

## 44: Edward Jones

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

Name as recorded on local memorial or by CWGC: E. Jones      On CWGC recorded as S E Jones  
 Rank: Private  
 Battalion / Regiment: 13th Bn. The King's (Liverpool Regiment)  
 Service Number: 52420      Date of Death: 18 October 1916      Age at Death: 26  
 Buried / Commemorated at: Euston Road Cemetery, Colincamps, Departement de la Somme, Picardie, France  
 Additional information given by CWGC: The son of Edward and Mary Jones, Ivy Cottage, Newtown, Lt. Neston

Edward (Ted) Jones was the third son of collier Edward and Mary Jones of Neston.  
 Edward and Mary are first recorded in the 1881 census two years after their marriage:

Edward Jones	Head	23	Coal Miner	Lancashire Billinge
Mary do	Wife	20	Wife of do	Cheshire, Puddington
Robert W. do	son	1		do Ness Colliery

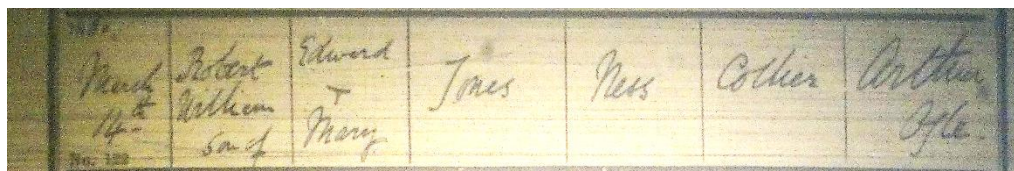
1881 census (extract) – Ness

Edward Jones	23	coal miner	born Billinge, Lancs.
Mary	20	wife of above	born Puddington
Robert W.	1		born Ness Colliery

Although he was born in Billinge, on the South Lancashire coalfield, it is believed that Edward Jones snr was the son (baptised 20 April 1857 at St Aidan, Billinge) of collier William 'Ness' Jones & Elizabeth (and the grandson of Edward 'Storeton' Jones), both recorded previously as colliers at Neston.

Edward married Mary Wilcoxon of Puddington at Chester St John in December 1879.  
 Mary's father was labourer Robert & Elizabeth and Mary was baptised at Burton on 11 September 1859.

Robert William Jones, Edward and Mary's first child, was baptised at Neston on 14 March 1880.



A second child, Elizabeth (Lizzie), was baptised on 23 February 1883 but she died, aged 2 on 29 August 1885, and was buried at Neston on 2 September.

By 1891 two other children had been born, Herbert (baptised 9 May 1886) and Lily (baptised 8 July 1888) - Edward was recorded as a collier on both occasions.

Edward Jones	Head	33	Coal Miner			Lancashire Billinge
Mary Jones	Wife	30				Cheshire Puddington
Robert Jones	Son	11	School			do Cheshire
Herbert Jones	Son	5				do Cheshire
Lily Jones	Daughter	2				do do

1891 census (extract) – Ness Holt

Edward Jones	33	coal miner	born Billinge, Lancs.
Mary	30		born Puddington
Robert William	11		born Ness Holt
Herbert	5		born Ness Holt
Lily	2		born Ness Holt

By 1901 the family had moved from Ness Holt to Newtown in Little Neston and Edward, and three younger children, had been born:

			Male	Female		Own account	Home
Edward Jones	Head	43	✓		Foreman at Colliery	Worker	Little Neston
Mary do	Wife	41		✓			Puddington
Robert W. do	Son	21	✓		Bricklayer	Worker	Little Neston
Herbert do	Son	15	✓				do
Lily do	Daughter	12		✓			do
Edward do	Son	9	✓				do
Arthur do	Son	6	✓				do
Emily do	Daughter	4		✓			do
Hilda do	Daughter	1 month		✓			do

1901 census (extract) – Ivy Cottage, Newtown, Little Neston

Edward Jones	43	foreman (fireman?) at colliery	born Billinge, Lancs.
Mary	41		born Puddington
Robert W.	21	bricklayer	born Little Neston
Herbert	15		born Little Neston
Lily	12		born Little Neston
Edward	9		born Ness Holt
Arthur	6		born Ness Holt
Emily	4		born Ness Holt
Hilda	1 month		born Little Neston

Edward jnr was baptised at Neston on 11 October 1891, Arthur was baptised on 14 October 1894, Emily was baptised on 6 November 1896 (when the family was still at Ness Holt) and Hilda was baptised on 1 March 1901 (when the address was recorded as Little Neston Colliery).

Robert William Jones (born 24 January 1880) married Emma Wright (born 17 December 1875 at St Paul's Church, Tranmere) in late 1902 and by 1911, when Robert (31) was a bricklayer at an iron works, they were living with their two young children in Newtown close to his parents and siblings.

In the 1939 Register (29 September) they were living at 'Rock Bank', Newtown, with two unmarried sons: William (born 30 October 1908, joiner and coffin maker) and

Robert (born 12 October 1914, bricklayer). Robert William Jones was recorded as a bricklayer. Robert W Jones seems to have died on Wirral, aged 81, in mid-1961. Emma may have died in early 1968 aged 92

Edward jnr had also left home by 1911 - he is recorded in the 1911 census as boarding at 15, Cupid Street, Everton with Daniel & Betsy Noble (boarding house keepers); aged 19 he is recorded as being single and an assistant grocer.

In 1911 Edward's parents and unmarried siblings were still living at 'Ivy Cottage', Newtown, Little Neston:

No.	Name	Age	Sex	Marital Status	Occupation	Place of Birth	Place of Birth (County)
1	Edward Jones	53	Male	Married	Mines Fireman	Wirral	Wirral
2	Mary Jones	52	Female	Married		Billinge	Wirral
3	Herbert Jones	25	Male	Single	Bricklayer	Neston	Wirral
4	Lilian Jones	22	Female	Single	Dressmaker	Neston	Wirral
5	Arthur Jones	16	Male	Single	Gardener's Apprentice	Neston	Wirral
6	Emily Jones	14	Female	Single		Neston	Wirral
7	Hilda Jones	10	Female	Single	School	Neston	Wirral

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)		(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)	
<p>(1) I certify that:-</p> <p>(2) All the names on this Schedule are entered in the proper sex columns.</p> <p>(3) I have counted the males and females in Columns 3 and 4 separately, and have compared their sum with the total number of persons.</p> <p>(4) After making the necessary enquiries I have completed all entries on the Schedule which appeared to be defective, and have corrected such as appeared to be erroneous.</p> <p>Initials of Enumerator: <i>John</i></p>		<p>Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (House, Tenement, or Apartment). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom; nor warehouse, office, shop.</p> <p>I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.</p> <p>Signature: <i>Edward Jones</i></p> <p>Postal Address: <i>Ivy Cottage Newtown Little Neston</i></p>	

#### 1911 census (condensed) – Ivy Cottage, Newtown, Little Neston

Edward Jones	53	mines fireman, Wirral Colliery Company	born Billinge
Mary	52		born Puddington
Herbert	25	bricklayer	born Neston
Lilian	22	dressmaker, own account	born Neston
Arthur	16	gardener's apprentice, Bees Ltd.	born Neston
Emily	14		born Neston
Hilda	10		born Neston

Edward and Mary had been married for 31 years and seven of their eight children had survived (their second child, Elizabeth, was buried at Neston on 2 September 1885).

The following year, on 19 February 1912, Herbert Jones (26, bricklayer) married Edith Bushell of Park Street, Neston at Neston Parish Church. Edward snr was recorded as an 'engine man', presumably at the colliery, and Edith's father, John Bushell, was a retired gardener. Robert and Lily Jones were both witnesses.

Just three months later, on 27 May 1912, Lily Jones (24, no occupation recorded) married John Taylor, 28, at Neston Parish Church. John, a nurseryman from Birmingham (it may be presumed that he was working with Lily's brother, Arthur, at Bees Seeds in Ness) gave his residence as 232, New Avenue, Acock's Green, Birmingham. Edward Jones snr was recorded as a collier and Lily's brothers, Robert and Edward, were witnesses.



Ivy Cottage

Interestingly, Edward Jones' outline army record (his Service Record has not been found) notes that he was born in Great Crosby (he was born in Neston) and that he enlisted at Seaforth. It seems that Edward died just a few days after arriving in France.

Edward's commanding officer, Captain Harold Edward Coates, was also a man local to the area being the son of William Henry Coates & Margaret Coates, of 11, Eaton Rd., Birkenhead, and the husband of Alice Coates. Promoted to junior Major, he was killed in action seven months later on 3 May 1917 [see newspaper report, below].

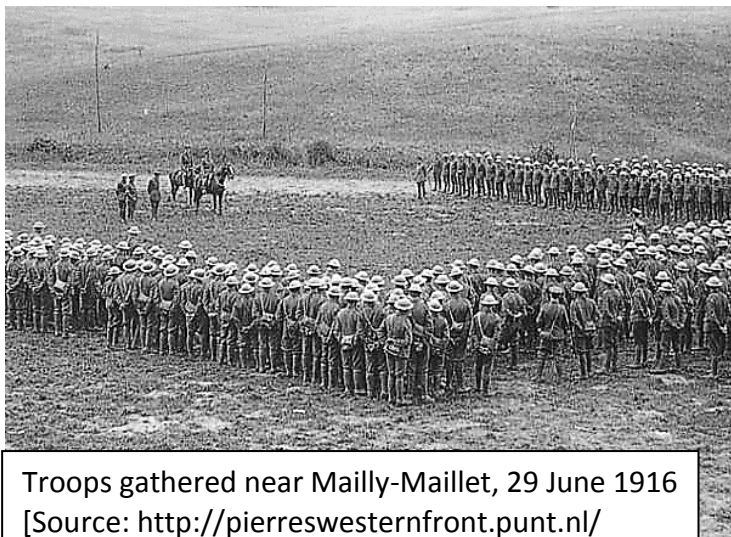
The 13<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion King's (Liverpool) Regiment was formed at Seaforth in September 1914 as part of Kitchener's Third New Army and attached as army troops to the 25<sup>th</sup> Division. In February 1915 they were transferred to the 76<sup>th</sup> Brigade in the same Division, mobilised in September and on 27 September 1915 they landed at Le Havre where they were concentrated in the area of Nieppe.

On 15 October 1915 the battalion transferred with their Brigade to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division and, on 23 October 1915, transferred to the 8<sup>th</sup> Brigade in the same Division. On 4 April 1916 they transferred again, this time to the 9<sup>th</sup> Brigade but still in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division.

During the first two weeks of July 1916 the troops saw action in The Battle of Albert, the first Anglo-French offensive operations in The Battle of the Somme, before taking part at The Battle of Delville Wood. The Battle of Delville Wood (15 July - 3 September 1916) was a series of engagements in the 1916 Battle of the Somme; Delville Wood was a thick tangle of trees, chiefly oak and birch, with dense hazel thickets, intersected by grassy rides, east of Longueval.

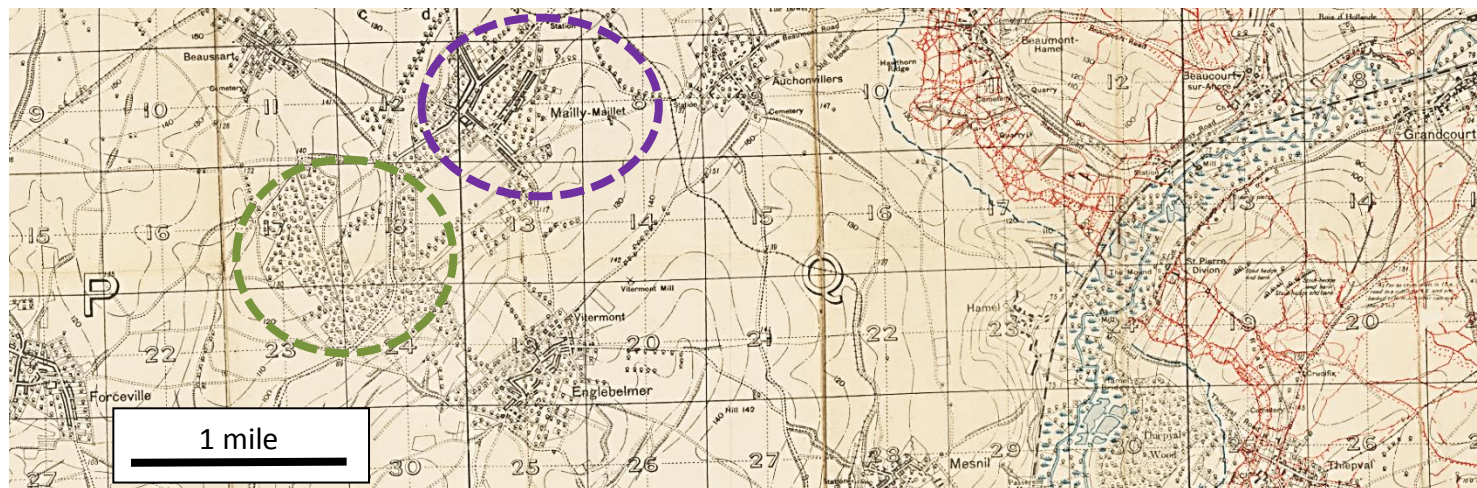
As part of a general offensive starting on 14 July, which became known as the Battle of Bazentin Ridge (14 - 17 July), General Douglas Haig, Commander of the British Expeditionary Force, intended to capture the German second position between Delville Wood and Bazentin le Petit.

However, it is probable that Edward Jones was not involved in any of these conflicts as it appears that his unit did not arrive in France until 9 - 12 October 1916, only a week before he was killed.



Troops gathered near Mailly-Maillet, 29 June 1916  
[Source: <http://pierreswesternfront.punt.nl/content/2008/03/somme-introduction>]

The circumstances of the death of Edward Jones on 18 October 1916 are unknown as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division was not then involved in any major action on The Somme until The Battle of the Ancre from 13 -16 November 1916. However, the sparse details recorded in the Battalion War Diary for October 1916 records that the troops were in reserve in the area of Mailly-Maillet, north of Albert, at the time that Edward Jones died:



Trench map of the area of Maily-Maillet (encircled in purple) for 15 August 1916, two months before Edward Jones was killed in the area. Although, on this map, German trenches (in red) are shown towards the east, no British positions or trenches are shown. The War Diary (see following page) mentions that the Battalion Headquarters were based in Legend Trench, but the location of this is unknown. Although the War Diary notes that the troops were held in reserve at Maily-le-Wood from 7 – 12 October, this wood is not named on the map but is believed to be the woodland area which has been encircled in green.

OCTOBER 1916.			WAR DIARY	13 <sup>th</sup> BN THE KING'S (LIVERPOOL) REGT.
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.			or	9 <sup>th</sup> BRIGADE.
Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in P. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.			(Erase heading not required.)	
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	
ERNY-ST-JULIEN	1/10/16		In billets at ERNY-ST-JULIEN.	
	4/10/16			
	5/10/16	8.30am	Left ERNY-ST-JULIEN for billets at HESTRUS; arrived 3pm	
	6/10/16		In billets at HESTRUS; left HESTRUS 11pm for ST. POL.	
	7/10/16	1.30am	Detained at ST. POL and detrained at POCHEVILLERS 1pm and marched to BERTRANCOURT arriving 6.30pm.	
	8/10/16	3pm	Left billets at BERTRANCOURT and went in reserve at MAILLY-LE-WOOD near MAILLY-MAILLET.	
	9/10/16		In reserve at MAILLY-LE-WOOD.	
	12/10/16			
	13/10/16	2pm	Left MAILLY-LE-WOOD for trenches; Held in LEGEND TRENCH.	
	14/10/16		In trenches	
	16/10/16			
	19/10/16	1pm	Left trenches for billets at LOUVENCOURT; arrived 5pm.	
	20/10/16		In billets at LOUVENCOURT.	
	31/10/16			

2353 Wt. W2544/1454 700,000 5/15 D.D. & L. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

CH. S. L. LIEUT. COLONEL  
COMD. 13<sup>th</sup> BN THE KING'S LIVERPOOL REGT.

### War Diary - 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion King's (Liverpool) Regiment – October 1916

October 1916 was a time of little activity for the 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion; all activities for the month could be recorded on a single page. On 18 October, the day on which Edward Jones died, the Diary records simply 'In trenches', a position they had held since 14 October. There is no report at all for October of any enemy action or of casualties.

The settlement of *Maily-Mailley* mentioned on 8 October is, in fact, Maily-Maillet.



## MAJOR H. E. COATES KILLED.

Major Harold Edward Coates, second son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Coates, 11, Eaton-road, Birkenhead, who was killed in action, in his 34th year, was educated at the Cloughton Collegiate School and Birkenhead Institute. After serving an apprenticeship in Liverpool he removed to London, and became a member of the firm of the Baltic Exchange.

When the war broke out he enlisted as a private, and soon became corporal. On the recommendation of his colonel he obtained a commission in December, 1914, was gazetted captain in 1915, and, on going to the front, being senior captain, was gazetted acting-major. He had since been made junior major of his battalion. In January last he married Miss Alice B. Grocott, of Tarporley.

*Liverpool Daily Post* - Thursday 17 May 1917

H. E. Coates was Edward Jones' commanding officer and wrote to Edward's parents after Edward was killed in October 1916.



THE LATE MAJOR COATES.



Private E. JONES.

During WW1 Edward Jones snr continued to work at Neston Colliery and it is recorded, on 15 February 1916, that his right hand was injured when a piece of stone fell from the roof of the workings when he was cleaning up in one of the underground air roads.

On 20 September 1922 Emily Jones, 25 (born 24 September 1896), married painter John William Henderson, 28 (born 2 June 1894), of Ness at Neston Parish Church. Edward Jones snr was recorded as a miner.

It is believed that Emily and John Henderson had two children, John (born late 1923) and Elizabeth (born early 1929).

In the 1939 Register (22 September) Emily and John, a decorator and general contractor, were living at Poplar Cottage on Church Lane in Neston.

With them was their unmarried daughter,

Elizabeth (born 1 February 1929) and one other line of the entry has been redacted (as of March 2018).

Emily Henderson died in July / September 1949 aged 52 and John died in mid-1980.

Edward Jones snr died on 3 January 1930 aged 72 but the date of the death of Mary Jones is uncertain.

Hilda Jones (36), the youngest child of Edward and Mary, married joiner Thomas Tilston (34) of Thornton Hough at Neston Parish Church on 16 December 1937. Thomas Tilston died in July / September 1974 aged 71 and Hilda died, aged 81, in early 1982. They may have had a child, Thomas D Tilston, who was born in late 1944.

Edward Jones is commemorated on the weathered family gravestone at Neston Parish Church:



PEACE

In Loving Memory  
of

ELIZABETH (Lizzie)

The Beloved Daughter of  
EDWARD & MARY JONES,  
of Little Neston

Who fell asleep in Jesus 29<sup>th</sup> August 1885

Aged 2 Years 10 Months

(Verse)

Also EDWARD (TED)

Brother of the above

Killed in action 18<sup>th</sup> October 1916 in France

Aged 25 Years

Also EDWARD JONES

Father of the above

Died 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1930 aged 72 Years