

# CUMBERNAULD THROUGH OUR EYES



A CUMBERNAULD THEATRE PROJECT  
CREATED BY NICOLA STEAD  
WITH SENIOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS  
OF CUMBERNAULD







## Cumbernauld Through Our Eyes

A Cumbernauld Theatre project created by Nicola Stead, working with senior community members of Cumbernauld.

This publication features photographs taken by individuals who participated in the Cumbernauld Community Photography Project with the artist Nicola Stead from June till September 2021. The photographs give an insight into people's lives and reflect on their relationship to the place they call home.

It includes portraits and supplementary photography by Nicola Stead.

Thank you to Rona Cheyne, Ann Wallace, Helen Scott, Gillian Inglis, Helen Dall, Elizabeth Mathieson, Mae Miller, Andrew Pearson Jim Kilmartin and Maureen Kilmartin for taking part and sharing your photographs, memories, and stories.

[www.nicolasteadphotography.com](http://www.nicolasteadphotography.com)

**CUMBERNAULD**  
**THEATRE** **AT**  
**LANTERHOUSE**



**Scottish Government**  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
[gov.scot](http://gov.scot)

*With support from Scottish Government's Empowering Communities Programme – Investing in Communities Fund*

## Helen Dall



"I came to Cumbernauld in 1963 just after I was married. I was a young teacher, and I was offered a house as a key worker. It was exciting to be part of the development of the town."



"My *Midwinter Sun* tea set was my pride and joy in the mid-sixties."

“There is still a strong feeling of togetherness in our community.”



“The Fish Van in Condorrat – a regular meeting place for a catch-up, especially during lockdown.”





"A shortcut to the town centre from Greenfaulds."



"Visiting family in Eastfield Cemetery."

## Helen Scott



"I moved to Cumbernauld in late summer 1967, having previously lived far away from family and friends due to my husband's job. I had become socially isolated and depressed. Moving to Cumbernauld was a fresh start and I settled in overnight into the wonderful family environment and have never looked back since."





“‘The Bull’ outside the takeaway in Abbronz hill town centre.”





"A little group of wildflowers on the Kildrum walkway towards the town centre."



"The beautiful Ravenswood Reserve."





"My little 'hug' sitting on my windowsill, sent from England by my lovely granddaughter during lockdown. I miss her so much."



## Ann Wallace



"When I came to Cumbernauld in 1964 the New Town environment was something to behold. A beautiful place to live with good housing and lots of green spaces."



"I have fond memories of the dinner dances and taking my children to the small cinema in the town centre."









"Sadly, Cumbernauld is now a giant housing scheme, short on facilities and some areas no more than slums. Great beginning but what of the future?"



## Rona Cheyne



"As a teacher coming to Cumbernauld in 1974, I was offered a lovely three storey family house in an area of cobbled paths and green recreational space – a far cry from the high rises of Glasgow."



“My work colleague introduced me to the Cottage Theatre which performed many and varied theatrical events. My favourite was a Burns celebration of the Jolly Beggars with haggis, neeps and tatties in the interval.”



“My hat with my badges of birds and countries.”





"Taken in the lovely hot weather at Ravenswood Reserve."



“Cumbernauld has much to offer families – from its history, the Country Park and the arts to the community centres and wide variety of voluntary interest groups which take place in the town today.”



“Street art created by my grandchildren during one of their occasional visits during lockdown.”



## Gillian Inglis



"I moved to Cumbernauld on a snowy day in February 2003. I have made friends since coming to live here and I enjoy living in Cumbernauld. I have had to get used to snowy cold winters as Cumbernauld is so high above sea level but grateful that we will not be flooded."

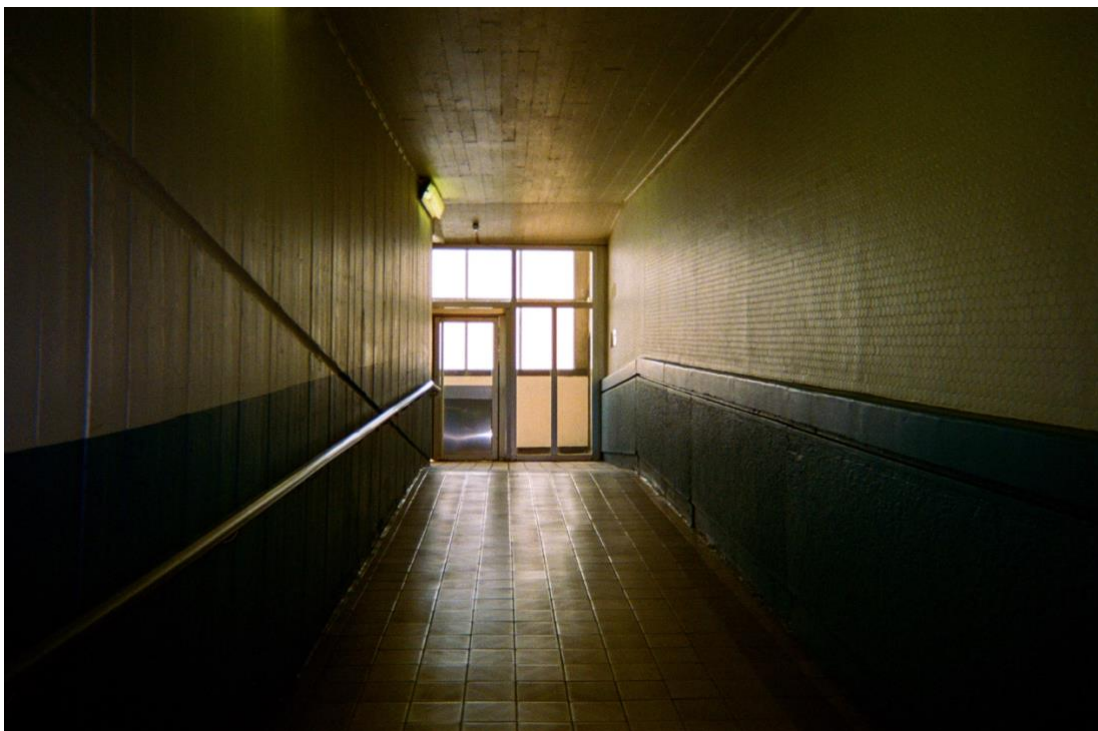


"We have flowering cherry trees in spring, parkland with walks and lots of wild meadow areas in summer."





“Although the town centre has been much maligned, and certainly "Brutalist Architecture" is not to everyone's taste, I have found the staff in our shops and cafes to be kind, very helpful and polite.”





"The water tower, Carrickstone."





"I have seen a lot of changes since moving here. Lots more houses have been built and there are further housing development applications in the pipeline."

## Elizabeth Mathieson



"I have lived in Cumbernauld for 25 years, I moved to be closer to my workplace."







“What I like most about staying in Cumbernauld is the vast number of green spaces. Not until the lockdown in 2020 did I realise just what a lovely area I live in.”







"During the lockdown so many of my lovely neighbours knocked my door to see if I was ok and if I needed any shopping brought in."









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