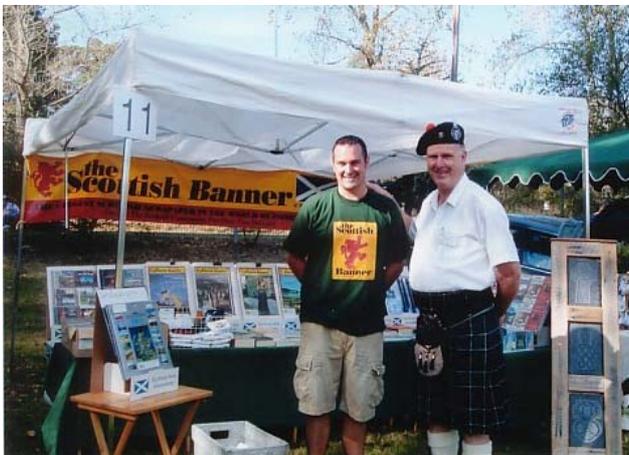


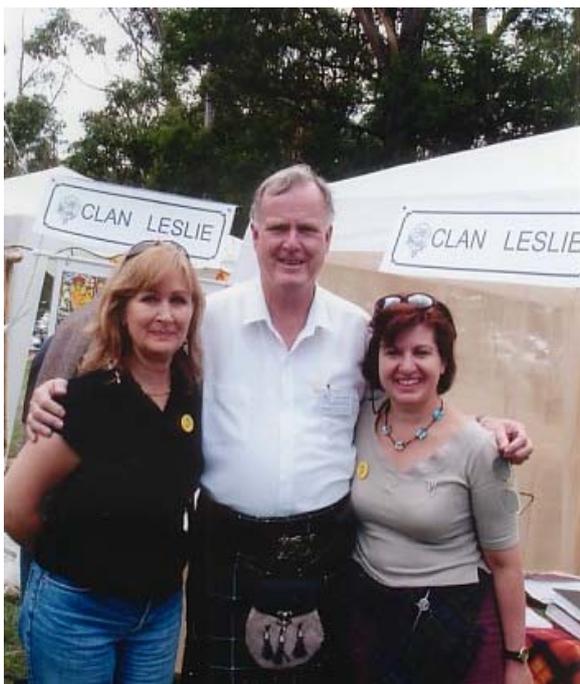


BUNDANOON 2004.

Well Bundanoon is "Brigadoon" has come and gone for another year and I am happy to say that we had three new members join CLANZ on the day, as well as several other visitors, including CLANZ member Robyn Leeder of Croydon, Sydney.



Sean Cairney of The Scottish Banner with Barrie Leslie



New members of CLANZ, Di Baradinsky (left) of Blaxland and her sister Brenda Leslie, (right) of Woodford at the Bundanoon Gathering, but I

am sorry to say that I did not get a photograph of new member Darryl Leslie of Kiama Downs and his family. Sorry about that Darryl. Looking at that photograph, I think that I will have to go on a diet, very soon.

Barrie Leslie, Gordon, NSW 2072.



PRIVATE WILLIAM LESLIE



*Private William Leslie No 50026
Mounted Rifles, 29th Reinforcements*

William, born 19th November 1892, was the elder twin son of Peter Denny Leslie and Isabelle Armour of Wellington New Zealand. His twin brother Private Peter Denny Leslie No 16309 Mounted Rifles 16th Reinforcements left New Zealand on the 26th January 1916.

William was educated to the secondary level at Wellington Boys College and won prizes for science and book-keeping. He remembers taking shortcuts to and from the school through the Government House grounds and the New Zealand Governor General used to go to the school grounds and watch them at sport.

His father Peter Denny Leslie was a Manager for Colonial Mutual Life Assurance and was transferred to Adelaide, South Australia for a period 1900 / 1902 and William remembers seeing Bernard Freyberg, later Sir and General, aboard the ship on the return to New Zealand.

William left New Zealand on the 13th November 1917 and served in the Mounted Rifles and The Machine Gun Section in Palestine and he often had to lead the men back to camp after manoeuvres, as the Officer in Charge had no sense of direction. He used to relate how he used to sit on top of the sand dunes in Palestine and take pot shots at the enemy planes as they flew past him. He never did hit one, but at least he tried. He also remembers that they had a very small water ration and the food rations always included "raisins".

He once spoke of meeting a "Ghurka" and asked him to show him his Kukri, but it was explained to him that once drawn it could not be replaced without drawing blood. So William received a small nick in his finger and so honour was saved.

William was invalided home with malaria and after the war, both William and his brother Peter, farmed at Waitomo, but William left to go mustering in the Marlborough Sounds until he married Gwen Jebson on the 17th March 1924, when he moved to Glen Murray (west of Huntly) to manage a farm, before leasing a farm at Taupiri where his children Peggy and Peter were born. In 1934 he took a lease on a farm at Whangaparaoa (north of Auckland) and then at Albany in 1941 and then retired to Whangaparaoa in 1956.

Many thanks to Peg Welsford of Albany, Auckland for the information on her father.

+ + + + + + + + + +

***** **HELP** *****

I need more photographs and stories to put into the Roll of Honour. If you have information on any Leslie's who served in the Armed Forces or was famous, or notorious, or invented anything, the story needs to be told so that it is recorded for future generations. All too often stories are lost when that generation dies, so give me the information, however non worthy you think it is.

Barrie Leslie, Gordon, NSW.

INTERNATIONAL TARTAN DAY.

July 1st 2004 is the 222th Anniversary of the repealing of the Act of Parliament of August 1st 1747 that made it punishable with SEVEN YEARS TRANSPORTATION for wearing the TARTAN.

The Act reads as such:- *That from and after the First Day of August 174, no man or boy within that part of Great Britain called Scotland, other than such as shall be employed as Officers and Soldiers of His Majesty's Forces, shall on any pretext whatsoever, wear or put on the clothes, commonly called Highland clothes(that is to say) the Plaid, Philabeg or little kilt, Trowes, Shoulder-Belts, or any part whatever of what peculiarly belongs to the Highland Garb and that no tartan or party-coloured plaid or stuff shall be used for Great coats or upper coats and if any such person shall presume after the first said day of August, to wear or put on the aforesaid garments or any part of them, every person so offending, shall be liable to be transported to any of His Majesty's plantations beyond the seas, there to remain for the space of seven years.*

This Act remained in place until The Act of Abolition was repealed by the King's assention on the 1st July 1782. A proclamation was issued in both Gaelic and English which read as such:-

Listen Men; This is bringing before all the sons pf the Gael, the King and Parliament of Great Britain have forever abolished the act against the Highland Dress, which came down to the Clans from the beginning of the world to the year 1746. This must bring great joy to every highland Heart. You are no longer bound to the unmanly dress of the Lowlander. This is declaring to every Man, young and old, simple and gentle, that they mat after this put on and wear the Truis, the Little Kilt, the Coat and the Striped Hose, as also the Belted Plaid, without fear of the Law of the Realm or the spite of the enemies.

There are two dates that are used to celebrate Tartan Day. The 6th April in North America and 1st July in Australia and New Zealand and other countries. The significance of the 6th April relates to the Declaration of Arbroath when a letter was written to the Pope in Rome, declaring the independence of Scotland from England and asking for his support. This letter was signed on the 6th April 1320.

The significance of the 1st July is that the 1st July 1782 was the date of the Repeal of the Act of Proscription of the wearing of the Tartan. Many people think that the 1st of July has a much greater significance to the wearing of the Tartan than the 6th April.

Nevertheless whatever day you support, wear a piece of Tartan on the Day. Finally in support of the 1st of July is that the 1st July is the day that the restoration of the Scottish Parliament took place on the 1st July 1999.

Barrie Leslie, Gordon, NSW.

ABERDEEN NSW HIGHLAND GAMES

The Aberdeen Highland Games will be held at Jefferson Park Aberdeen New South Wales (in the Hunter Valley) on Saturday 3rd July 2004.



Pipe Band, Courtesy of Aberdeen Highland Games NSW.

The Games start at 10.00am on Saturday 3rd July and continue till late. There will be Street Parades, Highland Dancing, Massed Bands,



Scottish Dancers at the Aberdeen Highland Games

Kilted Dash, Craft Stalls, Kirkin of the Tartan (Sunday at St Marks) Haggis Hurl and many more attractions such as Best Set of Legs, Foot Race and Highland Dress.

Aberdeen is situated on the New England Highway in the beautiful Upper Hunter Valley, surrounded by rolling farmland, thoroughbred horse Studs and Vineyards.

Aberdeen is one of 36 towns around the world to proudly bear the name. The region has a strong Scottish heritage.

For further information ring:-
Dot Cameron 02 6543 7796.
Charles Cooke 02 6543 1099
or write to Aberdeen Highland Games.
P. O. Box 65.
Aberdeen. NSW. 2336, or online at
www.aberdeenhIGHLANDgames.com

WEBSITES FOR YOUR INTEREST

State Records of NSW.

<http://www.records.nsw.gov.au>

Nominal Rolls of WW II as well as other links

<http://www.ww2roll.gov.au>

Scots Finder

<http://www.scotsfind.org>

Immigrant Ships to New Zealand 1835 1910

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~shipstonz/shipstonz.htm>

The Ships List

<http://www.theshipslist.com>

Old United Kingdom Maps.

<http://www.old-maps.co.uk>

Prisoners executed in England Scotland, Wales and Ireland 1601 – 1910

<http://www.fhsystem.demon.co.uk/fhsystem5.htm>

Listings of Irish District Registries Republic

<http://www.groireland.ie/fees.htm>

Listings of Irish District Registries, Nth Ireland

<http://www.groni.gov.uk/contacts.asp>

Discover Ship and Passenger records.

<http://www.nla.gov.au/guides/discoverguides/shippassenger.html>

THE LESLIE DIASPORA by Sir Peter Leslie (1)

The history of the Leslie family has been unusually well researched and documented in successive centuries: the Laurus Leslaeana in the 17th; the Historical Records by Colonel Charles Leslie of Balquhain in the 19th; and by Alexander Leslie Klieforth in the 20th. The Historical Records (2) traced all the leading branches of the family in great detail to a common ancestry in the early middle ages and thence to the extinction of virtually all of them in the male line by the 19th and 20th century - the two current Leslie Earldoms of Rothes and Leven and Melville both descend in the female line.

Yet today there are Leslies to be found throughout the United Kingdom and the USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The conundrum, common to most well known families, is: from whom do the Leslies of today descend?. The unwritten assumption lies behind the study - as of all single name family studies - that all Leslies were descended from a single stock. Before long the widespread application of DNA techniques will throw greater light on this questionable and emotive subject but meanwhile we can only test this against very limited information.

This article briefly examines the disappearance from Scotland of the original branches and the subsequent spread of the name in Scotland and beyond.

The apogee of the family was in the 17th century. At that time the head of the family held the Dukedom of Rothes, whilst other leading members held the Earldom of Leven, the Baronies of Newark and Lindores and a Baronetcy. The main land holdings were in Aberdeenshire, Moray and Banff, where some 25 landowning branches are recorded, and in Fife, where the Leslie peers all held land and where the acknowledged family head, the Duke of Rothes, was based at Leslie House. By 1900 virtually no major lands were recorded in Leslie names, with the exception of the Earl of Leven in Morayshire and three Leslie families in Ireland. There were perhaps two major reasons for this eclipse.

The death of the Duke of Rothes in 1684 without male heirs, and the descent of the surviving Earldom several times in the female line - increasingly in England - left the family without an essential leading head in Scotland at a time when the loss of Scottish independence

meant the loss of traditional family patronage from which his predecessors and other family members had benefited. Added to which, the cost of the Duke's almost royal funeral left his successors in debt for generations and led to the progressive sales of all his Leslie estates, with the large Rothes estates in Moray, being sold in 1711. This was compounded by the burning of the greater part of the Rothes Palace at Leslie, in 1763. The Earldom of Leven lasted only two generations in the male line and its merger in the older title of Melville in 1707 meant that it became more Melville and less Leslie.

(1) This article, with minor differences appeared originally in The Scottish Genealogist in 2001.

(2) Colonel Charles Leslie, whose family had taken the name by marriage to a Leslie of Balquhain heiress, had acquired considerable additional wealth by his second marriage with the self styled Countess of Newburgh. He may have embarked on this exhaustive and very well documented work by a desire to emphasise the antiquity and distinction of his own untitled Leslie ancestors.

The concentration of the Leslies in their cradle of Aberdeen, Banff and Moray made them vulnerable to the impoverishment of that area in the 17th and early 18th centuries. Moreover, the fact that the leadership of the family had moved away from Aberdeenshire to the Earls of Rothes in the 15th century and the proliferation of Leslie "Bonnet lairds" without a major landowning family meant that the status of the Leslies in the North East diminished. In common with many other landowning families, poor land and growing families resulted in a massive diaspora of Leslies to Ulster and, more importantly, to Eastern and Northern Europe where at one time Leslies were the leading generals of Austria, Sweden, and Russia, and where many Leslies were recorded as mercenaries, merchants or traders. Several branches remained Catholic and suffered the problems of retention of their Scottish estates in that staunchly Presbyterian area. By 1850 only four families, Balquhain, Warthill, Kininvie and Wardis, retained their estates and by 1950 all had gone. Only in Ireland has one Leslie Baronetcy survived on their original lands.

Although these original branches both in Scotland and Europe appear to have died out, the name remained, if not common, at least well

known in its traditional areas and steadily developed outside them through emigration. Yet few current Leslie families can trace their family in the male line back to any of these original landowning names. As we shall see later, the correlation between the name in Scottish church records and the areas of original landowning remained close - and the name remained rare outside those areas at least until the 19th century. It is thus likely that most families are indeed descended, whether legitimately or illegitimately, from the family, which had its cradle in Leslie in the Chapel of Garioch in the 12th century. (Leslie in Fife -originally Fythkil - was a much later name)

The name itself, whilst variously spelt as Lesslie, Lessly, Lesly, Lesley, seemed from an early time to have been easily identified and spelt, possibly from familiarity with famous holders of the name in the 16th and 17th century. With the minor exception of Lessels - the famous Edinburgh scientist Professor Sir John Leslie appears to have been a Lessels/Lascelles- and in England, of Lisle - and in the later 19th century of European immigrants adopting the name - there seem to have been few of the confusions which apply to so many other Scottish names. The adoption of the name as a Christian name both for girls - from Burns' "Bonny Lesley" - and of Leslie for boys later in the 19th century may have given a fresh impetus to the familiarity of the name even though, in numerical terms, it remained surprisingly rare.

The fact that the family was a dynamic and successful one from the 12th to the 17th century could have attracted others to "join" it by adopting the name as surnames developed. Whilst it is inappropriate to apply the "Clan" system to Aberdeenshire, there is evidence that there were close parallels to the Highland clans. The "Leslies" were often described as significant force in Aberdeenshire strife: they were prominent participants at the Battle of Harlaw in 1411, at which some 15 of Leslie leaders were killed or when it was possible to say "thick as the Leslies on Gadieside".

An analysis of the Marriages (1) appearing in the Old Parish records (OPR) shows some 6000 Leslies in the period 1600-1855 and the 1881 census shows 4000 names with a further 1000 in England and Wales - unfortunately the Northern Ireland figures are not available. Inevitably the completeness of the recording of marriages shows

wide variation with the more organised and literate cities producing a higher proportion of recordings in the earlier period. The 1881 census emphasises the comparative rarity of the name which represented some .001% of the population of Scotland. The percentages of total Leslie "population" under both headings shows considerable consistency - and some variations.

Marriages in OPR - 1881 Census - % of total pop

1 Aberdeenshire.	19.8%	23.1%	.003
of which Aberdeen city.			
	(8.6%)	(9.7%)	
2 Moray/Banff	13.3%	8.5%	.003
3 Angus/Kincardine.			
	10.9%	11.4%	.0015
of which Dundee/Arbroath			
	(5.9%)	(5.2%)	
4 Fife/Perth	12.1%	11.2%	.0015
Total EASTERN SCOTLAND			
	56.19%	54.2%	
5 Orkney/Shetland.	11.2%	10.2%	.007
6 Edinburgh	10.5%	8.2%	.0009
7 Glasgow and Clyde			
	3.4%	7.8%	
8 Highlands	6.4%	4.2%	
9 Other Scotland			
	12.4%	15.4%	

TOTAL SCOTTISH DATABASE

6073	4021	.001
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Commenting on the figures and relating them to traditional Leslie lands:

1. ABERDEENSHIRE As expected, this showed the greatest concentration. Within the county, Aberdeen city, which would have been the centre for the Leslie lairds, showed large numbers particularly in the 17th century. Within the county.

(1) The use of Marriages as a database rather than Baptisms was selected to provide a better measure of distribution of adult Leslies. A detailed analysis of the OPR records by parish was undertaken from which the statistics above were compiled. The analysis of the 1881 census was limited to counties and large towns only,

although the name appears in some half of all parishes, there was a close correlation with the Leslie lands in the central area of Chapel of Garioch, Rayne and Inch, although the 1881 figures showed a reduction in rural Leslies - to the benefit of Aberdeen and the coastal areas of Cruden and Ellon.

2. MORAY/BANFF Again, the greatest concentration in the whole survey was on the Rothes/Drainie/Elgin area, where the name Leslie tended to dominate, at least until the 19th century, in the original Leslie landholdings in the Glen of Rothes and Elgin. Banff shows a wider distribution with only Keith and Rothiemay showing larger figures. By 1881 there had been significant emigration from the area reflected in a fall in Leslie frequency.

3. ANGUS/KINCARDINE Leslie landholdings were never significant in this area. Concentration was strong on the sea-coast towns of Dundee and Arbroath/St Vigean and particularly after 1800 suggesting coastal immigration from Aberdeenshire. The name was rare in Kincardine and coverage low in 37/56 parishes in Angus. The greater use of Lesslie rather than Leslie suggests an emphasis on an unfamiliar phonetic spelling.

4. FIFE/PERTH Very wide but low coverage throughout Fife, although low in the two main centres of St Andrews and Dunfermline. Little correlation with Leslie landholdings in North Fife although some emphasis in the south in Abbotshall and Burnisland close to the Leven lands. Surprisingly the name hardly appears in the town of Leslie, possibly reflecting its comparatively late renaming. In Perth the name appears only in 14/86 parishes with concentration in the North West in Dunkeld, Caputh and Alyth, possibly connected with the Leslie control of the Abbey of Couper Angus in the 16th century.

5. ORKNEY/SHETLAND. No Leslie landholdings or obvious reason for these large concentrations making these the only areas where the percentage of the population was significant. In Orkney almost entirely in Westray which Gilbert Balfour from Fife had "colonised" in the 16th century; In Shetland entirely in the South from the 18th century in Dunrossness and Tingwall where the sea connection with Aberdeen might have been an explanation. In both these areas, the name was a dominant one.

6. EDINBURGH particularly noticeable from the 17th century and possibly explained by close involvement with the Rothes family with the Court and Government from the 15th century. The natural centre of drift for an East Coast family.

7. GLASGOW. Very low figures only becoming significant in the industrialisation of the 19th century in Barony and Govan. By 1881, numbers of Leslies exceeded Edinburgh.

8. HIGHLANDS. Very low figures only in 39/134 parishes with none in the west coast except a small pocket in Islay; few in Inverness but small concentration in Dornoch /Rogart are from 1750.

9 OTHERS. Very low in the Borders and South West and Clyde and only Haddington, Linlithgow, Falkirk, Paisley and Duns showing slightly larger figures.

In **ENGLAND** Leslies appear in London from earliest parish records with 309 names in the census - possibly boosted with Levis and other immigrants adopting the name. Elsewhere, as one would expect, the census shows concentrations in Northumberland, Durham, Cumbria and Lancashire reflecting the 19th century drift of industrial workers from Scotland. Minimal coverage in the rest of the country - even Birmingham shows only 18 in 1881 and all of Wales 3!

The figures for **NORTHERN IRELAND** would undoubtedly show a large concentration reflecting the "plantation" of Leslie landowners and their family followers in the 17th century, although emigration to the USA would already have taken a toll by 1881.

Whilst it is impossible to obtain detailed figures, it is likely that by 1881 the population of Leslies in **NORTH AMERICA, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND** and, to a lesser extent, **SOUTH AFRICA** would have exceeded the numbers of those left behind in Scotland.

WHAT LIMITED CONCLUSIONS CAN BE DRAWN FROM THIS BRIEF STUDY?

- that the name is a comparatively rare one .

- that it emerged as a surname in the later middle ages in North East Scotland and spread initially to other areas where its leading members had obtained land.

- that there appears to be a close correlation between the "historic" landholdings and main Leslie areas in the censuses.

-that the success of a number of branches in the 15th, 16th and 17th century outside Aberdeenshire and particularly of the Earls of Rothes made the name well known - indeed better known than the small numbers of the family justified.

- that the eclipse of virtually all these branches within Scotland in the 18th and 19th was exceptional and may have encouraged the subsequent diaspora.

- that there was signification emigration in the 17th century to continental Europe and Ulster and down to coastal ports on the East Coast as far as Edinburgh and up to Orkney and Shetland.

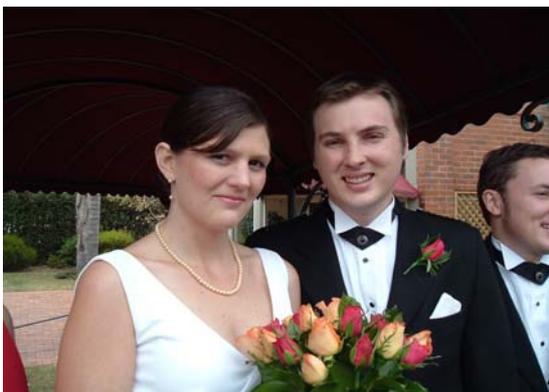
- that there was a much wider movement in the 18th century inland from the coast to agricultural parishes and to the USA. In the 19th century this gathered pace within the British Isles and to the English speaking world.

- that in spite of these population movements the 1881 and 1891 Censuses show that over 50% of all Scottish Leslies remained in the seven Eastern seaboard counties in line with the distribution by marriage in the preceding three centuries.

© Sir Peter Leslie 2001. Oxon England.

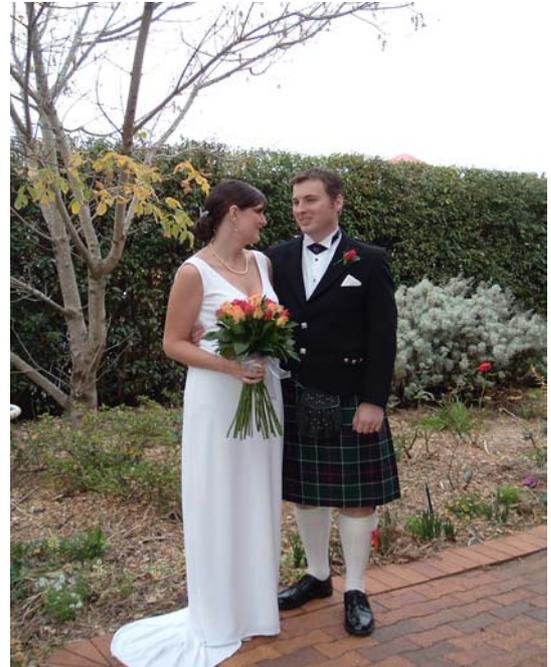
A CLAN LESLIE WEDDING

Mal Leslie has sent in this account and photographs of Gavin, his sons wedding to Rachel Clark on the 22nd May 2004.



Rachel Clark and Gavin Leslie

On Saturday 22nd May 2004, the Wedding took place in Toowoomba Queensland, of CLANZ member, Gavin Leslie to Miss Rachel Clark. Gavin was supported by his younger brother Kenneth, while the Bridesmaid was Kenneth's fiancée, Miss Daena Scheuber.



A full length portrait of Rachel and Gavin

It was a kilted wedding, with Gavin, Kenneth and their father, CLANZ Secretary, resplendent in Leslie tartan.



Cutting of the Wedding cake by Rachel and Gavin

**LESLIE CLAN GATHERING
12TH 13TH 14TH AUGUST 2005
Perth Scotland.**

If you are going to go to the Gathering at Perth Scotland in August 2005, Please contact the **Isle of Skye** hotel in **Perth Scotland**.

Bookings can be done by phone 0044+1738+624471 or fax 0044+1738+493902 or online by email to sales@isleofskypeperth.co.uk and quote Clan Leslie, and most important please confirm with:-

Brian Lesslie.

4 Albany Terrace. Perth PH1 2BD. Scotland.

You can also let me know on lesliejb@ozemail.com.au or phone 02 9418 2262 or fax 02 4997616 and I will confirm your booking with Brian.

Barrie Leslie, Gordon, NSW 2072.

ITEMS IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER.

In the next newsletter I will have a memorium to Brian Leslie of Blenheim New Zealand, which was sent to me by Rob Leslie of Tauranga, New Zealand and I put it away so safely that I cannot find it.

There will also be an item on The Kings own Scottish Borderers Regiment.



*Photo Courtesy of K.O.S.B. Regiment
K.O.S.B. Regiment in Trews and Piper.*

There will also be an article on the Queensland Regiment that is associated with the KOSB.

Barrie Leslie, Gordon NSW 2072.

Clan Leslie Society of Australia and New Zealand

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