

Kilmarnock Football Club
Memorial Garden Dedication
Friday 1st October 2021



The Queens Own Highlanders Regimental Association were honoured with an invitation to take part in the Dedication Service of Kilmarnock Football Club's Memorial Garden. Which will be a lasting legacy for the Kilmarnock FC players who made the ultimate sacrifice in two World Wars has been created with the unveiling of a memorial garden at Rugby Park.

Club Chaplain Reverend James McNay led the service with words of explanation from Raymond Montgomerie, who played a crucial role in creating the garden, which is located alongside the outer section of the Moffat Stand, along from our Ticket Office.

Deputy Lord Lieutenant Matt Smith, a relative of former players Mattha and Gordon Smith, was present to mark this occasion alongside the Board of Directors, local council dignitaries and representatives from the supporters' associations.

Representatives from the regiments the fallen soldiers represented were in attendance along with members of the British Legion and a strong contingent from the Queens Own Highlanders.

A dedication to the fallen players was marked by the sound of the bagpipes played by Stuart McCallum before a moment of quiet reflection.

One of the players remembered among the fallen is Pte. James Maxwell, Seaforth Highlanders who died on the 21st April 1917 at Mesopotamia. (A photo of his memorial is at the foot of this report.) The

Queens Own Highlanders were represented by:

Lt. Col. Neville Washington
Eddie Maley (Edinburgh Branch Chairman)
Jim Elliot (Edinburgh Branch Secretary)
Bobby Costello (Edinburgh Branch Standard Bearer)

Lt. Col. Ritchie Turner

George Monaghan (Strathclyde Branch Chairman)



Left to right: Lt. Col. Neville Washington, Eddie Maley, Bonny Costello, Lt. Col. Ritchie Turner, Jim Elliot and taking the photo George Monaghan.

Following a very moving service, all who attended were invited into the Kilmarnock Football Club Board Room for tea/coffee and canapes.

The Regimental Association of the Queens Own Highlanders would like to thank Kilmarnock Football Club for their very kind invitation and allowing us to take part in the Dedication Service of their Memorial Garden.

Jim Elliot

Secretary

Queens Own Highlanders Regimental Association (Edinburgh Branch)