

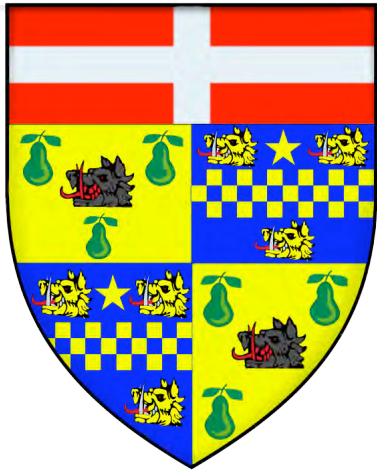
# The Buthlaw Armorial

The Buthlaw Armorial is named for Harry Pirie-Gordon, 13th Laird of Buthlaw, whose legacy of notes and books, together with support from three other eminent heraldic scholars, allowed *The Baronage Press* to be established. By honouring his memory in this way we are recognising not only his immense contribution to heraldic scholarship, but also, throughout his long and extraordinary career as wit, archaeologist, secret agent, Lieutenant in the RNVR (DSC 1915), Lieutenant Colonel on the Special List (1918-20), *Times* columnist, Editor of *Burke's Landed Gentry*, Naval Intelligence Officer (1939-45), Archer, Chevalier, and raconteur *sans pareil* — to good fellowship.

In accordance with the established practice of the *Baronage* website, the Armorial's principal interest is in the arms of the registrants, and although the crests, mottoes, warcries, supporters, compartments, and badges, etc, are blazoned, only the arms, the unique identification of an armiger, are illustrated.

There are no fees for registration in this online Armorial, but it is expected that registrants will happily donate £100 (or more, if possible, but certainly £100 minimum) to the work of the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund by going to <<http://www.RAFBF.org.uk/>>, clicking on "RAFBF Main website" and then clicking on "Donate Now" in the left-hand column. The donor will receive a letter of thanks from the Fund, the Armorial Registrar will receive notification of the donation, and, depending on the length of the queue and on the health of the artist's eyesight, the arms should be online within four weeks.

**Volume One**



*The late* CHARLES HARRY CLINTON PIRIE-GORDON, 13th Laird of Buthlaw, (Harry Pirie-Gordon of Buthlaw, OBE, DSC); Bailiff Grand Cross, Order of St John (1957), member of The Queen's Bodyguard for Scotland, The Royal Company of Archers, pre-war spook in the Middle East, served 1914-18 as Lieutenant RNVR, later as Lieutenant-Colonel on the Special List until 1920 (despatches twice), with Political Mission, Egypt and Palestine 1917-19, Deputy Commissioner to the Baltic Provinces 1919, with Naval Intelligence 1939-54, Chevalier of the Legion of Honour, Commander of the Royal Hellenic Order of the Phoenix; married Mabel Alicia the only daughter of George Earle Buckle and had issue.

*Arms:* Quarterly: 1st and 4th, Or a boar's head erased Sable armed and langued Gules between three pears slipped and leaved Vert (PIRIE OF WATERTON); 2nd and 3rd, Azure a fesse chequy Or and of the field between three boar's heads erased of the second armed and langued Gules, a mullet in chief of the second for difference (GORDON OF BUTHLAW); a chief charged with the arms of The Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem in the British Realm.

*Crest:* A fawn's head holding in its mouth a moon in its decrement and gorged with a wreath of pears slipped on the dexter and ivy leaves on the sinister all Proper conjoined with a buckle Or.

*Supporters:* Dexter a beneficent Rain-Dragon embowed Proper; Sinister a Water Kelpie Proper crined and unguled Or caparisoned Gules, bridle ring Azure, saddled Sable.

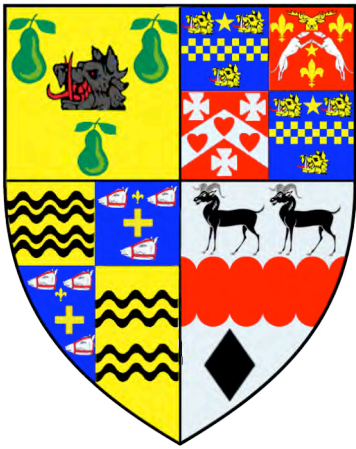
*Compartment:* Dexter grass; Sinister wavy Argent and Azure

*Motto:* Virtute et astutia (By valour and guile)

*Standard:* In the hoist the National Cross of St Andrew; and in the fly on the liveries barry of five Or and Azure the crest beast and then the badge pears Proper suspended from a buckle Or within an orle dexter of pears slipped and sinister of ivy all Proper.

*Style:* Buthlaw

*Archivist's notes:* These arms were matriculated in 1958 when the bearer was granted the supporters and compartment in recognition of his rank as the first Scottish Grand Bailiff, the then Lord Lyon declaring this to be a special case, and using the opportunity to criticise his predecessor's error in marshalling the Pirie of Waterton arms in the first quarter. Prior to 1958 he bore the arms illustrated for his younger son on the next page.



GEORGE PATRICK PIRIE-GORDON, 15th Laird of Buthlaw, (Patrick Pirie-Gordon of Buthlaw); Knight of the Order of St John, Royal Artillery 1939, Lieutenant Colonel 1945 2nd Survey Regiment, (despatches twice), member of The Queen's Bodyguard for Scotland, The Royal Company of Archers, Master of the Worshipful Company of Skinners; married Catherine Grace, widow of Major Jack Childerstone Colebrooke, Queen's Royal Regiment, and daughter of Alfred Rickard Taylor, and has issue two daughters.

*Arms:* Quarterly: 1st, Or a boar's head erased Sable armed and langued Gules between three pears slipped and leaved Vert (PIRIE OF WATERTON); 2nd, grand quarter counter-quartered 1 and 4, Azure a fesse chequy Or and of the field between three boar's heads erased of the second armed and langued Gules, a mullet in chief of the second for difference (GORDON OF BUTHLAW); 2, Gules two greyhounds counter-salient Argent collared of the first, in the honour point a stag's head coupé attired with ten tynes, all between three fleurs-de-lis two in chief and one in base, in the centre a mullet for difference, all Or (UDNY OF CULTERCULLEN); 3, Gules on a chevron between three crosses pattée Argent as many hearts

of the first (BARCLAY OF CAIRNESS); 3rd, grand quarter counterquartered 1 and 4, Or two bars gemel wavy Sable (LOGIE OF MIDDLEFIELD); 2 and 3, Azure a cross coupé Or between three bear's heads Argent muzzled Gules, a fleur-de-lis of the second for difference (FORBES OF KINCARDINE); 4th, Argent a fesse invected Gules between in chief two goats statant and in base a fusil Sable (HANDLEY OF MUSKHAM GRANGE).

*Crest:* A fawn's head holding in its mouth a swastika Sable, and gorged with a wreath of pears slipped on the dexter and ivy leaves on the sinister all Proper conjoined with a buckle Or.

*Motto:* Virtute et astute (By valour and canniness)

*Style:* Buthlaw

*Archivist's notes:* As noted on the previous page in respect of his father, the 13th Laird, the Buthlaw arms are an unusual example of Scottish marshalling in that the arms of the first element of the hyphenated name are borne in the first or pronominal quarter. The five different coats in the second and third quarters came into the Pirie of Waterton family with the Buthlaw inheritance. The fourth quarter came in with the 13th Laird's mother, the coheiress daughter of Rev. William Handley, Rector of Winthorpe in Nottinghamshire. The change to the matriculated crest is significant. His father fought the Turks and his crest beast held in its mouth a crescent moon, but his younger son fought the Nazis and to symbolise this the moon was replaced by a swastika.



*The late* CATHERINE GRACE TAYLOR or COLEBROOKE or PIRIE-GORDON, Lady of Buthlaw, daughter of Alfred Rickard Taylor by his wife Marjorie daughter of St John Montagu Young by his wife Emily daughter of Major General Eardley Maitland, married first Major Jack Childerstone Colebrooke who was killed in action in 1942, and second Lieutenant-Colonel George Patrick Pirie-Gordon who succeeded his brother Christopher as 15th Laird of Buthlaw.

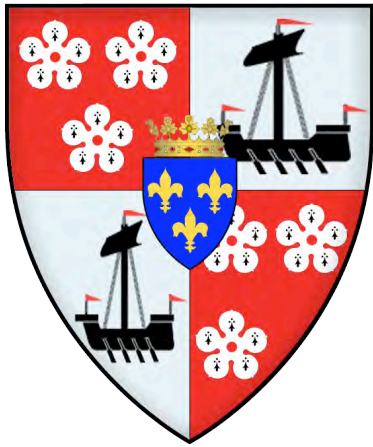
*Arms:* Argent on a saltire Sable between a heart Gules in chief and in base and as many mullets in the flanks Vert a mullet between four crosses moline saltireways Or; a bordure of the last.

*Badge:* A wreath of pears slipped on the dexter and ivy leaves on the sinister all Proper conjoined with a buckle Or.



*Archivist's notes:* The original Pirie badge, canting on pears, and now using both the Pirie and the Gordon plant badges in the wreath, granted to the 13th Laird in conjunction with his standard, continues in use with the family although the standard clearly does not.

The black saltire and the red heart are charges that in Scotland traditionally appear in the arms of those of the name of Taylor.



**THE 5TH DUKE OF ABERCORN**, Marquess of Abercorn, Marquess of Hamilton, Earl of Abercorn, Viscount Strabane, Lord Paisley, Lord Aberbrothick, Lord Mountcastle, Lord Kilpatrick, *et al.*, (Sir James Hamilton, Bt, KG); Knight of the Garter, a Baronet, and Duke of Châtelleraut; Heir Male of the House of Hamilton, Lieutenant Grenadier Guards, Colonel Irish Guards; married Anastasia Alexandra, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Harold Phillips, Coldstream Guards, and has issue two sons and a daughter.

*Arms:* Quarterly, 1st and 4th, Gules three cinquefoils pierced Ermine (**HAMILTON**); 2nd and 3rd, Argent a galley with sails furled and oars in action Sable (**ARRAN**); overall at the fess point an inescutcheon Azure charged with three fleurs-de-lis Or and ensigned with a French ducal coronet (**CHÂTELLERAULT**).

*Crest:* Out of a ducal coronet Or an oak tree Proper fructed and penetrated transversely in the main stem by a frame-saw Proper, the blade inscribed with the word “Through”, the frame gold.

*Supporters:* Two antelopes Argent, armed, unguled, ducally gorged and chained Or.

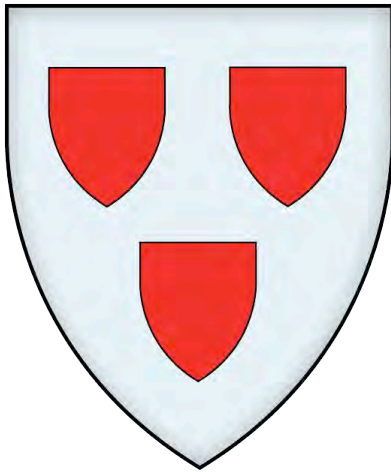
*Compartment:* A grassy mound

*Mottoes:* 1. In the crest – **Through** 2. Above the crest – **Sola nobilitas virtus** (the only nobility is virtue)

*Style:* His Grace The Duke of Abercorn, KG

*Archivist's notes:* The inescutcheon of France ensigned with the French ducal coronet is borne in right of the Duke being heir male to the Earl of Arran who was granted the Duchy of Châtelleraut by Henri II, King of France, in 1548/9. The descent of the title is discussed in Appendix B to Volume I of *The Complete Peerage*.

The second and third quarters feature the lymphad or galley, arms of dominion for the feudal lordship, later earldom, of Arran, but the more interesting is the pronominal quarter of the three ermine cinquefoils whose presence has been exploited in attempts to resolve the mystery of the Hamilton origins. Initial claims speculated a descent from the Beaumont Earls of Leicester who bore a single cinquefoil, but these were replaced with a more probable link to the Umfravilles' cinquefoil. Recent research has offered a plausible theory that the early Hamiltons were related to both the Beaumonts and the Umfravilles and have a direct descent from the latter.



**THE 24TH EARL OF ERROLL**, 28th Hereditary Lord High Constable of Scotland, Lord Hay, Lord Slains, Chief of the Name and Arms of Hay (Sir Merlin Sereld Victor Gilbert Hay, Bt, *MacGaraidh Mor*), Senior Great Officer of the Royal Household in Scotland and a Hereditary Lord Assessor at the Court of Lord Lyon King of Arms; member of the The Queen's Bodyguard for Scotland, The Royal Company of Archers; Rifleman in the Queen's Royal Rifles (parachutist); Lieutenant Atholl Highlanders, Honorary Colonel RMPTA; Officer of the Order of St John; elected (Crossbench) hereditary peer 1999; married Isabelle Jacqueline Laline, only daughter of Thomas Sidney Astell, MC by Jacqueline, daughter of Marquis de Jouffroy d'Abbans, and has issue.

*Arms:* Argent three escutcheons Gules

*Crest:* Issuing out of a coronet a falcon volant Proper, armed, jessed and belled Or.

*Supporters:* Two savages wreathed about the middle with laurel, each bearing on his shoulder an ox-yoke Proper, bows Gules. The Badge of the Great Constable of Scotland is placed at the sides of the shield between the shield and the supporters.

*Motto:* **Serva jugum** (Maintain the yoke)

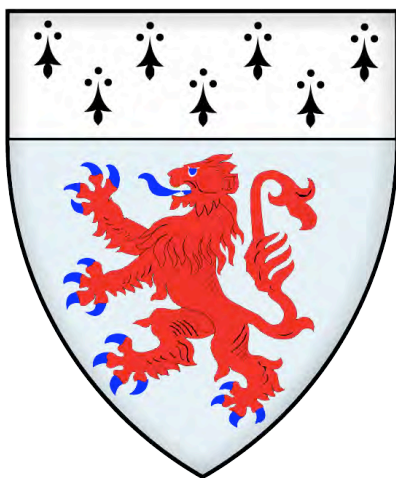
*Standard:* In the hoist Azure the National Cross of St Andrew, and in the fly two tracts Gules and Or semée of mistletoe Proper upon which is depicted in the first compartment the Badge of the Lord High Constable of Scotland ensigned of an earl's coronet Proper, in the second compartment the crest, and in the third compartment the Badge, with the motto "Serva jugum" in letters Gules upon two transverse bands Or.

*Badge:* An ox-yoke Proper, bows Gules, ensigned of an earl's coronet.

*Badge as Lord High Constable of Scotland:* Two arms vambraced issuing out of clouds and gauntleted Proper each holding a sword erect in pale Argent hilted and pommelled Or.

*Style:* The Rt Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Earl of Erroll

*Archivist's notes:* Lord Erroll is the 33rd Chief of the Hays but the clan's origin under that name is continental, not highland, and the arms have been traced to Normandy and, with some plausibility, before that to Flanders.



**PEREGRINE DAVID EUAN MALCOLM MONCREIFFE OF THAT ILK**, Chief of Moncreiffe, Baron of Moncreiffe and Easter Moncreiffe, 21st Laird of Moncreiffe, Chief of the Name and Arms of Moncreiffe, (Peregrine Moncreiffe of that Ilk); member of The Queen's Bodyguard for Scotland, The Royal Company of Archers, Slains Pursuivant 1970, Lieutenant Atholl Highlanders, Freeman of the City of London, married Miranda Mary, younger daughter of Captain Mervyn Fox-Pitt, and has issue.

*Arms:* Argent a lion rampant Gules armed and langued Azure, a chief Ermine.

*Crest:* Out of the crest-coronet Or of a Scottish chief, a demi-lion rampant as in the arms, the unique mantling being Vert, slashed in the shape of oak leaves and veined Or.

*Supporters:* Two bearded men Proper in armour cap-a-pied and having Celtic conical helmets Sable banded Or and in their exterior hands lances paleways Gules with spearheads Argent.

*Motto:* Sur esperance.(Upon hope)

*Standard:* In the hoist Azure the National Cross of St Andrew, and in the fly two tracts Argent and Gules semée of oakleaves slipped Vert upon which are depicted in the first compartment a bearded demi-man Proper in armour cap-a-pied with a Celtic conical helm Sable banded Or and in his dexter hand a lance paleways Gules with spearhead Argent, in the second compartment the Crest ensigned of a baronial chapeau Gules furred Ermine, and in the third compartment a chaplet of oak-leaves Proper fructed six acorns Or around a shoot of mistletoe fructed Proper, with the motto "Sur Esperance" in letters Or upon two transverse bands Sable.

*Badge:* A chaplet of oak-leaves Proper fructed six acorns Or, and within it a shoot of mistletoe fructed Proper.

*Style:* The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Peregrine Moncreiffe of that Ilk

*Archivist's notes:* The bearer's father, the late Sir Iain Moncreiffe of that Ilk, Bt, Albany Herald, proposed that as the senior branch of the royal house descending from Duncan I, Macbeth's victim, bore red and gold as their distinctive colours, and as the next branch, descending from his brother Maldred. bore red and silver, the Moncreiffe lion rampant Gules on Argent probably represented a male line descent from Maldred, the ermine chief being a typical difference for a cadet assumed in the early days of heraldry.

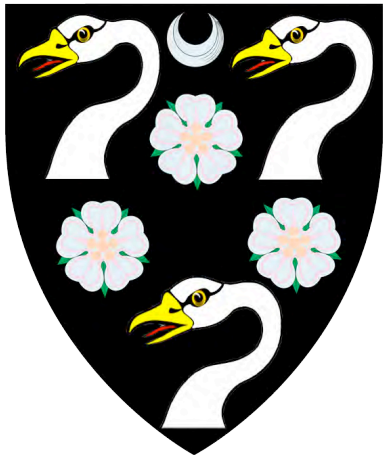
Peregrine Moncreiffe of that Ilk is the younger brother of the Earl of Erroll who inherited his ancient peerage title from their mother, he inheriting as Chief of the Name and Arms of Moncreiffe from their father.



HELEN ELIZABETH BLAIR or WILSON (Mrs Peter Wilson) daughter of Major David Arthur Blair, MC, of the Seaforth Highlanders, by his wife Elizabeth Adela, daughter of Major Harold Morton, married Peter Wilson and has issue.

*Arms:* Argent on a chevron Sable between two torteaux in chief and in base a lozenge per fess Sable and Or two lozenges paleways of the first, a bordure Or for difference.

*Archivist's notes:* These arms without the bordure are those in the second and third quarters of Blair-Imrie of Lunan and are derived from Blair of Balthyock (Argent a chevron Sable between three torteaux), one of the two families who anciently contested the Blair chiefship. Blair of that Ilk, the other claimant, bore Argent on a saltire Sable nine mascles of the first, so it may possibly have been a nod towards the rival that influenced the choice of lozenges as the additional charges on the arms of this branch.



**SIR ADRIAN CHRISTOPHER SWIRE**, (Sir Adrian Swire, AE, DL), Coldstream Guards, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve and Royal Auxiliary Air Force, Hon. Air Commodore, Air Efficiency Award (1961); Chairman of the International Chamber of Shipping; Visiting Fellow at Nuffield College, Oxford; Pro-Chancellor of Southampton University; Trustee of the Royal Air Force Museum, Chairman of the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund; married Lady Judith Compton, elder daughter of the 6th Marquess of Northampton and has issue.

*Arms:* Sable three swan's heads and necks couped Proper two and one and as many roses one and two Argent, a crescent in chief for difference.

*Crest:* A swan's head and neck Proper ducally gorged and charged with a rose Or.

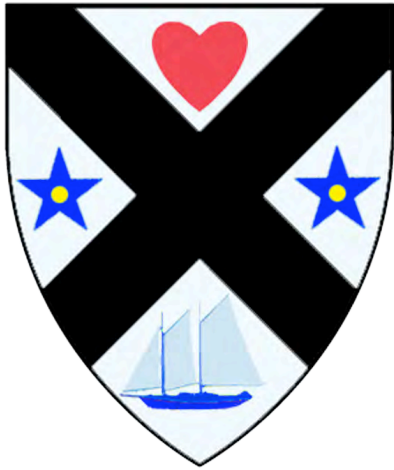
*Motto:* *Esse quam videri* (to be rather than seem to be)

*Style:* Sir Adrian Swire

*Archivist's notes:* The Swire family gives heraldry students an attractive example with which to illustrate canting arms, for anciently the neck of a swan was a swyre.

This branch, the Swires of Hubbards Hall, are cadets of the Swires of Orborst who bear instead of the three silver roses a gold anchor. A second difference between the two families is in the swans, those of the Orborst family being silver (blazoned Argent) whereas those of their kinsmen are white (blazoned Proper). The small crescent is for cadency, Sir Adrian Swire being a second son.

The motto is one borne by many English families and is of some interest in that it has a nuance of political integrity, the words having been famously used by Sallust in his perhaps not wholly justified praise of Cato in comparison to Cæsar.



CHRISTOPHER GREGORY TAYLOR, Baron Baillie of Urquhart, (Mr Christopher G. Taylor, BA, MBA) married Bevin Sterling, only daughter of Robert Allen Cromartie, Baron of Urquhart.

*Arms:* Argent a saltire Sable between in chief a heart Gules and a mullet Azure pierced Or in each flank and in base a Friendship sloop Azure with sails Bleu-céleste.

*Crest:* A godwit rising Proper

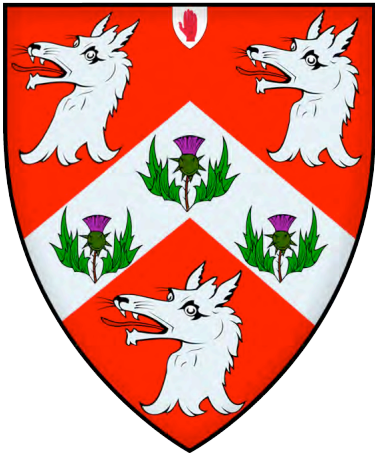
*Motto:* Fortiter fideliter forsan feliciter (bravely, faithfully, and perhaps successfully)

*Style:* Christopher Taylor

*Archivist's notes:* These are new arms granted upon the appointment of the bearer to the office of Baron Baillie to the barony of Urquhart. The black saltire and the red heart are charges common to almost all arms borne by members of the wider community that is the Taylor Name, and the blue gold-pierced mullets are two of the Baron's mullets reversed. The Friendship sloop in base was granted for the bearer's achievements in deep-sea sailing, and the godwit crest symbolises his skill in long-range ocean navigation.



The arms depicted here on the lozenge fleury are the arms of the Baron of Urquhart as borne by his daughter, the wife of the Baron Baillie of Urquhart.



**THE MACROBERT BROTHERS**, Sir Alasdair Workman MacRobert, 2nd Bt, who died in a flying accident in 1938, Flight Lieutenant Sir Roderick Alan MacRobert, 3rd Bt, Royal Air Force, killed in action in 1941, and Pilot Officer Sir Iain Workman MacRobert, 4th Bt, Royal Air Force, killed in action a month later, were for their American mother, Lady MacRobert, and for her legion of admirers, the personification of the sacrifice so many then shared. Three sons, three sons who loved aviation, killed in pursuit of their love, and with the third died the baronetcy created for their father. She had no daughters.

Lady MacRobert fought on, her spirit unquenchable, using the wealth her husband had created and the lands of his Aberdeenshire estates. One of the great houses was given to become a recuperation centre for exhausted aircrew, the other for a hospital, and as her reply to the enemy she gave two four-engined bombers to the Royal Air Force and a flight of Hurricane fighters to the Soviet Air Force. The bomber aircraft bore the MacRobert arms and the name “MacRoberts’ Reply”, and in the tiny Royal Air Force of today a bomber, a Tornado of XV Squadron, still bears the arms and name of the MacRobert brothers.

*Arms:* Gules on a chevron between three wolves’ heads erased Argent as many thistles leaved and slipped Proper, in centre chief the badge of a Baronet of the United Kingdom.

*Crest:* In front of a dexter cubit arm vested Azure, the hand Proper grasping an Eastern Crown Or, two fronds of bracken in saltire Proper.

*Motto:* *Virtutis gloria merces* (Glory is the reward of valour)

*Archivist’s notes:* It may be claimed as a necessity that an Armorial intended to support the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund should include in Volume I the arms of a family not only identified so closely with aviation, but a family whose last widow contributed so much to the welfare of those who served in the air. The MacRobert Trusts continued her charitable work after her death.

The stem arms are those of the Robertsons, and the crest is that of the Robertson chief modified by replacing the Royal Crown with the Eastern Crown in recognition of the first Baronet’s long service in India. The motto is the Robertson motto, granted to a Robertson Chief by James II in reward for the arrest of the principal murderers of his father, but never more appropriate than here.

It is of interest that although he was a Scot, the first Baronet’s arms were granted by Garter King of Arms in London in 1922. It was much later, in 1949, that his widow matriculated them at the Court of the Lord Lyon.

This is Volume One of an unlimited series commemorating the heraldic research of Harry Pirie-Gordon of Buthlaw and dedicated to the support of the **Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund**.

Each volume will be composed in Portable Document Format (PDF) and limited to ten pages to maintain the size of each volume around 1.0Mb.



The Baronage Press