

**CLAN STRACHAN SCOTTISH HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.**

30730 San Pasqual Road

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Tel. + 1-951-760-8575

www.clanstrachan.org



22 January 2017

Dear Society Members and Fellow Clansmen:

Having received two phone calls from Australia and Canada this week, as well as another email, I thought it might be prudent to send our first bit of correspondence regarding the Clan Strachan Gathering and Strachan Family Convention (Gaelic: Derbhfine).

At this early stage, we hope to schedule a Clan Strachan Gathering and Family Convention the first weekend in **August 2019** in conjunction with the Aboyne Highland Games. However, the date and venue will ultimately be established at the convenience of the Supervising Office appointed by the Lord Lyon King of Arms.

The **Clan Strachan Gathering** is open to everyone who fondly associates themselves with Clan Strachan. The Gathering will include a number of activities. Depending on participation this might include a coach tour of the Strachan District; a tour of the Mill of Strachan; a visit to Fettercairn Distillery, a formal dinner following the Derbhfine meeting; a Haggis Hunt; hiking to Clachnaben; and much more. Cost for these activities will be disclosed at a later time.

Regarding the **Strachan Family Convention**, it is a legal proceeding under the jurisdiction of the Court of the Lord Lyon. The proposed Chief of Clan Strachan is the appointed and recognised Commander: Rob Strachan, Mill of Strachan, Strachan, Aberdeenshire. Mr. Strachan has served as the legal Representor of Clan Strachan since receiving a Warrant from the Court of the Lord Lyon in 2014. It is unknown for certain if Dr. Joseph J. Morrow, QC, Lord Lyon King of Arms is incline to recognise Mr. Strachan as Chief in 2019, or if another Strachan Family Convention will be required as confirmation. If another Family Convention is required, guidance has been provided in the past by the Honourable David Sellar, Lord Lyon King of Arms (2008-2014) as follows:

- 1) The Family Convention shall take place in Scotland although members outwith the jurisdiction may participate by video link or similar. The Family Convention is a private closed-door meeting, and other than the authorised Attendees only a photographer is generally permitted.
- 2) It is anticipated that the number of those participating in a Family Convention will be relatively small, of the order of ten to twenty-five people. These individuals must be authorized to attend the Family Convention by the Court of the Lord Lyon, and:

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- a) Shall be born with the Strachan surname (male or female), or an acceptable derivative spelling of the name in question.
  - b) Shall be leading members of the family or name in question. This definition requires flexibility, and is exclusively interpreted by the Court of the Lord Lyon. However, we can assume that this can be loosely interpreted as - - *Heads or representatives of leading branches of the family (implies Armigerous persons of the name are acceptable); Scottish landowners (> 5 acres outwith a burgh); and eminent and educated men (or women) who are prominent individuals such as academics, judges, barristers/attorneys, military officers, doctors, politicians, successful business persons, and other professionals.*
  - c) Shall be from a broad geographic area with strong representation in Scotland.
  - d) Shall not be related to another Family Convention Attendee within the fourth degree of consanguinity (i.e., not within the degree of first cousins germane)
- 3) Prior to actually scheduling a meeting date with the Court of the Lord Lyon, the Society will host an informal gathering of all those interested in being Family Convention Attendees via global conference call. This is to ensure that Mr. Rob Strachan has unanimous support, or barring this, has substantial majority support of Clan Strachan.
  - 4) The Family Convention should be scheduled at least one year in advance with the Court of the Lord Lyon to allow maximum participation of the attendees living abroad.
  - 5) The Family Convention is not a Society function, but rather it is an official Clan Strachan function. Other than the Convenor of the Society, the Directors or Members of the Society do not receive any special consideration if seats become available.

If you have not already joined our email list, please do so at your earliest convenience, as we will be communicating updates via email. Thank you for your interest in Clan Strachan, and we in the Society fondly look forward to meeting you in person in 2019!

Yours Sincerely,

James Andrew Strachan, MBA, FSA Scot

Clan Strachan Sennachie

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