

Volume 2 Section 107

Transfers

Introduction

There were two ways into the Royal Berkshire Regiment, either you joined the regiment as a private soldier or with a commission or else you were transferred into the regiment from another regiment.

In this section we try to reconstruct the major transfers between the Royal Berks and other regiments.

Transfers to Royal Berks

Drafts of men were transferred to various battalions of the Royal Berks in order to get the battalion back up to strength. Similarly Royal Berkshire men were transferred in bulk on occasions to other regiments.

Some of the drafts transferred to the Royal Berks have been reconstructed as follows: Note that in a few cases a few men from other regiments were transferred at the same time. Where a draft came from an Infantry Base Depot in the field the men are typically quite mixed as to previous regiment.

The order that men were renumbered varies tremendously. As a general rule NCOs were renumbered first but for the rest the following variants have been observed:-

No observable pattern

Alphabetic order (noted by 'a' below)

Numeric order (from previous regiment)

Numeric order (by Company from previous regiment)

<i>Bat from</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>regiment</i>				
				6	25236	25269	Hunts Cyclists
					25270	25285	Gloucestershire Regt
					25348	25366	Ox and Bucks LI
					25367	25373	Devonshire Regt
					29740	29747	R Warwickshire Regt
				13	29924	29939	R Warwickshire Regt
				13	30204	30210	R Warwickshire Regt
				13	30897	30906	R Warwickshire Regt
				13	31040	31048	R Warwickshire Regt
				G1	31711	31718	Coldstream Guards
				G1	31996	32296	R Warwickshire Regt
				G1	32382	32390	R Warwickshire Regt
				7	33118	33132	Black Watch
				7	33133	33146	Scots Fusiliers
				7	33147	33164	Manchester Regimentt
				5	33281	33338	Hampshire Regiment
				2	33344	33349	Gloucestershire Regiment
				6	36222	36521	Hertfordshire Regimentt
				6	36522	36621	Cambridgeshire Regiment
				8	36623	36709	Worcestershire Regiment
				6	36710	36721	19/1/17* Lincolnshire Regt
				8	36722	36883	Worcestershire Regt
				6	36885	36961	12/2/17* Lincolnshire Regiment
				8	36973	37197	Cheshire Regt
				2	37265	37318	Berkshire Yeomanry
				2	37422	37485	Northamptonshire Regiment
				5	37703	37749	Ox & Bucks Light Infantry
				8	37772	37809	10/6/17 Ox & Bucks Light Infantry
				5	38032	38049	28/3/18* Royal Warwickshire Regit
				8	38087	38106	Ox & Bucks Light Infantry
				1	38380	38469	Ox & Bucks Light Infantry
				2	38488	38610	
				5	38636	38649	Ox & Bucks Light Infantry
				2/4	38704	38921	Training Regiment
				5	38924	39041	RASC
				5	39042	39055	Duke of Cornwalls Light Inf.
				1	39065	39160	Somerset Light Infantry
				1			9/8/16 Hunts Cyclists
				5	39312	39328	Royal Warwickshire Regt
				5	39330	39351	Ox and Bucks Light Infantry

6	39364	39369		Gloucestershire Regiment	<i>Bat from</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>regiment</i>
8	39368	39393		Gloucestershire Regiment				
5	41816	41838		Berks Yeomanry	2/4	223024	223033	2/6 Gloucestershire Regt
7	41939	42046		RASC/RAMC	2	227001	227056	R Warwickshire Regt
2	42264	42434		Training Reserve	1	227060	227058	Northumberland Fus
7	42442	42490		RAMC				
5	43541	43567		Gloucestershire Regt				dates marked with * are the earliest that a man from that batch was killed while serving with the Royal Berks.
2	43568	43594		Devonshire Regt				
6	43603	43607		Devonshire Regit				
2	43609	43620		Duke of Cornwalls LI				
8	43624	43641		London Regt				
8	43648	43724		RASC				
1	43725	43871	6/5/18	Herts Yeomanry				
5	43875	43929	7/5/18	Devonshire Regt				
2/4	44007	44349		Hampshire Regt				
8	44537	44697		R Warwickshire Regt				
8	44912	44981		Hampshire Regt				
8	44993	45014		London Regt	<i>Bat from</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>regiment</i>
5	45015	45057	1/18	Hampshire Regt	20244	20450	7/3/16	3rd Ox and Bucks
8	45060	45073		London Regt	20574	20624	16/3/16	3rd Royal Warwicks
5	45074	45104		Hampshire Regt	20625	20654	21/3/16	3rd Ox and Bucks
5	45105	45111		R Warwickshire Regt	20672	20743	21/3/16	3rd Ox and Bucks
8	45113	45135		R Warwickshire Regt	20744	20760	24/3/16	Duke of Cornwalls LI
5	45136	45139		Duke of Cornwalls LI	20781	20861	24/3/16	3rd Royal Warwicks
5	45140	45143		Ox and Bucks LI	20936	20947	30/3/16	Wiltshires
2	45155	45211		Ox and Bucks LI	22761	22811	4/5/16	3rd Duke of Cornwalls
2	45212	45241		7 DCLI	22812	22820	5/5/16	3rd Hants
2	45242	45487		Ox and Bucks LI	22839	22843	11/5/16	3rd Hants
8	45493	45535		Devonshire Regt	22851	22863	4/5/16	3rd Duke of Cornwalls
8	45546	45550		South Lancs Regt	22864	22896	5/5/16	3rd Hants
8	45552	45657		Ox and Bucks LI	23338	23356	22/6/16	3rd Ox and Bucks
5	45658	45688		Hampshire Regt	23509	23559	11/5/16	Hants abd DCLI intermixed
1	45698	45729		South Lancs Regt				Other men with numbers from 24925 to 25004 were similarly transferred between the Dorsets, Warwicks, OBLI, Hants, Wilts, Somerset, DCLI without seeing any service in the Royal Berks.
2/4	45730	45768		S Lancs Regiment				There were mass transfers from the Royal Berks Labour Battalions to the Labour Corps - these are identified in sections 142 to 145, Further large groups were transferred to the Machine Gun Corps and these are listed in section 157.
5	45770	45835		Ox and Bucks LI				The remaining transfers in bulk from the Royal Berks to other regiments can be identified only on the basis of their new numbers in the other regiments.
8	45837	46005		Devonshire Regiment				Many of the men transferred to other regiments eventually returned to the Royal Berks in 1918 and 1919 and were often given a new Royal Berks number.
1	46066	46083		7 Somerset LI				
8	46096	46121		6/ Kings Shropshire LI				
2	46534	46598		RAVC				
2	46603	46803		RASC				
5	48535	48727	29/4/18*	Somerset Light Infantry				
2	50533	50710		R Warwickshire Regiment				
	50714	50751		Ox and Bucks LI				
1	50757	50785		Northumberland Fusiliers				
1	50795	50802		Durham Light Infantry				
5	220762	220788		Hampshire Regt				
5	223002	223023		1/4 Ox and Bucks LI				

Transfers from the Royal Berks

It is somewhat more difficult to identify batches of men transferred to other regiments from the Royal Berks. In a few cases a batch of newly enlisted men were transferred from the Royal Berks to other regiments having been allocated Royal Berks' numbers but seeing no service with them. The following batches fall into this category:-

<i>Bat from</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>regiment</i>
20244	20450	7/3/16	3rd Ox and Bucks
20574	20624	16/3/16	3rd Royal Warwicks
20625	20654	21/3/16	3rd Ox and Bucks
20672	20743	21/3/16	3rd Ox and Bucks
20744	20760	24/3/16	Duke of Cornwalls LI
20781	20861	24/3/16	3rd Royal Warwicks
20936	20947	30/3/16	Wiltshires
22761	22811	4/5/16	3rd Duke of Cornwalls
22812	22820	5/5/16	3rd Hants
22839	22843	11/5/16	3rd Hants
22851	22863	4/5/16	3rd Duke of Cornwalls
22864	22896	5/5/16	3rd Hants
23338	23356	22/6/16	3rd Ox and Bucks
23509	23559	11/5/16	Hants abd DCLI intermixed

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Many of the men transferred to other regiments eventually returned to the Royal Berks in 1918 and 1919 and were often given a new Royal Berks number.

<i>Bat from</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>regiment</i>	<i>Bat from</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>regiment</i>
Reinforcements				1	4/9/15	13	
In many cases a reinforcement is noted in the Battalion's War Diary but it is not easy to relate the reinforcement to a particular batch of numbers issued to men transferring, especially as such reinforcements usually included men from one of the Royal Berks Reserve Battalions or returning from hospital.				1	28/9/15	16	
				2	28/9/15	92	
				6	29/9/15	5	from England
				2	4/10/15	123	
				6	4/10/15	12	
				8	4/10/15	52	ex 9th Royal Berks
				6	9/10/15	29	
				2	10/10/15	104	
				6	10/10/15		ex 9th Royal Berks
				6	17/10/15	30	
				8	17/10/15	67	ex 9th Royal Berks
				8	30/10/15	77	ex 3rd and 9th Royal Berks
				1/4	19/12/15	20	
				8	19/12/15	48	
				8	23/12/15	103	
				1	25/12/15	39	
				1	3/1/16	86	
				1	21/1/16	5	signallers
				D5	18/3/16	17	ex Royal Warwicks
				1	2/5/16	44	
				9	9/5/16	168	ex Somersets
				9	23/5/16	10	ex Somersets
				5	25/5/17	16	ex R Warwicks
				6	9/7/16	399	Cambridges & Herts
				1	9/8/16	87	Herts Yeomanry
				1	9/8/16	53	Hunts Cyclists
				1	15/8/16	67	
				6	1/9/16	6	from base
				6	3/9/16	98	ex Lincolns
				8	6/9/16	225	ex Cheshires
				6	6/9/16	6	from base
				6	7/9/16	300	ex Herts
				6	7/9/16	100	ex Cambridges
				6	10/9/16	20	from base
				6	11/9/16	10	rejoined from base
				6	21/11/16	8	
				6	23/11/16	4	
				1	12/12/16	217	
				5	22/1/17	89	

5	19/2/17	43	46th IBD
5	25/3/17	68	OBLI
1	5/4/17	47	
5	18/4/17	39	
1	6/5/17	53	
1	7/5/17	122	
5	8/5/17	44	ex Royal Berks
5	25/5/17	32	
8	10/6/17	38	ex OBLI
5	1/7/17	18	ex R Warwicks
2/4	4/7/17	124	
6	5/7/17	6	ex 46th IBD
6	9/7/17	87	from 46th IBD
2/4	15/7/17	37	
2/4	21/7/17	92	
5	25/7/17	14	ex DCLI
2/4	27/7/17	13	
2/4	29/7/17	3	
5	18/4/17	38	ex OBLI
5	1/8/17	21	ex OBLI
5	1/8/17	20	ex Berks Yeomanry
5	16/8/17	30	ex Royal Berks
5	25/8/17	12	
2/4	16/9/17	30	
2/4	21/9/17	10	
2/4	29/10/17	30	
1	5/10/17	153	ex other regiments
1	5/10/17	100	ex OBLI
2/4	7/10/17	39	
5	20/10/17	179	
5	14/12/17	20	
2	23/1/18	57	
2	6/2/18	270	ex 6th Royal Berks
5	6/2/18		ex Royal Berks
2	9/3/18	16	
5	10/4/18	113	ex ASC
1	30/4/18	258	ex OBLI
1	6/5/18	147	ex Herts Yeomanry
5	7/5/18	55	ex Devons
5	14/5/18	49	
5	26/9/18	92	