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| **Name** | **CHARLES ANDREW DODD** |
| **Birth** | 1891 Wylam |
| **Enlistment/Occupation** | Enlisted Wylam / Plumber |
| **Death, date, location** | 22/10/1917  Died  France & Flanders  Reported missing at Senegal Farm area 3rd Battle of Ypres more often known as Battle of Passchendaele |
| **Age** | 28 |
| **Unit, rank, service no:** | 38322  Private  Northumberland Fusiliers  20th (Tyneside Scottish) Bn.  Medal Rolls show an additional Regimental No: 4/1748 |
| **CWGC Family Acknowledgement** | Son of the late Andrew and Margaret Ann Dodd, of Dene Terrace, Wylam, Northumberland. (CWGC) |
| **Family** | Charles Andrew was born in 1889 to Andrew Dodd and Margaret Dodd (nee Weatherley) a brother to baby Margaret. Sadly, their mother died within a few months and the 1891 census shows the father Andrew Dodd as a widower aged 38 with his mother in law and niece living in to help out with the small children.  Father Andrew, originally from Walwick Park near Warden had moved to Wylam to work as a coachman, groom and gardener. He and his first wife, Margaret (nee Weatherley), were probably the first tenants of No.2 Rose Cottages which was newly built in 1887  In 1895 father Andrew remarried and his second wife was Sarah Ann (nee Sykes) from Eastoft, Yorks. They soon produced a second daughter Eliza.  By 1911 census their family had increased again with the addition of another daughter, Sarah, and then moved to a new house No.1 Dene Terrace. Charles was 22, still single and working as a plumber- perhaps with the water company who were busy laying mains and connecting supplies to houses in the village and surrounding area.  We do not have the date of his enlistment into the 20th Btn. (Tyneside Scottish) Northumberland Fusiliers nor any of his service details and when he went to France.  His father Andrew died in 1915 aged 62, but his stepmother Sarah, was still living in Dene Terrace when confirmation of Charles death in France was received.  Hexham Courant 01/12/1917:-  ‘Mrs Dodd of Dene Terrace, Wylam, notified that her son Private Charles Dodd is missing.’ |
| **Battalion War Diary 20th Bn. (Tyneside Scottish) Northumberland Fusiliers** | The precise date and location of Charles Dodd’s death are known so it was appropriate to check the record for that date in the Battalion War Diary.  The relevant period would appear to be the events of 16th-24th October 1917. The Diary shows some confusion over the dates 22nd/23rd but there is no doubt that this was a period of attack and counter attack in which casualties were suffered of which Charles was probably one.  ***16/17 October*** *the Battalion moved up to relieve 9th Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers in the area of* ***Tragique Farm****,* ***Eagle Trench****. Battalion HQ was at Louis Farm. This was a costly and difficult move.*  ***21st/22nd******October*** *On the night of 21st/22nd Oct. ‘B’ Coy 20th N.F. moved to* ***Senegal Farm*** *area, being in close support to ‘D’ Coy 20th N.F. and available as immediate counter attack troops.*  ***22nd October*** *An attack was made by the Royal Scots on German positions which was followed at about 5.00pm by a German counter attack which was successful in capturing some ground.*  ***22nd******Oct.*** *an attack on the enemy’s positions was made by the Battalions holding the line on the flanks of 20th N.F. this attack was made by 15th Bn Royal Scots on the left 2 coys of 24th/27th N.F. on the right ‘D’ coy 20th N.F. held non-attack frontings.*  *The attack was successfully carried out on the right, the two coys 24th/27th N.F. reaching their objectives. The 15th Royal Scots on the left were not so successful and suffered heavy casualties by machine gun fire. By a counter attack on the evening of the 22nd Oct about 5.00pm the enemy succeeded in gaining a portion of the ground captured.*  ***24/25October*** *Battalion relieved at night and proceeded to* ***Boesinghe – Proven – Plumpstead Camp***  **Casualties for October**   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | **Killed** | **Died of Wounds** | **Wounded** | **Missing** | | **Officer** | 1 |  | 5 | 1 | | **O.R.** | 11 | 1 | 192 | 9 | |
| **Battalion** | **20th Battalion, 1st Tyneside Scottish, Royal Northumberland Fusiliers** was raised in 1914 in Newcastle mainly from men of Scottish descent from the North East. Initially training in Newcastle City centre the 1st Tyneside Scottish moved to Alnwick camp, in the grounds of Alnwick castle on the 29th of January 1915. They joined 102nd Brigade, 34th Division at Ripon in June 1915. In late August they moved to Salisbury Plain to begin final training. They proceeded to France in January 1916 and concentrated at La Crosse, east of St Omer. They were in action during the Battles of the Somme, including the capture of Scots and Sausage Redoubts, attacking just north of the village of La Boisselle, not far from Albert. At 7.28 am on 1st July 1916 two great mines were detonated beneath the German positions, one to the north of the village and one to the south. At 7.30 am the whistles sounded and the attack began. The 1st Tyneside Scottish had 500 yards to cover, under heavy machine gun fire, before reaching the German lines, 26 Officers and 564 men from this battalion lost their lives. In 1917 they fought in the First and Second Battles of the Scarpe and the Battle of Arleux during the Arras Offensive. In August they were involved in the fighting at Hargicourt and in October they took part in The Third Battles of Ypres at the Broenbeek. In 1918 they were in action in The Battle of St Quentin and then moved to Flanders seeing action in The Battle of Estaires, The Battle of Bailleul and The First Battle for Kemmel Ridge during the Battles of the Lys, suffering heavy losses. The 34th Division was then withdrawn from fighting and on the 21st of April they moved to the area west of Poperinge for reorganisation and were engaged in digging a new defensive line between Abeele and Watou. On the 13th of May the infantry units moved to the area around Lumbres and reduced to a cadre which was then employed in the training of newly arrived American troops. By the 1st of July 1918 34th Division had been reconstituted and returned to action, at The Battles of the Soissonais, the Ourcq and the capture of Baigneux Ridge. They took part in the Final Advance in Flanders and at the Armistice were at rest in the area east of Courtrai. 34th Division was selected to join the Army of Occupation and began to move towards Germany on the 14th of November. On the 22nd of December a large number men with industrial and mining skills were demobilised. By the end of January 1919 the Division was occupying the Cologne bridgehead. |
| **Memorials** | Panel 19 to 23 and 162.  TYNE COT MEMORIAL  Also commemorated in:-  School War Memorial Plaque, Falcon Centre Wylam  War memorial Plaque St.Oswin’s church, Wylam  War Memorial Monument, Village Green,Wylam |
| **Comments** |  |
| **Sources** | UK Soldiers died in Great War 1914-1919  Commonwealth War Graves Commission  War Diary 20th Bn (Tyneside Scottish) Northumberland Fusiliers, Fusiliers Museum of Northumberland, Alnwick.  1891, 1901, & 1911 Census  Hexham Courant 01/12/1917  Long long Trail. |
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