



2020 Year of Coasts and Waters



Back in January, before the arrival of COVID, these two lads, working through their Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, helped us to clear Bervie's RNLi Flag Feature ready for giving it a make-over. Our location on Aberdeenshire's North Sea coast at the mouth of the Bervie Water and the local lifeboat heritage makes this year's theme very appropriate for us and this particular project.

The colourful RNLi Flag is set on a steeply sloping site which makes the gardening quite challenging!

Once the past growth was cleared, the garden owners got busy with paint brushes to spruce-up the flag. The feature was created in the 70's to honour the volunteer lifeboat crews, the professionals who keep the boats afloat and the dedicated guild members who help with the essential fundraising. Each year colour-matching annuals are planted in the pockets set into the flag.

The bed below the flag is shaded and damp so ferns and other plants suited to these conditions are being introduced there.



The top of the steep slope above the flag is quite exposed, so we've decided to create a heather bank and select varieties which will provide colour and interest during all four seasons of the year. Here are our newly planted heathers set among the rocks.

When COVID restrictions are eased why not come along to Bervie to see our RNLi Flag Feature and don't forget to give your support to the vital work of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.