



Clan MacEwen Plant Badge

Before the 2019 International Gathering and Annual General Meeting, several members of the Clan had brought up the subject of adopting a plant badge for the Clan.

Not all Clans have a plant badge, but it was used as a symbol to distinguish the different Clans before the use of Clan Crest Badges. There are multiple theories of why and when this practice started.

The Clan decided at the AGM that it would like a plant badge and the two obvious ones for the Clan were the Oak and the Irish Yew. The Oak was nominated as it has long been a symbol of the Clan, it is in the Clan Crest Badge, is found in the ancestral homeland and its symbolism resonates with the Clan's motto *Reviresco* – we grow strong/green again, but is used by at least five other Clans. The Irish Yew was nominated as a nod to the Clans Irish descendency, it is found in the ancestral homeland, it is available year-round and has a symbolism of respecting ancestors and is not used by other Clans (the yew is used by a couple, but the Irish yew is not used that we know of).

After discussion, the Clan voted to adopt the Irish Yew as the Oak is already represented in the Clan Crest Badge, it is available year-round, holds up well out of water and is a sign of respect for our ancestors. The information has been made available for a year on the Clan website and social media for the clan members not present at the AGM to have their say. The topic will be revisited at the AGM 2020.

The plant badge is a plant sprig that can be worn on a bonnet behind the Clan Crest Badge or on a ladies' shoulder attached to a sash. We do advise care to be taken if using a fresh sprig of Irish Yew as the berries are poisonous if ingested.