



1st Battalion

(Regular Army)

- 4 August 1914** - Dublin, Ireland (13th Brigade, 5th Division)
- 15 August 1914** - Landed France (Havre)
- December 1917** - To Italy (Fontvilla)
- 17 December 1918** - Returned to France
- 11 November 1918** - At Doullens (13th Brigade, 5th Division)





2nd Battalion

(Regular Army)

4 August 1914 - At Multan, India (12th Indian Infantry Brigade)

30 January 1915 - Sailed Bombay, India for Mesopotamia (Iraq)

6 February 1915 - Arrived Basra (Mesopotamia) (12th Indian Infantry Brigade)

November 1915 - Attached to 30th (Indian) Brigade, 6th (Indian) Division

December 1915 to April 1916 - Besieged at Kut-al-Amarah

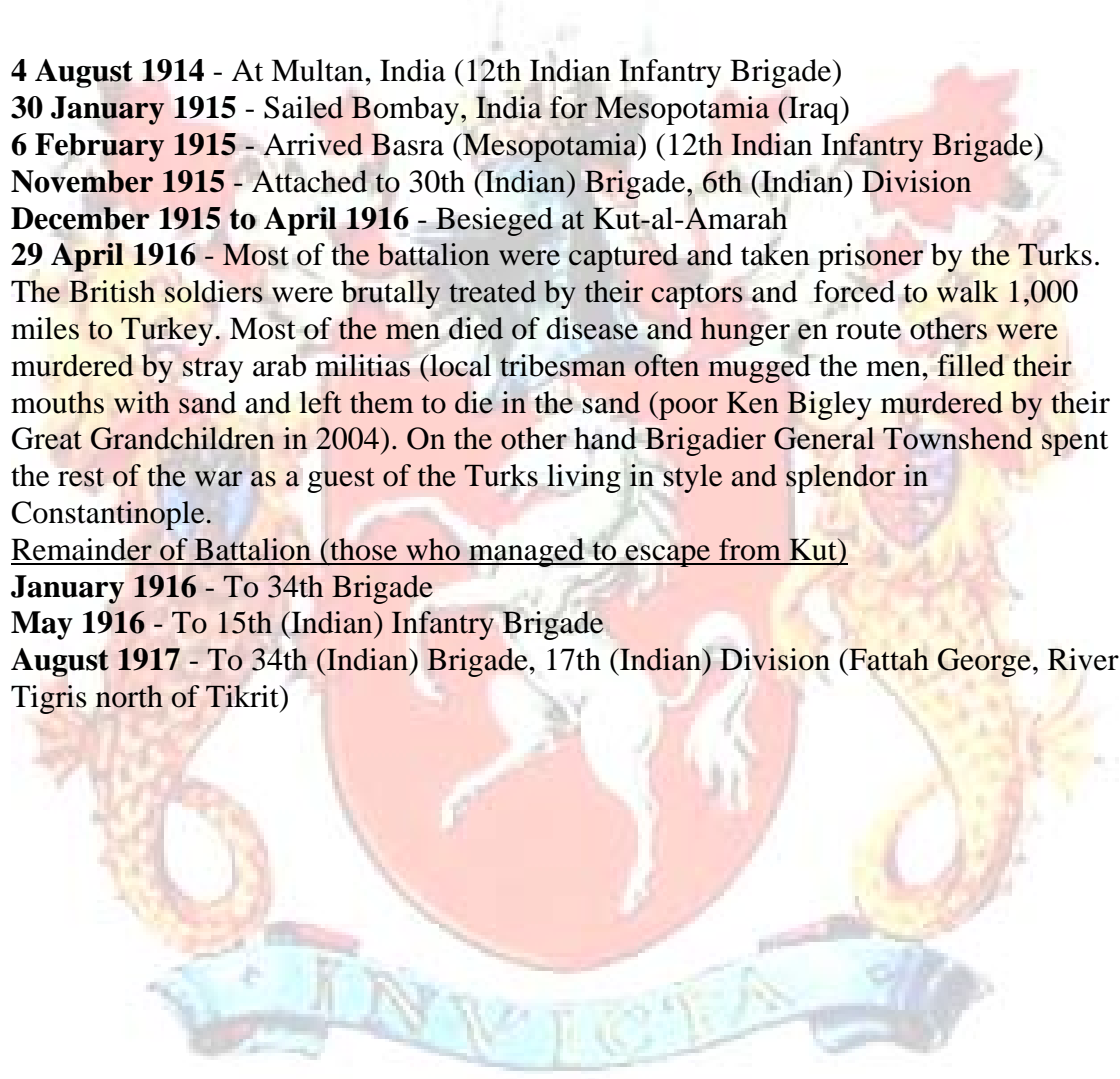
29 April 1916 - Most of the battalion were captured and taken prisoner by the Turks. The British soldiers were brutally treated by their captors and forced to walk 1,000 miles to Turkey. Most of the men died of disease and hunger en route others were murdered by stray arab militias (local tribesman often mugged the men, filled their mouths with sand and left them to die in the sand (poor Ken Bigley murdered by their Great Grandchildren in 2004). On the other hand Brigadier General Townshend spent the rest of the war as a guest of the Turks living in style and splendor in Constantinople.

Remainder of Battalion (those who managed to escape from Kut)

January 1916 - To 34th Brigade

May 1916 - To 15th (Indian) Infantry Brigade

August 1917 - To 34th (Indian) Brigade, 17th (Indian) Division (Fattah George, River Tigris north of Tikrit)





3rd Battalion (Special Reserve)

Maidstone

The 3rd Battalion was tasked with finding recruits, training them and providing drafts for field deployment with frontline battalions.





1/4th Battalion (Territorial Force)

HQ Company Tonbridge
A Company - Maidstone
B Company - Maidstone (West Malling)
C Company - Tonbridge (Hadlow)
D Company - Tunbridge Wells
E Company - Tunbridge Wells
F Company - Orpington
G Company - Sevenoaks
H Company - Westerham (Edenbridge)
Sponsored Cadet Corps Units
Westerham & Chipstead Cadet Corps (Westerham)





2/4th Battalion (2nd Line Territorial Force)

September 1914 - Formed at Tonbridge

November 1914 - To Ascot, Berkshire (202nd Brigade, 67th Division)

14 June 1915 - Provided 250 men (C Coy, D Coy and HQ Coy) for [Kent Composite Battalion](#) (Gallipoli)

24 April 1915 - Remaining men to Cambridge (160th Brigade, 53rd Division)

May 1915 - To Bedford where it remained training

December 1915 - To Egypt

January 1916 - The Battalion was supplemented by men drawn from the former Kent Composite Battalion (newly arrived from Gallipoli)

Palestine Operations

13 September 1918 - Disbanded





3/4th Battalion (3rd Line Territorial Force)

When the Kent Composite Battalion became the 2/4th Battalion, Royal West Kent Regiment, the remaining portion of 2/4th Battalion at Ascot, Berkshire (202nd Brigade, 67th Division) became 3/4th Battalion.

May 1915 - To Kent

July 1916 - To Canterbury

March 1917 - To Ashford

May 1917 - Landed France (9th Division / 34th Division)

22 June 1917 - Attached 51st Brigade, 17th Division)

12 July 1917 to 2 August 1917 - Acted as Pioneers for 17th Division

3 August 1917 - Attached 52nd Brigade, 17th Division

20 February 1918 - Disbanded in France





1/5th Battalion (Territorial Force)

Headquarters Company - East Street, Bromley

A Company - Bromley

B Company - Bromley

C Company - Dartford

D Company - Beckenham

E Company - Sidcup (Dartford)

F Company - Chatham

G Company - Chatham (Cliffe, Hoo)

H Company - Swanley

Sponsored Cadet Corps Units

1st Cadet (Chatham) Company, Royal Marine Light Infantry (RMLI Barracks, Chatham)

1st Cadet Battalion, 241 Stanstead Road, Forest Hill, London





2/5th Battalion (2nd line Territorial Force)

September 1914 - Formed Bromley

November 1914 - To Ascot, Berkshire (202nd Brigade, 67th Division)

May 1915 - To Kent

November 1915 - To Tonbridge

July 1916 - To Canterbury

March 1917 - To Ashford

July 1917 - To Barham Downs, Canterbury

November 1917 - Disbanded Canterbury





3/5th Battalion (3rd line Territorial Force)

July 1915 - Formed Bromley then to Cambridge

8 April 1916 - To Crowborough (became 5th Reserve Battalion)

1 September 1916 - Absorbed by 4th (Reserve Battalion)





4/4th Battalion (4th line Territorial Force)

July 1915 - Formed

8 April 1916 - Became 4th Reserve Battalion, Royal West Kent Regiment) at Crowborough, Sussex (Home Counties Reserve Brigade)

October 1916 - To Tunbridge Wells where it remained for the duration





6th (Service) Battalion

Service Battalion (K1)

14 August 1914 - Formed Maidstone (New Army, K1, Service Battalion)

18 August 1914 - To Colchester, Essex (37th Brigade, 12th Division)

September 1914 - To Purfleet, Essex

December 1914 - To Hythe (Billets)

February 1915 - To Aldershot

1 June 1915 - Landed France (Boulogne) (37th Brigade, 12th Division)

11 November 1918 - At Lecelles north west of Armand, France





7th (Service) Battalion

(Service Battalion (K2))

5 September 1914 - Formed Maidstone (New Army, K2, Service Battalion)

September 1914 - To Purfleet, Essex (55th Brigade, 18th Division)

April 1915 - To Colchester, Essex

May 1915 - To Codford, Salisbury Plain, Wiltshire

27 July 1915 - Landed France

9 February 1918 - Attached to 53rd Brigade, 18th Division

11 November 1918 - Le Cateau, France





8th (Service) Battalion

(Service Battalion (K3))

12 September 1914 - Formed Maidstone (New Army, K3, Service Battalion)

13 September 1914 - To Shoreham, Sussex (72nd Brigade, 24th Division)

December 1914 - Worthing, Sussex (Billets)

April 1915 - Shoreham, Sussex

July 1915 - Blackdown, Surrey

30 August 1915 - Landed France (Boulogne) (72nd Brigade, 24th Division)

11 November 1918 - La Rolies, France (east of Bavai)





9th (Reserve) Battalion (Service Battalion (K4))

24 October 1914 - Formed Chatham (New Army, K4, Service Battalion)

24 October 1914 - Attached 93rd Brigade, 31st Division

10 April 1915 - Became 5th (Reserve) Brigade

June 1915 - To Canterbury

July 1915 - To Colchester

1 September 1916 - To Shoreham, Sussex absorbed into Training Reserve Battalions of 5th (Reserve) Brigade





10th (Service) Battalion (Kent County) (Service Battalion)

3 April 1915 - Formed at Maidstone by Lord Harris (from Throwley) Vice Lieutenant of Kent at the request of the Army Council.

July 1915 - Attached 118th Brigade, 39th Division

October 1915 - To 123rd Brigade, 41st Division

November 1915 - Taken over by War Office

January 1916 - To Aldershot (Wellington Lines)

4 May 1916 - Landed France

November 1917 - To Italy (123rd Brigade, 41st Division)

March 1918 - Returned to France (Doullens)

11 Novmeber 1918 - Belgium (west of Nederbrakel)





11th (Service) Battalion (Lewisham) (Service Battalion)

- 5 May 1915** - Raised Lewisham by the Mayor and a local committee
- May 1915** - Trained at Catford (under Col Searle)
- July 1915** - Attached 118th Brigade, 39th Division
- October 1915** - Attached 122nd Brigade, 41st Division
- 11 November 1915** - Taken over by War Office
- January 1916** - To Aldershot (Tournay Barracks)
- 3 May 1916** - Landed France
- October 1916** - Received drafts from 2/1st [Royal East Kent Mounted Rifles](#) (250 fine men) (Page 237 Atkinson)
- November 1917** - To Italy
- March 1918** - Returned to France (Doullens)
- 16 March 1918** - Disbanded in France





12th (Reserve) Battalion

February 1916 - Formed from Depot Companies of 10th and 11th Service Battalions

March 1916 - Local Reserve Battalion (Kent)

To Northampton (23rd Reserve Brigade)

May 1916 - To Aldershot, Hampshire

1 September 1916 - Became **99th Training Reserve Battalion** (Aldershot)





13th Battalion

1 June 1918 - Formed at Cromer

July 1918 - Disbanded and personnel absorbed by 11th Royal Sussex Regiment (RSR)





1st (Home Service) Garrison Battalion

March 1916 - Formed Rochester tasked with guarding Thames Estuary area and manning Chatham Dockyard defences

August 1917 - Became **15th Battalion, Royal Defence Corps**





"Kent Volunteer Fencibles"

The best way to describe the Volunteers is to compare them to the Second World War Home Guard.

On 6 August 1914 a letter appeared in the Times Newspaper signed by Mr Percy A Harris advocating the forming of a **Kent Volunteer Training Corps** (V.T.C). At the end of the month the War Office vetoed the raising of volunteer military units, but gave sanction to organise "Civilian" Volunteer Training Corps. These "training" units quickly sprang up all over the country and began to recruit for the overseas armies.

The Kent Volunteer Training Corps was created and a County Commandant appointed (Lord Harris). By the end of 1915 the **Volunteer Act 1915** was passed in parliament which awarded military status and rank to those who volunteered for service in the VTC's. Most volunteers were too old to serve overseas, others were from reserved occupations whose indispensable business or employment absolutely prevented them from joining the Territorial Force. Lord Harris the County Commandant from Throwley near Faversham took charge of the volunteers and called it the "**Kent Volunteer Fencibles**". In August 1916 the War Office, taking the matter more decidedly in hand decided to absorb the Volunteer units into the formal County Infantry Regiment structure. Four "volunteer" Infantry battalions were formed from the **Kent Volunteer Fencibles** –



1st (Volunteer) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West
Kent Regiment)

Drill Hall, Tonbridge, Kent

Hon Commandant - Lieutenant Colonel The Earl of Amherst (Captain, Retired pay)

Commanding Officer - Major J Rowlandson (Brevet Colonel Retired Pay)

Captain J.W Little (Second in Command)

Captain R.A Webb (Medical Officer) (Royal Army Medical Corps (V)

Captain D Laing

Captain S.G Hallum

Captain A.R Soames (Adjutant)

Hon Colonel R.K Bevington

Captain C Smith

Chaplain Reverend R.A Bull M.A

Lieutenant T.W Webb (Quartermaster January 1917)

Lieutenant H Reece (Quartermaster April 1917)

Lieutenants

Morgan F.B

Gabriel B

Russell H

Winterton E.K.J

Kennington C

Beecheno G.H (Machine Gun Officer)

Cochrane A.H.D

Second Lieutenants

Handcock E.W

Chamberlain J

Darling A.M

Mason H.P

Sidebottom W.H

Busk J.L

Budden M

Stone N.R

Regard M.C.J

Smith A.W

Locket G.C



2nd (Volunteer) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment)

Old Palace, Maidstone, Kent

Hon Commandant - Lieutenant Colonel H.D.A Breton (Colonel Retired Pay)
Commanding Officer - Lieutenant Colonel A.C Borton (From Cheveney, Yalding and
father Lt Col of A.D Borton VC)
Second in Command - Captain C.B Mercer
Captain W.C Price (Adjutant) (1st Garrison Btn, Middlesex Regiment)
Lieutenant E Waters (Assistant Adjutant)
Lieutenant E.H Epps (Quartermaster)
Lieutenant M Packer (Asst Q.M)
Captain E.J Wood (Medical Officer) (Royal Army Medical Corps (V))
Lieutenant E Henriques (Asst Medical Officer) (RAMC(V))

Captains

Hepworth H.J
Nash J.W
Boucher F.C
Rhodes F.W
Bryan F.J
Lewis A.T
Macartney J.H
Smith A.W

Lieutenants

Day W.H
Eager G
Amies E.H
Fearnley P
Moffett R
Cobb R
Stigant H.E
Hubble T.W
Waters E (Assistant Adjutant)
Milnes C
Youngman J.H
Soffe R.G
Clarke J.G

Second Lieutenants

Nash J.C
Allenby R.B
Nye T.W

Ritchie F
Crawford W
Arnauld F.W.T
Phillips W
Brice W (St J)
Dunstall H.H
Finnis J.T
Hubble E (Late Lieutenant R.West Kent's)
Smith J.G.L





3rd (Volunteer) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment)

Drill Hall, Parish Lane, Penge, Kent (now London)

Hon Commandant - Lieutenant Colonel C Child

Commanding Officer - Major P Dawson

Second in Command - Captain A.L Carpenter

Captain F.E Florance (Adjutant)

Lieutenant R Tylor (Quartermaster)

Lieutenant R.A Doble (Quartermaster 1918)

Captain R Wilkinson (Medical Officer) (RAMC (V))

Lieutenant H.W Thomas (Medical Officer)

Chaplain - Reverend G.F Cartwright

Captains

Glanvill C.R

Young F.W.R

Bacon A.R

Le May H.H

Michael C.E

Rowe J.C

Hills C.D

Baker M

Lieutenants

Wilson W.J

Palmer W.J

Sentance R.H (Machine Gun Officer)

Dale E.T (Adjutant)

Mackenzie H.D

Roberts E.J

Eyre H

Burrows E.P

Galloway E.A

Second Lieutenants

Ovenden H

Elgood C.A

Purvis J

Pulman H.P

Pettigrew W.C

Sheppard C.V

Stone W.B

Coulson H

Livermore E.G
Perkins H
Showers F.T





**4th (Volunteer) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West
Kent Regiment)**

"Trevethan", Bexley Road, Erith, Kent (now London)

Hon Commandant - Lieutenant Colonel Sir D.D.T O'Callaghan KCVO (Major
General Retired Pay)

Commanding Officer - Major C.H Gray

Second in Command - Captain C.P Taylor

Lieutenant F.H Frost (Adjutant) (17th London Regiment)

Lieutenant Paler C.J (Quartermaster)

Captain Brown H (Medical Officer) (Royal Army Medical Corps (V))

Captains

Cannon T.N

Dodd E.T

Wright F.W

Dines H.R

Astell H.W

Lieutenants

Maybey H.D

Jowett H.A.D

Baily H.D

Cope S.F

Paton C.J (Assistant Adjutant)

Glanfield C.F

Gibson A

Second Lieutenants

Bex A

Hobbs E.J

Sorrell C

Passmore F.W

Key G.C

Stace W.H.S

Mitchell H.J

Bowers J.L

Muller H (Late Captain West Riding Regiment)

Furlong F.O

Holland W

Howard H.C

Stewart A Mel

Tutton A