

You Can Cook's young growers enjoyed success



## Growing in confidence

A COMMUNITY garden in the grounds of St Ronan's Primary School is celebrating this week after unprecedented success at the local flower show. The edible garden, which is organised and operated by social enterprise You Can Cook, scooped 10 first prizes during Innerleithen Horticultural Society's show on Sunday. Bosco Santimano from You Can Cook was delighted with the success. He told the Peeblesshire News: "This was part of our contribution in highlighting the wonderful variety of food the children, staff and volunteers have been growing this year. "Pupils, staff and home

growers are feeling over the moon and the excitement generated by these awards will go a long way in inspiring and motivating the community in Innerleithen." The Peeblesshire News highlighted the problems faced by the community garden earlier this year when it was the target for vandals on several occasions. Several thousands of pounds worth of damage was caused. But the green-fingered youngsters still managed to produce some cracking crops to enter at the Show. The garden's Grow to Eat project, which is funded by Climate Challenge Fund, targets young people, community groups and

volunteers in the Innerleithen and surrounding areas with a goal to create a powerful educational experience about organic growing and sustainable food supply. You Can Cook staff members Alex Wilson, Samantha McShane and Collen McCulloch have been working hard supporting pupils, volunteers and home growers over the past few the past few months. Bosco added: "We now feel a sense of achievement and look forward to the next phase in delivering what is turning out to be a lasting legacy for St Ronan's Primary School and the community of Innerleithen."

