

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

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HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH

On Friday 9 April we all heard with great sadness that HRH The Duke of Edinburgh had passed away peacefully aged 99. 2 months short of his 100th Birthday. From the early years of his marriage to HM The Queen and particularly after the Coronation in 1953 he was very much involved in the Household Division (Formerly the Household Brigade).

In 1953 HRH The Duke of Edinburgh took part in the Queen's Birthday Parade dressed in the full uniform of a Field Marshal, as such he was wearing Cocked Hat. Afterwards he reported it was the one time he had a clear view of the parade and not through the fringe of his bearskin.

Later in 1953 he was appointed Colonel of the Welsh Guards, an appointment he held until 1975 when he was appointed Colonel of the Grenadier Guards. When he retired from that appointment in 2017 he was Senior Colonel of the Household Division. A very impressive total of 64 years service. Between 1953 & 2017 he only missed taking part in 4 Queen's Birthday Parades.

In the course of his duties over many years he met Scots Guardsmen on many occasions. Listed are but a few:

World War 2. After recruit training at the Guards Depot, Caterham and throughout WW2 the Scots Guards Training Bn. Pirbright prepared men to join active service Battalions. The Training Bn also had to take on endless chores and fatigues that burdened it. Over six years a helping hand was given to all who demanded it. Duties and recreations were varied and innumerable and included the initiation into the military mysteries and jollifications for the crew of HMS Wallace, including Sub-Lieutenant Prince Philip of Greece RN. The "matelots" when going out of camp reporting to the Sergeant of the Guard as "a few chaps going ashore".

1952 2nd Bn Scots Guards Trooped their Colour in front of the new Queen on Thursday 5 June. HRH the Duke of Edinburgh wasn't on parade but on the previous afternoon when the Battalion found a Guard of Honour with the State Colour of the Regiment for the opening of the Royal Tournament at Earls Court by H.M. The Queen. HRH The Duke of Edinburgh inspected the GOH. The officers were Captain J MacDonald - Buchanan MC, Lieut. DC Prior. 2/Lieut. TJ Smail was the Ensign.

Later on 10 August 1952 the 2nd Bn furnished a Guard of Honour for HRH The Duke of Edinburgh when he arrived for the opening of the Edinburgh Festival. He also inspected a detachment of 16 Guardsmen from 2SG when taking the salute on the Edinburgh Tattoo.

1955 1st Bn in Wellington Barracks were due to provide the Escort on QBP but it was cancelled due to a rail strike. On 9th June a reception was held in the Officers Mess in celebration of Her Majesty's Birthday. HM The Queen, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, and TRH The Duke of Gloucester (then Colonel of the Regiment) and Duchess were present. 350 guests attended. The Drums and Pipes beat Retreat on the square outside the Officers Mess.

12 June 1958 QBP 1st Bn provided Escort & No 2 Gd, 2nd Bn No3 & 4 Gds. That evening the Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were the guests of the Captain of the Queen's Guard at St James Palace.

On the 30th June 1958 the Queen paid a visit to Falkland Palace, Fife. Many Scots Guardsmen will remember the close association between the Regiment and the town of Falkland. A Palace Guard was mounted by the 1st Bn during a visit by the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh. Many members of the Scottish Branches of the Association were present.

At midnight on 11 December 1963. Kenya became an independent country within the Commonwealth after sixty-nine years of British rule. His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh represented Her Majesty The Queen at independence ceremonies in both Zanzibar and Nairobi. On his arrival in the Kenyan capital he was received at Government House by a Guard of Honour found from Right Flank, 2nd Battalion was commanded by Major Douglas Prior

30 June 1965 2SG were Presented with New Colours to 2nd at Holyrood Park. That night, the Battalion held a Reception in the Assembly Rooms, and HM The Queen, accompanied by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, honoured the battalion by attending.

At the beginning of July 1968 the 1st Battalion based in Redford Barracks, Edinburgh mounted a Guard at Holyrood Palace during the Queen's visit to Edinburgh. A Guard of Honour commanded by Major Naylor was mounted on the Queen's arrival and the State Colour was carried. Lieutenant Snow was the Ensign. The local Edinburgh ceremonial scene was concluded on 2 July when a Review of Regiments and Corps of the Army in Scotland was held in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh in Holyrood Park. Colonel MacGregor commanded the parade. On 4th July the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visited the Battalion at Redford Barracks, and members of the Battalion and their wives were able to meet and talk to them at the Garden Party.

1975 very soon after arriving in Belize 2SG were visited by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh who was on a Royal Tour of Central America. He visited Airport Camp and Holdfast Camp and saw many members of the Battalion.

1984 two months after the 2nd Battalion's arrival in Cyprus Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh visited the Western SBA and G Company provided a Guard of Honour, commanded by Major Julian Lancaster. This was the Battalion's only ceremonial commitment of that time and it caused the author of the G Company notes in the Scots Guards Magazine to boast: 'The only Guard of Honour so far found by the battalion was provided by the Company, ably assisted by F Company and the Regimental Band. We believe that the Flank Companies should realize that without a bearskin it is what's underneath that really matters!'

In 1986 the Sesquicentennial Third Guards Club Dinner took place at the Savoy on 24th June when the Regiment was also graced with the presence of Her Majesty The Queen, Colonel in Chief and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh.

24 June 1992 the 350th Parade 1993 took place at Holyrood. The Parade was under the watchful eye of HM The Queen but she had another commitment afterwards and it was HRH The Duke of Edinburgh who attended the lunch with HRH The Duke of Kent. Over 4000 members of the Regiment past and serving attend the 350th Parade & lunch.

Royal Gd Ballater 2SG 1993 A beaters lunch sitting outdoors at the foot of a glen at tables covered with white tablecloths on a glorious day at the end of September. The Guard Quartermaster Sergeant looked after the beaters so well that one day The Duke of Edinburgh stopped and mentioned the only thing missing was the Officers' Mess Silver. The next day the silver was there!

2009 the late Captain Bob Melville had one of the greatest honours of his career. He was a member of the illustrious Household Division Quartermasters, Riding Masters & Directors of Music Association which was celebrating its 100th Anniversary and Bob had been elected as the President for that year. HM The Queen invited the Association to a reception and dinner in the State Apartments at St James' Palace. After The Queen retired Bob, as President, resided at the Top Table at dinner sitting next to the Duke of Edinburgh. The dinner was also attended by The Princess Royal and The Duke of Kent.

Many of us have stories of meeting the Duke of Edinburgh, my own goes back to the 1st Battalion Presentation of Colours in the Garden of Buckingham Palace in 1987. After parade Margaret Crockett was introduced with the explanation that her father had served in the Regiment. The Duke of Edinburgh's immediate retort "Oh you were an Army Brat" Indeed she was!

Ian Millar tells his story about when he was an instructor at the Guards Depot, Caterham in the early 1950s when the Duke of Edinburgh visited. Included was a call into the mess hall and the Royal entourage had to pass Victoria Block, which had been bomb damaged during the war and had been recently repaired. Being a new building he was interested and proceeded into the block. NCO Instructors Dave Torrance, Frank Milne, Bob Stephenson and Ian Millar were in the 1st room he came to. The floors were highly polished, the door opened we sprang to attention. Dave Torrance slipped and slid along the floor and landed under one of the four beds, which did not have a mattress, and he lay to attention. The Commandant and RSM Donald Whyte were surprised to say the least but HRH The Duke of Edinburgh did not bat an eyelid. Later CSM Croucher had and quiet word with us as well as a wry smile. Only a small incident but unforgettable.

On Saturday 17 April Windsor Castle looked stunning in the Spring sunshine for HRH The Duke of Edinburgh's funeral. Despite Covid restrictions all members of the Armed Forces on parade did us proud, not least our own Regimental Band.

WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING MAY IN CONFLICTS SINCE 1945

2nd Battalion Scots Guards Malaya Emergency 1948 – 1951

19 May 1949 2704864 LSgt Harvey Lea. Aged 21.

2nd Battalion Scots Guards Northern Ireland

5 May 1990 24586352 LSgt Graham Stewart Aged 25. Killed Co Armagh, Northern Ireland. Buried Jeanfield Cemetery, Perth.

Over the past year or so, the 44 Scots Guardsmen killed since the end of World War 2 have each been remembered in this newsletter on the month of their death. They are also named and remembered on the Armed Forces Memorial at the National Arboretum.



THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM

The Arboretum is an evolving, maturing woodland landscape with a large collection of nearly 400 memorials. The 150-acre site located at Alrewas near Litchfield, Staffordshire is a living, growing tribute to those who have served and continue to serve our country.

The largest memorial at the Arboretum is the Armed Forces Memorial. It is a nationally significant focus for Remembrance and was created to remember and recognise those who have given their lives in the service of the country since the end of the Second World War.

Since 1948 the men and women of the Armed Services have taken part in more than 50 operations and conflicts around the world, often working as part of the United Nations, NATO or other coalitions. From the jungles of Malaysia to the South Atlantic seas the Armed Forces Memorial remembers those who have lost their lives around the world. It is particularly important for many, who have no grave to visit, or who remember those who are buried in far off places.

All of the memorials are listed on the website including the Household Division Memorial. Coincidentally Joe Farrell emailed me a day ago with information of the new Guards Parachute Memorial due to be unveiled soon.

The National Arboretum is a very moving place, well worth a visit. To find out more about it check the website <https://www.thenma.org.uk>

REGIMENTAL REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – 18 APRIL 2021



Left: With continued restrictions wreaths were laid at the Guards Memorial and the Guards Chapel by Major James Kelly, Regimental Adjutant.

Right: L-R RQMS Rae, LSgt Mitchell, Major Kelly, LCpl Carse, Revd Stephen Pratt.

Unable to travel to London, SGA Branches remembered fallen Scots Guardsmen at local their war memorials.



Left: Durham & Yorkshire Stewart Webb (Secretary) at Ripley Church by Harrogate.

Centre: Fife Branch, Kenny Lawson & Tam Marshall at Kirkcaldy War Memorial. Kenny carries the SGA National Standard.

Right: Pipers Branch, Brian Heriot at Kinlochleven War Memorial, Highlands.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Edinburgh Branch

In his day job our long serving Branch Secretary, Danny Minto clocked up 27 Years Service at Lady Haigs Poppy Factory. In mid April the Poppy Factory congratulated Danny in his current position as Factory Recant Co-ordinator for his service.

Danny joined the factory as the Print Shop Manager in 1994 and then moved on to become the Factory Foreman. Danny delayed retirement and his current role involves the planning for the return to their home premises at Warriston Road.

Danny is the longest serving staff member at Lady Haig's Poppy Factory so if there's a query, if Danny doesn't know the answer...nobody will!



For SGA Edinburgh & The Lothians Secretary, Danny Minto contact Tel: 07758 193362 Email: e.lsga@yahoo.co.uk

Fife Branch

The Branch Committee is making plans to hold a meeting before the end of May.

On the agenda will be the Branch Golf Competition (The Chairman's Trophy) which we hope to arrange at the end of July.

Provisional plans for the Branch annual dinner will also be made, to be held on Friday 12 November, at the Dean Park Hotel, Kirkcaldy.

Contact for Branch Secretary: Neil Crockett, Tel: 01383 721530 Email: neil.crockett@btopenworld.com

Australia Branch

At dawn on 25 April members of the branch took part in ANZAC Day services of Remembrance across Australia.





Left: John (Brains) Ferguson with his wife and son after the dawn service in Townsville.



Right: Peter Boorman, The Gold Coast, Queensland.



The Pipes & Drums under P/M Brains Ferguson lead 3rd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment on parade at Lavarack Barracks, Townsville to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Kapyong. The battle took place between 23 – 25 April 1951 and was a decisive battle of the Korean War. 3rd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment is affiliated to the Scots Guards.

To Scots Guardsmen in Australia:

Want to join the Branch contact Secretary John Linn Email: john.linn1968@gmail.com Tel: 0061 (0) 9438 6026

Scots Guards Club - Providing a home from home for all Scots Guardsmen!

Warm hospitality and excellent facilities are offered to members and non members alike in the heart of Edinburgh's West End.

We are now open for membership renewals. If you live locally and usually renew in person, then it is quite all right to wait until the doors are open again, at which time you can do so in the usual way. If you prefer to renew online, you can do this now by making BACS payment to Sort Code 82 62 30 Account Number 60496650.

Use your name as a reference and email us at enquiries@scotsguardsclub.co.uk with your name and address and we'll get your membership card posted out to you. £20 or £15 if over 65.

The work continues to ensure your Club is in top shape to welcome members back before too long in line with Scottish Government Guidance. The Club Team are primed and waiting to welcome you all back. For confirmed opening check with the Club.

Best wishes from all the Team

Tumbledown Veterans & Families Association.

The Committee is in planning mode to organise the annual reunion weekend in Blackpool from Friday 25 – Monday 28 June 2021. Major General Mike Scott, Captain Ronnie MacKenzie and Revd Angus Smith have confirmed that they will attend.

The unveiling of the 2SG Falkland's Plaque at Blackpool War Memorial will take place on Sunday 27 June 2021.

SICK PARADE

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

Eddie McKay (London & BBO) – Underwent a major operation on 22 April.

Davie Ross (Highlands & Islands) – hospitalised with a stroke.

John Marshall (Edinburgh) – hospitalised with a stroke.

NEWS FROM THE SERVING REGIMENT

By the end of July 1st Bn Scots Guards will be fully moved into Somme Barracks, Catterick.



The Pipes & Drums are inspected as part of the preparations for QBP (Alternative Parade at Windsor Castle).



17 New Guardsmen arrive at F Company.

New Appointments

Recent moves:

Captain JRG Craib moved from OC Regimental Support Team to Tech QM 1SG

Captain N Moreton took over as OC Regimental Support Team

WO1 A Gibson moved from AADW to Garrison Sergeant Major, Edinburgh Garrison

LSgt J Platt moved from Archives Clerk RHQ to Civilian Life.

LSgt R Spence moved within RHQ to take over as Archives Clerk

BITS & PIECES

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

Calling Old Soldiers

Did you serve in:

- 1st Battalion Scots Guards, Trieste 1945 - 47
- 2nd Battalion Scots Guards, Malaya Emergency 1948 – 51
- 1st Battalion Scots Guards, Cyprus / Egypt 1951 – 54

I'm hoping to identify & collate a list of men still around who served during the period 1945 – 1955 including on the overseas service listed above. Both SGA & non SGA members please.

Can Branches and individuals (or their family) contact Neil Crockett SGA Secretary Tel: 01383 – 721530 or email sga@scotsguards.org

2nd LIEUTENANT ALANA REID

Congratulations go to 2nd Lieutenant Alana Reid who was commissioned into the Royal Engineers recently. She is the daughter of former WO2 Jon Reid, member of SGA Fife. Proud dad & mum Lorraine who were able to watch the parade online and toast their daughter from home.



2Lt Alana Reid second from the right with fellow cadets prior to her Commissioning Parade from RMA Sandhurst recently.

The Origins of The Scots Guards Collect

The following article by The Reverend Doctor DH Whiteford CBE QHC MA BD PhD appeared in the Scots Guards Magazine 2005, submitted on his behalf by Danny Minto Secretary of the Edinburgh & The Lothians Branch of the Association.

Rev'd Whiteford was Chaplain 2nd Battalion Scots Guards from the closing days of World War Two 1945-1953 & Deputy Chaplain General, Army 1966-1971

One day in the old Chelsea Barracks in 1951 on the 2nd Battalion's return from Malaya, Captain John Swinton, Adjutant, asked me to come across from my office in the Chapel Vestry to the Orderly Room, to discuss with him the possibility of a new Scots Guards Collect. The Collect then in use was in a book of Army Collects which had been put together years before and was well out of date. Its contents had little to do with Scots Guards traditions or history. I agreed with him and was given the task of producing a new Scots Guards Collect.

I used the traditional St Andrew's Day Collect as my model and attempted to put into similar liturgical shape a Prayer that would belong to the Scots Guards, and to no one else. I began with the symbol of the St Andrew's Cross and all it stands for Regimentally, nationally and theologically. (Sometime in the 1st Century Andrew was crucified at Patras, in what is now Greece, on a Saltire shaped cross. Legend has it that he considered himself unworthy to be crucified on the kind of cross on which Jesus had died, and he died triumphantly). I then took the Regimental motto and the mottos of the 1st and 2nd Battalions together with some of the Company mottos. At the end of several false starts the new Collect began to take shape. The Latin word 'impune' has no easy equivalent in English, I have used it in the sense of - 'boldly' - 'No one making me afraid' - 'Don't touch me or you'll get a bloody nose' and there are other colloquial variants. 'Stronger together' - 'Fierce against all enemies' - 'In brotherhood' - 'going forward' - 'under leadership' - all have their roots in the Battalion or Company mottos. If you have a list of these mottos you will not find it too difficult to trace the source of the ideas I have used. A soldier's life is built on very primary values - courage, determination, duty, discipline, comradeship, trust and sacrifice. He faces in the course of the 'day's work' demands, which few others ever have to encounter. He therefore has to be sure, or as sure as any of us can be, about what he believes Regimentally, and even more, in the deep core of his inner religious beliefs, which he often finds extremely difficult to express or explain. This Collect is but an attempt to put some of these values and beliefs into a structured form as a Regimental Prayer, which I hope says explicitly what is often hidden in our hearts.

Scots Guards Collect

*Almighty God, whose blessed Son did say unto Saint Andrew
'Follow Me', grant that the Scots Guards, who wear the Cross
of Thy Holy Apostle, may follow Thy Son with Impunity;
be made stronger in brotherhood and fierce against all enemies of our Saviour,
ever going forward under the leadership of Him,
who by the hard and painful way of the cross, won high conquest
and great glory, even Jesus Christ our Lord.*

MEMORIALS TO SCOTS GUARDSMEN

Many of you will remember the Scots Guards Memorial Project set up some years ago. After a period of collating the information held, Captain (Retd) Michael Campbell – Lamerton is ready to receive the new fruits of your summer searches.

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.

Examples would be a Scots Guardsmen listed on a village war memorial, 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

