

STRATHBUNGO NEWS



December 1999

Watch those satellite dishes

Strathbungo residents opting for satellite TV must be careful not fall foul of conservation guidelines, which strictly limit where dishes can be sited.

All property from Nithsdale Road through Marywood Square is A, B or C listed. That means you need listed building consent for installing a dish and you will not get it for anything which 'affects the character or appearance of the building or its setting' – in particular, on the front façade.

'We are not trying to spoil anybody's fun, but that's the law and we will enforce it,' says Miranda Marshall of GCC Protective Services. Ignorance of the law is no excuse – neither is the assumption that the dish must be okay because Sky installed it. Sky's priorities are ease of access, speed and insurance.

'Look at the small print: customers are liable for any statutory permissions. In other words, if they install your dish in breach of consent and it has to be re-sited, *you* are the one who has to pay to have it moved.'

Elsewhere in Strathbungo you may not need planning permission per se, so long as you meet restrictions on number, size and location. If in doubt, phone Miranda on 287 5695 before signing a contract.

'We encourage people to think of other ways to access the digital signal – for example, through their existing TV aerial or cable,' she says.

Without endorsing any supplier, we note that a digital box system avoids the dish problem altogether by bringing the signal in through your existing TV aerial. Currently most any TV retailer will supply an onDigital box free.

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HAPPY CHRISTMAS, STRATHBUNGO

Let's get everybody out & Bongo at the Bells!

You'll get a cup of kindness and a piece of shortbread too, plus music and dancing when you join your friends and neighbours at Strathbungo's 2nd annual Bongo at the Bells on Hogmanay.

We did it last year and had 200 people out stripping the willow in Moray Place - now they're planning millennium street parties all over Scotland. Beware of imitations - make sure you're at the best & original BUNGO. We'll start gathering the troops at 11.30pm - listen for the noise or just come along quietly and make your way to the corner of Moray Place & Marywood Square. Count on an hour of fun for all the family - yes, Bongo buggies are definitely allowed! - then it's off round the neighbourhood for your own first footing!

Acupuncture to architecture
Babysitting to bookkeeping
Cakebaking to chiropody
Swap your skills in Strathbungo's

Local Exchange Trading System

Come along for a special presentation from LETSLink Scotland and find out the practicalities of making a LETs scheme work in Strathbungo.

See how other small communities are making big savings through organised barter schemes.

Find out how *you* can exchange your time & skills for someone else's - with no cost and equal value for all!

LETS DO IT!

**Monday
24 January
7.30pm
at Titwood
Resource Centre**

Phone Kay Caldwell on 423 3354 for details.

WOOPEE!

Want to make your Millennium celebration go with a bang? Hillary McCusker Thompson, local entrepreneur and mother of two, set up her own company a year ago to develop a new concept called Popconfetti. It's a cross between a banger and a bag of confetti that strews parti-coloured paper up to 5 ft into the air. For use indoors, it's available for £9.99 at Clinton Cards, online at www.confettionline.com or ring 0141 423 0149. Go on, go wild!

RIGHT UP OUR LANES

Pilot project possibly going ahead in spring 2000.

It looks like there may once again be action on the back lanes front. Strathbungo Society's Environment Group is working to develop a pilot project that could help to attract a variety of funding. Says convenor Stephen Lamb, himself an architect: 'The lanes project is a big one so we've agreed to take it in bite-sized pieces. Initially, the aim is to restore a section of the lanes to demonstrate to funders and residents the value of restoring all the lanes in the area.'

The Group has been able to interest a potential contractor in undertaking a demonstration project, which will enable the Society to submit a planning application to the Council. Once this happens, detailed design and funding issues can be addressed.

'The long term plan is to maximise the level of outside funding for the project,' says Strathbungo Society Chair Kevin Kane. 'It may be that rather than trying to do it in a one-er, it is more feasible to undertake it in a phased, rolling programme. However, there is no doubt that we need owners to invest in upgrading the lanes.'

Estate agents have told us that it will raise property values, so I think we should make the lanes Strathbungo's Millennium Project!

The demonstration section of lane is slated for Moray Place lane between Queen and Marywood Squares, a stretch that attracted a high level of owner support in the previous initiative. This section has been surveyed and the contractor is currently pricing the works. Once this is done, the Society will submit a planning application and owners will be automatically notified - probably before the Christmas break.

'We hope the pilot will let all local householders see for themselves exactly how much this will improve the place and their property,' says Kevin. If funding can be brought together, the idea is try and target spring for starting the pilot work.

So watch this space - better still, watch that lane!

From Bungo to Broadway!

The Red Balloon, Visible Fictions' award-winning production of the children's classic, starts a five month tour of the United States in early spring 2000, culminating in two weeks on Broadway. It's a case of Queen Square to 42nd Street for Strathbungo's Annie Wood, award winning playwright and youth theatre director.

Annie won't be touring with the company this time. After all, she's just finished *The Happy Prince* for macRobert Arts Centre in Stirling and is now directing *The Princess & the Goblin*, their Christmas show, which will be playing until 8th January (tickets on 01786 467 163).

And not only that, this mother of two is expecting yet another member of the fan club sometime later in the millennial year. Honestly, Annie - what will you do for an encore!

Strathbungo's Representatives

Who, Where & When

The Strathbungo Society is an entirely voluntary organisation, which exists only because we the residents of Strathbungo have formed a committee to organise local events and newsletters. The Committee meets on 3rd Mondays at 7.30pm in the back room at Sammy Dow's. All members are welcome to attend but be warned - you may get put to work!

Following are the statutory bodies (both fleshly & corporate) who represent Strathbungo officially at various levels of government:

Walter MacLellan
Glasgow City Councillor
632 0828
Surgery:
St Bride's School, Craigie Street
1st Saturday 10am
3rd Tuesday 6pm

Mohammad Sarwar MP
427 5250
Surgery:
1st Saturdays: 12-12.45
@Langside Halls
Every Friday, 4-5pm @ 247 Paisley Rd West

Gordon Jackson MSP
427 7047
Surgery:
2nd Saturdays: 10.45-11.45 @ Langside Halls
632 8312

Shawlands, Camphill & Strathbungo Community Council
Sam Wilson, Chair
632 8312
Meetings:
2nd Wednesdays - 7pm
Resource Centre Titwood Road



**BULK UPLIFT
287 9700**

**Pollokshields
Depot
429 4532**

Bogles in the Bungo

Ann Downie reports

All sorts of small strange creatures packed out the creepy cavern at the back of Sammy Dow's this Hallowe'en. In fact the Strathbungo Society's first-ever children's party was so popular the phone lines were jammed by requests for tickets. (Please note: council workers did not get preferential treatment.) The afternoon started with a fancy dress parade punctuated with jokes, rhymes and other party pieces. Judges were masked to prevent any cunning spells influencing this most difficult decision as prizes were awarded to an array of characters, including a vampire, a warlock, a Charlie Chaplin, a mummy, a Dorothy and a duck!

There followed a chance to get soaked in water or covered in treacle as the games began. First prize went to the

adults who couldn't resist joining in to show how dookin' for apples should (not) be done. Then it was time to get those fangs into the spooky refreshments.

Monsters and fair maidens alike were held spellbound with a scary story, followed by a puff of smoke from which the Strathbungo Witch appeared. She chanted a rhyming spell but instead of turning everyone into mice and toads, produced a cauldron full of treats.

Special thanks to:

- Neil Packham of Thorncliffe Gardens, actor and director of children's theatre who was our compere
- Jan McSkimming of Pollokshaws Road, cabaret artiste/actor & writer, who told our scary story

- Kay Caldwell, Strathbungo's most poetic Bogle
- Frances Diver of Queen Square for the creepy coffin and other demonic decorations
- Ada and the staff of Samuel Dow's who gave the community the venue for free!

Congratulations to prize-winners:

Marco Galloway, Luke Tomnay, Shona Forrester, Jack McCallum, Lousie McGovan and Owen Morris.

Apologies to:

any local youngster who didn't manage to get a ticket - we let in as many as fire regulations would allow.





Happy New You!

Performance poetry, Catalan, world cookery, acting, wood-carving, silversmithing ... or how about the Alexander technique, stress management or Indian head massage? Write your own life story, redesign your home, learn conjuring and magic. Take up fencing, swimming, scuba diving or virtual surfing on the internet.

Just a few of literally hundred of options available to you through low cost daytime and evening courses at Glasgow's colleges and universities. They all offer varied programmes starting in January 2000 – just in time to help you fight those wintertime blues.

Normally there are no entry requirements, no exams and no homework - though the more you put into it, the more you'll enjoy it. Some courses tie in with field trips in and around Glasgow or even full-fledged excursions to foreign countries so it's a great way to meet new people too.

Phone individual colleges for a prospectus of leisure/continuing education courses.

Langside College - 636 6066

Cardonald College - 883 0806

Central College of Commerce - 552 3941

Glasgow College of Food Technology - 552 3751

Glasgow College of Building & Printing - 332 5170

Strathclyde University - 548 4287

University of Glasgow - 339 8855

Glasgow School of Art - 353 4596

LANGSIDE COLLEGE

January 2000 'First Step' Series

Telephone: 636 6066

Creative Studies:

Calligraphy, Chinese cooking, cooking with confidence, curtains & soft furnishings, drawing & painting, dressmaking, Italian cooking, sign language, stained glass, woodwork.

Health & Fitness:

Aerobics, aromatherapy, belly dancing, ceilidh dancing, golf, reflexology, swimming, t'ai chi, yoga.

Driving

Driving theory, approved driving instructor training.

FEES: 10 weeks @ 1 hour a week £27.50 (£21 over 60s) 10 weeks @ 2 hours a week £55 (£41.25).

Golf 10 weeks @ £32 (£24).

Special offer – sign up before Christmas & save 10%!

There are also classes at Langside Halls and in many local churches. Plus any number of privately-owned facilities, such as:

LILLIAN MCNEILL SCHOOL OF DANCING

29 Marywood Square 423 0931

now enrolling students for January classes in

Adult Tap & Ballet (Tuesdays 7.15 & 8pm)

Teenage Jazz Dancing (Wednesday 5pm)



Happy 21st to J & J Paul

It's only fitting that J&J Paul, Fine Arts should be our featured trader for this issue of the *Strathbungo News*. On 18 December, proprietor John McSheffrey is celebrating his 21st anniversary at 46 Nithsdale Road. The shop and gallery carries a large selection of oil paintings, watercolours and signed limited edition prints, specialising in the work of William Russell Flint and ER Sturgeon. He also provides professional picture framing, with a selection of over a thousand mouldings, plus handmade doll houses. And in case you're wondering what happened to Messrs 'J&J Paul', they never actually existed. The trading name is an amalgam of family names and initials.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SHOPS!

Words & Music time for a rhyme?

Southside Writers invite you to Words & Music evenings at Sammy Dow's in Nithsdale Road held on the first Monday of every month (including public holidays) at 7.45 for 8pm. Admission is 50p.

Words & Music was formed ten years ago in the footsteps of Edinburgh's long established Poets & Pints. The format is simple: a dozen or so writers from all parts of Scotland are given five minutes each to read their own work – a couple of poems, a short story or anecdote. Plus, each month a featured writer and a musician have 20 minutes apiece to perform. Musicians also do mostly their own work – and at least three from Sammy's have gone on to be voted Scottish Singer/Songwriter of the Year.

'If you have some little thing you've written and would like to read, you will have a warm welcome and a sympathetic audience,' says local writer Hughie Healy, who comperes the nights. 'Or just have a drink, relax and listen.'

Forget Auld Lang Syne! Thanks to Frank Dorrans of Thorncliffe Gardens who found this wee treasure in *The Book of Scottish Song* (Blackie, 1855). Anybody know that tune?

Strathbungo Jean

[by Adam Knox to the tune of 'Andro & his cutty gun'. *Strathbungo* is a small hamlet about a mile south of Glasgow.]

*Blythe, blythe could I be wi' her,
Happy baith at morn and e'en,
To my breast I'd warmly press her,
Charming maid, Strathbungo Jean.*

*The Glasgow lasses dress fu' braw,
And country girls gang neat and clean,
But nane o' them's a match ava
To my sweet maid, Strathbungo Jean.*

*Though they be dress'd in rich attire,
In silk brocade and mos-de-laine,
Wi' busk and pad and satin stays,
They'd never ding Strathbungo Jean.*

*Bedeck'd in striped gown and coat,
Silk handkerchief and apron clean,
Cheerfully tripping to her work,
Ilk day I meet Strathbungo Jean.*

*Ye gods who rule men's destinies,
I humbly pray you'll me befrien',
And aid me with my dearest wish
To gain my sweet Strathbungo Jean.*

*Gi'e to the ambitious priest a kirk,
Gi'e riches to the miser mean,
Let the coquette new conquests make,
But, O! gi'e me Strathbungo Jean!*

*No happiness all day have I,
My senses are bewilder'd clean,
In bed all night on her I cry,
My heav'n on earth, Strathbungo Jean.*

*Should fortune kindly make her mine,
I would not change for Britain's queen;
Bur fondly in my arms I'd clasp
My charming maid, Strathbungo Jean.*

TALKBACK

It's your turn - tell us what you want to see happening in your local community. The Strathbungo Society welcomes letters of up to 200 words - just send them to Talkback, Strathbungo News, 38 Queen Square or email to swithey@line.net.

LETs get busy!

To the Editor:

I like the barter scheme. I suggested it in Balloch a few years ago and was laughed at, but I thought it would be a great way for unemployed people, for example, to trade their skills in return for work required by themselves. It seems silly if a mechanic needs some joinery work done but can't afford it whilst meanwhile the local joiner cannot do his rounds due to car troubles! Just an example. I understand it's already working well in some of the Scottish islands. It is a great community way of sharing skills and I would quite like to get involved in this. I could offer IT support and web design etc.

Tom Burke, Marywood Square

To the Editor:

Hey, a local exchange trading system - that sounds great! I make curtains in my spare time - does anybody know how to paint - woodwork, I mean! So how are we moving this forward?

Judith Robertson, Queen Sq

To the Editor:

Please find enclosed cheque for £2 to become a member of the Strathbungo Society. I am also interested in Neighbourhood Watch and the bartering system...

Joanne Murphy, Nithsdale Road

Thanks, Joanna, for your membership dues [anybody else so inclined can feel free to follow her sterling example!] and to all who wrote or phoned about the LETs bartering scheme highlighted in the October issue. We're holding a public meeting on 24 January [see the announcement on page 2] to explain in detail how it works and test for genuine interest - don't miss it! - Ed.

Got a Ticket to Ride?

To the Editor:

I saw the latest newsletter and remembered that there was an architectural competition many years ago for a sculpture/monument at the Nithsdale Road roundabout to replace the then-decaying fountain. Fred Selby, now deceased, used to live in Queen Square and was a judge, I think, in this event. I recall that it was a sort of Thomson-esque steel sculpture which won.

Since I grew up in G41, I and my friends spent a disproportionate amount of our time watching trains in the late 50s and early 60s - steam trains finished here about summer 1967. The importance of this story is that, as well as taking photographs, we all bought a variety of tickets from Strathbungo Station on the last day - 26th May 1962. Mike Greenwood and I always wanted to cut down the undergrowth on the East

side of the station embankment to find the horse's head which we all used to sit on, if it is still there.

Philip McCafferty, Queen Square

Great stuff. Does anybody know what happened to the winning plan and why it never went forward? Phil has also given us some clues to follow up for the next issue as regards the true origins of the eponymous Susie of the shop now located at the former Strathbungo Station. - Ed.



Thanks to Phil for the trip down memory lane - or at least to Crossmyloof, which was apparently as far as you could get for 3d in those days!

A voice from the wilderness

To the Editor:

I was delighted to receive the copies of the last two newsletters. They look great! The AGM sounded really well attended - and it's good that you have had so many folk come onto the committee - more power to everyone's elbow... I hope that the Hallowe'en do's were a success, and you had good attendances from both children and adults. My best wishes to all on the committee.

Judy MacDowell, Comrie

Lovely to hear from Judy, who was secretary of the Strathbungo Society prior to decamping from Vennard Gardens last summer for the wilds of Perthshire. - Ed.

Bah Humbug!

To the Editor:

Public warning! My Jeep was broken into, the window smashed and mobile phone stolen. Just the usual Xmas reminder not to leave presents on view in car or mobile phones visible. The car was broken into at lunch time on a Sunday so daylight robbery is a reality.

Name & address supplied

We asked our Community PC Charles Masterson. 'Strathbungo's no worse than most places and better than many, but the persons who are perpetrating crimes like this would steal shiny paper if they thought they could get money for it. Even a plastic bag of rubbish can excite interest if you leave it on view in your car. The advice is don't tempt trouble. It's a sad comment on human nature, but this is a bad time of year for opportunist street crimes. That's why we have a greater police presence during the festive season to try and deter this.'

STRATHBUNGO NeWS

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