

Geoffrey Evans HALL

2nd Lieutenant

1st attd 9th Battalion Norfolk Regiment

Geoffrey Evans Hall was born in Kensington in 1880 to Frederick Evans and Helen Elizabeth Hall. He studied at Oxford and was a Freeman of the City of London. By 1911 they were living at Cumberland Cottage, Crown Street, Redbourn, and Geoffrey, aged 30 was working as a stockbroker's clerk for his father's firm.

When war was declared, he enlisted as a Private in the 18th (1st Public Schools) Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers, landing in France on 14th November 1915.

He was commissioned as 2nd Lt into the Norfolk Regiment, and was badly wounded in the Battle of the Somme. He returned to the front in April 1917 and was attached to the 9th Battalion. He was killed by a shell on 25th April while leading his platoon into the trenches. He is buried in Maroc British Cemetery, Grenay, Pas de Calais.

18th (1st Public Schools) Bn Royal Fusiliers

The 1st Public Schools was a privately raised Kitchener 'Pals' battalion, initially composed exclusively of ex-public school boys. Many men wanted to 'do their bit' and serve in the ranks. When the Battalion was taken over by the Army, many of these 'young gentlemen' were persuaded to take commissions to make up for the dire shortage of officers across all the other Regiments.



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LIEUT. GEOFFREY HALL WOUNDED

Lieut. Geoffrey Hall, Norfolk Regiment, eldest son of Mr. F. E. Hall, Redbourn, who was home the other day to attend the funeral of his mother, was wounded in the leg and thigh last Sunday, and is now at Endesleigh Palace Hotel Hospital, London.

Geoffrey Hall's brother Humphrey, a Captain with the 2nd Norfolks was killed in action at the Battle of Ctesiphon, Mesopotamia (Iraq) on 23rd November 1915 and is commemorated on the Basra Memorial.

Geoffrey and Humphrey are commemorated on their parents' grave in St Mary's Church yard.