

**The Strathbungo Society**

**Registered Charity Number: SCO38276**

**Trustees' Annual Report: Year ended 30 April 2024**

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## Trustees' Annual Report, Year ended 30 April 2024

### Statutory Information

The Strathbungo Society

Registered Charity Number: SCO38276

Principal Address: 17 Regent Park Square, Strathbungo, Glasgow G41 2AF

Charity Trustees: Chair - Paola Rezzilli; Vice Chair - Duncan Gammie; Treasurer - Steven Good; Secretary – Rhiannon Spear

The Strathbungo Society (“the Society”) is governed by a constitution, agreed at the AGM held on 27 October 2015 and available for examination on the Society’s website: [www.bungoblog.com](http://www.bungoblog.com).

At each AGM, the members of the Society elect four Trustees (Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary) plus a Management Committee of up to a maximum of fifteen members. The Trustees hold office until the next AGM, when they are eligible for re-election.

The Society’s objectives as set out in the Constitution are:

- **To advance citizenship and develop the community** by encouraging all members of the community, including families, children, ethnic minorities, people with disabilities and the elderly to interact with the aim of improving the community both by bringing the community together and by promoting the provision, maintenance or improvement of public amenities within or in the vicinity of the Strathbungo area; and
- **To promote the conservation of local architectural and environmental heritage**, including the maintenance or improvement of the built and natural environment.

### Operating Review

#### Chair’s Report 2022-23

This Annual Report considers the activities of the Society from April 2023 to April 2024

As always, the Society has had a busy year with its calendar of events, and thankfully a quieter year in terms of activism.

We were thrilled this year with our inclusion in Time Out’s 38 coolest neighbourhoods in the world. We were then featured in the Glasgow newspapers, on Radio Scotland and in The Sunday Times which raises the profile of our already popular area. Strathbungo was the only Scottish neighbourhood in the list, and only one of the three in the whole of the UK with the other two being Leyton in London and St Paul’s in Bristol. We are so proud and lucky to be able to share our society’s name with this area.

Our events are as always our most favourite times of the year. Bungo at the Bells saw in 2024 with lively singing and dancing. Windows Wanderland, the vibrant showcase of our community’s artistic spirit, inviting family and friends to stroll through the streets and admire imaginative window displays. This event offers a unique platform for residents of all ages and backgrounds—whether seasoned artists or first-time creators—to express themselves

and share their creativity with neighbours and visitors alike. Window Wanderland fosters a sense of connection and joy, making it a truly enchanting experience for everyone involved. We thank Glasgow City Council and Southside Housing Association for the grant funding and last year's new organising committee of Duncan and Kem Gammie, Imelda Devlin and Emma Pais, who are busy organising 2025's Windows Wanderland. Keep an eye out for the date and workshop.

Bungo in the Back Lanes was another lovely day this year and we thank the community and visitors who strolled the lanes and enjoyed the ambience. It's still our most popular and well-loved event of the Strathbungo year.

As usual the event took several months of society planning and hours to set up on the day. Thanks to the Glasgow City Council for their grant and as always to the volunteers who help us out so that we're able to stage the event. Also special thanks to the local stallholders, the Makers Market, the bars, musicians, food stalls and the community.

Brighter Bungo Clean Up continued this year and we thank Imelda Devlin for organizing them and the volunteers from the community to keep Strathbungo a wee bit tidier.

However, despite our clean-ups and the many individuals who pick up litter in between times, we have had numerous complaints from community members of fly-tipping in the back lanes. It is something we continue to try to work on with local councillors, but as you can appreciate with reducing council resources, it's not an easy fix.

Strathbungo found out earlier this year about a city-wide ban on pavement parking when Vennard Gardens vehicles were issued with warning notices. We have since been told that these were issued without consultation and weren't yet enforceable. The council are still completing the plan on where they will and will not enforce the ban, and the Strathbungo area is still being assessed due to the nature of the narrow roads. We will of course be keeping note of what is happening at our regular monthly meetings.

After last year's Private Lanes Fund was spent, with successful repair work on the a couple of lanes, the Society are again consulting with the council on whether we can apply for another grant to repair further lanes which succumb to flooding, even in the most normal of rainy days. There have been many conversations between Andrew Downie and Stephen Lamb and the council and we hope to have some good news on funding soon.

The publication of the Strathbungo News continued throughout the year to our resident's letterboxes. Our social media Facebook, Instagram and the Bungo Blog have been busy letting everyone sknow what's been happening and in the case of Bygone Bungo on Twitter or X, what happened in the past.

Finally, as a Society we play our part in the Local Area Partnership, represented by Kevin Kane and will continue to do so. Thanks to all the local councillors and other elected members who have assisted us over the past year with the hope that we can continue to work together in the future.

Paola Rezzilli  
Chair

## Financial Review

The Society operates an unrestricted current account, through which it runs its ongoing activities. Trustees receive no remuneration for any of the work that they do.

As shown in the following receipts and payments account, the Society had a deficit of £19,474 for the financial year ending 30 April 2024. This deficit is almost entirely attributable to spending on the Back Lanes project, and offsets the previous year's surplus, which was largely generated by that year's receipt of the Glasgow City Council Private Lane Improvement Fund grant of £20,000 towards these works. Stripping out the impact of this activity, the Society's unrestricted funds increased by £1,187 over the financial year.

The Back Lanes Project saw the completion of improvement works on two sections of lane in time for Bungo in the Back Lanes in June 2023. Work on these sections, at the lane entrance from Vennard Gardens towards Moray Place, and in the mid-section of the Queens Square-Marywood Square lane, has addressed significant issues with drainage and surfacing, providing much-improved accessibility for residents, particularly pedestrians and cyclists. The Society is keen to explore the opportunity to extend the project to improve additional sections of lane, and continues to explore costs and potential funding with both our contractor and Glasgow City Council.

Bungo in the Back Lanes was held again in June 2023, making for another great day for the community, and providing valuable income for the Society. Window Wanderland also ran again in February 2024. Both of these events benefitted from Glasgow City Council Area Partnership funding, for whose support we remain grateful. It should be noted that the grant for Bungo in the Back Lanes 2023 was received just prior to the start of this accounting period, which is why it does not appear in these accounts.

Voluntary donations via the "Friends of Strathbungo" scheme continue to be an important source of income for the Society. This scheme helps to provide self-generated funds that enable the Society to fund its activities and the publication of The Strathbungo News. Donations from Friends for this year were £794, a small increase on the previous year. Almost all our Friends have been so for many years and only stop paying when they leave the area or pass away. The Trustees continue to wish to see voluntary giving to the Society extended, and we encourage people to join the Friends scheme. Details of how to do so are available on our website at <https://bungoblog.com/strathbungo-society/friends-of-strathbungo/>. As well as standing orders and bank transfers, the Society is pleased to now also offer the opportunity to donate via PayPal through the same link on our website.

As at 30 April 2024, the Society had unrestricted funds in hand of £6,780. Steven Good, Treasurer