



# Cove in Bloom

**South Loirston, Nigg, Aberdeen, AB12 3LJ**

**Tel: 07595 046563 Email: [jim5henderson@talktalk.net](mailto:jim5henderson@talktalk.net)**

Winter may be approaching but Cove in Bloom is still hard at work planning and preparing for the new season, and there are lots of things in the pipeline, not least a new website. More of that anon.

We were given about 3000 bulbs by Aberdeen City Council to plant in various sites around Cove. Mostly daffodils, but crocuses as well. Children from Loirston Primary have now planted both daffodils and crocuses at the junction of Loirston Avenue with Earnsheugh Road, and some from Charleston School have planted both at the Cove Road end of the grass in front of their school.

With the help of the Community Payback team we have also planted daffodils on the bank between the Library and the shops, and beside the footpath alongside the Loirston Annexe. We will also be doing something with the three stone-walled raised beds outside the shops, and are speaking to the Council about taking over some of the existing beds along Langdykes Road, where we hope to be able to do good things with all of these.

We have poppy seeds from Poppy Scotland to plant. Next year, 2014, is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the First World War, and we want to commemorate this, along with other areas in Aberdeen, by providing a show of the iconic red poppies that have become a symbol of our thanks to and for those who gave their lives for us during this First World War, and subsequent wars. The plan at present is to line the wall of the green in Old Cove with these flowers, but if you have any other sites you think would work, we are open to suggestions.

For the future, plans are progressing for the Welcome Stones, though with input from the Roads Department we have changed these slightly as we work with the Council, and during last summer we were offered a boat, a salmon coble, which if it is still available, we hope to site near the Makro Roundabout on Langdykes Road as a feature welcoming all to Cove and Altens. Our local councillor, Andy Finlayson, has obtained agreement in principle from the relevant Council department, and plans must now be submitted for finalising. Size may be an issue, but we hope to work things out with them, and moving the boat will be an interesting problem to solve! Any offers gratefully received!

Our monthly workshops continue. All are welcome to come along, and learn about what we need to be doing in our gardens and village at this time of year. The workshops are there for all – those who know what they are doing and those who are new to gardening, come along to Altens Community Centre at 7.00pm on the second Tuesday of the month, and enjoy the company, help, and advice of other gardeners as well as helping prepare and grow on plants for the community as well as for ourselves.

Please remember that all this can only happen with your support and your help. If you can volunteer to look after just one bed, or one planter, if you want to become involved in the planning, or have an idea that we might be able to turn into reality you can contact us by phone or email, or just pop round to South Loirston for a natter. The Cove in Bloom group meets every month to plan and manage the work, and you are welcome to join us. All help is appreciated, and each person who takes on one small task makes it easier for all the others. Please get in touch, we will only ask of you what you are willing and able to do – and the team is always there to call on for support.