

## THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

The 35th Regiment of Foot was raised in Belfast in 1701 by Arthur 3rd Earl of Donegall and originally known as Donegall's Own it became the Sussex Regiment in 1804. The Regiment was given the special privilege of wearing the Royal family colour of orange for their facings as a personal mark of favour from King William III. These facings were worn until 1832 when King William IV was graciously pleased to direct that the Regiment should bear the distinction "Royal", and be called the Royal Sussex Regiment of Foot.

In 1705 during the war of the Spanish Succession the Regiment took part in the capture and subsequent defence of Barcelona against the armies of the French pretender. During the defence Lord Donegall was killed, and in writing after his death to Queen Anne of England the Spanish King said "... it is in a great measure to Lord Donegall's memory and his gallant regiment that I am indebted for the preservation of that capital and it may be, for all the possession I hold in Spain".

In 1759 the Regiment took part in the battle of Quebec where they were opposed by the French Royal Rousillon Regiment who wore a white plume in their headdress. As a result of their victory over them the Regiment for many years were allowed to wear the Rousillon plume in their own headdress and it is today incorporated in the Regimental Cap Badge.

In the 1st World War the 2nd Battalion, who were originally the 107th Bengal Infantry, were nicknamed "The Iron Regiment" by the Germans. In the 2nd World War the Regiment raised nine Battalions which served in every theatre of war. The commander of the 1st Battalion received the surrender of Field Marshal Von Armim, Commander of the Afrika Corps at Cape Bon in 1943.