



The Thistle

Journal of The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment)

Volume 28 – Number 10

Winter 2011-2012

2011 was a memorable year in our Regiment's long and distinguished history. It is wholly appropriate that two sets of Colours are being laid up at the Canongate Kirk, in the presence of HRH The Princess Royal. The 1st Battalion's Colours escorted by a Colour Party from The Royal Scots Borderers, 1st Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland, and the 2/52 LOWLAND Colours with a Colour party from 52 Lowland, 6th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland. Both these Battalions now carry forward our proud traditions and in the case of 1 SCOTS that of Right of the Line.



December saw commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the Fall of Hong Kong, and UK planning for the centenary of the Great War, when there were thirty five Royal Scots battalions, is now underway. To promote our heritage the Regimental Museum in Edinburgh Castle hopes to be open at weekends this summer, with the assistance of volunteers.

As our Regimental comradeship continues to strengthen I would encourage all those who served in our famous Regiment, in whatever rank and of any age, to consider joining the Regimental Association; there are no geographic limitations nor obligations to attend meetings and events, rather as a priority I would like to see our communication network grow.

Finally, a big thank you to Lieutenant Colonel Jim Blythe and his small but dedicated HHQ team, who are ably supported by all those in the Regimental family who give freely of their time to ensure our Benevolent Society, Museum, Association and The Royal Scots Club are in good health.

Up The Royals!

Colonel Martin Gibson OBE DL

Keep in Touch

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The Distribution of The Thistle is far and wide

The Thistle is pictured here being read by an Afghan policeman in Helmand province.

Taken by Major Nick Wight-Boycott whilst serving with 5 SCOTS.



www.theroyalscots.co.uk

Introduction by the Regimental Secretary

Following the activities of the spring and summer, HHQ looked forward to a rather calmer autumn and winter. Nevertheless, the period has certainly been busy. This edition summarises that activity and also reports more fully on events earlier in the year that may have been overtaken by AF Day and Presentation of Colours. It also maps out the early part of 2012 in the Forecast of Events on the back page. Keep this ready to hand for reference and also stay up to date with current and forthcoming events via www.theroyalscots.co.uk and the Notice Board on the Home Page as well as the Guestbook, Forum and Photogallery.

The Royal Scots Borderers 1st Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland

The post Herrick 11 and 12 lull is over and the Battalion returned from training abroad in time for Christmas. The tempo will quicken as 2012 progresses. Nevertheless the following events have brought HHQ RS, the RS Association, the RS Club and 1 SCOTS together.

On 31 August 1 SCOTS hosted a joint RS and KOSB Associations visit at Dreghorn on the occasion of the Speakman VC Patrol Competition. The CO and his Bn HQ Team provided comprehensive briefing on recent and future events before lunch in the WO's & Sgt's Mess and transport onto familiar ground at Castlelaw and the old Dreghorn ranges to observe patrols being put through their paces.

A sizeable gathering of RS and KOSB joined 1 SCOTS and their families at Dreghorn on 27 September for the dedication of the 1 SCOTS

Memorial and its unveiling by HRH The Princess Royal. Afterwards the party retired to the WO's & Sgt's Mess where some were presented to HRH and then enjoyed the hospitality over lunch.

Whereas in 2010, 1 SCOTS were in the process of returning from operations and missed the Musselburgh Races, this September D Coy provided an excellent equipment display to complement the contributions of the Lowland Band, the RS Association Pipe Band and Lothian and Borders ACF.

A representative party of 1 SCOTS attended the St Andrews Night dinner in the RS Club.



What a cheery bunch



Debrief



Put that picture back on the wall before the RSM sees you!

Musselburgh Races



The Association Band and the Lowland Band step off from the Mercat Cross



David & Morag Hay at the SSAFA Stand



1 Scots Hardware



Where did you get that hat ...



Who, where, when ...

THE ROYAL SCOTS Association

The RS Association, under the leadership of Branch office bearers and other volunteers, has been highly active in many ways as will be seen in various reports throughout this edition – so read on! Although all Branches have held successful events, particular mention is made of some.

NORTHERN IRELAND BRANCH AGM

The NI Branch AGM was on Saturday 3rd September, one year on from its inauguration. NI Branch members were supported by a travelling party from the Scotland Branches. Respects were paid to fallen comrades at the Memorial Stone in Palace Barracks where a stone has also been installed by the family of Pte Chalky White who died in an accident in Norway in 1974. After lunch, a private tour was arranged to the Harland & Wolf ship yard where Titanic and her sister ships Olympic and

Britannic had been built. This afforded a privileged opportunity to learn about the Titanic story before parts of the original yard are further converted to other use. The AGM itself was held in the evening and was followed by dinner and a social event at a Royal British Legion Branch with their members invited to join us. We are very pleased to note that the Branch Chairman is now off the sick report. When he telephoned HHQ RS recently a gush of North Sea salt spray came out of the handset!

HIGHLAND BRANCH

The Highland Branch's AGM is set for Saturday 7th April, marking a highly successful year since being revived under the leadership of Tam Cornwall and Bill Jeans with members playing key supporting roles. All the Branches should check out the Megabus deals up the A9 for this weekend.

Joint Effort - Royals Shatter West Highland Way Records!

Annually the RS Benevolent Fund disburses up to forty thousand pounds to Old Royals and their dependents in need. Thus there is always a need for funds. Five members of the Association, from the NI Branch supported by the East of Scotland and Edinburgh Branches tackled the West Highland Way in August to help. The walk was completed with record-shattering statistics. More than 100 miles covered over six days in

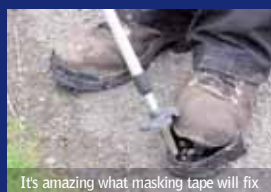


A halt on the march

torrential rain on two of them, swatting several zillion midges along the way, consuming several hearty breakfasts and singing more choruses than could ever be imagined of "Hi

diddey dee, we're happy as can be!" A quantity of amber rehydration fluid was necessary in the course of all this - and that was before meeting up with the Highland Branch!

There was a sizeable reception party in Inverness and it was really good to see so many turn out for the occasion and to be in their very hearty company. Congratulations are due to John, Davy and Ian of the NI Branch and Rab Conquer of the East of Scotland Branch, who literally walked out of his boots, for



It's amazing what masking tape will fix



At the finishing Line!

their energetic fundraising campaign and for their endurance and good humour along the way. Particular thanks also go to Tam Cornwall, Bill Jeans and Tommy Goodwin of the Highland Branch and their good ladies for their transport, accommodation and

general hospitality, to Pat McNairm for the fitba arrangements, and to the members of the Highland Branch for their welcome at the end of the road.

At the Association Autumn Dinner in the RS Club, Major John Dent Chairman of RS Benevolence Trustees accepted a cheque for £1,600 – a splendid achievement by all involved. The walkers themselves were treated to a slap-up lunch in the Bistro courtesy of the Musselburgh Racecourse on our day there in September.



Posing

SOUTHERN BRANCH

Royal Wootton Bassett has featured regularly in the Southern Branch programme. On the initiative



Presenting an RS Plaque at the Cross Keys Inn

of Tam Millar, a party including Colonel Charlie Herbert, former CO 1 SCOTS, met Mayor Paul Heaphy in June to present a Royal Scots plaque by the town war memorial and close to the Cross Keys pub which has been so generous in welcoming ex-servicemen on 'repatriation'



Colonels Charlie Herbert & Edward Cowan with the Mayor



Only one of those in uniform is properly dressed

days. Branch representatives also attended in July for the repatriation of Pte Scott McLaren of 4 SCOTS. Serving SCOTS personnel were

also present and Scott's father took the trouble to thank Southern Branch members for their support. John Wilson, Tam Millar, Alex Moore and Bert Davey were also present for the final sunset ceremony on 30th August when the town's Union Jack was finally lowered and left overnight on the altar of St Bartholomew's church before being handed over the following day to nearby Carterton, adjacent to RAF Brize Norton.



They're talking about us

THE ROYAL SCOTS Association Pipe Band

2011 has been typically busy. Early in the year, the Band played at Edinburgh University, at the annual Association reunion and at the 7 RS Gretna memorial service. Spring saw the welcome return of the Hampden



Cup winners

engagement for the Scottish Cup Final and in June the Band beat retreat for the Royal Scots Club. A highlight was leading the entire Army veterans

contingent down The Royal Mile on Armed Forces Day, followed the next day with an engagement at the Royal Highland Show. In July the Band led the Airborne Scotland parade through Dalkeith, but all this was topped by being invited by our Royal Patron to pipe in the guests to her daughter's wedding reception at Holyrood Palace.

The drums are now emblazoned with Royal Scots badges and new Archer Green Argyll jackets and waistcoats were purchased with funds raised entirely by

band engagements. In addition to being very smart, these are also compatible in colour with the No 1 Dress of The Royal Regiment of Scotland for the occasions when we play together.

Along with the Lothian & Borders ACF Pipes & Drums and the Lowland (TA) Band, the Band opened The Royal Scots Day at Musselburgh Races and played spots throughout the afternoon. During Remembrance Week, pipers played at ceremonies throughout the regimental area. The season finally ended in December with a series of 'mini tattoos' in Cologne and Stuttgart.

The Band approaches 2012 looking out for new pipers and drummers. Former 1 RS band members, or anyone else with an interest in piping or drumming, would be most welcome to contact us; details are on the back page. www.royalscotspipeband.org.uk



THE 8TH BATTALION COLOURS IN PEEBLES

Volume 3 of Pontius Pilate's Bodyguard records the laying up, in April 2007, of the 8 RS Colours in Peebles, one of our Freedom Burghs with which 8 RS has had long association. However, the building changed use to become the sheriff court so only the bad lads got to see the Colours. Captain David Younger, Lord Lieutenant of Tweeddale, and



8 RS Colours

Colonel Alasdair Hutton, Convener of Borders Council, suggested that they be relocated in the Chambers Institute to the High Street where they would be much more accessible. They also suggested that relocation should be marked in some way and Remembrance Sunday was selected to do so.

Some 26 old Royals including Major Joe Brown, Mr John Hunter and Mr Bob Sked and his wife all

of 8 RS attended the annual service in the Burgh Hall and afterwards the Act of Remembrance at the County War Memorial in the courtyard at which the Regimental Secretary and Major Brown laid wreaths. The

party then viewed the 8 RS Colours now at the entrance to the Library and Museum in the Chambers Institute and retired to the Tontine Hotel for lunch.



We are indebted to the Lord Lieutenant and Borders Council for their initiative and for relocating the Colours, and to the officiating clergy who included the Regimental Collect of The Royal Scots in the service and gave a proportion of the retiring collection to the RS Benevolent Fund.

If you are the Peebles area you should visit the Chambers Institute and view the Colours. You should also read or re-read about the achievements of 8 RS in two World Wars in Pontius Pilate's Bodyguard.

The National Arboretum

Following contacts made at Royal Wootton Bassett, Tam Millar and others were invited to accompany the British Korean Veterans Association visit to the Arboretum on 27 July.

In particular the three Royal Scots who lost their lives in Korea were remembered - Captain William Bramall, Private James Logan and Private Ian Stewart.

Remembrance

Remembrance Week saw duty discharged widely. Meriting special mention are a RBLS concert in the Usher Hall with the RS Association Standards on parade and the Glencorse Memorial Gates. We met at the 11th Hour of the 11th Day of the 11th Month of the 2011th Year at the Glencorse Memorial Gates which have recently been refurbished thanks to the efforts of Colonel Robert Watson and Major Ian Johnstone and with the watchful eye of Mr Jake Johnstone. It is intended to hold a special ceremony there on Saturday 31 March about which information has been promulgated separately.

Stonehaven

Captains Salmon and Stark attended Remembrance services in Stonehaven and laid a wreath on behalf of the Regiment.



70TH Anniversary of THE BATTLE FOR HONG KONG

Christmas Day 2011 was the 70th anniversary of the battle for Hong Kong in which 2 RS played a prominent part. A summary of events drawn from Pontius Pilate's Bodyguard, in which there is a full account of 2 RS actions and subsequent events, is posted on the RS Website under History – The Battle for Hong Kong. Full detail is therefore not repeated here.

However, HHQ was recently contacted by Rab Johnstone former CSgt 1 RS who now lives in the US and travels widely on business. Rab had been in Hong Kong over Remembrance Sunday and had



San Wan Cemetery Hong Kong

joined the Royal British Legion ceremony there which he described as being very well attended. He went on to visit the military cemetery at Stanley where many of 2 RS were

laid to rest. Rab reports that "a memorial hall marks the entrance to the cemetery bearing the names of more than 2,000 Commonwealth servicemen who died in the Battle for Hong Kong or subsequently in captivity, and



Rab Johnstone

those who have no known grave." Photographs of that ceremony are posted on the Photogallery under Remembrance Events 2011 and one of Rab himself is shown here.

In May Lt Col Brian de la Haye represented RS at the National Memorial

Arboretum as a guest of the Hong Kong Volunteer Defence Corps. The occasion was the dedication of a memorial to HKVDC who died in the battle for Hong Kong. The Corps represented all ranks both British and Chinese. Indeed Lt G C Hamilton of 2 RS was commissioned into the Corps and took part in the battle as a subaltern. His account of the experience can be found at www.scotsatwar.org.uk. Colonel de la Haye laid a wreath on behalf of the regiment and he can be seen in a book of photographs commemorating the event kindly presented to the RS Museum Library by Colonel Pepper, Chairman of the UK Branch of the Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers) Association.

AFFILIATED AND ALLIED CONNECTIONS

ROYAL GURKHA RIFLES

There was a time when 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles were "oor Gurkhas". Sadly, these days are gone but the affiliation lives on via the new Royal Gurkha Rifles. On 5th August General Philip Davies and Colonel Edward Cowan were invited to attend the opening of an exhibition at the Gurkhas' Regimental Museum in Winchester. This records the military connections between Scotland's fighting men and the Gurkhas. Our RS connections remain via the two RS claymores presented at Dreghorn in 1950, one in the safekeeping of 1 RGR in Shorncliff and the other with 2 RGR in Brunei. Many of us remember our close connections with 10 GR established during the 1974 Cyprus emergency.

CANADIAN SCOTTISH CENTENARY

The Canadian Scottish will be celebrating their Centenary during 2012. The main event is over the weekend 19, 20 October 2012 in Victoria BC. They would be very pleased if at least some Royal Scots were able to attend. Travel and accommodation costs

are a major factor and individuals will have to cover these. Contact has already been established and the Regtl Sec RS will be in BC (brushing up on winter warfare skills) during February 2012 when he intends to make contact. Further information will be published on the RS Website.

BEST CCF CONTINGENT

Major Jimmy Bain, formerly 1 RS, reports that the George Heriot's School CCF contingent won the annual summer camp competition. This is hardly surprising under Jimmy's leadership and with a solid foundation having been established in the past by former cadets such as General Bob Richardson, Colonel Stuart McBain, Major David Hay, Captain Neilly Cameron and his son Sergeant Neil Cameron now of Lothian & Borders Police, Corporal Aitchison at one time of the 1 RS Rugby Team, Captain Alex Docker, Brigadier George Lowder and the Regimental Secretary.

Pilgrimages

Le Paradis

A visit to le Paradis was organized this year on the anniversary of the events of May 1940 when 1RS



Matt Hogan at the Cemetery

made its gallant stand allowing the British Expeditionary Force and French forces to escape to Dunkirk. This year Brigadier Robbie Scott-Bowden, Colonel Andy McDowall, Major Bernie Thomson, Lieutenant Colonel Alan Blamire, Major David Dickson and their wives made the journey to le Paradis. The party was fortunate to be joined by Pipe Sergeant Matt Hogan of the RS Association Pipe



The Gentlemen

Band and Jane How, daughter of Captain John Errington who had been 1 RS Signals Officer in 1940, and the son of the late Major Jimmy Howe MBE. Church Services were conducted on the Saturday followed by a Civic Lunch, a high point of which was a toast in Martell Cognac. Captain Michel Martell had been the French Liaison Officer to 1 RS. On the Sunday, David Dickson, his brother Willie and John Simpson led a short battlefield tour. Next year's



The Ladies

visit will take place of the weekend of 26, 27 May. Anyone interested in attending may contact David Dickson though HHQ RS.

Contalmaison

A combined party of the RS Association and the McCrae's Battalion Trust commemorated 16 RS and



At the Memorial

other battalions who fought in The Great War on the anniversary of the start of the Battle of the Somme.

Gretna Update

Andy Kyle attended an unveiling in Maryhill of a plaque commemorating the four children who were sadly killed in the Quintinshill rail disaster. There are plans to hold a 100th anniversary parade in Larbert in four years' time, about which more information will be sought.

GOLF

Lt Col Brian de la Haye was joined by Maj David Beveridge, Capt Cliff McAuley and Capt Bob Stuart to represent The Royal Scots in the Army Officers Golf Society this summer in competition for the coveted Argyll Bowl. The Royals met the expected quality of play, but were victims of the scoring system and were squeezed into second place (We was robbed – Ed). The final matches were played as a round robin between RS, Foot Guards, RRF and Rifles. The RS team beat all comers but, according to the rules, the prowess of the Guards over the Rifles gained them such a score to bring them ahead of RS. Colonel de la Haye reports taking steps to have the format reviewed – Wha' Duar Meddle Wi' Us!

SOCIAL NETWORKING

All Old Royals are reminded that although various social networking sites may be popular for chatter, nothing posted on them can be substantiated by HHQ RS or the RS Association. The authorised, definitive, official communications medium of HHQ RS and The Royal Scots Association is the RS Website at www.theroyalscots.co.uk. If you didn't see it on the Guestbook, Notice Board, Forum or Photogallery, it's not official. Old Royals wishing to discuss, phone HHQ RS on 0131 310 5016 or e-mail HHQ RS at rhqrs@btconnect.com.

THE WOLFE SOCIETY

Major Graeme Wearmouth represented RS at the annual Wolfe Society dinner that is held in honour of his victory at Quebec in 1759. Major Wearmouth was described as representing 1st Foot (St Clair's), about whom is recorded the following: St Clair was an ensign of the 6th Foot in 1694 and was set on half pay in 1713. Admitted to the 3rd Foot Guards he was promoted to captain in 1714 advancing to brevet Lt Col. In 1734 he was appointed to command of the 22nd Foot and three years later he was transferred to the colonelship of The Royal Regiment of Foot which he held until his death.

THE BEST SOLDIER

Elizabeth Scott's meticulously researched historical novel about Sir John Hepburn describes the life and times of one of Scotland's most significant soldiers, founder of The Royal Scots whose successors continue today in The Royal Regiment of Scotland. A must read for anyone interested in Scotland's military history and the history of its regiments. Now available in the RS Website on-line shop. A must buy for all Old Royals!



IAIN JOHNSTON'S ABF CYCLE REPORT

Captain Iain Johnston completed a gruelling cycle challenge in France to raise more than £6,000 for the Army Benevolent Fund, the Soldiers Charity.

Iain wrote, "I got to the end. 11.5 hours in the saddle and 13.5 hours out of it – no medal, but completed! It was extremely hard as expected and exacerbated by the conditions which were the worst since 1992. I was glad of the winter training in the Ochils as the temperature dropped to just above freezing on the top of the Col du Pas de Peyrol. Other members of the team were systematically removed by Gendarmes deeming them being unsafe to continue, blown off their bikes, injury or hypothermia. Very, very cold and winds up to 70km/hr!

"We climbed for 20km and the pace reduced significantly. However, near the top of Col de Baladour, we began to pass riders who had overtaken us earlier but were now tiring. We passed one friend at the roadside, changing a tyre. He needed Gendarme assistance as his hands were so cold. When they finished he was asked to demonstrate braking but could not close his hands and was removed from the race."

The youtube clip at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qUZpV31uxIY&NR=1> captures the top of the Col du Pas de Peyrol:

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Operational Awards

Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service:

Major P G B Strudwick while commanding B Coy
2 SCOTS.

Major N Wight-Boycott while commanding D Coy
5 SCOTS.

SSAFA Forces Help

Ten years voluntary service:

Dr Keith Spence who is a SSAFA Volunteer and manages the RS Museum Library and digital archive – and much else.

The Royal Scots Club

The Cenotaph Painting. There was insufficient space to describe the story of the painting in any detail or to show a "full-on" photograph in the last edition. Herewith an extract of Colonel Edward Cowan's account published in the Southern Branch September newsletter.

General Philip Davies suggested the idea to commemorate the 2010 National Cenotaph Parade where we had the honour to be the lead Association. Previously involved with the Armed Forces Art Society, Colonel Cowan was asked to manage the project and suggested commissioning artist Hugh Beattie whose previous work he had admired. RS Trustees agreed a grant, complimented by a generous anonymous donation and almost as much again from others including the proceeds of a raffle by the Scotland Branches train party travelling down from Edinburgh.



The Cenotaph Painting

A meeting was convened at Horse Guards on the morning of the parade with the artist and key Regimental personalities. The painting would show the Association marching past the Cenotaph with as much colour as we could muster showing a balance of all ranks.

Hugh Beattie, with bowler hat, umbrella and camera joined us on parade, recording key aspects. In the following weeks Hugh set to work eventually bringing the painting to Edinburgh, to be framed and into The Royal Scots Club where

it was to be unveiled. The Summer 2011 edition of The Thistle shows Colonel Cowan standing beside the painting explaining its composition to those who attended the unveiling on the evening of Armed Forces Day. Many people helped in this project, not least the staff of the RS Club, Candy and General Bob Richardson.

The painting is a very fine depiction of a significant event in the history of our Regiment and its Association. It hangs in the main entrance hall of the Club, in the heart of our Regiment's principal War Memorial, as a permanent reminder of our Association's fine record on parade at the National Cenotaph each November over many years. The names of all who took part in 2010 are to be recorded in a framed list alongside.

PIPE BANNERS

More is merited than was reported in the Summer edition. In order to help develop the relationship between The Royal Regiment of Scotland and the communities of Scotland an initiative was devised to obtain pipe banners from burghs and organisations across the land.

The question whether antecedents were expected to present banners was initially considered to be backward looking – despite the much vaunted Golden Thread. Eventually RHQ SCOTS relented and RS decided to present not one but three. After all we have much to contribute to the development of the new regiment. All three bear the SCOTS badge on one side and on the other side of ours are a Royal Cypher on behalf of the Regiment, the Soldiers cap badge from the Association and the Officers and Soldiers badges side by side from the RS Club representing its all ranks nature. The banners were presented prior to beating retreat opposite the Club on the evening before presentation of Colours to SCOTS on 2 July 2011 during which the Royal



Lt Col Wrench CO 1 SCOTS receiving the RS Club banner from Chairman of Club Trustees Brian Adair

Cypher banner was carried on parade. When RS officers gathered for their annual Regimental Dinner in the Club in October, Cpl Turnbull of 1 SCOTS carried two of the three banners for successive sets of pipe music, the third banner having been taken with 1 SCOTS on training in Kenya. It is gratifying to know that all three have been in use.

The Royal Scots Benevolent Fund

You don't have to join the next expedition of the West Highland Way walkers or Paddy Millar in his forthcoming swimathon to help the RS Benevolent Fund – although you would be very welcome to do so. Simply go on-line to www.charitychoice.co.uk click on Charity Category, select Armed Forces, and scroll down to RS Benevolent Fund, then click on Donate and follow the on-line instructions - and immediately make life a wee bit easier for an Old Royal in need. In addition, why not consider a legacy donation? For information contact Captain Jimmy Springthorpe at HHQ RS.

Reminder Army veterans fast track through NHS

All veterans are entitled to priority access to NHS hospital care for any condition, as long as it's related to their service, whether or not they receive a war pension. Tell your GP about your veteran status to benefit from priority treatment. www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/Militaryhealthcare/Veteranshealthcare/Pages/veterans.aspx

McIver VC Death Plaque

During the summer Mr James Kearney came from Australia to hand in to safe custody of the Museum the Death Plaque of family member Private McIver VC MM & Bar. It is intended that the plaque will be displayed along with Private McIver's medals.



Domestic Occurrences

Deaths

CALLOW

On 31 December 2011, Colin Callow of Inverkeithing.

COUTTS

On 21 October 2011, age 89, Major David R Coutts MC TD. 7/9th (Highlanders) Battalion immediately after the war. His courage and bravery recognized by the award of the Military Cross whilst serving with the Royal Scots Fusiliers during the Second World War.

COX

On 10 December 2011, Douglas Cox of Edinburgh.

DOUGLAS

On 28 September 2011, David (Davie) Douglas MM, of Sedburgh, Cumbria. One of the first recruits when the 8th Battalion was reformed in 1939. 8 RS Signal Pl Sgt. Battle to secure Gheel bridgehead at Escaut Canal, facing fiercest German opposition since Normandy.

FERGUSON

On 20 December 2011, John (Ian) Marshall Ferguson of Bristol. RS 1950-55.

FULTON

In December 2011, Rob Fulton, father of the late Major Dermot Fulton RS.

MCKELVIE

In late 2011, Bert McKelvie. He formed part of The Muster in the last Remembrance Show at the Usher Hall in 1958.

MALCOLM

On 11 December 2011, Alexander (Alex) Summerville Malcolm. Member of the East of Scotland Branch.

PENDER

On 3 October 2011, Andrew (Drew) Pender of Penicuik. RS National Service 1956 in Cyprus. RBLS 1962 as Secretary, Chairman, President and Pensions and Welfare Officer.

SIVES

On 4 December 2011, aged 86, James Hall Sives. Former 8 RS and member of the Association.

SMALL

On 27 January 2010, William (Willie) Small of Ratho Station. Former 12/2 RS

SPIERS

In June 2011, in Spain, SSgt Jim Spiers. REME Cyprus 1975.

SKINNER

On 20 January 2011, Lt Col James B (Jim) Skinner OBE TD MA FEIS, aged 98. Coy CO 12/2 RS 1940. Netherlands, Belgium after D Day retired 1946.

SUTHERLAND

On 18 October 2011, aged 89, Anne Bryson Sutherland, daughter of Lt Col David Murdoch Sutherland, 10 RS during WWI.

WOOD

On 26 September 2011, Henry Wood (Woody). Former Corporal B Coy 1 RS 1968-70 Osnabruk, Tidworth, NI and Cyprus.

FORECAST OF EVENTS 2012

MARCH

Thursday 8th Highland & Lowland Brigades Club Bonspiel.
 Sunday 18th RS Club Mother's Day Lunch.
 Wednesday 21st RS Club Speakers Dinner. 'Edinburgh Cabbies'.
 Friday 23rd SCOTS Officers' Dinner in the RS Club.
 Period 24th - 30th RS Association Southern Branch visit to 1 SCOTS. Date TBC.
 Wednesday 28th RS Regimental Day. Also SCOTS Regimental Day.
 RS Club Regimental Day Lunch.
 Thursday 29th RS Association Southern Branch AGM.
 Saturday 31st Rededication of Glencorse Memorial Gates and Garden.
 RS Association Regimental Day Dinner in the RS Club.

APRIL

Sunday 1st Dedication of 1 RS and 2/52 Lowland Volunteers Colours in Canongate Kirk.
 Monday 2nd RS Club Evening Lecture. Elizabeth Scott 'Sir John Hepburn, The Best Soldier'.
 Saturday 7th RS Association Highland Branch AGM.
 Sunday 8th RS Club Easter Sunday Lunch.
 Wednesday 18th RS Club AGM.
 Friday 20th RS Benevolent Fund Trustees meeting in the RS Club.
 Wednesday 25th RS Club Speakers Dinner.
 Friday 27th RS Association Committee AGM in the RS Club.
 Saturday 28th RS Association Annual Reunion in the BMC Club.

MAY

Wednesday 2nd RS Club Speakers Dinner.
 Saturday 5th RS Association Spring Lunch in the RS Club.
 Sunday 6th RS Association Golf - Fallen Comrades Trophy.
 Monday 7th RS Club visit to the RS Museum.
 Friday 18th RS Club Charity Dinner Dance.
 Saturday 19th 7 RS Gretna Commemoration at Rosebank Cemetery in Leith.
 Fri 25th - Sun 28th Le Paradis pilgrimage.
 Saturday 26th 1 SCOTS Sevens at Dreghorn.

JUNE

Friday 1st Boxing Charity Show for SCOTS Benevolent Fund, Army v Leith Victoria in Edinburgh.
 Friday 8th Highland & Lowland Brigades Club AGM.
 Sunday 10th RS Club Lunch and Beating Retreat.
 Tuesday 12th RS Regimental Trustees Meeting.
 Wednesday 27th Joint Associations visit to 1 SCOTS.
 Saturday 30th Armed Forces Day.

JULY

Sunday 1st Contalmaison Pilgrimage.

AUGUST

Wednesday 1st Minden Day.
 Thursday 2nd RS Club. Supper followed by Tattoo.
 Wednesday 15th HRH The Princess Royal's Birthday.
 Sunday 26th RS Association Golf - Gladdy Murray Trophy at Winchburgh.

SEPTEMBER

Saturday 1st RS Association NI Branch AGM.
 Friday 28th RS Association Scotland Branches AGM in the RS Club.
 Saturday 29th RS Association Autumn Dinner.
 Sunday 30th RS Day at Musselburgh Races.

OCTOBER

Saturday 6th RSTAOA Lunch in the RS Club (TBC).
 Friday 19th Canadian Scottish Regiment Centenary.
 Saturday 20th Canadian Scottish Regiment Centenary.
 Friday 26th RS Museum Committee Meeting at HHQ RS.
 RS Benevolent Fund Trustees meeting and RS Benevolent Society meeting in the RS Club.
 RS Officers Dinner Club Regimental Dinner in the RS Club.

NOVEMBER

Monday 5th Opening of the Garden of Remembrance in Princes Street Gardens.
 Thursday 8th Opening of the Westminster Abbey Garden of Remembrance.
 Saturday 10th Glencorse Memorial Gates.
 RS Association Southern Branch evening service in Westminster Abbey Garden of Remembrance.
 Sunday 11th The National Cenotaph Parade and ceremonies throughout Edinburgh, the Lothians and Peeblesshire.
 Friday 23rd RS Club St Andrews Night Dinner.
 Saturday 24th RS Association St Andrews Night Dinner.

Regimental Association Events

Branch Meetings & Contacts

EDINBURGH

Last Friday of each month at 8.00 pm
 Ex-Servicemen's Club,
 7 Smith's Place, Edinburgh.
 Contact Mags Allen
 Weeweegie1@virginmedia.com

CENTRAL SCOTLAND

Last Friday of each month at 7.30 pm
 Royal British Legion,
 Whitburn, West Lothian.
 Contact David Blane
 Flybasher@talktalk.net

EAST OF SCOTLAND

Last Saturday of each month at 7.30 pm
 Royal British Legion,
 Prestonpans, East Lothian.
 Contact, Walter Stewart
 nevada682@msn.com

NORTHERN IRELAND

Contact
 jacarlisle@btinternet.com

HIGHLAND

Monthly at 7.30 pm
 Royal British Legion,
 Inverness, Huntly Street.
 Contact
 william.jeans@btinternet.com

SOUTHERN

Contact
 edward.cowan@btopenworld.com
 weetam0571@sky.com

PIPE BAND

Contact
 Captain Torquil Corkerton on:
 torquil@ednet.co.uk
 Jim Tait on:
 jimbtait@jimbtait.plus.com
 Robin McLeish on:
 robinmcleish@hotmail.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT HOME HEADQUARTERS

Tel: 0131-310-5016

E mail:
 rhqrs@btconnect.com