

## THE LIVERPOOL SCOTTISH

There has been a long tradition of Scousers joining the Queen's Own Highlanders dating back to the formation of our regiment in 1961. This was of course largely due to the very close links that the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders forged after they formed a close liaison with the Liverpool Scottish back in the early 1900's. This tradition of course, continued when our own Battalion took on the task of sending Officers and Senior NCOs to help with the task of training the Liverpool Jocks.

I happened to be one of those Liverpool Jocks who joined the Battalion and eventually returned to Liverpool many years later as a Permanent Staff Instructor (PSI).

Because of this connection I was asked by Seoras McIntosh to write a short article about the Liverpool Scottish to mark the sad end to a unit of the Territorial Army, respected far and wide and with a proud history of service to the nation. I thought I should therefore give a view from a personal perspective

I joined the Army Cadet Force in 1964 and to be more specific, the Liverpool Scottish Company of the ACF, based next door to the TA Drill Hall in Fraser Street and close to the city centre.

I can honestly say that my time with the Liverpool Scottish Cadets was an extremely happy one, mainly due to the quality of the adult instructors, all of whom were ex-Liverpool Scottish TA soldiers and veterans of the Second World War (Ted Burke, Alec Sinclair, and Les Bleasdale). It was whilst I was in the cadets that I learnt how to map read, shoot a Lee Enfield .303, strip a Bren Gun, and eventually get the yearning to join up!

Back in those days my first contact with regular soldiers was when I bumped into a very smart RSM Frank Blincow, resplendent in No 2 dress and white feet, ready to march the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Liverpool Scottish through the streets of Liverpool on Remembrance Sunday. My second was with Sgt Willie Hynd, who taught a group of us cadets the intricacies of operating the old StenGun during one of our Cadet Annual Camps. I gradually grew to realise that from my time with the cadets and the example and bearing of these two fine soldiers that the only regiment I wanted to join was the Queen's Own Highlanders (and not the The Kings Regiment, as one recruiting sergeant tried to persuade me to do - interestingly enough Jimmy Ryan, a fellow Liverpool Jock Army Cadet followed me a year or two later to the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion as a badged Kingsman, but once spotted by Lt Col ID Cameron, the CO of IJLB at the time, was thankfully persuaded to re-badge!)

When I eventually joined the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion in 1968 in Redford Barracks, Edinburgh I found myself posted to 14 Platoon, Delta Company, which at the time had a further three Scousers in their midst - Kenny Allen, Derek Peers, and Ritchie Hindley, with many more scattered around the Battalion! Most, if not all of these Scousers were former members of either the Liverpool Scottish Cadets or the Liverpool Scottish TA Battalion. Over the years these numbers went down as the recruiting pool from the Liverpool Scottish became smaller when they shrunk from Battalion to Company strength, however there always seemed to be a steady stream of Scousers ready to sign up to the ranks of the Queen's Own Highlanders.

I eventually went back to Liverpool many years later on a posting as the Senior PSI, but by this time the Liverpool Jocks were down to Company strength due to the TA reorganisations of the late 1960's. Now their title was V Company, 1/51 Highland Volunteers - the most strongly recruited and well respected company of that battalion. I can only say that it was an extremely enjoyable and rewarding posting being amongst TA soldiers whose motto seemed to be work hard, play hard! Another two fellow Scousers and close friends eventually followed me as SPSI - Billy Lammond and Chris Cameron, not to mention later on, Billy's brother Brian Lammond as Milan Platoon Sergeant. I am certain that they all enjoyed their "home posting" to the Liverpool Jocks equally as much as I and my family did.

The fact that over the years many of the former PSIs have spoken to me of their fondness about their time with the Liverpool Scottish and the warm welcome they and their families received I thought it would be

most appropriate to scour old copies of the regimental magazine to record the names of those members of our Battalion who, at one stage or another were posted to the Liverpool Jocks (Some of the earlier records do not list names, but hopefully I have got everyone - but if not, I am sure if you email Seoras McIntosh he will update the list as he goes along!) The list can be found at the end of this document

I have also done the same for all of my fellow Scousers who joined the Queen's Own Highlanders between 1961 and 1994 – but maybe I shouldn't be calling this one a list, rather a Rogues Gallery! (some editions of the Regimental magazine fail to record the recruit's place of enlistment, so again, apologies if I have missed anyone out) This list can be found at the end of the document

I have also attached a few photographs of Liverpool Jocks and former PSI's that many of you will recognise and some in their later years you might have to look past the grey hairs and receding hairlines to have a good guess at! (Seoras will probably place them on the photo page of the website)

Finally, I am sure everyone who was ever a Queen's Own Highlander is extremely sad to hear that the name of the Liverpool Scottish will cease to exist under yet another government reorganisation. I have no doubt however, that their memory will live on for many years yet to come.

The Liverpool Scottish Association run an annual reunion each year in October at the Adelphi Hotel in Liverpool – so why not come along for a good night out and help to keep their name alive?

**Cabarfeidh Gu Brath**

**George Givens  
A Liverpool Jock**

**List of Officers & PSIs (ranks shown are those held whilst at Liverpool Scottish)**

Lt Col Maitland-Makgill-Crichton	WO2 Danny Campbell
Capt ID Cameron	CSgt Davie "Dykes" Duffus
Lt JA Cameron	Sgt Hugh "Dusty" Millar
RSM John Paterson	WO2 Geordie Murdoch
CSM George Burns	Sgt John Westhead
CSM E Macrae	CSgt "Chiefy" Reid
CSM J Duff	WO2 Brian Perry
Maj JF Logan	Sgt John "Raggy" Adams
Capt PS Kerr-Smiley	Sgt Davy Cowan
Maj AS Duncan	CSgt Alan Topping
Capt PHEL Holt	WO2 John Irwin
RSM Frank Blineow	Sgt Warwick "Bob" Hoddinot
Maj J Douglas	WO2 Alan Watson
CSM Vic Twist	CSgt Ian Stoddart
Sgt Gerry Kidd	WO2 Sandy McMullan
Sgt Henderson	CSgt Billy Lammond
Maj IS Gibb	Sgt Brian Hermitage
CSM J Young	Sgt Duncan MacCallum
Lt W Wright	WO2 George Givens
WO2 Paddy Donnell	CSgt "Sheddie" Carr
Maj DAW Lochhead	Sgt Ian Ross
RSM Arthur Smith	WO2 Donny Munro
Sgt Vince Martin	CSgt Billy Duffus
Cpl Andy Venters	WO2 Chris Cameron
Cpl J Smart	Sgt Glen Lawson
Sgt J Smith	WO2 Billy Lammond
Sgt Joe Mahady	CSgt Pat Ferguson
Capt JA MacCallum	WO2 George Geddes
Lt Col JS Houston	Sgt "Jas" Barrie
Sgt Sandy Henderson	WO2 Derek Walker
WO2 Jack Ditchfield	CSgt "Sid" Kelman
WO2 Andy Cowe	Sgt Terry Pearson
Sgt Dusty Miller	WO2 "Steed" Wilson
Sgt Willie Hynd	CSgt Stevie George
CSgt R Martin	Sgt Brian Lammond
WO2 "Geordie" Anderson	WO2 Roddy Sutherland
Sgt Alan Topping	CSgt "Andy" Anderson
CSgt Sandy Fleming	CSgt Barry Craib

## Scousers who joined the Queen's Own Highlanders(1961-1994)

Johnny Fairfield  
Pepe Dunn  
Pete Bennet  
Keith Bennet  
ScouseGilduff  
Jim Riley  
Leo Riley  
Scouse Rood  
Scouse Jones  
Charlie Larkin  
Ronny Baybut  
John Payne  
Tam Murphy  
Tony Cameron  
Dave Williams  
Freddie Floyd  
Kenny Banks  
John Gribbin  
Pte R Rothwell  
Phil Dannunzio  
Charlie Derbyshire  
Chris Cameron  
Colin Hughes  
Kenny Allen  
Derek Peers  
Wally Tyrer

Ritchie Hindley  
Alan McNiece  
George Givens  
Billy Lammond  
Jimmy Ryan  
Lt Martin Smart  
Alan Kirkwood  
Tony Glover  
John Dougherty  
Jimmy Patterson  
Scouse Rathbone  
Tony Strannock  
Keith Jones  
Alan Jones  
Mark Yenson  
Gerry Cameron  
John Butler  
John Millington  
Andrew Connolly  
Bobby Pearson  
Mark Woods  
Andy Kerry  
Andy Owens  
Billy Jones  
Tony Moore  
Howard Finnan  
Steve Kelly