

# ROTHESAY

We, Bute in Bloom (BiB), represent Rothesay in the *Keep Scotland Beautiful Campaign* every year. Rothesay is the principal town on the Isle of Bute in the Firth of Clyde, developed as a seaside town in the late 19th/first half of the 20th century, very popular with Glaswegians who went 'doon the watter' to visit Rothesay. Today the Isle of Bute offers all the amenities of modern living with schools, library, swimming pool, leisure centre, cinema, local shops, a thriving art community, sports facilities (including three golf courses) and a strong 3rd sector. We also have very good transport links with Glasgow and beyond.

This year we have vastly improved the area of Victoria Street/Argyle Street which has the Visitor Centre and the gardens with pitch and put and the Lady garden between the road and the sea. We have made the area more attractive with a further 18 ornate lamp posts being upgraded/repainted to join the ten that were painted last year. We have been told that images of these lamp posts have been appearing in the USA, New Zealand and Canada, via facebook.

We have further improved the area by putting up another 18 hanging baskets to enhance the ones supplied by Argyll and Bute Council. Due to a lack of manpower the maintenance of all the baskets in Rothesay has been undertaken by BiB's volunteers.

A big talking point this year is the painting of the railings around the inner harbour and the installation of floral and half barrel planters around the harbour and ferry terminal. There are over 2000 extra plants on display this year, supplied and installed by BiB. All these extra plants are being paid for by public subscription with some people making very generous donations.

The entire frontage, from the outer harbour to the Pavilion, is now a mass of colour and well appreciated by the locals and holidaymakers alike. The Pavilion, at present closed for refurbishment, will hopefully re-open next spring.

