Private Benjamin Bride (XC 1901)

AWM ~ Roll of Honour
Benjamin Bride

Service Number: 4376
Rank: Private
Unit: 21st Australian Infantry Battalion, 11th Reinforcement
Date of death: 5 November 1916
Age at death: 29
Place of death: France
Cause of death: Killed in action
Place of Burial: No known grave
Place of residence: Neerim North, Australia
Occupation: Switchboard attendant
Commemoration details: Australian National Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux, France

From “The Xaverian” 1916, p. 41

Ben Bride (‘01).—Killed in action in Belgium on November 5th, and at the age of 29. After leaving School he spent some time on his farm at Neerim, where he was well known and esteemed. Later on he joined a surveying party going to the Northern Territory, and spent twelve months at his work. Returning to Melbourne he entered the Rates Office, and from here enlisted. His last letter speaks in high praise of the treatment received in camp both in Australia and England, ending with the words—“A soldier’s life’s the life for me.” R.I.P.

Troops from the Australian 21st Battalion prepare to abandon ship following the torpedoing of the Southland by a German submarine in September 1915

Australian National Memorial
Villers-Bretonneux, France

On 22 July 1938, King George dedicated this Australian National War Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux with the words, “... it perpetuates the memory of the Australian Imperial Force in France and Flanders, and of 11,000 of them who fell in France and have no known grave.”