

# 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

December 2021  
Volume 22 Issue 11

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## Front Page Photographs ~ Images of Remembrance

**Top Left: Regimental Veterans await the call to form up at the National Act of Remembrance at Whitehall, London.**

**Top Right: Members of F Company Sell Poppies at Victoria Station, London.**

**Bottom Left: Preparing to lay a wreath at Holy Trinity Church Windsor, Jimmy Wolff, Jim Simmonds (BBO Chairman) and Jim Nash (Treasurer).**

**Bottom Right: Preston City Parade Marshall , Michael Nutter get hands on to guide Ken Benbow, Royal Navy D Day Veteran into position.**

## WE REMEMBER SCOTS GUARDSMEN KILLED IN CONFLICTS DURING DECEMBER SINCE 1945

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Malaya Emergency 1948 – 1951**

29 December 1950    22215374 Gdsm Eric Duffell    Age 18.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Northern Ireland 1972**

19 December 1972    24022903 LCpl Colin Harker (REME) Age 24.    Died of wounds from shooting in Londonderry Sept 1972.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Northern Ireland 1973**

31 December 1973    24141230 Gdsm Alan Daughtery    Age 23.    Killed Belfast (Off Falls Road).

### **1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Iraq 2007**

13 December 2007    25065292 Gdsm Stephen Ferguson    Age 31.    South East Iraq.

## ASSOCIATION NEWS

### **SGA November Dinners Amongst Friends ~ By Association**



**Ayrshire – Jimmy McCulloch,  
John Benson & Callum Innes**



**Fife – Friends from Right Flank 1SG Chelsea mid 1970s. Ian Bryson,  
John Robertson & Tristram Carter**





**Fife – 2SG Falklands - Friends & Comrades**  
**Back: Ted Middlemas, John McLaren, Front: Mark McKay, Rab Nicol, Revd Angus Smith, Danny Minto & Mark Mathewson**



**Preston – Stan Jones, Allan Bunyan & WO1 (GSM) Anthony Gibson.**



**Fife: 1SG Mortarmen Back: Jimmy McCulloch, Kenny Duffy, Front: Paddy McEnhill, Jimmy Farmer, Sandy Rattray, Graham Fowler & Gordon Dickson.**



**Preston: Alf Clempson tries to take flight as he Addresses the Haggis, P/M Stephen Bennett.**



**Fife – Jimmy McCulloch & Davie Holmes friends from Junior Gdsm Coy days with Sandy Rattray. All friends from C Coy 1SG early 1970s.**



**Preston: Longtime friends Alf Clempson, Lt Col Steff Alexander, Charlie McKeown & Bruce Henderson.**



**London St Andrews Dinner: 4 Scots Guards Chelsea Pensioners ~ Colin Paterson, Dave Peggie, Alan Hayter, John Innes. PS: No 5 is a friendly Welsh Guardsman.**



**London: How great to see Eddie McKay looking so well alongside his wife Gillian.**



**London: The Piper tucks in, Dave Peggie, John Innes & Tom Ormiston.**



**Fife: Old Pals who went through the Guards Depot together. Frank McQuade, Jock Ritchie, & Ernie Melville**

Pictures paint a 1000 words ~ Scots Guards Association Dinners ~ nights of enjoyment "Amongst Friends"

## **LOOKING FORWARD TO 2022 ~ EARLY DATES TO SAVE IN YOUR DIARY**

Fri 21 January	SGA Glasgow Burns Supper, Lok Bar & Kitchen, Shawlands, Glasgow.
Sat 29 January	SGA Berks, Bucks & Ox Burns Supper, Datchet Golf Club.
Sat 5 February	SGA London Burns Supper, Esher Rugby Union Club.
Sat 19 February	The Rabbits Breakfast, Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh.
Sat 5 March	Swallae Ho, Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh.
Sat 2 April	SGA AGM, Wellington Barracks.
Sun 3 April	Regimental Remembrance Sunday, Guards Chapel.
Thu 2 June	Queen's Birthday Parade.
2 – 5 June	Queen's Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday Weekend.
Sat 4 June	Drums Company 2 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion Scots Guards Reunion, Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh.
10 – 13 June	40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration & Reunion, Tumbledown Veterans & Families Association, Blackpool.
30 July (TBC)	50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Op Motorman Reunion, Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh.



## Preston Branch



The poster for the Scots Guards Association - Preston Branch features a central text area with a blue border. On the left is a circular logo with a crown and the words 'SCOTS GUARDS ASSOCIATION'. On the right is a photo of a person jumping over a red ribbon. Below the central text is a photo of a group of children. At the bottom right is the 'RAINBOW HUB' logo, which consists of a colorful circular graphic and the text 'RAINBOW HUB'.

**Scots Guards Association - Preston Branch**

Music Evening in aid of Rainbow Hub  
Celebrating the 60s, 70s, 80s and more!  
St Gregory's Club Preston  
Friday 3rd December 2021

For more information contact  
Michael  
07976 909 001  
Jimmy  
07990 583 720  
Tickets £3.00  
Food available

Help us to help disabled children every day

RAINBOW HUB

Branch Secretary: Micky Nutter Mob: 07976 909001

## Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Branch

At Datchet Golf Club:

Friday 25th February 2022: Branch Monthly Meeting 1930hrs for 2000hrs.

Friday 25th March 2022: **Branch AGM** 1930hrs for 2000hrs.

Branch Secretary: Rab Ritchie email: [rab.ritchie@icloud.com](mailto:rab.ritchie@icloud.com) Tel: 07776 411120

## Borders Branch

The Branch give early notice of their Diamond (60<sup>th</sup>) Anniversary Dinner which will take place at Hawick Rugby Club on Saturday 12 March 2022. Scots Guardsmen in the Borders and beyond are invited to attend.

Branch Secretary is Eck Barclay email: [eck01uk@yahoo.com](mailto:eck01uk@yahoo.com) Tel: 07802 4422878

## London Branch

Saturday 5 February Burns Supper @ Esher Rugby Union Football Club, Surrey.

Contact Iain Blair email: [blair605@btinternet.com](mailto:blair605@btinternet.com) Tel: 07843 477772

## Durham & Yorkshire Branch

**3 Dec** Newton Aycliffe Big Club (Working Man's Club) 1900hrs. Social meeting / update. A Buffet will be provided at a cost of £5 with a private bar.

**5 Dec** Blue Ball Pub, Malton. Sunday Lunch and chat pre-Christmas. With a lift available from the Ripon area.

**21 Jan** Burns Night, Woodham Golf Club, Burnhill Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4PN. Cost of the evening will be £25 per head. More details soon. If you are attending let Secretary Mr Joe Lee by Email at [joe.lee6287@hotmail.com](mailto:joe.lee6287@hotmail.com)

## Fife Branch

The Branch will hold a Veterans Lunch for the over 65s on Thursday 9 December 2021 at Pinkertons, Glenrothes. A chance for a pre Christmas catch up in relaxed surroundings.



## **Carlisle Dumfries and Galloway Branch**

### **Christmas Lunch**

This year we sat down to our annual Christmas Dinner at the Hundith Hill Hotel, Cockermouth on the 28 November 2021. It is hard to believe that it's been 2 years since we last sat down together for our Christmas Dinner. It was touch and go, the snow was heavy in the morning which prevented some from making the journey, however the 43 members and guests that did attend had an excellent afternoon. The lunch was amazing. Our thanks go to Donald Potter who organised the lunch and to Phyllis Smith and Brenda Potter for running an excellent raffle which raised £83 towards our funds.



**Brenda Potter trying to persuade John to purchase some raffle tickets**



**Cath Cape looking mischievous having been challenged over the raffle tickets purchased.**

Unfortunately, the bad weather and a 3-day power cut stopped Maj Johnston and Catherine from attending the Christmas Dinner, therefore realising that the roads had cleared by the time we had finished our Dinner a small recce party made a surprise visit to Maj Johnson's home and presented him with a leaving gift for his outstanding leadership and guidance given to the Carlisle Dumfries and Galloway branch since 1985.



**Mrs Catherine Johnson receiving a bouquet of flowers from Donald, Brenda Potter and Cath Cape**



**Maj Johnson receiving his Montblanc pen from the branch chairman in recognition of the excellent leadership and guidance he has shown the branch since 1985.**

## DEATHS

### Association Members

#### Dundee & Angus

23229078 WO2 Bill Glennie. Died 26 October 2021 Served 2SG, Guards Depot & 1SG. Lived Dundee.

#### Fife / Malaya & Borneo Veterans

24021257 Sgt Jimmy McNally. Died 12 November 2021. Aged 73 Served mostly Left Flank 1SG Malaysia/Borneo, Edinburgh, Chelsea, Sharjah, Windsor, Munster. Lived Kelty, Fife. Funeral Thursday 2 December 1045hrs at Dunfermline Crematorium.

#### London / Berks, Bucks & Oxfordshire

24414489 LSgt Kevin Wildish. Died 21 November 2021. Served 1SG mainly Signals Pltn from 1976 to 1993. The funeral is on Friday 14 January 2022 at 1200 hours at the Thames View Crematorium, Gravesend Road, Shorne, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 3JH.

#### Malaya & Borneo Veterans

23878452 Gdsm Charlie Nash. Died 1 November 2021. Served 1SG including Malaya / Borneo 1964 – 67. Lived Kilmarnock.

### Non Association Members

23847725 Sgt Bill Reid. Died 31 October 2021. Served 1SG Pirbright & Malaya / Borneo, G Coy 1SG Belfast 1971 & C Coy 1SG Dungannon 1973. Served on staff at Junior Gdsm Coy. Lived Dunfermline.

LCpl Keith McKenzie. Died 11 November 2021. Served 2SG from 1983, also Guards Parachute Pltn, transferred to Parachute Regt. Lived Edinburgh.

## THE SERVING REGIMENT

### 1SG November Update

The main focus for the Battalion throughout October & November has been the 'Road to the Jungle' for Exercise Mayan Storm. Exercise Mayan Storm is an Overseas Training Exercise in Belize. 1SG deployed from 18 Oct and will all have returned by 10 Dec 21. The Battalion will deliver a dry and live-fire exercise to B Coy (with a fourth Pl attached from Household Cavalry Regiment); C Coy (with a fourth platoon attached from 4 SCOTS), and A Sqn Royal Lancers. Training will be conducted using facilities provided and enabled by British Army Training Support Unit Belize (BATSUB). The overseas training exercise is maximising deployment opportunity - with 470 service personnel deploying from across 23 units. There will be a firm focus on mastering the basics (shoot, move, give, communicate, medicate) and individual and small team soldiering leading up to Coy and Bn activity. The OTX will culminate with adventurous training and what will be some well-earned rest and recuperation. There will be Defence Engagement throughout with community projects being delivered throughout 1SG's time away.



The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Battle Group took time out of the Belizean Jungle for an Act of Remembrance.



## Bits & Pieces

### Indonesian Confrontation – 1SG in Borneo in the 1960s

The Regimental Historical Committee have been approached by Professor Matthew Hughes of Brunel University, an established military historian, in connection with studies into the Indonesian Confrontation in which 1SG were involved in the mid 1960s. We have said that we are prepared to advertise what he is doing through the Regimental networks, as described below. It is entirely a matter for individuals to speak to him if they wish to do so and this is not a regimental project as such.

He would like very much to speak to any Scots Guardsmen who served in Borneo and if any are willing to speak with him (in person, on Teams/Skype/phone) he is writing a book (on the whole Confrontation) and two academic articles (one on how soldiers saw local people and the other on the legal superstructure in Sarawak, Sabah and Brunei of colonial laws that were used after 1962). Specifically in talking to veterans he is interested in asking about:

Local people: The views of British soldiers towards local tribespeople – why did soldiers interpret Ibans and Dayaks positively? What did they think of local customs, drinking, tattooing, social relations, position of tribal women, head hunting etc?

Hearts and Minds: what did the phrase “hearts and minds” mean to the average Guardsman on the ground?

Border Scouts: did soldiers use local trackers and/or interpreters? (Language and social interchange with local peoples interest him.)

Intelligence: how did the Scots Guards gather intelligence – MIOs, FIOs and Border Scouts and Special Branch?

Confrontation: did you engage in any firefights with Indonesians? If so, what happened? (As a military historians use of weapons and tactical systems interest him.)

Police: did you have any dealings with the local police?

Kuching: did you ever spend time back in Kuching or were you always up on the border?

He sends any quotations to the veterans concerned if he intends to use them in publication. His contact details follow.

**Professor Matthew Hughes JP, BA, MSc, PhD, PGCE, FRHistS**

Department of Social and Political Sciences

Marie Jahoda Building 210

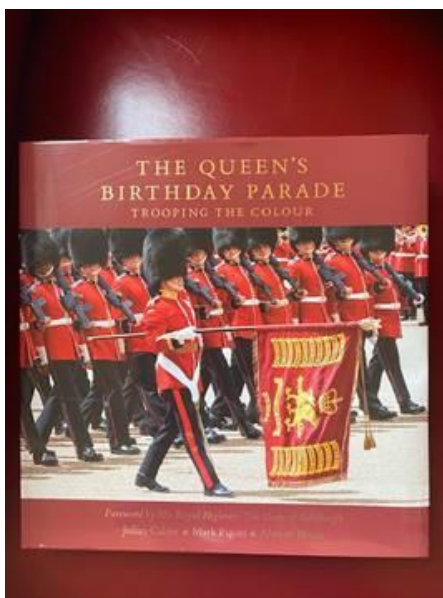
Uxbridge UB8 3PH

**Brunel University London**

T +44 (0)1895 266872 | E [matthew.hughes@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:matthew.hughes@brunel.ac.uk)

## Looking for Christmas Presents

Are you familiar with this excellent book, recently updated.



Julian Calder has kindly agreed to sell some remaining copied for **half price** (£25). Can there be a better Christmas present...?

If you are interested please let Neil Crockett (email [sga@scotsguards.org](mailto:sga@scotsguards.org)) know asap so he can collate a list and pass it on to the Regt Adjt.

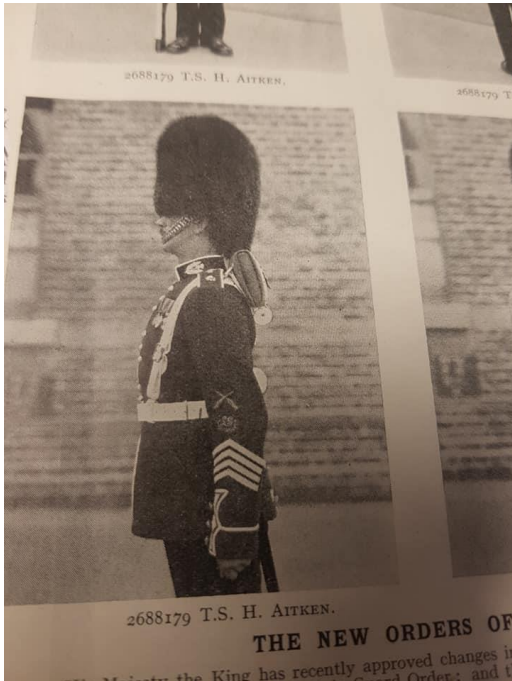


## A Little Bit of Regimental History.

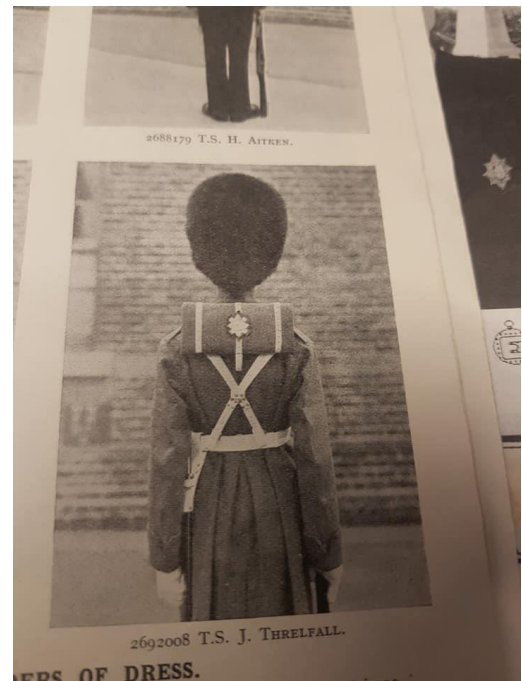
Paul Dickson of the SGA Edinburgh & The Lothians Branch who works at the Poppy Factory was handed a Scots Guards Association Magazine dated 1937. Paul has sent it to the Regimental Historical Committee, C/O RHQ.

It includes photographs of historical interest of Guardsmen (Trained Soldiers) at the Guards Depot, Caterham in 1937. From what you can read the photographs are to show new Orders of Dress in Guard Order. Until October 1936 "Guard Order" for Other Ranks consisted of a folded greatcoat worn on the back above a folded cape, with much buff equipment including two pouches to keep cape & greatcoat in place. The change was the greatcoat was removed and only the cape was carried. The cape was folded to size 14 inches x 6.5 inches with 3 folds and a valise star in the centre. The cape worn high on the back in line with the piping of the tunic collar piping.

Ian Shand commented on Facebook that his father said that they had to halt and put on capes one day on the way to mount guard from Chelsea. Afterwards, the road was littered with all sorts as the capes once folded into shape were stuffed with bits and pieces to keep them in perfect parade ground shape.



**2688179 TS Henry Aitken**



**2692008 TS Joseph Threlfall**

**2688179 Trained Soldier Henry Aitken.** Born 1896. Enlisted on 2 December 1915 aged 19.5 years at Aberdeen. Occupation was Estate Workman. When he was enlisted his Regimental Number was 14887. In 1920 his number changed when the numbering system became army wide with the Scots Guards allocation being 2688001 – 2714000.

He had service in World War 1 and was awarded the British War Medal & the Victory Medal which can be seen on his Tunic. He also wears 4 Good Conduct Chevrons, a Marksman with Rifle & Light Machine Gun.

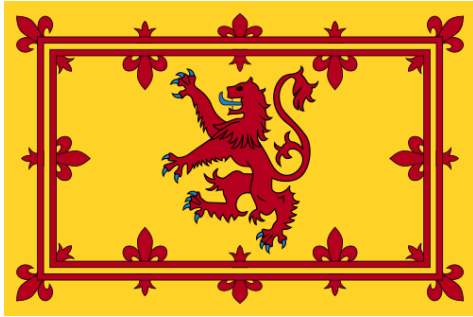
In 1937 he was 41 years old. When he was discharged on 12 August 1947 just short of 32 years service he was 51 years old, a real old soldier.

**2692008 Trained Soldier Joseph Threlfall.** Born 1904. Enlisted on 4 January 1926 aged 21 at Preston. He was a Labourer from Lancaster. He originally enlisted for 3 years with 9 in the reserve. Served in 2SG in China April 1927 – April 1929. All of his service thereafter was mostly at the Gds Depot, Caterham as K Company Storeman and he was promoted LCpl.

He was awarded Defence Medal & 1939 – 45 Medal. He was also awarded Long Service & Good Conduct Medal which was then for 18 years service. He was discharged in February 1947 after 21 years.

## SGA Newsletter – Next Edition

The next edition will be published around 15 December as a Christmas / New Year Edition. Thereafter the next edition will be published on 31 January 2022.



**WITH VERY BEST WISHES**