# Scotland's GARDENS Scheme

www.scotlandsgardens.org



#### What we do

- We help individuals and organisations to open gardens to the public.
- We work with garden owners and volunteers to plan, promote and celebrate garden openings
- We raise funds for charity through garden gate tickets, plant sales and refreshments.
- We make sure funds raised go to those charities supported.





#### Introduction

- Created in 1931 (celebrating 90 years!)
- Fundraising Committee of the Queen's Nursing Institute Scotland - District Nurses
- The National Gardens Scheme 1926



#### Instant Success

- 1932 the first full year
- King opens Balmoral to the public
- 500 gardens opened









#### Supporting the Nurses

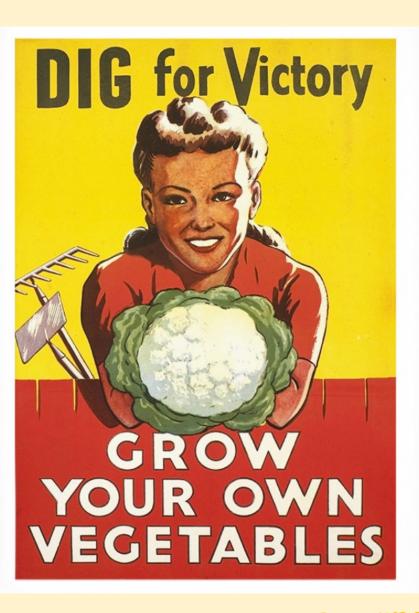
- Raising funds for the nurses
- District Nurses' annual pension of £20 doubled
- Nurse training supported





"He's put on weight!"





#### War Years

- Gardens continues to open although veg took over much of the flower beds
- Special petrol allowance given to garden owners and bus operators
- Tea continued to be served patriotically, and without sugar
- Gardens opening dropped to about 300
- Local openers can support their local nurses with 40% of funds raised



#### Post War

- Creation of the NHS (1948)
- Nurses get NHS support
- 1952 The Gardens Fund of The National Trust for Scotland
- Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Society



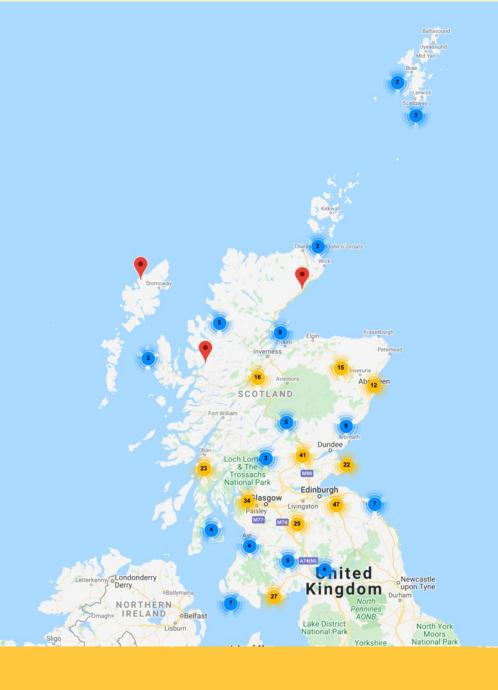
#### The 1960s

- Charity distribution changes
- 40% of the funds raise at each garden opening goes to charity of GO choice
- 60% of the funds (net)
  - The Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Society (Perennial)
  - The Royal Fund for Gardeners' Children









## The Gardens

- Across Scotland
- All shapes and sizes
- Villages, allotments, community gardens, stately homes, walled gardens, and many more...
- Estimated 44,000 visitors

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GARDENS

### Stately Homes











#### Creative Places









#### Walled Gardens







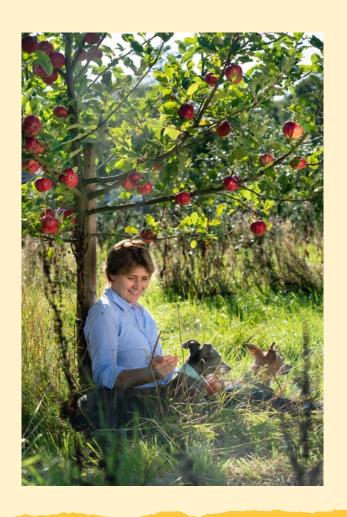




# Plants People & National Collections









Catherine Drummond-Herdman, Megginch Castle, holder of the National Scottish Heritage Apple and Pear and National Scottish Cider Apple collections. The tree is a 'Bloody Ploughman'







### Views & Far-flung Places















# Curated Collections



# Dundee & Angus Trail

- A special collection of 15 gardens open Thursdays/Fridays and Saturdays in June
- £20 ticket giving flexible access to gardens









#### Groups & Villages

• 39 groups and villages opening through June to August







#### Get Involved

- Open your garden or encourage someone else!
- Visit a garden (or two or three...)
- Help on an Open Day
- Join a local group of volunteers
  - Love gardens?
  - Marketing skills?
  - Social media skills?
  - Enjoy working as part of a team?
  - Love baking?



#### Selecting Gardens

- Willingness to open
- 'Loved' gardens
- Good standard
- Horticultural interest
- 45 minutes of interest alone or grouped with other gardens



# Kinds of Openings

- Single day(s) or weekend
  - Usually 2-5pm, extending to noon-6pm
- Extended period range of dates
- By arrangement
- Private openings
- Pop-up
- Plant sales
- Teas!





# Supporting Openers

- Annual guidebook 'yellow book'
- Website listing
- Local leaflets
- Social media
- Local posters
- Road signs, banners, tickets, garden signs
- Press releases, newspaper features
- Morale support, recognition, celebration!



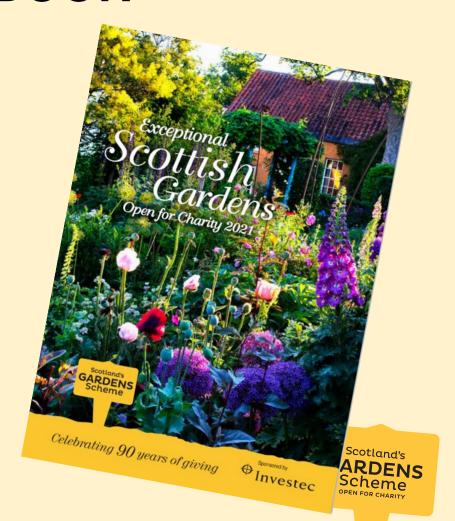
#### Insurance

- Public Liability
  - All private domestic owners who are not otherwise covered
- Product Liability
  - For the teas
- Employer's Liability
  - For the volunteers helping on the day

Scotland's

#### The 'Yellow Book'

- Published annually
- Information on:
  - All the gardens
  - Our charity
  - The beneficiaries
- £7.50
- Available online
- Sponsored by Investec





#### Where the Money Goes

Over the past 5 years....

- Over £1 Million to charity
- Over 600 charities supported
- Over 1,000 gardens opened
- 60% gross of funds raised to nominated charity
- 250+ charities supported each year
- 40% net of the funds raised:
  - Maggie's Cancer Care Centres
  - The Queen's Nursing Institute Scotland
  - Perennial



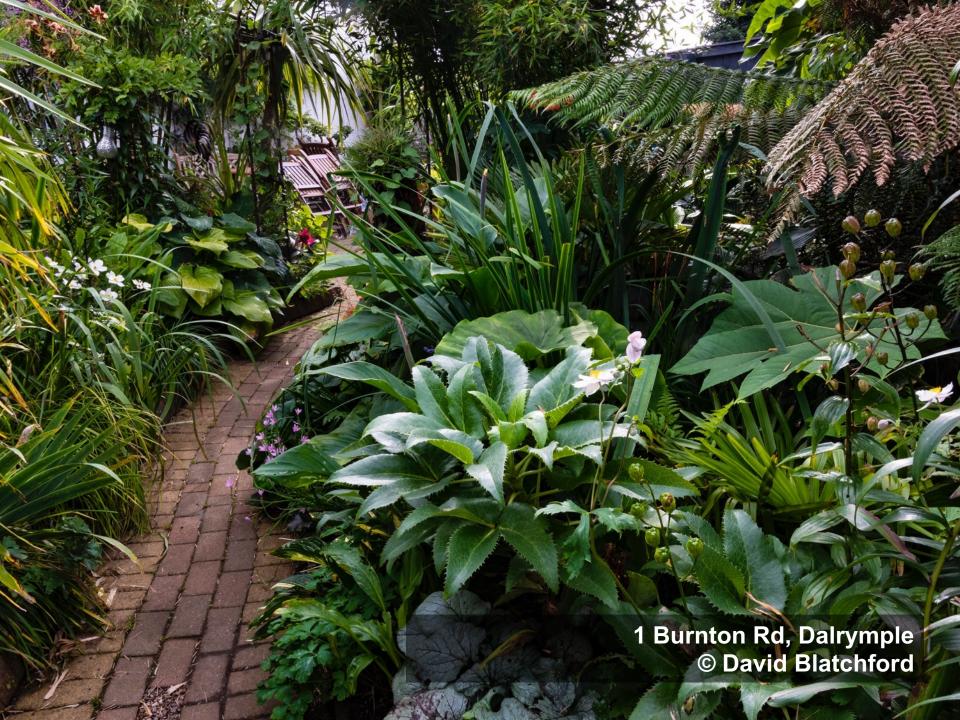


Covid support
Financial support
Training & careers
Legal advice
Mental wellbeing

www.perennial.org.uk











#### Thank you!

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