

# The Coldstream Guards

## Berwick's part in the forming of The Coldstream Guards

In July 1650 a new regiment was formed at Berwick to join Oliver Cromwell's army for his planned campaign in Scotland. It comprised five companies from Colonel George Fenwick's Regiment in Berwick and five companies of Sir Arthur Haselrig's Regiment from Newcastle.

Fenwick was required to raise five additional companies of soldiers at Berwick to bring his own regiment back to full strength.



A regiment of Oliver Cromwell's New Model Army, circa 1650

On 13th August 1650 the newly-formed regiment was placed on the establishment of the Parliamentary army as "*Colonel George Monck's Regiment of Foot*".

They marched across the Border and took part in the decisive victory over the Scots Royalists at Dunbar, on 3rd September 1650.

The Regiment was part of the garrison at Edinburgh from 1652 until 1656.

In May 1658 Oliver Cromwell's son Richard renounced his title of Lord Protector of England, Scotland and Ireland. Months of political chaos followed and there was fear that anarchy would spread throughout the country.

George Monck declared his support for the restoration of the Monarchy. On 1st January 1660, he marched his regiment from their winter quarters at the Scottish village of Coldstream, crossed the River Tweed and set off on a five-week long march southwards to secure London for the return of King Charles II from his period of exile in the Netherlands.

Monck's Regiment spent the next year helping keep order in London.

As conditions in the country became more settled, the new parliament ordered the regiments of the New Model Army to disband. On 14th February 1661, the soldiers of Colonel George Monck's Regiment symbolically laid down their weapons and were immediately ordered to take them up again as "*The Lord General's Regiment of Foot Guards*".

The King rewarded George Monck for his services to The Crown by making him a Knight of the Order of the Garter.

Soon after Monck's death in 1670, the Regiment became known as the "*Coldstream Regiment of Foot Guards*".

In 1855 its name was changed again to the "*Coldstream Guards*", by which title it is still known today.

The Regiment uses the Garter Star for its cap badge in recognition of the honour bestowed by King Charles II on its first Colonel, George Monck.



Coldstream Guards Garter Star cap badge