

The Friends of The Black Watch Castle and Museum

Notice of Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of the Friends of The Black Watch Castle and Museum will be held at The Black Watch Castle and Museum at 5pm Tuesday 3rd December 2024 to transact the following business:

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 29th November 2023

To review and adopt the Minutes of the last AGM and consider any matters arising.

2. Reports and Accounts

To receive and consider the accounts for the 12 months ended 31st March 2024 and the reports of the trustees and independent examiner.

3. Independent Examiner

To re-appoint Sandy Fyfe of Morris and Young as the Independent Examiner.

4. Comments by Chairman

To review and reflect on the position of The Friends.

6. Appointment of Management Committee

Nominations for the Management Committee will close on Monday 25th November at 4pm. The existing members of the Management Committee have confirmed they will stand for re-election:

Sarah Riddell-Webster, Major (Retd) Ronnie Proctor, Bill Macpherson, Rosemary Pitcaithly, Bruce Osborne and Dr Nicky Small. The CEO of The Black Watch Regimental Trust is an ex-officio member of the Management Committee and is therefore not required to stand for election.

Appendix 1: provides an explanation of rules for appointment to the Management Committee as set down by the Friends constitution.

Appendix 2: provides background information about each candidate.

If there are no further nominations for the Management Committee the following motions will then be considered:

- To re-appoint Sarah Riddell-Webster
- To re-appoint Major (Retd) Ronnie Proctor
- To re-appoint Bill Macpherson
- To re-appoint Rosemary Pitcaithly
- To re-appoint Bruce Osborne
- To re-appoint Dr Nicky Small

7. A.O.C.B.

To consider any other matters raised during the meeting.

Closure of AGM

Appendix 1

The Structure of the Organisation

Under the Constitution the structure of the Friends consists of:

The **Members** – who have the right to attend the annual general meeting (and any special general meeting) and have important powers under the constitution; in particular, the Members elect people to serve on the Management Committee and take decisions in relation to changes to the constitution itself.

The **Management Committee** – which holds regular meetings during the period between annual general meetings, and generally controls and supervises the activities of the Friends. The Management Committee is responsible for monitoring the financial position of the association.

The Management Committee

The Management Committee are the Charity Trustees of the Friends.

The maximum number of members of the Management Committee is seven.

The Chief Executive Officer of The Black Watch Regimental Trust is an ex-officio member of the Management Committee.

A person is not eligible for election/appointment to the Management Committee unless he/she is a Member of the Friends.

At each Annual General Meeting, the Members may elect any Member to be a member of the Management Committee.

The Management Committee may at any time appoint any Member of the Friends as a member of the Management Committee.

At each Annual General Meeting, all members of the Management Committee shall retire from office but shall be eligible for re-election.

The Management Committee members elect from their number a Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, and any other office bearer they consider appropriate. All Office Bearers cease to hold office at the conclusion of each Annual General Meeting but are then eligible for re-election.

Appendix 2

Background History for Committee Member Candidates

Bill Macpherson | Chairman

Although starting out as an electronics engineer, most of Bill's life was spent in the chemical instrumentation industry providing chromatography, spectroscopy and data handling support, working throughout Africa, Middle East, India, Russia, Eastern Europe and Scandinavia. Now retired, he runs his own company providing bespoke software, Web Hosting and website design. He was an officer in the Black Watch Btn. Army Cadet Force for 12 years, retiring as 'B' Company Commander. Bill has been a volunteer at Balhousie for 10 years and is a member of the Friends Events Committee.

Rosemary Pitcaithly | Secretary

Rosemary Pitcaithly has been a volunteer at Balhousie for fifteen years, assisting with the Museum collection and with events at the Castle. She is active in arts organisations in Perthshire and has experience in co-ordinating volunteers and arranging events. Rosemary is Secretary of the Friends Events Committee.

Bruce Osborne | Treasurer

Bruce Osborne served with The Black Watch from 1969 to 1976. Studied Estate Management at RAC Cirencester from 1977 to 1979. In 1979 joined Carter Jonas in Marlborough as a Land Agent before returning to Scotland in 1989 and joined Bidwells in Perth, retiring in 2014. In 2008 became Perth Branch Chairman of Scottish Veterans Housing Charity, responsible for the management of 28 houses for ex service personnel.

Sarah Riddell-Webster

Sarah Riddell-Webster was the founder chairwoman of the Friends since they were formed 13 years ago. Sarah is married to a former Black Watch officer so she knows many of the regimental family, both serving and retired. Over the years, Sarah has worked closely with both military families and charities. Sarah is Chairwoman of the Friends Events Committee.

Major (Retd) Ronnie Proctor MBE

Major Proctor served 40 years as a regular soldier and officer in The Black Watch, including service as RSM and Quartermaster of the 1st Battalion and Quartermaster of the 3rd Battalion. From 1999 until March 2010 he was The Black Watch Museum Curator; he now holds the post of Honorary Curator and is Military Advisor to the Museum. Major Proctor instigated the life-long learning programme in the Museum; he is also a co-founder and lecturer of the Museum Education Service. Major Proctor is Secretary of The Black Watch Association.

Dr Nicky Small

Nicky Small is a freelance historian and researcher and was formerly employed as the Perth and Kinross Local History Officer. She has experience of private collections, archives and museum project work, family research, and advising and supporting projects with individuals and organisations. She co-ordinated local project work on the First World War memorial period. She regularly presents on her research and is part of the singer song writing duo PlaidSong. Currently a trustee with the Scottish Local History Forum she is also Chair of the West Stormont Local History Society.

Douglas Walker

As the CEO, and therefore an ex-officio member, Douglas Walker, has served as a member of the Management Committee over the last year. Douglas comes to the Trust with a wealth of experience, including more than twenty years as a senior manager of Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh where he was latterly Deputy Chief Executive. Douglas has also been a closely involved in hospitality industry trade bodies, including being a past Chair of the Association of Scottish Visitor Attractions (ASVA), Founding Member and past Chair of Unique Venues of Edinburgh (UVA) and a member of the Growth Fund Panel of Visit Scotland.