

New Poppyscotland image but the work goes on!

A Message from the President

The work of bringing welfare to those who serve and who have served in the Armed Forces, and to their families, seems never ending. That, perhaps, is the bad news. The good news is that the outcome of that work brings enormous solace to those who benefit and an enormous sense of achievement and satisfaction to all those who make it happen.

As all of us in Poppyscotland know, the money that we annually collect through events and the all important Poppy Appeal makes it possible for so many different Service charities to do so much really good welfare work. We can all look back on 2006 with immense pride. By the wonderful efforts of everyone, not least of all the small army



■ Sir Alistair Irwin Launches Poppyscotland!

of dedicated Conveners round the country, we have once again created a new annual record. I am delighted, as your President, to have this opportunity both to thank you all for everything that you do

and to congratulate you on a magnificent success.

As you know 2006 was the year in which we re-launched ourselves under the banner Poppyscotland. The name of Earl Haig of course continues to feature in our business but modern times demanded a public image with more immediate impact, something to attract the eye and the attention of the younger generations following on. I believe that the new image has already had a significant effect and I for one look forward very much to contributing to our work under the new banner. The accompanying photograph of me may not be very flattering but I hope it conveys not only the spirit of the occasion of the re-launch in Edinburgh but also of our well-founded hopes for the future.

Thank you again for the wonderful work that you do and let us all hope for soft pavements and full tins in 2007.

Alistair Irwin
President

Over £580,000 in Grants to Support Individuals

This year Poppyscotland helped 1,300 individuals and gave grants in excess of £580,000. These grants have helped veterans and their dependants with particular needs such as disabled access showers, personal clothing or household items. We receive many comments from grateful recipients – an example being *“This has helped me and my 2 young children at a time when I was worrying about paying this huge bill”* – Mrs D – Larkhall aged 37

Changes at Poppyscotland Head Office

In order to help us raise more money this year Poppyscotland has expanded its Development Department and taken on 6 new staff members. The new staff are involved in publicity and fundraising - to help achieve a wider knowledge of the work Poppyscotland does in the veterans sector and to run more fundraising events. This will mean in the future you may receive more mailings telling you what we are doing so you can help us to let the public know when you are out and about! Word of mouth is still the most effective way of getting our message across and many of you have spent years forming good supportive contacts who can help us spread the word.

Scottish Poppy Appeal Over £1.5 Million For the First Time!

With the help of Conveners and distributors we have raised £1,570,879 this year – the first time the Poppy Appeal has topped £1.5 million – so well done and thanks to you all for such a brilliant effort this year. Our total from street and church collections is up just over 5% on last year and you sold over four million poppies!

We are aware that the continuing conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan are keeping

the importance of the Poppy Appeal at the forefront of the public’s mind and, while that helps us to raise funds, it also means we have more demand for our services. So next year we need to raise £1,750,000, an increase of 13% on 2006. We know that this is a huge target but are sure with your help we can achieve this to meet the growing demand for help from veterans and their dependants.

And Finally ...

It was fantastic to see over a hundred of you and your guests at this year’s Verdi Opera Gala – see inside for more details. Poppyscotland felt it was a great way to thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a year of challenges and development for the charity and thank you for your unwavering support, which is the mainstay of all our activities.



■ **Fiona MacDonald, Francesco Cilluffo and Christina Dunwoodie – all smiles after their amazing performances!**

Poppyscotland goes to the Opera!

For the first time ever Poppyscotland put on its finest and went to the opera. An evening of Verdi sung by four Scottish opera stars to raise funds also raised the roof of the stunning City Halls in Glasgow.

Poppyscotland also took advantage of this event and invited all our Conveners (with a special discounted ticket) as

a “thank you” for all the hard work done on our behalf. Over 100 Conveners and guests attended a special reception hosted by the Lord Provost of Glasgow, Liz Cameron. Poppyscotland Directors and Staff were there to personally thank our valiant team of Poppy Appeal Collectors.

This glamorous and spectacular gala evening

was the idea of Scottish opera singers, Christina Dunwoodie and Fiona MacDonald, who felt compelled to help veterans after hearing the stories of troops returning from Iraq. They organised a wonderful evening of music by Verdi and a Grand Prize Draw for the audience of 900, who thoroughly enjoyed the singing and the spectacle.

Dear Reader

Welcome to our new look Poppy Appeal Newsletter. We are still giving you details about last year’s amazing results but also it’s now full of news, updates and information on the work that we do and how you help us to support more veterans and their dependants in Scotland.

Here are a few highlights for you. This year we raised more money than ever in the Poppy Appeal, hosted our first Opera Gala, took on more staff and supported many individuals in need and other organisations who help veterans and their dependants. All in all a very busy and successful year full of new initiatives and new people! All of this change is now in place to move Poppyscotland forward and raise the funds to help more people.

Thank you very much for your support in 2006 and we hope you enjoy reading about what we’ve been up to on your behalf this year and look forward to the challenge of 2007.

Bill Murray
Poppy Appeal Organiser



■ **Jean McKinnon and Conductor Francesco Cilluffo with Lord Provost Liz Cameron**

One of our Conveners who attended the Verdi Opera Gala was Jean McKinnon, who is in her 80s and still tirelessly supports the Poppy Appeal every year. Jean has been collecting for us since she and her best friend at primary school did door-to-door collections in Mossspark Drive.

Jean says “I’ve been collecting for so long now I can’t remember why I started, but I’ve collected in the same area my whole life.” Jean has cans at Ibrox church and 12 other places she delivers to. And when Poppy Appeal Week is over her primary school friend from those early days of collecting helps her count the money!



■ **Miss Scotland Nicola McLean and team members from Edinburgh Rugby launch The Scottish Poppy Appeal 2006**

Presidents Awards 2006

For some years now Poppyscotland has been recognising the excellent and loyal work of Conveners through the presentation of Presidents Awards.

Four Awards were presented at the AGM by Sir Alistair Irwin, President of the charity.

Each recipient received a gold enamel poppy lapel pin and a framed citation describing the special contribution they have made to the Scottish Poppy Appeal over many years.

President’s Awards in 2006 were made to Mrs Jean Bayne of Fife, Mrs Allison Scott Aiton of the Borders, Mr Willie Spence of Unst, Shetland, and Mrs Alison Dykes of Berwickshire. We congratulate them all and thank them for their loyalty and commitment to the work of the charity.



Photographed by Oswald Skene, July 1987

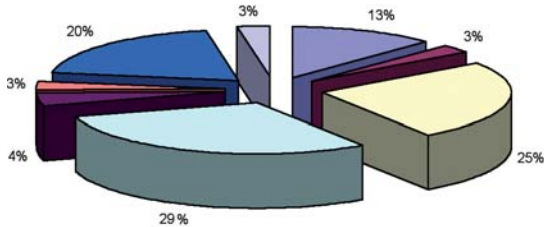
■ **Poppies in field in Musselburgh**

Do you know someone you would like to nominate for a Presidents Award? If so, give Bill Murray a call on 0131 550 1552. We’d like to hear your suggestion.

CHARITABLE SERVICES

Grants to other organisations

This year our Charitable Services Department supported 11 other veterans' charities with grants totalling over £890,000. A large unseen part of the other work Poppyscotland does is to donate funds to other ex Service organisations, which provide specialist services in the sector.



- The Royal British Legion Scotland
- The Officers' Association Scotland
- Erskine
- Scottish Veterans' Residences
- Scottish Veterans' Garden City (Inc)
- Other organisations
- Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society (Combat Stress) Scottish Activities
- The Lady Haig Poppy Factory

Poppyscotland grant of £200,000 to Erskine Edinburgh

One of the substantial grants made was to Erskine, which provides medical and nursing care for veterans in their Homes. Poppyscotland supports Erskine's specialist care and has given the charity a grant of £200,000 for improving the facilities at their Home in Edinburgh.

This brings the total given to Erskine over the last two years for various projects to £2 million. Jim Panton, Poppyscotland's Chief Executive sees our support for the work Erskine does on behalf of veterans in Scotland as vital. "Erskine is expanding each year to meet the ever-increasing demand for its exceptional service. I am delighted that Poppyscotland has been able to make a sizeable contribution to the charity's efforts. Erskine still requires more help to meet current plans and we hope to continue giving our support in the future."



■ Members of Erskine staff with John, a resident

EVENTS

LOGAN FAMILY SUPPORT "RUN THE ROAD"

Run the Road: Sunday 17 June, Eaglesham

Run the Road, our 10k family-friendly cycle, run and walk is supported by the Logan family this year – BBC presenter Gabby and ex-Scotland rugby star Kenny and their twins, Reuben and Lois. We've added a 2.5k route for younger children and the less energetic!

Gabby says: "It will be a great opportunity for families to spend some time together and enjoy an afternoon out in the fresh air."

"With the conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq, many young men and women – who are the same age as Kenny and I – are in need of help when they come home. I feel it is important that people remember that Poppyscotland doesn't just look after



■ Kenny & Gabby Logan and their twins Lois and Reuben support Run the Road

veterans from the Second World War and that it provides care all year round – not just in November."

This year we want to raise £20,000 through Run the Road to present to ex-Service charity Erskine, for the purchase of a people-carrier specially-

adapted for wheelchair use.

At the end of the course participants will be presented with a fabric poppy to plant, creating Eaglesham's very own Field of Poppies. There will then follow an afternoon of fun and entertainment for the whole family to enjoy.

You can register online at www.runtheroad.org, and get all the details or telephone 0131 550 1542/1580.

The entry fees are:
Adults: £7
Children 5-16 yrs: £4
Under-5s: free
There is also a family ticket at £20 (2 adults, 2 children)

Please help us by encouraging your friends and family to take part!

Dates for your Diary

- 17th June – **Run the Road** at Eaglesham East Renfrewshire Family 10k run, cycle or walk, plus a shorter route of 2.5k for the less energetic!
- 29/30th June – **Veterans Day**, Dundee
- **The Scottish Poppy Appeal** Remembrance Week 5th to 10th November Remembrance Sunday 11th November

We have several more events in the planning stages so look out for information coming your way!

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

SCOTTISH POPPY APPEAL COLLECTIONS

National	1,215,867
Edinburgh	122,312
Glasgow	140,272
Churches	70,778
Overseas Collection	21,650
Poppy Appeal Sub Total	1,570,879
Other Income	205,133
Legacies	42,218
Grand Total	1,818,230

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

Benevolence £580,273

Providing direct financial assistance to individuals

Advice £102,000

Funding an advice service including pensions claims and appeals

Support £897,887

Providing grants and research for organisations that deliver specialist support for veterans in Scotland

Employment £296,711

Supporting the employment of veterans with disabilities who made over four million poppies in the Lady Haig Poppy Factory

Charity Walker Drops in to Poppy Factory



Jane Allen, a Commander with the Royal Naval Reserve, who has just returned from Iraq, popped into Lady Haig's Poppy Factory during her 1,000 mile solo fundraising walk from John O'Groats to Land's End.

All money raised from Jane's Scottish leg of the walk will go to Poppyscotland. Jane and husband Frank, a former Royal Marine who fought in the Falklands conflict, met some of the 28 veterans with disabilities who hand-assemble four million poppies and 8,000 wreaths each year.

"The Poppy Appeal is something very personal and close to our hearts," explains Jane. "My husband Frank is a Falklands veteran and, as a serving member of the Royal Naval Reserve, I wanted to show my support for those families of armed forces personnel who continue to lose loved ones in conflicts all over the world."

Completing the gruelling solo walk is a lifetime ambition of Jane's and she has been ably supported by Frank, who has been driving Jane's "home from home" during her 10 weeks on the road - a motor home donated for the occasion and festooned with poppies. Jane will finish her event in mid-June and we wish her great success and thank her for her fundraising efforts.



How you can help us

My name is Isla Campbell Lupton and I am one of the new members of staff just recruited by Poppyscotland. I joined the charity in April as Volunteer Coordinator. I have previously worked for a leading national children's charity and have experience of both the voluntary sector and fundraising.

I am looking for volunteers who can help us in a variety of ways. I have heard how much you already do for Poppyscotland but if you feel you could do more at other times of the year, or know someone that might like to volunteer, please get in touch. If you can spare anything from an hour a week, we need help with events, people to serve on fundraising committees and help with promoting the charity. You can contact me at the address below and I would love to speak to you!

Isla Campbell Lupton

Isla Campbell Lupton
Volunteer Co-ordinator
Tel: 0141 221 8141

Email: i.campbelllupton@poppyscotland.org.uk
Poppyscotland, Pentagon Centre,
36 Washington Street, Glasgow G3 8AZ

How to get in touch

As we have said, there are several new staff at HQ in Edinburgh and in Glasgow. Here is a list of useful contacts:

Poppy Appeal Organiser - Bill Murray - 0131 550 1552
Poppy Appeal Admin - Mike Hales - 0131 550 1553
Poppy Appeal Glasgow - Robert McRae - 0141 221 8141

Events - Lynn Stimpson - 0131 550 1542
Publicity - Leigh Howieson - 0131 550 1580
Volunteer Coordinator - Isla Campbell Lupton - 0141 221 8141
Benevolence Secretary - Capt Jim Macfarlane - 0131 550 1556

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