



## **POSTCARD FROM THE FRONT**

As some of you may already know, two of the trusty club members have been maintaining the garden at Gavin's Mill in Milngavie since 2017 when the building was rescued from dereliction by a consortium of local groups and volunteers who leased the building, formerly a restaurant, from the owners, and, after a massive fund raising effort, eventually bought the building in 2020. The iconic Mill building is now run by volunteers as a FairTrade shop and café. The surrounding gardens make a huge difference to the amenity of the area and, judging by the many compliments we receive whilst working on the flower beds, local people very much appreciate the difference having attractive gardens make, even if they are in a car park! Pat and Jane have been joined by Pamela, who STILL hasn't got around to joining the club, despite our urging, and the three of us enjoy our Friday morning sessions keeping the place looking spruce, and wearing our Garden club tabards to promote the club.

It will not have gone unnoticed that the courtyard at the front of the Mill has been in some disarray for a while now, but with that project nearing completion, we can turn our attention to re-developing the flower beds to include some produce which can be used in the café, there are already herbs in situ being used by the chef.

It was suggested a while ago by the management at the Mill that trees could be planted to commemorate three vital supporters of the Mill project who are sadly no longer with us, and we undertook to source and plant the trees. As the depth of soil and space available was very limited, it was decided that the three trees would best be planted in barrels, which were very kindly renovated and donated by the Bearsden Mens' Shed. Of course, soil was needed to fill the barrels – step forward Baldernock Garden Club! The committee agreed to donate the amount of soil required, 800 litres, and this was provided by Allander Aggregates, who were very helpful, and, as a consequence of this experience, can be highly recommended. The three trees, a flowering cherry, crab apple and witch hazel have now been planted, and some bulbs and herbaceous plants will be added at their base for extra interest. The trees were donated by Baldernock Local History Group, The Balmore Trust and the Gavin's Mill Trust and had to be sourced from Burncoose Nursery in Cornwall as no Scottish nurseries had the correct varieties at an acceptable price; hopefully they will not be too stressed by their move North and we have a mild-ish winter to help them settle in. If anyone is passing, do stop for a chat, after doing some Christmas shopping at the Mill, as we feel our role in the Mill garden is social as well as practical !

Jane, Pat and Pamela