

**Well hello my Dearies,**

Another summer gone and I am still walking on the outside of this planet, not six feet under, although I am struggling with swollen ankles just now and my back is giving me fair jip since I went to the GOW Gala after party. They had me up playing Twister and all sorts of things, it's not something I do often and I don't recommend it if you wear big pants.

Anyway, lately Gibson Streets has been like a building site. First of all the scaffolding comes down and then it goes back up! And I am sure someone has stolen the bus stop.

What the devil I thought is going on in the old toy shop? I always wondered how it managed to stay open so long, but best I keep my thoughts to myself. Now I hear it is owned by Stravaigin and the hairdressers moved across the road. That Mr Clydesdale will soon have as much property on Gibson Street as Rajou! Who needs monopoly when you have these two buying up the street?

However now that it's finished it looks lovely, so stylish, although it does sometimes remind me of a less stylish barbers in my favourite River City on TV. Who knows, next we will end up with Scarlet strutting along the street. I have been expecting a leaflet through my door offering pensioners a special price. It's been years since my locks have had someone run their hands through them. I have never seen such a big pair of baskets hanging together as the ones outside that shop.

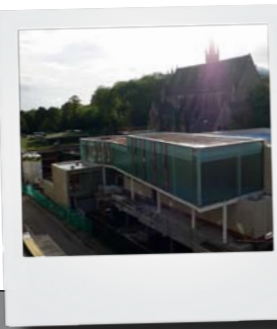
Well that's enough for now, time for my sherry and off to bed.

Bye the noo.

**Spinster of this Parish**

## School developments

As you can see, the school is progressing steadily and is on schedule to be completed on the 4th April 2011! We've been invited to visit the site on the 4th October at 6.30pm. Some residents may have noticed a green roof going on it at the moment. This is called "sedum" and is a mixture of 7 species of succulent. It will take about six months to mature, but once established it is pretty much self-sustaining. Sedum roofs not only provide good insulation, but also a safe habitat for wildlife such as birds and insects. Well done to the School!



## GOW Dates

Back-court Clean up:  
Sun, 3rd Oct ~ 2:00 PM

Sun, 7th Nov ~ 2:00 PM

Meeting @ Offshore:  
Mon 4th Oct ~ 6:30 PM

Mon, 8th Nov ~ 6:30 PM



## CONTACTS

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# GOW Community Newsletter September 2010

## Hold the press....

As you will have noticed, this edition of the newsletter is running a bit late. It has taken us a while to put it together as some of our habitual contributors have moved away from the GOW. We give a big thank you to everyone who has written for the newsletter so far! We would also like to take this opportunity to remind all GOW residents that we would love to hear from you and to include your thoughts in the newsletter; whether you would like to contribute regularly or have something to say on one occasion, just get in touch!

We are sure you will all agree that this has been a very eventful summer at the GOW, and we hope that you have enjoyed as many of the thrilling activities as you possibly could. Just in case you missed some of the excitement, here is some of what has been going on over the past few months.

## The GOW Mosaic

Once again, Jan came and delivered a wonderful Mosaic workshop in the backcourt. A number of residents came out to join in on this sunny morning. This time they have made a big mural of the GOW Community logo. Of course, what started out as a simple logo became much more complex and exciting once some of our best-known residents decided to walk into it! The cat, the birds, the flowers, and the bees are all there, hanging in the backcourt waiting for you to go and have a look! Well done everyone and thank you for adding some more colour to the back of the Gibson St buildings.



## The Cats Of Westbank Quad

As big Tom soaks up morning sun  
Mathilda flirts with everyone  
Miss Kitty, likes her milk from May  
And Sandra's Minnie "gets her way"  
Dear Archie, bound to cause a stir  
And Hector; rarely did he purr  
But Flashy - he's much like our son  
Big boy entrances everyone  
So on this morn, as felines trod...  
Salute the Cats of Westbank Quad!  
- Troy



## Fun in the sun at Gibson Street Gala

The months of hard work and planning for the Gibson Street Gala paid off as the morning of Sunday 20th June dawned bright and sunny and all looked set to be a stunning success. And indeed it was! The streets were buzzing from the early hours with the cafe's and restaurants setting up long tables, the stallholders getting ready to sell their wares and the residents getting the backcourt ready for this year's day of events and music!

Happily coinciding with the Glasgow Mela in neighbouring Kelvingrove Park, there were throngs of party-goers in the streets from early on, supporting the great variety of stalls and enjoying a variety

of entertainment ranging from brass bands to highland dancers on the main stage just outside The Left Bank. The last band of the day, Esperanza, were a particular success. There was a real community spirit about the place and visitors to the area were given a fantastic welcome. Once again, the Gala was packed, and the atmosphere was fabulous, filled with the smell of freshly cooked food, bright summer sunshine, and laughter!

Families were well catered for, and the informal, safe, family feel of the Gala truly made it an event for everyone to enjoy. If the amount of painted faces to be seen everywhere are anything to go by, the children's area was an even greater success this year and fun was had by children great and small!

For the first time, St Silas Church had activities outside as well as inside the church, adding to the festive atmosphere and providing excellent attractions for Gala attendees. As a result, Eldon St was positively pulsing with activity! Thanks also go to every stallholder; the diversity of the stalls and the high standard made the Gala a real pleasure to peruse, and to shop at. We're pleased to report that the stallholders were pleased with how the event went too.



Around the corner, more stalls on West Bank Quadrant provided a paradise for any art lover. The smaller street provided a more quiet space in which to enjoy all the beautiful items on display – what a feast for the senses!

After all that excitement it was a relief to retire for a while into the GOW backcourt, where there was a more chilled out atmosphere courtesy of some lovely and very talented bands, the Tchai'Ovna tent, and even massages which were on offer! Once again 'Thous and Thees', the resident band at 97 Otago St came out and delighted the audience with sounds of cello and ukuleles. Big thanks must go to all the volunteers who rolled up their sleeves and got stuck in helping to transform the backcourt on the Saturday – preparation proving the key to success it seems.

Overall, a huge thank you goes out to everyone involved, you really made it a day to remember, and I'm sure you'll agree that the Gibson Street Gala was an excellent way to celebrate summer in our area!

## Backcourt News

We're sure you've noticed that the backcourt looks particularly spectacular this year. Thank you to everyone who has spent time out there planting things and tending to the beds! It has been a pleasure to see the space used more than ever before with barbeques and people soaking up the sun. I'm certain we've all appreciated the display of colour and lush plant life!

## Don't waste your bric-a-brac!

Please don't throw out any items that someone else might use! It would seem that a lot of people just throw out the things they don't want rather than taking them on with them at the end of their lease. Please recycle by passing on any unwanted items! Remember the GOW also has a wee shop selling unwanted items. The proceeds go to the upkeep of the gardens

## Gibson Street Re-Arranged

It's certainly all happening on Gibson St at the moment – Comerfords has moved to new premises and what a great job they have done! The new shop front looks fantastic and is more inviting than ever – time to get a haircut!

Stravaigin has also opened it's doors once again and is looking as welcoming as ever. We can only recommend that you go and enjoy their cheerful and friendly atmosphere while you check out their new and expanded premises. It is good to have them back!

