

Keep Scotland Beautiful Spring Clean 2017

As part of the above campaign our 9th Annual Litter Pick around Busby village has been arranged for Saturday 22nd April between 10am and 12noon, and will be followed by a complimentary soup & sandwich lunch in the church hall. When we first became involved with this campaign in 2009 it was with the intention of raising the profile of the church by serving our local community, but also in the hope of reducing the amount of litter “adorning” our streets. Sadly the number of bags of litter collected each year increases rather decreases, and I am very grateful to the willing volunteers who turn out year after year in sunshine and in rain to help with this project. If you would like to take part in this year’s litter pick please let me know so that I can obtain the necessary equipment from East Renfrewshire Council.



Busby Men

Robin Bulmer

The last Tuesday of the month has for the male members of the congregation become a time when ‘Busby Men’ meet in the White Cart for tea/coffee and a talk from 10.30am to 12 noon. This is not a Church organisation, although many of those who attend are members of our congregation, and as such it is open to all men who live in or around the village. In that respect the meeting has a relatively low profile and might benefit from more publicity. Given the time of day that the group meet it naturally attracts retired men, although that’s not a pre-requisite. Discussion topics are many and varied with some recent examples including ‘Rudolph Hess in Busby’, ‘Banking in the East’, ‘Health and Community care in East Renfrewshire’, ‘A family’s escapades in Europe during the last century’, ‘the world of Opera’, ‘Ocean Valour’ and ‘Enterprising Scotland’. The next meeting takes place on Tuesday March 28 and we would be pleased to see old and new faces alike.

Update from Doug & Jackie Marshall in Malta

Doug Marshall

We’ve had tough start to the year with illness in the family (all 4 of us were laid low due to respiratory infections) and I had to travel to South Africa when a close aunt passed away. We are have fully recovered, although Chloe had tonsillitis last week!

The work here continues: The English classes which I co-ordinate have been in swing since 9 January, and have been ably assisted by George and Adah Younger. We aim to have a very open and welcoming environment with the classes, and for the most part this seems to be the case. As we get to know the students, we are also able to help them with their own particular needs.

Please pray for one of our students, a mother of three who is displaying signs of depression, but the doctors at the hospital seemingly struggle to communicate with her (she is a beginner, English-wise). We are presently trying to connect her to the best support she can get, where she can communicate in her mother-tongue.

Our children are enjoying school; this marks a clear change for Ethan, who struggled with motivation through Grade 1.

Please pray for a new believer, who is growing spiritually and is soaking up God’s word. As a very new believer, and from an Islamic background, he is very hesitant to acknowledge his faith publicly. We will continue to disciple him and hope to see much fruit.

Blessings to you all at Busby!

Doug, Jacqui, Ethan and Chloe.



The Guild

Irene Morrison

Our session resumed in the new year with a most interesting talk on Kitchside Farm.

One of our most popular evenings is our Burns Supper and this year's, which was held on 2nd February, was no exception. We are fortunate indeed to have many talented people within our congregation resulting in all contributions to the evening being "home grown". Mrs Shona Park provided an excellent meal of haggis, neeps & tatties ; Mr Iain Jarvie gave a most entertaining Immortal Memory; Mrs Rosanne Brackenridge (accompanied by Mrs Peggy Mack) delighted us with a selection of Burns songs; and Mr Allan Morrison addressed the haggis and recited Tam o' Shanter.

Our most recent talk was given by Busby resident Mr Ostap Melnick who gave a very moving account of his father's wartime journey from Ukraine to a new life in Scotland.

At the time of writing there are just two more talks remaining on our syllabus – one on St Kilda, and the other about the lives of Queen Victoria's daughters. Anyone wishing to join us on either (or both) of these evenings will be made most welcome.

Please note that as a result of the Kwenderana conference taking place in Giffnock South Church on 18th March, we have changed the date of the Guild Coffee Morning to Saturday 25th March between 10am and 12noon, and we look forward to welcoming everyone then.

Pictured below: clockwise from top left:

Allan Morrison addresses the haggis

Iain Jarvie's Immortal Memory

Rosanne Brackenridge entertained with beautiful renditions of Burns' songs

Waiting for Supper to be served



How it all began

Busby & Clarkston Horticultural Society

John Kimble

This year the Busby and Clarkston Horticultural Society will be celebrating its 70th Anniversary.

We are a friendly and active society, with over 200 members from the Busby, Clarkston and surrounding areas. We have a programme of evening talks and an annual coach trip to visit other gardens and our big event of the year is the Annual Flower Show which always takes place on the first Saturday of September. As well as the traditional horticultural classes of flowers, fruit and vegetables, we have classes for cookery, art and crafts, photography and flower arranging.

However the first seeds of the Society were sown in Busby Church!



HOW IT ALL BEGAN

On the 10th November 1947, the Busby & District Horticultural Society held its first public meeting in the Girls' Club Hall in Busby.

"The meeting commenced at 7.45pm with Col Mather in the chair and 71 were in attendance".

The Chairman opened by outlining the purpose of the meeting which he stated was to determine whether or not a Horticultural Society should be formed. Continuing, he made marked reference to the outstanding success of the Busby Flower Show held on 6th September 1947, and concluded his point by proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Busby West Church Association and its sub-committee for their enterprise in putting on such a wonderful Show.

In reply, Mr. Armour, President of Busby West Church Association thanked the meeting and stated that although it was the Church that had taken the lead in this venture, Busby West felt that the project should now be considered on a District wide basis. He assured the meeting that in the event of forming a Horticultural Society, Busby West Church Association would be pleased to make a substantial grant and give every support in the future.

At this point, the Chairman invited local District representatives to state their views, and inform the meeting of local opinion as to the proposed venture and also as to the likely support it would have from the community.

"Thereupon it was proposed, seconded & unanimously carried that a Horticultural Society be formed".

In April 1948, the Secretary was able to confirm "the allocation of the entire buildings of Busby School for the purpose of the Flower Show on Saturday 4th September 1948." Hence the tradition of our Flower Show to this day, being held on the first Saturday in September!

The 1948 Show was opened by Mrs. Mather and adjudged a great success.

The Society continued to meet alternatively in Busby West and Busby East Church Halls. Whist drives, bulb shows, summer outings and dances were very much the order of the day, taking their place in a programme alongside the Annual Flower Show and winter lecture series.

In 1960, "a general discussion took place about the Show and it was agreed to investigate the possibility of holding it in the new hall at Clarkston." After enquiring of the 1st District Council Clerk regarding hire of the hall it was agreed that the Committee visit Clarkston Hall on Monday 23rd January 1961. They obviously liked what they saw; the Flower Show moved there that year and has been there since!