



# The Thistle

Journal of The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment)

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Winter 2013/2014

## Chairman of Trustees Foreword

I am pleased to report that at the Regimental Trustees meeting at the RS Club in late October it was heartening to learn of the very significant progress of the planned development work, ie on Finance, Governance, the Regimental Museum and Heritage, the Regimental Association, Benevolence, Communication and Secretarial, that is being carried out on behalf of our Regimental Family to ensure our sustainability for as long as the need is there. All the above activity has drawn on the findings of the Regimental Opinion Survey.

Finance and Governance arrangements are being refined, with a reduction in the total number of Trustees intended by giving individual Trustees specific responsibilities. Our honorary legal adviser, Michael Simpson, a son of the Regiment and former 8/9 RS officer, ensures that we meet legal and charitable requirements.

The Royal Regiment of Scotland's interim museum will definitely be housed within our Museum for between three and five years, and possibly longer. The Museum Lighting Appeal has been particularly successful with the upgrade attracting accolades. The Museum and Heritage Committee has done a grand job.

The UK Armed Forces Day 2014 is to be held in Stirling and I would encourage a strong turnout as part of the move to increase our overall Regimental comradeship and associating activity. Planning for WW1 commemoration is well advanced, with the Scottish Government selecting the Gretna rail disaster as one of their official commemorative events in May 2015. The first Royals Grand Muster will be in Edinburgh over the May 2015 weekend to mark the Gretna disaster.

The Association continues to provide a focus for over 300 members of the Regimental Family through the Branch



structure. Amongst many successful activities have been the Musselburgh Races in September and the Cenotaph Remembrance Sunday march past.

Benevolence continues to prove to be very effective, and you are asked to continue to be the 'eyes and ears' to identify those Royals who may need some support.

There is a determination to improve our Regimental communication further and, in the next six months, work will be taken forward to enhance our website, embrace social media and engage more effectively with the wider Regimental Family.

On Secretarial, while Lt Col Jim Blythe continues to provide Regimental Secretary functions in his own time, the Trustees are agreed that some restructuring, with redistribution of responsibilities, is now required urgently to achieve better balance, provide appropriate skills and ensure sustainability. Already, the Museum and Heritage Committee, using volunteers, is moving towards self-sufficiency.

Links to the Club, our Regimental memorial and rallying place, remain very strong. And, as the senior antecedent Regiment, I would ask you to promote The Royal Regiment of Scotland which, as Scotland's Infantry regiment, takes forward our heritage.

To all those volunteers who continue to take forward so many roles that are essential to the well-being of our Regiment a very sincere thank you from everyone.

*Colonel Martin Gibson OBE DL*

## Keep in Touch

Please ensure that you keep us up to date with your contact details:

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## The Scottish Korean Memorial

Lt Gen Sir Robert Richardson, a veteran of the Korean War, Maj Gen Mark Strudwick and Lt Col Jim Blythe represented the Regiment at the Service of Rededication of the Scottish Korean Memorial to mark the 60th anniversary of the end of the Korean War on 27 July. RS veterans Grant Middleton and Welwood McColl, the latter having served with 1RS in Korea, were on parade carrying RBLS Standards. Members of the Scottish Veterans Association were also on parade representing all three Services, but with KOSB, BW and A&SH, who all lost soldiers in the war, to the fore. After the service the party retired to RBLS Bathgate for refreshment.



'The Scottish Korean Memorial'



'RBLS Standard Bearers'

The Memorial, which lies on the edge of the Bathgate Hills between Linlithgow and Bathgate, was the first memorial in the United Kingdom to the servicemen who lost their lives in the Korean War. The site, which opened in June 2000 to mark the 50th anniversary of the outbreak of the war, is maintained by the Scottish Korean War Memorial Trust. The focal point is a small, traditional, wooden pagoda which displays the names of all those killed in the conflict. The pagoda is surrounded by 110 Korean pines, one for every ten Britons who died in the conflict, and 1090 birch trees, one for each of the fallen. There is also a pathway named United Nations Avenue which is surrounded by 21 trees, representing the 21 nations involved in the UN Force in Korea. The Memorial, which lies in our Regimental area, is well worth a visit, perhaps combined with a visit to nearby Beecraigs Country Park.

## Regimental Association

In late June the Standard Party was on parade at the annual pilgrimage to Contalmaison. Amongst those present were Eddie Welsh, Harry Wright and Willie Hoy. They much enjoyed the hospitality of the locals and over the four days of the visit they visited Ypres, several WW1 cemeteries and the iconic Menin Gate. It was Willie Hoy's first visit to Contalmaison and he found it to be a humbling yet fulfilling experience. He certainly won't forget his visit, nor the sacrifice that they were there to help commemorate.

The Association continues to thrive. The annual Gladdy Murray golf tournament was held at Carrick Knowe golf course on 1 September and, as always, began with a cuppa and a bacon roll. Central Scotland Branch won the inter-Branch competition with East of Scotland in 2nd place while Edinburgh came 3rd. Paul McAllister got the highest score with Derek Cummings hitting the longest drive and David Millen getting closest to the pin with his first stroke. Those participating much enjoyed themselves and wish to thank the organisers, Andy Fitzpatrick, John Buckham and Liz Kyle for all their hard work.



'The Golfers'



'The Winning Team'



'Tam, Geordie and Christopher'

On 28 September 33 Old Royals, including three WW2 veterans, enjoyed both dinner and each other's company in the RS Club. The Scotland Branches AGM, which was held in the RS Club on 18 October, was well attended and well run and those present much enjoyed an excellent curry laid on by the Club after the meeting. At that meeting it was announced that the Regiment now has a Facebook page which is open to all and can be found at [www.facebook.com/TheRoyalScots](http://www.facebook.com/TheRoyalScots). It is important to note, however, that the Regiment's website [www.theroyalscots.co.uk](http://www.theroyalscots.co.uk) is the only official site for the passing of information via the Guestbook and Forum which is for the use of the entire Regimental Family. The East of Scotland Branch hosted the annual St Andrews Night, on 30 November at the Bilston Miners Welfare and Social Club, on behalf of the Association.

Twenty members of the Southern Branch had a most enjoyable visit to Tedworth House in Tidworth on 4 October to see the outstanding work being carried out there by Help for Heroes. Tedworth House aims to inspire those who have been wounded in mind or body on operations to enable them to return to active, independent and fulfilling lives. The Branch is intending to pay a second visit during 2014. Prior to the visit Geordie Gilchrist, Tam Millar and Maj Christopher Delacombe tended the graves of three Royals in the Tidworth Military Cemetery.



'Visitors to Tedworth House'

The Association Pipe Band played for a Marie Curie Cancer Care charity event at Meadowbank Stadium in Edinburgh on 2 August. On 29 September it made a major contribution to The Royal Regiment of Scotland Day at the Musselburgh Races, playing from the Mercat Cross to the racecourse and, later, in front of the grandstand followed by individual performances during the afternoon. On Remembrance Sunday the Band played for The McCrae's Battalion Trust (16th Battalion) at the Haymarket Memorial while individual pipers played at the Edinburgh Erskine Home, Glencorse Barracks and as part of the Association's visit to the Northern Ireland Branch. At Glencorse the piper was LCpl Jardine of 1 SCOTS, who is a former Royal Scot, Binyon's lines were read by Danny McIntosh of the Association Pipe Band and Peter McFadyen read the Kohima Epitaph.

## Old Royals Raising Funds

Fundraising seems to have become a major Regimental pastime and one for which the recipients, the Benevolent Society and the Museum Lighting Appeal, are extremely grateful.



'The Easy bit of the Job'

In late July early August John McCulloch, Davy McKendrick, Stevie Watson and Dusty and Darren Miller walked the Rob Roy Way to raise money for the Benevolent Society. The 94 mile route starts in Drymen and ends in Pitlochry and takes in some spectacular scenery. The Way is named after Rob Roy McGregor, one of Scotland's most notorious outlaws. The walkers had an excellent support team of Tam and Anne Cornwall and their granddaughters, Jade and Rachel, who transported rucksacks and ferried the walkers. Tam and the girls even did some walking with Jade and Rachel walking 10 miles and raising a terrific £500. The 'Part Timer', aka Jungle Jim, joined them for the second half of the walk, pleading being too busy to complete the week long march. The team raised a fantastic £2,436.96 which is hugely appreciated. Where are you heading for next year and who will be brave enough to join you?



'At the End of Day 1'

In early August a group of nine Association members along with three security officers from The University of Edinburgh and four friends of the Regiment took on the challenge to climb the 4406ft (1344m) Ben Nevis, the highest point in the British Isles, to help raise money for the Museum Lighting Appeal. The challenge involved more than nine miles of trekking and was completed in seven hours. The team were unfortunate in that they had to complete the challenge in absolutely atrocious weather conditions, however, in true Royal Scot fashion they soldiered on to complete their mission.

George Higgins, the team leader, reports that only two of the team were under fifty while two Association members were over sixty. George's explanation was that "it's how you want to grow old that matters"! Well done to everyone who took part, it was a superb,



'The Ben Nevis Team'



'Towards the End'

achievement and it raised somewhere in the region of £600 for the Lighting Appeal.

In September Mark Doig and Glen Liddel walked the West Highland Way to raise funds for the Museum Lighting Appeal. The 96-mile route, which starts at Milngavie and ends at Fort William, covers some spectacular scenery and some serious challenges. The path that lies alongside Loch Lomond from Rowardennan northwards to Inverarnan may look level on the map but those who have been there get a very different experience, every step is up or down, and you have to forget about the scenery and watch where you are putting your feet. Later, climbing the Devil's Staircase northwards from Kingshouse the views to Buachaille Etive Mor are superb, but it's a steep and exposed climb. Well done to Mark and Glen who raised a very commendable £454, your efforts are much appreciated.



'Harry Wright on the Summit'

## Museum and Heritage Matters

The Museum Lighting Appeal, with a target of £60,000, is making good progress with £37,000 having been raised by mid-November. Of that total £13,000 has come from members and supporters of the Regiment and that includes the most commendable efforts of the team that climbed Ben Nevis and the pair that walked the West Highland Way. A further £16,700 has been donated by nine Trusts and Charities, the sale of surplus silver raised £4,000 and some £3,000 will be claimed in gift aid. It is hoped that the balance will be raised by the sale of the remainder of the surplus silver on the open market. The Museum Committee is most grateful to all who have contributed; however, the Appeal remains open for anyone who still wishes to contribute.

As a consequence of our regular visits to Paradis in northern France we have been given a section of bullet marked railings for display in the Museum. The railings are those from a little white cottage in

The 3rd Battalion Colours, which were carried throughout the Napoleonic campaigns, including Quatre Bras and Waterloo in 1815, have recently been unrolled and found to be in remarkably good condition. They are currently being assessed for conservation with a view to them going on public display over the bi-centenary celebrations of Waterloo in June 2015.

Friday 22 May 2015 marks the centenary of the worst train crash in British railway history when 214 members of 7 RS were killed in a crash just north of Gretna involving the troop train which was taking them to Liverpool to embark for Gallipoli, a local goods train and a London to Glasgow express. The Scottish Government has declared the event as one of six designated national commemorative events of WW1. A series of Regimental commemorations is being planned over the period 21-24 May 2015 in Gretna and Edinburgh, including a Regimental Muster in Edinburgh on Saturday 23 May 2015. Although it is early days please get the date in your diary now and plan to be there to swell our numbers on parade that day.

Also as part of the WW1 commemoration events the Museum Committee is examining how the Regiment might support an exhibition in Haddington by lending

Paradis where the Pipes and Drums, in their role as Bn HQ Defence Platoon were based in May 1940. During the heavy fighting Pipe Major Allan and five pipers died in a fierce fire fight. After the war the railings were removed by the owner, Raymond Delassus, and stored in his barn. His son, Christian Delassus, is now, very kindly, giving us the railings.



'Railings at Paradis'

the Council suitable items from the reserve collection which the Museum is unable to display due to lack of space.

With the demise of RHQ, and its associated staff, the Museum has to stand on its own feet. Committee Members have already become much more involved in various support activities but the key area lacking a volunteer at present is an account holder to take over the accounting and book-keeping activities. These duties, based in the Castle, are pretty similar to those associated with a Company Account and should take only one or two hours a week. Anyone who might be willing to take on this duty, who need not be a former Royal and could easily be a wife or partner, is asked to get in touch with Col Robert Watson on 0131 310 5016 or at [rmwat@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:rmwat@tiscali.co.uk)

Although the Regimental Shop formally closed some years ago, the Museum still stocks a range of Regimental items such as badges, ties and statuettes for sale. Details can be found on the Regimental website ( [www.theroyalscots.co.uk](http://www.theroyalscots.co.uk) ), then click on SHOP. Payment can be either on line via Pay Pal or by cheques made to 'The Royal Scots Shop' and sent, with your order, to: The Old Provost Marshal's House, The Castle, Edinburgh EH1 2YT. For further information call: 0131 310 5016.

## Musselburgh Races

Musselburgh Racecourse continues to make us most welcome. Two examples from this year are that having been allocated two races, the RS Club Race and the RS Regimental Race, we were allocated two more on the day, one featuring The Royal Regiment of Scotland and the other being an additional RS Regimental Race. Thus we were accorded considerably more exposure than at first anticipated. The other example is that we were invited to use the Lothian Suite for all those attending as a focal point in which to gather.



The sun shone and the winnings were bountiful, at least that's what we were told, even though there have to be

losers in order to pay for the winners! Rather fewer tickets were sold to RS and SCOTS this year than last and those who didn't attend missed a first class day out. However, the overall number coming through the turnstiles was 500 up, so we must have enduring appeal. Although the Lothian & Borders ACF were not with us this time, we look forward to having their climbing wall and obstacle course in 2014. Our successors in 1 SCOTS provided a military equipment display and were augmented by stands from SSAFA Forces Help and ABF The Soldiers Charity both of whom do wonderful welfare work for our comrades. The RS Benevolent Society and RS Club both featured in the programme, each with full page articles. RBLs joined us for the second time and the RBLs Riders Branch provided centre stage attraction throughout the afternoon.



Be sure to make a note in your diaries for 2014 – Sunday 28 September!

## Band Reunion

Regimental history was made on 26 October when a party of 68 former bandmen, including their wives and partners, met in the RS Club for what is believed to be the first ever Band Reunion. The event was organised by Maj Danny McMeechan who was ably assisted by Dave Nelson. Dave, the son of Alan Nelson formerly of 8 RS, currently plays in the Lowland TA Band, formerly the RS TA Band.

Those attending ranged from BSM John Dignan, who joined the Band as a Bandboy in 1948, three National Servicemen, Andy Taylor, George Boag and Paddy Clark who served in the mid-1950s, to a posse of 'younger' members of the Band. Four former Bandmasters were present, all of whom went on to be commissioned, Douglas Mannifield, Colin Reeves, Tony Hodgetts and Dave Knox. All much enjoyed meeting old friends, some going back 44 years!



The Club laid on an excellent buffet and Dave Nelson provided a slide show of photographs from the past which was both nostalgic and humorous. Lt Col Jim Blythe and his wife Mhairi attended as guests. Jim, having been Band President in WerI, knew what to expect and, true to form, he and Mhairi were amongst the last to leave.

Danny's initiative was so successful that another reunion is on the cards for 2015. Well done everybody, it's always great to meet old friends.

# The Royal Scots Club

The Club, rightly, continues to support the Regiment in particular, and the wider military community in general, as will be clear from other items reported in The Thistle. It always welcomes Royals, whether members or not so don't hesitate to use it, it's 'ours'.

The autumn Speaker's Lunches have been a great success. In September Sir John Leighton, Director General of the National Galleries of Scotland, gave us his thoughts on the place of art in Society. In October Sir John Arbuthnott, President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, gave us an insight on infectious disease research and in November Mark Dennis, Ormond Pursuivant of Arms, talked about State ceremony in the United Kingdom, with special reference to Scotland.

On a less cerebral level members much enjoyed an autumn evening tasting Innes and Gunn specialist beers and pairing them with Ian Mellis cheeses.

In November the Club held a Charity Fashion Show in aid of Poppy Scotland, highlighting the gorgeous outfits of L K Bennet and hats designed by Hannah Young. Some 120 Edinburgh Ladies enjoyed a marvellous show, with soldiers from 1 SCOTS escorting some of the models down the catwalk, which greatly added to the spectacle of the evening. The show was followed by dinner and a charity raffle, with the event raising over £1,000 for Poppy Scotland. A great evening enjoyed by all.



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'On the Catwalk'



©Nadine Is'Haq Photography

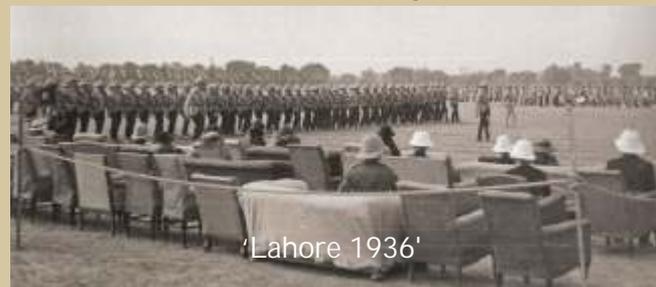
'Charming the Ladies'

St Andrews Night and the Christmas lunch are always sell outs. The guest speaker at the former was The Rt Rev John Armes while the pull of turkey, Christmas pudding, paper hats and a raffle in aid of the staff fund ensures that the latter is always a success.

Mr Cammy Goodall is the speaker at the Burns Supper in January. The Club will be open to all Royals for lunch on Regimental Day on 28 March while members are looking forward to a gourmet dinner in April when the guest speaker will be former Cunard Captain Nick Bates.

Last, but certainly not least, readers will be delighted to learn that the Club has won a prestigious accolade having been nominated the Best Small Events Venue in Scotland. Well done to all members of staff, we are proud of you!

## New Year's Day 1936



'Lahore 1936'

The Editor received this picture of the 2nd Battalion on parade in Lahore, India, on New Year's Day 1936 from Tam Hamilton of the Southern Branch. It got the former reaching for his copy of Pontius Pilate's Bodyguard - Editors love stories! Lahore, the capital of the Punjab, was a popular posting but in the summer of 1935 there was a problem. A disused mosque was legally demolished by Sikhs and that action led to three weeks of violent rioting in the city involving thousands of people. Happily after three weeks the protesters seem to have run out of rage and things returned more or less to normal. Normality led to the Battalion excelling at both football and boxing but the most remarkable feat was winning the India Polo Cup, unusual for an Infantry battalion, especially one that had just returned to playing polo after a gap of many years.

## News from The Old Provost Marshal's House

Congratulations to Brig Bob Bruce on the award of the DSO for his service while commanding 4 Bde, with 1 SCOTS under command, in Helmand in 2012/13 and to Major Andrew Lumley on the award of the QCVS while commanding D Coy 1 SCOTS in Helmand.

Perhaps inevitably 1 SCOTS have experienced significant turnover of key officer and SNCO appointments since returning from Afghanistan. The Battalion provided a very successful Royal Guard at Balmoral in the summer and a party visited the Gallipoli battlefield. In late November the Battalion hosted a much appreciated visit from the RS and KOSB Associations.

It was pleasing to note that in August the Heart of Midlothian Memorial Clock, which had been moved to accommodate Edinburgh's tram-works, had been returned to its original site at Haymarket. The Memorial is of particular significance to the 16th (McCrae's) Battalion.

In the last edition of *The Thistle* it was reported that Lt Col Eric Boucher had handed over command of the Canadian Scottish Regiment and was about to deploy to Afghanistan for nine months. Against that background it was great to receive an email from him in August saying that while walking through an alley in Kabul he spotted a familiar face, that of Capt Stuart Simpson, formerly of 1 RS and now MTO of 2 SCOTS. It transpired that they met previously in British Columbia nearly 20 years ago when one was a Captain and the other a WO2. Lt Col Boucher reports that recollections were hazy, part due to the passage of time, and part due to the "influence of beverage", but the pair were "still allied in Regimental fraternity". We wish them both well.



'Lt Col Boucher and Capt Simpson'

Also in the last edition of *The Thistle* mention was made of the Regimental wooden quaich in connection with the visit to Paradis in northern France. We now have some background about that artefact. It transpires that on St Andrews Day 1939 the officers of 1RS, while serving with the British Expeditionary Force in France, gave a dinner party for French officers in the Café de Paris in St Amand. The Quaich was designed by Maj George Read, the Quartermaster, and made by the café owner. George Read was one of the small number of those members of 1 RS that made it out through Dunkirk and he brought his quaich with him. By St Andrews Day 1940, 1 RS had been reformed and was training for beach landings on the west coast of Scotland. The Quaich was again pressed into service on board HMS Glengyle. When George Read became a regular member of the London Section of the Association in 1953 the Quaich was once again resurrected and was used by the London Section until 1995. Since then it has been held by RHQ and used at Regimental dinners.

On 5 October 17 members of the RS TA Officers' Association and their guests enjoyed a most sociable lunch and a splendid meal in the RS Club. Lt Col Jim Blythe was present and after lunch he briefed those present on Regimental matters, including the Museum, and developments affecting 1 SCOTS. The Association held its AGM in the Club on 10 October.

In late October 54 officers attended the annual officers' dinner in the RS Club and, again, much enjoyed their meal. The Rev Neil Gardner, Minister of the Canongate Kirk, was present as a guest. He didn't have to sing for his supper, but he did deliver this most appropriate grace.

Lord, as we gather now to dine  
Bless to us our food and wine;  
And though I'm such a shoddy bard  
Bless Pontius Pilate's Bodyguard.

We can all say 'amen' to that.

# Remembrance

The Regiment was well represented at the opening of the Garden of Remembrance in Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh, on 4 November. It was a dry but cold day with a brilliant blue sky. Col Martin Gibson laid a wreath on behalf of Veterans Scotland while Lt Col Jim Blythe laid a wreath on behalf of the Regiment. The ceremony was organised by RBLS and Bert Rutherford was on parade as the Regimental standard bearer while Stuart Colquhoun carried a RBLS standard.



'Royals Remembering'

Some 30 members of the Regiment, augmented by detachments from The City of Edinburgh Universities OTC and Lothian and Borders Battalion ACF paraded at the Glencorse Gates on 9 November. Capt Stuart Simpson and WO1 (RSM) Garrick of 2 SCOTS, both former Royals, were also present. The wreath was laid by Brig Charles Ritchie. Those attending were expecting a cup of tea afterwards but, thanks to the generosity of 2 SCOTS, they also had a choice of a beef curry or a lamb stir-fry. A very welcome 'warmer' on a cold day.

On 9 November, in pouring rain, the Southern Branch held its usual cross planting ceremony in the gardens of Westminster Abbey following a very interesting conducted tour round the Abbey. They ended by standing round the Cloisters memorial to all servicemen and women who have fallen since the end of WW2 where Col Richard Talbot CD, Honorary Colonel of our sister Regiment, The Canadian Scottish, read out the names of our post 1945 fallen together with those of our sister Canadian regiments and 1 SCOTS.

On 10 November there were ceremonies in Edinburgh at the Canongate Kirk, the City Chambers, the Haymarket Memorial, the RS Club and Hepburn House. The Regiment was well represented at the Canongate Kirk along with detachments from HMS Queen Elizabeth, 1 SCOTS and 603 (City of Edinburgh Squadron) RAuxAF. the Minister, the Rev Neil Gardner, was assisted by



'Bert Rutherford'

the Rev Philip Francis, Chaplain to 1 SCOTS, and musical accompaniment was provided by the Lowland Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland under the baton of Capt Alex Knox. Following the Service members of the Regiment, together with members of 1 SCOTS moved to the RS Club where Maj Gen Mark Strudwick laid a wreath on behalf of the Regiment and Lt Col Matt Munro laid a wreath on behalf of 1 SCOTS.



'Craig Duncan, Maj Gen Mark Strudwick, Cllr Eric Milligan and Lt Col Matt Munro'

Scotland's Remembrance ceremony took place at the Stone of Remembrance on the Royal Mile at the entrance to Edinburgh's City Chambers. As part of the Lord Lieutenant's wreath laying party, Col Martin Gibson laid a wreath on behalf of Veterans Scotland.

and John Dignan represented the Regiment in the 56-strong military associations and civilian organisations wreath laying group.

With the Heart of Midlothian FC memorial back in its rightful place at the Haymarket Junction, following the completion of tram works, some 300 people attended the service there on Remembrance Sunday. The majority of those present were Hearts supporters. A number of veterans were present, from all three Services, with several Old Royals among them. John McNicol MM laid the Regimental wreath and WO2 McCulloch of 1 SCOTS laid one on behalf of his Battalion. Hunting Stuart was on display, worn by members of the RS Association Pipe Band and The City of Edinburgh Universities OTC.



'Prince Harry talking to Brig George Lowder'

Some 26 members of the Southern Branch formed part of the nearly 10,000 strong parade in Whitehall and marched past the Cenotaph in bright winter weather. WW2 veteran, John Myles, who fought with 1RS at the Battle of Kohima in 1944 and served from 1942 until 1947 was 'on parade' in his wheelchair. He was accompanied by his granddaughter and grandson and Tam Millar had the privilege of pushing his wheelchair. After the parade those present enjoyed an



'Mustering in Whitehall'



'John Myles'

The Southern Branch very much hopes that members from Scotland and Northern Ireland will join them at the Cenotaph for the 100th anniversary of the start of WW1.

The RBL in Newtonards, Northern Ireland, invited the Northern Ireland Branch to lead their parade. That offer was welcomed and a number of Association members from the Scotland Branches and the Southern Branch joined the parade along with the Standard Bearer Party. William (Doc) Halliday laid the wreath at the memorial on behalf of the Association.



'Doc Halliday'

By all accounts those Royals taking part upheld the highest traditions of the Regiment in both bearing and demeanour. Well done everyone!



'Participants at Newtownards'

# IN MEMORIAM

## CHAMBERLAIN

On 12 November in Leeds, Edward (Eddie) Chamberlain, B Coy 1 RS late 1960s early 70s, Osnabruck, Tidworth and NI

## DOCHERTY

On 22 July, at Seafield, West Lothian, Robert (Bobbie) Docherty B Coy 1 RS Tidworth, Aden and Osnabruck in the 1960s

## ELDER

On 27 August, Maj R I (Ian) Elder TD. Ian Elder was serving as a PI Comd with B Coy 8 RS when wounded on 26 June 1944, the first day of Operation EPSOM in Normandy. He subsequently received a Mention in Dispatches for gallant and distinguished service in NW Europe. After the war he continued to serve with 8 RS becoming OC B Coy (Tranent) in 1953. He was awarded his TD in 1958

## GRAY

On 13 August, Alex Gray, 5 PI B Coy in the 1970s

## HEEPS

On 10 November, Thomas (Tam) Heeps, formerly 1 RS MT PI.

## HOLDEN

In August, Joe Holden, veteran of WW2 and COMS 8 RS, loyal and much loved member of the 8 RS Association who salute his memory

## KNOX

In July, Capt Sammy Knox, 1 RS 1946-50 then SASC. Glencorse 1957-60 as WTWO. At Bisley, six years in Army 100, seven in the SMG XXX, winning SMG Championship in 1963

## MACGEORGE

On 12 August, Moyra MacGeorge, widow of the late Maj Alistair MacGeorge MC veteran of Burma in WW2 and last CO of the RS Depot at Glencorse

## MASTERTON

On 8 November at Ashford, Kent, Sheena Masterton, wife of Sgt Jock Masterton formerly of 1 RS

## MATTHEWS

On 17 August at Ramsgate, Kent, David Matthews. 8 RS during WW2

## SKINNER

On 25 November, in Edinburgh, Rita Skinner, widow of the late Maj Les Skinner MBE formerly RSM and QM 1 RS

## WILSON

On 1 September in Edinburgh, Linda Wilson, wife of John (Jack) Wilson formerly 1 RS and currently front hall porter at the RS Club

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## From the Editor

The editor would like to thank all those who have contributed articles and pictures. The deadline for contributions for the summer edition is 7 July and these should be sent to me at [carlingnose@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:carlingnose@tiscali.co.uk) Please let me have contributions, including pictures, when they become available rather than waiting for the deadline.

*With best wishes.*

Bob Paterson

## FORECAST OF EVENTS

(For events in the RS Club book direct on 0131 556 4270)

### JANUARY

Tuesday 14th	RS Club Burns Lunch
Friday 17th	RS Club Burns Supper
Saturday 25th	Edinburgh Branch Burns Supper Highland Branch Burns Supper

### FEBRUARY

Saturday 8th	Central Scotland Branch Burns Supper
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### MARCH

Thursday 20th	Southern Branch AGM
Friday 28th	SCOTS Boxing Night, Meadowbank Regimental Day, RS and SCOTS RS Club Regimental Day Lunch
Saturday 29th	Association Regimental Day Dinner in the RS Club
Sunday 30th	RS Club Mothers' Day Lunch

### APRIL

Tuesday 15th	Museum/Heritage Meeting
Wednesday 16th	RS Club AGM
Sunday 20th	RS Club Easter Sunday Lunch
Friday 25th	RS Association General Committee AGM in RS Club
Saturday 26th	RS Association Spring Lunch
Wednesday 30th	RS Club New Members Cocktail Party

### MAY

Friday 16th	RS Governance Meetings in RS Club
Saturday 24th	7 RS Gretna Commemoration 1 SCOTS Dreghorn Sevens RS Association Paradis pilgrimage
Sunday 25th	RS Association Fallen Comrades Golf Ladies Day Kelso Races – SCOTS military displays

### JUNE

Sunday 8th	RS Club Lunch and Beating of Retreat by the RS Association Pipe Band
Saturday 28th	UK Armed Forces Day, Stirling

### JULY

Saturday 26th	Border Union Agricultural Show, Kelso – SCOTS displays
Thursday 31st	RS Club Supper and Tattoo evening

### AUGUST

Friday 1st	KOSB Minden Day, Berwick
Monday 4th	Outbreak of WW1 Service, Glasgow
Sunday 10th	WW1 Drumhead Service, Edinburgh Castle

### SEPTEMBER

Saturday 27th	RS Association Autumn Dinner in RS Club
Sunday 28th	Musselburgh Races

## Association Meetings

### EDINBURGH

Last Friday of each month at 8.00 pm at Leith 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 at Masonic Hall, Whitburn, West Lothian  
Contact: Nobby Clark  
nobbygreta@nobbygreta.plus.com

### EAST OF SCOTLAND

Last Saturday of each month at 7.30 pm at RBL Prestonpans, East Lothian. Contact: George Higgins  
clanhiggins@yahoo.co.uk

### NORTHERN IRELAND

Contact: Davy McKendrick, Secretary  
davidsmck1@sky.com

### HIGHLAND

On the first Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm at Raigmore Recreation Rooms, Inverness  
Contact: william.jeans@btinternet.com

### SOUTHERN

Contact: Tam Millar  
Weetam0571@sky.com

### PIPE BAND

Contact: Jim Tait  
jimbtait@jimbtait.plus.com

For further information contact The Old Provost Marshal's House, The Castle, Edinburgh EH1 2YT  
Tel: 0131 310 5016  
Email: rhqrs@btconnect.com