



**Queen's Own Highlanders
Regimental Association
Edinburgh Branch**

BRANCH NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2014

Report – Christmas Dance – Saturday 14th December 2013

This year's Christmas Dance turned out to be a tremendous evening and a terrific way to kick off the Christmas Festivities – our singer for the night, Zander, turned out to be excellent and soon got everyone dancing (thank you Eric McDonald for recommending him). The food as usual was plentiful and up to its customary high standard, but most notably we had a bumper turnout of over 100 members and their wives/partners/guests – and yes, everyone was in a great party mood.

It was also good to see a few old faces coming from near and far, particularly Spud Thomson from Northern Ireland, John McNiven from Dundee, Stevie Kavanagh (son of Jimmy Kavanagh) from Australia, Bill Russell from Inverness, Chris Cameron from Bathgate, and our oldest guest, Gil Taylor (ex-Seaforth Highlander) from Blackpool.

As always our sincere thanks go to the people running the raffle ie Margaret Munro and Mary McDonald for selling the raffle tickets, Bobby Munro, Tam Balloch, & Eddie Maley for running the actual raffle, and of course to everyone who so generously donated the prizes.

Edinburgh Branch Amalgamation Dinner

The 2014 Amalgamation Dinner will be held on **Saturday 8th February 2014 (7.00 pm for 7.30 pm)**.

Last year we used the **Debating Hall of Edinburgh University Student's Union in Bristo Square** for the first time in recent years and had an absolutely fabulous night. We have therefore decided to use the same venue for our 2014 Amalgamation Dinner.

We again hope to justify using this larger venue by having at least 100 members and their guests sit down to our annual bash – hopefully that shouldn't be too difficult judging by the turnout at the Christmas Dance!

Please book your tickets as soon as possible and why not bring along your friends and family. Everyone will be made most welcome, especially members from other branches.

Our guest of honour will be Lieutenant Colonel (Ret'd) Bob Towns (former RSM and QM of the 1st Battalion and now Chairman of the Highland Branch).

The menu looks first class - a three course meal, half a bottle of wine per person, port for the toasts, and freshly brewed tea or coffee (see annex for details).

As usual we have booked a Mini Pipe Band from Edinburgh Academy to entertain us during the dinner and Zander, the very talented singer from our Christmas Dance, will entertain us after the dinner.

The tables at the venue are round and can accommodate eight or ten people quite comfortably. To avoid problems with people scrambling around for a seat on the night we plan to allocate members and their partners to a table. We know some people will wish to sit with their usual mates so if you want to be

included in a table with specific people please indicate on the return who you wish to sit with. If you are happy to sit with a mixture of other members please leave this part of the return blank. We are hoping everyone who has a kilt or trews will wear them on the night.

The entrance to the venue will be in Bristo Square and if you have mobility problems – don't worry – there is a lift up to the function area.

The Branch is subsidising the cost of the night and therefore the tickets for the entire package will be a real bargain at £20.00 per head. As we need to provide a list for the security team at the Students Union it is important that you give Danny your names as soon as possible – along with your money please! (we are trying to avoid the Treasurer having to carry cash on the night so it is important that you send the payment with your return). To reduce waste on the night the caterers would also be obliged if you could indicate your choice of menu on the return.

Returns ASP please but no later than the 31st January 2014

Branch Subs

There are still a few members who have not paid their annual Branch Subs. If you fall into this category could you send a cheque to Danny Carruthers as soon as possible please. Under 65 subs are £15.00 and over 65's are £10.00

Forecast of Events

Amalgamation Dinner	Saturday 8 th February 2014
Armed Forces Day	Saturday 28 th June 2014 (<u>National</u> Parade in Stirling – details to be confirmed)
Summer Dance	date to be confirmed
Branch AGM	Sunday 12 th October 2014
Christmas Dance	Saturday 13 th December 2014

Last Post

For those of you that do not have access to the internet, the following sad news of the deaths of members of the regimental family has been reported on the Association website since September:

Simon Reid	<i>QOCH</i>
Danny O'Reilly	<i>QO HLDR</i>
Eddie Blevins	<i>QO HLDR</i>
Ernie McIntosh	<i>Seaforth</i>
William Robson	<i>QOCH</i>
“Paddy” Mills	<i>Seaforth & QO HLDR</i>
Billy MacLean (83)	<i>QO HLDR</i>
Robert McDonald	<i>Seaforth</i>
John Swanson	<i>QO HLDR</i>

“We Shall Remember Them”

For the Latest News:

You will find details of future events, lots of Regimental information, and photographs of Association members & functions on the Association web site at:

www.cabarfeidh.com

RETURN – AMALGAMATION DINNER – SATURDAY 8th FEBRUARY 2014

Name:	Address:

I will be attending the Amalgamation Dinner (If accompanied by a partner or guest please state the name for the table plan) And I enclose a cheque/postal order for (£20.00 per head). <u>Please send a Cheque or Postal Order – NO</u> <u>payments on the night please</u>	Numbers? Names £.....
I would prefer to sit on the same table as: (this cannot be guaranteed but we will try our hardest to accommodate everyone)	

	Please Indicate your choice of main course for you and your partner:
<u>Starter:</u>	
Cream of Tomato, Red Pepper, and Basil Soup	
<u>Main Course:</u>	
Boneless Breast of Chicken in a White Sauce with Seasonal Veg/Potatoes	
or	
Casserole of Beef and Herb Dumplings with Seasonal Veg/Potatoes	
<u>Dessert:</u>	
Apple and Caramel Tart with Crème Anglaise	
Fairtrade Filter Coffee or Tea with Mini Shortbread	

(If you haven't done so already) - I wish to renew my annual membership and enclose a cheque/postal order for the sum of: (£15.00 for the under 65's and £10.00 for the over 65's)	£.....
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(Please make your cheque out to QOHLDR Regtl Assn, Edinburgh Branch so it can be paid directly into the Branch Account and **NOT** made out to Danny Carruthers)

Please return ASAP to: Danny Carruthers, Picterin Cottage, 61A Grahamdyke Road, Bo'Ness, EH51 9DZ

Tel: 01506 829766.
eanddcarruthers@hotmail.com