

Cart blanche

is a voluntary group promoting the regeneration of the White Cart Water neighbourhoods between Pollok House in Pollok Country Park and Holmwood House, Alexander 'Greek' Thomson's villa masterpiece in Cathcart.

Cart blanche was constituted in 1999 to identify and connect communities along this highly urbanised four-mile stretch of waterway, also an important wildlife corridor for many plants and animals, including otters, foxes, kingfishers and Atlantic salmon.

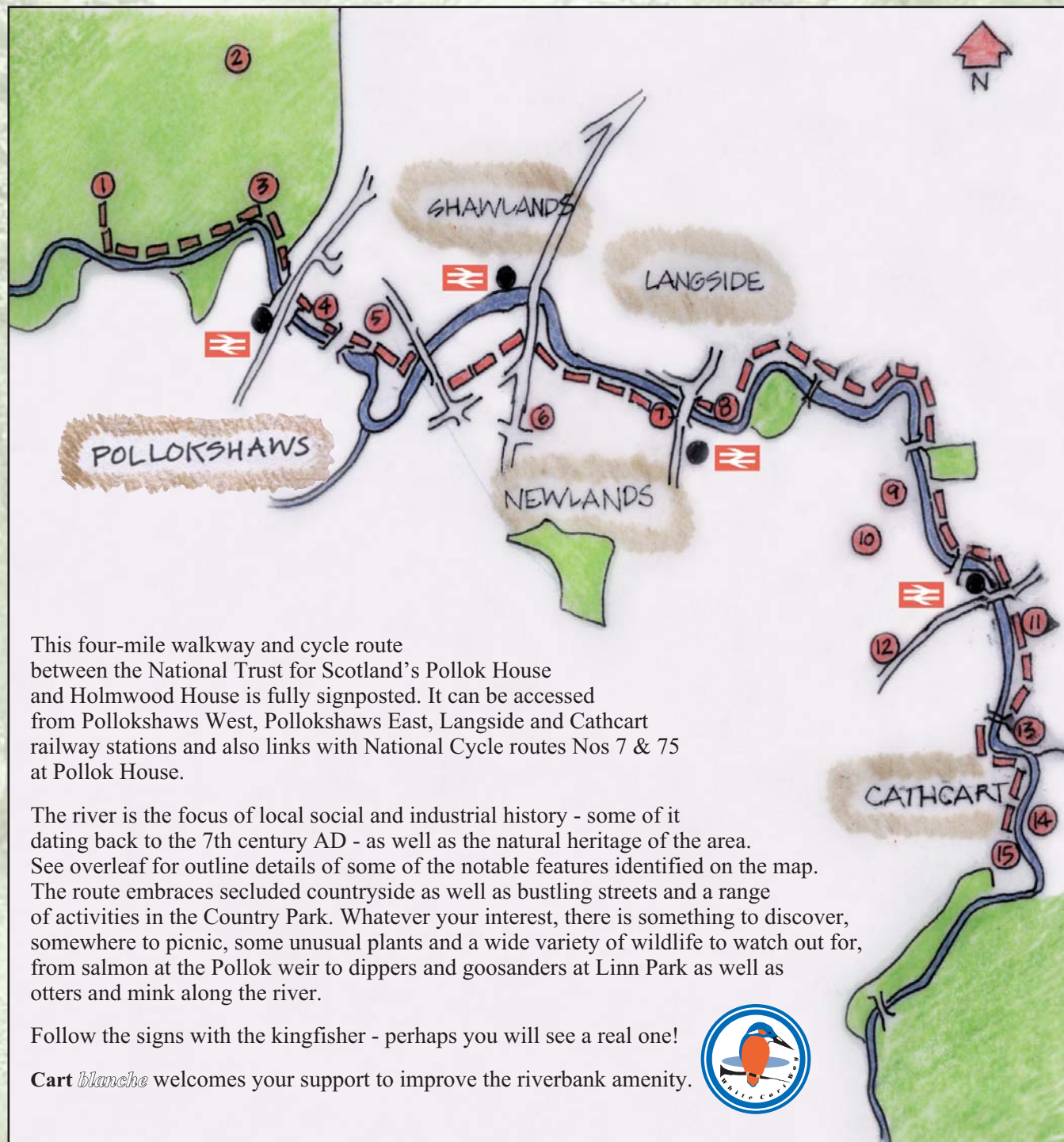


Cart blanche supports development that improves and enhances the amenity of this natural artery of the city's southside and specifically encourages the creation of a riverbank linear park, providing facilities that favour walkers and cyclists.

Cart blanche is supported by
New Opportunities Fund - Fresh Futures
Awards for All Community Fund
Scottish Natural Heritage
Glasgow City Council
Carts Greenspace
The National Trust for Scotland.

Cart blanche meetings are held monthly at Holmwood House - open to all who wish to participate. Activities include Guided Walks led by specialists in the natural and built heritage, also illustrated talks, exhibitions, and events involving local residents and schools. A website is currently being prepared.

Cart blanche contacts:
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This four-mile walkway and cycle route between the National Trust for Scotland's Pollok House and Holmwood House is fully signposted. It can be accessed from Pollokshaws West, Pollokshaws East, Langside and Cathcart railway stations and also links with National Cycle routes Nos 7 & 75 at Pollok House.

The river is the focus of local social and industrial history - some of it dating back to the 7th century AD - as well as the natural heritage of the area. See overleaf for outline details of some of the notable features identified on the map. The route embraces secluded countryside as well as bustling streets and a range of activities in the Country Park. Whatever your interest, there is something to discover, somewhere to picnic, some unusual plants and a wide variety of wildlife to watch out for, from salmon at the Pollok weir to dippers and goosanders at Linn Park as well as otters and mink along the river.

Follow the signs with the kingfisher - perhaps you will see a real one!

Cart blanche welcomes your support to improve the riverbank amenity.



1. Pollok House dates from the 1740s, the fourth seat of the local land-owning Maxwells since the 13th century. It was enlarged after 1890 by Sir John Stirling Maxwell to



house the library and the family's large art collection. His interest in architecture extended to gardens and horticulture and he was a founder member of the National Trust for Scotland and of the Forestry Commission, and President of the Royal Glasgow Institute of Fine Arts. His daughter, Mrs Anne Maxwell Macdonald, gifted Pollok House and the Stirling Maxwell Collection as well as 361 acres of ground to be known as Pollok Park to the city in 1966. Its management was transferred to the National Trust for Scotland in 1998.

2. The Burrell Museum designed by Gasson & Meunier in 1972, opened in 1983 as a permanent home for the celebrated and outstanding collection of artworks bequeathed to the city by the shipping agent, Sir William Burrell, in 1944.

3. Pollok Country Park is Glasgow's - and Europe's - largest urban park and the only country park within the city. Among its attractions are walled and woodland gardens, a mountain bike circuit, Clydesdale horses and its fold of highland cattle.



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4. Pollokshaws Burgh Hall (1895-8) was gifted to the local community by Sir John Stirling Maxwell; designed by Rowand Anderson.

5. The Sir John Maxwell School was completed in 1907, designed by John Hamilton. Between 1984-99 it housed the first bilingual (Gaelic) Unit to be set up in Glasgow.

6. St Margaret's Church, the most ambitious and most impressive of P. Macgregor Chalmers' Glasgow churches, was built in four stages between 1908 & 1935.

7. Newlands South Church, designed by H E Clifford, is contemporary with the adjacent turn-of-the-century suburb featuring many fine villas, now a conservation area.

8. Millbrae Crescent is unique on the southside of the city, executed around 1876 to a design sketch by 'Greek' Thomson, by his partner Robert Turnbull.

9. Scottish Power's business premises are an extension of the original Wallace-Scott Tailoring Institute building of 1912-22, designed by J J Burnet. Its 1996 refurbishment was based on original drawings.

10. The world-famous engineering manufacturer **Weir's** began here as the Holm Foundry established in 1886 by George and James Weir.

11. Cathcart Old Parish Church was designed in 1914, and built to succeed the church of 1831, of which a fragment survives in the graveyard across the road, dating back to the 13th century. The tearoom, The Haven, is open Mon-Fri 10 - 1.30 p.m.

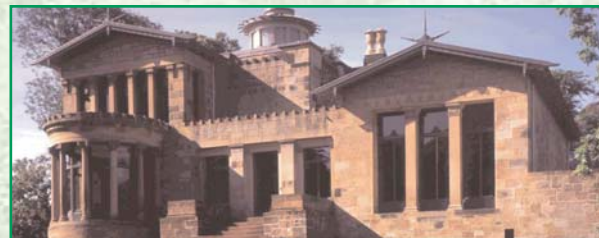
12. The **Couper Institute** and Library was built in 1887 with funds provided by local mill-owner Robert Couper and is the largest of Glasgow's public halls on the southside.

13. The so-called **Snuff Mill** was built in the 18th century to grind local grain and converted to cardboard making in 1812, with snuff milling added in 1814.

14. Linn Park is the second largest park in Glasgow. Its equestrian centre is unique in the city and the park supports an outstanding diversity of wildlife, flora and fauna.



15. Holmwood House, the finest example of Alexander 'Greek' Thomson's domestic architecture. Built in 1858, commissioned by James Couper, owner of the nearby Millholm Paper Mill and local benefactor. Now owned and being restored to Thomson's original design by the National Trust for Scotland as a long-term and comprehensive conservation project.



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Cart *blanche*

invites you to explore

THE WHITE CART WATER



WALKWAY & CYCLE ROUTE

Cart connections :

*By rail : Pollokshaws West Station
Cathcart Station*

*By bus : Nos 45, 57 - for Pollok House
66, 44 - for Holmwood House*