

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 on which the Scots Guards are founded.**

General Sir Michael Gow GCB

Palace of Holyrood 1965

Neil Crockett
Secretary & Editor

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Front Page Photograph: Recently John Linn (Secretary SGA Australia) was home in Edinburgh to celebrate his mother's 80th Birthday. Along with John Rae, Dougie Watson (SG Club Manager & Chairman respectively), Neil Crockett he met up for lunch in the Scots Guards Club. John took the opportunity to present a SGA Australia Pendant each to the Scots Guards Club and Neil Crockett.

In the news from the Australian Branch is the hope that their annual dinner later this year can be held in 3rd Bn Royal Australian Regiment barracks in Townsville, Queensland. Former Scots Guardsman Cammie Macdougall is Adjutant of 3RAR which is affiliated to our Regiment.

SGA Australia Branch officials are:

President : Captain Paul Wenck

Treasurer: Major Tom Mooney

Secretary: John Linn JP

Email: john.linn1968@gmail.com

Tel: +61 (0) 435 865 765

WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING MARCH IN CONFLICTS SINE 1945

24849834 CSgt Alan Cameron from 1st Battalion Scots Guards died on 31 March 2011 as a result of wounds he received in Afghanistan on 13 April 2010.



DEATHS

THIRD GUARDS CLUB

Lieutenant RRG Gardner Died 24 February 2026, Age 91. National Service Commissioned October 1953, served 2SG BAOR to Feb1955. Lived Warwickshire.

NON ASSOCIATION

24608552 Gdsm Alan Glover Died 21 February 2026. Age 62. Served G Company 2SG Falklands 1982, Mortar Pltn Cyprus. Funeral 11 March 2025 at 1030hrs Pleasington Cemetery & Crematorium, Tower Road, Blackburn. BB2 5LE

23865996 Sgt Graham Bradley Died 3 February 2026. Age 80. Served Jnr Gdsm Coy, 1SG from 1962 including Malaya & Borneo, Edinburgh, Sharjah, Munster, Aldergrove, Hong Kong, Pirbright to 1986. Recruiting Stranraer mid 1970s. Funeral 3 March 2026 1430hrs, Mortonhall Crematorium Pentland Chapel.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

SGA Borders Branch

Due to unforeseen circumstances the Annual Dinner due to take place on Saturday 14 March 2026 at Hawick Rugby Club has been cancelled.

SGA Fife Branch

The Annual General Meeting will take place at The CISWO, Glenrothes at 1300hrs Sunday 8 March 2026. For further details contact Neil Crockett Secretary: Email: neil.crockett@btopenworld.com Tel: 01383 721530

SGA Berks, Bucks & Oxon Branch

The Annual General Meeting will take place at Datchet Golf Club on 29 March 2026 1930hrs. For hungry members there is a Curry Supper between 1830 – 1900hrs (must be ordered in advance). Email: Jimsimmonds6729@gmail.com Mob: 07340 297328.

SGA Corby, Central & Eastern Branch

The Annual Dinner will take place on Saturday 11 April 2026 @ VOCO Hotel, Corby. Get more details from Scott Morton Secretary Email: piper.scott.morton@btinternet.com Mob: 07786 067878.

SGA Aberdeen & North Eastern Scotland Branch

At the branch AGM Captain The Honourable JA Forbes retired from the post of President and we thank him for his advise and service to the branch over many years.

The Branch Office Bearers are:

President: Colonel AD Mathewson OBE

Chairman: Ian Roger

**Secretary &
Treasurer:** Brian Harrison

Scots Guards Club

As shown in the photographs of the Rabbits Breakfast in the coming pages the Scots Guards Club has become a great venue to hold events to come together as Scots Guardsmen. Events “BIG” or “small” Formal or Informal. A place to get together with friends. Email: enquiries@scotsguardsclub.co.uk



Left: Blue Sinton & Ronnie Convery “Raise a Glass” to their old Pltn Sgt, 8 Pltn C Company ~ George Cameron
Right: Jim McCune reports all the glasses are Tam Laird’s. Two old C Coy men.



Rab Walker, Steve Kendall & Bob Perry



Check the Braces ~ Eddie Brown

THIS NEWS HAS BEEN SHARED WIDELY TO SCOTS GUARDS ASSOCIATION BRANCHES AND OTHER REGIMENTAL GROUPS ~ MEMBERS OF SGA SHOULD APPLY FOR TICKETS VIA THEIR BRANCH, NON SGA MEMBERS EMAIL: sga@scotsguards.org

REGIMENTAL GATHERING WEEKEND 19 – 21 JUNE 2026 INFORMATION

The Gathering is being hosted by 1st Battalion Scots Guards within their barracks at Catterick. We are expecting a great weekend providing a chance to come together with Scots Guards friends and to meet new friends from across the Regimental family.

You need to let me know which events you want to attend I can arrange your tickets. Full admin information will be sent out with your tickets. I also need to know those who want to take part in the Swinton Quaich & the Pace Sticking Competition.

This is a special event being arranged by 1SG within their home at Somme Barracks, Catterick. It is the first time since 2021 that we have been able to visit the serving Regiment for an event of this type (not too formal and a chance to see what the Battalion is up to). The Commanding Officer is very pleased to welcome us.

Please return the form as soon as possible but by Saturday 30 May 2026 at the latest – please.

For security & control purposes tickets are needed. Car / Coach passes are need by all vehicles. Information of lead passenger, Vehicle Registration Number / Make / Colour are required.

Some accommodation option in the nearby area are listed on the PowerPoint information from the Battalion. There are also caravan / motor home options in the nearby area.

Dress Code: Jacket & Tie

Post Code for Somme Barracks: DL9 4LD

BEATING RETREAT BY REGIMENTAL BAND & PIPES & DRUMS 1st BATTALION SCOTS GUARDS RICHMOND CASTLE, TOWER STREET, DL 10 4QW FRIDAY 19 JUNE 2026 1800 – 2100hrs

- Access: From 1730hrs TBC
- The Beating Retreat is free but entrance is by ticket only.
- There will be a cash bar.
- There is car parking in Richmond Square and throughout the town.

REGIMENTAL GATHERING – SOMME BARRACKS, CATTERICK SATURDAY 20 JUNE 2026 1000 – 2000hrs

- No access to Barracks before 1000hrs, this is to allow the Battalion set up without distraction.
- Access is free but entrance is by ticket only.
- The day will begin by the Regiment Serving and Past Marching Past HRH The Colonel at 1100hrs. Form Up 1040hrs at the Guardroom.
- There will be arena displays including by the Regimental Band and the Pipes & Drums of 1st Battalion Scots Guards and lots of other activities.
- It is hoped all SGA Branches can provide a team in the Pace Sticking Competition.
- It is hoped all SGA Branches can provide a team in the Swinton Quaich Competition.
- No dogs except Assistance Dogs – Please.
- There will be food available in the cookhouse & a cash bar outside.
- You can bring your own picnics if you wish.
- The official day will end at approximately 1730hrs with Beating the Retreat. Finally everyone will join together in the arena for “Auld Lang Syne”.

Curry Supper

- After the final formalities there will be a Curry Supper in the Officers and Sgts Messes from 1800 – 2000hrs ~ Tickets required (free).
- Everyone can nominate which Mess they would like to have supper in.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE & CONSECRATION OF OLD COLOURS GARRISON MEMORIAL CHURCH OF ST MARTIN & ST OSWALD SUNDAY 21 JUNE 1000 – 1100hrs

- Numbers attending are requested.

TICKET REQUIREMENTS

Please fill in the form and return it to me asap but by Saturday 30 May 2026 at the latest.

THE WEEKEND

I hope this is sufficient information for you to plan your weekend. If you do need further details email or phone me, I'm available most evenings after 1700hrs. Tickets, car passes and additional / updated information will sent out to you in good time before the Gathering weekend.

Neil Crockett

Secretary

Scots Guards Association

IT'S MARCH THE DAYS ARE GETTING WARMER & LONGER!

LOOK FORWARD ~ LONDON IN THE SPRING ~ YOU CAN'T BEAT IT!



REGIMENTAL REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY ~ GUARDS CHAPEL

Sun 19 April – 1100hrs

Regimental Remembrance Sunday will follow its normal form.

All Scots Guardsmen past & serving are very welcome and are encouraged to attend.

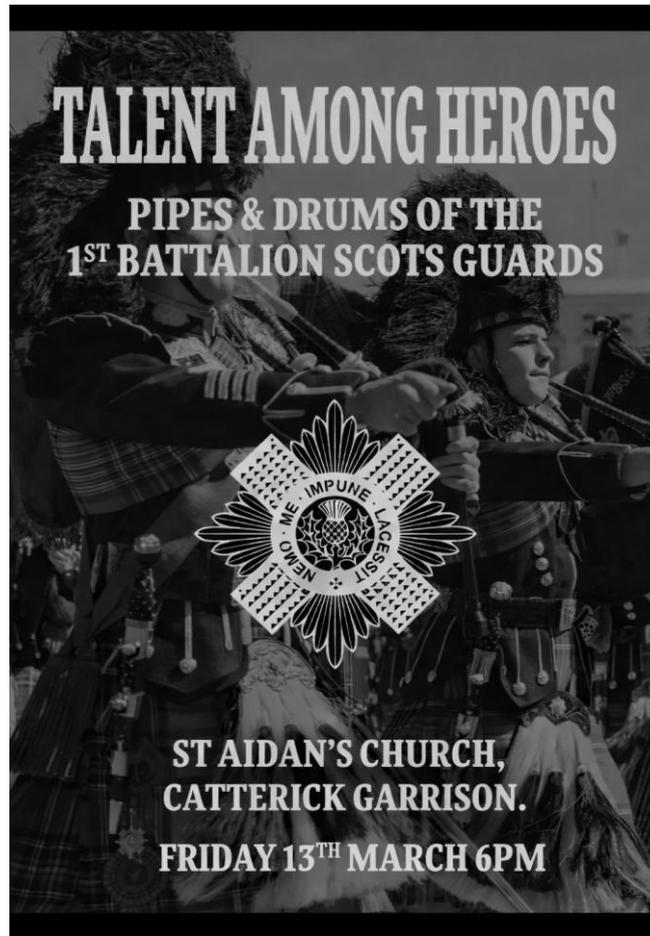
OOD: Suit / Blazer, HDiv Tie, Large Medals, no headdress.

After the service the parade will form up on the Barrack Square in 6s. The Regimental Lieutenant Colonel will command the parade to the Guards Memorial where there will be a short act of wreath laying. Marching back to Barracks a salute will be taken just before re-entering Barracks. The parade will be dismissed.

There will be refreshments in the Other Ranks Dining Room. For those who want it there will be lunch available on payment on 'Pay to Dine System'. Afterwards the Warrant Officers & Sgts Mess will be open.

Always a good chance to meet up with friends ~ Make your plans early to be there!

TALENT AMONG HEROES



We are proud to announce that the Scot Guards Pipes and Drums will be performing another “TALENT AMONGST HEROES” this time in Catterick Garrison.

This concert is free and will be held in St Aidan's Church, Catterick Garrison.

We encourage all of our families and friends to come along and enjoy a night of all things Scottish and all things Guards.

Doors open: 1730hrs

Concert Starts: 1900hrs

PIPES & DRUMS 1st Bn SCOTS GUARDS



Left: The team were invited to Windsor Castle for the visit of His Highness the Aga Khan. The dinner performance called for six pipers, led by His Majesty's Piper and former Scots Guards Pipe Major, WO1 Pipe Major A Reid.

Right: The Pipes and Drums have recently returned from performing in the overseas production of the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Taking to the stage at Brisbane's Suncorp Stadium and The Fortress in New Zealand, it was an unforgettable experience to be part of a truly world-renowned show in such iconic venues.



BATTLE BACK CENTRE

I am Tony Taylor, ex Coldstream Drum Major, I recently started working at the Battle Back Centre for the Royal British Legion as a recovery support widely known that our multi activity course is available to attend by **any** veteran and I am trying to get word out there that our courses are available.

We offer a 5-day multi-activity course at the Battle Back Centre in Lilleshall, Shropshire. Food and accommodation is provided as is world class coaching on activities such as wheelchair basketball, golf, archery, cycling, sitting volleyball and climbing.

All activities can be adapted making them all very inclusive and open to all abilities, we have had a gentleman attend that was 83 recently who took part in all activities including getting to the top of the climbing wall.

This is a great place for a reset, refocus and general wellbeing including the link between physical and mental health as well as developing ways of managing stress.

If any veteran wishes to attend they need to call the helpline on 0808 802 8080 and request to attend, then a case officer will be appointed to check eligibility etc. before getting them booked on.

This is an amazing course and to see the difference in people between arriving and leaving on the Friday is phenomenal. Would you be able to pass this information on to your Regimental Association Branches/newsletter and help get word out that all veterans can attend.

I am happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Kind regards

Tony Taylor

Recovery Support Officer

Mob: 07568700154 **Email:** TTaylor@britishlegion.org.uk



REMEMBERING THE IRAQ WAR – 15 YEARS ON

We are hosting a daytime commemorative event at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire on Friday 22nd May 2026 to mark the 15th anniversary of the end of Operation TELIC. We warmly invite those to attend from the serving and veteran communities who served in the Iraq War (Op TELIC: 2003-2011), families of those who served in Iraq (including the bereaved), and those who worked as civilian contractors supporting British Forces and civil society in the country.

If you are interested in attending, RBL ask that they register their interest via this link: <https://rbl.org.uk/telic15o>

THE RABBITS BREAKFAST ~ SATURDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2026

A full house of “Rabbits” at the Scots Guards Club for a great get together of Guardsmen. Well done to the organizing team..



Rabbit's Company Flags



Left – Right: Tony Carter, Charlie McKeown, Major Iain Dalzel Job (Head Rabbit), Bruce Henderson, Jim Batty.



**Rabbits Group Photograph ~ Left Side
Who can you spot? If they aren't in the photo's they are still in the bar!!**



Rabbits Group Photograph ~ Centre



Rabbits Group Photograph ~ Right Side



**Left: Neil Crockett meeting Peter Boorman (Pirate) who's just returned to Scotland from Australia & living in Keith.
Right: Colin Duff, Major Mark Cape, Mark Mackay, John McLaren.**