

## NEWS

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**Contact: Jim Strachan (jim@clanstrachan.org)  
Phone +1-951-760-8575 or**

**Rob Strachan (rob@clanstrachan.org)  
Phone +44 (0) 1330-850-663**

### **Lord Lyon Appoints North-East Man As Commander of Clan Strachan**

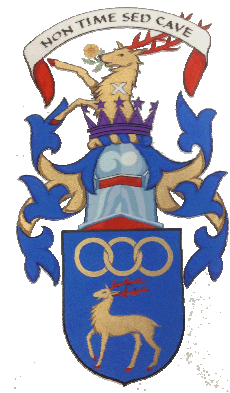
Family Convention Yields First Clan Representor in 186 Years

(Edinburgh) The Court of the Lord Lyon, supreme heraldic authority in Scotland, has appointed Mr. Charles Robert (Rob) Lund Strachan from the Mill of Strachan, Strachan in Aberdeenshire, as Commander of Clan Strachan. Mr. Strachan will serve as Commander for up to 10 years (perhaps less), after which it is hoped he will be recognised by the Crown as hereditary Chief of Clan Strachan. It is likely the Lord Lyon King of Arms may require another Family Convention to formalise the chiefship at that time.

The last person who could have claimed the Chiefship of Clan Strachan died 186 years ago, and today's announcement marks a significantly historic achievement for the Strachan Family.

Attendees from multiple continents participated in the Ad Hoc Derbhfine, contemporarily known as a "Family Convention." A Family Convention is an official meeting organised under the supervision of the Court of the Lord Lyon. This historic meeting took place at the Royal Scots Club, Edinburgh, on Friday, 11 April of this year. The meeting was presided over by Charles J. Burnett, Esq., Ross Herald Extraordinary. Mr. Burnett is an Officer of Arms at the Court of the Lord Lyon, and was appointed by the Lord Lyon King of Arms to serve as Supervising Officer of the Clan Strachan Family Convention on 11 December 2012.

All 21 Family Convention participants were authorised to attend this meeting by the Supervising Officer. This number included representatives from numerous nations including: nine residents from Scotland, two from England, seven from America, two Canadians, and one Australian. The Family Convention



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concluded with unanimous consent to support Mr. Rob Strachan from the Mill of Strachan as Commander. Mr. Burnett, the Supervising Officer, confirmed at the conclusion of the meeting that he would be making a recommendation to the Lord Lyon to this effect.

Over 80 people attended a dinner later that evening at the Royal Scots Club whereby Mr. Rob Strachan was given possession of the Clan Sword and White Rod as symbols of his power and jurisdiction over the Clan. A formal investiture ceremony is planned in the coming years.

On Tuesday, 15 April, Mr. Burnett submitted a recommendation to Dr. Joseph J. Morrow, Lord Lyon King of Arms.

On 23 April 2014, Dr. Joseph J. Morrow, Lord Lyon King of Arms signed a warrant appointing Rob as Commander of Clan Strachan.

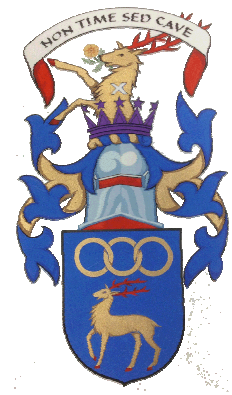
“We are very pleased with the Lord Lyon’s decision today and are grateful with the speed in which it was made,” said James Strachan of Temecula, California Co-founder of the Clan Strachan Society. Mr. Strachan founded the non-profit society along with Dennis Strawhun of Carlsbad, California in 2005. “Our primary goal in forming the Society was to return legitimacy and honour back to the Name of STRACHAN. Today, we have made a substantial step towards this achievement. Moreover, we are very proud of Rob and are confident he will rise to the leadership role he has earned through unanimous consent of the Family Convention,” he added.

Today’s decision by the Lord Lyon is the latest part of a process that began almost 10 years ago, which included an initial failed attempt to recognise Rob’s father, Major Benjamin Strachan, CMG, from the Mill of Strachan as Chief of the Name.

This most recent attempt began in 2010, and is a culmination of over three years of effort and labour on behalf of the Clan Strachan Society, which included well over 3,000 emails, and over 300 letters to various landowners in Scotland.

Assuming the Strachan Family is happy with Mr. Rob Strachan’s leadership in the coming years, and the chiefship is not contested by another with a proven and documented genealogy to the past chief or a cadet line, the Court of the Lord will likely recognise Mr. Rob Strachan from the Mill of Strachan as Clan Chief.

“I greatly appreciate the support I have received from the other candidates throughout this process, and I am honoured to have been chosen to represent Strachans in Scotland and throughout the world,” said



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Mr. Strachan from the Mill of Strachan. “I look forward to bringing Strachans together over the years to come. From now on Strachans can hold their heads just that little bit higher, knowing that they have a focus and a global Clan family in which they can share their experience,” he added.

“Rob is an exceptional individual whose family has shown a strong commitment to hospitality and bringing the Clan together for approximate 50 years,” said Dennis Strawhun. “Today is the culmination of a long, thorough and inclusive process and we are thankful to the Lord Lyon for recognising that, as well as Rob’s leadership potential,” Strawhun added.

For more information on the Clan Strachan, please visit the web site: <http://www.clanstrachan.org/>.

James A. Strachan, MBA, FSA Scot  
Co-Founder & Treasurer  
[jim@clanstrachan.org](mailto:jim@clanstrachan.org)

Dennis Strawhun  
Co-Founder & Convenor  
[dennis@clanstrachan.org](mailto:dennis@clanstrachan.org)

Rob Strachan  
Mill of Strachan  
Strachan, Aberdeenshire  
AB31 6NS  
UK  
[rob@clanstrachan.org](mailto:rob@clanstrachan.org)

George Strachan  
Public Relations, Clan Strachan Society  
[George@clanstrachan.org](mailto:George@clanstrachan.org)