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**George William Thompson**  
**World War I**

**Royal Canadian Navy**  
**Service No. 1542**

**Royal Naval Reserve (Newfoundland)**  
**Service No. 775X**

**Born:** 18 Feb 1881

**Place of Birth:** Bay Roberts

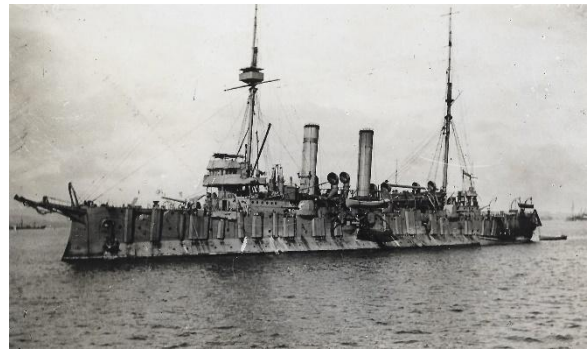
**Parents:** George and Annie Thompson

George enlisted in the Royal Naval Reserve (Newfoundland) in the summer of 1914, he was in his early thirties (33) at the time.

His four years and eight months of service saw him assigned to several British ships, several months service in the Royal Canadian Navy and wounded in action on 12 Aug 1915.

The official entries contained in his Service Ledger Record are as follows:

1. 07 Aug 14 – 18 Nov 14: **HMS Calypso** (Training Vessel)
2. 19 Nov 14 – 28 Jun 15: **HMS Vivid 1**
3. 29 Jun 15 – 06 Feb 16: **HMS Grafton**  
*12 Aug 1915: Wounded in action while serving on the Grafton.*



**HMS Grafton**

4. 07 Feb – 09 Apr 16: **HMS Vivid 1**  
Promoted to leading seaman.
5. 10 Apr 16 – 04 May 16 & 05 May 16 – 31 Jan 17: **HMS Princess**



**HMS Princess**

6. 01 Feb 17 – 10 Apr 17: **HMS Hyacinth**



### HMS Hyacinth

- 7. 11 Apr 17 – 02 Nov 17: **HMS Vivid 111**
- 8. 06 Nov 17 – 20 Jan 18: **HMS Briton**

Transferred to the RCN (Royal Canadian Navy). Assigned service No. 1542.

- 9. 24 Jan 18 – 31 Jul 18: **HMCS Niobe**
- 10. 01 Aug 18 – 21 Dec 18: **HMCS Seagull**
- 11. 21 Dec 18 – 25 Dec 18: **HMCS Niobe**

Transferred back to the Royal Navy.

- 12. 26 Dec 18 – 08 Apr 19: **HMS Briton**, demobilized and discharged.

Out of service, George is found in the 1921 general Newfoundland census married and living in Coley's Point. George and his wife Victoria have five (5) children.

By 1935, George, now 54 and Victoria 47 have a family of eight (8) children.

The 1945 census of Newfoundland shows George (62) and Victoria (57) still living in Coley's Point with five (5) children at home with them.

George passed away in May 1957 and Victoria in September 1961. They are buried in the Salvation Army Cemetery at Coley's Point.

While looking through some old artifacts at the Branch (Branch 32 of the Royal Canadian Legion, Bay Roberts), the item on the next page came to light and it makes a unique addition to the biography for George, WW I Veteran. It is provided as an accurate representation of what these sailors experienced. Below is a clipping from The Bay Roberts Guardian dated 05 Nov 1915.

Through the courtesy of Commander MacDermott of H.M.S. Calypso, we have received the following copy of a letter from the Royal Naval Medical Information Bureau, Malta Branch, viz:—

R. N. Hospital,  
Malta, 30th Sept., 1915.

Sir,—George Thompson, R.N.R., H.M.S. Grafton, was admitted to this hospital on 17th August, suffering from shell wounds in the head. He made a good recovery, and was discharged cured on 9th September.

A letter was sent to his wife, giving news of his admission and the nature and condition of his wounds; this is done in the case of every wounded man brought to this hospital, by the R. N. Friendly Union of Sailors' Wives.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd)  
MAUDE LAURENCE SMITH,  
Hon. Secretary.

Reservist George Thompson resides at Coley's Point, Bay Roberts. He took passage to England in the S. S. Carthaginian, on November 14th, 1914.



# CERTIFICATE FOR WOUNDS AND INJURIES.

These are to Certify the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that

(Name in full) (Rank or Rating) (Official or Regimentsal No.)

George Thompson Sea R.N.R. 775.2  
belonging to His Majesty's Ship Grafton  
being then actually upon His Majesty's Service in

H.M.S. Grafton.

was Wounded on 12<sup>th</sup> August 1915 by

shell fire off the West coast of  
Sullivoli Peninsula, etc.  
received a flesh wound of the  
back of the head.

Describe the particular duty.

Injured or Wounded? Date

Describe minutely the nature of the injury sustained and the manner in which it occurred - as required by Articles 1207, 1318 and 1354 of the King's Regulations

Sober or not sober?

Personal Description.

He was sober at the time.

Age about 34 years. Born at or near Height ft. ins.

Hair Eyes Complexion

Particular marks or scars

Date 12 August 1915

Signature of Commanding Officer of Ship or of Coast Guard or Marine Division.

Rank

Signature of Person who witnessed the accident

Rank

Signature of Medical Officer

Rank

WP 2510/1912. No. 104/1911.

To a Petty Officer or Man etc to be noted on his