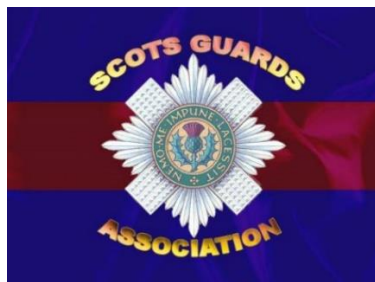


SCOTS GUARDS ASSOCIATION

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**

**April 2022
Volume 23 Issue 3**

Email: sga@scotsguards.org

Tel: 01383 – 721530

Front Page Photographs: SGA Borders Branch – Let us hope that their much delayed 60th Anniversary Dinner signals a full reopening across the Branch & the wider Regimental Association.

Top Left: Old Friends & Borders Branch Members Davie Richardson & Tom Laidlaw (LF & MT 1SG Munster /Chelsea).

Top Right: Mrs Margaret Crockett & Borders President Major Ian Dalzel Job.

Bottom Left: Round the table – Capt Paul Cody & Mrs Cody, Major Willie Nicol (2SG FOO RA Falklands 1982), Pat Cody, Major Neil McClelland (2IC 1SG) & Father in Law (from Selkirk), Sqn Leader Tristram Carter (Formerly RAF & LSgt 1SG).

Bottom Right: Brigadier Charles Page Guest of Honour, gave his speech by Zoom after testing positive to Covid.

WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING APRIL IN CONFLICTS SINCE 1945

1st Battalion Scots Guards Egypt 1951 – 1954.

Easter Sunday 18 April 1954 22219738 Gdsm K Wallace Killed while on vehicle escort.

REGIMENTAL WEEKEND LONDON 1 – 3 APRIL 2022.

Bullet Points

Fri 1 April Evening – 1830hrs

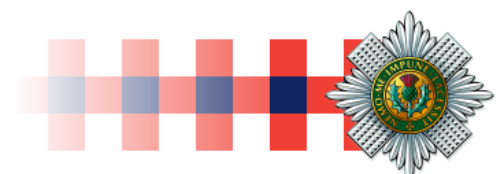
- **WOs & Sgts Past & Present Association AGM. Sgts Mess, Wellington Barracks.**

Sat 2 April 1030hrs

- **SGA AGM, Wellington Barracks 1030hrs. Instructions issued to SGA Branch Secretaries.**

Sun 3 April 1100hrs

- **Regimental Remembrance Sunday – Guards Chapel.**
- **Scots Guardsmen past & serving of all ranks are encouraged to attend** – It would be good to see you on the day. Suits, Brigade Tie, Medals.
- Car Parking – Limited available from 0930hrs. Entry to Bks via Petty France. Suitable identification required. You are advised to avoid arriving by car if possible.
- Arrive in Barracks from 0930hrs – Access must be via Petty France – Beware the Guard Mount begins at 1030hrs.
- Tea & Coffee available in Guards Museum before the service.
- During the service a wreath will be laid at the Scots Guards Cloister by Ian Lorimer, SGA Corby, Central & Eastern Branch (Comd Officer's Driver – Op Motorman 1972)
- After the service the Parade will form up on the Barrack Square including the dismounting Queen's Guard (F Company) to march to the Guards Memorial.
- At the Guards Memorial a wreath will be laid by Willie Urban, Tumbledown Veterans & Families Association.
- On return to Barracks refreshments will be in the Junior Ranks Dining Room 1245 – 1400hrs. Lunch will be on a "pay as you dine basis"
- The WO & Sgts Mess will be open after the parade - past and present Scots Guardsmen will be welcome.



FALKLANDS 40 – NATIONAL COMMEMORATION @ THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM, STAFFORDSHIRE

TUESDAY 14 JUNE 2022

The ticket application process arranged by the Royal British Legion is that all Scots Guards Falklands Veterans wishing to attend this National Commemoration should apply to Neil Crockett by email sga@scotsguards.org whether they are a member of the Scots Guards Association or not.

Some veterans have already applied, the ticket application is logged and you will receive by email a form to fill in and a reference number. E-tickets will be sent out approx mid May.

Falkland veterans can apply for themselves and one guest. There is an online ticket application process and you need to be accredited. Those who so far applied have found it very easy, you are registered and eTickets will be sent out about 28 days before 14 June.

Members of our bereaved families can also apply for themselves and one guest, the application process is slightly different but they should contact Neil Crockett for details. **If you have contact details for any of our bereaved families please pass on this information.**

You can apply for tickets until 29 April, but sooner the better so you can make your plans for the day.

On the 14 June there will be access to the National Arboretum in the morning, there will be an exhibition and opportunity personal acts of remembrance. 1230 – 1330hrs refreshments will be available.

At 1330hrs the UK National Commemoration will take place at the Armed Forces Memorial and it will include royalty, politicians, etc. when only official wreaths will be laid. At the end of the commemoration individuals will be able to lay their own wreath if they wish to.

The general public will be able to apply for tickets later in process and this will include veterans who didn't serve in Falklands.

For more info check out the Royal British Legion website <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/.../remembrance-events/falklands>

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Borders Branch

Before their Diamond (60th) Anniversary Dinner at Hawick Rugby Club on Saturday 12 March 2022 the Branch held its AGM

Office Bearers for the year ahead are:

President: Major IE Dalziel Job
Chairman: Jim Renwick
Treasurer:
& Secretary: Eck Barclay

Scots Guards Plaque was presented to Hawick Rugby Club and accepted by President Neil Hamilton.

A toast of best wishes for the future was given as the Branch looks at how to move forward in the years ahead.

Contact Branch Secretary Eck Barclay email: eck01uk@yahoo.com Tel: 07802 4422878

Highlands & Islands Branch

Headlines in the Highlands





Boxers knock out rations

A FORMER Scots Guardsman who served in the second Iraq war and runs Nairn Boxing Club is enlisting the help of families to support Ukrainian soldiers and civilians fighting Russian forces.

Kevin Brooks is making up small ration packs which would be suitable for battlefield supplies but also can be distributed to civilians

in need of humanitarian aid. "I served in Iraq myself but I'm also getting help and advice from former soldiers who served in the Falklands, Bosnia and Kosovo as to what's best to include in the packs. Even some veterans from Malaya in the 1960s are helping out with advice."

Kevin said the packs are

TURN TO PAGE 3

Boxers do their bit to assist refugees

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

contained in shoe boxes and include high protein foods which can be easily packed.

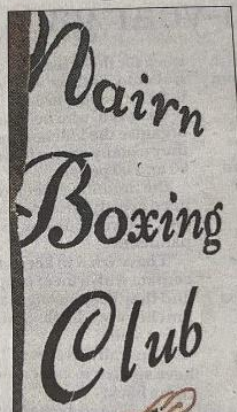
"There will be breakfast meals in tubs, pasta and noodles with vitamin bars, chocolate and sweets. But they also must include simple things for personal hygiene including toothpaste, brushes and wipes and of course the packs can also be used by young mothers trying to look after their children."

Kevin added: "It's a case of working out what's going to make the most effective packs. I've a good idea of the basics but I'm open to ideas from serving soldiers and former soldiers as to what to put in them."

"Unfortunately there's not much we can do militarily to support the Ukrainians but we should all be trying to provide humanitarian aid and hopefully government sanctions will help."

"It's devastating and we all feel powerless but we can do our bit and hopefully will help in the rebuilding of the country."

Kevin's wife Emma has also been collecting clothes



The boxing club is sending ration packs to Ukraine.

for refugees and members of the club and their families are helping the aid effort.

Kevin added: "We'll get the ration packs made up and they will go on to a van and be sent to the various distribution centres around the country."

The club is accepting donations at their premises on the High Street in Nairn.

SGA Highlands & Islands Branch AGM takes place on Monday 4 April in the Legion Inverness at 1930hrs.

Edinburgh & The Lothians Branch

After the Branch AGM the Office Bearers are:

President: Major Randall Nicol

Chairman: Jim McPherson

Secretary &

Treasurer: Danny Minto

The Branch will hold its Annual Dinner at the Scots Guards Club on Saturday 30 April 2022.

For more details about the dinner and other events contact Branch Secretary Danny Minto e.lsga@yahoo.co.uk

London Branch

The London Branch held their bi monthly meeting on Tuesday 1st March followed by our Annual General Meeting.

Tom Ormiston decided it was time to hand over the Treasurers role to someone new. Tom has been part of our branch for many years holding the Secretary and Treasurers role jointly. He and his wife, Gill, worked incredibly hard to put a good working plan in place for both positions. It is down to them that the Branch funds and secretarial information are in good shape. We wish Tom all the best for the future and he goes with our deepest gratitude for all his efforts for the London Branch. Hopefully we'll see Tom and Gill at some of our events in the future and Tom at some of our meetings.

Captain Ollie Barnett volunteered to be our new Treasurer and the committee approved his appointment.

The London Branch Committee:

President: Captain Mitch Mitchell

Vice President & Treasurer: Captain Ollie Barnett

Chairman, Secretary & Entertainments: Ian Blair

We discussed our future events at great length. As we have started a "new way of life," by having events outside of London, we agreed that it would be sensible to search in our local areas for possible venues. We're also looking at changing the way /dates we have our main dinners. This we hope to pursue at our next meeting on the 3rd May.

Yours aye, Ian Blair, Chairman, Secretary and Entertainments Officer, London Branch

Durham & Yorkshire Branch

Branch Office Bearers reappointed at the AGM:

President: Captain John Craib (Serving - TQM ISG)

Chairman: Stewart Webb

Treasurer: John Findlay

Joe Lee has stood down as Secretary & we thank him for his time in post.

Surrey Branch

The Branch Office Bearers are now:

President: Major Jeremy Warren

Chairman: Willie Coffield

Treasurer: Mrs J Clarkson

Secretary: George Rance

Many thanks to retiring Chairman David McAlister for his work on behalf of the branch.

Berks, Bucks & Oxon Branch

The Branch held it's AGM the Office Bearers are now:

President: Major The Honourable GCW Grimston

Chairman: Jim Simmonds

Treasurer: Kevin Gorman

Secretary: James Nash

After a great tenure as Secretary Rab Ritchie stood down as Secretary but he remains as a Vice President.

Glasgow Branch

The Branch Burns Supper took place on Saturday 5 March @ Lok Bar & Kitchen, Shawlands.

Well done to organiser Ronnie Cook for his hard work & his rendition '**Tam O' Shanter**'. Thanks to Keith Norwood for overseeing the night and Danny McDermid who '**Addressed the Haggis**'. Well done Keith Bowes with his mini band from Johnstone Pipe Band with Highland Dancers & guest speakers who entertained us.

The Crockett's were well pleased to meet up with old next door "neeboors" from Pirbright Davie & Maureen McCulloch.

Secretary: Colin Downie Tel: 07956 526283 Email: cdownie1@icloud.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thu 2 June	Queen's Birthday Parade. 1 st Bn Irish Guards.
2 – 5 June	Queen's Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday Weekend.
Sat 4 June	Drums Company 2 nd Battalion Scots Guards Reunion, Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh.
10 – 13 June	40 th Anniversary Commemoration & Reunion, Tumbledown Veterans & Families Association, Blackpool.
Tue 14 June	Falklands Commemoration, National Arboretum, Staffordshire.
Sat 18 June	Falklands Commemoration, Edinburgh.
Sat 25 June	Armed Forces Day Events – Including Edinburgh.
5 / 6 / 7 July	Household Division – Military Musical Spectacular, House Guards Parade – Tkts from £20.
Sat 30 July	50 th Anniversary Op Motorman Reunion, Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh.

DEATHS

Third Guards Club

Donald Alexander Cameron Marr (2Lt) Died Mid February Aged 87. Served 1SG 1953 – 54. Lived in Hampshire. Father to Captain Michael Marr & his brother & sisters.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Third Guards Club & Fife Branch

John Robert Purvis CBE (Lt), Died 20 March 2022. Served 1957 – 58. Lived St Andrews, Fife.

Former Central Branch, WOs & Sgts Past & Present, Guards Parachute Assoc.

2703451 LSgt David Assenti . Died 16 February 2022. Enlisted Oct 1944, served 1SG Trieste late 1945 – 1947, 1st Guards Para Bn 1947 – 48. At VE Day 75 (8 May 2020) he received a letter from the Regimental Lieutenant Colonel to thank him for his WW2 service & Defence Secretary Captain Ben Wallace MP also telephoned him.

Highland & Islands Branch

Ewan Brodie of Lethen CVO. Died 2 December 2021. Aged 78. Served Grenadier Guards.

Dundee & Angus Branch

23517572 Gdsm George Thomson Died March 2022. Served 1SG late 1950s.. Funeral 12 April 1200hrs Barnhill Cemetery, Dundee.

North America Branch

2705311 Drum Major John (Bud) Moon. Died 2 March 2022. Aged 91. Lived Williamsburg, Virginia, USA. Enlisted as a Boy Drummer in 1947, he became Drum Major 1SG in Egypt 1953, the youngest Drum Major in the Bde of Guards at age of 23.. Bud was widely known and respected in USA & Canadian military music circles.



Drum Major John (Bud) Moon

NON ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Gdsm James Craig Died 11 March 2022. Aged 82. Served 1SG 1958 – 59 in BAOR. Retired Superintendent Strathclyde Police (East Kilbride)

Mrs Elizabeth Nickerson

Sadly Mrs Elizabeth Nickerson, widow of the late Major G S Nickerson, Scots Guards passed away on 26 February 2022. Mother of our former Regimental Lieutenant Colonel, Brigadier Harry Nickerson and Captain Hugh Nickerson. The funeral was held at Cour on the Argyle Peninsula on Friday 18 March 2022.

Brigadier Nickerson requested Association pipers be involved and five pipers travelled to Cour the previous day. Pipe Major Jimmy Banks MBE, Keith Bowes, John Fraser (45), John Rae and Dougie Watson.

The service took place within the family home Cour House and thereafter to the family burial ground nearby. The terrain was undulating and boggy, testing for pipers and mourners alike, however "the step was not lost".

Having piped several selections en-route to the graveside, "The Flowers of the Forest" was played during the committal. On completion of the benediction and as mourners reassembled for the walk back to the house the pipers played the jig Major Nickerson's Fancy. This tune was composed by Pipe Major R Crabb, Scots Guards on the occasion of Major G S Nickerson's marriage to the then Miss Elizabeth Fagan. (Scots Guards Piping Volume III)

On return to Cour House, the Pipers again led the way and having completed the "final ascent" broke into Heilan Laddie on their arrival. It was a poignant but memorable day.



Note the Pipers footwear - Not exactly parade ground standard !

THE TALISKER WHISKY ATLANTIC CHALLENGE - 2022
ROWING 3000 MILES ACROSS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN.

FOUR
SCOTS
GUARDSMEN

SEEKING SPONSORSHIP FOR A GREAT CAUSE
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Pictorial II

SERVING UPDATE

1st Battalion Update



The main focus for the Battalion throughout the Winter of 2022 was Military Assistance to Civilian Authorities (MACA) Tasks. This saw the Battalion assisting the NHS as General Duty Vaccinators across the UK and as General Duties Teams working with the Manchester NHS Trust. The Battalion also deployed to Dover to assist the Border Force with Migrant Monitoring across the English Channel.

March has been filled with a flurry of more ‘routine’ activity

Right Flank

The Company has been busy delivering training and support to the rest of the Battalion. The Training Wing (currently in Right Flank) has delivered a rigorous pre-Cadre to all those wanting to go on the Junior Non-Commissioned Officer Course, Section Commanders Battle Course and Platoon Sergeant Battle Course. The Training Wing has also planned and executed a Battalion Battle Camp in Kirkcudbright to with the main focus being on Live Firing Ranges up to a Platoon Night Attack. The Alma Platoon (Rehab Platoon) is also under the Right Flank construct, and much work has been done to get injured soldiers back to being fully fit.

B Company

B Company has been busy developing its specialist capabilities with the Anti-Tank Platoon been the firm focus. They have conducted ‘concentrations’, exercises and ranges to improve the battalion Anti-Tank Capability.

C Company

The Rabbits have been busy on the ranges and conducting exercises to best prepare themselves for opportunities later in the year. Alongside this the Company has kept its focus on Readiness in 2022 with the emphasis on its driver and vehicle platform capabilities.

HQ Company

HQ Company has been enabling all that the Battalion does as ever with a firm focus being on the Battalion Battle Camp in Kirkcudbright.

Left Flank

The Company has been busy preparing for operations later this year.

Miscellaneous

- The Battalion has conducted Nordic Skiing Adventurous Training in Norway.
- Members of the Battalion travelled to the Ardennes, France to conduct a Battlefield Study on the Battle of France 1940.
- The Battalion Football Team has been highly successful winning the Quarter Final of the Army Football Championships.
- Members of the Sgts Mess have been successful on the RMAS CSgt Instructor Cadre Course.

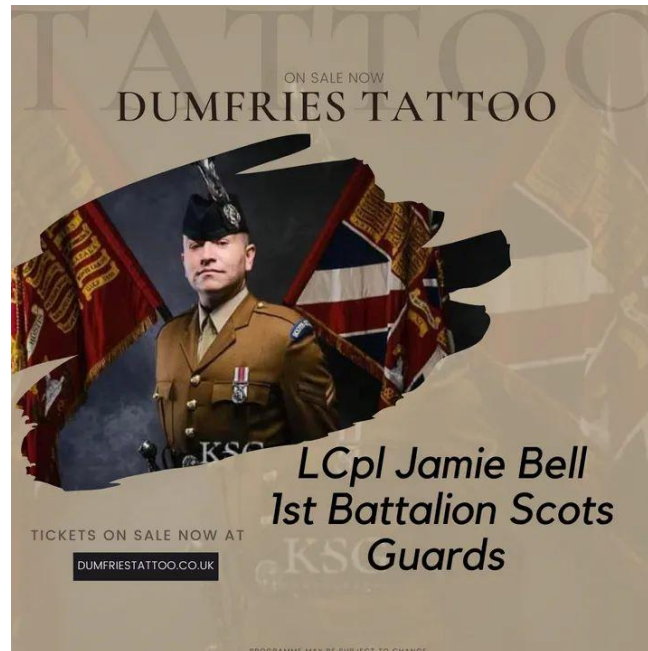
Look forward to....

A Left Flank exercise in Cyprus following Easter Leave.
Several operational deployments in 2022.

BITS & PIECES.

The Royal Burgh of Dumfries Tattoo - Saturday 30 April 2022 at 1800hrs.

LCpl Jamie Bell 1st Battalion Scots Guards will be the Solo Piper at this year's Dumfries Tattoo at Crichton.



TICKETS FROM DUMFRIESTATTOO.CO.UK

Tickets To Parade at Cenotaph, London on Remembrance Sunday, 13 November 2022

Message from Major Tom Ormiston – London Branch

Hello all. I know it seems early but I have already bid for our tickets for the Cenotaph this year. If you would like to march with us, please email me with the usual details; number, rank, name, dates of service, campaign medals held, place and date of birth, address, Tel no, email address. Bids by end of May so no rush.

As always, those who regularly march will be given priority with excess tickets then put in a ballot. My email is t.ormiston@ntlworld.com.

Swallae Ho– Scots Guards Club Saturday - 5 March 2022

A couple of photographs that popped up from the reunion at the Scots Guards Club – arranged by Neil Rooney.



Left: Willie Langdon (his flowing locks a bit longer than when Crockett was his Pltn Sgt & Crockett's now sparser!) with Phil Murphy.

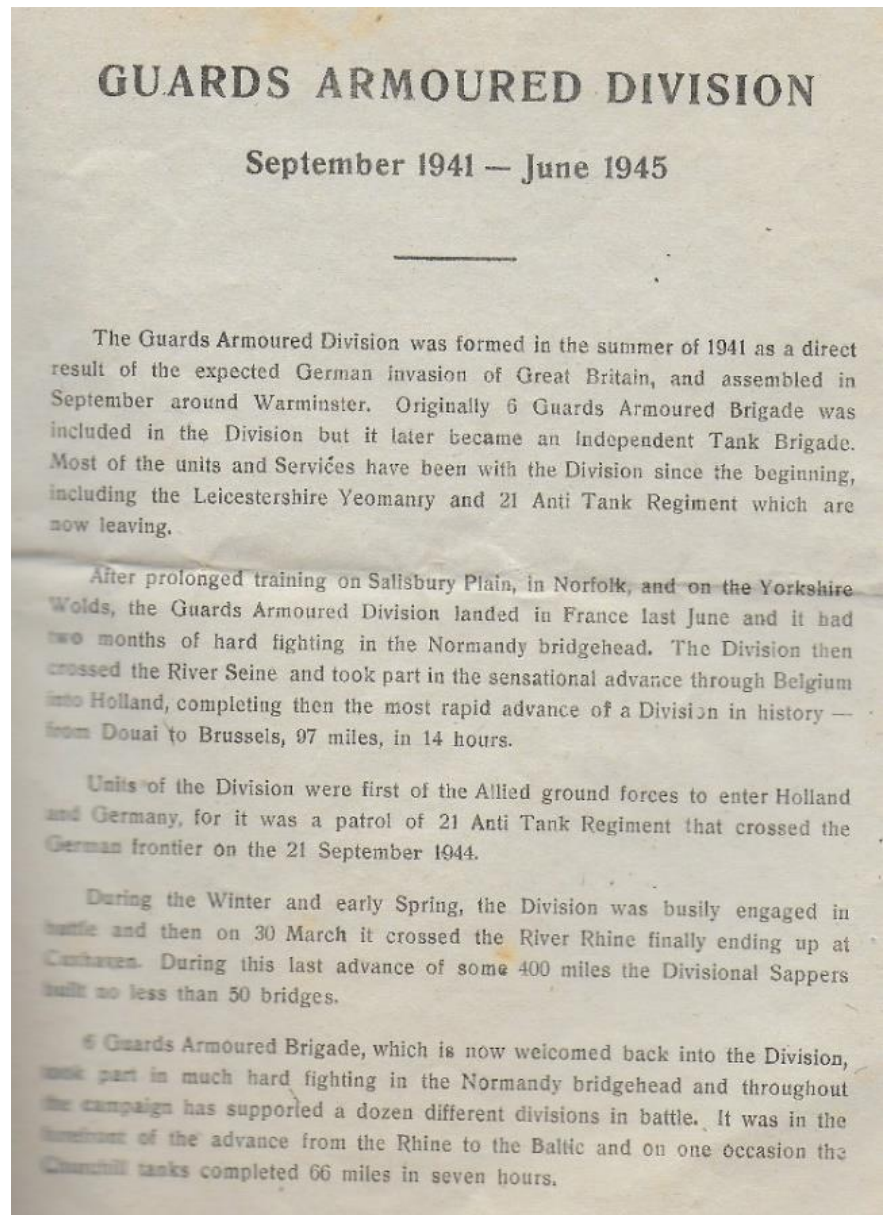
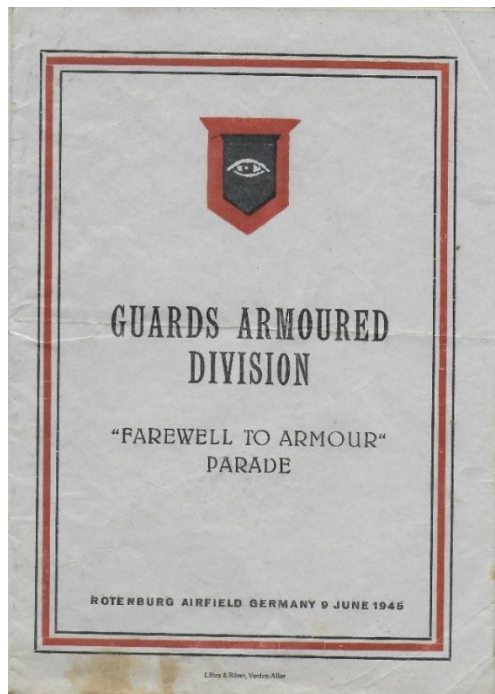


**Right: Medical Centre on Parade – Back: Jim Brown, Jimmy Cree, Rod (Digger) McAlpine.
Front: Joe Lee & Colin Dorman.**

Bite Size - Regimental History

At the Borders Branch Dinner I was handed various photographs and documents by Eck Barclay to be passed on to the Regimental Historical Committee, C/O Regimental Headquarters. These items came from the family of the late Guardsman Fred Webb (former Branch Secretary). Fred enlisted and served throughout the 2nd World War in 3rd (Tank) Battalion Scots Guards. He was orderly to Major Charles Farrell initially in Left Flank and subsequently in S Squadron when he drove the water truck from Normandy to the Baltic. It was a job that made him many friends, not least because other than the water he brought up the mail and cigarettes.

The photographs included 3 groups from 3SG, a copy of the programme of Gds Armoured Farewell to Armour Parade, a few copies of the Bn post war newsletters called "Sempar Paratus" - the Bn motto "Ever Ready". This includes the final copy before the Bn was disbanded in early February 1946. It included a letter from my late father in law Donald Fraser who was then Regimental Sergeant Major for the final 15 weeks before 3SG disbanded.



Farewell to Armour - Guards Armoured Division lost its tanks just 1 month after VE Day 8 May 1945

From the Regimental Sergeant Major:

TO THE EDITOR

"WEEKLY BULLETIN"

Sir,

Before the great traditions of this Battalion are laid to rest in Immortal history and the men, who helped to forge them are transferred to other Battalions of the Regiment or depart for Civilian life I would like to say that some 15 weeks ago I had the great honour of becoming your Regimental Sergeant Major and would like to express my deepest appreciation to all ranks for the grand co-operation and loyalty given to me throughout this regrettably short period.

During my tour of duty with you I have discovered a wonderful atmosphere of "Esprit de Corps" which has and must have made this Battalion the fine Unit it has proved itself to be.

To those of you who are going to other Battalions of the Regiment I say "Carry with you the great Spirit of the 3rd Battalion" and to those returning to Civilian life "Remember once a Scots Guardsman always a Scots Guardsman a 3rd Battalion Scots Guardsman".

The very best of luck to you all.

(Signed) D. M. FRASER

Regimental Sergeant Major,
3rd Battalion Scots Guards.

RSM Donald Fraser – His thanks to 3SG as it disbands on 28 February 1946

466

GERMANY: 1945–1946

was held in the garden of the Officers' Mess, at which General Marriott addressed the Battalion, recalled its past services, and wished all ranks God-speed. "As to your conduct in battle," said General Marriott, "your Brigade Commander, Brigadier Douglas Greenacre, knows far more than I do . . . but I believe he looked upon you as the best Battalion in his Brigade—a Brigade which never failed the Infantry to whom it was allotted, and especially the 15th Scottish Division who have shown by various presentations their great appreciation of your worth."

The Battalions now dispersed. Eight officers, Regimental Sergeant-Major Brown and 330 other ranks went to Trieste and the First Battalion; to the Second Battalion at Wipperfurth went four officers and 120 rank and file. By the end of the month a bare hundred were left at Weiden, but this hundred included the Battalion's famous football team, captained by Guardsman Girdwood; it had beaten the Second Battalion in an epic final for the championship of the Guards Division, and it penetrated to the semi-finals of the Army Championships. In the scramble between the Regular Battalions for the assets of the Third, none was more coveted than these eleven men! The military duties were all handed over to Belgian troops, and on the 28th February the Third Battalion was formally disbanded.

Regt History 1919 – 1955 – 3SG Disbands and men are dispersed to 1SG – Trieste, Italy. 2SG – Wipperfurth, Germany & to demob.

Let another extract from Field Marshal Montgomery's Rotenburg speech serve as the epitaph of this Battalion—and of all the Battalions which fought in the Guards Armoured Division and in the 6th Guards Tank Brigade.

"I want to say, here and now, that in the sphere of armoured warfare the Guards have set a standard that it will be difficult for those that come after to reach.

"In modern war it is the co-operation of all arms, armoured and unarmoured, that wins the battle, and in this respect you have achieved great results. In fact, the Guards have shown that whatever they are asked to do—whatever they take on—they do well: maintaining always the highest standards and giving a lead to all others. You will long be remembered for your prowess in armoured war."

Field Marshal Montgomery – "You will be long remembered for your prowess in armoured war".

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO 97 YEAR OLD GUARDSMAN WALTER FOSTER 3SG

For some time Italy, we have trying to locate older Scots Guardsmen who aren't known to the Association. I read in a Facebook group which researches 6 Guards (Tank) Brigade history that it was the 97th birthday of Walter Foster who served in 3SG during World War 2. Walter lives in South Wales and I was able send him a Regimental card of best wishes from you all.



Gdsm Walter Foster.