



Cove in Bloom

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Have you seen **THE NEW ORCHARD?** Cove and Altens now have a

Community Orchard. The first trees have been planted in the small grassed area behind Partan Skelly Way/Whitehills Crescent. So far we have three plum trees, two cherry trees, two pear trees, and a crab apple tree. Give them a few years and you will be able to help yourselves to some fruit when you want to – and it should make that dog walking area a little more attractive to your dogs too!

What's more **THE JUDGES ARE COMING!** At the end of July the Beautiful Scotland judges will visit Cove and Altens for a tour round the village to see what we are all doing to help make this a good place to live. Before they arrive there will be a frantic finishing off and tidying up of the area, and Aberdeen Council are helping us with grass cutting, tidying up, litter picking, road sweeping and so on. If you have any time to help us, contact us by phone or email as above, and we will agree what you can do, either in your own time, or by joining a group of us to do some weeding or tidying up at one of the community beds.

'Cove in Bloom' don't do everything and exclude everyone else. **Everything YOU do goes into the community effort.** We simply try to draw together everyone's efforts to improve our area. So well done to the Nether Loirston Growers, on their allotments – we will show them off to the judges. Well done the Scouts – we will show off your veggie bed and planter to the judges. Well done Altens Community Centre – we will show the judges how you have improved your area, and the same goes for the Loirston Annexe, the judges will see how much you have achieved this year. Well done Doonies Farm, your planters, beds and baskets are looking good, and well done Burnbanks Village, same goes for your planters and gardens. Finally, well done to both Loirston School and Charleston School, whose achievements will be shown off to the judges too!

For those of you who are not sure where the community beds are, there is a Rosebed on one side and a Flower bed on the other side of the junction of Earnsheugh Road where it meets Langdykes Road. There is a small bed on the bank near the bus stop about halfway down Earnsheugh Road, and there are three beds together, known as the Community Garden, on Cove Road, near its junction with Earnsheugh Road. These are all the community beds, and we also have the new planters that you have seen around the village, as well as the hanging baskets at Loirston Annexe and Langdykes Road/Earnsheugh Road. These are all for the benefit of everyone, and helping the team of volunteers to look after them is always appreciated.

THE JUDGES VISIT IS NOT THE END though. We were asked for another planter, and that is now in place in Whitehills Rise. As I write, it is in its unrenovated state, but this will change. There are repairs to do before we can paint it and plant it up, but it will be done as soon as possible. Thank you to Cove Roughcasters who volunteered to sponsor it. Our three year plan is varied as necessary and progress is made. We hope to have our Welcome Stones in place by the end of this year, and the plans for our sponsored walk are progressing. If you want to take part in the walk, or sponsor us to raise funds for the statue of Isie Caie, please get in touch.

The walk from Cove Bay Harbour to Aberdeen Harbour takes place on Sunday 8th September – and Isie Caie's grand-daughter plans to be with us!