



Chester Twemlow

Chester Twemlow will be a familiar name to many older residents of Macclesfield. He had a tobacconist shop for many years, in the building known as Ye Old Shop, a small black and white timber framed building in Market Place. He also played football for Macclesfield Town Football Club and cricket for Macclesfield Cricket Club.

Chester was baptised at Christ Church, together with his twin sister Doris Robinson Twemlow, on 14 October 1894 when they were 11 days old. Doris died in 1895 before her first birthday. His father was Charles Twemlow, who was a butcher at 81 Chestergate, and his mother was Sarah Robinson Twemlow née Bullock.

Chester had two half sisters Alice and Ann from his father's first marriage in 1869 to Harriet Elizabeth Walker, who died in 1882. He also had a sister Maud and brother Charles from his father's second marriage in 1887 to Sarah Robinson Bullock.

Chester was a talented sportsman and played for various football teams. He played for Macclesfield Modern School and Macclesfield Juniors, who were members of the Macclesfield and District League. He then moved to Bramhall in the Lancashire and Cheshire Amateur League, remaining there until the outbreak of World War One.

In August 1914, Chester enlisted with the 7th Cheshire regiment as a private. In October 1916, he obtained a commission in the Machine Gun Corps, and on 25 October 1916, he was made a temporary 2nd Lieutenant. He was posted to France at the end of 1916 but, within a month, was invalided home suffering from gas poisoning. After treatment, he returned to France where he remained until the end of the War. He was then posted to Cologne in Germany until he was demobilised in 1919.

In the Absent Voters Lists of 1918 and 1919, he was recorded at 79 Chestergate as a 2nd Lieutenant Machine Gun Corps.

In 1921, Chester Bullock Twemlow married Beatrice Clayton, the daughter of John Clayton, a shirt factory manager, and Mary Ann Clayton, at St Michael, Macclesfield.

Chester played for Macclesfield Town Football club in the 1919-20 season and was a member of the team which won the Altrincham Cup. He started the 1920-21 season with Macclesfield but was released in November 1920 so that he could join Northwich Victoria. Later in 1920, he joined Congleton Town where he gained a winners' medal in the Cheshire Senior Cup. He moved to Stoke City in December 1921, initially as an amateur, but became a professional in

January 1922. He returned to Macclesfield at the beginning of the 1922-23 season, only missing matches because of the effect of an injury incurred in the summer playing cricket. In the 1926-27 season, he was captain. From 1927-28, his senior appearances became less frequent but he still turned out for the reserves on a regular basis.

Chester was also a keen cricketer and, from the age of 16, was a member of the 1st XI for Macclesfield Cricket Club where he was their wicket keeper. He also played for the Cheshire County team.

Chester and Beatrice had one child named Donald Clayton Twemlow, born in 1923. He was a fighter pilot during WW2 and he married an Australian named Nola L. Williams. In the spring of 1947, Donald and Nola had a son named Michael Chester Twemlow. Six months later, on 19th September 1947, whilst serving as a test pilot with the Fleet Air Arm, based at HMS Blackcap, a Royal Navy Base near Warrington, Donald had a fatal accident. His plane crashed into the ground at High Legh near Knutsford. He was buried with full military honours at Macclesfield Cemetery, with an upright sandstone cross bearing his name and, later, his parents' names. Michael Chester Twemlow later emigrated to Australia.

In 1939, Chester and Beatrice were living at 21 Fieldbank Road. He was a tobacconist and confectioner working for himself.

Chester died on 19th January 1968 and Beatrice in 1974. Both are buried at Macclesfield Cemetery with their son Donald.