



John Bradbury
Royal Newfoundland Regiment
Regimental No. 3618
World War I

Born: 31 Aug 1900

Died: 28 Dec 1963

Place of Birth: Shearstown, Conception Bay North, Newfoundland

Parents: Charles and Emma Bradbury

John grew up in Shearstown (Bay Roberts) and at the age of eighteen (18) enlisted in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment at St. John's.

His enlistment papers (commonly referred to as "attestation papers") provide the following information about him. John stood 5' 6 ½" tall, was of fair complexion with brown hair and grey eyes, he weighed 128

lbs. He gave his occupation as fisherman and is listed as Church of England by faith. Since he provided his "X" to sign, it is assumed that he could not write.

John enlisted on 17 April 1917 and just a month later was on board the SS Florizel to Halifax, Nova Scotia. He likely lied about his age, since the record shows that he was born in 1898 for enlistment purposes, when in fact, he was born later than that (1900 or 1901) and was actually just 17 when he signed up. His service record is as follows:

1. 17 - Apr - 1917: Enlisted in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment.
2. 19 - May - 1917: Embarked St. John's on the SS Florizel to Halifax, Nova Scotia



SS Florizel

3. 06 - Jul - 1917: Severely ill with peritonitis at Camp Barry, Ayr Scotland.
4. 13 - Sep - 1917: Hospitalized and operated on
5. 28 - Sep - 1917: Returned to Newfoundland

6. 01 – Feb – 1918: Discharged as medically unfit for further war service.

John served a total of 292 days and was stationed at Ayre, Scotland. The illness he encountered took a toll and following surgery he was determined to be medically unfit for further service. He was returned to Newfoundland and discharged.

The 1921 Newfoundland general census finds him at home in Shearstown living with his mother Emma, she is sixty-three (63) and a widow. John is twenty (20) and single. John married Carrie Parsons and together, they had one child, a daughter, Edith, in July 1924. Carrie passed away in October 1925 from double pneumonia; she was just twenty-eight (28).

John's second marriage was to Violet May Deering (?) of Shearstown. "May" came with a daughter (Violet) and John having a daughter (Edith) as well, they now became a blended family. The 1935 Newfoundland census shows that John (36) and May (37) have a son, Charles who is three (3) years old. Edith is 9 and Violet 15. John lists his occupation as fisherman, plying the Labrador cod fishery.

John died in December 1963 and is buried at St. Mark's Anglican Church cemetery at Shearstown, Newfoundland.