

## 144: Frederick Duncan Jones

### Basic Information [as recorded on local memorial or by CWGC]

Name as recorded on local memorial or by CWGC: F. D. Jones

Rank: Private

Battalion / Regiment: 5th Bn. Cheshire Regiment

Service Number: 243197

Date of Death: 3 September 1917

Age at Death: 29

Buried / Commemorated at: Wallasey (Rake Lane) Cemetery

Additional information given by CWGC: Husband of A. Jones, of 11, William St., Seacombe, Cheshire.

Frederick Duncan Jones was born in Burton on 20 March 1888, the second son of farmer Richard and Jane and he was baptised at Burton on 18 May.

Richard Jones married Jane Duncan at Christ Church, Moreton, in April / June 1882 and their first child, also Richard, was born whilst they were living in the Moreton area in mid-1884. Richard snr was a son of Moreton farmer (earlier recorded as a contractor & excavator and as a carter) Richard and Mary Jones. Mary originated from Little Neston although her unmarried name is unknown.

CM 698389

CERTIFIED COPY of an  
Pursuant to the Births and  
DEATHS REGISTRATION ACT 1953

Registration District *Warrington*

1888. Birth in the Sub-district of *Neston* in the County of *Cheshire*

No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration
597	<i>20 March 1888 Burton Cheshire</i>	<i>Frederick Duncan</i>	<i>Boy</i>	<i>Richard JONES</i>	<i>Jane JONES formerly DUNCAN</i>	<i>Farmer</i>	<i>Richard JONES Father Burton</i>	<i>April 1888</i>	<i>Samuel Whealy</i>	

Registrar

<i>1888</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Frederick &amp; Jane Duncan Jones</i>	<i>Burton</i>	<i>Farmer</i>	<i>J. Jones</i>
No. 28					<i>Whealy</i>

By 1888 Richard and Jane had moved to Burton, where Frederick and brother George Duncan Jones (baptised privately on 17 October 1889) were born and where Richard was, at both baptisms, recorded as a farmer. However, by the time of the 1891 census the family had moved back to the Moreton area and Richard was now a labourer:

<i>4</i>	<i>Richard Jones</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>General labourer</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>Cheshire Cotton</i>
	<i>Jane do</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>30</i>			<i>do Moreton</i>
	<i>William do</i>	<i>Son</i>		<i>7</i>	<i>Scholar</i>		<i>do do</i>
	<i>Richard do</i>	<i>Son</i>		<i>6</i>	<i>do</i>		<i>do do</i>
	<i>Fredk do</i>	<i>Son</i>		<i>3</i>			<i>do Burton</i>
	<i>George do</i>	<i>Son</i>		<i>1</i>			<i>do do</i>

### 1891 census (extract) – Moreton

Richard Jones	34	general labourer	born Oxton
Jane	30		born Moreton
Richard	7		born Moreton
Fredk.	3		born Burton
George	1		born Burton

By 1901 the family was in Radstock Road (since redeveloped), Wallasey:

4	Richard Jones	Head m	45	Labourer (Quarryman)	Widder	Oxton
	Jane	Wife m	41			Moreton
	Frederick D.	Son	13			Burton & Neston
	George D.	Son	11			"
	Margaret A.	Daughter	9			Moreton
	Richard Jones	Son	16			"

1901 census (extract) – 14 Radstock Road, Wallasey

Richard Jones	45	labourer (quarryman)	born Oxton
Jane	41		born Moreton
Frederick D.	13		born Burton & Neston
George	11		born Burton & Neston
Margaret A.	9		born Moreton
Richard	16		born Moreton

Ten years later the family had moved the very short distance just around the corner to Stonehouse Road where Richard and his two older sons were recorded as gardener('s) labourers. Whilst it is noted that Richard and Jane had seven children, only five are known from census returns:

**CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.**

Number of Schedules 124  
(To be filled up by the Enumerator after collection.)

*Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.*

*The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of ages, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.*

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family.	AGE (last birthday) and SEX.	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE.				PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards.				BIRTHPLACE of every person.	NATIONALITY of every Person born in a Foreign Country.	INFIRMITY.
			State, for each Married Woman entered on this Schedule, the number of—		Children born alive to present Marriage. (If no children born alive write "None" in Column 7.)		Personal Occupation.		Industry or Service with which worker is connected.				
1 Richard Jones	Head	54	Married	29	7	7	0	Gardener Labourer	Widder	Birkenhead Oxton	121		
2 Jane Jones	Wife	50	Married	29	7	7	0	Gardener Labourer	do do	Cheshire Moreton	120		
3 Frederick Duncan Jones	Son	23	Single					Gardener Labourer	do do	Cheshire Burton			
4 George Duncan Jones	Son	21	Single					Gardener Labourer	do do	Cheshire Burton			
5 Margaret Annie Jones	Daughter	19	Single					School		Cheshire Moreton			
6 Frank Jones	Son	8								Cheshire Wallasey			

(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)

Total.		
Males	Females	Persons.
46	42	88

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge of this dwelling.)

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature Richard Jones

Postal Address 26 Stonehouse Road Wallasey & Neston

1911 census (condensed) – 26 Stonehouse Road, Wallasey

Richard Jones	54	gardener labourer	born Birkenhead, Oxton
Jane	50		born Moreton
Frederick Duncan	23	gardener labourer	born Burton
George Duncan	21	gardener labourer	born Burton
Margaret Annie	19		born Moreton
Frank	8		born Wallasey

Richard and Jane had been married for 29 years and all seven children had survived.

As the Service Record of Frederick Duncan Jones has not survived, little is known of his military service other than that he was serving with the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Cheshire Regiment when he died. However, the newspaper report of his death notes that he joined the army in January 1917 and had served in France for just three months. *Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914-1919*,

and the *WWI Service Medal and Award Rolls, 1914-1920*,

record that Frederick was serving with the 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion; it is possible, therefore that he was transferred from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion some time before he was injured.



26 Stonehouse Road, Wallasey  
[Google StreetView]

The 1/5<sup>th</sup> (Earl of Chester's) Battalion was formed at Volunteer Street in Chester in August 1914 as part of the Cheshire Brigade, Welsh Division. The troops were moved immediately on mobilisation to Shrewsbury and Church Stretton but by the end of August 1914 had moved to Northampton. In December 1914 they moved again to Cambridge. On 15 February 1915 they left the Division and landed at Le Havre where they were attached to the 14<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the 5<sup>th</sup> Division. On 29 November 1915 they converted to the Pioneer Battalion to the 5<sup>th</sup> Division and on 13 February 1916 transferred to the 56<sup>th</sup> (London) Division as a Pioneer Battalion.

In 1914 the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion was in action at The Battle of Mons and subsequent retreat, The Battle of Le Cateau, The Battle of the Marne, The Battle of the Aisne, The Battles of La Bassee and Messines 1914 and The First Battle of Ypres.

In 1916 they were at the diversionary attack at Gommecourt, The Battle of Ginchy, The Battle of Flers-Courcelette, The Battle of Morval and The Battle of the Transloy Ridges. In 1917 they were again in action during The German Retreat to the Hindenburg Line, The First Battle of the Scarpe, The Third Battle of the Scarpe (3 - 4 May), The Battle of Langemarck (16 -18 August, the second Allied general attack of The Third Battle of Ypres), the capture of Tadpole Copse (21 November), the capture of Bournal Wood (23 - 28 November 1917) and the German counter attacks.

The newspaper report of Frederick's death makes it clear that he was injured on 11 August, presumably during the preparations for The Battle of Langemarck:

*Private Frederick Duncan Jones, of the Cheshire Regiment, was wounded on August 11, by gunshot in the shoulder and chest. The sad news has been received that he died on September 3, at the Beaufort War Hospital, Bristol. He was interred with full military honours at Rake Lane Cemetery. He joined the colours last January, and had been three months in France. He was formerly employed with Mr. John Darragh, market gardener, Leasowe Road, Wallasey. His wife resides at "The Cottage," St. George's Mount, New Brighton.*

[Source: [http://www.historyofwallasey.co.uk/wallasey/Remember\\_The\\_Fallen\\_The\\_Great\\_War/casualties/Jones\\_F\\_D.pdf](http://www.historyofwallasey.co.uk/wallasey/Remember_The_Fallen_The_Great_War/casualties/Jones_F_D.pdf)]

This operation was, perhaps, West Hoek (which involved the 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion but not the 5<sup>th</sup>) and a summation of this is given by Arthur Crookenden:

**West Hoek. 10th and 11th August.**

Map p. 124

An incident in the Ypres area was an operation carried out by the 74th Brigade in which our 13th Battalion was engaged on the 10th and 11th August, but which was not awarded a battle honour. It was, however, so successful, that a full account of it is warranted.

The object of the raid was to improve the observation to the East and South East, in other words, to complete the capture of the West Hoek ridge.

The left of the Brigade was on the Roulers railway.

It rained incessantly the whole day. The 13th Battalion, under Colonel L. H. K. Finch, advanced at 4-25 a.m. in four waves. The first wave reached the objective without much difficulty, after capturing an enemy strong-point. The fourth wave was to push through to a covering position, which was to be held until the original line had been consolidated. But, unfortunately, it was caught in heavy shell fire and reached the covering line with only 1 N.C.O. and 14 men. The right flank was reinforced by parties of the 7th Bedfordshire Regiment from another division. A gap was caused by the heavy casualties on the left which was not closed till after dark. Meanwhile, evacuation of Glencorse Wood by troops on the right laid the right flank of the 13th Battalion open to fire from snipers and machine guns. Hostile artillery failed to pick up the new Brigade line except in the case of our 13th Battalion. However, consolidation was pushed on under cover of posts in front.

Counter-attacks were made throughout the day and night, which were mostly annihilated by machine gun and gun fire.

At 11-23 the O.C. 3rd Worcestershire Regiment took over command of the 13th Battalion whose C.O., second-in-command and all senior officers had become casualties.

Very fine work was done by the machine guns supporting the 13th Battalion. Some of them were in action for 30 hours, up to their waists in water, enduring heavy shelling and sniping.

Supplies were carried up for the attacking troops by other Brigades with the greatest difficulty.

The total casualties of the Battalion were 2nd/Lieut. P. B. Silcock killed, 10 wounded, including Colonel Finch and Major Nares, 106 men killed or missing and 266 wounded.

The tactical importance of West Hoek ridge is fully brought out in Haig's despatch of 25.12.17. para. 44.

"During the night of 31st July and on the following days, the enemy delivered further counter-attacks against our new line, and in particular made determined efforts to dislodge us from the high ground between the Menin Road and the Ypres-Roulers railway . . . . In this he completely failed."

"A week later (than 3rd Aug.) a successful minor operation carried out by English troops (18th and 25th Divisions) gave us complete possession of West Hoek."

[ Text and following map from: *The History of the Cheshire Regiment in the Great War, 1914 – 1918*  
Arthur Crookenden, Colonel of the Regiment WH Evans, Sons & Co. Ltd. 1938 ]

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
JONES	Ches. R.	Pte	243197
Frederick D			
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	J/2/101	B389719.	
BRITISH	do	do	
SPAN			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

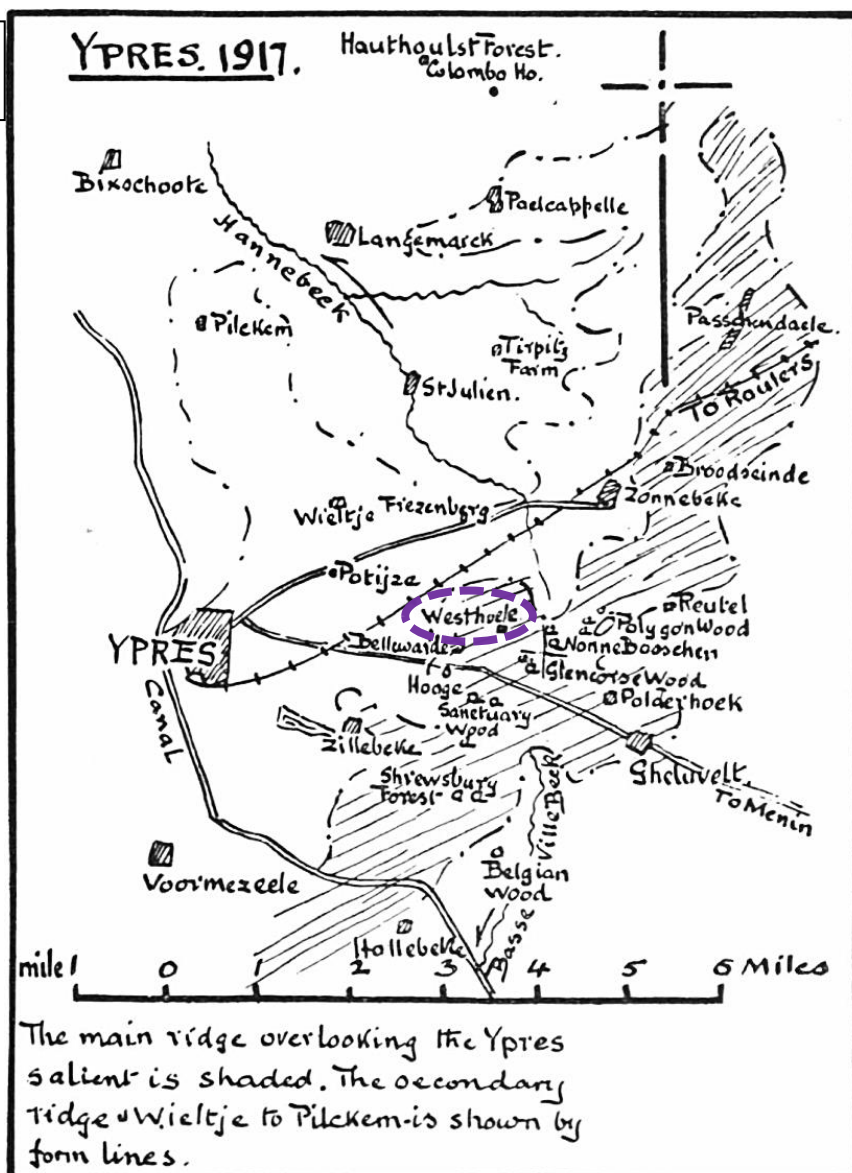
British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914-1920

No information is known on Frederick's wife (the CWGC refers to her only as A Jones) and it is not known when they married or if they had children.

The position of West Hoek, east of Ypres, is encircled in purple.



Frederick Duncan Jones, from a group photograph and used in his obituary.



Jane Jones, Frederick's mother, may have died in mid-1913 aged 52. Richard Jones, Frederick's father, may have died in mid-1917 aged 59. Nothing further is known of either Margaret Annie or George Duncan Jones, Frederick's siblings, but Frank Jones may have married Lydia Jane Upton at St Like's Church, Poulton, in mid-1929 and in the 1939 Register they are recorded as living at 10 Pear Tree Grove, Wallasey:

Frank Jones	born 15 March 1903	market gardener's labourer
Lydia J	born 5 April 1910	
Alice M	born 6 March 1916	single uncertified teacher

The relationship of Alice to Frank and Lydia is unknown. It is not known when Frank and Lydia died.

Richard Jones seems to have married Isabella Barnett at St Mary's Church (Manor Road), Liscard, in mid-1909 and in the 1939 Register they are recorded at 20 Silverlea Avenue in Wallasey:

Richard Jones	born 28 June 1884	builder's labourer
Isabella	born 30 August 1889	office cleaner
Frank	born 14 February 1914	single wood machine labourer

Isabella died in late 1976 when her birthdate was recorded as 31 August. It is not known when Richard died.

(T.F.) 5th CHESHIRE (To be rendered in duplicate.)

REGIMENT OR CORPS.

9719 (b).

ROLL OF INDIVIDUALS entitled to the Victory Medal and/or British War Medal granted under Army Orders 266 & 301 of 1919. of 19

Held by an individual in the Corps in respect of which the rolls are submitted.		NAME	In sequence Units and Corps previously served with by each individual and Regt. Nos. therein; the highest rank, whether substantive, acting or temporary, recorded as having been held for any period in a theatre of War, unless reverted for misconduct, being shown against the name of the regiment or Corps which is to be inscribed on the medal.	Theatres of war in which served	Clasps awarded (to be left blank)	Record of disposal of decorations			REMARKS
Regt. No.	Rank					(a) Presented	(b) Despatched by Post	(c) Taken into Stock	
243197	Pte.	JONES Frederick Duncan.	CHES.R.Pte.243197. 13 Ches.R. CHES.R.	663					Infantry Base Depot. 74 T.M.Bty.

WWI Service Medal and Award Rolls, 1914-1920

604173	2/307 2/4	Jones Frederick Duncan	5 <sup>th</sup> Bn Cheshire Pte 148197	3.9.17 Aldbury 11/17 Hounds 102	2 4 11	2 4 11	24.10.18	27.3.18	27.3.18	Med: Sole Legatee Annie 24.10.18 Wed. Salary 3 - Annie	2 4 11	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <p><b>WAR GRATUITY.</b> 19. 20 2/1919 Transfer 6/5/19 Regd. Paper 2/22/18 Bertal No. 2-4-19 631</p> </div>												
<p>A.F. Wsoro sent 21.6.19</p>												

Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901-1929

In Summer 1919 the army paid outstanding credits – mainly remaining wages – to soldiers or, in the case of those who had died, their family or nominated representatives. At the same time a War Gratuity was often paid. In September 1919 Frederick’s widow, Annie, as sole legatee, received a payment of outstanding wages of £2 4s 11d from the army and a War Gratuity of £3. This, a total value of £5 4s 11d, is equivalent to a labour value (wages) of around £816 in 2017.

The War Gratuity was introduced in December 1918 as a payment to be made to those men who had served in WW1 for a period of 6 months or more home service or for any length of service if a man had served overseas. The rules governing the gratuity were implemented under Army Order 17 of 1919 but the amount paid was related to the length of war service.



Frederick Duncan Jones’ war grave in Wallasey Rake Lane Cemetery [Source: [http://www.historyofwallasey.co.uk/wallasey/Remember\\_The\\_Fallen\\_The\\_Great\\_War/graves/Jones\\_F\\_D.jpg](http://www.historyofwallasey.co.uk/wallasey/Remember_The_Fallen_The_Great_War/graves/Jones_F_D.jpg)]

