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

Vol. 4, No 5, Jan, Feb, March 2008.

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## REPORT ON CLANZ FOR 2007.

Well here we are at the end of another year. Unfortunately there is still so much to do and little help to achieve it.

We now have a magnificent Clan Leslie Banner in the Red Leslie Dress Tartan. It was not cheap, but if you want something that is above normal you have to pay for it. The cost of the Banner alone was \$539.00, which I have paid for and if members would care to make a donation towards the cost, it would be appreciated and would be acknowledged in the newsletter or shown as an anonymous donation if requested. I still have to get a pole to mount the banner on and brass finials and gold braid to set it off, but that can wait until after Christmas.

An invoice for membership fees is included with the newsletter if you get it by post, or an invoice will be sent by email to those members who receive it by that medium. It would be appreciated if your membership fee could be paid as soon as you receive the invoice as it takes time and effort to go back over the records and see who has not paid. The different ways of paying the membership fee are listed in the said renewal invoice. I still need help to run Clan Leslie Society of Australia and New Zealand, but I also **need stories** to put into the newsletter and surely members must have someone who served in the armed forces or achieved some political or other goal in life, which should be recorded otherwise in time it will be lost, even to your own family and for Leslie males remember the **Clan Leslie DNA Program** which will record your family, long after you are gone and help following generations. [www.familytreedna.com](http://www.familytreedna.com)

Last of all I would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year.

*Barrie Leslie, Gordon, NSW.*

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**Dr ALEXANDER JAMES LESLIE**  
Assistant Surgeon Armed Constabulary.

Born:- 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1841. Old Machar. Scotland.

Died:- 26<sup>th</sup> February 1905 Tauranga. NZ.

Alexander James Leslie was born in 1841, the eldest child of Alexander Leslie of Birkwood, of the Aikenway family (descended from a son of George Leslie 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Rothes) and Johanna Hogarth of the Firhill line.

Alexander studied medicine at Marischal College in Aberdeen and when his father died in 1863, he determined to go to New Zealand.



*Dr Alexander James Leslie. C 1875*

Alexander Leslie arrived in Lyttleton NZ, with his younger brother, William, on board the "Accrington" on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 1863 after a voyage from Plymouth of 75 days.



*Accrington, formerly steamship Francois Arago*

William remained in Christchurch NZ while Alexander enlisted in the 10 Coy 3<sup>rd</sup> Waikato Militia, 30th April 1866 and then enlisted in the Armed Constabulary on the 5 November 1868 as an Assistant Surgeon under the name of James Leslie, height 5 feet 7 inches and received a payment of 10 shillings. For his service with the Third Waikato Regiment he received a grant of two blocks of land at Cambridge. (1) Allotment 172 Town of Cambridge, bounded by Grey Street, Williams Street West and Victoria Street Cambridge, (sold 8<sup>th</sup> Oct 1866) and (2) Allotment 287 Parish of Taupiri, fifty acres (sold 11<sup>th</sup> March 1868).



*Florianne Remington, wife of Dr Alexander Leslie*



*Residence of Dr Leslie cnr Devonport Road and Third Ave*

Dr Alexander James Leslie died at Tauranga Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February 1905 and is buried in the Old Anglican Cemetery 17<sup>th</sup> Ave Tauranga. He was my Great Grandfather.

*Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.*

## “Flowers of the Forest”

Clan Leslie Society of Australia and New Zealand has lost another of its members, Sir Peter Evelyn Leslie. Sir Peter lived in London and is survived by his wife, Charlotte.

Sir Peter's great great great grandfather was Robert Lesslie, agricultural labourer born in 1761 and married Jean Low, 7<sup>th</sup> February 1794 who was born abt 1771 in Arlie. Robert Lesslie died in Airlie, Forfarshire, 27<sup>th</sup> June 1824.

Sir Peter was a very accomplished author and amongst his books were “Soldier of Fortune, Action in the Arctic and “Chapman-Andrews and the Emperor”, which was about the attempt to place the Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia back on his throne by Sir Peter's, later to be father-in-law.

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### SIR PETER LESLIE

*International banker and troubleshooter*



*Sir Peter Evelyn Leslie.*

*24 March 1931 – 27 September 2007*

Sir Peter Leslie's experience in international banking with Barclays put him centre stage when global lenders sought a solution to the credit crunch that threatened world finance in 1982. However, when the bank sought a new chairman, his specialisation on international, rather than domestic, matters counted against him and he left, becoming deputy chairman of the rival Midland Bank.

He used his expertise to head organisations seeking to develop Third World trade and investment, but after Barings collapsed the Government asked him to help to investigate the cause.

Leslie joined Barclays DCO in 1955 following service in the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. He was sent to Sudan and progressed through Algeria, Zaire — where he met his future wife — Kenya and the Bahamas during 15 years of overseas banking. On his return to London he was made general manager and a director of what had been renamed Barclays Bank International, turning its focus from DCO — the Dominions, colonies and overseas — to the wider world.

The Latin American debt crisis exploded in August 1982 when Mexico suspended debt payments and others followed. Leslie, now Barclays' senior general manager, co-chaired a meeting of international bankers held at Ditchley Park in Oxford that called on all lenders to pool information on sovereign borrowers.

All the UK big banks were exposed and had to make write-offs that reduced their capital and thus limited their scope for further lending, even to less risky countries. Later that year a second meeting — “Ditchley II” — was held in New York to discuss the liquidity problems and agreed to set up an institute to promote lending, though, unlike the World Bank or IMF, it could not give loans itself.

Leslie warned at subsequent meetings that rescheduling troubled borrowers' loans was tying up banks' balance sheets, preventing new lending to developing countries. He said new sources of liquidity were necessary and proposed that foreign debt on which no interest was being paid should be bought by central banks at a discount from the commercial lenders.

His success meant that, when Barclays merged its international and UK banks in 1985, Leslie was made chief general manager. He had to fight union opposition to job cuts, but his drive for productivity went to the top as he eliminated the three senior general manager roles.

He took over as the bank prepared for the following year's Big Bang by buying stakes in stockbrokers de Zoete & Bevan and the Wedd Durlacher stock-jobbing firm: when it gained

full control, Barclays amalgamated them as BZW, its new investment bank.

After the 1987 hurricane Leslie was one of only three members of a key bank able to reach the City and order a suspension of normal business operations. The next working day was Black Monday, when share prices crashed.

He was frontrunner to become Barclays' executive chairman, even though the role had always been undertaken by a member of one of the bank's founding families. It was thus a surprise when the job went to another outsider, John Quinton, who had come up through the domestic side and declared his wish to make Barclays the McDonald's of the banking world.

Leslie was made managing director but after less than a year retired, aged 57. He returned from a trip to Japan to find letters from friends and offers from headhunters assuming he had left completely, however, and had to point out that he was still deputy chairman. It was a reduced role, however, and on reaching 60 he did leave and was knighted, but almost immediately took on the same role at Midland.

The rival was already weakened by its own international lending and board meetings largely involved discussing a takeover by Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation. Leslie lost his new role when the bidder trimmed the Midland board.

He had other financial interests, however, having chaired the British Bankers' Association executive committee and the London & Scottish Clearing Bankers. When banking law was changed after the collapse of Johnson Matthey Bankers, Leslie argued for flexible supervision and in 1989 he was appointed to the Bank of England's board of banking supervision.

After Barings was brought down by Nick Leeson's currency dealings in 1995, Lord Justice Bingham recommended an inquiry by the bank and Leslie was one of the team asked by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to investigate. He put the blame on Leeson and Barings and said no change to the supervision framework was necessary: nevertheless the incoming Labour Government removed that role from the bank the following year.

In 1995 Leslie was also asked to chair the Commonwealth Development Corporation, a government body investing overseas. He had

reluctantly bowed to anti-apartheid pressures at Barclays and reduced the holding in its South African subsidiary to a minority, even though he believed it better to remain in the country and seek reforms. At CDC he launched venture capital funds to help start-ups in South Africa, as well as many other African countries, and expanded the organisation into Vietnam and Cuba.

He argued sincerely that improving investment and ending trade protection was better than aid or debt relief. CDC's investments grew from £836 million to £1.4 billion during his six years there.

Between 1978 and 1981 Leslie sat on the Export Credits Guarantee Advisory Council, advising the department insuring Britain's exporters, and he subsequently produced a report for the Government that paved the way to the department's privatisation. The Trade Minister, Alan Clarke, brought him back as deputy chairman of the council in 1986 and promoted him to chairman a year later. In 1995 he became chairman of NCM Credit, one of the privatised parts.

At home, Leslie supported Britain adopting the euro. When Margaret Thatcher used her stalling phrase about entering — "when the time is ripe" — he told her: "The ripe time is as soon as possible."

Leslie was brought up in North Oxford. His father was a statistician in the zoology department at the University of Oxford, and during the Second World War his mother worked as a volunteer delivering blood. He was educated at Stowe in Buckinghamshire; he was later to be chairman of the governors, launching the Stowe School Foundation and obtaining lottery funding to maintain the historic buildings. Having attended New College, he was pleased to be chairman of the University of Oxford's audit committee and curator of the University Chest.

Keenly interested in history, he wrote a book in retirement detailing the friendship between his wife's father, Sir Edwin Chapman-Andrews, an ambassador, and the Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie.

He is survived by his wife, Charlotte, whom he married in 1975, and his four stepchildren.

Sir Peter Evelyn Leslie, banker, was born on March 24, 1931. He died of a brain tumour on September 27, 2007, aged 76.

*Obituary courtesy Times online 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007*

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### **"FLOWERS OF THE FOREST"**

CLANZ lost another member, who will be sadly missed. Flora McKinnon Leslie Spencer died at Cooranbong New South Wales in May 2007.

Flora gave me a copy of the *Laurus Lesleana* which had been given to Emma Nell, (in 1893) wife of William Wood Leslie, and was typed by Emma Nell's daughter Alice Page Leslie.

William Wood Leslie was reputed to have been a direct descendant of John Leslie, Bishop of Orkney who had been translated to Raphoe, Ireland in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and was the ancestor of the Leslie's of Castle Leslie, Glaslough, Co Monaghan, Ireland.



*Flora Spencer,*

*with her younger brother Harley Tom Leslie Aveling  
who is aged 92*

Flora Spencer:- 28<sup>th</sup> February 1913 - May 2007.

*Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.*

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### **CONGRATULATIONS.**

Congratulations to Flora Spencer's elder brother and CLANZ member Frank Leslie Aveling of Victoria Point Queensland who had his one hundredth birthday on the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2007.

It is an example of the long lived Leslie genes coming into their own,

## EXPLANATION OF TERMS USED IN SCOTTISH WILLS AND TESTAMENTS.



*Frank Leslie Aveling, 100 years old.*



*Frank Leslie Aveling with his Great Great niece Tilly Cooke at Capalaba in Queensland, also notice the Leslie Tartan that Frank is wearing.*

Again, congratulations to Frank on reaching that milestone and many thanks to, Cheryl Cooke of Berowra, NSW for the photographs and information on both Flora and Frank.

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### Wills & Testaments

If a person wished to settle his or her affairs before death, they drew up a **will**, which set down their instructions as to the disposal of their possessions and named the executor whom they wished to administer the estate. The executor had to be confirmed by the court and the document drawn up by the court for this purpose is known as a **testament**. There are two types of testaments: the testament testamentar and testament dative.

The **testament testamentar** applied when the deceased died testate (leaving a will). It comprised four parts: the introductory clause, an inventory of the deceased's possessions (see below), the confirmation clause and a copy of the will, stating the wishes of the deceased regarding the disposal of the estate and naming the executor (usually a family member) he or she had chosen to undertake this task. If a copy of the will was not included, reference was made to it having been recorded elsewhere, probably in the court's Registers of Deeds.

The **testament dative** was drawn up by the court if a person died intestate (without leaving a will), in order to appoint and confirm the executor on their behalf. It comprised three parts: the introductory clause, an inventory of the deceased's possessions, and the confirmation clause. The testament dative might name a family member as executor, but if the deceased died in debt, a creditor might be appointed as executor instead. In such cases, the testament would include a list of the deceased's debts and would exist solely for the purpose of authorising the discharge of those debts.

### Inheritance

Under Scots Law, an individual's property was divided into two types:

**Heritable property** consisted of land, buildings, minerals and mining rights, and passed to the eldest son according to the law of primogeniture.

**Moveable property** consisted of anything that could be moved e.g. household and personal effects, investments, tools, machinery. It was divided into a maximum of three parts: the widow's part, the bairns part (all children had a right to an equal share) and the dead's part. For more detailed information on inheritance see FAQs on [Property & Inheritance](#)

Before the early years of the 19th century, testaments related only to the moveable property of the deceased.

However, from the early 19th century onwards, it was not uncommon to find dispositions, settlements, trust dispositions and settlements, etc. recorded in the commissary court registers, and these documents often included details of heritable property. After 1868, the law of primogeniture, where the eldest son inherited everything, still applied to heritable property unless there had been a specific disposition or bequest by the deceased to another party.

### **Inventories**

The **inventory** lists the moveable property belonging to the deceased at the time of his or her death. It can include household furnishings, clothes, jewellery, books, papers, farm stock and crops, tools and machinery, money in cash, bank accounts and investments, as well as money owed to creditors and money due from debtors. Often the inventory consists only of a brief, overall valuation, but sometimes it is very detailed, with the value of every item listed. As such, it can supply a snapshot of the deceased's lifestyle and help to build up a picture of what social and economic conditions were like in a particular locality at a particular time. An inventory that contains a 'roup roll' is particularly interesting in that it itemises each lot sold in the auction and states the prices paid (sometimes with the names of the purchasers).

Almost every document in the wills & testaments index contains an inventory of some kind, except where there are separate registers for wills. See the [Famous Scots](#) section for the inventories of Rob Roy McGregor, David Livingstone, Adam Smith and many others, or look at [The Way People Lived](#) for more examples.

### **The Courts**

Before 1823, testaments were recorded in the Commissary Court with jurisdiction over the parish in which the person died. Commissary Court boundaries roughly corresponded to those of the mediaeval dioceses that existed before the Reformation, and bear no relation to county boundaries. The Edinburgh Commissary Court, as the principal court, also had the power to confirm testaments for those who owned moveable property in more than one commissariat and for Scots who died outside Scotland. Commissary Courts were abolished in 1823 and Sheriff Courts assumed responsibility for confirmation of testaments from 1 January 1824, although the changeover process created a considerable overlap of dates in some courts. To find out more about the relationship between the Scottish counties and the courts look at our [Courts Map](#). For further information on the courts themselves, see [About The Courts](#)

### **The Wills & Testaments Index**

The wills & testaments index contains over 611,000 index entries to Scottish wills and testaments dating from 1513 to 1901. Each index entry lists the surname, forename, title, occupation and place of residence (where these are given) of the deceased person, the court in which the testament was recorded, with the date. Index entries do not include names of executors, trustees or heirs to the estate. They also do not include the deceased's date of death, or the value of the estate.

If you are searching for a will or testament, you should bear in mind that there was no legal requirement for individuals to make a will. Indeed, comparatively few Scots actually bothered to do this. Even if someone died intestate, there was no obligation for the family to go to court to have the deceased's affairs settled. Many families sorted things out amicably amongst themselves, in which case there will be no testament.

It is always worthwhile checking the indexes, however, because they can include persons from quite humble origins.

Sometimes the intervention of the court to settle the deceased's affairs was not required until many years after the death, possibly due to a dispute, therefore if a will or testament exists, it may be recorded much later than you would expect.

### **Images of Wills & Testaments**

Images of wills and testaments from 1500 to 1901 are available on this site. These images are full colour, authentic facsimiles of the original documents, which are held at the National Archives of Scotland, Edinburgh. For reasons of preservation, the original documents have now been withdrawn from public use.

To find out more about what you might expect to see on a wills & testaments image, look at [Images](#)

I am sorry about the background colour but the information is too important for people searching for information on Wills etc.

*Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.*

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### **BUNDANOON IS BRIGADOON.**

Just an advance notice that the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Highland Gathering is on Sat 5<sup>th</sup> April 2008. website:- [www.highlandsnsw.com.au/brigadoon](http://www.highlandsnsw.com.au/brigadoon)

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## CASTLE HILL HIGHLAND GATHERING. Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2007.

When I got out of bed at 5-00am to go to the Castle Hills Showground it was still raining, not as heavy as it had been for the previous few days, but I thought, why did I get up this morning as the Gathering would certainly be washed out and as I drove there it was still raining. When I got there the Marshals told me where my spot was and believe it or not, the rain got lighter. By 8-00am the rain had stopped and there was blue sky on the horizon. By 9-30am the ground was dry but unfortunately the wind was starting to get up. By 10-30am the wind was really blowing and causing problems with the display, but it was bright sunshine, not raining.

I had one visitor for the day. This was Ron Leslie who donated the piece of Red Leslie Dress Tartan for the Clan Leslie Banner.



*With Ron Leslie on the right*

The program for the 138<sup>th</sup> Annual Combined Scottish Societies of NSW Inc, gathering started at 9-00am with the Highland Dancing contest and went on all day until 4-20pm when the Massed Pipe Bands and the Presentation of Trophies took place.

There were all sorts of events such as tossing the Australian and the Braemar Caber and lifting of the Heavy Stones, the Drum Majors Contest, novelty children's races and all the food that you could wish for.

The Chieftain of the Day was Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons. NSW Rural Fire Service.

*Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.*

## THE NEW CLAN LESLIE BANNER.

This is our new Banner. I still have to make a carrying pole with brass finials on the pole and also brass finials on the cross pole. It also needs Gold Braid to hold the Banner to the top of the pole and to come down to the cross pole.



As I said in the Report, the Banner cost \$539 and if any members would care to make a donation to help to cover the cost of the Banner, it would make life much easier for me.

When finished the Banner will be made available to any CLANZ members who wish to display it at a Gathering or "Kirkin of the Tartan" Church Service.

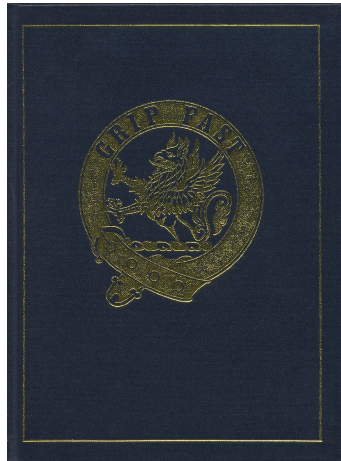
When getting the Banner made, I had to decide whether to have a white background for the Griffin or to leave the Red Tartan as the background. I feel that the white background highlights the Griffin. The beak of the Griffin should have been made gold, so I will have to paint the beak in with gold paint. Any comments would be appreciated.

*Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.*

# BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS OR BIRTHDAYS.

## “GRIP FAST THE LESLIES IN HISTORY”

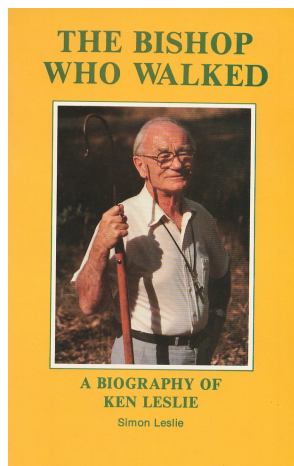
I have three copies left, of the book by Alexander Leslie Klieforth This book “**Grip Fast, The Leslie’s in History**” is filled with information on various Leslie’s and it is the first book since Col Charles Leslie’s “Historical Records of the Family of Leslie” (which is also available on CD) to update the story of the Leslie’s and its Septs. The price of this book is **\$95-00AUD**, postage paid to Australia & New Zealand. For other destinations please ask for the postage cost, which will be discounted by the Australian postage.



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## “THE BISHOP WHO WALKED”

I also have available for sale the book, The Bishop Who Walked, by Simon Leslie about his father the Rt Rev Ken Leslie, 6<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Bathurst. This book is available for **\$28-50**. Postage paid to Australia & New Zealand.



The Rt Rev Ken Leslie is called the Bishop who walked, because he walked everywhere, including the Kokoda Track, from Gona to Port Moresby, to bring cheer to isolated Army Signalmen and also 130 miles from Dubbo to Bathurst to raise money to complete the Bathurst Cathedral. His younger

brother was in the Australian Medical Corps in Papua New Guinea during WWII. If you are interested in both of these books contact me for a special discount on the two books.

*Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.*

## Clan Leslie Society of Australia and New Zealand

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**WEBSITE for CLANZ.** <http://www.clanleslie.org>  
**Previous issues of GF DU:-**  
[www.electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletters/leslie/index.htm](http://www.electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletters/leslie/index.htm)

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**Acting Chief of Clan Leslie** Alexander John Leslie  
 Cupar, Fife, Scotland

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