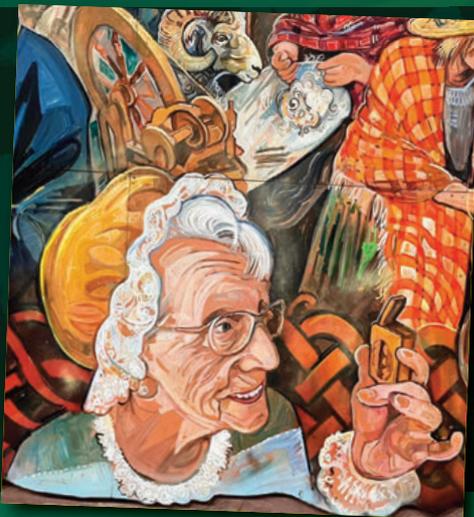


Welcome Tam O'Shanter



The story of Tam O'Shanter is legendary. His place in our heritage is one we are extremely proud of, so we've made his famous tale a main feature in our mural. We are proud to reveal the first portrait of Tam leaving the tavern to begin his exciting adventure home. Our artist Chris Rutterford has executed the scene skilfully and

beautifully. You can feel the heart and soul of each portrait. You'll be able to view this latest masterpiece in a few weeks along with an amazing new pathway! Once again, you'll be captured by the essence and the energy of the mural but this time, from a new viewing platform!



ALLOWAY RAILWAY TUNNEL ART SCIO - SC052139

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It's the people that make places, so we've actively involved the community in our project so that everyone has an opportunity to take part and help us achieve the transformation of the tunnel. Over 2,000 have helped so far!

One of the community groups we've loved working with is South Ayrshire Young Carers. We teamed up with The Iris Ayr to provide some of the children with an opportunity to learn filmmaking skills and help us tell the history behind the Ayr Racecourse. The Young Carers also got involved in painting the mural at the Cutty Sark. We're looking forward to celebrating the valuable role Young Carers play by supporting C-Ayr-Fest on 22nd February. Come and visit our stand at the Grain Exchange, High Street Ayr, for some fun art activities.

A young carer is someone aged 18 or under who cares for a friend or family member who, due to illness, disability, mental health problems or an addiction, cannot cope without their support.

ALL AGES

South Ayrshire Carers Art Competition

- Create a piece of artwork no bigger than A4 to fit the theme of 'We cAyr' in celebration of this year's cAyrFest event.
 - Open to all adult and young carers (including wee carers and teeny carers!)
 - Your artwork can be a painting, drawing, collage, photograph, etc.
- All entries will be displayed in the Grain Exchange in Ayr on Saturday 22nd February as part of cAyrFest celebrations.
- Pieces will be voted on by everyone attending the event.
- The winning artist will have their portrait painted within the Alloway Tunnel Project (or can nominate someone for this).

Submit your artwork by Friday 14th February by emailing Carers@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

cAyrFest 



If you know someone who is caring for a friend of family member get in touch with carers@south-ayrshire.gov.uk so they can receive support.

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Friends of the Tunnel

Thanks to everyone who joined our mural art workshops at the Cutty Sark helping us to create the Tam O'Shanter scene at the Brig O'Doon. We'll be installing this in the spring.

Visitors included: Ayrshire College Supportive Learning and ESOL students, Girvan Youth Trust, Wallacetown Ladies group, Lochside Exclusively Women's group, Befriend, Start at Art Walking Group with Gillian's Walks, Unique Friends, Ayr Grammar, Minishant, Crosshill, Maidens, Fisherton, Culzean, Girvan Primary Schools, Troon Art Club, Ayr Art Circle as well as hundreds of the general public who dropped in over our two week residency.



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Get Involved

What makes our mural special is the amazing involvement of the community in every aspect of the project. From co-creating the mural to painting the tunnel walls, sharing your photos of your visit, fundraising or volunteering your skills to help the project. The success of the mural shows what can be achieved when people come together, working in collaboration, to make a lasting change.



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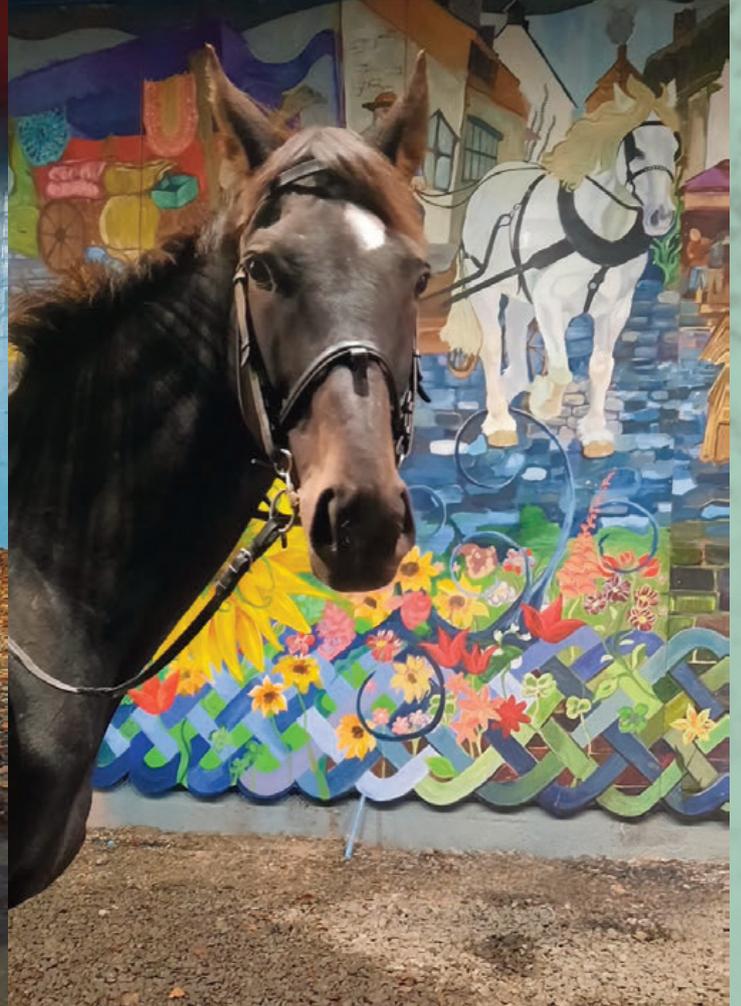
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Get Involved

Special thanks to Ross McCrae, artist, for his work creating amazing mythical creatures.



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Telling the stories of our Ayrshire heritage

We're tying in so much history and heritage to the tunnel by making a series of short films and creating blogs to help visitors learn more about Ayrshire life and history. These are accessed by QR codes from our

mural and will link to our website where the films can be viewed.

Here's what we have achieved over the autumn:



Spes Bona: Hear from Ayrshire Fisherman Robin Gibson, co-owner of local fishing boat 'Spes Bona,' about his life as a fisherman on the Firth of Clyde.

[Watch now!](#)

We worked with the children from Fisherton Primary School to help tell the story of **Buckie Munro**. He's famous because he's one of the fishermen of Dunure who went to the rescue of the Valkyrian which was wrecked in hurricane force winds off the coast of Dunure during a storm.

[Watch now!](#)



Culzean Castle & Country Park NTS is often referred to as the 'Jewel in the Crown' of Ayrshire. The pupils at Culzean Primary School are very lucky as it's right on their doorstep. We arranged for them to have a special guided tour with Alastair Law, Operations Manager, to find out more about their favourite country park.

[Watch now!](#)

Turnberry Golf is famous worldwide. In this film we invited the P5/6 pupils at Maidens Primary School to interview Ricky Hall, Director of Golf at Trump Turnberry to learn more about the history of their village and what makes the golf course unique.

[Watch now!](#)



P7 Pupils from Minishant and Crosshill Primary School perform a poem about **Robert the Bruce** who was born in Turnberry Castle.

[Watch now!](#)

Have you read any of our blogs? We cover a wide variety of topics including walking, cycling, beekeeping, steam trains, local history and memories of Ayrshire. <https://allowaytunnel.wordpress.com>

Visit our website to view the latest films in our Gallery.

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Fundraising: We need your help!

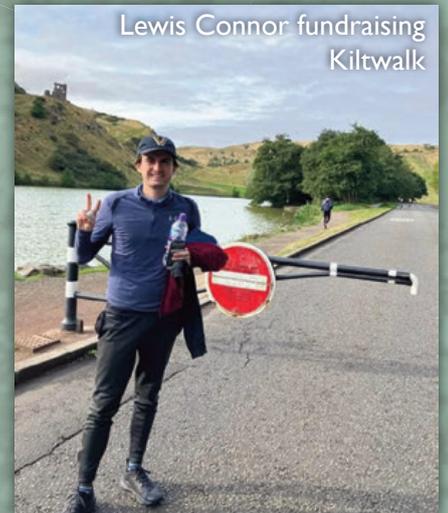
We need to raise £200,000! We're within touching distance of our goal but we need your help to achieve this and complete the mural. Please consider making a donation to our project.

Thanks to our funders, local groups and individuals who have been fundraising.

National Lottery Community Fund



People's Postcode Lottery (click to see video)



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Additional New Project for ART

Paths For All Funding Award

We are thrilled to have been awarded an up to £100,000 grant from Scottish national walking charity Paths for All's Ian Findlay Path Fund to upgrade the active travel route running through the tunnel, enabling the local community to walk, wheel or cycle more for their everyday journeys.

This is a tremendous boost for our project. Initially we were focused on creating a mural, however, this new injection of funding means that we can now upgrade the active-travel path.

From 22 January and in partnership with Ayrshire Roads Alliance, we have started to create a new surface which will provide a safer and more colourful, joyful journey through the tunnel. We've improved the drainage at the entrance and cleared some of the overgrown shrubbery. This will make the path safer and more accessible. We've been advised work will be ongoing for a period of 6 weeks with the tunnel closed at times as necessary for public safety.

We'd like to thank Paths for All's Ian Findlay Path Fund, supported by Transport Scotland and the Scottish Government, for the opportunity to upgrade the path.



The Alloway Railway Tunnel is a charity in Scotland registered as SCIO SC052139

Contact us

www.allowaytunnel.org.uk
info@allowaytunnel.org.uk

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