

EAGHC – 20th Annual Meeting



Royal Waterloo Golf Club, 6-8 August 2026

Bill Gibson and David Hamilton

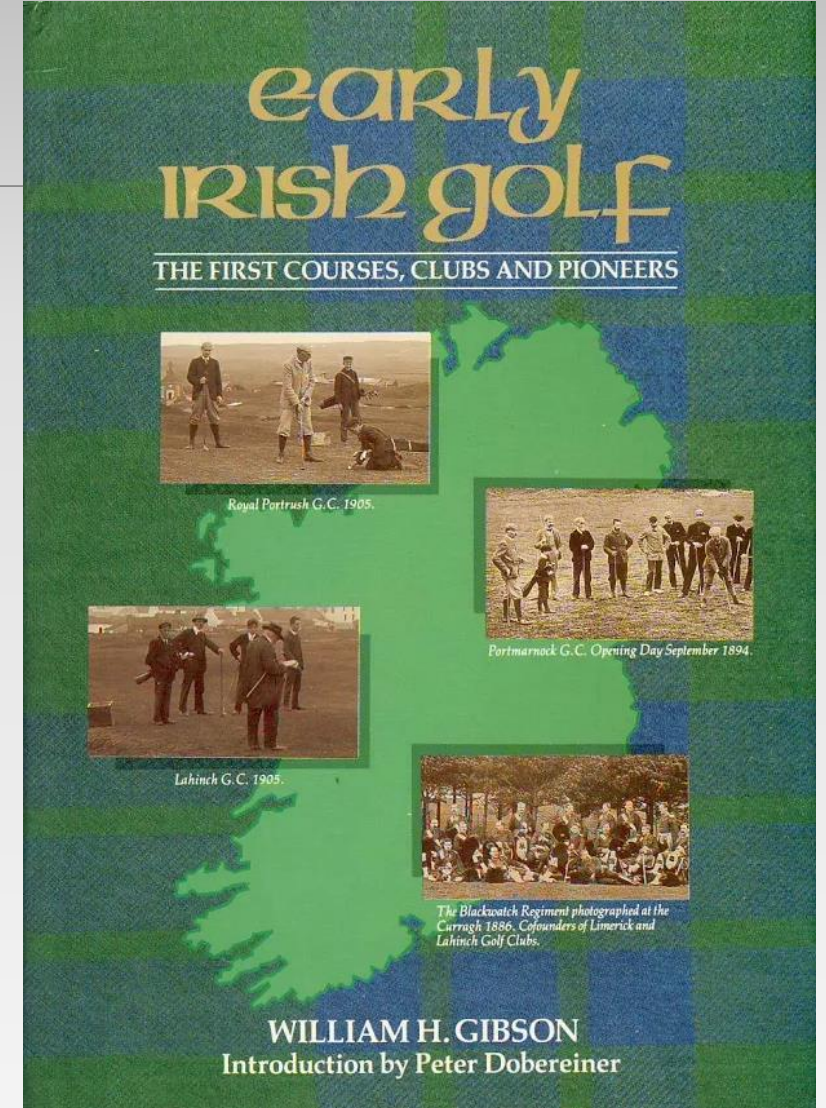


Waterloo -

The Golfers who fought and died there

by William 'Bill' Gibson

via David Hamilton





19th Century Scottish Officers

Younger sons of landed gentry

Also Law, India

Black Watch – 42nd Royal Highland Regiment

Perth-based

Two battalions in Brussels area already distinguished in the Peninsular War

Outline

Napoleon returned from Elba exile in 1815

Napoleon threat

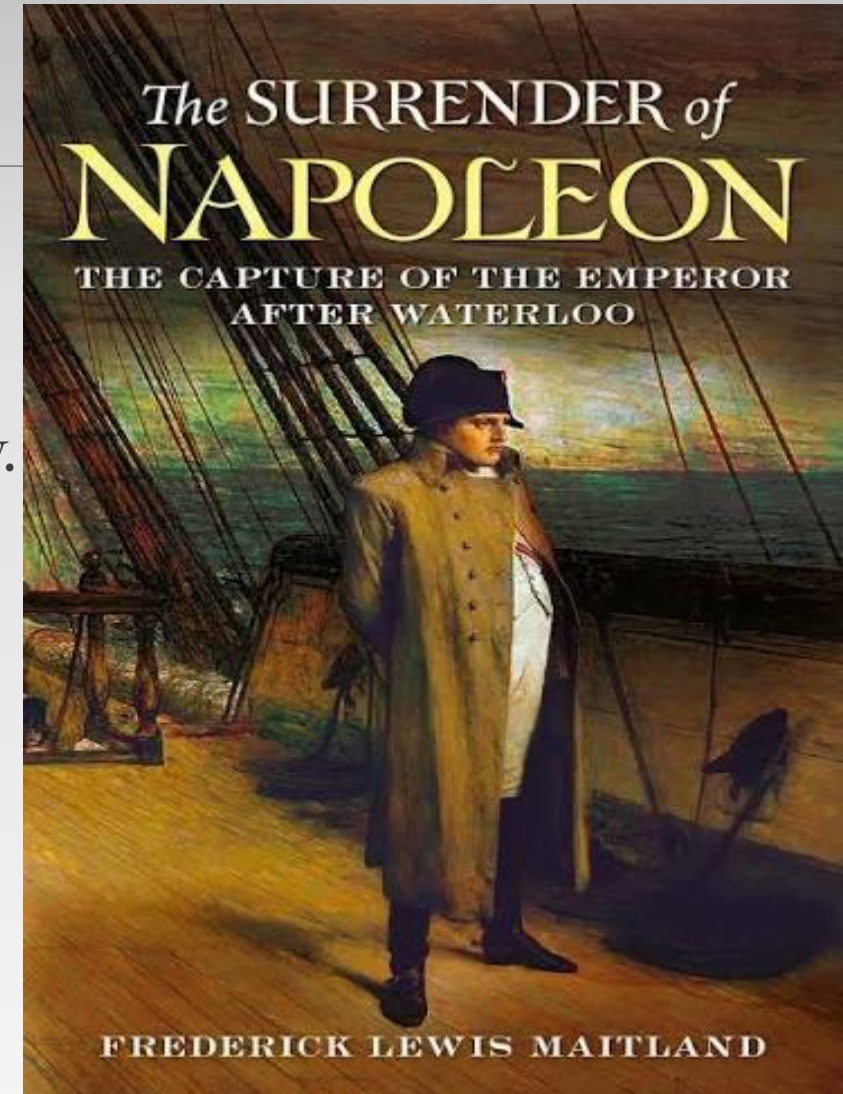
Allied army – British-German-Dutch-Belgian army.

- Directed from Brussels HQ

- Prussians coming in

Decisive battle Quatre Bras/Waterloo

Napoleon surrender - interned St Helena



Early moves

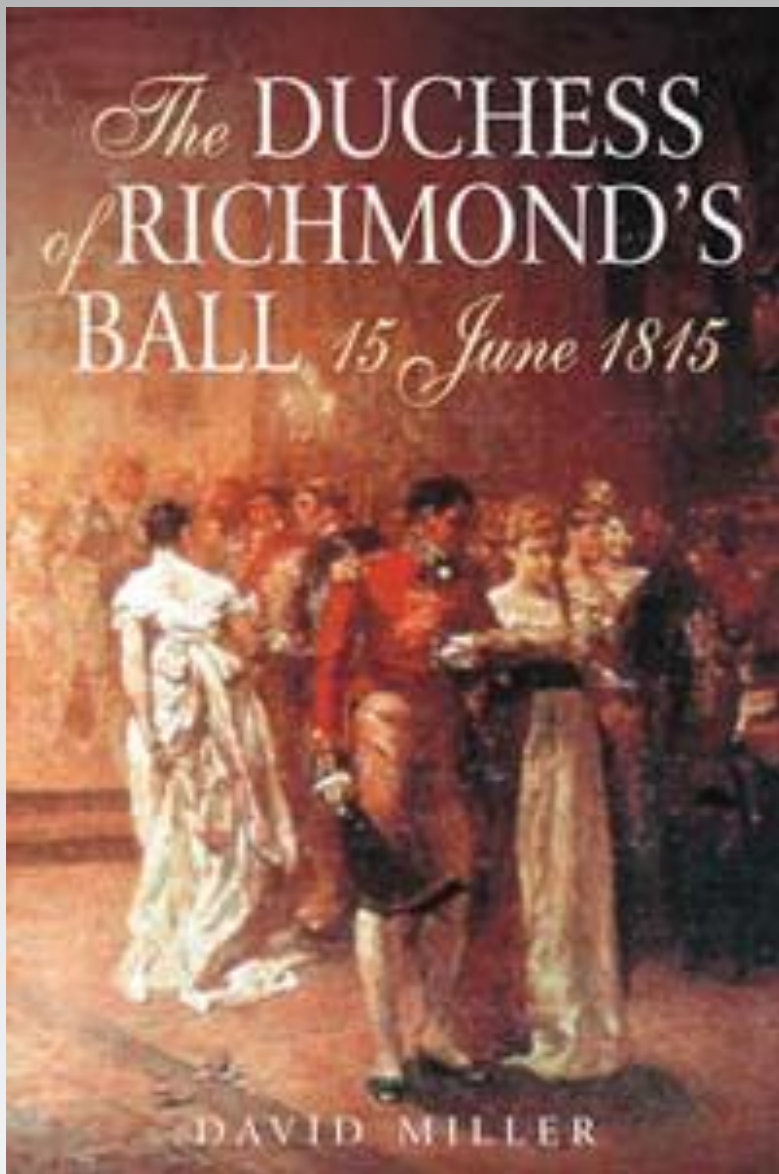
Napoleon in Paris

Decided to move north between the tw

News reached Brussels he was nearing

20 miles south

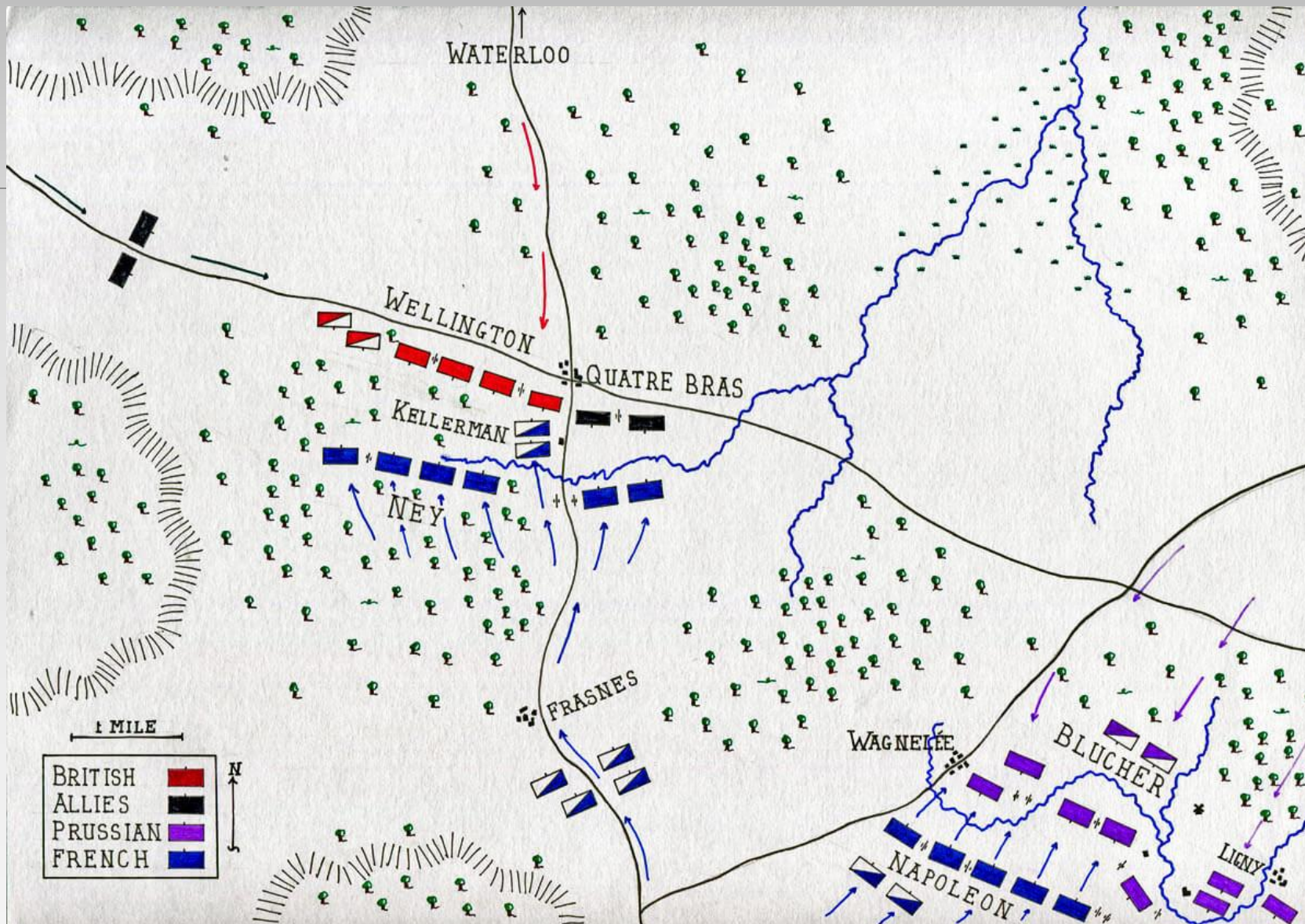




Lady Louisa, another of the Duchess' daughters, recalled:

I well remember the Gordon Highlanders dancing reels at the ball. My mother thought it would interest foreigners to see them which it did. I remember hearing that some of the poor men who danced in our house died at Waterloo. There was quite a crowd to look at the Scotch dancers.





Tactics





42nd (Black Watch) at Quatre Bras

Led since Peninsular campaign by L/Col Robert Macara

Died immediately :

Member R&A 1810

also Blackheath

and Royal Musselburgh



Macara death

Immediately succeeded by Major Robert Dick

R&A member, later in 1836

...Injured, then Major George Davidson, took charge

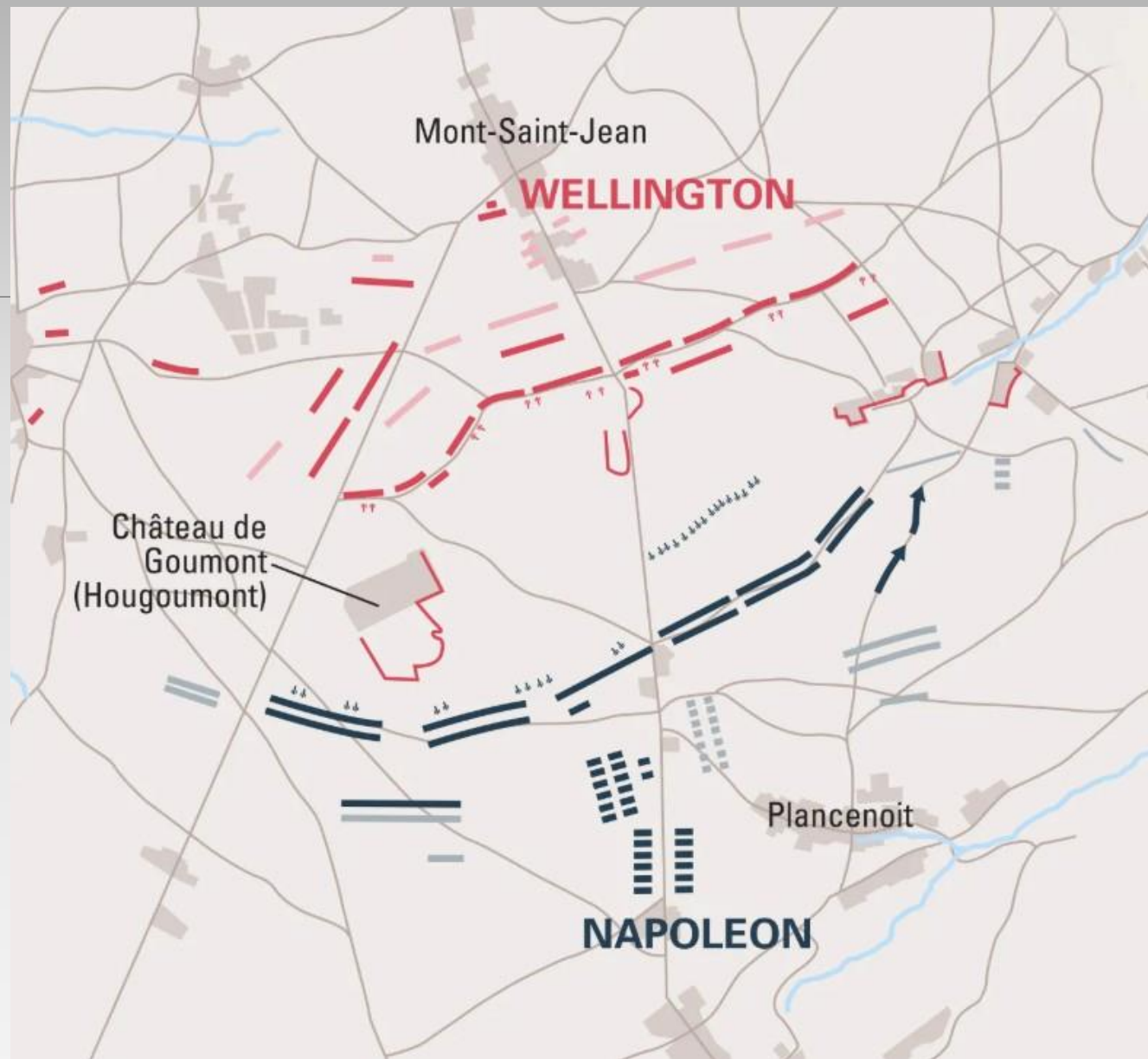
....Injured, then Captain John Campbell, took charge

Royal Musselburgh member 1810

Also died, Captain Archibald Menzies

Royal Musselburgh member 1811

Waterloo



Hougoumont Farm

Allied garrison in chateau, garden and orchard

Priority for Napoleon

Defended by Scots Fusilier Guards, Coldstream

North gate forced famously forced then closed



Hougoumont

Captain David Baird, age 20

3rd Scots Fusilier Guards

Severely wounded

R&A 1812, Captain 1843

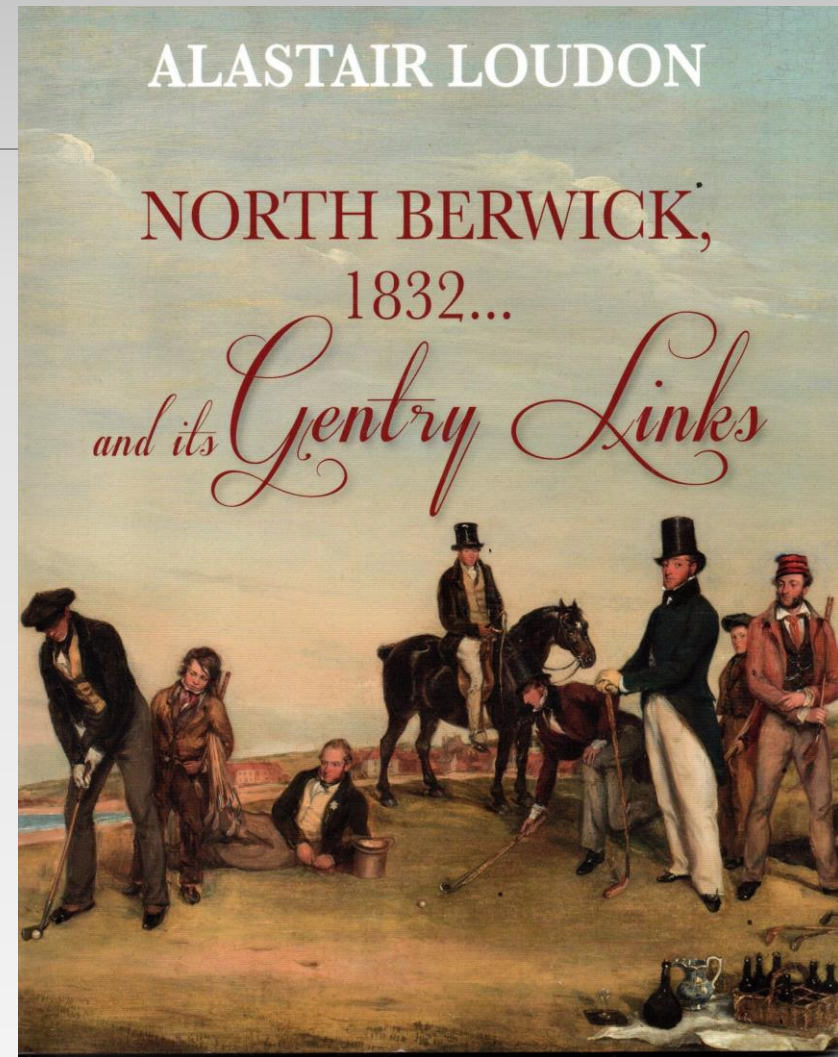


Hougoumont/Waterloo

Captain Robert Bruce
Grenadier Guards, severely wounded
R&A 1814 captain 1819

Also fought and survived -

Major Hon Willian Stuart (R&A 1795) – at the Ball
Captain Thomas Binney (R&A 1808)
Captain John Parsons (R&A 1821)
Major William Stirling R&A 1823
Capt William Browne, 14 wounds,
Founder member North Berwick



What happened to 42nd (Black Watch)?

Quatre Bras two days earlier – 3 officers and 42 men killed, 243 wounded.

Fell back to Waterloo - 5 killed, 42 wounded including six officers

Uninjured at Waterloo -

Col William Chalmers (R&A 1821)

Capt John Wilson (R&A 1921)

Also fought -

Q/M Donald Macintosh, founder member (Royal) Perth 1824

Musselburgh members - Capt Robert Boyle, Captain Daniel Macintosh,

Outcome ...

7 p.m. Blucher arrived with Prussians

Napoleon attack collapsed.

Napoleon retreated to Paris 21st June

2 July he arrived at Rochefort on the Channel

met blockade including *HMS Bellerophon*

Napoleon surrendered and sent to Saint Helena

Captain of the ship was Frederick Lewis Maitland

Member of the R&A from 1799



Thanks

Images from *Encyclopedia Britannica* and R&A
Bill Gibson's study in *Through the Green* June 2015

