

Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**22 Private
William Edward
Bruderlin**

2nd Battalion



06001029

2/A.I.F.

Bruderlin. Pte. W.E. 22

K. Sept. 20/17
Det D/B.

"Bruderlin was a mate of mine and although I was not an eyewitness I feel sure of the following facts. I heard it from others and it was common knowledge. About Sept. 20th his Coy. D was moving up from the support trenches, 3 or 4 stretcher bearers of whom he was one, being in the rear. A shell lobbed somewhere close by and killed him and I think the other S/Bs also. I can't say anything about his burial."

Eyewitness:

Description:

Informant: Pte. R.C.Cutts. 834
2/A.I.F. H.Qs.
No.1 City of London Military Hospital,
Home address: Clapton.
Geurie.
Western Line, N.S.Wales.

10/2/18
C.E.Dyer.

SPI

A.I.F. 2.

BRUDERLIN, W.E. 22.

K. Sept 20th 1917. Dets D/B.

I first saw Bruderlin in the D/S in a pill box on the Passchendaele front about this date. I was a S/B for the Battn. He was very badly wounded in the head and side and his two legs were off. He was already dead when I found him. I was told by men of the A.M.C. at the D/S that the body was buried in a shell hole near by. Bruderlin's christian name was William, age 27 or 28, had a big scar on his stomach from a wound received in Gallipoli.

Inf: Pte S.A.Walker. 4323. B.VIII.
No. 53 Gen Hosp.
BOULOGNE. 18.2.18.

WO

PI
S

2nd Battn.
A.I.F.

BRUDERLIN,
W.E. 22

"Killed 20.9.17."

While we were just going into Polygon Wood to relieve 9th Battn in the afternoon, Bruderlin was badly wounded by a piece of shell. He died I think at a D/S. I saw him hit but had to move up. The Pioneers buried probably close to where he fell.

Informant:- Sgt.H.L.Ryan, 895,
2nd Battn D.Coy,
Ent 21,
Westham.

W A.Rand.

London.
26.2.18.

S.
P.I.

2nd Australian Imperial Force

Bruderlin, Pte. W.E.22

(K Sept. 20, 1917, Dets D &
B).

" Bruderlin was hit about 11 p.m. on the 19th Sept. and died at the 2nd Batt Headquarters about 7 a.m. on the 20th Sept. He was a stretcher-bearer and was too far gone to be sent back after getting hit. He was hit on our way to the front line by a stray shell. "

Eye Witness

Description An original Battalion man. We called him
" Bill. "

Informant :- Pte. Hugh Willar, Jackson, 6769,
D Coy. 2nd A.I.F.
On Leave.

Home address :-
Home Green,
Broadstone,
Dorset.

22. 3. 18.

J. ?

A.O. 246?

S.P.1

2nd Bttn.
A.I.F.

Bruderlin.
W.E. 22

"Killed 20.9.17"

My brother Walter Dillon 6487 with D.Coy. told me that Bruderlin was killed while S.Bearing. I cannot give any particulars but he can.

Informant:- Wm.C.Dillon 6489
2nd Bttn. D.Coy.
Hut 11 Westham.

W.A.Rand

London.
6.4.18.

S.
P.I.

A.I.F. 50th Btn

BRUER(HQ)
not - TUNER
Leonard Geffery 5373

"WOUNDED"

Wded 26-9-17 - 6th Gen. Epl Rouen 3-10-17 - S.W.R. Side and arm

Trans - 2nd Con: Dep: Rouen 13-10-17
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqs 14-11-17

London
15-11-17

2nd Battalion.
A.I.F.

BRUDERLIN
Pte. J.E. No. 22

"Killed in action 20.9.17."

Informant described Bruderlin as about 5 ft 6 inches high, medium build, dark, aged about 20/22. Believed to have come from Singleton and to have worked on the Railways as Driver or Fireman.

Informant states that on 22.9.17 the Battalion was at Ypres going up to relieve some other troops. Informant is sure of the date as he was himself wounded on that date. Bruderlin was a stretcher bearer in "D" Company to which Informant also belonged. About 9 p.m. they were walking along, Bruderlin being 2nd or 3rd behind Informant when a shell burst amongst the tail end of the Company wounding Informant and striking about seven others. It was ascertained that Bruderlin was one of those struck although Informant on account of his wound did not see him actually struck. He had seen him about five minutes before however.

Bruderlin was well liked by his mates and was "one of the best."

Informant: Pte. H.J. Garlick, 4497.

"D" Company, 2nd Battalion.

No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.

Home address: "Wernerville", Lenthall St.,

Kennington.

J.E.G.
19.2.18.

SYDNEY BUREAU

PI not com m

S
P1 ear
enll

2nd Battn. D. Coy.
A.I.F.

BRUDERLIN
W.E. 22

"Killed 20-9-17"

The R.M.O., 2nd Battn., who is now in France, was with him at time of casualty. I knew him well, he was a stretcher bearer at time of casualty.

Informant. Johnson Pte.R.C.4212
2nd Battn., D. Coy., 16th Pltn.
3rd A.A.H.
DARTFORD.

W. Oman
London
8-3-18

S
P.I.

2nd Battn.
D. Coy D/Brs
A.I.F.

BRUDERLIN,
W.E. 22

"Killed 20.9.17."

I did not see the actual casualty, but I saw him soon after he was brought in. He was then lying on a stretcher, and was very badly wounded. He was wounded in the attack at Polygon Wood, and was taken into a pill-box, and whilst lying there he was caught by another shell, fragments of which hit him about the legs and body. He only lived about half an hour after I saw him. I assisted to bury him a couple of days later in the field at Glencorse Wood, and marked his grave with a cross bearing his number, name and unit. I knew him very well. He was an exceedingly popular boy with everybody, even from the Colonel down.

Informant: V.J.C. Lewis, 2436
2nd Battn S/Bearers.
3.A.A.H.
Dartford.

W. Oman.

London.
5.3.18.

P.I.
S.

MEMORANDUM

From

Wounded & Missing Enquiry Bureau
Australian Branch

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

AND ORDER OF ST. JOHN

54, Victoria Street, S.W.

Telephone. Victoria. 8858.

To

The Officer Commanding

Tamerton R.C. Hospital
Whitstable

1 Sept. August 1918 191

Dear Sir,

We have been requested by our Australian Bureau to obtain a
bulletin and ascertain the nature of the sickness or wounds of

Pte *Bruderlin W.E.* 2 *Btn.* A.I.F., who was admitted to
your hospital on *30 Aug.* We should be most grateful, for any
particulars you can supply.

We regret having to trouble you in the matter, but are desirous
of allaying the anxiety of the relatives so far distant in Australia.

Yours faithfully,

J.K.D.
for Secretary.

MEMORANDUM.

From

Dr. Allen
Franklin Stoph.
Whitaker

To

The Secretary
Gen. B. A. J. F.
Hickman H.

From

To

ANSWER.

Aug. 3rd 1916

1916

Pl: Bm derlin 2. A. J. F.
is a patient at
this hospital is
improving favorably
I will soon be cor-
-valent.

Bm Breiman

Allen

V. H. J. W. B. L.

P.C.
23.1.18
Cutting Feb. 1.18

6 Arnold Road
Tooting Junction
S.W. 17

17.1.18

I am taking the liberty
to ask you if you will be
good enough to assist me
by letting me know in what
way I can find out whether
a decoration has been awarded
to Mr 22. R.E. Bradburn 2nd Bn
Sherwood Forest A.D.F.

I have mentioned that the
Poor Boy is killed on the
22.9.17. at ~~some~~ ~~some~~ ~~some~~
on the execution of his sister
as Stelcher bear.
both houses & his friend who
were working together. ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~
Madison, 4366. 2nd. But were
recommended to a decoration.
I have received the enclosed
paper - in which ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~
name is mentioned - ~~of~~ ~~of~~ ~~of~~
that of my friend & I am
very anxious to know if it
has appeared in another issue

of the paper. & if so - if
you will be good enough to
let me know.

I have been advised to apply
to you in the matter - as
being the most likely means
of helping me -

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours faithfully
H. M. D. M. D.

Kindly return enclosed
paper containing ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~

6 Arnold Road
Tooting Junction

S.W. 17.

$\frac{4}{3}$
18

Accepted
13-3-18

Re. Pte Bruden: N. 6.

12 22. A. J. 7.

Dear Madam

242 Bets

In reply to your letter -
re the above - you have
misunderstood the matter
entirely - Unfortunately we are
quite satisfied as to the death
of the poor boy - having had
an official letter from a

personal friend in the A.M.C. give me particulars as to
furnishing all details -

If you will look through my
letter of the 17.1. I wrote ask-
ing if it was possible for
your Society to do anything
in letting me know who it
apply to about the decoration
the poor boy was entitled to -
Pte McEwen having received
his medal -

They were both promised a
decoration & earned it many
times over especially Pte Bradburn.
I was born to understand you
were the people who could

the best means of going about
the business - I do not wish
the matter to drop because
the poor boy has gone under.
if I can do anything to get
it through - for his Mother's sake

Yrs faithfully

Maude M. Shepherd

Miss M.M. Shepard
6 Arnold Road
Tooting Junction
S.W.17

25:2:18

Dear Madam,

We regret to inform you that we have received an unofficial report as to the death of 22 Pte W.E. Bruderlin, 2nd Batt. A.I.F. from 834 Pte A.C. Cutts, 2nd Batt, who though not eye-witness, feels sure of the following facts. About Sept 20th, Pte Bruderlin's Company D was moving up from the support trenches, when 3 of a stretcher bearers, of whom he was one were killed instantly by a shell. Pte Cutts heard this from others and it was a matter of common knowledge. He could say nothing as to burial.

We are continuing our inquiries and as soon as further details are received we shall advise you.

With our sincere sympathy

Yours faithfully

7. S. G.

Secretary

2nd March 1918.

Miss M.M. Shepherd,
6 Arnold Road,
Tooting Junction,
S.W.1.7.

Dear Madam,

We have received another unofficial report respecting - 22 Pte W.E. Bruderlin, 2nd Btn, A.I.F., which you may like to have, though it only corroborates the information already sent you.

895 Sgt. H.L. Ryan, 2nd Btn, D.Coy, A.I.F., now at Westham, reports that on the afternoon of September 20th 1917, while the Battalion were entering Polygon Wood to relieve the 9th Btn, he saw Bruderlin severely wounded by a piece of shell. Ryan had to move on, but heard that Bruderlin died at a dressing station.

We regret that we have only sad news to send you, but are continuing our inquiries in the hope of obtaining definite details.

With renewed sympathy,

Yours faithfully,
F. St. George SECRETARY.

5th March, 1918.

Miss M. M. Shepherd,
6, Arnold Road,
Tooting Junction. S. W. 17.

Dear Madam,

We beg to inform you that we have just received another unofficial report respecting:-

22 Pte. W. S. Bruderlin, 2nd Battr. A. I. F. which you may like to have, though it only confirms the accounts already sent you. 4323 Pte. S. A. Walker, B. Coy. 8th Ptn., now at 53rd General Hospital, B. E. F., reports that he found Pte. Bruderlin dead, in a pill box on the Passchendaele front. He had evidently died instantly. Walker was told by men of the A. M. C., that the body was buried in a shell hole close by.

Should we obtain further details of his death we shall advise you. With our renewed sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

F. J. Geary

SECRETARY.

7th March 1918.

Miss M.H. Shepherd,
5 Arnold Road,
Tooting Junction,
S.W.17.

Dear Madam,

We regret to inform you that we have received another unofficial report respecting - 22 Pte W.E. Bruderlin, 2nd Btn, A.I.F., which is from an eyewitness.

2436 Pte V.J.C. Lewis, 2nd Btn, stretcher-bearer, now at the 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford, reports that he saw Pte. Bruderlin when he was brought in, lying on a stretcher, very severely wounded. He had first been hit in the attack on Polygon Wood and having been taken into a pill-box, was struck by fragments of a shell. He only lived about half an hour and Pte Lewis assisted in his burial two days later, in the field in Glencorse Wood, also in the erection of the cross with his name, number and unit. He speaks of him as universally popular, from the Colonel down. Pte. Lewis knew him well.

We regret that we have only such sad news to send you and with renewed sympathy, Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

F. J. Geary

The O.C.,
2nd Infantry Battalion,
Australian Imperial Force,
B.E.F.

14th March, 1918.

Dear Sir,

We have received information that Ho 22 Pte. W.E. Bruderlin,
2nd Battalion, A.I.F., - was recommended for a decoration, after
his death in action on 20-9-17.

Will you be kind enough to inform us if this is the case,
and if so, whether the recommendation was approved, as his Mother
in Australia is anxious for details.

With apologies for troubling you.

Yours faithfully,

K. C.

SECRETARY.

Miss M.H. Shepherd,
6, Arnold Rd, Tooting Junction,
S.W.17.

14th March, 1918.

Dear Madam,

With reference to your letter of 4-3-18, we beg to inform you that we have written to the O.C. of the 2nd Battalion, to enquire whether No 22 Pte. W.E. Bruderlin, 2nd Battalion, A.I.F., was awarded the decoration, for which he was recommended.

We are now awaiting his reply and will forward you whatever information may come to hand.

Yours faithfully,

A.C.

SECRETARY.