

LOCUS is a contemporary public art trail for the centre of Lerwick. With grant funding from Shetland Islands Council via the Scottish Government's Town Centre Fund, four sculptures and two murals have been commissioned by Living Lerwick to act as place-makers, animate and enhance the area, and offer a new way to engage with contemporary art and the environment.

For more information on the trail, the artists, and to download the trail map and audio guide please visit: shetlandarts.org/locus or livinglerwick.co.uk/locus

LOCUS artworks have been fabricated & installed locally in partnership with Malakoff Ltd., LEF Ltd. & Garriock Bros. Ltd.

Trail map design by Chloe Keppie / eippek.com

Originally from Gulberwick, Chloe Keppie is a graphic designer completing her final year of Communication Design at the Glasgow School of Art.

Printed by STudio Graphic Design & Print Shop

2021



As Above so Below | Kenny Hunter

Bronze & concrete
Outside Cee & Jays, 5 Commercial Rd.

As Above so Below represents the practice of gas extraction from below the seabed to the west of Shetland. The sculpture is composed as a cross-section of undersea landscape and its geology: the top section represents the gas pipeline, the mid-section the seabed and the plinth suggests the gas-pocket within the earth's crust. These three elements combine to depict the coexistence of industry and nature. Whilst the sculpture doesn't try to make a statement about this situation it does acknowledge the important role this industry has played in the development of Shetland's economy and society.

Kenny Hunter is a Scottish sculptor who makes monumental civic sculpture as well as gallery-based work. His public artworks feature in cities and landscapes across the UK and internationally.

kenny-hunter.com



Only da Sea | Cobolt Collective

Painted mural
Side of The Dowry, 98 Commercial St., outside The Peerie Café

For centuries, the sea has been a place of work and leisure for Shetlanders. It has welcomed new people and said goodbye to others. It is home to a wealth of living things from orcas to otters, and is almost like a living creature of its own. The rhythm of the waves is like the heartbeat of the island, steady and constant, and this has been – and still is – a comforting presence for people during difficult times. The line from the poem "Discontinuity" by Shetland-born poet Christine De Luca: "Only da sea can greet an sing at da sam time" captures the idea of the sea being a living thing, capable of its own emotions, singing to its own melody and rhythm.

Cobolt is a mural collective of three designers – Erin Bradley-Scott, Chelsea Frew and Kat Loudon – based in Glasgow. They seek to transform a wall or space into one that exudes positivity, encouragement and/or celebration for the people it is designed to be used by.

instagram.com/coboltnetwork



Stakamillabakka | David Lemm

Steel & concrete
Outside The Shetland Parliamentary Office, 171 Commercial St.

Stakamillabakka is a collection of forms based on 'sea fastenings' used in local industry to secure loads to boats. These artefacts, reminiscent of letterpress blocks, have been translated into linear motifs and are presented here as a possible visual language inspired by Shetland dialect, semaphore and runic forms. Equally, details of the surrounding landscape are mirrored in the voids and lines of the structure, which create windows through which to consider Da Street anew. The steel framework echoes ladders in Lerwick harbour; devices connecting land to sea and the idea of transition between the two. Standing as a beacon, aerial or marker point, the cross design also references a compass and Shetland as a historic crossroads of cultural exchange.

David Lemm is a Scottish artist based in Edinburgh. Through research-led practice, he works with various media to create context-specific outcomes in response to particular places and found objects.

davidlemm.co.uk



PUSH/PULL | Gavin Renshaw

Painted mural
Side of Bayes & No.88, Commercial St.

PUSH/PULL explores the intrinsic relationship between land and sea, not only with regards livelihood and travel but also in the spiritual and primal sense of ancient and future culture. The standing stone looks out to sea; a beacon, an ancestor, or a way marker? The goal looks for the stone, a reference to land. They are floating amongst two worlds, a way of navigating between them both, anchored to one, released to the other.

Gavin Renshaw is a visual artist combining elements of classical painting and graphic design with a graffiti aesthetic. His murals can be seen in cities across the UK.

gavinsrenshaw.com



Public Art Trail
Free Map & Guide

The Never-Ending Gansey | Civic Soup

Powder-coated steel
Hillhead

The Never-Ending Gansey emerges from a mill of young Shetland minds, spinning yarn in an image of diverse contemporary life across the Isles. The result of layer upon layer of reinterpretation by knitters and young people, the artwork began in February 2020 through a series of workshops across five Shetland schools led by Civic Soup, reimagining Fair Isle patterns in individual motifs and colours. Drawing upon the rich heritage of textiles in the Isles, a colourful array of threads now weave across the vantage point of Hillhead, knitting together stories of place and home, as told by the next generation of Shetlanders.

Civic Soup is an Edinburgh-based architecture and design collective focusing on inclusive design, engaging with diverse communities to take interest in, and ownership of, the built environment.

civicsoup.co.uk





As Above so Below

Kenny Hunter
Outside Cee & Jays,
5 Commercial Rd.



Stakamillabakka

David Lemm
Outside the Shetland Parliamentary
Office, 171 Commercial St.



Storm Cargo

Joseph Ingleby
Outside Royal Bank of Scotland,
81 Commercial St.



The Never-Ending Gansey

Civic Soup
Hillhead



PUSH/PULL

Gavin Renshaw
Side of Bayes & No.88,
Commercial St.



Only da Sea

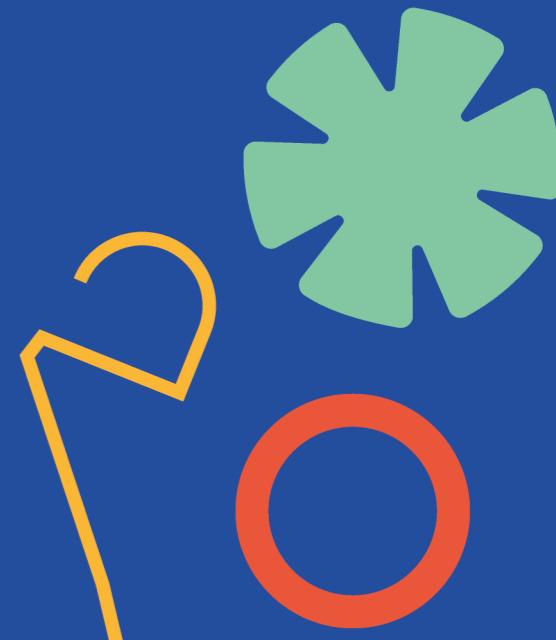
Cobolt Collective
Side of The Dowry, outside the
Peerie Café, 98 Commercial St.



Locations featured on
Shetland (TV series)



Suggested Route



The town of Lerwick was built originally as a settlement to trade with the Dutch fishing fleet in the 17th Century, becoming the capital of Shetland in 1708. The associations with trading and with the sea have continued on to the present day, with fishing still a mainstay of the local economy and vessels of all kinds seen in the busy port area, including oil supply ships, yachts and cruise liners.

The main thoroughfare of Commercial Street is the vibrant hub of the town, a place full of character with independent shops of all kinds lining its length, while the numerous lanes that branch off the street and wind their way to the Hillhead are brimming with architectural interest.

Tag us in your pictures, videos and posts on Instagram @livinglerwick + @shetlandarts or join the conversation #locuslerwick

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shetlandarts.org/locus



Shetland
Islands Council

Grant funded by
Shetland Islands Council



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