

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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Email: sga@scotsguards.org

Tel: 01383 – 721530

REMEMBRANCE WITH RESTRICTIONS

No matter where located, in the UK or abroad Scots Guardsmen took part in acts of remembrance with pride.

Front Page Photographs:

Top Left: Captain John Craib representing the Durham & Yorkshire Branch at Ripley War Memorial, North Yorkshire.

Top Right: Brothers Roderick & George Davidson lay a wreath on behalf of the Highlands & Islands Branch at Edith Cavall Gardens, Inverness.

Bottom: Dundee & Angus members Dave Cuthill, Gordon Peebles, Bruce Henderson and Iain Bryson gathered at o Kerriemuir War Memorial. Captain The Lord Lyell VC is remembered on the smaller World War 2 Memorial Cairn just in picture.



Left: The Wreath laid by the Corby, Central & Eastern England Branch.

Right: Stewart Webb at Lister House, Royal British Legion Home in Ripon, North Yorkshire.



Left: Major Sir Malcolm MacGregor, Chairman of the Scots Guards Association & President of the Carlisle, Dumfries & Galloway Branch lays a wreath at Dumfries.

Right: Fife Branch Standard Bearers Tam Marshall & Kenny Lawson at Methil Hill, Garden of Remembrance.



Members of Left Flank, pay their respects while serving in the Falkland Islands



Left: Major Mark Cape, Dougie Mitchell & Tony Mason at Carlisle War Memorial.

Right: Keith Reid, Merseyside Chairman and his granddaughters lay the Branch wreath at the SG Memorial, St John's Gardens, Liverpool.



Left: Borders Branch Eck Barclay, Jim Renwick & David Richardson parade at Hawick.

Right: Piper Bill Barlow, Jimmy Marsh & Micheal Nutter pay their respects in Preston.



Left: Brookwood Cemetery. Surrey Branch David O'Connell and Willie Coffield on Armistice Day – 11 November.

Right: Mrs Christine Rae, mother of Gdsm Craig Rae killed when on training with 1SG in 2007. Christine lays a wreath on behalf of the Borders Branch at Jedburgh War Memorial.



Left: P/M Jimmy Banks laid a wreath at Kinglassie W/M, Fife where his grandfather Pte Hugh MacLaymont Banks is remembered (see SG Mag 2019/20). P/M Iain Lowther played the lament.
Right: Gdsm Brian Hall, RF 1SG, Killed Cupar Street, Belfast 1971 remembered at Dunfermline War Memorial.



F Company rehearse for a very different Remembrance Sunday at the Cenotaph, Whitehall



The Berks, Bucks & Oxfordshire Branch members pay their respects
Left: Rab Ritchie lays a wreath on the Welsh Gds Falklands Cross in Holy Trinity Church, Windsor
Centre: P/M Ian (Trigger) Rodgers at Datchet War Memorial.
Right: Bob & Sue Paterson at Povey Tracey War Memorial on the edge of Dartmoor.



Left: Major Randall Nichol President of the Edinburgh & The Lothians Branch Lays a wreath at The Kirk of the Canongate where World War 1 Scots Guardsmen Pte King & Pte Murdoch are remembered.

Right: Danny Minto laid a Scots Guards cross at the grave of CSgt Allan Cameron who died on 30 March 2011 of wounds received in Afghanistan in April 2010. CSgt Cameron's grave is at Adambrae Cemetery, Livingston.

WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING DECEMBER IN CONFLICTS SINCE 1945

2nd Battalion – Malaya Emergency 1950

22215375 Guardsman E Duffell Killed 29 December 1950

2nd Battalion – Londonderry 1972

LCpl Colin Harker (REME att) aged 23, Died of wounds on 19 December 1972 from shooting in September

2nd Battalion – Belfast 1973

Guardsman Alan Daughtery aged 23, Killed 31 December 1973.

He had been on an armoured vehicle patrol at Beechmount Avenue, Falls Road, Belfast, which came under fire from a sniper.

1st Battalion – Iraq

Guardsman Stephen Ferguson aged 31, Injured South East Iraq, 12 Platoon, Left Flank Died 13 December 2007.



Gdsm Ferguson's patrol was tasked with protecting his fellow Scots Guards and the Contingency Operating Base. Whilst manoeuvring in the dark, his Warrior slid into a canal. His fellow soldiers freed him from the vehicle and gave first aid. He was flown back to the UK for medical treatment, but sadly he did not recover from his injuries.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

At Christmas time I would ask all Branches and all individual members to make every attempt to keep in touch with other members by phone, email, letter or even a socially distanced knock at the door. Particularly to keep an eye on our vulnerable members.

London Branch

By Ian Blair, Chairman, Secretary and Entertainments Officer

The London Branch held a zoom meeting on Tuesday 3rd November 2020 at 18.30 where we bid farewell to our outgoing President, Major Martin Snow. Major Snow has held the Presidency for eight years where he has been a strong supporter of our Branch and our events. We have been fortunate to have had some excellent Guests of Honour thanks to him and have been blessed with his remarkable humour. His stories, at the start of our dinners, will be missed and helped set the tone for a fun evening. Major Ormiston, on behalf of the branch, thanked him for all he had done on our behalf and wished him and his family well for the future. These thoughts were included in the minutes at Major Ormiston request.

We then welcomed our new President Captain Michael "Mitch" Mitchell and Vice - President Captain Ollie Barnett to the Branch and Committee. It's very refreshing, for our older members, to have some young blood join our clan and we look forward to sharing some interesting times with them. Above all we hope that, having them at the helm, will inspire younger Scots Guardsmen to come and join our branch and get involved with our events.

As to the events side of things. Sadly, due to this pandemic, we've had to cancel our Burns Supper in January and we are postponing our visit to the Imperial War Museum for the time being. Ian Blair, Chairman, phoned the mess manager at Regents Park Barracks to try and book the Sergeants Mess for our BBQ in June where he was told that they are not taking any bookings for the foreseeable future.

We will keep you posted of any developments, here in London, and hope to have more positive news next time round.

Editors Note: Many thanks to Major Snow from the whole Scots Guards Association & welcome to a new President & Vice President.

Durham & Yorkshire Branch

Major Barry Veitch has now retired as President of the Durham & Yorkshire Branch. Captain John Craib, OC of the Regimental Support Team has been appointed President of the Branch and looks forward to meeting all members when restrictions allow.

The Branch and the wider Regimental Association thank Major Veitch for his hard work and support over his years as President.

Dundee & Angus Branch



Pupils at Invergowrie Primary School welcomed a special guest to help them mark Remembrance Day. John Hodge 85 year old Branch member and his wife Betty attended and spoke to pupils after their 2 minutes silence. The children created a poppy art project by collecting plastic bottles and turning them into poppies. John paraded in uniform of the 50s & early 60s. He and Betty have a Regimental Museum at their home in Invergowrie. They have a large collection of Scots Guards memorabilia built up over many years.

FORECAST OF EVENTS FEBRUARY – JUNE 2021

All Branches are beginning to plan for next year's events which will proceed Covid restrictions willing.

FEBRUARY

Sat TBC Rabbits Breakfast. Scots Guards Club.

MARCH

Sat 6 Swallie Ho, Scots Guards Club.

Sat 13 SGA Borders Dinner, Hawick Rugby Club.

APRIL

Fri 16 Scots Guards WOs & Sgts Past & Present Association AGM. Wellington Barracks, London.

Sat 17 SGA AGM. Wellington Barracks, London.

Sun 18 Regimental Remembrance Sunday, The Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, London.

MAY

Sat 29 Major General's Review, QBP, London

JUNE

Sat 5 Colonel's Review, QBP, London.

Sat 12 Queen's Birthday Parade, London by F Company Scots Guards.

Fri 11 – Mon 14 Tumbledown Veterans & Fam's Assoc Reunion, Blackpool.

DEATHS

Third Guards Club

2nd Lieutenant Ian Rankin. He died 10th November at home in Ashmansworth in Hampshire.

He attended Eton College Officer Cadet School from 29 December 1951 to 25 April 1952, and from there was posted to the Second Battalion Scots Guards on a National Service Commission on 26 April 1952.

He was placed on terminal leave under Regimental Headquarters on 08 June 1953 but recalled for training with the Second Battalion on 27 July 1954. He was released from military service 08 August 1954.

Association Member

Fife Branch & London Branch

23908185 Gdsm John Wallace died 17 November 2020. He enlisted in the Junior Guardsman's Company and served with Right Flank 2SG in Iserlohn, Munster and Windsor until 1970. He was Treasurer of the Fife Branch until he moved to Amesbury, Wiltshire to be closer to family. His funeral will be on 14 December.

Guards Parachute Association

Major RG (Bob) Campbell MBE died on 2 November 2020. He served in 2SG, The Gds Parachute Company, he was Signals CSgt of 1SG in Malaya/Borneo 1964. He was the 1st SSM of G Sqn 22 SAS. He transferred to the SAS and became RSM 21 SAS and was later commissioned. He lived in Sussex.

22215874 Dennis Gorman Died 17 October 2020. Service includes No1 (Guards) Independent Parachute Company.

Non Association Members

Captain John Loudon 9th November 2020. He served in the ranks 1950 – 1970. John joined the Scots Guards from the Guards Depot on 20 February 1950. He served with both Battalions and the Guards Depot. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1957 and then promoted straight to Warrant officer Class 2 to become Company Sergeant Major Left Flank. He was posted back to the Guards Depot as Drill Sergeant in 1964 and then posted to Regimental Headquarters as the Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant before taking over as Superintending Clerk in 1969. John Loudon was commissioned in 1971 and posted to Edinburgh, promoted to Captain in 1973 and retired from the Regular Army in 1978. Afterwards he spent a number of years as a Permanent Staff Administration Officer with K Company Black Watch TA, in Kirkcaldy, Fife. He lived in Falkirk.

24141371 Gdsm Alan Stevenson Died 9 August 2020. He served 2SG and 1SG Oct 1973 – Oct 1982. Lived Kirkcaldy, Fife.

Gdsm Thomas Hamilton Died 29 October 2020. Lived Ayrshire.

NEWS FROM THE SERVING REGIMENT

1st Battalion

In mid November after a very successful month of Mission Ready Training, it came to a close and the Battalion departed on well deserved Pre Tour Leave.

Well Done and Good Luck to those deploying to Iraq and to the whole the Serving Regiment in all their endeavours in 2021.

BITS & PIECES

Jimmy McGowan MBE - Well Known Scots Guards Character

Jimmy was in hospital earlier in the year, for an operation. For 3 weeks in November he was back in Inverclyde Royal Hospital, Greenock. He doesn't do Email or Internet but a post in the Association Group on Facebook ensured a mail bag of cards & letters of good wishes from his many friends landed on his hospital bed.

Jimmy wants to thank everyone for their kind thoughts. Thanks go to Joe Farrell for keeping in touch with Jimmy and making sure he receives a copy of the Association Newsletter each month.

Malcolm McNally & Paul Thompson



2 Scots Guardsmen and their colleagues (former military) in Nigeria pay their respects despite local security restrictions. L-R: Paul Thompson (SG), Garrett McKenzie – Piper (US Marine Corps), Malcolm McNally (SG), Wayne Tolmie (PSNI), Serving US Ranger, Chris Derbyshire (Royal Marines). They were unable to attend the Cenotaph but toasted absent friends and enjoyed some excellent piping.



Army Carol Service.

Colonel Alastair and Mrs Mathewson arrange the Army Carol Service each year on behalf of The Army Benevolent Fund. It is based on a service started by General Mike Scott, and was later adopted by the current CDS as the Army Carol Service when he was CGS. The Carol Service takes place at the Chapel of The Royal Hospital Chelsea and this year the service comes to the congregation at home, with a memory stick and a programme with the words in it.

This is the link to apply to join in <https://soldierscharity.org/events/army-carol-service-2020/>. A major point of interest is that this year the trumpet fanfare that opens the event is being played by the Regimental Band of the Scots Guards.

SGA Newsletter Christmas and January

A Christmas edition of the newsletter will be published in mid December, the following edition will be published at the end of January 2021.

The Scots Guards Memorial Project

Many of you will know of the Scots Guards Memorial Project set up some years ago. After his request for help in the last newsletter Captain (Retd) Michael Campbell – Lamerton reports that he has already received information from some of you about memorials bearing the names of Scots Guardsmen.

Please take a moment a visit to your local War Memorials to check if any Scots Guardsmen are remembered on them. But it's not just war memorials that are of interest, it could be anything from plaques to stained glass windows in churches, to trees or bench's of remembrance, in fact anything which in the respectful memory of our Officers or Guardsmen.

See Mikie Campbell Lamerton's message to you all below:

I am a member of our Regiment's Historical Committee. I took on the responsibility last year, from Neil Crockett, to manage the project that we have to keep a record of any memorials to Scots Guardsmen. This can be any memorial, even if it has disappeared or is recorded in a book or publication, for us any memorial will do.

I am therefore asking if you happen to come across a memorial (not in a Commonwealth War Grave Cemeteries or Memorials) to a member of our Regiment, either visually or online I would be grateful if you could perhaps take a picture or send me a web link.

I am sure you have plenty of time at present to do some hunting on the internet, until the weather improves next year and we are indeed all allowed to go out uninhibited ! Example would be a Scots Guardsmen listed on a village war memorial or on a plaque in a church. Please email me Michael@hallestate.co.uk a photograph and where the picture was taken.

The plan in the future is to add a section on memorials in the Scots Guards website. I would be grateful for anything that you can send to me, thank you.

Mikie Campbell-Lamerton

Badges On Parade

Some of you may be asking what the badges worn by John Hodge are (see SGA Dundee and Angus report earlier in the Newsletter).



Left: Trained Soldier – A senior and experienced Guardsman. Posted to the Guards Depot Caterham & Pirbright and appointed “Trained Soldier”. There was a Trained Soldier to each squad, he slept in the barrack room and supervised the squad when there were no NCOs present, such as cleaning for room inspections. He taught how to bull boots, press kit, and all the tricks of the trade of cleaning kit. The badge was worn on the upper right arm of Battle Dress & No2 dress or on a Brassard in Combat/Working Order. Later they were called Barrack Room Instructors and sometimes appointed LCpl.

Right: This is the formation badge of 2 British Division which was worn by 2nd Battalion Scots Guards in BAOR at Llanelli Barracks, Hubblerath (near Dusseldorf) from 1953 – Feb 1957. The Battalion was part of 4 Guards Brigade.

In WW2 the Division Fought in Kohima, Burma. After its time in BAOR the Division HQ returned to Imphal Barracks, York. Major General DM Naylor commanded the Division in the mid 1980's.

A Quick Mention for Charlie Stuart.

Charlie asked me to give him a quick mention. He served with the 1st Battalion in Gort Barracks, Hubblerath, 1958 – 60, thereafter both Bns and the Gds Depot. Charlie is a member of the SGA Corby, Central & Eastern England Branch.

Veterans Rail Card.



The recently introduced Veterans Rail Card is now available at a special introductory price of £21 for 1 year or £61 for 3 years. The introductory offer runs until 31 March 2021. It will offer the Railcard holder and their companion 1/3 off most rail fares and 60% for up to 4 children aged 5 -15. For more information visit : www.veterans-railcard.co.uk

FINALLY:

All Best Wishes on St Andrews Day



Pipe Major Bennett & LCpl McRobb – Play us out with HIELAN LADDIE