

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**

**December 2022
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Images of Remembrance ~ Front Page Photographs

Top Left: IP Colin Thackery winner of 2019 Britain's Got Talent with GSM Gibson at St Andrew's Square, Edinburgh.

Top Right: Regimental Detachment waiting to form up for Cenotaph Parade on Remembrance Sunday in London.

Bottom Left: P/M Bennett plays "The Craggs of Tumbledown" at the Festival of Remembrance at Royal Albert Hall.

Bottom Centre: Defence Secretary Captain Ben Wallace MP (President Preston Branch) Poppy Selling Parade at London Railway Station.

Bottom Right: Rab Ritchie on parade at Datchet War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday.

WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING DECEMBER IN CONFLICTS SINCE 1945

2nd Battalion Malaya Emergency 1948 – 1951

29 December 1950 22215374 Gdsm Eric Duffell Age 18.

2nd Battalion Northern Ireland 1972

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

2nd Battalion Northern Ireland 1973

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

1st Battalion Iraq 2007

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

ASSOCIATION NEWS

AUTUMN IS THE TIME OF DINNERS PART 2

A selection of photographs from November dinners:



Left: SGA Ayrshire Top Table: Includes Neil Crockett, Bruce Walker (father), Lt Roland Walker (son), F Company. Major Graham Brady Coy Comd G (Messines) Coy, Major Peter Clapton (Ayrshire President). Bruce Walker lived in Hong Kong when 1SG served there 1981 – 84.



Right: Father & Son @ Fife Dinner: Gordon & Craig Dickson (Edinburgh & Lothians Branch).



Fife - Served ISG Hohne 1987 – 1991 ~ Back: Gordon Dickson, Gordon Peebles, Iain (Dan) Newton, Kenny Duffy, Captain John Bulloch. Front: Paddy McEnhill, Major Tim Hutchison, Captain Ian Amos, Major Ron Clemison, Major Ray Walker, George Cameron, Lt Col Andrew Foster, Neil Crockett.



Ayrshire: John Benson takes a bow



Fife: Colin (Huck) Hollomby & Ted Middlemass



Preston: L- R Including Alf Clempson, GSM Anthony Gibson, Michael Nutter, Captain Ben Wallace, LSgt Warren, Major Will Hogarth-Jones.

DEATHS

ASSOCIATION

Dundee & Angus

22450249 Sgt Jim Ritchie. Died 11 November 2022. Age 90. Served 2SG & No1 (Guards) Independent Para Company, Egypt, Kenya, Malaya, Cyprus. Served in Dundee & Angus Constabulary / Tayside Police. Lived Kerriemuir

Fife

23517453 Gdsm James Hamilton Died 27 October 2022. Age 82. Lived Glenrothes.

Surrey

22551922 WO1 (RSM) Brian Walker. Died 8 November 2022. Served as a Boy Drummer and in both Bn's including as CSM & RQMS 2SG in the mid 1970s. RSM at RAEC Beaconsfield to 1979. Lived Cornwall. Older brother of Major Ray Walker.

Glasgow

24000401 Henry (Harry) Lavery. Died 29 November 2022. Served 2SG Mid 60's, Served G Coy 1SG 1971. Lived Glasgow

Aberdeen & North East Scotland

24000443 Sgt Jimmy Clunes Died 27 November 2022. Lived Aberdeen. Served 2SG, 1SG & AYT Carlisle mid 60s to mid 80s.



**Jimmy Clunes (SGA Aberdeen & NE Scotland) Standard Bearer
With Captain Graham Fowler & Ian Kaye ~ they served together in 15 Pltn, LF 2SG**

NON ASSOCIATION

Drummer James Pedder. Died 14 September 2022. Served 2SG. Enlisted 1972. Lived Stirlingshire.

23703064 Gdsm William Darmody. Died 26 October 2022. Served 1SG & 2SG MT 1960 – 63 including Kenya. Lived Lochgelly. Past member Fife Branch.

FORECAST OF EVENTS FOR YOUR SCOTS GUARDS DIARY 2023

January

- Sat 14 SGA Glasgow Burns Supper, Glasgow Arts Club. Bath Street.
- Sat 21 SGA Berks, Bucks and Oxon Burns Supper, Datchet Golf Club.
- Fri 27 SGA Highlands & Islands Rearranged Annual Dinner, Chieftain Hotel, Inverness.
- Sat 28 SGA London Burns Supper, Epsom Rugby Club.

February

- Sat 25 Rabbits Breakfast – Scots Guards Club.

March

- Sat 4 Swallae Ho Reunion – Scots Guards Club.
- Sat 11 SGA Borders, Annual Dinner, Hawick Rugby Club.

April

- Sat 15 SGA Annual General Meeting, Wellington Barracks, London
- Sun 16 Regimental Remembrance Sunday, Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, London

May

- Sat 6 Coronation Day.
- Sat 27 Major General's Review King's Birthday Parade.

June

- Sat 3 Colonel's Review King's Birthday Parade.
- Sat 10 King's Birthday Parade - 1st Battalion Welsh Guards.
- Sat 24 National Armed Forces Day.

September

- Sat 23 Regimental Band Concert, Dunfermline.
- Sun 24 Regimental Gathering, Broomhall Estate, Dunfermline Fife.

Please let me know of your SGA Branch and other Scots Guards reunions.



Surrey Branch Pub Lunch ~ Willie Coffield (Chairman), Major Jeremy Warren (President), Major John Whiteley, David O'Connell & their Ladies ~ Photographer George Rance (Secretary)

BITS & PIECES

Scots Guards Association Newsletter @ Christmas

A Christmas edition of the newsletter will be published around 16 December before we all get too involved in festivities of the season. The following SGA Newsletter will be the February 2023 edition which will be published on the last day of January.

Scots Guards Club ~ Christmas News & Opening Times

The run up to Christmas and New Year is always a special time here at the Club and we look forward to seeing many of you over the next few weeks. Our Christmas lights and decorations will be up by early December and the annual Seniors Christmas Lunch will take place on Monday 12 December. For those lucky enough not to qualify for the lunch, or unlucky enough to have missed out on a place, (fully booked) we have the Members Christmas Disco Night on Friday 16 December. Both these events are free to members. Guests are welcome at the Disco Night but please give us names at the bar in advance.

The function room is busy throughout December and we hope many of you will use the Club as a place to indulge your festive cheer.

Festive opening hours in December will be:

24 (Christmas Eve)	Close at 6pm
25 (Christmas Day)	Closed
26 (Boxing Day)	Closed
27	Closed
31 (Hogmanay)	Close at 8pm
1 (New Years Day)	Closed
2	Open 11am-6pm

January was a busy month last year and our cellar will be well stocked to cater for those who choose to dismiss the very thought of a 'Dry January'..... a notion that has never really been embraced by our members!

Beyond January, we are back into Six Nations rugby season with home games on 11 February, 12 and 18 March.

Scots Guards wise, the legendary Rabbits Breakfast will take place on Saturday 25 February and Swally Ho on Saturday 4 March.

The Club AGM will take place as usual in January on a date to be advised.

As ever, all the best from all the Team. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Scots Guardsmen meet up prior to the Remembrance Sunday Cenotaph Parade
Includes Rab Maguire, Brian Mullen, Steve Ramage

Update ~ The Funeral of the Late Lieutenant Colonel Duncan Beat

The November Newsletter reported the death of Lieutenant Colonel Duncan Beat, former Director of Music to the Regimental Band. I received the following from Pipers Branch Secretary, Dougie Watson who in turn had received a report from Roger Huth (Former Pipe Major).

Dougie: You will recall a recent post intimating the passing of Lieutenant Colonel D R Beat LVO ARCM who was Director of Music Scots Guards Regimental Band.....many a SG's Piper will have played The Soldiers Return which he had included in his musical arrangement "Edinburgh Castle." It was a staple throughout my service and since and has a stirring intro for the pipers to come in on.

Roger " I was booked to play at a funeral in Mortlake Crematorium in Richmond today (3rd November 2022) and while I sat in the car park watching the rain I happened to see a handful of Guards Musicians heading towards the Chapel bearing their brass instruments. Curiosity made me reach for my binoculars and when I saw the red and white dice on their forage caps I donned my brogues and headed over to listen. I expected to see a Guards tie or two but only black ties were in wear from mourners gathering nearby. The musicians had disappeared.

I headed back to the car then realised I hadn't checked the list of today's Services so went back to do so. The Service preceding mine and now taking place was for the late Lieutenant Colonel Duncan R. Beat who I and many of our pipers here will surely know.

When the Chapel Director saw me kilted up and watching the Service from outside the glass doors she whispered "You're for the Service at twelve o'clock"

After I explained that I had served with Duncan Beat she promptly gave me his Order of Service so I could follow proceedings and enjoy Duncan Beat's 'Edinburgh Castle' music from the Scots Guards Brass Quintet and also 'The Swan' by Saint Saens played on Cello by Jessica

Sadly, I had to miss Duncan Beat's 'Fanfare For Four Trumpets' and 'The Aberdonian' plus the Last Post as I was now on duty for the next Funeral Service.

However I was very pleased to have accidentally been in the right place at the right time to see and hear what I could"



Pipe Major Stephen Bennett meets Andrea Bocelli & his son Matteo at the Festival of Remembrance at the Albert Hall.

**THE TALISKER WHISKY ATLANTIC CHALLENGE 2022 ~
ROWING 3000 MILES ACROSS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN**

SEEKING SPONSORSHIP FOR GREAT CAUSES ~ www.atlanticguardsmen.com



THE TEAM SET OFF

L-R LSgt James Tate, CSM William Botes, Col Rory Shannon, Lt Max Lawrence, Lt Roland Walker

Fortuitous to bump into Col. Rory Shannon at Gatwick Airport for some final pearls of wisdom. Col. Shannon successfully crossed the Atlantic in 2001 also representing the Scots Guards ~ Next stop La Gomera!

In December 2022, these four soldiers will attempt to win the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge – without a doubt the world's toughest rowing race.

They are all serving members of the Scots Guards and have come together based on their aspiration to champion mental health and resilience. Rowing on the 40th anniversary of the Falklands Conflict, we aim to commemorate the sacrifices made in 1982 and successfully raise over £100,000 in support of our chosen mental health and wellbeing charities. A strong team bond, along with a clear understanding of our aim, will be critical as we embark on one of the ultimate tests of physical and mental fortitude; battling 30+ foot waves, cramped sleeping quarters, sleep deprivation and physical exhaustion whilst rowing 3000 miles across the Atlantic Ocean.

The team starts the challenge in around 12 days time from La Gomera, Canary Islands ~ 3000 miles later they will arrive at English Harbour, Antigua.

They are rowing for Soldiers ~ Former Soldiers ~ Their Families

They are rowing for:

ARMY BENEVOLENT FUND ~ THE SOLDIERS CHARITY

&

THE SCOTS GUARDS CHARITY

SCOTS GUARDS ASSOCIATION

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 & MAKE NEW FRIENDS FROM ACROSS THE REGIMENTAL FAMILY.

