

PATRICK LESLIE, OF THE DARLING DOWNS. PT 3.

After George sold Canning Downs he returned to Scotland, leaving Patrick at **Goomburra Station**, which George and Walter had bought for Patrick on the 1st Feb 1848 for 1200 Pounds, but as Patrick could not hold any assets in his name, they purchased it in their names. Patrick later purchased **Gladfield Station**, which was next to Goomburra Station. 1848 was also the year in which Kates father Hannibal Hawkins Macarthur was declared bankrupt, as he was the President of The Bank of Australia and also a personal guarantor of the Bank, and he and his wife went to live on the Darling Downs.



Goomburra Homestead about 1851

Patrick prospered at Goomburra and was a leader in the struggle to separate, what is now Queensland from New South Wales. In 1850 transportation of convicts had stopped and there was a great shortage of labour. Meanwhile George had become a member of The Legislative Council of NSW, and was attempting to get the transportation of convicts resumed. **Patrick** also became a member of the **Legislative Council of NSW** and continued the fight to get the resumption of transportation of convicts to provide labour for the squatters.

Separation of Queensland from New South Wales finally happened in 1859, but

Patrick and Kate had returned to Britain in 1854 to wind up his affairs. In 1857 Patrick sold Goomburra to Robert and Frederick Tooth, [who amongst other interests, were brewers] for an excellent price of Forty Thousand Pounds. There was a disagreement with the purchasers over the value of the property, and finally in February 1860, Toths were ordered to pay the sum of Thirty four thousand Pounds for Goomburra.

In **April 1858** Patrick and his family left for Britain and toured through France and Italy. Their son William Norman enrolled at Sunbury Military College, which was the start of much heartache that he was to bring to his parents.

THE NEW ZEALAND STORY.

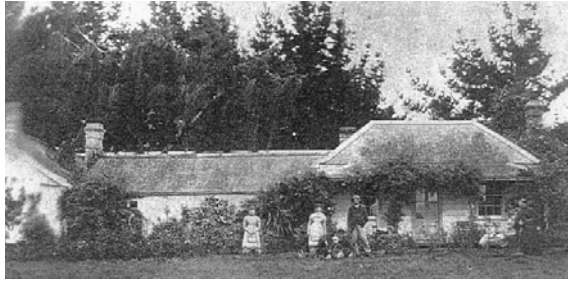
On the 3rd July 1868, Patrick, Kate, and their children, Emma, William Norman, Leonard, Ethel and Mabel sailed from Gravesend on the Shaw Saville and Albion ship "Siam".

They arrived in Auckland New Zealand on the **12th October 1868**, and rented a house in Symonds Street, near Government House. They were frequent visitors to Government House, where the Governor was **Sir George Bowen**, who had been the First Governor of Queensland, after separation from New South Wales.

There had been much resentment among the Maori people, at the settlement of white people on their lands, and there had already been a conflict, which had settled down, but was now rebuilding.

A new war broke out in **1868** over lands, this was mainly centred in the Waikato, Taranaki and The Bay of Plenty and continued until **1870** with the pursuit and defeat of Te Kooti, in the Rotorua district.

[2] It was in this climate that Patrick bought several parcels of land in 1869, in the area south of Hamilton. Over the next four years, he bought more land, and received several grants of land, but it was on the 5th November 1869, that he bought the land that was to become "**Wartle**". This land was several miles south of Hamilton, on the way to Cambridge.



"Wartle", Homestead in 1881

Patrick took possession of "Wartle" on the 21st May 1870, and with other lands that he had bought, now had 1544 acres. Patrick now had to convert rough land into a productive farm.

Kate would have been in her element, and she had many trees and other plants sent over from Australia. The grounds were very extensive, with many large trees and shrubs. The land was divided into twenty eight paddocks, and as there was no shortage of water, the grass and orchards grew very quickly and provided vegetables and hay for the farm.

Patrick's health was now beginning to suffer from all the hard work, and coupled with the privations suffered, when he was on the Darling Downs, he was now starting to think of retirement.

My Great Grandfather, Doctor Alexander James Leslie, had been granted fifty acres of land at **Taupiri** on the Mangapiko Stream, which is just north of Hamilton, close to where Patrick also had land. He also had been given a grant of one acre in the township of Cambridge, almost on the corner of what is now Grey Street and William Street, for his service in the

3rd Waikato Regiment, and as an Assistant Surgeon in the 3rd Armed Constabulary Division. He visited "**Wartle**" on several occasions and commented on how much Patrick had achieved in such a short time. He and Patrick were related through the Leslie's of Warhill, the Outram's of Derbyshire and the Setons of Pitmeddan. Although my Great Grandfather was a medical Doctor, with a practice in **Rotorua**, I think that his visits were family visits.

Patrick put "**Wartle**" up for sale in 1880, and some of the land was not sold until 1885. During these years, Patrick's son, **William Norman** had been the cause of much trouble for his father, borrowing money and selling shares that he did not own. William Norman was born at Vineyard in Sydney, the home of his maternal Grandfather, Hannibal Hawkins Macarthur. In 1860 when he was admitted to Sunbury Military College, he studied well and passed his exams with good marks. He was offered a position with the 53rd Regiment as an Ensign, at a cost of Four Hundred and Fifty Pounds. He joined various Regiments, until in 1864, he met the daughter of family friends, **Emma Lacon Harvey**. William Norman proposed to Emma, and finally she accepted, and they were married on the 14th December 1864, at St Peters Church, Eaton Square London. William Norman had become a very handsome young man, but was also a gambler, drinker and philanderer. Finally in 1867, he was declared bankrupt, and Patrick had to meet William Norman's debts. Patrick decided that he had no other course, than to take his family to New Zealand, as he could no longer afford to keep on paying for William Norman's scandals.

William Norman carried on his scandalous ways in New Zealand, and finally on the 3rd May 1876, William Norman died at "**Wartle**". His death certificate states that the cause of death

[3] was a “Disease of the Brain – Cerebral Paralysis”. He was buried in the Hamilton East Cemetery. After William Norman’s death, Emma Lacon and her children returned to England, and stayed with her parents in Bath.

Patrick and Kate left Hamilton in April 1881, to return to Sydney, where they lived in a stone house called “**Wrentmore**” at Milson’s Point on Sydney’s North Shore. On the 12th September 1881, Patrick died and was buried at St Thomas’s Anglican Church, West Street Crows Nest Sydney. Kate died at William Street Double Bay Sydney, on the 11th April 1894, and was buried in the same grave as her husband, Patrick.



Patrick and Kate’s Gravestone at St Thomas’s Cemetery.

In the 1950s the Warringah Expressway was built through the St Thomas’s Cemetery and the graves were moved to a central position, and the cemetery was made into the **West Street Rest Park**.

In 1975, The Warwick Historical Society attached a brass plaque to Patrick’s grave, with the following wording.

“This plaque is dedicated to the memory of Patrick Leslie. The First Settler on the Darling Downs Queensland [then part of New South Wales] He established Toolburra Station near Warwick 1840.

Warwick Historical Society 1975.

I would like to thank **Jillian Burcher** of **Auckland New Zealand**, for the extra material, to enable the telling of this story.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.

R.M.S. TITANIC.

This morning my family and I visited the annual Melbourne Fishing and Boating Show. My main interest [apart from sitting around in very expensive boats, which I would never be able to afford] was to look through a ‘**Titanic**’ exhibition on display. Part of said display was an old scrapbook with letters and newspaper articles, one of which caught my eye, was as follows: -

23rd May 1926. Dundee Evening Telegraph.

“An interesting memory of the Titanic disaster is realised by the engagement, just announced between Lord Leslie, eldest son of the Earl of Rothes, and Miss Beryl Dugdale of Crathorne Hall Yorkshire.

The Bridegroom elect’s mother, Lady Rothes, was a passenger on the ill-fated vessel, and one of the heroines of the disaster and won by her bravery, a sudden fame which she consistently shunned. There are many survivors who can never forget her behaviour in the face of great peril, when she helped for hours on end to row their boat to safety and were inspired by her calm courage and cheerfulness”.

Apparently the Countess of Rothes sent Fifty Pounds to Able Seaman T Jones. He replied with an appropriate letter of grateful thanks, and they remained friends till his death in the Seaman’s House Southampton.

Lea Hess. Sunbury Victoria

[4] POSTSCRIPT TO THE ABOVE

Able Seaman T Jones, who was the only crew member in the life boat, on that sad day, 15th April 1912, made a plaque incorporating the actual number 8 from the life boat, and presented it to The Countess of Rothes, whose hair was said to have turned white, overnight. A picture of the plaque can be seen in "Grip Fast: The Leslies in History", by **Alexander Leslie Klieforth**.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.

THE EARL OF ROTHES

Ian, the 21st Earl of Rothes, has asked me to try and find descendants of Mary Elizabeth, 18th Countess of Rothes, whose 2nd son **Edward Courtenay Haworth-Leslie**, married **Caroline Edith Biddulph** of The Earee Shoalhaven NSW, and had three sons and two daughters.

The eldest son was **Edward Biddulph Haworth-Leslie**, or just Leslie, born about 1895

The second son was, **Martin Tregenna Haworth-Leslie**, or just Leslie, and he was born in 1896, and married first, in 1928 **Nettie Margaret Harper**, of Napier New Zealand, and secondly he married **Joyce Enid Gardner**, daughter of the Rev Alfred James Gardner of Chatswood NSW Australia. Issue by the first marriage was, **Mary Haworth Leslie** born 1936.

The third son was, **Norman Evelyn Haworth-Leslie**, or just Leslie born 1898, and he married **Helen Thomson** in 1944.

If any readers can give me any information on any of these families, I would be very grateful.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.

ANOTHER SUCCESS

I have just managed to link one of our members, **Peter Allan Leslie** of NSW, with one of our newest members, **Lea Hess** of Victoria. Their Grandfathers were James Leslie born 26th June 1860, and Alexander Fullerton Grant Leslie, born 27th Jan 1865, being brothers, both born in Drumblade Scotland.

This shows the importance of giving full family details to the Genealogists of Clan Leslie Society, and also being members of Clan Leslie Society, where somewhere down the line, we are all cousins of some degree.

At the moment I am trying to evaluate a new Family program called '**The Master Genealogist**', It is different from '**Family Tree Maker**', in that it is not lineage based, that is you do not have to go from son to father to grandfather. It is possible to enter unrelated persons into an indexed database. If it works out, I shall enter all the members of CLS Aust & NZ Branch, and see whom else I can link. It will take hundreds of hours to enter the information, but I feel that it is important to try and link up all the Australasian Leslie families. At the moment it is on hold, because of the cost of the program, but I hope to get started within a couple of months.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.

SCOTTISH GATHERINGS.

The 4th Greater Toukley Gathering of the Clans was held at **Toukley** on the NSW Central coast on the 4th Sept 2000. I could not go to them as I work on Saturday and Sunday. Unfortunately we did not have at 'tent' at them, as there were no volunteers.

On Sunday, the 19th November 2000, the 131st Annual Highland Gathering is being held at Drummoyne in **Sydney**, by the Combined Scottish Societies of NSW Inc.

[5] Bookings for sites have to be made by the 1st October 2000. If anyone will volunteer to help me, I am prepared to take a 'sickie' to open a 'tent' at this gathering. I feel that it is very important that we are represented at these gatherings, as it gives us an opportunity to meet other Clans and also attract new members. Clan Leslie Society in America, also gives a grant of **\$150-00** for photographs and a story of the gathering, which will help our finances. If you are prepared to help, please get in touch with me.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon.NSW

ARTICLES FOR GRIP FAST

We need articles for inclusion in Grip Fast Down Under, surely someone must have a story or an anecdote that would be of interest to put into our newsletter. A photograph of some event that would interest other members would do, even though the quality of our reproduction is not good.

A BLAST FROM THE PAST

I am waiting for a coin to be sent to me from a cousin in Scotland. It is a silver Edward the 1st penny, and is the last of several that have been handed down through our family for hundreds of years. It was supposed to have been given to a '**Norman Leslie**' for services given to **Edward the 1st**, but I will elaborate on that when I get it and can illustrate it.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.

MEETING OF CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY

The Clan Leslie Gathering is being held the Hidden Valley Four Seasons Resort in

Ligonier Pennsylvania USA, on the 8, 9 & 10th of September 2000. At this meeting elections will be held for the Officers of Clan Leslie Society and it is unfortunate that no Australians or New Zealanders will be attending. These Officers coupled with our new website will take on the task of building up Clan Leslie Society.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon.NSW.

ANOTHER "TITANIC" STORY

This story would have been quite different, had it not been for a chance meeting of an old friend. This meeting took place on the gangway of the SS Titanic in 1912.

My father, George James Alexander Leslie, born in London was an English emigrant to New Zealand, who decided to return to England on a business venture, and also attend the Coronation of **King George 5th** and Queen Mary in 1911.

My father relied upon two business ventures, which unfortunately went wrong. One was veneer cut from Kauri Burrs [*timber logs*] which he had brought from New Zealand, and the other was a revolutionary artificial leg which he had invented. Prior to emigrating to New Zealand, he had worked at Guys Hospital in London, and he returned there to demonstrate his newly invented lightweight artificial leg. The hospital authorities were adamant that amputees could only use the heavy leg issued to them by Guys Hospital, and that the lightweight leg would cause them to fall sideways.

Following this disappointment, my father went to the docks to unload the [Kauri Burrs and then load them onto a railway wagon. While he was doing this, the train shunted and he was caught by a moving wagon and had his chest crushed. This resulted in his being hospitalised for six weeks. During this time, the Kauri

[6] Burrs were sold for a pittance and having very little money left, he decided to return to New Zealand and he applied for a job as an assistant chef on the new ship, the **SS Titanic**. His application was successful, so my father decided to make several trips to the Titanic to load his luggage. On the first trip he took his Gladstone Bag which held his woodworking tools, and also a tin trunk in which he had stored an Edison phonograph for his family.

Coming back down the gangway after stowing his luggage, he met an old friend bringing supplies onto the Titanic. This friend was surprised to see him, and asked him what he was doing coming off the Titanic. My father explained that he was working his way back to New Zealand and had obtained the job of assistant cook on this maiden voyage. His friend said that after his spell in hospital, and still being weak, he would be silly to take such a job on this ship, which was full of millionaires, and he would be working day and night. The friend suggested that he could get my father a job on a little tramp steamer, the **SS Kent**. Being offered the job aboard the Kent, he spent some time looking over the ship. This combined with a lengthy trip back to where the Titanic was berthed, resulted in him finding that the Titanic had sailed with some of his luggage aboard.

The **SS Kent** was a much slower ship, but she followed the Titanic across the Atlantic. On a recent dive to the wreck of the **Titanic**, a Gladstone bag was recovered which, it was believed held carpenters tools. I believe that this Gladstone bag may have been my fathers.

Written by Ivy Mosford who died in 1999, and was given to me by Graham Stenerson of Auckland New Zealand, her nephew, who went to Primary School with me in Auckland in 1943.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW

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