

The Royal Welch Fusiliers

Battalion Histories and Other Principal Sources

Introductory Notes

1. Battalions' activities contained in *Regimental Records*¹ and *The Red Dragon*² are not included in this list. Neither are the histories of the 38th and 53rd Welsh Divisions. Other divisional histories are, however, listed as their existence may not be so well known.
2. War Diaries exist for almost all the battalions, covering the 1914–1918 and 1939–1945 wars.
3. The regimental journal, *Y Ddraig Goch*, was not published during either World War. *A News Letter* (six issues, one in May 1941, and five from August 1943 to August 1945) gives some information about battalions' activities during the Second World War.
4. Several books contain details of the authors' service other than with a battalion of the Regiment. The activities of Robert Graves and Siegfried Sassoon, in particular, are covered in several biographical works, not listed above.

The Great War 1914–1918

Bn	Book	Period covered
1	Gladstone, Viscount, <i>William G.C. Gladstone – A Memoir</i> . Nisbet and Co, 1918.	?22 Mar–13 Apr 1915
	Adams, Bernard, <i>Nothing of Importance</i> . Methuen, 1917. Republished, with introduction by Peter T. Scott, Tom Donovan Publishing, 1988.	Oct 1915–June 1916
	<i>Siegfried Sassoon Diaries 1915–1918</i> . (Ed: Rupert Hart-Davis). Faber and Faber, 1983.	24 Nov 1915–24 July 1916
	Graves, Robert, <i>Goodbye To All That</i> . Jonathan Cape, 1929; Cassell, 1957.	27 Nov 1915–1 Apr 1916
	Thomas W.R., [<i>Memoirs</i>]. 215 pp. IWM	1917–1918
2	Anon, [Dr J.C. Dunn], <i>The War The Infantry Knew</i> , P.S. King & Son, 1938. Republished, with an introduction by Keith Simpson, Jane's, 1987; Cardinal, 1989.	July 1914–June 1919
	Richards, Frank, <i>Old Soldiers Never Die</i> . Faber & Faber, 1933; Anthony Mott, 1983; Philip Austen, 1994.	10 Aug 1914–Dec 1918

1. Dudley Ward, C.H., *Regimental Records of the Royal Welch Fusiliers (23rd Foot): Volume III, 1914–1918 (France and Flanders)*. Forster Groom & Co, 1928; Reprinted 1995.
Volume IV, 1915–1918 (Turkey–Bulgaria–Austria). Forster Groom & Co, 1929; Reprinted 1995.
2. Kemp, P.K. & Graves, John, *The Red Dragon. The Story of the Royal Welch Fusiliers, 1919–1945*. Gale & Polden, Aldershot, 1960.

Bn	Book	Period covered
	Graves, Robert, <i>Goodbye To All That</i> . Jonathan Cape, 1929; Cassell, 1957.	end July–26 Nov 1915 6–20 July 1916 26 Jan–? Feb 1917
	Siegfried Sassoon Papers – Letters from Capt J (Joe) Cottrill (IWM SS 1)	Aug 1916–Jan 1918
	Siegfried Sassoon Papers – Letters from Julian Dadd (IWM SS 2)	Aug 1916–July 1917
	<i>Siegfried Sassoon Diaries 1915–1918</i> . (Ed: Rupert Hart-Davis). Faber and Faber, 1983.	13 Mar–16 Apr 1917
	Williams, John R., <i>An Autobiography</i> , Gee & Son, Denbigh, 1961.	1 Oct 1917–?mid 1918
3	<i>Siegfried Sassoon Diaries 1915–1918</i> . (Ed: Rupert Hart-Davis). Faber and Faber, 1983.	11 Dec 1916–8 Feb 1917
4	Ellis, C., <i>The 4th (Denbighshire) Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers in the Great War</i> . Woodall, Minshall, Thomas & Co, Wrexham, 1926.	July 1914–Nov 1918
4 (Res- erve)	Silsoe, Lord, <i>Sixty Years a Welsh Territorial</i> . Gomer Press, Llandysul, 1976. ³	Late 1915–late 1916
	Pinto, Vivian de Sola, <i>The City that Shone</i> . Hutchinson, 1969.	March 1917. Feb–June 1918
2/5	<i>Concise History of the 2/5th Battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers</i> . (RWF Mus 2846)	?
6	Davies, David Wyn, <i>A Welshman in Mesopotamia</i> . Gwasg Cambria, Aberystwyth, 1986. [Capt H Owen Owen]	Aug 1914–10 Aug 1915
	Silsoe, Lord, <i>Sixty Years a Welsh Territorial</i> . Gomer Press, Llandysul, 1976. ⁴	Sep 1914–Oct 1915 late 1916–10 Mar 1917
	Pinto, Vivian de Sola, <i>The City that Shone</i> . Hutchinson, 1969.	April 1915–5 Aug 1916
	More, John, <i>With Allenby's Crusaders</i> . Heath Cranton, nd [c.1923].	End Mar–1 Sep 1917
8	<i>Diary of Captain Scott Powell, 8th Royal Welsh Fusiliers</i> (RWF Mus 1672)	?
9	Anon, <i>Glories of The Royal Welch Fusiliers – The 9th (Service) Battalion in the War. A Short History</i> . Cheshire Observer, 1930.	Aug 1914–7 June 1919
	<i>Short History of 9th Bn Royal Welch Fusiliers ...</i> by Lt Col L.F. Smeathman, 23 pp. (Copy in IWM and RWF Archives (Ref?)).	
	Lloyd Williams, Lt Col H., <i>Personal Experiences during the Years of the European War (1914–1918)</i> . Typescript (166 pp), 1925. [9 RWF] [IWM 73/148/1. RWF Museum 3321A]	Aug 1914–June 1919
	Anon, <i>A Short History of the 19th (Western) Division 1914–1918</i> . John Murray, 1919.	Sep 1914–Feb 1919
	Roberts, G.D., <i>Witness These Letters</i> , Chapter 2. Gee & Sons, Denbigh, 1983. [Lt G.C. Roberts]	Aug–Nov 1915
	Roberts, G.D., <i>Witness These Letters</i> , Chapter 6. Gee & Sons, Denbigh, 1983.	July–Nov 1918

3. This book gives a useful description of the role of this battalion at Park Hall Camp, Oswestry.

4. This book also covers life in 6 RWF during the inter-war years.

Bn	Book	Period covered
10	Burton, F.N., <i>The War Diary (1914–18) of 10th (Service) Battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers</i> . William Brendon & Son, Plymouth, 1926.	19 Sep 1914–8 Feb 1918
	Wacyn-Williams, Morgan, <i>From Khaki to Cloth</i> . Calvinistic Methodist Book Agency, Caernarvon, 1949.	Sep 1916–?late 1917
	Humphreys-Owen, Arthur E.O., Army Correspondence Book ⁵ cited in <i>Wales on the Western Front</i> , Ed. John Richards, Univ of Wales Press, 1994	13 Oct–9 Nov 1917
11	Anon, [Vulliamy, C.E.], <i>Fusilier Bluff</i> . Geoffrey Bles, 1934.	30 July–10 Sep 1918
13	Ex-RSM Davies T, <i>B Company 13th Battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers</i> , A Paper read at First and Fourth Re-unions, Privately printed 1950.	Oct 1914–Nov 1918
14	Anon, <i>14th (Service) Batt, Royal Welsh Fusiliers</i> , Gale & Polden, Aldershot, 1920.	21 Nov 1914–31 May 1919
	Thomas W.R., [<i>Memoirs</i>]. 215 pp. IWM	Nov 1915–summer 1916
15	Anon, <i>A Concise History of the 15th R.W.F. (1st London Welsh)</i> , 15 RWF Association, nd [c.1929].	Sep 1914–Feb 1918
	Griffith, Ll Wyn, <i>Up To Mametz</i> , Faber & Faber, 1931; Severn House, 1981; Gliddon Books, with introduction by Colin Hughes, 1988.	Dec 1915–June 1916
	Jones, David, <i>In Parenthesis</i> . Faber & Faber, 1937, 1963.	Dec 1915–July 1916
	Tucker, W.A., <i>The Lousier War</i> . New English Library, 1974.	Nov–?Dec 1914
16	Roberts, G.D., <i>Witness These Letters</i> , Chapter 3. Gee & Sons, Denbigh, 1983.	Dec 1915–2 Dec 1916 ⁶
	Turner A.J., [<i>Memoir</i>], 81 pp, illus., IWM	Mar– Nov 1918
17	Davies, Emlyn, <i>Taffy Went to War</i> . Knutsford Secretarial Bureau, nd [c.1974].	?Aug 1915–?Aug 1916
19	Whitton, F.E., <i>History of the 40th Division</i> . Gale & Polden, Aldershot, 1926.	?1915–Feb 1918
	Crozier, Brig F.P. ⁷ , <i>A Brass Hat in No Man's Land</i> . Cape 1930	Nov 1916–Feb 1918
	Turner, F., [<i>Memoir</i>]. 30 pp, ts. IWM	May 1916–Nov 1917
	Pinto, Vivian de Sola, <i>The City that Shone</i> . Hutchinson, 1969.	Late Apr–27 Oct 1917
	Davies, [Capt] E Beynon, <i>Ar Orwel Pell (The Far Horizon)</i> . Gwasg Gomer, Llandysul, 1965.	Mar 1915– ? 1919
24	Dudley Ward, C.H., <i>The 74th (Yeomanry) Division in Syria and France</i> . John Murray, 1922.	Mar 1917–Nov 1918
25	Williams Wynn, R.W. & Stable, W.N., <i>The Historical Records of the Montgomeryshire Yeomanry, Vol II</i> . Woodall, Minshall, Thomas & Co, Oswestry, 1926.	1 Jan 1917–? 1919

- The original Army Correspondence Book and Journal are in the National Library of Wales, Glansevern VII 14600 and 14812.
- Subsequent letters to September 1918 give a good account of his time as a prisoner of war at Clausthal, south of Goslar in the Harz mountains.
- Brigadier General F. P. Crozier commanded 119th Brigade, in which the 19th Battalion served. In his highly acclaimed book he writes very favourably of the battalion and of its Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel J. F. Plunkett, who was recommended by him for the VC (page 186).

Bn	Book	Period covered
	Dudley Ward, C.H., <i>The 74th (Yeomanry) Division in Syria and France</i> . John Murray, 1922.	Mar 1917–Nov 1918
	Owen, Bryn, <i>Owen Roscomyl and the Welsh Horse</i> . Palace Books, Caernarfon, 1990.	Mar 1917–June 1919
	<i>Siegfried Sassoon Diaries 1915–1918</i> . (Ed: Rupert Hart-Davis). Faber and Faber, 1983.	14 Mar–13 July 1918
	Pinto, Vivian de Sola, <i>The City that Shone</i> . Hutchinson, 1969.	21 June–9 Dec 1918
	Siegfried Sassoon Papers – Letters from Vivian de Sola Pinto (IWM SS 6)	June 1918–?
The Second World War 1939–1945		
1	'The Story of the 1st Bn Royal Welch Fusiliers, Friday May 10th – Monday May 27th 1940' in <i>Y Ddraig Goch</i> , Winter 1954 to Summer 1956 (four issues)	10–27 May 1940
	King J.L., <i>Farewell to Flanders</i> , 111 pp ts, nd [c. 1988]	9–30 May 1940
	Calver, D.H., <i>Padre Pastor & Poet – Rev K.W. Parkhurst MBE, 1907–1987</i> . Privately published, nd [1988].	16 June 1940–9 Nov 1944
	Smith W.C., <i>The Unsung Heroes</i> , Privately published, 1995	June 1940–? June 1944
	Thomas R.G., <i>Memoirs – The Burma Campaign</i> , John Watson, Wirksworth, 2000	Mar–Apr 1943
	Jones W.H., <i>A Soldier Reminisces</i> , Privately published, nd [c.1999]	Nov 1941–May 1946
4	<i>Y Ddraig Goch</i> , Spring 1946, pp 19–25	June 1944–May 1945
5 ⁸	<i>Y Ddraig Goch</i> , Spring 1946, pp 26–7	Feb 1940–May 1943
6	Anon, [Edited by Major H.R. Roberts MC] <i>A Short History of the 6th (Caernarvon and Anglesey) Battalion The Royal Welch Fusiliers, North West Europe, June 1944 to May 1945</i> . [Printed by] Gwenlyn Evans & Son, Caernarvon, 1946.	June 1944–Apr 1946
7	Davies, R.B.S., <i>A Brief Record of the Activities of 7th Batt The Royal Welch Fusiliers, 1908-1946</i> . [Printed by] J. Ellis, Llanidloes, 1950.	Aug 1939–Feb 1946
9	<i>Y Ddraig Goch</i> , Spring 1946, pp 39–41	Sep 1939–Feb 1946
10	Jones W.H., <i>A Soldier Reminisces</i> , Privately published, nd [c.1999]	Sep 1939–Nov 1941
31	<i>Y Ddraig Goch</i> , Spring 1946, pp 42–4	Sep 1940–Spring 1946

History\Bn Histories (M)
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8. This battalion became an anti-tank regiment in November 1938.