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 on Tuesday 8th December 2026 to transact the following business:

AGENDA

1. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 9th December 2025**
   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 2026 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 Chairwoman**
   To review and reflect on the position of The Friends.

5. **Appointment of Management Committee**
   Nominations for the Management Committee will close on Tuesday 1st December 2026 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, Major (Retd) Jamie Erskine, Dr Nicky Small. Douglas Walker 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 Major (Retd) Jamie Erskine
   To re-appoint Dr Nicky Small

6. **A.O.B.**
   To consider any other matters raised during the meeting.

Closure of AGM

By order of the Management Committee | Rosemary Pitcaithly | Friends Secretary | November 2026

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 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

Sarah Riddell-Webster – Chairwoman

Having been Chairwoman of the Friends from 2010 - 2022, Sarah resumed the roll last year, she is married to a former Black Watch officer, who is President of the Friends, 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 Lecture Committee.

Rosemary Pitcaithly - Secretary

Rosemary has been a volunteer at Balhousie for 19 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 Lecture Committee.

Bill Macpherson

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 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 13 years.

Major (Retd) Ronnie Proctor

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 Word War memorial period. Nicky regularly presents on her research and currently she is Chair of the West Stormont Local History Society and part of the singer song writing duo PlaidSong.

Major Jamie Erskine

Major Erskine joined the Black Watch in 1977 and retired from the Regular Army in 2007. In that time he served in the UK including 6 tours in NI, Germany, Berlin, Cyprus and Gibraltar. On leaving the Army he worked in HQ 2nd Division before becoming the Regimental Secretary of the SCOTS DG in 2011, a job he did until he retired at the end of 2024. He has also been DComdt and then Comdt of the BW Bn ACF and is currently their Honorary Colonel. He is a Trustee of a number of Charities including the Perth Forces Trust.

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 (UVE) and a member of the Growth Fund Panel of Visit Scotland.