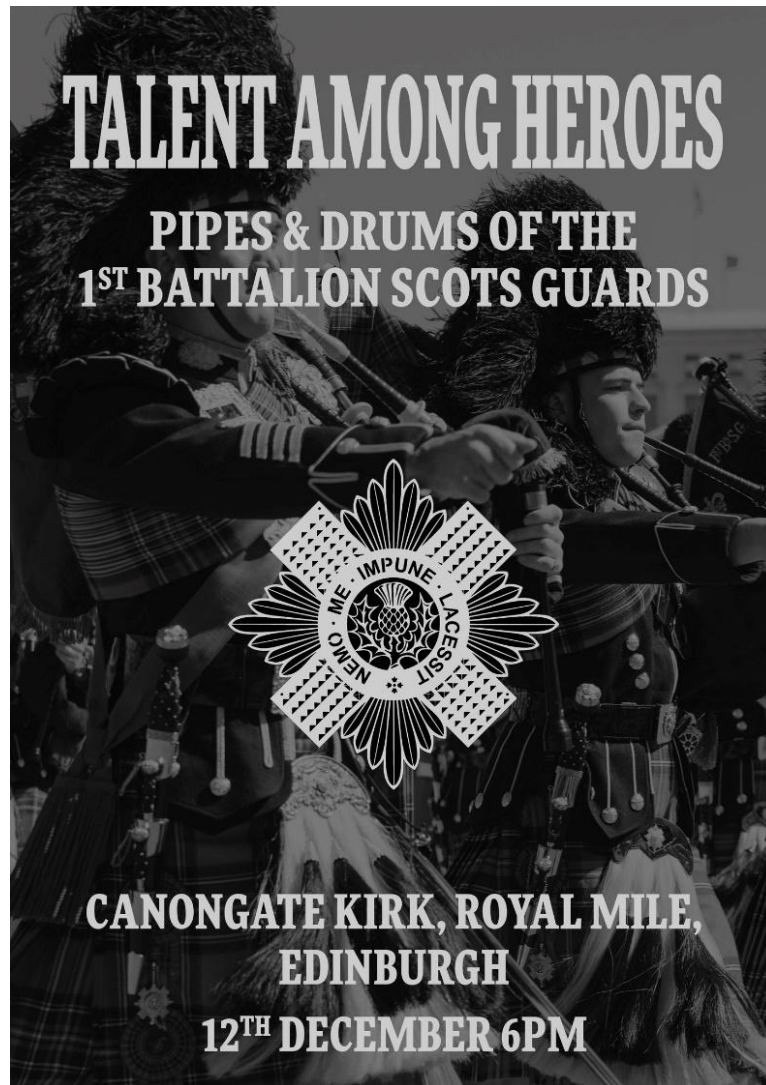


# SCOTS GUARDS ASSOCIATION

## 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

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

December 2025  
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Tel: 01383 – 721530

## **Front Page Photograph: TALENT AMONGST HEROES**

The Pipes & Drums of the 1st Battalion Scots Guards are pleased and proud to announce a memorable occasion celebrating the talent, tradition, and spirit of His Majesty's Foot Guards P&D's.

They will be supported by the Scots Guards Association (Scotland) Pipes & Drums

Where: Canongate Kirk, Royal Mile, Edinburgh

Date / Time: Friday 12 December 2025 ~ 1900hrs

Entry is free, with an opportunity to meet the team and make a donation after the performance.

## **NEXT SGA NEWSLETTER**

There will be a short Christmas SGA Newsletter shared as widely as possible on 11 December 2024. The first Newsletter of the New Year will 31 January 2026.

## **REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS ~ CHRISTMAS CLOSING**

Regimental Headquarters will close down for Xmas from last parade on 12 December 2025 and resume daily routine at first parade 5 January 2026.

Regimental Headquarters will be unmanned during this period.

Any orders to the PRI shop made after 1200hrs 10 December 2025 will not be posted out until 5 January 2026.

## **WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING DECEMBER & JANUARY IN CONFLICTS SINCE 1945**

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

29 December 1950 22215374 Guardsman Eric Duffell, Age 18.

16 January 1950 22215040 Guardsman Kenneth Holland, Age 19.

25 January 1951 1439050 Sergeant Donald MacMillan, Age 28.

### **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 Guardsman Alan Daughtery Age 23. Killed Belfast (Off Falls Road).

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

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

## **DEATHS**

## **ASSOCIATION**

### **Third Guards Club & SGA Berks, Bucks & Oxon Branch**

Colonel Jonathan Lovett Sneddon Brown Died 20 November 2025 Age 82. Commissioned July 1962. Served both Battalions inc Adj 2SG, Coy Comd 1SG. He was Comd Off 9 UDR and held various staff Appointments. He left the army in May 1998.

### **Third Guards Club**

RP Benthall Died 30 October 2025. Age 91. After officer training he was commissioned as a National Serviceman in 1952. A good shot he represented the regiment at Bde & Division level.

JSB Henderson Died 14 November 2025. Age 89. He was commissioned as a National Serviceman in 1955. He served with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion in Wellington Barracks & L Company of the Guards Training Battalion until discharge in September 1956. He was brought up in Kirkcaldy, Fife.

## **NON ASSOCIATION**

24265367 LSgt John Golden Died 6 November 2025. 2SG & Gds Depot. Lived Dundee.

James Cromar Died 11 November 2025. LF 1SG 1970's. Bn footballer.

George Mutch Died 27 November 2025. Served RF & F Coy 2SG from late 1960's to 1993.

**A TIME OF REMEMBRANCE ~ NOVEMBER 2025**



**Left: Jim Simmonds Secretary SGA Berks, Bucks & Oxon lays the wreath at the Garrison Church Windsor**



**Right: LSgt Macrae pipes at Scotland's main parade at Edinburgh City Chambers.**



**SGA Glasgow parade at the Scots Guards Northern Ireland Memorial plaque ~ Glasgow Cathedral  
James Campbell, Bob Riddell, Alan Craig, Danny McDiarmid, Colin Downie, Captain Eddie Edmonstone, Mark MacKenzie, Jim McArthur & Colin Hitchen**





**Scots Guards Club Remembrance: Including LSgt Lewis Perie, Ted Middlemass, John McLaren, Paul Dickson, Ramsay McDonald, Danny Minto, John Mitchell, Kenny Mac, William Gibson, Jason Bray, Major Iain Dalziel Job, John Rae & Mark McKay.**



**Left: John MacLennan carries the SGA Highland's & Islands Standard at Inverness.**



**Right:TV&FA Members at Bramley War Memorial, Leeds paying respects at the 100 Year VC paving stone (seen directly below the memorial) for L/Sgt Fred McNess VC. The Victoria Cross was awarded for LSgt McNess's actions near Ginchy, France 15 September 1916.**





## NOVEMBER ~ A MONTH OF SGA BRANCH DINNERS



Scots Guards Association Australia Branch held their annual dinner at Bribie Island Returned Services League Club, Queensland.

Left: Ian Whyte (Son of Major QM D. Whyte, SG) John Linn, Secretary. Jeff Field (Son of Bert Field WO1, SG)  
Right: Michael Tuffley IG, John Linn, Major Tom Mooney (SG & formerly Royal Australian Signals).

All Photographs courtesy of Rab Sharp



Left: SGA Fife ~ Neil Crockett (Secretary), Captain Graham Fowler, Gordon Dickson (Chairman).  
Right: SGA Preston ~ Norman Birkett & Jason Bray



Left: SGA Fife ~ Scotty Farr, Tam James, Iain "Dan" Newton

Right: SGA Preston ~ David Hesketh, Steven Lee Buntine





**SGA Fife: John Fraser, Lt Thomas Thornhill (Regt Rep), Mr Mark Mathewson (President), Major Andrew Bell(GOH), Major Iain Dalzel Job, John Drummond Moray**



**SGA Fife: Rab Nicol & Andrew Beveridge**



**SGA Fife: Mark Mathewson & Ted Middlemas**



**SGA Preston: Including Micky Nutter (Secretary), Chalkie White, Steve Hills. Eric Burgess (Served 2SG Malaya 1949 – 51), Major Colin Coull, Major Jason Manassie (Regt Rep), LSgt Macrae**



Left: SGA Preston ~ Matty Joyce, Major Jason Manassie, David Hesketh.

Right: SGA Fife ~ SGA Pipes & Drums (Scotland) John Fraser, Callum Lowther & P/M Iain Lowther (Dad).



## DECEMBER EVENTS

Thu 4 SGA Fife ~ Lunch With A Taste of Christmas, Pinkertons, Glenrothes.

Wed 11 SGA Berks, Bucks & Oxon, Datchet Golf Club. 1230 – 1300hrs £30.00 per head (partners included) ~ November. Dress: Christmas Jumpers.

## FORECAST OF EVENTS ~ THE LIST IS GROWING ~ **TIME TO WRITE UP YOUR DIARY 2026**

### JANUARY

Sat 17 SGA Berks, Bucks & Oxon Branch Burns Supper ~ Datchet Golf Club.

Sat 24 SGA Highlands & Islands Branch Dinner / Burns Supper ~ RBL Club, Inverness.

### FEBRUARY

Sat 28 Rabbits Breakfast ~ Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh.

### MARCH

Sat 14 SGA Borders Branch Dinner ~ Hawick Rugby Club.

### APRIL

**Fri 17 – Sun 19 Regimental Weekend ~ Wellington Barracks, London.**

Fri 17 Scots Guards WOs & Sgts Past and Present Association AGM ~ Evening ~ Sgts Mess.

Sat 18 SGA AGM ~ 1030hrs ~ Sgts Mess.

Sun 19 Regimental Remembrance Sunday Service ~ The Guards Chapel ~ 1100hrs.

Parade & Wreath Laying ~ Guards Memorial, Horse Guards Parade ~ 1200hrs.

Lunch ~ Other Ranks Restaurant ~ 1300hrs.

**All Scots Guardsmen are encouraged to attend.**

### MAY

Fri 29 SGA Edinburgh & The Lothians Annual Dinner ~ Scots Guards Club.

### JUNE

Fri 12 – Mon 15 Tumbledown Veterans & Families Association Weekend, 44<sup>th</sup> Annual ~ Blackpool



## **REGIMENTAL GATHERING 2026**

**The Gathering will be based at Richmond & Somme Barracks over the weekend 19 – 21 June 2026. Saturday 20 June will be the main day.**

### **Events**

Friday Evening 19 June ~ There will be a Beating Retreat in Richmond Castle.

Saturday 20 June ~ The Gathering will take place in Somme Barracks, Catterick (This is the main day).

Sunday 21 June ~ In the morning there will be a service in Catterick Garrison Church, to bless old colours and this will bring the official Gathering Weekend to a close.

Further news & updates will be given out in due course as plans become firm.

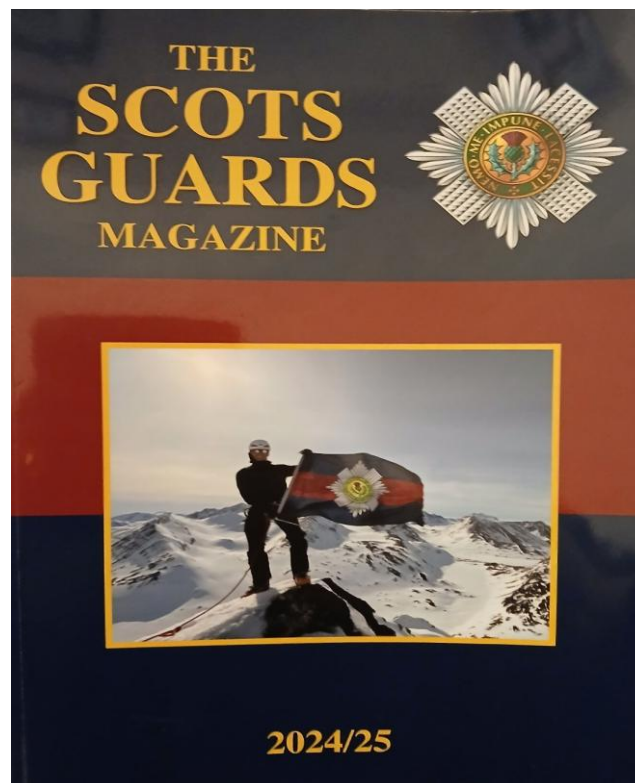
### **A bed for the Weekend**

There is a Premier Inn in Catterick Garrison.

There is a Travelodge & Holiday Inn Express ~ both at Scotch Corner.

There are various hotels, inns, B&Bs and caravan parks around Richmond and the local area.

## **SCOTS GUARDS MAGAZINE 2024 / 25 ~ NOW ON SALE**



If you want a copy the cost is £12.50 plus £3.50 plus postage and package (postage will be more expensive if being sent abroad).

The easiest way to buy a magazine is online & this is the link to Scots Guards Items online sales at RHQ.  
<https://scotsguards.org/.../scots-guards-magazine-2023-2024/>

Getting the magazines out as quickly as possible is a big job for the small RHQ staff so please give them time to respond.

If you cannot order online you should email [adminclerk@scotsguards.org](mailto:adminclerk@scotsguards.org) give your name and telephone number and she will then pass your details to Regimental Sales.



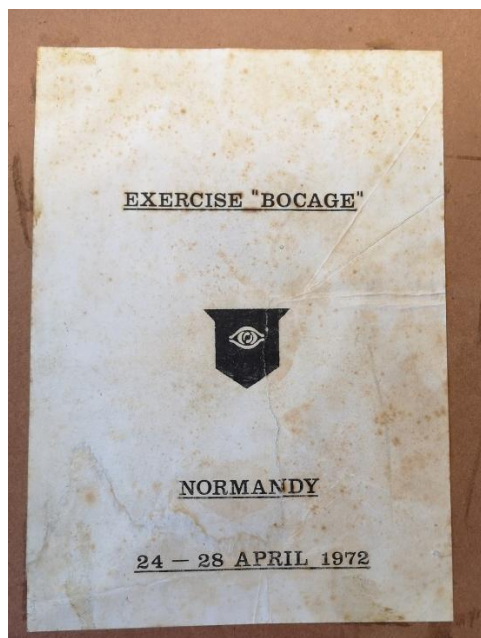
## COLIN FOSTER ~ A PIECE OF NEWS AND A REQUEST

The request, first... I'm working on my 2nd volume of the Normandy history of 3rd Bn Scots Guards focusing this time on the battles during August, so if anyone has any photos, family history/memorabilia that they'd like to share for possible inclusion to add more into the book, please get in touch.

In particular, I'm trying to find a **Directing Staff Edition of the April 1972 "Exercise Bocage"** tour organised by Headquarters London District - I came across what appears to be a participant's copy in the Archives in Caen this year, but I presume that there would have been a DS version with more details. I'm particularly interested as it covers the period I'm planning to write about & so the personal accounts would be really useful.

I wondered whether any Association Members had copies of either a Directing Staff edition of this 1972 tour – either their own copy or one that their father's received or they actually took part in the tour & would be prepared to share with me. It is interesting as, in addition to the Caumont battle, it also covers the latter battles for Estré & Chénedollé.

Colin is also looking for a copy of the **Guards Magazine for Summer 1972** ~ A photocopy of an article within would suffice. The article is about Exercise Bocage by then Major SCC Gaussen, Welsh Guards.



THE GUARDS MAGAZINE	
JOURNAL OF THE HOUSEHOLD DIVISION	
CONTENTS FOR SUMMER NUMBER 1972	
	PAGE
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, KG, KT, KP, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., M.C., FIRST COLONEL OF THE WELSH GUARDS	FRONTISPIECE
KING EDWARD VIII: AN APPRECIATION, BY THE EDITOR	65
SOME RECOLLECTIONS, BY BRIGADIER W. D. C. GREENACRE, C.B., D.S.O., M.V.O.	67
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF WINDSOR, KG, M.C., ETC., BY COLONEL SIR JOHN AIRO, BT., M.V.O., M.C., FORMERLY GRENADIER GUARDS, EQUEIRY TO THE PRINCE OF WALES 1929-1936	70
PICTORIAL SECTION	71
EDITOR'S NOTES	78
OPERATION "DARLEN"—THE BRITISH TRADE-AMERICA EXPEDITION, BY SECOND LIEUTENANT J. J. WINDHAM, IRISH GUARDS	80
WIMPEY (I.G.) LIMITED, OR HOW TO BUILD YOUR OWN BOAT CLUB, BY CAPTAIN C. D. ARKSHED, IRISH GUARDS	84
PICTORIAL SECTION	86
OFFICERS' APPOINTMENTS	89
REGIMENTAL INTELLIGENCE	90
OPERATIONAL GALLANTRY AWARDS FOR SERVICE IN NORTHERN IRELAND	115
EXERCISE "BOCAGE," BY MAJOR S. C. C. GAUSSEN, WELSH GUARDS	116
THE CRESTA RUN, BY CAPTAIN W. J. H. MOSS, WELSH GUARDS	118
"LA REVUE PARS"—THE PASSERS BY RAVE—A VISIT TO MONACO AND THE CÔTE D'AZUR, BY MAJOR A. T. PHILLIPSON, SCOTS GUARDS	120
CORRESPONDENCE	122
OBITUARY	
MAJOR THE EARL OF SEFTON, LATE ROYAL HORSE GUARDS (THE BLUES), BY LIEUTENANT COLONEL SIR RICHARD COTTRELL, BT., C.B.E., FORMERLY ROYAL HORSE GUARDS (THE BLUES)	127
MAJOR JOHN EDWARD SKYMOUL, LATE GRENADIER GUARDS, BY LIEUTENANT COLONEL E. C. RUSSELL, FORMERLY GRENADIER GUARDS	128
LIEUTENANT COLONEL THE HON. SIR PATRICK BARRY, M.C., LATE IRISH GUARDS, BY HIS HONOUR JUDGE J. F. MAHAN, M.B.E., Q.C., FORMERLY IRISH GUARDS	128
BRIGADIER A. H. C. SWINTON, M.C., LATE SCOTS GUARDS, BY BRIGADIER H. L. GRHAM, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., FORMERLY SCOTS GUARDS	129

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## **1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Scots Guards Pipes & Drums ~ Remembrance “ Down Under”**



Over Remembrance weekend, six members of the team led by Drum Major Euan Gordon & Sgt Jamie Bell had the honour of leading a service at the National War Memorial in Sydney, Australia. In the presence of Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal and the Governor General of Australia, the ceremony was broadcast across the nation — with the Scots Guards Pipes and Drums proudly taking their place front and centre.

## **SGA Highlands & Islands**



In the Seaforth Club for the 1st ever Highlands & Islands branch meeting in Elgin. George Verhaere, Billy Silver, Cammy Proudfoot, Roddy Cantwell, Jim Munro, Murray Notman, Gerry Donald, Roddy Davidson, George MacKenzie, George Sharp. Barry Farquhar also attended.

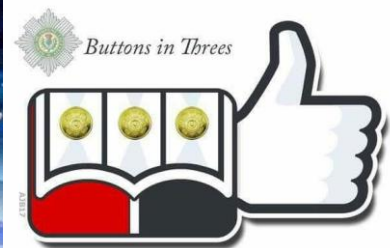


**To All Scots Guardsmen Serving & Retired and to  
your families**

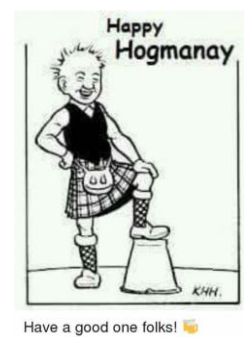
**To those in the 1st Battalion, to F Company & The  
Regimental Band**

**To G (Messines) Company**

**To those on duty**



**A Very Happy Christmas  
Good Luck & Good Health in the New Year**



**Here's looking forward to seeing you all  
at  
Regimental & Association Events in 2026**