

*As the steady lenses circle  
with a frosty gleam of glass;  
And the clear bell chimes,  
And the oil brims over the lip  
of the burner,  
Quiet and still at his desk,  
The lonely Light-Keeper  
holds his vigil.*

Extract from poem "The Lightkeeper"  
by Robert Louis Stevenson



## Mull of Galloway LIGHTHOUSE

### Lighthouse Tours and Exhibition

Why not climb to the top of the lighthouse? On a clear day you can see Ireland's Antrim Hills and the Mountains of Mourne to the West, the Cumbrian Fells to the East, the Isle of Man to the South and Luce Bay to the North.

Lighthouse Opening Times - April to October  
Weekends only 10.00am to 4.00pm  
Bank Holidays and every Monday in July & August  
10.00am to 4.00pm.

Engine Room Exhibition Opening Times - Easter or 1st Monday in  
April (whichever is sooner) - to last Sunday in October  
Daily 10am to 4pm

There is a small charge to help maintain this facility. On days when essential maintenance is taking place the lighthouse will be closed to visitors. The opening of the Mull of Galloway Lighthouse is a joint venture between the Northern Lighthouse Board and the South Rhins Community Development Trust.

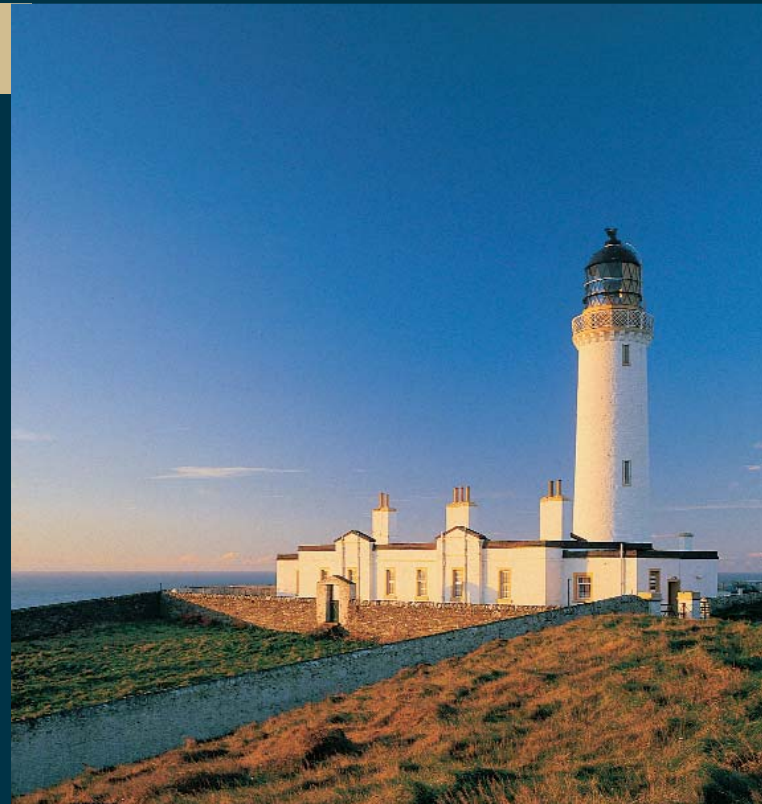


■ Mull of Galloway

#### How to get there

From Stranraer follow the A77 then the A716 in the direction of Sandhead. Continue on to Drummore then follow the signs for the lighthouse out to East Tarbet. There is a parking area near the lighthouse. You can also enjoy a walk around the RSPB Nature Reserve & Visitor Centre and visit the Gallie Craig Coffee House.

# Mull of Galloway LIGHTHOUSE



*LATITUDE: 54° 38.10' N  
LONGITUDE: 04 51.43' W*

### Webcam

There is a web camera installed on the Mull of Galloway lighthouse, this can be viewed through the Northern Lighthouse Board's website at [www.nlb.org.uk](http://www.nlb.org.uk). This camera was funded by the European Regional Development Fund. This is an innovative project involving a web camera, a radio link and satellite broadband access to the world wide web.

Acknowledgment of Images © Robert Stevenson, Scottish National Portrait Gallery. Mull of Galloway by Arnaud Späni. Fresnel lens by Kimberly Fahlen.

The Northern Lighthouse Board was established in 1786 and is now responsible for a network of over 200 lighthouses around the coasts and islands of Scotland and the Isle of Man.

"In Salutem Omnium"  
For the Safety of All

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More than Lighthouses  
[www.nlb.org.uk](http://www.nlb.org.uk)

# BEACONS OF THE SEA

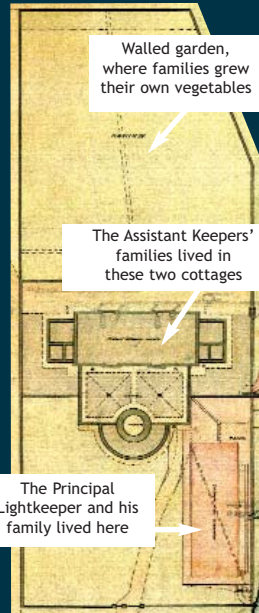
The Mull of Galloway lighthouse is one of over 200 located around Scotland's wild coastline operated and maintained by the Northern Lighthouse Board.

## Building the Light

The Mull of Galloway lighthouse stands 26 metres high and 99 metres above sea level and is as far south as you can go in Scotland. The lighthouse was designed and built in 1830 by the famous Scottish Engineer, Robert Stevenson, and cost £9,000 to build, some £9 million in today's terms!

## Disaster

During the Second World War on 8 June 1944 a Beaufighter aircraft crashed into the lighthouse stores building (now the RSPB Visitor Centre). It was foggy at the time and two men were killed as part of the roof of the store was knocked off and fell into the sea.



## The Sensational Stevensons

For over one hundred and fifty years Robert Stevenson and his descendants designed most of Scotland's Lighthouses. Battling against the odds and the elements - the Stevensons constructed wonders of engineering that have withstood the test of time, an amazing historical achievement. Robert Stevenson's talented family also included the famous writer Robert Louis Stevenson (his grandson). Visits with his family to remote lighthouses are thought to have inspired his books *Kidnapped* and *Treasure Island*.

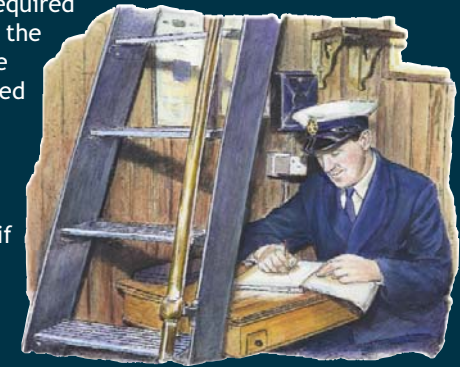


## Fog Horn

There is no longer a working fog horn at Mull of Galloway. Following wide - spread consultation all NLB Scottish fog horns have now been switched off. The last Scottish fog horn to be switched off was Skerryvore lighthouse on 4 October 2005.

## Lightkeeping - end of an era

All Scottish lighthouses now operate automatically. The last Scottish lighthouse to be automated was Fair Isle South in 1998. Now, when daylight falls and rises between set levels, a light sensor switches the light on and off. The status of the light and all its associated equipment is relayed back to a monitor centre by phone link, radio signal or satellite. Prior to the automation of the Mull of Galloway in 1988 a Principal Lightkeeper and two Assistants, with their families, lived at the light. The families would have grown their own vegetables and kept chickens, sheep and a horse for transporting provisions from the boat landing. Lightkeeping was a remote, lonely and hard existence. At night each keeper was required to keep a watch in the lightroom to ensure that the light flashed correctly to character. During daytime keepers were engaged in cleaning, painting if necessary, and generally keeping the premises clean and tidy.



## Disaster



Illuminating Facts

Mull of Galloway

Light established: 1830  
Engineer: Robert Stevenson  
Height of tower: 26 metres  
Range of light: 28 nautical miles  
Elevation: 99 metres (above sea level)  
Character: Flashing White every 20 seconds  
Position: Latitude 54° 38.10'N Longitude 04° 51.43'W

## The Sensational Stevensons

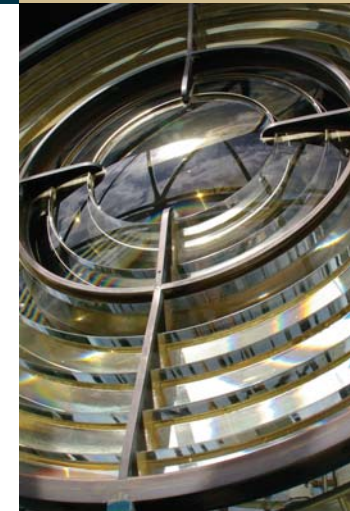


## Engine Room Exhibition

The Mull of Galloway lighthouse exhibition is housed in the former fuel store, workshop and engine room to the right of the tower.

The exhibition opened its doors for the first time on Good Friday 2009, and features the original three Kelvin Diesel engines, fitted in 1955.

## French Crystal



## French Crystal

The original 5 tonne lens at the Mull of Galloway was a Fresnel lens, so named after its French inventor, Augustin Fresnel. The lens was made from a series of perfectly polished crystal glass lenses set into a bronze structure. This lens was removed in 1971 when the station was converted to electric operation and replaced with an array of sealed-beam electric lamps.