

# GRIP fast



# DOWN UNDER

THE NEWSLETTER OF CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY  
OF AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND. (CLANZ)

Vol. 4, No 8, Oct, Nov, Dec 2008

## REPORT ON CLANZ.

Well here we are approaching the end of another year and I fear that we have lost ground in the numbers of members of our group.

We must try and increase our numbers to ensure our financial survival. Over the years, if you refer to the newsletters, which we have put out, we have saved a lot of information on the Leslie clan in Australia and New Zealand. If you go to [www.electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletter/leslie/index.htm](http://www.electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletter/leslie/index.htm) you will see what we have managed to achieve in the last ten years.

I would ask that members make an effort to get new members for our society and the simplest way to do this is to look at your local phone book, go to the Leslie section and ring the Leslie names listed, ask for Mr Leslie and ask if he has done any research into his family and if he would be interested in the history of his Clan and tell him about Clan Leslie Society of Australia and New Zealand. If he is not interested, thank him for his time. Very simple and easy.

As far as our Standard is concerned, I have now managed to find three solid brass finials for it and to finish it off, although I would like to find two metres of gold cord and two gold tassels to finish dressing it.

If our members have information which they would like to see in our newsletter, just contact me with it and hopefully I may be able to answer and if not I will certainly research it and try to find all the information available.

The story on Anne Fowle, which is the "Roll of Honour" for this edition, is a story, which is worth preserving, as you will see that she is a very gifted artist. The story in the previous issue on Robert Leslie, Anne Fowles brother, could not be found by a Google search, but it is now available for people to see what a Leslie has achieved in Australia.

*Yours Aye. Barrie Leslie.*



**ANNE W FOWLE (LESLIE)**  
**Aircraftwoman 96251 RAAF.**

**Born Donald, Victoria. 19<sup>th</sup> May 1919.**



*Anne with younger sister Enid.*

Anne FOWLE, nee Leslie was born at Donald to Thomas Cromie LESLIE and Mary Ann Barber ADAMS 19th May 1919. She had a happy sheltered life growing up at Dimboola with 3 brothers and one sister, who unfortunately died aged 11 when Anne was thirteen. The school only went up to year 10. Drawing was geometric, plan & elevation but changed to

model & memory, plant form and design, which produced improved marks.

Her mother and father took part in town activities, holding office in various positions and playing tennis and croquet. They attended the Presbyterian Church, and Sunday School, was in the old log cabin.



*Anne at Methodist Ladies College*

Anne was Dux of the small school in year 10 and went on to boarding school, having won a three-year scholarship to Methodist Ladies College. Results were not so good (except for drawing) however she matriculated and in year 12 won an honour in drawing. She also finished a business course successfully. Anne's mother had been Dux of MLC and had been judged, by the other students, to be the best behaved student for the year.



*Anne at Dimboola*

The boys were most successful in their studies and their father; a farmer retired early and took up wireless in its infancy. He could turn his hand to anything. Their mother insisted the girls needed to be able to earn a living and be independent.

Employment being difficult to find in the art world, Anne accepted a job as telephonist at Dimboola Post Office, but the family moved to Melbourne, making it advisable to take a telephonist job at the Victorian State Committee of the Australian Apple and Pear Board. From there Anne joined the W.A.A.A.F. as an RDF operator, 96251 later known as Radar Op. She was re-mustered to Photographer and demobilised in December, 1945.



*"Towards Aireys Inlet"*

She used her Deferred Pay from the services to buy a small business - a library, which she extended to selling books and toys and her father loved helping, especially with the toys.



*"The Trees at the Back of Lorne"*

In 1955 she married Tom Fowle and sold the shop, She had two lovely children Tom and Angela. It was a happy time, until her husband died suddenly when the children were 12 and 10.

Anne's father died before Tom was born. Anne's mother was still alive and was a great support and comfort for the next 4 years although she became ill and died in 1974, leaving Anne alone with two young teenagers. Quite a task. She battled on, taking up painting as an interest and encouraged by the Principal of the local Art School in Elsternwick.



*"Tram at the Shrine"*

She had been playing croquet and advanced to the 'senior' grade, playing in the team, which won the pennant. She played in the doubles with her husband in the International Tournament, and in the singles, she won one game.



*"Apollo Bay Boat Harbour"*

Next was the CAE Summer School with tutor Ray Mudford - another encourager. A born teacher, he tried to teach her all about Art, in one week. He encouraged the folk to join A.E.A. and paint together once a month. He joined in and acted as an advisor. Anne met Joan Henry, another encourager, through a WAAAF friend. Joan came to live in Anne's mother's flat. They joined a watercolour class at Victorian Artists Society with Ken McDonald. Joan introduced Anne to Malvern Artists Society and they joined the Victorian Artists Society together.



*"Roses in Watercolour"*

Eventually Anne joined the Melbourne Society of Women Painters and Sculptors, where Joan was a member. They studied with other tutors, David K Taylor and Ray Mudford again.



*Anne out painting.*

They went on painting safaris with Bill King and later John Yule, as well as private trips with Judith Perrey Setford and Gwen Mentor, in Judith's car. They arranged their own exhibitions in Anne's home and later Judith's home. They exhibited with Councils, Rotary and Lions as well as other Societies, with some commendations and a few prizes and sometimes being 'hung' at the VAS as well as MSWPS and MAS. Anne enjoyed painting God's beautiful landscapes to show to the world. They moved to a Retirement Village when Joan needed to be in care. Anne has not painted in the last few years but she uses her paintings and photographs to work on the computer, making

cards etc and has a site for the family 'leslieadams' to meet and show photos and exchange news.

She now enjoys life, constantly in touch with her daughter and her son and his three boys Sam 12, Lennie 9 and Adam 5. She has contact also with brother Ian and his wife Netta and family.



*Anne Fowle.*

The other family, Bayside Church, are loving and attentive in their care of her. Anne's story can also be found in "More than Just Gumtrees" by Juliet Peers

See previous featured artists at; <http://www.teenageland.net> site of Angela Adams and Craig Neish, with an Art Section as well as the MSWPS site. and VAS site.

*Many Thanks to Anne & her family for the information and illustrations.*

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### **MARTHA LESLIE. M.B.E.**

Martha Leslie was born circa 1886 to John Leslie born circa 1859 in Ashburton New Zealand and his wife Margaret Isbister born in the Orkney Isles and her grandfather was Peter Thomas Leslie born circa 1828 in Edinburgh Scotland. If anyone can give me further information on this family, I would be grateful.

Martha Leslie was a shy sixteen year old when she started working at the Colonial Ammunition Company's factory at Enfield St and Boston Road, Mt Eden Auckland and when the shift whistle blew at the end her first day, men and women came streaming from every corner of the factory and Martha Leslie turned, in fright to

bolt, but a kindly fore-women said "stay where your are" and Martha did, for more than fifty years.



*Martha Leslie. MBA.*

Martha Leslie was the gatekeeper at the Colonial Ammunition Factory and she gave so much attention to her work that the General Manger, Mr I.M. Chambers said that "the Governor General" himself could not get in unless Miss Leslie knew exactly who he was and his business.

In her office Martha Leslie had two cupboards filled with keys, each tagged and numbered and she knew at a glance which keys were out and why. Did she have troubles at the gate? Not really, a couple of people, at times a bit worse for wear from alcohol, but they never got in.



*The CAC Shot-tower, built in 1914*

The Shot Tower was built in 1914 for the manufacture of lead shot. Bars of lead were

hoisted to the top of the tower. The molten lead was poured into a pan with hundreds of holes in its base. As the lead flowed through the holes it formed into droplets and fell thirty-one metres into soapy water at the bottom of the tower. The shot was then recovered and polished and loaded into cartridges. The Shot Tower is still a landmark today. The Company marked the coronation of Queen Elizabeth, in 1953, by erecting a huge steel framed crown on the tower and it was lit with 900 sixty-watt light bulbs.

Being next to Mt Eden Prison, there were several escapes from the prison and Martha Leslie was twice instrumental in the recapture of the prisoners. In one case two prisoners ran across the courtyard in front of Martha Leslie and she called to a carpenter to follow them, which he did and they were caught hiding under a bed in a house further along the road.

She says that she is “not a scrap nervous” and often at night comes down to the works from her nearby flat, if she feels that something is not as it should be. Secrets are safe with Martha Leslie and she is proud that she is probably the longest serving employee of the Company.

Martha Leslie was awarded the M.B.E. in the Civil list in the late 1940s.

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### **NEW ZEALAND SOLDIER UNVEILED ON SYDNEY’S ANZAC BRIDGE.**

On the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Armistice Day. 11<sup>th</sup> November 1988, the Premier of New South Wales, the Hon Bob Carr renamed the Glebe Island Bridge as the ANZAC Bridge as a memorial to soldiers from both Australia and New Zealand and an Australian flag was placed on the Eastern Tower and a New Zealand flag was placed on the Western Tower.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> June 2007, the New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark and the New South Wales Premier, the Hon Morris Iemma announced that a statue of a New Zealand World War I soldier would be placed on the south western approach to the ANZAC Bridge, just across from the statue of the Australian soldier.

A New Zealand expatriate Alan Somerville, who had sculptured the Australian soldier was commissioned to sculpt the New Zealand soldier. The bronze statue was hoisted into place in the early hours of Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2008 and a handful of sand from Gallipoli was placed under the statue, by the President of the NSW RSL Don Rowe and the President of the NZ RSL Sub Branch Neville Berridge.

I was one of the New Zealand Veterans, resident in Sydney, invited to attend the dedication of the statue. I had a photograph taken of me at the bridge by President of the NSW RSL, Don Rowe but it has not appeared, unfortunately.



*The Bronze Statue of the New Zealand Soldier on the ANZAC Bridge.*

Alan Somerville said that the New Zealand statue is several centimetres higher than the Australian statue, but only because of the “lemon squeezer” I think it was done on purpose. The dedication was followed by a reception under the ANZAC Bridge, where I was introduced to Helen Clark, Prime Minister of New Zealand.



*Barrie Leslie with Helen Clark.*

As the dedication and reception was to honour World War I soldiers, I wore the medals of my paternal grandfather Alexander Forbes Leslie who was born in Opotiki, on the right breast. Details of the New Zealand soldiers uniform were verified with the New Zealand Army Museum at Waiouru in New Zealand before the work was commenced.



*The ANZAC Bridge. Sydney. NSW Australia.*

The Hon Morris Iemma also noted that the NSW Government had commissioned new Australian and New Zealand flags to fly over the ANZAC Bridge. The flags are 33% larger than the previous flags, to ensure that Sydneysiders cannot mistake the symbolic significance of the ANZAC Bridge to both sides of the Tasman.

*Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.*

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**KAIWAKA (NEW ZEALAND) LESLIE'S REUNION FEBRUARY 2008.**

On the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> February 2008 at Kaiwaka. North Auckland, descendants of Andrew John Leslie and Mary Edith Hall held a weekend reunion, which was attended by more than 100 descendants.



*Leslie Descendants at the Reunion*



*Mary Edith Hall & Andrew John (Jack) Leslie.*

Jack was born on the 6<sup>th</sup> January 1870 and died on the 31<sup>st</sup> October 1930.

His parents William Leslie and Ann Bairnson arrived from Shetland in 1859 with their eldest son, William, aged one year. Four more sons were born in Kaiwaka, with Jack being the youngest.

Jack and Edith had six children who like their parents farmed in Kaiwaka most of their lives.

Harald Keith Hall Leslie.

Ella Dorothy Winifred Leslie. M.B.E.

John Morrison Hall Leslie.

William Bruce Leslie.

Andrew John Marcus Wallace Leslie.

Mary Betty Leslie.

Five married and all their descendants were represented at the reunion, some into the fifth Generation. Their youngest daughter at the time of the reunion was unable to attend. Ella Dorothy Winifred Leslie M.B.A. remained unmarried.

The family members who attended the reunion enjoyed catching up, exchanging news, sharing jokes and memories. A display of photographs,

memorabilia and artefacts with a collection of photographs on CD, available for purchase by Ian Leslie, a great grandson and his partner Sue Gailey.



*Edith (Hall) Leslie (centre) with Ella Leslie (right) 1954*

A thanksgiving service, held on Sunday morning at the Kaiwaka cemetery, was conducted by Gary Leslie, another great grandson and flowers laid on the graves by Anna-lise Leslie, a great-great granddaughter.

*Thanks to Judy Saunderson*

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## SCOTTISH LOGIC

A man in Scotland calls his son in London, the day before Christmas Eve and says, "I hate to ruin your day, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing; forty years of misery is enough".

Dad, "what are you talking about?", the son screams. "We can't stand the sight of each other any longer", the father says. "We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Leeds and tell her".

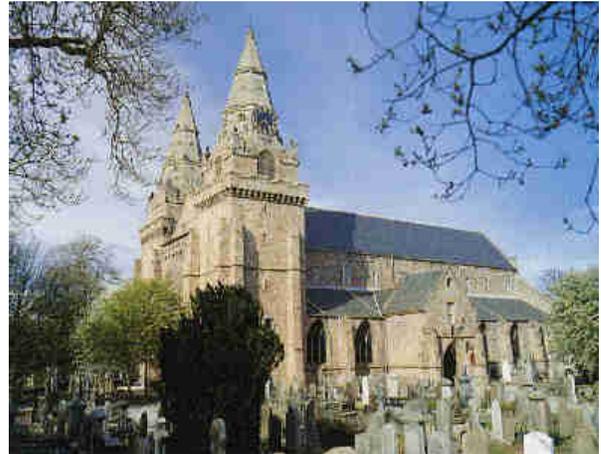
Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone. "Like hell their getting divorced," she shouts, "I'll take care of this,"

She calls Scotland immediately, and screams at her father, "You are NOT getting divorced, Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing. DO YOU HEAR ME?" and hangs up.

The old man hangs up the phone and turns to his wife. "Okay," he says, "they're coming for Christmas and they are paying their own way".

## ST MACHARS CATHEDRAL. OLD ABERDEEN.

St Machars Cathedral or more formally, the Cathedral Church of St Machar, as it has not been a cathedral since the reformation. It is a fine example of a fortified kirk. With its twin towers built in the fashion of a 14<sup>th</sup> century tower house. The spires which presently crown the towers, were added in the 15<sup>th</sup> century.



*St Machars Cathedral Old Aberdeen*

Bishops Gavin Dunbar and Alexander Galloway built the western towers and installed the heraldic ceiling, featuring 48 coats of arms, in three rows of sixteen.



*East End of St Machars Cathedral Old Aberdeen*

Among those shown are Pope Leo X, The Prior of St Andrews, Kings College, Henry VIII, St Margaret of Scotland and the arms of Aberdeen and the families, Gordon, Lindsay, Hay and Keith.

*Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.*

## LESLIE DAM SCULPTURES WARWICK QUEENSLAND.

The following pictures were sent in by Bob Bensley, cousin of CLANZ member Elaine Wood. The sculptures of by Vernon Foss.



*Leslie Dam Warwick Queensland*



*Sculptures of Patrick Leslie and his wife  
Catherine Macarthur.*



*Plaque at the Leslie Dam,*

The plaque is to commemorate the re-discovery of the Darling Downs in Queensland by Patrick Leslie in 1840. When his brothers Walter and George joined him, they brought with them cattle sheep and horse and settled at Toolburra and became the first settlers on the Darling Downs. In 1847, the New South Wales Government commissioned Patrick Leslie to select a suitable site for a town (Warwick) to serve the growing population.

*Thanks to Elaine Wood.*

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**Previous issues of Grip Fast Down Under:-**

[www.electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletters/leslie/index.htm](http://www.electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletters/leslie/index.htm)

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