3rd Regiment of Foot (Buffs)

Contents

History:
This British Regiment was first raised in 1665 but became known as the 3rd East Kent Regiment from 1782. Known also as The Buffs.

Records used:
Original records dealing with the Regiment are held in the War Office series at The National Archives (TNA) in Kew, England. Some of these records have not been filmed and with the vast quantity of military records it is unlikely that they will be scanned for many years.

Some of the more important records which relate to the Regiment's period in Australia were filmed under the Australian Joint Copy Project (AJCP) and are available in major libraries in Australia. The series from which our project chose to extract data, are the Army Regimental Pay Lists, 25 March 1823 to 24 December 1827 - WO 12.

Unfortunately the AJCP did not commence early enough for this regiment and as a result the details of the early detachments to arrive in Australia has not been included in BDA. However, Bob Pauling has visited TNA and extracted the missing data. This will be added to the men's biographies early in 2017.

Most are quarterly returns. The men are divided into separate lists according to their rank, and are listed in each return in the same order except when they were promoted or demoted, in which cases they were recorded into their new rank list. The movement of some men caused some confusion for the clerks in their compilation of these records and it is possible that occasional duplication has crept into our dataset.

Additionally, the *1812 Army List* volume was consulted for extra details of the Officers.

Data extracted:

Project Board member Keith Johnson extracted data from each Pay List. Not all the information was extracted, notably the rate of pay for each rank. Items extracted include, full name, rank, previous occupation and previous residence (if recorded); enlistment date and place, the length of service contracted, either 7 or 14 years, the Company(ies) served in, birthplace, ship and date of arrival in NSW, (generally added by the Editors), dates and places of desertion, illness and discharge, if noted. Place of Service (if noted) can be assumed that most of the men were in Sydney, unless noted otherwise.

The Pay Lists often contained variations in spelling of a soldier's surname between one list and another. Some also had completely different given names. All these variations have been cross indexed into the Database.

The Pay Lists can record the date and place of death of a soldier during the period covered.

Pay details have not been extracted but as an example, the daily rates paid to Non Officer ranks between March and June 1824 were:

	Shillings	& Pence	& Farthings
Sergeant-Major	2s.	6d.	
Quartermaster-Sergeant	2s.		
Paymaster's Clerk	1s.	4d.	
Armourer as Sergeant	1s	4d.	
Drum Major as Sergeant	1s.	4d.	
Sergeants	1s.	4d.	
Corporals		10d.	
Drummers & Fifers		7d.	3
Privates		7d	

Men were paid a higher daily rate if they had served in the Army for longer periods, Privates were paid 7d. per day, a few 8d. Per day.

Arrival in Sydney & Hobart:

Men arrived in Australia (Sydney and Hobart) mainly as Detachments of guards on convict ships. The commanding officer, Colonel William Stewart, arrived on the *Asia* on 29 April 1825. Some men's ship of arrival or departure were noted in the Pay Lists, but it is impossible to ascertain the ship of arrival and departure of all of the men.

The following is a list of ships detected (mainly recorded in *Historical Records of Australia*, Series 1), which carried men of the 3rd Regiment, and also from *Shipping Arrivals & Departures, Sydney, 1788-1825* by J S Cumpston, pub. 1977, Roebuck Press.

Ship Arrivals:

Shipley	11 Mar 1822	from England
Richmond	19 May 1822	from London

Phoenix	7 Jun 1822	from London & Hobart	
Guildford	15 Jul 1822	from London	
Asia	23 Jul 1822	from Portsmouth	
Arab	9 Nov 1822	from Portsmouth to Hobart & Sydney 29th	
Eliza	22 Nov 1822	from London	
Barmpton	22 Apr 1823	from Cork & the Cape	with HQ & staff
Anne & Amelia	2 Jan 1825	from Cork	1 Sgt & 17
privates			
Asia	29 Apr 1825	from Portsmouth	Colonel Stewart
Elizabeth	16 Aug 1825	from Hobart	

Leaving Australia:

Prince Regent	13 Nov 1824	for London	3 men only
Woodford	28 Jan 1827	for Calcutta	3 companies
Prince Regent	4 Dec 1817	for Calcutta	Col. Stewart &
HQ			

It is likely that other small detachments left on other ships.

Statistics:
Recorded in the Database – 33 Officers & 634 men. Many would have been married but their wives and children are not named.

References:
Some of the above details have been extracted from:

Dress & Insignia of the British Army in Australia & New Zealand 1770-1870
by R.H. Montague, p.28. Pub. by Library of Australian History, Sydney, 1981.

Shipping Arrivals and Departures, Sydney, 1788-1825
by J.S. Cumpston. Pub. by Roebuck Press, Canberra, 1977.

Historical Records of Australia - Series 1 (see under ship names and Regiments – 3rd, in their Indexes).

Original Sources used are detailed above under Records Used.

Further reading:

Military Forces in New South Wales - an Introduction - Part 1 1788-1904, 3rd edition
by Ralph Sutton, Ken Thompson & Bill Storer. Pub. by The Army Museum Foundation, Paddington, 2000.

Manuscripts in the British Isles relating to Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific,
Editor Phyllis Mander-Jones. Pub. by Australian National University Press, Canberra, 1972.
This volume lists many more references to the 3rd Regiment than can be found in the on-line catalogue of The National Archives, London.

Abbreviations:

HRA - Historical Records of Australia.

TNA - The National Archives - Kew, London, England.

Acknowledgements for the dataset:

Keith A Johnson AM - Data extraction from Pay Lists & editing these pages.

Malcolm R Sainty AM - General editing & processing the data.

Robert Pauling for information on the arrival of the *Arab* and lists of men embarking for Australia. This latter information has now been added to the Biographies of the men.

List of all British Regiments that served in Australia:

(see Military - British Regiments In Australia)

Information Page written by Mal Sainty

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