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2 May 2023

108th MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR THE GREटना RAIL DISASTER
SATURDAY 20TH MAY 2023
AT ROSEBANK CEMETERY

1. **Introduction.** The annual memorial service for the 1915 rail disaster at Quintinshill near Gretna will be held at the memorial in Rosebank Cemetery, Edinburgh on Sat 20 May 2023. The Royal Scots will remember all those who lost their lives or were otherwise affected by the disaster.
2. **Background.** At approximately 6:49am on the morning of Sat 22 May 1915 two trains collided at Quintinshill near Gretna, resulting in the worst rail disaster in the country's history. 3 officers, 29 NCOs and 182 soldiers of 7th Battalion The Royal Scots lost their lives and many more were injured. The battalion had been raised in Leith and many of those affected hailed from Leith.
3. **Format.** The parade will form up at the entrance to Rosebank Cemetery on Pilrig Street and will then march, led by a piper and the Standard Party, to the Memorial at the western corner of the cemetery. The service will be led by Rev Iain May, Minister of South Leith Parish Church and Chaplain to The Royal Scots Association. The service will follow the format of a normal remembrance service. An order of service will be available on the day and copies will be distributed at the memorial. Official wreaths will be laid during the service. At the conclusion of the service there will be an opportunity for individuals to lay wreaths. The service will be conducted standing and no seating will be provided. There are a couple of benches nearby for those who are unable to stand for long periods.
4. **Attendance.** All members of The Royal Scots, descendants of those affected, Leith community groups, and local residents are welcome to join the service.
5. **Timings.**

1030	Form up at the Pilrig Street entrance to Rosebank Cemetery
1045	Commence march to the memorial
1100	Service commences
1130	Service concludes
6. **Dress.** Regimental blazer, trews, glengarry and medals. The service is conducted on the grass area in front of the memorial so appropriate footwear is advisable.

DT Jack
Regimental Secretary