

## Cove in Bloom

## SILVER MEDAL WINNERS

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## Working for Cove and Altens Beautiful Scotland 50<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary COMMEMORATIVE STATUE for the COVE FISHWIVES

July 2016 will see the start of work on the statue commemorating the fishwives of Cove, with Isie Caie as our figurehead. Isie was the last fishwife working out of Cove, carrying her creel of fish from Cove Harbour to the Green, in Aberdeen to sell. It was a walk of approximately six miles, carrying the creel that was so heavy with her load of fish that it took two men to lift it onto her back. Isie was born in 1880, and lived and worked in Cove, spending most of her life in No. 64 The Cove, which has since been demolished, and stood on what is now known as Stoneyhill Terrace. As well as selling fish, Isie also cleaned in St Mary's Church on Loirston Road, she became so 'weel kent' in Aberdeen that she was featured in the Press & Journal calendar one year, and when she had a stroke, at the age of 80, it was reported in the local press. Isie died in May 1966, at the age of 86, and was buried in Nigg Kirkyard.

Our sculptor is Alberto Costa, who has lived and worked as a sculptor in Aberdeen for over 20 years. He works with the residents of Newton Dee Village, involving them in sculpting and building art installations as well as the commissions he completes. He loves to make art out of things that have been thrown away, and his tower of sewing machines was a sight worth seeing. This sculpture will depict the spirit of the fishwife rather than show Isie Caie as she was in life. Alberto will be working on the sculpture in Cove Harbour, and he welcomes visitors to watch his work progressing, and to share memories with him of the fishing in Cove.

We are still looking for funding for the statue, we have raised half the cost of the work, and we hope that seeing the work in progress will encourage donations and sponsorship to cover the rest of the cost. If you know of a business that may be interested in becoming a sponsor please let us know and we will contact them, we would like to think that this statue will be owned by Cove and Altens.

If you would like to contribute we are holding our sponsored walk this year on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September. Contact Cove in Bloom to take part, we walk from Cove Harbour to Aberdeen Harbour, less than 6 miles, following, as close as possible, the route the fishwives took into town to sell their fish.

We are presently researching the fishing industry in Cove Harbour, if you have memories of the Cove and the fishing we would love to hear from you. We will be setting up an information board by the statue describing the history of fishing in Cove.



