

The Royal Regiment of Scotland

SCOTS



A Soldier's Handbook



*Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second
Colonel in Chief
The Royal Regiment of Scotland*

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The Royal Regiment of Scotland

INTRODUCTION

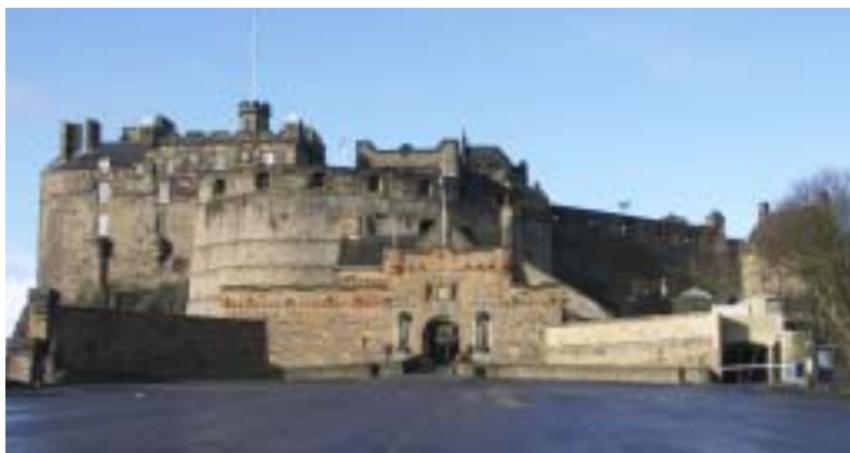
The Royal Regiment of Scotland is Scotland's Infantry Regiment. Structured, equipped and manned for the 21st Century, we are fiercely proud of our heritage. Scotland has a tradition of producing courageous, resilient, tenacious and tough, infantry soldiers of world renown. The 5 regular and 2 reserve battalions of the Regiment offer a variety of locations and challenging roles with an exciting career for any young man.

The Regiment traces its history to the raising of 14 Regiments in Scotland between 1633 and 1799. These 14 Regiments and their descendants have served Sovereign and Country uninterrupted to the present day. They have been known by different names and numbers, worn different uniforms, restructured when required and most recently came together as one Regiment on the 28th March 2006; 373 years to the day after the first Scottish Regiment was raised.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE REGIMENT

Colonel in Chief

Her Majesty the Queen is the Colonel in Chief of the Royal Regiment of Scotland.



Regimental Headquarters Edinburgh Castle

Regimental Headquarters

The Regiment is governed by the Colonel of the Regiment assisted by seven Representative Colonels and the staff of Regimental Headquarters in Edinburgh Castle and of the Home Headquarters in Edinburgh Castle, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Glasgow, Perth, Inverness, Aberdeen and Stirling.

1 SCOTS

The Royal Scots Borderers, 1st Battalion the Royal Regiment of Scotland is based at Dreghorn Barracks in Edinburgh. It is a light role infantry battalion.

HRH the Princess Royal is the Royal Colonel.

Soldiers of the Battalion wear a black hackle in their Tam O'Shanter.

2 SCOTS

The Royal Highland Fusiliers, 2nd Battalion the Royal Regiment of Scotland is based at Glencorse Barracks near Penicuik south of Edinburgh. It is a light role infantry battalion.

HRH the Prince Andrew is the Royal Colonel.

Soldiers of the Battalion wear a white hackle in their Tam O'Shanter.



On Patrol in Afghanistan

3 SCOTS

The Black Watch, 3rd Battalion the Royal Regiment of Scotland is based at Fort George near Inverness. It is a light role infantry battalion.

HRH the Duke of Rothesay is the Royal Colonel.

Soldiers of the Battalion wear a red hackle in their Tam O'Shanter.

4 SCOTS

The Highlanders, 4th Battalion the Royal Regiment of Scotland is based in St Barbara's Barracks near Fallingbostal in Germany. It is an Armoured Infantry Battalion equipped with the Warrior Armoured Infantry Fighting Vehicle.

HRH the Duke of Edinburgh is the Royal Colonel.

Soldiers of the Battalion wear a blue hackle in their Tam O'Shanter.



Training in Belize, Central America

5 SCOTS

The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 5th Battalion the Royal Regiment of Scotland is based at Howe Barracks in Canterbury. It is an Air Assault Battalion.

Her Majesty the Queen is the Royal Colonel.

Soldiers of the Battalion wear a green hackle in their Tam O'Shanter.

6 SCOTS

52nd Lowland, 6th Battalion the Royal Regiment of Scotland is the Territorial Army infantry battalion from the south of Scotland. Its Headquarters is in Glasgow and there are detachments in Ayr, Bathgate, Dumfries, Edinburgh, Galashiels and Motherwell.

HRH the Princess Royal is the Royal Colonel.

7 SCOTS

51st Highland, 7th Battalion the Royal Regiment of Scotland is the Territorial Army infantry battalion for the north of Scotland. Its Headquarters is in Perth and there are detachments in Aberdeen, Dumbarton, Dundee, Dunoon, Elgin, Inverness, Keith, Kirkcaldy, Stirling, Stornoway and Wick.

HRH the Duke of Rothesay is the Royal Colonel.



Afghanistan 2006

Uniform



Capbadge

The capbadge is made up of the Saltire (silver diagonal cross taken from the National Arms of Scotland) the Lion Rampant (from the Royal Arms of Scotland) the Crown of Scotland (as housed in Edinburgh Castle) and the Regimental Motto: "Nemo Me Impune Lacesit" (Latin for "No one provokes me with impunity").



Jacket TRF



Shirt TRF



Desert TRF

Tactical Recognition Flash (TRF)

The tactical recognition flash worn on the upper right arm of combat shirts and jackets is based on the capbadge.

Tartan

Tartan was first worn in the British Army when the Highland regiments were raised. The normal uniform was the Government or 42nd tartan (Black Watch). But as the Highland regiments proliferated, they sought to encourage their individual identities by introducing differences into the Government tartan. The Regiment wears the Government 1A tartan.

Tartan Belt

The Regimental tartan belt is worn with Combat 95. The buckle is worn to the left and rear. The lighter green stripe is central as with the kilt.

Tam O'Shanter

When the Scottish regiments went to war in 1914 they wore either the Glengarry or dress Balmorals. These were found to be so impractical for trench warfare that khaki covers were issued for the Balmorals and many soldiers took to wearing a balaclava in lieu of a Glengarry. In 1915 a flat highland bonnet was introduced to replace the Glengarry. At first there was a wide variety of styles and colours. The term Tam O'Shanter was introduced by the War Office for the older term Balmoral and the two are synonymous. The Regiment wears the khaki Tam O'Shanter with a square of Government 1A tartan, the Regimental badge and a battalion hackle. The badge and hackle can be removed on training or operations, if demanded by camouflage.



Hackles

The hackle (or "Vulture's feather" as it was termed) was originally an aid to identification in battle. Different coloured hackles were used to identify different companies: white hackle for right of the line, green for light infantry company, red and white for companies in the centre of the line.

There were many Regimental variations. There are a number of stories relating to the origin of the red hackle worn by 3 SCOTS. The most prominent relates to an action of the 42nd at Geldermalsen on 5th January 1795. Later that year, on the King's Birthday, there was a parade at Royston, Hertfordshire, when a Red Hackle was distributed to every man on parade. Whilst the 42nd certainly wore a red hackle as early as 1776, it was not until 1822 that an order from the Adjutant-General confirmed that only the 42nd would have the privilege of wearing the Red Vulture feather in their bonnets. Red Hackle Day is still celebrated by 3 SCOTS on or about the 5th January. The white hackle worn by 2 SCOTS originates from permission granted to the Royal Scots Fusiliers for their services in the South African War of 1899 – 1902. The blue hackle worn by 4 SCOTS originates from a visit to the 1st Camerons in France in December 1939 by King George VI when he gave permission to wear a royal blue hackle in their bonnets. 1 SCOTS and 5 SCOTS were granted permission to wear the black hackle and green hackle on formation of the Royal Regiment of Scotland. The hackles identify the battalion in which an officer or soldier is serving or last served.

Glengarry

The Glengarry was introduced to the British Army by Lieutenant Colonel the Hon Lauderdale Maule as Commanding Officer of the 79th. It was a practical and popular form of bonnet which soon became the undress wear in the Highland Regiments and by the 1870s was worn by all the Lowland and many English and Welsh line regiments. The Regiment wears the green, white and red dicing previously worn by the Royal Scots, Kings Own Scottish Borderers, Royal Scots Fusiliers, Royal Highland Fusiliers, Seaforth Highlanders and Gordon Highlanders. It is worn at an angle slightly down on the right.



*Soldier in Number 1 Dress
Ceremonial*

The Kilt

The Highland regiments wore the kilt when they were initially raised. However, the 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th and 91st were removed from the Highland establishment in 1809 and did not become kilted again until 1881. The 71st and 74th did not resume wearing the kilt until it was returned to the Highland Light Infantry in 1948. The Royal Regiment of Scotland wears the kilt as its principal form of barrack and ceremonial dress.

Trews

Tartan trews (from the Gaelic 'triubhas') were first authorised for use in undress uniform by kilted regiments in 1830. Trews were worn as the principal dress of Lowland regiments from the 19th century. Trews have always been treated as a convenient and comfortable form of barrack dress. The Regiment wears trews as an undress uniform and after Retreat when on duty.

Sporrans

In the early days of the Highland regiments, the sporran was a simple and useful purse ('sporran' is Gaelic for purse) made of goatskin or leather. In later years the sporran became more elaborate with metal top (cattle) and decorative tassels. Soldiers of the Regiment wear both a leather sporran and a hair sporran. The sporrans worn by the Regiment have origins in sporrans worn by a number of our antecedent regiments.

Diced Hose

Red and white diced hose were worn by Highland regiments since their earliest days. The Regiment wears red and black diced hose which were first worn by the 42nd in the mid 19th century.

Lovat Hose

In the First World War khaki hose tops were introduced to replace the diced hose which were difficult to keep clean in the trenches. They continued to be worn by Highland regiments until after the Second World War when hose of Lovat green were adopted for wear with the kilt in non-ceremonial dress.

Spats

Gaiters were worn by the infantry from the 17th century and were designed to protect the soldier's hose and to prevent stones and mud getting into the shoes. Spats were variously grey, khaki and white. White linen spats were issued in 1818 and have changed little since then. The Regiment wears spats with black buttons as worn by the 92nd Highlanders. This is said to originate from their involvement in the funeral of Sir John Moore after the Battle of Corunna in 1809.

Sgian Dubh

The sgian dubh (Gaelic for black knife) is not a weapon. It came into fashion with civilian Highland dress in about 1820. Officers and pipers of Highland regiments started wearing the sgian dubh from about 1840 when uniforms were becoming increasingly ornamental. It is worn by all officers, warrant officers and pipers of the Royal Regiment of Scotland.



Jocks in action, France 1914

Regimental Miscellany

Colours

Colours of a Regiment are its most treasured and respected possession. They bear the foremost battle honours of the Regiment and the insignia and devices to mark its most prized associations and honours. The colours of each battalion are differentiated by a Roman numeral. The Queen's Colour is the Union Flag and displays 32 Battle Honours. The Regimental Colour is blue and displays 46 Battle Honours and 5 honorary distinctions. The Regiment has the remarkable distinction of having a third colour, the Assaye Colour, which is carried on parade by 2 SCOTS.

Regimental Battle Honours

The Regiment has amassed 339 Battle Honours. The first Battle Honour was awarded to the Royal Regiment of Foot at the Battle of Tangier in 1680. The most recent was awarded to the 1st Battalion the Black Watch in Iraq in 2003.

Regimental Motto

The motto 'Nemo Me Impune Lacessit' is inextricably linked with the Order of the Thistle and has been designated by the Statutes of the Order as the motto of that Order since at least the 17th century. The motto translates as 'No one provokes me with impunity'.

Regimental Music

Music is an essential part of Regimental life. Each of the 7 battalions has its own Band of Pipes and Drums manned by soldiers from the Regiment who receive their musical training at the Army School of Bagpipe Music and Highland Drumming in Edinburgh. The Regiment has its own Military Band manned by musicians from the Corps of Army Musicians. The Regiment also has two TA Military Bands based in Edinburgh and Perth.



The Military Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland

There is a rich repertoire of Regimental music, the most important are:

The Regimental Quick March

- Pipes & Drums Scotland the Brave
- Military Band Scotland the Brave

The Regimental Slow March

- Pipes & Drums The Slow March of the Royal Regiment of Scotland ¹
- Military Band The Slow March of the Royal Regiment of Scotland

Royal Salute

- Pipes & Drums The National Anthem
St Andrew's Cross (when no military band present)
- Military Band The National Anthem

General Salute

- Pipes & Drums Loch Leven Castle
- Military Band Garb of Old Gaul



Remembrance Day Baghdad 2006

¹ An amalgam of Mist Covered Mountains, My Home and the Highland Cradle Song.

Battalion Marches

1 SCOTS

Quick March	Blue Bonnets o'er the Border
Slow March	Garb of Old Gaul

2 SCOTS

Quick March	Highland Laddie
Slow March	My Home

3 SCOTS

Quick March	Highland Laddie
Slow March	Highland Cradle Song

4 SCOTS

Quick March	The Wee Highland Laddie
Slow March	Skye Boat Song

5 SCOTS

Quick March	The Campbells are Coming
Slow March	Skye Boat Song

6 SCOTS

Quick March	Across the Lowlands
Slow March	Mist Covered Mountains

7 SCOTS

Quick March	51st Highland Division
Slow March	Garb of Old Gaul

Commanding Officer's Orders

Duty Piper	A Man's a Man for a' That
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Piper in Iraq

Regimental Days

The Royal Regiment of Scotland celebrates Formation Day (28th March, when our 1st Regiment was raised in 1633 and all our Regiments merged in 2006) as a whole and each of the battalions celebrate days that are pertinent to their antecedent regiments:

1 SCOTS

Minden Day – 01 August
Royal Scots Day – 28 March

2 SCOTS

Assaye Day – 23 September
Inkerman Day – 5 November

3 SCOTS

Red Hackle Day – 5 January
Ticonderoga Day – 8 July

4 SCOTS

Highlanders Day – 17 September
Assaye Day – 23 September

5 SCOTS

Balaklava Day – 25 October

6 SCOTS

Walcheren Day – 8 November

7 SCOTS

El Alamein Day – 26 October



Air Assault



The Golden Lions – The Regimental Freefall Team

The Golden Lions

The Regiment has its own freefall parachute display team. The Golden Lions is manned by soldiers on attachment from all battalions of the Regiment. They are based in Edinburgh and conduct parachute displays all over the country.

Regimental Museums

There are Regimental Museums across all of Scotland. They are located as follows:

The Royal Scots Museum: Edinburgh Castle

The Kings Own Scottish Borderers Museum: The Barracks, Berwick-upon-Tweed

The Royal Highland Fusiliers Museum: 518 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow

The Black Watch Museum, Balhousie Castle, Perth

The Highlanders Museum, Fort George, near Inverness

The Gordon Highlanders Museum, St Luke's, Aberdeen

The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Museum, Stirling Castle

Regimental Kirk

The Canongate Kirk (The Kirk of Holyroodhouse) on the Royal Mile in Edinburgh is the Regimental Kirk.

The Regimental Collect

God of our fathers,
Whose hand shapes the coastlands and hills of home,
fashion likewise our lives.
Guard the Royal Regiment of Scotland; keep us brave in battle,
resolute in adversity, loyal to comrade and Crown;
that inspired by the faith and cross of Saint Andrew,
we might secure lasting peace and eternal rest;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen



The Regimental Kirk on the Royal Mile

The History of the Regiment

Part One

The Raising of the Scottish Regiments 1633 to 1799

The original 14 Regiments which today form the Royal Regiment of Scotland were raised in Scotland in the 17th and 18th centuries.

The first Regiment to be raised was by Sir John Hepburn in 1633 under a Royal Warrant given by King Charles I to raise a body of men for service in France. By 1635 he commanded a force of over 8,000. It was by virtue of the Royal Warrant that the entire Regiment was considered as British; a regular force in a standing Army which could be recalled to Britain at will. In 1661, the Regiment was summoned to Britain to bridge the gap between the disbandment of the New Model Army and the creation of a Regular Army, organised along the same lines as the British units in foreign service. The Regiment was thus the original model for all others. In 1680 the Regiment was posted to **Tangier** and won its first battle honour in the campaign. On its return four years later the title **Royal Regiment of Foot** was conferred by King Charles II. It was given the honour of being numbered the **1st Regiment of Foot** in 1751.



A soldier of Hepburn's Regiment 1633

The Earl of Mar's Regiment was raised in 1678 and became a fusilier regiment before the turn of the century. In memory of this, private soldiers in 2 SCOTS hold the title Fusiliers. The Regiment was granted the royal title in 1712 to commemorate the Regiment's service in the field throughout the entire war of the Spanish Succession (alongside the **Royal Regiment of Foot**), taking part in all the major actions and most of the minor ones in France, Flanders and Germany. It was numbered the **21st Regiment of Foot** in 1751.

In 1689 David Leslie, 3rd Earl of Leven formed, in the space of two hours on 18th March 1689, a Regiment in Edinburgh in support of the Scottish Parliament. In July 1689 at the Battle of Killiecrankie, **Leven's Regiment** had its baptism of fire and, though on the losing side, stood its ground until ordered to withdraw. The Regiment was numbered the **25th Regiment of Foot** in 1751.

In 1725 six independent companies were formed to police the highlands. In 1739 King George II authorised the companies to be formed into a Regiment of Foot under the Earl of Crawford. The Regiment was numbered the **42nd Regiment of Foot** in 1749 and received a Royal warrant in 1758. The next 50 years saw the Regiment serving in Europe, North America, the Windward Islands, Martinique, Havannah and Ireland and return to North America for the American War of Independence and the West Indies.



*A Grenadier of Hepburn's Regiment
at Tangier 1680*



The Highland Regiment at Fontenoy 1745

The War of Austrian Succession. All four of our Scottish Regiments embarked to the Netherlands to fight in the war of Austrian succession. They all played a distinguished part in the battle of **Fontenoy** in 1745 under the command of the Duke of Cumberland.



Ticonderoga. The 42nd served with distinction in the French and Indian War in North America. On 7th July 1758, after a bloody battle against the French in the fort of Ticonderoga 220 miles north of New York, the 42nd lost over half its officers and men killed or wounded. The following year the 42nd returned to the same battlefield at Ticonderoga and victory was won within 30 minutes. Ticonderoga Day is celebrated each year in 3 SCOTS.

The 42nd at the Battle of Ticonderoga



The 25th at the Battle of Minden

Minden. One of our proudest battle honours was gained on 1st August 1759 at the **Battle of Minden**. It was here that the British infantry won immortal glory and world renown. Roses were plucked from the gardens of Minden by the men of the 25th of Foot as they went forward and were then worn in their bonnets throughout the battle. The battle is still celebrated and on Minden Day each year every soldier in **1 SCOTS** receives the traditional presentation of a rose to wear in his bonnet.

The threat of invasion by the French, the war in America and the need for additional troops in India and the West Indies saw the ranks of the Army swelled by the raising of many regiments in the late 18th century. Other Regiments raised at this time that make up our ancestors were as follows.

Macleod's Highlanders, the first clan based Highland regiment, was raised in 1777 and a second battalion in 1778. It was numbered the **73rd**. The 1st Bn embarked for India in 1779. The Regiment was originally numbered 73rd but was changed to **71st** in 1786 when the Army reduced in size.

In 1778 the Earl of Seaforth was authorised to raise a Highland Regiment. It mustered at Elgin on 15 May 1778, was passed as fit for service and designated the **78th Regiment of Foot**. It initially served in the Channel Islands and fought the French at the Battle of Jersey in 1781. It then embarked for India where it served with the East India Company until 1798. It was renumbered **72nd Regiment of Foot** in 1786.

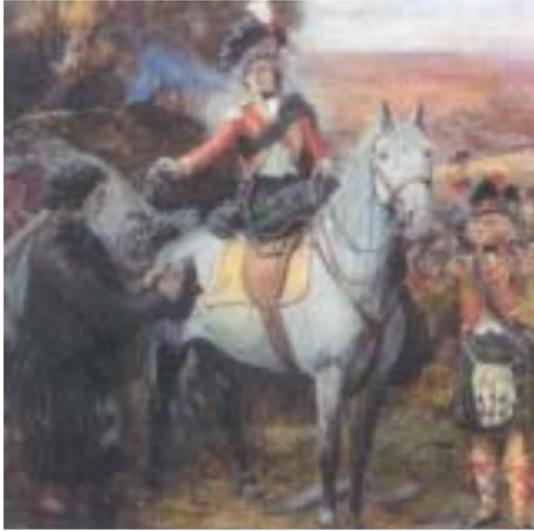


Arthur Wellesley, later the Duke of Wellington was first commissioned into the 73rd and commanded our troops in India, Peninsular War and at Waterloo

A second battalion of the 42nd was raised in 1779 which became an independent regiment in 1786 and was numbered the **73rd Regiment of Foot**. It served in India and Ceylon until 1806. Arthur Wellesley, later the Duke of Wellington, received his first commission into the 73rd in 1787.

Sir Robert Abercromby raised the **75th Highlanders** in Stirling in 1787. The same year the **74th Highland Regiment** was raised in Argyll and opened its HQ in Glasgow early in 1788. It was a Campbell Regiment, eleven of the original officers being of that name, including the Colonel, Sir Archibald Campbell of Inverneil. It sailed for India by companies and had its baptism of fire in the Mysore Campaigns.

On 7th March 1793 Lt Col Francis Humberstone Mackenzie was authorised to raise a Highland regiment. It mustered at Fort George on 10 July and was designated **78th Regiment of Foot**. A 2nd Battalion was raised in 1794 and was designated the **Ross-shire Buffs**. The battalions amalgamated in Cape Town in June 1796 and embarked for India later that year.



*The Duchess of Gordon helped to raise recruits for the
100th Regiment of Foot*

1794 saw the raising of three more of our Regiments. On 4th January the **79th Regiment of Foot**, or **Cameronian Volunteers** paraded at King's Park Stirling under command of Alan Cameron of Erracht and passed fit for service. By the turn of the century they had seen service in the West Indies, Netherlands, Spain and Egypt. Later in 1794 the Duke of Argyll was authorised by King George III to raise a Regiment. He entrusted this to Duncan Campbell of Lochnell and the Regiment mustered in Stirling Castle and was numbered the **98th** and later renumbered the **91st**. The same year the 4th Duke of Gordon raised the **100th Regiment of Foot** who first mustered in Aberdeen. They were renumbered the **92nd** in 1798.

In 1799 the last of our Regiments was raised by Major General Sir William Wemyss, a cousin of the Countess of Sutherland, and first mustered at Strathnavar. It was numbered the **93rd** and known as **Wemyss Regiment** for many years after his passing.

The History of the Regiment

Part Two

19th Century – Napoleon, Crimea and Policing the Empire

The 19th Century saw all the Regiments serving in conflicts throughout the world, from the Napoleonic Wars to Crimea and India. Many of the traditions and honours of the Regiment come from this time.

Assaye 1803

Maj Gen The Hon Arthur Wellesley (later the Duke of Wellington) led a military campaign against the northern Mahrattas whose French trained army was continually raiding British territory in India. On 23rd September 1803 Wellesley and his army of 7,000 British and Indian troops encountered the main Mahratta army of over 40,000 men. The Mahratta army, with over 100 canon to Wellesley's 22, and with 20 to one superiority in cavalry, was strongly positioned by the village of Assaye. Wellesley attacked the Mahratta flank and after a bloody battle the Mahratta army was defeated. In later years the Duke of Wellington rated the Battle of Assaye as his greatest tactical accomplishment. The three British Regiments at Assaye, the 74th and 78th Highlanders and the 19th Light Dragoons, were presented with Honorary 3rd Colours by the East India Company. The original Colour of the 74th is held in Glasgow Cathedral and a replica of the 78th Colour, made in 1889, is in the Chapel at Fort George. Assaye Day is still celebrated each year and the Assaye Colour is carried on parade in 2 SCOTS.



Waterloo 1815

Our Regiments played a prominent role in the defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo. The 1st, 42nd, 71st, 73rd, 79th, 91st and 92nd all fought with great distinction but paid a heavy price; casualties were high with more than half of our troops killed or wounded. Three of our Regiments (42nd, 79th and 92nd) were specifically mentioned by the Duke of Wellington in his Waterloo Dispatch.

Piper Kenneth Mackay rallying troops of the 79th at Waterloo

Piper Kenneth Mackay. The 79th Highlanders were first involved in the battle during the early afternoon of the 18th June. Moving forward through a hedge they engaged the French with a heavy volley of fire and followed up with a bayonet charge. The French retreated down a slope pursued by the British cavalry. French cavalry then launched a determined counter attack and the 79th had to form a "Defensive Square". As the French pushed forward in their attack Piper Kenneth Mackay, showing no fear, moved out of the protected square and began playing the traditional rallying tune "Cagadh no Sith" (War or Peace – The True Gathering of the Clans). Piper Mackay was presented with a set of silver mounted pipes by the King for his individual bravery in the battle.



The Troopship Birkenhead

Birkenhead 1852

On 26th February 1852, while transporting troops to South Africa, the troop ship Birkenhead struck rocks off Cape Town. The senior officer on board was Lieutenant Colonel Seton of the 74th and there were drafts of troops from the 73rd, 74th and 91st. Lieutenant Colonel Seton took charge of all military personnel and stressed the necessity of maintaining order and discipline to his officers. There were not enough serviceable lifeboats on board for all the

passengers. Three lifeboats were launched, onto which all the women and children were placed and rowed away for safety. Only then did the ship's Captain order that those men who could swim should save themselves by swimming to the boats; Lieutenant Colonel Seton, however, recognising that rushing the lifeboats would risk swamping them and endangering the women and children, ordered the men to stand fast. The soldiers did not move, even as the ship broke up barely twenty minutes after striking the rock. Some of the soldiers managed to swim the 2 miles to shore over the next twelve hours; however, most either drowned or were taken by sharks. Captain Edward Wright of the 91st told a subsequent enquiry:

"The order and regularity that prevailed on board, from the moment the ship struck till she totally disappeared, far exceeded anything that I had thought could be affected by the best discipline; and it is the more to be wondered at seeing that most of the soldiers were but a short time in the service. Everyone did as he was directed and there was not a murmur or cry amongst them until the ship made her final plunge – all received their orders and carried them out as if they were embarking instead of going to the bottom – I never saw any embarkation conducted with so little noise or confusion."

Frederick William IV of Prussia was so moved by Captain Wright's words that he insisted they be read to all his regiments, while Queen Victoria ordered the erection of an official Birkenhead monument at the Chelsea Royal Hospital. This disaster started the protocol of "women and children first", which became a standard evacuation procedure in maritime disasters.



The Thin Red Line – The 93rd under command of Colonel Colin Campbell at Balaklava

Crimea 1854

Our Regiments were equally to the fore in the Crimea. The 1st, 21st, 42nd, 74th, 79th, 92nd and 93rd gained the highest honours during the campaign. Inkerman, Alma, Sevastopol and Balaklava¹ (the Thin Red Line) are among our Battle Honours. Balaklava Day is still remembered and celebrated as a Regimental Day by 5 SCOTS on 25th October and Inkerman is remembered each year on 5th November in 2 SCOTS.

Thomas Beach VC. The 1st VC was won by a soldier from the Regiment. On 5th November 1854 at the Battle of Inkerman, Private Thomas Beach of the 92nd whilst on sentry duty, observed several Russians robbing wounded British soldiers. He attacked the Russians single-handed; he killed two and stayed to protect his wounded comrades until help arrived.

Indian Mutiny 1857

Many of our Regiments served with distinction during the Indian Mutiny. The 42nd, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 78th, 79th and 93rd all served in the bitter battles of that conflict. There were numerous acts of individual and collective bravery. In all, 27 soldiers from our Regiments won VCs during the campaign. The 78th won six VCs on the 25th September 1857, the 93rd won six VCs on the 16th November 1857 and similarly the 42nd won four VCs at Fort Ruhya on 15th April the following year.



William McBean VC – Private soldier to Major General

¹ Balaklava was awarded as a Battle Honour to 7 cavalry regiments. The 93rd was the only infantry regiment to receive this honour.

William McBean VC. The previous month, on 11th March 1858, William McBean of the 93rd killed 11 of the enemy with his own hand in the main breach of the Begum Bagh at Lucknow and was also awarded the VC. During his army career William McBean held every rank from Private to Major General. As a young soldier he was continually barracked by the drill instructors for having a 'rolling gait'. He is said to have been asked by a friend to take the Corporal behind the canteen and give him a hiding. He replied "Man, that would ne'er do. I intend to be in command of this regiment before I leave it. It would be an ill beginning to be brought before the Colonel for thrashing the drill Corporal." He served in the Crimea from Christmas Day 1854 and was at the Siege and the Fall of Sevastopol, taking part in the assaults on the 18th of June and the 8th of September. He was actively involved in the Expedition to the Sea Of Azov and in the capture of Kertch and Yenicalé. When he was commended on the action that won him the VC he commented, "It didn' tak me twenty minutes."

Lord Cardwell's Reforms 1881

Lord Cardwell, the Secretary of State for War, is chiefly remembered for his organizing of the infantry into two-battalion regiments and establishing geographical recruiting areas. The Cardwell Reforms saw our Regiments structured as nine regiments (Royal Scots, Royal Scots Fusiliers, Kings Own Scottish Borderers, Black Watch, Highland Light Infantry, Seaforth Highlanders, Queens Own Cameron Highlanders¹, Gordon Highlanders and Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders) each of two battalions; one battalion to serve abroad and the other at home, with the latter providing drafts of trained men for the overseas battalion.

Tel-el-Kebir 1882

No sooner had Lord Cardwell's reforms taken effect, when Scottish battalions deployed to Egypt under command of General Sir Garnet Wolseley to restore order after the Egyptian Army revolt against Turkish rule. The Highland Brigade was commanded by Major General Sir Archibald Alison, late of the 72nd Highlanders, and was made up the 1st Camerons, 1st Black Watch, 2nd Highland Light Infantry and 1st Gordons. In addition, 1st Seaforths were also part of General Wolseley's Army. These Regiments all fought alongside each other and were awarded the Battle Honours Tel-el-Kebir and Egypt 1882.

William Edwards VC. Lieutenant Edwards of 2nd Highland Light Infantry won the VC for his actions at Tel-el-Kebir when he stormed the enemy fortifications at the head of his men killing the artillery officer in command and capturing the guns before being knocked down himself.

¹ 2nd Camerons was not formed until 1897.

The History of the Regiment

Part Three

The 20th Century to the Present Day

Our Regiments and their soldiers fought with distinction in all the campaigns of the 20th and early 21st Century.

Boer War (1899 – 1902)

All our Regiments fought in the Boer War, including many militia and volunteer battalions. Paardeberg and South Africa 1899 – 1902 are among our battle honours.

World War I (1914 – 1918)

In the First World War over 300,000 soldiers served in the regular, territorial and service battalions of our Regiments. Of these, over 100,000 were killed or wounded. The battalions saw active service in every theatre of the Great War and our soldiers were awarded 44 Victoria Crosses for outstanding gallantry. The Battle of Loos in Sep 1915 is note worthy. Battalions from all of our Regiments fought alongside each other with great distinction at this bloody battle.



*Lieutenant Colonel Winston Churchill Commanding Officer
6th Bn Royal Scots Fusiliers*

Winston Churchill. Lieutenant Colonel Winston Churchill commanded 6th Bn Royal Scots Fusiliers in 1915. The Scots soon warmed to the dour Englishman when he ordered dry socks for sentries who had been standing in the rain. His section of the front at Ploegsteert became one of the most aggressive. While in command, Lieutenant Colonel Churchill personally made 36 forays across no man's land. On giving up command, he followed Haig's instruction and returned to the House of Commons to secure the one thing most needed: conscription. Sir Winston Churchill was later to remark: "Although an Englishman, it was in Scotland I found the three best things in my life: my wife, my constituency and my Regiment."



Robert McBeath VC – his conduct throughout three days of severe fighting was beyond all praise

Robert McBeath VC. On 20th November 1917 west of Cambrai, France, a nest of enemy machine guns in the northern outskirts of a village opened fire both on Lance Corporal McBeath's battalion, 1st/5th Seaforth Highlanders, and on the unit to his right. At this time his company was in attack and approaching the final objective. The advance was checked and heavy casualties resulted. When a Lewis gun was called for to deal with these machine guns, Lance Corporal McBeath volunteered for the duty and immediately moved off alone with a Lewis gun and revolver. He found, however, several other hostile machine guns in action and, with assistance of a tank, attacked them and drove the gunners to ground in a deep dug-out. Lance Corporal McBeath regardless of danger, rushed in after them, shot an enemy who opposed him on the steps, and drove the remainder out of the dug-out, capturing 3 officers and 30 men. There were in all five machine guns mounted around the dug-out and by putting them out of action he cleared the way for the advance of both units. The conduct of Lance Corporal McBeath throughout three days of severe fighting was beyond all praise.

World War II (1939 – 1945)

In the Second World War, our battalions served with the British Expeditionary Force in France in 1940, and in the Far East in 1942. Again our territorial battalions served with distinction and many additional battalions were raised and served throughout all the theatres of the war. Great success was achieved in the North Africa campaign, in Sicily and Italy, in the invasion of North West Europe followed by the long advance into Germany, and in the liberation of Burma.



Dennis Donnini VC – The youngest winner of the VC during World War II

Dennis Donnini VC. During 4th/5th Royal Scots Fusiliers assault of a German position in Holland in January 1945, Fusilier Dennis Donnini's platoon came under concentrated fire and he was wounded. After recovering consciousness he charged down 30 yards of open road and threw a grenade into the nearest window. With the survivors of his platoon he closely pursued the fleeing enemy. Within close range of enemy trenches and under intense fire Fusilier Donnini rescued a wounded comrade then returned to the open firing a Bren gun. He was wounded a second time but recovered and went on firing until a grenade he was carrying was hit and exploded killing him. During this action, fought at point blank range, the determination and magnificent courage of Fusilier Donnini enabled his platoon to capture the position accounting for 30 Germans and 2 machine guns. Dennis Donnini, aged 19 years, was the youngest winner of the VC during World War II.

Post World War II

In the years after 1945, our Regiments fought in Korea, took part in peace-keeping and anti-terrorist operations in Kenya, Malaya, Borneo, Aden, Cyprus, Germany, Northern Ireland, Bosnia and Kosovo. No campaign saw more sustained service than the troubles in Northern Ireland (1969 – 2007). Our Regiments lost 50 soldiers killed during this long campaign in support of the civil authorities.

Korea (1950 – 1953)

In 1950 war broke out in Korea and among the first troops to go were 1st Bn the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and the 1st Bn the Kings Own Scottish Borderers. The 1st Bn Black Watch sailed for Korea in 1952. All forces experienced severe fighting, in grim conditions. Casualties were high: more than 150 officers and men from our Regiments were killed.



William Speakman VC – the first soldier to receive a VC from Queen Elizabeth II

William Speakman VC. Private Speakman, originally a Black Watch soldier, was attached to the 1st Bn Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders to serve in Korea. He subsequently transferred to the 1st Bn the Kings Own Scottish Borderers also in Korea. In November 1951, his section was holding the left flank of his company's position and suffering serious casualties. The British positions were being over-run by thousands of Chinese. On his own initiative, Private Speakman, collected a pile of grenades, and led six others as they carried out a series of charges. These charges had the effect of breaking up several of the enemy attacks, causing them heavy casualties. Even after he was wounded by shrapnel, he continued to lead charge after charge. The battle went on for six hours and when they ran out of ammunition they threw rocks and stones, in fact, anything they could lay their hands on. In all, he led 15 counter-charges, delaying the enemy long enough to allow for his company's safe withdrawal. His decoration was highly acclaimed in Britain and the first VC to be awarded by Queen Elizabeth II. Bill Speakman, however, was a modest man who preferred to concentrate on his military career rather than court the attention the medal inevitably brought. He later served in Malaya (with the SAS) Borneo and Radfan. At the time of writing he is still alive.

Middle East (1991 – present day)

1 RS, 1 KOSB, 1 RHF, 1 QOHldrs and individuals from all our Regiments served in the 1st Gulf War in 1991. 2003 saw the Scottish Regiments return to the Middle East. 1 BW took part in the invasion of Iraq in March 2003 as part of 7th Armoured Brigade (the Desert Rats); and 1 RS, 1 KOSB, 1 RHF, 1 HLDRS and 1 A and SH all served with distinction in Iraq between 2003 and 2006.

Shaun Jardine CGC. Rapid reaction force commander Cpl Jardine and his team were engaged by two enemy positions near the Al Uzayr security base in Iraq's southern province of Maysan in 2003. Cpl Jardine was serving with 1 KOSB. During a period of intense and accurate Iraqi machine gun fire Cpl Jardine ordered the remainder of his team to provide covering fire while he assaulted the first of three enemy positions single handedly killing two of the enemy and capturing their weapons. He then engaged and suppressed the second enemy position while calling his men to join him. The third enemy position was engaged but the remaining gunmen fled. Cpl Jardine's quick thinking and total disregard for his own safety helped prevent casualties among his own team and other flanking units. His heroic actions earned him the Conspicuous Gallantry Cross (Britain's highest award for gallantry after the Victoria Cross). The citation for his award praised his courage and inspirational leadership.



Armoured Infantry Operations in Iraq

Amalgamations, Mergers and Formation Day – 28th March 2006

Post World War II, the Army reorganized and restructured on a number of occasions to meet the political requirements of the day. In 1948 – 1950 all our Regiments were reduced to one single battalion each. In 1959 – 1961 four of our battalions amalgamated to form two single battalion Regiments: the **Royal Highland Fusiliers** and the **Queen's Own Highlanders**. At this time our Regiments were grouped together into the Scottish Division. The Queen's Own Highlanders amalgamated again, this time with the Gordon Highlanders in 1994 to form the **Highlanders** (Seaforths, Gordons and Camerons). In memory of this, Highlanders Day is celebrated each year and private soldiers in 4 SCOTS hold the title Highlander.

As part of the British Army's restructuring for future operations, the **Royal Regiment of Scotland** was formed on 28th March 2006 by merging our six Regiments into one. The Royal Scots and Kings Own Scottish Borderers amalgamated on August 2006 to form the 1st Battalion and the remaining four Regiments provided the 2nd to 5th Battalions of our Regiment, retaining the antecedent names in the Battalions' full titles. The 6th and 7th Battalions were formed from the two Scottish Division Territorial Army battalions based in Scotland.

Proud of our heritage and structured for the 21st Century, the Regiment continues to serve Queen and Country. At the time of writing, all of our battalions are either on or preparing for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Victoria Crosses



Soldiers from the Regiment have won 101 Victoria Crosses, the highest award for gallantry of the British Armed Forces. The award was created by Queen Victoria after the Crimean War by Royal Warrant 29th January 1856 and is made from the bronze of captured Russian cannons from the Battle of Sevastopol. Listed below are the individuals from the Regiment who have won the award.

Pte	Thomas Beach	92nd Highlanders	5 Nov 1854	Crimea
Pte	Joseph Prosser	2nd Bn 1st Regiment	16 Jun 1855	Crimea
CSgt	Cornelius Coghlan	75th Regiment	8 Jun & 18 Jul 1857	India
Lt	Richard Wadeson	75th Regiment	18 Jul 1857	India
Lt	Andrew C Bogle	78th Highlanders	29 Jul 1857	India
Lt	Joseph P Crowe	78th Highlanders	12 Aug 1857	India
Pte	Patrick Green	75th Regiment	11 Sep 1857	India
Lt	Herbert T Macpherson	78th Highlanders	25 Sep 1857	India
Surg	Joseph Jee	78th Highlanders	25 Sep 1857	India
A/Surg	Valentine M McMaster	78th Highlanders	25 Sep 1857	India
CSgt	Stewart McPherson	78th Highlanders	26 Sep 1857	India
Pte	Henry Ward	78th Highlanders	25 & 26 Sep 1857	India
Pte	James Hollowell	78th Highlanders	26 Sep 1857	India
Capt	William G D Stewart	93rd Highlanders	16 Nov 1857	India
CSgt	James Munro	93rd Highlanders	16 Nov 1857	India
Sgt	John Paton	93rd Highlanders	16 Nov 1857	India
LCpl	John Dunley	93rd Highlanders	16 Nov 1857	India
Pte	Peter Grant	93rd Highlanders	16 Nov 1857	India
Pte	David MacKay	93rd Highlanders	16 Nov 1857	India
Lt	Francis E H Farquharson	42nd Highlanders	9 Mar 1858	India
Lt	William McBean	93rd Highlanders	11 Mar 1858	India
Lt	Aylmer S Cameron	72nd Highlanders	30 Mar 1858	India
QM-Sgt	John Simpson	42nd Highlanders	15 Apr 1858	India
L Cpl	Alexander Thompson	42nd Highlanders	15 Apr 1858	India
Pte	James Davis	42nd Highlanders	15 Apr 1858	India
Pte	Edward Spence	42nd Highlanders	15 Apr 1858	India
CSgt	William Gardner	42nd Highlanders	5 May 1858	India
Pte	George Rodgers	71st Regiment	16 Jun 1858	India
Pte	Walter Cook	42nd Highlanders	15 Jan 1859	India
Pte	Duncan Millar	42nd Highlanders	15 Jan 1859	India

L Sgt	Samuel McGaw	42nd Highlanders	31 Jan 1874	W Africa
Maj	George S White	92nd Highlanders	06 Oct 1879	Afghanistan
Lt	William H Dick-Cunyngham	92nd Highlanders	13 Dec 1879	Afghanistan
LCpl	George Sellar	72nd Highlanders	14 Dec 1879	Afghanistan
Lt	William M M Edwards	2nd Bn Highland Light Infantry	13 Sep 1882	Egypt
Pte	Thomas Edwards	1st Bn Black Watch	13 Mar 1884	Sudan
Piper	George Findlater	1st Bn Gordon Highlanders	20 Oct 1897	NW Frontier
Piper	Edward Lawson	1st Bn Gordon Highlanders	20 Oct 1897	NW Frontier
Capt	Alexander G A Hore-Ruthven	3rd (Militia) Bn Highland Light Infantry att Egyptian Army	22 Sep 1898	Sudan
Capt	Matthew F M Meiklejohn	2nd Bn Gordon Highlanders	21 Oct 1899	S Africa
RSM	William Robertson	2nd Bn Gordon Highlanders	21 Oct 1899	S Africa
Bugle	John D F Shaul	1st Bn Highland Light Infantry	11 Dec 1899	S Africa
Maj	George Ravenhill	2nd Bn Royal Scots Fusiliers	15 Dec 1899	S Africa
Pte	Ernest B Towse	1st Bn Gordon Highlanders	30 Apr 1900	S Africa
Cpl	John F McKay	1st Bn Gordon Highlanders	20 May 1900	S Africa
Sgt	John Mackenzie	2nd Bn Seaforth Highlanders	6 Jun 1900	W Africa
Capt	William E Gordon	1st Bn Gordon Highlanders	11 Jul 1900	S Africa
Capt	David R Younger	1st Bn Gordon Highlanders	11 Jul 1900	S Africa
Pte	Charles T Kennedy	2nd Bn Highland Light Infantry	22 Nov 1900	S Africa
Sgt	Donald Farmer	1st Bn Queens Own Cameron Highlanders	13 Dec 1900	S Africa
Lt	Gustavus H B Coulson	1st Bn Kings Own Scottish Borderers	18 May 1901	S Africa
Pte	Ross Tollerton	1st Bn Queens Own Cameron Highlanders	14 Sep 1914	Western Front
Pte	George Wilson	2nd Bn Highland Light Infantry	14 Sep 1914	Western Front
Dmr	William Kenny	2nd Bn Gordon Highlanders	23 Oct 1914	Western Front
Lt	James A O Brooke	2nd Bn Gordon Highlanders	29 Oct 1914	Western Front
Lt	Walter L Brodie	2nd Bn Highland Light Infantry	11 Nov 1914	Western Front
Pte	Henry H Robson	2nd Bn Royal Scots	14 Dec 1914	Western Front

Cpl	John Ripley	1st Bn Black Watch	9 May 1915	Western Front
L Cpl	David Finlay	2nd Bn Black Watch	9 May 1915	Western Front
LCpl	William Angus	8th Bn Highland Light Infantry att		Western Front
Capt	John A Liddell	8th Bn Royal Scots 3rd Bn Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders att	12 Jun 1915	Western Front
Pte	David R Lauder	Royal Flying Corps 1/4th Bn Royal Scots Fusiliers	31 Jul 1915 13 Aug 1915	Western Front Gallipoli
A/Lt Col	Angus F Douglas-Hamilton	6th Bn Queens Own Cameron Highlanders	25 & 26 Sep 1915	Western Front
Ppr	Daniel Laidlaw	7th Bn Kings Own Scottish Borderers	25 Sep 1915	Western Front
Pte	Robert Dunsire	13th Bn Royal Scots	26 Sep 1915	Western Front
Cpl	James D Pollock	5th Bn Queens Own Cameron Highlanders	27 Sep 1915	Western Front
Cpl	Sidney Ware	1st Bn Seaforth Highlanders	6 Apr 1916	Mesopotamia
Sgt	James Y Turnbull	17th Bn Highland Light Infantry	1 Jul 1916	Western Front
Dmr	Walter Ritchie	2nd Bn Seaforth Highlanders	1 Jul 1916	Western Front
LSgt	Thomas Steele	1st Bn Seaforth Highlanders	22 Feb 1917	Mesopotamia
Lt	Donald Mackintosh	3rd Bn Seaforth Highlanders	11 Apr 1917	Western Front
Pte	Charles Melvin	2nd Bn Black Watch	21 Apr 1917	Mesopotamia
Lt	John R N Graham	9th Bn Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders att 136th Coy Machine Gun Corps	22 Apr 1917	Mesopotamia
2nd Lt	Arthur Henderson	4th Bn Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders	23 Apr 1917	Western Front
2nd Lt	John M Craig	1/4th Bn Royal Scots Fusiliers	6 Jun 1917	Egypt
Sgt	Alexander Edwards	1/6th Bn Seaforth Highlanders	31 Jul & 1 Aug 1917	Western Front
A/CSM	John Skinner	1st Bn Kings Own Scottish Borderers	16 Aug 1917	Western Front
CQMS	William H Grimbaldeston	1st Bn Kings Own Scottish Borderers	16 Aug 1917	Western Front
Pte	George McIntosh	1st/6th Bn Gordon Highlanders	6 Sep 1917	Western Front
Capt	Henry Reynolds	12th Bn The Royal Scots	20 Sep 1917	Western Front
Pte	John B Hamilton	1st/9th Bn Highland Light Infantry	25 & 26 Sep 1917	Western Front

A/Lt Col	Lewis P Evans	Black Watch commanding 1st Bn Lincolnshire Regt	4 Oct 1917	Western Front
LCpl	Robert McBeath	1/5th Bn Seaforth Highlanders	20 Nov 1917	Western Front
2nd Lt	Stanley H P Boughey	1/4th Bn Royal Scots Fusiliers	1 Dec 1917	Palestine
Lt	Allan E Ker	3rd Bn Gordon Highlanders att 61st Bn Machine Gun Corps	21 Mar 1918	Western Front
2nd Lt	John C Buchan	7th Bn Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders	21 Mar 1918	Western Front
A/Lt Col	William H Anderson	12th Bn Highland Light Infantry	25 Mar 1918	Western Front
Sgt	John M Meikle	4th Bn Seaforth Highlanders	20 Jul 1918	Western Front
Pte	Hugh McIver	2nd Bn Royal Scots	23 Aug 1918	Western Front
Lt	David L MacIntyre	Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders att 1/6th Highland Light Infantry	24 & 27 Aug 1918	Western Front
Cpl	David F Hunter	1/5th Bn Highland Light Infantry	16 & 17 Sep 1918	Western Front
A/Sgt	Louis McGuffie	1/5th Bn Kings Own Scottish Borderers	28 Sep 1918	Western Front
A/Cpl	Roland E Elcock	11th Bn Royal Scots	15 Oct 1918	Western Front
Lt	David S McGregor	6th Bn Royal Scots	22 Oct 1918	Western Front
Lt	William D Bissett	1/6th Bn Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders	25 Oct 1918	Western Front
Sgt	Thomas Caldwell	12th Bn The Royal Scots Fusiliers	31 Oct 1918	Western Front
A/Lt Col	Lorne M Campbell	7th Bn Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders	6 Apr 1943	North Africa
A/Maj	John T McK Anderson	8th Bn Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders	23 Apr 1943	North Africa
A/Maj	Frank G Blaker	Highland Light Infantry att 9th Bn Gurkha Rifles	9 Jul 1944	Burma
Fus	Dennis Donnini	4/5th Royal Scots Fusiliers	18 Jan 1945	Holland
Maj	Kenneth Muir	1st Bn Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders	23 Sep 1950	Korea
Pte	William Speakman	Transferred from Black Watch to 1st Bn Kings Own Scottish Borderers at time of action.	5 Nov 1951	Korea

The Values and Standards of the British Army

As a soldier of The Royal Regiment of Scotland you will be expected to work to the values and standards of the British Army:

- **Selfless Commitment** – Personal commitment is the foundation of military service. You must be prepared to serve whenever and wherever you are required, and to do your best at all times. This means you put the needs of the mission, and of your team, ahead of your own interests.
- **Courage** – Courage creates the strength on which fighting spirit depends. You must have the physical courage to carry on with your task regardless of danger and discomfort, and the moral courage always to do what you know is right.
- **Discipline** – The Army must be a disciplined force if it is to be effective. You must therefore obey all lawful orders that you are given. The best form of discipline which the Army expects from you is self discipline. Only that will earn you the respect and trust of your comrades, and equip you to cope with the difficult, individual decisions you will have to make during your service. This applies whether on operations or not.
- **Integrity** – Integrity involves honesty, sincerity, reliability and unselfishness. It is an essential requirement of both leadership and comradeship. Unless you maintain your integrity, others will not trust you and teamwork will suffer. Integrity sometimes requires you to show moral courage, because your decisions may not always be popular. But it will always earn you respect.
- **Loyalty** – The Nation and the Army rely on your commitment and support. You must therefore be loyal to your commanders, your comrades and your duty. If you are not, you will be letting others down.
- **Respect for Others** – As a soldier you have the exceptional responsibility of bearing arms, and when necessary of using controlled lethal force. In addition, you will sometimes have to live and work under extremely difficult conditions. In such circumstances, it is particularly important that you show the greatest respect, tolerance and compassion for others because comradeship and leadership depend on it.



Regimental Capbadge