



Clan PATRICK

ARMS

Silver with a black cross and a black stripe across the top on which there are two silver roses.

CREST

Not available

MOTTO

Ora et labora (Pray and work)

PATRICK. G. *Padruig*, O. Ir. *Patricius*, ‘a patrician.’ The early Latin life of the saint also gives *Gothraige*, the name by which S. Patrick was known during the term of his slavery in Ireland, but this is simply a Gaelicized form of *Pathruig* (with *c* for Lation-British *p*). S. Patrick’s full name was probably *Patricius Magonus Sucatus*. Tirechan, the saint’s earliest biographer, assigns him a fourth name, *Corthirhiacus*, which, however, is simply a Latinization of the *Cothraige* already mentioned. Other early forms of this name, *Qatrige* and *Quadriga*, suggested to Tirechan and others a derivation from *quattuor*, Latin for ‘four’, “*Cothirhiacus quia seruiuit uii[iu] dornibus magorum*” (i.e. “because he was a slave in the houses of four magicians”); “many were they whom he served, *Cothraige* (servant) of a fourfold household” (so in the l. Ir. Hymn *Genair Patricc*). The Tripartite Life states that he received the name *Magonus* from S. Germanus, and that of *Patricius* from Pope Celestine, but this is merely monkish tradition. The late Sir John Rhys believed the name *Magonus* to be a derivation from Goidelic magus (whence Irish *mug*, servant), meaning perhaps originally a ‘boy’, but it is just as likely to be the Roman cognomen *Magonus*. Muir Chu author of the first formal biography of the saint, says he was also named *Sahet* (the *Sucatus* above mentioned): “*Patricius qui et Sochet uoca-batur.*” The hymn “*Genair Patricc*,” attributed to S. Fiacc, says: “*Sucatus* his name it was said,” and the Tripartite Life adds, this was “his name from his parents”. A note on the hymn, quoted in the last named work explains this name as “*Deus belli uel Fortis Belkli.*” The name is etymologically the same as obsolete Welsh *hygad*, ‘warlike.’

In modern Scottish Gaelic the name *Patrick* is found in four forms: (1) *Padruig*, with *t* and *c* unaspirated, but reduced to the corresponding mediae. (2) *Pdruig* for *Pdthruig* in which the *t* has been aspirated and consequently lost and *c* made into medial *g*. (3) *Para*, a pet or curtailed form of the last. (4) *Padiar* or *Patair*, the common form of Patrick in Arran and Kintyre. This last form enters into combination with *cill* ‘a church: in *CillPhadiar*, the Gaelic name of Kilpatrick. The name has thus become confused in popular use with Peter and is so Englished. (Per contra, *Ceann-lphddroig* is the Gaelic name of Peterhead in Duncan Macintyre’s *Oran na gasaid*. “*Pedair* as a personal Gaelic name is hardly, if at all, known out of print”. In Scotland not only is Patrick frequently called by the endearing diminutive Peter, but Peter is often called Patrick. In fact, as it has been said, Patrick is the “Sunday name,” Peter is everyday one. In the discussion in the House of Lords on the Breadalbane peerage claims (1867) the council alluding to a person who had been mentioned in the course of the evidence called him Captain Patrick Campbell. The Chancellor said the captain’s name was not Patrick, but Peter. His Lordship was assured they were convertible terms. Lord Robertson (1794-1855), who was christened Patrick, was invariably called Peter (nick-named “Peter”) the Painch” by Sir Walter Scott because of his rotundity; and Patrick Fraser Tyler, the historian, was known to his immediate relatives as “Peter”. Patrick was one of the most popular names in the west of Scotland in pre-Reformation times, and in Ireland only became a popular forename after 1600, due probably to its introduction by the Scots settlers in Ulster. As a surname it is common in Ayrshire, and the old family of that name appears to have been connected with Kilwinning Abbey. Patrick, Subprior of Durnham, became abbot of Dunfermline, 1201. Patricks of Dunminning, county Antrim, are of Scottish ex-traction, descendants of Ayrshire family. John Patric was a notary in 1429. Hanes Oatruj geur if Gew Oatruj if Thornedyke his father, 1658. Robert William Cochran-Patrick (1842-1897), a distinguished numismatist, was under-secretary for Scotland. Comes (earl) Patric was a charter witness, c. 1211. With *gille-* it gives the common Gaelic personal name *Gillepatrick*, hence *Macpatrick* and *Paterson*.

Taken from “*Surnams of Scotland*”, by George Black, New York Public Library 1999.

This clan information sheet has been prepared by The Scottish Society of Louisville, Inc.
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