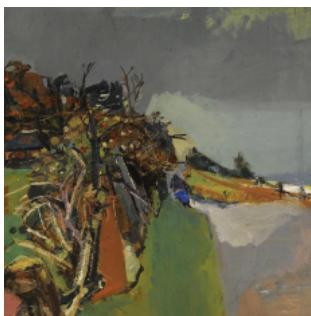




ARRAN ARTS HERITAGE TRAIL

Exploring Arran's
landscapes through
the eyes of iconic artists





I am delighted to welcome you to the Arran Arts Heritage Trail. The trail explores Arran's landscapes through the eyes of some of Scotland's most iconic artists, and as a lover of art, with a lifelong connection to Arran, it is a real pleasure to introduce you to this heritage trail.

Twenty placemarkers make up the trail which weaves along the coast and through glens and mountains marking the extraordinary landscapes that have been the inspiration for so many past artists. The trail is expanded online allowing you access to a data base of artists and resources, which you can explore no matter what the weather!

I hope you enjoy learning about the featured artists and their work, as well as experiencing the ever-changing light, colours and sounds of the placemaker locations for yourself. Through celebrating the history and heritage of artists and the landscapes that inspired them, the Arran Arts Heritage Trail hopes to be a source of creativity for current and future Cragie Aitchisons, Joan Eardleys and Jessie M Kings....

Kirsty Wark.
Kirsty Wark

Brodict is one of two main villages on the Isle of Arran and where the main ferry route arrives. The name is derived from the Norse 'breda-vick' meaning 'broad bay'. The view to Goatfell, which towers above the bay, is perhaps one of the most memorable on Arran, and can rightly be called iconic. It has been depicted by many artists as well as by royalty, Queen Victoria painted it on a trip to Scotland in 1847.



Our featured artist **Craigie Aitchison** was a regular visitor to the island during family holidays in the 1930's. In the 1970's Aitchison returned to Arran to scatter his mother's ashes on the same site as his father's and thereafter Goatfell became one of the recurrent and enduring motifs in his work. Today his paintings hang in galleries across the world, with some of his Arran inspired pieces in the collections of the Tate and Scottish National Galleries among many others.

Artworks:

'Goatfell Isle of Arran' by
Craigie Aitchison

© Bridgeman Images



This placemaker can be accessed as part of National Cycle Route 73, Bus routes 322, 323 & 324. It is easily accessible by foot, from a flat pavement.

The Isle of Arran Heritage Museum founded in 1976 is on the main road at Rosaburn just north of Brodick. Originally a small school, the museum gives visitors the chance to see a traditional farmhouse, smiddy and stables as well as many original and fascinating objects from the island's past. It will also be home to the trail's archive.



Our featured artist **Hugh Purdie** studied at the infamous Camberwell College of Arts and Craft Ceramics Department from 1946. During this time strong connections existed between Bernard Leach and the Leach Pottery at St. Ives and Camberwell Ceramics Department and Hugh worked there during the holidays. In 1952 he exhibited his work alongside pottery giants such as Bernard Leach, Shoji Hamada, Michael Cardew, Lucy Rie and Hans Coper. In 1958 he returned to Arran and established a pottery at Cladach.

Artworks:

Selected ceramics by Hugh Purdie



This placemaker can be accessed as part of National Cycle Route 73, Bus routes 322, 323 & 324. It is easily accessible by foot, from a flat pavement.

Glen Shurig is a valley lying to the west of Brodick. The String Road, which rises to 233m (768 feet), connecting the east and west coast of Arran, runs through it and was the creation of civil engineer Thomas Telford. At the highest point views of the jagged peaks of Goatfell, Ben Nuis and Ben Tarsuinn dominate the skyline.



Our featured artist photographer **John Muir Wood** is regarded as one of the earliest photographers to make an extensive body of work of Scottish landscapes. His views of Arran, which also record some of the earliest images taken from mountain tops provide an invaluable record of life on the island from this time. A true innovative pioneer of photography, he left behind 900 images, a huge collection for the time. This extensive archive can be found in the National Galleries of Scotland.

Artworks:

'Glen Rosa' & 'Cir Mhor' by John Muir Wood



This placemaker can be accessed by Bus Route 322, or cycling The String (B880) road. It is accessible from a small car park.

Glen Rosa gives visitors to Arran the chance to experience the beauty and grandeur of a Highland Glen, with steep sides softened by the gentle burn. Thousands of trees have been planted on its slopes, including the rare Arran whitebeam, a species as old as the glaciers which formed the glen.



Our featured artists are **William Dyce**, **Samuel Peploe** and **Horatio McCulloch**. Dyce is the artist in Scotland most closely associated with the Pre-Raphaelite brotherhood and Glen Rosa provided the backdrop to several works showing his commitment to painting 'truth to nature'. Samuel Peploe was the most celebrated Scottish colourist, his iconic painting of Arran rendered in dynamic brush strokes and earthy tones give it a sense of the blustery weather and a brooding atmosphere. Horatio McCulloch was during his lifetime, the most well-known and successful landscape painter in Scotland, and often depicted the Scottish Highlands as a dramatic wilderness at a time when they were being actively cleared of people.

Artworks:

'Glen Rosa' by William Dyce,
'Glen Rosa' by Samuel Peploe
'Glen Rosa' by Horatio
McCulloch



This placemaker can be accessed by Bus Route 322, or cycling The String (B880) road. It is accessible by foot from Glen Rosa track by a short walk.

Goatfell is the highest point of the Isle of Arran at 874m (2866 ft) it is one of the four Corbetts on the island. On a clear day there are excellent views which stretch deep into the Highlands and Ben Nevis to the North, across to the islands of Jura to the West, East to Glasgow and the central belt, and South to the hills of Antrim in Northern Ireland.



Our featured artist is **Alasdair Gray** the Glaswegian polymath whose landmark novel *Lanark*, poetry collections, paintings and murals, have all come to represent a modern vision of Scotland. Gray made many visits to Arran with his parents as a child, staying in Pirnmill and exploring the coastline. As

an adult he would continue to return to the island, spending his honeymoon here. It was on Arran that he penned 'The Star' a short story which would form the basis for his first collection. His painting 'Bay' looking down from the tourist path to the peak of Goatfell, turns its back on the mountain and concentrates on the bay below. It is here, at the 300m (1000ft) mark that you will find a marker, with a special message from the artist.

Artwork:

'Bay' by Alasdair Gray.



This placemaker can be accessed as part of National Cycle Route 73, Bus routes 322, 323 & 324. It is accessible by a 30 min walk up the Goatfell path.

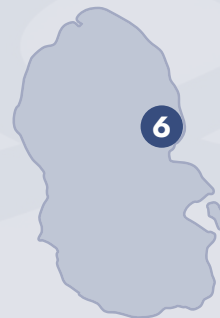
Brodict Castle is a former seat of the Dukes of Hamilton and is now owned by the National Trust for Scotland. The Castle itself has a long history and a fortress has been on the site since at least the 5th century. The story of the 11th Duke, his wife, Princess Marie Amelie of Baden and the artist George Hering are forever intertwined, and in our placemaker we celebrate the contribution of the Hering family to the Isle of Arran.



Our featured artist is **George Hering** born in London, he was the son of a German bookbinder. Hering trained at the Munich Art School, later embarking on a 'Grand Tour' through Italy, Greece, Transylvania and Romania. Hering painted a series of important landscapes of Arran, with his 'View of Brodict Bay' (1857) now hanging in the Castle, and his romantic depiction of Machrie Moor 'Druidical monuments at dawn in the Isle of Arran' 1871 is on view at the National Gallery of Victoria in Australia.

Artwork:

'Brodict Bay, Isle of Arran' by
George Hering



This placemaker can be accessed as part of National Cycle Route 73, Bus routes 322, 323 & 324. It is accessible by foot by a short walk to the bay view.

Corrie Village nestles under the mountains on the east coast of Arran. The village used to be a regular stop for steamers going around the island with passengers embarking by rowing boat from the ferry rock.



Our featured artists are lifelong friends **Joan Eardley** and **Margot Sandeman**, who met at Glasgow School of Art in 1940. During their trips to Arran they stayed in a small bothy called the Tabernacle. Eardley is arguably the best known modern artist inspired by Arran's landscapes and her formative years were spent sketching and painting in Corrie, producing works such as *Corrie Shore*. Sandeman was born in Glasgow into a family of artists and spent summer holidays with her family on Arran. It was at her invitation that Eardley first visited Arran. Sandeman is best known for her vivid west coast landscapes and still-lives influenced by the arts and crafts movement of which she was so familiar and practiced.

Artworks:

'Corrie Shore' by Joan Eardley

'Resting by the White Water'

by Margot Sandeman



This placemaker can be accessed as part of National Cycle Route 73, Bus route 324. It is accessible by foot on the shoreside.

Corrie Harbour and quay used to be the location where sandstone blocks from the nearby quarry were shipped to the mainland and huge pieces of stone can still be seen today, including our placemarkers.



Our featured artists are **Jessie M King** and **Ernest A Taylor**. Both King and her husband Taylor, who met as students at Glasgow School of Art had strong connections with Arran. King spent time on the island as a child each summer and Taylor often visited the island on sketching holidays and on one particular occasion in the 1890s, he was inspired by a meeting with Charles Rennie Mackintosh. King was a renowned artist and illustrator and Taylor a painter and etcher. They established a painting Summer School in High Corrie which ran from c.1911-1939, drawing students to Arran from the west of Scotland, Europe and beyond.

Artworks:

'Corrie, Arran' by Jessie M King

'Corrie' by Ernest A Taylor



This placemark can be accessed as part of National Cycle Route 73, Bus route 324. It is accessible by foot from the harbour.

Within Glen Sannox you can find an Iron Age Fort and the remains of a village abandoned in 1829 as part of the process of the Highland clearances.



Our featured artists are **John Knox** and **John MacLauchlan Milne**. Knox produced a stunning panoramic depiction of the glen, producing an awe inspiring and somewhat austere view of the mountains. Knox is an artist who had a profound effect on generations of Scottish painters, with pupils such as Horatio McCulloch, and was an important influence on the development of Glaswegian painting in particular. John McLauchlin Milne, considered to be the 'Fifth Colourist', was encouraged by his father Joseph Milne, a landscape painter and greatly inspired by Vincent van Gogh. Having spent time painting in France, McLachlan Milne returned to Scotland at the out-break of the second world war settling on the Isle of Arran in Corrie.

Artwork:

'Cir Mhor and the Sannox Hills, Arran'

by John MacLauchlan Milne
(Portland Gallery)

'Glen Sannox' by John Knox



This placemaker can be accessed as part of National Cycle Route 73, Bus route 324. It is accessible by a 20 min walk up the Glen Sannox path.

The village of Lochranza, in the North of Arran, takes its name from the sea loch which once made the harbour an important port for herring fishing. On a long promontory stand the ruins of a 16th century castle which replaced a much older structure visited by Robert the Bruce in 1306 when he returned from Ireland to take the Scottish throne. Lochranza has unsurprisingly been frequented by many artists eager to capture the picturesque castle in a grand highland setting.



Our featured artist is photographer **Thomas Annan**, who depicted the castle, harbourside and hills of Lochranza in 1860. This early work by Annan helped establish him as one of the leading photographers of his age. On viewing this image, The Royal Photographic Society commented that "from this time forth he must rank amongst our first class artists." He became one of the most celebrated early documentary photographers, a retrospective of his work was held at the Getty Museum in Los Angeles in 2017.

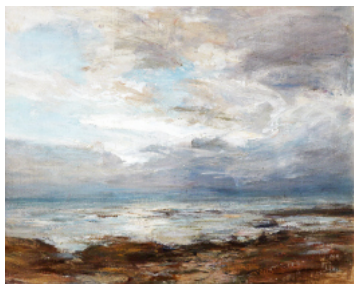
Artwork:

'Loch Ranza Castle' by
Thomas Annan



This placemaker can be accessed as part of National Cycle Route 73, Bus route 324. It is easily accessible from Lochranza Village Hall.

Catacol located on the West Coast of Arran is a small village home to the 'Twelve Apostles', a distinctive row of Victorian cottages which look over the waters of the Kilbrannan Sound to the Mull of Kintyre beyond. The wide sweep of the bay and Catacol Glen have enticed many artists and photographers.

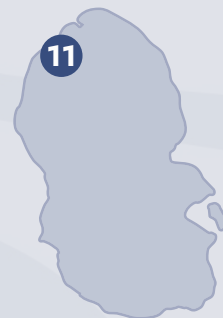


Our featured artists are the Wingates. **Sir James Lawton Wingate** was widely acknowledged as one of Scotland's most prominent landscape painters during his lifetime. He was president of the Royal Scottish Academy in 1919 and knighted in

the same year. The Glasgow born painter had a long and enduring relationship with the island, painting some of his finest work on Arran. Paintings by Wingate range from images of villagers in the landscape, to mountain and seascapes. Examples of his work such as *Kilbrannan Sound*, painted near Catacol, are held in the collections of the National Galleries of Scotland. Wingate was also often accompanied by his wife **Katherine Hill Wingate**, who painted the McTaggart influenced seascape *Arran Morning Light* in 1916. Their daughter **Helen Wingate** also painted on the island. This placemaker is dedicated to all three.

Artwork:

'Storm, Wrack and Cloud' by
Sir James Wingate
(Kirkcaldy Galleries)



This placemaker can be accessed by Bus route 324. It is easily accessible from Glen Catacol carpark.

Machrie is the site of a number of neolithic structures. These include the six machrie Moor Stone Circles and Moss Farm Road Stone Circle which date back to between 3500 - 1500 BCE. The standing stones are undoubtedly one of the most iconic sites on the island. Artists have long been drawn to the stones, an association which dates back to the Romantic period.



Our featured artist is **William McTaggart**. Born in Campbeltown, McTaggart was the son of a crofter, who at the age of 16 moved to Edinburgh to study under Robert Scott Lauder, one of the founders of the Royal Scottish Academy. He is often referred to as 'The Scottish impressionist' due to his love of painting outdoors as well as his use of colour and bold brushwork. The oil painting *June Day, Arran* painted in the late 1860s is a perfect example of what draws many to McTaggart's work. Children play on what is believed to be the ancient standing stones at Auchengallon near Machrie. In the distance fishing boats can be seen at sea, full sails turned towards the winds.

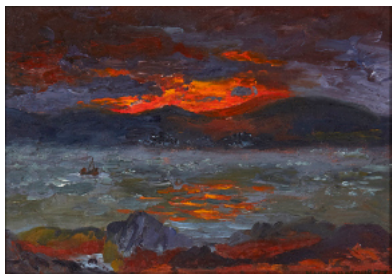
Artwork:

'June Day, Arran' by William McTaggart



This placemarker can be accessed by Bus routes 322 & 324. It is accessible from a shoreside layby near the Machrie Tearoom.

Blackwaterfoot 'bottom of the black river' is located in the Shiskine valley in the southwest of the island. A short walk from Blackwaterfoot is Drumadoon point home to the largest Iron Age Fort on Arran, further north still is Kings Cave reputed to be a hiding place of Robert the Bruce, which is worth visiting to view the walls which are covered with early medieval carvings, including inscriptions in Ogham, Norse artwork and depictions of animals.



Our featured artist is **Mary Nicol Neill Armour** a Scottish landscape and still-life painter, art teacher and Honorary President of the Glasgow School of Art. She was one of the first women to be elected to the Royal Scottish Academy.

Armour is known for her vibrant, colourful depictions of flowers, as well as her dramatic seascapes. She considered painting '*an intellectual pursuit...the thinking takes far more time than the actual manipulation of the oil paint.*' It was the coastlines of Arran which she was most drawn to and the paintings she made at the coast around Blackwaterfoot with views of Kintyre, that she wished to be most remembered for.

Artwork:

'Carradale from Arran' by Mary Nicol Neill Armour



This placemaker can be accessed by Bus routes 322, 323 & 324. It is easily accessible by foot, from a flat pavement across from the Kinloch hotel.

Kildonan village looks south to the islands of Pladda, the distinctive volcanic rock of Ailsa Craig, and Ireland beyond. The name Kildonan came from St. Donnan who is reputedly buried in the village. Early life in the village revolved around Kildonan Castle often referred to as Kildonan Tower. Once a Royal seat the castle changed hands between various Scottish Nobles.



Our featured artist **James Nairn** was born in Glasgow and studied at the Glasgow School of Art, later spending time at the Académie Julian in Paris, before returning to Scotland. He was one of a group of influential Glasgow artists known as 'The Glasgow Boys' and painted several works on Arran where this style is clearly visible such as '*Kildonan*'. For a decade Nairn painted and exhibited alongside the Glasgow Boys before emigrating from Scotland to New Zealand in 1890.

Artwork:

'Kildonan Looking South' &
'Kildonan' by James Nairn

© Glasgow Museums



This placemaker can be accessed by Bus route 323. It is easily accessible by foot, from a shoreside layby across the road from the Kildonan community centre.

Whiting Bay boasts one of the best walks on Arran taking visitors from the coast via an iron age fort to the dramatic Glenashdale falls. This walk also includes a visit to 'The Giants Graves' two neolithic chambered tombs high above the village giving spectacular views to the Holy Isle and mountains of Arran to the North.



The placemaker in Whiting Bay is adjacent to the site of the former Arran Gallery run by the Gill family at St Columba's Church, which showed a wide range of contemporary Scottish artists including Alasdair Gray, James Gorman and Alan Davie. Our 'Artists Stone', neach-ealain in Gaelic, is dedicated to all contemporary artists inspired by Arran such as sculptor **Bruce McLean** and Turner Prize winner **Charlotte Prodger**, as well as to all future artists, and is represented here by the work of painter **Duncan Shanks**. Shanks was born in Airdrie and studied at Glasgow School of Art. He draws inspiration from forces in nature including those of Arran landscapes.

Artwork:

'Steve Gill in the St. Columba's Gallery, Whiting Bay' by Alasdair Gray
'Cir Mhor' by Duncan Shanks (Hunterian Museum)



This placemaker can be accessed by Bus route 323. It is easily accessible by foot from the seafront near Whiting Bay primary school and the old church.

At Kingscross point there is a dun or fortified farmstead dating back 2000 years and a Viking burial site where the remains of a Viking boat were found. The boat points towards Holy Island and is one of the most prominently positioned burials in Scotland and would have been visible to passing boats. It is also the location in which the warrior king Robert the Bruce is said to have sailed in 1307 in order to take back the Scottish crown and end English occupation.



Our featured artist is **Agnes Miller Parker**. Parker lived on Arran for the last few decades of her life. She studied at Glasgow School of Art and was a member of the Vorticist group of painters and is primarily known for her extraordinary woodblock carvings. Her work with H. E. Bates in *Through the Woods* (1936) and *Down the River* (1937) contains some of her most beautiful work depicting the natural world.

Artwork:

'Illustration from Down the River' by Agnes Miller Parker



This placemaker can be accessed by Bus route 323. It is accessible by foot not far from the Viking fort at Kingscross point.

Lamlash is one of Arran's two main villages, located on the east coast and situated in a sheltered bay looking across to the Holy Isle. The ferry to the Holy Isle operates from Lamlash Harbour in the summer.



Our featured artist is the landscape painter **James Kay**. Kay is the most well known artist to be born on Arran (in Lamlash), with a career which was celebrated both at home and abroad. Known for his seascapes, often depicting the frenetic energy of harboursides and shipping, Kay painted a River Clyde which has now largely passed into memory. Educated at the Glasgow School of Art, Kay's work was influenced by the impressionist movement and he regularly exhibited in France. His best known painting is 'The Launch of the Lusitania' 1907, which met her doom off the West Coast of Ireland in 1915 at the hands of a U-boat. His work is well represented in UK collections, especially in the City of Glasgow where his studio was based.

Artworks:

'In Search of Grist' (Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum) & 'Leaving harbour, Lamlash, Arran' by James Kay



This placemaker can be accessed by Bus route 323. It is easily accessible by foot, at the end of Lamlash Green adjacent to the COAST Discovery Centre & Tennis Courts.

Holy Island has a long history as a sacred site, with a holy well said to have healing properties and the hermit cave of the 6th century monk St. Molaise. It is owned by the Samyé Ling Buddhist Community, who belong to the Kagyu school of Tibetan Buddhism. The community established the Centre for World Peace and Health on the north of the island.



Our featured artist is **Dechi Wangmo**. Wangmo trained under Sherab Palden Beru, the master Thangka painter. Working on rocks originally carved by Gyamtso Tashi from Samyé Ling, Wangmo created striking works which have endured the worst excesses of the Scottish weather through the use of paints designed for oil rigs. Her works continue to leave an impression on both residents and visitors to the island. Truly community artworks, these sacred pieces, first begun in 1993, continue to be maintained, restored and re-worked by many hands.

Artwork:

Murals by Dechi Wangmo,
photographed by Iain
McLean



This placemaker can be accessed by Bus route 323 followed by a short boat trip on the Holy Isle ferry from Lamlash Pier and a walk to the location.

Clauchlands Point is about 3 km from the centre of Lamlash Village and gives one of the best viewpoints of the Holy Isle. From here a trail leads to Dun Fionn, an Iron Age hill fort with a view to the Arran hills.



Our featured artist **Waller Hugh Paton** worked intensively on Arran and was fascinated by the dramatic effects of light such as the sun reflected on rocks or sunsets which many of his paintings feature. This is illustrated in one of his most famous paintings, Lamlash Bay. Painted in just under a week, this work is typical of his style, with its purple evening light and the depiction of a quiet rural scene. Paton is recognised as the first Scottish Painter to paint outdoors 'En plein air'. This marker celebrates the work of Waller Hugh Paton and that of the many generations of the Paton family who have contributed to the cultural life on the island including his brother Sir Joseph Noel Paton.

Artwork:

'Lamlash Bay'

by Waller Hugh Paton
(Royal Scottish Academy)



This placemaker can be accessed by Bus route 323. It is accessible by foot, from a shoreside layby on the way to Clauchlands point.

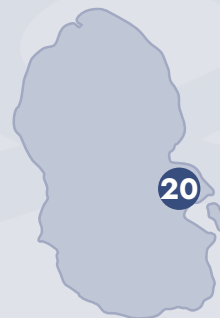
The Viewpoint is located on the highpoint of the road between Brodick and Lamlash, this vantage point gives unparalleled views to the mountains of Arran in the North. All of the major peaks can be observed, from Ben Nuiss and Ben Tarsuinn in the west, to Cir Mhor and Goatfell in the East.



Our featured artist **David Young Cameron** was a successful painter and a very influential etcher. Born in Glasgow, Cameron studied at Glasgow School of Art, later completing his studies at Edinburgh School of Art. He rose to international prominence with his skills as an etcher, largely depicting architectural and landscape scenes in Scotland, Holland and Italy. Arran appeared prominently in his early work with Ben Nuis, Cir Mhor and Goatfell as well as sites in the south such as Drumadoon point. All depict his recognisably stark and moody approach which explored light and contrast using the drypoint technique.

Artwork:

'Arran Coastline' & 'Cir Mhor'
by David Young Cameron



This placemaker can be accessed by Bus route 323. It is easily accessible by foot, from the Forestry and Land car park.

Front Cover Images *(Left to Right, Top to Bottom):*

George Hering - Druidical Monuments, 1871

(National Gallery of Victoria)

Agnes Miller Parker - Illustration from Down the River, 1937

Margot Sandeman - The Way Down, 1982

Dechi Wangmo painting, Holy Isle

DY Cameron - Cir Mhor (Lithograph by Robert Houston)

John Maclauchlan Milne - Glen Sannox (Portland Gallery)

Joan Eardley, RSA - Corrie Shore

Mary Nicol Neill Armour, RSA - Carradale from Arran

Hugh Purdie - Ceramics

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Project Facilitator: Simon Ross-Gill

Brochure layout and design: Simon Ross-Gill (rgsimey.scot)

With thanks to

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Trail Map

- 1 - Brodick
- 2 - Arran Museum
- 3 - Glen Shurig
- 4 - Glen Rosa
- 5 - Goatfell
- 6 - Brodick Castle
- 7 - Corrie Village
- 8 - Corrie Harbour
- 9 - Glen Sannox
- 10 - Lochranza
- 11 - Catacol
- 12 - Machrie
- 13 - Blackwaterfoot
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- 15 - Whiting Bay
- 16 - Kingscross
- 17 - Lamlash
- 18 - Holy Isle
- 19 - Clauchlands
- 20 - The Viewpoint



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