

	Name:	Lieut John William JENNER-CLARKE Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry 6th (S) Bn	
Age	AKA:	John William Jenner CLARKE	
	Parents:	William JENNER-CLARKE (born in 1858 in Wantage, Berkshire - died 29 Jul 1939 in Exmouth, DEV, ENG) and Edith WALDRON (born in 1861 in Snap Albourne, Wiltshire - died 12 Dec 1897 in Newbury, Berkshire)	
18	Life Range	2 Dec 1897- 16 Sep 1916	
	Marriage Status:	This person had no relationships and no children	
-39	1858	Birth of Father:	William JENNER-CLARKE (born in 1858 in Wantage, Berkshire - died 29 Jul 1939 in Exmouth, DEV, ENG). In Wantage, Berkshire.
-36	1861	Birth of Mother:	Edith WALDRON (born in 1861 in Snap Albourne, Wiltshire - died 12 Dec 1897 in Newbury, Berkshire). In Snap Albourne, Wiltshire.
0	2 Dec 1897	Birth:	Newbury, Berkshire.
0	12 Dec 1897	Death of Mother:	Edith WALDRON (born in 1861 in Snap Albourne, Wiltshire - died 12 Dec 1897 in Newbury, Berkshire).
4	1901	Census:	Newbury, Berkshire. Oxford Street: CLARKE, William J. , widower, 42, Medical Surgeon M.R.L.C.S., born Wantage, Berkshire Reginald J., 9, born Newbury Edith J., 7, born Newbury John W. J. , 3, born Newbury WALDRON, Jane, Sister in Law, 36, born Monkford, Berkshire (Plus a Nurse and 2 servants) [Class: <i>RG13</i> ; Piece: <i>1121</i> ; Folio: <i>105</i> ; Page: <i>10</i>]
14	1911	Census:	Wykeham Hall, Lee on the Solent, Hampshire CLARKE, John W. Jenner , 13, pupil, born Newbury, Berks [<i>RG14PN5673 RG78PN257 RD92 SD2 ED7 SN230</i>] (Family) Oxford Street, Newbury, Berkshire: CLARKE, William Jenner, 53, Medical Practitioner, born Wantage, Berkshire Jane*, wife, 47, (married 3 years; no children), born Montsford, Berkshire Reginald, son, 19, Medical Student, born Newbury (Plus 2 servants) [<i>RG14PN6366 RG78PN309 RD114 SD1 ED1 SN78</i>] <i>[*Jane was William's sister-in-law and second wife. She was living with the family in 1901. She died 20 Sept 1927 leaving an estate valued at £55,422.]</i> [In 1911 this Officer's sister Edith, age 17, was a boarder at the Anglo Continental School, in Clifton Crescent, Folkestone, Kent.]
16	Sep 1914	Commission:	LG 22 Sept 1914.
17	26 Sep 1915	Overseas:	
18	16 Sep 1916	Death:	
		Burial:	Thiepval Memorial. Pier and Face 6 B
21	27 Aug 1919	Probate:	London, ENG. ...of Mansfield Douglas-avenue Exmouth Devonshire lieutenant...to William Jenner Clarke retired physician and surgeon. £177.
41	17 Oct 1939	Probate:	(Father). London, ENG. ...of Southernhay Cranford-avenue Emouth

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	Devonshire... to Edith Jenner Clarke Spinster. £4673.
Personal File:	339/14459.
OTC:	Blundell's School.
Reported Missing:	Yes.
Decorations:	1915 Star.
Father's Occupation:	Medical Practitioner.
Father's Status:	Alive, died 1939. Re-married his sister-in-law Jane WALDRON in Reading in 1908. No known children to this marriage.
School:	Wykeham Hall.
Higher Education:	Blundell's School. Commemorated on the School Memorial. (See Notes)
Occupation:	Student.
Brothers:	Youngest of 2.
Siblings:	<p>Capt Reginald Jenner CLARKE, 1/7 Essex Regiment, born 1891, survived, died 1953, Devonshire. LG 1 Sept 1917: "Unattached List for the Territorial Force. Reginald Jenner Clarke (Hon. Capt. T.F) to be 2nd Lt, O.T.C. 2 September 1917." Listed in the University of London OTC - see attached extract. Registered as a Medical Practitioner 1919 (London). In the UK Medical Register 1935 but not 1939. Reported in the Sept 28 1935 issue of the British Medical Journal as "untraceable".</p> <p>Edith Jenner CLARKE, born 1893, died 1962, did not marry.</p>
CWGC Register:	6th Bn. attd. 43rd T.M. Bty. Age 18. Son of W. and Edith Jenner-Clarke, late of Newbury, Berks. Educated at Blundell's School (O.T.C.).
<p>General Notes: From Blundell's School Memorial Archive http://www.blundells.org/archive/in-memoriam/jenner-clarke_jw.html</p> <p>JENNER-CLARKE, John William Lieutenant, 6th Bn., Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, attd 43rd Trench Mortar Bty.</p> <p>Born 2nd December 1897. Son of William Jenner-Clarke (Surgeon, rtd) and Edith Jenner-Clarke, late of Newbury, Berkshire.</p> <p>Permanent address Mansfield, Douglas Ave, Exmouth.</p> <p>Education Blundell's School, "Old House" from the age of 14. May 1912 to July 1914. He was a member of the school OTC from 1912 until he left, attending camp in 1912, 13 and 14.</p> <p>Service Lt Jenner-Clark joined the 8th DCLI then on 1st March 1916 was gazetted to the 43/1 Trench Mortar Battery as Temp Capt (See Gazette 29636, 23 Jun 1916), where he served until 7th September 1916 when he was gazetted out "<i>relinquished the acting rank of Captain upon ceasing to command a Trench Mortar Battalion</i>" (Gazette 29846 1st Dec 1916). At the beginning of Sept 1916 he joined the 6th DCLI taking part in the attack upon Gueudecourt on Sept 16th. He was reported 'wounded' not 'wounded and missing'. His father made several attempts to find out what had happened to his son but, receiving no further information, employed Petherick & Sons of Exeter to fight for information on their behalf.</p> <p>Trench Diaries The 6th Bn. DCLI were part of 43rd Brigade, 8th 14th (Light) Division. The battalion arrived in the Somme from the Arras area on 6th August 1916 by train to Mericourt. They provided carrying parties for the Somersets and were then engaged in Delville Wood where they were sent to the front line on 15th August 1916. They took part in an attack on Hop Alley and Edge trench in the South eastern corner of the wood on the 18th August, taking heavy casualties during</p>	

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severe hand to hand fighting. They were relieved on the 20th August and were sent to camp west of Fricourt where they remained until early September. On 14th September they moved forward to Pommieres Redoubt and attacked Gird and Gird Support Trench in front of Gueudecourt on 16th September. The battalion moved forward as a single wave at 9.25am under heavy machine gun fire from the right which brought the assault to a standstill. A renewed attack at 6.55pm also failed; the two attacks had cost 309 casualties.

Death

16th September 1916, aged 18; Somme.

Letter received by his family on 21st Nov 1916 stating that he was now 'wounded and missing'. An "Information only" document from the War Office dated 24th Aug 1917, reports that *"In the view of the lapse of time since he was reported missing his death has now been accepted for official purposes."*

Burial/Commemoration

Lt. Jenner-Clarke has no known grave so is commemorated on Thiepval Memorial, Thiepval, Somme, France.

Research

Commonwealth War Graves Commission - www.cwgc.org <<http://www.cwgc.org/>>

The Blundellian, 1914, p 131, December 1916, p 272

The National Archives Kew WO 339/14459

The Register of Blundell's School, Part II 1882 – 1932" (1932) MAHOOD, A.S., Ed. Entry No. 5527

Cemeteries & Memorials in Belgium & Northern France (2004) Commonwealth War Graves Commission. 25/490

Archives of the London Gazette, www.gazettes-online.co.uk <<http://www.gazettes-online.co.uk/>>; Issue 29636,

25th June 1916 page 6221 and Issue 29846, 1st December 1916

"British Battalions on the Somme" WESTLAKE, R. (2004) Pen and Sword

Field visit (JEA & GRY 28/7/2006)