

SCOTS GUARDS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

18 REGIONAL BRANCHES ACROSS THE UK

1 BRANCH IN AUSTRALIA - 1 BRANCH IN NORTH AMERICA

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

Neil Crockett
Secretary & Editor

Email: sga@scotsguards.org

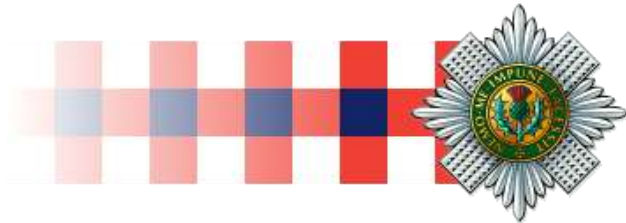
April 2021
Volume 22 Issue 3

Tel: 01383 – 721530

**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



GUARDS STRIKE

WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING APRIL IN CONFLICTS SINCE 1945

1st Battalion Scots Guards Egypt 1951 – 1954.

April 1954 Gdsm K Wallace Killed while on vehicle escort.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

I would ask all Branches and all individual members to make every attempt to keep in touch with other members by phone, email, letter or even a socially distanced knock at the door. Particularly to keep an eye on our vulnerable members.

London Branch

The London Branch held a zoom informal meeting on Tuesday 2nd March 2021 at 18.30. I call it an informal meeting, instead of our regular bi-monthly meeting, as only 3 of us logged on. Present were our President, Captain Mitchell, myself and Ian Colbridge and we agreed that I should put some words together for the Newsletter. Some of our members had work commitments, others were unwell and that was why we didn't have a quorum for this meeting.

We don't have much to report, only that we have made progress with our events. I phoned the Mess Manager, Regent's Park Barracks, a month or so ago and she told me that they had been told not to book any functions for this year. Given this information Tom Ormiston and I agreed that I should approach The Union Jack Club. I'm very pleased to say that we now have our St Andrew's Dinner 2021 booked there and a provisional booking for our Burns Supper 2022. We're going to be putting plans in place for St Andrew's over the coming months and, hopefully, be able to let you all know our thoughts in the near future.

Unfortunately I don't think we'll be able to have our ultra informal BBQ this year.

All of the above is still dependant on where we are with the pandemic. Fingers crossed that we'll be able to reunite and have a wonderful St Andrew's Dinner together in November.

Our events: Saturday 27th November 2021: St Andrew's Dinner UJC

Saturday 30th January 2022: Burns Supper UJC

That's about it from London - Stay safe, stay well, stay in touch.

Aye
Ian Blair
Chairman, Secretary and Entertainments Officer



North America Branch

On 17 March Branch Secretary Captain David Rennie CD was presented with a Quilt of Valour at the Royal Canadian Legion (Branch 632). He reports "I was somewhat surprised when I got the call about the quilt, I guess I received it for my service".

Quilts of Valour - Canada Society Launched

Through the encouragement, support and enthusiasm of quilters, the Quilts of Valour - Canada Society was formed as a registered national charity in 2009.

The Quilts of Valour – Canada Society has presented quilts to thousands of recipients who are coping with injuries both visible and invisible. These quilts are made by volunteer quilters from across the country who wished to show their appreciation to our injured Canadian Armed Forces members, past and present for their bravery and commitment to Canada and its citizens. The quilts come from individuals, groups and guilds, men and women, young people, retired armed forces members themselves and many others with no connection to the military.

Quilts of Valour - Mission Statement

Our mission is to ensure that injured Canadian Forces members are recognized for their service and commitment to our country. We give this support through the presentation of quilts to comfort our injured past and present Canadian Forces members.

To read more about Quilts for Valour <https://www.quiltsofvalour.ca/>



Captain

The Governor Generals Foot Guards



Receiving the Quilt of Valour



Drum Major

2nd Battalion Scots Guards

24239828 D.B. Rennie Scots Guards 1973 - 1993

I joined the Regiment in 1973 I left in 1993 under the Option for Change. I served mainly in the 2nd Bn with two postings to the Guards Depot once in 1977 as a Regimental Drummer and then in 1990's as a Drums Sergeant. I was the last Drum Major of the 2nd Bn Scots Guards prior to being placed into Suspended Animation in 1993 we had a fantastic Corps of Drums and Pipes & Drums formally known as the "Drums Company". I served in Germany, Cyprus, Belize, Canada, United States, Malta, Northern Ireland, Falkland Islands and the UK. All the usual fun places.

I moved to Canada in 1994, I joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 1998 the Governor Generals Foot Guards in Ottawa (Militia/TA Unit). I came in as a Sergeant, I served in many appointments reaching the rank of Master Warrant Officer (WOII) I was also the Unit Drum Major. I was heavily involved in all Ceremonial Parades in Ottawa with the Guards and the Ceremonial Guard where during the summer months the Changing of the Guard ceremony would take place daily in the Nation's Capital Ottawa. In 2006 I was employed full time with the Ceremonial Guard there I filled many appointments, Operations, CSM, Drum Major, Drill Sgt, Acting RSM. And in 2012 I was recommended for Commissioning and I Commissioned to Captain where I took over as the Adjutant/Deputy Commanding Officer of the Ceremonial Guard. I served until September 2017.

Many ask what the "CD" is after my name it the "Canadian Forces Decoration" this is the same as the Long Service Medal, also why is it mounted first, I was serving with the Canadian Forces so therefore it took precedence over my other medals.

The highlights of my time in the Scots Guards was being in the finest Regiment in the world, the highlights of my time in the Canadian Armed Forces was being able to use my experience from serving in the Regiment to improve everyone else! I also have my own Pipe Tune which is very cool. The downside was in August 2003 I was involved in an explosion where along with another soldier we were blown up, everyone survived, it nevertheless took a toll on mind and body.

I was also instrumental in raising awareness of Drum Major training in Canada and was involved in teaching and training of many Drum Majors across the Canadian Armed Forces, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and many other Police Forces in Canada.

Scots Guards Club

The Club Team are primed and waiting to welcome you all back into the club as soon as they are able in line with Scottish Government Guidance. Full details to follow soon.

Best wishes from all the Team.

Tumbledown Veterans & Families Association.

TV & FA Secretary Bill McDowall stood down due to medical reasons and after an election from a shortlist of 2, Heather McGrath takes over as Secretary. We wish Bill well.

The Committee is in planning mode to organise the annual reunion weekend in Blackpool from Friday 25 – Monday 28 June 2021. General Mike Scott, Captain Ronnie MacKenzie and Revd Angus Smith have confirmed that they will attend.

The unveiling of the 2SG Falkland's Plaque at Blackpool War Memorial will take place on Sunday 27 June 2021.

REGIMENTAL EVENTS

Regimental Remembrance Sunday - Guards Chapel – 18 April 2021

Black Sunday will take place in the same manner as 2020. The Regimental Adjutant will lay a wreath at the Guards Memorial and a wreath will be laid at the Scots Guards Cloister within the Guards Chapel. The Regimental Adjutant will be accompanied by a Drummer & Piper.

It is intended that a montage of photographs will be put together and shown on the Regimental website www.scotsguards.org on the Scots Guards group & SGA group on Facebook.

The Queen's Birthday Parade – Saturday 12 June 2021

Following consultation with Government and other relevant parties it has been agreed that The Queen's Official Birthday Parade, will not go ahead this year in its traditional form on Horse Guards. Options for an alternative parade, in the quadrangle at Windsor Castle, are being considered.

Regimental Gathering – Somme Barracks, Catterick -11 & 12 September 2021

Plans for the Regimental Gathering are currently being made and by mid June we hope to have a clearer indication if the Gathering will be able to go ahead at Somme Barracks, Catterick over the weekend 11 – 12 September 2021.

Tickets & Car Parking Passes for access & security will be required for both events.

SGA Branches and individual members who want to give early consideration to their plans for attending please make sure that that any travel or accommodation bookings are refundable if the Gathering cannot go ahead.

Saturday 11 September 2021 – Beating Retreat

It is planned that a Beating Retreat will take place either at Richmond Castle or Somme Barracks. It is likely that it will also be the official introduction by the Battalion of themselves to both Catterick Garrison & the locality.

Start Time: 1900hrs (TBC)

Sunday 12 September 2021 – Regimental Gathering

This is the main day and it will take its traditional form at Somme Barracks with a start time of approximately 1200hrs with a march past of the Regiment (both past & serving marching together), the Regt Band and Pipe Bands, arena displays, food outlets and a bar. The Gathering will go on until approximately 1730hrs. It is expected that HRH The Colonel will attend.

Plans are at an early stage and more information will be given out in due course.

DEATHS

Third Guards Club & Fife Branch

Lieutenant Colonel David Price OBE. Died 25 March 2021. He finally succumbed to the cancer that he had so stoically been living with since 2013.

He was Director of Music of the Scots Guards Band from 1987 to 1999 during which time on promotion to Lieutenant Colonel he became the Senior Director of Music in the Household Division.

In late 1990 the Regimental Band deployed to Saudi Arabia to provide medical support during the 1st Gulf War.

Many of you were present at the Regimental Band concert in Brechin Cathedral over the Gathering weekend in Angus in 2016. At the concert Lt Col Price made a guest appearance out of retirement and conducted some of the music. It will be remembered by all those there as a truly magnificent occasion.

Lt Col David Price was an active member and participant at many Third Guards Club events and was a loyal and regular member of the Fife branch of the Scots Guards Association and a regular attendee at the Regimental Gatherings.

Non Association Members

Captain Michael Nason. Died early March 2021. Served 1955 – 1963, Lived in the United States.

23879071 Gdsm Ian Winchester. Died 24 February 2021 Served 2SG February 1962 – February 1971. Lived Morden Surrey.

Blair Charles Thomson, Died 9 March 2021. Lived Athelstaneford, East Lothian.

CSgt Rory McEwan 66. Died 30 March 2021. Served mid 1970s – 1997. Lived Cyprus. Rory was the eldest of the 5 McEwan brothers who served mostly in the 1st Battalion. The McEwan family was a great SG family, their father having served in 1SG as a Sergeant in the 1950s. Rory served mostly in LF and also with 1GG in Munster as a Warrior Gunnery Instructor returning to 1SG in Hohne when the Bn converted to Warrior. Rory's son also served in the Regiment.

NEWS FROM THE SERVING REGIMENT

Right Flank in Iraq

In Iraq the Scots Guards have taken on the role of Military College Advisors as part of NATO Mission Iraq (NMI).

The Company has recently enjoyed some Northern Iraqi snow in the Korek Mtn range.

Right Flank CrossFit team have been assembled to represent the UK Mobility Company (K) in Northern Iraq.



Right Flank continue their role as observer mentor for some Iraqi leadership academies within Nato Mission Iraq.===

Training Assistance

In early March a section from the 1st Battalion Anti -Tank Pltn were helping out with the Coldstream Guards Cadres.

Left Flank Training Hard

Left Flank are busy completing their Pre-Deployment Training for an imminent deployment to the Balkans.

The Pipes & Drums



Congratulations to the following members of the Band on passing their AA Class 3 Pipers and Drummers course at the Army School of Bagpipe Music and Highland Drumming;
Dmr Hall, Dmr McArthur, Ppr Beaton, Ppr Gardner, Ppr Galbraith



After a busy period of training including for the Queen's Birthday Parade the Pipes & Drums look forward to Easter Leave.



The Pipes & Drums play for the visit of the Major General

BITS & PIECES

SAMA Falklands Ride of Respect 2021

In the last two years, a team of four Airborne Forces Riders (two of which are Falklands veterans) have conducted a 'Ride of Respect' in support of The South Atlantic Medal Association (SAMA82) Registered Charity No: 1118842, who continue to support the veterans of that short but costly war, and the families of those who were lost, including Merchant Seamen and Royal Fleet Auxiliary.

The aim of the Ride of Respect is four-fold:

Remembrance – to demonstrate that our fallen are not forgotten.

Respect – for their families, the pain of the loss of a son, husband, or brother continues.

Awareness – to let people know where our fallen lie so that they may also give due respect.

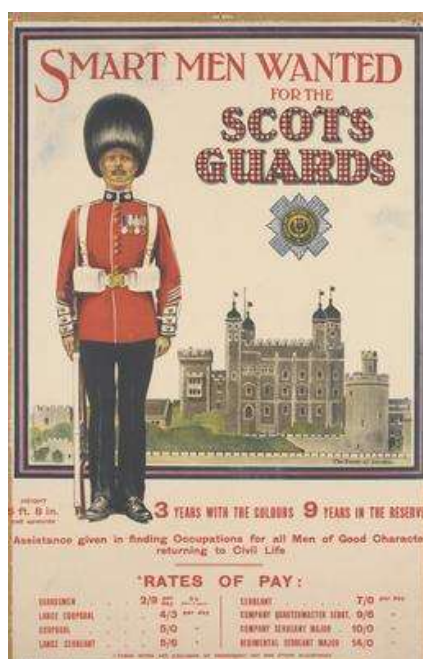
Support – fundraising for SAMA82 whose continued support gives comfort to veterans and families.

The 'Ride of Respect' over the last two years has given great comfort to the families of those who fell and has demonstrated that as we approach the 40th anniversary of the war and the loss of their loved one, we will remember them and continue to do so.

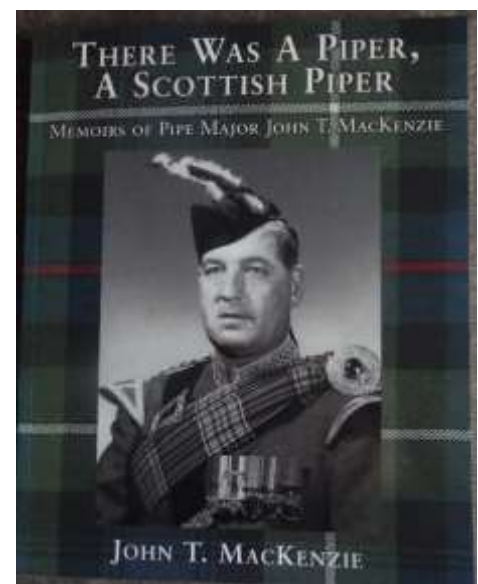
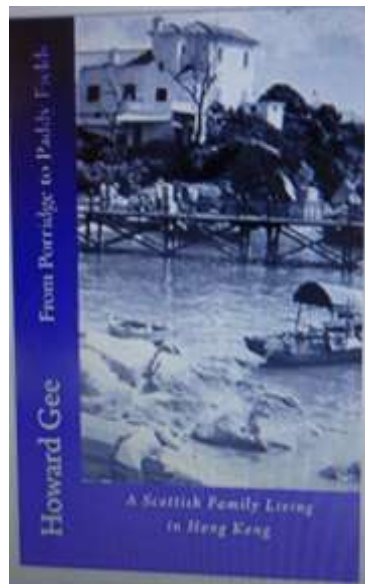
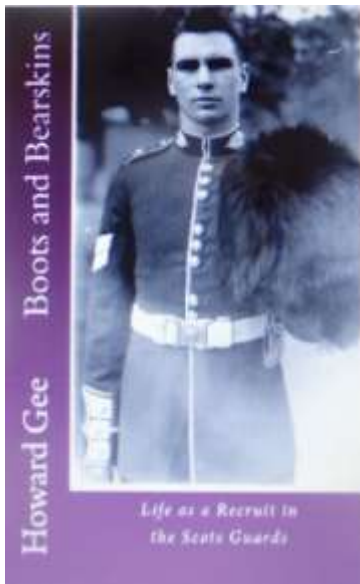
Itinerary

The Ride of Respect Team will be on the road from Saturday 31 July to Sunday 15 August. They will visit graves of Scots Guardsmen and LCpl John Pashley RE Para as follows:

Sat 31 July – 1530hrs	DSgt Danny Wight	Mortonhall Cemetery, EH16 6TX
Sun 1 Aug - 1305hrs	LSgt Clark Mitchell	Laurencekirk Cemetery, AB30 1PQ
Tue 3 Aug - 1215hrs	Sgt John Simeon	North Dalnotter Cemetery, G81 4 SL
Tue 3 Aug - 1415hrs	Gdsm Archibald Stirling	Cardonald Cemetery, G32 1SB
Tue 3 Aug - 1530hrs	Gdsm Derek Denholm	Sandymount Cemetery, G32 0HW
Tue 3 Aug - 1830hrs	Gdsm James Reynolds DCM	Knagerhill Cemetery, KA12 0HW
Tue 3 Aug - 1830hrs	Gdsm David Malcolmson	Knagerhill Cemetery, KA12 0HW
Thu 5 Aug - 1430hrs	Gdsm Ronald Tanbini	Kirkdale Cemetery, L9 9EN
Fri 6 Aug - 1430hrs	LCpl John Pashley RE Para	Ecklington War Memorial, S21 4BH



Springtime Reads



Boots & Bearskins

(Life as a recruit in the Scots Guards)

Kindle Price £1.99

Amazon Price £6.99

For a young 17 year old the thought of recruitment into the Scots Guards for 3 years prior to joining Edinburgh City Police was an exciting prospect but their renowned discipline was daunting. He wasn't sure if he was up to the required standard. After deep consideration on 11 June 1959 he took the Oath to HM The Queen and went through the gates of the Guards Depot, Caterham and entered a world of drill parades, discipline and military humour.

From Porridge to Paddy Fields

Kindle Price £1.99

After transferring from the Scots Guards to the Army Physical Training Corps, Howard was posted in 1965 to Headquarters, 48 Gurkha Infantry Brigade, in the new Territories, Hong Kong accompanied by his wife and young son. When 1/6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles went to Borneo on active service during the Indonesian Confrontation, Howard as a young sergeant went with them. He had many adventures in Hong Kong, Brunei, Borneo, Singapore and Malaya.

There Was a Piper a Scottish Piper

Kindle Price £4.99

In Paperback from Bookshops.

P/M John T MacKenzie from Edinburgh, went to Queen Victoria School, Dunblane. He served as a Piper with the 2nd Bn Scots Guards in Egypt before World War 2, then with the Bn during the North African Campaign. Just after the end of the war he took part in the Liberation of Norway. John was P/M of 2SG In Malaya 1948 – 51. In 1952 he was recruited to be Pipe Major of the Royal Canadian Air Force in UK and later he settled in Canada where his contributions to piping are legendary.

HAPPY EASTER

