



June 2025

NEXT MEMBERS' MEETING

CHEMICALS IN YOUR GARDEN

Speaker - Keith Brand

Friday 6th June 2025
at 7.30pm (Doors open at 7pm)

Dalgety Bay Community Centre

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

JULY

4/7/25 Christmas Trees

AUGUST

1/8/25 The Iris

SEPTEMBER

50th Anniversary Annual Show

OCTOBER

Dalgety Bay Heritage Trail

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

Finding David Douglas was the title of the presentation given to DBHS at our May meeting. This was given by Syd House, who is an excellent speaker, and made it so very interesting. David Douglas started his horticultural career at Scone Palace and became an environmentalist, botanist and explorer who visited the Americas on more than one occasion. He was a prolific plant collector and contributed many specimens from the Americas to Europe. This included the Douglas Fir named after him.

One of the main areas he explored in the 1820s, covered the north-west of America, including Canada and the stories of his adventures in what was

then wilderness, are really, quite enthralling. To get there involved sailing around Cape Horn a very long sea journey, then up the Columbia River. He joined the Hudson Bay Company. To get home again he considered a trip north and across Siberia, but this did not happen. He would negotiate rivers and waterways which took him across North America to Hudson Bay, still a very arduous journey.

He also visited Hawaii, and it was there he met his end. Explorers and adventurers to these places would

leave livestock, especially cattle, which would serve as food for those who followed. Pits would be dug to trap these wild cattle, and David Douglas fell into one of these pits and was gored by a bull. He died in 1834 and is interred in a church in Honolulu.

A monument for David Douglas was erected in Scone, where he was born.

The next meeting of DBHS was to have been a talk about Community Orchards in the Carse of Gowrie by Roger Humphry sadly Roger has passed away. Instead, Keith Brand will be giving us a talk on Chemicals in the Garden.

Dalgety Bay Horticultural Society (DBHS) holds meetings on the first Friday of each month at 7:30pm in Dalgety Bay Community Centre. You are welcome to come along to our meetings and, who knows, you may be convinced to join us. Alternatively go to our website at www.dbhs.org, click on Downloads, then membership form, fill it in then send it back. Membership is good value at £5.

If you think you may be interested in joining, please phone, **Michael Gourlay on 07949 505456.**

2025 is the DBHS 50th Anniversary of Dalgety Bay Horticultural Society (DBHS) "A Society Growing For 50 years". As part of our 50th Anniversary we have designed a First Day Cover (FDC) with a special post mark. These have been issued on the 22nd of May 2025. We have some left over after the

orders have been fulfilled. If you would like one, contact Michael Gourlay by email at michaeljg@btinternet.com and he will tell you how to receive one.

Michael Gourlay
DBHS
Chairman

GOT ANY OLD POTS?

For anyone who hasn't heard Keith Brand has stepped forward to take over the running DBHS in December when the current committee stand down. Here's a request from him.

"Could I ask in my capacity as Chairman Elect that the members rather than recycle their various collection of pot and other seed modules save them and bring them to the July meeting but not the June meeting which I am unable to attend".

DBHS Plant Sale

The DBHS Annual Plant Sale was held on Saturday 24th May 2025. A small team of volunteers visited the Plant Market and picked a number of Bedding Plants, just one trolley or six trays. We loaded the van on the Saturday morning of the Plant Sale and did this in about half an hour. The Plants Sale consisted of these Bedding Plants and any donations that were received from members on the Saturday morning. Six volunteers manned the tables including the Tea Room part of it and it was a successful couple hours.

We returned only 6 bedding trays and 7 x 3" individual pots. It was so much easier than when we had numerous shrubs and herbaceous plants. They seemed to take ages to pick, load and return. We will reprise this type of plant sale at Dalgety Bay Gala on 14th May 2025. See you there.

DBHS GALA PLANT SALE

DBHS will have a plant stall at Dalgety Bay Gala on 14th June 2025 at the Leisure Centre. It would be good to get a few volunteers to help. Please let me know if you can help pick the plants on Thursday 12th June; load the plants on Saturday 14th June 2025; help man the stall on Saturday 14th June 2025; load the returns on Saturday 14th June; return the plants on Sunday 15th June 2025. Contact me at michaeljg@btinternet.com

DBHS 50th Anniversary First Day Cover

The FDCs were processed by the Post Office Philatelic Bureau in Edinburgh and returned to me. I have distributed them all to the people who ordered them and everyone seems pleased with what they got. There were only 50 processed, so that is only 50 in the whole wide world.

There are still some FDCs available at a price of £8 each. Please contact me at michaeljg@btinternet.com if you would like one.

50th ANNIVERSARY

Plans for the DBHS 50th Anniversary continue and are developing well. We have managed to get additional funds for specific 50th Anniversary events, which is good news.

DBHS ENQUIRIES

We have found Douglas Hadow but there has been no contact from Lisa Shields. If you know her, she may be a neighbour or a friend, please ask her to email me at michaeljg@btinternet.com

DBHS POSTER RESULTS

At the beginning of June, the Poster part of the Schools Competition will be judged and the winning entry will be used to advertise the DBHS 50th Anniversary Show. We always look forward to judging this. There are definitely some works of art submitted each year. Time restrictions are tight but we aim to get the winning poster on to the front page of the July/August issue of the Dalgety Bay Diary.

DBHS - THE FUTURE

We have a Chairman Elect, Keith Brand; a Treasurer Elect, Pauline Willox; and a Membership Secretary Elect, Lynn Hewitt. The Grapevine Editor has agreed to stay on and the Allotment Sub-Committee of Fiona Gray, Sandy Sheail and Mick Wright will remain. We still require a Secretary and a few Committee Members to help

run DBHS from January 2026. If you think you may be interested, please email me at michaeljg@btinternet.com

ANNUAL SHOW SCHEDULE

Error Correction

Section 33 - Young Gardeners,

Class 33.9 3 Decorated FLAPJACKS

It only read 1 Decorated FLAPJACKS on the update show document circulated last month.

EDINBURGH'S FLORAL CLOCK

I was in Edinburgh earlier this week and came across the Floral Clock being planted up. Only one man was working on it when I passed. He was completing a small section at a time and measuring distance between rows and then overall size. A man of patience.



The next photo shows the area he's working on compared to the whole floral clock bed. The ladders are used to lie over the bed and plant the bed without disturbing the flowers or soil. There is another bed to be planted that runs along the side of the railings on Princes St. Again a huge amount of work needed.



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