

# The Norfolk Regiment



The regiment was first formed in 1685 during the Monmouth Rebellion as Henry Cornewall's Regiment of Foot, and became the 9th Regiment of Foot in 1751. In 1782 all British Regiments without Royal titles were awarded county titles, and it became the 9th (East Norfolk) Regiment of Foot. In 1881 it avoided amalgamation under the Childers Reforms, and became the Norfolk Regiment. In 1935 the regiment was awarded the Royal title as part of the silver jubilee celebrations for King George V, becoming the Royal Norfolk Regiment.

## WW1

The Regiment raised 19 Battalions, was awarded 70 Battle Honours and 1 Victoria Cross, losing 6,000 men during the course of the war.

### 1st Battalion

- August 1914: mobilised for war and landed at Havre and engaged in various actions on the Western Front including:
- 1916: The Attacks on High Wood, The Battle of Guillemont, The Battle of Flers-Courcelette, The Battle of Morval, The Battle of Le Transloy.
- 11<sup>th</sup> August 1918: ended the war at Jolimetz S.E. of Le Quesnoy, France

### 2nd Battalion

- 4<sup>th</sup> August 1914: stationed in India as part of the 18th Indian Brigade of the 6th (Poona) Division.
- 6<sup>th</sup> November 1914: embarked for Mesopotamia from Bombay landing at Sanniya.
- 1915: The Second Battle of Ypres and the Capture of Hill 60
- 29<sup>th</sup> April 1916: captured at Kut al Amara.
- 4<sup>th</sup> February 1916: composite Battalion was formed at El Orah, Tigris while battalion was besieged, from drafts and recovered wounded of the 2nd Norfolk and 2nd Dorset battalions, nicknamed the Norsets and was part of the 21st Brigade of the 7th Indian Division.
- August 1918: ended the war in Imam Abbas, near Mirjana N.E. of Baghdad, Mesopotamia.

### 1/4<sup>th</sup> and 1/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Territorial Force

- 4<sup>th</sup> August 1914: the 1/4<sup>th</sup> Stationed at St. Giles Norwich; the 1/5<sup>th</sup> stationed at East Dereham (both as part of the Norfolk & Suffolk Brigade of the East Anglian Division).
- 29<sup>th</sup> July 1915: embarked for Gallipoli from Liverpool via Mudros.
- 10<sup>th</sup> August 1915: landed at Suvla Bay and engaged in various actions against the Turkish Army. (The 1/5<sup>th</sup> are referred to as the 'Vanished Battalion' because during the Dardanelles Campaign the Battalion went into battle and 'disappeared').

- 19<sup>th</sup> December 1915: the 1/4th was evacuated from Gallipoli to Alexandria due to severe casualties from combat, disease and harsh weather. The Division went on to engaged in various actions including; 1916 : Suez Canal Defence. 1917 : The First Battle of Gaza, The Second Battle of Gaza, The Third Battle of Gaza, The Capture of Gaza, The Battle of Jaffa. 1918 : The fight at Ras el'Ain, The operations at Berukin, The Battle of Sharon. 31.10.1918 Ended the war in Beirut, Palestine.

### **7th (Service) Battalion**

- August 1914: formed at Norwich as part of the First New Army (K1) and moved to Shorncliffe joining the 35th Brigade of the 12th Division.
- January 1915: moved to Romney and Littlestone; February 1915 Moved to Malplaquet Barracks, Aldershot.
- 31<sup>st</sup> May 1915: mobilised for war and landed at Boulogne and engaged in various actions on the Western Front including:
  - 1915: The Battle of Loos
  - 1916: The Battle of Albert, The Battle of Pozieres, The Battle of Le Transloy,
  - 1917: The First Battle of the Scarpe, The Battle of Arleux, The Third Battle of the Scarpe, The Cambrai operations.
  - 1918: The Battle of Bapaume, The First Battle of Arras 1918, The Battle of Amiens, The Battle of Albert, The Battle of Epehy, The Final Advance in Artois.
- 11<sup>th</sup> November 1918: ended the war at Landas east of Orchies, France.