

OUR OWN WEBSITE

We are in the final stages of getting our own website up and running. We have applied for several domain names and hopefully in the next newsletter we will be able to advise you of our domain name. We should have our website design finished by then as well.

I believe that we should retain our links with Clan Leslie Society International, because both Societies have a common objective. As a Council Member of Clan Leslie Society International, I have been trying to get them to retain links with us for our mutual benefit, but they say that they can only exchange information with their members and as we are not members of Clan Leslie Society International they cannot do so. I have pointed out to them that we are all members of the same Clan and there should be a free exchange of information.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.

CLAN LESLIE TRUST

The Earl of Rothes has advised, that "The Clan Leslie Charitable Trust" is now online, and can be viewed at www.clanleslietrust.org

As George Leslie 1st Earl of Rothes was my 11th G Grandfather, one of my favourite pieces is a small wooden chair, which is the only piece of furniture that has survived from Rothes Castle.

You can also see the silver watch that was featured in a previous story on the Countess of Rothes and the sinking of the "RMS Titanic".

There are also many paintings, miniatures and all sorts of interesting artefacts, which have now been preserved for future generations of Leslie's to study and learn from.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW

IMMIGRANT SHIPS TO NEW ZEALAND

This site may help some of our NZ members or even some of our Australian members.

www.freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~shipstonz

This is for the years 1835 to 1910.

Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW



PRIVATE KENNETH LESLIE

Kenneth Leslie was born on the family property "Derryvale", Tucki Tucki on the Richmond River near Lismore, NSW, Australia, to James Barr Leslie and Johanna Cameron. He was the second eldest of 5 children and had two brothers and two sisters.



Private Kenneth Leslie 6/49th Battalion 1st AIF

He was educated at a nearby school at Tucki Tucki and after leaving school he worked with his father and brothers on the family dairy farm. Kenneth enlisted with the Australian Imperial Force on the 24th June 1916 at Lismore, NSW at the age of 20 years 9 months. He was 5'7½ tall and weighed 9 stone. As a Private in the 6/49th Battalion he embarked from Sydney on the

“Ceramic” on the 7th Oct 1916 and disembarked at Plymouth, England, 21st November 1916. He was admitted to camp hospital at Codford on the 14th Dec 1916, for 16 days, with the mumps. He proceeded to France on the 8th Feb 1917 with the 49th Battalion from Folkestone, on the “SS Princess Victoria”, and marched into Etaples on the 9th Feb 1917 and taken on strength, in the field, on the 17th Feb 1917.

Kenneth, generally known as Ken, was a good sportsman; he was a very fast runner and a crack shot with a rifle. On one occasion, Ken was chosen by his commanding officer to move forward from the front line and as a sniper, pick off the German gunners one by one. He successfully argued against this strategy, suggesting that he might only kill three of the enemy soldiers before being shot himself and little would have been achieved.

The weather was continuously wet at Ypres and with water in the trenches; it was nearly impossible to rest. He and the platoon commander were trying to rest by leaning up against the trench wall and the commander was explaining that he was going to recommend Ken for officer training when a shell hit the trench.

All soldiers in the trench were believed to have been killed, and a decision was made to bury the soldiers where they had died. As the trench was being filled in, Ken, who was buried up to his neck in mud, moved his head and it was discovered that he was still alive. Ken was the only survivor. He had served 8 months in France and Belgium before being receiving severe shrapnel wounds to the left thigh on the 12th Oct 1917.

He was evacuated on the “HS Ville De Leige” for England on the 6th Nov 1917 [25 days after being wounded] and admitted to Edmonton General Hospital, England, then transferred one week later to the 1st Auxilliary Hospital at Harefield. He was discharged from the convalescent hospital at Harefield on the 28th Dec 1917 for furlough and reported to the depot at Weymouth. He was then discharged on the 30th Jan 1918 for early return to Australia, disembarking from the “Osterley” in Sydney on the 15th April 1918 and finally discharged from the Forces on the 21st May 1918.

Ken had spent 2 days leaning up against a tent pole outside the regimental aid post waiting for treatment and therefore missed the hospital ship back to England where it was customary for the surgeons to amputate injured limbs. A nursing sister poured “veterinary strength” iodine over

his extensive wounds and the Salvation Army provided food, thus saving him. Reaching hospital 25 days later in England meant that his leg had partly healed and there was no need to amputate this limb as had been expected.

Ken spent 2 months in hospital and was allowed 14 days furlough to visit his commanding officer’s mother in a double story, brick home in a fashionable part of London, and visit his aunts and cousins in Northern Ireland. He returned 2 days late and was disciplined by a Major Campbell for being absent-without-leave by being confined to barracks for 1 week and forfeiting 3 days pay. (Rates of pay were five shillings per day after embarkation from Australia, of which two shillings was provided as an allowance and three shillings was sent to the next of kin). Whilst away, he dropped his crutches into a pawnshop because the crutches were a “nuisance on the icy footpaths”.

No penalty was recorded for this misdeed.

Ken only spoke of the funny events that occurred. One story involved the commanding officer of Ken’s infantry asking if any of the troops had had any experience with horses. Half of the men stood up, hoping for a change of duties. They were then told that there were 6 dead horses that needed to be buried!!

Another story involved Ken’s eldest brother, Frank, who was in France with the 31st Battalion and was at one stage in the same camp as Ken without either brother knowing it. Frank had an appreciation for outback Queenslanders because of their ability to read the stars and direct their colleagues on the battlefield back to their own trenches. On this occasion, the men on the battlefield were hungry and Frank was asked to organise some food. He chose a western Queensland bullock driver, reasoning that an ‘outback’ man would have a good sense of direction. The bullocky certainly found his way back to the men, but with rum instead of food!!

Frank escaped physical injury and both he and Ken returned to their parent’s property and continued dairy farming. In different ways they each suffered post-traumatic stress. Both married, had children and ran their own cattle properties. Ken, with extensive loss of leg and thigh muscle, was limited in his activities but managed to run his cattle property and breed some thoroughbred horses during his lifetime.

*Thanks to Catherine Thompson “Marnoo” Temora NSW.
Editors note. Kenneth Leslie was Catherine’s father.*

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SEARCHING QUEENSLAND ARCHIVES

Go to www.archivesearch.qld.gov.au you will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to search.

Barrie Leslie Gordon. NSW.

60th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

On the 28th March 2002, "Clanz" member Eva Gough of Coffs Harbour in NSW, celebrated her marriage to William [Bill] Gough in wartime 1942. Eva's grandfather was David Leslie, born in Inverell NSW, 15th Aug 1863. Bill and Eva were introduced to each other after meeting on their family boats. As Eva relates, Bill offered her a ride on his motorbike and that was the start of it and as she so very succinctly puts it, she chased Bill until he caught her.

Married life did not start off very well; Bill was posted to New Guinea in 1943 and did not return to Australia until the Pacific war had finished.

Eva says that they were separated for so long, she almost forgot what Bill looked like



Bill and Eva Gough on their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

Bill and Eva have 5 children, 14 grandchildren and nine great grandchildren and a quiet family celebration was held in honour of their very special day.

Elaine Wood. West Pymble. NSW.

THE MARITIME LESSLIES

Probably most double "S" Leslie's living in Australia are derived from one family line of master mariners who originated in Banff, Dundee and Dunbar in Scotland.

Like most families, the records show a great variation in spelling of the name commencing with Leslye, Lesly, Lessly, Leslie, etc finally to Lesslie.

Captain Robert Leslie born 4th March 1722 was the second son of Captain Robert Leslye / Lesly / Lessly of Banff, whose birthplace and birth date are unknown, and his wife, Helen Brokie.

Captain Robert born 1722 married Janet Philp in Banff on the 14th January 1757 and within a short period, they moved to Dundee, where all their children were born and then finally to Dunbar. Why the family moved is uncertain, but about this time the river at Banff changed its course and the harbour silted up. Secondly Robert's elder brother John also a master mariner of Banff had married Elspet McKie of Tullochalum, Mortlach, in 1743 and John's family interests seemed to be centered more in that area. Mortlach, today, has been engulfed by Dufftown, which was founded by the Earl of Fife in 1817.

Captain Robert born 1722, ultimately settled in Dunbar, which at that time was one of the major whaling ports on the Scottish coast. He became a Burgess in Dunbar, which was an office either bought or granted for some service and it conferred on him the ability to come and go from the town at his own freewill and also to vote on the running of the town. Robert and his wife had four children, details of which are faithfully documented in the family bible, now held by Dr W. Thomas Lesslie of Lithgow N.S.W.

They were;

MAY	born	6 th March	1760
THOMAS	"	12 th February	1764
ROBERT	"	11 th December	1768
WILLIAM	"	8 th February	1771

May, the daughter married a James Watterson, a schoolteacher in Dunbar in 1790 and they later took up farming at Ewefoord in 1797.



Thomas who was probably a mariner, died in Kingston, Jamaica, when he was 33 years of age and there appears to be no marriage or

Capt William Lesslie born 1771 children attributed to him. The two surviving sons, Robert born 1768 and William Bn 1771 both became master mariners.

When their father Robert born 1722 died in 1800 Robert as the eldest son assumed control of the business. At that time it was reported to consist of wharves and a shore establishment, including a large dwelling house of two storeys with

cellars below, with a stable and other offices near the harbour.



Robert is also said to have owned two ships, one of which was the “*Gilmerton*” whose master was his brother William Leslie.

One is led to believe that because his brother William was married and had a family in Dunbar,

Capt Robert Lesslie born 1807 they found it convenient for him to maintain the Dunbar base and carry on business as a master mariner in coastal trade, while the elder brother, who was not married, travelled far from home extending into Australian waters. In 1812, just 24 years after the colony was started he was in Australian waters and was probably the first Leslie/Lesslie, to arrive in Australia.

To be continued in a later issue.

Russell Lesslie Killara NSW.

BERNARD FRANCIS LESLIE

I am sad to report that CLANZ member Bernard Francis Leslie [Bernie] from Alphington in Victoria suffered a massive stroke in March of this year. He is still in hospital in a critical condition. It is unlikely that he will recover and I would ask for your prayers for Bernie and his family. Bernie has done a great amount of research into Leslie families in Victoria.

Barrie Leslie Gordon NSW.

ANOTHER SITE FOR OUR MEMBERS OF IRISH DESCENT.

In the 18th & 19th centuries a lot of Irish families emigrated in search of better living conditions. Of these families, often one brother went to America or Canada, one went to South Africa and another went to Australia or New Zealand.

If you are looking for lost family it may be possible to trace relatives who went to America by looking at the following website. In 1761-1768 a lot of ships brought emigrants from Ulster to South Carolina, under a scheme called

“the South Carolina Bounty”. The lists were first compiled in 1939 and show those who qualified for the bounty, the ship and the shipowner, and in many cases the agent who recruited the “Protestant” emigrants and the areas where the agents were working. This may well give clues to where the emigrants came from. Try the site and see:-

go to www.electricscotland.com click on Family Tree, then on August-September 2002, then on Ulster Roots. Read the article itself and you will find it very interesting. No guarantees, but who knows what you might find.

Barrie Leslie Gordon NSW.

FROM THE ARCHIVES



John Foster Lesslie from Buderim in Queensland “blowing his trumpet” at the Gathering at Leslie Castle in Aberdeenshire in 1995.

Russell Lesslie Killara NSW.

THE BOER WAR 1899-1902

I was doing a search for Australian Leslie’s who had been killed in the war in South Africa and came across these three soldiers and was wondering if any of our members can claim them as family, or know who they are.

Leslie, Robert Clarke. Private, No 90.
3rd Bushmens Contingent WA.

Leslie, Sylvester Francis, Trooper No 40
3rd NSW Imperial Bushmen NSW.

Leslie, Thomas Henry. Private. No 192
4/2 Imperial Bushmens Contingent. TAS

I hope that someone can claim these lost souls
Barrie Leslie Gordon NSW.

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A HELPING HAND REQUIRED

Can any member help me? I am falling behind in entering the genealogical information of members of CLANZ into the 2nd database I have of Leslie's. This database is the one that I have established to show the Leslie's who cannot link to the main Leslie database, at this time.

I am falling behind because of all the extra work that needs to be done on the website and newsletter as well as the need to "show the flag" as far as CLANZ is concerned.

I use "Family Tree Maker" to list the genealogical information and establish an index to show who is linked. Please contact me if you can help, I would be very grateful.

Barrie Leslie Gordon NSW.

AUSTRALIAN SHIPPING 1788 – 1967

This site is a goldmine on Australian shipping, with some New Zealand shipping as well. Among things of interest I found, were the records of the schooner "Active" which is featured in the story on "The Maritime Lesslie's". I found that it had arrived in Sydney from Portsmouth on 20th Sept 1791 and the last record was departing Sydney for New Zealand on 3rd May 1836. Have a look at:-

www.blaxland.com/ozships

You will find lists of passengers as well as the records of the ships, plus a lot of other information.

Barrie Leslie Gordon NSW

NEW ZEALAND GENEALOGY

This site is for our New Zealand members, whatever their level of expertise. It has:- How to Get Started, Links in NZ, Shipping, Cemetery Records, Electoral Rolls, War records, Passengers to Canterbury 1850 to 1852, Research Data, UK Links, International Links, Australian Links, UK Census online, look at:-

www.homepages.paradise.net.nz/barbgreg.index.htm

It also has a translation service that enables you to translate up to 150 words to English, but not Latin. It can be slow but it can be very handy:- www.world.aHavista.com/tr I hope that it is of help to you all.

Barrie Leslie Gordon NSW

ARTICLES REQUIRED

We need stories and other articles for inclusion in Grip Fast Down Under. If you have a story or an anecdote that we could use, please send it to us. You can send them, either by email or post.

Barrie Leslie Gordon NSW

BENNACHIE

Bennachie is often considered as being part of the lands of the Leslie's of Balquhain, but during the Highland Clearances it was found to be Crown land and the highlanders who had camped there were moved on by the surrounding landholders with great difficulty



"Bennachie" from The Chapel of Garioch Cemetery

Bennachie is the remains of a massive body of granitic magma that rose through the earth's crust about four million years ago. There are six main peaks as well as numerous smaller ones, but the apparent dominant peak is the Mither Tap [518m] which when viewed is the peak called "Bennachie". The highest peak is actually Oxen Craig [529m], which is due West of Mither Tap. Bennachie has been inhabited from early Neolithic times and during the Iron Age, the summit of Mither tap was fortified with a granite boulder wall about 200m long, in excess of 6m thick and today is about 2½m high.

At the beginning of the first millennium, the Romans invaded the northwest of Scotland and evidence of their presence was found at Logie Durno in 1975. The Britons would have retired to Bennachie, but would not have been able to withstand the superior technology of the Romans. It has been suggested that the northern slopes of Bennachie was the "Mons Graupius" where the Britons were defeated by the Romans and that it is the root of the current name of the area, "Grampian".

Over the years many Leslie's have called their home "Bennachie". This relates to Sir Andrew Leslie 3rd Baron of Balquhain who in the early 1400s had a dispute with Sir John Forbes of Drumminor who had attacked and burned the Castle of Balquhain. Sir Andrew Leslie then pursued Sir John Forbes and killed many of the Forbes vassals and burnt their homes. Because of this feud and because he had offended the Earl of Mar [Erskine]. Sir Andrew Leslie withdrew to Bennachie and remained there until he made his peace with the Earl of Mar.

In 1420, Sir Andrew Leslie again was in a feud with the Forbes and withdrew to Bennachie, but a force of men under the Sheriff of Angus prepared to attack him, so on the 22nd January 1420 he came down to Braco, about 2 miles from Bennachie, where his wife, Isobel Mortimer threw herself between the combatants in an attempt to stop the slaughter but her pleas were in vain and Sir Andrew Leslie was slain.

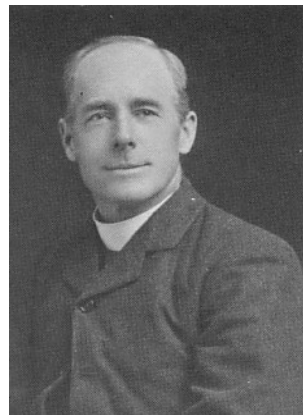
Sir Andrew's wife, Isobel Mortimer erected a chaplainry near the place where he was buried, appointed a Chaplain and bequeathed an annual rent for prayers for the soul of her husband, Sir Andrew Leslie. This chapel was converted into a Parish Church after the Reformation of 1620 and is now called "The Chapel of Garioch", formerly called Logyburn.

Barrie Leslie Gordon NSW

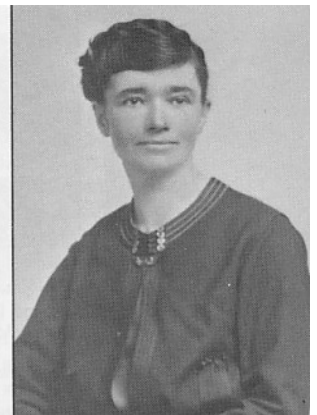
THE RT REV. KENNETH LESLIE

Ernest Kenneth Leslie was born at his parents home "Ellora" in Hitchin England on 14th May 1911.

His father was a young Australian missionary, Ernest Thomas Leslie, 1877-1965, who was born in Mount Egerton, a gold mining town in Victoria, who had won a scholarship to Wesley College, Melbourne and had then won another scholarship to Queens College, at Melbourne University. He received his M.A. Degree and became a Methodist Minister in Bunyip, Gippsland Victoria, but then decided to become a missionary in India. In 1901 when he arrived in India, he was posted to Secunderabad as the Superintendent of the Boys Boarding School. There he met his counterpart, the Superintendent of the Wesleyan Girls Boarding School, Margaret Jane Maggs [Jenny], who had been in India for four years. Within a few months, Ernest had proposed marriage to Jenny and she had accepted his proposal. Her health had suffered from four years in India, therefore she returned to England for a rest, before returning to India and marrying Ernest in 1906.



Ernest Thomas Leslie 1877-1965



Margaret Jane Maggs 1879-1982

On the 12th August 1907 Lillian Joyce was born. In January 1910, Ernest was due for furlough, so it was decided to return to England via Australia, where Ernest's family lived at Moonee Ponds in Victoria, where they spent a few enjoyable weeks, before continuing on to England.

Ernest decided that he did not want to continue as a Wesleyan missionary and after study, was ordained as a Deacon in the Anglican Church on St Thomas' Day 1910. He was sent to St Mary's Church at Hitchin, about 30 miles from London, where they found a small house and called it "Ellora", where Ernest Kenneth Leslie was born.

Ken loved the bushland around his home and he and Joyce played together in the bushlands and have shown a photograph of them there. As "Ellora" was too small for the growing family, they moved to a larger house at 66 Queen Street Hitchin, where Ken's younger brother, Douglas was born on 3rd February 1914. On the 4th August 1914, the First World War commenced and Jenny took her young family down to Melksham, Wiltshire where her parents lived.



Joyce & Ken Leslie with "Duchess" at Bowerhill Melksham 1913

As the war continued, Ernest sought permission to become an Army Chaplain and in 1915 was appointed to the Northumberland Fusiliers. Ernest left for Egypt and then Palestine and it was two years before his family saw him again. Two of Ernest's brothers, Percy and Leslie had come over to England and would often visit the young family.

The Armistice was declared on 11th November 1918 and soon after Ernest returned home, but he was only home for a short while, before he was posted to Italy. In 1920, Ernest was demobilized and he was appointed to the Parish of Stopsley, Luton, Bedfordshire.

The year 1921 was a great strain on the family as Ken developed rheumatic fever and his room had to be kept at a temperature of 60 degrees F. Joyce contracted anaemia and Douglas contracted pneumonia. Ernest was having trouble settling down after the war and suggested to Jenny that maybe it would be best for the health of the children to go to Australia.

Within a week, Ernest had gone to London and booked passage to Australia on the "Largs Bay". At that time, anyone who had served in the army, could get free passage for himself and his family to Australia.

On 3rd January 1922, the Leslie family left Tilbury docks for their voyage to Australia. Ken and his mother were both violently seasick. It took a month to sail from England to Australia

and on Friday 3rd February 1922 the "Largs Bay" arrived in Freemantle. The "Zealandia" was in the next berth to the "Largs Bay" and both ships set sail for Adelaide on the 4th February 1922. The two ships passed each other many times on the trip to Adelaide and Ken got to know the "Zealandia" very well, and later would wish that he hadn't known the "Zealandia" as well.

The "Largs Bay" arrived in Adelaide at 9-00 am on Wednesday 8th February and the family took a train trip to Adelaide, did some shopping and returned to the "Largs Bay", which left for Melbourne at 9-00 pm that night.

The Victorian coast was sighted early on Friday 10th February 1922 and the entire ship erupted with wild applause. The new homeland had been reached.

Condensed from "The Bishop Who Walked" by Simon Leslie.

To be continued in a later newsletter.

Barrie Leslie Gordon NSW.

NICHOLAS Q BOGDAN

Nicholas Q. Bogdan (1947-2002), archaeologist and architectural historian, died unexpectedly on 15 August 2002. He was a descendant of the **Leslies of Rothie**, and through his mother, Mrs Mhairi Bogdan, he was also descended from the Irvine's of Drum. In 1679 Mary Irvine of Drum married Count Patrick Leslie, 15th of Balquhain. Their coat of arms is carved in sandstone above the entrance doorway of the ruined house of Fetternear, Aberdeenshire, where Nicholas had been co-director of archaeological excavations since 1995. The archaeological project began with an exploration of the medieval remains of a substantial bishop's palace at Fetternear, but it was soon extended to consider the post-Reformation cultural history, when the property was granted to the Leslies of Balquhain. In his academic career, Nicholas was a graduate of Queen's University Belfast (BA) and St Andrews (MPhil). He was a pioneer of Scottish urban rescue archaeology. He began directing excavations in Scotland in 1972, later going on to direct the Perth High Street Archaeological Excavation (the Perth Parliament House Excavation). More recently, he was co-director of the Scottish Episcopal Palaces Project with its main focus on Fetternear, Aberdeenshire. He set up the Scottish Castle Survey, which comprises an archive of major importance. Much of this research concentrated on the early castles of

Scotland, dated between 1050 and 1350. He also collaborated with the late Ian B.D. Bryce. Their survey of castles, manors and 'town houses' has been used in Canmore, the database of the National Monuments Record of Scotland.



Sebastian Leslie of "Warthill" and Nicholas Bogdan at Fetternear House

His approach to archaeology was holistic; he was convinced of the importance of excavation allied with detailed survey and recording techniques combined with a thorough investigation of the finds from a site. Nicholas was deeply convinced of the importance of amateur participants in field archaeology. At the Perth High Street excavations he trained unemployed people as part of the Jobs Creation scheme. A group of dedicated volunteers at Fetternear have been producing work of extremely high quality and have worked with students of archaeology. Nicholas provided inspiration and attracted many people from different walks of life to archaeology.

He possessed an incomparable knowledge of Scottish medieval archaeology, framed by a deep understanding of the history of the discipline. Early in his career at St Andrews, he saw that resistivity survey would provide an invaluable tool for archaeologists and, with Arnold Aspinall, he instigated resistivity surveys at Fyvie and Drum castles. This work was extended to another site, Kinneddar, Moray, which was incorporated into the Scottish Episcopal Palaces Project. At the time of his death he was completing the publication of the Perth High Street excavation. Indeed, many of the fascicules

are ready for sending to press. They are eagerly awaited. A loyal friend and partner, he will be sadly missed.

Dr Penny Dransart. University of Wales Lampeter. Wales.
www.scotcassurvey.f9.co.uk/Fetternear/Home.htm

Clan Leslie Society of Australia and New Zealand

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