

# BLANE VALLEY BULLETIN

*The Strathblane Community Council News Sheet* March 2018 No 60

## **Snow Emergency! What Community Spirit! You Were Brilliant!**

*From: SCC Chair, Margaret Vass*

After the last snow and ice emergency in 2010 SCC worked in partnership with Stirling Council to examine what went wrong and how responses could be improved. We pioneered local resilience plans and have regularly asked for contact details of people willing to help.

**The Resilience Plan** — The plan itself is pretty bureaucratic and takes no account of social media so we will be pioneering a different approach after this recent experience! Basically the Council deals with keeping the roads in and out of the villages open based on priority 1, 2 and 3 routes. They also ensure that vulnerable people receiving Council services still receive them.

As we know the unprecedented conditions meant they struggled with priority 1 let alone 2, even though the Council brought in farmers to help clear roads there was just way too much snow.

We triggered our resilience plan on the 28th February and that gave us vastly improved communication with the Council than we have ever had before both with the resilience officers and senior managers.

**The Role of Social Media** — Using the Strathblanefield Facebook page we mobilised the community and your response was amazing, checking your neighbours, offering first aid, 4x4s, of course clearing the residential priority 3 roads that the Council was never going to reach and clearing around the school to ensure it reopened. Our Facebook page really came into its own allowing us to spot issues, raise them with the Council and feedback responses.

**Thanks all round** — It is always hard to highlight individuals when there were so many of great stories of assistance. However I will single out Andy McGregor, Annabel Sharp and Mike McNulty for special mention. Thank you. Also thanks to the local farmers and those with JCBs who turned out to help. We know everything wasn't perfect and there is never enough grit and some grit bins had been removed and bins weren't emptied. The priority was to unblock all the local roads first and that wasn't completed until Tuesday 6th March. It was longer for some other communities. To receive a thank you from the Stewart Carruth, the Council's CEO was a great recognition of all that our community achieved.

**We Need Your Help Again!** — There is a **new source of funding for community projects** and both the Community Council and Strathblane Community Development Trust have made bids for projects at short notice given the snow emergency. If anyone fancies a trip to Callander Primary School on Saturday morning 24th March from 10 until 2 we need your votes.

The new system means that Community members from the age of 10 who go along to the meeting will hear a 2 minute presentation on each project then vote on who receives funding.

So it could be a family outing. Lunch will be provided. The Community Council have submitted an ambitious bid of £10,000 to create a sensory garden to tidy up the derelict land behind the closed public toilets.

We have consulted the community before in the BVB about the best use of this land and gardens/orchards have featured in your responses. Not only do we need you to go along and vote but we will need a group to help implement the project too.

**So let's keep that community spirit going!**

Why not join the growing number of local businesses and individuals who

**SPONSOR issues of the Bulletin?**

You can include an **advertising flyer** which will go to every household — free when you sponsor an issue.

Contact [contact@strathblanecc.org.uk](mailto:contact@strathblanecc.org.uk) for more details.

## March Community Council Update *From: Chair Margaret Vass*

**Snow Emergency** — A considerable part of our meeting was reviewing the snow emergency as highlighted on the front page. We agreed to ask for a debriefing session with Stirling Council.

**Police Report** — The police report again raised the issue of anti social behaviour in the park and at the school. Local young people seem to be attracting others from out of the area to join them. Work is taking place with the Balfron High School Based Officer to resolve this. If you have teenagers do you know what they are doing on Friday and Saturday nights?

Housebreaking still continues in the area and we are asked to report anything suspicious. The traffic division had marked and unmarked cars operating in our area over a weekend. Road checks identified a number of offences.

We also asked for more care to be taken when road closures due to traffic accidents require diversions — making it clear that Old Mugdock Road is not suitable route.

**Flooding** — The CC is currently pursuing flooding issues at Jenny's Burn, Station Rd and at Stockiemuir Road where the giant potholes were.

**Road Safety** — We are still pursuing the road safety campaign started by P5 but the recent snow has delayed action by Stirling Council. Concern was raised at the speed vehicles were driven in the villages during the snow emergency when pedestrians including children had no alternative but to walk on the road

**Road Maintenance** — We agreed to use the new Community Empowerment Legislation and submit a "participation request" to have a say and work in partnership with Stirling Council to improve road maintenance. The basis for our request will be

"Strathblane and Blanefield have expectations for well maintained roads, pavements and road infrastructure with the reality of finite Council resources. We wish to enhance the safety of both pedestrians and drivers and work together to deliver this."

We will keep you informed of progress.

**River Bank Repairs** — We are also raising the lack of action to repair the river bank at the King George V playing fields. Please ask your children not to climb through the fences at either side of the river. The bank is dangerous.

**Your Place, Your Priorities Application** — Finally, as mentioned on page 1, we agreed to form a subcommittee to apply for funding from the new funding stream Your Place your Priorities.

**The April Community Council Meeting**  
is on **Monday 9th 7.30pm** in the **Village Club**  
Come along and give us your views

**Copy Date** for our **April issue** is **Tuesday 17th**.  
Please send Calendar items and news  
for the period up to the end of May to  
[contact@strathblanecc.org.uk](mailto:contact@strathblanecc.org.uk)

**Edenkiln Surgery**  
The surgery will be closed on **Good Friday (March 30)**  
and **Easter Monday (April 2nd)**  
We can be contacted at **01360 770340**. For a range of  
healthcare information go to the practice website at  
[www.edenkilnsurgery.com](http://www.edenkilnsurgery.com)

**The Edmonstone Hall** — for enquiries or bookings  
contact David McLean on 01360770919 or  
[mclean728@btinternet.com](mailto:mclean728@btinternet.com)

**The Village Club** —for enquiries & bookings:  
check schedule at [www.villageclub1911.org](http://www.villageclub1911.org)  
email [strathblanevc@gmail.com](mailto:strathblanevc@gmail.com) or Contact  
Fiona Murray at 01360 771497 Office hours only)

### Emergency Phone Numbers

Ambulance — 999    Fire — 999    NHS 24 — 111    Police — 999 [for non-emergency calls - 101]

**MAKING CONTACT with the SCC** Email us at [contact@strathblanecc.org.uk](mailto:contact@strathblanecc.org.uk)

**Get in touch with your Community Councillors**

<i>Blanefield Ward</i>		<i>Strathblane Ward</i>		<i>Mugdock Ward</i>	
Margaret Vass	770131	Alan Hutton	770537	Richard Arnold	770006
Avril Keen	07799261297	Marian Lever	07580539492	John Gray	771031
Willie Oswald	770497	Sue Rand	770630	Grace Edmonds	770800
Julie Hutchison	770791	Mike McNulty	770076	Evelyn Macdougall	770757

Or via our website at [www.strathblanecc.org.uk](http://www.strathblanecc.org.uk) . **Other Information Sources** —  
Library; Noticeboards; Shops; Local weekly press; & the **Facebook** Strathblanefield Page

### STIRLING COUNCIL

**Councillors' Surgeries**  
are usually at 7pm on  
SCC meeting nights in  
the Village Club

**Report faults** at  
[info@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:info@stirling.gov.uk) or  
ring 0845 277000

**Join My Stirling** at  
[www.stirling.gov.uk](http://www.stirling.gov.uk) for  
updates

## Strathblane Community Development Trust Update from Acting Chair, Alan Hutton

**Fund-raising**— The Path Development Group has won a £1500 grant from the SC Community Pride Fund to help pay for path signage. The Path Group and the Bothy Group have made applications to Stirling Council's Your Place, Your Priorities scheme (see Page 1) to help develop the new Heritage Information Centre in the Gravediggers Bothy and for leaflets about walks that use local bus services.

**AGM Date Change** — Our AGM will now take place on Monday August 27th.

### Allotments Opportunity

Anyone wanting to grow fruit, flowers or veg can get a plot that will be sized to suit. 50, 100 or 200 sq m. We now have an Allotment Chef if you want a recipe each time.



### Bowling in 2018

**The new bowling season will open in April with a Come & Try day on Sunday 29th**

when we hope to be able to welcome you to the club and introduce you to this skilful game in a friendly and welcoming environment. All ages groups are welcome and bowling, despite its apparent simplicity, is an absorbing, challenging, but enjoyable sport imparting all the benefits of being outdoors in company to improve your fitness and mental wellbeing. Participation can be to suit your timescale, from a weekly meeting on Monday evenings club night to play mixed bowls, through friendly matches of all sorts, for both men and ladies, to competition with other clubs in various leagues. Add to this the social events arranged during the season and the winter you will find that membership is very enjoyable, fulfilling and a great way to make friends.

**Do come along and in the meantime you can contact the club on 07765 315094 (Eileen) or e-mail: [strathblanebowlingclub@gmail.com](mailto:strathblanebowlingclub@gmail.com). We look forward to meeting you.**

### National Touring Exhibition "Lifting The Lid"— Scotland's culinary story

From Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> until 17<sup>th</sup> April the fascinating exhibition "Lifting The Lid", first shown at the National Library of Scotland in Edinburgh, will be running at Strathblane Library. "Lifting the Lid" tells the story of Scotland's Food and Drink through the centuries.

**The library is delighted to have been chosen as one of the few places hosting this exhibition**

### Strathblane Tennis Club

looks forward to welcoming you for the new season.

Spring Coaching starts Sunday 29 April 2018  
(juniors and adults, all levels)

New reduced subscriptions for 18-22 yr-old & other concessions — HALF PRICE subscription for "new joiners" for 2018-19. Find out more at our

**Open Day Saturday 21 April 2018 2-5pm**

Website [clubspark.lta.org.uk/SLTC](http://clubspark.lta.org.uk/SLTC)

Facebook StrathblaneLTC

### Do You Need an Affordable Home?

Rural Stirling Housing Association aims to support local communities by providing quality homes at affordable rents for families, couples and single people in housing need. We currently have over 560 rented houses and flats. Around 40 of these become available for rent each year. We are in the process of building a further **23 flats in Callander and 12 flats & houses in Killearn**. We currently have properties in the following communities:

**Aberfoyle, Doune, Kinlochard, Stronachlachar, Balfron, Drymen, Kippen, Tyndrum, Buchlyvie, Gargunnoch, Lochearnhead, Callander, Gartmore, Strathblane, Deanston, Killin, Strathyre**

We may be able to build in other communities in the future – please let us know if you want to live in a village that is not listed above. Information on local housing need and demand helps us plan for the future.

**If you are interested in renting one of our properties when they become available please contact us:**

**Rural Stirling Housing Association**

Stirling Road, Doune

FK16 6AA

Telephone: 01786 841101

Email: [enquiries@rsha.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@rsha.org.uk)

[www.rsha.org.uk](http://www.rsha.org.uk)



**Rural Stirling**  
Housing Association

### Strathblane Library: 4-4-2 Reading Challenge:

Are you aged between 5-12? Do you like football? Borrow amazing books from the library and receive free and discounted tickets for you and an adult to selected SPFL matches across Scotland. Pop into the library to find out more & to sign up for the challenge!

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## MARCH

SAT 24th	10.15 - 11.45am	<b>Fun with Textiles at Strathblane Library for ages 9 - 11.</b> Places limited, contact the library to book £1 per session.
SUN 25th	2 -5pm	<b>Popular Music Session (Electric)</b> in the Village Club (1.30 set-up).
MON 26th	3.15-4.15	<b>Strathblane Library's Chatterbooks</b> at Strathblane Primary School. P5-P7 welcome.
TUES 27th	7 -9pm	<b>Traditional Music Session in the Library.</b> All players welcome. Contact Sheila 770824

## APRIL

SUN 1st	2 -4pm	<b>Easter Eggstravaganza</b> at Murdock Country Park (See enclosed programme for details)
MON 2nd - FRI 6th		<b>Forest School Holiday Club</b> at Carbeth Guthrie Estate. Morning, afternoon and full day sessions for school age children. <a href="http://www.carbethguthrie.estate/forestschool">www.carbethguthrie.estate/forestschool</a> See flyer.
MON 9th	7.30pm	<b>Strathblane Community Council</b> in the Village Club. All welcome
FRI 13th	7.15pm	<b>Film Night</b> in the Kirk Rooms
SAT 14th	2pm	<b>Strathblane Bowling Club Gents Opening Day</b>
TUE 17th	11 -12.30	<b>Strathblane Library Natter &amp; Needle.</b> All needleworkers welcome.
TUE 17th	7.30pm	<b>Strathblane Library Book Group</b>
THUR 19th	3.15-4.30	<b>Fun with Textile @Strathblane Library</b> for ages 9 - 11. Places limited, Places limited, contact the library to book £1 per session.
SAT 21st	2 -5pm	<b>Strathblane Tennis Club Open Day</b> All welcome, (Behind the Village Club) <b>See Page 2</b>
SUN 22nd	2pm	<b>Strathblane Bowling Club Ladies Opening Day</b>
TUES 24th	7 -9pm	<b>Traditional Music Session in the Library.</b> All players welcome. Contact Sheila 770824
THUR 26th	10.30-11	<b>BOOKBUG songs &amp; rhymes</b> for little ones & their carers at Strathblane Library.
SAT 28th	10.15-11.45	<b>Fun with Textile @Strathblane Library</b> for ages 9 - 11. Places limited, contact the library to book £1 per session.
SUN 29th	11 am —	<b>Strathblane Tennis Club Spring Coaching starts</b> for young & old, beginners welcome.
SUN 29th	2pm	<b>Bowling Club Come &amp; Try Day</b> — for prospective new members of all ages , men and ladies. Starts 2.00pm. Entertainment for children.
SUN 29th	2 - 5pm	<b>Popular Music Session (Electric)</b> in the Village Club (1.30 set-up).

### STRATHBLANE CHURCH EASTER SERVICES & EVENTS

#### Palm Sunday - 25th March

11am Morning Worship in the Church

6.30pm Evening Worship, Kirk Rooms

#### Mon 26th, Tues 27th, Wed 28th March

1pm Holy Week Service each day in the Church

#### THURS March 29th

2pm Cuppa Time Easter Extravaganza

7pm Muandy Service - Joint with Killearn Kirk (Strathblane)

### GOOD FRIDAY 30th March

7pm Joint Service with Killearn (Killearn)

**Sat 31st March** 10am Holy Week Service, Church

### EASTER SUNDAY 1st April

8am Walk to Dunglass for Early Morning Service at the Cross — Meet Church car park

9.30am Breakfast £@ Easter Egg Hunt, Church Rms

11am Easter Morning Family Service

6.30pm Easter Songs of Praise Night, Kirk Rooms

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 [contact@strathblanec.org.uk](mailto:contact@strathblanec.org.uk)