



Clan HANNAY

ARMS	Argent, three roebuck's heads couped Azure, collared Or with bells thereto pendent Gules
CREST	A cross cresselt fitchée issuing out of a crescent Sable
MOTTO	Per ardua ad alta (Through difficulties to higher things)
SUPPORTERS	Two roebucks Proper
STANDARD	Azure, a St Andrew's Cross Argent in the hoist and of two tracts Argent and Azure, upon which is depicted the Badge in the first and third compartments, and the Crest in the second compartment, along with the Motto 'Per ardua ad alta' in letters Or upon two transverse bands Gules
PINSEL	Azure, on a plate the foresaid Crest on a Wreath of the Liveries within a strap of leather Proper buckled and embellished Or inscribed with the Motto 'Per ardua ad alta' in letters of the Field all within a circlet Or bearing the title 'Hannay of that Ilk' in letters also of the Field, the same ensigned of a chapeau Azure furred Ermine, and in the fly an Escrol Argent surmounting a spray of periwinkle Proper, bearing the Slogan 'Srobie' in letters Gules
BADGE	A roebuck's head couped Azure, collared Or with bell thereto pendent Gules
PLANT BADGE	Periwinkle

The Hannays hail from the ancient principedom of Galloway. The original spelling of the name appears to have been 'Ahannay', and although its origin is uncertain, it may derive from the Gaelic 'O'Hannaidh', or 'Ap Shenaigh'.

Gilbert de Hannethe appears on the Ragman roll among the Scottish Barons submitting to Edward I of England in 1296. This may be the same Gilbert who acquired the lands of Sorbie. The Hannays were suspicious of the ambitions of the Bruces, and supported the claim of John Balliol who, through his mother, Lady Devorgilla, was descended from the Celtic Princes of Galloway. In the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries they extended their influence over much of the surrounding countryside, building a tower on their lands at Sorbie around 1550. The tower was the seat of the chief family of this name until the seventeenth century, when it fell into disrepair after the family were outlawed. In 1965 the tower was presented to a clan trust, and a maintenance scheme was put in hand.

There were many distinguished scions of the chiefly house, including Patrick Hannay, the distinguished soldier and poet whose literature, once highly regarded, is now almost forgotten. The grandson of Donald Hannay of Sorbie, he entered the service of Queen Elizabeth of Bohemia, the daughter of James VI, and on his own death many eulogies were published. The best of these expresses the high regard with which Patrick and his kin were held:

Hannay thy worth betrays well whence
 Thou'rt sprung and that that honor'd
 Name thou dost not wrong;
 As if from Sorbie's stock no branch could
 Sprout but should with ripening bear golden fruit.
 Thy ancestors were ever worthy found
 Else Baldus' grave had grac'd no Hannay ground.
 Thy father's father Donald well was
 Knowne to the English by his sword, but
 Thou art showne by pen (times changing)
 Peace or war.
 Go on in virtue, aftertimes will tell,
 None but a Hannay could have done so well.

(Galdus was a resistance leader against the Romans)

Also from the house of Sorbie came James Hannay, the Dean of St Giles' in Edinburgh, who has passed into legend as the minister who attempted to read the new liturgy in St Giles' in July 1637. It was at Dean Hannay's head that Jenny Geddes flung her stool crying, 'Thou false thief, dost thou say Mass at my lug?' A full-scale riot ensued, which ultimately had to be suppressed by the town guard. In 1630, Sir Robert Hannay of Mochrum was created a Baronet of Nova Scotia. Other branches descended from Sorbie include the Hannays of Grennan, Knock, Garrie and Kingsmuir. At the beginning of the seventeenth century the Hannays of Sorbie became locked in a deadly feud with the Murrays of Boughton, which ended in the Hannays' being outlawed and ruined. The lands and tower of Sorbie were lost around 1640. One consequence of the family's being outlawed was the emigration of large numbers of Hannays to Ulster, where the name is still found widely in Counties Antrim, Down and Armagh. The Hannays of Newry are reckoned to the senior branch of the emigrant families.

In 1582, Alexander Hannay, a younger son of Sorbie, purchased the lands of Kirkdale in the Stewartry Kirkcudbright. His son, John Hannay of Kirkdale, inherited the estate and established the line which is now recognized by the Lord Lyon as chief of the name. Alexander Hannay, a younger son of Kirkdale, was a professional soldier who served in India, where he rose to the rank of colonel. His eldest brother, Sir Samuel Hannay of Kirkdale, succeeded to the title and estates of his kinsman, Sir Robert Hannay of Mochrum, Baronet. The next baronet, Sir Samuel Hannay, entered the service of the Hapsburg Emperors, and prospered sufficiently to build for himself a grand mansion on his family lands. The house is said to have provided the inspiration for Sir Walter Scott's novel, *Guy Mannering*. Sir Samuel died in 1841 and the baronetcy became dormant. The estate of Kirkdale and the representation of the family passed to Sir Samuel's sister, Mary, and on her death in 1850 to her nephew, William Rainsford Hannay. The present chief, who was recognized as Hannay of Kirkdale and of that ilk in 1983, is his descendent.

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Clan HANNA Septs

AHANN A Y	HANNAN	MAC ONAHAY
ANNA	HANNAY,-IE	O'HANNA
HANNA(H)	MAC CONATHA	

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