

*No Picture
Available*



**Samuel Parsons
World War 1
Royal Naval Reserve (Newfoundland)
Service No. 1443X**

Samuel was born in Victoria Village, Carbonear on the 1st of April 1893 to parents Chas. (Charles) and Sarah Parsons.

On the 2nd, of December, Samuel enlisted in the Royal Naval Reserve as a seaman for the period of one year or so says his official enlistment document. As was the case with many enlistment papers, Samuel's is signed simply with an "X." Issued Service No. 1443X, Samuel underwent his basic training in St. John's on board the Calypso training vessel.

Once initial training was complete, Samuel was shipped off to England to receive additional training and for the next four and a half years serving on a number of vessels in the British Navy.

One such assignment saw Samuel posted to the HMS Kempton as a gunner. The Kempton was a paddle minesweeper, a paddle wheel ship powered by steam. He served on this vessel from 28th of August 1916 to the 24th of January 1917. See the information noted on the second page.

That enlistment for one year only lasted for the duration of the war. Demobilized on the 2nd of July 1919, Samuel returned home and according to the 1921 census information, he was living at home with his parents in Victoria Village, Carbonear.

The 1935 Census shows that he has now moved to Coley's Point and has a family of four with his wife Rosanna.

Samuel passed away in 1976 and is buried at St. John The Evangelist Cemetery, Coley's Point.




HMS Kempton

Paddle steamers were particularly suited to coastal minesweeping duties due to their relatively shallow draughts. The Royal Navy requisitioned many such vessels from civilian operators during the war and also during World War II. Two groups of paddle minesweepers were built during World War I. A potential third group was ordered but cancelled due to the end of hostilities.

HMS Kempton

Name	HMS Kempton
Type	Minesweeper
GRT	810 tons

Country	 British
Built	1916
Builder	Ferguson Bros., Ltd., Port Glasgow
Operator	Royal Navy
History	

U-boat attacks on Minesweeper Kempton

	Date	U-boat	Loss type	Position	Location	Route	Cargo	Casualties
1	24 Jun 1917	UC 1 (Christian Mildenstein)	Sunk	Mined off Gravelines	51° 03'N, 2° 07'E			3
	Purpose-built paddle minesweeper.							