

EDITOR'S ENLIGHTENMENT

By request

- Clan Toast 2011 Alex McLeod

“What’s in a name?”

"What's in a name? That which we call a rose,
By any other name would smell as sweet." -said Juliet .

In Shakespeare’s lyrical tale of "star-cross'd" lovers, Romeo and Juliet are doomed from the start as members of two warring families; Montague and Capulet. This one short line encapsulates the central struggle and tragedy of the play.

Throughout time, a name could tell you a lot about a person, and yet tell you nothing. It requires a context like geography or culture.

In Australia, the context is becoming more dislocated and individual, and any name “would smell as sweet”, or sour, as the bearer wants it to.

However, we, gathered here, are part of an enduring Caledonian context which understands names and meaning.

We understand that:-

MACLEOD is scottish, is a highland scot.

MAC ... means “ son of ”..

LEOD is Hebridean, Western Isles, of Norsemen.-and GAELS, Sea Lords, and part of a unique language, dance and music culture.

Today we celebrate our names, OUR name:- “MACLEOD” and the family names that we proudly associate with it.

We celebrate, its roots, and its continuity.

We toast the honour and the long life of the name, here regarded particularly in person, in the Chief of a Clan;- **Torquil Donald MacLeod of the Lewes.**

Arise and toast Clan MacLeod:- its families, Societies and Chiefs;

“To MACLEOD:- Honour and Long Life”