

THE REGIMENT OF FOOT



In the year 1739, the six independent companies of the "Highland Watch", along with four newly-raised companies, were incorporated into a Regiment of Foot under John, the Earl of Crawford. This Regiment was originally numbered the 43rd Highland Regiment, but was renumbered as the 42nd in 1749.

The new Regiment continued to serve as the Highland Watch, in Scotland, but the British command sent the regiment as reinforcements

in Flanders and Germany, in the war of the Austrian Succession. In 1747, they were garrisoned in Ireland, where they remained for 9 years.

The 42nd was sent to New York in 1756, and fought in the first battle of Fort Ticonderoga in 1758, losing over half its troops in a valiant assault on the breastworks. Prior to the action at Ticonderoga, the Black Watch was given the distinction of being a "Royal" regiment, changing the uniform's facings from buff to royal blue.



The regiment was known from then on as The 42nd (Royal Highland) Regiment or The Royal Highlanders. The Regiment took part in actions throughout North America, as far west as Fort De Chartres, on the Mississippi River in Illinois.

The 42nd later served in the American Revolution, the Peninsular Wars - at Quatre Bras and Waterloo, the Crimean War, served in India, both World Wars, Korea, and was the last British regiment in Hong Kong before its return to China. In the 21st Century, the Black Watch fought in Iraq and Afghanistan. While no longer the 42nd Regiment, the traditions of the Black Watch live on as the The Black Watch, 3rd Battalion, Royal Regiment of Scotland (3 SCOTS).



The 42nd Royal Highlanders Band of Music is available for parades, reenactments, educational programs, and special events.

Ensembles ranging from a full band with color guard, to quartets, or individual fifers, pipers, or drummers are available for hire.

Please contact the 42nd at
booking@42ndRHR.org
to discuss your requirements.

Interested in Scottish Cultural Events?
Please contact the 42nd at
info@42ndRHR.org

*The 42nd Royal Highlanders, Inc.
is an Indiana 501(c)(3)
non-profit corporation*

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THE 42ND ROYAL HIGHLANDERS



XLII

*America's Premier Band of
Pipes, Fifes, and Rope Tension Drums*



A Pipe Band and Scottish Society

PIPES

In the American Revolution, the Army did not officially authorize pipers for the highland regiments, but they were certainly present: The 42nd was known to have a piper attached to the grenadier company in 1759, who was appointed pipe major, interesting for the suggestion that there must have been more than one piper. Additionally, inspection returns of the 42nd report that in 1768, it had "6 Fifers and 2 Pipers ([dressed as] Drummers)". In 1773, the 42nd had "two Pipers and a very good band of music". In September, 1776, between Long Island and White Plains, a piper was known to have been killed in battle.

Over the next 200 years, army pipers would grow into a symbol of the Scottish regiments, leading them into battle and inspiring listeners wherever they went. Today, the pipers of the 42nd Band of Music carry on this tradition, honoring the men of the 42nd Regiment while preserving the pageantry of the art of military piping.



FIFES

During the 18th Century, the fifes were a crucial part of the day-to-day life of any infantry regiment. The fifers played tunes to signal the soldiers movements - to wake them up, send them to eat and to bed, and play music while on the march. The 18th-Century 42nd was no exception.



The fife is a simple 6-hole transverse flute in the key of B-flat, and to this day is widely played by re-enactors around the world, and throughout New England and Switzerland by an active community of Ancient fifers and drummers.

The 42nd Band of Music features the fifes along with the bagpipes, providing a one-of-a-kind blend of sound, not found in either of the communities of fife and drum corps or bagpipe bands. The 42nd's musical arrangements interweave the fifes and the bagpipes in new and unique ways.

THE 42ND ROYAL HIGHLANDERS Band of Music

Formed in Lafayette, Indiana in 1975 by Captain Thomas Griffin to preserve the history and music of the Highland Regiments, the 42nd Royal Highlanders Band of Music portrays the 42nd Royal Highland Regiment (The Black Watch) of the American Revolution.

Today, the 42nd Royal Highlanders Band of Music is America's premier 18th century band of pipes, fifes, and drums, and has performed for audiences across the country, from the New England coast to the Mississippi River, and from Wisconsin to Fort Ticonderoga in New York, Vermont, and south to Alabama.

The Band of Music regularly performs at historical reenactments, fife and drum musters, Scottish cultural events, pub performances, and civic parades. Additionally, musicians from the band are available for private performances at weddings, funerals, educational programs, and other functions.

A performance by the 42nd will feature the pipes, fifes, and drums, as well as Highland Dancers and Infantry demonstrations by the band's color guard. At multi-day performances, the band is based out of a recreated 18th century military camp.

The 42nd also serves as the Lafayette, Indiana area's Scottish society, hosting events celebrating Scottish culture, and a Robert Burns Supper every January on the anniversary of his birth.

DRUMS

The drums in the late 18th century field music were of utmost importance, they signalled most all aspects of daily life for the British soldier; they would beat the camp duty, provide cadence while on the march, and even beat timings to coordinate loading and firing.



In the 18th century, drums were made of wood, with skin heads and ropes to

provide tension on the heads. A British regiment's drums were painted in the color of the regiment's facings, and the 42nd featured an ancient device on the front.

Today, rope-tension drums are often used by fife and drum corps, but rarely with Highland bagpipes. Rope-tension drums and fifes combine with the pipes of the 42nd to create a sound not found anywhere else.

SCOTTISH SOCIETY

The 42nd is the Scottish society for the Lafayette, Indiana, area, hosting events promoting Scottish culture. Speakers, whisky tastings, films, golf outings, and concerts are all Scottish events that have been sponsored by the 42nd.



The Whole Nine Yards performs Scottish Country Dancing at events around the area, and provides instruction to any and all interested in Country Dancing. Classes are held year-round at West Lafayette's Morton Community Center.

Every fall, the 42nd runs the top-selling Forfar Bridie booth at the Feast of the Hunter's Moon. The Feast is the 42nd's major fundraiser, and can't happen without the time donated by our supporters. Please consider volunteering at the next Feast.

Since 1983, the 42nd hosts an annual Scottish Supper in honor of the birthday of Robert Burns. Held in January for over 250 attendees, the Supper offers music, dance, and the wit of Burns, as well as Scottish cuisine - featuring the most Scottish of dishes - the Haggis.

Supporters receive an annual newsletter, and advance notices of Scottish events. Please sign up for our mailing list or become a fan of the 42nd on Facebook.