

Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry



On Wednesday last, the Melksham Troop of the Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry assembled at Holt for drill, under the command of Lieutenant Fuller, of Weston Park, Captain Connolly being absent from indisposition.

The troop was also accompanied by the corps of dismounted Rifles, under the command of Sergeant-Major Goodhall. Through the kindness of James Hunt, Esq., of Holt, the two corps went through their drill in a field belonging to that gentleman, after which they dined together at the New Inn, where a sumptuous repast was well served up by Host Law.

Lieutenant Fuller occupied the chair, while the duties of the vice-chair were ably discharged by Sergeant Theobald and Quartermaster Hale. The Chairman was supported right and left by Captain Beauchamp. R.N., J. Hunt, Esq., Sergeant Majors Lawrence and Goodhall, Sergeant Bull, and Corporals N. Nightingale and Brickpit.

On the removal of the cloth, the health of her Majesty, the Prince Consort, and the members of the Royal family, were drunk with much enthusiasm, other toasts followed, and the evening was very pleasantly spent.

The whole regiment assembled at Warminster yesterday (Wednesday) for eight days' permanent duty.

The grand review will take place this day week.

Bath Chronicle, Thursday, 9th May 1861

Information - The Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry was established in 1794, and then disbanded as an independent Territorial Army in 1967, this was when the strengths of the Territorial Army were greatly reduced. The regiment continues as B (Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry) Squadron and Y (Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry) Squadron of the Royal Yeomanry.

The regiment took part in the Boer War as part of the Imperial Yeomanry. In WWI, the regiment fought on western front, but didn't see much action as horsed cavalry. After converting to infantry, the regiment fought in the trenches, notably during the German spring offensive in 1918.

The Melksham detachment was part of B Squadron – Chirton with Marlborough, Devizes, Lavington & Urchfont.

