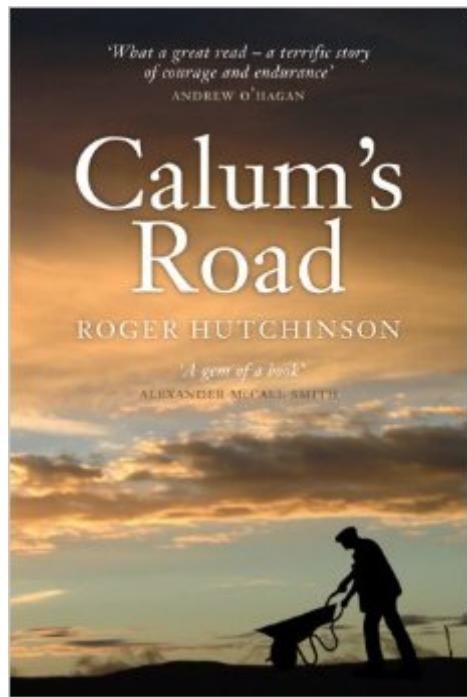


The book was found

Calum's Road



Synopsis

Calum MacLeod had lived on the northern point of Raasay since his birth in 1911. He tended the Rona lighthouse at the very tip of his little archipelago, until semi-automation in 1967 reduced his responsibilities. So what he decided to do, says his last neighbour, Donald MacLeod, was to build a road out of Arnish in his months off. With a road he hoped new generations of people would return to Arnish and all the north end of Raasay. And so, at the age of 56, Calum MacLeod, the last man left in northern Raasay, set about single-handedly constructing the impossible road. It would become a romantic, quixotic venture, a kind of sculpture; an obsessive work of art so perfect in every gradient, culvert and supporting wall that its creation occupied almost twenty years of his life. In Calum's Road, Roger Hutchinson recounts the extraordinary story of this remarkable man's devotion to his visionary project.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

i suppose i'm quiet biasd to this book as Calum Macleod was my uncle but its about time someone wrote a book about this man. The book takes a bit to get into as it talks alot about the history of the Islands but all this is still intresting and by the time you finish this book you will understand what a remarkable man Calum was and what a achievement it was for him to build a road with only a pick, shovel and weelbarrow and all that at the age of sixty odd!! this is a great book about a great man-for a story of hope and determination, this is your book.

The events that lead up to the building of Calum's road are amazing, and reflect the oppression of the common crofter. Hutchinson does a lovely job delivering the reality of the crofter's plight, and explaining how Calum became the last inhabitant of Arnish.

This is a wonderful book. We picked it up on Raasay in 2006 during a trip to see where my family came from. Come to find out, he is a distant relative! It's a great account of life on the island and a man's persistants for what's right and wrong. I became inspired to complete goals of my own that had, up until then, seemed unattainable.

I had a personal relationship with the builder of the road and I had walked it before it was blacktopped and drove over it to visit Calum the fall before he died. It gave me a better understanding of this extraordinary man.

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