

**St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard,  
Harefield, Middlesex, England**

**War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**8894 PRIVATE**

**O. H. JONES**

**AUST. ARMY MEDICAL CORPS**

**23RD JUNE, 1918 Age 25**

*In God's Hands He Rests*

## Oscar Harold JONES

Oscar Harold Jones was born at Oxley, Queensland on 5th November, 1892 to parents George Edward Richard & Elizabeth Ann Jones (nee Perkins).

Oscar Harold Jones attended State School at Sherwood, Queensland & also attended Brisbane Grammar School, Queensland.

Oscar Harold Jones joined Queensland Government Railways on 13th September, 1910.

The 1916 & 1917 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Oxley, subdivision of Sherwood, recorded Oscar Harold Jones, Clerk, of Station House, Sherwood, Queensland.

Oscar Harold Jones was a 23 year old, single, Clerk from Sherwood, Queensland when he enlisted at Brisbane, Queensland on 25th September, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs E. A. Jones, Station House, Sherwood, Queensland.

Private Oscar Harold Jones was posted to Army Medical Corp from 25th September, 1915. He was transferred to No. 1 Depot Company on 1st December, 1915.

Private Oscar Harold Jones, Service number 8894, embarked from Sydney, New South Wales on HMAT *Ballarat* (A70) on 16th February, 1916 with the First Australian General Hospital, 14th Reinforcements. He proceeded from Troopship (A70) to Miscellaneous Reinforcements at Zeitoun on 23rd March, 1916.

Private Oscar Harold Jones reported for duty to 1st Australian General Hospital at Heliopolis on 24th March, 1916. He was transferred & reported for duty to 1st Auxiliary Hospital at Heliopolis from 27th March, 1916.

Private Oscar Harold Jones was marched in to Divisional Troops Depot at Tel-el-Kebir on 17th July, 1916 from C.O.R. He embarked for overseas on H. T. *Franconia* from Alexandria on 2nd August, 1916.

Private Oscar Harold Jones was taken on strength of Camp 2 Parkhouse, Wiltshire, England from 21st August, 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 Oscar Harold Jones proceeded overseas to France on 23rd September, 1916 from Camp 2 Parkhouse, Wiltshire. He joined 4th D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Etaples, France on 25th September, 1916 from Training Battalion in England. Private Jones was transferred to Australian General Base Depot on 4th October, 1916. He was transferred to 2nd Division Australian Field Ambulance on 17th October, 1916 then on 27th October, 1916 he was transferred to 4th Division A.M.C. (Army Medical Corps). Private Jones was taken on strength of 13th Field Ambulance in France on 30th October, 1916 from Reinforcements.

### Field Ambulance

Field ambulances were attached to each of the AIF brigades. A field ambulance was a military unit, not a vehicle. The field ambulances played a vital role in triage.

Each infantry division had three field ambulance units with 10 officers and 182 other ranks from the Australian Army Medical Corps.

Staff in each ambulance unit gave immediate care to wounded soldiers. They were responsible for managing:

- advanced dressing stations
- main dressing stations
- walking wounded dressing stations

Field ambulance staff moved the wounded from the regimental aid post (just behind the front lines) to an advanced dressing station. The trip was about 1 to 3 miles (1.6 to 4.8km) and took around 6 hours to complete.

Stretcher-bearers worked in relays. At least 36 stretcher-bearers handled each patient along the way.

The main dressing station was another 3 to 8 miles (4.8 to 12.9km) beyond the advanced dressing station.

(Information from Anzac Portal)

E. G. Jones, Railway Station, Sherwood near Brisbane, wrote to Base Records on 26th September, 1916 with the following letter: *"I trust you will pardon my troubling you but I wish to make enquiries as to the whereabouts of my brother No 8894 Pte O. H. Jones, 14th Reinforcements, 1st A.G.H. He wrote us from Luna Park during April and we received the letter during May, but have not heard from him since. Trusting that you will be able to let me have good news of him. (Added at bottom) We hear regularly from the other brother who is at present in England wounded from France."*

Base Records replied to Mr E. G. Jones on 9th October, 1916 advising *"I have to state no report to any effect has been received respecting No. 8894 Private O. H. Jones, 1st Australian General Hospital, consequently it is to be assumed he is still serving...."*

Private Oscar Harold Jones was evacuated to D.R.S. (Divisional Rest Station) on 2nd February, 1917 with Tracheitis. He rejoined his Unit on 11th February, 1917.

Private Oscar Harold Jones reported sick on 24th January, 1918. He was admitted to 13th Field Ambulance as a patient (as opposed to being on duty at 13th Field Ambulance) on 24th January, 1918 with Pyrexia (fever). Private Jones was discharged to duty on 1st February, 1918 & rejoined 13th Field Ambulance for duty the same day,

Private Oscar Harold Jones reported sick on 19th February, 1918. He was admitted to No. 53 Casualty Clearing Station on 19th February, 1918 with Nephritis then transferred to Ambulance Train 25 on 23rd February, 1918. Private Jones was admitted to 7th Canadian General Hospital at Etaples, France on 23rd February, 1918. He embarked for England on 27th February, 1918 on Hospital Ship *New Haven*.

Private Oscar Harold Jones was admitted to 1st London General Hospital, Camberwell, England on 27th February, 1918 suffering from Nephritis.

Base Records advised Mrs E. A. Jones, Station House, Sherwood, Brisbane, Queensland, mother of Private Oscar Harold Jones, on 9th April, 1918 that Private O. H. Jones had been admitted to 1st London General Hospital, England on 27th February, 1918 suffering from Nephritis.

Private Oscar Harold Jones was transferred & admitted to 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield, England on 30th May, 1918 with Nephritis. The Hospital Admissions form recorded *"Very anaemic, puffy under eyes, headache, backache, short of breath, precordial pain, frequent micturition, Radial tension ..."*

The last page of the Medical History form for Private Oscar Harold Jones has the following details *"Board finding of Consultant. Unfit for Home Service permanently. Unfit for General Service for 6 months."* This was stamped with 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield, Middlesex stamp & dated 11th June, 1918.

Private Oscar Harold Jones died at 10.45 am on 23rd June, 1918 at 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield Park, Harefield, Middlesex, England from (1) Trench Nephritis & (2) Uraemia.

A death for Oscar H. Jones, aged 26, was registered in the June quarter, 1918 in the district of Uxbridge, Middlesex, England.

Private Oscar Harold Jones was buried at 10.30 am on 25th June, 1918 in St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England – Grave number 55, Australian Military Burial Ground. This is now recorded by CWGC as Plot number – Aust. 54 and he has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

From the burial report of Private Oscar Harold Jones - *Coffin was good condition. The deceased soldier was accorded a Military funeral. Officer in charge was Hon. Capt., and Qr Mtr. J. F. S. Murray "M.C." Officiating clergyman were Chaplains Rev. A. P. Bladen and T. Terry, both attached to No. 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital. A few of the staff and patients attended. A wreath was given by C. Billyard-Leake Esq., Harefield. A brother of the late*

*Pte Jones attended (3832 Pte A. C. Jones, A.I.F.) but no other relatives. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented.*

Private Oscar Harold Jones requested in his Will, dated 5th June, 1917, that all his personal estate be bequeathed to his mother – Elizabeth Ann Jones, of Sherwood, near Brisbane, Queensland.

The Public Curator's Office, Brisbane, Queensland wrote to Base Records on 23rd September, 1918 requesting a Certificate of Death of 8894 Privat O. H. Jones, 13th Australian Field Ambulance.

The Secretary, Loyal Sherwood Forest Lodge, No, 172, Sherwood, wrote to Base Records on 1st July, 1918 requesting a duplicate Certificate of Death of Private Oscar Harold Jones, No. 8894, 13th Field Ambulance.

Base Records replied to Mr E. B. Dart, Secretary, Loyal Sherwood Forest Lodge No. 172, on 27th August, 1918 enclosing a certificate of report of death, in duplicate, of the late No. 8894 Private O. H. Jones, 13th Field Ambulance.

Private Oscar Harold Jones was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Jones' father - Mr G. Jones, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent November, 1921 & Plaque sent September, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Oscar Harold Jones – service number 8894, aged 25, of 13th Field Ambulance, Australian Army Medical Corps. He was the son of George Edward Richard & Elizabeth Ann Jones, of Oxley, Queensland.

Private O. 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 183.

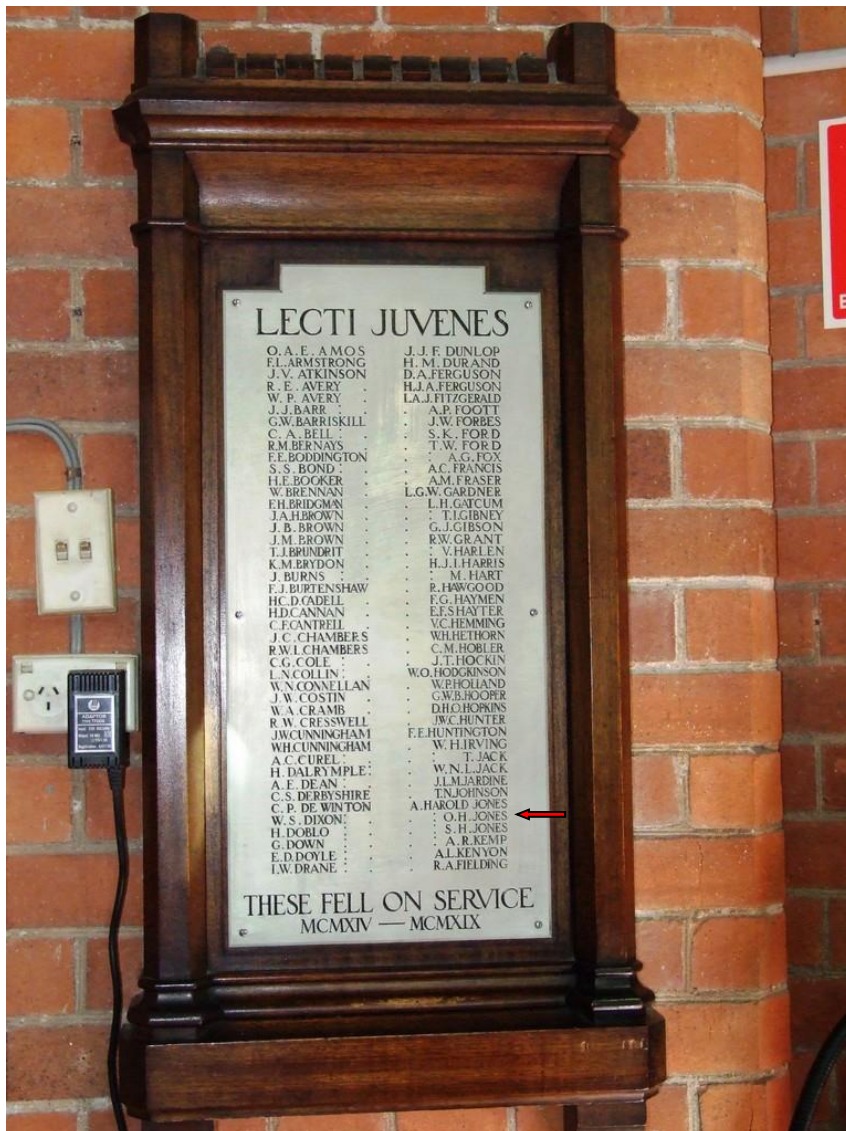


*Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*

O. H. Jones is remembered on the Brisbane Grammar School Memorial Library WW1 Honour Board, located in Brisbane Grammar School, War Memorial Library, 70 Gregory Terrace, Brisbane, Queensland.

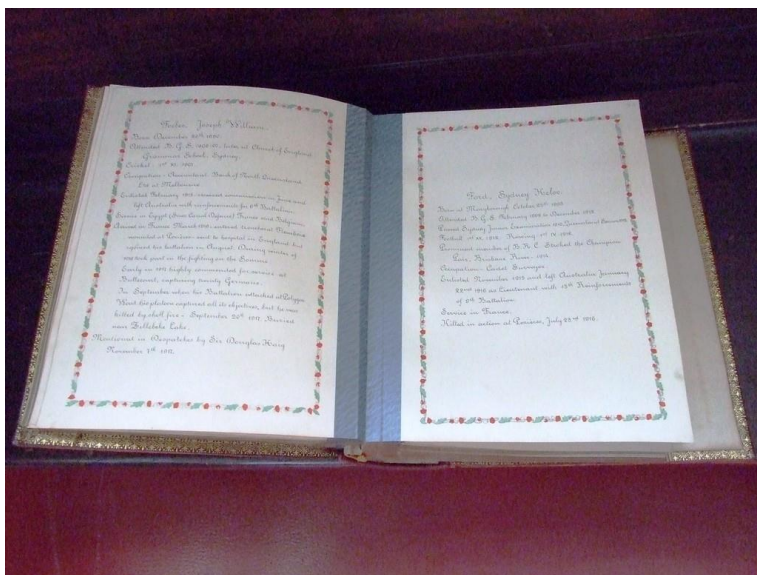
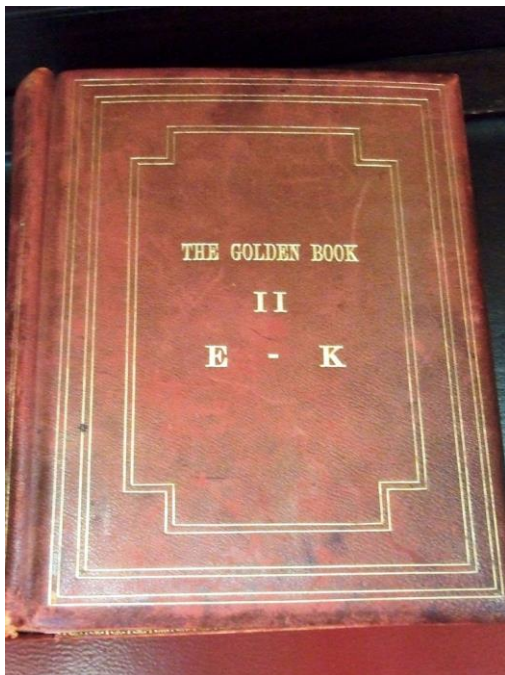


**Brisbane Grammar School Memorial Library**



**Brisbane Grammar School Memorial Library WW1 Honour Board** (Photos from Queensland War Memorials)

Oscar Harold Jones is remembered in the Brisbane Grammar School – The Golden Book Vol II (E – K).



Brisbane Grammar School – The Golden Book (Photos from Queensland War Memorials – Lesley McBurney)

Jones, Oscar Harold.  
Born at Oxley November 5<sup>th</sup> 1893  
Attended B. G. S. 1908-09.  
Occupation - on staff of Railway Department.  
Enlisted September 27<sup>th</sup> 1915 - No 8894 - 14<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements  
of 1<sup>st</sup> A. G. H.  
Saw service in Egypt - then sent to England - transferred to  
13<sup>th</sup> F. Ambulance and went to France late in 1916.  
Passed in February 1917.  
In 1918 admitted to London General Hospital suffering  
from Nephritis - transferred to 1<sup>st</sup> Auxiliary Hospital  
at Harefield.  
Died in Hospital June 23<sup>rd</sup> 1918.  
Interred in Anzac Cemetery - Harefield - in the Larioh  
Churchyard.

O. H. Jones is remembered on the Sherwood Shire War Memorial, located in Memorial Park, Oxley Road, Graceville, Queensland.



Sherwood Shire War Memorial (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Brendan Downs)



O. H. Jones is remembered on the Sherwood Shire Roll of Honour, located in Sherwood Service Club, Clewley Street, Corinda, Queensland.



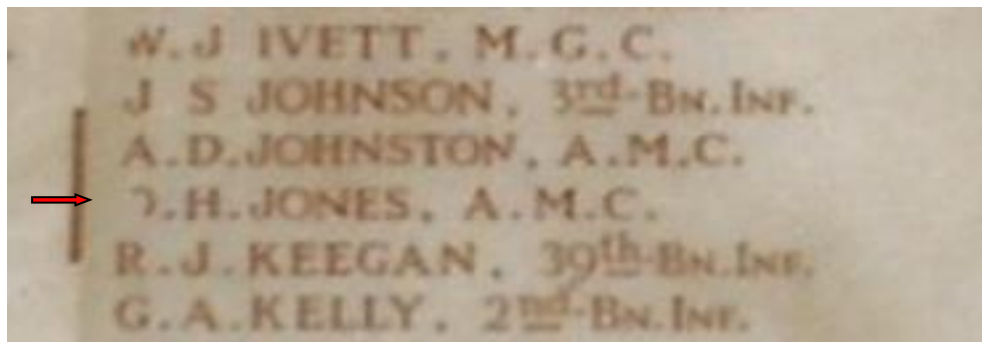
**Sherwood Shire Roll of Honour** (Photo from Monument Australia – Sandra Brown)



O. H. Jones is remembered on the Australian Soldiers' Memorial in St. Mary the Virgin Church, Church Hill, Harefield, Middlesex, England.



**Australian Soldiers' Memorial, Harefield** (Photo from War Memorials Online – B. Wood)



(77 pages of Private Oscar Harold 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) & National Archives



Private Oscar Harold Jones



(The Queenslander Pictorial – 25 March, 1916)



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

#### **391st LIST**

ILL

Oscar Harold Jones, Sherwood

*(The Queenslander, Brisbane, Queensland – 27 April, 1918)*

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### **THE ROLL OF HONOUR**

#### **CASUALTY LIST NO. 415**

DIED, OTHER CAUSES

Oscar Harold Jones, Sherwood, illness, 23/6/18 (prev. rep. ill)

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 8 July, 1918)*

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### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

JONES – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private Oscar Harold Jones, 13th Field Ambulance, died on active service, 23rd June, interred Anzac Cemetery, Harefield, England.

Just when his life was brightest,

Just when his hopes were best,

His country called, he answered;

Now in God's hands he rests.

Inserted by his loving mother, father, sisters and brothers.

JONES – In loving memory of Private Oscar Jones, died of illness, June 22nd, 1918, at the 1st London General Hospital, Camberwell, England.

“He died for Freedom's sake.”

Inserted by his loving friend Ida.

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 23 June, 1919)*

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### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

JONES – In loving memory of our son and brother, Pte Oscar Harold Jones (late 13th Field Ambulance), who died in England, 23rd June, 1918, aged 25 years.

Just when his life was brightest,

Just when his hopes were best,

His country called, he answered;

Now in God's hands he rests.

Inserted by his loving parents, sisters and brother.

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 23 June, 1920)*

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#### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

JONES – In loving memory of our dear brother, Oscar Harold, 13th Field Ambulance, died Harefield, England, 23rd June, 1918.

Not dead, but gone before.

He lives with us in memory, and will for evermore.

Inserted by his loving sisters Hepsey and Grace.

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 23 June, 1921)*

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#### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

JONES – In loving memory of Pte O. H. Jones (late 13th Field Ambulance), died in England 23rd June, 1918.

Will never be forgotten.

Inserted by his loving mother and sisters.

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 23 June, 1922)*

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#### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

JONES – In loving memory of my dear son, Oscar Harold, 13th Field Ambulance, died Harefield Hospital, 23rd June, 1918.

Inserted by his loving mother.

JONES – In memory of our dear brother Oscar Harold, 13th Field Ambulance, died 23rd June, 1918, interred Anzac Cemetery.

Inserted by his loving sisters, Heps, Grave and Vic.

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 23 June, 1923)*

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Oscar Harold Jones is remembered on a plaque with his brother in St. Matthews Anglican Cemetery, Sherwood, Brisbane, Queensland.



Plaque for Edwin Lewis & Oscar Harold Jones in St. Matthews Anglican Cemetery, Sherwood

(Photo courtesy of Kevin Cameron)

### 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 O. H. Jones does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

*In God's Hands He Rests*

### **St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England**

St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield contains 126 Commonwealth War Graves.

During the two world wars, the United Kingdom became an island fortress used for training troops and launching land, sea and air operations around the globe. There are more than 170,000 Commonwealth war graves in the United Kingdom, many being those of servicemen and women killed on active service, or who later succumbed to wounds. Others died in training accidents, or because of sickness or disease. The graves, many of them privately owned and marked by private memorials, will be found in more than 12,000 cemeteries and churchyards.

Harefield (St. Mary) Churchyard contains war graves from both world wars. There are 120 First World War graves, mostly those of Australians who died in No. 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital at Harefield Park. Uniquely, their graves are marked by scroll shaped headstones, chosen by the staff and patients at the hospital. In the centre of the Australian plot stands a memorial obelisk which was erected by Sir Francis Newdegate, late Governor of Tasmania and of Western Australia, and Mr. C.A.M. Billyard-Leake, of Harefield Park. The churchyard also contains six graves of the Second World War.

*(Information & photos from CWGC)*



St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield





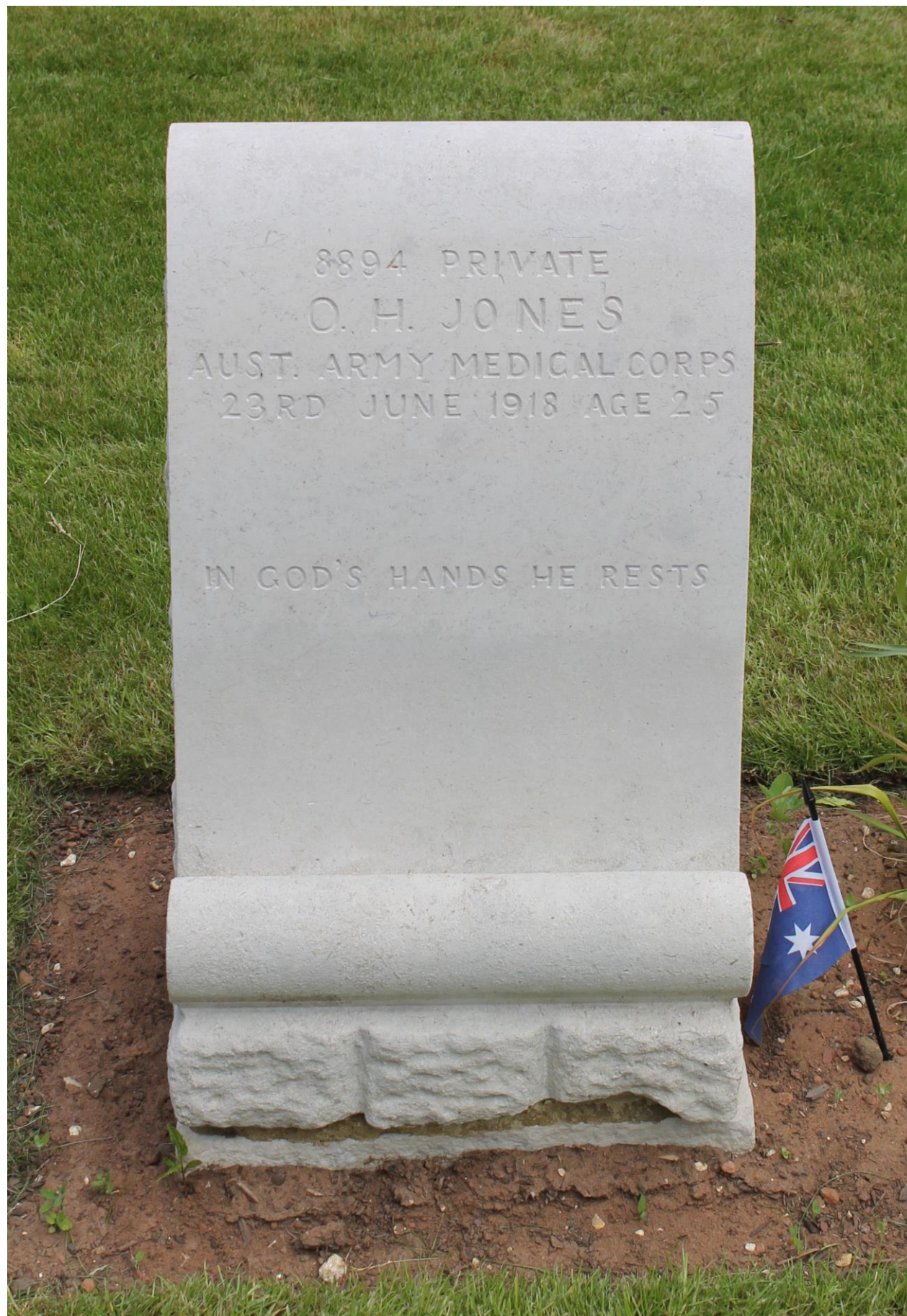
St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield



THE ANZAC CEMETERY, HAREFIELD, LAWRENCE, PHOTO



Photo of Private O. H. Jones' Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England.



*(Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)*



**St Mary the Virgin Church, Harefield** (Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)



**St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield** (Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)



St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield (Photos courtesy of Peter Bennett)

