

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**

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Front Page Photographs:

In recent years the French Government has awarded the Legion d' Honneur to living World War 2 veterans who took part in the battle to liberate France. On Saturday 18 January 2019 at Towneley Hall, Ted Davidson was presented with the French Legion d' Honneur watched by friends and members of the Scots Guards Association - Preston Branch, other veterans, alongside members of the Regimental Recruiting Team.



14698579 Gdsm Ted Davidson Legion d' Honneur

Since this award Ted has been involved and attended events that have been organised by the Scots Guards Association Preston Branch and other Scots Guardsmen from across Lancashire.

Ted Davidson served with the 3rd (Tank) Battalion Scots Guards during World War 2 from Normandy to VE Day 8 May 1945 in Germany, then beyond. He specifically served with the Forward Delivery Squadron. Ted will be 98 years old on 8 September 2023. Unfortunately Ted had a heart attack on 18 July, he was in hospital until being released on Tuesday 25 July. He is now resting at home and is having NHS care team call in. The initial information of Ted's heart attack came to our notice from Colin Foster (3SG historian & friend of the Regiment), Major Mark Cape quickly became aware and called on local men of the Preston Branch to see how we could help.

As per the photograph Micky Nutter (SGA Preston Secretary) has already called to check how Ted's progressing, as will Jason Bray & others. Branch Chairman Alf Clempson who is Armed Forces Champion for Lancashire County Council is also in the loop.

Ted has a close group of friends nearby to where he lives in Padiham, Burnley. Although he doesn't have any immediate family, he has become good friends with Maureen & her singer daughter Grace O'Malley and they watch out for him.

He is an infectious character and a proud Scots Guardsman, with a smile on his face which is priceless. We wish him a rapid return to health.

WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING AUGUST IN CONFLICTS SINCE 1945

Afghanistan

1 August 2010 25081839 LSgt Dale McCallum age 31. B Company 1st Bn Scots Guards, Killed Checkpoint Said Abdul.

Northern Ireland

11 August 1978 24312328 LCpl Alan Swift age 25. Killed Bogside, Londonderry.

2 August 1992 24754493 Gdsm Damian Shackleton age 24 Right Flank 1st Battalion Scots Guards,; Killed New Lodge, Belfast.



LSgt Dale McCallum



LCpl Alan Swift



Gdsm Damian Shackleton

DEATHS

Association Members

Glasgow Branch, Guards Parachute Association, SG Malaya & Borneo Veterans

23696792 Gdsm Eddie Simpson Died 22 July 2023. Served 1958 - 1967. Orderly to the late Brigadier Sir Gregor MacGregor of MacGregor when he was Brigade Major to 16 Parachute Brigade. Served 1SG Malaya & Borneo. Funeral will take place on Monday 7 August at 1000hrs in St Benedict Chapel, St Benedict Church 755 Westerhouse Road Easterhouse Glasgow G34 9RP. There will be a further committal at Daldowie Crematorium, Uddingston, Glasgow G71 7RO.

Berks, Bucks & Oxon Branch

23517516 LSgt Ron Stephen Died 27 July 2023. Served 2SG 1960s.

Non Association Members

23866069 Frederick Menzies. Died early July 2023. Served 2SG 1960 – 69. Lived Fraserburgh.

WO2 Alan Fotheringham. Died 21 July 2023. Served 1SG 1971 – 1994 Mortar Pltn.

Funeral will take place at 1200hrs on Thursday 3 August at Andrew Smith Funeral Directors, 17 Tytler Street, Forres, Morayshire, IV36 1EL Then to Clovenside Cemetery, Forres and afterwards to Mosset Tavern.

SCOTS GUARDS WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANT PAST & PRESENT ASSOCIATION ~ DINNER

Johnny Halliday President of the Scots Guards Warrant Officers and Sergeants Past & Present Association invites & encourages members to attend.

After a difficult few years the Annual Dinner of the Association returns.

The Dinner will be held on Friday 8 September 2023 @ The Scotsman Hotel, 20 North Bridge, Edinburgh, EH1 1TR.

Tickets are £30 (Members) & £40 (Guests). Details to apply for tickets & payment RQMS James Scott at Regimental Headquarters (Secretary & Treasurer of WOs and Sgts P&P Assoc).

Payment for tickets via BACS transfer to

Scots Guards Past & Present Assn

Sort Code: 30 – 11- 75

Account Number: 00575188

Alternatively via cheque, made payable to **Scots Guards Past & Present Assn.**

Postal address:

RQMS J Scott

Scots Guards RHQ

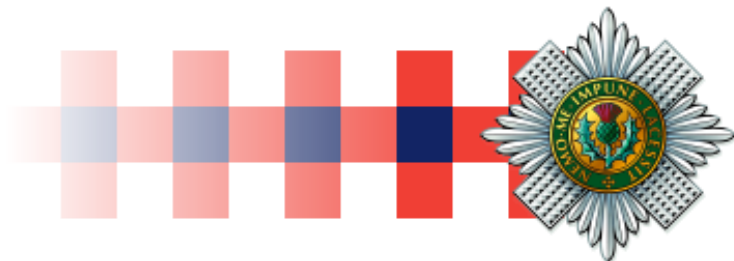
Wellington Barracks

Birdcage Walk

London

SWE 6HQ





REGIMENTAL GATHERING SATURDAY & SUNDAY 23 & 24 SEPTEMBER 2023

Information about tickets for the Gathering has now been circulated to SGA Branches and across the Regimental family including on our SGA Facebook Group.

Saturday 23 Sept 1100hrs	St Andrew Square, Edinburgh ~ The Regimental Band & 1st Battalion Pipes & Drums.
Saturday 23 Sept Day / Eve	The Scots Guards Club will be open.
Saturday 23 Sept 1900hrs	The Regimental Band & 1SG Pipers will play in Concert at Dunfermline Abbey. Capacity – 400 (including General Public) Tickets are req'd although the concert is free.
Saturday 23 Sept 2045hrs	A Buffet Supper in Dunfermline Legion Scotland Club. Capacity - 150 Tickets Req'd £7.50 Per Person.
Sunday 24 Sept 1200hrs – 1630hrs	Regimental Gathering @ Broomhall House, Dunfermline. Entry by Programme £5.00 Per Person. Children under 14 – Free The day will start with a short parade when the salute will be taken by HRH The Colonel.

Tickets and full information for the weekend will be posted out by mid to late August.

The Regimental Gathering is getting closer – Book your tickets now!

If you haven't received information or have a question please email Neil Crockett sga@scotsguards.org or phone 01383 721530



The Band would like to take the opportunity to introduce you to our new Director of Music (DOM), Major Evin Frost who joins us from his last appointment as DOM of The Band of The Royal Regiment of Scotland. Major Frost has been in post a few months, we look forward to seeing him & the whole Regimental Band at all parts of the Gathering 23 & 24 September.

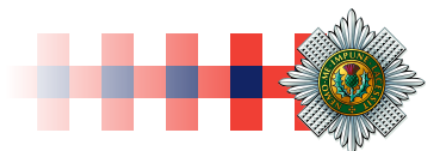
SCOTS GUARDS ASSOCIATION

18 REGIONAL BRANCHES ACROSS THE UK

1 BRANCH IN AUSTRALIA - 1 BRANCH IN NORTH AMERICA

BRANCH	SECRETARY	EMAIL	TELEPHONE
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Tumbledown Vets & Fams Assoc	Heather McGrath	Jmhmcgrath72@gmail.com	07522 500365
Malaya & Borneo Veterans	Sandy Low	sandy.low57@gmail.com	01723 892049
SGA Pipes & Drums (Scotland)	Iain Lowther	iain-lowther68@outlook.com	07484 637188

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



ASSOCIATION DINNERS SEPTEMBER – JANUARY 2024

Contact your local SGA Branch Secretary to attend ~ Support your Local Branch.

Sat 2 Sep	SGA Durham & Yorkshire Branch, Woodham Golf Club, Newton Aycliffe.
Sat 9 Sep	SGA North America.
Fri 6 Oct	SGA Glasgow - Date & venue TBC
Sat 7 Oct	SGA Carlisle, Dumfries & Galloway – Auctioneer, Rosehill Estate, Carlisle, CA1 2RW
Fri 13 Oct	SGA Dundee & Angus, Invercarse Hotel, Dundee.
Sat 21 Oct	SGA Berks, Bucks & Oxon, Datchet Golf Club.
Fri 27 Oct	SGA Aberdeen & NE Scotland, Althens Hotel, Aberdeen.
Wed 1 Nov	SGA Manchester, Ukrainian Club, Cheetham Hill, Manchester (Lunch).
Fri 3 Nov	SGA Ayrshire, RAFA Club, Prestwick.
Fri 10 Nov	SGA Fife, Dean Park Hotel, Kirkcaldy.
Fri 17 Nov	SGA Preston, Masonic Club, Preston.
Sat 25 Nov	SGA Pipers, SG Club, Edinburgh.
Sat 27 Jan 2024	SGA Highlands & Islands, Inverness.

SGA Carlisle, Dumfries & Galloway Branch Summer Event

On Sunday 2 July a summer event was held by Lockerbie at the home of the Branch President, Major Sir Malcolm MacGregor & his wife Fiona Armstrong, Lady MacGregor. The weather and forecast wasn't good with the wind threatening to blow the gazebo shelters away. A fatigue party was quickly summoned on Saturday evening with a decision to drop the tentage. On Sunday the weather was still a concern and a decision made by the hosts that we should hold an indoor event in their home.

The food cooked by Pat (father of Captain Paul Cody) was great. LSgt Mark McCrae was on hand to play his pipes during the afternoon and there were also 2 singers encouraging us to **'Sing Along.'** All in all, a nice laid back afternoon which was enjoyed by everyone. Thank you to Major Sir Malcolm MacGregor and Fiona, Lady MacGregor for their hospitality.



LSgt Mark McCrae, Don (Tiny) Potter, Mrs Potter & Margaret Crockett listen in.

SGA Fife – Golf Competition @ Thornton Golf Club.

Fife Branch held their annual golf competition at Thornton Golf Club on Friday 2 July.

The Winners:

The Chairman's Trophy (Scratch Winner)	- Major Ron Clemison
Scratch Runner Up	- Iain Lowther
The George Stenhouse Claret Jug (Handicap Winner)	- Jim Farmer
Handicap Runner Up	- Iain Newton
The Syd Stewart Claret Jug (Guest Winner – On Handicap)	- George Welsh
Guest Runner Up	- John Sellars
Nearest The Pin	- Callum Lowther (Guest – son of Iain Lowther)
Longest Drive	- George Welsh

After the golf we were joined in the clubhouse by non golfers and our ladies for high tea.



Left: Paddy McEnhill & Fife Chairman Gordon Dickson on hand at the Tee Off of Branch Golfers Kevin Coyle, Jim Farmer & Iain (Dan) Newton.



Right: Winners Jim Farmer (Handicap Winner), George Welsh (Guest Winner), John Sellars (Guest Runner – Up), Gordon Dickson, Iain Lowther (Scratch Runner – Up), Callum Lowther (Nearesr The Pin), Conner Pratt (Guest), Iain (Dan) Newton (Handicap Runner – Up). The winner of the Chairman's Trophy (Scratch Winner) was Major Ron Clemison.



All Smiles: Jim Farmer (Handicap Winner)

Scots Guards Association Pipes & Drums (Scotland) ~ On Parade in Perth ~ Sunday 6 August 2023

Led by Pipe Major Iain Lowther the SGA Pipes & Drums (Scotland) will take part in the City of Perth Salute on Sunday August 6. A fantastic parade, with blends of military and civilian bands, Scottish Military vehicles, music and dance from local and national performers, will kick off the Salute at 12 Noon, leaving Thimble Row and marching down Old High Street, High Street to Tay Street and finishing at the North Inch Arena and Grandstand.

This is part of a wider event taking place on the same day in Perth.

SGA Carlisle, Dumfries and Galloway ~ Old Photograph on TV Programme

Monday 24 July 1630hrs ~ Seen by TV watchers of BBC1 "Antiques Road Trip" 2x TV presenters touring Cumbria looking for collectables which they buy and then sell on hopefully at a profit. They found an item of Regimental interest a photograph which the frame goes some way to explain the occasion. It was bought from the Spotted Toadstool, Kirkbride, Cumbria. The lucky presenter bought it for £15 and sold it on for £35.



The Carlisle Branch of the Scots Guards Association held their Annual Dinner at the Silver Grill, Carlisle on Friday 22 November 1957 when 160 Branch members sat down to dinner. The roll of members of the time lists some well known Scots Guardsmen including Major General Sir George Johnston who held some key appointments during WW2. In 1957 he was Major General London District (he was the first officer to win a King's Medal as best shot in the Army). The Carlisle Branch was particularly honoured to have attending on the occasion the Colonel of the Regiment, HRH The Duke of Gloucester.

Major Willie Whitelaw MC was later well known as a Member of Parliament, In Margaret Thatcher's Government he was Northern Ireland Secretary, Home Secretary and Deputy Prime Minister. Major Whitelaw served during the war as a Sqn Comd & then as Bn 2ic of 3SG, later he was Branch President until the late 1980's.

Also in the photograph were the Branch President, Colonel GM Kinmont OBE & Dick Cowen who was a local police inspector

3 Members of the Branch in 1957 were awarded Military Medals during World War 2, Sandy Bremner (1SG Italy), Joe Stephenson & Vic Mutch (both 2SG North Africa).

2 members in the Branch in 1957 and still in 2023 are Sid Dixon and Tom Ross (Dumfries).

Sad News

The following message comes from Major John McCallum, who sadly lost his beloved wife in a tragic road traffic accident, on the 16 July 2023:

For all those wishing to attend the celebration of my gorgeous wife's Sandra Kerr McCallum life. Myself and her daughters would like to invite you all to attend Sandra's funeral. The funeral will take place at 1100hr on Tuesday 8th August 2023, at:

South Dalziel Historic Building
240 Orbiston Street
Motherwell
ML1 1QF

Entrance to the church will be from Windmill St end.

Following the service we will move to Bothwellpark Cemetery for the committal. There will be a small coach available for those requiring transport from the church to the cemetery and onto Dalziel Park.

Bothwellpark Cemetery
New Edinburgh Road
Bellshill
ML4 3HH

After the committal ceremony myself and the family would like to invited you all to attend the tea in Dalziel Park Country Club.

Dalziel Park Hotel & Golf Club
100 Hagen Drive,
Motherwell,
ML1 5RZ

I would also like to thank everyone for their kind words and support to myself and Sandra's daughters at this difficult time.

John McCallum

Funeral of The Earl of Airlie By Captain Hew Balfour

The funeral took place at Cortachy Castle on 6 July 2023. We slow marched Lord Airlie over the South Esk to lie next to his father and grandfather to the tune *Mist Covered Mountains* - entirely appropriate as it was raining heavily – and then we broke into quick time as the sun came out with *All the Blue Bonnets are over the Border*.



Left to Right: LSgt Liliequist, Captain the Lord Ramsay, Rev Neil Gardner, Minister of the Canongate Kirk, Edinburgh
Captain Hew Balfour, Captain Mark Tennant, PMaj J. Mitchell.

Lord Airlie was uncle to Captain Balfour and Captain Tennant.

Captain Balfour served from 1973 – 79 with 1st Battalion in Munster & Belfast. He was Adjutant of 1SG in Chelsea from 1977 - 1979.

Captain Tennant served from 1966 – 1973. He was Pltn Comd 1Pltn RF, 1SG in Edinburgh and Signals Pltn Comd in Chelsea & Sharjah.

Captain The Lord Ramsay is son of The Earl of Dalhousie (President of SGA Dundee & Angus), he served in the 1st Battalion and was also Equerry to HRH The Colonel.