



DEATH OF IAN, 21ST EARL OF ROTHES.



Ian, 21st Earl of Rothes.

On 15th April 2005, our much admired and popular Clan Chief, Lord Ian Rothes died at the age of 72, in Salisbury, England.

In 1979, Ian wrote a biographical sketch which was printed in the first issue of *The Griffin*, the Society's historical publication. It is reproduced in full below.

Alexander Leslie Klieforth.

Ian Lionel Malcolm Leslie, 21st Earl of Rothes, Lord Leslie and Ballenbreich, was born in 1932, the only son of Malcolm, the 20th Earl, and Beryl Dugdale. Malcolm had been brought up at Leslie House in Fife, Scotland, but both it, and its lands were sold when the 19th Earl died in the 1920's. After his marriage Malcolm moved to London and acquired country property in the south of England. This proved a great boon for his young family when war broke out in 1939, as it provided refuge, being away from London.

Since Ian was only seven when the family moved to the country, he always regarded this as his first

home. It was there that he developed his love for the countryside and all the pursuits and occupation which go with it. The shortages of World War II and the severe food rationing in Great Britain meant that young Ian had to learn about farming, and particularly bee-keeping, fishing and rabbit hunting, not as a pastime but as a necessary activity to produce food for the family. So, at an early age he had to know something about the business of country living, and to make his contribution when home. This was not a hardship for him, as Ian admits that he preferred outdoor activities and sports, to school, which was first at a preparatory school in the north of England, and then at Eton College.

In 1950, on finishing school, he joined the Royal Navy as a cadet, serving aboard the HMS Vanguard, the last of the great British battleships.



HMS. Vanguard

After six months, Ian graduated as a midshipman and was assigned to an anti-submarine-frigate attached to the Mediterranean Fleet. This was at the onset of the formation of the NATO fleets, and provided him with interesting and diversified duty in many parts of the Mediterranean and the Middle East. He was involved in the Abadan Emergency, the first of the Middle Eastern oil crises, and the Suez problems of 1951-52. Upon leaving the Navy as a Lieutenant, Ian went to London to work for a publishing house specialising in technical books.

During the eleven years he was in publishing he travelled about Europe and North America, and met many leading figures in the scientific and medical world.

In 1955, Ian married Marigold, daughter of Sir David Evans-Bevan, whose family is from Wales. Their first son, James Malcolm David, Master of Leslie, was born in 1958; their second son Alexander John arrived in 1962. After leaving the publishing business, Ian and Marigold bought a farm in the south of England, not far from his original home.

In 1975 Ian succeeded to the Earldom, through which his interest in the family history was thoroughly aroused. He had developed his knowledge of Scotland by his frequent visits, and had always been proud of his Scottish ancestry and heritage. Having inherited remaining family portraits and other Leslie heirlooms, Ian decided to broaden his knowledge and made contact with others interested in the family. Sufficient response developed so that it was decided to have a Leslie participation in the International Gathering of the Clans in 1977, in Edinburgh. As a direct result of this and further contacts made in Edinburgh, ideas of a Clan Leslie Society emerged, leading to the development of a Council and the American Clan Leslie Society.



Ian Rothes

In April 1978, Ian Rothes appointed Alexander Leslie Klieforth as his Commissioner to the United States, with the specific task of organising and bringing into being the American Clan Leslie Society, which would later become the Clan Leslie Society on an international basis. This was accomplished, and for the following 27 years, until

his untimely death, Ian was actively interested in the welfare and growth of the Society, without which the Clan Leslie Society would not have enjoyed the esteem, recognition and growth, which it has achieved over the years.

Ian participated many times in Society gatherings, sometimes in the company of his wife, Marigold, and lately in the company of his younger son, Alexander.

Recognising the articles in *The Griffin* are an important source of information for the Clan as well as for the Society, Ian published four issues of reprints of *Griffin* articles.

Apart from attending Society gatherings, Ian had contact with a number of individual members, some of whom had the good fortune to visit him and Marigold at their farm in West Tytherley.

In 1982, Ian established the Clan Leslie Charitable Trust. It was registered under Scottish Law in Edinburgh. The objective of the Trust is to act as a worldwide, independent body for the collection of historical relics of Scotland and particularly those relating to Clan Leslie. The founding Trustees were Ian, his cousin Alastair Leslie, and a Scottish lawyer. Recently Alexander Leslie, Ian's son, and Fiona, Alastair's daughter joined the ranks of the original Trustees. The Leslie Collection, as it is known, began with a large and imposing assemblage of historically important objects. These came from family possessions and the collection has since been augmented by purchases and donations. Ian's objective from the beginning was to find a suitable place to house this collection, as a permanent display, but to date has not been able to find one.



Members of the Society, newcomers and longtimers alike, offer their condolences and sympathy to the Rothes family.

Ian Lionel Malcolm Leslie 21st Earl of Rothes



As the 15th August 2005, is the 60th Anniversary of the end of World War II, against Japan, VP Day, it seems appropriate to list the names of all the Leslie's from Australia and New Zealand who lost their lives while fighting for their country.

AUSTRALIA

LESLIE, Alan James, 12 July 1941. Flying Officer, **Harwell** Cemetery.
Son of Ronald Lachlan Leslie, and Elsie Florence Marion Leslie of Manly NSW. Australia

LESLIE, Alan James Durham 27 Jan 1944. Flying Officer 409721. **Berlin** 1939-1945 War Cemetery.
Son of William Coupar Leslie, and Edith Isabel Leslie of Sale, Victoria. Australia.

LESLIE, Colin. Private. 5 Sept 1943. NX36063 **Kanchanaburi** War Cemetery.
Son of Elizabeth Leslie of Tallimba NSW Australia

LESLIE, Ernest Thorburn, 30 Aug 1944. Flying Officer 420393. **Escoublac-La-Baule** War Cemetery
Son of George Swinnerton Leslie and Jessie Dorothy Leslie and husband of Lettie Leslie, of Bellevue Hill NSW Australia.

LESLIE, John. 16 March 1945. VX30942. Private **Ambon** War Cemetery
Son of Robert Leslie, and Isabella Leslie of Wick, Caithness. Scotland.

LESLIE, James Munro. 7 April 1941. Signalman QX5025 **Alamein** Memorial.
Son of John William Leslie, and Mary Ann Leslie of Gympie, Queensland, Australia.

LESLIE, James William. 2 May 1945 Private. **Labuan** War Cemetery.
Son of John Malcolm Leslie, and Adelaide Rose Leslie and husband of Muriel Betty Georgina Leslie, of South Guildford, Western Australia.

LESLIE, Kenneth James. 14 Dec 1944. 419785 Flight Sergeant. **Ancona** War Cemetery.
Son of John Leslie and Ethel Leslie of East Brunswick, Victoria. Australia.

LESLIE, Kenneth McKenzie. 17 Aug 1942. Flight Sergeant. 400240. **Runnymede** Memorial.

Son of Ewen Cameron Leslie and Marjorie Isobel Leslie of East Malvern, Victoria, Australia

LESLIE, Norman Stanley. 24 May 1942. Private V181127. **Footscray** Cemetery.
Son of Robert Pangbourne Leslie and Ethel May Leslie of Footscray, Victoria, Australia.

LESLIE, Richard Sinclair. 26 Aug 1943, Gunner. QX9869. **Thanbyuzayat** War Cemetery.
Son of Richard Arthur Leslie, and Sarah Leslie of Dutton Park, Queensland. Australia.

LESLIE, Stewart. 13 Sept 1943. Private. QX32727 **Lae** War Cemetery.
Parents unknown, A.I.F. 2/25Bn Grave B.C. 13.

LESLIE, Victor Gordon. 4 Feb 1945 Sapper. Q89837 **Lae** War Cemetery.
Son of John Henry Leslie, and Isabel Annie Leslie of Valley, Queensland.

NEW ZEALAND.

LESLIE, Colin Richard. 25 Sept 1944. Flight Sergeant. 42812 **Malta** Memorial.
Son of William Day Leslie, and Minnie Ethel Leslie of Taupaki, Auckland, New Zealand.

LESLIE, John Alexander. 24 Dec 1943 Private. 299890. **Cassino** Memorial.
Son of John Brown Leslie and Catherine Tertesa Leslie of Ashburton, Canterbury New Zealand and stepson of W.C. Evans of Timaru, New Zealand

LESLIE, John Christie. 1 Jan 1942. Lieutenant. 8866. **Bourail** Memorial.
Husband of Clarice Dinah Leslie, of Los Angeles, California. U.S.A.

LESLIE, Raymond William Gibson. 28 Jan 1945. Warrant Officer. 415702. **Bergen** Mollendal Church. Son of Richard Sheridan Leslie and Catherine Leslie (nee Gibson) of Christchurch, N.Z.

A MAN IS NOT DEAD UNTIL HE IS FORGOTTEN

“LEST WE FORGET”

There are others of the Leslie Septs but these are the only known ones of all the spellings of Leslie.

Barrie Leslie Gordon NSW.

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF IAN, 21ST EARL OF ROTHES.

**DEATH IS NOTHING AT ALL.
Henry Scott Holland.**

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of The Right Honourable, Ian Lionel Malcolm Leslie, 21st Earl of Rothes. Lord Leslie and Ballinbreich, Chief of the Name of Leslie, 10th May 1932 – 15th April 2005, was held at St Peters Church, West Tytherley.

*I have only slipped away into the next room.
I am I and you are you.
Whatever we were to each other, that we are still.
Call me by my old familiar name,
Speak to me in the easy way you always used,
Put no difference in your tone.
Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow.
Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes we
enjoyed together
Play; smile; think of me. Pray for me.
Let my name be ever the household word that it
always was.
Let it be spoken without effort, without the ghost of a
shadow on it.
Life meant all that it ever meant.
It is the same as it ever was,
There is absolutely unbroken continuity.
Why should I be out of mind because I am out of
sight.
I am waiting for you; for an interval.
Somewhere very near.
Just around the corner.
All is well.*

THE FOLLOWING THREE READINGS WERE READ AT THE FUNERAL.

*You can shed tears that he is gone
Or you can smile because he has lived.
You can close and pray that he'll come back.
Or you can open your eyes and see all that he left.
Your heart can be empty because you cannot see him
Or you can be full of the times you shared.
You can turn your back on tomorrow, because of
yesterday.
You can remember him, and only that he is gone.
Or you can cherish his memory, and let it live on.
You can cry, and close your mind.
Be empty and turn your back.
Or, you can do what he would want.
Smile.
Open your eyes, love and go on.*

WHAT IS DYING?.

*I am standing on the seashore.
A ship sails to the morning breeze and starts for the
ocean.
She is an object of beauty and I stand watching her
till she fades on the horizon – and someone at my
side says
“She is gone”,
Gone! Where? Gone from my sight – that is all.
She is just as large in the masts hull and spars as
she was when I saw her, and just as able to bear her
load of living freight to its destination.
The diminished size and total loss of sight is in me,
not in her, and just at the moment that someone at
my side says.
“She is gone”,
There are others who are watching her coming, and
other voices take up a glad shout
“There she comes”
And that is dying.*

The ashes of Ian Lionel Malcolm Leslie, 21st Earl of Rothes, Lord Leslie and Ballinbreich, Chief of the Name and Arms of Leslie, Chief of Clan Leslie, were scattered on the farm in Hampshire.

**THE FOLLOWING PAINTINGS ARE FROM
The Clan Leslie Charitable Trust.**



Ian, Lord Leslie



Ian, Lord Leslie by Edward Seago 1951.

Courtesy Clan Leslie Charitable Trust.

In light of the death of Ian, 21st Earl of Rothes, it seems appropriate to dig into the archives and recall the death of his grandfather, Norman Evelyn Leslie 19th Earl of Rothes.

**ABERDEEN PRESS AND JOURNAL
THURSDAY, MARCH 31. 1927.**

DEATH OF LORD ROTHES

Historic Scots Earldom.

Lord Rothes died on Tuesday at Mortimer, Berkshire, at the age of 49.

Norman Evelyn Leslie, 19th Earl of Rothes, was the only son of Mr Martin Leslie Leslie, who was the eldest son of Mary Elizabeth Countess of Rothes, 18th in line. He was born on July 13, 1877. His father died in 1882, and when his grandmother succeeded

in 1886 he became known by the courtesy title of Lord Leslie. In 1893, on the death of the Countess he succeeded as the 19th Earl of Rothes and Baron Leslie and Ballinbreich. He married in 1900, Lucy Noelle Martha, only child of the late Mr Thomas Dyer Edwardes, of Prinknash Park, Gloucester and had two sons. The elder son, Lord Leslie, who succeeds to the Earldom, was born in 1902, was educated at Eton, and married in 1926 Beryl Violet, only daughter of Mr James Lionel Dugdale, Crathorne Hall, Yarm, Yorkshire. Lady Rothes was one of the passengers on the Titanic, and behaved with great bravery. She took command of one of the lifeboats, and rowed it herself, in spite of cold and exhaustion, till picked up the following day. By her courage Lady Rothes saved several lives.

The late Lord Rothes was formerly a Captain in the Fife R.G.A. and a subaltern in the 6th Black Watch and the 4th Devonshire Regiment. He commanded the Highland Cyclist Battalion in France during the Great War, and after being severely wounded was attached to G.H.Q., but was subsequently compelled to resign on account of ill-health.

The Leslies are descended from one of the most ancient of Scottish families. The Earldom of Rothes in Morayshire, was created in 1458, and the Barony of Leslie was acquired by Norman Leslie in 1282. Many Leslies fell at the Red Harlaw in 1411, and Leslies too were Crusaders. There is a well-authenticated story of a David Leslie, the family heir, who was believed to have been killed in the Holy Land in 1391, but who returned home in 1398, to the annoyance of some of his relatives.

George Leslie, the 1st Earl, was raised to the Peerage of Scotland by James II, and the 3rd Earl was one of the many Scottish Peers who fell at Flodden in 1513.

The 6th Earl, who was a zealous Covenanter, and was heartily disliked in consequence by Charles I, headed the opposition to the proposed introduction of the Prayer Book in 1638, and was the chief organiser of the Kirk against the Episcopacy. His son, John, the 7th Earl, and later Duke of Rothes, was a staunch Royalist, and was taken prisoner at Worcester.

At the Restoration he became President of the Privy Council for Scotland, and Lord High Commissioner. He died in 1681, and was buried at night, with great splendour in St Giles' Cathedral, the funeral being the grandest on record in Scotland. The body was subsequently removed to Leslie, Fifeshire. His Dukedom died with him and by a new Charter,

which he obtained, the Earldom passed to his daughter, thus finally leaving the male line of the Leslies.

The 9th Earl, who was Vice-Admiral of Scotland, was a Scottish representative peer, fought at Sheriffmuir, and was Lord-Lieutenant of three counties - Fife, Kinross and Aberdeen. The 10th Earl fought at Dettingen, and was afterwards Commander-in-chief of the Forces in Ireland. There have been no fewer than five Countesses, in their own right, of Rothes.

From the Aberdeen Press and Journal, Thursday 31 March 1927

FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

Miriam Jacka, born 23rd April 1923 in South Australia, passed away 2nd June 2005 Sydney New South Wales. Miriam came from a musical family and played in the South Australian Junior Orchestra.



Her musical instruments were the violin and the cello as well as the piano.

Miriam began her working career at Charles Birks Ltd in Adelaide South Australia, as a tailor.

Her marriage in 1945 to Collin was the most important and enduring feature of her life. They had two children, Merilyn

and Robert and five grandchildren.

Miriam was one of the Australian Members who attended the Leslie Gathering at Leslie Castle in Aberdeenshire in 1995.



Miriam was a member of the Hornsby Hospital Pink Ladies Group for over fifteen years, two of which she was Treasurer.

A Service was held at the Magnolia Chapel Macquarie Park Cemetery.

A young Miriam Jacka.

A LESLIE FAMILY IN NEW ZEALAND.

CLANZ member Peg Welsford of Albany Auckland has sent me the following information on her grandfather, Peter Denny Leslie.

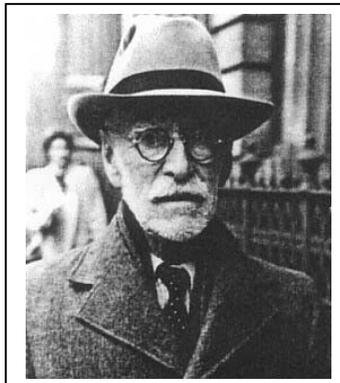
Peter Denny Leslie was born in Dumbarton Scotland and educated in Glasgow. He served his three years apprenticeship in a shipping office in Glasgow, but left in 1858 to join his parents, who had emigrated some years previously, in Dunedin.



Peter Denny Leslie

He entered the service of the Colonial Mutual Assurance Society in Dunedin in April 1885, as a junior clerk and when the Colonial Mutual Assurance Society moved its Head Office to Wellington in 1890, Peter Denny Leslie, was promoted to Chief Clerk.

He was a member of the Star Boating Club, owning a well-known and respected yacht. He was interested in Association Football and from 1893 he represented Otago on the Council of the New Zealand Football Association.



Peter Denny Leslie

About 1902, he was posted to the Colonial Mutual Assurance Society's Adelaide, South Australia, the youngest New Zealander of that office to be posted overseas. While there he was also Secretary of the Adelaide Bowling Club

and when he left Adelaide to return to New Zealand he was presented with a handsome silver tray for his services. In 1921 he was appointed as General Manager for South Africa, until his retirement in 1927 following a bad leg

fracture, sustained when he fell down on a ship, travelling between Cape Town and Fremantle. In 1938, he returned to Capetown, where family members cared for him, until his death in 1957 where he left twin sons, William and Peter Denny and daughters Edith and Dorothy (Bobs).

Thanks to Peg Welsford for the story on her Grandfather, Peter Denny Leslie.

MY HEALTH.

Unfortunately for some time I have had to take a medication, called Amiodarone, (Aratac) to control Atrial Fibrillation. In May of this year I started to get very breathless and unable to walk very far. It got to the stage where I could not walk 50 yards without having to sit down and rest.

Finally the Doctors decided that I had been poisoned by the Amiodarone (Amiodarone Toxicity) which was supposed to have been monitored every six months for complications with the lungs, heart, thyroid and eyes. I had been on the medication for two years with no checkup.

I was immediately taken off the medication, but my lungs eyes and thyroid gland had been badly affected and the thyroid gland was so overactive that it was thought that I would have to have radioactive iodine therapy to control it. It seems that medication might control the hyperactive thyroid gland but there is a shadow on my left lung, which has to be checked out. This medication can take five months to dissipate and only then will I know how much damage has been done.

I need HELP to run Clan Leslie Society of Australia and New Zealand, "CLANZ", so please don't be shy, let me know how you can help. This is your chance to help your Clan Society.

I must apologize to being so tardy with receipts and also being late with this issue of Grip Fast Down Under, but I am sure that you will understand.

ARTICLES AND STORIES REQUIRED FOR "GRIP FAST DOWN UNDER".

I need stories for inclusion in Grip Fast Down Under and I also require photographs and stories for the "Roll of Honour" this can be either military, civil service, or any other distinguished service.

THE SCOTTISH BANNER CLAN / SOCIETY SPECIAL.

The Scottish Banner in Australia and New Zealand is making a special offer to CLANZ members to take a one year subscription (12 issues) to all new and existing subscribers of A\$30-00 for Australian addresses and A\$40-00 for New Zealand addresses with airmail delivery to New Zealand. This is for a limited time. **31st July** to be precise.

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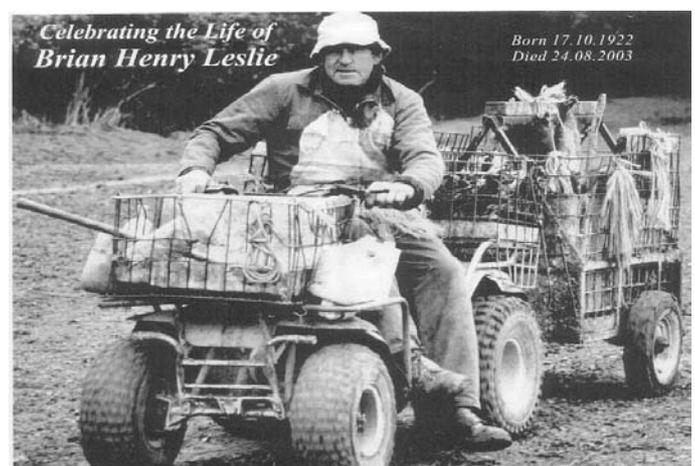
Australia.

FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

Brian Henry Leslie 17th Oct 1922 – 24th Aug 2003

Firstly, I must apologize to Robert Bruce Leslie of Tauranga New Zealand who sent me all the information and photographs on Brian Henry Leslie (his uncle) which I then put in a safe place. Too safe, but I finally found them.

Brian was born at Matamata in the Waikato district of the North Island of New Zealand in 1922, where his parents Clarence Victor and Myrtle Leslie (nee Pearce) were farming. The family moved back to a farm called Glendale at Cave in South Canterbury in 1926 and the land is still in the family.



Brian Henry Leslie

Growing up during the depression in the 1930s was difficult and the young Leslie children, of whom, Brian was the eldest, knew the need for hard work. Brian initially walked the 2km to the Monavale School before the children had a pony. Brian as the oldest male ex-pupil in attendance, planted a tree in the school grounds, to mark the 90th anniversary of the building of the school.



Brian Henry Leslie planting the 90th Anniversary tree

On leaving school Brian went back to the land, trapping and shooting rabbits in the McKenzie Country through the war years and in his later years he turned his hunting skills to the opossum that has ravaged the New Zealand bush.

In 1956 he married Prue and in the early 60s he sold his Sutherlands farm and farmed a property in the Kakahu Valley. The South Canterbury climate did not suit Prue's health and they moved to Blenheim at the top of the South Island.



Brian and Prue, notice the Leslie braces, tie and cap.

Brian's interest in his family genealogy saw him write a book on the Leslie's (1976) who had arrived at Christchurch on the "Castle Eden" in 1851.

Apart from genealogy Brian had a keen interest in hockey, which he had played in his younger years. Brian developed cancer in 1992 and passed away in Blenheim in August 2003 and was laid to rest at Pleasant Point, South Canterbury, where his parents are also buried. Brian is survived by his wife, Prue, son Chris and daughter Anne.

Clan Leslie Society of Australia and New Zealand

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Submitting articles to Grip Fast Down Under

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