

## Bell Derbhfine (Family Convention)

June 15 and 16, 2019

**Location: Greens at Gretna, Glasgow Road, Gretna, Dumfriesshire, DG16 5FG, Scotland**

A family convention, under the guidance of the Court of Lord Lyon assigned Officer of Arms, is to take place in Gretna, Scotland. The Bell family has had no chief or leader since at least the early 17th century, and it is not known if anyone can now prove that they are the most senior member of a Bell family with a claim to be chief of the Bell name. In the absence of such a person, it would benefit Bells if they had a Commander who would lead the clan for the and next ten to twenty years while a suitable person to be chief is identified or a descendant of the principal family of the name is able to gather proof of their descent. One of the functions of the commander is to encourage Bell family members to come forward if they believe they have a claim to be the Bell Chieftain and for them undertake the necessary research to provide supporting evidence to the Court of the Lord Lyon for said claim.

The manner in which a commander is identified is through a family convention that must show support from a wide geographical area and from those who are members of Bell societies and those who are not. Members of the Bell family are planning that a gathering take place in Scotland in 2019. It is hoped that a suitable person will be identified at this gathering who will take on the role of Commander. As the Coordinator for this family convention, **I am calling on all those who receive this information and are interested in being considered for this very important role within the Clan to contact me.** Within the next few weeks those who have contacted me will be sent a request for information on their interest and qualifications to be considered. More information will be made available as the convention solidifies. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have. Details for what is required for consideration will be supplied to those who have interest.

Mrs. Elizabeth Roads, Snawdoun Herald of Arms has been appointed by the Court of Lord Lyon to oversee the family convention. Under Mrs. Roads' guidance, we now seek applications from those who might wish to lead the clan for the next decade.

If you plan on attending the Clan Bell Family Conference, there have been a block of rooms set aside for Bell family members. Contact the Greens at Gretna at <https://www.greensatgretna.co.uk/> for more information. Mention that you are with the Bell Family convention. Please let me know if you are planning to attend so I can keep a running track of attendees. A detailed schedule of events will be sent prior to 30 days before the convention. An attempt will be made to establish a live internet link to the event, but as yet no promises.

If you would like more information about the Bell family convention or about how your name might be considered for the position of Commander, please contact: Robert Bell, 3228 Oak Leaf Place, Highlands Ranch, Colorado 80129 USA Or by e-mail at [clanbellcolorado@aol.com](mailto:clanbellcolorado@aol.com).

I look forward to making this event a success!

In kinship,

Robert (Bob) Bell