

## JOHNSTON, Clifford Anning



Athletic Colourmen 1915  
 Students W.J. Saunders, F.S. Still, C.A. Johnston  
 University Archives Ref. AI-46357 HAC Journal (Vol.12, No.7) July 1915 p.105



Tug of War Team ("Rest of College")  
 Standing- Students W. Barnier, J.A. Gruggan, R. Marsh, P. Seery, T.B. Abigail, R. Scholer, W.M. Morrow.  
 Sitting- Students C.A. Johnston, G.H. Potts, W.M. Rickards, J. Willcock, H.R.E. Grey.  
 University Archives Ref. AI-46358 HAC Journal (Vol.12, No.8 (misprinted as No.7))  
 August 1915 p.123



First XV Rugby Football Team  
 Back Row- Students J. Willcock, J.D. Gibson, S. Wilson, J. Strachan, H. Grey, Mr. J. Morrow, W.S. Fraser Middle Row- Students R.R.V. Martin, G.G. Johnstone, F.S. Still (Captain), L. McLaren, P.N. Hinaki In Front- Students J.P. Macnamara, W. Morrow Inset- Students J. Archer, C.A. Johnston, S. Ngarimu Absent- Student B. Thorpe  
 University Archives Ref. AI-46367 HAC Journal (Vol.12, No.11) Nov 1915 p169

Born in 1895 at Waverley, NSW, Clifford Anning Johnston went to School at Woodford Academy and Mt Victoria Cotswell College.

He entered HAC, aged 17, in January 1913 for the full Diploma course. Clifford played Rugby, competed in various athletics events such as hurdles, long jump, 440 and 880

yards and mile running, throwing the cricket ball, and tug-o-war. Clifford Johnston enlisted ( underage and without his parent's permission) as a Driver on 22 August 1914 with the 1<sup>st</sup> Light Horse Field Ambulance, A Squadron. He was one of many Australians to suffer from measles on the way to the front, and was invalided home. He returned to HAC where he won Athletics Colours in 1915.

Clifford re-enlisted on 6 March 1916 in the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 21<sup>st</sup> Reinforcement and embarked from Sydney on board HMAT A60 *Aeneas* on 30 September 1916. He was a Corporal and served on the Western Front, dying of wounds received on 21 April 1917 at Bapaume, Somme Sector, France aged 22.

The College Journal reported Cliffords death as follows: "Clifford was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, of "Strathcarron", Medlow Bath. He was a student at H.A.C. from 1913 to 1915, though he volunteered for service in August, 1914...Johnston was in the first XV. and just missed securing an honour cap. He was popular among his fellow students who respected him for the sterling qualities he displayed...The College is justly proud of the fact that 27 per cent of her ex-students have answered the call of freedom; but that grand achievement of her sons has its sad aspect in the loss of men of whom Clifford A. Johnston was a worthy type" (HAC Journal (Vol.14, No.8) August 1917 p.110).

Clifford Anning Johnston is buried in Grevillers British Cemetery, France.