

STRATHBUNGO

News

Summer 2009



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A Belter of a Bungo Bash

A fantastic summer afternoon helped the Strathbungo Society to run the most successful Bungo In The Back Lanes event ever. The great weather in the afternoon, after a damp start to the day, helped to draw out the crowds to support the events and there were more visitors, stalls and good times than ever.

It was the Strathbungo Society's most successful event ever, with more than 1,000 people turning out to support the local community and meet their neighbours. Scott Mackay, Chair of the Strathbungo Society said, "I think it went really well and was worth the massive effort volunteers put in."

Residents really wanted to make sure their big summer street party celebrated the whole Bungo community. Visitors were thrilled by the diversity of entertainment on offer - from crafty classes for children to delicious pakora - as well as the faithful stalwarts of the event; our great bands and 1901 beer garden. Joanna Murphy, the event organiser, was delighted by the

support shown for the Strathbungo Society, with lots of people wanting to find out more about the society and purchasing Bungo bags, T-shirts and cards. Despite record numbers turning out and great sales of tombola and Society merchandise, our donations from residents' stalls were much lower than usual.

If Joanna didn't receive your donation on the day, just contact the Society or bring it along to the AGM. We ask for a donation of around 10% of profits from each stall (excluding those run for charities) and this money helps the Society to publicise the event and pay for public liability insurance.

This year's event was made possible thanks to a donation from Glasgow City Council's Pollokshields Area Committee which covered the bulk of our standard running costs. Many thanks to them and to our city councillors for supporting our application for funding.

If you want to get more involved in this or other local events in any capacity, the Strathbungo Society is always happy to hear from you.

Visit www.strathbungo.co.uk, come along to one of our regular meetings (Third Monday of the month from 7.45pm at Grianach) or e-mail info@strathbungo.co.uk

*Photograph: Roberto Cavieres
See lots more photos of the day overleaf?*

Read Strathbungo News online at www.strathbungo.co.uk

The Strathbungo Society offers thanks to all those who helped make this year's event extra special.

These include:

1901

2nd Glasgow Scouts

Alim's

All at the children's garden

Bewitching Beauty

Busy Bees Craft Studio

Catriona Craig

Environmental Protection Services

Floral Haven

Glasgow Chiropractic

Grianach

Gusto And Relish

Hairgarden

Heraghty's

Ikafe

John Richardson for poster duty

Kelly's

Lah Tea Doh

Land Services

Marie Brown At Home

Moyra Jane's

Mulberry Street

New Anand

New Victoria Gardens

Nisa Day Today's

Orange Newsagents

Paris Balsilli

Pizza Hut

Roberto Cavieres for many of these great photographs

Rock And Rollers

Shimla Pinks

Sunshine Crocer

Taoist Tai Chi Society

Tapa

The Alison Arms

The Barber Biker

Urban Beauty

Zucchini

All our merry band of volunteers

And thanks, most of all, to YOU for holding a stall, buying a beer and having fun.

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!



NITHSDALE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

At last year's AGM a number of Nithsdale Road residents expressed concern about the appearance of their street. The Society had hoped to use the ENTRUST grant money to improve things but were restricted by the terms of the grant in how we could spend the money.

After a long battle for funding, two Council-maintained planters were installed in July and, with their counterparts at the entrance to Titwood Road and Vennard Gardens, provide an attractive visual signpost at two key entrance points to the conservation area.

A more surprising recent addition to Nithsdale Road has been the new recycling point. The need for additional recycling facilities, particularly in tenement-dense areas, has been raised several times at recent AGMs but with no concrete plans announced to install them.

Perhaps the Council responded to this demand, or maybe they just found some spare recycling units in the back of a cupboard after a spring clean, but the new recycling points have been installed at the same time as the old facilities at Kildrostan Street have been upgraded.



Residents who live close to the new facilities were concerned about a possible increase in noise but are also very pleased to have recycling facilities so conveniently located. The Strathbungo Society and the Community Council were not informed before the recycling points were installed but feel the City Council chose the most suitable site for them in the area.



So now there's no excuse for not recycling - fill your Bungo bags with tins and do your bit for tidying up Strathbungo and the planet!



Community Clean-Up

A clean-up has been organised for Strathbungo on Sunday 20th September from 12.30pm-3.30pm.

The organisers need as many volunteers as possible to help clean up the area. At the Spring Clean earlier this year an entire skip was filled with rubbish from just one back lane!

This clean-up by residents in the spring - and the Council before Bungo In The Back Lanes - has really helped to keep on top of

the litter and fly-tipping problem in the back lanes.

Ryan Noble from Glasgow Community and Safety Services will supply all the tools needed on the day. Just bring your enthusiasm!

Meet at the Sammy Dows entrance to the lane.



Bungo in Bloom

Bungo In The Back Lanes gave Strathbungo's residents a chance to show off their gardens in their summer finery. It seems the area has been bitten by the garden bug and however small, shared or public, residents are working hard to improve our green spaces.

The lack of shared green space in the conservation area is one of Strathbungo's more problematic unique points. Although we're fortunate to be bordered by Queens Park, all the trees and gardens which give Strathbungo its leafy atmosphere are in private ownership and their appearance depends very much on the efforts and preferences of the owners.



It isn't just those fortunate enough to own a complete townhouse who have been hard at work. Some of the most improved gardens in the area are shared by residents in tenement blocks. By talking to their neighbours and sharing the workload, gardens which were once little more than overgrown drying greens or iron-railing-fenced pavements have become attractive shared spaces to be enjoyed by all the residents and, in some cases, passers-by.

If you've been inspired by a neighbour's garden, let us know! Greens spaces, even in the Dear Green Place, need to be treasured and nurtured and working together gets results. Recent posters on the Bungo Blog have been encouraging their neighbours to get out their green fingers by offering free compost and with autumn around the corner, now is the time to think about propagation and division of plants. If you've got plants you'd like to divide, split or swap, why not use the Bungo Blog to spread the word to your neighbours? Struggling to handle a large garden? Why not see if a neighbour might want to help out in return for a small patch they can call their own to create a vegetable plot.



The Strathbungo Society has run a hedge-cutting service for residents for two years now. For a small donation to the Society, a volunteer will cut back your hedge or provide the tools for you to do it yourself. The main aim of this is to prevent overgrown hedgerows taking up so much of the width of our narrow pavements. Spring and late summer are the best times of year to tackle this job, so if your hedge needs a little attention call Matthew on 0141 4339238

Go to www.bungoblog.com or, if you have difficulty accessing the internet, call the number above or write to the editor and the Society can post the information on your behalf. Above all, be inspired. Even if you can only stretch to a window box, make the most of what you've got.



Greens spaces, even in the Dear Green Place, need to be treasured and nurtured and working together gets results.

Reducing **Rat Running**

After consulting with residents, Glasgow City Council's Environmental Services Department and the emergency services, The Strathbungo Society has submitted a formal request for the Council to create a new Traffic Regulation Order in Strathbungo. A Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) is an order, enforceable by law, which allows the Highways Authority to regulate the movement of vehicles and pedestrians. They typically take 9-12 months from design to implementation.

The proposed TRO would block off the back lanes in Strathbungo at the junction between Moray Place Lane and Regent Park Square and the junction of Pollokshaws Road Lane and Nithsdale Road. The Council has also agreed to improve and fill-in the pavements at these points.

The Strathbungo Society hopes this will also prevent further deterioration of the condition of the lanes between Regent Park Square and Nithsdale Road. The decision to pursue the TRO was taken at the last AGM and the Society has spent a year consulting with residents, the Council and the emergency services to come up with a workable solution to some perennial problems in the back lanes - rat running and damage to the fabric of the lanes by cars and other vehicles - while still ensuring resident access.

Residents who took part in the consultation strongly supported the proposals and they have recently had an opportunity to see the impact of the order as, by chance, the lanes are currently blocked at the two proposed points for building work. Scaffolding was erected at the junction of Pollokshaws Road Lane and Nithsdale Road in late June and for the last few months a collapsed wall near the junction between Moray Place Lane and Regent Park Square has rendered it impassable to vehicles.

A resident on Nithsdale Road told the Society, "The traffic through the lanes onto Nithsdale Road has been hugely reduced recently, particularly at peak times. There has also been no fly-tipping in the Nithsdale/Pollokshaws lane since the scaffolding went up, whereas it's been a huge problem in the past." We hope to provide an update on the progress of the TRO at the



STRATHBUNGO SOCIETY MERCHANDISE

The all-new **Bungo Bags**, with a wider shape and extra-long handles, proved a big hit at Bungo In The Back Lanes. We still sell them at just **£4 each** or **3 for £10** and they're very sturdy, washable and portable.

We also have **Bungo T-shirts**. The simple logo t-shirts, in black, are available in L and XL. Or you can buy a vintage **Get Off Your Artz t-shirt** from our very limited stock, in white, for the same price.

If you would like to purchase these, either e-mail admin@strathbungo.co.uk or call Laura Moodie on 0141 433 9238. They are also stocked in Grianach cafe on Nithsdale Road.

Fundraising Walk for Moira

Grant Jones has embarked on a walk from Fort William to Cape Wrath to fundraise for The Moira Fund.

He set off on 11th July and it is hoped the walk can be completed in three weeks. Grant's sister, Moira, was murdered in Queens Park last May and the Moira Fund has been set up by her family to provide grants for those working with victims of crime. If you would like to sponsor Grant or donate to the Moira Fund, please contact:

The Moira Fund, PO Box 3213, Stafford ST16 9LJ.

Online: www.themoirafund.workwithus.org/Fundraising/Donate.aspx

Newark Drive Nursery To Close

Newark Drive nursery has failed in its attempts to prevent closure under Proposal 21. Pupils are expected to transfer to the new Early Years Centre in the Melville Street Primary School Annexe from next term. Nithsdale Road Nursery was reprieved due to its distance from the Melville Street Early Years Centre

Strathbungo
Society AGM

**Monday
24th August 2009
at 7.30pm**

Church Of Scotland, 180 Queens Drive

Come along and have YOUR say on:

- The Traffic Regulation Order
- Planning Issues and the Society
- Whatever else is on YOUR Agenda

Tea and coffee afterwards. See you there!



Go Ape have pulled out of the proposed adventure park development in Pollok Park.

In a rather embarrassing volte face, just days after the Council held a meeting to announce that the Go Ape facility would be opened next Spring, the company pulled out citing financial constraints due to changes in the proposed scheme to meet the demands of the National Trust for Scotland.

Jerome Mayhew, managing director of Go Ape, said: "We have concluded that the amount of work required to adapt Knowehead Lodge to incorporate our reception area would be too extensive and impractical. We have therefore decided, after much thought, not to go ahead with building a course in Pollok Park."

Campaign group Save Pollok Park felt the council was allowing private enterprise to capitalise on a public asset for short-term gain. They strongly objected to the peace of the park being changed irreparably. The council, for its part, believed Go Ape would enliven its park and population.

SHAWLANDS TOWN CENTRE Action Plan

Glasgow City Council is keen to find out what Strathbungo residents think should be done to revitalise Shawland's shops and businesses.

An action plan was launched by the council after residents, businesses and Shawlands and Strathbungo Community Council called for the Shawlands shopping area to be revamped.

The Town Centre Action Plan encompasses all the retail units from the Pollokshaws East Station railway bridge to Queens Park. It also includes all businesses contained in Shawlands Arcade, Minard Road and Skirving Street. An online survey can be found at:

www.gov.uk/en/YourCouncil/CustomerInvolvement/Corporate/YourOpinion/

The survey should take around ten minutes to complete.

For further information contact:

David Dunlop
Glasgow City Council
Development & Regeneration Services
Exchange House
229 George Street
Glasgow
G1 1QU

Phone: 0141 287 6097

Email:

Shawlands@drs.glasgow.gov.uk

What Now For McKeever?

Swings and roundabouts is perhaps the best description for developments concerning the McKeever Group and Queens Park residents' long-running campaign against the management of numerous properties around Balvicar Street and Queens Drive which were used for short-term holiday lets and to house homeless people, many in need of support, by councils throughout Scotland.

The Council had agreed to take part in a Public Local Inquiry (PLI) this summer.

A PLI involves an independent reporter, appointed by Holyrood, hearing evidence to enable a decision on whether planning permission should be granted or refused.

Last month, however, Glasgow City Council requested that the PLI be delayed whilst McKeever and the Council seek a settlement.

It appears a deal was being sought to allow McKeever to continue to operate at 32 Balvicar St with some restrictions over length of

stay - a Section 75 Agreement.

Just days later the McKeever Group were placed in administration. Glasgow City Council confirmed that they are taking advice "about the implications of the administration of the company".

Shawlands and Strathbungo Community Council's spokesperson said, "We hope that the Council will decide to abandon the Section 75 Agreement and continue with the PLI so that a decision can be made on this important issue."



WHOOOPS!

In our cover article last issue on the children's art competition we printed the wrong picture to illustrate the winner of the 9-12 age group. Our apologies to Alice Mellon, pictured here with Avril Paton.

STRATHBUNGO News

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