

## John LESSELS and Christian GRAY

### Chart 128-129

(Weblink LS Lessels Gray 1760 Scotland)

(Weblink to John's parents LS Lessels Watt about 1732 Scotland chart 256-257)

(Weblink to Christian's parents LS Gray Moyes about 1735 Scotland chart 258-259)

#### John LESSELS

B baptised 30 September 1733 Abbotshall Fife Scotland

D 13 or 15 April 1804 Abbotshall Fife Scotland

M [10] 29 August 1760 Abbotshall/Auchterderran Fife Scotland

#### Christian GRAY

B about 15 August 1736 Dysart Fife Scotland

D 12 July 1826 Abbotshall Fife Scotland

#### Children:

1. **John LESSELS** born 14 July 1761 Forbone Abbotshall Fife Scotland
2. Thomas LESSELS born 14 April 1763 Forbone Abbotshall Fife Scotland
3. Alexander LESSELS born 10 June 1765 Forbone Abbotshall Fife Scotland
4. Euphan LESSELS born 13 October 1768 Forbone Abbotshall Fife Scotland
5. Margaret LESSELS born 15 June 1771 Forbone Abbotshall Fife Scotland
6. Jannett Watt LESSELS born 04 September 1775 Forbone Abbotshall Fife Scotland
7. Jean Berry LESSELS born 11 July 1777 Forbone Abbotshall Fife Scotland

### The family history of John LESSELS and Christian GRAY

1733 September 30

John loving son to John LESSLES and Margaret WAT was baptised before the Congregation.

*(Reference Kirkcaldy Library Fife Scotland and FHC Index film 6900188 Abbotshall Fife OPR Scotland)*

By using the Scottish naming pattern for John's parents it would confirm that his parent's would have been John LESSELS and Margaret formerly WATT or BERRY. So the above baptism is correct.

A researcher stated that John LESSELS first married Isabel ARNOT and after her death he married Christian GRAY. I am not sure if this is correct but please refer to the information and research at the end of this document so you can judge for yourself.

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1736 August 15 - Christian GRAY

Thomas GRAY and Euphan MOYES had a daughter baptised called Christian  
Witnesses John GRAY and James MOYES

*(Reference FHCLDS microfilm 1040109 Dysart Fife Scotland OPR baptism records)*

By using the Scottish naming pattern for Christian's parents it would confirm that her parent's would have been Thomas and Euphan GRAY. So the above baptism is correct.

A researcher in England received information from a researcher in Australia who said Christian's parents were Robert GRAY and Christian BERRY and she was christened in Kilconquhar on the 15 August 1736.

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John LESSELS – Christ. GRAY

John LESSELS in Abbotshall and Christian GRAY here were 1<sup>st</sup> proclaimed for marriage August 10 1760 (Auchterderran)

*(Reference: FHC microfilm 1040148 Auchterderran Fife Scotland Old Parish Registers 1664-1854)*

1760 John LESSLES in this parish and Christian GRAY in the parish of Auchterderran contracted 7<sup>th</sup> August and married 29 August (Abbotshall)

*(Reference: FHC microfilm 1040142 Abbotshall Fife Scotland Old Parish Registers 1650-1860)*

Information received from another researcher recorded the marriage banns in Abbotshall dated 20 June 1760 for John LESSELS and Christian GRAY but I have been unable to confirm these details.

1761 LESSELLS

John LESSELLS and Christian GRAY in Torbane had a son born the 14<sup>th</sup> and baptised the 19<sup>th</sup> July 1761 named **John**

Witnesses Thomas GRAY and James HEPBURN

*(Reference: FHC microfilm 1040142 Abbotshall Fife Scotland [1765] Old Parish Registers 1650-1860)*

1763 LESSELLS

John LESSELLS and Christian GRAY in Torbane had a son born the 14<sup>th</sup> and baptised the 19<sup>th</sup> of April 1763 named **Thomas**

Witnesses Thomas GRAY and James HEPBURN (sic).

*(Reference: FHC microfilm 1040142 Abbotshall Fife Scotland [1765] Old Parish Registers 1650-1860)*

1765 LESSELLS

John LESSELLS and Christian GRAY in Torbane had a son born the 10<sup>th</sup> and baptised on the 14<sup>th</sup> June [1765] named **Alexander**

Witnesses Thomas GRAY and James HEPBURN (sic).

*(Reference: FHC microfilm 1040142 Abbotshall Fife Scotland Old Parish Registers 1650-1860)*

1768 LESSELLS

John LESSELLS and Christian GRAY in Torbane had a daughter born the 13<sup>th</sup> and baptised the 18<sup>th</sup> October 1768 named **Euphan**.

Witnesses Alex MAULE and Jas HEPBURN.

*(Reference: FHC microfilm 1040142 Abbotshall Fife Scotland [1769] Old Parish Registers 1650-1860)*

“In 1770 a John LESSELS appears as the owner of this property **Priestleys** where he carried on a business as an Architect, Builder, Engineer, and agricultural implement maker, which is a combination of businesses that was common in the rural districts of Scotland last century, and had a good business.”

*(Reference RCAHMS Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland 'Architects' File for John LESSELS "A Brief Account of the Ancient Family of LESSELS in Fifehire)*

I have a map/plan dated June 1757 of the Raith, Ballbarton, Ballwiery & Garden the property of Robert FERGUSSON. Marked on the map/plan is the land named **Priestlaw** [where the priest lies] where John LESSELS and his family dwelled.

*(Reference map/plan RHP 1710 National Archives of Scotland of Raith, Ballbarton, Ballwiery & Garden)*

1771 LESSELLS

John LESSELLS and Christian GRAY in Torbane had a daughter born the 15<sup>th</sup> and baptised the 23 of June named **Margaret**

Witnesses George WYLLIE and Alexander MAULE.

*(Reference: FHC microfilm 1040142 Abbotshall Fife Scotland Old Parish Registers 1650-1860)*

I was informed that a LESSELS child was buried 17 June 1771 in Abbotshall Fife **SEARCH** (Reference FHC LDS microfilm Abbotshall Fife Scotland OPR burials

1775 LESSELLS

John LESSELS and Christian GRAY of Torbane had a daughter born the 04<sup>th</sup> and baptised the 10<sup>th</sup> of September [1775] named **Jannet Watt**.

Witnesses John CHALMERS and James GRUB/GREIG (sic).

(Reference: FHC microfilm 1040142 Abbotshall Fife Scotland Old Parish Registers 1650-1860)

#### 1777 LESSELS

John LESSELS and Christian GRAY in Torbane had a Daughter born the 11<sup>th</sup> baptised the 20<sup>th</sup> July [1777] named **Jean Berry**

Witnesses John KER and James GRUB (sic).

(Reference: FHC microfilm 1040142 Abbotshall Fife Scotland Old Parish Registers 1650-1860)

“In the course of time he took his eldest son John into partnership but finding the cares of this business too heavy for him he relinquished the business entirely to his son in 1783, and accepted from Robert Ferguson of Raith the position of Master of Wright or Clerk of Works on Raith Estate as this work was less laborious merely entailing the duty of superintending the workman in the Estate. He died at an advanced age.”

(Reference RCAHMS Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland 'Architects' File for John LESSELS "A Brief Account of the Ancient Family of LESSELS in Fifeshire)

John LESSELS passed away on 15 April 1804 aged 73 years at Abbotshall Fife Scotland.

(Reference RCAHMS Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland 'Architects' File for John LESSELS "A Brief Account of the Ancient Family of LESSELS in Fifeshire)

Christian LESSELS passed away on 12 July 1826 aged 90 years in Abbotshall Fife Scotland.

(Reference RCAHMS Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland 'Architects' File for John LESSELS "A Brief Account of the Ancient Family of LESSELS in Fifeshire)

#### Abbotshall Churchyard Kirkcaldy Fife Scotland

(On top)

J L ♥ C G;

John LESSELS Priestlies 13.4.1804 aged 72 Wife Christian GRAY  
12-12-1826 aged 90

(West side)

1810 J L ♥ M C;

(East side)

I L ♥ M W

(This would have originally read J L ♥ M W)

(Reference National Library Wellington Monumental Inscriptions Index for Abbotshall Churchyard Kirkcaldy Fife Scotland item 171)

Christian GRAY has the initials C.G and is referred to in LESSELS chart 128-129

Mary CAIRNIE has the initials M.C and is referred to in LESSELS chart 64-65

Margaret WATT has the initials M W and is referred to in LESSELS chart 256-257

On a tombstone on Abbotshall Churchyard appears the following inscription respecting the foregoing

“To the memory of John LESSELS Priestlies who died April 15<sup>th</sup> 1804 aged 73 years. Also his wife Christian Gray, who died 12<sup>th</sup> July 1826, aged 90 years”

On the top of the tombstone are the letters J.L. ♥ C.C. (but this should be C G)

(Reference RCAHMS Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland 'Architects' File for John LESSELS "A Brief Account of the Ancient Family of LESSELS in Fifeshire)

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### John & Christian LESSELS their children and descendants

**1- John LESSELS** born 14 July 1761 Forbone Abbotshall Fife Scotland died 12 August 1826 Scotland married 24 May 1783 Dysart Fife Scotland **Mary CAIRNIE refer chart 64-65**

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**2- Thomas LESSELS** born 14 April 1763 Forbone Abbotshall Fife Scotland

1763 LESSELLS

John LESSELLS and Christian GRAY in Forbone had a son born the 14<sup>th</sup> and baptised the 19<sup>th</sup> of April 1763 named Thomas

Witnesses Thomas GRAY and James HEPBURN (sic).

*(Reference: FHC microfilm 1040142 Abbotshall Fife Scotland [1765] Old Parish Registers 1650-1860)*

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**3- Alexander LESSELS** Born 10 June 1765 Forbone Abbotshall Fife Scotland married 16 August 1791 Scotland Janet HUNTER

3-1- Ann LESSELS born 7 September 1792 Linktown Abbotshall Fife

3-2- John LESSELS born 7 April 1794 Linktown Abbotshall Fife

1765 LESSELLS

John LESSELLS and Christian GRAY in Forbone had a son born the 10<sup>th</sup> and baptised on the 14<sup>th</sup> June [1765] named Alexander

Witnesses Thomas GRAY and James HEPBURN (sic).

*(Reference: FHC microfilm 1040142 Abbotshall Fife Scotland Old Parish Registers 1650-1860)*

Alexander LESSELS and Janet HUNTER married 16 August 1791 Scotland

**SEARCH** (Reference LDS FHC microfilm Kirkcaldy Fife Scotland OPR marriage banns)

1792 Alexander LESSLIE and Janet HUNTER in Linktown had a child born September 7<sup>th</sup> baptised the 16<sup>th</sup> name Ann

*(Reference Kirkcaldy Library Fife Scotland)*

1794 Alexander LESSELS and Janet HUNTER in Linktown had a child born April 7<sup>th</sup> baptised the 13<sup>th</sup> name John

*(Reference Kirkcaldy Library Fife Scotland)*

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**4- Euphan LESSELS** born 13 October 1768 Forbone Abbotshall Fife Scotland married 29 June 1797 Scotland George SAMSON

1768 LESSELLS

John LESSELLS and Christian GRAY in Forbone had a daughter born the 13<sup>th</sup> and baptised the 18<sup>th</sup> October 1768 named Euphan.

Witnesses Alex MAULLE (sic) and Jas HEPBURN.

*(Reference: FHC microfilm 1040142 Abbotshall Fife Scotland [1769] Old Parish Registers 1650-1860)*

Euphan LESSELS and George SAMSON married 29 June 1797

**SEARCH** (Reference LDS FHC microfilm Kirkcaldy Fife Scotland OPR marriage banns)

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**5- Margaret LESSELS** born 15 JUN 1771 Forbone Abbotshall Fife Scotland died 25 June 1828 Scotland

1771 LESSELLS

John LESSELLS and Christian GRAY in Forbone had a daughter born the 15<sup>th</sup> and baptised the 23 of June named Margaret

Witnesses George GYLLIE/ALYLLIE (sic) and Alexander MAULE.

(Reference: FHC microfilm 1040142 Abbotshall Fife Scotland Old Parish Registers 1650-1860)

Margaret died 25 June 1828

**SEARCH** (Reference LDS FHC microfilm Kirkcaldy Fife Scotland OPR burials)  
Information given to me by another researcher but with no reference

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**6- Jannett Watt LESSELLS** born 04 September 1775 Forbone Abbotshall Fife Scotland  
married 09 July 1795 Scotland James CHRISTIE

1775 LESSELLS

John LESSELLS and Christian GRAY of Forbone had a daughter born the 04<sup>th</sup> and baptised the 10<sup>th</sup> of September [1775] named Jannet Watt.

Witnesses John CHALMERS and James GRUBS/GREIG (sic).

(Reference: FHC microfilm 1040142 Abbotshall Fife Scotland Old Parish Registers 1650-1860)

Jannett Watt LESSELLS and James CHRISTIE married 09 July 1795 Scotland

**SEARCH** (Reference LDS FHC microfilm Kirkcaldy Fife Scotland OPR marriage banns)

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**7- Jean Berry LESSELLS** born 11 July 1777 Forbone Abbotshall Fife Scotland

1777 LESSELLS

John LESSELLS and Christian GRAY in Forbone had a daughter born the 11<sup>th</sup> baptised the 20<sup>th</sup> July [1777] named Jean Berry

Witnesses John KER and James GOUBS (sic).

(Reference: FHC microfilm 1040142 Abbotshall Fife Scotland Old Parish Registers 1650-1860)

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### John LESSELLS and Isabel ARNOT

**John LESSELLS**

B Scotland

D Scotland

M 21 September 1746 Auchterderran Fife Scotland

**Isabel ARNOT**

B Scotland

D 19 March 1756 or 1758 Scotland

**Children:**

1-Janet LESSELLS born about 16 February 1753 Kirkcaldy Fife Scotland

2-James LESSELLS born about 25 April 1755 Kirkcaldy Fife Scotland

3-Henry LESSELLS (twin) born about 01 November 1757 Kirkcaldy Fife Scotland

4-Arnot LESSELLS (twin) born about 01 November 1757 Kirkcaldy Fife Scotland

The family history of  
John LESSELLS and Isabel ARNOT

Some researchers state that our John LESSELS 1<sup>st</sup> married Isabel ARNOT and when Isabel died John married Christian GRAY. The Scottish naming pattern for this John does not match as the first male born was named James not John.

The twins Henry and Arnot were born and baptised in 1757. The 2 dates I was given for Isabel's death was 1756 and 1758 that is between the birth dates of the twins. Our John LESSELS married Christian GRAY in 1760, which was actually after the death date of Isabel. It was common for widowers to marry soon after the death of a wife so perhaps the story is correct but then the Scottish naming pattern does not match. Further research will have to be undertaken to prove or disprove the story.

John LESSELS and Isabel ARNOT married 21 September 1746 Auchterderran Fife Scotland.

(Reference Kirkcaldy Library Fife Scotland records)

1753 Janet loving daughter to John LESSELS and Isabell ARNOTT his spouse was born February 16<sup>th</sup> 1753 and baptised the 25<sup>th</sup> said month before the Congregation by Mr Gib

(Reference Kirkcaldy Library Fife Scotland records)

1755 John LESSELS and Isobel ARNOT his wife had their son James born April Monday 21<sup>st</sup> and baptised SABB thereafter

(Reference Kirkcaldy Library Fife Scotland records)

1757 John LESSELS and Isobel ARNOT had twins born 1<sup>st</sup> November baptised 6<sup>th</sup> Henry and Arnot.

(Reference Kirkcaldy Library Fife Scotland records)

Isabel died 19 March 1756/58

**SEARCH** (Reference FHC LDS microfilm Scottish OPR burial records)

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## John and Isabel LESSELS their children and descendants

### **1-Janet LESSELS** born about 16 February 1753 Fife

1753 Janet loving daughter to John LESSELS and Isabell ARNOTT his spouse was born February 16<sup>th</sup> 1753 and baptised the 25<sup>th</sup> said month before the Congregation by Mr Gib

(Reference Kirkcaldy Library Fife Scotland records)

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### **2-James LESSELS** born about 25 April 1755 Fife

1755 John LESSELS and Isobel ARNOT his wife had their son James born April Monday 21<sup>st</sup> and baptised SABB thereafter

(Reference Kirkcaldy Library Fife Scotland records)

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### **3-Henry LESSELS** (twin) born about 01 November 1757 died married 01 April 1785 Fife Scotland Jean DUNCAN born died

3-1- John LESSELS born/baptised 15 January 1786 Abbotshall Fife Scotland

3-2- Robert LESSELS born/baptised 07 October 1787 Abbotshall Fife Scotland

3-3- Janet LESSELS born 14 June 1789 Chapel Abbotshall Kirkcaldy

3-4- John LESSELS born 3 February 1791 Chapel Abbotshall Kirkcaldy

3-5- Henry LESSELS born 7 November 1792 Chapel Abbotshall Kirkcaldy

3-6- Isobel LESSELS born 20 July 1794 Chapel Abbotshall Kirkcaldy

- 3-7- Jean LESSELS born 10 June 1796 Chapel Abbotshall Kirkcaldy  
3-8- Agnes LESSELS born/baptised 31 December 1802 Abbotshall Fife Scotland  
3-9- Katherine Mudie [sic] LESSELS born/baptised 09 June 1805 Abbotshall Fife Scotland  
3-10- Margaret Mudie [sic] LESSELS born/baptised 23 November 1806 Abbotshall Fife Scotland

1757 John LESSLES and Isobel ARNOT had twins born 1<sup>st</sup> November baptised 6<sup>th</sup> Henry and Arnot.  
(Reference Kirkcaldy Library Fife Scotland records)

Henry LESSELS and Jean DUNCAN married 01 April 1785 Fife Scotland  
**SEARCH** (Reference FHC LDS microfilm Scottish OPR marriage banns records)

Henry LESSELS and Jean DUNCAN issue to be confirmed

- John LESSELS born 15 January 1786 Abbotshall Fife Scotland
- Robert LESSELS born 07 October 1787 Abbotshall Fife Scotland
- Agnes LESSELS born 31 December 1802 Abbotshall Fife Scotland
- Katherine Mudie [sic] LESSELS born 09 June 1805 Abbotshall Fife Scotland
- Margaret Mudie [sic] LESSELS born 23 November 1806 Abbotshall Fife Scotland

**SEARCH** (Reference FHC LDS microfilm Scottish OPR baptism records)

1789 Henry LESSELS and Jean DUNCAN in Chaple had a child born June 14 Baptised the 21<sup>st</sup> named Janet. Witnesses

1791 Henry LESELS and Jean DUNCAN in Chapel had a child born February 3<sup>rd</sup> baptised the 13<sup>th</sup> name John

1792 Henry LESSELS and Jean DUNCAN in Chapple had a child born November 7<sup>th</sup> baptised 11<sup>th</sup> named Henry

1794 Henry LESSLIE and Jean DUNCAN in Chaple had a child born July 20<sup>th</sup> baptised the 27<sup>th</sup> name Isobel

1796 Henry LESSLY and Jean DUNCAN in Chaple had a child born June 10<sup>th</sup> baptised the 19<sup>th</sup> name Jean

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**4-Arnot LESSELS** (twin) born about 01 November 1757 died married Helen MILLION/MULLIONS

1757 John LESSLES and Isobel ARNOT had twins born 1<sup>st</sup> November baptised 6<sup>th</sup> Henry and Arnot.  
(Reference Kirkcaldy Library Fife Scotland records)

Arnot LESSELS married Helen (Nelly) MILLION / MULLIONS  
**SEARCH** (Reference FHC LDS microfilm Scottish OPR marriage banns records)

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### LESSELS miscellaneous information

**SEARCH** for additional details about the John & Christian's LESSELS seven children in the 1841 census for Abbotshall Fife Scotland and Scottish OPR records.

Christian LESSELS married Robert CARSTAIRS born about 1773 Scotland.  
(Reference National Library of NZ Ancestry.com family tree link to researcher)

The Tenth book beginning the eight December 1752-1752

Sasines John LESSLY and Spouse = 125

# No LESSELS recorded

(Reference FHC microfilm 298516 Index of sasines Kirkcaldy 1595-1763 (spr 678 Sasines)

FHC Microfiche	Place and years indexed	Index to Films for
6900188	Abbotshall Fife Scotland 1692-1750	Birth & Christenings
6900684	Abbotshall Fife Scotland 1650-1855	Marriages
6900784	Kirkcaldy Fife Scotland 1614-1854	Birth & Christenings
6901904	Kirkcaldy Fife Scotland 1615-1867	Marriages
6900568	Kinghorn Fife Scotland 1577-1855	Birth & Christenings
6900569	Kinghorn Fife Scotland 1689-1854	Marriages
Please note that I have sets of the above microfiche but I am still copying and transcribing the relative information with the surname LESSELS.		

### LESSELS enquiries addresses and information

Name	Address	Relationship
Living POWER	Canada	John
1- Andrew LESSELS married Elizabeth MOORHEAD 14 November 1676 Abbotshall Fife Scotland		
1-1- John LESSELS born 1688 Abbotshall Fife Scotland married Geils HENDERSON born 1688 Kinglassie Fife Scotland		
1-1-1- <b>John LESSELS</b> born 1704 Fife Scotland married <b>Margaret WATT</b> born 1714 Fife Scotland		
1-1-1-1- John LESELS born 1733 Abbotshall Fife Scotland married Christian GRAY born 1736 Dysart Fife Scotland		
1-1-1-1-1- John LESSELS born 1761 Abbotshall Fife Scotland married Mary CAIRNIE born 1758 Marckinch Fife Scotland		
1-1-1-1-1-1- John LESSELS born 1784 Abbotshall Fife Scotland married Elizabeth HUBBACK born Monkwearmouth Co Durham England		
<u>Error in this tree as John LESSELS married Elizabeth Hamilton MURRAY</u>		
1-1-1-1-1-1-1- Robert MACKEY born 1810 South Shields Co Durham England married Mary LASCELLS born 1812 Sunderland Co Durham England		
1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1- Robert B MACKEY born 1844 South Shields Co Durham England married Catherine O'DONOHUE born 1848 Co Kerry Ireland		
1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1- Robert A MACKEY born 1878 Valentia Co Kerry Ireland married Teresa GATT born 1877 Malta		
1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1- Robert A MACKEY born 1906 Yap married Blanche O'SHEA born 1913 New York USA		
1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1- Living POWER Canada		
1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1- Living POWER Canada		