



James Henry Walsh

1891 – 1917

James was born In Dewsbury on 2nd December 1891 and baptised at Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church, Westtown on 6th December. His father was Patrick Walsh, a Corporation Road Paver born in Ireland around 1853 and died in 1915. His mother was Mary (nee Tobin) born in Dewsbury in 1854 and died in 1915. They were married in Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church on 23rd June 1883.

Their other children who could be traced were; John, born in 1883, Margaret Alice, born in 1885 and died in 1887, Catherine, born in 1887, Thomas, born in 1889 and died in 1891 and Mary Alice, born in 1895. According to the 1911 census, eight children had been born, but only four had survived.

In 1891 they lived at Princes Street, Westtown, Dewsbury, in 1901 at 102, High Street, Westtown, and in 1911 at 24, Woodbine Street, Flatts, Dewsbury.

James was a single man who in 1911 worked as a Horse Attendant.

He enlisted in the 79th Company, Royal Garrison Artillery with the Service Number 32629 rising to the rank of Corporal. He died of sickness in Bombay, India on 28th July 1917. He was originally buried in Bombay (Sewri) Cemetery, but on 29th January 1962 his remains were exhumed and on 10th February 1962 he was reburied in a Mass Grave in Kirkee War Cemetery and is commemorated on the Kirkee 1914-1918 Memorial. James was awarded the British War Medal.

Kirkee, also known as Khadki, is a Military Cantonment adjoining the large university town of Poona on the Plateau above Bombay. The Kirkee 1914-1918 Memorial was built to commemorate more than 1800 servicemen and women who died in India during the First World War, who were buried in civil and cantonment cemeteries in India and Pakistan whose graves were considered to be unmaintainable after India gained its independence in 1947. For several years now, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission has been working to reinstate the original graves of a large number of these individuals and to date, the official commemoration of over 1000 individuals have been reverted back to their original burial location. However, their names will remain on the Kirkee 1914-1918 Memorial for the foreseeable future. This total also includes the names of 629 servicemen whose remains were brought from Bombay (Sewri) Cemetery for re-interment here in 1962, and are buried in the grassed area between the Memorial and the Cross of Sacrifice.

James is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the War Memorial in Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church, Dewsbury.

In Memory of

Corporal

James Henry Walsh

32629, 79th Coy., Royal Garrison Artillery who died on 28 July 1917 Age 25

Remembered with Honour

Kirkee 1914-1918 Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

WALSH J.H.