

From Clan MacLeod Society South Australia Newsletter December 2010

EDITORIAL EXPRESS

No Calendars for Christmas please!

I think I will dispense with calendars, because two I have are still turned to April and July. I only got to use 6 months of the year! It was similar last year, and the year before; so the past decade was probably less than 5 years of Calendar pages. That's my evidence for why it seemed like it was **the fastest decade in history**. I think Bill Hain said he was shaving only half as often, and Merawyn's vacations seem shorter than she'd like.

Thank you to John MacLeod for permitting me to publish his letter (borrowed from Clan MacLeod Victoria.. with thanks)

I find the content uplifting and meaningful at a time when so much "Christmas Spirit" is expressed in trite commercialism. and tacky 'entertainment'. I recognise some of these following dot points might dilute the enjoyment of the season for many people.

- Children leave home; so the fun, the generosity and sharing diminishes.
- Adult siblings and their families are all going their own way.
- Aging folk are less able to sustain the effort and energy to put on the whole Christmas celebration.
- Some have left the Church, and its rituals upholding the spiritual virtues in Christmas.
- The commercialism of the season as a shopping festival.
- The irrelevance of snowmen and jingle bells to us.

Our combined motto "We shall hold a light" encourages me to hold fast to the meaningful practices of Christmas.

-Alex