

PRESIDENT OF THE GURKHA BRIGADE ASSOCIATION

LT GEN SIR DAVID BILL KCB



Lt Gen Sir David Bill KCB took over as President Gurkha Brigade Association from General Sir Sam Cowan KCB CBE after the GBA Reunion at RMA Sandhurst on 8 June 2013. Lieutenant General Sir David Bill was born in 1954 and following education at Charterhouse and Welbeck College was commissioned into the Royal Engineers in 1973.

His early service was spent mainly in Northern Ireland or with the Queen's Gurkha Engineers in Hong Kong, Belize and Chatham.

After attending the Army Staff College Camberley in 1986, he spent two years in MOD in Military Operations, before returning to Northern Ireland to command 33 Independent Field Squadron for two years. A brief stint on the Directing Staff at Camberley was followed by command of 39 Engineer Regiment and in 1994 he returned to MOD for three years in Army Staff Duties during the time of the change to a Labour Government and the Strategic Defence Review. After attending the Higher Command & Staff Course he moved to HQ Land Forces for four years, initially as Commander Engineers and then as Brigadier General Staff covering strategic and financial planning.

Following attendance at the Royal College of Defence Studies in 2002 he was appointed General Officer Commanding UK Support Command (Germany), for which he was awarded a CB in the 2006. He then moved to Italy as Deputy Commander NATO Rapid Deployable Corps (Italy) in Milan, before his final military appointment as UK Military Representative to NATO and the EU based in Brussels, for which he was appointed KCB.

Until recently he was Colonel, The Queen's Gurkha Engineers and Colonel Commandant, Royal Engineers, as well as serving as a Gurkha Welfare Trustee. As President GBA he sits on the Brigade's Council of Colonels and able to influence matters within the serving Brigade as well as the retired community.

Lieutenant General Bill is married to Gabrielle, a professional artist, and they have two sons and a daughter. Away from work, his interests include a passion for downhill skiing and watching cricket, mediocre tennis, inaccurate golf, and the occasional hand of bridge.