

Volume 3, Issue 6, November 2010



**The Laird Balgonie and Brian Lesslie at Glenrothes Heritage Exhibition**

## **GLENROTHES & AREA HERITAGE CENTRE, GLENROTHES FIFE**

On Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010, Brian Lesslie and Alastair Leslie were asked to represent the CLSI at a small Heritage Exhibition in the Kingdom Centre of Glenrothes. The exhibition was a trial to see if it was possible to set up a permanent history display of Glenrothes and the surrounding area. The town originated in 1949 and was one of the few New Towns being built after the Second World War. As would be expected it took a few years to build and many years to become the thriving town it is today. Glenrothes is built on the old Rothies estate that once belonged to and surrounds Leslie House in Fife.

During the month that it ran, over 15,000 people visited the Exhibition. The displays were of great interest and included the building of the town, the



**Alastair Leslie and Linda**

local industries which were mainly papermaking and of course the whisky distillery. Balgonie Castle and Leslie House were displayed next to each other to show the dynastic families to whom the land once belonged. Various other displays of the local villages also added to the viewing.

One of the people present was Bill Fiet; he is a fountain of knowledge about the Town of Leslie and its history. Brian talked to Bill Fiet about some of the Leslie House papers that were found in an attic not too long ago. Some of these papers were on display under glass. A few more artefacts from Leslie House were also on display in the central display case.



*The Laird Balgonie and Bill Fiet*

Stewart from Balgonie and his father attended and they were also very knowledgeable about the Leslies and Balgonie Castle. The Castle is still an ongoing restoration programme but is fully open to visitors and can be booked for weddings and functions.

Linda Ballingall was the driver behind the exhibition and her team did a great job of showcasing the



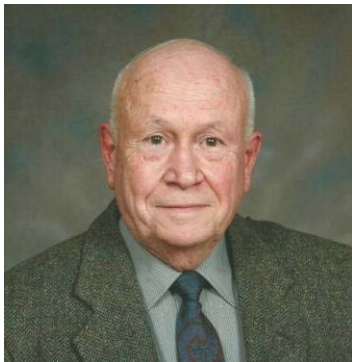
*Brian Lesslie presents Leslie Book to Linda*

Leslies. The work required was tremendous and it took great skill to pull it all together. It is hoped that a permanent exhibition in the Kingdom Centre (large shopping mall) would be open in the spring or summer of 2011, since Linda has her eye on a good site.

Good Luck to the new Glenrothes & Area Heritage Centre.

**Brian Lesslie, Perth**

### **CLAN LESLIE, YOU HAVE DONE IT!**



The donations for the Leslie's Cross, the new monument to the Leslies who gave their lives at the Battle of Harlaw on July 24<sup>th</sup> 1411, have put us over the top. The total funds raised to November 19<sup>th</sup> amounted to \$12,430 or £7,779. In looking at the two quotes for the stone and inscription, the lower quote of £4,039 plus VAT, which would be £4,846 with VAT at the expected rate of 20% next year, and the second of £7,552.00 which included VAT at the current rate, we have chosen the lower. The Harlaw Working Group will be contracting for the monument from the lower bidder. David Leslie has done a great amount of work on this and is certain that we will get exactly what we expect, a cross in ruby red granite, 6' 4" above the base. David has also pulled some strings so that we might get some of the site work done without cost. In addition, David has

contacted the heritage authorities who indicate that since we are placing a heritage monument, that we will be exempt from the VAT altogether, a possible saving of £800 or more to the project.

The Harlaw Working Group is proceeding with adding the arms of Balquhain to the Leslie's Cross and a time capsule to include among other items, a copy of the Order of Service Booklet which will list the names of all the donors. Copies of this booklet will be mailed to all donors. We are in the process of estimating the costs of all these added items and will report on them when they are available. My personal guess is that with an allowance for any contingencies that may arise, we will have enough funds to meet all the costs.

Our Clan Chief, Alexander Leslie, in his article in the October, Grip Fast Journal, gave me much of the credit for the achievement of this raising this monument to our ancestors; however, I must not let his kind remarks go to my head. The Harlaw Working Group made up of Clan Chief, Alexander Leslie, CLSI Chieftain, David Leslie White, Laird of Warthill, Sebastian Leslie and David Leslie from Leslie, have all played major parts in this achievement. Chief Alexander has had discussions with officials in Aberdeen and with other Clan Chiefs to inform them of our plans. He has also lent us his unwavering support for this whole project. David White as leader of the Clan Leslie Society International has endlessly implored members to participate and from the long list of donors in the USA, you can see that he was successful. David Leslie who made the original suggestion that the Clan Leslie should do something to remember the 600<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Harlaw, wrote a comprehensive story about the involvement of the Leslies in this battle for the first reissue of the 2010 *Griffin* and has been our man on the job to talk to local people, has contacted many Leslies in Scotland and England and has done an invaluable job. Sebastian Leslie and his wife Candida offered their two Leslie Castles,



Warthill and Lickleyhead, for the Clan Leslie Gathering Dinner and for the accommodation of the Leslies from overseas. Both houses are now filled and the dinner has enough people committed that it is a certainty. Linda Flowers, Treasurer of the CLSI has done a special job of receiving and banking donations from the USA and Canada. Commissioner, Barrie Leslie in Australia, has published appeals to Australian and New Zealand Leslies and collected funds in those countries. My special thanks to the Baron of Leslie, Georg Dorsch and the Baron of Balquhain, Dr. Nelson Ying for their enthusiastic help in making this project a success.

I must admit that I was amazed at the response from Clan Leslie and friends worldwide. Some of us believed that the poor economic times and the general worldwide preaching of doom by the press would make this project difficult to achieve. However, I always felt that if we had a Leslie project that was important enough and interesting enough, that the Clan and friends would rally to the cause. Your names will be recorded in Leslie history as those who remembered our brave ancestors who helped save the City of Aberdeen and their own homes and families.

The Harlaw working Group has decided that the last date for accepting funds for the Leslie's Cross, Harlaw Monument will be December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Following that date the Order of Service Booklet, listing all the donors, will be finalized for printing.

**William Leslie, Commissioner** [william.lesle@sympatico.ca](mailto:william.lesle@sympatico.ca)

### CLAN LESLIE GATHERING AT WARTHILL HOUSE - JULY 23 to JULY 29, 2010

The rooms at Warthill House and Lickleyhead Castle are filled. However, accommodation could be arranged for anyone who is interested in attending the Memorial Ceremony and Dedication of the Leslie's Cross. There is still space at the Gathering Dinner. Let me know if you have any possibility of attending.

**William Leslie** [william.lesle@sympatico.ca](mailto:william.lesle@sympatico.ca)



**Warthill House**

**Lickleyhead Castle**

ATTENDING THE HARLAW CEREMONY AND GATHERING					
No.	NAME	ACCOMMODATION	CEREMONY CHAPEL OF GARIOCH JULY 24, 2011	ATTENDING GATHERING DINNER JULY 24, 2011	INTERESTED IN LESLIE HISTORICAL TOURS
1	David Leslie White & Beth Meriwether	Warthill House	2	2	2
2	William and Sue Leslie	Warthill House	2	2	2
3	Rosemary Leslie and Erik Foisy	Warthill House	2	2	2
4	Bonnie Leslie Rudnisky	Warthill House	1	1	1
5	Jim and Susan Leslie	Lickleyhead Castle	2	2	
6	Lewis and Chris Johnson	Lickleyhead Castle	2	2	2 - 2 days only
7	Becky and Chuck Dobias	Lickleyhead Castle	2	2	2
8	Dr Nelson and Lady Patricia Ying of Balquhain. Leslie Summer Snow Ying of Balquhain	Lickleyhead Castle	3	3	3
9	Linda Flowers	Lickleyhead Castle	2	2	2
10	Beryl Leslie	Lickleyhead Castle	1	1	1
11	J & J Leslie	Lickleyhead Castle	2	2	2
12	Marty and Marge Brown	Lickleyhead Castle	2	2	2
	Brian and Petra Lesslie (Perth)		2	2	
	Brian Lesslie and Catherine (Perth)		2	2	
	Georg Dorsch of Leslie Castle		2	2	
	Chief of Clan Leslie, Alexander Leslie		1	1	
	David and Leslie Leslie from Leslie		2	2	2
	Sebastian and Candida Leslie		6	6	
	Tom Leslie		1	1	
	David & Sheena Leslie		2	2	
	<b>Totals</b>		<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>23</b>

## DONORS TO LESLIE'S CROSS HARLAW MONUMENT

### Patrons

- David and Leslie Leslie, from Leslie, Aberdeenshire
- Don and Janice Abernathy, Albermarle, North Carolina
- Georg Dorsch, Baron of Leslie, Leslie Castle, Aberdeenshire
- Dr. Nelson and Lady Patricia Ying of Balquhain, Baron and Baroness of Balquhain, Aberdeenshire
- Sebastian Leslie, 15th Laird of Warthill, Aberdeenshire

### Donors in the USA

- Lewis and Chris Johnson, Greensboro, North Carolina
- Lewis Johnson, Greensboro, North Carolina In Memory of Arthur Leslie Millville, New Jersey
- David Leslie White and Beth Meriwether, Fort Worth Texas
- Steve Olling, Issaquah, Washington
- Arthur Leslie, Las Vegas, Nevada
- Adam Flowers, Norman, Oklahoma
- Linda Flowers, Tuttle, Oklahoma
- Edmund Leslie, Omaha, Nebraska
- Bob and Dot Leslie, Ridgeway, Pennsylvania
- Jonathan Moore, Wayne, New Jersey
- Priscilla Rodriguez, Belleville, Illinois
- Richard Lynch, Amador City, California
- Laura Messing, St Louis, Missouri
- Glenn Abernathy, Salem, Oregon
- Becky and Chuck Dobias, Carlyle, Illinois
- Keith Leslie, Macon, Georgia
- Patricia Akroyd, Spring Hill, Florida
- Donald and Marian Leslie, Alpharetta, Georgia
- Ivan Lesley, Converse, Texas
- G. David Lessley, Burbank, California
- Phyllis Dubois, Sarasota, Florida
- Walter T. Leslie, Woodstown, New Jersey
- Melanie Cave, Orlando, Florida
- Bret Leslie, Vienna, Virginia
- Robert E. Leslie, Brandywine, Maryland
- Jane Leslie Roe, Jackson, Tennessee
- Glenda Saunders, Macon, South Carolina
- Leslie and Wayne Seich, Jackson, New Jersey
- Samantha Gray, Glen Cove, New York
- Frank and Lynne Leslie, Kempner, Texas
- Stephen K. Leslie, Medford, Massachusetts and San Francisco, California
- Robert (Bob) Bailey, San Jose, California
- Sherry Eastwood, West Palm Beach, Florida
- Reuben Leslie & Gloria Sue Downe, Austin, Texas
- Steven and Norma Johnson, Sr., Harrisburg, North Carolina
- Craig Leslie, Leesburg, Florida
- Mary Leslie Williams, Prosperity, South Carolina
- David C. and Rosemary Leslie, Canton, Michigan
- Jay C. Leslie, Livonia, Michigan
- Scott D. and Amy Christen Leslie, Bloomfield Twp, Michigan
- Samuel D. Leslie, Bloomfield Twp, Michigan
- Oliver C. Leslie, Bloomfield Twp, Michigan
- James P. Leslie, Gahanna, Ohio
- Thomas L. (Tom) Huxtable, Wichita, Kansas
- Tim Pannone, Piney Point, Maryland
- Donald F. Leslie, Fairfield, Connecticut
- Kenneth and Andrew Leslie, Vallejo, California
- Karen Engle, Hanover, Pennsylvania
- Dr. Loren Leslie, Lutsen, Minnesota
- Marty and Margaret (Leslie) Brown, Laurel, Maryland
- McKenzie Flowers, Norman, Oklahoma
- Dakota Flowers, Norman, Oklahoma

### **Donors in Canada**

- William and Sue Leslie, Orillia, Ontario
- Stewart Leslie, Mount Hope, Ontario
- Rosemary Leslie, Ottawa, Ontario
- Dr. Peggy Allan, Vancouver, British Columbia
- M. Alexander Leslie, Toronto, Ontario
- Fred and Meryl Leslie, Toronto, Ontario
- The Wm. Bliss Leslie Family, Nova Scotia
- Brian E B Leslie, Vancouver, British Columbia
- William Leslie, Stony Plain, Alberta
- Emily Alleen Margaret Leslie, Stony Plain, Alberta
- William (Liam) Leslie, Stony Plain, Alberta
- Margaret Tait Leslie, Kitchener, Ontario
- Thomas Richard Leslie Goos, Kitchener, Ontario
- Tait Leslie Goos, Kitchener, Ontario

### **Donors in Scotland**

- David and Sheena Leslie, Banchory
- Albert and Linda Thomson, Inverurie
- Mrs. M. Sharp (nee Leslie), Aberdeen
- Mrs. M. Anderson (nee Leslie), Avoch
- John Skinner. Maryculter, Aberdeen
- Gordon Casely, Aberdeen
- Clan Chief, Alexander Leslie, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire
- Leslie Summer Snow Ying of Balquhain, Maid of Balquhain
- Brian and Petra Lesslie, Perth
- Mr. L. and Mrs. Angela Russell (nee Leslie) and Family, Inch
- Mr. R. and Mrs. Yvonne Doughty (nee Leslie) and Family, Old Rayne

### **Donors in England**

- James, Alastair and Emma Leslie, Stoke on Trent
- Tom Leslie, Chorleywood
- Mr & Mrs N. Hide, Clan Davidson, London
- Mr & Mrs P. Leslie, Darlington

### **Donors in Australia**

- Barrie Leslie, Gordon, New South Wales
- Elaine Wood, West Pymble, New South Wales
- Stephen Lesslie, Drummoyne, New South Wales
- Jenny Richardson, North Dandenong, Victoria
- Margaret Kosnetter, Belfield, New South Wales
- Allan Jamieson, Tasmania

### **Donors in New Zealand**

- Dr Leslie Florence, Paraparaumu
- Ruth Leslie, Manukau City
- William (Bill) Leslie, Kaiwaka
- Mrs. Judith Saunderson, Silverdale. From the family of J.M.H. Leslie

### **Donors in Europe**

- Lisa White, Paris, France

### **Donations of Goods**

- Dean's of Huntly, Shortbread for the get together after the Dedication Ceremony

**Note:** The "Patrons" designation was developed to separately recognize the substantial donations by these individuals. A total of \$12,430 or £7,779 has been raised to November 19, 2010.

### **ELECTION RESULTS**

Tom Huxtable, Wichita, Kansas, was elected, Vice-Chieftain, Lew Johnston, Greensboro, North Carolina, was elected to the Council. Congratulations!

**David Leslie White**

## WHY SOME LESLIES HAVE TROUBLE TRACING THEIR ANCESTORS



People who emigrated to new lands in the 1700's and 1800s often left because they were forced to leave. In particular were those from Ireland where some were treated worse than animals and this included Leslies. Another group of Leslies that were suffering at this time to whom little attention is paid are the Leslies of Shetland who first arrived in Shetland from Warthill circa 1550 and took up land that had been granted to them by father-in-law Bishop William Gordon, Bishop of Aberdeen. Soon after, the Leslies were in trouble, since Mary Queen of Scots gave the Shetlands to her illegitimate half brother, Robert Stewart, son of King James 5<sup>th</sup>. In June 1575 Earl Robert made three Leslies stand at the gallows with ropes around their necks for several hours. In Court in Shetland in 1577 is another Leslie who was evicted and lost all his animals, land and possessions, whose list of losses include kegs of honey, soap, lists of clothing, furniture and jewelry.

Things got better for the Shetland Leslies when Lord Lindores, Patrick Leslie married the 16 year old daughter of Earl Robert, and Patrick Leslie visited his cousins on Shetland. Earl Robert also left his mark in Shetland. While he fathered six children by his wife, he also fathered 10 others, some by Shetland and Orkney women. Some of his granddaughters' blood got mixed into Shetland Leslies. While we started off as landed Leslies in Shetland the progression of younger sons downwards meant that soon we were crofters and fishermen and as the croft size in Shetland as in Scotland averaged as low as only 8 acres, fishing became the main income since all the better land in Shetland is near the coasts. As in Scotland crofters never owned their own land and could be evicted when unable to pay the rent, even if caused by sickness, ill health or accident. However, Leslies are survivors and we in Shetland worked hard to pay our rent and bring up families. Changes started in the 1700s as the English found out how good Shetland men were as sailors, they were needed to fight first, the French and then the Americans in their war for Independence. It was at this time that it was decided that English should be taught and so schools were started. Shetlanders up until this time spoke Norn, a Scandinavian language.

By 1750 Shetland fishermen would fish up to 40 miles off shore in boats called sixareens (6 oars), sometimes spending days and nights in the boats and often found themselves in constant debt as the land, crofts and houses, shops, boats and even fishing lines belonged to the landlord, and until all debts were paid he owned the fish as well. The fish could only be sold to him at his prices and he didn't reckon on the price till he had sold the fish. There was no free market, if you didn't sell to the landlord you were evicted, and if the fishermen were lucky the landlord allowed them to keep the heads to feed their families. Often with payments being late, fishermen were buying goods on the promise of next year's catch, before the current year's catch was reckoned. The landlords in most cases were wealthy men of Scotland who leased areas from the Crown and so became rich on the hard work of the Shetlanders. All the dried fish was going to feed the multitudes of people going to the cities during the Industrial Revolution in Scotland and England. Evictions and later clearances became common as due to a climate change, fish became harder to catch, moving further offshore. My own family was evicted from Fair Isle in 1829.

To add further to the miseries of Shetlanders, during the Napoleonic wars ships scoured the coasts of Shetland and fishermen were taken off the sixareens, to go and fight, with the sixareen being left to drift ashore. Many families were broken this way, with the head of the family sometimes never being heard of again, and this included Leslie men. With the decline of fishing, landlords found that if sheep replaced people, they could make more money and so from 1860 on, they started to demolish the outlying crofts. Amongst these was a croft named Refuge which housed my great, great grandfather and his family; they were evicted along with others who now have prominent families in New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, Canada and U.S.A. The clearances grew and soon whole villages were destroyed with one Scots landlord destroying the homes of over 200 crofters in a week, and some houses being destroyed while smoke still came out the chimneys.

Because of these clearances many Shetlanders headed for the new world, and while many wanted to go to America, it was fighting its Civil war and so Canada, Australia and New Zealand were chosen. Many did gravitate to the U.S. after the fighting stopped and I have many blood relatives in Canada and several U.S. States. Since many, including Leslies were forced to leave due to the heavy handedness of Scottish landlords we find they often left with an intense dislike of the Scots and anything Scottish. Leslies left bitter and often did not pass on their family backgrounds. They had been hurt, their families broken up and they had no pride in Scotland until much later generations. As Shetland had been given away as a wedding dowry by Norway in the 1400s Shetlanders had different feelings anyway, and some never considered they were Scots.



In 1861 on the little Fair Isle 146 people had their lives uprooted when they were resettled in Canada. Fair Isle was owned by a wealthy Scottish businessman who treated them very well, so many did leave through hope rather than through duress. A very important part of this story is that Shetland people had to travel to Scotland to go overseas, and many are listed simply as being from Scotland. My great grandfather arrived with his wife in New Zealand in 1859 he had five sons, thirty five grandchildren and over one hundred and ten great grandchildren. The family now exceeds six hundred in seven generations. His sister who married a Leslie went to Canada and the same happened. I have many blood relative Leslies in Nova Scotia, Michigan and Maine who don't know I exist, all because their forebears would not talk about the reasons they had to leave and start a new life. Perhaps this little story will help some of those who want to find their roots but are unable to, hundreds of North American Leslies of Shetland origin. In Scotland little mention is made and less notice has been taken about the role played in the spreading of the name by Shetland Leslies which, throughout the world, now accounts for thousands with the name of Leslie.

There are many hundreds of North American Leslies of Shetland origins. In Scotland little mention is made and less notice has been taken about the role played in the spreading of the name by Shetland Leslies.

## FAIR ISLE



These two pictures give some idea of the smallness of the island; the first taken from the South shows the little harbor to the right of the lighthouse, while the other taken from the North shows, bottom right, the main harbor with foam line, the airport centre right, and the road going right through the middle leading to the crofts. In the upper left is Sheep rock where 20 sheep were pulled up the cliffs to eat the grass. In the centre of Sheep Rock is a fresh water spring.



Bill's wife Jenny standing in Refuge, 1988.



**William (Bill) Leslie**  
Kaiwaka, New Zealand



## JOAN EIKE OF BARTON, NEW YORK RECEIVES THE GARIOCH AWARD



The Council made the award of the Garioch to Joan Leslie Eike for her years of service to the Council as the Treasurer of the Clan Leslie Society International and as a Council member. Donald and Janice Abernathy of North Carolina selected the bowl design.

## RECENT TENTS AT HIGHLAND GAMES AND SCOTTISH FESTIVALS

### NOVEMBER 13-14. TEXAS SALADO SCOTTISH CLAN GATHERING & HIGHLAND GAMES

The 2010 Salado Clan Tent was hosted by Frank W. Leslie & his wife Lynne. This is the oldest Scottish Clan Festival in Texas.



#### Back Row:

Left to right: Bryan, Jessica, Ivan Lesley, Alexander, Frank W. Leslie, Daniel

Front Row, left to right: Helen, Flora, David Leslie White, Lynne Leslie.

#### The Lesley Family of San Antonio.

Front Row, left to right: Jessica, Helen, Flora, Ivan Lesley, David Leslie White.

2nd Row: Alexander, Redena, Daniel, Bryan.



## TEXAS SALADO SCOTTISH CLAN GATHERING & HIGHLAND GAMES (Continued)

Kimberly (Moore) Cavett, Hamilton, Texas,



The Clan Leslie Society International at the Parade of Clans, led by Flora Lesley, Lynne Leslie and Helen Leslie.



Left to right,  
Frank W. Leslie (Convenor, Southwest Region),  
David Leslie White (CLSI Chieftain),  
Robert H. Leslie (Bryan, Texas).



Kimberly (Moore) Cavett, Hamilton, Texas  
and Alfred "Little Eagle" Faulkner.

## SAINT MARGARET'S DAY- NOVEMBER 16th



The Blessings of St. Margaret of Scotland upon us all! Her special day is November 16th; a day for Clan Leslie to remember that she is our Founder's sister-in-law, hence part of our family.

[Click here: http://www.edinburghcastle.gov.uk/index/story/ddt-10\\_gallery5.jpg](http://www.edinburghcastle.gov.uk/index/story/ddt-10_gallery5.jpg)

**Samantha Gray, Chaplain, CLSI**

## NEW MEMBERS KENNETH AND ANDREW LESLIE, VALLEJO, CALIFORNIA

Below are links to YouTube movies of Andrew performing live-steel combat at the 2010 Highland Games at Pleasanton, California. He's wearing the blue shirt and Leslie weathered great kilt. We both participate with the Highlander Warriors re-enactment guild. It sure would be nice to see a Clan Leslie tent in the Clan area—any suggestions?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ZOFPhWFSSY>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tu3kFwlztxQ&NR=1>

Ken has been referred to founding member Susan Abernethy in San Diego who is very experienced with tents at games. It would be good to see them participate in the Harlaw re-enactment next year. They could really give those highlanders a lesson. W. Leslie



## FANS OF THE GRIP FAST ONLINE WRITE

We were pleased to receive another excellent Grip Fast Online newsletter. I found myself checking email daily to see if the latest newsletter has arrived. However, this time Christine printed it first and when I arrived home, she had it on the table waiting for me to read so we could talk about the articles over dinner. We appreciate the work that goes into producing this valuable publication. Four years ago we stood in the very spot where the picture of the Chapel of Garioch cover picture was taken.

**Lew Johnson, Greensboro, North Carolina**

**Editor's Note:** This is so great to hear. Now I know that at least two people really look forward to receiving the Grip Fast Online.

## JEANA LESLIE- A SCOTTISH FIDDLER AND PIANIST

<http://www.myspace.com/jeanaleslie#ixzz14eK7BwYy>

**David Leslie White**

## **WHAUR GADIE RINS – A LESLIE VERSION SUNG AT THE ORILLIA CLAN LESLIE GATHERING 2002**

O gin I were whaur Gadie rins,  
Whaur Gadie rins, whaur Gadie rins,  
O gin I were whaur Gadie rins  
At the back O' Bennachie. (Chorus)

Thick sit the Leslies on Gadie side,  
On Gadie side, on Gadie side,  
Thick sit the Leslies on Gadie side,  
At the back O' Bennachie.  
(Chorus)

Aince mair to hear the wild birds' sang,  
To wander birks an' braes amang  
Wi' friends and fav'rites left sae lang  
At the back O' Bennachie.  
(Chorus)

How mony a day in blithe Springtime,  
How mony a day in Summer's prime  
I've saunterin' whiled awa the time  
On the heights O' Bennachie.  
(Chorus)

But fortune's flowers wi' thorns grow rife,  
An' wealth is won wi' toil an' strife;  
Gie me ae day O' youthfu' life  
At the back O' Bennachie.  
(Chorus)

Whaur Gadie Rins Tune: The Hessian March <http://www.mudcat.org/@displaysong.cfm?SongID=596>

## **TOROSAY CASTLE FOR SALE**

Torosay Castle, a spectacular 150-year old Scottish Baronial castle on the Isle of Mull is for sale. It was the home of Arbuthnot Charles Guthrie (1825-1897) and later the home of Walter Murray Guthrie, who married Olive Leslie, the youngest daughter of Sir John and Lady Constance Leslie, 1st. Baronet of Glaslough, Castle Leslie, County Monaghan, Ireland. (The Leslies of Glaslough are an offshoot of the Balquhain Leslies.) This home has on display a magnificent portrait of Lady Constance Leslie as well as some sculptures done by Lionel Alistair David Leslie. Lionel Leslie (1900-1987), a Captain in the Cameroon Highlanders, lived just south of Torosay at Grasspoint. He was the 4th son of Sir John Leslie, 2nd. Baronet, Glaslough.

The current owners, Christopher Guthrie James and his wife, Sarah, are selling Torosay so they can move closer to their children in Edinburgh. The property is expected to bring at least 2.8 million pounds (about \$4.2 million U.S.). Of the castle's 11,000 acres, more than 10,000 acres will be sold separately, leaving 865 acres of land with the house. Mr. James hopes that the house reverts to being a family home and not an attraction for tourists.

**David Leslie White** [clanleslie@earthlink.net](mailto:clanleslie@earthlink.net)

## **2012 CLAN LESLIE GATHERING – LINCOLN NEW HAMPSHIRE**

The 2012 Clan Leslie Society International Gathering will be held in conjunction with the New Hampshire Highland Games at the Loon Mountain Ski Resort, Lincoln, New Hampshire. To find out more about the New Hampshire Games, please visit: <http://www.nhscot.org>. These games traditionally take place on or around the third weekend of September, but we will post the 2012 dates when they become available. Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=696321738&ref=ts#!/group.php?gid=155937880572&ref=ts>

**Laura Sawyer Messing** Design Invasion 314.646.7673 (phone/fax)

[designinvasion@gmail.com](mailto:designinvasion@gmail.com) or [www.designinvasion.com](http://www.designinvasion.com)

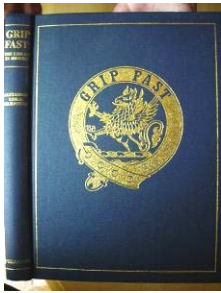


## CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL – SCHOLARSHIPS

CLSI is offering scholarships to our members. There are two different types of scholarships. One is an academic scholarship valued at \$250. The deadline for the next scholarship is November 30 with the award of one scholarship being made on January 15. The second type of scholarship is for Scottish or Celtic Programs. The amount of this scholarship is \$200 and can be applied for any time. It will cover things such as bagpiping camp, dance, the arts, etc. The person applying for any scholarship must be a member or inceptor member of CLSI. For more information contact: **Rebecca Dobias, CLSI Scholarship Chairman**, [dobiasrsc@aol.com](mailto:dobiasrsc@aol.com),

## PETER M. LESLIE, QUARTERMASTER, CLSI

Clan Leslie items for sale are listed on our website, [www.clanlesliesociety.org](http://www.clanlesliesociety.org) click on the Items for Sale link.



The list of items includes a description, price and photo along with how to order. The Clan Leslie items listed are:

- 1) Grip Fast – Leslies in History, a beautifully hardbound book, detailing the Leslie clan from its inception (290 pages), authored by Alexander Leslie Klieforth.
- 2) The Griffin Reprints, First Series, - No. 1: The Clan Society, some Leslie History and Heraldry, soft cover book (98 pages), printed by The Clan Leslie Charitable Trust, Edinburgh, Scotland.

3) Post Cards – 2 styles. One style contains King Malcolm's promise to Bartolf and the origination of our clan name, and the other style provides open space for your personal note.



- 4) Grip Fast Pin
- 5) Grip Fast Patch

The post cards were developed by Laura Messing and can be used by members to tell friends of upcoming Scottish events, to recruit prospective CLSI members and to help increase interest in all events Scottish. A free packet of "giveaway" postcards is available for those Conveners/Tent Hosts who host a CLSI tent. If you require a packet of postcards sent post paid, contact, Peter M. Leslie, Quartermaster.



**Peter M. Leslie**, [scotslad@nwi.net](mailto:scotslad@nwi.net)

## IN MEMORIAM James M. Leslie

LESLIE, JAMES M., Retired Brigadier General in the United States Army - died Thursday, April 29, 2010 at the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville after an extended illness. He was 81. General Leslie was born in Anaconda, Montana and grew up in Butte, Montana. He graduated from Montana State College in 1951 as the Distinguished ROTC Graduate with a commission of 2nd Lieutenant of Infantry. He later entered the Army flight program and flew fix-winged aircraft and helicopters. He received a Master's Degree in International Relations from George Washington University in 1969. He attended the National War College from 1968-1969. As a career infantry officer, General Leslie commanded units from platoon to brigade size and served as Assistant Division Commander of the 2nd Infantry Division in South Korea. He was also commanding General of the 3rd ROTC Region at Fort Knox, Kentucky. His awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, the [Bronze Star](#), Combat Infantry Badge, Parachutist Badge and Senior Army Aviation Badge. Mr. Leslie was an active member of Eastside Baptist Church in Marietta GA for many years. General Leslie lived in Knoxville and was a member of the Retired Officers Association and Association of the US Army. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Ann Leslie; son, Richard Leslie and wife, Glen; daughter, Teresa Bowman and husband, Mark; four grandsons. Matthew Bowman and wife, Kathleen, Sam Leslie, Brandon Bowman and Nathan Bowman. He is also survived by a brother, Donald B. Leslie and wife, Francis, and a sister, Kathryn Miller. A funeral service was conducted at Rose Mortuary Mann Heritage Chapel with Dr. Larry Fields officiating. Interment will be held at a later date in Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, DC. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, 7020 AC Skinner Pkwy, Suite 100, Jacksonville, FL 32256 or [www.woundedwarriorproject.com](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.com). Online condolences may be extended at [www.rosemortuary.com](http://www.rosemortuary.com).

Arrangements by Rose Mortuary Mann Heritage Chapel.

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## ACRYLIC KILTS

Many of us ordered kilts in the Leslie green or red tartan from a vendor at Loch Norman. The kilts are made in Scotland and shipped to the US. The tartan had to be produced which slowed down the receipt of the kilts. I have been informed that all Leslie kilts have been shipped. I have received mine and I am very pleased with the fit and quality. Now that the tartan is in stock, production will be much faster. You can also buy the extra wide yardage for \$19 a yard and make what you want. The vendor can make anything you want, kilts, skirted kilts, sashes, etc. If you are interested in ordering anything, please contact me: Linda Flowers 405-381-3577 [lflowiingo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lflowiingo@sbcglobal.net) or you can contact the vendor directly Ralph Neilson [scottyquy2003@yahoo.com](mailto:scottyquy2003@yahoo.com)

## ABERNATHY SHIRTS

We had a great time at the Loch Norman Highland Games in Huntersville, NC this April. It was also very nice to see our chief, Alexander Leslie, there. I am glad he finally got home safely. While we love wearing the Leslie colors, as Abernethys we like to honor our family name as part of Clan Leslie. At the games we found a vendor who presented lots of shirts with many different clan badges stitched on the shirts. There were no Abernethy shirts. We talked with the vendor who looked up the Abernethy clan badge in his book. It is a green parrot eating red cherries with the motto "SALUS PER CHRISTUM" on the black strap outlined in gold with a gold buckle. He said he had never made any Abernethy shirts because there wasn't a big demand for them. We were told that if we had a large enough order, he would get the design for the badge and configure his machine to stitch it onto his shirts. It didn't take us very long to come up with a large enough order. It took a little time for the set-up but we now have our shirts and they look great! If there are other Abernethys out there who would like a shirt with the Abernethy clan badge, they can now be ordered and I think the vendor can embroidery any spelling of Abernethy over the clan badge. The order may be placed at [www.highlandembroidery.com](http://www.highlandembroidery.com). I hope to see more Abernethys at the next clan gathering.

**Annie (Abernethy) Windstrup**

**Editor's Note:** I consulted with the Clan Leslie Society Herald, Susan Abernethy, and as near as can be determined, this clan badge is of the Abernathy Branch of the Clan Douglas, not the Abernathys descended from Mary Abernathy who married into the Clan Leslie.

## NEXT PUBLICATIONS TO CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY MEMBERS

**JANUARY 2011** – The *Grip Fast*, *Journal of the Clan Leslie Society International*. Will be sent to Clan Leslie Society International members. Some members may have problems downloading and printing such a large file. If you wish to receive a printed booklet by mail, you may request this of the Treasurer.

**DECEMBER 2010** - The *Grip Fast Online* will be sent to any interested person who sends an email address. Please continue to send us your stories and pictures of your Scottish ancestors or your Clan Leslie family; we really need them. Note the number of different clan members who have contributed to this issue.

**William Leslie, Editor** [william.leslie@sympatico.ca](mailto:william.leslie@sympatico.ca)

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