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**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

**JOLIFFE & JOHNSTON, TUG OWNERS**

**Ref. Code: DX/1979**  
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**Listed by Sarah Starkey, Curator of Maritime Archives  
and  
Dorothy Hodges, Volunteer  
April 2005**

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### JOLIFFE & JOHNSTON, TUG OWNERS

#### Introduction

William and Thomas Joliffe established a towage company in 1852, eventually owning a fleet of over 40 tugs. In 1908 they were taken over by the Alexandra Towing Company.

Documents within this collection list the address of the company as 12 Goree Piazzas in 1873, 42 Chapel Street in 1877 and Hargreaves Buildings, 5 Chapel Street from 1879 to 1884. The letterhead of an 1873 invoice for Universal Steam Tug Office, W. & T. Joliffe owners, lists their vessels as: *Great Emperor, Iron Duke, Rover, Tiger, Liverpool, Lion, Renown, Royal Saxon, Empress, Hero, Superb, Triumph, Lioness, Black Eagle* and *Sea Gull*. A similar document in 1884 lists the fleet as: *Great Western, Great Britain, Great Emperor, Commodore, Resolute, Iron Duke, Rover, Tiger, Liverpool, Royal Saxon, North Holland, Empress, Hero, Black Eagle* and *Union*. Later the firm adopted family names for their vessels, for example, *Thomas Joliffe*.

The collection contains records relating to the Joliffe and Johnston families, who also seem to be tug owners, including wills and business papers including receipts for towage. The majority of the collection covers the period 1860-1890. However, there are 6 items from 1955 relating to attempts to trace the history and ownership of Tyne Steam Tug and Warspite Steam Tug Company vessels.

These records accompanied a collection of paintings purchased by National Museums Liverpool in July 1997. The paintings are held in the Maritime History Department's collections, the documents were transferred to the Maritime Archives & Library.

The collection is accessible to any reader within the Maritime Archives & Library Searchroom.

Related collections held by the Maritime Archives & Library include the archives of the Alexandra Towing Company and several books on tugs and towing within the Library collections including *British Steam Tugs*, by P.N. Thomas and *Take the Strain, a History of Alexandra Towing*, by Tim Nicholson.

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<b>3/1 - 3</b>	<b>Miscellaneous Papers</b>	<b>1869 - 1955</b>

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Ref. Code.	Description	Date(s)
DX/1979/1/1 - 3	<b><u>FAMILY PAPERS</u></b>	<b><u>1849 - 1957</u></b>
1/1 - 2	<b><u>Wills and Related Documents</u></b>	<b><u>1870 - 1957</u></b>
1	Wills and copies of wills for Mary Ann Joliffe, Thomas Joliffe, Tom Andrew Joliffe, William Joliffe and Robert Cain. [8 items]	1870 - 1907
2	Notes and letter re the Joliffe and Johnston family history. [2 items]	(?)1904 and 1957
2/1 - 3	<b><u>Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates</u></b>	<b><u>1849 - 1883</u></b>
1	Birth Certificates for Thomas Andrew Joliffe, Tom Andrew Joliffe and William Thomas Joliffe.	1849, 1871 and 1883
2	Marriage Certificates for Thomas Andrew Joliffe and Thomas Joliffe.	1870 and 1877
3	Death Certificates for Thomas Joliffe, Hannah Joliffe, Jane Joliffe and Thomas Joliffe. [plus copy]	1860 - 1879
3/1 - 2	<b><u>Photographs by Vandyke, 62 Bold Street, Liverpool</u></b>	<b><u>1892</u></b>
1	Photograph of Thomas Joliffe.	n.d.
2	Photograph of an unidentified man, probably a Joliffe. Inscription: "Mrs. S.A. Joliffe Compliments Oct 30 <sup>th</sup> '92".	1892

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Ref. Code.	Description	Date(s)
DX/1979/2/1 - 10	<b><u>BUSINESS PAPERS</u></b>	<b><u>1873 - 1890</u></b>
1/1 - 3	<b><u>Receipted Invoices and Accounts for Tugs</u></b>	<b><u>1873 - 1887</u></b>
1	Receipted invoices and accounts for the <i>Sir George Gray</i> , for coal, oil, hardware, etc. [6 items]	1873
2	Receipted invoices and accounts for the <i>Robert Ingham</i> , for dock rent, oil and coal. [13 items]	1878 - 1887
3	Receipted invoices and accounts for the <i>Flying Childers</i> , for coal, oil, hardware and work done by Canada Works Co., etc. [13 items]	1885 - 1886
2/1 - 5	<b><u>Receipted Tonnage Invoices</u></b>	<b><u>1873 - 1886</u></b>
	Letterheads list vessels owned by each company.	
1	Receipted tonnage invoices for the Universal Steam Tug Office; owners T. Joliffe. [23 items]	1873 - 1884
2	Receipted tonnage invoices for the Liver Steam Tug Co.; owners E. Griffith. [16 items]	1873 - 1885
3	Receipted tonnage invoices for the 'Quickstep' Steam Tug Co.; owners C. Askew. [7 items]	1877 - 1880
4	Receipted tonnage invoices for the Caledonian Steam Tug Co.; owners B. Crook. [4 items]	1879 - 1885
5	Receipted tonnage invoices for miscellaneous towage companies. [10 items]	1877 - 1886
3	Income Tax assessment for John Johnson. [2 items]	30 Nov 1875
4	Miscellaneous business receipts. [8 items]	1873 - 1884
5	Statements of Account by John Woodburn, for work done for Mr. John Johnston.	1882 - 1890
6	Business cards for Warspite Steam Tug Company and the Tyne Steam Tug Company, both owned by J. Johnston.	n.d.
7	Bill of Sale for the tug <i>Robert Ingham</i> , William and Thomas Joliffe to James Johnston.	19 Apr 1873

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Ref. Code.	Description	Date(s)
DX/1979/2/1 - 10	<b><u>BUSINESS PAPERS</u></b> (cont)	<b><u>1873 - 1890</u></b>
8	Bill of Sale for the tug <i>Commodore</i> , William Charles Bustard to John Johnston.	23 Dec 1890
9	Work logs and accounts for the tug <i>Robert Ingham</i> . [2 items]	1884 and 1887
10	Work logs and accounts for the tug <i>Flying Childers</i> . [3 items]	1884, 1885 and 1887

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Ref. Code.	Description	Date(s)
DX/1979/3/1 - 3	<b><u>MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS</u></b>	<b><u>1869 - 1955</u></b>
1	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mate's Certificate for William George Pemblebury.	22 Feb 1869
2	Handwritten copies of newspaper accounts from the <i>Liverpool Mercury</i> about an accident aboard the <i>Sir George Gray</i> , property of the Tyne Steam Towing Company. [2 items]	3 & 5 Dec 1873
3	Letters to and replies from the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation re the ownership of vessels belonging to Tyne Steam Tug Company and Warspite Steam Tug Company. [6 items]	Mar 1955 - Apr 1955