



The Thistle

Journal of The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment)

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Winter 2010

It was a privilege to be asked to takeover as Chairman of the Regimental Trustees. On behalf of the Regiment I thank Robbie Scott Bowden for his endeavours and leadership over the last five years.

1 SCOTS, garrisoned in Dregghorn Barracks, returned from a very successful Afghanistan tour in late September. The professionalism, morale and regimental spirit within the Battalion is extremely high; there was real atmosphere of pride and gratitude for a job well done at their Homecoming parades and at the medals presentation in Holyrood Park. We remember the loss of Lance Corporal Pool and those wounded on operations.

At Home Headquarters, Lieutenant Colonel Jim Blythe and his reduced staff, now assisted with benevolence by Captain Jimmy Springthorpe, are to be commended on their sterling work on behalf of us all.

Whilst the effect of SDSR is still awaited, it remains clear that the way forward for young men in our former Regimental area is to be proud to join Scotland's modern infantry, The Royal Regiment of Scotland (SCOTS). I encourage the full support of the marketing of SCOTS, a very strong brand, whilst maintaining the strong integrity of The Royals, which we all served in.

There is now a healthy Northern Ireland Branch of the Association and, organised by the Southern Branch, the Association led the annual veterans march past at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday. A painting to mark this unique event has been commissioned, which will be hung prominently in The Royal Scots Club.

2011 will see landmark events in the Regiment's distinguished history: the UK's Armed Forces Day will be held in Edinburgh, which affords the opportunity for very strong UK-wide Association participation; new colours will be presented to the SCOTS battalions and The Royal Scots colours will be laid up.

The Club's major expansion project is almost complete. I compliment Brian Adair, his fellow Trustees, the Management Team and the Staff on their determination and resourcefulness at what is The Royals rallying point.

The future has four vital pillars as we reshape. They are: the Museum which records our fine history; the Association which bonds together those who served in our Regiment; the Club which is our rallying place and principal war memorial; and Benevolence which supports Royals in need. A close and enduring relationship has been developed with 1 SCOTS in particular and with HQ SCOTS, which will ensure that former Royals now cap-badged as SCOTS remain very much part of our family whilst understanding that a SCOTS Association will be forming as we all move ahead.

Colonel Martin Gibson OBE DL



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1st Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland

1 SCOTS HERRICK 12



2010 has been characterised by operations in Afghanistan, with B Coy on Op HERRICK 11 with 3 RIFLES and the remainder of the Battalion on Op HERRICK 12, providing the Afghan Army's Brigade Advisor Group and a

composite Waterloo Company in Nad-e-Ali.

Although B Coy was detached, we monitored their progress with interest, basking in their extraordinary successes. They were in Wishtan area of Sangin, a place with a formidable reputation. Through their efforts, leadership and gallantry, they achieved real progress. Success in a ground holding role is slow and methodical, but they learnt rapidly how to dominate the ground, take the fight to the enemy, and to engage with the local population. The honours and awards they received,

including a Queen's Gallantry Medal for Private Brotherston, and a Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service for



Major Graeme Wearmouth, best illustrate the high regard with which they were held.

The remainder of the Battalion followed hard on their heels, deploying in March 2010 as the OMLT Battle Group, to mentor the Afghan Army. We were required to restructure very significantly in our first few weeks. That we achieved this so rapidly and capably, says much for the flexibility and mental agility that has come to characterise 1 SCOTS.

Waterloo Company then went on to achieve so much in a role they had not prepared for, which speaks well of the leadership, fighting spirit and initiative of the company. They too had to adapt throughout their tour, expanding their area of operations. Perhaps the biggest change was the increase in violence over the latter half of the tour. This is a reflection of the transient nature of the insurgents, and the pressure being applied to them in a former stronghold. During a visit towards the end of the tour I was struck how the area had changed as the summer fighting season reached its zenith. Many of the Jocks in the smaller Patrol Bases and Check Points became remarkably



accustomed to the daily battle that they faced. They responded well, have grown in confidence and stature, and display all the signs of professional young soldiers comfortable with themselves. Inevitably, they took some bad casualties along the way, not least three gunshot wounds suffered in the space of a single week.

For those of us in the Brigade Advisor Group, the tempo was no less, and I am proud of what our officers and soldiers achieved in a short period. We inherited an almost new Afghan Brigade Headquarters with no experience, little training, limited understanding of its role, and little confidence in its own ability. We left behind us a Headquarters that is better manned, better trained, and better able to contribute significantly to this campaign.

The latter half of our tour saw 3/215 Brigade conduct two major ANA led brigade (-) operations. The first saw 700 ANA soldiers, 150 advisors and 150 Task Force Helmand enablers conduct a 48 hour disrupt operation into a major insurgent safe haven. The second saw a reduced advisor footprint supporting an eight-day joint Afghan Army and Police operation to secure, clear and protect an important route in the Upper Gereshk Valley. It was



Brigade Advisor Group with their Afghan protégés



a profound demonstration of increasing ANA capability and will, and considerable reassurance that our developments efforts were paying off.

Of course these tours have not been without tragedy, and our thoughts lie with the families of Cpl Johnathon Moore, Pte Sean McDonald and Lance Corporal Joe Pool, who were killed in action during the year. They will never be forgotten. A number of other young officers, NCOs and Jocks have received life-changing injuries. I take some comfort in the knowledge that their sacrifice has not been in vain. They are the true heroes of this campaign, and I know that all ranks and all supporters of 1 SCOTS join me in sending them our very best wishes as they battle back to fitness, with the same indomitable spirit they showed in Afghanistan.



But it has not been all about operations this year, and I cannot finish without reference to Her Majesty's Royal Guard, provided this year by B Coy. This

commitment was taken on with enthusiasm, and has provided the perfect antidote to their hard charging tour in Sangin.

I must also take this opportunity to congratulate WO1 (RSM) Tait on commissioning after an extraordinarily successful period as RSM. We are very fortunate however in having had another class act appointed in the form of WO1 (RSM) Wood.

I handed over to Lt Col Ben Wrench in mid-October. It has been an extraordinary privilege and an enormous pleasure to have commanded 1 SCOTS since early 2008. I have been blessed with a very talented and dedicated cohort of Officers, Warrant Officers, NCOs and Jocks over this time and I thank them for their patience and commitment. It is they who have allowed the Battalion to prosper and who have taken us to operational, training and sporting success over this time. I like to think that our reputation is as high as ever. Our young soldiers are as fine a generation as any who have served before them and are a true credit to our antecedent Regiments.

Lieutenant Colonel Charlie Herbert

The Royal Guard

In Sangin last February I received a message from the CO that B Coy would mount the Royal Guard in Balmoral upon returning from operations. Ceremonial dress and country pursuits were the last thing on my mind and I duly put all thoughts of Balmoral to the back of my mind in order to focus on the job in hand. It was



after six weeks post-tour leave, that I was told by various members of the Company that they had had enough leave and wanted to do something different. Variety was certainly the watchword as 90 members of B Coy travelled up to furnish Her Majesty The Queen's Royal Guard 2010.

The activities have changed little over the years and will be familiar to many. The Pony Platoon, led by Captain Gartside and Sergeant Scott, grafted hard on the hills, often in very inclement weather. The Security Platoon, led by Lieutenant Forsyth and Sergeant Noble did an admirable job including responding to live Police callouts, earning a formal letter of thanks from the Chief Constable. We conducted a number of ceremonial events including the arrival and departure of Her Majesty at Crathie Kirk and the march through Ballater led by the Pipes and Drums. The Royal Guard Open Day proved

popular and we supported various Highland Games including Aboyne, Ballater, Lonach and the Braemar Gathering. We had some sporting success with a commendable third place finish in the Inter-Services sprint at Braemar; a convincing 6-2 win over the Ballater Football Team; and a number of individual successes. The Aboyne Rugby Club benefited from the occasional support from the Guard and Crathie Cricket Club were rescued from relegation in a must-win game. We have been able to take advantage of the myriad outdoor activities including three Coy golf outings, mountain biking, rock climbing, fishing, grouse shooting, stalking and clay-pigeon competitions. Members of the Guard, led by LCpl Archibald have also assisted Grampian Mountain Rescue.

A highlight of the social calendar was the Royal Guard Cocktail Party where we were delighted to see members of both antecedent Regiments and the officers from the Battalion who had



returned from operations in Afghanistan just 72 hours before. The local community has been very welcoming and it was a pleasure to try and enhance the Regimental name in Aberdeenshire.

Major Graeme Wearmouth

CONGRATULATIONS

PROMOTIONS AND AWARDS

Brigadier George Lowder has assumed command of 51st (Scottish) Brigade and Brigadier Bob Bruce assumes command of 4th Mechanised Brigade in December. Lt Col Charlie Herbert is promoted Colonel and goes to the Higher Command and Staff course. Lt Col Ben Wrench has assumed command of 1 SCOTS.

B COY 1 SCOTS OPERATIONAL AWARDS

- QUEEN'S COMMENDATION FOR VALUABLE SERVICE was awarded to Major Graeme Wearmouth.
- QUEEN'S GALLANTRY MEDAL to Private Callum Brotherston.
- COMMENDATIONS FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE Lt David Clark, WO 2 Scott McQuillin, Cpl Edward Scott and LCpl Fraser McPherson.
- DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER to Brig James Cowan, son of Col Edward Cowan, Chairman of the Southern Branch of the RS Association.

THE ASSOCIATION PIPE BAND IS TEN YEARS OLD

Well done all members of the Band, past and present



The Association Band leading 1 SCOTS down The Royal Mile

ALEX REID 100

ALEX REID OF 8 RS CELEBRATED HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY ON 2 JULY. Alex, formerly WO1 8 RS landed on the Normandy beaches and fought for the liberation of North West Europe. Alex was joined on his birthday by members of the RS Association at East Linton where he was presented with a splendid blazer with a Royal Scots badge emblazoned with "8th Battalion". The following week Alex was joined by 8 RS comrades and others for lunch at The Royal Scots Club, presided over by Maj Joe Brown 7/9 RS. A typically hearty Royal Scots Club lunch was enjoyed by all, followed by toasts to HM The Queen and HRH The Princess Royal, and a stirring pipe programme played by Eddie Hanratty of the Association Band. Tributes to Alex were paid by Maj Joe Brown and Mr George Simmonds, and Alex was presented with a handsome silver quaich capable of holding more than a standard dram and a bronze statuette of a Royal Scots pipe major.



Alex Reid with presentation Quaich

PURVES PRIZE

This year's Purves Prize goes to Major Ronald Ironside of 1 RS and 7/9 RS. Ronald has given outstanding service not only in the past year but has made a constant and significant contribution behind the scenes for in excess of 35 years! The award was made at the Officers Dinner Club Regimental Dinner held in the RS Club in October.

SPORT

1 SCOTS RUGBY

Preparing for Op HERRICK 11 & 12 disrupted the 2009 - 10 season leading to a sabbatical from the Army Cup. Thus no rugby was played until our defence the Army Sevens Cup, only being able to choose from the Rear Party and B Coy who had returned from Afghanistan only a couple of weeks before. Despite a weakened squad, we benefited from the services of Ptes Apo Satala and Jack Prasad, both Fiji caps. The team played some great sevens, winning four matches to qualify for the semi-final where they met 2nd Royal Welsh in a physical encounter, winning 14 - 0. The final was a repeat of 2009 with 1 SCOTS edging a hard fought victory 20 - 15 against 17 P&M Regt RLC, thus securing the Army Sevens Cup for the second year running and the eighth time in ten years (1 RS having won the trophy six times up to 2006). The victory was all the more



notable, as it was the first time a Rear Party team had become champions! The Army XV's Cup campaign commenced in October, beating 4th Regt RA 30 - 7, both teams having stepped off the plane from Afghanistan only two days before. The game was notable for the LCpl Bulumukau and Pte Bulumukau father and son combination. The next match at Dreghorn is on 26 January against 19th Regt RA at 1400 and those wishing to come along and support the team will be made very welcome.

Capt Kevin Gartside, Rugby Officer



CONGRATULATIONS

to Major Angus McLeod who won a Silver Medal at the Commonwealth Games in Delhi in October, shooting in the Pairs Full Bore at 1000 meters.

GOLF

Well done to Maj Bernie Thomson and a team of Old Royals who competed for the Argyll Bowl this summer.

THE ROYAL SCOTS Association

Armed Forces Day June 2010

Well done the Association! In excess of 75 on parade, plus the Standard Bearers and the Pipe Band. Altogether a better event than last year, down The Royal Mile, past the Mercat Cross where the Lord Provost took the salute, then into Cockburn Street and dispersal from Princes Street Gardens.



Four Old Royals at Armed Forces Day

Thousands lined the streets, reminiscent of B Coy Homecoming last May and the 1 SCOTS BG in October. At the Ross Bandstand there were refreshments for serving and retired alike – and a beer tent. In the programme of entertainment the Association Band played a set mid afternoon and joined the massed bands for beating retreat at the close. Evident among those who infiltrated the Ross Bandstand were a number of Old Royals who are not presently members of the Association. You know who you are – and so do we – so join up. Nevertheless, it was good to see them all and catch up. The day was an excellent rehearsal for Armed Forces Day on 25 Jun 2011 when Edinburgh will be the lead city. Let's have an even bigger turnout for that! Standby also for information on presentation of Colours to The Royal Regiment of Scotland, probably the following weekend.

Northern Ireland Branch

Twenty Old Royals settled in Northern Ireland had proposed that there should be a stone to commemorate those Royal Scots who died there between 1970 - 2002, and that a NI Branch should be established. The proposals were considered at the



The Northern Ireland Memorial Stone

Association Committee AGM and were subsequently approved by RS Trustees, former Colonels of the Regiment having also been consulted.



Service of Dedication and Remembrance

4th September was selected for dedicating the stone and establishing the Branch. Detailed planning commenced, enthusiastically advised by Albert Owens MBE, Custodian of the Memorial Gardens about which more can be learned at www.palacebarracksmemorialgarden.co.uk

More than 50 members of all Branches attended with the Association Standards piped onto parade by Association Band pipers. The Service of Dedication and Remembrance was led by Padres Cathcart and Knox, both former 1 RS Chaplains. The Exhortation was delivered by the Chairman of the Scotland Branches, the inscription on the stone was read out by the Chairman of the Association followed by a Lament, two minutes silence and Reveille. The Royal Scots Collect was recited by all and after the Benediction, the Chairman of the NI Branch read verses from 'The Fallen'. The same Regimental flag that had finally been lowered in Basra on the day that our cap badge was last worn was flown at the flag pole. The event was covered by BFBS, courtesy of



The Congregation

whom we sent greetings to 1 SCOTS in Afghanistan. That evening saw the inaugural meeting of the new Branch. The enthusiasm and organisational skill which brought the Branch into being bodes very well for the future. Any Old Royals in NI who may not yet have joined should contact jacarlisle@btinternet.com

Autumn Dinner & Musselburgh Races

Both events had first class turnouts. The Autumn Gathering and Dinner was held in the Hepburn Suite

in the RS Club and the RS Day at Musselburgh included, for the first time, a Royal Regiment of Scotland race. Unfortunately 1 SCOTS were not quite back from Afghanistan in time but it is hoped that they will be able to join in next September.

Southern Branch

On 21 Jul the Southern Branch visited RAF Odiham. Chairman Edward Cowan reported, "Many of us remember the RAF helicopter support in Radfan, Northern Ireland (especially South Armagh), the Falklands and elsewhere. The briefing by Wg Cdr Turner, 18(B) Squadron filled a number of knowledge gaps of the Chinook Force role in Helmand where my son, Brig James Cowan recently commanded the UK Task Force. He told me how much the whole Force admired the work and professionalism of the Chinook aircrews."



Spot the difference!
Answers on a postcard

The Association Pipe Band is ten years old

Having joined 1 SCOTS Pipes & Drums for B Coy Homecoming parades in Peebles, Berwick and Edinburgh in May, we also led 1 SCOTS BG through Galashiels, Linlithgow and

down The Royal Mile in October and were present at their medals ceremony. A significant overseas engagement was in Rome at the invitation of Finmeccanica to play at their annual awards ceremony, an experience not to be missed. In June the Band was on parade for Armed Forces Day, marching from the Castle to Princes Street Gardens via The Royal Mile. The only non-Regular Army band, we took part in beating of retreat at the Ross Bandstand along with the massed military band and pipes and drums, earning compliments from Brigadier George Lowder formerly RS, Sir Alistair Irwin RBL President, and General Sir David Richards CDS. Along with The Lowland (TA) Band and Lothian & Borders ACF Pipes & Drums we entertained a crowd of 5,000 at The Royal Scots Day at Musselburgh Races. On Remembrance Sunday, the Band played at the Heart of Midlothian memorial service at Tynecastle, with pipers at Erskine, RAF Turnhouse, Roslin and at Hepburn House. Further information, including for those interested in joining the Band, is available at www.royalscotspipeband.org.uk.

Major T A G Corkerton, Band Manager

Fundraising



Tam Millar
PARA 10 Certificate

PARA 10, Mark Wright and SSAFA

Tam Miller, Callum Colquhon, Roger Telford, Martin Burnett, Tam Logan, George Higgins, Watte Steward, Sinky Sinclair and William John Malloy all took part in the 10 mile run. Tam thanks all sponsors, raising £450 for SSAFA. "This will be my last serious run, as old joints and bones are not so keen now; at almost 70, it's time to let the youngsters fly the flag."



The PARA 10 Gang

Combat Stress

Major Donald Sommerville's fundraising team in Castle Douglas raised £595 for Combat Stress through a brass band concert.

325 mile Fund Raising Event

Pte Paul Lambert of B Coy 1 SCOTS lost both legs in an IED explosion and was 30 seconds from death. In October, Paul joined injured British and American servicemen on a 325 mile charity event in Holland.

Thanks

To Sharon McCann who ran the Great Scottish Run (10k) to raise £500 for the RS Benevolent Fund in memory of her grandfather Gus Ferguson BEM. The Fund disburses money to former Royals in need throughout the year. *With so much*

competition for funds why not leave a legacy in your will to the RS Benevolent Fund?



Sharon McCann presents her cheque

Remembrance

Contalmaison Pilgrimage

Hearts players who joined 16 RS (McCrae's Battalion) were remembered on 1 July 2010 at the annual commemoration of the first day of the Battle of the Somme. Hearts were the first club to have its team sign up in November 1914. The seven Hearts players who lost their lives were: Sgt Duncan Currie, Sgt John Allan, LCpl James Boyd, Cpl Tom Gracie, Pte Ernest Ellis, Pte James Speedie and Pte Henry Wattie.

Wootton Bassett

For the second time this year we performed the sad duty of repatriation, with the Association Standard on parade along with a strong contingent of RS and KOSB. This time for LCpl Pool of 1 SCOTS, on 9 Sep 10.

The Cenotaph

The Southern Branch attended the Opening of the Westminster Abbey Field of Remembrance on 11 Nov and Association members came together for the Festival of Remembrance on Sat 13 Nov. Rev Ros Trafford Roberts took the Annual Service, Ian Fleming played the Lament, General Mark Strudwick gave the 'Exhortation' and Tam Millar carried the Association Standard. In the Cloisters, Colonel John



Colonel David Trafford-Roberts meets HRH The Duke of Edinburgh

Charteris read out all 23 names of Royal Scots and 1 SCOTS killed on active service since the end of WWII. Afterwards Victor Lucas hosted about 50 in The Tower of London to witness The Ceremony of the Keys and enjoy the Yeoman Warders' Mess.

Sixty-five attended The Cenotaph Parade on Sunday where artist Hugh Beattie recorded our march through Horseguards to Whitehall. Our oldest member and WWII veteran, John Myles, asked a



Fall in for The Cenotaph



On Parade at The Cenotaph

policeman for a loo and was promptly taken through the front door of Number 10! Two minutes silence followed the booming of 18 pounder guns and after wreath laying we stepped off, Al Ritchie giving the 'eyes left' at the Cenotaph and Dave Beveridge keeping time. At Horseguards our Patron, HRH The Princess Royal took the salute. At Lunch in the Army & Navy

C l u b afterwards, t h e President reported a n d Corporal Wesley Gold talked about B Company's tour in Helmand.



The Royals leading from the front

We were fascinated by battle video coverage showing Corporal Gold's section under fire and the sophistication of intelligence, fire support, re-supply and medical back up available.

MUSEUM

Accreditation

The long held ambition of achieving Museum, Libraries and Archives accreditation has been realised, if only provisionally. We intend to achieve full accreditation in 2011.

Sing out the Silence...

A blustery September weekend marked Royal Scot Jim Ford's contribution to the literature of Scotland by the dedication in stone of his words "Sing out the silence, fill for ever and ever the emptiness." His was the 33rd tablet to be laid at Makar's Court outside The Writer's Museum in Edinburgh on 4 September 2010.

At the ceremony Paul Scott, past President of the Saltire Society spoke of his close friend Jim: "Having survived horrendous experiences in a Japanese POW camp, he wrote five very distinguished novels." His first book 'The Brave White Flag' focuses on 'just an ordinary man' and a career officer in Hong Kong during WWII. 'The Season for Escape', based on his (not so ordinary) brother Douglas (posthumously awarded the George Cross), won the Frederick Niven award as the "most powerful and sympathetic novel Scotland has produced for many years." The dedication quote drawn from 'A Statue for a Public Place' is still considered a "marvellous evocation" of Edinburgh. The dedication was attended by Jim's widow Isobel, daughter Elizabeth and son Douglas, and the following week the family visited HHQ RS to view the documents and personal letters Jim had donated.

Visit To Le Paradis May 2010

My brother Willie and I spent a memorable weekend at Le Paradis, 40 miles east of Dunkirk. Our visit coincided with the 70th anniversary of the 1 RS heroic stand in May 1940 against the advancing German blitzkrieg. Our



Maj Dickson and Lt Col McDowall at Le Paradis

father, Col Seton Dickson commanded B Coy at the time and had been evacuated, wounded, shortly beforehand. 1 RS had withdrawn 120 miles over 16 days, often in contact. Once at Le Paradis, along with the rest of 4 Brigade, 1 RS was ordered to "fight to the last man" while the remainder of BEF made for Dunkirk.

We travelled with Ralston Ryder whose father, Maj Lyell Dudley Ryder had commanded 2nd Royal Norfolks, of whom 96 were massacred by the SS at a farmhouse nearby on 27th May. Only two survived. Lt Col Andy McDowall RS joined us at the Creton farmhouse where the massacre had taken place and where wreaths were laid. The church at the crossroads in the village was where some of the heaviest fighting had taken place, commemorated by an open air service. Lt Col McDowall gave a

speech in fluent French and a ninety-year-old Royal Norfolk veteran, Arthur Brough and I laid wreaths before visiting the Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery.

The Band played a medley of Scottish airs including "Pentland Hills", composed by the late Major Jimmy Howe MBE, who had donated the music to the band. Jimmy had been a bandsman and a stretcher bearer in 1940 and had tended to the wounded during some of the heaviest fighting. We felt he was with us that beautiful morning.

Mr John Simpson then showed us where The Royal Scots Bn HQ, HQ Coy, and the Regimental Aid Post had been. John's father had been in the Military Band and he gave us a detailed tour of more of The Royal Scots positions and described the battle from contemporary accounts. Lastly we were shown where Pipe Major Allan and four soldiers had died protecting Bn HQ.

The people of Le Paradis have since invited us to return 27-29 May 2011. Please contact Major David Dickson, through HHQ RS, if you would be interested in attending. It would be marvellous to have a strong Royal Scots presence.

Major David Dickson

A virtual history archive project - edinburghs-war.ed.ac.uk - a collaboration of the University of Edinburgh and Edinburgh City Libraries, was launched on 7 October 2010 to produce a unique history of the people of Edinburgh during the war years of 1914 - 1918. Unsurprisingly, our 35 Battalions are mentioned.

Museum Visitors

We have been particularly pleased to welcome parties from 1 SCOTS, 6 SCOTS and Lothian & Borders ACF, briefing them on the RS part of their heritage and directing them also to the RS Club.

Visitors came from Trenton Old Barracks Museum in New Jersey. Re-enactors with authentic RS uniforms from 1759-1760 they were keen to find out the names of RS garrisoned there with a view to erecting a Memorial to them.

Mrs Sally Bruce-Lockhart came to research her relative 2nd Lt David Anselm Kerr, son of Maj Gen Lord Ralph Kerr of Woodburn Dalkeith. He died four days after arriving in France on 13 Jan 1914 and was buried at Euston Post Cemetery Laventie.

Parisian filmmaker H el ene de Paradis visited in November with Major David Dickson to interview the Regimental Secretary, film the Museum and research archival documents about 1 RS at Le Paradis in 1940.

The Royal Scots Club



1 SCOTS Homecoming Lunch at The Royal Scots Club

The Club has been typically active over the summer and autumn with a number of very successful events including Sunday Lunch and Beating Retreat by the Association Pipe Band. Having welcomed B Company 1 SCOTS back from Afghanistan last May, we also hosted a party of 70 all ranks to lunch in the Hepburn Suite on 13th October amid their programme of Homecoming Parades.

Approximately four years planning and development work has now culminated in splendid new facilities. The first event to be held in the new function suite was the St Andrews Night Dinner, attended by 130 members and their guests. A fine meal was prepared in the brand new kitchen, in use for the very first time, and previously untested. It was very much to the credit of the kitchen and waiting staff that those celebrating our patron saint enjoyed the evening so fully. Chairman Craig Duncan presided, former Chairman Bob Paterson delivered the Bill Myles Grace. Entertainment was provided by Piper Colin Scott of the RS Association Pipe Band, the Matchstick Theatre Company who presented songs from a musical, 'Farewell My Son' inspired by Jack Alexander's book McCrea's Battalion, and the guest speaker was Sir Tom Farmer. Chairman of Trustees Brian Adair gave a vote of thanks to all who had been involved in the development project and especially to Club Manager Adrian Hayes and his team who had continued to deliver smooth running of the Club throughout the hectic development. We now look forward to the official opening of the new facilities by our Patron, HRH The Princess Royal in the New Year.



Domestic Occurrences

Deaths

ADAMS

On 13 September, Major M B (Sandy) Adams, at St Albans. Mid 1940s GR and then Adj and Cy Comd 1RS. For many years, enthusiastic member, then Chairman, of the London Section of the RS Association.

BAILEY

In Oct, Eddie Bailey, aged 85, formerly 7/9 RS. Former Tottenham Hotspur player he played nine matches for England. A very popular member of the Battalion's football team that won 1st Corps District Inter Unit knock out Football Championship played at Wuppertal, Germany Feb 1946.

BROWNHILL

On 10 July, Dennis Brownhill, at Western General Hospital Edinburgh, age 60. Mortar Platoon 1RS, late 1960s, early 1970s.

BROCKIE

On 13 September, Thomas (Tam) Brockie, after a long illness. Served in Berlin, Benghazi, Tripoli and Aden and was a member of the Aden Veterans.

BUCKINGHAM

On 22 July, Valerie Buckingham, wife of Maurice (Mo), after a long illness. Southern Branch of the Association.

DINNIE

On 29 August, Major George Strang Dinnie MBE. 1 RS India, Malaysia, Singapore. Worked with Lord Mountbatten, retired in 1986.

EATON

On 9 May, James (Jim) Eaton after a long illness, aged 69. Formerly Piper 8 RS.

FEENEY

On 23 October, John (Sandy) Feeney 1 RS 1958-1980, after a long illness.

GREEN

On 22 January, at Bournemouth, Freddy Green. Formerly 8 RS Normandy and NW Europe. Member of the Association.

HARKNESS

On 30 September in Dumfries Infirmary, Lawrence (Larry) Harkness, age 73, after a long illness. Formerly 1 RS 1955-57.

HAYWARD

On 2 November in Londonderry, William (Bill) Hayward formerly 1 RS Recce PI in 1970s-1980s, and member of the Association.

JOHNSTON

On 2 September, William (Billy) Johnston. 1 RS in Ballykinlar, Munster and Werl.

JOHNSTONE

On 2 September, Maureen Johnstone. Condolences to Jake Johnstone formerly 1 RS and member of the Association.

LAMONT

In October, "Pierre" Lamont, C Coy 1RS and a member of the Association.

LE COULLIARD

On 21 May, at Bournemouth, Elizabeth Dorothy MacDonald Le Coulliard. Daughter of W01 T Evans MBE MC. A loyal supporter of the Southern Branch of the Association.

MATTHEWS

On 31 August, LCpl Henry Matthews, aged 94 in North Ferriby. Formerly 1 RS 1938-45 Dunkirk and Kohima.

MACDONALD

On 17 November, in Edinburgh, Lt Col Iain David MacDonald, 52nd Lowland Volunteers.

MCKENZIE

On 22 October, Alexander (Alex) Culbert McKenzie, aged 94 former 2 RS India and Far East.

McLAUGHLAN

On 14 July, at Inverness, David McLaughlan aged 44. Formerly Support Company 1 RS and latterly 1 SCOTS.

MEEK

In November, Thomas Meek, aged 90, formerly 1 RS Burma.

MILLER

On 9 October, in Australia, James McHarg Miller, aged 94 years, former 2 RS Hong Kong and member of The Association.

MILLIKEN

On 27 September, Duncan (Spike) Milliken QGM. 1 RS barber and medic, and foiler of armed bank robbers.

PARKER

On 28 July, at Borders General Hospital, Shirley Parker, wife of W02 George Parker.

POOL

On 5 September, LCpl Joseph (Joe) McFarlane Pool, aged 26 formerly K0SB, killed in action serving with 1 SCOTS in Afghanistan.

REID

On 22 July, Evan Thomas George Reid, formerly 7/9 RS and member of the Association.

ROSENDALE

On 11 May, John Arthur Rosendale, born 1915, 1 RS Burma.

STISTED

On 23 October, as the result of a flying accident in Northern Ireland, Charlie Stisted, elder son of the late Brig Nigel Stisted (former CO 1 RS) and Mrs Judith Stisted.

SYMINGTON

On 16 November, Neil (Symie) Symington, aged 48 formerly 2 PI A Coy.

URE

On 10 October, William Ure. Late 8 RS.

WALTER

On 28 Nov, at Edinburgh, John Noel Walter TD, Past Moderator of the High Constables of the Port of Leith, secretary Burma Star Association, member of The Royal Scots Club from the age of 17 to 90, and a very loyal Royal Scot.

FORECAST OF EVENTS 2011

JANUARY

Monday 10th RS Club Evening Lecture. Bomber Command Part 2.
Monday 17th RS Club Burns Lunch & Entertainment.
Tuesday 18th Colonel SCOTS briefing on SCOTS progress in the RS Club in the evening, open to all:
Wednesday 19th 1 SCOTS Army Cup Rugby.
Friday 21st RS Club Burns Supper.
Friday 21st RS Association Burns Supper (Central Scotland).
Wednesday 26th 1 SCOTS Army Cup Rugby.
Thursday 27th RS Club new development formally opened.
Saturday 29th RS Association Burns Supper (Edinburgh & East of Scotland).

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 2nd 1 SCOTS Army Cup Rugby.
Monday 7th RS Club Evening Lecture - Lawyers.
Saturday 12th RS Club Valentine's Dinner.
Wednesday 16th 1 SCOTS Army Cup Rugby.
Wednesday 23rd RS Club Speakers Dinner. Re-Introduction of the Beaver to Scotland.
Saturday 26th 1 RS Officers & Sergeants Op GRANBY Dinner in the RS Club.

MARCH

Monday 7th RS Club Evening Lecture. Colonialism - For Good or Ill?
Wednesday 16th 1 SCOTS Army Cup Rugby.
Thursday 17th Highland & Lowland Brigades Club Bonspiel.
Thursday 24th RS Association Southern Branch AGM.
Friday 25th RS Club Themed Dinner. Murder Mystery.
Saturday 26th RS Association Scotland Branches Op GRANBY Dinner in the RS Club.
Monday 28th RS Regimental Day. Also SCOTS Regimental Day.
RS Club Regimental Day Lunch.

APRIL

Sunday 3rd RS Club Mother's Day Lunch.
Thursday 14th 1 SCOTS Inter Coy Boxing Finals.
Friday 15th 1 SCOTS end of JNCOs Cadre.
Wednesday 20th RS Club AGM.
Sunday 24th RS Club Easter Sunday Lunch.
Friday 29th RS Benevolent Fund Trustees meeting in the RS Club.
Friday 29th RS Association Committee AGM in the RS Club.
Saturday 30th RS Association Spring Lunch in the RS Club.

MAY

Sunday 1st RS Association Golf - Fallen Comrades Trophy.
Wednesday 4th RS Club Speakers Dinner. Scottish National Portrait Gallery.
Friday 6th SCOTS Trustees Meeting (TBC)
Saturday 7th RS Association Annual Reunion in Edinburgh.
Saturday 21st 7 RS Gretna Commemoration at Rosebank Cemetery in Leith.
Sat 21st - Sun 22nd 1 SCOTS Sevens at Dreghorn.
Wednesday 25th 1 SCOTS Army Sevens Rugby.
Fri 27th - Sun 29th Maj Dickson to Le Paradis.

JUNE

Thu 9th - Fri 10th 1 SCOTS Speakman VC Patrol Competition.
Sunday 12th RS Club Sunday Lunch & Beating Retreat by RS Association Pipe Band.
24th - 26th June Armed Forces Weekend.
• Friday 24th Leith.
• Saturday 25th Parade including RS Grand Muster.
• Sunday 26th Church.

JULY

Friday 1st Contalmaison Pilgrimage.
Saturday 2nd Royal Regiment of Scotland Colours Presentation (TBC).

AUGUST

Monday 1st Minden Day.
Monday 15th HRH The Princess Royal's birthday.
Sunday 28th RS Association Golf - Gladdy Murray Trophy at Winchburgh.

SEPTEMBER

TBC
Saturday 24th RS Association NI Branch AGM.
Sunday 25th RS Association Autumn Gathering & Dinner.
RS Day at Musselburgh Races.

OCTOBER

Sunday 9th SCOTS v Scotland boxing (TBC)
TBC 1 SCOTS Golf Loudon Trophy.
Friday 21st RS Association Scotland Branches AGM in the RS Club.
Friday 28th RS Museum Committee Meeting at HHQ RS.
RS Benevolent Fund Trustees meeting in the RS Club.
RS Benevolent Society Meeting in the RS Club.
RS Officers Dinner Club Regimental Dinner in the RS Club.
Saturday 29th Joint 1 SCOTS/RS/KOSB Officers and their Ladies Lunch at Dreghorn.

NOVEMBER

Monday 7th Opening of the Garden of Remembrance in Princes Street Gardens.
Friday 11th Opening of the Westminster Abbey Field of Remembrance.
Glencorse Memorial Gates.
Sunday 13th National Cenotaph Parade.
Edinburgh City Chambers, RS Club, Hepburn House, Hearts Memorial, and elsewhere throughout Edinburgh, the Lothians and Peebleshire.
TBC Re-Opening of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, probably with some RS sporting pictures on temporary display.

Regimental Association Events

(including Pipe Band)
2011

Branch Meetings – Scotland

EDINBURGH

Last Friday of each month at
8.00 pm
Ex-Servicemen's Club,
7 Smith's Place, Edinburgh.

CENTRAL SCOTLAND

Last Friday of each month at
7.30 pm
Royal British Legion,
Whitburn, West Lothian.

EAST OF SCOTLAND

Last Saturday of each month
at 7.30 pm
Royal British Legion,
Prestonpans, East Lothian.

PIPE BAND

Contact
Captain Torquil Corkerton on:
torquil@ednet.co.uk or
Jim Tait on:
jimbtait@jimbtait.plus.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT HOME HEADQUARTERS

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