

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: The Regimental Band will play a prominent part in the Regimental Gathering. There has also been a return to full ceremonial on Royal Guards.

WE REMEMBER THOSE KILLED DURING SEPTEMBER IN CONFLICTS SINCE 1945

2nd Battalion 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

2nd Battalion Malaya Emergency 1948 – 51

2nd Lt JA Forbes – Leith

- Age 21

}

2818374 Sgt William Riach

- Age 34

}

Killed 25 September 1949

22022534 Gdsm Dennis Moore

- Age 19

}

2818374 Sgt William Riach had 2 years TA service in the Seaforth Highlanders before joining the Scots Guards in January 1933. After recruit training at the Guards Depot, Caterham he joined 1st Battalion. He was transferred to the Reserve between 1936 until being recalled on 1 September 1939, 2 days before the start of WW2. He served with 1SG in BEF Norway between April / June 1940. 1SG moved to North Africa in March 1943 & Sgt Riach received a shell/mortar wound to the right knee on 23 April 1943 during the early stages of battle for Djebel Bou Aoukaz when Captain The Lord Lyell was awarded a posthumous VC on 27 April 1943. Not 100% fit for the remainder of WW2 Sgt Riach served on mostly admin duties at the Gds Reinforcement Depot in Italy. He also served in Greece.

In February 1946 Sgt Riach was released to the army reserve but re-enlisted on a Special Short Term Engagement in August 1946, later he was allowed to extend which would have seen him complete 12 years serve. After a short period at The Guards Training Bn, Pirbright he joined the 2nd Battalion at Victoria Bks, Windsor. In October 1948 2SG disembarked in Malaya.



Sgt William Riach, F Company, 2nd Bn Scots Guards KIA Malaya 25 September 1949

REGIMENTAL GATHERING
SATURDAY 11 & SUNDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2021



The Regimental Gathering is now just over 10 days away to be held in Somme Barracks in Catterick, the new home of the First Battalion. It will be hosted by the Battalion with support from the Scots Guards Association. Further details will come out with your tickets. **Everyone** requires tickets and car passes for both the Beating Retreat and the Gathering.

If you have still to get your Gathering tickets contact Neil Crockett, Secretary of the Scots Guards Association soonest! Phone 01383 721530 or Email: sga@scotsguards.org

Gathering Information: The Bar & the Gathering food outlets payment will be cash only.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

BRANCH DINNERS AUTUMN / WINTER 2021

Sat 18 September	Berks, Bucks & Ox	Datchet Golf Club	GOH Brigadier Douglas Erskine Crum
Sat 9 October	Pipers	Scots Guards Club	GOH Colonel JM Clavering
Sat 9 October	Dundee & Angus	Invercarse Hotel, Dundee	
Sat 16 October	Carlisle, Dumfries & Gall	Carlisle Golf Club	
Fri 29 October	Aberdeen & NE Scotland	Althens Hotel, Aberdeen	
Sat 30 October	Durham & Yorkshire	Sgts Mess, Somme Barracks	
Fri 5 November	Ayrshire	RAF Club, Prestwick	
Fri 12 November	Fife	Dean Park Hotel, Kirkcaldy	
Fri 12 November	Manchester	Ukrainian Club, Manchester	
Fri 19 November	Preston	Masonic Club, Preston	
Sat 27 November	London (St Andrews Din)	Union Jack Club	

Ayrshire Branch

The members agreed that future meetings of the Branch should be held on the second Wednesday of each month.

For more information about Branch events contact Secretary Jim Fraser on his **new Tel number:** 07765 490477 or email: james.fraser279@gmail.com

Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Branch

The Branch held their annual BBQ at Datchet Golf Club on Saturday 14 August.

They will hold their annual picnic including a chance to watch Polo at the Guards Polo Club on Sunday 5 September & their Annual Dinner on Saturday 18 September. Notice a common theme in Branch events "Food" a subject close to the heart of my old friend, Secretary Rab Ritchie.

The Secretary is Rab Ritchie who can be contacted Tel: 07776411120 E-mail: rab.ritchie@icloud.com



Two photo's from the BBO BBQ

Left: Branch President Major Charley Grimston & Rab Ritchie.

Right: How great to see Eddie McKay looking so well with his wife Gillian at the BBQ.

Durham & Yorkshire Branch

Dedication of the new Cockerton war memorial, Saturday 4 September. Timings and details to be advised. If you would like to attend please contact the Secretary, Treasurer or any Committee Member. Lord Lieutenant Mrs Sue Snowdon, the Mayor of Darlington and, maybe if duties permit, representatives of 1st Battalion Scots Guards, will be attending, along with our Branch standard.

For further details contact Secretary Stewart Webb Tel: 01765 640517 Email: webb174@btinternet.com

Preston



Members of the Branch along with friends and family of Gdsm Damien Shackleton gather at his grave to mark the 29th Anniversary of him being killed in Belfast.

London Branch

Secretary Ian Blair Tel: 07843 - 477772 Note change of email address for Ian Blair: blair605@btinternet.com

Scots Guards Association Pipes & Drums (Scotland)

The Argyllshire Gathering, Oban Games - 150th Anniversary Composition WINNER Iain Lowther

Iain beat 61 other competitors as he composed a tune for the 150th Anniversary Games. "Dr Whittow's Salute to the 150th Argyllshire Gathering." Well done Iain!



Left: P/M meets HRH The Princess Royal at the Argyll Gathering, Oban Games

Right: Iain leads the Pipers playing his winning tune at the Argyll Gathering with his son Calum directly behind him.

Led by Pipe Major Iain Lowther the SGA Pipes & Drums (Scotland) continue their preparations and will take part at our Regimental Gathering.

Pipe Major Iain Lowther Tel: 07484 637188 Email: iain-lowther68@outlook.com

DEATHS

Association Fife

22452566 Ron Cheshire Died 13 August 2021. Served Coldstream Guards in mid 1950s. Lived Glenrothes.

Durham & Yorkshire

23517081 Gdsm Harry Marrs Died 8 August 2021. Aged 82 Served 2SG 1958 – 1962. He was Branch Chairman and had held other posts.

Non Association Members

LCpl Brian Reid. Died 7 August 2021. Aged 62. Served IJLB Shorncliffe, 1SG & Gds Depot 1975 – 86. Lived Inverness.

Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh

Our opening hours are:

Sunday to Wednesday 12-6pm

Thursday - Saturday 12-11pm

We occasionally open up outside of these hours to accommodate some of the associations and groups who meet in the Club. If you are part of a group and feel our Club might be a good place to meet up then just get in touch,

It's lovely to have music back in the Club with the regular Sunday afternoon and Thursday evening sessions already established again. Remember, on a Sunday we have a fantastic Sunday roast offer at £7 in addition to the usual menu.

Meals are available every day and offer fantastic value at £5 or less.

The next Scots Guards event will be 4 September when the Club will provide an open house weekend for those past and present wishing to get together. Subject of course to whatever legal restrictions might still apply.

REMEMBRANCE EVENTS – SCOTLAND

Fri 22 October Opening Inverness Garden of Remembrance.

Mon 25 October Opening Edinburgh Garden of Remembrance.

Tue 26 October Opening Glasgow Garden of Remembrance.

EARLY DATES TO SAVE IN YOUR DIARY FOR 2022

Fri 21 January SGA Glasgow Burns Supper

Sat 19 February The Rabbits Breakfast, Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh.

Sat 5 March Swallae Ho, Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh.

Sat 2 April SGA AGM, Wellington Barracks.

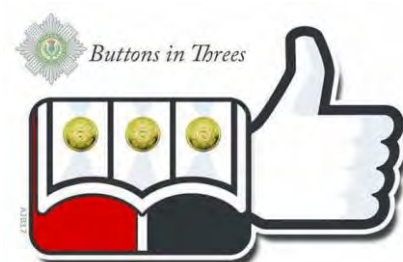
Sun 3 April Regimental Remembrance Sunday Guards Chapel

Thu 2 June Queen's Birthday Parade.

Sat 4 June Drums Company 2nd Battalion Scots Guards Reunion, Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh.

10 – 13 June 40th Anniversary Commemoration & Reunion, Tumbledown Veterans & Families Association.

30 July (TBC) 50th Anniversary Op Motorman Reunion, Scots Guards Club, Edinburgh.



NEWS FROM THE SERVING REGIMENT

1st Battalion

Whilst deployed on Op ORBITAL members of B Company and Left Flank took their students and colleagues through a superb Urban Ops Course.

The Pipes and Drums

At the end of July the Pipes & Drums started a 4 week cadre in Redford Barracks, Edinburgh. During the time in Edinburgh have supported 51 Brigade with several events in Scotland. They held a small training concert in Drymen, to give back to the local community after the National lock-down and were invited to open the Clash of The Clans at Scone Palace, Perth. The P&Ds also spent time on physical training in the Pentland Hills and paid their respects the grave of LCpl Stephen Monkhouse MC.

1st Battalion Scots Guards Pipes & Drums are set to play a full & spectacular part in the Regimental Gathering.



Clash of The Clans



Drymen

F Company



Have just returned from deploying on an overseas exercise to Gibraltar. Fighting through the WW2 tunnels, patrolling through the town and honing their basic soldiering skills. They also carried out some ceremonial duties when F Company had the honour of being the first Guards Regiment to found the Convent Guard for His Excellency the Governor of Gibraltar.



There has been a return to full ceremonial on London & Windsor Guards with F Company playing their full part

BITS & PIECES

Guards Parachute Memorial Dedication at National Arboretum

The dedication for the GPA Memorial will take place at the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA) on Friday 8 October 2021 at 1200hrs and will be conducted by Canon Alan Hughes. GPA founder, Major General Sir Robert Corbett KCVO CB, will carry out the unveiling. We will have a full dedication service lasting about 40 minutes and will be supported by the band of The Scots Guards. The service will be followed by a reception at the NMA.

Catch Up

In Dunfermline town centre I was pleased to bump into Tommy Paterson, SGA Fife member and his Grandson LCpl Tom Salisbury from 1SG Recce Pltn who was enjoying the final few days of his Bn leave. LCpl Salisbury has recently returned to 1SG following a tour with the Guards Parachute Platoon.

Scots Guards Magazine 2020 – 2021

Articles for the new edition of the Scots Guards Magazine are being finalised. Currently the Regimental Adjutant as Editor and the Publisher are working hard on the Magazine. The hope is that the Magazine will be ready to go to print shortly after the Regimental Gathering and will begin circulation by early October.

From Malcolm McNally -3 former Scots Guardsmen working in Nigeria

I am employed by USAID, Andy with Mercy Corps, and Paul with DAI. All employed in the Humanitarian Aid and Development sector, building capacity and in support of self-sustainability for Nigerians across here in Africa. This is an interesting career move for those serving Scots Guardsmen planning to move on and, for those who wish to make a positive impact to not only save life, but also to change lives for the better.

Always happy to provide advice and guidance for those that might be interested in this type of work.

In the meantime, many thanks for keeping me in the family loop with the newsletters.

Kind regards,

Malcolm J McNally
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PLSO SERVICES VIDEO: <https://vimeo.com/rsmanimation/usaidsnigeria-plso>
See our eLearning at: <https://hadrsmuniversity.myshopify.com/>



L – R: Malcolm McNally, Andy Aitken, Paul Thompson in Nigeria



DRUMS COMPANY 2ND BATTALION SCOTS' GUARDS - REUNION 2022

1. The last reunion for the 2nd Bn Scots Guards Corps of Drums happened a number of years ago, many attended and many equally were unable to attend, we have seen many and heard of many of our friends who have passed away since then, I know that we will always remember them. Let's get together to reminisce, remember to bring the sandbags and tin pots, no broken bottles please.
2. The reunion will take place at the Scots Guards Club in Haymarket in Edinburgh on Saturday 4 June 2022, commencing at 1300 hrs till late, the club is booked. **Note: This is a change of date.**
3. There will be food available at a cost per person.
4. If you would like to attend more so if you are a former member of the Drums Company of the 2nd Bn Scots Guard please drop me an e mail at: drummie2ca@gmail.com

All the very best for now! and mark your calendars.

David B. Rennie

David B. Rennie

Former Drum Major 2nd Bn Scots Guards

Update on Veterans ID Cards

We have been receiving requests for information on Veterans ID Cards in your Feedback comments so we thought we would update you with the latest position. Behind the scenes there is a lot of work going on at present across Government, the Charity sector and other providers to improve services for veterans, all linked to the Armed Forces Covenant.



The delay in offering an ID card to veterans more widely is partly so that the Department can complete work to consider how best a future card, or veterans identity approach, can support these services for veterans in the future.

Unfortunately, this work is going to take more time to resolve and we don't



currently have a date from which we can say cards will be available. We will post updates on <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/veterans-uk> just as soon as more is known.

McCloud Remedy Update

The Public Service Pensions and Judicial Offices Bill was introduced in the House of Lords 19 July 2021. The Bill will legislate for how the government will remove the discrimination identified by the courts in the way the 2015 pension reforms were introduced for some members.

For Armed Forces Pension Scheme members, the Bill gives the scheme powers to legislate so that eligible

members are given a choice of scheme benefits, either legacy scheme or AFPS 15 for the 'remedy' period of 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2022.

From 1 April 2022, when the 'remedy' period ends, all those in service will be members of AFPS 15, ensuring equal treatment for all. More information on pension remedy is at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mccloud-remedy-update>

Pension Awareness week

The Ministry of Defence is committed to improving members' understanding of their pension benefits. As part of this work we are partnering with the Cabinet Office to deliver 'Pension Awareness Week', 13 to 17 September 2021.

During this week we will promote all aspects of the Armed Forces Pension

Scheme; we will publish concise fact sheets, run a Q&A session and give live presentations on the steps you need to take to plan for, and eventually retire.

Further information will be available on our social media pages and Twitter. <https://twitter.com/defencepeople?lang=en>



Serving members should keep an eye out for the dedicated Defence Connect Page and announcements on defnet.

Importance of keeping your contact details up to date

The Armed Forces Pension Scheme has a legislative requirement to keep complete and accurate membership records including address details for its members. This not only helps protect your data, but also assists the pension scheme to combat or highlight any potential fraud cases.

If your personal contact details change, it is important that you notify Equiniti of these changes, including a change of address as soon as practically possible. Doing

so will remove the risk of your personal information being issued to an address that is no longer valid and also ensures that you continue to receive any correspondence containing important information relating to your pension.

We are now, on an ongoing basis, actively seeking to make contact with any members with benefits in payment where there is a query as to their current address or mortality as a result of postal correspondence being



returned as 'Gone Away'. To ensure we reinstate contact with any members who fall into this category, we will take steps in an attempt to trace you at a new address and invite you to complete a declaration to confirm your

identity and provide up-to-date address details. Should you fail to respond within two months, payment of benefits will be suspended and held in trust until such time as contact can be re-established with you. If you receive this declaration, please ensure that you complete and return it within two months to prevent any interruption to the payment of your benefits.

If your address details change, you can notify Equiniti by phoning their Armed Forces pension helpline on 0345 1212 514 or emailing them at Veteransukpensions@equiniti.com. You can also write to them at Equiniti PO Box 1246, Sutherland House, Russell Way, Crawley, RH10 0HZ



Help and Support

If you have a question about your Armed Forces Pension please call the JPAC Enquiry Centre on **0800 085 3600** or **0044 141 224 3600** if calling from abroad.

Open Monday to Friday 7am to 7pm, please ensure you have your Service and National Insurance Numbers ready.

You can find useful information on all the Schemes by visiting:

www.gov.uk/guidance/pensions-and-compensation-for-veterans