



THE ROYAL REGIMENT OF SCOTLAND

ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER
EDITION 4 - SUMMER 2022



SCOTS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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SCOTS SHOP ONLINE

DID YOU KNOW?

That the SCOTS Shop Online will go live on Mon 12 Sep 2022?

SHOP OF THE ROYAL REGIMENT OF SCOTLAND

In partnership with Ammo & Company, The Royal Regiment of Scotland is launching a website titled SCOTS Shop Online. This will provide a new, efficient and assured way to meet your demands for uniform and accoutrements, sport and leisure wear, gifts and presentations. The link to the shop can be found on the SCOTS Website.

It replaces what was formerly known as the Regimental PRI Shop, but with added benefits:

- Access to the PRI on-line.
- Open to serving and retired communities and the general public.
- A wider range of Regimental items.
- Quality control to ensure that you get the correct Regimentally approved items.
- Quick, secure and efficient delivery of items.

The most significant benefit of our partnership is that a percentage share of profits on sales from the SCOTS Shop Online is channelled directly into The Royal Regiment of Scotland Trust, which supports serving soldiers, veterans and their dependents.

AMMO & COMPANY is based in Birmingham and are a leading MoD contractor and supplier of uniforms and accoutrements. AMMO & COMPANY are no strangers to the military, its customs and its culture; they supplied our great-great-great-great grandparents with metal cap badges and accessories over 170 years ago. They will run the SCOTS Shop Online on a day-to-day basis, but the shop will be managed by a joint Royal Regiment of Scotland team; making sure that what is on offer is relevant to the Regiment, and more importantly is approved by the Regiment. The SCOTS Shop Online will launch with a modest range of products which will build over time as the Regimental community recommend items and ideas for additional products to be sold.

SCOTS Shop Online is the online SCOTS PRI shop, directed by us The Royal Regiment of Scotland, and enabled by Ammo & Company acting as the sole distributor for PRI type items for the Regiment. We should all welcome this new venture and give it our full support. This is the place for us all to source Regimental items, and the Regiment will directly benefit from the partnership.



DEPUTY COLONEL OF THE ROYAL REGIMENT OF SCOTLAND



Brigadier M E Munro

Her Majesty The Queen has approved the appointment of Brigadier M E Munro as Deputy Colonel The Royal Regiment of Scotland in succession to Brigadier S J Cartwright OBE. This appointment took effect on 1 August 2022.

SCOTS APP

An agreement has been signed with an Edinburgh based app developer to create a bespoke SCOTS App that aims to meet the needs of our soldiers, veterans and our wider family. The project will commence in Sep 22 and the app will be launched in Dec 22. The agreement includes the development of both an Apple and Android

app and a three-year maintenance, update and upgrade package. The app design and development alongside the three-year maintenance and upgrade contract will be entirely funded by the grant received by RHQ SCOTS from the Afghanistan Veterans Fund.



The
Worshipful
Company
of Masons

SCOTS NEW AFFILIATION WITH THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF MASONS

The Worshipful Company of Masons is number 30 in the order of precedence of the ancient Livery Companies of the City of London. The focus of their Livery Company is to preserve and encourage the use of natural stone in the environment; including supporting the training of craftsmen as well as the preservation and appreciation of iconic historic stone buildings. The company was formed with the object of regulating the craft of stonemasonry so that standards could be properly maintained and rewarded.

The 'Masons Company' should not be confused with the modern fraternity of Freemasons which is entirely separate. Ancient documents refer to 'stonemasons' as 'free masons' purely because the nature of the job meant a mason had to be free to move around the City to where building projects were underway.

The SCOTS are an organisation that values history; traditional values; professional skill, and good comradeship and as such have plenty in common with The Worshipful Company of Masons.

Why should an infantry regiment wish to form an affiliation with a London Livery company? While we hail from Scotland, we are a British Army Regiment first and foremost, and are part of an Army which represents the totality of the Union – a whole union which we serve under our Colonel in Chief The Queen. Also, while we are Scottish in name and character, we have always welcomed into our ranks soldiers and officers from all over the UK and the wider Commonwealth – we are therefore a broad church, who value our links up and down the whole country, as well as with many organisations overseas.



Stone Restoration

Both organisations bring history, experiences and lessons which offer a unique perspective. It used to be common for the army to have strong partnerships with civil organisations. As the army has become smaller, and centered on select garrison towns, relationships have become harder to maintain. In recognition of the Company's desire to support Her Majesty's Armed Forces and the common interests of the Company and the Regiment in the City of London that it would be appropriate for the baseline of an affiliation – to promote and contribute the standing and interests of the Company and the Regiment and to provide mutual assistance and support for the Company and the Regiment as may be desirable and practicable. Annually the Colonel of the regiment will be invited to nominate a member of the Regiment to receive the Master's prize and certificate, with the prize being presented to the winner as a guest at the Livery Dinner each November.

Associated companies to The Worshipful Company of Masons are; the Mercers' Company, The Broderers Company and the Cook's Company and they have service affiliations with HMS Portland, 36 Engineer Regiment and 14 Squadron RAF.



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2 SCOTS Assaye Parade

2 SCOTS PRESENTED WITH THE SEVENTH ASSAYE COLOUR

On the 18th June 2 SCOTS were presented with their Seventh Assaye Colour by Lt Gen NRM Borton DSO MBE at Glencorse Barracks. This event showcased our 'People' and the historic lineage of the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Scotland.

2 SCOTS are one of the very few battalions in the British Army to carry three colours, one being the Assaye colour which was awarded to them by Royalty for their performance in the Battle of Assaye. The Assaye colour is traditionally carried when Royalty is present and on Assaye Day.

The battalion was presented with the new colour thanks to the outstanding fundraising efforts from serving members of the battalion, The Royal Highland Fusilier Association and its veterans.





JUBILEE MEDAL PRESENTATIONS FOR 4 SCOTS

As part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee 4 SCOTS held a medals parade at Borloun Barracks, attended by guests, families and VIPs.

Medals were presented by Brigadier AWA Griffiths OBE (SCOTS Deputy Colonel), Brigadier G Foden (Commander 7th Light Mechanised Brigade Combat

Team) and Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) JD Tink (SCOTS Regimental Secretary).

The day concluded with a quite superb Beating Retreat by the Battalions Pipes and Drums and the Band of The Royal Regiment of Scotland.



Jubilee Medal Parade





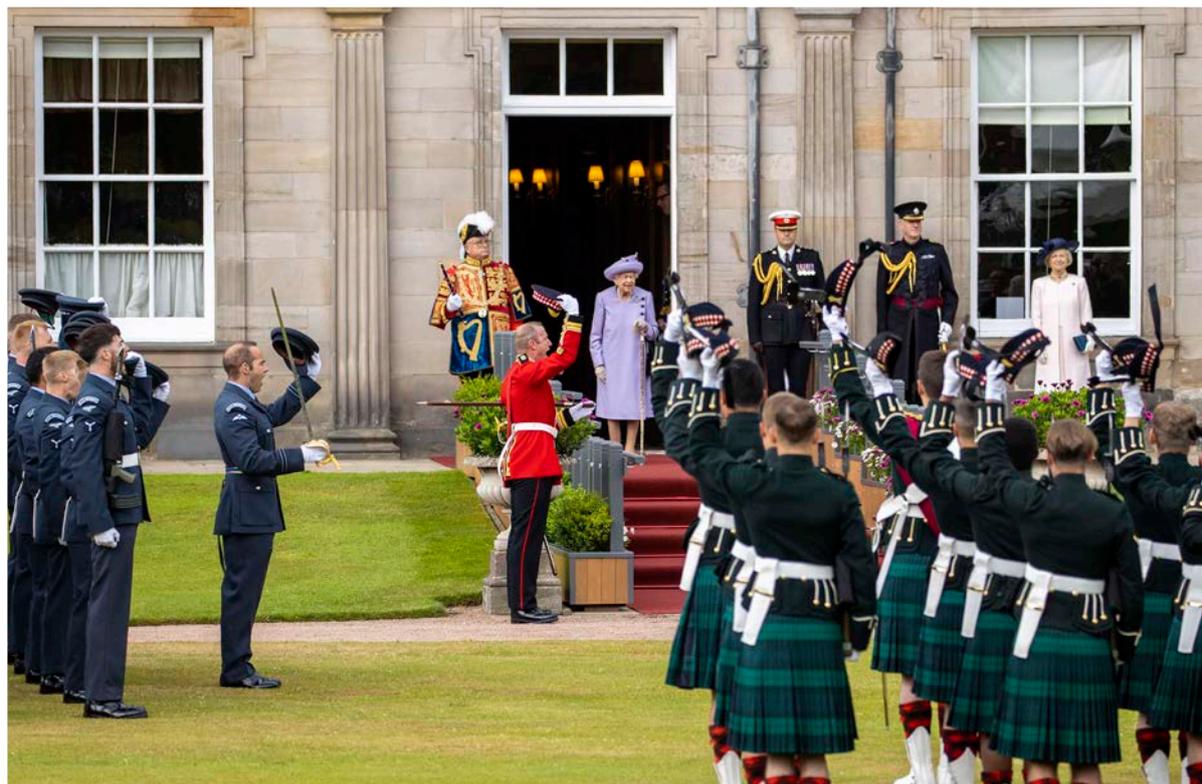
BALAKLAVA COMPANY IN ACT OF LOYALTY TO HM THE QUEEN

BKA Coy provided the British Army contingent for a very special Act of Loyalty parade where Major General Alastair Bruce OBE KStJ VR DL (Governor of Edinburgh Castle) presented Her Majesty The Queen with the keys to Edinburgh Castle, marking 200 years since the visit of King George IV.

The rare occasion was held at Holyrood Palace to mark HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Reminiscent of the Act of Loyalty arranged in 1822 for the visit to Scotland by King George IV – the first to Scotland by a reigning monarch in almost 200 years. The ceremony was supported by The Band of The Royal Marines Scotland and pipers and drummers of the Regiment.



Act of Loyalty

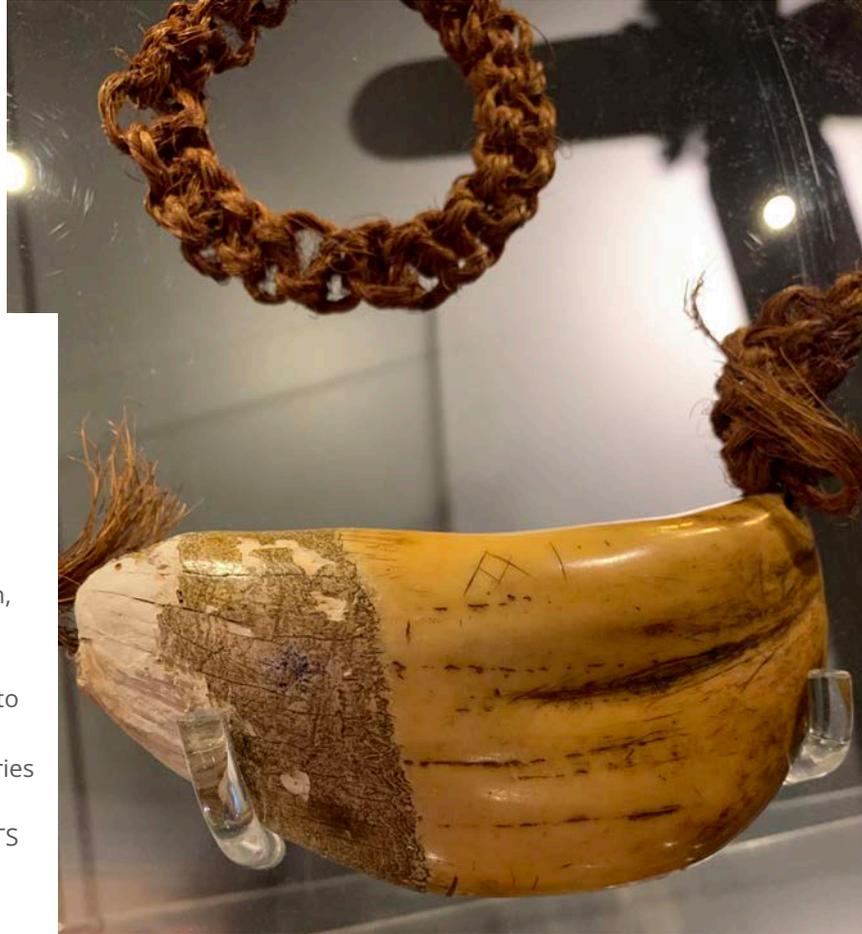




REGIMENTAL MUSEUM RE-OPENS

After an extended closure period, the Museum of The Royal Regiment of Scotland reopened to the public in May with a fresh new look.

With support from the Regimental Trust and the Army Museums Ogilby Trust, two new display cases were purchased to refresh the museum space. The new displays highlight the qualities of education, innovation, leadership and resilience through objects which were not previously on display. Among the items making their debut are a Military Cross medal group awarded to Cpl Richard Clark and the gruesome leg brace worn by Colonel David Richmond during his recovery from injuries sustained in Afghanistan. Another item of interest is a Fijian tabua necklace presented by members of 5 SCOTS in memory of Private Joseva 'Big Joe' Vatabua, killed in action on New Year's Day 2011. In Fijian culture, the whale's tooth is traditionally given as a token of esteem or to mark passage into the afterlife.



Tabua presented in memory of Pte Vatabua



New museum displays

Arabella Dorman's 'Shoulder to Shoulder' painting, depicting a desert football match and inspired by the events following the death of Captain Walter Barrie, forms part of a new memorial area featuring items on loan to the museum from SCOTS' families.

The museum is always seeking items of interest from members of the Regiment which enable us to tell a variety of stories, from the every-day to the extraordinary. If you have any items which might fit the bill or would like more information, contact Alli Spark (Museum Curator) at curator@theroyalregimentofscotland.org



INTERNATIONAL SNIPER COMPETITION 2022 – RUKLA, LITHUANIA

Snipers from 3 SCOTS, representing the British Army, recently competed in the International Sniper Competition 2022 with the first team finishing 11th out of 70 international teams and the second team finishing 48th. These were impressive results considering the number of operational commitments 3 SCOTS have been involved in over the past 24 months, which has reduced their capacity for specialist training time.

The competition was held last month in Rukla, Lithuania and included; engaging fleeing targets at various speeds, quick engagements at varied ranges, loophole shooting and long-range engagement, all while under extreme constraints and small targets down to only 12cm in size.

The Long-range engagements required quick magazine changes, with rapid bolt manipulation to engage all targets within the time limits. Each element of the competition required extreme discipline and focus from the team members – something 3 SCOTS snipers have mastered.

This competition was the single profile event in some of 3 SCOTS firers careers. Their results were phenomenal considering this was not only their first sniper competition but was at international level.



Sniper Festival



SCOTS ENGAGEMENT TEAM HOST THE SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM

The Scotland women's hockey squad selected to represent Team Scotland at the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games were hosted by the SCOTS Engagement Team at Redford Barracks and Edinburgh Castle last month. The squad captained by Borders-born Olympic bronze medallist Sarah Robertson were given a British Army Physical Development brief followed by team building command tasks and an elite skills competition. They also met the adorable mascot, Cpl Cruachan IV, and his companion Nightcap.

To end the day the hockey squad were taken to Edinburgh Castle to witness the firing of the One O'clock Gun and were given a short brief on its history.



Scotland Women's Hockey Team





SCOTS ASSOCIATION INAUGURAL GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

SCOTS Association golfers and antecedent association golfing guests, Mr Albert Duffus and Alan (Pinta) Burnett, headed to Strathmore Golf Centre for the inaugural SCOTS Association Golf Championships on 23rd June 2022. It was a well-presented course which contained some challenging obstacles to be manoeuvred. The golf centre manager and his staff ensured we were well looked after throughout the day.

A huge thank you goes to Kev MacWilliam, the chair of the SCOTS Association Lothian and Borders Branch who organised the event and who has agreed to run the day again next year. The event attracted serving, veteran and antecedent golfers, exactly the mix we had hoped for. Thanks also to Albert and Pinta for travelling all the way from up North to take part. It was also great to welcome the 1 RANGER golfing cartel who joined us as part of their golf tour of Scotland.

Thank you to John Gillie a SCOTS veteran who currently works for the ABF Scotland team who came to play and very kindly sponsored the longest drive and nearest to the pin and supported the event with additional prizes.

The results:

Categories	Winner
Best Stableford	Sgt Baird - 1 RANGER
Best Scratch	Paul Stewart
Runner up Scratch	Maj Falconer - 1 RANGER
Best H/Cap	Ken Scott
Runner up H/Cap	Albert Duffus
Nearest the pin	Alan Burnett (Pinta)
Longest Drive	Kev MacWilliam
Wooden Spoon	Gary McLay

The SCOTS Association has reconstituted two former Lowland Brigade Golf Cups.

The Lowland Brigade Challenge Cup (Spring Golf Meeting) which was first competed for in 1936. On that occasion the cup was won by Col M.B. Buchanan of the Royal Scots Fusiliers the last person to win that cup was: Brig J.D. Drummond, Royal Highland Fusiliers in 2006.

The Lowland Brigade Club Inter-Regimental Cup for B teams was first competed for in 1977 and won by the Royal Scots. It was last competed for in 2001 and won again by a team of Royal Scots which included Lt Gen Sir R Richardson, Maj T Buchannan and Maj W.C Thomson.

The two winners of the 2022 Championship were Paul Stewart (right) best scratch and Ken Scott (left) best handicap.



Paul Stewart and Ken Scott



SERVING ASSOCIATION MEMBERS ASSISTING REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

Members of Balaklava Company took time out from Royal Week ceremonial duties to assist SO2 Veterans in preparing hundreds of envelopes ready to be sent out to registered SCOTS veterans in the autumn.

The envelope will contain a letter from the President of the Association, a SCOTS Association veterans pin badge and a membership card with a unique number for each registered veteran.



Serving Association Members Assisting RHQ



4 SCOTS V ABERDEEN VETERANS, FORT GEORGE INVERNESS

4 SCOTS embarked on a football tour of the Highlands which saw them play several friendly matches as well as the opportunity to train with Ross County and Inverness Caledonian Thistle. The first match was played on 2nd July at Fort George Sports Pitches, Inverness against the Aberdeen Veterans team. The Aberdeen Veterans are a team created by a couple of SCOTS veterans with a team made up of mainly SCOTS veterans supported by veterans from other cap badges.

The match was a tough and hard-fought affair. It got off to a great start for the veterans, going one nil up with a well taken first goal. 4 SCOTS then had a period of dominance which saw them go 2:1 up. Then up stepped Bobby Laing (ex HLDR and 7 SCOTS) with the goal of the game. Stepping up from defence Bobby struck a sweet drive from 35 yard out which sailed past the 4 SCOTS keeper. Half time saw the teams tied at 2:2.

The second half was an even tighter affair than the first. The veterans were given a penalty which they scored to go 3:2 up. 4 SCOTS then came back into the game drawing level then slightly against the run of play scored 2 goals in the last 10 minutes to win the game 5:3. The man of the match was selected by both teams the clear winner was Scotty Baldwin (Ex HLDR and 4 SCOTS) whose performance in goal kept the veterans right in the match up until the last 10 mins. A great afternoon with the match played in a very competitive but friendly spirit.



Names of fallen soldiers and veterans



Aberdeen Veterans Team

The veterans made a very touching and respectful tribute by placing the names of fallen soldiers and veterans who served in The Highlanders and 4 SCOTS on the back of their shirts. It was great to see several veterans turn up to watch the match, which included enduring some horrendous downpours of rain.



It was a great afternoon and good to see many familiar faces from the past. The veteran's team are hoping to make this an annual fixture, with a cup for the two teams to compete for. They are now seeking further opposition from within the Regiment and if any Battalion teams want to take them on, please get in touch.



PIPE AND DRUM MAJOR BROTHERS PERFORMING AT THE REMT 2022

Two sets of brothers from The Royal Regiment of Scotland this year led their respective Battalion Pipes and Drums in the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo (REMT). The Grant brothers as Pipe Major and Drum Major of 4 SCOTS and the Muir brothers as Pipe Major and Drum Major of 3 SCOTS.

Last year (2021) Colour Sergeant Peter and Sergeant Ruaridh Grant made Regimental history for being the first brother combination since the formation of The Royal Regiment of Scotland to hold the appointment of Pipe Major and Drum Major at the same time; with both leading the Pipes and Drums of 4 SCOTS based in Catterick.

The Grant brothers both attended Aboyne Academy, Aberdeenshire, before enlisting into the Army in 2005 and 2010 respectively. Although they are both highly skilled and qualified pipers and drummers, they are also trained assault pioneers and professional infantry soldiers who have separately had the opportunity to tour and serve in Canada, Germany, Poland, Switzerland, USA, Russia, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand, Iraq and Afghanistan. In April last year Pipe Major Peter Grant had the honour of being the lone Piper at the funeral of HRH Prince Philip, Royal Colonel of 4 SCOTS.



The Grant and Muir brothers

This year sees another historical Regimental moment as the first identical twins take up the prestigious roles of Pipe Major and Drum Major for 3 SCOTS, based in Fort George, Inverness – Sergeant James and Corporal Peter Muir, from Kirkcaldy in Fife.

The Muir brothers joined the Army in 2006 as junior soldiers, initially attending the Army Foundation College in Harrogate and are now based with 3 SCOTS in Fort George Inverness. They have embraced the ethos of the pipes and drums, combining their roles as operational soldiers and musicians. The brothers have served in over 12 different countries; including France, India, Jordan and Sweden. From deploying together to Afghanistan, to James being awarded top student on his Pipe Majors Course and Peter's success as an instructor at the Army Foundation College, their military experience to date is indicative of the lived experience and opportunities provided by the Army.



THE ARMY'S NATIONAL CHARITY

Each year the Regiment donates to The Army Benevolent Fund. This gesture is in response to the significant financial support given year on year to our soldiers, veterans and families:

"On behalf of ABF The Soldiers' Charity, I would like to thank you, your trustees, and your wider Regimental family for the extremely generous donation of £10,000. Your support is greatly appreciated, particularly in the current challenging circumstances".

The ABF's charitable expenditure in FY 21/22 was just over £8.4m; helping around 65,000 serving soldiers, former soldiers, and their immediate families in 48 countries. In terms of individual grants made in support of the Regiment, they assisted 160 serving and former members, to whom they distributed a total of £138,010.



The Army's National Charity

THISTLE PROJECT - 6 SCOTS V 2 SCOTS FOOTBALL



6 SCOTS v 2 SCOTS

Last month 6 SCOTS football team played 2 SCOTS at the Petershill FC Stadium in Springburn, Glasgow. Attending were Armed Forces Covenant signees including Partick Thistle FC and the Thistle Charitable Trust. 6 SCOTS also conducted coaching sessions with over 50 local children attending – and free ice cream provided by local businessperson Jim McVicar.

The day saw excellent interaction between 2 SCOTS, 6 SCOTS and the local community with 6 SCOTS winning 3:2 over 2 SCOTS!



SCOTS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Colonel of the Regiment hosted an engagement evening in Edinburgh which included dinner in the Castle and a performance of the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. The guests were from across our community and from organisations where we seek to build a relationship for the benefit of our serving soldiers, our veterans and their dependents.

The tattoo performers included the Pipes and Drums from 2, 3 and 4 SCOTS, a Regimental Guard of Honour and the SCOTS Band. Needless to say they were outstanding in what can only be described a persistent tropical rainfall conditions! They undoubtedly set the standard for the other performers to follow.



John Jeffery (Chair SRU) and Ian Maxwell (CEO SFA)

SAVE THE DATES

2022

Sun 25 Sep	SCOTS Association Munro Bagging Day
Sun 13 Nov	Remembrance Sunday, London and Edinburgh
Sat 26 Nov	The Royal Regiment of Scotland St Andrew's Ball, Edinburgh

2023

The SCOTS Rally (24 – 26 Mar)

• Fri 24 Mar	Black Hackle Officers Dinner Night, Edinburgh
• Sat 25 Mar	Regimental History Day, Edinburgh Castle
• Sat 25 Mar	Regimental All Ranks Evening Function, Edinburgh
• Sun 26 Mar	Regimental Muster, March and Church Service, Edinburgh
Thu 22 Jun	SCOTS Association Golf Championship, Strathmore Golf Centre, Alyth
Sat 16 Sep	The Royal Regiment of Scotland Race Day, Musselburgh
Sun 12 Nov	Remembrance Sunday, London and Edinburgh
Sat 25 Nov	The Royal Regiment of Scotland St Andrew's Ball, Edinburgh
TBC Nov	Regimental Boxing Night, Edinburgh