



REPORT ON CLANZ.

Here we are, well into our 11th year and we must change the way that we operate. I have been making all the decisions and running CLANZ and it is now time that we at least have a steering committee to come up with fresh ideas on how to improve the Society, plans to introduce new members and ways to improve our financial situation. I have had too many medical problems to continue do it all myself. It should be an easy matter to arrange this through an email conference or if anyone has other ideas, please float them. Another suggestion I would like to make is that if someone wishes to take over as Convenor, I would be quite happy to step aside and another suggestion is whether we should rename the position of Convenor as Chieftain, to help to convey the Scottish origins of the Society.

OVERDUE SUBSCRIPTIONS;

I would like to make a gentle reminder that the Annual Subscriptions were due on the 1st January and some members have not yet paid them and it would be appreciated if they were paid as they all help us to preserve our Leslie heritage.

BATTLE OF HARLAW; 24th July 1411.

Next year will be the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Harlaw (Red Harlaw) which was fought between Donald Lord of the Isles and the defending forces of the Earl of Mar, including Sir Andrew Leslie 3rd Baron of Balquhain and six of his sons and as many as 30 of his natural sons were killed. After the Battle a Wooden Cross called the Leslie Cross was erected in memory of the Leslie's who died. Unfortunately this Cross disappeared and in 1911 the City of Aberdeen erected a stone memorial to honour the memory of those who died that day, in defense of Aberdeen. I have an article by David Leslie, Baron of Leslie 1979 – 2003 and will be happy to send it to anyone who wishes to read it.

Barrie Leslie, Gordon. NSW.



PRIVATE SAMUEL LESLIE MOONEY. 2ND NZ EXPEDITIONARY FORCE



*Private Samuel Leslie Mooney. No 3193
2nd New Zealand Expeditionary Force.
Born 9 September 1918, Died 25 May 1941.
Killed in Action Crete.*

Private S L Mooney (Leslie) was the Great Grandson of William Leslie born 20 November 1858 in the Shetland Islands and his wife Francis Welsh who were married 5 May 1863 in Blencowe Cumberland England and migrated to New Zealand. William Leslie died 9 May 1937 in Kaiwaka New Zealand.

“Leslie” was the son of Harry Gordon Mooney and Jane Leslie of Maungatapere North Auckland and was living at Whatatiri, Whangarei when he

enlisted in the 18th Auckland Battalion 2NZEF and embarked for the Middle East from Wellington on the 5th January 1940. He was one of the best liked young men in the district and was well liked in the Army as well. He was Mentioned in Despatches and received congratulations from Bernard Freyberg, Commanding New Zealand Division



“Leslie” was a cousin of CLANZ members Ruth Leslie of Auckland and Bill Leslie of Kaiwaka.



Suda Bay War Cemetery.

Thanks to Ruth Leslie for the information on her cousin “Leslie”.

Barrie Leslie, Gordon, NSW.

“Leslie” is buried in the Suda Bay War Cemetery Crete, Ref 15.B.18.



T. W. “DORRIE” LESLIE.

T W “Dorrie” Leslie was a world renowned athletics official from Wellington New Zealand.



Dorrie Leslie at the 1932 Olympic Games in Los Angeles where he started the first race.

“Dorrie” was formerly one of New Zealand’s greatest trackwalkers and during his sporting career he set a world record for the one mile, while competing at Napier.

He usually supplied all his own ammunition for starting races. It was estimated that he used over 3000 rounds of ammunition.

“Dorrie” was appointed to be the official starter at the Olympic Games in Berlin but the Germans were asked to supply all key officials. He was then told that he would be the official starter for the Olympic Games in Tokyo but when the games were transferred to Helsinki in Finland, it was decided because of the distance, that European officials would be appointed.

“Dorrie” has had a Park named in his honour, Dorrie Leslie Park, at Lyall Bay in Wellington and one of the Lord of the Rings movies was filmed in the hills behind Dorrie Leslie Park, where the Hobbits of Dunbarrow appeared several times.



Dorrie Leslie Park. Lyall Bay.

Barrie Leslie, Gordon, NSW.

DEATH OF THE SCOTTISH TENOR KENNETH MCKELLAR.

On the 9th April 2010 Kenneth McKellar died of pancreatic cancer at his daughter’s home near Lake Tahoe in the USA.

Kenneth McKellar was born in Scotland on the 23rd June 1927 and studied forestry at the University of Aberdeen. He later trained at the Royal College of Music as an opera singer, but decided to pursue a career in singing Scottish and other traditional songs.

In 1964 he toured New Zealand and I went to hear him sing and was totally entranced and I had already had several of his records.

I had already won 1st prize in an Auckland singing competition singing one of his songs, Kishmul’s Galley and also Bonnie Mary of Argyll where I was placed 2nd.

In 1966 Kenneth represented the UK in the Eurovision Song Contest, but was marked very poorly by all the judges, except Ireland.



Kenneth McKellar as I remember him.

In 1973 the Scottish Commercial Radio Station, Radio Clyde, began broadcasting. The first record played was “Song of the Clyde” sung by Kenneth McKellar.

Kenneth McKellar made most of his recordings on the Decca label and also recorded Handel’s “Messiah” with Joan Sutherland.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.

CLAN LESLIE DNA PROJECT.

The DNA Clan Leslie Project for male members seeking possible family connections with other Leslie’s with matching or near matching DNA of the Y-Chromosomes is continuing to grow. We now have 18 tests on record. This is only a very small number and we need many more to establish a pattern, but with my own grouping, I have a match with only three differences, which is very close, but at the moment I cannot discover the link.

There have been a number of new developments using DNA which can find relatives through both the male and female lines and this will likely be of interest to the members whose family name is not Leslie or who cannot find a living relative with that name to do the

Y-Chromosome test. See the following message from Family Tree DNA which undertakes the tests of our Clan Leslie DNA Project. You will find this very interesting;

Dear Family Tree DNA Group Administrator

“ This is the most exciting genetic genealogy break-through since the company launched its Y-DNA test, which uncovered relatives in the direct paternal line, says Bennett Greenspan, founder and President of Family Tree DNA.

Family Tree DNA is pleased to inform you of the pre-launch of our newest test; the autosomal-based Family Finder Test. This pre-launch will progress in phases so that we do not exceed our lab's capacity and to ensure delivering results in a timely basis. A limited number of our customers are being offered the Family Finder Test during the pre-launch. We anticipate Family Finder will be offered for general release in the middle of March, at the break-through price of \$249 US dollars.

While the **Y-DNA** matches **men** with a specific **paternal** line and the **mtDNA** finds potential relatives only along the **maternal** line, Family Finder can look for close relationships along all ancestral lines.

You may now **match to male and female cousins from any of your family lines within five generations**. The science behind it uses linked blocks of DNA across the 22 autosomal chromosomes and matches them between two people. Based on this concept, our bio-informatics team has worked extensively to develop the calculations that would tell you the closeness of the relationship.

The possibilities to find matches abound;

- Aunts & Uncles, Parents and Grandparents
- Half siblings and 1st cousins
- 2nd, 3rd and 4th cousins
- Possibly 5th cousins and beyond

When you take the Family Finder Test, your results are compared against our Family Finder database.

You will be able to;

- Sort your matches by degrees of relationship
- View their names and email address for immediate communication
- Download your raw data

Special Note; The Family Finder Test requires an untouched vial of DNA. If your kit does not have an extra vial on file, we will mail a collection kit for a new **FREE** DNA extraction. After ordering you will be notified by email whether we are able to use a stored vial or will be mailing a new collection kit”.

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***Editor;** This obviously is going to extend the range of choices for proposed DNA research and I shall most probably get the new tests done to enhance my results, which are already available for comparison. I would hope that members of the Clan Leslie Societies get the DNA tests done, as the more results available, the more chance of matches being made.*

See

www.worldfamilies.net/surnames/leslie/results

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.

ROTHES CASTLE



Sketch by Unknown Artist.

The above sketch is Rothes Castle on the River Spey home of Sir John Leslie of Rothes. Born about 1318 and died at Alexandria in Egypt 10th October 1365. Remnants of the moat are still visible today.



The only part of Rothes Castle, still standing today is the wall with Rothes township below.

Barrie Leslie, Gordon, NSW.

ALEXANDER LESLIE. KNIGHT. 1ST LAIRD OF KININVIE

Alexander Leslie, 1st Laird of Kininvie was born about 1482 and was the 2nd son of George Leslie 1st Laird of New Leslie and grandson of William Leslie 4th Baron of Balquhain and his wife Agnes Irvine of the Irvines of Drum family.

He married Marian Calder, daughter of Alexander Calder of Napferson and they had 5 sons who were noted, but unfortunately there is no note of any daughters. The 1st son Walter succeeded his father as 2nd Laird of Kininvie. The 2nd was Alexander Leslie of Edenville then George Leslie of Drummur, William of Rudderie, Leonard Leslie, Abbot of Cupar who at the Reformation became a Protestant and married and finally John Leslie of Caldwell.

Alexander Leslie, 1st Laird of Kininvie died in 1549 and his wife granted land at the Mortlach Church for his burial. His grave was marked by an effigy of Alexander which was upright and attached to the north wall of the Church.

The Mortlach Church at Dufftown in Moray is one of the earliest Churches in the Grampian district. According to legend a monastery was built on the site about 566AD by St Moluag of Bangor and the present Church dates to the 13th century.



Mortlach Church.

In 1811 major restoration work was carried out on the Mortlach Church and the effigy of Alexander Leslie 1st Laird of Kininvie was most probably removed from the north wall and put in the recumbent position inside the Mortlach Church on the left of the altar at this time. The present Minister, Rev Hugh Smith believes that the grave of Alexander Leslie is underneath the present vestry.



FIG. 1342.—St. Moloc's or St. Moluag's Church. Effigy of Alexander Leslie.

Under a pointed arch in the thickness of the north wall, close to the east end, lies the recumbent effigy of a knight in armour (Fig. 1342), supposed to be the monument of Alexander Leslie, the first of Kininvie,* who died about 1549. The figure used to stand upright, but has now been placed in its proper position.

The original drawing of Alexander Leslie



Photograph of Alexander Leslie 1st Laird of Kininvie.



Showing the effigy to the left of the altar.

There are several very ancient graves in the cemetery and there is a Watch House at the rear of the church, where a watchman would have lived. This was to deter grave robbers. There are two Pictish stones to be seen here. The first is known as the "Battle Stone" which is 1.8 metres high and it is situated on the path in the lowest graveyard. It

is elaborately carved with a large relief cross. Two fish and a grotesque beast on one side and on the other side is the incised forms of a bird, a serpent, an ox skull and a horseman and a dog. The second stone is thought to be of a much earlier date and is located in the vestibule of the church. It is incised with a Pictish beast and a unique curved symbol. Just as a matter of interest the Mortlach/Dufftown area has one of the largest concentrations of distilleries, including Glenfiddich”.

*I would like to express my gratitude to **Elaine Wink** of Mortlach for the photographs of the effigy of Alexander Leslie 1st of Kininvie and **Stanley Bruce** of Banff for his help in getting the information for this story.*

Barrie Leslie, Gordon, NSW.

CAPTAIN JAMES LESLIE

OF THE CLIPPER SHIP “CALYPSO”

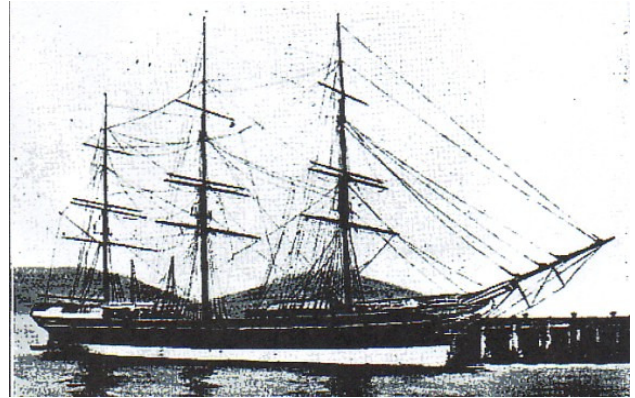
Captain James Leslie who had the reputation of carrying on and making fast voyages, was given command of the “Calypso” when she was first launched in 1874. She was a fine clipper ship of 1014 tons, built by Hall of Aberdeen and completed six successful voyages to Otago, New Zealand with the average being under 90 days.



Captain James Leslie

On her first voyage to Port Chalmers, Dunedin, New Zealand, in 1874, the ship made the passage in 74 days. In 1876, her third voyage, she made

the run in 73 days. On this occasion the “Calypso” left Gravesend on the 19th August and the start point on the 27th August and crossed the equator on the 14th September, only 18 days from the start point. The Snares were in sight on the 6th November and three days later she anchored at Port Chalmers Dunedin.



The “Calypso” at Dunedin.

The “Calypso” also did some fine sailing on the homeward runs. In February 1879, the two ships, “Waipa” Captain Gorn and “Calypso” Captain Leslie sailed from Port Chalmers within 48 hours of each other, the “Waipa” having the headstart. On her arrival at the docks, she found the “Calypso” there with her cargo partly discharged. The passage was made in 76 days. The record of the outward passages by the “Calypso” were;

To Dunedin.

Sailed	Arrived	Captain	Days
3 Aug 1874	26 Oct 1874	Leslie	84
		Land to land	75
7 Aug 1875	11 Nov 1875	Leslie	96
		Land to land	86
19 Aug 1876	9 Nov 1875	Leslie	81
		Land to land	73
8 Sept 1877	7 Dec 1877	Leslie	90
28 July 1878	26 Oct 1878	Leslie	90
26 July 1879	15 Oct 1879	Herd	81
		Land to land	78

All together this was a very fine record for sailing in the lower latitudes and I would like to try and find more on the family of Captain James Leslie. If anyone can help with further information on him please contact me.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.

CORPORAL ROY JOHN LESLIE

Further to the story about Corporal Roy J Leslie in the Jan, Feb, March 2010 Grip Fast Down Under.

COMPLIMENT TO NEW ZEALAND SOLDIER

The following correspondence tells how the Government of the French colony of Tahiti paid a graceful compliment to a New Zealand soldier who was buried at Papeete. The Defence Minister received this letter from the British Consulate at Tahiti:-

At the time the No 1 Hospital ship was at the port, one of the wounded, Sergeant Roy J Leslie of Onehunga died and was buried with military honours. His Excellency, the Governor of Tahiti, on behalf of the administration, most graciously gave the burial plot and he has since expressed his intention to erect a suitable monument in concrete and surround it with an iron fence. As they have no means of manufacturing a plate here, His Excellency suggested that perhaps the Government of New Zealand would be willing to make a copper or brass plate, the exact size of the piece of paper, enclosed, that is twelve inches square; the inscription as outlined, to be engraved in Roman letters. Should there be no funds set aside by the Government for such a thing, if you will be gracious enough to have the work done, this Consulate will bear the expense. His Excellency informed me that it is his intention to have photos taken of the completed work, to be sent to the family of the deceased. I may add that the British subjects resident here will see to it that the grave is kept in order and supplied with flowers.



The grave of Corporal Roy John Leslie

The Minister's reply follows;

Your letter of October 9 has just reached me and I would like you to convey to His Excellency, the Governor of Tahiti the thanks of myself and the New Zealand Government, for his gracious gift of a burial plot in connection with the late Sergeant Roy J Leslie, No 2/577. His Excellency's intention to erect a suitable concrete monument and surround the grave with an iron fence is greatly appreciated and I shall be pleased if you will intimate this to His Excellency. It will afford the Government of New Zealand much pleasure to supply a brass plate, inscribed as desired and the work will be put in hand immediately. The plate will be shipped to you when completed. The offer of your Consulate to bear the expense in this respect is valued, but the cost will be charged to this State. Please also thank His Excellency for his kind intentions to have photographs taken of the grave and monument for presentation to the next of kin. If copies are procurable I should like to receive sat half a dozen so that the weekly illustrated papers in New Zealand could reproduce them, to publicly express the gratitude of the citizens of this Dominion to His Excellency for the deep interest he has so graciously displayed in the affairs of a New Zealand soldier, buried on French soil, not far from the land of his birth. The intention of the British residents of Tahiti to keep the grave in order and garlanded with flowers is noted and I trust you will let it be known that this kind fore-thought on their part will not be forgotten by the government and people of New Zealand; I am taking the liberty of forwarding a copy of your letter to the relatives of the deceased soldier and also to the press of this Dominion.

If anyone knows the family of Corporal Roy John Leslie, who were David Kirkwood Leslie and his wife Rose Ann Leslie of Lynton Ave Onehunga Auckland, please let me know.

Barrie Leslie, Gordon, NSW.

BUNDANOON SCOTTISH GATHERING 2010.

It was another beautiful day for the 2010 Gathering. Unfortunately I was not well, so I did not get dressed up in my kilt and jacket but drove down to Bundanoon in normal street clothes as it is much easier to erect the tent in street clothes than dressed in my Scottish gear.

It seemed that the crowd numbered about 15,000 but at our Clan tent we did not get anyone of

Leslie descent, although I had quite a few enquires regarding, to which clans people could claim descent from.



Part of the Scottish Clans Tent area.

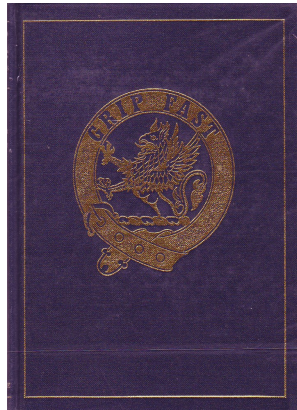
In the rush to get to Bundanoon before 7-00am I left my camera at home and was not able to get any photographs. Hopefully next year we will get a better turnout of Leslie descent people.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.

BOOKS AVAILABLE FOR SALE.

I have stocks of the following books for sale.

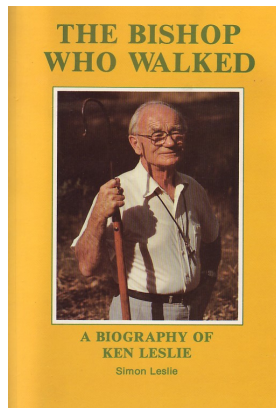
“Grip Fast The Leslies in History” by Alexander Leslie Klieforth. This book is available at a cost of



\$95.00 AU postage included for Australia but for New Zealand I would have to charge \$100AU because of the heavy postage cost or contact me for further details on:-

lesliejb@ozemail.com.au

“The Bishop Who Walked” by Simon Leslie. This book is \$30.00 AU postage included to Australia and New Zealand. Once supplies of this book are exhausted there will be no more as it is out of print. If you have any queries contact me.



lesliejb@ozemail.com.au

This book is the story of our Patron who died on the 6th January 2010.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.

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Convenor CLANZ	J. Barrie Leslie as above
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Patron of CLANZ (Now deceased)	Rt Rev Kenneth Leslie OBE. BA. Th. Schol. 6 th Bishop of Bathurst. Died 6 th January 2010
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WEBSITE for CLANZ. <http://www.clanleslie.org>

Previous issues of Grip Fast Down Under:-
www.electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletters/leslie/index.htm

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Clan Leslie Society International

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