

**ANDERSON (LOCAL COLLECTION) TRUST SC0 08509**

**Legal and Administrative Information for the year ended 31 January, 2026**

**Address: 8 Kenilworth Gate, Wellgate Drive, Bridge of Allan, FK9 4RG**

**Trustees:**

- Mr J.M.K. Anderson**
- Mr J.W. Anderson**
- Mr W.R. Anderson**
- Mrs Mary-Jane Selwood**
- Mrs Jacqueline Anderson**
- Mrs Barbara Croft**
- Mrs Alison Priestley**

## ANDERSON (LOCAL COLLECTION) TRUST

SCO 08509

### TRUSTEES REPORT FOR YEAR TO 31/01/2026

The Trust was created in 1981 to implement the wishes informally expressed by Miss A.T. Anderson that her collection of pictures of Helensburgh and Dumbartonshire should be kept for Helensburgh if a suitable place could be found to hang them together. The collection comprised thirty-four pictures, which were kept by Dumbarton District Council, the Council to be responsible for the insurance of the pictures and for any necessary maintenance of the pictures. The Trust Deed contained other detailed provisions.

The Trust had and has no funds.

In 1985 another Trust was established namely the Inistore Trust (SCO 10558). This Trust has a capital, the income from which has been made available for maintenance of the collection belonging to the Anderson (Local Collection) Trust, for the expenses of exhibition of the collection, and for the acquisition of additions to the collection.

Dumbarton District Council ceased to exist in 1985 and Helensburgh is now situated in the local government area of Argyll and Bute, which took on the obligations undertaken by Dumbarton District Council in terms of the Trust Deed. The collection is now stored in the Library at Helensburgh in the safe keeping of Argyll and Bute Council.

The committee met in 2025 and discussed future exhibitions.

Mary-Jane announced her intention to pass on her active involvement in the Trust to the capable hands of Barbara Croft, whilst still involved on a consultancy and research basis. Mary-Jane will remain a trustee.

**January 2026 "Capturing the Elements".** The theme for the 2026 exhibition was agreed at the last committee meeting. Although there are reduced facilities with the Gym having been relocated from its home on the Pier due to storm damage, the exhibition was mounted. Barbara and a small team of helpers, created an excellent display which included a number of paintings not so frequently exhibited. Visitor numbers were inevitably reduced due to the disruption of normal Library service but Barbara worked hard to raise awareness of the exhibition in the town and, judging by comments, it was much appreciated by those who did visit.

The temporary gym is not an ideal environment for exhibition viewing but the staff and users of the Gym have been, without exception, friendly and helpful and the much longer opening hours helped to encourage access. It is unclear when the Library will return "home" but we hope work on the pier will continue. Perhaps by the exhibition in 2028 we can expect the library to be in situ.

Fiona Baker of Destination Helensburgh contacted Mary-Jane to introduce her to two recent visitors to the shop: **Kate Rider** and her mother, who is a grand-daughter of John Young Hunter and knew him and his wife Mary personally. The Anderson Trust owns one small oil painting by John Young Hunter "Helensburgh from the Golf Links", which was in Nance Anderson's original collection, and, later, acquired by donation Colin Hunter's "Fishing Boats". Kate Rider and her mother own a number of paintings and personal papers by their Hunter relatives and, having made contact, Mary-Jane looks forward to more information for the Trust. In November Kate Rider and her mother

responded with some very helpful additions and amendments to the biographies of their Hunter forebears. Based on this information and the book "Colin Hunter of the Holland Park Circle" by Godfrey Bell (sent by the Riders) Mary-Jane has updated the biographies of Colin Hunter and John Young-Hunter.

**September** Mary-Jane produced two new card designs "Street in Helensburgh" by John Carlaw and "The Skating Pond" by A.N. Paterson, which have been printed and will shortly be on sale at the Scandinavian Shop in Helensburgh.

**December 2025 – February 2026 Contact with Tanya Paul (Curator Milwaukee Art Museum)** In December Tanya Paul was referred to Mary-Jane by Joanna Meacock (Glasgow Museums) in connection with an exhibition of Scottish Women's art and, in particular, Norah Neilson Gray, planned for Milwaukee Art Museum in 2027. Mary-Jane supplied Tanya with information by e-mail and introduced her to Alasdair and Catriona Reynolds whose family connections with Norah Neilson Gray would be helpful. In February 2026 Tanya and a fellow curator, Shoshana Resnikoff visited Helensburgh and met Mary-Jane and Alasdair and Catriona Reynolds. They were very interested to see the Norah Neilson Gray watercolour in the Anderson Trust Collection and the masterful "Hôpital Auxilaire D'Armée 30, Abbaye de Royaumont" in the Library and enjoyed the opportunity of seeing some fine examples of her work in the family collection of Alasdair and Catriona. They seemed keen to exhibit one or two of the NNG works they saw in the planned exhibition in Milwaukee. We indicated this would be dependent on a joint Trustee agreement and made no commitment.

**Plans for new exhibition January 2027** Although, the present situation in the Library is unlikely to change quickly, we feel it is important that the Anderson Trust continues to use the exhibition facility and time span allotted by Argyll & Bute. We plan to mount another exhibition in January next year with the theme of Boats.

Date: 5 September 2026

Signed: W.R. Anderson

WR Anderson

Trustee