

JAMES SANDY

DID YOU KNOW?

James Sandy was the son of an Innkeeper

Despite being bedridden, he had a small forge in his bedroom, with which he managed to work iron and brass, reaching the fire from his bed by means of long tongs.

There was a story at the time of his death that his skull was taken to a museum in Edinburgh

The Mauchline Ware Boxes that used James Sandy's hidden hinge are very collectible in the antiques markets of today

There was a poem written after his death by John Smith which listed some of his multitudinous talents

*Dirks an' sowards, bows an' arrows
Magic mirrors, wheels for barrows
Traps an' cages, singin' sparrows
Scapes for bees.
Model cairts, an' pleughs an' harrows
He made wi' ease.
Fu' lang he wrocht, an' planned wi' care
Tae mak' an' mould, improve, repair;
An' ilka science received a share
O' his rare skill
His snuff boxes with hinges rare
Are in use still.*