



## BI-ANNUAL MEETING.

Members, particularly new members, may be interested to know that the international office bearers of Clan Leslie Society meet each second year at a different venue, the last, the 20<sup>th</sup>, in San Diego, California, to discuss matters for the benefit of the Society and its members, and to elect new office bearers for the ensuing two years.

At the last meeting, William Leslie, a Canadian from Orillia Ontario, was elected Chieftain of the Society, [not to be confused with Lord Rothes, Chief of Clan Leslie, who resides in England]. The new positions took effect on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1999.

Since that time the Internet has been running hot and William has nominated his objectives for 1999/2000. He would like to:

1. Set up scholarships to study Scottish history, in particular Leslie history.
2. Raise funds for the Leslie Heritage Trust. A trust, which has been set up to preserve Leslie documents and artefacts.
3. Improve the process for the election of office bearers.
4. Provide assistance to the new Australian and New Zealand Branch of Clan Leslie Society.

We in Australia are particularly grateful that he has given new membership here such a priority, and to know that we have his total support.

In respect to the Australian and New Zealand Branch, we felt that we should initially concentrate our efforts in one localised Sydney area. This was done in order to gain mutual support and then expand outwards. In a practical sense this has proved successful, and new members, though small in number, have surprisingly been drawn from a very wide area. Unfortunately however, we have found many Leslies who are interested in the Society, but for one reason or another, have not yet completed an application.

As initiators of this Australian and New Zealand project, we look to the support of all our antipodean members in publicising the Society, increasing our membership and taking part in our activities as suitable to your abilities and inclinations. Without commitment Barrie Leslie would be pleased to chat with you on the phone, about any aspects of the Society or family history.

We would ask that you encourage your cousins or acquaintances, who have an interest in the name of Leslie, to join us in preserving our rich history, and also discover your own families' part in the tapestry of Leslie history.

You may be interested to know that in his Christmas card, Ian the 21<sup>st</sup> Earl of Rothes, specifically wished the Australian and New Zealand Branch success in the formation of the branch.

Russell Lesslie. Killara.NSW



## LESLIE

CREST BADGE: *A demi griffin,  
proper.*  
MOTTO: *Grip fast.*

### CLAN LESLIE CREST

If any member would like one, I can supply a floppy diskette with the above crest, as well as one without the motto.

Please send a stamped self-addressed envelope to me, and I shall send you one by return mail.

Barrie Leslie, Gordon NSW.

### FOUND

Priscilla Rodriguez, Clan Leslie Society genealogist, recently sent me an enquiry from a lady in Devon England. She was trying to trace her family who were solicitors in Calcutta in India. I wrote to her to try and get some more information that would enable me to identify which Leslie family she was from.

She wrote back to me with further information, but I still could not identify the family, she also asked me if I could help her find her cousin, who she believed was in Perth, Western Australia.

After making several phone calls I was finally able to locate her cousin in Coorparoo in Queensland, and have now written, advising her how she can contact her cousin. I would say a job well done.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon.NSW

## ROTHES CASTLE

The Castle of Rothes was the original home of the family of Rothes, whose descendant Ian 21<sup>st</sup> Earl of Rothes is now the head of Clan Leslie.

The first mention of the Barony of Rothes is in 1238, when Eva de Mortach, daughter of Muriel de Pollac was Domina, or Lady of Rothes.

King Edward I of England visited Rothes, 29<sup>th</sup> July 1296 on his progress through Scotland on his way to Aberdeen to receive the homage of the Scottish Barons. Sir Norman Leslie V Dominus Ejusdem was one of the Barons who swore fealty to Edward I, and signed the Ragman Rolls, named as such, because of the ribbons with seals that were attached when the Scottish Barons signed the roll.

It is not known how The Barony of Rothes, which is situated on the river Spey in Morayshire, just south of Elgin, came into the Leslie family, but Sir George Leslie was in possession of Rothes in 1390, but it was the seat of the Rothes family until about 1655 when the castle was burnt by a Covenanting zealot named John Innes, who had to pay damages to the Leslie family, who then moved to Fife.

The Barony of Rothes passed out of the hands of the Leslie family when it was sold in beginning of the 18<sup>th</sup> century to Captain John Grant of Easter Elchies, whose family then sold it, in 1758 to James Earl of Findlater.

There are two meanings of the word Rothes. The first is that it is derived from two Gaelic words, meaning, "Red Water", after the red cliffs of the river Spey at Rothes, or simply, "bend of the river".

Part of the Barony of Rothes, was the peninsular of Aikenway, on the opposite side of the river Spey, which was the home of George 1<sup>st</sup> Laird of Aikenway, son of George 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Rothes, who was the ancestor of Barrie Leslie, the Convenor of Clan Leslie Society Australia and New Zealand Branch.



*Rothes Castle above village of Rothes*

The picture shows all that remains of the outer wall of the Castle, with the village of Rothes below. The village was not erected until well after the Castle was destroyed.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW

<i>If you need help with:</i>	<i>please contact:</i>
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Griffin or Journal not received, extra copy needed	Journal Editor
address change, e-mail addresses, roster info, birthdays	Database Manager
membership information, application forms	Secretary-Registrar
dues, buying Leslie book or Griffin reprints	Treasurer
genealogy	Grip Fast Ed. (query); Genealogist (information)
using traveling Games tent kit	Chieftain

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**GENERAL REGISTER  
OFFICE: SCOTLAND  
INTERNET SERVICE**

The General Register Office for Scotland formally launched the Internet service on the 6<sup>th</sup> April 1998. The service provides World Wide access to a searchable index to births, baptisms, banns and marriages, from the Old Parish Registers, which date from 1553 to 1854, and births, marriages and deaths from the Statutory Index for 1855 to 1897. If you require, there is also an index to census records for 1891. It is hoped that the census records for 1881 will be available shortly.

Searching is available in the following fields.

- + Surname.
- + Event, [birth/baptism, marriage, death]
- + Sex.
- + Forename, [or first initial]
- + Year of Registration, [or range of years]
- + Age. [or age range] deaths only.
- + Registration District, [Statutory Index]
- + County, [Old Parish Registers]

The Scots Origins service, constitutes one of the largest databases of genealogical information in the world. Users are able to order register extracts [birth certificates, census entries] from the GRO via the Web.

You must have a credit card to pay for the service, which uses a high security payment system in which your credit card details are transmitted in encrypted form.

This is an online pay for service facility, which costs Six pounds Sterling for 30 page credits. Each page consists of a maximum of 15 search results. If required further credits can be purchased in 30 page increments for a further charge of Six pounds Sterling each time. Extract orders are processed by the GRO and sent by the normal mail service. The cost of each extract is Ten pounds Sterling. Extracts of entries not accessible by the online

database [those which are less than one hundred years old] can be ordered from the GRO website, by printing off a form from the website, and posting it or faxing it to the GRO.

For further details about the GRO visit:  
<http://www.open.gov.uk/gros/groshome.htm>

The main web page for Scots Origins:  
<http://www.origins.net/GRO>

Frequently asked questions about:  
<http://www.origins.net/GRO/faq.htm>

Form for ordering extracts:  
<http://www.open.gov.uk/gros/leaflet2.htm>

Happy Hunting. Barrie Leslie. Gordon.

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