



Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) R J Towns MBE

Chairman Highland Branch
Queen's Own Highlanders (Seaforth and Camerons) Regimental Association

All Members

40 River Park
Nairn
IV12 5SR

18th September 2011

Dear All,

Apologies for the period of silence however I/we did need a bit of a break after the great time we all had at the Gathering. At this stage I must emphasise that a lot of praise has been heaped in my direction. However, I would like to put on record that the success of the event came about because of the efforts of the members of the Gathering Committee namely:

Steven McIntosh - All the invitations associated paperwork and the raffle – a huge contribution.

Andy Venters - The superb contribution of the Association Pipes and Drums.

Seoras McIntosh - The Web Site information, Paypal and photographs.

Frank Blincow - Treasurer and experienced hand keeping us right.

John Sutherland - Local knowledge, site safety and assistance with professional stewarding.

Peter Finlayson
John Yarrick
JJ Johnston
David Grant
Ronnie Sinclair
Larry Young

All the hands on work, the initial setting up, the car parking, the cleaning of portable toilets, filling the generator, the clearing up on Saturday and the setting up on Sunday, the area cleaning, handing all the kit back all done with the required sense of purpose and a good dash of humour.

Ruth Matthews - Not a Committee member however she, single handed produced all the Name Tags and the Programmes – no mean feat.

Result a great couple of days.

We have not been entirely idle and our AGM was held in Royal British Legion Nairn on the 14th July 2011. Frank Blincow, Larry Young and Cliff Thorpe were presented with bars to their medallions for services to the Association and over the next few days I tracked down Ernie Pope at the TA Centre in Inverness and Tony Curran now the Sales Manager at Arnold Clark in the Longman in Inverness to hand over their medallions. Well done to all and thank you for your services to Highland Branch in particular.

A sad period then followed with the passing of Lorraine Whyte and the recent funerals of Jimmy Cumming, Alasdair Gillies and Frank Morrison. Each one a memorable well supported occasion in its own way rightly remembering the great characters that they were. Personal thoughts on each:

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- Jimmy - A three Course meal laid for all who attended as per his wishes.
- Alasdair - The magnificent depth of talent of QO HLDRS Pipers.
- Frank - If you want a perfect spot to be laid to rest Frank has it.

All great QO HLDRS characters in their very different ways.

Future events:

The Lunch normally held at Cameron Barracks in August/September will not take place this year.

BUFFET DANCE FORRES SATURDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2011

Booking sheets are attached.

LIVERPOOL SCOTTISH ANNUAL DINNER – FRIDAY 21 OCTOBER 2011

Our contingent from Liverpool supported the Gathering in large numbers and it is only right that where possible we return the compliment. The following is from Colin Hughes:

As you are aware, the above event is to take place on Friday 21st of October 2011 at the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool. This year we are celebrating our close attachment with The Queens Own Highlanders in this, their 50th year. A number of us down here have had our feet in both camps and we are well supported by our indigenous population of jocks.

I did try and drum (or should that be pipe) up some support whilst I was at The Gathering in June and I received favourable responses from a number of the local blue mafia. I gave out details on a flyer but to date I have had no firm commitment from anybody, apart from our Chief Guest, George Givens, and sadly Joe Mahady is no longer able to attend.

Our Committee are hoping for at least a few members from up North to attend, particularly as we continue to support the regular battalion, The Association, and The Highland Heritage appeal. We even have a bottle of `Cuidich `n` Righ` on the top table.

Would it be possible for you to spread the word around and try and persuade some to come down here? They will be guaranteed of a good welcome I can assure you.

Also, if anybody wants a conducted tour of the sights, I can make a car available at no charge.

Yours aye,

Colin. Hughes,
(Hon Sec Liverpool Scottish Regimental Association)

Email: Modachaidh24@aol.com Please support this event if you can.

PRESENTATION OF NEW COLOURS – THE HIGHLANDERS, 4 SCOTS AT RAF KINLOSS SATURDAY 3rd DECEMBER 2011

Six of the seven battalions of the Royal Regiment of Scotland received their new colours on the 2nd of July 2011. At that time The Highlanders were on an operational tour in Afghanistan. They return shortly and our successors will receive their Colours from HRH The Duke of Edinburgh on Saturday 3rd of December 2011.



Not the best time of year for an outside parade and that is why the event will be held in a hanger at RAF Kinloss. Numbers allowed to attend are therefore limited and if you would like to go please **complete the Colours Booking Sheet attached** and send it with a cheque for £10 per person attending to Home HQ at Cameron Bks as shown on the Booking Form **soonest**.

Provisional Timings are as follows:

1000 am - Guest begin to arrive at RAF Kinloss.

1035 am - All marching Veterans and Association Pipe Bands parade out side the Hangar Door.

1045 am - All guests are to be seated. Association Pipe Bands and Veterans 'Guard' March on and take up position at the Eastern end of the Hangar.

1100 am - Parade commences.

1220 pm - Reception and Lunch in WO's & Sgts Mess begins.

1430 pm - Reception ends and guests depart.

1500 pm - RAF Kinloss clear of guests.

Dress:

Dress for seated guests will be Suits, Highland Dress, Dresses, hats may be worn. Guests on Parade should wear Regimental Blazers, Highland Dress and Glengarries. All guests are reminded that, whilst the parade will be conducted under cover, it is likely to be extremely cold (maybe wet) therefore dress should be selected appropriately.

HOMECOMING PARADES

The Highlanders will parade in Aberdeen on Thursday 1st December and Inverness on Friday 2nd December 2011. Further details to follow.

MORAY LOONS FRIDAY 28th OCTOBER 2011

Not an Association event however something close to our hearts. This takes place in the Seaforth Club Elgin 1900 for 1930. See the website for further details.

Yours aye,

Bob



**HIGHLAND BRANCH – FORRES BUFFET DISCO DANCE
SATURDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2011**

1. Our next Branch event will consist of the following:

Buffet and Disco Dance in the Masonic Club, High Street Forres.

2. The Cost of the event will be £10 per head for Association Members (this includes immediate family).
£12:50 per head for any non – member guests you wish to invite. Timings 1930 for 2000. Shutters down 0030.

Return Transport if required will be provided from Elgin & Inverness and stops on route.

www.cabarfeidh.com

-----Tear off Return Slip-----

Return To: Secretary
Highland Branch
10 Councillors Walk
New Elgin
ELGIN
IV30 6JL

I, _____ would like to book a total of () places at the
Buffet/Dance for: () Members () Guests.

I enclose a cheque for £ _____ made payable to: "GO HLDERS REGT ASSOC (HIGHLAND BRANCH)"

If there is sufficient demand to make it viable, transport will be provided from/to the following locations:

Elgin Town Hall departing 19:00.
Raigmore Hotel Inverness departing 18:45 going via Culloden/Smithton, Nairn. Exact pick up points along the route to be notified.

Return transport departs Forres at 0100.

I do not * require transport from () * delete only if transport required.

Additional Comments: _____

Your address: _____

Post Code: _____

Tel: _____

Mob: _____

E Mail: _____

THIS COMPLETED SLIP WITH PAYMENT ENCLOSED IS REQUIRED TO BE WITH THE SECRETARY BY
FRIDAY 11th NOVEMBER 2011

Donations to the Raffle very much welcome.

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NEW COLOURS SATURDAY 3rd DECEMBER 2011
BOOKING SHEET

Return for Members of the Regimental Family wishing to attend the
Presentation of New Colours to the 4th Battalion the Royal Regiment of Scotland

Names of guests wishing to attend;

1.
2.

Address where confirmatory tickets / instruction should be sent;

Post Code:

If attending by Private vehicle please specify;

1. Make / Model
2. Reg Number.
3. Colour.

Please state which Association you belong to as numbers are restricted as follows; **Tick as appropriate**

- a. Highlanders (4 SCOTS) 28 March 2006 – 28 March 2011.** (14 guests)
- b. Highlanders (Seaforth, Gordon's & Camerons) Sep 1994 – March 2006.** (75 guests)
- c. Queens Own Highlanders (Seaforth & Camerons) Feb 1961 – Sep 1994.** (50 guests)
- d. Gordon Highlanders up to Sep 1994.** (50 guests)
- e. Seaforth Highlanders up to Feb 1961.** (25 guests)
- f. Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders up to Feb 1961.** (25 guests)
- g. The London Scottish.** (8 guests)
- h. The Liverpool Scottish.** (8 guests)

Do you wish to join the Association Pipe Bands and be part of the Veterans Marching Contingent (100 max)
Yes / No

Please return this with a cheque made payable to The Highlanders Trust (£10 per head) to;

Major MRM Gibson MBE, Home HQ, The Highlanders, Cameron Bks, Inverness, IV2 3XE by not later than Oct 17th 2011.

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