SCOTS GUARDS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER





"The traditions of this Regiment mark you and mould you, and stay with you and never let you go. But as each man must know himself, so each generation must know its own times. The issues men faced in days before our own are not precisely or exactly the same issues which we face now. Their day was their day. Our day is our day. What they have handed on to us is an example and tradition. What we do with it is our responsibility."

The Reverend David "Hutch" Whiteford CBE. Chaplain to the Scots Guards from 1945 to 1953.

Neil Crockett
Secretary & Editor

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Front Page Photographs:

Top ~ SGA Durham & Yorkshire Dinner in Sgt's Mess, 1st Bn Scots Guards on Saturday 26 September 2026.

Top Table Left – Right: John Findlay (Treasurer), WO1 M Little (GSM Edinburgh & Guest of Honour), Major JRG Craib (President), Rab Galloway (Secretary) with their ladies.

Bottom ~ SGA Fife Dinner in the Victoria Hotel, Kirkcaldy on Friday 25 September 2026.
Top Table Left – Right: Mr Angus Cheape, Lt RS Angus (Regt Officer), Mr Mark Matheweson (President), Colonel AD Matheweson OBE (Guest of Honour), Colonel JM Clavering OBE MC.

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 has 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.

WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING OCTOBER IN CONFLICTS SINCE 1945

Malaya Emergency

21 October 1949	Lieutenant RAC MacKenzie	Age 23	2nd Battalion Scots Guards.
27 October 1949	Brigadier MD Erskine CBE DSO		Bde Comd 2nd 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

2nd Battalion Scots Guards

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

DEATHS

Third Guards Club

Captain NG Brandram Died 15 September 2026. Age 44. Served 2004 – 20211 1SG C Company, B Company & at ITC Catterick. Served Op Herrick 12.

Major Count Charles de Salis DL. Died 3 September 2026. Age 96. Served 1948 – 1961 Malaya Emergency & BAOR.

Association Members

SGA Ayrshire and Tumbledown Veterans & Families Association

Thomas McMillan Died 7 September 2026. Served 2SG 1979 – 1987 inc Falkland Islands. Lived Ayrshire.

Non Association Members

Gdsm Andrew Ferns Died 8 September 2026. Served F Coy, RF 1SG inc Afghanistan 2010.

23229111 LSgt Alan Darlington Died 17 August 2026. Aged 89. Served 2SG BAOR & Chelsea 1955 – 58. Lived St Helens



Alan Darlington



Andrew Ferns



Scots Guards Magazine 2025 / 26 ~ Hot Off The Press!

New Magazine: Bumper Edition 298 Pages

Cost: £12.00 plus postage and package.

Purchase from Regimental Website: https://scotsguards.org/shop

Lots of news & stories

DRONES: Want to find out about the newly reformed C Company and their new role ~ Check out page 86



DATES OF REMEMBRANCE 2026

Fri 23 Oct	1100hrs Opening of Glasgow Garden of Remembrance, Kevingrove Art Gallery, Argyle Street.
Sat 24 Oct	1100hrs Opening of Edinburgh Garden of Remembrance, Princes Street Gardens East.
Fri 30 Oct	1500hrs Opening of Inverness Garden of Remembrance, Cavell Gardens, Inverness.
Sat 7 Nov	1930hrs Scotland's National Service of Remembrance, Usher Hall Tickets £24.20, £27.50, £33.00
Sun 8 Nov	Remembrance Sunday, UK Wide.



ASSOCIATION DINNERS OCTOBER – JANUARY 2027

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

October

Sat 3	SGA Carlisle, Dumfries & Galloway (76th) Dinner, Auctioneer, Carlisle.
Sat 10	SGA Dundee & Angus Dinner (100th Anniversary), Apex City Quay Hotel & Spa, Dundee.
Thu 15	SGA Manchester Annual Lunch, Ukrainian Club, Manchester.
Sat 17	SGA Berks, Bucks & Oxon Dinner, Datchet Golf Club.
Fri 30	SGA Aberdeen & NE Scotland Dinner, Altens Hotel.

November

Fri 6	SGA Ayrshire Dinner, RAFA Club. Prestwick.
Fri 16	SGA Preston, Masonic Temple, Saul Street.
Sat 28	SGA Pipers Dinner, Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh.
Sat 28	SGA Glasgow Dinner, Arts Club, Bath Street.
Sat 28	SGA Surrey 50th Anniversary Dinner, West Clardon Royal British Legion.
Sat 28	SGA Australia Dinner.
Sun 29	SGA Merseyside, Annual Lunch, Garston Masonic Hall.

2027

January

Sat 23	SGA Highlands & Islands Dinner & Burns Supper, Legion Scotland Club, Inverness.

SCOTS GUARDS ASSOCIATION DINNERS ~ SEPTEMBER 2026



D&Y WO1 M Little (GSM Edinburgh) & Major J Craib



Fife: Rab & Muriel Nicol



Fife: Jon Reid & Lt Col Stuart Rowe (Welfare & Finance Officer)



Durham &Yokshire: Mini Pipe Band



Durham & Yorkshire including: GSM M Little, Rab Galloway (Secretary), Graeme Blackie, Major Craib, Neil Roney



Fife: Fiona & Stephen Hynds, Ian Thompson



Fife: P/M John Mitchell, LSgt MarK Macrae, Gordon Dickson



Fife: Jimmy Banks & Dougie Duthie

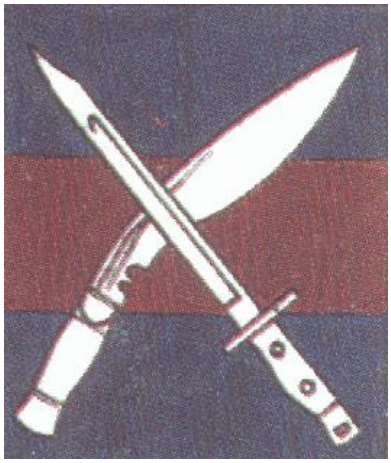


Fife: Scott Farr, Tam & Elizabeth James



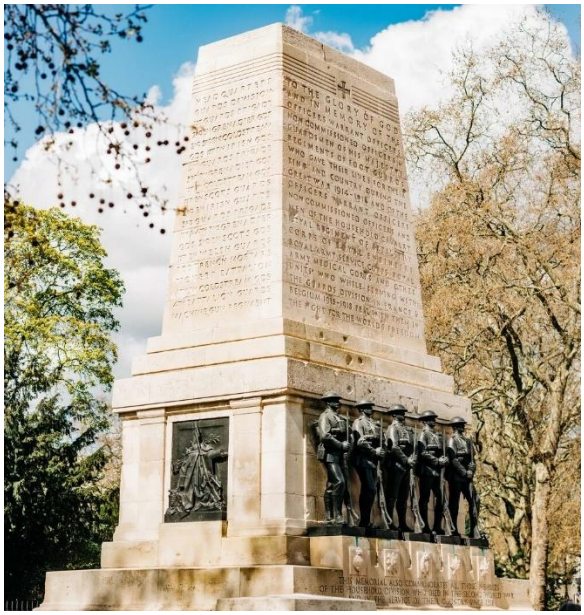
Fife L -R: Andrew Adams & Jimmy Adams (Grandfather), Jimmy Farmer, Rab McShane







DETAILS FOR THE GUARDS MEMORIAL CENTENARY ~ FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER 2026



Form up location is Wellington Barracks

1330 – Arrive at Wellington Barracks

1410 – Formed Up

1440 – In Position at the Guards Memorial

1450 – Parade Set

1530 – March Past

1600 – All SP recovered back to Wellington Barracks

Dress: Blazer or Suit, Medals, No Headdress.

There will be no parking available within Wellington Barracks

After the parade those taking part are invited to a reception in the Sergeants Mess, Wellington Barracks.

SGA HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS BRANCH

On Saturday 19 September members of the Highlands & Islands Branch, local officials, Army & Sea Cadets gathered in Halkirk, Caithness to remember Guardsman Paul Nicholls, killed in Belfast on 27 November 1971.

Paul was serving with 1st Battalion Scots Guards in 8 Platoon, G Company then the third rifle company of the Bn.





Guardsman Nicholls, aged 18 years old when he was fatally shot by a sniper while on patrol in the St James area. As radio operator he was the last man on his patrol in the Falls Road area when he was targeted from a house commandeered by terrorists.



Guardsman Paul Nicholl's Grave

Paul is remembered on Halkirk War Memorial