

# S T R A T H B U N G O



# N e w S

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## You asked for it, Batman!

Following on from questions raised at the Strathbungo Society AGM, residents between Vennard Gardens and Titwood Road have been invited to join the Council's kerb-side recycling scheme, now being piloted in selected areas of the city.

Only certain things can be recycled through this scheme - namely, cans, plastic bottles and newspapers - due to the size of the recycling boxes. For this reason, glass still has to be taken to recycle centres, the nearest of which are in Kildrostan Street near Pollokshields West railway station and a larger one at Safeway Crossmyloof.

Meanwhile, residents in the 'squares' must be content with the status quo since the collection vehicles cannot negotiate the tight streets. Communal recycling bins may be installed later.

Thus far Land Services are pleased with the positive response they have received - far greater than they had anticipated - and also with the quality of the recycling. Overall, Glasgow still has a long way to go as only 2% of the city's rubbish is currently being recycled. They hope to double the kerb-side scheme in the autumn when another two vehicles become available, though all expansion plans will depend on finance and economic viability.



*Stella & Peter (aka the Caped Crusader) Watson join neighbour Peter Peckham in checking out new recycling boxes in Thorncliffe Gardens lane.*

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## Trash & Treasures at Strathbungo AGM

**From the sublime architecture of Alexander Thomson to the ridiculous problems we sometimes have with rubbish in the Greek's most famous neighbourhood, Strathbungo's now heard it all. The Strathbungo Society entertained close to a hundred members at the AGM on 7th June when guest speakers were Glasgow 1999 Director Deyan Sudjic and Willie Alcorn, Assistant Area Manager (South-west) for Glasgow City Council's Land Services Department.**

Mr Sudjic, whose slide presentation covered a fascinating range of Glasgow 1999 attractions, pointed out that the retrospective of Strathbungo's own 'local hero' is a key event in Glasgow's Year of Architecture & Design (see page 5). He also woke up some of the less design-conscious members of the audience by waving the new £20 note which features our celebrated architect.

Good design, he emphasised, is not just decoration. 'It is the structure that that creates or restores an urban environment in which it is easy, pleasant and secure to live and work. The quality of a city's architecture is a measure of its culture. Glasgow's urban environment - the reputation of its designers - reflects its standing as a world centre for creativity and excellence.'

Mr Alcorn showed that Glasgow also breeds men of considerable bravery when he threw the floor open for questions about Strathbungo's on-going problems with rubbish. He outlined the Council's efforts to make Wednesdays easier and more efficient, but 'usually it's

just a few persistent offenders who make life difficult for everybody and, unfortunately, they're not likely to be here tonight.' He promised efforts would be made to identify and deal officially with fly-tippers, while also urging residents not to put out rubbish until Wednesday mornings, if possible, to discourage midgie rakers.

Outgoing Chairman Robert Lamont thanked the 1998-99 Committee for a year of achievements, from high profile events such as last summer's Bungo in the Park and the Hogmanay Bungo at the Bells - to behind the scenes efforts which led to small but progressive improvements. For example, flooding outside 10 Moray Place has been eliminated and new permanent bollards near the railway bridge are more in keeping with the character of the area. He cited the Awards for All grant from the National Lottery Charities Board as a major factor in the Society's being able to plan community-building activities, both in terms of social events and communications.

# New Committee

## to take Strathbungo into its 3rd century

A total of 28 local residents have agreed to serve as the 1999-2000 Strathbungo Committee. They are:

*Wendy Anderson, Louise Brimelaw, Kay Caldwell, Laura Davie, Peggy Donaldson, Ann Downie, Ross Fergusson, Stevie Greer, Chris Jay, Trisha Jones, Kevin Kane, Stephen Lamb, Robert Lamont, Trevor Lee, Jean MacKenzie, Lesley McCallum, Peter McInnes, Jan McSkimming, Antoinette Morcom, Fiona Paton, Helen Quinn, John Sackett, Sheena Salvatore, Sharon Schweps, Christine & Ian Stark, Noreen Thompson and Stella Watson.*

Representatives needed from Carswell Gardens & Titwood Road - any volunteers?

Following the AGM, the new committee met in July to appoint an executive and form sub-groups. Many thanks to Robert Lamont for doing double duty as Treasurer and Acting Chairman during 1998-99 and to Judy McDowall, who has served us well over the past few years as secretary. Judy, who moved from Vennard Gardens to sunny Perthshire this summer, emails her regards to neighbours who contributed almost £50 to her door-to-door collection for Save the Children in May.

The Strathbungo Society tries to avoid long, boring meetings by channelling efforts into issue-related sub-groups. Sub-groups meet as required and convenors report back to the main committee on the 3rd Monday of every month at the Titwood Resource Centre. Some committee members have specialist skills, others are grassroots workers, all bring enthusiasm and support. We also welcome comments & suggestions from the community at large - just ring the relevant contact.

**Executive:** Chairman Kevin Kane (423 3119) Vice-Chairman Chris Jay (423 5760) Secretary Trisha Jones (423 2621) Treasurer Robert Lamont (423 5364)

**Environment:** Convenor Trevor Lee (423 5443) Discussions underway regarding landscape strategy for Strathbungo, back lanes clean up day, upgrade to kids playground in Queens Park and - of course - redevelopment of back lanes in the squares.

**Neighbourhood Watch:** Convenor Sheena Salvatore (423 2660)

Questionnaire to go out to all residents via street coordinators to confirm participation, recruit new members. NW magazine to be supplied by Police for distribution.

**Events:** Co-convenors Stella Watson (632 8839) & Kay Caldwell (423 5746)  
TWO DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: 31ST OCTOBER-BOGLES & BUNGOS - a pre-guising get-together for kids & grown-ups. HOGMANAY - BUNGO AT THE BELLS - the ultimate Millennium street party.

**Communications:** Convenor Sharon Schweps (423 0050)  
Plans include regular newsletters, heritage & amenity leaflet for estate agents, plus watch out for new Strathbungo 'branded' t-shirts & other gift ideas, just in time for Christmas.

## Who's that knocking at the door?

Committee reps are doing the rounds this summer in an effort to sign up as many residents as possible in the Strathbungo Society. Memberships cost just £2 per household and, in return, you get a handy little card with lots of useful numbers to keep near your phone. Funds go towards operating costs, but more importantly - memberships prove that the Strathbungo Society truly represents the people who live here. This lets us approach the local authority and organisations such as Railtrack on behalf of the whole neighbourhood, which carries a lot more weight than any of us would as individuals. In the past few years we've had the level of support most community organisations only dream about. Let's keep it up!



## New look for the Strathbungo Society

The Strathbungo Society's new logo replaces the sketch of the Thomson terrace with a design which reflects 'the makeup of the modern organisation.

Says Treehaus Designs' Richard Whincop (424 0741), who created the new logo: 'What appears to be a stylised Greek façade is actually the grid of cross streets running from Nithsdale Road to Titwood Road, bound by Moray Place and Pollokshaws Road. The overlay of texture is based on the pineal motif from the original Thomson terrace at Moray Place. Thus the logo keeps the Thomson heritage but stretches the boundaries to the whole of the neighbourhood.' The old look dates back almost 30 years to a time when the Society only concerned itself with the much smaller conservation area of the so-called 'squares'.

## New look for the Newsletter

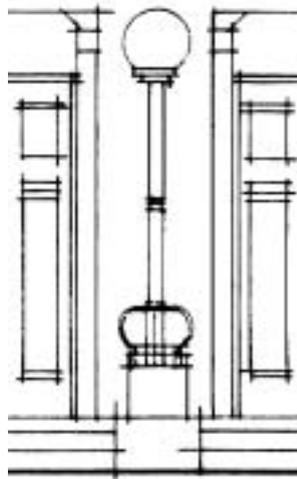


And congratulations to our graphics expert Liz Macdonald (423 1354), who has created a great new format for the *Strathbungo News*. We hope you will enjoy the new look with its flexible layout and airy spaces - Strathbungo is indeed fortunate to be able to draw on the talents of professionals to spread the news.

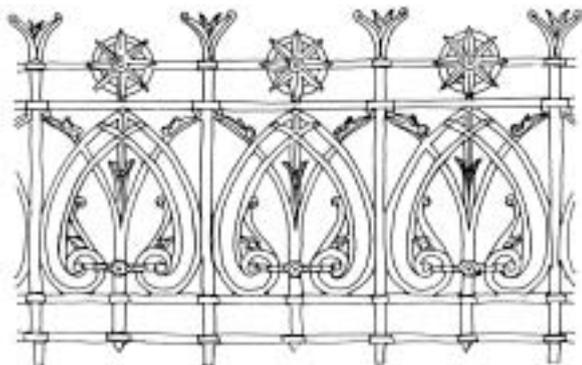
# Lighting Up Time

Residents of 1-10 Moray Place have met with Council planners to explore ways to reinstate the Greek Thomson lamp standards, railings and chimney pots to the A-listed terrace as well as do some stone repairs and improvements to the verge in front. Senior Planning Officer John Gair advised them of companies that would be able to undertake the work.

Owners felt this would be an ideal project to get off the ground during Glasgow's Year of Architecture & Design, though the original submission for funding for this work was made back in 1987. They were told that partial funding (50%) might be available towards restoration of railings and lamp standards the Council's Ironwork Railings Conservation Grant Scheme.



*A cast of the original Greek Thomson lamp standards is thought to exist at a house in Newton Mearns.*



Let's upgrade the place!

There might be money to help. If you or your neighbours have a project in mind, it's worth phoning to see whether grants are available.

#### Environmental Improvement grants

Dept of Development & Regeneration (formerly Planning)  
on 287 4239,

#### Housing Improvement grants

Private Sector Section on 287 4115  
(lead pipe replacements & disabled adaptations now being processed though more money may come through next year)

### New Surgery for City Councillor

Following recent boundary changes, Councillor Walter MacLellan has made new arrangements for his bi-monthly surgery at St Bride's School, Craigie Street: 1st Saturday 10am 3rd Tuesday 6pm Otherwise, residents can phone him at the City Chambers (287 2000) or at home (632 0828).

## Meet your friends at Strathbungo's local!

- real ales & sparkling lagers
- New World wines
- pub Lunches Mon-Fri noon -3 & Saturdays til 3.30pm
- food & coffee available - open to close, seven days a week

#### PLUS

- quiz nights on Tuesdays
- jam sessions every Thursday
- live bands Friday & Saturday
- Southside Writers on 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month

### MILLENNIUM MEMORIES

Share your old photos, favourite stories about the pub & its history for our special display to celebrate Sammy's Century. Bring them, phone them, fax them - or come & tell us.



# SAMMY DOOLIS

69 Nithsdale Road, Phone/fax: 0141 423 0107

## Lillian McNeill

ENROL TUES 24 AUG 2-6pm  
Call NOW 423 0931



Does your child spend too much time in front of the TV or PC?

We offer exercise for the mind and body coupled with a whole lot of fun at a reputable dance class in your own neighbourhood.

We cater for adults and children from 2 years old.

Teachers registered by the Royal Academy of Dancing & Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing.

Ballet  
Tap &  
Modern  
Theatre

## SCHOOL OF DANCING

29 Marywood Square, Strathbungo, Glasgow G41 2BW

# Use It or Lose It!

Rumours to the contrary, Calder Street Baths are not under threat of closure - or at least not yet, according to Councillor Walter MacLellan. 'There's a Glasgow-wide examination of all leisure facilities now in progress. It's not a cost-cutting exercise, but just a look at getting best value for taxpayers' money. One view is that people prefer big leisure complexes serving a larger area to the "old fashioned" local baths. On the other hand, Calder Street is unusual in having three pools, which offer more privacy. The Baths are not specifically at risk and funding is in place until April 2000, but it's worth saying that the best way to keep the facility open is to use it.'

What do you think? Write to Strathbungo News or Councillor MacLellan.

## CALDER STREET BATHS

Adults £1.80. Juveniles 90p. Under-5s free.

Phone 0141-423 0233 for full details of activities & events.

### Opening Hours:

Monday: 9.30am - 6pm - 7.30 - 9 pm (adults only)

Tuesday: 9.30am - 6pm Wednesday: 8am - 9pm Thursday: 9.30am - 5pm

Friday: 8am - 6pm Saturday & Sunday: 10am - 4pm

## Which Way Now?

A detailed analysis of Glasgow's traffic management scheme is due out soon. The report takes into account comments from individuals and groups as well as measurements, speed checks, etc, following implementation of the often-controversial Route Action Plan for the Pollokshaws Road corridor. Watch this space.



## Speaking of spaces . . .

What do you think we should do with the roundabout formed at Nithsdale Road/Nithsdale St? A statue of Greek Thomson, a Fountain, a Bungo?

**We'd like your more entertaining answers on a postcard or by email please . . .**

## Don't give a toss who reads your mail?

You may have seen recent police warnings to West End residents that care should be taken when throwing out old bank and credit card statements - well, Strathbungo 'midgie rakers' are just as unscrupulous. Documents can be taken from bins and the information used to buy goods etc fraudulently so make sure you destroy all important papers before tossing them in your bin.



**BULK UPLIFT**

**287 9700**

**Pollokshields Depot**

**429 4532**

**NEIGHBOURHOOD  
WATCH**



Don't leave it to everyone else!



Meet Jane, Judith and Debbie

# EVERGREEN

The health-conscious co-op has been on the go for 10 years, the last three years of them in Nithsdale Road where they sell wholefoods, fresh bread, organic fruit & veg, herbs & spices, vitamins and gifts. Along with partners Jean and Blanche, the Evergreen team also try and keep customers up to date about nutrition and related issues such as GM foods. Support Strathbungo's local shops!

Have your cat fed at home while you are on holiday.

I will feed your cat in the morning and again in the evening.



**£5.00**

per day plus

**£1.00**

for each cat thereafter.

# Feline Friends

*References from Cat Charity and existing clients available.*

**Call Wilma - 0141-423 8143**

# IT'S ALL 'GREEK' TO ME!

The largest and most complete retrospective of Alexander 'Greek' Thomson's work ever staged is currently on display at the Lighthouse, Scotland's newly opened Centre of Architecture, Design and the City. Housed in Charles Rennie Mackintosh's first building - the former Glasgow Herald premises in Mitchell Lane - the exhibition showcases Thomson's spectacular designs for tenements, villas, terraces, temples (well, churches), shops, offices and monuments. He is truly Glasgow's Architect as he tackled almost every type the Victorian city.



Photograph by Liz Macdonald

Strathbungo is fortunate in having not one, but three fine Thomson residential buildings:

**1-10 Moray Place** (he lived at No 1 from 1861 until his death in 1875), called 'the finest of all Grecian terraces' - and that means, anywhere

**Titwood Place**, the north side tenement block of Nithsdale Rd from Pollokshaws Rd to the New Annan restaurant

**Lorne Terrace**, across the railway line, the imposing tenement that curves round Nithsdale Rd from Darnley Rd to Kenmure St.



Photograph by Phil Sayer

The internationally known architectural historian Gavin Stamp lives in Thomson's own house and was the co-curator of the exhibition at the Lighthouse. His beautifully illustrated book traces the development of Thomson's inspired career across Scotland, and most particularly in Glasgow. With contemporary photographs of Thomson's surviving work by Phil Sayer, the book and the show are a must for all Strathbungo residents.

*Alexander Thomson: The Unknown Genius. The book is published by Laurence King & Glasgow 1999, £25.*

*The exhibition runs until 19 September at the Lighthouse.*

*Admission free. The Alexander Thomson Society is dedicated to developing and promoting this unique legacy.*

*To find out more, write to Dr Stamp at 1 Moray Place, Strathbungo, G41 2AQ.*



*Clydesdale Bank's £20 note makes Thomson only the second British architect ever to become - literally - one you can bank on. The other is Sir Christopher Wren!*

# GLASGOW STYLE

## South of the River

How does Strathbungo figure in Glasgow's housing market? We asked three of the city's most successful estate agents:

In 1861, you could have bought the whole of Greek Thomson's original 1-10 Moray Place for £5,700. Of course, that was a fortune in those days and the terrace was a highly desirable address for Glasgow's elite.

Like many of the city's finest Victorian neighbourhoods, Strathbungo has had to survive some rather torrid times as the ageing properties began to require major maintenance and the resident population decided to flit to the suburbs. Designation as a conservation area in 1974 signalled a sea change in Strathbungo's fortunes as enlightened incomers began to recognise what elegant townhouses were masquerading as bedsits, boarding houses - and worse!

Too bad if you didn't buy your hoose then- here's what you're looking at now:



226 Kilmarnock Rd  
0141-571 3777

Director Clifford Dunn:

'House prices are very much on the rise in Strathbungo, but if you do put your home on the market, be careful not to sell too quickly. You can sell a Strathbungo property in a week, but an estate agent can't cover all the angles in that short period. You should allow time to give your property full exposure to the

market, including the West End. Strathbungo is becoming more fashionable all the time. People are comparing the environment with certain parts of the West End and it's beginning to attract a lot of interest from that side of the River, particularly from young people. Strathbungo makes a very plausible alternative. It's just as accessible to the City Centre and it has excellent public transport, a beautiful park alongside it, good restaurants and pubs. What's more, you get a conversion with plenty of space and beautiful period features - not a tenement flat as would be the case for this price range in the West End. Strathbungo is the up and coming place to buy.'



Slater Hogg & Howison

179 Kilmarnock Rd  
0141-649 4986

Senior Valuer Ewan Blair:

'The Greek Thomson thing is important up to a point, but that's only one small stretch. Strathbungo provides that middle ground between a tenement and a detached house. People who buy in Strathbungo will not usually move on to a modern property. They either stay put, or eventually trade up to a larger property in West Pollokshields or Newlands or wherever. The downside is

parking and, in some cases, shared gardens, but people are willing to trade that off for the proportions of the rooms, period features, the ambience of the neighbourhood. The key is not a fancy kitchen or a quick lick of paint. People are looking for retention of features - original layout with good woodwork, cornices and fireplaces. Plus, good housekeeping and by that I mean well maintained homes with sound roofs, windows, gutters, etc. Get it all together and you're looking for as much as £70,000 for a garden flat, £78,000 for a top floor, £120,000-plus for a bigger conversion, £150,000-plus for the full town house. Thorncliffe and Vennard Gardens are especially suitable to families with young children and are now comfortably achieving £90,000. It won't be long before one breaks £100,000.'



183 Kilmarnock Rd  
0141-649 9011

Shawlands Office Manager Irene Fisher:

'These are very sought after properties in a very sought after area. It's a type of property that doesn't always come onto

market. The fact that Strathbungo is a conservation area is a big plus with a lot of people. They are looking for a home that has features from a bygone era - traditional properties with original touches including ornate cornices, wooden panelling, marble fireplaces. These are in great demand and the fact that it is a conservation area means the adjacent properties are more likely to be kept up to that high standard. We're getting a lot of interest in Strathbungo and particularly from people who have been looking in the West End where prices have gone sky high. Over there, if you are "successful" on a property which so many have been chasing, you may find you've paid through the roof. Strathbungo has some really wonderful properties and it's close to the City Centre, but not too near.'

## STRATHBUNGO NeWS

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