



November 2022

NOVEMBER

Friday 4th November at 7.30pm

Collecting Plants in China

Speaker – Kirsty Wilson

Dalgety Bay Community Centre

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

9th December - AGM

Note: change of date

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

The October meeting was about growing Dahlias, given by John Jack from near Airdrie. He gave a detailed talk about the intricacies of growing giant dahlias. He has the 80' by 30' polytunnel in which he grows 350 plants. which is his specialty. He also has a very large greenhouse for even more. His obsession is definitely well served.

His house on several acres of land is in a small village on the outskirts of Airdrie and is on land reclaimed from mining. A couple of hundred tons of soil was shipped in for his garden and many bags of compost are used each year. The farming community helps him out with very large straw bales, which he uses as a mulch on his plants. (See page 3 for his "secret" to growing fabulous plants).

John enters all the big flowers show, UK wide, and especially the Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society shows at Harrogate and RHS Wisley. He is very successful at these shows and has been awarded many trophies. He agrees he has an obsessive hobby and an understanding wife. A good talk.

The next meeting in the DBHS Syllabus is a presentation from Kirsty Wilson of RBGE and is about one of her Plant Collecting Expeditions. This will take place on Friday 4th November in Dalgety Bay Community Centre at 7:30pm. Doors open at 7:00pm.

Kirsty Wilson of Beechgrove fame will be talking about plant hunting in the Yunnan Province of China. She reckons she has the best job in the world as the Herbaceous Supervisor at the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh. She leads tours, writes articles, gives talks and goes on plant hunting expeditions. To top all that she is a presenter on the Beechgrove Garden. Can I just tell you Kirsty, you

haven't tried retirement yet. Retiral, I reckon, is certainly the best job I've ever had.

I have seen and heard this talk at a Scottish Gardeners' Forum (SGF) AGM and that's when I asked her to come to Dalgety Bay. That would have been in 2019, three years ago. So, it will be lovely at last to have Kirsty here to speak to us.

Michael Gourlay,
Chairman
DBHS

ALLOTMENTS UPDATE

A meeting of DBHS Allotment Holders was held on Thursday 27th October 2022 at the church. Matters of importance to the allotments were discussed and agreements made on certain aspects of the plots. We all came away from it friends and talking to each other so that was positive.

The care home is unwilling to take on "the Triangle", a small piece of land at the east end of the plots and having a water feed from them is unlikely. We must turn our minds to water collection at the plots and if there is anyone out there who has a spare water barrel or who know of a source of water barrels, please send me the details to investigate.

Contact michaeljg@btinternet.com or phone 07790 182847. Thank you.

DBHS AGM

Note that the DBHS Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Friday 9th

December 2022. Due to holidays, it is one week later than shown in the Syllabus Card. It will still be held in Dalgety Bay Community Centre at 7:30pm.

Committee nominations are as follows:
Chairman, (Michael Gourlay willing to stand); Nominations Required.

Grapevine Editor, (Sharon Greig willing to stand); Nominations Required.

Committee Website, (Bryan McDowall willing to stand); Nominations Required.

Committee Allotments (Kevin Melville willing to stand); Nominations Required.

Committee Member, (Matthew Simpson willing to stand); Nominations Required.

Please email your nomination to Anja Graham, DBHS Secretary at am.graham22@yahoo.co.uk or phone her at 01383 821506.

DAFFODIL PLANTING

Since the footpath through Chapel Wood has been upgraded and the information board has been installed the improvement around Donibristle Chapel has been fantastic. A new bench is now in position and over the last two days about 1000 daffodils have been planted behind where the bench is. This will create a great display in the spring.

The grassy area to the west end of Dalmeny View will also be planted with daffodils. The cubs are going to help us do this.

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"I have used it on the veg beds as a heavy mulch and experimenting in some areas as a no dig concept; laid it on cardboard on the beds and will sow wildflower seed into it. I have used it on two of the herbaceous borders to keep the weeds down and keep the ground warmer to help protect the crowns.

Head Gardener,
Floors Castle Gardens

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David Redmore,
Director Garden and
Landscape Design.



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KINGS SEEDS

GRAPEVINE

There are more Seed Catalogues on their way from Kings if anyone still wants one. There is no pressure to buy. We expect to get 40% off our seed orders so it's a good opportunity to try something new. The last order date is Friday 4th of November.

There are many ways to send in your order to me:

- you can scan or photograph your form and email it to me grapevine.editor@hotmail.com
- hand it in at the monthly meeting on the 4th
- post it through Mike Gourlay's letterbox if you live in Dalgety Bay
- or post it to me in Kirkcaldy. If you are posting it to me by Royal Mail on or around the 4th let me know so I know to wait on it.

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Full contact details for Mike Gourlay are:

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KY11 9SZ,
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Dalgety Bay Horticultural Society **2022 Committee Nomination Form**

Positions available for election are

- Chairman • Grapevine Editor • Committee Website
- Allotments Committee Member • Committee Member •

Name of Nominee: _____

Position Nominated: _____

Nominated By: _____

Seconder: _____

Return to Anja Saunders, the DBHS Secretary by 15th November 2022.

Anja Saunders, 18 Merkland Crescent, Dalgety Bay, KY11 9XD

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