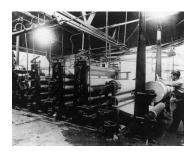


YEAR OF STORIES - THE ITALIAN GARDEN Allander Road Gardening Group





In 1870 a cotton mill in Milngavie was converted to a papermill called Ellangowan making paper for fine writing and printing for books and cheque books. It eventually closed in 1959 and was demolished in March 1966. A new housing complex was built on the site in the 1970s by Milngavie Council, now East Dunbartonshire Council. (Information on the Ellangowan Papermill was provided by courtesy of EDLC Archives and Local Studies) A focal point of the complex was a landscaped area called the Italian Garden. It became overgrown and unsightly and Milngavie in Bloom decided to bring it back to being the focal point of the estate where children could play again and social gatherings could take place. A sub-group of MiB (Allander Road Gardening Group) was formed with residents, and started regreening the dark garden and replacing the slabbing.







Pictures of the Italian Garden before the work was started

The early work begins





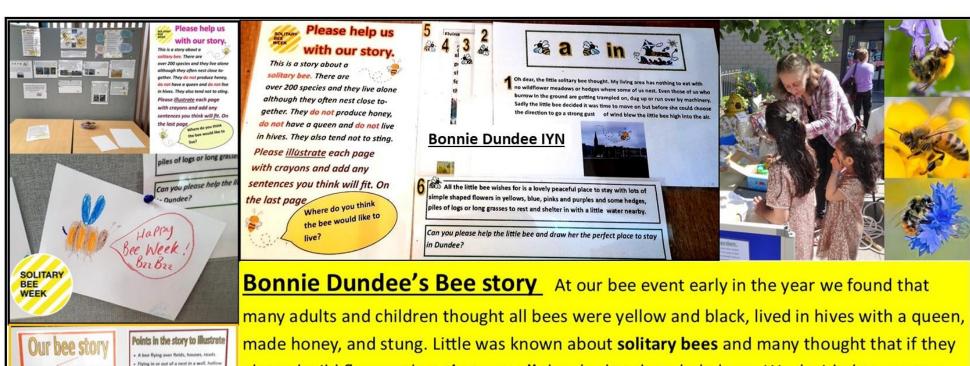


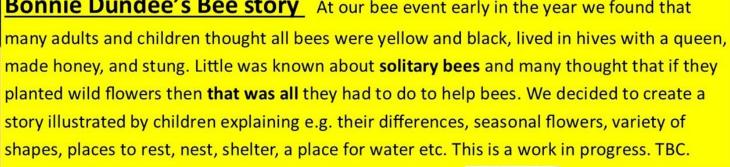
Shrubs and "Roman Paving" are discovered.

The bright garden in summer 2021



The Group join It's Your Neighbourhood campaign and enjoy the mentoring visits, gaining success in early 2022 with Award Level 5 Outstanding and Certificate of Distinction











Buckies Roots - Crafty Roots 2022



Tribute to Rabbie Burns

Five Panels Outside Care Home



We provided the community with wool and patterns to knit or crochet flowers. In January this year we had our tribute to Rabbie Burns. In May we hung five panels outside the Day Room of Parklands Care Home. In July our Coronation Crown hung in Buckie Square for the whole summer. In November our Poppy Cross stood in the Square for Remembrance Sunday. Most of the wool has been donated or bought from local Charity Shops. The Community love our displays and are always asking what are we going to do next. They are also hung in the **Buckie Library and** accompany us on talks.



Coronation Crown for Platinum Jubilee

Poppy Cross – November 2022



East Haven - Year of Stories 2022



Story walks were held throughout the year when we shared stories old and new with visitors and local groups. We also held a "Year of Stories weekend in July when we displayed information about East Haven's history and heritage. We communicated many of our stories through paintings which we hung in the public toilets. We involved the whole community and used social media to share our stories too.

FARE LOCHEND COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT

A super busy year we had with weekly visits from our 5 nurseries, 2 primaries & 6 community groups with 100 children per week and 550 visiting monthly. We created a wondrous woodland using shower curtains to cover steel railings, adding evergreens, conifers, heathers, bog and frog ponds, bug hotels, hedgehog homes & pinecone bird feeders. This is group1 from Oakwood



We held 4 community Wellness days delivered by Angela of RHS. We celebrated the Queens Platinum Jubilee with around 80 people and made cakes and dishes using our harvests. We created nature art weekly and have a monthly litter pick.



Here is Buchlyvie Nursery with a bumper harvest of rainbow vegetables from their plot. We are composting and making leaf mould in denims



Primary.



We displayed/published widely this QR code linking to a downloadable trail map & information pack.

Over the winter six figures were dressed by local craft ladies.

Many skills were used: sewing, crochet, felting and drawing.



"The Year of Stories" fitted perfectly with what Kinnesswood in Bloom likes to do. We have a number of little wrought iron figures which were initially made for the Ryder Cup celebrations in 2014.

This year we repurposed them as famous figures with links to our area.

The figures were placed at appropriate places round the village with a small interpretation panel set in a post beside them, most of these featured a drawing & brief description all created by Portmoak Primary school pupils.



Our locally connected figures

- A Bronze Age lady carrying a funeral urn
- Mary Queen of Scots who was imprisoned in Loch Leven Castle
- A monk from St Serf's Island. The monks produced vellum for many years.
- Alexander Buchan, a ground-breaking meteorologist
- Michael Bruce the poet
- Eve Muirhead, Olympic curling champion, a former pupil at our school

North Berwick in Bloom - Year of Stories



We collaborated with East Lothian Council amenities team to plant the historic carpet bed celebrating Robert Louis Stevenson's connection with North Berwick where he spent many summer holidays. The skull and crossbones refers to his famous novel, 'Treasure Island'. Local shops displayed extracts from Scottish stories and poems in their windows.



Our gannet sculpture made of shells, sea glass and pebbles was inspired by Stevenson's novel 'Catriona' set on the Bass Rock, the world famous gannetry off the coast of North Berwick. It was also a poignant tribute to the iconic bird whose numbers were decimated by Avian flu this year. An extract from the novel, written in old Scots, was set in the boat.

In November, we commemorated the work of the Women's Land Army in a Remembrance Display which prompted many passers-by to stop and tell stories about their mothers, aunties and grannies and the agricultural work they did to keep the country supplied with food and timber.

