

Cumbria's Museum of Military Life - RECORDS FROM 1920-49

The Museum has a large archive of documents and photographs relating to the Regiment and enquiries on any aspect of the Regiment's history are welcome. Enquiries can be made by e-mail to enquiries@cmoml.org (please include full contact details), via the following link on our website <http://www.cumbriasmuseumofmilitarylife.org/about-us/research-enquiries/> by telephone 01228 532774, or in writing to: Cumbria's Museum of Military Life, Alma Block, The Castle, Carlisle, Cumbria CA3 8UR.

• Important information

Please note that all soldiers and officers service papers from 1920 to date are held by the Ministry of Defence, we do not hold any in the Museum. To apply for records, you will need at least the name and date of birth for the serviceman/woman in question, as well as either the regiment/corps in which they served, or ideally, their service number .

We would suggest obtaining some copies of these records first, and then contacting us for some additional background/contextual information.

Nearest next of kin can download the application forms for these records via the following website: <https://www.gov.uk/requests-for-personal-data-and-service-records>

Alternatively, you can write and request application forms from the following address:

**Historical Disclosures Section
MP555, Army Personnel Centre
Kentigern House, 65 Brown Street
Glasgow
G2 8EX
0141-224-3600**

Detailed information will only be given to an individual serviceman/woman or his/her next or nearest next-of-kin. A search fee is charged, for more information on this, please contact Kentigern House.

• What records does the Museum have?

Army Lists – we have access to the army list which name the regiment and commission date for officers serving in the British Army

Battalion War Diaries – We have copies of the 1st, 2nd and 9th Battalions only (original copies are held in the National Archives at Kew) and there are numerous general documents including a WW2 Roll of Honour, other casualty information and information on POWs.

Regimental History – there is an extremely useful book covering the service of all battalions during the War.

Campaign Medals & Gallantry awards – We have access to various campaign medal rolls and gallantry awards - details include some citations and date of publication in the London Gazette.

Photographs - The Museum holds several thousand photographs, some of which are named.

Other documents – We also hold various other documents, including enlistment books for the Border Regiment which cover soldiers enlisting between 1920 and 1945

- **Where can you find more information other than in the local regimental museum?**

Family - for documents and paperwork, photographs, medals and memorabilia - medals and paperwork will give details of a man's name, number, regiment and possibly the battalion in which he served

Local Libraries and Record Offices - copies of regimental histories, local studies information, local company, local authority and parish records.

Local newspapers for WW2, original or on microfilm - these are a good source of information and may be available from the nearest local library with a reference/local studies section or County Record Office.

Local War Memorials and Rolls of Honour - check these for details.

The National Archives at Kew (020-8876-3444 or visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk) hold copies of battalion, brigade, division and other unit war diaries and many other documents. There are some references to individuals, mainly officers.

Medal Records - after WW2 most families of servicemen/women killed or died whilst serving and many of those who served, were sent the relevant service medals for WW2. However, many thousands of medals were un-claimed. Medals un-claimed by servicemen and women may be claimed by them, or their nearest next-of-kin from by contacting The MOD Medal office by email on dbs-medals@mod.uk, by telephone on 0808-191-4218 or by writing to:

MOD Medals Office

Innsworth House

Imjin Barracks

Gloucester

GL3 1HW

UK Regimental and Military Museums - the Museum has contact details for all UK military museums; also visit the Army Museums Ogilby Trust web-site www.armymuseums.org.uk

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (01628 634221 or visit www.cwgc.org.uk) will provide details of where servicemen who were killed during the War are buried, or commemorated and the location/directions to any of their cemeteries and memorials.

- **CHARGES**

The Museum handles hundreds of enquiries annually. It is one of our most important roles, but it places heavy demands on the time and resources of our small team of staff and volunteers. For research undertaken by a member of the Museum Research team, there is a charge of £25 per name. Please contact the Museum if you would like to make an enquiry.