

# H

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# The Hadlows of Shipbourne

The will of **John Hadlow** written in 1576 has been transcribed - see [Families & Transcripts](#). The entries for Hadlow in the Shipbourne parish registers are all later than this:

**Alice** (\$359<sup>1</sup>), the child of **Elizabeth Hadlow** (\$358) was baptised on 15th April 1586.

|                                      |        |             |
|--------------------------------------|--------|-------------|
| <b>Henry Hadlow</b> (\$292)          | buried | 10 Jul 1587 |
| <b>Thomas Hadlow</b> (\$473)         | buried | 11 Apr 1588 |
| <b>Thomas Hadlow</b> (\$568), tailor | buried | 18 Sep 1592 |
| <b>Joane Hadlow</b> (\$772)          | buried | 1 Jul 1603  |
| <b>Isobell Hadlow</b> (\$910)        | buried | 16 May 1608 |

“a lame cripple”

On 1st December 1611, **Joane Hadlow** (\$1038) and **William Sexton** (\$1037) were married in Shipbourne. Both came from **Wrotham** and “[there three times were lawfully asked](#)”.

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<sup>1</sup> \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

# *The Haites of Shipbourne*

There were two small Haite families in Shipbourne at the end of the sixteenth century:

**Martin Haite of Wrotham** ((\$236<sup>2</sup>) had two children baptised in Shipbourne:

- **Margaret** (\$238)      baptised      28 Oct 1582
- **Johane** (\$323)                           2 May 1585

**John Haite** (\$204):

- **Alice** (\$206)      baptised      21 Jan 1582
- **Richard** (\$582)      buried      16 Jun 1593



# The Halthrops of Kemsing

| Num               | Name                                 | Born            | Married     | Spouse   | M | C | Died        |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|--|---|---|-------------|
| k342 <sup>3</sup> | <u>HALTHROP, John</u><br>-----       |                 |             |  | 2 | 6 | 28 Jun 1620 |
|                   | <i>Marriage 1</i>                    |                 |             |  | 1 | 5 |             |
| • k932            | <u>HALTHROP, Richard<sup>4</sup></u> | 17 Jun 1582(Sh) |             |  | 0 | 0 |             |
| • k344            | <u>Halthrop, Margaret</u>            | 31 May 1586     |             |  | 0 | 0 |             |
| • k345            | <u>HALTHROP, John</u>                | 21 May 1587     |             |  | 0 | 0 |             |
| • k346            | <u>Halthrop, Susan</u>               | 30 Dec 1588     |             | probably died before March 1590 when brother John was baptised | 0 | 0 |             |
| • k347            | <u>HALTHROP, John</u>                | 28 Mar 1590     |             |  | 0 | 0 |             |
| • k348            | <u>HALTHROP, Harry</u>               | 25 May 1591     |             |  | 0 | 0 | 5 Jun 1625  |
|                   | <i>Marriage 2</i>                    | 17 Dec 1591     | Joane Allyn |  | 1 | 1 |             |
| k349              | <u>Allyn, Joane</u><br>-----         |                 |             |  | 1 | 1 | 20 Nov 1623 |
| • k350            | <u>HALTHROP, William</u>             | 11 Sep 1593     |             |  | 0 | 0 |             |

3 "k" indicates a reference in the Kemsing database

4 A Richard Halthrop was buried, in Ightham, on 19 June 1611 when this Richard would have been twenty-nine.

Richard, son of John Haltropp, was baptised in **Shipbourne**; he could have been the eldest son of k342 (k932 in the above tree). Perhaps John's first wife came from Shipbourne. John married again in December 1591 so that his first wife must have died before then, perhaps as a result of Harry's birth. From Margaret onwards, the children of the first marriage were born very close together, 19 months being the longest interval. Perhaps they employed a wet-nurse.

An **Ellen Halthrop, widow**, married **Richard Rogers in Seal** on 22 August 1611

A **Marie Halthrop, widow**, was buried in **Ightham** on 11 Dec 1638

# The Hammonds of Ightham

| Num               | Name                          | Born        | Married | Spouse | M | C | Died        |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|---------|--------|---|---|-------------|
| i120 <sup>5</sup> | <u>HAMMOND, John</u><br>----- |             |         |        | 1 | 7 | 23 Feb 1595 |
| • i122            | <u>HAMMOND, John</u>          | 11 Jun 1560 |         |        | 0 | 0 | 5 Jul 1560  |
| • i123            | <u>HAMMOND, John</u>          | 28 Sep 1561 |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |
| • i124            | <u>HAMMOND, George</u>        | 6 Jan 1564  |         |        | 0 | 0 | 22 Jan 1564 |
| • i125            | <u>Hammond, Marie</u>         | 6 May 1565  |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |
| • i126            | <u>Hammond, Elizabeth</u>     | 4 May 1567  |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |
| • i647            | <u>Hammond, Margaret</u>      | 15 May 1570 |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |
| • i127            | <u>Hammond, Jane</u>          | 14 Dec 1572 |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |

John Hammond was mentioned in the Court Rolls 1553-74. In 1593 he had his hedges damaged: at the Court held on 26th April 1593, **Jane Powell, widow** (i1875) was found to be a "common breaker of hedges" who had lately broken and plundered a number of hedges - see **Powell in More Families & Transcripts**.

5 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

On 4th October 1605, **Jane Hammon** was presented to the Court for receiving a "stranger" - **Andrew Waters** (i2017); she was to be fined 10s if he stayed without sureties being found. A year later, on 13th October 1606, she forfeited the 10s and was to be fined another 10s if Andrew Waters continued to stay without any sureties (CRI 1938, p.18).

Was Jane John's widow (in which case she would have been at least in her mid-sixties), his daughter or the wife of one of his sons? "**Joan, daughter of Andrew Waters**" (i2017) was baptised on 17th May 1607. Had Andrew Waters married one of the Hammond daughters with her mother harbouring him and her daughter. Since nothing more was recorded for them, perhaps Andrew and his wife then moved away from Ightham.

## *John Harblett of Tonbridge*

This will (CKS: Drb/Pw 20; Drb/Pwr 20.80) was written on 13th December 1609 by John Hooper, notary public, one of the Hooper family who wrote a large number of wills. It was proved on 1st February 1609/10.

This is the only will which has survived for a Harblett of Tonbridge but there were a number of Harbletts (or Harblotts) in Yalding between 1460 and 1512:

|                  |        |                    |
|------------------|--------|--------------------|
| Richard Harblott | 1460pd | CKS: Drb/Pwr 2.172 |
| Thomas Harblott  | 1492d  | CKS: Drb/Pwr 5.207 |
| John Harblott    | 1512d  | CKS: Drb/Pwr 6.327 |

This is an unusual name so that John could have been descended from them; however none of these wills has been investigated.

The only live child Robert and his wife Agnes seem to have had when he wrote his will was their daughter Margaret, married to Robert Piper and with five children. It is these grandchildren who were his main heirs with Elizabeth, the eldest daughter receiving £20, the other two daughters £10 each and the sons £4 each which they were to receive when they were eighteen.

In the meantime, their father was to “put out and employ all and every portion and legacy before willed . . . to the most benefit and profit that he can or may until their said respective ages” when he was to pay them “their said legacy together with the use and profit thereof”.

Margaret and her husband were also to “keep, table and board” John’s wife Agnes for the rest of her life or until she remarried during which time she was to live “peaceably and quietly” with them. Her son-in-law was to “find, produce and give to her . . . meat, drink, fire, lodging, houseroom, washing and attendance and all other things to her wanting and needful at his and their sole and only charges”. Although the will is not very clear, it does look, however, that Agnes had the option of demanding thirty pounds so that she could be independent of them.

*Will of John Harblett of Tonbridge*

written 13th December 1609

transcript from original

1 In<sup>6</sup> the name of god Amen. The thirteenth day of December in the year of the reign of our sovereign

2 Lord James, by the grace of god king of England, Scotland, France and  
Ireland, defender of the faith, that  
3 is to say, of England, France and Ireland, the seventh and of Scotland the  
three and fortieth, 1609, I,  
4 John Harblett of Tonbridge in the county of Kent, **kempster**<sup>7</sup>, being<sup>8</sup> aged  
and weak of body yet of  
5 good remembrance (thanks be to god) do ordain and make this my present  
testament and last will  
6 in manner following: **First:** I commit and commend my soul to Almighty  
God, my maker, with an  
7 assured hope of salvation by and through the merits of Jesus Christ, his ??  
son, my alone saviour  
8 and redeemer, and my body to the earth from whence it was taken. **Item:** I  
will to the poorest  
9 people of Tonbridge aforesaid twenty shillings of lawful english money to  
be distributed in the day of my

---

7 "kemp" is the coarse, rough hairs of wool

8 "beeing", "bee", used throughout; this was usual for the Hoopers

10 burial. **Item:** I will and bequeath unto my two **kinsmen, Thomas and**  
11 **Mathew<sup>9</sup> Harblett**, ten  
12 pounds a piece and Thomas to be paid his ten pounds within three whole  
13 months next after my  
14 decease and Mathew to be paid his within six whole months next after my  
15 decease. **Item:** I give  
16 and bequeath to **Elizabeth Piper, eldest daughter of Margaret, my**  
17 **daughter**, twenty pounds and to  
18 **Margaret and Anne, her two youngest daughters**, I will ten pounds a piece.  
19 **Item:** I will and give  
20 to **Robert and Daniel Piper, the two sons of my said daughter Margaret**,  
21 four pounds a piece. All  
22 which said legacies before willed to my said daughters children, I will  
23 shalbe paid to them respectively  
24 at their several full ages of eighteen years by **Robert Piper**, her husband,  
25 my son-in-law. And  
26 I will that my said son-in-law shall put out and employ all and every  
27 portion and legacy before willed  
28 to Elizabeth, Margaret and Anne, his daughters, and the said Robert and  
29 Daniel, his sons,



20 to the most benefit and profit that he can or may until their said respective  
ages aforesaid. And at their  
21 said ages respectively shall pay all and every their said legacy together  
with the use and profit thereof  
22 made unto them and every of them respectively according to the true  
intent and meaning of this my will.  
23 And if any of his said children shall happen to decease before the time and  
age or ages before limited  
24 for payment of their legacies as aforesaid, then I will his, her or their  
portion or portions, legacy or  
25 legacies so deceasing, together with the use and profit thereof, shall  
remain to be paid to the survivor and  
26 survivors of him, her or them so deceasing, equally at such time and times  
as he, she or they  
27 deceasing should have received the same if he, she or them had lived, by  
my said son-in-law, Robert  
28 Piper, his heirs, executors or assigns without fraud or coven. **Item:** I will  
that my said loving  
29 son-in-law, his heirs, executors or assigns, shall keep, table and board **my**  
**loving wife Agnes Harblett**  
30 during the whole term of her natural life (if she keep herself sole and  
unmarried) or otherwise

31 during and until such time as she shall happen to be married again, she  
32 living peaceably and quietly with  
33 him and them. And shall find, produce and give to her during her life, or  
34 otherwise so till she shalbe married  
35 again, ?? at meat, drink, fire, lodging, houserom, washing and  
36 attendance and all other things to her  
37 wanting and needful at his and their sole and only charges<sup>10</sup>. To which my  
38 said wife I give the sum of ten  
39 shillings lawful english money. **Item:** I will that if my said wife shall  
40 demand the same, my said son-in-  
41 law shalbe come bound to her in thirty pounds for the keeping, boarding  
42 and ?? her as aforesaid.  
43 Provided always ?? I do ?? , appoint and will that Elizabeth, Margaret and  
44 Anne Piper as aforesaid shalbe heirs to each other of their  
45 legacies aforesaid and Robert and Daniel, their brothers, to have nothing to  
46 do therewith unless they all three decease as aforesaid.

39 The residue of all and every my goods, as well moveable as unmoveable,  
40 debts, cattels, chattels, utensils,  
41 household stuff and ?? whatsoever, I wholly and fully give and bequeath  
42 unto the aforesaid Robert Piper,

---

10 "chardges", a spelling often used by the Hoopers

41 my son-in-law, which said Robert Piper I make and ordain my sole and  
only executor, to see this my will proved,  
42 my debts and legacies paid and my body decently buried and I do hereby  
appoint overseer of this  
43 my present testament **John ??oggett of Brenchley, yeoman**, which said  
John, if he pleaseth, I will shall take ba??  
44 of the said Robert Piper for his payment and employment of his children's  
legacies as aforesaid. In witness  
45 I, the said John Harblett, have to this my present testament and last will  
my hand and seal yeven the  
46 day and year first above written.

Sealed, published and declared  
in the presence of

the mark of John Harblett, the  
testator

John X J??oll  
Abraham Vinton  
John Hooper, notary public.

## *Harris of Seal*

There are no known connections between these various Harris events. A John Harris married the daughter of **George Olyver of Kettles** whose son, Christopher mentions his neice and nephews, Mary, William, Thomas, John and Peter, in his will of 1558 - see [Olyvers in Families & Transcripts](#)

It is possible that one James Harris married three times since the burials of two wives were recorded and the birth of children (in the case of the second marriage) and the third marriage occurred soon after these burials. A tree drawn on this assumption is shown on the next page.

On 8th January 1614, **Joyce Harris** (#2836<sup>11</sup>) married **William Hallis** (#2835).

On 11th December 1647, **Susan Harris** (#2840) married **Stephen Salmon** (#2839)

In December 1649, **John Harris** (#2841) married **Dorothy Walter, widow** (#2842).

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11 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

| Num     | Name                                 | Born        | Married     | Spouse | M C | Died  |
|---------|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------|-----|---|
| #2829   | <u>HARRIS, James</u><br>-----        |             |             |        | 3 3 |   |
|         | <i>Marriage 1</i>                    |             |             |        |     |   |
| #2830   | <u>Harris(m), Elizabeth</u><br>----- |             |             |        | 1 1 | 17 Jun 1626                                       |
|         |                                      |             |             |        |     | was buried the same day her daughter was baptised |
| • #2831 | <u>Harris, Marie</u>                 | 17 Jun 1626 |             |        | 0 0 |   |
|         | <i>Marriage 2</i>                    |             |             |        |     |   |
| #2832   | <u>Harris(m), Margaret</u><br>-----  |             | <1630       |        | 1 2 | 14 Jun 1637                                       |
| • #2833 | <u>Harris, Joan</u>                  | 28 Mar 1630 |             |        | 0 0 | 2 Jun 1632  |
| • #2834 | <u>Harris, Joyce</u>                 | 28 Oct 1633 |             |        | 0 0 | 6 Feb 1634  |
|         | <i>Marriage 3</i>                    |             |             |        |     |   |
| #2838   | <u>Lester, Ann</u><br>-----          |             | 23 Sep 1638 |        | 1 0 |   |

## *The Harris/Harrys of Shipbourne*

The only possible Harrys/Harris family of any size in Shipbourne is that of **John Harrys** (\$353<sup>12</sup>) whose son, **John** (\$355) was baptised on 20th February 1586.

On 5th February 1609, **Mary** (\$927), daughter of **Andrew Harris** (\$925), was baptised.

On 21st January 1610, **Mary Harrys** (\$964) married **Richard Woodgate** (\$950); see **Woodgate in More Families & Transcripts**. Andrew and the Mary who married Richard Woodgate could have been children of John (\$353).

On 10th February 1598, **Cassander Harrys** (\$409) married **Thomas Huggens** (\$408); they had six children - see Huggens, page 2.h.207

There was a double wedding in Shipbourne on 27 August 1599:

- **Wyborne Harrys** (\$469) married **Agnes Bennett** ( \$467)
- **John Bennett** (\$466) married **Sara Master** (\$488)

“were both couples married by virtue of two licences”

The other events recorded for Harris/Harrys in Shipbourne are isolated ones:

- On 12th December 1608, in Shipbourne, **Dina Harris** (\$917<sup>13</sup>) of Tonbridge married **John Langham** (\$915) “by a licence”
- **Elizabeth Harris, spinster** (\$1138), was buried on 8th July 1617; her will (CKS: Drb/Pw 24) has survived but it has not been investigated.
- A tragedy occurred to the **Thomas Harris** family in August 1621: husband, wife and son all died within six days. They were buried: son on 13th, wife on 17th and Thomas himself (\$1322) on 19th.
- **Agnes** (\$1343), daughter of **Robert Harris** (\$1341), was baptised on 14th April 1623
- **Mary** (\$2181), wife of **John Harris** (\$2180), was buried on 28th July 1649.

## *The Harris/Harrys of Tonbridge*

A number of wills have survived for Harris/Harrys of Tonbridge some of which were written by John Hooper, notary public, who wrote a large number of wills. The will of William Harris, written in 1615 (**PCC: Rudd 109**) gives John Hooper as a witness but does not say he was the scriptor. An extract from this will is given in **Families & Transcripts**.

Transcripts of two wills definitely written by John Hooper are given here:.

|                |               |                                |             |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Thomas Harris  | 26 Mar 1608/9 | CKS: Drb/Pw 21                 | page 2.h.25 |
| Richard Harris | 12 Feb 1626/7 | CKS: Drb.Pw 27; Drb/Pwr 21.267 | page 2.h.31 |

Earlier than this, there was a **George Harris** in Tonbridge. On 20th July 1596, his widow, **Joan**, was appointed the administrator of his estate<sup>14</sup>



## *Thomas Harris, butcher*

Thomas Harris, senior, was a butcher with a shop in Sevenoaks and a “slaying house” in Tonbridge. He also owned a three acres of land in Tonbridge which included a close and orchard. Elizabeth, his wife, was to inherit the shop, slaying house and land with it going to his son Wyborne on her death. But there was a proviso.

Thomas had “granted heretofore” an annuity of £2 to be paid out of the proceeds from the orchard and other land and it appears that this could be discharged for a payment of £30. He also had other debts owing and he had left £5 to each of his daughter Martha’s five children. At any time within three months after the proving of the will, Elizabeth could sell the shop and so much of the land as was necessary to discharge the annuity and pay his debts and legacies. She was to do this with the advice of his overseers selling “for the greatest price that conveniently she can or may, and for so much money (with as little overplus as may be) as” would be required.

If Elizabeth died before the will was proved and the sale completed, Thomas’s daughter Martha was to become his executrix with full power to sell as much of his land as was necessary.

Besides Wyborne, Thomas had another son but his only mention in the will is that he was to inherit his “[great press . . . notwithstanding my wife shall or may use \(it\) during the whole of her natural life](#)”. There is no indication as to what sort of press this was.

*Will of Thomas Harrys of Tonbridge*

written 26th March 1608/9

transcript from original

1 In the name of God Amen. The six and twentieth day of March. In the  
sixth year of the  
2 reign of our sovereign lord James, by the grace of god, king of England,  
France and Ireland, defender of the  
3 faith, etc. And of Scotland the one and fortieth, 1608. I, Thomas Harris,  
th'elder, of Tonbridge in the  
4 county of Kent, **butcher**, sick and weak in body but yet of perfect  
remembrance, do ordain and make this my  
5 present testament and last will in manner and form following. **First:** I  
commit my soul to Almighty God, my maker,  
6 hoping to be saved through Jesus Christ his son. And my body to the earth  
from whence it was taken.

7 **Item:** I give to **Thomas Harris, my son**, my great press which I will  
notwithstanding my wife shall or may  
8 use during the whole ?? of her natural life. **Item:**I will and give to the **five**  
**children of my daughter**  
9 **Martha**, the sum of twenty and five pounds, that is, five pounds a piece to  
be paid them by myne execu  
10 trix hereafter named within one whole year next after my decease. The  
residue of all my moveable  
11 goods, ??, cattells and chattells, I wholly give to **Elizabeth, my wife**, whom  
I make my sole and only  
12 executrix. And I do ordain overseer of this my testament and will **James**  
**Cleeve, my son-in-law**.

13 This is the last will of me the said Thomas Harris, the elder, made and  
declared the day and year abovesaid  
14 touching the disposition of all my lands and tenements. **Item:** I will unto  
the said Elizabeth, my wife, all  
15 that my shop at **Seavenock**<sup>15</sup> and my slaying house at Tonbridge and the  
close, orchard and one parcel of  
16 land commonly called **Whites Croft** to the said orchard adjoining,  
containing in all, by estimation, three acres

---

15 Seveboaks; a number of Tombridge butchers had shops in Seveboaks

17 and together lying and being in Tonbridge aforesaid. To hold to her and  
her assigns during her natural life  
18 And after her decease I will all and every the same to **Wyborne Harris, my  
son**, to hold to him during his  
19 natural life. And after the decease of the said Wyborne, my son, I will all  
and every the said shop  
20 at Sevenoaks and all and every the said slaying house, close, orchard and  
parcel of land in Tonbridge  
21 with th'appurtenances unto **Wyborne Harris, the younger, son of my said  
son Wyborne**, and to the heirs  
22 and assigns of the said Wyborne Harris, the younger, for ever. **Provided  
always** my very will and  
23 mind is that I do hereby give the full power and authority unto the said  
Elizabeth, my wife and executrix, at  
24 any time within three months next after the probation of this my testament  
and will to sell all that my shop  
25 at Sevenoaks and such and so much of my lands in Tonbridge afore willed,  
or any part thereof, as she shall  
26 think most convenient by and with the advise of my said overseer whom I  
request to be aiding to her herein for  
27 the greatest price that conveniently she can or may, and for so much  
money (with as little overplus

28 as may be) as shall and will discharge and clear not only one annuity or  
yearly rent of forty shillings  
29 granted heretofore by me out of the said orchard and parcel of land  
adjoining for the sum of thirty  
30 pounds by me ??<sup>16</sup> But also all my debts owing upon speciality? Together  
with the said  
31 legacy of £25 given to the five children of my said daughter Martha; with  
which annuity, debts and legacies  
32 I will my said wife and executrix with the said money so to be received for  
the premises by her to be sold  
33 the sureties and sure estate? to be had to such person and persons as  
shall buy the premises appointed to be  
34 sold as aforesaid, I do hereby will ?? of the same as shalbe sold as  
aforesaid to such person and persons as shall buy the same and to his and  
35 their heirs so buying the same for ever, any gift or other thing herein before  
mentioned to the contrary  
36 thereof in mine will notwithstanding. **Provided farther** my will is that if my  
said wife happen to decease  
37 before she shall have proved this my testament and will and made sale of  
the premises as aforesaid, that then my said daughter

---

16 "Tenened"?

38 Martha shalbe mine executor and stand charged<sup>17</sup> in all things as my said  
wife and shall have full power at all times after  
39 my said wife's decease within three months thereto next ensuing to sell  
and do all things in as ample manner as  
40 my said wife may or might do by form of this my present testament and  
will, any thing also before mentioned to the contrary  
41 thereof notwithstanding. In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand  
and seal yeven the day and year first above written

??? publishing and delivering hereof

18

John ?ombe **William Harris**  
**Richard Harris**<sup>19</sup>  
**John Hooper**

Tho: Harris

---

17 "chardged" - usual spelling for John Hooper

18 mark - a cross

19 these two witnesses could be the testator of the next will and his brother William

## *Richard Harrys of Tonbridge*

Richard was a tailor and he left to his godson, another Richard Harris, all the tools belonging to his trade. These included patterns for stockings and other patterns, a box of chisels and a box of buttons. He left to his “[loving wife, Roda, in regard of her great love towards me and pains taken by her in much sickness and extremity which have many times endured](#)”, a large number of items including a cupboard, a three-legged chair and some books.

*Will of Richard Harrys of Tonbridge*

written 12th February 1626/7

transcript from original

- 1 In the name of god Amen. The twelfth day of February in the year of our Lord
- 2 God, one thousand six hundred twenty and six (Stilo Anglio), I, Richard
- 3 Harrys of Tonbridge in the County of Kent, **taylor**, do, ordain and make this my
- 4 testament and last will in manner and form following: **First** therefore, recommending my
- 5 soul unto Almighty God, my maker, with an assured hope of salvation through the merit

6 of his dear son, Jesus Christ, my saviour, and my body to the earth whence  
it was taken with  
7 like hope of a joyful resurrection to eternal life. I will to **my loving wife,**  
**Roda,** in regard of  
8 her great love towards me and pains taken by her in much sickness and  
extremity which have  
9 many times endured, these parcels of my goods hereafter particularly ??,  
viz. my cupboard  
10 in the hall next the table, the tub in the chamber over the shop, two pairs of  
sheets whereof  
11 one pair to be of the better sort and one other of the worst; two joined stools  
in the ?? chamber,  
12 two iron pots whereof one to be the least<sup>20</sup> of all and the other next to the  
biggest, one brass ??,  
13 one iron skillet, two ?? vessels, the biggest tub save one and one keeler?,  
half my quishions<sup>21</sup>

---

20 or should it be "largest"?

21 cushions



14 one three-legged chair, one book called *desines*<sup>22</sup>, one other called *the*  
*harmonie*  
15 *upon the er angeli* and *Calvin Abridgements*, two pewter dishes, two  
pottingers, one brass candlestick,  
16 half a dozen of trouchers<sup>23</sup>, All my wood and fuel that I shall have prepared  
to burn at the time of my death  
17 and likewise all my provision of Corn, butter, cheese and victuals that I  
shall then likewise have, two  
18 feather pillows, three pillowbeers. And all such goods and household  
apparel as she brought with her. And also  
19 the money that is in **Stephen Faulkiner**, his hands, by her lent to him before  
our marriage. Also I give her two  
20 towels, three coarse napkins and two coarse tablecloths.  
21 All which I will she shall enjoy immediately after my decease. And farther,  
I will to my said wife, half  
22 the rents and profit of all my houses and land which I will shalbe let out, to  
be by her had and  
23 received only during her widowhood after my decease. And if she shall  
marry again after my

---

22 "designs", connected with his work as a tailor, or "Divines"?

23 trenchers?

24 death, I will to her one third part only of the rents of my said houses and  
lands from and after her such  
25 marriage to be had and received during her natural life, In full satisfaction  
of all such jointure,  
26 dower and demand? as she shall, or may have, out of ?? or to all or any my  
houses, lands, or any ??  
27 **Item:** I will to **my brother, William**, and to **Robert Rummington**<sup>24</sup> of  
**Tonbridge**, my apparel equally to  
28 be shifted between them. ?? my riding coat I give unto **John Beecher** and  
my bridle, saddle, boots and ??.  
29 **Item:** I give to **Samuel Fermes**, for a token of my love, one book of *Calvin's*  
*Sermons upon Deteronomie*<sup>25</sup>  
30 **Item:** I will to **Richard Harris, my godson**, all my tools belonging to my  
trade and my patterns for stockings and ?? and  
31 all my other patterns, the box where the chisels<sup>26</sup> be and the box where the  
buttons be.

---

24 brother-in-law, see line 34

25 Deuteronomy

26 chisels for a tailor?

32 The residue of my goods, cattell and chattels, I will to **Mercy, my loving**  
33 **daughter**, towards her maintenance  
34 and the paying of my debts and dischargd<sup>27</sup> of my funeral. And if she  
35 shall be of age at my death, I make  
36 her my executor, otherwise I make **my loving brother-in-law, Robert**  
37 **Rummington**, my executor, to see this my will  
38 ??, my debts, legacies and funeral dischargd with my goods and then the  
39 remainder thereof only to be to  
40 my daughter, desiring him to be a guide unto her and to allow himself all  
41 his expenses about this my will.  
42 Touching my house wherein I dwell, I will, give and devise the same, with  
43 appurtenances, to my said daughter,  
44 Mercie, her heirs and assigns, forever. But if my wife shalbe with child at  
45 my death and shall bring forth  
46 a man child, I will to that manchild, the said house with thappurtenances  
47 situated in Tonbridge, to him and to his  
48 heirs forever. And then I will my house and croft of land which I have let to  
49 **Alexander Longly, near Quarryhill**  
50 in Tonbridge, to the said Mercie, my daughter, and her heirs forever. And if  
51 my wife shalbe with child as aforesaid

---

27 both here and in line 35 "discharging" is spelt with a "d" in the original will

42 and shall bring forth a woman child, then I will that the woman child shall  
have the said house and croft of land  
43 near Quarryhill, to her and her heirs. And that Mercie, my daughter, and  
her heirs shall have my other house with the  
44 appurtenances as aforesaid.

Read, sealed, published and declared in the presence of  
**Gregory Roofe** and **John Hooper, sen.** **Richard ??**

{*squashed at the bottom*}:

and moreover a legacy to his wife and another  
to Richard Harris, his godson, added the one and twentieth  
day March 1626 as above set down by the  
testator appointed with ?? me **John Hooper ...**  
**William Harris**

# The Harrisons of Shipbourne

| Num                 | Name                             | Born   | Married | Spouse | M | C | Died          |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|--------|---------|--------|---|---|---------------|
| \$207 <sup>28</sup> | <u>HARRISON, Andrew</u><br>----- |        |         |        | 1 | 4 | 26 Aug 1599   |
| • \$209             | <u>Harrison, Susan</u>           | 4 Mar  | 1582    |        |   | 0 | 0             |
| • \$308             | <u>Harisson, Elizabeth</u>       | 29 Nov | 1584    |        |   | 0 | 0 11 Dec 1584 |
| • \$375             | <u>HARRISON, Robert</u>          | 5 Mar  | 1587    |        |   | 0 | 0             |
| • \$519             | <u>HARRISON, James</u>           | 14 Jun | 1590    |        |   | 0 | 0             |
| \$1108              | <u>HARRISON, Thomas</u><br>----- |        |         |        | 1 | 2 |               |
| • \$1100            | <u>HARRISON, Anthony</u>         | 25 Jul | 1613    |        |   | 0 | 0             |
| • \$1111            | <u>HARRISON, William</u>         | 19 Nov | 1615    |        |   | 0 | 0 18 Dec 1615 |

Thomas could have been another of Andrew's sons. A Susan Harrison was buried on 21st May 1611; if she was Andrew's daughter she was nineteen.

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<sup>28</sup> \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

## *Richard Hart of Penshurst*

The will of Richard Hart of Stonecross in Penshurst (**PCC: Crane 12**) was written by “[Robert Marchant, sen., scriptor](#)” on 25th February 1635 but Richard did not die until the beginning of 1643 being buried on 7th January. This will has not been transcribed.

In 1623 Robert Marchant wrote the will of Elizabeth Combridge.

Much earlier, on 13th January 1586, **Richard Harte** of Penshurst had a bushel of wheat with chaff (valued at 11d) stolen from him by **Richard Allen**, labourer of Speldhurst, who, having been found guilty at the February Assizes, was whipped<sup>29</sup>

---

29      Cockburn (Eliz.I); 1472

## *The Harts of Kemsing*

There were two Hart families having children in Kemsing in the 1560s to 80s - the Robert Harts and the William Harts..

| Num                | Name                         | Born        | Married | Spouse | M | C | Died        |
|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------|---------|--------|---|---|-------------|
| k362 <sup>38</sup> | <u>HART, Robert</u><br>----- |             |         |        | 1 | 3 | 12 Sep 1575 |
| • k364             | <u>Hart, Mary</u>            |             |         |        | 0 | 0 | 24 Jan 1572 |
| • k365             | <u>Hart, Margery</u>         | 29 Dec 1572 |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |
| • k366             | <u>HART, Nicholas</u>        | 12 Sep 1574 |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |

William Hart (see next page) was buried one month before the baptism of his youngest son unless it was his father who died in 1587; if it was his eldest daughter who married in 1606, she was 38

---

30 "k" indicates a reference in the Kemsing database

| Num    | Name  | Born   | Married     | Spouse                               | M C | Died            |
|--------|---|--|-------------|--------------------------------------|-----|-----------------|
| k351   | <u>HART, William</u> <sup>31</sup><br>----- |  |             |                                      | 2 6 | 4 Mar 1587      |
|        | <i>Marriage 1</i>                           |  | 5 Oct 1567  | Joane Janson                         | 1 3 |                 |
| k352   | <u>Janson, Joane</u><br>-----               |  |             |                                      |     | 1 3 27 Oct 1578 |
| • k353 | <u>Hart, Ann</u>                            | 23 Mar 1568  | 26 Oct 1606 | John JOHNSON<br>k360                 | 1 0 |                 |
| • k354 | <u>HART, William</u>                        | 7 Sep 1572   |             |                                      | 0 0 | 30 Aug 1578     |
| • k355 | <u>HART, Richard</u>                        | 15 Apr 1577  |             |                                      | 0 0 |                 |
|        | <i>Marriage 2</i>                           |  |             |                                      |     | 1 3             |
| • k357 | <u>Hart, Amy</u>                            | 24 Jun 1582  |             |                                      | 0 0 |                 |
| • k358 | <u>HART, John</u>                           | 30 Sep 1584  |             |                                      | 0 0 |                 |
|        |   | probably died before April 1587 when brother was baptised John |             |                                      |     |                 |
| • k359 | <u>HART, John</u>                           | 4 Apr 1587   | 4 Oct 1607  | Joan Harvey<br>married at 20<br>k361 | 1 0 |                 |

---

31 William was buried one month before the baptism of his youngest son unless it was his father who died in 1587; if it was his eldest daughter who married in 1606, she was 38



In **Shipbourne**, on 22nd October 1603, **Thomas Hart** (\$781) married **Margaret Wamslie** (\$30). On 21st February 1631, Thomas Hart, senior, was buried.. This is the total amount of information on the Harts in the Shipbourne parish registers.

## William Hartridge of Pembury

William Hartridge's will (CKS: Drb/Pw 31; Drb/Pwr 22.528) was written, on 16<sup>th</sup> March 1639. At the end it the name of George Hooper who wrote many wills for people in the Tonbridge area in the 1630s and 1640s but this does not look like his writing.

William was “in good health of body and of sound and perfect memory” when he decided to write his will “for the ordering and settling of that estate wherewith God hath blessed me”. With neither wife nor children but five brothers and at least two nephews he may have thought it important to organise his estate. The will was not proved until 1643 so William may have lived for another four years.

|                     |          |        |       |           |       |  |
|---------------------|----------|--------|-------|-----------|-------|--|
| -----               |          |        |       |           |       |  |
| x1300 <sup>32</sup> | x1301    | x1302  | x1303 | x1307     | x1304 |  |
| William             | Mathew - | Thomas | James | Michael - | John  |  |
| will: 16 Mar 1639   | x1306    |        |       | x1309     |       |  |
|                     | William  |        |       | Francis   |       |  |

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32 “x” indicates a reference in the database covering a number of parishes

William made Mathew and Michael his executors. They were to pay his “debts and legacies equally between them. And the one not to be sued or impleaded for the other’s default”. Each of the other brothers were to receive £30 and Michael’s son Francis £100. His other nephew, William, perhaps his godson, was to inherit all his land but the profits, etc. for twelve years after his decease were to be equally divided between his executors. It may have been that William, the nephew, would not have been twenty-one until twelve years after the will was written.

*Will of William Hartridge of Pembury*

written 16th March 1638/9

transcript from original

1 In the name of God Amen. The sixteenth day of March  
2 in the year of our Lord God according to the computation of the church of  
England  
3 one thousand and six hundred, thirty and eight. I, William Hartridge,  
4 of Pepingbury alias Pembury in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being in good  
health of  
5 body and of sound and perfect memory (praised be God) for the ordering  
and settling of

6 that estate wherewith God hath blessed me, do ordain and make this to be  
my  
7 testament and last will as followeth: **First:** therefore recommending my  
soul to the  
8 gracious acceptance of Almighty God, through Jesus Christ, my saviour.  
And my body  
9 to the earth in decent manner to be buried. I will to the poor of Pepingbury  
aforesaid  
10 four pounds. **Item:** I will to **my servant, Anne Howe**, forty shillings. And  
11 these to be paid within six months next after my decease. **Item:** I will to  
my  
12 loving **brother Thomas Hartridge** thirty pounds of lawful english money to  
be paid  
13 to him, his executors or assigns, at or before the end of one whole year next  
after my  
14 decease. **Item:** I will to **James Hartridge, my loving brother**, the like sum  
of thirty  
15 pounds to be paid to him, his executors or assigns, at or before the end of  
two whole  
16 years next after my decease. **Item:** I will to my loving **brother John  
Hartridge**, the  
17 like sum of thirty pounds to be paid to him, his executors or assigns, at or  
before the

18 end of three whole years next after my decease. **Item:** I will to **Francis**  
19 **Hartridge,**  
20 the **son of my brother Michael Hartridge,** the sum of one hundred pounds of  
21 lawful  
22 english money to be paid to the said Francis, his executors or assigns, at or  
23 before  
24 the end of twelve years next after my decease. **And** I do hereby will and  
25 ordain that the one half of all the legacies and sums before named shalbe  
26 paid by  
27 my loving **brother, Mathew Hartridge,** his executors or assigns, according  
28 to the tenor  
29 of this my will. And I do will and give to the said Mathew, the one half of  
30 all my goods,  
31 cattell, debts and chattells, to hold to him, his executors and assigns. **And**  
32 I do will and  
33 ordain that the other half of all the said legacies and sums of money  
34 shalbe paid by my  
35 loving **brother Michael Hartridge,** his executors or assigns, according to the  
36 purpose of this  
37 my will. To the which Michael, his executors and assigns, I will and give  
38 the other half of  
39 all my goods, cattell, debts and chattells. **And** I do ordain the said Mathew  
40 and Michael,

30 my brothers, be the executors of this my testament and last will. And to  
pay my debts and  
31 legacies equally between them. And the one not to be sued or impleaded  
for the other's  
32 default (that one paying his part according to this my will). **And as** for  
touching and  
33 concerning my lands and tenements, I do will and devise the same as  
followeth: **I will** and  
34 give to **William Hartridge, the son of my brother Mathew Hartridge**  
aforesaid, all that  
35 messuage or tenement wherein I now dwell and all the barns, buildings,  
outhouses, yards, gardens,  
36 orchards, lands, meadows, pastures, woods, woodgrounds, ponds, pits and  
appurtenances thereto  
37 belonging, situated, lying and being in Pepingbury aforesaid. And also all  
other my lands and  
38 tenements, rents, annuities and ?? in Pepingbury or elsewhere in the  
county of Kent, to have  
39 and to hold all the said messuage, lands, tenements and premises, unto  
the said William Hartridge, his  
40 heirs and assigns, to th'only use of and behoof of the said William, his heirs  
and assigns forever. Notwith

41 standing, my will is that the said Mathew and Michael, mine executors,  
fore the better enabling them  
42 to pay all my debts and legacies, shall have, hold and enjoy, all my said  
message, land, tenements and premises and  
43 shall receive the rents, issues and profits thereof during twelve years next  
after my decease in this  
44 manner, viz. the said Mathew, his executors and assigns, shall hold, have  
and receive the one half  
45 thereof to his and their own uses. And the said Michael, his executors and  
assigns, shall hold, have and  
46 receive the other half thereof to his and their own uses (any devise thereof  
herein contained to the  
47 contrary thereof notwithstanding. In witness whereof I have hereto set my  
hand and seal.

Sealed, subscribed<sup>33</sup>

published and  
declared in the  
presence of

William Hartridge

Robert ??

*other witnesses, names not readable*

Geo. Hooper

# The Harveys of Ightham, Seal & Shipbourne

| Num                 | Name                                | Born        | Married | Spouse                      | M | C | Died        |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|---------|-----------------------------|---|---|-------------|
| i2179 <sup>34</sup> | <u>HARVEY, Thomas</u><br>-----<br>  |             |         | Margerie Harvey(m)<br>i2180 | 1 | 3 |             |
| i2180               | <u>Harvey(m), Margerie</u><br>----- |             |         |                             | 1 | 3 | 15 Dec 1624 |
| • i2181             | <u>HARVEY, John</u>                 | 10 Oct 1619 |         |                             | 0 | 0 |             |
| • i2182             | <u>Harvey, Dorothy</u>              | 22 Sep 1622 |         |                             | 0 | 0 |             |
| • i2183             | <u>HARVEY, Thomas</u>               |             |         |                             | 0 | 0 | 17 Feb 1624 |

In Seal, on 3rd April 1594, **Henry Harvey, Esquire** (#1670) married **Dorothy Sybell, widow of Farningham** (#3671). No children were recorded in Seal or the locality and nothing else is known of either of them.

In Shipbourne, **Elizabeth Harvey** (\$481) was baptised on 16th June 1588 (no father given). On 23rd December 1631, **Elizabeth** (\$1565), daughter of **Richard Harvey** (\$1563) was baptised.

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<sup>34</sup> "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database and # in that for Seal



## *The Harwoods of Seal*

Robert Harwood (#3775<sup>35</sup>) and his wife Dennis/Dinah (#3777) had five children baptised in Seal:

|   |                  |       |             |                            |
|---|------------------|-------|-------------|----------------------------|
| - | <b>Margaret</b>  | #3778 | 14 Feb 1630 |                            |
| - | <b>Elizabeth</b> | #3779 | 24 Dec 1631 |                            |
| - | <b>James</b>     | #3780 | 13 Jul 1634 | “son of Robert and Dennis” |
| - | <b>William</b>   | #3781 | 30 Apr 1637 | “son of Robert and Dinah”  |
| - | <b>Robert</b>    | #3782 | 22 Nov 1640 | “son of Robert and Dennis” |

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35 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

## *The Hastlyns of Ightham*

Variations on this name include Haslyn, Hastlen and Hastelyn.

On 17th May 1574, **George Hastlyn** (i941<sup>36</sup>) married **Jane Willard** (i942). A George Hastelyn was mentioned in the Court Records 1586-1618.

On 19th November 1578, **William** (i965), son of **Martin Hastlyn** (i963) was baptised.

On 28th May 1582, **Nicholas Hastlyn** (i1232) married **Marie Weston** (i1233). They had two children:

- **Marie** i1234 baptised 23 May 1583
- **Susanne** i1235 23 Aug 1584 buried 26 March 1585.

A Nicholas Hastlyn was mentioned in the Court Records 1586-1618; this could have been i1232. A Nicholas Hastlyn was transported to Boulogne in 1586 as a punishment for sheep stealing - see [Staly in Families & Transcripts](#). He could have been i1232's father.

## *Henry Hastlyn of Tonbridge*

The will of Henry Hastlyn, husbandman, (CKS: Drb/Pwr 31) was written by Richard Chowning on 4th January 1644/5.

Henry's married daughter Joane was definitely "cut off with a shilling" which was to be paid "[within seven years upon demand . . . she proving to me an unnatural child and at several times of my sickness being sent unto to visit me refused to tender a child's respect toward me as was fitting](#)". In contrast, his wife, Susan, had "[been a loving wife and good nurse unto me both in health and sickness and hath strived to advance my welfare in what she was able](#)".

Richard Chowning includes some unusual phraseology including his debts, etc. being "[first deducted thereout](#)". Henry had committed £20 "[to the trust of the right worshipful Sir Nicholas Miller, knight,](#)" and he hoped that Miller "[would be pleased to afford unto my said executrix such advantage and benefit by the said bond to me made as in his wisdom and discretion shall be thought fitting. And the god of mercy will add unto his days a further happiness in his respecting a poor widow](#)".

1 In the name of god Amen. The fourth day of January in the year od our  
2 Lord God one thousand, six hundred and forty four, I, Henry Hastlin  
3 of Tonbridge in the county of Kent, **husbandman**, being sick and weak in  
body  
4 and expecting my dissolution, do make and ordain this to be my present  
5 testament and last will in form following: **First** and above all other things  
6 recommending my soul into the hands of Almighty god, my maker, saviour  
and  
7 preserver, Jesus Christ, my body to the earth in such decent manner to be  
8 buried according to the discretion of executrix hereafter in ?? present  
9 named. **Item**: I do give and bequeath unto **my daughter Joane Dobson**,  
10 being the **wife of Richard Dobson**, twelve pence to be paid to her within  
11 seven years upon demand made thereof to my said executrix, she proving  
12 to me an unnatural child and at several times of my sickness being  
13 sent unto to visit me refused to tender a child's respect toward me  
14 as was fitting. And for that I have found **Susan, my wife**, to have  
15 been a loving wife and good nurse unto me both in health and  
16 sickness and hath strived to advance my welfare in what she was able.  
17 I do therefore give and bequeath unto the said Susan, my loving wife,

18 all my goods and chattells, debts, rights, credits and duties owing to me or  
19 specialties or otherwise of what nature or kind soever they be,  
20 my debts, legacies and funeral expenses with the proving of this my  
21 will first deducted thereout. And I do make and ordain the said  
22 Susan, my wife, to be the full and whole executrix of this my present  
23 testament and last will. And whereas now there is remaining in  
24 my custody one obligation for the payment of twenty pounds being  
25 committed to the trust of the **right worshipful Sir Nicholas Miller, knight,**  
26 for my good and now in ??ded unto my said executrix, I do therefore  
27 earnestly desire his ?? good ?? herein that he would be  
28 pleased to afford unto my said executrix such advantage and benefit  
29 by the said bond to me made as in his wisdom and discretion shalbe  
30 thought fitting. And the god of mercy will add unto his days a further  
31 happiness in his respecting a poor widow. And I do earnestly desire  
32 **John Lampard, gent,** and **Richard Wood, mercer,** my very loving friends  
33 to whom I am much obliged, to be the overseers hereof, desiring  
34 their labour and assistance unto my executrix in the ?? ??  
35 if need shall require. In witness whereof I, the said Henry, have  
36 hereunto set my hand and seal. dated the day and year first above  
written

The mark **H** Henry Hastlin

Read, delivered, published  
and declared in the presence of

Alice <sup>37</sup> Hickmote  
Richard Chowning

## *The Hatches of Tonbridge*

Two Hatch wills from Tonbridge have been transcribed:

|               |             |                               |             |
|---------------|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Richard Hatch | 28 Apr 1637 | CKS: Drb/Pwr 29               | page 2.h.57 |
| Thomas Hatch  | 1 Apr 1646  | CKS: Drb/Pw 32; Drb/Pwr 23.29 | page 2.h.64 |

Richard was a husbandman; his will was written by John Hooper, notary public and parish clerk of Tonbridge. It is not decorated as are many of the wills written by John Hooper and the writing gets smaller and smaller as it gets down the page so that it was just possible to get it onto one page.

### *Possible Relationship Between Richard and Thomas*

Richard had a son Thomas who was not twenty-three in 1637 and a daughter, Anne whom he made his executrix. He had a tenement and lands in Speldhurst which were left to his wife, Margaret, until Thomas reached the age of twenty-three when he was to inherit them provided that, if she was still living, he paid his mother an annuity of £3. Richard also had a brother Thomas.

Thomas, the testator of 1646, mentions neither wife nor children but he had a sister Ann who had died leaving a daughter Ann Hatch (implying she had had her whilst not being married) and another sister, Joan, married and with two daughters. If he was Richard's son, why was Joan not mentioned by Richard? Perhaps she was already married and her father had given her a reasonable dowry.

Richard desired his “good neighbour William Walter, as a friend in trust to be aiding and assisting to my said daughter in the managing and ordering of my farms” whilst Thomas made his “very loving and kind friend William Walter” his executor.

When Thomas wrote his will in 1646 he had a “messuage and nine acres of land” in Speldhurst which he had mortgaged so that he instructed his executor to have all his “goods and chattels to be indifferently appraised” with the proceeds being used to redeem his mortgage and pay off his debts. This messuage and land could have been the tenement and lands in Speldhurst which Richard left to his son Thomas and thus makes it more likely that the 1646 testator was his son rather than his brother. Richard's son might have been about twenty in 1637 and, by 1646, could have become a reasonably wealthy yeoman. Perhaps these possibilities could be further advanced by examination of the parish records.



## *Richard Hatch, husbandman, of Tonbridge*

When Richard wrote his will in 1637 he had a daughter Anne, whom he made his executrix, a son, Thomas under the age of twenty three and a wife, Margaret, who needed “keeping and sustaining . . . with all manner of necessaries, houseroom, lodging and washing during” her natural life.

*Will of Richard Hatch of Tonbridge*

written 28th August 1637

transcript from original

1 In the name of god Amen. the eight and twentieth day of August in the  
2 year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred thirty and seven, I, Richard  
3 Hatch of Tonbridge in the county of Kent, **husbandman**, being sickly and  
weak  
4 in body but of perfect and good remembrance (I praise God) do ordain and  
make this my testament and  
5 last will in manner and form following: **First** recommending my soul to the  
glorious acceptance  
6 of Almighty god through Jesus Christ, my saviour, and my body to the  
earth in decent

7 manner to be buried. I will to every one of the godchildren of my self and  
to  
8 the godchildren of my wife, to every of them also five shillings a piece to be  
delivered  
9 to every of them within one year next after my decease by mine executrix.  
10 **Item:** I will to **Thomas Hatch, my son**, at his age of 23 years , the table in  
the loft, my wife's chest<sup>38</sup>, the bedsteddle whereon I now lie and the  
11 flock bed, 2 bolsters and pillows, one blanket and 1 coverlet thereto  
belonging and also two pairs of sheets and my furnace. I  
12 will that **Anne, my daughter**, shall have, hold and enjoy the same till the  
feast day  
13 of Saint Michael th'archangel next coming after the age of twenty and  
three years  
14 to be accomplished by the said Thomas, my son. And then he to enter,  
hold and have the  
15 said lease and premises, she the said Anne, my daughter, in the meantime  
paying the  
16 rent that shall ?? payable for the same. And not suffering the said lease  
through her  
17 default to be forfeited. And a touching and consigning my stock of corn  
and cattell and

---

38 "chist"; phrase "at his age ..... chest" inserted

18 all other my goods and chattells unbeckeathed, I will and give the same  
wholly and solely  
19 to the said Anne, my daughter, whom I make the full and sole executrix of  
this my testament and  
20 last will, she, the said Anne, keeping and sustaining **Margaret, my loving  
wife, her mother,**  
21 with all manner of necessaries, houseroom, lodging and washing during  
the natural  
22 life of her, the said Margaret. And I desire my good neighbour **William  
Walter,** as a friend in trust  
23 to be aiding and assisting to my said daughter in the managing and  
ordering of my farms.  
24 And do charge<sup>39</sup> her upon my blessing to be guided and ruled by him in all  
her actions until  
25 the age aforesaid of my said son Thomas. And I desire my loving **brother  
Thomas Hatch** and my  
26 good **friend, Edward Sharpe of Hadlow** to be overseers that this my will  
may be performed  
27 so much as in them shall lie. And touching my tenement and lands in  
**Speldhurst,** I will that my wife

---

39 "chardge" - usual spelling for John Hooper

28 for her better means and maintenance shall have, take and receive the  
rents, issues and profits thereof  
29 until such time as the said Thomas. my son, shall accomplish his age of  
twenty and three years,  
30 if he shall so long live. The fee simple of my foresaid tenement and lands  
in Speldhurst, I will and give  
31 to the said Thomas, my son, his heirs and assigns, forever. Provided  
always if the said Margaret, my  
32 shall be living when my said son shall attain to his said age of 23 years,  
then and from  
33 thenceforth, I will that my wife shall be paid three pounds ?? and of lawful  
english money every  
34 year during her natural life out of my said tenement and lands in  
Speldhurst, the same to be paid her  
35 quarterly by equal portions. And for default of being paid the same  
accordingly, it shalbe lawful for her,  
36 and her assigns, to enter and distraint<sup>40</sup> thereupon and the distresses, from  
time to time, to hold, impound

---

40 "distreigne"

37<sup>41</sup> and detain till she shalbe thereof fully paid (any thing herein mentioned to  
the contrary thereof

38 notwithstanding. In witness whereof I have to this my testament and last  
will set my hand and seal, dated

39 the day and year first above written Richard

Daniell Crowth

signed

R Hatch

John Hooper, nota. pbq.

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41 in order to get all the will on one page "sealed, published and declared in the presence of" is written in the margin here.

## *Thomas Hatch of Tonbridge*

The will of Thomas Hatch, yeoman of Tonbridge, was written on 1st April 1646 by Richard Chownings who seems to have had a style of his own when writing preambles.

Thomas Hatch “being sick and weak in body but at the publishing and making hereof of sound mind and perfect remembrance (praised be God therefore) and considering that sickness is a summons and presayer of a dissolution and for that I am also uncertain of my continuance here on earth . . . “. Was “presayer” a variation of precursor? John Rottenbridge’s will<sup>42</sup>, also written by Richard Chownings, contains the phrase “considering of men's mortality and that sickness is the forerunner of dissolution” - a simpler form of that used here.

## *Thomas Hatch's Bequests*

Thomas left ten bushels of wheat, two bushels of which his executor was to “take the pains to cause (them) to be baked into loaves” which he was to distribute and bestow “on such poor people as shall come into my dwelling house at such day of

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42 see [John Rottenbridge in More Families & Transcripts](#)

my burial". The other eight bushels, were also to be "baked into loaves within one month (if such convenient) next after my decease" and then distributed by him to "all such poor people of the said parish at Tonbridge Town as he shall think fit to bestow the same".

Although "of Tonbridge", his message, etc., which was mortgaged when he wrote his will, was in Speldhurst. He does not appear to have had a wife or children and his nearest relations seem to have been his two sisters, Joane and Ann. Joane was married and had two "true" daughters. His other sister had died before Thomas; she had a daughter, also called Ann, but was unmarried in that her name was still Ann Hatch.

Thomas's niece Ann was to be his heir having his message in Speldhurst when she reached the age of twenty-one. In the meantime, Thomas's executor, his "very loving and kind friend William Walter of Tonbridge, yeoman (to whom I stand much engaged in all thankfulness for his love and care always towards me)" was to sell all his goods, etc. in order to pay of the mortgage and his other debts. Any surplus, plus the rents from the property which he was to receive until Ann came of age, were to be invested to give a return of 5% and any surplus after he had carried out any necessary reparations was to go to Joane's two daughters who were to be his heirs if Ann died whilst still underage.

1 In the name of god Amen. The first day of April in the year of our Lord God  
one thousand six hundred forty and six, I, Thomas Hatch  
2 of Tonbridge in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being sick and weak in body  
but at the publishing and making hereof of sound mind and  
3 perfect remembrance (praised be God therefore) and considering that  
sickness is a summons and presayer of a dissolution and for that I am also  
4 uncertain of my continuance here on earth, do therefore make and declare  
this to be my present testament and last will in manner and form  
following:  
5 that is to say, **First** and principally, recommending my soul into the hand of  
Almighty god, my maker and preserver, in an assured confidence and hope  
6 that through the merits and mediation of his dear son Christ Jesus, my  
most blessed lord and saviour, my sins shalbe forgiven and I shall attain  
unto that  
7 eternity of happiness which he hath ?? ?? for us. And I do commit my  
body unto the earth in such decent manner to be buried at the  
8 discretion of mine executor hereafter in this present named. And touching  
my personal estate, I do will and bequeath the same in form following.

**Item:** I



9 do will and bequeath unto the poor people of the parish of Tonbridge  
wherein I live, ten bushels of wheat. And I do desire that my said executor  
10 would take the pains to cause two bushels whereof to be baked into loaves  
and to be distributed and bestowed by him on such poor people as shall  
11 come into my dwelling house at such day of my burial. And I do further  
desire my said executor that the other eight bushels, he could likeroghe<sup>43</sup>  
12 cause to be baked into loaves within one month (if such convenient) next  
after my decease. And that upon convenient notice thereof to be given, the  
same  
13 bread may be distributed by him on all such poor people of the said parish  
at Tonbridge Town as he shall think fit to bestow the same. **Item:**  
14 I do give and bequeath unto **Joane Frye, my servant**, twenty shillings to be  
paid unto her within one month next after my decease. **Item:** I do  
15 give and bequeath all my wearing apparel of what material soever unto  
**Joane, my sister, the now wife of Thomas Sommers**, and unto **Margaret**  
and  
16 **Elizabeth, her true daughters**, equally to be shifted amongst them. **Item:** I  
do give and bequeath unto my very loving and kind friend **William Walter**  
17 of Tonbridge, yeoman (to whom I stand much engaged in all thankfulness  
for his love and care always towards me), the sum of ten

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43 likewise?

18 pounds. The residue and all other my goods and chattells consisting in  
19 household stuff, corn, hay, cattell, implements (of husbandry ??)  
20 and other stock in goods of what nature or kind soever they be or shalbe of,  
21 my will and desire is that a some convenient time  
22 from and after my decease, my said executor would be pleased to cause all  
23 such my goods and chattels to be indifferently appraised. And after  
24 such appraisement to make sale of the same so soon as he may. And that  
25 all such moneys so by him received thereupon, my said  
26 executor should bestow part thereof for the payment and redeeming of my  
27 message and nine acres of land with th'appurtenances  
thereto belonging, situated and lying in **Speldhurst** in the occupancy of  
**Joseph Weekes**, which I have formally mortgaged to one, **William**  
**Raynes**. And that the other part of the same money shall also be bestowed,  
by my said executor, towards the payment of such other my debts which  
I do, or shall, owe. those my charges with the proving of this my will and  
charges he shall sustain to and upon my burial. And if  
it shall happen any overplus of such moneys then after shalbe remaining in  
my said executor's hands, my will and mind is that my said  
executor shall put out the same, for the rate of twelve pence in the pound<sup>44</sup>,  
together with all such early rents which he shall receive for the same, my  
messuages and lands in Speldurst

---

44 rate of 5%; this phrase inserted

28 to whom I give full power and authority to receive and to let and set the  
same for the best advantage one can during the minority or  
29 until **Ann Hatch, the daughter of Anne Hatch, my late sister**<sup>45</sup> deceased,  
shall or should attain unto her full age of one and twenty years.  
30 And the overplus of such moneys (if any shalbe) with the rents which he  
shall so receive, deducting there out all charges for reparations  
31 which shall happen about the same messuage shalbe by my said executor  
employed for the good of the said Margaret and Elizabeth, the blood  
32 daughters of the said Joane Sommers, my sister, during and until the said  
Ann Hatch, the daughter of my other sister, shall or should attain  
33 unto such age of one and twenty years as aforesaid, to whom I do then give  
and bequeath the same. And I do make and ordain the before  
34 named William Walter to be the full and sole executor of this my present  
testament and last will. And I do earnestly desire my loving  
35 friends **Humfery Couchman** and **Robert Ward** to be the overseers hereof  
and to be aiding and assisting to my said executor(in what they may)  
36 in the due execution hereof. And touching the disposing of my said  
messuage and lands, my further will and mind is that if the said Ann  
37 Hatch, the daughter of my said sister, shalbe living and shall attain unto  
such age of one and twenty years, then I do will, give and devise all

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45 either Thomas's sister-in-law or an unmarried sister with a daughter; from line 32 it looks like the latter

38 the same my messuage or tenement before mentioned with the said nine  
acres of land with th'appurtenances, situated and lying in Speldhurst  
aforesaid, unto  
39 the said Ann Hatch, to hold all the same messuage and premises unto the  
said Ann Hatch and to the heirs of her body lawfully begotten or to be  
begotten.  
40 And for default of such issue, then I do will, give and devise all the same  
messuage, lands and premises unto the said Margaret Sommers and  
Elizabeth  
41 Sommers, the two daughters of the said Joan Sommers, my sister, if they  
shalbe living at such their ages of one and twenty years. to hold all the said  
42 messuage and premises to them, the said Margaret and Elizabeth  
Sommers, and to heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten and to be begotten.  
And for default  
43 of such issue, then I do will, ordain and devise all the said messuage and  
premises unto the heirs of the body of the said Jaone Sommers, my sister,  
begotten or to be  
44 begotten. And for want of such issue, then I do will, give and devise all the  
same messuage, lands and premises unto **Edward Patchin** and **Mercy**  
45 **Stymperson, the wife of Edward Symperson**, to hold the same messuage  
and premises unto the said Edward Patchin and Mercy Symperson and to their

46 heirs and assigns forever. In witness whereof I, the said Thomas Hatch,  
have to this my present testament and last will set my hand and seal

47 the day and year first above written.

Sealed, delivered, published and declared

in the presence of

**Oliver <sup>46</sup> Goldsmith**

**Michael Dane**

**Richard Chownings**

of

the mark

Thomas Hatch

---

46 mark an inverted "U"

# The Hawes of Seal

An alternative spelling is Hawse.

The main Hawes family is Richard's:

| Num                 | Name                           | Born        | Married                     | Spouse                  | M | C | Died |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---|---|------|
| #2845 <sup>47</sup> | <u>HAWES, Richard</u><br>----- |             |                             |                         | 1 | 2 |      |
| • #2847             | <u>HAWES, Francis</u>          | 4 Feb 1601  | 6 Nov 1627<br>married at 26 | Mellion Godden<br>#2849 | 1 | 0 |      |
| • #2848             | <u>HAWES, Richard</u>          | 21 Sep 1606 | 9 Sep 1632<br>married at 26 | Jane Polhill<br>#2850   | 1 | 5 |      |
| • • #2851           | <u>Hawes, Elizabeth</u>        | 10 Apr 1636 |                             |                         |   |   | 0 0  |
| • • #2852           | <u>Hawes, Frances</u>          | 22 Oct 1637 |                             |                         |   |   | 0 0  |
| • • #2853           | <u>Hawes, Alice</u>            | 27 Sep 1640 |                             |                         |   |   | 0 0  |
| • • #2854           | <u>Hawes, Jane</u>             | 17 Apr 1642 |                             |                         |   |   | 0 0  |
| • • #3829           | <u>Hawes, Mary</u>             | 18 Jan 1647 |                             |                         |   |   | 0 0  |
| • • #2855           | <u>HAWES, Richard</u>          | 23 Apr 1648 |                             |                         |   |   | 0 0  |

<sup>47</sup> # indicates a reference in the Seal database

On 8th January 1596, **John Hawse** (#1695) married **Johane Fylder** (#1696)  
A John Hawse was buried on 30th May 1628. He could have been Johane's  
husband but no children were recorded in Seal or the other local parishes.

On 23rd August 1604, **John** (#2858), son of **James Hawes** (#2856), was baptised.

On 7th February 1630, **Ann** (#2861), daughter of **John Hawse** (#2859) was  
baptised.

# *The Hawkes of Ightham*

A large number of Hawkes were mentioned in the Court Rolls but relatively few in the parish records. Between 1553 and 1574, **John, Margery, Richard and Thomas Hawke** were recorded.

On 30th March 1558, "**John Hawke** surrendered in Court into the hands of the lord, a messuage called **Paches**, a garden and a parcel of land held by copy of Court Roll, to the use of **Robert Gardener** according to the custom of the manor. Rent 5d per annum." Paches (or Patches) was about half a mile south of Ightham village at **Copthall**. The little group of holdings at Copthall may have been known as the copyholds with Copthall a corruption of copyholds (CRI 1938, pp.47, 78, 71). Much more detail was given by Harrison regarding copyholds for a piece of land Reginald Hawkes held at the time of his death - see page 2.h.81.

The **Thomas**, who was a **borsholder**, could have been the father of Elizabeth baptised 1563 (i396<sup>48</sup> below). A Thomas Hawke and his wife Katherine died within ten days of each other in 1593 and, again, these could have been Elizabeth's parents but her mother's name was not given at her baptism.



No details are given for the **Richard Hawke** mentioned 1553 to 1574 but he could have been the Richard whose son was buried in 1570 and (if it was the same man) married Clemence Caly in 1572 - see i392 below. The "Iodoca" buried March 1571, recorded only as "Iodoca Hawke", could have been Richard's first wife.

All these are very tentative relationships.

| Num    | Name                                | Born        | Married     | Spouse   | M | C | Died          |
|--------|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--|---|---|---------------|
| i396   | <u>HAWKE, Thomas</u><br>-----<br>   |             |             | Katherine Hawke(m)<br>i417   | 1 | 1 | 24 Feb 1593   |
| i417   | <u>Hawke(m), Katherine</u><br>----- |             |             |  | 1 | 1 | 5 Mar 1593    |
| • i142 | <u>Hawke, Elizabeth</u>             | 14 Feb 1563 | 24 Jan 1589 | John SIFLET<br>married at 25 see <a href="#">Siflet i134 in Families &amp; Transcripts</a> | 1 | 2 |               |
| i392   | <u>HAWKE, Richard</u><br>-----      |             |             |  | 2 | 1 |               |
|        | <i>Marriage 1</i>                   |             |             | Iodoca Hawke(m)<br>#393  | 1 | 1 |               |
| i393   | <u>Hawke(m), Iodoca</u><br>-----    |             |             |  | 1 | 1 | 2 Mar 1571    |
| • i394 | <u>HAWKE, William</u>               |             |             |  |   | 0 | 0 27 Nov 1570 |
|        | <i>Marriage 2</i>                   |             | 14 Sep 1572 | Clemence Caly i395   | 1 | 0 |               |

## *Other Baptisms and Burials 1592 to 1599*

"[Henry Hauke, of Shorne, taylor](#)" was mentioned in the Court Records for 1586-1618. **Jane** (i403), daughter of **Henry Hawke** (i401), was baptised on 22nd October 1592. A Henry Hawke was buried on 24th March 1599.

**Agnes** (i411), daughter of **Thomas Hawke** (i402), was baptised on 3rd January 1593.

**Elizabeth Hawke, widow** (i419) was buried on 8th May 1593.

**Anne Hawke, widow** (i420) was buried on 13th February 1594.

## 1586 to 1618

In the later period, 1586-1618, five women were mentioned: **Alice, Ann, Elizabeth, Jane and Margaret**. Ann could have been the widow buried in 1594 and Elizabeth the wife of **William** (i343) - see page 2.h.80). Jane and Margaret were the daughters of **Reginald Hawke**. A "**widow Hawkes**" was also mentioned and, although both William's and George's wives died before their husbands, in addition to Anne, there was an **Elizabeth Hawke, widow** buried in 1593 - see page 2.h.74.

The men mentioned are:

- **George Hawke** (i400) who, at some time, held the office of **ale taster** - see pages 2.h.76 and 2.h.77.
- **Henry Hawke** (i401) - see page 2.h.74
- **James Hawke**
- **Reginald Hawke** - see page 2.h.81
- **Richard Hawke** - on 16th October 1598 he was found to have "**carried away certain stones from the common way at the Water Plashett on Oldbury Hill to the detriment of the public way. Ordered to amend it before 30 November under penalty 3s 4d.**" (CRI 1937, p.195) This could have been the same Richard as was mentioned earlier - i392, see page 2.h.73.

- **Thomas Hawke** who could have been i396 mentioned 1553-74 (see page 2.h.73) or i402 (see page 2.h.4)
- **William Hawke** (i343) - see page 2.h.80

## George Hawke

| Num     | Name                            | Born        | Married | Spouse                 | M | C | Died   |
|---------|---------------------------------|-------------|---------|------------------------|---|---|--|
| i400    | <u>HAWKE, George</u><br>-----   |             |         | Joane Hawke(m)<br>i421 | 1 | 5 | > Sep 1621   |
| i421    | <u>Hawke(m), Joane</u><br>----- |             |         |                        | 1 | 5 | 26 Sep 1621  |
| • i408  | <u>Hawke, Ellen</u>             | 28 Jul 1583 |         |                        | 0 | 0 | 20 Jun 1601  |
| • i409  | <u>Hawke, Elizabeth</u>         | 5 Dec 1585  |         |                        | 0 | 0 |  |
| • i2710 | <u>HAWKE, John</u>              | 10 Nov 1588 | in Seal |                        | 0 | 0 |  |
| • i342  | <u>Hawke, Mercie</u>            | 27 Feb 1592 |         |                        | 0 | 0 |  |
| • i343  | <u>HAWKE, William</u>           | 22 Dec 1594 |         | Elizabeth Hawke(m)     | 1 | 5 | > Mar 1654<br>see page 2.h.80 for his children                                   |
| • i410  | <u>HAWKE, Robert</u>            | 18 Dec 1597 |         |                        | 0 | 0 | 14 Jul 1648<br>if baptism and burial refer to the same person, Robert died at 50 |

## *Further Presentations of George Hawke*

- On 2nd September 1591, **William Petley** (i1045) assaulted **George Hawke** (i400) striking him with his fist. Hawke "then and there" assaulted Petley. Hawke was fined 12d and Petley 4d, at the Court held on 5th October (CRI 1938, p.4)
- On 5th April 1592, **George Chowning** and **George Hawke** were presented to the Court for having received a number of "strangers" - **John Williams**, **John Dene** (see **Deane in More Families & Transcripts**), **Richard Cohyn**, **John Curd** and **Edward Lambert** (see **Hunter**). All of them except Williams and Dene were to each be fined 10s if the outsiders stayed without sureties being found. (CRI 1938, p.17)
- George Hawke was presented to the Court on 5th October 1593 for having "obstructed the highway between **Rowles Wood and Ivy Hatch** with the trunks of two trees. To be removed before Christmas, under penalty 3s 4d". (CRI 1937, p.200) Rowles (Rose) Wood was about one-and-a-quarter miles south-west of Ightham village, a third of a mile north of Ivy Hatch (CRI 1938, p.79)

- On 24th April 1595, **Robert Baldwyn (Balden)** was fined 6d for assaulting George Hawke at Ightham and striking him with his fists. (CRI 1938, p.5).
- George Hawkes came before the Court three times because of the state of his ditch at Moresoles. The ditch, whose name was spelt in a number of ways, lay near Rose Wood (see above) which was boggy ground and the word may mean "**moor-ponds**" (CRI 1938, p.76). On 16th October 1598, he was "**ordered to purge and scour his ditch at Musols before 30 November**". On 6th October 1603, he "**was given till 1 November to scour out his ditch at Mossalls**". Yet again, on 7th October 1612, he and **William Hubberd** were found to have allowed "**their ditch next to Mugsolles to be unscoured, to the detriment of the highway there. Given till 1 November to clean it**". Each time, the penalty for not cleaning it was 3s 4d. (CRI 1937, p.200 & 201).
- Five years after this last presentation for the state of the ditch, when George would have been approaching sixty, he was fined 6s 8d because, on 23rd October 1617, he "**made contempt in open Court and used certain scandalous words against the steward of the manor and the jurors of the Court**". (CRI 1938, p.31)
- On 26th October 1618 the Court heard that there was a "**way leading from Ashwell to Ivy Hatch Plain towards the Beacon is a common way 'to lead,**

drive and travel' and so it has been used from a time of which the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, as was tested by the oath of **John Ivill** and **John Saxton** in open Court in the same matter and, by the oath of other old men of this inquest, it was testified that the said way has lately been stopped up by George Hawkes or his predecessors. George Hawkes was therefore ordered to open the way before 2 February next, under penalty 10s. The way referred to is an acknowledged public footpath which leaves the west side of the road running northwards from the Mote to Ivy Hatch at a spring (Ashewell) and bears in the direction of Ivy Hatch Plain and the old beacon which communicated towards the south and east with Crowborough and Goudhurst and towards the north with Cobham." (CRI 1937, p.195).

This mention of "George Hawkes or his predecessors" sounds as if the George referred to had just taken over the land. Were there two George Hawkes? If so, this complicates the "family" shown on page 2.h.76.

## William Hawke, son of George

| Num  | Name                              | Born        | Married                     | Spouse                   | M | C | Died         |
|------|-----------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---|---|--------------|
| i343 | <u>HAWKE, William</u><br>-----    | 22 Dec 1594 | 6 Aug 1620<br>married at 25 | Elizabeth Goodge<br>i422 | 1 | 8 | > Mar 1654   |
|      |                                   |             |                             |                          |   |   |              |
| i422 | <u>Goodge, Elizabeth</u><br>----- |             |                             |                          | 1 | 8 | 14 Mar 1654  |
| •    | i412 <u>Hawke, Elizabeth</u>      | 28 Apr 1622 |                             |                          |   | 0 | 0            |
| •    | i413 <u>Hawke, Anne</u>           | 1 Aug 1624  |                             |                          |   | 0 | 0            |
| •    | i414 <u>Hawke, Marie</u>          | 5 Feb 1626  |                             |                          |   | 0 | 0            |
| •    | i415 <u>Hawke, Helen</u>          | 13 Aug 1626 |                             |                          |   | 0 | 0 2 Nov 1626 |
| •    | i416 <u>Hawke, Katherine</u>      | 9 Dec 1627  |                             |                          |   | 0 | 0            |
| •    | #3784 <u>HAWKE, Robert</u>        | 6 Jun 1630  |                             |                          |   | 0 | 0            |
| •    | #3785 <u>HAWKE, William</u>       | 24 Nov 1633 |                             |                          |   | 0 | 0            |
| •    | #3786 <u>Hawke, Sara</u>          | 19 Feb 1637 |                             |                          |   | 0 | 0            |

William was mentioned in the Court Records for 1586-1618

The three last children were **baptised in Seal** as the children of William and Elizabeth Hawkes. The dates follow on from those of the earlier children and the Hawkes family could have moved from one parish to the other.



The baptisms of Marie and Helen were only 7 months and a week apart. Marie could have been a few weeks old when she was baptised and Helen could have been born prematurely and baptised directly if she was not expected to survive. There was no other William Hawke having children at this time.

## *Reginald Hawkes & Admittance to Copyhold Lands*

**Reginald Hawkes** (i2716) was first mentioned in the Court Rolls on 14th April 1586 when he was fined 4d for "not doing suit at the Court" (CRI 1938, p.35). He died in 1612 but his burial was not recorded in the parish register and there is no record of any family.

He did, however, have heirs and their experience is used by Harrison to illustrate the procedure followed in order to obtain admittance to copyhold lands as the successor to a tenant who had died.

The first extract from the Court Records is for 7th October 1612: "Reginald Hawkes held at the time of his death, of the lord of this manor, by copy of Court Roll, one customary messuage and one garden with two parcels of land containing three acres. No heriot accrued because he had no live animal at the time of his death."

"**Margaret and Jane**, as sisters and co-heirs of the said Reginald, ought to enjoy the premises. Upon which a first proclamation was made for anyone claiming the premises as next heir of Reginald. Whereupon **Margaret Hawkes and Jane Hawkes**<sup>49</sup>, sisters and co-heirs of Reginald, appeared and prayed to be separately admitted to the premises, namely Margaret to the one half of the premises and Jane to the other. Upon which, in the sitting Court, the lord by his steward, with the consent of the said Margaret and Jane, granted to them seisin of the premises by the rod, to have and to hold one half of the said messuage, garden and three acres of land, with the appurtenances, to Margaret and her heirs, and the other half of the same premises to Jane and her heirs at the will of the lord, according to the custom of the manor, by rent per annum 10d, suit of Court, heriot and relief when they fall due. And they paid to the lord a fine of £5 for such their separate estates and admittance to the premises so had, and separately did fealty to the lord in Court and were admitted tenants in the form aforesaid."

"Two years later Margaret, a married woman, gave up her share of the premises to her sister Jane. To the Court held on 27th June 1614, came **William Gibson**<sup>50</sup> and Margaret his wife, one of the sisters and co-heirs of Reginald Hawkes, deceased,

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49 i2718 and i2719

50 i2720

and the said Margaret, in open Court, after separate and secret<sup>51</sup> examination by the steward, surrendered into the hands of the lord by the acceptance of the steward of the manor all her one half share or part . . . with the intention that the lord should deign to re-grant the premises to Jane Hawkes, sister of the said Margaret, and her heirs, at the will of the lord according to the custom of the manor”.

"Upon which Jane appeared in Court and sought admittance to the premises according to the intention of the surrender. At whose request the lord by his steward granted to the said Jane seisin of the premises by the rod, to have to her and her heirs at the will of the lord according to the custom of the manor, by rent 9d [and other incidents]. The said Jane gave to the lord a fine of 40s for such estate and for admittance so had and so was admitted tenant and did fealty in Court." (CRI 1938, p.47-48)

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51 secret in order to preclude unfair pressure by her husband

## *Margaret Hayman, wife of John of Yalding*

Margaret Hayman was one of the very few wives who wrote a will (CKS: Drb/Pwr 11.151). The reason why Margaret wrote her will was that John Hayman was her second husband since she had children of which John was not the father. Although we have nothing to go on except the will, it looks as if Margaret trusted her husband to continue looking after his stepchildren.

From her will, it seems that her first husband left her £8 a year for the upkeep of their children until such/s  
time as they came of age when the money was to go to them. She had also been left some moveable goods which, on her death, were to go to the children and her first husband must, in his will, have left instructions that, should she marry again, she must first make arrangements to ensure that the children would eventually get what was due to them from his will. Thus, an indenture had been made before she married John who was now to become her executor and overseer and he was to have the £8 until her children came “to their full age” and then he was to “restore the said rent to my said children to their own proper use and most profit”. He was also to see her “moveables equally distributed amongst” them.

1 In the name of god Amen. 2nd  
2 day of April in the 1st year of the reign of our sovereign  
3 lord Edward the sixth . . . I,  
4 Margaret Hayman, being the wife of **John Hayman** of the  
5 parish of Yalding in the county of Kent and in the diocese of  
6 Rochester being in good and perfect mind and remembrance,  
7 thanks be to god, and also having ?? of my said  
8 life to make my testament containing therein my last  
9 will as shall appear hereafter in this manner and form following:  
10 **Item:** I bequeath and commend my soul into the hands of god  
11 ?? almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and to his son  
12 Jesus Christ, the only saviour, etc. and my body to be buried  
13 in the parish churchyard of Yalding and, by virtue of  
14 ?? testament and last will do ordain and  
15 make my foresaid husband John Hayman my true, lawful  
16 and sole executor and also the overseer and guardian of my  
17 children and to take and retain? my yearly  
18 sum of eight pounds at such times of the year that it  
19 shall be due to me, mine executors and assigns as my ??

20 shall truly specify unto such time as my children shall come  
21 to their full age and then I will that my said husband  
22 and executor shall restore the said rent to my said  
23 children to their own proper use and most profit. Also I will  
24 that he shall see my moveables equally distributed  
25 among my said children which moveables shall appear in an  
26 indenture. Witnesses of this my present last will and  
27 testament **Edward Standish, curate? of Yalding, John  
Richard, Nicholas Hayman**, my brother-in-law and **Richard Turge** with  
others.

## *James Helande of Yalding*

Although this will was transcribed from the original which has survived (**CKS: Drb/Pw 8**), it looks to be a copy of the actual original since there are no marks or signatures at the end. It looks to be written by a professional scribe and has lines drawn on the paper to keep the lines horizontal and also lines for the left and right margins.

James's daughter, who was his heir, was under eighteen when he wrote his will. She had the name "Samuel", most unusual for a girl.

The year the will was written is given in an unusual form: "[in the year of the incarnation of our lord and saviour Christ 1563](#)"

*Will of James Helande of Yalding*

written 23rd April 1563  
transcript from original

1 In the name of God Amen. The 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April in the year of the incarnation of our lord and saviour

2 Christ 1563. I, James Helende of Yalding in the diocese of Rochester, being  
of whole mind and good memory, lauded  
3 be god, make and ordain this my present testament containing therein my  
last will in manner and form following that here followeth,  
4 That is to say, **First:** I bequeath my soul in to the hands of Almighty God  
and heavenly father and my body to be buried  
5 within the church yard of Yalding aforesaid. **It:** I give and bequeath all my  
moveable goods and cattalls and debts unto  
6 **Agnes, my wellbeloved wife,** only except a cupboard, a folde table and  
furnace<sup>52</sup> the which cupboard, table and  
7 furnace, my will and mind is shall remain unremoved within my house to  
the use of my heirs. And all the residue of  
8 of all my moveable goods and catalls, my debts paid, my body buried, I  
give wholly unto Agnes, my wife with her  
9 dwelling in my house and all the profits and unremovables of my said  
houses and lands to the bringing up of  
10 **my daughter Samuel Helande** in the fear of god and in the knowledge of  
godly lives, paying the lord's rent  
11 and keeping m houses and ?? from all impairment of waste and when  
Samuel, my daughter, do come

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52 "furness"



12 to her age of 18 years then my will, mind and intent is that, she, the said  
Samuel, to peaceably and  
13 quietly enter in and upon all my said houses and lands with appurtenances  
there unto belonging. **To** have and  
14 to hold, possess and enjoy to her ?? and her heirs of her body lawfully  
begotten forever,  
15 **yielding** and paying to Agnes, my wife, of the yearly annuity of her life  
natural of my said wife 13s  
16 4d quarterly to be paid. And if it so fortune thjat Samuel, my daughter, do  
decease before she come  
17 to the age of 18 years and without heirs of her body lawfully begotten, then  
I will my said  
18 houses and all ?? with their appurtenances aforesaid to remain to **Richard**  
**Hyland**, the son of my  
19 younger brother, and the said Richard Hyland to pay yearly unto Agnes, my  
wife, 13s 4d during all  
20 the term of her said natural life. And for the default of payment according  
to this my last will  
21 and testament, I will my said wife to reenter in and upon all and every part  
and parcel of my said  
22 houses, lands with appurtenances afore mentioned and to ?? the  
distresses then so found

23 to impound and withhold the distresses until she be fully paid with the ??  
of the same if  
24 any be. Moreover, I ordain and make Agnes, my wife, executor and I desire  
**my kinsman, John**  
25 **Willard** to be the overseer of this my last will and testament. **Witnesses**  
unto at the making  
26 hereof **John March, Roger Fry, John Drune, and James Bowles** with others.

## *Henry Hewit of Seal*

Henry Hewit (#3713) had two sons baptised in Seal:

- William            #3715            29 Apr 1610
- John                #3716            24 Oct 1611

Henry was one of the members of the jury which investigated the alleged infanticide of Benedicta Sherman in 1611 - see [Sherman in More Families & Transcripts](#).

## *Edward Hewitt of Shipbourne & his Daughter Margaret*

The wills of Edward Hewitt and his daughter Margaret have survived:

|                 |             |                       |             |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Edward Hewitt   | 7 Jun 1566  | Drb/Pw 8; Pwr 13.266  | page 2.h.94 |
| Margaret Hewitt | 29 Nov 1581 | Drb/Pw 13; Pwr 16.165 | page 2.h.95 |

Edward was a sawyer who seems to have had only one daughter, Margaret, living in 1566. She was under 23 at that time and on her mother's death she was to inherit the lease of Edward's house and garden in Shipbourne which was initially left to his wife Julian who married William Nicholson on 28th November 1566 less than six months after Edward wrote his will. The lease had forty years to run from 1566. Margaret died twelve years later when her mother was still alive.

Margaret's will was written by Nicholas Hooper who wrote many wills from the 1580s to 1618. The lease of the house and garden (in which at this time William Nicolson (and presumably Margaret's mother) was living was left, on Julian's death, to the children of Margaret's uncle Edmond Jessop. Thus Julian must have been born a Jessop. From Margaret's will the following tree can be drawn up:

| JESSOPP -    |        |   |          |               |                             |
|--------------|--------|---|----------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| -----        |        |   |          |               |                             |
|              | \$2287 |   | \$2288   | \$10          | \$11 \$59                   |
|              | Edmond | - | Alice    | Edward HEWITT | - Julian - William NICOLSON |
| <i>will:</i> |        |   |          | 7 Jun 1566    |                             |
| <i>bur:</i>  |        |   |          |               | 12 Oct 1599                 |
|              | -----  |   |          |               |                             |
|              |        |   |          |               | \$12                        |
|              |        |   | Johane ? | Margaret      |                             |
| <i>born:</i> |        |   |          | >1543         |                             |
| <i>will:</i> |        |   |          | 29 Nov 1581   |                             |

Margaret appointed her “trusty friend”, Richard Collyns, butcher, as her executor. Were Margaret and Richard to have married if she had not died? The Shipbourne Collyns were a large family including Richard Collyns whose will of 1596 has survived (see [Collyns in More Families & Transcripts](#)) This Richard (\$67) was described as “gent.” in his will and it is unlikely that he was the butcher of 1581.

1 In the name of god Amen. The  
2 7th day of June in the year of our lord  
3 god 1566, I, Edward Hewitt,  
4 **sawyer**, being of perfect memory,  
5 thanks be given to god, I do make and  
6 ordain this my last will in manner  
7 and form following: **First:** I bequeath  
8 my soul into the hands of the almighty  
9 god and my body to be buried in the  
10 churchyard of Shipbourne. **Item:** I  
11 give and bequeath the **Julian, my wife**,  
12 the profit of the lease of my house and  
13 garden in Shipbourne for the space of  
14 40 years if the said Julian, my wife, so  
15 long do live, keeping all the reparations  
16 sufficiently, and, immediately after the  
17 decease of Julian, my wife, or at the end  
18 of the forty years, I give and bequeath the said  
19 lease of my said house and garden to

20 **Margaret, my daughter**, and to her  
21 executors for ever. **Item:** I give to Margaret,  
22 my daughter, a bed with all things  
23 belonging to it, a pewter dish and a  
24 posnett to be delivered at the years and age  
25 of 23 years. All the rest of my goods I give  
26 to Julian, my wife, whom I make my  
27 executrix, those being witness **William**  
28 **Tompson** and **Robert Swan**.

*Will of Margaret Hewitt of Shipbourne*

written 29th November 1581

transcript from original

1 In the name of god Amen. The nine and twentieth day of November in the  
year of  
2 our lord god a thousand, five hundred, four score and one and in the four  
and twentieth  
3 year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth, by the grace of god,  
Queen of England,

4 France and Ireland, defender of the faith. I, Margaret Hewitt, of the parish  
of  
5 Shipbourne in the County of Kent, **singlewoman**, being sick and weak in  
body and therefore put  
6 in mind of the change and alteration of this life, and being of good and  
perfect remembrance,  
7 thanked therefore be god almighty, Do Ordain and make this my present  
testament and  
8 last will in manner and form following: **First:** I will and bequeath my soul  
to god  
9 almighty and Jesus Christ, his only son and my saviour and Redeemer, by  
whose merit,  
10 precious death and blood shedding, I trust to obtain remission and  
forgiveness of all my sins and  
11 my body to be buried in the churchyard of Shipbourne aforesaid. **Item:** I  
give and bequeath  
12 to the box or chest of the poor of Shipbourne aforesaid 5s. **Item:** I give and  
bequeath to  
13 **Johane Home, my goddaughter**, one coat ready to her body to me made of  
the price of 5s. **Item:**  
14 I give and bequeath to **John Johnson, my godson**, 2s and to **his father, John  
Johnson,**



15 toward the setting up of his house, another 2s. **Item:** to **father Lye** 8d.  
**Item:** I give  
16 and bequeath to **Margaret Sexten, a poor maiden**, my best red petticoat,  
my best hat and  
17 one pair of sheets. **Item:** I give and bequeath to **John Seldon** 12d. **Item:** I  
give  
18 and bequeath to **Johane Jessopp, my kinswoman**, my best russet petticoat.  
**Item:** to **Barbara**  
19 **Burgess**, a kerchief, a neckerchief and my blue apron. **Item:** to **Elizabeth**  
**Hadlow**, a kerchief,  
20 a neckerchief and a linen apron. **Item:** I will and bequeath to **my natural**  
**and wellbeloved**  
21 **mother, Julian Nicolson**, the sum of forty shillings lawful money now being  
in  
22 the hands of **Richard Collyn** upon condition that my said mother shall give,  
discharge and pay  
23 all my said legacies and gifts before herein being willed and bequeathed  
and bring my body honestly  
24 to the earth and in and during my sickness honestly to keep and cherish  
me and to bestow  
25 the residue of the said 40s (if any be remaining) among poor people at my  
burial at the discretion

26 of her, my said mother<sup>53</sup>. **Item:** whereas **my late father, Edward Hewitt**, by  
his last will and  
27 testament willed and bequeathed (after my said mother's decease) that  
tenement wherein **William Nicolson**,  
28 **my father-in-law**<sup>54</sup>, now dwelleth with a garden, orchard and parcel of land  
thereto adjoining, by estimation half  
29 an acre in Shipbourne aforesaid, to me the said Margaret Hewitt and myne  
executors during  
30 and until th'end of a lease from one **Richard Hadlow, carpenter**, to the said  
Edward made, I will  
31 and give all my right, title, interest, bequest and time of years therein and  
then to come of the said lease  
32 to the children of **Edmond Jessopp, myne uncle**, between the said **Edmond**  
**and Alice**, his late  
33 wife, deceased begotten, equally between them, the said children, to be  
34 divided. To have and to hold the said equally between them, to them and  
every of them and the  
35 executors of them and every of them during the residue of the said time of  
years not expended at the

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53 the money bequests detailed by Margaret total 15s 8d but, in addition, there were the funeral expenses

54 step-father, Margaret's mother's second husband

36 decease of my said mother. The residue of all my goods and cattalls I  
wholly and with  
37 good effect give and bequeath to my trusty friend **Richard Collyn** of  
Shipbourne  
38 aforesaid, **butcher**, to th'end that he shall see this my will proved which  
said Richard Collyn  
39 I make my full, whole and sole executor. In witness whereof I, the said  
Margaret Hewitt  
40 to this my present testament and last will have set my hand, seal yeven<sup>55</sup>  
the day and year  
41 first above written<sup>56</sup> in the presence of the said Richard Collyn and of  
42 me **Nicolas Hooper**<sup>57</sup>

**Richard Collyn**<sup>58</sup>

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55 given

56 this could possibly be Margaret's signature

57 implying he was the writer of the will

58 also looks like a signature

# The Hickmotes of Seal

| Num                | Name                              | Born        | Married        | Spouse                        | M | C | Died            |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------------------|---|---|-----------------|
| #910 <sup>59</sup> | <u>HICKMOTE, Averell</u><br>----- |             |                |                               |   | 1 | 7               |
| • #912             | <u>Hickmote, Maudlyne</u>         | 22 Mar 1579 | 16 Oct 1608    | George SMITH<br>married at 29 |   |   | 1 0             |
| • #1111            | <u>Hickmote, Ann</u>              | 5 Feb 1581  |                | #2029                         |   |   | 0 0             |
| • #1174            | <u>HICKMOTE, James</u>            | 12 Oct 1582 | given as "da." | although "James"              |   |   | 0 0             |
| • #1306            | <u>HICKMOTE, John</u>             | 25 Jun 1585 |                |                               |   |   | 0 0             |
| • #1445            | <u>Hickmote, Elizabeth</u>        | 22 Oct 1587 |                |                               |   |   | 0 0             |
| • #1957            | <u>Hickmote, Johane</u>           |             |                |                               |   |   | 0 0 23 Jul 1592 |
| • #1832            | <u>HICKMOTE, Thomas</u>           | 6 Oct 1594  |                |                               |   |   | 0 0             |

In 1602 Averell Hickmote or his assigns had the tenancy of some land owned by Lawrence Atherfold - see [Atherfold in Families & Transcripts](#)

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<sup>59</sup> # indicates a reference in the Seal database

# The Highs of Seal

The will of Richard Hye (High) of Seal has survived (**CKS: Drb/Pw 21**) but it is too damaged to read and no probate copy exists. It was proved in 1608 and is likely to be the will of the Richard High who was buried on 3rd June 1608. The following family can be reconstructed from the parish records.

| Num                 | Name                           | Born        | Married     | Spouse        | M | C | Died        |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|---|---|-------------|
| #1009 <sup>60</sup> | <u>HIGH, Richard</u><br>-----  | <1559       |             |               | 2 | 3 | 3 Jun 1608  |
|                     | <i>Marriage 1</i>              |             | 19 Jul 1579 | Agnes Richard | 1 | 2 |             |
| #1010               | <u>Richard, Agnes</u><br>----- | <1559       |             |               | 1 | 2 | 19 Mar 1584 |
| • #1086             | <u>HIGH, John</u>              | 8 Aug 1580  |             |               | 0 | 0 |             |
| • #1181             | <u>High, Sara</u>              | 13 Jan 1583 |             |               | 0 | 0 |             |

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60 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

| Num       | Name   | Born        | Married     | Spouse  | M C | Died        |
|-----------|--|-------------|-------------|---|-----|-------------|
|           | <i>Marriage 2</i>  |             | 10 May 1585 | Isabella High(m)  |     |             |
| #1222     | <u>High(m), Isabella</u><br>-----  |             |             |   | 1 1 | 19 Apr 1608 |
|           | died 6 weeks before her husband; parish record says: "sepulta fuit"<br>the first son, Gregory was born 4 months after the marriage |             |             |   |     |             |
| • #1318   | <u>HIGH, Gregory</u> <sup>61</sup>   | 12 Sep 1585 | 4 Aug 1608  | Dorothy Fuller<br>married at 23   | 1 5 | >Aug 1638   |
| • #894    | <u>Fuller, Dorothy</u>   | 19 Dec 1578 |             | married at 30; aged 59 when she died  | 1 5 | 28 Aug 1638 |
| • • #2657 | <u>HIGH, Richard</u>   | 26 Nov 1609 | 1 Nov 1636  | Elsabeth Frenche<br>married at 27<br>#2606<br>Richard's wife, Elsabeth, was 18 when she married | 1 0 |             |
| • • #2658 | <u>HIGH, John</u>  | 29 Sep 1611 |             | John died on 22 Mar 1615 aged 3½  | 0 0 |             |
| • • #2659 | <u>HIGH, Henry</u>   | 26 Jan 1617 |             |   | 0 0 |             |
| • • #2660 | <u>HIGH, Gregory</u>   | 9 Jan 1620  |             |   | 0 0 |             |
| • • #2661 | <u>High, Sara</u>  | 15 Dec 1622 | 14 Oct 1649 | Leonard TOMLYN<br>married at 26<br>#2662  | 1 0 |             |

61 Gregory was alive when his wife, seven years older than him, died; it could have been this Gregory or his son (#2660) who was listed in the **Knole MS of 1648** for Seal village; Richard was also listed for Seal village.

## *The Hills of Ightham*

**Christopher Hills**, alias **Morgan**, clerk, of **Stansted**, was mentioned in the Court Records 1553-74.

**Richard Hills** (i1868) was buried on 19<sup>th</sup> May 1591; he was mentioned in the Court Records 1586-1618

**Robert** (i2522), son of **Thomas** (i2520) and **Dorothy Hills** (i2521) was baptised on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1641.

See [Families & Transcripts](#) for the Hills of Seal and Kemsing.

## *The Hoadleys of Shipbourne*

On 19th December 1622 “**Steven Hoadley, senior**” (\$1344) was buried in Shipbourne. This implies that there was a Steven Hoadley, junior.

Steven Hodley of Kemsing, father of the family given on the next page, was married in 1591 and so would have been approaching sixty in 1622. Perhaps by that time he had moved to Shipbourne with “Hoadley” being a different spelling of his name. His son, (k129) would have been Steven Hoadley, junior.

The wife of **John Hoadley** (\$1347) was buried on 13 Dec 1624.

The **Elizabeth Hoadley** (\$2106) who married **Thomas Chambers** (\$2100) on 21st September 1647 could have been the daughter of Steven Hoadley, junior.

Another much earlier Hoadley marriage was that of **Andrew Hoadley** (\$1120) and **Mary Denman** (\$1123 ) held on 31st January 1614.



# The Hodleys of Kemsing

| Num    | Name                               | Born        | Married     | Spouse   | M C | Died |
|--------|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--|-----|------|
| k125   | <u>HODLEY, Steven</u><br>-----<br> |             | 18 Dec 1591 | Margaret Akourt  | 1   | 9    |
| k126   | <u>Akourt, Margaret</u><br>-----   | 6 Jun 1574  |             | married at 17  | 1   | 9    |
| • k127 | <u>HODLEY, Thomas</u>              | 28 Jun 1594 |             |  | 0   | 0    |
| • k128 | <u>HODLEY, John</u>                | 4 Mar 1597  |             |  | 0   | 0    |
|        |                                    |             |             | should date for John's baptism be 1596 or that of Steven's 1598? |     |      |
| • k129 | <u>HODLEY, Steven</u>              | 16 Mar 1597 |             | born in Kemsing; baptised in Seal                                | 0   | 0    |
| • k130 | <u>HODLEY, Harry</u>               | 3 Mar 1601  |             |  | 0   | 0    |
| • k131 | <u>Hodley, Etheldred</u>           | 25 Sep 1603 |             |  | 0   | 0    |
| • k132 | <u>HODLEY, Robert</u>              | 26 Jan 1606 |             |  | 0   | 0    |
| • k133 | <u>HODLEY, Jacob</u>               | 3 Feb 1611  |             |  | 0   | 0    |
| • k134 | <u>Hodley, Deborah</u>             | 11 Oct 1614 |             |  | 0   | 0    |
| • k135 | <u>Hodley, Timothy</u>             | 28 May 1617 |             | daughter   | 0   | 0    |

Dorothy, daughter of Thomas Hodley, was baptised in Ightham on 7th December 1628 when k127 would have be thirty-four. Mary Hodley, widow, (who could have been Dorothy's mother) was buried, in Ightham, on 12th December 1634.

See Hoadleys of Shipbourne on the previous page

## The Hodsolls of Ash, Ightham and the Locality

"The Hodsolls were an old and extensive family who owned considerable land at Ivy Hatch"<sup>62</sup>. But the majority of Hodsoll wills come from Ash. Ightham and Ash are two parishes which just about touch at their northeast and southwest corners and the Hodsoll family was based mainly in these two parishes with connections to Kemsing and London.

The first surviving will is that of William Hodsoll of Rochester dated 1455 (CKS: Drb/Pwr 2.31). There is then a gap of 44 years before the next one from Ash but William of Kemsing was buried at Ash.:

|                 |              | dated | proved | Drb/Pw  | Drb/Pwr |                   |
|-----------------|--------------|-------|--------|---------|---------|-------------------|
| William Hodsoll | Ash          | 1499d |        | CKS:    | 6.121   | labourer          |
| William Hodsoll | Kemsing      | 1512d | 1513p  | CKS:    | 7.6     | page 2.h.107, 110 |
| Thomas Hodsoll  | Ash          | 1536d | 1537p  | CKS:    | 9.240   |                   |
| William Hodsoll |              |       | 1550p  | CKS:    | 4       |                   |
| Thomas Hodsoll  | Ash          |       | 1556p  | CKS: 5; | 12.16   | yeoman            |
| John Hodsoll    | West Malling | 1556d |        | CKS: 5; | 12.69   |                   |
| Robert Hodsoll  | Kemsing      | 1592  | 1592p  | CKS 16; | 18.143  | page 2.h.110      |
| Eleanor Hodsoll | Ash          |       | 1631p  | CKS: 28 |         | widow             |

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62 The Story of Ightham, F.J.Bennet, p.66; see also Wills & Other Records Relating to the Family of Hodsoll, A.C. Vol. 14 (1882) which covers years 1423 to 1788

## *William Hodsooll, will 1512*

William Hodsooll of Kemsing, in 1512, left 3s 4d to the high altars of both Ash and Kemsing churches and the rent of a piece of land to the church of Ash. He also left 6d to the repair of the highway leading to the lych gate.

*Will of William Hodsooll of Kemsing*

written 1512

transcript from probate copy (original has not survived)

1 In die . . . Amen. Anno. Dom. 1512 . . .  
2 . . . I, William Hodsooll, of the parish of Kemsing . . .  
3 whole in mind, make my testament and last will in this  
4 wise: **First:** I bequeath my soul to god, my body to be  
5 buried within the churchyard of **Ash**. **Item:** I bequeath to the high  
6 altar of Ash 3s 4d and as much to the high altar of  
7 Kemsing. **Item:** I will it be said at my month's day and  
8 at my burying day, half a trentall of masses for my soul.  
9 Also I bequeath to **Elizabeth, my wife**, all the residue of my  
10 other goods not gifted. Also, I will that the yearly rent of  
11 a piece of land called **Blacksoll croft** lying in the parish

12 of **Stansted**<sup>63</sup> for ever remain to the church of Ash  
13 foresaid to the extent to find a lamp burning in time  
14 of dying? . . . saying . . . **Item:** I bequeath to the  
15 mending of the highway between **Hambyells croft** and the  
16 lych? gate 6d. Also I will that Elizabeth, my wife, have  
17 all my lands and tenements with all their appurtenances lying and  
18 being in the County of Kent during her life time. And  
19 after her departing, I will that all the lands and tenements withall  
20 their appurtenances wholly remain to **William Hodsoll of Chipstead**  
21 and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten for evermore. And  
22 for lack of heirs of his body lawfully begotten, I will that all the  
23 said lands and tenements with all their appurtenances remain  
24 to the next right heirs of the Hodsolls for evermore. And  
25 I make and ordain mine executors **James Lamms of Ash** and  
26 Elizabeth, my wife. And my ?? **Thomas ??** of ??,  
27 **gent.** I will James Lamms shall have for his labours  
28 3s 4d and his expenses. Witnesses **Sir John ??**  
**Atherfold** and **James ??**

---

63 Ash is about four miles north of Ightham with Stansted to its south-east. There is a **Hodsoll Street** in Stansted.

## *Robert Hodsoll, jurat*

**Robert Hodsoll** (k587<sup>64</sup>), jurat of Kemsing, witnessed the will of William Pynden in 1590. His daughter, Joane, was baptised in Kemsing on 14th March 1585 and he was buried on 8th March 1592.

Robert's wife, whom he made his executrix was Luce (or Lucy) and **Lucy Hodsall**, "**Robert Hodsoll, gent**" and "**Thomas Hodsoll, gent**" (i1941)<sup>65</sup> were mentioned in the Ightham Court Records 1586-1618. Robert could have been the testator since, although he was described in his will as a yeoman, it is not unknown for a man to be described in different ways at different times.

His will is very interesting in that he had, by an indenture dated 23rd September 1583, the "[custody, wardship and marrying](#)" of John Shepperd/Stephen whom he describes as his son-in-law, a term which could be used for stepson. This he left to his two nephews, William and Thomas Hodsoll. To have the wardship of a child indicates that Robert was of some standing.

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64 k indicates a reference in the Kemsing database, i in that for Ightham and # for that for Seal

65 see page 2.h.113 for Thomas's family

At the time of writing his will he owed £18 to his nephew Thomas who was to have all his wheat in the barn and house and “*what the wheat shall want of £18 in price, I will shall be paid . . . in money*”.

One of the witnesses to the will is Robert Hodsoll, the younger. The testator had an underage daughter, Joane, but mentions no other children and it is unlikely that he left the wardship of John to his nephews if Robert, the younger, was his son.

*Will of Robert Hodsoll of Kemsing*

written 5th March 1591/2  
transcript from probate copy

1 In the name of god Amen.  
2 The fifth of March Anno Diem 1591, I,  
3 Robert Hodsoll of Kemsing in the county of Kent,  
4 yeoman, being sick in body but whole in  
5 mind, thanked be god, do make and ordain  
6 this my last will and testament in man  
7 ner and form following: **First** I bequeath  
8 my soul to the Almighty and my body  
9 to be buried in the church of Kemsing.

10 **Item:** I will that my **nephew, Thomas Hodsoll,**  
11 shall have all my wheat in the barn and  
12 house in part payment of 18 pounds  
13 which I do owe unto him and what the  
14 wheat shall want of 18 pounds in  
15 price, I will shall be paid unto my said  
16 nephew, Thomas, in money at the nativity  
17 of St. John the Baptist next coming by  
18 mine executrix. **Item:** I will that my  
19 **William Hodsoll** and Thomas  
20 Hodsoll shall have the custody, wardship  
21 and marrying of **my son-in-law, John**  
22 **Shepperd,** in as ample manner and  
23 form as I, the said Robert Hodsoll, had  
24 of our sovereign lady the Queen  
25 Majesty that now is by an indenture  
26 bearing date the 23rd day of Septem  
27 ber in the 25th year of her majesty's  
28 reign, my said nephews, William and  
29 Thomas, to pay unto **my daughter, Joane**  
30 **Hodsoll,** the sum of twenty pounds of  
31 lawful money of England at the age of  
32 21years or at her day of marriage

33 which shall happen first. **Item:** I will and  
34 bequeath unto **my niece, Joane Hodsoll,**  
35 10s to be paid within three years  
36 next after my decease. **Item:** I will and  
37 bequeath unto mine old friend **Mr. Lancelott**  
38 **Lovelace** 8s upon condition that he shall  
39 direct, aid and assist my said nephews,  
40 William and Thomas, in all their business  
41 about the seeing out the liveries and  
42 meanerates the said John Stephen<sup>66</sup>. All  
43 the residue of my goods and chattels, my  
44 funeral and debts discharged and paid,  
45 I will and bequeath unto **Luce, my wife,**  
46 whom I make and ordain my whole  
47 and only executrix. The hand and seal  
48 of Robert Hodsoll, the testator. In witness  
49 whereof **Robert Hodsoll, the younger,**  
50 **Thomas Gardner.**

---

66 looks like Stephen here rather than Shepperd as on line 21; the word at be beginning of this line is not known



## *The Family of Thomas Hodsoll, gent.*

Thomas Hodsoll's son Steven (i1947) was probably the **Steven Hodsoll (#2986)** who married Dorothy Cozens in Seal when he was twenty-seven and had four children baptised there. He would have been expected to appear in the **Knole MS of 1648** (see **Families & Transcripts**) but is not mentioned. Details of Thomas Hodsoll's family are given below.

**Sarah Hodsoll (i1955)** married **John Greenhead** on 12th February 1624; she could have been Thomas's eldest child, perhaps baptised in the parish from which her mother came. A John Greenhead, mentioned in the Court Records 1586-1618, could have been the father of Sarah's husband.

| Num       | Name   | Born        | Married | Spouse   | M C | Died                       |
|-----------|--|-------------|---------|--|-----|----------------------------|
| i1941     | <u>HODSOLL, Thomas</u><br>-----<br>gent  | <1581       |         | Dorothy Hodso(m)<br>i1933  | 1 8 | 17 May 1631<br>in his 50s  |
|           |  |             |         | "gent, householder" when buried  |     |                            |
| i1933     | <u>Hodso(m), Dorothy</u><br>-----  |             |         | "widow" when buried, two months after Thomas   | 1 8 | 21 July 1631<br>in her 50s |
| • i1942   | <u>HODSOLL, John</u>   | 29 Jun 1602 |         |  | 0 0 | 1 Jan 1625<br>aged 22      |
| • i1943   | <u>Hodso(m), Anne</u>  | 25 Mar 1604 |         |  | 0 0 |                            |
| • i1944   | <u>HODSOLL, Thomas</u>   | 2 Mar 1606  |         |  | 0 0 |                            |
| • i1945   | <u>HODSOLL, Henry</u>  | 14 Feb 1608 |         |  | 0 0 | 14 Feb 1608<br><1 wk       |
| • i1946   | <u>HODSOLL, William</u>  | 26 Mar 1609 |         | Jane Hodso(m)<br>i1950   | 1 4 |                            |
|           | William, gent, who married before he was 23, appears to have been Thomas's heir                    |             |         |  |     |                            |
| • • i1951 | <u>HODSOLL, William</u>  | 2 Apr 1632  |         |  |     | 0 0                        |
| • • i1952 | <u>HODSOLL, Thomas</u>   | 20 Mar 1634 |         |  |     | 0 0                        |
| • • i1953 | <u>HODSOLL, Maundie</u>  | 18 Jul 1636 |         |  |     | 0 0                        |
|           |  |             |         | "son of William Hodso(m) and Jane"   |     |                            |
| • • i1954 | <u>HODSOLL, Musgrave</u>   | 21 Mar 1646 |         |  |     | 0 0                        |
|           | "son of William Hodso(m) and Jane, alias Maxfield" but a ten year gap between Maundie and Musgrave |             |         |  |     |                            |
| • i1947   | <u>HODSOLL, Steven</u>   | 26 Mar 1611 |         | married and had children in Seal - see below<br>(i.e.i1947 & #2986 were the same person) |     |                            |
| • i1948   | <u>HODSOLL, Henry</u>  | 13 Jul 1612 |         |  | 0 0 |                            |
| • i1949   | <u>Hodso(m), Elizabeth</u>   | 19 Feb 1615 |         |  | 0 0 |                            |

| Num     | Name                            | Born         | Married    | Spouse                  | M | C | Died                      |
|---------|---------------------------------|--------------|------------|-------------------------|---|---|---------------------------|
| #2986   | <u>HODSOLL, Steven</u><br>----- | <1618        | 8 Jul 1638 | Dorothy Cozens<br>#2987 | 1 | 4 | 27 Jun 1652<br>in his 30s |
| • #2989 | <u>Hodsoll, Margaret</u>        | 23 Dec 1638  | twin       |                         | 0 | 0 |                           |
| • #2988 | <u>Hodsoll, Susanna</u>         | 23 Dec 1638  | twin       |                         | 0 | 0 | 2 Mar 1639                |
| • #2990 | <u>Hodsoll, True</u>            | 28 Sep 1642  |            |                         | 0 | 0 | 7 Oct 1642                |
| • #2991 | <u>Hodsoll, Dorothy</u>         | Nov/Dec 1648 |            |                         | 0 | 0 |                           |

# The Hollambies of Ightham

George Hollambie (i2485<sup>67</sup>) was recorded as "alias Nicholas" at the baptism of William. Thomas was recorded as the son of "George Nicholas and Joane" and the last George as the "son of George Nicholas". In addition to the inclusion of Joane's name at the baptism of Thomas, her name was also given at the baptisms of John, George and William.

| Num     | Name                              | Born        | Married | Spouse                      | M | C | Died            |
|---------|-----------------------------------|-------------|---------|-----------------------------|---|---|-----------------|
| i2485   | <u>HOLLAMBIE, George</u><br>----- |             |         | Joane Hollambie(m)<br>i2486 | 1 | 4 |                 |
| • i2487 | <u>HOLLAMBIE, John</u>            | 15 May 1636 |         |                             |   |   | 0 0             |
| • i2488 | <u>HOLLAMBIE, George</u>          | 20 Aug 1637 |         |                             |   |   | 0 0             |
| • i2490 | <u>HOLLAMBIE, William</u>         | 20 Jan 1639 |         |                             |   |   | 0 0             |
| • i2491 | <u>HOLLAMBIE, Thomas</u>          | 17 May 1640 |         |                             |   |   | 0 0             |
| • i2539 | <u>HOLLAMBIE, George</u>          | 17 Jan 1647 |         |                             |   |   | 0 0 17 Feb 1647 |

In **Shipbourne**, on 27th March 1645, **John Hollamby** (\$2009) married **Joan Baker** (\$2010).

<sup>67</sup> "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database, \$ on in that for Shipbourne

1 In the name of god Amen. The 12 day of May  
2 in the year of our Lord god 1583, I, Elizabeth Hombe, **widow**, of the parish  
of  
3 Speldhurst in the diocese of Rochester, sick in body but of good and perfect  
4 remembrance, thanks be to god, do make and ordain this my last will and  
testament  
5 in manner and form following: **First** and principally I bequeath my soul  
6 to Almighty god, my creator, redeemer and saviour and my body to be  
buried  
7 in the earth from whence it was taken forth. **Item:** I will and bequeath  
8 all my goods and cattells unto **my three children, John Hombe, George  
Hombe** and  
9 **Marie Hombe**, to be governed and ordered by the chief of the parishioners  
of  
10 Speldhurst aforesaid at their discretion, both my children and goods, and to  
see my  
11 debts paid. In witness hereof: **John Grombrege de Phamham, Robert  
Stretfield**,  
12 and **Richard Pry**, the writer hereof.

## *John Homeden of Cowden*

The will of John Homeden (or Holmden, **CKS: Drb/Pwr 13.356 (or 357)**) was written on the 8th February 1568. John had two brothers, Thomas and Richard and two married sisters all with children. He thought his wife might be pregnant so the will had to include provision for the possible child which differed depending on whether it was a boy or a girl. He also had a son Simon who could have been by a first wife rather than Margaret, whom he made his executrix.

The will, dated 1566 (**CKS: Drb/Pwr 13.279, Drb/Pw 8**), of Richard Homeden (or Holmden) of Cowden has also survived but it has not been investigated. Particularly since John had a brother Richard, this will could have been that of John's father.

*Will of John Homeden of Cowden*

written 8th February 1567/8  
transcript from probate copy

- 1 In the name of God Amen. The 8<sup>th</sup> day
- 2 of February Anno 1567, I, John Homeden of

3 Cowden in the county of Kent And in the ??  
4 of ?? being often sick in body but perfect  
5 of remembrance, thanks be given to god, do ordain  
6 and make this my last will and testament  
7 in manner and form following: **First:** I bequeath  
8 my soul to Almighty God, my creator  
9 and redeemer and my body to be buried in the church  
10 yard of Cowden aforesaid.. **Item:** I give to every  
11 one of **my brother Thomas's** children 12d  
12 a piece and to every one of **my sister Bothing's**  
13 children 12d. And to every one of **my sister**  
14 **Michael's** children 12d. **Item:** I give **William**  
15 **Homeden, the son of my brother Richard,** one  
16 bullock of a year's age. **Item:** I will that if  
17 it happen my wife be with child at my  
18 at the time of my death and the same be a man child  
19 that then I will give and bequeath to the  
20 same child £10 of currant money of England  
21 to be paid when he cometh to the age of  
22 21 years. **Item:** I will that if the same be a  
23 woman child that then I will give and  
24 bequeath to the same child £5 of lawful  
25 money of England. **Item:** I will give and

26 bequeath to **Symond Homenen, my son**, if  
27 my wife not be with child as is aforesaid  
28 £10 of currant money of England to be paid  
29 to him when he cometh to the age of 21  
30 years. And if it happen my wife to be with  
31 a woman child as is aforesaid, then I  
32 will the said Symond, my son, shall have  
33 but £5 of currant money of England to  
34 be paid as is aforesaid. **Item:** I will give  
35 and bequeath to the said Symond, my son,  
36 7 pairs of my best sheets, my best brass  
37 pan, my greatest brass pot, one table and  
38 a form, a cupboard and one featherbed with  
39 all things thereunto belonging. **Item:** I will  
40 that if my wife be with child as is afore  
41 said, then I give to the same child one  
42 flock bed with all things thereunto

*page 2:*

43 belonging. And if my wife be not with such  
44 child, then I will and give such flock bed  
45 to the said Symond, my son. **Item:** I give to  
46 the said Symond, my son, 2 kine. And all



47 my chests saving 2 chests which were my  
48 wife's before I did marry her which said two  
49 chests I give to my said wife. **Item:** I will  
50 that my overseers shall sell to ?? of my  
51 said son 4 ?? of ?? and ??. **Item:**  
52 I will that my overseers by virtue of this  
53 my will shall see my corn had into the barn  
54 ?? ?? my wife, 10 bushels of  
55 wheat and 10 bushels of oats as of my gift.  
56 and the residue of my said corn to be sold by  
57 my overseers and to be employed to the use of  
58 the said Symond, my son, All the residue  
59 of my goods and cattells not before bequeathed,  
60 my debts and legacies paid and this my  
61 last willperformed, I give and bequeath to  
62 **Margaret, my wife**, whom I ordain and  
63 make my sole executrix of this my last  
64 will and testament to see me honestly  
65 buried and this my last will performed.  
66 **Item:** I ordain and make **Thomas Homeden,**  
67 **my brother**, and **John Hills**, my overseers of  
68 this my last will and each one of them to  
69 have for their pains 2s 4d over and above

70 theri necessary charge.

71 **This is** also the last will of me the  
72 said John Homeden for the disposition of my  
73 lands and tenements. **Item:** I will give and  
74 bequeath to Symond Homeden, my son,  
75 and to the heirs male of his body lawfully  
76 begotten forever all those my lands and tenements  
77 situated, lying and being in Cowden aforesaid  
78 And for lack of such issue to remain to the  
79 right heirs male of me, the said John Homeden  
80 And these being witness **Philip ??**  
81 ?? **Nicholas Oxley,** and others

# *The Hookes of Shipbourne*

Alexander Hooke (\$1040<sup>68</sup>) had two children:

- **John** (\$1042)                      baptised 30 Jan 1612
- **Elizabeth** (\$1321)                      22 Apr 1621

On 13th January 1644, **Joane**, daughter of Elizabeth Hooke, was baptised. Elizabeth was buried a week later, on 20th January, and Joane (\$1918) on 4th February.

**Mary** (\$1041), wife of Alexander Hooke, was buried on 2nd September 1638.

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68      \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

## *The Hookers of Ightham*

**Thomas Hooker** (i2524<sup>69</sup>) and his wife **Anne** (i2525) had four children baptised in Ightham:

|   |          |       |             |                                  |
|---|----------|-------|-------------|----------------------------------|
| - | John     | i2526 | 14 Feb 1642 | “born and baptised the same day” |
| - | Thomas   | i2527 | 6 May 1644  |                                  |
| - | Margaret | i2528 | 21 Mar 1646 |                                  |
| - | Stephen  | i2624 | 30 Apr 1649 |                                  |

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69 “i” indicates a reference in the Ightham database

# The Hornes of Shipbourne

The will of Edward Horne who died on 4th April 1573 and was buried the next day, has survived (**CKS: Drb/Pw 11; Drb/Pwr 14.131**) but it has not been investigated. It was proved at the beginning of 1574. According to the parish registers a Edward Horne had six children baptised in the 1560s but the testator could have been the grandfather of these children. There was also a Robert Horne who had three children in the 1560s.

| Num               | Name                          | Born        | Married | Spouse | M | C | Died        |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|---------|--------|---|---|-------------|
| \$47 <sup>b</sup> | <u>HORNE, Edward</u><br>----- |             |         |        | 1 | 6 |             |
| • \$6             | <u>HORNE, John</u>            | 27 Oct 1560 |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |
| • \$24            | <u>HORNE, Esay</u>            |             |         |        | 0 | 0 | 18 Feb 1562 |
| • \$41            | <u>Horne, Mabel</u>           | 22 May 1564 |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |
| • \$42            | <u>Horne, Rebecca</u>         | 12 Dec 1565 |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |
| • \$76            | <u>Horne, Johane</u>          | 7 Mar 1568  |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |
| • \$77            | <u>HORNE, Edward</u>          | 23 Sep 1570 |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |

| Num     | Name                          | Born        | Married | Spouse | M | C | Died        |
|---------|-------------------------------|-------------|---------|--------|---|---|-------------|
| \$70    | <u>HORNE, Robert</u><br>----- |             |         |        | 1 | 3 |             |
| • \$73  | <u>Horne, Dorothy</u>         |             |         |        | 0 | 0 | 13 Oct 1567 |
| • \$72  | <u>Horne, Elizabeth</u>       | 16 Jan 1569 |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |
| • \$112 | <u>Horne, Johane</u>          | 3 Aug 1573  |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |

## *Richard Hosmer, broadweaver of Brenchley*

Richard Hosmer's will (CKS: Drb/Pw 21; Drb/Pwr 20.624) was written, in August 1611, by George Salmon who wrote a number of wills of which this is the earliest one which has been found. Four other wills from Brenchley and one from Ightham written by George Salmon have been discovered, the latest of these was written in 1640. Since not even all the surviving Brenchley wills for this period have been investigated, he could have written many more. The heir and executor of the will of William Gardner was William Were (or Ware) of Brenchley which could explain why the George Salmon wrote the will of a man from a village about nine miles north of Brenchley.

A George Salmon of Yalding was mentioned by both John and William Huggens of East Peckham in their wills of 1631 with William making George Salmon, who was his brother-in-law, one of his executors. This George had a son, also called George but it is likely that the father was the scriptor of the wills. The wills from Yalding need to be examined since some of these could have been written by George Salmon. Yalding is about six miles north of Brenchley.

The right hand side of Richard's will has rotted so that the end of the lines have "disappeared" - the word in { } brackets have been assumed from the context.

Only the first page has been transcribed and, if more details are required, the probate copy should be investigated.

Will of **Richard Hosmer**, broadweaver of Brenchley

written 24th August 1611

transcript from original

1 In the name of god Amen. the 24th day of August<sup>71</sup> in {the 9th year of}  
2 the reign of our most Gracious Sovereign Lord King James, by the grace of  
god King of England, {France}  
3 and Ireland, defender of the faith, etc. and of Scotland the 45th, Anno Dm.  
{1611, I,}  
4 Richard Hosmer of Brenchley in the county of Kent, **broadweaver**, being<sup>72</sup>  
sick {in body}  
5 but of good and perfect remembrance, thanks be given unto Almighty god,  
do make ??  
6 this my present testament and last will in manner and form following  
(videlt): {**First** and}

---

71 changed from "first day of February" with the other date references being amended as necessary

72 definitely "benige" here



7 principally I commit my soul into the hands of Almighty god, my only  
saviour  
8 and my body to be buried at the discretion of my executor here(after  
named. **Item:** )  
9 I give and bequeath unto the poor people of Brenchley aforesaid 13s (4d . .  
. . .)  
10 and distributed amongst them by my executore at the day of my burial.  
(**Item:** I)  
11 give and bequeath unto **Anne, my wife**, twenty pounds of lawful money of  
(England to be)  
12 paid unto her, or her assigns, by mine executor within six months (next  
13 after my decease. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto my said wife . . .  
14 in the chamber over the hall. Also the bed whereupon I lie being in the  
same . . .  
15 and all the things belonging unto the same bed. Further I give and  
bequeath unto my  
16 wife a joined chest standing? next the cupboard and two other small chests  
17 ?? **Item:** I give and bequeath unto the said Anne, my wife, ten pairs (of  
18 sheets of her own choice, the half of my pewter and of my brass and . . .  
19 of my small wooden vessels as dishes, cups, platters, troughs . . .

*written by George Salmon*



## *Sir Raff Houghton, vicar of Hadlow*

In his will which was proved on 19th September 1513, (CKS: Drb/Pwr 6.363), Sir Raff Houghton, vicar, asked to be buried in the “[belfry of the church of Hadlow](#)”

How can anyone be buried in a belfry?

At the March 1582 Assizes, a number of men including John Howell (\$186), labourer, of Shipbourne were indicted for grand larceny and burglary<sup>74</sup>.

The first indictment was that of:

|               |                    |          |               |
|---------------|--------------------|----------|---------------|
| Philip Mathew | t710 <sup>75</sup> | collier  | of Tonbridge  |
| John Selden   | \$2296             | labourer | of Shipbourne |
| John Hunter   |                    | shingler | of Hadlow     |

for grand larceny and burglary. Sometime in 1581 “they broke into the close of Thomas Everest at North Frith and stole a sheep (?)” - *the record was badly damaged.*

On 15th December 1581, the above three plus “John Howell (\$186) of Shipbourne burgled the house of Robert Grene while Robert, Catherine his wife and their four children were there, and stole £4 8s 4d in money” - *again badly damaged*

On 22nd January 1582, the above four plus:

|                   |      |            |             |
|-------------------|------|------------|-------------|
| John Reynolds     | i860 | labourer   | of Ightham  |
| John Turner, sen. |      |            | }           |
| Thomas Turner     |      | husbandman | } of Cowden |
| Stephen Wyllarde  |      | butcher    | }           |

burgled the house of John Rolfe at West Peckham while “John, Thomasine his wife and Isabella Roberts, a servant, were there and stole 8 pairs of sheets (?), several tablecloths (5s 4d), 8 rails (?), 3 crosscloths and 4 neckerchiefs (6s 8d), several pillowbars and a cupboard-cloth (8s), a diaper napkin and three table-napkins (20d), 3 rails and an apron (5s), 2 silver rings, 2 silver pins and 2 silver clasps (6s), 5s 3d in money, [?] in money from a chest, a man’s cap (2s 6d), a hanger (?), 6 cheeses (4s) and a sack (6d).”

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74 Cockburn (Eliz.I); 1100

75 “t” indicates a reference in the Tonbridge database, \$ in that for Shipbourne and “i” in that for Ightham

The following three were indicted as accessories:

|                  |        |          |                 |
|------------------|--------|----------|-----------------|
| William Blatcher | \$700  | shingler | } of Shipbourne |
| Richard Hunter   | \$2299 | paler    | }               |
| Silvester Swan   | i831   | sailor   | of Ightham      |

Thomas Turner was at large. Two of the accessories, Blatcher and Swan, were found not guilty. The others were found guilty and sentenced to hang.

## *The Two Wives of John Howell*

**Margerie** (\$187), wife of **John Howell** (\$186) was buried on 28<sup>th</sup> March 1581 and, on 20<sup>th</sup> August 1581 John married **Agnes Guilder** (\$191). This was before the burglary at Robert Grene's house.

On 7<sup>th</sup> August 1585, Agnes, widow of John Howell, married **Tobias Seldon** (\$309). Agnes could have been a widow because her first husband was the John Howell executed for the above crimes.

No children were recorded for any of these marriages.

## The Hubbles of Seal, Ightham & Shipbourne

There were a number of Hubbles in these villages but, except for John of Seal whose children are given below, all the items in the registers are isolated events.

### John Hubble of Seal

| Num                 | Name                              | Born        | Married | Spouse | M | C | Died        |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|---------|--------|---|---|-------------|
| #2914 <sup>76</sup> | <u>HUBBLE, John</u><br>-----      |             |         |        | 3 | 9 |             |
|                     | <i>Marriage 1</i>                 |             |         |        |   |   |             |
| #2919               | <u>his wife, Jane</u><br>-----    |             |         |        | 1 | 1 | 2 Aug 1617  |
| • #2920             | <u>Hubble, Alice/Agnes</u>        | 16 Jul 1615 |         |        | 0 | 1 | 21 Oct 1643 |
| • • #2921           | <u>HUBBLE, John</u> <sup>77</sup> | 21 Apr 1643 |         |        | 0 | 0 | 7 Oct 1643  |
|                     | <i>Marriage 2</i>                 |             |         |        |   |   |             |
| #2922               | <u>his wife, Alice</u><br>-----   |             |         |        | 1 | 8 | 15 Jun 1638 |

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<sup>76</sup> # indicates a reference in the Seal database, "i" in that for Ightham and \$ in that for Shipbourne

<sup>77</sup> John's baptism refers to him as "son of Alice Hubble, a bastard", his mother was buried two weeks after her son when she was 27

|         |                          |             |                         |          |
|---------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|----------|
| • #2923 | <u>HUBBLE, John</u>      | 22 Aug 1619 | 0 0                     |          |
| • #2924 | <u>Hubble, Dorothy</u>   | 21 Jan 1621 | 0 0                     |          |
| • #2925 | <u>HUBBLE, Isaac</u>     | 22 Dec 1622 | 0 0                     | Mar 1623 |
| • #2926 | <u>Hubble, Susanna</u>   | 6 Feb 1625  | 0 0                     |          |
| • #2927 | <u>HUBBLE, Richard</u>   | 15 Apr 1627 | 0 0                     |          |
| • #2928 | <u>Hubble, Margery</u>   | 1 Nov 1629  | 0 0                     |          |
| • #2929 | <u>Hubble, Ellen</u>     | 23 Oct 1632 | 0 0                     |          |
| • #2930 | <u>Hubble, Elizabeth</u> | 8 Nov 1635  | "da. of John and Alice" | 0 0      |

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A John Hubble married **Margaret Lamberd** (#2931) in Seal, on 8th September 1639 and this could possibly have been the third marriage of #2914.



## *The Ightham Hubbles*

In Ightham, on 22nd July 1562, **Robert** (i363<sup>78</sup>), son of **John Hubble** (i361) was baptised. The only other event recorded in Ightham before 1659 was the baptism of **Elizabeth** (i2542), the daughter of **Nicholas** (i2540) and **Elizabeth Hubble** (i2541) on 9th February 1646.

On 19 Oct 1604, **William Warren** was brought before the Ightham Court for receiving a stranger, **John Hubble**, and was to be fined £5 if Hubble stayed without sureties being found - see [Warren in More Families & Transcripts](#). If John was #2914 from Seal (see above) he was probably in his late teens in 1604 and spent another ten years moving around before marrying and settling in Seal.

About two years after his first marriage, John was fined 5s for trespassing on the lord of Ightham's manor by beating down most of trees growing on the common of the lord and not being a tenant of the manor (Court Rolls, Ightham, 1937, p.209). Thus, at that time, he was not living in Ightham.

## *The Shipbourne Hubbles*

On 26th May 1618, **John Hubble** (\$1245<sup>79</sup>) married **Alice Taylor** (\$1254)

On 26th July 1618, **Dorothy Hubble** (\$1255) married **George Lambe** (\$1246).

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79 \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

## *Will of William Huckinge of Frindsbury*

This will (CKS: Drb/Pw 16; Drb/Pwr 18.26) was written, in 1593, by William Grell, minister. It has not been investigated.

## *The Huggens of East Peckham*

Four Huggens (Huggen) wills have survived from East Peckham:

|                  | written       | proved      |                              |              |
|------------------|---------------|-------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Nicholas Huggins | 16 Feb 1630/1 |             | CKS: Prs/w/8/44              | page 2.h.144 |
| John Huggen      | 2 Jun 1631    |             | PCC: St John 80; Prob 11/160 | page 2.h.165 |
| William Huggens  | 1 Dec 1631    |             | CKS: Prs/w/8/45              | page 2.h.190 |
| Henry Huggins    | 15 Apr 1644   | 26 Jul 1644 | CKS: Prs/w/8/90              | page 2.h.152 |

The will of John Huggen was written by John Hooper, notary public and parish clerk of Tonbridge, who wrote a large number of wills.

Henry Huggins was the son of Nicholas but there were a large number of Huggens in the East Peckham area, many of whom are mentioned by John and William.

The will of Thomas Huggins of Sundridge has been transcribed - see page 2.h.198  
There were also a large number of Huggens in Shipbourne - see page 2.h.207

*The Preamble to His Will*

The religious preamble to this will is both long and unusual: "considering the frailty of man and how necessary it is for every Christian to be in continual readiness for death whensoever the good pleasure of Almighty god shall be to call, do ordain and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following, viz. First: I commend my soul to the hands and tuition of Almighty God, most humbly beseeching him even from the bottom of my heart to forgive me all my sins and offences for his son's sake, Christ Jesus, by whom my faith is most steadfastly to be saved and that it may please him, in this my sickness, to assist me with his holy spirit that whether I die or live I may be one of his flock and chosen children and partaker of that heavenly kingdom which is prepared for all believers through the mercy and merits of Christ, our saviour. The burial of my body I leave to the discretion of my executors not doubting but that they will so convey it into the earth as the body of him that in it at the last day doth most constantly believe to see his saviour and redeemer and be made partaker of his glorious resurrection."

This will was probably written by Francis Shakerly but such a detailed preamble must reflect, at least to a certain extent, the beliefs of the testator.

## *Nicholas's Family*

Nicholas had a son and four daughters, two married, two single. Elizabeth was married to Richard Backlyn and, like her two unmarried sisters, she was to receive thirty pounds. Susan, the other married daughter, was to receive only a brass stupnet and twelve pence. Twelve pence was the amount often left by parents to a child whom they did not want to leave a legacy. By leaving this small amount, the parent showed that the child had not been forgotten and therefore they could not contest the will. This is unlikely to have been the reason here. From Henry's will we know that Susan's husband was Robert Plumley, gent. and was therefore probably in less need of money than Elizabeth.

Henry, Nicholas's son and executor, had to find ninety pounds to pay his other sisters within a year of his father's death so that the Huggins must have been a prosperous family. Although described as a yeoman, Nicholas looks to have been engaged in the cloth trade since he left all the "[hemp that is not dressed out and all my tow and yarn that is spun and my new cloth](#)" to Margaret and Mary..

|                   |           |                              |         |         |        |          |      |  |  |
|-------------------|-----------|------------------------------|---------|---------|--------|----------|------|--|--|
|                   |           | e94 <sup>80</sup> Nicholas - |         |         |        |          |      |  |  |
| will:             |           | 16 Feb 1631                  |         |         |        |          |      |  |  |
| -----             |           |                              |         |         |        |          |      |  |  |
| e99               | e133      | e100                         | e138    | e101    | e139   | e102     | e132 |  |  |
| Henry -           | Katherine | Elizabeth -                  | Richard | Susan - | Robert | Margaret | Mary |  |  |
|                   |           | Backlyn                      |         | Plumley |        |          |      |  |  |
| will: 15 Apr 1644 |           |                              |         |         |        |          |      |  |  |
| -----             |           |                              |         |         |        |          |      |  |  |
| e134              | e135      | e136                         | e137    | e162    |        |          |      |  |  |
| Henry             | Nicholas  | Elizabeth                    | Susan   | Susan   |        |          |      |  |  |

Nicholas's pewter was to be divided equally between his son, Henry, and his unmarried daughters, Margaret and Mary, with many other household items being left to Margaret and Mary:

- 2 bedsteads, a featherbed, 2 flockbeds
- 4 feather pillows "of the best sort"
- 5 bolsters (1 feather, 2 flock, 2 unspecified)
- blankets and 8 pairs of sheets
- small linen, viz: napkins, pillowcases and tablecloths.
- six chests standing in the best parlour "with each of them two boxes"
- brass: 2 skillets, 2 kettles, 2 candlesticks and a little brass pot
- 2 green cushions and a spit

- the table behind the painted cloth
- 2 barrels (one of which was a beer barrel)
- 2 linen wheels

*Will of Nicholas Huggins of East Peckham*

written 16th February 1630/1  
transcript from original

1 In the name of god Amen. I, Nicholas Huggins of East Peckham in the  
county of Kent,  
2 **yeoman**, being sick of body yet of perfect sense and memory, thanks be to  
god, and the ?? 6th  
3 day of February in Anno dom. 1630 and in the sixth year of the reign of our  
sovereign Lord Charles,  
4 by the grace of god king of England, Scotland, France and Ireland,  
defender of the faith, etc. considering



5 the frailty of man and how necessary it is for every Christian<sup>81</sup> to be in  
continual readiness for death  
6 whensoever the good pleasure of Almighty god shalbe to call, do ordain  
and declare this my  
7 last will and testament in manner and form following, viz. **First:** I  
commend my soul  
8 to the hands and tuition of Almighty God, most humbly beseeching him  
even from the bottom of  
9 my heart to forgive me all my sins and offences for his son's sake, Christ  
Jesus, by  
10 whom my faith is most steadfastly to be saved and that it may please him,  
in this my sickness, to  
11 assist me with his holy<sup>82</sup> spirit that whether I die or live I may be one of his  
flock and chosen  
12 children and partaker of that heavenly kingdom which is prepared for all  
believers through the mercy and  
13 merits of Christ, our saviour. The burial of my body I leave to the discretion  
of my executors

---

81 xpian

82 "wholie"

14 not doubting but that they will so convey it into the earth as the body of  
him that in it at the last  
15 day doth most constantly believe to see his saviour and redeemer and be  
made partaker of his  
16 glorious resurrection. And as concerning my children and the residue of  
my friends and such things  
17 as I mean to distribute and bestow amongst them, this is my full will,  
purpose and determination.  
18 And first therefore, I will, give and bequeath unto **my son Henry Huggins**  
all my lands and  
19 tenements lying and being in East Peckham whom I make my sole  
executor<sup>83</sup> to him and his heirs forever. **Item:** I  
20 will, give and bequeath unto **my daughter, Elizabeth Backlyn**, thirty  
pounds of current english money to be paid within one  
21 year after my decease, if she happen to live, by my son Henry Huggins, my  
executor. And if it  
22 happen the same to be unpaid within one whole year after my decease that  
then it shall and may be  
23 lawful for the aforesaid Elizabeth to distress and distrain upon any part or  
parcel of my lands afore

---

83 in spite of writing "executors . . . they" on lines 13 and 14

24 mentioned. **Item:** I will, give and bequeath unto **my daughter, Susan**  
25 **Plumley**, one brass stupnet and twelve  
26 pence of money. **Item:** I will, give and bequeath unto **my daughter**  
27 **Margaret** thirty pounds of current  
28 english money to be paid within one whole year after my decease, if she  
29 happen to live, by my son Henry  
30 Huggins, my executor. And if it happen to be unpaid within one whole  
31 year after my decease that then it shall  
32 and may be lawful for the aforesaid Margaret to distress and distrain upon  
33 any part or parcel of the  
34 lands afore mentioned. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Mary Huggins, my**  
35 **daughter**, thirty pounds of  
36 current english money to be paid within one whole year after my decease,  
37 if she happen to live,  
38 by my son Henry Huggins, my executor. And if it happen to be unpaid  
39 within one whole year after my  
40 decease that then it shall and may be lawful for the aforesaid Mary to  
41 distress and distrain  
42 upon any part or parcel of the afore mentioned lands. **Item:** I give and  
43 bequeath unto my daughter  
44 Margaret Huggins one featherbed and one flockbed and one bedstead with  
45 two bolsters and blankets and

35 all things belonging to them presently after my decease. **Item:** I give and  
bequeath unto my daughter Margaret Huggins  
36 four pairs of sheets. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto my daughter Mary  
Huggins the bedstead  
37 which I lie upon with one flockbed, one feather bolster and two flock  
bolsters and two blankets and four  
38 pairs of sheets that are shifted already. This is my will and determination  
that they shall have the  
39 moveables presently after my decease. **Item:** I give and bequeath to  
Margaret and Mary  
40 Huggins all my small linen, viz: napkins, pillowcases and tablecloths.  
**Item:** I give and bequeath and  
41 my mind and determination is that my son Henry Huggins, Margaret  
Huggins and Mary Huggins,

*page 2:*

42 presently after my decease, shall divide all my pewter to be divided equally  
betwixt them three. **Item:**  
43 I give and bequeath unto my daughters, Margaret and Mary, six chests  
standing in my best parlour  
44 with each of them two boxes. **Item:** It is my mind and intent to give to my  
daughters, Margaret and

45 Mary, each of them two feather pillows a piece of the best sort. **Item:** I give  
and bequeath unto my  
46 daughter Margaret four pieces of brass viz: two skillets, one kettle and one  
brass candlestick, the  
47 least spit, the table behind the painted cloth, one barrel and one linen  
wheel. **Item:** I give  
48 and bequeath unto Mary, my daughter, one little brass kettle, one little  
brass pot and the best brass candlestick  
49 and one beer barrel and one linen wheel. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto  
my daughters,  
50 Margaret Huggins and Mary Huggins, two green cushions<sup>84</sup>, all my hemp  
that is not  
51 dressed out and all my tow and yarn that is spun and my new cloth. This  
is my full  
52 determination and mind that these moveable goods which I have  
mentioned to be distributed to my  
53 two daughters Margaret Huggins and Mary Huggins presently after my  
decease. This is my last  
54 will and testament and determination. In witness whereof I have put my  
hand  
55 and seal, dated the day and year first above written.

---

84 "cushins"

It is my meaning and intent that my two kinsmen  
**William Huggins** and **Richard Backlyn** should  
be the overseers of this my will to see the same  
performed according as before prescribed.

The mark and seal of Nicholas Huggins

Sealed in the presence  
of **Francis Shakerley**

William Huggins and Richard Backlyn

The mark of Richard Backlyn

## *Henry Huggins, yeoman*

At the time of his death the house in which Henry lived lay between land owned by the Earl of Westmoreland land owned by William Huggins, the son of Thomas Huggins of East Peckham. No relationship to Henry is given for William and his father. He also had “a messuage or tenement and two acres of land” which was to “be sold at the best rate for and towards payment” of his debts by his wife Katherine who was his executrix..

Henry had two sons and two daughters, all under twenty-one. He left his house, etc. to his son Henry who was to give Nicholas £20 and Elizabeth and Susan £5 each, when they came to the age of twenty-one. Until Henry came of age, Katherine was to have the profit from all the lands “towards the maintenance and bringing up” of the four children. One of Henry’s overseers was his brother-in-law Robert Plumley, the husband of his sister Susan.

Amongst other things Henry left two interesting pieces of furniture to his son Henry:

- a great wainscott cupboard
- three new oaken planks and the frame of the table standing in the hall; the oaken planks probably formed the top of the table.

1 In the name of god Amen. I, Henry Huggins of East Peckham in the  
2 county of Kent, **yeoman**, being sick and weak in body but of sound and  
3 perfect memory, praised be god therefore, do make and ordain this  
4 my last will and testament in manner and form following: viz.

5 **Imprimis:** I will and bequeath my soul into the hands of my blessed  
6 saviour and redeemer, Jesus Christ, hoping through his merits to be  
7 saved and my body to be buried in the churchyard of the parish  
8 church of East Peckham aforesaid.

9 **Item:** I will and my desire is that a messuage or tenement and two acres  
10 of land thereunto adjoining, commonly called or known by the name of  
11 Xpoles<sup>85</sup> be sold at the best rate for and towards payment of my debts to  
12 be<sup>86</sup> done and paid by my executrix hereafter named.

13 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **my son Henry** the house wherein I  
14 now dwell together with the barns and all other out houses, orchards,

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85 the beginning looks like an abbreviation similar to that used for "Sir" (Sir Roger Twisden- line 20 ); perhaps the name was "Sirpoles"

86 "bee", "hee" etc. from her onwards but "be" on line 7



15 gardens, closes and other hereditaments thereunto belonging, containing  
16 in  
17 all by estimation, one acre, more or less, and one little croft of land  
18 lying between the land of the now Earl of Westmoreland and the  
19 lands of **William Huggins, son of Thomas Huggins of East Peckham,**  
20 and another field called **Broadfield** encompassed round with the lands  
21 of **Sir Roger Twisden, knight** and baronet, and my will and intent  
22 is that the said Henry shall not have the premises before bequeathed unto  
23 him  
24 until he shall attain his full age of one and twenty years and then forever.  
25 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **my son Nicholas** the sum of twenty pounds  
26 of lawful english money, the same to be paid by my son Henry when  
27 the said Nicholas shall attain to his age of one and twenty years.  
28 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **my daughter Elizabeth** the sum of five  
29 pounds of like lawful money, the same to be paid unto her by her brother  
30 Henry  
31 when she shall attain her age of one and twenty years.  
**Item:** I give and bequeath to **my daughter Susan** the sum of five pounds  
now  
to be paid unto her by her brother Henry when she shall attain her age of  
one  
and twenty years and my will is that if either of my daughters die without

32 issue or before payment of the same, the survivor to retrieve her part or  
portion.  
33 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto my son Henry the bed and bedstead with  
the  
34 bolster and pillows, coverlet and blankets thereunto belonging as it now  
standeth  
35 in the parlour and one great wainscott cupboard standing in the hall and  
three  
36 new oaken planks and the frame of the table in the hall standing

*page 2;*

37 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Katherine, my wife**, all my stock of corn  
38 and cattle and all the rest of my household stuff not before bequeathed  
39 and my will, intent and meaning is that my wife shall take and receive all  
40 the profits of all and singular my lands until such time as my sons attain  
41 to their, or either of their, ages of one and twenty years, for and towards the  
42 maintenance and bringing up of all my children. And my will is that my  
43 executrix pay all my debts out of the money arising upon the sale of  
44 Xpoles and out of the stock which I shall leave her. And I do hereby  
45 nominate, make and ordain my loving wife my sole executrix of this my  
46 present will and testament.

47 And I do hereby require my loving **brother-in-law Robert Plumley** of

48 East Peckham aforesaid, gent., and my loving friend **Richard Wakelyn** of  
49 East Peckham aforesaid, cordwainer, my overseers, to look and see to the  
50 due performance of this my will.

51 In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this fifteenth  
52 day of April in the twentieth year of the reign of our sovereign lord  
53 Charles, by the grace of God, king of England, Scotland, France and  
Ireland,  
54 defender of the faith, etc. Anno Dm 1644

Read, published and declared to be the last  
will and testament of the said Henry Huggins  
and by him signed and sealed the same day in  
the presence of **Thomas Be??**<sup>87</sup>

the mark of  
**Thomas Cheeseman**

---

87 probably the scriptot; Thomas Cheeseman's mark was a vertical cross

## *John Huggens of East Peckham*

John Huggens of Hale Street in East Peckham was another rich yeoman with connections to a number of other parishes.

He mentions yarn but also had a variety of animals - swine, poultry, kyne and sheep - as well as corn, grain and hay. His wife, Elizabeth, seems to have been well provided for being left all his household stuff “[provided that no money nor plate shall be part of my household stuff](#)”.

If, however, she was not “[content with that portion of my estate and yearly pension and payments as I have formerly appointed unto her in full satisfaction and recompense of all such jointure, dower and demand as she shall or might or may have recover, . . . then I will and give all my household stuff, kyne and cattell before mentioned to mine executors. And her said annuity or yearly payment of thirty pounds formerly to her given shall cease, . . . determine. And my said executors shall pay unto her only twenty shillings.](#)”

The widow of Laurence Huggins seems to be a poor relation. She was to receive 5s and her daughters, one by Laurence and the other by her first husband, 1s 8d (£0.08) each.

The arrangements for his “[loving brother Richard](#)” and his family consist of a number of annuities: £5 to Richard but, on his death, £4 to his wife Johane and after the death of both Richard and his wife, £4 to their son Richard. But, if either his brother or nephew were “[discontent or troublesome for any other farther or greater part, portion, estate or demand into my goods, lands or tenements, . . . I will and give to them only one shilling a piece](#)”.

His executors were Thomas Engleton of East Peckham and George Baker of Seal who was probably the George Baker (#2118) who died in October 1632. The connection between the testator and George Baker is not known.

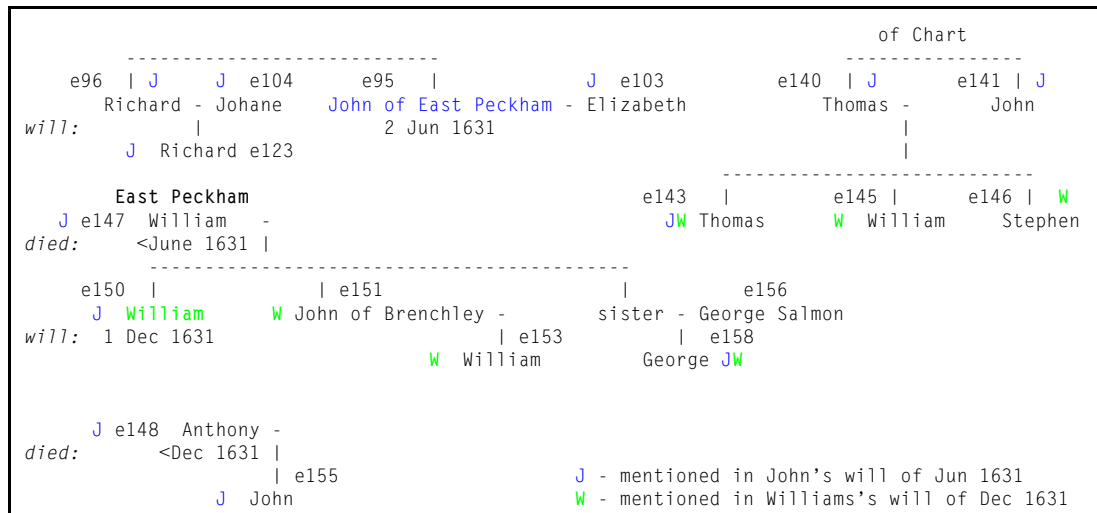
## *John's Connections with Other Parishes*

John was of **Hale Street** in East Peckham which is about 0.75 miles northeast of the centre of East Peckham. The land belonging to the house in which he lived was partly in East Peckham and partly in the adjacent parish of **Nettlestead**. John had connections with a number of other localities (the distances given are from the centre of East Peckham):

- John owned a messuage, etc. in **Chart near to Town Sutton** to the poor of which he left £1 a year for four years. The parish of Chart Sutton is about 9 miles east of East Peckham.
- **Yalding** (2.25 miles north east) and **Linton** (6 miles east); he left £1 to each the poor of each of these parishes.
- he owned a parcel of land at **Chetley Cross** purchased from a man from the parish of **Ashe** (northwest of Canterbury) but the land need not have been in Ashe.
- John gave £10 to Robert Thompson and his wife of **Chatham**
- one of his executors was from East Peckham but the other, George Baker, was of **Seal** (9 miles north west)
- **Staplehurst** (about 8.5 miles north-north-east ) where John also owned land

## The Huggen Relationships

Below is a diagram showing the various Huggens mentioned in the wills of John and William both written in 1631.



John mentions Thomas, son of Thomas of Chart, in 1631 when he was under twenty-three. William, at the end of 1631, mentions William and Stephen,

underage sons of Thomas of Chart. These look like younger brothers of the Thomas (e143) who was left half of John's land in Chart and Staplehurst.

One of the pieces of land John owned in East Peckham was a messuage called Haleplace which included a smith's forge and this was left to William, son of William Huggens, deceased. The William who wrote his will in 1631 owned Haleplace with the smith's forge and he was therefore e95's legatee. William was also to have half of the barn and close adjoining the highway leading from Halestreet to Smithwaygreen. In 1631, Haleplace with the smith's forge was left to William's nephew, another William Huggins and the son of John of Brenchley.

The other half of John's barn and close was to go to George Salmon of Yalding who was one of John's major legatees being left "[all that messuage or tenement wherein I, the said John Huggen now do dwell and the barns, buildings, yards, gardens, orchards and lands arable, meadow and pasture](#)" as well as many other pieces of land etc. John also mentions George's son, another George.

One of William's executors was to be George Salmon, his brother-in-law, the other being his brother John of Brenchley.

The widow of Laurence Huggens, is not shown in the above diagram. Laurence was her second husband and she had a daughter by both husbands.



## *The Inheritance of John's Land*

John's wife, Elizabeth, was to hold some of his land for a year after his decease but, after that, the division between his various heirs was complicated particularly since some items were divided between two people.

There were two brothers, Thomas and John Huggens of Chart whose relationship to John, the testator, is not known but Thomas had a son, also called Thomas, who was the testator's godson. Thomas, the father, was living in a "messuage or tenement" which was owned by the testator. This included "barns, stables, houses, buildings, closes, yards, gardens, orchard land, meadows, pastures, feedings, woods, ways, waters, commodities and appurtenances". John left half of this and all his other lands and tenements in Chart and Staplehurst to his godson with the other half going to his godson's uncle John. His godson was under twenty-three when John wrote his will and until he reached that age his father was to "enjoy the moiety or one half" of the premises he was living in. It was Thomas and John who were to be responsible for the £4 to be paid to the poor and also for £20 of the annuity the testator had left to his wife.

John appears to have owned five messuages in East Peckham. Haleplace which included a smith's forge, together with a number of other pieces of land in East Peckham, were left to William, son of William Huggens, deceased. From the

description of this land we know that the highway between East Peckham and Yalding passed through Smithwaygreen. William was to be responsible for paying the annuities to John's brother Richard and his family.

William was to have only one half of the barn and close adjoining the highway from Halestreet to Smithwaygreen with the other half going to George Salmon of Yalding.

In addition, George Salmon was to inherit the “[message or tenement](#)” in which John lived. together with the “[barns, buildings, yards, gardens, orchards and lands arable, meadow and pasture with their appurtenances to the same belonging \(except the half orchard formerly willed to William Huggens\).](#)”

Then there was the message, also at Halestreet which had belonged to the testator's father. This was left to another John Huggens, son of Anthony Huggens of Brasted, together with other land in East Peckham.

John's brother Richard, to whom he had left the annuity, lived in another message belonging to John. Richard was to have it for his lifetime but on his decease it was to go to George Salmon, the younger.

There was yet a fifth message occupied by George Shirbrooke who was to be allowed to occupy it for a year after John's decease “[without any wilful hurt or](#)

waste to be made or done thereto” John also forgave George all “such rents and money” as George owed him. At the end of the year George was to give the message to William Wooden<sup>88</sup> of Shipbourne who was to have it until John, his son, the testator’s godson, reached the age of twenty-three, at which time John was to inherit it.

But there was a condition attached to the Wooden inheritance: they were to “make, keep and maintain the dyke and a sufficient fence at the farther end of the said backside where I . . . have caused marks to be set and where I do purpose . . . to make a dyke and fence and to lay a part of the said backside and of the water there to my other lands adjoining for a convenient watering place to the same”.

## *The End of the Will*

Not surprisingly, as John’s “testament and last will, contained in thirteen sheets of paper” drew to its close, it was realised that there were numerous complicated arrangements: “whereas I have appointed certain of my lands to be laid to one person and certain to another, for convenience I will that the division and the

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<sup>88</sup> there was a William Wooden in Shipbourne (\$975) who had a son William baptised in 1634. He could have had an elder son born before 1631.

ordering of fences to be made to divide the same shall be done by the consent of my executors whom I have acquainted with my mind”.

Also “in the second, third, seventh, eighth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth sheets whereof there are some small things interlined by my appointment before the ensealing” and these might have led to difference between the various legatees. This problem had also been foreseen: “And likewise, if any other question or doubt be or shall arise between any the legatories in this my will touching any thing or matter contained in this my will, my desire is that my said executors, if they may conveniently, shall and will order and determine the same”.

Since the original has not been investigated (it may not have survived), it is not known whether John Hooper decorated it as he did many of the wills he wrote. Given the complications, producing it must have required not only writing skills but also Hooper’s legal knowledge. It would be very interesting to know how much was he paid for producing it

1 In the name of god Amen. The second day of June  
2 in the year of our lord god one thousand six hundred and thirty and one.  
And in the seventh year  
3 of the reign of our sovereign lord Charles, by the grace of god king of  
England, Scotland,  
4 France and Ireland, defender of the faith, etc. I, John Huggen of **Halestreet**  
in the parish of  
5 East Peckham in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being at this time of sound  
and perfect memory  
6 for which I praise god and for all other his mercies towards me<sup>89</sup>)  
notwithstanding aged and  
7 sickly, and therefore as also by many other means and examples put in  
mind of my last end and departure  
8 out of this world, so therefore for the settling and ordering of that estate  
wherewith god hath blessed  
9 me, to th'end that the same may be quietly enjoyed according to my will  
and mind herein declared,

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89 "mee", "bee", "shee" throughout

10 ordain and make this my testament and last will in manner and form  
following, that is to say  
11 **First** and before all things, recommending my soul to Almighty God, my  
maker, with an assured  
12 hope of salvation through the merit and mediation, death, passion and  
resurrection of his dear son  
13 Jesus Christ, my saviour. And my body to the earth in decent manner to be  
buried. I will and  
14 give to the poor of East Peckham twenty shillings. To the poor of **Chart  
near to Town Sutton**  
15 four pounds to be paid in this manner, viz: upon every Easter day next after  
my decease twenty  
16 shillings until the said four pounds shall be paid. And to the poor of  
**Yalding** and the poor of  
17 **Linton** I will forty shillings, viz: to either parish twenty shillings to be paid  
within one year  
18 next after my decease. And to the poor of Sutton aforesaid, I will and give  
also twenty shillings.  
19 **Item:** upon condition that **Elizabeth, my wife**, do and shall hold herself  
content with the portion of  
20 my goods and estate to her appointed by this my will and shall not seek for  
any other or greater

21 estate, dower or demand therein or thereunto than is hereafter mentioned  
and to her by me willed and  
22 given, I do will, give and bequeath to her, the said Elizabeth, all my  
household stuff as well woollen  
23 as linen, bedding, brass, pewter, wool, yarn or of any other name or nature  
whatsoever. And also  
24 all my wood and fuel that I shall have cut and prepared for mine own  
spending at the time  
25 of my decease. And my swine and poultry. Provided that no money nor  
plate shall be part of  
26 my household stuff. And also I will and give unto her four of my kyne and  
one heifer and five and  
27 twenty of my ewes. All the said kyne and sheep to be by her taken at her  
own choice. And also  
28 all the corn, grain and hay, whether in the house or barn or growing or  
being in or upon the lands  
29 of me, the said John Huggen, at the time of my decease. And also I will  
that she shall have the  
30 use and occupation of all that messuage or tenement wherein I now dwell  
and of all the barns,  
31 outhouses, buildings, yards, gardens and orchards thereto belonging,  
together with the occupation, rent

32 and profits of all my lands, arable, meadow and pasture, with the  
appurtenances unto my said  
33 messuage or tenement belonging, situated, lying and being in East  
Peckham aforesaid and **Nettlestead**  
34 in the said county during the space only of one whole year next ensuing  
after my decease and  
35 likewise during that year shall have the use and occupation of my lands  
called **Brickoast Field**, my  
36 three crofts called **Millers**, my meadow called **Hobbs Pool Mead** and the  
parcel of land at  
37 **Chetley Cross** which I purchased of one <sup>90</sup> **Best** of the parish of **Ashe**, she,  
my said wife,  
38 doing no wilful waste upon all or any of the premises. And further upon  
the condition aforesaid. And  
39 to recompense such other jointure, dower or demand as she shall, or may,  
have, get or recover out of,  
40 in or unto all or any my lands and tenements, I will, give and devise to her,  
my said wife, one annuity  
41 or yearly rent, charge or pension, of thirty pounds of lawful and good  
english money, to be paid



42 unto her, or her assigns, quarterly, viz: at the feasts of St. Michael  
Th'archangel, the nativity of  
43 our lord Christ, the annunciation of the blessed virgin Mary and the  
nativity of St. John the  
44 Baptist, by equal and even portions. And the first term or time of payment  
thereof to be and begin  
45 at that feast of the feasts aforesaid that shall next come and be after the  
said one whole  
46 year next after my decease. All which yearly pension or yearly rent charge,  
I will that she shall have  
47 and receive as aforesaid for, by and during the whole term of her natural  
life. **Item:** I will and give  
48 to the **widow of Laurence Huggen** five shillings. To **her daughter by the**  
**said Laurence** one shilling and  
49 eight pence. And to her daughter by her first husband one shilling and  
eight pence a piece. To be  
50 paid when they shall demand the same of mine executors hereafter named  
or of either of them, **Item:** I  
51 will and give to **my loving brother Richard Huggen** for term of his natural  
life one annuity or

52 yearly rent charge<sup>91</sup> or pension of five pounds of of lawful english money to  
be paid to him or his assigns

*page 2:*

53 at the feasts aforesaid by equal portions. The first term or time of payment  
thereof to be and begin  
54 at that feast of the same feasts that shall come and be next after my  
decease. **Item:** I will that  
55 from and after the decease of the said Richard, my brother, **Johane his wife**  
(if she shall be then  
56 living) shall be paid during her natural life at the feasts aforesaid by equal  
portions the yearly  
57 sum or pension of four pounds of lawful english money, viz. upon every of  
the said feasts during  
58 her said natural life twenty shillings. And immediately from and after the  
decease of the said Richard  
59 my brother and Johane his wife, I will and give to **Richard Huggen, their**  
**son,** for term of his  
60 natural life one annuity or yearly sum or pension of four pounds of lawful  
english money to

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91 "chardge" here but not on line 41

61 be paid to him or his assigns quarterly also, viz. upon every of the said  
feasts of St. Michael  
62 Th'archangel, the nativity of our lord Christ, the annunciation of the  
blessed virgin Mary and  
63 St. John the Baptist, by equal and even portions, viz. upon every of the said  
feasts during  
64 his said natural life twenty shillings. Provided always, if the said Richard  
my brother and Richard  
65 his son, or either of them, shall be discontent or troublesome for any other  
farther or greater part, portion,  
66 estate or demand into my goods, lands or tenements, or any of them there  
to them, or either of them, I  
67 have given or shall appoint by this will, I will and give to them only one  
shilling a piece. And  
68 that they shall have no other legacy, payment or portion by this my will  
than only the said one  
69 shilling a piece. Provided further and my will also and mind is that if the  
said Elizabeth, my  
70 wife, shall not be content with that portion of my estate and yearly pension  
and payments  
71 as I have formerly appointed unto her in full satisfaction and recompense of  
all such jointure,

72 dower and demand as she shall or might or may have recover, get or obtain  
out of or unto all  
73 or any of my lands or tenements with their appurtenances or out of, in or  
unto any part or parcel  
74 thereof, then I will and give all my household stuff, kyne and cattell before  
mentioned to mine  
75 executors. And her said annuity or yearly payment of thirty pounds  
formerly to her given shall  
76 cease, end and determine. And my said executors shall pay unto her only  
twenty shillings  
77 which I will and give unto her, anything in this my will contained to the  
contrary thereof in  
78 any wise notwithstanding. **Item:** I will and give to **Robert Thompson of  
Chatham and his wife**  
79 ten pounds of lawful english money equally between them to be paid  
within six months  
80 after my decease. The residue of all other my goods and chattels not  
formerly willed or disposed  
81 of I will shall be and remain to **George Baker of Seal** in the county of Kent,  
yeoman, and  
82 to my neighbour **Thomas Engleton** of East Peckham aforesaid, yeoman, the  
which George Baker

83 and Thomas Engleton I make and ordain the joint executors of this my  
testament and  
84 last will to see the same proved, my debts and legacies paid and to do and  
perform such other  
85 things and payments as hereafter in this my will, or any otherwise by any  
note under my hand  
86 writing, I shall appoint them or request them to do, pay or perform. And to  
see my body decently  
87 brought to the earth. And my will is that my said executors do honestly  
account one with another  
88 and do shift the remainder of my goods and chattels formerly to them  
appointed equally  
89 between them.

90 This is also the last will of me the said John Huggen made and declared  
the second  
91 day of June aforesaid in the said year of our lord god one thousand six  
hundred thirty and one  
92 touching the ordering and disposing of all my lands and tenements. **Item:** I  
will, give and devise  
93 unto **Thomas Huggen, my godson, son of Thomas Huggen** of Chart near  
Town Sutton

94 aforesaid, in the county of Kent, my kinsman, and to the heirs and assigns  
forever of the said  
95 Thomas, my godson, the moiety or one half of all that my message or  
tenement wherein  
96 the said Thomas Huggen, the father, now dwelleth, situated in Chart  
aforesaid. And  
97 of all the barns, stables, houses, buildings, closes, yards, gardens, orchard  
land, meadows, pastures,  
98 feedings, woods, ways, waters, commodities and appurtenances to the said  
message or tenement  
99 belonging. And of all other my lands and tenements in Chart aforesaid and  
**Staplehurst** in the said  
100 county. To have and to hold the said moiety or one half of all and singular  
the said message  
101 or tenement, lands and all other the premises with th'appurtenances unto  
the said Thomas  
102 Huggen, my godson, his heirs and assigns, to the use and behoof of the  
said Thomas  
103 Huggen, my godson, his heirs and assigns forever. And the other moiety or  
half of all the

page 3:

104 said message or tenement and all other my lands and tenements and  
premises with their  
105 appurtenances in Chart and Staplehurst aforesaid, I will, give and devise  
unto **John Huggen, the**  
106 **brother of the said Thomas Huggen of Chart** aforesaid, the father of the  
said Thomas, my godson.  
107 To have and to hold to the said John Huggen, his heirs and assigns, to the  
use and behoof  
108 of the said John Huggen, his heirs and assigns forever. Notwithstanding,  
my will and mind  
109 is that the said Thomas Huggen, the father, shall or may have, hold,  
occupy and enjoy the moiety  
110 or one half aforesaid of all and singular the said message or tenement,  
lands and premises  
111 with th'appurtenances formerly by me willed to the said Thomas, his son,  
until the full age of  
112 twenty and three years of his said son if he, the said Thomas the father  
shall so long live,  
113 anything before herein mentioned to the contrary thereof in any wise  
notwithstanding. And  
114 further, my will and mind is that in consideration of this my devise and  
several bequests, they,

115 the said Thomas Huggen and John Huggen shall, equally between them  
and their several heirs, do  
116 and shall pay to the poor of Chart aforesaid their legacies of four pounds  
formerly to them  
117 willed according to the purport of this my will. And shall also pay, or cause  
to be paid at their  
118 equal charges unto the before named Elizabeth, my wife, during her  
natural life the yearly  
119 sum of twenty pounds of lawful english money, parcel of the before  
mentioned annuity,  
120 rent charge or yearly pension of thirty pounds formerly to her willed and  
appointed by this my  
121 testament and last will to be paid. And if default shall be made in  
payment of the said twenty  
122 pounds upon the feasts or any of them whereon as afore is said the said  
annuity or yearly pension  
123 ought to be paid by equal portions by the space of twenty and eight days  
next over or after the  
124 said feasts, or any of them, and being lawfully demanded at my said  
messuage wherein the said  
125 Thomas Huggen now dwelleth, then I will to my said wife for term of her  
natural life, all



126 the said messuage or tenement and all and singular the premises formerly  
willed to the said  
127 Thomas and John Huggen with all and singular the profits of the said  
messuage, lands and  
128 premises with their appurtenances , any devise thereof or any part thereof  
to the said Thomas  
129 and John or their heirs or to either of them to the contrary thereof in any  
wise notwithstanding.

130 **Item:** I will, give and devise to **William Huggen, son of William Huggen** late  
of East Peckham,  
131 deceased, all that my messuage or tenement commonly called **Haleplace**  
and the smith's  
132 forge thereto belonging, one barn and all other appurtenances thereto  
belonging and half the  
133 orchard belonging to the messuage wherein I now dwell, viz. that half  
thereof which lyeth  
134 next to the said messuage called Haleplace, one croft of land adjoining to  
that messuage  
135 and the one half of one parcel of land adjoining to the said croft, viz. that  
half thereof that  
136 lyeth next to the highway that leadeth from Halestreet to **Smithwaygreen**.  
Also all those

137 meadow grounds called **Brookemead** and **Nicholas Acre**, one parcel of land  
called **Waterlands**,  
138 one little croft of land thereto adjoining on the east side thereof, one other  
parcel called  
139 **Wearefield**. And one croft of land thereto adjoining on the north side  
thereof. And also I will  
140 give and devise to the said William Huggen, son of the said William, two  
parcels of land  
141 called the **Brooms** adjoining to the highway leading from Smithwaygreen  
to Yalding  
142 on the south side thereof. And two other parcels lying at Smithwaygreen,  
by estimation five  
143 acres, the footway to Yalding going through the same. All which premises  
are situated, lying  
144 and being in East Peckham aforesaid. To have and to hold all the said  
message or tenement  
145 called Haleplace and all and singular other the premises formerly  
mentioned, willed and  
146 appointed to the said William Huggen, the son, to the only use and behoof  
of the said  
147 William, the son, his heirs and assigns forever, he the said William, the son,  
his heirs and

148 assigns paying to the beforenamed Richard Huggen, my brother, Johane  
his wife and Richard  
149 their son, all their several annuities or yearly pensions before to them  
willed according to the  
150 tenor, purport and true meaning of this my will. And if and as often as  
their said annuities  
151 or yearly pensions shall be to them, or any of them, unpaid by the space of  
fourteen days  
152 next or after the feast days aforesaid, or any of them whereon as afore is  
said the same ought  
153 to be paid, and being lawfully demanded at the said messuage or  
tenement called Haleplace,  
154 Then and so often, I will that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said  
Richard, my brother,  
155 Johane his wife and Richard their son, and for every of them unpaid, and  
for their assigns

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156 into and upon all and every the said messuage or tenement, and all other  
the lands and premises  
157 with th'appurtenances, before willed to the said William to enter and  
distrain and the distress

158 and distresses there so taken and found lawfully from thence to bear, lead,  
drive and carry away and the  
159 same to withhold, impound, destroy and keep irreplegible until their said  
several annuities and  
160 pensions and every payment thereof that shall be in arrears shall be fully  
and truly paid according  
161 to the purport and true meaning of this my testament and last will, the said  
Richard, my brother,  
162 and his son, being content, quiet and not troublesome contrary to the tenor  
of this my will. And  
163 farther, I will, give and devise to the said William Huggen, the son of the  
said William Huggen, and to his heirs and assigns, forever,  
164 the one half of my barn and the one half of the close thereto belonging  
which adjoineth to the  
165 highway leading from Halestreet to Smithwaygreen. And the other half of  
the said barn and  
166 close which lyeth next the house where Richard Huggen dwelleth I will  
and give to **George**  
167 **of Yalding** for term of his natural life. And after his decease to **George**  
**Salmon,**  
168 **son** of the said George and to his heirs and assigns for ever. **Item:** I will,  
give and devise to the

169 said George Salmon, the son of the said George Salmon of Yalding and to  
the heirs of the  
170 body of the said George Salmon, the son, all that messuage or tenement  
wherein I, the said  
171 John Huggen now do dwell and the barns, buildings, yards, gardens,  
orchards and lands arable,  
172 meadow and pasture with their appurtenances to the same belonging  
(except the half orchard  
173 formerly willed to William Huggen). And also I will and give to the said  
George Salmon, the  
174 son and to the heirs of his body, the other half of the croft aforesaid lying  
next to the highway  
175 leading from Smithwaygreen to Yalding. And also my lands aforesaid  
called Brickoast Field  
176 lying in Nettlestead. And the three crofts of my land called Millers and  
Hobbs Pool Mead  
177 which my wife is to hold during one year after my decease. And also two  
other parcels of my  
178 land lying at **Mousehole** in Nettlestead. Also one meadow called  
**Medgemeade** and one little  
179 croft of land thereto adjoining. And two other parcels of my land adjoining  
in part to

180 Medgemeade. And one parcel of land by estimation two acres lying near  
unto the lands of **Sir**  
181 **Roger Twisden, knight**, wherein **Thomas Joy** dwelleth and to a piece of  
ground late of **Henry Plane** deceased. To have and to hold all of the said  
message<sup>92</sup> or tenement  
182 and all other the premises formerly willed to the said George Salmon, the  
son, to the only  
183 use and behoof of the said George, and of the heirs of his body lawfully to  
be begotten, forever.  
184 Notwithstanding, I will and my mind is that the said George Salmon, the  
father, shall and  
185 may have, hold and enjoy all and singular the said message and premises  
with th'appurtenances  
186 formerly willed to te said George Salmon, his son, until such time as the  
said George,  
187 his son, shall accomplish his full age of twenty and three years, if the said  
George, the father,  
188 shall so long live, keeping the same well repaired and suffering my wife to  
hold such and so

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92 "late . . . message" inserted, presumably the copyist made and corrected the omission; a similar insertion was made at the end of line 232

189 much thereof as I have appointed her to hold one year next after my  
decease. And also the  
190 said George Salmon, the father, and the said George, his son, and his heirs  
aforesaid, paying to  
191 my said wife or her assigns towards the annuity of thirty pounds before to  
her willed the  
192 yearly sum of ten pounds of lawful english money quarterly by equal  
portions at the feasts  
193 aforesaid assigned for payment thereof or within twenty and eight days  
next ensuing after every  
194 of the said feasts. And for default of any quarterly payment thereof not  
accordingly made, lawful  
195 demand thereof being made at the said messuage where I now dwell, I will  
it shall be lawful to  
196 and for my said wife and her assigns to enter into and upon all and every  
my said messuage  
197 or tenement and all other my lands and tenements formerly willed to the  
said George  
198 Salmon, the younger, and his father. And the same with the rents and  
profits thereof, to have,  
199 hold and enjoy from thenceforth for, by and during the whole term of her  
natural life. Provided

200 always, if the said George Salmon, the son, shall depart this natural life  
without issue of  
201 his body lawfully begotten, then I will, give and devise all the said  
message or tenement,  
202 lands and premises formerly willed to the said George and to the heirs of  
his body, unto **Alice**,  
203 **the wife of the said George Salmon, the elder**, and to heirs and assigns for  
ever. And she  
204 and her heirs paying to my said wife the said yearly sum of ten pounds  
according to the  
205 purport of this my will upon the penalty aforesaid. Anything in this my will  
contained to  
206 the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding. **Item:** I will, give and  
devise unto **John**  
207 **Huggen, son of Anthony Huggen** late of **Brasted?** deceased, all that  
message or tenement

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208 with th'appurtenances which was my father's, situated at Halestreet  
aforesaid in East Peckham  
209 aforesaid. And the land with th'appurtenances thereto belonging which  
was my father's. And also one



210 little croft of land adjoining which I purchased of **Nicholas Blackman**. And  
also one  
211 house called **Millers** and the backside with th'appurtenances thereto  
belonging now in the  
212 occupation of **John Field**. And also one little croft of land over the Street  
against the said house.  
213 And also all that parcel of land at **Chetly Cross** which my wife is to hold  
one year as afore  
214 is said. All which premises are situated, lying and being in East Peckham  
aforesaid. To have and  
215 to hold all the said messuage and premises with th'appurtenances formerly  
willed to the said John  
216 Huggen, son of the said Anthony, his heirs and assigns, to the only use and  
behoof of the said  
217 John Huggen, his heirs and assigns, for ever, he and they suffering my said  
wife to hold the said  
218 croft at Chetly Cross according to the purport of this my will. **Item:** I will,  
give and devise  
219 to **my brother Richard**, for term of his natural life and after his decease to  
George Salmon,  
220 the younger, aforesaid, and to his heirs and assigns forever, all that  
messuage or tenement

221 wherein the said Richard now dwelleth with the kitchen, yard, backside  
and appurtenances thereto  
222 belonging not formerly willed to William Huggen, situated in East  
Peckham aforesaid. **Item:** I  
223 will, give and devise to **George Shirbrooke**, to use and occupy one year  
after my decease, the  
224 messuage and backside with th'appurtenances now in the occupation of  
the said George  
225 Sherbrooke, without any wilful hurt or waste to be made or done thereto.  
And I do remit  
226 and forgive to the said George all such rents and money as the said George  
Sherbrooke shall  
227 owe unto me at the time of my decease. And after the end of the said one  
year, I will, give and  
228 devise all the said messuage or tenement and backside with  
th'appurtenances unto **William**  
229 **Woodden of Shipbourne** until that **John, his son, my godson**, shall  
accomplish his full age of  
230 twenty and three years. And at the said age of twenty three years of the  
said John, or the decease  
231 of the said William, his father, if it sooner happen, I will that the said  
messuage and backside with

232 th'appurtenances shall be and remain to the said John, my godson, his  
heirs and assigns. To the only use and behoof of the said John, his heirs  
and assigns  
233 forever. Upon condition that the said William Woodden and the said John,  
his son, and his  
234 heirs do and shall make, keep and maintain the dyke and a sufficient fence  
at the farther  
235 end of the said backside where I, the said John Huggen, have caused  
marks to be set and  
236 where I do purpose first, and for the first time only, to make a dyke and  
fence and to lay a  
237 part of the said backside and of the water there to my other lands adjoining  
for a convenient  
238 watering place to the same. Which part and watering place so to be laid  
in, I do not mean,  
239 neither is it my will, shall be any part or parcel of the gift or devise formerly  
willed or  
240 devised to the said William Woodden or his son. **Item:** whereas I have  
appointed certain  
241 of my lands to be laid to one person and certain to another, for convenience  
I will that  
242 the division and the ordering of fences to be made to divide the same shall  
be done by the

243 consent of my executors whom I have acquainted with my mind. And  
likewise, if any  
244 other question or doubt be or shall arise between any the legatories in this  
my will touching any  
245 thing or matter contained in this my will, my desire is that my said  
executors, if they may  
246 conveniently, shall and will order and determine the same. In witness  
whereof I, the said John  
247 Huggen, have to this my testament and last will, contained in thirteen  
sheets of paper (in  
248 the second, third, seventh, eighth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth  
sheets whereof there  
249 are some small things interlined by my appointment before the ensealing)  
have set my hand  
250 and seal, dated the day and year first above written. The mark of the said  
John Huggen,  
251 the testator. Sealed, published and declared in the presence of John  
Engleton and **John**  
252 **Hooper, notary publique.**

## *William Huggens of East Peckham*

William Huggens of East Peckham wrote his will only six months after, John Huggens, relationship unknown, left William Halestreet with his smith;s forge.

William, who mentions neither wife nor children, seems to have been responsible for a young girl Bridget Cardinall to whom he left £30 and a number of household items. George Salmon, William's brother-in-law and one of his executors, was given the responsibility for her "[education and bringing up](#)" until she reached the age of twenty-one.

Many of his properties were given to underage children and, in each case, William specifies that it should be their fathers who looked after it until they reached the age of twenty-one. At the end of the will are a number of small bequests one of which was five shillings to his goddaughter Susan Plumley. Susan Huggins, daughter of Nicholas who died in 1631, had married Robert Plumley and Henry's goddaughter was most probably their daughter. Another was £5 to Debora Backlyn, widow. Elizabeth, another of Nicholas's daughters, had married Richard Backlyn but the connection with Debora is not known.

1 In the name of God Amen. The first day of December Anno Dom. 1631.  
And in the  
2 seventh year of the reign of our sovereign Lord Charles by the grace of god  
3 King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, etc., I,  
William Huggen  
4 of East Peckham in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, weak in body but of sound  
and perfect  
5 remembrance, praised be Almighty God, therefore I make and ordain this  
my last will and  
6 testament in in manner and form following: **First** and principally I  
commend my soul  
7 unto Almighty God, hoping and steadfastly believing that, through the  
mercy, death  
8 and passion of Jesus Christ, I shall have forgiveness of all my sins and my  
body  
9 I commend to the earth from whence it first came and to be buried in the  
church  
10 yard of East Peckham. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **William Huggin**,  
**son of**

11 **Thomas Huggin of Chart**, the house which I now dwell in with two barns,  
??  
12 pasture, land, there unto belonging, more or less, to him and his heirs  
forever. And by  
13 default if he happen to die or decease without heirs, that then it is my mind  
that it  
14 shall descend unto **his brother Stephen** and his heirs forever. **Item:** I give  
and  
15 bequeath unto **William Huggin, son of John Huggin of Brenchley**<sup>93</sup>, the  
house or tenement  
16 with a smith's forge thereunto belonging eight an twenty acres of farmable  
pasture, lands  
17 and meadow, more or less, there unto belonging which was of late given  
me by will of  
18 **John Huggin of East Peckham, late deceased**, to him and to his heirs  
forever, provided always that if John Huggin  
19 and William Huggin, his son, do not enjoy the aforesaid **Haleplace** with  
barns  
20 and smith's forge and eight and twenty acres of farmable pasture and  
meadows, more or less

21 thereunto belonging that then it is my mind and meaning that John  
Huggin  
22 and William Huggin, his son, shall have an annuity of three pounds  
23 by the year out of this house or tenement  
24 with barns, stable, stall and ten acres of land which I ?? dwell in  
25 being in the parish of East Peckham to them and to their heirs for ever. I  
give  
26 and bequeath unto William Huggin, aforesaid, son of Thomas Huggin, a  
lease which I have  
27 of land in occupying of the **Earl of Westmoreland** and it is my mind and  
28 determination that the aforesaid William Huggin, son of Thomas Huggin,  
and  
29 William Huggin, son of John Huggin, shall come in possession of the lands  
30 and tenements which I have heretofore given them at the age of one and  
twenty years.  
31 **Item:** more I give and bequeath unto **Bridget Cardinall** thirty pounds of  
lawful  
32 english money, one featherbed, one bedstead, two bolsters, two pillows  
and all things  
33 thereunto belonging, two pairs of sheets, one chest standing in the parlour,  
half a dozen  
34 pieces of pewter and farther it is my mind and will that **George Salmon, my**  
35 **brother-in-law**, shall have the education and bringing up of the aforesaid



36 Bridget until the expectation? that she shall accomplish to her full age of  
one  
37 and twenty years and farther it is my mind and intent that George Salmon,  
38 shall have thirty pounds as aforesaid of lawful money of England  
39 into his own hands within one whole year after my decease and further it is  
my  
40 mind and intent that Thomas Huggin, father of the said William Huggin  
shall  
41 have the profit of the aforesaid house and tenement with barns, stable,  
42 and all other edifices and ten acres of land, more or less, and the aforesaid  
43 lease with I now have in occupation of the aforesaid Earl of Westmoreland,  
44 until he, the aforesaid William Huggin, shall accomplish to his said years of  
45 one and twenty. And it is my mind and meaning that my executors John  
Huggin  
46 and George Salmon shall have the profits of all my lands in East Peckham  
47 and **Hadlow** either in lease or any other ways, one whole year after my  
decease.  
48 And farther it is my mind and intent that John Huggin of Brenchley,  
49 **my brother**, shall have the profits of the aforesaid house or tenement ,  
50 called or known by the name of Haleplace, with barn and a  
51 smith's forge and all and every their appurtenances with eight and twenty  
acres of

52 farmable pasture and meadow land thereunto belonging until the said  
William  
53 Huggin, his son shall accomplish to his age of one and twenty years.

*page 2:*

54 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **George Salmon**, my kinsman, son of George  
55 Salmon of Yalding, my part of a barn and close which was given me by will  
lately  
56 of John Huggin of East Peckham, deceased, lying near to the highway that  
57 leadeth fro Hale Street to Smithson Groome. **Item:** I give and bequeath  
unto my  
58 kinsman William Huggin, son of Thomas Huggin of Chart, one chest  
standing in  
59 the parlour, three pairs of sheets and two large<sup>94</sup> towells, one wagon<sup>94</sup> and  
all things  
60 thereunto belonging with four yokes, four fightes, one timber chain<sup>95</sup>. **Item:**  
61 I give and bequeath unto **Debora Backlyn, widow**, five pounds to be paid  
her by my

---

94 "waggon"

95 "chayne"

62 executor within one whole year after my decease. **Item:** I give and  
bequeath unto  
63 **Susan Plumley, my goddaughter,** five shillings. **Item:** I give and bequeath  
unto  
64 **Dorothy Collins, my goddaughter,** five shillings. I give and bequeath unto  
my  
65 **goddaughter Elizabeth Stanley** five shillings. **Item:** I give and bequeath  
unto **Thomas**  
66 **Sheild, my godson,** five shillings and these legacies to be paid within one  
67 whole year after my decease. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Anne Hatch**  
and  
68 **Bennett Hatch, daughters of Hugh Hatch of Yalding,** to each of them one  
b??  
69 and one piece of pewter to be given them within one whole month after my  
decease.  
70 **Item:** further I give and bequeath unto **John Stanley** my best doublet, best  
71 breeches<sup>96</sup>, my best pair of stockings and my best pair of shoes and five  
shillings  
72 and this to be paid him within one week after my decease. **Item:** I give  
and bequeath  
73 unto **Thomas Sherebrooke, my servant,** ten shillings to be paid him within

74 whole month after my decease. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto the poor of  
75 East Peckham twenty shillings to be paid them within one quarter of a year  
after my  
76 decease. And lastly I ordain, institute and appoint John Huggin of  
Brenchley,  
77 my brother, and George Salmon, my brother-in-law, my sole executors of  
this  
78 my last will and testament. I give and bequeath unto these, my executors,  
all my  
79 goods, chattells, moveable or unmoveable, and debts, either in East  
Peckham or in  
80 any other place whatsoever. And it is my mind and intent that those, my  
81 executors, shall hold all my lands and tenements lying and being in East  
Peckham  
82 and also the lease which I have in occupation of the aforesaid Earl of  
Westmoreland  
83 for the space of one whole year as aforesaid, paying all my debts and  
legacies  
84 aforesaid mentioned of this my last will and testament. And my meaning  
85 is to make **Stephen Butler** and **John Cheeseman** the overseers of this

86 my last will and testament where unto <sup>97</sup>. In witness hereof I have put my  
87 hand and seal dated the day and year first above written.

Sealed in the presence  
of

Stephen Butler

the mark of John Cheeseman

?? me F?? Th..ley<sup>98</sup>

William Huggin

---

97 "I" crossed out here - was he going to have added an amount to be given to them; or did the scribe start to include it only to realise that the testator had not included it?

98 the stylised signature of the scribe which is undecipherable. The testator signed his own name and that of Stephen Butler looks like a signature.

## Thomas Huggen of Sundridge

The will of Thomas Huggen of Sundridge (CKS: Prs/w/8/37) was written on 14th July 1628 by John Hooper, notary public, who wrote a large number of wills for people in the Tonbridge area. There is no apparent connection between Thomas and the Huggens of East Peckham.

Thomas had a son William and two married daughters:

|           |  |       |              |      |        |            |                 |       |       |                             |  |
|-----------|--|-------|--------------|------|--------|------------|-----------------|-------|-------|-----------------------------|--|
| will:     |  |       |              |      |        |            |                 |       |       | x890 Thomas <sup>99</sup> - |  |
|           |  |       |              |      |        |            |                 |       |       | 14 Jul 1628                 |  |
| -----     |  |       |              |      |        |            |                 |       |       |                             |  |
| x892      |  | x893  |              | x897 |        | x894       |                 | x901  |       |                             |  |
| William - |  | Ann - | Mathew Hawle |      |        | Rabbedge - | Robert Homeward |       |       |                             |  |
|           |  |       |              |      |        |            |                 |       |       |                             |  |
| -----     |  |       |              |      |        |            |                 |       |       |                             |  |
| x896      |  | x898  | x899         | x900 | x902   | x903       | x904            | x905  | x906  |                             |  |
| Thomas    |  | Susan | Joane        | Ann  | Thomas | Robert     | William         | Agnes | Roger |                             |  |

Thomas also had a "son-in-law" Richard Peake; Richard could have been a stepson if Thomas had married twice but he did not have a wife living at the time his will was written.

Thomas left £11 to his daughter Rabbedge, £10 of which was to be put out to the use of her children although she and her husband were to have the use of it (the profit from it) during their lifetime. Susan was left £5 to be used in a similar way. Both daughters already had in their houses goods and household stuff belonging to their father and these he left them in his will except for some items which Ann had which were to go to his son William who was to be his executor.

The house in which Thomas lived was left to Ann and her husband but on their death it was to go to their daughter Susan who had to pay each of her sisters £5. He had another "messuage or tenement" in Sundridge which he left to William.

*Will of Thomas Huggen of Sundridge*

written 14th July 1628  
transcript from original

- 1 **In the name of god Amen.** The fourteenth day of July in the
- 2 fourth year of the reign of our sovereign Lord Charles by the grace of God
- king of
- 3 England, Scotland, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, etc. Ao dm
- 1628
- 4 **I, Thomas Huggen,** of Sundridge in the county of Kent, **yeoman,** do

5 at this time being<sup>100</sup> in reasonable good health of body and of perfect mind  
and memory  
6 (praised be God) ordain and make this my testament and last will in  
manner and form  
7 following: **First:** therefore committing my soul to Almighty God, my  
maker, ??  
8 of salvation only by the merits and passion of Jesus Christ, my saviour, and  
my body to the earth  
9 in decent manner to be buried. **I will** to ten of the poorest widows in  
Sundridge aforesaid  
10 (in the discretion of mine executor hereafter named) ten groats<sup>101</sup>, viz. to  
each of them 4d.  
11 **Item:** I will and give to **Richard Peake, my son-in-law**, ten shillings in  
gold.  
12 **Item:** I will and give unto **Rabbedge, my daughter, the wife of Robert  
Homeward of**  
13 **Tonbridge** the sum of eleven pounds of lawful english money to be paid her  
within one

---

100 "beeing", "bee", etc. throughout

101 one groat was 4d (1.667p)



14 year next after my decease. And my will is that the said Robert and  
Rabbedge  
15 put out ten pounds thereof for the use and benefit of **Robert, Agnes,**  
**William and Roger, their**  
16 **children**, the said Robert and Rabbedge receiving the use for their own  
benefit during the life  
17 of the said Rabbedge and, after her decease, paying the ten pounds  
aforesaid to their said  
18 four children equally amongst them or so many of them as shalbe then  
living. **Item:**  
19 I will and give to the said Rabbedge all the household stuff and goods of  
mine that shalbe  
20 in their possession at the time of my decease. **Item:** I will and give unto  
**Susan,**  
21 **Joane and Ann, the three daughters of Ann Hawle, my daughter,** five  
pounds to be  
22 paid to their parents to their use within one year next after my decease.  
And by their  
23 parents to be put out for them. And to be paid them, with the profits  
thereof, at their  
24 several full of twenty and one years, equally, or to the survivors of them  
equally or

25 to the survivor of them the whole by their said parents. **Item:** I will and  
give unto Susan

*page 2:*

26 Hawle, daughter of my daughter Ann Hawle, my joined cupboard in my  
now dwelling house.

27 And to Joane Hawle, one other of her daughters, one brass pot. And to  
Ann, one

28 other of her daughters, one pair of pillowcoats. All the which goods to be  
delivered to

29 their parents for their use within one month next after my decease. **Item:**  
30 I will and give unto Ann Hawle, my daughter, all the goods and household  
stuff of mine

31 that shall be in the keeping of her husband and her, in their now dwelling  
house,

32 at the time of my decease. (These goods excepted, which I give to **William,**  
**my son,** viz.

33 except the joined table in the hall and six joined stools and the benches,  
tables, staulders

34 and painted cloths and my settle in the said house.) **Item:** I will and give  
unto **Thomas**

35 **Huggen, son of my son William,** my greatest pewter platter.

36 **The** residue and all other my goods, cattell and chattels, I will, give and  
bequeath unto  
37 William Huggen, my son, whom I make and ordain the sole and only  
executor of  
38 this my testament and last will, to see the same proved and all my debts  
and legacies paid  
39 and my body decently brought to the earth.

40 **This** is also the last will of me, the said Thmas Huggen, made and  
41 declared the day and year first before written, touching the ordering and  
disposing of  
42 all my lands and tenements. **Item:** In full recompense and satisfaction  
43 of all such promises and demands upon marriage or otherwise to be  
claimed  
44 by **Mathew Hawle** and Ann his wife or either of them of me, the said  
Thomas  
45 Huggen, mine executors or assigns, I will, give and devise to the said  
Mathew and  
46 Ann, for term of their natural lives and to the longer liver of them, all that  
message

page 3:

47 or tenement wherein I, the said Thomas Huggen, do now dwell. And the

48 garden, backside and all other the appurtenances thereunto belonging,  
containing by  
49 estimation one yard of land<sup>102</sup>, more or less, together lying and being in  
Sundridge  
50 aforesaid. And after the decease of the said Mathew and Ann, and the  
longer liver  
51 of them, I will, give and devise the said messuage and premises with  
th'appurtenances unto  
52 Susan Hawle, their daughter, her heirs and assigns, forever upon condition  
53 that the said Susan, her heirs or assigns, within one year next after the  
decease  
54 of the over liver of the said Mathew and Ann, do and shall pay, or cause to  
be paid,  
55 to Joane and Ann, the sisters of the said Susan, equally between them or to  
the survivor  
56 of them wholly the sum of five pounds of lawful english money, which if it  
57 shall not be accordingly paid, it shalbe lawful for the said Joane and Ann  
and either of  
58 them to enter and hold the said messuage and premises til payment  
thereof shall be made.

---

102 yard was sometimes used as a measure of land area

59 **And** further I will that the said Mathew Hawle and Ann his wife and Susan  
their daughter,  
60 her heirs and assigns, shall have liberty to fetch, have and take water at  
the well,  
61 spring or watering place of such other messuage or tenement hereafter  
mentioned and there to  
62 wash at all reasonable times during the life of the said Ann. And further  
shall have  
63 free liberty at all needful and convenient times forever after my decease to  
pitch ladders  
64 and come upon my said other tenement and the appurtenances thereto  
belonging, to repair and amend the  
65 said messuage or tenement given to the said Mathew, Ann and Susan and  
her heirs, the said  
66 Mathew, Ann and Susan and the heirs and assigns of the said Susan  
keeping and maintaining  
67 the fence on the southside of the backside belonging to the said messuage  
or tenement  
68 to them given as aforesaid. **Item:** I will, give and devise to the said  
William, my son, my messuage  
69 or tenement called **the Whitehouse** with the buildings and appurtenances  
thereto belonging in Sundridge

70 aforesaid. And all other my lands and tenements in Sundridge to hold to  
him, the said William, his heirs  
71 and assigns forever, the said William, his heirs and assigns, paying to  
**Thomas Homeward, my god**  
72 **child**<sup>103</sup>, fifty shillings when he, the said Thomas, shall accomplish the age  
of twenty and one years.  
73 And for and in default of payment there of accordingly, I will it shalbe  
lawful for the said Thomas to  
74 enter upon the said messuage and premises formerly willed to the said  
William. And the same to  
75 hold and enjoy until the said fifty shillings shalbe fully satisfied and paid.  
76 In witness whereof I, the said Thomas Huggen, have to this my testament  
and last will set my hand  
77 and seal yeven the day and year first above written.

Read, sealed, published and declared in the presence of \_\_\_\_\_ the mark of the  
**Alexander**<sup>104</sup> **Longley** **John Snell** **John Rootes** and said Thomas Huggen  
**John Hooper, notary pbq.**

---

103 presumably another son of his daughter Rabbedge

104 an inverted "Y"

## *The Huggens of Shipbourne*

**Agnes** (\$787<sup>105</sup>), the wife of “**ould Thomas Huggens**” was buried on 24 March 1608 and **Thomas** himself (\$786). **Thomas** (\$408) and **William** (\$788), whose families are given below, could have been their sons as could also **George Huggens** (\$1559) who was buried on 29th March 1631.

Thomas married twice whilst William died only seven years after marrying **Mary Steere** (\$789). Here it was Mary who married for a second time, just over two years after William died. Her first child by William was baptised only five months after their marriage. Her first, and only recorded, child by her second husband, **John Bristowe** (\$1101), was baptised only a month after the marriage.

Earlier than any of the recorded Ightham Huggens, **William** (#1895), son of **Simon Huggens** (#1893), was baptised on 13th January 1598 in **Seal**.

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105 \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database and # one in that for Seal

| Num      | Name                              | Born        | Married     | Spouse                  | M C | Died        |
|----------|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------|-----|-------------|
| \$408    | <u>HUGGENS, Thomas</u><br>-----   |             |             |                         | 2 9 |             |
|          | <i>Marriage 1</i>                 |             | 10 Feb 1598 | Cassander Harrys        | 1 6 |             |
| \$409    | <u>Harrys, Cassander</u><br>----- |             |             |                         | 1 6 |             |
| • \$454  | <u>HUGGENS, John</u>              | 15 Apr 1599 |             |                         | 0 0 |             |
| • \$673  | <u>HUGGENS, Thomas</u>            | 17 May 1601 | 31 Jul 1627 | Anne Nicholas<br>\$1445 | 1 0 |             |
| • \$783  | <u>HUGGENS, William</u>           | 10 Feb 1604 |             |                         | 0 0 | 16 Feb 1605 |
| • \$784  | <u>Huggens, Jeane</u>             | 13 Apr 1606 |             |                         | 0 0 |             |
| • \$785  | <u>Huggens, Cassander</u>         | 8 May 1609  |             |                         | 0 0 |             |
| • \$1039 | <u>HUGGENS, John</u>              | 15 Apr 1599 |             |                         | 0 0 |             |
|          | <i>Marriage 2</i>                 |             | 28 Jul 1613 | Anne Symons<br>\$1112   | 1 3 |             |
| • \$1113 | <u>HUGGENS, Anthony</u>           | 10 Apr 1614 |             |                         | 0 0 |             |
| • \$1236 | <u>HUGGENS, Francis</u>           | 11 Oct 1617 | son         |                         | 0 0 |             |
| • \$1273 | <u>HUGGENS, George</u>            | 10 Jul 1620 |             |                         | 0 0 |             |



| Num     | Name                             | Born        | Married                 | Spouse      | M C | Died        |
|---------|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|-----|-------------|
| \$788   | <u>HUGGENS, William</u><br>----- |             | 16 Feb 1606             | Mary Steere | 1 3 | 21 Mar 1611 |
| \$789   | <u>Steere, Mary</u><br>-----     |             |                         |             | 2 4 |             |
| • \$797 | <u>HUGGENS, John</u>             | 20 Jul 1606 | 5 months after marriage |             | 0 0 |             |
| • \$790 | <u>Huggens, Alice</u>            | 16 Jun 1608 |                         |             | 0 0 | 13 Jul 1608 |
| • \$965 | <u>HUGGENS, Thomas</u>           | 10 Jan 1610 |                         |             | 0 0 |             |

### Mary Steere's secondMarriage:

|          |                                |            |                        |                 |     |             |
|----------|--------------------------------|------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----|-------------|
| \$1101   | <u>BRISTOWE, John</u><br>----- |            | 1 Apr 1613             | Mary Huggens(m) | 1 1 |             |
| • \$1102 | <u>BRISTOWE, Jeames</u>        | 2 May 1613 | 1 month after marriage |                 | 0 0 | 10 May 1614 |

On 8th March 1613, “[a child of London nourished with the widow Huggens](#)” was buried. This is two years after William died and three years after the last recorded child of William and Mary was baptised. Three years continued breast feeding is, by no means, impossible, but Mary’s child by her second marriage must have been conceived, at the latest, in August 1612. Whilst breast feeding makes conception less likely, it is not impossible. Did Mary not look after her nursechild from London properly because of her new relationship or was the widow Huggens someone else?

## *The Hunts of Seal, Ightham and Shipbourne*

The first mention of Hunt in these three parishes is of **Robert** who married **Margaret Olyver**, in Seal on 18th June 1576. There were a large number of Olyvers in Seal but Margaret was probably the daughter of John Olyver, the elder, of Fawke (#70). It was in Seal that their first child was baptised but the Robert Hunts lived in Ightham, at least after the birth of John, the other four children all being baptised there. Harry was recorded just as "son of -- Hunt" at his baptism but he "fits in" as the second son of Robert. There was a long gap between Davy and Margaret; perhaps i1079<sup>106</sup> married twice.

"On 16th October 1604, five failures to trim hedges were dealt with, orders being made in each case for the hedge to be cut before 1st March under penalty 3s 4d." One of those brought before the Court was **Robert Hunt** with a hedge between **Ivyhatch and the Mote**. (CRI 1937, p.201). A John Hunt and William Hunt were also mentioned in the Ightham Court Records between 1586 and 1618 but nothing more is known of them. Henry Hunt was mentioned in the Ightham Court Records between 1586 and 1618 and he could have been Robert's son.

| Num     | Name                         | Born        | Married  | Spouse                                  | M C | Died |
|---------|------------------------------|-------------|--|---|-----|------|
| i1079   | <u>HUNT, Robert</u><br>----- |             | 18 Jun 1576  | Margaret Olyver<br>married in Seal #725 | 1 5 |      |
| • i2711 | <u>HUNT, John</u>            | 20 Oct 1577 | baptised in Seal   |   | 0 0 |      |
| • i1081 | <u>HUNT, Harry/Henry</u>     | 11 Jun 1581 | see <a href="#">Olyver Mills in Families &amp; Transcripts</a> for his marriage & children |   | 1 7 |      |
| • i1082 | <u>HUNT, Davy</u>            | 2 Jan 1584  |  |   | 0 0 |      |
| • i1083 | <u>Hunt, Margaret</u>        | 8 Dec 1605  |  |   | 0 0 |      |
| • i1084 | <u>HUNT, Robert</u>          | 28 Aug 1608 |  |   | 0 0 |      |

The story then moves to Shipbourne where **Henry Hunt** married **Susan Mylls** on 17 May 1612 when Susan (daughter of Olyver Mylls of Shipbourne) was twenty-seven and Henry (assuming he was Robert's son<sup>107</sup>) was thirty-one. They started married life in Ightham where their eldest two daughters, Alice and Susanne, were baptised. Two sons, Olyver and Robert, were then baptised in Shipbourne followed by two more sons (no names given) buried between 1618 and 1624 when Jane, another daughter, was baptised. Five weeks after the baptism of Jane,

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**107** Susan Mylls was baptised 21st November 1585; whilst Hunt is a fairly common surname, Henry/Harry does not occur very often

Henry "was buried (having) been hurt in a marlepit two days before whereof he died within three hours."

Susan's sister, Johane Mylls, married Robert Hunt on 29th July 1614 when she was twenty-one. Olyver Mills, Johane's father, wrote his will in 1625 making Robert his executor. By this time both Olyver Mills and Robert Hunt were "of Leigh" but the parish registers for the relevant time have not survived. See [Olyver Mills in Families & Transcripts](#) for details of these Hunt families..

## *The Hunters of Ightham*

Hunters only appear in the Ightham records from the beginning of the seventeenth century onwards, the first event recorded being the marriage of **Richard Hunter** (i877<sup>108</sup>) to **Marie Bownde** (i205) on 2nd November 1600. See [Bowndes in More Families & Transcripts](#) for Marie's family.

On 11th November 1604, **Marie Hunter** (i2071) was buried, no details being given. She could have been Richard's wife.

**Elizabeth** (i878), daughter of Richard Hunter, was baptised on 13th June 1613. Was her father i877?

On 20th October 1601, **Richard Hunter** (who could have been i877) was presented to the Court for having received a "stranger" - **Edward Lambert** - and was to be fined 10s if Lambert stayed without sureties being found. (CRI 1938, p.18). Was this the Edward Lambert taken in by **George Chownings and George Hawke (i400)** in 1592? (see page 2.h.77). There were two Edward Lambardes in Ightham but neither "fits in" with this stranger.

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108 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

# The Hunticks of Ightham

| Num                 | Name                            | Born        | Married | Spouse                   | M | C | Died |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|---------|--------------------------|---|---|------|
| i780 <sup>109</sup> | <u>HUNTICK, Robert</u><br>----- |             |         |                          | 1 | 2 |      |
| • i782              | <u>Huntick, Elizabeth</u>       | 18 Jul 1574 |         | "daughter of -- Huntick" |   |   | 0 0  |
| • i783              | <u>HUNTICK, Richard</u>         | 7 Jul 1577  |         | "son of Robert Hunticke" |   |   | 0 0  |

A Richard Huntick was mentioned in the Court Records 1586-1618; this could have been Robert's son, i783.

See [Excerpts from the Ightham Court Rolls in Section Z of Families & Transcripts](#) for details of how:

- in 1587, the wife of Robert Huntick escaped punishment as a common brawler, quarreller and disturber of the peace.
- on 10th March 1599, **John Huntick** (probably i784, see next page) was assaulted by **Thomas Castleton** who "struck him with a stick, drawing blood"

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109 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

| Num    | Name                               | Born        | Married     | Spouse                    | M C | Died        |
|--------|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------|-----|-------------|
| i784   | <u>HUNTICK, John</u><br>-----      |             | 16 Jul 1576 | Margerie Clifford<br>i785 | 1 4 | 10 Jun 1606 |
|        |                                    |             |             |                           |     |             |
| i785   | <u>Clifford, Margerie</u><br>----- |             |             | widow for 22 years        | 1 4 | 16 Mar 1629 |
| • i786 | <u>Huntick, Margaret</u>           | 10 Apr 1580 |             |                           | 0 0 |             |
| • i787 | <u>Huntick, Marie</u>              | 23 Dec 1582 |             |                           | 0 0 |             |
| • i788 | <u>Huntick, Goodd</u>              | 24 Jul 1586 |             |                           | 0 0 | "daughter"  |
| • i789 | <u>HUNTICK, John</u>               | 16 Mar 1589 |             |                           | 0 0 | 6 Jan 1591  |

# The Hutchens of Seal

An alternative spelling is Hutchins.

| Num                  | Name                          | Born          | Married | Spouse            | M | C | Died        |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|---------|-------------------|---|---|-------------|
| #2935 <sup>110</sup> | <u>HUTCHEN, John</u><br>----- |               |         |                   | 1 | 1 |             |
| • #435               | <u>HUTCHEN, John</u>          |               |         |                   | 2 | 3 | >Jun 1609   |
|                      | <i>Marriage 1</i>             |               |         |                   |   |   |             |
| • #436               | <u>his wife, Ann</u>          |               |         |                   | 1 | 3 | 9 Dec 1589  |
| • • #3966            | <u>HUTCHEN, Richard</u>       | 8 Nov 1573(I) |         |                   | 0 | 0 |             |
| • • #933             | <u>Hutchen, Rachel</u>        | 3 Jan 1580    |         |                   | 0 | 0 |             |
| • • #1645            | <u>HUTCHEN, Lawrence</u>      |               |         |                   | 0 | 0 | 6 Sep 1586  |
| • • #1339            | <u>Hutchen, Agnes</u>         | 13 Mar 1586   |         |                   | 0 | 0 |             |
|                      | <i>Marriage 2</i>             |               |         | Mawdlyn Creperdge | 1 | 0 |             |
| • #1542              | <u>Creperdge, Mawdlyn</u>     | 18 Jan 1591   |         |                   | 1 | 0 | 16 Jun 1609 |

110 # indicates a reference in the Seal database



John (#435) died after June 1609 if "[John Hutchyn, his wife](#)" who was buried in 1609 was Mawdlyn, his second wife. Richard, son of John Hutchen, who was baptised in Ightham in 1573 could have been a son of #435.

A **John Hutchen** (#2932) married **Margaret Spatcheast** (#2934), in Seal, on 21 April 1611. No children were recorded but John's widow was buried in March 1640 so that John must have died before then. Perhaps they lived elsewhere with Margaret returning to Seal after the death of her husband who could have been a son of #435.

**Margaret** (#437), daughter of John Hutchen, was baptised, in Seal, on 8th February 1569; this was probably too early for her to have been #435's daughter; perhaps she was his sister.

**Anna Hutchen** (#2933), no details given, was buried, in Seal on 24th May 1605.

# I

## *More Families & Transcripts*

|                                     |             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| The Ifields of Ightham              | page 2.i.2  |
| The Inges of Hadlow                 | page 2.i.5  |
| Will of Samuel Ireland of Tonbridge | page 2.i.9  |
| The Isleys of Ightham               | page 2.i.14 |

## *The Ifields of Ightham*

**James Christopher of Seal** married **Alice Ifield** on 21 Nov 1563 at Ightham but what happened to the Ifields between then and the 1620s? The next mention of them is the baptism of the son of John Ifield in August 1629.

**John Ifield (i2320)**, a householder when he was buried, died when his youngest son was only six months old and the eldest, assuming he had survived, was not yet 10. The first three children were born with only 21 months between the baptism of the eldest, John, and the third child so that it is probable that neither of the first two lived more than a few weeks. When Thomas died in 1648 his mother was "Margaret Ifield, widow" and had not, therefore, remarried.

Only one son, baptised 20 years after the marriage, was recorded for "**Thomas Ifield (#2328) and Marie**"; perhaps they lived elsewhere for most of their married life; alternatively there was a younger Thomas Ifield also married to a Marie.

John, Thomas (#2328) and William (#2330) could have been brothers. **Helen Ifield**, who married **George Gardner of Seal**, in Ightham, on 17th October 1630 and whose first child was baptised in Ightham on 24th August 1631, could have been

their sister. She and George had five more children baptised in Seal - see **Gardners of Seal**.

| Num   | Name                               | Born        | Married       | Spouse                      | M | C | Died                      |
|-------|------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---|---|---------------------------|
| i2320 | <u>IFIELD, John</u><br>-----       | <1608       |               | Margaret Ifield(m)<br>i2321 | 1 | 6 | 16 May 1639<br>in his 30s |
| •     | i2322 <u>IFIELD, John</u>          | 30 Aug 1629 |               |                             | 0 | 0 |                           |
| •     | i2323 <u>Ifield, Elizabeth</u>     | 6 Jun 1630  |               |                             | 0 | 0 |                           |
| •     | i2324 <u>IFIELD, Thomas</u>        | 8 May 1631  |               |                             | 0 | 0 | 30 Mar 1648<br>aged 16    |
| •     | i2325 <u>Ifield, Elizabeth</u>     | 13 Nov 1632 |               |                             | 0 | 0 |                           |
| •     | i2326 <u>IFIELD, Frances</u>       | 7 Aug 1636  | son           |                             | 0 | 0 |                           |
| •     | i2327 <u>IFIELD, William</u>       | 28 Oct 1638 |               |                             | 0 | 0 |                           |
| i2328 | <u>IFIELD, Thomas</u><br>-----<br> | <1608       | 21 Jul 1628   | Marie Richardson<br>#1971   | 1 | 1 |                           |
| i1971 | <u>Richardson, Marie</u><br>-----  | 17 May 1607 | married at 21 |                             | 1 | 1 |                           |
| •     | i2329 <u>IFIELD, George</u>        | 23 Apr 1648 |               |                             | 0 | 0 |                           |

| Num     | Name                             | Born        | Married | Spouse  | M | C | Died           |
|---------|----------------------------------|-------------|---------|---|---|---|----------------|
| i2330   | <u>IFIELD, William</u><br>-----  | <1610       |         | Martha Ifield(m)<br>i2331                               | 1 | 3 |                |
| • i2332 | <u>Ifield, Elizabeth</u>         | 24 Jul 1631 |         |   |   |   | 0 0            |
| • i2333 | <u>Ifield, Helen</u>             | 6 Dec 1633  |         |   |   |   | 0 0            |
| • i2334 | <u>Ifield, Marie</u>             | 3 Dec 1637  |         |   |   |   | 0 0            |
|         |                                  |             |         | "dau. of William Ifield and Martha"                     |   |   |                |
| <hr/>   |                                  |             |         |   |   |   |                |
| i2337   | <u>Ifield(m), Joane</u><br>----- |             |         |   |   |   | 0 0 8 Jan 1651 |
|         |                                  |             |         | "widow" when buried, the day after she died, but whose? |   |   |                |
| <hr/>   |                                  |             |         |   |   |   |                |

## *The Inges of Hadlow*

Two wills have survived Inge (or Innge) of Hadlow:

|             |             |                               |
|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| John Inge   | 1557        | CKS: Drb/Pw 5; Drb/Pwr 12.166 |
| Thomas Inge | 18 Apr 1597 | CKS: Drb/Pw 18 see page 2.i.6 |

Thomas was a carpenter but also owned some land. His will was probably written by Thomas Stubberfield who wrote a number of wills at the end of the sixteenth century. The right hand side of the will has deteriorated so that the end of the lines cannot be read; the probate copy has not survived.

Even so, the meaning of the will is relatively clear with Thomas's wife Margerie being made executrix and given the responsibility for bringing up their son Thomas and two other underage children.

1 In the name of god Amen. The 18th of April in the year of our lord god  
2 fourscore and seventeen and in the 39th year of the reign of our sovereign  
lady Elizabeth, by the grace  
3 of God, Queen of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, I,  
Thomas Inge of  
4 Hadlow in the county of Kent, **carpenter**, being at the time of making  
hereof sick  
5 But yet, thanks be to God, in good and perfect remembrance, Do ordain  
and make this my last will and  
6 testament in manner and form following: **First** and principally I give and  
commend my soul to  
7 Almighty god, my creator and to Jesus Christ, his dear son, my only saviour  
and redeemer by whose  
8 merit and precious blood shedding I trust only to be saved and my body to  
be buried in the church  
9 yard of Hadlow aforesaid.

- Also I will and it is my mind that my said wife shall have and take all the profit . . .
- tenements situated, lying and being within the parish of Hadlow aforesaid.
- . . .
- said **son Thomas** and until he shall have accomplished the full age of one and twenty . . .
- the bringing up of my three children so that the said **Margerie** do neither . . .
- . . .
- to be stripped or wasted any of the wood or trees growing upon my said land . . .
- thereof more than for the hedges with the necessary and needful reparation . . .
- . . .
- about the premises.
- . . . . I do ordain and make . . . .
- sole executrix of this my last will and testament requiring her to see the same truly and . . . .
- . . . behalf according to the special trust I have put in her and as she will answer before god at the
- day of Judgement. **Item:** I do ordain and make **Thomas Blixton** and **Thomas Stubberfield** of Hadlow
- overseers of this my last will and testament desiring them to be aiding and helpful unto my said



- wife and children, to see the performance of this last will and testament.  
In witness that this
- my last will and testament I here unto set my hand and seal. These being  
witness whose names are hereunder written.

Thomas Inge

his  
mark

**Thomas Barton**

**James Sandall**

**Thomas Stubberfield**

**John Froakes**

with others

This will was written by John Hooper, notary public, who wrote many wills. It is written in Hooper's hand but does not have any real decoration.

1 In the name of god Amen. The eighth day of March in the year of our Lord  
God according  
2 the computation of the church of England, one thousand, six hundred,  
twenty and six, I, Samuel  
3 Ireland of Tonbridge in the County of Kent, **taylor**, do ordain and make this  
my testament and  
4 last will in manner and form following: **First** recommending my soul to  
Almighty God,  
5 my maker with an assured hope of salvation through his mercy in the merit  
and mediation of his  
6 son Jesus Christ, my saviour. And my body to the earth in decent manner  
to be buried.  
7 **Item:** I will and give to **Alice and Marie, my two daughters**, twenty pounds  
a piece of

8 lawful english money to be paid at their several ages of twenty and one  
years or at their  
9 several days of marriage (which of the said times shall first happen) by my  
executrix hereafter named  
10 And if either of my said daughters decease before her said age, unmarried,  
I will to the  
11 overliver of them the legacies aforesaid to her so deceased formerly willed.  
And if both my  
12 said daughters shall decease before their said ages, unmarried, I will their  
said legacies  
13 shalbe paid to my four sons, or to so many of them as shall be then living,  
equally  
14 between them. **Item:** I will to **Samuel, my son,** my two best suits of apparel,  
stockings and shoes;  
15 And to **George, my son,** my next best suit  
16 I will to **Abraham, my son,** my bible iii quarto

17 The residue of all my goods, cattel and chattels, I will and bequeath to  
**Ann, my loving wife,**  
18 in recompense of such jointure and demaine as she shall, or may, have in  
or to my  
19 message or tenement and towards the payment of my debts and legacies.  
And the bringing up

20 of my children, which said Ann, my wife, I ordain and make the full and  
21 sole executrix of this my  
testament and last will.

22 This is also my last will touching the devise of the messuage or tenement  
wherein I now dwell.

23 **Item:** I will, give and devise the said messuage or tenement and the  
24 garden, backside with thappurtenances  
thereunto belonging, situated in the **town of Tonbridge**, unto **Samuel  
Ireland, mine oldest son** and to  
25 his heirs and assigns forever, he, the said Samuel, my son, his heirs or  
assigns, paying to  
26 **George, Abraham and John, his brothers, my sons**, twenty pounds a piece  
at their said all ages of  
27 twenty and one years. And if they, or any of them, shall not live to  
accomplish their said ages, my will  
28 is that they and so many of their portions aforesaid, as shall not accomplish  
their said ages, shalbe ??  
29 paid Samuel, my son, and his heirs. And if the said Samuel, his heirs or  
assigns, shall not pay . .  
30 said brothers aforesaid, their foresaid portions according to the purport of  
this my will, then I will and ordain

31 that he, they or any of them, so unpaid, shall or may enter, have and hold  
my said messuage or tenement,  
32 the garden, backside and thappurtenances, until he, they or any of them,  
so unpaid shalbe fully satisfied and  
33 paid the portion and portions aforesaid to them or any of them belonging.  
Provided always and . .  
34 mind is that Ann, my wife, towards the bringing up of my said children  
shall, or may, have, hold . .  
35 . . my said messuage or tenement, garden, backside and other  
appurtenances until the said Samuel, my son,  
36 shall accomplish his full age of twenty and one years. And my will is that  
when my sons, George,  
37 Abraham and John shall receive their portions aforesaid, they shall release  
their right unto my said ??  
38 A good and sufficient release in writing to my son Samuel and his heirs if  
he or they shall request it.  
39 In witness whereof I have to this my testament and last will set my hand  
and seal  
40 hereon the day and year first above written.



# The Isleys of Ightham

| Num                 | Name                               | Born        | Married | Spouse | M | C | Died        |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|---------|--------|---|---|-------------|
| i734 <sup>113</sup> | <u>ISLEY, Edward</u><br>----- gent |             |         |        | 1 | 3 |             |
| • i736              | <u>ISLEY, James</u>                | 7 Nov 1572  |         |        | 0 | 0 | 26 Nov 1572 |
| • i737              | <u>ISLEY, Robert</u>               | 25 Apr 1574 |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |
| • i738              | <u>Isley, Margaret</u>             | 23 Dec 1576 |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |

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113 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

# J

## *More Families & Transcripts*

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|                                    |             |
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|                                    |             |
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|   |             |
|---|-------------|
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|                         |             |
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|  |             |
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|                            |              |
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|   |              |
|---|--------------|
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| William Johnson, citizen and grocer of London | page 2.j.115 |
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| Thomas Johnson, mercer, of Tonbridge 1615     | page 2.j.149 |
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|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| The Johnsons of West Peckham | page 2.j.164 |
|------------------------------|--------------|

|                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
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|                                    |              |
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|                              |              |
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# The Jacksons of Seal

| Num                  | Name                             | Born        | Married | Spouse | M | C | Died        |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|---------|--------|---|---|-------------|
| #3723 <sup>114</sup> | <u>JACKSON, William</u><br>----- |             |         |        | 1 | 4 |             |
| • #3725              | <u>Jackson, Sylvester</u>        | 21 Apr 1616 |         |        | 0 | 0 | 23 Apr 1616 |
| • #3726              | <u>Jackson, Mary</u>             | 8 Jun 1617  |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |
| • #3727              | <u>JACKSON, William</u>          | 8 Nov 1618  |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |
| • #3728              | <u>Jackson, Ann</u>              | 2 Apr 1620  |         |        | 0 | 0 |             |

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114 “#” indicates a reference in the Seal database

## *The James of Ightham*

**Roger James**, a younger son of **Jacob van Haestrecht**, a family of landowners in the Low Countries, fled to London in the mid-sixteenth century and acquired the Ram's Head brewery, near the Tower of London, in 1566. He originally called himself Jacobs but this became anglicised to James. When he died in 1591 he was Third Warden of the Worshipful Company of Brewers and he left a considerable estate including property in Ightham. His wife was the only daughter and heiress of Henry Morskyn of Liege who had also established himself in London.

William James (i1920), whose inheritance included the manor of Ightham (the first Court in his name being held on 1st April 1600), was Roger's third surviving son and there were five younger sons. William's wife was another heiress, the only daughter of **Henry Kule**, a wealthy merchant of Bremen. In 1633, William's son (i1915), also William, sold the remoter part of Ightham Common, over 300 acres in extent to **Sir Henry Vane** (CRI 1937, p.173; see p. 173 to 178 for more details of the James estates). William's will has survived (**PCC: Skynner 54**); it was written on 20th January 1625/6 but William was not buried until 19 April 1627. The will has not been investigated but the witnesses were **John Gryme, George Baxter and George Segars**.

This William was a Parliamentarian and active in politics in the 1640s and 1650s being "[thrice chosen Knight of the Shire for Kent](#)"<sup>115</sup> In the time of the Commonwealth, William James the younger bought the adjoining manor of Wrotham (CRI 1937, p.174). According to Bowra<sup>116</sup>, of William's ten children, only Demetrius, the eldest son and heir, had any children and, although two daughters married, they both died childless. However, the records show twelve children of William James (i1915) baptised, see page 2.j.9.

See the article by [G.C.R. Morris in A.C. Vol. 104 \(1987\) p.115](#) for a discussion on the origin of the name Demetrius in the James family.

The children born to "William James, gent." in 1607, 1611 and sometime up to 1619 have been taken as the children of i1920. John and Richard James, whose children are also recorded in the parish register for Ightham, could have been two younger brothers of William James the elder (i1915).

The will of **Thomas James, gent.** (i2579), who could have been another brother of i1915, was written on 15th June 1637; it includes the phrase "[this little span of](#)

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115 Hasted

116 Bowra, Edward V: *Ightham - Notes on Local History*, Ightham and District Historical Society, 1978.

time wherein we live" but has not been investigated (PCC: Lee 65). Thomas was buried 18th June 1637.

| Num     | Name                           | Born  | Married | Spouse  | M C  | Died         |
|---------|--------------------------------|---|---------|---|------|--------------|
| i1920   | <u>JAMES, William</u><br>----- | about 1570<br>Armig.  |         | Jane Kule<br>i1921  | 1 4  | 19 Apr 1627  |
| • i1915 | <u>JAMES, William</u>          | 1602<br>gent  |         | Jane Miller<br>i1916<br>see page 2.j.9 for their children | 1 12 | 1661 aged 59 |
| • i1917 | <u>JAMES, John</u>             | 7 Sep 1607  |         |   | 0 0  | 9 Sep 1607   |
| • i1918 | <u>James, Christiana</u>       | 17 Jun 1611<br>baptised: "dau. of William James, Esq."; buried: "filia William James, Armig." |         |   | 0 0  | 28 Dec 1615  |
| • i1919 | <u>James, Susan</u>            |   |         |   | 0 0  | 11 May 1619  |
| i1900   | <u>JAMES, Richard</u><br>----- |   |         |   | 1 2  |              |
| • i1902 | <u>JAMES, Richard</u>          | 16 May 1602   |         |   | 0 0  |              |
| • i1903 | <u>James, Jane</u>             | 25 Sep 1603   |         |   | 0 0  |              |

| Num     | Name                                 | Born   | Married                                  | Spouse                    | M | C | Died        |
|---------|--------------------------------------|--------|--|---------------------------|---|---|-------------|
| i1904   | <u>JAMES, John</u><br>-----<br> <br> |        | 24 Aug 1601                              | Susanne Vandwell<br>11905 | 1 | 9 |             |
|         | gent                                 |        | mentioned in the Court Records 1586-1618 |                           |   |   |             |
| i1905   | <u>Vandwell, Susanne</u><br>-----    |        | <1581                                    |                           | 1 | 9 | 15 Sep 1628 |
| • i1906 | <u>JAMES, John</u>                   | 16 Oct | 1603                                     |                           | 0 | 0 | 15 Feb 1605 |
| • i1907 | <u>JAMES, Henry</u>                  | 12 May | 1605                                     |                           | 0 | 0 |             |
| • i1908 | <u>James, Susan</u>                  | 9 Jun  | 1606                                     |                           | 0 | 0 |             |
| • i1909 | <u>JAMES, John</u>                   | 20 Jul | 1607                                     |                           | 0 | 0 |             |
| • i1910 | <u>JAMES, William</u>                | 26 Sep | 1611                                     |                           | 0 | 0 |             |
| • i1911 | <u>JAMES, Roger</u>                  | 14 Jun | 1613                                     |                           | 0 | 0 |             |
| • i1912 | <u>James, Sarah</u>                  | 8 Jan  | 1616                                     |                           | 0 | 0 | 14 Aug 1618 |
| • i1913 | <u>JAMES, John</u>                   | 1 Jul  | 1619                                     |                           | 0 | 0 |             |
| • i1914 | <u>James, Jane</u>                   | 27 Dec | 1623                                     |                           | 0 | 0 |             |

| Num     | Name  | Born        | Married | Spouse                                | M C  | Died         |
|---------|---|-------------|---------|---------------------------------------|------|--------------|
| i1915   | <u>JAMES, William</u><br>----- gent   | 1602        |         | Jane Miller<br>#1916                  | 1 12 | 1661 aged 59 |
|         |   |             |         |                                       |      |              |
| i1916   | <u>Miller, Jane</u><br>----- daughter of  |             |         | Nicholas Miller of Horsenells, Crouch | 1 12 |              |
| • i1922 | <u>JAMES, Demetrius</u>   | 20 Apr 1629 |         |                                       | 1 9  | 1678 aged 49 |
| • i2217 | <u>JAMES, William</u>   | 25 Apr 1630 |         |                                       | 0 0  |              |
|         | baptised only a year after Demetrius perhaps showing that the family employed a wet nurse which, given William's status as lord of the manor, is not unlikely |             |         |                                       |      |              |
| • i1923 | <u>JAMES, Nicholas</u>  | 14 Jul 1631 |         |                                       | 0 0  | 24 Jan 1634  |
| • i1924 | <u>James, Jane</u>  | 14 Apr 1633 |         |                                       | 0 0  |              |
| • i1925 | <u>JAMES, Roger</u>   | 14 Sep 1634 |         |                                       | 0 0  |              |
| • i1926 | <u>James, Elizabeth</u>   | 23 Sep 1635 |         |                                       | 0 0  |              |
| • i1927 | <u>JAMES, John</u>  | 1 Sep 1636  |         |                                       | 0 0  |              |
| • i1928 | <u>JAMES, Thomas</u>  | 23 Jan 1639 |         |                                       | 0 0  |              |
| • i1929 | <u>JAMES, Nicholas</u>  | 5 Apr 1640  |         |                                       | 0 0  |              |
| • i1930 | <u>James, Anne</u>  | 30 Mar 1642 |         |                                       | 0 0  |              |
| • i1931 | <u>James, Sarah</u>   | 22 Feb 1645 |         | born 30 March, baptised 6 April       | 0 0  |              |
| • i1932 | <u>JAMES, Henry</u>   | 3 Nov 1647  |         | born and baptised the same day        | 0 0  |              |



In January 1641 The house of William James, gent. was burgled twice:

- in January 1641; see [Fuller in More Families & Transcripts](#) for details.
- at the July 1642 Assizes, **Robert Lawrence** (i2779) of Ightham, **labourer**, was indicted for grand larceny. “On 16th May 1642, at Ightham, he stole 10 ells<sup>117</sup> of linen cloth (10s) from William James, esquire”. The indictment was endorsed as a true bill by William James. Lawrence “confessed; he was allowed clergy on another indictment”.<sup>118</sup>

The first Ightham William (i1920) raised rabbits looked after by his warrener, Francis Greentree (i1659). On the night of 22nd June 1609, two men from Seal broke into the warren and assaulted Greentree. They were charged at the July 1609 Assizes - see [Greentree in More Families & Transcripts](#) for details.

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117 a cloth measure of 1.25 yards

118 Cockburn (Chas.I); 2098

# The Jansons of Kemsing

There were a number of Jansons in Kemsing between 1570 and 1600 but they are mainly the subject of isolated events:

- Katherine, the daughter of Elizabeth Janson, was buried on 20th September 1571
- John Janson (i600) married Anne Barre (i607) on the 7th November 1574. Anne may have been related to the Barres of Seal.
- Gilbert, son of Gilbert Janson, was baptised on 25th November 1597

| Num    | Name  | Born        | Married | Spouse | M | C | Died |
|--------|---|-------------|---------|--------|---|---|------|
| i604   | <u>JANSON, Richard</u>  |             |         |        | 1 | 4 |      |
| • i610 | <u>JANSON, John</u>   | 23 Aug 1573 |         |        |   |   | 0 0  |
| • i611 | <u>Janson, Sydney</u>   | 22 Jan 1582 |         |        |   |   | 0 0  |
| • i612 | <u>JANSON, Matthew</u>  | 21 Jul 1585 |         |        |   |   | 0 0  |
| • i613 | <u>Janson, Sylvester</u>  | 6 Nov 1587  |         |        |   |   | 0 0  |
|        | given the long gap between #610 and #611, the three younger children could have been from a second marriage |             |         |        |   |   |      |
| i605   | <u>JANSON, William</u>  |             |         |        | 1 | 2 |      |
| • i615 | <u>JANSON, William</u>  | 19 Nov 1591 |         |        |   |   | 0 0  |
| • i616 | <u>JANSON, Henry</u>  | 23 Sep 1597 |         |        |   |   | 0 0  |

## *The Jefferies of Shipbourne*

This name, which occurs in many of the villages in the area, is spelled Jefferie, Jeffrey, etc. and also Geoffrey.

Although **William Jefferie** (\$314<sup>119</sup>) was described as “of **West Peckham**”, he had a child, **John** (\$316), baptised in Shipbourne on 14th March 1585; perhaps his wife came from Shipbourne and had returned to her family to have the baby. This was quite common for first children of a marriage.

**Mary Jefferie** (\$876) married **Percival Tye** (\$871) on 26th July 1607 “by licence”.

**William Jefferie** (\$1216) married **Mary Moon** (\$1217) on 28th October 1617 “by a licence from Rochester”.

**John Jeffery** (\$2119) married **Elisabeth Marden** (\$2137) on 17th May 1648.

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119    \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

## The Jeffreys of Seal & Ightham

**Thomas Jeffrey** (#295<sup>120</sup>) was buried on 19th December 1592 in Seal and his **widow, Mary**, (#606) on 13th January 1568.

**William Jeffrey** (#1643) had a servant, **Robert Frere** (#1642), who was buried on 24th July 1586.

In **Ightham** variations of this name include "Jefferies" and Geffrey:

The **Geffreys (or Jeffreys)** were obviously **bakers and brewers**; in the list of names occurring in the 1553-74 records there are: **Agnes Jeffrey**, baker and brewer, **Ann Jeffrey**, **George Jeffrey**, baker and brewer, **Henry Jeffrey**, **borsholder**, baker and brewer, and **William Jeffrey**, baker and brewer.

On 31st May 1556, the **wife of Henry Jeffrey** (who could have been the borsholder) and **William Parker** were found not to have "[exhibited the sign of a brewer. Fined 2d each and to remedy it before the next Court.](#)" (CRI 1938, p.10)

Henry Geffrey was mentioned in the Bing v. Hooper case - see [Excerpts from Ightham Court Rolls in Section Z of Families & Transcripts](#) This could have been the borsholder and **Henry Geffrey** (i1357) who was buried on 10th October 1573. **Ann Geffrey** (i1366) was buried on 16th April 1574. Nothing more than her name is given but she could have been Henry's widow.

There is no mention of any Geffreys or Jeffreys in the 1586-1618 records. Perhaps, as is implied by no baptisms in the parish records, there was no next generation to carry on the business. By 1638, however, there was a family of Jefferies:

| Num     | Name                             | Born        | Married                           | Spouse                 | M | C | Died           |
|---------|----------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---|---|----------------|
| i2595   | <u>JEOFFERIES, John</u><br>----- |             | 26 Jul 1638                       | Susan Brooker<br>i2596 | 1 | 2 |                |
| • i2632 | <u>JEOFFERIES, Thomas</u>        | 19 Feb 1650 | baptised 3 March when 12 days old |                        |   |   | 0 0            |
| • i2681 | <u>JEOFFERIES, John</u>          |             |                                   |                        |   |   | 0 0 5 Jun 1652 |

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120 # indicates a reference in the Seal database and "i" to that for Ightham

Thomas was recorded as the "son of John Jefferies and Susan" but he was born 12 years after the marriage of i2595 and i2596; did John die just after birth or was he an older son?

---

**Dorothy Jeffrey** (i2557), daughter of **John and Susan Jeffrey** (i2555 and i2556), was baptised on 16th February 1648.

## *The Jeffreys of the Tonbridge Area*

A number of Jeffrey wills for the Tonbridge area have been transcribed:

|                |           |              |                                 |             |
|----------------|-----------|--------------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| John Jeffrey   | Tonbridge | 6 Feb 1606/7 | CKS: Drb/Pw 21                  | page 2.j.20 |
| John Jeffrey   | Pembury   | 7 Jun 1621   | PCC: Dale 76; Prob 10436        | page 2.j.27 |
| Thomas Jeffrey | Tudeley   | 14 Feb 1622  | PCC: Saville 114; Prob 10436    | page 2.j.59 |
| Jane Jeffrey   | Pembury   | 28 Apr 1623  | CKS: Drb/Pw 26                  | page 2.j.39 |
| Edward Jeffrey | Pembury   | 3 Nov 1623   | CKS: Drb/Pw 26                  | page 2.j.53 |
| John Jeffrey   | Leigh     | 9 Sep 1624   | CKS: Drb/Pw 26;<br>Drb/Pwr 2145 | page 2.j.57 |

The 1607 will of John Jeffrey of Tonbridge is very long and only the first, sixth and tenth (last) page have been transcribed. It was written by Nicholas Hooper who wrote many wills in the Tonbridge area from the mid 1570s until his death in 1618.

The will of John Jeffrey of Pembury was written by John Hooper, Nicholas's son and the parish clerk of Tonbridge. Only the first page has been transcribed but this includes all except the final lines detailing the reading and signing of the will; the names of the witnesses are given. This John was the second husband of Jane whose will was written in 1623 and probably the son of John of Tonbridge.

The will of Thomas Jeffrey of Tudeley was also written by John Hooper but there is no obvious connection between him and the other Jeffrey testators. It is a long will and only the first page has been transcribed.

John of Pembury mentions four sons, John, William, Edward and Thomas, and makes his wife, Jane, his executrix. Jane mentions the above four sons plus a fifth, Nicholas, but he could have been mentioned in the later pages of John's will. In any case, the likenesses between the two wills are such that it is reasonable to take John and Jane as husband and wife. The Edward whose will was written in 1623 was their son. John left his servant Margaret Baker ten shillings and a Margaret Baker witnessed the wills of both Jane and Edward.

Jane was still alive when Edward's will was written. Both wills were proved in March 1623/4, that is nearly a year after Jane's was written. Both were written by Stephen Jeffrey, gent. of Gray's Inn but Edward's is a copy of the original (also written by Stephen Jeffrey). One of Stephen's distinctive usages is his "Also" where practically all other scribes used "Item".

John Jeffrey of Leigh could also have been Jane's son but, since only a short extract has been transcribed, this relationship is only a possibility. He did, however, ask to be buried in the "[churchyard of Pembury as near as may be to the foot of my father's tombstone](#)". Jane's husband was "John of Pembury".

Two interesting and unusual details from these wills are the paying of debts and the learning of the catechism.

## *Payment of Debts*

John of Tonbridge in 1606 and John of Pembury in 1621, probably father and son, were both very concerned about the payment of their debts.

In 1606, John having divided his land between his four sons added the proviso that they should pay out of lands they had inherited “such sums of money, yearly during the space of six years, or longer until all my said debts and legacies shall be full paid and discharged”. He then gave the amount each was to annually pay:

|        |             |        |   |           |
|--------|-------------|--------|---|-----------|
| John   | £ 5 5s      | £ 5.25 | } |           |
| Edward | £10 18s 10d | £10.94 | } | an annual |
|        |             |        |   | total of  |
| George | £ 7 15s     | £ 7.75 | } | £33       |
|        |             |        |   | 13s       |
|        |             |        |   | 10d       |
| Reubon | £ 9 15s     | £ 9.75 | } | (£33.     |
|        |             |        |   | 69)       |



If he thought it would take at least six years to pay off his debts these must have totalled over £200. Presumably the amount each son was required to contribute depended on the value of the property bequeathed to him. Each of them was to be accountable to his brothers giving details “one to the other from time to time as occasion shall be offered of all and every the said yearly sums, to the intent that with the said yearly sums, all and every my debts and legacies may be performed according to the true meaning of this my will”.

John of Pembury “having an especial care and desire that all my proper debts (owing by speciality and otherwise) should be truly and fully paid” instructed his executrix, shortly after his decease, to sell all his “corn, cattle, husbandry tackling and chattels” for an honest and indifferent price towards the payment of his debts. Any ready money he had when he died plus all the debts to him me owing, was also go “towards the paying of my debts and legacies and the defraying of my funeral expenses”. On what was his widow to live if everything had to be sold to pay his debts?

## *The Learning of the Catechism*

John of Pembury in his will of 1621 left twenty shillings each to two grandchildren but this was to be paid to them only when they could “say the catechism of the

church now set down in the book of Common Prayer without book, by heart". He also left two shillings and sixpence to each of his godchildren, to be paid to them respectively when they demanded it and could say the catechism from memory.

Jane's godchildren also had to be able to say the catechism before they were given the twelve pence she left each of them.

## *John Jeffrey, yeoman of Tonbridge*

The John Jeffrey whose will was written in February 1606/7 wanted to be buried in Speldhurst although he is described as "of Tonbridge". He owned land in Tonbridge and the adjoining parishes of Speldhurst and Capell and also in Ashurst which is just to the west of Speldhurst.

He had four sons: Reubon, John, Edward and George. Possibly because only three of the ten pages of the will have been transcribed, the order of the sons is not known except that John was the second son. He owned land in Tonbridge, Speldhurst, Ashurst and Capel.

John left to his son John a number of pieces of land two of which were Heathcroft and Claytonfield. But it was to be lawful for Reuben, another of his sons, "at any

time within twenty years next after my decease, in any one year or two at the most and next after an another, to have, dig, take and carry, of marl, cope and soilage out of a marl pit . . . in Heathcroft . . . to the number of 20 hundred loads” each being 14 bushels or below. These loads were to be taken through Heathcroft and Claytonfield, “by such way as heretofore hath been used, to and from and the lands” which were given to Reuben in the summer (“between Maytide and ??”) and Reubon was to “save harmless the said Heathcroft and . . . Claytonfield as much as may be in shutting the gates and ?? “.

*Will of John Jeffrey, yeoman, of Tonbridge*

written 6th February 1606/7

extract from original

Nicolas Hooper's  
mark

1 In<sup>121</sup> the name of god Amen. The sixth day of February in the year  
2 of our Lord God one thousand, six hundred and six and in the fourth year of  
the reign of our

---

121 decorated I with the Hooper mark “attached” to the “h” of “the

3 Sovereign Lord James, by the grace of god, king of England, France and  
Ireland,  
4 defender of the faith, etc. And of Scotland the fortieth, I, John Jeffrey of  
5 **Lymmingtons** within the parish of Tonbridge in the county of Kent,  
**yeoman**, being<sup>122</sup> at the time  
6 of the making hereof in good and perfect health as well of body as of mind,  
thanks therefore be given  
7 to Almighty god, notwithstanding aged and subject to infirmities, and  
thereby as also by many  
8 and daily examples put in mind of my last end, knowing assuredly that I  
shall change this  
9 life but the time of that being uncertain and willing to set in order those  
transitory possessions  
10 which God hath made me steward of here in this world, that no contention  
fall out about  
11 the same after my decease. Therefore I do ordain and make this my  
present testament and last  
12 will in manner and form following: And **First** and principally, I give,  
commend and bequeath  
13 my soul into the hands of Almighty god who gave it, trusting that (by the  
merits, precious death

---

122 "beeing", "bee", etc. throughout

14 and bloodshedding<sup>123</sup> of my only saviour, Jesus Christ) that the same  
shalbe presented, pure and  
15 without spot, before the throne of his majesty. And my body to the earth,  
to be buried  
16 in the churchyard of **Speldhurst** in the said county of Kent, in sure and  
certain hope of  
17 joyful resurrection to eternal life. **Item:** I give and bequeath to the poor of  
the parish  
18 of Tonbridge aforesaid, the sum of forty shillings lawful money to be paid  
and

...

...

*page 6:*

- 6.1 **This is the**<sup>124</sup> last will of me the said John Jeffrey made and declared the  
day and year
- 6.2 first above written, concerning the order and disposition of all my lands,  
tenements and hereditaments

---

123 "bludshedding"

124 decorated with very small Hooper sign "hanging" from the cross-bar of the initial "T"

6.3 whatsoever, lying within the several parishes of Tonbridge and Speldhurst  
aforesaid and **Ashhurst**  
6.4 and **Capell** in the said county of Kent or elsewhere within the said county  
of Kent. **And first**  
6.5 I give and bequeath unto **John Jeffrey, my second son**, all those six  
sendalls or parcels  
6.6 land and wood called the **Deane**, the south part of **Clayton Field** as it is  
now divided ??  
6.7 of them have sometimes been called **Clayton Wood** now being three  
parcels and the sixth **Heathcroft**  
6.8 together, situated, lying and being in Speldhurst aforesaid and Ashurst in  
the said county  
6.9 whose the first five lie in Speldhurst and the 6th, viz. Heathcroft, lieth in  
Ashurst aforesaid.  
6.10 To have and to hold all the six sendalls or parcels of land and wood, with  
all and singular  
6.11 th'appurtenances unto the said John Jeffrey, my son, his heirs and assigns,  
forever. **Yet**  
6.12 nevertheless my will and meaning is that it shall and may be lawful to and  
for **Reuben Jeffrey**  
6.13 and his heirs, at any time within twenty years next after my decease, in  
any one year or

6.14 two at the most and next after an another, to have, dig, take and carry, of  
marl, cope and soilage  
6.15 out of a marl pit now being in Heathcroft aforesaid to the number of 20  
hundred loads of the  
6.16 14 bushel count? at the most, by and through the said Heathcroft and the  
said south part  
6.17 of Claytonfield, by such way as heretofore hath been used, to and from and  
the lands hereafter  
6.18 given to the said Reuben, my son, the which marl, my meaning is, shalbe  
employed upon the said  
6.19 ?? ?? given to the said Reuben, if he or his heirs shall keep the same  
without selling ??  
6.20 ?? ?? ?? that my said son, and his heirs, shall save harmless the said  
Heathcroft  
6.21 and the said south part of Claytonfield as much as may be in shutting the  
gates and ?? in  
6.22 his and their carriage aforesaid. And the said carriage to be ?? between  
Maytide and ??

...

...

*page 10:*

10.1 the premises before mentioned to be given to the said Reuben Jeffrey, my  
son, withall and every commons,  
10.2 freedoms and appurtenances to them or any of them belonging, unto the  
said Reuben Jeffrey, my son, his  
10.3 heirs and assigns, forever. **Provided** always and my will is, that my said  
four sons,  
10.4 viz. John, **Edward, George** and Reubon, my sons, their heirs and assigns,  
shall pay out of their said  
10.5 lands and tenements to them severally willed, towards the paying of all my  
debts and legacies ??  
10.6 all such sums of money, yearly during the space of six years, or longer until  
all my said debts and  
10.7 legacies shalbe full paid and discharged with the same sums as presently  
followeth, viz. my son John,  
10.8 his heirs or assigns, yearly five pounds and five shillings, my said son  
Edward, his heirs or  
10.9 assigns, yearly ten pounds, eighteen shillings and ten pence, my said son  
George,  
10.10 his heirs or assigns, seven pounds and fifteen shillings, and my said son  
Reuben, his  
10.11 heirs or assigns, yearly nine pounds and fifteen shillings, and shall every of  
them be accounting



- 10.12 one to the other from time to time as occasion shalbe offered of all and every the said yearly sums, to
- 10.13 the intent that with the said yearly sums, all and every my debts and legacies may be
- 10.14 performed according to the true meaning of this my will, any gift or any other thing whatsoever in this
- 10.15 will contained to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding **In witness** whereof to this my
- 10.16 last will and testament, being ten sheets of paper, I, the said John Jeffrey, the father, to every sheet
- 10.17 thereof have put my seal and subscribed my name. And I do hereby revoke and renounce all
- 10.18 other wills whatsoever hereto fore by me made and do publish, declare and signify this only
- 10.19 to be my true and last will, yeven the day and year first above written

Nicolas Hooper's  
mark

Read, sealed, pronounced and declared  
the day and year first above or before  
written by the said John Jeffrey, the father,  
as his true and last will in the presence of me

Nicholas Hooper, writer hereof. And of

?? ??

?? ?? and

Nicholas Hooper

*Will of John Jeffrey, yeoman, of Pembury*

written 7th June 1621  
transcript from original

- 1 In<sup>125</sup> the name of god Amen. The seventh day of June in the year of our  
Lord God
- 2 one thousand, six hundred, thirty and one. And in the nineteenth year of  
the reign of our
- 3 Sovereign Lord James by the grace of god king of England, France and  
Ireland, defender of the
- 4 faith, etc. And of Scotland the four and fiftieth. **I, John Jeffrey** of  
Pepingbury
- 5 als. Pembury in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being at this time sickly and  
weak in body

---

125 large decorated "I" the height of five lines

6 but of good remembrance and memory, thanks be given to God, do ordain  
and make this my testament  
7 and last will in manner and form following: **First** I humbly yield and  
commend my soul  
8 to Almighty god, my maker, with an assured hope of salvation through his  
mercy in the merits and  
9 mediation of his dear son Jesus Christ, and my body to the earth in decent  
manner to be buried  
10 in the churchyard of Pepingbury aforesaid, or else where if shall be thought  
fit, with like hope of  
11 joyful resurrection to eternal life. **Item:** I will and bequeath to the poor of  
Pepingbury  
12 aforesaid forty shillings to be distributed amongst the most needy of them  
within short time after  
13 my decease at the discretion of my executrix hereafter named. **Item:** I  
bequeath to **Elizabeth,**  
14 **the daughter of my son John Jeffrey** and to **John, the son of my son William**  
**Jeffrey,** to either of them  
15 twenty shillings to be paid to them respectively when they can say the  
catechism of the church  
16 now set down in the book of Common Prayer without book, by heart. **Item:**  
I bequeath to all

17 my godchildren two shillings and sixpence a piece to be paid them  
respectively when they shall  
18 demand it and can say the catechism aforesaid memoriter. **Item:** I  
bequeath to **Margaret Baker, my servant**, (if she shalbe dwelling with me at  
the time of my decease, ten shillings. **Item:**  
19 I will and appoint that the iron plate in the hall and my bedstead<sup>126</sup> in the  
new chamber of my house at **Lankington** and my table in  
20 the hall there and the shelves in the butteries there which were there  
before my son John came to  
21 dwell there, shall remain and be to **Edward Jeffrey, my son**, (but the said  
John to have the use  
22 thereof during his dwelling there). And such other goods and husbandry  
tools whatsoever within  
23 there, I will unto the said John Jeffrey, my son, his executors and assigns.  
**Item:** I (having  
24 an especial care and desire that all my proper debts (owing by speciality  
and otherwise) should be  
25 truly and fully paid) do will and appoint that my executrix hereafter named,  
or her assigns, shall  
26 within short time after my decease, sell all my corn, cattell, husbandry  
tackling and chattells

---

126 "bedsteddle"

27        ?? the true value of them according as they shalbe honestly and  
indifferently prised<sup>127</sup> by those  
28        which shall be prisers of my inventory, for and towards the payment of my  
said debts. **And**  
29        I also will and appoint that such ready money as I shall have at the time of  
my decease and also all  
30        my debts to me owing, shalbe also for and towards the paying of my debts  
and legacies and the  
31        defraying of my funeral expenses. **Item:** I will and give to William and  
**Thomas, my sons,**  
32        (hoping their mother will otherwise paid for them) the sum of five pounds  
apiece of lawful english money.

33        **The rest** and all other of my goods and household stuff I wholly give and  
bequeath to  
34        **Jane, my loving wife,** whom I make the sole and only executor of this my  
testament and last will

witnesses: **Robert Newman, Thomas Wood, John Hooper, notary public**

---

127        priced; "prysers" on the next line - pricers, those who valued his inventory

## *Jane, a Wealthy Widow*

Jane was married twice, first to Roger Tompson by whom she had two sons and two daughters and secondly to John Jeffrey by whom she had five sons. She was a widow when she died in 1623 by which time all her Tompson children had children of their own. Some of the items which she bequeathed she described as being “[now are in the chamber over the kitchen where . . . herein my mother now lyeth](#)”. It therefore seems that there were four generations alive in 1623: Jane’s mother, Jane herself and her sister, Janes’s children and her grandchildren. For Jane to have had so many children, six of whom had children of their own, she was probably born in the 1560s making her mother about eighty which is feasible if not very common.

Nothing is known of Jane’s first husband but, from the animals and implements of husbandry which she mentioned in her will, both Roger and John were probably wealthy pastoral farmers, John being described in his will as a yeoman.

When she came to write her will, Jane was obviously a wealthy woman owning “[lands, tenements and hereditaments](#)” in Pembury, Tudeley and Capell apparently in her own right. The house, called Crowherst, in which she lived included a parlour and hall with chambers above them and also a gallery. Her mother was lying in a room over the kitchen. She bequeathed to her sons one

bedstead, two featherbeds and a trundle bed with four feather beds and other linen, etc. with them. She also had oxen, kyne, sheep, horses, cows in the field, barn and house and other my chattels, real and personal. These included wains, plough and implements of husbandry.

The house, which she gave to her son Thomas, included “[barns, stables, edifices, orchards, gardens, closes and enclosures](#)” and all five pieces or parcels of land, meadow and pasture land.

## *Jane's Wearing Apparel*

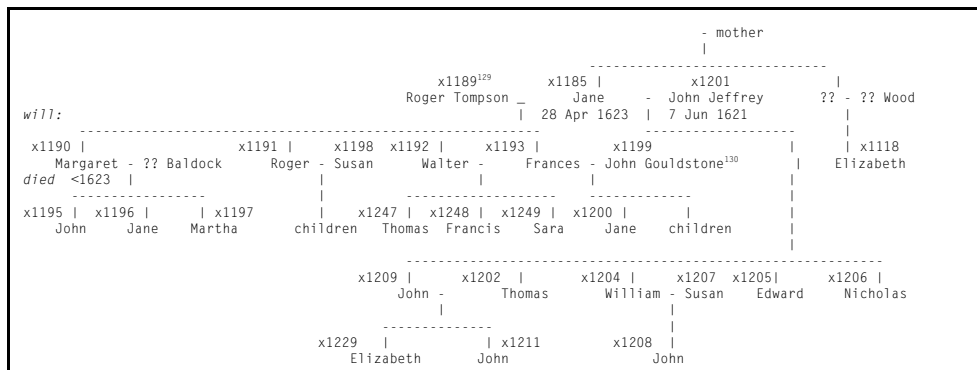
Jane had three suits of apparel “[that is to say, gown, petticoat, kirtle, hat and band of cambric<sup>128</sup> or holland](#)”; she left the best of these to her daughter Francis and the other two to her two daughters-in-law.

Her other, and probably eldest daughter, Margaret had already died; Jane left the rest of her apparel to Margaret’s two daughters, Jane and Martha Baldock.

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128 “combrike”

# Jane's Family



129 "x" indicates a reference in the general database

130 this name is written "Gouldstone" in Jane's will but Frances was the wife of John Goldstone whose will has survived - see [Goldstone in More Families & Transcripts](#) for details of her other children. The children of Frances's brother Walter are known from the will of Frances's son Robert, Walter's child Francis being a son.



## *Her Minor Bequests*

Jane Gouldstone, daughter of her daughter Francis and Jane's goddaughter was to receive five shillings and a pair of sheets with the rest of Francis's children each receiving two shillings and sixpence.

Her two Jeffrey grandsons were to receive five shillings each as were all the children of her Tompson sons.

Of her two Thompon sons, Roger was to receive five shillings whilst Walter is not mentioned other than as the father of children receiving small bequests. Probably their father left them legacies

Jane left John, probably her eldest Jeffrey son, ten shillings and he is not mentioned again. Perhaps he had been his father's main heir.

## *Bequests to Jane's Baldock Grandchildren*

Jane was the administratrix of the estate of her first husband, Roger Tompson. To have had five sons, two of whom had children of their own by 1623, Jane must have married again soon after Roger's death. There was a bequest of £10 to each of Margaret's three children, due to be paid when they reached the age of twenty-one, which may have been left to them by their grandfather and John is included in the details about the payment of this bequest. What arrangements were made, possibly when Jane remarried, to ensure that the money was earmarked for Jane's Baldock grandchildren is not known but payment was to be made "[with the desire and consent of my sister Elizabeth Wood and of my daughter Francis Gouldstone or of one of them if they, or one of them, shalbe then living](#)". Francis was the full aunt of the children.

There was a proviso of a different kind, possibly made by Roger if the bequest originally came from him: "[But if they, or any of them shall marry before their said age of twenty and two years without consent as aforesaid, then the part and portion of that person or persons so marrying without consent to be void and my executors to have the benefit thereof](#)".

## *Bequests to Jane's Jeffrey Sons*

Jane divided her “household stuff” between three of her Jeffrey sons:

to Thomas:

- “a furnace; my bedstead in the chamber over the parlour, the table in the parlour, the table in the hall, the table in the gallery and forms and stools unto them” (belonging).

to Edward and Nicholas:

“so much of my other household stuff as shall be to either of them in equal value unto the said furnace, tables, stools and bedstead before given unto my said son Thomas Jeffrey, the same to be valued by my overseers or two or one of them”.

The remainder of her household stuff was then to be divided equally Thomas, Edward and Nicholas. She then willed all her “chattels, oxen, kyne, sheep, horses, cows in the field, in the barn and in the house and all other my chattels, real and personal, wains, ploughs, implements of husbandry (except my household stuff before given and devised)” should be sold by her executors for the payment of her debts and legacies with anything left over being divided between her executors who were to be Thomas and Edward.

These chattels. etc. were obviously in addition to her household stuff which had been divided between Thomas, Edward and Nicholas. But, if the amount obtained for them was not sufficient to pay her debts, etc. then “so much of my household stuff within the house before hereby by me given and devised” was to be sold as would be “sufficient for the discharge thereof, taking a part out of every portion of my said sons, . . . equally”.

But then, in what seems to be an afterthought, she left:

to William

- “the featherbed, bolsters, pillows, coverlet and blankets which now are in the high bed wherein I now lie”.

to Nicholas

- “the featherbed, bolsters, pillows, coverlet and blankets which now are in the trundle bed in the chamber over the parlour”.

Weren't these items included in those which she had previously said were to be divided between Thomas, Edward and Nicholas?

## *Jane's Land and Tenements*

Thomas was Jane's main heir and was to have her house and its land, etc. plus a number of other pieces of land

Thomas was to pay William and Nicholas £20 each to be paid in £5 instalments annually for four years after her death. As security for this they were to hold about 3 acres of land in Capell and 11½ acres with a cottage in Pembury but, alternatively, Thomas Jeffrey, at his own expense, could “[make, seal and deliver such deed or deeds in writing](#)” to Jane's overseers which would assure William and Jeffrey that the forty pounds would be paid as directed by their mother.

In addition to his £20, William was to have 14 acres of land in Pembury and Tudeley

William and Nicholas had been given land by their father, possibly before he died rather than in his will since Jane writes of the “[lands given unto them by .. their father, lately my husband deceased, and by me](#)”. It was now Jane's “[mind and intent](#)” that if William and/or Nicholas Jeffrey, wished “[to alien, sell and surrender](#)” these lands “[that they shall sell the same unto my said son Thomas Jeffrey . . giving so much as another will give](#)”. Within three months after her death they were to make bonds binding themselves and their heirs to not sell, etc.

these lands “unto any person or persons whatsoever, until (unless?) the said Thomas . . . shall refuse to give, for their lands . . . so much money as shall be thought fit and reasonable by my overseers”. If William and/or Nicholas refused to seal and deliver such a bond, then Jane’s “will and mind is that he or they so refusing shall forfeit and loose the benefits of this my last will”.

*The Will of Jane Jeffrey*

written 28th April 1623

transcript from original

1 In the name of God Amen. the eight and twentieth day of April in the year  
of the reign of our sovereign  
2 lord James, by the grace of god king of England, Scotland, France and  
Ireland, defender of the faith, etc., that is to say of England,  
3 France and Ireland, the one and twentieth and of Scotland the six and  
fiftieth. I, Jane Jeffrey of Pepingbury alias Pembury in  
4 in the county of Kent, **widow**, being of reasonable health of body and of  
good and perfect mind and memory, thanks be to Almighty  
5 God, do make and declare this my last will and testament in writing in  
manner and form following: **First:** and principally  
6 I give and commit my soul unto the mercies of Almighty God, my creator  
and redeemer, trusting to be saved by the merits and passion of Jesus

7 Christ, my redeemer and saviour, and my body to be buried at the  
discretion of my executors hereafter by me named. **Also**<sup>131</sup> I will and  
8 give to the poor people of Pembury aforesaid, to be distributed by my  
executors, twenty shillings and to be spent amongst my honest  
9 neighbours going with my corpse to burial according to the discretion of  
my executors. **Also** I will and give unto my **daughter Francis,**  
10 **the now wife of John Gouldstone,** my gold ring and my best suit of apparel,  
that is to say, gown, petticoat, kirtle, hat and band of  
11 cambric or holland. **Also** I give unto **Susan, the now wife of my son Roger**  
**Tompson,** my second suit of apparel, that is to say,  
12 gown, petticoat, kirtle, hat and band of cambric or holland. Also I give  
unto **Susan, the now wife of my son William Jeffrey,** my  
13 third suit of apparel, that is to say, gown, petticoat, kirtle hat and band of  
cambric or holland; the rest of my wearing apparel I  
14 give unto **Jane and Martha Baldock, daughters of my daughter Margaret.**  
**Also** I give unto **Jane Gouldstone,** my goddaughter, the  
15 **daughter of my daughter Francis,** five shillings and one pair of sheets. Also  
I give unto **Elizabeth Wood, my goddaughter, the daughter**  
16 **of my sister Wood,** two shillings and sixpence. Also I give unto all the  
children of my daughter **Francis** two shillings and sixpence.

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131 spelled "Alsoe"; used throughout instead of the usual "Item"

17 Also I give unto all my other godchildren twelve pence a piece when they  
can say the catechism. Also I give unto **John**  
18 **Jeffrey the son of my son John Jeffrey**, five shillings. Also I give unto my  
son John Jeffrey ten shillings. Also I give unto  
19 **my son Roger Thompson** ten shillings. **Also** I give unto **John Jeffrey, the**  
**son of my son William Jeffrey**, five shillings.  
20 Also I give unto all the **children of my two sons Walter Tompson and Roger**  
**Tompson**, five shillings a piece. **Also** I  
21 give unto **John Baldock** and unto the said Jane and Martha Baldock the  
three children of my daughter Margaret, deceased.  
22 ten pounds a piece, that is to say, the sum of thirty pounds of lawful money  
of England equally between them and  
23 if any or one of them die, the survivors or survivor of them to have the  
portion of the deceased in full payment and  
24 satisfaction of all such duties and demands nothing they, or any of them,  
shall or may claim or demand by and after  
25 the death of **Roger Tompson, their deceased grandfather**, or by and after  
me, the said Jane as administratrix after the death of the said  
26 Roger Tompson, or by gift, promise or other ways of me, or of **John Jeffrey,**  
**my late husband**, deceased, the same to be  
27 paid unto them by my executors hereafter named at the age of twenty and  
two years of them, the said John, Jane and



28 Martha Baldock, or at their day of their several marriages of they or any of  
them shall marry before their said ages of twenty  
29 and two years with the desire and consent of my sister Elizabeth Wood and  
of my daughter Francis Gouldstone or of one of  
30 them if they, or one of them, shalbe then living. But if they, or any of them  
shall marry before their said age of twenty and  
31 two years without consent as aforesaid, then the part and portion of that  
person or persons so marrying without consent  
32 to be void and my executors to have the benefit thereof. **Also** I give unto  
**Thomas Jeffrey, my son**, the furnace  
33 now being in the messuage or house wherein I now dwell and my  
bedstead in the chamber over the parlour, the table  
34 in the parlour, the table in the hall, the table in the gallery and forms and  
stools unto them. Also I give  
35 unto **Edward** and **Nicholas Jeffrey, my sons**, so much of my other  
household stuff as shall be to either of them  
36 in equal value unto the said furnace, tables, stools and bedstead before  
given unto my said son Thomas Jeffrey, the same  
37 to be valued by my overseers or two or one of them. And the residue or  
remainder of all other household stuff  
38 I give unto the said Thomas, Edward and Nicholas Jeffrey, my sons,  
equally between them. Also I give

39 unto every of my servants which shalbe my servants dwelling with me at  
the time of my death two shillings and  
40 six pence apiece. Also I give unto Thomas Jeffrey, my said son, my silver  
cup. And unto William Jeffrey,  
41 my son, my silver salt. **Also** I will that all my chattels oxen, kyne, sheep,  
horses, cows in the  
42 field, in the barn and in the house and all other my chattels, real and  
personal, wains, ploughs, implements  
43 of husbandry (except my household stuff before given and devised) shall be  
sold by my executors for  
44 the payment of my debts and legacies and if there shalbe (after my debts  
and legacies paid) any surplusage  
45 or overplus, then I give the same unto my executors equally between them.  
And if my said goods and chattels,  
46 shall not be sufficient to pay and discharge my debts and legacies, then I  
will so much of my  
47 household stuff within the house before hereby by me given and devised,  
shalbe sold by my executors or  
48 by the survivor of them, as shall be sufficient for the discharge thereof,  
taking a part out of every portion  
49 of my said sons, Edward, Thomas and Nicholas, equally or all of the same,  
if need shalbe. **Also** I give

50      unto Thomas Jeffrey, my son, the featherbed, sheets, pillows, coverlet and  
blankets which now, one and all,

*page 2*

51      used in an upon the high bed and bedstead in the chamber over the  
parlour. **Also** I give unto Edward  
52      Jeffrey, my son, the featherbed, bolsters, pillows, coverlet and blankets  
which now are in the chamber over the  
53      kitchen where and so herein my mother now lyeth. **Also** I will and give  
unto William Jeffrey, my  
54      son, the featherbed, bolsters, pillows, coverlet and blankets which now are  
in the high bed wherein  
55      I now lie. **Also** I give unto Nicholas Jeffrey, my son, the featherbed,  
bolsters, pillows, coverlet  
56      and blankets which now are in the trundle bed in the chamber over the  
parlour. **And I** make Thomas  
57      Jeffrey and Edward Jeffrey, my sons, executors of this my last will.

58      **This is the last will** and testament of me the said Jane Jeffrey made and  
declared by me the  
59      day and year before written concerning the disposition of all my lands,  
tenements and hereditaments

60 situated, lying and being in Pepingbury als. Pembury, Tudeley and Capell  
in the said county of Kent or  
61 elsewhere. I will and give unto William Jeffrey and Nicholas Jeffrey, my  
said sons, the sum of  
62 forty pounds of good and lawful money of England, equally to be divided  
between them, that is to  
63 say, to each of them the sum of twenty pounds of lawful money of England  
to be paid unto the  
64 said William and Nicholas Jeffrey, their executors and administrators, at or  
in the house wherein  
65 I now dwell by my son Thomas Jeffrey, his heirs, executors or  
administrators, within four years  
66 next after my decease, that is to say the sum of ten pounds of lawful money  
at the end of every  
67 of the said four years until the sum of forty pounds shall be paid by equal  
portions out of  
68 my lands hereafter named. And for the security and sure payment of the  
said sum of forty pounds  
69 I will and give, grant and devise unto them the said William Jeffrey and  
Nicholas Jeffrey, my sons, and to  
70 their executors, administrators and assigns, and to them and either of  
them, their and either of their

71 executors, administrators and assigns, one piece or parcel of meadowland  
called **Cooling meade** lying and  
72 being in the parish of Capell in the said county of Kent, containing by  
estimation three acres of land;  
73 also one other parcel of land called **Pitfield** containing by estimation three  
acres and a half; also one  
74 house or cottage sometimes purchased of <sup>132</sup> **Cadd** and also two other  
parcels of land called **Long**  
75 **Mead** and **Great Mead** containing by estimation eight acres of land,  
situated, lying and being in Pepingbury  
76 alias Pembury aforesaid. To have and to hold the said cottage. meadow  
land and premises, with  
77 th'appurtenances unto the said William Jeffrey and Nicholas Jeffrey, my  
sons, and to either  
78 of the, and to their and either of their executors, administrators and  
assigns, from the feast day  
79 of St. Michael th'archangel next and immediately ensuing after my  
decease unto the end and term of  
80 four years from thence next following and then fully to be completed and  
ended. **Provided**

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132 space left here, presumably for first name which was never entered

81 always, that if the said Thomas Jeffrey, my son, or his heirs or assigns,  
shall at his or their costs  
82 and charges, make, seal and deliver such deed or deeds in writing under  
his or their hand and seal  
83 and delivered unto my overseers hereafter named, or to three. two or one of  
them, to the use of them, the said  
84 William Jeffrey and Nicholas Jeffrey, their executors and administrators, for  
the true payment of the  
85 said sum of forty pounds, to be paid within four years next after my  
decease, that is to say the sum  
86 of ten pounds yearly during the said term of four years unto the said  
William Jeffrey and  
87 Nicholas Jeffrey equally between them, or their executors or  
administrators, equally between them  
88 as shall be thought fit, convenient, and reasonable unto them, my said  
overseers, or to three, two or  
89 one of them, the same fit and reasonable assurance to be by them. my said  
overseers, or to three, two or one  
90 of them, signified and declared under their, or one of their, hands and  
sealed in writing unto the said  
91 William Jeffrey and Nicholas Jeffrey or to their executors or administrators.  
That then and from

92 thenceforth this my said gift and devise of the said cottage and lands to  
them, the said William Jeffrey  
93 and Nicholas Jeffrey and to their executors and administrators, shall be to  
them and either of them,

*page 3*

94 their and either of their executors administrators and assigns void and of  
none effect, anything heretofore given  
95 devised or demised in and by this my present last will to the contrary  
thereof in any wise notwithstanding.  
96 **Also** I will and give unto the said Thomas Jeffrey, my son, all that my  
house, messuage or tenement wherein I now  
97 inhabit, called or known by the name of **Crowherst** or by whatsoever other  
name or names, and all barns, stables, edifices,  
98 orchards, gardens, closes and enclosures<sup>133</sup> to the same messuage  
appertaining. And also all that five pieces or parcels of land,  
99 meadow and pasture land (except the interest and term of four years before  
in this my will given unto William Jeffrey  
100 and Nicholas Jeffrey, my sons, of the same) wherof the first parcel is called  
**Barnfield**, the second **Kitchen Field**, the third

---

133 "inclosures"

101 **Long Meade**, the fourth **Greatmeade** and the fifth is called **Petfield** or by  
whatsoever other name or names, containing in  
102 the whole, by estimation, eighteen acres of land, situated, lying and being  
in Pepingbury alias Pembury aforesaid in the  
103 said county of Kent. And also one other piece or parcel of meadow land  
called **Cowling meade** or by whatsoever other  
104 name or names containing by estimation three acres of land, lying and  
being in the parish of Capell in the said county of  
105 Kent. And also one cottage and garden sometime purchased of  
**Codd**<sup>134</sup> situated in Pembury aforesaid.  
106 **To have and to hold** all and singular the said messuage or tenement,  
cottage, lands and premises and  
107 their ?? of their appurtenances (thr interest and term of four years as  
hereby by me before given unto  
108 William Jeffrey and Nicholas Jeffrey, my said sons, and to their executors,  
administrators and assigns of such  
109 parcels thereof as before expressed, only excepted) unto him, the said  
Thomas Jeffrey and of his heirs and  
110 assigns forever, to the only use and behoof of him the said Thomas Jeffrey  
and of his heirs and assigns for

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134 this name lokks definitely to be "Codd" whilst that on line 73 looks like "Cadd"



111 ever. **And Also** I will and give unto William Jeffrey, my son, all those three  
pieces or parcels of  
112 land whereof the one is called the **Upper Perkins**, the second the **Lower**  
**Perkins** and the third is called **Blakeland**  
113 or by whatsoever other name or names, containing in the whole, by  
estimation, fourteen acres of land lying and  
114 being in the parish of Pepingbury als. Pembury aforesaid and Tudeley. To  
have and to hold the said land and premises  
115 with th'appurtenances unto the said William Jeffrey, his heirs and assigns,  
forever. To the only use of him,  
116 the said William Jeffrey and of his heirs and assigns forever. **And Also** I  
hereby signify and declare  
117 my mind and intent unto my said sons William Jeffrey and Nicholas  
Jeffrey, that if they, or either of them, shalbe minded  
118 and determined to alien, sell and surrender the lands given unto them by  
**John Jeffrey, their father**, lately my husband  
119 deceased, and by me, my intent is that they shall sell the same unto my  
said son Thomas Jeffrey and his heirs, he the said  
120 Thomas and his heirs giving so much as another will give and therefore my  
will and mind is that they, the said  
121 William Jeffrey and Nicholas Jeffrey, shall severally by their several bonds  
obligatory of forty pounds a piece, bind

122 themselves and their heirs unto Thomas Jeffrey, my said son and his heirs,  
the said bonds to be made within three  
123 months next after my decease at the request and at the only costs and  
charges of the said Thomas Jeffrey or his  
124 heirs, the effect of the said bonds to be thus: That they, the said William  
and Nicholas, nor either of them, their<sup>135</sup>  
125 nor either of their heirs, shall not alien, sell or surrender their, nor either of  
their lands, given unto them, either by  
126 me, or by John Jeffrey, their said father, deceased, unto any person or  
persons whatsoever, until the said Thomas Jeffrey,  
127 my son, or his heirs, shall refuse to give, for their, or either of their, lands so  
much money as shalbe thought fit  
128 and reasonable by my overseers, or by three, two or one of them, or by the  
heirs of the survivor of them. And if  
129 they, the said William and Nicholas, or either of them, shall refuse to seal  
and deliver ?? bond, then my  
130 will and mind is that he or they so refusing shall forfeit and loose the  
benefits of this my last will.  
131 And I appoint my wellbeloved friends **Stephen Jeffery of Grays Inn, gent.**  
and **Edward Jeffrey**

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135 this "their" appears to be a redundant duplication

132 of **Tonbridge**, yeoman, my brothers-in-law, **Thomas Wood** of Capell, my  
brother-in-law, and **John Gouldstone**  
133 of Tudeley, my son-in-law, to be my faithful overseers of this my last will,  
carefully ro see the same performed  
134 so much as in their power shall be and I give unto them, as a token of my  
goodwill, six shillings a piece.  
135 over and above all their charges. **In witness** whereof I, the said Jane  
Jeffrey, testator, to this  
136 my last will and testament, written and contained in these three sheets of  
paper, have set my hand  
137 and seal and published and declared the same the day and year first above  
written in the presence of  
Stephen Jeffrey<sup>136</sup> Jane Jeffrey  
Edward Jeffrey  
**John Hartridge**  
and **Margaret Baker**  
the mark of Margaret  
Baker

---

136 presumably the first named of her overseers, Stephen Jeffrey of Grays Inn, gent. and her brother-in-law; he probably wrote the will

1 In the name of God Amen. I, Edward Jeffrey of Pepingbury alias  
2 Pembury in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being at this time sickly in body  
but of good and perfect  
3 mind and memory, thanks be unto Almighty God, do male and declare this  
my last will and ??  
4 testament in writing the third day of November in the year of our Lord  
Christ one thousand, six  
5 hundred twenty and three in manner and form following: **First** and  
principally I humbly yield  
6 my soul to Almighty God, my maker, with assured hope of salvation  
through his mercy, in the merit  
7 and mediation of his only son Jesus Christ, and my body to be buried in  
decent manner. **Also**  
8 I give unto the poor people of Pembury aforesaid the sum of twenty  
shillings and to the poor people  
9 of the parish of **Speldhurst** in the said the county of Kent, the sum of twenty  
shillings to be paid by my  
10 **brothers, William Jeffrey, Thomas Jeffrey and Nicholas Jeffrey** or by their  
heirs equally within one

11 year next after the decease of **Jane Jeffrey, my mother.** Also I will and give  
unto Nicholas Jeffrey,  
12 my brother, one piece or parcel of meadow called **Deepe gate** containing by  
estimation three acres,  
13 lying and being in the parish of Speldhurst before mentioned in the county  
of Kent. To have  
14 and to hold the said parcel of meadow land with th'appurtenances unto  
which said Nicholas  
15 Jeffrey, my brother, and to heirs forever in payment and full recompense  
and satisfaction of the sum  
16 of thirty pounds lawful money of England which was given unto him, the  
said Nicholas Jeffrey, by **John**  
17 **Jeffrey, our late deceased father,** in and by his last will and testament.  
**Also** I will and give all other  
18 my messuage or tenement, house, barns, stables and edifices, gardens and  
orchards, called or known by  
19 the name of **Breakestone** als. **Jeffreys** or by whatsoever other name or  
names, and all other my land,  
20 meadow, pasture and woodland with th'appurtenances, or by what name  
or names soever they are called, containing  
21 in the whole, by estimation, fifty acres of land, severally situates, lying and  
being in the parishes of Speldurst,

22 aforesaid, and **Ashurst** in the said county of Kent, all which came unto me  
by the will and testament of  
23 John Jeffrey, my deceased father, to have and to hold unto me, and mine  
heirs, after the decease of  
24 Jane Jeffrey, my mother, and the right estate, interest, title, use possessing,  
reversion, remainder and  
25 demand of ?? to the premises with th'appurtenances unto William Jeffrey,  
Thomas Jeffrey and  
26 Nicholas Jeffrey, my brothers. To have and to hold the said messuage or  
tenement, edifices, land and  
27 premises, with th'appurtenances and all my right of estate, title, use,  
possession, reversion, remainder and demand  
28 whatsoever unto them, the said William Jeffrey, Thomas Jeffrey and  
Nicholas Jeffrey, my brothers and to their  
29 heirs forever. **Also** I will and give unto **John Jeffrey, my brother**, the sum of  
twenty pounds  
30 of lawful money of England to be paid unto him, the said John Jeffrey, his  
executor or administrator,  
31 within one year next after the decease of Jane Jeffrey, my mother, out of  
my lands, by them, the said  
32 William Jeffrey, Thomas Jeffrey and Nicholas Jeffrey and their heirs,  
equally which is the full part

33 and portion which I mean unto him, the said John Jeffrey, of all my lands  
and tenements. **Also** I  
34 will and give unto Jane Jeffrey, my mother, one annuity of yearly rent  
charge of three pounds of  
35 lawful money of England issuing and going out of certain lands lying in the  
parish of **Tonbridge** in  
36 in the county of Kent, granted by William Jeffrey unto John Jeffrey, my  
father and his heirs. To have  
37 and to hold the same annuity or yearly rent charge of three pounds, and full  
?? and authority to  
38 distraint for the same unto her, the said Jane Jeffrey, my mother, and to her  
heirs and assigns for  
39 ever. And my mind is that those my goods and household stuff which ??  
in my said house shalbe  
40 and remain unto my said brothers , William Jeffrey, Thomas Jeffrey and  
Nicholas Jeffrey.

41 In witness whereof I, the said Edward Jeffrey, have hereunto set my hand  
and seal the day and  
42 year first above written. Edward Jeffrey in the presence of **Stephen**  
**Jefferie, Edward Jeffrey** and  
43 **Margaret Baker**, Margaret Baker's mark.

- . . . **First** and principally I commit
- my soul to Almighty god, my creator and to Jesus Christ, my redeemer . .
- assuredly to receive remission of all my sins through his most ??
- bloodshedding on
- the Cross and through his merit and passion to be made partaker of that
- eternal king
- dom which he hath purchased for them that believe in him. And as for my
- body ??
- ?? I will it to be committed to the earth from whence it came, to be buried
- in the
- parish churchyard of Pembury as near as may be to the foot of my father's
- tombstone. And as for that small portion of worldly substance wherewith
- the lord hath
- endowed me, I give and bequeath the same as followeth . . . to poor of
- Leigh and Pembury
- . . . I give to that learned Minister shall pray at my funeral a
- sermon, ten shillings.



## Thomas Jeffrey of Tudeley

Thomas Jeffrey's will, written by John Hooper, is very long and only the first page has been transcribed. He mentions a son and a brother, a brother-in-law (probably the husband of his sister) and two men Robert and Walter Kipping who he calls his brothers and Walter Kipping, his father. The latter was probably his father-in-law with Robert and Walter his wife's brothers.

|        |                  |        |  |       |             |              |  |                    |              |
|--------|------------------|--------|--|-------|-------------|--------------|--|--------------------|--------------|
| x1224  | Walter Kipping - |        |  |       |             | ?? Jeffrey - |  |                    |              |
|        |                  |        |  |       |             |              |  |                    |              |
| -----  |                  |        |  |       |             |              |  |                    |              |
| x1226  |                  | x1227  |  | x1228 |             | x1219        |  | x1230              | x1221        |
| Robert |                  | Walter |  | ?? -  |             | Thomas       |  | ?? - Walter Gocham | Martin -     |
| will:  |                  |        |  |       | 14 Feb 1622 |              |  |                    |              |
|        |                  |        |  |       |             |              |  |                    | x1223 Robert |

He also mentions cousin An Collyns. An was left thirty shillings and Robert and Walter Kipping fifty shillings each but these bequests could be taken in plate instead of money.

In this first page he mentions his "executrix" who was likely to have been his wife and he could have had children who were mentioned in the other parts of the will.

1 In the name of god Amen<sup>137</sup>. the fourteenth day of  
2 February in the year of our Lord God one thousand, six hundred, twenty  
3 and one. And in the nineteenth year of the reign of our sovereign Lord  
4 James  
5 by the grace of God king of England, France and Ireland, defender of the  
6 faith, etc.  
7 And of Scotland the five and fiftieth. I, Thomas Jeffrey  
8 of Tudeley in the county of Kent, **gent.** being at this time sickly and weak  
9 in body but of good mind and remembrance (thanks therefore be given to  
10 Almighty god) for the settling of that temporal estate which God (of his  
11 goodness) hath bestowed upon me do ordain and make this my testament  
12 and  
13 last will in manner and form following: **First** and principally, yielding and  
14 bequeathing my soul to Almighty god, my maker, with hope of salvation  
15 through  
16 his mercy in the merit and mediation of his dear son Jesus Christ. And my  
17 body to the earth in decent manner to be buried where it shall be thought

---

137 all this phrase in large letters with small amount of decoration

14 fitting. **Item:** I give to the poor of Tudeley thirty shillings. And to the  
15 poor of Capell ten shillings, to be paid them shortly after my decease.  
16 **Item:** I give to **my loving brother Martin Jeffrey**, for a remembrance of my  
love  
17 towards him a ring of thirty shillings in value. And to **Robert, his son**,  
18 twenty shillings. **Item:** I give to **Robert and Walter Kipping, my loving**  
**brothers**,  
19 fifty shillings a piece or the value of fifty shillings a piece in plate.  
20 **Item:** I give to **An Collyns, my cousin**, thirty shillings or the value of 30s in  
21 some kind of plate. **Item:** to the three servants, maids and man, of **Walter**  
**Kipping**,  
22 my loving **father** I give ten shillings a piece. And to his boy servant five  
shillings.  
23 **Item:** I forgive unto **Walter Gocham of Yalding, my brother-in-law**, all the  
rent and  
24 arrearages of rent due at the feast of Saint Michael th'archangel last past and  
25 for those lands and tenements of mine which he occupieth upon condition  
that he pay to  
26 my executrix the half year's rent which will be due for the same at the feast  
of the  
27 Annunciation of the blessed virgin Mary now next coming.

.....  
.....  
.....

*long will*

I have

- set my hand and seal yeven the day and year first above written
- Thomas Jeffrey, read, sealed, subscribed and declared in
- the presence of **John Golston, William Mirriam**<sup>138</sup> and
- **John Hooper, notary publique.scr.** with others

## *The Jennings of Ightham*

**Dorothy Jennings** (i2084) was baptised on 27<sup>th</sup> June 1612; no father's name was given at her baptism.

**Charles** (i2535), son of **John** (i2533) and **Anne Jennings** (i2534) was baptised on 30<sup>th</sup> March 1644; he was born on 21<sup>st</sup> March.

John Jennings endorsed the indictment for burglary of Robert Mathewes and Richard Fuller in March 1641 - see [Fuller in More Families & Transcripts](#).

## *The Jenyns of Seal*

Gilbert Jenyns was inducted as Vicar of Seal on 31st October 1561. Seven years later, when he married in **Sevenoaks**, he was recorded as "Vicar of Seal", a post he retained until just before his death in 1603. On 5th December 1570 he was instituted to the rectory of Sevenoaks which he held for upwards of twenty years. He was also vicar of St. Dunstan's in the West (London) and rector of Little Parndon in Essex<sup>139</sup>. His other duties did not keep him from Seal and he witnessed, and probably wrote, the wills of many of his parishioners - see the next page.

Sometimes wills were proved locally by the vicar, one example being that of William Coxe (#625<sup>140</sup>), written on 5th July 1569 which was proved in Seal "[before me, Gilbert Jenyns, clerk, vicar of Kemsing and Seal](#)" (the rest of this sentence is unreadable); William Coxe was buried on 18th December 1569. Although it is difficult to read it also looks as if the will of John Smalham (#159), written on 9th December 1565 by John Hooper, was proved in Seal by Gilbert Jenyns.

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139 Incumbents of Kemsing with Seal, A.C. Vol.20 p.269

140 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

| date          | testator                    | description of Jenyns             |
|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2 Jan 1561/2  | Thomas Olyver (#233)        | clerk                             |
| 13 Jul 1562   | Alice Geston;               | clerk, vicar of Seal              |
| 20 Nov 1562   | William Christopher (#257)  | clerk                             |
| 24 Apr 1563   | James Porter (#229);        | clerk, vicar of Kemsing and Seal  |
| 28 Apr 1563   | William Frenche (#324)      | clerk                             |
| 1 May 1563    | Thomas Rudland (#332)       | clerk                             |
| 3 May 1563    | Robert Blatcher (#333)      | vicar                             |
| 14 Aug 1563   | Richard Fynne               | clerk                             |
| 3 Jun 1566    | John Beecher (#351)         | clerk                             |
| 27 Apr 1568   | William Hills               | clerk                             |
| 6 Oct 1570    | John Becket (#634)          | clerk, vicar of Kemsing and Seal  |
| 15 Dec 1575   | Margaret Christopher (#258) |                                   |
| 24 Feb 1577/8 | John(3) Tebold (#1)         | witnessed the codicil to his will |
| 2 Jun 1581    | Andrew Porter (#303)        | vicar of Kemsing and Seal         |
| 8 Oct 1587    | Elizabeth Porter (#204)     | vicar                             |

The family of Gilbert Jenyns is given on the next page. There is a long interval between his marriage and the baptism of Miles. Since he married in Sevenoaks he may have had other children between 1569 and 1574.

| Num       | Name                            | Born        | Married     | Spouse                       | M C | Died        |
|-----------|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------------|-----|-------------|
| #15       | <u>JENYNS, Gilbert</u><br>----- |             | 11 Nov 1568 | Elizabeth Wood               | 1 2 | 29 Jan 1603 |
|           |                                 |             |             | #16                          |     |             |
| • #17     | <u>JENYNS, Miles</u>            | 20 Nov 1574 | 20 Jan 1600 | Ann Paltock<br>married at 25 | 1 2 | 24 Dec 1615 |
|           |                                 |             |             | #1801                        |     |             |
| • • #2992 | <u>Jenyns, Jean</u>             | 14 Feb 1602 |             |                              |     | 0 0         |
| • • #2993 | <u>JENYNS, John</u>             | 20 Jul 1608 |             |                              |     | 0 0         |
| • #18     | <u>JENYNS, Richard</u>          | 10 Apr 1579 |             |                              |     | 0 0         |

Mildred, daughter of Thomas Jenyns, was baptised on 25th December 1562.  
Thomas Jenyns was buried on 16th October 1604.



## *Jessopps of Penshurst*

Eight wills have survived for the Jessopps of Penshurst of which six have been transcribed. These were all from the seventeenth century but there were Jessopps in Penshurst from at least the late 1550s from which time parish records have survived. Some details of these are given first.

### *The Sixteenth Century Jessopps*

The earliest Jessopps recorded in the parish records are:

|   |        |             |
|---|--------|-------------|
| <b>John Jessop, senior</b> (p866 <sup>141</sup> ) | buried | 30 Jul 1558 |
| <b>Thomas Jessop</b> (“Jyssop”, p878)             |        | 8 Aug 1558  |
| <b>John Jessop</b> (p870)                         |        | 26 Nov 1558 |

There was also an **Alexander Joseph** (p879) buried on 27th July 1558; the names of Henry and William who died in 1606 were given as Jessop alias Joseph.

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141 “p” indicates a reference in the Penshurst database

There were two small Jessop families in the 1560s:

**Henry Jessop** (p865) had three children baptised in Penshurst:

|        |      |          |             |
|--------|------|----------|-------------|
| Henry  | p872 | baptised | 27 Oct 1560 |
| John   | p873 |          | 12 Jul 1563 |
| Judith | p874 |          | 13 Jan 1566 |

**William Jessop** (p867) had two children baptised in Penshurst:

|         |      |          |             |
|---------|------|----------|-------------|
| John    | p876 | baptised | 5 Apr 1562  |
| Godfrey | p877 |          | 11 Jun 1564 |

Another **John Jessop, senior** (p868) was buried on 1st September 1581.

1606 saw the burial of three adult Jessops:

|                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>William Jessop</b> , alias Joseph | 13 Mar 1606 |
| <b>Henry Jessop</b> , alias Joseph   | 29 Mar 1606 |
| <b>Alice Jessop, widow</b> (p866)    | 19 Jul 1606 |

William and Henry could have been the fathers of the above families and Alice could have been the wife of one of them.

Julian Jessop was the wife of **Edward Hewitt of Shipbourne** and she had a brother **Edmond** but there is no obvious connection between her and the Penshurst Jessops. See [More Families & Transcripts](#) for Edward Hewitt's will written in 1556 and more details of Julian Jessop.

## *The Seventeenth Century Jessops*

The eight surviving wills are:

|                            | written       | proved        |                    |             |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------|
| John Jessopp               | 26 Jan 1613/4 | 22 Sep 1617   | CKS: Prs/w/9/140   | page 2.j.73 |
| Andrew? Jessopp            | 1615          | 10 Sep 1615   | CKS: Prs/w/9/138   |             |
| Jasper Jessopp             | 17 Jan 1616/7 |               | PCC: Weldon 10     | page 2.j.87 |
| Alice Jessopp              | 7 Mar 1616/7  | 18 Mar 1616/7 | CKS: Prs/w/9/136   | page 2.j.89 |
| John Jessopp               | 13 Aug 1618   | 1622          | PCC: Savile 8      | page 2.j.93 |
| Elizabeth Jessopp          | 21 May 1621   | 10 May 1625   | CKS: Prs/w/9/142   | page 2.j.96 |
| Harry Jessopp (al. Joseph) |               |               | 1623 PCC: Swann 83 |             |
| Jasper Jessopp             | 20 Oct 1625   | 25 May 1627   | CKS: Prs/w/9/145   | page 2.j.98 |

There are also two wills from Leigh which have not been investigated:

|                 |      |                 |
|-----------------|------|-----------------|
| Godfrey Jessopp | 1626 | CKS: 26; 21.221 |
| Mildred Jessopp | 1629 | CKS: 29; 22.142 |

Both Andrew/Andronias and Godfrey could be the sons of Alice Jessop - see page 2.j.88 for details. The will of John Jessopp of West Malling, written on 30th March 1632 has also survived (**CKS: Drb/Pw 29, Drb/Pwr 22.54**) but, since there is no known connection between the Jessops included here and West Malling, its transcription is given separately - see **Families & Transcripts**

Only extracts are given for the wills of Jasper (1617) and John (1618) whilst that of Andrew has not been investigated. Elizabeth was the wife of Jasper Jessopp who was possibly the testator of 1617 and is taken to be so in the following family constructions. Their son, Jasper, was the testator of 1625.

The will of John Jessopp dated 1614 was written by Nicholas Hooper, curate of Shipbourne, who wrote a large number of wills between 1574 and 1618. One of his sons, Nicholas Hooper, junior, was a witness. Elizabeth Jessopp's will was probably written by Robert Saxpes. whilst that of her son, Jasper, was written by John Hosmer.

John Hosmer used many similar phrases to the Hoopers and decorated the "I" of "In the name of god Amen" and the "J" in his own name but in a different and less outstanding way than the Hoopers.

## John Jessopp, will 1614

John had three daughters and he appointed his wife Elizabeth as his executrix. If she remarried, his two overseers were to “[make an equal partition and shift of all such my moveable goods . . . as shall be at the time of her such marriage, into four equal parts](#)” one for Elizabeth and one for each daughter. But excluded from this division were the numerous items he specified which were to be “[standers](#)” in his mansion house:

all the shelves and bouchers in the said mansion house “[in the several rooms where they now are](#)”

in the hall:

- his Bible
- a joined folded table with the frame
- six joined three cornered stools
- a cupboard and the pothangers in the chimney
- an Amery.

in the parlour:

- the joined bedstead with the featherbed, bolster, his best coverlet and a pair of his best blankets
- a joined table with a frame, with a joined form thereunto
- all the painted cloths there.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>in the kitchen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the table with the frame and the form thereunto</li> <li>- two cast brandirons</li> <li>- the pothangers in the chimney.</li> </ul> |  |
| <p>in the meal chamber:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the bruntin? dutch</li> <li>- the knead trough</li> <li>- the moulding board.</li> </ul>                                       |  |
| <p>in the brewhouse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the furnace</li> <li>- the watering?? with his stallage?</li> <li>- the stallages for drink</li> </ul>                            | <p>in the loft over the hall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the joined bedstead</li> <li>- the joined chest.</li> </ul> |
| <p>in the loft over kitchen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the joined bedstead</li> <li>- the great ship chest.</li> </ul>   | <p>in the malt loft:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the old tun</li> <li>- the old long round chest.</li> </ul>          |

Johns's supervisors and overseers were to be "[John Jessopp, my brother-in-law](#)", and James Beecher. Had John's sister married another John Jessopp? There was a James Beecher in Penshurst baptised in 1584 (x61) and therefore thirty in 1614. In his will of 1643 this James mentioned a Jessopp of Sussex. He could have been John Jessopp's supervisor/overseer.

The testator's mansion house was called Beechers and Elizabeth was to have this for as long as she remained a widow "doing no manner of waste . . . other than in necessary and needful timber for needful reparations of the same messuage and buildings, and in needful hedgeboot for the hedging and fencing thereof".

John's eldest daughter, Elizabeth, was to have the this house, etc. on the remarriage or death of her mother, paying each of her sisters, Susan and Sara £30. The rest of this lengthy will is concerned with the arrangements to be made if John's wife remarries and/or one or more daughters died either before inheriting her portion or without heirs.

Nicholas Hooper's  
mark

1 In<sup>142</sup> the name of god Amen. The six and twentieth day of January in the  
year  
2 of our lord God, one thousand, six hundredth and thirteen, And in the  
eleventh year of the reign of  
3 our sovereign Lord James, by the grace of God, king of England, France and  
Ireland, defender  
4 of the faith, etc. And of Scotland the seven and fortieth. **I, John Jessopp**  
of  
5 Penshurst in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being<sup>143</sup> at the time of the making  
hereof in reasonable good

---

142 decorated "I"

143 "beeing", "bee", etc. throughout which is usual with Nicholas Hooper (including "shalbee" and "beefore")



6 health as well of body as of mind, thanks be to God, notwithstanding many  
times visited  
7 with aches and infirmities, and daily subject to many visitations, whereby it  
may please God to take me  
8 out of this mortal life, and knowing that I shall change this life but the time  
thereof being  
9 altogether uncertain, and willing to set in order those transitory possessions  
and goods which God hath  
10 made me Steward of in this world, that no contention fall out about the  
same, after my decease,  
11 Therefore I do ordain and make this my present last will and testament, in  
manner and form  
12 following:<sup>144</sup> **And First and principally**, I give, commend and bequeath  
my soul into the hands  
13 of Almighty God who gave it, trusting that the same shalbe presented  
before the throne of his majesty,  
14 (through a true and steadfast faith which I have in the merits, passion,  
death and bloodshedding<sup>145</sup> of his dear

---

144 "folowing", also usual with Nicholas Hooper (also on line 76)

145 "bludshedding"

15 and only son Jesus Christ, my only saviour and redeemer), And my body to  
the earth  
16 from whence it came, to be buried in the churchyard of Penshurst aforesaid,  
in sure, and  
17 certain hope of joyful resurrection to the life immortal. **Item:** I will there  
shalbe given and  
18 distributed amongst the poor of Penshurst aforesaid, at my burial, ten  
shillings, at the discretion of  
19 mine executrix hereafter named. And I will that some godly preacher shall  
make some godly exhortation  
20 to the Company which shall be assembled at my burial, whom I will shalbe  
recompensed by my said  
21 executrix, to his contentment. **And as** touching all my moveable goods,  
debts, credits and chattels  
22 (except those hereafter in this my will which I appoint as standers in and to  
my house) I wholly, fully, and  
23 with good effect, intent and purpose, give and bequeath to **Elizabeth, my**  
**wellbeloved wife**, whom I do  
24 ordain and make my whole and sole executrix of this my will, to see the  
same proved, my debts and  
25 legacies paid (on her part to be paid) and this my will performed so far as in  
her lieth and according

26 to the true sense and constitution of the same. Notwithstanding I will and  
(by virtue of this my will)  
27 charge her, my said wife and executrix, that if she happen to marry again,  
that before her such  
28 marriage, she suffer my two overseers hereafter named to make an equal  
partition and shift of  
29 all such my moveable goods as shall be at the time of her such marriage,  
into four equal parts (besides  
30 the standers hereafter appointed) whereof one fourth part shalbe to her, my  
said wife, and the other three  
31 equal fourth parts shalbe to my three daughters hereafter named, or equally  
to as many of them as

*page 2:*

32 shalbe then living or wholly to one of them, if the rest shalbe deceased.  
**And** for standers  
33 to my house, I will that these implements and household stuff hereafter  
presently named shalbe left as  
34 standers to my mansion house wherein I now dwell for ever, viz. in the hall,  
my Bible, my joined folded table with  
35 the frame, 6 joined three-cornered stools, my cupboard, an Amery there and  
the pothangers in the

36 chimney there. In the parlour, the joined bedstead with the featherbed,  
bolster, my best coverlet and  
37 a pair of my best blankets, a joined table there with a frame, with a joined  
form thereunto, and all the  
38 painted cloths there. In the kitchen, the table with the frame there and the  
form thereunto, my  
39 two cast brandirons with the pothangers in the chimney there. In the meal  
chamber, the bruntin? dutch,  
40 the knead trough and moulding board there. In the Brewhouse, the  
furnace, the watering??,  
41 with his stallage and the stallages for drink there. In the loft over the hall,  
the joined  
42 bedstead and my joined chest there. In the loft over kitchen, the joined  
bedstead there and the  
43 great ship chest. And in the malt loft, the old tun and the old long round  
chest. **And I**  
44 heartily desire my trusted friend and kinsmen, **John Jessopp, my brother-in-**  
**law, and James**  
45 **Beecher**<sup>146</sup>, to be supervisors and overseers of this my will, desiring them to  
take some pains

---

146 probably the James Beecher who wrote his will in 1643 and was aged 30 in 1614 - see [Beechers of Penshurst in Families & Transcripts](#)

46 in the shifting of my goods afore specified and otherwise, that this my will  
may take true effect  
47 according to the true meaning of this same. To whom I give five shillings a  
piece in token of  
48 my good will, besides their expenses about this my will to be laid out. **And**  
I further  
49 appoint that all the shelves and bouchers in my said mansion house shall  
likewise stand and remain  
50 as standers to my said mansion house for ever in the several rooms where  
they now are and as  
51 they now stand and are placed. And that they, nor any of the other  
standers above specified, shalbe  
52 any part of the goods to be divided and shifted as aforesaid. **Provided**  
always that if my said  
53 wife shall not be content with her fourth part of the goods herein before  
mentioned, intended to her, by virtue of this my will  
54 aforesaid, that she shall have no benefice of that yearly sum of forty  
shillings hereafter in this my will last  
55 set down and things in the same provided, or any other thing in this my will  
contained, to the contrary in any wise

56 notwithstanding<sup>147</sup>.

57 **This**<sup>148</sup> **is the last** will of me, the said John Jessopp, concerning the order  
and disposition of

58 my messuage or tenement wherein I now dwell, and the lands thereto  
belonging, in Penshurst aforesaid.

59 **And first** I will and give to Elizabeth, my wife, all that my mansion house,  
messuage

60 or tenement called **Beechers** wherein I now dwell with the barns, edifice  
and building thereto

61 belonging, and all the closes, gardens, orchards and lands thereto now  
belonging containing in the

62 whole, by estimation, fourteen acres more or less, severally situated, lying  
and being within the

63 parish of Penshurst aforesaid. To have and to hold the same and every the  
same withall and singular

*page 3:*

---

147 this last clause added in, probably when the will was finished

148 small version of the "Hooper mark", vertically, in the margin, by the side of the "T"

64 th'appurtenances unto the said Elizabeth, my wife, for and during the  
whole term of her natural life,  
65 if she keep her self so long sole, and a widow, keeping the said message  
and building and every of  
66 them well and sufficiently repaired, from time to time, and doing no  
manner of waste in or upon  
67 the same or any part thereof, other than in necessary and needful timber for  
needful reparations of the same  
68 message and buildings, and in needful hedgeboot for the hedging and  
fencing thereof. And after the  
69 decease or next marriage of the said Elizabeth, my wife, **I will** and  
bequeath all the said message or  
70 tenement, barns, edifice and buildings, gardens, orchards and land, withall  
and singular th'appurtenances, unto  
71 **Elizabeth Jessopp, mine eldest daughter.** To have and to hold the same,  
and every of the same withall  
72 and singular th'appurtenances, unto the said Elizabeth, mine eldest  
daughter, her heirs and assigns for ever.  
73 **Notwithstanding**, my will, true intent and meaning is that my said  
daughter Elizabeth, her  
74 heirs or assigns, shall well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto my other  
two daughters, viz. **Susan**

75 **Jessopp and Sara Jessopp**, the sum of three score pounds of good and  
lawful money of England,  
76 out of my said lands and tenements in manner and form following, that is  
to say, unto the said Susan, my  
77 second daughter, the sum of thirty pounds of lawful money within three  
whole years next after the  
78 decease, or next marriage, of the said Elizabeth, my wife, which shall first  
happen, At or in the said mansion house, without fraud  
79 or guile. And other thirty pounds residue thereof unto the said Sara, my  
youngest daughter within  
80 three whole years, then next after, at or in the said place without like fraud  
or guile. And if either  
81 of them happen to decease before the time afore limited, then the whole  
three score pounds shall  
82 remain and be paid to the overliver of them, at such time as the other  
should have been paid if she  
83 had lived. **And that** if the said three score pounds, or any part thereof,  
shalbe severally unpaid  
84 within the time and times appointed, that then my will and meaning is that  
the said Susan and Sara,  
85 or either of them so unpaid, and her and their assigns, shall enter in and  
upon the said messuage and lands and



86 every parcel thereof. And the same and every part thereof shall have, hold  
and occupy, until she or they  
87 so unpaid, shall have and receive of the issues and profits of my said lands  
and tenements so much as shall  
88 satisfy and pay the said sum and several sums aforesaid. Or until she and  
they shalbe severally or  
89 all paid the same together with all costs and expenses as by that occasion  
shall  
90 be sustained without fraud or guile. **Provided** always, that if it shall  
happen the said Elizabeth, my  
91 said eldest daughter to decease without heirs of her body lawfully begotten,  
before the said  
92 Susan, my second daughter, shall attain to her said payment of thirty  
pounds, then I will and give  
93 all the said messuage, and all other my said lands and premises, withall  
and singular th'appurtenances, unto the said  
94 Susan, my said second daughter, and to her heirs and assigns for ever. And  
then I will that she, the said  
95 Susan, my daughter, her heirs and assigns, shall pay or cause to be paid to  
the said Sara her sister, the whole  
96 sum of three score pounds at such times as she should have been paid her  
£30 by nature of this my will, as

97      afore is specified. And that if she shalbe unpaid, that she and her assigns  
shall enter in and upon all my said

*page 4:*

98      land and tenements and shall have, hold and enjoy the same in such  
manner as afore in this my will is expressed,  
99      without fraud or guile. **Provided** furthermore, and my like will and  
meaning is, that if the said Susan,  
100     my said second daughter, shall happen to decease without heirs of her  
body lawfully begotten, and before the  
101     said Sara, her sister, shalbe paid her said threescore pounds, then I will and  
give all my said lands  
102     and tenements and all other the premises, withall and singular  
th'appurtenances, unto the said Sara, my youngest daughter,  
103     her heirs and assigns for ever (any matter, word, clause, sentence or other  
thing whatsoever in this my  
104     will contained to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding. **Provided**  
furthermore, and my like will  
105     and meaning is that if the said Elizabeth or Susan, my daughters, or either  
of them, happen to live until all the  
106     said sum of threescore pounds be paid according to the true intent and  
meaning aforesaid, and it afterwards happen

107 to decease without heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten, then that all the  
said messuage, and all my said  
108 lands and tenements, shall remain and come to my said daughter Sara, her  
heirs and assigns for ever. And that  
109 if the said Elizabeth or Susan, or any other for them, or either of them, shall  
go about to seduce, fine or recover, or  
110 shall by any means practise any devise whatsoever, to the intent to defraud  
the said Sara, my daughter, and her  
111 heirs of the said lands and tenements or any part thereof, contrary to the  
true meaning of this my will, then I  
112 will the said Sara, my daughter, her heirs and assigns, shall enter in and  
upon all my said lands and tenements,  
113 withall and singular th'appurtenances, and have, hold and enjoy the same,  
withall and singular th'appurtenances, to her and  
114 her heirs and assigns for ever in such manner and form as if they had been  
deceased any thing, word, activity,  
115 clause or any other matter whatsoever herein contained to the contrary in  
any wise notwithstanding. **Provided**  
116 **Lastly** that if it shall happen the said Elizabeth, my wife, to marry again,  
then my will and true  
117 meaning is that the Elizabeth, Susan and Sara, my daughters, and the heirs  
of their bodies lawfully begotten

118 to whom soever of them the premises shall remain and come, shall well  
and truly pay, or cause to be paid, unto  
119 the said Elizabeth, my wife, their mother, yearly after her such marriage,  
during her natural life, the sum  
120 of forty shillings of lawful money at the feasts of Th'annunciation of the  
blessed virgin mary, the  
121 Nativity of St. John the Baptist, St. Michael Th'archangel and the Nativity  
of our lord Jesus Christ,  
122 by equal portions, viz. at every of the said feasts 10s. At or in the said  
mansion house, the first payment to  
123 be and begin at that feast of the feasts aforesaid which shall next come and  
be next after her such marriage. And I  
124 will and by this my will provide that if the said quarterly payment, or any of  
them, shall happen to be unpaid  
125 after any of the said quarter days by the space of eight days, that it shalbe  
lawful for her, my said wife and  
126 her assigns to enter and distrain in and upon all my said lands and  
tenements, and every or any part thereof, and  
127 shall hold and keep the said distresses and any of them until she shalbe  
fully paid all her said quarterly payments  
128 arrearages thereof and all costs and charges by that occasion suffered (any  
thing or matter likewise

129 in this my will contained to the contrary notwithstanding). **In witness**  
whereof, to this my  
130 last will I, the said John Jessopp, have set my hand and seal, yeven the day  
and year first above  
131 written.

Nicholas Hooper's  
mark  
with initials

Read, Sealed and acknowledged to be  
last will of the said John Jessopp by me John Jesup<sup>149</sup>  
the day and year first above written  
in the presence of me, **Nicholas Hooper, sen.**,  
writer hereof, and of  
**Edward Swan** and  
**Nicholas Hooper, Jun.**

The mark of Edward Swan

---

149 written very differently from in the will itself and could therefore be the John's signature

*This is a very long will of which only part of the preamble has been transcribed:*

- **First** and principally I give, commend and bequeath
- my soul into the hands of Almighty god who gave it having a sure and perfect
- belief that the same, by and through the merits, death and passion of my only saviour
- and redeemer Jesus Christ, his dear and only son, shalbe presented pure and with
- out spot before the throne of his majesty. And my body to the earth to be buried in
- the church or churchyard of Penshurst, aforesaid, at the discretion of my executor
- hereafter named in sure and certain hope of a joyful resurrection to life everlasting.

to be distributed at my burial amongst the poor being there, either parishioners or other, the sum of 20s.

Witnesses: **Thomas Sapper** (mark), **John Jessopp** and **Bob Sapper**.

## The Family of Alice Jessopp, widow

|                                |           |          |           |                 |         |      |             |                    |             |         |  |
|--------------------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------------|---------|------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|---------|--|
| will:                          |           |          |           |                 |         |      |             |                    |             |         |  |
| ?? - Alice p740 <sup>150</sup> |           |          |           |                 |         |      |             |                    |             |         |  |
| 7 Mar 1617                     |           |          |           |                 |         |      |             |                    |             |         |  |
| -----                          |           |          |           |                 |         |      |             |                    |             |         |  |
| p743                           | John -    | p744     | Godfrey - | p745            | Faith - | p757 | Edward Duke | p746               | Andcomins - |         |  |
| will:                          |           |          | 1626p?    |                 |         |      |             | proved 13 Sep 1615 |             |         |  |
|                                |           |          |           |                 |         |      |             | 10 Sep 1615        |             |         |  |
| -----                          |           |          |           |                 |         |      |             |                    |             |         |  |
| p748                           | p749      | p750     | p752      | Martha children | p758    | p759 | p760        | p754               | p755        | p756    |  |
| Pilgrim                        | Pentecost | Patience |           |                 | Martha  | John | Wavernot    | Daniell            | Nathaniel   | Godfrey |  |

The names of Alice's daughter and grandchildren show the Protestant faith of the family but the preamble to the will is very short. She left a large number of household items to her grandchildren.

The name of her third son as given in her will appears to be "Andcomins" and he had died before she wrote her will. "Andronias" Jessop was buried on 10th September 1615 and the will of Andrew? Jessop was proved three days later; this could have been the will of her third son. The will of Godfrey Jessop of Leigh, proved in 1626, could be that of her second son. Neither of these wills has been investigated.

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150 "p" indicates a reference in the Penshurst database

1 In the name of god Amen. The 7th day of March Anno dm 1616, I, Alice  
Jessopp of Penshurst  
2 in the county of Kent, **widow**, being sick and weak in body but of good and  
perfect remembrance,  
3 thanks be given to god, do ordain this my last will and testament in manner  
and form  
4 following: **First:** I bequeath my soul to Jesus Christ, my redeemer, and my  
body to be  
5 buried in the church yard of Penshurst aforesaid. **Item:** I give to the poor  
people of  
6 Penshurst 6s 8d to be distributed upon the day of my burial. **Item:** I give  
unto my  
7 **son John** 40s to be paid unto him by my executor when my said son John  
shall demand  
8 the same. **Item:** I give unto **Pilgrim, my son John's eldest son**, 20s to be  
paid unto  
9 him at his age of 21 years. **Item:** I give unto **Patience, the daughter of my  
said son**



10 **John**, a flockbed, a bolster, a blanket and a covering of colour yellow and  
red. **Item:** I give  
11 unto **Martha, the daughter of my son Godfrey**, a flockbed, a bolster, a  
blanket and a gold  
12 sovereign. **Item:** I give unto **all my son Godfrey's children except Martha**  
20s to be divided equally amongst them<sup>151</sup>. **Item:** I give unto **Martha, the**  
**daughter of my daughter, Faith Duke**, 20s to be  
13 paid unto her at her age of 21 years. **Item:** I give unto **Daniell, the son of my**  
**son**  
14 **Andcomins?** 20s to be paid him at his age of 21 years and a table with ??  
and a frame. **Item:** I give unto **Nathaniel** a little ?? table and to  
15 **Godfrey, his brother, the brother of the said Daniell**, ??<sup>152</sup> and to each of  
them a pair of coarse sheets. **Item:**  
16 I give unto **John Duke, the son of Edward Duke**, a ?? table cloth. **Item:** I  
give unto

---

151 this item inserted

152 inserted and not readable

17 **Wavernot Duke, his brother**, my greatest iron pot. **Item**<sup>É</sup>: I give unto **Alice**  
**Mospay, my goddaughter**, a pair of hempen sheets<sup>153</sup>. **Item**: I give unto  
**Faith**  
18 **Duke, the wife of Edward Duke**<sup>154</sup>, all my wearing apparel both linen and  
woollen  
19 (except a flaxen kercher, a flaxen ?? cloth and a hempen apron which I  
give my son  
20 **Godfrey's wife** and also except a flaxen kercher and a ?? cloth which I give  
unto my son **John's**  
21 **wife**. **Item**: I give unto Martha, the daughter of my son Godfrey, my largest  
table cloth,  
22 a table cloth ?? and ?? and a pair of sheets. The residue of all my goods  
whatsoever unbequeathed  
23 I will and give unto John Jessopp and **Godfrey Jessopp**, my sons, and to the  
children of my  
24 son, Andcomins, late deceased and also to Faith Duke, the wife of Edward  
Duke, to be  
25 equally divided amongst them, my said son And coming children to have as  
much to their

---

153 item inserted

154 Alice's daughter, see lines 12 and 24

26 portions as their father should have if he were living. And I do ordain and  
make my  
27 loving son Godfrey to be my sole executor to this my last will and  
testament, to see the same  
28 proved, my funeral discharged, my debts and legacies paid and I do give  
him over and above  
29 all charges he shall be at about my burial and proving my will, 20s. In  
witness whereof  
30 I have to this my last will and testament set my hand and seal the day and  
year above written.

Sealed and delivered, declared and  
acknowledged by the said Alice  
Jessop as her last will and testament  
in the presence of **Henry Bellingham**  
and **Robert Beecher**

the mark of

Alice Jessopp

*Only part of the preamble has been transcribed*

- I, John Jessopp, the father, . . .
- First and above all things I bequeath and commend my soul to God assuredly
- hoping to have free pardon and remission of all my sins by and through the
- mercy and merit of Jesus Christ, my alone saviour and redeemer, and my
- body
- to the earth where it pleaseth God to call me out of this mortal life and to be
- decently buried at the discretion of mine executor.

*no bequests to the poor*

witnesses: John Jessopp, his son, John Coucher, Richard Juret.

## *Elizabeth Jessopp, widow and her son Jasper*

Elizabeth was the widow of Jasper Jessopp who is taken as the testator of 1617 only the preamble of whose will has been transcribed. She wrote her will in May 1621 but did not die until the beginning of 1624/5 being buried on 11th February. She left various household items to her sons Jasper, Ephrain and Manasses, her daughter Susanna and her son Benjamin's wife. She does not mention any grandchildren although Benjamin, at least, is married.

Jasper, the testator of 1625 was Elizabeth's son since he mentions two brothers with the very unusual names Ephrain and Manasses. Perhaps Benjamin died before 1625 but Jasper mentions another brother David and two married sisters, Mary and Amy, not mentioned by their mother. Elizabeth made Manasses and her daughter Susan executors whilst Manasses was also Jasper's executor with Jasper leaving Susan, who was unmarried, an annuity of £3.

Ephrain's wife Tabitha was not mentioned in any of the wills but her burial is recorded in the parish register.

When on 10th December 1640 Susan Everest, spinster of Chiddingstone, wrote her will, she described Manasses Jessop as her “[loving brother-in-law Manasses Jessop of Penshurst](#)” so that it would seem that Manassen was married to a sister



1 In the name of god Amen. The one and twentieth day of  
2 May in the year of our lord god one thousand six  
3 hundred and one and twenty, I, Elizabeth Jessopp, of  
4 Penshurst in the county of Kent, **widow**, the relict  
5 of **Jasper Jessopp, sen.** late ?? ?? of Penshurst  
6 aforesaid, yeoman, deceased, being in perfect bodily  
7 health and good remembrance (thanks be to god  
8 therefore) do make and ordain this my testament  
9 and last will in manner and form following: (That is  
10 to say, **First:** I bequeath my soul into the hands of  
11 Almighty god, my creator, with a perfect faith)  
12 and because that the same by and otherwise the only  
13 merits, death and passion of my saviour and  
14 redeemer, Jesus Christ, after my departure out of  
15 this valley of ?? and vale of misery, shalbe  
16 made partaker of life everlasting. **Item:** I commit my  
17 body to the earth to be buried at the discretion of  
18 my executors hereafter named in sure and certain  
19 hope of a joyful resurrection of the same unto

20 life immortal. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto  
21 **Jasper Jessopp, my son,** ten shillings of lawful money  
22 to be paid unto him within one year next  
23 after my decease. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto  
24 **Elizabeth, now wife of my son Benjamin** one of my  
25 gowns to be taken at her choice and to be delivered  
26 unto her within one month next after my decease.  
27 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Ephrain Jessopp, my son,**  
28 three pounds of lawful English money to be paid  
29 unto him within half a year next after my decease.  
30 **Item:** I give more unto the said Ephrain two pairs of  
31 fine hempen sheets and one pair of coarse hempen  
32 sheets to be delivered unto him within one month next after  
33 my decease. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Manasses, my**  
34 **son,** my best covering. And I make and ordain the  
35 said Manasses, my son, and **Susanna, my daughter,** the  
36 whole and sole executors of this my testament and last will.  
37 In witness whereof to this my present testament and last will I  
38 set my hand and seal revoking and utterly frustrating  
39 all former wills by me heretofore made and do publish this  
40 to be my last will and testament the day and year  
41 above said

Sealed, published and declared or acknowledged



to be her last will in the  
presence of Jasper Jessopp and  
**Robert Saxpes**

The mark        of the said  
Elizabeth Jessopp

*Will of Jasper Jessopp of Penshurst*

written 20th October 1625  
transcript from original

1     In<sup>156</sup> the name of god Amen. The nine and twentieth day of  
2     October in the year of our lord God one thousand six hundred and five and  
3     twenty. And  
4     in the first year of the reign of our most gracious sovereign Lord Charles, by  
5     the  
6     grace of God, king of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, defender of  
7     the faith,  
8     etc. I, Jasper Jessopp of Penshurst in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being at  
9     the time of making hereof in good and perfect health, as well of body as of  
10    mind (thanks  
11    be given to Almighty god) Notwithstanding knowing the uncertainty of my  
12    death

8 and willing that such transitory possessions, which God of his goodness  
hath bestowed upon  
9 me in this world, may be quietly had and enjoyed after my decease by these  
whom I have named  
10 the same unto, therefore I do ordain and make this my last will and  
testament in manner  
11 and form following: **And First** and principally, I give, commend and  
bequeath my soul into  
12 the hands of Almighty god, trusting (by the merits, precious death and  
blood shedding  
13 of his dear and only son Jesus Christ, in whom only I put my trust and hope  
to be saved  
14 that the same shalbe presented, without spot, before the throne of his  
majesty. And my body  
15 to the earth, to be buried in the churchyard of Penshurst aforesaid in sure  
and certain  
16 hope of a joyful resurrection to eternal life. **Item:** I will that there should be  
17 bestowed and given to the poor which shall resort to my burial, by mine  
executrix here  
18 after named, in the day of my burial, forty shillings which I would have  
given in the  
19 church, as well those that are dwellers within the parish as others resorting  
to my burial.

20 **Item:** I give to and amongst those that shall carry my corpse to the earth  
and those which shalbe ringers at my burial, twenty shillings. **Item:**  
21 I give to **my sister, Mary Everest**, the sum of forty shillings to be paid unto  
her  
22 within one year next after my decease (if she shalbe then living). **Item:**  
23 I give and bequeath unto my kinsman **Robert Woods**, son of **my sister, Amy**,  
24 the sum of forty shillings to be paid unto him within five years next after  
25 my decease, if he shalbe then living. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto  
26 **Ephrain Jessopp, my brother**, the sum of ten pounds to be paid unto him  
27 within one year next after my decease (if he shalbe then living). **Item:**  
28 I give and bequeath unto **Sara Goldsmith, my goddaughter**, the sum of

*page 2:*

29 forty shillings of lawful money of England to be paid unto her within four  
30 years next after my decease (if she shalbe then living). **The residue**  
31 of all my goods, debts, credits and chattells, and all other my moveable  
goods whatsoever,  
32 I wholly, fully and with good effect, intent and purpose, give and bequeath  
to  
33 **Manasses Jessopp, my brother**, which Manasses, my brother, I ordain and  
make my  
34 whole and sole executor of this my will, to see the same proved, my debts  
and

35 legacies paid and my body honestly and decently brought to the earth.  
36 **And I**  
37 ordain and make my trusty friends, **Joseph Goldsmith, my kinsman, and**  
38 **Robert**  
39 **Avis** to be my overseers of this my will, to whom I give for a remembrance  
40 of  
41 my goodwill twenty shillings a piece.

39 **This is the last** will of me the said Jasper Jessopp, made and declared  
40 the day and year first above written, concerning the order and disposition of  
41 all  
42 my lands and tenements situated, lying and being within the parish of  
43 Penshurst  
44 aforesaid, or elsewhere within the county of Kent. **First** I give and bequeath  
45 unto **Susan Jessopp, my sister**, during her natural life, one annuity or yearly  
46 rent of three pounds of lawful money of England, yearly issuing and to be  
47 taken out of all that my messuage, lands and tenements, commonly called  
48 by the name  
49 of **Palmers** or by whatsoever other name or names they are called or known,  
50 situated, lying and being in the parish of Penshurst aforesaid, quarterly  
51 from  
52 the day of my decease to be paid. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Jasper**

39 **Jessopp, my godson, the son of David Jessopp, my brother,** the sum of five  
pounds of good  
40 and lawful money of England to be paid unto him, the said Jasper Jessopp,  
when he shall  
41 accomplish his full age of one and twenty one years (if he shalbe then  
living). **Item:**  
42 I give and bequeath unto Manasses Jessopp, my brother, and to his heirs  
and assigns,  
43 forever, all that my said capital messuage or tenement, withall the houses,  
44 barns, edifices and buildings, closes, gardens, orchards, lands, meadows,  
pastures  
45 and underwoods thereto belonging, called Palmers, or by what other or  
more or ??  
46 name or names the same, or any of the same, are or have been called or  
known, containing  
47 in the whole, by estimation, threescore acres, more or less, altogether  
situated, lying  
48 and being within the borough of **Halborrow** within the parish of Penshurst  
aforesaid  
49 and now in the occupation of me, the said Jasper Jessop, or of my assigns.  
And

page 3:

50 which premises before by me willed, **Jasper Jessopp, my father**, late  
deceased, by his last will  
51 gave to me the said Jasper Jessopp, his son. **Item:** I will and my true  
meaning  
52 is that the said Manasses Jessopp, my brother, his heirs or assigns, shall  
pay out of my  
53 said messuage, lands and tenements before to him given, all the gifts and  
legacies  
54 in this my will bequeathed and to such persons as I have willed the same.  
**And**  
55 **further** my will and meaning is that if my said brother Manasses Jessopp,  
his heirs  
56 or assigns shall make default of payment of any of my legacies before in  
this my will set  
57 down, contrary to the true meaning of this my will, that then I will my true  
58 meaning is that those legatories before in this my will nominated, or any of  
them,  
59 that shalbe unpaid, shall and may lawfully enter in an upon all my said  
message,  
60 lands, tenements and premises with th'appurtenances and shall hold and  
occupy the same

61 with all and singular th'appurtenances until he, she and they, and every of  
them so being  
62 unpaid, (contrary to the true meaning of this my will) shalbe fully and truly  
paid  
63 according to the true meaning of this mu will) any thing herein, before  
herein  
64 mentioned to the contrary notwithstanding. **In witness** whereof I, the  
65 said Jasper Jessopp, the son, to this my last will have set my hand to every  
leaf of  
66 hereof being three sheets of paper. And to this third and last sheet or leaf  
have  
67 put my seal, yeven the day and year first above written. And I do utterly  
68 revoke and make void all other wills heretofore by me made.

Read and acknowledged as the  
true and last will of the said  
Jasper Jessopp, the son, in  
the presence of  
**Adam Farman** and  
**John Hosmer, jn. scr.**

Jasper Jessopp<sup>157</sup>

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157 looks like a signature

# The Johnsons of Ightham

Johnson was a common name and no connections between this family and other Johnsons of the locality are obvious. The only family recorded in Ightham is that of Matthew Johnson. ("i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database)

| Num    | Name                             | Born        | Married   | Spouse                 | M C  | Died        |
|--------|----------------------------------|-------------|---|------------------------|------|-------------|
| i699   | <u>JOHNSON, Matthew</u><br>----- |             | 1 Oct 1570  | Margerie Hawke<br>i700 | 1 10 | 1 Aug 1598  |
| • i701 | <u>JOHNSON, Arthur</u>           | 4 Jul 1571  |   |                        | 0 0  |             |
| • i398 | <u>JOHNSON, Thomas</u>           | 21 Dec 1572 | probably died before December 1580 when brother was called Thomas |                        | 0 0  |             |
| • i702 | <u>Johnson, Joane</u>            | 10 Apr 1575 |   |                        | 0 0  |             |
| • i703 | <u>Johnson, Sara</u>             | 4 Aug 1577  |   |                        | 0 0  |             |
| • i704 | <u>JOHNSON, Edward</u>           | 11 Oct 1579 |   |                        | 0 0  | 17 Jan 1580 |
| • i705 | <u>JOHNSON, Thomas</u>           | 25 Dec 1580 | aged 19 if the Thomas Johnson buried in 1600 was Matthew's son    |                        | 0 0  | 20 Apr 1600 |
| • i706 | <u>Johnson, Jane</u>             | 2 Feb 1584  |   |                        | 0 0  |             |
| • i707 | <u>JOHNSON, William</u>          | 4 Dec 1586  |   |                        | 0 0  |             |
| • i708 | <u>Johnson, Katherine</u>        | 4 May 1589  |   |                        | 0 0  |             |
| • i715 | <u>JOHNSON, Matthew</u>          | 3 Dec 1592  |   |                        | 0 0  |             |



At some time between 1586 and his death in 1598, Matthew Johnson held the post of **ale taster**. On 8th May 1598, he was presented to the Court, together with **widow Turner**, for receiving a "stranger" - **Richard Butcher** - see [Excerpts from the Ightham Court Rolls in Section Z of Families & Transcripts](#).

A **John Johnson** (#709) was buried on 18th February 1562 and a **Parnell Johnson** (#710) on 31st January 1575 but they may not have been connected to any of the other Johnsons.

On 24th April 1599, **John Ley** was fined 3s 4d for having assaulted John Johnson on the previous 20th March. "[John Johnson then and there assaulted John Ley and drew blood. Fined 3s 4d.](#)" (CRI 1938, p.6). Eighteen months later **John Johnson** was assaulted by the **wives of Edward Lambarde and John Garland** - see [Lambarde in More Families & Transcripts](#).

| Num    | Name  | Born        | Married     | Spouse                   | M | C | Died |
|--------|---|-------------|-------------|--------------------------|---|---|------|
| i711   | <u>JOHNSON, Richard</u><br>-----<br>                                    | <1570       | 30 Aug 1590 | Katherine Hadlow<br>1276 | 1 | 2 |      |
| i276   | <u>Hadlow, Katherine</u><br>-----<br>                                   | 5 Feb 1570  |             |                          | 1 | 2 |      |
|        | married at 20 if she was Catherine "daughter of William Hadlow, weaver" |             |             |                          |   |   |      |
| • i713 | <u>Johnson, Elizabeth</u>   | 12 Mar 1592 |             |                          | 0 | 0 |      |
| • i714 | <u>Johnson, Marie</u>   | 18 Aug 1594 |             |                          | 0 | 0 |      |

One of the more intriguing entries in the Court Rolls is concerned with **Richard Johnson** of Ightham. He and **James Wooden of Lighe (Leigh)** were presented to the Court on 5th April 1594 for having "[met together unlawfully at Ightham in the night time and conducted themselves impudently towards George Stalie of Ightham, in disturbance of the Queen's lieges there abiding. Fined 12d each. The said George Staly remained unlawfully in the night time with Richard Johnson and James Wooden. Fined 12d.](#)" (CRI 1938, p.5) See [Staley in Families & Transcripts](#) for more details of the Staleys.

In February 1576, Richard Johnson (i2752), sawyer, and his wife Agnes (i2753), together with Stephen Ongeley, blacksmith, attached Richard Clerke in Offham who, in defending himself, wounded Ongeley who died from his injuries - see [Ongeley in More Families & Transcripts](#).

# The Johnsons of Kemsing

| Num      | Name                                 | Born   | Married | Spouse                  | M | C | Died       |  |
|----------|--------------------------------------|--|---------|-------------------------|---|---|------------|--|
| k136     | <u>JOHNSON, Gilbert</u><br>-----<br> |  | <1604   | Rose Johnson(m)<br>k137 | 1 | 7 |            |  |
| k137     | <u>Rose Johnson(m)</u><br>-----      |  |         |                         | 1 | 7 | 1 Oct 1623 |  |
| • k138   | <u>Johnson, Margaret</u>             | 12 Feb 1604  |         |                         | 0 | 0 |            |  |
| • k139   | <u>JOHNSON, John</u>                 | 15 Dec 1605  |         |                         | 0 | 0 |            |  |
|          |                                      | probably died before 1608 when a brother was baptised "John" |         |                         |   |   |            |  |
| • k140   | <u>JOHNSON, John</u>                 | 6 Jan 1608   | twin }  | recorded as             | 0 | 0 |            |  |
| • k141   | <u>JOHNSON, William</u>              | 6 Jan 1608   | twin }  | "at one birth"          | 0 | 0 |            |  |
| • k142   | <u>JOHNSON, Matthew</u>              | 9 May 1613   | <1642   | Elizabeth Johnson(m)    | 1 | 3 |            |  |
| • • k151 | <u>JOHNSON, John</u>                 | 27 Feb 1642  |         |                         |   |   | 0 0        |  |
| • • k152 | <u>JOHNSON, Thomas</u>               | 30 Apr 1645  |         |                         |   |   | 0 0        |  |
| • • k153 | <u>Johnson, Dorothy</u>              | 11 Nov 1650  |         |                         |   |   | 0 0        |  |
| • k143   | <u>JOHNSON, Nicholas</u>             | 1 Apr 1616   |         |                         | 0 | 0 |            |  |
| • k144   | <u>Johnson, Mary</u>                 | 17 May 1619  |         |                         | 0 | 0 | 4 Nov 1623 |  |
|          |                                      | Mary, aged 4.5, was buried 5 weeks after her mother          |         |                         |   |   |            |  |

| Num  | Name                             | Born        | Married     | Spouse                      | M | C | Died       |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------|---|---|------------|
| k145   | <u>JOHNSON, John</u><br>-----    | <1604       | 15 Apr 1624 | Katherine Underhill<br>k146 | 1 | 3 |            |
| • k147   | <u>Johnson, Elizabeth</u>        | 18 Dec 1625 |             |                             |   |   | 0 0        |
| • k148   | <u>Johnson, Ann</u>              | 23 Aug 1629 |             |                             |   |   | 0 0        |
| • k149   | <u>JOHNSON, William</u>          | 17 Feb 1633 |             |                             |   |   | 0 0        |
| <hr/>  |                                  |             |             |                             |   |   |            |
| k154   | <u>JOHNSON, William</u><br>----- |             | 26 Oct 1618 | Dorothy Bowne<br>k155       | 1 | 0 |            |
|  |                                  |             |             |                             |   |   |            |
| k155   | <u>Bowne, Dorothy</u><br>-----   |             |             |                             | 1 | 0 | 3 Apr 1620 |
| <hr/>  |                                  |             |             |                             |   |   |            |
| no child recorded; perhaps Dorothy died as a result of her first pregnancy |                                  |             |             |                             |   |   |            |

Johnson was a common name and no connections between these families and other Johnsons of the locality are obvious.

# The Johnsons of Seal

Johnson was a common name and no connections between this family and other Johnsons of the locality are obvious. # indicates a reference in the Seal database.

| Num  | Name                                 | Born        | Married    | Spouse                           | M | C | Died   |
|------|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------|----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| #992 | <u>JOHNSON, Henry</u> (sen)<br>----- |             |            |                                  | 1 | 1 | 28 Aug 1568                                      |
| •    | #141 <u>JOHNSON, Henry</u> (jun)     |             |            |                                  |   | 1 | 3  |
| •    | • #143 <u>Johnson, Mary</u>          | 27 Aug 1564 | 6 Aug 1582 | Edward WELDISHE<br>married at 18 |   |   | 1 0<br>#1045                                     |
| •    | • #396 <u>JOHNSON, Jasper</u>        | 27 Jun 1567 |            |                                  |   |   | 0 0  |
| •    | • #994 <u>Johnson, Alice</u>         |             |            |                                  |   |   | 0 0 30 Aug 1579                                  |
|      |                                      |             |            |                                  |   |   | Henry witnessed the will of John Beecher in 1566 |

See [Solomon Hasden/Haselden in Families & Transcripts](#) for details of Jasper Johnson's indictment for burglary in 1595

| Num     | Name                                  | Born           | Married     | Spouse               | M C   | Died            |
|---------|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------------|-------|-----------------|
| #1205   | <u>JOHNSON, Gilbert</u><br>-----      |                |             |                      | 2 3   |                 |
|         |                                       | of Stonestreet |             |                      |       |                 |
|         | <i>Marriage 1</i>                     |                |             | Elizabeth Johnson(m) |       |                 |
| #1206   | <u>Johnson(m), Elizabeth</u><br>----- |                |             |                      | 1 2 3 | Sep 1590        |
| • #1207 | <u>JOHNSON, William</u>               | 29 Sep 1583    |             |                      |       | 0 0             |
| • #1335 | <u>Johnson, Agnes</u>                 | 6 Mar 1586     |             |                      |       | 0 0             |
| • #1581 | <u>JOHNSON, Edward</u>                | 3 Aug 1589     |             |                      |       | 0 0 11 Mar 1591 |
|         | <i>Marriage 2</i>                     |                | 16 Jan 1592 | ?? Marten<br>#1562   |       | 1 0             |

The Gilbert Johnson of Kemsing, who had children in the 1600s, could possibly have been the eldest son of this Gilbert Johnson.

**William Johnson** (#1489), son of widow Johnson, was buried in Seal on 28th July 1585.

# The Johnsons of Shipbourne

| Num                  | Name                                | Born        | Married | Spouse                    | M | C    | Died        |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|---------|---------------------------|---|------|-------------|
| \$250 <sup>158</sup> | <u>JOHNSON, John</u><br>-----       |             |         | Joane Johnson(m)<br>\$251 | 1 | 3 18 | Jul 1600    |
| • \$252              | <u>Johnson, Mildred</u>             | 27 Jan 1583 |         |                           |   | 0 0  |             |
| • \$253              | <u>Johnson, ??</u><br>no name given | 2 Jun 1586  |         |                           |   | 0 0  |             |
| • \$1155             | <u>JOHNSON, Richard</u>             |             |         |                           | 1 | 1 12 | Sep 1624    |
| • • \$1157           | <u>JOHNSON, Robert</u>              | 25 Aug 1615 |         |                           |   | 0 0  | 27 Aug 1615 |

It is possible that Richard was a son of John and Johane. In 1581, Margaret Hewit left 2s to John Johnson, her godson and the son of John Johnson. Perhaps he was elder son of \$250.

There were also three marriages:

- **Rebecka Johnson** (\$1584) married **William Cocke** (\$1573) on 7th October 1632
- **Richard Johnson** (\$1753) married **Alice Terry** (\$1755) on 18th June 1639
- **Dorothy Johnson** (\$1881) married **William Pierce** (\$1750) on 13 April 1643

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<sup>158</sup> \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

## *The Johnsons of Leigh, Tonbridge and Pembury*

Wills have survived for the following Johnsons of Leigh, Tonbridge and Pembury:

|                                |           |                           |                            |              |
|--------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| William Johnson                | Leigh     | 1558                      | CKS: 12.244 <sup>159</sup> |              |
| William Johnson <sup>160</sup> | Tonbridge | 14 Aug 1594               | PCC: Dixy 59; Prob 11/84   | page 2.j.121 |
| William Johnson                | Tonbridge | 12 Mar 1600/1             | CKS: 19I.205; 18           | page 2.j.140 |
| Richard Johnson                | Pembury   | 8 Sep 1610 <sup>161</sup> | PCC: Fenner 109            | page 2.j.145 |
| Thomas Johnson                 | Tonbridge | 1615                      | CKS: 19I.535; 23           | page 2.f.150 |
| Thomas Johnson                 | Tonbridge | 1634                      | CKS: 22.84; 29             | page 2.j.158 |

The will of March 1601 was written by Nicholas Hooper who wrote many wills between 1576 and 1618. The 1634 will of Thomas Johnson is written in the same hand as a number of others in the 1640s also witnessed by Robert Chowning who probably wrote them all.

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<sup>159</sup> CKS: Drb/Pwr Drb/Pw

<sup>160</sup> citizen and grocer of London

<sup>161</sup> proved 1612



## *The Johnsons of Tonbridge*

When William, citizen and grocer of London, wrote his will in 1594 his father was still alive and from the brothers and sisters mentioned by the grocer, the William Johnson, yeoman, who died in 1601 was his father. The grocer probably had a married daughter which implies that he was born in the late 1540s and his father in the early 1520s. This would mean that the yeoman was at least approaching eighty when he died - by no means impossible.

William, yeoman, does not mention a son William in his will but the grocer's family was well provided for by their father. The children the yeoman does mention exactly fit with the brothers and sisters mentioned by the grocer from whose will we know that Margaret was married and had a son by 1594 whilst Magdalon married sometime between 1594 and 1601.

When he died the grocer's wife was Anne who had had two sons by a first marriage. She might have been William's second wife, the mother of his children having died previously.



the ancient and laudable customs of the city of London". Of these three parts, his wife was to have one and the second was to be divided equally between his children with the last being reserved to himself towards the payment of his funeral charges and various legacies.

William left twenty shillings a year, for five years, to the poor of the parish of St. Saviour, Southwark where he lived and the same to the parish of Tonbridge (from where he probably came) and to Mr. Phillips, preacher in the parish church of Saint Saviours "if he so long resident and preacher in the said church". He also left £5 to the schoolmaster and £1 to the minister of St. Saviours and also ten shillings to each of his servants who were with him at the time of his death.

When William wrote his will his father was still alive and William was giving him £4 a year with a "writing" having been made to cover this. Anne was to continue to pay this annuity but was to ensure that he did not "claim the said four pounds yearly by the writing" as well as the payment he was to receive from the will. He also left £4 to his brother Daniel (as distinct from a smaller amount to his other relatives for rings - see the table below) and to his daughter Slye, "for a token of remembrance, my seal ring with my name engraved therein". Was Slye (which looks like a surname) a married daughter who had already had her portion?

## Bequests for Rings

|                  |                      |     |
|------------------|----------------------|-----|
| Robert Henning   | of Arundale, chapman | 10s |
| John Baldack     | of Tonbridge, cousin | 10s |
| Richard Johnson  | brother              | 20s |
| Thomas Johnson   | brother              | 10s |
| ?? Casinghurst   | sister               | 10s |
| Mawdelyn Johnson | sister               | 10s |

Anne's marriage to William was her second and she had two sons, John and Nicholas Fardell, by her first marriage. In addition to the one third of his goods which she was to receive when his goods, etc. were divided, William left her £100 from his portion. Whatever was left after all the charges and legacies had been paid was to be divided between his two daughters, Sara and Anne, "for their further advancement". But the will continues: "all other my goods and chattells not bequeathed (my debts, funeral and legacies paid and satisfied), I wholly give and bequeath unto the said Anne, my wife". What was left to make up this residue?

When it comes to William's land, the will gets very involved. First, Anne was left all his lands, tenements and hereditaments in Cowden to herself, her heirs and assigns forever.

The farm called Barden, in Tonbridge, was left to Anne until her death and then it was to go to William's son, William who was also, at that time, to receive all the land in Hadlow which, up to this stage, had not been mentioned. From here onwards, each bequest of land is followed by a long sequence (the order of inheritance being modified to suit which child was the first heir):

"unto my said son William Johnson and to the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the heirs of the body of William, my son, lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue, the . . . to remain to my son Thomas Johnson, and to the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the heirs of the body of the said Thomas Johnson, lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue, the same . . . to be and remain to my two daughters, Sara and Anne and to the heirs of their two bodies lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue, the same . . . to remain to the right heirs of me, the said William Johnson, the father, forever".

It appears from later in the will, that Anne was to have to her own use without needing to account to any of the later heirs "all the rents, issues and profits" from all the land, etc. which was eventually to go to the children. This was to be spent

on their "finding and education . . . and towards their preferment in marriage and Belsham otherwise as she shall think good" with this continuing, unless Anne died before then, until the children reached the much older than usual age of twenty-eight.

There is then a long, complicated section which is, by no means, clear. It seems to be about what is to happen if anyone who inherits any land carries out various acts or deeds "above the number of one and twenty years in possession, or three lives in possession, receiving the old rent going out of the same". In this case it is to be "as though such person were naturally dead . . . and then . . . the said messuages, . . . shall . . . descend . . . to the next heir".

With the lengthy list of heirs given so many times in the will and the fact that William had at least four children, it would be thought that there would have been no need for the concluding long section which is concerned with what was to happen "after the death of my said wife and of all my children and of the issue of their several bodies and of all other persons to whom my said lands, . . . ought to descend . . . that then I give and devise those parcels of land and tenements hereafter mentioned to the several uses and persons hereafter named". These were:

- the farm called Borden in Headcorn to the College of St. John Baptist in Oxford founded by Sir Thomas White, knight, and Alderman of London, for

three scholars, two of whom were to be chosen "out of the Free Grammar School of Tonbridge . . . by the consent and liking of the schoolmaster . . . the vicar and churchwardens of Tonbridge" and the other from the Grammar School of St. Saviours "by the consent and liking of the school master there and the overseers".

- "All that my said farm . . . which I bought of George Stace . . . parish of Tonbridge" to Christs Hospital in London towards the finding and relief of the poor children harboured and brought up there.
- one tenement and three acres of ground in Tonbridge "which I bought of Thomas Harris" to the vicar and churchwardens of Tonbridge, "to the use and relief of the poor people of Tonbridge".
- his farm at Hasden in Tonbridge to Thomas Casinghurst, the son of his sister.
- one half of all his lands, etc. not otherwise devised to his three brothers, Richard, Daniell and Thomas Johnson.
- the other half thereof, to John Fardell and Nicholas Fardell, his wife's sons.

1 In the name of god Amen. The fourteenth  
2 day of August, Anno Dm. a thousand five hundred ninety four. And in the  
3 six and  
4 thirty year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God,  
5 Queen  
6 of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, etc. I, William  
7 Johnson, **citizen**  
8 **and grocer of London**, considering with my self the uncertain state of this  
9 present life, how  
10 certain we are to die and yet of the time, place and manner of our dying  
altogether uncertain,  
as daily experience showeth, and finding my self somewhat sickly disposed  
in my body but,  
nevertheless, of good and perfect mind and memory, praise be therefore  
given to Almighty  
god, do therefore make and ordain this my present testament and last will  
in manner and  
form following, that is to say: **But First** and principally I commend my soul  
into the



11 hands of Almighty god, my creator, saviour and redeemer, being fully  
assured that, through the  
12 death and passion of Jesus Christ, all my sins be forgiven me and that I  
shall have an inheritance  
13 in the kingdom of heaven. And my body I commit to the earth from  
whence it came, to be buried  
14 in such convenient place and manner as to my executrix hereafter named  
shalbe thought meet.  
15 And as concerning the disposition of such goods, chattels and things as it  
hath pleased  
16 Almighty god to give me in this world, I will and my full mind and intent is  
that, withall  
17 convenient speed after my death, all such debts as I shall owe of right or in  
conscience, to any  
18 be truly satisfied and paid or order taken that they may be truly paid. And  
then I will that  
19 a true inventory shalbe made of all and singular my goods, chattells, plate,  
jewels, ready money  
20 and debts. And that the same shalbe divided into three equal parts or  
portions according to the  
21 ancient and laudable customs of the city of London. The first third part  
whereof I

22 leave and appoint unto **my loving wife Anne** for so much due to her by the  
said laudable  
23 custom. The second part thereof I leave to my children to be equally  
amongst them  
24 equally parted according to the said custom. And the last third part thereof  
I reserve to  
25 my self towards the payment of my funeral charges and of such legacies as  
I have herein  
26 devised. And out of which my said third part, I bequeath and give to the  
poor people  
27 of the parish of **St. Saviour in Southwark** in the county of Surrey where I  
now dwell  
28 five pounds to be paid unto them in five years of twenty shillings a year.  
**Item:** I give and  
29 bequeath to the poor people of the parish of **Tonbridge** in the county of  
Kent five pounds  
30 to be paid unto them in five years of twenty shillings a year. **Item:** I give  
unto **Mr.**  
31 **Phillips**, now preacher in the parish church of Saint Saviours aforesaid, five  
32 pounds to be paid unto him in five years (if he so long resident and  
preacher in the said  
33 church) by twenty shillings every year. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto  
**Frances**

34 **Yomans, schoolmaster** in the said parish, five pounds to unto him within  
five years  
35 after my death. **Item:** I give unto **Mr. Ratcliff, minister** of the said parish  
church, twenty  
36 shillings. **Item:** I give unto **my loving father** in token of remembrance, my  
gown at  
37 Tonbridge. And also I will, give and devise unto my said father, for term of  
his life, the  
38 sum of four pounds of lawful english money to be yearly paid unto him by  
mine  
39 executrix as I have heretofore used to pay the same so he do not claim the  
said four  
40 pounds yearly by the writing which I have already given him for payment  
of the said  
41 yearly sum under my hand and seal. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **my**  
**daughter Slye**<sup>163</sup>,  
42 for a token of remembrance, my seal ring with my name engraved therein.  
**Item:** I  
43 bequeath unto every one of my servants that shalbe with me at the time of  
my death, ten

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163 was this a married daughter?

page 2:

44 shillings in money. **Item:** I give to **Robert Henning of Arundale, chapman,**  
ten shillings  
45 to make him a ring with. And to **my cousin, John Baldack of Tonbridge,**  
ten shillings for  
46 the like use. And to **my brother, Richard,** twenty shillings for the like use.  
And to **my brother,**  
47 **Thomas,** ten shillings for the like use. **Item:** I give to **my brother, Daniel,**  
four pounds.  
48 **Item:** I give to **my sister Casinghurst** ten shillings to make her a ring with.  
And to **my sister**  
49 **Mawdelyn** ten shillings for the like use. **Item:** to **John, my wife's son,** ten  
shillings. **Item:**  
50 I give unto Anne, my wife, one hundred pounds. The residue of my said  
third part remaining,  
51 my funeral and legacies satisfied, I give and bequeath unto **my two**  
**daughters Sara and**  
52 **Anne,** for their further advancement to be between them equally divided  
and to be paid unto  
53 them as their other portions of orphanage money shall grow due to them<sup>164</sup>.  
All other my goods and

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164 their shares of the second part of their father's money, etc.

54 chattells not bequeathed (my debts, funeral and legacies paid and  
satisfied), I wholly give  
55 and bequeath unto the said Anne, my wife. And I make and constitute the  
said Anne, my wife,  
56 executrix of this my present testament and last will. And I appoint my very  
good friends,  
57 **Mr. Richard Denman, grocer, th'elder and William Cawnden, goldsmith,**  
**citizens of London,**  
58 overseers of this my testament desiring their good and friendly advises to  
my executrix in the  
59 performance of this my will, as she shall have occasion to use them. And  
for their pains herein  
60 to be taken, I bequeath, to every of them, forty shillings, in all four pounds.  
In witness whereof  
61 I have hereunto put my hand and seal the day and year abovesaid those  
being witnesses  
62 William Johnson. This present testament and last will was by the above  
named William Johnson  
63 subscribed, sealed and delivered as his deed the day and year abovesaid  
viz: the fourteenth  
64 day of August A thousand five hundred ninety four above mentioned in the  
presence of me

65 **Andrew Turner, notary**, and me **Nicholas Slater**. The mark of **Elizabeth**  
66 **Bedill**.

66 **This is the last will** and testament of  
67 me, William Johnson, citizen and grocer of London, made and declared the  
68 day and year  
69 abovesaid, touching and concerning the disposition of all and singular my  
70 message, farms,  
71 lands, tenements and hereditaments, set, lying and being in the county of  
72 Kent or elsewhere  
73 within the realm of England. **First:** I give, devise and appoint unto Anne,  
74 my wife, all those  
71 my lands, tenements and hereditaments with th'appurtenances, set, lying  
72 and being in the  
73 parish of **Cowden** in the said county of Kent. To have and to hold all the  
74 same lands, tenements  
73 and hereditaments with th'appurtenances in Cowden aforesaid unto the  
74 said Anne and to her  
74 heirs and assigns forever. Also I give and devise unto the said Anne, all  
74 that my farm called

75 **Barden**<sup>165</sup>, set, lying and being in the parish of **Tonbridge** in the said county  
of Kent with all  
76 meadows, pastures, feeding, waters, ?shing<sup>166</sup>, commons, hereditaments  
and appurtenances thereto  
77 belonging, or in any wise appertaining, now or late in th'occupation of  
**Thomas Polhill of Shoreham**  
78 or his assigns. To have and to hold the said farm called Barden, with  
th'appurtenances, unto  
79 the said Anne and her assigns for term of her natural life. And after her  
decease, I give  
80 and devise the same farm called Barden, with th'appurtenances, and all  
other my lands, tenements  
81 and hereditaments with all and singular th'appurtenances, set, lying and  
being in the parish  
82 of Tonbridge aforesaid and all my lands, tenements and hereditaments  
with th'appurtenances,  
83 set, lying and being in the parish of **Hadlow** in the said county of Kent unto  
**my son William**

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165 Barden Park is to the west of the town centre of Tonbridge

166 fishing?

84 **Johnson**, to have and to hold the said farm called Barden with  
th'appurtenances immediately  
85 from and after the death of my said wife unto my said son William Johnson  
and to th'heirs male  
86 of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue<sup>167</sup>, the same  
farm called  
87 Barden with th'appurtenances to remain to **my son Thomas Johnson**, and  
to the heirs male  
88 of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to th'heirs of  
the body of the  
89 said Thomas Johnson, lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue, the  
same farm  
90 called Barden with th'appurtenances to be and remain to **my two**  
**daughters, Sara**  
91 **and Anne** and to th'heirs of their two bodies lawfully begotten. And for  
default of such  
92 issue, the same farm called Barden to remain to the right heirs of me, the  
said William  
93 Johnson, the father, forever. And to have and to hold all other my said  
lands, tenements and

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167 inserted here: "to **th'heirs of the body of William, my son, lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue**", that is, if William has no male heirs, then to his daughter(s)



page 3:

94 hereditaments, with th'appurtenances, in the parish of Tonbridge aforesaid.  
And my said  
95 lands, tenements and hereditaments in the said parish of Hadlow  
immediately from and after the  
96 death of my said wife or else so soon as my said son William shall attain  
and come unto the full  
97 age of eight and twenty years, which first shall happen, unto my said son  
William Johnson  
98 and to th'heirs male of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such  
issue, the  
99 remainder thereof to th'heirs of the body of my said son William lawfully  
begotten. And for  
100 default of such issue, the remainder thereof to the said Thomas Johnson  
and to th'heirs  
101 male of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue, to  
th'heirs of the body  
102 of the said Thomas lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue, to the  
said Sara  
103 and Anne, my daughters, and to th'heirs of their two bodies lawfully  
begotten. And for  
104 default of such issue, the remainder to the right heirs of me, the said  
William,

105 the father, forever. Also I give and devise unto my said son, Thomas  
106 Johnson, all those my  
107 land, tenements, woods and hereditaments with th'appurtenances , set,  
lying and being in  
108 Headcrown, alias Headcorn<sup>168</sup>, in the said county of Kent, which I  
purchased of **Mr. Belsham**  
109 of **Maidstone, gent.** And all that my farm with th'appurtenances in  
Headcrown alias  
110 Headcorn aforesaid called **Borden** which I purchased of **Mr. Webb of**  
**London, gentleman,** To  
111 have and to hold all the said land, tenements, woods and farm in  
Headcrown, alias Headcorn,  
112 aforesaid, with th'appurtenances, immediately from and after the death of  
my said wife  
113 or else so soon as my said son Thomas shall attain and come unto the full  
age of eight  
114 and twenty years, which first shall happen, unto the said Thomas Johnson  
and to th'heirs  
male of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue, to  
th'heirs of the

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168 "Hedcrown alias Hedcorn"

115 body of the said Thomas lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue,  
to th'heirs  
116 male of the body of the said William, my son, lawfully begotten. And for  
default of  
117 such issue, to th'heirs of the body of my said son William lawfully begotten.  
And  
118 for default of such issue, to my said two daughters, Sara and Anne, and to  
th'heirs of  
119 their two bodies lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue, the  
remainder thereof  
120 to the right heirs of me, the said William, the father, forever. Provided  
always and  
121 nevertheless my very true mind and intent is that the said Anne, my wife,  
and her assigns  
122 shall have and receive to her and their own use, without any account to be  
by her or  
123 her assigns rendered or yielded in any manner of wise, all the rents, issues  
and profits  
124 which shall come, grow or arise of any of the said lands, tenements or  
hereditaments by  
125 me given or devised to any of my said children for and toward the finding  
and education of all

126 my said children and towards their preferment in marriage and otherwise  
as she shall think  
127 good. And also the disposition, letting and setting of the said land, and  
every of them, until my  
128 sons, or the survivor of them, shall attain and come to the said age of  
129 eight and twenty years (if she so long live). And that she shall have also to  
her  
130 own use without any account to be made, for and towards the education  
and preferment of  
131 all my said children as aforesaid until the said several ages of eight and  
twenty years of my  
132 said sons or the survivor of them (if she so long live). All the wood growing,  
and to be growing,  
133 upon my said two farms called Belsham and Borden at Headcrown alias  
Headcorn aforesaid.  
134 And further my mind and intent is that if any of my said children, or the  
issues of any of  
135 their several bodies begotten, or any other to whom the said my lands,  
tenements or  
136 hereditaments by such remainder shall descend, remain or come, (claiming  
from by or under any of  
137 my said children or any of their issues) shall at any time hereafter, directly or  
indirectly by

138 any act or acts, deed or deeds, conveyance or assurance or by any devise  
whatsoever, it  
139 be done, or procure to be done, had made knowledge or passed or wittingly  
shall suffer to be  
140 done, had made knowledge or passed any find of recovery, fine, feoffment,  
gift, grant,  
141 alienation, discontinuance, conveyance or assurance of the said messuage,  
land, tenements,  
142 or hereditaments, or any part thereof devised as aforesaid, above the  
number of one and  
143 twenty years in possession, or three lives in possession, receiving th'old  
rent going out of the  
144 same, that then, and from thenceforth, immediately, the state limited to  
him, her or them as afore  
145 said, shall cease, determine and be utterly void and of none effect in the  
law and as though

*page 4:*

146 there had never been any such estate to them or any of them so doing  
limited, and as though  
147 such person were naturally dead. Anything herein contained to the  
contrary notwithstanding.

148 And that then, from thenceforth, the said messuages, lands, tenements  
and hereditaments shall,  
149 and may, descend, revert and come to the next heir, person or persons to  
whom I have willed and  
150 devised the said lands, tenements and hereditaments and to whom, by the  
true intent and meaning  
151 of this my present testament the same ought to descend, revert or come.  
And further, my  
152 will and meaning is that, after the death of my said wife and of all my  
children and of the issue  
153 of their several bodies and of all other persons to whom my said lands,  
tenements and hereditaments,  
154 by the true intent and meaning of this my testament, ought to descend,  
remain and come, that  
155 then I give and devise those parcels of land and tenements hereafter  
mentioned to the several  
156 uses and persons hereafter named, that is to say, unto the president and  
scholars of the  
157 **College<sup>169</sup> of St. John Baptist in Oxford** founded by **Sir Thomas White,**  
**knight,** and

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169 "Colledge"

158 Alderman of London, for and towards the finding and maintenance of three  
scholars to be  
159 brought up in learning in the said college whereof two of them first for that  
purpose to  
160 be, from time to time, taken and chosen out of the **Free Grammar School of  
Tonbridge**  
161 in the county of Kent aforesaid, by the consent and liking of the  
schoolmaster of the said school,  
162 the vicar and churchwardens of Tonbridge aforesaid, for the time being.  
And th'other  
163 scholar fit for that purpose to be, from time to time, taken and chosen out of  
the **Grammar**  
164 **School within the parish of St. Saviour** aforesaid, by the consent and liking  
of the school  
165 master there and the overseers of the said school for the time being, all that  
my said farm  
166 with th'appurtenances called Borden lying and being in Headcrown als.  
Headcorn aforesaid.  
167 Also I give and devise unto **Christs Hospital in London** towards the finding  
and relief of  
169 the poor children harboured and brought up there from time to time all that  
parcel of land

170 with th'appurtenances which I bought of **George Stace** being a parcel of  
Wawfage?  
171 land and lying at the **Upper Cage Green** in the said parish of Tonbridge.  
Also I give  
172 and devise unto the vicar and churchwardens of the said parish of  
Tonbridge, to the use  
173 and relief of the poor people of Tonbridge aforesaid, from time to time  
being, one tenement  
174 and three acres of ground thereto adjoining, lying at the Upper Cage Green  
aforesaid  
175 which I bought of **Thomas Harris** of Tonbridge. And further, my will and  
meaning  
176 is that, from and after the death of my said wife and of all my said children  
and the issues  
177 of their several bodies and of all other persons to whom my said lands,  
tenements and hereditaments,  
178 by the true intent and meaning of this my testament ought to descend,  
remain and come,  
179 Then I will, give and devise unto **Thomas Casinghurst, my sister  
Casinghurst's son**, all that my



180 farm with th'appurtenances lying and being at **Hasden**<sup>170</sup> in the said parish  
of Tonbridge  
181 which I bought of one **Later**, being in th'occupation of **Roger Humfrey** or his  
assigns, to  
182 have and to hold the said farm with th'appurtenances to the said Thomas  
Casinghurst and to  
183 his heirs and assigns forever. And further, my will and meaning is that,  
from and after  
184 such decease of my said wife and children and their issue and the persons  
aforesaid and every  
185 of them to whom, by the true meaning hereof, my said lands, tenements  
and hereditaments  
186 ought to descend and come as aforesaid, then I give and devise unto **my**  
**three brothers**,  
187 **Richard, Daniel and Thomas Johnson**, and to their heirs for ever, the moiety  
or one full  
188 half of all my lands, tenements, farms and hereditaments, by me hereby  
not devised.  
189 And th'other moiety or full half thereof, I give and devise unto **John Fardell**  
**and Nicholas**

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170 this is the first mention of this farm

190 **Fardell, my wife's sons**, and to their heirs forever. In witness whereof I  
have hereto  
191 put my hand and seal the day and year abovesaid. William Johnson. This  
present testament  
192 and last will was, by the above named William Johnson, subscribed, sealed  
and delivered as his  
193 deed the day and year above said, viz: the fourteenth day of August a  
thousand five  
194 hundred ninety four, above mentioned, in the presence of me, **Andrew  
Turner, notary,**  
195 and me **Nicholas Slater**. The mark of **Elizabeth Bedill**.

### *William Johnson, yeoman*

Although William is described as “the elder”, he does not mention a son called William. He had two married daughters, Margaret and Magdalen. Margaret was left £5 and Magdalen only ten shillings but if “[Magdalon, at any time hereafter to be a widow, then I give unto her one annuity of forty shillings](#)”.

Nicolas Hooper's  
mark

1 **In the name of God Amen.** the twelfth day of March in the year of our  
2 lord god, One thousand and six hundredth, And in the Three and fortieth  
year of the Reign of  
3 our sovereign Lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God, Queen of England,  
France and Ireland, defender  
4 of the faith. I, William Johnson, the elder of Tonbridge in the county of  
Kent, **yeoman**, being  
5 at the time of making hereof in reasonable good health of body and of  
sound and perfect memory, thanks  
6 be given to god, Notwithstanding very aged, which admonisheth me of my  
last end, and that I shall change  
7 this life, and the time thereof being altogether uncertain, and willing to  
dispose my lands and transitory  
8 possessions which god hath made me Steward of in this world, that no  
contention arise about the same

9 after my decease. Therefore I do ordain and make this my present  
Testament and last will in manner  
10 and form following: And **first** and principally I give, commend and  
bequeath my soul into the  
11 hands of Almighty god, who gave it, trusting by the merit and precious  
blood shedding of his dear and only  
12 Son Jesus Christ that the same shalbe presented pure at the Throne of his  
majesty. And my  
13 body to be buried in the churchyard of Tonbridge in sure and certain hope  
of resurrection joyful to  
14 life Eternal. **Item:** I give and bequeath among the poor of Tonbridge, Ten  
shillings. **Item:**  
15 I give to **my daughter, Margaret, wife of Michael Casinghouse<sup>171</sup>**, the sum  
of five pounds of lawful money  
16 and two pairs of sheets, to be paid and delivered within one year next after  
my decease. **Item:** I give and  
17 bequeath to **Daniell Johnson, my son**, two pairs of Sheets and Thirty  
pounds of lawful money  
18 to be paid to him in manner and form following, that is to say, Ten pounds  
within six months next after my

---

171 "Richard Casinghurst" in the grocer's will; taken as the same man

19 decease and every year after five pounds until the said Thirty pounds be  
fully paid. **Item:** I  
20 give and bequeath to **Magdalon, my daughter, now wife of George Wills,**  
ten shillings of lawful money.  
21 And my will and meaning furthermore is that, if it shall happen my said  
daughter, Magdalon, at any time  
22 hereafter to be a widow, Then I give unto her One Annuity of forty shillings  
of lawful money  
23 to issue and go out of all my lands, Tenements and hereditaments,  
whatsoever, within the said parish of Tonbridge  
24 and to be paid to her yearly during the time that she shall then remain a  
widow, And I will that for  
25 lack of payment thereof at the end of every year, that shall follow next after  
her such widowhood, it shalbe  
26 lawful for her, and her assigns, to enter and distreign upon all, every or any  
of my said lands, tenements  
27 and hereditaments, and the distress or distresses so from time to time  
taken, to lead, drive, carry away and  
28 withhold until she shalbe fully paid the said Annuity and all the Arrearage  
thereof. And if it happen that she  
29 afterwards marry again, then I will the said Annuity shall utterly cease and  
be no longer paid. **Item:**

30 I give and bequeath to **Thomas Johnson, my son**, Twenty shillings lawful  
money to be paid within  
31 one quarter of a year next after my decease. The residue of all my goods,  
debts, moveable goods  
32 and Chattels whatsoever, I wholly and with good intent give and bequeath  
to **Richard Johnson, my son**, to  
33 see my debts and legacies paid, my body decently buried and funeral  
discharged which Richard  
34 Johnson, my son, I make and ordain my whole and sole executor of this my  
will. And I make and  
35 Ordain **my loving brother Thomas Johnson** and **Oliver Budgen** my  
Overseers of this my will.

36 And as concerning all my Lands, Tenements and hereditaments  
whatsoever, either within the parish of  
37 Tonbridge aforesaid or elsewhere, I will, give and bequeath all the same,  
my land, Tenements and  
38 hereditaments, withall and singular thappurtenances, unto the said  
Richard Johnson, my son. To have and  
39 to hold, all and every the same, withall and singular thappurtenances , to  
the said Richard Johnson, my son,  
40 his heirs and assigns, To the only use and behoof of the said Richard  
Johnson, my son, his heirs

41 and assigns forever. In witness whereof, to this my present last will and  
devise, I, the said  
42 William Johnson, have set my hand and Seal yeven<sup>172</sup> the day and year first  
above written.

Nicolas Hooper's  
small mark  
with initials<sup>173</sup>

Read, Sealed and acknowledged  
in the presence of  
**Thomas Fisher** the mark <sup>175</sup> of **William Johnson**<sup>174</sup>  
by me **Roger P--son** Thomas Fisher  
**Nicolas Harris**  
the mark of Nicolas Harris

---

172 given

173 Nicholas Hooper is not given as the writer or a witness but the mark at the end (after the word "written") includes the initials "N H" and is very similar to the mark in a similar position on Roger Knell's will

174 looks like signature

175 "T"

## *Richard Johnson of Pembury*

Richard's will ends abruptly with his name and the mark of Mathew Hartridge but no other witnesses and without the usual "read, sealed and declared in the presence of". It was proved on 6th November 1610. In 1589 when John Budgin of Leigh wrote his will, his daughter, Hellen was the wife of a Richard Johnson; they had married, in Leigh on November 6th 1587. It seems that the testator's wife had died before him so that her name is not given in the will but they had a daughter Ellen and it is probable that Hellen Budgin was his wife.

*Will of Richard Johnson of Pembury*

written 8th September 1610

transcript from the probate copy

- 1 In the name of god Amen. Anno Domini one thousand six
- 2 hundred and ten, the eighth day of September in the year of the reign of
- 3 our sovereign lord Lames, by the grace of God, of England, France and Ireland
- 4 king, defender of the faith, etc. the eighth and of Scotland the four and
- 5 forty.
- 6 I, Richard Johnson, senior, of Pepingbury in the county of Kent, being at
- 7 this time



6 whole in body and of perfect remembrance, god be thanked, do  
7 make and ordain this my last will and testament in form following, viz:

**First:**

*page 2:*

8 I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty god, my maker, hoping  
assuredly, through  
9 the only merits of Jesus Christ, my saviour, to be made partaker of life  
everlasting.  
10 And I commend my body to the earth whereof it is made to be buried in the  
churchyard of  
11 Pepingbury aforesaid (if it do please god there to call me). **Item:** I give to  
the poor of the  
12 said parish six shillings eight pence of current money to be distributed by  
mine  
13 executors hereafter named to such as shall have most need of relief at my  
burial. **Item:**  
14 I give and bequeath unto **my daughter, Katherine, now the wife of John  
Levett** five  
15 marks and to every of her children five shillings of currant money to be paid  
unto her  
16 and them within one year next after my decease. **Item:** I give and  
bequeath unto my

17 **daughter, Ellen, now the wife of Stephen Valentine**, five marks and to every  
of her  
18 children five shillings of currant money to be paid unto her and them  
within one year  
19 next after my decease. And also all such parcels of household as the said  
Ellen,  
20 my daughter, hath of mine in her ?? **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **my**  
**daughter-**  
21 **in-law, Johane<sup>176</sup>**, now wife of **John Frelen**, twenty shillings and to her two  
children  
22 five shillings to be paid unto her and them within two years next after my  
decease. **Item:**  
23 I give to **my very loving friend, Anthony Marsh of Ticehurst**, in the county  
of Sussex,  
24 ten shillings of currant money to be paid to him immediately after my  
decease  
25 by the way of a small remembrance for his friendliness always extended  
towards me  
26 and mine. And if he decease before then, I will it be paid to his wife if she  
be

---

176 step-daughter?

27 then living. If not, then to then to **their son William Marsh**. **Item:** I will to  
every of my  
28 godchildren twelve pence of currant money to be paid unto them, and  
every of them, within  
29 one month next after my decease. The rest of all my goods and cattells,  
moveable and  
30 unmoveable, my debts being paid, my legacies performed and my funeral  
honestly  
31 discharged<sup>177</sup>, I give and bequeath unto **Wyburne Johnson and Richard  
Johnson, my**  
32 **sons** whom I make mine executors of this my last will and testament. And  
I most  
33 heartedly desire **my very loving friend, Mathew Hartridge** of Pepingbury  
aforesaid,  
34 yeoman, to be mine overseer, unto whom I give five shillings by way of a  
final  
35 remembrance over and above such expenses as he shall expend about  
th'execution  
36 of this my last will and testament. Richard Johnson, senior. **Mathew  
Hartridge, his mark.**

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177 "dischardged"

## *Thomas Johnson, mercer of Tonbridge, 1615*

A large part of Thomas's will is taken up with the arrangements to be made for the paying of the £16 still outstanding of her marriage portion of his daughter Margaret who, by 1615, was a widow with two daughters implying that she had married at least three years previously. It looks as if her father, although a mercer, was paying her portion over a period of time from income over a considerable time from his messuages and land. Although the detail included in this will is an isolated case it could have been a fairly common method of paying a daughter's portion.

Margaret had “earnestly entreated that the sum of sixteen pounds which is remaining of the portion promised in marriage with her unto the said Thomas White, deceased, . . . by my will, might be fruitfully paid unto her within seven years next after my decease if she be then living, if not, then to . . . her daughters equally between them”. Thomas specified that £12 of the £16 should be paid to Margaret by Thomas, his son and executor, within seven of his decease. The other £4 was to be paid by another son, Richard, “out of the tenement or house” which he was to inherit.

The only property or land mentioned by Thomas is this “little tenement” left to Richard although he does seem to have conveyed some to Sara, his other

daughter, and her husband Thomas Fowle, perhaps as her marriage portion. His son Thomas was to receive the residue of his goods, etc. and his third son William received from the will only a truckle bed.

The Thomas whose will of 1634 has survived was also a mercer and he had a daughter Sarah; it is probable he was this Thomas's son.

|                         |           |                                     |                          |         |                     |         |             |       |  |       |  |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|-------------|-------|--|-------|--|
|                         |           | t174 Thomas Johnson -<br>1 Feb 1615 |                          |         |                     |         |             |       |  |       |  |
| will:                   |           | -----                               |                          | -----   |                     | -----   |             | ----- |  | ----- |  |
| t181                    | t176      | t177                                | t187                     | t178    | t180                | t186    | t179        |       |  |       |  |
| Thomas White - Margaret |           | Thomas - Margaret                   |                          | Richard | Sara - Thomas Fowle |         | - William - |       |  |       |  |
| will:                   |           | 24 Mar 1634                         |                          |         |                     |         |             |       |  |       |  |
| t182                    | t183      | t188                                | t189                     | t192    | t190                | t191    | t185        |       |  |       |  |
| Margaret                | Elizabeth | Thomas                              | Alice - Richard Shakoely |         | Sarah               | Abraham | Anne        |       |  |       |  |

*Will of Thomas Johnson of Tonbridge*

written 1st February 1615

transcript from original

- 1 In the name of God Amen. The first day of February in the year of our Lord
- 2 God one thousand, six hundred and fourteen. I, Thomas Johnson, the
- 3 elder, of Tonbridge in the  
in the county of Kent, **merc**er, sick in body and thereby put in mind of this  
world

4 but yet of good and perfect memory, thanks be given to god, do ordain and  
make this my present testament  
5 and last will in manner and form following, **First** and principally, yielding  
my soul to Almighty  
6 God, my maker, with an assured hope of salvation through his mercy in the  
merit and mediation  
7 of his son Jesus Christ; and my body to the earth from whence it was  
taken. **Item:** Whereas **Margaret**  
8 **White, my daughter, late the wife of Thomas White, deceased,** in her pure  
estate and widow  
9 hood, now being<sup>178</sup>, hath assented and earnestly entreated that the sum of  
sixteen pounds which  
10 is remaining of the portion promised in marriage with her unto the said  
Thomas White, deceased,  
11 by some order to be taken by my will, might be fruitfully paid unto her  
within seven years  
12 next after my decease if she be then living, if not, then to **Margaret** and  
**Elizabeth, her**  
13 **daughters** equally between them, or to the survivor of them the whole.  
Therefore I do thus will  
14 appoint that the sum of twelve pounds, parcel of the said sixteen

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178 "beeing", "bee" from here onwards but "be" on line 4

15 pounds be well and faithfully paid to her the said Margaret, my daughter,  
within seven  
16 whole years next ensuing after my decease, by **Thomas Johnson, my son**  
and executor  
17 hereafter named, his executors or assigns, if she so long live after my  
decease. And if  
18 she happen to decease within the said seven years and the said £12 to her  
unpaid, then I will and appoint that my said  
20 son and executor, or his assigns, do pay the said twelve pounds at the end  
of the said  
21 seven years unto the said Margaret and Elizabeth, the daughters of my  
said daughter, equally  
22 between them, or to the survivor of them the whole (the said Margaret, my  
daughter and her said  
23 children or which of them shall happen to receive the said £12, upon  
receipt thereof giving an  
24 acquittance, or other discharge for the sum unto mine executor). And the  
residue of the said  
25 sixteen pounds I will that **Richard Johnson, my son**, his heirs or assigns,  
shall pay out of  
26 the tenement or house to him hereafter willed in and by this my will. **Item:**  
I will unto **Anne, the**

27 **daughter of my son William Johnson**, which he had by his first wife, ten  
shillings to be  
28 paid her at her age of 21 years, or day of marriage, which shall first happen.  
**Item:** I will to  
29 the said William, my son, the trunkle bedstead in the chamber wherein I  
did usually lie.  
30 Provided always and my will is that if part of the £12 above mentioned be  
paid to my said daughter and part  
31 remaining and unpaid at her decease, that then her said children be paid  
only the remainder thereof.  
32 The residue of all my goods, cattells and chattells I wholly and fully give to  
Thomas Johnson, my  
33 son, whom I make and ordain my sole and only executor.

34 **This** is also the last will of me the said Thomas Johnson th'elder, made and  
declared the day  
35 and year abovesaid touching the disposing of such lands and tenements as  
now I have disposeth.  
36 **Item:** I will to Richard Johnson, my son, and to his heirs and assigns for  
ever, all that little tenement  
37 or house wherein he, the said Richard, now dwelleth with the backhouses  
and rooms and so much of the barn and



38 backside adjoining as is now mine and as are now by be ungiven and not  
conveyed<sup>179</sup> to **Thomas Fowle** and  
39 **Sara, my daughter**, lying together in the town of Tonbridge and now in  
th'occupation of the said Richard Johnson  
40 and of **Richard Norham**, or their or one of their assign or assigns, upon  
condition that the said Richard, my  
41 son, his heirs or assigns, do pay out of the premises to him and them  
formerly willed, the sum of  
42 four pounds, residue of the before mentioned sum of sixteen pounds, unto  
the said Margaret, my  
43 daughter, within seven whole years next ensuing after my decease, if she  
so long live. Or else, if she  
44 decease within the said seven years, then unto the said Margaret and  
Elizabeth, her daughters,  
45 equally between them, or to the survivor of them the whole four pounds at  
the said seven years  
46 end. Which four pounds if it be not accordingly paid, I will and give full  
power hereby to my said daughter  
47 and her said daughters and either and every of them, to enter upon the said  
tenement and premises formerly

---

179 "conveighed"

48 willed to my son Richard and his heirs and him and them utterly to expel  
and the same and every part and  
49 parcel thereof to hold end enjoy until payment shalbe made of the said four  
pounds according to the tenor  
50 and purpose of this my will. In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand  
and seal yeven the day  
51 and year first above written.

the ensealing

... hereof

**Richard Harris**

**Thomas Wibourne**

**John Hooper, notary publiq.**

the mark

of Thomas

Johnson, sen

## *Thomas Johnson, mercer of Tonbridge, 1634*

Thomas, another mercer and probably the son of the Thomas whose will was written in 1614, had four children including a married daughter, Alice - see the tree on page 2.j.150.

His legacy to his daughter Sarah was to be paid in an unusual way: one half within six months of her father's death but the other half not until after her mother's death. It is from this that we know that Margaret was the mother of his children. His leaving to her of "[all such linen, brass, pewter goods and household stuff as was hers when we first married together](#)" is a bequest which usually occurs when the marriage had occurred only a short time before the will was written. Given that Thomas and Margaret must have been married for between twenty and thirty years, identifying those things which she had brought with her cannot have been easy.

Sometime before writing his will Thomas had made legal arrangements whereby his son Abraham could build a house upon a piece of the backside belonging to his "[dwelling house in the Town of Tonbridge](#)" provided that Abraham paid him ten shillings regularly during his life time<sup>180</sup>. After his death he was to pay Sarah

---

180 the interval between payments looks like "mn" - month/?

£5 and another £5 after the death of Margaret, his wife. This was similar to the way his own legacy to Sarah was to be paid.

By the time the will came to be written Abraham had already “made and erected a building or new house” and in his will Thomas gave him the piece of the backside and the buildings upon it on condition that he paid his sister the £10 as arranged and kept “the fences and enclosures thereof as it is now . . set out”. His other son, Thomas, was to have the original house with another little tenement and other land. Abraham, however, was to have free liberty when this was necessary for he and his workmen “to pitch ladders and to come thereupon with materials to finish, repair and amend the said new buildings”. This included freedom to “come in and upon my grounds at the said North end with any carriage of wood, lime, loam and sand for the use of the said buildings, he or they repairing and making good all such disorder or breeches in the gate or fence which shall at any time happen or be occasioned thereby”.

This will was written by Richard Chowning being written in the same hand as other wills which he witnessed and signed with the same signature.

1 In the name of God Amen. The four and twentieth day of March in the  
ninth year of the reign of our sovereign  
2 Lord Charles, by the grace of god King of England, Scotland, France and  
Ireland, defender of the faith, etc. Anno. Dm 1633. I, Thomas  
3 Johnson of Tonbridge in the county of Kent, **merc**er, being sick in body but  
yet at the publishing and subscribing hereof of sound and good  
4 memory, for which I praise God, do ordain and make this my testament  
and last will in manner and form following. **First**: commending my soul  
5 to the infinite mercies of God through Christ, my saviour, and my body to  
the earth in decent manner to be buried in the churchyard of  
6 Tonbridge aforesaid. **Item**: I will and give to **Margaret, my loving wife**<sup>181</sup>,  
one bedsteaddle and one of my beds to be furnished and a coverlet,  
7 two bolsters, two pillows, two blankets and one pair of sheets. All which  
bedsteaddle and promiss? She shall take and make choice of at her  
8 pleasure. And also I will she shall have all such linen, brass, pewter goods  
and household stuff as was hers when we first married together.

---

181 "wief", "lief" throughout

9 Whereof the property remained unaltered to dispose of at her own pleasure.  
And also all my flax which shalbe found undressed or not dressed out  
10 at my decease to be and remaining for her own use as aforesaid. **Item:** I  
will and give to **Sarah, my daughter**, twenty pounds of lawful english  
11 money to be paid her by **my son, Thomas Johnson**, his heirs, executor or  
assigns, in this manner, viz. The one half thereof within one half year  
12 next after my decease. And the other half thereof within half year after her  
mother's decease. Also I will and give unto her my bedsteaddle with  
13 the painted ceiling<sup>182</sup>. **Item:** I will and give unto **Alice Shakoely, my  
daughter**, the now wife of **Richard Shakoely** (over and above the house  
goods and in..ly  
14 by me<sup>183</sup> already given and bestowed on her for her portion) the sum of  
three shillings and fourpence of lawful money. **Item:** I will and give unto  
my  
15 **son, Abraham Johnson**, my cupboard in the ??<sup>184</sup> buttery and the square  
table and frame in my little loft. The residue and all other my goods

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182 "sealing"

183 "mee" but "be" not "bee"

184 "drinck"

16 cattell and chattels herein not before by me willed and bequeathed I  
17 wholly will and bequeath unto the said Thomas Johnson, my son, whom I  
do make the sole and only executor of this my testament and last will to  
see the same proved, my debts and legacies paid and my body decently  
brought  
18 to the earth. And I do desire and appoint my loving friends **Robert**  
**Boardman** and **John Balden** to be overseers of this my testament and  
19 last will that the same may take effect according to my true intent and  
meaning.

20 This is also the last will of me, the said Thomas Johnson made and  
declared the day and year above written touching the ordering and  
discharging of  
21 all my lands and tenements. **Item:** whereas I did give ways and my  
consent that it might and should be lawful to prefer my said son Abraham  
22 to set up a house and build upon a piece of the backside belonging to my  
dwelling house in the Town of Tonbridge by me set out, marked  
23 and dooled? and taken from the said backside, in consideration that the  
said Abraham Johnson shall allow and pay ten shillings per month?<sup>185</sup>  
24 during my life and after my decease the sum of ten pounds of lawful  
english money to my said daughter Sarah in this manner, viz. five

---

185 "mn"

25 pounds thereof within one year next after my decease and the other five  
within one year next after the decease of my  
26 said wife. Upon which part or piece of my backside the said Abraham hath  
made and erected a building or new house, I do therefore  
27 will, give and depise? the said piece of my backside as it is now dooled and  
set out as aforesaid and the buildings thereupon with  
28 th'appurtenances unto the said Abraham Johnson, my son, his heirs and  
assigns, forever. Upon condition that the said Abraham, his  
29 heirs and assigns, do pay the said ten pounds to Sarah, my daughter, in  
manner before by me expressed and also do maintain  
30 and keep the fences and enclosures thereof as it is now dooled and set out  
as aforesaid. And my further will and desire is that  
31 the said Abraham, my son, his executor and administrator, shall and may  
(when any needful occasion shalbe offered) have free liberty, with his and  
32 their workmen upon the residue of my backside and ground lying at the  
north end of the said new buildings to pitch ladders and to  
33 come thereupon with materials to finish, repair and amend the said new  
buildings. And to come in and upon my grounds at the  
34 said North end with any carriage of wood, lime, loam and sand for the use  
of the said buildings, he or they repairing and making



35 good all such disorder<sup>186</sup> or breeches in the gate or fence which shall at any  
time happen or be occasioned thereby. **Item:** I will, give and  
36 devise unto the said Thomas Johnson, my son, his heirs and assigns, all  
that my messuage or tenement wherein I now do dwell, situated  
37 in the Town of Tonbridge aforesaid with the barn or throssing? and other  
the buildings thereto belonging, garden, closes, orchard,  
38 backside withall that slip? of ground parcel thereof lying at the north end of  
the said new buildings. And all that my little  
39 tenement adjoining to my new dwelling house towards the north in the  
occupation of **John Legatt**. And also all that my piece  
40 or parcel of ground called **Brookfield** now divided into two severals lying at  
the upper end of Tonbridge near **Sage Green**  
41 to hold all the said messuage or tenements. premises with their and every  
of their appurtenances unto the said Thomas Johnson, his heirs and  
assigns,  
42 to the only use and behoof of him, the said Thomas Johnson, my son, his  
heirs and assigns, forever according to the intent and true  
43 meaning of certain assurances by me formerly made and executed for the  
strengthening and confirming of the said several messuage and premises  
44 unto the said Thomas, my son, and his heirs as here in before in this my  
will is expressed and declared. In witness whereof I

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186 "desorde"

45 have to this my testament and last will set my hand and seal dated the day  
and year first above written

of  
the mark T J Thomas Johnson

Sealed, delivered and published by the above named  
Thomas Johnson for and as his testament and last will  
in the presence of us whose names are hereunder written

**Thomas Wood**

**Richard Chowning**

## *The Johnsons of West Peckham*

Two wills have survived for Johnson from West Peckham:

|                |            |         |                                |              |
|----------------|------------|---------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Edward Johnson | 7 May 1589 | butcher | CKS: Drb/Pw 15; Drb/Pwr 17.400 | page 2.j.165 |
| Johane Johnson | 7 Jan 1612 | widow   | CKS: Drb/Pw 22; Drb/Pwr 19.495 | page 2.j.168 |

Edward's will, probably written by Thomas Tuttesham, is followed by a list of the debts owed to him (10s 8d - £0.53) and those owed by him (£8 9s 3d - £8.46). The will was proved in Tonbridge by John Stockwood, vicar of Tonbridge, on 31st May 1589.

Only the first (which is difficult to read) and last pages have been transcribed of Johane's will which was written by Nicholas Hooper who wrote many wills between 1574 and 1618. Written in January 1612, it was not proved until November 1612.

Edward's will has a long religious preamble but the will itself is very short. Edward appointed his wife, Johane, his executrix and left her all his moveable goods and "[cattells](#)" and made two friends his overseers.

Twenty-three years later, the testator Johane was “[very lame and not able to help my self and withall very aged](#)”. She mentions four sons, two daughters and seven grandchildren. She does not know if two of her sons, Edward and Henry, are still alive. If she married in the 1570s, she could have been the butcher’s wife and had six children before 1589 with the butcher thinking it unnecessary to mention his young children in his will. But this would mean she would only have been in her sixties when she wrote her will. Once a woman survived the childbearing years, she could often live into her seventies but, being lame and otherwise physically incapacitated, she would feel “very aged”.

*Will of Edward Johnson of West Peckham*

written 7th May 1589

transcript from the probate copy

1 In the name of god Amen.  
2 The 7th day of May in the 31st year of  
3 the reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth  
4 by the grace of god queen of England, France and  
5 Ireland, Queen defender of the faith  
6 I, Edward Johnson, of West Peckham in

7 the county of Kent, butcher, being sick in  
8 body but of god and perfect mind and remembrance,  
9 lauded be god, do make this my last will and  
10 testament in in manner and form following,  
11 that is to say, **First** and before all things I  
12 bequeath my soul to Almighty god, my only  
13 maker and redeemer, whom I desire for the  
14 merit of Christ's passion, that I may  
15 be that child of salvation and my body to  
16 be buried in christian burial. **Item:** I bequeath  
17 unto **Johane, my wife**, all my moveable goods  
18 and cattells, she paying all my debts, whom  
19 I make my sole executrix. And I ordain  
20 **George Baker** and **Thomas Crowherst** to be  
21 overseers of my said will. pronounced and declared in the presence of  
**Thomas Tuttesham, sen., George Baker**  
**Thomas Crowherst and John Standley**

Debts owing to the testator:

|                 |                     |     |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----|
| <b>Item:</b> of | John Balden         | 2s  |
| <b>Item:</b> of | Mr. Hoper           | 5s  |
| <b>Item:</b> of | Robert Hoo          | 2s  |
| <b>Item:</b> of | millor of Stanstead | 20d |

Debts owed the testator

|                 |   |        |
|-----------------|---|--------|
| <b>Item:</b> to | Richard Constable of Hadlow                                   | 40s    |
| <b>Item:</b> to | William Fayerman  | 9s     |
| <b>Item:</b> to | Howles, widow of William Fayerman                             | 12d    |
| <b>Item:</b> to | John Carryer of Malling                                       | 10s    |
| <b>Item:</b> to | Barker's widow  | 33s 4d |
| <b>Item:</b> to | Goodman Pykewell of Shipbourne                                | 6s 8d  |
| <b>Item:</b> to | Goodman Baker dwelling with William Baker                     | 6s 8d  |
| <b>Item:</b> to | Humfrey Master of Shipbourne                                  | 9s 8d  |
| <b>Item:</b> to | Thomas Crowherst for a mare                                   | 18s    |
| <b>Item:</b> to | Jane Gray, the daughter of Roger Gray                         | 33s 4d |
|                 | or a farmable cow, the choice to be in the hands of ?? Jonson |        |
| <b>Item:</b> to | William Baker   | 19d    |

Nicolas Hooper's  
mark

- 1 In the name of god Amen<sup>187</sup> the seventh day of January in the year of our  
lord god  
2 one thousand six hundred and eleven. And in the ninth year of the reign of  
our Sovereign Lord  
3 James, by the grace of God, king of England, France and Ireland, defender  
of the faith, etc.  
4 and of Scotland the five and fortieth, I, Johane Johnson of West Peckham  
in the county  
5 of Kent, **widow**, being at the time of making hereof very lame and not able  
to help my self and  
6 with all very aged and thereby knowing assuredly that my time to live here  
in this world cannot be long

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187 decorated with a small version of Nicholas Hooper's mark attached to the "h" of "the"

7 And yet (thanks to god) of good and perfect remembrance and willing to  
set in order those small goods which  
8 god hath made me steward of here in this world that no contention fall out  
about the same after  
9 my decease. Therefore I do ordain and make this present last will and  
testament in manner and form  
10 following: And **First** and principally I give, commend and bequeath my  
soul into the hands of  
11 Almighty god who gave it being sure, by an assured faith which I have in  
the merits, precious death and  
12 bloodshedding<sup>188</sup> of his dear son Jesus Christ, my only saviour and  
redeemer, that the same  
13 may be presented, pure and without spot, before the throne of his majesty.  
And my body to the  
14 earth to be buried in the churchyard of West Peckham aforesaid in sure and  
certain hope of a  
15 joyful resurrection to life eternal. **Item:** I will there shalbe bestowed at my  
burial among  
16 the poor 3s 4d at the discretion of my executor hereafter named. **Item:** (if  
**Edward Johnson,**

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188 "bludshedding"



17 **my son**, be living) I give unto him five shillings of lawful money. **Item:** I  
give and bequeath to  
18 **Richard Johnson, my son**, the sum of ten? pounds of lawful money and to  
his four children 12d a  
19 piece to be paid to them, and every of them, within a quarter of a year next  
after my decease. **Item:**  
20 I give and bequeath to **Agnes ??**, my daughter, the sum of five shillings  
and to **William** and  
21 **Catherine, her two children**, ?? 5s a piece to be paid to them, and every of  
them, within one whole year next  
22 after my decease. **Item:** I give and bequeath to **Elizabeth Day, my**  
**daughter**, the like sum of 5s.  
23 and to her children ?? ?? of like money to be paid to them, and every of  
them, within one whole year next after my decease.  
24 **Item:** (if my son **Henry? Johnson** be living) I give him 5s and to **his**  
**daughter Elizabeth Haies**  
25 ?? ?? a half year next after my decease. **Item:**

*page 2* .....

*page 3* .....

*page 4*

- until such time as I myself or any other to be by me appointed by virtue of the said last will of the said
- **Henry Bassett, the father**, should have the education of her the Margaret.
- **And** I will and my meaning
- is that the said **Ralfe Johnson, my son**, his executors and assigns, shall ??, take up and enjoy all the
- issues and profits whatsoever of all the lands and tenements to me willed in the last will, or otherwise
- shall occupy the same, in such manner and form as in the same last will is expressed for me to do and until such
- time as in the said last will expressed. **In witness** whereof to this my present last will, I, the said
- Johane Johnson, have set my hand and seal. And I do hereby renounce all other former wills
- by me heretofore made, yeven<sup>189</sup> the day and year first above written.

Nicolas Hooper's  
mark  
with initials

Read, sealed, pronounced and  
declared the day and year first  
above mentioned by the said Johane  
Johnson as her true and last will,  
in the presence of  
**Nicholas Hooper, senior, scriptor,**

mark of           Johane  
                        Johnson

other names illegible

## *The Jones of Hadlow*

Jones (Joanes) is a fairly common name with three wills having survived from Hadlow:

|                       |             |                |                 |              |
|-----------------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| George Jones          | proved 1570 | CKS:           | Drb/Pwr 13.481  | yeoman       |
| Robert Jones (Joanes) | proved 1603 | CKS: Drb/Pw 19 | Drb/Pwr 19I.372 | carpenter    |
| George Jones (Joanes) | 27 Mar 1613 | CKS: Drb/Pw 22 |                 | page 2.j.176 |

Only the 1613 will has been investigated. It was written by John Hooper, notary public and parish clerk of Tonbridge who wrote many wills for people in the locality. The initial "I" is decorated but there is no further decoration.

### *George Joanes, yeoman*

George and his wife had one son, also called George, who was under fourteen when George wrote his will in 1613. George had a sister married to Edward Newman whose son was to be George's heir if his own son did not live and have heirs. George's overseer was to be his "loving brother" Thomas Plane who was presumably his wife's brother.

The arrangements he made in his will are most unusual. George does not seem to have owned any land when he died but he gave his wife Alice and her brother Thomas the power to sell all his “stock of cattell, coarne<sup>190</sup>, implements of husbandry and other goods (except those hereafter given as household stuff to the said Alice) for the greatest price that” they could get. Alice, who was his executrix, was also “within as short time as may be after my decease, to call in” all the debts owed to him. From this money she was first to pay all his “debts, legacies, funeral expenses and other necessary payments about the probation” of the will.

Then Alice and Thomas were to purchase a tenement and lands in the name of the son George but with Alice having the use and benefit of it “without doing any manner of strip or waste upon the same” until George reached the age of fourteen or, if he died, until the time he would have been fourteen. Until the purchase of this land was completed, Alice was to use the profits from the money she had collected for George’s upkeep. This implies that, until the land purchase was organised, the money was to be invested where it would earn some interest.

After George reached the age of fourteen, Alice was to have one half of the tenement and lands purchased for as long as she remained a widow. If she remarried she was to lose her half of the lands, etc. but was to receive an annuity

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190 corn?

of £5. If George died without heirs, the tenement and lands were to go to the testator's nephew, Thomas Newman, the eldest son of George's sister. If George, the son, died before the land was bought, the purchase was to go ahead with Thomas Newman "standing and being in his stead, to have, to him bought, conveyed and purchased, with the said money . . . an estate of lands, to him and his heirs in fee simple forever to the full value thereof".

But George (or possibly the scribe, John Hooper, who was a notary public) saw possible problems. "Provided further, . . . if my said wife and my said brother Thomas Plane shall be advised by counsel that the said gift of £5 yearly to my said wife out of the tenement and lands aforesaid (if she marry as aforesaid) shall be insufficient or likewise that she cannot hold the moiety of the said lands in such manner as the same is before to her willed (the same being purchased in my son's name as aforesaid), then I will that the said tenement and lands shall or may be purchased in her own name, or in the name of some other, by such conveyancing as shall be thought most fit" so that "nothing touching the true meaning and effect of this my will be thereby altered or impeached." Was John Hooper seeing himself as the counsel advising the executrix and overseer on how to proceed?

1 In the name of god Amen. the seven and twentieth day of March in the  
eleventh year  
2 of the reign f our sovereign Lord king James of England, France and  
Ireland. And of  
3 Scotland the six and fortieth, 1613. I, George Joanes of Hadlow in the  
county of Kent, **yeoman**,  
4 sick in body and therefore as by many other examples put in mind of my  
last end, notwithstanding  
5 of perfect memory, thanks be<sup>191</sup> given to Almighty god, do ordain and make  
this my present testament and  
6 only will in manner and form following, that is to say, **First** I commit and  
yield my soul to  
7 Almighty god, my maker, with an assured hope of salvation through his  
mercy in the redemption  
8 ?? Jesus Christ and my body to the earth from whence it was taken  
with the hope of  
9 resurrection to eternal life through the ?? my saviour and redeemer ??

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191 "be" here; sometimes "bee" and "shalbee" but akways "he"

10 give to the poor of Hadlow 20s to be distributed in the day of my burial.  
11 **Item:** I give to  
12 **my brother-in-law Edward Newman** and to his wife, **my sister**, 20s a piece.  
13 And to all their children  
14 5s a piece to be paid within one whole year next after my decease. **Item:** I  
15 do will and  
16 give power to **Alice, my loving wife**, and to **Thomas Plane, my brother**, and  
17 to either of them,  
18 within as short time as conveniently may be after my decease, to make  
19 sale of all and every my stock of  
20 cattell, coarne, implements of husbandry and other goods (except those  
hereafter given as  
household stuff to the said Alice) for the greatest price that the said Alice  
and Thomas, or either  
of them conveniently can or may. And also within as short time as may be  
after my  
decease, to call into the hands of the said Alice (to the use of **George, my  
son**) all and every the  
debts and money to me owing by all persons whatsoever. And all and  
every the money that  
my said cattell, coarue?, implements, goods and debts (except as  
aforesaid) shall amount



21 unto, together with such ready money as shalbe in my lands<sup>192</sup>, I will that  
22 the said Alice and Thomas, or one of them, shall within as short time  
23 after my decease as convenient may be, lay out upon lands to the value  
24 thereby as needed ??  
25 purchase for my said son George and in<sup>193</sup> his name to th'only use and  
26 behoof of the said  
27 George, my son, his heirs and assigns, for ever. Notwithstanding do will  
28 and ordain  
29 that my said wife Alice shall have the use and benefit of all such tenement  
30 and lands as  
31 shalbe purchased in the name of my said son, and to his heirs as aforesaid,  
32 until his age of  
33 fourteen years to be accomplished if he live to accomplish the same, or if  
34 he  
35 decease before his said age, then by all such time as he should have  
36 accomplished, his said  
37 age if he had lived, without doing any manner of strip or waste upon the  
38 same. And

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192 this phrase was inserted as was also the word "decease" which does not seem to fit in anywhere

193 written "ni"; "beehoof" at the end of the line

30 after the said 14 years, I will that my said wife shall have only the moiety  
an one half  
31 of all and every the said tenement and lands during the whole term of her  
natural life  
32 if she herself so long my widow. Provided always if she marry again at any  
33 time before the said 14 years, or at any time after, then I will my said wife  
shalbe  
34 paid only five pounds yearly at the feast of Th'annunciation of the blessed  
virgin Mary, the  
35 Nativity of Saint John the Baptist, Saint Michael th'archangel and the  
Nativity of our  
36 Lord Christ or within 14 days next after every of the same feasts by equal  
portions out of  
37 the said tenement and lands to be purchased as aforesaid at all times after  
her marriage ??  
38 her natural life. And shall have no other benefit but the said five pounds  
?? of the  
39 said lands. And if the said five pounds be not accordingly paid unto her,  
then I will  
40 that it shalbe lawful for her to distreign for the same upon the said  
tenement and lands. And the  
41 distress or distresses, from time to time taken for non payment thereof, to

42 lead, drive, take away, withhold and keep till she be thereof fully satisfied  
from time  
43 time according to the tenor of this my will. **Provided** always, if the said  
George, my son,  
44 shall decease without heirs of his body lawfully begotten thereof, I will that  
all the said  
45 tenement and lands that shalbe purchased aforesaid in his name and to his  
heirs shalbe and  
46 remain to **Thomas Newman, eldest son** of the said Edward Newman, my  
brother-in-law.  
47 And to his heirs and assigns forever in such manner as the said George, my  
son and his heirs

*page 2:*

48 should or might hold the same. **Provided** further, and my will is, that if my  
said wife and my  
49 said brother Thomas Plane shalbe advised by counsel that the said gift of  
£5 yearly to my  
50 said wife out of the tenement and lands aforesaid (if she marry as  
aforesaid) shall be insufficient  
51 or likewise that she cannot hold the moiety of the said lands in such  
manner as the

52 same is before to her willed (the same being purchased in my son's name  
as aforesaid), then  
53 I will that the said tenement and lands shall or may be purchased in her  
own name,  
54 or in the name of some other, by such conveyancing as shalbe thought  
most fit ??  
55 as nothing touching the true meaning and effect of this my will be thereby  
altered  
56 or impeached. **Provided** farther, and my will is, that out of the monies  
aforesaid, my said  
57 wife shall pay all my debts, legacies, funeral expenses and other necessary  
payments, about  
58 the probation of this my will and with the use and profit thereof shall keep?  
and bring up my  
59 said son till an estate of land shalbe to him and his heirs as aforesaid.  
**Farther**  
60 **more** I will and provide that if my said son decease before an estate of  
lands shalbe  
61 to him purchased and made as aforesaid, that then Thomas Newman  
aforesaid shall stand and  
62 be in his stead, to have, to him bought, conveyed and purchased, with the  
money of the said

63 cattell, coarne, implements, debts and goods (except as aforesaid) an  
estate of lands, to him  
64 and his heirs in fee simple forever to the full value thereof. The moiety  
thereof then ??  
65 notwithstanding to be to the use of the said Alice, my wife, during the  
whole term of her  
66 natural life whether she keep her self so long my widow or not (any thing in  
this my  
67 will specified to the contrary thereof notwithstanding) **Item:** I will that all  
my stuff  
68 ?? and ?? , bedding, brass, pewter, linen and woollen, shalbe and  
remain to the  
69 said Alice, my wife, her executors and assigns, forever, the which said  
Alice I make and  
70 ordain my sole and only executrix. And I do appoint and desire my said  
loving  
71 brother Thomas Plane to be my overseer, to see and take care that all  
things in this my  
72 will be effected according to the tenor of the same, to whom I give as a  
legacy and token  
73 of my love the sum of four pounds of lawful english money over and above  
all his

74 costs and charges that he shall sustain about the same. In witness  
whereof I have to this  
75 my testament and last will set my hand and seal yeven the day and year  
76 first above written.

Sealed, subscribed and  
declared in the presence of

the seal of  
George Joanes

**John Newman**  
**Richard Newman**  
John Hooper, notary public.

## *Thomas Jorden, yeoman of Penshurst*

Thomas Jorden, yeoman, is known from his appearances at the Assize Courts firstly in 1591 and lastly in 1600. Sometimes his name was spelled “Jurden” or “Jordan”.

He came to the February 1591 Assizes as a prisoner and was indicted for rape. He was charged with raping **Thomasine Dane** at Penshurst on 5th November 1590 but was found not guilty. The following July he was released on bail. Why, if he had been found “not guilty” was he kept in gaol for six months and then released only on bail? At the February 1592 Assizes he was one of the “bailees” who was discharged.<sup>194</sup>

## *Arson and Escape*

At the July 1593 Assizes, Thomas Jordan was indicted for arson and escape. “On the evening of 5th February 1592, with the aid of 1 lb of gunpowder (6d) and a match, he set fire to the thatch on the house of Elizabeth Bonner, widow of John

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194 Cockburn (Eliz.) 1679, 1905, 1976, 2028

Bonner of Penshurst, sawyer, with the result that the house was totally destroyed”. “On 4th June 1593 Jordan was arrested at Penshurst by Thomas Baker of Leigh, gent., constable of Somerden hundred, on suspicion of having set fire to the house of Elizabeth Bonner. On the same day at Penshurst, he escaped”.<sup>195</sup>

It appears that there was sixteen months between the house being burnt down and the arrest of Jordan.

## *Grand Larceny*

Nothing more was recorded for Jordan until the February 1600 Assizes. There he was indicted for grand larceny. On 1st March 1599, at Leigh, he stole a sorrel mare (£7) from **Richard Oxenbridge**, gent. But Jordan was “**at large**”. There was, however, an added note that he had been found not guilty and bailed.<sup>196</sup>

This was the last that was recorded for Thomas Jorden except that, at the March 1601 Assizes, Thomas Jorden of **Sundridge**, gent., Peter Smyth, butcher of

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195 Cockburn (Eliz.); 2094

196 Cockburn (Eliz); 2759



Penshurst and Adam Alchyn of Rochester, sailor, were indicted for riotous assembly and poaching in Penshurst on 6th May 1599. Was this the same Jordan, now promoted to gentleman status? This indictment took place nearly two years after the events described but only two months after the case against Jordan at the February 1600 Assizes. See [Smyth in More Families & Transcripts](#) for details.

## *Sir Robert Joysey of Pembury*

In his will of 1533 (CKS: Drb/Pwr 9.85) Sir Robert Joysey who was the vicar of Pembury, asked to be buried in the “quyer” (choir?) “before Saint Peter”. He also left four marks for a vestment.

Robert Joysey was a Yorkshireman from Gisborow.

# The Jupps of Seal

| Num                  | Name                          | Born        | Married     | Spouse                   | M C | Died        |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------------|-----|-------------|
| #2998 <sup>197</sup> | <u>JUPP, William</u><br>----- |             | 20 Aug 1629 | Marie Stevenson<br>#2999 | 1 4 |             |
| • #3000              | <u>JUPP, Solomon</u>          | 13 Feb 1631 |             |                          | 0 0 |             |
| • #3001              | <u>JUPP, William</u>          | 31 May 1635 |             |                          | 0 0 | 26 Oct 1637 |
| • #3002              | <u>Jupp, Mary</u>             | 11 Mar 1638 |             |                          | 0 0 | 6 Apr 1640  |
| • #3003              | <u>Jupp, Dorothy</u>          | 14 Feb 1641 |             |                          | 0 0 |             |

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197 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

# K

## *More Families & Transcripts*

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Marie Kelloway, widow of Tonbridge        | page 2.k.3  |
| The Kempes of Seal & Ightham              | page 2.k.8  |
| The Kettells of Seal                      | page 2.k.10 |
| Will of William King of Hadlow (extract)  | page 2.k.11 |
| The Kings of Seal                         | page 2.k.12 |
| The Kips of Kemsing                       | page 2.k.13 |
| Gilbert's Children, born mid-16th century | page 2.k.14 |
| The Family of Richard Kips                | page 2.k.14 |
| Richard Kips Writes his Will              | page 2.k.18 |
| John Hackett of Horton Kirby              | page 2.k.19 |
| Richard's Bequests to his Stepchildren    | page 2.k.20 |
| Richard's Other Bequests                  | page 2.k.22 |
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|                                       |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| The Family of Gilbert Kips            | page 2.k.37 |
| Gilbert Kips's Will                   | page 2.k.38 |
| Gilbert's Main Bequests to his Family | page 2.k.39 |
| Gilbert's Land                        | page 2.k.40 |
| Family of John Kips                   | page 2.k.54 |

Dionisia Kipping, widow of Brenchley page 2.k.55

The Kirkmans of Ightham page 2.k.56

George Knight of Cowden & his sister Bridget Beecher page 2.k.57

The Knights of Ightham & Kemsing page 2.k.58

The Kyrckes of Ightham page 2.k.59

## *Marie Kelloway, widow of Tonbridge*

Marie's will (PCC: Lee 136, Prob 10/580) was written on 24th September 1638 by John Hooper, notary public and parish clerk of Tonbridge who wrote a large number of wills for people in the Tonbridge locality. The original has survived and it is from this that the transcript has been made. It is not decorated as were some of the wills written by John Hooper.

This will is solely concerned with £25 which she had previously put in the hands of Robert Scoles of Wateringbury whom she made her executor. Marie was the widow of her second husband. By her first husband she had a son Thomas Oakebread who "long since" had gone "beyond the seas" and might still be there "or in any other place". Probably Marie had given the £25 earmarked for Thomas to Robert Scoles before she remarried. She does not seem to have had any children by her second marriage.

If, within one year, Thomas appears to be living, then he is to have the £25. If not, Marie says how it is to be divided between a kinswoman, the two children of her executor, and the daughter of another woman, probably another kinswoman. But a problem could arise in that Marie was ill and charges for caring for her in her sickness were mounting up. When she died these would have to be paid plus the

cost of her burial “in decent manner” and then there were “the charges to be expended in and about the proving of this my will”. If the value of her goods and chattels was not sufficient to cover these costs, they were to be met from Thomas’s £25. If he appeared to claim his inheritance, he was to find the costs of his mother’s funeral and sickness. Otherwise, those receiving the £25 were to contribute to the costs in proportion to how much they were due to receive.

1 In the name of god Amen. The four and twentieth day of September in the  
year of  
2 our Lord God one thousand, six hundred, thirty and eight, I, Marie  
Kelloway of  
3 Tonbridge in the county of Kent, **widow**, being<sup>198</sup> of good and perfect ??  
(thanks be  
4 given to God) do ordain and make this my testament and last will as  
followeth,  
5 viz. I will to **Thomas Oakebread, my son** (by a former husband), if it shalbe  
made  
6 to appear to mine executor hereafter named within one year next after my  
7 decease that my said son is living either beyond the seas (whither he went  
long since  
8 or in any other place) all that sum of twenty and five pounds which  
formerly  
9 I put into the hands of **Robert Scoles** in **Canoncoste** in **Wateringbury** in the  
said county

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198 "beeing", "shalbee", etc.. throughout



10 of Kent, gent., for his use. But if within one year next after my decease it  
shall  
11 not be made truly to appear to mine executor that the said Thomas  
Oakebread, my  
12 son, is living as aforesaid, then will that mine executor shall pay and  
dispose of the  
13 said £25 as followeth: viz. I will to **Hanna Callyns**, widow, my kinswoman,  
ten  
14 pounds thereof, to **Jasper Scoles** and **Anne Scoles**, the children of the said  
15 Robert Scoles, other ten pounds thereof, equally between them. And to  
**Marie**  
16 **Monnex**, daughter of **Elizabeth**, now the wife of **Herbert Crofts, gent.** five  
pounds,  
17 the residue thereof. Provided always and my will is that if my other goods  
and  
18 chattels shall not extend and suffice to bury me in decent manner and to  
defray  
19 the charges<sup>199</sup> of my sickness and the charges to be expended in and about  
the  
20 proving of this my will, that then it shalbe made up and supplied to mine  
executor

---

199 "chardges"

21 out of the foresaid £25 in this manner: viz. it shalbe supplied wholly and  
solely by  
22 my said son, if he shalbe living as aforesaid. Otherwise it shalbe supplied  
and  
23 allowed out of the several sume aforesaid thereof willed to the said Hanna  
Callyns,  
24 Jasper and Anne Scoles and Marie Monnex after a due proportion from  
each  
25 of their legacies.

26 And I do ordain and make the said Robert Scoles to be the full and sole  
27 executor of this my testament and last will.

Read, Sealed, published and  
declared in the presence of  
**George Children** and  
**John Hooper, scr.**

Marie Kelloway  
signed <sup>200</sup>

## The Kempes of Seal & Ightham

| Num                  | Name   | Born | Married     | Spouse                   | M | C | Died       |
|----------------------|--|------|-------------|--------------------------|---|---|------------|
| #1013 <sup>201</sup> | <u>KEMPE, Edmund</u><br>----- of Ightham<br> |      | 21 Nov 1579 | Dennis Stace(m)<br>#1014 | 1 | 0 | >Aug 1584  |
| #1014                | <u>Stace(m), Dionis</u><br>-----             |      |             |                          | 1 | 0 | 5 Aug 1584 |

Edmond's wife ("Dennis") was a widow when she married Edmund Kempe in Seal; "Dionis" when she was buried, also in Seal; no children recorded in Ightham or Seal

**Anthony Kempe** (i2296) married **Elizabeth Seffell** (i2297), in **Ightham**, on 21st July 1625 but no children were recorded.

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<sup>201</sup> # indicates a reference in the Seal database, "i" in that for Ightham

| Num     | Name                                  | Born                     | Married                              | Spouse                   | M | C | Died                       |
|---------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|---|----------------------------|
| #2035   | <u>KEMPE, Robert</u><br>-----         |                          | 11 Feb 1610                          | Johane Forde             | 1 | 6 |                            |
|         |                                       | alive when his wife died |                                      |                          |   |   |                            |
| #932    | <u>Forde, Johane</u><br>-----         | 25 Dec 1579              | married at 30                        |                          | 1 | 6 | 10 Jul 1640 age 50         |
| • #3004 | <u>KEMPE, Robert</u>                  | 2 Dec 1610               |                                      |                          | 0 | 0 | 9 Dec 1610 1 wk            |
| • #3005 | <u>Kempe, Margaret</u> <sup>202</sup> | 8 Dec 1611               | 16 Oct 1642<br>married at 30         | Henry BRISTOCKE<br>#3012 | 1 | 0 |                            |
| • #3006 | <u>Kempe, Bennet</u>                  | 29 Aug 1613              |                                      |                          | 0 | 0 | 17 Sep 1613 <sup>203</sup> |
| • #3007 | <u>KEMPE, Richard</u>                 | 31 Jul 1614              |                                      |                          | 0 | 0 |                            |
| • #3008 | <u>Kempe, Ann</u>                     | 2 Mar 1616               |                                      |                          | 0 | 0 |                            |
| • #3010 | <u>KEMPE, George</u>                  |                          | "son of Robert Kempe" but when born? |                          | 0 | 0 | 29 Aug 1628                |

Johane, the daughter of Edward Forde (#930) was baptised on 25th December 1579 in Seal.

**202** Margaret died before 1648 if #3012 is the Henry Bristocke who married Francis Boss (#3612), in Seal, on 3rd February 1648; no children were recorded for either of these marriages.

**203** no father was given for the burial of Robert or Bennet but there are some omissions of parents in the register from 1603 onwards

## *The Kettells of Seal*

**Thomas Kettle** (#1026<sup>204</sup>) of Ashe married **Johane Jewel** (#1027), in Seal, on 9th January 1581. No children were recorded in Seal.

**Robert Kettells** (#3885) and his wife **Joan** (#3886) had three children baptised in Seal:

- |   |                  |       |             |
|---|------------------|-------|-------------|
| - | <b>Thomas</b>    | #3887 | 18 Jan 1648 |
| - | <b>Ann</b>       | #3888 | 8 Sep 1650  |
| - | <b>Elizabeth</b> | #3889 | 17 Aug 1652 |

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204 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

**First:** I bequeath my soul to Almighty god, my maker and redeemer and my body, when I am dead, to be chested and to be buried in the churchyard of Hadlow beside my first wife. **Item:** I will there shall be at my burial a sermon and the preacher to have for his labour 3s 4d.

His body “to be chested” is a most unusual phrase.

# The Kings of Seal

| Num                | Name  | Born        | Married     | Spouse   | M | C | Died        |
|--------------------|---|-------------|-------------|--|---|---|-------------|
| #52 <sup>205</sup> | <u>KING, Randall</u><br>-----   |             |             |  | 1 | 1 |             |
| • #54              | <u>KING, Henry</u>  | 16 Sep 1562 |             |  | 0 | 0 |             |
| #1160              | <u>KING, William</u><br>-----   |             |             |  | 1 | 6 | 15 May 1611 |
| • #1162            | <u>KING, Robert</u>   | 9 Sep 1582  | 23 Oct 1620 | Temperance Taylor<br>married at 38                               | 1 | 0 |             |
| • #1397            | <u>King, Dorothy</u>  | 4 Sep 1586  |             |  | 0 | 0 | 29 Apr 1588 |
| • #1577            | <u>KING, John</u>   | 29 Jun 1589 | 11 Sep 1613 | Elizabeth Pennet<br>married at 24                                | 1 | 0 |             |
|                    |   |             |             | see <a href="#">Pennet in Families &amp; Transcripts</a><br>#884 |   |   |             |
| • #1766            | <u>King, Agnes</u>  | 25 Jun 1592 | 13 Jun 1618 | Richard BAKER<br>married at 26                                   | 1 | 5 |             |
|                    |   |             |             | see <a href="#">Baker in Families &amp; Transcripts</a><br>#2066 |   |   |             |
| • #1841            | <u>KING, Edmond</u>   | 14 Apr 1595 |             |  | 0 | 0 | 15 Apr 1595 |
| • #1861            | <u>King, Mildred</u>  | 9 May 1596  |             |  | 0 | 0 | 7 Apr 1640  |
|                    | if it was this Mildred King who died in 1640, she neither married nor left Seal permanently |             |             |  |   |   |             |

## *The Kips of Kemsing*

The Kips (or Kipps) were a large Kemsing family with connections to Seal and Otford. Two Kips wills have survived:

|              | written    | proved   |                |             |
|--------------|------------|----------|----------------|-------------|
| Richard Kips | Nov 1603   | Oct 1607 | CKS: Drb/Pw 20 | page 2.k.24 |
| Gilbert Kips | Mar 1615/6 | Apr 1618 | CKS: Drb/Pw 24 | page 2.k.42 |

and also that of John Hackett, the first husband of Johane, Richard's second wife:

|              |          |          |                                 |             |
|--------------|----------|----------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| John Hackett | Sep 1602 | Nov 1602 | CKS: Drb/Pw 19; Drb/Pwr 19A.270 | page 2.k.33 |
|--------------|----------|----------|---------------------------------|-------------|

The ending of Richard's will has been lost and there is no probate copy. His father was a Gilbert Kips, perhaps the father of Johane, baptised December 1561 and he also had a brother, Gilbert (k7), "[my loving and natural brother](#)" whom he appointed supervisor and overseer of his will.

The will of Gilbert Kips was written by Nicholas Hooper, curate of Shipbourne, who wrote a large number of wills between 1574 and 1618. Richard's was probably also written by Nicholas Hooper.





| Num   | Name                                 | Born  | Married                                  | Spouse                                      | M C   | Died                   |
|-------|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|-------|------------------------|
| k1    | <u>KIPS, Richard</u><br>----- yeoman | <1562   |  |   | 2 4   |                        |
|       |                                      |   | will dated 17 Nov 1603; probate Oct 1607 |   |       |                        |
|       | <i>Marriage 1</i>                    |   | <=1583                                   | Mary Kips(m)<br>k2                          | 1 4   |                        |
| k2    | <u>Kips(m), Mary</u><br>-----        |   |  |   | 1 4   | Oct 1602<br>in her 40s |
| • k3  | <u>Kips, Ellen/Helen</u>             | 1 Nov 1583  | 21 Sep 1607                              | Richard PORTER<br>married in Seal aged 23   | #1155 | 1 6                    |
| • k4  | <u>KIPS, Richard</u>                 | 8 Dec 1586  | 28 Jul 1608(S)                           | Elizabeth Porter<br>married in Seal aged 24 | #1341 | 1 8                    |
| • k5  | <u>KIPS, James</u>                   | 4 Jun 1588  |  |   |       | 0 0                    |
| • k6  | <u>KIPS, Robert</u>                  | 30 May 1590   | 30 May 1614                              | Sylvester Porter<br>married aged 24         | #1273 | 1 3                    |
| • k33 | <u>KIPS, John</u>                    | no baptism recorded but mentioned in Richard's will |  |   |       | 0 0                    |
|       | <i>Marriage 2</i>                    |   | 1602-3                                   | Johane Hackett(m)<br>k915                   | 1 0   |                        |
| k915  | <u>Hackett(m) Johane</u><br>-----    |   |  |   | 2 4   | <Nov 1603              |

See page 2.k.16 and 2.k.17 for the children of Richard and Robert respectively. John could be the John who married Susan Porter, the sister of Richard and Sylvester, in 1616 - see page 2.k.54.

Helen/Ellen Kips and her husband Richard Porter had six children and their daughter, Thamar who married Nicholas Collyns, had nine children between 1636 and 1652. (see [Porter in Families & Transcripts](#) and [Collyns in More Families & Transcripts](#)).

| Num   | Name                              | Born        | Married         | Spouse  | M | C | Died                |
|-------|-----------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|---|---|---|---------------------|
| k4    | <u>KIPS, Richard</u><br>-----     | 8 Dec 1586  | 28 Jul 1608     | Elizabeth Porter  | 1 | 8 |                     |
|       |                                   |             |                 | married in Seal, aged 21                                |   |   |                     |
| #1341 | <u>Porter, Elizabeth</u><br>----- | 1 Apr 1586  |                 |   | 1 | 8 |                     |
|       |                                   |             |                 | married aged 22   |   |   |                     |
| • k19 | <u>Kips, Jane</u>                 | 30 Jul 1609 | in Seal         |   | 0 | 0 | 3 Dec 1638<br>at 29 |
| • k20 | <u>KIPS, Thomas</u>               | 5 May 1611  |                 |   | 0 | 0 |                     |
| • k21 | <u>Kips, Anna</u>                 | 27 Jan 1613 | 12 Feb 1633     | Thomas BAKER  | 1 | 3 |                     |
|       |                                   |             | married aged 20 | #2174   |   |   |                     |
|       |                                   |             |                 | see <a href="#">Baker in Families &amp; Transcripts</a> |   |   |                     |
| • k22 | <u>KIPS, William</u>              | 22 Dec 1614 |                 |   | 0 | 0 |                     |
| • k29 | <u>Kips, Timothy</u>              | 22 Dec 1617 | (daughter)      |   | 0 | 0 |                     |
| • k30 | <u>Kips, Susanna</u>              | 15 Feb 1620 |                 |   | 0 | 0 |                     |
| • k31 | <u>KIPS, James</u>                | 22 Aug 1622 |                 |   | 0 | 0 | 15 Dec 1656         |
| • k32 | <u>KIPS, David</u>                | 1 Dec 1626  |                 |   | 0 | 0 |                     |

Elizabeth probably returned to her mother's home in Seal for the birth of her first child; Jane was recorded as the "[da. of Richard and Elizabeth Kips](#)" when she died so both of them were probably alive in 1638, that is that they lived at least into their fifties.

| Num   | Name  | Born           | Married                      | Spouse                    | M | C | Died                |
|-------|---|----------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---|---|---------------------|
| k6    | <u>KIPS, Robert</u><br>-----  | 30 May 1590    | 30 May 1614<br>married at 24 | Sylvester Porter<br>#1273 | 1 | 3 |                     |
| #1273 | <u>Porter, Sylvester</u><br>-----   | 23 Aug 1584(S) | married at 29                |                           | 1 | 3 | 4 Jun 1638<br>at 53 |
| • k26 | <u>KIPS, Richard</u>  | 17 Dec 1615    |                              |                           | 0 | 0 |                     |
| • k27 | <u>Kips, Mary</u>   | 9 Jul 1619     |                              |                           | 0 | 0 |                     |
|       | Mary could have been the Mary Kips who married <b>Robert Shaw</b> in Seal on 1 July 1648 when she would have been 29; no children were recorded in either Kemsing or Seal |                |                              |                           |   |   |                     |
| • k28 | <u>Kips, Timothy</u>  | 29 Sep 1622    | (daughter)                   |                           | 0 | 0 |                     |

The Seal parish record states that Robert and Sylvester were married at Shipbourne. Sylvester was probably one of Richard Porter's younger sisters; if so she was nearly six years older than her husband.

Both Richard and Robert had a daughter called Timothy; Timothy was also used as a girl's name by the Fremlyns of Kemsing.

Of Richard and Mary's four children, three married, all to members of the large Porter family from Seal. However, although eight children are recorded for Richard and three for Robert, there are no entries for the next generation.

## *Richard Kips Writes his Will*

John Hackett, Johane's first husband was "of Horton Kirby" and, on his second marriage, Richard went to live in Horton Kirby. Johane did not live very long and it was probably her death which made Richard decide to write his will leaving to "[Agnes Hackett, my last wife's daughter, all such wearing linen whatsoever as was her mother's lately deceased](#)".

As well as Agnes (Anne according to her father's will), Johane and John had had three sons, Thomas, James and John and all four children were under 21 when their father died. Helen, Richard's eldest child, was just twenty in November 1603 so that, when Richard wrote his will, he had a daughter and three sons of his own under age and one step-daughter and three step-sons only one, at the most, of whom could have been twenty-one.

Richard ended his will by stating that "[all such debts and legacies whatsoever with which my last wife was . . . chargeable withall by virtue of her other husband's](#)

will . . . , in all honest and good meaning, be paid and discharged by my said executor according to the . . . and time set down in his will".

On the death of Johane, Richard moved back to Kemsing. In November 1603, when his will was written, he describes himself as "Richard Kipps of Kemsing, late of Horton Kirby, in the County of Kent, yeoman, being at the time of the making hereof in reasonable good health." In order to be able to assess Richard's position when he was widowed for a second time, the will of John Hackett must be considered.

## *John Hackett of Horton Kirby*

Although John Hackett, yeoman, does not detail any land in his will, the bequests to his children were fairly large: £30 to Thomas, £20 each to James and John, to be paid when each of the sons reached 21 with the others brothers receiving the share of any brother who died. John's daughter was to receive £20 when she reached the age of 21 or married "[whichever do come first](#)".

The will (see page 2.k.33) is interesting for the items listed as being part of the rest of his goods "[chattels, leases, corn, cattle, household stuff, mine debts, plate, jewels, rings and all implements of household whatsoever, my debts and legacies](#)

being paid and my funeral discharged, I give to **Johane Hackett, my wife**, whom I make my sole executrix". He appointed his two brothers, **Thomas and Abraham Hackett**, his overseers and perhaps, on Johane's death, they would take on some of the responsibility for distributing the money to Johane's children.

## *Richard's Bequests to his Stepchildren*

Richard was generous to his stepchildren leaving each of them furniture from the house in which they had lived with their mother and father: Whilst his bequests to them seem reasonable since he had moved into their mother's house, on marrying her he could have taken all his wife's property as his own.

- to **Agnes**, "the joined bedstead standing in the chamber over the hall of the mansion house where I dwelt before the making hereof in Horton aforesaid with the featherbed and all things thereunto belonging and one pair of sheets of the better sort besides those belonging to the said bed. And one sheet called a christening sheet."
- to "**Thomas Hackett, her brother**, the other standing bedstead in the said chamber with the testor thereto belonging with the featherbed and all things thereto belonging and two pairs of like sheets besides those

belonging to the said bed. Also I give to the said Thomas two platters, two pewter dishes and two ?? dishes."

- to "**John Hackett, his brother**, the trundle bed in the same chamber with the featherbed thereon and like furniture of two pairs of sheets besides those on the bed with also the like portion of pewter."
- to "**James Hackett, his brother**, the table standing on the frame in the parlour and the cupboard standing in the hall of the said mansion house, three like pairs of sheets and the like portion of pewter and one brass pot."

"Also I give to each one of the said Agnes, Thomas, John and James, to each of them one ewe and a lamb to be delivered within one year next after my decease. And also I will that either of the said children shall have such silver spoons as were given them at their christening and as shall be in the said mansion house."

There was an additional complication: John Hackett, Richard's stepson had "borrowed of his mother the sum of forty pounds, twenty pounds (as it is said) she hath given to certain of the children of the said John Hackett, reserving the interest thereof to herself during her natural life, my will is that she shall have her £20 paid her and the other £20 shalbe paid to the said children according to her gift". Presumably this means that John Hackett is to pay £20 back into his mother's estate.



## *Richard's Other Bequests*

The rest of the household stuff in the house in Horton Kirby was to be divided between his own children "with the help and oversight of mine overseers and executor". He also gave to three of his sons "each of them a pair of fine sheets and a pair of pillow coates which **their mother, my first wife**, willed they should have of my goods in Kemsing. And also I give to the said Helen, my daughter, of my said goods in Kemsing, two pairs of fine sheets".

To Helen, his daughter, he left "the sum of fifty pounds of good and lawful money of England to be paid to her at the day of her marriage or at her full age of five and twenty years which shall first happen. And also all my first wife's wearing apparel as well linen as willed".

Richard mentions two servants by name: **Edward Monke** who was to receive one two yearling bullock and **Silvester Monke, his sister**<sup>208</sup>, who was to receive one ewe. In addition, he gave "to every one of my servants at Horton who shalbe my servants at the time of my decease, 5s a piece".

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208 There were Monkes in Seal and Kemsing throughout the period but neither an Edward or a Sylvester who would "fit in" here.

The residue of his goods and chattels he gave to his son Richard whom he also made his executor with his brother, Gilbert, as his supervisor and overseer, giving Gilbert 10s "over and above his charge and expense about this my will to be laid out".

## *Richard's Land*

Only the first part of the will giving details of Richard's land "situated lying and being in Kemsing aforesaid or elsewhere within the County of Kent" has survived. He left to his son, Richard:

- the "messuage or tenement called **Fremlyns** wherein I now dwell situated in Kemsing aforesaid and all the barns, stables and buildings, closes, gardens, orchards, land, meadows, pastures, wood and underwood and all other appurtenances thereto belonging, . . . in the whole by estimation fifty and three acres whether more or less".
- two acres called "**Stubrech**" left to him by "**my father Gilbert Kipps, deceased**, and being and adjoining to the land herein before given to the said Richard"

- one parcel of "wood and woodland called **hopspring** or **Suddlespring** by estimation one acre and a half, more or less, being in Kemsing aforesaid above **Suddlebury**<sup>209</sup> adjoining to that my land called **Saddlecroft**. To him the said message, barns, stables and buildings, closes, gardens, orchards, land, meadows, pastures, wood and underwood and all other appurtenances thereto belonging".

The surviving part of the will ends: "I give and bequeath to my other three sons, James, Robert and John . . .".

*Will of Richard Kips of Kemsing*

dated 17th November 1603

transcript from original

- 1 In the name of god Amen. The seventeenth day of November in the
- 2 year of our lord god one thousand, six hundred and three. And in the first year of
- 3 the reign of our sovereign lord James, by the grace of god king of England, France and of Scotland, the . .

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<sup>209</sup> Suddlespring and Suddlebury but Saddlecroft - all "Saddle"?

4 and Ireland, defender of the faith. I, **Richard Kipps of Kemsing, late of**  
5 **Horton Kirby**, in the County of Kent, **yeoman**, being at the time of the making  
6 hereof in reasonable good health<sup>210</sup>  
7 as well of body as of mind, thanks therefore be given to Almighty god,  
8 notwithstanding subject to death  
9 and knowing that I shall assuredly change my life but the time though  
10 being  
11 altogether . . . And willing to dispose of my transitory possessions in such  
12 sort that no strife  
13 fall out about the same after my decease. Therefore I do ordain and make  
14 this my present  
15 testament and last will in manner and form following: And **First** and  
16 principally, I give,  
17 commend and bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God who gave  
18 it, trusting by an assured  
19 faith which I have in the merit of my lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, that  
20 the same shalbe presented,  
21 pure and without spot, before the throne of his majestie. And my body to  
22 the earth to be buried

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210 no burial is recorded in Kemsing; with probate not until October 1607, Richard may have lived at least three years after making this will

14 in the churchyard of Kemsing aforesaid in sure and continuing hope of  
awful resurrection. **Item:** I  
15 will there shall be bestowed among the poor people of Kemsing aforesaid,  
at my burial, thirteen shillings and four  
16 pence. And I will six shillings and eight pence to be distributed within one  
month then next after among the poor of  
17 Horton Kirby aforesaid. At the discretion of mine executor hereafter  
named. **Item:** I give and bequeath  
18 unto **Agnes<sup>211</sup> Hackett, my last wife's daughter,** all such wearing linen  
whatsoever as was her mother's lately  
19 deceased. Also I give unto her, the said Agnes, the joined bedstead  
standing in the chamber over the hall  
20 of the mansion house where I dwelt before the making hereof in Horton  
aforesaid with the featherbed and all things  
21 thereunto belonging and one pair of sheets of the better sort besides those  
belonging to the said bed. And  
22 one sheet called a christening sheet. **Item:** I give and bequeath to **Thomas  
Hackett,**  
23 **her brother,** the other standing bedstead in the said chamber with the  
testor thereto belonging with the featherbed

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211 "Anne" in her father's will

24 and all things thereto belonging and two pairs of like sheets besides those  
belonging to the said bed. Also  
25 I give to the said Thomas two platters, two pewter dishes and two f??  
dishes. **Item:** I give and bequeath  
26 to **John Hackett, his brother**, the trundle bed in the same chamber with the  
featherbed thereon and like furniture  
27 of two pairs of sheets besides those on the bed with also the like portion of  
pewter. **Item:** I give  
28 and bequeath to **James Hackett, his brother**, the table standing on the  
frame in the parlour and the cupboard standing in  
29 the hall of the said mansion house, three like pairs of sheets and the like  
portion of pewter and one  
30 brass pot. Also I give to each one of the said Agnes, Thomas, John and  
James, to each of them one ewe and  
31 a lamb to be delivered within one year next after my decease. And also I  
will that either of the said children  
32 shall have such silver spoons as were given them at their christening and  
as shalbe in the said mansion house.  
33 **Item:** I will that all the rest of my household stuff commonly called in stuff  
of household in the said house at Horton shalbe equally

34 divided and shifted between four of mine own children, viz. **James, Robert,**  
**John and Helen**<sup>212</sup>  
35 **Kipps** with the help and oversight of mine overseers and executor after  
named, all which I equally give between them  
36 my said children. Also I give to the said three mine own sons, each of  
them a pair of fine sheets  
37 and a pair of pillow coates which **their mother, my first wife**, willed they  
should have of my goods  
38 in Kemsing. And also I give to the said Helen, my daughter, of my said  
goods in Kemsing, two pairs of fine  
39 sheets. **Item:** I give to each of my godchildren 3s 4d a piece. **Item:** I give  
and bequeath to  
40 the said Helen, my daughter, the sum of fifty pounds of good and lawful  
money of England to  
41 be paid to her at the day of her marriage or at her full age of five and  
twenty years which  
42 shall first happen. And also all my first wife's wearing apparel as well  
linen as willed. **Item:** whereas my stepson, John Hackett borrowed of his  
mother the sum  
43 of forty pounds, twenty pounds (as it is said) she hath given to certain of  
the children of

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212 Helen (or Ellen as she appears in the parish register)

44 the said John Hackett, reserving the interest thereof to herself during her  
natural life, my will is  
45 that she shall have her £20 paid her and the other £20 shalbe paid to the  
said children according to her  
46 gift and the interest thereof according to her . . . **Item:** I give to **Edward  
Monke, my servant,**  
47 one two yearling bullock. **Item:** I give to **Silvester Monke, his sister, my  
servant,** one ewe.  
48 **Item:** I give to every one of my servants at Horton who shalbe my servants  
at the time of my decease, 5s a piece.  
49 The residue of all my goods and chattels . . . . and chattels and all other my  
goods,  
50 moveables, whatsoever, I wholly, fully and with good effort, intent and  
purpose give and bequeath to my  
51 **son, Richard Kipps,** which Richard, my son, I make and ordain my whole  
and sole executor  
52 of this my will to see the said proved, my debts and legacies paid and my  
body honourably and  
53 decently buried. And I ordain and make **my loving and natural brother,  
Gilbert Kipps,** to be



54 supervisor and overseer<sup>213</sup> of this my will desiring him to take some pains  
that the same may  
55 be performed according to the true meaning of that. To which, my brother,  
I give 10s over and above  
56 his charge and expense about this my will to be laid out. And I further will  
that all such debts  
57 and legacies whatsoever with my last wife was . . . chargeable withall by  
virtue of her other husband will  
58 . . . , in all honest and good meaning, be paid and discharged by my said  
executor according to the  
59 . . . and time set down in his will<sup>214</sup>.

60 This is the last will of me, **Richard Kipps, the father**, made and declared  
61 the day and year first above written concerning the order and disposition of  
all my land, . . .  
62 hereditaments whatsoever situated lying and being in Kemsing aforesaid  
or elsewhere within the County of Kent

---

213 Richard's son Richard, whom he made his executor, was only 18 at the end of 1603 having been baptised 8 December 1586

214 will of John Hackett, yeoman, of Horton Kirby proved 1602 (CKS: Drb/Pwr 19I.270; Drb/Pw 19

63 And first I will, give and bequeath to Richard Kipps, my son, all that my  
message or  
64 tenement called **Fremlyns** wherein I now dwell situated in Kemsing  
aforesaid and all the barns, stables  
65 and buildings, closes, gardens, orchards, land, meadows, pastures, wood  
and underwood and all other  
66 appurtenances thereto belonging, . . . in the whole by estimation fifty and  
three acres whether more or  
67 less that be said . . . in Kemsing aforesaid, late Fremlyns (among other)  
68 and which I hold by a portion and shift made between me the said Richard  
Kipps and one **Guy**  
69 . . . . .  
70 parcel of land called **Stubrech** containing by estimation two acres more or  
less, parcel of land late my  
71 **father Gilbert Kipps, deceased**, and being and adjoining to the land herein  
before given to the said Richard,  
72 my son. Also I give and bequeath to the said Richard, my son, one parcel  
of wood and  
73 woodland called **hopspring** or **Suddlespring** by estimation one acre and a  
half, more or less, being in

74 Kemsing aforesaid above **Suddlebury**<sup>215</sup> adjoining to that my land called  
**Saddlecroft**. To him  
75 the said messuage, barns, stables and buildings, closes, gardens, orchards,  
land, meadows, pastures, wood and underwood and all other  
76 appurtenances thereto belonging, to him, his heirs and assigns, for ever.  
77 **Item:** I give and bequeath to my other three sons, James, Robert and John,

*rest of will lost; copy not survived*

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215 Suddlespring and Suddlebury but Saddlecroft - all "Saddle"?

1 In the name of god Amen. one . .  
2 day of September in the year of our lord  
3 god one thousand, six hundred and two and in  
4 the four and fortieth year of the reign of our  
5 sovereign lady Elizabeth, the . . of  
6 the Queen of England, France and  
7 Ireland, Defender of the faith. I,  
8 John Hackett of **Horton Kirby**, in the County  
9 of Kent, **yeoman**, being sick in body but of  
10 perfect memory, thanks be to god, therefore  
11 do . . ordain and make this my last  
12 will and testament in manner and form  
13 following: **First:** I commit my soul to Almighty  
14 god, my maker and Redeemer hoping of  
15 everlasting life through Jesus Christ my  
16 Saviour and my body to be buried at the  
17 discretion of mine executrix. **Item:** I give  
18 and bequeath to **Thomas Hackett, my eldest son,**  
19 thirty pounds to be paid within one year

20 after my decease from the interest  
21 **my brother, Thomas?**, . . . to be brought  
22 . . . .  
23 of his portion for the bringing up of  
24 him and to be . . . to pay it to my  
25 son Thomas at the age of one and  
26 twenty years. And if it shall happen  
27 my son, Thomas Hackett, to die before  
28 the age of twenty and one years, then  
29 to be equally divided between his two  
30 other **brethren, James and John**  
31 or to him that shalbe then living. **Item:**  
32 I give and bequeath to **James Hackett,**  
33 **my second son,** twenty pounds  
34 to be paid at the age of one and twenty  
35 years and, if it shall happen the said  
36 James to decease before the age of  
37 twenty and one years, then I will  
38 it shall remain to be divided equally  
39 between my sons Thomas and John.  
40 **Item:** I give and bequeath to **John Hackett,**  
41 **my younger son,** twenty pounds  
42 to be paid at the age of twenty and one

43 years and, if it shall happen my son  
44 John to decease before the age of  
45 twenty and one years, then my will is  
46 it shalbe equally divided between  
47 my sons Thomas and James or which of  
48 them shalbe then living. **Item:** I give  
49 and bequeath to **Anne Hackett, my**  
50 **daughter**, twenty pounds to be paid at  
51 the age of twenty and one years or  
52 at the day of her marriage, which ever  
53 do come first and if it happen my  
54 said daughter Anne to decease, unmarried,  
55 and before the age of twenty and one  
56 years then my will is it shalbe equally divided  
57 divided between my sons, Thomas, James and John  
58 or as many of them as shalbe then living. And  
59 if it shall happen all my sons, Thomas,  
60 James and John, to decease before the age  
61 of twenty and one years, then my will  
62 is that all the portions of my sons to remain  
63 to my daughter Anne. **Item:** I give and  
64 bequeath to the poor of Horton Kirby,  
65 to be bestowed at the discretion of my executrix,

66 twenty shillings. All the rest of my goods,  
67 chattels, leases, corn, cattle, household stuff,  
68 mine debts, plate, jewels, rings and  
69 all implements of household whatsoever, my  
70 debts and legacies being paid and my  
71 funeral discharged, I give to **Johane**  
72 **Hackett, my wife**, whom I make my  
73 sole executrix. And I do appoint my two  
74 **brethren, Thomas Hackett and Abraham**  
75 **Hackett**, my overseers to this my last will and  
76 testament giving to either of them for  
77 pains, five shillings. **John Hackett**

witness: **Robert Walter; John Marshall** (mark)  
**William Gender** (mark)

# The Family of Gilbert Kips

Gilbert Kips, yeoman (k7) had six children of whom two were buried in Kemsing; nothing is known of the other four from the parish register but Gilbert's will mentions that Alice was married to **Christopher Lusch**, that William had five children and his son, Gilbert, three sons, William, Thomas and Richard.

| Num      | Name                                 | Born        | Married | Spouse                    | M | C | Died                  |
|----------|--------------------------------------|-------------|---------|---------------------------|---|---|-----------------------|
| k7       | <u>KIPS, Gilbert</u><br>----- yeoman | <1557       |         | Agnes Kips(m)<br>#8       | 1 | 6 | 8 Aug 1617            |
| • k10    | <u>Kips, Alice</u>                   | 1 Mar 1578  |         | Christopher LUSCH<br>#920 | 1 | 0 |                       |
| • k11    | <u>KIPS, William</u>                 | 10 Jan 1580 |         |                           | 1 | 5 |                       |
| • k12    | <u>KIPS, Gilbert</u>                 | 19 Feb 1583 |         |                           | 0 | 0 |                       |
| • k13    | <u>KIPS, Gilbert</u>                 | 9 Feb 1586  |         | Marie Kips(m)<br>#922     | 1 | 4 |                       |
| • • k926 | <u>KIPS, Gilbert</u>                 | <1613       |         |                           |   |   | 0 0                   |
| • • k923 | <u>KIPS, William</u>                 | <1614       |         |                           |   |   | 0 0                   |
| • • k924 | <u>KIPS, Thomas</u>                  | <1615       |         |                           |   |   | 0 0                   |
| • • k925 | <u>KIPS, Richard</u>                 | <1616       |         |                           |   |   | 0 0                   |
| • k14    | <u>Kips, Anne</u>                    | 26 Jun 1587 |         |                           | 0 | 0 | 1 Oct 1602<br>aged 15 |
| • k15    | <u>Kips, Margaret</u>                |             |         |                           | 0 | 0 | 14 Oct 1590           |



## *Gilbert Kip's Will*

Gilbert's will was written on 16th March 1616 when he, like Richard when his was written, was "in good and perfect health as well of body as of mind". Gilbert did not die until the beginning of August 1617 with his will being proved on 15th April 1618.

Gilbert requested **Mr. Baker (#1293), the vicar of Kemsing and Seal**, to "make a goodly sermon" to those assembled at his burial giving an unusual reason for this (at least unusual in that it is included in the will): "not that myself shalbe thereby embettered but that they may be godly edified to lead their lives as becometh Christians and so in the end to arrive to that place that I am gone before them". Robert Baker was to receive "for his pains (if he be then living) other to him who shall supply the place, ten shillings".

Gilbert also willed that his executors should "bestow (in the best manner they can) upon the footway between my now dwelling house and Kemsing church, the sum of twenty shillings within one whole year next after my decease".

## *Gilbert's Main Bequests to his Family*

- to Alice, his daughter, "now the wife of Christopher Lusch, the sum of twenty pounds of lawful money to be paid to her within two years next after my decease". Although Alice was 38, from the complicated arrangements "if she happen to decease before and leave child or children", it would seem that she and Christopher did not have any children at the time the will was made (there were Lashes in Kemsing but no Christopher).
- to his three grandchildren, sons of his son "Gilbert Kypps, viz. William, Thomas and Richard, to every of them, five pounds a piece to be paid to them, and every of them or the survivor of them equally between them, at their several age and ages of one and twenty years". In contrast to Alice, Gilbert, who was presumably the son baptised in 1586, was 30 in 1616 which was fairly young to have three sons.
- to the five children of "my son, William Kipps, to every of them six shillings and eight a piece". Why did William's children receive so much less than his son Gilbert's children?. Perhaps just because they were the eldest son's children and so could expect eventually to benefit from William's inheritance.

The residue of all his "moveable goods whatsoever" Gilbert left to **Agnes, my well beloved wife**, and **William Kypps, his eldest son**, who were to be his executors.

William was also to receive "one parcel of land called the **Sowe?** by estimation four acres, more or less, lying and being within the parish of Kemsing aforesaid, abutting upon the **Glebeland of Kemsing** against the west. Also two acres of land not enclosed lying in the **Eastfield of Kemsing** aforesaid abutting upon the highway there against the south and upon the Glebeland aforesaid against the north. And also one Orchard lying in Kemsing aforesaid containing by estimation three roods<sup>216</sup> more or less abutting upon the highway there against the north and in part west".

## *Gilbert's Land*

Gilbert's sons, William and Gilbert were to share equally three parcels of land called **Pepperland, Lammasland and Elinfield** (or Slinfield) in the parish of **Shoreham** in the said county containing about 30 acres for five years after his

---

<sup>216</sup> a rood was a superficial measure of land properly containing 40 square poles or perches but could vary locally. One rod was 30.25 square yards so that 40 would have been 1210 square yards and three roods 3630 square yards, three-quarters of an acre.

decease with the exception that Gilbert was to have all “such wood as is or shall be growing” there. At the of the five years, all three parcels of land were to go to Gilbert and then to Gilbert’s eldest son who was another Gilbert.

During the five years, William and Gilbert were to their mother an annuity of £20, each making two quarterly payments of £5. "And I will that for lack of payment of the same, or any part thereof, it shall be lawful for my said wife to enter and distrain in and upon the said three parcels and every or any of them And the distress or distress there so taken from thence to bear, lead, drive, carry away and impound until my said wife shall be fully paid according to the true meaning of this my will." At the end of the five years, his mother’s annuity became the sole responsibility of Gilbert.

Then come the complications which had to be covered in case one or other of the beneficiaries died. If Gilbert died before his son Gilbert was of age, William was to “have and hold the said parcels with th’appurtenances for and during the nonage of the said Gilbert, the son, giving and paying to **Marie, now the wife of the said Gilbert, my son,** and mother of the said Gilbert, his son, during his nonage, toward the bringing up of him and her other children yearly, the sum of ten pounds of lawful money at the feasts aforesaid by equal portions and to begin as is afore appointed to my said wife and with like benefit of distress as is likewise afore appointed to my said wife."

But if Gilbert died before his son came of age whilst his mother Agnes was still alive, William was to pay Agnes "four pounds during her natural life yearly by equal portions . . . And that the said Marie, mother of the said Gilbert, the son, have no payment out of the same land until my said wife be deceased anything in this my will before mentioned to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding." If these lands could pay Agnes an annuity of £20 whilst both her sons were alive, why was her annuity reduced to £4 if the son Gilbert's family were not to benefit?

*Will of Gilbert Kips of Kemsing*

written 16th March 1615/6  
transcript from original

Nicolas Hooper's  
mark

- 1 In<sup>217</sup> the name of god Amen. the sixteenth day of March in the  
2 year of our lord god one thousand, six hundred and fifteen and in the  
thirteenth

---

217 decorated "I"

3 year of the reign of our sovereign lord James, by the grace of god, King of  
England, France  
4 and Ireland, defender of the faith. And of Scotland the nine and fiftieth. I,  
**Gilbert**  
5 **Kypps** of Kemsing, in the County of Kent, **yeoman**, being at the time of  
making hereof  
6 in good and perfect health as well of body as of mind, thanks therefore be  
given to Almighty god,  
7 notwithstanding aged<sup>218</sup> and subject to many infirmities and to death itself  
knowing that  
8 nothing to mankind is so sure as death But the time thereof being  
altogether uncertain and  
9 seeing the sudden chances which happen to many by unlooked for death  
and willing to set in order  
10 these small and transitory possessions which God hath made me steward  
of here in this  
11 world while I am in health that no contention followeth about the same  
after my decease

---

218 Gilbert's first recorded child was baptised in 1578; if he had been born in the late 1540s he would be in approaching seventy when his will was written

12 **Therefore** I do ordain and make this my present testament and last will in  
manner and form following:  
13 And **First** and principally I give, commend and bequeath my soul into the  
hand  
14 of Almighty God who gave it me trusting, by a sure faith, in the merit,  
previous death  
15 and blood shedding of his dear son Jesus Christ, my only Saviour and  
Redeemer, that  
16 the said shalbe presented, pure and without spot, before the throne of his  
majestie. And  
17 my body to the earth to be buried in the church or churchyard of Kemsing  
aforesaid, which it shall  
18 please my executor, in sure and certain hope of a joyful resurrection to life  
eternal<sup>219</sup>. **Item:**  
19 I will there shalbe bestowed among the poor inhabitants of Kemsing  
aforesaid, at the discretion  
20 of mine executors hereafter named, within one month next after my  
decease, the sum  
21 of two shillings of lawful money. **Item:** I give and bequeath to **Alice, my  
daughter,**

---

219 this is practically the same as the introduction to the will of Richard Kips above

22 now **the wife of Christopher Lusch**, the sum of twenty pounds of lawful  
money to be  
23 paid to her within two years next after my decease if she be then living. Or  
if  
24 she happen to decease before and leave child or children, then I will that  
ten  
25 pounds parcel of the said £20 shall be paid to the child of her the said Alice  
if she have but one  
26 at the age of one and twenty years of the said child. Or if there be more,  
then the said  
27 ten pounds to be paid equally between them at their several ages of one  
and twenty years by  
28 mine executors hereafter named. **Item:** I give and bequeath to my three  
grandchildren, sons  
29 of **my son Gylbert Kypps, viz. William, Thomas and Richard**, to every of  
them, five  
30 pounds a piece to be paid to them, and every of them or the survivor of  
them equally between them,  
31 at their several age and ages of one and twenty years. **Item:** I will that  
mine executors  
32 hereafter named shall bestow (in the best manner they can) upon the  
footway between my



33 now dwelling house and Kemsing church, the sum of twenty shillings  
within one whole year

34 next after my decease. **Item:** I will that **Mr. Baker<sup>220</sup>**, the vicar of **Kemsing  
and Seal**

35 shall make a goodly sermon at my burial to the auditorie then to be  
assembled, not that

36 myself shalbe thereby embettered but that they may be godly edified to  
lead their lives

37 as becometh Christians and so in the end to arrive to that place that I am  
gone before them.

38 To whom I give for his pains (if he be then living) other to him who shall  
supply the place,

39 ten shillings. **Item:** I give and bequeath to the five children of **my son,  
William Kipps**,

40 to every of them six shillings and eight a piece.

41 **The residue** of all my goods, suttells?, debts and chattels and all the other  
42 my moveable goods whatsoever, I wholly, fully and with good effort, intent  
and purpose, give

43 and bequeath to **Agnes, my well beloved wife**, and **William Kypps, my  
eldest**

---

220 Robert Baker (#1293), vicar of Seal and Kemsing from 20th April 1608

44 **son**, which Agnes and William I make and ordain my . . . executors of this  
my  
45 will to see my debts and legacies paid and my body honestly and decently  
buried and  
46 this my will proved.

47 This is the last will of me the said Gilbert Kypps made and declared  
48 the day and year first above written concerning the order and disposition of  
all my land and  
49 tenements whatsoever. **Item:** I give and bequeath to William Kypps, my  
said eldest son  
50 one parcel of land called the **Sowe**? by estimation four acres, more or less,  
lying and being  
51 within the parish of Kemsing aforesaid, abutting upon the **Glebeland of**  
**Kemsing** against the west.  
52 Also two acres of land not enclosed lying in the **Eastfield of Kemsing**  
aforesaid abutting upon  
53 the highway there against the south and upon the Glebeland aforesaid  
against the north. And

54 also one Orchard in Kemsing aforesaid containing by estimation three  
rods<sup>221</sup> more  
55 or less abutting upon the highway there against the north and in part west,  
to have  
56 and to hold all the said parcels called the Sowe, two acres in Eastfield and  
the said orchard with  
57 all and singular th'appurtenances unto the said William Kypps, my son, his  
heirs and assigns to  
58 the only use and behoof of the said William, my son, his heirs and assigns  
for ever.  
59 I give and bequeath to my two sons, William Kypps and **Gilbert Kypps**,  
equally between  
60 them All those three parcels of land called **Pepperland, Lammasland and**  
**Elinfield**<sup>222</sup>  
61 together lying and being in within the parish of **Shoreham** in the said  
county containing by

---

221 a rood was a superficial measure of land properly containing 40 square poles or perches but could vary locally. One rod was 30.25 square yards so that 40 would have been 1210 square yards and three roods 3630 square yards, three-quarters of an acre.

222 Slinfield?

62 estimation thirty acres more or less to have and to hold the said parcels of  
land unto  
63 the said William Kypps and Gilbert Kypps, my sons, equally between them  
(except such  
64 wood as is or shalbe growing) for, and during, the term and space of five  
years  
65 next after my decease. And the said wood I give wholly unto my said son  
Gilbert.

66 And after the end and expiration of the said five years, I will and bequeath  
all  
67 the said three parcels of land withall and singular th'appurtenances unto  
my said son Gilbert Kypps, to  
68 have and to hold to the said Gilbert Kypps, my son, for, by and during his  
natural life.  
69 And after his decease, I will and bequeath all the said three parcels of land  
withall and singular  
70 th'appurtenances unto **Gilbert Kypps, oldest son of my said son Gilbert and  
my godson**  
71 to have and to hold the same withall and singular th'appurtenances unto  
my said Gilbert Kypps, my  
72 godson, his heirs and assigns forever **provided** always, and my full intent

73 and meaning is that my said two sons, William and Gilbert, or the survivor  
of them, or the  
74 heirs of the survivor, shall well and truly pay, or cause to be paid, equally  
between them out of  
75 the said parcels of land in Shoreham aforesaid unto the said Agnes, my  
wellbeloved wife, during  
76 the said term and space of the said five years next after my decease, the  
sum of ten  
77 pounds, viz. five pounds apiece quarterly to be paid viz. at the feast of  
midsummer,  
78 Michaelmas, Christmas and The Annunciation of the blessed virgin mary,  
by equal  
79 portions, the first payment thereof to be and begin at the next feast of the  
feasts aforesaid  
80 which shall next follow, come and be next after my decease. And I will  
that for lack  
81 of payment of the same, or any part thereof, it shalbe lawful for my said  
wife to enter and  
82 distrain in and upon the said three parcels and every or any of them And  
the distress or  
83 distress there so taken from thence to bear, lead, drive, carry away and  
impound until the

84 my said wife shalbe fully paid according to the true meaning of this my will  
**provided**

85 furthermore, and my like will and meaning is, that if the said Gilbert Kypps,  
my son,

86 shall happen to decease in the nonage of the said Gilbert, his son, that my  
said son

87 William Kypps shall have and hold the said parcels with thappurtenances  
for and during the nonage

88 of the said Gilbert, the son, giving and paying to **Marie, now the wife of the  
said**

89 **Gilbert, my son,** and mother of the said Gilbert, his son, during his nonage,  
toward

90 the bringing up of him and her other children yearly, the sum of ten pounds  
of lawful

91 money at the feasts aforesaid by equal portions and to begin as is afore  
appointed to

92 my said wife and with like benefit of distress as is likewise afore appointed  
to my said

93 wife. But I will that the said sum of ten pounds to the said Marie shall not  
be paid until

94 my said wife deceased. **Provided** also, and my meaning is, that if it shall  
happen my

95 said wife to survive the said five years before specified, and the said Gilbert  
96 my son living, that my said son Gilbert shall pay the sum of five pounds to  
my said  
97 wife yearly during her natural life at the feast aforesaid with benefit of  
distress  
98 aforesaid. But if the said Gilbert be deceased and that the said land . . . to  
my said  
99 son William during the nonage of the said Gilbert, the son, then my  
meaning is that the  
100 said William, my son, shall pay out of the same land to my said wife the  
said whole sum of  
101 four pounds during her natural life yearly by equal portions at the feasts  
aforesaid and  
102 with such benefit of distress as is afore specified. And that the said Marie,  
mother of the said  
103 Gilbert, the son, have no payment out of the same land until my said wife  
be deceased  
104 anything in this my will before mentioned to the contrary in any wise not  
withstanding.  
105 In witness whereof, to this my present last will and testament, I the said  
Gilbert

106 Kypps have set my hand and seal and I do hereby revoke and make void all  
other  
107 wills be formerly made and do publish and declare this to be my true and  
last will  
108 given the day and year first above written.

Nicolas Hooper's  
mark  
with initials

the mark of Gilbert Kipps

Sealed and declared by  
the said Gilbert Kypps as his  
. . and last will in the  
presence of me, **Nicolas Hooper, the elder,**  
**writer** hereof and of  
**Robert Grybe**

**Nicolas Barnaby<sup>223</sup>.**

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223 there were Barnabys in Seal but no Nicholas



## Family of John Kips

Susan Porter, a sister of Sylvester (see page 2.k.17) married a John Kips, in Seal on 7th October 1616. Although both her mother and father had died before she married, their first child was baptised in Seal. John could have been the fourth son Richard mentioned in his will without there being a record of his baptism.

| Num   | Name                          | Born           | Married       | Spouse                | M | C | Died |
|-------|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|---|---|------|
| k33   | <u>KIPS, John</u><br>-----    | <1596          | 7 Oct 1616(S) | Susan Porter<br>#1416 | 1 | 4 |      |
|       |                               |                |               |                       |   |   |      |
| #1416 | <u>Porter, Susan</u><br>----- | 8 Jan 1587(S)  |               | married at 29         | 1 | 4 |      |
| • 35  | <u>KIPS, Richard</u>          | 10 Aug 1617(S) |               |                       |   |   | 0 0  |
| • 36  | <u>KIPS, George</u>           | 22 Aug 1619    | twin          |                       |   |   | 0 0  |
| • 37  | <u>KIPS, John</u>             | 22 Aug 1619    | twin          |                       |   |   | 0 0  |
| • 38  | <u>Kips, Ellen</u>            | 29 Apr 1622    |               |                       |   |   | 0 0  |

## *Dionisia Kipping, widow of Brenchley*

In her will of 1513 (CKS: Drb/pwr 6.360), Dionisia Kipping (or Denis Kyppyng), widow of Brenchley, left a cope of damask to the “[church of Saint Peter of Pepinbury](#)” (Pembury).

Nothing more is known about her but it is likely that she came from Pembury.

## The Kirkmans of Ightham

| Num                 | Name                              | Born | Married     | Spouse                                    | M | C | Died        |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|------|-------------|---|---|---|-------------|
| i580 <sup>224</sup> | <u>KIRKMAN, Richard</u><br>-----  |      | 22 Jul 1566 | Joane Durton<br>#581                      | 1 | 1 |             |
| i581                | <br><u>Durton, Joane</u><br>----- |      |             |   | 1 | 1 | 24 May 1587 |
|                     |                                   |      |             | register just records "-- Kirkman, widow" |   |   |             |
| • i582              | <u>Kirkman, Margaret</u>          |      | 18 Jun 1567 |   | 0 | 0 |             |

A "Kertman" and a William Kirkman were mentioned in the Court Records 1586-1618.

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224 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

## *George Knight of Cowden & his sister Bridget Beecher*

George Knight had a sister Bridget - see Tree K.1 in [Knights](#) Sometime in 1640 George proved the will of his sister Bridget (PCC Coventry 72). When she wrote her will on the 5th April 1639, George's sister was "[Bridget Beecher of the parish of Lyme field in Surrey, widow](#)". Cowden is on the Kent/Surrey border and, since she was a widow she may have moved back to Cowden to be with her brother. Her will has not been investigated in detail.

## *The Knights of Ightham & Kemsing*

**John Knight** (i651<sup>225</sup>) was the father of two children baptised in Ightham:

- **Marie** (i653), baptised on 8th October 1570
- **William** (i654), baptised on 20th September 1573

A **William Knight** was mentioned in the Court Records 1586-1618

**Margaret Knight** (i655) was buried on 8th September 1613.

In Kemsing, **John Knight and his wife Alice** (k592 & k593) had a daughter **Sylvester** (k594) baptised on 9th July 1570. Alice was buried on 28th February 1602.

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225 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database and "k" in that for Kemsing

## The Kyrckes of Ightham

| Num                  | Name                                | Born  | Married | Spouse                      | M | C | Died        |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---------|-----------------------------|---|---|-------------|
| i1810 <sup>226</sup> | <u>KYRCKE, Thomas</u><br>-----      |   |         | Kathrine Kyrcke(m)<br>#1811 | 1 | 4 | 21 Oct 1618 |
|                      |                                     | householder when buried                     |         |                             |   |   |             |
| i1811                | <u>Kyrcke(m), Kathrine</u><br>----- |   |         |                             | 1 | 4 | 23 Feb 1629 |
|                      |                                     | "widow" when buried; taken as Thomas's wife |         |                             |   |   |             |
| • i1812              | <u>Kyrcke, Elizabeth</u>            | 6 Jan 1601                                  |         |                             | 0 | 0 |             |
| • i1813              | <u>KYRCKE, Lawrence</u>             | 30 Oct 1603                                 |         |                             | 0 | 0 |             |
| • i1814              | <u>Kyrcke, Margaret</u>             | 18 May 1606                                 |         |                             | 0 | 0 | 29 Mar 1609 |
| • i1815              | <u>KYRCKE, Thomas</u>               | 6 Nov 1608                                  |         |                             | 0 | 0 |             |

Thomas Kyrcke was described as an **ale taster** in the Court Records sometime between 1586 and 1618, presumably sometime in the seventeenth century.

**Joane, daughter of – Kyrton** (i1790), baptised 12th August 1599 could have been the first child of this marriage with a misspelling or misreading of the name.

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226 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database