

PART 5

Civic Honours granted to and held by the London Volunteer Reserve Forces



C (Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry) Squadron Centenary March through Croydon, 4th March 2000

Introduction

1. At various times the Civic Authorities throughout the United Kingdom have granted Honours to units of the Armed Forces, both Regular and Reservist.
2. There do not appear to be a set of definitive rules governing what these Honours are, but they generally fall into two categories:
 1. Freedom of the County/City/Borough
 2. Adopted by the County/City/Borough
3. The 'Freedom' – to march through the streets of the Borough with bayonets fixed, drums beating and Colours flying – is really an empty grant as, outside the City of London where the right has been zealously guarded for centuries, it does not seem that any City or Borough would be entitled to prevent units of Her Majesty's Forces from marching in the town. However, the practice has now been generally accepted and provides a dignified and satisfactory means of enabling a City or Borough to honour a distinguished unit of Her Majesty's Forces.
4. Associated with the 'Freedom of the Borough' is the 'Freedom of Entry' which has been granted by a number of Cities and Boroughs to service units (Ships of the Royal Navy, Army units, Royal Air Force squadrons, stations etc.) which have rendered conspicuous service and are closely associated with the City or Borough. The ceremony of granting these Freedoms may differ slightly from that of granting Freedom to an individual, as they could not easily be carried out at a Council meeting as a fully representative body of troops from the unit may not be able to be present. The necessary formal resolution is therefore sometimes first passed at a special meeting of the Council and the 'Freedom' formally presented at a special ceremony, often held outdoors.
5. Following both local government reorganisation and reorganisation of the Armed Forces, questions arise as to whether a Freedom of Entry granted by a former City or Borough is still valid and whether such a Freedom granted to a unit of the Armed Forces which has been absorbed into a new unit can be exercised by that new unit.
6. So far as the grant of Freedom of Entry by a former City or Borough is concerned, subsection 1 of section 248 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides 'Nothing in this Act shall affect any person's status ... as a Freeman of a place which is an existing Borough' and subsection 4 of the same section provides 'After 31st March 1974: a Freeman of a City or Town ... shall have and enjoy the same rights whether in respect of property or otherwise as where held and enjoyed on that date by a Freeman of that City or Town...' Therefore, a Freedom of Entry granted by a former City or Borough remains valid and exercisable by the service unit to which it had been granted within the area of the former City or Borough.
7. In the case of a new unit assuming Honours granted by a City or Borough to a former unit incorporated in it, the custom has developed that, as a matter of courtesy, the new unit informs the City or Borough of what has happened to the old unit and the City or Borough concerned usually confirms, formally or informally, that the new unit may continue to exercise the privileges granted to the old unit.
8. Where the 'new' authority is a City, Royal Borough or Borough within the area of Greater London, it is open to the authority to reaffirm a grant of Freedom of Entry and to extend the right not only to the whole area of the Borough but also to extend the grant to the unit and its successors.
9. Where the 'new' authority is not a City, Royal Borough or Borough within the area of Greater London, there is some difficulty for such an authority to admit Honorary Freemen as there are no statutory provisions for this. However, an informal resolution reaffirming a former grant of Freedom of Entry might be passed by the Council.
10. The custom has generally been that once a 'Freedom' has been granted to the Borough, both the Borough and the descendant unit retain this Freedom forever.

11. There is also the category of 'Adopted' status. There is no laid down statutory procedure for Adoption, but it is accepted custom that a City, Royal Borough or Borough may mark an affiliation with a unit of the Armed Forces by Adopting the unit. This is not only an acknowledgement of the association between the unit and its local community, but of the service given by it and its members. Adopted status is remarkably similar in definition to the granting of Freedom. The distinction seems to be between 'conspicuous service and close association' and simply 'service and association'.
12. Both granting Freedoms and confirming Adopted status are always instigated and recorded by the local Civic Authority (the Council or equivalent). Although there is no statutory regulation governing Adoption, it is assumed that granting an Adoption will continue to the descendant unit.



Civic Honours granted by The City of London

Privileged Regiment status given to: The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (deriving from Holland's Regiment of Foot, later the Buffs; recognised since at least 1746)

The Royal Marines (apparently deriving, indirectly, from the Duke of York's Maritime Regiment; recognised at least since 1904)

The Grenadier Guards (deriving from Russell's Regiment of Foot; recognised in the 3rd Battalion at least since 1904, extended to the whole Regiment in 1915 by the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen)

The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers (deriving, in one Battalion, from the London Militia; long recognised in the Militia, and extended to the whole Regiment in 1924 by the Privileges Committee of Aldermen)

The Honourable Artillery Company (granted by the Privileges Committee of Aldermen in 1924)

The Coldstream Guards (originally from the Duke of Albemarle's Regiment; recognised by the Court of Aldermen in 1952)

The Blues & Royals (deriving from the Royal Dragoons; recognised by the Court of Aldermen in 1961)

The London Regiment (granted by the Court of Aldermen in 1995)

600 (City of London) Squadron Royal Auxiliary Air Force (granted by the Court of Aldermen in 2007)

The Rifles have some significant formal association with the City (continuing, in much-diluted fashion, the lineage of the London Rifle Brigade, formed at Guildhall in 1859 with the encouragement of the civic authorities; the Regiment has a plaque in Guildhall, and is said to provide a guard at the Lord Mayor's Banquet).



Civic Honours granted by The City of Westminster

Strict legislation prescribes that Freedoms of The City are to be accorded only to individuals. Units thus are given (only) freedom to fly their Colours and march with fixed bayonets etc. but City of Westminster acknowledges the distinction is fine.

The belief is that the following have that right:

4th Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets (as was) 5th December 1985

HMS WESTMINSTER 11th December 2005

Seemingly, A Company London Scottish maintain they were given this right pre-1965 (when the current City of Westminster was formed). However, nothing can be found to support the claim.

Civic Honours granted by the Royal Boroughs



The Royal Borough of Greenwich

No Freedoms recorded

Royal Borough of Kensington

At an extraordinary meeting on 6th October 1959 the Council resolved that:

"In appreciation of the famous record and glorious traditions of the **Army Phantom Signal Regiment (Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment (Territorial Army))**, over a period of one hundred years of loyal and devoted service to the Sovereigns of this Realm, and in recognition of the celebration this year of the centenary of the raising of the Regiment, in which many thousands of local residents have served, the Council confer Civic Honours on the Regiment, with the privilege, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of the Royal Borough on all ceremonial occasions with Colours flying, bands playing and bayonets fixed."

The Freedom Scroll was presented at the same meeting. The only previous recipients of the Freedom of the Royal Borough were Her Royal Highness Princess Louise and Winston Churchill.

Metropolitan Borough of Chelsea

At an extraordinary meeting on 21st December 1959, Civic Honours with the privilege, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of the Metropolitan Borough on all ceremonial occasions with Colours flying, bands playing and bayonets fixed, were conferred upon:

40 Signal Regiment (Middlesex Yeomanry) (Territorial Army) in appreciation of the famous record and glorious traditions of the Regiment during a period of over one hundred and thirty years of loyal and devoted service to the Sovereigns of this Realm and in recognition of its long and intimate association with the Borough during which time thousands of local residents have rendered valuable service.

and upon:

The London Irish Rifles, The Royal Ulster Rifles (Territorial Army) in appreciation of the famous record and glorious traditions of the Regiment during a period of one hundred years of loyal and devoted service to the Sovereigns of this Realm and in recognition of the celebration this year of the centenary of the raising of the Regiment, in which many thousands of local residents have served.

At an extraordinary meeting on 26th April 1960, Civic Honours with the privilege, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of the Metropolitan Borough on all ceremonial occasions with Colours flying, bands playing and bayonets fixed, were conferred upon:

101st (London) Field Engineer Regiment (Territorial Army) in appreciation of the famous record and glorious traditions of the Regiment during a period of one hundred years of loyal and devoted service to the Sovereigns of this Realm and in recognition of the celebration this year of the centenary of the raising of the Regiment, in which many local residents have served.

Royal Signals changes 1959-1967:

In 1961 the Army Phantom Signal Regiment (Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment) (Territorial Army) was re-designated as 41 Signal Regiment (Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment). In 1961, 40 Signal Regiment (Middlesex Yeomanry) (Territorial Army) was amalgamated with 47 Signal Regiment (the lineal descendant of 25 (County of London) (Cyclist) Battalion The London Regiment) as 47 Signal Regiment (Middlesex

Yeomanry). In 1967 both 41 Signal Regiment (Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment) and 47 Signal Regiment (Middlesex Yeomanry) were reduced to single squadron as part of the newly formed 31 Signal Regiment.



The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

Consequences of the amalgamation in 1964 of the Royal Borough of Kensington and the Metropolitan Borough of Chelsea to form the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea: A report to the Council by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea's Town Clerk in December 1967 sets out the situation as follows:

In 1959, the former Kensington Council conferred Civic Honours on the Army Phantom Signal Regiment (Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment (Territorial Army)), and at the same time the Chelsea Council similarly honoured the 47th Signal Regiment (Middlesex Yeomanry) (Territorial Army), London Irish Rifles, Royal Ulster Rifles (Territorial Army), and the 101 London Field Engineer Regiment (Territorial Army). With the reorganisation of the Territorial Army into Volunteer Reserve Units, the first two Regiments were absorbed into the 31 (Greater London) Signals Regiment (Volunteers); whilst the 101 (London) Field Engineer Regiment (Territorial Army) had no successor unit within the boundaries of the Royal Borough.

As a result, the Council resolved on 12th December 1967:

- a) That the Civic Honours conferred upon the 41 Signal Regiment (Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment) (Territorial Army) and the 47 Signal Regiment (Middlesex Yeomanry) (Territorial Army) shall enure for the benefit of the **31 (Greater London) Signals Regiment (Volunteers)**.
- b) That the Civic Honours conferred upon the London Irish Rifles, Royal Ulster Rifles (Territorial Army) shall endure for the benefit of the **North Irish Militia D Company (London Irish)**.

Inscribed copies of the resolutions were to be presented to the Regiments.

Situation from December 1967:

Two units had the Freedom of the Royal Borough:

31 (Greater London) Signals Regiment (Volunteers) and North Irish Militia D Company.

The Town Clerk did not say so, but it may be that the Council had been advised that it was necessary to take formal action to continue the freedoms conferred by its predecessor authorities. It is apparent that the Council took the lack of a local successor to 101 (London) Field Engineer Regiment as justification for not perpetuating that Regiment's freedom.

Freedoms conferred by the Royal Borough 1967-1978:

On 17th March 1970 the Council of the Royal Borough resolved:

That in recognition of their importance in the new Territorial Auxiliary Volunteer Reserve order of battle and in appreciation of their association with the Royal Borough the Council confer Civic Honours upon **Headquarters 44th Parachute Brigade** with the privilege, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of the Royal Borough on all ceremonial occasions with Colours flying, bands playing and bayonets fixed. The scroll was presented on 16th May 1970.

On 1st February 1978 the Council of the Royal Borough resolved:

That in recognition of their importance in the new Territorial Auxiliary Volunteer Reserve order of battle and in appreciation of their association with the royal borough the Council confer Civic Honours upon **10th (Volunteer) Battalion The Parachute Regiment** with the privilege, honour and distinction of marching

through the streets of the Royal Borough on all ceremonial occasions with Colours flying, bands playing and bayonets fixed. The scroll was presented on 19th April 1978.

Headquarters 44th Parachute Brigade did not appear in the Council Diary's List of units having Civic Honours after 1978. Presumably it had ceased to exist.

Changes of name:

31 (Greater London) Signals Regiment (Volunteers):

In 1987 became 31 Signal Regiment (Volunteers). The designation Greater London was discontinued after the abolition of the GLC. In 1996 became 31 (City of London) Signal Regiment (Volunteers).

North Irish Militia D Company (London Irish):

In 1987 became D Company London Irish Rifles, 4th (Volunteer) Battalion Royal Irish Rangers. In 2000 became D (London Irish Rifles) Company, The London Regiment.

Parachute Regiment changes 1999-2000:

In 1999 10 (Volunteer) Battalion The Parachute Regiment was shown in the Council diary (perhaps mistakenly) as having become 10 Company, 1 (Volunteer) Battalion The Parachute Regiment. The following year it was shown as 10 Company, 4 (Volunteer) Battalion The Parachute Regiment.

On 1st March 2000 the Council agreed the following recommendation:

That the Council, in recognition of its association with the Royal Borough, confer Civic Honours on **10 Company 4 PARA** and that an inscribed copy of the resolution, under the Common Seal of the Council, be presented to the Company. The presentation took place at a parade in Chelsea Old Town Hall on 9th November 2001.

Freedoms conferred 2002-2008:

At a meeting on 26th June 2002 the Council resolved:

That this Council, in recognition of its importance in the new Territorial and Auxiliary Volunteer Reserve Order of Battle and in appreciation of their association with the Royal Borough, confers Civic Honours upon the **Royal Yeomanry** with the privilege, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of the Royal Borough on all ceremonial occasions with Colours flying, bands playing and bayonets fixed. The presentation was made at a parade in Holland Park on 18th January 2004.

At a meeting on 20th April 2005 the Council resolved to confer Civic Honours on **21 Special Air Services Regiment (Artists) (Rifles)**. The special nature of the Regiment's role precluded any description of its work in the resolution. The presentation was made at a parade in the garden of Leighton House on 13th July 2005.

On 21st September 2005 the Council resolved:

That in recognition of the unparalleled welfare and care which, for over 300 years, the **Royal Hospital Chelsea** has provided for retired soldiers, and in appreciation of its long and close associations with the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, the Council, in this year which marks the sixtieth anniversary of the end of the second world war confers Civic Honours on the Royal Hospital Chelsea with the privilege, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of the Royal Borough on all ceremonial occasions with Colours flying, bands playing and bayonets fixed.

The presentation was made on 28th June 2006 at a parade at the former Duke of York's Headquarters, followed by a march along the King's Road to Chelsea Old Town Hall.

On 23rd January 2008 the Council resolved:

That in recognition of its importance in the Territorial Army, in appreciation of its long and close association with the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and in recognition of its continuing operational service the Council confers Civic Honours upon **256 (City of London) Field Hospital (Volunteers)** with the privilege, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of the Royal Borough on all ceremonial

occasions with Colours flying, bands playing and bayonets fixed. The presentation was made at a parade at Kensington Town Hall on 7th June 2008, followed by a march along Kensington High Street from Holland Park to the Town Hall.

Adopted Units

The Policy and Resources Committee reported to the Council on 12th March 1980 as follows:

As a means of forging links between local Reserve Units and the Royal Borough we are of the opinion that the Units listed below should be adopted:

257 (Southern) General Hospital Royal Army Medical Corps (Volunteers)

21 Special Air Service Regiment (Artists) (Volunteers)

144 Field Ambulance Royal Army Medical Corps (Volunteers)

University of London Air Squadron (Volunteers)

Discussions have been held with the Secretary of the Greater London Territorial Auxiliary Volunteer Reserve Association and the Deputy Lieutenant for the Borough who would both welcome these Honours being bestowed. The Secretary to the Territorial Auxiliary Volunteer Reserve Association advises that there are no foreseeable disbandments or major reorganisation of Territorial Army units - and that a period of stability is expected.

Accordingly the Council resolved to adopt the listed units.

On 1st October 1995 256 (City of London) Field Hospital was formed by the amalgamation of 217 (London) General Hospital Royal Army Medical Corps (Volunteers) and 257 (Southern) General Hospital Royal Army Medical Corps (Volunteers).

On 18th October 2000 the Council resolved to grant adopted status to the **University of London Royal Naval Unit**.

Also in October 2000 the Policy and Resources Committee received a report that 144 Field Ambulance had left the borough some years previously and no longer took part in any Borough events. The Committee agreed that the unit's adopted status should lapse.

Civic Honours having been conferred on 21 Special Air Service Regiment in 2005 and on 256 Field Hospital in 2008 two units remain with adopted status:

University of London Air Squadron

University of London Royal Naval Unit

Historical note – events of 1799, 1859 and 1908

Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment was the direct descendant of the 13th Battalion, The London Regiment, and The London Irish Rifles the direct descendant of the 18th Battalion, The London Regiment, both formed in 1908 at the time of the establishment of the Territorial Force, renamed the Territorial Army in 1920. References to the centenary of their formation in the 1959 resolutions conferring Civic Honours on the Army Phantom Signal Regiment (Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment) (Territorial Army) and on The London Irish Rifles, The Royal Ulster Rifles (Territorial Army), and in the 1960 resolution conferring Civic Honours on the 101st (London) Field Engineer Regiment (Territorial Army), relate to the raising of Rifle Volunteer Corps in 1859.

Strictly speaking there is no direct link between the Kensington Volunteers raised in the late 1790s and disbanded at the end of the Napoleonic Wars and the Rifle Volunteer Corps on 1859, but 31 Signal Regiment and specifically 41 (Princess Louise's Kensington) Squadron Royal Signals have come to be regarded as the heir to those early volunteers. In 1999 a reception was held for 31 Signal Regiment at Kensington Town Hall in the presence of Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Gloucester to mark the 200th anniversary of the presentation of Colours to the Kensington Volunteers in 1799.



The Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (Queen's and Royal Hampshires)
256 (City of London) Field Hospital (Volunteers)

Civic Honours granted by the London Boroughs



London Borough of Barking and Dagenham

No Freedoms recorded



London Borough of Barnet

Hendon Borough Council

Freedom to **The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own)** by a Resolution of Hendon Council dated 22nd October 1955.

Friern Barnet Urban District Council

Adoption of **HMS FANTOME** during Warship Week 28th March 1942.

Borough of Finchley

Adoption of **HMS TARTAR** 1942 (Adopted unit 1942 - presumably in Warship Week), and by a Resolution of the Council dated 14th August 1963, its successor, HMS TARTAR.*

Adoption of **461 (Middlesex) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (Territorial Army)** by a Resolution of the Council dated 26th February 1951.

London Borough of Barnet

Honorary Freedom to:

Corps of Royal Engineers by a Resolution of the Council dated 24th July 1982.

The Queen's Regiment (by a Resolution of the Council dated 16th April 1970 as successor in title to Middlesex Regiment).

The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (by a Resolution of the Council dated 23rd February 1998, as successor in title to Queen's Regiment).

The Royal Logistic Corps, Postal and Courier Services by a Resolution of the Council dated 19th April 1994.

Royal Air Force Hendon by a Resolution of the Council dated 29th July 1986.*

Adoptions to:

240 (Hertfordshire) Squadron Royal Corps of Transport (Volunteers) by a Resolution dated 21st October 1979.

B Company 6/7 (Volunteer) Battalion Queen's Regiment by a Resolution dated 1979.*

3 Company 10th (Volunteer) Battalion Parachute Regiment by a Resolution dated 1979.

Other constituent Boroughs: East Barnet Urban District Council

Adoptions to:

HMS MUSKETEER** 20th December 1941

Barnet Urban District Council

HMS CROMER** 14th March 1942

* Illuminated scrolls displayed in Mayor's Parlour. There hangs also the Royal Air Force Sword presented to Barnet by Royal Air Force Hendon at time of their Freedom, and is displayed a silver Waggon Train from 240 Squadron Royal Corps of Transport given on their Adoption. ** Ship's Plaques in Barnet Museum, Wood Street, Barnet together with commemorative brass plaque presented by East Barnet UDC to HMS CROMER.



London Borough of Bexley

Freedom given to **265 (Kent and County of London Yeomanry) Support Squadron (Sharpshooters)**



London Borough of Brent

No Freedoms recorded



London Borough of Bromley

Royal Air Force Biggin Hill was granted the Freedom of the London Borough of Bromley



London Borough of Camden

No Freedoms recorded



London Borough of Croydon

41 (Princess Louise's of Kensington) Signal Squadron Royal Corps of Signals is based in the Borough of Croydon. It is recorded in the Regimental history as having the 'Freedom' of that Borough and exercised it as recently as 1993 and 2001.

151 (Greater London) Transport Regiment Royal Logistic Corps (Volunteers) Adopted by the London Borough of Croydon on 11th February 1978 and granted the Freedom of Croydon on 6th April 1993.

44 Column Royal Army Service Corps adopted by the London Borough of Croydon c. 1938.

Freedom given to **2 Company 10th (Volunteer) Battalion The Parachute Regiment** and **C (Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry) Squadron, The Royal Yeomanry** on 24th April 1993.



London Borough of Ealing

No Freedoms recorded



London Borough of Enfield

No Freedoms recorded



London Borough of Hackney

Freedom to **3 Military Intelligence Battalion (Volunteers)** on 29th March 2009.



London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham

Headquarters Squadron 31 Signal Regiment (Volunteers) was adopted by the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham in 1981 and exercised its Freedom on 14th May 1983.

The Royal Yeomanry – Honorary Freedom of the Borough on the 26th January 2011 and exercised its Honorary Freedom on 11th March 2012.



London Borough of Haringey

The Freedom was conferred on **7th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (The Duke of Cambridge's Own)** 10th May 1948.



London Borough of Harrow

Harrow Urban District

Freedom to **593 (Mixed) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (Mixed) Territorial Army** on 15th April 1951.

Freedom to **82 (Mixed) Anti-Aircraft Fire Command Troop, Royal Artillery (Mixed) Territorial Army** on 15th April 1951.

Freedom to **11th Parachute Battalion (8th Middlesex) Territorial Army** c. 1951.

Borough of Harrow

Freedom to **57 (Middlesex) General Hospital, Royal Army Medical Corps (Territorial Army)** on 10th December 1954.

Freedom to **B Company 1st Battalion, The London Scottish** on 17th November 1962.

Freedom to **130 Field Park Squadron, Royal Engineers (Territorial Army)** on 17th November 1962.

Freedom to **82 (County of Middlesex) Company WRAC (Territorial Army)** on 17th November 1962.

London Borough of Harrow

Freedom to **131 (Independent) Parachute Squadron, Royal Engineers (Volunteers)** on 8th March 1969.

Freedom to **47 (Middlesex Yeomanry) Signal Squadron (Volunteers)** on 8th March 1969.

Freedom to **Harrow Detachment 257 (Eastern) General Hospital, Royal Army Medical Corps (Volunteers)** on 8th March 1969.

Freedom to **131 Independent Squadron, Royal Engineers (Volunteers)** on 22nd July 1978.

Freedom to **47 (Middlesex Yeomanry) Signal Squadron, Royal Signals (Volunteers)** on 10th March 1983.

Freedom to **131 Independent Commando Squadron, Royal Engineers (Volunteers)** on 10th March 1983.

London Borough of Harrow (cont)

Freedom to **257 (Southern) General Hospital, Royal Army Medical Corps** on 10th March 1983.

Freedom to **Royal Air Force Stanmore Park and Bentley Priory** on 10th October 1988.

Freedom to **The Church Lad's and Church Girls' Brigade Christ Church Rexeth and Harrow Company** on 20th October 1994.

Freedom to **Royal British Legion (Harrow Branch)** on 18th July 1996.



London Borough of Havering

Freedom to **The Essex Regiment**.



London Borough of Hillingdon

Borough of Uxbridge

Freedom to **Royal Air Force Uxbridge** on 19th March 1960. Uxbridge base closed on 31st March 2010.

London Borough of Hillingdon

Freedom of Entry to **Royal Air Force Northolt** on 24th February 2000.

Freedom of Entry to **47 (Middlesex Yeomanry) Signal Squadron** on 25th January 2007.

The Royal Observer Corps established their Headquarters at Hillingdon House, Royal Air Force Uxbridge on 1st March 1929. On 1st March 1936 it transferred to Royal Air Force Bentley Priory (Harrow).

600 (City of London) Squadron Royal Auxiliary Air Force is based at Royal Air Force Northolt in Hillingdon but was granted 'Privilege Regiment Status' by the City of London on July 2007.

Adoption of **562 Parachute Squadron Royal Corps of Transport (V)**.

Hayes and Harlington Urban District Council

Adoption of **562 Company Royal Army Service Corps 16th Airborne Division TA** on 28th February 1951.



London Borough of Hounslow

Freedom to **2nd Battalion Royal Regiment of Fusiliers** on 26th November 2009 on their return from Afghanistan.

Urban District of Chiswick and Brentford

Adoptions on 5th May 1951:

264th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery

917th Company, Royal Army Service Corps

21st A A (Mixed) Signal Squadron, Royal Corps of Signals, Territorial Army

44th (Home Counties) Infantry Division Signals Regiment, Royal Corps of Signals, Territorial Army

53rd Squadron, Royal Signals Army Cadet Force



London Borough of Islington

Freedom to the **Honourable Artillery Company** in 2009.



London Borough of Lambeth

No Freedoms recorded



London Borough of Lewisham

Adopted all Cadet and Reserve Forces contingents based in the borough including **1921** and **1475 Air Training Squadron**.



London Borough of Merton

The London Local Government Act of 1964 put together the three small boroughs of Mitcham, Morden and Wimbledon. Merton has no TA history since 1964 and the three former districts were part of the county of Surrey.



London Borough of Newham

East Ham bestowed Freedom of that County Borough upon **The Essex Regiment** although no Essex Regiment Territorial Army unit was ever based there.

The **Headquarters of 6th Battalion of The Essex Regiment** was based at The Cedars, Portway, West Ham, where A, B and C Company were also based, D Company being based at Prittlewell.

The men and women of **G Company, 7th Battalion The Rifles**, based in Portway, West Ham, were presented with the Freedom of the London Borough of Newham in 2012.



London Borough of Redbridge

The Borough of Ilford

Freedom to **The Essex Regiment** on 14th June 1947. On 9th September 1958 this honour and privilege was extended to the **3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot)** in which the Essex Regiment has been incorporated.

The Borough of Wanstead and Woodford

Freedom to **45th (Essex) Signal Regiment (Volunteers)** in 1963.

The London Borough of Redbridge

Freedom to the **Royal Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot Battalion)** and upon the **45th (Essex) Signal Regiment Territorial Army** (now **36th (Eastern Signal Regiment) (Volunteers)**) on 18th May 1965.



London Borough of Richmond

The Royal Military School of Music was granted the Freedom and Entry in 2007 and HMS RICHMOND in 2002.



London Borough of Southwark

Honorary Free Citizenship awarded to The Royal Marines Reserve (City of London), The London Regiment, 256 (City Of London) Field Hospital (Volunteers) and Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment.



London Borough of Sutton

No Freedoms recorded



London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Metropolitan Borough of Bethnal Green

Civic Honours to **114th (1st London) Corps Engineer Regiment (Territorial Army)** on 27th April 1961.

Adoption of **HMS CRANE** in 1942.



London Borough of Waltham Forest

Freedom to **68 (ICCY) Signal Squadron** in 1998.



London Borough of Wandsworth

Metropolitan Borough of Battersea

Freedom to **4th Battalion, The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment** in 1964.

London Borough of Wandsworth

Adoption of **C Company (City of London) Royal Fusiliers, Fusilier Volunteers** in 1967.

Adoption of **83 (London) Signal Squadron, Royal Corps of Signals** in 1967.

Adoption of **31 Signal Regiment Light Aid Detachment, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers** in 1967.

Adoption of **B Company 6th (Territorial) Battalion, The Queen's Regiment** in 1967.

