

Seek out Portishead's sculptures

World-class visual artists have created stunning sculptures around Portishead's redeveloped marina and now a new trail invites visitors to seek them out.



The Arc of Angels

More than 20 artists have created 30 public artworks which respond to the town's rich history and heritage.

Each are integrated into the Port Marine landscape and a new map gives details about where to find them so visitors can create their own walks to find their favourite pieces.

The original Portishead Quays site had a long history of industrial use dating from the mid-Victorian era, including a nail factory, phosphorous works and power station.

Activity ground to a halt in the 1980s but now the former brownfield site around the marina has been

regenerated into a mixed-use development for people to live, work and relax.

The public art, paid for by Persimmon Homes and Crest Nicholson in partnership with North Somerset Council, was included from the start of the development to create culturally rich urban life celebrating the town's seafaring and industrial heritage.

Artist Rick Kirby, who created the Arc of Angels, Crouch, Arch and Echo pieces, said: "I think in the sculpture trail the history of Portishead has been 'set in stone'. The artworks add

How to get there:

Car

Parking available at Waitrose and Parish Wharf Leisure Centre or the free car park in the High Street

Bus

- First Bus 357, 358, 359 from Bristol
- First X25 from Clevedon and Weston-super-Mare
- Bakers 692 from Nailsea

to the atmosphere and enjoyment of the new development – they're interesting, thought provoking."

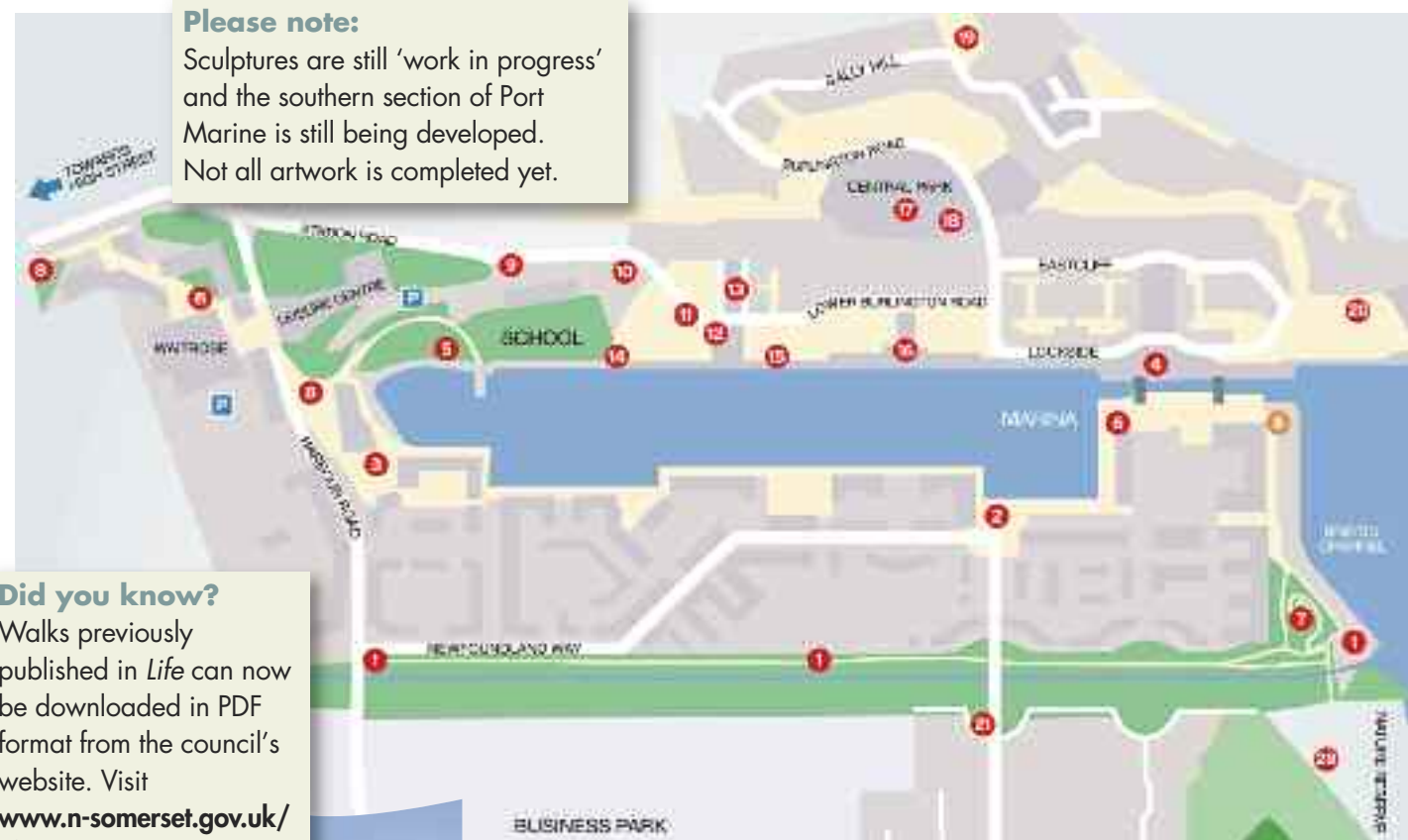
The Arc of Angels, in Central Park (# 17 on map), shows five female figures commemorating the former radio towers which were used to control shipping movements across the world.

Other sculptures include The Lady Sings, by Michael Disley (# 20 on map), which celebrates Portishead-born songwriter Fred Weatherly who wrote works such as Danny Boy.

Full Fathom Five by Michael Dan Archer (# 7 on map) features 108 granite columns arranged over an earth mound overlooking the Bristol



The Lady Sings



Please note:

Sculptures are still 'work in progress' and the southern section of Port Marine is still being developed. Not all artwork is completed yet.

Did you know?

Walks previously published in *Life* can now be downloaded in PDF format from the council's website. Visit www.n-somerset.gov.uk/lifewalks



Full Fathom Five

Channel. Text is carved into many of the columns to commemorate seafarers and Portishead's links to the sea.

When Shall We Three Meet Again? by Robert Stuart Clamp (#2 on map) referring to the former imports of phosphorous into the docks. Phosphorous is a key element in all forms of life.

Stuart said: "Though initially alike, each match/life burns in a unique way, so out of fire something new and individual is created, referencing the constantly changing cycle of life."



When Shall We Three Meet Again?

The Family Explorer leaflet features walking and cycling routes across North Somerset for all the family. Copies are available from Weston Tourist Information Centre, libraries, and online at www.visitsomerset.co.uk



For full details of all artwork locations visit www.publicartportishead.co.uk.

A free public art guide is available from local libraries, the Tourist Information Centre in Weston-super-Mare, and Portishead Town Council, based at The Folk Hall, in High Street, Portishead.

TIC: 01934 888 800

