

GETTING BETTER TOGETHER COMMUNITY GARDEN



Getting Better Together Presentation James Whiteford

Hello and good morning. On the left is our planted design for the Beautiful Scotland 50th anniversary celebrations, and on the right is our 50th celebration cake that was designed by one of our cafe staff Laura.

- Changing the layout and adding more colour



We set about changing the layout of the garden at the start of the year - Lorraine (staff member) suggested we add some colour to the garden; staff and volunteers worked together and, three coats of paint and lots of blisters later, it was transformed. Lorraine was in charge of painting and I was in charge of all the hard work. Our oldest volunteer is Gavin who is 86 years old, and he also supports our other volunteers with extra supported needs.

The youth groups made our scarecrows who they named Bill & Ben - nice and original - with the nursery kids and after school groups painting ladybirds, frogs and hedgehogs on reclaimed pebbles. They also planted sunflowers, pumpkins and vegetables that were later used to make soup which they all got a taste. Our older people's groups also painted stones and pebbles with some of the history of Shotts.

Additions including our bug motel and bird houses.



Bush craft groups helped construct the bug motel on the left: they collected the contents from the local forest in Shotts and they also used reclaimed timber.

Shotts prison also donated bird houses, bird feeders, benches and wooden planters that the prisoners had made from reclaimed wood - they can all be seen in and around our centre and garden.

Some of our Volunteers
and at our
Garden Party



These pictures show our volunteers hard at work - it's a very tough job keeping on top of things!

Our garden party was held on the night our It's Your Neighbourhood assessor visited. The weather was awful (just ask our assessor Robin Miller) but it didn't stop us enjoying the evening barbecue and entertainment supplied by some of our board members, the grave dodgers!

Preparing our Beautiful Scotland Logo



We are very pleased with the way our logo turned out and it ended up being the centrepiece of our wonderful cake - which didn't just look fantastic, it tasted fantastic too...there wasn't much left at the end of the night - a wonderful evening and enjoyed by all.