

HARRIS, Philip Vernon



HAC First XV 1903

Back Row: A. Armstrong, A. Hall, T. Sleeman, R. Pinhey, E. Lindeman, S. Beales

Middle Row: A. Ogg, **P. Harris**, L. Harden (Treasurer), J. Adams (Capt), J. McGoran, J. Bryant (Secretary), N. Barry

Front Row: A. Douglas, J. Gorden, J. Evans

University Archive Ref. 1903 HAC First XV Rugby team

Philip Vernon Harris was born 26 May 1882 at Armidale, NSW. He and what appears to be his twin brother, Frank (as they have consecutive BDM registration numbers for the same year with same parents and district listed. Frank died in 1883), were the youngest of five children born to William Marshall and Marina Jane Harris. William Harris was manager of the Bank of NSW.

Philip attended The Armidale School (TAS) from February 1894 until November 1899. He was one of the first 36 boys at TAS. He played in the First XV Rugby team, won the senior mile race in 1899 and was a Lance-Corporal in the Cadets.

After leaving school, Philip worked in the mines at Hillgrove and Kalgoorlie. He was 19 when he enrolled at HAC for Practical Courses. He attended HAC from 1902-1903, and played in the First XV Rugby teams in 1902 and 1903.

By March 1904 was engaged in shipping cows to Western Australia where he planned to start a dairy.

Philip was farming near Dalby, Queensland when he enlisted in the 42nd Battalion on 15 September 1915, and he was quickly made Provisional Corporal. He sailed from Sydney, 5 June 1916, aboard HMAT *Borda* A30. Philip quickly rose through the NCO ranks and was promoted to Second Lieutenant in the field in January 1917.

Serving on the Western Front, and wounded at Messines, Philip died of those wounds 11 June 1917, aged 35. He is buried at Trois-Arbres Cemetery, Steenwerck, France.