

Military Dance Events

Extracts from the *Border Advertiser*.

- 4/1/1861 **Grand Volunteer Ball, Hawick** This ball under the patronage of the Upper Teviotdale Rifle Corps officers was held in the Tower Hotel Assembly Hall. The ball was opened by Captain Chisholm and Mrs Thomson, and then the assembled throng presented one of the grandest festive spectacles ever witnessed in our "Gude auld toon".
- 13/9/1872 **Borders Rifle Association Ball** at Corn Exchange, Melrose, dancing kept up with great spirit till early hour in morning.
- 12/2/1884 **Selkirk Volunteer Ball** Annual ball of Selkirk Reserve Volunteer Corps came off in the Volunteer Hall on Friday. About 80 couples present. Dancing carried on till advanced hour next morning. The decorations on this occasion, as arranged by Pipe Major Lamont and Sergeant Instructor Thomson were on a far more extensive scale than those of previous years.
- 13/12/1910 **Earlston** Territorial Ball of KOSB held in Corn Exchange Hall. Hall tastefully decorated. Music by Mr Hewat's band.
- 4/2/1913 **Melrose** Yeomanry Ball at Melrose. Annual Ball of C Squadron, Border Horse was held in the Waverley Hydropathic, Melrose when about 70 couples were present. Ballroom beautifully decorated with lances and pennants. Excellent music by Bird's Waverley Orchestra.
- 25/2/1913 **Selkirk** AOF Social and Ball in Victoria Hall. 120 couples at Ball. Brothers Scott, Swanson, Lees and Laurie acted as MC's.
- 13/10/1915 **Galashiels** Territorials Dance. The first of what may prove to be a series of dances was held at the Territorial Head Quarters on Saturday. 80 couples tripped lightly to the music of Hislop's band. Sergt-Major McDonald made a most capable MC and the company included a number of Royal Scots and Yeomanry from Selkirk. The dance had as its laudable object the raising of funds to procure comforts for the lads who are going out to join the 1/4th KOSB at the Dardanelles.
- 29/12/1915 **Galashiels** 3/4th KOSB Battalion dinner at Galashiels. The musical programme was then entered upon. The dancing of Lieut. McIntosh to the piano accompaniments of his sister (Miss McIntosh) was one of the features of the evening. His first effort was the Highland Fling, which was so artistically done that it earned him an enthusiastic encore.
- 5/1/1916 **Selkirk** 3/6th Hop. A Company of the 3/6th Royal Scots had a "delightful hop" in Village Hall on New Year's Night. The dance was arranged at 24 hours notice and was a prodigious success. In addition

to the officers all the sergeants in the battalion were present with representatives from the other detachments in town. The ladies mustered en masse, at least three ladies being available for every dancing Tommy. The music was provided by Selkirk Burgh Band and L. Corporal Lambert was at the piano. There was a plentiful supply of refreshments. Songs were also contributed and at 11 o'clock the company sang Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem.

- 1/11/1916 **Galashiels** Military Ball in Town Hall. Held by 3/2 Lovat Scouts. Dancing was indulged in from eight o'clock to 2 o'clock, all present enjoying themselves thoroughly.
- 6/12/1916 **Galashiels** Soldiers' Dance. A dance was held in the Town Hall on Friday this being arranged and provided by officers of 3/2 Lovat Scouts for the men of the Battalion who were in the draft that left the town on Monday, the gathering being in the form of a "farewell" to the men. There was a good attendance and a very enjoyable evening was spent
- 7/11/1917 **Galashiels** Military Dance. On Friday a dance was held in the Territorial Hall, Paton Street under the auspices of the sergeants of the Scottish Rifles. The hall was finely decorated for the occasion and the large company spent a very enjoyable evening.
- 21/11/1917 **Galashiels** Officers' Dance. A very enjoyable dance, promoted by the Officers Mess of the Scottish Rifles was held in the Hall at Lowe's Warehouse on Tuesday night. About 80 couples took part including a number of townspeople. Music by Methven and Simpson, Edinburgh. The hall was tastefully and elaborately decorated by Mr Goodsir, Cabinetmaker.
- 28/11/1917 **Galashiels** Corporals' Dance. Following the example of the Officers and Sergeants the Corporals of the Scottish Rifles held a dance in Lowe's Warehouse on Thursday evening. There was a good attendance and the proceedings were most successful and enjoyable.