

Community Food Growers Newsletter



Guidance for Compost provided by Scottish Borders Council for Community Food Growing Groups 2023 Community Gardens Network

A maximum of 5m³ is available for each Community Food Growing Group. Each bulk bag would hold approximately 1m³ of compost when delivered.

There are two options available to get the compost:

1. If you have access to a trailer, you can collect the compost from the Forth Resource Management (FRM) site at Pavilion, near Gattonside. You would need to arrange a collection time directly with FRM prior to collection. This option would incur no cost to your community group.
2. If you would prefer delivery then there would be a charge for both the bags and transportation. The current charge to community groups for this is £20 per bag delivered and this covers both costs. Please note: due to the type of vehicle that FRM use they are not able to deliver the compost loose.

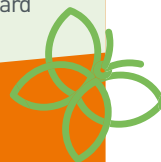
For a compost request form please email communityfoodgrowing@scotborders.gov.uk



ISSUE 15
JANUARY 2023

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REMINDER
Free compost from
Scottish Borders Council
Deadline for orders
1st February 2023.



Community Food Growing News

Abundant Borders



The volunteers have been taking advantage of the new polycarbonate tunnel at the Eyemouth Community Food Garden to shelter from the winter elements as we removed the grafting tape from the fruit trees we used at our bud grafting workshop in the summer.

All but one of the buds had taken and now we just have to wait and see if these will burst into life in the spring. We will also be holding a winter grafting workshop at the Eyemouth Garden in late February - full details will be announced on our Facebook page nearer the time".



Greener Peebles

Garden Heritage Trail Project

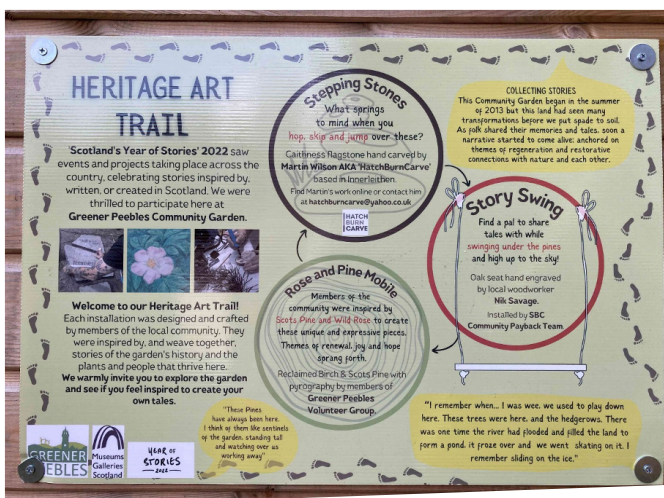
If you've been to the garden recently, you may have noticed some exciting new additions! We are thrilled to now have in place all 3 interactive art installations making up our 'Scotland's Year of Stories' (YS22) Heritage Art Trail.

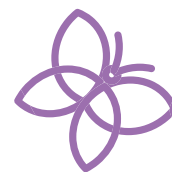
YS22 saw events and projects taking place across the country, celebrating stories inspired by, written, or created in Scotland. Here at Greener Peebles Community Garden, we kicked off the project with our fantastic Summer Solstice celebration back in June and this trail is the culmination of our project.

Each installation was designed and crafted by members of the local community. They were inspired by, and weave together, stories of the garden's history, the plants and people that thrive here and their connections with the Solstices.

We'd like to express special thanks to the following:

- Martin Wilson of HatchBurnCarve for his extraordinary execution of the 'Stepping Stones', hand cut and carved from Caithness flagstone.
- Nik Savage for his careful hand and beautiful carving of the oak swing-seat.
- All members of the community that contributed personal memories, ideas and enthusiastic involvement.
- The Community Stories Fund - delivering the YS22 partnership programme.





Community Christmas Meal

We love any excuse to hold a community meal, and there is none better than an end of year and Christmas celebration lunch of a tasty turkey, stuffing and cranberry roll, washed down with some mulled apple juice.

Our thanks to Food Punks for the festive feast and for lending us their gazebo, to our friends at the High School who served up the meal, and our splendid volunteers for helping us set up and wash up!



Funding News HOS Conservation Grant 2023

The Hardy Orchid Society (HOS) promotes the conservation, cultivation, scientific study and sustainable enjoyment of the wild orchids of Britain, Europe and other temperate regions. HOS supports safeguarding wild orchid populations and preserving wild habitats for the benefit of present and future generations.

The Hardy Orchid Society Conservation Grants aim to encourage communities to incorporate orchid conservation work into their environmental initiatives by contributing a small sum to help protect and enhance wild orchids and their habitats.

We plan to announce the award of one or more grants to a total value of up to £1,000 each within four weeks of the funding round closing date, which for 2023 is February 28th.
hardyorchidsociety.org.uk

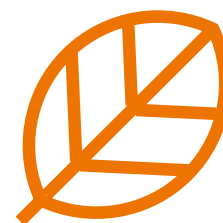
Bright Green Nature Funding

“Wild Your Space” Microgrant

Our new grant funding is available to households in the Scottish Borders and aims to help people to bring wildlife into their gardens, connect with other green spaces and to restore natural ecosystems.
Funding - Bright Green Nature

Crailing Community Orchard

A Fruitful Start to 2023 for Crailing Community Council



Crailing Community Orchard, near Jedburgh, have just recruited their first Orchard Animator, Juliet Porter, thanks to £5,000 in funding from the Scottish Government Rural and Island Communities Idea into Action Fund supported by Inspiring Scotland.

The Orchard Development Group is one of over 180 community projects around Scotland to benefit from this funding which supports projects that are addressing themes such as Covid recovery, net zero, well being and social justice through their proposals.

Juliet Porter is taking up the short-term role of Orchard Animator until the end of March 2023 as part of a pilot project to explore new ways to bring more people to the orchard and to make better use of the orchard site and its produce.

'I'm really excited to be given the opportunity to work alongside volunteers to develop Crailing Community Orchard. Our initial priority will be to improve the capacity for people to enjoy the space, creating pathways and picnic spots. I will be working hard to raise the profile of the orchard as I'd like everyone within our community to feel that the orchard is their space, a place where we can all connect and reconnect with nature.'

New people are always warmly welcomed to the Crailing Community Orchard, which is centred around growing different orchard fruits, training in orchard skills and activities to encourage greater biodiversity in the orchard. No previous experience is required.

Activities include seasonal workdays to maintain and improve the orchard including winter and summer pruning, apple picking and seasonal events like a community wassail and apple day. The orchard with its heritage varieties of apples, pears and damsons is a lovely place to spend time in the company of others and there is always time set aside for picnics and food sharing.

The next public event will be the Crailing Community Orchard Wassail on the afternoon of **Sunday January 29th, 2.30pm for a 3pm start.**

Crailing Community Orchard Wassail | Facebook Wassails are ancient winter ceremonies to bless the fruit trees in an orchard in the hope of a good harvest. The wassail includes a procession around the orchard accompanied by much clattering of pots and pans to drive away evil spirits and awaken the trees for the coming year; the decorating one of the old trees with toast dipped in hot spicy apple juice, to both thank the tree and entice robins, believed to be guardians of orchards, and a Wassail Song. Check the facebook page for more information, to keep up with other orchard events and make contact with us **Crailing Community Orchard | Facebook.**

