



**56 Squadron
Royal Flying Corps**



**2nd Lieutenant
JOHN PATRICK WATERS**

**Born in Kensington,
London in 1899.**

**Killed in action
on 18th November 1917.**

Aged 18.

JOHN PATRICK WATERS was born in 1899 in Kensington, London, only child of Brigadier General Wallscourt Hely Hutchinson Waters, C.M.G., C.V.O., (and his second wife Edith Mary Oakley), who retired in 1912 to live at Church Farm House, Barton Stacey.

He enlisted straight from school as a Cadet Pilot into the Royal Flying Corps. He was at Upavon, Wiltshire, during November 1917.

He was then posted to 56 Squadron in France. The Squadron was equipped with the then brand new S.E.5 fighter. The Squadron has become one of the most successful squadrons of the RAF.

By the end of the Great War 56 Squadron had scored 402 victories and many fighter aces served with the unit. During the course of the war, 40 of the Squadron's pilots were killed in action.

John Waters was killed in an accident while testing a S.E.5 on 18th November 1917, prior to the Battle of Cambrai.

His was buried in the Dernancourt Communal Cemetery Extension, grave ref. V1.F.32

DERNANCOURT COMMUNAL CEMETERY EXTENSION



At the Armistice, the extension contained more than 1,700 burials; it was then enlarged when graves were brought in from small cemeteries and isolated positions in the immediate neighbourhood.

The extension now contains 2162 Commonwealth burials and commemorations of the First World War.