

## In Memory Of

### JAMES KNOTT

Driver 54563  
82<sup>nd</sup> Bty., Royal Field Artillery  
who died on Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> December 1916.

**Born** Hyde, Cheshire    **Enlisted** Hyde, Cheshire    **Residence**

**Died How** Died of wounds    **Theatre of War** Turkey

**Additional Inf.**    Son of Walter & Mary A Knott, 24 Top Row, Godley,

#### Commemorative Information

**Cemetery:** BAGHDAD (NORTH GATE) WAR CEMETERY, Iraq

**Grave Reference/  
Panel Number:** XXI. N. 7.

**Location:** Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery is 800 metres beyond the North Gate of the City of Baghdad on the south-eastern side of the road to Baguba. Within the cemetery is the Baghdad (North Gate)(Khanauin) Memorial. The Commission, at their 480th Meeting in September 1965 approved a proposal for the erection of a memorial in Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery to commemorate 107 Commonwealth and 438 Polish burials of the 1939/45 War in Khanauin War Cemetery which, owing to difficulty of access, could not be fully constructed or properly maintained. A memorial has also been erected at Khanauin.

**Historical Information:** Baghdad is a city on both banks of the Tigris, 220 miles from the Persian Gulf. It was built in the year 763, and for some time it was the capital of the Caliphate. In 1914 it was a place of some 150,000 inhabitants, the capital of one of the three mesopotamian vilayets, the Headquarters of the Turkish Army in Mesopotamia, and a trading centre of supreme importance. It was the objective of Indian Expeditionary Force "D" from - at the least - March 1915, and it was the goal of the force besieged and captured in Kut. It fell into British hands on the 11th March 1917. The "Operations for the consolidation of the position at Baghdad" lasted to the 30th April; but meanwhile it had become the Advanced Base, with two Stationary Hospitals and three Casualty Clearing Stations. The North Gate War Cemetery is half a mile beyond the North Gate, on the right-hand side of the road to Baquba. It stands on low and level ground, and a high earth "bund" is built around it to protect it against floods; within the bund is an iron fence. It is entered by a domed gatehouse, and bisected by a wide avenue which separates the British plots, on the left, from the Muhammadan and Hindi plots. It covers an area of 74,609 square yards. The cemetery was begun in April 1917, and it continued in use until 1922. It was enlarged after the Armistice by the concentration of 2,975 graves from other cemeteries at Baghdad and in Northern Iraq and from the battlefields, and, later, from the cemeteries in Anatolia where British prisoners were buried. In over 1,000 instances graves identified as groups, but not individually, are marked by headstones superscribed: "Buried near this spot."