

## James jnr.

1856 - 1920

## **His Life**

James Faed was born on 6th October 1856 at Overshiel House, Mid-Calder, West Lothian. He was the eldest child of James Faed (1821 - 1911) and Mary Cotton (1827 - 1888). The couple had seven children. He was named after both his father and grandfather and was known as Jamie in his youth. Later in life, as both he and his father were artists, he added 'Junior' after his name to avoid confusion.

At the bottom of this file is a Faed family tree which highlights where James fits in.

He was interested in art from an early age, his father making him teach himself and to find his own materials. Although he had not gone to art school he exhibited at the Royal Scottish Academy at the age of twenty.

In Edinburgh on 15th July 1897, he married Eleanor Annie Herdman, from a flour-milling family in East Lothian.

Soon after their marriage, the couple moved to Abbey Road in St John's Wood, London, not far from where his uncle Thomas Faed was living. Their elder son James Ronald Herdman Faed (Ronnie) was born there in 1899. On Sunday afternoons the Faeds held tea parties with a large number of guests. One guest was Harry Lauder who much admired one of James' pictures of an old road between Dalwhinnie and Laggan Bridge which James had probably painted on his honeymoon. Lauder's offer to buy the painting was turned down, but a few weeks later he composed the song 'Keep Right on the End of the Road' which he said was inspired by the painting.

Another well-known visitor was the playwright J M Barrie. James' son Alastair (born 1905) recalled being told a tale about 'Peter and Wendy' long before it was published as 'Peter Pan'

Whilst living in London, James and his family often visited Galloway and Invernesshire. He particularly liked painting Galloway landscapes and especially heather covered hills. In 1893 he presented one of his paintings 'The Town Park' to the town council of New Galloway to hang in their Town Hall.

His uncle, John Faed, who died in 1902, had a house in Gatehouse, where his Aunt Susan continued to live until her death in 1909.

In 1912 James had a house built outside New Galloway, where the family settled permanently after World War I. He was very fond of nature and is known to have planted trees all over Scotland.

James's last few years were difficult. His son Ronnie had joined the Royal Navy as a cadet in 1913, and he was tragically drowned when his ship HMS Goliath was torpedoed in the Dardanelles. Ronnie was one of the youngest (age 15) to be killed in action during the First World War. He is remembered on the New Galloway War Memorial.

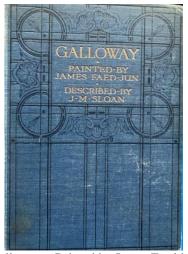
About 1912, James developed some kind of paralysis which meant he could no longer use his hands but, from 1915, he was known to use his mouth to hold his paint brushes.

James Faed junior died on 17th February 1920. He is buried in Kells Churchyard, New Galloway. His wife Eleanor went to live in Edinburgh for the rest of her life.

## **His Work**

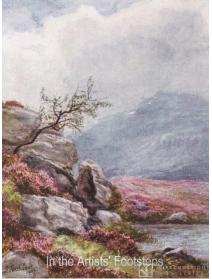
Try following the links to find examples of this artist's work.. When you have viewed the contents, remember to use your browser's "back" button to return to this page.

<u>In the Artist's Footsteps</u> <u>Invaluable 1</u> <u>Invaluable 2</u> <u>MutualArt</u>



Galloway – Painted by James Faed jun Described by J M Sloan London 1908

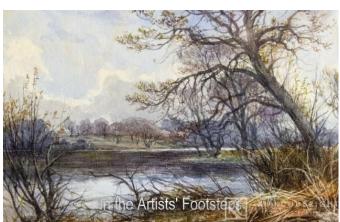




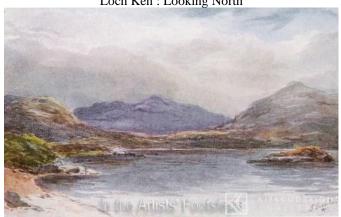
Moorland



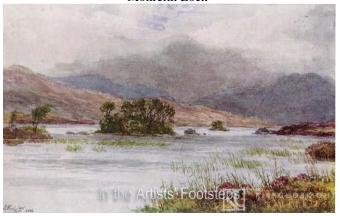
Loch Ken: Looking North



Monreith Loch



Carlingwark Loch (Castle Douglas)



Loch Skerrow



On the Fleet (at Gatehouse)

