

The Guild

Irene Morrison

As the Guild session drew to a close, we enjoyed an excellent illustrated talk on St Kilda and a most informative talk on the lives of Queen Victoria's daughters.

At our AGM on 30th March it was confirmed that all of our committee members were happy to continue serving in their present roles for another year, and we were delighted to add to our numbers by electing Mrs Alison Russell as an ordinary committee member. The committee set to work immediately to plan the new syllabus and thanks to the hard work and efficiency of our Secretary Mrs Maureen Potter the speakers were contacted and the syllabus was arranged within days. Watch this space for full details in the next edition of Focus!

Thank you to everyone who supported our Coffee Morning on 25th March when we raised £707 to add to our coffers, and which enabled us to make donations to our own church funds and to our youth organisations.

Our most recent "event" was on a lovely summer evening when we enjoyed a meal together in a local restaurant and, at the time of writing, we are about to attend East Renfrewshire Operatic Society's production of "Anything Goes".

We wish everyone a restful break over the summer months and look forward to welcoming back members (old and new!) when we resume on Thursday 5th October.

Crossreach

Eurodiaconia seminar held in Glasgow



Eurodiaconia is a network of Christian organisations involved in social care across Europe. It brings together members to share practice and impact social policy. Recognising the priority mental health currently has on the political agenda in Scotland as well as CrossReach's expertise in the field, Eurodiaconia decided to hold its first seminar on mental health in Langside Parish Church, Glasgow. CrossReach's Morven Day Services, Tom Allan Centre and Bluebell Perinatal Depression Service presented their work to the network, including innovative developments such as Confidential Conversations, a service to help employers support the mental health of their workforce, and a new initiative to bring expert counselling support to remote communities via the internet.

John Macdonald, Business Development Adviser for CrossReach said: "We also heard from projects in Denmark, Germany and the Czech Republic, and benefitted from the insights of Prof Peter Kinderman, President of the British Psychological Society and professor of Clinical Psychology at the University of Liverpool."

Collecting stamps can change lives!

Collecting stamps and other treasures is an easy and fun way to change lives in Scotland. Many of the CrossReach projects you support depend on donations. Stamps and collectibles can be an exciting and sustainable way of supporting these projects. The sale of a large bag of stamps can raise enough money to cover a counselling session for a parent in need, or cover the cost of an interactive play session between a parent and a child. The sale of a collectible of value can keep a hurting family together. Here's how to collect and prepare UK and foreign stamps, both current and past issue:



Trim to between 4mm and 8mm thickness of border around each stamp

Please do not soak stamps off paper

Separate foreign and UK stamps. Rare stamps and collections can also be of high value, as can coins and postcards that are no longer in circulation. Please post your items to:

CrossReach, Charis House, 47 Milton Road East, Edinburgh. EH15 2SR.

Download your copy of CrossReach News!

Issue 2 of CrossReach News in 2017 will be available from the middle of May. In this edition you can read about how befriending can help build bridges with families, follow 'Darren's Journey' from a life of substance misuse to now helping others, and 'Me and My Job' features support worker Natalie Moran from Threshold Glasgow.

You can download CrossReach News at: www.crossreach.org.uk/resources-0.

and if you would like to be added to our free mailing list to receive future editions, please e-mail: bdd@crossreach.org.uk



Busby Guides 2016-2017

Pamela Mill



At present we have 27 girls on our roll, 2 Assistant Leaders Morna and Alice and 4 Young Leaders Cami, Eilidh, Robyn and Julie. One of our leaders Kirsty Elliot is spending this year travelling in Australia. She appears to be having a great time and we are hoping that she will come back and join us on her return.

Usually we have over 30 of us attending on Tuesday evenings so it is often quite chaotic in the hall. We have had a busy time over the last year with many of the girls passing badges in Guiding Traditions, Healthy Lifestyles and World Issues. At present the girls are working on the Independent Living badge.

The Guides are a very enthusiastic bunch and enjoy any activities which involve cooking or eating. They also like a variety of crafts and making up dance routines or plays. Most of them have their phones available for music for dancing. We always play a few games and the old favourites include wet feet and ladders. We visited Greenbank Guides in the Spring last year and they had organised some fun things for us including making s'mores a very messy but tasty activity. We used candles to melt marshmallows and then put them between chocolate digestives and ate them. We hope to ask them to join us for an evening in the next couple of months.

We had our annual camp in May which was held at a Guide activity centre near Dalry. We all slept in wooden wigwams and they had great fun using all the facilities available for them. The girls spent a lot of time outdoors using the bikes that were provided and they all tried the bungee trampolining which was a great success. The girls also got a chance to decorate cotton back packs and work on other crafts in the large hall which was on the site. Alison our Brownie leader came and organised the cooking for us.

Our last evening before the summer holidays was spent in the grounds of Clyth House in Carmunnock Road where we had a cook out. Lynne, Fay, Steve and Leslie all came to help support us that evening. Thanks to Craig Downie for allowing us to use his field... In March we had a sleepover at the Scottish Sealife Centre at Loch Lomond. There were thirty five of us altogether including nine Brownies. The girls got a tour round the centre and then a supper of hotdogs and juice. After that we watched Swallows and Amazons in the cinema there and the girls all got a bucket of popcorn. We all headed to our sleeping bags at about eleven with all of the girls either sleeping beside the large fish tanks or in the tunnel where sharks, rays and a turtle called Cami swam overhead. It was well after two before many of the older girls went to sleep. We were wakened at about six thirty, had to tidy up and then all went to the café where we were provided with a delicious continental breakfast. From the café we had an excellent view over the Loch so it was a great start to our day. The girls were collected at eight o'clock and we all went home to catch up with our sleep. Thanks to Alison, Morna, Alice, Cami, Eilidh and Robyn who all gave up their Friday evening and night to help.

I would like to thank all the people who have supported us over the session. We have had generous donations from the Drama Group and the Guild as well donations from members of the congregation. We collected a lot of Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers and as a result we were able to get a lot of sports equipment and cooking equipment for our weekly meetings. Most of the vouchers came from Church members. I would also like to thank Jean Bradley who usually pops in when she drops her daughter off. Jean is always happy to help out if any of the leaders are unavailable due to university work.

We are always pleased to have new members join us. Anyone aged between 10 and 14 years would be made most welcome on Tuesday evenings in the Church Hall between 7 and 9 pm. Our last meeting before the summer is on 6th June and Guides will start again on Tuesday 5th September. Finally I feel that we have had a successful session with excellent leaders and young leaders as well as a great bunch of girls. Long may it continue!!!!

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Garden Party 2017

Saturday, 19th August is the date of this year's Garden Party, the third we have organised and, building on the success of the last two, this year's is going to be even bigger and better. With a free barbecue and drinks, as well as excellent live music and a bouncy castle and face painting for the young ones, it is a great Family Afternoon and wonderful value.

Apart from a chance for the whole community to come together, the live music is the highlight and this year will be no different. We always choose acts to represent a variety of genres on the day and the standard is consistently high. At our first Garden Party in 2015, we were entertained by the Bellshill & District Concert Brass featuring our own Douglas Suckle, East Kilbride singer Melissa Airlie and singer songwriter Lynnne Carson who performed some of her own music as well as covers of rock classics and was joined on stage by Penny Lamb. Last year we were lucky enough to have a string quartet put together by Fiona West of the SNO, performing a mixture of classical items interspersed with Beatles and ELO music. We then had Claire Hastings, BBC Radio Scotland's Young Traditional Musician of the Year 2015 and finished up with singer/guitarist Stuart McDonald who had people up dancing to some old rock 'n' roll.

This year, we will have another great line-up with something to suit everyone's tastes and provide an afternoon to remember. Details and ticket prices will be advertised soon in the village and tickets will be available from the usual outlets.



Letters

We want your letters on any topic, whether it involves Busby Parish Church, the village of Busby, or anything else.

Whether you are a Church member or not, have your say by sending your letters to busbyfocus@btinternet.com or by leaving them at the Church vestibule on Sunday mornings.

....and finally



The celebrated American evangelist, Billy Graham, was once in a small town in the Mid-West. He wanted to post a letter so asked a small boy for directions to the local post office. The boy gave him clear instructions for which Dr. Graham thanked him and said "I'm preaching at the church tomorrow and if you come along I can tell you how to find the Good Lord ". The boy replied "Thank you sir but I don't think I'll bother – you don't even know your way to the Post Office! "

A Minister answering his phone:-

"Good Morning, Revd. Nonesuch speaking"

"Good Morning Sir, this is HM Revenue and Customs, we believe that you may be able to help us concerning a parishioner of yours. Do you know Mr. Angus McFlannel?"

"I certainly do"

"Has he made a donation of £10,000 to your church?"

"No – but he will!"

Three wee boys were talking in the school playground.

Boy 1: "My Dad scribbles a few words and calls it a poem, then sells it for £20!"

Boy 2: "My Dad wrote a song and sold it for £200!"

Boy3: "That's nothing. My Dad scribbles something, calls it a sermon and it takes six people to collect all the money!"