



## **Charles Machin**

### **1894-1914**

Charles was born in New Seaham, County Durham on 19<sup>th</sup> February 1894. His father was George Machin, a Coal Miner born in Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent in 1859, and died in 1908. His mother was Annie Elizabeth (nee Walker) born in Longton, Stoke-on-Trent in 1861 and died in 1933. They were married at the Wesleyan Chapel, Wolstanton on 12<sup>th</sup> November 1882. The family moved to various parts of the country to work in the coal-mining industry.

Their other children were; Eliza Ann, born in Chesterton near Newcastle-under-Lyme in 1883 and died in 1909, Daniel, born in Chesterton in 1885 and died in 1885, Joseph, born in Chesterton in 1886 and was killed in action 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1916, George, born in Audley, Staffordshire in 1889, James Henry, born in New Seaham in 1891, John Thomas, born in Ryhope near Sunderland in 1896 and died of wounds 27<sup>th</sup> September 1916, Septimus, born in Ryhope in 1899 and Charlotte, born in Chesterton in 1901. All the brothers served in World War 1 and a step-brother, Fred Bailey served in the Canadian Infantry.

In 1908 Annie was remarried to Joseph Bailey (born in 1863 and died in 1912); in 1913 she moved to live at 3, Cardigan Road, Thornhill Lees and later at Overton Green. Middlestown near Wakefield. In early 1916 the Dewsbury Reporter featured an article on Mrs Machin's six soldier sons, all who were described as being over six feet tall. During the Battle of the Somme, John Thomas died of wounds 27<sup>th</sup> September 1916 and Joseph was killed in action 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1916.

Charles worked as a Coal Miner in 1911 and later as a Glass Hand at Kilner Brothers in Thornhill Lees.

In 1913 he enlisted in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Coldstream Guards with the Service Number 10028 rising to the rank of Lance Corporal and was sent to the Western Front on the 13<sup>th</sup> August 1914. He was killed in action on 14<sup>th</sup> September 1914 when the Coldstream Guards fought at Cerny-en-Laonnois in defence of the River Aisne during the German advance. He was officially reported as missing, believed killed and his remains were found in 1926 near to Cerny-en-Laonnois and he was buried in A.I.F. Burial Ground, Flers, in the Somme region, over sixty miles from his original burial place. Charles was awarded the 1914 Star with Clasp, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Charles is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the War Memorial in Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church, Westtown and in De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour 1914-1918.

In Memory of  
Lance Corporal  
**C Machin**

10028, 1st Bn., Coldstream Guards who died on 14 September 1914 Age 21

Son of Mrs. Annie Elizabeth Machin, of Overton Green, Middlestown, Wakefield.

Remembered with Honour  
**A.I.F. Burial Ground, Flers**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Headstone photograph by courtesy of the Rev. Nicholas Hird.