

# 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Belgian Branch, International Military Music Society

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Committee Belgian Branch  
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# History

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- United Kingdom
- Initiative by MM. Brinckley and Plunkett, members of the Band Section - Military Historical Society in 1976
- Encounter of professional musicians, historians and military music fans from Canada, USA, Australia and Europe
- 1977: official creation of the **International Military Music Society**





# Objectives

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- Following the evolution
- Informing
- Encouraging
- in the world
- all aspects of military music including
  - military band formations
  - music scores
  - recordings
  - history
  - traditions
  - uniforms
- Reference: IMMS rules, article II



# Structure

- President
  - Knight 1st Cl. Royal Norwegian Order of Merit, Trevor Ford, LLCM, F.Comp.ASMC. (N)
- Officers
  - Treasurer: Alan Hardwick (UK)
  - Editor: Major Gordon Turner (UK)
  - Webmaster: Gerard Woittiez (NL)
  - Distributor: Jonathan Mitchell (UK)
  - Public Relations: Stephen Mason (UK)
- International Committee
  - Chairman IC: Bob Davis (NZ)
  - Lieutenant-Colonel A.A. Sillcock (AuS), **K. Schauvliege (B)**, Pipe Major R. McGuire (CAN), Navy Chaplain M. Corfix (DK), Lieutenant-Colonel J.M. Sorlin (F), Renato Krug (I), Lieutenant Y.o Higuchi (JAP), B. Davis (NZ), O.J. Andeng (N), P.S.E. Whitwell (P), Captain P.K.A. Digby (SA), J. de Vroe (NL), N. E (UK), B. Alim (USA), Lieutenant-Colonel Z. Kus (PL)
- Representantives
  - Brazil - Costa Rica – Estonia –Finland – Germany – India – Latvia – Lithuania – Luxembourg – Malta – Mexico – Roumania - Russia – Singapore – South Africa – Spain – Sweden – Taiwan - Turkey





# Communication

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- Band International: official magazine 3 x / year
- Internet: [www.imms-online.org](http://www.imms-online.org)
- CD « A Festival of Marches »
  - Band of the Royal Corps of Engineers
  - Droit Music Ltd.
  - One march per member country
  - Belgium: « March of the Belgian Paratroopers » (Leemans)
- double CD « A Festival of Marches 2 »
  - Recording scheduled in 2010
  - One march per member country
  - Belgium: « Belgian Parade » (Geeraerts)





# Celebrations

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- 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the IMMS branches:
  - 2002 : Shrewsbury - United-Kingdom (Founder),
  - 2005 : Heerlen - The Netherlands,
  - 2008 : Republican Guard – France,
  - **2010 : Doudou Tattoo - Belgium.**
- Other events:
  - 2008 : Oslo (N)
  - 2009 : Modena (I)
  - 2010 : Oslo (N) – Luxembourg – Malta



# IMMS Belgium



20<sup>th</sup> Logistics – Heverlee 2003





# History

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- 1981
  - Initiative by Harry Harding
  - Former drummer of the Grenadier Guards in WW II
  - President of the British Legion Belgium
- 1985
  - Branch status
- 1988
  - Francis Pieters, new chairman Belgian Branch
  - The composition « Temptations » (Crepin) dedicated to IMMS Belgium
- 1998
  - Initiative by Kris Schauvliege to regenerate IMMS activities in Belgium
- 2003
  - Branch status achieved
- 2010
  - 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration
  - Creation of Committee of Honour





# Activities

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- **Band visits**
  - Band of the Belgian Guides: 1987 – 2003 – 2008
  - Band of the Belgian Gendarmerie and Royal Escort: 1990 – 1994 - 2002
  - Band of the Belgian Air Force: 1991 – 1996 – 2000 – 2005
  - Band of the Belgian Navy: 1992 – 2001 – 2006
  - Musique Militaire Grand-Ducale: 2006
  - Conservatoire Militaire de Musique de l'Armée de Terre de Versailles: 2007
  - Batterie Fanfare de la Musique de la Région Terre-Ile-de-France: 2007
- **In combination with visits to military units**
  - 15<sup>th</sup> Transport Wing: 2000
  - Frigate Wielingen: 2001
  - 20<sup>th</sup> Support Battalion: 2003
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Wing: 2005
  - Eguermin: 2006
  - Information Operations Group: 2008
- **Others**
  - Doudou Tattoo
  - National Parade of 21 July





# March « Belgian Parade »

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- Composed by Eddy Geeraerts
- Former band director of the Belgian Gendarmerie and Air Force
- Composer of many Belgian marches: CC Materials and Products, Royal Technical School, Infantry School – 2<sup>nd</sup> Cyclists – Artillery School – 6<sup>th</sup> Artillery, Logistics Centre N° 1, 20<sup>th</sup> Logistics Battalion
- Style: Belgian military march in Eb i.e. for mounted units
- Occasion: 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Belgian Branch, IMMS
- Music Score is free available for band directors, military bands and other branches
- Transcriptions for brass- and fanfare band are also available





# Contacts

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- Site internet: <http://www.imms-online.org>
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  - Antoine Moerenhout
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# Thank you

- We are at your disposal for further questions or for information.

