

# PIPER'S LETTER

**NO.1**  
FEBRUARY 2024

## 80TH D-DAY

AN EXCEPTIONAL  
YEAR IN  
NORMANDY

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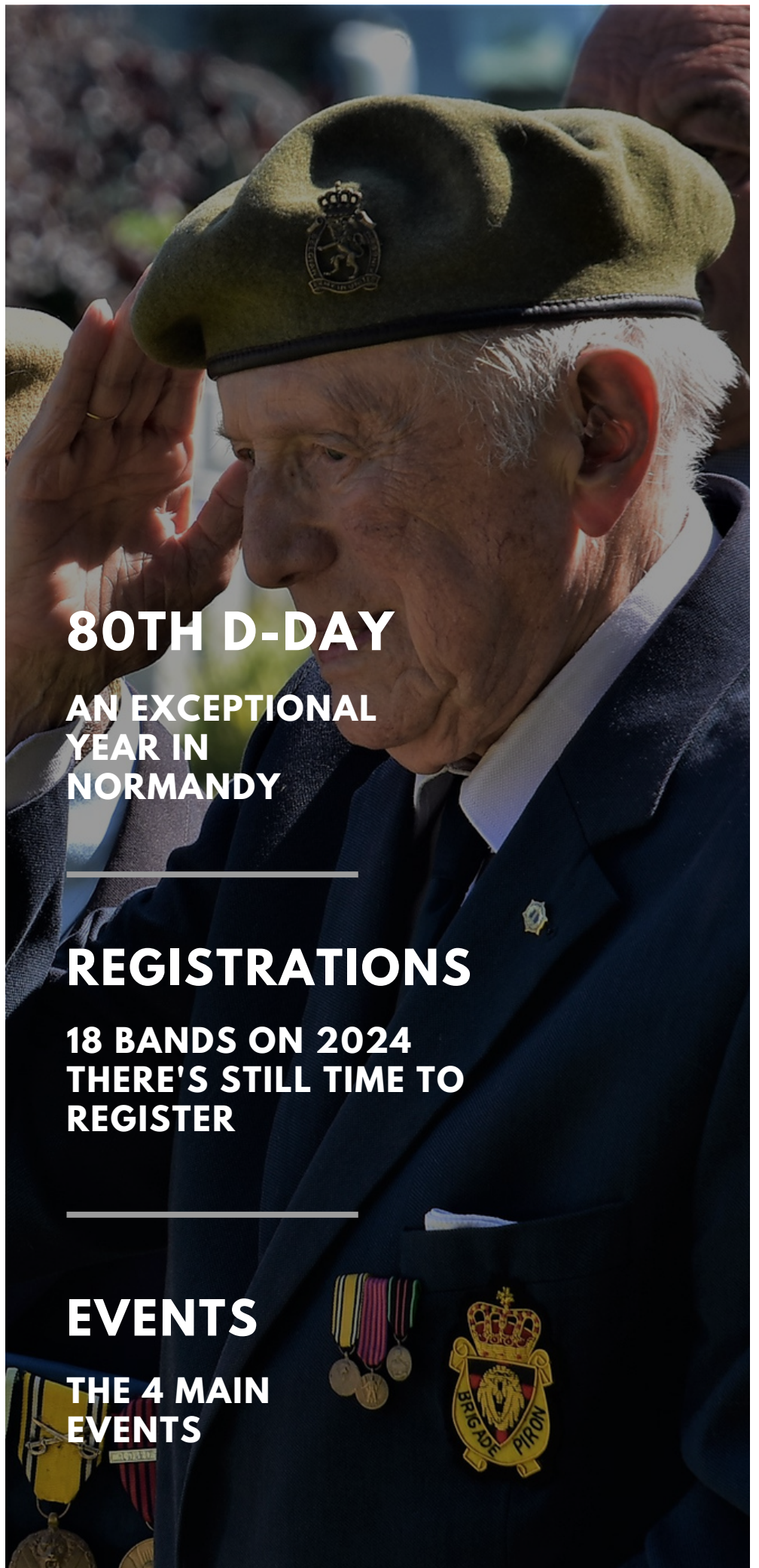
## REGISTRATIONS

18 BANDS ON 2024  
THERE'S STILL TIME TO  
REGISTER

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## EVENTS

THE 4 MAIN  
EVENTS



# 80TH ANNIVERSAIRE

Dear subscribers,

With just a few months to go before the 80th anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy, an international event of exceptional scope and symbolism for the last remaining veterans, we would like to inform you that our association's programme has been definitively confirmed, subject to last-minute changes due to the presence of government representatives.

Find the program on our website, D-DAY page.

In June 2024, our musicians and teams will be covering no fewer than 21 ceremonies and events. It's an exceptional line-up of events, in keeping with the memory of this exceptional year.





# LAST REGISTRATIONS

As in previous years, all our members, groups and individuals, will once again be performing. But several new bands have also joined the B.O.W.U International family of pipers and drummers.

At our major events, you'll be able to discover no fewer than 18 bands, not counting the individuals who will be marching and playing at our mass-bands.

**13 nations** represented among our members, no less...



USA, Canada, Scotland, Ireland, Switzerland, Italy, France, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium...

**Final musician registrations!**

You have until March 01 to validate your registration on the member page (musicians and staff).

# THE GREAT GATHERING



**More than 200 musicians** will come together on 5 and 6 June, making our events one of the biggest in France, alongside the Festival Interceltique in Lorient and the Fête Franco-Écossaise in Aubigny-sur-Nère.

**The bagpipes have resonated** for centuries in Normandy, but they take on a whole new dimension at these ceremonies, through the memory of all the pipers on the front line in the great battles of history, including the Battle of Normandy.

## Tribute to Bill Millin

Once again this year, a tribute will be paid to Piper Bill, during the grand parade of pipers and drummers on the afternoon of 5 June at Place du Débarquement in Colleville-Montgomery, in the presence of the Clan Millin (John and Jacob Millin, sons and grandsons of the famous piper of 6 June 1944).

**An animated memorial film** is being produced for the event, with the participation of the Millin clan (produced by the company of the association's president).



# FOUR MAIN EVENTS



On Sunday 2, Monday 3, Wednesday 5 and Thursday 6 June, B.O.W.U International is organising four major events, in partnership with the local authorities and memorial sites that are hosting them.

As such, we need a large number of volunteers to help with supervision, refuelling, logistics or any other aspect of the smooth running of our events.

## **02/06: Opening night of the Pipers | Colleville-Montgomery**

Entertainment, exhibitors & parades during the day  
Evening concerts!

## **03/06: Piper's Tour | Calvados**

A tour of three major memorial sites. British Normandy Memorial, Omaha Beach American Cemetery and Arromanches-les-Bains.

## **05/06: Grande Parade des Pipes & Drums | Colleville-Montgomery**

Sword Beach parade and mass band aubade around the Bill Millin statue.

## **06/06: Festival D-Day Normandy Cup | Bénouville**

Artisan village, entertainment, piping contest & evening concerts (Celtic atmosphere) with three international groups!





# VOLUNTEERS WANTED

If you would like to work alongside us and be as close as possible to major events, please contact us via the dedicated page:

[www.bowu.international/benevoles.80](http://www.bowu.international/benevoles.80)

We look forward to welcoming you to Normandy and to our events.

Follow us

