

HAROLD GWYNNE JONES WATKINS

Date of Birth:
22 May 1893
Student Number:
1170
Enrolment:
February 1908
Age Entered IGS:
14 years
Final Day at IGS:
December 1910



Unit:
11 th Light Horse Regiment
Regimental Number:
1154
Enlistment:
29 March 1915
Age at Enlistment:
21 years
Final Day of Service:
20 June 1919

The Chelmsford Cup was introduced in 1907, and was an inter-school competition - almost a fore-runner to the current Greater Public Schools (GPS) competition. In 1910, much to Mr Lawrance's delight, IGS won the cup. Harold Watkins was a member of the winning team who are all pictured below. Watkins signed up early in 1915 and corps-transferred to the Australian Flying Corps in the June of 1918. The Daily Mail (28 March, 1919) published:

"Word has just been received that Lieut. Harold Gwynne Watkins, of the Australian Flying Corps, is expected home shortly after four years' service in Egypt, Palestine, and England."

The Brisbane Courier, (5 March, 1930) reported:

"MAJOR J. W. WATKINS, head teacher of Manly State School, has received the news of the sudden death of his son, Mr. Harold G. Watkins at Newport (England). The late Mr. Watkins, who was born at Tallegalla, Rosewood, received his education under his father, and at Ipswich Grammar School, where he distinguished himself at sport, winning the cadets' championship of Australia for rifle shooting. He was engaged at Kensington Downs station with Mr. Donald Cameron, M.H.R., when he enlisted in the A.I.F. He served with the 11th Light Horse in Syria and Palestine, and was selected for training in England for the Australian Flying Corps; in which he gained his commission. After the Armistice, accompanied by his wife, he paid a 12 months' visit to his parents, and returned to England, where he was engaged in commercial pursuits until his death."

