

British Infantry Regiments and the Men Who Led Them 1793-1815

By [Steve Brown](#)

50th Regiment of Foot

Secondary Title: West Kent

Regimental History, 50th Regiment of Foot

1755: Raised as the 52nd Regiment of Foot
1757: Renumbered 50th Regiment of Foot
1782: Secondary title - West Kent
1804: 1 October - 2nd Battalion formed at Colchester
1814: 24 October - 2nd Battalion disbanded at Chatham
1827: 50th (Duke of Clarence's) Regiment of Foot
1831: 50th (Queen's Own) Regiment of Foot
1881: 1st Battalion, The Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).
1920: The Royal West Kent Regiment (Queen's Own)
1921: The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment
1961: The Queen's Own Buffs, The Royal Kent Regiment, on amalgamation with the Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment)
1966: 2nd Battalion (Queen's Own Buffs), The Queen's Regiment
1992: The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (Queen's and Royal Hampshires), on amalgamation with The Royal Hampshire Regiment

Service History and Demographics, 1st Battalion 50th Regiment of Foot

1793: Gibraltar (since 1784)
1794: Gibraltar; February - Hyeres Bay; Corsica; San Fiorenzo; Bastia; Calvi; Bastia
1795: Corsica - Ajaccio
1796: Ajaccio; October - to Gibraltar
1797: Gibraltar; received drafts from other regiments in the garrison; June - Portugal; Lisbon; Fort St Julien
1798: Fort St Julien
1799: Fort St Julien; to Minorca
1800: Minorca; November - to Egypt; December - Malta
1801: Bay of Marmorice; March - Egypt; Aboukir Bay; Alexandria; Lake Mareotis; Cairo; Alexandria; October - to Malta
1802: Malta; March - to Ireland; May - Cork; Belfast
1803: Belfast
1804: Belfast
1805: Belfast; August - the Curragh; Longford & White Rock
1806: Belfast; Mallow; June - Cork; August - ordered on foreign service but did not sail
1807: Cork; June to England; Ramsgate; Deal; absorbed all effective 2nd Battalion men; July - to Copenhagen; November - to England; Deal; December - Portsmouth; to Gibraltar
1808: Gibraltar; May - Cadiz; July - to Portugal; Figueras; Obidos; Rolica; Vimeiro; Monte Sano; October - Villa Franca; Santarem; Salamanca; retreat to Corunna
1809: CORUNNA; to England; Haslar; Gosport; Brabourne Lees; July - to Walcheren; South Beveland; Middelburg; December - to England (last regiment to embark)
1810: September - to Portugal; Lisbon; Sobral; Lines of Torres Vedras; Zibrera
1811: Zibrera; March - Peyvallo; Cazal Nova; Foz d'Aronce; Fuentes d'Onoro; July - received draft from 2nd Battalion; Torre di Moro; Arroyo del Molinos; Portalegre
1812: Portalegre; March - Dom Benito; Talavera de la Real; Truxillo; ALMAREZ; Aranjuez; Escurial; Alba de Tormes; Robledo; | 63% English/Welsh, 3% Scots, 33% Irish, 1% Foreign
1813: Monte Hermosa; Bejar; Douro; VITORIA; Pampeluna; Valley of Bastan; Maya; Dona Maria; NIVELLE; NIVE; Bayonne
1814: Bayonne; St Jean Pied de Port; ORTHEZ; Aire; TOULOUSE; July - Bourdeaux; Paulliac; to Ireland; Cork.

Service History and Demographics, 2nd Battalion 50th Regiment of Foot

1804: October - formed at Cirencester
1805: Cirencester; July - Worcester; August - Cirencester
1806: Cirencester; March - Worcester; May - Bognor
1807: Bognor; May - Jersey; June - all effective men into 1st Battalion; July - Deal; December - Ashford | 88% English/Welsh, 1% Scots, 10% Irish, 1% Foreign
1808: Ashford; August - Brabourne; November - Hythe
1809: Hythe; March - Eastbourne; May - Reading; August - Ospringe; December - Shorncliffe
1810: Silverhill; October - Eastbourne
1811: Eastbourne; November - Jersey | 71% English/Welsh, 1% Scots, 27% Irish, 1% Foreign
1812: Jersey; March - Portsmouth; May - Littlehampton; June - Eastbourne
1813: Eastbourne | 72% English/Welsh, 4% Scots, 24% Irish
1814: Eastbourne; August - Chatham; October - disbanded at Chatham.

Significant Militia/Volunteer Intakes:

(militia units unless noted otherwise)

1800: North Hampshire; Herefordshire; 1st Yorkshire

1801: Received drafts from Maltese garrison

1804: Received Additional Forces Act men from Gloucestershire

1806: County Leitrim; County Tyrone

1807: Dorset; South Gloucestershire; East Kent; West Yorkshire; County Wicklow

1808: Irish Militia

1809: 1st Devonshire; County Galway; County Louth

1810: East Middlesex

1812: Invernesshire

Colonels

Sir Thomas Spencer WILSON, Bt.

Born: Sussex 1727

Relations: Son of Sir Thomas Wilson, 4th Baronet

Regimental Service: Colonel of 50th Foot 30 April 1777

Early Service: Served in Jacobite Rebellion; served in Germany; ADC to Lord Waldegrave at Minden; wounded in action four times

Brevets & Staff Service: Brevet Colonel 31 December 1772; Major-General 29 August 1777; Lieutenant-General 20 November 1782; General 3 May 1796

Awards & Honours: 6th Baronet 1760; MP 1774-1780

Died: Sussex 29 August 1798.

Sir James DUFFE, Kt.

Royal Military Calendar Entry: No. 32

Born: Scotland 1753

Relations: Illegitimate son of 2nd Earl of Fife

Regimental Service: Captain & Lieutenant-Colonel in 1st Foot Guards 18 July 1780; 3rd Major 7 March 1795 (vice D'Oyley); 2nd Major 28 September 1797 (vice D'Oyley); 1st Major 11 October 1797 (vice D'Oyley); Colonel of 50th Foot 31 August 1798 (vice Wilson)

Service 1793-1815: Commanded Guards flank battalion in Holland 1793; Major-General in Ireland during the 1798 rebellion

Brevets & Staff Service: Brevet Colonel 18 November 1790; Major-General 4 October 1794; Lieutenant-General 1 January 1801; General 25 October 1809

Died: Chichester 5 December 1839.

Lieutenant-Colonels

AGC = Army Gold Cross (clasps in brackets)

LAGM = Large Army Gold Medal (clasps in brackets)

SAGM = Small Army Gold Medal (clasps in brackets)

MGSMS = Military General Service Medal (Silver Medal) (clasps in brackets)

William EDMESTON

Regimental Service: Lieutenant-Colonel in 75th Foot; Lieutenant-Colonel in 50th Foot 13 June 1783; Colonel of 95th Foot 30 October 1793; Colonel of 1st Royal Garrison Battalion 25 December 1802

Early Service: Served in North America

Service 1793-1815: Commanded 50th Foot 1783-1793

Brevets & Staff Service: Brevet Colonel 20 November 1782; Major-General 12 October 1793; Lieutenant-General 1 January 1798

Died: London July 1804.

Patrick WAUCHOPE

Born: Scotland 1750

Regimental Service: Major in 50th Foot 9 April 1789; brevet Lieutenant-Colonel 12 October 1793; Lieutenant-Colonel 17 February 1794 (vice Edmeston); Colonel of 7th Garrison Battalion 25 November 1806

Service 1793-1815: Commanded 50th Foot on Corsica 1794; Governor of Ajaccio 1795

Brevets & Staff Service: Brevet Colonel 26 January 1797; Brigadier-General in West Indies 27 January 1801; Major-General 25 September 1803

Died: Killed in action at Rosetta 31 March 1807.

John ROSE

Regimental Service: Major in 50th Foot 17 February 1794 (vice Wauchope); brevet Lieutenant-Colonel 1 March 1794; Lieutenant-Colonel 1 September 1795

Died: December 1795.

Francis ERSKINE

Royal Military Calendar Entry: No. 912

Born: Scotland 1755

Regimental Service: Major in 50th Foot 1 September 1795 (vice Rose); Lieutenant-Colonel in 50th Foot 2 January 1796 (vice Rose); Lieutenant-Colonel in 96th Foot 2 January 1796; exchanged to Lieutenant-Colonel in 44th Foot 25 July 1798; exchanged to half-pay of 99th Foot 24 January 1799

Died: 7 June 1833.

Charles W BAILLIE

Regimental Service: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel 27 August 1794; Lieutenant-Colonel in 101st Foot 22 October 1794 (on transfer from 67th Foot); on half-pay 1795; Lieutenant-Colonel in 44th Foot 18 January 1797; exchanged to Lieutenant-Colonel in 50th Foot 25 July 1798; Lieutenant-Colonel in 51st Foot 6 September 1798; Colonel of 3rd Ceylon Regiment 7 April 1804
Service 1793-1815: Commanded 50th Foot 1801-1804; served in Ceylon 1804-1810
Brevets & Staff Service: Brevet Colonel 1 January 1800; Brigadier-General in Ceylon 31 July 1806; Major-General 25 April 1808
Died: 1810.

Sir George Townshend WALKER, Bt.

Royal Military Calendar Entry: No. 390

Born: 1764

Regimental Service: Major in 60th Foot 28 August 1794; Lieutenant-Colonel in 50th Foot 6 September 1798 (vice Baillie); Colonel of de Meuron's Regiment 24 October 1812; Colonel of Rifle Brigade 21 May 1816; Colonel of 84th Foot 19 September 1822; Colonel of 50th Foot 23 December 1830

Early Service: Served in India 1784-1787

Service 1793-1815: Served on staff in Flanders 1793; served in Portugal 1797; served at Helder 1799, Military Commissary to Russian Troops; commanded 1/50th Foot at Copenhagen 1807; commanded 1/50th Foot in Peninsula August 1808 to January 1809; served on staff at Walcheren; again in Peninsula September 1810 to August 1812; commanded a brigade in 5th Division October 1811 to April 1812, wounded at Badajoz; again in Peninsula July 1813 to April 1814; commanded a brigade in 2nd Division August to October 1813; commanded 7th Division November 1813 to March 1814, wounded at Orthez

Brevets & Staff Service: Brevet Colonel 25 April 1808; Major-General 4 June 1811; Lieutenant-General 19 July 1821; General 28 June 1838

Later Service: Governor of Grenada 1815-1816; Commander-in-Chief Madras 1826-1831; Lieutenant-Governor of Chelsea Hospital 24 May 1837

Awards & Honours: LAGM (Vim Bad Ort); GCB; 1st Baronet 28 March 1835

Died: Chelsea Hospital 14 November 1842.

Benjamin ROWE

Regimental Service: Major in 50th Foot 2 September 1795; brevet Lieutenant-Colonel 1 January 1801; Lieutenant-Colonel 1 August 1804

Service 1793-1815: Commanded 50th Foot in Egypt 1801; commanded 2/50th Foot 1804-1805

Retired: February 1805

Died: Bristol 2 August 1807.

Charles STEWART

Regimental Service: Major in 53rd Foot 4 April 1800; to Lieutenant-Colonel in 50th Foot 17 February 1805 (vice Rowe)

Service 1793-1815: Served at Seringapatam 1799; commanded 1/50th Foot at Walcheren 1809; commanded 1/50th Foot in Peninsula September 1810 to October 1812; commanded a brigade in 2nd Division October 1811 and November to December 1812
Died: Of disease at Robledo 11 December 1812.

Charles HILL

Regimental Service: Major in 50th Foot 1 August 1804 (vice Rowe); brevet Lieutenant-Colonel 25 July 1810; Lieutenant-Colonel 13 June 1811

Service 1793-1815: Served at Copenhagen 1807; served in Peninsula August 1808 to January 1809, wounded at Vimeiro; served at Walcheren; commanded 1/50th in Peninsula May 1813 to April 1814, wounded in Pyrenees

Awards & Honours: SAGM (Vit); CB

Died: 1819.

Charles MORLAND

Royal Military Calendar Entry: No. 1189

Regimental Service: Major in 17th Light Dragoons 20 July 1809; Major in 9th Light Dragoons 8 February 1810; Lieutenant-Colonel in 50th Foot 29 October 1812 (vice Walker); exchanged to Lieutenant-Colonel in 9th Light Dragoons 4 March 1813

Service 1793-1815: Served in Portugal 1797; served in Egypt 1801; served at Copenhagen 1807; served at Walcheren 1809; served in Peninsula April to November 1813

Brevets & Staff Service: Brevet Colonel 27 May 1825

Later Service: ADC to King George IV 1825

Retired: 6 March 1828

Died: Paris 14 June 1828.

Louis Guy Charles Guillaume de ROHAN-CHABOT, Vicomte

Royal Military Calendar Entry: No. 712

Born: France 1780

Regimental Service: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel 12 February 1807; Major in 9th Light Dragoons 16 March 1809; Lieutenant-Colonel in 9th Light Dragoons 24 January 1811; Lieutenant-Colonel in 50th Foot 4 March 1813 (vice Morland); to half-pay

Service 1793-1815: Served at Helder 1799; served at Ferrol 1800; served at Walcheren 1809; served in Peninsula July to September 1811

Brevets & Staff Service: Brevet Colonel; Major-General

Later Service: ADC to King Louis Philippe I

Awards & Honours: KCH

Died: 1875.

Charles James NAPIER

Royal Military Calendar Entry: No. 1040

Born: London 1782

Relations: Son of Colonel Hon. George Napier, brother of William Francis and George Thomas Napier

Regimental Service: Major in Cape Regiment 29 May 1806; exchanged to Major in 50th Foot 6 November 1806; to Lieutenant-Colonel in 102nd Foot 27 June 1811; Lieutenant-Colonel in 50th Foot 2 September 1813 (vice Chabot); to half-pay 1814; Colonel of 22nd Foot 21 November 1843

Service 1793-1815: Served in Irish Rebellion; served with 2/50th Foot 1806-1808; commanded 1/50th Foot in Peninsula September 1808 to January 1809; wounded and taken POW at Corunna, released March 1809; again in Peninsula August 1809 to July 1811; served on staff and wounded at Busaco; served in North America 1813; served in Army of Occupation 1815

Brevets & Staff Service: Brevet Colonel 27 May 1825; Major-General 10 January 1837; Lieutenant-General 9 November 1846

Later Service: Inspecting Field Officer on Corfu 1819; Governor of Cephalonia 1822-1830; Commander-in-Chief Bombay 1842; Governor of Bombay 1843-1847; Commander-in-Chief India 1849-1851

Awards & Honours: MGSM (Bus FDO); SAGM (Cor); GCB

Died: Portsmouth 29 August 1853.

Majors

AGC = Army Gold Cross (clasps in brackets)

LAGM = Large Army Gold Medal (clasps in brackets)

SAGM = Small Army Gold Medal (clasps in brackets)

MGSM = Military General Service Medal (Silver Medal) (clasps in brackets)

Thomas RUDSDELL

Born: 1750

Regimental Service: Major in 50th Foot 2 January 1796 (on transfer from 11th Foot, vice Erskine); to Lieutenant-Colonel in 6th West India Regiment 20 June 1798; Lieutenant-Colonel in 61st Foot 23 October 1800

Service 1793-1815: Lieutenant-Governor of Sheerness 1806

Died: Surrey 11 May 1813.

James IMRIE

Regimental Service: Major in 50th Foot 4 July 1798 (vice Rudsdell)

Died: June 1801.

John Gordon HAVEN

Regimental Service: Major in 50th Foot 18 June 1801 (vice Imrie)

Retired: December 1807.

Cholmondley OVEREND

Regimental Service: Major in 50th Foot 2 August 1804

Retired: 22 September 1808.

Thomas LYSTER

Regimental Service: Major in 50th Foot 28 September 1804; exchanged to Cape Regiment 6 November 1806; brevet Lieutenant-Colonel 4 June 1811

Service 1793-1815: Served at Cape of Good Hope 1806-1815

Later Service: Inspector of Coasts and Volunteers on St Helena.

Sir Henry James RIDDELL

Royal Military Calendar Entry: No. 1261

Regimental Service: Major in 50th Foot 16 December 1807 (vice Haven); to Major in 79th Foot 21 April 1808; brevet Lieutenant-Colonel 4 June 1813

Service 1793-1815: Served in Nova Scotia; Assistant Quartermaster-General in Ireland 1804-1807; Assistant Quartermaster-General at Copenhagen 1807; permanent assistant at Quartermaster-General's Department 4 January 1810; served in Peninsula as Assistant Quartermaster-General on staff November 1810 to April 1814

Brevets & Staff Service: Brevet Colonel 22 July 1830; Major-General 23 November 1841; Lieutenant-General 11 November 1851; General 1859

Later Service: Commander-in-Chief Scotland 1847-1852

Awards & Honours: KCH

Died: 8 March 1861.

Hon. Charles Banks STANHOPE

Born: 1785

Relations: Second son of Charles, 3rd Earl Stanhope; brother of James Hamilton Stanhope, 1st Foot Guards

Regimental Service: Major in 6th Garrison Battalion 6 February 1808; Major in 50th Foot 21 April 1808

Service 1793-1815: Served in Sicily 1806-1807; served in Peninsula August 1808 to January 1809

Died: Killed in action at Corunna 16 January 1809.

Sir Frederick HANKEY

Royal Military Calendar Entry: No. 1054

Born: c.1774

Regimental Service: Major in 50th Foot 22 September 1808 (on transfer from 19th Foot, vice Overend); exchanged to Major in 2nd Ceylon Regiment 13 July 1809; brevet Lieutenant-Colonel 15 August 1811; to half-pay

Service 1793-1815: Inspector-General of Colonial Troops on Ceylon 1811

Brevets & Staff Service: Brevet Colonel 27 May 1825

Later Service: Deputy Adjutant-General on Malta; Chief Secretary of Malta 1824-1837; Secretary to Sir Thomas Maitland on Corfu

Awards & Honours: GCMG

Died: London March 13 March 1855.

John Bacon HARRISON

Royal Military Calendar Entry: No. 1164

Born: Bombay 1778

Regimental Service: Major in 50th Foot 23 February 1809 (vice Stanhope); brevet Lieutenant-Colonel 19 June 1812

Service 1793-1815: Served on Corsica 1795; served in Egypt 1801; served at Copenhagen 1807; served in Peninsula August 1808 to January 1809; served at Walcheren; commanded 50th light company in Peninsula August 1810 to 1812; commanded 1/50th

December 1812 to April 1814

Awards & Honours: SAGM (Pyr Nive Ort); CB

Died: Cheltenham 15 April 1863.

James ARMSTRONG

Regimental Service: Major in 2nd Ceylon Regiment 30 March 1809; exchanged to Major in 50th Foot 13 July 1809 (vice Hankey); brevet Lieutenant-Colonel 28 August 1811

Service 1793-1815: Military Secretary to Wellesley in India; Quartermaster-General in India 1805; military agent in Spain 1809; served on staff in Peninsula August 1811 to early 1812, ADC to Wellington; ADC to Duke of York

Died: London 15 August 1812.

Thomas Dundas CAMPBELL

Royal Military Calendar Entry: No. 1813

Born: Scotland 1767

Regimental Service: Major in 50th Foot 13 June 1811 (vice Hill); brevet Lieutenant-Colonel 12 August 1819; Colonel of 60th Foot

Service 1793-1815: Served in Sicily; served in Peninsula September 1810 to December 1813; commanded 1/50th Foot after Maya

Died: 1846.

Edward Thomas ABBOTT

Regimental Service: Major in 102nd Foot 11 November 1798; to Major in 50th Foot 18 July 1811 (vice Napier)

Retired: August 1811.

Hamilton ARCHDALL

Regimental Service: Major in 50th Foot 29 August 1811 (vice Abbott); to half-pay 1814

Service 1793-1815: Served in Peninsula August to September 1808; again in Peninsula September 1810 to December 1811

Died: Dublin December 1816.

Herman STAPLETON

Royal Military Calendar Entry: No. 1950

Regimental Service: Major in 50th Foot 3 September 1812 (vice Armstrong); to half-pay 1814; brevet Lieutenant-Colonel 27 May 1825

Service 1793-1815: Served at Walcheren 1809; served in Peninsula September 1810 to November 1812

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