



L/Cpl. Jonathan Kingsley Nicholls



Played with Adelaide University



Cricket Club – 1914/15 - 1915/16

Student Teacher

Degree – BA (1924)

Background

Coinciding with the Centenary of Anzacs our incentive behind the series of biographical publications is the Adelaide University Football and Cricket Club's desire to honour our players who served in the Great War (1914 - 1918). These brave men put on hold their academic, professional and sporting careers for King and Country in the name of peace and freedom. The AUFC/AUCC WW1 Memorial Committee is endeavouring to identify every one of our players who served and prepare life stories on all. This is to ensure their sacrifices and further contributions to society will be recognised by future generations.

On Anzac Day 2015, the Centenary of the Gallipoli landing, a memorial plaque was unveiled on the Adelaide University Oval Pavilion and this was followed by the erection of a picket fence between the pavilion and the scoreboard with each picket bearing a plaque with the name of an AUFC/AUCC player who served.

The following documentation relates to the life of Jonathan Kingsley Nicholls. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.

The AIF Project

<https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=223258>



Jonathan Kingsley NICHOLLS


Regimental number	12653
Place of birth	Wilmington South Australia
Religion	Methodist
Occupation	School teacher
Address	'Tamai', Watson Avenue, Rose Park, South Australia
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	24
Next of kin	Mother, Mrs C P Nicholls, 'Tamai', Watson Avenue, Rose Park, South Australia
Enlistment date	6 January 1916
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	11th Field Ambulance
AWM Embarkation Roll number	26/54/1
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Adelaide, South Australia, on board HMAT A29 <i>Suevic</i> on 31 May 1916
Rank from Nominal Roll	Lance Corporal
Unit from Nominal Roll	11th Field Ambulance
Fate	Returned to Australia 10 April 1919

Service Record

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=7995288>

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133953 AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

ATTESTATION PAPER OF PERSONS ENLISTED FOR SERVICE ABROAD

No. 12653 Name NICHOLLS Jonathan Kingsley
 Unit 5 Coy 2ND DEPOT BATTALION A.I.F. 11. Fld Amb.
 Joined on JAN 6 1916

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

<p>1. What is your Name?</p> <p>2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? ...</p> <p>3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.)</p> <p>4. What is your age?</p> <p>5. What is your trade or calling?</p> <p>6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? ...</p> <p>7. Are you married?</p> <p>8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) ...</p> <p>9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power?</p> <p>10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incurable and Worthless, or on account of Conviction of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Servitude, or have you been dismissed with disgrace from the Navy?</p> <p>11. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, His Majesty's Army, the Marines, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, the Territorial Force, Royal Navy or Colonial Forces? If so, state which, and if not now serving, state cause of discharge ...</p> <p>12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service?</p> <p>13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? ...</p> <p>14. (For married men, widowers with children, and soldiers who are the sole support of widowed mother)— Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be issued to you in respect of your service beyond an amount which together with any would reach 8/- per day? ...</p> <p>15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against smallpox and enteric fever?</p>	<p>1. <u>Jonathan Kingsley Nicholls</u></p> <p>2. In the Parish of _____ in or near the Town of <u>Wilmington</u> in the County of <u>South Australia</u></p> <p>3. <u>NB</u></p> <p>4. <u>23 1/2</u></p> <p>5. <u>School Teacher</u></p> <p>6. <u>No</u></p> <p>7. <u>No</u></p> <p>8. <u>Mother, Mrs Elsie Phillips Nicholls Lanau Watson Avenue, Rose Park South Australia</u></p> <p>9. <u>No</u></p> <p>10. <u>No</u></p> <p>11. <u>2 yrs Sen Cadets 2 yrs Adelaide High School</u></p> <p>12. <u>No</u></p> <p>13. <u>No</u></p> <p>14. _____</p> <p>15. <u>No</u></p>
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I, Jonathan Kingsley Nicholls do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and I am willing and hereby voluntarily agree to serve in the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth.

And I further agree to allot not less than two-fifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service for the support of my wife ⁺ and children

Date JAN 6 1916 Jon. K. Nicholls
Signature of Person Enlisted.

* This clause should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 18 years of age.
† Two-fifths must be allotted to the wife, and if there are children three-fifths must be allotted.

wo 56238

RSL Virtual War Memorial

<https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/people/240380>

NICHOLLS, Jonathan Kingsley

Service

Number: 12653

Last Rank: Private

Last Unit: 11th Field Ambulance

Memorials: Peterborough HB02 Peterborough Public School WW I*, Tusmore HB1 Burnside & District*,
University of Adelaide WW1 Honour Roll Mitchell Bldg*

NICHOLLS, Jonathan Kingsley

World War 1 Service

31 May 1916: Involvement Private, SN 12653, 11th Field Ambulance

31 May 1916: Embarked Private, SN 12653, 11th Field Ambulance, HMAT Suevic,
Adelaide

Biography

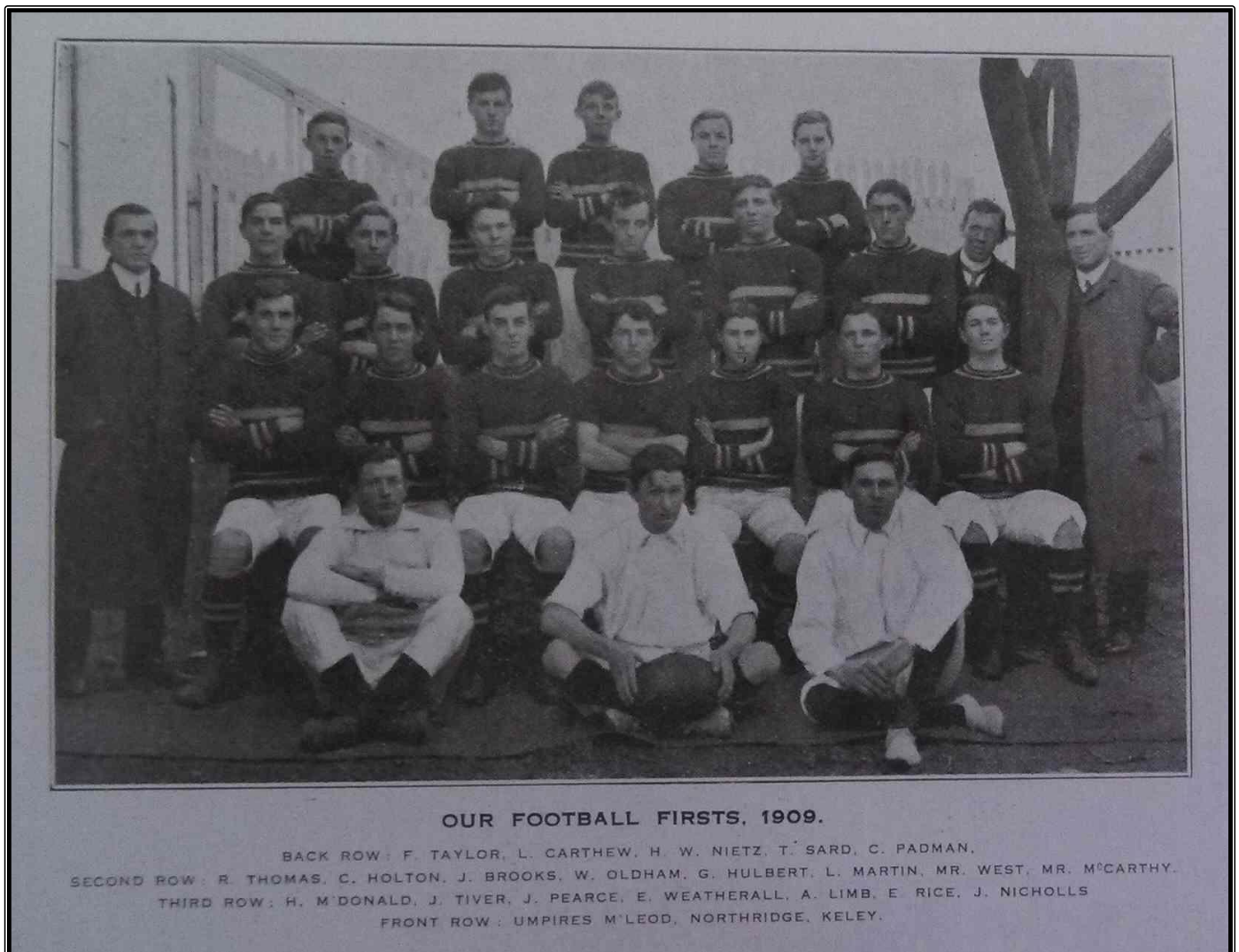
Early Life

Jonathan Kingsley Nicholls (registered as Jonathon Kingsley) was born in 1892 at Wilmington, South Australia, the son of Jonathon Jobe Nicholls and Celia Phillips Hodge (SA Birth Registration 496/412). Jonathan's father was a Methodist Minister.

Schooling

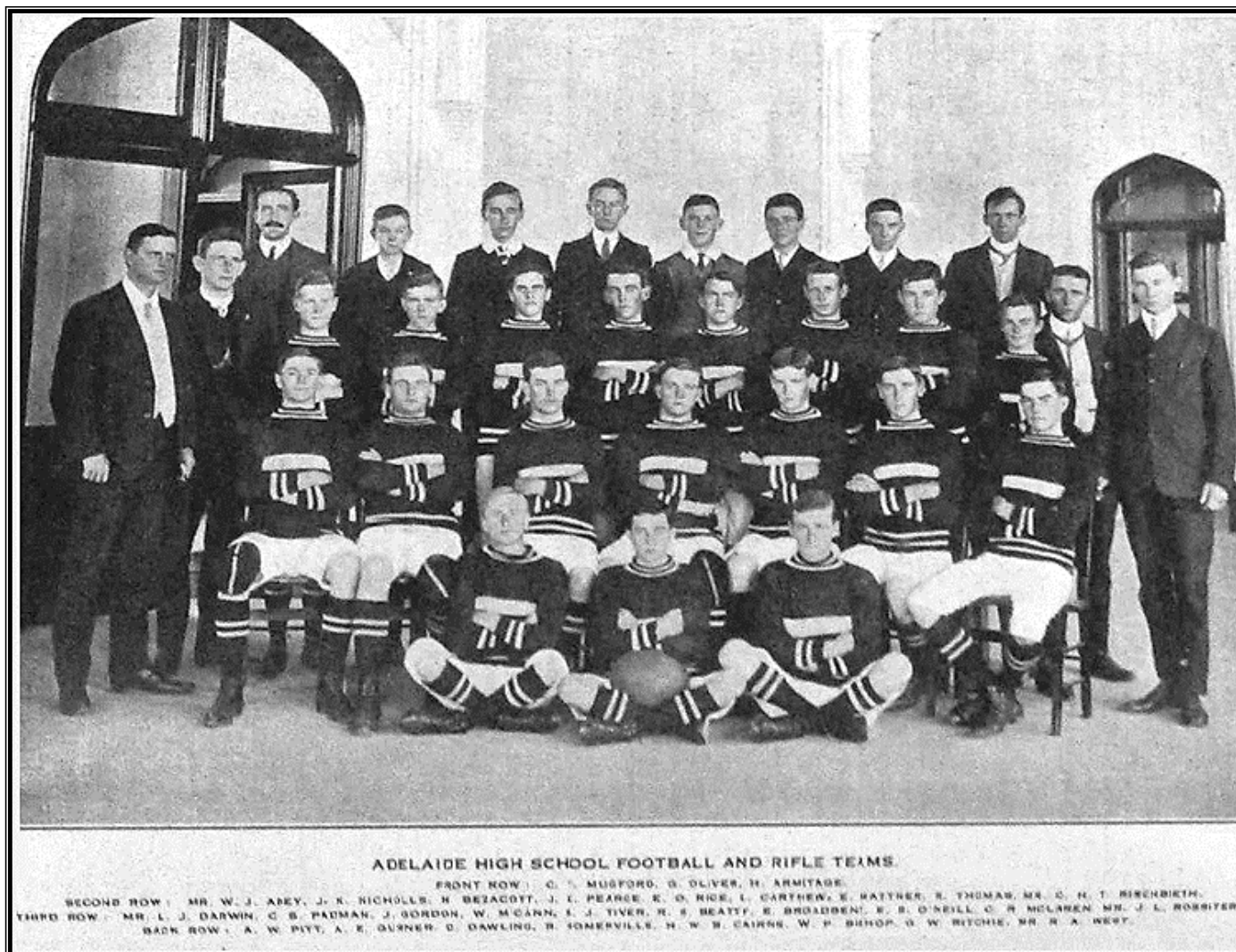
Jonathan attended school at Unley where he passed his Primary Examinations in 1906. He then attended Prince Alfred College where he passed his Junior Examinations in 1908. He also passed Public Examinations in History and Art Examinations in First Grade Plain Geometry in 1908. Jonathan played B Grade district cricket for PAC in the 1907/08 and 1908/09 seasons.

In 1909, wanting to pursue a teaching career, Jonathan moved to Adelaide High School as a pupil teacher. He played for the school in the Past versus Present Football marches in 1909 and 1910 and the Cricket March in March 1910. He passed his Senior Examinations in 1909. From the 1st of January 1910, Jonathan received a Public Teacher promotion from Second Grade to Third Grade at the High School and he passed Intermediate Perspective in the School of Arts exams in June 1910. While at AHS Jonathan spent two years in the Cadets.



AHS First Eighteen 1909
J. K Nicholls – Row (Seated on Chairs) – Far Right

1910 Adelaide High School Football and Rifle Teams



J.K. Nicholls – Row (Seated on Chairs) – Far Left

Adelaide University

In 1912, while attending the University (Teacher) Training College, Jonathan commenced studying at Adelaide University, passing subjects toward his B.A. in 1912, 1913 and 1914. He also passed First Grade Free Hand in the School of Arts Exams in 1913. The SA State Records Office holds Student Teacher Agreements for Jonathan for 1913 and 1914. His residence was at Norwood in 1913 and Walkerville in 1914.

University Sport

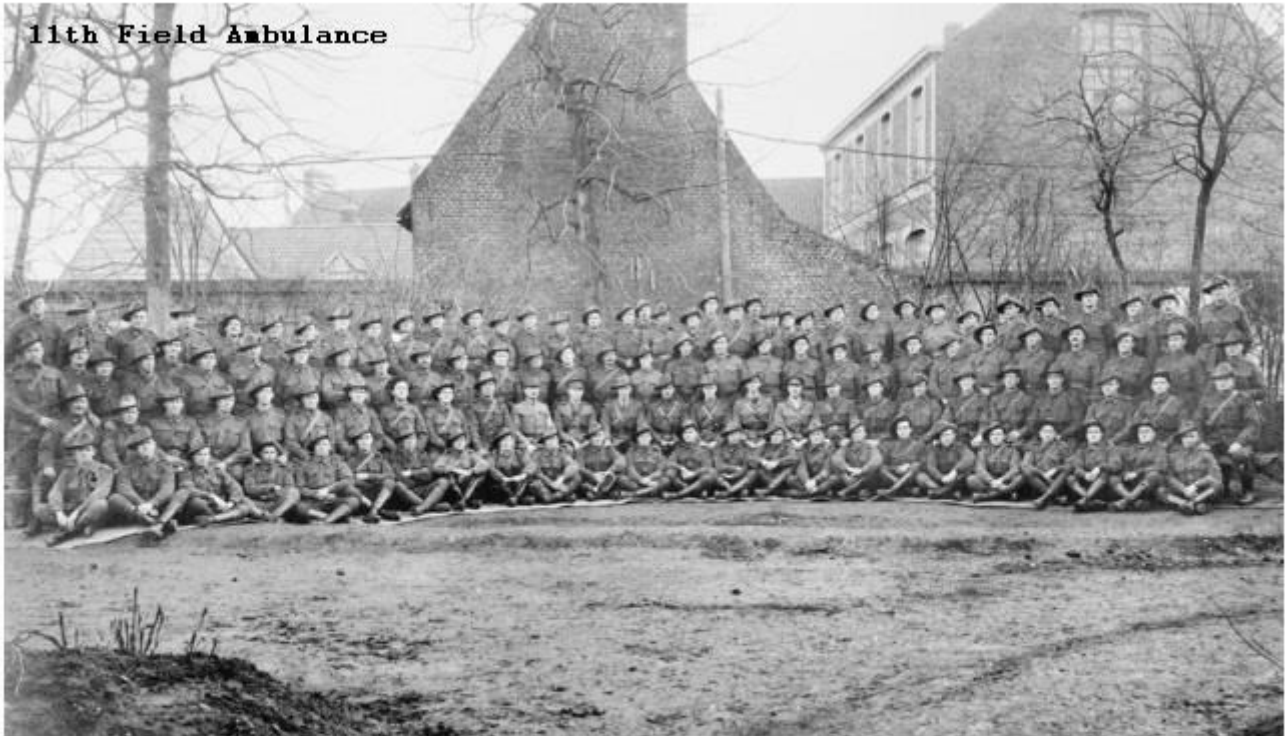
Jonathan played A grade cricket for the University in the 1914/15 and 1915-16 (unofficial competition) seasons. He was a pace bowler and lower order batsman.

Early Career

In February 1915, Jonathan was appointed as an Assistant Teacher at Petersburg (later to be renamed Peterborough) and in September 1915, he was appointed Assistant in Charge (Strathalbyn DH). It is unclear whether Jonathan took up the position at Strathalbyn as he appears on the Peterborough School Honour Roll, which suggests he may have been at the school until Dec 1915.

World War I

On the 6th of January 1916, Jonathan enlisted in the 11th Field Ambulance. He was 23 years and 11 months old, 5' 8¾", 146 lbs, with a fresh complexion, brown eyes and brown hair. He embarked from Adelaide on the 31st of March 1916, before heading to Southampton. On 24th of November 1916, he proceeded to France and on 30th of May 1917, he was appointed a Lance Corporal. Jonathan was ill in hospital on a number of occasions. On the 26th of May 1918, Jonathan was gassed, however he was well enough to return to duty and then had a period as Acting Sergeant.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

France: Nord Pas de Calais, Nord, Bailleul

E01532

12653 Lance Corporal (LCpl) J. K. Nicholls Back Row 4th from Right

Jonathan left England on 10th of April 1919, onboard the *HMAT A7 Medic*, arriving in Adelaide on the 26th of May 1919. He was discharged on the 24th of July 1919.



HMAT A7 Medic

Post War Life

Jonathan returned to teaching after the War and in December 1920 he was appointed Temporary Senior Master at Kadina High School.

In 1921 Jonathan married Mary Millicent Revell (sometimes referred to as Millicent Mary) and on the 8th of April 1922, their daughter, Winifred Mary, was born at Nurse Walsh's Private Hospital, Rose Park, SA.

Jonathan resumed his studies at Adelaide University in 1920, passing subjects toward his Bachelor of Arts. He was awarded his BA on the 2nd of June 1924.

NAME AND ADDRESS		NORWOOD HOS						REGISTER NO.			
Nicholls, Jonathan Kingsley, Public School, Gilles Street		Education Department.						2399			
COURSE	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE OF MATRICULATION					GRADE				
Arts	8/2/92	11/10/12					Grad				
SENIOR 1908, English; 1909 Englit; Lat; Arist & Alg; Com; Trig; Repatriation							Wants GK. R.S.				
STATUS GRANTED							ON WAR MEMORIAL				
Passed Elem Greek (Philol) 1923. Under Bd of Exam Reports 1925. M.A. Subjects assigned 18.12.21. Before 10.6.1923.											
YEAR	SUBJECT	RECEIPT	FIRST TERM	RECEIPT	SECOND TERM	RECEIPT	THIRD TERM	EXAMN.	RESULT	REMARKS	
1912	Logic								N 12 F		
1913	Eng Literature								N 13 P III		
	Latin I								N 13 F		
	Education								N 13 P II		
1914	Latin I								N 14 F		
	Logic								N 14 P III		
	English History								N 14 P II		
	Physics I								N 14 F		
1915	Latin I	Exempted from lectures: 1105/15									Entered 6.1.16
1920	Latin I	2nd time	Rept 17881	7-							
	Physics 1st Yr	(evs)							N 20 P III		
1921	Mathematics 1st Yr	10530	1.1.0	11696	1.1.0	12563	1.1.0	1140 P IV 1258 M 2.2	N 21 F	13252 1st late entry	
	Latin I	matime							N 23 P III		

NAME AND ADDRESS		B.A. June 1924						1932 F.D.		REGISTER NO.
Nicholls, Jonathan Kingsley		Education Department						43 Watson Avenue Rose Park		2484
YEAR	SUBJECT	RECEIPT	FIRST TERM	RECEIPT	SECOND TERM	RECEIPT	THIRD TERM	EXAMN.	RESULT	REMARKS
1922	Psychology								N 22 P III	
1923	Latin II								N 23 P III	
	Philology							23020 incl M 24 P NC	N 23 F	22900/24 Board superannuation
M.A. B.A. Degree conferred 2 nd June 1924										
1925	Mathematics II									Exempt 1102484
1927	Latin III									" 1703996
1931	European History A									" 1104332
	Orhis							1104332 57920 107	N 31 F	
1932	Educational Psychology									Exempt 11675

By June 1924, Jonathan was a Senior Master at Kadina, a position he held until December 1935.

His other pastimes at Kadina, included tennis, golf (winning the B Grade competition in 1926) and the RSL. He was a Vice-President of the newly formed Soccer Club (1926) and a Lawn Bowler (1926 onward). Jonathan was also the Sports Master at Kadina High School, President of the Old Scholars Association and a part-time instructor in geometrical drawing at the Kadina Technical School. He played Bridge and was a member of the Kadina Ramblers Cricket team in the YP Association. Jonathan assisted in setting up the N.Y.P. Boy Scouts Association. In September 1928 Jonathan attended a RSL reunion at Gladstone. In 1929 the family spent the summer holidays at Port Elliot.

When Jonathan was transferred from Kadina at the end of 1935, he was made an Honorary Member of the Old Scholars Association in appreciation of his work for that organisation. In December 1935, Jonathan was appointed Senior Master at the Woodville High School, a position he held until December 1938. He played Pennant Bowls while in the city and in 1937, he competed in the State Fours and Singles Bowling Championships.

On the 11th of November 1938 he laid one of the wreaths at the Woodville Armistice Day commemorations.

In December 1938, Jonathan was promoted to the position of Head Master at Peterborough where he continued to play both golf and bowls. In April 1940, Jonathan returned to Kadina High School, this time as Head Master. In April 1941 Jonathan competed in the A.I.F Golf Day at Kooyonga.

He was involved in the digging of Air Raid trenches at Kadina in March 1942. Both Jonathan and Millicent were heavily involved in the local church at Kadina.

In December 1943, Jonathan was appointed to be Head Master at Port Lincoln. By July 1944 Jonathan was a member of the Port Lincoln Institute (Town Hall) committee, a role he had filled at both Kadina and Woodville. While Jonathan and Millicent's daughter Winifred Mary (Mary) had accompanied them to Port Lincoln in January 1944, she then moved to the city and commenced training as a Nurse at the Wakefield Street Private Hospital.

In November 1944 Jonathan was appointed Head Master of the Gawler High School. He was at the school in August 1945 when news was received regarding the end of WWII. His address to the School was printed in the local '*Bunyip*' paper (see below).



GAWLER HIGH SCHOOL TEACHING STAFF – 1945

*Standing: R.N. Raymond, A. Lange, J.K. Nicholls (Headmaster), A.S. Lamshed, D.S. McDonald.
Seated: J.H. Bennett, Mrs E.M. Giles, Miss I.J. Carter, Miss M.V. Nankivell, Mrs V.E. Forgie, C. McMurtie*

MR. J. K. NICHOLLS
Head Master, High School.

There was healing in the music of the bells as they pealed forth their promise of Peace, after six years of war. Only the day before, knowing so little of the mentality of our enemy, we had hesitated midway between optimism and pessimism. Relief, uncertainty, thanksgiving to God for the victory, these were the thoughts uppermost in our minds now. We recalled the courage of our leaders, the unity of our allies, the superb quality of our fighting men, and the heroism of the common people in the British Isles, those in whose veins flowed the blood of martyrs, saints and heroes. We looked back with pride that England had stood firm in her hour of lonely grandeur. It had been a War of the People.

We wondered as to the fate of the prisoners-of-war. We thought of those who would never return. We saw the men returning and the women too, slowly settling back into their peace-time occupations; the wheels of industry geared to nobler uses. We prayed that wise statemanship might forge a comprehensive peace that would remodel the world. We could, in spite of all, rejoice that the war of material things was at an end.

The problems that now faced us were those of the spirit—international enmity, disease, decay. We were being given a breathing space, for we felt that at least we had won the first round. The peace had still to be won, the triumphs of science rightly directed, the New Order still awaited fulfilment.

In November 1947, Jonathan and Millicent's daughter, Mary, married Peter Heywood Bright, at Gartrell Methodist Church. Peter had been a Lieutenant in the B Coy, 2/33 Battalion, 2nd AIF in WWII. Mary and Peter spent four years overseas, returning to Australia in October 1954.

Jonathan continued to play Bowls and by August 1947, he was President of the Gawler Bowling Club. In February 1952, Jonathan won a singles championship at Port Elliott.

Gained Honors for Town

Bowling honours for Gawler recently were scored by High School Head Master Mr. J. K. Nicholls at Port Elliot.

Mr. Nicholls won the singles championship which carried as trophies a silver dish, and a silver mug awarded by the Jubilee Year Committee.

He was also a member of the team which took second place in the rink championship.



STAFF
 Back Row: K. S. Fletcher, B. Cornelius, J. W. Wilson, J. K. Nicholls (Headmaster), C. McMurtrie,
 J. D. Sladden
 Front Row: W. T. S. Middleton, Mrs. M. A. Byron-Scott, Miss D. Vernon, Miss M. Koehne,
 Miss P. Orr, Miss M. Vickery, J. H. Chambers

1953 – Gawler High School – J.K. Nicholls – back Row – Third from Right

In his report on the school in December 1954, Jonathan was expecting a record attendance at Gawler High School in 1955. At the end of first Term in 1955, Jonathan finished at the Gawler High School. He was 63 years of age and may have retired at this stage.



1955 - J.K. Nicholls

Peter and Mary Bright moved to Canberra to enable Peter to peruse a career in the Public Service. By 1961 Jonathan had retired and he and Millicent were living at 9 Elouera Flats, Braddon, Canberra, ACT.

Death

Jonathan passed away on the 3rd of August 1967 aged 75 years. Millicent passed away on the 21st of May 1970, aged 83.

Profile Compiled by: Beth Filmer AUFC/AUCC WW1 Memorial Committee

Sources

The AIF Project <https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/>
RSL Virtual War Memorial <https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/>
The National Archives of Australia <http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/>
Australian War Memorial <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/>
The Adelaide University <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/records/archives/>
The National Library of Australia <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/>
(Trove Newspaper articles tagged – Jonathan Kingsley Nicholls)
SA Genealogy <https://www.genealogysa.org.au/resources/online-databases.html>
SA State Records Office GRG 18/112
https://www.flickr.com/photos/gawler_history/6920034587
Gawler High School Magazines -
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4EjkA7CXbhAdGF5c0o2VWVieVE/edit>