



Charles Blamire

1889 – 1916



Charles was born in 1889 in Dewsbury, he lived at 19 Swallow Street and in 1911 there is a record of him living in 35, Albion St, Ravensthorpe. His parents were William Blamire, stone mason, who had been born in Dewsbury in 1860 and his wife Eliza Ann (Nee Ledgard) who had been born in Mexborough in 1861. The couple married at the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Dewsbury Moor in 1882. There is a record of a civil marriage in Dewsbury in the December Quarter of 1912 when Charles married Edith Senior, there appears not to have been any issue from this marriage. Charles surviving siblings were Luke, glass blower, 1886, Harriet Ann, yarn spinner 1892 and James Henry a piecer 1895: The 1911 Census states that the couple had had nine children four of whom had died. Charles worked as a taken-in at a glass factory, probably Kilner Bros:

During the War Charles served as Private 37105 in the Gloucestershire Regiment: previously he had joined the Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment and had enlisted in Mirfield and then had been transferred to the South Staffordshire Regiment as Private 2447. He met his death on Saturday 18th November when The Glosters took part in what was to be the last set piece attack of the Battle of the Somme. Beaumont Hamel had been taken by the 51st Highland Division and the Royal Naval Division took the village of Beaucourt. This was only a partial success and the attack ground to a halt in the face of ferocious retaliation. Snow had fallen overnight and sleet was falling which reduced visibility to virtually nil. Despite the fact that the first objective was achieved the attack ground to a halt and casualties were

heavy, the Glosters lost twelve officers and 283 other ranks, Charles Blamire was amongst them. The following day the attacking forces were compelled to fall back slightly in view of the counter attack (Reported in Tattersfield "A Village Goes to War" He was awarded the British Campaign and Victory Medals and it seems unlikely that his body was ever recovered as he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial alongside 72,000 British and South African Servicemen who have no known grave. He is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park, in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour and on the Ravensthorpe War Memorial in St. Saviour's Parish Church.

