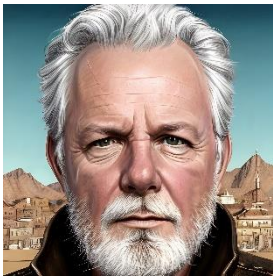


# BLANE VALLEY BULLETIN

The Strathblane Community Council News Sheet May/June 2024 No 99

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## Author Event at the Library



Best-selling Scottish thriller author Peter May is to make a special appearance at our Thomas Graham Community Library to launch his latest book. He'll be in conversation with his friend Alastair Balfour at 3pm on Sunday September 15.

Tickets are £10, to raise funds towards the library's running costs. Wine will be served and Peter will be signing copies of *The Black Loch*, a follow-up to his popular Lewis Trilogy featuring detective Fin MacLeod.

Tickets will be available from the end of May at the library. To book now, email the SCDT [scdt@strathblaneonline.com](mailto:scdt@strathblaneonline.com) stating how many you wish.

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## Lottery "Win" For Your Community Hall



The Edmonstone Hall Committee are delighted to announce that they have been awarded a substantial grant from the National Lottery Community Fund. The money will be used to carry out major, essential maintenance to the hall. This will include work on the exterior walls, roof margin and carpark which will require limits to parking around the hall at various times. As much notice as possible will be given when the carpark requires to be restricted or closed.

We also have support to upgrade some of the interior spaces and hope to minimise disruption to users while the toilets are being refurbished and the emergency exit door is being replaced.

These upgrades will help to keep the largest local venue attractive, sound and safe for many years.

*Our project was made possible thanks to #NationalLottery players.*

# Strathblane Community Council May 24 Update

*From Chair Julie Hutchison*

## Matters arising

We have had no update about the district nurses. The situation has remained unchanged despite the trial being over.

The work on the WHW path has been completed but it was noted that the surface is loose and will wash away. Cars still park on the pavement.

JH noted that we no longer receive a list of proposed road works despite having a participation request with Roads.

## Local Place Plan

We have tried hard to persuade residents to complete the survey and currently have 252 responses. Some of these are responding on behalf of their household, making about 350 responses altogether. This is a response rate of about 16%. GMcG said that this is a basis for going forward with engagement.

AT reported that there are roughly 2:1 female to male and the majority of responses are from people over pension age. The percentages of responders are roughly the same as the age distribution in the census.

## South West Stirling Climate Action Network

AT has been working on this with residents from other villages in the area. They have been holding informal meetings to talk about how we can move forward with the climate change agenda. They are trying to bring all the rural villages into the network and are inviting CCs, Community Trusts and individuals to join them. It is proposed to set the network up as an unincorporated association, which would be non-profit, allowing voluntary members to discuss the climate emergency.

We think this is more suited to the SCDT. AT asked if there is any reason why the CC could not be a member of the network. JH said that she is not sure that this is part of our remit. GMcG said that the CC could play a part in communicating with SC and working with the SCDT. JH said that we are all supportive of the work the network is doing.

## Elected Members Report

JH asked Councillor McGarvie if the arrangement between Forth Valley and Greater Glasgow Health Boards still exist. GMcG said that it does. JH said that there was agreement that unless it is an emergency residents could request to be taken to a Glasgow hospital. Since Covid the agreement seems to have disappeared. The arrangement may still exist at high level but has not been cascaded to ground level staff. GMcG will report this to the head of Health.

## Road closure on Campsie Road

JG raised the issue of the road closure on Campsie Road being poorly advertised with a long diversion. EDC subsequently closed the road at the other end effectively trapping residents who live between the closures. The closure was advertised between 8 and 5 and Councillor Fraser asked if it could be moved to 9 to 5 to allow children to get to school. This was agreed but did not actually happen.

Some time ago we asked residents about the derelict phone box beside Greens and had no response. We would appreciate any suggestions that residents might have about what it could be used for.

**Date Of Next Meeting:** June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, following AGM.

## GET IN TOUCH

SCC Email at [contact@strathblanec.org.uk](mailto:contact@strathblanec.org.uk) or via our website [www.strathblanec.org.uk](http://www.strathblanec.org.uk)

### Your Community Councillors

Julie Hutchison 770791 Andrew Thompson 770838 Rob Davies 771921 Pam Lee 07801 417655 Eleanor Balfour

Grace Edmonds 770800 John Gray 771031 Kate Ramsden 07801372588 and Ian Boardley

Additional Sources Community Website [www.strathblane.online](http://www.strathblane.online)

Library; Notice boards; Shops; Local weekly press & the Facebook Strathblanefield page

### Strathblane Community Development Trust

Email: [scdt@strathblane.online](mailto:scdt@strathblane.online)

Website: [www.strathblane.online](http://www.strathblane.online)

We deliver projects with grant funding to enhance the village. Please consider joining if you are not already a member.

### Enquiries and Booking Contacts

Edmonstone Hall

Kim Jones via [info@edmonstonehall.co.uk](mailto:info@edmonstonehall.co.uk)

The Village Club

Check schedule @ [www.villageclub1911.org](http://www.villageclub1911.org)

Email: [stathblanec@gmail.com](mailto:stathblanec@gmail.com)

Library Community Rooms

Email: [info@thomasgrahamlibrary.com](mailto:info@thomasgrahamlibrary.com)

## Scout and Guide News

The Community Council congratulates the Cubs on their important contribution to the community with their litter picks as they work towards their Environmental Awareness Badge



## Call for Cubs leaders!

To allow Cubs to continue from August we need new leaders for the team. Our aim is to have a rota of leaders who will organise and lead approximately 1 session per month.

We hope to get our new leaders involved as soon as possible, for maximum support in the transition period before some of our current team move on.

Our teams of leaders across Scouts, Cubs and Beavers all have each other's support, plus there are numerous parent helpers and a wider committee that helps with admin and governance. Training is provided by the Scout Association and no experience is necessary.

To have a chat contact Kate ([kate\\_warburton@hotmail.com](mailto:kate_warburton@hotmail.com), 07940137517)

## Strathblane Scout and Guide Hall Committee

Strathblane Scout and Guide Hall Committee is a small friendly group who take care of the Hall on behalf of the Scouting and Guiding groups. The hall is a well-used facility in the village, home of SOSC and used by all the village's uniformed groups and the local Judo group.

We organise general maintenance, fundraise, apply for grants and ensure the space is safe etc.

Recently we have been successful in upgrading the P7 room, securing funding from the National Lottery for some insulation and have been gifted a brand new kitchen from Howdens!!

We are looking for 2 new committee members to help spread the load a little and support our ongoing efforts to make the Hall the best it can be for the villages young people for years to come.

If you are interested in volunteering to be a Maintenance committee member or a Fundraising committee member then please get in touch. Commitment would be just a couple of hours (or less) a month so nothing too heavy. Contact Emma on [emmacchalmers@hotmail.com](mailto:emmacchalmers@hotmail.com)

## Allotments Open Day

Blane Valley Allotments are holding an Open Day on Sunday August 4th from 2-4pm.

Please come along and see what we have been doing this year, get advice on growing your own produce and enjoy cake while you look around.



<b>Thomas Graham Community Library, Strathblane</b> <b>T: 01360 770737 E: strathblanelibrary@stirling.gov.uk</b>		
Games Club For Grown Ups Fortnightly 	10.30am-12.30pm Drop In fortnightly Chess, Scrabble, Jigsaws etc Coffee and chat!	<b>Tuesday</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> June 18 <sup>th</sup> June
Needles and Natter Fortnightly 	10.30am-12.30pm Drop in fortnightly. Knitting, embroidery, sewing, stitching, coffee & chat	<b>Tuesday</b> 28 <sup>th</sup> May 11 <sup>th</sup> June 25 <sup>th</sup> June
Book Group Monthly 	7.30 p.m. Contact the library for details	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday evening of the month</b>
BookBug 	2.30 p.m. Babies and toddlers Rhymes and stories with your wee ones. Drop in	<b>Friday</b> 31 <sup>st</sup> May (please note date change) Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June
	1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Advice on all matters, including Energy Issues and Fuel bills Drop In Sessions. No Need To Book	<b>Thursday</b> 30 <sup>th</sup> May 27 <sup>th</sup> June



After a very successful year, Strathblane Heritage is gearing up for a busy, 2024-25 season. The speaking calendar kicks off on Monday September 16 with a talk from Tim Clarkson, entitled 'Strathblane and the Britons, AD 400 to 1100'. Tim is the leading Scottish expert on what used to be known as the Dark Ages. There will also be talks about the shadow of slavery and shipbuilding. Lesley Riddoch will share her enthusiasm for the hutting movement in general and Carbeth in particular.

The website [www.strathblaneheritage.org](http://www.strathblaneheritage.org) has been very well-received and in May landed an award for outstanding personal achievement from the British Association for Local History for co-chair Anne Balfour. Check out the latest addition: a distillation of the local history of whisky, both legal and illicit. A section about the local geology is being prepared. And watch out for more of our popular "slider" pictures.

Merchandising is a new venture for Strathblane Heritage, which recently launched packs of notelets featuring some of the beautiful hand-tinted postcards in its collection. (Available to buy from the Thomas Graham Community Library.) A tea towel featuring an up-to-date village map along with various historical sites and features will be on sale shortly.

Meanwhile, the Second World War team is busy uncovering the life stories of casualties commemorated on Strathblane War Memorial and on Commonwealth War Graves in the churchyard and cemetery.