

Armed Forces Day Parade

at

Drummuie Golspie

22nd June 2009



The very first celebration of Armed Forces Day was held at Drummuie, the offices and grounds of the Highland Council based at Golspie. The impressive building looking over the A9 and across to the North Sea was the old site of the Sutherland Technical School, after several years of being closed now renovated and restored to its former self.

This gave a wonderful backdrop to the Parade and Flag Raising Ceremony. Although the weather was sunny and dry there was a fair wind blowing across the ground, not that this put the dampers on any of the proceedings. The day started with the Veterans and public gathering inside/outside the



building for teas, coffee and small bites.

After refreshments the Sutherland Schools Pipe Band under Pipe Major S Monaghan and Drum Major A Cameron marched onto the Parade area to entertain us with a wide selection of music before and during the ceremony.



This was followed by the Standard Bearers from the Royal Naval Association Golspie, and the Royal British Legion Branches from Rogart & Lairg, Dornoch, Creich & Kincardine.

Lt Col Colin Gilmour MBE DL then requested that the Veterans should take up their position on the Parade area. There were some 70 Veterans on parade to commemorate this the first Armed Forces Day Parade.

The parade was commanded by Sergeant Major David Mackenzie and was greatly enhanced by members of the Dornoch and Brora Detachments of 1st Battalion The Highlanders Cadet Force, taking their positions up either side of the colourful standards.





The raising of the Armed Forces Day Flag, carried out by William Munro from Lairg.

Commander William Sutherland
Royal Navy

On completion of the flag raising and General Salute, Lt Col Colin Gilmour MBE DL gave a welcoming speech and then handed over to Jonathan Brett Young to announce the Veterans who wished to have their Veteran Badges presented. The presentation of the badges was carried out by the Deputy Lieutenant Flower Thomson.



The following pictures are of the presentations:

Roderick Broad Royal Artillery



Donald MacCulloch Royal Navy



Bob Inkster Royal Artillery



William Letters Queen's Own Highlanders



Micheal O'Reilly RAF & Royal Anglian



Duncan Matheson 1st Seaforth



James Ritchie REME



William Munro Lovat Scouts



Fergus Robertson Black Watch



Hugh Murray Lovat Scouts



T J Smith Royal Air Force



John Melville Royal Air Force



Jean Manson Princess Mary's
RAF Nursing



Lt Col Colin Gilmour MBE DL
Queen's Own Highlanders



Jonathan Brett Young and Ray Clarke
'Just having a chat'

Other Photographs taken on the day

