

SUMMER 2024



the magazine of
BUSBY PARISH CHURCH

FOCUS

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FOCUS

the Magazine of
Busby Parish Church

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MESSAGE FROM THE MANSE



JERRY EVE

I mentioned a former Busby resident in Church one Sunday morning quite recently, and someone came up to me afterwards and said, 'I remember Fiona. She was such a lovely person.' Sadly, though, the reason most people who have heard of Helen Fiona Torbet, will have done so, is because of the tragedy of her death. For, Fiona was the victim in 1993, aged just 62, of an horrific murder.

The reason for mentioning Fiona here, however, has nothing to do with how her life ended, but everything to do with how Fiona lived her life. For, Fiona was an expert on Scotland's hills, especially in the Highlands. As well as writing articles for The Great Outdoors, Fiona would regularly spot anomalies in Ordnance Survey maps, which would then be amended accordingly.

It's a very fitting tribute to her indeed that, while hills here in Scotland over 3000' are named after Sir Hugh Munro, and those between 2,500' and 3,000' are named after John Rooke Corbett, those between 2,000' and 2,500' are named after someone from here in Busby – they are called Fionas.

Just some of the most famous of these include: Ben Cleuch, Ben Venue, Stac Pollaidh, Tinto and Pap of Glencoe.

Have a great Summer. God Bless, Jerry.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BEREAVEMENTS

February

Liz Linton, Oliphant Crescent
Graham McAllister, Cartsbridge Road

March

Leila Rooney, Newton Mearns
Helen Jarvie, Clarkston House

April

Allan Crosbie, Birchview Drive
John Park, Giffnock
Helen Cropp, Easterton Avenue

WEDDING

Sunday 26 May: Lucy Eve x William Auld

100th BIRTHDAY

28 February: Connie Murray, Hawthorn Court



THE REV IAIN CAMPBELL

It is with great sadness, we announce the peaceful passing of Rev Iain Campbell on 24th May, 2024. Mr. Campbell was minister in Busby East and West Churches from 1986 and oversaw the successful Union of both churches into the current Busby Parish Church. He retired in 1997 but came back for one of the special 175th birthday celebration services. During his time in Busby Mr Campbell was a well known and popular figure around the village. We thank God for his long life and ministry and pray that Mrs Campbell and his family feel the comfort of all who knew, loved and respected Iain over many years.

BUSBY ARTS FESTIVAL

The First Busby Arts Festival will be held on
Friday, Saturday & Sunday 6th, 7th and 8th September
at Busby Parish Church,

Featuring

- 2 NIGHTS OF LIVE MUSIC
- AN ART EXHIBITION
- AN ART EXHIBITION FOR YOUNG LOCAL ARTISTS WITH PRIZES AWARDED BY A PANEL OF JUDGES
- AN "INTRODUCING" STAGE FOR YOUNG LOCAL MUSICIANS
- A BARBECUE & CRAFT STALLS
- KIDS ACTIVITIES
- STORY-TELLING

All artists, young and old, wishing to exhibit - please email your contact details to busbyfocus@btinternet.com

All young musicians wishing to perform on the "Introducing" stage - please email your contact details to busbyfocus@btinternet.com

Look out for more information on all the events on posters and social media in the run-up to the festival.

With thanks to East Renfrewshire Council
and Bringing Busby Together for their support



NEWS FROM EKWENDENI

MAUREEN POTTER

For many years Busby Parish Church along with several other churches in the area supported an area in Northern Malawi around Ekwendeni through Kwenderana. That area is about the same size as the former Strathclyde Region and poverty is endemic. We did a lot of good work but due to Covid plus a variety of other factors Busby dropped out of Kwenderana but we have carried on supporting people in that area through reputable networking contacts.

Fiona Gunning of Williamwood Church has gone much further than us thanks to the support of Broom Parish Church and a variety of other charities such as the Souter Foundation to name but one. She has formed a fully registered charity Mtende Community Project.

Fiona has a manager, Ben Kalua, based in Ekwendeni who ensures that all projects are being run efficiently. Fiona is visiting Ekwendeni at her own cost in June to assess current projects and identify future projects. She will be coming to Busby Guild's next session to talk about her visit and her work.

Just one of the many projects is the "Pass It On Pig" project.

For my birthday a few years ago, one of my daughters bought me a female pig called Wee Mo! It was given to a widow who had very little money and several children. The pig in due course had a litter of piglets. The woman then passed one of them to somebody in similar circumstances to herself then had the choice of selling the rest of the piglets on for an immediate income or selling one or two and keeping others for breeding purposes so that she could eventually have a small pig farm, rear some for breeding and sell some onwards either for breeding or to the local abattoir. This project has proved a good source of income to all recipients.

Other projects have included:

Teaching young men to drive thus enabling them to earn their living by driving lorries for local businesses.

Training young men and women in plumbing and other building trades.

Teaching young women in hairdressing skills in salons.

All of these projects help these young people to move out of poverty and become financially independent.

There are many more projects which I will describe in further articles but if anyone wants further information there is a Mtende Community Project page on Facebook or contact me directly on 07765363822.





BUSBY BAKES BISCOFF TRUFFLES

SHONA PARK

We recently made these little balls of deliciousness to serve as part of a sweet treats platter in lieu of desert at Eva's birthday BBQ.

They can also be made using Oreos and milk chocolate instead of biscoff.

Ingredients

- 250g Biscoff biscuits
- 125g cream cheese eg Philadelphia/mascarpone
- 200g white chocolate
- 25g Biscoff spread

Instructions

1. Crush the biscuits to a fine crumb in a food bag using a rolling pin.
2. Pour the crumbs into a large bowl.
3. Set aside 1tbsp of biscuit crumbs for decoration.
4. Add the soft cream cheese to the biscuit crumbs and mix together in the bowl.
5. Once mixed, portion the truffle mixtures using a melon baller, or a teaspoon and roll each truffle into a ball.
6. Place the truffles on to a tray with greaseproof paper or plate and freeze for a minimum of 30 minutes.
7. Once they have chilled, melt the white chocolate in a bowl until smooth.
8. In another small bowl or ramekin, melt the biscoff spread. Get the reserved biscoff crumbs from earlier ready too.
9. Carefully dunk each truffle into the white chocolate and coat, and place onto a tray lined with fresh greaseproof paper. Drizzle with a small amount of biscoff spread, and sprinkle on a few crumbs.
10. Repeat until all the truffles have been decorated.
11. Refrigerate the truffles for an hour or so to finish setting, and then enjoy!





FALKIRK WHEEL ABSEIL

LESLEY BURGESS

On Sunday March 17th I took part in an abseil off the Falkirk Wheel in aid of Accord Hospice, Paisley. It was my first abseil and I thoroughly enjoyed every minute of the experience. There were over 100 supporters of various charities taking part in this fundraising event.

It was a dry afternoon and I arrived before my 3.00 pm abseil and got registered and then got harnessed up and waited for my turn to make the abseil down, it was a bit scary at first getting over the railing but I managed it with support from a team member of the Big Bang Organisation who was organising it, I got over and was told gradually to release the rope and I descended down very quickly and it was done, It was fabulous and I do hope to do this again in the near future.

I raised £571.00 for Accord Hospice and I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who kindly donated to my sponsorship from Busby Parish together with my fellow work colleagues from Eastwood Health & Care Centre and family members.



DEFIBRILLATOR AT BUSBY BOWLING CLUB

SANDRA GARDENER

Busby Bowling Club would like to thank East Renfrewshire Council and the Bringing Busby Together fund for assisting us in purchasing a defibrillator. Also a huge thank you to St John's Ambulance Service for additional funding and training. The defibrillator is now available for use by the whole community. It is located on the outside wall of the bowling club next to the front entrance.



SUSAN AMOUR

SUNDAY CLUB

Looking for something to do on a Sunday morning? Our Sunday Club could be just what you need.



With songs and rhymes, puppets, shakers and chimes, Rosanne Brackenridge brightens up the morning with her catchy songs for all children from a few months to high school age.

You may know the story of Noah's Ark – we know a song about that!
Do you know the story of Joseph and his Coloured Coat?
Jonah and the Whale?
Daniel in the Lion's Den?
The Lost Sheep?
The Good Samaritan?
The Last Supper?

We know lots of songs and stories for all ages to enjoy. On sunny days we enjoy playing in the enclosed church garden.

Parents are welcome to join the fun with their younger children in Sunday Club or stay in church for the morning's worship. The older children help to look after the little ones, and there are always plenty of adults present to ensure that everyone is safe.

Tea and coffee, juice and biscuits, are served in the hall after the service when the adults can catch up on what they missed at Sunday Club.

Sunday Club meets during school term time. They've a few weeks left before the summer holidays then they'll start up again in August.

SUNDAY CLUB

EVERY SUNDAY FROM 11.00 til 12.00

ALL AGES WELCOME - FROM TODDLERS TO YEAR 12



BUSBY TENNIS CLUB CENTENARY

Busby Lawn Tennis Club started the Centenary Celebrations with a fabulous Gala Day on Sunday 21st April 2024. There were activities for every level of tennis, from absolute beginners, to having a serve speed tester - huge kudos to everyone taking part as for the first half the rain was steady - but we're all used to this at Busby!! We also had lots of kids' activities from mini tennis to a cake race & garden games too. All in all, a very enjoyable day, and it was great to see the whole community support the club and even if they weren't playing tennis were able to enjoy something from the BBQ or have one of the many cupcakes on offer. We were honoured to have Provost Mary Montague join us, and she spent time chatting to some of the members and joining in with the group photo, she loved seeing so many playing tennis and enjoying the activities.

If you have been walking past the club you will have noticed our very unique 100 sign, made up with used tennis balls - we try to recycle where we can!

We are a very friendly club, at the heart of the Busby community, and if you would like to join us please get in touch!!

busby.tennis@gmail.com

We are very much looking forward to many more years of tennis at the club & hopefully a bit more sunshine!

Jane Henderson



MARILYN ROSS

We are delighted to announce that we gained £1000 in the participatory budgeting process. This fund will support a summer trip and outdoor and indoor resources. It is wonderful to provide some extra opportunities due to gaining this fund.

As the lighter and warmer nights are with us, the Brownies have been enjoying our unit sessions in the Church Garden with our new outdoor equipment. With some of our PB money, we purchased a 20ft parachute which accommodates all 24 Brownies and Leaders! We also walked to Busby Glen and enjoyed some fun activities whilst playing and enjoying the sunny weather. We plan to have more outdoor adventures until the end of term.

If anyone is interested in joining the waiting list at Busby Brownies, please visit - <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk>



LITTER PICK 2024

IRENE BLACK

This year Irene Morrison asked if I would be willing to organize our annual litter picking event. Irene has organized these events, with military precision for many years. I must admit I had some reservations as she had done such a good job. I was grateful that she shared her meticulous paperwork and I really only had to follow her lead.

Our event took place on Saturday 20th April this year. We had an excellent turnout of 24 willing volunteers from the congregation, with help from family and friends. It was great to welcome a few other Busby residents who turned out on the day. After weeks of rain, we were extremely fortunate that it was a lovely sunny day....perfect for litter picking.

Before the event I had wandered round the streets of Busby several times to try to pin point the litter 'hotspots' and ensure these were prioritized. My first impression was that the volume of litter on the pavements was less than it had been in the past. I actually began to worry that our volunteers might not have enough to do. In fact, my concerns were unfounded as there was still plenty of work to be done. After 2 hours of exceptional effort, over 70 bin bags were collected and 2 requests to clear areas of fly tipping were reported and collected by the council.



I will confess that I can become fairly exercised by littering and why individuals would discard their litter on pavements or out of their car windows. It seems they are unaware that this is a blight on the landscape in our cities and towns and countryside. In the days after litter picking, the volunteers can be acutely tuned in to new litter. It can be frustrating to see a few cans and cartons appearing overnight.

My view is that every little helps. It feels good to make this small contribution to improve our environment in the hope that others might get the message and change their behaviour. It would be so much worse if we did nothing

Thanks very much to all the litter pickers, the drivers, those who provided the refreshments and the Council for the equipment and uplifts, to ensure this event was successful.



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all the family

at our modern, purpose built dental surgery in Clarkston

New private and NHS patients welcome



1st BUSBY GUIDES

PAMELA MILL

We were lucky enough to get the money, we bid for, at the recent Bringing Busby Together event in Busby Church Hall. Thank you to everybody who came along and voted for us and thanks to those who organised this. We are going to use this money to buy more outdoor equipment like bats, balls and a parachute. The Guides have enjoyed playing with a parachute at County events and I know they will have fun with it. We also plan to use the money for Guide badges, books and craft materials.

Since the Easter holidays we have managed to spend a lot of time outside in the Church grounds. I'm sure that people living nearby have heard us as there can be up to forty of us there. They love being out in the fresh air. The Guides have played games, had a scavenger hunt and had a cook out. At this the girls cooked sausages and made s'mores with roasted marshmallows and chocolate digestive biscuits. They all love toasting their marshmallows.



I was pleased that several Guides came along to the Church Service for the 200th anniversary of the RNLI. They all enjoyed the Service and people commented afterwards about what a credit they were to our organisation.

We haven't been to a camp this year but hope to have a sleepover in the Church Hall next session. There will be a County Camp in 2025 and I think that most of our girls will want to go to that.

We finish up for the summer holidays on the first Tuesday in June and will start back on the first Tuesday in September.

Thank you to Lynne, Lynsey, Cara and Rebecca for all their help. Thank you also to Carrie and Gemma who have come along occasionally too. We are pleased that John, our Church Officer, is back opening the hall for us on Tuesday evenings. Thank you also to all the Guides for their continued commitment to our Busby Guides.

EVERY WEEK AT BUSBY PARISH CHURCH

MONDAYS	6.30 - 7.45pm - Brownies	7.00 - 9.30pm - Drama Club
TUESDAYS	1.00 - 3.00pm - Food Bank	7.00 - 9.00pm - Guides & Choir
WEDNESDAYS	10.00am - 12.00 Noon - Drop-In Club	1.30 - 2.30pm - Keep Fit
THURSDAYS	7.30 - 9.00pm - Guild	
FRIDAYS	6.30 - 7.45pm - Anchor Boys	7.45 - 10.00pm - BB
SUNDAYS	11.00 - 12.00 noon - Sunday Worship & Sunday Club with tea and coffee afterwards	

SINO-SCOTTISH/ CHINESE-CALEDONIAN RELATIONS

JERRY EVE

Our two most famous visitors from China, Yang Guang and Tian Tian, have now gone home. Housed in Edinburgh Zoo for 12 years from 2011-2023, I've often thought myself fortunate to have seen them. That was in 2012, at a time when there were fairly high hopes that between them, they might have a cub. By 2014, though, when I wrote the following poem, those hopes had largely faded:

Yang Guang
The Panda Bear
We pay our fare
From here to there
To go and stare
In Edinburgh

The Panda Bear
Not everywhere
But Scots we dare
Have cash to spare
In Edinburgh

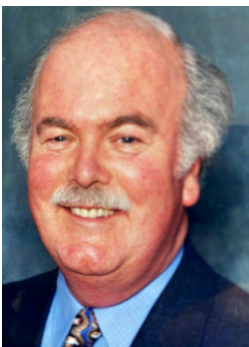
The Panda Bear
Seems unaware
That Tian Tian's bare
So they despair
In Edinburgh

The Panda Bear
He doesn't care
For an affair
Plays solitaire
In Edinburgh

The Panda Bear
This millionaire
Disdains to pair
He's laissez-faire
In Edinburgh

The Panda Bear
Lies in his lair
Enjoys the glare
Thinks I'll stay rare
In Edinburgh

OBITUARY



GRAHAM McALLISTER (1944 - 2024)

by his friend and neighbour, Myrtle McGregor

Graham loved Sunday mornings at Busby Church. Unfortunately, he could never stay for a chat after the Service as lovely Poppy would be waiting for him in the car.

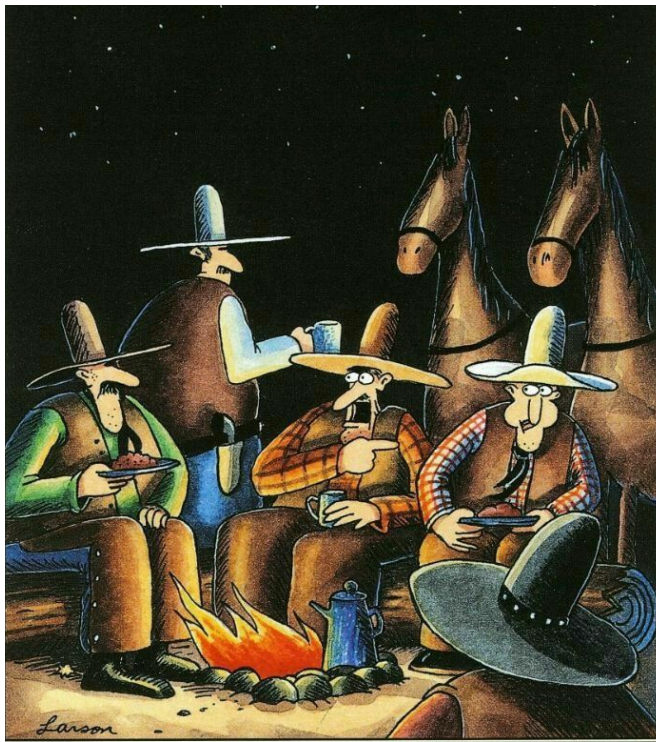
His family had moved into number 30 Cartsbridge Road when he was a boy and he had lived there ever since. When his sister died in 2014 and he had retired, he decided to leave Eastwood Parish Church, where he had been an elder for many years and joined Busby Church.

In 1952 he began school in Hutchie when it was still in the old Gorbals. Life there was stark, never threatening, but a real old Glasgow community spirit amid great poverty. The school moved up to Kingarth Street and Beaton Road. Hutchie suited him well. He went on to study history at Glasgow University and eventually returned to his old school to teach History and Modern Studies. In 1979 The Governors appointed him Assistant Rector. He worked tirelessly to promote and safeguard the future of the school even after retirement. In honour of all his work he was awarded "The George and Thomas Hutcheson Award 2010"

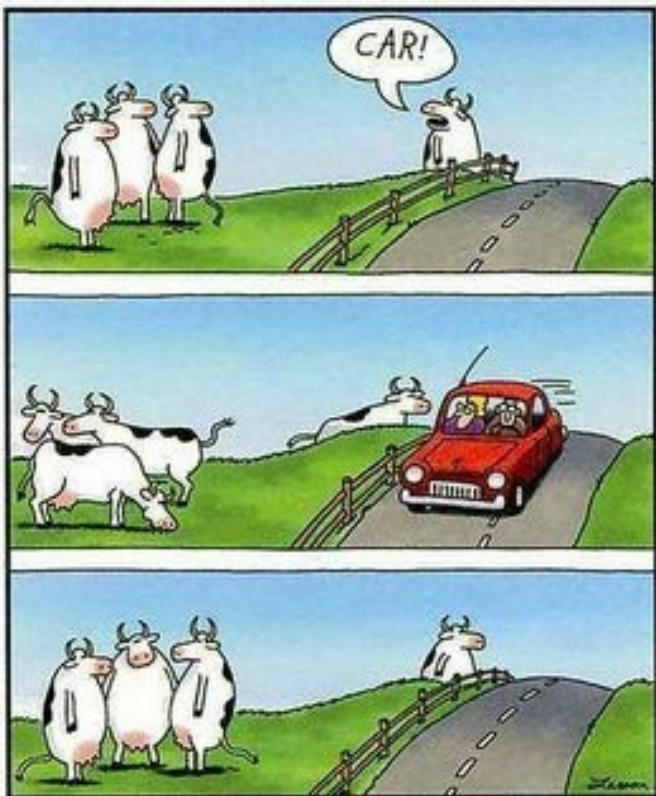
His was a small family with only one sister and a distant cousin in New Zealand. He loved to travel so would often visit them. He also took interested pupils to many different countries such as Russia.

One of his great contributions to school life, especially after he retired, was to organize meetings of former pupils in Toronto. They took a great interest in the School and gave large sums of money to create a fund that would assist pupils whose parents needed assistance with school fees.

He loved his house and garden. Each year he spent hours creating a perfect scene along with his companion the beautiful little sausage dog Poppy.



"Hey, everyone! Simmons here just uttered a discouraging word!"



CROSSWORD SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Angelic 5 Medusan 9 Shelter 10 Abaddon 11 Monastery 12 Liege 13 Doric 15 Theosophy 17 Aaron's rod 19 Nahum 22 Oriel 23 Low Sunday 25 Totemic 26 Eat into 27 Eurasia 28 Treadl
DOWN: 1 Assumed 2 Gleaner 3 Lotus 4 Carpenter 5 Meaty 6 Deadly sin 7 Sidle up 8 Nunnery 14 Candlemas 16 Endowment 17 Apostle 18 Roister 20 Hedonic 21 Maypole 23 Lucia 24 Untie

CROSSWORD

Courtesy of Life & Work Magazine (compiled by Peter Chamberlain)

ACROSS

- 1 Divine messenger in charge (7)
- 5 Sum Dean organised to do with one of the Gorgons (7)
- 9 Left short time in almost vertical place of refuge (7)
- 10 Hell for a wicked man (7)
- 11 Religious establishment, one almost in control (9)
- 12 Vassal in Belgium (5)
- 13 Same again, interminably affluent style of architecture (5)
- 15 Divine intervention when boy meets girl (9)
- 17 Radar soon damaged flowering plant (6,3)
- 19 In Louisiana, humanitarian prophet (5)
- 22 Marjorie looked into the window (5)
- 23 Depressed for 24 hours after Easter (3,6)
- 25 Idolatrous motet rescheduled, number 99 (7)
- 26 Make inroads to have meal at home first (3,4)
- 27 Posh area is redesigned covering two continents! (7)
- 28 Found in centre a clear golden substance (7)

DOWN

- 1 Put on as expected (7)
- 2 Ruth perhaps, gatherer of information (7)
- 3 Lily's position? (5)
- 4 Fish go in wooden things he makes (9)
- 5 Lamb possibly is full of interest (5)
- 6 Would one pass on after committing this offence? (6,3)
- 7 Come near to another sideways, slide awkwardly out of bed (5,2)
- 8 Ladies take orders here (7)
- 14 Festival of light? (9)
- 16 Men we don't trouble as a matter of policy (9)
- 17 One of the Christians whose acts have been booked (7)
- 18 Rota included single revel (7)
- 20 Epicurean, he had bent coin (7)
- 21 Country dance centre (7)
- 23 Lady stopped short before taking one to this sainted Caribbean island (5)
- 24 Get knotted? Just the reverse (5)