



FROM THE CHIEFTAIN



The old piece of rhetoric entitled "Wha's Like Us?" is a tongue in cheek look at the contributions made by Scots to the world, and never ceases to amuse us at the

expense of the English. However, if we care to look at the facts, it is indeed true that the Scottish race has been exceedingly influential, out of proportion to their numbers, in progressing the advancement of the human race.

In the world of the arts there are few who have had more impact than the "Immortal Bard". Robert Burns. A study of his poems reveals an understanding of the human condition which is as true today as it was when he wrote them. All over the world on January 25th, people will gather to attend Burn's Suppers, to recognise and celebrate his birth in 1759 and his life.

There were and are, of course' many more Scots who have influenced all aspects of life throughout the world and Australia has been the recipient of many benefits in this regard.

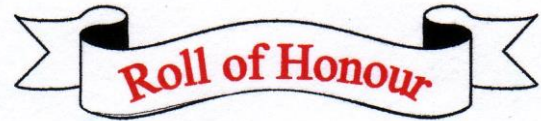
As a bicentennial project, in 1988, the Society of St Andrew of Scotland (Queensland) published a small booklet entitled "The Scots in Queensland". Which gave a brief rundown on some 20 odd Scots who were instrumental in the development of Queensland. This booklet was not complete by any means, but it demonstrates how important the Scots were in our nations early years.

Of course, this influenced was replicated in all the other states and New Zealand. Our own Patrick Leslie, of whom much has been written, was not only influential in Queensland, but also in the Land of the Long White Cloud

It is of interest that Sir Raphael Cilento, in his book "Triumph in the Tropics", states "*Patrick Leslie's diary is largely a laconic record of dates and stopping places with little reference of the difficulties that had to be overcome.*" The pioneers were a hardy ingenious group of hard workers and we must be forever thankful to them for starting the journey towards the life that we enjoy today.

Our Clan can take pride in the fact that Patrick and his brothers William and George, were amongst that sect group.

Malcolm Leslie. D.Ua Chieftain. CLANZ.



Private John William Leslie. 10/3936

10th Reinforcements, 8th Battalion.

Wellington Infantry Regiment.

John William Leslie was a farmer from Kapuni, Hawera, Taranaki New Zealand and unmarried. His mother Mrs Louie Leslie (wife of James Leslie) of Kapuni was his next of Kin. He embarked on either HMNZT 47 (Willochar) or HMNZT 48 (Tofua) on the 4th March 1916 bound for Suez in Egypt. He joined the 2nd Battalion of the Wellington Infantry Regiment for service in Northern France. Private Leslie was killed on either the night of the 2nd July 1916 or the night of the 3rd July 1916 at Armentieres, Nord, France, when the New Zealand Rifle Brigade relieved the 6th Australian Brigade in the Rue Marle sector. A very heavy bombardment of Armentieres, made relief difficult with artillery on both sides being more intense than anything experienced by the New Zealanders. Private Leslie's body was never recovered and is remembered in the Cite Bonjean (New Zealand) Memorial in the Cite Bonjean Military Cemetery in Armentieres, Nord, France.

“The ruins of Eden Castle are about 4.5 miles from Banff, half a mile from the east side of the river Deveron, and about 1.5 miles from King-Edward Station.

The castle can easily be visited after seeing the Old Kirk of King-Edward. Approached from this side the ruins are seen in the foreground of an extensive landscape, with the wooded Hill of Alvah rising on the far side of the vale of Deveron – the river is too low down to be seen. The view is specially pretty late in September and early in October, when the sun sets behind Hill of Alvah. The castle forms an oblong 40 feet by 26 feet and three stories high. There are traces of a wing on the north side, and a tower projects a little on the southern part of the west front. The door is in the angle between the tower and the rest of the castle. No trace of outworks is left or of gardens. There are a number of vaulted rooms on the ground floor which have loop holes in the walls.

A narrow stair leads from the south-east vault to the first floor where the hall extends nearly the whole length of the ruins. During the early part of the 19th century the roof was still intact, and this hall was used by the people around and their neighbours for dances. The bedrooms were on the 2nd floor. The date 1677 and initials G.L.M.G were on a lintel of one of the rooms, and 1676 is over the doorway and 1677 on the south gable. At that time a story was added by George Leslie, whose wife was Margaret Gordon.



Cite Bonjean (New Zealand Memorial) where 47 NZEF soldiers are remembered, whose bodies were never recovered.



Cite Bonjean Military Cemetery, Armentieres with the graves of 452 soldiers of the NZEF.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.

LESLIE CONNECTIONS IN N E SCOTLAND –

Stanley Bruce (Banff).

While carrying out research into the history of Northeast Scotland or during my wanderings of the area I quite often discover interesting things connected with the Leslie family. Here I share some of what I’ve discovered.

CASTLE OF EDEN (IDEN).

A book published by the Banffshire Journal in 1919 titled Banff and District written by Allan Mahood former President of the Banffshire Field Club gives a description of the Castle as follows:



Loop hole on south wall. (S. Bruce).



Gun ports on south wall. (S. Bruce).

HISTORY – Eden was in the old Earldom of Buchan, and about 1308 formed part of the tocher or dowry of Margaret Comyn, heiress of the last Norman Earl. Subsequent Earls of Buchan held it until c.1415, then Meldrums of Fyvie were the owners for over 150 years. The present castle was built before 1560, and early in the 17th century it belonged to Sir Patrick Leslie, whose monument may be seen in King-Edward Churchyard. The Eden Estate was bought by the late Sir Richard Nicholson in 1901, and his trustees now hold it....”



Edin Castle as viewed from the east with the Hill of Alvah behind. (S. Bruce).

Earlier references to Eden are written as Iden. The 1st Leslie laird of Iden was Sir Patrick Leslie (c1595 to 1660) Provost of Aberdeen at different periods from 1634 to 1647. He is said to have been "...a great man of great repute, and he figured much in the troublesome times of the Covenant, being a rigid Covenanter”.

He bought the castle from the Meldrum family (Exact date unknown). Patrick married firstly Jean Leslie (b.c1595) daughter of John Leslie 10th Baron of Balquhain and Jean Erskine. c1633 he married his second wife Isabella Cheyne (c1614 to 1666). George the 2nd laird married Miss Gordon of Park.

Looking at the ruinous castle as it stands today it is to my mind a building at risk. Trees which are growing inside are certainly a risk to the masonry. I could not see the two date stones or the stone with initials on it as mentioned by Mahood. The castle is category B listed by Historic Scotland. Grid Ref: NJ697587.

The ‘GL’ initials on the 1677 date-stone are thought to be those of George Leslie (b.c1644) the 2nd laird of Eden. His son also George (b.c.1664) was the 3rd laird, and his grandson also George (c1684 to 1740) was the 4th and last Leslie laird. The 4th laird of Eden sold the Eden Estate to Duff of Braco on or before 1740.

George Leslie 4th laird of Eden purchased the Tyrie Estate from John Fraser 4th laird of Tyrie



Edin Castle as viewed from the north. (S. Bruce).

c1725 / c1728, this purchase would have included the Mansion of Tyrie House. In 1690, James Fraser thought to be the 3rd son of Sir Alexander Fraser (c1536 to 1623) 8th laird of Philorth built Tyrie House. It is said to have stood due east of Tyrie Parish Church (built 1800). The house is said to have been magnificent, and had round towers, terraces, a canal and orchards. Nothing of the house can be seen today. Appropriately Tyrie in Gaelic means the ‘Kings House’. Approximate Grid Ref: NJ9363.

Re-set on a steading at Bridgend Farm, Tyrie is a weathered coat of arms of George Leslie (c1684 to 1740) and these have the initials G.L.M.D. On the left side (Dexter) of the shield shows the Leslie buckle lying horizontal in the middle of the shield. Symbols above and below the buckle I can’t make out. On the right (Sinister) half of the shield the top looks like two boars heads, the middle I can’t make out but could be a continuation of the Leslie buckle, and the bottom a single boars head. (Boars heads are usually the symbols for Gordon, his grandmother was a Gordon).



Arms of George Leslie of Tyrie, Bridgend Farm, Tyrie. (Stanley. Bruce).

The initials MD are presumably those of his wife c1728, who I don’t have any information on. I understand that in 1710 he married Margaret Leslie (1683 to 1744), sixth daughter of Patrick,

Count Leslie, 15th Baron of Balquhain aka Lady Kinnares, however it seems that they were divorced before 1724. She married her 2nd husband Hugh Fraser (c1680 to 1732) on the 22nd December 1724. George and Margaret had a daughter Elizabeth born c1713, but she died in childhood.

The Widows Prayer (Poem).

All around the ‘Castle of Eden’,
There’s said to be a chill in the air,
And for this, there is a reason,
And it’s called the ‘Widows prayer’.

The Widow she lived,
In a cottar-house on the Eden Estate,
And her only son was a wayward lad,
Who lived it up and stayed out late.

She could not get her lad,
To calm down and change his ways,
So she asked assistance from the Laird,
Hoping her son would listen to what he says.
The Laird he used,
The power of the ‘Pot and Gallows’,
And took the lad to the pot in the Deveron,
And drowned him in, out of the shallows.

The widow she was distraught,
When the Laird told her about her son,
For the lad was her only bairn,
And she could not believe what he had done.

All she had wanted to do,
Was to teach the young lad a lesson,
To try and settle him down,
And stop all of his messing.

The ‘Widows prayer’ was;
“Cauld blaw the win’ about the hoose o’ Edin”.
A curse on the castle,
From a widow whose heart was bleeding!

Stanley Bruce.

(Written in 2004 based on a true story).

‘Cauld blaw the win’ about the hoose o’ Edin’ is Doric for ‘Cold blow the wind about the house of Eden’.

And, to finish on a slightly different theme I found the negative for this photograph in a box of old photograph negatives taken by Bodie of Banff

c1950. The sleeve of this one had Leslie written on it, so either the bride or groom is one of the clan. The couple probably lived in, or somewhere near Banff and Macduff. Can anyone identify them?



*Leslie marriage photo. (Bodie of Banff c1950
Many thanks to Stanley Bruce of Banff for the
above story on the Leslies of Eden (Iden) Castle
Banffshire.*

Barrie Leslie, Gordon. NSW.

A VERY SPECIAL REQUEST

Last October I sent an email to the Mollendahl Municipal Council in Bergen Norway, asking if they might have a photograph or could arrange to get a photograph of my cousins grave in the Mollendahl Municipal Council Cemetery.

I received this photograph of my cousins grave from the Mollendahl Council, sent by Ashild Rosnes, Tilsynskonsulent, which I am very grateful to have received and they advised that Raymond was buried in the cemetery on the 15th February 1945 and is one of 46 British Commonwealth servicemen buried there.

Raymond was shot down in the Boml Fiord Norway on the night of the 28/29 January 1945 and 2015 is the 70th Anniversary of his death.



*W/O, Raymond William Gibson Leslie.
NZ415702 489 Squadron. RNZAF.*

Barrie Leslie, Gordon. NSW.

JOHN LESLIE BISHOP OF ROSS

John Leslie was born on the 29th Sept 1527 in Morayshire Scotland and died at the Monastery of St Augustine near Brussels on the 31 May 1596. He was the son of Gavin Leslie, an eminent lawyer, and Judge Official of the Diocese of Moray. A dispensation of legitimation was granted to him on the 19th July 1538, enabling him, despite the defect of his birth to receive holy orders. His father Gavin Leslie was the brother of Sir Beroald Leslie whose daughter married John Leslie of Aikenway, who was granted the lands of Bridge of Spey on his marriage. This makes John Leslie Bishop of Ross, my 1st cousin, 11 times removed.

John Leslie, Bishop of Ross was descended from Andrew Leslie 3rd Baron of Balquhain.

John Leslie was educated at the University of Aberdeen, Paris and Poitiers and showed early signs of his academic genius. He taught canon law at King's College Aberdeen, and took his degree as Doctor of Laws. In 1558 he received holy orders and was appointed official of the diocese of Aberdeen.



John Leslie Bishop of Ross

At this time the doctrines of the reformation were spreading throughout Scotland, and the Rev Dr John Leslie was detained in Edinburgh, and ordered not to preach again.

With the troubles increasing in Scotland, it was thought necessary to invite Queen Mary home from France. John Leslie was sent to Paris, by the Earls of Huntly and Athole to bring her back to Scotland, and he became her trusted advisor, holding judicial office, a privy councillorship and from 1566 the Bishopric of Ross.

When Queen Mary was forced to abdicate, John Leslie remained loyal to her. He defended her at the enquiry convened on the 4th Oct 1568 at York and was her accredited representative at Queen Elizabeth's court.

John Leslie was engaged in many schemes to return Mary to the throne, one of which was to depose Elizabeth in 1571 with the help of Spanish troops, and another to marry Mary to the catholic, Thomas Howard, 4th Duke of Norfolk. Norfolk was executed for treason, and Leslie was imprisoned in the Tower of London. In 1573 John Leslie was released and ordered from England

He went to the Netherlands where he tried without success to obtain help for Mary. While in Rome to see the Pope in 1578 he published, in Latin, his history of Scotland titled, "De Origine Moribus et Rebus Gestis Scotorum".

When the news of the execution of Queen Mary on the 8th Feb 1587 reached Brussels where John Leslie was then residing, he was filled with horror and retired to the Monastery of St Augustine in Brussels, where he carried out his devotions until he died in 1596.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon NSW.

Captain Walter Aland Leslie, 7th Battery,

**3rd Australian Field Artillery Brigade
(Plot I, Row I, Grave 1)**



Shell Green showing spot where Capt Walter Leslie was killed [AWP00117.005]

On the morning of 6 May Captain Walter Leslie and Lieutenant Percy Ross and their gun crews were on Bolton's Ridge attempting to destroy a concealed Turkish position when Captain Leslie was wounded in the arm and thigh. Confusion seems to have surrounded the subsequent death and burial of Captain Leslie who was reported to have been taken on board the hospital ship *Gloucester Castle*, where he died at 8pm and was buried at sea. His family was told that he had died of wounds on 8 June 1915



Captain Walter Aland Leslie

However, in 1919 Leslie's remains were located on Gallipoli by the Graves Registration Unit and buried at Shell Green Cemetery. Captain Leslie received Special Mention in Divisional Orders for conspicuous gallantry or valuable service for the period 6 May to 28 June 1915. His brother Sergeant Arthur Leslie, also with the 3rd Australian Field Brigade, was killed in France in 1918.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW

Courier Mail 1 June 1938.

Patrick Leslie's Sundial.

WARWICK, Wednesday:- An interesting link with the earliest history of the Warwick district A sundial made for Patrick Leslie and used at Canning Downs for many years has been made available by Mr E P Cohen of Nardoo, Leyburn, to the historical sub-committee of the Centenary Celebrations Committee and will figure in the historical exhibition at the celebrations.

The dial which is made of slate, with an iron shadow indicator, is inscribed :Contracted for P P Leslie 1848”.



Patrick Leslie.

It stood on Canning Downs for many years and then disappeared several years ago. Mr Leon Cohen, a former resident of Warwick, who now lives in Sydney saw the sundial at a Warwick auction sale and purchased it as a curio.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW

My Health and my Resignation.

I have had to offer my resignation as Commissioner of Clan Leslie Society of Australia and New Zealand as on the 12th February I was admitted to Hornsby Hospital in Sydney to have my left kidney removed, owing to a carcinoma that was attached to the kidney. When they removed the kidney the doctors found another carcinoma in the fat around the kidney and decided to watch and wait to see what that carcinoma would do. Unfortunately I had to be returned to the operating theatre after two hours as I was bleeding internally. While this procedure was being carried out, I suffered a complete renal failure and it was touch and go whether I could be revived. Luckily for me they succeeded but there were other complications which meant that I had to stay in hospital for a further three weeks. Owing to these complication, I have had no alternative that to resign my appointment as Commissioner of Clan Leslie Society of Australia and New Zealand and I wish the Society the best of luck for its future under the new leadership.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.

Commissioner James Barrie Leslie. JP. 61-2-9418-2262
Clan Leslie 43 Rosedale Road. Gordon.
Aust & NZ NSW. 2072. Aust lesliejb@ozemail.com.au

Chieftain CLANZ Malcolm W Leslie.D.Ua 61-7-4635-8358
117 / 303 Spring St Kearney's Spring
Qld.4350 Aust. gpleslie@optusnet.com.au

Patron of CLANZ Ms Kathleen Procter-Moore
kathlenceltic@hotmail.com / www.kathleenprocter-moore.com

Secretary Malcolm W Leslie 61-7-4635-8358
Membership see above

Treasurer [acting] Elaine M Wood 61-2-9498-5068
41 Kooloona Cres West Pymble
NSW 2073. Aust elawood@ozemail.com.au

Newsletter newsletter editor or committee required

Webmaster & IT Manager John O'Driscoll 61-3-5253 1254
71Dandarriga Drive. Clifton Springs. Vic. Aust
john@johnodriscoll.com.au

New Zealand Representative William (Bill) Leslie 64-9-431-2251
Valima Farm 226 Settlement Road
R.D. 2 Kaiwaka 0573 New Zealand
gripfastleslie@gmail.com

Queensland Representative Malcolm W Leslie 61-7-4635- 8358
See Chieftain above.

South Australia Representative Audry M Fry 61-8-8331-9688
37 Ormond Grove, Toorak Gardens,
South Australia 5065. Australia.

Victoria Representative To be advised.

West Australia Representative Terry Keith Leslie 61-8-8956-7646
Ngaanyatjarra Lands School. Blackstone Campus
P.M.B. 99 via Alice Springs 0872. NT tezzles_50@yahoo.com.au

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

Previous issues of Grip Fast Down Under:-
Can be viewed on our website. You can also see them on,
www.electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletters/leslie/index.htm

CHIEF OF CLAN LESLIE The Hon Alexander John Leslie
8 Buckingham Terrace. Edinburgh. EH4 3AA. Scotland
alex.leslie@btinternet.com

Clan Leslie Society International

Chieftain Thomas (Tom) Leslie Huxtable, 118 S. Coach
House Rd. Wichita. KS 67235. USA. tshux@cox.net

SUBMITTING OR USING ARTICLES IN GRIP FAST DOWN UNDER

Submitting articles to Grip Fast Down Under

Articles, photographs may be submitted by post or e-mail. Please include your name and address. If the articles are from another publication, either print or electronic, permission must be obtained from the copyright holder if the article is subject to copyright, and included with the article or photograph. If you are emailing a colour photograph, please send it as an IBM PC, **jpeg** format at 300dpi. If in greyscale, please send it at 300dpi, both at **33%**.

Using articles from Grip Fast Down Under

Please note, that unless otherwise stated, copyright rests with Clan Leslie Society of Australia and New Zealand, [CLANZ], but organisations may use articles in Grip Fast Down Under, providing the source is acknowledged as Clan Leslie Society of Australia and New Zealand, at the time of printing.