



# The Thistle

Journal of The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment)

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## Foreword

### Brigadier G E Lowder MBE

#### Chairman of Trustees and President of The Regimental Association

So here we are in 2020, The Roaring Twenty Twenties and the start of a new decade. The 1920s were renowned as the first decade to have a nickname: "The Roaring 20s" or "The Jazz Age." It was a decade of prosperity and dissipation, of jazz bands, bootleggers, raccoon coats, bathtub gin, flappers, flagpole sitters, and marathon dancers. An age of dramatic social and political change, the great depression and prohibition. So, let's hope that the best of the 1920s is revisited in the coming decade and we miss out on all the less good bits.

As we look to the coming decade, I thought that it might be helpful to unpack what our objectives are for the next 10 years, after all this is what your Regimental Trustees spend a fair bit of time on, ensuring that we have a plan. In early 2019 The Chairs of the three Boards of Trustees (Regiment, Club and Museum) and The Chairman of The Regimental Association met, to agree a strategic framework for the future, agreeing planning assumptions that would guide Trustees and Association Office Bearers in decision making and planning for the future. This included resource allocations and priorities, through the near, mid, and longer term, in order to make best use of our finite resources, to ensure that we



- The 4 Regimental Pillars (Regimental Trust, Association, Club and Museum) are well set and that it was timely to conduct a strategic review. Especially given the new normal where Regimental activity is being sustained by drawing down on our capital investments.

- For 4 consecutive years The Regimental Trust has run at an annual deficit and this will continue. We also recognised the constraints and limitations of being an antecedent Regiment and to mitigate these the activity of the 4 Pillars must be carefully coordinated.

- One of the most important conclusions was our significant reliance on many volunteers, more than 60 of them and that this is probably not sustainable. So, to this end we agreed to identify further opportunities for rationalisation.

- For the purposes of our future planning:

- "Near-Term" – would be the next 5 years. January 2019 – December 2023 inclusive.

- "Mid-term" would be the following 10 years. January 2024 – December 2033 inclusive.

- "Longer Term" – would be December 2033 to December 2050.

- The current organisational structure is not sustainable in the Longer Term, but The Club and our Museum and Heritage will endure.

- 2033 should be a celebration of our 400th Anniversary. Not an end date, but an aiming mark.

- The Royal Regiment of Scotland (SCOTS) will endure. We will continue to support them and be supported by them.

- In the Near-Term, we will consider what might be possible to further rationalise and consolidate our affairs. For instance, perhaps, passing Museum Trustees' responsibilities to Regimental Trustees, including amalgamation of the funds, for possible implementation in the Mid-Term. If this were considered a sensible thing to do The Museum Committee would continue to deliver day to day management and support for The Regimental Trustees.

- In the Near-Term the Chair of The Club and The Regimental Trust could be vested in one person to achieve rationalisation, enhance coherence and further re-enforce the enduring Club pillar.

- In the Near to Mid-Term there may be scope for further rationalisation between Club and Regimental Trust pillars to reduce duplication of effort.

- The RS Association Membership will decline naturally over time BUT, The Association will continue and is to be encouraged.

- We would plan to pass the administration of our benevolence to RHQ SCOTS in the Mid-Term with an appropriate, carefully calculated allocation of funding based on annual spend, likely demand and projected longevity of remaining Ex Royals.

- That we cannot live entirely within our means, but that overspend must be incurred consciously, not in a profligate manner. Good housekeeping, provident thought and fiduciary responsibility remain key to resource allocation decisions. There would be no "rush to spend" now, given likely demands in mid-term.



So, at the start of this decade, I assure you that we have developed some clear guiding principles to ensure the continued good health of our institutions. The work strands for all this have begun and although there is no rush, we will steadily take these forward and keep you all informed of progress.

I note that we again managed a sterling turnout for Remembrance events in 2019 and am most grateful to all those who turned out across the country. I am also delighted that the idea of conducting a specifically Royal Scot event at our Monument in Princes Street Gardens was taken forward and was successfully conducted. Well done to Jim Anderson and others for suggesting it. We are also grateful to The Lord Provost for joining us and for agreeing to continue to do so and as Forces Champion for The City showing such an interest in The Royal Scots. The Lord Provost has also kindly agreed to join us for The Officers' Dinner this year.

Looking forward; we will mark the 50th anniversary of the 1st Battalion being deployed to Northern Ireland on Op BANNER in 1970 from Osnabruck on 29 February in The Club. Many thanks to those who conceived and are planning this event and to Regimental Trustees for their generous support for it.

In May we will mark the 80th anniversary of the action at Le Paradis where the 1st Battalion received an order to "stand and fight to the last man" in order to buy time for the evacuation of others from Dunkirk. We already have a good size contingent signed up to attend, but more will always be welcome.

The 8th May also marks the Victory in Europe commemorations and a splendid example of association, where Eck Wind MBE has organised a gathering of a great band of Royal Scots brothers from Stewart Sneddon's peers, in memory of Stewart, who suffered a fatal heart attack last year. Well done Eck for arranging this outing at Dalmahoy.

We have agreed to take forward the establishment of a Royal Scot memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum. I am grateful to all those who contributed to the consultation and discussion on this and to Ginge Vevers and David Stuart-Monteith for agreeing (being voluntold) to lead on the Project.

Before we know it, Armed Forces Day will be upon us. The Edinburgh format has developed over the years and is a well attended and thoroughly enjoyable affair. It would be great to continue to grow our marching contingent on Saturday 27 June.

So, much to look forward to this Spring and Summer and into the future. Please don't hesitate to ask if you would like to know more about any of the above. As always, I look forward to the next time our paths cross.

*George Louder*

Brigadier  
Chairman The Royal Scots Trustees

## 80th Anniversary of Le Paradis – an untold story

May 1940 saw 1RS as part of the BEF in France facing the German Blitzkrieg. The fighting was fierce and, for the 1st Battalion, came to an end at Le Paradis. Many of those that fought there went 'in to the bag' and were PoWs for the remainder of the war. Two of these men are still with us, Major John Errington and Private George Simpson and their story has been filmed and retained for future generations to enable them to understand what that generation went through.

Colonel Martin Gibson writes:

"Le Paradis is a small French village 35 miles south of Dunkirk.

In May 1940 the 1st Battalion, as part of 4 Infantry Brigade, of the British Expeditionary Force (BEF), played a pivotal role in allowing the ordered evacuation of over 338,000 British and Allied troops and equipment from Dunkirk. Although lightly armed and acting on orders they displayed great resilience, true Royal Scots comradeship and a determined fighting spirit at Le Paradis in delaying the armoured advance by crack German troops. They fought gallantly until their ammunition ran out.

Casualties were heavy and a large number of Royals were captured.

The experiences of George Simpson (99 years old) and John Etherington (101 years old), who fought at Le Paradis, have been captured on film. Team 373 will ensure that the Le Paradis story will be told in May when, on the 23rd, a party from The Royal Scots family will be taking part in the Le Paradis villagers' commemoration of Le Paradis 80 years ago.

Footnote: 22 years earlier in April 1918, in World War1, The 8th Battalion fought at Le Paradis."



Major  
Errington  
in Oflag

Major Errington Now

Private George Simpson



## Regimental Office

I hope everyone had a great festive break and are now ready to tackle 2020. "Twenty Twenty", where have the years gone? The Regimental Office has been established in The Royal Scots Club for five years now and we are eternally grateful to The Club Trustees and The Staff for all that they do for us. First time visitors to The Regimental Office often remark on what a nice environment it must be to work in. It was no surprise therefore when Adrian Hayes The Club's General Manager was nominated for and received The Regimental Prize.

I am delighted that Ellie Weir having covered for a period of maternity leave has now been employed on a permanent basis.

On the 17 December a lunch was laid on for those who volunteer on a regular basis either in The Museum or in The Regimental Office. It was as always, a fun occasion and a good way to get the festive season underway.

We are always happy to see visitors in The Office so please pop in and sign the visitor's book if you are in the vicinity.

### Captain Jimmy Springthorpe



Volunteers' Lunch

## Royal Scots Benevolence

Former Royal Scot Franny Goodwin played Santa Claus when he donated £1,000 to Royal Scots Benevolence just before Christmas. Franny said, "I was helped by the Fund when I was in need and this is my way of saying 'Thanks' and putting something back". "I am glad to be in a position now where I can do that".

Captain Jimmy Springthorpe added - We continue to work alongside other Military Charities to provide assistance to former Royal Scots and/or their dependants. We do this by making funds available to provide help with debts, mobility aids, bathroom conversions, stair lifts to name but a few. We also give assistance with funeral costs and respite breaks. Where a request falls outwith our remit we may be able to provide signposting through our many contacts. If you require help you should first contact your nearest branch of SSAFA who will provide a case worker who will assess your case before forwarding it to The Regimental Office. All former Royal Scots are eligible, regardless of how long they served.



Franny G

## The Royal Scots Regimental Association

Since the last edition of The Thistle The Association have as usual been very busy.

On 22 September The Association again ran the golf meeting to compete for the Gladdy Murray Trophy, which is a team event competed for by The Association branches. The venue was Shaw Park Golf Club, Alloa and 18 players participated.

The Gladdy Murray Trophy winners for 2019 were – The Central Branch (David Milne, Brian McGeachie, Derrick Cumming, Jimmy McConnell).

Individual prizes were awarded to Paul Mcallister longest drive (Div1) Derrick Cumming longest drive (Div 2) Andy Kyle (nearest the pin in one) and Rab Fraser (nearest the pin in 2).

Liz Kyle as tradition dictates was on hand with the halfway refreshments.

The next golf outing is "The Fallen Comrades" and takes place on 5th April at Carmuir's Golf Club, Falkirk. You don't need to be a Tiger Woods to take part, anyone regardless of handicap is welcome to come along. If you don't play you may wish to come along and caddy for someone.

The Nagpore Dinner was held in The Royal Scots club on Saturday 28 September and 40 members and their partners enjoyed a 3 course meal with wine and great comradeship.

Remembrance in November saw Association members parading at the various events near and far – see Centre Pages - but a new Remembrance Service this year was held in front of The Royal Scots Monument in Princes St Gardens. This took place immediately following the opening of the Garden of Remembrance at the Scott Monument. The Lord Provost, Frank Ross accompanied a large group of former Royal Scots who walked from the Garden of Remembrance to The Royal Scots Monument, where our Association Padre the Rev Iain May conducted the service. The Lord Provost laid a wreath on behalf of The City of Edinburgh Council and Association Member Jim Anderson laid the Regimental wreath. It is planned to make this an annual event and the Lord Provost pledged his support to it.

Each year we sadly lose a number of our members which makes it all the more important that we continue to recruit "new blood". Our present strength has remained constant for the past five years however it goes without saying that we would like to see an increase. Joining The Association does not commit you to anything, you can attend what events you wish, as and when you can.

**Chairman, Captain Jimmy Springthorpe**



## Royal Scots Association Annual General Meeting

This meeting will be held in The Royal Scots Club on Friday 20 March 2020.

A formal notice of meeting will be sent out by the Regimental Office in due course but please get this in your diaries as maximum attendance is requested.

## Royal British Legion Scotland – 75th VE Day Anniversary Parade

We have just been informed that RBLS are organising a Veteran's Parade in Edinburgh on 8th May 2020 followed by events in West Princes Street Gardens at the Ross Band stand running from 1200-1500 hrs. Full details are not yet known but this will be a parade of Veterans along with re-enactors and vehicles from that period. Once we know more details regarding timings, form-up-point and format of the day we will publish on The Royal Scots website.

## Op BANNER – 50th Anniversary of First Tour in 1970

To commemorate the anniversary of the 1st Battalion deploying to Belfast from Osnabruck a reunion dinner/buffet is being arranged for Saturday 29 February 2020 in The Royal Scots Club. Details are on the website along with application for tickets so if you have not yet applied then please do so asap. There are only 140 places, so it may be that not all will be successful.



## Memories of Lieutenant General Sir Robert 'Bob' Richardson KCB, CVO, OBE

With the sixth anniversary of the death of General Bob on 21st November 2014 and the notification of the reunion dinner to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Regiment's first tour on Op BANNER, I was reminded of how kind Bob, as CO 1RS on that first tour, was to me as I left the 1st Battalion for the last time from Belfast. He arranged for the cartoon shown here to be signed by all officers present and presented this to me just prior to my leaving Belfast. I treasured this cartoon for many years and it is now proudly on display in The Regimental Office in The Royal Scots Club.

This small, but very intimate action, was typical of General Bob and sits very well with the motto he selected when designing his armorial bearings following his knighthood: *"Fortitudine et Servitute Acquiritur Honos"* Fortitude and Service through Honour.

**Lieutenant Colonel Jock Wilson Smith**



## Royal Scots Trustees

Who are the Trustees and what do they do for the Regiment and for the Regimental Family?

Well, actually quite a lot.

First there are three sets of Trustees:

One for The Royal Scots Regimental Trust

One for The Royal Scots Museum and,

One for The Royal Scots Club, which incorporates the living War Memorial to all Royal Scots who have died in the service of their country from the start of the First World War to date.

All Trustees are volunteers and receive no remuneration.

Now to the detail –

**The Regimental Trustees** look after our Heritage (what we were for 373 years until 2006) and conserve our history and tradition going forward. This means that they are responsible for ensuring that tradition, customs, relationship with our successor regiment, The Royal Regiment of Scotland and Remembrance are upheld. They are also responsible for looking after The Regimental Trust Fund to ensure it is wisely spent specifically, but not



exclusively, on benevolence, so that ex members of The Regiment in need of financial and other support are properly looked after. Benevolence is handled on a day to day basis in the Regimental Office (Tel 0131557 0405) by The Regimental Administrator, Captain Jimmy Springthorpe and his Assistant, Mrs Ellie Weir.

The Trustees are supported by The Executive. This comprises the Regimental Administrator, three of the Trustees, including The Chairman and volunteers who are responsible for day to day operations namely, finance, benevolence and proper conduct of our affairs.

The Royal Scots Association falls under the umbrella of The Regimental Trustees, The Chairman acting as President and The Regimental Administrator as Chairman. Whilst daily affairs of The Association are the responsibility of The Branch Office Bearers, The Regimental Trustees are responsible for governance and proper conduct.

The Trustees have oversight of the whole area of communication to ensure, so far as is possible, the most effective use of our website, social media and media liaison in maintaining contact with The Regimental Family and the wider public.

**The Museum Trustees** are responsible for making suitable arrangements for the proper management and future control of the property and funds belonging to The Regimental Museum. They are supported in the day to day running of The Museum by The Museum & Heritage Committee (Committee), staffed by a number of volunteers and one MOD-paid employee; the Museum Assistant.

The Museum Committee responsibilities include not just the physical displays in the Museum, but also the Reserve Collection in the storeroom, for their condition, refurbishment, upkeep and long-term preservation. In addition, they are responsible for the day to day running of The Museum and future projects to enhance and maintain the currency of The Museum which receives some 480,000 visitors each year. The Museum Committee's responsibilities also include keeping the Museum's Website up to date.

Within the remit of Heritage, the Museum Committee is responsible, in concert with the Regimental Office, for organising major events such as the recent VC Commemorations, the commemoration for the 2nd/10th Bn return from Archangel in Russia, RS attendance at the 75th anniversary of Kohima and the 80th anniversary of Le Paradis. In addition, they also look after the condition of our Memorials such as the Glencorse Gates and Garden, the cleaning of the RS Monument in Princes Street Gardens and the 7th RS Memorial in Rosebank Cemetery; sometimes through third parties.

**The Royal Scots Club** (incorporating our War Memorial) Trustees act as guardians of the Club, ensuring that the founding principles - to serve as a living War Memorial to the fallen Royal Scots from the First World War and to act as a rallying point for all ranks of The Royal Scots - are maintained. In business parlance the Trustees act as the shareholders of the Club and charge those responsible for the management of The Club to operate it in line with the founding principles.

They are supported by a Management Company whose Directors are charged with the business aspects of running a commercial enterprise, its finances, staff, fabric and property maintenance. This Company is staffed by volunteers and The Club's General Manager, Adrian Hayes. A Club Committee, again staffed by volunteers looks after all the events that take place.

It will be seen from the foregoing that there is a significant band of volunteers, some 60 or so, who are vital in making sure that we continue to provide the service that we require.

Details of all Trustees can be found on The Royal Scots Website (<http://www.theroyalscots.co.uk/trustees/>)

## HERITAGE AND MUSEUM

### Lieutenant Colonel GJ Rae

During this period within The Museum a number of projects have now come to fruition after a long and prolonged period of planning. Much work is underway in preparing the various documents that are required for The Museum to be re-accredited with Museums Galleries Scotland. This work is well underway and will be submitted by the end of Feb 2020. In addition, the month of November has been as busy as ever with various commemoration events which are covered elsewhere in the Thistle:

- Opening of the Garden of Remembrance, Edinburgh - Monday 28 October 2019
- Regimental Event at RS Monument - Monday 28 October 2019 after Garden opening
- Opening of the Garden of Remembrance, Glasgow - Wednesday 30 October 2019
- Opening of the Field of Remembrance, Westminster - Thursday 7 November 2019
- Glencorse Gates - Saturday 9 November 2019 Heart of Midlothian FC Commemoration match - Saturday 9 November 2019
- Regimental Wreath Laying at The RS Club - Sunday 10 November 2019
- Heart of Midlothian FC commemoration - Sunday 10 November 2019
- Remembrance Service, St Giles, Edinburgh - Sunday 10 November 2019
- Remembrance Service, Westminster, London - Sunday 10 November 2019
- Remembrance Service, SNWM, Edinburgh - Monday 11 November 2019
- What about Cenotaph, Peebles....

The following projects are covered below:

**Museum Store Room** - Whilst we reported in the last Thistle that the new shelving had been installed in the Museum store room and the floor reinforced, we have had to wait until the winter to close the Museum and



New Museum storeroom



finish the job with the new lino floor being fitted in both the store room and the workshop area. In addition, the new bespoke work bench has been fitted. The bench can be adjusted to 3 different sizes depending on the job in hand and folds away to a slim side table leaving plenty of room to carry on all the other activities that take place in the store room. All in all, the complete project will have cost some £25K.

**LIBOR** – The LIBOR project is digitising all documents covering WW1 from 1900 to 1922. After what seems months of packing and documenting some 4500 artefacts of pictures, photographs, diaries, letters and various documents, the boxes have now been delivered to the contractor for digitising. All being well we should have them all back by the end of January 2020.

**ROTUNDA** – Having increased the security glass in the Rotunda which houses the Victoria Cross collection of medals won during WW1 last year (2018), we were fortunate in securing funding to completely renovate the whole Rotunda this year. It now looks fantastic. In addition, we had sufficient funding to refurbish and upgrade the security of the Pte Prosser medals display case which now allows the real Pte Prosser Victoria Cross won during the Crimea Campaign to be displayed.



**The Refurbished VCs Rotunda**

**Op BANNER** – Readers will be aware of the forthcoming Op BANNER dinner to be held on the 29 Feb 2020. Following on from the success of the Book of Essays where by every member of the RS Association received a copy, it is intended to give everyone attending the dinner a copy of the Op BANNER compilation of the 13 tours carried out by The Regiment.

**Glencorse Gates** – The committee is happy to report that the Glencorse Gates have undergone a refurbishment. The gates were looking their age and required some TLC. Thanks to the hard work of Maj Ian Johnstone and his fellow workers, the gates have now been refurbished; welded and painted and will now last well into the future.



## SITREP from RS 373 TEAM

In September the 373 Team held showings of the new short film they had made with four Old Royals giving their experiences of their service in WW2. The film was very well received and enjoyed by those who saw it from Old Royals to school children to journalists. To view the film go to YouTube and it is named "Scottish Soldiers-World War 2 Memories". If you haven't seen this then please do, it is an excellent film. The Team are now bringing together stories of life in the Regiment for the period from the end of WW2 to 2006 and hope to bring these together in a 60 minute film. More details of that closer to release date but if you have any reminiscences (printable) that can be shared then please get in touch with the team through the Regimental Office on [admin@theroyalscots.co.uk](mailto:admin@theroyalscots.co.uk).

These are the projects completed or in-hand but that is not where the team stop! No, the next projects are to try and identify all the living WW2 Royal Scots veterans and also to tell the full story of the battle at Le Paradis. To do this the Team have brought this together under a project name of ASK, so if you have any reminiscences you wish to share and/or knowledge of any WW2 RS veterans please do get in touch. It is vitally important that we collect this information now before it is lost forever, we ASK for your help.

**Colonel MF Gibson OBE**



## The Royal Regiment of Scotland

Following the retirement of Major General Robert Bruce CBE, DSO the Royal Regiment of Scotland welcome Major General NRM (Nick) Borton DSO, MBE as Colonel of the Regiment.

Maj Gen Borton was commissioned in to The Royal Highland Fusiliers in 1988 and currently is Chief of Staff (Operations) at PJHQ.



General Borton

Autumn and the lead up to the Festive season saw the SCOTS Battalions busy as ever with a widely varied programme of training ranging from pre-operational training, to skill at arms to sport and adventure training. 12 members of **1 SCOTS** went to Malta for a course in diving qualifying as sports divers. The Battalion football team continued to compete in the NI Military League and compete in the Army Minor Units cup. The Battalion also took part in the BFBS Charity event @Big Salute' with a version of "CO's PT" those

taking part had a choice of 'Heaven' or 'Hell'; the former doing a stretcher race with an unladen stretcher followed by jelly & biscuits and some exercise football. Hell on the other hand ran the circuit with a laden stretcher followed by a cross-fit style circuit wearing body armour and helmets. The monies raised went to the BFBS annual fundraising for Armed Forces charities.

**2 SCOTS** deployed to Kenya on Ex AKARI STORM where individual and unit skills were tried and tested. September saw the **3 SCOTS** Battle Group come together to take part in Ex WESSEX STORM 4/19. This saw a rifle company from Latvia join and work with the Battle Group. **4 SCOTS** took part in the internal sports competition ELGIN ROSE BOWL 19 which saw teams competing in football, cross-country basketball and shinty. The Battalion then organised Ex GI JANE for spouses and consisted of a two night exercise on Catterick training area. With a slightly different wardrobe and make up, the participants thoroughly enjoyed their time emulating their spouses.

**5 SCOTS** continue to supply Public Duties and were the Royal Guard from 20 July 2020 to 20 October, supported HRH the Duke of Rothesay at Birkhall as well as support for the State Opening of Parliament. In January 5 SCOTS deploy to Oman for training.

**6 SCOTS** ran a Patrols Weekend in Garelochhead which stood the Battalion team well in the Cambrian Patrol Competition which followed. Remaining with competitions the Battalion ran an Operational Shooting Skills competition which was won by A Company. Football remains an important part of Battalion life and the team produced three players for the Army Reserve team game in Gibraltar.

**7 SCOTS** joined 3 SCOTS Battle Group for Ex WESSEX Storm as part of their Annual Deployment Training. During this exercise 7 SCOTS were joined by 3 US National Guard soldiers on exchange. This was their first time working with British soldiers and were impressed by the professionalism and skills of the Battalion. One item of note is Pte Gilbert, of C Company, attended CIC and became the first female trained infantry soldier in the Battalion, well done to her.

## The Royal Scots Club

Following their 100th Anniversary the Club are not resting on their laurels in any way and have a very full and interesting programme of events lined up for 2020. Details of these can be found on the Club website <https://www.royalscotsclub.com/>

## Old n Bold

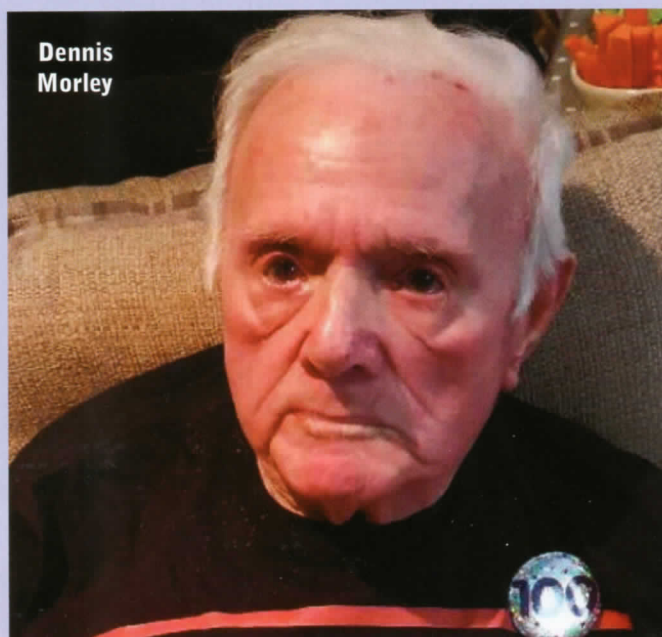
Another of our Regimental Old 'n Bold has lived up to the title by reaching his 100th Birthday on October 26th. Captain Springthorpe received the following email from Brian Finch:

*My wife and I visited Dennis Morley yesterday to join in the celebrations for his 100th birthday.*

*Dennis had many birthday cards from family and friends from around the world, one from the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions and one from Her Majesty The Queen. But he was most moved by the card he received from The Royal Scots. When he showed it to me he said "They are a fine Regiment". His daughter said that when he received the card, he was so moved that he broke down and sobbed.*

*Thank you so much, Jimmy, for sending it. It clearly meant a great deal to him.*

*Kind regards  
Brian*



Dennis Morley



## The Sai Kung Ghost – memories of Colonel John Purves

The scene is Hong Kong in the early 1970s and the Tenth Gurkhas were turning their thoughts to the imminent UK tour. However, Border Duty continued and training was at a frenetic pace. Graeme Grant, our hugely popular B Company Commander, on secondment to us from The Royal Scots, deployed the company by Wessex helicopter to exercise on the Sai Kung peninsula with its rural villages, some still occupied but increasingly deserted. It was hard work but ENDEX eventually arrived and that evening, cases of San Miguel and Tiger Beer ("Bhag ko Dudh") and the Company madals (Nepali drums) magically appeared beside our large camp-fire. As daylight faded, singing and dancing began, throats being appropriately lubricated.

Sai Kung's small hills, with its network of concrete pathways threaded between the paddy fields, began to ring with Gurkha soldiers' songs accompanied by the joyously insistent beat of the madals. Everyone in the Company was either singing, dancing or happily chatting and enjoying the cool beer. Graeme Grant and his 2 British platoon commanders had little time to sit and talk as we were constantly being dragged to the "dance-floor" beside our blazing campfire. It would be hard to imagine a more relaxed and carefree collection of warriors.

But suddenly there was a noticeable decrease in the volume of singing as more and more voices dropped out, and as the madal-beat faded into silence there was a very apparent unease among the men. Exhortations from CSM Dhanbahadur prompted a few false starts to the singing but a disturbing atmosphere now pervaded.

I turned to Kabitman, my platoon sergeant, and whispered, "Why are the boys so unsettled and nervous?"

"The jhankri says that there is an unhappy spirit coming here to our campfire, Sir." (A jhankri is a "special one" who allegedly possesses supernatural powers.)

Trying my best to look unperturbed, I blurted, "Surely you don't believe that sort of thing, Sgt Kabitman!"

Kabitman, a tall, strong man, later to be our RSM in Cyprus in 1974, met my eyes and replied, "I do not know what you believe, Saheb, but there is certainly an unhappy spirit coming this way!"

Graeme Grant and the Company 2iC had obviously been having similar conversations but had decided that "The show must go on!", so the boys were told to get on with the singing and dancing again and not to be superstitious.

"More beer!"

The singing recommenced, somewhat half-heartedly, but all eyes were now concentrated on a glaring light which was certainly coming our way. I asked Graeme what he planned. Just as we agreed "Carry on as normal", the jhankri appeared and told Graeme that, if we did not move, horrible things could happen.

The singing dried up again and the jhankri's words were being passed in whispers from one soldier to another. Worried looks were being exchanged in the light of the campfire but the ever-calm Company 2iC produced the solution.

"Sir, I suggest that you order the company to move up to that small hill behind us where we shall not be too close to where the jhankri says the unhappy spirit will come. We can observe what happens from there."

"Agreed, Saheb. Jaun!" (Let's go!)

So we all, with as much dignity as we could muster, redeployed to the small hillock about 50 metres from the fire. My orderly, Gyanbahadur, sat protectively in front of me as we watched the light coming closer to our fire. Silence now. A small part only of my brain told me that very soon we would see a Chinese villager come into view carrying a lantern with a glaringly bright mantle. Hope more than expectation!

As the light came close we could all see that the it was not held up by a man. In fact, it was not held up by anything at all. It just hung there in the air about 4 feet from the ground, totally unsupported. The only sound was the crackling of our fire. All of us held our



Gurkhas with madals drums



breath as the light flared even more brightly, then died a little before it flared dazzlingly again. This was repeated another two or three times before suddenly the light extinguished and was no more.

We all breathed out and waited. Nothing. Suman, the OC's orderly quickly arrived from further along the hill where he had been sitting with the OC and 2IC.

"Grant Saheb says we are to return to the campfire. The jankhri says the spirit has gone now."

And so we returned. The madals reappeared, as did some extra cases of San Miguel. The beer flowed and the singing grew again in strength.

I don't remember much about how the evening ended but the following morning there was little time to dwell on the previous night's happenings. We assembled for a company photograph and before long the LCT hove into view in the bay to take us on our homeward voyage.

So, 46 years later, three questions remain:

1. Was it a ghost?
2. Why did it come to our campfire?
3. Did it happen at all or did I just have too much Tiger Beer?

JJP



Graeme Grant

## Royal Newfoundland Regiment

A glass was raised to both Regiments by Lt Col Kyle Strong MB, CD and members of his Regiment. A gesture well appreciated by Royal Scots of all ranks and wish The Royal Newfoundland Regiment all the best for 2020.

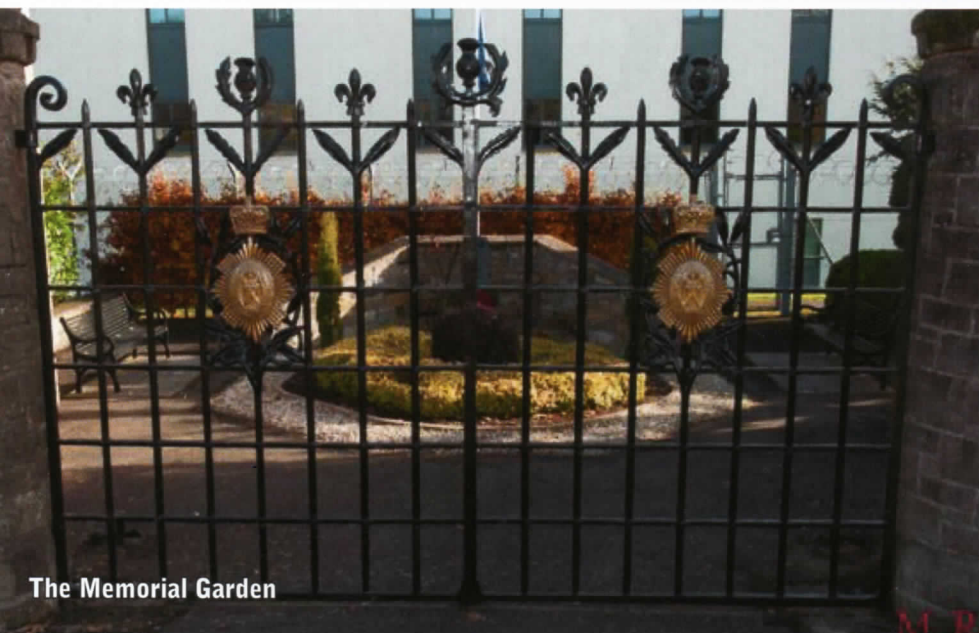


Lt Col Strong

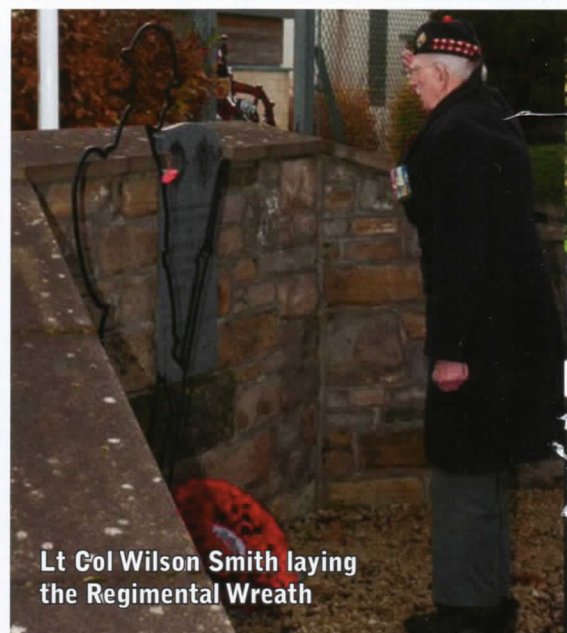


A toast from over the ocean





The Memorial Garden



Lt Col Wilson Smith laying the Regimental Wreath



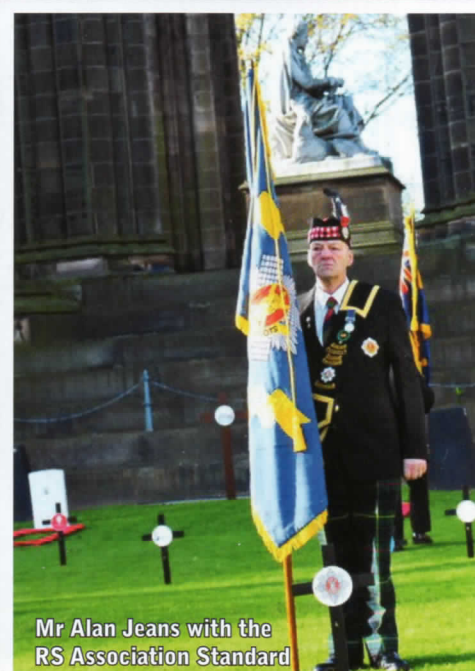
The Standards



Brig Ritchie, Major Johnstone  
Mrs Candy Richardson Lt Col Wilson Smith



Regimental Family



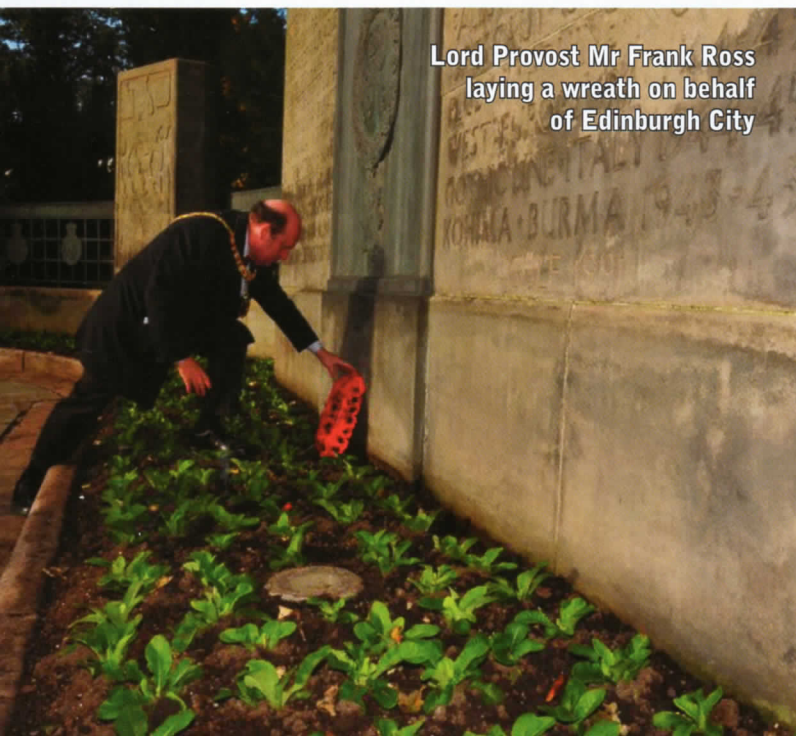
Mr Alan Jeans with the  
RS Association Standard



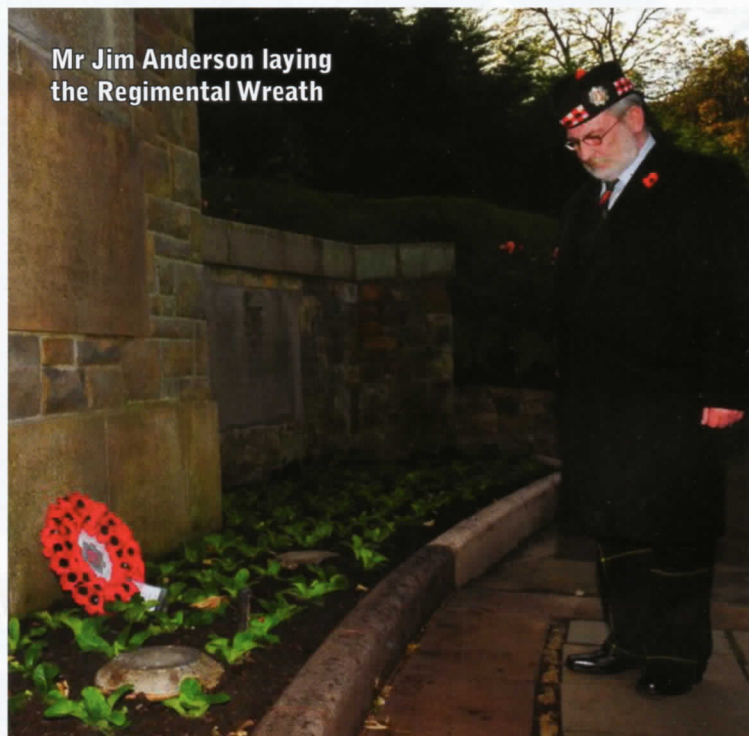
At the Monument



Rev Iain May



Lord Provost Mr Frank Ross  
laying a wreath on behalf  
of Edinburgh City



Mr Jim Anderson laying  
the Regimental Wreath

## Remembrance Day 2019



Robert Wallace preparing for  
Remembrance in Australia 2019

Lest we Forget



Calum Colqhoun  
at Haddington  
Remembrance Parade



RBL Standards  
in Haddington



## Remembrance 2019

The year saw the end of the WW1 Commemorations for our Regiment with the commemoration of the return of 2/10th Battalion RS from Russia in 1919, held in Linlithgow and reported in the previous edition of The Thistle. We also saw a new event on our calendar and following the opening of the Garden of Remembrance in Edinburgh, the Royal Scots present made their way to The Royal Scots Monument in West Princes Street Gardens and wreaths were laid there following a very short Service. More below.



**Capt Alex Dockar laying the Regimental Wreath at Edinburgh Garden of Remembrance**

In late September, The Regimental Office kick started the Remembrance events by ensuring that enough wreaths had been ordered from the Lady Haig Poppy Factory, ensuring that wreaths were pre-positioned for the events at the Garden of Remembrance and City Chambers for the City's commemorations on Remembrance Sunday. Along with this a list of known events is posted on The Royal Scots website to ensure the wider Regimental Family knew what was planned and where. If you know of local events let the Regimental Office know, giving as much notice as possible.

### Edinburgh Garden of Remembrance

Once more the Regiment had a very good turn out for this event in East Princes Street Gardens, organised by the Royal British Legion Scotland (RBL). Along with the individual memories and crosses placed in the Garden, the Regiment lays a wreath on behalf of all members of the Regimental Family. This year the wreath was laid by one of our Regimental Trustees, Captain Alex Dockar.

## Royal Scots Monument Event

As noted above, following the conclusion of the RBL event, the Royals present formed up behind Capt Springthorpe and Mr John Ross, The Lord Provost of Edinburgh, who had kindly agreed to lay a wreath on behalf of the City. The Monument has been through stage one of a refurbishment programme carried out by the Edinburgh City Council and was sparkling in the bright autumn sunlight. The Association Chaplain, Rev Iain May BSc, MBA, BD, conducted the short Service followed by wreaths being laid by the Lord Provost on behalf of the City of Edinburgh and Mr Jim Anderson on behalf of the Regiment.

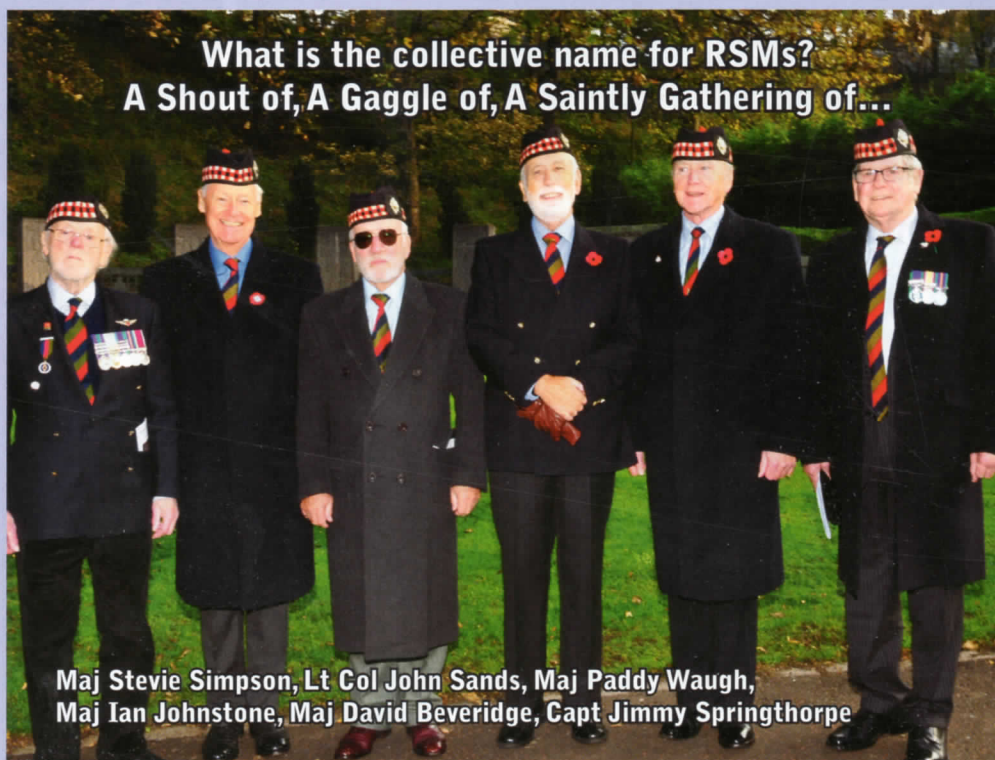
### Glencorse Memorial Gates – Saturday 9th November

Approximately 70 old Royals and members of the Regimental Family made the journey to Glencorse for the Service there. It was good to see Mr Dave Fraser up from Oswestry for this event. The Service was led by Rev Iain May, the Association Chaplain and the wreath was laid by Lt Col Jock Wilson Smith. Following the Service we were hosted by 2 SCOTS in their Corporals Mess where a buffet lunch was served. 2 SCOTS also provided us with a Piper and Bugler so the Golden Thread still runs true. Our thanks also go to Major Ian Johnstone for leading the event and looking after the Memorial Garden with Mr Tom Sneddon, they do a great job for us.

### Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 10th November saw the Regimental Family well represented across the Regimental area; as well as the ceremony at the City Chambers where Mr Andy Kyle laid the Regimental Wreath, services and ceremonies were held in towns and villages with many old Royals on parade. The Cap Badge got a good outing that weekend. Unfortunately, we have not received many photographs this year of these events but we have some which are on the Centre Pages.

Services and events were also held in the Regimental Kirk at the Canongate and the Army Reserve Centre at East Claremont Street, hosted by 6 SCOTS. The Royal Scots Club at midday saw a wreath being laid by Major General Mark Strudwick on behalf of The Regiment, followed by lunch in The Club.



**What is the collective name for RSMs?  
A Shout of, A Gaggles of, A Sainly Gathering of...**

**Maj Stevie Simpson, Lt Col John Sands, Maj Paddy Waugh,  
Maj Ian Johnstone, Maj David Beveridge, Capt Jimmy Springthorpe**



### Mrs Barbra Bruce (Formerly Ferguson)

The last edition of the Thistle mentioned that we, as a Regimental Family, would be gathering by the Regimental Monument in West Princes Street Gardens as reported elsewhere in this edition. Mrs Bruce, widow of Lieutenant Colonel Peter Ferguson wrote to Brigadier Lowder with some reminiscences of the day the plaque to HRHR The Princess Royal was unveiled.

"My husband, the late Lt Col Peter Ferguson, then a major commanding B Company 1RS, Commanded the Guard of Honour on this occasion. Peter and his troops returned to Edinburgh from Osnabruck a week or so beforehand to rehearse for it and for the Royal Review of troops in Scotland which was to take place shortly after in Holyrood Park.

The day before the unveiling there was a bit of consternation when one of the B Company soldiers became unavailable having for some reason, fallen by the wayside. This meant a last minute reshuffle of the ranks to avoid the well known eagle eye Her Majesty the Queen has for such details. If spotted by her we will never know but that we the Guard of Honour paraded with 99 Officers and Men instead of 100!

A reception had been arranged for after the unveiling in the Merchant's Hall. Peter had been asked to nominate three soldiers in his Company to attend this and the invitation was to these three soldiers and their parents. When I asked how he would select the soldiers for this his reply was, "Easy, very few have never been on a charge since I took over command." I was tasked by Peter to write to the mothers a diplomatic and friendly wee note telling them what I intended to wear; in other words: "Don't forget your hat and gloves as there is a very strong chance you will be presented to Her Majesty". I was nearly moved to tears afterwards when one of the Mums said to me "Mrs Ferguson, if I'd known I was going to meet the Queen, I'd have bought a new coat."

The Royal Review also has its own memories for me and did it rain?! It poured steadily all morning, so I abandoned any idea of sitting on the slopes of Arthur Seat in favour of watching an edited version on TV later in the day! The Royal Scots contingent, which Peter commanded, and other members of Her Majesty's Armed Forces in Scotland (including a Mobile Bath Unit!!) had been marched into position a good hour prior to Her Majesty's arrival and had been stood at ease. Time passed and the rain continued. Peter said afterwards that he could feel his braces stretching as rainwater seeped into his trews! The Queen arrived and the troops duly did their stuff but it took three days to dry out Peter's uniform. I am told that the soldiers' uniforms which had been bundled up and trucked back to Osnabruck had arrived in a far from fresh condition!"

*Mrs Barbara Bruce*

### Taken at the Lowlanders v Highlanders Curling Match held in Kinross on 6 Feb 2020



David Dickson, Charles Ritchie, David Hepburn, Mike Onslow, Gordon Rae, Brian de la Haye



### Officers' Golf Outing

The third year of this competition, held on the day of the officers' dinner, saw players battling it out at Uphall Golf Club, courtesy of Ian Johnston. Ian's local knowledge, however, was not enough to make a difference on the day which offered good playing conditions, and the honours went to Richard Stark for the second year running, with a score of thirty-six stableford points. Cliff McAuley came a close second and Brian de la Haye, third. Cliff McAuley also won the "Nearest the Pin" and

"Longest Drive" (by virtue of staying on the fairway!) Ian Johnston did not go empty-handed, however, and his prize for the "Best Endeavour", always closely contested, was richly deserved!

Once again The Royal Scot Club sponsored the event for which the organisers are very grateful indeed. The venue for 2020 will be announced once known and it is hope as many as possible will enter.



Richard Stark, Ian Johnstone, Brian de la Haye, Cliff McAuley

### Royal Scots Officers' Dinner

Brigadier George Lowder MBE, Chairman of Trustees welcomed 50 officers, including 6 serving members of The Royal Regiment of Scotland, to the Annual Officers' Dinner Night in the Hepburn Suite of The Royal Scots Club.

Music during the event was supplied by members of the Lowland Band and Pipers from The Royal Regiment of Scotland who entertained diners with some rousing tunes. Following this Brigadier Lowder presented the 2018 Regimental Prize to Mr Adrian Hayes, General Manager of The Club for his support to the Regiment, especially in the Club's centenary year.

This very successful evening was rounded off by a chorus of "The Gallant Royal Scots" by all present.

### Royal Scots Association Dinner

#### The Nagpore Dinner

The Association hosted another Nagpore Dinner in October attended by 40 Members and guests. Good company, good food and some good beer saw the evening turn into the success these Dinners are. If you have not been to one then give it a go, the good bit is the people you know from years ago have not changed other than grow a bit older; the bad news is that the people you knew many years ago have not changed! A thoroughly great night of comradeship excellently organised by Mr Tom Douglas. The next Association Dinner will be in late March to commemorate Regimental Day, look for the details on the RS website and come along, all ex Royals welcome, of whatever rank.





The Louden Trophy starting grid

## Golf – The Louden Trophy

This year the Louden trophy was held at Holywood Golf Course on the outskirts of Belfast and only a few minutes from Palace Barracks.

Hollywood is a challenging parkland course set on a hillside with impressive views of Belfast Loch and is the club where Rory McIlroy honed his skills from a young age. In fact the Clubhouse could be mistaken for a shrine to the famous golfer with constant reminders of his connections with the Club in the shape of pictures, trophy replicas and other memorabilia. It is clear that the Clubhouse has benefited from considerable recent investment and is a most impressive set up with, amongst other things, a state of the art fitness centre and superb indoor golf training facilities.

This year saw the initiation of a new trophy which was donated by former Royal Scot RSMs, Paddy Waugh, Ian Johnstone, Dave Beveridge, Jimmy Springthorpe and John Sands. The idea was to give the veteran guests something to play for and is open to former Mess members aged over 55 in the Stableford format playing off full handicap. This new trophy is called The RSMs' Quaich and will, hopefully, encourage more veterans to take advantage of any future invitation to attend the event.

The weather was kind to the 60 or so golfers and caddies and after the customary toast to the memory of John Louden, proposed by Ian Johnstone, play commenced with a 9 hole Stableford competition played on the front 9 holes. After a light soup and sandwich lunch and with everyone warmed up, the battle for the Louden Trophy began with a shotgun start. As previously stated Holywood is a challenging course and after 27 holes there were some weary golfers at the end of the day especially among some of the more mature guests.

An hour after the end of play saw everyone assembling back in the Sergeants' Mess for the post competition social event which began with the prize giving. Former Royal Scots in attendance were; Sgt Bob Allen, Maj Cliff McAuley, C/Sgt Stevie Gibb, Steven Boyle, John Lothian, Larry Gilbert, George Dickson, Keith Wilson, Derek Notman, John Beck, Paddy Waugh, Ian Johnstone and John Sands.

The principal prize winners were as follows;

Wooden Spoon; Sgt Hayes

Nearest the pin on the 6th; Capt McBroom Nearest the pin on the 10th; Maj McAuley

Nearest the pin in 2 on the 14th Maj McAuley

Longest drive on the 16th; W02 Gammie

Best Guest: Mr Bob Darlow (Capt of Holywood Golf Club), Best Guest runner up; Maj McAuley

9 Hole Stableford runner up C/Sgt Gibb, 9 Hole Stableford winner W02 Gammie

Best 4 ball Maj McAuley, RSM Docherty, John Lothian and Larry Gilbert

Best gross score; Sgt Thompson, Larry Gilbert Trophy winner; W02 Gammie

RSMs' Quaich winner; John Sands; Louden Trophy runner up C/Sgt Brown

**Louden Trophy winner;** C/Sgt Gibb (also last year's winner, and who is looking forward to attempting the triple next year)

Prize giving concluded, the evening continued in its traditional way with successful putts getting longer, much in the same way as an angler's salmon, and faulty club selection being blamed for triple bogeys etc.

The band of brothers spirit was evident, as it always is, as was the level of hospitality shown to all the guests. The event organisation was impeccable and it was clear that the Louden Trophy continues to be much enjoyed by all and continues to play an important part in the Mess social calendar. The original aims of promoting comradeship and stimulating interest in the game of golf is still very much in evidence.



C/Sgt Gibb winner of the Louden Trophy receiving the prize from CO 1SCOTS



## DEATHS

The Editor relies on friends and relatives to provide timely and meaningful contributions to record the life and achievements of for members of the Regiment.

**Mr Thomas Jackson Ewart**  
2 September 2019 - KOSB/1RS

**Mr David Zavaroni**  
30 September 2019 - CSgt 1RS

**Mr Peter Boyes**  
5 October 2019 - Cpl 1RS

**Mr John Reid (Jack) Cockburn -**  
5 November 2019 - W02 1RS/2RS

**Mr William (Bill) Walker**  
2 December 2019 - 1RS

**Major James Sherriff**  
10 December 2019 - 7/9RS

**Lt Col PJ (Patrick) Cardwell Moore MBE -**  
12 December 2019 - 1RS

**Judge David Rodger Hall**  
27 December 2019 - former National Service Captain 1RS

**Mr James M Neil**  
29 Jan 2020 - LCpl 1RS

## IN MEMORIUM

**DR (Roger) Hall**  
National Service officer  
with 1RS

David Roger Hall (Roger Hall), very sadly passed away over Christmas - Judge David Roger Hall (Roger Hall) born in 1931 served with The Royal Scots in Korea, Egypt, the Suez and Cyprus. He was extremely proud of his service to the Royal Scots Regiment. As you can see from the photograph he proudly wore his uniform on Remembrance Sunday each year as well as keeping in touch with the veterans from The Royal Scots and the Club.

Following his National Service Roger became a lawyer and ended his long career as a Judge in the south of England. Roger settled in Somerset but was visiting family in Newcastle when he fell and died a few days later.

Although Roger spent his time, all too short, as a National Service officer with the Royal Scots, he was able to be with the Battalion at some interesting and crucial times. He never forgot his Regiment and in his later life was a regular attender of the Officers' Dinner in October each year.



David Roger Hall (Roger)



## IN MEMORIAM

### Lieutenant Colonel PJ (Patrick) Cardwell Moore

Lieutenant Colonel Patrick Cardwell Moore died in Perth Royal Infirmary on the morning of 12 December 2019 following a stroke some two weeks earlier.

Patrick was born in Burma (Myanmar) in August 1941 where his father was serving in the Burma Rifles. When the Japanese invaded in late January 1942 his mother trekked 150 miles to India with Patrick and then spent the war years there. Returning to the family home in South Armagh after the War, Patrick went to Fettes before entering Sandhurst in Intake 28 in January 1960. Originally intended for The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers Patrick was persuaded to change to The Royal Scots by the then Captain Nigel Stisted who was an instructor at the Academy at that time. Passing out 8th out of 220, possibly the highest position achieved by a Royal Scot on the old two-year course, he joined A Company 1 RS in Tripoli in January 1962 remaining with them until the end of the Radfan Campaign. It was during the latter that he had a miraculous escape when an AAC Beaver in which he was a passenger had to make an emergency crash-landing on the floor of a rock-strewn wadi and all three on board, and the aircraft itself, escaped unscathed.

In 1964 he went to the Depot followed by a tour on secondment with our affiliated Gurkha Regiment, 10GR, in Hong Kong and Penang. This secondment was so successful that a number of other officers followed both ways over the next few years. It was during this tour that he married Virginia Balfour. After Penang he returned to 1RS as Adjutant to Bob Richardson including on the first Northern

Ireland tour. After moving to command Support Company he attended Staff College in 1972-73 from where he was selected for what was probably the most demanding Major's staff appointment in the Army at that time, as S02 Operations in HQ Northern Ireland – working to General David Young as Commander Land Forces – for which he was awarded the MBE.

In September 1983 he took command of 1RS preparing them for, and then leading them on, a four-month tour to the Falkland Islands, only the second garrison battalion after the end of the war. It was while sitting on the SS Uganda awaiting return to the UK at the very end of the Tour that he noticed a blurring of his vision. Taken ashore immediately he was medevaced home by air and immediately operated on for a serious heart condition. He returned briefly to command, including the first visit to the 1st Battalion by the then RHR The Princess Anne as Colonel-in-Chief, but had to step down in November 1984 due to ill-health. In 1987, having been downgraded medically, he retired. A great loss to the Regiment and the Army as, if he had continued, he would undoubtedly have made 'starred' rank.

On retirement he and Virginia bought a house at Couper Angus and he took up the post of Castle Administrator at Glamis Castle in Angus. He retired from there in 2000. A keen shot and fisherman he had an exceptional eye for a ball and, while never appearing to put much effort in, was a fine rugby full-back, tennis player and latterly, golfer. On final retirement he spent much time researching his family history.

Our sympathies go Virginia, their children James, Emily and Rosie and their children.



Lt Col Moore with Falkland Island Governor Sir Rex Hunt CMG  
©Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment)



## New Book

### The Royal Scots - The Dandy Ninth by Neill Gilhooley

The only Battalion in the Regiment to be kilted, the Dandy Ninth, as a stand alone battalion, had a relatively short life formed in Edinburgh in 1900 until it was merged with the 7th Battalion in 1922, becoming the 7th/9th Battalion. This very well written book is stuffed with information about the Dandy 9th, most of which covers their time in WW1. It concludes by reminding us of the 'Golden Thread' through to the 6th (52 Lowland Volunteers) Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Scotland. A good read for anyone interested in part of the Regimental history of The Royal Scots.

### From The Editor:

#### Errata

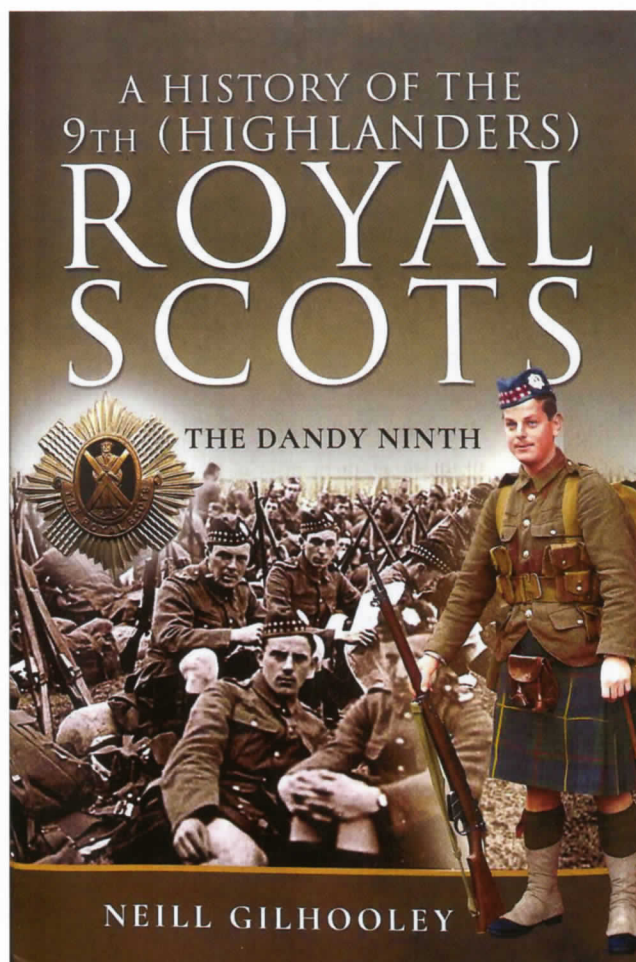
Vol 35, Summer 2019.

Page 7 - spelling of Lt Col Sylvester should be as given now.

Page 13 - Visit to the Western Front. This was undertaken by members of The Royal Newfoundland Regiment, (RNFLDR) and not the Royal Canadian Regiment as stated.

My apologies to all concerned and I hope this sets the record straight.

Once again, the Editorial team are grateful for the articles and photographs sent to us and we try to use most of these in The Thistle. Space constraints may mean that the article has to be edited which is at the Editor's discretion. Please refer to the Regimental website for confirmation of events venues and timings. We welcome any comments, ideas, constructive criticism so if you have any or all of these then either give the Team a phone call or drop us an email. All articles for The Thistle should be sent to [thistle.editor@theroyalscots.co.uk](mailto:thistle.editor@theroyalscots.co.uk). Timeline for the Summer edition is 1 August 2020.



## FORECAST OF EVENTS

Day	Mth/Yr	Event	Time	Location
	Feb-20			
Tue	18th	Executive Committee Meeting	1230	Regimental Office, RS Club
	TBC	Regtl Association General Committee Meeting	1300	The Royal Scots Club
Sat	29th	Op BANNER 50th Anniversary	1900	The Royal Scots Club
	Mar-20			
Fri	20th	Regimental Association AGM	1900	The Royal Scots Club
Fri	20th	Officers' Dinner - Royal Regiment of Scotland	1900	Organised by RHQ SCOTS
Sat	28th	Regimental Day The Royal Scots		
Sat	28th	Formation Day Royal Regiment of Scotland		
Sat	28th	Regimental Association Regimental Day Dinner	1900	The Royal Scots Club
	Apr-20			
Sun	5th	Fallen Comrades Golf	1000	Arrangements will be posted on website
Fri	10th	Easter weekend		Regimental Office closed
Mon	13th	Easter Monday		Regimental Office closed
Fri	24th	RS Association General Committee Meeting	1300	RS Club
Sat	25th	ANZAC & Gallipoli Day Service	1045	Scottish National War Memorial, Castle
Sat	25th	Annual Regimental Reunion	1900	Bainfield Bowling Club, Edinburgh



## FORECAST OF EVENTS contd.

Day	Mth/Yr	Event	Time	Location
	May-20			
Tue	5th	Regtl Executive Meeting	1130	Regimental Office, RS Club
Fri	8th	75th Anniversary of VE Day RBLS VE75 Parade of Veterans		Bank Holiday. Parade being held in Edinburgh details to follow
Sat	23rd	Gretna Commemorations	1100	Rosebank Cemetery, Leith
Sat	23rd	Le Paradis Commemoration		France
Fri	29th	Regimental Trustees Meeting	1500	RS Club
TBC		McRae's Battalion pilgrimage to the Western Front		
	Jun-20			
Sat	27th	Armed Forces Day, Edinburgh	1000	Form up Charlotte Sq
Sun	28th	Armed Forces Day, West Lothian	1100	Livingstone
	Jul-20			
		Anniversary of Kohima		York
	Sep-20			
TBC		Gladdy Murray Golf Outing		Venue to be confirmed
Thu	24th	Executive Committee Meeting	1130	Regimental Office, RS Club
Sat	26th	RS Association, Nagpore Dinner	1900	RS Club
	Oct-20			
Mon	26th	Opening of Edinburgh Garden of Remembrance	1045	East Princes Street Gardens
Mon	26th	RS Service at the RS Monument	1200	West Princes Street Gardens
Fri	30th	Regimental Trustees Meeting	1300	RS Club
Fri	30th	Officers' Golf Outing	TBC	Venue to be confirmed
Fri	30th	Royal Scots Officers' Dinner	1900	RS Club
	Nov-20			
Thu	5 Nov	Opening of Westminster Field of Remembrance	1100	Westminster, London
Sat	7 Nov	Glencorse Memorial Garden Service	1045	Glencorse Barracks
Sun	8 Nov	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY Service – Edinburgh City Chambers Canongate Church Haymarket HMFC FC Remembrance Service Glasgow Local Remembrance Service 6 SCOTS Remembrance Service	1100 1100 1100 1100 1100 1500	May be Saturday TBC George Square, Glasgow Under local arrangements AR Centre, East Claremont Street
Wed	11 Nov	Remembrance Day	1100	National observation
	Dec-20			
Tue	15th	Volunteers Christmas Lunch	1200	RS Club
TBC		Museum & Office Close for Festive Season		
	Dec-20			
Tue	5th Jan	Museum & Office Reopen	0930	
TBC		Branch Burns Supper Nights	TBC	Under Branch arrangements



## **ASSOCIATION BRANCH DETAILS**

### **EDINBURGH**

Last Friday of each month at 8.00 pm  
at Leith Ex-Servicemens' Club, 7 Smith Place, Edinburgh

Contact: Mags Allen

Weeweegie1@virginmedia.com

### **CENTRAL SCOTLAND**

First Sunday of each month at 2.00pm  
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

Contact: Peter Blackie

peterblackie@yahoo.co.uk

### **NORTHERN IRELAND**

First Tuesday of each month  
at RBL Ards

Contact: Davy McKendrick, Secretary

Davidsmck1@sky.com

### **HIGHLAND**

First Sunday of each month at 6 pm  
at Raigmore Recreation Rooms, Inverness

Contact: Tam McFadyen

tamrosie@btinternet.com

### **SOUTHERN**

No Branch meetings but events arranged during the year.

Contact: Tam Millar

Weetam0571@sky.co.uk

### **PIPE BAND**

Contact T Corkerton for information re Band practice days.

Contact: Torquil Corkerton

torquil@ednet.co.uk

**For further information contact the:**

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