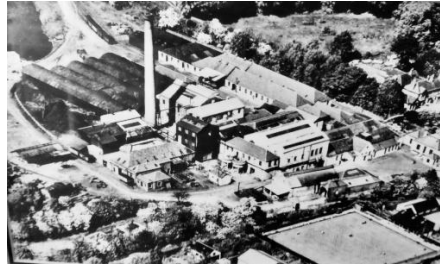
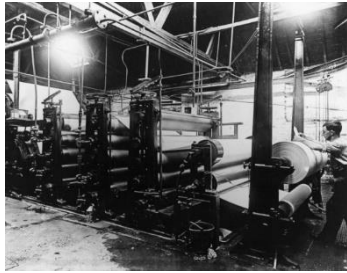


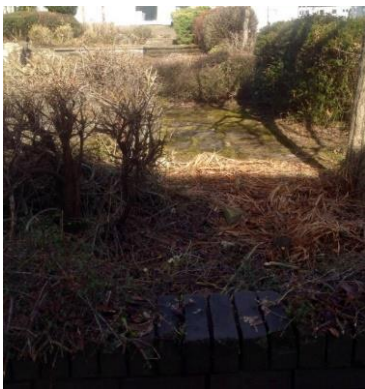


YEAR OF STORIES - THE ITALIAN GARDEN

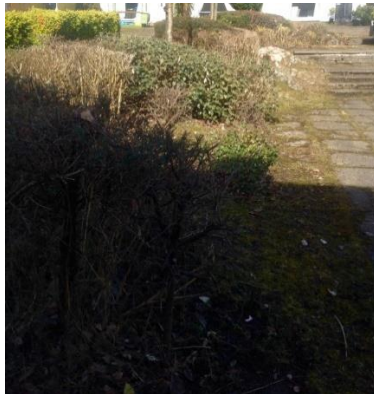
Allander Road Gardening Group



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 re-greening 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