



PWRR MUSEUM RESEARCH BRIEF





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THE PRINCESS OF WALES'S ROYAL REGIMENT REGIMENT MUSEUM RESEARCH BRIEF

Introduction

The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (PWRR) is the successor to 5 County Regiments and, to assist you, a chart showing the history of the antecedent regiments is attached to this Brief.

Aim

The aim of this Brief is to give you an idea of what information is available to you in your research.

Information Available

Our archives are a very useful first port of call for those seeking information about the action, battles and engagements of the antecedent regiments or to research any matter relating to the history of the Regiment.

The archives are a less useful source of information about former members of the regiments and you should note that we do not hold the Service records of those who have served in any of the antecedent regiments.

Members of the public who wish to access such records should consult the Army Museums Ogilby Trust website: www.armymuseums.org.uk/ancestor.htm which provides extremely useful advice about what to do. The same website lists the succession of title by which the regiments of Cavalry and Infantry have been known since their formation.

The Starting Point

When making an enquiry about an individual soldier the key information that is required is his Army number if possible, full name, rank, when he served, in which Regiment and, if known, the battalion (e.g 1914 -1918 12th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment). This is important as our antecedent regiments raised 209 battalions in World War I and 85 battalions in World War II, most of which saw action in widely differing theatres of war.

Other information that would help include the award of a gallantry medal (e.g. MM), if he was killed in action or died whilst serving would also help. This should give the starting point that is needed.

If we cannot identify the individual then we will direct you in the first instance to those offices where the service records are held. They are:

The National Archives
Kew
RICHMOND
Surrey
TW9 4DU
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

Service records prior to 1922, including WW I and medal rolls. Please note that many of the WW I records were destroyed during a bombing raid and subsequent fire in WW II.

APC, MS Support, Disclosures 4
MP 555
Kentigern House
65 Brown Street
GLASGOW G2 8EX
Tel: 0845 6000 9663
Email: disc4@apc.army.mod.uk

Service records after 1922

There are a number of other sources for information on serving soldiers from the early 20th century. These are:

www.familysearch.org

Free 1881 census

www.findmypast.com

Subscription site 1841 - 1901

www.ancestry.co.uk

Subscription site 1841 - 1901
+ Scottish Transcription

Once we have the basic information of when he served and in which regiment/battalion, we may be able to tell you what actions he would have been involved in and where he may have served in more detail. In most instances, unless specific mention is made of him in the histories or war diaries, or he was awarded a gallantry medal, it is unlikely that we will be able to tell you about any specific actions that he might have carried out as an individual soldier.

Once you have the starting point details then you can get in touch with the relevant museum to see if they can help. It is important to note that the PWRR may not hold these details as many of the archives are held by different museums. For example the Middlesex Regiment and Queen's Own Buffs archives are held by the National Army Museum.

A list of the relevant museums is attached at Annex A.

A list of other useful organisations which may assist you in your research is attached at Annex B.

Research Fees

If we are able to help you with your research we will ask for a donation to our Benevolent Fund. Normally we would ask for £15 and this is based on one hour of research. However if your circumstances are such that a donation would impose a financial strain on you then please let us know and we will still try and provide you with the information you seek.

**ANNEX A
To PWRR
RESEARCH BRIEF**

**REGIMENTAL MUSEUMS CONNECTED WITH THE PRINCESS OF WALES'S ROYAL
REGIMENT (THE QUEEN'S AND ROYAL HAMPSHIRE)**

PWRR and Queen's Regiment Museum	5 Keep Yard, Dover Castle, Dover, Kent CT16 1HU Tel: 01304 240121
The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment	The Surrey History Centre 130 Goldsworth Rd, Woking GU21 6ND https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/heritage-culture-and-recreation/archives-and-history/surrey-history-centre Tel: 01483 518737
The Buffs Museum Royal Museum & Art Galler	National Army Museum, Royal Hospital Road, Chelsea, London SW3 4HT Tel: 02077300717 Or Beane Institute, High Street, Canterbury Kent CT1 2JE Tel: 01227 452747
The Royal Sussex Regiment	County Archivist West Sussex Record Office County Hall Chichester West Sussex PO19 1RN https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/leisure-recreation-and-community/history-and-heritage/west-sussex-record-office/record-office-sources-and-collections/military-and-royal-sussex-regiment-record-office-collection/ Tel: 01323 410300
The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment Museum	Maidstone Museum, St Faith's Street Maidstone ME14 1LH

	Tel: 01622 754497
The Middlesex Regiment (DCO)	National Army Museum, Royal Hospital Road, Chelsea, London SW3 4HT https://www.nam.ac.uk
The Royal Hampshire Regiment Museum	Tel: 02077300717 Serle's House Southgate Street Winchester Hants SE23 9EG Tel: 01962 863658

**ANNEX B
To PWRR
RESEARCH BRIEF**

Other Useful Research Organisations

Casualties

During the First World War, the system of recording and commemorating the war dead was formalised by the creation of the Imperial (now Commonwealth) War Graves Commission (CWGC). A database of war dead can be found on their website at www.cwgc.org/

Other publications which also list casualties:

Soldiers died in the Great War; a multi volume work listing casualties by Regiment and the Battalion which is published by the Naval and Military Press, (also available as a CD). See their web site www.navalandmilitarypress.com/militarycd-roms.html

Regimental periodicals (if publication continued during the war) also often report lists of casualties. Runs of these can be found in the Templer Study Centre of the National Army Museum and British Library.

Pensions

Disability Pensions records for Officers are held by the National Archives under PIN 26/19924 -19954 and 21066 arranged in alphabetical order. Widows' pension records can be found under PIN 82 and PIN 26/17179 – 19720, whilst dependants' records are under PIN 26/19821 – 19853.

Medals and Awards

Campaign medals entitlement can be found as index cards on microfilm at the National Archives. These are held under WO 372, now available online. From these index cards, medal rolls can be accessed as WO 329.

Gallantry awards can be found in the London Gazette, however few have citations.

County Records Offices

County Records Offices can sometimes be a rich source of background information on local military connections. Details of these can be found in Janet Foster and Julia Sheppard (eds), British Archives: A guide to archive resources in the United Kingdom (Palgrave 2002). The National Register of Archive (www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/nra) holds details of significant collections of manuscripts and historical records, many of them held in County Record Offices.

Local Newspapers

Military activities were nearly always of interest to the local press. Newspapers can often provide details of the activities of Regiments stationed in the locality. County Record Offices may hold copies of local newspapers. The British Library newspaper collection holds over 52,000 titles, some going back to the eighteenth century.

Regimental Collections at the National Army Museum.

The NAM holds several former Regimental Museum collections in its archives. These include the Middlesex Regiment, Royal East Kent Regiment (The Buffs). The NAM also holds enlistment and discharge books for the period c 1919 to c1945 for the Middlesex Regiment and The Buffs.

Going Further: Researching a Soldier's Regiment

For those who wish to dig deeper into a soldier's career, the next step is to study a published history of his Regiment. The Templer Study Centre of the National Army Museum holds one of the largest collections of pre 1914 regimental histories in this country.

USEFUL ADDRESSES

Officers and other Ranks whose service ended in 1921 or up to 1997

Army Personnel Centre
Headquarters Secretariat
Historic disclosures- (or Disclosures section 1 for service after 1997)
Mailpoint 400 - (or Mail Point 520 for service after 1997)
Kentigern House
65 Brown Street
Glasgow G2 8EX

Tel: 0845 600 9663 option 1 then 3

Fax: 0141 224 2144

Email: apc_historical_disclosures@btconnect.com

Officers and Other Ranks whose service ended before 1920/1921

The National Archives
Ruskin Avenue
Kew
Richmond
Surrey TW9 4DU

Tel: 020 8876 3444

Email: enquiry@pro.gov.uk

Web: www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

For Certificates

General Register Office

Tel: 0845 603 7788

Email: enquiry@pro.gov.uk

For medal enquiries send details to:

AFPAA (Joint Personnel Administration)
MOD Medal Office
Building 250
RAF Innsworth
Gloucester
G23 1EZ

Tel: 0141 224 3600

Veteran Free phone:- 0800 085 3600

Ensuring that applicant has number, rank, name (in full) date of enlistment, date of death (if relevant) and theatre of service.

For Graves and Memorials

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission
2 Marlow Road
Maidenhead
Berkshire SL6 7DX

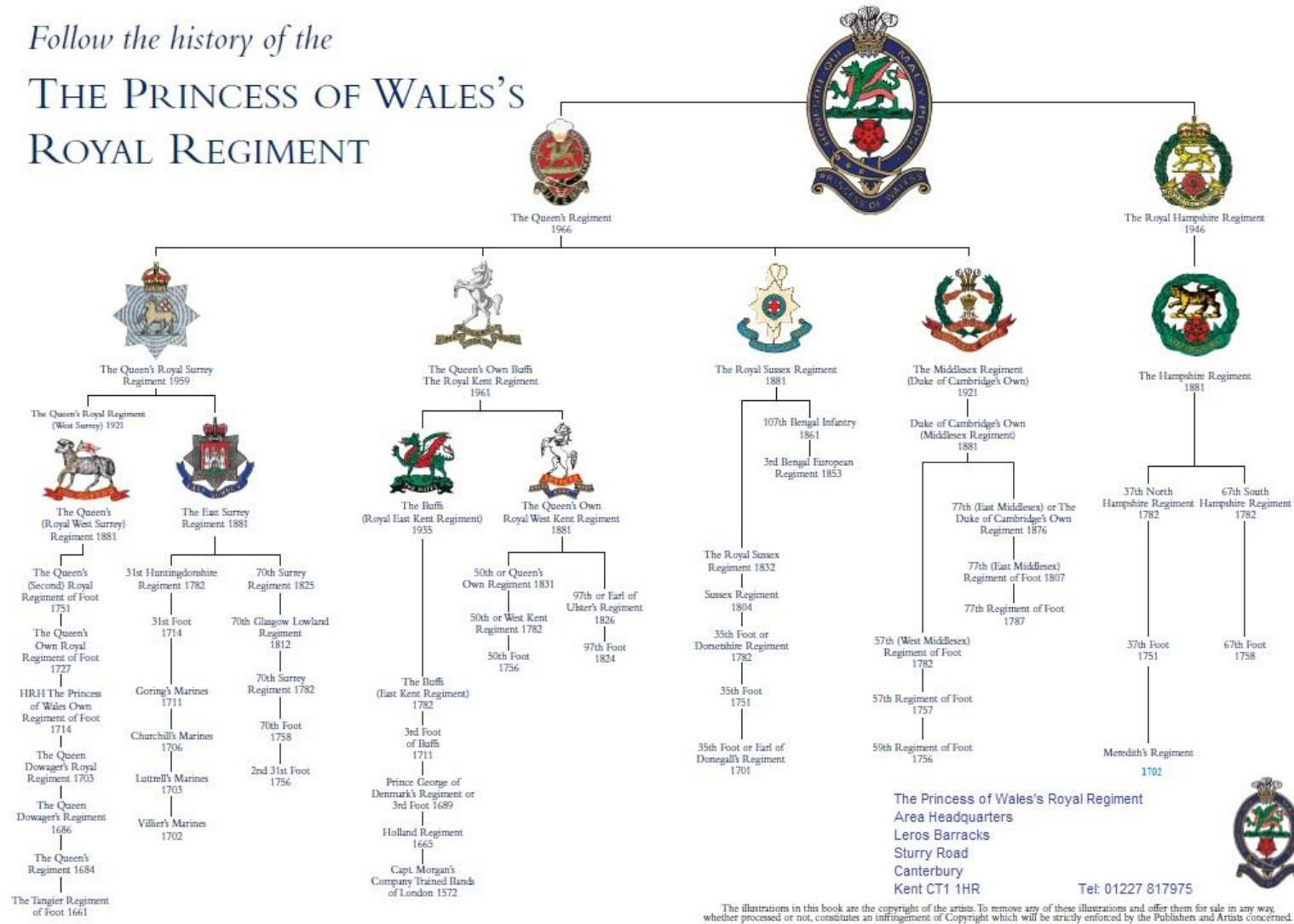
Information on Casualties, Cemeteries and Memorials
Tel; 01628 507200

General information Tel: 01628 634221
Fax: 01628 771208

Email: casualty.eng@cwgc.org
Web: www.cwgc.org

Follow the history of the

THE PRINCESS OF WALES'S ROYAL REGIMENT



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