



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

BRANCH NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2010

Report - Armed Forces Day Parade 2010

Since its very recent inception, the Armed Forces Day in Edinburgh has started to become a popular and well attended event. As a result, the Castle Esplanade on the 26th June was completely filled with many servicemen and women from the both the regular, reserve forces, cadets, and various Regimental Associations.

It was therefore with some pride that members of the Edinburgh Branch of the Association, as well as comrades from the Seaforth Highlanders & Cameron Highlanders, formed a forty-strong marching contingent. Bobby Munro was made the honorary Branch Sergeant Major and organised everyone into three ranks (Bobby was the only one who still had a pace stick so we thought he should get the job!). The old Association Standard was carried by George Taylor and the newly acquired Branch Standard was carried by John Meikle. Eddie Maley took on the job of right marker for the Branch.

It was great to see that all of our Branch marching contingent was wearing either regimental head dress, kilt, or tartan trews - the Highlanders therefore stood out from the rest of the Regimental Associations on parade and we were the second largest Association contingent (after the Royal Scots, who after all are an Edinburgh regiment!)

Once the One O'Clock Gun was fired, the parade stepped off to the music of a Military Band and made its way down the Royal Mile to the cheers and applause of the crowd. The spectators completely filled the pavements and it was particularly heartening for everyone on parade to be aware of the enormous pride that so many members of the general public have for their Armed Forces.

The parade route followed the Royal Mile and an eyes right was given opposite the City Chambers to the Lord Provost of Edinburgh and the Chief of the General Staff. The parade then marched into Cockburn Street, down to the Mound, and eventually into Princes Street Gardens where everyone fell out and made their way to the beer tents, displays, and Ceilidh Band especially laid on for the occasion.

It should be noted at this stage that Edinburgh has been chosen to host the 2011 National Armed Forces Day Parade and therefore next year will be a much grander affair - so dust off your regimental head dress, start practicing your drill, and put the date into your diaries now!

Report - Summer Dance 2010 – Held at Leith Ex-Servicemen’s Club, Edinburgh on Saturday 26th June 2010

The Summer Dance was well attended with 65 members, their wives, family, and friends. As usual, many of the stalwarts from the Edinburgh Branch turned up to support the Branch and enjoy themselves, together with familiar faces from further afield – notably Sammy Ord and Dot, together with their daughters, Donna and Debbie. It was also nice to see “Woody” (ex-Sergeants Mess Barman) for the first time at the Branch and George Givens’s son Richard, a serving officer with 4 Scots (The Highlanders).

The entertainment on the night was provided by a very talented group called The All Stars, who presented some quick change routines featuring Elvis, Cher, Shania Twain, and the Blues Brothers. The group entertained everyone for the whole night and succeeded in getting George Givens to participate in their Blues Brothers routine, pork pie hat, sunglasses and all!

After the buffet Bobby Munro and Johnny Meechan organised the raffle (thanks again to all those Branch members who kindly donated the prizes). To keep the raffle above board, and to ensure there were no fiddles taking place, Sammy Ord was asked to make the first draw for prizes, but was subsequently sacked by Bobby! Funnily enough, members of Sammy’s family ended up winning four of the prizes! We are still trying to work out how Sammy did it!

Photographs taken by Sandy Dewar and Margaret Munro marking both occasions can be found on the Photos page of the Association website.

Branch Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The Branch AGM will take place at **1.00 pm on Sunday 10th October 2010 at Leith Ex-Servicemen’s Club**. Anyone who has items for the agenda should inform Danny Carruthers by the 1st October 2010

The AGM will be followed by a slide presentation given by Major Kevin Wood, who served with the Gordon Highlanders, was Quartermaster of 4 Scots (The Highlanders), and who is now stationed at the Royal Regiment of Scotland Headquarters in Edinburgh Castle. Kevin will give us an update on the army in general, and the Highlanders in particular, with an emphasis on the equipment currently used by British Forces, and a briefing about the Highlanders forthcoming tour of operations in Afghanistan – a presentation not to be missed! This will be followed by a buffet lunch

for Branch members and their families (paid for by Branch funds). Please feel free to bring your partners /kids /grandkids along so we can make it a day out for everyone. As we need to let the club know how many to cater for, it would be appreciated if members let Danny know as soon as possible if they are going to attend. It should be noted that the Branch have to pay for whatever food we order, so please let us know at least a week in advance if your circumstances change and you cannot make it.

It would also be appreciated if members, who cannot attend the AGM and would like to pay their annual subscriptions, could fill in the proforma at the back of this newsletter and return it as soon as possible please (together with a cheque or postal order). Members who attend on the day are asked to bring along the correct money to avoid the Treasurer having to carry lots of change (annual subs are £15.00 for members under 65, and £10.00 for those aged 65 or over)

Regimental Reunion 2011

As you are all probably aware, a grand Regimental Reunion will be taking place in Inverness and Fort George next year to mark the 50th Anniversary of the formation of the Regiment - more details will follow shortly. The confirmed dates for the week-end are the 11th and 12th of June 2011.

We have made this point before, but you should note that there is a Rock Festival taking place at Loch Ness that particular week-end so it is important to get accommodation booked well in advance. It would also be useful if members could pass this information on to former Queen's Own Highlanders who you might be in touch with, who are not on the web, or who are not members of an Association Branch. This 50th Anniversary bash is a special occasion and it would be great to see as many Queen's Own Highlanders as possible turn up to this reunion – **Please Spread the Word – we are hoping for a bumper turnout.**

Forecast of Edinburgh Branch Events

Sunday 10 th October	Branch AGM	Leith Ex-Servicemen's Club
Sunday 14 th November	Remembrance Day	Leith Ex-Servicemen's Club
Saturday 11 th December	Christmas Dance	Leith Ex-Servicemen's Club
Saturday 12 th February	Amalgamation Dinner	Venue TBC

News from Other Branches & Associations

Highland Branch – (Contact: *Stephen McIntosh (07826 845474 or email stevmcin@msn.com)*)

Sunday 26 th September	Lunch at Cameron Barracks
Saturday 13 th November	Buffet Dinner with Partners.
Saturday 5 th February 2011	Amalgamation Dinner (Stag event).

Liverpool Scottish - Contact: Colin Hughes (01704 550360 or email Modachaidh24@aol.com)

Friday 22nd October

Annual Reunion – Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool

Jimmy Cumming

Annemarie has told us that Jimmy's bone marrow transplant is holding up well and is gradually growing into his bones. He is fighting an infection at the moment but has been put on antibiotics, which are helping him. He is on the mend however, and it is hoped he will pick up over the next few weeks. He is looking forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas Dance.

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:

Jock White	Former Seaforth, Queen's Own Highlander and SAS passed away in July
Mark Anderson	Former Captain in the Queen's Own Highlander, passed away in July
Alec Mackie	Former QOCH and Queen's Own Highlander, passed away in August
Tam "Pluto" Munro	Former Queen's Own Highlander, passed away in August
Frank Scott	Former Queen's Own Highlander, passed away in August
Willie "Wombat" Reid	Former Queen's Own Highlander, passed away in August

"We Shall Remember Them"

Warning Order – Remembrance 2010

Last year the Royal Scots Regimental Association invited members of our Branch along to lunch and entertainment following the Remembrance Parade 2009. We plan to return the favour this year on Sunday 14th November 2010 at Leith Ex-Servicemen's Club - more details to follow.

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 – EDINBURGH BRANCH AGM 2010

The cost of the buffet will be paid for from Branch funds but we still need to know numbers so **please complete** this form. **If you cannot make the AGM and wish to renew your membership, please also complete this return as your annual subscriptions are important to the smooth running of the Branch**

Name:	Address:
I will be attending the AGM (firm numbers please for catering purposes - state how many if accompanied by family)	Total Numbers? Adults..... Children.....
I am on the Internet and my email address for future contacts/newsletters is: (please <u>print</u> clearly)	
<i>(If you are <u>not</u> attending the AGM)-</i> 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)	£.....

(Please make your cheque out to QOHLDR Regtl Assn, Edinburgh Branch so it can be paid directly into the Branch Account and **Not to Danny Carruthers**)

Please return ASAP to: **Danny Carruthers**
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