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# Strathbungo News

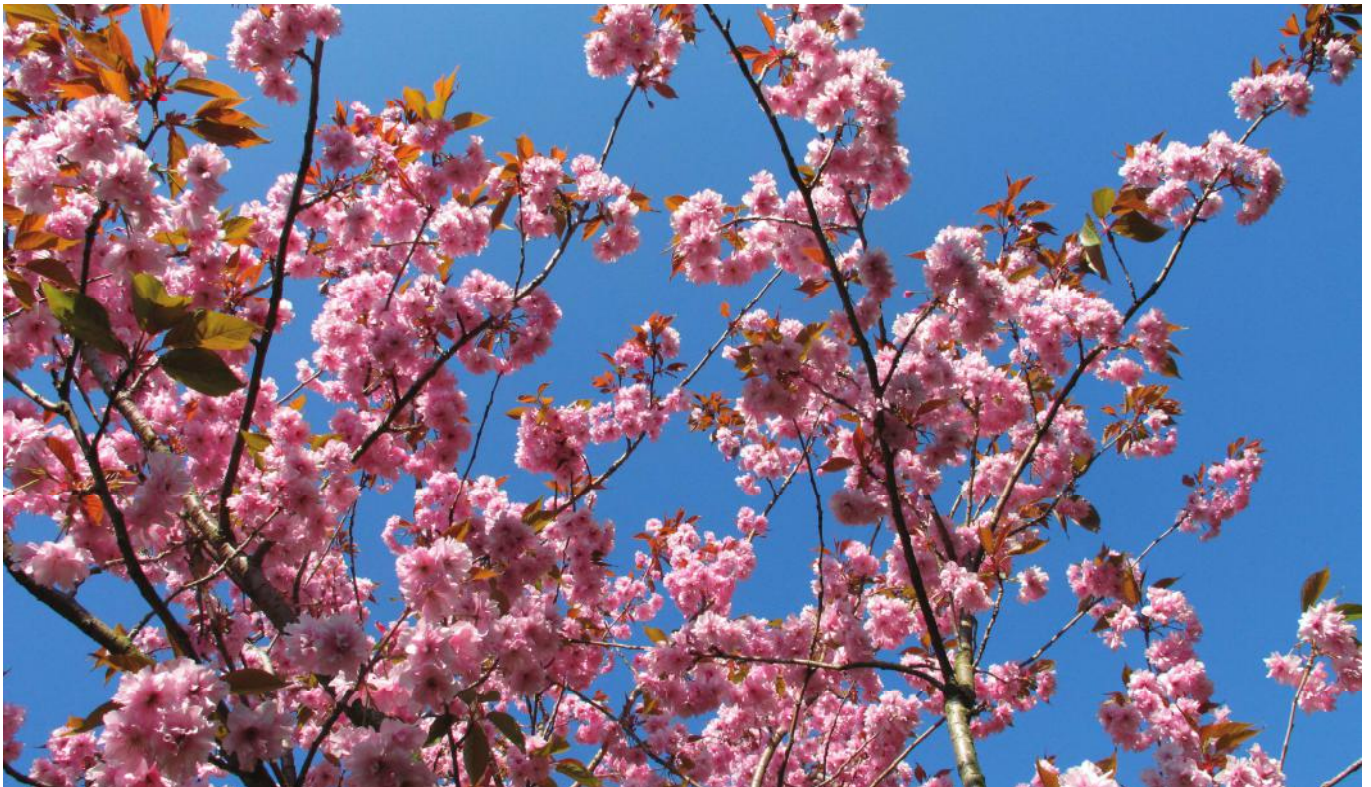
The Strathbungo Society

A quarterly newsletter  
Summer 2016

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## WATCH THIS SPACE

*There's nothing quite like this magical time when spring rolls over into summer to make you feel change is in the air. Strathbungo Society Chair Kevin Kane anticipates some major developments over the next few months.*



Those lively shops and bistros on the 'other side of the tracks' in Kildrostan Street and Nithsdale Road are integral to the life we lead in Strathbungo. That's why the Strathbungo Society has been to the fore in the consultation exercise that has led to the imminent publication of a strategic plan that includes the creation of 'Nithsdale Road Village Green'.

The final plan covering the whole of East Pollokshields & Port Eglinton will be presented to the City Council and is expected to be adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance to the existing City Plan over the summer.

Bill Fraser & Niall Murphy of Pollokshields Community Council have pulled together the energy, funding and community engagement to produce the 'Make Your Mark' charrette report. Bill says: 'Although the Strathbungo section of Nithsdale Road is technically outside East Pollokshields, we believe it's logical to integrate it into the Kildrostan Street triangle, given the need to reconnect with the main thoroughfare of Pollokshaws Road.' The plan includes various

ideas for improving the Kildrostan Street shops as well as the open spaces along Nithsdale Road over into Strathbungo.

Already supported by our local councillors, MSP Nicola Sturgeon and MP Allison Thewliss, Pollokshields Community Council will ask a public meeting in early June to endorse the vision and establish 'The Pollokshields Trust' as a suitable community anchor organisation to undertake these plans in a three-year timeframe.

So thanks to Bill & Niall and also to Nick Kempe who has worked hard for Strathbungo throughout the charrette process. We'll put up links to the full report soon as it's published and continue with news on Facebook and at: [www.bungoblog.com](http://www.bungoblog.com).

But meanwhile, summer's coming and Bungo in the Back Lanes on 18 June makes it official. Have a great time and—watch this space!

# NEWS IN BRIEF

## GET READY FOR WINTER

### – THIS SUMMER!

Over 30 households in Strathbungo have already taken up South Seeds' offer of a free home energy audit, which includes advice on draught-proofing, chimney balloons and underfloor or loft insulation. This award-winning community-led organisation is based in Govanhill and works to Strathbungo's architectural guidelines. They also provide a handyman service for bespoke installation at below commercial rates. More information on 0141 636 3959.



## WRITE STUFF

Ian Stark of Venard Gardens is waging a one-man war on obesity and welcomes feedback or debate on his perhaps provocative theories. Read his 'Eureka Moment' at: [www.bungoblog.com](http://www.bungoblog.com).

## CYCLING UPDATE

Proposals to create a South City Way aim to improve conditions for both cyclists and pedestrians along Victoria Road and Pollokshaws Road, eventually stretching from Queens Park to the City Centre. More from: [sustainabletransport@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:sustainabletransport@glasgow.gov.uk)

## GARDENS OPEN DAY

Visit this cottage garden and a verdant courtyard that shares the same communal space behind March Street as part of Scotland's Gardens Open Day on Sunday, 3 July (2-5pm). Enter via Nithsdale Drive. £5 admission goes to charity and includes refreshments.



## ROAD CLOSURES

Part of Queens Drive and Langside Road near the Park gates is now closed and diversions will remain for the next year. Pedestrian traffic is unaffected. Scottish Water promise long-term benefits in water quality and flood control will make up for temporary inconvenience during their £10m Shieldhall tunnel project.

## FACEBOOK CHANGES

There are now two Strathbungo pages on Facebook. The Strathbungo Society page is just that: news and issues within the Society's patch. Strathbungo Community Group is entirely separate and acts as a forum for people in the wider district and surrounding areas. Each is good in its own way – why not 'like' both!

## SO LONG...LITTLE BOTANICA

This popular shop has outgrown its workshop space in Pollokshaws Road and decamped to a 'light-filled railway arch' in Tradeston. Locals will miss their fun and funky tea room and wish them well with their Little Flower Market at: [www.littlebotanica.com](http://www.littlebotanica.com).

## HELLO... MARCHTOWN

Little Botanica's sister venue takes over the space formally later in the year, but will stage pop-ups this summer (details at: <http://marchtown.co.uk>). Marchtown is the old name for the Strathbungo village, the place where parish boundaries (or marches) of Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire and Govan met. So this new meeting place will offer good food, fine wine, creative experiences and shopping. What more could you want?



# PHOTO COMPETITION: SUMMER IN STRATHBUNGO

Get out your camera and start snapping. People, wildlife, street-life, gardens: let's have your take on summer in Strathbungo. Entries will be judged professionally and prizes awarded at our AGM in October to 1st, 2nd & 3rd places and one for under-16s.

Pictures may be published in the Strathbungo News and used for other promotional purposes so make sure you have permission of any identifiable person. Full competition rules & entry form at: [www.bungoblog.com](http://www.bungoblog.com).



# SPRING FLING

*This year's Spring Fling took the Strathbungo Society's annual event in a new direction with the focus on cake, crafts and kids. Rosie Ilett reports.*

The first-ever Bungo Bake Off featured 16 amazing cakes on the theme of Spring and prizes from Gusto and Relish, Rock and Rollers, Locavore and the Society. Competition cakes were sold at the vintage tea-room, along with other scrumptious bakes donated by Society friends. 'Leftovers' were donated to Oxtown House Care Home in Marywood Square and Glasgow City Mission.

A dozen local craftspeople sold everything from upcycled clothing & furniture, framed paintings and knitted gloves to greeting cards and silver jewellery.

Over 200 people attended and helped raise a tidy sum to boost Society funds. Thanks to all who contributed and to Queens Park Baptist Church for use of the venue on 19 March.



Alexander Thomson (with Strathbungo Chair Kevin Kane) won the children's division.

A hands-on craft workshop for children was a big hit.



# PLANNING: SMALL VICTORIES AND A GREAT SAVE!

*Fiona MacKinnon has been keeping a watchful eye on developments in the Strathbungo Conservation Area.*

The planning saga of Sammy Dow's has reached a milestone. After multiple applications the tenant Kained Holdings has got permission to create a new kitchen at the rear. Huge efforts by residents have won some safeguards against noise and cooking odours with the rejection of a low-level kitchen vent and a requirement for a 'noise survey demonstrating the impact...on dwellings'. New windows must be opaque glass 'in perpetuity' and the window already created without permission overlooking the garden of 67 Nithsdale Road must be blocked up

## AND NOW FOR THE REALLY BIG NEWS

Back in 2005 fire disastrously struck the tiny mission hall in Nithsdale Drive. This was the hall for one of Alexander Thomson's great lost churches, Queen's Park United Presbyterian, itself consumed by fire during WWII. Designed in Thomson-esque style by Alexander Skirving (of Skirving Street, Shawlands), the hall has a pleasing scale with a grand frontage and more workaday brick side elevations. It's been shored up by scaffolding and the roofless structure listed as 'high' on the official Buildings at Risk register.

Owned by the Council as part of the Common Good, it was sold last year to Danny Farren, a developer based in the southside, to create three flats and a house within the structure. The plans proved a pleasant surprise, making the best of the space but also keeping the form of the frontage, restoring the cast iron railings and gates, and keeping the roofline to the original.

His plans are a model for other developers with rigorous detail on design and materials. A small thing - but showing the care



he took - the room plans even show which bedrooms will fit a double bed and those that can fit a king size.

It's also fantastic that the grand front entrance will be used for one of the flats. Many developers block off main doors, supposedly to maximise floorspace—a great loss to the integrity of the building that also robs the new homeowner of a very posh front door.

Transport Planning opposed development because there is no land for on-site parking. However, it was felt that saving a listed building was more important. Permission was granted and work has started.

Strathbungo has had its fair share of unwelcome developments so a good new life for some buildings is very welcome. It's wonderful that this landmark building will be home to new Strathbungo residents.



## 1-10 MORAY PLACE

Andrew Downie produced this parallel panoramic or mosaic photo of 1-10 Moray Place soon after restoration work was completed. Greek Thomson never saw it that way. Neither has anyone else – it's a composite of 50 shots taken at regular intervals and stitched together with Hugin software. He even got rid of the cars! Inspired?



A Strathbungo



Society Event

# BUNGO

## IN THE BACK LANES

SAT 18<sup>th</sup> JUNE

RESIDENTS' STALLS ★ BEER GARDENS  
LIVE MUSIC ★ HOME BAKING ★ RAFFLE  
★ TEA GARDENS ★ BBQ ★ CRAFTS ★  
★ CHILDRENS GARDEN ★



1-4 PM



For more information on  
volunteering and hosting a  
stall, contact  
[bitbl@strathbungo.co.uk](mailto:bitbl@strathbungo.co.uk)

ALL EVENTS TAKE  
PLACE IN THE BACK  
LANES BETWEEN  
NITHSDALE RD AND  
VENNARD GARDENS

## IF YOU KNEW SUSIE...

*Mr Singh Deo has been running the shop on the Nithsdale Road railway bridge since 1985, but most folk still call him Mr Susie or sometimes 'foe'. About time we got the name right!*



Mr Deo sells the full range of convenience store staples, plus newspapers and magazines, Morton's rolls and is a licensed off-sales.

It's uncertain how the name came about. Former resident Phil McCafferty recalls a café cum shop set up in the ticket office building after Strathbungo Station closed in 1962. Phil thinks it was owned by two brothers in Titwood Road and run by the Liddell family, whose daughter worked there. Was she the eponymous Susie?

Who knows, but Mr Deo, his wife and son run what has become a Strathbungo institution. Indeed, when the shopfront was extensively refurbished a few years back, it was rebranded Susie's – by popular demand.

## THEN ... AND NOW *657 Pollokshaws Road*

Local resident Karl Schweps risked life and limb back in the 1980s to get this shot of the painted gable end in Pollokshaws Road at Barbreck Street. It disappeared behind scaffolding the very next day and was never seen again. Okay, it may not have been pretty, but it did let you know when to get off the bus.



Do you have any pictures of old Strathbungo to share with us? Send them to Andrew Downie in care of [news@strathbungo.co.uk](mailto:news@strathbungo.co.uk)

### SAVE THE DATE

**6 JUN** Yoga for Beginners at Govanhill Baths (every Tuesday).

**12 JUN** Special Brighter Bungo clean-up ahead of...

**18 JUN** Bungo in the Back Lanes.

**21 JUN-31 JUL** Weekly drop-in workshops at Tramway, family-friendly.

**20 AUG** New Victoria Gardens Annual Flower Show & Open Day.

Details on [www.bungoblog.com](http://www.bungoblog.com)

### STRATHBUNGO NEWS

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Send letters and brief articles of general interest by 15 Aug 2016 to: [news@strathbungo.co.uk](mailto:news@strathbungo.co.uk) or 38 Queen Square, G41 2AZ.

**Advertising enquiries welcome.**