

# The Scottish Civic Trust

CELEBRATE • TAKE ACTION • ADVOCATE



My  
Place  
2022



# CELEBRATE TAKE ACTION ADVOCATE

## Our Vision:

*Thriving, beautiful and well cared for buildings and places, which help to support and sustain a high quality of life.*

## Our Mission:

*To celebrate Scotland's built environment, take action for its improvement and empower its communities.*

The Scottish Civic Trust's My Place Awards and My Place Photography Competition are part of our work to get people in all of Scotland's communities involved in our built environment.

## CONTENTS

My Place Awards	page 4
- Shortlist	page 6

My Place Photography Competition	page 12
- Primary School Category	page 15
- Secondary School Category	page 18
- Young Persons' Choice	page 21

**TO FIND OUT MORE, VISIT:**  
**[myplacescotland.org.uk](http://myplacescotland.org.uk)**

## PROJECT LOCATIONS



### Shortlisted My Place Awards projects

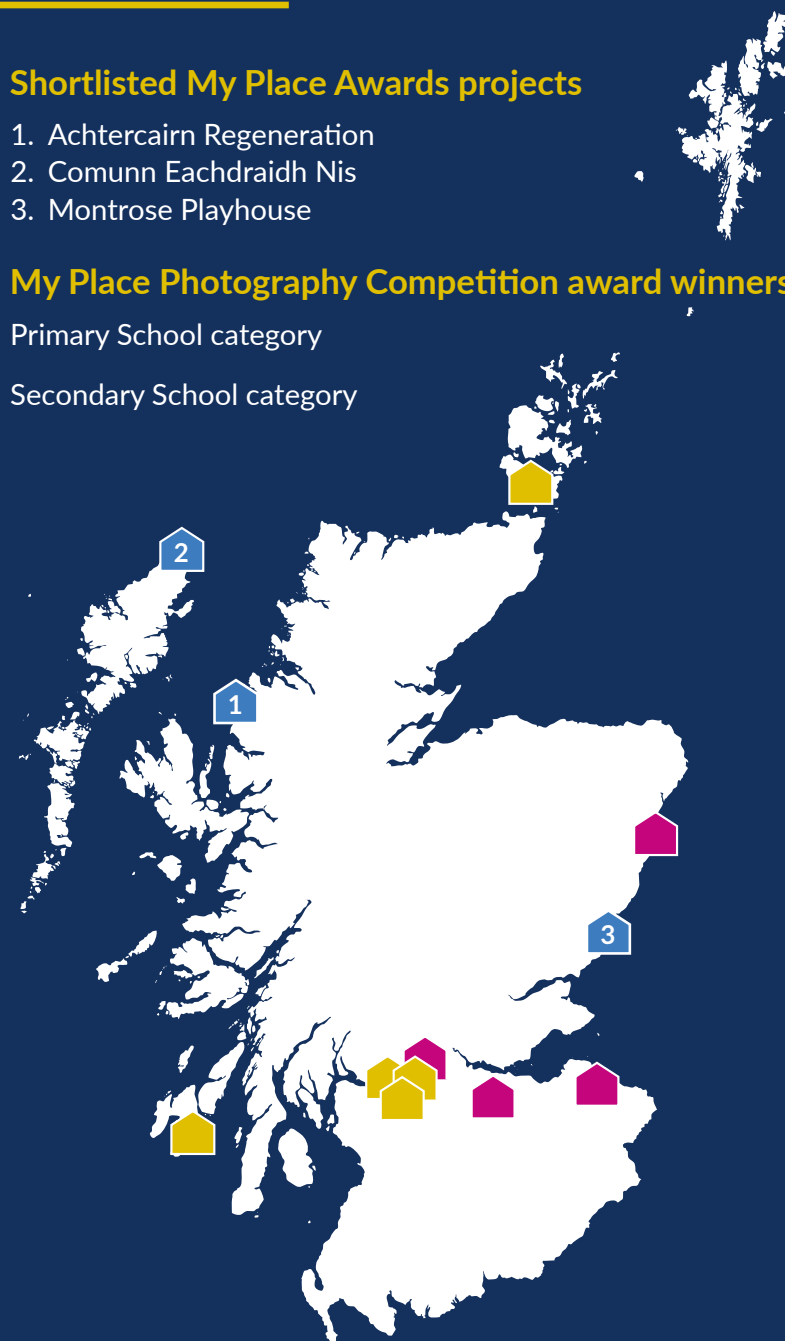
1. Achtercairn Regeneration
2. Comunn Eachdraidh Nis
3. Montrose Playhouse



### Primary School category



### Secondary School category







Ochiltree Community Hub won the My Place Awards in 2021. © Ochiltree Hub

# My Place AWARDS 2022



The My Place Awards recognise community-led built environment projects that have transformed their locality. The My Place Awards judge excellence in terms of design, community involvement and impact.

*"The annual My Place Awards celebrate the best of Scotland's places and spaces. This year's shortlisted projects are inspiring examples of how communities can come together to develop innovative places and achieve a positive change for local people. We congratulate their immense efforts and encourage groups across Scotland to follow in their stead."*

– Ian Leith, Chair of the My Place Awards judging panel & Trustee of Scottish Civic Trust

The My Place Awards are supported by:



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot



## HOW DO I TAKE PART?

Entries can be made by community groups responsible for built environment projects. We encourage members of the public to get in touch with Scottish Civic Trust via email, on social media or by phone to suggest built environment projects that have made a difference in their town. We then contact the projects about submitting an entry.



To find out more and to see previous entries, visit:  
[myplacescotland.org.uk/about-my-place-awards](https://myplacescotland.org.uk/about-my-place-awards)

## JUDGING PANEL 2022

- Ian Leith – Chair of Panel and Trustee, Scottish Civic Trust
- Gordon Barr – Development Manager for Scotland, The Architectural Heritage Fund
- Laura Black – Scotland 365 Youth Engagement Project Manager, National Museums Scotland
- Christina Gaiger – President, Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland
- Kuan Loh – Senior Architect, Scottish Government
- Eleanor Styles – Trustee, Scottish Civic Trust

Above: Castlebank Horticultural Centre was Commended in the My Place Awards 2021. © Castlebank Horticultural Centre





# 1

## ACHTERCAIRN REGENERATION, GAIRLOCH

Highland

### NOMINATED BY:

Communities Housing Trust

### DESIGNER: Various

### CLIENT: Various

By the late 2000s, the coastal village of Gairloch in the northwest Highlands was struggling with a low-wage, seasonal tourist economy, a lack of affordable homes, and an outward migration of young people. The heart of the village, a large hotel, had also been derelict for many years following a fire. In short, the future of the village was at risk.

To save the village, the Communities Housing Trust collaborated with local people and key stakeholders to form the Achtercairn Development Group (ADG). Working with over 50 local and national partners, ADG developed a detailed masterplan for the central part of the village. Community members were heavily involved in each stage of the project through surveys and open days.

The resulting development, built in three phases over 10 years, now includes 19 sustainable and affordable homes, 6 Low-Cost Home Ownership homes, a local farm shop, an Air Training Corps and the GALE Centre, a community hub with tourist information, a shop, a café, office space and a University of Highlands and Islands learning hub.

Finished in 2020, the development has already had a massive impact on the area: 25 families have remained in the village with lifetime homes; school enrollment has increased; the community shop and café sell produce from 40 local makers, supporting the local economy with an additional £75,000 annually; and the GALE Centre attracts over 40,000 visitors a year.

*Images © Rupert Shanks Photography*





## COMUNN EACHDRAIDH NIS

Na h-Eileanan Siar

### NOMINATED BY:

Comunn Eachdraidh Nis

### DESIGNER: BARD

### CLIENT: Comunn Eachdraidh Nis

Comunn Eachdraidh Nis (CEN) was constituted in 1977 as the first historical society in the Western Isles. Over the years, CEN operated from various abandoned buildings which were not suitable for the storage and display of its collections. But in 2011, when the local authority decided to close Cross Primary School, CEN sprung into action to purchase the school, save the building from demolition and ensure the delivery of essential services in the face of local authority funding cuts.

CEN then consulted the community about their wishes for the building through surveys, visualisations and models. Many people emphasised the need for a gathering place and expressed a wish that local materials and makers be at the centre of the regeneration.

In 2017, CEN procured a design team. Conscious of the community's love for the existing building, the architect worked to save the deteriorating parts of the building whilst preserving many of its original features. The resulting building balances historic elements with modern renewable technologies that will help the building endure the climate crisis and stand for years to come.

Now, CEN is one of the largest employers in North Lewis, and plays a key role in combating social isolation and preserving Gaelic by hosting intergenerational events and lunches. CEN also supports the local economy by selling the goods of local makers and producers in its café to over 25,000 annual visitors.

*Images © Fiona MacLennan (exterior photos) and Donna Morrison (interior photos).*



## MONTROSE PLAYHOUSE

Angus

### NOMINATED BY:

Montrose Playhouse Project SCIO

### DESIGNER:

Crawford Architecture

### CLIENT:

Montrose Playhouse Project SCIO

When a new swimming facility was built in Montrose in 2012, local people wondered what would become of the old swimming pool. David Paton, associate Director at Crawford Architecture and eventual Chair of Montrose Playhouse Project SCIO, posted his thoughts online about how the building could be re-imagined as a cinema.

Within a few hours, 500 people had liked the post and urged for the designs to become a reality. Within a week, the Montrose Playhouse project was born.

In 2017, Montrose Playhouse Project SCIO committee purchased the disused building from Angus Council for the sum of £1. They then embarked on a DIY SOS style strip out which saw over 80 volunteers help to strip the building back to a shell, saving the project around £250,000 and six months of time.

Construction began in 2021, and over ten months, the former pool hall was converted into three screening rooms with a combined capacity of just under 400 people. The Playhouse also features education and exhibition facilities, retail space and a café bar.

Since its opening in October 2021, the Playhouse has seen a six percent lift in its operating budget, and over 16,000 cinema tickets were sold. The Playhouse was built by the community, for the community, and is already proving to be a gathering space for people to socialise and build a sense of place.

*Images © Arms and Legs*





# My Place PHOTOGRAPHY 2022

The My Place Photography Competition is a Scotland-wide built environment photography competition for young people aged 4–18. The theme for 2022 is My Place, My Space, My Story.

The My Place Photography Competition encourages young people to explore the buildings, architecture and archaeology in the places they live, and experiment with using photography as a means of investigation and creative expression.

SUPPORTING  
YEAR OF  
STORIES  
— 2022 —

The My Place Photography Competition is supported by:



HISTORIC  
ENVIRONMENT  
SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD  
EACHDRAIDHEIL  
ALBA

**JESSOPS**  
image is everything

## HOW DO I TAKE PART?

All young people aged 4–18 in Scotland are eligible to enter this free competition. Entry is open not only to school classes but also to youth groups, clubs and home-educated young people. Group leaders, teachers or home educators must register as a member on [myplacescotland.org.uk](https://myplacescotland.org.uk) and then upload entries on behalf of their young people.

There are three awards categories:

- Primary school age
- Secondary school age
- Young Persons' Choice Award (judged by a young panel)

To find out more and to see previous entries, visit:  
[myplacescotland.org.uk/my-place-photography](https://myplacescotland.org.uk/my-place-photography)



Above: 'Global Warming' by Greg P., Winner of the 2021 My Place Photography Competition, Secondary School Age category.

Above: 'Bee Yourself and Take Action' by Leah K., Winner of the 2021 My Place Photography Competition, Primary School Age category.

## JUDGING PANEL 2022

Alison Turnbull – Director of External Relations and Partnerships,  
*Historic Environment Scotland*

Judy Jarvie – Architect

Phoebe Grigor – Photographer and Filmmaker

Aneel Singh Bhopal – Development Officer,  
*West of Scotland Regional Equality Council*

**“** *It was a privilege to be invited to be a part of the judging panel for this year's My Place Photography Competition.*

*The level of entries was, once again, of tremendous quality and the thoughtfulness and empathy on display left me feeling hopeful that our young people possess a level of social conscience and awareness that bodes well for all our futures.*

*I encourage any budding photographers or artists to pursue this type of work as a profession, hobby or passion and help to make Scotland, and the world, a better place for us all.*

– Aneel Singh Bhopal



## YOUNG PERSONS' CHOICE JUDGING PANEL 2022

Leah Kirwin – 2021 Winner, *Primary School Age Category*

Carla Mulholland – 2020 Winner, *Secondary School Age Category*

Nicole Mullan – Photographer

Greg Potter – 2021 Winner, *Secondary School Age Category*



**PRIMARY SCHOOL  
WINNER**  
**WHITE WOOD WINDOW  
AND REFLECTIONS**



Ruby I.  
North Walls  
Community School,  
Orkney

*Ruby said, "I really like photography, and thoroughly enjoyed this project and was so pleased to have been chosen as the winner."*

*The judges said, "Our young photographers captured reflections in puddles, abandoned places, play parks and crabbing ponds. Their images encouraged us all to take a moment to look for the beauty in the mundane."*





PRIMARY SCHOOL  
HIGHLY COMMENDED  
*GLENBOIG BRICKS*



Charlotte G.  
Glenboig Primary School  
Camera Club, North Lanarkshire



PRIMARY SCHOOL  
HIGHLY COMMENDED  
*THE PUDDLE OF REFLECTION*



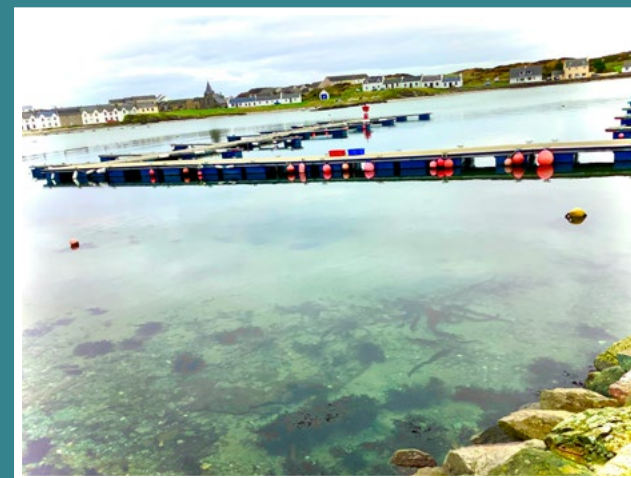
Steven C.  
Burgh Primary School,  
South Lanarkshire



PRIMARY SCHOOL  
HIGHLY COMMENDED  
*PLAY BARS*



Isra H.  
Govan Community Project,  
Glasgow



PRIMARY SCHOOL  
HIGHLY COMMENDED  
*MY CRABBING SPOT*



William C.  
Port Ellen Primary School,  
Argyll & Bute



**SECONDARY SCHOOL  
WINNER  
STREET VIEW**



Louise M.  
Kilsyth Academy,  
North Lanarkshire

*Louise said, "Going into the competition I knew that there would be a lot of entries, so I am very surprised, but very excited, to win this award."*

*The judges said, "This image captured the essence of what Glasgow and other cities felt like during the pandemic – what would normally be bustling with people was eerily empty. The photographer's shadow further highlights the sense of isolation that many have felt in recent times."*



**SECONDARY SCHOOL  
HIGHLY COMMENDED  
THE GIRL THAT SITS ALONE**



Casey N.  
Inveralmond Community  
High School, Midlothian

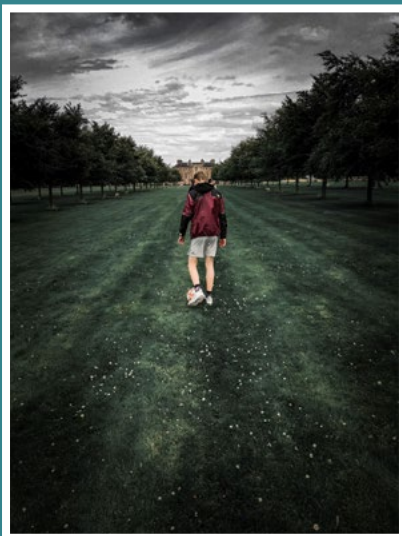


**SECONDARY SCHOOL  
HIGHLY COMMENDED  
HOME FOR THE SUMMER**



Esmee N.  
Robert Gordon's College,  
Aberdeen





SECONDARY SCHOOL  
HIGHLY COMMENDED  
*JOURNEY*



Louis R.  
Robert Gordon's College,  
Aberdeen



YOUNG PERSONS'  
CHOICE AWARD  
*SEASIDE SUNSET*



Billy H.  
Gargieston Primary School,  
East Ayrshire

*Billy said, "Thank you so much. I am so glad to hear that everyone liked my photo. I am looking forward to the award ceremony."*

*The judges said, "The photographer effectively places the viewer in the scene, waiting on the beach for the perfect sunset. It's a beautiful photo, and one can imagine the photographer on a relaxing evening walk with their family."*



SECONDARY SCHOOL  
HIGHLY COMMENDED  
*LITERAL FRAMING*



Thomas C.  
Dunbar Grammar School,  
East Lothian



## WITH THANKS

The Scottish Civic Trust would like to thank:

- All groups, individuals, schools and pupils involved with the awards
- My Place Awards judging panel
- My Place Photography Competition judging panel
- Young Persons' Choice Award judging panel
- Eastern Exhibition & Display
- South Block, Wasps Studios
- Rob McDougall, filmmaker

*"Our My Place Awards and Photography Competition are an important part of our work to celebrate Scotland's heritage. As we mark two years of living with the pandemic, both projects have highlighted how local communities are raising our collective understanding of the value of our history and heritage to our overall wellbeing. I'd like to extend my congratulations to the shortlisted, highly commended and winning entries for the Awards and Photography Competition, and to thank everyone who submitted an entry."*

– Sue Evans, Chair of Scottish Civic Trust



# Get in touch with the Scottish Civic Trust

---

The Tobacco Merchant's House  
42 Miller Street  
Glasgow G1 1DT  
0141 221 1466

[sct@scottishcivictrust.org.uk](mailto:sct@scottishcivictrust.org.uk)  
[www.scottishcivictrust.org.uk](http://www.scottishcivictrust.org.uk)

Facebook, Twitter & Instagram:  
[@scotcivictrust](https://www.instagram.com/scotcivictrust)

*Cover image: 'Journey' by Louis R.,  
Robert Gordon's College. Highly Commended,  
My Place Photography Competition,  
Secondary School Age Category.*

