



April 2022

APRIL

Friday 1st of April, 2022
At 7.30pm

Dalgety Bay Community Centre

Brighter Bervie

Tom Campbell

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

MAY

Friday 6th May

**Visit to Cairn o' Mhor Winery
Errol, Perthshire**

Saturday 14th May

**DBHS Annual Plant Sale
With Tea Room**

**Dalgety Bay Community Centre
1.00pm - 3.00pm**

JUNE

Friday 3rd of June

**Willow Workshop
Rob Eves**

JULY

Friday 1st of July

**Plants in Witchcraft
Greg Kenicer**

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

Oh what joy.... another face-to-face DBHS meeting on 4th March 2022. I missed the February one, so this was my first as host. It was really quite emotional. Robin Arnott DBHS member and show exhibitor gave a talk on Cacti and Succulents. Did you know that all cacti are succulents but not all succulents are cacti? It all to do with the formation of the spines. The presence of areole is a characteristic of a cactus, while it is rare on a succulent. The areole is a structure at the base of groups of spines on a cactus. Also, all cacti have a stem whereas succulents support a root system, stem and leaves.

Robin showed us loads of different species and where in the world they generally came from. There is an island off

the coast of Yemen where a certain species of cactus exists, and this particular

species does not exist anywhere else in the world.

I personally like Lithops, which are stone like plants. They look just like stones and hide away in their environment. Cacti and Succulents put on a good show of flowers at certain times of the year, if they are looked after properly. Robin was very interesting and the presentation was excellent. He donated some plants to be sold for DBHS funds afterwards. We had teas and coffees at the March meeting, and it was nice to see a wee bit more people there compared to February.

The next DBHS meeting in Dalgety Bay Community Centre, on 1st April 2022, will be a presentation called "Brighter Bervie" which is about the award-winning floral decoration of the town of Inverbervie, north of Montrose. This will be given by Tom Campbell, who has been waiting two years to do this. Teas and coffees will be served as well as the usual raffle.

I don't know if there will be any coronavirus restrictions left for the next meeting. Perhaps masks. I would still be inclined to wear a mask. I look forward to seeing you there.

Jobs for April:

The "Jobs for" part of the DBHS report is on the DBHS website at www.dbhs.org.uk Click on the "Jobs for" button to see what jobs you should be doing at this time of year.

Michael Gourlay
Chairman

DBHS MEMBERSHIP FEES

We asked that Membership Fees be paid by 31st March 2022. There are still

some to come in. If you have still to pay your fees, then please to so. The details you need for you to pay electronically are detailed below:

DBHS BACS Details:

Bank: Royal Bank of Scotland
Address: 52/54 East Port, Dunfermline,
Fife, KY12 7HB
Sort Code: 83 29 01
Account: Dalgety Bay Horticultural
Society (DBHS probably is enough)
A/C No: 00676049
Ref: Your Surname; Area

DBHS ANNUAL SHOW

We will run a full DBHS Annual Show this year. Cowdenbeath Show, which was always on the 2nd Saturday of September, is not going to happen ever again. Colin Bird cannot get the manpower to help put it on. Because of this, and because the new Dalgety Bay Farmers Market will be up and running by September, on the 2nd Saturday of the month, the DBHS Committee have decided that the show be moved to the 2nd Saturday of the month. Both events being held on that weekend will feed each other with footfall, which will add to their success. If it does not work, then we have the option of changing the show back to the 1st weekend of September in 2023. That was all a bit of a mouthful!!

FUND RAISING

Pre-owned Items for Sale

DBHS has recently been donated a whole lot of items from Dave Forrester, who sadly passed away last month. Some of the items are listed below.

If any member thinks they would like anything from this list please contact Sandy Sheail at the allotments on 01383 824801 or Michael Gourlay on 01383 823425 and he will arrange for you to see everything. You will be asked to give a donation to DBHS for anything you take.

List of items available:

Black and Decker Workmate work bench
Black and Decker drills x 2
Black and Decker Sander
Angle Grinder
Bosch Jig-saw
Brace and Bit
Variety of Hammers
Lots of other tools
Metal Tool Boxes x 4

Variety of plants including fuchsia and geranium
Variety of cactus plants

New Gazebos:

DBHS has a number of unused gazebos that are being offered to members at the reduced price of £60. Douglas Martin bought them with a view to expanding our Farmers Market. Unfortunately, that didn't happen and the Farmers' Market is now being run independently as a regular event.

DBHS Planting in Dalgety Bay

DBHS don't only plant daffodils and crocuses around Dalgety Bay. We look after the three big pots at the church roundabout. They will be stripped completely of the plants in them just now and replanted. Three Olearis Macrodonata 3L pots will replace each of the grasses and a whole load of geranium plug plants will be used for colour. Total price was about £37 plus the cost of new compost.

Olearia Macrodonata



Olearia Macrodonata or **New Zealand Holly** is a **vigorous evergreen shrub** which is a valuable plant for UK gardeners both for its year-round foliage and its fragrant summer flowers. It has been awarded the RHS Award of Garden Merit for its many desirable qualities and is often used for hedging.

FLOWER OF THE MONTH



The daisy conveys Innocence.

“He loves me, he loves me not” is a familiar rhyme associated with what is probably our most well-known plant: the common daisy. Its white-and-yellow flower heads brighten up lawns, verges and short turf almost everywhere.

Many years ago, I had an aunt and cousin visiting from Canada and took them to the memorial gardens in Kirkcaldy and they wanted to know what the white flowers in the grass were. Daisies. They loved

them. What they found amazing was when the Council came to cut the grass a wee while later that they managed to cut round all the daisies. We didn't have the heart to tell them they had chopped off their heads.

SILVERBURN ALLOTMENTS

This story is from 2019 but it's a good one.

Silverburn Allotments were constructed in 2017 and opened in January 2018 as part of the council's planned regeneration of Silverburn Park near Leven, Fife. The allotment site was positioned on an area adjacent to the main carpark. A prime location with prime soil having been in pasture land for many years. All 27 plots were filled immediately including one school plot.

Six months into the growing season grenades started to be dug up on one area of the site. It then transpired that the park, when it was in private ownership, was commandeered by the MOD twice and during WW2. It was used as a training base by the Polish army. The site had to be closed in July to allow detailed investigation to take place and any remedial work carried out. This involved consultation with the general public and the plot holders along with the council's allotment team taking a proactive approach to this unique situation. There were 7 grenades and 63 rounds of ammunition along with loads of old bottles and tin cans.

The site was handed back to the plot holders in good time for them to get ready for the start of the 2019 growing season.

Who knew allotment growing could be so dangerous? The allotments in Dalgety Bay turned up all sorts of things including a

washing machine, I think. I'm sure someone will be able to give me some tales from our own allotments for next month.

Scotland's Daffodil Festival 2022

Backhouse Rossie Estate

Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th April
10am-5pm

To pre-book talks and garden tours please email info@backhouserossie.co.uk.

GRAPEVINE

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