

SCOTS GUARDS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER



That some no longer serve with the colours does not matter,
What does matter is that we are all of us Scots Guardsmen.
Bound together in the Queen's service until we die by a chain,
the links of which are invisible but which are as strong as steel:
Constantly striving, in all that we do, to maintain the high traditions
of loyalty and devotion to duty upon which the Scots Guards are founded

General Sir Michael Gow GCB

Palace of Holyrood 1965

Neil Crockett
Secretary & Editor

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Front Page Photograph:

Preparations continue for the highlight of the ceremonial season with ongoing rehearsals taking place at Pirbright. Guard Mounts from Horse Guards took place on 3 dates in late May and Reviews take place on the two Saturdays preceding the Birthday Parade.

The King's Birthday Parade takes place on Saturday 15 June when Number 9 Company troop the King's Colour of 2nd Battalion Irish Guards.

F Company are No 3 Guard, the Scots Guards Band will be spinning wheels and proving good music as part of the Massed Bands. G Company will be on parade as Streetliners.

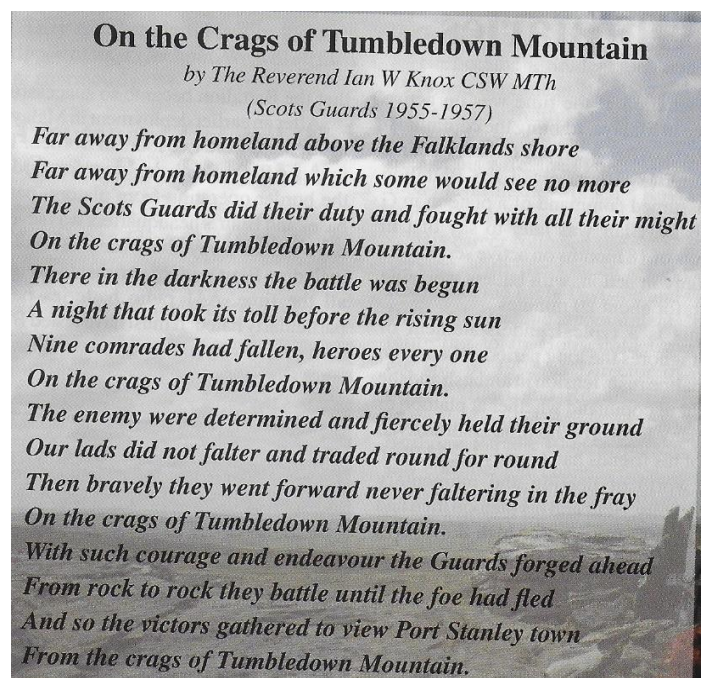
Good luck to all Scots Guardsmen and we look forward to the presence of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh on parade as our Colonel.

WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING JUNE IN CONFLICTS SINCE 1945

2nd Bn Scots Guards, Malaya Emergency 1948 – 51
Captain MG Bax Killed 11 June 1950

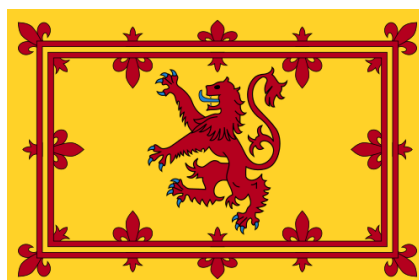
2nd Lieutenant MJ Morrice Killed 11 June 1950

2nd Bn Scots Guards , Falkland Islands 1982



Left: The Tumbledown Veterans & Families Association Memorial plaque under the shadows of Blackpool War Memorial

Right: A poem written by the late Rev'd Ian Knox who served in the Regiment as a National Serviceman, later he was a Minister of a church in Lochgelly and a member of the SGA Fife Branch.



DEATHS

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Third Guards Club / Dundee and Angus Branch

Lieutenant DJH (Jock) Gow Died 7 May 2024. Aged 91. Lived Angus. Served as a National Service officer from July 1951 with 2SG in BAOR to January 1954.

Dundee & Angus Branch

Gdsm Steven Deasley Died 11 May 2024. Lived USA. Served 2SG 1976 – 1982 Munster & Chelsea Bks.

Fife

23510679 Sgt John Horsburgh Died 17 April 2024. Aged 84. Lived Scotlandwell, Perth & Kinross. Probably best known as a Gds Depot Instructor in the mid 1960s. Sgt F Company, late 1960s.

24185705 LSgt James McCulloch Died 18 May 2024. Lived Hereford. Enlisted in Jnr Gdsm Coy. Served C Coy, 1SG from Windsor 1972 & Mortar Pltn until late 1980s. Funeral 14 June 2024 1615hrs at Hereford Crematorium.

Tumbledown Veterans & Families Association

Gdsm Freddie Collins Died 29 April 2024. Lived East Lothian. Served 22 years 2SG Mortar Pltn, F Coy including Falkland Islands 1982.

Phil Grundy Died 7 May 2024. Served 2SG G Coy & Anti Tank Pltn, F Coy including Falkland Islands 1982

WOs & Sgts Past and Present Association

24048518 CSgt Les Lamont Died 1 May 2024 Lived Darlington. Served Jnr Gdsm Coy 1965. Most of the remainder of his service was 1SG Sigs Pltn from Edinburgh 1967 to Pirbright 1987. S Coy British Honduras 1971 and Recruiting Sgt ACIO Darlington 1978 – 79. Recruiting ACIO Leicester 1988.

NON ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

24313589 LCpl Robert Lawrence Died 2 May 2024. Aged 68. Lived Mauchline, East Ayrshire. Served LF 1SG Storeman & Coy Clerk mid 1970s, Munster to early 1980s Hong Kong inc Families Office Clerk.

24631741 Sgt John Black Died 25 April 2024. Aged 58. Lived Whitefield, Manchester. Served May 1982 to November 1995 RF 2SG and Battalion Shooting Team.

SCOTS GUARDS ASSOCIATION NEWS

SGA Highlands & Islands Branch

Our next branch meeting is on Wednesday 5th June in the Nairn Legion. A bit of car sharing would help to maximise attendance.

SGA Glasgow Branch

The next regular branch meeting will take place in the Glasgow Art Club on Monday 3 June, starting at 7.30 pm. All Scots Guards in the Glasgow area (serving and retired) are very welcome to attend. A buffet and few drinks will be served after the official business is concluded.

The Glasgow Branch summer BBQ/Garden Party will take place at Windyhills, Kilmalcolm on Saturday 15 June.

SGA Fife Branch

The Branch will hold a meeting at the CISWO, Glenrothes on Sunday 23 June at 1300hrs.

SGA Preston Branch

The Branch held a “Family Fun Day at the Races” at the RBL Club Lostock Hall which raised £801.00 for St Catherine’s Hospice. A great effort from Jim Killeen & the team!



Jim Killeen @ The Races ~ It's thirsty work!



St Catherine's Hospice say 'Many Thanks'

FORECAST OF EVENTS UNTIL SEPTEMBER 2024

JUNE

- Sat 1 The Major General's Review, King's Birthday Parade.
- Thurs 6 D-Day 80 ~ Concert, Usher Hall, Edinburgh.
- Sat 8 The Colonel's Review, King's Birthday Parade.
- Sat 15 The King's Birthday Parade ~ 9 Company Irish Guards.
- Sat 15 SGA Glasgow Garden Party / Summer BBQ ~ Windyhills, Kilmalcolm
- W/E 14 – 17 Tumbledown Veterans & Families Association ~ Blackpool Weekend.
- W/E 21 – 22 Scots Guards Club 100th Anniversary Event.
- Sat 22 Armed Forces Day, Edinburgh. Note this year the route will return to a parade from Charlotte Square via George Street to St Andrews Square. Form up 1000hrs more details to follow.
- Sat 22 – 5 July UK Armed Forces Day ~ Watch Out for your local events.

AUGUST

- Sun 18 Gdsm James Reynolds DCM name added to Bridge of Weir War Memorial.
Maj Gen Alastair Bruce will attend.

SEPTEMBER

- W/E 13 – 14 Scots Guards Club 100th Anniversary Event.
- Sat 21 SGA Clay Pigeon Shooting Competition (Swinton Quaich) ~ Northallerton, North Yorkshire.
- Sat 21 Scots Guards WOs & Sgts Past and Present Association ~ Annual Dinner, Somme Barracks, Catterick.

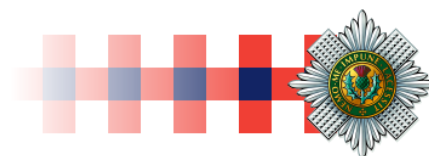
SCOTS GUARDS ASSOCIATION

18 REGIONAL BRANCHES ACROSS THE UK

1 BRANCH IN AUSTRALIA - 1 BRANCH IN NORTH AMERICA

| BRANCH | SECRETARY | EMAIL | TELEPHONE |
|----------------------------------|------------------|--|----------------------|
| SGA Secretary | Neil Crockett | sga@scotsguards.org | 01383 721530 |
| Asst SGA Secretary | RQMS James Munro | James.Munro827@mod.gov.uk | Via 0207 414 3324 |
| | | | |
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| Durham & Yorkshire | WO2 Mark Wall | Mark.Wall442@mod.gov.uk | 07535 029061 |
| Edinburgh & The Lothians | Danny Minto | e.lsga@yahoo.co.uk | 07758 193362 |
| Fife | Neil Crockett | neil.crockett@btopenworld.com | 01383 721530 |
| Glasgow | Colin Downie | cdownie1@icloud.com | 07956 526283 |
| Highlands & Islands | Rod Davidson | roderick.davidson@hotmail.co.uk | 07532 089535 |
| London | TBA | Contact via SGA Secretary | |
| Manchester | David Courtney | dgs.courtney@live.com | 07785 224678 |
| Merseyside | TBA | Contact via SGA Secretary | |
| Pipers | Dougie Watson | sgpipersbranchsecy@gmail.com | 07515 263716 |
| Preston | Michael Nutter | mn3943@hotmail.co.uk | 07976 909001 |
| Surrey | Andrew McKeand | amckeand@virginmedia.com | 07544 727019 |
| Tumbledown Vets & Fams Assoc | Heather McGrath | Jmhmcgrath72@gmail.com | 07522 500365 |
| Malaya & Borneo Veterans | Sandy Low | sandy.low57@gmail.com | 01723 892049 |
| SGA Pipes & Drums (Scotland) | Iain Lowther | iain-lowther68@outlook.com | 07484 637188 |

GIVE YOUR CLOSEST BRANCH A CALL & ASK ABOUT JOINING IN WITH BRANCH ACTIVITIES. MEET FRIENDS FROM YOUR SERVICE & MAKE NEW FRIENDS FROM ACROSS THE REGIMENTAL FAMILY.



SUPPORT EDINBURGH ARMED FORCES DAY ~ SATURDAY 22 JUNE 2024



Form up at Charlotte Square~ 1000hrs - Dress: Beret, Medals in wear, HDiv Tie

Parade Steps Off ~ 1030hrs - Route Via George Street to St Andrew Square.

The Lord Provost will take the salute at the Assembly Rooms.

In St Andrew Square there will be bands playing and other entertainment.

There will an enclosed bar area and refreshments.

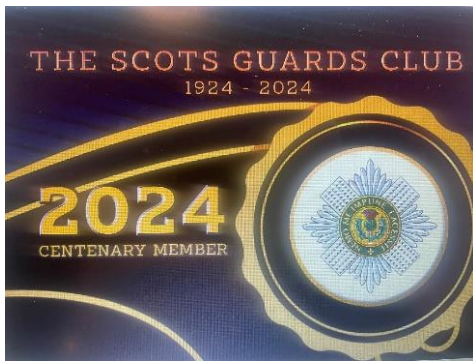
Note: After the close of the formal Armed Forces Day event in St Andrew Square the Scots Guards Club will be available as part of its first Centenary Open Weekend.

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**Across the UK there are Armed Forces Day events. Most take place between 22 June and 5 July check your local press for detail.**

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SCOTS GUARDS CLUB ~ CENTENARY YEAR

The summer is upon us and we look forward to the long days ahead where many of you can enjoy sitting out the back in the sunshine! A big shout out to our own George Smith who has been working hard in recent days to ensure that the garden is clean and tidy for your delight and delectation. Thanks go also to Brian Harris for his work this year, as every year, in ensuring the back garden plants are in great shape.

We are having two Centenary open weekends which are open to all and we hope that many of you will make it along to celebrate. The Club will be suitably decorated to mark the occasion, drinks will be discounted over the weekend, the barbeque will be fired up, live music and general fun and games so do get the dates in your diaries.

Friday 21 June through 'til close of play on the Sunday and again on **Friday 13 September** continuing over the weekend. For the second weekend there is a special invitation extended to former and serving Scots Guardsmen and their families to help honour the proud regimental history of the Club. Over this September weekend, there will also be an art display of Guards related paintings by the artist and friend of the Club, Duncan Brown.

On the military theme, the Club plays host to a special event on the afternoon of 6th July which will see a networking event for female veterans of the Armed Forces, organised by our friends at the Lothians Veterans Centre and which is open to all women who have served. We will share the link in the next few days on facebook or details can be obtained by contacting the Lothian Veterans Centre themselves or through the Club.

Our great value lunches continue to be very popular and we will mix the menu up a bit over the summer with some new offerings. Our bar prices also provide fantastic value to members who receive their discount. Please pop in if you are in town.

The Club is thriving thanks to the support of all those who use it and who support it through their membership and we look forward to seeing many of you over the summer.

As ever, all the best from all the Team

SCOTS GUARDS MEMORIAL PROJECT

A reminder that the Scots Guards Memorial Project is live on the Scots Guards website <https://scotsguards.org/history/the-memorial-project/#>, it is fairly easy to use. As part of the work of the Regimental Historical Committee the project was tasked with setting up a computer database to record memorials [across the World that have been constructed to remember Scots Guardsmen in both war and peace](#). To date we currently have 380 Memorials listed and 927 Scots Guardsmen.

We are looking for:

- Large or small memorials to single Scots Guardsmen, detachments or Battalions, from times long past until the present day.
- The memorial could be anything from plaques to stained glass windows in churches, to trees of remembrance, in fact anything which in the respectful memory of our officers or Guardsmen.
- The names of Scots Guardsmen killed and listed on local town or village war memorials.
- Headstones of graves in UK or abroad which record service in the Scots Guards, but please not those men buried in Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cemeteries because they are listed comprehensively by that organisation.

As a reminder please send any information with photographs that you find to Michael Campbell-Lamerton
Michael@hallestate.co.uk

T: 07920 725572

While you are out on your travels across the UK and beyond keep a look out for memorials to Scots Guardsmen.

FILLING THE INFORMATION GAPS IN THE WHAT, WHY AND WHEN ~ WELFARE SUPPORT & BENEVOLENCE

Fellow Scots Guardsmen,

The message of what we provide as a Regiment in the way of welfare to Scots Guardsmen, past and present, including their families who are in need, has not reached all areas of our community. This note is intended to fill the information gaps in the What, Why and when regarding welfare support and benevolence.

There are two primary points of contact for welfare in the Scots Guards, they are:

- **The Unit Welfare Officer (UWO).** He and his small team deal with all serving personnel and their families. The UWO duty mobile is 0777 324 0200.
- **The Regimental Welfare & Finance Officer (RW&FO).** I deal with all those who no longer serve and their families, my contact details are:
 - E Mail - finance@scotsguards.org
 - Mobile - 0300 154 0159 (If I don't answer then leave a message and a contact number on my answer machine and I will call you back)

Today, we are registered with, and follow the statement of recommended practice required by the following organisations:

- **Companies House.**
- **Charity Commission of England and Wales.**
- **The Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator.**

We do this by using independent auditors to prepare detailed accounts showing who we are, what we do and how we deliver benevolence support to the Scots Guards family. In addition, we work alongside COBSEO who group all the military charities together and provide an effective IT platform for us all to communicate in a safe and secure environment.

The following agencies, Soldiers, Sailors, Airman and Families association (SSAFA), The Royal British Legion (TRBL) and Poppy Scotland (PS) provide our front-line case workers, they are extremely professional in what they do, their knowledge of the benefit system and finding routes for support through many broken areas within the community are amazing.

It is worthy of note that the basic principle applied to all cases presented is do they need it, or just want it. Those in need will be supported by our front-line case workers, and to ensure that we maintain within the Law, strict procedures are followed. Welfare support is not easy and short cuts lead to mistakes when practices are ignored or curtailed. The provision of quick fixes of cash, seldom addresses the problem and it is remiss of me not to provide a platform for further discussions and support to take place. One of the many exam questions proposed recently was "will the Scots Guards pay for transport to funerals". The quick response to this depends on the following:

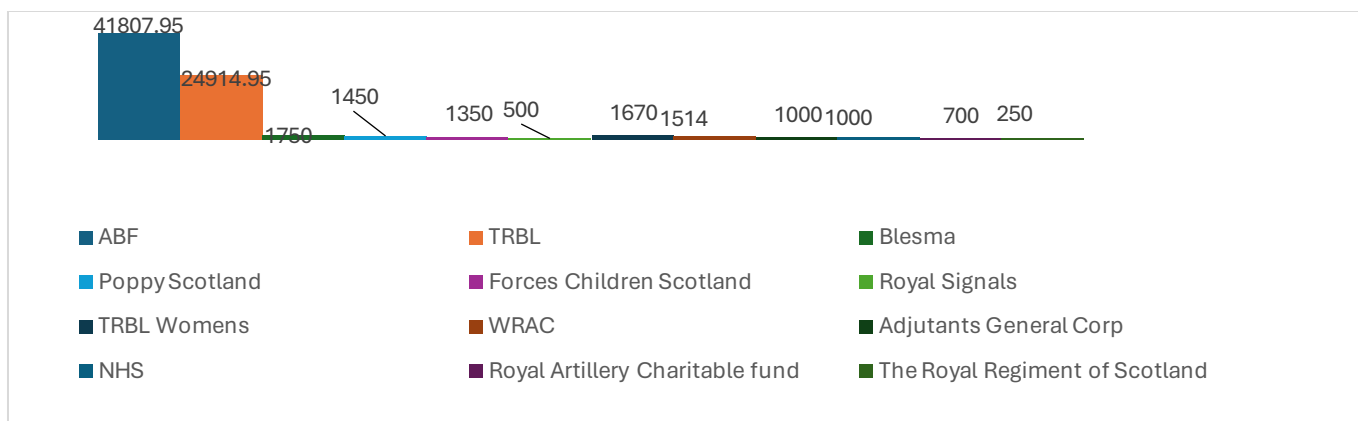
- **If this is a need,** then time must be allowed for a nominated case worker to assess and discuss the requirement in a safe and comfortable environment. There may be other issues not identified initially that are affecting their current position.
- **Urgent Cases,** where case workers will hinder the immediate position are dealt directly by myself.
- **If this is a want,** then appropriate advice will be offered.

The question of what we provide as evidence for benevolence support can be found from the below report, which is briefed in detail at the Scots Guards Association Annual General Meeting, it also appears in the annual Regimental Magazine and the Scots Guards Association Newsletter:

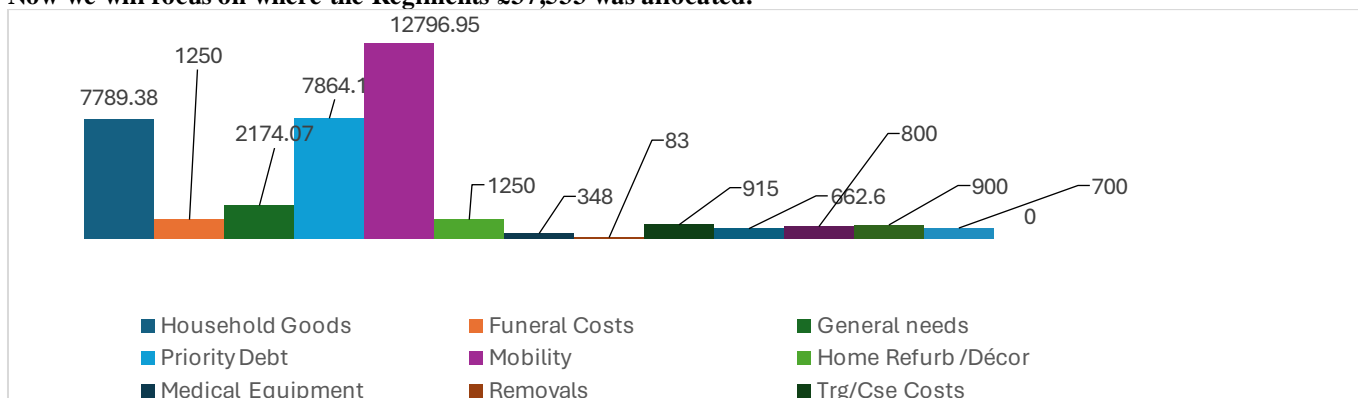
Welfare report for the year ending 31st March 2024.

This year we have provided benevolence grants to 72 Scots Guardsmen and their families totalling £115,440, with the exception of the previous year which included the winter fuel grant to all our Married LCpls and Gdsm is slightly above the 5-year average. The charity has given grants to the sum of £37,533.1 and sought assistance from 12 other charities who generously gave £77,906.9 in grants.

Let's look at the breakdown of the £77,906.9 provided from the 12 other charities:



Now we will focus on where the Regiments £37,533 was allocated:



Breakdown of grants to time of service:

Table 1. Breakdown of categories by time in service and shows the swing towards the younger generation receiving support, this year no grants have been awarded to anyone who served pre-1945:

| Category | Time served | Grants |
|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| 1 | Pre 1945 | 0 |
| 2 | 1946 - 1970 | 5 |
| 3 | 1971 - 1995 | 33 |
| 4 | 1996 - 2023 | 30 |
| 5 | Still Serving | 4 |
| Total: | | 72 |

Table 2. The geographical breakdown has changed and there was more grants given, south of the border:

| Geographical Area | Cases |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Scotland | 32 |
| England | 37 |
| Other | 3 |
| Total: | 72 |

Summary. The Scots Guards remain in a good position to support Scots Guardsmen and their families in need with benevolence grants, this is due to the excellent work with fundraising, donations received and the Payroll Giving Scheme (formally known as the ODPS) received from all those still serving.

Your assistance has been instrumental in identifying Scots Guardsmen in need by communicating and signposting them to me or case workers such as SSAFA, TRBL and PS. It is incumbent on us all to play our part by looking out for each other and identify Scots Guardsmen who are in need, and I thank you all for your continued support in doing this.

I hope this note has filled the gaps to many questions or discussions that have or are taking place, if not then please contact me and we can discuss your issue in more detail, or alternatively you can pop in and visit me at the Castle the next time you are in Edinburgh, you will need to do alert me in advance so that I can clear you as a visitor through Historic Scotland.

Yours

Mark
Major (retired) M A Cape
Regimental Welfare and Finance Officer

E Mail – finance@scotsguards.org
Mobile 0300 154 0159

80 YEARS ON ~ D DAY ~ 6 JUNE 1944

On 6 June the Colours of the Regiment are decked with a laurel wreath in recognition of the Battle Honour “NORTH WEST EUROPE 1944 – 45”

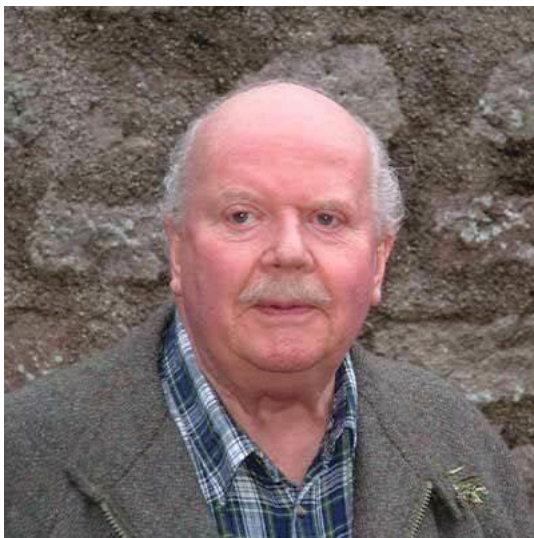
On the 23 June 1944 X Company the surviving unit of 4th Battalion Scots Guards was the first unit of the Regiment to cross the English Channel to Normandy with 3rd Bn Irish Guards as part of the Guards Armoured Division. They disembarked at the famous Mulberry Harbour at Arromanches. 28 June 32nd Guards Brigade including X Company entered the line for the first time 3 miles west of Caen.

A few weeks later 3SG part of the independent 6th Guards Tank Brigade, on the evening of 20 June and after a rough crossing 3SG mounted in heavy Churchill tanks disembarked on “Jig” Beach half a mile east of Arromanches.

3rd (Tank) Battalion Scots Guards first battle in Normandy was on 30 July, the assault on a long ridge, known usually as the Battle of Caumont, but for which the Battle Honour “**QUARRY HILL**” part of the ridge, was awarded.

both 1SG and S Company were in Italy involved in the fighting as “D Day Dodgers.” After the capture of Rome on 6 June 1SG retraced its steps and passed through the city to cross the River Tiber. At the same time, S Company fighting with 2nd Battalion Coldstream Guards were following river valleys, firstly moving up the eastern bank of the River Tiber.

During World War 2 the Regiment was awarded 41 Battle Honours, 10 of them are borne on the Colours.



The Earl of Elgin and Kincardine KT

Lord Elgin

As Lt Lord Bruce he was badly wounded at the Battle of Caumont, Normandy in 1944 while serving with 3rd (Tank) Battalion Scots Guards at the Battle of Caumont.

In the past week he appeared in a TV documentary on the 80th Anniversary of D Day 1944.

Lord Elgin is a former President of the SGA Fife Branch.

On 24 April The Earl of Elgin KT, aged one hundred and a quarter, attended a lunch in Edinburgh at which he drank Champagne, White Burgundy, Vintage Claret and Port, thoroughly approving of all of them and much enjoying himself!

Ted Davidson

Ted Davidson served with the 3rd (Tank) Battalion Scots Guards during World War 2 from Normandy to VE Day 8 May 1945 in Germany, then beyond. He specifically served with the Forward Delivery Squadron. Ted was 98 years old in September 2023.

He is pictured with Michael Nutter Secretary SGA Preston Branch on the occasion that Ted was awarded the Legion d' Honneur.

Ted lives in quiet retirement in Padiham, Burnley and is a member of SGA Preston.



14698579 Gdsm Ted Davidson Legion d' Honneur

80th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF MONTE CASSINO ~ EDINBURGH BLACKHALL ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH

In 1952 the then minister, Rev R.W. Watson Mathewson, brought the "Cross of Monte Cassino" to Blackhall St Columba's. The cross, which is of a simple wooden construction, was made for Mr Mathewson by a member of the Pioneer Corps while he was serving at Monte Cassino as a military chaplain part of the worship of Blackhall St Columba's ever since.

This was the third year that Blackhall St Columba's has held a special Service of Remembrance, to mark the occasion the Monte Cassino Society generously donated a memorial bench to be placed by the Blackhall War Memorial in the grounds of the church.

S Company that served under command of 2nd Bn Coldstream Guards.

Monte Cassino finally fell on 18th May 1944, but at a cost of an estimated 55,000 casualties. The German defenders are believed to have lost 20,000 dead or wounded during the battle, with a similar number of Italian civilians killed during the battle or in the air raids which destroyed the abbey and nearby town of Cassino. The town and abbey have since been rebuilt.

CSgt Thorley & LSgt Macrae represented the Regiment at the service on 18 May 2024.



CSgt Thorley 1st Bn Scots Guards, Lead Coordinator, Edinburgh Castle & LSgt Macrae

COSYCUMBRIANCOTTAGE.COM

Cosy Cumbrian Cottage Home | Longtown

Welcome to Cosy Cumbrian Cottage, a charming accommodation in Longtown. Discover a cozy retreat with modern amenities and warm hospitality.



Les Burgess from Carlisle, Cumbria and his wife have a small holiday let in Longtown, Cumbria. It's close to the border and only a few miles from the M6 and Gretna Green. Easy access to the Lake District, Carlisle, Dumfries & Galloway.

Les says please by all means check our cottage out on Airbnb and you will see we have in excess of 120 five star reviews for the cottage and service provided during our guests stay (Cosy Cumbrian Cottage, Longtown, Cumbria).

They would like to offer a discount to any Scots Guardsman and their families if they book direct through our website and use the code: SG 1642. Website: www.cosycumbriancottage.com