Jones, Ivan David

A West Australian railway employee killed while on military service for their country

Ivan Jones worked in the railway workshops at Midland before enlisting in the Navy. He died in the sinking of HMAS *Sydney* – along with two more workshops employees.



Memorial at Geraldton to sailors lost on HMAS Sydney II (G.Higham)

Rail employment information

Employer:	Western Australian Government Railways
Branch:	Chief Mechanical Engineer's
Designation:	Fitter

Rail employment notes: Born 14 July 1918. Joined WAGR 28 January 1935 aged 16 as Apprentice Fitter, CME Branch, Midland Workshops. Transferred to Fremantle 9/1/1939 and back to Midland Workshops 3/7/1939. Appointed Fitter 21 May 1940.

Enlisted in RAN 16/9/1940 (date in WAGR records). Died 20/11/1941.

Military service information:

Conflict:	Second World War 1939-1945
Service:	Royal Australian Naval Reserve
Military unit:	HMAS Sydney (II)
Service number:	25285/F2618
Date of death:	20 November 1941
Place of death:	Indian Ocean
Rank at time of loss:	Engine Room Artificer 4th Class
Age:	23
Burial/Memorialisation:	no individual grave; Remembered on the HMAS Sydney II memorial in Geraldton.

Ivan Jones enlisted in the Royal Australian Naval Reserve on 5 September 1939.

HMAS *Sydney II* was fatally damaged in a fight with a German raider H*SK Kormoran* offshore from Carnarvon on 19 November 1941, and is believed to have sunk early the next morning. No crew of HMAS *Sydney* survived, and the sunken ship was the subject of much enquiry and speculation until the wreck was located in 2008.

Unfortunately two other fellow employees from the WAGR workshops also died in this tragedy; Norman Foster and Alfred Shepherd.

Additional/personal information:

BDM records show Jones' birth registered in the Perth district in 1918, a son of Paul Jones & Alice Baker Jones. However he married Joyce Lorraine Barnett in Victoria (Vic BDM 134/1941).

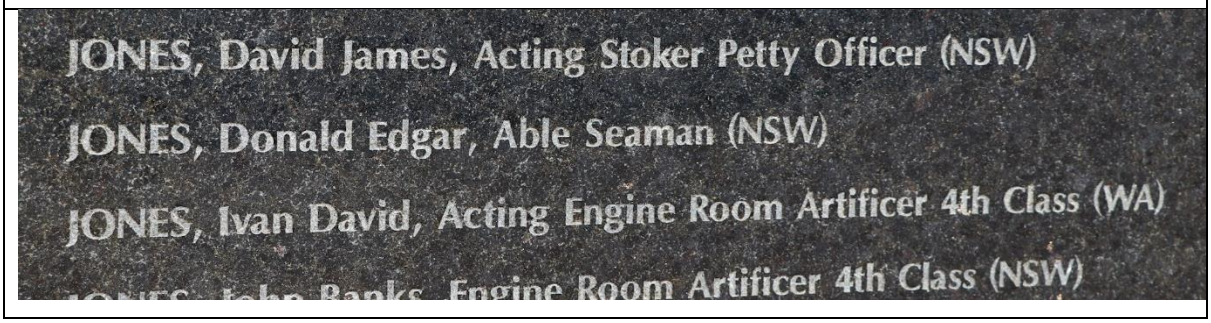
AMW records show his age as 23 when lost, and that he was married, with information supplied by his widow Mrs Joyce Lorraine Jones. Ms Jones had by then moved to Melbourne, which is given in navy records as Ivan Jones' "usual place of residence".

> Jones – In fond memory of Stoker David Jones and his gallant shipmates, posted as missing on H.M.A.S. Sydney. Always remembered. Inserted by Flo, Ruth and May Bomford. *The West Australian* 13/12/1941 p1

Ivan and his mates are listed on Peace Monument at former Railway Workshops, Midland, Western Australia, and at the HMAS *Sydney II* memorial in Geraldton.



HMAS Sydney memorial at Geraldton: the wall of names; Ivan Jones recorded. Phil Melling



Ivan Jones is also recorded on the Plymouth Naval Memorial, Plymouth, Devon, United Kingdom.

Further information and/or photos may be added as available. Information may also be found on the Australian War Memorial website: *https://www.awm.gov.au/advanced-search/people* and on the navy website *http://www.navy.gov.au/hmas-sydney-ii*

Abbreviations: WAGR= Western Australian Government Railways (& Tramways at some periods); MRWA= Midland Railway of Western Australia; BDM=Western Australian Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages website; AWM=Australian War Memorial (Canberra and website); CWGC= Commonwealth War Graves Commission (including website).

Acknowledgements: Rail employment notes from WAGR Honour Roll and WAGR records held by State Records Office, Perth, transcribed by J. Austin 2019. Family information and collation by G. Higham. Photos courtesy Phil Melling.

----------Lest we forget----------