



# The Thistle

Journal of The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment)

Volume 29 - Number 4

Winter 2014/15

## Chairman of Trustees Foreword

News of the sudden death in November of Lt Gen Sir Robert Richardson KCB CVO CBE, Colonel of the Regiment 1980-1990, was received throughout The Royal Scots with sadness and surprise. A very proud Royal, General Bob was a much admired and respected leader, mentor and friend who always had time for everyone; he will be sorely missed. A Regimental obituary is enclosed with this edition of The Thistle.

At the October Trustees' meeting the main focus was to ensure that we were on track with the strategy to set the Regiment and its activities on a sustainable and forward looking footing that meets needs and aspirations in the future. David Nisbet, who served in the 1st Battalion in the early 70s and conducted the Regimental survey in 2012, has joined the Trustees bringing with him wide business experience.

Very much encouraged and assisted by consultation during 2013 the Trustees are determined to embrace our much wider Regimental Family, under the banner of Comradeship, to try to re-establish communication with those of all ages and generations who were privileged to serve in

The First of Foot, their families, widows, children and grandchildren. The Regimental Association continues to thrive but its current membership is relatively small compared to the total number who make up our Regimental Family. Each and every member of the Family is important irrespective of whether they are part of our small, but determined, World War 2 veterans, national servicemen, those who served in the Radfan in the early 1960s and on Op BANNER or the younger Royals who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Effective communication is essential as we strive to reach out to as many as possible. Our Communications Co-ordinator, Heather Walker, assisted by a small team of hardworking Regimental volunteers, has been very busy upgrading our database and enhancing the website and maximising the impact of social media as well as meeting with Royals.

The preparatory work to combine our Regimental Benevolence and Trust funds into one, thus reducing overheads, is well advanced. Last year £42K was paid in benevolence grants; half of that amount being provided by



Poppyscotland and the Soldiers' Charity.

I would like to thank Jim Blythe most sincerely who, because of the growing demands of his full time RHQ SCOTS appointment, has had to stand down as our Regimental Secretary after six hugely busy years. His dedication and commitment, and that of Chris Galloway, his administrative assistant, in the Old Provost Marshal's House at the Castle have greatly benefited our Regiment. Jim will continue to be a key adviser to the Regimental Trustees and is now the voluntary Museum Treasurer.

As I advised in the summer edition Regimental Headquarters has now been restructured. Our recently appointed Regimental Administrator, Jimmy Springthorpe, has taken on Jim Blythe's responsibilities and now works from The Regimental Office in the much more accessible Royal Scots Club. Jimmy continues to be Benevolence Secretary and will take over chairmanship of the Association in March, and be assisted by a vice-chairman. Tam Douglas, the Association Secretary, has been operating from the Club since last spring and has taken on the running of the Regimental Shop. For obvious reasons Museum and Heritage activity remains at the Castle, with their voluntary committee having achieved a huge amount of very significant development projects over the last year. I am indebted to the Club for all the support and encouragement given to the RHQ The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment) transitional planning team.

Plans for the centenary commemoration of the Gretna rail crash 21-23 May and the linked Regimental Gathering in Redford Barracks on 24 May are well advanced. Further details are enclosed in this publication. I strongly encourage participation from all Royals, and very much look forward to catching up over the Gretna weekend.

*Colonel Martin Gibson CBE DL*

## Keep in Touch

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

**The Royal Scots Regimental Office, The Royal Scots Club, 29-31 Abercromby Place, EDINBURGH EH3 6QE**

**Tel: 0131 557 0405**

**Email: [admin@theroyalscots.co.uk](mailto:admin@theroyalscots.co.uk)**

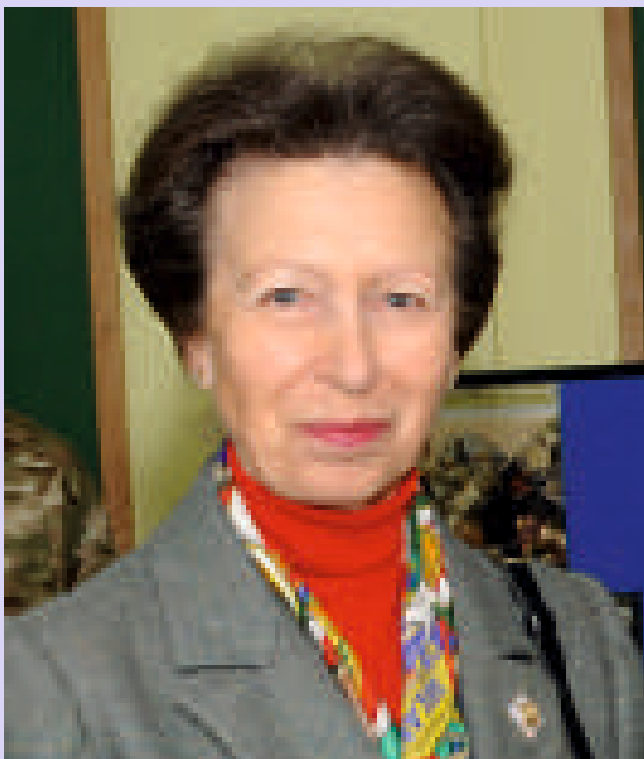
**Website: [www.theroyalscots.co.uk](http://www.theroyalscots.co.uk)**



'The Handover'

## 1 SCOTS

1 Scots moved to Belfast last August as a light role infantry battalion. In early October some 40 members of the Battalion deployed to Sierra Leone at short notice to assist in the Ebola crisis. The soldiers joined military engineers and local contactors overseeing the construction of medical facilities. Also in October the Battalion much enjoyed a two day visit by their Royal Colonel, HRH The Princess Royal. The Princess spent time with soldiers and their families to learn about their move to their new base near Holywood, North Down, and their training for contingency operations world-wide. The Regimental Family is encouraged to promote The Royal Regiment of Scotland and support their recruiting efforts.



'HRH visiting 1 SCOTS'

## Museum and Heritage Matters



'Battle Scarred Railings'

The last six months have been more 'Heritage' than 'Museum'. However, the battle scarred railing from Le Paradis is now on display in the Museum and the Archangel gun is positioned by the Keep at Glencorse Barracks. We owe a considerable debt of gratitude to Maj Davie Harvey, QM 2 SCOTS, who not only organised a cradle to take the weight off the wheels of the gun but also arranged for the Memorial Gates to be re-painted in time for Remembrance.



The Archangel Gun'



Jo and Peter MacFadyen'

The small Museum team of highly supportive volunteers (a warm welcome awaits anyone who wishes to join them) has been busy cataloguing items, preparing the paperwork for re-accreditation and getting ready to put our card-index accession register onto a computer. For those who have not visited the Museum recently you can now undertake a virtual tour on the Regimental website: visit ([www.theroyalscots.co.uk](http://www.theroyalscots.co.uk)) and click on Museum.

With the prominence of events marking the start of World War 1, Heritage has been at the fore. These have included the Service in Glasgow on 4 August, the Drumhead Service in Edinburgh on 10 August, the naming of an East Coast train 'For the Fallen', a number of events linked to the raising of the 16th (McCrae's) Battalion and, of course, preparation for the commemoration of the centenary of the Quintinshill/Gretna train crash.

Lt Col Brian de la Haye and his wife Debbie represented the Regiment at the unveiling of the East Coast train at Newcastle station on 14 October. The specially painted train bears the cap badges of five Regiments, whose recruiting area lay along the East Coast line, including The Royal Scots. On one side of the locomotive there is a large picture of LCpl Jim Boyd, one of 13 Hearts players who served in the 16th Battalion, together with a reproduction of the last Service message card he sent before he was killed in action on the Somme on 3 August 1916.



At the Usher Hall'

Of particular significance has been the admittance, on 26 September, of the 16th Battalion to The Scottish Football Hall of Fame, a signal honour acknowledging the many footballers, both professional and amateur, who answered Sir George McCrae's call to volunteer, issued at Edinburgh's Usher Hall on the evening of 27 November 1914. It is the first time a group, rather than individuals, has been admitted to the Hall. Peter MacFadyen, former captain of the 1st Battalion's football team, was delighted to accept the plaque, presented at the awards dinner at Hampden, on behalf of the Regiment. Further recognition took place on 28 November when the Lord Provost of Edinburgh unveiled a commemorative paving stone and renamed the area between the Usher Hall and Lothian Road 'McCrae's Place'. For more information on McCrae's click 'History' on the website and visit 'the Raising of the 16th Bn' and 'The Royal Scots New Army Battalions'.



'The de la Hayes in Newcastle'

On 14 December, at a ceremony in South Shields, Co Durham, Pte Henry Robson of the 2nd Battalion was the first of The Royal Scots to be honoured under the Government-funded scheme to recognise WW1 winners of the Victoria Cross with a memorial paving stone in their home town. In his case, as well as the paving stone, a street in a new housing development was named after him. Representatives of the Regiment as well as from SCOTS attended the ceremony. Details of the action that won him the VC, and his later distinguished life in Canada, can be found on the website under 'History' and then 'Gallantry Awards'.

Finally, just to prove that people do read The Thistle, the unidentified Pipe Banner mentioned in the last edition has been claimed by Maj Roger Walker.

NB – To contact the Museum call: 0131 310 5015 or email: [museum@theroyalscots.co.uk](mailto:museum@theroyalscots.co.uk)

## Fundraising



'A Golden Gobi Gong'

Old Royals continue to raise funds in a variety of ways, sometimes in some very strange places, for a variety of charitable causes. We applaud their efforts.

In August veteran runner Tam Millar, Vice Chairman of the Southern Branch of the Association, completed the Brackenwood Festival 5 kilometre run. Tam completed the course in 30 minutes and 55 seconds and raised £350 towards the purchase of a standard for the Southern Branch.

In September Col Peter Fraser-Hopewell completed the Legion London to Paris cycle ride, 490 kilometres over four days. He says it was very rewarding and that



'Peter Fraser-Hopewell'

he greatly enjoyed the beer at the end. The event raised a spectacular £500,000 of which Peter's share was in the region of £1,800.

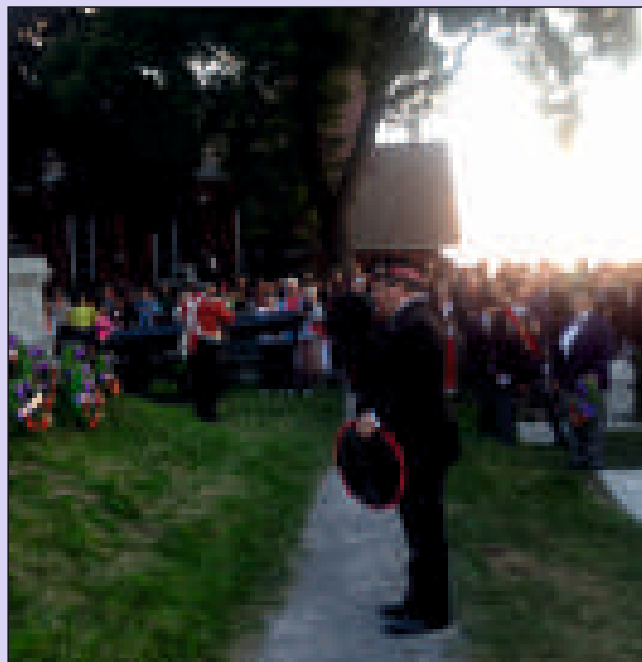
Maj Tom Perkins was also raising money in September, this time for The Soldiers' Charity. Tom specialises in extreme marathons and this time he was in the Gobi Desert so getting to the start point and home again was almost as challenging as the course. The weather was cold and windy, the entry list small – just 16 – but international with competitors from Germany, Canada, Switzerland, Australia and the USA as well as locals. Tom was the only Brit. There was no cheering crowd at the start point, just a few Bactrian camels. There were few route markers and the course combined a mixture of rough gravel-type desert track and soft sand. The result after 3 hours 33 minutes – £1,170 and **FIRST PLACE!** Tom says he enjoyed his cup of tea at the end and no one can begrudge him that. What a way to earn a cuppa!

## Battle of Lundy Lane

Some time ago the Regiment was asked by the Lundy Lane Historical Society if a representative could attend the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Lundy Lane close to the Niagara Falls in Ontario, Canada. Rob Johnstone, who served with 1 RS from the mid-1970s until 1987, and now lives in the USA, kindly agreed to represent the Regiment and sent this report of the battle and the gathering.

On 25 July politicians, local dignitaries and representatives of regiments from the UK, Canada and the USA formed up in the Drummond Hill Cemetery, on the former battlefield, to commemorate one of the most famous engagements of the war of 1812-1815.

An American invasion force crossed the Niagara River in July 1814, captured Fort Eire and then advanced north. On the 25th of that month British forces took up position on Lundy Lane Hill, within hearing distance of the mighty Niagara Falls. American forces encountered the British around 7.15pm, eventually driving them from their position. The battle was fierce and fought mostly in the dark, with some troops fighting with bayonets or hand to hand. After five hours of bloodshed the exhausted American forces retreated and the British reclaimed the battlefield. The battle was the bloodiest of the war with 255 killed and 1,400 wounded or missing.



'Rob with Wreath'

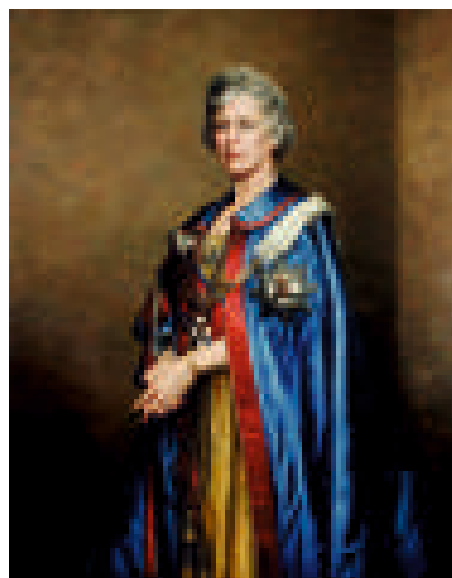
Capt William Brereton commanded the three companies of the Regiment during the battle as part of Lt Gen Sir Gordon Drummond's column. The Regiment's casualties were one officer and 15 soldiers killed and three officers and 112 soldiers wounded.

During the evening's commemoration events Rob Johnstone laid a wreath on behalf of the Regimental Association.

## Gurkha Museum

The Regiment has enjoyed a long association with the 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles which continues to this day via The Royal Regiment of Scotland. To mark that association the Editor asked the Curator of The Gurkha Museum to contribute this short article to *The Thistle*.

The first Gurkha Museum was established in a wooden hut at Church Crookham, Hampshire, in 1974. With the closure of Peninsula Barracks, Winchester, the opportunity was taken to move to more spacious premises in 1990. The Museum commemorates the service of Gurkhas to the British Crown since 1815 and safeguards the heritage of the Brigade of Gurkhas by the conservation of records and artefacts pertaining to the old Indian Army Gurkha Brigade and the present Brigade of Gurkhas. Besides tableaux, dioramas, showcases and interactive displays there are visual and voice descriptions of the Gurkhas glorious history and a display commemorating the awards of 26 Victoria Crosses.



'The Princess Mary'





'Glencorse 1950'

HM King George VI honoured the 10th Gurkha Rifles by granting it the title of 'Princess Mary's Own' from 1 January 1950. That accolade was in recognition of the 10th Gurkha Rifles' outstanding service in WW2 and to mark its official affiliation with The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment) of which HRH The Princess Mary was Colonel-in-Chief. These honours set the seal on a close relationship between the two Regiments of many years' standing. The affiliation ceremony at Glencorse Barracks in 1950 was marked by an exchange between the Regiments of the traditional weapons of the Scot and Gurkha, claymores and kukris.

The 10th Gurkha Rifles maintained pipe bands from the mid-1890s. 1/10 GR Pipe Band was trained by the Pipe Major of 2 RS in Burma in 1895 and the pipers of 2/10 GR were trained by the pipers of 1 RS in India in 1909-10. From the 1890s 10 GR pipers wore Hunting Stewart tartan and in 1924 Royal authority was given to continue that custom by HM King George V. In 1950 HM King George VI further granted all ranks of the 10th PMO Gurkha Rifles the privilege of wearing a patch of Hunting Stewart tartan behind their cap badge. This tradition continues today with the Royal Gurkha Rifles which was formed in 1994 on the amalgamation of the four Gurkha Rifles regiments in the British Army.

Also in 1994, a Gurkha Reinforcement Company was



'The Royal Gurkha Rifles'



'Pipers in Cyprus 1974'

formed to be attached to 1 RS. It served in Bosnia as part of the NATO Stabilisation Force (SFOR) in 1998 and with 24 Airmobile Brigade.

We send our very best wishes to our Gurkha comrades-in-arms.

To learn more visit: [www.thegurkhamuseum.co.uk](http://www.thegurkhamuseum.co.uk)  
or [www.facebook.com/TheGurkhaMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/TheGurkhaMuseum)

## Golf



'The Golfers'

The golfers much enjoyed their day at Silverknowes on 14 September when the Gladdy Murray Trophy was contested. Congratulations to the winners, Central Branch, with a score of 153. East of Scotland Branch were runners-up with a score of 145 while Edinburgh Branch came in a rather distant third. Congratulations to the following individuals: Highest Guest Score – Lawrence Taylor, son of Eric Taylor; Longest Drive – Lyndsay Gillick; Nearest the Pin – Derrick Cummings. The recently refurbished Broughton Putter was won by Davie Morris. The golfers were most grateful to Andy Fitzpatrick for organising the event.

The John Louden Memorial Trophy event took place on 19 September at Clandeboye Golf Course, near Bangor in NI. It was well attended and much enjoyed by all those taking part.

## Kenneth Vincent

In 2012, following the re-consecration of the Glencorse Memorial Gates, and the enhancement of the garden by Maj Ian Johnstone and Jake Johnston, arrangements were made for memorial plaques to be displayed and the ashes of former Royal Scots to be scattered in the planted area. It was imagined at the time that this new facility might be attractive to some long serving, local, former Royals. In general that has proved to be the case but last autumn we had a less predictable request from the son of a WW2 Royal.

Kenneth Vincent was born in Southampton in 1926 and was 'called-up' in December 1943. Understandably, he asked to be posted to the Royal Hampshire Regiment but he ended up in 7/9 RS, then in Redford Barracks. Like other members of 155 Bde Kenneth spent four months in the Cairngorms training for mountain warfare before going to war below sea level in Holland. He took part in the Battle of the Scheldt, the liberation of Antwerp and Walcheren and ended the war near Bremen.

Kenneth's son, Gary, tells us that his father was fiercely proud of 'his' Regiment, a sentiment that he clearly imbued in his son. Apparently his army training never left him and he was always immaculately turned out, shiny shoes, a collar and tie and a smart haircut. Kenneth died some time ago and it was thought fitting that he should be cremated wearing his Regimental blazer and tie.

Against that background it seems totally appropriate that Kenneth Vincent's service should be commemorated at Glencorse. The two Johnstones kindly arranged for Gary Vincent and his wife to come to Glencorse, for a plaque to be displayed and for some of his ashes to be scattered in the garden during a simple ceremony while Jim Tait of the Association Pipe Band played a lament. Once a Royal always a Royal!



'Kenneth Vincent in 1945'

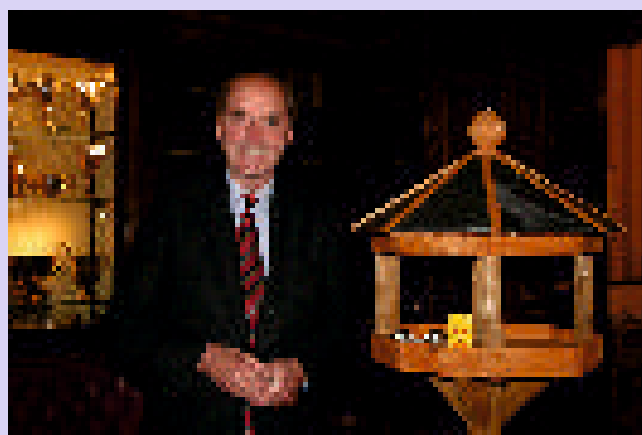
## The Royal Scots Club

After 28 years of remarkable, devoted service to the Club Brian Adair stood down as Chairman of the Trustees last October. He has been replaced by Maj Gen Mark Strudwick. Brian was dined out by the Trustees who presented him with an excellent portrait of himself. Other, less formal, presents included a jar of mustard and a barrel of chocolate biscuits! Those who know Brian well are aware of his love of ham sandwiches with mustard and extremely jealous of his ability to consume chocolate biscuits without putting on an ounce. Brian also received a splendid bird table for his garden and more mustard - for himself, not the birds, and a pair of silver Regimental mustard pots from the Regiment.

The Club is holding a series of events to commemorate WW1. The first of those was held last October when Jack Alexander gave a talk on



'Lord Steel with Mark Strudwick and Others'



'Brian with Bird Table'

'McCrae's Battalion'. That will be followed by a talk on 'Scotland's Shrine' – the Scottish National War Memorial - and a play with the title 'Tommy in the Trenches' which will be followed by some authentic, but tasty, WW1 dishes.

The guest speaker at St Andrews Night was The Rt Hon Lord Steel of Aikwood KT KBE PC who, perhaps in contrast to his formal title, told some very amusing stories of political life, often against himself, which he interspersed with some words of political wisdom.

The Club always welcomes Old Royals and is delighted to accommodate the new Regimental Office and to be the venue for Regimental occasions. The Association Dinner was held there on 28 September when those present were addressed by Brig (now Maj Gen) Bob Bruce and on 24 October it was the venue for the annual Officers' Dinner.

## News from the Regimental Office

**To contact the new Regimental Office call: 0131 557 0405 or email: [admin@theroyalscots.co.uk](mailto:admin@theroyalscots.co.uk) For further details please see the enclosed insert.**

In other news, congratulations to Maj Gen Bob Bruce DSO on his promotion. He deployed at short notice in November to serve for a year as Deputy Commander Coalition Joint Task Force for operations in the Middle East. We wish him well in his new appointment.

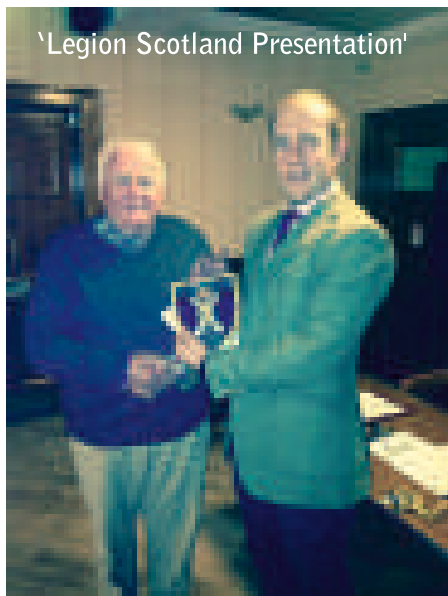
Congratulations are also due to John Duncan Ainslie who became a centenarian on 17 November. Many years ago John was the Pipe Major of 2 RS. Most Old Royals have a bit of catching up to do!

Some 120 Old Royals much enjoyed their day at the Musselburgh Races on 27 September.

In October Capt Craig Ramsay of 1 SCOTS presented Mr Andrew Davis, Secretary Prestonpans Branch Legion Scotland, with a Royal Regiment of Scotland plaque in recognition of the Branch's hospitality after the Battalion's farewell parade last summer.

Our D Day veterans, yet again, are showing us just how young they are. Maj Joe Brown and Sgt Jack Hall, formerly of 7/9 RS, were in The Netherlands to commemorate the fighting in November 1944 that led to the liberation of the towns of Middleburg and Flushing. Not to be outdone, Bill Scally, formerly of 8 RS, travelled to Tilburg, also in The





'Legion Scotland Presentation'

Netherlands, to commemorate the liberation of that city. Well done gentlemen!

The Royal Scots TA Officers Association held its AGM in the RS Club on 4 October. Majs Hugh Young, Alasdair McVitie and Gavin Tosh were re-elected as Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer respectively. The meeting noted the arrangements being made to commemorate the rail crash at Quintinshill, Gretna, on 22 May 1915 with special interest as the uncle of one those present was killed in the crash while the father of another survived. Following the meeting 14 members and their guest enjoyed lunch in the Club.

The Regimental Trustees are grateful for all the voluntary work put in by various Old Royals in a wide range of capacities and at their meeting last October decided to mark the efforts of the following

individuals. Maj John Dent was awarded the Purves Prize for his huge contribution to the modernisation of the Regiment's workings, not least the move of certain functions to the RS Club. Mags Allan has been awarded a RS Club silk scarf for all her work in producing the Association Newsletter. Crown & One ties have been awarded to J P Jones for his staunch support of the Association and for visiting the sick; Bert Rutherford for his loyal support and readiness to volunteer; George Higgins for bringing Old Royals together by organising informal gatherings and Jim Anderson for all the vital work he has done on the website and social media. Well done to everyone!



'PM Ainslie'

## Remembrance

Remembrance has had a special poignancy this year as we reflect on the outbreak of WW1 and, unsurprisingly, Old Royals were wearing their glengarries and poppies with pride in many places. Jimmy Carlisle was on parade in Mesa, Arizona, USA while others took part in ceremonies nearer home. Members of the East of Scotland Branch attended the Prestonpans Remembrance Parade and the Branch was also represented at ceremonies in Haddington, Port Seton and Cockenzie. Kevin Heggie was the parade co-ordinator for the Whitburn Armistice Parade. Highland Branch members were present at ceremonies in several different locations while the Northern Ireland Branch attended a service on 9 November with 1 SCOTS in Palace Barracks Belfast where Joe (Paddy) Miller laid a wreath. Bruce Allan of the Edinburgh Branch laid a wreath at Erskine House Edinburgh and 1 SCOTS were well represented at events in Edinburgh and at a ceremony in Sierra Leone.



'J-P Jones'

The Edinburgh Branch laid a wreath at Erskine House Edinburgh and 1 SCOTS were well represented at events in Edinburgh and at a ceremony in Sierra Leone.

The Garden of Remembrance in Edinburgh's Princes Street Gardens was opened on a bright but cold morning on 3 November. The event was well attended by a wide range of ex-service men and women. Col Martin Gibson laid a wreath on behalf of Veterans Scotland while Lt Col Jim Blythe laid the Regimental wreath and J-P Jones carried the Regimental Standard.

On 6 November seven members of the Southern Branch, led by Tam Millar and joined by Brig George Lowder and Joe Monger, Tam's grandson, attended the opening of the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey by HRH Prince Harry.



'Col Martin Gibson'



'Joe, George and Tam'

A group of 56 attended the ceremony at Glencorse Gates on 8 November where they were joined by Lt Col Graeme Wearmouth, CO 2 SCOTS and a former Royal. Also present was a detachment from Lothian and Borders Battalion ACF. Most appropriately the short ceremony was led by Maj Ian Johnstone and Jake Johnstone, the 'Keepers' of the Glencorse Garden, while the late Lt Gen Sir Robert Richardson laid the wreath. Afterwards those present enjoyed an excellent lunch in the WOs and Sgts Mess.



'The Glencorse 'Keepers''

The Southern Branch welcomed 15 members of the Scottish Branches to their various Remembrance events. In London on 8 November 22 members of the Southern Branch and their ladies attended the very moving afternoon Festival of Remembrance in the Royal Albert Hall. That was followed by the customary Regimental cross planting ceremony in the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey. The service was taken by the Rev Ros Trafford-Roberts and the exhortation was given by Tam Douglas, Association Secretary and leader of the Scottish contingent. Unfortunately everyone got very wet.

That ceremony was followed by a move to the cloisters for a brief service around the memorial to those who had fallen in action since 1945. The party was greeted by the Canon Treasurer of the Abbey, the Rev Canon David

Stanton; the names of the fallen of the Regiment and our allied regiment, the Royal Newfoundland Regiment, were read by Lt Col Jim Blythe, Association Chairman.

On Sunday 9 November there were ceremonies in Edinburgh and London. Scotland's Remembrance ceremony took place at the Stone of Remembrance on the Royal Mile at the entrance to Edinburgh's City Chambers. Several Old Royals were present while Col Martin Gibson laid a wreath on behalf of Veterans Scotland and Bert Rutherford laid a wreath on behalf of the Regimental Association.

There was an excellent turnout at the Heart of Midlothian FC memorial at Haymarket where George Higgins laid a wreath on behalf of the Regimental Association. A wreath was also laid by a representative of 1 SCOTS.



'Haymarket'

As always the Canongate Kirk, the Kirk of Holyroodhouse and Edinburgh Castle, was full on Remembrance Sunday. The Regiment was well represented along with detachments from HMS Queen Elizabeth, currently being fitted out at Rosyth, and 603 (City of Edinburgh Squadron) RAuxAF. The Service was conducted by the Minister, the Rev Neil Gardner, and the lessons were read by Capt Simon Pettit RN, Senior Naval Officer, HMS Queen Elizabeth and Brig Paul Harkness MBE, Commander 51 Infantry Brigade and Headquarters Scotland. The Act of Remembrance was led by Cpl Peter Grant, Piper, and Cpl Brian Taylor, Bugler, both of 4 SCOTS and at the time attending the Army School of Bagpipe Music and Highland Drumming. After the service there was a short wreath laying ceremony at the Parish War Memorial on the Canongate Tolbooth.

Following the Service in the Canongate there was a well-attended lunch in the Royal Scots Club which was preceded by the laying of a wreath by the late Lt Gen Sir Robert Richardson. In the afternoon a Service of



'Old Royals on Horseguards'

Remembrance was held at Hepburn House, led by A Coy 6 SCOTS and attended by Royals with TA connections.

In London the Association formed up 41 strong for the march past the Cenotaph, plus John Myles with two of his grandchildren pushing his wheel chair. After the march past the marchers and others, in total 54, met at the East India Club for drinks and lunch. Maj Christopher Delacombe, Chairman of the Southern Branch, toasted The Queen and the Regiment and Brig Robbie Scott-Bowden gave a quick résumé of affairs both Regimental and 1 SCOTS.

## Gretna Commemoration and Regimental Gathering

The Scottish Government has selected Quintinshill, Gretna, as one of its key WW1 commemoration events during 1915. On 22 May 1915 Britain experienced its worst rail disaster when 216 Territorial soldiers of the Leith-based 7th Battalion along with 12 others lost their lives while en route to Liverpool to embark for Gallipoli.

The Regimental Trustees and Museum and Heritage Committee are working closely with the Scottish Commemorations Panel and others to mark this tragic event with a special programme of activities, 21-24 May 2015.

- Thursday 21 May: Wreath laying in association with Falkirk District Council, at Larbert Station.
- Friday 22 May: Centenary Commemoration at Gretna and on the site of the crash at the old Quintinshill signal box.
- Saturday 23 May: Parade and Commemoration Service in Edinburgh, centred on the former Dalmeny Street Drill Hall and Rosebank Cemetery.
- Sunday 24 May: WW1 Commemoration Service in the Canongate Kirk and Regimental Family Gathering, at Redford Barracks, Edinburgh.

## IN MEMORIAM

### DUFFY

On 19 November in Edinburgh, Alistair (Ally) Duffy, formerly W02 1 RS

### GAULD

On 27 October in Edinburgh, Ian Gauld, formerly 1 RS

### GILMOUR

In August in Inverness, William (Billy) Gilmour, formerly 1 RS

### GRADY

On 20 July in Edinburgh, Matthew Grady, formerly 1 RS

### HUGHES

In August in Manchester, Thomas Hughes, aged 92, 1 RS 1945-46, member of the Southern Branch

### KIMM

In July in Lanarkshire, Robert (Bert) Kimm, formerly W01 RS, Elgin, Berlin, Lybia and Tidworth

### RICHARDSON

On 21 November in Haddinton, aged 85, Lt Gen Sir Robert Richardson KCB CVO CBE, CO 1 RS 1969-71 and Colonel of the Regiment 1980-1990

### ROGERS

On 6 May, George Marshall Bain Rogers, formerly 1 RS

### WILSON

On 20 September, Gordon (Wullie) Wilson, formerly 1RS

## 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 6 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

### FEBRUARY

Monday 2nd	RS Club Evening Lecture
Friday 6th	Edinburgh Branch Burns Night
Thursday 12th	RS Club Regency Tea
Monday 16th	RS Club Speaker's Lunch

### MARCH

Monday 2nd	RS Club Evening Lecture
Wednesday 4th	RS Club 'Tommy in the Trenches' a show with supper
Monday 16th	RS Club Speaker's Lunch
Saturday 28th	RS Club Regimental Day lunch
Saturday 28th	Association Dinner RS Club

### APRIL

Tuesday 7th	RS Club Trustees Meeting
Friday 10th	RS Museum & Heritage Committee meeting
Saturday 11th	RS Club Spring Lunch
Wednesday 15th	RS Club AGM
Monday 20th	RS Club Speaker's Lunch
Wednesday 22nd	RS Club Gilbert and Sullivan Evening
Friday 24th	Association AGM RS Club
Saturday 25th	Association Annual Reunion Gallipoli Commemoration, Stirling

### MAY

Thursday 21st	RS Club 'A Night to Remember' – The Gretna Rail Disaster
W/E 21st /24th	Gretna Commemorations and Regimental Gathering
Saturday 23rd	RS Club BBC Documentary Gretna Gretna Rail Disaster
Saturday 23rd	Le Paradis Pilgrimage

### JUNE

Friday 19th	RS Club Waterloo Dinner
Saturday 27th	Armed Forces Day Edinburgh

### AUGUST

Thursday 6th	RS Club Tattoo Evening
Saturday 15th	HRH The Princess Royal's Birthday

### SEPTEMBER

Saturday 26th	Association Dinner RS Club Loos commemoration, Dundee
Sunday 27th	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

First Sunday of each month at 2.00 pm at Hillcroft Hotel, Whitburn, West Lothian.  
Contact: David Milne  
david.milne3343@live.co.uk

### 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

First Tuesday of each month at RBL Ards. 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

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