

Blaen-y-coed Congregational Chapelyard, Blaen-y-coed, Wales

War Grave



Lest We Forget

World War 1



1445 SERGEANT

J. J. JONES

13TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

19TH SEPTEMBER, 1916 Age 41

(Note: The Australian War Memorial records John Jonathan Jones as having the rank of Sergeant while the CWGC has his rank listed as Sergeant Major)

John Jonathan JONES

John Jonathan Jones was born at Conwil Elvet, Carmarthen, Wales in 1876 to parents Evan and Esther Jones (nee Phillips).

The 1881 Wales Census recorded Jonathan Jones as a 6 year old Scholar living with his widowed mother & older brother at Penquarry No. 2, Conwil, Carmarthenshire, Wales). His mother was listed as Esther Jones (Charwoman, aged 39, born Abernant, Carmarthen) & his older brother was listed as Thomas Jones (Scholar, aged 7, born Conwil, Carmarthen).

Esther Jones, mother of John Jonathan Jones, died in 1904 at Llanelly, Carmarthenshire, Wales.

According to information provided by his brother for the Roll of Honour, John Jonathan Jones came to Australia when he was 21 years of age. He served in the Boer War with the Australian Light Horse & South African Mounted Police.

From a Medical Report completed in 1915 - John Jonathan Jones had been hospitalised at Stanton Hospital with Enteric in September, 1900 while serving in the South African War.

John Jonathan Jones was a 39 year old, single, Grocer when he enlisted at Broadmeadows, Victoria on 8th September, 1914 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 1445 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his brother – Mr T. Jones, Old Castle Road, Llanelly, South Wales. John Jonathan Jones stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously served with 3rd NSW Mounted Rifles, Transvall Transport Corps & Royston's Horse Zulu Rebellion.

Private John Jonathan Jones was posted to 13th Battalion on 8th September, 1914 for recruit training. He was transferred to "C" Company on 5th December, 1914 as Quartermaster Storeman.

Private John Jonathan Jones embarked from Australia. *(Note: There is no record of Private John Jonathan Jones listed on the Embarkation Roll at The Australian War Memorial. His Service Record file does not record this information either.)*

Private John Jonathan Jones proceeded to join the M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) at Gallipoli on 12th April, 1915.

Private John Jonathan Jones was wounded at Gallipoli on 11th May, 1915 attached to 13th Battalion.

War Diary – 13th Battalion

Popes Hill -11th May, 1915 – 1 O Rank killed, 12 wounded, 1 missing.

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Private John Jonathan Jones was promoted to Corporal at Gallipoli on 30th May, 1915 vice No. 1506 Cpl E. Narbridge killed.

Corporal John Jonathan Jones was wounded at Gallipoli on 7th August, 1915. He was transferred to Hospital Ship *Tunisian* from Gallipoli on 8th August, 1915 with shrapnel wounds to forearm. Corporal Jones was admitted to No. 2 General Hospital at Ghezireh on 12th August, 1915 with shrapnel wounds to arm. He was listed for transfer to England on the same day.

War Diary – 13th Battalion

No. 3 Post – Australia Valley – 7th August, 1915

Entrenched on right of 5th Wilts Rifles with 14th on our right. On line detailed in operation orders but some distance too far to the left.

Casualties KILLED – 2 ORanks WOUNDED Lt D. G. Marks & 13 ORanks

15th & 16th Bns beating up AGHYL DERE drove a party of Turks onto our position. Captured 2 Officers & 16 others.

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

13th Battalion

The 13th Battalion AIF was raised from late September 1914, six weeks after the outbreak of the First World War. The battalion was recruited in New South Wales, and with the 14th, 15th and 16th Battalions formed the 4th Brigade, commanded by Colonel John Monash.

The Brigade embarked for overseas in late December. After a brief stop in Albany, Western Australia, it proceeded to Egypt, arriving in early February 1915. Australia already had an AIF division there, the 1st. When the 4th Brigade arrived in Egypt it became part of the New Zealand and Australian Division.

The 4th Brigade landed at ANZAC Cove late in the afternoon of 25 April 1915. From May to August, the battalion was heavily involved in establishing and defending the ANZAC front line. In August, the 4th Brigade attacked Hill 971. The hill was taken at great cost, although Turkish reinforcements forced the Australians to withdraw. The 13th also suffered casualties during the attack on Hill 60 on 27 August. The battalion served at ANZAC until the evacuation in December.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

A Medical Report was completed on Corporal John Jonathan Jones on 22nd August, 1915 while at Ghezireh, Egypt. His disability was listed as "*Fracture right radius with Nerve involvement*" which had occurred at Gallipoli on 7th August, 1915 while on Active Service. He was "*struck on outer side of right forearm with shrapnel bullet which penetrated arm fracturing the radius. Lot of swelling of the joint on admission.*" His present condition was listed as "*some swelling still present. Wounds healed. Has numbness & loss of power in hand.*" It was recommended that Corporal Jones be returned to England for convalescing for two months at his relations home as he was not permanently unfit.

Corporal John Jonathan Jones was discharged to duty on 23rd September, 1915 at Zeitoun.

Corporal John Jonathan Jones was listed as "*wounded slight*" on 5th October, 1915 at 3rd Western General Hospital at Cardiff, Wales.

Corporal John Jonathan Jones was reported with "*Venereal Stoppages*" from 16th December, 1915 to 31st December, 1915 – 16 days.

Corporal John Jonathan Jones's pay was stopped for 24 days due to V.D. from 26th February, 1916 to 20th March, 1916 by A.I.F. Headquarters, London.

Corporal John Jonathan Jones was discharged from Abbey Woods to Monte Video at Weymouth on 1st June, 1916.

Corporal John Jonathan Jones was admitted to Convalescent Depot at Great Peter St, London on 19th June, 1916 for V.D. treatment. He was discharged on 8th July, 1916 – total V.D. period of 20 days.

Corporal John Jonathan Jones was written up on 26th June, 1916 while in London – being Absent without Leave & ssing taxi cab fare. He was severely reprimanded & forfeited 5 days' pay.

Corporal John Jonathan Jones was transferred to No. 1 Command Depot from No. 2 Command Depot on 1st July, 1916.

Corporal John Jonathan Jones was written up for an Offence on 10th July, 1916 while posted with 4th Training Battalion in England – A.W.L. (Absent without leave). He forfeited 5 days' pay.

Corporal John Jonathan Jones was marched in from Hospital at Rollestone, Wiltshire on 10th July, 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 as well as Convalescing Units.

Corporal John Jonathan Jones proceeded overseas to France on 30th July, 1916 from Rollestone, Wiltshire.

Corporal John Jonathan Jones was taken on strength of 4th A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Etaples, France on 1st August, 1916. He rejoined his Battalion in France on 19th August, 1916.

Corporal John Jonathan Jones was to be Temporary Sergeant from 15th August, 1916 while in France vice Hardy (?) wounded.

Temporary Sergeant John Jonathan Jones was to be Sergeant with 13th Battalion from 26th August, 1916.

Sergeant John Jonathan Jones was wounded in France on 30th August, 1916. He was admitted to 3rd Stationary Hospital in France on 1st September, 1916 with G.S.W. (Gunshot wound/s) to thigh. Sergeant Jones embarked from Havre, France on 3rd September, 1916 for England on Hospital Ship *Maheno*.

13th Battalion

In June 1916, the 13th sailed for France and the Western Front. From then until 1918, the battalion took part in bloody trench warfare. Its first major action in France was at Pozieres in August.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

War Diary – 13th Battalion

Mouquet Farm – 28/29th August, 1916

Attack launched at 11 pm.....

Casualties – 18 other ranks killed, 4 Officers (named) and 95 other ranks wounded, 2 Officers (named) and 31 other ranks Missing.

30th August, 1916 – Day quiet. Trenches very badly damaged by previous night's bombardment. Communications knee deep in mud. Experienced great difficulty in evacuating wounded. 48th Battalion commenced to relieve at 11 pm.

Casualties – 3 Officers (named) and 42 other ranks wounded, 8 other ranks killed and 14 missing.

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Sergeant John Jonathan Jones was admitted to University War Hospital, Southampton, Hampshire, England on 4th September, 1916 with G.S.W. to right thigh – severe.

Sergeant John Jonathan Jones died on 19th September, 1916 at University War Hospital, Southampton, Hampshire, England from wounds received in action in France – G.S.W. to left thigh & Tetanus. (Note: Casualty Form has G.S.W. to right thigh when admitted to Hospital).



A death for John J. Jones, aged 47, was registered in the September quarter, 1916 in the district of Southampton, Hampshire, England.

The body of Sergeant John Jonathan Jones was sent to the residence of Mr Jones, 12 Catherine Street, Carmarthen for interment. Sergeant Jones was buried on 21st September, 1916 in Blaen-y-Coed Congregational Chapelyard (south-west part – 7th row from West Boundary wall, 2nd grave left to right facing West), Carmarthenshire, Wales in a Family Grave and has a Private Headstone. His death is still acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Newspaper item – *Llanelly Star*, Wales – 23 September, 1916:

With the Australians

LLANELLYITE DIED FROM WOUNDS

We regret to state that Col.-Sergt.- Major J. Jonathan Jones, 13th Australian Battalion (brother of Mr Thomas Jones, grocer, Old Castle road, Llanelly), died at Southampton Hospital on Tuesday from wounds received in France. The deceased soldier had had a varied and adventurous career. Born near Carmarthen, he came to Llanelly with his parents, and later on emigrated to Australia and New Zealand. When the Boer war broke out he at once joined the Colonial forces and went through the whole of the campaign in South Africa. In the same way, he answered his country's call two years ago and joined the Australian contingent which gave such a glorious account of itself in the Dardanelles. In the operations on the Gallipoli peninsula, Sergt- Major Jones was wounded, and was for some time under treatment at Cardiff Hospital. After his recovery, he rejoined the Battalion in Egypt, and more recently, they were transferred to France where they are taking part in the great offensive on the Somme. On August 30, Jones was severely wounded, and despite the most careful attention, died as above stated.

The funeral took place at Blaenycloed, Carmarthen, the family burial place, on Thursday, the officiating ministers being the Rev. W. D. Bowlands, Carmarthen, and the Rev. J. Lewis, Caersalem. A party of wounded soldiers from the Red Cross Hospital, Carmarthen, also attended the funeral. The chief mourners were Mr and Mrs Thomas Jones, Llanelly (brother and sister-in-law), Mr Evan Jones, Llanelly (nephew), Miss Jones, St. Catherine street (aunt), Mrs Phillips, Picton place (aunt), Mr Albert Phillips, Waterloo street, Llanelly (cousin), and Mrs Davies, Picton terrace.

Sergeant John Jonathan Jones was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Sergeant Jones' brother – Mr T. Jones, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque issued through London in March, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Sergeant Major John Jonathan Jones – service number 1445, aged 41, of 13th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Evan and Esther Jones, of Conwil Elvet.

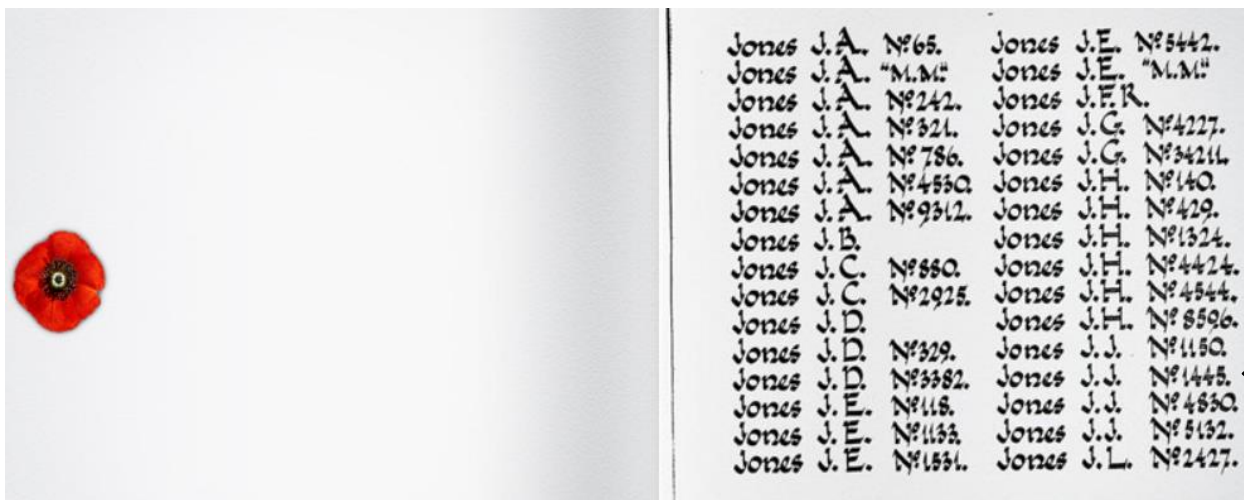
(Note: There is no mention in the Service Record file of Sergeant John Jonathan Jones being promoted to Sergeant Major. A cable from Commandant, A.I.F. Headquarters advising of the death refers to Sergeant Jones as Company Sergeant Major & also in a letter to The Public Trustee, Sydney, NSW. All other references are for his rank as Sergeant. The Australian War Memorial records him with the rank of Sergeant.)

Sergeant J. J. 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 69.



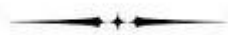
Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

J. J. Jones is remembered in the Book of Remembrance at the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne, Victoria.



(49 pages of Sergeant John Jonathan 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



Newspaper Notices

DIED OF WOUNDS

The sad intelligence has been received that Col.-Sergt.-Major J. Jonathan Jones, of an Australian battalion (brother of Mr Thomas Jones, grocer. Old Castle-road, Llanelly), died of wounds at Southampton Hospital last week. The deceased had had a varied and adventurous career. Born near Carmarthen, he came to Llanelly with his parents, and later on emigrated to Australia and New Zealand. When the Boer War broke out he at once joined the Colonial Forces and went through the whole of the campaign in South Africa. In the same way he answered his country's call two years ago and joined the Australian contingent which gave such a glorious account of itself in the Dardanelles. In the operations on the Gallipoli Peninsula Sergt.-Major Jones was wounded, and was for some time under treatment at a Cardiff hospital. After his recovery he rejoined his battalion in Egypt and more recently they were transferred to France, where they are taking part in the great offensive. On August 30th Sergt.- Major Jones was again wounded, and despite careful nursing he succumbed. The funeral took place at Blenycloed, Carmarthen, the family burial-place, on Thursday, the officiating ministers being the Rev. W. D. Rowlands, Carmarthen, and the Rev. J. Lewis, Caersalem. Llanelly. A party of wounded soldiers from the Carmarthen Red Cross Hospital also attended the funeral. The chief mourners were Mr and Mrs Thomas Jones, Llanelly (brother and sister-in-law), Mr Evan Jones, Llanelly (nephew), Miss Jones, Carmarthen (aunt), Mr Phillips, Carmarthen (aunt), Mr Albert Phillips, Waterloo street, Llanelly (cousin), and Mrs Davies, Carmarthen.

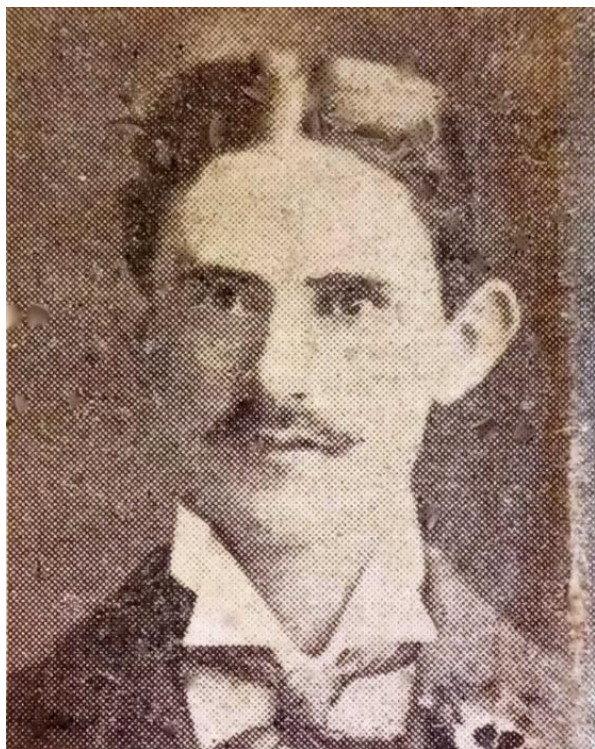
(The Cambria Daily Leader, Wales – 25 September, 1916)

WAR JOTTINGS

Sergt-major John Jonathan Jones, of the Australian Imperial Forces, son of the late Mr and Mrs Evan Jones, Conwil Elfet, and nephew of Miss Sarah Jones, 12, St. Catherine- street, Carmarthen, died in Netley Hospital on Tuesday in last week as a result of wounds received in France. Sergt.-Major Jones emigrated to Australia about twenty three years ago, where he held a high position in an office. He served throughout the South African War, and the Zulu War, after which he came over to this country for a holiday. He again returned to Australia and came over to the Dardanelles with the 1st Australian Contingent. He was wounded at the Dardanelles, and sent to hospitals at Cardiff and Llandovery for treatment. He then went over to France, where he was severely wounded in the leg by shrapnel and died at the Netley Hospital on September 19th. His mortal remains were conveyed by train on Wednesday in last week to the residence of his aunt at 12, St. Catherine-Street, where they remained over night. The body was met at the station by soldiers from the Barracks. On Thursday morning the body was taken by road for interment at Blaenocoed Chapel burial ground. Prior to leaving the house, the Rev. W. D. Rowlands, Water-street Chapel, Carmarthen, and Rev. Mr. Lewis, Caersalem, Llanelly, conducted an impressive service. At the chapel, the above rev. gentlemen gave short addresses, whilst two of deceased's favourite Welsh hymns were sung. The service at the graveside was taken by the Rev. Mr. Lewis, Blaenocoed, and the hymn, "Bydd myrdd o ryfeddodau" concluded the service. The bearers were wounded soldiers from the Carmarthen Red Cross Hospital. There were also several other soldiers present to pay their last respect to this brave Welsh hero, who gave up his life for his Mother Country. The chief mourners were: Mr and Mrs Thomas Jones, grocer, Old Castle-road, Llanelly (brother and sister-in- law); Master Evan Rees Jones (nephew); Miss Sarah Jones, 12. St. Catherine-street, Carmarthen (aunt); Mr Phillips, grocer, Waterloo-street, Llanelly (cousin); Mrs Phillips, Picton-place, Carmarthen (aunt); Mr W. Davies, Yeguborstone, Carmarthen (cousin); Mr Joseph Davies, Trevaughan (cousin); Mr Davies, Cynfryn, Conwil (cousin); Mrs Phillips. Ysgyrfa, Abernant (aunt); Mrs Davies and daughter, Picton- terrace (cousin); Mr and Mrs Williams, St. Catherine-street, Carmarthen (cousin).



(Carmarthen Journal, Wales – 29 September, 1916)



The above is a photograph of Coy.-Sergt.-Major John Jonathan Jones, Aust. Infantry Force, whose death from wounds and funeral at Carmathen was reported last week.

(*The Welshman*, Wales – 29 September, 1916)

AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES

LISTS Nos. 229 and 230 ISSUED

WOUNDED

VICTORIA

C.S.M. J. J. JONES, England

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 9 October, 1916)

AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES

DIED OF WOUNDS

OTHER STATES

NEW SOUTH WALES

C.S.-Mjr J. J. Jones, England

(*The Australasian*, Melbourne, Victoria – 14 October, 1916)

War Medals of Sergeant John Jonathan Jones:



(Photo courtesy of Leon Kelly – Medal Collector)

Photos of Original Grave markers were sent to the next of kin in the form of a 4 page "booklet". Below is a copy of the booklet with the Front cover, inside left page giving details of the soldier & place of burial & inside right page with photograph for Sergeant John Jonathan Jones.

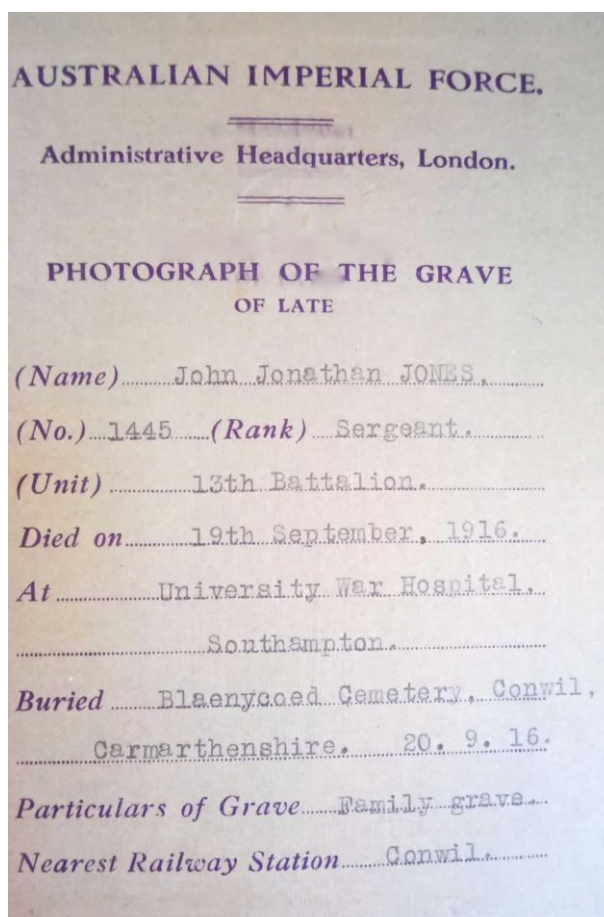
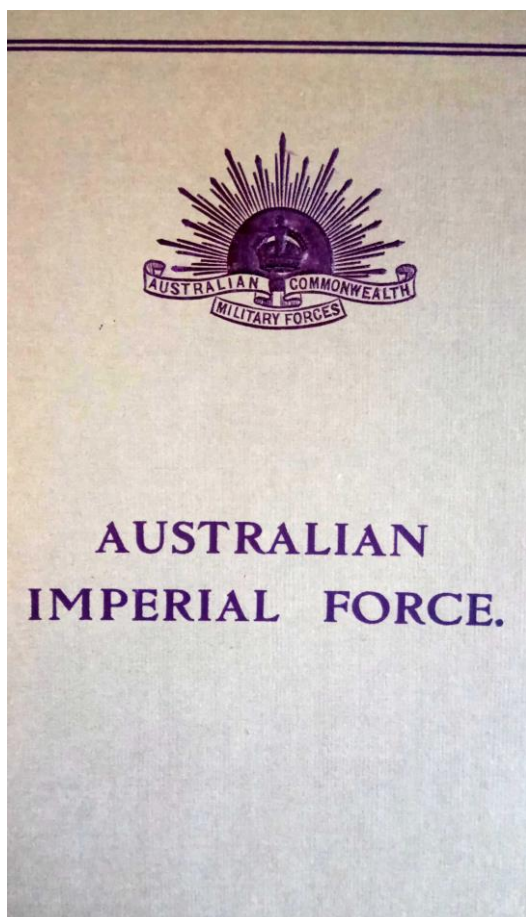




Photo of Original Grave Marker sent to next-of-kin



Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

Sergeant John Jonathan Jones has a Private Headstone.

Blaen-y-Coed Congregational Chapelyard, Carmarthenshire, Wales

Blaen-y-Coed Congregational Chapelyard, located 3 miles west of Conwil Elvet, has just one Commonwealth War Grave.



Photo of Sergeant J. J. Jones's Private Headstone in Blaen-y-Coed Congregational Chapelyard, Carmarthenshire, Wales.



(Photo by Dyfed James)

*In Memory of
David Jones
Island Place, Llanelly
Formerly of "Llyn"
Who died July 17,
1883 aged 24years*

*My Days have Passed, My Ambitions
Pulled Away; My Heart's thoughts.*

*Also (In Memory) of
Sgt. Maj Jonathan Jones A.I.F.
Son of the late Evan, and Esther Jones,
of "Pentref" Conwil
Died September 19, 1916
Aged 41years*

