

# 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

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

**Palace of Holyrood 1965**

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**Front Page Photograph:**  
**100<sup>th</sup> HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES**

**Many Congratulations ~ Desmond Collett hits the Bullseye with his 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 3 March 2024.**

**Left: Major Hugh Cantlie of SGA Berks, Bucks & Oxon visited Des Collett at his care home at Chipping Norton, Oxon on his birthday.**

**Right: 14592635 Gdsm Desmond Collett after World War 2. Des enlisted on 15 April 1943. On passing out of the Guards Depot he then moved to the Scots Guards Training Bn before joining 1SG in Tunisia. The Battalion embarked for Italy by sea, landing in late January. Des was taken POW at Anzio on 10 February 1944 during 2 months of hard fighting.**

**After the war Des Collett was a police dog handler.**

**On 8 May 2020 on 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day Des received a letter of thanks for his service to the Regiment from Brigadier Nickerson (then Regt Lt Col).**

**On 3 March 2024 Des received a 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Card from HM The King.**

**WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING APRIL IN CONFLICTS SINCE 1945**

**1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Scots Guards Egypt 1951 – 1954.**

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

**DEATHS**

**ASSOCIATION MEMBERS**

**Third Guards Club**

Major David Walter. Died 27 February 2024. Age 90. Served RMAS May 1952 – Feb 1954. 1SG Egypt & Windsor. 2SG London & Kenya to Sept 1964. He was a former President of SGA Central Branch.

Captain Francis Spencer. Died 18 March 2024. Age 83. Served from March 1959. Served 1SG & 2SG Kenya, 1SG Invalided out Apl 1965. Lived South Africa.

2Lt Keith McFarlane Carmichael. Died 21 March 2024. Age 90. Served as a National Service officer from Oct 1952 to March 1955 with 1SG in Egypt.

**SGA Dundee & Angus**

23229729 L/Sgt Bruce Kelly. Died 19 March 2024. Served G Coy, 2SG late 1950s. He was a Dundee Council official and a Past Secretary of the Branch until 2002. The funeral will take place at 1430hrs on Wednesday 3rd of April 2024 at Dundee Crematorium.

**NON ASSOCIATION MEMBERS**

23517509 Gdsm Frank Powell. Died 25 February 2024. Age 87. Served 2SG MT Pltn, Sept 1958 – Jan 1961. Lived West Lothian.

Andrew Naismith. Died 3 March 2024. Served from 1971 2SG including Falkland Islands 1982. Lived Sleaford, Lincolnshire.

24670233 L/Cpl Scott Salthouse Died 29 February 2024. Aged 57. Served C Coy 1SG, Enlisted Aug 1984 to Jan 1993. Also served RAMC TA. Funeral 3 April 2024 1415hrs Grimsby Crematorium, North East Lincolnshire.

24021280 Dmr William Alexander Died 12 March 2024. Enlisted 1965 Served 1SG 1969 -1977 as a Drummer in the Pipes & Drums. Former member SGA Aberdeen & North East Scotland.

**WORLD WAR 2 GUARDSMAN**

2702293 Gdsm James Douglas Barrie. Died 11 March 2024. Aged 99. Served from approx 1942 with 3<sup>rd</sup> (Tank) Bn Scots Guards, in Normandy & NW Europe from July 1944. Lived Callander.

**Funeral Of Eddie McKay**

Eddie's funeral takes place on Tuesday 16 April 2024 at 1200hrs at All Saints Church, New Road, Hackbridge, CR4 4JN. Please note that it will be family members only at the Crematorium.

There will be a wake afterwards at The Grange, Beddington Park, London Road, Wallington, SM6 7BT.



## ASSOCIATION NEWS

### SGA Dundee & Angus

The Annual General Meeting of the Dundee & Angus Branch of the Scots Guards Association is to take place at 1200hrs on Saturday, 6 April, 2024 in the St Davids, Veterans Club, 86 Nethergate, Dundee.

We welcome as many Branch members as possible and any non-member serving or veteran Scots Guardsmen from the area, to attend. Don't be a stranger!

A light lunch of Gurkha Curry or Pies & Beans and refreshments will be provided on the day at the conclusion of the AGM.

The Bi-Monthly branch meeting will take place after the AGM.

For any further information, please contact either Chairman Kenny Duffy or Treasurer Gordon Peebles.

### SGA Highlands & Islands

SGA Highlands & Islands Branch next monthly meeting will be in the Inverness Legion at 1900hrs on Thurs 4th April. It'll be our formal Annual General meeting. Be great to see as many members as possible there.

Need to know more contact Branch Secretary Harry Obern ~ Tel: 01463 717022

### SGA Glasgow

The AGM of the Glasgow Branch of the SGA will take place on Friday 5 April at 1930hrs in the Glasgow Art Club.

Any member that would like an issue or question raised, please let Secretary Colin Downie know 07956 526283 A curry and a beverage will be served after the meeting a good attendance is requested . Any Scots Guardsmen serving or retired is welcome to attend.

### AGM's Completed

#### SGA Berks, Bucks & Oxon

The AGM was held on Thursday 28 March at Datchet Golf Club

The branch officials are:

**President:** Major The Honourable GCW Grimston

**Chairman:** Trevor Elliot

**Secretary:** Jim Simmonds

**Treasurer:** Ron Booth

Mrs Christine McCullins has taken on the role as Branch Almoner.

### SGA Fife

Branch AGM took place at The CISWO, Glenrothes on Sunday 24 March.

The branch officials are:

**President:** Sir Robert Spencer Nairn

**Chairman:** Gordon Dickson

**& Treasurer**

**Secretary:** Neil Crockett

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### SGA Edinburgh & The Lothians

The Branch held its AGM on 13 February in the Scots Guards Club, Jim McPherson stood down as Chairman after sterling service to the branch. Ted Middlemass was voted in to become Chairman.

The branch officials are:

**President:** Major (Retd) R Nichol

**Chairman:** Ted Middlemass

**Secretary :** Danny Minto

**& Treasurer**

The **Branch Annual Dinner** will take place at the Scots Guards Club on Friday 26 April 202

## SGA BORDERS DINNER & SGA SURREY LUNCH



**SGA Borders Dinner @ Hawick Rugby Club ~ Saturday 9 March :**  
**Left: Danny Minto, Mark McKay, Craig Dickson (Son), Gordon Dickson (Dad), LSgt Mark Macrae. Tam Laidlaw.**

**Right: Including Davie Richardson, Alastair McCarthy, 2x Borders Household Cavalry, Peter McFarlane (SGA Corby, Central & Eastern).**



**SGA Borders:**  
**Left: Major Iain Dalzel Job (President) & LSgt Macrae.**

**Right: Top Table Including Major Andrew Bell, Rev'd John Murdoch, Margaret Crockett, CQMS Ducie (Regt Rep)**



**SGA Surrey Lunch @ The Cricketers, Horsell ~ Saturday 23 March.**  
**Left: David O'Connell, Mrs Jo Clarkson, Mrs Mhari O'Connell, Gavin & Mrs Kath Ives (daughter & son in law of Jo Clarkson). Right: Mrs Pippa Warren, Mrs Faye Coffield & Major Jeremy Warren (President).**

## FORECAST OF EVENTS UNTIL JUNE 2024

### APRIL

Fri 26 SGA Edinburgh & The Lothians Dinner ~ SGA Club. 1900 – 1930hrs.

### JUNE

Sat 1 Major General's Review for King's Birthday Parade.

Thu 6 D – Day 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert, Usher Hall, Edinburgh.

Sat 8 The Colonel's Review for King's Birthday Parade.

Sat 15 King's Birthday Parade ~ 9 Company Irish Guards.

Sat 15 SGA Glasgow Garden Party / Summer BBQ ~ Windyhills, Kilmacolm.

W/E 14 – 17 Tumbledown Veterans & Families Association ~ Blackpool Weekend.

Sat 22 Armed Forces Day, Edinburgh, St Andrew's Square.

Sat 29 National Armed Forces Day ~ Most Regions

### BITS & PIECES

#### CSGT WILLIAM MCGREGOR ~ 1<sup>ST</sup> BATTALION SCOTS FUSILIER GUARDS

Last month I reported on CSgt William McGregor, his photograph from after the Crimea War in 1856 which had been copied recently in a painting by Jan Timmer in Holland.

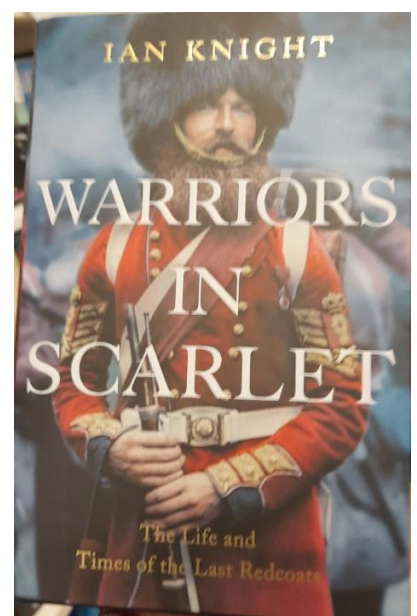
Early March I spotted the same photograph on a book cover in Waterstones. By Ian Knight, called "Warriors in Scarlet" it's about the life & times of the last redcoats.



Original B&W photograph



Jan Timmer's Painting



The Book Cover

The sharp eyed will notice that on the book cover CSgt McGregor only wears the Medjidie Turkish Medal but in the original B&W photograph he wears 2 medals.

**REGIMENTAL PIPERS SWEEP THE BOARD AT THE ARMY SCHOOL OF BAGPIPE MUSIC & HIGHLAND DRUMMING @ INCHDREWER HOUSE, EDINBURGH**



This photo has been seen widely of Regimental Social Media, but it's worth sharing again to those who perhaps missed it. Hard work pays off and Pipers have done themselves proud. 9 Scots Guards Pipers passed off the course and between them they won 7 prizes. Best Intermediate Piper - Piper Lang, Best Dressed Student - LSgt Alison, Best Elementary Piper - Piper Scott Most improved Piper - Piper Bremner, Best Piper & Best Highland Dancer ( 2 awards) - Piper Mowett, Best Dressed Class 3 Student - Piper Benson. The Adjutant, Regimental Sergeant Major & Pipe Major joined them for the prize giving.

LSgt Bell also recently completed his Pipe Major's Course. A great result all around for Scots Guards piping.

**SGA BORDERS DINNER / PROMOTIONS TO WARRANT OFFICER CLASS II**

At the SGA Borders Dinner in early March I had the pleasure to sit next to CQMS Stewart Ducie of Right Flank 1<sup>st</sup> Bn Scots Guards. It was interesting to catch up on 'Q' matters, myself also being a past CQMS Right Flank. Then I worked it out and it was just 40 years before! He attended with LSgt Andrew Brown from the Mortar Platoon and they both spoke to give a report on what the Regiment was up to.

I was pleased to read in the past week that CQMS Ducie along with CSgt Anderson, CSgt Callahan, CSgt Masters, CSgt McCutcheon and CSgt McGahan have promoted to WOII. Congratulations to them all.



**CQMS Stewart Ducie**



**LSgt Andrew Brown**

**Regimental News @ the SGA Borders/ Dinner**





**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO 99 YEAR OLD GUARDSMAN WALTER FOSTER 3SG**

On Wednesday 13 March I was able to wish Walter happy 99th birthday from you all.

Walter previously came to our attention in 2022 when it was his 97<sup>th</sup> birthday. His granddaughter mentioned it on a Facebook group which researches the history of 6<sup>th</sup> Guards Tank Brigade. Walter lives in South Wales.



**Gdsm Walter Foster**

**“Do you have a copy of SURVIVE TO FIGHT by the MOD?  
Oh. You do? wonderful”**



**Yellow Pages ~ JR Hartley**



**Trained Soldier @ The Guards Depot**

**REGIMENTAL BATTLE HONOURS  
THE COLOURS ARE DECKED WITH LAUREL**

**27 APRIL ~ DJEBEL BOU AOUKAZ, 1943, I**