



### **SSAFA - FUNDRAISING LECTURE**

SSAFA is hosting a fundraising lecture on Thursday 27th February 2025 at the Masonic Hall, Molesworth Street, Dublin at 11 o'clock. The lecture will be given by General The Lord Dannatt and will be entitled "Churchill's D-Day".

A soldier for 40 years General Dannatt concluded his career as Chief of the General Staff and now sits as an independent member of the House of Lords. He won a Military Cross as a young Officer, took an in-Service Degree at Durham University from where he attended a debate at Trinity College Dublin - a rare opportunity for a serving British Officer at the height of "The Troubles". Following a severe stroke and further service as a junior officer he subsequently commanded his regiment The Green Howards before going on to a succession of important Command appointments including deployment in Bosnia, Command of a Division in Kosovo 1999-2000, Allied Rapid Reaction Corps, and C in C of British Land Forces in 2005. As professional Head of the British Army he triggered controversy over his outspokenness in particular over better pay and conditions for soldiers and for his belief that a draw down in Iraq was necessary to allow the Army to focus on Afghanistan. He has numerous charitable interests including as President of Help for Heroes which he and his wife Lady Dannatt helped set up.

General Dannatt will analyse Winston Churchill's role as a war time leader, focusing not so much on 1940 and "We will never Surrender" but on Winston's approach to Operation Overlord and opening the Second Front in Europe. Doubts lingered in his memory of the failed Gallipoli Campaign of 1915/1916 and the chaotic Norwegian Campaign of early 1940: both operations of which he was the chief proponent. On the eve of D-Day he worried to his wife, Clementine, that by the time she woke in the morning 20,000 young men could be dead. With hindsight, we know that was not the case but by the end of the Normandy Campaign 22,442 young men and women under British Command had lost their lives. D-Day opened the path to peace and now these lives are commemorated at the new British Memorial in Normandy. As Chairman of the Normandy Memorial Trust the General will describe how the Memorial came into being and the Winston Churchill Centre for Education and Learning which was opened by HM King Charles on 6th June last year. He will also sell and sign copies of his new book "Churchill's D-Day" at a special discounted rate of €25 with all the proceeds going to SSAFA.

SSAFA is a charity registered in Ireland that cares for the welfare of those living in Ireland with past service in the British Forces and their families. In 2024 the Republic of Ireland Branch dealt with 1,195 cases/visits and almonised €405,855 from Ex-Service Benevolent Funds. Money raised from this lecture will help us to continue our work in the Republic. Thank you for your support.

*Col Richard Kinsella-Bevan*

**Col Richard Kinsella-Bevan- SSAFA Branch President Republic of Ireland**

continued.....



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**THE MASONIC HALL, MOLESWORTH STREET THURSDAY 27<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

NAME: (in capitals) .....

ADDRESS: .....

Tel No: ..... E-mail Address: .....

I require ..... ticket(s) @ €25 each & enclose a cheque made out to SSAFA or pay by bank transfer

**IBAN No: IE32BOFI90008487453079 BIC: BOFIE2D** for €.....

PLEASE RETURN TO THE BRANCH SECRETARY, SSAFA, 26 South Frederick Street, Dublin 2

**BY NO LATER THAN Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2025** (Tel: 01-6772554/Mobile: 08684506203)

Republic of Ireland Branch Registered Charity No: 20006082 *Established 1885.*

Please tick this box if you do not wish for SSAFA to hold you contact details for future fundraising events