

Clan MACRAE

ARMS CREST

MOTTO

Argent, a fess Azure between three mullets in chief and a lion rampant in base Gules a cubit arm grasping a sword all Proper Fortitudine (With fortitude)

This Celtic name stems from the Gaelic, 'son of Grace'. The Macraes were most numerous around Kintail in Wester Ross, where they appear to have become supporters of the Mackenzies. Duncan Macrae was constable of Eilean Donan Castle and acquired for himself the lands of Inverinate. The Macraes were so fierce in adherence to their Mackenzie overlord that they became known as 'Mackenzie's shirt of Mail'. In 1539 the Macdonalds, under Donald Grumach, fourth of Sleat, besieged Eilean Donan Castle as part of their attempt to revive the shattered Lordship of the Isles. Macrae is credited with slaying the Macdonand chief with an arrow, bringing the siege to an end. The fortunes of the Mackenzies prospered and they obtained for themselves the title, 'Earl of Seaforth'. The Macraes basked in reflected glory and were invested with the hereditary constableship of Eilean Donan Castle and also created chamberlains of Kintail. There were numerous cadet houses, including the Macraes of Conchra Clunes and Feoirlinn. The family was not only renowned for its military prowess. Duncan Macrae, born around 1640 was educated at Edinburgh University and composed Gaelic poetry. Lieutenant Colonel John Macrae, born in 1861, served in the Black Watch, and was both deputy keeper of the Palace of Holyroodhouse and a member of the Royal Company of Archers (bodyguard of the monarch in Scotland). Colonel Sir Colin Macrae of Feoirlinn, who was knighted in 1935, served with distinction throughout the Boer War and was not only a member of the Royal Company of Archers, but also a lieutenant in the bodyguard of the English monarch, the Yeomen of the Guard.

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

Clan genealogists: Clan MacRae Genealogy

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Clan MAC RAE Septs

CRAE	MAC CREA	MAC KRETH	MAC REY
CRAY	MAC CREADH	MAC KRILL	MAC RIE
CREA	MAC CREATH	MAC KRITH	MAC RILL
CREATH	MAC CREE	MAC KROW	MAC ROW
CREE	MAC CREETH	MAC KROW	MAC ROY
MAC ARA	MAC CREIGH	MAC NOW	MAC TRETH
MAC AROW	MAC CREIGHT	MAC RA(CH)	MAC WHA
MAC CARRI E, - Y	MAC CRIE	MAC RAE	MAC WHAW
MAC CRA	MAC CRILL	MAC RAE	MAC WRA(I)TH
MAC CRACH	MAC CROW	MAC RAE	MAC WRA Y
MAC CRAE	MAC CROY	MAC RAITH	MACHRAY
MAC CRAITH	MAC GRATH	MAC RATH	MAGRATH
MAC CRARY	MAC GRAW	MAC RAW	MAHARRY, - IE
MAC CRATE	MAC GRAY	MAC RAY	REA
MAC CRATH	MAC HRAY	MAC REA	RENY
MAC CRAW	MAC KREETH	MAC REIGHT	WRAY
MAC CRAY	MAC KREITH	MAC REITH	WRA

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