

Edward Fleetwood Fuller



Lieutenant, Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry. Was in Ceylon before the war. Gazetted Lieutenant in Royal Wilts Yeomanry in September, 1914. Died of appendicitis on October 8th, 1914, not having completed his training.



EDWARD FLEETWOOD FULLER was born in Corsham in 1878, the youngest child of George Pagiter Fuller and Emily Georgina Jane (née Hicks-Beach), who owned and lived at Neston Park. In the 1881 census his father George is recorded as a magistrate and Captain in the Wiltshire Yeomanry. Edward's sister Georgina and brother Robert were still living at home in 1881, looked after at this time by a resident governess, Augusta Adams. By 1891 only Edward was at home and his father was now recognised as

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a brewer, JP and MP. Edward followed a family tradition by completing his education at Winchester College. From there he went to Ceylon for a number of years, during which time he married Margaret Olive Argles and had a son, Edward Hamilton Fleetwood Fuller, born in 1902.

War Records of Corsham records that Edward enlisted for the Wiltshire Yeomanry at the outbreak of war, again following a strong family tradition. Sadly he did not complete his military training but died in a nursing home in Bristol from acute appendicitis on 8th October 1914. He had quickly progressed to the rank of Lieutenant. Probate records show that his widow Olive was living at The Manor House in South Marston.

Edward Fuller is buried in Neston Churchyard.

The following citation is from the Winchester College website.

Son of George Pargiter Fuller Esq., M.P., J.P. (COM., 1848), and Emily Georgina Jane Fuller (daughter of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach) of Neston Park, Corsham, Wiltshire, and one of five Wykehamist brothers. His eldest brother Sir John Michael Fleetwood Fuller (A 1878-1882) was also in the Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry. He entered Mr. Bramston's House from Mr. Wilkinson's school at Clifton, and in 1895 played in Commoner XV and 2nd XI cricket team. On leaving Winchester he went to Ceylon, where he spent several years in tea-planting.

At the outbreak of war Fuller enlisted in the Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry, a regiment with long family associations. The official history – “The Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry (Prince of Wales's Own) 1907-1967”, by Brigadier J.R.I. Platt DSO, OBE (Garnstone Press 1972) tells the

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story of their mobilisation: "On 12th August the Regiment moved by train to Winchester ... The Regiment was billeted in Winchester College. The men slept in the classrooms and gymnasium and found the floors the hardest beds of the whole war. The officers were in tutors' houses with their mess in the prefects' and dons' common rooms. There were four old Wykehamists among the officers including Lieutenant E.P. Awdry who remembered that the last time troops had been billeted at the College Oliver Cromwell had insisted on tying up his horses in the cloisters. When asked where the horses were to be stabled, he replied to the temporary consternation of the Bursar, "In the cloisters, of course, to preserve history." In a buttress outside the west door of the chapel is a horseshoe set there by the Farrier Sergeant with the words: "Wilts Yeomanry camped here, 1914".

He was quickly promoted to acting 2nd Lieutenant (the CWGC have him listed as Private 1028). He died on 8th October 1914 in a nursing home in Clifton, Bristol from an attack of acute appendicitis. Mr. Fuller married in 1901 Miss Margaret Olive Argles of Co. Cork. They had a son, Edward Hamilton Fleetwood Fuller (H 1916-1921).