



# Clan Little

# Sprig Of Heather



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New Zealand & Australian Branch of Clan Little

[www.littleclan.net](http://www.littleclan.net)



## *Editors Quill*

### LITTLE BY LITTLE

As I sit to write this editorial I am listening to a Radio Station broadcasting from the other side of our small world. The sounds I am hearing are a far cry from street music of the Scottish working classes up to and including the Victorian era 1819-1901. Whilst the mid 1800s was a time of great political and industrial change for Scotland, many reforms and improvements resulted in major impacts on the lives of our ancestors. For a variety of reasons they left the land of their Birth and ventured to the uttermost parts of the earth. In Scotland new Laws were passed to reform 'poor laws', 'sanitation' and 'education'. So with this social reform in Scotland why did so many seek their fortune in the land of milk and honey? In Scotland sport, science and the arts were flourishing so there would have been plenty to do, or was there? The Scot has always taken an interest in acquiring knowledge and experience as evidenced in the development of learning opportunities as an escape from the graft at daily toil. Many new facilities such as Universities, Libraries and Museums were opened. As our ancestors migrated to their promised land Scotland became highly respected as the world leader in learning and enlightenment. During the 19<sup>th</sup> Century entertainment varied by social class. The minions found pleasure in more simple and immediate, less costly leisure pursuits such as at the Fair Ground, Street Theatre in Tavern's or at Games and Sports. Whilst today I listen to Radio direct from the other side of the world, in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Music Halls were popular with acts typically being a mixture of popular song, comedy and speciality acts. Gilbert and Sullivan's comic operas were very well patronised. We have over 5000 years of history to celebrate beginning with our meeting on **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2013**





# Armigerous Clan Little

A, Crawford Little *Esq*  
of Morton Rig  
**Guardian**

There are four organizations adopting various versions of the name Clan Little. These are Clan Little Society (CLS), Clan Little Society New Zealand and Australia (CLNZA), Clan Little Society North America Ltd (CLNSA) and Clan Little Society Scotland and Worldwide.

It is appropriate that Clan Little Society (CLS) is described as the parent organization. It was founded in Scotland (1991). It alone was awarded arms (1997) by Lord Lyon King of Arms, in accordance with Scottish law, thus becoming an armigerous clan society. In 2005, Andrew Crawford Little of Morton Rig (Crawford) was elected Guardian a position he will hold until his death or resignation. The organization has been dormant since 2007 following the passing of Crawford's father, Dr Johnnie Little, the founder. As a dormant organization, it did not accept new members nor engage in any publicized activities, but it remained a legitimate organization.

CLS and CLNSA have always enjoyed the very closest of relationships. So close that its sometimes difficult to tell them apart. So we are delighted to be able to tell you that, as Guardian, Crawford is currently reviving CLS primarily as a scholarly, round table group promoting, conducting and co-ordinating research into the history and genealogy of the Clan Little, both at home and abroad, from its origins to the present day. Systems will be put in place to ensure the information gathered and held by the society will be freely available to educate and inform into the foreseeable future.

As its ultimate aim is to promote fellowship and awareness of kinship between all present day descendants of the Little Clan many of whom remain unaware they are members of a clan the Guardian intends it will not have fee paying members, to be as inclusive as possible by excluding none. And it will not seek to duplicate the activities of the other three organizations associated with Clan Little.

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## **Proposal to form Charitable Trust**

Since we began in the Southern Hemisphere Clan Little has not had its own Constitution. To improve how we do things I propose we form a simple Charitable Trust under the Charitable Trusts Act 1908. These are not difficult to establish and administer. It requires a few of us to Register a Trust Deed which sets out what the Trust is for and how it will work. This is a Trust Board rather than a 'Registered Charity'. I suggest we call it "**Clan Little Trust**" The proposed objects of the Trust are :-

- **To** foster interest in Little family history throughout the Southern Hemisphere.
- **To** promote fellowship and awareness of kinship between all present day descendants of the Little Clan.
- **To** work collaboratively with other Caledonian, Scottish and Clan organization in sharing our common heritage and culture.
- **To** encourage the study of genealogy and family history information sharing.
- **To** prepare, print and publish such literature and resources as may be desirable or necessary.
- **To** establish, maintain and administer a fund of money for the use of Clan Little Trust.

# Domesday Book 1086



The **Domesday Book** compiled in 1085-6 is one of the few historical records whose name is familiar to most people. The good news is the "Doomsday Book" is not a religious tract. Its a compilation of information to tell the King who owed him what in tax. Because the information was 'in the book' nobody could dispute or argue against a tax demand. This is why the book brought doom and gloom to the people of England - hence "**Domesday Book**". The decision of what someone owed was final - rather like Judgement Day when your soul was judged for Heaven or Hell. Its the UKs earliest public record, and foundation document of the national archives; a legal document which is still valid as evidence of title to land. It was compiled and drawn up on the orders of King William I. This massive work describes in remarkable detail, the landholdings and resources of late 11th-century England. It was an exercise unparalleled in Europe, and not matched in coverage of the country until the population censuses of the 19th century. Before the English 'Domesday Book' Scotland had been counting the numbers. Many regard the 1841 census as the first detailed record of use for family historians. There were various local censuses prior to 1941 in parishes during 1835 and Jedburgh 1821, Hutton 1811, Stow 1801, then Portpatrick in 1763. Scotland's first census took place in the 7th century. and is called Senchus fer nAlban (History of the men of Scotland). Its a list of the population of Dál Riata, the kingdom of the Gaels on the west coast of Scotland, in Lorn and the islands of Islay and Jura. King William at Gloucester in 1085, sent his men out: 'all over England into every shire to find out how many hides there were in the shire, what land and cattle the king had himself in the shire, what dues he ought to have in twelve months from his shires...

So very narrowly did he have it investigated that there was no single hide nor yard of land, nor indeed... one ox or cow or pig which was left out and not put down in his record, and these records were brought to him afterwards'. This survey and audit would clearly establish who held what, in the wake of the Norman Conquest. Of the 268,984 individuals described in Domesday, some 40 per cent are listed as villani. Some might have farms of as much as 30 acres, but still owe their lords two or three days' work on his land. Below them in the social hierarchy came the bordars who owed more services but held less land and below them the cottars, with even less, perhaps just a few acres and a vegetable garden. Sometimes those with trades - millers, blacksmiths, potters, shepherds and the like - receive specific mention and are named such as Fulchere the Bowman. Others appear with names associated with more personal characteristics, such as Alwin the Rat and Ralph the Haunted. At the bottom of the social pile came the servi or slaves, about 10% of the total population, who had no property rights and could be bought and sold. Often listed with the number of ploughs, it has been assumed that most would have worked as ploughmen, domestic servants and dairymaids. Just as there is political awareness today in New Zealand and Australia so it was in England and Scotland. William in 1086 wanted to know what he could about the people and properties of the time. **Today we have laws which supposedly protect our privacy.**



**Private what ?**



**What will we tell the next generation ?**

## **The Border at Cumberland**

Cumberland is a historic county of North West England which had an administrative function from the 12th century until 1974. It bordered Northumberland to the east. The term "Cumberland" appears in 945, when the Anglo Saxon Chronicle recorded the area was ceded to Malcolm I of Scotland by King Edmund of England. At the time of the Domesday Book in 1086 most of the county remained part of Scotland. In 1092 King William Rufus of England invaded the Carlisle district, settling it with colonists creating the Earldom of Carlisle. In 1133 Carlisle was made the seat of a new diocese, identical with the area of the earldom. On the death of King Henry I in 1135, the area was regained by Scotland's King David I. He was able to consolidate his power and made Carlisle one of his chief seats of government, while England descended into a lengthy civil war. After years of aristocratic infighting the border between England and Scotland was made permanent by the Treaty of York in 1237. The northern boundary was formed by the Solway Estuary and the border with Scotland running east to Scotch Knowe at Kershope Burn. **Little's from each side of the border were related and there was considerable trade of all sorts going on.**



"I've got it! How about a funny picture!  
People love funny pictures!"

# KEEP TAKING THE TABLET

Agnes Kordylewska with James Gracie, author of "Land O Lakes" on page 482.

**A**S well as being a land o' cakes (and lakes!), Scotland is a land o' sweeties. This kitchen creation from James fills the house with a rich, mouthwatering aroma that has everyone gasping for the finished result.

*Tablet always reminds me of my childhood. My mother made it all the time, because I had — and still have — a sweet tooth that is my undoing when it comes to weight-watching.*

*I lived in England for a few years after I got married, and my wife regularly made tablet for Brownie and Girl Guide bring-and-buy sales and coffee mornings. The English had never seen or heard of it before. The nearest they have is fudge, which is a sort of soft toffee, and not half as good. The tablet sold like hot cakes (another great favourite of mine by the way) and no wonder, for truly, taiblet's awfy guid. My wife had to stop children gorging themselves on it in case they got sick.*

**For my wife's recipe, you need:**  
1 large (14 oz) tin condensed milk  
1½ lb sugar  
4 oz margarine (or butter if you wish to live dangerously)  
½ tablespoon vanilla essence  
4 tablespoons of water

**My mother swore that you either had or didn't have the knack for making tablet. Certainly, my wife's preferred method of cooking is to tip the whole lot into a pan and let it simmer for half an hour, stirring it constantly, before pouring it into a tray until firm enough to cut into pieces.**

**She hasn't failed yet to make perfect tablet.**

James' tablet takes me right back to Granny Reid's wee sweetie shop in Perth. On our way to school, our pennies and ha'pennies were spent on her home-made toffee — vanilla, treacle, and soearmint —

and an enormous confection called Cheugh Jeans which was guaranteed to glue together the jaws of the most garrulous for at least 15 minutes. Cheugh Jeans were said to originate in Glasgow where huge consignments of sugar arrived from abroad. Tablet was mouthwatering, but had to wait for the Saturday threepenny bit.

Edinburgh Rock has long been a favourite, with a pedigree going back to the 19th century. That was when Alexander Fergusson — known in the capital as Sweetie Sandy — found, after a few months, a piece of confectionery which had been overlooked. Time had caused a metamorphosis and Sandy thought it might have possibilities. With some ingenuity he turned it into the famous Edinburgh Rock. Like so many successful ventures there was an element of serendipity in its creation, but ever since then, it has been a toothsome favourite with its pretty pastel shades of yellow, green, raspberry, white, orange and fawn.

Hawick Balls, Berwick Cockles, Moffat Toffee and Jeddart Snails all hail from the Borders. Soor Plooms (my mouth puckers up at the thought of them) originated in Peebles, thanks to a legend about English raiders being overcome when caught eating unripe plums. A likely story!

Coltart Candy has a song in its honour and took its name from a travelling man who was always followed by hordes of children waiting for a hand-out of candy.

Toffee making in days gone by was a social occasion, part and parcel of daffing — in other words, flirting and courting in someone's cottage — where together they pulled the toffee into long ropes, then cut it into bite-size pieces. This was accompanied by singing and sometimes dancing.

James' mother was right. You either have the knack for making tablet or you have not. However, practice makes perfect, and a short prayer thrown in along with the other ingredients aye helps to bring success. □



## *Scotch Broth*

3 pints beef/Mutton Stock  
4oz (110g) broth mix (dried peas lentils, pearl barley)  
2 medium-sized carrots, grated  
½ an ornar sized neep, diced or grated  
1 medium- sized tattie, diced or grated  
1 medium sized ingin  
Salt an pepper

Pit them a' in a big saucepan, an bring tae the bile. Let it simmer fur an hour or so, till its thick an smells guid

## *Border Tairt*

Mak a shortcrust pastry case, (Ye can cheat here, if ye like, an buy the ready made pastry) ah'll no tell onybody.

### **Fillin**

1oz (25g)butter  
4oz (110g) Demerara sugar  
4oz (110g) Currants  
1 teaspoon vanilla essence  
1 size 3 egg

Melt the butter in a pan, tak aff the heat, an add sugar an currants an gie't guid steer. Then mix in the vanilla essence, an the egg, an mak sure they're a' weel mixed thegither. Beat weel fur aboot 3 or 4 meenits, till the mixture is thick an creamy. Pour it intae the pastry case, smooth ower the tap o't, an bake fur aboot 45 meenits at 350 F /180 C/gas 4. Cool, an if ye like, ye can gar it mair bonny like, if ye mak a watter icing(icing sugar mixed wi a wee drap o' watter) an mak a crisscross pattern oan the tap o't

## What's in a name... ?

"The creation of the largest database of its kind aims to unlock the derivation of 150,000 names" so said **Sarah Cassidy** reporting in '**The Independent**'. **17 December 2009**. The University has an impressive academic team working on this project which is nearing completion. **There is much discussion about the origin of our name Little and where it comes from we could expect some reliable information from this extensive research.** The meanings of all 150,000 surnames in use across the country look set to be revealed as part of the largest-ever database of family names in the UK. This £834,350 project, is led by the University of the West of England [www.uwe.ac.uk](http://www.uwe.ac.uk) plans to reveal stories behind surnames and make them available to home genealogists, family historians, and anyone interested in learning about their name. Researchers are using published and unpublished resources, dating from the 11th century.



*MEETING!!* **Members and friends  
meeting**  
**Clan Little**  
**Saturday 30th Nov**  
**Room 1. St Andrews Complex**  
**St Andrews on the Terrace**  
**30 The Terrace, Wellington**  
**Commencing 1:30 PM**  
**Agenda:** Business, Report & Accounts.  
~~~~~ Outreach, Admin Trust set-up.

*Saturday November 30th 2013*

I do hope members will join us at this meeting which coincidentally is being held at "St Andrews" on "St Andrew Day" which commemorates the patron saint of Scotland. In Scotland St Andrew's Day is a bank holiday.

*Allen Little*

# Time & Travel

What influenced our forbearers migration to the other side of the world. If you could turn the clock back and ask 'Why did you come so far from home?' what answer would we hear. It's said most of the Little's came from Dumfriesshire. So where and what was Dumfriesshire?

**Dumfriesshire** is rich in History. Its neighbouring areas to the East are Lanark, Peebles, Selkirk, and Roxburgh with Cumberland on the Solway Firth to the South. Today it has a population of about 150,000 living over the area of some 6,426 km<sup>2</sup>... 81 Kms from E. to W., and 52 Kms from N. to S. In 1851, its population was 78,149 and ten years later in 1861 it had fallen to 75,904. The geography is not dissimilar to parts of Otago with mountains reaching to the lowlands and plentiful with Game.

Coal was worked in the parishes of Sanquhar and Canobie. In the parish of Sanquhar at Wanlockhead galena, or lead ore has been mined for a long time. The Wanlockhead and Lead hills mines have sustained villages with unique attractions and features for centuries and its here that my own family originate. Gold is found in quartz veins, or in the sands of rivulets, among the mountains around Wanlockhead so there is treasure to be hunted.



**Dunfriesshire**

Farms of arable land were let on leases of fifteen, nineteen, or twenty-one years, with sheep pasture farms on leases of nine or thirteen years. During the period 1760-1860 improvements in agriculture and animal husbandry were introduced with Black cattle and sheep pastured in the county. Pigs were also reared in enormous numbers and processed for the tables of England where Scottish bacon was well received. Other agricultural exports were Beef, Mutton, corn, wool, and skins. There was a thriving textile Industry at Sanquhar where Ginghams, and Tartans were woven, and coarse Ginghams were also manufactured at Dumfries and Annan.

Romanic remains are numerous throughout Dumfriesshire with fortifications and connecting roads revealed through modern Archaeology. Druidical and monastic remains have been found in various places. Ancient castles are those of Caerlaverock, Torthorwald, Closeburn, Morton, and Sanquhar, in Nithsdale; Achincass, Hoddam, Comlongan, and Lochwood, in Annandale; and Wauchope and Langholm in Eskdale. No doubt Little's have been in some way connected to these big estates. To get a clear picture we need to investigate and consider the big picture. Archaeological remains from the neolithic and Bronze Age include stone circles (as in Dunscore and Eskdalemuir), tumuli and cairns (Closeburn), and sculptured stones (Dornock). A number of bank barrows and cursus have recently been discovered. The British tribe which inhabited this part of Scotland was the "Selgovae" who have left many signs of their presence, such as hill forts and camps (Dryfesdale, Dumfries and Galloway). The country around Moffat is rich in remains. Selgovae were a people of the late 2nd century who lived in what is now the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright and the southern coast. They are mentioned briefly in Ptolemy's Geography, but there is no other historical record of them. Their cultural and ethnic affinity is commonly assumed to have been Brittonic.

Roman roads which ran by Dalveen Pass into Clydesdale and up the Annan to Tweeddale, and at Birrens have been well preserved and serve as examples of the invader's presence. Roman camps, altars, urns and coins have been found in many parts of Dumfriesshire. The Selgovae were pressured by the power of Strathclyde, by Scots from Ireland, and the Angles from Northumberland.

There is little writing preserved from this time, and that which has survived is ecclesiastical in nature. Archaeology, although rich on the ground requires a more thorough investigation. The Saxon conquest of Dumfriesshire does not seem to have been thorough in the West. It's said the people of Nithsdale maintained some Celtic institutions up to the time of David I. The Border clans, were as haughty, hot-headed lot and were always at strife. Faction to faction the common man was likely occupied in many and varied skirmishes until at least the 18th century. The hill country of the shire afforded retreat to the persecuted Covenanters from Sanquhar, who in 1680 published their declaration against the king.

REFERENCE: The National Gazetteer of Great Britain and Ireland (1868)

Transcribed by Colin Hinson ©2003]



The Oracle... It's said... we are not defined by our past but prepared by it. No amount of guilt can change the past and no amount of worrying can change the future.

## Chinese Connection “丈夫唱歌，妻子如下”



My name is Catherine Little and I am retired living in Wanaka. I trained as a primary school teacher, and then after a few years as a Deaconess in the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa NZ, before becoming ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. I worked in the Caversham Parish in Dunedin from 1969 -1981, and then in the Upper Clutha Parish [Wanaka]1981 –2001.

On a holiday some years ago in Scotland, visiting relatives and places where great grandparents came from, I picked up a book in the shop at John 'O Groats, and read ... "...the troublesome Little's of Eskdalemuir .." My sister and I laughed as that was where our great grandfather Little farmed or was a shepherd, before moving his family to a place up the glen from the village of Moniavie, which is not far from Dumfries. It was in 1900 that my grandfather, John Little, the youngest in his family, left Scotland and came to Cardrona in New Zealand, where he joined his uncle Walter Little, who had come years before as a shepherd on Wanaka Station. When John arrived he started out as a gold miner but in the passage of time became a farmer owning his own land, which now is part of land farmed by his great grandson. The spring day John Little arrived in Cardrona in 1900 he travelled by coach over the Crown Range from Queenstown, which stopped McDougall's shop. There he was greeted by Christina McDougall who asked about his journey, John's reply was "We've had a grand hurl down the glen."

Neither of my parents were yet born but John Little who is my grandfather, was speaking to Christiana McDougall [nee Sutherland] who is my grandmother. With the passage of time John Little married Alicia Walsh [whose father and mother came from Ireland] and my father Thomas [Tom] was born in 1907. My mother Eva McDougall was the youngest child of Robert and Christina McDougall. Robert McDougall was a boy of 14 years when he was left to run the family store in Cardrona in 1878. His father and the rest of the family went to Wanaka [then called Pembroke] to live and run the store there. Robert was the eldest in the family and was born in Glasgow. Christina his wife was the only surviving daughter of John and Marjorie Sutherland who came to Arrowtown from Glasgow, as teachers in 1880. They moved to teach in Cardrona and Robert and Christina were married and lived all their life there, until Grandfather McDougall died in 1946.



Cardrona Miners resting

There was a huge flood in the area in 1878, and most of the European gold miners moved onto new goldfields, where the gold was easier to find. However, many Chinese miners came to work over the spoil which the flood had deposited on the valley floor. Their hard work can still be seen in the carefully stacked stones, removed to reach the gold bearing ground.

Grandfather McDougall learned to understand the Cantonese spoken by the miners and helped the Chinese any way he could as the life of a miner on the gold field was not easy. For these men far from home, whose aim was to make money from gold and so return to China and their families, the valley must have been a lonely and hard place to be. Grandfather's help was given in credit for groceries when the gold was hard to find, in hospitality and friendship when some were not so friendly.

When Granny and Grandfather were married in December 1890, the Chinese miners made a gift for them. On blue silk material they stuck on, cut out in red velvet material, Chinese writing which greets Grandfather on his wedding day calling him their "Big Brother". Large Chinese characters say "The husband sings and the wife follows" across the centre of the blue silk while down each side there is their greeting, in smaller Chinese characters wishing them well, and with their names. I remember Grandfather as a gentle, kind, generous man, and am glad to be the keeper of this 'family treasure' which will be lodged in the local historical society's care when I can no longer look after it, because it is part of the history of this Upper Clutha area. Catherine Little © 10/07/2013



**Keep memories alive save family history... !**

# *Jock & Tom*



The lads were walking along a street in London... Jock looked in one of the shop windows and saw a sign that caught his eye. The sign read, "Suits £5.00 each, Shirts £2.00 each, trousers £2.50 per pair". Jock said to his pal, "Look at the prices! We could buy a whole lot of these and when we get back to Scotland we could make a fortune. Now when we go in you stay quiet, okay? Let me do all the talking cause if they hear our accents, they might think we are cheap Scotsmen and try to screw us. I'll put on my best London accent". "OK Jock, I'll keep me mouth shut" said Tom... They go in and Jock said in a posh voice, "Hello my good man. I'll take 50 suits at £5.00 each, 100 shirts at £2.00 each, and 50 pairs of trousers at £2.50 each. I'll back up me truck ready to load them on, old chap! The owner of the shop said quietly, "You're from Scotland, aren't you?" "Well yes," said a surprised Jock. "What gave it away?" The owner replied, "This is a dry-cleaners....." !

## **Corporate Identity Proposal for Trust**

I believe the affairs of Clan Little in New Zealand & Australia need to be organised more formally and for that reason I propose we establish a simple Charitable Trust with its own Deed and named '**Clan Little Trust**' This can be confirmed at our Wellington Meeting on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2013. A small set of Trustees is required and suggestions are welcome.

*Allen Little*  
Steward

# On the Ball, on the Ball !



## **Walter K Little**

He made his All Blacks debut on the 8th October 1989 against British Columbia, when he was just 19 years old. His test debut followed on the 16th June 1990 against Scotland at Dunedin aged 20 years, the occasion marked with a try. Walter played 50 tests for the All Blacks in a career which spanned 9 years. His final test was on the 1st August 1998 against Australia in Christchurch aged 28 years. All up he played 75 matches for the All Blacks

## **An 'All Black' in the family !**

### **Walter Kenneth Little**

Born at Tokoroa, NZ in 1969, Walter is the fifth son of Edward and Rewa Little. He married Tracy in 1995, and together they have 5 children - Michael, Daniel, Joshua, Christopher and Alexandria. The Little's currently live in Auckland where Walter owns a busy Scaffolding business. He's still involved in the rugby scene, coaching at his former club Glenfield on Auckland's North Shore. Walter attended Hato Petera College on Auckland's North Shore as a boarder. In 1988 North Harbour Coach Peter Thorburn realised his potential and he was selected for the Harbour Representative team. Walter went on to play a record equalling 145 matches for Harbour and 43 matches in the Super 12 - mostly for the Chiefs. At the conclusion of the World Cup in 1991, Walter stayed on to play for Rugby in Warwickshire, England. The following off season he played for Rugby Roma in Rome, Italia where his first son Michael was born. In 2001 Walter and his family settled in Oizumi-machi, Gunma prefecture of Japan where he played rugby for the Sanyo Wildcats (now Panasonic Wildcats).

Walter exemplifies something deep within many of us Little's... an energised and enthusiastic sense of physical sports such as Rugby. In team play we see many of the qualities which would be required amongst the Border Reivers. In 1996 Bob Howitt released a book called "Midfield Liaison" the joint biographies of Frank Bunce and Walter Little.



The Book



Walter Little Harbour Sport Hall of Fame Award 2010

Walter's wife Tracy has a passion for genealogy and has traced his roots:-

Walter Little (NZ 1969 -)

Edward Little (NZ 1866 - Fiji 1927)

James Little (Fiji 1904 - Australia 1996)

Edward Little (NZ 1927 - )

Robert Little (Scotland 1844 - NZ 1893 )

Johnstone Little (Ireland?? 1798 - Scotland 1876)

**Tracy would love to hear from anyone connected to any of these people. Please email her at [5angels@orcon.net.nz](mailto:5angels@orcon.net.nz)**

# Albertlanders ... !



Fr Bruce Little



[www.albertland.co.nz](http://www.albertland.co.nz)

One of our new Australian members is **Rev Father Bruce Little** who has managed to gather information on his father's paternal ancestry right back to a kinsman named Lytle born in 1520 Yorkshire UK. This is his 12th great-grandfather. He has also discovered some 19 Little's arrived in New Zealand on the Matilda Wattenbach in 1862, and included Bruce's great-grandfather Francis William Little and his father, Henry George Little, plus his great grandfather and various other members of his family. They landed on the Kaipara Coast west of Wellsford. These settlers called themselves the Albertlanders, after Prince Albert, Queen Victoria's consort. Bruce understands these settlers to have been a "breakaway group from the Anglican Church and looking for a new world." However according to Bruce's research most of them moved inland to more fertile land and the settlement of Wellsford was founded. When he comes out to New Zealand in January Bruce will no doubt enjoy a visit to the Albertland and Districts Museum in Wellsford which is reported to house extensive records, memorabilia, artifacts, and other items relating to Albertland from the 1860's. Bruce has discovered that "Henry George Little was born on 4 May 1816 in England and died on 6 September 1902 in New Zealand. His son, Francis William Little was born October 1855 in Middlesex, England, and died on 16 April 1932, mostly likely either New Zealand or Australia" he said. We look forward to greeting Bruce at the **150th Annual Turakina Highland Games on Saturday 25th January 2014** and learning more about his connections at Wellsford.



## Families finding fascinating facts in Family History ~



**NZ Society of Genealogists Inc, kindly supplied these notes for Sprig Of Heather.**

There are many reasons why people are interested in their family history today. They may be searching for answers to questions and clarifying information the voracity of which has been lost with passing of the generations who have gone before. They may be pondering thoughts like "the land my granny farmed in Christchurch was given to my great-grandfather for fighting in the Māori Land Wars. Except he had been dead 20 years when those grants were made". Or "my grandfather was born in Halcombe, near Feilding. His mother was born in New Zealand of German immigrants; his father arrived from Denmark as an eight-year-old with his parents"! These are examples of what you can find out when you start looking at your family history - wars, exploding myths, secrets and mysteries, plus new-found skills in research.

From 2-4 August, NZSG organised another **Family History Fair** where the public could learn about searching for family history. There was an opportunity to hear world-class speakers at the Vodafone Events Centre in Manukau, Auckland. There is more information about this year's Family History Fair on line at [www.nzfamilyhistoryfair.org.nz](http://www.nzfamilyhistoryfair.org.nz). This year's Fair had a strong theme around websites, technology and the internet for beginners, who've dabbled but not taken it further. NZSG was on hand to offer expert advice and help with tricky roadblocks and brick walls.

This three day event proved most worthwhile for those able to visit the Family History Fair.

In all there were some 98 seminars and 26 speakers on topics ranging from the First World War Centenary office, a master class with Ancestry and digitising your family history, to how to be a modern genealogist, English parish registers, a beginner's guide to whakapapa, and Facebook for genealogists.

Five International guest speakers were featured including Brad Argent and Christine Clement from Ancestry in Australia, Cassie Mercer from Australia's Inside History magazine, Diane Loosle from FamilySearch in the USA, and Jo Appleby from the University of Leicester (UK) on finding Richard III. The fair also catered for youth at a morning session specially tailored for schools as part of the 2013 Vodafone Events Centre Schools Programme.

### **Why do people search out their family trees?**

Some people collect names, dates and documents to prove links, while others turn their research into family history narratives. They research identifiable facts from the past and bring the information into the present. Genealogy is also about brick walls and how to get over or around them.

"Not only do people disappear and reappear, they change names and countries, relatives pop up in odd places and a note on an online forum can help unravel a family mystery."

### **Where do you start?**

New Zealand doesn't keep its census data, so you can't track people as you can in other countries. But, there are ways - land deeds, military records, school registers, PapersPast, the search websites like Find My Past, Ancestry and Family Search, and the expertise of NZSG members who volunteer their time and experience.

For more information visit:-

**[www.genealogy.org.nz](http://www.genealogy.org.nz)**



# Meeting

**Saturday 30th November**

**Room 1, St Andrews Complex  
30 The Terrace, Wellington**

**1:30 PM**

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November is '**St Andrews Day**', Scotland's national day. St Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland, as well as several other countries including Greece, Romania, Russia and Ukraine. According to legend a monk called **Regulus** brought relics of St Andrew to Scotland where he was given land to build a church by a Pictish king. The settlement grew into the town of St Andrew's, where the cathedral became a place of religious pilgrimage and its university, founded in 1413 is the oldest in Scotland.



The Saltire, is based on the X-shaped cross on which St Andrew was crucified on 30 November, 60 AD. An ancient story tells how St Andrew's Cross was seen in the sky on the morning of a crucial battle in 832AD between the Picts and the Angles. The Picts were inspired by the symbol and were victorious in the battle.

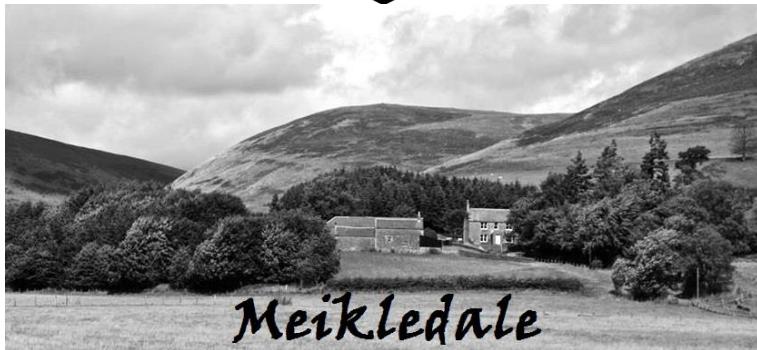


**The next 'Sprig Of Heather' will be our Christmas edition. If you have items for inclusion please send them no later than Monday December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2013**

## **ONNTACT**

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In the period 1296-1603, the Little's were one of the fighting clans of the West March, living close up to the border on the Scottish side. Over three centuries they shared with the Armstrongs and Beatties, the steep-sided dales immediately to the north and west of the present town of Langholm, Dumfriesshire. Little Laird of Meikledale, resided at the foot of the side of Meikledale Valley halfway up Ewesdale.