



# The Thistle

Journal of The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment)

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## Chairman of Trustees Foreword

The Regimental Trustees have responsibility and accountability for the Regimental Trust funds and the overall governance of our four well established Regimental Pillars: Museum (education and heritage preservation), Benevolence (welfare support of RS in need), the Association (comradeship) and regimental interests in the RS Club (principal RS war memorial). The Trustees are Brig George Lowder, Col Dick Mason, Mr Jeremy Richardson, Brig Robbie Scott-Bowden, Col Robert Watson and myself, with Brig James Stevenson in attendance. Our Regimental Secretary, Lt Col Jim Blythe, is the secretary.

Looking back for a moment, The Royal Regiment of Scotland (SCOTS) was formed on our Regimental Day in 2006; on that day, after 373 years of continuous service, our Regiment ceased to be in the British Army's order of battle. In November 2012 RHQ SCOTS restructured. The six antecedent regiments' Home HQs (HHQ) ceased to exist and were replaced by three RHQ SCOTS area offices in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Inverness. Fortunately, our former RHQ/HHQ was selected as the Edinburgh office base, as before, in the Old Provost Marshal's House. Jim Blythe and his one member of staff are now employed by the MOD to support Scotland's Infantry regiment, SCOTS. There is no longer MOD funding available to support any of the activities of the SCOTS antecedent regiments. The former HHQs at Berwick, Perth and Stirling have totally closed and their staffs are being redeployed to RHQ SCOTS in Edinburgh Castle.

With our Regimental family very strong, and six years on, the Regimental Trustees met in December 2012 to consider the imperative of ensuring that, overarched by regimental charitable funds, our Regimental Pillars become self-sufficient, fit for purpose in the second decade of the 21st century and sustainable for at least a further 40 years. The increasing assistance of volunteers will be essential as we move forward.

Grant making policy in support of regimental activities, for example Association events including sports and remembrance and commemorative events such as marking the centenary of WW1 battles and the 1915 Gretna rail disaster, has been reviewed.

Our museum in Edinburgh Castle is currently experiencing a major displays' lighting upgrade. Seven days a week opening is planned, and SCOTS has accepted our invitation to establish their interim museum display within the former shop area of our museum.

Benevolence support of needy ex-Royals continues and grants totalling £40,000 are provided annually, and there will be continuing demands on our charitable funds.

The Association, with over 300 members, is both functioning well and the envy of several other regiments. The Trustees decided that in the next four months a wide consultation exercise to seek

suggestions as to what expectations there are and what would make membership more attractive, eg comradeship gatherings, special events, remembrance and commemoration, special interest groups, geographical or regional structures, methods of communication – for instance web based social media, Thistle, newsletters – should take place involving both the current Association membership and the wider regimental family. Feedback, including on an interim basis, is planned.

I do encourage Old Royals and the wider regimental family to continue to visit the Castle where Lt Col Jim Blythe continues as our volunteer Regimental Secretary within the Old Provost Marshal's House which also houses the RS museum office and library, and to visit the museum itself. Please note, however, that visitors should always contact the Castle in advance to avoid being turned away by Historic Scotland.

Finally, our thoughts are very much with 1 SCOTS who are currently on operations in Afghanistan and also their families in Edinburgh. Our heartfelt sympathy goes to the family of Capt Walter Barrie who was killed on Remembrance Sunday. We wish the Battalion well and a safe return to Scotland in April.

*Colonel Martin Gibson OBE DL*

## Keep in Touch

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

The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment)  
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The Castle, EDINBURGH EH1 2YT

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The Canadian Scottish Trustees

# The Canadian Scottish Regiment's Centenary

The Canadian Scottish Regiment, whose affiliation with The Royal Scots dates from 1926, celebrated its centenary in Victoria, British Columbia, last October. Lt Col Jim Blythe represented the Regiment at the celebrations and was ably supported by his wife, Mhairi, and the following members of the Regimental Association: Mr & Mrs Sammy McKeen, Stuart Aitken, Tommy Douglas, Willie Hoy, Andy Keane, Tom Logan, Davy McKendrick and Harry Wright. Needless to say they all had a wonderful time and are full of praise for the kindness of their hosts.



Association members at the Gala Dinner

On the evening of 18 October Lt Col & Mrs Blythe were present at the opening of the 'For Valour' exhibition of the Canadian Scottish Victoria Crosses in the Royal Museum of British Columbia. The exhibition includes a copy, presented to the Canadian Scottish by The Royal Scots, of the painting of Piper James Richardson VC, Canadian Scottish, playing at the Somme in October 1916, which hangs in the 1 SCOTS Officers' Mess.

The following morning the RS party mustered at the Canadian Scottish's home at Bay Street Armoury where they visited the museum and viewed the Regiment's two war memorials. By the evening the Armoury had been transformed for the 'Meet & Greet' ceremony and a warm welcome was extended

to the RS party. A number of Canadians who had visited HHQ RS and the RS museum came forward to renew acquaintances and several of them remembered past events such as the RS 350 celebrations in 1983 and the presentation of the final set of Colours to 1 RS at Dreghorn in 2003. Amongst

those with fond memories was RSM Steve Kelly who had been a member of 1 RS Pipes and Drums in Osnabruck in the late 1960s where he had served alongside Drum Major Andy Keane, one of the RS party. He had subsequently moved to Canada and joined the Canadian Scottish where he became Pipe Major and subsequently RSM. He had also played at the wedding of Col & Mrs Watson who had sent a photograph of that occasion to be given to Steve.

There were two rather more formal events on the Saturday. The Canadian Scottish Association Centennial Lunch was held at the Esquimalt Naval Base among great company, in comfortable mess surroundings, and with stunning views over the sound. All were welcomed by the Canadian Scottish Pipe Band who played sets between courses and again at the end of the meal. WW2 veterans were presented with commemorative bottles of fine malt whisky with the Canadian Scottish cap badge on the label. Most kindly, one of the veterans present, Harry Roberts, presented one such bottle to the RS party. Exceptionally, a unanimous decision was taken not to open the bottle on the spot but to keep such a handsome presentation so that it may be suitably

displayed as a fitting memento of our Regiment's participation in the centennial celebrations.

The second major event of the day was a Gala Dinner, staged in the Bay Street Armoury which had been transformed to accommodate 650 members of the Canadian Scottish regimental family. The principal guest was to have been their Colonel in Chief, HRH Princess Alexandra, however, to the sadness of all she had been obliged to cancel due to illness. A message of greetings and good wishes which she had sent was read out by Hon Col Richard Talbot CD. HM The Queen was represented by the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, Mr Stephen Point OBE. After welcoming him the Commanding Officer, Lt Col Eric Boucher, welcomed other guests making special mention of the RS party, WW2 veterans and the 65 members of the Canadian Scottish who had served in Afghanistan, some of whom were present. Following the dinner a pipe banner was presented to Lt Col Eric Boucher depicting the Royal Cypher on the obverse and the badge of The Royal Regiment of Scotland on the reverse as a symbol of our continuing relationship with the Canadian Scottish.



Lt Col Blythe presenting the banner to Lt Col Boucher

completed the Regiment formed a hollow square and piled drums for the presentation of a new Drum Major's mace.

The RS party was extremely honoured to have been present at the Canadian Scottish centennial and remain most appreciative of the hospitality they received. It is hoped that, in the long term, the affiliation will be carried forward by 1 SCOTS and 6 SCOTS on behalf of The Royal Regiment of Scotland.

On the Sunday a service of thanksgiving was held at Christchurch Cathedral, the Regimental Kirk of the Canadian Scottish, following which wreaths were laid at the regimental memorial.

Later a ceremonial parade was held during which the Colours were trooped before marching past the Governor General in line. It was a performance of true professionalism.

Once the march past had been



Lt Col Blythe with Hon Col Talbot

# 1 SCOTS

On 6 October 2012, 1 SCOTS took over as Brigade Advisory Group for Op HERRICK 17 from their Edinburgh neighbours, 3 RIFLES, at a ceremony at Camp Tombstone situated in Bastion. Camp Tombstone is the HQ for the Battalion throughout HERRICK; however, the companies, or as they are called during the tour 'Advisor Groups', are based all over Central Helmand advising the Afghan National Army. The Battalion is advising 2/215 Bde, a role they are familiar with as it is the same formation the Battalion mentored during an earlier tour under the command of Lt Col, now Col, Charlie Herbert. The Battalion is part of 4 (Mech) Bde whose commander is Brig Bob Bruce.

The Jocks are enjoying the testing role, and have been impressed by the improved standards of professionalism of the vast majority of the Afghan soldiers.

Since the Battalion deployed it has been invited to exercise the Freedom of West Lothian by marching through Livingston on 18 April. It has also been invited, on behalf of SCOTS, to accept the Freedoms of East Lothian with a parade in Haddington on 19 April and in Edinburgh the following day. Old traditions are being kept alive.

## The Road and the Miles to Dundee – a Tale of Six Sore Feet!

The same band of determined men who walked the West Highland Way in 2011 to raise funds for the Benevolent Society set out immediately after Armed Forces Day to walk the Fife Coastal Path. Lest any armchair warrior/walker thinks this was a dawdle compared with the West Highland Way they need to think again. The road to Dundee provides a demanding 82 mile coastal challenge. If the weather is good the views are great; however, if it is windy and wet there is very little shelter.

Flushed with raising more than £300 by rattling buckets in Princes Street Gardens on Armed Forces Day John McCulloch, Davy McKendrick and Rab

Conquer set off for Fife via the Anchor in South Queensferry, Maj Jimmy Bain's local. On the north shore they overnighted with Lt Col Bob & Maggie Paterson who set them on their way the following morning with a full Scottish Breakfast under their belts. To avoid the washing up Bob decided to act as local guide for the first leg which took them to Dalgety Bay where they were joined by Capt Bill Sutherland.

Sadly, the weather deteriorated in mid-week but spirits remained high even if almost everything else was wet and windswept. There was good and bad news in Crail. The very good news was that Steve Watson supplied the trio with steak pies, gravy, tatties and peas. The bad news was that Davy's tent went in the

skip. Whether it was the weather that did for it or Rab's snoring is still a matter of debate! There was more good news in St Andrews where Dave Morris bought the walkers dinner and a drink. There was some dubious news the following day when Lt Col Jim Blythe joined the team in St Andrews to allow him to accompany them on the final leg.

By the final day the walkers were understandably tired and the pace slackened between Tentsmuir and Tayport. Thereafter, with the end in sight, things began to look up. Things were really bright at the finishing line when the support man, Allan Dobbie, who had been handing out water, bananas and

Bob, Rab, John & Davy at the start



bars all week, restored the weary walkers with a celebratory dram.

It's a good story of sturdy, not-so-young Royals putting their backs into a good cause – help for others. But the outcome was nothing short of spectacular John, Davy and Rab raised a magnificent £2,920.04 for the Benevolent Society and when gift aid is added that figure will probably be approaching £3,500. We all have cause to be grateful to them, not least because they are making plans for another challenge this year. We also have cause to register our thanks to the many members of the Association who helped raise the profile of this event and in doing so contributed to its success.



## Help for Heroes – RACE ACROSS AMERICA

Earlier this year a 'Battle Back' team of eight men raced 3,051 miles across America from San Diego in California to Annapolis in Maryland to raise funds for Help for Heroes. One of that exceptional team was Private Steve Richardson who trained at Catterick as a Royal Scot and was then posted to 1 SCOTS. Tragically he lost both legs in Afghanistan in

2010 so his cycle was propelled by his arms. This is a truly extraordinary achievement. The journey, which included a total climb of 100,000 feet, was completed in 7 days, 7 hours and 59 minutes.

Steve and the other members of the team all have vivid memories of their sections of the race. Crossing Kansas was the low point, high cross winds and featureless scenery sapped the will of all but the most determined. On the other hand, the highs were 60 kph downhill runs and the incredible hospitality of the American people along the route. This must be one of the most extreme endurance races in the world and the welcome the team received from a large crowd in Annapolis at the finish will be with them for the rest of their lives.

We wish Steve and his team mates all the very best for the future – they have set us all an outstanding example of fortitude.



Steve Richardson before the start

## Benevolence

Benevolence is something that lies at the heart of the regimental family. The Benevolent Society continues to disburse around £40,000 per annum and although many of the grants are modest they are greatly appreciated as this testimonial demonstrates:

*It is with heartfelt thanks that I write to thank you for coming to my help at such a desperate time. When I moved into my house all I had was a kettle and*

*microwave oven, now my carpets are down and my white goods are in place. My house now feels like a home. I will never be able to thank you enough. From a very, very grateful ex Cpl 1 RS.*

Should you wish to make a contribution to the Benevolent Society's funds, or include a legacy, in your will, please contact **Capt Jimmy Springthorpe, Benevolent Society Secretary, 0131 310 5015 [jimspringthorpe@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jimspringthorpe@yahoo.co.uk)** Contributions, however modest, will be greatly appreciated and put to good use for the benefit of Royals in need.

# GOLF

The Gladdy Murray Trophy was contested at Silverknowes in August and, although the course was saturated, the day itself was dry and bright. Twenty or so Old Royals and their guests participated, supported by a couple of expert caddies. The day started with tea and bacon rolls, the standard of both golf and banter was as high as ever and the views over the Forth provided a most attractive backdrop. This year there were no representatives of 1 SCOTS as they were preparing to deploy on operations but that opened up the prizes for the Old Royals.

The golfers are indebted to John Buckham and Dougie Matthews who organised this year's outings. John has come to the end of his period of office and has been succeeded by Andy Fitzpatrick and the golfers look forward to supporting Andy as he takes up the mantle.

The dates for this year are 26 May for the Fallen Comrades competition and 25 August for the Gladdy Murray Trophy. Details will be promulgated on [www.theroyalscots.co.uk](http://www.theroyalscots.co.uk) in due course.

## Musselburgh Races

The Musselburgh Races, held on the last Sunday of September, were as enjoyable as ever even though it rained as the Bands marched from the Mercat Cross at the start of the day. And what fine Bands they are with the RS Association Pipe Band maintaining the RS traditions and the Lowland TA Band including a number of 'weel kent' RS personalities. Both bands are always on the lookout for new members, so if there are any pipers, drummers or other musicians who would like to be part of either Band please see the contact details on the back page.

Military equipment displays are becoming features of this event with vehicles, weapons and radio stands provided by 1 SCOTS last year and this year by A Coy 6 SCOTS from Hepburn House in East Claremont Street. Importantly, the number of Service charities with a presence is expanding. In addition to our SSAFA regulars we were joined by a stand from ABF The Soldiers' Charity and there were also eight motorcycles from the Riders Branch of the RBLs. Lothian and

Borders ACF were to the fore once again with their ever popular mobile assault course.

Ticket sales have gone up, with more sold than ever before, with uptake now from four of the seven battalions of

The Royal Regiment of Scotland. A significant number of RS regimental ties were in evidence, indeed several were being worn by individuals whom we rarely see on other occasions. So, why not join your local branch of the RS Association and come along to other events? Branch contact details are on the back page.

A number of individuals have expressed concern that the event is no longer exclusively a RS Day, but the reality is that the event is growing as a SCOTS event on a scale never previously achieved. If it had not grown into a SCOTS Day we would not be allocated the Lowland Band or the SCOTS equipment displays. Consequently, fewer tickets would be sold and the crucial support of HQ 51 Bde, who authorise the event in the Army in Scotland community engagement calendar, might be lost. If that were to happen the military involvement would almost certainly cease. The best way to retain this event is to embrace change and ensure a strong RS presence by continuing to buy tickets, at the generously discounted rate offered by Musselburgh Racecourse, from the Castle. Join in the spirit of the event, wearing your RS ties and blazers and bring your families and friends. 'The Honest Toun' is a Regimental Burgh; let's continue to support its Race Day which this year will be held on 29 September.



The Organisers

## Indian Tiger

Captain Matt Howard, formerly of 1 RS and currently serving with SCOTS, took part in Exercise INDIAN TIGER 2012, last year's British Army Mountaineering Association's flagship expedition which aimed to conduct exploratory mountaineering in the Garwhal Himalayan region of India. Although the expedition did not manage to reach the summit of unclimbed peak 6565 metres due to poor weather, it did succeed in meeting British defence diplomacy intent by teaming up with twenty Indian Army mountaineers and trekking on virgin ground.



A Base Camp with a View

# Great War Royals in Hampshire

In October Tam Millar of the Southern Branch paid a visit to the Curtis Museum in Alton, Hampshire, and made some interesting discoveries. On 12 December 1914 the local paper reported that: "On Sunday last, Alton was invaded by two Battalions of The Royal Scots Regiment [11th and 12th]. It is true the invasion was not unexpected – being in fact a week overdue, but it was welcome – welcome in more ways than one. It was welcome to the inhabitants generally and to the shopkeepers in particular, and after a week's experience of the men the general and unanimous verdict is that they are 'very nice laddies'". The locals did not seem to change their views despite being introduced to a traditional Scottish Hogmanay!

The Museum also contains a copy of a letter from Colonel J E MacPherson, who was a subaltern in

Alton in 1914, which was published in the Haslemere Herald on 8 April 1966. He had both pleasant and poignant memories. "The memory is of happy, hard working days, route marching, trench digging, field 'ops' and night 'ops' with some drill thrown in when we could spare the time. It was while marching along the Hampshire roads to the sound of the pipes, or singing of the land 'where the heather and the bluebells grow' – a land that quite a few of us were not to see again – that we gradually forged the feeling of comradeship and *esprit de corps* which stayed with and upheld us in the 'sticky' days and years ahead."



Tam Millar in the Alton Museum



Museum WW1 Display

## Museum Lighting Appeal

With the start of the Great War centenary less than two years away, it is likely that interest in things military will increase. Against that background the museum trustees have decided that, despite the estimated cost of £40,000, it is important that the lighting of the museum displays is upgraded.

Our current lighting is 30 years old and uses halogen lights that are expensive to run, have a high carbon footprint, create heat and no longer display exhibits to best effect. The way forward has been discussed with our curatorial advisor and it has been decided to move to LED and fibre optic technology.

To offset the costs of this upgrading an appeal for funding has been launched. If you would like to support this initiative please contact the Regimental Secretary for further information. Contributions, however modest, will be greatly appreciated.

## The Royal Scots Club

The Club continues to be the venue of choice for a variety of Regimental events but it also has a busy programme for its own members and their guests.

On 10 August 70 members greatly enjoyed a reception and lunch to celebrate the opening of the Club in 1922. Amongst those present was a table of members who had reached the wonderful age of 90. Is this a challenge for Old Royals to take up?

As always the St Andrews Night Dinner was a sell-out. The guest speaker this year was Mr Tony Banks who, as well as being a Falklands veteran, is one of Scotland's most successful entrepreneurs. Tony, who served with 2

PARA in the Falklands, recently wrote a book about his experiences and featured in a TV programme about tracking down a former Argentinian POW in order to return his 'liberated' trumpet.

The members Christmas Lunch was another full house. Turkey, paper hats, a raffle, carols and mistletoe is always a winning formula.



Tony Banks, kilted, with Col Martin Gibson and others

# News from The Old Provost Marshal's House

Brig Bob Bruce, the last CO of 1 RS and the first CO of 1 SCOTS, is currently commanding 4 Mech Bde in Afghanistan where 1 SCOTS is one of the units under his command. In June he will assume the appointment of Director, Combat Capability Directorate, Army Headquarters.

The drums, cougar skins and maces which were formerly used by 1 RS Pipes and Drums were handed over to the RS Association Pipe Band in August. However, they remain regimental property.

The Musselburgh museum includes items from the reserve collection of the RS museum and it is intended, resources permitting, to create similar displays in both Haddington and Linlithgow.

On 6 October The Royal Scots TA Officers Association and their guests enjoyed their annual lunch in the Douglas Room in The Royal Scots Club. This was an informal occasion with no speeches which enabled those present to socialise and catch up with each other's news.

The photograph below was taken the day Brig Bob Bruce arrived in Afghanistan at the start of his tour as Commander Task Force Helmand. He was visiting HQ Regional Command (South West) where Col Charlie Wallace and Maj David Jack are currently working.



The Tidworth Foursome

In October Tam Millar, George Gilchrist, John Neil and Col Edward Cowan of the Southern Branch of the Association gathered in the Tidworth Military Cemetery. There they tended the graves of three Royal Scots, Sgt Meikle Davidson, Sgt James Murray and LCpl 'Chalky' White, said some prayers and laid flowers on each of the graves. A lovely practical gesture and very much appreciated.

Paddy Millar – aka Sir Patrick Millar of Antrim – former member of B Coy 1 RS in the 1960s and 70s – and now a member of the Northern Ireland Branch of the Association completed a swimathon last year in aid of the Benevolent Society. He raised the magnificent sum of £1,200 – well done Paddy!

The Northern Ireland Branch of the Association held its AGM in early September. The weekend started with a visit to Stormont which afforded those present with an insight into the workings of the institution and the magnificence of the building. The visit also prompted reflection on tours of duty since 1970 and the recollection that everything that had been done during subsequent tours had been in the aid of the rule of law and the restoration of democratic process. Following the AGM those present, along with some of their wives, enjoyed dinner

together before retiring to enjoy the hospitality of the RBL.



The Afghan Trio

Our congratulations to Mrs Patricia Wagstaff, widow of Maj Walter (Peter) Wagstaff, on the award of the BEM for her services as a volunteer at Sobell House Hospice in Oxford'.

# Remembrance



Association Members at Stormont

The 11th of November is a poignant occasion for ex-Servicemen and women and The Regiment was 'on parade' at several ceremonies across the country.

The Garden of Remembrance in Edinburgh's Princes Street Gardens was opened on 5 November. It was a bright, cold morning. All parts of the uniformed services were well represented, including a good number of Royals and a wreath was laid on behalf of the Regiment.

On Remembrance Sunday Col Martin Gibson laid a wreath on behalf of all veterans at the national ceremony at the City Chambers in Edinburgh and subsequently attended the Service of Remembrance in St Giles. John Jones also laid a wreath at the City Chambers on behalf of the Edinburgh Branch of the Association. Maj Gen Mark Strudwick attended the ceremony at the National War Memorial in Edinburgh Castle, Lt Gen Sir Robert Richardson was the senior Royal at the service in the Canongate Kirk and afterwards laid the wreath in The Royal Scots Club and Lt Col Jim Blythe attended the ceremony in Peebles. The Edinburgh Branch of the Association was represented at the ceremonies at the City Chambers and at the site adjacent to the Hearts War

Memorial at Haymarket, which is presently in store due to tram works, and laid wreaths at both locations. Tom Logan, Chairman of the East of Scotland Branch, laid a wreath at the War Memorial in Prestonpans.

The Highland Branch was represented at the RBLS parade in Inverness, while the Branch Chairman, Tam Cornwall led the parade in Aviemore while playing the pipes and the Branch Secretary, Bill Jeans, was on parade with the RBLS in Nairn.



Tam Cornwall playing the pipes in Aviemore

## Remembrance - cont



John Neil talking to a distinguished Sailor

In Northern Ireland members of the Association participated in the Festival of Remembrance service on 3 November. The Branch took part in a local parade, where John McCulloch, the Branch

Chairman, laid a wreath and also at the ceremony at Palace Barracks, Belfast, where a wreath was laid at The Royal Scots Stone.



Southern Branch Members at Horse Guards



As always, the Southern Branch was well presented at the opening of the Field of Remembrance in Westminster on 8 November where some Association members were presented to HRH The Duke of Edinburgh. On the evening of 10 November The Rev Ros Trafford Roberts conducted the Branch's own service at The Royal Scots plot in the Garden of Remembrance supported by Ian Fleming who played the pipes. On 11 November, in fine weather, 24 members of the Branch paraded on Horse Guards and marched through the archway to Whitehall for the annual Cenotaph parade.

## From the Editor

The editor would like to thank all those who have contributed articles and pictures. Unfortunately, due the limitations of space, it has not been possible to include all the material supplied. The deadline for contributions for the summer edition is 8 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

# Domestic Occurrences

## Deaths

### **BARRIE**

On 11 November, Capt Walter Barrie, while serving in Afghanistan with 1 SCOTS

### **BRIGGS-WATSON**

On 16 October, Lt Col Bryan Briggs- Watson, formerly Bandmaster 1 RS

### **BROWN**

On 9 September, John (Jack) Brown, age 92, of Innerleithen, 8 RS

### **CAMPBELL**

On 8 November, Alex Campbell of Edinburgh, 7/9 RS WW2 and member RS Association

### **CUTHBERT**

In November, David Cuthbert, age 93, of Peterhead, Signals Officer 7/9 RS WW2

### **CRAIG**

In February, Thomas William Craig, C Coy 1 RS 1968

### **DUDGEON**

On 24 September, Cpl Peter Dudgeon, 1RS Mor Pl

### **DUNLOP**

On 9 August, Aline Dunlop, age 95, widow of Lt Col George Dunlop OBE MC, 1 & 2 RS

### **GRAY**

On 10 August 2011, Maj Gilbert Andre Gray, of Lothianburn, RS West Africa WW2

### **MARLOW**

On 14 February, Richard (Dick) Thomas Marlow of Coventry

### **McEWAN**

On 4 August, John McEwan of Prestonpans, RS 1954

### **McGREGOR**

On 3 December in Livingston, Eric McGregor 1 RS in early 1970s and subsequently REME

### **McKEOWN**

In November, Gerry McKeown, formerly C Coy 1 RS, notably in Ballykinler

### **MILNE**

On 3 September, Ian Milne, RS 58-65

### **NISBET**

On 21 September, James Bruce Hay Nisbet, known as Bruce, age 93, Capt 2 RS 1943-46, Gibraltar, Italy, Egypt and Palestine. Father of Captain David Nisbet 1 RS 1969-72 and 1/52 Lowland Volunteers 1972-76

### **PIRRIE**

On 13 March, Sheila Pirie, in Surrey, widow of Maj Patrick Pirie

### **RICE**

On 10 December, Robert (Rab) Rice, ex-MT Pl, in Edinburgh

### **ROBERTSON**

In late 2011, Cecil Robertson of Linlithgow

### **STEWART**

On 6 December, Tom (Slinger) Stewart of Whitburn

### **VANBECK**

Charles (Charlie) Vanbeck , Member of the East of Scotland Branch of the Association

## FORECAST OF EVENTS 2013

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### FEBRUARY

Saturday 2nd	RS Association Highland Branch Burns night
Monday 4th	RS Club Evening Lecture Andrew Caskie - 'The New Forth Replacement Road Crossing'
Wednesday 27th	RS Club Film Night

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### MARCH

Monday 4th	RS Club Evening Lecture Ian Garden - 'Propaganda in the Films of the Third Reich'
Sunday 10th	RS Club Mothers' Day Lunch
Wednesday 20th	RS Club Speaker's Dinner - Jeremy Mitchell 'Shrapnel and Whizbangs - A Tommy in the Trenches 1914-18'
Thursday 21st	Highland v Lowland Brigade Bonspiel
Thursday 21st	Southern Branch AGM
Friday 22nd	SCOTS Regimental Dinner in RS Club
Thursday 28th	RS & SCOTS Regimental Day
Saturday 30th	RS Association Regimental Day Dinner in RS Club
Sunday 31st	RS Club Easter Sunday Lunch

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### APRIL

Thursday 18th	1 SCOTS 'Freedom' Homecoming Parade in Livingston
Friday 19th	1 SCOTS 'Freedom' Homecoming Parade in Haddington
Saturday 20th	1 SCOTS 'Freedom' Homecoming Parade in Edinburgh
Friday 26th	RS Governance Meetings
Saturday 27th	RS Association Spring Lunch in RS Club

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### MAY

Friday 10th	Association Committee AGM
Saturday 11th	RS Association Annual Reunion Edinburgh
Saturday 25th	1 SCOTS Sevens
Saturday 25th	Commemoration of Gretna disaster
Sunday 26th	RS Association Fallen Comrades Golf

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### AUGUST

Thursday 15th	HRH The Princess Royal's Birthday
Sunday 25th	RS Association Gladdy Murray Golf Trophy

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### SEPTEMBER

Sunday 1st	NI Branch AGM
Saturday 28th	RS Association Autumn Dinner
Sunday 29th	Musselburgh Races

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### OCTOBER

Friday 26th	RS Governance Meetings
Friday 26th	Officers' Regimental Dinner RS Club

## Regimental Association

### Branch Meetings & Contacts

#### EDINBURGH

Last Friday of each month at 8.00 pm at Leith Ex-Servicemen's Club, 7 Smith's Place, Edinburgh.  
Contact: Mags Allen  
weeweegie1@virginmedia.com

#### CENTRAL SCOTLAND

Last Friday of each month at 7.30 pm at Masonic Hall Royal British Legion, Whitburn, West Lothian.  
Contact: Nobby Clarke  
nobbygreta@nobbygreta.plus.com

#### EAST OF SCOTLAND

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

#### NORTHERN IRELAND

Contact: Davy McKendrick,  
Secretary  
davidsmck1@sky.com

#### HIGHLAND

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

#### SOUTHERN

Contact: Tam Millar  
weetam0571@sky.com

#### PIPE BAND

Contacts:  
Maj Torquil Corkerton  
torquil@ednet.co.uk  
Jim Tait on:  
jimbtait@jimbtait.plus.com

**For further information contact The Old Provost Marshal's House, The Castle, Edinburgh EH1 2 YT**

**Tel: 0131 310 5016**

**Email: rhqrs@btconnect.com**