

Spring 2022



FOCUS

the magazine of
BUSBY PARISH CHURCH



*Wishing all our readers
a very Happy Easter*

**NO
WAR**



FOCUS

the Magazine of
Busby Parish Church

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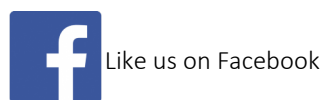
Minister:
Rev. Jerry Eve

Session Clerk:
Robin Bulmer

Editor:
John Lamb

Letters and Articles
should be sent to
busbyfocus@btinternet.com

Visit our website at
busbyparishchurch.org.uk



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JERRY EVE

MESSAGE FROM THE MANSE

Beginning towards the end of last year, and exactly 100 years after Joan Eardley, the famous Scottish artist's birth, and then running through until February this year, Glasgow Women's Library held an exhibition of her work; which, although it was small, comprising just 5 paintings in all, it was well worth seeing.

One Friday, Michelle and myself went along. We phoned first, just to check that with all the Covid restrictions there have been, we would still be able to get in, and when we did we couldn't have been made to feel more welcome.

Open just three days a week, the entire building was a hive of activity. There were people, and it was mainly women, reading as you would expect, but there were a few groups meeting in different corners of the library as well. And some were there, just like us, to see these amazing paintings, the biggest of which – and I was amazed at how thick the paint was that Joan used – was called 'January Flow Tide'. (*pictured on opposite page*)

Ask Michelle, and she'll tell you that Joan Eardley is her favourite painter of all time. And I think part of the reason for this is that in the 1950s Joan had a studio in Townhead in Glasgow – at the same time as Michelle's Mum, Dad and her four older brothers all lived there too; Michelle, I think, always wondering if Joan – who is famous not just for her seascapes, but for her portraits of Glasgow children – ever painted any of them.

I doubt it, but that's not to say they mightn't have been in her studio at some point. Joan does seem to have been extremely welcoming.

The other reason I think Michelle has such a soft spot for Joan Eardley these days is that one of Joan's major artistic influences was someone who taught her throughout her time at Glasgow School of Art. His name was Hugh Adam Crawford (1898-1982), and he was from Busby.

PS While we were there, we came across this, which both of us really liked. It was words that accompanied a photograph depicting a number of different generations:

For my grandmother marriage was an expectation
For my mother marriage was an escape
For me marriage was unthinkable

For my grandmother studying was unthinkable
For my mother studying would have been an escape
For me studying was an expectation

Have a blessed Easter, Jerry.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bereavements

December 2021

Tom Kennedy, Birch Crescent

Sandra Skillen, Birchview Drive

January 2022

Margaret Whitehill, Bonnyton House

'Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, Amen.'

Baptisms

Sunday 13 February Matthew Bailey

Sunday 13 March Oliver Stern

'May the Spirit of God descend upon you, and dwell in your heart forever, Amen.'



FOCUS

SPRING 2022

It is almost impossible to witness the unprovoked brutality of Vladimir Putin's regime and the Russian army towards the people of Ukraine without feeling outrage and anger and it is entirely natural to wish for the destruction of Putin and his dictatorship. On the other hand, as Christians, we are told to "turn the other cheek" and "love our enemies as ourselves". But how can we reconcile these? How can we stop this tyrant and remain true to Christian values at the same time?

The indiscriminate bombing of residential areas, hospitals, schools and even the Holocaust Memorial in Kyiv along with the spreading of "fake" news and suppression of free speech in Russia, have led many to notice the irony of Putin's claims to be "de-Nazifying" Ukraine, despite its president being Jewish. We will never know if turning the other cheek and loving our enemies would have prevailed against Hitler but one thing is certain: faith in God to put an end to such evil needs to be extremely strong.

One beacon of light has been the outpouring of compassion shown by the people of Europe, and in particular Poland, towards the millions of refugees fleeing the conflict. Such actions reinforce our faith in ordinary people.

After his sermon on the 6th of March, Father Ioann Burdin of the Resurrection Church in Kostroma in Russia was detained by the authorities for telling his parishioners about "shelling the Ukrainian cities of Kyiv, Odesa, Kharkiv and killing citizens of Ukraine - brothers and sisters in Christ". About 75% of Russians are Christians and, with all uncensored news channels, papers and social media platforms now closed down by Putin, perhaps a way to reach the ordinary people of Russia and hopefully bring about change, is for the Churches of the world to unite in their support of their brethren in Russia and encourage more brave acts such as Father Ioann's.

As we celebrate Easter, let us pray that Christ's sacrifice and resurrection reminds people everywhere of his fundamental message of love.

Sunday Worship Available 7 days a week

Our Sunday services are available seven days a week on our Youtube Channel. If for any reason you can't make Church on a Sunday, or even if you are curious about Church but reluctant to come and see for yourself, just go to www.youtube.com and type Busby Parish Church in the search bar at the top of the page. You'll find recordings of all our Sunday services there.

IN THIS ISSUE

Busby Bakes



Shona Park's popular page returns with a recipe for Mini Egg Cookies

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Desert Island Discs

In a new feature, we ask members of our Church to list the 8 recordings they would take with them to a desert island.

On page 5, Rosanne Brackenridge is the first to tell us her selection



*January Flow Tide
By Joan Eardley
(See Message From The Manse on opposite page)*

Busby Bakes

Mini Egg Cookies

by Shona Park

Ingredients

- 125g Butter
- 100g Light Brown Soft Sugar
- 75g White Granulated Sugar
- 1 Egg
- 5ml Vanilla Extract
- 275g Plain Flour
- 25g Cornflour
- 7.5ml Baking Powder
- 2.5ml Bicarbonate of Soda
- 2.5ml Sea Salt
- 100g milk chocolate (chopped or chocolate chips)
- 200g Mini Eggs (chopped)
(I used a mixture of Cadbury and M&M eggs)

Method

- Add the butter, light brown soft sugar and white granulated sugar to a bowl and beat until creamy.
- Add in the egg and vanilla and beat again.
- Add in the plain flour, cornflour baking powder, bicarbonate of soda, and salt and beat until a cookie dough is formed.
- Add in the chopped dairy milk and chopped mini eggs and mix in until they are distributed well in the cookie dough.
- Divide into 12 equal sized balls and flatten slightly.
- Place on a baking tray lined with greaseproof paper. Allow enough room between each one for them to spread out slightly
- Press the whole mini eggs into the dough and put them in the freezer for at least 30 minutes, or in the fridge for an hour or so.
- Whilst the cookie dough is chilling, preheat your oven to 200oC/ Gas 6 or 180oC for fan assisted.
- Bake the cookies in the oven for 12-14 minutes.
- Once baked, allow to firm up slightly on the tray before removing to a cool rack.
- Enjoy with tea, coffee or a glass of milk.
- Chopping the mini eggs can be tricky- try using the side of a large knife or bash them a few at a time in a pestle and mortar.

These are best eaten the day they are made, but can be zapped in the microwave for approx 20 seconds to freshen them up.

Adapted from an original recipe by Jane's Patisserie



It seems like Easter Eggs appear in the shops as soon as Christmas is over nowadays. Whilst it means the novelty wears off a bit it also gives us longer to enjoy bakes such as this one.

Desert Island Discs

the selection of Rosanne Brackenridge

The first of a new feature, where we invite members to name the 8 songs they would take with them to a desert island, along with a book and object of their choice

Picture courtesy of BBC Radio 4



- 1 **She Taught Me How to Yodel by Frank Ifield**
This was the first record I bought.
- 2 **True Love by Bing Crosby & Grace Kelly**
This was my Dad's record & I sat on it & broke it! It reminds me of our singsongs in our caravan at Maidens where I learned many songs. 'wan singer, wan song' was the cry!
- 3 **Climb Ev'ry Mountain from The Sound of Music**
My aunt made me miss choir practice to go to Lewis's & sing in a talent competition. The judge was Bruce Forsyth & I got through to the second round. Everyone was singing songs from this wonderful film.
- 4 **Down in the Glen by Kenneth McKellar**
A beautiful Scottish song which I've loved singing in hospitals & care homes across Scotland. The words 'there's peace worth more than gold' stop me in my tracks & make me appreciate life in our beautiful country.
- 5 **All in the April Evening by the Orpheus Choir**
A song which I first sang in the Scottish Junior Singers with Agnes Duncan conducting. She was an Orpheus Choir member.
This beautiful song is now very special to the choir members at Busby Parish Church.
- 6 **Polka from The Bartered Bride by Smetana**
As singers in the chorus of Scottish Opera we were sometimes paired up with real dancers. As soon as I hear this music I remember our fabulous costumes & being lifted high in the air as we danced down a treacherous ramp! I have many great memories of coming off stage in disbelief at what I'd managed to do. Working as a team and helping each other made great things possible!
- 7 **Fidelio Finale from Heil Sei dem Tag by Beethoven**
A stirring triumphant chorus the music & words of which are rarely far from my mind. In times of stress I sing it to myself. The power of music has run through my life.
- 8 **My Love is Like a Red Red Rose written by Robert Burns and performed by tenor Jamie MacDougall & pianist & arranger Michael Barnett**
A beautiful performance which I'd enjoy listening to with the sea of the desert island in the background.

If I could only choose one, the track I would like to take with me is 'My Love is Like a Red Red Rose'.

The book I would like is an illustrated version of The Complete Works of Robert Burns.

If I can choose an object it would be a ukulele!

My choices of music can all be found on YouTube.



News from MALAWI



Maureen Potter

The news from Malawi has been mixed over the past few weeks. Rain has been sporadic which means that crops are of poorer quality than normal this year. In some parts of the country heavy rain has washed away growing crops.

Mercy Chabinga's current radio and chemotherapy treatment has been stopped due to her low immunity, low blood count and platelets. She asks us to pray for her. She has been suffering from severe nausea and sickness but a financial gift enabled her to buy medication to reduce these symptoms.

The container from the Banana Box Trust sent from Dundee arrived safely on 3rd February and was unloaded by many willing helpers including Gary Brough, the current Church of Scotland Mission Partner based in Mzuzu.



Anson Singini collected the boxes, 1 large case and a working sewing machine sent by members of Busby Parish Church. The cost of £15 per item was covered by the fund raiser in 2020 plus generous donations from some church members. Many of the items in the boxes were children's clothing donated by ALJ school clothing suppliers, based in Lanark. The owners are friends of Marilyn Ross and have given us substantial, good quality clothing over the years for Ekwendeni. However due to changes in the Church of Scotland donations policy it looks as if we shall have to decline further donations.

Anson hasn't distributed the goods yet, as he had a family bereavement and is in the process of winding up the deceased's affairs on top of his usual commitments.

Anson works for LISAP, Livingstonia AIDS Project and in his role with LISAP he knows where the greatest pockets of poverty are and directs goods to the most needy. We are, hopefully, emerging from the Covid Pandemic but many African countries still have a very high AIDS Mortality Rate although anti viral drugs being available. The cost of these drugs are such that many die simply because they cannot afford the cost of medication.

Over the next few weeks, Busby Parish Church intends to develop a new World Mission strategy which will replace our very popular Kwenderana project.



A young boy with the wheelchair we got him...and a new jumper



Boxes plus sewing machine from Busby



Children wearing new jumpers we sent

BUSBY GUIDES



In the autumn, when we started having weekly face to face meetings, our numbers had fallen considerably. Many of the older girls didn't return after the lockdowns. However we have been very lucky to have 4 girls from Busby Brownies and 9 girls from a Newton Mearns Brownie Pack join our unit. They all started just before Christmas and they are a very enthusiastic bunch.

This means that we now have 26 Guides as well as 3 Young Leaders and 3 Leaders. Megan Wills an Assistant Leader left us at the end of the year to go to a new job up north. We were sad to see her go and wish her well. Lynsey Gilmour started helping, as an Assistant Leader, at the start of the session which was great as our numbers have grown so much.

We have had a busy time since September. All the girls took part in a County Connections badge and more recently were given a variety of tasks to do for Thinking Day. Thinking Day had a special significance this year as it was 22/02/22. We completed some of the tasks like making friendship bracelets and facepainting at Guides but the girls were encouraged to complete some activities at home.

On 22nd February we had an international evening. The girls were asked to choose a country and perform a sketch, song or dance about their chosen country. They always enjoy acting and dancing activities. They also were asked to bring a food item related to their country to share with their patrol. I thought that most of them would forget to bring something and was pleasantly surprised. Some girls had baked cakes, others brought chocolates, ice cream and a variety of other things. The patrol who had chosen Japan, as their country, brought sushi. I wouldn't have known what sushi was at their age.

Nine girls made their promise on the 22nd February so it was an eventful evening. We were pleased to have Maureen Potter our Church elder join us that evening too.

During our weekly meetings we regularly play games, do crafts and badge work. The girls always enjoy making S'mores when they toast marshmallows over tealights and eat them melted between chocolate digestive biscuits. We are looking forward to getting outdoors after Easter when the nights are lighter. We are so lucky to have the gardens beside the Church where the girls can play.

Although our unit is almost full, we would be delighted if there are any girls aged between 10 and 14 years old who would like to join us. Similarly if there is anyone who would like to volunteer with us please pop in to the Busby Church Hall any Tuesday between 7 and 9pm.

T

hank you to my Young Leaders Niamh, Cara and Laura as well as my Leaders Lynne and Lynsey. Cara B and Rebecca, 2 of the older Guides, are also a great help. They all work hard on Tuesday evenings organising games and activities.

Thanks also to all the Guides and their parents for their ongoing support.
Pamela Mill



0141 620 3131
mail@ireland-yuill.co.uk



Dental care for
all the family

at our modern, purpose built dental surgery in Clarkston

New private and NHS patients welcome

The Magnificent 11

a Glasgow South Side Walk

with thanks and acknowledgement to Helen Rose's Hillwalking Diary
from Pat's Guide at glasgowwestend.co.uk

The Magnificent 11 is a four-part circular walk of 11 miles linking seven wonderful greenspace habitats on Glasgow's Southside, including Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) and a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The route was developed by Glasgow Ramblers in partnership with Glasgow's Countryside Rangers. Countryside Rangers can be found all over Scotland, employed by: local authorities, private estates, the Forestry Commission and National Parks and were born from the 1968 Countryside (Scotland) Act. Countryside Rangers in Scotland celebrate 45 years in 2019. Our Countryside Rangers work with the people of Glasgow to educate, interpret, monitor and protect Glasgow's wildlife and its environment. The service operates city wide covering 92 parks, Local Nature Reserves and greenspaces in Glasgow.

The Magnificent 11 route was first thought of by a Glasgow Countryside Ranger over 10 years ago and Glasgow Ramblers came on board about five years ago. Over the past few years there have been regular work groups to upgrade parts of the route, establish sign posts and locals have got involved too.

All four parts can be completed on their own, with each having ready access to public transport. But walked together, the route offers a truly 'Magnificent 11' miles, celebrating Glasgow, 'The Dear Green Place', and its parks and greenspaces we can all enjoy. I walked it all in one day in spring. Full information on <https://www.glasgowramblers.org.uk/mag11.html>

Linn Park to Castlemilk Park

Parts 1 and 2 link three city parks along riverbanks, across open parkland and through mature woodland. We started in Linn Park on an icy spring day and followed alongside the White Cart Water. We passed the lovely waterfall. We did not follow the narrow path alongside the river but stayed on the main path as there was some surface ice. The River Cart is a tributary of the River Clyde and is formed of the confluence of the White and Black Cart Waters. We walked to Queen's Knowe where Mary Queen of Scots stood on this hill top in 1568 to view the Battle of Langside. The battle was against her half-brother, the Earl of Moray, who had forced her to give the Scottish Crown to her infant son James. We had good views over the south of Glasgow from this vantage point.



Onward we walked to King's Park which had a more formal setting. The park contains a number of buildings and amenities, including 'Aitkenhead House', a mansion house designed by architect David Hamilton in 1806 with a stable block and a walled garden. The rose garden to the rear of the walled garden also contains a mannerist two tier sundial with a tall obelisk finial, one of three reproductions of the 1635 Newbattle sundial.



Fernbrae Meadows to Cathkin Braes

Part 3 of the walk rises through a new park in Fernbrae Meadows just in South Lanarkshire. Here a former golf course, which had gone out of business and fallen derelict, has been transformed into a new urban park. It is the catalyst to regenerating an area which many will associate with the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games and mountain biking events. We walked on to Cathkin Braes, Glasgow's largest and finest greenspace, with woodland, heath, wild grasslands and bird reserve marshes.

The eastern part of the Country Park was gifted to the city in 1887 by millionaire Mr James Dick who stipulated that the open space must be retained in a natural state and open for public enjoyment. It is rich in history and a familiar landmark on the southern skyline reaching 200 metres above sea level, the highest point in Glasgow. The park is renowned for panoramic views over the city and beyond including the Gleniffer Braes and the Kilpatrick and Campsie ranges. On a clear day many familiar mountain peaks can be seen. The area was originally known as the Cathkin Hills and during the Iron Age a Celtic tribe known as the Damnonii lived here. The discovery of many artefacts has been recorded and several cairns still exist to this day. We had our lunch stop here to take in the views.



The descent was past a wind turbine with a dramatic skyline of blue sky and some cloud. The route continued through woods and fields, past Windlaw Marsh, a well-known place for bird watching. A new deer fence had been erected but there were stiles around it..



Cathkin Braes to Linn Park

Part 4 is a green delight, dropping down through conservation farmlands and past Carmunnock Village. We passed a house with interesting wrought iron gates with a lace effect. This led us to the Cart and Kittoch Valleys. Backed by Glasgow City Council and Green Action Trust, the £125k project will see nine different species of native broadleaf trees planted across 15 hectares next to the Cart and Kittoch Valley Site of Special Scientific Interest, near to Carmunnock.. In time, the native trees being planted will grow up to 15metres tall and help to create a habitat for a wide range of flora and fauna, including bluebells, primrose and foxgloves to hedgehogs, badgers and birds. With the lifespan of the trees being planted anywhere between 60 and 100 years, it is anticipated that the new woodland will be able to regenerate and continue indefinitely with appropriate management.



We skirted Linn Cemetery and on entering Linn Park we had a hail storm! It was only for a few minutes and we walked back through Linn Park to our starting point.

This was a very enjoyable walk taking in parks that I had not previously visited and praise must go to the Countryside Rangers and the community groups who developed the walk.

Greater Glasgow **iNaturalist** City Nature Challenge 2022:

RSPB Scotland are encouraging people to get closer to nature by taking part in this year's City Nature Challenge across greater Glasgow over the four days Fri 29 April – Mon 2 May. The City Nature Challenge is an international effort for people to find and document plants and wildlife in cities across the globe.

In 2020, 10 city regions across the UK took part with 5,000 wildlife recorders contributing 71,500 wildlife records to local and national databases, where they are used to inform conservation, management and research.

As more of us live in cities, it is important that we understand how different species are adapting to the habitats in them, to find ways to make homes for them and ensure their protection.

You don't need any previous experience of nature recording – all you need is your phone with the iNaturalist app on it. The only criteria for submitting records is that the photo must be of wild species so no pets or garden plants. No expert knowledge needed as the app will help to ID findings, or photos can be shared with the global community that use the app for an answer.

You can record what you see from your windows, spot in your flower boxes, find outside in your gardens or balconies or see in your local park or greenspaces. Just Remember to follow government advice and social distancing guidelines while being a citizen scientist!

Homeworking by Jerry Eve

My daughter Becky asked me recently if I might write a poem for her. This was the result:

My laptop's on, I've just begun,
The doorbell rings, who can
That be? I better answer it.
I find out it's a man
Who, with a package, asks me if
I'd take it and then sign
His tablet, which he hands to me:
'Just here, please, on this line.'

Which I then do. Although it's not
For me, I'm glad I'm in
For otherwise – I like to help! –
It would have been a sin
For Becks to find when she got home
That then she'd have to wait
To get that retail fix she craves
Till some now future date.

I settle down, go back to work,
I'm really in the zone.
But then the spell is broken by
The doorbell. I don't groan,
But think there may be someone there
For me. It's twenty three
Steps down. I'm careful not to trip,
Let's see who it can be.

It's Amazon. They're wondering,
'Is this where Becky lives?'
I tell them, 'Yes, but she's not here.'
'That's fine,' he says, and gives
Me one more parcel – that makes two –
I'm stifling a sigh
As back up all those stairs I climb
Then sit. Now, where was I?

I'll make a list, prioritise,
It helps if I take stock.
But as I'm doing so, Oh No!
I hear a quite loud knock.
Knock, knock, who's there? I'd like to know,
So now I'm at the door.
Maybe this time someone will say,
I'm who you're looking for.

But no, it's a delivery
Again. 'Does Miss B. Eve
Live here?' 'I'm J.' I say, 'but Yes.'
'Oh good, then I can leave
This with you?' I say, 'That is fine.'
And, 'You have a nice day.'
And so will I, I mutter, I'm
A happy little ray

Of sunshine – get the kettle on.
Breathe deep and meditate,
Think positively, smile and laugh,
Don't be at all irate.
For, though no work is being done
My daughter, if I'm out
And she was in would do the same
For me, I have no doubt.

And what is more – a week goes by,
When I am really glad
To think how if I'd lost it then
I'd now be feeling sad.
For, now I'm being handed once
Again – they now comprise –
Those packages – all three of them –
Are my Birthday surprise.



This term the girls at Busby Brownies have been working hard on their 'Be Well' Brownie badge. They have been learning how to move different parts of their body, making up dance routines to feel positive and even creating a golf course out of recycled plastics to look after the environment! The girls have had some wonderful experiences together and are making friends for life.

Alice (Little Owl) & Rebecca (Tawny Owl)



1 March 2022

Dear Presbytery Clerks and FIF Presbytery Conveners,

Today as I write to you it is with a heavy heart, hearing the news and speaking directly to partners in Ukraine about the dreadful situation there. It would be easy to feel powerless but there are several things we can do to help. We have been in touch with partners in the region, and with the World Communion of Reformed Churches, and others to ascertain the best way to offer help.

The Rev. Balázs Ódor, Ecumenical Officer for the Reformed Church in Hungary, has been in direct contact with us and we have been able to contact the Bishop's Office in the Reformed Church in Carpathian Ukraine, and some congregations in Ukraine. It is good to take just a little time to do this so that the right kind of help is given in a way in which it can be used on the ground where it is needed most.

From these contacts, we suggest that you might share through Presbytery networks and with congregations the opportunity to give, via the Church of Scotland, to Reformed Church in Hungary Aid(RCHA), which is run by our partner, the Reformed Church of Hungary. The RCHA has access to the Reformed church in Ukraine who are using their buildings to support the people moving from east to west as they seek safety and sanctuary. They also are working in the border areas of Hungary, Slovakia and Romania using the Reformed Church contacts and buildings there.

They are providing daily updates and you can see more Information here: <https://reformatus.hu/english/news/emergency-response-for-ukraine/>

Though RCHA you can support those fleeing from the east and coming to the west of Ukraine where they can be helped through the churches there; those in the west already who don't have access to their money when the banks run out and who will need food/help; and those who cross the borders into Hungary, Slovakia or Romania.

Your donations can be directed to the following account:

Royal Bank of Scotland
Church of Scotland No 1
Account no 00134859
Sort code 83 06 08

Reference RCHA donation

Please gift aid this if possible.

With best wishes,

Very Rev Dr Susan Brown
Convener Faith Impact Forum

Unfortunately due to Covid restrictions, our Christmas Party did not take place, nor did our outdoor visit to the Gemmell statues or the Burns Supper.

However nothing daunted we met again on 10th February when the speaker was Trevor Watson, well known to many in the Kirk and in Busby where he grew up. Trevor had slides and a story about his big sailing adventure on Cruinneag 3. He and a few friends crossed the Atlantic from Gran Canaria to Santa Lucia in a small sailing ship. He described his adventure in such a way, we all felt we were part of the adventure. It was a super and very well attended night.

On Thursday 24th February our speaker was to be Ian McNeish who was going to tell us of his career in policing beginning in Ross-shire as a police constable and eventually retiring as a chief inspector in Stirlingshire. Unfortunately the weather stepped in with heavy snow this time so the meeting had to be cancelled but Ian has promised he will come and share his stories with us in the autumn.

At the time of writing, our next speaker is Vivienne McDonald who is going to take us on a musical journey around the world. If free that evening, please come along and join us. The door is always open for visitors or potential new members of both genders and all ages!

We will wind up this session with our AGM and possibly a delayed visit to the Gemmell statues. But between these two activities we hope to have a spring tea on Saturday 2nd April between 2 and 4.00 p.m. Further details will be given nearer the date and will comply with current restrictions at that time.

We would like to thank all who have supported us through the past two years and who have joined us at our meetings since we restarted. Haste ye back!

The Guild

...and finally

