

# CLM BRITAIN REPORT

## 1. If CLM in your RMU is a body of water, what would it be like?

There are varied description and feeling about it which are the following:

### i. Stagnant water like in a lake where new shoots of life struggle to resurface.

Life and beauty lie dormant underneath the stagnant water, yearning to resurface and thrive once more. However, the challenges brought about by the pandemic, coupled with group dynamics and a diminishing number of CLMs, make the question of sustainability and a present reality.

PHOTO Credit: Picture taken by Nathalie Marytsch.



### ii. Still water of the sea not too far from the shore or harbour.

We are currently in survival mode. The situation is making us think shall we stay out and keep sailing to cross the unknown horizon? Or go back to the shore?

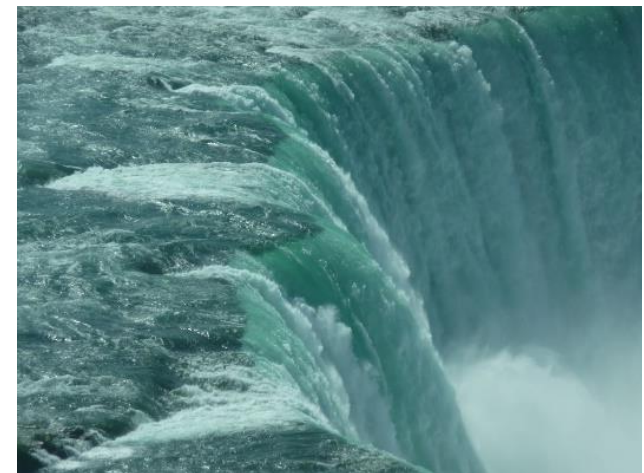
<https://www.montereyherald.com/>



### iii. Rapid water of the river flowing so fast heading to a waterfall.

Just like in water rafting, the water current is flowing so fast, our boat is at the middle of it, we can not go back, we can not stop, we just have to braced ourselves and continue to paddle otherwise we will sink or toppled out of the boat.

<https://images.nationalgeographic.org/image/upload>



## 2. Water never stops flowing, how is CLM is working well in your RMU? Why is it working well?

### INTERNALLY:

<b>Working well</b>	<b>Not Working Well</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We have structures in place LMLT.</li><li>• Have Coordinator representative at the Council Meeting.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shortage of Personnel and so we need to be able to work independently and be self-motivated.</li></ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enthusiasm and commitment of those LMs currently assigned in the Region, though we need time for healing.</li> <li>• Planting of seeds though it takes time to see the fruit of the crops. Example impact of Fatima House project.</li> <li>• Partnership with other charities/groups which became crucial and important.</li> <li>• SIM Overseas placement Collaboration (e.g. Danny Sweeney).</li> <li>• LMs in the Regions are in Middle-age and are still 10-15 years away from official retirement.</li> <li>• There are inspiring examples of Columbans in their 80s, who, despite facing the challenges of age and ailments remain actively engaged in mission.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hard to plan ahead, there are so many uncertainties.</li> </ul>
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**A view of one person:** Perhaps we need to revisit the original concept of CLM, wherein after 1-2 terms, the LMs go back to their country of origin to enrich their home region, and do not stay too long to country of assignment.

**EXTERNALLY:**

<b>Working well</b>	<b>Not Working Well</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LMs are highly valued and appreciated in ministries.</li> <li>• Many opportunities for ministry placement.</li> <li>• There are projects responding to the needs of the people.</li> <li>• CLM is involved and engaged on RMU priorities.</li> <li>• Good relationship with the Diocese.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are not getting new recruits to join. CLM. People now have other professional outlets e.g. doctors, nurses).</li> <li>• Church loses credibility due to scandals, abuse of power, sacramentalization or staying of priest to the parishes just for doing sacraments. Need to see and respond to social reality.</li> <li>• Young people are critical of the church.</li> <li>• Whole idea of mission in society now which have no financial reward. Secular World is strong, religion is no longer central.</li> <li>• Financial independence is more important to many young people.</li> <li>• "I" culture which is obstacle to "We" Community culture.</li> </ul>

**3. Just as water erodes even the strongest of rocks, persistence and hard work can overcome any obstacle. What areas of CLM in your RMU need attention and why? What are you doing to address those areas for your RMU?**

- Shortage of Personnel – We use Faith In Action Volunteer (FIAV) program continually to give opportunity to local young people to get involve in Columban Mission.
- Lack of New Recruits to join CLM – We collaborate on SIM overseas placement as alternative.

**4. The depth of water holds infinite possibilities. What new possibilities within CLM are emerging in your RMU?**

- SIM Overseas Placement Collaboration.
- Faith In Action Volunteer (FIAV) Program.

- CLM and Columban project (e.g., Fatima House) opportunity to inspire, plant seed of lay mission to the heart of local people (e.g., Immersion of Teachers) and also young people (e.g., FIAV).

**5. Do you have any other comments?**

- No other comment