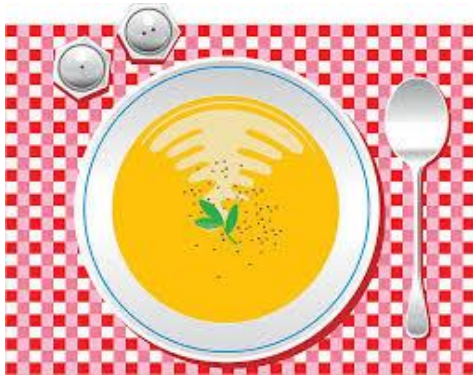




Newsletter - early 2023

Winter Warmer

It's been quite a wet and wild winter so far but here at Milngavie in Bloom we are looking forward to catching up with all our volunteers at the **Winter Warmer lunch on Saturday 28th January at 1pm in St Andrew's Church Hall**. Come along for soup and savouries and a blether with fellow volunteers. Bring along some cash for the tombola, cards and reduced price calendars. Recycle your unwanted Christmas gifts in the tombola by contacting Helen Martin at h_m_martin@ntlworld.com



Gardeners' Meeting

Another date for your diary is the return of **the Gardeners' Meeting on Thursday 16th February in United Free Church Hall at 2pm**. Come and learn about what we are planning for 2023 and refreshments will be provided. Meet up with volunteers in other areas and bring along any friends who might be interested in joining us. If you want to join the **Gardeners' Whatsapp Group** email Sheila Cook sheilajcook@hotmail.com



Waitrose Donation



In November Waitrose gave Milngavie in Bloom a very generous donation of £1,000 as part of their Nature and Environment initiative. Receiving the cheque from Alison Nicholson, Waitrose Community Lead, are Tim Rhead, Chair and Sandra Wilson, Vice-Chair. The money will be used by the volunteer gardeners at The Antonine Garden and we are taking horticultural advice before proceeding. This garden was given to Milngavie after the Glasgow Garden Festival in 1988 and sits at the entrance to the town. Milngavie in Bloom keep the garden blooming beautifully and have also replaced the wooden sign in recent years.

We had a very busy Autumn and thanks to the volunteers led by Diane Black we completed our annual **Remembrance Day display**. We held our annual **Leaf Clearing** at the station steps. The Community Volunteers assisted with moving the leaves to our compost area where we are making leaf mould again. We offered refreshments to Clean Sweep and Gardening volunteers in the Fraser Centre with help from Evelyn Griffin at Tesco.

Reindeer Parade



We took part in the annual Reindeer Parade and the Christmas Tree Festival at St. Paul's Church. Thanks go to volunteer Barbara Adam for decorating the tree on our behalf.



Clean Sweep



Clean Sweep goes from strength to strength and Sheena Maclachlan would like to thank all our volunteers. They will be returning from their festive break keen to tackle the litter. Car parks seem to be the worst places. The Cubs and Rangers Youth Academy have been a big help of late. Here is Moira Clark who cleans the Auchenhowie Road with some of the Rangers lads.

Look out for more news about our annual **BIG CLEAN SWEEP** on our calendar date of **Saturday 15th April 2023**

Communications

Joanne Caldwell joined our committee in October in the role of **Social Media Convenor** taking responsibility for our website and communication platforms. “I’m delighted to join the team having



admired your hard work in the town since the beginning. I hope to share, across a range of platforms, the great work the MiB volunteers do. I’m also looking forward to learning from the wealth of gardening knowledge you all bring. I don’t describe myself as a gardener as I don’t know plant names, but having taken over a large established garden in 1999 I had no option other than to get stuck in. I got the bug - my garden now includes a polytunnel and veg plot!!

I would like to thank Fiona Lawrie, who has done a great job for the last 3 years, for all her help and support getting me started in the role”.

Fiona Lawrie and Diane Black retired from the committee at our AGM in September. Here they are pictured with Tim receiving their flowers as a thank you. Diane has been in hospital recently so we send her our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

AGM September 2022



Diane greatly appreciates the support and friendship she receives from MiB colleagues. She still plans to garden and take on the role of creating the Remembrance display.

We will be looking for a small team who like doing 'arts and crafts' to help us with events in future. This does not necessarily have to be a Clean Sweep or Gardening role, so if interested do get in touch with the Chair. Craig Kennedy has taken on the role of Calendar & Events on the main committee.

Awards 2022

In 2022 we entered the non- judged section of Beautiful Scotland. We achieved a **Certificate of Distinction** and the Italian Garden in the Allander estate won the **Beautiful Scotland In Your Neighbourhood Award 2022 Level 5 Outstanding Award** and also won the **Year of Stories Award**. Thanks to all our volunteers and particularly Thelma Will for writing their story.

Finally **committee minutes** are shared on the website after each meeting so you can keep up to date with MiB news here as well as through our regular **emails, Facebook and Newsletter**. We also put notices in **the library file and noticeboard**. Feel free to contact our Chair, Tim Rhead, or anyone on the committee if you have any questions. Our **Volunteer Convenor, Heather Lindsay**, meets with prospective new volunteers and helps settle them into a role of their choice. She takes them on our Floral Walk with a coffee stop at Gavin's Mill. New volunteers get gardening gloves, a yellow or green tabard and safety specs are provided from the Tool Shed, as well as a full range of tools and litter pickers/green bags.



Milngavie in Bloom Committee December 2022