

# How to Research a Cameronian



SOUTH LANARKSHIRE  
Leisure & Culture

## Where can I get service records?

Please note: We do not hold service records at the Museum

The service records of soldiers whose service ended before 1921 are generally held by the National Archives:

The National Archives  
Ruskin Avenue  
Kew  
Richmond  
Surrey, TW9 4DU  
[www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk)

However, please be aware that more than half the service records for the years of 1914 to 1920 were destroyed in a German raid in 1940, meaning that there is around a 40% chance of finding a service record for this period from the 2.8 million remaining records.

You can also now find many more records available on the Ancestry and Find My Past websites, such as Medal rolls and Pension records, both of which provide specific information on the individual soldier, such as battalion:

[www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk).

[www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

## What about service records before WWI?

For soldiers, whose service ended before WWI, the National Archives has muster rolls, pay lists, campaign records, pension records and medal rolls. Many military records held at the National Archives can be viewed online through subscription sites such as Ancestry, Fold3, Findmypast etc.

The National Archives site has a number of useful guides on their vast archives:

[Help with your research - The National Archives](#)

## What about service records after WWI?

To obtain service records for soldiers whose service ended after 1921, you need to apply to the Ministry of Defence via the Army Personnel Centre:

Army Personnel Centre (APC)

Tel: 0345 600 9663

Website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/requests-for-personal-data-and-service-records>

## Where can I get more information on soldiers who died on active service?

To research soldiers who died in the First and Second World Wars, a useful resource is the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website: [www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org)

The website of the Scottish National War Memorial contains a searchable database of all Scottish casualties in the First and Second World Wars, as well as post-1945 conflicts: [www.snwm.org](http://www.snwm.org).

For soldiers who died in the First World War and were either born or lived in Glasgow, the Evening Times Roll of Honour is a useful resource. The information was taken from obituaries published in the Evening Times newspaper, many of which were accompanied by photographs. However, any information that appeared was dependant on what the family provided, so not every local soldier will appear. A searchable index gives the details of which issue of the newspaper the obituary appeared in, along with page number and column details, and can be found on the Glasgow City Council website: <https://www.glasgowfamilyhistory.org.uk/ExploreRecords/Pages/Evening-Times-Roll-of-Honour.aspx>

For other areas, local newspapers can also be a valuable resource to find obituaries and photographs. The Digital Newspaper Archive can be accessed with a Findmypast subscription.

For information on soldiers who died in service since 1945, the Armed Forces roll of honour can be searched here - <https://www.gov.uk/search-armed-forces-memorial-roll-of-honour>

## How do I find out about medals or citations?

The National Archives hold numerous rolls for campaign medals awarded to British service personnel. Consult the National Archives online research guides for more information: <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/?research-category=military-and-maritime&sub-category%5B%5D=medals-and-awards>

To find out more information on medals, The London Gazette may also provide details of gallantry awards and honours: <https://www.thegazette.co.uk/all-notices>

Newspapers from the area where a soldier normally lived are a valuable resource as they will often contain information on medals awarded including the reason for it being awarded and sometimes an accompanying photograph.

## Where can I find out about Prisoners of War?

The National Archives is a good place to start for information on Prisoners of War. For prisoners up to and including the First World War, try the Research Guide here:

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/research-guides/prisoners-war-1760-1919.htm>

For Prisoners of War from the Second World War to 1953, see the National Archives Guide here:

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/research-guides/prisoners-war-1939-1953.htm>

The International Red Cross also holds records on all soldiers taken as PoWs. You can find information about WWI prisoners of War in a free downloadable publication from here:

<http://www.icrc.org/eng/resources/documents/publication/p0937.htm>

## Do you have photographs of my relative?

It is unlikely we will be able to supply photographs of a soldier. We have a large number of photographs in the collection, however many of these contain individuals who are unnamed, and the majority of named photographs depict officers. We do not have portrait-style photographs of all Cameronian soldiers who enlisted.

If your relative died in the First or Second World Wars, it is possible that his details and a photograph appeared in a local newspaper. This information and any photographs would have been provided by a soldier's family, not the regiment, therefore we do not have any records relating to this. An excellent resource for Glasgow-based soldiers in WWI is the Evening Times Roll of Honour (see above).

## What resources does the Museum have that I can check?

Primary Sources:

### **War diaries**

These are a daily record of a Battalion's activities while on war-time operations. These cover most field-service Battalions in both the First and Second World Wars, Kurdistan in 1923, Palestine in 1936, and the Malayan Emergency.

### **Personal diaries of soldiers and officers**

These mainly cover the First and Second World Wars. Digitisation and transcription of these important records is an ongoing project, made possible by the dedicated work of our volunteers.

### **Enlistment books covering the 1920s and 1930s**

These have been photographed and indexed and can be searched on site or by staff.

### **Army lists**

Annual lists of all officers serving in the British Army, indexed by personal name and by Regiment. The earliest Army List is for 1740 but the series (to the 1st Battalion's Disbandment in 1968) is incomplete.

### **Officers' card index**

An index of all officers who served in the Regiment from 1689-1968, giving a brief outline of their military service. This is taken mainly from the Army Lists.

Secondary sources:

### **Regimental histories**

The four volumes of The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) Regimental History, all of which are now out of print.

### **Battalion histories**

Mainly covering 1914-18, these record the war history of individual Battalions in greater detail than the Regimental History

### ***The Covenanter* regimental magazine**

All issues from its inception in 1921 to the last issue in 2008.

### **Rolls of honour**

Published rolls of honour for The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) in the First and Second World Wars.

## **How can I make an enquiry and what information do I need?**

Enquirers wishing to make an appointment to consult any of the above sources or with a query about The Cameronians (SR) please contact:

Museum Research  
South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture  
Low Parks Museum  
129 Muir Street,  
Hamilton  
ML3 6BJ  
Phone 01698 452382

Email [museumresearch@southlanarkshireleisure.co.uk](mailto:museumresearch@southlanarkshireleisure.co.uk)

If you do wish to make an enquiry to us:

- Complete all sections of the downloadable enquiry form and submit by post, email or in person.
- Include as much information as you can, particularly the battalion, dates of service and regimental number.
- Err on the side of caution by telling us what you already know so that we do not duplicate any information.
- Be as specific as possible about what you would like us to try and find for you.

Enquiries are subject to charges. Research will only be undertaken once payment is received.

## **Where else can I look for information?**

The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) website, created and maintained by the former Regimental Trustees, [www.cameronians.org](http://www.cameronians.org).

Our Cameronians Collection Website and Blog contains many articles on the Regiment, its soldiers, and the museum collection - <http://cameronians.apps-1and1.net/>

You can explore our digitised museum collections using our Online Collections Browser - [https://www.slleisureandculture.co.uk/info/206/online\\_collection](https://www.slleisureandculture.co.uk/info/206/online_collection)

The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) Friends and Family Association has a page on Facebook

For military history in general:

Imperial War Museum  
Lambeth Road  
London SE1 6HZ  
Tel.: 0207-416 5320  
Website: [www.iwm.org.uk](http://www.iwm.org.uk)

National Army Museum  
Royal Hospital Road  
Chelsea  
London SW3 4HT  
Tel.: 0207-7730 0717  
Website: [www.nam.ac.uk](http://www.nam.ac.uk)

Army Museums Ogilby Trust – general site for army museums and ancestor research:  
<https://www.armymuseums.org.uk/>

## Are there any books on The Cameronians?

Regimental history (general)

Author	Title	Publisher
Johnston, S H F	The History of The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) 26 <sup>th</sup> and 90 <sup>th</sup> Vol.1 1689-1910	Gale and Polden Aldershot, 1957.
Story, Colonel H H	History of The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) Vol.2 1910-1933	Hazell, Watson and Viney Aylsebury and Slough, 1961.
Barclay, Brigadier C N	The History of The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) Vol.3 1933-1946	Sifton and Praed London, 1971.
Baynes, John	The History of The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) Vol.4 The Close of The Empire 1948-1968	Cassell London. 1971.
Wylly, Col. H C	A Short History of The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles)	Gale and Polden Aldershot, 1924
Royle, Trevor	The Cameronians: A Concise History	Mainstream Publishing, 2009

## Battalion histories

Author	Title	Publisher
Ed. Martin, Major D	The Fifth Battalion The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) 1914-1919	Jackson, Son and Co. Glasgow, 1936.
Shaw, Capt. G	6 <sup>th</sup> (Lanarkshire) Battalion The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) History of The Regiment and the Battalion 1689-1936	Printed by The Hamilton Advertiser 1936
Foreword by Nason, Lt.- Col, C F and Forbes, Lt.-	7 <sup>th</sup> Battalion The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) with the British Liberation Army in Europe 1944-1945	Published circa 1945 (map dated 45)
Findlay, Col. J.M	With the 8 <sup>th</sup> Scottish Rifles 1914-1919	Blackie, London, Glasgow, Bombay 1926
Foreword by Burnett-Stuart, J T	The Tenth Battalion The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) A record and A memorial 1914-1918	Printed for private circulation by The Edinburgh Press, Edinburgh 1923.

## The 26th Cameronian Regiment

AUTHOR	TITLE	PUBLISHER
Carter, T (ed)	Historical Record of the Twenty-sixth or Cameronian Regiment	Byfield, Stanford and Co., London 1867.

## The 90th Perthshire Light Infantry

AUTHOR	TITLE	PUBLISHER
Delavoye, Alex M	The Life of Lord Lynedoch	Richardson and Co., London, 1880
Delavoye, Alex M	Records of the 90 <sup>th</sup> Regiment (Perthshire Light Infantry)	Richardson and Co., London, 1880.
Reid, D A Tullibardine	Memories of the Crimean War A Military History of Perthshire Vol. 1	
Grant, Philip	A Peer Among Princes: The Life of Thomas Graham, Victor of Barrosa, Hero of the Peninsular War	Pen and Sword Military, Yorkshire, 2019



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Telephone 01698 476262, text phone 18001 01698 476262 or email:  
[customer.services@southlanarkshireleisure.co.uk](mailto:customer.services@southlanarkshireleisure.co.uk)

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