

## Samuel Jones

Born West Bromwich, Q2, 1890  
Private, 1932

Died Dawlish, 23 October 1919, aged 29  
Royal Army Medical Corps

With the Jones surname it has been difficult to place Samuel Jones, but the Commonwealth War Graves Commission reference to his parents has located him in the 1891 census in West Bromwich. His parents were Harry and Mercy Jones, living at 3 Baker Street, West Bromwich. Harry Jones (1864- ) was a Tar Distiller, born in West Bromwich, who married Mercy Jackson (1870- ) in 1889 (GRO ref 1889 Dec, West Bromwich vol 6b, p 1301).

**Samuel Jones** was born in the April-June quarter of 1890 in West Bromwich (GRO ref 1890, vol 6b, p837) and was 10 months old in the following year's census.

A trail through census and other data suggests that **Samuel's grandparents** were Robert and Jane Jones. A marriage record exists for Robert Jones (1832-1908) and Jane Williams (1836- ) in Stoke-Upon-Trent in 1857 (GRO ref 1857 Oct-Dec, vol 6b, p 253). They were to have 12 children of which 5 had died by the 1911 census when Jane is shown as a widow, Robert having died in 1908 (GRO ref 1908, Jan-Mar , West Bromwich, vol 6b, p 372).

Children were:

Elizabeth	dau, 1857-	
Charles	son, 1859-	
Samuel	son, 1860-	missing from later entries
Henry/Harry	son, 1863-	father of <b>Samuel</b>
Mary Jane	dau, 1865-	
Clara	dau, 1869-	
Alice	dau, 1872-	
Samuel	son, 1873-	
Robert	son, 1875-	
Benjamin	son, 1879-	
William	son, 1882-	living with his mother, Jane, and a tar

distiller and employer.

one unknown from census entries

Robert Jones was a 'Pudler' in 1861 and 1871, but has become a Distiller at Tar Works in 1881 and 1891.

Robinson Brothers were established in 1869 for the distillation of coal tar. A number of local coal mines provided the raw material for this process. The works was less than a mile from Dartmouth Street and was close by the Walsall Canal for transport of tar.

Harry Jones was a Tar Distiller when he married Mercy Jackson. They had 8 children of which 2 had died by 1911 when Mercy was a widow. It appears that Harry Jones may have died between 1903 and 1911. (GRO ref 1903, March, West Bromwich, vol 6b, p 488, age 39) Children were:

<b>Samuel</b>	<b>son, 1890-1919</b>
Clara	dau, 1893-
Lizzie	dau, 1894-
George Robert	son, 1897-
Charles Henry	son, 1901-
Harry	son, 1903-

In 1901 **Samuel's** parents were living at 158 Dartmouth Street, Townstall, West Bromwich

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There is no sign of **Samuel Jones** but he reappears with his grandmother, a widow, at 28 Dartmouth Street in 1911. His uncle, William Jones, at the same address is a Tar Distiller also while **Samuel** is recorded as a 'Paper Ruler' working for printers. It appears possible that William Jones may now have taken on the business of Tar Distiller from his brother and be supporting his widowed mother.

The census for 1911, taken at 4 Bilhay Street, is signed by the boarder, James Henry Hayes which shows:

Mercy Jones, Head,	widow, 41	Housekeeper	born Wallbrook, nr Coseley
George Robert Jones, son,	14	Apprentice, moulding	West Bromwich
Charles Henry Jones, son,	10	School	"
Harry Jones,	son, 8	"	"
James Henry Hayes, boarder	19	Painter & decorator	

Bilhay Street is about ¼ mile from Dartmouth Street where earlier generations had lived. Oakwood Street (CWGC ref) is a cul-de-sac running into Bilhay Street.

The Royal Army Medical Corps website contains the following information about **Samuel Jones'** service. "Samuel entered the war in France on 5 November 1914. He was gassed and, as a consequence, was discharged on 14 August 1916. He died of his wounds."

He was attached to the 24<sup>th</sup> (1/1<sup>st</sup> Wessex) Field Ambulance.

There is no service record beyond this and there is no information regarding his movements on discharge, nor when he moved to Cofton where he is buried.

Commonwealth War Graves entry:

Private Samuel Jones, Service no. 1932, Died 23/10/1919 aged 29, Royal Army Medical Corps, Son of Harry and Mercy Jones of 38 Oakwood Street, West Bromwich.  
"THY WILL BE DONE"

Next of kin: Mercy Jones, mother

References:

Free BMD

Google maps

Robinson Brothers web site

[http://www.ramc-ww1.com/profile.php?profile\\_id=8231](http://www.ramc-ww1.com/profile.php?profile_id=8231)

Refs via subscription websites:

Census data