

No Picture Available



William Welsh

Newfoundland Royal Naval Reserve

Service No. 1163X

World War I

Born: 07 Oct 1892

Died: 22 June 1959

Place of Birth: Bay Roberts, Conception Bay, Newfoundland

Parents: Peter and Emma Welsh

William enlisted at the Port of St. John's on January 5th, 1914. At that time, the following was recorded on his application to be enrolled in the Royal Naval Reserve (Newfoundland) as a seaman; he gave his birth date as October 7th, 1892, age 22, stood 5' 6 ¾" tall, had light hair with blue eyes, single, from Bay Roberts and parents were Peter & Emma.

He passed his medical on the same day (05 Jan 1914) as signed off by the medical officer who conducted the examination and declared medically fit for service. And issued a certificate as seaman R.V.2.

Note: In World War I, R.V.2 refers to the "Certificate of Enrolment" in the Royal Naval Reserve, which is the official number for a person's enrollment in the Royal Navy.

It seems that just a mere eight (8) months later, he was declared medically unfit for further service and released. One can only speculate as to the reason behind this occurrence, but it is borne out by the fact that Service number 1163X was given to Gideon Blackwood of Greenspond, Newfoundland.

Note: A copy of William's official enlistment papers is provided below.

The 1921 Newfoundland general census finds William at age 33 single and living at home in Bay Roberts with his widowed mother who is 67. The spelling in this enumeration of the surname "Welsh" is listed as "Walsh."

At the time of the next census in 1935, William is now married with children. He is married to Rita Bishop, and they have four (4) children. Marjorie is 9, Peter is 6, Barbara 4 and Walter 2.

William is working as a general labourer, performing odd jobs.

The 1945 census shows the Welsh's living in Mercer's Cove, Bay Roberts. William is 55, Rita 41, Marjorie 19, Barbara 14, Walter 12, John 9, and Ethel 3. Peter has passed away.

A 1947 document shows Marjorie at age 21 entering the United States at Calais, Maine. She is on her way to Pottstown,

Pennsylvania to work as a domestic in the home of George Whitely.

William Passed away in June 1959 after a lengthy illness. He is buried in St. Matthews (New) Anglican Cemetery at Bay Roberts. He was 71 at the time of his death.

His obituary from the Daily news is reproduced below.

Obituary

MR. WILLIAM WALSH

BAY ROBERTS— Another veteran of World War I answered the last roll call, when death came to Mr. William Walsh (of Peter) on Sunday, June 21st, at the age of 71 years.

The late Mr. Walsh has been in failing health for a number of years and was obliged to enter the General Hospital on Saturday, June 13th, when he passed away.

Left to mourn beside his wife are three sons, Walter at Corner Brook; John at Toronto and Donald at home; three daughters, Marjorie (Mrs. White) at St. John's; Barbara (Mrs. Martin) at Texas; and Ethel at home; one brother, Stephen; six grandchildren. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, June 24th, to St. Matthew's Church. Interment at the Anglican Cemetery. Rev. Isaac Butler officiated. Members of the Canadian Legion and L.O.A. (of which the deceased was a member) attended.

Deepest sympathy is extended the bereaved.

**From The Daily News
07 July 1959**

R.V. 1.
N.
SEAMAN.

Port of

St. John's

To be filled in by Registrar-General

Number

Index

1163

X



ISSUED BY THE
ADMIRALTY.

As filed in by Regt.-Gen.

APPLICATION TO BE ENROLLED

IN THE

ROYAL NAVAL RESERVE (Newfoundland),
AS SEAMAN.

(A.)

DESCRIPTION, &c. OF APPLICANT.

Names of Applicant in full		Where born	Day, Month, and Year of Birth	Age next Birthday	Usual Place of Abode when Ashore
Surname	Christian Names				
<i>Welsh</i>	<i>William</i>	<i>Bay Roberts</i>	<i>7 Oct 1892</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>Bay Roberts</i>

Height Feet and Inches	Girth of Chest in Inches	Complexion	Colour of		Personal Marks or Peculiarities (If any)	Married, Single, or Widower	Christian Names of Father and Mother, to be given, whether living or dead
			Hair	Eyes			
<i>4 3/4</i>	<i>38 1/2</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>Blue</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>Jacob Peter Mother Emma</i>

Quado

(B.)

DECLARATION TO BE MADE BY APPLICANT.

I hereby declare as follows:—

1. That I thoroughly understand the Conditions under which Seamen are at present enrolled in the Newfoundland R.N.R., and the services they are required to perform;
2. That I am a British subject and desirous of being enrolled as a Seaman in the Royal Naval Reserve, in accordance with those Regulations, and I hereby make application for the purpose of being enrolled;
3. That I have no disease or infirmity that will incapacitate me from serving in the Royal Naval Reserve;
4. That (a) *I have never served, and am not serving, nor am I bound or required to serve in the Navy, Army, Marines, Special Reserve or Militia, or in any Territorial Regiment, Yeomanry or Volunteer Corps, or in any Reserve Force;
(b) That I have never been rejected for any of H.M. Forces on account of unfitness;
(c) *Having served in one of H.M. Forces, I now produce my Certificate of Discharge therefrom;
5. That I am not in receipt of any pension, or allowance from, or in respect of services in the Navy or the Army;
6. That I have not already been rejected as ineligible for the Royal Naval Reserve;
7. That it is my intention to follow the sea service for a period of at least five years from the present time;
8. That the particulars contained above are correct and true, according to the best of my knowledge and belief.

And, if approved, I undertake to undergo 28 days' drill immediately on board H.M.S. *Thetis*.

Dated this

5th

day of

January 191*4*

[Signature]

Signature of Applicant

(C.)

CERTIFICATE BY MEDICAL OFFICER.

This is to certify, that I have examined the above-named Applicant, and that my Medical Examination I am of opinion—

(a) (b)
Insert the
reasons that do
not apply.

(a) That so far as his physical capabilities are concerned he is in every respect a proper person to be enrolled in the Royal Naval Reserve.

(b) That he is not, in my opinion, a fit person to be enrolled in the Royal Naval Reserve, on account of

Dated this 5th day of Jan 1912

To the Registrar-General.

J. J. Baker
Medical Officer

NOTE.—To prevent personation the Medical Officer should make sure that the Candidate satisfies the description of him in Division "A" of this form.

(D.)

DECISION OF REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

To be enrolled as a Seaman.

Issue Certificate (V. 2)
N.

~~To be rejected in consequence of~~

Dated this 2nd day of Jan 1912

day of

January
H. A. Day

Registrar-General