

Could You Be a MacGregor? Family History and the MacGregor DNA Project

Many names were adopted by MacGregors because of the Proscription. Some families retained the new names when the Proscription was lifted in 1774 while others reverted to their rightful name of MacGregor. (Spelling variants are accepted with M', Mc and Mac considered interchangeable).

If your surname is on one of the lists below, and you have a family tradition of Scottish heritage, you might be a MacGregor!

List A : Accepted MacGregor Names and Septs

Alpin	Grewer	Macara	MacGrowther	MacPeter(s)
Fletcher	Grierson	Macaree	MacGruder	MacPetrie
Greer/Grier	Grigg	MacChoiter	Macilduy	Magruder
Gregg	Grigor	MacConachie	MacLeister	Malloch
Gregor	Gruer	MacCrowther	MacLiver	Neish
Gregson	King	MacEan	MacNee	Patullo
Gregorson	MacAlpin	MacEwin	MacNie	Peter(s)
Gregory	MacAdam	MacGregor	MacNeice	Petrie
Greig	Macaldowie	MacGrigor	MacNeish	

List B : Documented Aliases of MacGregor from the Proscription

Bain	Bowie	Dunn	Lockie	White
Beachley	Coleman	Lakie	Mor	Whyte
Black	Comrie	Landless	Roy	Willox
Bowers	Dochart	Leckie	Skinner	

List C : Traditional Aliases with little documented evidence

Argyl	Crowther	Guiness	MacGrew	Shankland
Arrowsmith	Denison	Kirkwood	Macnocaird	Stringer
Begland	Docherty	Leishman	Macnucator	Tainsh
Bowmaker	Dorward	MacAndrew	Nelson	Telfer

Brewer	Dowie	MacAngus	Neilson	Telford
Caird	Fisher	MacCanish	Nucator	Tossach
Callander	Gair	MacGeach	Orr	Walker
Clark	Goodsir	Macgehee	Paterson	Weliver
Craigdallie	Grayson	Macghee	Peat	
Crerar	Gudger	MacGill	Peterson	

List D : Other Clan names that are known to have been used by the MacGregors

Balfour	Ferguson	Livingston	MacInnes	Murray
Buchanan	Gordon	MacAlastair	MacNeil	Ramsay
Campbell	Graham	MacDonald	MacLaren	Robertson
Cunningham	Grant	MacDougal	MacNicol	Sinclair
Douglas	Hay	MacEwan	MacPherson	Stewart
Drummond	Johnson	MacFarlane	MacWilliams	Stirling
Erskine	Johnston	Maclan	Menzies	Wilson

Please note that many of the surnames chosen as aliases by MacGregors belonged to other clans and families. Just because the name appears in your pedigree, doesn't necessarily mean you are a descendant of the clan. Diligent family history research is still key in identifying you as a long lost MacGregor. Fortunately, the American Clan Gregor Society has a Genealogy Committee that may be able to help you. When you apply for provisional membership in the ACGS (<https://acgsus.org/membership/>), you can request assistance from the Genealogy Committee.

MacGregor DNA Project

The MacGregor DNA Project is not an official ACGS activity, as such, but rather a tool any person may use to facilitate their personal genealogical research. It is one of many surname projects of the genetic genealogy company. Family TreeDNA, in Houston Texas – <http://www.familytreedna.com>

The MacGregor DNA Project exists to answer two questions:

- Who are the MacGregors?
- Where did they come from?

Neither of these questions will be answered absolutely, nor immediately, since the science behind this is still young and results are still open to discussion. In addition, records are confused, widely scattered, not available or non-existent. However, we are all trying to find some answers. Hence, the MacGregor DNA Project.

Professor Richard McGregor heads up this project and analyzes all the data. He has been Chairman of the Clan Gregor Society of Scotland. In 2002 he initiated the MacGregor DNA Project which now has over 1,767 members. Every year he publishes a blog in which he discusses what the results suggest and indicates where different individuals share close family relationships which allows people to share genealogies. Over many years he has built up a large genealogical database covering the whole of Scotland and frequently helps MacGregor kin all over the world identify their family roots. Check out his blogs: <http://themacgregordnaproject.blogspot.com>