

# 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**

**Neil Crockett  
Secretary & Editor**

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Website  
[www.scotsguards.co.uk](http://www.scotsguards.co.uk)

Enquires  
Tel: 01383 -721530

Email  
[sga@scotsguards.co.uk](mailto:sga@scotsguards.co.uk)

## FRONT PAGE PHOTOGRAPHS

**Top Borders Dinner:** At the table includes David Richardson, Sir Chay Blyth, Alistair MacLennan, Les Braby. Revd John Murdoch & Major Iain Dalzel Job.

**Bottom Glasgow Dinner:** LSgt Parvin from the Regimental Support Team & 3 members of F Company. 5 Platoon Scots Guards Army Cadet Force from Lanark enjoy the dinner.

## REGIMENTAL WEEKEND – LONDON 3 – 5 MAY 2019

The weekend will take place and be centred on Wellington Barracks and we look forward to a good attendance from across the Regimental family.

**Fri 3 May – 1900hrs**      **Scots Guards Warrant Officers & Sgts Past & Present Association, Annual General Meeting**  
London District Sgts Mess, Wellington Barracks.

**Sat 4 May – 1030hrs**      **Scots Guards Association, Annual General Meeting**  
London District Sgts Mess, Wellington Barracks.

Please confirm to your local Branch Secretary if you expect to attend.

Lunch will be available in the Other Ranks Restaurant after the meeting.

**Sun 5 May – 1100hrs**      **Scots Guards Regimental Remembrance Sunday**  
The Guards Museum will be open from 1000hrs for coffee, biscuits and use of their Toilets.

The service will take place in the Guards Chapel. A wreath will be laid by SGA Carlisle, Dumfries & Galloway Branch.

Scots Guardsmen Past & Present will form up after the service at approx 1215hrs and march to the Guards Memorial where a wreath will be laid by SGA London Branch.

After the parade is dismissed on return to Wellington Barracks complimentary drinks will be available in the Other Ranks Restaurant. Lunch will also be available on a Pay & Dine basis.

On Saturday & Sunday there will be limited parking available for those attending SGA AGM & Black Sunday on Wellington Barracks Square. Please let Headquarters Scots Guards know car details in advance.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY APRIL - JULY 2019

### APRIL

Sat 13                      Major Munro Davidson Farewell, SG Club, Edinburgh.  
Thu 25                      Middle East Guards Association (MEGA) Dinner, QE2, Dubai, UAE.  
Fri 26                      SGA Edinburgh & The Lothians Dinner, SG Club Edinburgh.  
Tue 30 - Fri 3 May      SG Golf Week, Bathgate Golf Club, West Lothian.

### MAY

Fri 3                      WOs & Sgts Past & Present Association AGM, Wellington Barracks.  
Sat 4                      SGA AGM, Wellington Barracks.  
Sun 5                      Regimental Remembrance Sunday, Guards Chapel.  
Fri 10                      SGA Surrey Dinner, Clandon Regus GC, Nr Guildford.  
Sat 18                      Operation Motorman Reunion, SG Club, Edinburgh.  
Sat 25                      Major General's Review, QBP

### JUNE

Sat 1                      Colonel's Review, QBP.  
Wed 5 - Thu 6          Beating Retreat, Horse Guards Parade.  
Sat 8                      Queen's Birthday Parade, 1<sup>st</sup> Bn Grenadier Guards.  
Fri 28                      SGA Fife Golf Competition, Thornton GC.  
Sat 29                      Edinburgh Armed Forces Day.

### JUL

1-5                      Royal Week, Edinburgh. F Company.

## **NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES**

### **Borders**

The Annual Dinner of the Borders Branch took place in Hawick on Friday 8 March. It was very good night and good to see Major Willie Nicol RA (Guest of Honour) who was FOO attached to 2SG in the Falklands. Rev'd John Murdoch Padre 1SG in Hong Kong & 2SG in Cyprus. Captain Sam Lowden (Regt Representative). Sir Chay Blyth (formerly Parachute Regt) who as a Sgt rowed the Atlantic with Capt John Ridgeway in 1966. He later did a solo sail around the world. Also Bob Stuart who served in 2SG in Malaya 1948 - 51 attended along with Eric Parker an Irish Guardsman who served in WW2. Well done to the Borders team, President Major Iain Dalzel Job, Chairman Jim Renwick & Secretary Eck Barclay.

### **Glasgow**

The Dinner took place at Partick Burgh Halls on Friday 22 March. Lieutenant Colonel Rory Shannon was Guest of Honour, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Alex Joynson from F Company gave the Regt news. It was good to see Guardsmen from F Company alongside Army Cadets from 5 Platoon Scots Guards in Lanark. A good night thanks to Keith Norwood (Secretary), Colin Duff & the Glasgow team.

### **Edinburgh & The Lothians**

The Branch has changed its monthly meeting and now meets on 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. The Annual Dinner is at the Scots Guards Club of Friday 26 April when the Guest of Honour will be Major Sir Malcolm MacGregor.

### **Durham & North Yorkshire**

The Branch reported with sadness the passing of Pauline Scott, wife of Branch stalwart John. Pauline's funeral is on Thursday 4 April at St Thomas's RC Church, Darlington at 1215hrs.

The Branch will have a Sunday Lunch at Burntree Inn just off A68 near Darlington on 7 April at 1300hrs. Near by why not join them?

### **Merseyside**

#### **Show Himself Properly Shaven – But Not Until May 2019**

Branch Secretary Jimmy Horne has volunteered to grow a beard until May and is looking for sponsorship in aid of Alder Hey Hospital, Children's Cancer Ward, Liverpool. To pledge money call or email Jimmy Tel: 0151 520 0229 Email: james\_horne@btinternet.com

## **SCOTS GUARDS CLUB NEWS**

Things are now settling back into some normality after a huge few weeks of events at the Club. The Rabbits Breakfast was a very successful event again this year with around one hundred Scots Guardsmen meeting at the Club for a great day of chat and comradeship. Another Guards event was 'Swallie Ho' which, though less structured than the Breakfast, gets bigger every year and was a joy to behold!

Three rugby internationals also ensured that the staff were kept busy and provided a really excellent atmosphere. A big 'well done' goes to all the staff who rose to each occasion and in relation to whom, there was much glowing feedback from many who had visited the Club for these events. Well done to all.

The function diary is filling up all the time and a sincere thank you goes to all who have pointed people in our direction. Remember that it is also available during the day for meetings etc.

On Saturday 23 March we have Jay Silver returning to provide an evening of song and entertainment. He has been with us for the last two Christmas parties and goes down a storm each time. Get your tickets at the bar or message us to reserve a place.

Thanks to all members both old and new for your membership fees. We will keep you up to date throughout the year with how we spend this money to upgrade the building. If you haven't renewed yet, remember you can make BACS payment to Sort Code 82 62 30 Account Number 60496650 Use your name as a reference and email us at [enquiries@scotsguardsclub.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@scotsguardsclub.co.uk) with your address and we'll get your membership card posted out to you.

Yet again this year our supplier has increased wholesale costs across most drinks but we are pleased to say that we will not be passing these price increases on to members, other than on a very few select drinks. Members' prices on all beers and mainstream spirits remain unchanged

We now accept card payments!

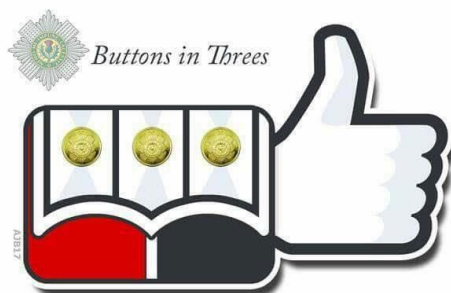
Our annual September Scots Guards Get Together will take place on Saturday 7 September. This is timed to coincide with the Regimental Gathering in Fife the following day and we look forward to another fun filled day.

Thanks for supporting the Club and as ever, all the best from all the Team.

## CONTACT YOUR LOCAL SGA SECRETARY

Find out what is going on in your area:

BRANCH	SECRETARY	EMAIL	TELEPHONE
SGA Secretary	Neil Crockett	<a href="mailto:sga@scotsguards.co.uk">sga@scotsguards.co.uk</a>	01383 721530
Asst SGA Secretary	RQMS Steven Smith	<a href="mailto:steven.smith963@mod.gov.uk">steven.smith963@mod.gov.uk</a>	0207 414 3334
Australian	John Linn	<a href="mailto:john.linn@arasec.com">john.linn@arasec.com</a>	00 61 (0)9438 6026
North American	David Rennie	<a href="mailto:drummie2ca@gmail.com">drummie2ca@gmail.com</a>	001 613 680 4306
Aberdeen & NE of Scotland	Graeme Thompson	<a href="mailto:gthompson246@btinternet.com">gthompson246@btinternet.com</a>	01224 317738
Ayrshire	Jim Fraser	<a href="mailto:jamesfraser279@gmail.com">jamesfraser279@gmail.com</a>	01294 211319
Berks, Bucks & Oxfordshire	Rab Ritchie	<a href="mailto:rab.ritchie@icloud.com">rab.ritchie@icloud.com</a>	07776 411120
Borders	Alex Barclay	<a href="mailto:eck01uk@yahoo.com">eck01uk@yahoo.com</a>	01450 370413
Carlisle, Dumfries & Galloway	Tony Mason	<a href="mailto:easons@aol.com">eamasons@aol.com</a>	07980 103804
Corby, Central & Eastern England	Scott Morton	<a href="mailto:piper.scott.morton@btinternet.com">piper.scott.morton@btinternet.com</a>	07786 067878
Dundee & Angus	Iain Bryson	<a href="mailto:iainpiper@hotmail.com">iainpiper@hotmail.com</a>	07447 700536
Durham & Yorkshire	Peter Wheadon	<a href="mailto:wheadonp3014@aol.co.uk">wheadonp3014@aol.co.uk</a>	01325 319125
Edinburgh & The Lothians	Danny Minto	<a href="mailto:e.lsga@yahoo.co.uk">e.lsga@yahoo.co.uk</a>	07758 193362
Fife	Neil Crockett	<a href="mailto:neil.crockett@btopenworld.com">neil.crockett@btopenworld.com</a>	01383 721530
Glasgow	Keith Norwood	<a href="mailto:keith.norwood@hotmail.com">keith.norwood@hotmail.com</a>	0141 577 6946
Highlands & Islands	Harry Obern	<a href="mailto:hobc862@gmail.com">hobc862@gmail.com</a>	01463 717002
London	Tom Ormiston	<a href="mailto:t.ormiston@ntlworld.com">t.ormiston@ntlworld.com</a>	01480 460727
Manchester	John Roache	<a href="mailto:johnroache@live.co.uk">johnroache@live.co.uk</a>	07577 992900
Merseyside	Jimmy Horne	<a href="mailto:james_horne@btinternet.com">james_horne@btinternet.com</a>	0151 520 0229
Pipers	Dougie Watson	<a href="mailto:sgpipersbranchsecy@gmail.com">sgpipersbranchsecy@gmail.com</a>	07515 263716
Preston	Steve Hills	<a href="mailto:shills72@yahoo.co.uk">shills72@yahoo.co.uk</a>	07971 043876
Surrey	David O'Connell	<a href="mailto:dandm.oc@talktalk.net">dandm.oc@talktalk.net</a>	01483 233223
Tumbledown Veterans & Fams Assoc	Bill McDowall	<a href="mailto:billmcdowall@live.co.uk">billmcdowall@live.co.uk</a>	07860 401434
Malaya & Borneo Veterans Assoc	Sandy Low	<a href="mailto:sandy.low57@gmail.com">sandy.low57@gmail.com</a>	01723 892049
SGA Pipes & Drums (Scotland)	Iain Lowther	<a href="mailto:iain-lowther68@outlook.com">iain-lowther68@outlook.com</a>	07484 637188



## DEATHS

### Third Guards Club & SGA Carlisle, Dumfries & Galloway

Major AJR Harrison Died 4 March 2019 aged 90. Served mostly in 2SG 1949 – 71  
Former President SGA Carlisle, Dumfries and Galloway Branch

### SGA Carlisle, Dumfries & Galloway

23266769 Gdsm David Keen Died 16 March 2019 aged 85. Served 2SG 1955 – 1959. Lived Annan.

### SGA Central

22131148 Gdsm Joe Holden Died 5 March 2019 aged 88. Lived Menstrie.

### Not Members of Association

24141330 CSgt Graham Williams Died 2 March 2019 Served 2SG, Lived Tenerife.

Dag S Hamilton Died March 2019 Served 2SG Cyprus.  
Funeral 3 April 1530hrs Gornal Cemetery. Dudley. DU3 2EL

22551393 WO1 Edward Gallacher Died 19 March 2019 Served Scots Guards pre 1960, transferred to MPSC 1961 – 1976.  
Funeral 1500hrs 8 April at York Crematorium.

James Ashton Died 13 March 2019. Served 1SG and Gds Para Coy late 50s. Lived Kent.

WO2 Peter McCavera QGM Died 25 March 2019 Served mostly 1SG to 1994.

## NEWS FROM THE SERVING REGIMENT

**Regimental Band** In late February completed their annual Spring Drills when the ironic comment was made “The weather has picked up slightly from 2018 – Beast from the East”

Early March – **Well Done** to the team from the Regiment that put in a very credible performance in The Spean Bridge Commando Speed March.

**HRH The Colonel** – Visited the Bn in Cyprus in early March. While there the Colonel took time to lay a wreath at Wayne’s Keep Cemetery in the Buffer Zone.

**UN Medal Presentation Parade** – 4 March some members of 1SG were presented with their UN Medals when on parade alongside UN Soldiers from other nations. The remainder of the Bn will be presented with their medals on return to Aldershot on 3 April 2019.

**Congratulations** – 8 March Well done to Sgt Miller for winning Gold at British Army Jiu Jitsu and to LCpl Griffin for winning 2 x Bronze Medals.

**Shooting Glory** – 14 March 1SG Shooting Team won the Annual 12 Bde Operational Shooting Competition for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a Row **BRILLIANT!**

**Volleyball** – 15 March. 1SG AGC / LAD Volleyball Team finished Runners Up in the Major Units UK South Qualifier. They now go forward to the Finals in April.

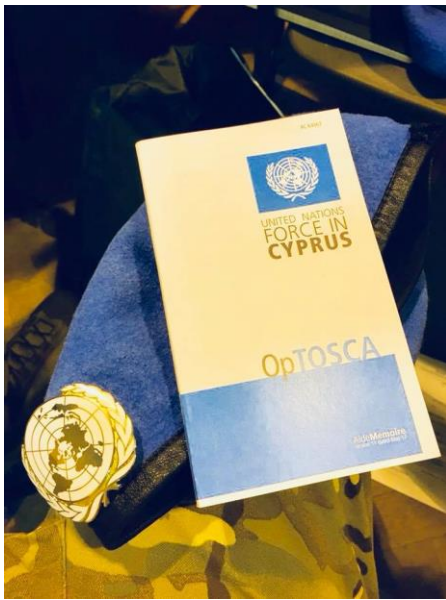
**LSgt Autiko Domonakibau** – 20 March – **Well Done** – awarded his Infantry Sports Colours for his endeavours playing Rugby League. The Colours were presented to him by Lt General Graham, Infantry Colonel Commandant. PS LSgt Domonakibau also plays Rugby Union very well!!

**Regimental Band** – 21 March **Congratulations** go to Musicians Matthew Dixon and Rachel Kendal for winning 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> places at this year’s Household Division Musician of the Year Competition.

**1<sup>st</sup> Battalion** - 25 March - Working hard right to the end of tour the Battalion Mobile Force Reserve won the Military Skills Competition against fellow UN Teams.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion

Well done to the Battalion as its time under UN Command on Operation Tosca in Cyprus comes to an end. Soon the light blue berets will be handed in and we wish the well for a well deserved leave and good luck for the rest of 2019.



### **3rd (TANK) BATTALION SCOTS GUARDS – NORMANDY MEMORIAL**

This Newsletter reported last month about fund raising for a Memorial to the 3<sup>rd</sup> (Tank) Battalion Scots Guards. Donations have been made at the Rabbits Breakfast & at SGA Border Dinner. Various SGA Branches and other Regt Groups are also donating.

The Earl of Elgin who celebrated his 96<sup>th</sup> Birthday in February reminded me that he is one of the last officers from that illustrious Battalion still living. Another is Colonel Adrian Seymour who celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on 11 June last year. He was 2ic HQ Sqn in Normandy and finished the war as Adjt of the Bn.

Captain Hew Balfour told me of 7 officers (including himself) who served in the Regiment who's fathers served in 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion.

6 Guards Tank Brigade's first action in Normandy in July 1944 was in support of 15th Scottish Division at the start of Operation BLUECOAT. There are two memorials in Normandy to the Coldstream Guards (both on Hill 309). However, as yet, the 3rd Bn Scots Guards have no memorial. But we're looking to change that!! A couple of years' ago, I mentioned to Stéphane Jacquet (the president of the Association TILLY 1944) & also involved in Operation Bluecoat - Musée de la "Percée du Bocage" museum that it would be a good idea if a memorial was erected to recognise 3Bn & their first day in action where S Squadron was badly mauled (to say the least) by Jaqgdpanthers of 654 sPzJAbt on their target of Hill226. Last June, I toured some of the possible sites with Stéphane and others to look at what was possible to achieve & the conclusion was that an attempt would be to not only erect a memorial stone, but also an Orientation Table to explain that part of Operation BLUECOAT. The aim is to have this erected in July to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the action.

However, in order to make this a reality, it looks as though the first estimate (which we've asked to be confirmed) for the memorial we will need to raise E1,500. Achieving this, especially in this 75th Year, would be a fantastic memorial for those guys that served (and died) in 3rd Bn SG.

The museum at St Martin is Crowdfunding via their Pay Pal account <https://me/musee44>

### **WARNING ORDER – OPERATION MOTORMAN REUNION SATURDAY 18 MAY 2019**

Op Motorman was a large operation carried out in Northern Ireland which began in the early hours of 31 July 1972 with the aim of retaking the "no-go areas" that had been established in Belfast & Londonderry and other large towns. 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Scots Guards were involved.

On Saturday 18 May 2019 the 2SG veterans of Operation Motorman are having a reunion at the Scots Guards Club. It is not a private function and all Scots Guardsmen from both Battalions including those from before and after Operation Banner era are very welcome to attend.

For more information contact Charles Knott on Facebook or email: [cknott2424@aol.com](mailto:cknott2424@aol.com)

## **BITS & PIECES**

### **2701084 Gdsm John Shiells 3<sup>rd</sup> (Tank) Battalion Scots Guards**

During the month I received an email from Piet Snellen a former Sgt in the Royal Dutch Signals. He told me that the locals of his village of Sevenum hope to unveil a Memorial to Gdsm John Shiells. The story is that on 21 November 1944 LSgt Brown's Churchill Tank of the Recce Troop hit a mine in the village and the driver Gdsm Shiells was killed. He was buried in the street of Sevenum where he fell and until August 1947 his grave was tended by a widow Mrs Ida Pauwels who was a simple peasant woman. In 1947 his remains were moved to Mook War Cemetery. On 22 November 2019 the village of Sevenum hope to unveil a Memorial to both Guardsman John Shiells and Mrs Ida Pauwels.

### **Eric Parker Irish Guards**

As reported in the Border Branch notes, 95 year old Eric Parker a World War 2 Irish Guardsman attended the dinner. After the dinner with the help of Eck Barclay, Border Branch Secretary we were able to make sure that Headquarters Irish Guards were aware of Eric's whereabouts and they undertook to make contact with him.

### **2705173 Bob Stuart**

Bob is a member of the SGA Borders Branch and served with 2SG in Malaya in 1948 – 51 and is 90 years old. He lives in Throkley, Newcastle and is generally in good health. I wonder if any Scots Guardsman out there who lives anywhere close to Bob and could pop in and see him from time to time. If so can you let Neil Crockett know,

### **Sammy Mowbray**

In Dunfermline town for a regular cup of coffee Mrs C & I bumped into Sammy Mowbray on the same mission. He was looking well and we had a good catch up.

### **L Company 1956**

**LSgt W Brockie, Maj MH Webb MC & Bar, CSM J French MM**



This photograph was included in last month's newsletter in connection with the late Willie Brockie. Robert Sharp member of the North American Branch from British Columbia was in L Company around this period. He reported that Major (Later Lt Col) Webb had service in the Transvaal Scottish (South African Army) in World War 2 and served in the Scots Guards 1951 – 63. CSM French was awarded the Military Medal as a LSgt with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion in Germany in March – April 1945.

### **Captain John Ford – Prepares to Row the Atlantic**

I spied an article in the Dunfermline Press on 28 March. Captain John Ford currently OC Regimental Support Team, is to row the Atlantic from mid December to end of January. Not alone but with 2 other Scots Guardsmen John Adam, Dean Charnley & former New Zealand soldier Derek Spence. As the pace of training builds up towards December no doubt we will hear more but in the meantime check out [www.rowforheroes.co.uk](http://www.rowforheroes.co.uk) The 4 are taking part in this epic challenge for the Scots Guards Charity. Check it out!

### **MEDAL MOUNTING**

It's time to Spring Clean & Remount your medals. Why not use the services of either of these 2 fine Scots Guardsmen:

Medal Supply / Mounting Tony Stevens email: [ts2453@gmail.com](mailto:ts2453@gmail.com) Tel: 07789324621 Tony served for a short time in 2SG, then the 1st Battalion in Aldergrove, Hong Kong, Pirbright and Hohne. His hobby is medals and his business medal supply & mounting.

Kilt Making / Medal Mounting George McKay email: [George@mckayskilts.com](mailto:George@mckayskilts.com) Tel: 01207 509674 George served for 25 years and was Master Tailor of 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion for 10 years.

## **PIPING SERVICES “ON PARADE & PICKLED”**

2 good Pipers offering their services:

Piper: Dougie Watson email: [enquiries@piperonparade.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@piperonparade.co.uk) Tel: 01463 870244 or 07515 263716.

Piper: John Rae email: [enquiries@thepickledpiper.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@thepickledpiper.co.uk) Tel: 0131 663 1863 or 07831 426752



**Piper Jamie Bell from the Regimental Support Team  
an ever present at SGA Dinners in Scotland and Northern England**