

# STRATHBUNGO NewS



May – June 2000

## Come on, Strathbungo

Meet the neighbours

Have a moan

Get involved

Make a difference!

**STRATHBUNGO  
SOCIETY AGM**

**Monday, 5 June**

**7 for 7.30pm**

Titwood Resource  
Centre

**Special Guest Speaker:**  
COUNCILLOR PAT CHALMERS,  
*Chair of the  
Glasgow Heritage Group*

**PLUS**

The yearly round-up from  
Strathbungo sub-groups on

- **the environment**
- **Neighbourhood Watch**
- **special events**
- **communications**
- **LETS local exchange & trading scheme**

**PLUS**

Election of the new  
Strathbungo Committee  
for 2000-2001.

**PLUS**

## FREE PHOTOS!

Spot yourself at Hallowe'en,  
Hogmanay or other Bungo  
events & take it away!

**PLUS**

## COFFEE & TEA

New Membership Cards  
£3 per household  
[£2 concessions]

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE . . .

### COME ON STRATHBUNGO

Society AGM Monday 5th June

### LETS MAKE A DEAL

next trading event on June 11th

### TREE SURVEY SET FOR SUMMER

Chris Jay needs volunteers

### THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME

new development in March Street

### THE RAILWAY CHILDREN

past, present and future

### TALK BACK

your chance to have your say . . .



## LET the trading begin!

The Strathbungo LETS scheme was launched officially in March when local folk came along and signed up at the first trading event. Some even brought items to sell, including hand-made cards, ceramic jewellery and bric-a-brac, and nearly 200 Bungos (the LETS trading currency) changed hands.

Rosie Ilett, Jean MacKenzie and Joanna Murphy have been working since the New Year to establish the scheme and were delighted with the response. 'As soon as all the skills and wants sheets are returned, we can get a directory together and then trading will really start,' says Rosie, who's the LETS membership co-ordinator.

The next event is on Sunday, 11 June, downstairs at *The Fotheringay* in Nithsdale Road. The event will run between 2 and 4pm, but those intending to have a stall should arrive about 1.30 to set up. Members are encouraged to

sort out their surplus items, get together samples of work and/or information about the skills they wish to trade - and then have a good time. Tea and coffee will be available and the bar will also be open so a pleasant afternoon is likely!

Children are welcome, and it might get them interested in clearing out their bedrooms, says Rosie. Anyone in Strathbungo who wants to find out about the scheme is also welcome, as the organisers will be there ready to sign up new members.

**More info from Rosie on 423 3114 or email [rilett@cqm.co.uk](mailto:rilett@cqm.co.uk).**

# TREE SURVEY SET FOR SUMMER

## Chris Jay needs volunteers for Strathbungo

The Strathbungo Society's environment subgroup are planning to conduct a comprehensive survey of the area's natural and built landscape over the next few years, starting this summer with the first phase - a survey of trees, hedges and railings.

'We need to collect accurate information about what exists now and what's needed in future, in order to attract resources for making improvements to the environment,' says Chris Jay, who is getting together the work party. Chris needs volunteers - all local residents - to help with the survey over the summer. They will be plotting trees, hedges and railings in the nine streets of the Society's 'patch', using large scale maps. The information will be put onto computer to produce a detailed plan, expected by the end of the year, which can then serve as a basis for funding applications, where necessary. 'Our "surveyors" will not trespass onto anyone's property and they will be completely discreet. So if you see people with clipboards admiring your cherished magnolia, don't worry. They're doing it in a good cause,' says Chris. Volunteers do not need expert knowledge of arboriculture -

just an enthusiasm for protecting the environment of Strathbungo and a willingness to give up a few hours to a much-needed venture. Specialists from the Council's Land Services will give you a quick course on identifying, assessing and measuring trees and hedges, and will also help if you come across some rare species. 'It won't be a complicated or difficult task. We are hoping that a small group of volunteers will take responsibility for surveying just one street and its back lanes. That way most streets could be covered in a few hours spread at your leisure over several weeks,' says Chris. The initial survey will be followed at a later date by a consultative review of other environmental and architectural issues, including roads, pavements and street lighting. *But first the trees, so how about it? Get in touch with Chris Jay at 11 Moray Place, tel/fax 423 5760.*

## DOG DAZE

While Glasgow City Council pursues its 'bag it & bin it' policy, East Renfrewshire's Principal Environment Officer Bill Arthur says they have been taking a more proactive approach to problems of dog litter. This involves sending their dog warden out on early morning 'walkies' to talk directly to owners, asking if they have their 'poop scoops' or bags, and also speaking to schools and local community organisations to enlist their co-operation in tackling the problem. More to the point, however, they have empowered their dog warden to issue fines on the spot - quite literally, one presumes - for violations.

Can they do that? 'Our legal people researched it and found that dog faeces comes under the heading of litter in the anti-litter law that's been there all along so yes, we can issue fixed penalty fines of £25.' He reckons there's been considerable improvement since 1996 when they began their education programme but admits that their dog warden has yet to catch a culprit leaving the scene of the crime. 'More than anything, it is a matter of attitude - using the laws that are there but also making dog owners understand and accept responsibility for what is otherwise very anti-social behaviour.'

**ATTENTION: Residents of Nithsdale Rd, Nithsdale St & March St**



*The shape of things to come ... architect's drawing of the new building at the corner of March Street and Nithsdale Drive.*

## Lots of rumours – here's the facts!

*Strathbungo Chairman Kevin Kane reports -*

**Strathbungo is changing. The Southside Housing Association is planning a new development on the site of the Southern Grinding at 55 Nithsdale Drive - across from the Arnold Clark service centre.**

The architects, Russell & Bryce, have sought to finish off the block that consists of a beautiful curving tenement designed by Greek Thompson's partner Robert Turnbull in 1878 and what was originally designed to be a public building in March Street.

Given the prohibitive cost of natural stone and a strong desire not to use brick, architect Ronnie Bryce has opted for a high quality smooth white render and designed a dramatic sweeping corner. The fourth storey consists of a wall of decorative lead panelling that echoes the fourth storey on Turnbull's tenement. He describes the result as 'a modern insertion into a very attractive, traditional Victorian tenement block.'

Patrick McGrath, Director of the Southside Housing Association, reckons it will also provide much needed accommodation for the community. 'There will be 20 flats in total, with space for families and individuals, including

a shared flat. The Association is no stranger to Strathbungo and we'd like to investigate whether we can incorporate appropriate artwork into the exterior, but we need help!'

Anyone out there with experience to offer?

### HELP WANTED

The Strathbungo Society has begun circulating newsletters in the Nithsdale/March Street block this year because we believe we have lots in common, particularly to do with safeguarding the fine listed properties there. But hey - we're short-handed as it is and could really use some help with this new venture. Are you willing to:

- \* deliver the Strathbungo News- 6 issues a year to 84 households.
- \* join the Strathbungo Society committee & represent your block - 10 meetings (3rd Monday) a year. If so, come along to the AGM on 5th June - or contact us now on 0141 423 0050 or email [news@strathbungo.org.uk](mailto:news@strathbungo.org.uk).

## BUNGGo BULLETIN BOARD

I am seeking the name etc of anyone in the area who can offer a moderately priced (!) interior design service. My place is badly in need of improvement...

David Goldberg, Flat 6/31 Moray Place. Tel: 422 1186  
[deegge\\_98@hotmail.com](mailto:deegge_98@hotmail.com)

Send us a note of what you need and we'll stick it on the Bulletin Board as a free service to local residents. No sellers, please - and the Strathbungo Society cannot take responsibility for any deals struck. Notes to 38 Queen Square or [bulletin@strathbungo.org.uk](mailto:bulletin@strathbungo.org.uk) by 30 June.

# STRATHBUNGO'S RAILWAY CHILDREN

past, present and future

Strathbungo's history is closely linked to the railways, and even though it's been almost 40 years since the last train stopped at our station, the subject still seems to strike a chord with local folk. Here's a roundup of contributions since our last issue.



## AN EXOTIC DESTINATION?

Walter MacLellan supplies a little local history

I was interested in the recent piece about Strathbungo Station because my first contact with Strathbungo was as a child travelling from Dumfries and being fascinated by this weird and exotic place at which the Glasgow locals stopped. Having had that particular memory jogged, I consulted with the travel boffins in Strathbungo Passenger Transport and got some background information about the Station which may be of interest.

The Barrhead Railway line was opened on 29 September 1848 and was a joint scheme by the Caledonian and Glasgow and

Southwestern Railways, but Strathbungo Station did not open until 1 December 1877 when the small village of Strathbungo was being engulfed by suburban development. However, by 1894 the Station was hemmed in by three others on the Cathcart Circle (Pollokshields East, Pollokshields West and Queen's Park), which had a far more frequent service. The station survived until 28 May 1962 when the Cathcart Circle was electrified. The Station building, of course, survives in the form of Susie's shop.

*Yours, Walter MacLellan, Vice Chair, Strathclyde Passenger Transport*

## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Some history in the making from Phil McCafferty

"After the anorak stuff about old railway tickets in an earlier newsletter, here is a real bit of fiction. The irony is that Strathbungo station sees at least double the trains per hour as Pollokshields West into Glasgow Central - now I do not think that was ever the intention when the electric services started in 1962.

Our local rail line leads to Carlisle and beyond - it has been accorded the status of freight corridor recently and may well see a lot more use when the West Coast upgrade work starts. The main route will still be Mossend - Motherwell - England and on to the Channel Tunnel and our line will be secondary.

Do you suppose it's time to hit up Railtrack for some serious investment in the area?

Like put back the bridge or fix the older bridge before the plating rusts and we all fall on to the track? Some real investment would put back the half-destroyed platforms!

There is a whole wildlife story about the foxes who use the railway at night to travel - I have seen three playing on the tracks at Darnley Street after the last train. I wonder how they know when that is?"



## If you knew SUSIE'S...!

Susie's, that Strathbungo institution, is to undergo a facelift, courtesy of Railtrack. The building at 85 Nithsdale Road is the former booking hall for Strathbungo Station, which closed in 1962.

The long time tenant of the popular shop (Oct 99 Strathbungo News) approached Railtrack with ideas to redesign the interior to provide a better service to customers. This included moving the entrance a few metres. The current planning application calls for moving the main entrance, adding hardwood windows and doors and recladding the building in shiplap boarding. At the moment, the colour of the building is slated to be burgundy, a traditional colour. The issue of improving

shopfronts, especially in Nithsdale Road, is of great interest to the Strathbungo Society, who have raised several design issues regarding the application. Hopefully this upgrading will be an example to other shop owners in Nithsdale Road, encouraging them to think seriously about upgrading their frontages and capitalising on the traditional dimensions afforded by Victorian tenements. *Well done, Susie's - and come on traders, let's make Strathbungo flourish!*

## VULPES VULPES

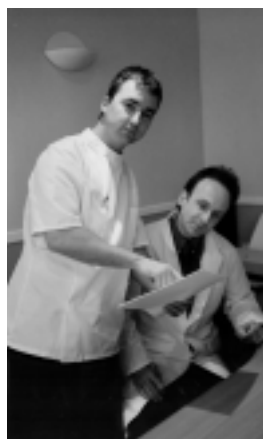
Photo by Andrew Downie

Nowadays the real railway children are the families of red foxes (*vulpes vulpes*), who live in the undergrowth beside the tracks and occasionally venture up into Strathbungo's streets.

Ian Gibson, Conservation Officer with Glasgow Council Land Services, says urban foxes are great scavengers. They not only beat rats and mice to remnants of fish suppers and other chip shop debris left on the streets overnight, they also catch and eat the rodents as well, thereby helping to keep the vermin population down. 'We call them our unpaid pest controllers,' he says.

Foxes can't get into wheelie bins as long as rubbish is put where it belongs so they can't be blamed for creating litter. Neither do they attack cats, another of the most persistent urban legends. 'It's more likely to be the other way around. Most of all, foxes are wary of humans. Despite the fact they are now living in quite large numbers in the city, particularly along railway lines, they are wild animals and they don't want to risk getting too close. Most of the calls we get from city dwellers are positive - just reports of seeing foxes playing on their lawns.'





**LOCALS WIN £150 IN THE SUNDAY QUIZ** . . . . The increasingly popular Sunday night quiz hit a new high recently when £150 was won. £50 is guaranteed every Sunday and, if it's not won, it rolls over to the following week.

**REAL ALE NOW AVAILABLE** . . . . Since the introduction of Deuchars IPA Pale Ale, old and new customers are returning to enjoy this excellent ale. A second guest ale is planned shortly, also Hoegaardens German Wheat Beer.

**MUSIC TO SUIT ALL TASTES** . . . . Choose your own music from over 400 CD's, with music from the 50's to the current day. The new sound system ensures you can enjoy the music without it being intrusive.

**HOME-MADE FOOD** . . . . An excellent menu of home-made light meals are now being offered from £1.75, including Seafood, Pastas, traditional Ploughman's and Salads.

**FREE FUNCTION SUITE** . . . . The Function Suite is available for Wedding Receptions, Birthdays, Christenings and more sombre occasions, and it's free if there's at least 50. A new Functions Menu is available on request.

**OTHER ATTRACTIONS** . . . . New projection equipment (First in Scotland) ensures super-clear big-screen for major sporting events. Also Karaoke nights, Discos and lots of new entertainments being planned.

## THE BOTHERINGAY

Nithsdale Road, Strathbungo Telephone 424 0463 Fax 423 2258

## CHIROPODY CLINIC OPENS IN STRATHBUNGO

State Registered  
Chiropodists Steven  
Cairns (left) and Gary  
Crossan have just  
opened a new clinic -  
their first - in Pollok-  
shaws Road, taking over  
the premises formerly  
operated as a picture  
framing business. This is  
a great location, says  
Steven, who identified a  
need in the southside of  
Glasgow for their  
specialist expertise. The  
Cairns & Crossan

Tel: 0141 423 8136

## Hairgarden

Ladies & Gents Hairdressers

716 Pollokshaws Road  
Glasgow, G41 2AD

Highlighting/Tinting	£ 38.00
Ladies Cut & Style	£ 23.00
Gents Cut only	£ 7.00

Open Tues - Sat from 9.30 a.m.



partnership began  
when the two met at  
college, having both  
decided to embark as  
mature students on  
the BSc in Podiatry at  
Glasgow Caledonian  
University. Gary came

from a background in  
insurance while Steven  
was a mechanical  
engineer, where he  
reckons he acquired  
skills he transferred to  
the field of biomechan-  
ics and now uses to

manufacture orthotics.  
The clinic offers a full  
range of chiropody  
services, available to  
both private individuals  
and to referrals from  
other healthcare  
professionals. Initially,

they are planning to  
be open from 9.30  
am to 5.30 pm,  
including Saturdays,  
and will perhaps offer  
extended hours one  
day a week if demand  
warrants.

Gordon Angus  
(Irvine Rusk trained)

## CAMERONS

HAIRDRESSING

for

LADIES & GENTLEMEN

671 POLLOKSHAWS ROAD,  
QUEENS PARK ~ 0141-422 2660

Ladies, Cut & Blow Dry £16.50

Gents, Cut &  
Blow Dry £8.00 - £10.00

CHILDRENS PRICES.  
OAP CONCESSIONS (MON & TUE).

STYLISTS: Gordon & Kirsty.

We  
are  
No1

in the  
Good Beer  
Guide for  
Glasgow

A constantly rotating large  
selection of real ales including  
*Adnam, Everard, Deuchars,  
Morland, Harvieston, Orkney,  
Caledonian* and many more.

Specially imported German bottled  
beers a speciality - Wheat Beers,  
Kolsch Beers etc Hoegaarden and  
Erdinger on draught.

A wide variety of malts, spirits  
and liqueurs.

We always react to our customers  
requests for guest beers.

The Allison - a conveniently  
located, traditional pub with a  
unique selection of beers.

Become a regular!

The  
**Allison  
Arms**

720 Pollokshaws Road  
Tel: 0141-423 1661

# 'ALL THE LANES A STAGE'

Out there in our back lanes we have almost two acres of cobbled lanes and tarmac surfaces which belong to us. That's acres of performance area, of music venues, of play areas, exhibition space, dance floor - big enough too for a local market or an open air café or a beer garden. Big enough for all of them!

And that's just some of what we're planning for June 24th - midsummer day.

*Bungo in the Back Lanes* will show the potential of our back lanes.

On midsummer day we will revive an old European custom and invite you to come into the back lane and join in the sale of the century!

We'll provide musicians, bunting and balloons - and we'd like you to open up your garages or car boots and make it a market. A chance to get rid of your junk - your old things could be somebody else's treasure. Or - why not open up your garden to a few of your neighbours? Have a garden party - hats optional. Or barbecue some sausages and give them away to passers by. Or what about your very own beer garden? Treat your friends and neighbours to a glass or two - what about a wine tasting competition?

We'd like a band in every back lane - so far we've jazz, ceilidh and reggae - as well as our own resident DJ! More musicians wanted. We know you're out there!

How about a stall at your back gate? Guess the name of the teddy, how many peas in the jar, any old time fair kind of stalls. Is there a wheel of fortune out there - or a tombola expert? Join in the fun. We've Bungoed in the Park, we've Bungoed at the Bells - and on 24th June we're going to Bungo in the Back Lanes.

Contact us now with your offer. We'll supply your "traders licence", full details of the event, and put your stall on the map!

- to hold a garage or car boot sale contact Anne Downie on 423 4973,
- commercial outlets contact Kevin Kane on 423 3119
- food and drink stalls contact Chris Jay on 423 5760
- music and games contact Kay Caldwell on 423 3354

General enquiries to Kay Caldwell on 423 3354.

## a Midsummer Day's **BUNGO** in the back lanes

Saturday, 24th June  
from 1pm to 5pm

- Beer & Barbecues
- Bric-a-brac & Baking
- Midsummer Madness

A full  
programme  
of music,  
competitions,  
games and  
crafts

### STRATHBUNGO NeWS

Published by  
**The Strathbungo Society;**

Edited by Sharon Schweps;

Contributors: Kay Caldwell, Kevin Kane, Rosie Ilett, Phil McCafferty, Walter MacLellan and Chris Jay

Design & Layout by Liz Macdonald.

Send letters & short articles of general interest, particularly local history or conservation to:

**38 Queen Square G41 2AZ.**

Tel: 0141 423 0050 or

email [news@strathbungo.org.uk](mailto:news@strathbungo.org.uk).

**'All the Lanes a Stage' join the fun!**



# TALKBACK

The Strathbungo Society welcomes letters of up to 200 words - send them to 38 Queen Square or email [letters@strathbungo.org.uk](mailto:letters@strathbungo.org.uk) .

## WEB FEAT

To the Editor:

You asked for suggestions as to what to put onto the Strathbungo website -

1) Planning applications and other works so people can reassure neighbours etc that planning permission has been sought where appropriate or permission been obtained for works to trees. For example, we have permission to cut down two trees and replace them and are going to give letters to neighbours about this, but a website would let us inform a wider audience.

2) As a means of collecting data for some campaigning purposes eg, after recent crash in Queen Square in which five cars were damaged, I have found that a very large proportion of people in the street have lost wing mirrors over the last 12 months. If only a proportion of this data were collected - and a website should allow one to do this without too much effort - it would strengthen any arguments for something to be done about car speeds

3) While a blacklist of tradespeople is no doubt a nonstarter because of libel issues, I am sure it would be quite possible to have a list of people prepared from experience to recommend certain tradespeople. This already happens to a certain extent with people asking neighbours if they know of a good plumber etc. You would not even have to give the name of the tradesperson on the website, simply the trade and an e-mail or telephone number of person making recommendation.

**Nick Kempe**  
Queen Square

*We've had lots of suggestions and offers of help for [www.strathbungo.org.uk](http://www.strathbungo.org.uk). The beauty of a website is that it can accommodate so many different interests without boring anybody - the information is there for those who want to access it. We are now putting funding in place and plan to get cracking over the summer... first with a brief that reflects as many of the needs and enthusiasms of our community as possible. We will contact anyone who's already been in touch when this gets underway. - ED*

## GOING TO THE DOGS?

To the Editor:

I've just been reading a recent edition of the Glaswegian, where there's an interesting article entitled Poop Man hits back. East Renfrewshire has a dog warden issuing fines for non scoopers! A few minutes before reading this, I went out my back gate to retrieve my wheelie bin, just narrowly avoiding a messy deposit some neighbour had forgotten to scoop. This is an all too common occurrence on our streets. I've had mixed reactions when approaching dog owners, ranging from apologies and a clear up to downright hostility. It is an offence. Environmental Health say they've done their bit by putting up notices and that it's over to the police to uphold the law. I think they've got more than enough to do. Any chance of getting Glasgow to follow East Renfrewshire's example? Is it worth pursuing as a community group? I'd be interested in your thoughts on this matter.

**Caroline Kane**  
Moray Place

*We spoke to Mr Poop Man himself in East Renfrewshire and also to Glasgow Council's Significant Others. See the story on page 4 - Ed.*

## TELLY PHOBIC

To the Editor:

Regarding an article in the Strathbungo News – best community magazine in the world I think – on Bungo in the Lanes on 24th June. I agree that we live in a quiet and elegant enclave of Glasgow, but having a Bungo in the Lane will portray quite a different picture with half a dozen Sky dishes on the backs of the houses in Marywood Square alone. Residents don't have to have planning permission for these - a great pity I think. Perhaps we could encourage our neighbours with the square eyes to camouflage these for 24th June?

**Michelle Buchan**  
Marywood Square

*Strictly speaking you do need planning permission for placing the satellite dishes on listed properties but the really contentious area is the front elevation, not the rear.*

*However, one of the hidden motives of our June event is to get folk thinking about the lanes as a desirable extension of our living space here in Strathbungo. That means we must also deal with unsocial aspects that have evolved over the years – the Demo Lanes Renovation Project may help – more immediately, prior to the Midsummer Bungo, we hope people will get out and do their best to spruce up their own bit of the lane. If everyone does, everyone will benefit. - ED.*

## YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT PROBLEMS?

To the Editor:

Residents in Nursery Street, Strathbungo, are currently raising objections to yet another private housing development, which will be built directly opposite our homes. The new flats will be at least three times as high as the existing garage so this six story construction will drastically reduce our natural light and block out the skyline. The density will be overwhelming for a street as small as ours – and the road usage will be dramatically altered. In addition, a private car park is proposed for the ground floor of the complex- vents to release the high concentration of fumes and other pollutants will face onto Nursery Street, which will further deteriorate the air quality. I could go on at great length and in great detail. Instead, I must simply say we're concerned about density of population, noise vibration, increased pollution, reduced natural light...you name it, this project has it. And to boot, the plan doesn't even allow us the consolation of a little exterior landscaping. Any suggestions?

**Kerowin Frew**  
Nursery Street

*This correspondent is just outside our official boundaries and the letter came in very near our deadline, but we felt it deserved a hearing - and, frankly, what would you do if someone proposed a metal roller shutter allowing access to a car park just metres from your bedroom window? We will look for a response from the relevant officials in the next issue.*

*Meanwhile, the story on page 2 shows what can happen when developers co-operate with local residents and conservationists*