



Community Growing Project Newsletter November 2014

SURF Awards Success!



Some great news to open this month's newsletter: we are delighted to announce that the Community Growing Project was awarded the prestigious 2014 SURF Award for Best Practice in Community Led Regeneration on the 2nd November at a celebratory presentation event in Glasgow's Radisson Hotel. The project was praised for its inspiring work by Paul Wheelhouse MSP, Scottish Government Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs (pictured left with David Wright, Horshader Chair, and David Murdo MacKay, Project Gardener). The awards are delivered each year by SURF, an independent network of regeneration organisations, in partnership with the Scottish Government to highlight and celebrate initiatives that address social and economic challenges in communities across Scotland. David Wright said, "We are overjoyed at winning this prestigious award and are pleased that the judges recognised the quality and potential benefits of this project. We would like to thank everyone who has worked with us to make this the success it is."

Community Growing Project at the Sustainable Scotland Network Conference

In another sign of its increasing success, the Growing Project was invited to participate in the 2014 Sustainable Scotland Network conference under the strand "Tactical benefits of working with your community: exploring how to deliver change in partnership." The annual conference, which was held in Edinburgh on Tuesday 25th November, focused on motivation and innovation on climate change in the public sector. David Wright and David MacLeay, Senior Regeneration Officer at Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, gave a presentation on best practice in collaboration. David Wright said, "We were pleased to have an opportunity to promote our Community Growing Project to a wider audience and we are delighted to share our experience. The Partnership working between the local authority and Horshader through the CCF Ideas Bank is a great example of mutual goals being achieved through working together."

16th December Cookery Workshop

Don't forget our Christmas cookery workshop on Tuesday 16th December! Alasdair MacLeod will be coming along to show us how to prepare fabulous festive treats. The workshop starts at 7pm at Ionad na Seann Sgoil, Shawbost.



P.T.O.





29th November Community Market

Many thanks to all the stall holders and shoppers who came along to our 29th November community market and made it such a successful afternoon! It was great to see such a wide selection of beautiful crafts, tasty food, gardening goods, and bric-a-brac and to have so many shoppers lending the market a bustling, festive atmosphere.



Polycrub Experiment: spring comes early to Shawbost...

If you have visited the Shawbost polycrubs lately, you might have noticed that power cables are being installed. This is to provide heat and light to our fruit and vegetables as part of an experiment to establish the best way to extend the growing season. All four of our growing units will be taking part in the experiment, with two being heated and two being kept at frost-free temperature. All four units will be artificially lit; there will also be large stones put in place to absorb heat during the day and radiate heat at night, as well as a covering of good quality bubble wrap for extra insulation. The experimental crops will be broccoli, carrots, potatoes, turnips, swedes, parsnips, lettuces, peas, onions, cabbages, strawberries, leeks, cauliflowers, and peppers. Our hope is that this will result in fruit and vegetables becoming available much sooner than we would otherwise expect, so watch this space for early sales of our produce!



That's it for 2014 - a huge thank you to everyone who has helped to make this year such a success, and a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us at the Growing Project!



Get in Touch

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Visit our Facebook page for regular news, updates, & pictures: www.facebook.com/HorshaderGrowing



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