

OFF THE RAILS

Queens Park Station will be closed until the 17th of August because of subsidence, along with the other stations on the eastern side of the Cathcart circle (Pollokshields East, Crosshill, Mount Florida and Cathcart).

A half-hourly bus service will start at Pollokshields East and call at these stations and Kings Park. ScotRail season tickets will be valid on the Arriva, City Sprinter and First Glasgow buses.

Regular rail users may have noticed that since the end of May a 5mph speed restriction has been in place on the line. According to Raymond Johnstone of Network Rail in Scotland, "Ancient mine workings four metres below ground have partially collapsed, causing the ground near the track to subside. In order to fix the problem, Network Rail considered several options and all but one would have involved excavation of the site and long-term disruption to train services and local residents for many months. The solution involves drilling bore holes and filling the gap beneath the ground with grouting material. This will require a four week closure of the track in this area." The work is expected to cost around £2 million.

The subsidence was first identified in May, just south of Pollokshields East station. The discovery coincided with works being carried out by developers on an adjacent site. Pollokshields West station will remain open.



An Apple A Day...

How would you like your very own apple orchard - a shower of gorgeous blossom in spring followed by crisp, fresh fruit in autumn?

This might seem a distant dream in Strathbungo, but there is a new orchard just around the corner looking for volunteers to help with pruning, harvesting and maintaining these beautiful trees.

Glasgow Children's Orchard hopes to get children to plant their very own orchards all over southern Scotland. So far, they've concentrated their efforts in schools - planting 400 trees across 80 schools in Glasgow. Recently, however, they have branched out - planting 100 apple trees in Queens Park, on the slope above the boating pond and play area.

The organisation's aim is to encourage children (and their families) to be a friend of the trees by pruning and maintaining them, particularly during the spring and autumn. Young people love to plant trees - and if they plant them they look after them. Any windfall is great for birds and butterflies, as well as people, and the fruit in autumn is magical.

If you would like to know more or get involved in planting or maintaining fruit trees, contact John Hancox:

John@childrensorcharde.co.uk

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STRATHBUNGO NEWS



Summer 2008

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BACK LANES PILOT - THE END?



After more than 10 years of planning, fundraising, pilot studies and meetings with Land Services, it looks like the Back Lanes Pilot Project may be coming to an end.

Following an ambitious project to restore all the lanes in the 1990s, a smaller pilot project was set up in 2002 aiming to restore the back lane behind 19-25 Moray Place, between Queen Square and Marywood Square. This section was chosen because there was a high level of support from the residents involved. An initial estimate suggested this project would cost around £30,000.

The hope was to see the back lanes rebuilt to a standard which would allow them to be adopted by the Council, thereby transferring all future maintenance. No maintenance is carried out by the Council at present as the lanes are in private ownership — and, as the state of dilapidation testifies, nobody else maintains them either. The proposed works involved removal of the old cobbles and replacement with a more regular sized granite sett, similar to those used in the gutters along the Squares. New surface water drainage needed to be provided and

the street lighting upgraded.

A number of years ago, the Strathbungo Society received a grant of £20,000 towards this from Entrust, who distribute the Landfill Tax. However, unfortunately £20,000 is insufficient when compared to the costs necessary to implement the pilot scheme. It now looks unlikely that we will be able to move ahead with the project and Entrust have requested we either return the money or find an alternative use for it (for more on this see *The £20,000 Question* overleaf).

The committee has a possible alternative proposal for a much larger scheme, which would involve repairing all the lanes but to a different standard. However, we will not be able to use the money from Entrust for this as it breaches their funding criteria.

We need residents and members of the Society to have their say. Come along to the AGM on August 19th to vote on this issue and also what to do with the £20,000 grant we have still to spend.

Strathbungo Society AGM

**Tuesday
19th August 2008
at 7.30pm**

Church Of Scotland, 180 Queens Drive

Come along and have YOUR say on:

- Back Lanes Pilot - The end?
- How to spend £20,000
- Whatever else is on YOUR Agenda

Tea and coffee afterward. See you there!

The £20,000 Question

What would you do with £20,000? Entrust, the organisation which gave us a grant towards the Back Lanes Pilot, needs the Strathbungo Society to either return the money in the next six months or spend it on another project which meets Entrust's objectives: www.entrust.org.uk/home/lcf/objectives.

Suitable projects would need to be accessible to the public in or around the Strathbungo area. They could involve "the provision, maintenance or improvement of a public park or other general public amenity." However, the money cannot be spent on roads or private property. The Strathbungo Society has come up with two options. The first would see the funds spent on greening-up Strathbungo. In the recent Conservation Area Appraisal, the entrance to the Strathbungo Conservation Area at Pollokshaws Road and the Nithsdale Road/ Moray Place roundabout were singled out as areas in need of improvement.

With this, and the limitations of the funding criteria in mind, the Society proposes to improve the planter at Nithsdale Road/Moray Place and

install an additional green space at Nithsdale Rd/Pollokshaws Rd. We also hope to install a variety of trees, in planters, along the length of Nithsdale Rd.

A second option would be to repair the cast iron gates at the entrance to Queens Park on Pollokshaws Rd/ Balvicar Street. The recent restoration of the gates at the Victoria Rd entrance has been much admired and it's hoped that similar improvements could be achieved at the entrance on facing Strathbungo.

Don't agree? Got bigger and better ideas? Come along to the AGM and put forward your suggestion, or vote on one of the alternatives; returning the money or giving it to a different organisation in the area.



Before: Room for improvement?



After: Gates at Victoria Road entrance.

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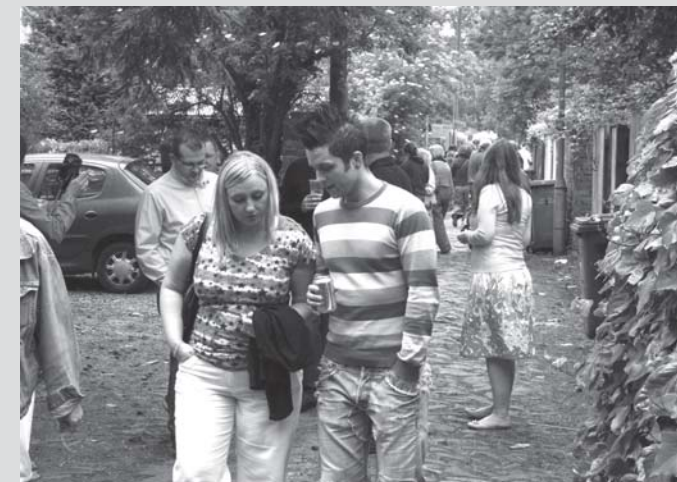
10 YEARS OF BUNGO IN THE BACK LANES

A rainy start couldn't put a dampener on the 10th year of Bungo In The Back Lanes. 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 Jazz Co and 1901 beer garden. Joanna Murphy, the event organiser, was delighted by the support for the Strathbungo Society, which saw its tombola and Bungo bags sell out before the afternoon was over. Special thanks for fundraising efforts beyond the call of duty go to Trisha and Teresa who organised this year's bumper tombola on behalf of the Society.

Continued support for Bungo In The Back Lanes and the new Southside Festival, which took place the following week, demonstrate that great community spirit can be found throughout Strathbungo and the Southside.

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.



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

These include:

- Kelly's
 - The Alison Arms
 - Busy Bees Craft Studio
 - Heraghty's
 - Shimla Pinks
 - Moyra Jane's
 - Ikafe
 - Pizza Hut
 - Hairgarden
 - Grianach
 - The Barber Biker
 - Cameron's
 - Floral Haven
 - Catherine Henderson Design
 - Catrina Craig
 - Lah Tea Doh
 - Zucchini
 - Environmental Protection Services
 - Land Services
 - Star Fish & Chips
 - Park Gallery
 - New Anand
 - Kam Wa
 - Bright News
 - Titwood Bar
 - Shop Smart
 - Susie's
 - City Beach Beauty
 - Maxine Paton
 - Bewitched Beauty
 - Dulux Decorator Service
 - Morrisons Supermarkets
- 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!