

# grip fast

THE NEWSLETTER OF CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY  
OF AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND. (CLANZ)



## DOWN UNDER

Vol. 7 No 3, July, Aug, Sept 2012

### A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEFTAIN

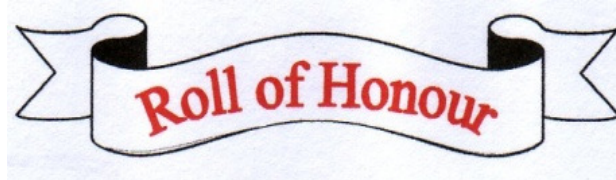


**George Leslie** reporting and communication by the media. It does seem to me that people are less tolerant of each other. I remember being brought up living in tenement housing in Aberdeen. Yes there were difficulties, but they seemed to be overcome and everyone seemed to co-exist. I remember going to the Duthie Park with my friend Neil Wilson, we would have been between the age of five to six years old and off we went on our own, feeling no sense of danger. I think that living in council tenement housing had the effect of making everyone work as a team, with a roster for washing day and cleaning the stairs and the bannisters by the women folk and the men had to make sure that during the winter time the water pipes were lagged to stop them from freezing.

We give a welcome back to Barrie who has just returned home from hospital, after a rather lengthy stay in rehab, following his back operation. So just stick with it Barrie "times heals all".

I also had the pleasure of meeting our Membership Secretary Mal Leslie and his wife Colleen, who came to a Celtic Festival at Ormiston House on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> of June 2012. They came from Toowoomba and Mal and I represented Clan Leslie and tried to meet as many people as possible, I also introduced Mal to Kathleen Procter-Moore, our Clan Patron, who was singing on the day. Ormiston House has a long Scottish Heritage. We give a warm welcome to our new member, Greg Leslie of Engadine in NSW. Greg's ancestors trace back to County Derry, Ireland.

*Yours Aye. George Leslie,  
Chieftain/Convenor.*



*Signalman Patrick Leslie 31842 2NZEF.*

Signalman Patrick Leslie was born on the 14<sup>th</sup> October 1912 at Okahukura, Kaipara, North Auckland, New Zealand, as Patrick Perekara but decided to take the name of Leslie, owing to his closeness to Andrew John (Jack) Leslie and Andrews wife Mary Edith Leslie, nee Hall, as when he was 12 he started to work on the Leslie farm and was treated as one of the family and when he joined the 2NZEF in 1940, he put as his next of kin, Mrs Mary Edith Leslie, RD. Kaiwaka New Zealand. Patrick joined the Divisional Signals and departed New Zealand on board the "Orcades" for Egypt.

Patrick served in the Greek, Crete and North African campaigns and was captured at "Sidi Rezegh" in Libya and spent the rest of the war in POW Camps in Italy, Germany and Czechoslovakia until liberated by the Americans 1<sup>st</sup> May 1945 and received his discharge 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1946. While travelling around Britain he met his wife and after a six week courtship they were married. They returned to New Zealand and Mrs Mary Edith Leslie who had saved the allowances made to her by the New Zealand Army gave them

back to Patrick and with the gratuity made to returning servicemen and the savings of his wife, bought 142 acres of scrubland and made them into a dairy farm on which they lived for 32 years. Patrick eventually received a full war pension but the years in POW camps took their toll and he suffered very bad memories. He work very hard but eventually sold the farm but kept 50 acres on which he raised Hereford cattle and bought a house in Kamo, Northland.

Patrick Leslie died at Whangarei, 20<sup>th</sup> October 2000, soon after his 88<sup>th</sup> birthday and is buried in the Maunu Cemetery Whangarei New Zealand Grave reference RSA Block 17, Plot 1231.

*Thanks to Bill Leslie, of Kaiwaka. New Zealand*

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Cameron Leslie is the Grandson of the above Patrick Leslie who I am sure would be very proud of his grandson. Cameron won the Gold medal in the Paralympics in Beijing, China in 2008 and set a world record in the mens 150 metre individual medley and he hopes to compete in the London Paralympics and then return to wheelchair rugby.



*Cameron Leslie at Beijing.*



*Cameron Leslie, receiving the Insignia of a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit.*

## **ANOTHER SCOTTISH JOKE**

An Arab Sheik was admitted to St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney for heart surgery, but prior to the surgery the doctors needed to store his blood in case the need arose. As the gentleman had a rare type of blood, it couldn't be found locally, so the call went out to all the States. Finally a Scot was located who had a similar type. The Scot willingly donated his blood for the Arab.

After the surgery, the Arab sent the Scotsman, as appreciation for giving his blood, a new BMW, diamonds and US dollars. A couple of days later, the Arab had to undergo corrective surgery. The doctor telephoned the Scotsman who was more than happy to donate blood again.

After the second surgery, the Arab sent the Scotsman a thank you card and a jar of candies.

The Scotsman was shocked that the Arab this time did not reciprocate his kind gesture, as he had anticipated. He phoned the Arab and asked him; "I thought you would be generous again and that you would give me another BMW, diamonds and money, but you only gave me a thank you card and a jar of candies". To this the Arab replied;

"Aye, but now I have Scottish blood in my veins".

*George Leslie. Cornubia Queensland.*

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## **"FLOWERS OF THE FOREST".**

I am sad to advise that long time CLANZ Member Leslie (Les) Sulling Edwards of Unit 43/67 Heath Street Broulee NSW, passed away on the 26<sup>th</sup> January 2012, after a long illness and was cremated at Broulee NSW on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2012. Our deepest condolences to Alwyn and family.

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## **DEATH OF THE 16<sup>TH</sup> EARL OF LEVEN AND MELVILLE.**

Alexander Robert Leslie-Melville was born 13<sup>th</sup> May 1924, the eldest of twin boys to Archibald Alexander Leslie-Melville 15<sup>th</sup> Earl of Leven and Lady Rosamond Sylvia Diana Mary Foljambe and he married Susan Steuart-Menzies, daughter of Lt-Col Ronald Steuart-Menzies and Sybil Mary Willoughby Boulton on 30<sup>th</sup> April 1953.

He was educated at Eton College Windsor Berkshire England and joined the Coldstream Guards when he left school in 1942 where fighting in World War II, he gained the rank of Captain. He succeeded to the title of 13<sup>th</sup> Lord Raith,



Moneymail and Balwearie on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 1947. He succeeded to the title of 16<sup>th</sup> Lord Balgonie [created 1641] on 15<sup>th</sup> January 1947. He then succeeded to the title of 13<sup>th</sup> Earl of Melville [created 1690] on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 1947. He succeeded to the title 16<sup>th</sup> Earl of Leven [created] on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 1947. He succeeded to many other titles but we need not go into them at the moment.



*Alexander Robert Leslie-Melville  
16<sup>th</sup> Earl of Leven and Melville.*

He had a 10 year Army career and saw action in Normandy where he was injured in the leg, when struck by shrapnel and was evacuated from France to Raigmore Hospital Inverness Scotland which was just a few miles from his family home at Glenferness House. After he recovered his fitness he returned to duty in Germany and Tripoli.

**Of interest to New Zealanders** is that between 1951 and 1952 the 16<sup>th</sup> Earl of Leven was appointed as the aide-de-camp to Lt Gen Bernard Cyril Freyberg, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Freyberg, VC. GCMG. KCB, KBE, DSO and three bars, 7th Governor General of New Zealand from 17<sup>th</sup> June 1946 to 15<sup>th</sup> August 1952. Although born in Richmond London in 21<sup>st</sup> March 1889 and dying in Windsor Berkshire United Kingdom 4 July 1963, he had emigrated with his parents to New Zealand when he was 2 years of age. During the Second World War he commanded the New Zealand Expeditionary Force in the Battles of Crete, the North African Campaign and the Italian Campaign. In late 1914 records exist of him in San Francisco and Mexico, reportedly under Pancho Villa but upon hearing of the outbreak of World War I he crossed to Britain and met Winston Churchill, then First Lord of the Admiralty and persuaded him to grant him a Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve

Commission in the Hood Battalion of the newly constituted Royal Naval Division. In 1915 Freyberg became involved in the Dardanelles Campaign. During the initial landings by Allied troops following the unsuccessful attempt to force the straits by sea, Freyberg swam ashore in the Gulf of Saros. Once ashore he began lighting flares so as to distract the defending Turkish Forces from the real landings taking place at Gallipoli. Despite coming under heavy Turkish fire he returned safely from this outing and for this action he received the Distinguished. He received serious wounds on several occasions and left the peninsular when his division was evacuated in 1916.



*Lt Gen Bernard Freyberg. VC. GCMG.KCB.KBE.DSO*

After the 16<sup>th</sup> Earl of Leven left the Army in 1952 he set about implementing his father's plans to plant more trees on the estate and improve the fishing on the River Findhorn, which runs through the estate. One of his roles was the Lord Lieutenant of Nairn, which he held for 30 years, between 1969 and 1999 and he held the Office of the Chairman of the Nairn County Council between 1970 and 1974.

He is survived by his second son Alexander who will now inherit the Earldom. His eldest son David Alexander Leslie-Melville [Lord Balgonie] died in an avalanche near Verbier in Switzerland on 14 Feb 2007, which was featured in the CLANZ newsletter in April, May, June 2007

***Many thanks to David and Sheena Leslie of Banchory, Kincardinshire for advising me of the death of the 16<sup>th</sup> Earl of Leven and Melville.***

## **ORMISTON HOUSE** **277 Wellington St Ormiston. Queensland.**

Ormiston House was built between 1858 and 1865 for Captain Louis Hope who was born on the 29<sup>th</sup> October 1817 and was the 7<sup>th</sup> son of the 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Hopetown. He arrived in New South Wales in 1843 and moved to Brisbane in 1848. In 1859 he married Susan Dumaresq and had 3 sons and 5 daughters. In 1842 he became a member of the new Queensland Legislative Council and in 1882 he returned to England and died in Switzerland in 1894.



*Ormiston House.*

Ormiston House was built on a 325 acre property that was the home of the Australian sugar industry pioneer Captain Louis Hope and his family and is regarded as one of the finest examples of colonial architecture in Queensland and has been a museum since the mid 1960s.

### **CLAN LESLIE AT ORMISTON HOUSE.**



*Chieftain, George Leslie.*

Well here we are. It is the morning of Sunday 29 April 2012, a nice warm autumn day in Brisbane. I am looking forward to the day at Ormiston house Celtic celebrations, as I have had a phone call from Mal Leslie, our Clan Membership Secretary, letting me know that his wife, Colleen and he will be coming down from Toowoomba on a bus tour. This will be the first time that we have met, face to face. Well into the wardrobe and on with the kilt and och it's a wee bit of a strain on the straps, but I get there.



*Mal Leslie and George Leslie*

I arrive at Ormiston House and set up the Clan Leslie Banner, when Mal's bus arrives. He had no problems in finding me, as I am wear the Ancient Hunting Leslie tartan [see photographs].

Off we went around to the other Clans and let them know that we are here. During the day we were entertained by a demonstration of Scottish Country Dancing and two local area Pipe Bands.

We were also blessed by the beautiful voice of our Club Patron, Kathleen Procter-Moore who sang two brackets during the day's events.



*Mal Leslie, Kathleen Procter-Moore & George Leslie*



Kathleen has produced a number of CD's, ranging from opera to the guild auld Scottish songs that bring tears to your eyes. Unfortunately the day disappeared all too quickly and Mal was getting ready to board the bus for the trip home.

A great day was had by all.

*George Leslie, Chieftain. CLANZ.*

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## **REPORT ON HEALTH PROBLEMS OF BARRIE LESLIE.**

I have to report that on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2012 I was admitted to Dalcross Hospital at Killara, Sydney, NSW, for an operation the next day to fuse the L3, L4, L5 and the S1 vertebrae in my back. The operation took in excess of 12 hours and apparently after 2 days I had to go back for another 2 hours of surgery for a blood clot and a haematoma next to my spine. I was apparently a "difficult" patient and spent the next 7 days in the intensive care ward. I was then transferred to Mt Wilgar Rehabilitation Hospital at Hornsby in Hornsby, Sydney. After 2 days I was transferred back to Dalcross Hospital as I had become ill, but no reason could be found and I was sent back to Mt Wilgar. As I should have been exercising from day 1, my muscles had become "wasted" and I was very weak and could not walk.

I spent 1 month at Mt Wilga before being sent home. I am undergoing daily physio treatment and am finding it very hard to sit and work at the computer, or do anything at all, although in the last couple of days I have been able to get around a bit better. The surgeon examined me last week and said that it will take up to six months for me to get to a reasonable recovery. Something to look forward to. I would not recommend to anyone to spend two months in hospital. The food is better at home.

*Barrie Leslie. Gordon. NSW.*

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## **GRANDAD'S SECRET BISCUIT TIN.**

When ye asked oor auld Granda "fit did ee dae at the time o' the war". He jist shrugged his shooders an' mumbled "naething much at a".

He was aye awfy thrawn tae spik aboot it – in fact ye hid to beg an' he never did tell us fit wye he got yon muckle scar doon the back o' his leg.

Bit maist times he'd jist sit there keepin it a tae himself. A far awa look, he waqs dreain aboot it, ye could tell. But ae day unexpected fin a'body was awa, an him an me were left a'hame.

He said "noo laddie the time has come tae share wi you the secrets o' my biscuit tin".

He lifted the tin aff the table an' putit on his knee, syne tuggit aff the lid so's we baith could see. I sat there wi my Granda as he took me by the hand, an I saw for the first a different aul' man. Twa metal disks tied tigither wi twine, his name an his number, I could still read them fine. A pay book a' wrinkled wi' broon tattered edges. An a picter o' a tank tryin nae to be seen in St Valerys Hedges. A snapshot o' his platoon, taken aneath a great muckle birk, a scorched bitie o' tartan a reminder o' a pal that didna come back. A cuttin' frae the paper sayin " Gordon's repulse German attack". Twa silver buttons fae a lad on the other side he was forced to shoot, well he said "it was either him or me, yet he was some mithers loon"

A picter o' a lassie he'd kept close to his he'rt. For a' the years he wis awa he never aince did pairt. A withered flo'er he got fae a quine the day they drove thro' Tobruk. It has lain in the tin since his demob, in a' between the pages o' a book

Then awa again across the waves, on Anzio's beaches he lay. The din the chaos the stink he'd never forget that day, His webbing was a' soakin', his rifle foo o' sand, twas thoughts o' Buchan that forced him to keep goin'. He looked at me an' said "I dinna ken if I should brik my rule". Syne slowly he reached forrit an took oot a wad of cotton wool, he pulled the cotton wool apart an' there for baith tae see, a medal wi' a its ribbons – A medal for Gallantry - . We sat there lookin' at it an' he said "Yer the only Ane to ken so let's baith keep a secret, a secret a'tween us men"

Then a' thing was put back in place an' the lid shut tight wi' a sigh. Sitting there ye could touch the years as they rolled gently bye.

So when ye ask a sodger "fit did ye ddae at the time o' the war" Dinna be taken aback if like my Granda he says "nothing much at a" But if the truth was coming oot they a' hae their stories tae tell an' maist are like my Granda an' keep them tae theirsels

*Courtesy of Ian Leslie Aberdeen Scotland*

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## **WHEPSTEAD SPRING EQUINOX GATHERING.**

The Whepstead Spring Equinox Gathering Committee have invited Clan Leslie Society of Australia and New Zealand to attend their next Gathering which is being held at Whepstead House, Burnett St Wellington Point, Brisbane. Our

Chieftain George Leslie has accepted the invitation and asks that anyone who can attend the Gathering On the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2012 at 10-00am. .

### Whepstead Spring Equinox



Burnett St  
Wellington Point

Entry fee:  
\$5 per adult  
\$2.50 Children  
over 5  
\$12.50 per family

September 23<sup>rd</sup>  
10am – 3.30pm

Enjoy afternoon tea, Tour  
the house

Listen to music from many  
cultures

Featuring

✓Redland Sporting Club  
Pipe Band.

✓Wynnum RSL Pipe Band  
and

✓Queensland Highlanders,

✓Jill Dobbs Irish and  
Highland Dancing

✓Christine Harris Celtic  
singer

✓Sports Karate Aus.  
Clairvoyants, Face Painting,  
Belly Dancers

■ Kiriwai Dancers

....and much more

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Whepstead Manor was originally called Fernbourne, which was built in 1889, but was renamed Whepstead Manor on 1900.



*Whepstead Manor*

The first Europeans to travel through Wellington Point were three shipwrecked timber getters Finnegan, Pamphlett and Parsons in 1823.

In 1889 the railway line was built from Brisbane to Cleveland and passed through Wellington Point, which led to greater use of Wellington Point, although this line was closed in 1960, due to lack of use, the Wellington Point Railway Station was re-opened in 1988.

***George Leslie, Chieftain CLANZ.***

### FAREWELL:- MARGARET DODGSON.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2011, noted Queenslander Patricia Margaret Dodgson died peacefully at home, aged 81.



*Patricia Margaret Dodgson*

*Courtesy:- Courier Mail.*

Margaret Dodgson first contacted me, late in 2010 and asked me if I could help her trace which family of Leslie, she was descended from. I was only too happy to help and she told me that she was descended from a William Leslie and Mary Duff, of Wilcroft House, Parish of Lugwardine, Herefordshire, England. This William Leslie had applied for the registration of a Grant of Arms to his only child, Mary Leslie [Duff]. These arms immediately showed the characteristic Leslie three buckled belt.



*The Arms granted to Mary Leslie-Duff*



This of course was not Scotland, so the immediate difficulty was tracing where in Scotland her family came from. Margaret had lots of paperwork which enabled me to deduce that the Leslie family was the Rothes Leslie's, but not much else.

Margaret was very proud of her ancestors, which include, the Rev Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, better known as Lewis Carroll, the author of many children's stories, among which is "Alice in Wonderland".



*Charles Lutwidge Dodgson [Lewis Carroll]*

Charles Dodgson was born on the 27 January 1832 in Daresbury, Halton, Cheshire, England, to the Rev Dodgson, later Archdeacon of Richmond, and his mother was Frances Jane Lutwidge.

Charles Dodgson [Lewis Carroll] died on the 14 January 1898 at Guildford, Surrey, England.

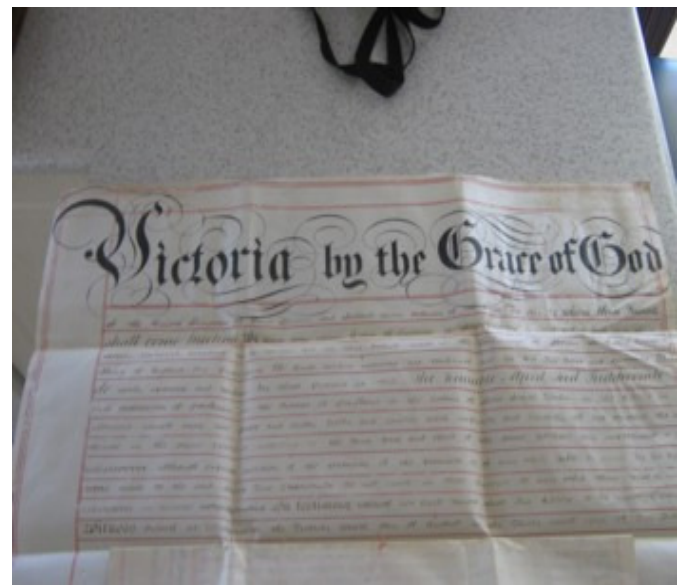
Another ancestor that Margaret was very proud off, was Archdeacon Alfred Teed Puddicombe. Alfred Teed Puddicombe was born on the 31 January 1838 and was christened at St Mary Marylebone London, England on the 21 June 1838. The Rev Alfred Teed Puddicombe was Rector at the Anglican Church at Moruya in NSW from 1866 to 1871 and was then Assistant Minister at St Saviour's Cathedral at Goulburn in NSW from

1874. He was made Archdeacon and then Canon at St Saviours Cathedral. He remained at St Saviours at Goulburn for almost 25 years.



*Archdeacon Alfred Teed Puddicombe.*

He retired from his duties at St Saviours Cathedral in 1894, announcing that his poor health required him to resign his position, but there was events that were happening in the background and were reported in the Sydney Morning Herald, Thursday 26 March 1896.



*Alfred Teed Puddicombe's Appointment by the Archbishop of Canterbury*

He moved back to England and was working at the church at Morwenstow, North Cornwall and his death was reported on Monday 20 June 1904, as falling from a cliff.

I asked our Chieftain, George Leslie to contact Margaret and see how we could help her. She gave George a collection of material which included all the above photographs and many more items. George has contacted The Hon Alex Leslie to see if these items could be held by the Clan Leslie Charitable Trust, as they certainly deserve conserving.

I was able to find only one photograph of Wilcroft house at Wilcroft of Lugwardine Herefordshire which I presume is the original Wilcroft House of William Leslie and his daughter Mary.



*Wilcroft House Lugwardine Herefordshire.*

From some of the items that Margaret sent me, I was able to discover that her Leslie family was The Leslie's of Burdsbank who were descended from George Leslie 2<sup>nd</sup> son of Robert Leslie, 1<sup>st</sup> Laird of Findrassie who was the son of George Leslie 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Rothes and his second marriage to Margaret Crichton. Robert Leslie 1<sup>st</sup> Laird of Findrassie's second son George, became the 1<sup>st</sup> Goodman of Burdsbank who married Margaret Stirling of Craighorned. Their son William married Helen Munro of Miltoun and became the 2<sup>nd</sup> Goodman of Burdsbank and their son George became the 3<sup>rd</sup> Goodman of Burdsbank who married Christian Baird, daughter of Sir James Baird of Auchmedan and had issue, but there was no further trace of this family since approx. 1660.

As can be seen Margaret had great pride in her Leslie family.

When she died George Presley Leslie, the Chieftain of Clan Leslie Society of Australia and New Zealand, represented us at her funeral service, which was held at the Brookfield Hall Brookfield, Queensland at 2-00pm on Thursday 27 October 2011. About 100 people were expected to attend, but about 1400 people attended, such was the popularity of Patricia Margaret Dodgson.

*Barrie Leslie, Gordon, NSW.*

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