

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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THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PARADE – SATURDAY 12 JUNE 2021

F Company Scots Guards will Troop the Colour of 2nd Battalion Scots Guards on Saturday 12 June 2021. The parade will be scaled back and will take place at Windsor Castle in a similar manner to last year and it will be televised on BBC.

Front Page Photograph – Practise Makes Perfect.

Rehearsals for the Queens Birthday Parade are ongoing. The Regimental Sergeant Major of the parade WO1 C Kirkwood (1SG) prepares to hand over the Colour to the Ensign.

WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING JUNE IN CONFLICTS SINCE 1945

Correction

To add to the list of those killed during May in Conflicts since 1945:

2Lt PWB Graham – Wilkie killed 19 May 1949 while serving with 2nd Bn Scots Guards during Malaya Emergency 1948 - 51.

2nd Bn Scots Guards, Malaya Emergency 1948 – 51

Captain MG Bax Killed 11 June 1950

2ND Lieutenant MJ Morrice Killed 11 June 1950

2nd Bn Scots Guards Falkland Islands 1982

All Killed 14 June 1982 during the Battle of Tumbledown.



The Plaque to be unveiled to remember the 2nd Bn Scots Guards Fallen on Sunday 27 June at Blackpool War Memorial

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Annual Cenotaph Parade, Whitehall. London – Sunday 14 November 2021

Message from Major Tom Ormiston of SGA London Branch

I have received word from the Royal British Legion that they are hoping to go ahead with the annual Cenotaph parade as normal this year, assuming the Government does not impose restrictions. I expect the Scots Guards Detachment to be issued 25 tickets but will not know for sure until early July. However, to prepare, please would all those who would like to attend send me their details as follows: Full name, address, email address, DOB, POB, number, rank, name, dates served and any campaign medals held? Even if you have sent me these details before, please send them again. My email for returns is: t.ormiston@ntlworld.com As always, those who have marched before will be given priority and, if necessary, a ballot will be held for the remainder.

Ayrshire Branch

The AGM was held on Wednesday 19th May in the Ex Services Club, Ayr. The office bearers for 2021 are:

President: Major PTA Clapton

Chairman : Jim Dickie.

Vice Chairman: Willie Houston.

Treasurer: Tom Robertson.

Secretary: Jim Fraser.

The members present also agreed that future meetings of the Branch should be held on the second Wednesday of each month. The next Branch meeting will be Wednesday 9th June 2021 at the Ex Services Club, Ayr at 1930hrs.

For more information about Branch events contact Jim Fraser Tel: 01294-211319 or email: james.fraser279@gmail.com

Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Branch

The Branch holds meetings on the last Friday of each month. The next Branch meeting on is Friday 25 June 2021, at Datchet Golf Club 1930 for 2000hrs.

The Secretary is Rab Ritchie who can be contacted Tel: 07776411120 E-mail: rab.ritchie@icloud.com

Durham & Yorkshire Branch

The Branch will hold a meeting at 1400hrs on Thursday 14 June 2021 at Newton Aycliffe Working Mens Club.

New Branch Members: Joe Lee - Barnsley
Shane McDowell – Harton, Nr York
David Mossop

Contact Secretary Stewart Webb for more details Tel: 01765 – 640517 Email: webb174@btinternet.com

Fife Branch

The Annual Golf Competition (The Chairman's Trophy) will take place at Thornton Golf Club on Friday 23 July 2021.

Secretary Neil Crockett Tel: 01383 – 721530 Email: neil.crockett@btopenworld.com

Surrey Branch

Long time Secretary David O'Connell has handed over and we thank him for his service to the Branch and the wider Association.

We welcome our new Secretary, James Quinn and wish him well. His contact details are Tel: 01963 - 220188
Email: James.quinn@losh.com

Scots Guards Club Re-opens



A Picture Paints a Thousand Words.

From midday on Monday 17 May the flag has been hoisted and our doors open. Initial trading hours will be:
Monday-Thursday 12-6
Friday/Saturday 12-10
Sunday 12-6

Measures will be in place to adhere to current restrictions and until these are lifted, the Club will only be open to members and their signed in guests. Memberships can be taken out at the bar or by BACS payment as previously intimated. Please email us at enquiries@scotsguardsclub.co.uk if you need reminder on how to pay online.

The usual cheery wee faces will be behind the bar to welcome you all and we can't wait to see you!

DEATHS

Association Members

Surrey Branch / World War 2 Veteran

2701970 Gdsm Roy Bishop, Died 27 May 2021.

Enlisted July 1943 Aged 17. Guards Depot, Caterham. Training Bn Scots Guards, Pirbright. From 1948 – 1950 he was Orderly to Field Marshal Viscount Slim when he was Chief of the Imperial General Staff.

In May 2020 on the 75th Anniversary of VE Day the Regimental Lieutenant Colonel wrote to Roy in appreciation of his service to the country and the Regiment during World War 2.

Carlisle, Dumfries & Galloway

23229133 Gdsm Ray Smith, Died 9 May 2021, Served Windsor 1SG Oct 1955 – 1958. Lived Wales.

Dundee & Angus

SI Derek Thorne (APTC). Died 2 May 2021, Served attached 2SG 1967 – 68 Iserlohn/Munster. Affiliated member.

Durham & Yorkshire

23908173 Gdsm John Sturgeon, Died 18 May 2021, Served 1SG inc Malaya/Borneo 1964 -67. Lived Dumfries.

Non Association Members

23866011 WO2 (RQMS) John Singler, Died 12 May 2021, Served 1961 – 1986 inc 1SG Malaysia / mostly 2SG Mortars.
Lived Ash Vale.

Gdsm Freddie Prime, Died 17 April 2021, Served 2SG 1960's he was a well known Bn boxer who very famously sparred with Mohammed Ali.

Gdsm Alex Bell. Died May 2021. Served 1950's. Originally from the Borders, lived Spain.

SICK PARADE

Eddie McKay (London / BBO) – Underwent a major operation on 22 April. Eddie continues to make progress in his recovery.

Ronnie McFall (Glasgow / Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association) – Recently diagnosed with cancer and awaiting further tests.

Sending all best wishes to all members of the Regiment past & serving who are in hospital or dealing with health issues.

TUMBLEDOWN VETERANS & FAMILIES ASSOCIATION – REUNION 25 – 27 JUNE 2021

By Wayne Hanson – Vice Chairman

I am writing to warmly invite all Scots Guards Association members and families, (Past and Present), to join the TVFA at Blackpool Cenotaph for the un-veiling of the Tumbledown Plaque. It has taken nearly three years of negotiations with Blackpool Council to gain permission to install a plaque at the cenotaph. As you are all aware Covid 19 has put our planned event back over a year. Having this Plaque laid at The Blackpool Cenotaph is something we are very proud of and would like to share this occasion with all of the Scots Guards family, past and present.

Our invitation is for the whole weekend or the Un-veiling of the Plaque, which ever suits you. You are ALL most welcome. We, the TVFA would be proud to have your company at this auspicious occasion.

The Plaque will be unveiled by General Mike Scott, our former Commanding Officer and Captain Ron MacKenzie, our former Regimental Sergeant Major. The ceremony will be conducted by Padre Angus Smith, our former Battalion Padre.

The itinerary for the week-end is as follows:

- • Friday 25/6/21 = 1600hrs, Meet and Greet at The Bedford Hotel in Blackpool.
- • Saturday 26/6/21 = AGM @ 1300hrs in The Bedford Hotel.
- • Saturday 26/6/21 = At 1930hrs Function in The Layton Club.
- • • Sunday 27/6/21 = 1300hrs The Unveiling of the Plaque at the Blackpool Cenotaph. All persons attending are requested to be on parade at 1250hrs. The annual Memorial Service will take place followed by the Cross Laying after the Plaque has been unveiled. We will all retire to The Layton Club for refreshments and buffet.
- • • Sunday 27/6/201= 1900hrs evening in The Layton Club. At 2200hrs we will be holding our Remembrance Candle Lighting.

ANNUAL WREATH LAYING AT GRAVES OF 2nd BATTALION SCOTS GUARDS FALKLANDS DEAD.

Sat 12 June 2021

LCpl John Pashley RE Para - 1100hrs Trevor Elliot Aldershot Military Cemetery.

Sun 13 June 2021

DSgt Danny Wight - 1200hrs Willie Urban. Mortonhall Cemetery, Edinburgh.

LSgt Clark Mitchell – 1200hrs Theresa Davidson. Laurencekirk Cemetery.

Gdsm Archibald Stirling – 1200hrs William Stirling Cardonald Cemetery.

Sgt John Simeon - 1300hrs Sgt Jamie Simeon North Dalnotter Cemetery.

Gdsm James Reynolds DCM) - 1300hrs John Bradley Knagerhill Cemetery.
Gdsm David Malcolmson)

Danny Minto & Donald McLeod will also lay a wreath at Blackpool War Memorial on Sunday 13 June.

Details To Be Confirmed: Wreaths will also be laid

Gdsm Derek Denholm Bill McDowall Sandymount Cemetery.

Gdsm Ronald Tanbini Michael Allen Kirkdale Cemetery.



**LEFT FLANK 1 SG
GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY – OPERATION BANNER REUNION
Friday 20th August 2021**

Introduction:

As August 2021 is the fiftieth Anniversary of the Left Flank Tour of Ballymurphy, Belfast. It has been decided to hold a reunion get-together to mark the occasion.

Location:

The Gascoigne Room – Union Jack Club, Sandell Street, London, SE1 8UJ

Format:

The Reunion will take the form of a Private Drinks Reception commencing at 14.00 hrs followed by a help yourself Hot Buffet at 15.00 hrs. Tables will be laid with wine glasses and KFS for the consumption of your meal.

One Pint of beer or lager per person on arrival in the Gascoigne Room.

½ Bottle of wine per person red or white.

A Cheese Platter for 10 at each table.

Coffee or Tea and UJC Mints.

Cost:

The cost for this will be £35.00 per person.

Response:

Please respond to Ronnie Paterson by email rongil4547@hotmail.com if you wish to attend? Please also include what part of Left Flank you served with during the 1971 tour of Ballymurphy. He will then reply by sending you payment details and the contact telephone number of the UJC Accommodation should you wish to stay at the club.

NEWS FROM THE SERVING REGIMENT



Right Flank 1SG take a break on task at Dohuk Dam Lake, Iraq.



QBP Rehearsals at Wellington Barracks.



LCpl Bell. Well known by SGA Branches.



The Adjutant presents medals to members of the Pipes & Drums who have returned from deployment on Op Shader, Iraq.

The Reconnaissance Platoon

The Platoon have been getting some navigation training and miles under their belts in preparation for the Brigade Patrols Competition in September.

BITS & PIECES



Garrison Sergeant Major to Edinburgh, WO1 AC Gibson with the Governor of Edinburgh Castle Major General Alastair A.B. R Bruce OBE KStJ VR DL On the occasion of the arrival to Edinburgh of Her Majesty's Lord High Commissioner, His Royal Highness the Earl of Strathearn.

The Late HRH The Duke of Edinburgh

The last SGA Newsletter included an extensive report of many of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh's visits to the Regiment. As we approach the period of Remembrance to our Falklands War Dead and the Reunion / Plaque unveiling at Blackpool, I am reminded that the 2nd Battalion received their campaign medals at a parade held in the gardens of Buckingham Palace on 1 December 1982. The Duke of Edinburgh and the Colonel of the Regiment took part in the presentation.

Scots Guardsmen at The Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

In mid May John Innes BEM from Edinburgh became an In Pensioner at The Royal Hospital, Chelsea joining 3 other former Scots Guardsmen.



Member of Parliament for Aldershot and former Scots Guards Officer, Leo Docherty took the opportunity to meet Colin Paterson, Alan Hayter and Dave Peggie on a visit to The Royal Hospital Chelsea. Leo Docherty is Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Defence People & Veterans.



The 1st Battalion Scots Guards Pipes & Drums visited the Royal Hospital where they played and gave a fine display of Highland Dancing. P/M Bennett met In Pensioners Colin Paterson & Alan Hayter.

Car Parking Within Easy Reach Of The West End Of Edinburgh City Centre.

Jim McPherson, Chairman SGA Edinburgh & The Lothians lives close to Murrayfield Stadium & Tynecastle home of The Jam Tarts. A short bus ride or 10 minutes walk to the Scots Guards Club, 15 minutes to west end of Princes Street. Generously Jim can offer his parking space to any Scots Guardsman driving into Edinburgh. In addition with reasonable notice he can approach neighbours who have spaces not in use.

Jim won't charge for this facility although a small donation to the Regimental Charity wouldn't go amiss.

Interested, Tel: 0131 313 1355 or Email: jimjen7@icloud.com

Name Dropping

Over the past 6 weeks or so I have been phoned or emailed from a varied group of Scots Guardsmen, a pleasure to hear from them.

Stef Stuart (Stef Chemielewski) a well known Right Flanker, 1SG from Malaya & Borneo to early 1980s. He phoned for a chat & is hail & hearty living in Suffolk.

Major (Retd) Don Roberts QM he phoned to tell me of his service as a young Guardsman during the Malaya Emergency with 2SG 1948 – 51 and as a Pltn Sgt in Egypt 1953 – 54. He served until 1982.

John (Bud) Moon lives in USA, John emailed to let me know he served in Egypt with 1SG with the Corps of Drums 1SG. He became a renown Drum Major of the Battalion. After his service he moved to live in Canada then USA. I reminded John that he & I with our wives were in the same group to be presented to HM The Queen after the 2002 Presentation of New Colours at Windsor Castle.

Frank Weir lives West Lothian, he enlisted as a Jnr Drummer and then served in 1SG Corps of Drums in 1958 under Drum Major Bud Moon (above). Frank is hoping to find out about his friend Dougie Sanderson who was also in the Corps of Drums at that time and was thought to come from NE England.

Captain (Retd) CPA Bertie who was Signals Officer 1SG in Egypt.

Major (Retd) Hugh Cantlie, a member of 3 Branches of the Association, Berks, Bucks & Ox, Carlisle, Dumfries & Galloway and Durham & Yorkshire. Major Cantlie emailed me to tell me a good story of having dinner with HM The Queen and the late HRH The Duke of Edinburgh when he was a very young officer of the Windsor Castle Guard in 1953.

Bob Taylor a member of the Highlands & Islands Branch living in Ross-shire phoned and we had a natter. I had the pleasure to sit next to Bob a few years ago at the Highlands & Islands Dinner. Bob served with 1SG in Egypt and also the Guards Para.

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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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. TRY IT – LIKE IT – JOIN IT!

