



'Gatehouse View with Statues'

John Faed (1818 - 1902)

Originally the backdrop for the Town Hall stage,
now hanging in the Dining Room of Gatehouse School

The Background

When James Murray of Broughton inherited the Cally Estates in about 1763 the town was little more than a village, on the main road from Portpatrick to Carlisle and London. In 1790 a Yorkshireman, James Birtwhistle, was refused permission to build a cotton mill in nearby Kirkcudbright, so James Murray seized the opportunity to bring industry to Gatehouse, hoping it would become a rival to Glasgow. The streets of Gatehouse were based on the same grid pattern but the hopes for a permanent industrial life were dashed by the middle of the nineteenth century when the rise of the Lancashire mills put the local mills out of business. For another seventy years or so the biggest mills were turned to timber handling and produced bobbins for Glasgow's Coats reeled cotton factory.

In 1795, however, at the peak of the industrial success, James Murray applied to the King to grant a Charter to the town as a Burgh of Barony, which charter was signed by George III on June 30th 1795. It was to celebrate this Bicentenary that a special committee was set up, under the chairmanship of James Murray Usher, to co-ordinate and instigate a series of events.

There are many artists and craftsmen living in Gatehouse now, and two of them, Brian Arneill and Jeremy Carlisle, were the instigators of the project to paint a picture of the town as it is today, using any members of the public who would like to add their contribution. These two artists, in turn, were inspired by the 19th century Gatehouse painter, John Faed, who painted a picture of Gatehouse through an imaginary arch - in practice the design for the back-drop of the stage of the Town Hall which was built in 1889. Faed had painted his view of the town from the window of his house, Ardmore, looking down the street to the river, but the 1995 painting looks the other way, up the street.



Gatehouse in 1995
The view painted on June 24th 1995



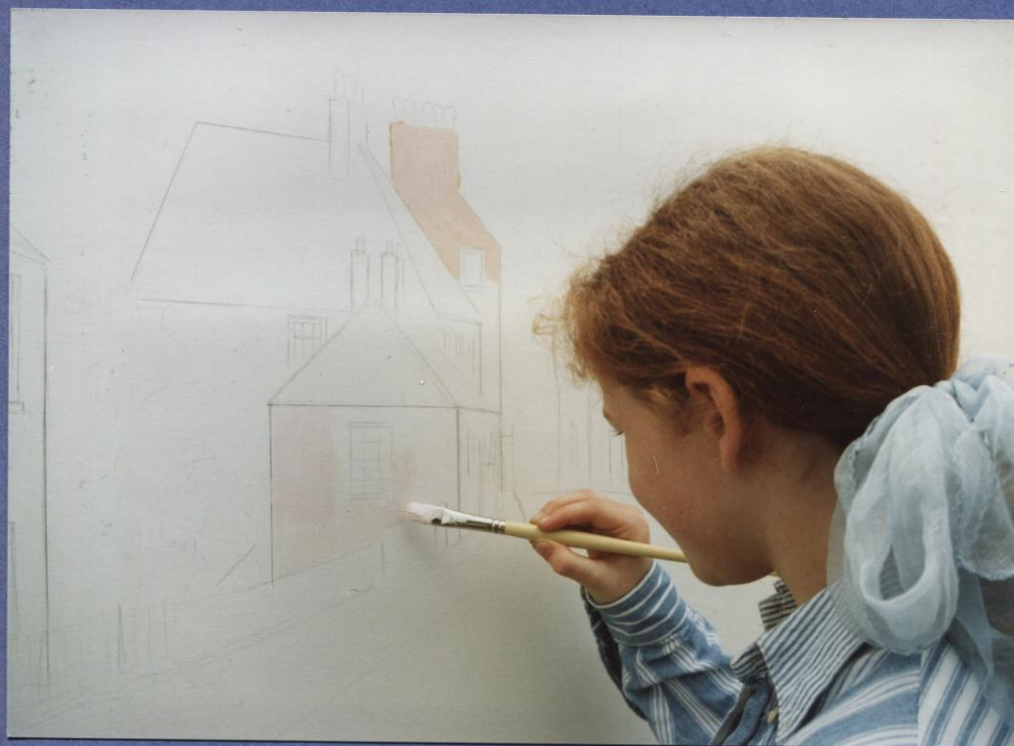
The Work Place
by the bridge over the River Fleet



The First Brushful of Paint
by James Murray Usher

The Second
by Mrs Ruby Murray Usher





Next came the Young Artists





And the not so young!





The Town Crier
Mrs Jane McGivern

The Men in Charge
Jeremy Carlisle (right) and Brian Arneill (centre)
with another local artist



The Presentation

l to r: Brian Arneill, (Artist), Howard McLean (Headmaster), Jane McGivern (Town Crier), Liz Niven (representing the Gulbenkian Foundation), Jenny Wilson (Dumfries and Galloway Arts Association), James Murray-Usher (Chairman, Bicentenary Committee), Lilian Dent (Bicentenary Committee), Helen Keating (Secretary, Bicentenary Committee), Jeremy Carlisle (Artist).



The Contributors

Photographs by
Geoffrey Keating



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Contributors

Name

Address

Jeremy Carlisle	Gatehouse of Fleet
Brian Ansell	Gatehouse
James Hurrell	Gatehouse
R. Hurrell	Gatehouse
John Hurrell	Gatehouse
Mary Devereux	Gatehouse
Aoife Fazakerley	Gatehouse
Allyson Mowatt	Gatehouse
Catherine Munro	Catherine
Helen Kinty	Gatehouse
Mary Grant	Gatehouse
William Dunt	"
Pat Skelton	"
John Grant	Gatehouse
Michael - aged 2	"

BICENTENARY

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Contributors

Name	Address
Arron Cowan	Gatehouse of Fleet
Moyndemo	Gatehouse of Fleet
John Mc Govern	Gatehouse of Fleet
W M McEwen	Gatehouse of Fleet
Tom Kelly	GATEHOUSE OF FLEET
Gilbert Keble	" "
David Wilson	" "
Mary Millan	" "
My Murphy	" "
Colin Rowell (n'sisley)	" "
Nickie Frame	" "
Yn Hampshire	" "
John Bellamy	grange
Hollie McNicol	Gate house
BERT CORNES	GIRVAN
A. Robertson	Girvan
S McKendry	Girvan
D McVieal	GATEHOUSE OF FLEET
Mayan John	Girvan

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~~Mark Shaffy~~
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Plumtree Park Gatehouse
GLASGOW

D. Atkinson

Thornwood Av. GLASGOW.

Joy Morgan

Sandgreen.

Pauline Brining

Sandgreen Road.

Jim Brining

do.

Pete / Bruce.

Leckward Gashorn City.

Geoff Keston

Gashorn

Emily Arnett

Gashorn

RICHARD

Gashorn

CATHY WILSON

"

Verity Wilson

"

Mark McLean

School house (GAT)

Thomas McKie

Calehouse - OF - Fleet

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Contributors

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Michael Devereux	Gatehouse - of Fleet
David Devereux	Gatehouse - of Fleet
Patricia	Gatehouse
Craig McLean	Gatehouse - of Fleet
Lindsay McEwan	Gatehouse - of Fleet
W. B. J.	"
MANDY CHAMBERS	Gatehouse - of Fleet
Rita Watt	Fraserburgh
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John McEwan	P. Richard Hall
Edith Hamilton	Gatehouse
Naz Scott	Gatehouse of Fleet
Kerryann Cluett	Gatehouse of Fleet
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May Thompson	Norfolk
Emily E. Hawksworth	Woodlyn

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Emma Fergusson	Gatehouse of Fleet
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Bonnie Parker/zy	Gatehouse
Jackie Perry	Cloucester
Joy Fletcher	Gatehouse of Fleet
KEATHER JACKSON	PONTEFRAC, WEST YOKS
Shula Jackson	Pontefract. W. Yorks.
C.A. Edwards	Bakey. S. VALES.
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Steven Picktall	Gatehouse
Simon Mirkic	7 market hill. Gatehouse
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GEORGE Mc CULLOCH	GATEHOUSE OF FLEET
Neil Gilston	Gatehouse of Fleet
GARY Gilston	Gatehouse of Fleet
Sam Gilston	Gatehouse of Fleet
Alexandra Woffe	Gatehouse of Fleet
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Katrina Bryan	Gatehouse of Fleet
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Thomas Neilson	Ringford

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