

Note: This was my first handfasting ceremony- this couple chose all the wording and traditions.

Handfasting of Michael and Amy Clink

Nicolle rings silver bell three times to commence ceremony. Ryan~ bagpiper~ plays "Flower of Scotland".

Michael and Amy walk from back door to fairy ring and altar (east). They walk around the ring once and come to stand in front of the altar and Nicolle.

Nicolle: Welcome. This is the joining of not just two people, but two souls. We are here to witness this love in the presence of the Gods.

To Michael and Amy: Are you both willing to take each other in love and friendship? **Both:** We do.

Nicolle: Then you are one in the eyes of Cernunnos and Brigit, God and Goddess of this home, and of the family and friends present. Now is the time to exchange your gifts to one another.

Amy hands her knife to Michael and says: "With this, protect our home."

Michael hands his knife to Amy and says: "With this, protect our family."

Amy hands her stalk of wheat to Michael and says: "With this, provide for our family."

Michael hands his stalk of wheat to Amy and says: "With this, provide for our home."

Amy places ring on Micheal's finger and says: "Remember me."

Michael places ring on Amy's finger and says: "Remember me."

Nicolle holds up the chalice and asks Michael and Amy: "Are you willing to drink with each other?" and holds out chalice, which Michael and Amy take together. Amy drinks first, then Michael. They face each other and cross hold hands. Nicolle ties cloth around their hands.

Amy says vows to Michael: "I take you, willing to be bound to you forever. For you are where my heart is, and where it shall always be."

Michael says vows to Amy: "I take you, willing to be bound to you forever. For you are where my heart is, and where it shall always be."

Nicolle cuts cloth and says, "With love." Amy cuts small lock of Michael's hair, then Michael cuts small lock of Amy's hair. The locks are placed in a silver box. The couple digs a small hole and place the box in it.

Nicolle: "Be understanding and patient, each with the other. Be free in the giving of affection and warmth, be sensuous with each other, have no fear and let not the ways of the unenlightened give you unease. For the Gods are with you now and always.

To guests: "Will you, as family and friends, support this couple in their decision to be together?"

All: "We do!"

Nicolle: "I now pronounce you as husband and wife."

Amy and Michael kiss, then turn, join hands, and jump over the broomstick together. Ryan plays "*Irish Eyes*"

Nicolle rings bell three times to complete ceremony.