



**Henry Saunders**

**Royal Naval Reserve (Newfoundland)**

**Service # 753X**

**World War I**

**Born:** 07 Oct 1889

**Place of Birth:** Shearstown, Newfoundland

**Parents:** James and Mary Jane (Mercer) Saunders

Henry enlisted in the Royal Naval Reserve (Newfoundland) in the summer of 1914. He gave his age as twenty-four (24) and his trade as carpenter upon enlisting.

Henry signed up for the duration of the war, which in his case meant he would serve for four (4) years and eight (8) months in total from Aug 1914 to April 1919.

The following entries are taken directly from his service record and reflect where he was posted throughout his time in the Navy:

1. 17 Aug 1914 – 05 Nov 1914: **HMS Calypso** (Training vessel in St. John's Harbour)
2. 06 Nov 14 – 25 Nov 16: **RMS Virginian**



**RMS Virginian**

3. 16 Nov 16 – 24 May 17: **HMS Pembroke 1**
4. 25 May 17 – 14 Jun 17: **HMS Briton**
5. 15 Jun 17 – 21 Nov 17: **HMS Caesar**
6. 21 Nov 17 – 22 Feb 18: **HMS Vivid 111**
7. 02 Mar 18 – 16 Jun 18: **HMS Vivid 111**
8. 13 Jul 18 – 14 Aug 18: **HMS Vivid 111**
9. 15 Aug 18 – 28 Nov 18: **HMS Carrigan Head**



HMS Carrigan Head

One of 13 escort ships commissioned in World War 1. A Commissioned Escort or Convoy Escort Ship, mercantile conversion

10. 29 Nov 18 – 18 Feb 19: **HMS Vivid 111**

11. 19 Feb 19 – 07 Apr 19: **HMS Briton**

12. 07 Apr 1919:

Demobilized/discharged

Once out of the Naval Reserve, James is found in the 1921 Newfoundland general census living in Shearstown, Conception Bay, Newfoundland with his wife and two (2) children. Henry married a girl, Melina from Spaniard's Bay and they have 2 boys James and Nathaniel

1935 finds the Saunders family still in Shearstown. Henry is now 40 and Melina 38. They have 2 boys at home, Nathaniel (21) and John (8).

The 1945 census entries still have Henry and Melina in Shearstown with just John at home with them.

Henry died on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April 1967 and is buried at Shearstown in the Gospel Preachers Cemetery. His obituary is as follows:

## WAR VETERAN PASSES AWAY

Another World War I veteran Harry Saunders passed suddenly away at his home, Shearstown, April 17, age 77 years.

Left to mourn are his wife, Janet, two sons Nathan at Buchans, James at Shearstown. Four grandchildren and a large circle of friends. Funeral services were conducted at the home and graveside on April 19 by members of the Royal Canadian Legion, the deceased being a member of the Royal Navy World War I.

Interment was in the family

plot at Shearstown. Hubert Disser of Toronto officiated. Sympathy is extended the bereaved.

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