

Editorial on being MacLeod "In our hands in our time"

One of the things we do is act as a conduit for resources, information and mementos, and other items about MacLeods or related interests. As an example, later in the Newsletter are some book reviews. Sometimes these special items only occur once, and if missed are unlikely to be repeated.

Something I'm learning with Clan involvement is that our cultural treasures (events and items) are not the glistening gold of down the line promotions and marketing. Our treasure is dug up, it's homespun and done in the study, on the kitchen table. It is the composite legacy we inherit and continue to add to, and I for one have been slow to recognise it. Christchurch Gathering and our own late Isabel Classohm helped me see that being of Clan MacLeod isn't something which happens 'over there', - over the border, "over the sea to Skye". Nor is it like barracking for Crows or participating in church, both with their high organisation and participation to achieve different and specific purposes.

Clan belonging is what we want it to be here and now, as individuals, as each family, and as friends, and appreciating the legacy and 'treasure' in our hands in our time.

(that's my theme suggestion for a Clan Gathering)

- Alex 2004

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One of the things we do in our positions of Secretaries and Editors etc. is act as a conduit for resources, information and mementos, and other items concerning MacLeods or related interests. As an example, we occasionally see in Newsletters some book reviews, or events or memorabilia.

Sometimes these special items occur only once, and if missed are unlikely to be repeated. I always appreciated their value in expanding my MacLeod world.

Something I'm learning with Clan involvement is that our cultural treasures (events, stories and items) are not the glistening gold of down the line marketing. Our treasure is dug up, it's homespun and done in the study, or on the kitchen table. Our Clan's culture is a composite legacy we inherit and continue to add to, and impart to others. It is tradition and an evolving culture.

I for one have been slow to recognise it. Christchurch Gathering and our own late Isabel Classohm helped me see that being of Clan MacLeod isn't something which happens 'over there', - over the border, "over the sea to Skye". Nor is it like barracking for a football club, or participating in church, both with their higher organisation and participation to achieve different and specific missions.

We are the villagers, sometimes few in number, remote in our Bothies, making do with what our relationships and resources can offer. We are ever grateful of communication and sharing the traditions and culture of our Clan.

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(that's my theme suggestion for a Clan Gathering)

Alex