

*Tìr Ìseal nan Òran*  
(Tìree: low land of song)



*The Tapestry*  
*Am brat-grèise*

# *Tìr Ìseal Tapestry*

The Tìr Ìseal nan Òran project brought together artists, community and stories to celebrate the richness of Tìree's landscape, heritage and culture.

Descendants of those who have left Tìree were asked to participate remotely in the textile part of the project by decorating a square of fabric, inspired by the project stories.

At the launch of the project sewing club pupils of Tìree school showed an interest in the project and were invited to participate as well.

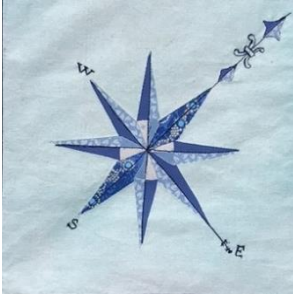
The stories that inspired most of the Diaspora were unsurprisingly those of emigration. Many of them decorated their square with stories of the Tìree diaspora of the past. Others were inspired by different Tìree tales and someone by a piece of music.

The participants were also asked to sew a few small rectangles for the outer border of the whole piece to reflect where they were from. These designs covered everything from the geographical places the participants lived today to the Tìree places their ancestors lived and everything in between.

The creation of this Tapestry covers the Diaspora of the past and present with contributions from Tìree children some who may be the diaspora of the future.

All the pieces were brought together on Tìree to create the Tìr Ìseal Tapestry. This has given us a beautiful assortment of Tìree stories held within the tapestry.

Catriona Smyth, June 2022



## *The Compass*

The starting point for the project was Turnbull's 1768/9 map of Tiree. The central point of the textile was a representation of the compass on Turnbull's map as those people who contributed to this project were from all points of the compass around the world.

## *The Border*



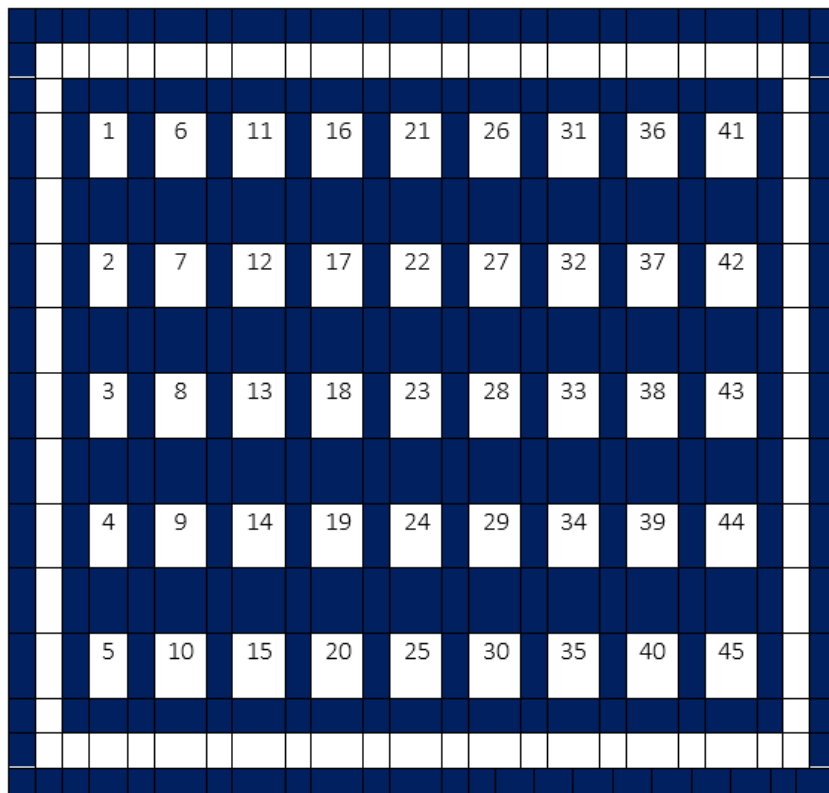
Everyone who participated in the project was invited to produce a piece for the decorative border that reflected where they were from. Participants were encouraged to do more than one piece. There were some explanations about these pieces, but most need no explaining at all.

## *The Corner Squares*



The corner squares are details from Turnbull's map and show some of the townships which existed when the map was drawn. This way of farming was changed when the crofts were laid out and, combined with the effects of the crash in kelp prices after the Napoleonic wars and the potato famine of the 1840s, led to many Tiree folk leaving their ancestral home and the old ways and seeking a new life overseas.

# The Tir Ìseal Tapestry Key



## No Square

- 1 First Mayor of Vancouver  
Maclean-Cattanachs of  
Vancouver
- 2 Campbell Headstone  
McPhadden Tartan
- 3 Title of the Project  
Vancouver First Council  
Meeting
- 4 Vancouver City Hall in a  
Tent

## Created by

- Bill Dickson, Vancouver, Canada  
Jane Jardine, Vancouver, Canada
- Patricia Duescher, Wisconsin, USA  
Glenda McPhadden Franklin, Nanaimo,  
BC, Canada
- Friends of the Argyll Papers  
Louise E MacDougall, Vancouver,  
Canada
- Louise E MacDougall, Vancouver,  
Canada

<b>8</b>	Balephuill Golf Ball Plundering of Shipwrecks	Gracie Lockhart, Isle of Tiree Sharon Clayton, Surrey British Columbia, Canada
<b>9</b>	Canadian Maple leaf	Glenda McPhadden Franklin, Nanaimo, BC, Canada
<b>10</b>		
<b>11</b>	Uravaig House The Abandoned Boat	Judith MacIntosh, Uravaig, Isle of Tiree Louise E MacDougall, Vancouver, Canada
<b>12</b>	Balephuill Commemoration plaque	Sharon Clayton, Surrey British Columbia, Canada
<b>13</b>	Potatoes	Catriona M Smyth, Edinburgh
<b>14</b>	Manitoba Song	Louise E MacDougall, Vancouver, Canada
<b>15</b>		
<b>16</b>	Tiree Mermaid	Catriona M Smyth, Edinburgh
<b>17</b>	Kelp	Jennifer Sullivan, Cockerham, Lancashire
<b>18</b>	Stooks in the Field	Myra MacDonald, Isle of Seil
<b>19</b>	Little Sheep	Ibhidh Hobbins, Isle of Tiree
<b>20</b>	“An Gille Brighde”	Margaret White, Houston, Scotland
<b>21</b>	The Great Tea Race	Myra MacDonald, Isle of Seil
<b>22</b>	Mermaid and treasure	Anya Wright, Isle of Tiree
<b>23</b>	Turnbulls Compass	Friends of the Argyll Papers
<b>24</b>	Ringing Stone Fair Duncan MacDonalds Cottage	Rhona Smyth, Edinburgh Sharon Clayton, Surrey British Columbia, Canada
<b>25</b>		
<b>26</b>	The Firhill Flyer	Myra MacDonald, Isle of Seil
<b>27</b>	St Columba’s cursed rock	Rhona Smyth, Edinburgh
<b>28</b>	Kelp	Catriona M Smyth, Edinburgh
<b>29</b>	Wee Higland cow Am Port Mòr	Anna Campbell, Isle of Tiree Sharon Clayton, Surrey British Columbia, Canada
<b>30</b>	Alexander McPhaden the Emigrant	Glenda McPhadden Franklin, Nanaimo, BC, Canada
<b>31</b>	Tiree Sunset	Martha Campbell, Isle of Tiree
<b>32</b>	The Scotch Cemetery	Paul Hector, Vancouver and Toronto, Canada
<b>33</b>	Letters from the past	Glenda McPhadden Franklin, Nanaimo, BC, Canada
<b>34</b>		

- |           |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|
| <b>35</b> | Crossapol Beach<br>John Campbell and Mary<br>MacMillan | Ailish MacKechnie, Isle of Tiree<br>Sharon Clayton, Surrey British Columbia,<br>Canada |
| <b>36</b> | A Moment of Silence                                    | Sharon Clayton, Surrey British Columbia,<br>Canada                                     |
| <b>37</b> | Little House   | Blythe Wright, Isle of Tiree   |
| <b>38</b> | Tyree Jacobite Prisoners of<br>the '45                 | Iain Barker, Vancouver, Canada and<br>Troon, Ayrshire, Scotland                        |
| <b>39</b> | Coat of Arms of Andrew<br>Bruce MacLean                | Louise E MacDougall, Vancouver,<br>Canada  |
| <b>40</b> | Four Politicians                                       | Louise E MacDougall, Vancouver,<br>Canada  |
| <b>41</b> | The Right Honourable Joe<br>Clark                      | Louise E MacDougall, Vancouver,<br>Canada  |
| <b>42</b> | John Campbell and Malcolm<br>MacArthur.                | Sharon Clayton, Surrey British Columbia,<br>Canada                                     |
| <b>43</b> | Descendants of Donald "The<br>Pilot" McLean of Ruaig   | Louise E MacDougall, Vancouver,<br>Canada  |
| <b>44</b> | Friends of the Argyll Papers<br>Logo                   | Friends of the Argyll Papers   |

# The Border Rectangles

33	46	45	44	43	42	41	40	39	38	37	36	35	34	33	32	31
1																31
2																30
3																29
4																28
5																27
6																26
7																25
8																24
32	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	33

## No Border Rectangle

- 1 Canadian Flag
- 2 British Columbia Province Flag
- 3 Tiree beach 2016
- 4 1851 Canadian Census
- 5 Croish, Caolas, Isle of Tiree  
McPhadden tartan with
- 6 Canadian stamps
- 7 Cockerham, Lancashire
- 8 Kelis, Turnbull's map.  
Parachutes, Cockerham,
- 9 Lancashire
- 10 Gathering of diaspora
- 11 Cross Stone, Caolas, Tiree
- 12 MacLean Tartan
- 13 A Tiree Beach
- 14 Tiree Flag
- 15 An Iodhlann
- 16 The Saltire
- 17 Hugh MacFadyen, Salum
- 18 Tiree Association Flag

## Created by

- Glenda McPhadden Franklin  
 Glenda McPhadden Franklin  
 Sharon Clayton  
 Glenda McPhadden Franklin  
 Glenda McPhadden Franklin  
 Glenda McPhadden Franklin  
 Jennifer Sullivan  
 Glenda McPhadden Franklin  
 Jennifer Sullivan  
 Sharon Clayton  
 Glenda McPhadden Franklin  
 Sharon Clayton  
 Myra MacDonald  
 Sharon Clayton  
 Glenda McPhadden Franklin  
 Sharon Clayton  
 Glenda McPhadden Franklin  
 Glenda McPhadden Franklin

	Maple leaf on McPhadden	
<b>19</b>	Tartan	Glenda McPhadden Franklin
<b>20</b>	British Columbia Province Flag	Sharon Clayton
<b>21</b>	MacMillan Tartan	Sharon Clayton
<b>22</b>	Tirideachs & Diaspora Alexander McPhaddens gravestone.	Sharon Clayton
<b>23</b>	1792 census Tyree	Glenda McPhadden Franklin
<b>24</b>	Saskatchewan Province flag	Glenda McPhadden Franklin
<b>25</b>	Saskatchewan Province flag	Glenda McPhadden Franklin
<b>26</b>	City of Edinburgh coat of arms	Catriona M Smyth
<b>27</b>	Goodbye to A 'Bhuain	Sharon Clayton
<b>28</b>	Ontario Province flag	Glenda McPhadden Franklin
<b>29</b>	Welcome home message	Sharon Clayton
<b>30</b>	Stars and Stripes, USA flag	Patricia Campbell Duescher
<b>31</b>	Canadian Flag	Sharon Clayton
<b>32</b>	State of Oregon Flag	Janet Fanger
<b>33</b>	Blackwatch tartan	Sharon Clayton
<b>34</b>	Mary Stewart, Scarinish, Tiree	Glenda McPhadden Franklin
<b>35</b>	Ontario Province flag	Louise E MacDougall
<b>36</b>	Cockerham Ice cream	Jennifer Sullivan
<b>37</b>	The Clachan Bridge	Myra MacDonald
<b>38</b>	Stars and Stripes with the statue of Liberty	Janet Fanger
<b>39</b>	Front door number	Catriona M Smyth
<b>40</b>	McPhadden House 1904 Canada	Glenda McPhadden Franklin
<b>41</b>	The Brock, Vaul, Tiree	Glenda McPhadden Franklin
<b>42</b>	McIntyre Tartan	Sharon Clayton
<b>43</b>	MacCaigs Tower, Oban	Myra MacDonald
<b>44</b>	Manitoba Province Flag	Louise E MacDougall
<b>45</b>	African Fabric	Anonymous
<b>46</b>	List of inhabitants 1796 Tyree	Glenda McPhadden Franklin



# The Squares

## 1 Emigration

Bill Dickson, collage by Louise E.

MacDougall

Vancouver, Canada

Descendant of McLeans, Cornaigbeg



### Malcolm A. MacLean – First Mayor of Vancouver

Bill Dickson, a great grandson of the First Mayor of Vancouver, gave a speech about him in 2017, the year of Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. Here are some excerpts:

"I was told stories of Malcolm MacLean by my grandmother, Malcolm's daughter Constance, when I was about 4 years old. So, he has been in my mind for many years.

"Malcolm and his family arrived in Vancouver in 1885 after he had had a variety of careers in various places. He established a real estate business and almost immediately entered local politics. In May, 1886, he was persuaded to run for mayor and was victorious, defeating Richard Alexander, manager of the Hastings Saw Mill, by 242 votes to 227. It turned out that about 100 of the votes had been cast by unqualified persons. Perhaps Malcolm's supporters voted more often than Mr. Alexander's. In any case, Malcolm became the first Mayor of Vancouver.

"Two events in the first council's term stand out. Firstly, the great fire of June 1886 destroyed virtually all of Vancouver. As a result, the immense burden of reconstruction fell on mayor Maclean and his council.

"Secondly, later that month, Malcolm MacLean petitioned the Governor General of Canada to transfer the Burrard Inlet Military Reserve to the city for use as a park. Of course, the petition was successful and the land became Stanley park. A good piece of work indeed! A year later Malcolm welcomed the first CPR train to Vancouver. By the end of his second term, he could take pride in having cleared Vancouver's streets of giant stumps!

"...And, as a personal matter, I would like to thank Malcolm for emigrating from Tiree, where there are, in fact, no trees! "

## 2 Emigration

Jane Jardine, collage by Louise E.

MacDougall

Vancouver, Canada

Descendant of McLeans, Cornaigbeg



### The MacLean-Cattanachs of Vancouver

(Excerpts from a 2917 speech by Jane Jardine, a great grand-daughter of Malcolm MacLean, given at the MacLean-Cattanach gravesite in Mountain View Cemetery)

“One of the stories is about Malcolm Maclean...tells of how he moved west with his wife, Margaret (Cattanach) and young family from the Oshawa area to homestead in the Qu’Appelle Valley in Saskatchewan. It was during the time of the Riel Rebellion and there was some hostility towards the white settlers. One day, when Malcolm was away from home, 60 Indians stopped by. It must have been frightening for Margaret, home alone with 5 small children. The Indians demanded to be fed, and Margaret obliged. They spent the night, which passed without incident. In the morning, they had vanished - and so had all the livestock. Several people warned me “Don’t mention the Indians taking the livestock!” I will balance the story by acknowledging that we are, at this moment, standing on Musqueam traditional territory.”

Of Jane’s aunt, Beatrice Corbett, granddaughter of Malcolm MacLean:

“She was a Wren (WRCN), and worked at Gordon Head, here on the west coast, deciphering Japanese codes. She is...on the cover of a recently published book “Extraordinary Women, Extraordinary Times: Canadian Women of WW II” ... Apparently, she did get into some hot water with the military for reading too many novels, and when it was announced that the war was over, the biggest excitement for Bea and her friend Jossie was that there would be elastic in underwear again.”

Jane concludes: “My roots may be in Canada, but I am determined that my next transatlantic journey will be to Scotland, where I will definitely visit the Isle of Tiree.”

Photo by Mike Andrieshyn. L-R: Tim Dickson, Jennifer Dickson, Ryan Gurney, Elliot Dickson, Jane Jardine, Bill Dickson, Nancy Dickson

### 3 Emigration

**Patricia Campbell Duescher**  
**Denmark, Wisconsin, USA**

My Great-Great Grandfather was Duncan Campbell of Cornaigmore (1804-1888) who emigrated to Pictou, Nova Scotia.



My husband, Tom and I have been researching my families for a long time. We were able to locate where they arrived in Canada. We are still trying to find supporting documentation showing when they arrived. My great great grandfather's tombstone states that he is a native of Tyree.

While listening to the different stories, it made me want to contribute to the history of Tyree by letting people know where their ancestors and current relatives live.

### 4 Emigration

**Glenda McPhadden Franklin**  
**Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada**

My great great grandfather was Alexander McPhaden, born in 1790, Caolas, Tyree. He emigrated to Kenyon Township, Glengarry County, Ontario, Canada about 1806. His tombstone states he was a native of Tyree.



#### **McPhadden Generations**

I was inspired to create this piece by my great grandfather Alexander's early emigration from Tyree to Canada. Researching our Canadian families led to research of Tyree and Alexander's parents, grandparents and siblings.

This Tapestry Square is embroidered on to a piece of McPhadden Tartan and shows the generations from Alexander (1790), 'The Emigrant', to me and my three sisters.

Alexander McPhaden's name is on land records in 1809, Glengarry County, Ontario. Oral history tells us he emigrated to Canada when only 16 but no record has been found. Alexander married Ann McDonald, born Canada 1808, daughter of Duncan McDonald and Janet McBean, emigrants from Inverness, Scotland. Alexander and Ann raised a family of eight children.

The next generation is his son John McPhadden, my great grandfather. John (1839-1920) inherited his father Alexander's land and lived there his entire life. He married Mary Morrison, whose parents were emigrants from the Isle of Skye, Scotland. They raised a family of five children. He was also a farmer with a dairy and built his family a fine home that looks the same today as it did in the early 1900's.

My grandfather Alexander (1873-1955) and his bride Margaret McLaurin (1881-1920) decided to 'Go West', settling in the Fertile Valley area of Saskatchewan. Here they raised a family of nine children, the eldest being my father Donald John McPhadden (1909-1973).

My dad married Flora 'Mabel' Seay in 1935. They were also farmers 27-30-11-West 3<sup>rd</sup> Meridian, SK. I am their second daughter, Glenda May McPhadden Franklin.

The thread count of the McPhadden, MacPhaiden, MacFadyen etc Clan tartan is recorded by the Scottish Tartans Society, Comrie, Perthshire, Scotland. Written beside the pattern is a note 'This piece of tartan was made at the time of Culloden'. This piece of tartan was woven for Donald Aikins MacFadyen, whose ancestry is also from Tiree. History tells us the McPhaddens were a very old (1300's) tribe.

## 5 Tìr Ìseal nan Òran (Tiree: Low Land of Song)



Tìr Ìseal nan Òran (Tiree: low land of song) was an island-wide creative project, taking place as part of Scotland's Year of Stories 2022, which aimed to celebrate and promote Tiree's stories, heritage, culture and Gaelic language. Stories from the island's history, tradition and mythology were explored within their physical and historical contexts to inspire new creative work. Local artists, young people, the wider Tiree community and an international audience were invited to take part in exploring and re-telling these stories.

## 6 Emigration

Louise E. MacDougall

Vancouver, Canada

Descendant of McDougalls and McLeans of Ruaig.



### Vancouver First Council Meeting

Vancouver's first ever Council Meeting in 1886 was held in a back room. Below are letters from today's Vancouver Council and Tiree's Council.

1st May 2016

As Convenor of Tiree Community Council, I send greetings to yourself and the people of Vancouver from the island of Tiree. This Hebridean island was the birthplace of Malcolm MacLean, the first Mayor of Vancouver. His picture now occupies a central place in the island's historical centre *An Iodhlann* as one of the most famous members of *Clann an Eòrna* 'descendants of the barley', the emigrants who left the island in their thousands over the last few centuries and their descendants around the world. We are delighted that his place in the history of your illustrious city is being celebrated.

*Beannachd leibh,*

Dr John Holliday

### ***City of Vancouver – Mayor Gregor Robertson, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017***

#### *A Message from the Mayor*

On behalf of the citizens of Vancouver, and my colleagues on City Council, I want to extend my warmest welcome to everyone attending the commemoration of the 131<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Inauguration of the First Mayor of Vancouver, which first took place on May 10th, 1886. Malcolm Alexander Maclean played an important role in the life of the city of Vancouver. As Mayor of Vancouver, I wish to join with all the citizens in acknowledging the Isle of Tiree diaspora for remembering Malcolm Alexander Maclean as one of Tiree's native sons, born on that Scottish island in 1844.

We especially recognize the involvement today of Bill Dickson, Jane Jardine and Bea Corbett, the great grandchildren of Malcolm Alexander MacLean.

Best wishes for a successful and memorable event.

Sincerely,

Gregor Robertson

MAYOR

## 7 Emigration

**Louise E. MacDougall**

**Vancouver, Canada**

Descendant of McDougalls and McLeans of Ruaiğ.



### When Vancouver's City Hall Was A Tent

After the Great Fire of 1886, newly elected Mayor, Malcolm A. MacLean, called for federal help with his dramatic, true statement, "Vancouver is ashes!"

Likewise, he staged the famous photo of Vancouver City Council meeting in a tent called City Hall. That photo hoped to call attention to the plight of the newly incorporated city. In it, the Mayor is sitting front and centre in a profile view with papers spread out before him. In the background photo, taken the day after the fire, none of Vancouver's 600 buildings are left, but there are curious big black blobs. Those are stumps of trees. No, not trees that have burned down in the fire. These were stumps left standing as the city was being carved out of Pacific Rainforest. Uprooting and burning leftover stumps lagged far behind the speed of development producing a city full of "stumps, mud, and sticks". (Lyrics © Louise MacDougall) In fact, the cause of the Great Fire was controlled brush fires gone rogue. Unexpected breeze had whipped the fires out of control, engulfing the city in less than an hour. Ironically, those previous big stumps wouldn't burn, so they are still standing after the city has burned down around them!

When Vancouver was celebrating its Centennial in 1986, Bill Dickson tells how his daughter, Jennifer Gurney rode on a bicycle built for two with then-mayor Mike Harcourt to the Pan Pacific Hotel. As Mayor MacLean's great great granddaughter, she was asked to open the hotel, was the hotel's first guest and was given the gift of a suite on her birthday for life."

## 8 Golf Ball

**Gracie Lockhart**

**Aged 9 years**

Tiree school pupil

I think the Golf Ball is really important on Tiree because it guides the planes. That's why I chose it.



## 9 The plundering of Shipwrecks

Sharon Clayton

Surrey, British Columbia, Canada

Descended from the Campbells and  
MacMillans, Balephuil, Tiree

Border Pieces: 3, 10, 12, 14, 16, 20, 21, 22,  
27, 29, 31, 33 & 42



### Plundering of shipwreck results in 5 Tiree men convicted and imprisoned.

I had never heard of Tiree, and knew nothing about Scotland's Hebridean Islands, until I discovered that my 3<sup>rd</sup> Great-Grandmother Sarah MacRae, was baptized in Balephuil as Marion (Gaelic for Sarah) Campbell in 1835. John Campbell, Sarah's father had been one of the poor fishermen who died in Tiree's Great Fishing Disaster of 1856.

More information came to light and I discovered that John's father in law, Malcolm MacMillan had been sentenced to nine months imprisonment in Inverary jail for the plundering of the brig "*Confidence of Dundee*" which had struck rocks off the west coast of Tiree in 1834.

Creating these tapestry pieces has been a labour of love, in spite of the fact that my arthritic fingers no longer allow me to do much needlework. Sue Davis, a generous friend who is a technology wizard, helped me create 7 squares and 15 rectangles, using graphic images photocopied onto printable fabric.

Easter weekend's lack of courier pickups delayed my self-imposed deadline, but on Easter Monday, the creative parts of my project were completed. Delivering a well-padded envelope to the courier depot was the final step taken on Canadian soil.

I wish I could have also helped to transform dozens of fabric squares and rectangles, created by many different people, into the completed Tir Iseal nan Òran tapestry.

## 10 Emigration

**Glenda McPhadden Franklin**

**Nanaimo ,British Columbia,Canada**

My great great grandfather was Alexander McPhaden, born in 1790 in Caolas, Tiree. He emigrated to Kenyon Township, Glengarry County, Ontario, Canada about 1806. His tombstone states he was a native of Tyree.



Alexander McPhaden, born 1790 to Charles McPhaden and Christy MacPhail of Caolas, Tiree, was the seventh of ten children, John (settle Miodar, Tiree), Ann, Mary, Janet, Donald (lived at Grianal then emigrated to Bruce County, Ontario), Hugh (Church Farm, Kirkapol), Alexander, Margaret 'Peggy' (marry Hugh McKinnon of Coll then emigrated to Rama, Ontario), Neil (inherited the Croish, Caolas, Tiree croft) and Mary (marry Donald Johnston of Coll and with their only child, Charles, emigrated to Mara, Simcoe, Ontario). Alexander was an early emigrant to 'Upper Canada': his name is on land records in 1809. He settled on Concession 14, lots 11 and 12, St. Regis Indian Lands, Kenyon, Glengarry, Ontario. About 1827, Alexander married Ann McDonald. Of their eight children, Charles was a Merchant in Martintown, Ontario, Duncan settled in Collingwood then Edmonton, Alberta, Christine settled in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Mary Ann first settled in Weston, Oregon, then Alberta, my great grandfather John remained on the farm in Glengarry, Isabella settled in Glengarry, and Donald was a Merchant in New Westminster, BC.

Many of those who left Tiree went to Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and America. Many settled in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia and, in 1821, several Tiree families held land Grants in Brock, 'Upper Canada'. One family was Donald McPhaden and his wife Catherine McNaughton who arrived in Canada in 1821 with a letter from their Church which the family still preserves. The Scotch Cemetery has name after name of folk from Tiree. Other families moved on to Bruce, Kincardine and Tiverton, where many Tiree emigrants were buried. Families who emigrated from Tiree in the 1870's settled in western Canada, in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. And as the families of the earlier emigrants to Ontario grew, they also 'Went West'. Each on a journey of their own to a new area of Canada.



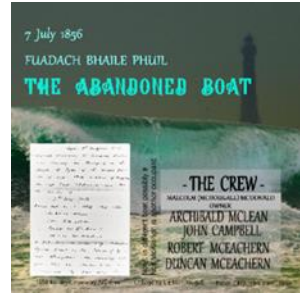
11 Mrs Judith Mackintosh  
Tiree School Teacher



For me, Tiree represents home, therefore it was natural for me to choose our house as the subject of my square. Urvaig is the house in which my husband grew up, so it holds memories for the wider family as well as for me, Sandy and our children.

12 The Elements - Fuadach Bhail' a' Phuill  
Balephuill Fishing Disaster, 1856  
Louise E. MacDougall  
Vancouver, Canada

The crew on one of the Fuadach boats was made up of my McLeans from Manitoba House in Balephuill.



### The Abandoned Boat of the 1856 Balephuill Fuadach

Memories of the 6 boats of the 1856 Balephuill Fishing Disaster have lasted long, except for one - the boat that was abandoned to the sea when its crew was rescued by a larger boat.

Recently, the newly released 1856 Procurator Fiscal's Inquiry at An Iodhlann has given us all the crew's names and their genealogist, Flo Straker, has given us their dates:

1. Malcolm (MacDougall) McDonald, boat owner, age 54 (1802-1889)
  2. Archibald McLean "Ciobhair", age 48 (1808-1856)
  3. John Cambell, age 39 (1817-1887)
  4. Robert McEachern, age 61 (1795-1867)
  5. Duncan McEachern, age 20, Robert's son (1836 - after 1873)
- (Also, a new Niel McKinnon (age 28, 1828-1912) in a different boat)

The Inquiry investigated the 9 deaths of the Fuadach, including Archibald McLean's. Sadly, he died in the larger boat after having been rescued already from the smaller boat. My song, "Nine Stones of Balepuill 1856"<sup>1</sup> memorializes him, and the rest who perished, in these excerpted verses:

My heart lies heavy, heavy and sinking,  
Down with John Campbell. He'll not be rising.  
My heart lies heavy, heavy and sinking,  
With Malcolm McArthur. They're never rising.

Gone Hugh and Niel, Kennedy brothers,  
Down through cold, green sea that rings Tyree,

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<sup>1</sup> Words © Louise MacDougall, SOCAN 2016 (acknowledgements: Alexander MacDonald, Donald Meek, School of Scottish Studies) Music: Alexander MacDonald, 1856. 2013 Arrangement © John Holliday and Louise MacDougall

With Alexander and Colin, McDonald brothers,  
And Hugh McKinnon in stone-cold sea.

Their hearts fall heavy, heavy and sinking.  
They'll never see Sorobie again,  
Nor ever rest in its sweet earth singing  
With Donald and Archibald McLean.

Nine stones were castaways, heavy and sinking,  
Upon that dangerous, cold green sea.  
And it's God's mercy, alone, I'm thinking,  
That saved the rest from such tragedy.

- 13 The Elements - Fuadach Bhail' a' Phuill**  
**Balephuill Fishing Disaster, 1856**  
**Sharon Clayton**  
**Surrey British Columbia, Canada**  
Descended from the Campbells and  
MacMillans, Balephuill, Tiree



My 3rd great grandmother, Sarah MacRae, was baptized in Balephuill as Marion (Gaelic for Sarah) Campbell in 1835. Her father, John Campbell, had been one of the poor fishermen who died in Tiree's Great Fishing Disaster of 1856. After reading Ian Smith's chapter in "The Secret Island" (with research assistance by Flo Straker) about The Balephuill Fishing Disaster, I wanted to know as much as I could about the tragedy. A' Bhuain 2016 provided an excellent opportunity to share what I learned with the people attending the Balephuill Commemoration.

- 14 Potatoes and Kelp  
 Catriona M Smyth  
 Edinburgh, Scotland  
 Descendant of MacDougall Family Milton



The failure of the potato crop in Scotland in the 1840s resulted in many families unable to make ends meet and starving. While not the only cause of emigration in both Scotland and Ireland, it was responsible for a significant increase in emigration. As a member of the Diaspora with Highland and Irish roots I felt the beautiful, yet humble potato was responsible for my own family’s history and their eventual emigration.

The idea for this square was a scientific botanical drawing, and I planned the flowers would be printed onto the fabric with potato stamps. The paint would not take to the fabric, so the flowers had to be painted on. I was so busy painting the flowers I forgot to add the Latin name *Solanum tuberosum*.

- 15 Emigration  
 Louise E. MacDougall  
 Vancouver, Canada  
 Great Grand Niece of Bard John  
 McLean of Balephuill and Manitoba.

**ORAN MHANITOBÀ**  
**MANITOBA SONG**  
 Two Companion Emigration Songs by  
 Two Tíree Bards named John McLean  
 Written 2 years and 3700 miles apart

<p><b>Bard JOHN MCLEAN BALEPHUILL</b></p> <p><b>ACTIVIST</b>  <b>THREE CROFTERS</b></p> <p>ORAN WAA "ORAN" O'CONNOR #1  "MANITOBA BORDAS LETH" /  "Oor mániché léidh"  (Sadness about the friend John McLean the Balephuill Bard emigrating to Manitoba)</p>	<p><b>Bard JOHN MCLEAN BALEPHUILL</b></p> <p><b>HOMESTEADER</b>  <b>BRANDON HIB</b></p> <p>ORAN WAA "ORAN" O'CONNOR #2  "NEW YEARS LULLAY"  "Oor u léidh thu m'í"  (Sadness of leaving family at it for the transatlantic voyage of Fionnair íle)</p>
<p><b>CHORUS:</b>    Alone on the shore of this westerly ocean    I search for a soul who will join me in song    As my broken heart sends its farewell to my friends    who are still from Scotland to Manitoba.</p>	<p><b>CHORUS:</b>    A stranger I wonder this new empty land—    Swift West of Manitoba—land not never formed,    whose wilderness claims its New Year's Day song,    Leaving my friends, I've not seen you for long.</p>

**Òran Mhanitoba – Manitoba Song: Same Song, Different Bard**

Here’s a Tíree joke, of sorts:

ME: Tíree is well known for its many Bards.

HIM: Yes, and they’re all named John McLean!

ME: I’m lucky to be related to one of those John McLeans. He emigrated to Canada.

HER: Ah, the fine poet of Glen Bard, Nova Scotia who wrote “The Gloomy Forest”?

ME: No, not that John McLean.

HIM: Oh, then the Balemartine Bard well known for “Òran Manitoba” written when his friends emigrated.

ME: No, not that John McLean.

HER: Then which John McLean?

ME: The one whose home in Tìree is still called “Manitoba”.

HIM: That would be the Balephuìl Bard. Remind me – what’s his best song?

ME: “Òran Manitoba”.

HER: Wait, you just said...

ME: I know, I know. Confusing, isn’t it?!

Enter this Tapestry Square, to the rescue, comparing the two Òran Manitoba versions.

On the one hand, the Balemartine Bard writes his version when his friend, Bard John McLean Balephuìl, emigrates to Manitoba in 1878. (Subtitle: “Manitoba Bound”). Two years later, my Great-Great-Grandfather, John McLean, now Bard of Balephuìl AND Brandon Hills, Manitoba, writes his Hogmanay version lamenting friends left behind. (Subtitle: “Manitoba New Year, 1880”)

Though not well known on Tìree, his Canadian “Òran Manitoba” became the key to later studies of Tìree emigrants by Dr. Margaret Mackay. When listening to her keynote speech at A Bhuain 2006, I marvelled at her explaining how “Mary’s Kincardine rooster”, mentioned in the song, led her from Brandon to Kincardine, Ontario, the motherload of Tìree emigrants. When I introduced myself after her talk, she generously found me a recording of the song. The next time I heard her speak, in 2013, she was quoting from my own translation/interpretation of it. Thank you Dr. Mackay for the inspiration!

***Balemartine Bard***

*Gur muladach mise ‘s mi seo gun  
duin’ idir*

*A thogas, no thuigeas,  
nosheinneas leam dan;*

*Le durachd mo chridhe, soraidh  
slan leis na gillean*

*A sheol thar na linne gu Manitoba.*

***Balephuìl Bard***

*Air allaban tha mi ‘s mi’n drasd ‘s an  
ait’ ur,*

*Nach deachaidh riamh aiteach, no  
barr thoirt a grunnnd;*

*Ach ‘s e tha ga m’ fhagail-sa ‘n drasd  
air bheag sunnd,*

*Nach faic mi mo chairdean air las na  
Bliadhn’ Uir.*

***Na Baird Thirisdeach p.164***

***Na Baird Thirisdeach p.227***

16 **The Supernatural - The Tíree mermaid**  
**Catriona M Smyth**  
**Edinburgh, Scotland**  
**Descendant of MacDougall Family**  
**Milton**  
**Border Pieces 26, 39**



I love the idea that the existence of a Tíree mermaid was proved and documented. I can just picture her sitting on a rock gazing at the Skerryvore lighthouse flashing every 10 seconds, while combing her hair. I can't see her comb in this picture so I think she might have lost it.

## 17 Kelp and potatoes

Jennifer Sullivan

Cockerham, Lancashire UK

My mother was Bessie Sullivan (née Macphail, 1938 - 2014)

from Balephetrish. I visit Tiree every year for holidays and to see family

**Border Pieces: 7, 9, 36**



My textile square is an attempt to represent the tangle of kelp washed onto the beach by the sea. I admit I may be biased but for me the best beach on Tiree is Balephetrish. It is one of the most varied with its mix of large dunes, flat expanse of sands, shingle, cave, and rock formations. This gives it infinite possibilities for play for young and old. There is always something interesting at Balephetrish, and often something interested in you - the seals may watch and follow you along the shore. There is invariably kelp at Balephetrish, on the sand in long arcs or draped in tangles on the rocks.

The stories describe how the Tire kelp works led to new discoveries of products that were widely used in the creation of artificial silk or viscose, rayon and nylon. I have layered a mix of different fabrics and furnishing trims to imitate 'The Tangle' of seaweed textures. A rayon scarf makes bands of kelp across the 'sand'. I have used tea to stain some doilies and cut their curved edge to become a waved flounce of weed. The bubbled trim is stained with iodine (a derivative of kelp). The textile square is deliberately slightly off centre to reveal how the sanderlings leave their tracks on the sand as they run in and out of the tangle.

### **Border Pieces**

I live in Cockerham, a rural coastal community in Lancashire, approximately 6 miles south of Lancaster. The farming land is very low and flat which gives us big skies. There is a continual wind off the sea. The main industry is farming. There is a parachute centre and an ice-cream parlour whose portion sizes are legendary.

18 **Stooks in the field**  
**Myra MacDonald**  
**Isle of Seil, Argyll**  
Born in Vaul, Isle of Tiree  
**Border Pieces: 13, 37, 43**



For me as a child in Tiree in the late 50s and 1960s, fields of stooks at harvest time were a very common sight as they would have been for generations before. Nowadays farming and crofting methods have changed, and the hand cut stooks have been replaced by the big machine cut “Swiss roll “shapes. Cutting the sheaves and stacking them into stooks to dry was a family affair with everyone roped in to play their part and those days provided many happy memories which have lasted for decades. I can still imagine that I feel under my feet the hard stubble left after cutting and smell the sweet scent of those fields.

The image is from a painting of mine from 2020, printed on to cotton with fabric transfer paper. The original painting is of the croft at Dunmore, Vaul looking towards Balephetrish.

### **Border Pieces**

Clachan Bridge crosses the Sound of Seil from the mainland at Clachan, 14 miles south of Oban to the Isle of Seil. The bridge was designed by John Stevenson of Oban and was built between 1792 and 1793. It is often called **The Bridge over the Atlantic** because Seil Sound connects at both ends to the Atlantic.

A **Tiree beach** so beloved of the Native Tiree people, of new residents and of many visitors to the island. You often read comments or hear gasps of admiration “ it’s so beautiful , it could be the Caribbean!” But it isn’t. It’s the Hebrides. Its Tiree. Much, much better!

After three years in Kilmartin, Argyll when we left Tiree in 1967 my family moved to Oban. **McCaig’s Tower** in Oban (never call it a Folly!) is probably the most recognisable landmark of this attractive West Highland town. Funded by local banker John Stuart McCaig to his design and specification it was built in 1897. The aim of the tower was to provide work for local stonemasons and create a lasting monument to the McCaig family. Unfortunately, McCaig died suddenly in June 1902, and this brought an end to the construction with only the outer walls completed.



- 19 **Ibhidh Hobbins**  
**Aged 10 years**  
**Tiree school pupil**



My mum's a crofter and we have lots of sheep so that's why I decided to include a sheep in my square.

- 20 **"An Gille Brighde"**  
**Margaret White**  
**Houston, Renfrewshire**



My great grandmother Mary Cameron was born in Balevulin. Her parents were James Cameron and Flora McLeod. I can trace my family back to about 1729 on Tiree. The names are Cameron, McLeod, McKinnon, McEorie/McVray, MacFadyen/McPhaide, McDonald and Kennedy.

I was inspired to create my textile square by a beautiful piece of music written by Dr John Holliday, Isle of Tiree. It is called "An Gille Brighde" (The Oyster Catcher). There is also the legend of the Oyster Catcher covering St. Bride with seaweed to hide her from her enemies and it is said that is how they got the name "An Gille Brighde".

I have included a piece of music called "Memories of Tiree" written by Charlie McPherson. He had fond memories of his time working on the Island when he was surveying for BT.

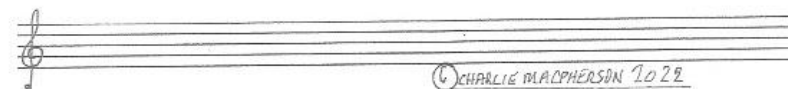
MEMORIES OF TIRÉÉ

MARSH

CHARLIE MACPHERSON



MOYCHANG



© CHARLIE MACPHERSON 10 22

- 21 The Great Tea Race of 1866  
Myra MacDonald  
Isle of Seil, Argyll  
Born in Vaul, Isle of Tiree



## The Great Tea Race of 1866

In the mid-1800s the ships which carried the first tea crop of the season from China to the British Isles would often compete in races home with their precious cargo. The fastest ships might be in great demand for future trade.

In 1866 one such race, dubbed The Great Tea Race, was excitedly followed by the Press and was won by the clipper *Taeping*, captained by Donald MacKinnon of Heanish, Tiree.

It was a very close finish with the *Taeping* docking in London only 28 minutes before *Ariel* and *Serica* docking 75 minutes later than *Ariel*- after a passage of 14,000 miles.

Which of the two front runners docked first depended on the on the Thames tide and how that affected the different docks used by each ship. Given the close finish and fearing that the consignees might find reason to avoid payment, the prize or “premium” was claimed by the *Taeping* but shared between them and *Ariel* by agreement of their agents and owners.

This square is created from a section of Canvas I painted in 2021. I photographed a section of the three ships and transferred it onto cotton using fabric-transfer paper.

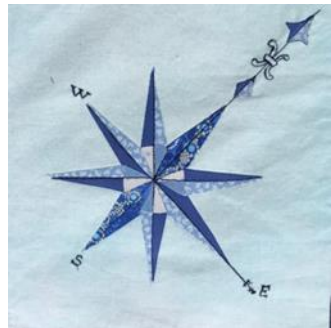
*Information on the Great Tea Race of 1866 from Basil Lubbock’s book “The China Clippers” published 1914*

- 22 Anya Wright  
Aged 11 years  
Tiree school pupil



I live next to Balemartine Beach, and what's really funny about it is that it has a mermaid toilet which is a big round rock pool. That's why I chose to include the mermaid in my beach scene.

- 23 Turnbull's Compass  
Friends of the Argyll Papers



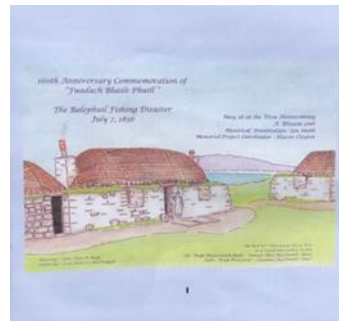
The compass was composed of different blue fabrics. One of the fabrics came all the way from Australia.

- 24 **The Elements – The Ringing Stone**  
**Rhona Smyth**  
**Edinburgh**  
Family came from Tiree.



The ringing stone is a great walk from our house over bogs and fences and many a photo taken with friends and family sitting on it. It is also fun to ring it and tell the story that if it breaks, Tiree will sink. With climate change this may come true!

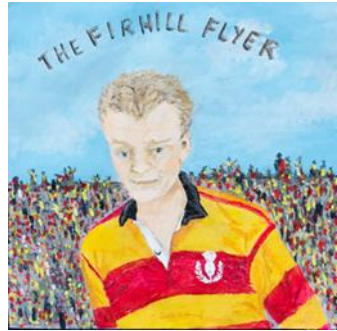
- 25 **The Elements - Fuadach Bhail' a' Phuill**  
**Balephuill Fishing Disaster, 1856**  
**Sharon Clayton**  
**Surrey British Columbia, Canada**  
Descended from the Campbells and  
MacMillans, Balephuill, Tiree



My 3<sup>rd</sup> great grandmother, Sarah MacRae, was baptized in Balephuill as Marion (Gaelic for Sarah) Campbell in 1835. Her father John Campbell had been one of the poor fishermen who died in Tiree's Great Fishing Disaster of 1856.

Louise MacDougall coloured Alan M. Boyd's drawing of Fair Duncan MacDonald's cottage to illustrate the cover of the Balephuill Commemoration programme.

- 26 **Tales by the Fireside - John Archie MacKenzie, The Firhill Flyer**  
**Myra MacDonald**  
**Isle of Seil, Argyll**  
Born in Vaul, Isle of Tiree



Johnny MacKenzie (1925- 2017) of Glasgow and Milton, Tiree spent most of his playing career with Partick Thistle Football Club where he was known as “The Firhill Flyer” due to his pace.

His performances soon drew the attention of the Scotland selectors. He found out he had been called up for the first time when sitting on a tram a fan banged the window and told him his call up had just been announced in the newspaper. Johnny was capped nine times for the Scottish National team and was part of the squad which travelled to Switzerland for the 1954 FIFA World Cup. Johnny remains as of April 2022, the only native Gaelic speaker to have played for Scotland.<sup>2</sup>

The square was painted directly onto cotton fabric.

- 27 **Longships and coracles - Mallachdaig**  
**Rhona Smyth**  
**Edinburgh**  
Family came from Tiree.



I have walked past this many times and was aware of the story. As it is so high up the beach it is very exposed and so I am not surprised nothing grows on it.

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<sup>2</sup> Information on Johnny’s career sourced from PTFC Online and from the Daily Record newspaper archive articles.

28 **Potatoes and Kelp**  
**Catriona M Smyth**  
**Edinburgh, Scotland**  
Descendant of MacDougall Family  
Milton



I could not decide which story inspired me to stitch something. Emigration was the obvious one, but nothing came to me, so I went back to Turnbull's map.

The beautifully drawn run rigs on the map are so evocative of running stitch that I was drawn to do something with that stitch and then a walk along the beach took me back to the stories about seaweed.

When my family had a small croft at Ardeas much of the rent was paid in the form of Kelp. With this connection in mind, I set about making seaweed. I made my tangle out of cotton dyed with Tiree crotal and then stitched running stitches all over these pieces. I added other sewn seaweed and dyed sheep's fleece to give the assortment of colours you find in a mass of washed up seaweed.

Often washed up amongst the seaweed is a great variety of marine debris. In this picture a mermaid's purse has been washed up in the seaweed. I wonder who has lost it?

29 **Anna Campbell**  
**Aged 9 years**  
**Tiree school pupil**



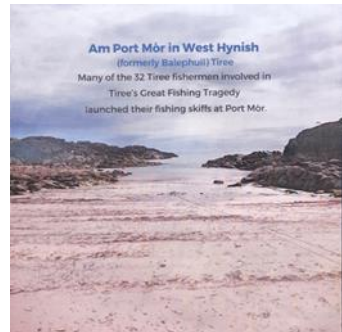
I love Highland Cows because they're so fluffy and cute. It's one of the things I like best on Tiree – I love animals.

- 30 **The Elements - Fuadach Bhail' a' Phuill**  
**Balephuill Fishing Disaster, 1856**  
**Sharon Clayton**  
**Surrey, British Columbia, Canada**  
 Descended from the Campbells and  
 MacMillans, Balephuill, Tiree



My Scottish/Norwegian cousin Evelyn Sutherland contributed with the photo for this square and one for the border rectangle no 3.

- 31 **Emigration**  
**Glenda McPhadden Franklin**  
**Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada**  
 My great great grandfather, Alexander  
 McPhaden, was born in 1790, Caolas,  
 Tiree. He emigrated to Kenyon  
 Township, Glengarry County, Ontario,  
 Canada about 1806. He married Ann  
 McDonald and raised a family.



Alexander left Tìree in the early 1800's. As far as we know, he did not travel with other Tìree men and emigrated to an area in Canada where no other Tìree folk had settled. This is his story. After many years of research we visited Tìree and I stood on the land where my great great grandfather was born: my ancestral home.

### **ALEXANDER MCPHADEN THE EMIGRANT**

The story of our great, great grandfather researched by and dedicated to my sister Fern.

Alexander McPhaden baptised 28th December 1790, Caolis, Tìry, was our great, great grandfather who emigrated to Glengarry, Ontario, Canada. He was the son of Charles McPhaiden and Christy McPhail who lived in Caolas, Tìree.



Oral history states that Alexander emigrated to Ontario about 1806. His name is on 1809 Land Records for St. Regis Indian Lands, Concession 14, lots 15 & 16, Kenyon Township, Glengarry County.

Alexander purchased a stone store and house in Martintown, Ontario in 1826. His son Charles succeeded him and his descendants operating the store for over 150 years.

Alexander married Jannet/Ann/Nancy McIsaac McDonald about 1827. She was born about 1800 in Canada, of Scottish ancestry. She was the daughter of Duncan McDonald and Jannet McBean and that her sister Margery (Mrs. James McIntyre) lived close by. The family has a wonderful history written about Ann - her 8 mile walk to church, bare foot, little white starched cap on her head and shoes in hand, to be put on to go into church.

Alexander and Ann's children were Charles, Jannet, Duncan, Christie, Mary Ann, Isabella, Donald and our great grandfather John, who inherited the McPhadden land. All of them married and had families, with only John and his sister Isabella remaining close by, their descendants live there to this day.

From Census records 1851-1871, Alexander was listed as a Farmer, Baptist in religion, living on Concession 14, lots 11 & 12. In 1861, 40 acres under cultivation, 120 acres of wood or wild. The farm had a dairy and also produced Maple Syrup. The McPhaden farm was sold in 1914. There is a nice tall white stone for Alexander and Ann in the Maxville Cemetery.

ALEX'R McPHADEN DIED DEC 2, 1878 AE 88 YRS 'Native of TYREE, Scotland'  
ANN McDONALD RELICT of the late ALEX'R McPHADEN DIED SEPT 16 1898 AE 98 YRS

**32 Martha Campbell**  
**Aged 12 Years**

In the summer the sea is blue and clear and I really like just staring at it. It's really pretty. I also really like seeing the sunsets in the summer – they're so cool.



33 **Emigration – The Scotch Cemetery**  
Text by Paul Hector, collage by Louise MacDougall

**Vancouver and Toronto, Canada**  
Direct Descendant of Laughlin McLean and Catherine Clark of Ruaig who emigrated to Canada.



### **The Scotch Cemetery**

Dedicated to Ann, Margaret and Sarah

The “Old Scotch Burying Ground” or simply “Scotch Cemetery”, as it is now known, in Brock Township, Ontario, Canada is the final resting place of many Tíre emigrants, their families and descendants from the 1830s until the mid-20th century. Brock was the first significant community and destination of Tíre Emigration in Ontario in the mid-19th century.

In this square you see the cemetery landscape and one gravestone that is particularly representative of the Tíre emigrant experience. As with cemeteries everywhere, the inscriptions in stone often tell a story. In this case, the image of a fallen monument records the deaths of 3 children of Laughlin Mclean and Catherine (Clark) Mclean. It is a particularly poignant reminder that, even though the overall outcome of leaving one's homeland for a faraway place might be considered a success, it was often punctuated by events of tragedy, loss and sorrow. With the exception of an 1861 census entry for Sarah, this gravestone represents the only known written record of the existence of Ann, Margaret and Sarah. It is hoped that this tapestry square may contribute to the continued recognition and memory of their short lives lived.

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This “Scotch Cemetery” square was created for Paul Hector (Toronto) by Louise MacDougall (Vancouver) using his photography, concept and text. Paul and Louise are Clark-McLean Canadian cousins within the Tíre diaspora community who are linked to families buried in the Scotch Cemetery.

Paul is a direct descendant of Laughlin and Catherine Mclean of Ruaig, Tíre whose young children are named in the featured triple headstone. Donald MacFadyen photographed their stone; Garth Bray discovered the photo and published it; and the old Cemetery Plot Map by R. A. Purvis gives its location.

- 34 **Emigration – Letters from the Past**  
 Written by Glenda McPhadden Franklin,  
 collage by Louise MacDougall  
 Vancouver and Nanaimo, BC, Canada  
 Great great-granddaughter of  
 Alexander McPhaden of Caolas, Tiree  
 who emigrated to Canada.



### **TYREE MacPHADENS - Letters from the past**

In the upper left corner, one can see a stamp, post-marked TOBERMORY & dated Jan 25, 1844. This letter, written January 8th, 1844, was to Alexander McPhaden, my great, great grandfather, the emigrant from Caolas, Tiree to Glengarry, Ontario, Canada. The letter was written by Alexander’s younger brother Neil, who settled on the croft in Caoles previously occupied by Charles McPhaiden, and his wife, Christy McPhail. Descendants of Neil still farm the Croish croft. The letter starts ‘Dear Brother’. Alexander was looking for land for his brother, but Neil states his ‘wife and family do not want to go to Canada’. Neil writes that their siblings John, Hugh, Peggy and Donald ‘are doing fine, sister Mary had a son named Charles’. Neil says one of Donald’s sons is ‘thinking of going to that country in the spring’. About the siblings: John settled at Miodar, Hugh settled at Church Farm, Kirkapol. Peggy (married Hugh McKinnon of Coll) and several adult children emigrated in 1847, settling in Rama, Simcoe, Ontario. Donald and family emigrated in 1851 to Bruce County, Ontario. Mary (married Donald Johnston of Coll) emigrated in the 1850s to Mara, Simcoe, Ontario.

The 1821 letter from ‘Tiry’ Parish, written on 13th June 1821, is a character reference for Donald MacPhaiden of Salum and his wife, Catherine McNaughton, and seven children, stating their ‘Unimpeached moral Character as they were about to depart for North America’. ‘A very decent and honest family’. Signed by Members of the Session: ‘Neil MacLean, Min’r, Alex’r Mathenson, Clerk, Alex’r McPhaden, Malcolm McArthur, Niel McDugald’. The family settled in Brock, Ontario, as did many other Tiree folk.

The group photo is the family of Donald and Catherine’s son, Neil D. McPhaden (Mary McLean). In Neil and Mary’s generation, several McPhaden siblings married McLean siblings, and in the next generation, 3 McPhaden siblings married 3 Purvis siblings. The 1821 letter, history and family photo are from Doreen Purvis Acton of Ontario.

Single photos:

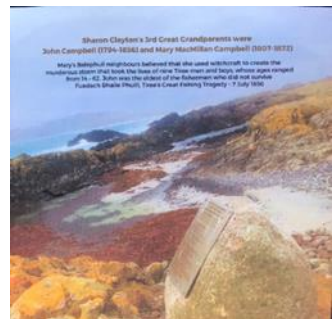
Jane McPhaiden, daughter of Hugh and Marion of Salum, married Allan MacLean of Cornaigbeg in 1820. The family emigrated in 1846 to Victoria County, Ontario. Many of their children settled in the area. Their son, Alexander, went to the USA; their son, Archibald, went to Winnipeg; their son, Hugh, to Saskatchewan, and their son, Malcolm, settled in BC. Pictured also is Jane's great granddaughter Bea Corbett. Jane's photo from Emily Copeland, descendant of Alexander. Research by Janet Currie Chubb.

**35 Ailish MacKechnie**  
**Aged 10 years**  
**Tiree school pupil**

I did Crossapol Beach because it's really special to me because that's where Auntie Jan's ashes are scattered.



**36 The Elements - Fuadach Bhail' a' Phuill**  
**Balephuill Fishing Disaster, 1856**  
**Sharon Clayton**  
**Surrey, British Columbia, Canada**  
Descended from the Campbells and  
MacMillans, Balephuill, Tiree



My 4th great grandfather was John Campbell, was the eldest of nine fishermen who did not survive Tiree's Great Fishing Disaster of 1856. To make a sad story even more alarming, I learned that John's wife Mary (MacMillan) Campbell was accused of witchcraft for creating a murderous storm Fuadach Bhaile Phuill on 7 July 1856. Tearlach MacDonald kindly shared his 2022 photo of the Balephuill Commemoration plaque, which is not as pristine as it was in 2016 – I plan to give it a good polish when I visit Tiree.

- 37 **The Elements - Fuadach Bhail' a' Phuill**  
**Balephuill Fishing Disaster, 1856**  
**Sharon Clayton**  
**Surrey, British Columbia, Canada**  
Descended from the Campbells and  
MacMillans, Balephuill, Tiree



**Gordon Scott** took the “Circle of Silence” commemoration photo at A’ Bhuain 2016.

- 38 **Blythe Wright**  
**Aged 9 years**

I spend most of my time at my house so I wanted to do a picture of that.



39 **Heroes and Villains - The Jacobites**  
**Text by Iain Barker, collage by Louise MacDougall**  
**Vancouver, Canada and Troon, Ayrshire, Scotland**

My mother was Mary Mackinnon born 1917 at Heanish Farmhouse, Tiree. My family tree goes back to Neil McLean born 1735 listed in the 1776 Census at Scarinish, which had been the Jacobite hotbed on Tiree.

**Tyre Jacobite Prisoners of the '45**

The 1745 Rebellion was a huge watershed for the Highlands with the Argyll taking over, kilts banned and the resultant depopulation. The '45 was the culmination of a series of attempts by the Stuart royal line to reclaim the throne of Britain. Initial success was created by the bold ability and charisma of Bonnie Prince Charlie (Charles Edward Stuart acting for his father James) to rally the Scottish Clans to his cause. They had even captured Edinburgh and invaded England before turning to retreat North.

The Prince's defeat at the Battle of Culloden was the swansong of Highland Clan culture. Those Jacobites who survived were hunted down, imprisoned, executed, or sent to the Colonies. The Hanoverian Government's retaliation sought to destroy the very relationship between the Clan Chiefs and their Clansmen. The 1746 Proscription Act outlawed wearing tartan, playing bagpipes and teaching Gaelic. A soldier was to kill any person dressed in tartan; The 1747 Heritable Jurisdiction Act stated that anyone who did not submit to the Hanoverians would forfeit their land. Highland Chiefs subsequently abandoned their role as paternalistic caretakers of their clansmen to act as commercial landlords. This laid the foundation for the Highland Clearances where sheep became more profitable than people. Against this backdrop, we see Jacobite Rebels in Tiree stirring up trouble. They threaten the Factor, refusing to be named to the Duke's Militia. Encouraged by Maclean of Drimnin, some join his regiment, are imprisoned for treason and only released by the Pardon issued in June 1747.<sup>3</sup> Their hotbed of activity is Scarinish. To finally crush that problem, in 1748 the Duke buys Scarinish and scatters the Jacobites around the Island.



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<sup>3</sup> Credit, An Iodhlann, Tiree: Documentation of Jacobite dissent and Prisoners named on the Tapestry Square

40 Tales for the Fireside  
Louise E. MacDougall  
Vancouver, Canada  
Descendant of McDougalls and  
McLeans of Ruaig



### Coat of Arms of Andrew Bruce MacLean (1856-1925)

Andrew Bruce MacLean, whose 1911 Coat of Arms<sup>4</sup> these are, is a descendant of Donald “The Pilot” McLean of Ruaig, Tiree, Scotland. These Arms also declare his ancestors to be Charles McLean of Ardnacross son of Allan MacLean “Bailie of Morven”. Around 1900, Andrew Bruce had in his possession an original account, written by his father Donald, about The Pilot’s role in helping French ships find Bonnie Prince Charlie.

Here is the preface which he appended to that handwritten story: “This narrative was written by my father Donald MacLean who was born at Ruaig Tiree in 1817 and died at Dunoon 1902. The “Pilot” referred to was my Great-Grand-Father. As a child I have lived with and spoken to the “Pilot’s” son, my Grand-Father. He was then a very old man and bed-ridden he died at Ruaig Tiree about the age of 91. A. MacLean Sinclair, Prince Edward Island, Canada published a very similar account in the Oban Times June 23 1900.<sup>5</sup> “I think this must have been supplied by a member of my own family and taken from oral tradition”.

And here is a transcription of the beginning of the handwritten account: “The following is what report I heard from my father over 70 years ago. A French frigate, anchored in Got Bay east of Scarinish sent a boat ashore on the sandy beach. [They] captured a man Niel Mac Faden and wished him piolate [pilot] them to Lochnarnuagh [Loch nan Uamh]. He told them he knew nothing of the coast, but pointed to my grandfather's house and told them that Donald MacLean, Ruaig, Tyree...”<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Coat of Arms purchased from Scotlands People

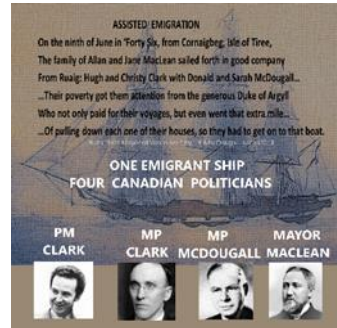
<sup>5</sup> Document courtesy Charles Peter Bruce MacLean, 2022

<sup>6</sup> Rest Available: An Iodhlann, Tiree

## 41 Emigration

Louise E. MacDougall  
Vancouver, Canada

Descendant of the McLeans of Baugh and Ruaig, making me related to 3 of the politicians on this Tapestry Square



### ASSISTED EMIGRATION: One Ship – Four Canadian Politicians

“House pulled down” I saw written beside Hugh Clark’s name, his brother-in-law, Donald MacDougald and Allan MacLean of Cornaigbeg. Indeed, half of the 9th June 1846 List of Emigrants from Tyree to Canada suffered the same fate. When the Duke of Argyll paid ship’s passage for Tiree’s poorest, he ensured they got the boat by removing the ceiling beams of their thatched cottages so the roofs would fall in! On treeless Tiree, owning the beams meant the Duke controlled who built the next houses. So, Clarks and McDougalls of Ruaig with McLeans of Cornaigbeg had to get on that ship. As a result, that ship produced these four Canadian politicians:

1. The Right Honourable Joe Clark Born 5 June 1939 in High Prairie, Alberta, grandson of emigrants Donald Clark and Mary McDougall. As leader of the Conservative Party, he became the youngest Prime Minister of Canada (1979 to 1980).
2. Col. Hugh Clark (6 May 1867 – 13 May 1959) Born on the Tenth of Kincardine, Bruce County, Ontario, grandson of emigrants Hugh Clark and Christy McLean. Conservative MP for Bruce North from 1911 to 1921.
3. John Lorne “Jack” McDougall (18 Nov 1898 - 6 June 1956) Born Tiverton, Ontario, grandson of emigrants Donald McDougall and Marion McLean. Liberal MP for Vancouver-Burrard from 1949 until his death in Parliament during the stressful Pipeline Debate.
4. Malcolm A. McLean Born 14 Aug 1844, Tiree, he emigrated with his parents Allan McLean and Jane McPhaiden, Cornaigbeg. Died 4 April 1895, having been the first Mayor of Vancouver for two terms (1886 -1887) when he watched the city burn to the ground and be built anew from the ashes.

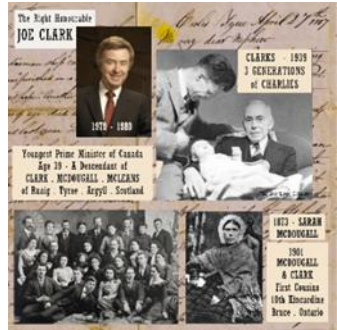


## Emigration

**Louise E. MacDougall**

**Vancouver, Canada**

Descendant of the McLeans of Baugh and Ruaig, and McDougalls of Caolis/Ruaig making me related to Joe Clark twice.



### The Right Honourable Joe Clark

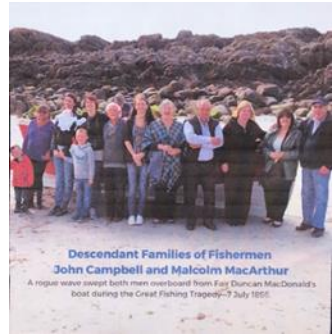
Joe Clark began his life as the third Charles in a line of consecutive Charlies. He was born Charles Joseph Clark on 5 June 1939 in High River, Alberta, Canada, and became known as “Joe”. His Dad (1869-1949), a family newspaper man, was born Charles Archibald and went by the name Charles A. Clark. Joe’s grandfather was Charles Clark (1869-1949) known as “Charlie”. He was founder and editor of the High River Times, publishing its first issue on 7 Dec 1905.

The name Charles is not found in Charlie’s Clark ancestry on the Isle of Tیره, Scotland. But Charlie’s great grandfather was Charles MacDougall of Caolis, ensuring Charlie’s MacDougall side is well littered with more Charlies.

The 1867 letter (courtesy The Glenbow, Calgary) shows the Clarks’ Tیره heritage. Neil Clark of Caolis, Tیره wrote it to his nephew Donald Clark (1821-1914) who married Mary MacDougall (1830-1909) in Canada. The MacDougalls and Clarks on Tیره were closely knit and there were two Clark-McDougall marriages on the Island. But, due to two McLean sisters, there were two other marriages that bound the Clarks and MacDougalls even across the Atlantic. Christy, married Hugh Clark and her sister, Marion (Sarah), married Donald MacDougall. These MacDougalls and Clarks lived beside each other in Ruaig, Tیره, then emigrated together in 1846 to Ontario, Canada. They lived beside each other again in Brock Township; then moved to Kincairdine Township where they built brick homes kitty-corner from each other on the Tenth of Kincairdine.

By 1901, the two families had produced many grandchildren. The group photo shows only a portion of these Clark-McDougall cousins. (And that makes me related to Joe Clark twice - 4th cousin via those McLean sisters and 3rd cousin via the Clark-McDougall marriage in Canada.)

- 43 **The Elements -Fuadach Bhail’ a’ Phuill  
Balephuill Fishing Disaster, 1856**  
Sharon Clayton  
Surrey, British Columbia, Canada  
Descended from the Campbells and  
MacMillans, Balephuill, Tiree



Gordon Scott took the picture of the descendants of John Campbell and Malcolm MacArthur. Both men were swept off Fair Duncan’s boat by the same rogue wave. Neither of their bodies was recovered from the sea.

- 44 **Tales by the Fireside – Donald the Pilot**  
Louise E. MacDougall  
Vancouver, Canada  
Descendant of McDougalls and  
McLeans of Ruaidh.



Descendants of Donald “The Pilot” McLean of Ruaidh

Donald “The Pilot” McLean of Ruaidh, Tiree has plenty of descendants around the world. He had 8 children and at least 6 of them married in the early 1800s. Those who know The Pilot’s story, enjoy the idea of being a descendant because it’s a tale of maritime adventure and intrigue.

“The Pilot” designation comes from the long tradition on the Island which tells about Donald having been kidnapped by the French in 1746 to help navigate their ships through the treacherous Scottish west coast waters for the sake of Bonnie Prince Charlie. After a daring escape back to Tyree, he hides in a cave for many months to avoid being arrested for treason. With his health failing, he surrenders in 1747 and is forced into the Government militia, despite the pardon having been issued for Jacobites below Captain. Finally, McLean of Drimnin, a relative, secures his release after 2 years.

One family of The Pilot's descendants has a maritime adventure of their own to add to their ancestor's mystique. In 2020, Edinburgh brothers Ewen, Jamie and Lachlan MacLean broke the world record for rowing across the Atlantic Ocean, 3,000 miles, in just 35 days. They are the sons of Charlie MacLean, author of "MacLean's Miscellany of Whisky". Charlie, in turn, is the Great-Grandson of Andrew Bruce MacLean who Matriculated Arms in 1911.

The Pilot is well documented in Tìree records including the 1776 and 1779 Lists of Inhabitants. Tracing ancestry back to him is not very difficult. Tracing his ancestry back to his presumed connection to the Maclean Chiefs is a challenge. Accounts do agree that he is a descendant of Charles of Ardnacross, and likely his son John McCharles, Tacksman of Salum in 1663.

Which is good for a start.

## 45 Friends of the Argyll Papers



The Friends of the Argyll Papers is a Scottish charity which supports the maintenance and preservation of the archive of the Duke of Argyll at Inveraray Castle. Friends' memberships and donations provide a small regular income which contributes towards collection care and improvements to the research facilities. The Friends also support volunteering opportunities in the archive and fund-raising and promotional initiatives such as Tìr Ìseal nan Òran (Tìree: Low Land of Song).

# Tir Ìseal nan Òran (Tiree: low land of song)

Tir Ìseal nan Òran (Tiree: low land of song) was an island-wide creative project, taking place as part of Scotland's Year of Stories 2022, which aimed to celebrate and promote Tiree's stories, heritage, culture and Gaelic language. At the heart of the project were seven stories from the island's history, tradition and mythology which were explored within their physical and historical contexts to inspire new creative work. Local artists, young people, the wider Tiree community and an international audience were invited to take part in exploring and re-telling these stories through a mixture of traditional music and song, film and photography, theatre and writing, and Gaelic and English.

Tir Ìseal nan Òran was supported by the Year of Stories 2022 Community Stories Fund. This fund was delivered in partnership between VisitScotland and Museums Galleries Scotland with support from National Lottery Heritage Fund thanks to National Lottery players. The project was also supported by Argyll Estates, Historic Environment Support Fund, the National Lottery through Creative Scotland, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Argyll & Bute Council Supporting Communities Fund, Clan Campbell Education Foundation, Inc., CHARTS Argyll and Isles, Tiree Community Windfall Fund, Pamela Campbell Bickford, Martha McKinnon and Elizabeth Kraus.

