



# Clan STRACHEN

**ARMS**

Or, a stag at gaze Azure attired Sable

**CREST**

A demi stag springing Or holding a thistle in his mouth Proper

**MOTTO**

Non timeo sed caveo (I do not fear but am careful)

**SUPPORTERS**

Two greyhounds Argent each charged on the shoulder with a thistle Proper

**T**his name is derived from the lands of Strachan, or Strathachen, in Kincardineshire. 'Strath' is derived from the Gaelic, 'srath', meaning 'broad mountain valley'. In 1200 Walderus de Stratheiien made a grant of lands to the church of St Andrews. John, son of Rudolph de Strachane, gifted lands to the Abbey of Dunfermline which was confirmed by a charter of Alexander III in 1278. The barony of Strachan and the lands of Feteresso passed to the family of Keith from the Strachans by marriage, in the reign of David II, but Sir James Strachan of Monboddo obtained the lands of Thronton in Kincardine. He had two sons – the elder, Duncan, took the lands of Monoboddo, while the younger had the lands of Thornton. Sir Alexander Strachan of Thornton was created a Baronet of Nova Scotia by Charles I in May 1625. The baronetcy passed into the senior line of Monboddo by a charter under the great seal in 1663. Admiral Sir Richard Strachan, sixth Baronet, commanded a squadron during the Napoleonic Wars. On 2 November 1805 his squadron engaged four French battleships that had escaped from Lord Nelson's triumph at the Battle of Trafalgar. Sir Richard captured all four French vessels with little loss of British Life. He was created a Knight of the Bath and in 1810 he was granted the Freedom of the City of London. The title became dormant in 1854. William Strachan was born in Edinburgh in 1715. He became a printer and moved to London, where for a time he worked in the same office as Benjamin Franklin, the American statesman, scientist and philosopher. He was a friend of Dr Samuel Johnson and became a Member of Parliament.

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

This clan information sheet has been prepared by  
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