Strachan Armigers

By
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Revision 1.1

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This publication is dedicated to future STRACHAN generations.

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Coat of Arms & Seals of Certain Individuals of Clan Strachan

The following are prominent individuals of Clan Strachan having personal arms of their own as evidenced AFTER 1672 by "Letters Patent" so recognised by the Sovereign of Scotland (the Ard Righ), the Fountain of Honour, through her Officer of Honour, the Lord Lyon King of Arms.

Recalling the Lord Lyon’s “Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland” originated by passage of the Lord Lyon Act of 1672, all prior arms would have been unregistered and loosely differentiated among the various cadet lines. These Arms, generally shields alone, have been found on various grants and other legal documents. To be certain, even after 1672, it was common practice in certain parts of the commonwealth to use unregistered Arms.
Strachan, John (of that Ilk) (1309)  
From a charter:

A shield of arms: A stag courant to sinister between three roses (or cinquefoils), not on a shield.


Laing’s Suppl. Catal., No 927

Charter of Donation by John de Strauchyne to Sir Alexander Settome of that ilk, knight, for his vital service against all mortals, the King and his heirs excepted. At Perth 7 August 1309.

There is little doubt that the de Strachan nobles were part of the defeated forces of the Comyn faction at the Battle of Inverurie in May 1308. If so, where would they look for protection?

If Alexander Seton was with the English garrison at Perth in 1309, it would seem reasonable that they would join him. They could hardly rely on the mercy of the Bruce family at this time and Seton seemed to know how to survive in these difficult times. The Setons were related to the Earls of Dunbar, their powerful neighbours in Lothian and the borders and also related to the Giffard family, from Lothian.

Sir Alexander Seton, was a knight holding lands of the King at Seton, Lothian. He had made a bond in 1308 with two other Bruce adherents, to defend Robert I and the Realm of Scotland, nevertheless he was in English service from 1309 until 1314. His apparent change of allegiance, was most likely in order preserve his lands in Lothian, an area dominated by the English during the period mentioned.

Seton defected to the Scottish side on the eve of the Battle of Bannockburn (24 June 1314), with crucial intelligence about the poor morale in the English camp. It is unlikely that he was a lone defector, he would have brought his followers with him. John de Strachan could well have been at his side.

In 1315, the barony of Strachan and lands of Fetteresso were granted by King Robert the Bruce to Fraser of Cowie. Thus, it appears any attempt to reconcile with Bruce were unsuccessful. Or, it may indicate that at least some of the family did support King Robert, as the House of Monboddo was well established before 1350.

Stradechen, John al. Strachan, of Thornton, co. Forfar (1470) ²
Sulph. cast from an indistinct impression. 1 in. [xlvi. 1675], from a charter...

A shield of arms: A stag trippant, STRACHAN, in sinister chief a rose or cinquefoil for difference.

"S'JOHNS STRADACHEN DE Thornton." — Appended to Retour of Service before the Sheriff of Forfar, of George Nairn, as nearest of kin to Isabella Fenton, his mother, in the fourth part of the Lands of Baikie, in Forfar, 2d November 1470. — Glammis Charters.

Laing’s Catal., No. 758

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**Strachan, Thomas of Carmyllie (1547)**

Scottish Heraldic Seals by Stevenson J.H. and Wood M.. III, 623
Includes a seal from Thomas Strachan of Carmyllie dated 1547:
Blazon: On a chief three cinquefoils
**John Strachan, Builder of Claypotts Castle**

The arms shown here are prominently displayed at Claypotts Castle.

If you’ll note these arms are remarkably similar to those shown previously for Thomas Strachan of Carmyllie, but note with a differed “J” and an “S” flanking the shield.

An 1861 publication, authored by Andrew Jervise, FSA Scot states the Strachan of Claypotts were descendant from the Strachans of Carmyllie. ³

The genealogy of the Carmyllie line proves that Thomas Strachan of Carmyllie was succeeded by son David, and also had another son John. It is thought this John Strachan (younger of Carmyllie) later became “of Claypotts” and so became the Builder of Claypotts Castle which is one of the few Strachan Castles still in existence today.

Claypotts Castle is located just outside Dundee, and was originally built by John Strachan around 1569-1588 according to dates inscribed on stones that make up the parts of the castle.

The Castle was sold in 1601 by the Strachans to Sir William Graham of Ballunie.

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³ Jervise, Andrew. *Memorials of Angus and the Mearns*. Pg. 18* (1877)
Strathauchen, James al. STRACHAN (1566)

Strachan, James, Canon of the Chapter of Aberdeen.

A shield of arms: A chief bearing three cinquefoils; foliage at the top and sides of the shield.

“S’ M. JACOBI STRATYAUTHY.”—Appended to an Instrument concerning the parsonage of Menmuir, A.D. 1566.—Crawford and Balearras Charters.

Sulph. cast from a good impression. 1 3/8 in. [xlvi. 148]

Laing’s Suppl. Catal., No 926

James Strachan, Canon of Aberdeen (d. 1576) was the second son of John Strachan, builder of Claypotts. These arms are prominently displayed at Claypotts Castle.
Strachan, Gilbert, of Brigton, Scotland, 16th century (Rolls 1562, 1588)


These Arms are believed to be those of Gilbert Strachan of Brigton, Canon of Aberdeen. Gilbert was the son of John Strachan of Claypotts who are said to be a cadet branch of the Strachans of Carmyllie.

Gilbert Strachan’s career is well documented: he was vicar of Stratkmiglo in 1498 and of Fettercairn in 1527; a canon of the Cathedrals of Brechin, Aberdeen and Moray, and rector of Aberdeen University. He was involved in a number of disputes concerning his preferments, and was attempting in 1530 to compel a debtor to appear before the Pope in Rome...

"quilk is ane noveltie and nevir sic thingis was usit of before within this realme... and in utir heirschip and distructiuone of the pur leigis."

He was dead by 1538. His memory is preserved in the fragmentary remains of the chapel he founded on the south side of St Devenic's Church, Creich.

Gilbert was the grandson of John, Builder of Claypotts Castle. The arms shown immediately below are prominently displayed at Claypotts Castle.
Strachin, Roeger, al. Strachan. (1573)
Sulph cast from a fairly good impression, injured in places. 1 3/8 in. [xlvii. 2168]

A shield of arms: a stag lodged, for STRACHAN on foliage.

Laing’s MS. Catal., No 142
**Stratchin, of Thornton (1562, 1580 & 1588)**

Blazon: Azure a stag trippant Or

Note the various spellings, and evolvement of the pronunciation

![Slains Roll circa 1562](image1)

![Hague Roll circa 1588](image2)

![Crawford Secundus Image circa Abt. 1580](image3)
Strachan of Monboddo (1562 & 1588)

Blazon: Azure, a stag trippant Or, between antlers a cinquefoil Argent.

Slains Roll circa 1562

Hague Roll circa 1588
Strachan of Dillievarde (1588)

Dillievarde is located in the barony of Glenbervie.

Blazon: Azure, a stag head Or; centered between his antlers a Star of Five points

Hague Roll circa 1588
**Strachan, Alexander, of Thornton, 1st Baronet of Nova Scotia (1596)**

Alexander Strauchan, of Thornton, co. Forfar. (1596)

Sulph. cast from a fairly good impression.  
1 ¾ in. [xlvi. 2278.]

A shield of arms: a stag trippant, STRACHAN. On foliage.

Ref. Laings’s MS. Catal., No 141

Crest – Armoured arm and hand bendways sinister holding a St. Andrews flag. Motto – Constant et Fidel.

These arms are displayed on the Round Tower of Thornton Castle, and this achievement was added to the oldest part of the castle. According to the book Bonnet Lairds by Colin Thornton-Kemsley, it was placed there by its first baronet laird, Sir Alexander Strachan of Thornton.

The motto is the old Norman French "Constant et Fidel" meaning Constant and Faithful. These were shining virtues in days when all too often friendships were fickle and loyalties changed. A man who possessed these could be forgiven much.
**Strauchoun, Alexander (1604)**

A shield of Arms: A stag trippant.


Laing’s Catal., No. 759

Likely Sir Alexander Strachan of Thornton. Dun is located very near Thornton, and there is history that ties the Strachan of Thornton to Dun.

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Strachan, David, Bishop of Brechin (1662-1671)\(^6\)
Sulph cast from the original brass matrix. 1 7/8 x 9/16 in. [xlvi. 179.]

Oval: within a pinnacled canopy, with buttresses at the sides, a bishop seated with hands uplifted in benediction. In base, a shield of arms: a stag couchant; between the initials D\(^B\)B, for David, Bishop of Brechin surround the shield.

Very rude style.


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**Strachan, John, Bailzie of Leven, County Fife (1672)**

John Strachan was awarded Scottish Arms by the Court of the Lord Lyon in August 1673; and is the first STRACHAN to have registered Arms in Scotland.

These Arms are also provided in "The General Armory of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland":

![Armorial bearings of Strachan, John, Bailzie of Leven (1672)](image)
**Strachan, Sir Alexander, Knight, Laird of Glenkindie (1675)**

The blazon reads:

"Azure, a stag trippant Or, attired and ungulled Gules. Crest a stag standing at gaze as in the arms. Motto — "Non Timeo Sed Caveo".  

Note the stag on the Shield is trippant, while the stag in the Crest is at gaze. A beautiful example of each.

From the Lyon Register in 1675:

![Lyon Register 1675](image)

From The General Armory:

![General Armory](image)

On the east wing facade of Glenkindie House

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Strachan, Sir James of Inchtuthill and Thornton, Baronet of Nova Scotia [Arms are PRESUMED]

The arms shown here are presumed for Sir James Strachan of Thornton, Bart. These Arms are absent in Burke’s General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland & Wales (1996), and were not registered at the Court of the Lord Lyon per Scotlandspeople.gov.uk, nor elsewhere. Other than an unnamed clan map sold in various bucket shops, the author cannot, at the present time, find any creditable documents (rolls, grants, charters, etc.) that tie these Arms to Sir James Strachan of Inchtuthill, later of Thornton.

Registration of arms at the Court of the Lord Lyon was required in Scotland by Act of Parliament after 1672, which is over 11 years before Sir James sold the Thornton Baronetcy, Estate, and Castle.

As you will see in the following pages, the Arms shown here are identical (excluding supporters) to those granted his grandson, from his second son, Sir John Strachan, Baronet of Nova Scotia in 1740.

Sir James was a distant relative of Sir Alexander Strachan (1st Baronet). He succeeded in 1659 to the Baronetcy of Thornton. In 1683, approximately 20 years later he sold Thornton to his wife’s father, Robert Forbes for 13,934 14s 8d. Many presume the reason for the sale of Thornton was due to the fact it was hopelessly encumbered and financially insolvent. Other historians believe he sold the estate rather than risk losing both the lands and Baronetcy to another heir with a superior claim. It is the author’s opinion there is truth in both theories.

As the Estate and Castle of Thornton were no longer owned by the Strachans, future descendants of this line are no longer recognised with the Territorial Designation “of Thornton.”

When the term “baronet of Thornton” is used, it simply implies the Baronetcy of Nova Scotia held by “of Thornton”… generally the 1st Baronet Sir Alexander Strachan of Thornton.
Sir John Strachan, Baronet of Nova Scotia (1685)

Burke’s “The General Armory of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland” does have the following blazon describe as follows: ⁹

These Arms are not registered at the Court of the Lord Lyon, and are thought to be English Arms.

Here are the Arms of Sir John Strachan. According to Anthony Maxwell, heraldic artist, these Arms were not registered at the Court of the Lord Lyon in Edinburgh, and are believed to be English Arms registered at the College of Arms in London.

As it pertains to supporters, the above blazon references the date of 1766. The supporters thus described above were not granted to this Sir John Strachan, Bt. Instead, the supporters were granted to his cousin and eventual successor some 80 years later, Sir John Strachan, Bt.

This Sir John’s father was Sir James Strachan of inchtuthill, and later of Thornton. Sir James’ first son (also named James) died during the Jacobite uprising in 1689 at the Battle of Killiecrankie, “James Strachan fell by the side of his leader “Bonnie Dundee” at the battle of Killiecrankie. He led the clan at the Battle of Killiecrankie on the side of John Graham, 1st Viscount of Dundee where he was killed.”

This left his second son, John, to become heir to Baronetcy upon his father’s death.

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Strachan of Tarrie, Alexander - Merchant in Montrose. County Forfar, (1739)

From “The General Armory of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland”:

The following transcript is from the Lyon Register:

The motto is loosely translated as “Helps God’s Activities”

Alexander Strachan of Tarrie, Provost (1716–1717)
By Unknown Artist
Collection: Angus Council

Lady Elizabeth Strachan of Tarrie
By Godfrey Kneller
Collection: Angus Council
Sir John Strachan, Baronet of Nova Scotia (1740)
The prior Sir John Strachan, Baronet of Nova Scotia (awarded English Arms in 1685 above) was succeeded by his son, William, who died without heir. William was succeeded by his brother, Francis who was a Jesuit Priest in Paris. Upon his death, he was succeeded by his cousin John.

Sir John Strachan was the first of the House of Thornton to be granted Scottish Arms, and obtained Letters Patent by the Court of the Lord Lyon 1740. Per the Lyon Register:

[Image of Sir John Strachan's Arms]

If you will note, Sir John’s above blazon is absent a red bordure as provided in 1685 grant of English Arms to his ancestor, Sir John Strachan, Bt. Again, easily explainable given the two different heraldic registers. Scottish Heraldic authorities (aka the Court of the Lord Lyon) do not follow English conventions (aka the College of Arms); and visa versa.

As a Baronet is NOT part of the Peerage of Scotland, this title alone would not entitle the Petitioner to hereditary supporters.

Nonetheless, the blazon above grants Sir John Supporters perhaps evidencing Chiefship of Clan Strachan, or perhaps simply that his line was formerly entitled to a chapeau Azure, or to supporters as representatives of baronial houses who had a seat in Parliament until 1587. Above is the image of the Sir John’s Arms without supporters.

It appears less than 11-16 years after Sir John Strachan (previous page) who was descendant of Inchtuthill cadet line that was recognised by the Lord Lyon as the Baronet of Nova Scotia and also awarded Supporters (1740-1755); that a senior male primogeniture successor of Sir Alexander Strachan of Thornton the 1st Baronet, reclaimed the Baronetcy from the Inchtuthill line in 1756.


![Blazon of Arms Image]

The Blazon of Arms is also provided in the Lyon Register.

![Lyon Register Image]

The blazon is very similar to the traditional Arms of Strachan of Thornton dating back to the 1500’s, as described in the book Bonnet Lairds, pp.70.

“\textit{In the sixteenth century the STRACHAN blazon of arms was thus described: ‘Azure a Stag tripping Or with a crest a dexter arm issuing out of a Wreath grasping a Scymiter both proper.’} \textit{The motto was ‘Forward’ and the Supporters “Two Forresters proper cloathed Vert having Caps on their heads.”}

The lineage of Sir William Strachan, Bt. is confirmed in the following letter from the Court of the Lord Lyon in 1993.

A special thank you to Garry Strachan (certified Genealogist) for providing a copy of the following letter. According to Garry Strachan, “Sir William died in 1781. He married Miss Popham of Tewkesbury Lodge, heiress, in 1753 but I am not aware of any children.”
Dear Mr. Strachan,

I have your letter of 12th July 1993.

I have made a search in the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland and find that Arms are recorded therein in 1756 in name of Sir William Strachan, Councillor of Law in London, eldest son of William Strachan, Doctor of Law, who was eldest son of Doctor Strachan, Professor of Divinity in Edinburgh, eldest son of William Strachan, Minister of Old Aberdeen, who was eldest son of John (the Register is indistinct) Strachan, son and heir of Sir Alexander Strachan of Thorntown, who was knighted 28th May 1625. The Arms are blazoned as follows:

**Shield:** Azure, a stag tripping Or, attired and unguled Gules.

**Crest:** A fleshy arm and hand holding a scimitar brandished Proper.

**Motto:** "FORWARD".

**Supporters:** Two foresters clothed Vert with capes Sable and a belt round their waists with staves in their hands Proper.

I do hope that this information is of use to you, and I would be grateful if you could let me have a cheque for £5.50 made payable to 'Lyon Clerk for H.M. Exchequer' to cover the search fee.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

G. Strachan, Esq.
Northants, NN11 3NY.
Strahan (date unknown)

The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland & Wales describes the following undated entry:

The blazon: Azure a buck passant Or. Crest – A dexter arm embowed brandishing a scimitar proper, hilt and pommel Or.

The surname spelling of STRAHAN (absent the ‘c’) is not present in the Lyon Register, Volume 1. Subsequently, these undated Arms are believed to be either Irish or perhaps English Arms. Given the spelling of the surname, it is most likely these Arms were registered in Ireland. The blazon is very similar to the traditional Arms of Strachan of Thornton dating back to the 1500’s, as described in the book Bonnet Lairds, pp.70.

“In the sixteenth century the STRACHAN blazon of arms was thus described: ‘Azure a Stag tripping Or with a crest a dexter arm issuing out of a Wreath grasping a Scymiter both proper.’ The motto was ‘Forward’ and the Supporters “Two Forresters proper cloathed Vert having Caps on their heads.”

Whoever developed this STRAHAN blazon was extremely familiar with auld STRACHAN heraldry. Alternatively, it “could” perhaps be that a cadet line of Thornton may have migrated to Ireland… that is, if these are in fact Irish Arms? Further research is required in this area.
Strachan, Sir John, Baronet, Captain of the Royal Navy (1765)

In 1765, by the death of his uncle - Sir John Strachan who had awarded Scottish Arms (1740-1755), this John Strachan succeeded to the baronetcy of Nova Scotia, and became Chief of Clan Strachan. Or, so he thought?

As the prior Sir John died without a direct male heir (e.g., a son), a mark of cadency (a red bordure on the shield) was added by the Lord Lyon in order to reflect this Sir John was a cadet line and the heraldic heir of his predecessor.

Sir John apparently realized at this time his family had lost the Baronetcy of Nova Scotia to Sir William Strachan (1756), and he apparently set forth to reclaim the title.

The following year a second entry is provided in the Lyon Register (dtd. 24-Apr-1766). Although the first grant in 1765 he is called “Sir John” he was not recognized as holding the baronetcy, nor was he granted supporters.

This second entry the following year in 1766 recognises Captain Sir John as the Baronet of Nova Scotia, thus reclaiming the title for his heirs-male and the Inchtuthill line. Further, Supporters were awarded and thus it is confirmed that Captain Sir John Strachan was recognised as heir and Representor of Thornton some 20 years AFTER Sir William in London had reclaimed the title of Baronet.

The grant made in 1766 is shown on the following page.
Sir John married Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Lovelace of Battersea, but had no male heir. The baronetcy passed again to a nephew, Sir Richard John Strachan [q.v.], future Admiral of the Royal Navy.

As you can tell, the genealogy of Sir John is not given in the Lyon Register.

According to Charles Burnett, “Supporters may have been granted [1766] because Sir John [House of Thornton] may have been a member of the Scottish Parliament prior to 1657, or as chief of the name of Strachan, if he claimed to be the principal representative. However, he was a Lowlander [residing in England] at the time, and would never have claimed to be head of a Scottish Clan!”
Admiral Sir Richard John Strachan, Baronet of Nova Scotia [FALSE ACCOUNT OF ARMS]

As it pertains to Arms of Sir Richard, the first edition of the book, “Memorials of the Scottish Families of Strachan and Wise” claims this rendition are the armorial bearings of Admiral Sir Richard John Strachan, Bart.

To be sure, there are no records of arms ever being matriculated or granted to Sir Richard in England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales. Nor, is there any evidence to suggest Sir Richard used these Arms, or any Arms for that matter.

If further confirmation were needed one can simply confirm this with the Arms themselves; which are absent any additional marks of cadency which is normal heraldic practice when not inherited by a direct male primogeniture heir.

In this case, Sir Richard as a nephew (and NOT elder son) would have normally been awarded a cadet matriculation of the same arms, but instead of a red bordure around the shield, the bordure would have been Azure (or blue) in order to signify his cadency according to Scottish heraldic tradition. The 2nd Edition of, “Memorials of the Scottish Families of Strachan and Wise” omits these Arms, apparently in an attempt to correct its prior erroneous presumptions.

As it pertains to the Baronetcy title, there is no doubt Admiral Sir Richard John Strachan used this title, as is seen in, “Papers Presented to the House of Commons, Relating to the State and Condition of the Squadron Employed off Rochefort, under the Command of Rear Admiral Sir Richard J. Strachan, Bart.” This document is dated 15 March 1808, when Sir Richard was the age of 47 years.
Strachan, Bishop John of Toronto (April 12, 1778 – November 1, 1867) [UNREGISTERED]

Born in Aberdeen, Scotland, Bishop Strachan is perhaps one of the most famous of all Strachans. He was an influential figure in Upper Canada and the first Anglican Bishop of Toronto. He is best known as a political bishop who held many government positions and promoted education from common schools to helping to found the University of Toronto. He was a distinguished cleric, educator, politician, and member of the Legislative Council of Upper Canada. He promoted education in common schools and founded both the University of King’s College and the University of Trinity College. Bishop Strachan also gave important educational advice to industrialist James McGill who founded McGill University in Montreal. He was connected to that family through his marriage to Andrew McGill’s (brother of James) widow in 1807.

Contrary to one myth, at no time did Bishop John Strachan use the Glenkindie Arms during his lifetime. According to David Butler, author of “Bishop John Strachan and Heraldry in the University of Trinity College, Toronto”, “He assumed Arms as first Anglican Bishop of Toronto, and were properly impaled with those of the Diocese of Toronto all within a bordure Or. Here the bordure is used as a charge not as a mark of cadence as in Scottish heraldry.” Bishop Strachan’s Arms were not registered nor were those of the second (Bethune), third (Sweatman) and fourth (Sweeny) successive Anglican Bishops of Toronto during the period between 1839-1940. Dr. Butler states that the use of unregistered Arms was a common practice in early Canada. A Canadian Heraldic Authority was not established until 1988.

John Strachan’s impaled Arms as Bishop of Toronto (upper) is represented in a painted wood carving above the entrance to Seeley Hall, University of Trinity College, and his assumed personal Arms (right) is carved in stone above the entrance to Strachan Hall. These images printed with the permission of Dr. Butler.

For those interested in reading more of Bishop Strachan, we recommend Dr. Butler’s book, available at the University of Toronto bookstore. Also, the “Memoir of the Right Reverend John Strachan, First Bishop of Toronto” is available for purchase on the Clan Strachan Bookstore.10

Strachan, Michael Francis, CBE, FRSE (1964)

Partia per pale Or and Azure, a stag trippant counterchanged, attired Gules, in dexter chief a pheon Vert; within a boracite indentes of the Third. Above the shield is placed a helm befitting his degree, with a Mantling Azure doubled Or, and on a Wreath of the Liveries is set for Crest a demi-stag per pale Azure and Or, attired Gules, holding in its fore-feet a pheon Vert, and in an Escrol over the save this Motto - RESPICE FINEM.

Michael Francis Strachan CBE, FRSE filed a petition and was awarded a new Grant of Arms (c. 1964) after doing some research on his own family origins as part of his election to the Royal Company of Archers (the Queen's Bodyguard of Scotland). Upon his death, his eldest son, Hew inherited his father's Arms.

Professor Sir Hew Francis Anthony Strachan was born and brought up in Edinburgh, and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh 2003 and awarded an Hon. D.Univ., (Paisley) 2005. He is also Life Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, where he was successively Research Fellow, Admissions Tutor and Senior Tutor, 1975-92. From 1992 to 2001 he was Professor of Modern History at the University of Glasgow, and from 1996 to 2001 Director of the Scottish Centre for War Studies. Currently, Professor Strachan is Chichele Professor of the History of War at All Souls, Oxford University.

Sir Hew is a renowned military historian and author. His books include: European Armies and the Conduct of War (1983), Wellington’s Legacy: the Reform of the British Army 1830-54 (1984), From Waterloo to Balaclava: Tactics, Technology and the British Army 1815-1854 (1985); (awarded the Templer Medal), The Politics of the British Army (1997); (awarded the Westminster Medal), the first volume of his three-volume, The First World War (To Arms), (2001); (awarded two American military history prizes and nominated for the Glenfiddich Scottish book of the year), and The First World War: A New Illustrated History (2003).

Hew’s ancestors in the 18th century were tenant farmers from Nigg, and his cousins were still farming at Mains of Charleston outside Aberdeen in the 1970s.

On New Year's Day 2013, Hew was conferred the honour of Knighthood by the Queen (Knights Bachelor) for service to the Ministry of Defense.

Sir Hew and Pamela, Lady Strachan, reside in Scotland at Glenhighton Farm (2200 acres).
Letters Patent of Michael Francis Strachan, father to

Sir Hew Strachan, Laird of Glenhighton

Bill acquired personal armorial bearings from Her Majesty’s Lord Lyon King of Arms on April 21, 2009; and is an armiger of Clan Strachan. He served with distinction in the Royal Australian Navy, and was a Justice of the Peace.

Azure, a hart trippant Or attired and unguled Gules, on a chief Or a Waratah Proper. Above the shield is placed on Helm befitting his degree with a Mantling Azure doubled Or, and on a Wreath of the Liveries is for a Crest a ship under sail proper and in an Escrol over the same this Motto "NON TIMEO SED CAVEO".

The Waratah is a bush specific to New South Wales, Australia, where Bill and his wife Robyn reside.
Strachan, John, Greenock, Co. Renfrew (2009)

Azure, a hart trippant in chief two cogwheels Or in base two barrulets wavy Argent. Above the shield is placed an Helm befitting his degree within a Mantling Azure doubled Or.

The original Grantee was John Strachan (b. 1900 in Greenock), whose Arms are shown here on the right. During World War I, John enlisted in the Royal Navy at the age of 16 and served as a Signal Boy. He was present at the Battle of Jutland.

After the war the economy in Greenock was shattered, and he subsequently migrated to Canada to meet up with his brothers, William and George, who had already found work. The family would eventually migrate to Buffalo, New York where John found work as an aeronautics engineer. He and the family moved to San Diego, California as a result of a plant relocation during the Great Depression. In 1996, John passed away.

The Arms were subsequently inherited by his only son, John James (Jim) Rorke Strachan, who is a retired mechanical and aeronautical engineer. Jim, and his wife Gerry, have three sons (John, James and William) and a daughter (Beth Marie). Jim and Gerry presently reside in Coronado, California. This photograph was taken at their wedding in 1963.

Strachan, James Andrew, MBA, FSA Scot: California (2009)

Jim’s Arms were matriculated from his grandfather.

Azure, a hart trippant in chief two cogwheels Or in base two barrulets wavy Argent, a border of the second. Above the shield is placed an Helm befitting his degree within a Mantling Azure doubled Or, and a wreath of the Liveries is set for Crest a stag trippant Or charged on its flank with a bolt of lightening Gules, and in an Escrol over the same this Motto “Non Time Sed Cave”.

Jim has his degree in Finance from Cal-State Fullerton, and a Masters in Business Administration from University of Redlands. He attended Cambridge University as part of a post-graduate study abroad program, and
is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. Jim has authored several publications pertaining to the history of Clan Strachan.

In 1998, Jim founded a technology company in Southern California and that manufactures computer networking equipment, audible warning devices, and does electrical engineering.

He is a Co-Founder of the Clan Strachan Society (2005), and during his tenure he has served as President, Vice President, and Treasurer. Jim is also a Trustee of the Clan Strachan Charitable Trust headquartered in Scotland, and is the Representor of Clan Strachan on the Council of Scottish Armigerous Clans and Families (2010-2014).

Jim is married to wife Margaret. They have three daughters (Alesia, Lindsay and Ainsley), and a granddaughter (Evangeline). They currently reside in Temecula, CA.
TO ALL AND SUNDY WHOM THESE PRESENTS DO OR MAY CONCERN

JAMES ANDREW STRACHAN

Born at the Home of James Strachan, Strachan House, 10 Church St., Edinburgh, Scotland, on May 15, 1890. Married to Jean Strachan on June 6, 1910. Issue: two sons and one daughter. Died at the age of 78 on November 20, 1968.

JOHN STRACHAN

Born at the Home of John Strachan, Strachan House, 10 Church St., Edinburgh, Scotland, on May 15, 1890. Married to Jean Strachan on June 6, 1910. Issue: two sons and one daughter. Died at the age of 78 on November 20, 1968.

The Armorial Bearings of
John James Rorke Strachan

The Armorial Bearings of
James Andrew Strachan

[Signature]

[Stamp]
Clan Strachan Scottish Heritage Society (2012)

Azure, a hart trippant Or attired and ungulled Gules in chief three annulets conjoined in fess Or. Crest issuant from a celestial crown Purpure a demi-hart rampant Or attired and unguled Gules charged with a saltire Argent and in its mouth a California Poppy Proper.

The Society acquired corporate armorial bearings from Her Majesty's Lord Lyon King of Arms dated 28 September, 2012.

The Society is therefore recognised as an Armigerous Society, a noblesse persona in accordance with Scots Heraldic Law, and according to Innes of Learney (Lord Lyon King of Arms) responsible to act as the economic business arm of the clan, subordinate in precedence to the Chief of the Name, Commander and branch-chiefs (chieftains).

On the shield, the stag is the base additament for Clan Strachan, the three conjoined rings of equal size representing the three basic elements a modern Scottish clan (the clan, the society and chief) with no one dominating the other. On the crest, purple celestial crown represents the Royal Deeside and Grampian Highlands were the Name originates, and five stars on the crown represent clan unity. Demi-stag rampant represents Society's commitment to fight for the clan, argent (white) saltire represents Scotland at its central point, with a California Poppy proper the state flower in which both Co-Founders of the Society reside, and where the Society is currently headquartered.

The Co-Founders and historical Convenors of the Clan Strachan Society to date include:

- Dennis Strawhun, and
- James Andrew Strachan, MBA, FSA Scot. (Armiger)

Letters Patent for the Clan Strachan Scottish Heritage Society, Inc.

Per cheveron Or and Azure, in chief two towers Azure port and windows Or and in base a stag trippant Or attired and unguled Gules. Above the Shield is placed an Helm befitting the holder of the dignity of baron aforesaid with Mantling Azure doubled Or, and on a Wreath of the Liveries is set for Crest a mouse sejant Or holding in its mouth a thistle Proper and in an Escrol over the same this Motto “AYE HAUD GAUN”

Motto is in the Doric language or Northeast Scotland dialect. Meaning: ALWAYS KEEP GOING

Roddy acquired personal armorial bearings from Her Majesty's Lord Lyon King of Arms in May, 2013; and is an armiger of Clan Strachan. Roddy is currently a member of the Clan Strachan Society, and is a Trustee of the Clan Strachan Charitable Trust.

Roddy and Fiona are the owners of Benholm Castle, a Feudal Barony, which sits on 14 beautiful acres. Roddy has painstakingly restored the mansion that sits adjacent to the Benholm Tower. An article was written on Benholm in the Scottish Banner.

Roddy and his wife, Fiona, have three daughters, and currently reside at Benholm Castle, Scotland.
Letters Patent of Roderick George Strachan of Benholm
Strahan, T. Martin, MBBS, DrPH., Bundaberg, QLD Australia (2013)

Azure, a stag trippant Or attired Argent, in sinister chief the constellation of the Southern Cross Argent. Above the Shield is placed an Helm befitting his degree with a Mantling Azure doubled Or, and on a wreath of the Liveries is set for Crest a stag’s head erased Or, and in an Escrol over the same this Motto “NON TIMEO SED CAVEO”.

Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MB BS QLD) [1979], Doctor of Public Health (DrPH Loma Linda) [1989]. Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians specializing in Internal Medicine; Fellow of the American College of Preventative Medicine specializing in Public Health and General Preventative Medicine; and Fellow of the Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine specializing in Public Health Medicine.

Dr. Strahan has a very impressive and comprehensive list of appointments, publications, teaching, and research experience. He is a very well-known physician in Australia, and a leader in his profession.

He and his wife Jeanne reside at “Strathovon” in Bundaberg, which is approximately 600 acres; and have three sons.

A proud member of the Clan Strachan Society, Dr. Strahan is also a Trustee of the Clan Strachan Charitable Trust in Scotland.
Strachan, James Andrew (Drew), Elgin, co. Moray (2013)

Azure, a hart trippant Or on as chief Argent a cannon between two hand grenades enflamed Proper. Above the Shield is placed an Helm befitting his degree with a Mantling Azure doubled Or, and on a wreath of the Liveries is set for Crest, Saint Giles habited in his robes Azure and mitred holding in his dexter hand a pastoral staff Or, and in his sinister hand atop the head of a baby deer Or. In an Escrol over the same this Motto “SIC ITUR AD ASTRA”.

Born 23rd April 1945 at Leancoil Hospital, Forres, Moray. Father, James Archibald Strachan born 1903, Grandfather James Riddle Strachan – both master butchers, Great Grandfather, Archibald Strachan – gardener in the Banchory area. Moved to Elgin late 19th century or early 20th Century.


Joined Marconi Command and Control Systems in November 1985 – worked on BATES Artillery System in various Training and Testing roles. Joined EDS (Electronic Data Systems) in 1998 and worked on various projects. My final position before retiring was Training Coordinator for DII (Defence Information Infrastructure) - responsible for coordinating training throughout Scotland.

Married present wife Pam (A Kentish lass) in 1988, and in 2006 they moved to Elgin, Scotland where a year later in 2007 Drew retired.

Hobbies and interests: Golf, 94 Locating Regiment Royal Artillery, Fund Raising for Help for Heroes, Sultan’s (Oman) Armed Forces Association, Rabbie Burns, Local and Family History.

Drew is a Member of the Society in Good Standing.
Letters Patent of James Andrew (Drew) Strachan, resides in Elgin
**Strachan, Charles Robert Lund, co. Aberdeenshire (2014/15)**

**Blazon PENDING:**

Rob has a petition for Arms pending at the Court of the Lord Lyon since March 2014.

Rob is very well travelled. Born 1960 in Munster W. Germany (BAOR) the family lived in six countries in the Middle East, interspersed with six years in Canada as his father Ben served as British Ambassador and diplomat.


Rob presently resides at the Mill of Strachan, Strachan in Aberdeenshire. The property is current owned by his parents, Ben and Lize Strachan; and Rob is the heir apparent. Rob has two sons and two daughters.

Rob is a member of the Clan Strachan Society, a Trustee of the Clan Strachan Charitable Trust, and in 2013 he was nominated during an informal meeting of the Clan Strachan Family Convention to be put forth as the Clan Strachan Commander. After serving for Commander for 10 years, it is hoped that Rob will be recognised by the Lord Lyon King of Arms as Chief of Clan Strachan.
Appendix A - Slains Roll 1562
Prior to 1672, there was no Court of the Lord Lyon, and no government control over heraldy. Prior to this time, heralds themselves would take a roll of various Armigers. This is one of those Rolls.
Appendix B - Hagues Roll 1588
Prior to 1672, there was no Court of the Lord Lyon, and no government control over heraldry. Prior to this time, heralds themselves would take a roll of various Armigers. This is one of those Rolls.
Appendix C – Lyon Register

STRACHAN, JOHN, Bailzie of Leven

STRACHAN, JOHN, Esquire, who now designs himself Sir JOHN STRACHAN [Baronet of Nova Scotia]

STRACHAN, Sir JOHN, Captain of the Royal Navy

STRACHAN, Sir JOHN, Baronet, Captain of the Royal Navy

STRACHAN OF TARRIE, ALEXANDER, Merchant in Montrose

STRACHAN, Sir WILLIAM, Councilor of Law in London [Baronet of Nova Scotia]

STRACHANE OF GLENKINDIE, ALEXANDER
Appendix D - Crawford Secundus Image Abt. 1580
Alexander Strachan of Thornton  Aberdeen
Folio 99  LCA64
Alexander Strachan or Strathauchin, to give the full spelling, of Thornton was born about 1545, the son of John by his wife (conjoint charter 31 March 1543) Margaret daughter of Alexander Livingstone of Dunipace. He seems to have acquired more lands, from the church, and also held of the Earl of Huntly. He married Isobel daughter of William Keith, 4th Earl Marischal (Test 2 Aug 1597). His son Robert pre-deceased him, having had by his wife (MC 4&5 April 1586) Sara daughter of William Douglas of Glenbervie, later Earl of Angus, two sons Alexander and Thomas. Robert had at least two brothers, John of Phasdo who was tutor to his nephew Alexander, and George, presumably the George Strachan who was Tapisier to the King 1582–1603, also one sister Margaret, who married (conjoint grant 19 March 1594) William Turing of Foveran. Robert's son Alexander was served heir to his grandfather 30 September 1606. Alexander was married twice, firstly (MC 19 January 1605) to Margaret daughter of John Lindsay Lord Menmuir, 2nd son of David 9th Earl of Crawford (qv sub Lindsay of Edzell) and secondly before 20 January 1624 to Margaret widow of George Keith, 5th Earl Marischal and daughter of James 5th Lord Ogilvie of Airlie. He was knighted between 1616 and 1618. In 1625 he was created a Baronet of Nova Scotia, with precedence of all baronets save Sir Robert Gordon of Gordonston. He was a member of the Board of the Exchequer of Scotland and was appointed to the first of a number of Royal Commissions in 1626. He had a remission with other family members for removing to the house of James Keith of Benholme, his stepson, eldest son by the second marriage of George 4th Earl Marischal, "cistas, scripta, gemmas, aurum, argentums et alia" (chests, charters, jewels, gold, silver and other things) which belonged to the Earl Marischal. The remission is to all involved in the fracas, irrespective of which part they took. He fell foul of the Commonwealth administration and was alive still in 1657, when Thomas Allardice seems to have acquired the bulk of, if not all, his lands. His testament was proved 24 January 1662 (Edin); there is also a testament proved 14 October 1656 (St Andrews) for Euphame Straquhan, Lady Thornton, probably a third wife. He had, necessarily by Margaret Lindsay, a single son Alexander, who married (conjoint confirmation of grant from Sir Alexander 1 August 1635) Elizabeth Douglas. On the expiry of this line the baronetcy was adopted by a fairly distant cousin, who is called Sir James Strachan of Thornton in 1663.

Sources: RMS ii–xi, comp to Scots Peerage sub Balcarres, Marischal & Airlie, Tests & Retours.