

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

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Tel: 01383 – 721530

FRONT PAGE PHOTOGRAPHS

From the Rabbits Breakfast:

Top: Many Rabbits young and young at heart lead by Sunray & Seagull G Company 2SG (Major Iain Dalzel Job & Eddie McKay. Piper for the day was John Rae Manager of the Scots Guards Club. Bottom: A big Scottish B'fast & Beer for Bruce Henderson, Capt Paul Cody, John McLaren, Maj Neil McLelland, Charlie McEwan (Breakfast Master of Ceremonies).

The Rabbits Breakfast brought together Scots Guardsmen & SGA members from all Branches.

CHANGES TO RHQ EMAIL ADDRESSES

Major James Kelly – Regimental Adjutant

adjutant@scotsguards.org

Major Mark Cape - Welfare & Finance Officer

finance@scotsguards.org

LSgt J Platt – Archives Clerk

archives@scotsguards.org

Miss Karen Johnstone – Admin Clerk

adminclerk@scotsguards.org

Please note that as SGA Secretary my email address also changes to sga@scotsguards.org

ARMY COMMUNITY RUGBY PREMIERSHIP PLATE FINAL

On Wednesday 18 March @ Army Rugby Stadium, Aldershot.

1st Bn Scots Guards – V – RMA Sandhurst

Be there to cheer them on if you can.

WOs & SGTs PAST AND PRESENT ASSOCIATION – AGM – FRIDAY 17 APRIL 2020

The Annual General Meeting of the Warrant Officers & Sergeants Past and Present Association will take place in the Sgts Mess, Wellington Bks at 1900hrs on Friday 17 April. Members are encouraged to attend. The Sgts Mess will be open from 1800hrs.

Members are reminded that annual subscriptions have increased to £15.00. Can members who need to pay the increased subscription contact RQMS Steven Smith at RHQ Tel: 0207 – 414 – 3334 Email: steven.smith963@mod.gov.uk

REGIMENTAL REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – 19 APRIL 2020

All members of the Scots Guards past & serving are encouraged to attend Regimental Remembrance Sunday at Wellington Barracks on Sunday 19 April. The service at the Guards Chapel begins at 1100hrs and is followed by a parade to the Guards Memorial where an Act of Remembrance will take place. On return to Barracks lunch will be available in the Junior Ranks Dining Room on a Pay to Dine basis.

NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

Fife

The branch held its Annual General Meeting on Sunday 23 February.

The office bearers and Committee are now:

Sir Robert Spencer Nairn – President
Gordon Dickson – Chairman (newly elected)
Neil Crockett – Secretary (re – elected)
Gordon Dickson (re – elected)

Committee: Rab Ross, Tam Marshall, Tom Kerr, Ernie Melville (all re – elected).



Fife Branch AGM with 3x Presidents on Parade Angus Cheape (Pipers) Sir Robert Spencer Nairn (Fife), Major Iain Dalzel Job (Borders). All members of the Fife Branch.

Glasgow

The branch will hold its annual dinner on Friday 20 March at Loks Bar & Kitchen, Glasgow G43 2XU. If you wish to attend contact Secretary email: keith.norwood@hotmail.com

The branch recently held it's AGM, the office bearers are now:

Captain Sir James Campbell – President
Captain Eddie Edmonstone – Chairman (re – elected)
Keith Norwood – Secretary (re – elected)
Jim McArthur MBE – Treasurer (re - elected)

Monday 2 March at 1900hrs for 1930hrs is the Branch monthly meeting at Hallmark Hotel, Glasgow.

Borders

The branch annual dinner is on Friday 13 March at Hawick Rugby Club. A good night out, contact the Secretary Eck Barclay if you can attend email: eck01uk@yahoo.com

Berks, Bucks & Ox

The branch AGM will take place at Datchet Golf Club on Friday 27 March. Contact Secretary for more details, email: rab.ritchie@icloud.com

Durham & Yorkshire

The Branch will hold its AGM at Newton Aycliffe Working Mens Club on 1 April. New members welcome. Confirm the timings with Secretary Stewart Webb email: webb174@btinternet.com

Surrey

Sad news is reported that Pamela Bishop passed away. She was a great supporter of the branch and all things Scots Guards. her husband Roy and his brothers & father served in the Regt. Pamela was the branch auditor since its formation. She was known to many families living in Pirbright MQs when Pamela worked in Fulkes Butchers shops in Brookwood and Pirbright Green.

The Branch held their Burns Supper on Saturday 31st January at Clandon Regis Golf Club, Guildford. It was a very successful evening with an excellent traditional bill of fare. The haggis was addressed by Mr Edward McKay having been piped in by LSgt John Mitchell from the 1st Battalion. Eddie who also gave a splendid rendition of Holy Willie's Prayer. During the interval LSgt Mitchell played a wide selection of traditional tunes and a couple of modern pieces which went down really well with all who attended. Between courses Burns poems were recited by William Coffield and David O'Connell. We were delighted also to have RSM Colin Kirkwood as a guest.



Surrey Burns Supper
Regimental Sergeant Major Colin Kirkwood.



LSgt John Mitchell



DEATHS

Association Members

Ayrshire

David Barker Died 3 February 2020.

Corby, Central & Eastern England

24288806 Sgt Jim McCabe Died 18 February 2020. Served 1SG / SG & ACIO Corby, Enlisted Nov 1971, Discharged Dec 1993
Treasurer – Corby, Central & Eastern England Branch.
Funeral St Peters & St Pauls Church, Kettering, NN16 0AL

Merseyside

2703949 Sgt Bill Raffle Died 7 February 2020. Served 1SG Trieste & Cyprus. Enlisted Jan 1945. Discharged Oct 1952.

Non Members of the Association

24141351 LSgt Graham (Goldie) Goldsmith Died 21 February 2020. Served 1SG Sept 1969 Discharged Nov 1991.
Funeral 13 March 1145hrs Harwood Park Crematorium, Stevenage, SG2 8XT

Ken Robson Died 18 February 2020. Served Guards Parachute Company.

LSgt Colin Cockrill Died suddenly 27 February 2020 lived West Lothian. Served 2SG Cyprus 1984 to around 2000.

FORECAST OF EVENTS 2020

MARCH

Sat 7 Swally Ho, SG Club.
Fri 13 SGA Borders Dinner, Hawick Rugby Club.
Fri 20 SGA Glasgow Dinner, Loks Bar & Kitchen, Glasgow G43 2XU.
Fri 27 SGA Berks, Bucks and Ox AGM, Datchet GC.

APRIL

Wed 1 SGA Durham & Yorkshire AGM, Newton Aycliffe.
Fri 17 SG WOs & Sgts P and P Assoc AGM, Wellington Bks, London.
Sat 18 SGA AGM, Wellington Barracks, London.
Sun 19 SG Remembrance Sunday (Black Sunday).
Wed 29 Installation of the New Governor of Edinburgh Castle.

MAY

Fri 1 SGA Edinburgh & Lothian Dinner, SG Club.
Fri 1 SGA Surrey, Clandon Regus Golf Club, near Guildford.
Fri 8 75th Anniversary End of World War 2(VE Day). UK wide events.
Sat 9 SGMBVA Reunion, Dean Park, Hotel, Kirkcaldy.
Sat 16 Operation Motorman Reunion, SG Club.
Sat 30 QBP (Major General's Review). London.

JUNE

Sat 6 QBP (Colonel's Review), London.
Fri 11 – Sun 14 Tumbledown Veterans & Families Association Reunion, Blackpool.
Inc Memorial Service and unveiling of 2SG Falklands Plaque.
Sat 13 QBP Horse Guards Parade, London. 1st Bn Welsh Guards.
Fri 26* SGA Fife Branch Golf Competition "The Chairman's Trophy"
Sat 27 Armed Forces Day. Parades & Events in most Towns & Cities.

Note: Events marked * are provisional and To Be Confirmed. More dates to be added.

If you want more details on any event contact your local Branch Secretary (contact details on last page) or Neil Crockett at sga@scotsguards.org or 01383 721530

SWALLY HO

Organised by Neil Roney @ the Scots Guards Club it will take place on Saturday 7 March – Need more details check with the club

SGMBVA BI-ANNUAL REUNION DINNER - SATURDAY 9th MAY 2020

The Scots Guards Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association will be holding their bi-annual reunion at the Dean Park Hotel, Kirkcaldy, Fife. This also happens to be the UK Wide Bank Holiday to celebrate Victory in Europe 75 weekend.

Please contact the Treasurer, Ronnie Paterson if you wish to attend, rongill4547@hotmail.com

TUMBLEDOWN VETERANS & FAMILIES ASSOCIATION – REUNION WEEKEND 12 – 14 JUNE 2020

Major General MIE Scott CBE, DSO & Captain (Retd) Ronnie MacKenzie MBE, the Commanding Officer & Regimental Sergeant Major of 2nd Battalion in the Falklands will take part in the weekend and unveil the new 2SG Falklands Plaque.

All Scots Guards Association members and families are invited to join the TVFA at Blackpool Cenotaph for the un-veiling of the Tumbledown Plaque. It has taken two years of negotiations with Blackpool Council to gain permission to install a plaque at the cenotaph.

This is something the TV&FA are very proud of, they 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, whichever suits you. You are ALL most welcome. We, the TVFA would be proud to have your company at this auspicious occasion.

The itinerary for the week-end is as follows;

- Friday 12/6/20 = 1500hrs, Meet and Greet at The President Hotel, Blackpool. **Note Change of Venue**
- Saturday 13/6/20 = AGM @ 1300hrs in The President Hotel.
- Saturday 13/6/20 = At 1900hrs Function in the President Hotel.
- Sunday 14/6/20 = 1200hrs The Unveiling of the Plaque at the Blackpool Cenotaph. Medals in wear. The annual Memorial Service will take place followed by the Cross Laying after the Plaque has been un-veiled. we will all retire to The Presidents Hotel for refreshments and buffet
- Sunday 14/6/20 = 1930hrs evening in The President Hotel.. At 2200hrs we will be holding our Remembrance Candle Lighting.

VICTORY IN EUROPE DAY 75 – FRIDAY 8 MAY 2020

Major commemorations will take place across the UK on Friday 8 May the 75th anniversary of VE Day. Surviving veterans from World War 2 will be honoured and play a major part in the events.

In Edinburgh plans are being made which will include a parade by Regular & Reserve Forces, Cadets and Regimental Associations along Queens Street to Ross Band Stand in Princes Street Gardens where a concert and historic events will take place. Brian Ward former Scots Guards WO2 & now Events Manager of Legion Scotland has a leading part in the planning of the event.

Full details of this and other VE75 events will be published in due course.



CHARITY RACE DAY

SUNDAY 10TH MAY 2020


FREE ENTRY FOR ALL THE COMMUNITY

VE Day 75th Anniversary Celebrations

Absolutely everyone is welcome to the Preston Scots Guards Association's **VE Day 75th anniversary celebrations** at the Lostock Hall Conservative Club, Preston, PR5 5AA. Doors open at 1pm. Bring along all family and friends for a great afternoon of entertainment including Race Day, tasty hotpot and entertainment to raise money for great causes: St Catherine's Hospice and The Preston's Scots Guards Association.

All Ages Welcome!

St. Catherine's



needs YOU!

In aid of St Catherine's Hospice and The Preston Scots Guards Association



Lostock Hall Conservative Club
1:00pm – 5:00pm

Race Day

Preston City Pipe Band

DJ Geoff

Entertainment

Hotpot

For info contact:
Michael Nutter
07976 909001

SGA Preston Branch

RABBITS BREAKFAST IN PHOTOGRAPHS – SATURDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2020 – SCOTS GUARDS CLUB

A great day – no other comment needed!



Well known Rabbits On Parade



Stevie George, Ronnie Cook, Neil Crockett



Allan Bunyan, Ted Middlemiss, Ronnie Paterson, Bruce Henderson



Eddie Manners and other good Rabbits



John Campbell reports “The Haggis I just Addressed was this big” - Jock Ritchie distances himself from this claim!

FEBRUARY NEWS FROM THE SERVING REGIMENT.

F Company

At the beginning of the month F Company swapped the Parade Square for skiing in the Alps.

Ex Tartan Glacier

Sir Chris Bonington CVO, CBE, DL, Britain's greatest living mountaineer, Has been announced as patron of Ex Tartan Glacier - a Scots Guards expedition to climb Mount Denali, the highest mountain in North America and coldest mountain on Earth! The team which includes novices is currently training and the expedition will take place later in the year.

Snowboarding Championships

This year 1SG entered a novice team into the Infantry Snowboarding Championships.

The team came an impressive 2nd overall.

Gdsm Rosbottom received 2nd in Slope Style and 3rd overall novice.

LCpl Robinson (REME) came 2nd in Slalom and 6th overall. He has been selected to represent the Army at the Inter-Service Competition.

Rugby

LSgt Kabunica represented the Men's Army A versus Cambridge University. Sgt McMillan & LSgt Hayworth were both selected to represent the Army Senior XV

Pipes & Drums 1st Bn Scots Guards The Future is Bright – The Future is Piping

The Pipes and Drums competed at the Army championships for the first time in three years after only four weeks preparation. Not very long to prepare for any competition.

In the mini band contest they were placed 3rd in the MSR and Medley and 2nd in the open ensemble.

Individuals competed in solo competitions and walked away with prizes for their efforts.

Drum Major McCutcheon 3rd in the senior drumming.

LCpl Lilliequist 2nd in confined drumming and also got 2nd in the senior bugling.

LSgt Milne 2nd in confined bugling

LCpl McRobb 4th senior Piobaireachd

LCpl Fraser 4th in Strathspey and Reel

LCpl Grant 4th Novice march

Ppr Fair 2nd Novice march



On 27 February the Pipes and Drums had the pleasure of visiting Scots Guards cadets (Lanark detachment)

The band put on a musical performance for the youngsters and their families and we also gave them a presentation on Piping and Drumming in the Army and various other topics.

Guards Company, Infantry Training Centre – Catterick

On 21 February, 12 Scots Guardsmen completed their basic training and passed out from Catterick. After leave they will join F Company.

Mortar Platoon

The Platoon spent a week on Dartmoor practising their navigation skills.

Right Flank

For their first training of the year with armoured vehicles the company spent time at Thetford to practise Mechanised Battlefield Craft.

C Company

Have delivered a comprehensive training package to the Kenyan Defence Force.

B Company

4 members of B Company have recently returned from Uganda. They were helping train the Ugandan Army prepare for a forthcoming deployment.

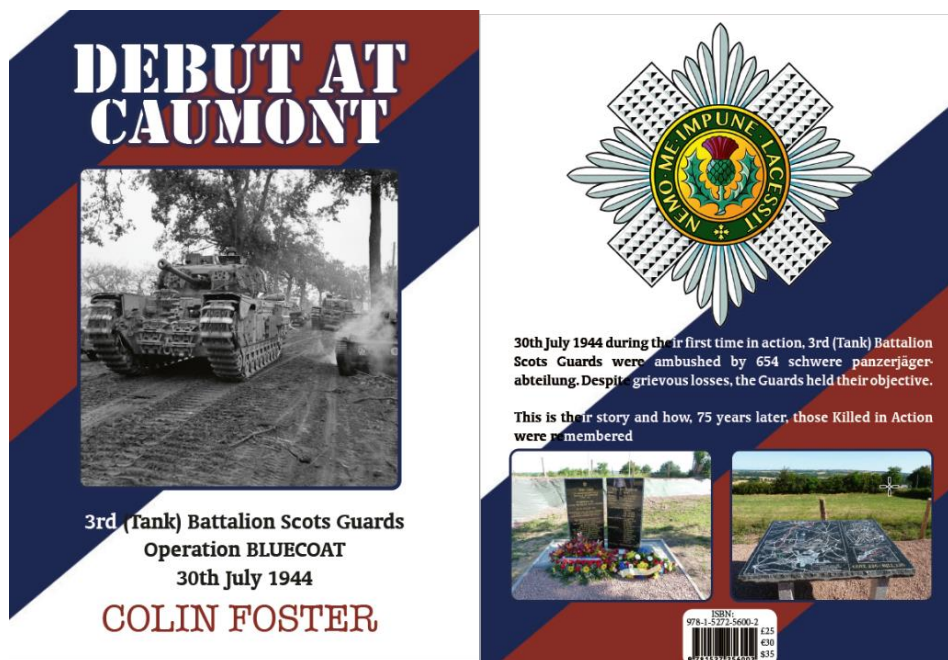
Ukraine Training Team

4 members of the Battalion have been assisting with training and defence engagement in Ukraine. They have been teaching infantry skills and mentoring on the ranges.

Recce Platoon

At the start of February the Platoon completed a challenging cadre to test their battle skills.

DEBUT AT CAUMONT By Colin Foster



The knowledgeable Colin Foster tells the story of 3rd (Tank) Battalion Scots Guards and their first action in Normandy during Operation Bluecoat on Hill 226 during the Battle of Caumont. Some years ago Colin was invited to give a presentation to SGA Berks, Bucks & Ox Branch. Colin visits the area of the battle frequently. The book also describes the memorial to remember 3SG and those killed. The memorial was unveiled 75 years later overlooking the battle site on 28 July 2019. Branches of the SGA and many Scots Guardsmen and families contributed to the memorial.

The book costs £25 plus £5 postage and package. To order the book or for more information email Colin colin@menintheshed.com