



June 2018

# FOCUS

The Magazine of Busby Parish Church

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The Magazine of  
Busby Parish Church

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Registered Charity No.  
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Minister:  
Rev. Jerry Eve

Session Clerk:  
Robin Bulmer

Editor:  
John Lamb

Letters and Articles  
should be sent to  
[busbyfocus@btinternet.com](mailto:busbyfocus@btinternet.com)

or left in the Church  
Vestibule on Sunday  
Mornings

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## Message from the Manse

Jerry Eve



*The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, aged 13 ¾* by Sue Townsend, set in the early 1980s gives a very unflattering portrayal of Glasgow. On holiday in Scotland with his Mum, Adrian's entry on Wednesday 26 August 1981, made as they drive into the city, speaks of drunks, barbed wire and broken glass. He is impressed, however, with 'Salvador Dali's painting of the Crucifixion!!!'. 'One day I will take Pandora to see it,' he writes. 'Perhaps on our honeymoon.'

While Sue Townsend might have been a bit harsh on Glasgow all those years ago, nowadays holidaymakers to Glasgow will have a completely different, and far more positive, experience. And looking back, the turning point it seems to me was the Glasgow Garden Festival of 1988 – 30 years ago this year! Wasn't it wonderful! Since when, among all sorts of other occasions when we've had cause to be extremely proud of our city, we've been EU City of Culture, UK City of Design and Architecture, and hosted the Commonwealth Games.

One of the highlights for me, I remember, on the Garden Festival site itself was the beautiful little glass chapel which, by way of a contrast to the roller coaster (and I can even recall trying out scuba diving in an enormous tank – not in the River Clyde!), was such a peaceful place. It was also somewhere that was genuinely ecumenical and interfaith at a time when these virtues were far less common than they are today.

All faiths revering gardens as places of prayer. And, indeed, our own scriptures both beginning and ending in gardens: the Garden of Eden in Genesis, and then in Revelation the Garden of God. Elsewhere in the New Testament God is described by Jesus as a gardener, and then after the resurrection Mary Magdalen mistakes Jesus for a gardener **himself**.

As we look forward to summer, let's also look back over the past 30 years, and whenever we're able to get out and about and spend time in gardens and parks around our city, and our countryside too, give thanks.

The kiss of the sun for pardon,  
The song of the birds for mirth,  
One is nearer God's heart in a garden  
Than anywhere else on earth.  
(Dorothy Frances Gurney)



## Message from the Session Clerk

Robin Bulmer

The year seems to be flying by. Another summer is upon us and hopefully we can all look forward to some time of relaxation taking advantage of any fine weather that comes our way. For some there are opportunities to visit different places and occasionally find the opportunity to attend Sunday Worship with other congregations both near and far. Our own church provides a warm welcome to such 'visitors' and it's always a pleasure to share a time of fellowship with them over refreshments in the Church Hall. This invitation applies equally to all who live within our Parish and we hope to see new faces 'trying us out' at Sunday Worship and/or our annual barbecue in August.

Recordings of Sunday services will be published at <http://busbyparishchurch.org.uk/services-of-worship/> as normal throughout the summer and I hope these bring some comfort to listeners near and far. Wherever your summer takes you have the best of times.

## Announcements

### BEREAVEMENTS

March

Ian McLachlan, Wellmeadow Lodge  
Anne Shields, Mary Young Place  
Irene Lyall, 3 Bridges Care Home

April

Ann Wallace, Blackpool

### RENEWAL OF WEDDING VOWS

Saturday 10 March

Randall and Holly MacLaren



## Cleaning Up In Busby

Irene Morrison

Our 10th annual litter pick around Busby village as part of Keep Scotland Beautiful's Spring Clean Campaign took place on Saturday 21st April.

On a beautiful sunny morning 42 volunteers filled 76 bags with litter, and we were delighted that several local residents came along to help. We then enjoyed a light lunch together in the Church Hall.

We found several instances of fly tipping around the area which have been reported to East Renfrewshire Cleansing Department who have undertaken to have the items removed as soon as possible.

Thank you to everyone who took part. It was time well spent.



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