

**St. Peris Churchyard,
Llanberis, Wales
War Grave**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



2433 PRIVATE

H. H. JONES

55TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

13TH NOVEMBER, 1917 Age 41

Hugh Henry JONES

Hugh Henry Jones was born at Nant Peris, Caernarvonshire, North Wales around 1877 to parents John & Mary Jones (nee Owens).

The 1881 Wales Census recorded Hugh H. Jones as a 4 year old, living with his family at Penybont, Llanberis, Caernarvonshire, Wales. His parents were listed as John Jones (Slate Quarryman, aged 37) & Mary Jones (aged 36). Hugh was one of seven children listed on this Census (all born Llanberis) – Thomas Jones (Scholar, aged 13), John L. Jones (Scholar, aged 12), Ann E. Jones (Scholar, aged 9), Hannah E. Jones (Scholar, aged 7) then Hugh, William Jones (aged 2) & Caradog O. Jones (aged 7 months).

Hugh Henry Jones attended Nant Peris Board School, Wales.

The 1891 Wales Census recorded Hugh Henry Jones as a 14 year old, living with his family at Bron Eryri, Llanberis, Caernarvonshire, Wales. His parents were listed as John Jones (Slate Quarryman, aged 58) & Mary Jones (aged 56). Hugh was one of four children listed on this Census (all born Llanberis) – John L. Jones (Slate Quarryman, aged 31) Hannah E. Jones (aged 26) then Hugh & Caradog O. Jones (Slate Quarryman, aged 19).

The 1901 Wales Census recorded Hugh H. Jones as a 24 year old Slate Quarryman, living with his family at Pen Y Bont, Llanberis, Caernarvonshire, Wales. His parents were listed as John Jones (Slate Quarryman, aged 47) & Mary Jones (aged 45).

According to information supplied by his sister for the Roll of Honour – Hugh Henry Jones came to Australia when he was 35 years of age.

Hugh Henry Jones was a 40 year old, single, Quarryman (listed as a Slate Quarry Miner in information provided by his sister for the Roll of Honour) from Chapbury State Quarry, Goulburn, NSW when he enlisted on 29th December, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Presbyterian & his next of kin was listed as his father – John Jones, Bronaryri, Mantperis, Llanberis, Carnarvon, North Wales (address as listed on Embarkation Roll).

Private Hugh Henry Jones was posted to "A" Company, Depot Battalion at Goulburn, NSW on 29th December, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to "F" Company of 55th Battalion on 28th April, 1916 then on 15th May, 1916 he was transferred to "A" Company Depot Battalion. Private Jones was transferred to 5th Reinforcements of 55th Battalion on 15th June, 1916.

Private Hugh Henry Jones, Service number 2433, embarked from Sydney, New South Wales on HMAT *Aeneas* (A60) on 30th September, 1916 with the 55th Infantry Battalion, 5th Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 19th November, 1916.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Private Hugh Henry Jones was written up for a Crime while at Hurdcott, Wiltshire – Overstaying Leave from midnight on 27th November, 1916 until 7 am on 29th November, 1916. He was awarded 7 days confined to Barracks & forfeited 2 days pay.

Private Hugh Henry Jones proceeded overseas to France via Folkestone per *Princess Henrietta* on 31st December, 1916 from 14th Training Battalion. He was marched in to 5th Australian Divisional Base Depot at Etaples on 1st January, 1917 from England. Private Jones was marched out from 5th A.D.B.D. on 6th February, 1917 & was taken on strength of 55th Battalion in the Field on 8th February, 1917 from Reinforcements.

Private Hugh Henry Jones reported sick on 10th April, 1917. He was admitted to 5th Divisional Rest Station on 11th April, 1917 with Dyspepsia then transferred on 13th April, 1917 to 56th Casualty Clearing Station. Private Jones was transferred to Ambulance Train on 14th April, 1917 & admitted to 14th General Hospital at Wimmereux on 15th April, 1917 with Gastritis. He was transferred to Boulogne on 16th April, 1917 & embarked for England on Hospital Ship *St. Denis* on the same day.

55th Battalion

The 55th Battalion was raised in Egypt on 12 February 1916 as part of the "doubling" of the AIF. Half of its recruits were Gallipoli veterans from the 3rd Battalion, and the other half, fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 3rd, the 55th was predominantly composed of men from New South Wales. The battalion became part of the 14th Brigade of the 5th Australian Division.

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After a freezing winter manning trenches in the Somme Valley, in early 1917 the 55th Battalion participated in the advance that followed the German retreat to the Hindenburg Line. It was spared the assault but did, however, defend gains made during the second battle of Bullecourt.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Hugh Henry Jones was admitted to High Beach Hospital, Kent V.A.D., at Westgate on Sea, England on 16th April, 1917 with Gastritis. He was transferred to 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital at Dartford on 14th May, 1917. Private Jones was medically classified as "*Boarded C3*" (Permanently unfit for Service) on 4th June, 1917. He was approved for Furlo from 6th June, 1917 & was to return to Dartford on 21st June, 1917. Private Jones was discharged to Depot at Weymouth on 10th September, 1917.

Private Hugh Henry Jones was marched in to No. 2 Command Depot at Weymouth, Dorset on 10th September, 1917 from 3rd Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford with gastritis & Debility. He was taken on strength of No. 2 Command Depot at Weymouth on 16th September, 1917.

Private Hugh Henry Jones was reported AWL (Absent without Leave) from No. 2 Command Depot, Weymouth on 26th September, 1917.

Private Hugh Henry Jones was admitted to Military Hospital, Bangor, North Wales on 2nd October, 1917. He was reported to be seriously ill. The Hospital Admissions form recorded "*?Malignant Disease of Stomach. Pain after food, vomiting, wasting, anaemia. No improvement under treatment.*" (Note: The Casualty Form – Active Service recorded that Private Jones returned to No. 2 Command Depot at Weymouth on 3rd October, 1917 & was sent sick to Military Hospital, Bangor, North Wales on the same day.) Private Jones was transferred to Netherfield Rd., Auxiliary Hospital, Liverpool (affiliated with 1st Western General Hospital), on 31st October, 1917 with probable cancer of the stomach. He was transferred to Royal Infirmary, Liverpool on 1st November, 1917 & a Xray report recorded malignant Oesophagus.

Private Hugh Henry Jones died at 9.25 pm on 13th November, 1917 at Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, England from Cancer of Stomach (Malignant Oesophagus Asthenia).

A death for Hugh H. Jones, aged 42, was registered in the December quarter, 1917 in the district of Liverpool, Lancashire, England.

Private Hugh Henry Jones was buried on 20th November, 1917 in St. Peris Churchyard, Llanberis, Wales (south east part – consecrated ground) and now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

From the burial report of Private Hugh Henry Jones - *Coffin was good, polished Elm. All the funeral arrangements were carried out by the deceased soldier's relatives, and the Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were not represented in this instance.*

In information provided by his sister for the Roll of Honour – H. Ellen Jones recorded the following information regarding her brother Hugh Henry Jones: "*...when the great war came, he felt it his duty to come and help the boys over here, so he volunteered & was in the trenches in France, when his health broke down he was fond of travelling & had been around the world. He has been buried at St. Peris Cemetery, Nants*"

The Public Trust Office, Sydney, NSW wrote to Base records on 21st January, 1919 requesting a certificate in duplicate for the death of No. 2433 Hugh Henry Jones, 55th Battalion, A.I.F.; the address of the deceased prior to enlistment & the name & address of the person nominated as his next of kin.

Private Hugh Henry Jones was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Jones' father – Mr J. Jones, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque issued in England in October, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Hugh Henry Jones – service number 2433, aged 41, of 55th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of John Jones, of Bror-Eryri, Nant-Peris, Llanberis, and the late Mary Jones.

A "H. Jones" is remembered on the Rocky Hill War Memorial, located on Memorial Drive, Rocky Hill, Goulburn, NSW.



Rocky Hill War Memorial (Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



JOHNSTON, W.W.
 JONES, E.
 JONES, F.
 JONES, H.
 JONES, L.I.
 J. JONES, J.
 JONES, K.
 JONES, P. (1914)
 JONES, P. S.

Private H. H. Jones is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 161.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

H. Henry Jones is remembered on the Llanberis War Memorial, located in front of Community Centre, Llanberis, Wales.



Llanberis War Memorial (Photos from War Memorials Online)



(49 pages of Private Hugh Henry Jones' Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives Australia



Newspaper Notices

RECRUITING IN GOULBURN

During the holidays the following names were added to the list at the Drill Hall:-..... Hugh Henry Jones, Goulburn.....

(Goulburn Evening Penny Post, NSW – 30 December, 1915)

DOUBLE CASUALTY LIST

The 356th and 357th lists of Australian war casualties were issued yesterday:-

NEW SOUTH WALES

ILL

Pte HUGH HENRY JONES, England, (ser.)

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 24 December, 1917)

DOUBLE CASUALTY LIST

The 367th and 368th lists of Australian war casualties were issued yesterday:-

NEW SOUTH WALES

DIED, CAUSE NOT STATED

Pte HUGH HENRY JONES, England, 13/11/17 (prev, rep. ser. ill)

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 24 December, 1917)

374th CASUALTY LIST

NEW SOUTH WALES

DIED OF ILLNESS

Pte HUGH HENRY JONES, England, 13/11/17 (prev, rep. died 13/11/17)

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 24 December, 1917)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)

Private Hugh Henry Jones has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone but no inscription.

St. Peris Churchyard, Llanberis, Wales

The old Parish Churchyard, has been extended to the West. It is at Nant Peris, 3 miles south-east of Llanberis.

There are 11 Commonwealth War Grave Commission Graves located in this churchyard – 7 relating to World War 1 & 4 from World War 2.



(Photos from Find a Grave – Richard Minshull)



(Photo from Find a Grave – Gordon Brown)

Photo of Private H. H. Jones' Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St. Peris Churchyard, Llanberis, Wales.



(Photo from Find a Grave – Huw Waters 2022)



(Photo from Find a Grave – Richard Andrew Roberts 2016)