



Clan REID

ARMS

A silver shield with a gold cross crosslet fitchée between two gold mullets on a red chevron between two eagles displayed in chief, and red a buck's head erased in base

CREST

Not available

MOTTO

Fortitudine et labore (By fortitude and exertion)

R Reid, or READ, or REED. An epithet surname meaning 'red haired' or 'ruddy complexioned.' The spelling *red* is modern, like the pronunciation. The *e* was originally long, and in Chaucer MSS. The form is usually *reed*. In later English it was *reede*, *read*, *reade*; In Scottish *reid*. In Latin charters it is rendered *Rufus*. Ade Ruffus witnessed resignation of the lands of Ingilbristoun in 1204, and William Rufus was juror on and inquest on the lands of Padevinan in 1259. Gilbert 'le Rede' of Coul was committed to prison and died there in 1296. Red is found as a surname in Aberdeen in 1317, and it is one of the oldest in the parish of Kildrummy. Patrick dictus Rede was on an assize at Rane in 1335, John Reed was collector of tithe in the deaneries of Stormonth and Atholl in 1362, and James Reed was Baillie of the burgh of Stirling in 1364. Reeds were at one period a numerous clan in Kyle. The first of the name there recorded is probably William Rede, son of John Reede, who had a confirmation of the lands and pertinents of Bairskemyn in Kyle in 1375. John Rede is in record in the parish of Morton in 1376, William Rede held Wester Pitfoddels in Dwardset from his cousin Alexander de Moravia in 1389, William Rede, dominus de Ranystoun, was present at the perambulation of the lands of Tarwas and Uldny in 1417, and Wil Red was tenant of Wester Drumme in 1474. Joseph Feid (1843-1917), born in Ayshire, was inventor of the Reid oil burner, which did so much to advance the oil industry in the United States. Reid is also used as an Englishing of Gaelic Ruadh, q.v. The family of General John Reid (d. 1806-7), composer of the air "The Garb of Old Gaul," and founder of the Chair of Music in Edinburgh University, was descended from Alastair Ruadh of Strathardle (15th cent.). The General was the first of his family to add the letter *i* to his name. In Aberdeenshire this surname has become confused with Rait and Reith, Reede 1477, Reide and Ride 1555, Reid 1548, Rid 1612.

Taken from "The Surnames of Scotland", by George Black, The New York Public Library.

Clan REID Septs

READ

REED

REID

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