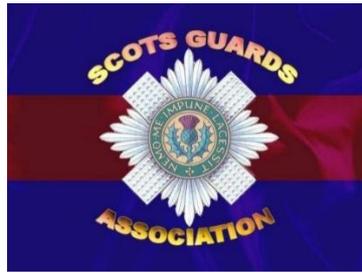
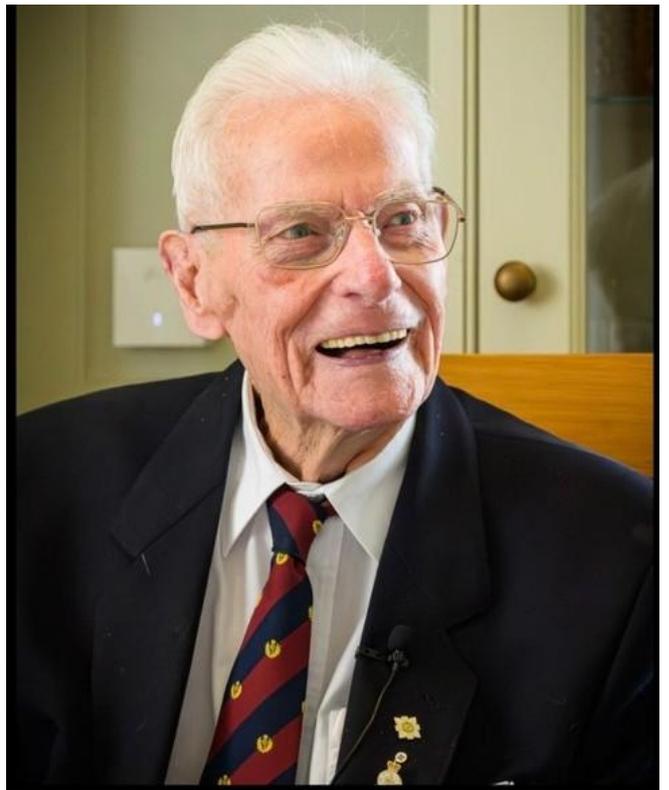


# SCOTS GUARDS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



Reverend Angus Smith



Jock Murdoch

**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

Email: [sga@scotsguards.org](mailto:sga@scotsguards.org)

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## Front Page Photographs:

### Two great men who served the Scots Guards well in peace and war.

#### DEATHS

##### ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

##### Perennial Member Third Guards Club, SGA Edinburgh & The Lothians Branch, SGA Aberdeen & NE Scotland Branch Tumbledown Veterans & Families Association

Rev'd Angus Smith Died 15 December 2025. Aged 89.

Angus served with the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn in 1979, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn in Belfast 1981 then during the Falklands Campaign 1982. After his military service Angus was Chaplain to the Oil Industry in Aberdeen and retired to Edinburgh.

His ongoing interest, support and care over many years is widely appreciated by the whole Regiment. A Bearer Party from 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Scots Guards carried Reverend Angus Smith into Liberton Kirk for his funeral with the attendance of many from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion from Belfast 1981 and the Falklands bear testament to his wide influence across the Scots Guards.

##### SGA Glasgow Branch

2702789 LCpl John (Jock) Murdoch. Died 27 December 2025. Age 99. Lived Kilmarnock. Served 1944 – 1948.

On 8 May 2025 as at VE Day80 as one of the last 4 surviving Scots Guardsmen who served in WW2. Jock was presented with a Colonel's Certificate to recognise his service during World War 2. On VE Day 8 May 1945 Gdsm John Murdoch was on Guard at Pirbright Camp at the Guards Armoured Training Wing had the war continued he would undoubtedly joined the 3rd (Tank) Battalion Scots Guards in Germany. After the war ended he joined the 1st Bn at Trieste, NE Italy where the border area with Yugoslavia was in dispute, the Bn remained until 1947. John became a LCpl and played in goals for the battalion football team.

When he was demobbed he became a professional footballer and ended up as assistant coach at Kilmarnock FC and part of the team when they won the Scottish League in 1965.

##### SGA Glasgow Branch

22551108 LSgt Ian Miller . Died 31 January 2026. Age 91. Lived Welwyn, Hertfordshire.

He served in the early - mid 1950s including at the Guards Training Battalion, Pirbright on parade at the late Queen's Coronation 2 June 1953 and in 1st Bn in Egypt. He was well known as a competitor at Highland Games over many years and until relatively recently.

##### SGA Corby, Central and Eastern Branch

24713101 LSgt Colin Leitch Died 31 December 2025. Age 57. Lived Bedfordshire. Served 2SG 1984 - 2008

##### SGA Dundee & Angus Branch

23044186 Gdsm William Hunter. Died 30 December 2025. Served in 1950's. Later served in Dundee City Police.

##### Guards Parachute Association

22215819 Captain Danny McMillan Died 14 December 2025. Age 92. Lived Stirling. He was Graham Fowler's first Pltn Sgt on joining 2SG Iserlohn 1967. Danny was CQMS 1SG Edinburgh 1968, CSM B Coy 1969 Chelsea, CSM RF 1SG Sharjah 1970, DSgt 1SG 1971 - 72 Windsor & Belfast. Thereafter he was RSM Aberdeen University OTC 1973 - 76. Danny also served in the Guards Para Company earlier in his service. At the end of his Scots Guards service he was commissioned as a Permanent Staff Admin Officer in the TA.



**Danny McMillan**



**Ian Miller**

## **NON ASSOCIATION**

24257888 WO1 (RSM) Duncan MacRae Died 26 December 2025. Served 1973 – 1995. 2SG, AADW, RMAS. RSM AAC Harrogate. Lived East Lothian.

23517305 Gdsm Peter Nicol Died 2 December 2025. Lived Tayport. Enlisted 1958 as National Serviceman, Served 2SG.

Gdsm Alexander McAulay Died 11 December 2025. Age 91. Lived Airdrie. Enlisted 1953 as National Serviceman Served 2SG BAOR to 1955.

Dmr James Brunton. Died 14 December 2025. Age 62. Lived Edinburgh. Served 2SG 1980 – 1987.

Ray Sowerby. Died January 2026. Served Corps of Drums 2SG, 1971 – 1980. Lived Bonnyrigg, Midlothian.

Roy Cunningham. Died January 2026. National Serviceman enlisted 1956. Served Merseyside Police.

## **WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING FEBRUARY IN CONFLICTS SINCE 1945**

### **Malaya Emergency**

4 February 1949

2695480 Lance Sergeant A Ferguson 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. Age 31.

### **Afghanistan**

18 February 2010

25029834 Lance Sergeant David Walker Right Flank 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion was fatally wounded while Conducting ground domination patrol which was engaged by insurgent fire during Operation Moshtarak. Age 36.



**LSgt David Walker**

## **NEW YEARS HONOURS LIST 2026**

**Very many congratulations on being awarded the King's Commendation for Valuable Service (KCVS)**

**Lieutenant Colonel WIL Tulloch, Commanding Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Scots Guards.**

**Very many congratulations on being awarded the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)**

**Drum Major RG McCutcheon**

## THE COLONEL ~ HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH KG KT GCVO ~ PIPE BANNER



We begin the New Year with a new Pipe Banner.

Shown is the newly commissioned Pipe Banner of our Regimental Colonel, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, following his assumption of the appointment from HRH The Duke of Kent.

This banner is worn on formal occasions when HRH or His Majesty The King is in attendance.

A striking and elegant design, it will be proudly displayed at many significant parades and ceremonies in the years ahead.

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Recently HRH The Colonel visited the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Scots Guards at Somme Barracks, Catterick when he presented NATO Medals to those members who recently who recently deployed to Kosovo. As part of NATO's Strategic Reserve Force (SRF), the Battalion worked with Kosovo Force (KFOR), conducting peacekeeping missions with their NATO partners. This operational rehearsal saw troops conduct in-country acclimatisation and training in preparation for operational commitments across the country.

## RABBITS BREAKFAST 2026



### RABBITS BREAKFAST 2026 ~ SATURDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2026

(Friday 27th February 1800hrs Meet and Greet)

Venue: SCOTS GUARDS CLUB 2 Clifton Terrace Edinburgh EH12 5DR  
Telephone: 0131 337 1084

#### Saturday 28 February Timings:

Bar open: 0800hrs  
Breakfast Call: 0955hrs  
Seated by: 1000hrs

Menu: Scottish Breakfast

The "address" to the haggis will be carried out by: TBC

Piper for the day

Regimental Update will be given

Stovies served: PM

Photograph: 1300hrs (approx.)

Cost per person: £15.00 (cash not card)

Payment will be at the breakfast

Accommodation option: Guards Hotel 0131 337 1000

Dress: Collar and tie, breakfast will be informal

Sunday 1st March (for the hardcore!)

Live music in club: 1400-1600hrs

POC John Rae Club Manager. Pauline Arundel Bar Manager

Please, no selling or promoting of charities at the breakfast

Hope you can join us for a day of Harmony and Kindred Spirit!!!

Yours aye

**Bruce/Charlie/Compo/Cap**

**FORECAST OF EVENTS ~ THE LIST IS GROWING ~ TIME TO WRITE UP YOUR DIARY 2026**

**FEBRUARY**

Sat 28 Rabbits Breakfast ~ Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh.

**MARCH**

Sat 14 SGA Borders 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Branch Dinner ~ Hawick Rugby Club.

**APRIL**

Sat 11 SGA Corby, Central & Eastern Branch Dinner ~ VOCO Hotel, Corby.

**Fri 17 – Sun 19 Regimental Weekend ~ Wellington Barracks, London.**

Fri 17 Scots Guards WOs & Sgts Past and Present Association AGM ~ Evening ~ Sgts Mess.

Sat 18 SGA AGM ~ 1030hrs ~ Sgts Mess.

Sun 19 Regimental Remembrance Sunday Service ~ The Guards Chapel ~ 1100hrs.

Parade & Wreath Laying ~ Guards Memorial, Horse Guards Parade ~ 1200hrs.

Lunch ~ Other Ranks Restaurant ~ 1300hrs.

**All Scots Guardsmen are encouraged to attend.**

**MAY**

Fri 29 SGA Edinburgh & The Lothians Annual Dinner ~ Scots Guards Club.

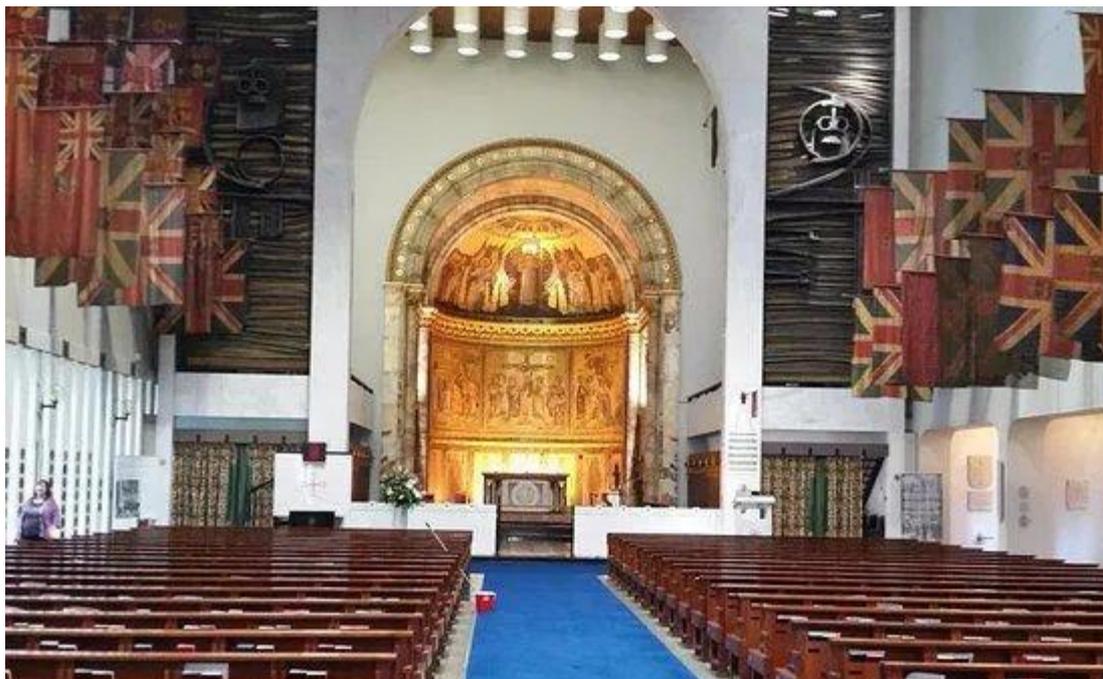
**JUNE**

Fri 12 – Mon 15 Tumbledown Veterans & Families Association Weekend, 44<sup>th</sup> Annual ~ Blackpool



**DREARY FEBRUARY ~ THE WEATHER'S COLD AND DULL!**

**LOOK FORWARD ~ LONDON IN THE SPRING – YOU CAN'T BEAT IT!**



**Regimental Remembrance Sunday – Guards Chapel**

**Sun 19 April - 1100hrs**

Regimental Remembrance Sunday will follow its normal form.

**All Scots Guardsmen past & serving are very welcome and encouraged to attend.**

OOD: Suit / Blazer, Bde Tie, Large medals. No head dress.

After the service the parade will form up on the Barrack Square in 6s. The Regimental Lieutenant Colonel will command the parade to the Guards Memorial where there will be a short service of wreath laying, marching back to Barracks, a salute will be taken just before re-entering Barracks. The parade will be dismissed.

There will be refreshments in the Other Ranks Dining Room and for those who want lunch it will be available on payment on the 'Pay to Dine System'.

Afterwards the Warrant Officers & Sgts Mess will be open.

**Always a good chance to meet up with friends ~ Make your plans early to be there!**

## ASSOCIATION NEWS

### Glasgow Branch Christmas Lunch



### Highlands & Islands Branch Annual Dinner & Burns Supper



Guest of Honour Major General Seymour Munro formerly Queen's Own Highlanders & former Lord Lieutenant of Moray. We took the opportunity to bring together Scots Guardsmen with a family connection to the QOH's ascendant Regiments (Seaforth Highlanders & Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders)

Left side: Lt Alexander Carson 1SG Machine Gun Pltn Comd (Grandfather 6<sup>th</sup> Bn, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 1<sup>st</sup> Bn Seaforth Highlanders & 2ic QOH 1961 ~ Great Uncle Seaforth Highlanders & QOH), Roderick Davidson (father Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders), Brian McDonald (father 5<sup>th</sup> Bn Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders WW2)

Right Side; Neil Crockett (Father Pre WW2 Liverpool Scottish & WW2 5<sup>th</sup> Bn Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders), Gregor MacLennan QOH guest) Phil Johnstone (served 1SG & transferred to The Highlanders), LCpl Max Scott



**LCpl Max Scott, Ian Walley & RQMS Munro (RHQ)**



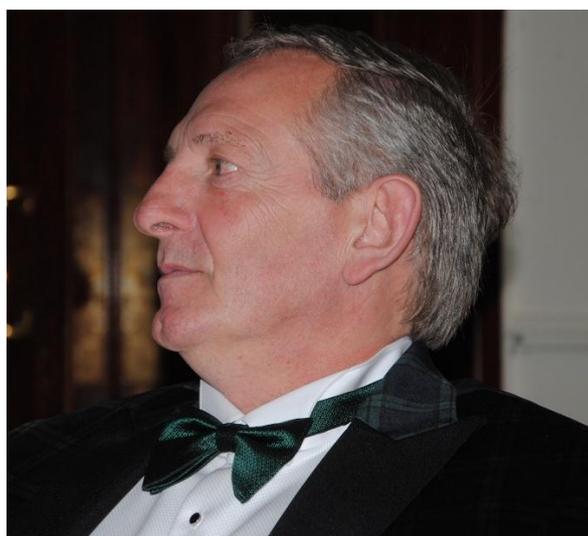
**Lady MacGregor of MacGregor, Alasdair Hilleary, Major Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor Bt**



**Left: Roddy Cantwell (H & I Chairman) & Sheriff Sara Matheson (Mrs Cantwell)**



**Right: Highlands & Islands Branch President Major Cammy Proudfoot on pre dinner fatigues & already at the door!**



**Alasdair Allen contemplates "Addressing The Haggis"**

## SCOTS GUARDS CLUB ~ AGM SUNDAY 25 JANUARY 2026



**Scots Guards Club Board**

**L – R: Major Andrew Bell, John Rae, Jimmy Banks, Major Iain Dalziel Job, Major Mark Cape, Dougie Watson**

Sunday's AGM saw a Changing of the Guard when Jimmy Banks MBE stood down as Chairman having served the Club in that role for over twenty years. The new Chairman is Dougie Watson a former Scots Guards Piper and police officer who has a business background. Jimmy becomes Club President. Previous President, Major Iain Dalziel Job, was pleased to accept the title of Honorary Life President in recognition of his support of the Club through thick and thin for twenty five years. We thank Iain and Jimmy for all they have done and wish Dougie well in his new role. Taking on the role as SG Club Directors are Major Andrew Bell, John Rae and Major Mark Cape.

Well done to the Major & Jimmy for their service to the club. Good to see the new guard picking up the reins to give the club the continuity and success it deserves.



The SG Club has come into possession of this fantastic photo taken sometime between 1924-1940 on the basis there are still railings in the photo which the Club minute book makes reference to being removed in WW2. I'd hazard a guess closer to 1924. There are some harsh (ageist) comments about who might be the owner of the car outside ~ whoever ~ certainly no cars allowed to park there nowadays.

## IN PENSIONER COLIN PATERSON ~ A HIT WITH THE KIDS

An old friend from 1969 Left Flank 1SG & Sharjah Days, Colin Paterson was asked invited to attend a school for 4 to 11 year olds in west London to provide an insight to Rabbie Burns at their special school assembly at the end of January.

Colin always enthusiastic and up for a challenge explained he'd carried out in the past and been recommended for his Address to the Haggis a few times! He could recite a few of Rabbie's poems "My Love is Like a Red, Red Rose" etc. He went, spoke about the Bard, Haggis, Mountain Dwellers and did a few magic tricks. He also spoke a little about the Scots Guards and the Chelsea Pensioners.

The teachers, parents and the kids all thought it was great and he's got a booking to attend next year



Nijmegen Pltn Junior Guardsman's Company 1974 who meet up annually.



Left to Right : Bernard Houbert, Ian Bryson, Bill Meickle (Woking), Davie Richardson, Tom Begg (Birmingham), Bill Clayton, Ali MacLennan @ The Scots Guards Club.