

STRATHBUNGO



December 2009

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join us for Hogmannay!

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PUT A SPRING IN YOUR STEP

After the success of our inaugural children's art competition last year - and you can see the great results in your Bungo calendar - we want to get all the area's budding artists working over the holidays on their entries for this year's competition.

The theme for 2010 is "Spring in Strathbungo". Submissions must be no larger than A3, although the images can be in any media and style. Last year we had photographic images, paintings, drawings and collages.

The closing date for entries is Monday February 15th 2010 and the winners will be announced at our Spring Fling event on 6th March 2010. The four age groups are 0-4, 5-8, 9-12 and 13-16. You can pick up an entry form at Park Gallery from late January. Last year's prizes included a family ticket to the Doctor Who exhibition at Kelvingrove, a tour of the Glasgow School of Art and a wide range of artists' materials and books, plus the artwork professionally framed and displayed. So get scribbling!



BUNGO AT THE BELLS

Why not wave goodbye to the Year of Homecoming and say hello to 2010 on your doorstep? Every year the Strathbungo Society organises a free street party, Bungo At The Bells, and everyone's invited.

Mince pies, shortbread, mulled wine and bonhomie is provided for one and all but apart from that the event is freewheeling and family focused. Whatever the weather, the street party is just around the corner from every resident and if it's freezing, well, we can huddle for warmth!

We'll be counting down to the bells once again outside 53 Queen Square/18 Moray Place from 11.45pm.

We're planning a fantastic gathering of the neighbours with two processions around the neighbourhood. So, grab a saucepan and a wooden spoon, or a kazoo and a lantern, and join the musical noise-making marchers

from 11:30pm either outside Grianach on Nithsdale Road or by the monkey puzzle tree at the end of Vennard Gardens.

As ever, it would be much appreciated if residents who live close to the event could avoid parking their cars there overnight. This not only creates more room for the revellers but also prevents any accidental damage to vehicles.

Music, mulled wine and the countdown will be provided by the Strathbungo Society and we always appreciate extra volunteers to help out, in whatever way they can. Last year we even had a mystery piper to see in the New Year!

Your **FREE** Bungo Calendar

You might have noticed that this issue is a little bulkier than normal. That's because we've been working hard over the last few months to produce a calendar to be given to every household in Strathbungo.



We used prize-winning images from our first children's art competition to illustrate each month and we really hope residents will find it useful. We've tried to include lots of good local information, including handy telephone numbers and dates for your diary.

Lost your leaflet on recycling collections? All the dates are included on the calendar. Not sure if it's the Farmers' Market this week? We've kept a note for you. Made a resolution to attend a

Strathbungo Society meeting? They're all listed. Plus there's lots of other general information on local councillors' surgeries, bulk uplift days and key Bungo events through the coming year. While we've made every effort to make sure the information provided is correct, naturally things may change over the course of the year but do let us know if you find any avoidable errors! We really hope you like what we've done but would appreciate

any feedback so we can improve on it next year. In particular we'd like to know if you found it useful, what could be improved, and if you'd be prepared to pay for something similar in the future. If it's popular, we'd like to try to print one every year. Get in touch with us at www.strathbungo.co.uk or via the useful numbers printed in your calendar and let us know what you think.

Mission Impossible?



This autumn the eyes of the Strathbungo Society have been turned to a potential project on our doorstep. The Nithsdale Mission Hall on Nithsdale Drive has been derelict since it was attacked by arsonists in 2005.

Prior to this, the Alexander Skirving-designed hall had been used primarily as a place of worship but fell into disuse. Most residents will be aware of the lack of public community spaces available in Strathbungo and it seems a shame to have such a fine building on the edges of the conservation area out of use and critically at risk. Members of the committee have been doing some

research and discovered that the property is now held for the common good and that the City Council is very interested in seeing it regenerated and returned to public use. We'd like to do just that but it's a huge undertaking. Cost estimates by the Council to make the building safe and watertight are around £500,000 (figures quoted in 2008) but we anticipate that to make the building a real community hub we may need to raise twice this figure. To get this project off the ground, the Society really needs to form a committee of volunteers who have the skills

and enthusiasm to see the project through. In particular, we'd like to get on board people who have experience of large grant applications and fundraising as well as structural engineers and architects who may have great ideas for the space. We believe that where there's a will there's a way and there is certainly funding available for this type of project but we need the community's help to make it happen. We'd also love to hear from residents who have ideas for new uses for the hall. Please contact us via the website, the editor by post, or come along to a Strathbungo Society meeting.

STRATHBUNGO

NeWS

Published by

The Strathbungo Society;
[Charity Number SC038276]

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BINS IN THE BUNGO



As most residents will be aware, our regular refuse collection has been patchy since early November. The cause of this is an unofficial work-to-rule by refuse collection workers. Strathbungo is one of the worst-affected areas.

Councillor David Meikle told us that, "Where possible, additional resources are being deployed to contain this disruption. It has become clear during the last few weeks that those involved in this unofficial work-to-rule have deliberately not been reporting missed collections in an effort to generate as many complaints as possible. It is clear that this action is a direct response to the planned introduction of the new four-on-four-off working pattern in February 2010 - and I support this new working pattern as it will mean a seven-day cleansing service."

As a consequence of this misinformation, councillors were told the back log was only 4 or 8 hours when many of you had not had your bin emptied for three or five weeks. Land & Environmental Services will now provide a weekly update of the situation, or sooner should there be any significant developments. This information will be validated by staff from other parts of the Service who will monitor completed collection runs.

Land & Environmental Services are using all available information in order to direct services to the worst-affected areas. If you have any urgent or particular concerns you should report these to the Customer Care Centre on 0141 287 9700 or contact any of our city councillors directly.

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