

## SUPPORTERS NEWSLETTER

# Belleisle Conservatory

## Spring 2024

### Preparing for another year of community events

Dear Supporters,  
Hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying the first colourful signs of Spring. Our opening hours increase to 11am - 4pm from the beginning of March, making the most of the longer daylight hours. This newsletter is to provide you with an update on some of the community activities planned for 2024, but please keep an eye on our website or Facebook page as more events are regularly added.

Below are some memories from just a few of the great events we held in 2023.



Make Music Day  
Ayr Choral Union



Ukrainian Craft &  
Music Fair



Day of the  
Honey Bee



Charity Golf Day



Plant Sale



Alpacas

# 2024 Calendar

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

March						
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April						
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May						
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

July						
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September						
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28	29	30				

October						
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27	28	29	30	31		

November						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December						
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Plant Sale

AGM

Ayr Amateur Operatic




Charity Golf

Make Music Day

BelleConFest

Possibility Screens

Bee & Honey Day

-  Sunday Music with Ayr Phoenix Folk Club, 1-3pm
-  Closed all day for a private event hire
-  Conservatory closed from September for structural work



Events are added and updated regularly on the Belleisle Conservatory website and Facebook page.

# Updates



The amorphophallus is beginning to flower in the Conservatory for the first time in five years!! Come in and see for yourself as the flower will not last long. Amorphophallus is a large genus of some 200 tropical and subtropical tuberous herbaceous plants from the arum family (araceae) native to Asia, Africa, and Australia.

The Conservatory shop continues to prove extremely popular for unique handcrafted gifts. The selection of goods is constantly changing, many made by our talented volunteers, and not available from Amazon! Our locally produced honey remains a firm favourite.



We have updated and simplified our charges for those wishing to hire the Conservatory for a private event. Wedding ceremonies continue to be the most popular hires with seating for up to 50 guests, along with birthday and anniversary parties. The hire charges are significantly lower for community groups, and of course free for those who support us as Patrons.

A presentation took place of a horticultural bursary in memory of Gordon Wilson who was committed to education and learning throughout his life, valued academic excellence and always encouraged young people in these. He loved the Conservatory and undertook the role of chairman with great enthusiasm for over 10 years. Mrs Alison Wilson presented the award to Anna Ciborowska, a final year student at Scotland's Rural College and Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.



Our Christmas wreath making workshops were once again in great demand, with a number of participants already requesting to reserve their place for December 2024!

# Updates



Our educational project called 'Planet Wise' has received enthusiastic support from South Ayrshire Council's Director of Education. We have now moved into the next phase of developing worksheets for school children to use in conjunction with our iPad apps. This work is being led by Braehead Primary School.

Next time you are in the Conservatory try out one of our iPad apps on Climate Change, Natural World, and Plants.

The Conservatory requires to raise around £45,000 per year to cover running costs. We do this through the generosity of our Patrons, Sponsors, Members, and Donors. Our willing volunteers give their time and labour freely to keep the Conservatory open every day of the year, and organise our various fundraising events.

If you are interested in becoming a patron, sponsoring some of our plants, having your business advertised on our windows or during our charity golf day in May, please contact Adrian our administrator on [info@belleisleconservatory.com](mailto:info@belleisleconservatory.com)



The Conservatory building is owned by South Ayrshire Council. Due to some structural issues, remediation work is planned to commence in September. This will mean the Conservatory will be closed for a few months.

Along with our dedicated operations manager Lesley, the Conservatory is managed by a committee of volunteers, each overseeing specific areas such as maintenance, publicity, event planning, and sponsorship. As part of our risk management process, we're actively engaged in succession planning and opening avenues for supporters to enhance their involvement by working alongside a Committee member. Valuable skills for such engagement include fundraising, marketing, event management, building maintenance, horticulture, photography, and IT skills. If you're keen to find out more, please email Adrian our administrator on [info@belleisleconservatory.com](mailto:info@belleisleconservatory.com)

