



TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR CITY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2020

Welcome to the June 2020 newsletter for Dundee's Take Pride in Your City campaign, helping share good news and inspiration from our environmental and horticultural groups. Thanks to everyone who has sent in their news!

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN DUNDEE?



Broughty Ferry in Bloom have been keeping a lockdown diary of their work as they keep their projects in the Ferry going. Their planters are looking lovely after working as individuals or with family to carry out planting and watering over the past few months. The group also ran their annual Secret Garden Trail on their Facebook page this year so everyone can still enjoy taking part.

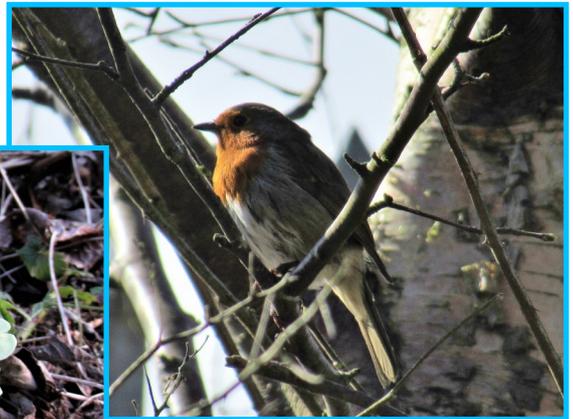
The **Gate Church Carbon Saving Project** have just secured another two years of funding to continue and expand their brilliant projects, the Community Fridge is still doing well. They have also set up a weekly photographic competition on their Facebook page.

Dighty Connect volunteers had to down tools during lockdown but the project continues to gather steam and plan for the future. They set to work updating their website, created a list of craft ideas and are documenting the seasons as the months pass by.

Volunteers who live locally decided to spend much of their daily exercise at the burn and have continued to maintain newly planted trees, fill up the wildlife ponds to keep the tadpoles hydrated, remove the first signs of Himalayan balsam and record local wildlife. So far they have spotted bats, tortoiseshell butterflies, the kingfisher, tadpoles, bumblebees and lots of different spring flowers. As lockdown restrictions are eased they will have lots of exciting projects to share so keep an eye out for regular updates on their social media pages.



DUNDEE NEWS CONTINUED...



The **Dundee Miley Group** have sent in some photos from the past few weeks on the Miley. They usually have a litter picking rota in place, so four of their volunteers decided to continue a rota as part of their daily exercise during lockdown to help keep the Miley litter free. Mary from the group says that unfortunately they are finding that some people are still not picking up after their dogs, however the Miley is looking exceptionally good at the moment and there is very little litter despite the fact there are lots of people visiting just now.



Beautiful Scotland group **Bonnie Dundee** has been supporting **Seeds of Hope Scotland** who gave native wildflower seeds to community groups, and those who are vulnerable or self-isolating. The project aims to create a patchwork of colour, beauty and ultimately bring smiles to people's faces during the pandemic, it will also help our pollinators too. Bonnie Dundee gave out 95 seed packets to groups, allotments and individuals across Dundee and look forward to seeing photos of everything in bloom!

At **Ninewells Community Garden** the indoor spaces are closed but the garden itself is still open to locals who can walk or cycle to the garden and staff at Ninewells who are working on site. The facilitators, June and Helena, have been co-hosting virtual workshops, writing blogs, making videos and posting lots of photos of the garden on Facebook and Twitter. Helena sent these lovely photos and says:

"Everyone has been great about social distancing while at the garden. Some of the NHS staff are having lunch breaks at the garden, others choose to have a walk around and get out of the hospital for a break.

A few volunteers who live nearby are doing a great job of popping in and getting a few jobs done around the garden using their own tools. Thanks to them, the garden is still looking great. Watering during the dry spell has been a challenge, and luckily with the support from the Ninewells Estate staff, we have had deliveries of water to help keep the garden going. As always, it's the community that makes keeping the garden going possible."

DUNDEE'S SCHOOL GARDENS...



'The Patch' is **St. Francis RC Primary School's** allotment at Murrayfield Allotment, it's usually full of hustle and bustle during both term time and holidays, with pupils and their families helping out. As well as tending their vegetable plots and orchard, there is plenty of wildlife to see from the bird hide, a mud kitchen to play in and quiet areas to relax. They also hold community events to help bring everyone together.

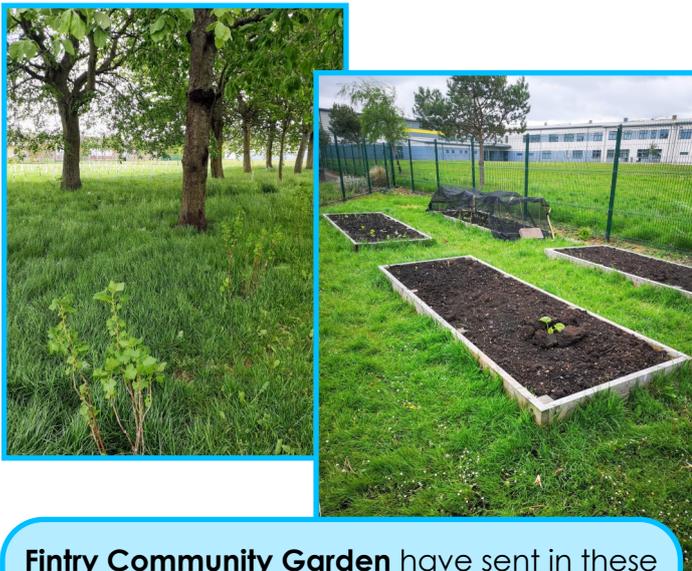
The Patch is doing well as you'll see from these recent photos. During lockdown the allotment group are going down to the allotment on their daily exercise and one of the teachers is visiting on a regular basis. They recently made a 'Give Covid the Boot' video for Keep Scotland Beautiful and got some Seeds of Hope wildflowers from Bonnie Dundee which they sowed beside their new willow house.



Craigiebarns Primary School Edible Garden was created in 2017 by their Parent Partnership in a quiet area of the playground. It's now a productive space where the P1-2s learn which plants grow in Scotland and how to make tasty food with them. They also grow plants to benefit nature, the children love seeing the wildlife using the garden. Here's how they are getting on:

"We were so sad when the schools closed at the end of March, just as our spring bulbs were starting to flower and we were about to start planting seeds in our greenhouse. Luckily one of our keen P2 gardeners lives close by and her family has been taking care of the garden and planting the flower and vegetable seeds for us. We have been posting updates on our Parent Partnership Facebook page so everyone can see what's growing. We are having another good spring with our birds. The sparrows have had their first brood and currently we have blue tits sitting on eggs. The kids feed them all through the winter and we have blackbirds, house sparrows, robins and pigeons."

...AND EVEN MORE NEWS!



Fintry Community Garden have sent in these recent pictures, fruit bushes and trees are establishing well and the tatties are now in. Keep up to date with all the news from the garden in their [weekly blog](#).



Friends of Dundee Law volunteers sowed areas of yellow rattle on the Law last year and in previous years too. It's doing a great job, you can see in this photo the impact that the yellow rattle is having on reducing the grass growth where it was sown. The south meadow now has a lot of yellow rattle including areas where it wasn't previously.

NEWSLETTERS & OTHER LINKS

Updates, ideas and inspiration from across Scotland and UK-wide initiatives to take part in and stay connected.

Beautiful Scotland & It's Your Neighbourhood - Weekly Newsletters [5 June](#) and [12 June](#)

Trellis - [Coffee & Chat Sessions: New Dates](#)

RHS Communities - [Blooming Brilliant News: Issue 3](#) and [Issue 4](#)

Buglife Scotland - [June Newsletter](#)

Scottish Natural Heritage has put together a great list of [citizen science projects](#) for biodiversity. A fun way to help the environment and scientific understanding!

Eden Project Communities - [The Big Virtual Lunch 2020](#) is a chance to celebrate community and get to know your neighbours. Although the main Big Virtual Lunch events took place at the start of June, Big Lunches can take place right through the summer so you have plenty of time to take part.