



A GUIDE TO THE PRINCESS OF WALES'S ROYAL REGIMENT

The Regiment of Choice for London and South East England

THE TIGERS



Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II of Denmark
THE COLONEL-IN-CHIEF



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Our Regiment, 'The Tigers', has now 'come of age', passed its twenty-first birthday and forged its own modern identity based on recent operational experiences in Iraq and Afghanistan and its well-known professionalism. Our long heritage, explained in this Guide, makes us proud to be the most senior English Regiment of the Line and the Regiment of choice in London and the South East. If you are connected with the counties of Surrey, Kent, Sussex, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Middlesex and the Channel Islands, we are your regiment. We take a fierce pride in our close connections with the south of England where we recruit our soldiers and our PWRR Family consists of cadets, regular and reserve soldiers, veterans and their loved ones.

In this Regiment, we celebrate the traditional virtues of courage, self-discipline and loyalty to our comrades and we take particular pride in the achievements of our junior ranks, like Sergeant Johnson Beharry, who won the Victoria Cross for his bravery under fire in Iraq. You cannot read this Guide and fail to be inspired by the PWRR; by its illustrious past and equally distinguished present. We are the most decorated regiment in the British Army and we learn from the past and look to the future.

I hope that you enjoy reading the Third Edition of this unique history and thank the author, Colonel Patrick Crowley, for updating the content. I commend this excellent guide to our fine Regiment.

Signed

Brigadier Richard Dennis OBE
The Colonel of The Regiment



For further information on the PWRR go to:

www.army.mod.uk/infantry/regiments/23994

New Virtual Museum web site:
www.armytigers.com



PART I

A Brief History of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment

Introduction - Colonel Patrick Crowley

This part of the Guide provides a brief history of the long and glorious service of the forebear regiments of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment. The Regiment, formed in 1992, from the amalgamation of The Queen's Regiment and The Royal Hampshire Regiment, is the proud inheritor of a history extending back to the very earliest beginnings of the British Army. The examples of valour, adherence to duty, and fortitude, continue to inspire the current officers and soldiers of the modern Regiment, who are proud to belong to the most senior English Regiment of the Line.

Any brief history is complicated by the diverse nature of the Regiment's forebears. These are the great line regiments of Surrey, Kent, Sussex, Hampshire and Middlesex, which have expanded and contracted in an ever-changing political climate. The names of these regiments

have changed over the centuries and have included The Queen's Royal Regiment (2nd Foot), The Buffs (3rd Foot), The East Surrey Regiment (31st and 70th Foot), The Royal Sussex Regiment (35th and 107th Foot), The Royal Hampshire Regiment (37th and 67th Foot), The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment (50th and 97th Foot) and The Middlesex Regiment (57th and 77th Foot). This section seeks to link the strands of their history in order to intrigue both the military expert and the layman. The narrative concentrates on regular army service, although the contribution of the Militia, Volunteers, Territorials, Army Reserves and conscripts must not be underestimated, both as individual reinforcements and formed units, particularly in the two world wars and in recent conflicts. The contribution to all ranks by past cadets is also acknowledged.

Part II of the Guide now reflects how the Regiment has 'come of age'.

The Regiment has been represented in virtually every campaign of the British Army and provided a significant contribution to many famous battles. This has included Blenheim, Quebec, Minden, Albuhera, Sobraon, Sevastopol, Gallipoli, Ypres, Kohima, Salerno and many more. In more recent years, the Regiment has helped bring the Cold War to a successful conclusion and was represented in the campaigns in Korea, Malaya, Kenya, Cyprus, Aden, Borneo, Northern Ireland, the Balkans, Iraq and Afghanistan.

The inherited traditions of the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, which include the reputation for courage, endurance, determination, loyalty and good humour, are second to none.



The Beginning

The origin of the Regiment can be traced to the 1st May 1572, when 3,000 men of the Trained Bands of London paraded before Queen Elizabeth I at Greenwich. Three hundred of them volunteered to go to the aid of the Dutch in their revolt against Spain, as a formed company under the command of Captain Thomas Morgan. The force expanded to four English regiments and in 1665, half of them returned to England, rather than swear allegiance to the then liberated Dutch and formed Our Holland Regiment. Despite their Tudor origin, they were numbered the 4th Foot, raised to the 3rd Foot in 1689. By 1751, they were known as the Buffs, due to their buff uniform facings. Two centuries before, in 1415, the origin of one of the Regiment's badges, the Hampshire rose, was established. Henry V awarded this badge to the Trained Bands of archers from Hampshire following their feats during the Battle of Agincourt.

The 2nd or Tangier Regiment of Foot had its first muster on Putney Heath on the 14th October 1661. It was raised in order to garrison the Port of Tangier, which King Charles II had acquired as part of the dowry, when he married Catherine of Braganza, the Infanta of Portugal. The Queen's, named after Queen Catherine, remained in Tangier for twenty-three years until the port was evacuated. The Regiment's first battle honour, 'Tangier 1662-1680' is the oldest in the British Army and is displayed on the Regimental Colour together with Catherine's cypher. In 1685, The Queen's took part in the last battle fought on English soil, at Sedgemoor, against the protestant Duke of Monmouth's rebel force. There they gained the nickname of 'Kirke's Lambs' after their cap badge and the manner in which their Colonel put down the rebellion. Four years later, having fought for King James II at Sedgemoor, The Queen's fought against him at The Battle of The Boyne in Ireland and helped to

relieve the Siege of Londonderry. Both The Queen's and The Buffs continued to fight for King William in Flanders in 'King William's War' of 1689-1697 against His Most Catholic Majesty Louis XIV of France and fought side-by-side at the battle of Landen in 1693.



*General
Piercy Kirke*



Queen Catherine

1702-1713

The War of The Spanish Succession

Conflict with France was to continue for many years, despite the end of King William's War. It was at this time that many other forebear regiments had their beginnings. They were known by the name of their Colonels, but this Guide will refer to them by their number as a Line regiment in order to avoid confusion, even though the numbering system was not introduced until 1750. Eighteen new regiments were to be raised in the period 1701-1702, six of which were primarily for sea service.

In 1701, the 35th Foot, later The Royal Sussex Regiment, was raised in Belfast by The 3rd Earl of Donegal. The soldiers were protestant Ulster-Scots, and as a mark of favour King William granted them the unique distinction of

wearing orange facings. In 1702, 'Meredith's', the 37th Foot, later The Hampshire Regiment, was also raised in Ireland and in the same year, Villiers' Marines, the 31st Foot, later The East Surrey Regiment, was raised.

The Grand Alliance of England, the Netherlands and The Holy Roman Empire (Austria) was set against France, because Louis XIV had claimed the vacant throne of Spain for his grandson Philip. King William's successor, Queen Anne, declared war in 1702 and the 35th Foot was warned for sea service. The tradition of enjoying the privilege of drinking the loyal toast sitting down, because deck beams were too low to allow men to stand up, stems from the sea service of both the 31st and the 35th Foot.

The Queen's, The Buffs, the 31st and the 35th of Foot all took part in the abortive attack on Cadiz in 1702, whilst the 31st Foot participated in Admiral Rooke's successful capture and defence of Gibraltar in 1704. The Queen's, The Buffs and the 37th Foot were to join the Army of one of Britain's greatest commanders John Churchill, 1st Duke of Marlborough, for his famous march across Europe and long campaign against the French. The Queen's were to gain the first 'Royal' title of the forebear regiments at Tongres in 1703. The Regiment was quartered with a Dutch Regiment, when 40,000 French attacked in order to destroy Marlborough's allied Dutch forces. The two allied regiments fought continuously for twenty-eight hours before being forced to surrender,

The Buffs at The Battle of Blenheim



1740-1748

The War of The Austrian Succession

gaining time for the remainder of the Dutch force to regroup and repel the French. The title 'Royal' was awarded, together with the mottoes 'Pristinae Virtutis Memor' (Mindful of Former Glory) and 'Vel Exuviae Triumphant' (Victorious even in Adversity).

The Buffs and the 37th Foot also fought with distinction in Marlborough's Army, gaining the famous quartet of battle honours consisting of Blenheim (1704), Ramillies (1706), Oudenarde (1708) and Malplaquet (1709). It was probably in 1707 that The Buffs received the Dragon as their badge in token of their Tudor origin. The War of The Spanish Succession ended with The Treaty of Utrecht in 1713.



The Dettingen Cup

The War of The Austrian Succession arose from a dispute between three candidates for the Austrian throne and Britain's principal enemies were again France and Spain. The Buffs, the 31st and the 37th Foot fought at Dettingen, which was a great victory and the last occasion on which an English king (George II) commanded his army in battle. The 31st Foot later received heavy casualties at Fontenoy.

The Buffs and the 37th Foot returned to England and helped deal with the second Jacobite rebellion of 1745. Both regiments formed part of the Duke of Cumberland's Army, which fought Bonnie Prince Charlie at Falkirk and Culloden, although at the end of the War, which was marked by The Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, they were back in Flanders.

1754-1763

The French and Indian War

Britain, Prussia and Portugal were aligned against France, Austria, Russia, Sweden and Poland, during the Seven Years' War. The War was described by William Pitt as the first world war, because of its geographical spread and its aftermath helped to forge the British Empire.

The French and Indian War was the American phase of the Seven Years' War, which began two years later in Europe. In June 1756, the 35th Foot arrived in the Hudson Valley to form part of the Garrison of Fort William Henry on Lake George. In July 1757, the fort was attacked by a large force of French and Iroquois Indians under the Marquis of Montcalm. After expending all ammunition, the garrison was forced to surrender with the honours of war, but was treacherously ambushed alongside its wives and families en route to the British post fifteen miles away. The story is told in Fenimore Cooper's *The Last of The Mohicans*.

In October of the same year, the 35th helped capture Louisbourg, but their greatest victory was to be at Quebec.

After a series of defeats, the French concentrated in the area of Quebec. The allied assault on their positions was led by the thirty-two-year-old General James Wolfe, who was the first Colonel of the 67th Foot, later The South Hampshire Regiment. Thanks to the navigational skills of Captain James Cook, who later became the great explorer, the British effectively penetrated the St. Lawrence River and blockaded Quebec.

On the night of the 12/13th September 1759, the assaulting force, which included the 35th, climbed the Heights of Abraham. The Regiment was in a crucial position at the right of the line at first light. At about 1000 hours Montcalm's French Army came out of the town to attack and had

approached to within thirty-five yards before Wolfe gave the order to fire and then, to quote Fortescue, the British Army's historian, 'with one deafening crash the most perfect volley ever fired on a battlefield burst forth as if from a single monstrous weapon, from end to end of the British line'. The French unit in front of the 35th was the Royal Roussillon Regiment. Regimental tradition has it that as they retreated, the French threw down their hats, the feathers from which the advancing 35th put in their own head dress. The Roussillon Plume later became part of the badge of The Royal Sussex Regiment and the 13th September became their Regimental Day. Wolfe and Montcalm were both killed in the battle and General Amherst completed the conquest of Canada. The 35th completed their war alongside The Buffs in a campaign against the French possessions of Martinique and Guadeloupe.

The Death of General Wolfe at The Battle of Quebec



1756-1763

The Seven Years' War

The years 1756 to 1758 marked the raising of four further forebear regiments. The 2nd Battalion of the 31st Foot, which became the 70th Foot and later combined with the 31st to form The East Surrey Regiment, was raised in Glasgow. Also raised were the 50th Foot, later The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment (the Queen being Adelaide, wife of William IV), the 57th Foot, later the senior forebear of The Middlesex Regiment, and the 67th Foot, later to become with the 37th Foot, The Hampshire Regiment.

The 37th Foot at the Battle of Minden



The Battle of Minden

On the 1st August 1759, the 37th Foot fought at The Battle of Minden, during the Seven Years' War. This is now one of the three main Regimental Days of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment. The French Army of Marshal de Contades was marching towards Hannover and to block this move, Ferdinand, Duke of Brunswick, resolved to hold Minden. The Duke's force included six British infantry regiments, one of which was the 37th Foot.

As the French approached, the British infantry were issued the

confusing order to 'Advance with drums beating in proper time'. The term 'proper time' was interpreted as the rate of advance, whilst the Duke meant 'in due course, when the order is given'. The allied infantry advanced, in spite of crossfire from sixty French guns. They were then charged by French cavalry, who were engaged at ten yards to such devastating effect that the ground was strewn with men and horses. The advance continued against two more cavalry charges, which were also defeated. The French were driven from the field

in confusion as, uniquely, infantry had attacked and scattered massed squadrons of cavalry.

On the 1st August each year, every officer and soldier in the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment wears a 'Minden' rose in his headdress in memory of the men of the 37th who, either before or after the Battle, picked dog-roses from the hedges and put them in their caps. This tradition was inherited from The Royal Hampshire Regiment. The Seven Years' War finished with the Peace of Paris in 1763.

1775-1783

The American Revolution or The War of American Independence

There were no battle honours awarded to the Regiment's forebears for their involvement in the American War of Independence. Although the regiments fought with distinction and achieved many victories against the rebel forces, the colonies successfully rebelled against the rule of King George III with the support of France, Spain and the Netherlands. The Buffs, 31st, 35th, 37th and 57th Foot were

all to take part in the War and the 50th participated in a naval battle against the French off Ushant (a French island at the mouth of the English Channel off the north west coast of France) in 1778, serving as marines.

The 35th featured most prominently in the War in the first of the battles. They defeated the rebels at Bunker Hill, Boston in 1775 and joined

the 57th with another victory at Brooklyn a year later. Also in 1776 the 35th helped capture New York and won the battle of White Plains. Unfortunately, the 31st were part of General Burgoyne's force, which surrendered at Saratoga and the Light Company of the 37th were present at Cornwallis's surrender at Yorktown.



The Charge of the 35th Foot at Bunker Hill

County Titles 1782

In 1782 county titles were allotted to Regiments of Foot although they retained their numbers to indicate precedence. The Queen's were not affected, but the title of 'East Kent' was added to The Buffs (3rd Foot), the 31st became the Huntingdonshire Regiment

and the 70th the Surrey Regiment. The 35th were initially linked with Dorsetshire until Sussex was substituted in 1804, whilst the 50th were associated with West Kent and the 57th with West Middlesex. The 37th and 67th were identified with the County of Hampshire; the 37th

became the 37th (North Hampshire) Regiment, whilst the 67th became the 67th (South Hampshire) Regiment.

1793-1802

The French Revolutionary War

France's support to the American colonists helped create the economic crises which led to the French Revolution. The deposed king, Louis XVI, was supported by Prussia and Austria, who formed an alliance with Britain, Holland and Spain to restore the French monarchy, but without success.

In the summer of 1793, the Queen's were serving with the fleet commanded by Admiral 'Black Dick' Howe. The Fleet was sailing off Ushant in May 1794, with regimental detachments distributed to Lord Howe's flagship Queen Charlotte and His Majesty's Ships The Royal George, Defence, Majestic and Russell. The enemy was sighted, but no attack was possible until the 1st June. The British fleet formed line abreast to assault the French who were in line ahead on the port tack and at 0900 hours both fleets opened fire. The battle continued until the early afternoon, by which time seven enemy ships had been captured and 3,000 casualties inflicted against 1,148 British casualties. Among those killed was Lieutenant Neville of The Queen's. The battle was a tactical success and became the Regimental Day of The Queen's Royal Regiment; though at the strategic level an important French grain convoy had managed to reach France.

The Queen's were awarded the Naval Crown on their Regimental Colour, as a result of their rôle in the Battle. The honour remains on the new Regimental Colour and the Regiment continues to retain its relationship with the Royal Navy through its close links with HMS Excellent at Portsmouth and its affiliation with current warships.

The Buffs, 37th (North Hampshire) and the 57th (West Middlesex) served in Flanders during the Duke of York's disastrous expedition in 1794, whilst the 37th helped



The Glorious 1st of June 1794 - The Death of Lieutenant Neville

defeat the French at Tournay and the 50th (West Kent) joined Nelson driving the French out of Corsica. The Queen's, The Buffs, 35th and 57th (West Middlesex) were all to take part in campaigns against French possessions in the West Indies, however, heavy casualties were sustained from yellow fever, dysentery and other tropical diseases. In 1798 The Queen's were heavily involved in the French supported Irish rebellion, and in the following year joined the 31st (Huntingdonshire) and 35th (Dorsetshire) in the Helder campaign in Holland, during which the French were defeated in every engagement. In addition, in 1800 the 35th, two battalions strong, recovered Malta from the French. The Union Flag flew over Malta from that date until the Island's independence in 1964, when, by coincidence, the flag was lowered for the last time by The Royal Sussex Regiment, the successors to the 35th, who were the last British Army Regiment to serve there.

The Queen's and the 50th (West Kent) took part in the successful landing at Aboukir Bay, near Alexandria, Egypt in 1801. This was part of a joint operation in Egypt against Napoleon's Army of the

East; Cairo was occupied and the French expelled. The badge of the Sphinx was awarded as an honour to both regiments and the Sphinx remains on the current Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (PWRR) Regimental Colour.

Tippoo Sahib, the Sultan of Mysore and ally of Napoleon had plans for his army to drive the British out of those areas of India administered by the Honourable East India Company. In October 1787, four new regiments were raised, in the name of the King, but in the pay of the Company, to provide greater protection for British interests in India. They included the 77th (East Middlesex), which was raised in 1787, arrived in Bombay in 1788 and fought its first battle at Perripatam in March 1789. This forced Tippoo Sahib to withdraw to his capital, Seringapatam. Volunteers from the Regiment made up the 'Forlorn Hope', the pessimistic name given to an assault party of picked troops, which led the attack on the city. Seringapatam fell and the body of Tippoo Sahib was found under a mound of corpses in the north gateway. Subsequently, the 77th served in the first independent command of Sir Arthur Wellesley, later Lord Wellington, in his campaign against the Mahrattas in 1802. The French Revolutionary War was brought to an end by The Treaty of Amiens, 1802.



The Naval Crown



The Sphinx

1803-1815

The Napoleonic War

Napoleon had signed the Amiens Treaty only to give himself time to prepare for his invasion of England and fourteen months later he declared war again on the trumped-up grounds that Britain had failed to hand back Malta to the Knights of St. John, in accordance with the Treaty. In October 1805, at Trafalgar, Nelson removed the threat of French invasion, which had led to the raising of some infantry regiment's 2nd battalions, notably those of the 31st, the 35th, the 37th and the 67th. The Napoleonic War, which involved most European nations against France, continued until Napoleon Bonaparte was finally defeated by the allies at Waterloo on the 18th June 1815. The 1st Battalion of the 35th (Sussex) Regiment helped defeat the French at Maida in Italy in 1806, but the main British contribution to the War was in Portugal and Spain, in what was called the Peninsular War.



The Latham Centrepiece

1808-1814

The Peninsular War

The Queen's, The Buffs (East Kent), 31st (Huntingdonshire), 50th (West Kent), 57th (West Middlesex), 67th (South Hampshire) and 77th (East Middlesex) all took part in the Peninsular campaign. The battle honours of Vimiera, Corunna, Douro, Talavera, Barrosa, Albuhera, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Almaraz, Salamanca, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nivelle, Nive, Orthes, Toulouse and Peninsula were won by forebear regiments. It is not surprising that the second Regimental Day of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, Albuhera, comes from this War.

Following initial allied successes against General Junot in Portugal during 1808, Napoleon decided to intervene personally. This compelled the force under Sir John Moore to withdraw to Corunna for evacuation by the British fleet. The Queen's, 50th and a company of The Buffs were amongst this exhausted army when it reached the port of Corunna and found that the ships had not yet arrived. On the 16th January 1809, the French Marshal Soult attacked the allied force and was defeated. The 50th repeated the bayonet charges, which the French had been unable to face at

Vimiera and their commanders' success was acknowledged by Sir John Moore who cried 'Well done my majors!' the majors were Sir Charles Napier and the fatally wounded Charles Stanhope. Both were to be remembered by the toast to the 'Corunna Majors' on the anniversary of the battle by The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment and, celebrated in later years by the 2nd Battalion The Queen's Regiment.

1811



The Battle of Albuhera and the 'Die Hards'

Marshal Soult was to receive his greatest defeat at the battle of Albuhera (Albuera), in southern Spain on the 16th May 1811. The Buffs (East Kent), the 31st (Huntingdonshire) and the 57th (West Middlesex) were all in Marshal Beresford's allied army. Beresford took up position against the 23,000 French and Polish force astride a main road overlooking the village of Albuhera. The French attacked in massed columns supported by artillery firing grapeshot and came round the allies' right flank, which was held by Spanish troops. The Buffs were pushed into a counter attack against the French left flank and were making good progress when French Hussars and Polish Lancers charged from their right rear and cut them to pieces. Only eighty-four men survived out of 728. The Regimental Colour was captured, with its ensign killed, but later recaptured by The Royal Fusiliers. The King's Colour was returned after being found by a fusilier inside the tunic of a hideously gored and apparently dead officer, Lieutenant Latham. He had taken it when its ensign was wounded by gunfire. Hussars swarmed around him and slashed him mercilessly, but they could not wrench the staff from his grip. He survived with one arm chopped off by a surgeon and a crevice across his nose and cheek staunched, to receive from his brother officers a gold medal. He was also promoted. Silver

centrepieces depicting this deed are among the prized possessions of the Regiment. The Buffs recovered so quickly from their experience that they were nicknamed 'The Resurrectionists'.

The 2nd Battalion of the 31st (2nd/31st) commanded by Major L'Estrange, formed square in the rear and stood firm. They inspired Wellington to write how, 'after the other parts of the Brigade were swept off by cavalry, this little battalion alone held its ground against all the massed French columns'.

Meanwhile, the 57th formed the centre of the Brigade that came up on the left of the 31st, in place of the Spaniards. For four hours, they withstood a terrible pounding by grapeshot as they engaged the French masses at very close range, never budging except to close ranks, always on their feet. Colonel Inglis, their commanding officer, was shot through the lung. Refusing to have his wound dressed, he lay propped on an arm in front of his lacerated Colours and kept exhorting his men, 'Die Hard, 57th, Die Hard!'. Ninety-nine men did die, whilst 333 lay wounded out of a total of 600. Marshal Soult wrote of the British Army at Albuhera, 'There is no beating these troops. They were completely beaten, the day was mine and they did not know it and would not run'. Albuhera was to become

the Regimental Day of both The Buffs and The Middlesex Regiment and the Middlesex were granted the honour of wearing the name 'Albuhera' on their cap badge.

Now, the officers, warrant officers and senior NCOs of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment celebrate the annual Silent Toast Ceremony, when the toast is drunk 'To the Immortal Memory' of all those of our forebear regiments and current regiment who have given their lives in the service of their Sovereign and Country. The detail of this unique custom is further explained in Part III of this Guide. There is a large Regimental Memorial at Albuhera unveiled by the Duke of Wellington in 1997.

The 2nd/67th were part of the allied force, which defeated the French a month before, at Barrosa, but the Peninsular War went on for another three years as the French were driven back through the Pyrenees to their own soil. The fighting stopped after the fall of Toulouse in April 1814. The forebear regiments were not directly involved in the 100 day campaign, which finally ended with the defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo in 1815, though the 35th were in reserve at the Battle and occupied Paris as part of the Army of Occupation. It was the Duchess of Richmond, wife of the Colonel of the 35th, who held the famous ball on the eve of Waterloo.

1811



The Buffs at Albuhera

1805-1826

The Tiger

After twenty-one years of active service in India, the 67th (South Hampshire) was ordered back to England in 1826. In commemoration of this, King George IV authorised the figure of the Royal Bengal Tiger with the word 'India' superscribed to be borne on its Regimental Colour and other appointments. The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment retains this honour today and maintains the nickname of 'The Tigers'.



1815-1854

Small Wars

The period between the Napoleonic Wars and the Crimean War was dominated by 'small' wars throughout the Empire. The Queen's and the 31st (Huntingdonshire) served in the 1st Afghan War of 1839-1842, whilst the Buffs (East Kent) and the 50th ('Queens Own' Regiment from 1831) escorted prisoners to Australia and took part in the Gwalior campaign of 1843. The 35th served in the West Indies, Ireland and Mauritius, becoming The 35th 'Royal' Sussex Regiment in 1832. The 57th (West Middlesex) went to Australia and India, whilst the 77th

(East Middlesex) served in Ireland, Jamaica, Malta and Canada. The 37th (North Hampshire) served ten of these years at home, thirteen in Canada, nine in Bermuda and Jamaica, and eight in Ceylon. The 67th (South Hampshire), apart from their long service in India (1805-1826), went abroad again in 1832 to serve in Gibraltar, the West Indies, and Canada until 1841.

On the 25th March 1824, the 97th Foot, or Earl of Ulster's Regiment was raised at Winchester; in due course it was to become the 2nd Battalion of The Queen's Own

Royal West Kent Regiment. It went overseas in 1825 and served in Ceylon, Corfu, Halifax (Nova Scotia) and Greece.

There were two tragic incidents involving troopships in this period. In 1825 several companies of the 31st (Huntingdonshire) sailed for Calcutta in the East Indiaman Kent, which caught fire in high seas in the Bay of Biscay and many lives were lost. The Queen's were on board the Birkenhead in 1852, when it struck a rock and sank, fifty miles from Simon's Bay in South Africa. Most of the troops were drowned.

1845-1846

The First Sikh War

The Sikhs of India had assumed that the British withdrawal from Afghanistan in 1842 meant that their grip on India was weak. A Sikh Army subsequently crossed

the River Sutlej, the boundary between the Punjab and British India and there then followed the battles of Moodki, Ferozeshah, Aliwal and Sobraon. The 31st

(Huntingdonshire) and 50th (Queen's Own) fought with great distinction in all of them.

The 31st Foot and Sergeant McCabe at the Battle of Sobraon



The Battle of Sobraon

The defeat of the Sikhs at the Battle of Sobraon on the 10th February 1846 marked the end of the 1st Sikh War. The British assaulted the enemy positions, but received heavy casualties and at one point it was thought that the battle was lost. Both officers carrying the Colours of the 31st were killed, and at that moment when defeat seemed inevitable, Sergeant Bernard McCabe of the 31st picked up the Regimental Colour, dashed forward under heavy fire and planted it on the highest point of the Sikh entrenchment. This put new life into the 31st, 50th and the other regiments, which then took their objectives in desperate, hand-to-hand fighting. When the Sikhs at

last turned and fled they left 10,000 casualties and sixty-seven guns behind them. Sergeant McCabe was commissioned and proved to be a hero again at The Siege of Lucknow with the 32nd Foot (a Forebear Regiment of today's Rifles). The 50th emerged from the battle commanded by a subaltern, having lost half their rank and file.

The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment continues to remember the action of Sergeant McCabe in all battalions. Each battalion appoints a Sobraon Sergeant for the year and on the anniversary of the battle he has the honour of carrying the Regimental Colour from the Officers' Mess to the

Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess usually through the ranks of the Battalion, who line the route. With the Commanding Officer's permission, all of the Colours are displayed in their respective Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess for the Day. This is the only time when the Colours are housed outside of the Officers' Mess. A fragment of the Colour carried by Sergeant McCabe is enclosed in a unique piece of silver, which is known as The Huntingdonshire Salt and is held by the 2nd Battalion. This is used for the 'salt ceremony', when newly joined members of the Battalion are invited 'to take salt with the Regiment'.

1854-1856

The Crimean War

The war in the Crimea was the result of Russian claims to the right to protect the Holy Places in Palestine, which were then in the Ottoman (Turkish) Empire. Britain and France were allies of Turkey and when the Ottoman sultan declared war on Russia, the British Army became involved. The 50th (Queen's Own), 57th (West Middlesex) and the 77th (East Middlesex) were at the Alma River and at the Battle of Inkerman in 1854, where Sergeant J Park of the 77th became the first

Regimental recipient of the newly instituted Victoria Cross. However, the Regiment's forebears main contribution to the War was in September 1855 at Sevastopol. The Buffs, 31st, 50th, 57th, 77th and 97th (Earl of Ulster's) were all awarded the battle honour of Sevastopol and the 8th September became the Regimental Day of The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. Two soldiers of the 57th and one of the 97th won VCs in this particularly hard fought battle.



Private Moyse of The Buffs

1856-1860 and up until 1880

The Second China War

The 2nd China War is worth a special mention, as The Queen's, The Buffs, the 31st (Huntingdonshire) and the 67th (South Hampshire) all participated in this conflict. It involved an Anglo-French Expeditionary Force, which compelled the Chinese to observe trading treaties. The most significant battle was the taking of the Taku Forts on the 12th August 1860, when the 67th won four out of the five VCs awarded for the action. The fifth VC was won by a

medical apprentice attached to the 67th, Ensign Chaplin, who was only fifteen years three months old, the youngest recipient of this coveted award for valour. During the campaign, Private Moyse of The Buffs won immortality by choosing to be beheaded, rather than 'kowtow' to the Mandarin into whose hands he had fallen. The War ended following the allied occupation of Peking.

In 1857, the 31st (Huntingdonshire), 35th (Royal Sussex), 37th (North Hampshire) and 50th (Queen's Own) coped effectively with the Indian Mutiny, whilst in 1860, the 50th, 57th and 70th were fighting the Maoris in New Zealand. The 67th played a full part in the 2nd Afghan War of 1878-1880, and The Buffs and 57th fought the Zulus in 1879. The East Surreys and The Royal Sussex fought the Dervishes in the Sudan, whilst The Queen's and The 67th were in Burma.

'Steady the Buffs!'

This expression has been used for many years by people with no connection with the Regiment, but who assume that it originated in some desperate battle. The truth is less exciting. In August

1857 a 2nd Battalion was raised in Limerick and moved to Malta where it shared a barracks with the Royal Scots Fusiliers. The Adjutant of the 2nd Buffs, named Cotter, had been a sergeant-

major in The Royal Scots Fusiliers and, to encourage recruits on drill parades, was wont to shout 'Steady, The Buffs! The Fusiliers are watching you!'

*Ensign Chaplin of the 67th Foot at the
Battle of Taku Forts*



1870 - 1881

The Cardwell Reforms

Edward Cardwell, Liberal Secretary of State for War, introduced a number of major reforms in the Army during this period. This included the abolition of purchasing commissions and promotion. In 1872, he linked battalions in a regiment to ensure regular exchanges between home and overseas postings and gave each regiment a county affiliation and a recruiting and training depot within it. In due course, The Queen's became The Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment, The Buffs became The Buffs (East Kent) Regiment, the 31st and 70th became The 1st and 2nd Battalions The East Surrey Regiment, the 35th amalgamated with the 107th to form two battalions of The Royal Sussex Regiment (The 107th was originally the 3rd Regiment of Bengal European Infantry, raised by The East India Company in 1853 and transferred to the British Army, as the 107th after the Indian Mutiny), the 37th and 67th united

to form the two battalions of The Hampshire Regiment and the 50th and 97th came together as the two battalions of The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. The 57th and the 77th became the 1st and 2nd Battalions of The Middlesex Regiment. These changes are illustrated in the 'Family Tree' at the back of this Guide.



1899 - 1902

The Boer War

All of the forebear regiments of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment were represented in the Boer War in South Africa and the Volunteers provided reinforcements on operations. The 2nd Queen's fought at the Tugela River and Spion Kop, where they were with the 2nd Middlesex and were also at The Relief of Ladysmith. The 2nd Buffs pursued the Boer leader Piet Cronje until he surrendered at Paardeberg, where they fought side-by-side with The 2nd Hampshires and later went on to Bloemfontein, where they were joined by the 1st Royal

Sussex and occupied Pretoria. The 2nd East Surreys were also in action at Tugela and at Colenso with The Queen's. At Pieter's Hill, Private Curtis of the East Surreys was to win the VC for bringing in his wounded Commanding Officer under intense fire. The Boer 'Kommandos' fought on until finally compelled by Lord Roberts' policy of attrition to end the war on the 1st June 1902. The 1st Hampshires did not participate in the Boer War, but fought in the Aden hinterland and Somaliland in 1903-1904.

1908

The Haldane Reforms

In 1908 the Liberal War Minister, Mr Haldane, converted the Militia into the Special Reserve, which meant that these battalions provided reinforcements for war. He converted the title 'Volunteers' into the 'Territorial Force', later the 'Territorial Army' and now the 'Army Reserve'. This new force was re-equipped and made an integral part of the county regiments, usually bearing the same names and badges. Most of the Regiment's forebears acquired two or more battalions each. These battalions helped form the basis for further expansion during the First World War.

1914-1918

The First World War

The First World War, which followed the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo and the eventual invasion of The Low Countries by the German Kaiser's armies, is well documented. All of the Regiment's forebears were represented in huge numbers during the Conflict and they fought in nearly all of the campaigns. In this short Guide it is not possible to go into much detail of the Great War or to do justice to the scale of heroism and unflinching devotion to duty. The number of names on regimental war memorials tell the tale; for example, 8,000 Queen's, 5,688 Buffs, 6,866 Queen's Own Royal West Kents, 6,000 East Surreys, 6,800 Royal Sussex, 8,026 Hampshires and 12,694 officers and men of The Middlesex Regiment. The ranks of the regiments were swelled, as the war went on, by regular reservists, Territorials, Kitchener volunteers and conscripts, who all contributed to the eventual defeat of Germany. The first British infantry unit to open fire on the Germans, near Mons on the 22nd August 1914, was

the 4th Middlesex, and on the day of the Armistice, the 11th November 1918, when the 2nd Middlesex, pursuing the Germans, reached practically the same spot, in the Battalion there were still some men of the original 4th Battalion who had fought right through, from the first shots to the last. In 1914, The 1st Battalion The Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment was reduced, in just three months, from 1,000 on parade to thirty-two. There were many memorable episodes and hard fought battle honours added to the forebears' Colours.

Ypres, the 23rd April 1915, became the Regimental Day of The East Surreys. Hill 60 was successfully defended from the 19th to the 21st April by the 1st Battalion. Within twenty-four hours, Lieutenant Roupell, 2nd Lieutenant Handley Geary and Private Dwyer all gained VCs and seven others were awarded The Distinguished Conduct Medal. Nineteen-year-old Private Dwyer leapt on to a parapet in the face of German grenade throwers and dispersed them with his own

grenades. Earlier in the day, he had risked his life many times by going out of his trench to rescue wounded colleagues. This second battle of Ypres was to last five weeks and included the first use of German gas. The 2nd Battalion of the East Surreys also distinguished itself in the battle and the 23rd April was chosen as a special anniversary. The Buffs, Hampshires, Queen's Own Royal West Kents and The Middlesex Regiment earned the same battle honour of 'Ypres 1915'. The Queen's, Royal Sussex Regiment, Hampshire Regiment, Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment and The Middlesex Regiment gained a number of battle honours from the Gallipoli campaign in 1915, when the attempt was made to open another front against the Turks. The Hampshires were to remember Gallipoli Day on the 25th April each year, when the landing from the steamer River Clyde took place at Helles in the face of almost impossible odds. Men of the 2nd Hampshires were caught in the water and shot and drowned. The landing eventually

Battle Headquarters of the 1st Middlesex Regiment at the Battle of Bailleul





Lieutenant Walter Tull

succeeded, although the Battalion had sustained large numbers of casualties and the Dardanelles campaign itself ended in failure. The battalion took part in the more successful evacuation of the peninsula in December 1915. Eighteen-year-old 2nd Lieutenant Moor won the Regiment's first VC of the war for most conspicuous bravery and resource during operations south of Krithia, Dardanelles. The Hampshires were to raise thirty-six battalions by the end of the war.

1916 was to mark the Battle of the Somme from July until November, and all of the forebear regiments were represented in the appalling slaughter which ended with 419,000 British dead and some 316,000 wounded. On the first day of the battle alone, there were 57,000 casualties, the highest losses that the British Army had ever suffered in one day. The manner in which 'B' Company of The 8th Surreys advanced on that fateful day was to become legendary. The Officer in Command, Captain Neville, and Private Fursey kicked footballs into No-Man's Land to encourage the advance. Their objective of Montauban was taken, though the Battalion lost 446 men, killed,

wounded and missing in the first ten minutes. The Queen's, The Buffs and The Queen's Own Royal West Kents took part in the same action. By 1916 The Middlesex Regiment had fifteen battalions in Flanders, which included new 'Kitchener' units such as the 16th (Public Schools) Battalion, the 17th and 23rd (Football) Battalions and the 18th and 19th (Public Works) Battalions. The first black infantry officer in the British Army, Lieutenant Walter Tull, served with the 17th Footballers' Battalion, then 23rd Battalion of The Middlesex Regiment.

Less well-known than the Somme, was the preceding Battle of Boar's Head. This was a diversionary

attack to the Somme, in the Pas de Calais region, on the 30th June 1916. This was a particularly bloody battle fought by, amongst others, The 11th, 12th and 13th Battalions of The Royal Sussex Regiment; The Southdowns Brigade. The battle lasted less than five hours. Seventeen officers and three hundred and forty-nine men were killed with over one thousand wounded or taken prisoner. Company Sergeant Major N V Carter was awarded the Victoria Cross. The event became known as 'The Day that Sussex Died'. The Regiment's forebears fought notably at virtually all of the battles of the Western Front and also gained battle honours from the campaigns in Palestine, Aden, Mesopotamia, India, Macedonia, Egypt and Italy. Four battalions of The Buffs were to form a key part of the final assault of The Hindenburg line in 1918, which helped bring The Great War to a close. A perusal of the consolidated list of VCs won by The Regiment, which is in Part III of this Guide illustrates some of the sacrifices made. One typical example of outstanding courage was demonstrated by Lieutenant Colonel Dawson of The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. He was in the casualty list seven times with three bars to his Distinguished Service Order before he died of wounds at the age of 27 in 1918. The East Surreys inadvertently enlisted, reputedly, the youngest soldier of the War; Private Sydney George Lewis was just twelve years old, when he joined at Kingston in August 1915. Following an appeal from his mother, he was sent home and discharged!



8th East Surreys - Somme 1916

2nd Hampshires disembark from SS River Clyde at Cape Helles, Gallipoli



The Bombing Party



1918-1919

Russia

A campaign of unique interest, which involved the East Surreys, Royal Sussex, Hampshires and The Middlesex Regiment was in Russia in the period 1918/1919. During this period the Regiment was to gain the battle honours of Murmansk, Archangel, Dukhovskaya and Siberia. This was part of an unsuccessful international effort at the end of the Great War to save the 'White'

Russians from the 'Red' Bolsheviks. One action of the campaign took place at Dukhovskaya in Siberia, where Colonel Ward, who commanded the 25th Battalion of The Middlesex Regiment, was in defence. He was under command of a Japanese colonel and had been given command of a reserve force consisting of one of his own companies and a machine gun section, over one battalion of Czech

troops, one company of Japanese infantry, 600 cossack cavalry and a Royal Navy gun detachment of four twelve-pounders on two armoured trains. This is an interesting Battlegroup compared with modern times! The battle was won, but British troops were withdrawn from Russia by the end of 1919.



1919-1939

Between the Two World Wars

During this period all of the forebear regiments carried out tours of duty overseas in India, the West Indies, Palestine and elsewhere. Most of the regiments were represented in the rebellion in Ireland in the early 1920s, whilst

the Queen's, The Buffs, The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment and The Hampshires were separating Jew and Arab in Palestine in the late 1930s. However, the Army was cut in size, promotion was extremely slow and resources

were scarce. There was also an acute lack of investment in modern equipment, which was not to bode well for the beginning of the Second World War.

1939-1945

The Second World War



*Major Le Patourel of the
Hampshires at The Battle of
Tebourba Gap - Tunisia*

The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment was represented by its forebears in every theatre of the Second World War. Six battalions of The Queen's, three of The Buffs, three of The East Surreys, the 2nd Battalion of The Hampshires, five battalions of The Royal Sussex, five battalions of The Queen's Own Royal West Kents and three battalions of The Middlesex went to France with the British Expeditionary Force. They were hopelessly ill-equipped to deal with the German Blitzkrieg (Lightning War) when it began on the 10th May 1940. Most of them managed to return to England through Dunkirk, Le Havre, Cherbourg and St Nazaire, but four of the twenty-three battalions were overwhelmed and forced to surrender. The East Surreys, Hampshires and Middlesex gained the battle honour of 'Dunkirk'.

The Royal Sussex took a full part in the Abyssinian and Syrian campaigns against the Italians in 1941, whilst The Queen's gained two battle honours from Tobruk.

In the Far East in the same year, The 1st Middlesex put up a stout defence at Hong Kong, but like the 2nd East Surreys at Singapore, they were forced to surrender. Prior to Singapore, The 2nd East Surreys had held up two Japanese divisions for four days and their losses had forced an amalgamation with the 1st Leicesters (then known appropriately as 'Tigers'). The combined battalion was called the British Battalion, which is still remembered on the 20th December each year, when an appropriate signal is sent by Regimental Headquarters to the Regimental Headquarters of the Royal Anglian Regiment. Many of the survivors were to die building the notorious Japanese Death Railway.

Battalions of The Buffs, Hampshires and Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment were to help with the successful defence of Malta in the period 1940-1942.

1942 was to prove a better year for the allies with victories in the desert and in Russia. The Regiment's

forebears played a full part in 1st and 8th Army operations in North Africa, five of them gaining the battle honour of El Alamein. In the 1st Army, Major Le Patourel of The Hampshires won the VC at Tebourba Gap in December 1942, when he led four volunteers against German machine-gun positions. At one point, during this action, he went forward alone with a pistol and some grenades to deal with the machine-guns at close-quarters. His most gallant conduct and self-sacrifice, his brilliant leadership and tenacious devotion to duty in the face of the enemy were beyond praise. This four-day battle, fought at a critical time in the campaign, was the triumph of individual leadership and corporate discipline which the Times correspondent reported as 'an astonishing feat of arms which inspired the 1st Army'. Forebear regiments participated in the enemy defeat in Tunisia and the subsequent invasion of Sicily in 1943. Part of the drive North through Italy included the amphibious landings at Salerno.

1943

The Battle of Salerno, Italy



The Battle of Salerno is the third Regimental Day of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment and the anniversary on the 9th September 1992 marked the formation of the new Regiment. The day was well chosen, as it commemorated the exemplary courage of members of The Queen's and Hampshires, who landed on the beaches in 1943. Six territorial battalions of The Queen's fought in the battle within 169 (Queen's) Brigade and 131 (Queen's) Brigade alongside three Hampshire battalions of 128 (Hampshire) Brigade. In addition, a number of Beach Groups were manned by Hampshire soldiers and Queensmen.

The idea was that the allies would advance quicker through Italy and capture Naples within a few days, as Churchill said, 'Why crawl up the leg like a harvest bug from the ankle upwards? Let us strike

at the knee'. 169 Brigade and 128 Brigade were in the initial assaulting divisions and by the end of the first day; the British X Corps was ashore with 23,000 troops, 80 tanks, 325 guns and 2,000 vehicles. However, most of the objectives had not been taken and the enemy still occupied the dominating heights. The days following the landings were a mess of confused fighting, sporadic attacks, prisoners taken, men killed, strong points over-run and abandoned and sometimes over-run again. This situation culminated in 'Black Monday' on the 13th September, when the last major German counter-attack took place, but this was blunted with the help of Naval Gunfire Support and air strikes. On the 17th September, the three Queen's battalions of 131 Brigade joined the battle and by the next day, nine of the Regiment's forebear battalions were in the bridgehead. Both sides claimed

victory from the Battle of Salerno. The Germans had managed to extricate themselves and had dictated the pace of the battle; however, the allies were not driven back to the sea and the objectives were eventually seized, thanks to the doggedness of those nine forebear battalions.

Following Salerno, the allied forces then continued their advance and The Buffs, East Surreys, Royal Sussex, Hampshires and Queen's Own Royal West Kents were all to gain the battle honour of Cassino on their way through Italy. Some of the fiercest fighting followed the landings at Anzio, where the 2/7th Middlesex had landed in January 1944. A month later, the 2nd Queen's Brigade, and the 1st Buffs helped to retrieve a desperate situation.

1944-1945

Invasion of Europe and Kohima

The 6th June 1944 marked the long-awaited invasion of Europe across the English Channel at Normandy. The 1st Battalion The Hampshire Regiment were the first British infantry to land on the Normandy beaches in France and The Middlesex Regiment was also to gain the battle honour of the 6th June. As the allies advanced across North-West Europe, many battalions and individuals were in converted unfamiliar roles with tanks, artillery and as paratroops. One such individual was a Royal Sussex officer, Captain Queripel, who was awarded a posthumous VC with the 10th Parachute Battalion at Arnhem in 1944, a battalion largely composed of volunteers from the Royal Sussex Regiment itself.

1944 also marked the heroic defence of Kohima by the 4th Battalion The Queen's Own Royal

West Kent Regiment. The Battalion held out for fifteen days against a complete Japanese division, thereby buying enough time for two British divisions, which included the 1st Queen's, to arrive and prevent the invasion of India. This was the turning point against the Japanese in Burma, for thereafter they were never able to mount an effective offensive. It was at Kohima that Lance Corporal Harman of The Royal West Kents won the VC by first killing a Japanese machine gun crew and capturing the gun single-handed, then rushing another post alone and killing all five Japanese in it. He was then killed by a burst of enemy machine gun fire. His most gallant action is commemorated on 'Kohima Day' (9th April) each year in all the Corporals' Messes within the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, where a corporal is selected as 'Kohima Corporal'.

The 2nd Queen's were serving with the Chindits at this time and gained 'Chindits' as a unique battle honour, based on the Force rather than on a specific location or action. The 2nd Buffs had fought through to Mandalay and the 9th Royal Sussex fought in Burma alongside the Americans and Chinese under the command of General 'Vinegar Joe' Stilwell. The Regiment's forebears were, therefore, contributing to all fronts as the end of The Second World War approached in 1945. The allied push continued across North-West Europe and North up Italy, whilst the war in the Far East went on until the dropping of the atom bombs on Japan. The Hampshire Regiment was awarded the distinction of 'Royal' status by King George VI in 1946 to mark its distinguished service during the war.

Lance Corporal Harman earns his Victoria Cross



1946-1989

Cold War

The World rejoiced as the Second World War came to an end and fascism collapsed in Europe. However, even in March 1945, the British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, was saying that 'an iron curtain has descended across the continent of Europe'. The Inner German Border fence was constructed by the Russians and they began to expand their communist powerbase. 1948 marked the communist take-over of Czechoslovakia and this was closely followed by the Berlin blockade and Russia's first atomic bomb test. The establishment of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and the rival Warsaw Pact set the scene for the remainder of the Cold War. The 2nd Battalion of The Queen's Royal Regiment was in the Berlin Garrison, during the blockade and every single one of the present Regiment's forebears served in Germany during the Cold War. This was a busy period of numerous long exercises and short-notice

emergency call-outs, which included many realistic live-firing training packages in Canada. Germany was the base for the 1st British Corps of 55,000 men and British armour and soldiers became mechanised infantry experts equipped with various armoured vehicles, such as Humbers, Saracens, Ferret Scout Cars and the Armoured Fighting Vehicle 430 Series. Although blood was not

shed on operations, the Regiment's forebear battalions played their full part in winning the Cold War, which finally ended, dramatically, with the pulling down of the Berlin Wall in 1989. Germany also served as the mounting-base for many operations elsewhere in the world. The last of the Regiment's forebears to serve in Germany, just after the end of the Cold War, was The 1st Battalion The Queen's Regiment, at Minden.



1st Battalion of the Queen's on exercise in West Germany

1948-1956

The Middle East

For most of the Regiment's forebears, the Middle East featured as an area for operational tours during the period 1948-1956. Battalions from The East Surreys, The Royal Sussex, The Royal Hampshires and The Middlesex Regiments tackled problems associated with the Stern Gang and the Jews' declaration of the Independent State of Israel in Palestine. The Royal Sussex spent from 1949-1953 in Suez, Egypt and on a six month tour to Jordan. The latter deployment was to counter potential Israeli action,

however, the Battalion ended up experiencing aggression from the Egyptians at Suez, where they carried out internal security duties. Guard duties were shared with The Buffs during 1951/52. On one occasion a major of The Buffs was shot through the head, whilst travelling in a Royal Sussex carrier! Miraculously, he survived. The East Surreys were also deployed to Suez in 1953, where the Battalion suffered a number of casualties at Tel-el-Kebir. The Queen's Own Royal West Kents was the only Regimental forebear to become embroiled in the more

well-known Suez crisis of 1956. In October 1956, the Israelis invaded Egyptian Sinai, and Great Britain and France informed the United Nations that if fighting broke out around the Suez Canal they would be forced to intervene. On the 5th November, British and French paratroops dropped in the area of Port Said. Lieutenant Colonel Crook of the Queen's Own Royal West Kent was commanding the 3rd Battalion The Parachute Regiment for the drop. The 1st Battalion The Queen's Own Royal West Kents took part in an amphibious landing, but the opposition was light.

1950-1953

Korean War

The Korean War deserves a special mention in this Guide, as it is, at the time of writing, the most recent of the Regiment's battle honours. The communist North Korea made a sudden surprise attack against the democratic South Korea in 1950, determined to remove the pro-Western 'puppet' government. The first bloody introduction to the Korean War for the Hong Kong Garrison was on the 8th July 1950 when five soldiers, including two non-commissioned officers from the Middlesex Regiment, were killed whilst aboard HMS Jamaica during bombardment by enemy shore batteries off the east coast of Korea just north of the 38th Parallel.

The 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment joined The 1st Battalion The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders as the first British Infantry battalions to arrive in the theatre of operations in August 1950. They became part of the 27th Commonwealth Infantry Brigade and the United Nations forces pledged to defend South Korea. In September, they took part in the

dramatic breakout from the Pusan Perimeter into which the United Nations forces had been forced to retreat, and crossed the Naktong River in a major assault operation gaining their objective and an MC for gallantry for Second Lieutenant Lawrence in the process. There were forty enemy dead on the position, whilst the Battalion sustained fourteen casualties. The Middlesex were reinforced by a draft of one officer and 135 other ranks from The Queen's Royal Regiment to form their 'C' Company.

On 14th/15th February 1951 whilst leading the 27th Brigade advance northwards, the Battalion, under the command of Major 'Roly' Gwyn, standing in for Lieutenant Colonel Man who was commanding the Brigade at the time, took part in the key battle for Hill 112 at Chaun-ni. The enemy were driven from the Hill as night fell and the Battalion awaited the inevitable Chinese counter attack. This came at dawn the following morning and after heavy fighting the enemy were ejected by bayonet charge. As

a result of this action, Private L Cobby, a stretcher-bearer with 'A' Company was awarded the Military Medal.

The Battalion remained on operations in Korea until May 1951, during which time they had to carry out assault, withdrawal, and defensive operations, often during extremely harsh winter conditions. During this campaign the Battalion suffered 136 killed and wounded.

The Battalion's seven awarded honours far exceeded those awarded to other British units in the campaign. They included the DSO, awarded to the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel A M Man, and an MC for Second Lieutenant Reed. A number of individuals from other forebear regiments served on attachment to different units in Korea. Major General M F Reynolds CB, a Queensman later to become the last Colonel of the Queen's Regiment, served as a platoon commander with The 1st Battalion, The Royal Norfolk Regiment.



1948 - 1959

Withdrawal from Empire (Malaya, Kenya and Cyprus)

After the end of the Second World War, there was a great deal of agitation amongst many of Britain's colonies as local populations strove for independence, though the majority carried out the transition peacefully. It was also the period, when all of the Regiments' ranks were filled with a high proportion of National Servicemen. All maintained the traditions and high standards of their regiments and were to remain a key feature of life in the infantry up until 1963.

In Malaya the indigenous minority Chinese communists, who supported Communist Terrorists (CTs) wanted independence on their terms and a State of Emergency existed in the country from 1948 until 1960. By 1954, there were 45,000 troops in the country, including British, Australians and New Zealanders. The Queen's Own Royal West Kents fought the CTs from 1951-54, killing a total of 106 guerrillas, and were relieved by The Royal Hampshire, who served in Malaya until 1956; The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel P H Man, OBE, MC was to be awarded the DSO and The Sultan of Selangor's Meritorious Service Medal and Major Jim Symes of The Royal Hampshire was awarded a

bar to his MC. The Queen's Royal Regiment served there between 1954 and 1957, killing forty-six terrorists, though losing seven of their own ranks killed in action. The soldier's life was dominated by jungle patrols and ambushes, which lasted from a few days to two or three weeks and on average it took fifty days of patrolling to achieve a kill. Malaya gained independence in 1957 and the campaign became the model example of the success of British counter-insurgency techniques.

The campaign in Kenya lasted from 1952-1960. The local Mau Mau, who based their support on the Kikuyu tribe, began killing white landowners and the indigenous population who were loyal to the colonial regime. The Buffs and the Devons formed the reinforcing 39 Brigade in 1953 and deployed to the Aberdare Mountains and forests. They rounded up suspects in Nairobi in 1954 and spent some time on the slopes of Mount Kenya. By the end of the tour, The Buffs had killed 290 gangsters for the loss of one man.

In July 1954, the British government announced that, because of its strategic importance, Cyprus would

not be granted independence. The National Organisation of Cypriot Fighters (EOKA) was born to achieve Enosis (independence) by controlling the Greek Cypriot community and wearing the British down. This was to be achieved by a combination of guerrilla warfare, terrorism and propaganda. The Middlesex arrived in Cyprus, with their families, for a three year tour in 1955. On arrival, the Battalion had to clear the streets of rioters before being able to occupy their quarters! Their operations during the tour were dominated by cordon and searches and in 1957 they succeeded in capturing a leading rebel leader. The Middlesex Regiment's tour overlapped with The Queen's Own Royal West Kents, who were deployed immediately after their Suez experience in 1957. They served in Cyprus until 1959, carrying out similar duties to the Middlesex. At the height of the troubles, in 1958, The East Surreys deployed to Cyprus with 19 Infantry Brigade in order to carry out security duties in Nicosia. A Greek Turkish plan to make Cyprus an independent state was endorsed in 1959 and the British retained their sovereign bases. However, all was not to remain peaceful between the two main communities.



1st Royal Hampshire resupply in the jungle

1959-1970

Amalgamations



Operations against the Mau Mau in Kenya

In 1957 there was a major review of British defence policy, which reduced the number of infantry battalions of the Line from sixty-seven to fifty-two. In 1959 The Queen's Royal Regiment amalgamated with The East Surrey Regiment to form The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment and in 1961 The Buffs joined with The Queen's Own Royal West Kents to become The Queen's Own Buffs, The Royal Kent Regiment. The Royal Sussex, Royal Hampshire and The Middlesex Regiments were not affected at this stage, though The Royal Sussex and The Middlesex Regiments did join the newly formed Queen's Royal Surreys and The Queen's Own Buffs as members of The Home Counties Brigade. The Royal Hampshires became part of the Wessex Brigade. The Brigades lasted until the next round of amalgamations in 1966.

The Home Counties Brigade introduced an unusual system of identity, whereby its four regular battalions wore the same cap badge of the Saxon crown with a sword penetrating the crown. (The six points of the crown symbolised

the union of the six former regiments and the sword was their martial tradition.) However, all four regiments wore their own distinctive collar badges. The Royal Hampshires wore the Wyvern as their Brigade cap-badge. In 1960, the former Regiments' depots were reorganised and Howe Barracks, Canterbury became the Home Counties' Brigade Depot. Howe Barracks continued to feature prominently as the home for each of the regular battalions of the new Regiment and, until 2013, housed the Regimental Headquarters.

Pressure was still on the Army for reductions and the newly formed Home Counties Brigade was under pressure to form a large regiment. This occurred on 31st December 1966 when, initially, the four battalions retained individual suffixes of the former regiments. Thus the regular battalions became 1st Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Queen's Surreys), 2nd Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Queen's Own Buffs), 3rd Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Royal Sussex) and 4th

Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Middlesex). The suffixes were dropped in 1968, once it became known that the 4th Battalion was to be disbanded. The 4th Battalion was reduced to company strength (Albuhera Company) in 1970 and finally disbanded in 1973 in its final role as the Infantry Demonstration Battalion at The School of Infantry. In 1970, The Royal Hampshire Regiment narrowly avoided amalgamation with the Gloucestershire Regiment within the Wessex Brigade. At the last moment this plan was countermanded and 'The Minden Company' was formed, with the balance of the Royal Hampshires transferring to serve with the 1st Battalion the Gloucestershire Regiment. However, The 1st Battalion The Royal Hampshire Regiment was reformed in 1972. Between 1973 and 1992, the current Regiment's regular forebears consisted of three battalions of The Queen's Regiment and the single battalion of The Royal Hampshire Regiment.

1961-1966

Counter Insurgency



1st Royal Sussex in Southern Arabia

Whilst the Regiment's forebears were being reorganised during the 1960s, a number of operational counter-insurgency tasks were carried out. The Regiment was represented in Aden, British Guiana and Borneo.

The Buffs had spent their last operational tour in the colony of Aden, South Arabia in 1958/59, where the Battalion was involved in the defence of the protected state of Dhala, which had been invaded by Yemen. The main period of troubles lasted from 1961-1967 as a civil war broke out in South Arabia between forces in the North under pro-Egyptian Abdullah Sallai and the royalists in the South supported by Saudi Arabia. The Northern forces encouraged rebel activity against the British at Aden, which was mainly coordinated from the mountainous Radfan. The newly amalgamated Queen's Surreys saw action in 1961, whilst The Royal Sussex deployed in 1965, reinforced

by thirty soldiers from the Queen's Surreys Territorial Army Emergency Reserve, known as 'Ever Readies'. Cordon and search operations, patrols and guards were the normal tasks carried out by both battalions. One platoon commander, Lieutenant J J Smith, who was serving with The Royal Sussex, but who was from the 5th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, won the MC for his part in a successful ambush. Great Britain finally withdrew its forces from Aden in 1967.



British Guiana went through a series of controversial elections and some instability in the early 1960s, prior to its independence as the State of Guyana in 1966. The Royal Hampshire's, as the last West Indies Garrison Battalion, had a company posted there in 1960; the rest of the Battalion was in Jamaica and British Honduras and had to assist with the aftermath of Hurricane Hattie. The newly amalgamated Queen's Own Buffs also served in British Guiana in 1964 and The Middlesex Regiment saw the Country's independence. The internal security duties included crowd dispersal, arrests of suspects, the seizure of weapons, and the training of local home guard units. Effective use was made of naval and military helicopters in cordon and search operations.

The other main operational task in this period was in Borneo, where The Queen's Own Buffs and The Royal Hampshire Regiment were to serve at the latter end of the confrontation in 1966. Indonesian aggression was eventually defeated after an extremely successful counter-insurgency campaign.



1969-1991

Northern Ireland (Pre Amalgamation)



The campaign in Northern Ireland dominated the Regiment's life from 1969 to 1992; The Queen's and Royal Hampshire Regiments were to spend a total of thirty-six tours in The Province. The majority of the deployments were of four to six months duration; however the total includes seven resident eighteen months to two-year tours. The latest round of sectarian violence in Northern Ireland broke out in 1968, as the enmity between the nationalist and loyalist populations came to a head. The Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association (NICRA) was formed to reverse the anti-Catholic legislation in Northern Ireland and began a campaign of peaceful marches and demonstrations. Violence and rioting, however, began to occur, as extremists on both sides of the community clashed. The Northern Ireland Government was not seen to be impartial in its handling of the situation and began to lose control. The crisis came to a head during the annual protestant Apprentice Boys' March on the 12th

August 1969, which resulted in three days of savage fighting within Londonderry and the spread of violence and Catholic 'No-Go' areas around the Province. On the 13th, The Northern Ireland Government asked Westminster for troops to assist to keep the peace. The first troops deployed onto the streets on the 13th August 1969 and they were followed two days later by The 2nd Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Queen's Own Buffs), which was on a resident tour in Holywood at the time. The Battalion deployed to West Belfast, whilst in the same month The 1st Battalion (Queen's Surreys) deployed to Londonderry and The Royal Hampshires arrived in Belfast. At first, all of the troops were warmly welcomed, particularly by the Roman Catholic population and most military activity was directed at placating and separating the two communities. However, the Irish Republican Army (IRA) began to establish its support amongst disaffected nationalists as it aimed to achieve a united Ireland

by violent means. The Provisional IRA (PIRA) launched its terrorist campaign against the security forces, the population and the Government, whilst the Official IRA (OIRA) also maintained a campaign up until 1972. The 3rd Battalion of The Queen's Regiment, which was beginning a resident tour of Ballykinler, joined the 2nd Battalion in West Belfast in 1970, as the troubles worsened. The first British soldier was killed in February 1971 and the Regiment's first fatality was Private Carter of The 2nd Battalion The Queen's Regiment, who was killed by IRA gunmen on the 14th September. This article does not intend to develop the history of the recent troubles in Northern Ireland, but forebear battalions were to continue to serve in the Province, as rural or urban based units right up until the latest amalgamation. In May 1991, The Royal Hampshires completed a resident tour of Londonderry, whilst The 2nd Battalion The Queen's Regiment finished a six month tour of East Tyrone in April 1992.

1968-1975

Dhofar and The Battle of Mirbat

A special note is made here about the little-known war in the Oman, which lasted from 1968 to 1975. The British Government supported The Sultan of Oman in order to prevent Marxist groups in the province of Dhofar from overthrowing him. Elements of The 22nd Special Air Service Regiment were deployed to the area. At dawn on 19th July 1972, a large rebel force, about 250 strong, attacked the Port of Mirbat. When the battle started Corporal Labalaba and Trooper Takavesi, both members of a nine-man Special Air Service Civil Action Team, went to man a 25-pounder gun just outside the walls of the fort, North-West of the town. Gunner Walid Khalfan of the Oman Artillery was already there.

It immediately became clear that the main enemy thrust was being directed against the fort, and in particular against the gun, which was firing at point blank range over open sights. Before long, the entire crew were wounded. Captain M J A Kealy, of the Queen's Regiment, the Commander of the Special Air Service detachment, and Trooper Tobin, who was a trained Medical Orderly, then ran under fire from the main Special Air Service position to help save the gun.

The rebels continued to attack with great ferocity and made repeated attempts to take the gun, often from within grenade throwing range and despite the supporting fire from the other five Special Air Service

soldiers. The action lasted nearly four hours before a relief force and an accompanying air strike drove off the enemy. During this action Corporal Labalaba was killed, Trooper Tobin fatally injured and Trooper Takavesi and Gunner Walid Khalfan both seriously wounded.

The official report records that the fate of Mirbat and of its occupants during the battle depended wholly on the resolve of the Civil Military Team. But for the action of these nine men and particularly the leadership of Captain Kealy the town would have undoubtedly fallen. Captain Kealy was awarded the DSO for his outstanding bravery.

Action at Mirbat, Dhofar, 19 July 1972



1982 & 1991

The Falklands War & The Gulf War



No Queen's or Royal Hampshire battalions were directly committed to either the Falklands or The Gulf Wars, though during the latter conflict The 3rd Battalion The Queen's Regiment maintained the logistic and communications link in Cyprus and The 1st Battalion prepared to send reinforcements to Kuwait from Germany.

A number of individuals did participate in the two conflicts. One example was Lieutenant K S W

Hames of the Queen's Regiment, serving on the traditional regimental exchange appointment with the Royal Marines, who served with 40 Commando during the Task Force's victory over Argentinean forces in the Falkland Islands in 1982. Other examples are Major W R Harber and Captain D G Strutt, both Queen's Regiment, who served as staff officers, the six Royal Hampshire personnel who served with The 1st Battalion The Staffordshire Regiment and

individuals who were serving with The 22nd Special Air Service Regiment during The Gulf War, when Iraqi forces were driven out of Kuwait. One of the six Royal Hampshires included the future Colonel of the Regiment, then Major R W Dennis. Concurrently, Lieutenant G A Fotheringham of the Queen's Regiment who was the exchange officer with 40 Commando deployed to support the Kurdish refugees in Northern Iraq.



The Falkland Islands, Belize and Cyprus

Forebear battalions were deployed on operations in the Falkland Islands after the War of 1982 and had been deployed to the Central American country of Belize since the 1970s. There was also the ongoing British commitment to support the United Nations' peacekeeping force in Cyprus.

The Royal Hampshires arrived in the Falkland Islands very shortly after the war in December 1982. The threat still existed from Argentinean aggression and the Battalion formed an important deterrent force. The 2nd Battalion The Queen's Regiment assumed the same role in 1985/86 and The 3rd Battalion deployed a company to the Islands in 1991.

In 1960, The Royal Hampshire Regiment had a Company stationed in British Honduras, latterly Belize, during their West Indies Garrison tour (1959-1962). However, by the early 1970s, the threat from neighbouring Guatemala had increased and the size of the colony's defence force was reviewed. The 2nd Battalion The Queen's Regiment deployed for a six month tour in 1976 and the 3rd Battalion followed in 1977, at a time when a major reinforcement of the colony took place. The 1st Battalion conducted a tour just prior to independence in 1980/81 and the 3rd Battalion returned in 1986. All of the Queen's battalions fulfilled an important operational role in Belize by maintaining an effective deterrent.

The island of Cyprus has been divided into the Northern Turkish Republic and the Southern Greek Republic since the Turkish invasion of 1974. The British maintain the Sovereign Base Areas and have provided troops for the UN peacekeeping force UNFICYP, which polices the 'green line' dividing the two communities. The 3rd Battalion The Queen's Regiment was deployed on a six month tour to Cyprus in 1972/73 and The 2nd Battalion was there in 1981/82.



1992

Amalgamations



The Army went through a major reorganisation as a result of the end of The Cold War in 1989 and the collapse of the Soviet Empire and the threat from The Warsaw Pact. 'Options for Change' was the name given to the British review, which was announced in 1990 and aimed to produce 'smaller, better equipped, properly trained and housed, and well motivated forces'. The planned reductions were delayed because of The Gulf War, but the final plan included the reduction of infantry strength from fifty-five to forty battalions.

The Queen's Regiment was amalgamated with The Royal Hampshire Regiment on the 9th September 1992 (Salerno Day) to form The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (Queen's and Royal Hampshires), with a reduction from four regular battalions to two. There would be two Territorial battalions, the 5th and the 6/7th, and one Territorial Company ('B' [Queen's Regiment] Company) within the new London Regiment. The Regiment's nickname was to be 'The Tigers'.

Thus the traditions, which dated back to The Trained Bands of the County of Southampton and the City of London and the raising of the Tangier Regiment in 1661, were to be remembered, adjusted and carried forward to the new Regiment. Twelve regiments of the Line, which had varied in shape and size throughout their glorious history, were reduced to two regular battalions of one regiment. The best traditions of the past are remembered today, though the modern professional soldier lives in the present and prepares for the future.

▀▀ In peace there's nothing so becomes a man as modest stillness and humility; But when the blast of war blows in the ears, then imitate the action of the tiger. ▀▀

William Shakespeare, King Henry V



PART II

The Regiment Today

The Regimental Ethos

Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment 'The Tigers'

The Tigers are a fighting regiment - we thrive on complex, tough operations. We are the senior English Regiment of the Line. We are forward looking, yet fiercely proud of our famous forebear regiments whose fighting spirit and traditions thrive in today's Regiment.

Our inspirational officers lead by example, forging a close bond with their soldiers, based on mutual trust and respect. This relationship is rooted in a thorough knowledge of their men, honed through arduous training and confirmed in battle. We are supported and encouraged by combat-proven, relentlessly professional and utterly loyal warrant officers, sergeants and NCOs. We rely unconditionally on our dependable, capable and spirited soldiers. Our robust approach combines an informal and light touch with incredibly high professional standards. Comfortable with change and innovation, we are a learning organisation, constantly seeking to improve and educate.

We train hard to fight hard, and pride ourselves on our courage under fire. We are a tight-knit meritocracy and inclusive family regiment of Cadets, Reservists, Regulars and Veterans. We maximise links with our recruiting heartland in the South East of England, whilst encouraging diversity in our ranks. Self-confident yet modest, we are genuinely welcoming to others - developing real bonds of friendship that stand the test of time and conflict.



'Fierce Pride'

Introduction

Since the foundation of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment on the 9th September 1992, the Regiment has continued to maintain the best traditions of the past, whilst establishing a sound professional reputation in its new guise. The inherited traditions are explained in Part III to this Guide; this chapter illustrates the activities of the current Regiment.

The British Army has changed a great deal since 1992 and so have the threats to peace and security. In the 1990s, Northern Ireland continued to dominate the infantryman's life and, afterwards, the Regiment did its part to keep the peace in the Balkans. However, in recent years, operations in Iraq and Afghanistan have been critical. 2014 marked a shift away from these enduring operations to a wider Defence contingency role, as the Army 2020 plan has developed. The Army is to be capable of:

- Contingent capability for deterrence and defence.
- Overseas engagement and capacity building.
- Civil engagement and the military contribution to homeland resilience.

The Army has continued to change shape. Fortunately, whilst some Infantry battalions were disbanded and amalgamated again under Future Army Structures 2005, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment has retained its two regular battalions, though in common with other regiments, their size has been reduced, as they have taken over 'Responsive' (1 PWRR) and 'Adaptive' (2 PWRR) Force roles.

Meanwhile, significant changes have occurred in the Territorial Army (TA), renamed 'Army Reserves' in 2014. The Government's Strategic Defence Review of 1998 reduced the size of the TA dramatically, particularly the Infantry where thirty-three battalions were cut to fifteen only. The impact for the Princess of



Wales's Royal Regiment was to merge the 5th and 6/7th Battalions to form the new 3rd Battalion whilst maintaining the cap-badge in the Rifle Companies at Portsmouth and London within The Royal Rifle Volunteers and The London Regiment respectively. For a while, the Portsmouth Company became part of the 3rd Battalion, which also gained a company based at Rochester. However, in 2014, following decisions made in the Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR) of 2010 and the Defence White Paper of 2013, all Army Reserve infantry battalions had to reduce in size, so the Portsmouth Company was rebadged to the Army Air Corps in 2014. The SDSR also announced the British Army's withdrawal from Germany by 2020 and a reduction in personnel, armour and artillery.

The new Army 2020 will have a new integrated structure of regulars and reserves and the reserve element will be proportionally higher than in the past; the Regular Army reduces to its new size of 82,000, whilst the Army Reserve rises to 30,000 trained soldiers – an integrated Army of about 112,000. Part of this integration has 'paired' 3 PWRR with the Woolwich based Infantry battalion (The 1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment in 2014). The aim is to use Reservists routinely, rather than in just extreme circumstances.

Despite a busy operational tempo, the Regiment has excelled in sporting competitions and mounted successful adventure training activities. The opportunities for long overseas battalion postings are now less likely in the modern Army, however, soldiers have had the experience of travelling abroad and the battalions have exercised in Kenya and Canada a number of times as well as Poland, Latvia, Cyprus and the Falkland Islands.

HRH The Princess of Wales was appointed the first Colonel-in-Chief in 1992. She relinquished this appointment in 1996, having been a great source of pride and encouragement to the Regiment. She was held in great affection by all ranks and her visits to the battalions, and her presentation of the first set of new Colours to the 2nd Battalion in 1995, are particularly remembered. HM Queen Margrethe II of Denmark, formerly the Allied Colonel-in-Chief, was appointed sole Colonel-in-Chief in 1997, thus perpetuating the Regiment's long and historic links with the Royal House of Denmark, which stretch back to 1689.

The modern Regiment is proud to have produced its first three star general, who is now retired from the Army – Lieutenant-General Sir Paul Newton, who commanded The 2nd Battalion and was Colonel of the Regiment from 2007 to 2010.

Operations

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland featured significantly in the Regiment's first fifteen years, as it did in the Queen's and Royal Hampshire Regiments before amalgamation. The Regiment's deployments to the Province were as follows:



This was an extremely interesting time politically, as the 1st Battalion experienced the beginning of the first IRA ceasefire, the 2nd Battalion saw it ending and both battalions deployed during the second ceasefire, with all its uncertainties. Soldiers and their commanders at all levels have gained a great deal of valuable experience from these Northern Ireland tours and enjoyed the challenge. The Regiment earned enormous praise for its professionalism. As the ceasefire date of the 1st August 2007 neared, with all its uncertainties, The 2nd Battalion had the distinction of being the last troops out of Bessbrook, South Armagh, a notoriously dangerous patrol base during the Troubles.

1st Battalion

1993 to 1995

Omagh

1996

Two short deployments as the UK Standby Battalion, including West Belfast and Armagh

1997 to 1998

West Belfast, followed by one composite company deployed with 1st Battalion The Highlanders (Seaforth, Gordons and Camerons).

2nd Battalion

1992/1993

South Armagh. (One composite company, Gallipoli Company, with 1st Battalion The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment).

1993 to 1994

Fermanagh.

1995 to 1997

Omagh

1998 to 1999

West Belfast

2006 to 2008

Ballykelly.

The Balkans, Africa, The Falkland Islands and Military Aid to The Civil Authority

The 1st Battalion initially served in Colchester as part of 19 Infantry Brigade. Both regular battalions served within 5 Airborne Brigade whilst based in Canterbury and then in 1 Mechanised Brigade in Tidworth. The 1st Battalion spent the longest period within 5 Airborne Brigade, during the foundation of the Joint Rapid Deployment Force. During this period, the Battalion almost deployed to Albania to rescue British nationals, and partially deployed to the Congo prepared to rescue a similar group of nationals from the country of Zaire. The period in Canterbury was made even more unusual, as a formed company of Gurkhas was attached to the 1st Battalion from the end of 1996 for a duration of three years. Its commitments included two tours of the Falkland Islands.

As The 1st Battalion moved to Tidworth and 1 Mechanised Brigade in 1999, they converted to the Armoured Infantry role, equipped with the Warrior armoured vehicle. Their operational commitments shifted to the Balkans and Operation AGRICOLA. Three deployments took place to Kosovo; liaison officer groups with the initial deployment of 16 Air Assault Brigade in 1999, followed by battalion tours in 2000/2001 and 2002, the latter including individuals deploying to Macedonia. The middle deployment included very high profile public order operations in Mitrovica. The gap in between the last two tours was filled by the battalion's assistance to the Foot and Mouth crisis in the UK! Both regular battalions had further 'action' in the UK in 2003 when they participated in Operation FRESCO – providing Firefighting and Emergency rescue teams to cover national strikes.

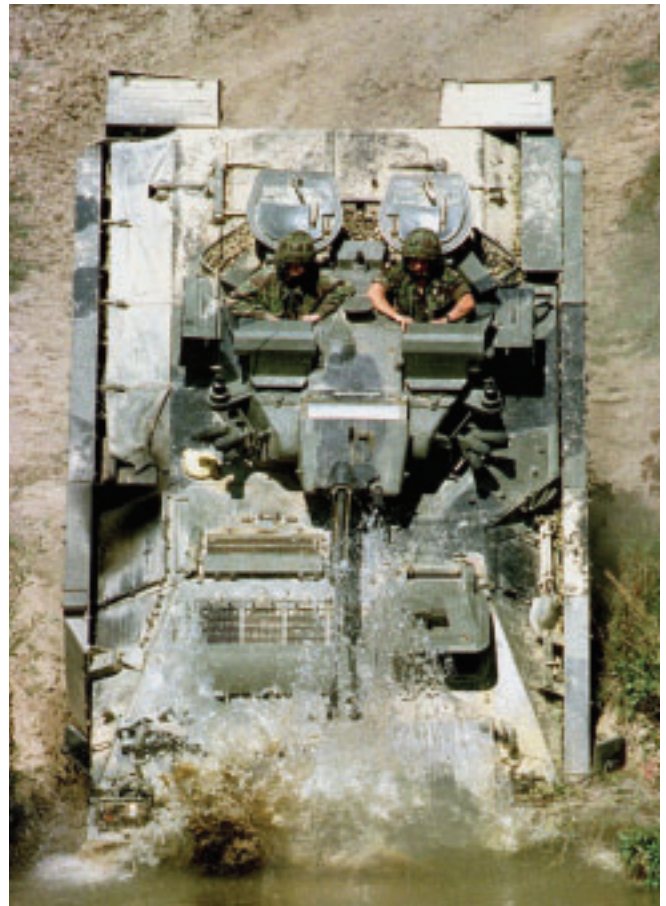
The 2nd Battalion obtained immediate experience in transition

to amalgamation; as Sevastopol Company trained in the Falkland Islands in the period July to November 1992. Very quickly, operational experience with 5 Airborne Brigade was gained, as one company deployed to Rwanda in August 1994 as part of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR). The British contingent's mission was to help the humanitarian effort in Rwanda in the aftermath of the civil war there. The company provided the Brigade logistic troops with close protection. The tasks included convoy protection, delivering stores to other contingents, collecting refugees and returning them to their homes and delivering aid. In the previous February, thirty-five soldiers and one officer deployed to support 2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment in Bosnia. The platoon became armoured infantry (equipped with the Warrior armoured vehicle) and were responsible for escorting humanitarian aid and patrolling the buffer zones between Serb and Croat. This was part of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). Individuals also deployed to Sierra Leone.

As The 2nd Battalion shuffled its barrack locations between Northern Ireland, Tidworth and Aldershot, in 2000/2001 it deployed to Bosnia and Herzegovina as part of Multinational

Division South West, within the NATO Stabilisation Force (SFOR). This was a challenging Peace Support Operation, which included deterring violence by the different factions involved, reassurance and monitoring patrols, dealing with displaced people, liaison with many international organisations and assisting in reconstruction projects. The Battalion was very successful in recovering vast amounts of illegal arms and ammunition and also conducted a legal bank raid, supporting the authorities to recover funds and investigate corruption! One company was also deployed to Kosovo in 2007/2008.

The two TA battalions (5 PWRR and 6/7 PWRR), then 3 PWRR, and B Company of The London Regiment sent a number of their soldiers on these operational tours with the regular battalions and other infantry units.



Iraq

The Coalition invasion of Iraq in 2003 heralded PWRR involvement in the next significant British military deployment overseas. This was to become an enduring operation with Infantry battalions rotating through an established schedule. Combat operations officially ended in 2009. The 1st Battalion was the most effected. A few individuals, including Captain Bob Wallace and members of the battalion's Mortar Platoon were there at the start, helping to topple Saddam Hussein's regime. Combat operations shifted from the conventional role to counter-insurgency and reconstruction over the following years.

The Regiment's most notable deployment was during Operation TELIC 4 in 2004, with The 1st Battalion under command of Lieutenant Colonel Matt Maer. The Battalion was based in Camp Abu Naji, Al Amarah with B Company detached to 1st Battalion The Cheshire Regiment's Battlegroup in Basra. In outline, a number of very high profile and dangerous events took place; the Battle of 'Danny Boy' and the 'Siege of CIMIC House' (Civil Military Cooperation) most noticeable amongst them. In addition, the battalion conducted Operation WATERLOO; clearing insurgents from Al Amarah. Large numbers of gallantry awards were won, including Private Johnson Beharry's Victoria Cross.

Private Beharry carried out two individual acts of heroism by which he saved the lives of his comrades. Both were in direct face of the enemy, under intense fire. This was at great personal risk to himself, one leading to him sustaining very serious injuries. He displayed repeated extreme gallantry and unquestioned valour to become the first recipient of the Victoria Cross in the PWRR and the 57th Recipient in the annals of the Regiment's long and prestigious heritage.

The 1st Battalion earned one Victoria Cross, two Distinguished Service Orders, one Order of the British Empire, two Conspicuous Gallantry Crosses, seven Military Crosses, fifteen Mentions in Despatches and one Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service on this extremely challenging tour. It has been said that up till that time 1 PWRR Battlegroup had faced the most constant period of conflict of any British Army unit since the Korean War. 1 Mechanised Brigade, within which the Battalion served, fired more small arms ammunition in six months than the British Army as a whole did in thirty years in Northern Ireland. The Battlegroup in Maysan Province faced over one hundred contacts in one day alone and close to 900 over the tour. Every single man who deployed with the Battalion on this operation was in some form of contact. As the Commanding Officer said, 'That in itself made a tour like no other'. In addition to the 1st Battalion battlegroup, a composite company from both battalions was attached to The 1st Battalion The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Princess Louise's).

The 1st Battalion was to return to Iraq twice more, though in

the meantime, in 2005, it moved to Paderborn, Germany, still in the Armoured Infantry role. The next tour was in 2006, as the Brigade Reserve involved in strike operations and mentoring of Iraqi security forces and the last one in 2008/2009, in Shaiba, where its primary task was mentoring the Iraqi military.

The 2nd Battalion deployed on a six-month Iraq tour in 2006. Again, every member of the Battalion was tested where conditions were extremely harsh and the threat was real and ever present. It had a series of tasks, ranging from patrolling the deserts of southern Basra Province, securing key installations and escorting convoys and escorting senior officers in Baghdad.

Many 'Tigers' were deployed to Iraq as individuals, including Army Reservists attached to various units, and staff officers often working in Basra or Baghdad as part of multi-national headquarters. One Company of The London Regiment deployed early in the operation to provide the Force Protection for the Divisional HQ in Basra.



Afghanistan

Though the recent significant British involvement in Afghanistan began in 2006, forebears of the PWRR fought in all three of the previous Afghan Wars (1838-1842, 1878-1881 and 1919). In December 2001, The 2nd Battalion was on standby as part of the 'SPEARHEAD' Battlegroup, though rather like the Buffs in 1838, they did not deploy at that stage. This was in the wake of the dramatic terrorist actions against the United States of America on the 11th September 2001. Some individuals were deployed with the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), including Lieutenant Colonel Neal Peckham. Also, the 3rd Battalion sent a platoon to Kabul in 2003.

British troops were deployed for national security reasons – to prevent Afghan territory being used by Al Qaeda as a base from which to plan attacks on the UK and its allies. For most of the period of British involvement, forty-seven nations were supporting the mission and Great Britain was the second largest military contributor, after the United States of America, with about 9,500 troops.

As the British commitment to the operation increased in scale, both regular battalions became embroiled in 2008 and 2009; The 2nd Battalion, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Doug Chalmers, nominated as the Theatre Reserve Battalion (TRB), deployed 'A' Company from its new home in Cyprus just before it formally assumed the role. It arrived at Forward Operating Base Edinburgh in North Helmand Province to support 16 Air Assault Brigade. They were followed by Battlegroup Headquarters and B Company who arrived in Gamsir in South Helmand to take over from 1st Bn 6th Regiment United States Marine Corps. C Company followed and went to Nad E Ali

to support 3 Commando Brigade during Operation SOND CHARA, leading a battlegroup attack. This was dangerous and high-profile work and the 2nd Battalion rose to the occasion. Their professional performance and gallantry awards included two Military Crosses (MCs) awarded to Sergeant Sorensen and Corporal Spooner. The TRB commitment continued into 2009 with further deployments by Battlegroup Headquarters, A and B Company. Separately the Commanding Officer had the unenviable task of assuming command of Battle Group (Centre South) in Nad-e-Ali following the death of its commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel Rupert Thornloe. Elements of the 2nd Battalion had been deployed in Afghanistan over a fourteen month period supporting Operation HERRICK 8, 9 and 10.

The 1st Battalion sent B Company as Armoured Infantry to Afghanistan during six months of this period operating across Helmand Province, taking the fight to the Taliban. 2011/2012 heralded another 1st Battalion deployment to the country. This time, part of The 1st Battalion formed the core of the Police Mentoring and Advisory Group (PMAG), whilst the three rifle companies had ground holding roles attached to various British battalions and the Danish Battalion (operational linkages had occurred with the Danish Army in Iraq previously). Individuals from the reserves were evident in all the Afghanistan deployments – one of their last deployments was B Company, The London Regiment's contribution to The Grenadier Guards Battlegroup on Operation HERRICK 16. British combat operations in Afghanistan were completed at the end of 2014, with a platoon from The 1st Battalion serving in Kandahar as the operation drew to a close.



Cyprus



The 2nd Battalion has been based in Cyprus, with its families, twice. However, it has had significant operation commitments to Afghanistan, as has already been described. Cyprus has also been the venue for regular and reserve exercises, but in addition, there is a long standing United Nations peace-keeping commitment. This involves helping to police the 'Green

Line' or Buffer Zone between the Greek and Turkish Cypriots who have been in dispute for many years.

The 3rd Battalion picked up this important operational role in 2013/2014 as the Mobile Force Reserve (MFR). Wearing their blue berets, the MFR, a company commanded by Major Jim Phipps,

helped provide security and coordination of meetings between the two factions, some of which were historic. They worked closely with an Argentinean unit and were also involved with training the United Nations Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons Joint Mission in Syria. The Tiger sleeve badge was worn next to the United Nations emblem. This deployment highlighted the changing increased utility of the Army Reserves.

Uganda

The 3rd Battalion has also been given Defence Engagement operational tasks, which has included providing a Short Term Training Team to Uganda in both 2010 and 2012 with a thirty-man team. These type of deployments help improve foreign army capabilities in their fight against terrorism and again illustrate the new flexibility within the Army Reserve.

The Olympics

The 2012 Olympics provided an opportunity for the armed forces to display their professionalism and capabilities. All three battalions provided assets. The 2nd Battalion was key as their normal Woolwich ceremonial role was replaced by a new task as the Military Contingency Force or reserve in support of security for the games, comprising ten sub units under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Adam Crawley. The Battalion had trained extensively for 'worst case' scenarios for the Olympics Games but quickly surged to compensate for the G4S trained manpower deficit to provide venue security personnel at Games sites all over

the south east of England. The level of work, maintaining of readiness and preparatory planning that went on behind the scenes both before, during and after the main Games remains largely unsung, but is typical of the quiet professionalism of the Regiment. The 1st Battalion also sent troops from Germany to assist the security at different venues and The 3rd Battalion mobilised eighty of its reservists to form Venue Security Force 2 at Eton Dorney, where the rowing took place. They were fortunate enough to witness a host of Team GB successes!





Training



There remain many opportunities for 'The Tigers' to serve overseas, either with a battalion or as an individual, including exchange opportunities in Australia and New Zealand or loan service posts in Eastern Europe and Western Africa. Training activities are varied and overseas training exercises offer soldiers the opportunity to experience varied conditions in unique and unusual terrain.

Kenya offers hot arid conditions in some areas and jungle conditions in others, whilst the resources are available for some demanding adventure training. Both regular battalions have exercised in Kenya at intervals at both battalion and company level, latterly in

preparation for operations in Afghanistan.

Canada offers an equally diverse landscape and opportunities for excellent military training on the open plains. There is also an outstanding adventure training facility based in the Rockies. Both regular battalions have regularly exercised in Canada completing live firing, simulated training and competency tests before deployment to Iraq or Afghanistan. Many other military exercises have taken place around the world, including in Jamaica, Belize, Cyprus, the Falkland Islands, Germany, Poland, Latvia and Kazakhstan. Army Reserve units also exercise overseas and the 3rd

Battalion has been to the United States and Cyprus. Not all of the training can be exotic and, so a busy exercise schedule occurs within the UK. Salisbury Plain, Sennybridge and Otterburn are, therefore, regular venues for brigade and battalion activities, whilst smaller exercises and commitments are spread throughout the country. All training provides opportunities for Regular/Reserve integration, the 3rd Battalion have participated in many of the above exercises either Regimentally or within the wider Queen's Division.

Shooting is a fundamental skill of all infantrymen and the Regiment has fully participated in various competitions. L/Cpl Dilip Gurung (an attached Gurkha with The 1st Battalion) won the Queen's Medal at Bisley in 1998, whilst The 2nd Battalion's shooting team won the Northern Ireland Skill at Arms Meeting in the previous year. The TA battalions and 'B' (Queen's Regiment) Company of The London Regiment have also performed particularly well in a number of competitions. The 6/7th Battalion won the British Reserve Forces Team Competition in the USA in 1998, whilst The 3rd Battalion's shooting team consistently won shooting competitions at Bisley throughout the 1990s and into the twenty-first Century!



Ceremonial



The traditions of the Regiment have been maintained and developed by 'The Tigers', as shown in this history. Part of maintaining this tradition includes ceremonial activity, which began with the Regimental Review in Canterbury in June 1993. The other major events have been the presentation of New Colours to the 2nd Battalion in 1995 by the then Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness The Princess of Wales, followed by the presentation of New Colours to the 1st Battalion in 1997 by the Colonel-in-Chief, Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II of Denmark. Both events occurred at Howe Barracks, Canterbury. The Colonel-in-Chief presented the new Colours to the 3rd (Volunteer) Battalion at Ardingly in 1999.

Following the presentation of these new Colours, there were the customary ceremonies of laying up the Old Colours of The Queen's Regiment and 1st Battalion The Royal Hampshire Regiment. These were sad, but proud occasions held at Guildford Cathedral (1 QUEEN'S), Canterbury Cathedral (2 QUEEN'S), St. Paul's Cathedral (3 QUEEN'S) and Winchester Cathedral (1 R HAMPS). In addition, a number of Freedom Parades have occurred each year, which help maintain the Regiment's links within the South-East recruiting area, as soldiers march through their home towns with bayonets fixed, drums beating and Colours flying.



An obviously unique event was the Regimental celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Albuhera at Albuhera on 16 May 2011, which has cemented a long standing relationship with the people of this historic Spanish town.

The 2nd Battalion has had the highest ceremonial profile. Whilst based in Woolwich from 2010 to 2014, it had a very busy training schedule, company deployments to the Falkland Islands and the critical Olympics role already mentioned. However, the primary task during



that period was as a Ceremonial Battalion manning the 'Blue Line' within London District. The Queen's Guard was mounted at Buckingham Palace, the other Royal Palaces were guarded, various parades took place for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and there was the highlight of providing battalion route-lining for the Royal Wedding of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge on the 29th April 2011. The Battalion was the last Line Infantry Battalion to perform Public Duties on the final guard of Her Majesty's Tower of London; the Director of the Tower took the salute at the ceremony of the keys and gifted the No. 1 Sentry Box display sign to the unit. The hard work and dedication of the 2nd Battalion during this very busy ceremonial period reinforced the Regiment's professional reputation.

Sport, Adventure Training and Parachuting



There remains plenty of opportunity for sport in the modern Regiment, though operational tours and training schedules keep people busy.

In the Regiment's first six years alone, The 1st Battalion excelled in cricket and won the Infantry Cup in five consecutive years, whilst winning the Army Cup in 1997. A number of its team played for the Combined Services Team and had the opportunity to travel abroad, including to St. Moritz and Zimbabwe. In 1997 The 2nd Battalion won the Army Judo Championship and The Infantry Novice Nordic Skiing Championship in Norway. It also won the Infantry Hockey Championship in 1998.

The 5th Battalion and 'B' (Queen's Regiment) Company of The London Regiment participated fully in a number of sports, whilst The 6/7th Battalion excelled in both day and night orienteering and won the Army Night Orienteering Competition and the Infantry Regular and Territorial Orienteering Championship. Individuals from all battalions have featured prominently in a wide range of sports. Both regular battalions have continued to develop their boxing skills and made history in



2013 when they fought each other! Both battalions have done well in competitions and Lance Corporal Alex Mansfield and Privates Marvin, Chez Nihell and 'Jack' Thompson have boxed for the Army Team.

A number of soldiers have been selected for the Army and Combined Services Teams. Private Lee Bradbury, originally from The 1st Battalion, played football for Portsmouth and Manchester City, whilst Lance Corporal Matty

Stewart from The 2nd Battalion played Rugby Union for the Army, Northampton and Scotland. Other soldiers are members of the Army Judo Team, the Army Clay Pigeon Shooting Team, have rowed for the Army Eight and have achieved places in various Infantry teams. There is no reason to doubt that this sort of sporting success within the Regiment will not continue into the future.

Adventure Training

Adventure training opportunities provide another feature of service and Regimental life, which is rarely seen outside of the Armed Forces. A variety of rock-climbing, canoeing and walking expeditions have been organised since the Regiment's existence throughout the United Kingdom. In addition, skiing expeditions have been run in France and Bavaria and rock-climbing and walking in Cyprus. Major expeditions have taken place in the Kenyan Samburuland, Malaysia, Alaska and Nepal, involving both regular and reserve soldiers. The expedition to Kenya in 1994 included the participation of a number of civilians; disadvantaged young people who learned the importance of determination,

selflessness and teamwork, thanks to the hard work of their Regimental guides and organisers. 537 kilometres were covered by foot and camel across the harsh and barren terrain of Northern Kenya. Skiing has enjoyed a high profile, particularly from the 1st Battalion's perspective, having been based in Germany for such a long time with some private soldiers qualifying as ski instructors.

One example of the opportunities available to Tigers is well illustrated by Captain David Mans' experience. In 2011 he took part in a 'Row to the Pole' expedition and planted the Regimental Flag at the Magnetic Pole.



Parachuting

Parachuting has been required as a military skill for some soldiers and has been both a sport and an adventure training activity. Many soldiers from the regular battalions had the opportunity to parachute because of their experience of being with 5 Airborne Brigade and

earned their 'wings'. Others have jumped during adventure training in Canada, whilst the Regimental Free-Fall Team, 'The Tigers', has given some soldiers the opportunity to help recruit and become semi-professional at the sport, during their busy display programme

each year. An example of their professionalism is summed up by Lance Corporal Frank Millerick; he qualified as a Category System Instructor in 2011, Tandem Instructor and Accelerated Freefall Instructor in 2012 and gained the 'Instructor of the Year' prize in 2013.



Conclusion

The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment learns from the past and looks to the future, as illustrated in these pages. We are proud to be England's senior infantry regiment and also the most decorated regiment in the British Army.

We honour those soldiers who have paid the ultimate sacrifice on operations:

PRINCESS OF WALES'S ROYAL REGIMENT ROLL OF HONOUR

IRAQ

- Died – **Private Christopher Gordon Rayment** 1st Battalion, 4th August 2004.
- Killed in Action – **Private Lee O'Callaghan** 1st Battalion, 9th August 2004.
- Died – **Private Ryan 'CJ' Wrathall** 1st Battalion, 12th February 2009

AFGHANISTAN

- Killed in action – **Private John Alan Brackpool** (Former 1st Battalion, serving with 1st Battalion The Welsh Guards), 9th July 2009
- Killed in Action – **Private Jonathan Monk** (2nd Battalion. Attached to 1st Battalion The Mercian Regiment), 9th June 2010
- Killed in Action – **Private T C (Thomas) Lake** 1st Battalion, 20 November 2011.



PART III

Regimental Information

Origins

The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment is descended from the following Forebear Regiments of Foot:

2nd	The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey)	-	(2nd	(Queen's Royal))
3rd	The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment)	-	(3rd	(Buffs))
31st	The East Surrey Regiment	-	(31st	(Huntingdonshire))
35th	The Royal Sussex Regiment	-	(35th	(Royal Sussex))
37th	The Royal Hampshire Regiment	-	(37th	(North Hampshire))
50th	The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment	-	(50th	(Queen's Own))
57th	The Middlesex Regiment	-	(57th	(West Middlesex))
67th	The Royal Hampshire Regiment	-	(67th	(South Hampshire))
70th	The East Surrey Regiment	-	(70th	(Surrey Regiment))
77th	The Middlesex Regiment	-	(77th	(East Middlesex))
97th	The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment	-	(97th	(Earl of Ulster's))
107th	The Royal Sussex Regiment	-	(107th	(Bengal Infantry))



The Colours and The Emblazoned Battle Honours

The Colours of The 3rd Battalion The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment are as illustrated on pages 48 and 49. The other Battalion's Colours are identical, apart from the numeral. The Queen's Colour, the senior Colour, displays forty-two battle honours from the First and Second World Wars. The Regimental Colour displays forty other battle honours, which include 'Tangier 1662-80', the oldest battle honour in the British Army, and 'Korea 1950-51', which is the Regiment's most recent battle honour. The Regiment's forebears won many more battle honours, which are still recognized, but are not displayed on the Colours. All of the battle honours are listed in Regimental Standing Orders.

The Regimental Colour is particularly distinctive. The Colour is yellow and there is a unique combination of five badges displayed; the cap badge, the Naval Crown, the Tiger, the Sphinx and the cypher of Catherine of Braganza. The detailed origin of all of these badges is explained within this Guide. In outline, they trace their links to the following Regimental history:

- **The Cap Badge** - A combination of the badges of the forebear regiments, as explained on page 50.
- **The Naval Crown** - Awarded to The Queen's after The Glorious First of June 1794. (See Part I).
- **The Tiger** - Awarded to the 67th (South Hampshire) Regiment. (See Part I and page 51).
- **The Sphinx** - Awarded for service in Egypt in 1801. (See Part I).
- **The Cypher** - From the origins of the title 'Queen's and the 2nd Foot. (See Part I).



The Third Colour

The 1st Battalion of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment has the unique Army distinction of still retaining a Third or 'Colonel's' Colour. At one stage, there were a large number of Colours within a battalion used as rallying points for each grouping on the battlefield. This number eventually fell to a total of three; one for pikemen and two for the two wings of musketeers. In about 1700, the bayonet was brought into service, pikemen were removed from battalions' establishments and there was no longer the requirement for a third colour. However, The Queen's who were serving abroad, chose to ignore the order to remove the Third Colour and retained it. Eventually it was laid up in Dublin in 1750, but recovered in 1825 and carried on parade with royal approval. The approval was rescinded in 1835 and The Queens were told that the Third Colour could be retained, but never taken on parade. The order has been ignored twice, once in 1927 on the occasion of The King's Birthday Parade in Hong Kong and, secondly, in 1992 on disbandment of The 1st Battalion The Queen's Regiment in Minden, Germany. The Third Colour is green, the colour of the House of Braganza, and displays the cypher of Queen Catherine.



The Colours

Battle Honours to be Born on the Queen's Colour

The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment **Queen's Colour**



WORLD WAR I

1. Mons
2. Retreat from Mons
3. Aisne 1914
4. Ypres 1914, 15, 17, 18
5. Hill 60
6. Somme 1916, 18
7. Albert 1916, 18
8. Arras 1917, 18
9. Cambrai 1917, 18
10. Hindenberg Line
11. Italy 1917-18
12. Doiran 1917, 18
13. Landing at Helles
14. Suvla
15. Gaza
16. Jerusalem
17. Palestine 1917-18
18. Kut al Mara 1915, 17
19. Mesopotamia 1915-18
20. North West Frontier India 1915, 1916-17

WORLD WAR II

21. Dunkirk 1940
22. Normandy Landing
23. Caen
24. Rhine
25. North West Europe 1940, 44-45
26. Abyssinia 1941
27. El Alamein
28. Tebourba Gap
29. Hunt's Gap
30. Longstop Hill 1943
31. North Africa 1940-43
32. Sicily 1943
33. Salerno
34. Anzio
35. Cassino
36. Gothic Line
37. Italy 1943-45
38. Malta 1940-42
39. Malaya 1941-42
40. Hong Kong
41. Defence of Kohima
42. Burma 1943-45

Battle Honours to be Born on the Regimental Colour

The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment **Regimental Colour**



1. Tangier 1662-80
2. Namur 1695
3. Gibraltar 1704-5
4. Blenheim
5. Ramillies
6. Oudenarde
7. Malplaquet
8. Dettingen
9. Louisburg
10. Guadaloupe 1759
11. Minden
12. Quebec 1759
13. Belleisle
14. Martinique 1762
15. Tournay
16. Seringapatam
17. Maida
18. Corunna
19. Talavera
20. Barrosa
21. Albuhera
22. Almaraz
23. Vittoria
24. Peninsula
25. Afghanistan 1879-80
26. Punnar
27. Moodkee
28. Sobraon
29. Inkerman
30. Sevastopol
31. Lucknow
32. Taku Forts
33. Pekin 1860
34. New Zealand
35. Nile 1884-85
36. Burma 1885-87
37. Paardeberg
38. Relief of Ladysmith
39. South Africa 1899-1902
40. Korea 1950-51

The Badges and Accoutrements

The Regimental Badge is a composition of the badges of the forebear regiments. The centrepiece is the **Elizabethan Dragon**, awarded to The Buffs, in recognition of their Tudor origin, by Queen Anne, probably in 1707.

Below the Tudor Dragon is the **Hampshire Rose**, as worn by the Trained Bands of Hampshire, who fought so gallantly for King Henry V at Agincourt in 1415. (This should not be confused with Minden roses – See 'Customs of the Regiment' on page 58.)

The surrounding device inscribed with the motto '**Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense**' (Shame on him who thinks ill of it), is a garter, as awarded to the Knights of The Order of The Garter, England's oldest Order of Chivalry, founded by King Edward III in 1348. The garter is taken from the badge of **The Royal Sussex Regiment** granted to the Regiment when it was awarded its 'Royal' status in 1832 and the officers' badge of **The Royal Hampshire Regiment**.

The **feathers** above the Tudor Dragon are the ostrich plumes, awarded to The Black Prince,



Regimental Badge

but taken from the helmet of the slain King John of Bohemia at the Battle of Crecy in 1346. The 15th Prince of Wales considered the 77th (East Middlesex) Regiment to be deserving of the plumes for its exploits in India. The award was given the King's approval in 1810 and was subsequently in the badge

of **The Middlesex Regiment**. The crown holding the feathers is The Prince of Wales coronet.

The cap badges worn by the Forebear Regiments are illustrated on the 'Family Tree' at the back of this Guide.



The Collar Badge

THE COLLAR BADGE

The **Horse** is the badge of Kent, dating from the 6th century and ascribed to Horsa, the Saxon. It was the main badge of The Kent Militia, **The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment** and **The Queen's Own Buffs**. The remaining star is from the Order of The Garter, as explained earlier, when describing the Cap Badge. Both the Star and the **Roussillon Plume** come from **The Royal Sussex Regiment**. The plume commemorates the defeat of the French Roussillon Regiment by the 35th of Foot at the Battle of Quebec in 1759.



The Button



The Sleeve Badge

The Button

The Paschal Lamb is the oldest of all regimental badges. It was worn by The Queen's Royal Regiment before 1685 and may have been adopted as a Christian emblem in the fight against the Moors at Tangier. The remainder of the badge is inherited from The East Surrey Regiment and together with the Lamb formed the badge of The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment. The Star is again from the garter awarded to The 3rd Surrey Militia. The crown was the standard badge of a line regiment, as carried by the 31st and 70th of Foot.

The Sleeve Badge

The Royal Tiger badge, which is now worn on the uniform sleeve by all ranks was worn in the soldiers' cap badge of The Royal Hampshire Regiment. The 67th (South Hampshire) Regiment was authorised to display the badge of the Tiger on their Colours and Appointments by King George IV in 1826 after the Regiment returned to England after twenty-one years' service in India.

The Regimental Identification Patch (Blue/Yellow/Blue)

The Regimental identification patch of blue/yellow/blue is worn behind the cap badge on the khaki beret and on the right shoulder of the combat jacket. It is a unique distinction of the new Regiment, though other identification patches have been worn by forebear regiments in the past. The royal blue is the traditional facings colour of a royal regiment, whilst the yellow is the new facings colour of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment.

The Bronze Badges and Buttons

All badges worn on Service Dress and Number 2 uniforms are bronzed. This tradition dates from the South African War of 1900-1902, when badges were darkened in order to achieve greater camouflage. This perpetuates a tradition in that bronzed badges and buttons were previously worn by The Middlesex Regiment and The Royal Hampshire Regiment.

The Whistle on Sam Browne Crossbelt

Within the Regiment, the Sam Browne has the unique distinction of having a whistle on a short lanyard in a leather pouch on the cross-strap. This tradition is said to come from the days of Mounted Infantry, when a number of the forebear regiments served in different parts of the world at the beginning of the twentieth century, using horses for transport. The whistle was useful as a signalling device, which would not get lost and was close to the face. It was worn by The Royal Hampshire Regiment prior to the 1992 amalgamation.

The Royal Marine Lanyard

The Royal Marine Lanyard is worn by all ranks in Service Dress and Number 2 Dress uniform and barrack dress. This originates from the naval traditions of The East Surrey Regiment and one of its forebears, Villiers' Marines. Prior to the 1992 amalgamation, the Royal Marine Lanyard was worn by the officers and WO1s of The 1st Battalion The Queen's Regiment.

Eversleigh Stars

Officers of the Regiment wear unique large Eversleigh Stars, as badges of rank. These were worn by The Queen's Regiment and formerly by The Middlesex Regiment.

The Blue Backing to Chevrons

All senior NCOs within the Regiment wear a blue backing to their chevrons and badges of rank. This stems from the royal blue facings of The Queen's Regiment.

Facings

The facings or colours of the cuffs and collar of uniforms were a means of identifying different regiments, particularly when scarlet jackets were worn. The facings of the Regiment are yellow, despite the granting of Royal status to the Queen's in 1703, which would normally mean that the facings are royal blue. The distinctive yellow facings are worn with mess kit and some ceremonial uniforms and were worn by The Royal Hampshire Regiment as a distinction even after being granted the title 'Royal' in 1946. Similarly, The Buffs had retained buff facings and The Middlesex Regiment lemon yellow facings up until the 1960s amalgamations. The same distinctive colour is retained as the background to The Regimental Colour.



The 57 Regimental Victoria Crosses



Johnson Beharry VC



The Victoria Cross is the nation's highest award for conspicuous gallantry in the presence of the enemy. The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment's fifty-seven past recipients are listed below.

Crimean War

1854 77th (East Middlesex) Regiment
 1855 57th (West Middlesex) Regiment
 1855 77th (East Middlesex) Regiment
 1855 57th (West Middlesex) Regiment
 1855 97th (Earl of Ulster's) Regiment
 1855 The Buffs
 1855 The Buffs
 1855 97th (Earl of Ulster's) Regiment

Sergeant J Park, Inkerman
Private C McCorrie, Sevastopol
Private A Wright, Crimea
Colour-Sergeant G Gardiner, DCM, Sevastopol
Sergeant J Coleman, Sevastopol
Lieutenant Colonel F F Maude, Redan
Private J Connors, Redan
Captain C H Lumley, Redan

Taku Forts, China, 1860

1860 67th (South Hampshire)
 1860 67th (South Hampshire)
 1860 67th (South Hampshire)
 1860 67th (South Hampshire)

Lieutenant N Burslem
Ensign J W Chaplin
Lieutenant E H Lenon
Private T Lane

New Zealand

1863 New Zealand 57th (West Middlesex)
 1863 New Zealand 57th (West Middlesex)
 1864 New Zealand 107th (Bengal Infantry)
 (Not serving with his regiment)

Ensign J T Down
Drummer D Staggpole, DCM
Lieutenant Colonel J C McNeill

Other Theatres

1897 North-West Frontier – The Buffs
 1900 South Africa – The East Surrey Regiment
 1903 West Africa – The Queen's
 (Not serving in his regiment).

Corporal J Smith
Private A E Curtis
Lieutenant W D Wright

First World War

1915	The East Surrey Regiment	Lieutenant G R P Roupell , Hill 60
1915	The East Surrey Regiment	Second Lieutenant B H Geary , Hill 60
1915	The East Surrey Regiment	Private E Dwyer , Hill 60
1915	The Queen's	Lance-Corporal L J Keyworth , Givenchy
1915	The Middlesex Regiment	Second Lieutenant R P Hallowes , MC, Loos
1915	The Royal Sussex Regiment	Sergeant H Wells , Loos
1915	The East Surrey Regiment	Second Lieutenant A J Fleming-Sands , Loos
1915	The Hampshire Regiment	Second Lieutenant G R D Moore , Gallipoli
1916	The Royal Sussex Regiment	Lieutenant E A McNair , Hooge
1916	The Buffs	Corporal W R Cotter , Hohenzollern
1916	The Royal Sussex Regiment	Company Sergeant Major N V Carter , Somme
1916	The Middlesex Regiment	Private R Ryder , Thiepval
1916	The Middlesex Regiment	Private F J Edwards , Thiepval
1917	The East Surrey Regiment	Sergeant H Cator , MM, Arras
1917	The East Surrey Regiment	Corporal E Foster , Villers-Plouich
1917	The Queen's	Lieutenant Colonel A D Borton , Gaza
1917	The Hampshire Regiment	Second Lieutenant D G W Hewitt , Ypres
1917	The Hampshire Regiment	Second Lieutenant M S S Moore , Ypres
1917	The Middlesex Regiment	Captain A M McReady-Diarmid , Mouvres
1918	The Queen's	Lance Corporal J W Sayer , Le Verguier
1918	The Queen's	Lieutenant Colonel C Bushell , DSO, St Quentin
1918	The Middlesex Regiment	Captain A M Toye , MC, Eterpigny
1918	The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment	Sergeant T J Harris , MM, Amiens
1918	The Queen's	Private J Harvey , Boucheavesnes
1918	The East Surrey Regiment	Corporal J McNamara , Lens
1918	The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment	Second Lieutenant D J Dean , Lens
1918	The Royal Sussex Regiment	Lieutenant Colonel D G Johnson , DSO, MC, Sambre

Not Serving with their Regiments:

The Queen's
The Queen's
The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment

Lieutenant Colonel B C Freyberg, DSO
Captain C Robertson
Lieutenant C H Sewell

Second World War

1943	The Hampshire Regiment	Major H W Le Patourel , Tebourba
1944	The Hampshire Regiment	Captain R Wakeford , Cassino
1944	The Hampshire Regiment	Lieutenant G R Norton , MM, Gothic Line
1944	The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment	Lance Corporal J P Harman , Kohima

Not Serving with their Regiments when awarded the VC:

The Queen's
The Buffs
The East Surrey Regiment
The Royal Sussex Regiment

Lieutenant A G Horwood, DCM
Major A F Lassen, MC
Captain E C T Wilson
Captain L E Queripel

Iraq

2004	The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment	Private J G Beharry
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The George Cross

The George Cross is the nation's highest award for bravery not in the face of the enemy. The Regiment's past recipients are as follows:

1935	The Queen's	Lance Corporal G Henshaw , Quetta Earthquake
1935	The Queen's	Private A Brook , Quetta Earthquake
1943	The Middlesex Regiment	Colonel L A Newnham , MC, Hong Kong

The Link with HRH The Princess of Wales

Her Royal Highness The Princess of Wales was the first Colonel-in-Chief of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, which took her name on its formation in 1992. The Princess kept this appointment until 1996. She had previously been the Colonel-in-Chief of The Royal Hampshire Regiment. The title was also used by The Queen's in the early eighteenth century, when the Regiment was known as HRH The Princess of Wales Own Regiment of Foot.



The Link with The Royal House of Denmark

In 1689 the Lord High Admiral's Regiment, the 3rd Foot, was disbanded. The Holland Regiment took its place as the 3rd Regiment of Foot, and Prince George of Denmark, who was the husband of Princess (later Queen) Anne and Lord High Admiral, was appointed Honorary Colonel. From 1689 until his death in 1708, and following the custom of the time, The Holland Regiment was known as Prince George of Denmark's Regiment.

The association with Denmark then lapsed until 1906 when, on the 9th November, the birthday of King Edward VII, King Frederik VIII of Denmark was appointed Colonel-in-Chief The Buffs (East Kent Regiment), as the 3rd Foot had become. It is reasonable to suppose, although not stated in the Regimental History, that this appointment was made for two reasons. It

re-established the link with the past and was also intended as a compliment to Queen Alexandra who was a Danish Princess.

Since then, successive Kings of Denmark have been Colonels-in-Chief of The Buffs during their lifetime. His late Majesty King Frederik IX became, in 1961, Colonel-in-Chief The Queen's Own Buffs, and in 1966, Allied Colonel-in-Chief The Queen's Regiment.

Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II assumed the appointment of Allied Colonel-in-Chief of the Queen's Regiment on the 27th June 1972; her appointment was transferred to the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment on their formation day the 9th September 1992. Her Majesty assumed the appointment of Colonel-in-Chief on the 25th February 1997.

Regimental Headquarters

Regimental Headquarters is in The Tower of London. Prior to 2014, it was in Howe Barracks, Canterbury. Area Headquarters is at Leros Barracks, Canterbury.



Colonels of the Regiment

The Colonel of the Regiment is an honorary ceremonial position and is an appointment rather than a rank. It is an honour conferred upon a senior officer (active or retired) who has, usually but not necessarily, served with the Regiment in the past, and it requires the approval of the Sovereign and its Colonel-in-Chief. The Colonel is kept informed of all happenings within the Regiment to which he has been

appointed and, if so requested by one or more of the battalion commanders, will give advice on matters concerning the overall welfare of the regiment and its institutions. He accompanies the Colonel-in-Chief on every visit which he or she may make to the regiment. He also makes regular visits of his own, not only to the Regular battalions but also to their affiliated volunteer units.

The appointment ensures a continuing strand in the regiment's esprit de corps, and it provides a channel of communication (formal and informal) with other elements of the army and with higher command. The term is usually for five years, but this can be extended. The Colonel of the Regiment works closely with Regimental Headquarters and the Regimental Association.

Colonels of the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment:

Lieutenant-General Sir Anthony Denison-Smith KBE	1992-1999
Brigadier E R Holmes CBE, TD, JP	1999-2007
Lieutenant-General P R Newton CBE	2007-2010
Brigadier R W Dennis OBE	2010-



The Regimental Association

The Regimental Association is based in the Regimental Headquarters. Its main aims are to foster the spirit of comradeship between all members and to provide assistance to past and present members, their wives, children or other dependents who are in distress or suffering financial hardship. Its membership, which

is free, comprises all officers and soldiers who have served or are serving in The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment. The forebear regiments also have their own regimental associations, the details of which can be obtained from Regimental Headquarters, see also website.

Friends of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment

The Friends has been formed for two purposes; First, to raise funds for past and serving soldiers, to enhance their lives. Secondly, to support those who have finished serving in the Regiment to find work and business opportunities. The Friends is a strong network

bringing together the whole of the Regimental Family: Those serving and those who have served; and their family, friends and supporters. The Friends will offer links, social events and help wherever required. It aims to raise funds by running events or offering soldiers a job or

advice. The Friends can be joined and supported at:

friends@pwrr.org.uk

Recruiting opportunities can be seen at:

www.tigerrec.co.uk

Civic Honours

The following civic honours are held by the Regiment:

The privilege of marching through the City of London with 'Colours Flying, Drums Beating and Bayonets Fixed' (from 1672), the Privilege of Jersey (1992, transferred 1995) and the Honorary Freedoms of Arundel (1954), Ashford (1987, adoption 1961), Barnet (1955), Basingstoke and Deane (1966), Belfast (1961), Brighton (1944) and Hove (1958), Bournemouth (1945), Canterbury (1948), Chichester (1951), Christchurch (1987), Crowborough (1989), Eastbourne (1951), Eastleigh (1991),

Epsom and Ewell (2010), Folkestone (1961, adoption 1960), Guildford (1944), Hastings (1947), Jersey (1992), Kingston-upon-Thames (1944), Lewes (1953), Maidstone (1944), Portsmouth (1950), Ramsgate (1959), Reigate and Banstead (1963), Romsey (1959), Rushmoor (1981), Southampton (1946), Southwark (2013), Test Valley (1986), Tonbridge and Malling (1985 adoption 1944), Tunbridge Wells (2010), Waverley Borough Council (2010), Winchester (1945) and Worthing (1959).



Regimental Days

The three Regimental Days, which have been explained in more detail in Part I of this Guide are as follows:

Albuhera Day

On the 16th May, the exceptional bravery of the 3rd, 31st and 57th Regiments of Foot is remembered from the Battle of Albuhera 1811.

Minden Day

On the 1st August, the outstanding performance of the 37th Foot at the Battle of Minden in 1759 is remembered.

Salerno Day

On the 9th September, the involvement of two Queen's brigades and one Hampshire brigade in the 1943 allied landings at Salerno, Italy is remembered. This is also the date that was chosen for the formation of the Regiment in 1992.

The Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey at the Freedom of Guildford



Museum Locations

The Regimental Museums are at the following locations:

The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment and
The Queen's Regiment –
Dover Castle,
Dover,
Kent CT16 1HU.
Telephone: 01304 240121
pwrrqueensmuseum@btconnect.com

The Surrey Infantry Museum
(Formerly the museum of The Queen's Royal Surrey
Regiment) – Clandon Park, West Clandon,
Surrey GU4 7RQ.
Telephone:
01483 233419 (open Easter to October).
surreyinfmuseum@btconnect.com

The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment) –
Royal Museum, High Street,
Canterbury,
Kent CT1 2JE.
Telephone 01227 452747
www.national-army-museum.ac.uk

The Royal Sussex Regiment –
Redoubt Fortress, Royal Parade,
Eastbourne, Sussex
BN22 7AQ.
Telephone: 01323 410300
info@royalsussex.org.uk

The Royal Hampshire Regiment –
Serle's House,
Southgate Street,
Winchester,
Hampshire SO23 9EF.
Telephone: 01962 863658
museum@serleshouse.co.uk

The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment –
Maidstone Museum,
St Faith's Street,
Maidstone,
Kent ME14 1LH.
Telephone: 01622 754497
qorwkmuseum@maidstone.gov.uk

The Middlesex Regiment –
incorporated into The National Army Museum,
Royal Hospital Road,
Chelsea, London.
Telephone: 020 7730 0717
www.national-army-museum.ac.uk

Dover Castle



Customs of the Regiment

The Loyal Toast and other toasts made at the dining table are drunk seated. This is because of the Regiment's naval heritage – if one stood up, then one's head would hit the roof of the deck above! The Loyal Toast is also drunk individually in rotation. This custom comes from The Royal Sussex Regiment, whose Colonel, The Earl of Donegal, required his officers to raise their glasses individually so that he could be sure of their loyalty in days of tension in Northern Ireland.

Kohima Day – The Kohima Corporal

A Kohima Corporal is appointed in each battalion on the 9th April each year to commemorate the actions of Lance Corporal John Harman at the Battle of Kohima in 1944 when he was awarded the Victoria Cross posthumously. The Kohima Corporal has place of honour at the Regimental Dinner on that evening.

The Salt Ceremony

The senior officer dining and each officer on first dining with the 2nd Battalion takes salt from a special silver salt cellar, the 'Huntingdonshire Salt'. This is a tradition inherited from The East Surrey Regiment. The lid of the Cellar has a fragment of the Regimental Colour of The 31st Foot, carried at the Battle of Sobraon. By observing the Fragment, the new officer is reminded of the responsibilities that accompany the welcome. This tradition may be carried out by other battalions, when a suitable alternative salt cellar is used. The names of all those that have 'taken salt' with the Regiment are recorded in special 'Salt Books' within each Battalion.

Albuhera Day – The Silent Toast

The Silent Toast is to the 'Immortal Memory' of all members of our forebear regiments, who fell at Albuhera and have subsequently died in all subsequent operations. This is drunk by all officers and senior NCOs serving together in each Battalion on the 16th May each year. The tradition was originally inherited from The Middlesex Regiment. After the battle, the surviving officers and sergeants gathered at an inn by the battlefield and swore to meet annually to commemorate the slaughter of their comrades on that dreadful day. The toast is drunk individually in silence from a silver 'loving-cup'.

The original cup was reputedly made out of the silver accoutrements

of the 57th Foot officers who had fought at Albuhera. It is adorned with the medal of Colour Sergeant Holloway, who won it at the battle whilst serving as an eleven-year-old Drummer Boy. He was the longest living survivor of the battle.



The Albuhera Loving Cup

Minden Day - The Rose

A Rose is worn in the headdress of all ranks on the 1st of August every year. This commemorates the 37th foot, who picked up roses around Minden on the day of the Battle.

Sobraon Day – Sobraon Sergeant

A Sobraon Sergeant is appointed in each battalion on the 10th February each year to commemorate the actions of Sergeant Bernard McCabe at the Battle of Sobraon in 1846. The Sobraon Sergeant has the honour of carrying the Regimental Colour to the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, where the Colours are displayed for the Day. This is the only occasion when one of the Colours is not carried by an officer (ensign).



Regimental Mottoes and Nicknames

The Regiment's nickname is 'The Tigers'. This is inherited from the Royal Hampshire Regiment, which as the 67th (South Hampshire) Regiment was awarded the figure of the royal tiger superscribed 'India' in 1826, following its return after twenty-one years' service in India. Past mottoes and nicknames are as follows:

Queen's Royal Regiment

Mottoes

- *Pristinae Virtutis Memor* (Mindful of Former Glory)
- *Vel Exuviae Triumphant* (Victorious even in Adversity)

Nicknames

- The Other Surrey Regiment
- The Pork and Beans (Cockney slang)
- The First Tangerines (After Tangier and rhyme)
- Kirk's Lambs (After aggressive action serving under Colonel Kirke during the Monmouth's rebellion, 1685).
- The Mutton Lancers (After Paschal Lamb and Flag badge).

The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment)

Motto

- *Veteri Frondescit Honore* (Ever green with ancient honour).

Nicknames

- The Buffs (After the Regiment's buff colour facings).
- The Buff Howards/Howard's Old Buffs (After the buff facings and the regimental colonel 1737-1749).
- The Nutcrackers (After the way the Regiment smashed French heads in the Peninsular War).
- The Resurrectionists (After the speed of reforming after the Battle of Albuhera).
- The Admiral's Regiment (Origin not known)

The East Surrey Regiment

Nicknames

- The Young Buffs (After being mistaken for the Buffs at the Battle of Dettingen by King George II, because of the Regiment's buff facings).
- The Other Surrey Regiment.
- The Glasgow Greys (From the 70th Foot, having been raised in Glasgow and having grey facings).

The Royal Sussex Regiment

Nicknames

- The Belfast Regiment (from being raised in 1701 by the Earl of Donegall).
- The Orange Lillies (After the colour of their facings and the capture of the French Fleur-de-lis, from the Royal Roussillon Regiment at the Battle of Quebec 1759).
- The Prince of Orange's Own Regiment.

The Royal Hampshire Regiment

Nicknames

- The Tigers (Already explained).
- The Stonewallers (After gaining the reputation in the First World War for never losing a trench to the Germans).

The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment

Mottoes

- *Quo Fas et Gloria Ducunt* (Whither right and glory lead – from the 97th Foot).
- *Invicta* (Unconquered – from the 50th Foot).

Nicknames

- The Dirty Half Hundred (After the colours of the black facings ran into the rest of the uniforms at the Battle of Vimiera in 1808).
- The Blind Half Hundred (After the Egyptian campaign of 1801, when a large percentage of the Regiment had eye disease).
- The Devil's Royals (A Peninsular War nickname originating from their celebrated charge at the Battle of Vimiera in 1809 when they charged a French column of five Regiments and routed it.)
- The Gallant Half-Hundred.
- The Celestials (After the colour of the 97th Foot's heavenly blue facings).
- The Mediterranean Greys (After the name given to them in Gibraltar in 1743 because of the elderly look of all ranks after ten years in station).

The Middlesex Regiment

Motto

- *Ich Dien* (I Serve).

Nicknames

- The Die Hards (After Colonel Inglis's exhortation at the Battle of Albuhera).
- The Mids.
- The Steelbacks
- The Pot Hooks (After the shape of the numerals of the 77th Foot).

The Queen's Regiment

Motto

- *Unconquered I Serve* (From the combination of mottoes from The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment and the Middlesex Regiment).

Further Regimental Documents

The Regimental Journal

The Regimental Journal is published by Regimental Headquarters annually and contains current information on all regimental activities.

The Regimental Standing Orders

The Regimental Standing Orders provide further details on all aspects of the Regiment. They include dress regulations, more detail on traditions and procedures and the full list of battle honours.

Officers' Handbook

The Handbook for officers provides details on Regimental traditions and aspects of etiquette.

The Officers' Club Directory

The Officers' Club Directory lists all serving and retired members of the Officers' Club, with their contact details. It is updated regularly.

The Regimental Website

Further details of the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment can be obtained on the Regimental page of the Army Website:

www.army.mod.uk

Regimental Heritage

The Virtual Museum Website is:

www.armytigers.com

Turning the Page Ceremony in Canterbury Cathedral

In 1926 The Buffs placed their 'Book of Life', which contained the names of members of the Regiment killed in the Great War, in the Warrior's Chapel in Canterbury Cathedral. Further 'Books of Life' commemorating those who died in the Second World War whilst serving in the Buffs including many Danes, and their allied Regiment, The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada were subsequently added. The Queen's Regiment and the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment also now have their 'Books of Life' there, and the Chapel is now designated the Regimental Chapel. At 1100 hours every weekday a short ceremony is held at the Chapel when a page of a 'Book of Life' is turned, followed by prayers. A duplicate book of remembrance for The Queen's Regiment and the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment is also on display within Regimental Headquarters for ease of access by visitors.



The Regimental Collect

'Almighty God, the strength of those who put their trust in Thee and the hope of those who serve and follow Thee; grant to the members of The Princess of

Wales's Royal Regiment such a measure of Thy grace that in both peace and war they win Thy favour, and with courage and loyalty faithfully serve the Queen and

Country, upholding those noble traditions of which they are the proud inheritors. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen'.

Regimental Marches (Old and New)



The Regimental Quick March is **'The Farmer's Boy'** (From The Royal Hampshire Regiment) leading into **'Soldiers of The Queen'** (From The Queen's Regiment). The words of these two marches are set out at the end of this Guide.

The Regimental Slow March is **'The Minden Rose'** (From The Royal Hampshire Regiment).

The main forebear regimental marches, which are often played on regimental occasions are as follows:

The Queen's Regiment -

Quick: 'Soldiers of The Queen'.

Slow: 'The Caledonian'.

The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment -

Quick: 'Braganza'/'Lass O'Gowrie', 'Old Queens'.

(Only played in the Officers Mess and never on Parade).

'A Life on The Ocean Waves'.

Slow: 'Huntingdonshire'.

The Queen's Own Buffs -

Quick: 'The Buffs' / 'A Hundred Pipers'.

Slow: 'Man of Kent'.

The Royal Sussex Regiment -

Quick: 'The Royal Sussex' / 'Lass of Richmond Hill. 'Sussex by The Sea'. (Marching song)

Slow: 'Roussillon'.

The Royal Hampshire Regiment -

Quick: 'The Hampshire' / 'Cork Hill' / 'We'll Gang nae mair to yon toun'.

Slow: 'The Minden Rose'

The Middlesex Regiment -

Quick: 'Sir Manley Power' / 'Paddy's Resource'.

Slow: 'Caledonian'. (Also the slow march of The Queen's Regiment).

NB: The Quick March 'Viscount Nelson' is never played following the deaths of seven members of the Regimental Band of 2nd Battalion The Hampshire Regiment, who were killed when playing the tune when the band was blown up at Youghal, County Cork on 31st May 1921. Nineteen others were wounded.

The Cadet Forces

The Army Cadet Force (ACF) and the Combined Cadet Force (CCF) play an important role within the Regimental family. The Regiment has a large number of affiliated ACF Detachments and CCF Contingents spread right across the Regimental area from Kent to the Channel Islands. The details of all these Cadet units are contained within Regimental Standing Orders. Their training, which is supported whenever possible by the Regular and Reserve units of the Regiment, develops the character, determination, and motivation of young people. There are many ex-Cadets now serving within the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment.



Alliances and Affiliations

Alliances

THE CANADIAN ARMY

The Queen's York Rangers	(1st American Regiment) (RCAC). (From an Alliance between The Queen's and the Queen's Rangers in 1928).
The South Albert Light Horse (RCAC)	From an alliance with The East Surreys in 1934, The South Alberta Regiment was called The 31st Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force).
49th (Sault Ste Marie) Field Regiment RCA	From an affiliation in 1932 with The Hampshire Regiment).
The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada	(The Rifles had 'The Buffs' as their regimental march and a friendship began in 1914. At one stage The Queen's Own Buffs and later The Queen's Regiment always had an officer from each attached to the other).
The Hastings and Prince Regiment	(From an alliance with The Royal Sussex forged in 1934).
1st Battalion The New Royal Brunswick Regiment (Carleton & York)	(From an alliance in 1925 between The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment and The Carleton Light Infantry. The white horse of Kent is the centrepiece of their badge).
The Essex and Kent Scottish -	(From an alliance in 1925 between The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment and The Kent Regiment).

THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY

The Royal New South Wales Regiment	(This regiment's forebears were allied to The Queen's and The East Surrey Regiment in 1929/1930).
The University of New South Wales Regiment	(This is a link with The Middlesex Regiment whose forebears had both served in New South Wales in the 19th century).
The Royal Western Australia Regiment	(This was an alliance with The Royal Sussex Regiment. Sir William Campion, Governor of Australia, had commanded The 4th Royal Sussex at Gallipoli in the First World War).

THE NEW ZEALAND ARMY

2nd Battalion (Nelson Marlborough and West Coast) Regiment Battalion Group	(From an alliance approved in 1913 between The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment and the 1st (Canterbury) Regiment).
5th Battalion and Wellington, West Coast and Taranaki) Regiment Battalion Group of the Royal New Zealand Regiment	(From an alliance approved in 1913 between the 30th Wellington Battalion of Rifles and the Middlesex Regiment. The New Zealanders had fought as the 11th Regiment (Taranaki) with the 57th Foot in the Maori War – the alliance was shared with the Hampshire Regiment (1925)).

THE PAKISTAN ARMY

12th, 14th, 15th and 17th Battalions, The Punjab Regiment	(The 12th were with The Queen's in the same Brigade at the Arakan and Kohima in the Second World War. The 14th, 15th, and 17th were with The Royal Sussex Regiment in the same brigade in Eritrea, North Africa and Italy in the same conflict).
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Alliances and Affiliations

Affiliations

THE ROYAL NAVY

- HMS Excellent (From The Queen's, inheriting the traditions of Queen Charlotte from the Glorious First of June 1794).
- The Royal Marines (A 'bond of friendship'). (From The East Surrey Regiment (Villiers' Marines). An officer from the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment serves with a commando unit, whilst a Royal Marines officer serves on an exchange posting with the Regiment).

THE ARMY

- The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers (From The Buffs and The Battle of Albuhera when The Royal Fusiliers returned The Regimental Colour. Also from The 77th (later East Middlesex Regiment) Foot, which fought a brilliant rearguard action with the 5th Foot at El Boden in 1811).
- The Royal Anglian Regiment (From The East Surrey Regiment and The Leicesters in December 1941, when they formed The British Battalion in Malaya).
- The Royal Regiment of Scotland (From The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment, when the Regiment was brigaded with The King's Own Scottish Borderers in the Great War).

THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

No 3 (F) Squadron Royal Air Force

The Royal Danish Life Guards (An 'Unofficial Alliance').

The Worshipful Company of Haberdashers (Maintaining the links established by The Buffs with The City of London. Established by The Queen's Regiment in 1984.)

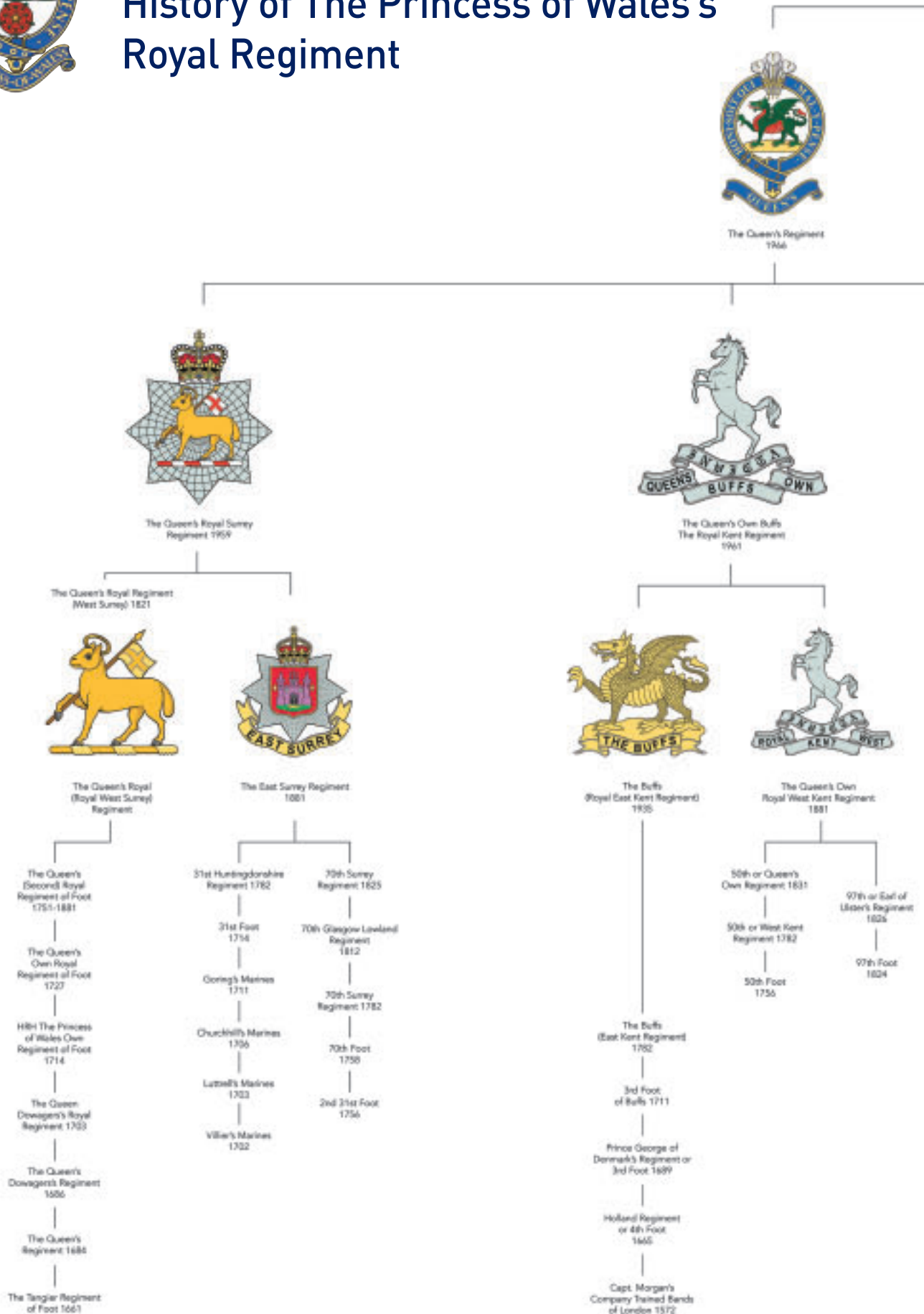
35 Regiment D'Infanterie (France) – A PWRR affiliation. To seek closer relationship after recent conflicts.





Regimental Tree

History of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment





The Royal Hampshire Regiment
1946



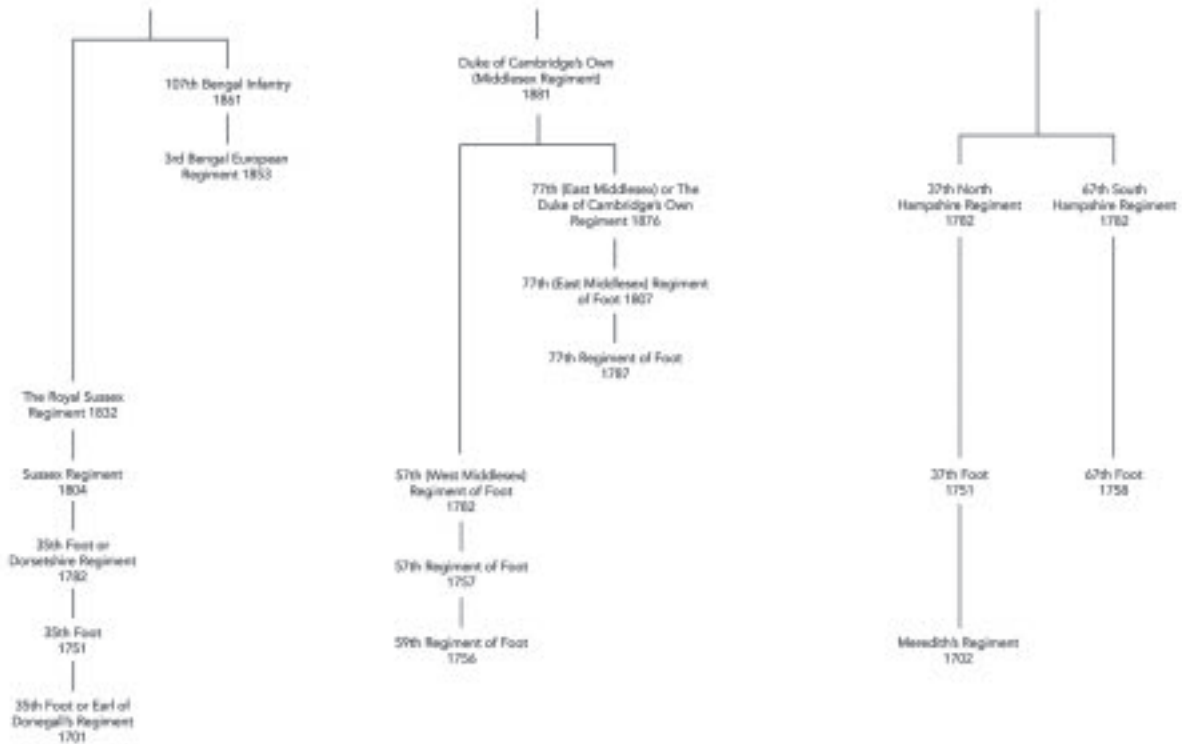
The Royal Sussex Regiment
1881



The Middlesex Regiment
(Duke of Cambridge's Own)
1921



The Hampshire Regiment
1881



The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment

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THE WORDS OF THE REGIMENTAL MARCH OF THE PRINCESS OF WALES'S ROYAL REGIMENT

'THE FARMERS BOY' / 'SOLDIERS OF THE QUEEN'

'The sun had set behind yon hill,
Across the dreary moor,
When weary and lame a boy there came
Up to a farmer's door.

Can you tell me where ever there be,
A chance to find employ,
To plough and sow, to reap and mow,
And be a farmer's boy,
And be a farmer's boy.'

'It's the soldiers of the Queen my lads,
Who've been my lads, who've seen my lads.
In the fight for England's glory lads,
Of its worldwide glory let us sing.
And when we say we've always won,
And when they ask us how it's done,
We'll proudly point to every one,
Of England's soldiers of the Queen'.

The Regiment that learns
from the past and looks
to the future



Known as 'The Tigers' the Infantry Regiment for Surrey, Kent, Sussex, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Middlesex and The Channel Islands