



## **Haddington Garden Trust**

### **St Mary's Pleasance**

#### **Restoration of the Cottage Garden 2024**

This year the main project has been the restoration of the Cottage Garden. Over the years, and mainly due to self-seeding, many plants which shouldn't have been there had found their way into the area. The aim was to restore the area with plant species which had 17<sup>th</sup> century or earlier origins in keeping with a 17<sup>th</sup> century Scottish walled garden.

A new plan was created by a local specialist nursery as well as advice to empty all 4 beds. Work commenced in February with the removal of all the plants. The dormant vegetable raised beds in the Orchard area were utilised to provide a temporary home for plants which would be reused in the new plan with others potted up and offered for a donation.

The new planting includes:

Lavender Munstead  
Salvia officinalis Purpurea  
Aster amellus  
Artemesia Pontica  
Golden oregano  
Persicaria bistorta Superba  
Iris Perrys Blue  
Thalictrum aquilegifolium  
Cardoon  
Bronze Fennel  
Paeonia officinalis Rubra Plena  
Campanula persicifolia Alba  
Artemesia abrotanum  
Artemesia absinthium  
Hyssop  
Golden Hops

The plants were ordered and delivered in late April/ early May.

Before planting, the soil received several digs and raking to remove any seedlings and weeds before planting commenced in late Spring. The soil was in very good condition and very little organic matter was needed. Mycorrhizal fungi was added to the soil to allow each new plant and the reused ones the best possible start in the newly organised beds.

To ease future maintenance, EverEdge has been installed on all four beds.

Beds cleared of the old plants (photograph February 2024).



Plants being reused in the new planting plan moved temporarily to the raised vegetable beds in the Orchard area (photograph February 2024).







Volunteers installing EverEdge (photograph June 2024).

The paid gardener and volunteers have spent an approximate number of 90 hours restoring the Cottage Garden.



Cottage Garden planted (photograph September 2024).