



**Bert "Bertie" Vineham**

Bert Vineham was born in Twillingate in 1924 to his parents George and Minnie (Dove) Vineham.

Bert's dad died when Bert was only 2 or 3 years old. His mother moved to Toronto after some time and Bert was sent to live with his aunt.

While working in Toronto, his mom met and married John Butler who was originally from the Clarke's Beach area. They moved to Clarke's Beach and Bert joined them there.

Like many young men of the day, Bert was underage when he joined the navy and enlisted in 1940. He lied about his age and was in fact, only sixteen, when he signed up on the 31st of October 1940. Bert underwent his basic training as part of the 13<sup>th</sup> contingent and was given the rank of ordinary seaman but over the course of his service, he was promoted to able seaman. It is unclear where Bert served exactly but the two ships that are known he served on are the Drake and the Victoria. He served on the Victoria twice, once as an ordinary seaman from March 29th to July 20<sup>th</sup>, 1941, and then a second time as an advanced seaman from July 30th, 1941, to September 1943. It is believed that Bert served on three other ships the Ganges in 1941, and the Pembroke and the Saker. After the war was over and Bert was out of the service, he did not come back to Newfoundland right away. While living overseas Bert met a young lady who would eventually become his wife. Gladys of Dartford, just outside London kept him in the UK. They married and had a son Albert, who was about two and ½ when they moved back to Clarke's Beach, Newfoundland. A daughter, Linda was born in Newfoundland.



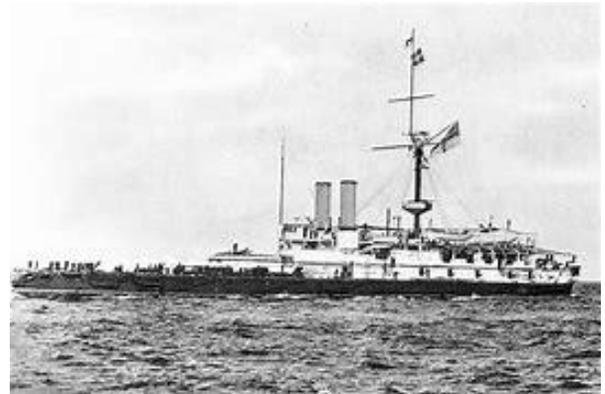
**Bert with friend George Atkins**



Bert is pictured in row 4 (from the deck) and 2<sup>nd</sup>. from the left



**Unidentified aircraft Carrier**



**HMS Victoria**



**Unidentified ship from Bert's album**



**HMS Drake**