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## **EDITORIAL WELCOME**

Before I wish everyone a "Merry Christmas" ...

Isn't it amazing how life can take a rapid turn? Just when things appear routine or on a straight course, events can change and leave you almost breathless with surprise.

Ask Prime Minister aspirant Kym Beasley about politics and life, or anyone who watched the Adelaide Test Cricket. A radio cricket commentator pledged was that he was not going to predict anything in cricket ever again.

We can get bumped and spun out with changes and the high speed corners of life, even 'Climate change'.

There are New Views, unpredictable outcomes, political backflips, and suddenly, when least expected: -the nuclear imperative.

There are all the 'ists' - opinionists, popularists, futurists and commercialists, etc. grabbing the brief moment that the spinning world provides. Does it gets a bit too much, too quick to cope and take it all in? What is the clear path and who's truth is the most relevant? Please tell me! Perhaps 'Jim's Mowing' can do that for me also.

So, with Christmas, we know that the birth of Jesus was predicted; but the world was unprepared for the life that was to change everything. Christmas is God's solid, unchanging promise of salvation; and calls us to change ourselves for a new life in Jesus.

The Silly Season ? No, it is the constant and restful assurance of God's promise, which keeps Christmas as something to look forward to and rely on. The promise remains unchanging for all people for all times.

There is also an unchanging, timeless strength in our Clan mottos; "Hold Fast" and "I shine not burn", combined for Associated Clan MacLeod Societies (ACMS) "We shall hold a light".

I sincerely hope you experience joy and peace this Christmas, and as MacLeods may you hold fast, shine bright, and hold a light for that which is good.

For Christmas, like most events, any "silliness" comes from the "spectators" in the outer, those that are peripheral opportunists to the reason for the season. ie. Good News. -Alex