



Milngavie in Bloom Annual Report 2022

In September 2021, the first live Annual General Meeting for two years was held in St Joseph's Church Hall. Anne Crow left the committee, and the rest of the committee were reappointed. Tim Rhead and Sandra Wilson continued as Chair and Vice-Chair. Tam Spaeth, who had been Volunteer Convenor, resigned early in 2022 and has been replaced by Heather Lindsay, a former committee member who has not rejoined the committee but submits reports on her activities. In April MIB was very sorry to learn that John McCartney died; John had been a volunteer for many years, in particular donating plants and operating the bowser, and several members attended his funeral.

Work in Autumn 2021 included planting up Victoria Place, which had been delayed by the refurbishment of the garages, and the annual Leaf Clearance, assisted by the Community Service Volunteers. A large number of daffodil bulbs were planted in Lennox Park. MIB is part of the Group of Six local organisations who are planning the improvement of the park. At the end of November, MIB took part in the Reindeer Parade and had a stall in the precinct at the well supported Christmas Lights event, organised by the BID.



Reindeer Parade 2021

The continuing incidence of Covid led the committee to cancel the usual Winter Warmer but instead an enhanced Spring Get-together was organised in February at the United Free Church hall to plan the year's activities. The Allander Road Group received the Top Level 6 Award under the Beautiful Scotland 'It's Your Neighbourhood' scheme. MIB decided to take part in the non-judged Beautiful Scotland category again in 2022, which meant that information and advice was received throughout the year. The Community Garden partner this year was Craighdu Primary School who helped to plant the bed for the Queen's Jubilee and provided a very impressive crown, constructed by a local joiner. Colours chosen included purple, platinum and white for the floral fountains, red white and blue for the large planters, and yellow and blue for the War Memorial barrels, which also happen to be the colours for both the Rotary and Ukraine.



Community Bed 2022 with
Craighdu Primary School

Gardening work continued throughout the season at twice monthly sessions on Wednesdays and Saturdays plus special events. Clean Sweep had bi-monthly litter-picking sessions throughout the year and took part in the national Big Spring Clean-up in which the local Beavers took part.

Milngavie Week took place in June after a two year gap and MIB had a Sunflower Stall in the precinct and a display in the Flower Festival at St Andrew's Church to raise funds for Water Aid.

Guided MIB Floral Walks took place around the town using a newly revised leaflet, which is now available in various outlets; 1,000 copies have been printed.



Floral Walk Leaflets

Gavin's Mill has opened its courtyard for activities and invited MIB to provide a workshop on planting hanging baskets. The Milngavie Flower Club decided to close and gave a donation of £1,000 to MIB, which will be used to pay for replacement barrels.



Hanging Basket Workshop at Gavin's Mill

MIB continues to work in partnership with many local organisations. The BID pay for compost and plants for the greatly admired Floral Fountains in the precinct. Supermarkets and East Dunbartonshire Council have donated plants and Reid's shop has sponsored the Heather Bed. Scotrail continue to assist at the station and assistance has been given at the Carers Link

Garden and the Burnbank Retirement Housing Home. MIB continues to be part of the Milngavie Umbrella Group, which has a strategic role with EDC and local voluntary groups. The telephone box owned by MIB has featured displays and information throughout the year. In July a Volunteer Afternoon Tea was held at St Andrew's Church Hall to thank volunteers for their work over the past two years. 60 volunteers enjoyed the occasion with catering from Posh Tarts, a local company.

MIB now uses peat free compost and has a leaf mould enclosure next to the Tool Shed. Spent hops donated by the local Jaw Brewery are now added. Gift cards with photographs of some of our blooms are available for sale at £2 and a calendar for 2023 is being produced. We are indebted to committee member Ian Mitchell and Fiona Lawrie for their photography here and on our website and facebook pages. Fiona Lawrie and Diane Black intend to resign at the 2022 AGM. Craig Kennedy has been co-opted and has taken over from Anne Crow as Calendar Convenor. Joanne Caldwell has agreed to join the committee and will take over from Fiona Lawrie as Social Media Convenor.

MIB has had a very successful year and brought pleasure to residents and visitors to Milngavie.

Tim Rhead, Chair