Charles Myatt





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Rank: - Private

Number: - 200180

Regiment: - King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry 5th Battalion

Died of Wounds, Tooting Military Hospital, sustained head wounds 22nd July 1918: - 01/12/1918 Age: 23 years

Cemetery: - Batley, Yorkshire H 747

Batley News, 14 Dec 1918 (photo). Batley Reporter, 6 Dec 1918

Family Details

Charles was born in Cadzow, Hamilton, Scotland on the 30th January 1894 the son of Joseph and Annie Myatt nee Milburn. Lilly was born in 1889 followed by Florence 1891, Charles, Sarah Jane 1896, Emily 1897 who were born in Scotland, Annie 1899 in Leeds and who were in 1901 living at 58, Russell Street, Castleford. Joseph was a coal miner who came from St. Helen's, Lancashire. Mary was born in 1901 and Elizabeth 1903 in Castleford before the family moved to Birstall and the births of Eleanor 1904 and Joseph 1905. Alice was born in 1909 and sadly died in May 1910.

In 1911 there were eight of the eleven children still living with their parents at 31, Victoria Street, Carlinghow in a three roomed home. Charles was working as a hewer in a coal mine. Amy was born in 1912 and Margaret in 1914 who only survived for 4 days. From newspaper reports both Joseph and Charles worked together at Shaw Cross pit.

On the 18th August 1914 Charles married Annie Tidswell at St. James's Church, Tong when both gave their address as Benton Beck, Birstall. Lionel was born in 1915 followed by Irene in 1918. They were living at Benton Beck, Dudley Hill in 1918. In 1931 Annie married Willie Jones and lived at Drighlington with her children.

Service Details

Charles was one of the original local Territorial's who went to France at Easter 1915, landing at Boulogne on the 12th April.

By the 19th April they had concentrated in the area of Estaires-Merville-Neuf Berquin. They then saw action at the Battle of Aubers Ridge (9 May) and the defence against the first Phosgene attack (19 December).

In 1916 they saw action at: -

The Battle of Albert (1st-13th July)
The Battle of Bazentin Ridge (14th -17th July)
The Battle of Pozieres Ridge (23rd July-3 September)
The Battle of Flers-Courcelette (15th -22nd September)
which were all phases of the Battles of the Somme

In 1917 they saw action at: -

Operations on the Flanders Coast (Hush)
The Battle of Poelcapelle (9th -12th October)

In 1918: -

The Battle of Estaires (9th -11th April)
The Battle of Messines (10th -11th April)
The Battle of Bailleul in which the Division defended Neuve Eglise (13-15 April)
The First Battle of Kemmel Ridge (17-19 April)
The Second Battle of Kemmel Ridge (25th -26th April)
The Battle of the Scherpenberg (29th April)
which were phases of the Battles of the Lys

During these battles it is reported that Charles was wounded twice but received head wounds on the 22nd July 1918 and was brought back to Tooting Military Hospital where he died on the 1st December 1918.

He was buried at Batley Cemetery on the 7th December with full military Honours.

Charles was awarded the 1914-15 Star. The British War Medal, Victory Medal.

He is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial.





Researched by members of
Batley History Group