

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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Front Page Photograph:

Scots Guards at the Opening of the Garden of Remembrance, Edinburgh

L-R: Kevin Gray MM (CEO Veterans Housing Scotland), Donald McLeod (Poppy Factory), Major Willie Nicol (RA, FOO 2SG Falklands 1982), Gordon Smith, Neil Crockett, Iain Newton, Mrs Theresa Davidson (Falklands War Widow), Kenny Lawson (SGA National Standard Bearer), John McGrath, Major General Maj Gen Alastair Bruce of Crionaich (Governor of Edinburgh Castle), Derek Harvey, Danny Minto, Rod McAlpine, Ted Middlemass, Willie Urban (Chairman TVFA), Major Iain Dalziel Job, Charlie Knott, Major Mark Cape, Mrs Shenia Wight (Falklands War Widow), Brian Ward (Events Manager, Legion Scotland).

Dates of Remembrance - 2023

Sat 4 Nov Angus, Perthshire & Fife Festival of Remembrance. Caird Hall, Dundee 1900hrs

Sat 11 Nov Festival of Remembrance, Albert Hall, London.

Sun 12 Nov Remembrance Sunday, UK Wide.



WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING OCTOBER & NOVEMBER IN CONFLICTS SINCE 1945

Malaya Emergency

21 October 1949	Lieutenant RAC MacKenzie	Age 23	2 nd Battalion Scots Guards.
27 October 1949	Brigadier MD Erskine CBE DSO	Bde Comd 2 nd Gds Bde.	Missing presumed dead, aircraft crashed.

Northern Ireland

1st Battalion

4 October 1971	24048571 Gdsm Brian Hall	Age 22	Right Flank, Killed Cupar Street OP, Belfast
17 October 1971	24185633 Gdsm George Hamilton	Age 21	Left Flank, Killed Ballymurphy. Belfast.
30 October 1971	24096917 Gdsm Norman Booth	Age 22	Right Flank, Killed Springfield Road OP, Belfast.
4 November 1971	24141254 Gdsm Stephen McGuire	Age 19	Left Flank, Killed Ballymurphy, Belfast.
27 November 1971	24141336 Gdsm Paul Nicholls	Age 18	G Company, Killed St James (Off Falls Road), Belfast.

2nd Battalion

28 October 1972	24021239 LSgt Thomas McKay	Age 29	Recce Pltn, Killed Londonderry.
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Guards Depot, Pirbright

5 October 1974	24327747 Gdsm William Forsyth	Age 18}	Killed in bombing of Horse & Groom Public House,
	24327746 Gdsm John Hunter	Age 17}	Guildford

DEATHS

Association Members

Durham & Yorkshire

21130119 LSgt James Wood. Died 26 September 2023. Served 2SG Malaya 1948, Gds Trg Bn, 1SG. Jim met his wife Phyllis who worked in the NAAFI at Castle Camp, Pickering (until recently lived close by before moving to be closer to family).

Carlisle, Dumfries & Galloway

24096893 LCpl John Douglas. Died 2 October 2023. Aged 76 Served 2SG & 1SG C Coy & mostly MT 1968 to 1983, Munster, Windsor, Chelsea, Aldergrove, Hong Kong. Lived Ecclefechan.

Dundee & Angus

22372959 LSgt George Clark. Died 9 October 2023. Age 90.

Borders

Andrew (Dan) Spratt. Died 11 October 2023. Served 1950s He was a good athlete. For 43 years he was Standard Bearer for RBLS Jedburgh.

Fife

24096963 LSgt James Dickson. Died 21 October 2023. Served 1969 to 1975 2SG, S Coy. Lived Berkshire.

Merseyside and Guards Parachute Company Association

23229709 James Horne. Died 21 October 2023. Age 85. Served 1956 to 1963 2SG & Guards Para Coy. Long time Secretary & Treasurer of SGA Merseyside. Sadly after a long illness his wife Ethel also passed away later on 21 Oct 2023. There will be a joint funeral Friday 17th November 2023 at 1415 hours @ Thornton Crematorium, Lydiate Lane, Thornton L23 1TP. After there will be a reception at The Railway Club, Melling Road, Fazakerley, L9 OLQ

Non Association Members

LSgt James Geddes Died 10 October 2023. Age 76. Lived Peterhead. Served 1969 to 1975. Served 2SG.

Thomas Lewis Died 19 October 2023. Served 1SG & Guards Depot 1970s.

Andrew Barrie Died 25 September 2023. Age 90. Lived Kinross. Served 1953 inc 1SG Egypt.

23982944 LCpl Robert Duffin Died 24 October 2023. Lived Shetland Isles. Enlisted as a JL, served Malaya & Borneo Edinburgh, Chelsea, Sharjah, Windsor, Munster.



James Dickson



Jim Geddes



Jim Wood



Andrew (Dan) Spratt



Rab Duffin



ASSOCIATION NEWS

Highlands & Islands Branch

Drummer Paul Brown, killed in Northern Ireland on 2nd August 1990 aged 21 while serving with the 2nd Battalion Scots Guards. The work to have Paul's name added to the Inverness Town War Memorial started when we were reminded that it was missing during the process of renovating the headstone of Paul Nicholls, who was killed in Northern Ireland in 1971 aged just 18 and who is buried in Halkirk Cemetery. Maxi MacDonald and Roddy Davidson visited Paul Brown's headstone in Kilvean Cemetery, Inverness and the Memorial to verify Maxi's memory of the omission.

On sharing this information around the Branch, Phil Johnstone whose brother Charles died whilst serving in the regiment in Canada in 1990, told us that his mother received a visit from the Legion and the Council to tell her that his name was to be added to the Memorial. On his next visit to the Legion, Phil asked if Paul's name should also be added, to be told that was not possible because Paul was not from Inverness. Phil shared this information amongst his fellow Scots Guardsmen, but no record remains of action taken to correct the omission.

Fast forward to May 2023 and Google quickly yielded a Herald article about Paul's family, which included that they had moved to Inverness in 1979 when Paul was 12 years old, and the family have remained in Inverness thereafter.

Armed with this information, we approached the Council and were provided with the process for having names added to memorials which required us to get (1) the family's support for the addition (2) the Legion's support and their advice as to the specific wording of the addition (3) get Community Council approval (4) get listed building approval.

These done, Paul's name was added to the Inverness War Memorial on 3rd October 2023.

The Highlands & Islands Branch held a ceremony on 28th October to celebrate the addition and give thanks for Paul's ultimate sacrifice. As well as 14 Scots Guardsmen, 9 Legion officials including their Padre, and the Lord Lieutenant, the ceremony was attended by 35 members of Paul's family.

Several members of the family expressed their appreciation for the work done to have Paul's name added and for the ceremony organised to celebrate it.



**Left: The Legion Padre, the Reverend Canon Dr John Cuthbert, conducted an excellent service of remembrance.
Right: During the service. Paul's daughter Samantha unveiled the plaque, now with her Dad's name added.**

SGA DINNERS IN NOVEMBER

Contact your local SGA Branch Secretary to attend ~ Support your Local Branch.

Wed 1 Nov	SGA Manchester, Ukrainian Club, Cheetham Hill, Manchester (Lunch).	David Courtney 07785 224678
Fri 3 Nov	SGA Ayrshire, RAFA Club, Prestwick.	Jim Fraser 07765 490477
Fri 10 Nov	SGA Fife, Dean Park Hotel, Kirkcaldy.	Neil Crockett 01383 721530
Fri 17 Nov	SGA Preston, Masonic Club, Preston.	Michael Nutter 07976 909001
Sat 25 Nov	SGA Pipers, SG Club, Edinburgh.	Dougie Watson 07515 263716
Sat 25 Nov	SGA Australia, Twin Towns Services Club, Coolangatta.	John Linn +061 (0) 435865765

Association Dinners in October



**Glasgow
Ronnie Cook (Treasurer), David Harvey, Keith Norwood**



Bob Riddle & Willie Tam McDonald



**Glasgow
Bobby Lennox, Pat Campbell, Colin Hitchen.**



**Dundee & Angus
Iain Bryson (Secretary), Bruce Kelly, Lt Col Ewan Lawrie
WO2 James Gallagher, The Earl of Dalhousie, John Hodge,
Major Gibb, Revd Stephen Blakey.**



Left: Dundee & Angus Kenny Duffy (Chairman) & Gordon Peebles.



**Right: Berks, Bucks & Oxon Rear ~ David Reekie, Ron Booth (Treasurer), Tam Bates, Mrs Christine McCullins
Front~ IP Colin Paterson, Trevor Elliott (Chairman Designate), Major Richard Sinclair, 2Lt JA Houston (Regt Rep), Vic Barley (Guest of Honour), Jim Simmonds (Chairman & Secretary), Major The Hon Charley Grimston (President), Sir Henry Elwes, Pipe Major Dixie Ingram.**



Left: SGA Aberdeen former Policemen & Brian McEwan (Fire Brigade), Graeme Thompson, Joe Girling (CG), Dave Stuart, Len Bain, Jim Masson (Aberdeen Airborne Alliance), Ian Ross, Ian Baxter (AAA), Colin Crichton, Paul Smith (AAA).



Right: Aberdeen ~ Secretary & Treasurer Graeme Thompson, Frank Farquhar



Dundee: Iain Bryson (Secretary)



Dundee: Bruce Henderson, Alf Clempson (Chairman Preston), John McLaren

Scots Guards Club ~ Newsletter Autumn 2023

The first of this season's piping knockouts will take place from 4pm on Sunday 29 October with defending title holder Angus McColl and the hugely talented Bobby Allan battling it out. Why not come along early and enjoy the music of our regular guest singer Dennis Kennedy who will be in the downstairs bar between 2 and 4.

The other dates in the diary for this event are:

26 November	Brodie Watson Massey.	V.	Angus Macphee
28 January.	Sandy Cameron	V.	Christopher McLeish
25 February.	Cameron May.	V.	Luke Kennedy

A date for your diary is the Seniors' Christmas Lunch which is scheduled for 11 December. We will announce when the book will open for people to put their names down for this but it will be some time in early November.

As ever, the Club will be open in the afternoon to those attending Remembrance events throughout the city on Sunday 12 November and in the morning for those collecting poppy wreaths for the service at Haymarket. Hot filled rolls and pies will be available throughout the day. Also, a gentle reminder to anyone wishing to stand in the front garden to observe the service at Haymarket that drinks are not allowed outside while the service is taking place.

The colder Autumn weather is a perfect reason to head to the club for a cosy lunch and a catch up with friends. Our kitchen is open from 12-3 each day other than Saturdays, when pies and burgers are always available.

We will be one hundred years old next year and will shortly be announcing how we plan to celebrate this special time, but be assured that sufficient fuss will be made of what is a remarkable milestone year for the Club. Membership renewals are as usual due in January and any new member joining from 1 November 2023 will receive a 2024 membership. So, two months free essentially. We continue to hold prices as they are in the face of ever rising costs and members continue to enjoy a discount of around 50 pence per drink.

Music every Sunday afternoon and Thursday evening ~ Now open Wednesday evenings! All good!

There are a few weekend dates still available for the function room over the festive season so if you are looking for somewhere for your Christmas do then you know where to come.

That's it for now. Thanks for your support.... enjoy the rest of your Autumn

As ever ~ All the best from all the Team @ The Scots Guards Club

SCOTS GUARDS MAGAZINE 2022 / 23 ~ NOW ON SALE

The latest BUMPER edition of the Regimental Magazine is now beginning to land through letterboxes to those members of Third Guards Club, Scots Guards Warrant Officers & Sergeants Past and Present Association and those who subscribe annually direct to RHQ on the mailing list. NOTE: RHQ operates with a small & dedicated staff, please give reasonable time for your magazine to arrive before checking with them.

The magazine this year costs £12.00p Postage in the UK is £2.99 Total = £14.99

If you are ordering for delivery abroad please check postal charges with RHQ.

If you are ordering a magazine for the 1st time you should email: adminclerk@scotsguards.org or telephone 0207 414 3324

REGIMENTAL CHRISTMAS CARDS & 2024 DIARY

Please order from RHQ as per the attached advertising Flyers.

EARLY DIARY DATES FOR 2024

JANUARY

Sat 27 SGA Highlands & Islands Annual Dinner & Burns Supper ~ Inverness Legion Scotland Club.

FEBRUARY

Sat 17 Rabbits Breakfast ~ Bar Opens 0800hrs ~ B'Fast 1000hrs ~ Cost £15.00 ~ SG Club, Edinburgh.

Sat 24 (Prov) SGA Corby, Central & Eastern Burns Supper ~ Location TBC.

MARCH

Sat 2 Swalle Ho 2024 ~ 1200hrs ~ SG Club Edinburgh.

APRIL

W/E 12 – 14 Regimental Weekend ~ Wellington Barracks, London.

Fri 12 Scots Guards WOs & Sgts Past and Present Association AGM ~ Evening ~ Sgts Mess.

Sat 13 SGA AGM ~ 1030hrs ~ Sgts Mess.

Sun 14 Regimental Remembrance Sunday Service ~ The Guards Chapel ~ 1100hrs.

Parade & Wreath Laying ~ Guards Memorial, Horse Guards Parade ~ 1200hrs.

Lunch ~ Other Ranks Restaurant ~ 1300hrs.

All Scots Guardsmen are encouraged to attend.

MAY

Tue 14 Scots Guards Pacesticking Competition ~ Somme Barracks, Catterick

SGA / SG Veterans Team(s) are invited to take part (more detail in early 2024)

Sat 25 Scots Guards WOs & Sgts Past & Present Association BBQ ~ Sgts Mess, 1st Battalion Scots Guards.

JUNE

Sat 15 King's Birthday Parade ~ 9 Company Irish Guards.

W/E 14 – 17 Tumbledown Veterans & Families Association ~ Blackpool Weekend.

