



## **John James Carwardine**

### **1893 – 1915**

James, as he was referred to by his family, was born in Wolverhampton in 1893. His father was George Carwardine, a Hawker born in Wolverhampton in 1865 and died in 1933. His mother was Ellen (nee Joyce) born in Wolverhampton in 1872 and died in 1925. They were married in 1893.

On the 1911 Census they declare nine children born to the marriage of which three were still alive. The children who have been traced were; Sarah Anne, born in Wolverhampton in 1895, George Henry, born in Wolverhampton in 1898 and died in 1898, Gladys, born in Walsall in 1899 and died in 1899, Ellen (Nelly), born in Wolverhampton in 1900, Albert, born around 1903/4 and died in 1907 and George, born in Walsall in 1904 and died in 1905. Two stillborn deaths under the name Carwardine were recorded in the Wolverhampton district around this time but no other details exist.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at the home of Ellen's widowed mother, Mary Joyce at No. 3 Court, Montrose Street, Wolverhampton, in 1911 at 17, Haigh Street, Westtown, Dewsbury and later at 100, Middle Road, Westtown.

James was a single man whose occupation in 1911 is given as a Bottle Washer with Kilner Brothers.

He enlisted in Dewsbury serving as Private 10928 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and fought in the Battle of Mons on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1914 but three days later on 26<sup>th</sup> August he was badly wounded at Cambrai and was evacuated for treatment at Netley Hospital in Southampton. He was sent home to Dewsbury on 13<sup>th</sup> October to convalesce and returned to the front just before Christmas 1914. He was killed in action at Hill 60 near Ypres on 18<sup>th</sup> April 1915 and was buried in the field. On 19<sup>th</sup> May 1926 his remains were exhumed and reburied in Oosttaverne Wood Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. James was awarded the 1914 Star with Clasp, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Oosttaverne Wood Cemetery is located 6 Kms south of Ypres. The "Oosttaverne Line" was a German work running northward from the River Lys to the Comines Canal, passing just east of Oosttaverne. It was captured on 7<sup>th</sup> June 1917, the first day of the Battle of Messines, the village and the wood being taken by the 19<sup>th</sup> (Western) and 11<sup>th</sup> Divisions. Two cemeteries, No.1 and No.2, were then made on the present site and used until September 1917. They are contained in Plots I, II, and III of the present cemetery, which was completed after the Armistice when graves were brought in from the surrounding battlefields (including many from Hill 60) and from a number of smaller cemeteries. Oosttaverne Wood Cemetery contains 1,119 First World War burials, 783 of which are unidentified.

James is 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 & St. Paulinus Church.

In Memory of

Private

## John James Carwardine

10928, 2nd Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 18 April 1915 Age 20

Son of George and Ellen Carwardine, of 100, Middle Rd., Westown, Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour  
Oosttaverne Wood Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

