

# BLANE VALLEY BULLETIN

*The Strathblane Community Council News Sheet Mar/Apr 2026 No 106*

## Safety and Parking Near the School

At Strathblane Primary School, we have a team of Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSO) who work with Miss Allen to try and make the roads around our school safer. We met with Margaret Vass and Julie Hutchison to see what we could do to help with the parking at the library. One of the children in our school was nearly knocked down there before school one morning. That's why we really wanted to do something about it.

Simon and Catherine Graham wanted to work with us to do a competition to design a sign to encourage people to think before parking at the library during drop off and pick up times. So we sent an email to everyone and said did they want to do the competition. We had a lot of entries to choose from. The JRSO voted along with Simon, Catherine, Margaret and Julie.

Joel Donaldson in P6 got first place. His design will be made in to a sign. Fergus Davidson in P3 got second place and Evie Hornsby in P2 got third place. All the designs will be in the library so that you can look at them. Simon and Catherine gave prizes which were very generous gift vouchers plus a book voucher for the whole school to buy some books for our library. We were very grateful. Thank you to Simon and Catherine for supporting reading in Strathblane Primary School and also helping us to make parking safer.

The JRSO wants to encourage parents to think about parking at the Kirkhouse and walking to school to make sure that there is space for the people who use the library. We want to make it a safe place for everyone. Thank you to the 50 children who entered the competition. It was very tough for us to pick the winner.

BY JRSO - Eilidh, Lola, Thomas, Joseph, Mia, Hamish, Enzo, Holly, Esme, Edward and Kian

## Thank You from Strathcarron

On behalf of Strathcarron Hospice, please allow me to extend a huge THANK YOU to the folk of Strathblane, Blanefield and surrounding villages for raising £13,725 in 2025. The generosity of local artists, musicians, bakers, Hogmanay revellers and people turning out to support art & clothes sales and plant, book & Christmas Card sales, never ceases to amaze me. These fundraising efforts, alongside donations in memory of local people who have had hospice support, are absolutely vital to the work that goes on.

This year marks the 45th Birthday of Strathcarron. The hospice provides palliative and end of life care for 1400 people and their families each year. Over 80% of the care is carried out beyond the Hospice building within local communities, in people's homes and wherever they require support. As a Strathcarron palliative care nurse, I am very proud of my own community in stepping up to the challenge of raising £19,452 a day. No mean feat!

Stay posted for how we would love communities to help us celebrate 45 years and share stories about the care provided over the years. Thank You So Much – Mandy Malcomson



## Holy Week Services

**Celebrating Easter together. All Welcome!**

Maundy Thursday Evening Service 7 p.m. Together at Drymen Church Rev Alex Smeed  
Good Friday Evening Service 7 p.m. Together at Strathblane Parish Church Chris Gordon  
Easter Sunday Service Killearn Kirk 10 a.m. Strathblane Parish Church 11.30 a.m.



# Strathblane Community Council March 2026 Update

*From Chair Julie Hutchison*

## Surgery

We had a continuation of our discussion regarding B12 injections. We had an inadequate response from Alexander Polson so at the March meeting we decided to contact Evelyn Tweed the MSP.

## Roads

We are no further forward on our discussions with Gary Neill. In our March meeting Councillor McGarvey suggested that he would get in touch with Gary on our behalf and report back to us.

## Correspondence

Brian Roberts the new Chief Executive of SC will be joining us at our September meeting.

We have been contacted by a charity, "Trees for Goals", who offered to plant a tree for every goal scored by Blanefield Thistle this season. We referred this to SC who gave permission for this to go ahead.

A resident pointed out the gathering of water on Old Mugdock Road below the loch. We have contacted SC to see if they can find a solution, but this remains unresolved. There are also some drainage issues with water coming onto the A81 from Campsie Dene Road.

## AOCB

The budget was passed last week. It includes £200,000 to refurbish the toilets in Drymen and Dunblane, but there is no mention of our toilets, despite asking for this for many years.

Val Brand, who is leading on action regarding the standard of the buses on our routes, has asked for our support. This was agreed and an email of support sent.

We are pleased to announce that SC has accepted our Local Place Plan.

**It was agreed to move the date of the April meeting from the 13th to the 6th**

## Strathblane Open Mic Night. Wed 01/04, 29/04 & 27/05 7.30pm Strathblane Bowling Club

Fancy singing a song or playing your instrument?

Come along to Strathblane Open Mic night

£3 entry for non members

ALL WELCOME Contact.

George, [gethom@me.com](mailto:gethom@me.com) or

Martin,

[martin.Shields200mm@gmail.com](mailto:martin.Shields200mm@gmail.com)



### 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 Strathblane field page

### Strathblane Community Development Trust

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

Website: <https://strathblanecdt.org>

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) or

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

Library Community Rooms

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

## Bowling Club opening 2026

The club reopening is planned for Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 2.00pm. We welcome current and prospective members of all age groups to the club and will introduce them to this skilful game, played in a friendly and welcoming environment. Bowling, despite its apparent simplicity, is an absorbing, challenging, but enjoyable sport, imparting all the benefits of being outdoors in company and helping to improve fitness and mental wellbeing.

Monday evening club nights for mixed ladies and gents bowling for all current and prospective members will restart in May. Throughout the season, other club competitions, friendly matches, for both men and ladies as well as inter-club competition in various leagues can be participated in. Add to this the social events arranged during the season and in the winter months and you will find that membership is an enjoyable, fulfilling way to make and meet friends. We have licensed bar facilities which are open to non-playing members.

You can contact the club on 07920 121114 or e-mail: [strathblanebowlingclub@outlook.com](mailto:strathblanebowlingclub@outlook.com) We look forward to meeting you.  
Murray O'Donnell, President.

## Growing in Blane Valley Allotments

Growing Well Since 2012 <https://blanvalleyallotments.com/>

If you are interested, please fill in an application form on our website which is listed above. Once we have your information we can meet with you, show you round and discuss what's involved, your experience and what sizes of plots are available. This is the best time to join us as there is a whole season ahead and we can help you get started. So, contact our Secretary via the form and begin a rare opportunity that is not usually available, this is the advantage of living local to such a vibrant village. We have about five 2-hour workdays a year which brings the opportunity to meet other members and exchange ideas, spare plants, seeds and cake.



The Blane Valley Bulletin is published by Strathblane Community Council and distributed to all households in our Community Council area by a group of volunteers accountable to the Community Council.

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

This issue is published with the anonymous but much-appreciated support of a local resident.

## A Weekend of Village Fun and Celebration 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> May

### The Edmonstone Hall is 100!

**Come and join us for tea and cake and help us to celebrate!**

This year it will be 100 years since the Edmonstone Hall was gifted to the village by the Edmonstone family. Today, the hall operates as a charity, with day-to-day costs covered by hall users. The management committee is planning to celebrate this landmark birthday with afternoon tea. This will be a drop in event with tea, coffee, sandwiches and cakes in the hall on Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup> between 2 and 4pm.



Present and past hall users and the Heritage Society are producing displays of photographs and memorabilia of the activities/groups that have used the hall over the years. Come along and relive your memories. If you are new to the area have a look at the many groups who have used the hall in the past and the activities that take place there today.

This is a celebration, not a fund raiser, so leave your wallets at home. In the spirit of the past, we hope that some of the excellent bakers in the village may like to volunteer to provide cakes, scones and/or sandwiches. **Kim Jones has offered to coordinate donations so if you would like to contribute a cake, scones or a loaf of sandwiches please let her know through the Hall email [info@edmonstonehall.co.uk](mailto:info@edmonstonehall.co.uk).**

Also, if you have any photos that you think may be of wider interest, please send copies to the same address.

**The hall management committee is looking forward to seeing you.**



### Paths to the Campsies

The CDT paths development group wants to know more about what "better access to the Campsies", a top access priority for villagers in the recent local place plan, actually means.

The present nearest commonly used access points are at the extreme ends of the village - past the last house on Campsie Dean Road, where there's a track leading to a faint path onto Slackduh; and at Ballagan House (involving a walk along a main road with no pavement), where a path leads to the Spout of Ballagan and the hills beyond. There appears to be no public access between these two, and we want to know if such access is what is wanted.

It might not be possible but we can expend some energy trying if it is what people want! A more central entry would give access to the Campsies "apron", the lower ground behind the village before the hill rises steeply to the crags, which could be of recreational use for shorter walks/runs/rides. It would also give an alternative route from the village to the high ground.

Is this what is wanted? Or is there another aspect of access to the Campsies that we're missing? Email me at [baynesania@gmail.com](mailto:baynesania@gmail.com), to share your view.

### Grave Diggers Bothy

SCDT is seeking views on the use of the Grave Diggers Bothy in the churchyard. The original intention was that it was to be a heritage and information centre but times have moved on and the village is soon to have a heritage trail.

Our current thoughts are that memorial plaques can be placed inside for those former villagers who have been cremated. There would be a small charge to build up a maintenance fund for the building that SCDT owns on behalf of the community.

What do you think? Please email [scdt@strathblane.online](mailto:scdt@strathblane.online) and give us your thoughts.



### BEES!!

Sunday 31 of May, 2-4 am Strathblane Wildlife sanctuary, buzzing bees. Learn about wild bees, make catch-and-release bee catchers and watch them up close. Free admission

## Regular Library Events

Thomas Graham Library, Strathblane. 01360 770737, strathblanelibrary@stirling.gov.uk		
Games Club For Grown Ups	 Chess, Scrabble, Jigsaws etc Tea/coffee and chat.	<b>Tuesday Fortnightly</b> 10.30am-12.30pm Contact the library for dates
Needles and Natter	 Knitting, embroidery, sewing, stitching, Tea/coffee & chat	<b>Tuesday Fortnightly</b> 10.30am-12.30pm Contact the library for dates
Film Discussion Club	 Come and watch or chat about films Contact the library for details	First Tuesday evening of the month 7.15pm – 9pm (Not May)
Book Group	 Come and talk about a book Contact the library for details	Third Tuesday evening of the month 7.30-9.30 April meeting see Film Festival information
IT / Computer help by Library Volunteers	 Help with computer/ iPad issues and help with e-books etc.	Occasional Monday mornings. Contact the Library to make an appointment
BookBug	 Babies and toddlers Rhymes and stories with wee ones.	Friday afternoons 2.30-3pm Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> April
Game On Kids' Games Club	 Primary School age 6-9 years Ask at Library for details Free but book a place	Thursday afternoons 3.15 to 4.15 p.m.
	<b>Appointments only – contact CAB direct to book:</b>	Fortnightly Thursdays 1-3pm (dependant on staff availability). <b>by appointment only through CAB.</b> 07498925159 <a href="mailto:peter.higgins@StirlingCAB.casonline.org.uk">peter.higgins@StirlingCAB.casonline.org.uk</a>

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COMMUNITY LIBRARY FILM CLUB

# SCREEN STRATHBLANE

A WEEK CELEBRATING SCOTLAND'S CINEMA

17-25 APRIL 2026

THOMAS GRAHAM COMMUNITY  
LIBRARY, STRATHBLANE

**LIMBO (Cert. 12) Friday 17 April 6.45 for lights down 7pm**  
A Syrian asylum-seeker finds himself in a purgatorial state on a remote Scottish island, in this melancholic comedy (subtitles)

**SCOTTISH SHORTS (Over 16s only) Saturday 18 April 10.45 for lights down 11am**  
A selection of short films that showcase the creativity and diversity of Scotland's film makers.

**ZINE WORKSHOP (Ages 8 and over) Tuesday 21 April 3.30 – 4.30pm**  
Create a mini-magazine about your favourite film or film character.

**THE OUTRUN (Cert. 15) with score analysis by Kim Moore  
Tuesday 21 April 6.45 for lights down 7pm**  
After living life on the edge in London, Rona returns to the wild beauty of Scotland's Orkney Islands where she grew up. After the screening, sound artist Kim Moore will offer an analysis of the score.

**THE GOLDEN SPURTLE (Cert. PG) Wednesday 22 April 1.45 for lights down 2pm**  
Experience the Golden Spurtle World Porridge Making Championship in this heart-warming documentary.

**I SWEAR (Cert. 15) Friday 24 April 6.45pm for lights down 7pm**  
An uplifting account of the life of John Davidson, a Tourette syndrome campaigner who grew up with the condition in 1980s Scotland.

**BRAVE (Cert. PG) Saturday 25 April 10.45 am for lights down 11am**  
In this Disney animation, a fiery Scottish princess engers three powerful lords and is granted a poorly conceived wish, she must go on a quest to repair the damage.

**PLACES FREE BUT MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE AT LIBRARY**  
Email: [strathblanelibrary@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:strathblanelibrary@stirling.gov.uk) Tel. 01360 770777

SMALL DONATIONS FOR TEA, COFFEE, SNACKS ARE WELCOME

 Strathblane Tennis Club

**New Season!**

**New Floodlights! New Coach!**

Enjoy tennis with your friends & family in the heart of  
Strathblane/Blanefield ...or make new friends!

Membership **HALF PRICE** for your first year!  
<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/StrathblaneLTC>

**Lessons for members/non-members**  
**Holiday camps | Seasonal groups or private**  
<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/StrathblaneLTC/Coaching>

For any queries use the Contact form on our website  
or message us on Facebook @StrathblaneLTC

  

Assisted by the  
UK Shared Prosperity Fund