

Out of curiosity I looked up members of the Royal Navy in the 1881 Census; there are hundreds. From Doncaster are the ones I have listed here so I hope these strays are of use to someone. I will delve deeper and see what I can find.

Name	Age	Status	YOB	Ship	Rank/Rating
Beaumont Alfred	25	U	1856	Jumna	Private RMLI
Brown Charles.A.	21	U	1860	Modeste	Ordinary Seaman
Darby John	23	U	1858	Minotaur	Private
Fulton Arthur	17	U	1864	Thunderer	Boy Signalman
Jackson Richard	20	U	1861	Mosquito	Stoker
Petty Thomas	18	U	1863	Emerald	Ordinary Seaman
Piercey Thomas S	25	U	1855	Alexandra	Private
Potts Thomas	26	U	1855	Crocodile	Private 17 th Lancers
Preston Henry	27	U	1854	Modeste	2nd Captain Foretop
Ridgeway Thomas	26	U	1856	Minotaur	Private
Stanley George	23	U	1858	Thunderer	Stoker
Stanley John	23	U	1858	Serapis	Private RMLI
Sunderland William F	17	U	1864	Minotaur	Boy 1st Class
Thompson Alfred	23	U	1858	Fly	Signalman 2 nd Class
Ward James E	24	U	1857	Agincourt	Able Seaman
Ward William	20	U	1861	Alexandra	Ordinary Seaman

The above are men who were at sea or in a foreign port with the Royal Navy for the 1881 Census.

The Ranks and Ratings indicate the position/employment onboard ship.

I will try to explain:

Private RMLI = A seagoing soldier forerunner of the Royal Marines (these were basically Light Infantry Men). Where RMLI is not used they could be from any Regiment being taken to a posting abroad seconded to the RM.

Boy indicates a person still training, who has not reached the age of 17 Years & 6 Months.

2nd Captain Foretop = This man is the second in command of the Foretop part of ship, an area roughly forward of the mainmast from the deck to the tops of the masts.

Able Seaman = A fully trained man

Ordinary Seaman = A man still under training but older than 17 Years & 6 Months

Stoker = A man who works in the ships engine room (So this ship is a steam ship)

Signalman = A person who passes messages with Flags or Lights

I hope you find this of interest if there are no objections I will look for other RN Yorkies and let you know.

Les Grant, Member 1544