



# Visit to Arras Battlefields 2017

The Battle of Arras was a major British offensive of the First World War, between 9 April and 16 May 1917, under the overall command of Field Marshall Douglas Haig and was considered successful, although hugely costly in casualties.

A total of 44 Scottish Battalions committed to the battle from the Scottish and Highland Divisions. There were seven Canadian battalions with Scottish heritage, including the Canadian Scottish and the Newfoundland regiment. One third of the 159,000 casualties were Scots.

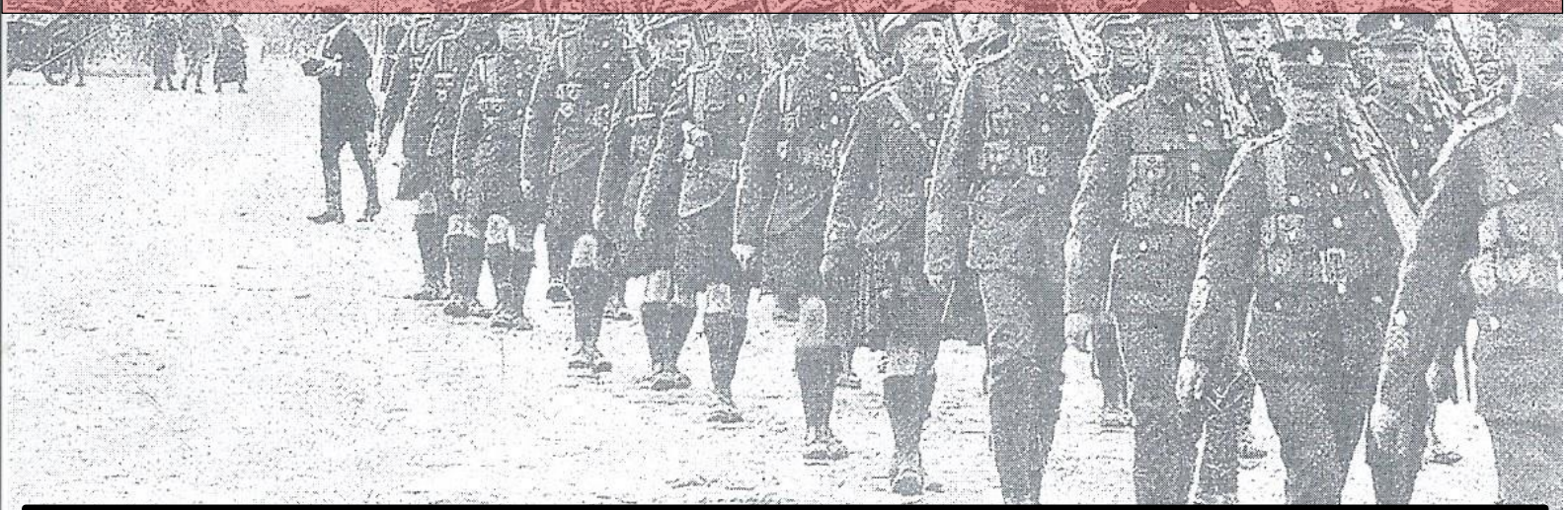
## The Trip

We will gather in Lille on the afternoon of Saturday 22 April and be transported by private minibus to set up our HQ in a hotel in Arras, where our guide, Iain Gale, will brief us at a drinks reception before a private dinner at the hotel. Over the following two days we will trace the battle around Arras and Vimy Ridge experiencing the conditions and rations of the troops but returning to the hotel for dinner.

On Tuesday morning after checking out of the hotel, we travel to Epernay for a private reception and light lunch at **Ayala Chateau**, the Club's main suppliers of excellent champagne. Afterwards we will return to Lille by minibus for onward travel home.

## Our Guide

Iain Gale is a renowned author and military historian. He is a highly-experienced battlefield guide, specialising in the western front and Napoleonic Wars. Iain will accompany us throughout providing insight into to the battle that took place one hundred years ago.



The cost of the trip from Lille to Lille, over four days with three nights' accommodation and most meals, transport and guide will be £862 per person sharing, and with a £50 supplement for a single room. For further details, please contact the tour organiser, Iain Gale <iain.gale@yahoo.com>