



The Buffs (East Kent Regiment)

Also known as

- 1572-1648 **Thomas Morgan's Company of Foot, The London Trained Bands**
- 1595-1665 **The English Brigade**
- 1665-1667 **4th (The Holland Maritime) Regiment**
- 1668-1688 **4th (The Holland) Regiment**
- 1688-1689 **4th The Lord High Admiral's Regiment**
- 1689-1708 **3rd (Prince George of Denmark's) Regiment of Foot.**
- 1689-1751 Named after the Colonel Commanding.
- 1689-1707 3rd (Churchill's) Regiment
- 1707-1711 3rd (Duke of Argyll's) Regiment
- 1711-1713 3rd (Selwyn's) Regiment of Foot
- 1713-1715 3rd (Earl of Forfar's) Regiment of Foot.
- 1716-1726 3rd (Wills') Regiment of Foot.
- 1726-1729 3rd (Earl of Londonderry's) Regiment
- 1729-1737 3rd (Tatton's) Regiment.
- 1737-1743 3rd (Howard's) Regiment of Foot.
- 1744-1751 3rd Regiment of Foot, "Howard's Buffs"
- 1751-1782 **3rd (Kent) Regiment of Foot, "The Buffs"**
- 1782-1881 **3rd (East Kent) Regiment of Foot ("The Buffs")**
- 1881-1935 **The Buffs, (East Kent Regiment)**
- **1935-1961 The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment)**

Origins of The Buffs

The 3rd Regiment received its nickname of "The Buffs" because it had been issued 'buff coats'- armor made of soft leather - first when it served abroad in Holland and later when it was a Maritime Regiment of Foot. It was later given buff-colored facings and waistcoats to distinguish itself from those of other regiments and had their leather equipment in buff rather than dyed the traditional white.

It received the title of "The Old Buffs" during the Battle of Dettingen in 1743, when the 31st (Huntingdon) Regiment marched past King George II and onto the battlefield with great spirit. Mistaking them for the 3rd due to their buff facings, the sovereign called out, "Bravo, Buffs! Bravo!". When one of his aides, an officer of the 3rd regiment, corrected His Majesty, he then cheered non-plussed, "Bravo, Young Buffs! Bravo!", thus granting the 31st the honour of being nicknamed the "Young Buffs". The 3rd Regiment then took to calling themselves the "Old Buffs" to keep themselves distinct from the 31st.

The Two Howards

The Buffs obtained the name of "The Buffs" officially in 1744 while on campaign in the Low Countries. The 3rd Regiment was then under the command of **Lieutenant-General Thomas Howard**. At the same time, the 19th Regiment of Foot were commanded by a colonel named **The Honourable Sir Charles Howard**. In order to avoid confusion (because regiments were then named after their colonels, which would have made them both *Howard's Regiment of Foot*), the regiments took the colours of their facings as part of their names - the 19th Foot became the **Green Howards**, while the 3rd Foot became **Howard's Buffs**, eventually being shortened to simply **The Buffs**.

“Steady The Buffs”

This famous cry has been rumoured by many to have been uttered on the field of battle, but it was actually born on the parade grounds of a garrison.

It comes from when the 2nd Battalion was stationed at Malta in 1858 and were quartered with the 1st Royal (North British) Fusiliers. Adjutant Cotter of The Buffs, a Scot who had formerly served in the Royal Fusiliers as a Sergeant Major, would not brook any disarray on the parade ground from his raw recruits, shouting "Steady, The Buffs! The Fusiliers are watching you!"

This greatly amused the Fusiliers and they called out “Steady The Buffs!” on the slightest provocation, first in Malta and later whenever the two battalions met from then on. The phrase caught on and was soon shouted whenever The Buffs marched by. It then passed into common usage, even appearing in Rudyard Kipling's novel *Soldiers Three* (1888) and his play *Pity Poor Mama*.

Re-organisations and Al amalgamations

- From 1595 to 1665, the four regiments of the **English Brigade** served under Dutch command. In 1665, with the coming of the Second Anglo-Dutch War the British and Scotch Brigades were ordered to swear loyalty to the *Staadtholder*. Those who obeyed would be allowed to continue in Dutch service and those who disobeyed would be cashiered. Using his own funds, Sir George Downing, the English ambassador to the Netherlands, raised the **Holland Regiment** from the starving remnants of those who refused to sign. It was designated as the 4th Regiment of Foot.
- In 1689 the Glorious Revolution deposed James II Stuart and seated William Henry, Prince of Orange-Nassau and Stadtholder of the United Netherlands, on the throne of Great Britain as William III of England. To reduce confusion between the Regent's Dutch Blue Guards regiment and the Stuart-era "Holland Regiment", the latter was renumbered the 3rd Regiment and had its title changed to **The Lord Admiral's Regiment**. Since Prince George of Denmark was Lord Admiral (and thus was its Honorary Colonel), it was also known as **Prince George of Denmark's Regiment** until his death in 1708.
- The **1st (Regular) Battalion** existed continuously from 1572-1961.
- The **2nd (Regular) Battalion** was intermittently raised in 1678-1679, 1756-1758, 1803-1815, and 1857-1949.
- In 1758, the 2nd Battalion raised in 1756-1758 was converted into the **1st Battalion, 61st (South Gloucestershire) Regiment**. In 1881, it was converted into the **2nd Battalion, 28th/61st The Gloucestershire Regiment**, whose battalions were later amalgamated together in 1948. In 1994 **The Gloucestershire Regiment** was amalgamated with **The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal (Berkshire and Wiltshire) Regiment** to form **The Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment**. In 2004 the **Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment** was amalgamated with the **Devon and Dorset Light Infantry** to form **1st (Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire) Battalion, The Light Infantry**. In 2005 the **The Light Infantry** amalgamated with the **Royal Green Jackets** to form **The Rifles**. The **1st (Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire) Battalion, The Light Infantry** will be renamed the **1st (Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Light Infantry) Battalion, The Rifles**.
- In the Cardwell reforms of 1881 the **East Kent Militia** became the Regiment's **3rd (Special Reserve) Battalion** [1881-1953] and its short-lived **4th (Special Reserve) Battalion** [1881-1888].
- From 1881-1908 the Territorial Army's **1st (Kent) Volunteers** and **2nd (The Weald of Kent) Volunteers** Battalions were raised. From 1908-1921 and 1939-1947 they became the regiment's 4th and 5th Battalions. In 1921-1939 and 1947-1961 they were amalgamated as the 4th/5th Battalion.

- In 1914-1918 the following battalions were raised for service in World War I:
 - 2/4th (Territorial Army) Battalion [1914-1917]
 - 3/4th (Territorial Army) Battalion [1915-1916]
 - 2/5th (Territorial Army) Battalion [1914-1917]
 - 3/5th (Territorial Army) Battalion [1915-1916]
 - 6th (Service) Battalion [1914-1919]
 - 7th (Service) Battalion [1914-1919]
 - 8th (Service) Battalion [1914-1918]
 - 9th (Reserve) Battalion [1915-1916]
 - 10th (Royal East Kent & West Kent Yeomanry) Battalion [1917-1918]

- In 1939-1945 the following battalions were raised for service in World War II:
 - 4th (Territorial Army) Battalion [1939-1947]
 - 5th (Territorial Army) Battalion [1939-1947]
 - 6th (Home Defence) Battalion [1939-1941]
 - 7th Battalion [1940-1941]
 - 8th Battalion [1940-1942]
 - 9th Battalion [1940-1946]
 - 10th Battalion [1940-1943]
 - 11th Battalion [1940]
 - 30th Battalion [1941-1943]
 - 70th (Young Soldiers) Battalion [1940-1943]

1956 the 410th (Kent) Coast Regiment (Royal Artillery) was disbanded and converted into infantry. It was then combined with elements of the 4th (Territorial Army) Battalion, The Buffs (Royal East Kent) Regiment to form the 5th (Territorial Army) Battalion of The Queen's Own Buffs, The Royal Kent Regiment and was the last separate unit to bear the distinct honours of The Buffs. In 1966 it became the 5th Battalion, The Queen's Regiment and in 1967 it merged with the 4th Battalion to become the 4th/5th (East Kent TAVR) Battalion, The Queen's Regiment.

- In 1961 the **3rd "The Buffs", Royal East Kent Regiment** was amalgamated with **50th/97th The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment** to form: The Queen's Own Buffs, The Royal Kent Regiment. In 1966 it was amalgamated with The Queen's Regiment.

Colonels In Chief

- 1689-1708 Prince George of Denmark KG
- 1906-1914 HM King Frederick VIII of Denmark
- 1914-1947 HM King Christian X of Denmark, KG, GCB, GCVO
- 1947-1961 HM King Frederick IX of Denmark, KG, GCB, GCVO

Colonels

- 1665-1668 Col. Robert Sidney
- 1668-1673 Maj-Gen. Sir Walter Vane
- 1673-1682 Lt-Gen. John Sheffield, Duke of Buckingham and 3rd Earl of Mulgrave,
- 1682-1684 Col. Philip Stanhope, 2nd Earl of Chesterfield
- 1684-1685 Lt-Gen. John Sheffield, Duke of Buckingham and 3rd Earl of Mulgrave,
- 1685-1688 Brig-Gen. Sir Theophilus Oglethorpe
- 1688-1707 Gen. Charles Churchill
- 1707-1711 F.M. John Campbell, 2nd Duke of Argyll, KG, KT (Earl of Islay)
- 1711-1713 Col. John Selwyn
- 1713-1715 Brig-Gen. Archibald Douglas, 2nd Earl of Forfar
- 1716-1725 Gen. Sir Charles Wills, KB [also 1st Gds, 30th Foot]
- 1726-1729 Col. Thomas Pitt, 1st Earl of Londonderry
- 1729-1737 Lt-Gen. William Tatton
- 1737-1749 Lt-Gen. Thomas Howard
- 1749-1763 F.M. Sir George Howard, KB
- 1763-1764 Col. John Craufurd
- 1764-1768 Maj-Gen. Ralph Burton
- 1768-1779 F.M. Sir Jeffrey Amherst, 1st Baron Amherst, KB
- 1779-1786 Lt-Gen. William Style
- 1786-1809 Gen. Thomas Hall [also 79th Foot]
- 1809-1815 Gen. Charles Leigh
- 1815-1829 Lt-Gen. Sir Henry Clinton, GCB, GCH
- 1829-1832 Gen. Sir George Don, GCB, GCH
- 1832-1845 Gen. Kenneth Alexander Howard, 1st Earl of Effingham,
- 1845-1854 Gen. Sir Henry King, CB, KCH, KC
- 1854-1857 Lt-Gen. Sir Nathaniel Thorn, KCB, KH
- 1857 Lt-Gen. Nicholas Wodehouse
- 1857 Maj-Gen. Sir Henry Havelock, KCB [died at Lucknow]
- 1857-1860 Lt-Gen. Berkeley Drummond
- 1860-1863 Gen. The Hon. Charles Grey
- 1863-1864 Lt-Gen. John Wharton Frith
- 1864-1870 Lt-Gen. Day Hort Macdowall
- 1870-1874 Lt-Gen. The Hon. Sir James Lindsay, KCMG
- 1874-1882 Gen. William Craig Emilius Napier
- 1882-1909 Gen. Sir Julius Augustus Robert Raines, GCB
- 1909 Maj-Gen. Frederick Taylor Hobson
- 1909-1914 Maj-Gen. Robert George Kekewich
- 1914-1928 Gen. Sir Arthur Henry Fitzroy Paget, GCB, KCVO
- 1928-1937 Maj-Gen. Sir Arthur Lynden Lynden-Bell, KCB, KCMG
- 1937-1943 Maj-Gen. Sir John Kennedy, GBE, CB, CMG, DSO
- 1943-1953 Maj-Gen. The Hon. Percy Gerald Scarlett, CB, MC
- 1953-1961 Maj-Gen. Valentine Boucher, CB, CBE [later Dep. Col. *Queen's Own Buffs*]

Notable Soldiers

During the Battle of Albuhera, the 3rd Regiment, serving as part of Colborne's brigade, was caught in a heavy rainstorm. Then they were caught in the open by French cavalry, their muskets rendered useless by the downpour. Before they could form square, the cavalry had ripped through their ranks and began slaughtering them. **Ensign Thomas**, who had earlier rallied his company after his captain was wounded and captured, was carrying the Regimental Colour. He was later surrounded and was called upon to surrender. Crying "Only with my life," he only gave up the Colour after being cut down and mortally wounded (though it was later recaptured by *Sergeant Gough* of the **1st Battalion, The Royal Fusiliers**). He was buried after the battle by a sergeant and a private of his company, the only two men out of an original complement of 63 to survive the battle.

- Also during the **Battle of Albuhera**, a similar act of heroism was to unfold. *Ensign Charles Walsh* was carrying the King's Colour. The pikestaff of the Colour had been broken by cannon shot, his escort had fallen and he was surrounded and badly wounded. Just before he was about to be taken prisoner, **Lieutenant Latham** rushed forward and seized the Colour from him with his left hand and defended it with heroic gallantry with his sword in the other, refusing to yield it to the enemy. Then a French Hussar seized the staff and struck Latham with a sabre blow that severed one side of his face and nose but he still continued to struggle. A second sabre stroke severed his left arm, but Latham seized the staff with his right hand and continued to resist until he was thrown down, trampled on and pierced several times with lance thrusts. At this moment a British Cavalry regiment, **The 4th (Queen's Own) Dragoons**, arrived and drove off the French troopers. Latham then exerted the little strength left to him to conceal the Colour in his jacket, where it was later found. Latham survived his grievous wounds and not only recuperated but stayed in the army until he retired in 1820. As a reward for his gallantry and his heroic defense of the Colour, Latham was given a special promotion to Captain and was later presented with a gold medal by his brother officers. A trophy depicting the scene made in sterling silver, called the "Latham Centerpiece", was designed for the 3rd Regiment's Officer's Mess; it is now in the Regimental museum along with Latham's gold medal.
- Private John Moyse was captured during the march on the Taku Forts (which took place during the continuation of the Second Opium War). He was later executed by Chinese soldiers for refusing to kow-tow to a local mandarin. His act of defiance was later immortalised in "**The Private of the Buffs**" [1], a poem by Sir Francis Hastings Doyle.
- Among the officers of The Royal East Kent regiment was Captain Derek D. Bridle (1923-1998). An officer of "The Buffs" from 1942-1947, he served in Northern Italy, Austria and Germany, and after demobilisation he trained and became a qualified Architect, who retired in 1985 as County Architect of Gloucestershire.

Ancient Privilege

The Buffs is one of five regiments that can march through the City of London with drums beating, bayonets fixed, and colours flying. This is due to a Royal Warrant written in 1672 allowing them to raise volunteers "by beat of drum" in the City of London. Since recruiting parties paraded in full array accompanied by company or regimental musicians and marched with a colour, this right was given to the regiment as a whole.

Bufs Battle Honours

* The Honours in capital lettering were worn on the Colours. The Regiment was awarded 116 battle honors.

War of Spanish Succession (Queen Anne's War)

- BLENHEIM (1704) = 1st Battalion.
- RAMILLES (1706) = 1st Battalion.
- OUDENARDE (1708) = 1st Battalion.
 - MALPLAQUET (1709) = 1st Battalion.

War of Austrian Succession (King George's War)

- DETTINGEN (1743) = 1st Battalion.

Seven Years War (French and Indian War)

- GUADELOUPE 1759 = 1st Battalion.
- Belleisle (1761) = 1st Battalion

Napoleonic Wars

- Douro (1809) = 1st Battalion
 - TALAVERA (1809) = 1st Battalion.
- ALBUHERA (1811) = 1st Battalion.
- VITTORIA (1813) = 1st Battalion.
- PYRENEES (1813) = 1st Battalion.
- NIVELLE (1813)= 1st Battalion.
- NIVE (1813) = 1st Battalion.
- ORTHES (1814) = 1st Battalion.
- TOULOUSE (1814) = 1st Battalion.
- PENINSULA (1808-13) = 1st Battalion.

- PUNNIAR (1843) **Gwalior Campaign** = 1st Battalion.
- Sevastopol (1855) Crimean War = 1st Battalion.
- TAKU FORTS (1860) **Second Opium War** = 1st Battalion.

- SOUTH AFRICA 1879 **Zulu War** = 2nd Battalion.
- CHITRAL (1895) North-West Frontier = 1st Battalion.
- RELIEF OF KIMBERLEY (1900) Second Anglo-Boer War = 2nd Battalion.
- PAARDEBERG (1900) Second Anglo-Boer War = 3rd Battalion.
- SOUTH AFRICA 1900-02 Second Anglo-Boer War = 2nd & 3rd Battalions.

The Great War

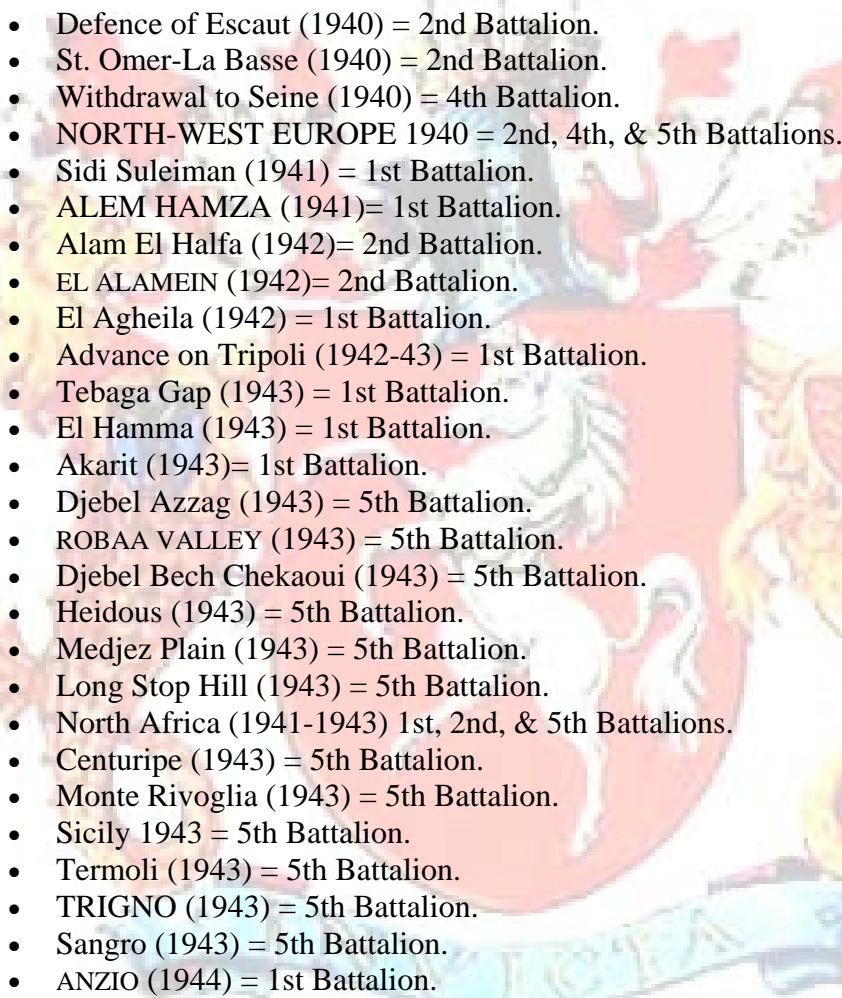
1914 - 1919

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- Aisne (1914)= 1st Battalion.
 - ARMENTIERES 1914 = 1st Battalion.
 - Ypres 1915-17 = 2nd, 7th & 8th Battalions.
 - Gravenstafel (1915) = 2nd Battalion.
 - St. Julien (1915) = 2nd Battalion.
 - Frezenberg (1915) = 2nd Battalion.
 - Bellewaarde (1915) = 2nd Battalion.
 - Hooge (1915) = 1st Battalion.
 - LOOS (1915) = 2nd, 6th, & 8th Battalions.
 - SOMME 1916-18 = 1st, 6th, 7th, & 8th Battalions
 - Albert (1916-18) = 6th & 7th Battalions.
 - Bazentin (1916) = 7th Battalion.
 - Delville Wood (1916) = 8th Battalion.
 - Poziers (1916) = 6th Battalion.
 - Flers-Courcelette (1916) = 1st Battalion.
 - Morval (1916) = 1st Battalion.
 - Thiepval (1916) = 7th Battalion.
 - Le Transloy (1916) = 6th Battalion.
 - Ancre Heights (1916) = 7th Battalion.
 - Ancre (1916-18) = 6th & 7th Battalions.
 - ARRAS 1917 = 6th & 7th Battalions.
 - Scarpe (1917) = 7th Battalion.
 - Messines (1917) = 8th Battalion.
 - Pilckem (1917) = 8th Battalion.
 - Passchendale (1917) = 7th Battalion.
 - Cambrai (1917-1918) = 1st & 6th Battalions.
 - St. Quentin (1918) = 1st & 6th Battalions.
 - Avre (1918) = 7th Battalion.
 - Amiens (1918) = 6th & 7th Battalions.
 - Bapaume (1918) = 7th Battalion.
 - HINDENBURG LINE (1918) = 1st, 6th, 7th, & 10th Battalions.
 - Epehey (1918)= 1st, 6th, 7th, & 10th Battalions.
 - St. Quentin Canal (1918) = 1st & 6th Battalions.
 - Selle (1918) = 1st & 7th Battalions.
 - Sambre (1918) = 7th Battalion.
 - France & Flanders (1914-18) = 1st, 2nd, 6th, 7th, 8th & 10th Battalions.
 - Struma (1916-17) = 2nd Battalion.
 - Doiran (1918) = 2nd Battalion.
 - Macedonia (1915-18) = 2nd Battalion.
 - Gaza (1917) = 10th Battalion.

- JERSUSALEM (1917) = 10th Battalion.
- Tel Asur (1918) = 10th Battalion.
- Palestine (1917-18) = 10th Battalion.
- Aden (1915-16) = 4th Battalion.
- Tigris (1916) = 5th Battalion.
- Kut al Amara (1917) = 5th Battalion.
- Baghdad (1917) = 5th Battalion.
- Mesopotamia (1915-18) = 5th Battalion

World War Two

1939 - 1945

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- Defence of Escaut (1940) = 2nd Battalion.
 - St. Omer-La Basse (1940) = 2nd Battalion.
 - Withdrawal to Seine (1940) = 4th Battalion.
 - NORTH-WEST EUROPE 1940 = 2nd, 4th, & 5th Battalions.
 - Sidi Suleiman (1941) = 1st Battalion.
 - ALEM HAMZA (1941)= 1st Battalion.
 - Alam El Halfa (1942)= 2nd Battalion.
 - EL ALAMEIN (1942)= 2nd Battalion.
 - El Agheila (1942) = 1st Battalion.
 - Advance on Tripoli (1942-43) = 1st Battalion.
 - Tebaga Gap (1943) = 1st Battalion.
 - El Hamma (1943) = 1st Battalion.
 - Akarit (1943)= 1st Battalion.
 - Djebel Azzag (1943) = 5th Battalion.
 - ROBAA VALLEY (1943) = 5th Battalion.
 - Djebel Bech Chekaoui (1943) = 5th Battalion.
 - Heidous (1943) = 5th Battalion.
 - Medjez Plain (1943) = 5th Battalion.
 - Long Stop Hill (1943) = 5th Battalion.
 - North Africa (1941-1943) 1st, 2nd, & 5th Battalions.
 - Centuripe (1943) = 5th Battalion.
 - Monte Rivoglia (1943) = 5th Battalion.
 - Sicily 1943 = 5th Battalion.
 - Termoli (1943) = 5th Battalion.
 - TRIGNO (1943) = 5th Battalion.
 - Sangro (1943) = 5th Battalion.
 - ANZIO (1944) = 1st Battalion.
 - cassino I (1944) = 5th Battalion.
 - Liri Vally (1944) = 5th Battalion.
 - Aquino (1944) = 5th Battalion.
 - Rome (1944) = 1st Battalion.
 - Trasimene Line (1944) = 5th Battalion.
 - Coriano (1944) = 1st Battalion.
 - Monte Spaduro (1944) = 1st Battalion.
 - Senio (1945) 5th Battalion.
 - ARGENTA GAP (1945) = 1st & 5th Battalions.
 - Italy (1943-45) = 1st & 5th Battalions.

- LEROS (1943) = 4th Battalion.
- Middle East (1943)= 2nd Battalion.
- Malta (1940-42) = 4th Battalion.
- SHWELI (1945) = 2nd Battalion.
- Myitson (1945) = 2nd Battalion.
- Burma (1945) = 2nd Battalion.





TIMELINE

- 1572** - The Regiment was raised from the Trained Bands of the City of London (NOT musical bands - bands of volunteers)
- 1572** - Trained Bands of the City of London reviewed by the Queen at Greenwich Park, London (1st May 1572)
- 1665** - The regiment becomes **THE HOLLAND REGIMENT** (31 May 1665)
- 1665** - Holland Regiment appointed the precedence - 4th Regiment of Foot (under Colonel Sidney a Kent man)
- 1665** - Holland Regiment designated a maritime infantry unit under the navy
- 1667** - Holland Regiment becomes a Land Regiment
- 1668** - Holland Regiment commanded by Maj-Gen Sir Walter Vane
- 1672** - Holland Regiment Granted the "privilege" of the Freedom of the City of London
- 1689** - Prince George of Denmark (consort to Queen Anne) appointed Hon Colonel of the Holland Regiment
- 1689** - Holland Regiment now known as the **PRINCE GEORGE OF DENMARK'S ROYAL REGIMENT**
- 1689** - Appointed **3rd REGIMENT OF FOOT** (taking the place of the Lord High Admiral's Regiment which was dis-banded)
- 1692** - Steenkirk (Flanders)
- 1693** - Landen (Flanders)
- 1695** - Siege of Knocke and Namur (Col Churchill)
- 1702** - Expedition to Cadiz (Spain) (operation was a failure)
- 1703** - Regiment returns to Flanders under Duke of Marlborough
- 1704** - Awarded the battle honour "BLENHEIM" the first of 116 battle honours to be awarded. (13 August 1704)
- 1706** - RAMILLIES (23 May 1706)

- 1707** - The Dragon badge given to the regiment by Queen Elizabeth I (a dragon supported her coat of arms)
- 1707** - The Buffs motto *Veteri Frondescit honore* awarded to the regiment circa 1707
- 1707** - Major-General The Duke of Argyle takes command of the Prince George of Denmark's Regiment
- 1708** - OUDENARDE (11 July 1708)
- 1708** - Prince George of Denmark dies and the regiment re-named **THE BUFFS** for the first time (after the colour of its Buff uniform facings)
- 1709** - MALPLAQUET (11 September 1709)
- 1715** - Battle of Sheriffmuir (Spain) (13 November 1715)
- 1716** - Lt General Charles Wills takes command from Earl of Forfar
- 1719** - Vigo, Rhondendella, Pont-a-Vedra ((Spain)
- 1743 - 1745** - Nicknamed "*Buff Howards*" after commanding officer Lt Col Robert Howard
- 1743** - DETTINGEN (27 June 1743)
- 1745** - Fontenoy (11 May 1745)
- 1746** - Battle of Falkirk Moor (England) (17 January 1746)
- 1746** - Battle of Culloden (England) (16 April 1746)
- 1747** - Battle of Lauffeld (England) (2 July 1747) (a disaster)
- 1751 - The Buffs Renamed **3rd Foot, The Buffs**
- 1759** - GAUDELOUPE (February 1759)
- 1762** - Belle Isle (Bay Biscay, France)
- 1762** - Regiment moved to Minorca (Spain)
- 1763** - Major-General John Crauford (Governor of Minorca) appointed commanding officer
- 1782** - 3rd Foot, The Buffs RENAMED - **3rd (EAST KENT-THE BUFFS) FOOT**
- 1786** - Lt-General Thomas Hall appointed commanding officer THE BUFFS (EAST KENT REGIMENT)
- 1789** - Siege of Nimeguen (Netherlands)
- 1796** - West Indies
- 1808** - Madeira Island, Portugal
- 1809** - Grenadier Company at Corunna (16 January 1809)
- 1809** - DOURO (Portugal) (12 May 1809)
- 1809** - TALAVERA (Spain) (27-28 August 1809)

- 1811** - ALBUHERA (16 May 1811)
- 1813** - VITTORIA (21 June 1813)
- 1813** - PYRENEES (25 July - 2 August 1813)
- 1813** - NIVELLE (10 November 1813)
- 1813** - NIVE (9-13 December 1813)
- 1814** - ORTHES (27 February 1814)
- 1814** - TOULOUSE (10 April 1814)
- 1814** - PENINSULAR War Battle Honour awarded (1808 - 1814)
- 1814** - Nicknamed "*The Nut Crackers*" (after cracking many French nuts during the Peninsular War)
- 1815** - Col Leigh dies Lt Gen Sir Henry Clinton appointed Colonel of regiment
- 1817** - The Buffs first Depot at Canterbury formed
- 1818** - To Australia (New South Wales)
- 1827** - To India to fight the Maharatta State of Gwalior
- 1829** - General Clinton dies, General Sir George Don appointed Colonel
- 1843** - PUNNIAR (India) (29 December 1843)
- 1845** - Maj General Sir Henry King takes over as Hon Colonel
- 1845** - The Buffs returns to England and then moved to Ireland
- 1855** - Regiment leaves Ireland for the Crimea (Crimean War with Russia)
- 1855** - Victoria Cross won by Lt Col Maude at the Redan, Sevastopol (Crimean War).
- 1855** - SEVASTOPOL (Crimea) (28 September 1854 - 11 September 1855)
- 1855** - Private CONNORS awarded VC at the Redan (Crimea)
- 1857** - Second Buffs battalion raised at Limerick Ireland by Major Maude VC. To Canterbury then Malta
- 1857** - Major General Berkeley DRUMMOND becomes Colonel of regiment
- 1860** - TAKU FORTS (China) (12 August 1860)
- 1861 - 1863** - 1st Battalion to Tower of London
- 1866** - 2nd Battalion to Gibraltar, West Indies and then Ireland
- 1866** - 1st Battalion to India
- 1873** - Regimental Depot established permanently at Canterbury (now Howe Barracks)
- 1874** - The first edition of the Dragon regimental newspaper printed by 1st Buffs
- 1875** - 1st Buffs take part in expedition to Malays in Perak
- 1879** - SOUTH AFRICA (1879) (2nd Buffs) (Zulu War)

- 1880** - 2nd Buffs to Hong Kong
- 1881** May - 3rd (East Kent - The Buffs) Foot Renamed **The Kentish Regiment (The Buffs)**
- 1881** July - Renamed **The Buffs (East Kent Regiment)**
- 1885** - The Buffs colours laid up in the Warriors Chapel for the first time, Canterbury Cathedral
- 1885** - Both Buffs battalions meet up at Singapore
- 1886** - 2nd Buffs returns to England
- 1895** - CHITRAL (India) (11 April 1895)
- 1897** - Malakand and Tirah (L/cpl Smith awarded VC)
- 1899** - 2nd Buffs to South Africa (Boer War) sail Southampton 22 December 1899 (6th Division - Kelly Kenny)
- 1900** - Klip Kraal
- 1900** - RELIEF OF KIMBERLEY (South Africa) (2nd Buffs) (15 February 1900)
- 1900** - PAARDEBURG (South Africa) (18-27 February 1900) (2nd Buffs)
- 1900** - Poplar Grove (7 March 1900) (Boer War) (2nd Buffs)
- 1900** - 3rd Buffs sail to South Africa 9 March 1900 (3rd Division)
- 1901** - Bakenlaagte (Boer War) (2nd Buffs sustains large casualties) (2nd Buffs)
- 1902** - 3rd Buffs and Kent militia volunteers to St Helena then returned home to England (July 1902)
- 1902** - SOUTH AFRICA 1899 - 1902 (2nd, 3rd Buffs)
- 1902** - 2nd Buffs return to Dover (October 1902)
- 1903** - 1st Buffs to Aden and Hinterland
- 1904** - Both Buffs battalions meet at Dover
- 1905** - 2nd Buffs to Harrismith, South Africa (3rd June 1905)
- 1906** - 1st Buffs marches through City of London to celebrate Albuhera
- 1906** - H.M King Frederick VIII of Denmark appointed Colonel-in-Chief of Buffs (see 1689)
- 1909** - General Sir Julius Raines dies after 27 years as Hon Colonel (April 1909)
- 1909** - General Kekewich appointed Hon Colonel of the regiment
- 1910** - Manoeuvres with Queen's Own Rifles of Canada (Canadian Buffs)
- 1912** - King Frederick of Denmark dies King Christian X appointed Col in Chief of regiment
- 1914** - The Great War Commenced, 18 battalions activated (2 regular, 8 Territorial Force, 2 Reserve, 4 New Army, 2 Volunteer).

1914 - AISNE (France) (September 1914) (1st Buffs)
1914 - AMMENTIERES (France) (October 1914) (1st Buffs)
1915 - GRAVENSTAFEL (Belgium) (April 1915) (2nd Buffs)
1915 - ST JULIEN (Belgium)(24 April - 4 May 1915) (2nd Buffs)
1915 - FREZENBERG (Belgium) (May 1915) (2nd Buffs)
1915 - BELLEWAARDE (Belgium) (24-25 May 1915) (2nd Buffs)
1915 - HOOGE (Belgium) (July-August 1915) (1st Buffs)
1915 - LOOS (2nd, 6th, 8th Buffs)
1916 - SOMME (1st July 1916 - 18 November 1916, 21 March-5 April 1918, 21 August-3 September 1918) (1st,6th,7th,8th Buffs)
1916 - ALBERT 1916 - 1918 (France) (6th,7th Buffs)
1916 - BAZENTIN (14-17 July 1916) (7th Buffs)
1916 - DELVILLE WOOD (France) (15 July - 3 September 1916) (8th Buffs)
1916 - POZIERES (France) (23 July 1916 - 3 September 1916) (6th Buffs)
1916 - FLERS-COURCELETTE (France) (15 - 22 September 1916) (1st Buffs)
1916 - MORVAL (France) (25 - 28 September 1916) (1st Buffs)
1916 - THIEPVAL (France) (26-28 September 1916) (7th Buffs)
1916 - LE TRANSLOY (France) (1-18 October 1916) (6th Buffs)
1916 - ANCRE HEIGHTS (France) (1 October - 11 November 1916) (7th Buffs)
1916 - ANCRE (France) (13-18 November 1916, March/April 1918) (6th,7th Buffs)
1916 - STRUMA (Fighting Bulgarian Army in Macedonia) (2nd Buffs)
1916 - ADEN (4th Buffs fighting Turks in Arabia) (4th Buffs)
1916 - TIGRIS 1916 (5th Buffs in Mesopotamia fighting the Turks) (5th Buffs)
1917 - ARRAS (France) (9 April - 4 May 1917) (6th,7th Buffs)
1917 - SCARPE (France) (9-14 April 1917) (6th Buffs)
1917 - MESSINES (Belgium) (7-14 June 1917) (8th Buffs)
1917 - PILCKEM (Belgium) (31 July - 2 August 1917) (8th Buffs)
1917 - PASSCHENDAELE (Belgium) (November 1917) (7th Buffs)
1917 - CAMBRAI (France) (20 November - 3 December 1917, 8-9 October 1918) (1st,6th Buffs)
1917 - YPRES 1915 - 1917 (Belgium) (April - May 1915 - 2nd Ypres) (July - November 1917 - 3rd Ypres) (All Buffs)
1917 - 11th March 1917 the 5th Buffs were the very first British soldiers to enter Baghdad, Mesopotamia (Iraq).

- 1917** - GAZA (Fighting Turks in Palestine) (10th Buffs)
- 1917** - JERUSALEM (Fighting Turks in Palestine) (10th Buffs)
- 1917** - Kut-el-Amarah (Mesopotamia) (5th Buffs) (9 January - 24 February 1917)
(5th Buffs)
- 1917** - BAGHDAD (5th Buffs) (Mesopotamia) (11 March 1917) (5th Buffs)
- 1918** - ST QUENTIN (France) (21-23 March 1918) (1st,6th Buffs)
- 1918** - AMIENS (France) (8-11 August 1918) (6th,7th Buffs)
- 1918** - AVRE (France) (March - April 1918) (7th Buffs)
- 1918** - BAPAUME (France) (31 August - 3 September 1918) (7th Buffs)
- 1918** - HINDENBERG LINE (France) (12 September - 9 October 1918)
(1st,6th,7th,10th Buffs)
- 1918** - EPEHY (France) (18 September 1918) (1st,6th,7th,10th Buffs)
- 1918** - ST QUENTIN CANAL (France) (29 September - 2 October 1918) (1st,6th Buffs)
- 1918** - SELLE (France) (17-25 October 1918) (1st,7th Buffs)
- 1918** - SAMBRE (4 November 1918) (7th Buffs)
- 1918** - FRANCE AND FLANDERS (1914 - 1918)
- 1918** - MACEDONIA 1915 - 1918 (2nd Buffs)
- 1918** - TEL ASUR 1918 (Fighting Turks in Palestine) (10th Buffs)
- 1918** - PALESTINE 1917 - 1918 (4th Buffs)
- 1918** - MESOPOTAMIA 1915 - 1918 (5th Buffs)
- 1918** - 11th November 1918 Armistice Day (end of hostilities) - about **6,000** Buffs killed in the war.
- 1919** - Great War finally officially ends
- 1919 - 1922** - 2nd Buffs to India
- 1922** - 1st Buffs to Constantinople (Turkey)
- 1923** - 1st Buffs to Gibraltar (September) then to Egypt
- 1926** - 1st Buffs to Bareilly, Ireland
- 1926** - Turning the page ceremony started daily in the Warriors Chapel, Canterbury
(Books of remembrance)
- 1928** - General Sir Arthur Paget dies (9 December) Maj-Gen Sir Arthur Lynden-Bell appointed Hon Col
- 1930** - 1st Buffs to India, Mingaladon, Burma (November)
- 1930** - 2nd Buffs to Shorncliffe Folkestone
- 1934** - 2nd Buffs to Borden Surrey
- 1935** - 1st Buffs still in Burma

1936 - 2nd Buffs to Palestine to quell rebellion

1935 - Honoured by the title "Royal" in recognition of the gallant deeds of the regiment - **The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment)** (3 June)

1937 - 4/5th Buffs formed (Territorial Army) from 4th Buffs and 5th Buffs

1937 - Major-Gen Lynden-Bell resigned Major-Gen Sir John Kennedy becomes Hon Colonel (January 1937)

1938 - New Depot built at Canterbury

1939 - 1st Buffs to Pembroke Dock

1939 - Second World War commenced (11 Battalions formed up and raised) (3 September)

1939 - 1st Buffs at Egypt, 2nd Buffs in Wales (trained as pioneers)

1939 - The Buffs Depot amalgamated with East Surrey's Depot at Canterbury to form Infantry Training Centre

1940 - 2nd Buffs River Escaut and then covered retreat to Dunkirk (28/29 May 1940)

1940 - 4th Buffs to Malta

1940 - 5th Buffs decimated at Dunkirk covering the withdrawal

1940 - 5th Buffs to Malta (October 1940)

1941 - 1st Buffs held Point 204 (15 December 1941) (500 casualties)

1942 - 5th Buffs to Algeria

1942 - 1st Buffs El Alamein, Egypt

1942 - 2nd Buffs El Alamein, Egypt (22 October 1942)

1943 - 4th Buffs to Leros

1943 - 5th Buffs - Longstop Hill (23 April 1943)

1943 - 2nd Buffs Tehran, Persia

1944 - 5th Buffs to Sicily then Italy (Cassino)

1944 - 7th Buffs - Normandy Landings

1944 - 1st Buffs Anzio

1944 - 2nd Buffs to India then to Burma

1945 - 2nd Buffs to Malaya

1945 - 5th Buffs to Austria

1945 - Second World War ends (1,313 recorded killed)

1946 - 2nd Buffs to Java then Hong Kong

1946 - Awarded the following battle honours during the Second World War -

DEFENCE OF ESCAUT (2nd Buffs)

St OMER - LA BASSEE (4th Buffs)

WITHDRAWAL TO SEINE (2nd,4th,5th Buffs)

NORTH-WEST EUROPE 1940 (1st Buffs)

SIDI SULEIMAN (1st Buffs)

ALEM HAMZA (2nd Buffs)

ALAM EL HALFA (2nd Buffs)

EL ALAMEIN (1st Buffs)

EL AGHEILA (1st Buffs)

ADVANCE ON TRIPOLI (1st Buffs)

TEBAGA GAP (1st Buffs)

EL HAMMA (1st Buffs)

AKARIT (5th Buffs)

DJEBEL AZZAG 1943 (5th Buffs)

ROBAA VALLEY (5th Buffs)

DJEBEL BECH (5th Buffs)

HEIDOWS (5th Buffs)

MEDJEZ PLAIN (5th Buffs)

LONGSTOP HILL 1943 (1st,2nd,5th Buffs)

NORTH AFRICA 1941-43 9 (5th Buffs)

CENTURIFE (5th Buffs)

MONTE RIVOGLIA (5th Buffs)

SICILY 1943 (5th Buffs)

TERMOLI (5th Buffs)

TRIGNO (5th Buffs)

SANGRO (1st Buffs)

ANZIO (5th Buffs)

CASSINO 1 (5th Buffs)

LIRI VALLEY (5th Buffs)

AQUINO (1st Buffs)

ROME (5th Buffs)

TRASIMENE LINE (1st Buffs)

CORIANO (1st Buffs)

MONTE-SPADURO (5th Buffs)

SENIO (1st, 5th Buffs)

ARGENTA GAP (1st,5th Buffs)

ITALY 1943-45 (4th Buffs)

LEROS (2nd Buffs)

MIDDLE EAST 1943 (4th Buffs)

MALTA 1940-42 (2nd Buffs)

SHWELL (2nd Buffs)

MYITSON (2nd Buffs)

BURMA 1945

1948 - Granted the Honorary freedom of Canterbury

1961 - Al amalgamated with the **Royal West Kent Regiment** to form the **Queen's Own Buffs (Royal Kent Regiment)**

1966 - Al amalgamated with the **Royal Surrey Regiment, Middlesex Regiment and**

Sussex Regiment to form the **Queen's Regiment**



1991 - Amalgamated with the Royal Hampshire Regiment to form the **Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (PWRR)**

