

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**

**September 2022
Volume 23 Issue 8**

Email: sga@scotsguards.org

Tel: 01383 – 721530

Front Page Photograph: The picture was taken after the 350th Anniversary Parade in Holyrood Park 30 years ago on 24 June 1992. HM The Queen, The Colonel-in-Chief with The Colonel and Lieutenant Colonel, the two Commanding Officers and Regimental Sergeant Majors of the Battalions. Also the Regimental Adjutant, two Adjutants of Battalions with the officers of the Colour Party.

SCOTS GUARDS WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS PAST & PRESENT ASSOCIATION DINNER

Friday 23 September 2022 - Edinburgh

The Scots Guards Warrant Officers and Sergeants Past & Present Association Dinner will be held in The Scotsman Hotel, Edinburgh on Friday 23 Sept. The price is £55 for members and £60 for guests. Also there will be a 15% discount for anyone who wishes to book a room that night. **To book your ticket please contact RQMS Scott at RHQ**

email james.scott534@mod.gov.uk or Karen Johnstone email admin@scotsguards.org Tel: 0207 414 3324

REGIMENTAL BAND SOUNDS A RALLYING CALL FOR FORMER MEMBERS

Biannual Past & Present Gathering – Saturday 1 October 2022 – Wellington Barracks

LSgt Rebecca Ward from the Band of The Scots Guards is organising this year's Band Biannual Past and Present gathering. It will be held in Wellington Barracks on the Saturday 1st October where there will be refreshments and a curry for lunch.

Any former Regimental Band Members out there - Please contact Rebecca now

Mob: 07814 716599 Email: Rebecca.ward212@mod.gov.uk

WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING SEPTEMBER IN CONFLICTS SINCE 1945

2nd Battalion Scots Guards – Malaya Emergency 1948 – 1951

2 nd Lt JA Forbes – Leith	- Age 21 }	
2818374 Sgt William Riach	- Age 34 }	Killed 25 September 1949
22022534 Gdsm Dennis Moore	- Age 19 }	

2nd Battalion Scots Guards - Londonderry, Northern Ireland 1972

24048414 Gdsm John Van Beck - Age 26 Killed 18 September 1972

24185619 Gdsm George Lockhart - Age 24 Wounded 23 September, Died of Wounds 26 September 1972

ASSOCIATION DINNERS OCTOBER – NOVEMBER 2022

Contact SGA Branch Secretaries to find out full details – we hope to see you at the dinners.

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	TBC The Gold Coast
Oct TBC	Manchester (Lunch)	Loc TBC
Fri 4 Nov	Ayrshire	RAFA Club, Prestwick
Fri 11 Nov	Fife	Dean Park Hotel, Kirkcaldy.
Fri 18 Nov	Preston	Masonic Hall, Preston.

REGIMENTAL WEEKEND LONDON 2023 ~ SAVE THE DATE

Saturday 15 April 2023 Scots Guards Association AGM, Wellington Barracks - 1030hrs.

Sunday 16 April 2023 Regimental Remembrance Sunday, Guards Chapel & Wreath Laying at Guards Memorial.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Glasgow Branch

The Annual Dinner will take place on Saturday 3 September at Lok Bar & Kitchen, Shawlands, Glasgow

Want to meet up with old friends - Contact Branch Secretary: Colin Downie Email: cdownie1@icloud.com Tel: 07956 526283

Highlands & Islands Branch

The Branch monthly meeting is on 5th September in the Inverness Legion starting 1930hrs. Be great to see you there.

Our Dinner will take place at Chieftain Hotel, Inverness on Friday 23 September.

The Guest of Honour will be Major Iain Dalziel. To enjoy good Highlands hospitality – Contact Branch Secretary: Harry Obern Email: hobc862@gmail.com Tel: 01463 717002

North America Branch

The Branch & members are looking forward to coming together on Saturday 24 September at Cobourg Inn, Ontario

Branch Secretary is David Rennie. Email: drummie2ca@gmail.com Tel: 001 613 680 4306

Fife Branch

SGA Fife will hold their Annual Lunch for Veteran Members (over 65s) on Thursday 29 September 2022 at Pickerton's Function Suite, Glenrothes.

There will be a Branch Meeting at the CISWO, Glenrothes on Sunday 2 October at 1300hrs.

Contact Neil Crockett for details. neil.crockett@btopenworld.com Tel: 01383 721530.

DEATHS

MEMORIAL SERVICE - BRUCE INNES.

As reported Bruce Innes died on 25 May 2022 and his funeral took place in West Lothian. A Memorial Service will take place at Aldermaston Recreation and Social Club, Berkshire on Friday 11 November 2022. Shuggie Weir who was Bruce's good friend is the point of contact for full details. I will repost with timing in October Newsletter.

THIRD GUARDS CLUB

Captain Sir Edward Jeremy Westrow Hulse Bt Died. Age 89. After Eton he attended the Guards Depot and the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst from 10 April 1951 to 5 February 1953. He was commissioned into the Regiment on 6 February 1953. He served as a platoon commander and as anti-tank platoon commander in both the First and Second Battalions to February 1958.

Lieutenant Colonel Sir Simon Claud Michael Bland KCVO. Died 11th August 2022. Age 98. After Eton he went on 6 August 1942 and was commissioned into the First Battalion in Italy on 8 October 1944. Served both Bns Simon served as a Company Commander during the Malaya Emergency in 1949/50. He was a Company Commander in Germany from 1953 to 1957 and at ERE including as an ADC in Washington from 1947-59. He retired from the Army in the rank of Lieutenant Colonel on 3 December 1978. He was the assistant military adviser to the High Commission in Karachi from 1959 – 1960 and in 1961 appointed assistant private secretary to Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester. He went on to be Private Secretary to Prince William of Gloucester from 1968 to 1972 and to Richard, Duke of Gloucester until his retirement in 1989. He was made a Knight Commander in the Royal Victorian Order in 1982.

Captain George Herbert Lorne Campbell. Died 21 August 2022. He attended Eaton Hall from 13 April 1953 and then the Guards Training Battalion until 16 July 1954. Second Battalion in BAOR and then moved on to the First Battalion on 20 January 1955. From April 1962 to February 1963, he was ADC to Major General Claude Dunbar in Berlin, during a time of high tension. He held a number of appointments in both Battalions over his twelve years of commissioned service including a considerable time in Africa.

Lieutenant George Archibald Crawford. Died 9 August 2022. Age 82. He was commissioned and served in 2SG from March 1959 to March 1962.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Carlisle, Dumfries & Galloway

22872960 Angus Robertson Died 12 August 2022. Age 90. Served 1953 – 56 National Service.

NON ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Sgt Harry Black Died 11 July 2022. Served mostly 2SG 1972 – 1991 Lived Berkshire.

LCpl John Rocky Morris Died 9 August 2022. Served 1SG Chelsea, Aldergrove, Hong Kong. Lived Blackpool.

LSgt John Belshaw BEM Died 12 July 2022. Served 2SG Early 1980s – early 1990's. Lived Derbyshire.

WORLD WAR 2 SCOTS GUARDS VETERANS

On 8 May 2020 we commemorated VE Day75 when the then Regimental Lieutenant Colonel, Brigadier Nickerson wrote to our known WW2 Veterans to thank them for their service. Sadly on VE Day75 neither of these fine Scots Guardsmen were known to us.

2702312 LSgt James Beard Died 19 June 2022. Aged 96. Served 1944 - No2 Gds Training Bn 1946. Lived Stafford.

Gdsm Joseph Gemmell Died 6 July 2022 Age 97. Served 3SG 1943 – 1947. Lived Long Island New York.

Joseph was a Guardsman in the 6th Guards Tank Brigade in World War II. He was enlisted into the Army on his Birthday a June the 8th, 1943. He was taken into the Scots Guards and then trained as a Tank Driver and served with the 6th Guards Tank Brigade from the Normandy invasion through the end of the war and after during its occupation being discharged in 1947.



Guardsman Joseph Gemmell

BITS & PIECES

Remembering Guardsman Damian Shackleton, Right Flank 1SG Killed Belfast 3 August 1992



**Comrades / Friends raise a glass in the memory of Guardsman Damian Shackleton
L- R Paul Dickson, Bruce Milne, John Wilton, Alan Waugh, Micky Nutter, John Dougan**



On the 30th Anniversary of Guardsman Damian Shackleton's death in Belfast, his family, friends from SGA Preston and much further afield came together at his grave. How great to see Ted Davidson, Scots Guards WW2 veteran (3rd from the right) there to pay his respects.

Dedication of Headstone at the Grave of the Late Guardsman Andrew Wason – 3 September 2022

Arranged by his great friend Tam James there will be a 30th anniversary and dedication service for the late Guardsman Andrew Wason, Left Flank. 1st Battalion Scots Guards at Lambhill Cemetery, 957 Balmore Road, Glasgow G23 5LB on Saturday 03rd September 2022 at 1200hrs. Anyone who knew and/or served with Andy welcome to attend ~ please advise Neil Crockett email; sga@scotsguards.org who will pass your name on to Tam James.

Major DHA Kemble MC and L/Sgt CS Melville

Two members of the Highlands & Islands Branch, Major Cammy Proudfoot and Roddy Davidson, quite independently came across the new Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) plaque on the gate to the Dores Cemetery just outside Inverness, particularly Scots Guards Military Cross holder, Acting Lt Col David Horace Abercromby Kemble MC.



A quick look at the CWGC website gave his rank as Major and his date of death as 6th April 1945 rather than 22nd May 1944, and The Oracle (aka Neil Crockett) confirmed his date of death as 6th April 1945 and that he was an Acting Major, so the details on the CWGC plaque are a mystery. Major Kemble was son of Captain Horace L Kemble, MVO, who had also served in the Scots Guards, and Nina Kemble of Laggan, Inverness-shire. Major Kemble was clearly strong and brave and a great leader who continued his loyal service to the end.

He served with the African Rifles, and it was with them in the Ethiopian Campaign that he was awarded his Military Cross in 1941. He was 2SG HQ Company Commander at the Battle of Medenine, Tunisia in March 1942. In March 1943 whilst serving with the battalion in North Africa he lost an eye, but he continued to command his company. He was then killed, aged 31, on 6th April 1945 by a burst of Spandau fire whilst commanding 2SG F Company, which was at the head of a multi-regiment and international force in the final push against the German defences in the area east of the Rhine and particularly Bremen. Unsurprisingly, he gets 12 mentions in the 1919-1955 regimental history.

He is buried at the Sage War Cemetery, near Bremen, alongside 6 other courageous, loyal Scots Guardsmen killed in the same action: L/Cpl Gray (Clydebank, married, aged 24), Gdsm Dennis George Robertson (19), Gdsm William Houston (23) and L/Sgt's William Wilson (Kinghorn, 23), Gerrard White (22) and Cathel Sutherland Melville (30) of Castletown, Golspie, married with a son, pictured with his family on leave. He is remembered on Golspie War Memorial.

Digging further, LSgt Melville was, like Major Proudfoot, from Golspie. Sgt Melville as a butcher to trade and a keen footballer, playing for several Sutherland teams. Whilst serving he was in the Pirbright Camp team playing Aldershot Services which was a team of professional players recruited by the army as instructors which included CSMI Matt Busby (Liverpool) and team captain QMSI Joe Mercer (Everton).



Pirbright Camp are on the right of this photo and Sgt Melville is 2nd from the left in the front row. Matt Busby is 2nd from the left in the middle row of the left of this photo. Joe Mercer is 4th from the left in the front row. The other professionals played for Bournemouth, Wolves, Rangers, Airdrieonians, Sheffield Wednesday, Stockport and Everton, so a formidable team of professionals for Sgt Melville and his fellow amateurs to contend with.



LSgt Melville with his family on leave. His wife Joey lived onto 2002, his son David died in 2000, with both of them still living in Castletown until their passing.

Finally, another of the Pirbright Camp team was a Gdsm Gallacher, it doesn't identify which Guards Regiment he served with, but through another branch member, Davy MacKenzie, we have made the first contact with Scots Guards Afghan veteran Stuart (Gal) Gallacher now living in Inverness, who hopefully will become part of the branch.

The current members of the Highlands & Islands Branch are proud to follow in the footsteps of these courageous men who gave their all for our country.

Major Cammy Proudfoot and Roddy Davidson

Dates Of Remembrance 2022

Fri 21 October Dedication of Inverness Garden of Remembrance.

Mon 24 October Dedication of Edinburgh Garden of Remembrance.

Tue 25 October Dedication Of Glasgow Garden of Remembrance.

Sat 5 November Dundee Festival of Remembrance, Caird Hall.

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

EDINBURGH TATTOO 2022

From 5 to 27 August, Monday to Friday & twice on Saturday GSM (WO1) Gibson has been on duty at the Edinburgh Tattoo. Numerous Scots Guardsmen had tickets for the Castle Esplanade to watch the Tattoo have introduced themselves to the Garrison Sergeant Major making for lots of photo opportunities. Here are just a few of many.



GSM Gibson with Left - John McGrath & Willie Urban. Centre – Pipe Major Iain Lowther. Right – Ronnie Deakin

EDINBURGH & EAST OF SCOTLAND VETERANS GROUP

This informal group was set up approximately 6 years ago under the Chairmanship of Legion Scotland to discuss and inform on the main veterans events in Edinburgh & Eastern Scotland. It also gives opportunity to share new ideas between the various military associations. Meetings are held in the Scots Guards Club, Haymarket on a Sunday lunchtime every 2nd month. Scots Guardsmen involved in the group are Brian Ward Legion Scotland Events Manager who acts as Chairman, Les Braby as Chairman of South Atlantic Medal Association (Scotland) & Neil Crockett. The meetings are well worthwhile with associations (in no particular order) regularly attending : Royal Navy, Wrens, Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, Royal Military Police, Scots Guards, Parachute Regt, Royal Scots, KOSB, Black Watch, Queens Own Highlanders, RASC/RCT, SAMA (Scotland).

General welfare issues are mentioned and Major George Givens (QOH) as Chairman SSAFA (Fife) attends. George (right side) and Neil Crockett met as young army cadets in the Liverpool Scottish in the mid 1960's, were in the same platoon as recruits in the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion, Oswestry in 1966 when the late Captain Bob Clarkson was Pltn Sgt. Funny that 2 Scousers should end up in Fife living not too far from each other.



Brian Ward 3rd from the left ~ Major Willie Nicol RA (FOO 2SG Falklands) Back 5th from left ~ Les Braby right forward of the WRENS Rep ~ Neil Crockett.



A casual meeting of friends in the Scots Guards Club

L-R: Charlie Knott, Kevin Longmuir, Les Mason, Jock Ritchie, Ted Middlemass, Ronnie Deakin, John Ferns

A Date Well Remembered ~ 1642

2022 is the 380th anniversary since the Regiment was formed. 1642 a date that we all learnt from being the very newest of recruits and it is imprinted firmly in our minds. A date included on many body tattoos & email addresses.

During World War 2 on 18 March 1942 the Regiment celebrated the 300th Anniversary

Imagine this, in just 20 years time the Regiment will be holding a 400th Anniversary Parade - if it's anything like the 350th anniversary at Holyrood Palace on 24 June 1992 it will be forever remembered.



The 350th Parade formed up with a detachment from the 1st Battalion (in combat kit & serving in Northern Ireland) the 2nd Battalion (in HSC), those Extra Regimentally Employed, The Third Guards Club and Scots Guards Association.

POEM TO COMMEMORATE THE 350th ANNIVERSARY OF THE SCOTS GUARDS — 1642/1992

by GM JOHNSTONE, EX SGT'S' SQN, 3rd BN

In 1642 was formed,
A regiment so rare,
Of hand-picked men, all loyal,
Upstanding, proud and fair.

To guard the Stuart King,
And all who bore his name,
Unknowing, that o'er the ages,
They would rise to lasting fame.

The ancient, honoured 'Thistle' badge
'Nemo me Impune Lacessit,'
With Saintly Andrew's Cross,
That God keep them protected.

First 'Colours' at Falkland Palace,
'Neath Lomond hill so steep,
They could not know how many,
Foreign soil, for their last sleep.

With musket and long bayonet,
On many a foreign field,
They held firm and steady,
Stood fast, and did not yield.

To win the battles and glory,
Bring the Regiment to the fore,
Discipline, skill at arms, drilling,
And enduring Esprit-de-Corps.

And ever through the centuries,
From all airts and pairts they came,
Succeeding generations of guardsmen,
To enhance the Regiment's name.

With the 303 Lee Enfield,
And the deadly Lewis Gun,
The Regiment in the trenches,
In hell, in World War I.

World War 2 in '39,
Volunteers to swell the ranks,
The 1st and 2nd marching,
The 3rd in Churchill tanks.

The 4th in snowy Norway,
'X' Company with Guards Armoured Div,
'S' Company with the Coldstream in Italy,
All gave the best they could give.

The 1st and 2nd bore the brunt,
Africa, then Europe, in time,
The 3rd fought thro' from Normandy,
Into Germany, over the Rhine.

Came Malaya, then Northern Ireland,
To counter terrorist strife,
Scots Guards patrols, ever active,
Helped stem the loss of life.

They sailed to the Falkland Islands,
And stormed up Tumbledown,
They carried all before them,
Cleared the way, to Port Stanley town.

In the lulls between wars and dissension,
At Pomp and Pageantry excelled,
Public Duties, Parades, the 'Trooping',
In high esteem they were held.

Battle Honours, Decorations,
Tell the story to the world,
Since the day at ancient Falkland,
When the 'Colours' first unfurled.

To all the valiant Scots Guardsmen,
Who gave their all, their lives,
We who survived salute you,
And bereaved sweethearts and wives.

Serving and future Scots Guardsmen,
Our traditions must jealously guard,
Uphold the Regiment's honour,
Be held, in highest regard.





Help and Support

For help and support with your pension award, contact the Enquiry Centre on **0800 085 3600** or **0044 141 224 3600** if calling from abroad (Mon - Fri 7am to 7pm).

If your circumstances or details change, please contact our paying agent, Equiniti, on **0345 121 2514** or **0044 1903 768625** if calling from abroad (Mon - Fri, 8am to 6pm) to ensure your pension continues to be paid accurately and on time.

Please ensure you have your Service and National Insurance Numbers ready. You can find useful information on all the Schemes by visiting:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pensions-and-compensation-for-veterans>

Tell us how we are doing

Please take a couple of minutes to complete our **feedback survey**



bit.ly/AFPSQDFeedback

Pension Awareness Week 2022



To coincide with the annual Pension Awareness Day this year on 15th September, the Ministry of Defence is running Pension Awareness Week to provide serving members with clear and concise guidance on the various aspects of their Armed Forces Pension. The agenda for the week is now available to view on the Pension Awareness Week Defence Connect Page.

Please note that this event can only be accessed by serving members.

The event will feature the release of educational videos, new and updated fact sheets, and two live presentations hosted by the Forces Pension Society. Ahead of the event, we will soon be inviting serving members to ask any pension related

queries via our online forum which will guide the content of FAQ's released daily throughout the week. Please go to Defence Connect and search 'MOD Pension Awareness Week 2022' for more information. Further announcements with more information will follow on defnet, Twitter and wider social media, as well as via single Service representatives.