

JONES Thomas

(A soldier who served in the War but is not recorded on the War Memorial)

Gunner Thomas Jones – 92475 – 60th Heavy Battery Royal Garrison Artillery

Thomas enlisted in Chester on 6th December 1915. He had previously been in the Army Reserve. On 1st June, 1916 he was mobilised and posted to India. He embarked from Plymouth on 16th September, 1916 arriving in Bombay on 31st October. He defended the port of Bombay.

On 11th January 1917 he was admitted to hospital there but was later discharged and went on to serve on the North West Frontier for a short time commencing on 11th August 1919. However, Thomas became ill again and was sent back to England where he was demobbed on 11th January 1920. He died from malaria and the side effects of wartime service. He was 30 at his death on 26th May 1920 and was buried in Willaston Churchyard.

Thomas was the son of Charles and Margaret Jones and brother of Harry Jones who is commemorated on the War Memorial. His father lived at No. 1, Atworth Terrace, Willaston and worked as a teamsman.

Thomas was a domestic groom before enlisting. He married Christina Alice on 4th November 1911 at St. Nicholas Church, Liverpool and they lived at Glass Cottage, Willaston. There were three children from the marriage; James Edward, Doris and Gladys. On 21st January 1921, his widow was informed that she had been awarded a pension for herself and the three children. She lived in Neston Road, Willaston.



Gateway to India, Bombay, now called Mumbai

The North-West Frontier (present-day Khyber Pakhtunkhwa) region of British Raj was the most difficult area to conquer in South Asia, strategically and militarily. It remains the western frontier of present-day Pakistan, extending from the Pamir Knot in the north to the Koh-i-Malik Siah in the west, and separating the present-day Pakistani frontier regions of North-West Frontier Province (renamed as Khyber Pakhtunkhwa), Federally Administered Tribal Areas and Balochistan to the east from neighbouring Afghanistan in the west. The borderline between is officially known as the Durand Line and divides Pashtun inhabitants of these provinces from their kinsmen in eastern Afghanistan.