



Yorkshire Life

01/05/2019



MY YORKSHIRE WEEKEND

Each month we discover new places, new ideas and new ways to relax - all recommended by you

Having been brought up as part of a large family in East Lothian on the east coast of Scotland, it seems a bit strange, even after nearly 40 years, to be writing about my life in Yorkshire.

However, those of you who know that area will appreciate where my love of coast, countryside and sport comes from and, if you don't know East Lothian, I thoroughly recommend a trip.

I now consider myself a time-served Yorkshire man. Both my children, James and Eliza, are Yorkshire-born but still take pride in their Scottish roots (recent dramatic Six Nations games tested family loyalties – perhaps a draw was the best result!).

I am lucky to be based in Malton. It's great to see the town growing into an excellent venue for everyone to spend their weekends, with its excellent shops, cafes and bars, including our own, McMillans of Malton, which, perhaps not surprisingly, stocks a large selection of Yorkshire gins as well as some excellent single malt whiskies.

The sight of a man walking



Yorkshire with a tartan twist

through the streets of Malton with his kilt swaying in the wind is now familiar to those who visit. In case you were wondering, the answer is always the same: no, there is nothing worn under a kilt and, yes, it's all in perfectly good working order, thank you.

I spent most of my working life

'We really are spoiled and I can say that I am proud to be a Yorkshire man. Well, nearly'

at Scarborough College and was lucky enough to take sports teams and ski trips all over the world. Nothing beats a weekend stroll along Scarborough's South Bay though, admiring the wonderful scenery that this part of the world has to offer.

A few years ago, we moved to the warmer climate of Muston, near Filey, which makes our weekends even more varied. Muston was once famous for its annual Scarecrow Festival, which has

Proud Scot Jim McMillan raises a glass to his new county clan

now sadly ended. This means, however, that clan McMillan can now claim to be the last village Scarecrow Champions.

Like all Yorkshire men (honorary and otherwise), cricket is in my blood. I have now, sadly, hung up my bat but was proud to have captained Muston seconds with a career best of 48 (jealous Johnny Bairstow?).

My golfing skills are also legendary. I have a 25 handicap and an in-depth knowledge of the rough at Filey Golf Club. Frankly, no one walking near the course is safe.

As a weekend getaway, my favourite short haul destinations are Beverley and Saltaire. I love history and both places are great for a weekend wander. I often sit

and drink in the atmosphere in the White Horse and the Minster is always worth a visit.

There's also something so magical about Saltaire. As a world heritage site, it really enables you to step back into the county's history and is a fantastic place to admire the buildings and beauty of industrial Yorkshire.

We really are spoiled and I can say that I am proud to be a Yorkshire man. Well, nearly. ♦ **Malton Gin Festival, run by Jim and James McMillan, runs at the Talbot Marquee from May 3-5. For details, visit mcmilansofmalton.co.uk or visitmalton.com. There will be tonnes of tastings, events and talks. It promises to be quite a tonic.**

ABOVE: Gin and whisky aficionado Jim McMillan is happy to raise a glass (or two) to both his old and new homes

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