



## Sea Pea Planting

Joint efforts by the University of Dundee Botanic Garden and Carnoustie Golf Links Management Committee have resulted in the recent planting of the rare Scottish Sea Pea, *Lathyrus japonicus*, at various areas close to Carnoustie beach.

The plant is listed in the Tayside Sand Dune Action Plan, its Tayside population being of UK importance. Botanic Garden staff, led by curator Alasdair Hood, last year extracted seed pods from existing Sea Pea plants growing at Carnoustie. These were successfully propagated and were ready to plant out.

The native Scottish Sea Pea has become very rare on the local coastline but staff at the Botanic Garden have been successful before in nurturing plants. "Conservation of plant species is one of the important roles of Botanic Gardens and we are delighted that we have been successful in growing these plants, working alongside Carnoustie Golf Links and the Scottish Golf Environment Group" said Alasdair Hood.

The planting was carried out by the Botanic Garden staff, the Head Greenkeeper of the Buddon Links, Steve Mitchell, and Lynn Jopling of the Scottish Golf Environment Group. Graeme Duncan, CGLMC General Manager, said "Carnoustie Golf Links are very pleased to assist with this very worthwhile project. As well as maintaining the golf courses, we also try to improve and develop the natural environment and we look forward to these plants maturing and adding colour to the links".

Scottish Sea Peas have pretty purple flowers and have adapted to beach life by developing deep and tenacious roots. However, the plants do need particular conditions in order to survive and prosper.



**Photo shows from left:**  
**Alasdair Hood, Steve Mitchell, Clare Reaney of Dundee Botanic Gardens and Lynn Jopling of the Scottish Golf Environment Group.**