

Invite you to engage your team with a completely unique and compelling experience that will help you to transform performance



Interactive Workshops from Stuart Barker

# CHOOSE FROM A SELECTION OF GAME CHANGING WORKSHOPS CREATED FOR LEADERS AND TEAMS...

Who need to make important decisions under pressure

Who are managing change whilst maintaining organisational culture

Who are Negotiating and Influencing in High-Stakes Environments



### **Stuart Barker**

Stuart graduated from the University of Oxford and attended the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst where he was commissioned as an Infantry Officer.

During a thirty-year career he worked within the military and intelligence sectors delivering operational outcomes in senior leadership roles.

As a soldier, Stuart has commanded soldiers on operations across the world. Operational service during The Gulf War and in Afghanistan developed his leadership and experience in delivering outcomes in high-intensity environments. As a trained mentor, he frequently worked overseas where he led teams that mentored and deployed alongside allied partners on operations. Within the intelligence community Stuart worked primarily within the covert operations arena where he has planned and commanded high-risk covert missions across the globe.

Having retired from public service Stuart now works as a director of a logistics company where he is responsible for all operational activities. He is also the founder and Director of Dark Blue Consultancy Limited which specialises in providing leadership training to senior managers working in the intelligence and security sectors.







#### **WORKSHOPS**

### **Decision Making Under Pressure**

This immersive and interactive workshop will use Stuart's experience commanding a high-profile operation in Afghanistan as a decision-making case study.

Concepts that impact on an individual's ability to operate effectively under pressure will be examined in the context of a high-risk dynamic environment.

The introduction of decision-making models will give the audience the opportunity to navigate the dilemmas and critical decisions faced by Stuart as the operation progresses and the strategic and tactical risks escalate.

At the conclusion of the presentation the audience will be able to reflect on the importance of decision-making and use the models introduced during the workshop as tools to aid effective decision-making and pressure management within their own professional sphere.



### **Changing and Maintaining Organisational Culture**

This immersive and dynamic workshop draws on the Stuart's experience leading a British military team tasked with mentoring the Afghan National Police during a strategically critical phase of the conflict in Afghanistan.

Set against the backdrop of a complex and often dangerous operational environment, the workshop will explore the real-world challenges of transforming organisational culture when national security and human lives are on the line.

Participants will examine how British and NATO doctrines were adapted to work alongside Afghan cultural norms and operational realities.

The workshop introduces proven change management models tailored to deliver in high-pressure, high-stakes environments. Using real scenarios, attendees will step into Stuart's shoes as he navigated resistance, built trust across cultural boundaries, and delivered lasting behavioural and structural change in a volatile setting.

Through high levels of interactivity, this session provides participants with the opportunity to grapple with the realities of leading change in adverse environments.

By the end of the session, attendees will leave with practical tools, leadership insights, and cultural strategies that can be directly applied to managing change within their own teams and organisations, especially in times of uncertainty or transformation.







## **Negotiating and Influencing in High-Stakes Environments**

This workshop leverages the speaker's extensive experience in military and intelligence operations - particularly within the Human Intelligence (HUMINT) domain - to explore how to negotiate and influence effectively when the stakes are high and the margins for error are razor-thin.

Stuart shares first hand insights from leading undercover and agent-running operations in some of the world's most hostile and complex regions.

Participants will learn how influence and persuasion work under extreme pressure, often with incomplete information, high personal risk, and unpredictable human dynamics. The workshop will also draw on Stuart's leadership of intelligence and military mentoring missions around the globe, where success depended on building trust and gaining influence across language, cultural, and political divides.

This is an engaging and hands-on session where attendees will face realistic negotiation dilemmas and be coached through the strategies used in operational environments.

Delegates will leave with a sharper understanding of how to prepare for, approach, and lead successful negotiations - and how to apply these same principles to leadership, stakeholder management, and business development in their own professional lives.



### Unbreakable: Building an Ironclad Mindset to Consistently Perform and Thrive in High-Stakes Environments

#### This session will:

- Unlock Proven, Real-World Resilience: Learn self-regulation and leadership strategies forged under the extreme duress of global combat zones and high-stakes covert operations over three decades.
- Master the Art of Decision Making Under Fire: Discover the exact mental models used by elite operators to maintain calm, clarity, and control when acute stress and operational chaos are the only constants.
- Go Beyond "Bouncing Back" to "Building Forward": Shift your mindset from merely surviving crises to strategically hardening your mental landscape, ensuring your resilience endures across your entire career lifecycle.
- Harness the Power of Operational Storytelling: Engage with compelling, operational anecdotes that serve as powerful case studies, making complex psychological and leadership principles instantly understandable & memorable.
- Safeguard Your Most Valuable Asset: Your Mind: Walk away with concrete, deployable techniques to protect your mental health, prevent burnout, and foster an environment where you and your teams thrive under pressure, year after year.



