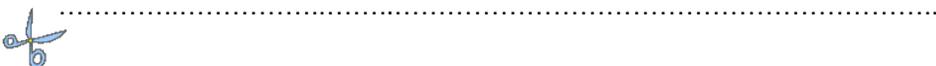


I hope this inspires you as much as it does us! Our first project is the High Street. We are hoping to fit a semi-permanent watering system for the hanging baskets. This switches on automatically every night and leaves the hanging baskets well watered. And/or we can place half-barrels filled with flowers at key points. Ian Andrews of Coopercraft is making these for us at a reduced cost. (He has lived here all his life -- we believe in sharing your skills!) The barrels will remind us of Queensferry's historic connection with the whisky industry.

If you donate to **GreenFerry Trust**, you will be helping right away to fund some part of the High Street project. In return, we will use this newsletter to tell you what going on in the Ferry. (We plan to publish it at least twice a year.) Our friends from Wetherby in Bloom gave us this idea. They now raise almost £6,000 (yes that's six THOUSAND) a year with nearly 400 regular supporters through their newsletter. We could do such a lot with a fraction that, and so we're aiming to try this out in Queensferry. Will you help?

If you think it's a good idea and would like to contribute, please send us your donation. We promise we will put it to good use. We will also put you on our mailing list for 2005. If you don't feel you can help just now, then we'd appreciate it if you would pass this newsletter on to someone else for us. Groups can join too.



I / We would like to become a **GreenFerry Trust** member for 2005.
I enclose a donation/cheque made out to **GreenFerry Trust** for £ _____.

Name:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
e-mail:	

I am a tax payer, and **GreenFerry** can claim back tax for this as gift aid.

Please make your cheque payable to **GreenFerry Trust**, and send it to GreenFerry, c/o Faulkner, 1f1, 4 Stoneycroft Road, S. Queensferry, EH30 9HX.

OR leave your envelope marked 'GreenFerry' at the **Ferry Fayre Coffee Shop** in Mid-Terrace. For further details: joycejim@btinternet.com or 331 4153.

This first issue is sponsored by: **Agilent Technologies**

GreenFerry Trust is a constituted charity. Thank you for supporting us. We are also grateful to Andrea Howe for designing our 'Ferry Attractive' title.

Ferry Attractive

Issue 1

Spring 2005

Big Hopes for a Greener Ferry

Oh the excitement! Welcome to 'Ferry Attractive' -- the very first edition of the very first newsletter from **GreenFerry Trust**. GreenFerry Trust? Well for years you've told us there were too many 'little' groups of volunteers all doing much the same thing in the Ferry. (Actually they do slightly different things, but we'll tell you more about that later.) You said we should have one big group to bring it all together. **GreenFerry Trust** is set to do just that.

GreenFerry Trust officially started up on 14 February 2005, and is a charitable organisation. Right now, we are applying for charity status and grant funding. We will be able to raise money for the other environmental groups, and we can take on some larger projects ourselves, for Queensferry and Dalmeny. **GreenFerry** (for short) aims to get one insurance which will cover all the other groups' activities and events, and that will save money straight away. And finally, we can use **GreenFerry** to keep you up-to-date with **all** the 'green' activities in the Ferry, by sending you this newsletter. Agilent Technologies have kindly funded this first edition. After that, we fund it ourselves.



So, what are all these different 'green' groups in the Ferry, and what do they do? Here's a quick reminder.

Queensferry in Bloom was an idea of the Business Association but it quickly 'blossomed' into its own volunteer group. QIB encourages anyone who wants to do 'flowery things' about the Ferry. The bloom group managed projects such as the Rosebery Garden which cost £5000 to redesign, and the autumn bulb-planting which they organised in partnership with the council and all the Queensferry schools. Their latest project is to try to develop the old playpark at Hawthornbank behind the Ferry Tap. When we find out more, we'll keep you posted.

Echline Community Woodland has been going the longest. It's a lovely woodland created in 1992, on empty ground at Echline. Some of you might even remember planting it up. It's now a mature wood with many interesting wild flowers and shrubs. Volunteers turn out a few times a year to clear the litter, cut the grass, do a bit of weeding, some occasional planting, and check on the trees. To find the woodland, go under the Road Bridge, up the hill from the crossroads, past two or three houses, and up the path on the left. The wood is on your left. It's worth a look especially in spring and summer. Take the children. It's magical.

CleanFerry concerns itself mostly with litter and street cleanliness. It was set up in 2000 by Queensferry Environmental Forum, with council support, and now arranges regular local clean-ups events. With a council grant of over £5000, they were able to buy their own equipment -- litter-pickers (cunning little devices!) and gloves. Last summer, CleanFerry took part in National Poop Scoop week. They held a fun day outside Scotmid, gave out leaflets, free poop bags and poop scoops, and encouraged dog owners to clear up after their dogs. CleanFerry's latest project was to co-ordinate an event about 'eco-schools' so that all the schools could share their ideas for improving the environment and involve the children. Exciting possibilities to report soon.



Friends of Ferry Glen. For years residents have watched this lovely woodland walk gradually falling into a poor and dangerous state. But nothing could be done until it was officially handed to the council. That has now happened. Now that the council has the land in its care, many in the Ferry are keen to see the Ferry Glen restored. 'Friends of Ferry Glen' is on the way. Another exciting project **GreenFerry** can bring you news of. You can e-mail Gordon Wood on gordonwood@waitrose.com or phone 331 3076 if you would like to be involved.

Hanging Basket project. Remember the hanging baskets in the summer? (See cover photograph). Well-known musical couple, Joyce and Jim, organised that project. They raised most of the money by busking at Tesco's and Scotmid, then Sportsman Events kindly contributed another £500, and local traders paid for the watering. The project cost over £2,000 and helped Queensferry win 'Best Urban Village' award in the 'Keep Edinburgh Growing' Competition 2004. Queensferry won hands down apparently. Joyce and Jim plan to start fund-raising for the High Street again soon. Look out for them in the supermarkets!

Scottish Wildlife Trust. Jim Steele, a keen environmentalist is still the local secretary of this group. It's thanks to their members' efforts that we now enjoy the wild flower meadow on the cyclepath and other green areas.

Queensferry Environmental Network: <http://groups.yahoo.com>
This is where you can sign up (choose QUEN as your group) and get e-mails straight to your inbox to tell you what's going on (environmentally) in the Ferry. How more up-to-date can you get! Don't miss this.

Local heroes

Each issue, we want to tell you about an individual, a business, or a group who has made a special effort to help make Queensferry a 'greener' place. Our first 'local hero' is Mrs Julia Kirkwood. Last summer, with her own money, she paid for, planted, and looked after boxes, baskets and pots all along the balcony of her block of flats at Hill Court (at the bottom of the Loan). Well done Mrs Kirkwood, and many thanks to your neighbours who joined in and did their bit too.



Please send us *your* nominations for 'local hero'. Maybe you know someone who has made a special effort with their front garden so that we can all enjoy it, or someone who picks up the litter in their area, or someone who gets the neighbours together to weed a public park, or trim some overgrown bushes on a path.

You can help

We hope, after reading this, you will want to support GreenFerry and its work. The table below gives you an idea of how you might help.

£1 would print this newsletter for you and keep you up to date with environmental projects going on in the Ferry.
£4 would plant a dozen bluebells in Cockhill or Echline woodland.
£5 would buy some summer plants for the High Street.
£10 would buy 30 bulbs for the autumn planting. (Watch out for the new daffodils, crocuses, tulips, and bluebells -- any day now.)
£15 would buy a half-barrel tub or quarter barrel window box tub to plant up in the summer. These will be supplied by Ian Andrews, our local barrel-maker.
£25 would put up an extra hanging basket in the High Street.

For larger donations:

£100 would pay a wooden wishing-well for a public garden.
£500 buys a cast iron planter (flower container) like the one already at the Boathouse steps. And, if you want, you can have your company's name on a stylish plaque.
£700 would supply and install a stylish, black bench in the Ferry. You can put your company's name, or an inscription, on a brass plaque. We recently sited one at Rosebery Hall (paid for by Sportsman Events) and a memorial bench (paid for by the people of South Queensferry) has also been ordered for the harbour.
£1,000 would help pay for an artistic, street sculpture, or a static boat overflowing with flowers at one of the town's entrances.