



## Clan MACLELLAN

### ARMS

Or, two chevrons Sable

### CREST

A naked arm supporting on the point of a sword a moor's head  
Proper

### MOTTO

Think on

### SUPPORTERS

Dexter, a man armed at all points holding a baton in his hand  
(all Proper); sinister, a horse (Argent) furnished (Gules)

**T**he name is Gaelic in origin, deriving from 'MacGille Fhaolain' 'son of the servant of St Filan'. St Filan was a missionary of the old Celtic church, and there is a village in Perthshire named after him. The name Filan itself is derived from the Celtic 'faelchu', meaning 'wolf'. The Maclellans were numerous in Galloway and gave their name to Balmaclellan in Stewartry. Duncan MacLellan appears in a charter of Alexander II in 1217. Maclellan of Bombie was among the close followers of Sir William Wallace when he left Kirkcudbright for France after the defeat at Falkirk in 1293. In the early fifteenth century it is said there were no fewer than fourteen knights of the name Maclellan in Galloway. Sir Patrick Maclellan of Bombie forfeited his estates for marauding through the lands of the Douglases, the Lords of Galloway. James II restored the lands when Sir Patrick's son, Sir William captured the leader of a band of gypsies who were terrorizing the district. Sir William carried the head of the brigand to the king on the point of his sword. This is one explanation advanced for the origins of the crest of this family, although moors' heads are often considered to be an allusion to the Crusades. In 1452, William eighth Earl of Douglas, captured Sir Patrick Maclellan, the tutor of Bombie and Sheriff of Galloway, and held him in Threave Castle for refusing to join a conspiracy against the king. Sir Patrick's uncle, who held high royal office, obtained letters ordering the release of Douglas's prisoner. When Douglas was presented with the royal warrant he promptly had Sir Patrick murdered while he entertained his uncle at dinner. Maclellan's death was another example of Douglas's contempt for royal authority which the king was later to repay by executing the earl at Stirling. Although there is little doubt that the celebrated Scots cannon, 'Mons Meg', was made at Mons in Belgium, there is a local tradition that it was the Maclellans who brought the great gun to batter down Threave as part of their revenge on the Douglases. Sir William Maclellan of Bombie was knighted by James IV but followed his king on the ill-fated invasion of England which ended at Flodden field in 1513. His son, Thomas, was killed at the door of St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh by Gordon of Lochinvar in 1526. His great-grandson, Sir Robert, was a courtier fourth to James IV and Charles I, and in 1633 was raised to the peerage as Lord Kirkcudbright. The third Lord was such a zealous royalist that during the civil war he incurred enormous debts in the king's cause, and completely ruined the estates. The title passed from cousin to brother to cousin, with very few direct male heirs, although at the beginning of the eighteenth century there were two claimants to the title. The dispute was finally settled by the House of Lords in 1761 but the title again became dormant in 1832 when the ninth Lord died in Bruges.

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**Clan MAC LELLEN Septs**

CLEEL(L)AND  
CLEL(L)AND  
GILFILL(I)AN  
GILLILAND  
GULLILAND  
MAC CALLAND  
MAC CELLEN(S)

MAC CLELLAN(D)  
MAC CLELLIN  
MAC COLLAN  
MAC CULLON  
MAC ELAN,-EN  
MAC GILFILLAN  
MAC GILLILAN(D)

MAC HELLAN,-EN  
MAC HELLON  
MAC ILELLEN  
MAC ILLIN  
MAC KELLAN  
MAC KELLEN  
MAC KELLIN(S)

MAC KELLON  
MAC KLELLAND  
MAC LELLAN(D)  
MAC LLELOND

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