

Clan BUCHAN



ARMS	Argent, three lion's heads erased Sable langued Gules
CREST	(upon a chapeau Gules furred Ermine) a sun shining upon a sunflower full blown Proper
MOTTO	Non inferiora secutus (Not having followed mean pursuits)
SUPPORTERS	(on a compartment embellished with sunflowers Proper). Dexter, a heron with an eel in its bill all Proper; sinister, an antelope Argent attired Or, collared Sable, the collar charged with three sunflowers Proper
STANDARD	The Arms of Buchan of Auchmacoy in the hoist and of two tracts Argent and Sable, upon which is depicted the Badge three times along with the Motto 'Non inferiora secutus' in letters Argent upon two transverse bands Gules
PINSEL	Argent, a sun shining upon a sunflower full blown Or upon a Wreath Argent and Sable surrounded by a strap Sable, buckled and embellished Or, inscribed with the Motto 'Non inferiora secutus' in letters Or, all within a circllet also Or, fimbriated Vert, bearing the name and style 'Buchan of Auchmacoy' in letters Sable, the same ensigned of a chapeau Gules furred Ermine, and in the fly on an Escrol Sable surrounding a sunflower Proper, this Slogan 'Auchmacoy' in letters Argent
BADGE	An eagle displayed Azure, on its head a chapeau Gules doubled Ermine, armed beaked and membered Or, holding in its claws, an escutcheon of the Arms of Buchan of Auchmacoy, and in each claw a sunflower slipped and leaved Proper.
PLANT BADGE	Sunflower

A name derived from the district of Buchan which comprises the north-eastern part of Banffshire. The ancient manorship, or earldom, of Buchan came into the hands of the Comyns, who were later deprived of it after their defeat at the hands of Robert the Bruce. Buchan was thereafter conferred on Alexander Stewart, the feared Wolf of Badenoch, natural son of Robert II. The geographic name would, however, have been used by notable inhabitants of the district, even though they may have had no provable connection with the great earls.

Black lists Richardus de Buchan as clerk to the bishopric of Aberdeen around 1207. William de Buchan held land in Aberdeen before 1281. Sir Thomas de Boghan appears on the Ragman Roll rendering homage to Edward I of England in 1296. His lands were around Edinburgh, and his seal bears an eight-rayed figure which may be the derivation of the shining sun which forms part of the chief's crest.

It cannot be accurately ascertained when the Buchans' gained the lands of Auchmacoy, but Andrew Buchan of Auchmacoy was one of the assize appointed to settle the boundaries of the lands of St Peter's Hospital in 1446. Auchmacoy seemed to have been in the family's hands from the beginning of the fourteenth century, but it was in 1503 that Andrew, generally reckoned to be the second chief, received a charter to the lands from James IV.

The Barons of Auchmacoy were staunch royalists and firm supporters of the Stuarts throughout the seventeenth century. Thomas, the third son of James Buchan of Auchmacoy, was a professional soldier who learned his trade in the wars in France and Holland. He served in Douglas's Scots Regiment, raised for the King of France, until 1686, when he was commissioned colonel in the Earl of Mar's regiment by James VII. Loyal to his commission he joined Viscount Dundee to fight for his deposed monarch. After Dundee's death at Killiecrankie in 1689, Buchan was appointed commander-in-chief of all Jacobite forces in Scotland, receiving his commission from the king in Ireland. He returned to Scotland in April 1690 where he met at Keppoch with chiefs sympathetic to the Jacobite cause. It was resolved to delay the general muster of the clans until the summer, but General Buchan was to pester the enemy with his force of twelve hundred foot. On 1 May 1690 at Cromdale, Buchan was taken by surprise by a strong government force under general Mackay. Buchan escaped, regrouped his men, and joined forces with the Farquharsons. The Highland reinforcements encouraged Buchan to take the offensive again. He marched from Abergeldie through the Mearns towards Aberdeen but he was soon opposed by the Master of Forges and a strong

force of Cavalry. Buchan cleverly disposed his troops to give an appearance of numerical superiority and his ruse was successful. Forbes retreated towards Aberdeen, causing panic in the city. Buchan, however, had no intention of attacking the city and turned towards Inverness. General Mackay's forces however, marched to intercept him and Buchan's Highlanders drifted away into their home glens. Buchan was allowed to go into exile in France, but he fought again at the Battle of Sheriffmuir in 1715 and was still in communications with the exiled royal family when he died in 1721.

James Buchan, fourteenth of Auchmacoy was recognized by the Lord Lyon as chief of the name in April 1830. The title then passed through to his only daughter, Louisa, to her cousin Sir Norman Sinclair, eighteenth Earl of Caithness. He petitioned the Lyon Court in April 1913, taking the surname and arms of Buchan of Auchmacoy. His daughter, Lady Lucy Buchan, married Sir Thomas Innes of Learney, the great Lord Lyon, in 1928. She was the mother of Sir Thomas's younger son, the present Lord Lyon, Sir Malcolm Innes of Edingight. The earl's eldest daughter, Lady Olivia, became the seventeenth of Auchmacoy. Her son changed his name in 1949 to be recognized by the Lord Lyon as chief of the Buchans. The chief's seat remains at Auchmacoy House near Ellon.

Alexander Buchan was an eminent British meteorologist who first observed what were to become known as Buchan Spells: departures from the normally expected temperature occurring during certain seasons. Buchan established the weather map as the basis for weather forecasting. John Buchan, born in August 1875, was a clergyman's son, educated at the Universities of Glasgow and Oxford before being called to the Bar in 1901. He served in the colonial service in South Africa and this inspired his literary career. His most famous work was *The Thirty-nine Steps*, popularized by the motion picture directed by Alfred Hitchcock. In 1935 he was appointed Governor General of Canada and was created first Baron Tweedsmuir.

Taken from *Scottish Clan & Family Encyclopedia*, by Collins, HarperCollins Publishers 1994

This Clan information sheet has been prepared by
The Scottish Society of Louisville
PO Box 32248
Louisville, KY 40232-2248

www.scotsoflou.com

