

# Kwenderana

Maureen Potter

We were all saddened by the recent passing of one of our committee members, Bill Allan of Greenbank Church. Bill was a quiet but very dedicated member of the Kwenderana Partnership from the very beginning and will be very much missed by all of us. His wife, Liz and the family are in all our thoughts and prayers and also in the thoughts and prayers of our partners at Ekwendeni.

Our Strawberry Afternoon Tea held in Busby Parish Church on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July was a great success enjoyed by all who attended. The support we received from all four churches was absolutely fantastic. The final total raised was £1,352.72 which was an amazing amount raised in only 2 hours! A big “thank you” to all the Busby folk who showed us such support in the preparation for the event and also on the day. That support is very much appreciated by all of us.

Around £300 of this money will be used by our group to sponsor 4 needy children in Ekwendeni Community Day Secondary school including giving them school uniform and stationery. In return we will receive photos of the children and regular school reports. Updates on these children will be provided to the 4 churches so we can all follow their progress. The balance of the proceeds will go to the hardship fund which will be sent to our committee in Ekwendeni to pay school fees for other needy children. Although we will not receive reports on these children, we will receive their names, the school they attend and the cost of their fees. We currently have 26 children sponsored by individuals plus 5 new sponsors this year making a total of 35 children being sponsored. We expect the hardship fund to pay for at least another 40 children's school fees.

The last containers sent by the Raven Trust arrived in April/May and we received numerous photos of the needy people receiving clothes and bedding. Some of the photos are on the church Facebook page.

Our committee in Ekwendeni now have their own bank account set up and we should be able to get a note of the account balance at any time. We have sent the first school fees payment to them via the Church of Scotland but an initial amount of £50 will be sent by the Church of Scotland to test the viability of the account before sending a larger sum of money.

As we are no longer sending goods through the Raven Trust, we wish to support the community in other practical ways and have consulted with our Partners at Ekwendeni who have suggested that the following projects would benefit from our support.

1. **Tailoring shop** – which would provide technical training to the needy students finishing their Secondary Education enabling them to earn a salary along with their tutors and any profits going into the Kwenderana account.
2. **Animal husbandry** – they wish to start pig farming and as the pig numbers increase live pigs and meat could be used to improve the quality of life for many in the Congregational parish area.
3. **Purchase of maize** – They would like to buy maize for the needy and for the porridge programme just after the harvest when the prices are lowest.
4. **Irrigation farming** – at present they use a large field close to the river and they have requested funds for pipes to be buried below the ground to irrigate the land using the water pump which we funded in 2015 and also to pay for petrol and oil to power the water pump. Petrol and oil are priced similarly to ours but the exchange rate of approximately 800MK to £1 combined with average monthly salaries varying between of £40/£60 depending on occupation makes the cost prohibitive.



We are delighted that the committee are delivering the Porridge Programme once again along with a variety of activities during the school holidays to the children. The trial bee hives project is ongoing and has now produced its first honey in special Kwenderana labelled jars which is selling at around £3 per jar with profits going to Kwenderana. We will be considering expanding this project.

The Kwenderana Partnership is over 10 years old and the evidence, especially the attendance at the recent Strawberry Afternoon Tea, illustrates the manner in which the four congregations have taken the group to their hearts.



It illustrates a positive way in which congregations work together, work with World Mission and our partners at Ekwendeni to develop good relationships and good practice. However we do not sit on our laurels and at present are considering ways of improving the partnership to the benefit of all especially as we move towards the end of the second phase of our covenant. The majority of the committee enjoy the privilege of being part of this group and we hope it will continue for many years to come to the benefit of all.

Please pray for:-

- The success of the honey project
- The pupils at Ekwendeni embarking on the child sponsorships programme that they might find benefit from improved education opportunities.
- Guidance for the Group here as they evaluate and discuss Kwenderana's future.

# The Guild

Irene Morrison

Our new session will begin at 7.30pm on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017 when we will be joined by our minister, the Rev Jerry Eve. We have a varied programme of evenings planned which we hope will be of interest to everyone. As can be seen from our syllabus some of our evenings are shown as "open nights". These, we feel, will have wider appeal amongst the congregation and anyone (lady or gentleman) wishing to join us on these evenings will be made most welcome.

All of our meetings however are in fact open to everyone and we look forward to welcoming both old and new members on 5th October.

Our autumn Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 16th September 2017 between 10am and 12 noon, and tickets priced £2.50 for adults and 75p for children will be on sale shortly. We will have stalls of baking, books, gifts, plants, tombola and much more. We would be grateful to receive donations for these stalls and these may be brought to the hall between 7pm and 8pm on Friday 15th September, or on the Saturday morning if more convenient.

Our Harvest Thanksgiving Service will take place on Sunday 8th October 2017. Once again, as in recent years, the display will take the form of potted plants which will be distributed to our elderly and housebound members. We are therefore not requesting donations of groceries, produce etc. however there will be a retiring offering on that day which will be shared equally between Eastwoodhill House, Williamwood House, and the Lodging House Mission which are the charities which we support at this time.

## The Guild Syllabus

### 2017

5th October.	Rev. Jerry Eve – Guild Theme
19th October.	Guest Night – Harmony
2nd November	Church House – Angela Molloy
16th November	Open Night- Memories of the Sunday Post Jill Scott & Bill Hicks
30th November	Craft Night – Pearl Munro
14th December	Christmas Party

### 2018

18th January	Banking in the East in Days Gone By Ewan Macbeth
1st February	Burns Supper
15th February	TV Humour – Chris Scott
1st March	Open Night - The Glasgow Boys Dr Maureen Park
15th March	Open Night - Templeton's Carpets Graham Clark
22nd March	AGM

### Other Events

Saturday 16th September 2017	Autumn Coffee Morning
Sunday 8th October 2017	Guild Dedication Service & Harvest Thanksgiving
19th – 26th November 2017	Guild Week
Friday 2nd March 2018	World Day of Prayer- Netherlee Church
Saturday 17th March 2018	Spring Coffee Morning

### Outings

April 2018 (TBA)	End of Session Meal
May 2018 (TBA)	Theatre Night

### The Guild Theme

2015– 2018 *Be Bold, Be Strong*  
2017 – 2018 *Theme - Go in Love*



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# The Way We Were

John Kimble

I read with interest in March's Focus that investigations were currently underway regarding "the possibility of running a Village Fair, similar to the once successful Busby Gala Day." I was immediately reminded of John McVicar's research for the Busby & Clarkston Horticultural Society. John, as you will remember, has been researching the history of Busby for years. He writes:

*"The annual show of the Society on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August 1889 in Wilsons Hall was an outstanding success. It was organised by the Secretary Arthur Miller of Sheddens, painter and decorator who received particular praise for his Sunday School's floral procession on that day. Over 400 children, each carrying a bouquet of garden or wild flowers met in Greenbank Church Hall and from there headed by the BB flute band they marched to Clarkston then back to Wilsons Hall where they received buns and soft drinks. Prizes were then awarded for the best bunches of flowers. All these children's flowers were sent to Glasgow hospitals.*

*In April 1890 the committee decided to include baking in the annual show, in order to create even greater interest among the ladies of the community. Two new prizes were to be offered – for the best scones, and for the best oatmeal cakes. There is regrettably no report on the show which took place on Saturday 30th August.*

*The annual show and exhibition was held in Wilsons Hall on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August 1891 with over 400 entries. On this occasion almost 500 children paraded to the Hall with their flowers, headed by the Busby Brass Band."* That indeed would have been a sight to see.

While we might not be able to quite manage these numbers again, it is still interesting and sometimes amusing to look back at the way we were. A brief read through the old minutes tells the tale:

## 15<sup>th</sup> April 1948 - Entertainment Tax

*"Mr. Shaw gave a warning to avoid any infringement of Entertainment Tax Law."*

## 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1948 - Attraction

*"The meeting was informed that a Mr. Landsborough had promised to provide a decorated cage of budgerigars".*

## Cinema Show

*"Mr. R.W. Thompson kindly offered to give a Cinema Show as a counter attraction for the children."*

## Busby Gala

*"The Chairman moved a vote of thanks to Mrs. Gray for erecting the stall, and to the ladies for decoration and also to Mrs. Brewin for decorating the donkey and cart.*

## 29<sup>th</sup> July 1949 - Loud Speaker Van

*"The meeting agreed that the van be hired for Friday evening and Saturday morning to publicise the Show on the same terms as last year."*

## 6<sup>th</sup> July 1950 - Ministry of Food

*"The meeting was informed that a permit had been granted for the purchase of 2lbs of tea, 4lbs of sugar and 3lbs of margarine. Mrs. Turnbull stated this would enable the ladies to proceed with the tea arrangements at one shilling per head".*

## Ponies

*"Secretary to make usual application to Mr. Steele of Jackton for their attendance"*

As L.P. Hartley wrote: "The past is a foreign country: they do things different there."



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