

Sturrock

Mary
1892 - 1985

Her Life

Mary Arbuckle Newbery was born in Glasgow on 21st September 1892. Her father was Francis "Fra" Newbery (b.1855 Dorset, d.1946 Dorset). Her mother was Jessie Wylie Rowatt.(b.1864 Paisley d.1948) In 1901 the family lived in Govan, Glasgow. Fra was Director of the Glasgow School of Art (1885 – 1917). Her mother was an art designer (embroidery). Mary had an older sister Margaret who was born in Paisley. The family were friendly with Charles Rennie Mackintosh, and as a youngster, Mary used to watch him draw flowers. This inspired her to draw and paint similar pictures in adult life.

Mary studied art in Glasgow and also in Paris. She was part of a large group of artists which included Cecile Walton and Cecile's future husband Eric Robertson. Mary featured in several paintings by the couple.

Fran took early retirement due to ill health, after which he and Jessie moved to Corfe Castle in Dorset.

Mary married Alexander (Alick) Sturrock at Corfe Castle on 21 October 1918 when after Alick had returned from fighting in the First World War.

Mary and Alick came to Gatehouse in the 1920s. They first lived at Rutherford Cottage, opposite Anwoth Church before buying Victoria Cottage in Hannay Street. Alick built a studio at the foot of the garden to work in. The couple lived in Gatehouse until about 1934.



Photo ex Kirkcudbright Galleries



Mary Newbery, 1892 - 1985. Artist, 1911, Eric Robertson

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They also seem to have had a house in Circus Place, Edinburgh during this time.

In the 1939 register Mary A Sturrock was living with her parents in Purbeck, Dorset. Her father is listed as an artist master, her mother an artist and Mary as an artist designer. Her husband Alick was not with them but he was heavily involved in camouflage work during the Second World War so was probably posted elsewhere.

Husband Alick visited Gatehouse again in the 1950s, staying at The Old School House, Anwoth, although it is not known if Mary accompanied him.

Alick died suddenly on holiday at St Abbs, Berwickshire in 1953.

Mary Sturrock nee Newbery died on 18th November 1985 in Newington, Edinburgh.

Her Work

Mary is mainly remembered for her paintings of flowers - many of which she found around Gatehouse. She was also known for her ceramic and embroidery designs.

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.

[Invaluable](#) [artnet](#)



Early July



Carnations



Summer Flowers



Plane Tree, Dromore Road



Here is an example of Mary's pottery work (ex Invaluable.com)