

# Some canal carrying history



Sometimes people used their own boats and these would have a 'No 1' on the back cabin. Most of the boats were owned by Canal Carrying companies. One of the most famous was Fellows, Morton & Clayton. You can still see their black and white boats on the waterways. They are owned by enthusiasts now though.



The company also built steam powered boats and you can see the steam boat 'President' at the Black Country Museum and at waterway events around the country. 'President' often pulls the butty 'Kildare'. A butty is a boat without an engine and is towed behind.



FMC boats carried coal, wheat, building materials, beer, textiles and lots of other products. There were many other companies working on the canals including the Grand Union Canal Carrying Company (GUCCC), Anderton Canal Carrying Company and Willow Wren.

**If you see one, write the name below.**

I saw \_\_\_\_\_

on the canal at \_\_\_\_\_



This WOW booklet is provided free by the Inland Waterways Association (IWA) a national charity dedicated to the conservation, restoration, maintenance and use of the inland waterways. [www.waterways.org.uk](http://www.waterways.org.uk)

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# Spotting boats



## on the waterways

The canals were built for boats to carry all kinds of cargoes - eg coal, cheese, grain and beer - all over the country. Before the canals were built, these items had to be carried by horses and carts - making it very difficult to move them far, especially in winter.



Whole families would live on boats, sharing a tiny space in the 'back cabin'. In the days before diesel engines they were pulled by horses or mules. Many of these working boats are still on the canals so look out for them.

[www.wow4water.net](http://www.wow4water.net)

