

# 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 2025  
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**Email: [sga@scotsguards.org](mailto:sga@scotsguards.org)**

**Tel: 01383 – 721530**

**Front Page Photograph: 50 year reunion of enlisting together as Scots Guardsmen at the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion, Shorncliffe, Kent in September 1975. The reunion took place in the Bag O' Nails, Victoria, London ~ Obviously a favourite pub when they joined the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion in Chelsea Barracks.**

**L-R: John O'Hanlon, Ian Crockett, Alan Strachan, Doug Robinson**

## **THE ASSOCIATION**

Scots Guardsmen and their families remain a part of the Regiment for life and this association helps serving and retired members to stay in touch, while coordinating support to our troops in the front line or members of the Regimental family in time of need.

Our Regiment takes great care in looking after our soldiers and their families, which costs an increasing amount of money every year from our Scots Guards Charity. We have been serving the Crown for over 375 years and we are immensely proud of our heritage and our ability to adapt to changing times both in the British Army and the country as a whole.

Please enjoy learning about our Association and if you are part of the family haven't done so already why not renew those ties and join your nearest regional Branch.

### **The Objectives:**

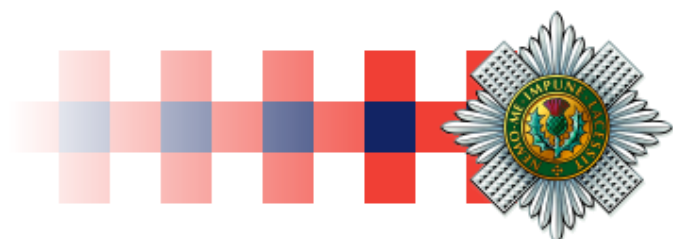
- Maintaining and supporting the network of past and serving members of the Regiment. To promote friendship and association amongst those now in civil life. Continue to uphold in civil life the high standard and character of the Regiment.
- To foster an Esprit de Corps and promote the best interests of the Regiment.
- To bring to the attention of Regimental Headquarters any case deserving of assistance from Regimental Funds, and to give particular assistance to any member, wife, widow or children who may be in distressed circumstances.
- When requested to provide local knowledge on employment to those leaving the Regiment.
- To provide encouragement when opportunity arises to speak to potential recruits for the Regiment.
- To arrange meetings, social events and annual dinners.

## **SCOTS GUARDS ASSOCIATION CHAIRMAN**

After 10 years on 1 October 2025 Major Sir Malcolm MacGregor hands over as Chairman of the Scots Guards Association to Major Willy Inglis.

During his time in post we've held Regimental Gatherings in 2016 (Brechin) 2019 (Fife Airport), 2021 (Somme Barracks), 2023 (Broomhall, Fife) when he was involved in their arrangements. Between 2014 – 2018 there were major events for 100 year anniversaries of World War 1 which included remembering our Victoria Cross winners.

Sir Malcolm has thoroughly enjoyed his time in post with the opportunities to meet so many Scots Guardsmen, He will continue as President of Carlisle, Dumfries and Galloway branch. His wife Lady MacGregor continues as Lord-Lieutenant of Dumfries.



## WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING OCTOBER IN CONFLICTS SINCE 1945

### Malaya Emergency

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

### Northern Ireland

#### 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Scots Guards

12 October 1980	24530542 Gdsm Gary Connell	Age 20	Lost at sea returning from Northern Ireland
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## DEATHS

### Non Association Members

23867685 WO2 John (Josh) Mudie Died 17 September 2025. Served 1962 – 1984 . Inf Junior Leader, 2SG Iserlohn / Munster. Retiring Sgt ACIO Dundee 1972 – 74, CQMS LF 1SG Aldergrove, CSM AAC Chepstow. Well known as a Footballer in both Bns. Lived Portsmouth.

24516015 Sgt Hugh Greenshields Died 10 September 2025. Served 2SG & RHQ.

23229100 LCpl James Seaton Carswell Died 8 September 2025 Age 90. Served 2SG Pipes & Drums Enlisted 15 Sept 1955 – 12 Sept 1958. Germany & Chelsea Bks. Later Inspector City of London Police. Lived Wiltshire.



## DATES OF REMEMBRANCE 2025

Fri 17 Oct	Opening of Inverness Garden of Remembrance, Edith Cavell Gardens.
Mon 20 Oct	Opening of Edinburgh Garden of Remembrance. Princes Street Gardens. 1100hrs
Tue 21 Oct	Opening of Glasgow Garden of Remembrance. George Square. 1100hrs,
Sat 1 Nov	Angus, Perthshire & Fife Festival of Remembrance, Caird Hall, Dundee.
Sat 8 Nov	Festival of Remembrance, Albert Hall, London.
Sun 9 Nov	Remembrance Sunday, UK Wide.



## **ASSOCIATION DINNERS OCTOBER – NOVEMBER 2025**

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

### **OCTOBER**

- Sat 4                SGA Carlisle D &G Dinner ~ The Auctioneer, Rosehill Est, Carlisle.
- Fri 10              WOs & Sgts Past & Present Association 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dinner, Sgts Mess, 1<sup>st</sup> Bn Scots Guards, Catterick.
- Sat 11              SGA Dundee & Angus 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner ~ Invercarse Hotel, Dundee.
- Sat 11              SGA Berks, Bucks & Oxon 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Dinner, Datchet Golf Club 1800hrs for 1900hrs.
- Sat 25              SGA Glasgow 100<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner ~ Glasgow Arts Club, Glasgow, (125th Anniversary)
- Thu 30             SGA Manchester Lunch ~ Ukrainian Club. Cheetham Hill, Manchester.
- Fri 31              SGA Aberdeen & NE Scotland Dinner ~ Altens Hotel, Aberdeen

### **NOVEMBER**

- Sat 1                SGA Australia Dinner ~ Bribie Island RSL, Bongaree, QLD
- Fri 7                SGA Fife Dinner ~ Victoria Hotel, Kirkcaldy
- Fri 7                SGA Ayrshire Dinner ~ RAFA Club, Prestwick
- Fri 14              SGA Preston Dinner ~ Masonic Club, Preston
- Sat 29              SGA Pipers Dinner ~ Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh

## **ASSOCIATION NEWS**

### **Fife Branch**

The Branch will hold a meeting at the CISWO, Glenrothes @ 1300hrs Sunday 12 October 2025

### **Merseyside Branch**

On Sunday 30 November 2025 the branch will hold a lunch at the Masonic Club Garston, Liverpool.

To attend contact Secretary Keith Reid    Email: [Keithreid5@btinternet.com](mailto:Keithreid5@btinternet.com)    Tel: 01744 815149

### **Berks, Bucks and Oxon Branch**

Wed 10 December 2025 it will be the Berks, Bucks & Oxon Christmas Lunch ~ Datchet Golf Club 1230 for 1300hrs.

Outrageous Christmas jersey's in wear ~ Contact Secretary Jim Simmonds

Email: [Jimsimmonds6729@gmail.com](mailto:Jimsimmonds6729@gmail.com)

Mob: 07340 297328

### **Surrey Branch**

The branch's next meeting will be held on the 11th October 2025, 1200hrs at the Royal British Legion Hall Normandy, Guildford Road, Normandy, GU3 2AW

For more details touch base with Secretary Andrew McKeand    Email: [amckeand@virgimmedia.com](mailto:amckeand@virgimmedia.com)    Mob: 07544 727019



## **Durham & Yorkshire Branch**

The Branch held its annual dinner on Saturday 6 September in the Sgts Mess, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Scots Guards, Somme Barracks. Branch President Major Craib welcomed branch members & guests.



**Left: SGA Durham & Yorkshire officials. Sitting Major John Craib, Standing L-R: Stewart Webb (Chairman), John Findlay (Treasurer), Mark 'Dog' Wall (Secretary).**

**Right:** SGA Durham & Yorkshire President Major John Craib currently serving as Company Commander Guards Company, Infantry Training Centre, Catterick. To his left is Lt Col BP Smyth, Scots Guards, Commanding Officer 1st Inf Trg Bn, Catterick. I think there was a rendition of “Rattling Bog” going on!

## **FORECAST OF EVENTS 2026 ~ THE LIST IS GROWING**

### **JANUARY**

Sat 24 SGA Highlands & Islands Dinner / Burns Supper ~ Inverness.

### **FEBRUARY**

Sat 28 Rabbits Breakfast ~ Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh.

### **APRIL**

Fri 17 – Sun 19 Regimental Weekend ~ London.

Sat 18 SGA AGM, Sgts Mess, Wellington Barracks.

Sun 19 Regimental Remembrance Sunday, The Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks.

### **MAY**

Fri 29 SGA Edinburgh & The Lothians Annual Dinner ~ Scots Guards Club.

### **JUNE**

Fri 12 – Mon 15 Tumbledown Veterans & Families Association Weekend, 44<sup>th</sup> Annual ~ Blackpool

## **INFANTRY JUNIOR LEADERS BATTALION ~ OSWESTRY & SHORNCLIFFE**

During September former Scots Guards Junior Leaders met together.



**Left: John O'Hanlon & Brian Harrison met at Shorncliffe in September 1975**

**Right: At the annual IJLB Association Reunion at Oswestry over the weekend 5 – 7 September**

**L-R Bill McHugh, Peter Carew, Captain Graham Fowler, Major Colin Coull, Major Fred Hardie (RSM of IJLB at Shorncliffe)**



**John Findlay (D&Y Treasurer) & Neil Crockett met up at the SGA Durham & Yorkshire Dinner in Somme Barracks on 6 September. They first met on 13 September 1966 enlisting together in Z (Recruit) Company of IJLB Oswestry. The Recruit Pltn was made up of 20 Scots Guardsmen, 4 Irish Guardsmen, 4 Queen's Own Highlanders & 4 Black Watch. The Pltn Sgt was Bob Clarkson (SG) who was later commissioned.**



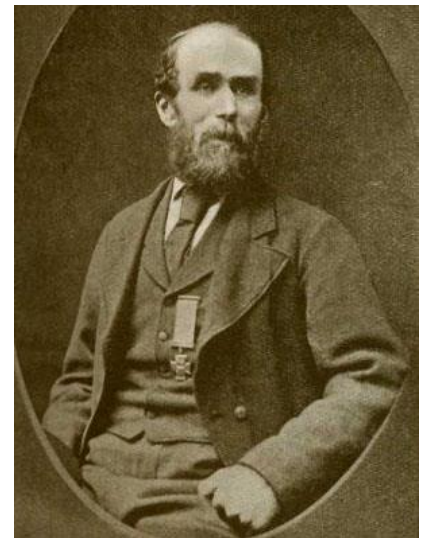
# INVITATION TO A LECTURE ON THE SCOTS GUARDS IN THE CRIMEA, DELIVERED BY IAN FLETCHER

The event is free entry

There will be a bar.

London Scottish House from 18:00 29 October 25.

The lecture has been organised by the Historic Committee. This is an interest piece on the actions of the Scots Guards during the Crimea War. A war which saw Scots Guards win five VCs including three in one day. With Eastern Europe back under conflict, it will be a good opportunity to draw any parallels and differences between war in the 1850s and 2020s.



## Victoria Crosses

Lieutenant James Craig VC (Grave photographed)

Ensign Robert James Lindsay (Lord Wantage) VC

Sgt John Simpson Knox VC

Private William Reynolds VC

Sergeant James McKechnie VC

Yours Aye

**Capt Robert J O Russell**

Company Second in Command, Right Flank | 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Scots Guards | Somme Barracks, Catterick

## SCOTS GUARDS CLUB ~ ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

Work has been underway to update the legal document which defines the Club, known as 'Articles of Association'. The existing document is 101 years old and so outdated that it makes it difficult for us to move forward in certain areas.

There was an open evening held on Monday 29 September for any member interested in hearing what changes are proposed, once we have fixed the legal foundations.

### Sunday 12 October

There will then be an Extraordinary General Meeting at 1130hrs on 12 October to which 'Ordinary' members are invited to attend. Legally, as things stand, only 'Ordinary' members have voting rights and an Ordinary member is defined as a paid up member who has served in the Scots Guards or wider Household Division.

