

**Obituary for Captain Hugh Carlton Cumberbatch**  
(from the Green Howards Gazette)



It is with great regret that we have to record the death of Major H C Cumberbatch, which took place at a nursing home in London on the 4<sup>th</sup> May, after a long illness. The only son of E C Cumberbatch Esq of Croxted House, Farnborough, he was born on 19 May 1884, and was gazetted to the Regiment on 27 January 1904, from the Yorkshire Garrison Artillery, and joined the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalionj at Sheffield, going out to India with a draft of 180 men in September the same year, where he joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion at Bombay. Being good at all games, he soon found his way into the regimental polo and Association football teams, and at tennis he was particularly good. Early in 1914 found him at Sandhurst in command of a Company of Cadets, which he gave up in December on appointment to the Staff as an A.D.C., and was present at the Second Battle of Ypres and Loos and the Third Battle of Ypres as a Staff-Captain, and Brigade-Major in October 1916 to a unit of Cadets. For his services he was promoted Brevet-Major, and twice mentioned in despatches, awarded the Military Cross and Order of the British Empire. In 1920 he obtained the Staff College certificate. Owing to his illness the regiment lost a very popular officer, and the prospect of a successful career in the Army was denied him as he had to go on half pay in 1930 and retired four years later.

Major Cumberbatch married on the 8 June 1912 the only daughter of the late General Sir Lawrence Oliphant, and our sympathy is fully given to his widow. The funeral took place at Brookwood on the 7 May, and was attended amongst others by Major H N Bright, MBE, representing the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, and Lieut. P G Bulfin representing the Colonel of the Regiment. Lieut. Col. Kinsman and Major L F Lanyon were also present.

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## **Mentions of H C Cumberbatch in earlier volumes of the Green Howards Gazette**

GH Gazette XXII, 257, 84. 7 - 8 July 1914. With the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion in Guernsey. Description of a parade.

GH Gazette XXII, 263, 203. To be an Aide-de-Camp for a Company of Gentleman Cadets, R M College. 17 December 1914.

GH Gazette XXIII, 270, 110. Attended 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Training Camp in France (mid-1915) as Staff Officer to Major-General Bulfin.

GH Gazette XXIII, 274, 171. Mentioned in Despatches 30 November 1916.

GH Gazette XXIII, 274, 172. Appointed General Staff Officer, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade. 21 October 1916

GH Gazette XXIII, 275, 186. Awarded Military Cross. 1 January 1916.

GH Gazette XXIV, 279, 28. Appointed Brigade Major. 14 May 1916

GH Gazette XXIV, 284, 100. Captain H C Cumberbatch, MC, graded a Brigade Major whilst commanding a Company of an Officer Cadet unit. 1 October 1916.

GH Gazette XXV, 297, 94. Appointed Brevet Major by HM the King for valuable services rendered in connection with the war. 1 January 1918.

GH Gazette XXVI, 302, 32. Appointed Brigade Major. 19 March 1918.

GH Gazette XXVI, 305, 71. Mentioned in despatches for services between 16 March and 18 September 1918. 22 January 1919.

GH Gazette XXXV, 408, 212. Takes over command of a company of gentleman cadets at Sandhurst. (January 1928).

GH Gazette XXXIV, 392, 133. Makes the address at the Annual Association Dinner (1927).

GH Gazette XXXIII, 377, ?. In the semi-finals of the Army Lawn Tennis Championships at the Queen's Club. (1926)