



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

BRANCH NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2013

Edinburgh Branch Amalgamation Dinner

The 2013 Amalgamation Dinner will be held on **Saturday 16th February 2013 (7.00 pm for 7.30 pm)**.

Last year we had to turn people away from the annual Amalgamation Dinner because of the number restrictions at Leith Ex-Servicemen's Club and therefore this year we have arranged to have dinner at a bigger venue. We certainly hope we can justify this change of venue by having at least 100 members and their guests sit down to our annual bash – so come along and support the Branch – friends and family will be made most welcome as well as members from other branches.

The dinner will be held at **Edinburgh University Student's Union (Debating Hall), Bristo Square** where we will be looked after by their dedicated events staff. Our guest of honour will be Brigadier Charles Grant (former OC Mortars, OC B Company, and Brigade Commander of 51 (Highland) Brigade).

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).

We have booked a Mini Pipe Band from Edinburgh Academy to entertain us during the dinner and Lauren Kyle, a local singer, who will entertain us after the dinner with numbers from the 60's and 70's.

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 functions 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 4th February 2013

Report – Christmas Dance – Saturday 15th December 2012 (previously published on the Association website)

This year's Christmas Dance turned out to be an excellent evening and a terrific way to kick off the Christmas Festivities - the band was brilliant, the food was plentiful and up to its usual high standard, and most notably, the 90 members and their guests were in a great mood to party the night away.

The Chairman [George Givens] was away at his work's Christmas Night Out – the last one prior to his imminent retirement so we will forgive him for being AWOL, however Jean and his two daughters, Emma and Lynn, came prepared to enjoy themselves and did a terrific job of selling the Raffle tickets - a big thank you to them.

To compensate for the absence of George, Tam (Ma Ba`) Balloch took over the role of MC, very ably assisted by Eddie [the Padre] Maley. As well as providing the great banter they also ran the raffle in their own inimitable style.

A big thank you must go to everyone who donated Raffle prizes. The generosity was overwhelming and was really appreciated.

As well as our usual gang, it was also tremendous to see some old faces turning up and coming along to our Christmas Dance – namely Hank Espin, Geordie Bremner, Tam Stephen, Tam Ward, John Westwood, Dick Barker, Eric McDonald (together with their respective partners).

We were also graced with some of the ladies who were married to Queens Own Highlanders now sadly passed on to the 2nd Battalion - namely Annemarie Cumming, Doris Anderson, Lillian Duffus, and Barbara McGraw – and for the first time it was a real pleasure to welcome Mattie Glasgow's better half – Muriel, along with her daughter Amanda - we are sure that the stories Muriel and Amanda heard on Saturday night would have left them in no doubt as to how well liked and respected the big guy was!

We should also note at this stage that the night was so good that Kenny Reid went away at the end of the night with Tam Ward's coat (along with Tam's specs inside the coat!). Tam is now up north using a white stick and a guide dog to get around

and Kenny is dotting around Livingston in a coat two sizes too small for him looking like an advert for a Norman Wisdom movie!

Finally we must say thank you to Jim [the lens] Elliot for being our unofficial photographer for the night and judging by the number of out-of-focus photos now found on the website, we know he must also have really been enjoying himself (or he's needing some work done on his cataracts)!

Last Post

For those of you that do not have access to the internet, the following sad news of the deaths of former Queen's Own Highlanders has been reported on the Association website over the past few months:

<i>Robert Speed</i>	<i>Seaforth</i>
<i>Sandy Duguid</i>	<i>QO HLDR</i>
<i>Derek Sedgewick</i>	<i>Seaforth</i>
<i>Sammy Ord</i>	<i>QOCH & QO HLDR</i>
<i>'Steamy' Reid</i>	<i>Seaforth & QO HLDR</i>
<i>Lt Frank Pearson</i>	<i>QOCH</i>
<i>Maj Tony Watson</i>	<i>QOCH</i>
<i>Donald Darling</i>	<i>QOCH & QO HLDR</i>
<i>Calum MacLeod</i>	<i>QO HLDR</i>
<i>Johnny Cameron</i>	<i>QO HLDR</i>
<i>Geordie Murdoch</i>	<i>QOCH & QO HLDR</i>
<i>Stan MacDonald</i>	<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 16th February 2013

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

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

<p>(If you haven't done so already) - I wish to renew my annual membership and enclose a cheque/postal order for the sum of:</p> <p>(£15.00 for the under 65's and £10.00 for the over 65's)</p>	<p>£.....</p>
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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 please **NOT** made out to Danny Carruthers)

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

Tel: 01506 829766.
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