnie Dundee**
  Dundee City
- **Growing Smarter, Granite City Aberdeen**
  Aberdeen City

**Small Town**

- **Brighter Bothwell**
  South Lanarkshire
- **Inverflora**
  Fife

**Urban Community**

- **Cove in Bloom**
  Aberdeen City
- **Culter in Bloom**
  Aberdeen City
- **Dyce in Bloom**
  Aberdeen City
- **Uddingston Pride**
  South Lanarkshire

**Small City**

- **Beautiful Cumbernauld**
  North Lanarkshire
- **Dunfermline in Bloom**
  Fife
- **Growing Kirkcaldy**
  Fife

**Medium Town**

- **Blairgowrie & Rattray in Bloom**
  Perth & Kinross
- **Blooming Haddington**
  East Lothian
- **Cupar in Bloom**
  Fife
- **Forres in Bloom**
  Moray
- **Gala in Bloom**
  Scottish Borders
- **Lanark in Bloom**
  South Lanarkshire
- **Mingavie in Bloom**
  East Dunbartonshire

**Coastal Town**

- **Broughty Ferry in Bloom**
  Dundee City
- **Bute in Bloom**
  Argyll and Bute
- **Colourful Carnoustie**
  Angus
- **Dunbar in Bloom**
  East Lothian
- **Monifieth Eco Force**
  Angus
- **North Berwick in Bloom**
  East Lothian
- **St Andrews in Bloom**
  Fife

**Flatted Community**

- **Powis Residents Group**
  Aberdeen City
Coastal Village

- Aberdour Village in Bloom
  Fife
- East Haven Together
  Angus
- Kinghorn in Bloom
  Fife

Small Village

- Brighten up Kirkconnel
  Dumfries & Galloway
- Envirokirn Action Group
  Argyll & Bute
- Kinnesswood in Bloom
  Perth & Kinross
- Muthill in Bloom
  Perth & Kinross

Wee Village

- Beautiful Kilconquhar
  Fife
- Low Valleyfield
  Fife

Large Village

- Brig in Bloom
  Perth & Kinross
- Brighten up Sanquhar Group
  Dumfries & Galloway
- Comrie in Colour
  Perth & Kinross
- Coupar Angus Pride of Place
  Perth & Kinross
- Dufftown in Bloom
  Moray
- Flourishing Forth
  South Lanarkshire
- Freuchie in Flower
  Fife
- Leslie Community Trust
  Fife
- Melrose in Bloom
  Scottish Borders

BID

- Aberdeen Inspired
  Aberdeen City
- Alloa in Bloom
  Clackmannanshire
- Dunfermline Delivers
  Fife
- Falkirk Delivers
  Falkirk
- St Andrews BID
  Fife
Coupar Angus Pride of Place’s aim is to restore civic pride through environmental improvements and social inclusion. The Beautiful Scotland campaign and the recognition of achievement has allowed the group to fulfil this aim.

Rona McKinnon, Coupar Angus Pride of Place

We are committed to making a difference to our local environment so that it is attractive for residents and visitors alike. We have a strong commitment to biodiversity. Taking part in Beautiful Scotland helps give a focus for our work, and helps to gain support from our local authority. We aim to support and promote as many aspects of Keep Scotland Beautiful’s work as we can.

Marjory Roberston, Brighter Bothwell

The clear approach of Beautiful Scotland’s three pillars and support from Keep Scotland Beautiful gives both the council and its partners a structured route towards caring for and improving Dundee’s environment.

Alison Anderson, Greenspace Team Leader, Dundee City Council
I firmly believe that all the campaigns from Keep Scotland Beautiful help shape the Scotland we all know and love, but it is the communities and the people, with the drive to see a sustainable future, that are not only the most important thing but the lifeblood of any community.

Sandy Scott, Beautiful Scotland judge

We take part in Beautiful Scotland because we enjoy making a positive difference to our environment. It cheers people up and encourages them to start gardening themselves. It’s also a good opportunity to work with all sorts of groups in our community.

Carolyn Keane, Kinghorn in Bloom

Aberdeen has a long and illustrious history with Beautiful Scotland, having been part of the campaign since the very beginning. Aberdeen is fully committed to supporting Beautiful Scotland and continues to celebrate and promote all the fantastic and inspiring work carried out by our ever increasing partners and friends as part of the campaign. The continued success achieved is testament to all the hard work and dedication by staff, communities and local individuals in helping to keep Aberdeen looking good through enhancing our surroundings and creating a better environment in which to live.

Steven Shaw, Environmental Manager, Aberdeen City Council
Coupar Angus has three town entrances and the group has worked hard to create an attractive welcoming feature at each: a pollinator-friendly bed using permanent herbaceous planting; a banking with shrubs for biodiversity; a wild flower bed with diverse species of wild flower plugs planted to attract a wider range of insects as the group moves towards increased sustainability; and daffodils, snowdrops and wild flower seed planted around a standing stone.

Other initiatives include snowdrops planted on roadsides as part of the town’s annual Snowdrop Festival, with spring daffodils appearing later on; trees planted in the park and entrance beds developed; boxes along the town’s roadsides planted with winter shrubs and bulbs, with spring bedding added in February; and mangers with spring bedding, which are planted up in summer along with the hanging baskets to make a glorious blaze of colour throughout the town.

Powis Residents Group

This group is innovative in its approaches to community gardening. The members take ‘pride of place’ in their gardens, and the love and attention they give by making their community more attractive is commendable. Features that enhance the group’s green space include reclaimed wooden pallets turned into chairs, benches and tables which have been colourfully painted and tree stumps which have had their bark removed to make bug hotels, while the actual stumps have been painted with child friendly logos. It is the joy that this group gives to others, by thinking outside the usual box, which deserves recognition.
During the last two years, East Haven Together has taken conservation and biodiversity to new levels. Working with experts and participating in a variety of training experiences, members have become true Citizen Scientists learning more about the needs of different species and managing the environment to optimise conditions in which they can thrive.

Kidney Vetch, which is the sole food of the UK’s smallest butterfly, has been planted in various locations to help prevent the decline of the rare Small Blue. Plants have been carefully chosen to attract pollinators, and research carried out to ensure wildflowers are planted safely in accordance with best scientific evidence. Bat, bee, bird, insect and hedgehog boxes are strategically placed throughout the village. Monthly bee walks have been undertaken to record the type and number of bees along four transects in the village. All data collected is shared with relevant organisations such as the Bumblebee Conservation Trust and Tayside Biodiversity Partnership.

East Haven is the only place in Scotland where the Greater Yellow Rattle grows naturally, and residents work in partnership with Scottish Natural Heritage to conserve this rare plant on the Site of Special Scientific Interest. Special cuts of the 500 metre stretch of dunes are undertaken annually and the plant carefully monitored.

In August, East Haven held a large Community BioBlitz which brought together scientists, experts and other interested bodies to work alongside members of the public to identify as many species of animals, insects, plants and marine life as possible over two days. Local school children worked alongside the Marine Conservation Society, and ordinary members of the public were able to engage with nature, increasing their knowledge about local wildlife habitats. An up-to-date species list was produced and all biological records submitted to national databases. Learning will inform future conservation practice and land management.
Beautiful Scotland

Discretionary Awards

Keep Scotland Beautiful Award

Brighter Bothwell
In the year that Beautiful Scotland is ‘Flourishing at Fifty’, Brighter Bothwell is ‘Sweet Sixteen’. In the spring of 2000, a group of residents decided that Bothwell was in need of some TLC and set up Brighter Bothwell. Their aim was to make Bothwell more attractive to residents and visitors, by enhancing areas where people live, work and relax. Brighter Bothwell is a team effort and has always sought to involve local people, businesses, schools, churches, other community groups, local authority staff and others who share its aspirations to keep Bothwell bright. From the start, to give some guidelines and provide a focus for its activities, the group decided to participate in the Beautiful Scotland campaign. Its initial entry earned praise for a ‘first class’ effort, and members have been very pleased with the progress and awards over the years. Some of the achievements include: Jubilee Garden created in 2002, a restored coal hut marking Bothwell’s mining heritage, a nature trail (an attractive, health promoting biodiversity corridor for walkers and cyclists), Sensory Garden, Community Organic Garden, Bobby’s Boxes, Clean for the Queen, and a Scarecrow Festival.

The Wright Sustainability Award

St Andrews – for The Links
St Andrews in Bloom is committed to the protection of its natural heritage, ecologically important sites, biodiversity and the introduction of vegetation in more difficult environments. To this extent the group liaises with a number of organisations, including St Andrews Links Trust.

The Trust’s objective is to sustainably manage its seven golf courses, important wildlife and habitat, and the natural landscape. The Links are managed in a way that enhances and preserves the delicate ecological balance, with minimum input of any pesticides and fertilisers:

- A gorse management system is in operation, designed to keep this invasive species under control to ensure it flourishes where appropriate and to restore the dune topography.
- There are sustainable and annual planting displays around the golf courses.
- Heather seeds were collected from the courses and reseeded elsewhere to help the bees as part of ‘Operation Pollinator’.
- The Trust gives free compost to the public.
- Hanging baskets were installed in the town with the help of the Trust.
- An old tipping ground – the roof of the Links water holding tanks – has been developed into a valuable and interesting habitat which includes a wildflower area and an invertebrate hotel.
- And a pond located by the 14th and 15th holes of the Eden Course, which could potentially ruin the scorecard of many a golfer, serves a great purpose as an environmental habitat for the wildlife of the Links.
Melrose in Bloom

Nestling under the Eildon Hills, historic Melrose attracts a huge number of visitors all year round. Apart from the salmon fishing, the “Four Abbeys” cycle route, the beautiful countryside for walkers, its position on the “Southern Upland Way”, the history attracts visitors to the 12th century Abbey, which is the burial place of Robert the Bruce’s heart, and Abbotsford, home of Sir Walter Scott. Melrose in Bloom ensures that the town is kept clean and tidy and full of floral displays all year round. Local traders sponsor the group’s planters and baskets. Townspeople send donations to ensure the group continues to plant every corner, large or small, with clubs helping with the heavy work. Schoolchildren and horticultural students are just as keen to show Melrose at its best. Many visitors come to the Melrose Rugby Sevens, and the Borders Book Festival attracts crowds, famous authors and politicians, firmly putting Melrose on the map. The group ensures that all the summer planting is ready then. The group is also fortunate to have two beautiful National Trust for Scotland gardens in the town, and it has a good relationship with them.
**Discretionary Awards**

**David Welch Memorial Award for Something Special**

**Growing Smarter, Granite City Aberdeen - for David Welch Winter Gardens**

The David Welch Winter Gardens in Duthie Park are exceptional, with one of the most attractive collections of indoor plants in Britain. The glasshouses were renovated in 2013, while recently the heating system has been converted to biomass to reduce costs in a sustainable way. This allows the gardeners to continue to grow even tropical plants successfully.

Visitors first enter into a wide area with pools and beds, which combines specimen plants with seasonal planting using tender subjects. They then move into an atmospheric rainforest. A contrast then comes with a house dedicated to cacti and some enormous succulents - notably Euphorbias which have to be pruned to prevent them growing though the glass roof! There are two national collections here: one of Aloes, the other of Gasterias. Nearby the Groovy Growits, the young gardeners’ club, maintains the insectivoruous plant display. The Victorian corridor, best described as a very long conservatory, provides 12 months of colour and also hosts flower shows for the Royal Horticultural Society of Aberdeen, the Aberdeen branch of the Scottish Rock Garden Club, and the Scottish Branch of the National Vegetable Society. There is a temperate house and an area for public events, with some people choosing to be married here, and the complex also hosts activities led by the ranger service for schools and other young people.

**New Entrant Trophy**

**Freuchie in Flower**

Started in 1989 as a sub-committee of Freuchie Community Council, the group gives a focus to villagers’ energies to take pride in their local environment. Since entering the regional Beautiful Fife competition, Freuchie has increased its points total from year to year. Last year Freuchie achieved the accolade of Best Large Village in Fife. In 2014, the group financed and built a polytunnel and now grows plants of exceptional quality. In 2015, a major fund raising achievement meant the group could purchase 22 additional Amberol planters. An innovative water recycling system is environmentally sound - rainwater is gathered from roofs into holding tanks and a recycled car battery-operated submersible pump provides power for hoses. Vegetable growing is the focus of the weekly school gardening club, as well as an annual sunflower competition - pupils sow their seeds and, when germinated, nurture them at home. Soon sunflower seed heads appear over fences, walls, even garages! Youth activities include planting over 1,000 autumn bulbs, laying native hedging around a playpark, litter-picking and spring cleaning the boat planter. To celebrate the Centenary of the Freuchie Cubs this autumn, villagers will plant 100 native trees in a wildlife area. Freuchie Garden Awards have been re-instated and are open to all. With 100 floral displays that green the village streets, the group has expanded to sustainable community environmental projects, and is a conduit for community engagement.
Over the Christmas 2015/2016 period, Aberdeen was buffeted by a series of storms which culminated in Storm Frank. Seaton Park in Aberdeen, adjacent to the River Don, was one of the worst affected areas, with most of the park under two metres or more of water at the peak of the flooding. Much of the park remained under water for several weeks after the majority of the flooding had subsided, with flooding impacting sports pitches, informal recreation areas and the formal gardens.

As is often the case in times of adversity, the Friends of Seaton Park and the local community rallied with the council staff to clean up the park and get it back to its former glory. Hundreds of volunteers turned out to clear the debris left by the floods - many from groups who use the park on a regular basis for sports or other recreational purposes, but also people from the local community who just wanted to do their bit. A large number of volunteers from the local mosque joined in too. Many new friendships were made, new partnerships developed, and best of all the park was soon back to its former glory.

Dundee’s entry into Beautiful Scotland is based on a partnership between the council and a very wide range of community groups and organisations. These include friends groups in many of the parks, entries into It's Your Neighbourhood, campaigns such as Take Pride in your City, the garden at Ninewells Hospital which links to Scottish Association for Mental Health, Dundee Urban Orchard and Whorterbank Tattie Patch. The annual Dundee Flower and Food Festival, held in early September, is a major event in the Scottish Horticultural calendar which relies on input from local groups and specialist societies to help run it. The participation by children is very successful, with a whole marquee needed to show their entries.
Beautiful Scotland, a flagship programme of Keep Scotland Beautiful, is a long-established community environmental improvement campaign managed in partnership with the Royal Horticultural Society. The programme supports community groups across Scotland as they seek to improve and enhance their local environment through the three core pillars of Horticultural Achievement, Environmental Responsibility and Community Participation.

Beautiful Scotland in Bloom (BSiB) founded - administered by the Scottish Tourist Board and supported by the Scottish Women’s Rural Institute, to promote floral enhancement of Scottish villages and towns.

The themes of cleanliness, sustainability and biodiversity added to the horticulture elements and BSiB becomes a major environmental campaign with entries from all over Scotland.

Wright Sustainability Award established and the Urban Community Award established. May Wright officially retires (but stayed as Chairman until 2007!).

Coastal Resort Trophy established.

As one of the 18 Regions & Nations of the UK Britain in Bloom campaign, BSiB continues to have the most entries in the UK (202).

Keep Scotland Beautiful takes over, with May Wright co-ordinating the campaign. Sponsorship obtained from the Bank of Scotland (lasted 17 years). New logo produced.

The introduction of new classes, a restructuring of the judging criteria, creation of new awards and greater emphasis on community involvement.

First year of the David Welch Memorial Award.

VisitScotland Award for Tourism established.

Presentation of Awards hosted by Edzell Village and Angus Council in a beautiful marquee – a new experience for BSiB!

The Blooming Times produced.
40th anniversary of BSiB.

Neighbourhood Awards introduced in Scotland.

Alness in Highland wins the Rosebowl Trophy for the fifth time at awards ceremony in Dunfermline.

Medal-based award system introduced, in line with the RHS Britain in Bloom campaign.

Lady Jane Grosvenor steps down as President.

Waverley Books sponsors the Flatted Community category and gives a prize for the best Sensory Garden. The Beautiful Scotland campaign appears in “The Broons’ Book of Gaardenin’ Wisdom”.

Parliamentary reception sponsored by Bruce Crawford MSP and addressed by Roseanna Cunningham - the then Minister for Environment.

The David Kerr Coastal Resort Trophy introduced.

Pilot of Business Improvement District category.

69,840 volunteer hours given by groups, and over 1,000 hours by judges.

Award ceremony in Dundee at Flower and Food Festival.

65,987 volunteer hours donated by groups & judges - economic value of £900,000.

Keep Scotland Beautiful Award introduced.

50th anniversary.

Colour theme chosen - four colours of Keep Scotland Beautiful saltire.

Garden for Life Forum sponsor Biodiversity Award.

New RHS Award for Overcoming Adversity introduced.

Award ceremony in Aberdeen.

Beechgrove Garden features Colourful Carnoustie and the 50th anniversary.

May Wright retires as Chairman. Keep Scotland Beautiful funds the campaign.

Name changed to Beautiful Scotland to reflect the greater emphasis on environmental responsibility and community participation in the assessment of communities. New logo created.

‘Clachan’ and ‘High Flat Villages’ categories added.

Biodiversity Award sponsored by Scottish Natural Heritage.

New City Trophy donated by Aberdeen City Council.

Neighbourhood Awards rebranded to It’s Your Neighbourhood.

Award ceremony in Rothesay - hurricane ‘bawbag’!

New logo created to fit with Keep Scotland Beautiful rebranding.

Four Rosebowl winners: St Andrews in Bloom, Beautiful Perth, Dufftown in Bloom and Pitlochry in Bloom.

Award Ceremony in Dundee at Flower and Food Festival.
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.