

ATKINSON, Joseph Bertie



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Joseph Bertie Atkinson was born at Millchester, Charters Towers, Qld in 1892, the youngest of four children born to Richard Teary Atkinson and Elizabeth nee Williams. Joseph's siblings were Agnes Gertrude b.1886, Ada Elizabeth b.1888, and Richard Newby b.1890 (died 1897).

Joseph went to School at Millchester State School, Carters Towers, and commenced the full diploma course at HAC 1909. Achieving a First Class level Rifle Club badge Joseph left HAC in December 1909.

Joseph was a 23 year old Linesman when he enlisted on 7 October 1915 in the 9th Battalion, 15th Reinforcement.

Embarking from Brisbane, Qld on board HMAT A73 Commonwealth on 28 March 1916, Joseph had a period of training in Egypt before serving in France.

Joseph was transferred to the 31st Australian Infantry Battalion in October 1916 and was wounded in action late that same month. Joseph returned to his battalion on 3 April 1917 and was wounded again on 12 April 1917 near Bouzencourt (on the Somme), France. Joseph died of those wounds on 23 April 1918, aged 25, and is buried at the St. Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, France, along with fellow HAC Old Boys Henry Erasmus Wren and Arthur Leslie Dignam.