

BUNGO IN THE BACK LANES IS ... BACK

This year's 19th annual Bungo in the Back Lanes (called BitBL to those in the Bungo know) is back, bigger and better on Saturday 22 June (1-5pm).



The aim of Bungo in the Back Lanes is to celebrate our back lanes and see them as an asset, rather than a liability. Over the past 19 years, it has become about folks' using their back lanes and gardens to create a unique community event where friends and family can mingle and enjoy themselves – as well as indulge their creative or charitable instincts. This year will see the usual mix of children's stalls (great for holiday pocket money), hipster offerings, children's garden, plant stalls, re/upcycled products and arts & crafts – and an increasing selection of world foods.

This year also sees a new mix of locally-sourced bars (in the usual places) and a music programme funded by the Strathbungo Society. The Community Zone has local community groups who'll join the Society to let folks know what they do and to seek their support. The Society stall will be selling tombola tickets, plus new range of branded 'Bungo merchandise including our ever-popular 'heritage' (c. 2001!) tote and hardier shopper bags.

The Society is keen that all the lanes are en fête and – as usual – asks that folks donate 10% of their takings to the Society to help defer costs (hire of tables and chairs, portaloos, musicians etc.). This year, for environmental reasons, we've asked the Council not to strim or spray the lanes and instead we've organised a Brighter Bungo clean-up for Sunday 16 June (11am-1pm), so it would be great to see as many folk out as possible.

Jane Carolan, Chair of the Strathbungo Society says "Bungo in the Back Lanes has always been an occasion for everyone in the community, and all ages. It's an opportunity to meet the neighbours, visit stalls that have become regular fixtures or find new gems. That's the tradition that we want to build on." She also notes that the Society is keen to retain Bungo in the Back Lanes community focus and feel and for it not to become over-commercialised." As always, the Society is keen for volunteers to help with the event, so if you're interested please get in touch with us via any of the usual ways: website, email, social media.

SOUTHSIDE RECORD CLUB

On the last Monday of every month, a group of local music lovers meets at Some Great Reward in Victoria Road to share their love of songs.

Each month a theme is chosen and members bring along two or three songs each to play to the group. Often, there is an intriguing or amusing anecdote to accompany the choices such as how one member got to play with the Average White Band, where Liam Gallagher went immediately after the famous King Tut's gig where Oasis were discovered, what happened when another member visited Gil Scott Heron at his home in New York and the time Nick Cave fell on top of one member.

Songs can be brought in on vinyl, but any format is welcomed. New friendships have formed between members as they drink tea and eat delicious cakes while chatting or listening.

Themes so far have included Glasgow, introductions, political songs and cover version comparisons.

More details about the group can be found on their Southside Record Club facebook page.



BUNGO PEOPLE: MAY MILES THOMAS

May Miles Thomas was born in Glasgow, has lived in Strathbungo for eleven years and in her working life has established herself as a fearless and pioneering force in TV, video and film.

May began working with BBC Television, made music videos in the 1980s and 1990s (including a film about acclaimed Glasgow band The Blue Nile), and designed sets for Eastenders, Top of the Pops and the arts programme, The Late Show. It is in film, as an independent in every sense – funding, production and attitude – that May has achieved most success and awards.

She has produced a number of acclaimed films, such as Solid Air and The Devil's Plantation which explores the secret geometry and pathways of Glasgow. Most recently her film, Voyageuse, recounting the story of her mother-in-law Erica Thomas who was born in Hungary, won the Discovery Award last year at the British Independent Film Awards.

May is passionate in defence of her creative autonomy, often working on projects from her garden shed in the Bungo. She describes her form of film making as 'the crack in-between arthouse and artist's film and video.'

She says that her most recent work, 'experiments with the way stories are told on screen' and that ultimately, 'I am trying to change the ways film is made'.

In a world of corporate power and funding, May has unquestionably established her own credentials and found success on her own terms. She is filled with ideas for film projects for the future, touching on some of the biggest questions about humanity and the planet, and sees these as coming to fruition from her home in the Bungo.



STRATHBUNGO WINDOW WANDERLAND

Strathbungo Window Wanderland attracted visitors from near and far again this year

Many talented and creative residents showed off their artistic prowess to a very impressed throng containing smiling people of all ages. Many who attended took to social media to express just how delighted they were by the evening:

"I'm so glad I went down to see the Strathbungo Winter Wanderland (Southside) last night. So much to see and boy was it worth it. So so many talented residents. Thank you Strathbungo for the visual overload."
Mark Fletcher

"I really hope the residents do this again next year it was a fab evening. All the hard work really was appreciated. Thank you."

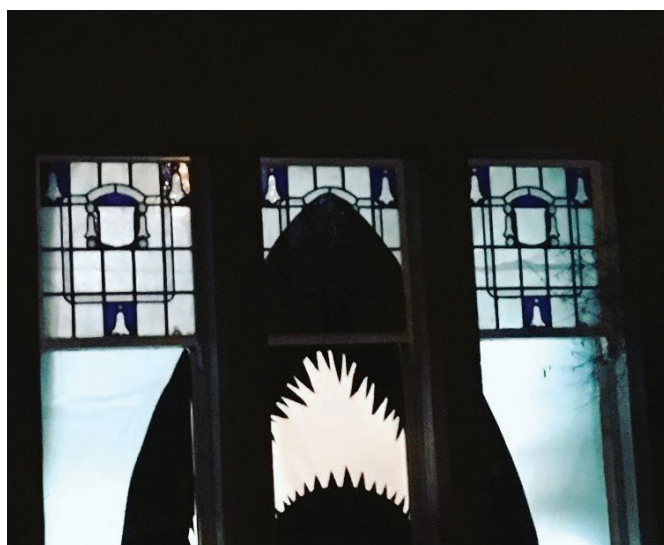
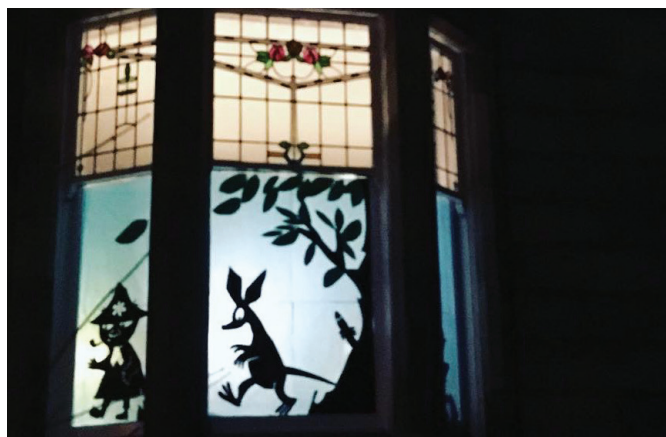
"At art school, I don't remember being taught how to create a twelve-foot window display of a giant whale, while telling two

kids to stop stabbing themselves with safety scissors, and trying to make avocado-on-toast at the same time."

Chris Macfarlane

'What an amazing event....so many people on the streets just enjoying all the hard work by each other. Loved it.'

Heather Alexander



A BRIGHTER BUNGO WITH YOUR HELP

Brighter Bungo is the Strathbungo Society's regular community clear-up which take place four times a year, always on a Sunday between 11 – 1pm. We do them in association with the City Council who uplift the resulting bags of litter at the two lane ends on Nithsdale Road and the lane at Vennard Gardens at Moray Place.

Brighter Bungo is all about encouraging residents – we own the lanes (they're private) – to take responsibility to help keep them clean and to enjoy the community spirit which makes living in Strathbungo special.

We aim to clean all the lanes in Strathbungo, but volunteers generally prioritise the lane they live on, so if your lane hasn't been cleared it means no one from your street volunteered. The Council supply gloves, litter pickers and black bags. However, there's often more than just litter.

Too often there is fly-tipped material – old furniture, mattresses, kitchen and bathroom units etc. – which, depending on how many folks we have, we often clear as well. However, increasingly we no longer do so as our insurance won't cover it.



Some lanes are worse than others - Nithsdale Road and Pollokshaws Road lanes especially with fly-tipping and dog fouling (no excuse) – but generally the lanes are much better than they were.

To keep it that way, the next Brighter Bungo (for Bungo in the Back Lanes) is on Sunday 16 June, 11am-1pm. Hope to see as many folks (including children) there as possible.

BUNGO CLEW

Strathbungo is full of bookworms and there are many book groups operating in the area

The Bungo Clew meets on the last Tuesday of every month. They read a wide range of books including new fiction, classics, short story collections, science fiction, biography and other non-fiction.

Book choices are agreed by the group based on members' suggestions and have included *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead, *What Belongs to You* by Garth Greenwell, *Clothes, Music, Boys* by Viv Albertine and *The Long Drop* by Denise Mina.

Different members take turns to host at their homes and hosts provide teas, coffees, soft drinks and light snacks. It has been running for two years.

"I am an avid reader and being a member of the group has enabled me to become friends with other local people who share my love of books." said founding member, Vivienne Wilson "I've also read books I have loved that I would not have come across without the recommendations from other members."

If you would like more information about joining the Bungo Clew, contact them via their facebook page.



NEWS IN BRIEF

A round up of all things Strathbungo: this quarter's bite-sized Bungo business!

STRIKING OUT IN POLLOKSHIELDS: TITWOOD BOWLING CLUB

One of Pollokshields' oldest institutions - Titwood Bowling Club - founded in 1890, provides sporting and social activities from its Arts and Crafts pavilion on Glencairn Avenue. Strathbungo residents have long been members, players, and Board members. Anyone interested in learning bowls is welcome to come and try out the greens, and the summer social season is up and running. Highlights include a Casino Night on July 13th, a Coffee, Craft and Cake afternoon on July 20th and TBC's Annual Coffee Morning on August 31st. For more information contact socialconvenortbc@outlook.com



MY HOME BAKERY

My Home Bakery has opened on Kildrostan Street in Pollokshields, making it very handy for Strathbungo residents. At the moment, they are offering their usual delicious savouries, breads, and of course the cakes. Soup and sandwiches will arrive at the start of July. Their delicious coffee will be available in the next couple of weeks.



GO TO SEE APERÇU

Is there such a thing as having too many houseplants? Probably not. They look great and improve the air quality in your home. Apercu has opened up on Pollokshaws Road, next to the Libby Walker shop selling a wide range of good quality house plants. When you buy a plant from Apercu, you'll get advice on how to look after it. The shop is open from Wednesday to Sunday and is the sister establishment to Pear in Duke Street. Whether you are looking for a present for a green-fingered friend, to create a wall of greenery or to buy a big indoor plant to hide the wine stain on your carpet, Apercu can cater for your needs. Call in and feel the tranquillity as you step into the plant-filled space.



KEEP UP TO DATE

You can now keep up to date with all things Strathbungo by follow The Strathbungo Society on Facebook and Instagram
Facebook
[@strathbungosociety](https://www.facebook.com/strathbungosociety)
Instagram
[@strathbungosocietyglasgow](https://www.instagram.com/strathbungosocietyglasgow)

STRATHBUNGO SPRING FLING

The Spring Fling is a highlight of the Strathbungo Society's event calendar, and this year was full of cakes, makers and bonhomie! The Bake Off competition delivered a number of delicious and beautiful cakes that made our judges Holly from Gnom and Jen from BAM's tastebuds tingle! Well done to Louisa Kominos in the adult section and Flora Stevenson in the children's section for baking our winning cakes. Special mention also to our runner's up Fiona Campbell and Evan Mackenzie.



NEW HOMES IN STRATHBUNGO EAST

Work has started on Southside Housing Association's (SHA) new, car-free housing development at the former Arnold Clark garage at Allison Street / Niddrie Road. The development of 49 affordable homes - with ground floor "wheelchair accessible" flats - will re-establish the tenement block. SHA Director, Patrick McGrath said "This new investment in Strathbungo East will provide much needed social housing for local people and is in addition to the £3M we've already spent on renovating 80 tenement flats locally.



STRATHBUNGO'S 'NEW' FOOTBRIDGE

Now a Glasgow landmark

The 'Strathbungo Station' footbridge reopened in April, after an extensive 6 month refurbishment.

The footbridge, which is Grade C listed and built in 1877 for the now-closed Strathbungo Station, was refurbished and repainted "in a style befitting the area's conservation status in an investment worth £650,000" says Network Rail.

The work was needed due to the age and condition of the structure and to protect the safety of those using the bridge and the trains operating below.

Work included blasting off old paint, inspecting and repairing the steel beneath before replacing the deck and repainting the bridge in its traditional and distinctive black and white. 3.5 tonnes of steel and 1,000 fixings was used to repair and strengthen the bridge deck's sub-structure and 600 litres of paint was applied to restore it to its former glory.

Susan Rennie, Network Rail project manager said, "Network Rail is committed to preserving its railway heritage and our first option is to protect and refurbish where possible.

"We liaised with the local community (i.e. Strathbungo Society) throughout the project and the feedback we have received on completion of the work has been overwhelmingly positive." Kevin Kane of the Strathbungo Society said "The Society is delighted with the outcome of this and the Moray Place fencing, both of which respect and enhance Strathbungo's unique character."

Indeed it seems the footbridge is now something of a landmark itself, with a recent wedding shoot and numerous visitor selfies. now onto the upgrade of the road bridge at Nithsdale Road.



LOCAL LISTINGS

22ND JUNE

Bungo in the Back Lanes

29 JUNE

Glad Cafe Stand Up

24TH JUNE

Southside Record Club

7 JULY

Park Lane Market

16 JULY

Strathbungo Society Meeting

STRATHBUNGO NEWS

Published quarterly by
The Strathbungo Society
Registered Charity No. SC038276

www.strathbungo.co.uk

Editors Gerry Hassan & Vivienne Wilson

Layout Katherine Cory

Distribution Imelda Devlin

Contributors Kevin Kane, James Spooner, Sarah Reid, Jane Carolan, Andrew Downie, Fiona MacKinnon

Send letters and brief articles of general interest to: news@strathbungo.co.uk or 41 Regent Park Square, G41 2AF