

World War 1

Birmingham City Police

PC C 49 James Francis BUNN

A/Corporal 777
1st battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment
Died in Belgium 23rd March 1915

James was born late 1887 in St Johns, Leamington to James (1861-1957) born in Worcester, a general labourer and later a gas worker, and Emma Louise nee Wootton (1860-1937) born Whitmarsh, Warwickshire and a laundress. James was one of several children, he had 5 brothers one of who died as a baby and three sisters. He was baptised on 26th October 1887

The family homes in Leamington Spa included 71 Shrubland Street, 37 Scotland Road and 41 St John's Road

James joined the army in 1906 and served in India until December 1912

He joined Birmingham City Police on 14th March 1913 and served on the C Division with warrant number 8295, and as a reservist James was recalled to military service on 4th August 1914

A newspaper article in The Royal Leamington Spa Courier and Warwickshire Standard dated 22nd January 1915 is a reply from James Bunn to a Mr Taylor who had sent him a card

James stated after joining Birmingham City Police, his place, at the outbreak of war was back in the army. He stated he was in the thick of fighting, having it very rough, on account of heavy rain and up to their knees in water and mud in the trenches but the spirit of the troops was wonderful, never down hearted because they knew they were fighting for a good cause

James was killed eight weeks later



James is buried at Ration Farm, (La Plus Douve) Annexe, Hainout, Belgium Grave 1 D 7



His headstone reads
EVER IN THE THOUGHTS
OF THOSE WHO HELD HIM DEAR

Photographs of the cemetery and headstone courtesy of Su and Paul Handford taken August 2014