

# World War 1

## Birmingham City Police

### PC D239 Jesse HUGHES

**Private 1491**  
**1<sup>st</sup> battalion Welsh Guards**  
**Died in France 2th November 1917**

Jesse was born in 1888 in St Asaph, Henllan, Denbighshire. the son of the Sexton of Henllan Church, Mr Thomas Hughes Bryn y Ffynnon and wife Jane nee Williams

Jesse was one of six brothers, five of whom served in WW1

Jesse and his brother Robert John were both killed, Robert was also a police constable, and had served in Flintshire Constabulary for seven years when he died



Robert, pictured above, was Private 825 of the 1<sup>st</sup> Welsh Guards and was killed in action on 21st June 1916 age 29, he was killed instantly by a shell. Jesse was actually near to his brother at the time and was slightly wounded in his right arm when in another part of a trench. Jesse asked the chaplain to write to their mother to break the news as Jesse was too upset to do so



Robert is buried in Brandhoek Military Cemetery Ypres Belgium. Grave II F 6

The three other brothers all survived the war

Jesse joined Birmingham City Police on 27<sup>th</sup> October 1913 as a 25-year-old blacksmith which he had been since leaving school. He served on the D Division with warrant number 8392 and collar number D239. Jesse resigned from the force on 25<sup>th</sup> May 1915 and enlisted into the army in Birmingham

Jesse had taken part in the Battle of Loos in 1915, without any injuries but was unfortunately killed on 28th November 1917 in the Battle of Cambrai

Jesse is commemorated in Cambrai Memorial, Louveral, France



*Photographs courtesy of Su and Paul Handford taken August 2022*

Both are remembered of Henllon Memorial Denbighshire

The photograph of Jesse in uniform is courtesy of [www.henllon.com/photography/ww1/jessehughes,welshguards.com](http://www.henllon.com/photography/ww1/jessehughes,welshguards.com)

