

## **Private Ivor Jones©**

**Regimental number: 42834**

**1st/4th Battalion, King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment)**

**born: 1899 - died: 12 May 1918**

Private Ivor Jones was born in about 1899, the son of David and Sarah Jones of Tanglanfedwen, Devil's Bridge, Aberystwyth in Cardiganshire, Wales.<sup>1</sup> His father David was born in about 1869 in Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn, Cardiganshire, and his mother Sarah in about the same year in Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire.<sup>2</sup> They married in about 1893 and had four children—sadly, two of them died in childhood.<sup>3</sup> Ivor, who was also born in Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn, is the only child it was possible to identify.

In 1901, the family was already living in Tanglanfedwen, where David was a lead miner.<sup>4</sup> Ten years later, nothing had changed—the family was in the same place and David was working in the mines.<sup>5</sup>

Ivor enlisted in the British Expeditionary Force in Brecon, Wales,<sup>6</sup> probably in May 1917.<sup>7</sup> A year later, he was with the 1st/4th Battalion, King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) in northern France, near Givenchy.<sup>8</sup> On the night of 1 and 2 May, the battalion was relieved by the 1st/7th King's Liverpool Regiment. While in reserve, the soldiers were able to rest, bathe and receive clean clothing. They took part in special training in the use of Lewis guns, musketry, signalling and scouting. On 8 May, preparations began for “going up into the line” and the march to the trenches began that evening. In the following days, the battalion was subject to enemy artillery fire. The morning of 11 May was quiet but, in the afternoon and evening, the enemy attacks continued with artillery, trench mortars and gas. A low-flying enemy aircraft was driven back by Lewis and machine gun fire. Ivor was probably wounded in one of these attacks.

He was admitted to No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station on 11 May with gunshot wounds to his left thigh and right hand.<sup>9</sup> He died there the following day and was buried in Pernes British Military Cemetery (Plot 2, Row B, Grave 42) with the Canadian chaplain J. K. Tibbits presiding. This military cemetery was only set up in April 1918 when No. 1 and No. 4 CCCSs came to Pernes, driven back by the German advance.<sup>10</sup>

In May 1918, nearly 4,000 soldiers were admitted to No. 1 CCCS.<sup>11</sup> There were 115 deaths that month—more than in any of the other three and a half months that No. 1 CCCS was in Pernes.

Ivor's mother was his next of kin and was notified of his death. His father received the monies owing to Ivor from the army upon his death and requested the following inscription for his gravestone:

FROM LOVING  
FATHER AND MOTHER  
REST IN PEACE  
FOR THE SACRIFICE YOU MADE<sup>12</sup>

Ivor was awarded posthumously the British War Medal (for service overseas between 1914 and 1918) and the Victory Medal (for service in an operational theatre).<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* ([www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org): accessed 16 January 2018), entry for Jones, Ivor, Service No: 42834

<sup>2</sup> "1911 Wales Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 January 2018), entry for Ivor Jones, Registration district: Aberystwyth, Registration district number: 607, Sub-registration district: Rheidol, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 04, Household schedule number: 41, Piece: 33457

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> "1901 Wales Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 January 2018), entry for Ivor Jones, Registration district: Aberystwyth, Sub-registration district: Rheidol, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 4, Household schedule number: 82, Piece: 5156, Folio: 33, Page: 11

<sup>5</sup> "1911 Wales Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 January 2018), entry for Ivor Jones

<sup>6</sup> "UK, Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914–1919," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 January 2018), entry for Ivor Jones

<sup>7</sup> Based on "War Gratuity Calculator" (<https://wargratitude.wordpress.com/2015/08/16/gratuity-calculator/>: accessed 18 May 2018); "UK, Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901–1929," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 January 2018), entry for Ivor Jones

<sup>8</sup> "UK, WWI War Diaries (France, Belgium and Germany), 1914–1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 January 2018), Regiment or unit: King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment, Sub-unit: 4th Battalion, Division: 55th Division, Diary dates: 1916 Jan 1–1916 May 31, Piece description: Piece 2922/1-4: 164 Infantry Brigade: 4 Battalion King's Own Royal Lancaster Reg (1916 Jan–1919 April), Piece number: 2922

<sup>9</sup> "No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* ([www.bifhsgo.ca](http://www.bifhsgo.ca): accessed 16 January 2018), entry for Jones, I.

<sup>10</sup> "Pernes British Military Cemetery," *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (<http://www.cwgc.org/find-a-cemetery/cemetery/11600/PERNES%20BRITISH%20CEMETERY>: accessed 13 January 2015)

<sup>11</sup> "War Diaries of the First World War: 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station 1914/08/13-1919/03/31," *Library and Archives Canada* ([http://data4.collectionscanada.gc.ca/netacgi/nph-brs?s1=casualty+clearing&s13=&s12=&l=20&s9=RG9&s7=9-52&Sect1=IMAGE&Sect2=THESOFF&Sect4=AND&Sect5=WARDPEN&Sect6=HITOFF&d=FINDD&p=1&u=http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/archivianet/02015202\\_e.html&r=1&f=G](http://data4.collectionscanada.gc.ca/netacgi/nph-brs?s1=casualty+clearing&s13=&s12=&l=20&s9=RG9&s7=9-52&Sect1=IMAGE&Sect2=THESOFF&Sect4=AND&Sect5=WARDPEN&Sect6=HITOFF&d=FINDD&p=1&u=http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/archivianet/02015202_e.html&r=1&f=G): accessed 15 December 2014)

<sup>12</sup> *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* ([www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org): accessed 3 December 2018), entry for Jones, Ivor

<sup>13</sup> "British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914–1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 January 2018), entry for Ivor Jones