



THE QUEEN'S OWN HIGHLANDERS
REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION
Edinburgh Branch

(Incorporating the Regimental Associations of the
Seaforth Highlanders and The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders)

Chairman: Eddie Maley, Treasurer: John Meikle, Secretary: Jim Elliot

All Members

12th February 2020

Edinburgh Branch Amalgamation Dinner 2020
Report

The Edinburgh Branch held their annual Amalgamation Dinner on the 8th February 2020. The Dinner was held at the Bainfield Bowling and Social Club, Hutchison Crossway, Edinburgh for the second year running.

The night started with the Edinburgh Branch Chairman Eddie Maley welcoming everyone and observing a minutes' silence for the fallen.

Grace was said by Lt. Col. (Retired) Ritchie Turner before we were treated to a three course meal supplied once again by a 1st rate caterer, Stephen McDonald and his staff.

The meal over, it was time for an interval where the guests thought they were getting a break but Jim Elliot and Brian Gibson were in wait ready with the famous Edinburgh Branch raffle tickets. We would like to thank our guests for giving so generously with many prizes up for grabs.

A special thankyou to Mr. Billy Fraser for his very generous donation of a 21 year old Malt Whisky to the raffle which was won by one of our family guests Wayne Meikle. Well done Wayne.

Interval over, the mini Pipes and Drums of the Edinburgh Academy Marched in and played a fantastic set including:

| | |
|------------|------------------------|
| March | King George V Army |
| March | Cabar Feidh |
| Strathspey | Captain Colin Campbell |

Reel Colonel MacLeod
 March March of the Cameron Men
 March Pibroch of Donul Dhu

Then on to the Loyal Toast which was given by John Meikle.

Followed by

Our Regimental Toast in Gaelic given by Bobby Munro 49.

Then on to what we were all waiting for. Our After Dinner Speaker. We were very privileged this year in having Mr. Tam Balloch MBE as our speaker.

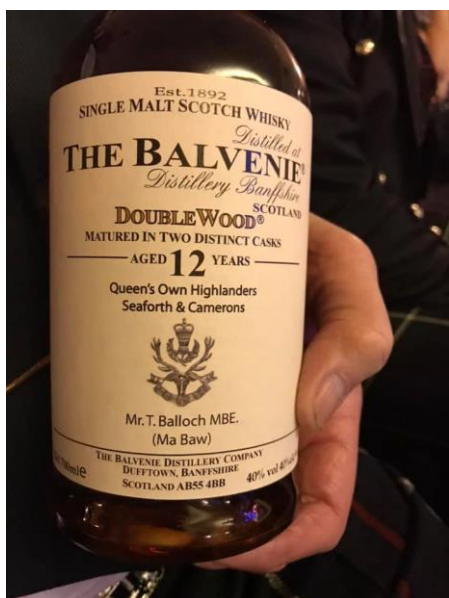
Mr. Balloch took to the floor and kept the whole hall in the palm of his hand with stories of his time with the Cameronians' on to joining the Queens Own Highlanders on Amalgamation and sharing a few tails of misadventure which he shared with some of the guests who were present on the night.

As a thankyou to Tam, John Meikle presented him with a personalised bottle of 12 year old Balvenie malt whisky (pictured below).

After a stimulating after dinner speech Maj. (Retired) Richard Barker gave the toast to the Regimental Family.

Formalities over, the second highlight of the evening, yes, the raffle. I would once again like to thank every-one for donating the prizes and my congratulations to all our winners.

Our entertainment for the evening was supplied by Robbie Carron, a first class solo act who I would recomend to everyone.



Did I hear you say 'Ma Bottle'



Top Table

| | | | | |
|----------|---------|-------|------------|------------|
| Mrs. Liz | Mr. Tam | Eddie | Maj. (Ret) | Mrs. Lynda |
| Balloch | Balloch | Maley | George | Givens |
| | MBE | | Givens | |

A good night being had by all the bar closed at 11.30pm with all our guests heading home or to their hotels at midnight.

Following the success of the 2020 Amalgamation Dinner, we look forward to welcoming you all again on the 6th February 2021 in the same venue where you can once again meet up with your old muckers and make some new ones.

Yours aye

Jim Elliot

Edinburgh Branch Secretary