

William Taylor-Jones

DOB: 10th June 1886, Whitefield, Manchester

In 1891 he was living in Whitefield with his father, William Taylor-Jones (33, a Solicitor), mother, Annie (35), younger brother, John (4), and sister, Ethel (2).

He joined the Inns of Court Territorial regiment in October 1915 and then 24th Bn Manchester regiment as a 2nd Lieutenant.

Following is extracts from his war service record held at the National Archives, Ref: WO 339/61180:

Religion: Presbyterian

Occupation: Solicitor

Address: William Taylor-Jones, 10 Heywood Road, Prestwich, Manchester

10.11.1915 to 04.08.1916 - Private (In England)

Character: V Good

Next of Kin: Constance Taylor-Jones (wife), 10 Heywood Road, Prestwich, Manchester

Medical Inspection Report

Age: 29 years 3 months

Height: 5 feet 6 inches

Weight: 140 lbs

Girth: 36 ½ inches

Vision: B.E. 6/6

Physical Development: Good

Application for Temporary commission in army 6th March 1916

Occupation of father: Solicitor

Address of candidate: Rydal Mount, Glebelands, Prestwich

Education: Stand Grammar School, Manchester

Manchester University

Occupation: Solicitor

Able to Ride: Yes

OCCUPATION Soldier No. 134937/11 Red DATE OF BIRTH 10th June 1894 RELIGION Anglican

ATTESTATION OF
 No. 134937 Name TAYLOR-JONES William Corps INF OF COURT O.T.C.

Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment.

1. What is your Name and Address? William Taylor Jones
10 Heywood Road
Fulwood Manchester

2. Are you willing to be attested for service in the Territorial Force for the term of 4 years (provided the Militia shall be long enough your service) for the County of LANCASHIRE?

3. Have you received a notice stating the liabilities you are incurring by enlisting, and do you understand them? Yes!

4. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in the Royal Navy, the Army, the Royal Marines, the Militia, the Special Reserve, the Territorial Force, the Imperial Yeomanry, the Volunteer Force, the Army Reserve, the Militia Reserve, or any Royal Reserve Force? If so, state which such, and, if discharged, mode of discharge No!

5. Are you a British Subject? Yes!

Under the provisions of Sections 13 and 99 of the Army Act, if a person knowingly makes a false answer to any question contained in the attestation paper, he renders himself liable to punishment.

I, William Taylor Jones do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

W Taylor Jones SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.
W Taylor Jones Signature of Witness.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

I, William Taylor Jones swear by Almighty God, that I will be faithful and true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs, and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, in Person, Crown, and Dignity against all enemies, according to the conditions of my service.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.

I, W. H. H. H. H. H. do hereby certify, that, in my presence, all the foregoing Questions were put to the Recruit above named, that the Answers written appear to them to be those which he gave to me, and that he has made and signed the Declaration, and taken the oath at 10, STONE BUILDINGS on this 10th day of October 1915 at LONDON, W.C. Signature of Justice of the Peace, Officer, or other person authorized to attest Enlistment.

If any objection is required on this page of the Attestation, a Justice of the Peace should be requested to make it and initial the objection under Section 99, Army Act.
 The Recruit should, if he requires it, receive a copy of the Declaration on Army Form E. 251a.
 (Back must Copy)

Application form

Accepted in Inns of Court OTC, 20th October 1915, Rank: Private
 Posted to 27th(R) Bn Manchester Regiment, Joined 20.08.1916
 See London Gazette dated 23.08.1916

Casualty Form - Active Service

24th Battalion Manchester Regiment
 William Taylor-Jones, No 134937
 Embarked: Folkestone – 06.03.1917
 Disembarked: Boulogne - 06.03.1917
 Joined in the Field – 11.03.1917
 Granted 14 days leave from Italy – 19.01.1918
 Retained in England – 17.2.18
 Ordered to Rejoin, France – 19.3.1918
 To be Temporary Lieutenant – 05.02.1918
 Joined back in Italy – 23.03.1918
 14 days leave to UK from Italy – 23.02.1919

Army Form B. 103. Regimental Number.....

Casualty Form Active Service.

Regiment or Corps **24th BN. MANCHESTER REGT. (PIONEERS)**

Rank *Temp Lt* Surname *Taylor-Jones* Christian Name *W.*

Religion..... Age on Enlistment..... years..... months

Enlisted (a)..... Terms of Service (a)..... Service reckons from (a).....

Date of promotion to present rank..... Date of appointment to lance rank.....

Extended (.....) Re-engaged (.....) Qualification (b).....

or Corps Trade and rate.....

Occupation..... Signature of Officer.....

Date	Report	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks
	Embarked	<i>Folkestone</i>	<i>6.3.17</i>	
	Disembarked	<i>Boulogne</i>	<i>6.3.17</i>	
	<i>O.C. Bn</i>	<i>Joined</i>	<i>In the field</i>	<i>11.3.17 Roll</i>
	<i>O.C. Bn</i>	<i>Granted 14 days leave</i>	<i>Italy</i>	<i>19.1.18 Roll</i>
	<i>do</i>	<i>Retained in England</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>Roll</i>
		<i>Re/Italy/No 188/10 dt. 17.2.18</i>		
	<i>DAG/5 HQ</i>	<i>ordered to rejoin</i>	<i>France</i>	<i>19.3.18 28/1534/2638/B</i>
	<i>5 Suppl. to HQ</i>	<i>To be temporary field</i>		<i>5.2.18</i>
	<i>O.C. Bn</i>	<i>Joined</i>	<i>Italy</i>	<i>23.3.18</i>
		<i>14 days leave to U.K.</i>		<i>28.2.19 00/3</i>

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.

The 24th Bn Manchester Regiment was a Pioneer regiment which meant it was responsible for building and maintaining the infrastructure such as the trenches, roads and machine gun posts.

Extracts from the War diaries of 24th Bn Manchester regiment

WO 95/1646 June 1916 to Nov 1917, France, Belgium

WO 95/4222 Dec 1917 to Mar 1919, Italy

March to July 1917	Courcelles, Trench improvements.
August 1917	Mory
September 2 nd 1917	Ypres
September 24 th 1917	Working on road in Sanctuary Wood, 6 Other Ranks Wounded, 3 Other Ranks wounded remained on duty.
September 25 th 1917	Progress of work very slow in consequence of having to carry planks such a long way from dump to the job and also in consequence of how enemy artillery barrage put up a reply to practice barrage by our own troops.
September 29 th 1917	Menin Road repairs
October 2 nd 1917	The metalled road on the north side of Polygon Wood is impassable for the Royal Field Artillery
3.10.1917	William Taylor-Jones, 2 nd Lieutenant and acting as Adjutant, signs operational order for work on track to Polygon Butt. Trench boards are to be used for marshy ground.
October 4 th 1917	Road to Polygon wood knee deep in mud. Work carried out in exceptionally severe circumstances. Casualties: 3 other ranks killed

	8 other ranks wounded
October 9 th 1917	Slab track completed along north side of Menin road near Hooge crater
October 10 th 1917	317 men to be removed from battalion to other battalions. Replaced by new men with no experience, untrained and undisciplined. Colonel F. S. Ranking complains greatly about this in a letter to HQ stating that the battalion will be unable to do such an effective job as before where the experience and morale among all ranks has been high.
20 - 25 Nov 1917	Train from Cavron St Martin to Genoa, Legnago, Italy and then to Arlesef.
29 th Nov 1917	Wiring in front line, S.E. of Possagno village. 2 machine gun emplacements dug Trenches widened to 4ft and deepened to 3ft 6 inches
25 th Dec 1917	William Taylor Jones now writing the battalion war diary. Xmas dinner in evening.
Jan to Mar 1918	(William Taylor-Jones on leave in England)
April 23 rd 1918	1 officer killed, 8 OR wounded

Released from Military Duty on 9th April 1919

William Taylor Jones and his wife Constance (Conny) nee Bridge had one son, Ken Taylor Jones who married Margaret Fenton and they also had one son Michael. Sadly Ken Taylor Jones was killed in Burma in the Second World War.

During the 1930s the Taylor Jones's and Conny's brother Clement Bridge with his wife Mary (May) and children Arthur and David used to holiday together in Abersoch and sail.



Picture shows on the left William Taylor Jones and his wife Conny. In the centre are Ken Taylor Jones and his wife Joan. On the right are her parents and in the middle her brothers.

(C O P Y).



Headquarters,

7th. Division.

For your information hereunder is set out
copy of a message received from the G.O.C., 58th. Division:

"General FANSHAWE will ride over between 11-0 &

" 11-30 a.m. to say good-bye to your Officers

" and thank you for the good work you have done.

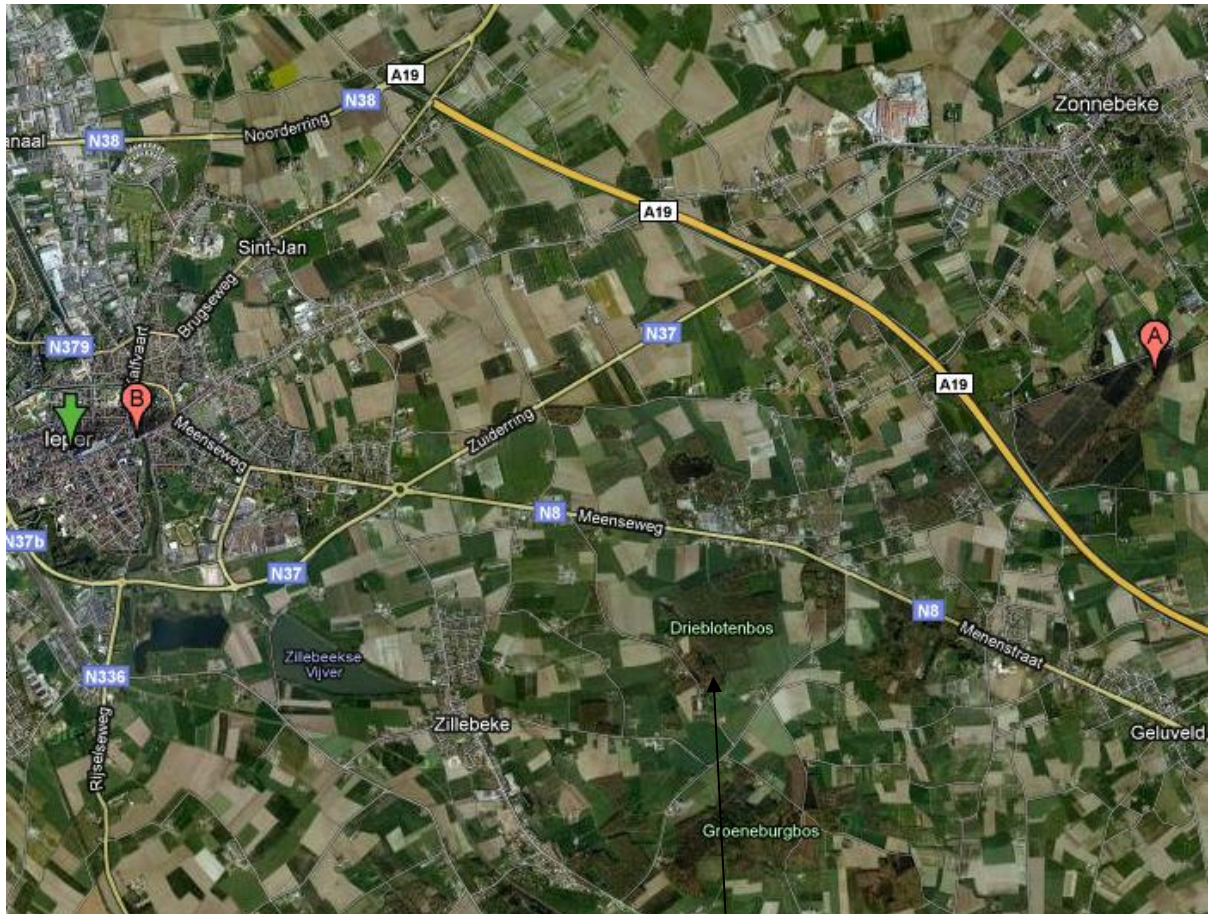
"(Signed) Hd. STACKPOOLE, Captain,

8/6/17.

"G. S., 58th. Division."

General ~~XXXX~~ FANSHAWE called at our Head-
quarters at 11-0 a.m. and after saying Good-bye to the Officers
he requested them to express to all ranks of this Battalion
the grateful thanks of the G.O.C., Officers and all ranks of
the 58th. Division for the work done by the Battalion whilst
attached to the 58th. Division.

(Signed) W. TAYLOR-JONES, 2/Lieut. & A/Adjutant,
8/6/17. for Lieut. Colonel,
Commanding 24th. Bn. The Manchester Regt. (Pioneers).



A – Polygon Wood
B – Menin Gate, Ypres (Ieper)

Sanctuary Wood

Author: William Bridge, August 2010