



Reviresco

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Clan MacEwen Society Bulletin

Commander's Message

Sir John McEwen

“Robert Louis Stevenson once wrote, “The happiest lot on earth is to be born a Scotsman”, and sometimes, especially in the open air or when drinking whisky, or both, one might feel inclined to agree. However, Stevenson was writing before international sport got going. And anyone who follows Scotland at either football or rugby will tell you that the consequence of being born a Scotsman is agony, dished out at least three times a year, every year, as our hopes build, our expectations surge and then crash! Back down to earth we tumble. All right, Ireland were the better team at Murrayfield, but we had such high hopes! It's not the despair that's hard to take, it's the hope! Still, at least we weren't beaten 53-10 at home by France.



Chairman's Message

Sean McCuin

Greetings from Kilfinan!

Hello to all the members of the Clan and Society.

As the games season is firmly underway, I would like to thank all of the Commissioners and Conveners for their dedication to the Clan and Society. We have a very heavy schedule this year where we are able to expand our presence across the globe. This year's AGM will be a slightly smaller event but no less full of fun.

We are looking forward to the next couple of years, where all of our efforts to have a Chief of the Name recognized, will finally come to fruition. I am truly thankful to be part of this momentous and historic process. We will Rise Again!

The Heritage Center will be opening again in Kilfinan as soon as we can secure a suitable location and we look forward to welcoming MacEwens from all over the world again real soon.

Reviresco! Co'mhla!



From The Editors

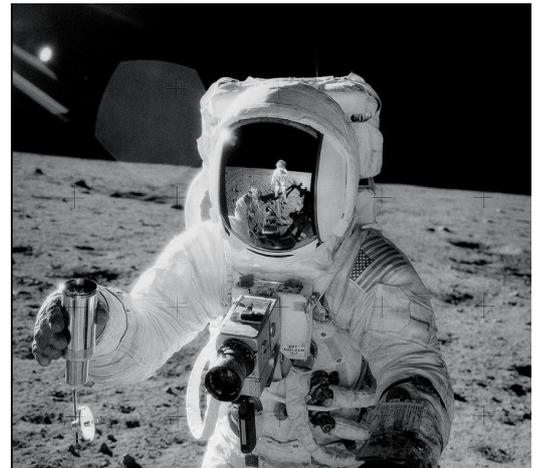
What three or four images of iconic Scottish culture first come into your mind? It might be whisky, bagpipes, tunes or tartan. Scotland has been exporting these items for quite sometime and their reach is global. None so, more than two specific cultural items being featured in this edition of the Bulletin. These being a set of bagpipes played in space and tartans that are adopted by many organisations around the world. Tartans have, as Bob Owens explains, been adopted as part of the uniform of the US Military, and as highlighted by Chris McEwan, have been put forward as potential national tartans for New Zealand.



Herma Goosens has presented a portrait of two brave McEwens who fought in WW2 and survived the fierce battle at Arnhem. Another McEwan also distinguished himself in the same battle.

In this edition we bring you stories of McEwens that span 100 years demonstrating their influence and talents. Our reach is definitely global! But, as illustrated below, the influence of Scottish culture is almost limitless.

Astronaut and Moon walker Alan Bean (died in 2018 aged 86), took the MacBean tartan into space in 1969 as part of the Apollo 12 mission. On his return to Earth he sent the tartan to Fowlis Wester Church, near Crieff in Perthshire. It is kept in the 11th century church linking Scotland to “the new world and to worlds beyond our imagination.”



References:

The Scots Magazine
March 2023

www.clanmacbean

Wikipedia



11th Century Fowlis
Wester Church,
Crieff

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Membership Report by Carol Owens

When is a MacEwen just a MacEwen? **NEVER!**

As your membership secretary, it is an honor, a pleasure, and at times a real “hoot” to receive and record the memberships of our various Society members with all their various spelling variations!

From our eight-lettered MacEwings to our minimalist two-lettered Qn, the ways we spell our surnames are as varied as the regions, countries, states, counties, cities, towns, and villages from which we hail. Our individual histories are unique. Our hair coloring, our complexions, our patterns of speech are different. We come from all over the world, from all walks of life, and each of us has our own very special story to tell. Lots of differences!



But one thing that comes out clearly in every membership application I see, in every conversation with a member that I have, is our collective shared pride in being a MacEwen!

If you have a brother, a sister, a cousin, or a friend that is a MacEwen, consider inviting them to join the Society. Better yet, consider giving them a gift membership for a birthday, or Christmas, or even Ground Hog Day. It's the best gift ever...the gift of family! **REVIRESCO!**

Canada Commissioner Report by Maggie McEwan



Spring greetings from Clan MacEwen, Canada. We have little to report since we are still enjoying fierce winter conditions and our earliest Highland Games in Southern Ontario will be in early June.

Looking ahead we will have booths at Embro, Ontario - July 1 and Fergus, Ontario - August 11-13 as well as Moncton, New Brunswick - June 16,17 and Antigonish, Nova Scotia - July 7-9, so if you are in any of the neighbourhoods, please drop in and say ‘Hello’...



Other possible venues: -

June 10..... Georgetown

June 16/17.....Cobourg

June 24.....Kingsville

July 14/15..... Cambridge

USA Commissioner Report by Bob and Carol Owens



Hello to our fellow MacEwens throughout the world!

Here in the U.S., our first quarter of 2023 has been a busy one. Thus far we’ve had the privilege of representing the Clan at three events in sunny Florida. These include the Central Florida Highland Games in Winter Springs (conveners Angela and Jim McEwen), the Mount Dora Scottish Highland Festival in Mount Dora (conveners Carol and Bob Owens), and the Northeast Florida Scottish Highland Games in Green Cove Springs (conveners Susan and Justin McEwen).

By the time you read this, we will have flown the colors in St. Augustine at the Celtic Music and Heritage Festival, and fellow members will be looking forward to hosting events in Dunedin, Florida, and Columbia, South Carolina, both on April 1, 2023, Savannah, Georgia on May 6, 2023, Townsend, Tennessee May 20-21, and Greenville, South Carolina on May 27, 2023 .

Watch for details on these and many other U.S. events throughout the coming months to be posted in our **Clan MacEwen Society Facebook Group** page.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED in convening, or assisting in convening, an event in your area, please contact me, Robert (Bob) Owens at owens@rebelscreek.com. I’ll be happy to help you connect with your area’s regional convener or with you personally to set that up.

Together, we grow strong again! **Reviresco! Co’mhla!**

**If you’re already convening an event of which I’m not aware, please let me know so we can recognize and thank you publicly and offer any assistance you might need!*



Images From Previous St Augustine Celtic Festival—Florida



Oceania Commissioner Report by Chris McEwan



In our Southern home, summer is finally waning and the season for getting out the kilt and brogues is almost upon us! This summer has been a lot drier than the last two in Australia so we enter Autumn with the hope that this year we will actually be able to attend all the Highland Games and Scottish Festivals that we intend to!

A big shout out to Greg who represented the Clan at Maryborough Highland Gathering on New Year's Day down in Victoria. It was a stinking hot day and he did a great job to represent the Clan in those conditions.

By the time this Bulletin is released we should also have been able to attend Bundanoon is Brigadoon in the NSW Southern Highlands, we hope that we saw a whole bunch of you there! Looking forward, we can't wait for May with the Australian Celtic Festival in Glen Innes and Berry Celtic Festival in the Shoalhaven. We hope to see you at one of these events they are always a great day and a great way to represent the Clan.

It should not go unsaid that large parts of New Zealand have suffered through some horrendous flooding in the last couple of months in the wake of Cyclone Gabrielle. Our thoughts and prayers are with our friends across the ditch and we hope that the recovery is going well. I am hopeful that at some point in the near future we may be able to attend a games or gathering in New Zealand and visit you in person.

New Zealand Tartans

Written By Chris McEwan

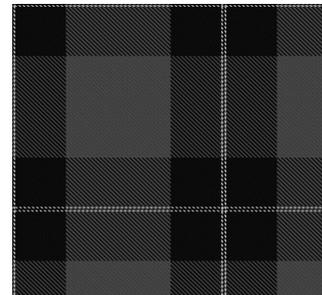
Much like their neighbours across the ditch, New Zealand has a number of wonderful district Tartans representing different parts of the country. These will feature in a future article at some point however for the time being we will restrict ourselves to the three tartans that are the unofficial contenders for the national tartan.

Once again, none of these tartans have the status of a national symbol and in fact are even less official than the Australian Tartans discussed in a previous article. None of them have the support of the Government nor are they used by any of New Zealand's Military Units. Nevertheless, they are all wonderfully unique tartans that point to the Highland heritage of many New Zealanders as well as those things which New Zealanders value today.

The first tartan in question is the New Zealand (2000). This tartan was designed by Blair Urquhart of House of Tartan based on a design by Clint McInnes and was registered in 2000. There is very little information about the symbolism contained in this Tartan and it seems to primarily have been produced by a single company as a privately-owned Tartan.

The second "national" tartan is the New Zealand (2003). This Tartan was designed, and its uptake was encouraged, by the Piping & Dancing Association of New Zealand. The tartan was launched on 26th February 2003 at the Beehive in New Zealand by the then President of the Piping & Dancing Association of New Zealand, Frank MacKinnon, along with the Prime Minister of the time, Helen Clark, who also happened to be Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage. While it doesn't have any official status, it's launch by such a leading Politician suggests that this may most appropriately be considered New Zealand's Regional Tartan. Once again, the symbolism of the Tartan is not readily available.

The final tartan we will be discussing actually predates both the others having been registered in 1989. It was designed by Ivan Coward and John Clark. The colours chosen represent the famous 'All Blacks' rugby team, grey for the multi-cultural makeup of the population and the white for the snow of the mountains.



“To Boldly Go...”

It's a well held belief that a scream can not be heard in space, but bagpipes can be heard all over the world. In fact, it is thought that in the heat of battle bagpipes can be heard up to 15 miles away. With this nugget of information, why then did a set of McCallum Great Highland Bagpipes get taken to the International Space Station in 2015? The reason is that American astronaut Kjell Lingren promised to play 'Amazing Grace', as a tribute to a colleague who died. Kejel chose the McCallum black, Acetyl Bagpipes because they are light and virtually indestructible and can cope with any conditions and let's face it being blasted into space doesn't get any harsher. The ten year guarantee on the pipes also comes in handy for the longer tours of duty on the Space Station. McCallum are a well established bagpipe maker with their factory based in Kilmarnock on the southwest coast of Scotland. In Rick Ewing's article 'Blow, Squeeze, Relax and Listen' in the last issue of

Astronaut Kjell Lingren playing Amazing Grace on a set of McCallum Great Highland Bagpipes on the International Space Station.



the Bulletin, he talked about the great pleasure he got from playing his pipes in a marching band, knowing that it stirred the soul of the listener. It is such an evocative instrument. In my own humble way, I too love playing the pipes but I'm not sure about the listener! Like the astronaut's pipes my Scottish Small Pipes were also made by McCallum. They have a lovely tone and are somewhat quieter than the GHBs shown above and the other difference is I don't blow, I pump with a bellows strapped to my arm. The advantage of this is that I can play and talk at the same time. When I collected my pipes from the McCallum factory, I was able to see how the pipes were made from the carefully

selected African Back Wood to the beautifully finished item. The process they use ensures that each type of pipe they produce is identical in tone and pitch, an incredibly important feature if you play in a pipe band. If you want to know more about the range of bagpipes, chanters, highland dress and drums, etc, visit mccallumbagpipes.com



Ewan playing his McCallum Small Pipes in the MacEwen marquee at the Luss Games



Be Warned!

Our Spotlight on a McEwen is ***Matt McEwen***

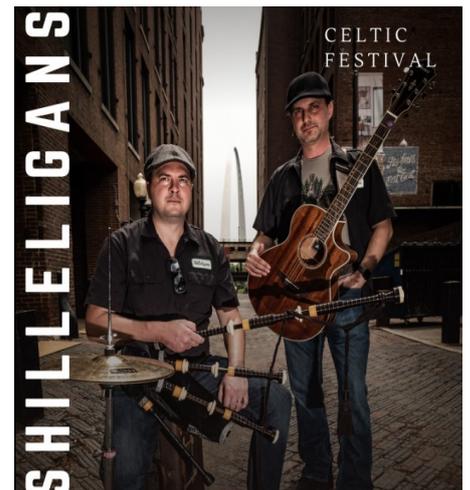
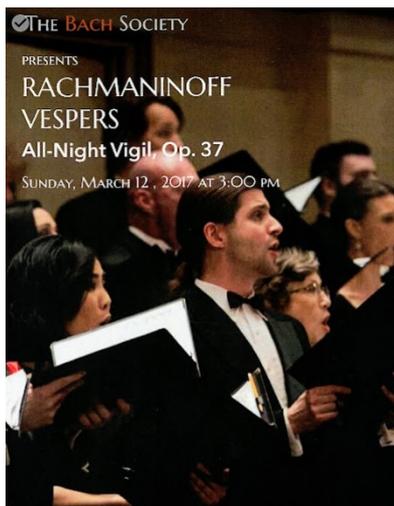
Clan MacEwen has a rich and celebrated musical history, full of bards, singers, composers, pipers and musicians of all stripes, and Clan member Matt McEwen continues this tradition. Matt lives in Saint Louis, Missouri with his wife, Jill, and their three mischievous cats. A software engineer by trade, Matt's real passion is to enrich the world through music. Matt is a professional singer and multi-instrumentalist, and most recently began learning the Great Highland Bagpipes under the tutelage of piper Jim O'Brien, with whom he performs in the Saint Louis Caledonian Pipe Band. Matt & Jim together also make up the Shilleligans, a band playing traditional Scottish, Irish, and American tunes at Highland Games, cultural events, and the yearly Saint Pat's pub extravaganza. They challenge themselves to find culturally and historically relevant music that honours their Scottish & Irish roots, and then perform it in an exciting way that'll get a crowded bar to sing along. Matt is learning the Scottish Gaelic language, and the Shilleligans perform several tunes in Gaelic and Irish.



Of special note to the Clan is the Shilleligans' original anthem, "Reviresco, Our Call", a call to arms for Clan MacEwen members to work together as a source of good and renewal in the world. You can find some videos and other info at <https://linktr.ee/shilleligans>

As a youth, Matt's parents (musicians as well) enrolled him in the American Boy choir, where he toured the world performing while doing his schoolwork on the road. Later in life, while pursuing his Masters in Computer Science, he earned a minor in music performance, theory, and composition, and now performs as a soloist and chorister in the STL area regularly. Notably, Matt has sung with the Bach Society of Saint Louis for eighteen years, and in his church most every Sunday.

In addition to singing and piping, Matt plays (with varying levels of success!) guitar, fiddle, small pipes, bouzouki, bodhrán, hammered dulcimer, trumpet, tin whistle, ukulele, bones, and spoons.



McEwens Who Fought in the Battle of Arnhem by Herma Goosens

What do we know about the MacEwens who fought in the battle of Arnhem.

You already have been acquainted with **Niell McEwen S/Sergeant 983111 2nd Wing Glider Pilot Regiment.**

His daughter Sara told his incredible story in the September 2020 issue, titled '*Neil McEwen's Story*'. and **Norman Sutherland McEwen Flying Officer 168700 Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve**, his story was told in the May 2020 issue as part of the Liberation and freedom article. He died 19 Sep 1944, lost in aircraft Stirling IV L939. Norman is related to our Vice Chairman Ross McEwen.

Tom McEwen L/Cpl 408964 10th Parachute Battalion

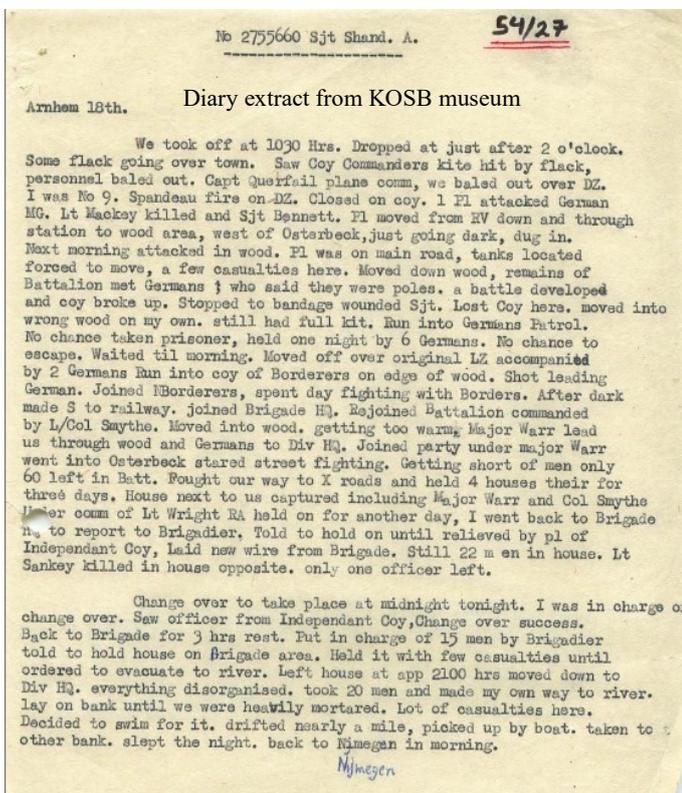
Extract from Paradata 10th Battalion KSOB

	Rank	Initial/ Forename	Name	Age	Service Number	Killed or Died in service	Coy	Platoon	Section
525	L/Cpl	Tom	McEwan	28	408964		D Coy	18	



The 7th Battalion Kings Own Scottish Borders (KOSB) go back to 1689 and were formed in Edinburgh. Over the next 200 years the Regiment served under various guises. In 1782, they became the Sussex Regiment and then in 1805 they finally became the KOSB. The 7th Battalion KOSB fought with distinction on the Western Front in WW1 suffering 970 casualties. They found themselves surrounded by German troops. Reports said that the 7th Battalion fought gallantly but never really had a chance. When they were ordered to retreat, they were reduced from a 740 strong Battalion to 4 officers and 72 men over two days of fighting. Operation Market Garden was deployed by sending 35,000 men flown 300 miles (480km) from air bases in England and dropped behind enemy lines.

The bravery of those involved which included the KOSB Battalion were immortalised in the classic 1977 film '*A Bridge Too Far*'.



KOSB Regimental tartan and badge.



McEwens Who Fought In The Battle Of Arnhem

3190827 Lance Corporal James McEwen



Jim McEwen, born James in 1920 in Dumfriesshire, was the eldest of three sons. He joined the 5th Kings Own Borderers (KSOB) from being an apprentice joiner and cabinet maker. Sometime later he joined the 7th KSOB, which were moved to St. Boswell on the River Tweed. His company were sent to Essex after the evacuation of Dunkirk to strengthen defences along the coast. His outfit, the 7th KOSB, were later posted to the Shetland Islands as part of the 228th Independent Brigade integral to the defence force of RAF Sumburgh Aerodrome. The 7th then were moved again to Orkney to help defend a naval airfield but their travels were not over as they were later moved to Woodhall Spa in Lincolnshire, the home of the Dambuster squadron. This time they were to train as a glider battalion, joining the 1st Airlanding Brigade in the British 1st Airborne Division.

On 17th September 1944, 765 men, from the 7th KSOB, took off in Airspeed Horsa Mk11 Gliders to be dropped behind enemy lines north west of Arnhem. They encountered fierce fighting and the KSOB joined forces with Poles and Paras in what was described as confused fighting. They withdrew through woods and across a railway line to rendezvous at Wolfheze, taking heavy casualties.

The Borderers took up positions at the Hotel Dreijeroord in the western Arnhem suburb of Oosterbreek. They were equipped with anti-tank guns, mortars and Vickers machine guns. Both sides took heavy losses and Jim McEwen and many Borderers were cut off and surrounded. Jim was wounded in his leg and taken prisoner whilst trying to escape towards the river. He was sent to Oldenzal on the Dutch/German border and then on to Stalag X11A by train. As a prisoner of war he was made to labour, unloading potatoes, removing bomb damage and building air raid shelters. Jim contracted diphtheria and was seriously ill and hospitalised, but later recovered.

The camp where he was imprisoned was heavily bombed and the American Army was getting closer to them. The Germans marched the prisoners, about 20 miles over two days, without food. The American Army caught up with the prison convoy and the accompanying German guards surrendered.

On his eventual return home, Jim found that his mother had died of cancer. He returned to Orkney and married Margaret Groundwater. Jim died in 1990.



The Battle of Arnhem



Airspeed Horsa Glider (Wikipedia)

Airborne landing areas west of Arnhem (Paradata)

Colonel Malcolm MacEwan DSO and Bar, OBE, DFC, TD

by Ewan Rowland

Malcom MacEwan was one of the few men in the Airbourne Forces to serve in both the first and Second World War. (*Airbourne Assault – Paradata*)

He was born on the Isle of Harris in the Outer Hebrides in 1896. After joining the Territorial Army (TA) at 18 he volunteered for overseas service in 1914. He served in Gallipoli in 1915 and after a short spell in Salonika, Greece he transferred to the newly formed Royal Flying Corps as an observer and later became a pilot. It was during WW1 that he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC). He joined the 'White Army' after the Armistice in 1918, fighting against the new revolutionary government, where he was awarded the Russia Order of St George.

After being demobbed in 1920 he retrained as a doctor and became a GP in Ipswich, Suffolk. He still remained involved with the TA as CO of the 58th Medium Regiment. During this period, he also became a Town Councillor and set up the Air Duty Division of the St John's Ambulance; today a charity run by volunteers and whose roots go back to the 11th Century and Knights of St John.



At the outbreak of WW2 he took the 58th Medium Regiment to France as part of the British Expeditionary Force. On returning to England after Dunkirk, he transferred to Royal Artillery as Commander. From here he was then transferred to the Royal Army Medical Corp, serving as the first Commanding Officer of a parachute medical unit. He was 47 when he did his first parachute training.

A member of the 16 Parachute Field Ambulance recalled:

...Lt-Colonel MacEwan as his name indicates, [he] was a Scot, and rightly very proud of the fact. When signing his surname without initials, telling me as he did so, that he was the 'The MacEwan of the MacEwans', the laird and so needed no initials.

Lt-Colonel MacEwan led the 16 PFA in North Africa campaigns. It was on the slopes of Djebel Mansour in February 1943, that he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order (DSO) and later the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for his services in North Africa in March 1945.

He became a full Colonel in June 1943 and became Assistant Director Medical of Services to the 6th Airbourne Division. Based in England he helped prepare soldiers for the Normandy Invasion. He parachuted into Normandy on the morning of 6th June 1944. He also took part in the Ardennes campaign and Operation Varsity, the assault crossing of the Rhine.

He was awarded a second DSO, whilst with his Division, during the advance to the Baltic.

After the war Colonel MacEwan returned to General Practice in Ipswich until his retirement in 1976. He died in August 1985 at the age of 88.

(TD was a military medal of the UK awarded for long service in the Territorial Force.)

Reference: *paradata.com*

Military Tartans in the United States of America

by

CAPT Robert L. Owens, Sr., MBA, FLMI (USMS)

Military Tartans are not new. Indeed, the survival of the tartan in the 18th century may have been due, in large part, to it's use by the Highland Regiments of the British Army. One thing is certain, 300 years later the design, production, representative use, and wearing of tartan by Clans, countries, states, counties, fraternal organizations, corporations, individuals, and, yes, the military, is more popular and prevalent than ever!

Here is a brief overview of a few of the many U.S. military tartans. These military tartans, often worn by the various branches of pipes and drum bands, are equally well represented by active, retired, and former service members and their families at various galas, highland games and festivals, and other Scottish-American gatherings and reunions. It's been said no one is more handsome than when in uniform...unless it's tartan!

U.S. Army Tartan: Designed in conjunction with kiltmakers Alexis Malcolm Kilts, the US Army tartan was designed by Raymond Jones, a Vietnam veteran who served with the Darkhorse Regiment. The colors chosen represent the Army's several uniforms – black for the beret, khaki for the summer uniform, light green for the original sniper uniform and not part of the summer uniform, dark blue for the original dress uniform, olive for the combat uniform, and traditional gold for the cavalry.



Seth McQuin Retired Sergeant 1st Class



U.S. Air Force Tartan: This handsome tartan was designed in 1988 by Arthur Mackie, former mill manager at Strathmore Woolen Mills, and was subsequently adopted by the Band of the Air Force Reserve, at Dobbins Air Force Base, Georgia, in the early 1990's. It was recorded prior to the Scottish Register of Tartans, and is widely accepted through universal usage by US Air Force servicemen and women and their families as a representative military tartan design. The striking colors certainly represent well the "wild blue yonder" referenced in the official U.S. Air Force Song.

Dina –Lee-McEwan - Veteran US Air Force

U.S. Navy Tartans: There are several registered US Navy tartans, among them the widely recognized *US Navy Edzell*, also designed by Arthur Mackie, former manager for Strathmore Woolen Mills, in commemoration of the close relationship that developed between USN personnel and the Scottish community at Edzell radar base in Angus, Scotland. The colors celebrate the inter service cooperation by incorporating the dark blue for the Navy, light blue for the Air Force, red for the Marine Corps and the Army, and white for the ocean's waves.



James McEwen –Senior Chief USN (Retired)



The *Polaris Military* tartan, was designed in 1964 by Alexander MacIntyre of Strone, for the officers and men of the American Submarine base at Holy Loch, Scotland. A controversial move at the time, as the Americans would take over the Holy Loch while the Royal Navy built up its own base a few miles away at Faslane on the Gare Loch. Though the Lord Lyon was reportedly less than pleased about the idea of naming a tartan for a specific vessel, he acquiesced once it was made clear that the name derived from the type of nuclear missile carried by all USN ballistic missile submarines at that time and not a single submarine.

Military Tartans in the United States of America



Sean McCuin Former Marine



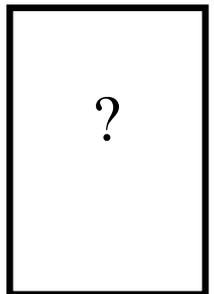
U.S. Marine Corps Tartan: Recorded prior to the establishment of the Scottish Register of Tartans, this tartan was designed by Bob Hall of Tallahassee, Florida, Ruraidh MacLeod of Auchtermuchty, and an unnamed member of the Scottish Tartans Society. This striking tartan is officially registered as the US Marine Corps tartan but is often referred to with great affection as the “Leatherneck” tartan. It honors the United States Marine Corps, which was founded by an act of the Continental Congress on November 10, 1775. The red and yellow in the sett symbolize the colors of the Corps’ battle flag, the green the color of the utility uniform worn by U.S. Marines during WWII, and the blue, the close relationships between the USMC and the U.S. Navy, cementing the Corps’ legacy as Warriors from the Sea.

The **US Navy Seal Foundation Tartan**, is a relatively new tartan, designed in 2017 by Mark Gibson. Its striking color scheme of blues, red, and gold, represents and was created to pay tribute to the valor, courage, and sacrifice of the Navy Seals. The Navy Seal Foundation itself exists to support these elite warriors and their families, and this tartan is often seen in kilts and sashes during Military balls and other formal events.



U.S. Coast Guard Tartan: Inspired by the family tartan of Alexander Hamilton, the founder of the Revenue-Marine, and the 'father' of the modern-day U.S. Coast Guard, the deep symbolism of the colors is poignant, reflecting those in the flag of the United States of America. Red marks the courage and sacrifice of the men and women of the Coast Guard and its predecessor services, in both war and peace. The 10 threads of white represent the sails of the original ten Revenue Cutters commissioned in 1790, and the blue symbolizes the seas and skies plied by cutters and aircraft of the Coast Guard as they carry out their missions to this day to serve and protect.

U.S. Space Force: The newest branch of the Armed Forces of the United State, the USSF was established on December 20, 2019, to “organize, train, and equip space forces in order to protect U.S. and allied interests in space and to provide space capabilities to the joint force.” Though no tartan has as yet been registered, given the popularity and appeal of tartans in the US military, no doubt it will not be long before one is recorded.



Special thanks to the Scottish Register of Tartans for information found online at www.tartanregister.gov.uk. Visit their website for additional information and to view color photographs of these tartan designs. It should be noted that except for the USCG tartan, the tartans listed above, while widely worn and generally accepted as representative by members, past and present, of the various branches of the United States armed forces, are not officially recognized by the U.S. Departments of the various branches.

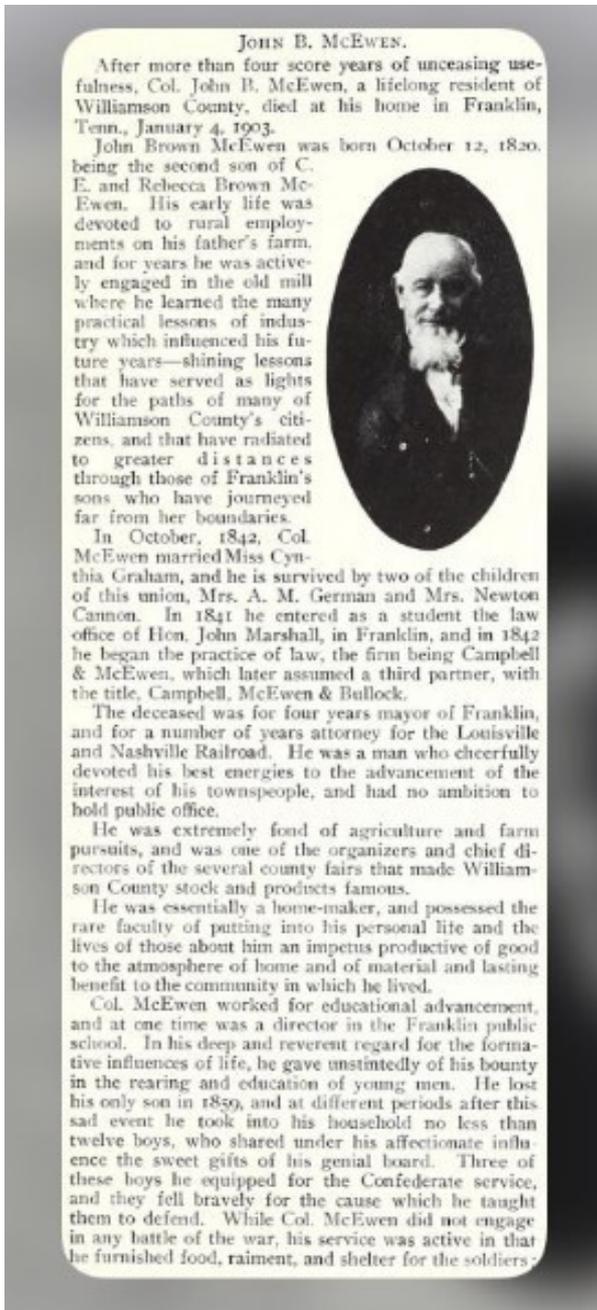
John B McEwen

by

Ewan Rowland

Obituary

Reproduction of Obituary



John B McEwen 1820—1902

After more than 4 score years unceasing influence, Col John B McEwen a lifelong resident of Williamson County died at his home in Franklin on January 4th 1902.

J B McEwen was born on October 12th 1820 being the second son of CE and Rebecca Brown McEwen. His early life was devoted to rural employment on his father's farm for years he was actually engaged in the old mill where he learned the many practical lessons of industry which influenced his future years – shining boxes that have served as lights to the paths of many Williamson County's citizens, and have radiated to greater distances through those of Franklin's sons who have journeyed far from her boundaries. In October 1842 Col McEwen married Miss Cynthia Graham and she is serviced by two children of this union. Mrs AM German and Mrs Newton Cannon. In 1841 he entered as a student of law office of Hon. John Marshall in Franklin and 1842 he began the practice of law, the firm being Campbell and McEwen which later assumed a third partner, with the title Campbell, McEwen and Bullock.

The deceased was for four years Mayor of Franklin, and for a number of years attorney for the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. He was a man who cheerfully devoted his best energies to the advancement of the interest of his townspeople and had no ambition to hold public office.

He was extremely fond of agriculture and farm pursuits and was one of organisers and chief director of the several county fairs that made Williamson County stock and products famous.

He was essentially a home maker and possessed the rare faculty of putting into his personal life and the lives of those about him an impetuous productive of good benefit to the community in which he lived.

Col McEwen worked for the educational advancement and at one time was a director in the Franklin public school. In his deep and reverent regard for formative influences of life, he gave unstintingly of his bounty in the rearing of and education of young men. He lost his only son in 1859 and at a different period after this sad event he took into his household no less than 12 boys who shared under his affectionate influence the sweet gifts of his genial board. Three of the boys he equipped for the Confederate service and they fell bravely for the cause which he taught them to defend. While Col McEwen did not engage in any battle of the war, his service was active in that he furnished food, raiment and shelter for the soldiers.

John B McEwen



The house in which J B McEwen lived is described as the grandest and best preserved historic house in downtown Franklin. He was the second owner of the house and the McEwen Family lived in it for almost 90 years. It was later a boarding house and even divided into apartments in the 1940s and 50s. But is has now been restored to its former glory.

During McEwen's time he opened his house as a field hospital during the Civil War for Confederate soldiers. Although a support of Confederacy he never owned slaves. Franklin became known as the one of the last great battles of the American Civil War. In November 1894

Franklin lay in the path of the two great armies lead by Gen. John Bell Hood of the Confederate Army of Tennessee and Maj. Gen. John M Schofield of the Federal Army. During the battle the McEwens took refuge in the cellar of their house. One of his daughters described what happened.

"My father [John B. McEwen] realizing that we were in range of the guns from both armies, told us to run down into the cellar. We hastily threw a change of clothing into a bundle and obeyed at once. My mother [Cynthia Graham McEwen], who never knew what fear meant in her life, was a little reluctant to go and leave the upper part of the house to the tender mercies of soldiers, but she finally joined us in the basement. A few minutes later there was a crash and down came a deluge of dust and gravel. A cannon ball had torn a hole in the side of the meat house and broken the wash kettle to pieces. The patter of bullets on the blinds was anything but soothing. The incessant booming of cannon and the rattle of the guns continued until midnight, then the firing gradually ceased; we, of course, were in ignorance of who was in possession of the place, but all the while hoping and praying that it might be our boys."



Fernville Springs Resort in Williamson County

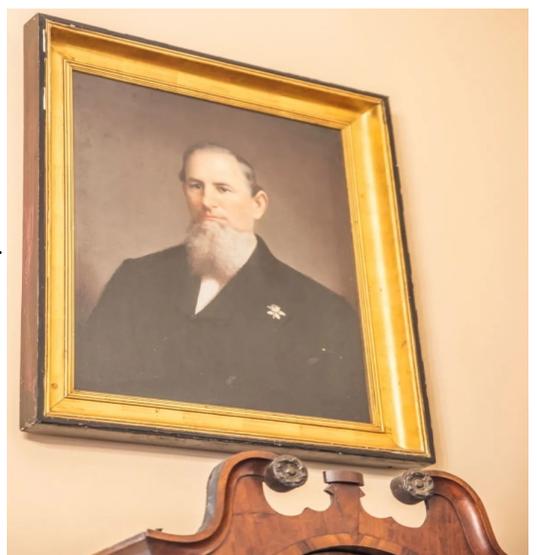
After the war John McEwen prospered and became a real estate mogul. He also operated Fernvale Springs Resort in Williamson County for several years. He rejected the Federal Governments' proposal to turn part of the battle field in to a monument, instead insisting the land be divided into building plots and naming the streets after the Battle of Franklin's fallen Confederate generals.

In the March 1903 issue of "The Confederate Veteran" magazine it was said of John B McEwen that

"the story of his life might be told in a few words. He gave the best part of eighty-two years to teaching by practice the deep and holy meaning of the Golden Rule."

References:

lovelyfranklin.com and boft.org/learn



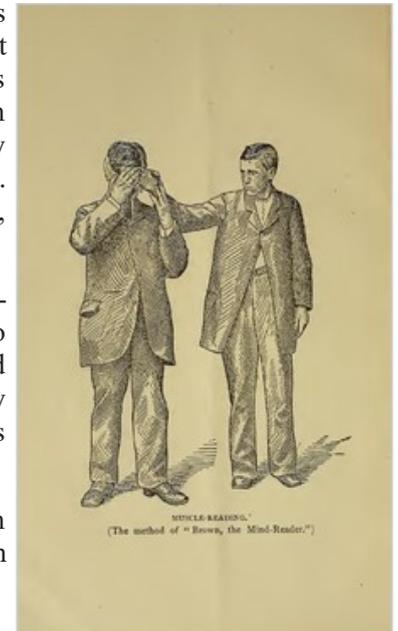
The Great McEwen by Ewan Rowland and Duncan McEwan

Philip Hartley McEwen was a Scottish music hall entertainer, hypnotist and magician who masqueraded as *The Great McEwen*. He was born in Scotland (possibly Hawick) in 1861 and died in Cairns, Queensland, Australia in 1935 where he is buried. He doesn't appear to have done much in Scotland but was very popular in the USA and Australia where he regularly played to sell-out audiences. It may be that he emigrated to the USA at a young age and learned his trade over there. He also toured in India and New Zealand which is where Duncan first came across one of his posters on display in the tearoom of Dunedin Railway Station and found that the nearby Early Settler's Museum actually had them for sale. Nowadays the posters, together with other branded merchandise items such as , stickers, mugs, tee shirts etc. can be bought from various online sources.

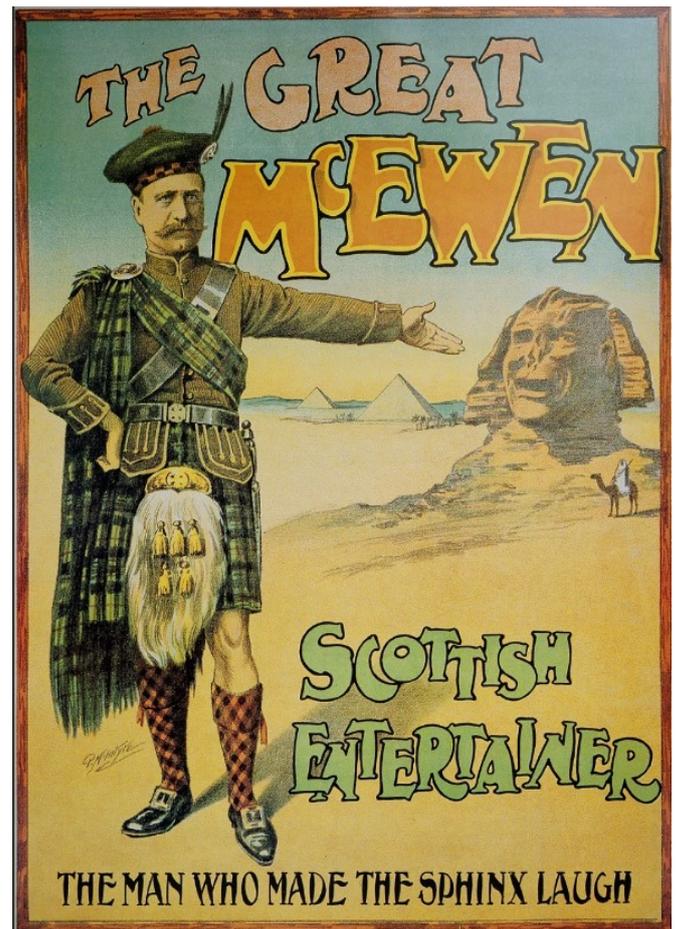
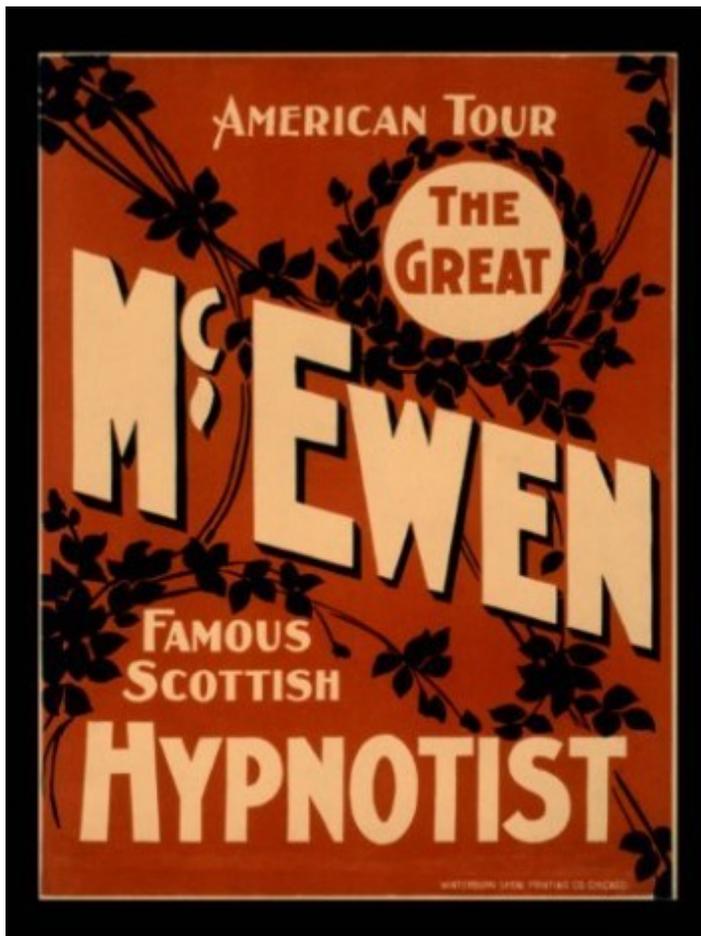
By 1899 in the USA, Philip Hartley became more successful after adding muscle-reading to his magician and hypnotism act. Muscle reading is a technique to determine the thoughts or knowledge of a subject and is used as a form of mind reading. The technique relies on the assertion that the subject will subconsciously reveal their thoughts through very slight involuntary physical reactions known as ideomotor responses, in other words reading body language.

Philip McEwen also claimed to be the nephew of the professional magician John Henry Anderson (1814-1874) who is credited to help bring the act of magic from street performers into theatres.

Reference: Wikipedia and Duncan McEwan



An example of muscle



The Clan MacEwen Society Thanks The National Lottery Community Fund!



The Clan MacEwen Society are very fortunate and extremely grateful to have received a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund for £7500 in May 2022 to help pay for a much needed marquee, activities, a community garden, and accessibility. This grant has really helped us connect and bring the Clan and local community together by offering activities and an all weather space in which to have them and extending our capacity at the Kilfinan Community Hall.

The marquee has been enjoyed for Gatherings including our International Clan MacEwen Gathering, Barbeques, Jubilee Picnic, Gaelic workshops, RNLI fundraiser and Weddings and will be used by many for years to come.

The Community Garden is a moveable garden designed to appeal to the senses enjoyed by all ages, with the younger ones particularly enjoying the taste garden! Our mini orchard includes the Jubilee Cherry to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, apples, plums, and pear. We have been able to have many workshops to bring the community together to build the garden from hanging basket workshops, to herb gardens, fairy gardens and grow your own fruit and veg, and of course the produce is available for everyone to enjoy.

The activities and workshops we have been able to put on thanks to the grant include local producers' markets, ceilidhs, whisky tasting, Gaelic classes, fairy festival, food from Argyll workshops, heritage and heraldry workshops, local storytelling and music jam sessions. We have been able to work with the local clans, schools and community groups to help bring these to fruition.

With the cost of electricity rising to unprecedented levels, we have also been able to provide a warm community space for people to share where the coffee is always on! This has been especially welcomed by passers by who have stopped into the community hall which housed our Clan Heritage Centre and have stayed a while, learning about our area and enjoying the facilities.

So, Clan MacEwen Society says a massive THANK YOU to the National Lottery Community Fund and its players for helping to make all of this happen.

The National Lottery Community Fund, Scotland Chair, Kate Still, said: "National Lottery funding can make amazing things happen in local communities across the country. This project delivered by CLAN MACEWEN SOCIETY, is a great example of community activity in action, showing just what can be achieved when people come together for a common cause or to help others. National Lottery players can be proud to know that the money they raise is helping to support this vital work and to help communities thrive.

The Clan MacEwen Society Thanks The National Lottery Community Fund!

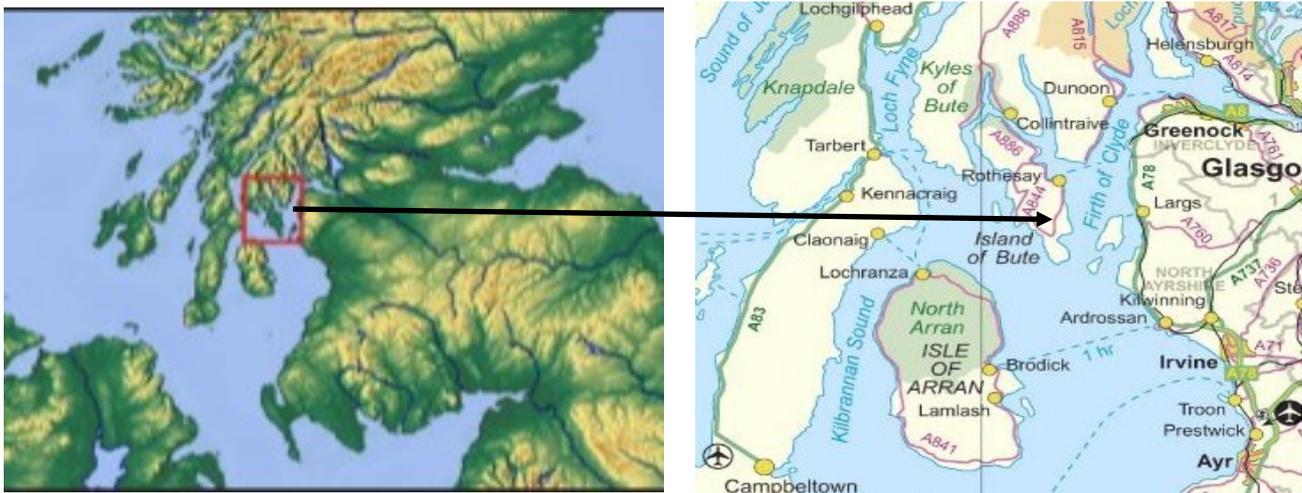


“It’s All in the Botanicals—A Taste of Bute”

By Pauline Rowland

The McEwen clan gathering 2023 will be holding many of its events in the Oyster Catcher pub and restaurant, situated at the scenic spot of Otter ferry, on the banks of Loch Fyne.

One of the events I’m really looking forward to attending is the gin tasting session. The gins will be provided from a selection produced and bottled on the beautiful Isle of Bute.



The Isle of Bute distillery is run by a small team of people dedicated to providing alcoholic beverages inspired by the stunning scenery, and enchanting coastal waters of the west of Scotland and from the clan’s perspective, so close to the McEwen homeland. I recently had the privilege to speak with Jack, the general manager, who founded the distillery with his wife Rhona.



Simon (Head Distiller, Rhona and Jack (Co Founders)

Rhona had spent many family holidays on Bute and after living in Australia decided, along with Jack, that it was time to return to the place of happy childhood memories. With no experience of distilling but a keen mutual interest in craft gin they decided to bring the first craft gin distillery to Bute. The establishment of the business wasn’t without its challenges. Having developed branding, recipes and invested in equipment, the search for a suitable premises became a priority challenge. Not one they expected, as Rothesay at the time had many vacant shops on the High Street but none suitable or available for leasing. The Mount Stuart Trust came to the rescue and was able to lease the company the Mansion House, a prime business location on the

High Street. The next challenge, faced by us all, was the onset of COVID! Although the company had keys to the site in January 2020, they only had a brief window to set up before lockdown had everyone in its grip. Jack explained “it was a ghost business for six months” and it was in July 2020 that customers came through the doors for the first time. This first summer through to autumn was extremely busy as restrictions eased and social media as well as the website played their part in attracting people to the distillery to taste the gin. Prior to this, work had begun to produce small batch craft gin with head distiller, Simon. Working with a small 200 L copper still and two recipes, that would need local botanicals to infuse into the gin the true essence of Bute, Simon began to work the distillers’ magic!

“It’s All In The Botanicals—A Taste of Bute”

Each gin is created using a primary botanical, or group of botanicals, harvested from the island and surrounding waters, as well as classic herbs and spices. Some of the signature botanicals include gorse from the grounds of Mount Stuart, and heather from some of Bute’s wild places, handpicked by the distillers. The distillery also created the world’s first oyster gin! This is produced using the shells from Loch Fyne oysters- a real taste of Argyll! The public are now able to experience the liquid magic of Bute in the distillery’s successful Gin Garden, where you can experience a gin tasting session as well as delightful gin cocktails. Explore all Bute’s gins and cocktails at isleofbutedistillery.com



Botanical Drawings By Local Bute Artist Ruth Slater

The distillery is also increasing its market by supplying bars and restaurants on the island which attracts many tourists during the summer. During the last eighteen months the focus has been on production and distribution directly to pubs and restaurants in the UK through three different distributors. Jack acknowledges that the international market is more of a challenge and is work in progress. The European market has been restricted due to Brexit and shipping to the rest of the world can be complicated and expensive, so the focus is on building a sound business on the island and developing the domestic market.

Jack and his team are really excited about a new development for the island -THE BUTE YARD PROJECT - soon to be launched in Rothesay and which according to Jack will be a “game changer for Bute”. The project, a vision of the late Johnny Bute, is being created on a large site behind the existing Mansion House, therefore occupying a prominent position in the heart of Rothesay. Bute Yard, a completely new build, will be a hub for food and drink as well as events. The yard will include, amongst others, coffee roasters, cheese makers, and a smokehouse as well as a new craft brewery. The covered event space, licenced for live music and with a capacity for 500, will be able to accommodate not only food festivals; farmers markets and community celebrations; but also music festivals and events throughout the winter. Jack sees it as “a one stop shop for people” and will be “the number one place to go.” The Isle of Bute Distillery will be the main tenant and will be moving all operations into the bigger premises in the near future. Jack is looking forward to having “more space so we can produce more, a brand-new bar and tasting area and the actual hospitality offering will be a big step up from what we’ve got now.” Despite small businesses having to wrestle with the bigger issues of sustainability and the recent controversy of bottle returns, Jack views the future success of the business as being firmly bound up in what they produce on the island and a “sound offering when people visit The Yard.” There are 150 gin distilleries in Scotland but only Jack and the team are doing what they are doing on Bute so it’s important “to encourage people to visit Bute Yard and check out Bute.” As Jack pointed out, Bute is only one and half hours from Glasgow and close to the mainland so well connected for those McEwens who want to explore another part of Argyll close to the homeland. Find out more at buteyard.com



Artists impression of the Bute Yard now under development showing the location of the distillery.

“It’s All in the Botanicals—A Taste of Bute”

The continuing success of the distillery and the development of new gin recipes is down to the commitment of the team, not just to the production of delicious and unique gin but also the promotion of the Island to the global community.

On behalf of McEwens everywhere we wish the Isle of Bute distillery and The Bute Yard every success for the future!



Stop Press!! 15% off on all online purchases for McEwens when you use the code **“mcewen”**.

Please note: currently, products can’t be sent to the US due to import restrictions.

Let the fun beGIN! To showcase their range of gins, the distillery team have created some exciting cocktails for all to try! Check out the current recipes on their website or even better visit the distillery and enjoy a taste of Bute!



BUTE MARTINI



HEATHER BEE STING



GORSE COLADA

Isle of Bute Distillery 65 High Street,
Rothesay, Isle of Bute PA20 9AU



www.isleofbutedistillery.com

Lemon Squares Recipe

by

INGREDIENTS

Shortbread crust:

12 ounces Butter, room temperature
½ cup Sugar
3 teaspoon Vanilla Extract
2 teaspoon Lemon juice
2 teaspoon Lemon zest
3 cups Flour

Lemon Filling:

9 Eggs room temperature
3 ¾ cup Sugar
¾ cup Lemon Juice
2 ¼ Tablespoon Lemon zest
¾ Tablespoon Baking Powder
1 teaspoon Salt

Shortbread Crust:

Preheat oven to 375° F or 180° C

1. Cream butter and sugar together 'til light and fluffy
2. Add vanilla and lemon juice and zest
3. Add flour
4. Foil a 10x10 pan and spray the foil with baking spray

Press shortbread into pan and bake for 15 minutes

Lemon Filling:

1. Whisk eggs and sugar just 'til it comes together
2. Add lemon juice and zest
3. Add baking powder and salt
4. Make sure you don't over whip the filling
5. Pour on top of crust and bake for 30-40 minutes. Checking every 10-15 minutes. Bake 'til the filling is firm

