

ODFHS Boatfamilies - 2021 Updates

(Canal Family 1 except where indicated)

Update V128 - 23 March 2021

New total: 53,016 people

New Name: Willey 25

Main Increases: Wilson +45; Smith +25; Beckett +19; Edmondson, Richardson +10; Stead +9

Our new name and most increases among boat haulers and watermen from the Mexborough, Stainforth and Knottingley areas of Yorkshire. all interconnected by marriage.

The exception is in the family descended from Robert Edmondson and Betty Wignall of Tarleton who married in Croston in 1791. Thanks go to David Edmondson in Germany for help with his family.

Update V127 - 4.3.2021

New total: 52,830 people

No New Names

Main Increases: *Mason +53; Rowley +43; *Ainscough +29; Darlington, *Fairclough, Stones +23; Wood +8; *Crook +7

We have finally been able to link our Canal 5 tree to Canal 1, so they have been merged, leaving just Canal 9 as our only supplementary tree. (Asterisks in the Main Increases list indicate merged families.)

Thanks for helping make the connection go to Barbara Mercer, a descendant of watermen Hambleton Mason (in Canal5), whose brother Richard John Mason's eldest daughter Ellen married a Widnes waterman, Peter Darlington. His father, also Peter, was baptised in Frodsham to the same parents and on the same day in 1804 as Nancy Darlington, who was already in Canal1 as wife of waterman William Kirkham - probable twins.

Other increases are in the families of two Knottingley boat haulers, Isaac Rowley b1845 and Horatio Wood Stones, b1819 son of a Lincolnshire innkeeper Samuel Stones and Martha Wood, some of whose descendants used Wood as their surname.

Update V126 - 17.2.2021

New total: 52,508 people

New Names: Lythgoe 27; Hollinshead 24; Goben 12; Gowler, Trelfa 7; Hey 5

Main Increases: Minshall/Minshull +45; Millington +41; Wood +29; Coward +26; Addy +25; Littler +18; Higgins +14; Clutton +13; Johnson +12; Chambers, Lewis, Stevens +11

Our most recent updates among Cheshire and Yorkshire boatmen have provided links to many new or nearly-new names, including Goben, Littler and Trelfa families which we have now been able to develop.

One new family includes Ellen Lythgoe, daughter of a Runcorn-based waterman, who married in 1908 a Manchester-born Royal Navy sailor, Augustus Lewis. He and his brothers worked on the Cheshire canals with their father Harry, who was born in the United States. The Lythgoes also link two so-far-unconnected Millington branches headed by Peter b1812 and Joseph b1805, both around Daresbury.

Several families are recorded in both Cheshire and the Midlands, and our main increase is in the Minshalls of Shropshire and Staffordshire, some branches of which changed their name to Minshull during the 19th

century. They connect to Chambers, Clutton and Hollinshead boatmen, and thanks go to the various contributors from around the world for their help in this update.

Update V125 - 18.1.2021

New total: 52,019 people

New Names: Hobman 45; Sarvent 37; Seaton 19; Hailstone 17; Pulman 13

Main Increases: Rowbottom +70; Farmery +32; Raddings +31; Boulton +17; Dutton +13; Lee +12; Metcalf, Richardson +8

Almost all our new names and increases are among Yorkshire watermen and mariners based in in Knottingley and Goole, many of whom traded down to East Coast to London and beyond. One couple, John Lee and Catherine Whiteley of Knottingley sailed up the Thames in 1852 and were married at St John, Southwark, while alongside the Bermondsey wharves.

Another new family contains George Sarvent, whose application for a Master's Certificate in 1859 cites periods of service including three as a boy, presumably with his father, the earliest being in 1826 when he was only five years old. The Rowbottoms are connected to his family, and Hobmans to them. The Hailstone, Raddings and Boulton families are interlinked, and the Farmerys were based around Thorne, near Doncaster.

Thanks go to Gerry Dutton for help with his family and Abram watermen based around Runcorn, work on which is ongoing.