

STRATHBUNGO NEWS

The Strathbungo Society

A quarterly newsletter

Spring/Summer 2022

BUNGO IN THE BACK LANES RETURNS



Any new residents begin here...or as it's been so long, you may just need a reminder...

Bungo in the Back Lanes is back!!! It will finally be returning to Strathbungo after a 2-year hiatus. This year's event will be on Saturday 18th June 1-5pm.

BitBL began in 2000, intending to bring the Strathbungo lanes to life. We don't have community facilities within our boundaries but there are almost two acres of back lanes there for us to play with or play on. This means two acres of performance area, music venues, a playground, an exhibition space and a dance floor!

Bungo in the Back Lanes encourages everyone to open up their back gates, set out their stall and sell their wares – whether it's home baking, barbecued burgers, craft goods, or junk from their attics (which becomes someone else's treasure!). Just set up your table and get going. Or, if you don't set up your own stall, take a wander around the lanes yourself, and enjoy the variety that will be on offer.

The Strathbungo Society is responsible for the organisation of the event and arranges for a bar to be run (on Marywood/Queen lane) plus courtesy of Southside Sessions, also runs a live music venue, giving a wide variety of local performers a platform for entertainment. This has in the past been supplemented by local residents who have hosted their own live events.

The Society also organises a Tombola where you can try your luck and win a host of prizes, a community zone with local voluntary organisations, and its own stall, with Society merchandising.

For visitors new to the event, BitBL is a major community event which welcomes people from outwith Strathbungo. If you have not visited before, the Strathbungo back lanes are mainly cobbled, with generally uneven surfaces and contain many potholes. While people walk along them the whole time, there are many potential hazards in terms of tripping and stumbling, so you need to have suitable footwear and look where you put your feet.

Stallholders are responsible for ensuring that any products they sell meet legal and Health and Safety requirements.

Bungo in the Back Lanes is primarily about having fun and getting to know your neighbours and your neighbourhood.

Come rain or hopefully shine, take part in person for the first time since 2019, and most of all have fun!

Network Rail



Strathbungo residents will by now have noticed that work has begun at the road bridge at the end of Moray Place, with the preliminary re-routing of essential services before the demolition of the old Strathbungo station (latterly Susie's Store) and re-structuring of the bridge itself.

Prior to work commencing, communications with Network Rail improved and there were comprehensive discussions, particularly with the Moray Place residents. Work however will continue for the best part of a year, and in terms of noise, possibly the worst is yet to come, while we will all have to get used to re-routed traffic.

There has been a commitment on the part of the Council to begin discussions on traffic management once the work on the road bridge has been completed, to bring it into the active travel network in the area, meaning greater priority for cyclists and pedestrians. We look forward to taking part in that debate.

Strathbungo Lanes Regeneration



We are pleased to say that on the 9th May, Glasgow City Council announced that the Society has been successful in its bid to the Council's Private Lanes Improvement fund to make improvements in the lanes in our area. The focus of the bid was to make repairs making the lanes less prone to flooding and potholes, and thus more accessible for walking and cycling.

It is also to be hoped that the initiative will continue and that we can make further bids in future.

Queens Park Playpark

There is a campaign to improve Queen's Park north play area. It's in a terrible state and not fit for purpose. The park serves as an important asset to children living in flats with limited garden space. There's currently poor separation of play equipment by age group and no inclusive play equipment.

A local resident has organised a petition calling on the council to ensure the Scottish Government's "parks and open spaces funding" is allocated to improving the play area in their capital investment programme 2022-23.

You can find out more and view photos of the play equipment here: <http://improveourpark.co.uk/>. You can view (and sign!) the petition here: <https://chng.it/YQP6kz7PC5>. Your support would be greatly appreciated!



New Victoria Gardens is 150 years old

New Victoria Gardens is familiar to many of us for its ever-popular August Show, its great plant stall at Bungo in the Back Lanes, and its other public events. This year it celebrates its 150th anniversary on its current site, hidden among the tenements of East Pollokshields. It had moved from Cathcart Road, "adjoining the Govan Iron Works Pond," where Victoria Gardens had been created in 1864, and its first summer show was held on its new site in Pollokshields on 24 August 1872.

The North British Daily Mail reported, "A flower show and promenade took place on Saturday afternoon in the new Victoria Gardens. ... The new gardens are pleasantly situated in Lilybank Road, near Pollokshields, upon four and a half acres, obtained upon a permanent lease of ten years from Sir Wm. Stirling-Maxwell. The gardens are already in beautiful order - abounding with flowers and vegetables, well grown, and indicating skill and care on the part of the amateurs." It has been on this site ever since.

To celebrate Glasgow's oldest allotment (and one of Scotland's), a beautiful book will be published recording its place in the history of allotment culture. From the competitive hobbyists of the Victorians and the fashionable back-to-the-soil Edwardians; as a sanctuary for

the unemployed in the Great Depression and an essential contribution to the war effort in two World Wars; to the current recognition of the role of allotments in food security, sustainability, education and wellbeing. The book will feature writing, photographs and drawings by plotheolders from the 1920s to the 2020s.

A commemorative slate plaque has been commissioned from one of Scotland's leading letter-cutters to publicly and permanently mark New Victoria Garden's contribution to Pollokshields' heritage.

The book and plaque will be launched at this year's summer show on 20 August. Be there!



NVG
150

'Mr and Mrs James McNaughtoan on their plot at New Victoria Gardens, 1920s'

Pollok Ex Serviceman's Club Demolished

Unfortunately, the Pollok Ex-Servicemen's Club Located directly opposite Crossmyloof station on Titwood Road is no more with the imminent expansion of the car dealership.

The Club was normally the reserve of, surprise surprise, ex-servicemen. But it was quite the secret wee venue. When the regular punters weren't going about the essential business of domino tournaments, scrabble championships, darts and snooker the unassuming hut occasionally played host to a variety of gigs, parties, and club nights. The cheery interior was more likely to remind you of times at your granny's caravan than a typical Glasgow gig venue, but it offered a warm and friendly space to party and is a sad loss to the community.



Update on the Arnold Clark development

Representatives from AS Homes and Southside Housing Association (SHA) attended the last Strathbungo Society committee meeting and elaborate on their plans for the site at Pollokshaws Road and Nithsdale Drive.



In response to concerns raised around "sunlight analysis", the height at the corner has been dropped from eight storeys to seven. At the Strathbungo end, it will then drop to 5 storeys to match the roofline of the next building. On Nithsdale Drive, it will drop to 4 storeys near the Mission Hall. it remains to be seen if this will allay fears of residents about shadows cast by the building.

There will be no on-site car parking, but the expectation is to use existing parking (some electrified) and secure cycle storage. All services in the gas-free red brick building are contained within the footprint of the building with solar panels on the roof.

More bike hangers

Another bike hanger has appeared recently this week in Strathbungo, at the Pollokshaws Road end of Queen Square. It was originally planned for the other end of the street, but the Society passed on concerns regarding the width of the hanger on the narrow roadway, and so it has been installed at 2 Queen Square, which is wider. There is clearly a need for these; this one is already fully booked, as is every other one in the neighbourhood. you want to add your name to the waiting list or request another one somewhere, you can do so on the cyclehoop website. A space costs £72 per year.



Strathbungo to Shawlands Primary School Bike Bus



A bike bus is a group of people cycling, scooting or wheeling together along a set route. Since 29th October a new bike bus has been taking primary school children from Strathbungo to Shawlands Primary School. It departs from the junction of Thorncliffe Gardens with Titwood Road at 08:30 every Friday. From Friday 3rd December there will be a new first stop at 08:25 at the Nithsdale Road phone box.

This has been loads of fun and hugely successful with about 7 families taking part each week and both children and their parents loving it. By travelling as a bunch parents can work together to keep the children safe while the children have fun with their friends and encourage each other. There is plenty of space for more parents and children from across Strathbungo to join in and we'd love to welcome you aboard the bike bus! This initiative was inspired by a joyful video of a similar bus in Barcelona, which should give you a good idea of how much fun this is. If you would like to join the coordinating WhatsApp group please mail strathbungoecogroup@gmail.com. You can also follow the bus on Twitter.

NEWS IN BRIEF

NEW BUSINESSES - TOO MANY TO CHOOSE FROM? SO WE DIDN'T ...

A wander up Pollokshaws Road these days gives you two cafés where seats are already at a premium in Bramble and Hugs & Mugs - pop down Park Lane and there's some interesting boozy finds at the Bevy Shop - if you still have any room then grab some Mediterranean dining at Lobo and a dessert at AFTRS. Welcome to the area!

bramble

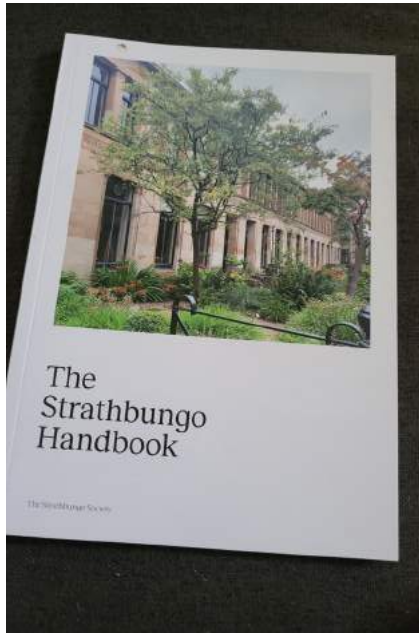
LOBO 


Hugs & Mugs

**THE
BEVY
STORE**

LAST YEAR'S AGM AND STRATHBUNGO HANDBOOK

At the end of last year, we held our Annual General Meeting on the 50th Anniversary of the Society - lots of fresh blood with new members. We still have some copies of the Strathbungo Handbook which will be for sale at BitBL, and can also be purchased from local businesses (BAM, and Stephen O'Neill). **For anyone who'd like to win one, email news@strathbungo.co.uk and tell us who purchased 1 Moray Place in 1859?**



BRIGHTER BUNGO



Please do your bit to ensure the lanes are good nick for Bungo in the Back Lanes by coming along for a half-hour on **Sunday 12 June between 11 - 1**. Litter pickers, bin bags and high viz vests will be available outside Zinfandel on Nithsdale Road. Hope to see you there, but if you can't make it could you have a look at your own stretch and spruce it up for the occasion?

It is no longer acceptable to have the Council spraying chemicals to kill the vegetation along the lanes, but we do need enough clear space for our stalls and our visitors. If you are willing to help with a more natural approach to a little vegetation control, we would love to hear from you. Contact Imelda Devlin on 07598 941168 email: imelda.devlin@hotmail.co.uk.

JOIN THE TEAM!

STRATHBUNGO SOCIETY - POSITION OF SECRETARY

Duties are light - just remind members of monthly meetings, then take minutes & distribute them. The pay is lighter still (zilch), though the rewards are great in terms of contributing to the community and knowing firsthand what's happening.

Please help—we need you!

Contact: committee@strathbungo.co.uk

CALLING ALL WRITERS & EDITORS

Would you like to edit this newsletter? Or is there something you'd like to see in the newsletter that we're not publishing? We're keen to get new writers and a new editor on board. Whether you want to shine a light on a new local business or members of the community, we would welcome your input. We always looking for new content to include, so we can represent all the voices within the community.

Contact: chair@strathbungo.co.uk, to pitch your ideas.

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