

# STRATHBUNGO New WS



April 2002

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## SATURDAY 27 APRIL 2002

# Get off yer artz



**On Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> April, a new event comes to Strathbungo with an all-day arts festival ... Get Off Yer Artz is a live & lively celebration of local talent, played out in Strathbungo's pubs, coffeehouses, church halls and businesses.**

The Strathbungo Society is inviting musicians to play, painters to display and writers to read their works – and working out a timetable so that you and your friends can make the rounds and enjoy it all - from the kick-off at 10.30 am at the Park gates to late night jazz at Chili'n' Cream.

And talk about variety! There's a family-style arts & crafts fair at the Queens Park Baptist Church ... a photo exhibition .... every kind of music, from ceilidh to classical ... we're even planning to bring together some of Strathbungo's political pundits for a pie, pint and parlez at the Fotheringay.

Scotland's favourite cartoonist Malky McCormack has created our logo for the festival and the man himself will be taking part in the day's events, giving his illustrated stand-up comedy routine at Heraghty's and also doing caricatures for passers-by in Pollokshaws Road. Your chance to be immortalised!

We've already had great support from the local business community, providing venues from the Arnold Clark showroom to virtually all the

pubs and we're still firming up the schedule of performances. A full programme will out the week before, but meanwhile *MARK THAT DATE* ... Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> April ... and make sure you invite your friends from far and wide to join you in Strathbungo for a full day of fun.

With the introduction of this new festival, the Strathbungo Society now stages a year-round calendar of community events:

- **Get Off Yer Artz**, a spring arts festival
- **Bungo in the Back Lanes** in June, a midsummer gala cum street sale with beer tents, food and entertainment
- **Bogles in the Bungo**, a Halloween party for local children
- **Bungo at the Bells**, our Hogmanay street party.

**If you would like to help with any of these events, give us a ring on 423 7756 or email [info@strathbungo.co.uk](mailto:info@strathbungo.co.uk).**

## WHAT A PERFORMANCE!

**Who? You? You do what?**

If you would like a chance to take part as a performer, give Joanna Murphy a ring on 423 7756.



*Queens Park bandstand in 1955 ... but what lies ahead for this landmark site?*

## LEISURE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED FOR QUEENS PARK

**The derelict bandstand area of Queens Park is set to become a family-style bistro cum entertainment venue if Glasgow City Council can find a suitable commercial partner for the redevelopment.**

According to the proposal agreed to by the Land Services Committee in February, the Council would have free use of the venue for public events for up to 25% of the time – for example, to stage concerts by school/ youth bands – and retain a joint management role with the developer, presumably to make sure that the other 75% of the performances were okay too.

Facilities in and around a new two-storey building would include:

- **a café/bar**
- **a stage and dressing rooms**
- **refurbished spectator arena, with 'demountable' PVC seating**
- **public toilets**
- **enclosed crèche and play area for children**
- **a car park with access via Balvicar Drive.**

The loss of the old bandstand was much lamented and the idea of recreating it in 21<sup>st</sup> century style is not new – indeed, Park Officer Eddie Scanlon raised the issue when he spoke at the Strathbungo AGM last June. However, it is one of those double-edged swords that could cut both ways.

### ***Bring on the golden arches?***

Both Eddie Scanlon and Councillor Walter MacLellan emphasise that the development will be a quality building in keeping with

the parkland environment and the historic significance of the area. This does not mean that it must be a quasi-Victorian pastiche, but there is cause for concern as to how a private developer might interpret a 'family-friendly environment'. Is it commercially feasible to go for a good modern design that complements the surroundings or would the result be some brick-and-plastic fast food formula? There are also issues around traffic and parking, noise levels, opening hours, litter and so on.

These risks must be balanced against the very real advantages it would bring Strathbungo and the adjacent communities to have a place to get together in the Park, both socially and to stage public events.

At present, Cllr MacLellan has no idea of the timescale for this development or even whether it will ultimately happen. 'Basically the Council has just agreed to look for a commercial partner. Maybe there isn't one, but if there is an interest, then the detailed project will need close examination and the views of people round about would be important.'

Those who recall the 'consultation' that preceded closure of the Calder Street Baths may be forgiven a certain cynicism. We will all be well advised to *watch this space*.



Land Services have started planting the new rose garden in the south part of Queens Park, their contribution to Glasgow's hosting of the World Rose Convention 2003. The project includes work on all the entrances, plus new paths and disabled access. Eddie Scanlon hopes to have some sort of formal opening in July, perhaps combined with an event at the pond. As regards the pond, 'the boats have been put out to franchise and we're waiting on a response to that,' he said. He noted that the bollards that have been put up are meant to restrict but not deny access by vehicles as a safety precaution.

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## Remembering Robert Lamont

Around 200 friends and neighbours gathered in Queen Square at Moray Place on a stormy-bright Saturday morning in January to say goodbye to long-time Strathbungo resident Robert Lamont. Robert, who was 45, died on 11 January after a short illness.

Robert loved his home, his garden and his community and it was his expressed wish that the service should be held here. After the ceremony, the procession walked out to the main road where coaches took many on to the graveside service in Largs.

Robert was a successful businessman whose company Glasgow Audio combined his skills as salesman with his passion for music and electronic wizardry.

He played a pivotal role in establishing the new Strathbungo Society and will be remembered locally in many different guises— from his two years as Chairman to his star turns as Bungo Bob, running the kids disco at our Halloween parties. During several terms as Treasurer, he had the foresight to insure our outdoor events against rain ('...best way I know to guarantee fine weather!') and, especially poignant, we will all remember the good times when Robert and Teresa's garden was the focal point for our Hogmanay street parties.

On behalf of all who knew Robert, the Society offers sincere condolences to Teresa, his parents and family.

*Despite the rearguard actions of anti-M74 protesters, over the next five years or so the long-planned M74 extension will become a reality. What will this mean for Strathbungo? KEVIN KANE reports.*

## M74 EXTENTION: Bridge of Sighs?

**The actual picture is not entirely clear, as the road line and design have not been finalised. However, there will be an elevated, four-lane motorway running high above Pollokshaws Road joining the Kingston Bridge to Cambuslang Investment Park, where the current M74 comes to an abrupt halt.**

Access to the M74 will be via a new junction at Polmadie Road, but access to the M8 over the Kingston Bridge to all points north will only be possible via the Hags Castle junction on the M77, and even then – if current bridge restrictions apply – there will be no access onto the Clyde Expressway. In short, things will be changing round here.

The Strathbungo Society has lobbied the Council, via the new City Plan (available at your local library), for the M74 motorway fly-over to be designed to minimise its visual intrusion as well as to create – as far as possible - a new 'gateway' to the City Centre from the southside. However, it's a moot point whether this will happen without some pressure and input from local communities. With Strathbungo's Community Council no longer in existence, it's vital that people have the opportunity to get information and give their views.


So, that's why the *Strathbungo News* is opening up the debate.

What do you think? Would you like to see plans or hear from transport planners what exactly is being proposed? What do you think of no longer being able to access the Clyde Expressway? Write in and let us know!

*As Chairman of the Strathbungo Society, Kevin actually read the City Plan before making representations to the Council on issues that might affect the wider amenity of Strathbungo. These included matters as diverse as the emphasising the importance of local shopping in Pollokshaws/Nithsdale Roads within the hierarchy of Glasgow retailing to pointing out that their map shows Strathbungo as an exclusively tenemental area - overlooking seven streets of terraced houses from two distinct architectural periods.*

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# BIG BANG THEORY

Is there a case for stronger laws to control fireworks?

**Any asylum seekers who happened to find themselves in Strathbungo over this past autumn might be forgiven for thinking they had never left home.**

Deafening explosions, rockets zeroing in and the skies alight with spectacular pyrotechnics, the amateur fireworks brigade have long since given up firecrackers and Catherine wheels and brought on the heavy artillery. And while most people are willing to lock up the cat and put up with the noise for a bit of fun on Bonfire Night, the 'war zone' mentality is now coming into play as early as September.

As a result, MP Mohammad Sarwar has asked the Strathbungo Society to circulate a petition calling for increased legislation to regulate the sale, use and size of fireworks. 'Many constituents have written to me about the growing nuisance that fireworks are causing throughout the year. Many people have also expressed concern about the distress that large explosions are causing to pets,' he says. 'I have campaigned for action to be taken on this issue since my election in 1997. Most recently I supported MP Barry Gardiner's 10-minute rule bill to increase fireworks regulation.'

The 10-minute bill attracted considerable cross-party support at its first reading on the floor of the House and has now passed for its second reading. Meanwhile Mr Sarwar feels it is imperative to demonstrate the strength of local feeling on this issue.

His petition calls on the Government to review fireworks regular urgently, and in particular to:

- require all public fireworks displays to be controlled by licensed pyro-technicians
- restrict the time of year fireworks can be bought
- restrict the times of day they can be set off
- license all vendors to meet strict safety criteria and to give trading standards the power to revoke the license of any vendor caught selling fireworks to underage children.

**If you would like to sign and/or help circulate the petition locally, ring 423 0050 or call at 38 Queen Square.**

## NIGHT WATCH



A Neighbourhood Watch information evening is set for

**Thursday 2 May**

**7-9pm, Clarkston Halls.**

A representative from the Scottish Council on Alcoholism will discuss children and alcohol and a risk assessor from Norwich Union will advise on household insurance.

### **Details from**

Community Safety Officer  
Natalie Robertson on  
0141 532 5310.

## STRATHBUNGO Questionnaire

The questionnaire tucked inside this issue is designed to inform the Strathbungo Society's efforts to build a vibrant and fully-inclusive community. . . . Come again?

What that means in plain English is we want to know what issues turn you on – or off! What would make your immediate neighbourhood better? How can we make sure everybody who wants to participate in Strathbungo activities is able to join in? You can answer all the questions or just the ones that matter most to you, but do let us have your views. The bigger the sample, the better the information.

*It's  
coming*

**BUNGO**

*in the Back Lanes*

**JUNE 2002**

*watch this space ...*



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# LET'S GET PHYSICAL



Carole puts our lucky winner through her paces.



What a champion!



Practising for the Royal Garden Party.



just 300 more ...

Nobody was more surprised than Christine Mair when she won an hour with Personal Trainer Carole Livesey, the prize in the *Strathbungo News* autumn draw, but she soon got into the spirit of the occasion and let us tag along.

Christine, who lives in Allison Street, says she gets bored easily so Carole built in lots of variety in a 12-week low-impact programme designed around the types of exercise Christine really enjoys. Full points for good intentions, she had a roomful of workout equipment but hadn't a clue how to use it! Working one-to-one, Carole was able to help her discover the precise way to do each exercise, getting maximum results with

minimum discomfort .. 'all of a sudden it just felt right!'

Carole also took time for some advice on nutrition. Christine admits she finds it hard to eat breakfast so she promised to make an effort to get up earlier and also to keep a food diary to make her more conscious of exactly what she was eating.

At the end of the hour, she was full of enthusiasm and planned to check back with Carole in six months. The timing couldn't be better as she works at Strathclyde University where a new state-of-the-art gym was about to open.

Thanks Christine for being a good sport. Ring Carole on 423 6941 or email [fitforlife@freeuk.com](mailto:fitforlife@freeuk.com)

## HELP WANTED!

### Editorial Assistant & Advertising Co-ordinator

Join the 'staff' of the Strathbungo Society's dynamic, crusading journal, published occasionally (whenever we find time) and distributed free to 1,000 local households. Work with a bolshie, self-centred, single minded old hack to report the news, promote local issues and events, and reflect on day-to-day life in our little island off Queens Park.

Experience will be an advantage,  
but we're willing to train -sense of humour essential.

Rewards: The thanks of a grateful community and the odd bit of fun. Definite promotion possibilities!

Ring Sharon on 423 0050 or email [news@strathbungo.co.uk](mailto:news@strathbungo.co.uk) .



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## GARAGE WANTED

Anyone willing to rent me a garage in the Moray Place/Vennard Gardens area?

Contact Gary on  
**07973 594 797** or email  
[pepehambo@aol.com](mailto:pepehambo@aol.com)



# TALKBACK

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

## To the Editor:

What are we to do about the vehicles that are still making a dash towards Nithsdale Road against the one way system at 1-10 Moray Place?

This is not only illegal, but it presents a real danger, especially to the 14 children living in this block. In addition, lots of drivers are also using the back lane of 1-10 Moray Place to bypass Pollokshaws Road. Most of these drivers live in Strathbungo and should know that the back lanes are for resident access only, but word about this rat run has now reached further afield. There is now a constant stream of traffic in the lanes on weekday mornings. 'Bungo in the Back Lanes' has demonstrated that the lanes are a community amenity that can be enjoyed by everyone. We need to prevent drivers from misusing them.

**Andrew Jahoda**

Moray Place

## To the Editor:

Being a resident of Queen Square for over 10 years I have seen the traffic

system change to one-way and I am sure we all remember the heated exchanges as one car met another and we can all agree that this is better.

I would, however, like to point out a major problem facing all residents of Strathbungo. I am referring to the vehicles that speed up and down our quiet streets, whether it be taxis or the parent late for the nursery run – or even the Royal Mail, which I had to ask to slow down this past Saturday as his speed and carelessness would have been most serious for any of our young residents or pets.

I have drafted a signature petition that I intend to go around Strathbungo and ask that traffic calming bumps be fitted by the council before we have a serious accident on our hands.

I am unsure of your next publication, but I feel this matter would be worth discussion.

**Robert Sharp**

Queen Square

*And how about the leap of faith you have to take every time you turn into Moray Place from one of the in-bound streets? By the time you creep out far enough to see what's coming, you could be hit from either direction. Is it really sensible to have our 'one-way' system feeding into a very narrow two-way street? And it's even more dangerous when cars are parked right up to the corners. Speaking of which, how on earth would a fire engine (say) get round those self-same cars into Moray Place? Anybody for double yellow lines at the corners? (Take a deep breath)*

*There will always be traffic problems in high density urban neighbourhoods, but it really does seem like we get more talk than action around here. The 1996 'Route Action Plan', which introduced the one-way system,*

*also showed traffic calming measures at the entrance to both Queen and Marywood Squares, but they never materialised. Did the Council just run out of bricks or what?*

**The Strathbungo Society has an AGM coming up in June – is it time we invited the Roads Department along to answer some of these questions ... again?**

ED

## Tied cottages?

The name 'Strathbungo' causes outsiders confusion now and then, but the 2002 Mrs Malaprop Award surely must go to the Community Fund for their recent letter ... addressed to the *Staff Bungalow Society*.

The Strathbungo Society Committee meets at 7.30 pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month, downstairs at the Fotheringay in Nithsdale Road. To raise an issue, contact the Secretary Trisha Jones, 16 Queen Square, on 423 2621, or any member listed here. Or, if you prefer, just turn up in person.

## Strathbungo Society Sub-groups:

- **Back Lanes Renovation**  
Stephen Lamb (423 5263)
- **Communications**  
Sharon Schweps (423 0050)
- **Events**  
Kay Caldwell (423 5746)
- **Queens Park / LETS**  
Joanna Murphy (423 7756)
- **Trees Survey**  
Ian Stark (632 4995)

## STRATHBUNGO News

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Send letters & short articles  
of general interest to:

**38 Queen Square G41 2AZ.  
Tel: 0141 423 0050**

**or email [news@strathbungo.co.uk](mailto:news@strathbungo.co.uk)**

**or hand them in at Evergreen's  
in Nithsdale Road**