



From: Major General NRM Borton DSO MBE  
Colonel of The Regiment

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See Distribution

RHQ SCOTS/1/11 - Policy

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## MESSAGE FROM THE NEW COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT


Having taken over from Major General Bruce as Colonel of The Royal Regiment of Scotland at the end of last year, I write to you to lay out my stall as Colonel. Firstly, I am honoured to fill the appointment and look forward to working with you all. Secondly, the Regiment is in a very strong position through the excellent leadership of my predecessors, supported by your collective hard work. General Bruce articulated a clear vision and plan for the Regiment in his [Regimental Directive No4](#). This direction remains sound; we are well set, and in the interests of continuity, I see no reason to issue a new directive in the near future. We shall therefore continue to march to the last orders given, with which I am very comfortable.

Our task is to continue to deliver the best possible operational output for the Army and the Nation, while protecting and enhancing the proud heritage of our antecedent Regiments. I firmly believe we can do both, and I have always said we can 'have our cake and eat it' in the Royal Regiment of Scotland. The Regiment currently has much to be proud of: the battalions are producing genuinely superb performances on operations and exercises across the globe; we are attracting extremely high quality young officers at RMAS, supported by our outstanding CSgt Instructor cohort; our small team of dedicated staff at RHQ are doing an excellent job; our links with our many associations are constantly improving, and our message is being heard more widely across Scotland. One major challenge remains, that of fully recruiting our battalions. We are not alone in this of course, but experience shows that we cannot sit back and rely on the Army to fix this problem alone; we must continue to close with this issue as a Regiment and make our own luck. So, soldier recruiting remains the Regimental Main Effort, and must be at the forefront of everything we do.

You will know that I am a strong advocate of the collegiate approach to leadership. This is a team effort, and I welcome all assistance and advice from you all. The role of Deputy Colonels and Honorary Colonels in helping me to direct the Regiment and support the battalions is key, supported of course by LOO leads, RHQ under the Regimental Secretary, the Div Lt Col, and Trustees and Area Secs, as well as our wider friends and retired Regimental folk. My current appointment in PJHQ will also unfortunately prevent me from being in Scotland as much as I would like, so I will be relying on some of you to assist me in fulfilling Regimental duties. I will also endeavour to try and communicate with you more frequently and informally.

To conclude, I am truly proud and delighted to be Colonel of our great Regiment. I am confident, that despite the challenges which inevitably lie ahead, as they do for all great endeavours, we can continue to make a disproportionate contribution to the Army and Defence, and I know that our Jocks will uphold and enhance the glowing reputation which their forebears have earned. Our job is to support them in doing just that, and I look forward very much to working with you all as we do so.

## **NEMO ME IMPUNE LACESSIT**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Johnston', written over a horizontal line.

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