



## Arthur Clarkson Chadwick 1886 – 1915

Arthur was born in Dewsbury in 1886. His father was Charles Harrison Chadwick, a Wool Merchant born in Dewsbury in 1854 and died in 1929. His mother was Fanny (nee Marriott) born in Dewsbury in 1854 and died in 1926. They were married in 1883.

Their other children were; Herbert Marriott, born in 1883, twins Charles Bernard and Margaret Olivia, born in 1889 and Thomas, born in 1893 and served in World War 1, being awarded the Military Cross for gallantry during the Battle of Passchendaele.

On the 1891, 1901 and 1911 Census Records the family lived at “Myrtle Bank” 23, West Park Street, Dewsbury.

Arthur was a single man who went to Wheelwright Grammar School, where he excelled at athletics and won the championship medal between 1897 and 1900. He was a keen golfer and secretary of the Dewsbury and District Golf Club and also represented Yorkshire at county level. He worked in the family firm of wool merchants, Thomas Chadwick and Sons, Dewsbury, which was owned by his father and uncle, John Chadwick of “Templefield”, Westtown, Dewsbury. He joined the local Territorials as a second-lieutenant in 1904 and was best associated with the Ossett Company of Volunteers. When the Captain, Eric Stockwell, retired, Arthur took charge of the company.

On the outbreak of war, he volunteered for overseas service. He was promoted to Captain and served as an Adjutant in the 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the King’s Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. He was shot in the head by a sniper’s bullet on 29<sup>th</sup> October 1915, when he was checking out the position at the front, prior to the Battalion taking over those trenches the next day; according to his commanding officer, Lt. Colonel Haslegrave, his death was instant. He was buried in Bard Cottage Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Arthur was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. It is clear from the account of his death in the *Dewsbury Reporter* on 7<sup>th</sup> November 1915 that Arthur was very well-liked and a very good officer, respected by both men and fellow officers. A friend, Major E.W. Pickering, wrote in a letter to Arthur’s mother; “*There was no officer in the division more popular with all ranks – his men simply loved him, and his appointment to adjutant was a reward for his excellent service in the trenches.*”

For much of the First World War, the village of Boesinghe (now Boezinge) directly faced the German line across the Yser canal. Bard Cottage was a house a little set back from the line, close to a bridge called Bard’s Causeway, and the cemetery was made nearby in a sheltered position under a high bank. Burials were made between June 1915 and October 1918 and they reflect the presence of the 49<sup>th</sup> (West Riding), the 38<sup>th</sup> (Welsh) and other infantry divisions in the northern sectors of the Ypres Salient, as well as the advance of artillery to the area in the autumn of 1917. There are now 1,639 Commonwealth casualties of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery. 39 of the burials are unidentified but special memorials commemorate three casualties known to be buried among them.

Arthur 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 Wheelwright Grammar School and on the Memorial Plaque in the Dewsbury Ebenezer Congregational Church, now known as Longcauseway Church (United Reformed and Methodist).

In Memory of  
Captain & Adjt  
**Arthur Clarkson Chadwick**

1st/4th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 29 October 1915 Age 29

Son of Charles Harrison Chadwick and Fanny Chadwick, of Myrtle Bank, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour  
**Bard Cottage Cemetery**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

