

# ARTHUR SADLER

**Born:** 4<sup>th</sup> June 1899, Ridlington.<sup>1</sup>

**Enlisted:** 6<sup>th</sup> June 1917 – the Royal Navy (Able Seaman J71474)<sup>2</sup>



**Medals:** British War Medal; Victory Medal<sup>3</sup>



**Demobilised:** 28<sup>th</sup> February 1919<sup>4</sup>

Arthur Sadler was born on the 4<sup>th</sup> June 1899, the fifth son of Robert and Rebecca Sadler's ten children.

The Royal Navy Registers of Seamen's Services have survived for Arthur, and record that he enlisted with the Royal Navy on the 6<sup>th</sup> June 1917 for the duration of the hostilities. His record gives his date and place of birth, and that his occupation was farm labourer. He was 5' 8½" tall, with brown hair, brown eyes, a 'swarthy' complexion, and bore a birthmark of the left side of his body.<sup>5</sup>

He joined up as an Ordinary Seaman, and seems to have spent the majority of his service at shore-based establishments:

- Pembroke I : 6<sup>th</sup> June 1917 to 14<sup>th</sup> August 1917
- Royal Arthur: 15<sup>th</sup> August 1917 to 14<sup>th</sup> November 1917
- Pembroke I : 15<sup>th</sup> November 1917 to 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1918
- Apollo : 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1918
- Apollo: 1<sup>st</sup> October 1918 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 1918
- Actacon : 1<sup>st</sup> January 1919 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 1919

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<sup>1</sup> FreeBMD, *Quarter to September 1899, Smallburgh, Vol.4b, p.65* ([www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)); UK, Royal Navy Registers of Seamen's Services, 1848-1939 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)); England and Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916-2007 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>2</sup> UK, Royal Navy Registers of Seamen's Services, 1848-1939 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>3</sup> UK, Naval Medal and Award Rolls, 1793-1972 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>4</sup> UK, Royal Navy Registers of Seamen's Services, 1848-1939 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>5</sup> UK, Royal Navy Registers of Seamen's Services, 1848-1939 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

Arthur's period of service with Apollo in October to December 1918 saw him being promoted to Able Seaman. He was demobilised on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 1919.

Further research into Arthur's family reveals that his father, Robert Sadler, was born on the 8<sup>th</sup> August 1865 in Honing, the son of James and Hannah Sadler, and baptised on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1869, in Honing parish church.<sup>6</sup> Robert married Rebecca Bacon in 1893.<sup>7</sup> She was born in Honing in 1872,<sup>8</sup> the daughter of Charles and Mary Bacon.<sup>9</sup> In 1901, Charles and Mary Bacon were living at Raw Hall, Wood Norton; Charles was a farmer.<sup>10</sup> He died in 1901, aged 70, and is buried in Wood Norton.<sup>11</sup> Mary Bacon continued to live at Raw Hall with her son Robert John Bacon and his family.<sup>12</sup> Robert Sadler died suddenly in 1922, aged 56, and there was an inquest into his death, which returned a verdict of *death from heart failure consequent on over exertion*. He had been trussing hay from 5am on Saturday morning with his son, Fred, when he collapsed and died shortly before 12 noon.<sup>13</sup> Robert is buried in Wood Norton.<sup>14</sup> Rebecca Sadler died in 1955, aged 82, in Hoxne, Suffolk, but is buried in Wood Norton.<sup>15</sup>

The 1911 Census for Tunstead records that Robert (aged 45, and a farm labourer) and Rebecca Sadler had been married for 17 years, with nine children.<sup>16</sup> Arthur is aged 11, and at school, and his eight siblings are:

George	Born c.1895, Honing. <sup>17</sup> In the 1911 census, he is aged 16, and a farm labourer. He died on the 19 <sup>th</sup> February 1916, aged 20, in Carlton, New York, USA. <sup>18</sup>
Fred	Born 14 <sup>th</sup> October 1895, Ridlington. <sup>19</sup> In the 1911 census, Fred is aged 15, and a farm labourer. He married Anna Tebble in July 1916 in Wood Norton (Stanley Sadler was a witness), and he served in WW1. <sup>20</sup> He died in 1974, aged 79, in Essex. <sup>21</sup>
Robert	Born 1896, Ridlington. <sup>22</sup> In the 1911 census, he is aged 14, and a farm labourer. He died in 1912, aged 16. <sup>23</sup>

<sup>6</sup> FreeBMD, *Quarter to September 1865, Tunstead, Vol.4b, p.45* ([www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)); 1911 census, Tunstead (Schedule 47) ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)); Baptisms, Horning, 1869 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>7</sup> FreeBMD, *Quarter to December 1893, Smallburgh Vol.4b, p105* ([www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)).

<sup>8</sup> FreeBMD, *Quarter to December 1872, Smallburgh, Vol.4b, p51* ([www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)).

<sup>9</sup> 1881 census, Honing (p.12) ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>10</sup> 1901 census, Wood Norton (p.1) ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>11</sup> *Transcript and Index to Wood Norton, Norfolk, Parish Registers*, compiled by Keith and Shirley Howell (February 2000), Burials, 1901 (p.130).

<sup>12</sup> 1911 census Wood Norton (Schedule 195) ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>13</sup> A report of the inquest was published in the Eastern Daily Press under the heading *Death from Over Exertion*.

<sup>14</sup> FreeBMD, *Quarter to March 1922, Aylsham, Vol.4b, p.120* ([www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)); *Transcript and Index to Wood Norton, Norfolk, Parish Registers*, compiled by Keith and Shirley Howell (February 2000), Burials, 1922 (p.131).

<sup>15</sup> *Transcript and Index to Wood Norton, Norfolk, Parish Registers*, compiled by Keith and Shirley Howell (February 2000), Marriages, 1898 (p.132).

<sup>16</sup> 1911 census, Tunstead (Schedule 47) ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>17</sup> 1911 census, Tunstead (Schedule 47) ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>18</sup> U.S., Find a Grave Index, 1600s-current ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>19</sup> FreeBMD, *Quarter to December 1985, Smallburgh, Vol.4b, p.56* ([www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)); England and Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916-2007 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>20</sup> War Memorial, All Saints, Wood Norton.

<sup>21</sup> England and Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916-2007 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>22</sup> FreeBMD, *Quarter to December 1896, Smallburgh, Vol.4b, p.64* ([www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)).

<sup>23</sup> FreeBMD, *Quarter to December 1912, Walsingham, Vol.4b, p.316* ([www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)).

Stanley	Born 19 <sup>th</sup> February 1898, Ridlington. In the 1911 census, he is aged 13, and a farm labourer. He enlisted with the Royal Navy in WW1, and was killed on the 15 <sup>th</sup> August 1918, when the ship he was with was torpedoed off the Dutch coast.
Edward	Born 1901, Salhouse. <sup>24</sup> In the 1911 census, Edward is aged 9, and at school. Edward served with the Royal Marine Light Infantry Division in WW1 and emigrated to Australia in 1922. <sup>25</sup> He died in 1976, aged 75, in Australia. <sup>26</sup>
Elsie Mary	Born 1903, Salhouse. <sup>27</sup> In the 1911 census, she is aged 7, and at school. She married George Bacon in 1924. <sup>28</sup> She died in 1982, aged 79, in Suffolk. <sup>29</sup>
Sidney	Born 1905, Tunstead. <sup>30</sup> In the 1911 census, Sidney is aged 5. He spent time working in Canada in the 1920s and 1930s. <sup>31</sup>
Charles	Born 1907, Tunstead. <sup>32</sup> In the 1911 census, Charles is aged 3. He died in 1993, aged 85. <sup>33</sup>

Robert and Rebecca's last child, Herbert William Sadler, was born on the 30<sup>th</sup> August 1912.<sup>34</sup> He married Gladys M. Warnes in 1937.<sup>35</sup> Herbert died in 2011, aged 99.<sup>36</sup>

In the 1918 electoral roll, Arthur is listed as living at Raw Hall, and as an absent voter due to military or naval service.<sup>37</sup>

Arthur appears to have returned to Wood Norton after the war. In 1929, Arthur lists his occupation as 'farmer' when he married Ivy Alice Pointen on the 15<sup>th</sup> October 1929 in Wood Norton parish church.<sup>38</sup> They went on to raise a family.

In the 1939 Register, Arthur is living in The Lodge, Wood Norton (the former home of Charles Dew, one of our servicemen, who died in December 1918), with his wife and family. His

<sup>24</sup> FreeBMD, *Quarter to June 1901, St. Faiths, Vol.4b, p.105* ([www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)).

<sup>25</sup> UK, Royal Marines Registers of Services Index, 1842-1925 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)); Victoria, Australia, Assisted and Unassisted Passenger Lists, 1839-1923 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>26</sup> Australia, Death Index, 1787-1985 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>27</sup> FreeBMD, *Quarter to December 1903, St. Faiths, Vol.4b, p.97* ([www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)).

<sup>28</sup> FreeBMD, *Quarter to June 1924, Walsingham, Vol.4b, p.626* ([www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)).

<sup>29</sup> FreeBMD, *Quarter to December 1982, Ipswich, Vol.10, p.2308* ([www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)); England and Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916-2007 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>30</sup> England and Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837-1915, *Quarter to December 1905, Smallburgh, Vol.4b, p.50* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>31</sup> Canadian Passenger Lists, 1865-1935 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>32</sup> FreeBMD, *Quarter to December 1907, Smallburgh, Vol.4b, p.49* ([www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)).

<sup>33</sup> England and Wales, Death Index, 1916-2005, *Registration August 1993, North Walsham*.

<sup>34</sup> FreeBMD, *Quarter to December 1912, Aylsham, Vol.4b, p.150* ([www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)); England and Wales, Death Index, 2007-2015 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>35</sup> FreeBMD, *Quarter to June 1937, Walsingham, Vol.4b, p.639* ([www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)).

<sup>36</sup> England and Wales, Death Index, 2007-2015 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>37</sup> First Register of Parliamentary and Local Government Electors, 1918; Polling District: Foulsham, Parish: Wood Norton (*Norfolk Heritage Centre, microfilm MF1038*).

<sup>38</sup> FreeBMD, *Quarter to December 1929, Aylsham, Vol.4b, p.253* ([www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)); *Transcript and Index to Wood Norton, Norfolk, Parish Registers*, compiled by Keith and Shirley Howell (February 2000), Marriages, 1916 (p.105).

occupation is given as a railway gas works labourer.<sup>39</sup> Ivy died in Hindolveston on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 1990, aged 90.<sup>40</sup>

Arthur died in Norwich on the 25<sup>th</sup> January 1985, aged 85.<sup>41</sup>

Arthur, Fred, Edward and Stanley Sadler are all commemorated on the war memorial in All Saints, Wood Norton, which records the servicemen who served and died, as well as those who survived, the WW1 conflict.

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<sup>39</sup> 1939 England and Wales Register, Walsingham RD, Enumeration District TSBD, Schedule 4 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>40</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916-2007, *November 1990, Fakenham, Vol.10, p.1229* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)); England and Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1966, 1973-1995 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).

<sup>41</sup> England and Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1966, 1973-1995 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)).