

STRATHBUNGO NEWS



The Strathbungo Society

A Quarterly Newsletter

Summer 2015

JOIN IN THE FUN

*Want us to promote your stall
or an activity?*

*Tell Allison Hussain at:
bungointhelanes@outlook.com*

HELP!

*The Strathbungo Society needs
volunteers for stewarding,
selling raffle tickets, setting up
and taking down gazebos,
stalls, tables/chairs/signage.
Even an hour of your time will
be most appreciated.*

*Contact Teresa Mooney:
chair@strathbungo.com*

DONATIONS, PLEASE

**Prizes for the Society's
tombola, bottle stall and raffle:
hand in any time to
53 Queen Square.*

**Homebaking for our tea
garden: hand in on the day to
26 Marywood Square.*



Five lanes of fun!

Bungo in the Back Lanes Saturday, 20th June: 1-4pm

By Teresa Mooney, Strathbungo Society Chair

**People from all over come for Bungo in the Back Lanes,
but all you have to do is step out your back gate.**

It's the magical event that's made by you and your neighbours,
and this year it's bigger than ever before, stretching for the first
time to Thorncliffe and Venard lanes. That means there's something
happening in lanes running the full length of Moray Place.

BiBL is for all ages and every taste. The Children's Garden is in Lane 1 and we're expecting
Glasgow Sport to be coaching kids in Thorncliffe lane. In between you'll find stalls for bric-a-brac,
homebaking, plants, upcycling, books, crafts, jewellery, BBQ, pizza – just some of the ones we
know about already, but plan on lots of surprises.

Mulberry Street is back with the big beer & wine tents in both Queen and Marywood lanes, and many other local businesses are setting up
around the area: look out for Gusto & Relish, Babu Kitchen, Bakery 47 & Funiacup, Merry-go-round, Glad Café, Shimla Pinks and Little Botanica,
and for the first time, Loch Fyne Shellfish and The Butterfly & The Pig.

As for music....

- Scottish and Irish music in Thorncliffe lane
- Decagram Music with guest DJ David Richards in Moray lane
- Howlin' Radio, Southside Acts and La Roche Rumba in the beer tents
- Classical favourites from the Viennese Ensemble
- Harvest Bible Chapel just outside our Children's Garden ...

... and feel free to make your own music too!

The Strathbungo Society is providing a
tombola and bottle stall, a major raffle and
our famous tea garden in Marywood lane.
Plus, by popular demand, 'Bungo Bogs'
(disable and standard loos) will be set up for
your convenience in Thorncliffe lane.

**Latest details and updates at
www.bungoblog.com and on our Facebook
pages. Keep checking, then get set for a
great day out – without even leaving home!**



Young artists celebrated at the Spring Fling

Now in its seventh year, our annual Children and Young People's Art Competition attracted a record number of entries and a superb standard of work. It made a daunting task for our judges, the artists Avril Paton and Karen Cairns as well as Emily Lobb of Hutchesons' Grammar and Jennifer Watson of Shawlands Academy.



(from left) Allison Hussain, Vivien Lamb and Karen Cairns really put in the hours—imagine hanging and then taking down over 300 works of art!



The judges hard at work

You can see all of their choices for the top prizes at www.bungoblog.com and the original artwork on the walls of **Tapa, Gusto & Relish, Mulberry Street** and **Little Botanica**.

The Picture Framer in Shawlands mounted the 12 winning entries, which were then photographed at the Burrell and made into a keepsake CD for the children by Jim Dunn and Glasgow Life.

All 342 entries were on show at our Spring Fling in late March, a lively coffee morning cum art exhibition with a prize-giving ceremony – plus, craft stalls, a chocolate tombola and a children's petting zoo which was pretty popular with adults too. Everybody who attended the Fling got to vote for their favourite picture and the vox pop winner became the design for the 2015 Bungo in the Back Lanes poster.

"Local schools have given us tremendous support in staging this community-wide competition," says

Teresa Mooney, Strathbungo Chair. "They got enthusiastically behind the theme of 'Strathbungo Now or in the Future' and it was fascinating to see how that sparked the imagination and creative energy of these young artists. Thanks to all!"

Any thoughts on next year's theme? Send your ideas to: chair@strathbungo.com



A familiar landmark!

And the winners are...

Under 5s:

- 1st:** Ewan Mitchell, 3
2nd: Scott Gilmour, 4
3rd: Angus Peter MacDonald, 4

Commended: Daniyal Moughal, 4 and Penelope Moran, 5.

Special mention: Caden Waterman, 3, and Sam Robertson, Ayaan Ullah, Alveena Aamir, Filip Fraczek, Kiran Barnes and Rosa Morale, 4.

5-8s:

- 1st:** Kyle McAlister, 7
2nd: Aritra Deb, 8
3rd: Emily McCracken, 8

Commended: Menak Khanm, 8, and Ibrahim Saeed, 7.

Special mention: Max Denholm, Alasdair J Riddell and Callum Thomas, 7; and Ibraheem Iqbal, Semande Hunge and Amy MacLeod, 8.

9-12s:

- 1st:** Rania Khan, 12
2nd: Craig Geddes, 12
3rd: Rosa Young, 10

Commended: Kim Philipson and Michael Bennett, 11; and Zara Mason, Pujitha Kommuri, Megan Brown, Amy Dougan, Zaid Khalid, Alexander Paton, Steven L Hacaambwa, Ele Silvester, Ben Wilson, Rachael Highet, Calum Taylor, Katya Johnson and Alfred Millard, 12.

Special mention: Selin Turan, 10, and Heather Napthine, 12.

13-14s:

- 1st:** Cara Taggart, 14
2nd: Alison Duncan, 14
3rd: Anam Qureshi, 14

Commended: Meganne McCartney and Natasha Dick, 13 and Hannah McOmish and Katy McMillan, 14.

Special mention: Anna Lamb, 13.

Poster vote: Katy McMillan, 14

Grand prize draw: Leo Convey, 8.

See all the winners' work, plus lots of photos from the Spring Fling at: www.bungoblog.com



Safeguarding Strathbungo's unique architectural heritage

From Greek Thomson's A-listed masterwork in Moray Place to the bijou red sandstone 'garden' terraces, Strathbungo has much to be proud of in its built landscape. We are all to a greater or lesser degree subject to planning restrictions by virtue of living in or adjacent to the Conservation Area: it's certainly no place to be if you come from the rugged individual school of architecture. That's why it is worth recalling from time to time the advantages this brings us.

In 1974, when the Strathbungo Conservation Area was established, it was almost impossible to get a mortgage on some of the properties in the Squares – indeed, it was said that they probably would have been bulldozed, had they not got a listing slapped on them. Bedsits and multiple occupancies were common, and many properties were exploited as cash-cows, with little or no maintenance.

It took a lot of work by activists in the original Strathbungo Conservation Society to start the fight-back. By 1995, when the organisation was reconstituted as the new Strathbungo Society, 'conservation' was dropped from the name but it remains a key element in a broader remit.

Planning restrictions are – well, restrictive. It may mean, for example, you can't paint your windows and doors the colour of your first love's eyes. But then, it does protect you (and your investment) from your neighbour's whims.

Forty-odd years since the Conservation Area was designated, most properties are owner-occupied and in pretty good nick. Property values reflect the desirability of the buildings and a vibrant community. It's certainly not about to be bulldozed, and with the cooperation and pride of our owners, Strathbungo is likely to last well into its third century.

Andrew Greg, who lives at 1 Moray Place, explains how the recent work was carried out and suggests how lessons learned there might benefit the wider area community.



Greek Thomson's vision rediscovered

Conservation work on 1-10 Moray Place has transformed Alexander Thomson's pioneering Greek Revival terrace of c. 1860. Helped with a generous grant from Glasgow City Heritage Trust, all the house owners have worked together with our architect, Fiona Sinclair, and the contractors EBS to uncover and repair rotten roof and gutter timbers, restore windows, and renew and repoint decayed stonework. This has been a mammoth task, requiring patience, compromise and hard work from all concerned.

Perhaps the most obvious and significant result has been the reinstatement of the original railings and the cast iron lamps standards that stood outside each pair of front doors. The lamps were cast by the recently saved Ballantine Bo'ness Iron Co Ltd, from details moulded from

a unique survivor in a suburban garden in south Glasgow - thanks to the patience of the owners!

The railing design—a surprisingly plain, but clearly the economical choice of the 1860s developers, not of Alexander Thomson—was researched from fragments in the gardens of Strathbungo and the period knowledge of our architect.

A most pleasing outcome, especially in the context of the Strathbungo Conservation Area, has been the painting of all external woodwork to the front and sides in black (in fact, for the connoisseurs, Farrow and Ball Off-Black in exterior eggshell). Research at 1 Moray Place showed that a near-black was the original colour, followed by green, probably mid-century, and, most recently, the ubiquitous white.

A lesson for house owners is that black external woodwork is both authentic and very sophisticated – as some houses in Strathbungo still illustrate. Perhaps other streets and blocks could work together to consider repainting their external woodwork to help create a uniquely authentic and elegant neighbourhood.





Strathbungo has strong representation in a forum which brings community organisations together with public authorities. Nick Kempe has this update.

Planning and the Pollokshields Area Partnership

Earlier this year the Strathbungo Society raised concerns about planning matters at the Pollokshields Area Partnership and it was agreed to invited planning staff to a future meeting to discuss this.

We offered to prepare a list of questions and issues affecting the Conservation Area in conjunction with Pollokshields Heritage and Community Council, and arising out of this we produced a joint paper which was presented to the Partnership at the end of May. (You can read the paper at: www.bungoblog.com)

The focus of the paper is very much on planning enforcement issues—for example, a number of commercial premises have done works and only applied for planning retrospectively, and then to be refused. Thanks to Fiona Mackinnon in particular who collated all the information from the Council database.

This was the first time the Partnership had considered a paper produced by community organisations. It resulted in an hour-long discussion about the extent to which the Council is able and willing to help promote the character of conservation areas, whether by way of enforcing planning requirements or ensuring better coordination across Council departments—for example, the quality of the pavements on Nithsdale Road and environs—or the quality of litter clearance.

There was no clear conclusion to the discussion but the planning department committed to responding to our questions in writing and also said that they will be updating the Conservation Area Appraisal for Strathbungo. Watch this space!

Meantime if you have any comments on the paper, do get in contact with the Society or come along to a meeting. While the paper focused on the Conservation Area, we are keen to extend its scope to other streets within Strathbungo.

Network Rail Update

In early January residents of Moray Place received a letter from Network Rail (NR) about upcoming 'improvement work' on the railway line that forms Strathbungo's western boundary.

Plans included 'vegetation clearance' and installation of a 1.8m weldmesh fence along the whole length of Moray Place. That certainly set off warning bells, especially among those who were here in 2004 when community action narrowly avoided NR laying waste to the green corridor that harbours wildlife and protects us against noise and pollution.

With intervention from the Strathbungo Society and elected representatives, the February start-date was postponed and in March, Anas Sarwar MP brokered a site meeting with NR and ourselves. While there seemed to be a slight softening of language on NR's part there was no softening of stance. Nevertheless, they agreed to get back to us with information, but thus far there's been only silence.

No news is good news?

No necessarily. When things go quiet there's a danger of getting lulled into a false sense of security. Instead, we must keep both NR and our elected representatives focused on our concerns (see box).

From the start we have taken a positive approach, suggesting compromises that might, for example, allow them to install a fence that's more appropriate to our Victorian conservation area, or alternatives to siting a fence bang on the boundary line. Unfortunately, at the site meeting one of the NR team was clear: "We don't consult, we communicate."

But is that really true?

Fiona Mackinnon, who has been involved in negotiations for the Strathbungo Society, has found several examples where NR has listened to local communities and then done the right thing—for instance, where NR has formed partnerships with community groups to give local folk a role in managing vegetation, thus maintaining tracksides in a more attractive manner.

In Glossop and Whaley Bridge, both in Derbyshire, NR agreed to put up new 'historic' railings in response to public opinion. There's even evidence that when they do the wrong thing, they can be persuaded to put it right—as in Teddington, where they replaced barbed wire fencing they had installed without consultation.

The question is: If there, then why not here?

ACTION POINTS

- **Tell your elected representatives what you think of the plans**
- **Let Network Rail know how you feel and ask for more details about the plan**
- **If you live near the railway, check your deeds to see what land you own**
- **Keep the Strathbungo Society up to speed with any new information**
- **Check the Bungo Blog and Facebook pages for updates**

Network Rail

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Thank you, Anas

Anas Sarwar has worked hard for Strathbungo during his term as MP and contributed directly to arranging contact with Network Rail and helping us progress. We wish him well for the future.

Welcome, Alison

Alison Thewliss, the new MP for Glasgow Central, has been briefed on our concerns with Network Rail and has offered to meet with the Strathbungo Society and help resolve the issue. Look out for her at Bungo in the Back Lanes!



The BUNGO is the BIZ

Part of the fun of living in Strathbungo is the great variety of shops, services, bars and bistros within walking distance. Just remember, they depend on us to keep them here. Make sure you give our local businesses your business!

Here are a few newcomers



Loch Fyne Shellfish
pringhill Gardens

[@CaledonianTrawlersLtd](#)

Hannah knows a lot about fish – just ask her at this great wee shop. The owners **Kenny (the fisherman)** and **Isobel Brown** have brought us a whole new level of gourmet provender at reasonable prices – fresh daily from the clear waters around the Mull of Kintyre.



Maker's Workshop
912 Pollokshaws Road

[@makersworkshopglasgow](#)

Ishbel (pictured) and **Eilidh**, friends since college, recently opened their shop cum studio beside the garage, with jewellery designed by themselves and others, and a splendid range of bespoke gifts. They also rent benches to other designers and run jewellery-making courses. Try their 4-hour 'taster' session to discover the designer within you.

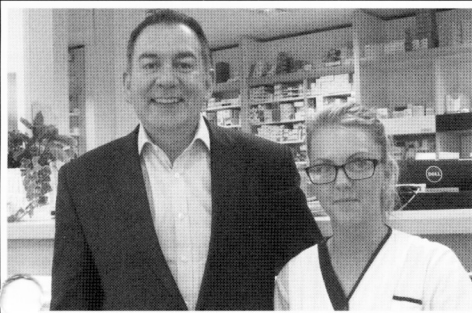


Beautiful Cosmos
14 Nithsdale Road /

Shawlands Arcade

[@beautifuloosmos](#)

Flore is a DJ as well as a purveyor of fabulous vintage clothing, bags and shoes in Nithsdale Road. Before you read this she will have flitted to Shawlands Arcade's Artists Village where she has spectacular plans for Saturdays. But not to worry. **The Good Old Days**, opening in July, will bring restored vintage furniture to the Bungo.



Queens Park Pharmacy
751 Pollokshaws Road
0141 423 0344

Over the winter **Gavin McLaren (pictured with heath care assistant Yvonne)** moved Queens Park Pharmacy up almost to the gates of the very park itself. It's a bright and beautifully equipped chemists with smoking cessation and minor injury clinics as well as a free home delivery service for prescriptions.

Shahed's ... 41 years later!

712 Pollokshaws Road

[@Shaheds-Tandoori](#)

Zahid (left) and his nephew **Ameer** are the 2nd and 3rd generations of the **Khan family at Shaheds Tandoori**. It all started in 1974 in the days before plastic containers when people used to bring in their own pots and pans to take away the curries. The elder Khans were always in the shop, and so too were their kids as they grew up. In fact, the shop was named for Zhaid's older brother. When their father died in 1994, the boys took over. Nowadays they have shops in the City Centre and Giffnock, but Strathbungo is still 'home'.



And one for the future ...

Coley Crafts



Nicole Lamb, 10, is the proprietor of **Coley Crafts**, a great little start-up business featuring lavender bags, egg cosies, scarfs, toys and lots more. Most items are designed and knitted by Nicole herself though she also employs sub-contractors. **Keep your eyes on this young entrepreneur!**



Then ... and now

Moray Place at Carswell Gardens

These houses were designed by the firm of Gardner & Glen, better known for many local cinemas, including the Grosvenor in Ashton Lane. Network Rail would no doubt have approved of the trackside vegetation back then. You can just barely make out a car in the distance – changed days now!

Can you add to our archive?

Thanks to **Andrew Downie** for this ongoing feature. He will

have lots of fascinating vintage pictures on display at Bungo in the Back Lanes, but can you help build the collection? Really old photos are great and so are not-so-old photos from the 70s, 80s, 90s when they document passing street scenes in Strathbungo.

If you have any photos to share, we will scan them and return them to you safely. Just let us know at: info@strathbungo.co.uk

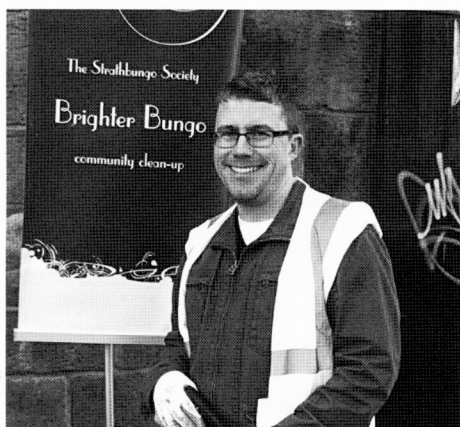


c. 1930, just after completion



85 years later ...

Brighter Bungo Sunday, 14 June 11am - 1pm



Hi Bryan!

Bryan Miller, our Brighter Bungo coordinator, invites you to come along to our next community clean-up and help get things into shape for Bungo in the Back Lanes. It kicks off at the corner of Nithsdale Road at Moray Place. All equipment provided.

Thanks to 20-plus people who turned out for our March clean-up –especially the team who came from Nursery Lane to help out.



Hi George!

George is a *real* street cleaner and a well-kent face in Strathbungo. Catherine Wild, who sent us this picture, said: "Some people go the extra mile when it comes to doing their job and George is one of them. He comes to the aid of anyone struggling with bins or gardening rubbish. He even cleans away weeds growing outside the garden/pavement area."

Nice to see people who take pride in what they are doing!

STRATHBUNGO



N e W S

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