

Here are some photographs of the original members of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion circa 1875.

These were found in a photo album in the Surrey History Centre. Names and information have been added to each photo.

**Private Luinton**



This soldier has had his photo taken in marching order. He is carrying a Snider Enfield rifle and his equipment and socket bayonet can be clearly seen. It is not as complete as complete as that of a regular, there is only one pouch and probably a mess tin at the back. Some items like holdall with knife fork and spoon etc would be carried in the pockets of his greatcoat and carried 'en bandolier'.

### **Private Whaley**



This volunteer is wearing the other ranks tunic, the same as the one on show in the regimental museum. It also shows the glengarry badge and collar dogs which are blackened for the 2nd Battalion, the cuff detail and the black 1871 pattern belt with snake buckle.

### **Corporal W. Budger**



You can clearly see the corporal rank stripes and the shooting badge. The diamond shaped badge on his lower right arm is the proficiency badge awarded to a man who has passed his basic military training. If he did not do so within a certain period of joining he had to pay a forfeit to the regimental funds.

**Bugler A.C. Chandler**



The tunic is the same as the private but is piped up the sleeves the rear of the jacket in the same pattern as a regular musician. There is a piping similar on a jacket in the museum collection which is twisted red and black, and it is a safe to assume this is the colour of the piping on the jacket and wings in this photo.

**Sergeant G. Beaumont**



This photo shows the cross belt without the regimental badge in centre. This often occurred as the volunteers had to pay for their own equipment and uniform, and could not often do so all in one go. The shooting badge on his left arm is as described in Volunteers Regulations, this one means 60% hits on target at 600 yards.

### **Colour Sergeant G. Bray**



The colour sergeant is the second highest ranking NCO in a company, one rank below the Sergeant-Major. He has an Other ranks tunic and belt with the NCO's cross belt, and is carrying on the belt a '53 pattern Yataghan sword bayonet for the Snider – Enfield rifle. This is normal practice in the regular line regiments, where Sergeants and above carry the sword bayonet while ranks up to corporal have the socket bayonet. In rifle volunteer battalions, usually all ranks are issued with sword bayonets. His rank badge of rank is 3 stripes (with proficiency star) under crossed swords surmounted by a crown. You can just make out his glasses in this photo as well.

## Lieutenant Colonel F. Leach



This is the man who commanded the 2<sup>nd</sup> Volunteer Battalion. He is wearing a rifle officer's style tunic with regimental collar dogs, and the typical cross belt with whistle. Those officers ranking major and above are known as field officers and for that reason he is also wearing breeches and riding boots. His sword is of a rifle regiment pattern and you can see his officer's blue cloth helmet on the side.

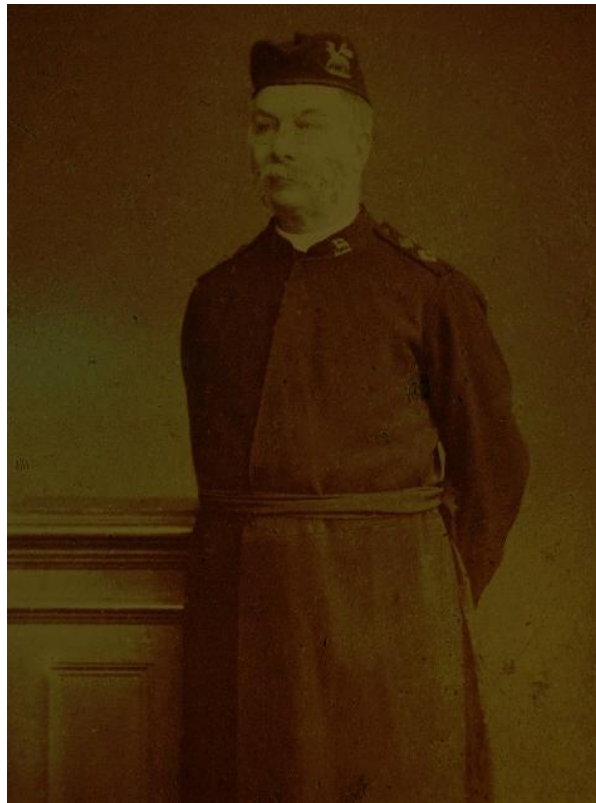
All lower ranking company officers (i.e. captains, lieutenants) belonging to the battalion would wear almost identical tunics and belts, the only difference being the amount of decoration on the cuff. Higher the rank, the more decoration!

## Sergeant Major G. Garton



Although not a commissioned officer, the Sergeant Major is the most senior NCO, and is wearing an officer's tunic. His rank badge is four stripes, point up, surmounted by a crown on the right sleeve (just visible). He is carrying an early Victorian officer's sword, worn by senior NCOs'. The medal is probably the volunteer long service medal, but is too small to confirm.

### **Chaplain J.N. Harrison**



The chaplain seems to be wearing an adapted set of clergy robes, and he is probably a local clergyman from the Reigate or Guildford area. Note the collar dogs and rank, two pips at this time denoting a captain. The badge on the Glengarry is the embroidered kind worn on the forage cap of regular officers.

### **Surgeon H.J. Stone**



The surgeon was the doctor of the regiment and in all likelihood was one of the local doctor's. In regular battalions the battalion surgeon held the substantive rank of captain and usually had 2 assistants. He is uniformed as an officer of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Volunteer Battalion with a sword and a medical corps badge on the pouch strap (note no whistle). As surgeon he wears as his headdress a cocked hat with Black plume. This was general practice throughout the army.