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MAKE LIKE MACKINTOSH WITH FUN FAMILY ACTIVITIES THIS SUMMER

Mackintosh at the Willow is keeping cool this summer by sharing the Glasgow Style in a series of hands-on activities for families.

The summer holiday activities provide kids with the chance to get creative and learn new craft techniques inspired by Charles Rennie Mackintosh and The Glasgow Style in a child-friendly way.

The workshops, best suited for children 5-12 years old, will teach participants how to make their very own stained-glass window hanger, mosaic mirror, or embossed copper badge.

Taking inspiration from the setting of the famous tea rooms, the team is also hosting family baking sessions. The Scots Kitchen series includes a range of traditional treats, such as the Create a Cranachan workshop on 2 August, where Head of Pastry, Jazmine Spears, will teach participants how to create the classic Scottish dessert. While the sweet treats are setting, they will get a family-friendly tour of the original Willow Tea Rooms building, and any delicious leftovers can be taken home to be shared with family and friends.

Oliver Braid, the National Trust for Scotland's Creative Learning Manager at Mackintosh at the Willow, said: "The work of Charles Rennie Mackintosh and The Glasgow Style have been inspiring artists for decades but it's not just for adults and art lovers. These workshops are a really great way to engage the next generation in the history of our city in a fun and hands-on way, and they can make something special to take home with them to enjoy for years to come.

"Our baking workshops are also a fun and easy way to learn a new skill, and to learn about the Scots kitchen and the role of tea rooms like Mackintosh at the Willow in our social history. And there's nothing better than a sweet treat during the summer holidays!

"While all are welcome, these activities are geared towards children aged 5-12 so everything is fun, creative, hands-on, and communicated at their level. We can't wait to welcome everyone this summer."

Each craft workshop is 90 minutes, and the baking workshops are two hours. They cost £7 per participant. All children must be accompanied by an adult but only adults wishing to make a craft object must have a booked and paid place. Places are limited and booking is essential.

Full dates and times of the family workshops are:

- **Make a Stained-Glass Window Hanger** – Tuesdays in July (8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th) from 2:00-3:30 p.m.
- **Make a Mosaic Mirror** – Wednesdays in July (9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th) from 2:00-3:30 p.m.
- **Make an Embossed Copper Badge** – Thursdays in July (10th, 17th, 24th, 31st) from 2:00-3:30 p.m.
- **Family Baking Session: Bake Coconut Macaroons** – Saturday 12 July from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- **Family Baking Session: Create a Cranachan** – Saturday 2 August from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Now in the care of conservation charity the National Trust for Scotland, the Mackintosh at the Willow is in the original Willow Tea Rooms Building, first opened by Miss Cranston in 1903 and was designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh in collaboration with his wife, Margaret Macdonald. This commission resulted in one of the most spectacular heritage attractions in the city, with jewel-like interior designs and a frontage that pay testament to the unique vision of Mackintosh and Macdonald.

The thoughtful restoration by The Willow Tea Rooms Trust, with the support of The National Lottery Heritage Fund and many others, gifted back to the nation an exceptional example of architectural heritage. The Trust began to care for Mackintosh at the Willow in January 2024, thanks to support from its members and donors as well as a generous package from The National Lottery Heritage Fund to enable the transfer.

In December 2024, the Trust announced the launch of Mackintosh Illuminated, a project that will spotlight Charles Rennie Mackintosh and Margaret Macdonald, sharing, celebrating, and inspiring as many as possible with their creative genius and the beauty of their creations. The Trust has been awarded £1.1 million development support from The National Lottery Heritage Fund for Mackintosh Illuminated. The project will help make Mackintosh and Macdonald better known and appreciated, internationally and at home, by creating an online learning resource and an expanded programme of property-based community and education work in Helensburgh and Glasgow. The project also encourages more people to visit both sites to get a richer picture of the pair's skill and versatility. By working in partnership with other Mackintosh stakeholders in Glasgow and more widely, this support will aid in organising celebrations for the 2028 anniversary of Mackintosh's death and the 160th anniversary of his birth. The funding is also enabling the Trust to continue the vital conservation work at the Hill House, including the full removal of the current render, to find a replacement material which will resolve the longstanding damp issue, remove the Box in 2028 and provide updated, permanent visitor facilities, including a café, shop and toilet facilities at the site on Upper Colquhoun Street in Helensburgh.

For more information about Mackintosh at the Willow or to book a place on a workshop, visit <https://www.nts.org.uk/visit/places/mackintosh-at-the-willow/highlights/events>.

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About the National Trust for Scotland

Established in 1931, the National Trust for Scotland is Scotland's largest conservation charity and cares for, shares and speaks up for Scotland's magnificent heritage.

Over the last 90 years the Trust has pioneered public access to and shared ownership of some of the most magnificent buildings, collections and landscapes in Scotland. It cares for more than 100 sites, from ancient houses to battlefields, castles, mills, gardens, coastlines, islands, mountain ranges and the plants and animals which depend upon them.

In March 2022 the National Trust for Scotland launched *Nature, Beauty & Heritage for Everyone*, its ten-year strategy which sets out the ambitions of the charity over the coming decade. From speaking up for Scotland's heritage which doesn't have a voice, to improving the lives and wellbeing of people across the country, and responding to the climate and biodiversity crisis, the Trust will build on its work in recent years to grow its impact and conserve and restore more of Scotland's heritage, as it moves towards its centenary in 2031.

Scotland's largest membership organisation, the National Trust for Scotland relies on the support of its members and donors to carry out its important work.

For more information on the National Trust for Scotland visit www.nts.org.uk.

The National Trust for Scotland is a charity registered in Scotland, Charity Number SC 007410.