



THE QUEEN'S OWN HIGHLANDERS **REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION**

Edinburgh Branch

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Report compiled by Jim Elliot (Edinburgh Branch Secretary)

Following the publication of the Highlanders Magazine 2021, the Edinburgh Branch of the Queens Own Highlanders Regimental Association (Seaforth and Cameron) have had yet another busy year.

Our year started on the 7th February 2022 with a visit to Inverness to attend a service at the Queens Own Highlanders statue in Bank Street to commemorate the Regiment's Amalgamation Day. The event was well attended with several members of the Edinburgh Branch in attendance. Tony Curran (Chairman Highland Branch) read a short service followed by Pipe Major Jim Stout playing a moving lament (Lochaber No More) as he walked away from the statue.

Following the service at the Queens Own Highlanders statue we retired to the Royal British Legion on Huntly Street, Inverness for some very welcome tea/coffee and stovies. Following a good catch up and a few war stories we all made our way home with warm memories of the day.



Amalgamation Day, 7th February 2022

Names left to right:

Maj. David Grant, Lt. Col. Ritchie Turner, Robert Cameron-Winfield, Lt. Col. Bob Towns, Pipe Major Jim Stout, Bobby Costello, Danny Carruthers, Jim Elliot, Eddie Maley (Edinburgh Branch Chairman) and Tony Curran (Highland Branch Chairman).

Amalgamation Dinner 2022:

The Edinburgh Branch Amalgamation Dinner was due to be held on Saturday the 12th February 2022 in the Bainfield Bowling Club, Edinburgh.

Unfortunately, due to the on-going threat of COVID 19 (Omicron Variant) we decided it would be more prudent to cancel the dinner once again for another year.

Edinburgh Branch Away Day Club:

2022 saw the reintroduction of the Edinburgh Branch 'Away Day Club'.

The aim of the Away Day Club is to encourage Queens Own Highlanders veterans and their friends and family to get together in a social environment and not to promote membership of any Branch of the Association. As a Branch, we understand there are many of our Regimental veterans who are happy to meet up for a chat and to reminisce about old times without being approached by a Branch member to join the Regimental Association.

Fellowship and comradeship are the catch words for these days out. Making sure that all our veterans as well as their friends and families know that they have someone they can turn to if they require help and that they can get confidential help and advice if they require it.

Many thanks go to Michael Kelly for ensuring the club got off to a flying start with outings so far to Falkirk and Glasgow.



Edinburgh Branch 'Away Day Club', 19th February 2022 at the Graeme Hotel, Falkirk.

Beth Little and Michael Kelly sit and put the world to rights.

Gathering 61, Cameron Barracks, Inverness:

To most of us Gathering 61 was a fantastic weekend covering the 11th and 12th June 2022. However, what many did not see was the incredible amount of work that went into making the weekend happen.

From the Edinburgh Branch we were represented at the Gathering 61 Meeting by Eddie Maley, Ritchie Turner, Bobby Costello and Danny Carruthers. Following many months of traveling back and forward to Inverness to attend the meetings, the plan came together to ensure that all who attended had a great weekend.

The Edinburgh Branch committee and members would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Gathering 61 Committee for all the hard work, planning and execution of a highly successful weekend.



Jim Elliot with the Regimental Association Pipes and Drums



David McIntosh and John Meikle

The Branch were well represented throughout the weekend by being involved in different activities. Jim Elliot and Walter Williamson playing pipes with the Regimental Association Pipes and Drums under the close direction of Pipe Major Jim Stout. Edinburgh Branch Chairman Eddie Maley first of all carrying out security checks at the entrance to Cameron Barracks, Ritchie Turner ensuring that our less active veterans had access to motorized chairs to help them around the barracks. We were also well represented at the Drumhead Service on the Sunday with Eddie Maley giving a reading and Bobby Costello, John Meikle and Ritchie Turner being part of the Colours Party.

During the Drumhead Service on the Sunday, Lt. Col. Peter Watson (Chairman of the Queens Own Highlanders Regimental Association) made a special presentation to Lt. Col. Ritchie Turner in gratitude for over 40 years service to the Regimental Association.



Eddie Maley on Security duty



Lt. Col. Ritchie Turner and Lt. Col. Peter Watson



The Colours Party



The Pipes and Drums of the Queens Own Highlanders Regimental Association

A great weekend was had by all. We look forward very much to the next Gathering scheduled for 2026.

Edinburgh Branch Double Booked:

The 18th June 2022 proved to be a busy day. The Edinburgh Branch ended up being double booked for both the 40th Anniversary of the Falklands War and the Kirknewton Gala Day. However, we were able to send representatives to both.

40th Anniversary of the Falklands War (Edinburgh)

Legion Scotland held a Commemorative Parade followed by a Remembrance Service to mark the 40th Anniversary of the Falklands War on Saturday the 18th June 2022. The parade commenced at 10.15 from Charlotte Square to St. Andrew Square via George Street, upon arrival in St. Andrew Square there was a short Service of Remembrance which included a

wreath laying Ceremony and a mass participation event at 11am where pipers all over the world have been asked to join the Scots Guards Association Pipes and Drums in playing 'The Crag of Tumbledown'.



40th Anniversary of the Falklands War.

From left to right:

Roger Burt, Brian Gibson, Gus MacLeod, Tam Connolly and Richard Griffiths

Kirknewton Gala Day:

The Kirknewton Gala Committee invited the Edinburgh Branch to lead their Gala Parade on the 18th June 2022 to honor Lt. Col. Charlie Millar (Queens Own Highlanders) who had been involved with the Gala Committee for many years and still lives in the village.

Before the parade started we took the opportunity to pay our respects to two of our own, Harry MacDonald and Robert (Chiefie) Reid who have been laid to rest in the Kirknewton Cemetery.

Following our visit to the cemetery we continued through the village to the start point of the Gala Parade. The parade was headed by two pipers, Jim Elliot and Graham Brown followed by a contingent of Queens Own Highlanders before the main parade consisting of local children's groups and Batman in his Batmobile.



Harry MacDonald RIP



Robert (Chiefie) Reid RIP



Lt. Col. Ritchie Turner presents Lt. Col. Charlie Millar with a memento of the Gala Day
 In the photo from left to right: John Westwood, Alex Sinclair, Ian Forsyth, Ritchie Turner, Eddie Maley, Charlie Millar, Danny Carruthers, John Meikle, Jim Elliot and Rab Dall.



Bobby Munro 49



John Westwood and Richard Barker



Lt. Col. Charlie Millar



Graham Brown and Jim Elliot

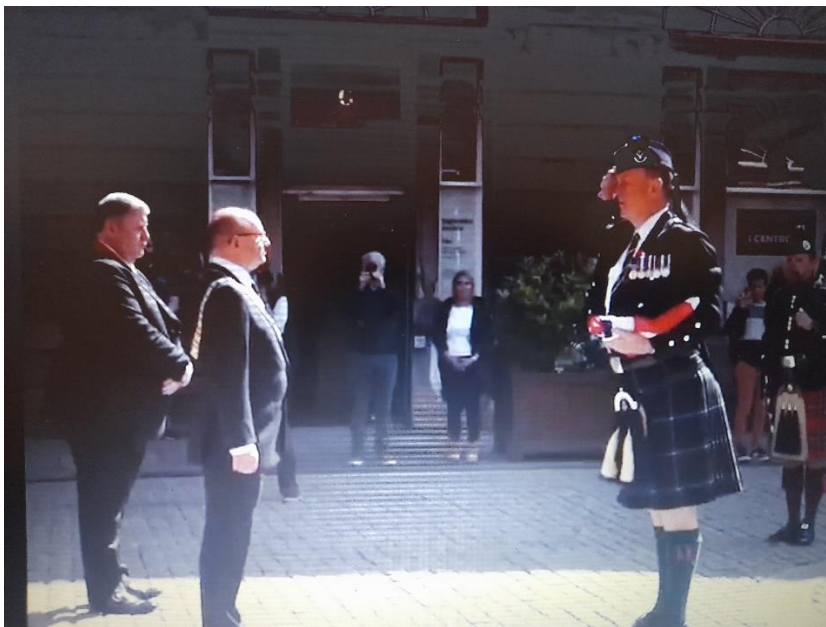


Jim Elliot and Danny Carruthers

Armed Forces Week (Edinburgh)

The Edinburgh Armed Forces week began on Monday 20th June 2022 with the raising of the Armed Forces flag over the Edinburgh City Chambers.

The Armed Forces Flag was presented to the Lord Provost of Edinburgh Robert Aldridge by Eddie Maley (Edinburgh Branch Chairman).



Eddie Maley presents the Lord Provost of Edinburgh Robert Aldridge with the Armed Forces Flag to mark the start of the Edinburgh Armed Forces week.

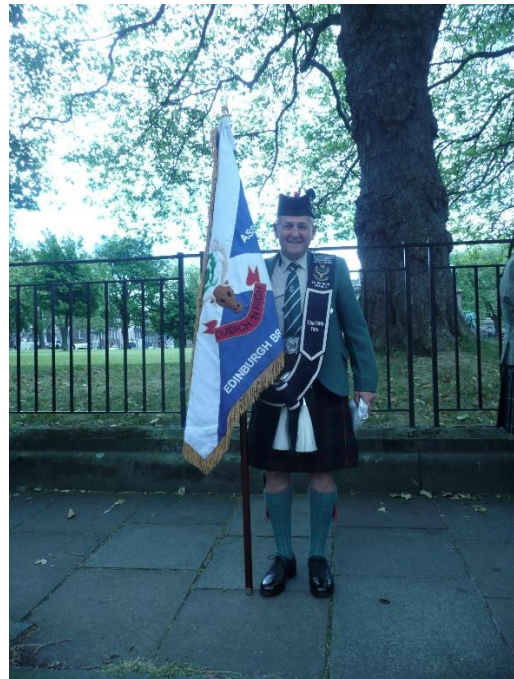
Legion Scotland held a parade and event to celebrate Armed Forces Day (Edinburgh) on Saturday 25th June 2022. The parade stepped off at 10.15am from Charlotte Square, along George Street and into St. Andrew Square. The parade was led by the Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland followed by the Royal Air Force Central Scotland Pipes and Drums. On arrival at St. Andrew Square the parade was addressed by the Lord Provost followed by an afternoon of entertainment and refreshments.



Left to right: Bobby Costello, Eddie Maley, Ritchie Turner, George Givens, Ian Forsyth, Roger Burt, Brian Gibson, Jim Elliot and Jim Cockburn.



Eddie Maley



Bobby Costello



Amber Barnes, Ritchie Turner and Bobby Costello



Duncan MacCallum, Richard Barker and George Givens

The Armed Forces Day Parade 2022 was well attended by Edinburgh Branch not only within the marching contingent but also by our less mobile members who joined us at St. Andrew Square.

Liverpool Scottish Memorial Unveiling:

The Liverpool Scottish Regimental Association held a Service of Dedication and Unveiling of the Liverpool Scottish Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum, Staffordshire on Saturday 9th July 2022.

The Edinburgh Branch had the privilege of attending the Memorial Unveiling and received a warm welcome and fantastic hospitality from Maj. Roy Boardman and the Liverpool Jocks.

Before the Unveiling parade started, Edinburgh Branch took the opportunity to visit the Queens Own Highlanders Memorial and held a short service of remembrance.

A short address was read by Eddie Maley followed by a prayer from Maj. George Givens. The service was brought to an end with Jim Elliot and Walter Williamson playing the lament 'Lochaber No More'.

Following our short service, our contingent made it's way back to the reception area of the National Memorial Arboretum to meet up with the Liverpool Scottish Regimental Association.



Left to right: Jim Elliot, Danny Carruthers, Ian Troup, Eddie Maley, Brig. Charles Grant, Alex Sinclair, Gus MacLeod, George Givens, Colin Hughes, Ronnie Baybutt, Ritchie Turner and Walter Williamson. (Not in the photo: Peter Watson, Robert Capp, Mick Bird and John Millington).



Mick Bird



Jim Elliot and John Millington

The parade stepped off at approximately 11.45am and was led by Pipe Major James Axon and the Pipes and Drums of the Liverpool Scottish Regimental Association. On arrival at the Liverpool Scottish Memorial Maj. Roy Boardman gave a welcome address and an introduction to the service. Brig. Charles Grant then reminisced about his time with the Liverpool Scottish and the education he received during his short time with them. Brig. Charles Grant then carried out the unveiling of the Memorial before handing over to Revd. Canon Dr. Crispin Pailing (Rector of Liverpool) to carry out a service. After the service, many wreaths were laid including one by Brig. Charles Grant and one by Lt. Col. Peter Watson. At the conclusion of the service those who were able marched back to the reception area headed once again by the Pipes and Drums.

On arrival at the reception area refreshments and a hearty lunch was waiting for us followed by a Beating the Retreat by the pipes and drums.

Edinburgh Branch would like to thank Roy Boardman and the Liverpool Scottish Regimental Association for their kind welcome and warm hospitality.

Liverpool Scottish Regimental Association 91st Annual Reunion:

The Liverpool Scottish Regimental Association held their 91st Annual Reunion on the 21st October 2022 in the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.

A contingent of Edinburgh Branch had the privilege of attending the dinner night and would like to thank Maj. Roy Boardman, his committee, and the members of the Liverpool Scottish Association for their warm welcome and for the hospitality they showed us throughout the evening.

Ritchie Turner, Jim Elliot and Gus MacLeod traveled to Liverpool by car on the 21st October 2022 meeting up with George Givens at the Adelphi Hotel. Once settled into our respective rooms we headed for the function suite where we were warmly welcomed by Maj. Roy Boardman.

The evening started with Pipe Major Jay Axon of the Liverpool Scottish Association Pipes and Drums leading the top table to their seats. Once the Pipe Major had played himself out, Maj. Roy Boardman welcomed all guests and wished them a pleasant evening.

Grace was said by Rev'd Major John Williams MBE, BA, CF Padre of the Liverpool Scottish Regimental Association. We then enjoyed a fantastic meal before the Loyal Toast, The National Anthem and the Toast to Absent Friends. Following an interval, we were treated to a selection of pipe music from the Pipes and Drums lead by Pipe Major Jay Axon.

A great evening was had by all where we met up with old friend as well as making many new friends.

The next morning, after breakfast, Ritchie Turner and Jim Elliot enjoyed a small tour of Liverpool, very ably guided by Ken Muir (Q.O.Hldrs). We would like to thank Ken for the tour during which we were able to see parts of the city we would not have seen if we had just jumped in the car and drove home.



Back row: George Givens, Tony Moore, Howard Finnan and Ken Muir.
 Front Row: Ritchie Turner, Gus MacLeod, Robert Capp, Glen Lawson and Jim Elliot.



Left to Right: Jim Elliot, Andrew Kerray, Ritchie Turner
 Gus MacLeod, Robert Capp and Ken Muir.



Lt. Col. Ritchie Turner
 MBE meets the Fab
 Four down at Liverpool
 Docks and advises them
 on Regimental Tradition
 and the benefits of a
 good haircut and a
 decent pair of bulled
 brogues.

Following a fantastic evening of food, entertainment, meeting old friend and making many more new friends, the Edinburgh Branch contingent headed back home to prepare for the up-and-coming Remembrance events.

We would once again take to thank Maj. Roy Boardman and the Liverpool Scottish Regimental Association for their warm welcome and hearty hospitality.

Remembrance 2022:

Edinburgh Branch Remembrance events started with the opening of the Garden of Remembrance at the Scot Monument, Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh on Monday the 24th October 2022.



Back row: Rab Dall, Jim Elliot, Jimmy Skinner, Walter Williamson, Eddie Maley, Kenny Reid and Hank Espin.
Front row: Ritchie Turner, Danny Carruthers, Mrs. Anne Blair, Duncan MacCallum, Roger Burt and John Meikle.



MBBVA Veterans: Rab Dall, Jimmy Skinner and Ritchie Turner. Joined by Mrs. Anne Blair.

A good turn out of blue hackles on a fine and warm October day. The Edinburgh Branch paraded two Colours, the Edinburgh Branch Colours carried by John Meikle and the MBBVA Colours carried by Ritchie Turner.

We also had three fine Highlanders laying our wreaths, who were: Duncan MacCallum – Queens Own Highlanders wreath, Jimmy Skinner – Seaforth Highlanders wreath and Rab Dall – Cameron Highlanders wreath. Eddie Maley, Jim Elliot and Roger Burt assisted Legion Scotland with stewarding duties during the Remembrance event. With the posing for photos complete, a strong contingent of the Edinburgh Branch retired to the Scots Guards Club for refreshments.

Armistice Day, Edinburgh 2022:

Edinburgh Armistice day service sadly had to be cancelled due to the weather conditions and dangerously high winds which had blown many of the memorials away.

Eddie Maley and Roger Burt assisted the Legion Scotland representatives in moving the memorials that were left down to the Lady Haig factory and observed a minutes silence at the Poppy Factory.

Scottish National Remembrance Parade, Edinburgh:

The Scottish National Remembrance Parade took place on Sunday the 13th November 2022. The marching contingent formed up on the Esplanade of Edinburgh Castle and marched down the Royal Mile to the Stone of Destiny at the Edinburgh City Chambers.

Edinburgh Branch of the Regimental Association were well represented with approximately 30 Blue Hackles on parade with the marching contingent and a further half dozen who were unable to march attending at the Edinburgh City Chambers.

Standard Bearers:

Bobby Costello	Edinburgh Branch Standard
John Meikle	MBBVA Standard

Wreath Layers:

Lt. Col. Peter Watson	Queens Own Highlanders Wreath
Lt. Col. Ritchie Turner	Cameron Highlanders and MBBVA Wreaths
WO2 Bobby Munro 49	Seaforth Highlanders Wreath

Following a very moving service of Remembrance at the Stone of Destiny many of the Edinburgh Branch of the Queens Own Highlanders Regimental Association hosted a day of comradeship at the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Club which included:

- (1) Loyal Toasts to all Regiments and Corps in attendance
- (2) A disco who entertained us throughout the day
- (3) An excellent buffet supplied by our one and only Eleanor
- (4) Mini Pipe Band from the Edinburgh Postal Service
- (5) Highland Dancers
- (6) Solo Piper who also entertained us in the bar following the day's function.

The Edinburgh Branch Committee would like to thank the Regimental Association, Legion Scotland and all others who donated funds and their time which went a long way to making the day a huge success.

1 Scots will be hosting the day of comradeship in 2023. Edinburgh Branch of the Queens Own Highlanders Regimental Association would like to wish them every success and have offered any assistance 1 Scots may require to get the event up and running.

With the function hall in the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Club closing at 18.00hrs some people headed home to remember a fantastic day meeting old friends and making new friends. The more seasoned retired to the bar to continue making memories and new friends.

A very successful day and function, we will remember the fallen and look forward to seeing our new and old friends at future events.

Some photos of the Remembrance Sunday:



John Meikle, Cathy Munro and Eddie Maley



Ritchie Turner, Gus McLeod, David McIntosh, John Meikle Daneil Turner



George Givens, Lynda Givens and Brenda Czarnecki

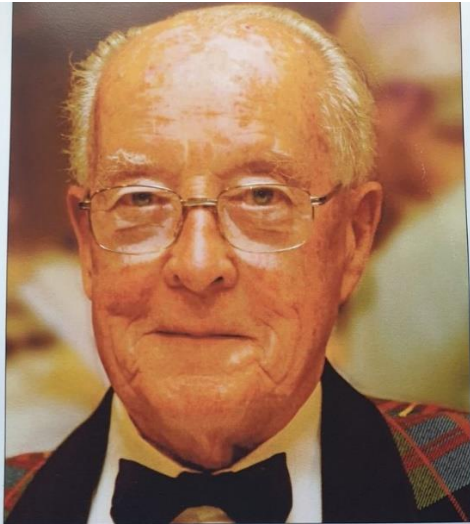


Peter Watson and Juliet Watson

Many more photos were taken on the day but unfortunately far too many to include in this report.

The Edinburgh Branch Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all members and their families for the support you have given the Branch throughout 2022 and through the Pandemic years. You have stayed loyal to the Branch and your dedication and involvement mean that the Branch is and will remain strong for many years to come.

The Fallen:



LT COL C.P.D. (CHARLIE) MILLAR
28.10.34 – 02.08.22

There's many a man of the Cameron clan That has followed his chief to the field. He has sworn to support him or die by his side For a Cameron never can yield.

Lieutenant Colonel Charlie Millar, lovingly and respectfully known as “Peas and Barley”, was born on the 28th of October 1934. At the age of 18, he enlisted in the Queen’s Own Cameron Highlanders in November 1952 and so began a long, distinguished and colourful military career. He was soon overseas with the Camerons, part of British Forces occupying Austria after the War. He went on to serve with the Camerons in Germany, Korea and Aden before their amalgamation with the Seaforth’s in 1961. He then served proudly for 28 more years as a Queen’s Own Highlander. As a mark of Charlie’s calibre as a soldier, he was proud to have been a Colour Sergeant Instructor training cadets at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst; and later he was appointed Regimental Sergeant Major of the 1st Battalion from 1972 to 1975. Charlie went on to be commissioned in 1977 and became Quartermaster of the Battalion for 6 years from 1981 to 1987.

As a tribute to Charlie and his 37-years’ Army service, this pipe tune, ‘Colonel Charlie Millar’s March’ was written by Pipe Major ‘Blue’ MacMurchie in 2008 (Former Royal Scots Dragoon Guards)

COLONEL CHARLIE MILLAR'S MARCH

The image displays a musical score for "Colonel Charlie Millar's March". The score is written in 6/8 time and consists of ten staves of music. The notation includes various rhythmic values such as eighth and sixteenth notes, along with rests and repeat signs. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music is arranged in a single system, with the first two staves forming the first line, the next two forming the second line, and the remaining six staves forming the third line. There are first and second endings indicated by the numbers "1" and "2" above the staves.

© 22 June 2008 by Pipe Major D.M.MacMURCHIE

Charlie joined the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders in 1952 later becoming a Queen's Own Highlander in 1961. Rising from a Private soldier to Lt.Colonel and completed 37 years service in 1989.



On Thursday the 8th September 2022 the country received the devastating news that Queen Elizabeth II had passed away while at her Balmoral Estate in Scotland.

Queen Elizabeth II was an inspiration to all, not only for her work ethic over 70 years of service but for her leadership which influenced the Nations and Leaders of the world.

RIP Ma'am, GBNF CFGB



Sunday 11th September 2022 Jim Elliot and Danny Mullan paraded at the Mercat Cross, Edinburgh to witness the proclamation of Prince Charles becoming King Charles III.

Following the proclamation at 12 noon, Jim and Danny made their way down the Royal Mile in Edinburgh to ensure they had a road side position to pay their respects to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's coffin as it arrived at Holyrood Palace at approx. 1600hrs.

Danny Mullan also paraded with the RBL Standard Bearers on Monday 12th September 2022 to pay his respects to Her Majesty moving from Holyrood Palace to St. Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh.

Last Post:

Maj. Mike Crow
James S. Murray
Robert Cuthbertson
Sir Christopher Foster
Andrew Rennie

Seaforth Highlanders/Queens Own Highlanders
Seaforth Highlanders
Seaforth Highlanders/Queens Own Highlanders
Seaforth Highlanders
Queens Own Highlanders

Andrew Morrison	1 Highland ACF/2/51 Highland/3 Hldrs
Alexander Freck	Cameron Highlanders/Queens Own Highlanders
Robert B. Millar	Queens Own Highlanders
William MacKintosh (AB)	Queens Own Highlanders
Joseph Mann	Queens Own Highlanders
John Donlevy	Cameron Highlanders/Queens Own Highlanders
Lt. Col. CPD Millar	Cameron Highlanders/Queens Own Highlanders
Ian Morrell	Cameronians/Queens Own Highlanders
Stephen O'Donnell	Queens Own Highlanders
James Barrie (Jas)	Queens Own Highlanders
Peter Martin	Queens Own Highlanders
Philip Sherwood	Queens Own Highlanders
John Sutherland	Queens Own Highlanders
Elizabeth McIntosh (Beanie)	Queens Own Highlanders Daughter
Jean Henderson (Nee Duffus)	Queens Own Highlanders Sister and Wife
Angela Balloch	Queens Own Highlanders Daughter
HRH Queen Elizabeth II	

We will remember them CFGB GBNF

Forecast of events:

Edinburgh Branch Christmas Dance Bainfield Bowling Club, Edinburgh	10 th December 2022
Amalgamation Dinner, Edinburgh Bainfield Bowling Club, Edinburgh	4 th February 2023
Amalgamation Day, Inverness Queens Own Highlanders Statue, Bank Street, Inverness	7 th February 2023
Start of Armed Forces Week City Chambers, Edinburgh	18 th June 2023
Armed Forces Day Parade Edinburgh TBC	24 th June 2023
Edinburgh Branch Summer Dance Bainfield Bowling Club, Edinburgh	19 th August 2023

Edinburgh Branch Committee:

Chairman	Eddie Maley
Secretary	Jim Elliot
Treasurer	John Meikle
Assistant Treasurer	Danny Carruthers
Standard Bearer	Bobby Costello
Committee Members	Ritchie Turner
	Bobby Munro 49
	Brian Gibson
	Norman Robertson

Jim Elliot
Edinburgh Branch Secretary
Queens Own Highlanders Regimental Association