

Albert Frederick Jones

Gunner, Royal Marine Artillery. Served on *H.M.S. Queen Mary*. Died May 31st, 1916, while on active service. General Service and Victory Medals.



ALBERT JONES was born in 1895 in Corsham to parents Cornelius and Caroline (née Fido), who were then living in what was called in the 1901 census the Lindleys. His father worked in the quarry as a stone sawyer. His was another large Corsham family: Albert had three elder sisters, Matilda, Florence and Kate, and a younger brother Arthur in 1901. By 1911 he had further siblings – Edward and Cornelius – and the census shows that Caroline had ten children in total. They were still living in the Linleys and their father Cornelius was now working on a farm. Albert at the age of 15 had left school and was working as an errand boy.

His service record suggests that Albert enlisted locally as soon as he was able and that he was a Gunner with the Royal Marine Artillery and was on board HMS *Queen Mary* at the Battle of Jutland. The *Queen Mary* was one of 14 British ships that were lost at the Battle of Jutland on 31st May 1916. Over 1,200 men lost their lives when the *Queen Mary* was sunk – only 18 men survived. Albert was only 21 when he died. He and the men of HMS *Queen Mary* are remembered with honour at the Portsmouth War Memorial.

His brother Arthur, a Driver attached to the Royal Field Artillery, had died earlier in the war in 1915. Another brother, Edward, also served in the war and returned home safely.