James was born in Victoria, B.C., Canada, on 26th June 1891, the son of James, a Danish Sea Captain, and Emily Bendrodt. He migrated to Australia in 1910, claiming to be a lumberjack and holding various Canadian roller-skating titles.

On11th August 1914 he enlisted in the ANMEF, stating that he was the Managing Director of an entertainment company (it was the Imperial Salon De Luxe, formally the Imperial Roller Rink, Hyde Park), was single and gave his mother, in Victoria B.C., as his next of kin.

James returned from Rabaul and was discharged, term expired, on 4th March 1915, having completed 206 days service.

On 5th August 1939 he married his skating partner, Florence Nellie Dawes and died in ST Vincent's Hospital on 17th Feb 1973 after a very colourful career in the entertainment business which can be read in more detail in the Australian Dictionary of Biography at http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/bendrodt-james-charles-9484.