

## ODFHS Boatfamilies - 2020 Updates

(Canal Family 1 except where indicated)

### Update V120 – 1.9.2020

**New total:** 50,185

**New name:** Lawrence 25

**Main Increases:** Waterhouse +30; Whiteley +28; Hinchliffe/Hinchsliff (various spellings) +25; Foster +20; Patchett, Petty +15

Our new name includes the Yorkshire boatmen sons of William Lawrence, a river waterman from Lincolnshire who married a boatman's daughter, Emily Hinchsliff, in Hull in 1839. The spelling of her family name changed over the years from Hinchliffe, and the additions also include other versions.

The increase in Waterhouses continue from our last update and include brothers John, Thomas and Benjamin of Skipton. John married a Bradford boatman's daughter, Jane Foster, in 1850, and an unexpected coincidental connection with Burscough appeared when Thomas's son Sam Waterhouse of Windhill, Shipley, was found in the 1881 census aboard a fly boat in Skipton Basin as first mate to Edward Fishwick of Downholland. Also on board were Edward's wife, Mary (nee Mawdesley) of Lydiate and five-year-old sister Margaret Ann Fishwick, great-grandmother of Keith Jenkins, founder of this Boatfamilies website.

The Patchett, Petty and Whiteley increases are among Yorkshire boatfamilies connected by marriage to the Hinchsliffs, Fosters and Waterhouses mentioned above.

### Update V119 - 20.8.2020

**New total:** 49,924

**New Names:** Meese 25; Coley 24; Waterhouse 18

**Main Increases:** Fradley +37; Emmott +8; Hall +7; Seymour +6

Our main increase is among descendants of Staffordshire boatman Benjamin Fradley and Elizabeth Hassall, whose grandson Joshua married in 1889 the widowed Ellen Hayes of Lathom, daughter of James Bentham and Elizabeth Carrington (from one of our prolific Burscough boatfamilies).

Thanks go to Donna Ashton for help in developing these Midlands links, including our new family descended from John Meese and Hannah Maria White of Stourbridge, whose 2xgreat grandson Samuel married in 1951 Iris Fradley (2xgreat granddaughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth). We have added another Stourbridge boatman, William Coley whose daughter Martha married in 1866 Thomas Lane of Worcester, whose family appeared in Update 118.

Another new family is descended from John Waterhouse, who married Ann Knowles in Skipton in 1818 - their son James married Mary Ann Emmott of Bingley in 1855. Thanks go to Graeme Waterhouse for help with their records - also to Mike Wallace for providing amendments to the families of Joseph Salt and Ann Maria Seymour, whose son Joseph, b1902, is planned to feature in the next issue of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal Society's newsletter, *Clogs & Gansey*.

### Update V118 – 24.7.2020

**New total:** 49,699

**No New Names**

**Main increases:** Eyes +32; Hampton +28; Nixon, Tuckey +25; Lane +19; Booth +17; Morris +13; Goodier, Stubbs, Wood +9

Our main increases are among two so-far-unconnected Cheshire families descended from Matthew Eyes, b1787 Lower Whitley, and John Eyes b1817 Barnton, and three Booth families based in Runcorn. These are among several boatmen's families linked to three Goodier brothers, Samuel, Thomas and John, based around Northwich and born in the late 1700s, sons of John Goodier and Hannah Carter. Thanks go to a descendant, Tom Potter, for much help in connecting and developing these branches.

We have been able to merge Cowley families descended from John Cowley b1781 and Nancy Gresty of Northwich, and Tom has provided an 1860 newspaper report involving Charles Cowley and eight other boatmen who were charged at Northwich with illegally forcing their way through a lock on the River Weaver while the water supply was turned off.

We have also added the family of Joseph Nield of Cheshire whose daughter Sarah married in 1882 Matthias Pye, a Runcorn sailmaker. Their son John married Edith Forshaw, daughter of Burscough boatman Henry Forshaw and Margaret Ollerton of Lathom.

**Update V117 – 4.7.2020**

**New total:** 49,350

**New Name:** Dyehouse 9

**Main increases:** Brockbank, Morris +26; Simister +24; Pugh +21; Nicholls +19; Evans +18; Boyer, Seddon +16; Willington +13

The will of Cheshire boatman John Hickson of Barnton has enabled us to connect what were separate branches of the same family. John's father Richard, b1802, is now known to be a brother of William, b 1812, sons of Richard Hickson and Elizabeth Sandbach of Weaverham. Thanks go to a descendant, Geoffrey Davies, for providing a copy of the will, details of which are now on our site.

We have also revised the Brockbank families and now have just two branches headed by Isaac, b1748 Whitehaven, and Samuel, father of Samuel b1790 Whitehaven - probably brothers.

Other Cheshire and Manchester watermen's families figure in our main increases, and the expansion among Midlands boatmen continues, including a new family descended from Enos Dyehouse of Wolverhampton.

**Update V116 – 18.1.2020**

**New Total:** 49,051

**New Names:** Canvin 41; Mander 20; Underhill 15; Diggory, Poxon 12; Bowater 8

**Main increases:** Easthope/Eastup +24; Wall +21; Bradshaw +15

All the new names and main increases in this update are among boatmen's families based in the West Midlands, connected to the families we introduced recently with help from the Canal and River Boatmen website. There is a Lancashire link through Ann Clegg, b1844 Leigh, who married Allen Harrison of Dudley, and whose daughters married into the Mander, Bradshaw and Diggory families of watermen from the Wolverhampton area.

And an unexpected Cheshire link was found through Eliza, daughter of William Easthope and Ann Underhill of Wombourne, Staffordshire, who married William Henry Grimes, who was born on a canal boat in London. Their daughter Mary Ann, b1884 Ellesmere Port, was already on our site as wife of Charles Scragg of Wheelock, near Sandbach.

**Update 115** – 1.6. 2020

**New total:** 48,763

**New Name:** Super/Soper 21

**Main Increases:** Hampson +30; Cottier +28; Holbrook +18; Cawley +17; Partington +9; Hinman +8; Banks, Cavanagh +6

Our new family name of Super evolved from that of Edward Soper, a Runcorn waterman who married Jane Brown in 1820. After he died in 1836 Jane remarried Henry Foulkes, a carpenter, and their daughter Elizabeth married William Hampson, a waterman from Stockton Heath, near Warrington, whose family provides the main increase in this update.

The most intriguing character is William's cousin Robert Owen Hampson, who married at least three times, and in 1891 was living in Runcorn with a partner, Eliza Cottier, as his wife with two sons from his first marriage while his second wife Susan, nee Hinman, was caring for three sons from her first marriage and two from her time with Robert.

Eliza Cottier was a boatman's daughter from Douglas, Isle of Man, and we have also expanded the family of John Cottier - no apparent relation but also from Douglas - who married Mary Ann Wilkinson, a boatman's daughter from Liverpool. Other increases are among related groups, and we have continued to develop the Midlands families we introduced recently.

**Update 114** – 19.5.2020

**New Total:** 48,505

**New Names:** Allcott 9; Willington 15

**Main increases:** Swift +50; Wood +18; Lunt, Webley/Webberley +17; Neale +16; Green +15; Cowley, Howell +14; Turton +13

A key family in this update is that of Abraham Webley (various spellings), a Wolverhampton boatman born in 1822, whose daughter Caroline was already on our site. She married Richard Robinson of Westleigh, son of James Robinson of Scarisbrick and Mary Martin of Lydiate - another example of the links between the Midlands and Lancashire canals.

Abraham's son William Thomas Webley was a waterman, as were his other daughters' spouses who provide many of our additions: Harriet married William Turton of Stourport; Sarah Ann married Thomas Swift of Penkrigg (our main increase); and Eliza married Edward Lunt of Peover in Cheshire.

Thomas Swift's nephew William, b1876 Bilston, married Alice Norwood, nee Salt, whose nephew Joe Salt appears in the L&L Canal Society's Walls Papers mentioned at the top of our Updates column. And another link to Burscough boatmen comes with the marriage of Rhoda Willington, nee Howell, who married Robert, son of William Cowley of Lathom who was already in this tree.

Our new names and other increases are among these Midlands watermen, and thanks again go to the Canal and River Boatmen website for much help. Special mention must be made of William Bradshaw, b1867 Tipton, a bargeman who named a son Barjona.

**Update V113** – 5.5.2020

**New Total** - 48,228

**New Name** - Edgecombe

**Main Increases** - Lowe +30; Howard +26; Harrison, Seymour +18; Hughes +16; Ashton +13; Sadler +12; Topping, Wood +11

Our new name comes through William Lewis Edgecombe, a shipwright from Devonport who moved to

Liverpool and whose daughter Catherine married in 1870 Edward Lowe, a dock labourer and grandson of Mark Lowe of Burscough and Elizabeth Wright of Rufford. Mark's brother Thomas was a boatman, and his son Mark, b1833, married Isabella Ashton from another Burscough family of boatmen. Thanks go to Tammy Jones of Canada for alerting us to this connection.

More Lancashire-Cheshire links come with the marriage in 1910 of Joseph Albert Howard, whose father and uncles were Mersey Watermen at Ellesmere Port, and Edith May Iddon, granddaughter of boatman Thomas Iddon and Alice Gore of Tarleton. Their son Thomas Iddon married Maria Kate Hughes, daughter of a shipwright from Flint whose sons worked for the Canal and Railway Co at Ellesmere Port.

We have also connected more Midlands canal families to our main tree with generous help from the 'Canal and River Boatmen' website, also from local researcher Lorna York. Work on the Harrison, Sadler, Seymour Wagstaff and Wilday families based around Wolverhampton is ongoing.

**Update V112 - 12.4.2020**

**New total:** 47,910

**New names:** Conliffe 12; Beddell 5

**Main increases:** Yates +31; Millington +17 Barnes +12; Dumbill +10; Ashley +5

Details from the 1939 census have contributed to increases in the Ashcroft, Baines, Cross, Fazackerley, Hampton, Robinson and Slater families who feature in Janet Rigby's books on the Lancaster Canal. Our main increase is among the watermen sons of William Yates and Ann Howard of Runcorn, whose great-grandson Albert was working as a Thames pilot, lodging at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, in the 1911 census.

The families of Cheshire watermen descended from dock labourer Joseph Millington have been expanded, along with the children of his second wife Betsey Hilditch's first marriage to Samuel Barnes. Their daughter Sarah's son Samuel Cross married Sarah Jane Conliffe of Wolverhampton, whose family is one of our new names, as is that of her mother, Eliza nee Beddell.

We have amalgamated the Cheshire boatfamilies of brothers John and James Pendlebury. Also the Smetham/Smitham families whose surname evolved from that of Henry Snailham of Rufford and Martha nee Cheetham of Burscough - yet another example of Lancashire-Cheshire family links.

**Update V111 – 25.3.2020**

**New total:** 47,739

**New name:** Wagstaff 16

**Main Increases:** Thornhill +29; Nicholls +11; Gaskell, Lawton +12; Nicholas +11

Our new family is descended from a Midlands boatman, Thomas Wagstaff, whose four sons plied the Cheshire canals and whose daughter Elizabeth married in 1897 Frederick Salt, who was already on our site, and moved to Salford. In the 1901 census, Elizabeth's eldest brother William Wagstaff was moored at Ring O'Bells, Lathom, alongside Burscough boatman James Dutton, son of James Dutton and Winifred nee Watkinson.

Our main increase is provided by two apparently unconnected watermen's families headed by George and John Thornhill. George's son William married in 1839 Elizabeth Hignett of Runcorn, and John's son George was a Canal Company bargeman, b1861 Manchester. Elizabeth's mother, Ann nee Hughes, was widowed in 1842 and then had several apparently illegitimate children by a Mr Gaskell (Gaskill or Gaskin), providing another of our main increases.

The Nicholls and Nicholas increases are in the same family, descended from Northwich waterman Isaac Nicholas, b1776, and Mary nee Garnet, also from Isaac's brother Thomas. The surname gradually changed

to Nicholls or Nichols, and it has been possible to amalgamate previously separate branches. We have also developed the Lawton family of Runcorn boatmen.

**Update V110 - 10.3.2020**

**New total:** 47,559

**New Name:** Whinyates 18

**Main Increases:** Pearson +41; Butterworth, Helsby +30; Hulse +24; Ellis +19; Birchall +17; Cheshire +13; Woodcock +11

Another Burscough-Runcorn link has emerged with the marriage in 1898 of John Thomas Forshaw and Mary Ann Hulse. John was born in Leigh, son of Wigan boatman Thomas Forshaw and Alice, daughter of James Spencer and Ann Prescott of Burscough. Mary Ann's father was Daniel Hulse, a Runcorn shipwright whose brother William married Sarah Jane Cheshire from another canal family we have expanded.

The main increases are among inter-connected Cheshire watermen's families headed by Randle Pearson, John Butterworth, William Helsby and Henry Birchall. Other increases are also among Cheshire watermen and shipwrights.

The new Whinyates family of Runcorn watermen and shipbrokers is connected to Randles, Musgrove and Waterworth families already on our site.

**Update V109 - 21 Feb 2020**

**New Total:** 47,167

**New Name:** Bellard 15

**Main Increases:** Houghton +59; Vernon +36; Ashton +29; Mercer, Poole +26; Peck +16; Brock +13; Davies, Horton +11; Dutton +10

Our new name comes from the families of George Bellard of Barnton, Cheshire, and of brothers John and Samuel Bellard of Garston, nr Liverpool. No direct connection has yet been found between these two groups, though George's son John married Samuel's daughter Ann in Liverpool, 1846.

We have connected several Houghton branches of Mersey watermen and extended their lines back to George Houghton and Mary Bramfield, who married in Hale, Childwall, in 1776. (Houghtons have now moved up to fifth in our list of names.)

Other increases include two intermarried Vernon and Poole families of Northwich watermen. Fanny Vernon, daughter of William and Betsey (nee Molyneux), married in 1871 Richard Poole, son of Richard and Jane (nee Wood); and in 1879 Fanny Poole, daughter of Thomas and Hannah (nee Forster) married Joseph Vernon, son of John and Sarah (nee Morton).

The Peck, Brock and Horton increases are among connected Runcorn families, and the Ashton and Dutton increases are among Widnes/Sankey boatmen. We also have another London waterman, Richard Mercer, born 1803 in Lambeth, who moved to Cheshire and whose grandson Richard Mercer married in 1889 Mary Ann, daughter of Runcorn boatman Samuel Massey.

**Update V108 – 1 Feb 2020**

**New Total:** 46, 810

**New Names:** Doggett, 12; Male 10; Emmott 6

**Main Increases:** Peacock +57; Tyrer +23; Culshaw +18; Jones, Prescott +17; Moores +14; Buckley +10, Alcock +9

Further links between the boat families of West Lancashire and Cheshire have emerged with the marriages of two daughters of William Cheetham and Mary Ashcroft of Lathom to two related Runcorn watermen.

These Cheethams have not been found in censuses before 1871, and must have moved to Runcorn between the births of their second son Edward (in Leigh, 1860) and sixth daughter Ellen in 1864. Their eldest child Susanna (previously unknown to us) married in 1866 William Peacock of Runcorn. Four years later Susanna's sister Alice married Robert Prescott of Liverpool, again in Runcorn, and their daughter Martha Ann married in 1889 George Henry Peacock, son of William's brother Ralph.

This Peacock family is our main increase in this update and connects to a Midlands family of watermen descended from Joseph Jones of Dudley, whose granddaughter Elizabeth Ellen married William and Susanna's son Ralph Peacock in 1902. And our new name Doggett comes through the 1922 marriage in Runcorn of Robert Prescott's grandson Arthur to Mary, daughter of Vincent Doggett, a Ship Canal bargeman born in Hammersmith.

Another Tyrer family of Lathom has been added, probably related to the boatbuilders already in our main tree (though a direct connection has yet to emerge). Three sons of Richard Tyrer (b1772 Wrightington) and Ann Gill were boatmen, as was Robert Culshaw who married their daughter Ruth in Ormskirk in 1825. After Robert and Ruth's son Richard died in 1865, his widow Mary Ann, nee Kidd, married James Emmott, a boatman and boatbuilder from Clitheroe.

Bob Owen has continued to provide help with Alcock/Allcocks, and another new name comes with the marriage of Edith Elizabeth Alcock to William Male, a tugboat driver from Birkenhead. Other increases are also among Cheshire watermen.

**Update V107** – 14 January, 2020

**New Total:** 46,552

**No New names**

**Main increases:** Haddock +42; Riley +41; Done +18; Alcock +13

A double wedding of two brother-sister combinations is the highlight of our first Update of the new decade. Also the unusual marriages of three brothers to three sisters.

Thanks go to Steve Ormand for helping to unscramble the Hatton and Hough families which include the Cheshire marriages in 1830 of two sets of siblings, Robert and Elizabeth Hough to Thomas and Ellen Hatton. We are also grateful to Bob Owen for continued help with Alcock/Allcock records.

We have corrected the identity of the Joseph Baybutt who married first Catherine Malley, then Ann Pendlebury, to be son (b1849 Burscough) of singlewoman Margaret Baybutt rather than son (b1849 Lathom) of John Baybutt and Jane Green. After Joseph's birth, Margaret Baybutt married John Martland whose grandson John William Martland, a Wigan boatman, had three sons, John, Charles and Joseph, who married three sisters, Maud, Betty and Eleanor Bates, daughters of Cheshire butcher Edward Bates.

Two Haddock families and two Riley families of Cheshire watermen provide our main increases. And the 1851 marriage of Martha from one Riley group to Northwich waterman George Done led to our other increase, with their daughter Sarah marrying Albert Riley from the other Riley group of Runcorn.