



# *The Seed Box*

**OSCR**

Scottish Charity Regulator

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Registered Charity  
SC050056



**NEWSLETTER**  
**OCTOBER 2021**



September 2021

Where has this year gone?

The garden has been producing some fantastic veg and flowers this year even though we have been having some challenging weather, very cold and snowy at the start of the year, followed by a hot and dry Summer.

Read on for all the news from the garden so far this year.

## **CONTENTS**

Snowy Days..... Page 3

Garden Furniture ..... Page 4

Pancake Day ..... Page 5

Covid Update ..... Page 5

General ..... Page 6

Volunteers ..... Page 7

Veg Bag Scheme ..... Page 7

Photos ..... Page 8

Social Enterprise ..... Page 9

Christmas Trees ..... Page 9

Day Trips ..... Page 10

Dates For Your Diary..... Page 10

Flowers ..... Page 11

## Challenging Conditions



February saw us with some challenging weather when we were hit with so much snow, it was quite unbelievable. The snow lasted for over 2 weeks and every day was deja-vu. Paths, greenhouses and poly tunnels that had been cleared the day before were all covered in snow again the next day.

It was a continual task of clearing the snow with no sign of it ever shifting. There was so much snow we were running out of somewhere to put it, there were piles everywhere. Woolly hats and gloves were a must for everyone. Finally after two long weeks we began to see some signs of Spring.



**SNOWY DAYS**  
**AT**  
**BALLOGIE**



# Garden Furniture



A LOCAL  
COMMUNITY  
BENCH

CLEANED,  
SANDED  
AND A  
LITTLE OIL



The whole team got involved again this year in giving customers' garden furniture some tender loving care . The furniture was given a good clean, sanded down ,oiled or painted to the customer's choice then returned to the owners looking good and almost like new.

## GET IN CONTACT

We will be doing furniture once we get Christmas out of the way, if interested in getting your garden furniture ready for next Summer, please get in contact with

[Susan.littlejohn@theseedbox.org.uk](mailto:Susan.littlejohn@theseedbox.org.uk)



# Pancake Day



Our new craft room was put to good use on 16th February when the team made pancakes from scratch.

They all could not wait for their own pancakes to be ready so that they could try them with some of our Strawberry and Whitecurrant jam made at the end of last year.

Think the overall decision was that the pancakes were delicious.

## Covid

All the staff and co-workers received both Covid jabs in the early part of 2021



# General

## **AGM**

We had our AGM (on-line) back in February, our Chairperson for the last 6 years, Kate Redpath, stood down and our new Chair Person is now Guy Haslam. Thank you to Kate for her time over the last few years and also welcome to Guy for taking on this role.

## **Open Weekend**

We held our Open Weekend on the 22nd and 23rd of May. This was done in a slightly different way this year due to Covid. We worked an appointment system for both days, numbers were a bit down but we felt that this was the best way to do it due to Covid.

## **Donation**

Thank you to Banchory Singers for a donation to The Seed Box, this was put to good use by buying waterproofs for the whole team.

## **Poly Tunnel**

We erected a new poly tunnel this year at Ballogie which has had tomatoes, courgettes, chillies and cucumbers growing in it and has been a big success.



## **Aboyne Farmers Market**

The market has been running this year since April and we now have over 30 stalls each month.

It has been a huge success and very well attended by customers

The next market is Saturday 9th October.



## **Co-workers**

Two of our co-workers have moved on to new opportunities this year, but we have gained a few other co-workers this year as well.

# Volunteers

Once again, we would like to thank all our volunteers for all the help they have given us so far this year, we could not do this without their help.

This is our oldest volunteer who turned 87 this year, and is also one of our longest serving volunteers.



# Veg Bag Scheme



Our Veg Bag Scheme started again in July with over 30 veg bags a week. This is slightly down on last year where we were doing them over 2 days. This year we are managing to do them all in 1 day. Freshly harvested veg each week, delivered right to your door. If you want more information on our veg bag scheme please contact

[susan.littlejohn@theseedbox.org.uk](mailto:susan.littlejohn@theseedbox.org.uk)

# Photo Gallery



Computer Work



Flower Arranging



Veg Harvesting



Weeding



Watering



Walking

# 2021 Social Enterprise

## Scotland



#SocEntAwards21



**Come meet this year's  
Social Enterprise Awards  
Scotland Finalists!**

We are delighted to announce that we have been shortlisted for the Health and Social Care Award in the Social Enterprise Scotland 2021 awards. The awards recognise Social Enterprises, Charities and Community Organisations who deliver social and environmental impact in Scotland.

Winners to be announced on November 2nd.

See more on the other entries, etc at [2021 Social Enterprise Awards Scotland](#)

# Christmas Trees At Glen Tanar



We will be selling Christmas Trees and wreaths again this year at Glen Tanar Walled Garden every Friday, Saturday and Sunday leading up to Christmas Day (excluding Christmas Eve). We sold out really quickly last year, so we have ordered slightly more for this year.

Glen Tanar Estate will also be doing a special event in their Ballroom on Sunday 5th December with a variety of local stalls to complement what we are doing in the garden.

# Day Trips

We have managed to take the team out on a couple of day trips, one to the beach at St Cyrus, where it was a little chilly when they went for a walk.

The other trip out was to a fire station in Aberdeen where the team planted out some of their garden areas, then had great fun using the water hoses to wash the fire engines.



## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

9th October—Aboyne Farmers Market

13th November—Aboyne Farmers Market

11th December—Aboyne Farmers Market

3rd/4th/5th December—Christmas Tree Sales—Glen Tanar

10th/11th/12th December—Christmas Tree Sales—Glen Tanar

17th/18th/19th December—Christmas Tree Sales—Glen Tanar

# Flowers

We have been supplying local florists, guest houses and other customers with some beautiful flowers this year. We still have flowers left in the garden, (probably for another couple of weeks), if you would like flowers for yourself or a gift, delivery is free within 10 miles of Aboyne. If you want to order please get in contact with [susan.littlejohn@theseedbox.org.uk](mailto:susan.littlejohn@theseedbox.org.uk)



**The Seed Box is a Scottish Charity, SC050056, regulated by The Scottish Charity (OSCR)**

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