

BLANE VALLEY BULLETIN

The Strathblane Community Council News Sheet

June 2014 No. 23

Fun & Celebration in Strathblane & Stirling

Commonwealth Games comes to the Blane Valley

Strathblane Primary School Games Opening

On Monday the Primary School produced a magnificent Commonwealth Games Opening to their Sports Week with wonderful singing and dancing by the pupils. The school choir lead by Mandy Malcomson sang beautifully, and there was a slot for some talented Balfron High musicians. (See Strathblanefield Facebook page for rave reviews.) In attendance were our three local Commonwealth Games Baton Holders who will be in action when...

The Commonwealth Games Baton Relay...

reaches Drymen on Sunday July 6th where, at 11.30am. Christine Beaume will hand over the baton to Traci Leven at the Welcome to Drymen sign at the north end of the village and Bob Sharp hands over the Baton at 11.35am at The Winnock. Both Christine and Traci were nominated by Active Stirling for their help with school sports activities. We look forward to a good turn out to support our baton carriers..

Strathblane Church Commonwealth Games Viewing

You can watch the live broadcast in the Kirk Rooms from the Opening Ceremony on July 23rd right through to the Closing Ceremony on August 3rd. Entry is FREE with Tea, coffee, baking and tuckshop available for sale. See the flyer which will have been delivered to your door for full details of times and events.

Before and after the Games, also in the Kirk Rooms, there will be a **Community Cafe** every Tuesday and Thursday from July 7th to July 17th — Toddler Group: 10-12noon and 2—4pm with everyone welcome — and then from August 5th to 28th—all welcome.

In addition on twenty days between July 16th and August 23rd there will be a **Street Football Cage** in the Church Carpark. Bring a team and see how good you are. Adults welcome in the evenings.

Look Out for the flyer coming through your door from **Strathblane Parish Church** giving full details and times for all these and all theses summer.

This Issue of the Blane Valley Bulletin is sponsored by
Strathblane Out of School Care

SOSC is open all Summer Holidays for your child care needs, all children welcome to come along and join the fun!

Contact: 01360 770771

This Month's Main Items

Summer Fun & Celebrations	1
Community Council Reports	2
Rats	2
WWI Project Photocall	3

Road Closures—Change of Plan

The resurfacing work scheduled for the A81 will now cover the stretch from Wood Place north towards Killearn in the week beginning August 11th. The section between the Edmonstone Hall and Wood Place is being held back to allow proper consideration of the parking layout beside the shops. Early August remains a good time to take your holidays. For detailed information nearer the time: <http://my.stirling.gov.uk/roadworks>

Look out for a road closure next week on the A81 at Virgin Active on which we have

Stirling's Big Week-End

The last weekend in June is no time to visit Stirling unless you are going to one of the three major celebrations taking place over three days:

June 27th — **Pipefest Stirling**

June 28th — **Armed Forces Day National Event**

June 28th/29th — **Bannockburn Live** - on the 700th anniversary of the battle.

For full details of each of these big events :

<http://www.pipefest.com/stirling/>

<http://www.bannockburnlive.com>

<http://www.stirlingarmedforcesday.co.uk>

Summer in Mugdock Country Park

As usual there is a huge amount going on in this great facility on our doorsteps. Summer events include a Cinema; live music; a series of Open days at Mugdock Castle; Mugdock Superdog 2014; and a wide range of activities for children - including a series of dance workshops.

For full details go to the website at

<http://www.mugdock-country-park.org.uk>

Why not join the growing number of local businesses and individuals who SPONSOR issues of the Bulletin?

Businesses can contact every household in the village with an advertising insert, but we are happy to preserve the anonymity of public spirited individuals. Contact cc@strathblainfield.org.uk for more details.

The Community Council in June

Our June meeting began with the AGM which reviewed a generally successful year and a health financial position. Office and portfolios holders remain unchanged with the exception of Julie Hutchison taking over the Roads Portfolio from Willie Oswald.

In what follows we focus on the major issues discussed at the June 2nd meeting of the SCC. Some are dealt with in more detail elsewhere in this issue, and the full minute of a meeting will be available as usual on the website and the village noticeboards.

Update from CDT and Community Action Plan — the CC's close working with the Strathblanefield CDT was highlighted by a report from SCDT Chair Robert Davy following the CDT's AGM, and in a discussion of priorities for 2014/15 in our joint Community Action Plan. Here it was agreed that further joint work would be needed to update and refresh the Plan.

Cala Development Update — On the Campsie Road housing development there was further success to report with SC Roads now requiring a pavements both along the verge on the north side to Dunglass View and on the south side as far as Station Lofts. There will be crossing points, with road narrowing, at both ends of the development. The 30mph limit will be moved beyond Dunglass View - and the 40mph further out—with rumble strips outside the village entrance to increase traffic calming.

Planning Application — the CC revisited an outline planning application for a house on garden ground at Auchenburg House on the Stockiemuir Road. In May we had raised no objection except to the poor quality of the maps provided. Now we had much fuller information from three neighbours who attended the meeting and decided to revise our opinion on several grounds including access issues. The proposed modern house would be out of character and damaging in a number of ways to a historic grouping of buildings.

Lack of Elected Member and Police Presence — Whilst the SCC congratulated PC David McNally on his promotion to Sargeant, his loss was brought home by the lack of either a Police presence or a police report - with no apology. We also lacked an elected member report — Cllr Berrill sent apologies. Chair Margaret Vass will write to express our concern. The boosting of the concept of 'community empowerment' with a Bill coming to the Scottish Parliament this year is sometimes not matched by the behaviour of some of our 'planning partners' locally.

Community Empowerment — Once again Strathblane CC featured in Stirling Council's efforts to further community empowerment when Chair Margaret Vass addressed a 'Community Conversation' in Stirling on the way we operate here. The half day session on Saturday June 14th which was attended by members from over 20 Community Councils (including three from Strathblane) along with Local Councillors and Chief Executive Designate Stewart Carruth proved a useful exchange of views and experience.

Copy date for the August BVB is Monday 18th.

Please send Calendar items for late August and September

August Community Council Meeting

After our July break the SCC meets on Monday August 2nd at 7.30pm in the Kirk Rooms. Come along and give us your views.

Funding for Groups: The CC is often made aware of funding opportunities. If village Groups could email us their contact details we can redirect these notices as appropriate.

RATS — Important Advice from the Animal Control Officer

Last month we reported a problem of rats in the village and were rightly taken to task for the unsubstantiated suggestion that this was caused by 'nearby residents throwing out food for the birds'. Residents in Kirkland Ave., Craigenlay Ave., Craigfern Dr., and Southburn Rd have since been sent notification of the problem by SC Environmental Health together with this important advice :

- When feeding birds do not place feed on the ground or on other accessible surfaces.
- Only use small vermin proof feeders.
- Remove all spilt food stuffs immediately.
- Ensure all waste food is appropriately bagged and properly secured for collection

The Animal Control Officer's efforts to clear up the problem are unlikely to succeed unless ALL residents act on this advice.

Campsie Road Housing Update: Cala Homes now have planning permission and are expected to go ahead with building in the autumn. Work should start on the 14 affordable RSHA affordable houses scheduled for Spring 2015. The site plan is still on display in the Library where there are also RSHA leaflets. Anyone potentially interested should register their interest with RSHA and Stirling Council..

Beware of Break-ins - This month's belated Police Report highlights a spate of break-ins in the neighbourhood. In may houses in Kirkhouse Ave and Cuilt Rd were affected. We are advised that when away lock garages and make your home look occupied - leave radio on and a car in the drive.

Emergency Phone Numbers

Police — 101 Fire — 99
Ambulance — 999 NHS 24 — 202

MAKING CONTACT with the SCC Email us at cc@strathblanefield.org.uk

Get in touch with your Community Councillors

Blanefield Ward

Margaret Vass 770131

Avril Keen 07799261297

Willie Oswald 770497

Julie Hutchison 770791

Strathblane Ward

Alan Hutton 770537

Marian Lever 770536

Elsbeth Posnett 770113

Sue Rand 770630

Mugdock Ward

Richard Arnold 770006

Philip Graves 0141 9561954

and

TWO VACANCIES

STIRLING COUNCIL

Councillors' Surgeries

are usually at 7pm on SCC meeting nights in the Primary School

Report faults at info@stirling.gov.uk or ring 0845 2777000

Join My Stirling at www.stirling.gov.uk for

INFORMATION SOURCES: Strathblanefield website at www.strathblanefield.org.uk

Library; Noticeboards; Shops; Local weekly press; and the **Facebook** Strathblanefield Group

Current & past issues of the Bulletin can be downloaded from the village website.

STRATHBLANEFIELD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

A well-attended **AGM** on May 28th in the Village Club heard presentations from Strathblane Out of School Care on how a social enterprise works and from the Craigend Castle Working Group. Alan Dickson and Graeme Sim were elected as Directors, and Chair Robert Davy was able to report a significant increase in membership.

Kirkhouse Inn — We now have well over 200 completed forms supporting a community 'expression of interest' in the site and we are seeking advice from the Development Trust Association as to the best way to ensure that the community views are taken into account on any proposal for the site. If you would like to support the initiative please 'post' a form in the Library or simply email your name and address to cdt@strathblanefield.org.uk.

Path Development Group — Plans for the complete **Railway Path Upgrade** are displayed in the Library we are keen to get any further comments and suggestions before we move on to the stage of applying for funding

With the help of *Paths for All* we are starting to plan for a **Path Action Day** on October 25th/26th to clear and upgrade the so-called 'Scary Path' between the end of Kirkhouse Road and the Village Club and Tennis and Bowling Clubs. We will be looking for volunteers to get involved in due course.

Walks Information Boards — We now have three agreed sites for the village walks information boards which should be in place later in the summer.

World War 1 Project Photocall

Are you related to one of the 27 World War 1 casualties named on Strathblane War Memorial? If so, the World War 1 Project would like to invite you to attend a special photocall at the memorial at **11am on Saturday June 28**. Nine acceptances have been received so far, including one lady from the US and Sir Archibald Edmonstone. If you are in contact with descendants who have moved away from the area, please let them know about this event and invite them to get in touch (anne@annebalfour.com or 01360 770750).

The picture is for the planned publication, "A Village Remembers" (sold in aid of Erskine), as well as a major article about the Strathblane World War 1 Project being planned by The Herald.

An introductory essay and all 27 stories have been completed and suitable illustrations are being gathered with a view to publication later this year to coincide with the centenary of the outbreak of hostilities in 1914.

The men named on the memorial are:

John Y Barr Lt A&S H; **Robert Blair** Pte HLI ; **Jas C Cartwright** Pte ASC; **Wm J Cartwright** Gnr RFA; **Wm Devlyn** Pte HLI; **George Don** Pte HLI ; **Wm G Edmonstone** Lt Coldstream Guards; **William Ker** Lt RN Divn; **Alexander Lowe** Spr RE; **Alex Mitchell** Pte SR; **Daniel Morrison** Pte KOSB; **Wilfrid B Moyes** MM Sgt RW Surrey Rgt; **John McCulloch** Pte A&SH; **Donald McIntyre** Pte Lovat Scouts; **Jas Macintyre** Pte Seaforth Hldrs; **Donald McNeil** Sgt Black Watch; **RB Rowley Orr** Capt A&SH; **Wm Paterson** Pte A&SH; **Colin Rankin** L\Cpl HLI; **Robert Rigg** Cpl Gordon Highlanders; **James Robb** Tpr Life Guards; **Archd L Scott** Pte MGC; **Michael Stewart** Pte Kings Liverpool Regt; **Ferguson Thomson** MM Pte Scots Guards; **Eric Yarrow** Lt A&SH; **John Dillon** Pte RAMC.

Rainbow, Brownie & Guide Registration Night is Tuesday 26th August 6.30-8pm

Village Music Jam Session

Next date is proposed for 24th August 1 till 5pm in the Village Club

See village Facebook for any change

All welcome, all levels of competence.

It's just a bit of fun, cup of tea provided £3 each'

Contact for info: George Thom gethom@tiscali.co.uk

Martin Shields Martinsheilds200mm@gmail.com

Yushin Karate Club in Strathblane is looking for New Members

Our village Karate Club has a new leader, Holly Rye. Holly is a 4th Dan Black Belt with 20 years experience of Karate and nine years as a teacher — and is the current JSKA Senior Champion in Kata. She is keen to get more people involved in this great pastime for children and adults. The Club meets on Tuesdays 4-5pm and Thursdays 5-6pm (continuing throughout the summer) in the Village Club. Come along free for two weeks to try it out.

For more information contact Holly at hrye@hotmail.co.uk

Dropped Kerbs— if anyone is aware of locations in our villages where a dropped Kerb are needed please contact Alan Hutton at alanhutton@gmail.com or 770537. We understand that there is an outside chance that Stirling Council has some funding for the purpose.

Library News

Bookbug is on holiday but will be back in August. But for 4-10 year olds there is a

MYTHICAL MAZE READING CHALLENGE

Join us at the library over the Summer Holidays and lose yourself in the reading maze. Collect stickers for your fold up poster and if you manage to visit the library six times to return a book you won't myth out on the certificate and medal ceremony in September!

The **FIT FOR A KING HOLIDAY CLUB** has three more sessions on August 6th, 13th & 20th at 3.15 in the school playground for games and then the Kirk Rooms for stories, crafts & a meal - ending at 6pm. Email lynnej1257@gmail.com to book a place or pick up a registration form held at Strathblane library

Sir Eric Yarrow has very kindly donated a copy of his book "A Few Memories" to Strathblane Library so if you remember him or wish to find out more about him come down to view our new local history addition.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JUNE

TUES 24th	10-12noon 2-4pm	Community Cafe in the Kirk Rooms. (and succeeding Tuesday) See Strathblane Church Flyer and Page 1. 10 -12 Toddler Group; 2 - 4pm all welcome
TUES 24th	4 -5pm	Yushin Karate Club in Village Club. See Page 3 for details.
THURS 26th	5 - 6pm	Yushin Karate Club in Village Club. See Page 3 for details.

JULY

THURS 3rd	10-12noon 2-4pm	Community Cafe in the Kirk Rooms. (and succeeding Thursday) See Strathblane Church Flyer and Page 1. 10 -12 and 2 -4 All welcome.
WED 16th	2-4, 6-8	Street Football Cage (first day) in Church Carpark. See Strathblane Church Flyer and Page 1.
SUN 20th	1.30pm -	Friends & Families Open Day at Loch Ard Sailing Club - Bring suitable wet gear and footwear and try a sail.
WED 23rd	6pm -	Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony - live Broadcast in the Kirk Rooms - to be followed by 10 days of broadcasts of the games. See Church flyer for details.
FRI 25th	7.30pm	Fèis Fhoirt Cèilidh in St Mary's Church Aberfoyle. Tickets £10 - from Mark Seymour, 01786 870710 or email Concerts0310@yahoo.co.uk

AUGUST

MON 4th	7.30pm	Strathblane Community Council in the Kirk Rooms All welcome
WED 6th	3.15pm	Fit for a King Holiday Club in the Park (weather permitting) or the Kirk Rooms. Email lynnej1257@gmail.com to book a place or pick up a registration form held at Strathblane library
WED 13th	3.15pm	Fit for a King Holiday Club in the Park (weather permitting) or the Kirk Rooms
WED 20th	3.15pm	Fit for a King Holiday Club in the Park (weather permitting) or the Kirk Rooms
SUN 24th	1—5pm	Village Jam Session in the Village Club. See Page 3 for further details.
TUES 26th	6.30-8pm	Rainbows, Brownies & Guides Registration Night in Scout/Guide Hall

SEPTEMBER

THURS 4th		First Night of Guides
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For all those kids with Wimbledon fever,....

Strathblane Tennis Club offers a new **School Holiday Pass.**

This allows a junior non-member to play during the day-time on weekdays only, for the duration of the school summer holidays. The cost is **only £5 for the whole summer.** For more details see

www.sites.google.com/site/strathblanetennisclub/news

The Village Club - New Booking Contacts

available for public and private functions. To check availability please email Keith Vass and Fiona Murray. If you want any further information before making a booking you can either email or phone Keith or Fiona.

Keith Vass – keithvass13@gmail.com 770131
Fiona Murray murray-fiona@sky.com , 771497

EDENKILN SURGERY

The surgery will be closed for staff training from 12.30 on Thursday June 26th

We can be contacted at 01360 770340 For a range of healthcare information go to the practice website www.edenkilnsurgery.com

Police Surgery Times for July & August

at the Office in Strathblane Primary School are not currently available.

When we get them they will be posted on the village website at strathblanefield.org.uk

The Blane Valley Bulletin is published monthly (with the exceptions of July and December) by Strathblane Community Council and distributed to all households in our community council area. It is produced and distributed by a group of volunteers led by Alan Hutton and accountable to the Community Council. Contact us at cc@strathblanefield.org.uk