



THE ROYAL REGIMENT OF SCOTLAND ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

EDITION 18: DECEMBER 25 TO FEBRUARY 26



REGIMENTAL BOXING NIGHT

DID YOU KNOW?

Did You Know that the Regiment will be laying-up the Colours of the 1st Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland (1 SCOTS) on Sunday 11th October 2026, at the Regimental kirk, Canongate, Edinburgh.

The laying-up ceremony will mark the legacy of 1 SCOTS and honour those who served and those who lost their lives in service of the battalion. The Colour Party will form up on the Castle Esplanade and parade down the Royal Mile behind the Regiment's Pipes and Drums. They will be escorted to the kirk by three guards of veterans from The Royal Regiment of Scotland, The Royal Scots and The King's Own Scottish Borderers. On arrival at the kirk a service will take place after which the Colours will be hung inside the kirk in perpetuity.

The King's Colour is a Union Flag, usually with a golden trim and the crest of the regiment in the centre but the SCOTS King's Colours have a roman numeral in the centre indicating the battalion it belongs too. The Regimental Colour has the crest in the centre, surrounded by place names and dates known as battle honours.

The tradition of military Colours dates back to ancient armies carrying flags and standards into battle. In the 1700s, the chaos of battle meant soldiers were often separated from their comrades and commanders. Colours provided a rallying point, showing troops the location of their commanding officer, whilst also boosting morale in times of need.

It was essential that soldiers recognised their regimental standards quickly and from a distance meaning different coloured silks and badges quickly came into use.

Ensigns, the most junior officer in a regiment, carried the Colours into battle. Carrying a Colour rather than a weapon made the Ensign a target for

attack so a Colour Guard was formed to protect them. Protecting the Colours was a great honour as well as a heavy responsibility. The capture of the Colours by enemy soldiers was a great dishonour to a regiment and there are many stories of heroic fighting to save the Colours. Soldiers of all ranks would risk serious injury or death if they saw that the Colours were in trouble.

By the late 1800s, warfare had changed. Regiments found that carrying the Colours into battle revealed their location to the enemy. Due to the development of new long-range weapons, troops were more exposed to attack meaning that Colours were no longer an advantage. After government debate, an official decision was made that Colours were not to be used on the battlefield. The last time Colours were used as a rallying point in battle by a British Regiment was at the Battle of Laing's Nek, 1881, during the Boer War in South Africa.

Today, Colours are still an important symbol of a regiment. They act as a physical reminder of regimental honour and a way of remembering all those who served under them.



CONTENTS

04	Congratulations Messages
05	Boxing Night
07	Assaye Alliance
09	2 SCOTS Christmas Market
10	Piobaireachd Competition
11	HRH Visit to 3 SCOTS
12	Red Hackle Day
13	Op Teamwork
14	20th Anniversary Statue
15	UKNSF
17	Ex FROSTED BLADE
19	Ex BRAITHREAN BYDAND
20	Burns Night
21	New SCOTS Faces
23	5 SCOTS
25	Medical Training
26	5 SCOTS Football
27	SCOTS Museum
28	6 SCOTS
30	Army Cadet Force
34	Save the Dates

CONGRATULATIONS MESSAGES

Congratulations to Col Graham Sefton CBE on his section for promotion to Brigadier and Lt Col Matthew Hayton on his selection for promotion to Colonel.

Promotion from Major to Lieutenant Colonel

Maj Mark Dobson

Maj Jamie Mackinnon

Maj Andrew Magee

Maj Clive Carrick

A/Lt Col Alan Lipowski MSc

Promotions to Major

Capt James McWilliams



BOXING NIGHT

The Regiment delivered a thrilling evening of boxing on Wednesday 10 December 2025, bringing together soldiers, families and supporters for eleven high energy bouts that showcased determination, teamwork and regimental pride.

Right from the first bell, the boxers showed the controlled aggression, discipline and courage you'd expect from Scotland's infantry. The night was made possible by the huge effort of the coaching teams and support staff who put in the hours behind the scenes to ensure a slick, safe and well run event.



Bout Results

Bout one – Featherweight (Fus Christie, 2 SCOTS WINNER VS Pte Fella 5 SCOTS)

Bout two – Welterweight (Fus Massey 2 SCOTS WINNER VS Pte Donald 5 SCOTS)

Bout three- Welterweight (LCpl Shankland 2COTS WINNER VS LCpl Vuki 1 RANGER)

Bout four – Light Middleweight (Fus Killeen-Dwyer 2 SCOTS WINNER VS LCpl Gordon 3 SCOTS)

Bout five – Light Heavyweight (Fus Ross 2 SCOTS VS Hldr Watt 4 SCOTS WINNER)

Bout six – Light Heavyweight (Fus Brown 2 SCOTS WINNER VS Pte Smith 5 SCOTS)

Bout seven – Cruiserweight (Cpl Cannon 2 SCOTS VS LCpl Burr 3 SCOTS WINNER)

Bout eight – Cruiserweight (Pte Penado 3 SCOTS VS Sgt Simpson 1 RANGER WINNER)

Bout nine – Heavyweight (LCpl Thomson 2 SCOTS WINNER VS Cpl Johnson 4 SCOTS)

Bout ten – Super heavyweight (Fus Fellows 2 SCOTS VS LCpl Bird 4 SCOTS WINNER)

Bout eleven – Cruiserweight (Fus Glover 2 SCOTS WINNER VS WO2 Hart 1 RANGER)

Special recognition

Most Courageous – LCpl Gordon 3 SCOTS

Best boxer – Sgt Simpson 1 RANGER

The Regiment extends sincere thanks to the event sponsors, whose generosity made the evening possible.



ASSAYE ALLIANCE

In the words of General Charles de Gaulle during a 1943 speech in Edinburgh, “In every combat where for five centuries the destiny of France was at stake, there were always men of Scotland to fight side by side with men of France.” The recent visit of the 27e Chasseurs Alpins may not have taken place on a battlefield, but it proved that the bond between thistle and grapevine remains as strong as ever.

In January, the ISR and FSp companies of the French contingent travelled from Annecy to Penicuik to gain an insight into life in the British Army. Hosted by 2 SCOTS, their time in Edinburgh included equipment comparison, low-level training and a tour of the city — what began as a discussion of shared military history quickly developed into honest conversations about soldiering in the modern day.

2 SCOTS ISR Company had a field day with the French — literally. Much of the visit took place on the Castlelaw training area, where the Jocks demonstrated RPAS capabilities and recce tactics before launching into an international NAVEX. Each Jock was paired with a Chasseur and sent into the darkness with no Google Translate, no DuoLingo — just hand signals, guesswork and plenty of expressive shrugging. ALLY! What began as cooperation soon turned into friendly competition, and by the end both sides agreed that soldiering needs no shared language to function effectively.

In the spirit of mutual learning, the French contingent also had the opportunity to use the Intermediate Indirect Fire System. Although already experienced in mortar work, the Chasseurs Alpins were impressed by the realism of the virtual system — fire missions, corrections and the organised



(2 SCOTS Mortars demonstrating the system)

chaos of a live shoot, all without braving the Scottish weather.

No visit would be complete without a range package, and the machine-gun shoot did not disappoint. The roar of the GPMG quickly drew interest as the Chasseurs took their turns behind the gun, settling into the rhythm with clear enthusiasm. They then demonstrated their own light machine-gun drills, resulting in an impromptu and very welcome exchange of belt-fed diplomacy.

By the end of the week, what stood out was not just the training delivered or equipment compared, but the genuine camaraderie that grew with every shared task and challenge. The Chasseurs Alpains arrived as partners and left as friends, proving that the Auld Alliance is far from a relic of the past. From

night navs to mortar simulations and everything in between, the visit showed that soldiering remains a universal language, spoken through trust, teamwork and a touch of friendly rivalry.

The enthusiasm on both sides left a clear impression: the soldiers look forward to the opportunity to visit Ancey next and experience the Chasseurs' world in return.



(27e Chasseurs Alpains and 2 SCOTS ISR)



2 SCOTS CHRISTMAS MARKETS

On 6 December 2025, the 2 SCOTS Welfare Department hosted a fantastic Christmas Market following the children's Christmas party run. The event proved a success, attracting an excellent turnout from serving personnel and their families.

Held outside Scots Corner, the market offered a festive atmosphere with food and beer vendors, lively stalls and seasonal cheer that could almost rival the Edinburgh Christmas Markets. The Welfare team made the most of every resource, creating a warm, welcoming and well organised event for all. Adding to the festivities, the day featured music and a special performance by the Pipes and Drums. A fire dancer entertained the crowd, while members of the Welfare team, dressed as elves, added a magical touch.

A special mention goes to Mr Ross McDermid, who led the organisation and project management of the market for the benefit of the Battalion's families. His hard work ensured the day ran smoothly, although, it did not go unnoticed that his mum and daughter managed to win a few of his own prizes in the draw.

The 2 SCOTS Christmas Market was a brilliant way to bring the community together, spreading festive spirit and creating lasting memories for everyone who attended.





PIOBAIREACHD COMPETITION

On 1 December 2025, The Royal Regiment of Scotland held a Piobaireachd writing competition in support of the upcoming SCOTS Pipe Music Collection, due for release in 2026. The competition took place at Inchdrewer House, home of the Army School of Bagpipe Music and Highland Drumming (ASBM&HD) and featured four competitors from across the Regiment. Each performed a self composed Piobaireachd before a judging panel consisting of Lt Col Macnair, SCOTS Pipe Band President; Neil Hall, Senior Pipe Major of the British Army (2007–2010) and 2IC ASBM&HD (2010–2012); and Colin MacLellan, esteemed piping judge and son of the first Director of Army Bagpipe Music, Capt John MacLellan QO Hldrs.

The standard of music was exceptionally high, and all tunes were played with great skill. After careful consideration, the panel selected “Salute to the Royal Regiment of Scotland”, composed and performed by Cpl Gillies of 4 SCOTS, who is currently posted to ASBM&HD. His composition will be published in the SCOTS Pipe Music Collection and formally recognised as the Regimental Piobaireachd. It is scheduled to receive its first public performance at the Black Hackle Dinner Night on 27 March 2026.

The Regiment extends its thanks to all competitors, who dedicated considerable time and effort to preparing their submissions.



Cpl Gillies & Lt Col Mcnair



HRH VISIT TO 3 SCOTS

In December, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal visited 3 SCOTS at Fort George to inspect the Battalion and present medals from a recent deployment. It was a fantastic opportunity to have the Battalion on parade and proudly display the Colours. Hosting a member of the Royal Household

is always an honour, especially when they take the time to speak with soldiers and their families. It was also wonderful to welcome several veteran members of the Battalion back onto the parade square to share in the occasion.





RED HACKLE DAY

Gunfire marked the start of the day, with the Company's pipers playing alongside the CSM and CQMS teams. It was an early but relaxed start, as the junior ranks were ordered to remain in their beds until the CSM arrived. With snow on the ground and the backdrop of an 18th century fort, the soldiers no doubt made the most of the hot gunfire on offer.

A day of sport and good food, served by members of the Officers' Mess, was rounded off with the WOs' and Sgts' Mess being hosted in the Officers' Mess.



LCpl Taylor and Lt Col Smith



OP TEAMWORK

The Chief of the General Staff (CGS), General Sir Roly Walker KCB DSO, visited Fort George during Op TEAMWORK Day, where he also had the honour of presenting Cpl Noble with his Pipe Major rank slide. During his visit, the CGS toured several areas within Fort George, including joining the WOs' and Sgts' Mess for lunch and engaging with personnel in multiple Op TEAMWORK breakout rooms.

The programme also included a visit to the Welfare Community Centre and a walkround of the married quarters alongside the Welfare Officer.



20TH ANNIVERSARY STATUE

The Royal Regiment of Scotland 20th anniversary statue has now reached an exciting stage in its creation, with the lion sculpture being assembled in the foundry after each of its sections were successfully cast. What began as a clay model in sculptor Kenny Hunter's studio has now taken on its full scale in metal, bringing the commemorative piece ever closer to its official unveiling during the Regiment's 20th Anniversary Parade on 1st July 2026.

The statue's design was developed from a series of early clay maquettes, where Kenny Hunter explored the shape and character of a reclining lion, inspired by the cap badge of The Royal Regiment of Scotland. The chosen posture conveys calm, strength and reflection, capturing the spirit of Scotland's infantry in a way that is both contemporary and rooted in Regimental Tradition.

In keeping with the Regiment's heritage, the lion will sit on a stone plinth of six separate sections, each representing one of the six historic Scottish infantry regiments that formed The Royal Regiment of Scotland in 2006. Once assembly and finishing are complete, the statue will be installed in West Princes Street Gardens, between the Ross Amphitheatre and the Ross Fountain, with Edinburgh Castle, the home of Regimental Headquarters, forming

a fitting backdrop. Its central location will offer a meaningful space for serving soldiers, veterans, families and visitors, connecting the Regiment with the wider public in the heart of the capital.

The statue is not intended to be a war memorial. Instead, it serves as a timeless tribute to all who have served, those who serve today, and those who will serve in the future. It will provide a place for quiet reflection, pride and connection and act as a focal point for small acts of remembrance.



UK NAVAL SUPPORT FACILITY FORCE PROTECTION PLATOON



LCpl Handy receiving his rank slide from Commander Donbavand RN on promotion



CQM training in the US Coastguard Urban Training Facility.

D Coy arrived in Bahrain in early December, taking over as the Force Protection Platoon. Set to be deployed over Christmas and Hogmanay, the three month stint at the UK Naval Support Facility (UKNSF) marked the first time away for most of the Jocks. Despite the separation from friends and family, the experience only strengthened the bonds within the Platoon. Between the 12 hour stag shifts, there were moments of camaraderie, laughter, and memories that will be recounted within the Company for years to come. LCpl Handy began the tour on a high, receiving his promotion from the CO of UKNSF in absentia during the Jocks' Lunch.

The UKNSF is currently transitioning into the new UK Joint Support Facility (UKJSF), and the Jocks played an important role in supporting this change. After a warm Royal Navy welcome on board, the Platoon partnered with the Royal Marines from Lima Company, 42 Commando, for Close Quarters Marksmanship (CQM) training, and received comprehensive traumatic injury treatment training from Cpl Beattie and MA Dundas of the UKNSF Medical Section.

The deployment also offered no shortage of opportunities to strengthen partnerships beyond the wire. The Jocks conducted urban training alongside the US Coast Guard in their dedicated boarding facility.

A Christmas deployment did nothing to dampen the festive atmosphere, or the competitive spirit across camp. Leading the pack in the 5 km Santa Dash was Sgt Gillin, who claimed first place in a field of four hundred, closely followed by Hldr Weeks, who secured a strong second place: a dominant performance by the pair. In the New Year, Cpl Lutu, Hldr Tabulutu, and Hldr Smart were invited by HMS Lancaster to join their side in a rugby tournament hosted at the Bahrain Rugby Club. For Cpl Lutu, the tournament marked a significant milestone: his first competitive match since recovering from injury. He returned in style, scoring two tries and helping drive the team to an overall tournament victory.



Hldr Tabulutu breaking the line for HMS LANCASTER

The Platoon's purpose remains clear: to fight and win battles on land through close combat. The tour focused on empowering Section Commanders to deliver high quality training. Cpl Harold led on designing CQM range days, honing the Jocks' skills with pistol, rifle, and transition shoots. Cpl Lutu directed urban training within the US Coast Guard Boarding Facility, enabling the development of effective muscle memory.



On board HMS Lancaster



EX FROSTED BLADE

In December, 4 SCOTS deployed eight soldiers to Val d'Isère in the French Alps to compete in Exercise FROSTED BLADE 40, the Army's premier alpine skiing training camp and competition. The event took the team from complete beginners to confident racers through an intensive training programme.

A Sergeant, a Corporal, and five Highlanders were selected for their competitiveness, eagerness to learn, and resilience. They competed in all four alpine disciplines—slalom, giant slalom (GS), supergiant slalom (SG), and downhill—on worldclass pistes used by professional World Cup skiers.

Professional instructors delivered two weeks of technical ski training, including to four team members who had never skied before. In the final week before Christmas, the team progressed to gate training, developing their ability to analyse race pistes and navigate challenging gate sets designed

to test precision and speed. They also completed speed training to prepare for the demands of SG and downhill.



By the end of the training phase, all members showed significant improvement. Team cohesion was strengthened through shared meals and opportunities to experience local alpine culture, offering valuable downtime amid a demanding schedule.

After Christmas, the team returned to Val d'Isère for race week, the most challenging phase of the exercise. Competing on two hills, they were divided into A and B teams, giving junior soldiers a chance

to demonstrate leadership and competitive spirit. Across the four disciplines, the team performed well despite their limited experience. On the A Hill, they placed 25th of 33, edging ahead of 3 SCOTS, and three skiers finished in the top third of all competitors (57th, 66th, and 75th).





EX BRAITHREAN BYDAND

B Coy recently completed their protected training period, BRAITHREAN CYCLONE, to prepare the Jocks for Lead Company Group. A grand finale of Live Fire Tactical Training had been planned but fell victim to local politics – a quarrel between local quarry workers and endangered bats meant the range was untouchable. This, however, did not stop the men of B COY in their quest for soldiering.

Instead, the Company launched into Exercise BRAITHREAN BYDAND, a three day urban training package held in the newly established Minden Village: a cluster of decommissioned officer houses within Dhekelia Station. The area offered a level of realism precisely because it had not been designed for training, presenting an immersive environment that was a first for many of the Jocks.

The training was led by Cpl Donald, the resident Urban Instructor, whose expertise shaped the exercise. He was supported by the experience of Cpl Clarkson and Cpl Shepherd, adding further depth to the instruction.

On the final day, armed with defence stores, the enemy were given strict instructions to defend their AO like a soldier would and not as an exercise-ism. This freedom tested the Jocks' basic soldiering and, in turn, put pressure on platoon commanders 2Lt Russell and Lt Johnston.

With a high-octane finish to Follow-on Company Group 2, the men of Braithrean were ready to take up the role and responsibility of Lead Company Group – but not before a trip to the beach to raise a few jars at the Company Smoker, paper plate awards sparing no man's dignity.





BURNS NIGHT

On Saturday, 24 January, 4 SCOTS Sgts' Mess hosted a highly successful Burns Night, with WO2 Cairns leading the evening as the esteemed Chief Cronie. The event was filled with laughter, camaraderie, and a true appreciation of Robert Burns' legacy. Despite the challenge of sourcing a haggis in Cyprus, we improvised brilliantly to ensure the spirit of the evening was upheld.

SSgt Lang stole the show with his humorous and spirited recital of Ode to a Fart, earning him the award for the best poem recital. Meanwhile, CSgt McAvoy captivated the audience with his powerful and emotive rendition of Tam o' Shanter, leaving everyone thoroughly impressed. It was a night to remember, showcasing the talent, tradition, and resourcefulness of the Sgts' Mess.





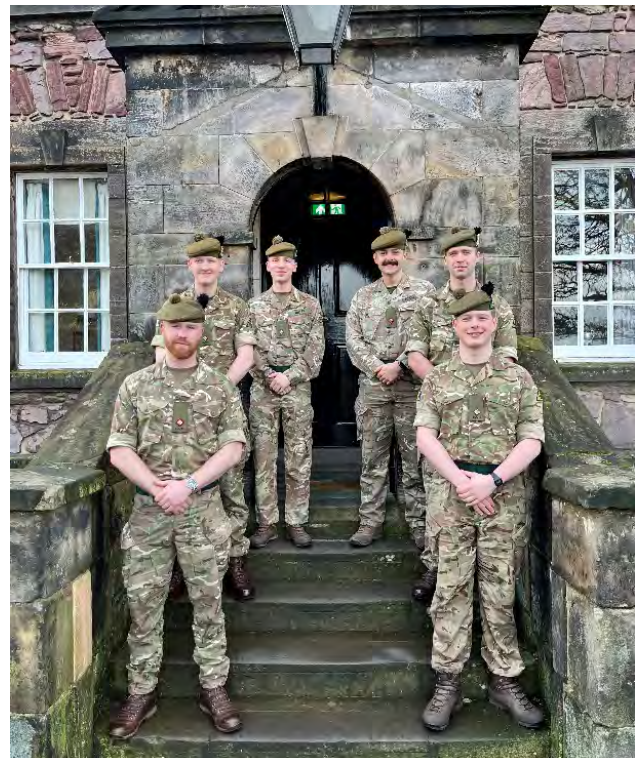
NEW SCOTS FACES

December 2025 marked a proud moment for the Regiment as five newly commissioned Officers, along with one transferee into the SCOTS, Capt Oliver Boulwood, completed their initial training at RMAS and Brecon. Before taking up their first appointments, every SCOTS Officer spends a formative week with Regimental Headquarters at Edinburgh Castle.

This Regimental Induction Cadre (RIC(O)) goes far beyond simple briefings: it builds identity, instils pride, and provides the grounding expected of a SCOTS leader. From Regimental history and customs to practical guidance for life in Battalion, the Officers left Edinburgh confident and connected to their Regiment. They also made the most of the city's festive atmosphere—exploring markets, absorbing the history, and occasionally braving the cold with more enthusiasm than foresight. Early starts the next morning confirmed that the experience had been both educational and... invigorating.

In January, six Junior Officers from 6 and 7 SCOTS attended their own Regimental Induction Cadre at

RHQ, a valuable opportunity not offered to Reserve Officers in recent years. Over two days, they received briefs on RHQ, the Association, career development, and soldier career management,



before enjoying a well earned meal and some informal bonding on Hanover Street. Visits to

the Regimental Museum and a tour of Edinburgh Castle rounded off what proved to be an invaluable weekend of professional development.

Together, these cadres ensured that both Regular and Reserve Junior Officers stepped forward into their roles with purpose, confidence, and a strong sense of belonging within the SCOTS family.

RHQ also welcomed a new member of the team in January: Hannah Burns, who joins as SO2 Welfare and Engagement. Hannah previously worked within the Scottish Conservative Pooled Resource Unit at the Scottish Parliament as a Press and Broadcast Support Officer, bringing with her significant experience in political communications and policy-making.





(Members of 5 SCOTS attending Local Balaklava Luncheon)

5 SCOTS

With roots reaching back to 1639, the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders remain defined by honour, loyalty, and camaraderie—values carried forward today by 5 SCOTS.

One of the ways this heritage is honoured is through events such as the annual Balaklava Luncheon. Alongside commemorations of battle honours, formation days, and other Regimental occasions, these gatherings connect serving soldiers with the generations who came before them. They play a vital role in preserving the Regiment's identity, ensuring that traditions, achievements, and lessons learned are passed on to those who now wear the cap badge.

As the modern Army adapts to new demands and technologies, maintaining this connection to the past remains essential. Sharing stories, experiences, and Regimental history helps instil pride and purpose in today's soldiers while reinforcing the values upheld by those who served before.



(Pte Gibson with Members of the Grangemouth Branch of the Argylls association)



Lt Samoilys presenting pipe banner to Lt Col Juneja (CO Argylls of Canada)

In February, three personnel from 5 SCOTS travelled to Canada to visit their affiliated Regiment, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders of Canada (Princess Louise's). This exchange strengthened the enduring bond between the two Regiments, whose shared lineage and traditions continue to unite them. During the visit, the soldiers experienced local culture and attended a Regimental dinner night, further deepening professional relationships and mutual respect.

The visit also highlighted the importance of international military partnerships and the shared values that transcend borders. In a gesture of continued support and camaraderie, the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders of Canada have offered the assistance of a piper to join 5 SCOTS during their annual deployment to Royal Deeside as part of this year's Royal Guard.



(International relations)



Training in the Pentland Hills

MEDICAL TRAINING

Over recent weeks, BKA Coy has placed renewed focus on medical training, delivering a steady mix of classroom instruction and realistic mass casualty exercises. These scenarios have given soldiers the chance to put theory into practice under pressure, sharpening their drills and building genuine confidence. The volume and quality of training have already surpassed last year's efforts, marking a clear commitment to strengthening this essential skill set ahead of the "green" season.

This investment is paying off across the ranks. Where once only one or two members of a section felt confident treating casualties, far more soldiers are now stepping forward with competence and assurance. The use of role players, simulated injuries, fake blood, and deliberately high stress conditions has made the training both immersive and memorable. Spirits have been high, with many personnel expressing how much they value getting out on the ground to develop skills that could one day save a life.

Another major step forward has been the introduction of team medics authorised to administer certain low level medications, easing

pressure on the Combat Medical Technician. Minor issues can now be dealt with quickly at section level, allowing the CMT to focus on more serious cases. Combined with the enhanced training programme, this improvement has strengthened the company's overall medical readiness and ensured that every soldier is better prepared to respond effectively when it matters most.





5 SCOTS FOOTBALL

Balaklava Company's football team has hit the ground running, finding time between ceremonial duties and Exercise CYCLONE to get back onto the pitch. Led by Cpl Armstrong as Manager and Cpl Dunnett as Assistant Manager and player, the squad's first match came together at short notice and without a single training session. Despite a 0-2 defeat to a well organised opponent, the team showed determination, work rate, and promise - an encouraging foundation for a side playing together for the first time.

Motivated by their early performance, the squad quickly organised structured training sessions focused on communication, positioning, and building trust. The impact was immediate. In their next outing at home, Balaklava Company delivered an impressive 7-4 win, with Pte Sillet scoring four goals on his first start. Confidence grew across the pitch, teamwork strengthened, and the players

began to develop a noticeable sense of unity. The training environment, where rank fades and respect takes centre stage, has also boosted morale, providing a valuable outlet from the demands of both ceremonial and "green" training.

As the team continues to develop, regular training is laying strong foundations for success, with plans to enter minor cup competitions and compete against top regimental teams. The introduction of new players, combined with the balance of youth and experience, is helping to build a resilient and ambitious squad. Manager Cpl Armstrong acknowledges the challenges of running a team during busy cycles, but remains confident in its potential: with commitment, consistency, and continued support, Balaklava Company's football side is well positioned to grow stronger, more organised, and increasingly competitive in the months ahead

SCOTS MUSEUM

The Museum of The Royal Regiment of Scotland marked a first stop on its 'tour of Scotland' with a stint in the Scottish Parliament at the end of February.

Kindly sponsored by Paul Sweeney MSP, a former member of 6 SCOTS, the temporary exhibition gave a unique opportunity to engage directly with MSPs on both regimental and heritage matters. The Museum team, ably supplemented by LCpls Cowan and Bolton (2 SCOTS), held conversations with MSPs from across all main political parties including members whose constituencies incorporate Redford, Glencorse and Fort George. The display was exceptionally well received.

The Museum's new touring exhibition unit leads viewers through the past 20 years of The Royal Regiment of Scotland, exploring how the Regiment has evolved in the face of major cultural, political and technological change to become one of the British Army's most deployed infantry regiments. The unit will tour communities across Scotland throughout 2026 in a project made possible by funding from Museums Galleries Scotland.



Alli Spark (SO2 Heritage), Hilary Wight (Asst Curator) and LCpl Bolton with Parliamentary sponsor, Paul Sweeney MSP.



Sharon Beck (Learning Officer), Hilary Wight and LCpl Cowan talk to Presiding Officer, Alison Johnstone MSP.



Alli Spark and LCpl Cowan discuss the exhibition with Davy Russell MSP.



Students and staff at the end of the Guns Cadre

6 SCOTS

2026 has started at a furious pace for 6 SCOTS, with the Battalion already completing three well prepared exercises and a superbly executed social event.

The year started with fieldcraft training in the Pentlands, led by C Company in January. 33 reservists took part, keen to shake off the winter blues. This exercise offered valuable preparation for the upcoming patrols competition scheduled for March.

The Guns cadre, held at Otterburn, saw 6 SCOTS

lead a 19X two-week training package. Personnel from several units were selected to attend the cadre, returning to their parent units fully trained as effective machine gunners. The training team delivered an excellent course, marking a notable milestone as it served as Capt Tosh Mcintosh's final exercise after 40 years of reserve service.

B Coy delivered the Battalion's annual urban training event, with nearly 40 reservists travelling to HMS Condor in Arbroath to be instructed under the tutelage of WO2 Ewart.

It has not all been field training. The Battalion also enjoyed an opportunity to socialise at the hugely successful Burns supper, hosted by the Warrant Officers' and Sgts' Mess. The event drew more than 60 guests, including friends and family. The

drill hall was transformed for the evening, with excellent food and entertainment contributing to a memorable night.



A wonderful Burns supper



ARMY CADET FORCES

In December, 45 determined NCOs from Angus & Dundee Battalion ACF gathered for a weekend that balanced tactical development with festive tradition. Despite the challenging weather conditions, the spirits of the cadets remained high throughout the educational sessions.

The first training weekend of the year at Barry Buddon focused on two of the most critical pillars of the Army Cadet syllabus: saving lives and training the next generation of leaders.

First Aid isn't just a badge; it's a vital life skill. Cadets engaged in hands-on scenarios to master:

Emergency Response: Assessing the scene and keeping themselves safe.

Practical Techniques: CPR, recovery positions, and treating common injuries.

Confidence: Developing the "cool head" required to act in real-world emergencies.



Building Instructors: Junior Cadet Instructor Cadre (JCIC)

The JCIC is a major milestone in the 3-Star syllabus.

The Aim: Equipping 3-Star cadets with the pedagogical tools to mentor new and 1 star cadets.

The Content: Learning how to plan lessons, deliver clear instructions, and provide constructive feedback to junior peers.

The Impact: This cadre ensures the longevity of the Battalion's knowledge and fosters a culture of mentorship.



Dundee Area Cadets and Battalions CFAVs took to the ranges at RM Condor, Arbroath, for a day centered on marksmanship, safety, and discipline.

Cadets worked through their 2-Star and 3-Star shooting requirements, demonstrating consistency and control across three core firing positions:

Prone: Focusing on stability and a solid "inner position."

Sitting: Adapting to a higher centre of gravity while maintaining accuracy.

Kneeling: Testing balance and the ability to find a steady aim point in a more dynamic stance.



Adult volunteers and cadets from 2nd Battalion The Highlanders (2HLDRS) ACF have delivered a van packed with children's winter coats to Dyce-based charity AberNecessities, following a Battalion-wide appeal.

In February, representatives from the Battalion handed over 248 coats and jackets collected from across Aberdeen city and shire. The initiative was launched in early December after the Battalion's Regimental Sergeant Major, Darren (Daz) Haley, learned that nearly a quarter of children in and around Aberdeen are living in poverty.

Over a period of ten weeks, cadets and adult volunteers rallied their local communities, gathering donations to support families experiencing hardship.

Three instructors from 1 Highlanders ACF recently completed their Skill At Arms Instructors Course. Lieutenant Chris Gunn, Warrant Officer Class 2 Adam Davidson and Sergeant Jack Davidson, from Ross Company, all successfully passed their Skill At Arms Course.

All three adults spent the week at Drumshoreland House near Broxburn being put through their paces with their knowledge of teaching a SAA lesson.

One of the hardest courses within the Cadets, as adults are required to know the cadet rifle lessons inside and out. All three adults are now qualified SAA Instructors and can now teach back at the Battalion.



Cadet Jordan Kerr from the Glasgow and Lanarkshire Battalion Army Cadet Force (ACF) has been praised for saving the life of a young boy who collapsed at Drumchapel train station. Jordan performed CPR, using first aid skills learned through his training, until paramedics arrived to take over.

The Battalion is immensely proud of his actions, which reflect the values of the Army Cadet Force and the positive impact its members have in their communities.



The Royal Regiment of Scotland – 20th Anniversary 50/50 Prize Draw

Grab your 50/50 ticket and you could pocket extra cash to celebrate this milestone year.

Half the pot goes to the winner; half supports the Heritage Appeal.

Your chance to honour 20 years of service and tradition—don't miss out!

One lucky ticket. One unforgettable anniversary windfall.

Enter now and make this 20th Anniversary truly special!

Your ticket supports our legacy.

- **Stand with our soldiers and veterans** - every ticket supports them and their families.
- **Build history** - help create the iconic SCOTS statue in Princes Street Gardens, unveiled July 2026.
- **Shape the future** - fund a world-class museum at Edinburgh Castle, a hub for veterans, education, and civic pride.



SAVE THE DATES



2026

SCOTS 20TH ANNIVERSARY FOR YOUR DIARY

SCOTS Rally 26

Fri 27 Mar – SCOTS Offrs' Black Hackle Dinner Night, The Sheraton Grand Hotel, Edinburgh

Sat 28 Mar – Regtl History Day, Edinburgh Castle

Sat 28 Mar – Launch of the Regtl Pipe Music Book Volume 1

Sun 29 Mar - Muster, March and Remember (Edinburgh Castle, Royal Mile and location of Kirk Service TBC)

- The Laying Up of 1 SCOTS Colours has been postponed due to works being carried out at Canongate Kirk

Fri 15 May – Gun Salute, Edinburgh Castle

Thu 18 Jun - SCOTS Assoc 20th Anniversary Golf Championships, Alyth, Blairgowrie

Sar 20 Jun- Bestowed the Freedom of the City of Dundee

Wed 1 Jul

Bestowed the Freedom of the City of Edinburgh

Unveiling of The Royal Regiment of Scotland Statue, Edinburgh

Regimental Dinner Night, Edinburgh Castle,

Sat 5 Sep – Bestowed the Freedom of Inverclyde

Sat 12 Sep - SCOTS Assoc 20th Anniversary Race Day, Musselburgh Race Course, Edinburgh

Sun 8 Nov - Remembrance Sunday, London / Edinburgh

Sat 28 Nov – SCOTS Offrs' St Andrews Ball, Prestonfield House, Edinburgh

Dec – Cocktail Party and Beating Retreat, London (Exact Date TBC)

REJOIN THE ARMY

ONCE A SOLDIER, ALWAYS A SOLDIER

**LEFT THE ARMY?
IT PAYS TO COME BACK
24% MORE.***

Do you miss the camaraderie and sense of purpose that serving in the Army gives?

You'll get this, as well as financial and employment stability for you and your family if you rejoin. You'll also get the usual benefits including healthcare, sport and fitness facilities and the opportunity to make a difference.

VISIT ARMY JOBS AND APPLY TODAY →

*Average pay rise for OR since 2021.




ARMY
BE THE BEST



SCOTS SHOP ONLINE
THE OFFICIAL ONLINE SHOP OF THE ROYAL REGIMENT OF SCOTLAND

**FOR BULK OR CUSTOM ORDERS PLEASE
EMAIL ENQUIRIES@AMMOANDCO.CO.UK.**

**A PERCENTAGE OF EACH ORDER IS PAID
BACK TO YOUR REGIMENT**

**UNIFORM & ON PARADE
AT EASE
CLOTHING
PRESENTATION & GIFTWARE**

WHY USE OUR PRI?

Profit share with the Regiment • MoD licence approved • Live chat & easy returns
• Large choice of approved products • Fast & secure • Next day delivery



£4,694 Returned to the Regiment to date

