

PRESS RELEASE

A new memorial to one of Sefton's most famous sons has recently been placed in Sefton Parish Churchyard.

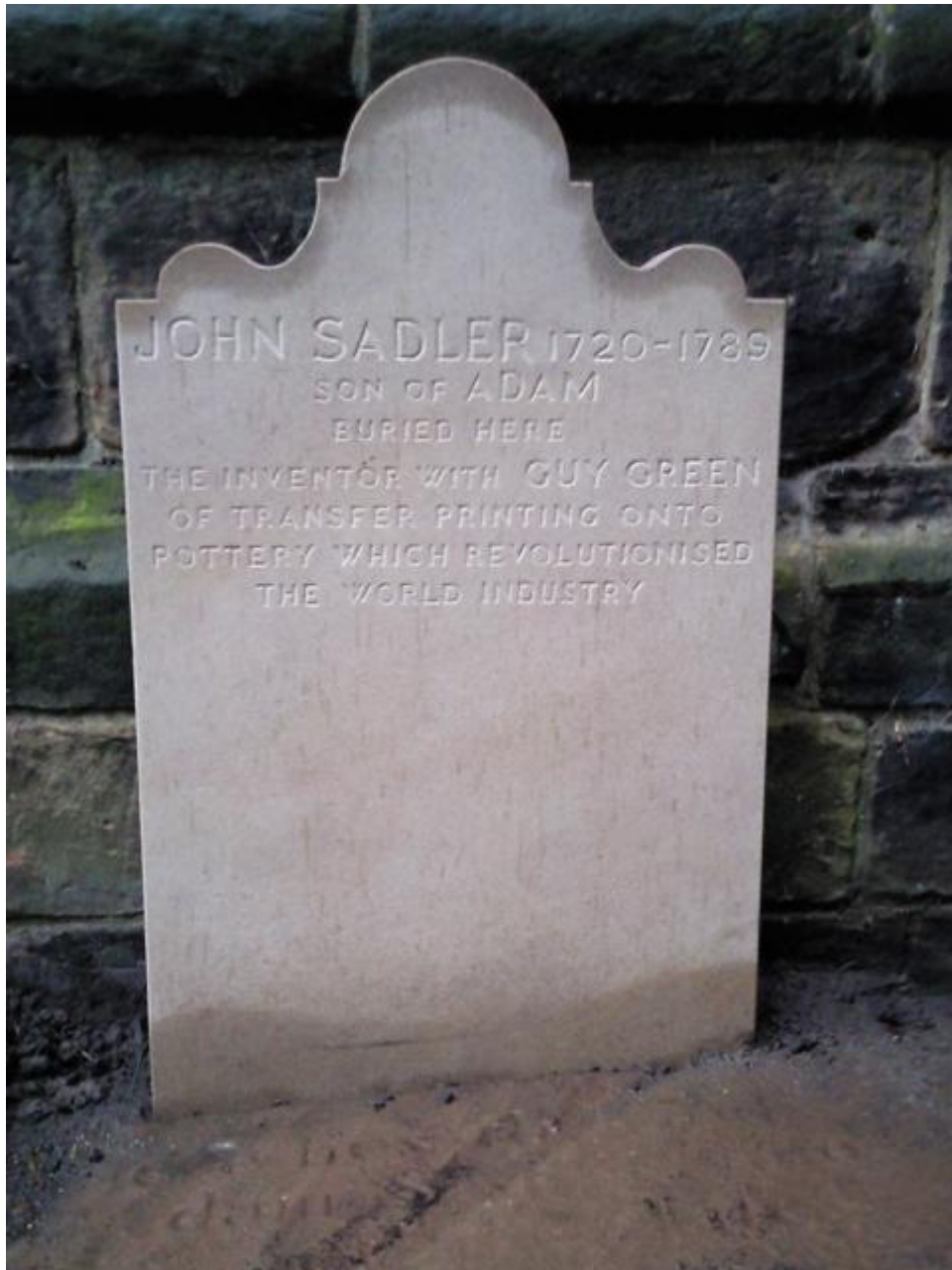
John Sadler, 1720 – 89, son of Adam Sadler of Ainree House, developed (with his friend Guy Green) transfer printing onto pottery which effectively revolutionised the world pottery industry. John lies with his family in a grave hard by the south chancel of Sefton Church but hundreds of years of rainwater has more or less obliterated the horizontal inscription.

John Sadler and Guy Green were newspaper proprietors in Liverpool and are credited with the commercial introduction of transfer printing onto pottery and in particular, tiles. In 1756 they swore an affidavit that they had printed 'upwards of twelve hundred earthenware tiles of different patterns' within the space of 6 hours. Soon after, other potteries introduced the technique, which made printed pottery easy and cheap to produce for the mass market.

The story goes that John Sadler watched local children playing around the potteries' area in Liverpool (where the Museum and Walker Art Gallery is now) and sticking bits of cast-off printing onto shards of pottery. This gave him the idea. From 1761 Josiah Wedgwood sent blank pottery to Sadler and Green to be printed.

John married at the age of 57 and had three children. His son John Adam Sadler was christened at St Swithin's Church in Gillmoss in 1778 with Guy and Jane Green as Godparents. His son James born in 1786 "casually drowned in the canal at Aintree" in 1794. His only daughter Elizabeth lived in Aintree Lane until her death in 1857 aged 85 years.

The Friends of Sefton Church, an organisation whose membership is open to everyone, decided to mark his grave and commissioned local masons Banners of Little Crosby to create of new vertical stone to match the others in the churchyard.



JOHN SADLER 1720-1789

SON OF ADAM

BURIED HERE

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