

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**

**October 2022
Volume 23 Issue 9**

Email: sga@scotsguards.org

Tel: 01383 – 721530

Front Page Photograph:

HM The Late Queen in 1952 on the first Queen's Birthday Parade of her reign when 2SG trooped their Colour.

HER MAJESTY THE LATE QUEEN ELIZABETH ~ REFLECTIONS

At the age of 96 we all knew the day couldn't be far away but when the announcement of HM the late Queen's passing came suddenly there was still a feeling of numbness and shock.

Over 70 years the Regiment played their part in many Royal events. We individually and as Scots Guardsmen remember with great pride our part in them:

Queen's Birthday Parade

Providing the Escort

1952 – 2nd Bn
1955 – 1st Bn (cancelled – National Rail Strike)
1958 – 1st Bn
1961 – 2nd Bn
1969 – 1st Bn
1970 – 2nd Bn
1977 – 1st Bn (Silver Jubilee)
1979 – 2nd Bn *
1986 – 1st Bn *
1987 – 2nd Bn *
1995 – 1st Bn *
1997 – F Company *
2002 – 1SG * (Golden Jubilee)
2011 – 1SG *
2021 – F Company (Windsor Castle)
Both Battalions on Parade *

Presentation of New Colours

1964 - 1st Bn (Pirbright) by HRH The Duke of Gloucester
1965 – 2nd Bn (Holyrood Park)
1977 – 1st Bn (Buckingham Palace)
1978 – 2nd Bn (Schloss Nordkirchen) by HRH The Duke of Kent
1987 – 1st Bn (Buckingham Palace)
1988 – 2nd Bn (Hopetoun House)
2002 – 1st Bn & F Company (Windsor Castle)
2017 – 1st Bn & F Company (Buckingham Palace)

1952

King George VI passed away when the 2nd Battalion took a full part in the funeral ceremonial.

The 2nd Battalion was on Guard on the Accession of the Queen.

The 1st Battalion in Cyprus provided a full Guards of Honour in Nicosia when the Governor proclaimed Queen Elizabeth 2.

HM The Queen wore the uniform of the Regiment on the Queen's Birthday Parade for the first time. She wore in her tricorn headdress a silver Capstar presented to her by Third Guards Club. For the first time ever the Pipers of the Regiment came to front of the Regimental Band to play at the March Past of the Escort to the Colours and No 2 Guard.

1953

Coronation Day 2 June. The 2nd Battalion found the Army Detachment of the Combined Services Guard of Honour outside Westminster Abbey. In the Coronation Procession marching detachments from both Battalions took part, each of 5 officers & 96 men. The detachment from the 1st Battalion flew back from Egypt.

1968

During HM The Queen's Visit to Edinburgh on 2 July the 1st Battalion took part in a Royal Review of Scottish Regiments in Holyrood Park. On the 4 July a Garden Party was held on the lawn of the Officers Mess, Redford Barracks attended by HM The Queen & HRH The Duke of Edinburgh when she met members of the of the Battalion and their families.

1992

Just last month in the SGA Newsletter we were reminded of the 350th Anniversary Parade on 24 June 1992 in Holyrood Park, Edinburgh. The largest coming together of the Regiment for many a long year when we marched off parade serving and past members with Her Majesty the late Queen in a Land Rover at our head.

Royal Guard – Balmoral

In 1967 & 1992 the 1st Battalion and the 2nd Battalion respectively were based in Edinburgh when during the late summer they provided the Royal Guard at Balmoral.

In 2007 & 2009 F Company provided the Royal Guard at Balmoral.

While the Guard retains its commitment to security and ceremonial duties, its orbit is set around its support to the Royal Estate. Across all four times the Regiment has provided the Royal Guard there has been common themes.

After the 1992 Guard, Major MacPherson wrote in the Scots Guards Magazine:

‘The Administration Platoon maintained the Guard, provided daily 50 to 60 meals on the hill, kept a vehicle fleet of 17 on the road, manned a telephone exchange and generally kept the barracks going, including an Officers' and Sergeants' Mess. Their peak periods were between 6 and 8 both morning and evening when the majority of the Guard deployed or returned from the hill. When not required on the hill or on duty the Guard supported an exercise for the Mountain Rescue, took part in an open day by the Fire Brigade, helped the Ballater Victoria week, including the opening of the Victoria Hall, competed in the Ballater, Lomnoch and Braemar Games. The Guard won the charity five-a-side Football Competition. Also the Pipes and LCpl Laird were in great demand to make a Celidh anywhere!

His memories of the Royal Guard . . . The Queen, as is traditional, dancing the first Dashing White Sergeant at the Ghillies Ball with the Guard Sergeant Major and the Guard Quartermaster Sergeant . . . The Queen waltzing with Gdsm Swanson. 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! . . . In church singing "God Save The Queen" while standing and facing The Queen who was only some 20 feet away . . . watching Sgt Slaney come 7th, to an enormous cheer in the Ballater Hill Race . . . on a very wet day, Gdsm Symons and Lt Tim Lucas coming 5th and 7th in the Lomnoch Hill Race . . the anticipation and disappointment of almost winning the Inter-Services relay at the Braemar Games' . . .

In August 2007 the Scots Guards Association (Scotland) Pipes & Drums swelled by some members of SGA Manchester Pipes & Drums paraded at Balmoral to provide musical support to a Guard of Honour from F Company. A few in the band had been members of the Guard in 1967 and commented that the road from the Castle to the main gate had not seemed so long 40 years ago. HM The late Queen inspected the front rank of the band and she commented that she had never seen a band with so many Pipe Majors.

The Regimental Adjutant sent an email out shortly before Her late Majesty's funeral. It was shared widely across the whole Scots Guards family but I include it again as a reminder of the significant part the Regiment played.

This Headquarters is proud and delighted to report that the first group of serving Scots Guards officers who will be finding the first Regimental vigil around the coffin of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth in Westminster Hall, has just departed Wellington Barracks for their final rehearsals around a replica catafalque in Hyde Park Barracks, before their six hour vigil which begins at 18.00hrs this evening, Thursday 15 September, until midnight. A second Regimental vigil will begin at midnight tomorrow, Friday 16 September, to 06.00hrs on Saturday morning 17 September. A third Regimental vigil will begin at 06.00hrs on Sunday 18 September until midday on Sunday. Overall, sixty four Scots Guards officers, including the Regimental Lieutenant Colonel, the Regimental Adjutant, Direct Entry Officers and late Entry Officers. The largest number of officers in Home Service Clothing for as long as anyone can remember. To a man, they are all extremely proud and honoured to be representing the entire Regimental family.

Over the whole period of Lying-in-State, former Scots Guardsmen will also be on duty as Gentlemen at Arms, members of the Royal Company of Archers, and as Yeomen of the Guard. A large number of senior Scots Guards non-commissioned officers from the All Arms Drill Wing will also be on duty behind the scenes in Westminster Hall to assist in the smooth running of the changeover of the vigils over the next four days.

Finally, on D+10, Monday 19th September, the Regiment will be providing a marching detachment from the First Battalion in the procession of Her late Majesty's coffin from Westminster Abbey to Wellington Arch, F Company will be providing three half companies street lining along the Mall, and individual members of the Regiment will be marching or acting as Marshals or Ushers in Westminster Abbey and elsewhere. In addition, nineteen members of the Pipes and Drums will be on parade with the Massed Pipes and Drums marching detachment. This is the largest number of pipers and drummers that the Regiment has had on a parade for a considerable amount of time.

The Regimental Band also played a big part.

The ceremonial across the period in both Edinburgh and London was magnificent. The smartness and bearing of the whole Household Division was clear to see and showed that the long years of planning had paid off. Well Done – Garrison Sergeant Major Gibson in Edinburgh, Garrison Sergeant Major Stokes, London District and the Bearer Party from Queen's Company, 1st Bn Grenadier Guards ~ they all had a prominent role.

The sadness and pride from both past and serving members of the Regiment over the past days has been wide, obvious to see and to hear.



The Royal Guard Balmoral 2007



Presentation of New Colours to 1SG & F Company 2017



Presentation of New Colours to 1SG & F Company 2002



350th Anniversary Parade Palace of Holyrood June 1992



The Officers & Warrant Officers in Buckingham Palace 2017



1SG Garden Party Redford Barracks, Edinburgh July 1968

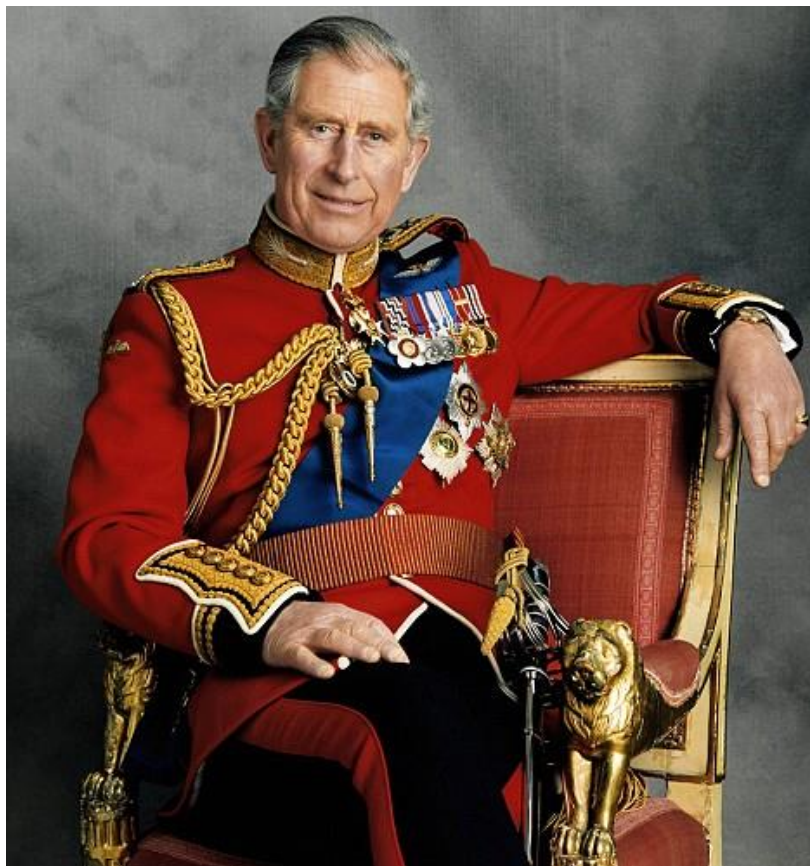


Queen's Birthday Parade ~ 1SG Escort 2011



Now we have a new Colonel in Chief ~ His Majesty King Charles III

‘God Save The King’



THE LOYAL TOAST

The Loyal Toast given by Pipers of the Regiment is ‘Deoch Slainte d’onn Rìgh’ ~ ‘Here’s a health to the King’.

WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING OCTOBER 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.

2nd Battalion

28 October 1972	24021239 LSgt Thomas McKay	Age 29	Recce Pltn, Killed Londonderry.
-----------------	----------------------------	--------	---------------------------------

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

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Late Summer and into Autumn is the start of the Association dinner season. Unfortunately due to Royal Mourning the Highlands & Islands, the North America Branch dinner's were cancelled as was the London Branch Lunch.

Also to note the 3rd Guards Club Dinner / WOs and Sgts Past & Present Dinners due to take place in Edinburgh were also cancelled due to Royal Mourning.

Durham & Yorkshire Branch

Held their dinner at Woodham Golf Club, Newton Aycliffe on 20 August, all reports are of a successful night, with serving guests on hand to add colour. CSM Galloway (B Coy) & LSgt MacCrae the Piper. 2nd Lt A Douglas-Millar gave the Regimental update.

Glasgow Branch

Regimental Guests were newly commissioned Captain S Hamilton (1SG Training Officer) who gave a lively update of what the Regiment is up to. Local men CSgt Glen (serving Army School of Ceremonial) and LSgt Light the Piper. The dinner was at Lok Bar & Kitchen on 3 September.

Scots Guards Association Dinners October – November 2022

Call or email the local Branch Secretary now, ask to attend you are sure to be welcome.

Sat 8 Oct	Dundee & Angus	Invercarse Hotel
Sat 8 Oct	Carlisle, Dumfries & Galloway	Carlisle Golf Club
Sat 15 Oct	Berks, Bucks & Oxon,	Datchet Golf Club.
Fri 21 Oct	Corby, Central & Eastern	Hilton Hotel, Leicester.
Fri 28 Oct	Aberdeen & NE Scotland	Althens Hotel, Aberdeen
Sat 29 Oct	Australia	Twin Towns Clubs & Resorts, Coolangatta
Thu 3 Nov	Manchester (Lunch)	Sale Waterpark
Fri 4 Nov	Ayrshire	RAFA Club, Prestwick
Fri 11 Nov	Fife	Dean Park Hotel, Kirkcaldy.
Fri 18 Nov	Preston	Masonic Hall, Preston.

Highlands and Islands Branch

The next Branch meeting will be on Monday 3 October at 1930hrs Inverness Legion Club.

The Branch is hoping to rearrange / combine their dinner into their Burns Supper on 25 January 2023.

Glasgow Branch

They will hold a Branch Meeting on Tuesday 1 November at the Glasgow Arts Club at 1930hrs.

Pipers Branch

They will hold their AGM on Saturday 26 November 2022 at 1200hrs followed by lunch at the Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh.



Pipe Major Jimmy Banks MBE ~ Chairman SGA Pipers Branch

**Pipe Major Jimmy Banks MBE ~ Composer 'Salute to Willie, The Royal Fendersmith
By Dougie Watson, Secretary SGA Pipers Branch**

I'm sure you will agree that It's been an emotional time for us all since the passing of our Late Colonel in Chief, culminating with the State Funeral in London & Windsor.

I just wished to highlight a really lovely moment at the end of the service in Windsor which I'm sure you will all have witnessed, and a number of you may well have identified the significance, however for those who didn't connect the moment here is the story.

As Her Majesty's coffin was lowered into the royal vault and her piper, Pipe Major Paul Burns, The Royal Regiment of Scotland and a native of Montrose, piped, the television presenter intimated, that it was a specially requested tune by Her Majesty.

It turned out to be more than a beautiful sounding air but a big surprise, particularly for Pipe Major Jimmy Banks MBE our chair. The tune was one he himself had composed some 30 years previous on the sad occasion of his brother Willie's passing.

Guardsman Willie Banks served his full term with the Scots Guards and on completing his service went into the employ of Her Majesty as a Fendersmith, based at Windsor Castle. Willie was a character which was no doubt recognised by Her Majesty who we know liked him and warmed to his presence.

After Willie's untimely death following an accident on the river Thames, at Windsor, Her Majesty granted permission for St Georges Royal Chapel Windsor Castle to host Willie's funeral service.

Not long after this Jimmy composed the pipe tune - Salute to Willie, The Royal Fendersmith although in recent times this has been shortened in some quarters to simply The Royal Fendersmith. In any case it became a favourite of Her Majesty.

Fast forward to yesterday and we realise just how much she must have thought of the tune leaving instructions for it to be played

As I said earlier a really lovely moment when you realise the full story and connection Her Majesty had to our Scots Guards Family.



The late Willie Banks (former Adj't's Orderly) on discharge escorted by his many friends across 1SG from Barracks in 1985 in Captain Euan Kelway Bamber's (Adj't) car to become 'The Royal Fendersmith'

DEATHS

ASSOCIATION

SG WOs and Sgts Past & Present Association, Berks, Bucks & Oxon, London Branches

2702602 CSM Alan Hayter Died 24 September 2022. He was serving at the Scots Guards Training Battalion on 8 May 1945. On 8 May 2020 (VE Day 75), Brigadier Nickerson as Regimental Lieutenant Colonel wrote to him on behalf of the Regiment to thank him for his service during WW2. He served with 1SG in Trieste to 1947, and finished his service after various posts as CSM 1SG, The Guards Boys Company, The Army Apprentice School, Carlisle, HQ Singapore. After retirement he was Axekeeper to the Gentlemen of Arms. He was a long time In Pensioner at the Royal Hospital Chelsea.

Alan's funeral is at Slough Crematorium, Stoke Road, Slough, SL2 5AX at 1330hrs on Monday 10 October 2022.



The Late IP Alan Hayter

Durham & Yorkshire Branch

23652515 John Scott Died 7 September 2022. He was a long serving member of the Branch and was a Vice President.

Preston Branch

24162480 Edward (Jimmy) Marsh, Died 1 September 2022. Age 70. He served in the 1st Bn in Windsor & Munster 1972–1975 including in Captain (now Lt General Sir John) Kiszely's Recce Platoon. After his Regimental service he enlisted in the Queen's Lancashire Regiment (TA) and was a CSM. Lived Preston.

Manchester Branch

22651243 Jim Chadwick, Died 27 September 2022. Former Manchester Branch Secretary. Lived Stoke on Trent.

NON ASSOCIATION

CSgt Bill McFarlane Died 11 September 2022. Served 2SG & 1SG and Recruiting late 1960s to late 1980s. Lived Livingston.

Michael Rooney Died 20 September 2022. Served 1SG RF 1978 – 1981. Lived Lincoln.

David Watt Died 30 August 2022. Served 1SG 1981 – 1993, C Company, Off Mess & MT. Lived Blackpool.

Norman Cruickshank Died 10 September 2022. Served 1SG Anti Tank Pltn Mid 1970's.

William Smillie Died 6 September 2022. Age 84. Served 2SG National Service 1956 – 1959. Lived Coventry.

Dates Of Remembrance 2022

Fri 21 October Opening of Inverness Garden of Remembrance – 1100hrs

Mon 24 October Opening of Edinburgh Garden of Remembrance – 1100hrs
The Scots Guards Club will be open afterwards.

Tue 25 October Opening of Glasgow Garden of Remembrance - 1100hrs

Sat 5 November Dundee Festival of Remembrance, Caird Hall.

Fri 11 November Armistice Day Service, Princes Street Garden, Edinburgh.

Guardsman Andrew Wason Headstone Dedication

By Tam James

On behalf of the family of the late Guardsman Andrew Wason, 1st Bn Scots Guards 1983-1992, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that attended the 30th anniversary and rededication service on Saturday 03/09/22 at Lambhill Cemetery, Glasgow. The turnout was impressive with 60+ people in attendance which clearly demonstrated to Andy's family how highly thought of and dearly missed he was/is. On the day there was even a video call from a former Scots Guardsman now living in Australia as well as a number of text messages from all over the UK, Europe and New Zealand. Donations totalling £240.00 were gratefully received and will be split equally between The Royal British Legion Scotland, SSAFA and Workplace Chaplaincy Scotland that supported and made this service possible. Again many thanks to all.



The Team formed up at the Headstone



Tam James and Joe Lee

Tam James (Team Commander) Craig Lindsay (Pl Sgt) Dan Newton (Team Comd) Ian Turner aka Big T (Team Comd) Ian White Tony Morris Stevie Ramage (SG Medic) Joe Lee (SG Medic) Davie Wright John Brownlie Jason Eadie Gaz Baker John Dougan (RP) CO's Rover Group Brian Ward Paddy McEnhill (B Coy Mortars) Allan Ruthven aka Rambo the LF storeman Martin Ryan aka Fraggie Walter Cameron (C coy / tailors shop) Kev Hendry (C Coy) John Leber (SG Medic) Keith Bowes (pipes & Drums).

Hard Work Rewarded



LCpl Ross Fraser from Tain receives the 'General Officer Commanding 3rd (United Kingdom) Division Commendation' in recognition of his excellent work whilst deployed on OP ELGIN. LCpl Fraser shortly takes up the role as an Instructor at ASBM&HD (Army School of Bagpipe Music and Highland Drumming).

Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge 2022 ~ Looking for Sponsorship



Photograph right ~ the team in training in North West Scotland. Skye's the limit. The weather showed much early promise before turning feral, perhaps foreboding of our performance in the Atlantic. Nevertheless, a good opportunity to practice deploying our storm equipment. Under 3 months to go.

A Shout Out For The Regimental Band

