



GREETINGS TO ALL OUR AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND LESLIE'S

I am sorry that it has taken me so long to give you a report on the "Brigadoon-is-Bundanoon Gathering, but better late than never.

It was held in perfect autumn colour and sunshine. My wife Patricia and I left Sydney and 5-30am to get down to Bundanoon in time to erect our tent and prepare for the talkfest to come. The Gathering is now the largest held in the Southern hemisphere and the street parade was longer than ever and the number of Clans represented was the largest on record and we also had twenty enquiries, which is a record for Clan Leslie.



Clanz members, Alwyn & Les Edwards from Tuross Head NSW.

It was a great day in so many ways, we saw Clanz member Sean Cairney, Australian Editor of The Scottish Banner, but he was too busy to get a photograph taken. I would recommend that Clanz members, mark it in your diary and get there next year.

The Anzac Day March in Sydney on the 25th April, was the biggest ever held and the wreath laying ceremony was also well attended. I marched with the New Zealanders at the head of the march and carried the New Zealand flag. It was very heartening to see so many young people clapping and shouting encouragement.

Barrie Leslie, Gordon, NSW.



I have decided on a bit of a change for this newsletter. I am listing several soldiers who were killed in the line of duty and hopefully some of our members will know the families of the soldiers mentioned.

Captain Walter Aland Leslie.

7th Bty, 3rd AFA. Bde. Australian Field Artillery, who died on the 6th May 1915 at Gallipoli. He is buried at the "Shell Green" Cemetery, which is located between Bolton's Ridge and the southern end of Anzac Cove, Gallipoli, Turkey.

Trooper Norman James Leslie.

9/931, of the 4th Reinforcement Otago Mounted Rifles N.Z.E.F. who died on Friday 27th August 1915 at Gallipoli He was the son of Mr & Mrs Norman James Leslie of Brandon St Seatoun Wellington NZ. He is named on the "Hill 60" or Sheepfold of the Little Rock, Memorial and is one of four Memorials to commemorate New Zealand soldiers who died on the Gallipoli peninsular, and have no known grave.

Rifleman Kenneth Gordon Leslie.

24/1106 2nd Bn. 3rd N.Z. Rifle Brigade Who died on Tuesday 27th June 1916, aged 21. He is buried in the Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire UK. Son of Mrs Kate Leslie Otoriri, Featherston, NZ. There are more than 170,000 Commonwealth war graves in the UK, of servicemen and women who died on active service, died of wounds or were killed in training accidents. The cemetery is at the back of the Royal Victoria Military Hospital and was used during both wars for burials from the hospital.

Private James Alexander Leslie.

14444 1st Bn Auckland Regiment N.Z.E.F.
He died Thursday 16th November 1916 aged 18
He is buried in the Estaires Communal Cemetery
Nord France, which we have mentioned before.
Son of David K. A. Leslie. Auckland NZ.
The cemetery was used for British burials from
November 1914 to June 1917. There are over
600 1914-1918 casualties buried there. Of these,
50 are unidentified.

Corporal Roy John Leslie.

2/577 N.Z. Field Artillery
He died on Wed 5th September 1917. aged 23.
He is buried in the Titerui Communal Cemetery
Papeete, Tahiti, Society Islands.
He was the son of David Kirkwood Anderson
and Rose Ann Leslie of "Tahiti", Lynton Avenue
Auckland, NZ.
The cemetery lies on the Grande Route, almost
one mile from Papeete. There are two burials
from the 1914-18 war and two from the 1939-45
war.

Private James Quinlan Leslie.

11059 1st Bn Wellington Regiment N.Z.E.F.
He died; Thursday 4th October 1917 aged 23.
He is buried at the Nine Elms British Cemetery,
Poperinge West-Vlaanderen Belgium.
He was the son of Charles and Jessie C Leslie,
Ngapuke, Manunui. NZ. He was born at Hakaru.
Nine Elms British Cemetery is located 11.5
kilometres on the road that connects Leper with
Poperingsewag [N308].
The cemetery was first used for burials from the
3rd Australian Clearing Station and was used for
casualties from the 1917 Battle of Ypres. There
are 1556 Commonwealth graves there.

Private James Leslie.

27533 1st Bn, Otago Regiment. N.Z.E.F.
He died on Friday 12th October 1917 aged 25.
He is named in the Tyne Cot Memorial,
Zonnebeke, West Vlaanderen, Belgium.
He was the son of John Robert and Margaret
Cockburn Leslie, 94 Albany St Dunedin, NZ.
The Tyne Cot Memorial to the Missing, is one of
four Memorials to the missing soldiers in the
area known as the Ypres Salient. There are
almost 35,000 names of Officers and men on the
Tyn Cote Memorial who have no known grave.

Trooper George Harper Leslie.

16053. Otago Mounted Rifles. N.Z.E.F.
He died on Sunday 21st July 1918.
He is buried in the Marfaux British Cemetery,
Marne, France.
He was the son of Mr and Mrs John Leslie of
Okaramio, Marlborough, New Zealand.
The Marfaux British Cemetery is a concentration
of graves from the battlefields and other Military
Cemeteries in the Marne.
The Marfaux [New Zealand] Memorial takes the
form of a panel erected in the Marfaux British
Cemetery and commemorates, by name, 10
casualties of the New Zealand Cyclist Battalion,
who fell in July 1918, and have no known grave.

If any of our members know of the families of
these men I would be pleased to hear from them.
With Remembrance Day [Poppy Day] 11th
November fast approaching it is time to
remember all these brave men who fell in "The
War to end all Wars" and remember;

A man is not dead until he is forgotten.

Lest we Forget.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.

SELKIRK'S ONE GREAT BATTLE.

Margaret Jackson Young recalls a Covenanting conflict.

Submitted by Brian Lesslie, Perth Scotland.

PART II

Legends connected to the Battle Of Philiphaugh
were once common knowledge in Selkirk and in
the valleys of Ettrick and Yarrow; not now,
perhaps, with a shifting population, an increase
in holiday home owners, and so on. Will tourists
visiting the beautiful Traquair House ever think
that the fleeing Montrose and his officers rode a
hard 16 miles to reach there, only to be turned
away as the Earl and his son were not at home?
Although someone wrote, "There are gentlemen
of credit that testify they were both within."

And will Sunday motorists driving up Yarrow to
spend a quiet day by St Mary's Loch realise, as
they pass Harehead Wood, that somewhere
nearby is a dark pool, known as the Myster
(treasure) Pool into which, some say, Montrose
cast his campaign chest to avoid it falling into
Covenanting hands?

Another tale about this chest has it that at Foulshiels it was thrown in at the doorway of a humble cottage whose amazed occupants took it to be some sort of heavenly gift. Not one they enjoyed for long, however. It was soon removed by a keen and observant party of Leslie's troopers.



General David Leslie, 1st Lord Newark
Courtesy Clan Leslie Charitable Trust, Edinburgh, Scotland

Yet all is not legend. Over the years, caches of coin have been dug up in various places where they had been buried in haste by Montrose's anxious quartermasters. In 1770 "a very rich deposit" was come upon by workers on the Philiphaugh Estate, and in January 1845 200 silver coins were turned up during the ploughing.

Weapons and small cannon balls have been found, as well as bottles of what might have been finest claret. Unfortunately, time had turned their contents to a substance no more appealing than dirty water. An interesting discovery amongst some of the Marquis' belongings consisted of three small silver lockets: heart shaped, with a portrait inside which might have

been a likeness, either of the young Montrose or of Charles II as Prince Of Wales. These, it is thought, were intended as decorations to be awarded in the field.

And one or two stories remain which might be no more than figments of the ballad-maker's imagination. The first concerns the mistress of the house where Montrose lodged of the eve of the battle. As she stood over her pot in which she was boiling a sheep's head she had told her guest (unrecognised, of course) that had this been the head of Montrose she'd certainly, "haud doon the lid".

Another is about a Highland woman, widowed that day as her husband fought and died for Montrose. And a strong, athletic body she must have been, too! She begged a lift to cross the river from one of Leslie's mounted soldiers. The poor fellow took pity on her and with the woman up behind, headed his horse into the Ettrick.

Reaching mid-stream, however, she drew a dagger from beneath her shawl, plunged it between his shoulders, freed his feet from the stirrups, edged him out of the saddle so that he dropped into the water, and galloped off, no one knows where!

And finally, the piper. Did he sit high on a bank overhanging the river, piping away to inspire Leslie's men, or the Royalist army, or simply to give appropriate background to the grim business in hand at Philiphaugh that day? We can't be sure, but some have it that Montrose asked him to play all day, and promised generous payment in the event of victory.

Of course, there was no Royalist victory – but even if there had been, there was no need for payment. He was struck by a bullet and fell to his death in that bit of the river, which was afterwards known as The Piper's Pool. As the rhyme says:

He is like the Piper o' Soney
Played a' day an' gat nae money!

I like to think it was used in Selkirk for skipping games, in the days when children played such games in the streets.

Many thanks to Brian Lesslie, Perth for this article.

FETTERNEAR HOUSE ABERDEENSHIRE

A rare carving has been found at the excavation site of the Bishops Palace, which later became the Leslie's of Balquhain residence, Fetternear House, by Kemnay Aberdeenshire. The carving, which could be up to 800 years old, is made from ivory or bone, and depicts the figure of a King.

The find comes just days before the anniversary of the death of Nick Bogdan, who at 55, died of a heart attack last August, [Nick was descended from the Leslie's of Rothie] Nick lead the dig from the beginning, 8 years ago, assisted by Penny Dransart, from Lampert University Wales.

The dig is open for 6 to 8 weeks every year and all who would like to help are welcome to dig. No experience is required. Pack your rucksack and a tent.

Further details can be had from Brian Lesslie on bless993@blueyonder.co.uk

Allan Cunningham, Botanist.

13 July 1791 – 27 June 1839.

Allan Cunningham was born in Wimbledon, Surrey UK on the 13 July 1791. He was educated at a Private school in Putney and worked for a time as a Law Clerk, which he decided that he was not suited to. He accepted a position as the assistant to the Manager of Kew Gardens, Mr W.T. Aiton. He recommended Cunningham to Sir Joseph Banks as a botanical collector and in 1814 he went to Brazil, where he remained for two years.



Allan Cunningham, Botanist and Explorer.

After his two years in Brazil, Cunningham was ordered to New South Wales and soon after his arrival he joined John Oxley's exploration party to the west of the Blue Mountains.

From 1817 to 1822 he was part of the survey of the Australian coast and made many important botanical discoveries. In 1822, Cunningham resumed his botanical research in New South Wales and also began a series of explorations, in which he discovered, in 1823, a pass through the Liverpool Range and in 1827 he discovered the Darling Downs, then discovered a route, now known as Cunningham's Gap, to the Darling Downs from the penal settlement at Moreton Bay, now Brisbane.



The Grave of Allan Cunningham, Sydney Botanical Gardens

The Colonial Government in Sydney, shelved his discovery of the Darling Downs, as they did not want to advertise a possible escape route from the penal settlement at Moreton Bay.

Cunningham then returned to England where he prepared his botanical discoveries for exhibition at Kew Gardens. He also wrote his papers for publication. He was offered the post of Colonial Botanist in New South Wales, but declined the post in favour of his brother Richard. When Richard died in 1835, Cunningham was again offered the appointment, which he accepted. When he arrived in New South Wales, he discovered that not only was he the Colonial

Botanist, he was also expected to grow fruit and vegetables for the NSW Governor.

Disillusioned, he went to New Zealand for six months, but his health had suffered from his explorations and in October 1838 he returned to Sydney, where he met Patrick Leslie at "Vineyard", the home of Hannibal Macarthur, the father of Patrick's future wife, and to whom he gave a map and full instructions on how to find the Darlings Down, which Patrick Leslie found in 1840. That is another story that has been dealt with previously.

He continued collecting botanical specimens, but his health deteriorated and he died in Sydney 27th June 1839. His contribution to Australian exploring was immense in itself, but his Botanical work was of great importance as well.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.

SYDNEY BOTANICAL GARDENS

One of the statues in the Sydney Botanical Gardens is "Robbie Burns". I will not enter into the controversy of whether he is to be called "Robert, Rabbie or Robbie" but just present the photograph of his statue.



*"Robbie" Burns, Born Alloway Ayrshire 25th Jan 1759
Died, 21 July 1796, Dumfries.*

If you wish to see the statue, just walk down the Art Gallery of Australia road and it is on the left before you get to the Art Gallery.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.

INTERNET GENEALOGY

For our members of Irish descent, I give the following information.

Griffith's Valuation

This list is often used as a substitute for census records, as most members will know that most of the Census Records were lost in the Public Record Office fire in Dublin in 1922.

The Griffith Primary Valuation, or Griffith Valuation as it has come to be known gives the following information for each tenement in each Irish Townland.

Names of Townland and occupiers,
Names of immediate lessors,
Description of the Tenement,
Acreage,
Valuation of land and buildings,
Reference to the corresponding Ordnance Survey map.

The valuations were carried out between 1848 and 1864 under the direction of Sir Richard Griffith and given its proximity in time to the "Great Famine" of the late 1840s it will give details on many families who left Ireland during the Great Famine.

A copy of the Griffith Valuation is held in the State Library of NSW in Macquarie Street and whether there are copies in other State Libraries, I do not know.

An index to the Griffith Valuation, containing over one million names is available on CD Rom from www.genealogical.com for \$59.99US, stock number GPC7188, as is a book on "**Sir Richard Griffith and his Valuations of Ireland**" by James R Reilly at a cost of \$21.95US, stock number CF9371. This book is out of stock at the moment, but you can place an order for it.

This book gives a massive amount of information on how the Griffith Valuations were made, how the Townlands were assigned and the relationship to the new Irish Poor Laws that came into effect with the Great Famine.

This book would be a great acquisition for any person's library. Irish or Scottish descent. As you well know the Irish Leslie's were originally Scottish families translated to Ireland in the 1600s under the Plantation Scheme.

IRISH FLAX GROWERS LIST 1796

The Irish Flax Growers List of 1796 is a very important record of people living in Ireland in the 1800s. It was officially known as the Spinning Wheel Premium Entitlement List, or later the Flax Growers Bounty List.

In 1796 the Irish Linen Board, published a list of almost 60,000 individuals who had received awards for planting a specified acreage of flax. Those who had planted one acre, were rewarded with four spinning wheels, Those who had planted five acres were awarded a loom.

This list is arranged by civil parish in each County, except Dublin and Wicklow. The Flax Growers List contains the names of those individuals, recognized by the Irish Linen Board as having planted the specific acreage of flax.

The Flax Growers list is available on CD Rom from www.genealogical.com at a cost of \$29.99US, stock number GPC7271.

I would point out that this information is given as a service to our members and is not given as an endorsement of the products of Genealogical. Com. I would point out that I myself have purchased information from them and have had no trouble at all with their service.

INTERNET SITES

Old United Kingdom Maps
<http://www.old-maps.co.uk>

Australian Medical Pioneers Index
<http://www.medicalpioneers.com/>

The NZ Ship and Marine Society Inc
<http://www.nzshipmarine.com/>

New Zealand; House flags of Shipping Cos
<http://www.fotw.net/Flags/nz~hf.html>

Adelaide Centennial Park Cemetery
<http://www.centennialpark.org>

NZ Funeral Notices 1840s to 1890s
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~funeralnotices/Funeral.html>

The Royal New Zealand Returned Services
http://www.rsa.org.nz/review/lpost_intro.cfm

Aust & NZ Emigrant Ship Photograph Service
<http://freespace.virgin.net/donald.hazeldine/ausfotos.htm>

Australian & New Zealand Passenger Lists
<http://www.users.on.net/proformat/auspass.html>

New Zealand Genealogy Research
<http://homepages.paradise.net.nz/barbgreg/index.html>

National Archives of New Zealand
<http://www.archives.govt.nz/holdings/immigration.html>

NZ National Register of Archives Manuscripts
<http://www.nram.org.nz/index.html>

Wellington City Libraries. NZ Genealogy
<http://www.wcl.govt.nz/popular/genealogy.html>

British Library and UK/Ireland University Holds
<http://www.copac.ac.uk/copac/>

Supreme Court NSW Australia Probate
<http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/sc%5Csc.nsf/pages/probate>

Pre WW1 Passenger Lists from UK to Australia
<http://www.beavis.co.uk/pslist.htm>

Ships Sailing to Australia & New Zealand
<http://www.port.nmm.ac.uk/research/g3.html>

World War 11 Nominal Roll for Australia
<http://www.ww2roll.gov.au>

Electric Scotland
<http://www.electricscotland.com/>

and you will find some of our newsletters at
<http://electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletters/leslie.index.htm>

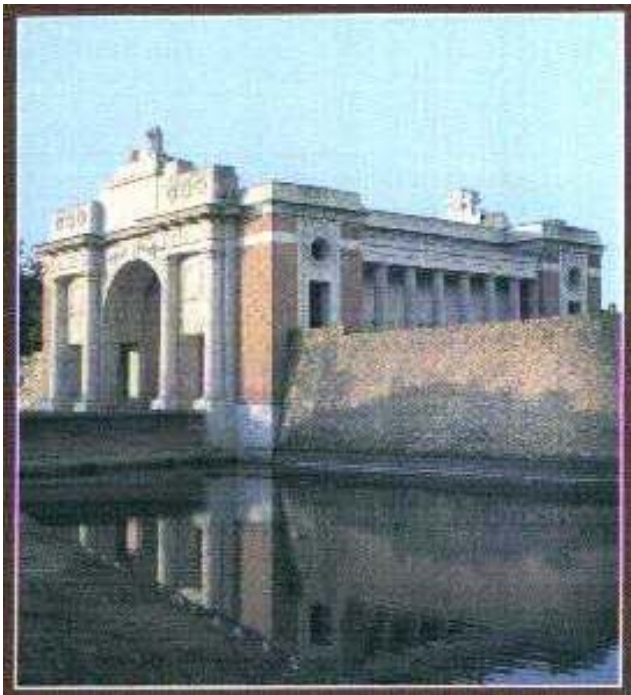
Well, I hope that there are enough sites for you to explore for the next three months. If you come across any sites that might be of interest to our members, please let me know.

Barrie Leslie, Gordon, NSW.

MENIN GATE, YPRES, FLANDERS.

In Flanders is the ancient town of Ypres. It was the centre of a thriving wool trade and was one of the most important City-States of the 13th century and in 1250, Ypres had a population in excess of 40,000, which is greater than the population today and also at that time Oxford in England, had a population of 4,500.

Ypres has been fought over for centuries by the Dutch, the French and the Spanish, and was called "The Cockpit of Europe". It was the Great War of 1914-1918 than resulted in the complete destruction of the town and its priceless architecture.



Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing. Ypres. Flanders

The Menin Gate Memorial is one of the most visited Memorials in the area. The Menin Gate marked the start of the main road towards the frontline and tens of thousands of men would have passed through it.

The Menin Gate actually did not exist until 1927 when a design of Sir Reginald Blomfield was built. The Menin Gate was really a gap in the ramparts which almost encircled Ypres. There had been a gate there at some time, but in 1914 it was non-existent.

In 1919 the Belgium Government offered two sites, the ruined Cloth Hall and the Menin Gate site. The British Government decided that the Menin Gate site would be a Memorial to the

Missing soldiers of the British and Empire armies who had died around Ypres.

Sir Reginald Blomfield's memorial combines the elements of a classical Victory Arch and a mausoleum and it contains, inside and outside huge panels, into which are carved the names of 54,896 Officers and men of the Commonwealth forces who died in the Ypres Salient and who have no known grave. Included are a number of Leslie's. As large as the Menin Gate Memorial is, it was found to be too small and the names of a further 34,984 of the missing, and those who died between 16th August 1917 and the Armistice are recorded at the Tyne Cot Memorial on the slopes just below Passchendaele.

The Menin Gate is the main thoroughfare and is used daily by pedestrians and traffic, but it is such an important part of life in Ypres, that at 8.00pm every night, policemen close the road to traffic and then stand to attention and salute, as the Ypres Fire Brigade buglers play, The Last Post. Whatever the weather there is always an audience and local people open their doors and watch the act of Remembrance, in honour of the brave young men who came from all around the world and died in defence of their town.

On special occasions such as the 11th of November the Last Post ceremony is carried out at 11.00am as well as at 8.00pm, especially if the date falls on a Saturday or a Sunday, when thousands of people join the ceremony.



Ypres Fire Brigade Buglers, at the Menin Gate.

During the Second World War, when the Germans occupied Ypres, the ceremony was banned, but the bugles were hidden and the same night that the Germans left Ypres in 1945, the haunting notes of The Last Post sounded under the Menin Gate.

Part of Lord Plumer of Messines speech when he opened the Menin Gate Memorial in 1927 was;

One of the most tragic features of the Great War was the number of casualties reported as "missing believed killed" ----- and it was resolved that here at Ypres, where so many of the missing are known to have fallen, there should be a Memorial worthy of them, -----and it can now be said of each one in whose honour we are assembled here today:

"he is not missing he is here"

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.

THE BURNING OF ROTHES CASTLE.

By Thomas Innes of Learney Carrick Pursuivant. 1931

The picturesque old fortress, whose ruins overshadow the Burgh of Rothes, is a prominent object in the lower valley of the Spey. In olden times it was the seat of the Leslie's, Earls of Rothes, whose permanent residences were, however at Ballinbriech and Fytekil, in Fife, which they re-named "Leslie", after the old barony in the Garioch. The Castle of Rothes was therefore committed to a series of Captains, in whose custody it remained until the estate was sold about 1700, to Captain John Grant of Elchies and some years later it passed to the Earls of Seafield. The old tower, whose broken walls still crown the height, is apparently built on the site of an earlier castle, where Edward I, rested on his northern campaign. The present ruined condition of the edifice is stated to be due to villagers having burnt it, *"about two hundred years ago"*, says the editor of Shaws History of Moray, 1882, *because it became a refuge for tramps and thieves"*. He adds that the stones were taken to build several houses in the village. This seems likely enough, but the present village and Burgh of Rothes were not founded until the early eighteenth century, so its inhabitants could not be responsible for burning the stately pile, which overhung the young Burgh, for its destruction actually occurred in the preceding century. Whatever may have been the motive, the pretext that it *"became a refuge for tramps and thieves"*, seems peculiar, but a document in the Register of Deeds confirms the tradition that the burning was deliberate and prior to 1662, whilst the incendiary was a certain John Innes in Conrack, who had to make amends to the Earl in the following terms.

To be continued in the next newsletter, Barrie Leslie.

Clan Leslie Society of Australia and New Zealand

Commissioner Clan Leslie Aust & NZ	James Barrie Leslie 43 Rosedale Road. Gordon. NSW. 2072. Aust lesliejb@ozemail.com.au	61-2-9418-2262
Convenor CLANZ	J. Barrie Leslie as above	
Patron of CLANZ	Rt Rev Kenneth Leslie OBE. BA. Th. Schol. 6 th Bishop of Bathurst.	
Secretary Membership	Malcolm W Leslie 1 Mannuem Crt. Toowoomba. Queensland. 4350. Aust. leslies@icr.com.au	61-7-4635-8358
Treasurer [acting]	Elaine M Wood 41 Kooloona Cres West Pymble NSW 2073. Aust elawood@ozemail.com.au	61-2-9498-5068
Newsletter	newsletter editor or committee required	
Webmaster & I T Manager	Andrew C Leslie 14/88 Shirley Road. Wollstonecraft NSW 2065. Australia. acleslie@ram.net.au	61-2-9436-1284
New Zealand Representative	Jillian A Burcher 9/86 Bentley Ave. Glenfield. Auckland. NZ jillianburcher@paradise.net.nz	64-9-444-9734
Queensland Representative	Selwyn J Leslie 21 Brigalow Street Toowoomba Queensland 4350. Aust sleslie@vtown.com.au	61-7-4633-3949
South Australia Representative	Audry M Fry 37 Ormond Grove, Toorak Gardens, South Australia 5065. Australia.	61-8-8331-9688
Victoria Representative	Lea Hess 10 Rigby Place. Sunbury. Victoria 3429. Australia hess@melbpc.org.au	61-3-9740-9960
West Australia Representative	Margaret A Pearce P. O. Box. 52. Hyden. Western Australia. 6359.	61-8-9880-7022

WEBSITE for CLANZ. <http://www.clanleslie.org>

**Chief of
Clan Leslie**
Ian, 21st Earl of Rothes
Tanglewood, W. Tytherley, N.
Salisbury, U.K. SP5 1LX

Clan Leslie Society International

Chieftain Edmund J Leslie 402-359-4107
2003-2004 Waterloo, NE. USA
e-mail: eleslie@direcway.com

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