

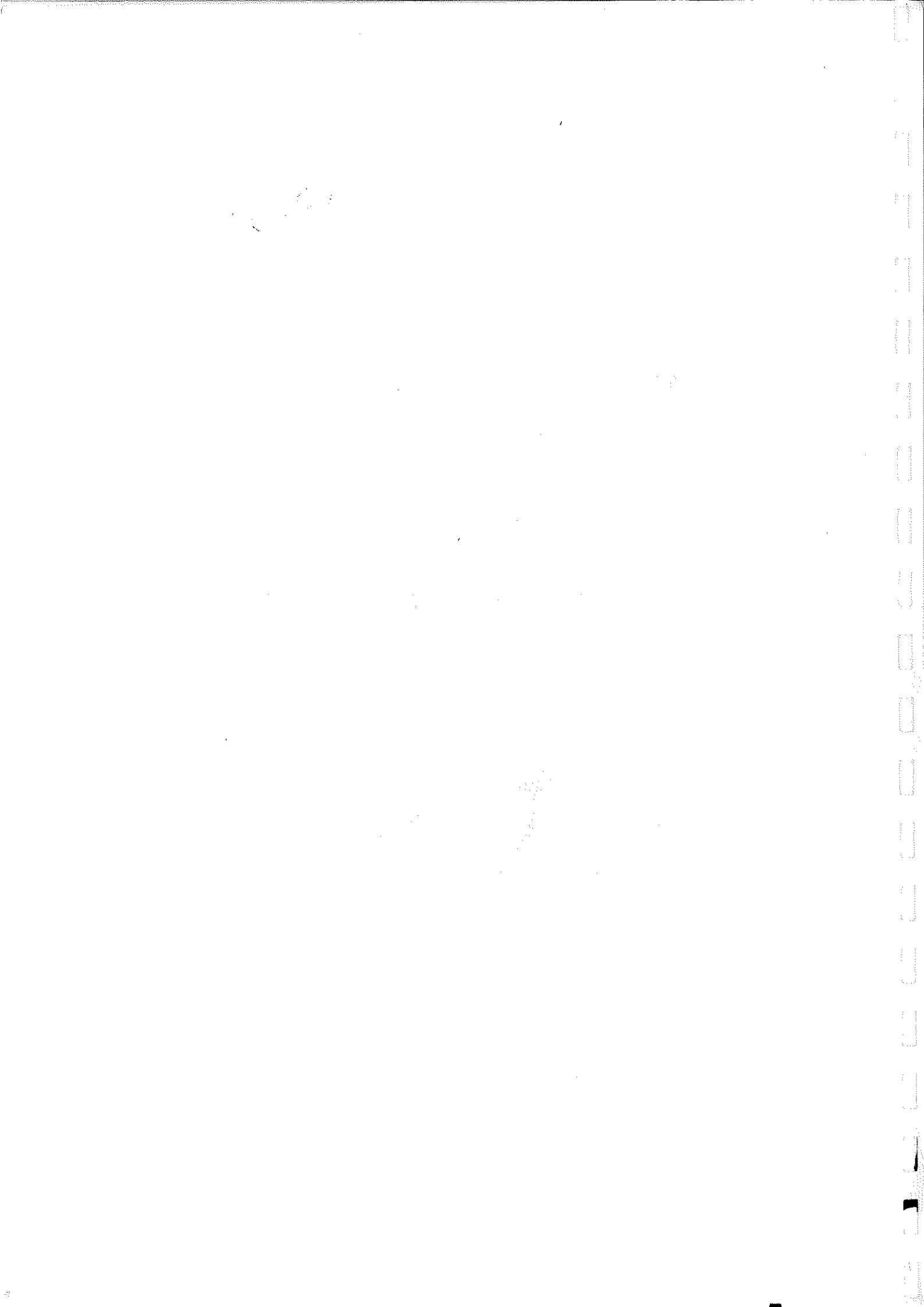
D.P.Lindgaard BA

# Brislington Bulletins

No.3

1700 - 1749





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## Foreword

The third volume of "Bulletins" is a record of Brislington 1700 - 1749, from William of Orange to Queen Anne, and thence to the Hanoverian succession of George I and George II. A period when England was at war at various times with France and Spain, and there were two bloody and abortive Scottish risings, the '15 and the '45. Isaac Newton became President of the Royal Society, from 1703 until his death in 1727; Defoe wrote Robinson Crusoe [1719]; the Chancellor of the Exchequer was sent to the Tower of London for fraud over "the South Sea Bubble" [1721]; John and Charles Wesley founded Methodism at Oxford [1730]; Hogarth completed "The Rake's Progress" [1735] and Samuel Johnson published his "Plan of a Dictionary of the English Language" [1747]. Nearer home, at Bath, in response to its rise as a fashionable resort for the rich, Beau Nash became Master of Ceremonies [1704] and John Wood built Queen Square [1729].

At Brislington, Robert Langton succeeded his brother Thomas as Lord of the Manor, but himself died young, when his son and heir, Joseph was only a year old. Joseph's interests were safeguarded by his mother Anne, her new husband Sir George Cobb, and his maternal grandfather, Joseph Langton of Newton St Loe. Joseph Addison, the scholar and playwright, a friend of Sir George, was an honoured visitor at Langton Court. Brislington was becoming populated by a merchant class like Alderman John Hawkins who entertained Queen Anne, and Joshua Wharton, a Bristol mercer. Joshua's account book, deposited at Bristol Record Office, is the major "find" of this collection of ephemera. As well as details of household expenses, it contains diary entries about his family: the narrative of his daughter's illness and death is particularly vivid, and local events, like his feud with the vicar where his rage comes hot off the page and inspires a longing for many more such entries. The whole cries out for full transcription.

The following should be noted:

1. In many cases I have included the full text of a given record, whilst in others, only the "bare bones" appear. Those searching for their ancestors should always consult the original source in case valuable clues have been omitted.
2. Owing to the fragility of the originals, almost all references to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor Records have been taken from Mr Anthony Austin's invaluable transcripts. Copies of his work may be found at BRO and at Avon County Reference Library.
3. Before 1752, each year commenced on 25 March. Therefore, a date such as 4 March 1701 given in a document is, by our modern calendar 4 March 1702. For the sake of clarity, I have used the modern version and then in the source reference, I have quoted both years, i.e. 4 March 1701/2.

I am grateful to all those whose work, published and unpublished, has provided source material and given me so much enjoyment along the way. My thanks also to Mr John Williams, Bristol City Archivist, and his staff at Bristol Record Office, the librarians of the Avon County Library Service, Bristol & Bath, and the staff at Somerset Record Office, for their help and advice and for allowing me to publish copies of documents in their care.

May 1994

## Abbreviations and Sources.

### Manuscript Sources

- AA: Anthony Austin, "Overseers of the Poor and Churchwardens Accounts 1700-1737", typescript at ARL & BRO  
BAR: Bristol Apprentice Rolls, BRO [NB Only the years 1700-1709 have been searched]  
BMLB: Bristol Marriage Licence Bonds  
Egarr: Ralph Egarr, "The Story of St Lukes Church, Brislington", Typescript, 1965 BRO  
JW: manuscript Account book of Joshua Wharton, BRO 6783  
Tolzey Court Records: BRO 04435 (3) 1730-37

### Printed Sources

- Alumni Oxonienses, the list of Oxford Graduates  
Arches: ed. Jane Houston BA, "Index of Cases in the Court of Arches at Lambeth Palace Library". [Phillimore, British Record Society, 1972]  
BB: Jonathon Rowe & Diddle Williams, "Bygone Brislington"  
Bigland: Ralph Bigland, "History of Gloucestershire"  
BPB: Bristol Poll Books [ARL]  
BPP II: J F Nicholas & John Taylor, "Bristol Past and Present, Vol 2, Ecclesiastical History", [Arrowsmith 1881]  
Chron: W.G. Willis-Watson, "Chronological History of Somerset" [London, 1925]  
Church: Ashford Allan, "St Lukes Parish Church", [c1970]  
Jewers: Arthur J Jewers. "Marriage Allegation Bonds of the Bishop of Bath & Wells, from their commencement to 1755." [1909]  
Latimer, John, "Annals of Bristol in the 18th Century"  
Pots: Reg and Philomena Jackson, and Roger Price BSc, PhD, "Bristol Potters and Potteries, 1600-1800: A documentary Study." [Stoke on Trent City Museum, 1982]  
SDNQ: Somerset & Dorset Notes & Queries  
SI: Somerset Incumbents

### Newspapers and Journals

- BathJ: Bath Journal  
Bugle: Brislington Bugle, Journal of Brislington Conservation and Amenities Society at ARL  
FFBJ : Felix Farley's Bristol Journal  
GJ : Gloucester Journal  
Bristol Oracle

### Other Abbreviations

- ARL County of Avon Reference Library  
BRO Bristol Record Office  
BTs Bishops Transcripts  
PR Parish Register  
SOG Society of Genealogists  
StLB St Luke's Brislington  
SRO Somerset Record Office



1700

April 4

George Adelum of Brislington and Elizabeth Challoner married at Siston, then in Gloucestershire. [PR]

[George, more usually spelt Adlam, was described as a "potter of Brislington" when the couple's sons were apprenticed: William, (baptised Brislington 1705), as a potter to Mary Orchard of Redcliffe Street, 24 March 1719/20, and Samuel, as a glazier to Henry Bevan of Bristol, 14 March 1725/6.] [Pots, BAR, PRStLB]

May 31

James Lawrence was Overseer of the Poor, and Robert Little and Francis Green, Churchwardens [May 1699-Aug 1701]. [AA]

[Government of the parish was carried out by untrained officials chosen from local people, almost always men, of solid standing in the community: in general the churchwardens were in charge of the fabric of the church, and the overseers looked after the poor, who, as Jesus said "always ye have with you". Paupers who belonged to the parish received a weekly dole and other hand outs; wanderers who belonged elsewhere, or nowhere, were given a few pence and hastened on their way. These expenses were met by rates levied on the settled inhabitants of the parish, each according to his means. If rates were unpopular, and we can assume they always were, then the offices themselves, which involved a great deal of work, were often equally so. In some cases, an element of coercion seems to have been introduced, as will be revealed from the experience of a Brislington man, Joshua Wharton.]

October 3

Thomas Ithell, son of Egilli [Giles] Ithell, of Brislington, a yeoman, apprenticed to Caleb and Elizabeth Lloyd, as a grocer. [BAR]

[The Bristol Apprentice Rolls, held at Bristol Record Office, are an invaluable source not only for tracing where a family came from, but for revealing population movement and town growth. Apprentice boys would rarely return to their home parishes once they were qualified. Despite restrictive settlement laws, other young men would come from elsewhere to take their places in their villages, and sometimes marry local girls. Over time, in any community, certain strongly represented surnames lessen and die out, to be replaced by others. Whilst an old village family might continue through female lines, girls too left home to find work - as the procession through the Whartons' portals will later confirm - or when they married. The idea - which I was taught at school - of a static rural life where nobody went anywhere is far from correct.]

October 10

William Hickes, son of Nathaniel Hickes, husbandman [agricol], of Brislington, apprenticed to Mary Ithell, widow of Thomas Ithell, as a weaver. [BAR]

[A woman, having worked beside her husband for years, would be well qualified to continue his trade after he died. Perhaps from necessity, she was sometimes forced to do so. This boy was sent to someone who must have already been known to his parents. Mrs Ithells' late husband probably descended from those Temple Street weavers who had their origins in Brislington and inherited from John Everett in 1628. They are named in "Bulletins II".]

November 24

Marriage licence, Thomas Masy, *agricolam*, of Bussleton and Joanne Mearne of St Philip & St Jacob. [BMLB]

1701

February 1

George Moor, son of John Moor, of Brislington, blacksmith, apprenticed to John and Elizabeth Smith as a mariner. [BARI]

March 23

Henry Mearn, son of John Mearn, of Brislington, husbandman, to Thomas French, sergeweaver. [BARI]

April 20

Richard Haskins and Hugh Conick were Overseers of the Poor; Ralph Harris and William Hort, Churchwardens. Among their expenses was one for "getting Thomas Bull", [who presumably changed his mind], "when he listed himself for a soldier". [AA]

June 4

The churchwardens were called out to deal with the drowning of "a child which was taken up in the River Avon." Costs amounted to 24s 6d, which included the coroner's fee of £1 and sixpence to John Woodham for burying the child. There is no note of the incident in the parish register. [AA]

July 8

Robert Langton became Lord of the Manor when the will of his brother Thomas was proved. Dame Elizabeth Langton, their mother, appears to have lived in Brislington, as did Dame Elizabeth Cann, their sister and her husband Sir William Cann. [ASW, and see p66, Bulletins III]

October 1

The panic amongst the ratepayers when a woman parishioner "got into trouble", already noted in Bulletins II, continued. On this day, warrants costing one shilling and sixpence were issued "for Matthew Middleton, Elizabeth Williams and Clement Salter". Details of Mr Salter appear later, but the other two were 'matrimonial', and a marriage was forcibly arranged to keep their expected child from becoming "chargeable to the parish". John Robins was paid 2s. 7½d and Mr Keats, the occasional vicar, 15s. 1d "towards the marrying of Matthew Middleton". The parish register informs us that Matthew Meedleton of Downing [sic] was married to Elizabeth Williams on 10 February 1701/2.

In the same year, "several persons" were paid 4s 6d "to guard a felon". [AA]

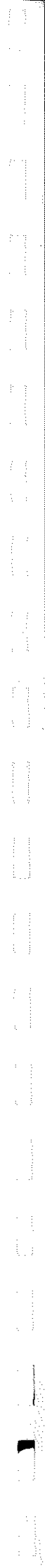


QUEEN ANNE

who nearly came to Brislington.....

From the BRAIKENRIDGE COLLECTION;  
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10/10/10



1702

April 5

Peter Weymouth and John Barnes, a merchant, [married to Joan Dapwell, widow of Bristol at the Quaker meeting house, 21 December 1693], were Overseers of the Poor. [AA]

April 16

"Mr Robert Langton of Bustleton and Mrs Ann Langton" were married at the parish church of Newton St Loe. They were first cousins, Robert being the son of Sir Thomas Langton, sometime Mayor of Bristol, and Ann the daughter and heiress of his brother, Joseph Langton of Newton Park. [PR]

June 4

William Roach, son of Israel Roach, of Brislington, yeoman, apprenticed to John and Mary Rendall, as a "tyler and plaisterer". [BAR]

June 12

A tripartite agreement in respect of the marriage of Robert Bennett, of the City of Bristol, cooper, but of the St Anne's pottery family, and Deenes Ward, the daughter of Edward Ward of Bristol, gallypotmaker, was drawn up in respect of "all that parcell of ground now divided into three closes upon part whereof was lately erected a Messuage or tenement wherein Robert Bennett the elder dwelt", [he was the present Robert's grandfather],...."with other houseing....situate in Britchwood within the parish of Brislington alias Bussleton....by estimacon twelve acres heretofore in the occupation of Thomas Woodroofe and afterwards Mary Browne widow....also a Messuage, tenement and Cottage in two acres with the withy bed, known as the Moore... [SRO DD/BR/tb/7,Pots]

August 22

A person called Chisell was carried to gaol when "Fearthin Andrew Robbins" was stabbed. Warrants were obtained for Joseph Hook for being drunk, and for Thomas Browning and Joan Tranter for selling ale without a licence. Whether these were separate incidents, or evidence of a drink induced crime wave, is not indicated. [AA]

September 3

Queen Anne with her consort Prince George, came to Bristol, though unfortunately a possible progress through Brislington was halted by heavy rain which rendered the rutted Bath to Bristol road an impassable quagmire. The royal party eventually arrived safely having been obliged to cross the river Avon at Newton St Loe. Her Majesty was so delighted by the welcome provided by the Mayor of Bristol, she knighted him on the spot. His Mayoress was allowed to kiss the Queen's hand!

The Mayor, now Sir John Hawkins, was "a large brewer" who had married the former Elizabeth Rogers in June 1676. Their brewery was carried on in Temple Street, but the Hawkins' had a country residence in Brislington, "The Chestnuts", purchased from Abraham Saunders about 1680. Later they acquired the remaining portion of the Saunders' land from Anthony Saunders, Abraham's son. Sir John Hawkins died 6 July 1723, and was commemorated by a tablet on the south wall of the chancel in Temple Church. The church was bombed during the Second World War and survives as a ruin, happily with its famous leaning tower intact, and

lately sporting a new weather vane, but the "furniture", including John's memorial, was lost. [BB, BMLB:5.6.1676, BPPII, p145]

November 20

The Palladian style Church Hill House, which later became St Luke's Vicarage, and remained so until recently, was described by Pevsner as a "specially pretty Georgian house". It appears to have 'evolved' about this date from another house, "Parry's Tenement", which belonged to George and Frances Vaughan of Bristol. George Vaughan died childless, and his brother Charles, of London, inherited the property. He sold the house back to his sister in law, George's widow:

"Indenture between Charles Vaughan of London, clothworker, brother and heir of George Vaughan of Bristol, esquire, deceased, on the one part and Frances Vaughan, widow of the aforesaid City of Bristol on the other", regarding a tenement and outhouses, etc, "commonly known by the name of Parry's Tenement in Busselton, alias Brislington in the County of Somerset". Frances paid £300. [BRO 4550/5, BB]

1703

Giles Ithell, a Quaker, was prosecuted in the Court of the Exchequer for non payment of the considerable sum of £8.15s.3d for tithes, by the "Impropiator", Alexander Popham, the current Member of Parliament for Bath, whose family had purchased "the living" of St Luke's on the death of Queen Catherine Parr. They had owned it ever since. [SDNQ v 264]

Edward Ward paid rates on St Anne's Mill, [1694-1703]

[Pots]

March 28

Robert Little and Thomas Frank, a potter, were Overseers of the Poor, John Fear and John Green, Churchwardens. [AA]

April 15

Edward Buy [Byel], a gallypotmaker of Brislington was granted a licence to marry Hester Cable of St Philip & St Jacob. [BRO]

[Edward, as noted in Bulletins II, was one of the apprentices of Robert Wastfield, whose will he witnessed in 1677. With his wife Grace he had four sons, three of whom were baptised at Brislington 1681-1687. Grace was buried in 1702. After his second marriage (above) he left Brislington for his new wife's parish. Just over a year later he died, and was buried at the Baptist Burial Ground in Redcross Street.]

May 20

Elizabeth, the daughter of Robert and Ann Langton was baptised at Newton St Loe. [PR]

1704

Thomas Frank paid rates on St Anne's Mill.

[Pots]

April 21

Trouble over tithes, or his Quaker religion, did not excuse Giles Ithell from public office, and with Daniel Lawrence, he served this year as

Overseer of the Poor. Amongst their payments were "expenses on Hopping Dick when taken for a soldier, 2s.11d." [AA]

[Now, it is self-evident that someone known to all as "Hopping Dick" would make a pretty unsuitable soldier. It is impossible to say whether Dick had been pushed into the army to get him "off the parish", accepted into the militia as a paid substitute for another villager, or taken up by a somewhat desperate press-gang. Whatever happened, he survived the experience, and later on we shall meet him again.]

June 17

Frances Vaughan, "widow of the City of Bristol", sold Church Hill House and estate, which included Brooks Croft, "late in the tenure of Richard Milkins, farrier", to "Jeremiah Pearce, of Bristol, mariner". He paid £420, so Frances made a handsome profit. She seems never to have lived in Brislington, for the house had been "formerly in the occupation of Ralph Harris", though kept interests in the parish, at least until 1730. [BRO 4550/52, BB]

July 5

Thomas Moore, son of John Moore, of Brislington, blacksmith, apprenticed to Joseph Little, saddler. [BAR]

September 28

William, son of Clement Salter of Brislington, weaver to John and Sarah Trickey, as a weaver. [BAR]

[It is a mystery how Clement's son appears in the civic apprenticeship rolls, for those fathers who were able to give their sons such a good start in life, were generally moderately well to do. In 1690 the parish had attempted to remove Clement, with his wife Bathia and child as destitutes to Devon. Without success, it appears. Three children were christened in Brislington, the above William in 1690, John in 1694 and Clement junior in 1697. Clement makes frequent appearances in the Poor Rate books, and in the circumstances, one might expect to find his son amongst the poor children, so-called "Parish Apprentices", who were disposed of by the parish officers. However, the weaving trade being subject more than most to fluctuation, this apprenticeship may have taken place during a period of relative prosperity!]

December 6

Diannah Rawlings of Brislington, singlewoman, examined before Robert Langton, on oath, "being lately delivered of a base child sayth that William Shepard of Keynsham did on 29 February last Intice her to lett him lye with her and had that night carnall knowledge of her body three times, so that...William Shepard is the reall father of her child and noe other person."

William Shepard and Samuel Shepard, yeomen of Keynsham, were to indemnify the parish officers of Brislington, Giles Ithell and John Hall, in the sum of £20 if William married her, and £50 if he did not. [BRO P/St LB/OP/14/2]

1705

January 1

The will of Henry Newton of Stapleton, Gloucestershire, carpenter; to his wife Mary, the daughter of Richard Attwood, yeoman, all those messuages, tenements, lands, hereditaments in Brislington, alias Bufselton, Somerset....to hold during her natural life, then to daughter Sara and heirs of her body lawfully begotten, and for the want of such heirs, to Nicholas Cowling of Brislington, husbandman, his heirs and assigns forever.... then to daughter Elizabeth, her heirs, etc, provided both daughters marry with the consent of their mother, if under 21. Samuel Cox of the City of Bristol, ropemaker and Richard Champion, to receive debts, etc, in trust for his daughters. [BRO 4550 (75)]

[Sarah Newton of Stapleton was married to William Reeve, a Bristol merchant, in January 1713 at the Frenchay Quaker Meeting House. They became the parents of William Reeve, junior, the builder of Brislington's famous "Black Castle", who inherited the Newton's Brislington lands from his mother. Around 1660 the Newton family owned "Half-Way House" where Arno's Court now stands.]

February 19

Mr Robert Vickris and Mrs Elizabeth Cann were married at Brislington.

[StLB]

March 27

Frances, the daughter of Robert and Ann Langton was baptised at Newton St Loe.

[PR]

April 8

Giles Ithell was re-elected Overseer of the Poor, with John Hall, as Churchwarden.

[AA]

May 12

Paid Joan Tranter for entertaining a travelling woman - 3s 0d. Paid for carrying a poor woman [presumably the same one] to Bristol - 2s 0d.

[AA]

later in May

The case of Robert Symes created an enormous to do. There was Mr Daniel's fee of 2s 6d. Mr James' fee of £1 for retaining counsel and drawing up the breviaite. Charges and expenses at Bridgwater Sessions and the hire of three horses, £3. 0s 7d. Warrants of disturbance and removal against Robert Symes, 5s 6d. Two men to go to Steeple Aston with Robert Symes, and the hire of two horses, 8s 0d - [which seems to imply that Robert himself walked!] Expenses for obtaining Thomas Taylor's evidence against Symes, 9d. Thomas Baugh's and John Meryweather's expenses for three days at Bridgwater Sessions against Symes, [a rather modest] 3s 0d each. And with all this, we are not told what Robert had done.

[AA]

June 3

The Rev. William Keates, MA, incumbent at Inghishcombe 1687 and Saltford 1692, who had already delivered the occasional sermon at St Lukes's [see Bulletins II, 1695], and married at least one couple, became the vicar of Keynsham and Brislington. On this day he christened his son George at Keynsham.

[Church, SI]



October 7

A son of Edward Linne [Lyne] of Bristol was buried in the Quakers Graveyard at Brislington. [PR]

[Judith Daniel, the widow of Tobias Daniel who had bought the 17th century house "The Rookery" from William Payne, made a settlement of the estate upon the occasion of the marriage of her daughter Joan to Edward Lyne in 1689. Judith was buried amongst the Brislington Quakers on January 24 1702/3. A John Lyne paid 4d for rates of "Gaskins" in 1689. Edward Lyne paid 9d rates in 1704. Mrs [Joan?] Lyne paid in 1716, and the Widow Lyne, presumably Joan again, paid in 1720. Edward Lyne paid 1722 - 1730. Edward Lyne, junior became a Physician. His will dated 1767 refers to his estates in Brislington and Keynsham.]

October 18

Marriage settlement of John Grant and Cecilia Cann between

- (1) John Grant, merchant
- (2) Cecilia Cann, of the parish of Brislington, Somerset, daughter of Sir William Cann, of the same, knight, deceased.
- (3) Dame Elizabeth Cann of Brislington, widow. John Knight, gentleman and Robert Houlton of Trowbridge.

Covenant to purchase land of value £100 per annum.

[BRO 35735/101]

[This is a suitable point to compare the financial arrangements for marriage among the rich to those at the other end of the scale. William Shepard who had been bound over to indemnify the parish of Brislington in respect of Diana Rawling's child had reneged, and the hue and cry was raised. The overseers "paid to Keynsham men, spent taking William Shepard, 1s 6d. For expenses and guards when he was in custody, 10s 6d. For a mittimus to carry him to gaol, 2s 6d." Shortly afterwards, a successful outcome, as far as the officers were concerned: "paid for a man to see Diana Rawlings married, 1s 6d." William and Diana appear again in 1714.

[AA]

December 12

Mary Smith was a Sodbury girl, who had worked for the Smythes at Long Ashton before coming to Langton Court where, "one Richard Grant, her fellow servant, about Lady Day last, there being at that time noe other person there but them two, did come to her bed and had there carnall knowledge of her body, and afterwards did lie with her comonly, soe that [shel is now delivered of a male bastard child, and she sayth that Richard Grant is the only and absolute father thereof."

Sworn [very embarrassingly], before her employer, Robert Langton. Richard Grant was bound over in the sum of £40. [BRO P/StLB/OP/14/31]

1706

March 24

John Hall and Jeremiah Pearce, [speedily co-opted into local government], combined as Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor.

During their term of office, John Harris was paid 17s 8d for providing a new pair of stocks and replacing the churchyard gate; Richard Milkins, the blacksmith was paid 8s 9d for "an iron for the stocks". [AA]

April 12

John, son of John Green, of Brislington, a ropemaker, apprenticed to William Deverell, shipwright. [BAR]

1707

Thomas Dickson took over St Anne's Mill from Thomas Frank, though not apparently without some disagreement, for a special meeting was called to intercede between them. Dickson, a Bristol linendraper, had married "into pottery"; his first wife was Sarah, the daughter of Robert and Sarah Bennett and the stepdaughter of Robert Westfield. When Sarah died in 1694 he claimed her estate, which included a house called "The Royal Oak" lately occupied by Thomas Watts, and part of The Moore" for life "by Courtesy of England". He took up as a potter, and with his second wife Sarah Reynolds engaged six apprentices, between 1707 and 1717, who included Richard Riley. He held the Mill until 1730 when it was taken over by Thomas Taylor. He was buried amongst the Quakers in 1733. [Pots]

Conveyance of a lease of a cottage at a place called The Rock by Robert Langton to William Hort of Brislington, labourer. [SRO DD/BR/tb/11]

April 13

John Hall remained as Overseer of the Poor.

Some expenses during his current term:

|   | s  | d |      |
|---|----|---|------|
| Paid in sending away a crazy woman                          | 1  | 2 |      |
| Abraham Mearn and Mary Light for watching Sarah Meryweather | 10 | 0 |      |
| Mr Pearce for a warrant to take her                         | 1  | 0 |      |
| A horse to carry her and expenses in that business          | 4  | 4 | [AA] |

1708

March 2

Coal had been dug in Brislington in a moderate way since the time of Queen Elizabeth I, and now, increasingly the gentry became involved with the trade, selling leases on their lands to prospectors in exchange for a cash premium, encouraging a proto-Industrial Revolution.

An agreement to prospect for coal in Brislington was signed between Robert Langton, Lord of the Manor, John Knight of Bristol, gentleman, [Joanna Langton's husband], Robert Lane of Bristol, merchant, [Mary Langton's husband], with William Hort, now a yeoman, and William Sellwood, also a yeoman, both of Brislington. [SRO DD/GL/128,1707/8]

April 4

Robert Little and James Lawrence were Churchwardens, Thomas Baugh and Peter Weymouth, Overseers of the Poor.

Some of their expenses:

|   | s | d |
|---|---|---|
| Order to carry John Hook to prison                            | 3 | 4 |
| Expenses going after James Jones to take him up for a soldier | 3 | 6 |
| Paid for badges for the poor                                  | 1 | 2 |

[An Act of Elizabeth I in 1597-8 had been reinforced, and compelled each pauper, man, woman or child, "to wear the badge", if they were in receipt of an allowance from the parish, thus equating poverty with shame at best, and criminality at worst. From 1697 these badges consisted of the letter P plus the first letter of the parish, in red or blue cloth. A parish officer relieving a person without a badge could be fined 20 shillings.

The following year, William Cole was paid 1s 6d for "9 badge letters".][AA]

June 13

Brislington's young Lord of the Manor, Mr Robert Langton, was buried at Newton St Loe. His widow Ann later married George Cobb, esquire. [PR]

August 16

Marriage licence, Anthony Merne of Brislington, baker, and Sarah Saires of West Horrington, spinster, 32, with parents' consent. The marriage took place at St Cuthbert's, Wells, with the bride's name spelt Sayer. [Jewers]

1709

15 January

Marriage licence, Alexander Hill of St Nicholas and Mary Sellwood of Burselton. [15/1/1708/9. BRO]

April 7

Thomas Pearce, son of Jeremiah Pearce, of Brislington, a mariner, apprenticed to John Elbridge, merchant. [BAR]

April 24

Thomas Daniel and John Phelps, were Overseers of the Poor, and like their predecessors and successors believed that nature was to be wrestled with, and tamed. Brislington's inhabitants were financially rewarded for killing all sorts of "vermin": foxes, polecats and conies. The last - rabbits - were causing a nuisance on Brislington Common and John Riley was paid the large sum of £2 to destroy them.

The harmless and altogether useful hedgehog in particular was murdered on a huge scale. So much for the modern widely held belief that our ancestors were instinctive ecologists. Some who supplemented their wages thus engaged were William Brookman, John Butcher, Harry Butcher, Edward Fry, William Gregory, John Griffin, George Harding, Henry Harrill, John Hook, Thomas Lyle, Joseph Merryweather, Clement Minor, John Nevell, James Peasley, Joseph Peasley, John Phelps, and Richard Showring.

The Overseers also charitably "paid a man that had lost all by fire, 1s 0d" and claimed expenses of 2s 6d when John Harris's man was taken up for a soldier. They also "paid the Ringers for Joy at the Duke of Marlborough's victory, 5s 0d" - which was Malplaquet, over the French, and gained at a great cost in lives, earning him the soubriquet "the Butcher" on the one side, and inspiring the song "For he's a jolly good fellow", on the other.

[AA]

1710

April 9

Jeremiah Pearce and William Hort, Churchwardens, Enoch Noble and Nicholas Cowling, Overseers of the Poor. A woman was found dead in the highway, and buried at parish expense. [AA]

July 20

"Paid for a medicine to cure Bull's family of the itch, 1s 0d." [AA]

August 18

Robert Shewring of Bristleton and Deborah Stiff of Chipping Sodbury, were married at Yate. [PR]

1711

April 1

Richard Milkins, Overseer of the Poor. He paid one shilling to "a man with a horse to carry off a great bellied woman". Wandering, often pregnant, women were still a feature of the countryside just as they had been the previous century, [see Bulletins II] and were still harried out of the parish lest their child should become a burden on the rates. [AA]

1712

The river Avon was made navigable between Bristol and Bath. [Chron]

Conveyance of a new house on the site of cottages built in 1616 on waste ground, leased by the executors of the late Robert Langton to Isaac Selwood, quarrier of Brislington. [SRO DD/BR/tb/5]

April 20

John Cook and John Lacy, Overseers of the Poor. Abraham Barnes was found dead in the Parish, and the expense of summoning the coroner and an inquest amounted to £2.19s.6d. [AA]

Other expenses during this year:

|   | s  | d |      |
|---|----|---|------|
| Paid Benjamin Henton for taking off the thatch of the house in the Rock | 1  | 6 |      |
| for rethatching   | 11 | 6 |      |
| for a lock on the door  |    | 6 | [AA] |

[As I live at the Rock, I dream of this cottage with the newly thatched roof - but I am intrigued that a door lock was necessary when legend would have us believe that no-one in antiquity ever locked their doors! In fairness, I believe it temporarily stood empty.]

July 8

"Mr William Keate, minister of this parish, deceased 8th July and was buried 11th of the same month" - at Keynsham, which he held in plurality with Brislington. [PR]

1713

April 5

John Hall and John Merryweather, Churchwardens, John Green and Richard Brockman, Overseers of the Poor: as with pregnant women, so too, other

unfortunates: "Paid Thomas Lacy for carrying the cripple out of the parish,  
10s 11d." [AA]

August 28

Marriage licence William Hatton of Brislington, husbandman, and Mary Newman  
of Bristol, spinster, 30. To be at Brislington. [Jewers]

[It wasn't!]

September 29

Lease: Ann Benson of Brislington to John Cooke, cordwainer of Brislington  
for 60 years. [BRO 11982/16]

September 30

Co-part lease from Jeremiah Pearce of Brislington, merchant, to John  
Coysgarne the elder of the City of Bristol, merchant, of Great Sparkmeads,  
Brislington, belonging to the Parsonage, for £280. Refers to land near a  
"farme of Sir John Smith, baronet" [Smythe of Ashton Court], "late in the  
possession of John Roome; land late or now in possession of Israel Minard,  
and a parcel of ground of the widow Glison. Now in occupation of Jeremiah  
Pearce, granted from Frances Vaughan, widow; also ground purchased of  
William Seed, Katherine his wife, Brice Seed and Richard Ivyleafe."  
[BRO 4550/7]

November 2

Marriage licence, John Green of Busselton, ropemaker, and Dorothy Cowstin  
of Stapleton. [BRO]

November 6

Lease between

- (1) Thomas Warren, tanner
- (2) Joseph Langton of Newton Park, Newton St Loe, executor of Sir William  
Cann, Baronet, of Brislington
- (3) William Barrett, house carpenter.

concerning ground in Strait Street, St Philips. [BRO 39462/4]

December 8

"Charles Shepherd, being about 8, son of William Shepherd of Stockwood and  
and Dinah his wife and William, being about 4 months, son of the said  
William & Dinah" baptised at Keynsham. [PR]

[This is the same William and Diana, still together, whose marriage began  
so inauspiciously in 1706.]

1714

January 31

John Griffin and Hester Roberts of Bruslington [sic] married at Corston.  
[PR]

February 20

Samuel Wilcox of Busselton and Mary ..... married at Corston. [PR]

March 28

John Merryweather and John Hall, Overseers of the Poor spent

|                                      | £ | s | d |      |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|------|
| When Elizabeth Reece hurt her leg    |   | 4 | 0 |      |
| Message to fetch the Doctor to her   |   | 2 | 0 |      |
| Paid Mr Wharton* for curing her leg  | 1 | 6 | 6 |      |
| Ann Parsons for tending her          |   | 2 | 0 |      |
| Hannah Holbrook in lameness          |   | 6 | 0 |      |
| Richard Milkins** for curing her leg | 1 | 0 | 0 | [AA] |

\* Mr Wharton was probably Michael Wharton, apprenticed as a "chirurgion" [surgeon] in 1705, and perhaps Josiah Wharton's "Coz Michael" who went to Virginia. [see 1733]

\*\* As Richard Milkins was a blacksmith, my guess is he made some sort of leg iron for Hannah. The remedy did not take, and in 1715 he was paid for "curing" her again.

July 11

We should not perhaps be too critical of the haste in which those who were not parishioners were removed from the parish. The following paints a vivid picture of the trouble and expense involved during the birth of a child to paupers who did belong to the parish:

Overseers' expenses, at various times from this date, concerning Hopping

|  | £ | s  | d  |      |
|--|---|----|----|------|
| Dick, his wife and child   |   |    |    |      |
| Paid Hopping Dick's wife, 15 weeks [to 10 October]   | 1 | 11 | 2  |      |
| Sarah Little for 13 weeks lodging for her  |   | 13 | 0  |      |
| Sarah Little for tending her lying in  |   | 8  | 0  |      |
| Allowed Mr Hall 5 shillings that he paid to the midwife for delivering Hopping Dick's wife |   | 5  | 0  |      |
| Two pecks of malt for her  |   | 2  | 0  |      |
| Two horse loads of coal for her  |   | 1  | 10 |      |
| One cheese for her   |   | 1  | 0  |      |
| Gave Dick himself  |   |    | 6  |      |
| Spent at Bristol finding Dick's master   |   | 2  | 2  |      |
| Paid for Ale at christening of Dick's child  |   |    | 9  |      |
| Paid Mr Black his fee  |   | 10 | 0  |      |
| Spent the same time at a tavern  |   | 4  | 0  |      |
| Paid Mr Whiting for drawing a breviate   |   | 10 | 0  |      |
| Paid to an attorney at Gloucester  |   | 10 | 0  |      |
| Paid to the Counsellor at the Trial  | 1 | 0  | 0  |      |
| Paid for an order of the court   |   | 3  | 0  |      |
| Paid Dick's master for his time  |   | 10 | 0  |      |
| Paid for his horse here  |   | 5  | 0  |      |
| Expenses in going and coming and there   | 2 | 6  | 7  |      |
| Gave Dick a new hat and 3 shillings in money   |   | 5  | 10 |      |
| Spent when we had Dick home  |   | 5  | 0  | [AA] |

July 9

"I, George Whitmore of the City of Bristol do hereby acknowledge to have received from John Hall and John Meryweather, Churchwardens of Brislington, the sum of 40 shillings for mending the parish clock, and I do hereby promise to keep said clock in good repair so that it may go well for the

term of seven years next ensuing the date hereof, witness my hand, 9 day of July 1714, the ropes excepted or any accident falling on it."

[signed] George Whitmore.

Witnessed by Daniel Lawrence.

[AA]

August 10

Marriage licence, John Owen of Temple and Ann Maria Green of Brislington.

[BRO]

October 20

The Coronation of George I was marked by serious rioting in Bristol between the supporters of a high church Tory cleric called Sacheverell and Quakers, resulting in loss of life.

December 20

Israel Gleson and Mary Pierce married at Whitchurch.

[PR]

same day

Rev George Counsell BA, was vicar of Brislington but his main incumbency was at Corston where he was installed this day. In 1720 he moved to Over Stowey.

[Church, SI]

1715

January 12

A deed concerning a grant from William Cann to Dame Elizabeth Cann.

[BRO 4550/8]

February 1

Marriage licence, Thomas Walter of Busselton and Ann Shoare of St James.

[BRO]

April 18

John Wickwick of Mangotsfield and Susanna Lansdown of Brislington married at Corston.

[PR]

April 17

William Hort, Churchwarden and Thomas Daniel, Overseer of the Poor.

Some of the expenses during their time:

|   | £ | s  | d |      |
|---|---|----|---|------|
| Gave to the schoolmaster in the smallpox  |   | 8  | 0 |      |
| Ann Parsons for lodging and tending him   |   | 5  | 0 |      |
| Hannah Holbrook in lameness   |   | 2  | 0 |      |
| Stuff to draw her leg   |   | 1  | 4 |      |
| Richard Milkins for curing her leg  |   | 7  | 0 |      |
| Hannah Holbrook for tending William Sartain, lame                               |   | 1  | 0 |      |
| Joseph Elliott, hurt at the coalpit   |   | 2  | 6 |      |
| Paid for a warrant for Thomas Huntington for harbouring a great bellied woman   |   | 1  | 0 |      |
| Expenses in sending Mary Davis to Ilchester and presenting her at next sessions | 1 | 12 | 0 | [AA] |

June 26

Anthony Bumpford of Brislington and Mary Ffarwell of Bathampton married at Corston.

[PR]

October 30

William Lewis and Sarah Candel of Brislington married at Saltford.

[PR]

1716

January 9

Thomas Horne of St Mary Redcliffe and Judith Taylor of Busselton married at  
Newton St Loe. [PR]

January 10

Marriage licence, John Hook of Brislington and Joan Ford of St Philip & St  
Jacob. [BRO]

April 1

Israel Gleson, Overseer of the Poor

Some expenses during his term:

|  | s  | d |      |
|--|----|---|------|
| Paid John Ash for carrying a woman to Ilchester Gaol                           | 1  | 0 |      |
| Gave Thomas Bungay when turned out of his house at<br>The Rock                 | 10 | 0 |      |
| Paid Daniel Meryweather for a new whipping post and<br>mending the stocks      | 19 | 0 |      |
| Thomas Davis for iron gear and three locks for<br>the whipping post and stocks | 6  | 0 | [AA] |

[Despite renovations, which may indicate either wearing out or rusting out,  
there is no specific note of any persons placed in either contraption  
during the half century under review.]

April 15

John [or Philip] Glesson of St Thomas married Elizabeth Edgely at Bristol  
Cathedral. [PR]

August 16

The marriage of "Sir William Cann of Busselton and Madam Elizabeth Chester,  
daughter of Thomas Chester esquire", by licence, took place at Almondsbury.  
[BRO, PR]

August 27

"Madam Frances Langton" the wife of Joseph Langton buried at Newton St Loe,  
"in woollen by affidavit", signed by her husband and daughter, Frances Fry.  
Joseph and Frances had ten children, but only two survived their parents.  
[PR]

September 13

More articles of agreement drawn up between "Adventurers in Colemines"

1. John Hall of Brislington, yeoman
2. William Horte of same, yeoman
3. James Lawrence of same, yeoman
4. Daniel Lawrence of same, yeoman
5. John Podmore of Stapleton, miller
6. Richard Jones of Brislington, carrier

on the one part and



1. George Cobb, of Brislington, esquire
2. Joseph Langton of the same, esquire



Civitas  
Bristol

These are to Certifie That the Body of Elizabeth  
Burgess lately deceased Interred in the Parish of St.  
Edward - was not put in wrapt wound up or  
buried in any shirt, shift, sheet, or shroud, made or mingled  
with Flax, Hemp, Silk, Hair, Gold, or Silver, or other  
then what is made of Sheeps woll only, or in any Coffin  
lined or faced with any Cloth, Stuff, or any other thing  
what so ever made or mingled with Flax, Hemp, Silk, Hair,  
Gold, or Silver, or any other material but Sheeps wooll only  
The truth whereof is attested by Mary Jauder &  
Sara Edwards as well by their hands & Seals herunto  
sett & Subscribed as by their respective oaths taken  
before me J<sup>r</sup> Tho: Day Ju<sup>r</sup> - - - - one of the  
Mag<sup>ties</sup> Iustices of the Peace for the County - aforesaid  
As witness my hand the 18 day of Novemb<sup>r</sup> - in the 6<sup>th</sup> -  
year of the reigne of the Maj<sup>tie</sup> King James the first  
over England &c. Anno<sup>3</sup> Domini 1707.

*The Day*

M. J.   
S. E. 

A certificate of  
BURIAL IN WOOLLEN

[this one is from a Bristol church, The certificate issued for Frances Langton's interment has not survived]

*[Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*



on the other, to carry on "coleworks" and "land cole" in the parish of  
Brislington. [SRO/DD/BR/tb/14 & DD/GL/128]

October 28  
Marriage licence, William Jones of Brislington and Martha Rumsey, of  
Keynsham, spinster, 26. Her mother consents. Marriage to be at St  
Cuthbert's, Wells. [Jewers]

November 1  
Marriage licence, John Midleton of Brislington, yeoman, and Eleanor  
Midleton of St Augustine the less. [BRO]

1717

January 26

The masters of the coalworks, Messrs Hall, Hort, Lawrence et al issued an  
account of their operation:

|  | £   | s  | d  |
|--|-----|----|----|
| Due to Mr Cobb                             | 29  | 3  | 4  |
| Mr Langton                                 | 29  | 3  | 4  |
| Mr Milkins on Lady Day next                | 15  | 10 | 0  |
| Esquire Capin [?]                          | 1   | 13 | 3  |
| Mr Hassell for candles                     | 8   | 3  | 0  |
| Mr Teather for ditto                       | 23  | 4  | 0  |
| Mr Richard Taylor                          | 7   | 6  | 6½ |
| John Green for ropes for coleworks         | 6   | 0  | 0  |
| Mr Cobb on Lady Day next                   | 16  | 0  | 0  |
| Clearing the ground of weede               | 30  | 0  | 0  |
| Richard Jones for carryage of cole         | 17  | 6  | 0  |
| Daniel Lawrence, his wages to 26th January | 7   | 4  | 0  |
| Mr Whipp[ie]                               | 1   | 0  | 0  |
| John Sparkes                               | 1   | 10 | 0  |
| To Chamber at Bristol at 25th March        | 1   | 5  | 0  |
|  | 194 | 8  | 5½ |

which gives some idea why it made sound financial sense for Mr Cobb and Mr  
Langton to allow speculators to dig on their land, which otherwise was  
covered in "weede". Compare their dividend with Daniel Lawrence's wages!

All underground work was done by candle light, costly as well as dangerous.

By the second schedule the expenditure had risen all told to £1064. 2s 6d  
and included large amounts invested in equipment:

|                              | £   | s | d |
|------------------------------|-----|---|---|
| Richard Shewring for horses  | 24  | 0 | 0 |
| Horses harness               | 40  | 0 | 0 |
| The Windmill                 | 200 | 0 | 0 |
| Pumps                        | 50  | 0 | 0 |
| Mr Brown, carpenter          |     | 5 | 0 |
| John Green - [more ropes?]   | 3   | 0 | 0 |
| Isaac Selwood [the quarrier] | 15  | 3 |   |

[SRO DD/BR/tb/14]

February 2  
Marriage licence, John Eldridge of St James and Elizabeth Price of  
Brislington. [2.2.1716/7.BRO]

April 21  
Robert Little and Abraham Merryweather, Overseers of the Poor, Israel  
Gleson, Churchwarden. Some expenses during their term: paid towards the man  
that was robbed, 6s 4d, and a small, but touching kindness: "gave to Thomas  
Bungay to mend his bagpipes, 4s 0d". [AA]

April 30  
Richard, son of William and Martha Jones of Brislington baptised at  
Keynsham. [PR]

July 12  
Elizabeth Chester, the daughter of Sir William Cann, Baronet, and Elizabeth  
his wife born. She was baptised at St Luke's on the 23rd. [PR]

1718  
February 6  
Ann, the daughter of George Cobb, esquire and Ann, his wife, formerly  
Langton, was born this day and baptised at St Luke's on the 21st. [PR]

April 13  
James Lawrence and Thomas Curtis, were Overseers of the Poor, with Israel  
Gleson remaining as Churchwarden. They bought a cap and muffler for poor  
Tom Bungay, costing 1s 8d, but the extra warmth failed to save him, and the  
skirl of his bagpipes was silenced forever:

|   | s | d |      |
|---|---|---|------|
| Richard Peasley to bury Thomas Bungay             | 1 | 9 |      |
| Daniel Meryweather for a coffin for Thomas Bungay | 6 | 0 |      |
| for victuals and ale burying of Thomas Bungay     | 5 | 0 | [AA] |

[Thomas Bungay married Ruth Roach at St Luke's in 1699, and their children  
John, James, Ruth and Elizabeth were baptised between 1700 and 1708. They  
had been evicted from their house at the Rock in 1716, and young Elizabeth  
became a parish apprentice. Thomas's widow Ruth survived until 1723. [PR, AA]

August 4  
Lease between Joshua Wharton of Bristol, Thomas Belsire of Winterbourne and  
Jarrit Smith of Bristol, of a house and land in Brislington and three  
houses near the quarry. [BRO 6378/1]

[The Whartons had Brislington connections from 1681 when Samuel Wharton  
paid rates. Joshua Wharton, a mercer, otherwise a purveyor of silks,  
carried on business in Bristol, though later took up residence in his  
Brislington house.]

December 7  
Elizabeth Chester, the daughter of Sir William and Lady Elizabeth Cann was  
baptised at Brislington. [PR]

[The same child christened twice, or a replacement child for the Elizabeth  
Chester Cann born in 1717? It was not unusual for a new baby to be given

the same name as a previous infant who had died, but there are no Cann burials noted in the register of the period.]

1719

March 27

Richard Jones, Overseer of the Poor, until 2 October, and then John Griffin. [AA]

May 2

Marriage licence between Henry Harewell of Brislington and Mary Hort of Bedminster, spinster. [Jewers]

May 19

Mary, daughter of George Hadlam [sic] of Brislington baptised at St Mary Redcliffe. [PR]

June 11

Lease for seven years, Brislington Farm:

- (1) Richard Milkins of Brislington, yeoman
- (2) Thomas Hearne of Bristol, cordwinder
- (3) James Harrill of Brislington, yeoman

Close or meadow called Gormore in Brislington. Annual rent £3.

[BRO 26992/31]

November 10

Marriage licence, Francis Sweet of St Philip and St Jacob and Sarah Bull of Brislington. They were married at the Cathedral the following day. [BRO, PR]

October 3

John Griffin, Overseer of the Poor [until 22 April 1720]: his accounts include the expenses of a parish apprentice, Thomas Bungay's daughter:

|   | £ | s  | d |      |
|---|---|----|---|------|
| "Laid out for Elizabeth Bungay:                           |   |    |   |      |
| for a gown and petticoat:                                 | 1 | 2  | 6 |      |
| for a pair of bodices & stomacher, 2 pairs stockings:     |   | 6  | 2 |      |
| 2 pairs of shoes:   |   | 4  | 0 |      |
| "Laid out for heaving up of Elizabeth Bungay to Mr Fears: | 5 | 4. |   | [AA] |

December 28

Marriage licence, Thomas Hains of St Peter and Frances Meryweather of Brislington. [BRO]

1720

March 20

Joseph Langton esquire, the father of Anne Langton Cobb of Brislington, was buried at Newton St Loe, "in Lennen for which the penalty was paid according to Act of Parliament", a bit of oneupmanship, despite his having been busily engaged in signing affidavits since 1713 confirming that almost everybody else, including his wife, was buried not in fine linen, but in woollen shrouds!

His will, proved 17 May 1720, appoints his friends, Sir John Harrington of Kelston, Walter Robinson of Hinton Abbey, esquire, Arthur Bedford of Newton St Loe, clerk, trustees and names his daughter Frances, wife of Robert Fry, and granddaughter Frances Fry, to whom £500  
Granddaughters Elizabeth and Frances Langton, £500 each

Trustees to have guardianship of grandson Joseph Langton until 21 (he was the son of Ann and Robert, and would inherit Brislington)  
 Granddaughter Ann Cobb, £400 at 18  
 Cousin Joanna Knight, cousin Elizabeth Vickris, daughter Ann Cobb  
 Sir William Cann "my diamond ring" and to his mother Lady Cann, a £5 piece of gold. Son in law George Cobb, etc. [PR, ASW]

April 17  
 John Green and Peter Waymouth were Churchwardens; William Morgan and William Sellwood, who deputised for Joshua Wharton, Overseers of the Poor.

May 6  
 James Court, a husbandman, forcibly returned home by the parish of St Thomas, Bristol, and who thereafter appears in the Overseers' book, was obviously a disabled person:

|  | s  | d |
|--|----|---|
| "Paid Mary Miner for dressing James Court                            | 4  | 0 |
| "Two shirts for James Court  | 5  | 0 |
| "Paid William Morgan for keeping James Court and his mother, 11 days | 10 | 0 |
| "For carrying him to Pensford  | 2  | 0 |
| "William Morgan for a chair for James Court                          | 1  | 0 |
| "William Morgan for straw for James Court                            | 1  | 0 |

[ BRO P/StLB/OP/11/2, AA]

April 29  
 Marriage licence between John Bevan of Temple and Sarah Horrell of Brislington. [ BRO ]

June 27  
 Hugh Taylor, apprenticed to Thomas and Elizabeth Frank on this day was probably the younger brother of Thomas Taylor, also a former apprentice of the Franks. Like Thomas, Hugh was described "son of John Taylor of Long Ashton". He became a free potter in 1727 and as a gallypotmaker of Brislington was eligible to vote in the Parliamentary election of 1734. He paid rates in Brislington until 1738, moving afterwards to Redcliffe. [Pots]

1721

April 9  
 William Jones was Overseer of the Poor. On April 17, the accounts made a small profit, which was given to the church.

|  | £     | s  | d |
|--|-------|----|---|
| The receipts, which came from rates were | 68    | 17 | 2 |
| The disbursements                        | 63    | 7  | 5 |
|  | <hr/> |    |   |
| in hand:                                 | 5     | 9  | 9 |

Examined by  
 John Templeman  
 John Hall  
 William Hort  
 Thomas Daniel  
 John Green  
 William Selwood  
 William Morgan  
 and "allowed" by H Bridges & John Mogg. [ AA ]

June 10

Edward son of George Cobb, esquire, and Ann, his wife, born 24 May, baptised on this day at St Luke's. [PRStLB]

1722

Rev Michael Hunt, [BA 1716, MA 1721] aged 28 became vicar of Brislington, his first appointment. From 1724-49 he also held the office of Prebendary of Wells Cathedral and became Rector of Burnett in 1733, whilst continuing at Brislington. [Church, Alumni Oxon]

March 14

General Election. Sir William Cann voted in Bristol, as a freeholder of St Nicholas, and Joshua Wharton, likewise, of St Stephen. The following from Brislington, cast their votes as "Country Voices":

Joseph Ivy, carpenter  
Israel Roache, husbandman  
John Seare, soapmaker  
Joseph Tranter, carpenter  
Thomas Taylor, potter  
Samuel Chard, yeoman

[BPB]

Thomas Taylor, who is erroneously described "porter" instead of potter in the Poll Book, had associations with Brislington since 1709 when he came from Long Ashton to be apprenticed to Thomas and Elizabeth Frank. He married his wife Sarah Beachgood at St Mary Redcliffe in 1717, and they had a family of four, two boys and two girls, three of whom were baptised at Brislington. Thomas is noted as being "at the pothouse" in 1722 and paying rates as occupier of St Anne's Mill in 1730, apparently having taken over the Pottery before Thomas Dickson died in 1733. He again voted as a Brislington "country voice" in 1734 and 1739, though he divided his business interests between Brislington and Redcliffe. Sadly, he went bankrupt in 1743. [Pots]

March 25

John Templeman and Thomas Daniel, Overseers of the Poor.

[AA]

April 4

Richard Milkins, Thomas Daniel, Joshua Wharton, William Hort and Peter Waymouth produced the churchwardens' accounts. In hand was the amount of £5.17s 4½d. [AA]

Their expenses included another maternity case: Paid £1 3s 6d to "Nurse Williams for taking care of Ann Russell three weeks and going with her to Bristol and paid for a warrant for her, and lent her 3s 6d. Paid Hester and Rachel Nevell for nursing her child, John Russell 3s 0d. Paid for clothes for the bastard child 7½d." The baby had already received clothes to the tune of 8s 7d and in the following April "a months diet" for him cost eight shillings; in August "gave the bastard child being sick 6d." [AA]

April 30

John Glisson, baker and Israel Glisson, infant, "buried in woollen".

[ARL B32435]

September 10

Christian, the daughter of George Cobb, esquire and Ann his wife, was born at 4 o'clock in the morning and baptised the following day. It seems from this hasty summons to the vicar that the child was not expected to live, but all was well. She grew up and married Paul Methuen of Corsham. [PR]

1723

February 22

Marriage licence, Thomas Merriweather of Brislington, yeoman and Mary Sparks of same. No parents. Application for the licence made by Thomas Willis, brother in law to Thomas Merriweather. [Jewers]

Thomas Willis rather jumped the gun as the brother in law, for, on the same day: a marriage licence was granted to Thomas Willis of Bristol, cooper and Elizabeth Merriweather of Brislington, spinster, 29; her mother consents. At Brislington, Keynsham, Corston or Saltford. [Jewers]

[Neither marriage is recorded in the Brislington Parish Register.]

April 14

John Templeman and Joshua Wharton, Churchwardens, until 1725; Richard Milkins and Thomas Merryweather, Overseers of the Poor. [AA]

April 20

The Poor of Brislington receiving Parish Pay, per week

|                           | s | d |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| William Chancellor        | 1 | 0 |
| Hannah Hollbrook          | 1 | 0 |
| Mary Daniel               | 1 | 6 |
| Daniel White              | 1 | 6 |
| Jane Elliott              | 1 | 6 |
| Joan Waterman             | 1 | 6 |
| Martha Pope               | 1 | 0 |
| John Loscombe             | 1 | 0 |
| Widow Emblen or Harding   | 1 | 3 |
| Betty Reece               | 1 | 0 |
| Rachel Ball               | 1 | 6 |
| Widow Hook                | 1 | 0 |
| John Russell alias Corant | 2 | 0 |

[AA]

August 14

Henry Smyth of Bristleton and Grace Anvy married at Siston, by licence.

[PR]

August

The cost of a pauper funeral:

A coffin for Ruth Bungay, wool, ale, bread, cheese and brandy... 11s 8d  
To the minister 2s 6d and the clerk 2s 0d for Ruth Bungay." [AA]

September 5

Richard son of Richard and Sarah Jones of Brislington, baptised Keynsham.

[PR]

September 12

The Overseers "Paid Mr Britten for putting the men in Goal" [Gaol!] [AA]



December 19

Harry Bridges and John Mogg JPs bound Samuel and James Wilcox, cordwainers, in respect of Mary, the daughter of Ann Woodham, a widow, of whom Samuel was the father. He was to pay £2 towards the lying in, and one shilling per week thereafter. Sworn before Joshua Wharton, William Hort, Churchwardens, Richard Milkins and John Merreweather, junior, Overseers of the Poor. [AA]

"A base child of Ann Wodam" was baptised in 1724, for which the overseers "spent going to Keynsham for Ann Woodham, 1s 0d", plus baby clothes costing 7s 6d and "for its nursing, 11 weeks at 2s and 20 at 1s = £2. 2s 0d". Ann was lodged with Widow Jones, and the Parish paid her rent, of fifteen shillings. She continued to appear in the Poor Book, and on one occasion was provided with an apron for 1s 0d. [BRO StLB/OP/14/4, PRStLB, AA]

1724

January 12

Lady Elizabeth Cann, aged 30, the wife of Sir William Cann of Busselton, and sister of Thomas Chester, esquire, was buried at Almondsbury, Gloucestershire. [PR - see also 1726]

February 13

Marriage licence: James Coulston of Brislington and a Miss Bennett of St James. [BRO]

February 27

Henry Williams, a labourer, his wife Grace, and Robert, their son were removed to Brislington from Siston. [BRO P/St LB/OP/11/3]

February 28

Dorothy Lawrence of Brislington, widow and executrix of Daniel Lawrence, yeoman, sold her share in the coalworks to William Hort and James Lawrence for £100, and made her mark

Dorothy *DL* Lawrence

[SRO DD/BR/tb/14 28.2.1723/3]

April 5

Robert Little and Samuel Wilcox were Overseers of the Poor. Samuel's appointment, given his circumstances, must have been more than slightly awkward. [AA]

1725

Will of William Horte, maltster of Brislington. [Hort file at SOG]

April 2

Roger Meryweather and William Jones, were Overseers of the Poor, John Templeman, Churchwarden. [AA]

April 7

Richard Jones - his tombstone is one of the earliest in the churchyard - died aged 62. His widow, Rebecca, like Dorothy Lawrence sold her inherited share in the coalmine back to William Hort and James Lawrence for £100. An indenture prevented "the survivors of Dorothy Lawrence and Rebecca Jones from claiming partnership in the coleworks". [SRO DD/GL/128]

September 9

Deborah Lawrence, wife of Roger, died aged 31, and her tombstone too survives.

October 3

Sarah daughter of Richard and Sarah Jones of Brislington, baptised at Keynsham. [PR]

1726

February 26

Brislington Farm changed hands when a lease for seven years between  
(1) George Cobb of Brislington, esquire and Ann his wife and  
(2) James Harrill and Thomas Harrill, of same, yeomen, was issued, concerning a capital messuage and land in Brislington manor; certain land, lime kiln, use of Red Pool, timber and mineral rights excepted. Annual rent £189. 6s. 8d, plus six dozen pigeons. [BRO 26992/4]

April 10

John Templeman and John Flatt, were Churchwardens, and Elizabeth Coysgarne, partnered by Ezekiel Longman, served as Overseer of the Poor, one of only two women to hold the office, the other being Dorothy Lawrence in 1725. Despite this breakthrough, Elizabeth could not be trusted to handle the cash, and "disbursements" were made by Arthur Russell and James Harrill. Among these were "Victuals for Joyce Harding when in the barn and hauling to Brislington, 2s 6d", and Hester Gleson for "Old Atkins lodging, 20 weeks at 6d per week, 10s 0d." [AA]

April 27

Sir William Cann died aged only 32 and was buried on May 5 at Almondsbury where his memorial reads: "The Body of Sir William Cann of Buftleton in the County of Somerset, Baronet, who died the 27 of April, An. Dom 1726, aetat 32." Beside him lies his wife: "The Body of Dame Elizabeth Cann, wife of Sir William Cann, Baronet, aforesaid and daughter of Thomas Chester, of this parish, esquire, who died the 6 of January An. Dom 1724, aetat 30." [quoted Bigland]

June 20

Aaron Ithells [described as "of Siston" but whose roots were undoubtedly in Brislington], married Mary Emerson of Mangotsfield at Bristol Cathedral. [PR]

1727

January 24

Elizabeth daughter of Richard and Sarah Jones of Busselton was baptised at Keynsham. [PR]

January 26

The overseers paid

|   |   |    |
|---|---|----|
| "for carrying the man that was killed on the Common to the Church and spent on Ale at the burying | 2 | 8½ |
| "Laying the man out in wool   | 4 | 7  |
| "Paid James Bridges and spent for seeking information   | 5 | 8  |
| "Paid Mr Hunt for burying the man, for breaking ground and an affidavit                           | 6 | 4  |
| "Paid for a coffin for the man killed on the Common   | 6 | 0  |

[AA, Jan 26 1726/7]

January 27

Jonathon Lansdown and Frances Harding married "in Brislington Church, by Michael Hunt, curate". Recorded in the parish register of Twerton.

[1726/7, PR]

April 4

On the front page of St Luke's Overseers of the Poor Accounts is the following doggerel:

*This book was made many hands for to throw  
And to everyone that takes it is a trust I now  
For to Relieve the Poor according to their need  
The man that doth it is to be commend indeed.*

John P. 1727

"John P." is probably John Phelps who with Dorothy Lawrence, was Overseer of the Poor this year. Dorothy replaced John Cook, whose name was crossed out. [AA]

April 29

Marriage licence of John Jones, collier of Busleson and Sarah Webb of St Philip and St Jacob. [BRO]

May

Publication of Turnpike Toll fees resulted in furious protests, with rioting in Bristol irregularly over the next several months.

November 3

Joshua Wharton took on a parish apprentice: "Paid Mr Wharton with the boy - £2. [AA]

Christmas

"The names of those to whom Late Jones' money", (a bequest left to six deserving poor of the parish of four shillings each), "is to be given:

|                  |                  |                   |      |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|------|
| James Bungay     | The Widow Banton | Sarah Meryweather |      |
| William Stockman | Francis Robins   | Charles Gain      | [AA] |

1728

April 21

Thomas Daniel was Overseer of the Poor for the first part of the year. Thomas Horrell took over in November. [AA]

The accounts were beautifully kept with the following among others receiving relief:

Charles Shepherd - distress  
Mary Curtis - sickness  
Richard Foundme - received clothing  
Sarah Glover's daughter - distress  
Mary Daniel - cloth and thread to make a shift  
Betty Hicks - shoes and stocking  
Sarah Teague's child - sickness  
Jane Elliott - received a shift  
William Lewis, his wife and children - sickness and received cloth

Sarah Glover - paid 1s 7d for making 5 shifts for Wm Lewis's family  
Joyce Woodham - sickness  
Mary Lewis' husband - sickness  
Ann Woodham - sickness  
Richard Challenger - sickness  
Charles Gain - sickness, and included expenses of 3s 6d "for a great bellied woman and a man and horse to carry her off." [AA]

1729

January 15

Thomas Ithel & Ann Peasely married at Christchurch, Bristol. [PR 1728/9]

April 6

Israel Gleson & Thomas Griffin, Overseers of the Poor. [AA]

July 6

Mary, daughter of Richard Reley [Riley] was baptised at Brislington. Richard, a gallypotmaker, had been apprenticed to Thomas and Sarah Dickson 21 February 1716/7 and as a Freeman voted at the Parliamentary Elections of 1734 and 1739. Apparently the last potter working in Brislington, he was buried in 1750. [Pots]

September 6

A number of "apprentices" ceased to be a burden on the parish, when their new masters paid £2 each for their trouble in taking on unpaid labourers:

John Currant who was, I believe, Ann Russell's illegitimate son, also known as John Russell, went to Mr Giles Bailey; Charles Gain to the Rev Mr Humphrey Tucker and Hester Loscombe to George Cobb, esquire. [AA]

October 10

Before she could go to Langton Court, Hester Loscombe needed a bath, and possibly delousing: "Mary Lewis for cleaning of John Loscombe's children" was paid a shilling by the Churchwardens. In 1735 Mary also cleaned "Winter's two children" for 1s 6d. [AA]

1730

At Frome, an old woman suspected of being a witch was killed by the water ordeal. As far as I have been able to discover, nothing similar ever occurred at Brislington. [Chron]

A messuage and premises with a meadow called Vaughan's Moor, with a withy bed was conveyed from Frances Vaughan, of Bath, widow, to George Cobb, of Brislington, esquire. [SRO DD/GL/20]

March 29

John Sargent and Matthew Robins, Overseers of the Poor again kept superb accounts of the paupers and their distress, but despite this on.....

April 19

A meeting of the Brislington Apathetic Society evidently took place:

"Whereas a meeting of the parishioners was called to approve the rate to cover the expenditure, notwithstanding the bell was tolled" - as usual -

"for about half an hour, none of them thought fitt to appear, saving the churchwardens and the Parish Clerk." [quoted AA]

August 30

Martha daughter of Richard Jones of Brislington baptised at Keynsham. [PR]

November 12

Israel Glesson of St Thomas married Martha Pagett of St James at Bristol Cathedral. [PR]

1731

January 31

Sarah the daughter of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Pillinger, my distant kinfolk, was christened at Brislington, the first mention of the family in the parish where many of them would remain for the next century and a half. Jeremiah was baptised at Batheaston in 1705, but nothing further is known of his whereabouts from then until Sarah's christening. Jeremiah and Elizabeth's marriage has not been traced; nor has a christening of their first born child, Isaac, who arrived in Brislington with them. [PR]

March 23

Indenture between George Cobb, of Brislington, esquire, Anne his wife and Joseph Langton of Newton Park, esquire, on one side and

Richard Warren of the City of Bristol, merchant  
Joseph Carter of the City of Bristol, butcher  
Jacob Carter of Priston, Somerset, coleminer, on the other

to sink and dig for coals in Brislington, and to fill up unproductive holes after themselves! [SRO DD/GL/128 23.2.1730/11]

April 18

Mordecai Lockier & Arthur Russell, Overseers of the Poor. [AA]

May

Death of Hannah Merryweather, wife of Roger. Tombstone in the Churchyard.

July 7

"Thomas Davis of Busselton that was killed in the well at the New Inn", was buried at Batheaston. [PR]

July 9

Thomas Ithel married Margaret Thacher and Robert Peasley married Elizabeth Cragg at St John the Baptist Bristol. [BTs]

November 27

The will of Samuel Lansdowne the elder, of Brislington, yeoman, dated 3 June 1729 was proved on this day.

"Very sick and weak. To my beloved wife Sarah Lansdowne my dwelling house, gardens etc for her life and all my goods. After her death I give my dwelling house and garden to my son Samuel.

I give my beloved son John One shilling  
I give my beloved son Roger One shilling  
I give my beloved son Isaac One shilling

I give my beloved daughter Sarah Gane One shilling  
To my daughter Sarah Wickwick One shilling  
My wife Sarah to be executrix.  
Witnesses Hannah Bailey: John Chambers and William Owen."

Sarah in fact died before her husband, and the will was proved by Samuel Junior as principal legatee. He was than of "Mangersfield [sic] co Glouc" and was required to enter into a bond of £40 with Samuel Simons, gentleman, of Mangotsfield and William Sheppard of same, tailor. [SRO DD/X/SR/15]

[The above is taken from a précis, made by a Lansdowne researcher, and thoughtfully deposited at the Somerset Record Office before the Second World War, when the majority of original Somerset wills, including Samuel's, were consumed by flames.]

1732

April 9

William Brown and Giles Nash, Overseers of the Poor.

October 3

Marriage licence, Benjamin Pusey of Brislington, ropemaker, and Christian Robins of same, widow. Marriage to be at Bedminster. [Jewers]

October 25

Marriage licence, Jonathon Webb of Stapleton and Elizabeth Blackford of Busselton. [BRO]

December 13

George Evans, a potter of Brislington, acted as bondsman when a marriage licence was granted to George Drake, a collarmaker. [BRO]

1733

March 12

Marriage licence Thomas Phelps of Busselton and Martha Purnell of St Stephen. [BRO]

March 25

Richard Hardy and Henry Horrell, Overseers of the Poor [AA]

July

Between 1733 and 1742, Joshua Wharton, who had retired to Brislington with his wife Martha, and daughters Nansy and Betty, kept an account book of his expenditure, which supplies a fascinating glimpse of the demands and costs of a small family of moderate means, as well as naming a great many people from Brislington and elsewhere who furnished provender and worked for the Whartons in various ways. From time to time, Joshua included memoranda of some of the more memorable events which occurred, and some of these will be incorporated into the text under the reference "JW". Joshua's spelling was imaginative - Dr Johnson's dictionary was in the future - and he was a stranger to punctuation. Most of his idiosyncrasies appear as he wrote them, though commas and full stops have been added to make reading easier.

The title page contains the words "This is the Book of Joshua Wharton, mercer of the City of Bristol." and continues:

"The freeholders of the West Tithing of the Parish of Brislington. Mr Cosgaron, Mr Glifson, Peter Weymouth for Mr Newman, Peter Weymouth for the Great Meed, Mordicay Lockier for Robert Blanch, John Brookman for Robert Blanch, John Meriwether for Abra: Blanch, Mrs ffere, Mr Crisp for Warron, Joshua Wharton. The Parsonidge." [the last item was crossed out]. Followed by the odd entry:

"The Sesteron at Bufsellton 7 ffoot 9 inches long 5 ffoote and halfe Broad a foote Hy from the Bottom to the lower parte of the Arch."

[This "Sesteron" - or as I believe "cistern", was evidently very important and presumably stored water, though was possibly "the Fire Engine" - see 1738.]

August 4

"Paid Mr Edward Durben for a box of medison sent to Coz: Michael Wharton in Viginea, £2.2s." [JW]

August 22

"Cozen Hanna Wall began to drink Ases milk at five shillings a week." [JW]

[Joshua possessed inundations of cousins - invariably called Cozen or Coz, who he visited and was visited by. It is impossible not to detect a sniff at the extravagance of the asses milk. He had not heard of Cleopatra, and was perhaps lucky that Hanna only drank the stuff. Coz Wall appears regularly, as does Coz Michael, in America, who was on the "mailing list" throughout the account book.]

November 22

George Adlam, potter was sued in the Court of Conscience by William Crouch to recover a small debt. [BRO 04753]

December 4

"Agreed with Robert Pontin for a covenant servant for a year from Christmas 1733, £3.10s for the yare and if either do mislike to give a quarter warning. Gave him in Earnest, 6d." [JW]

[Robert, unlike many others of his servants, particularly the maids, was still with Joshua at the end of the account book.]

December 7

"Agreed with James Horrill for the little house and garden at Brislington from Lady Day 1734 for Three Pounds 15s. We are to have halfe the hopps." [JW]

December 29

"Gave to the Poor of the Parish of Brislington, 15 shillings. Gave to several people, 3s." [JW]

1734

February 21

A Royal Visit. "Thursday. The Prince of Orange [whol came from Bath to Bristol was mett by Sherife Pope and Sherife Glifson at Totterdown with a vast Company in Cock atts and horseback with a company of wool comors with orange coller wool caps and a Bundance of weavers [whol went befor with music playing before them. The Prince dined with Mr Jacob Elton, Mayor and the Corporation with a company of gentillmen at Merchants Hall. In the evening there was a Great Ball with most of the gentillmen and gentillwomen in the Towne. The Prince began the Ball and danced with Sherife Pope's wife, Mr Hoopper's wife and Mr Abraham Elton's younger daughter. He went to see the Hott Well after Diner. He lodged at Ald: Peter Day's in the Square; he went to his lodgings about 9 o'clock but a great many of the company staid att the ball till 3 o'clock in the morning. The Prince came throw Brislington from Bath and return'd to Bath the same way the friday morning." [JW: 21.2.1733/4]

[The Sheriffs were Michael Pope and Benjamin Glisson, probably related to our Brislington Glesons/Glissons. The Prince of Orange was about to marry the Princess Royal of England. According to Latimer the cost of entertaining him was £297. 1s 3d, which included £52. 10s spent on his servants.]

On the other hand.....

April 14

Anthony Mearne, Overseer of the Poor, paid "Daniel Merryweather for Widow Lewis's coffin, 7s Od. For Bread, Cheese, Drink, Brandy at laying her out and the burying in woollen, 4s 3½d; paid Mary Robins for a bottle of brandy for Sarah White, 5s 10½d", which was generous, but saw the poor soul off, for almost in the same breath, "paid Daniel White 7s Od for Sarah White's coffin." A woman with smallpox was lent 10s Od, and Mary Lewis was allowed 5s Od to pay the surgeon for setting her husband's leg. [AA]

May 14 - 24

General Election. The Brislington electors who voted as Country Voices for the three Bristol candidates:

William Bush,  
Joseph Carter, butcher  
Matthew Hawkins, esquire  
Richard Riley, Gally Pot Maker  
Thomas Taylor, Gally Pot Maker

[BPE]

Joshua Wharton wrote: "Wednesday began the Election for Parliament. Barron Scrupe, Abraham Elton against Esqr Coster. The Sherifs Mr Pope and Mr Benjamin Glifson. On the 24th, Friday, the Election ended and Sir Abraham Elton and Mr Thomas Coster had the majority of votes, 205 more than Barron Scrupe." [JW]

May 24

"James Horrill and Robert" - [he was "my man" Robert Pontin] "began to cutt the grass in the Worthys a Day." [JW]



July 3

Ann Wharton, "Nansy", Joshua's daughter, married William Stephens at St Mary Redcliffe. The newly weds stayed in Brislington for five weeks until "Nansy went home to Cirencester Thursday 12 September, with my son Stephens, my wife and Cozon Marklove." [JW]

[Joshua who had no son of his own, thereafter refers to William as "my son Stephens".]

August 19

"Coz Thomas Murry sailed with Captain Spurier to Plimoth where the ship was castaway. Coz Ann Rudge and her son Noblett went for Ireland." [JW]

[On 19 October, Joshua sent a letter to "Coz Ann Rudge" via Captain Davis, a skipper bound for Cork. The cost was five shillings - strangely enough the equivalent of 25 pence, which is the price of first class post at the time of writing - April 1994, but five shillings represented a great deal more money then. It is interesting to compare this postage with the entry of 9 September, when "James Horrill brote 14 horse load of coal." The cost, notwithstanding that Brislington dug its own, was fifteen shillings and twopence, very slightly over three times the cost of sending the letter to Cork. But how much is a "horse load" of coal?]

August 20

"William Atkins came to Brislington to work." [JW]

Michaelmas

Recovery between Christopher Devonshier, demandant, Kedgewin Webley, gent, tenant and William Reeve, vouchee of two messuages, two gardens, five acres of land, eight acres of meadow, eight acres of pasture and common of pasture for all manner of cattle and appurtenances in Brislington. [BRO 4550/75]

October 14

John Mereweather of Busselton, carrier and John Gorton of Bristol, glassmaker, stood surety in the sum of £10, for the appearance of Mereweather's wife Margaret, and John Gorton himself, to prosecute John Woodman for felony, in the Bristol Tolzey Court. [BRO 04435 (3) 1730-1737]

October 16

Joshua Wharton did "agree with my servant Robert Pontin for another years servis from Christmas 1734 to Christmas 1735" - and Robert had been rewarded with a substantial rise - "at fowre guineas." [JW]

October 24

"James Harrill bot [bought] a little grey mare for Coz Marklove. He is to pay £3.15s 0d." [JW]

December 30

Robert Cann son and heir of William Cann of the City of Bristol admitted to the Middle Temple to study law. [Register of Admissions, Middle Temple]

1735

Joseph Langton, Sheriff of Somerset. [Chron]

January 8

"Ten o'clock in the morning it thundered and litnid for about half an houre and the wind blewe with great violence that trees in my Great Orchard of Aples, Pares and Plumes was blown down and a great dele of tile and thatch was blown of the howse and stable. Thirty trees in the Stubb ground and four in the Path Ground."

Daniel Merriweather and his man were summoned to "hall up the trees that was blowed down." [JW]

February 9

An agreement sworn before four Justices, Thomas Reeve, Alexander Denton, John Comyns and John Fortescue Aland, between Paul Fisher, as plaintiff and Hetty, otherwise Hester Pearce, Edward Slade, and Ann his wife, defendants, in respect of seven messuages and ten acres of land with forty acres of common pasture, with appurtenances in Busselton, which Hester, Edward and Ann acknowledged to be the right of Paul and his heirs forever, in exchange for £100. [BRO 4550/9]

April 6

Peter Weymouth, Churchwarden

[AA]

July 27

"Weather began to be faire and continued very hott."

[JW]

September 21

John Collins and Sarah Fleet, both of Brislington, married at Newton St Loe. [PR]

September 30

Conveyance from James Pearce of London, merchant, son and heir of Jeremiah Pearce, late of Bristol, mariner, to John Newman of Bristol, plumber, for £1,200, all messuages, outhouses etc, formerly in the occupation of Jeremiah Pearce and now occupied by Elizabeth Cottle, widow, plus land purchased of Giles Ithell, deceased, a cottage formerly occupied by William Newman, blacksmith, and now occupied by Isaac Roach; ground purchased from William Willis, coleminer, deceased; two houses built by Jeremiah Pearce, now occupied by Abraham Mearn and James White; a house in the possession of Richard Squire, and at Lower Brockcroft, a stone wall built by John ffleet, and granted by Jeremiah Pearce to John ffleet, his wife Sarah, and their daughter Sarah, for 99 years. [BRO 4550/53]

1736

March 9

"Son and daughter Stephens" came to Brislington, and stayed nearly five weeks. Nansy was recuperating from a severe illness in December, when William had sent a horse to Brislington which had carried Betty to Cirencester to comfort her sister. Joshua had sent "Six mins Pies and Two Chery Oranges." A doctor had been fetched from Oxford. [JW]

March 16

Esther daughter of John and Elizabeth Prisley of Brislington baptised at Keynsham. [PR]

March 17

Betty Bull came to work for the Whartons as a covenant servant. She stayed only until September. [JW]

March 26

"friday. My daughter Betty was taken very ill with the Historick and 2 April was taken very bad again. We had Dr Hardwick over to her. He said it was the Historick fits. He ordered a blister plaister for her shoulders and to be bled in the foott." [JW]

April 26

"Mr Israel Gleson was chosen Churchwarden, and Benjamin Pusey and William Brown, Overseers of the Poor by those whose names are hereunder subscribed:"

John Newman  
Giles Bailey  
Joshua Wharton

the mark of Peter  Waymouth

John Sargen  
Thomas Meryweather

[AA]

June 21

Henry Jones of Brislington, carrier, stood surety for the appearance of his wife Ann to prosecute, and William Cory of Bristol, to give evidence, at a trial at the Tolzey Court, Bristol, against Mary Porter, singlewoman, for a felony. [BRO 04435 (3) 1730-1737]

August 3

Betty Wharton was again taken ill and the Stephens were sent for: "my man Jo got them." Betty was bled in the foot again. "It cost me 26s." The Stephens stayed until 8 September. On the same day, Betty Madox was engaged as a maidservant to replace Betty Bull in the Wharton household. [JW]

November 1

The Overseers "paid for tapping John Hicks shoes 1s 3d." [AA]

1737

March 9

"Paid £51 to Mr Israel Glifson the churchwarden by the order of several freeholders at a parish meeting at the Black Dog." [JW]

April 12

Mr Israel Gleson remained as Churchwarden and Thomas Taylor and Thomas Meryweather, Overseers of the Poor, confirmed by the following signatories:

M. Hunt  
H. Tucker  
Joshua Wharton  
Joseph Little  
Charles Holt  
William Brown  
Benjamin Pusey

[AA]

[M. Hunt was, of course, Michael Hunt, the Vicar.]

June 8

Marriage licence Benjamin Ford of Bussleton, gardener and Eleanor Newton of St James. They were married at Bristol Cathedral the same day. [BRO, PR]

July 21

Joseph Kelson and Sarah Filler of Whitchurch, married at Brislington. [recorded in the Newton St Loe parish register.] [PR]

August 29

Marriage licence, John Browne of Westbury, Gloucestershire, ship's carpenter and Joanna Robins of Brislington. [Jewers]

September 13

Betty Wharton was again very ill, and had been sent to lodge with a Nurse Tily. "My daughter came here with Mrs Tily and went away 21 September. She was sick a great while." [JW]

September 28

John Coysgarne, "late of the City of Bristol", a Master of the Merchant Venturers, "now living at Hengrove in the Parish of Brislington, Somerset" made his will, leaving

Ten pounds to "Poor Quakers in Bristol".

Two Hundred Pounds to his wife Damaris, plus all linen, plate, pictures, watches, jewels "together with all the ornaments of my wife's person." Trustees Freeman Harford and William Hibbs to administer the estate for benefit of Damaris.

On her death to Joseph Coysgarne, son of Sampson Coysgarne.

£1,000 to be disposed of by wife in her last will.

Residue to "my brother Ball's children and grandchildren born to my sister Mary Ball".

Provision for Mrs Coysgarne, the testator's mother, to remain in her residence at Hengrove.

Signed by John Coysgarne

and witnessed by

The Mark of

Thomas  Blaning

Hester Blaning

The Mark of

Ann  Hollister. [SRO]

October 11

John Braikenridge of Bristol and Mary Weare of Bedminster, who would become the grandparents of George Weare Braikenridge, the Brislington antiquarian, were married by licence at St James Bath. [PR]

November 22

George Adlam, the potter, was summonsed to appear at the Tolzey Court, Bristol, with his son Abraham to prosecute Thomas Ross, a soldier, for an

assault with a sword. The case was heard 19 December, but the result not recorded. [BRO 04435 (3) 1730-37]

same day

"My daughter Betty was taken with Epilocktick Fitts Towseday morning. The fitts came very fast upon her which took away her speech. Dr Hardwick, Mr Bush, and Mr Wills was sent for. She was bledd in the foot and a plaister on her leggs but she continued speechless from Towseday morning till Wednesday night but did not talk sensible for severall days. She was kept in my back chamber for three weeks, and was bledd again in the foot and took severall vomits." [JW]

December 22

Betty now had a very bad chest, and "spitt very grose". [JW]

December 26

"St Stephen's Day. My daughter Betty died about 8 o'clock in the night. She brought up a vast quantity of blod and died very soon after, very sensible to the last and the Doctor was with her when she died with an imposton in the stomach. She did not purge after she died but continued a very faire corps till she was buried which was Thursday 29 December in our vault. There was one chariott, four coaches and a horse, six bearers to hold up the pall, viz Coz John Hickes, Coz Browne, Mr William Bush, Mr Thomas Bush, Thomas Griffin, Coz George Bradford. They had white scarves, hatbands and gloves. The coffin was covered with black cloth bays and was very hansum with a plate with her name and age on it."

Joshua costed "daughter Elizabeth's sickness and funeral expenses altogether £78. 4s 3d." [JW]

---  
An undated note inserted in the parish register after the 1737 baptisms by the clerk, whose spelling was also not what it might have been: "Richard Peasley gave notice on the parish of Bussenton at the paris [sic] [meeting?] the 8 day of Juley to gin the Rate."

1738

January 31

Mary Williams was engaged as a servant by the Whartons. She stayed until Michaelmas. [JW]

April 25

Articles of agreement between George Cobb, esquire, Ann his wife and Joseph Langton, esquire of Newton St Loe, on the one part and Richard Grinstead, mercer, Charles Wells, gentleman, John Furnell, merchant, John Gibbond of Bedminster and Samuel Cole, of Brislington, otherwise Bufsleton, coalminer "for landing cole to be digged in Brislington". [SRO DD/GL 128]

All signed their names except the appropriately named Samuel Cole who made his mark: 2c

The profits from the undertaking to exploit any mineral wealth which lay under ground on the Langton estate was divided as "Lord's Share" which

went to the Langton-Cobbs; a dividend paid to the investors such as "Captain" Furnell; and the likes of Samuel Cole who did the work and also employed labour. The labourers, at the bottom of the heap, are rarely glimpsed, but we know they were

### "The Civilised Colliers"

for this name was bestowed on them by the local press. See below, in October.

June 20

Peter Weymouth, yeoman, and Henry Horrell, maltster, stood surety in the sum of £10 for the appearance of Elizabeth Thorn, wife of William Thorn, coaldriver, all of Brislington, to prosecute and give evidence against Edward Ewer for felony at the Bristol Tolzey Court.

[BRO 04435 (3) 1700-371]

September 27

"I was taken with a cough", recorded Joshua Wharton. "The cough left 15 October". On 30 September Betty Berrington commenced work as the Whartons' maid. She remained until 25 March 1742. [JW]

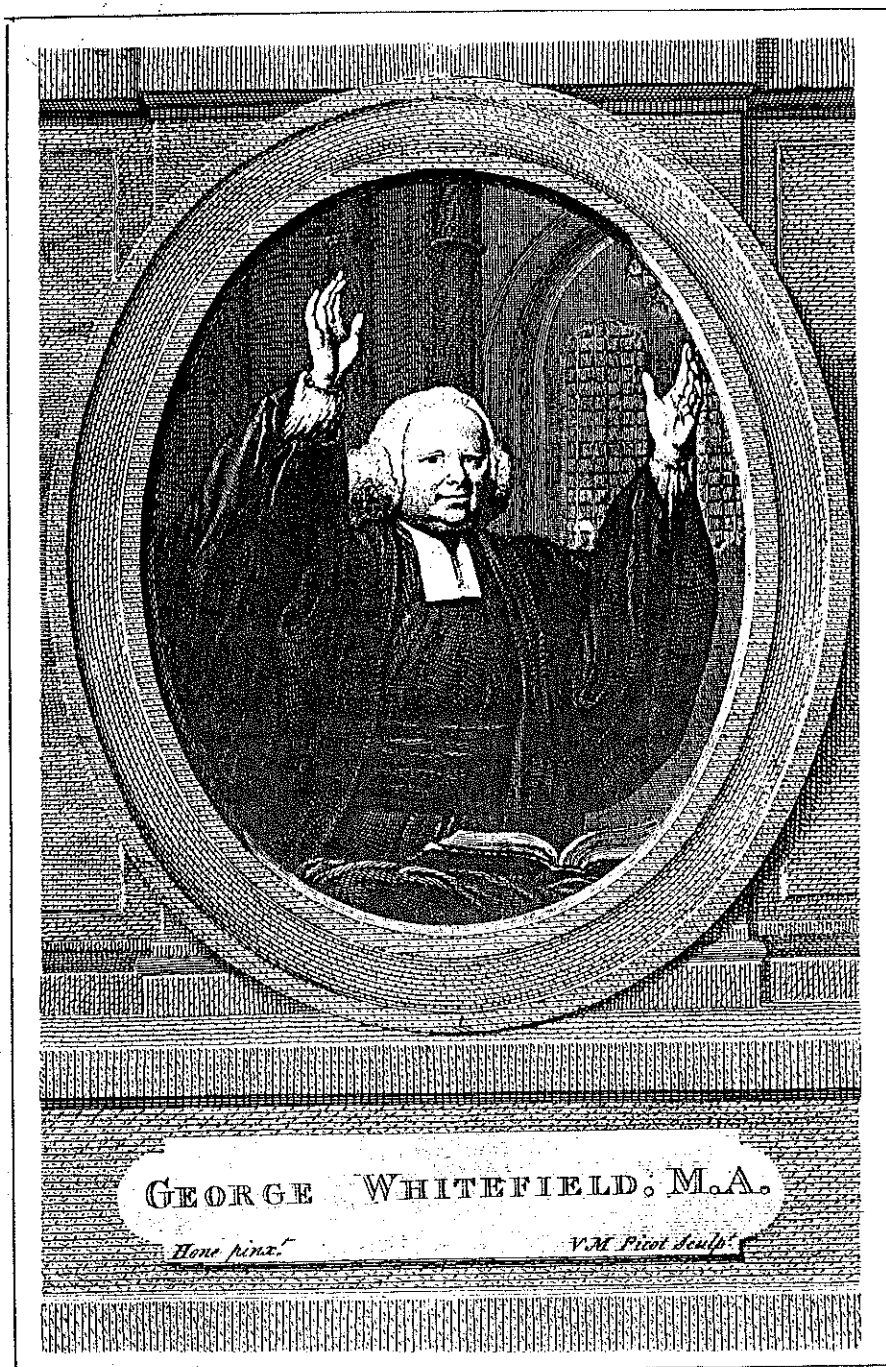
In October 1738 the Kingswood coalminers went on strike when their proprietors dropped their wages from 16 pence to one shilling a day. Perhaps the Brislington men were not affected: certainly they left well alone, and refused to join in, but after the Kingswood men caused mayhem at Totterdown House [the Turnpikel, about 200 of them

"proceeded to Busleton, where they forced several of the civiliz'd Colliers into their Service, and violently beat those who refus'd; enter'd what Houses they pleas'd; eat and drink every thing they could come at, without paying any Money; and so return'd towards the City. In their Way they stopped at the Goat between Busleton and this City, took the Meat out of the Pot that was then boiling, and threaten'd to put the Head of the Landlady's Son therein; knocked down the Landlady three times at her Cellar-Door; and cut her on the Arm with one of her Cake-Knives. From thence they decamped to the White-Hart in the same Road, where some of them enter'd the House, demanded Liquor, eat up a Shoulder of Mutton, drank what they pleased, and departed towards Bristol, some going thro' the Body of the City hallowing, others taking Boat at the Temple-Backs, and passed without paying. They even threaten the Fire-Engines in Kingswood and Busleton, and to destroy all the Locks between Bristol and Bath..." and so on.

They pursued a bailiff called Roger Purnell, who they were "resolv'd to hang" as far as Langton Court -- to "Squire Cobbs's where they behaved in a very insolent manner, and would not be satisfy'd... 'till the Squire himself declared he had not seen him..." [GJ 17.10.1738]

The riots, after almost two weeks, were eventually quelled by a regiment of soldiers.

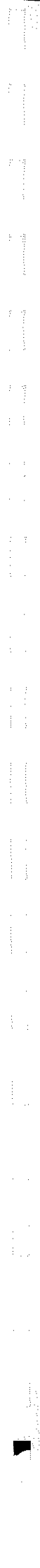
The White Hart, still open for business in Brislington village, was then a coaching inn. Possibly there has been an inn on the site for many



..... who preached at Brislington

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1000





years, for its sign harks back to the Middle Ages, a white hart being the badge of King Richard II, who reigned 1367 to 1400.

The Fire-Engine was not a fire fighting appliance, but state of the art technology for driving the mines' winding equipment. A building known as "The Engine House" still stands at 8 Hollywood Road.

[Strangely, Joshua Wharton makes no mention of the upheaval.]

October 6

Benjamin Hickey, Cornelius Ryan and John Dugan, all tailors, and all of the City of Bristol were "bound unto Israel Gleson, of Brislington, gentleman, in the sum of £40 in respect of the male bastard child of Mary White, singlewoman, of which Hickey is the putative father."

[BRO P/StLB/OP/14/5]

November 10

Joshua Wharton recorded the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to Bristol.

[JW]

December 21

James Berrington of Amesbury, presumably a relation of Betty Berrington, was engaged as a servant by Joshua Wharton.

[JW]

1739

February 28

Two days after the event, Joshua recorded that "Mr Thomas Bush was married to Alderman Dunning's only daughter at Brislington church by Mr Hunt, Munday". The bride appears in the parish register as Mrs Margaret Doninn.

[JW, PRStLB]

[Alderman James Donning had been Mayor of Bristol in 1723.]

March 6

One thing, then as now, leads to another. The roots of "that great stir" the extraordinary religious revival which dominated the Bristol area, particularly at Kingswood, for a year or so from the early spring of 1739, surely lay in the riots of '38. Missionaries descended. Calvinist, Methodist and later Moravians preached in the open air delivering the message that a reward awaited in the next world in exchange for cheerful acceptance of suffering in this. Thousands came to hear them. Militancy was replaced by hymn singing and Brislington's "civilised colliers" were not to be left out.

We are told that the vicar, Rev Michael Hunt invited George Whitefield to preach in the parish,

[Church]

and so

"Mr Whitefield preached at Busselton two miles from Bristol but the church would by no means contain the multitude so he betook himself to a cross in the churchyard and preached from thence....."

[GJ]

March 21

What Mr Wharton thought of this innovation has not survived. The establishment had their own problems, for the vestry was the scene of an unseemly wrangle: "Whereas John Templeman hath now in his hand the Old Church Book belonging to the Parish and refuses to deliver the same it is therefore ordered that he be forthwith prosecuted at the expense of the Parish and that the Parish chest be broken open and new locks provided, Mr John Templeman having the keys to the chest and refusing to deliver them...." [Egarr]

April 18

Joshua Wharton, much to his dismay was chosen Churchwarden, as well as tithingman for the West Tything. He dispensed with the latter easily enough: when "my man" Robert Ponting, agreed at "Caysham Court" to serve as proxy for 10 shillings discount on his rent. The former presented more difficulty.....

April 24

"Memorandum. Easter Towsday Mr Isll Glisson, the churchwarden, with Mr Edalls, Mr John Newman, Mr Colebatch, Pafon Hunt, and Young Mr Hall was so unkind to chose me for churchwarden for the year ensuing thow I told them I served the office four years together, besides the great trouble and charge I was att and that I was suporaniated [sic] and did not intend to serve the office nor trouble myself about it. I told the Archdeacon at the Visitation I was too old to serve the office but he would not excuse me and oblidged me to be sworn at Cainsham and iff I would not I must goe to Wells to be sworne." [JW]

May 28

Mary Wilcox came as a servant to the Whartons, and remained until 1 October. [JW]

June 20

A huge row blew up between Joshua Wharton and the Rev Michael Hunt:

"Whitt Sun. I received the Sacrament at Bufselton from Pason Hunt. After it was over I being churchwarden desir'd Mr Hunt to lett me see what mony was collected. He was in a great pasion with me and called the clark to state the mony which they said was twenty seven shillings. He gave the clark some part of it. I know nott how much. He told me he would dispose of the rest as he saw fitt. He gave me such bad langoodge as itt is a greate shame to come out of a clergyman's mouth and especially in the Church. He forbid me coming to the Sacrament any more before Richard Peasley the Clark and told him to bear witness and compared me to Judas. I told him he was not fitt to administer the Sacrament. He is a very envious man. He has told some of our neighbours he does not want to see me. He sent his servant to tell me that he forbid me coming to Church. I hope the Bishope will hear of his neglectt of his duty in instructing the youth in the catechism and not reading divine services in Pasion week or any other fast or feast in the whole year, except when there is a Sacrament and that but three times a year."

November 17

Hannah Parker, singlewoman of Brislington, was removed from Frampton Cotterell because she was pregnant with a child that "was likely to become chargeable" to the parish. [BRO P/St LB/OP/11/4]

November 28 - December 12

General Election. The list of Brislington electors who voted as "Country Voices" for the two Bristol candidates:

William Bush, linendraper  
Joseph Little, sadler  
James Priest, sackweaver  
Richard Ryley, gallipotmaker  
Thomas Taylor, gallipotmaker

[BPB]

December 3

Joshua Wharton, still railed at being chosen out of turn for Churchwarden, and who can blame him, for on this occasion he reveals his age to us:

"I told them it was not my turn to serve by a great many years and considering I was 76 years of age, I thought it very hard to putt it upon me. I took advice of Mr Hipsley what to do. He told me he thought if I applied myself at the Visitation I might be excused and it was the opinion of severall others but the Archdeacon at Bath told me I should be sworon at Wells. Mr Hunt would not goe to the Visitation. I received twelve briefs. Mr Hunt was at home the same day although his wife said he would not be there. The Paroter [apparitor] brought five briefs more." [JW]

December 17

An examination of Hannah Parker, singlewoman, by two Justices of the Peace, "who voluntarily deposeth that she hath been intimately acquainted with Thomas Harris of Frampton Cotterell in the County of Gloucestershire, hatter, for the space of eight months last past who by frequent persuasions and wicked allurements, together with frequent promises of marriage prevailed on her to have carnall knowledge of her body in a field near Winterbourne in the night time near a week after Whitsuntide last past, and did then beget her with child. The said Thomas Harris is the only real and true father of her base child or children wherewith she is now pregnant."

A warrant was issued for the apprehension of Thomas Harris, and Joshua Wharton had his eye on the couple too, for he made a note of their names in his account book without further comment. [BRO P/StLB/OP/14/6]

December 21

The distribution of alms from the Brislington charity gifts: "Mr Little, Henry Jones' wife and myself gave Tho: Monday's gift of 20 shillings in Bread and Farmer Jones gift of 24 shillings to six pore people in mony viz four shillings each.

"Old Firey Peasley, Old Challenger, Rich Brookman, John Showring, Rebecca Jones, Judith Banton. [AA]

"They was to have the 24 shillings by consent of the parish."

[JW]

Christmas Day

Joshua still watched the doings of Parson Hunt: "The Curatt of Cainsham preached and administered the Sacrament at Brislington when I received itt. The Curatt carried the Sacrament money to Cainsham to Mr Hunt by his order as the Curatt told me."

[JW]

December 28

Marriage settlement between William Reeve of the City of Bristol, merchant, and Mary Andrews, the daughter of John Andrews, also of Bristol, merchant.

£3,000 was raised from "lands and a messuage in Sandyfields, Brislington, known as Lower and Middle Breach Hedge, where John Green dwelled; Chappell Ham and Newman's Moore formerly the estate of John Newton after Theophilus Newton, now or late in the occupation of Charles Pope; Nunneys, formerly of John Green, and now of Giles Naish."

[BRO 4550/10]

[These lands had come down to William Reeve from his mother, Sarah Newton, now deceased].

1740

At around this date, John Braikenridge bought an estate from the Hall family, and in about 1750, built Winash House, which stood on the Dixon Road area of the Trading Estate.

[BB]

January 30

Joshua continued to minute the behaviour of the vicar. "Mr Hunt did not read prayers at Buyselton church."

[JW]

February 14

"He [Mr Hunt] would not bury a corps although all was led [laid?] till 7 o'clock. The people that had come to the buring was forsed to put him in the grave without Mr Hunt. Mr Hunt red the burial servis over the grave the next morning."

The corpse in life was John Williams. He is entered in the parish register as being buried on 15 February.

[JW, PRStLB]

March 19

William Reeve of Bristol, merchant, married Mary Andrews. [Quaker Records]

April 6

"I received the Sacrament from Mr Hunt at Brislington at Easter. Mr Hunt told me he would dispose of the mony as usuall. He put it in his pocket."

[JW]

[No comment!]

April 22

James Priest of Brislington, sackweaver, bound in the sum of £40 for his appearance at the next General Gaol Delivery at Bristol to prosecute Edward Wedmore, butcher.

[BRO 04435/4]

May 20

Susannah Wickwick, widow, and Robert, her son, were removed to Brislington from the parish of Temple. [BRO P/St LB/OP/11/5]

June 20

Joshua had survived his year as Churchwarden: "The Church Plate and lining [linen] was fetched from my house by young Firey\* Peasley before Whitsontide and I delivered the Church Book and the key to the Host to James Horrell, churchwarden, at Brislington. Att a generall parish meeting Thomas Daniell, his son, Mr Jas Bridges, Mr Newman, Mr Little, myself. There was three parish children ordered to be put out. Young Ben Summerill to Mr Jacob's estate. Ben Summerill's daughter to Mr Cann's estate. Ruth Batman's son to Mr Taylor at the Pott House." [JW]

[\* The name Firey Peasley which appears both here, and in the list of those who received alms from Munday's charity, puzzled me greatly - until it occurred to me that "Firey", senior and junior, were women, Richard Peasley's wife and daughter, both called Saphirah! "Saphirah Peasley senior" was buried 23 November 1741.]

June 27

The family of John Williams, a coalminer, [whose unburied corpse had scandalised Joshua], were destitute and had become a drain on the parish of Oldland where they were living. Elizabeth, the widow, and her children Hannah [6], John [4], and Mary [3], were removed to Brislington. [BRO P/St LB/OP/11/6]

July

A servant of Thomas Wright of Southmead was found "nearly dead on the Down", with twenty cuts on his skull and his pockets rifled. Cornelius York, thinking it would save his skin, implicated two soldiers, Millard and Masters, and admitted being with them in "two atrocious robberies at Brislington and Bedminster, a burglary in Wine Street, and stealing twenty one sheep at various times." All three were convicted at Taunton Assizes and sentenced to death. [Latimer 18c]

July 10

Joshua Wharton "agreed with Mr Thomas Papps for the rent of my house in Redcliff, £36 per annum from Michaelmas for seven years." Mr Papps carried on business as a tobacconist. [JW]

September 4

Cornelius York, who should have kept his mouth shut, was gibbeted on Brislington Common, no doubt before a great many interested spectators. [ibid]

[The Brislington gibbet, which could have been 12 - 14 feet high, overlooked Broomhill and the valley below. The prisoner climbed a ladder which swung him through the air and into an iron cage. The body would be allowed to remain there until the flesh rotted away and only the bones were left to creak and rattle in the wind, as a fearful warning.]

November 15

"Sunday morning about 10 o'clock my daughter Stephens was Brought to Bed of a Daughter. Mr Stephens gave her privatt baptism at home and on Thursday 3 December Mr Baker christoned her in the Church and signed her with the sign

of the cross only with the name Ann and was so named when her father baptised her. Old Madum Browne of Minety, myself and my wife stood as godfather and godmothers. My daughter went to church 21 December. We dined at Madum Wanford's." [JW]

The Whartons were staying with the Stephens' for the birth. Note the "private baptism" which the baby received from her father, and Nansy's churching. By December, the elder members of the family had returned home to more irritation with the vicar:

December 15

"I sent by my servant the four shillings for his half years wage due at Michaelmas", [presumably for tithes]. "Mr Hunt would not take itt and told me he would take itt in kind and thretned what he wld do." [JW]

1741

February 3

"Settlement examination of William Elliott, now residing in Brislington, born Wainstrow, Somerset, and 20 years since covenanted with Thomas and William Huntington of Brislington, basketmakers, to serve them one year, and hath served his masters all the said term, and not obtained legal settlement elsewhere."

A further examination, recorded at the same time was answered by the terse statement of Thomas Sidney, born Bitton but now residing in Brislington, "not done anything to gain settlement elsewhere." [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/3]

February 17

Settlement examination of "Ann Morgan, widow of James Morgan, who dyed four years ago and rented the Saracens Head Inn in Redcliffe at 3 and 20 pounds per year. Lived with him until his death, and not done anything to gain any other settlement." [ibid]

March

Frances Prisley, the daughter of John and Hester of Busselton baptised at Keynsham. [PR]

March 25

Libby Hayes was engaged as a covenant servant by Joshua Wharton and stayed almost two years, until she "went away sick of ague and fever" 17 February 1743. [JW 25.3.1741/17.2.1742/3]

And I hate to say it, but it looks as though he put the poor girl out of doors! Hard times. In the same month Joshua's "Coz Thomas Murry saild in the Antilope with Captain Waring". The Antilope was a Bristol slaver, most of which were death traps for crew and slaves alike. A year later Thomas died on the voyage between Guinea and Jamaica. [JW]

May 18

Sadly... "Gave my servant Thomas Williams notice to go from my servis at Midsomer for a great crime." Joshua does not elucidate further. Thomas had been with him about eighteen months. [JW]

May 20

"Cuz Wall's grandson Stephen Nash died of small pox and was buried at All Saints Church. I and my wife had gloves." [JW]

June 25

"Cuz Towgood came to Bussleton Thursday and stayed three weeks. Cuz Hannah Wall came 30 June and stayed a fortnight." [JW]

December 4

John More became Joshua Wharton's servant. [AA]

1742

March 24

"Mr Thomas Papps came to Bussleton to give me notice to leave my house at Midsomer. I told him I would not take that for warning. He left my house at Michaelmas 1742. He kept my house but two years." Joshua had to go to the bother of advertising the house, and on June 26 the following appears

"To be Lett"

"A good house in Redcliffe Street where Mr Thomas Papps now lives, with a large shop, several lofts and cellars, a fine Summer house, next to the River with heads over it. A large Cistern for Rain water next to the Street, and severall other conveniences."

"Enquire of Mrs Wall in Corn Street [she was Coz: Wall] or Mr Wharton in Brislington." [Bristol Oracle]

May 9

Any "foreigner" was unusual enough to be singled out as different, hence the burial of "the child of John Jones, the Welkman" - Welshman [?][PRStLB]

1743

February

Thomas Taylor, potter of Brislington, declared bankrupt. [Pots]

July 8

Richard Whippie of Stockwood buried at Keynsham. [PR]

September 10

Pollution. An "Account of Nuisances on the River Avon" appeared in the Common Council minutes, indicting the proprietors of St Anne's Pill, The Glasshouses and the Pothouse opposite, for throwing their rubbish in the river. "Mr Town Clerk" was ordered to "forthwith write to the several persons thro' whose means such Nusances have been occasioned to abate the Same without Delay". [quoted Pots]

September 28

Marriage licence, Israel Gleson of Brislington and Mary Hasel of St Thomas.

1744

March 24

"Thursday last between 2 & 3 o'clock Andrew Burnet and Henry Payne were executed on an open part of Durdham Down over the new Hot-Well for the

murder of Richard Ruddle, late coachman to Sir Robert Cann, Bart, amidst the greatest concourse of people perhaps ever seen together in these parts. They were carried first to Gloucester to be present at the execution of one Cambrey for murdering a woman at the Bowling Green, who died a most miserable and hardened wretch.

"Payne who came from a good family, had lived as a serving soldier 20 years and never was guilty of anything that deserved temporal punishment until he met Burnet. He left a wife big with child and two small children and said if he had followed her advice he would not have come to so ignominious an end. He only got sixpence out of the Booty. He held the horse and said that the blows which killed the man were not given until the deceased attempted to hold Burnet. Burnet was 28 and of Silverton in Devonshire.

"They were put into their chains and hung on a tree near 26 foot high."

[BathJ 26.3.1744]

There was a macabre sequel to these already grisly proceedings. At the end of April some prankster, or perhaps one who hoped to sell them to anatomists, stole the rotting corpses from off the gibbet. They were later "found among the Rocks and hung up again".

[ibid 30.4.1744]

[Not strictly Brislington, but local interest may well have been high when the victim was coachman to the cousin and successor of "our Sir William Cann", and no doubt some of our people made a day out among the vast concourse on the Downs.]

April 23

There must surely be a connection between "The Brislington" which docked in Bristol from South Carolina under the command of Captain Burnell and our village?

[BathJ]

June 5

"Brislington Farm" - the home farm of Langton Court, leased for 7 years, and one life between

(1) Sir George Cobb of Brislington, Bart. and Dame Anne, his wife.  
and

(2) James Harrill, of the same, yeoman.

Annual rent £189. 6s 8d plus six dozen pigeons.

[BRO 26992/5]

[Zero inflation. There had been no increase in rent since 1726!]

July 15

Mary Prisley, daughter of John and Hester of Brislington, baptised at Keynsham.

[PR]

October 7

Marriage licence, John Hilhouse of Bristol, merchant, and Ann Wilcox of Hengrove in Brislington, widow.

[Jewers]

November 22

Marriage of Alexander Robe of Brislington, surgeon and Elizabeth Twitt, by licence, at Bath Abbey.

[PR]



1745

May 25

"Last week, the Press began at Pensford, about six miles from this City and continues so hot that hardly a man is to be seen in the Streets of that Town". [FFBJ]

It seems to have been quite legal for the Press Gang to carry out their infamous activities. At least two Brislington men were taken. We cannot blame them if they viewed a life on the ocean wave as marines as far too exciting, and a few months later.....

"Deserted from Maidstone, Colonel John Cottrell's Regiment of Marines. One guinea reward offered for capture.

July 18: Abraham Pope, 22 years, 5 feet 6 inches, a basket maker, born at Busselton, impressed at Pensford. A fair complexion, pitted with the small pox. Has but one eye and light brown hair.

July 22: Joseph Light, 19 years, 5 feet 5 inches, born at Busselton, impressed at Pensford. Fair complexion, light brown hair. Labourer." [BathJ, 12.8.1745, FFBJ, 24.8.1745 etc]

There were many more, from all over the country, in the list of "deserters", some of whom had also been caught at Pensford. The "pockfretten" Abraham Pope seems to have evaded capture and returned home for in 1750, a man of this name was wanted on another "charge" when

"Abraham Pope, the younger and Jonathon Pope, the elder, basket makers, indemnified the Guardians of the Poor at Brislington in respect of the bastard child expected by Grace Newby, of which Abraham Pope is the putative father." [P/St LB/OP/14 {g}]

July 22

The "Brislington", Captain John Whitborne, master, was entered in at Bristol docks, from Opporto. [BathJ]

July 27

William Reeve of the City of Bristol, merchant, was bound to appear as a witness in the Tolzey Court against William Cross for felony; and again on 13 August 1747 against Christopher Bragg. [BRO 04435/4]

October 3

Marriage licence, Thomas Lacy of Brislington, husbandman, and Ruth Lockere, widow of same. At Brislington. [Jewers]

November 2

Since Thomas Taylor's bankruptcy, somebody had been renting his house and pottery: perhaps Richard Riley, who was possibly the last of the St Anne's potters. The property must have been needed to pay debts, and an advertisement appeared in the Bristol Oracle: "To be sold. A moiety of an estate situate in Brislington in the County of Somerset, about two miles from Bristol, consisting of a Messuage, Pot-house, and sundery Closes of Ground, the whole now lett at £55. 12s per annum." [quoted Pots]

1745/6

A map, "A Plan and Surveye of a parcell of Bartholomew Lands belonging to the Grammar Free School of Bristoll and being situated in the Manor and Parish of Brisflington in Sommersetshire" was drawn up which includes part of our parish, with landmarks like the Church, the Pothouse, the Bristol Road to Bath, West Town, and natural features like the Brook - Fluvium - clearly shown, with the names of the following landholders marked:

|                  |                 |                  |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Thomas Baily Esq | Sr George Cobb  | Mrs Daniel       |
| Capt: Furnell    | Mr Gothley      | John Hawkins Esq |
| Thos Master Esq  | ---- Palmer Esq | ---- Popham Esq  |
| ---- Tucker      | Mr Wharton      |                  |

and "Remarks" that:

E and F are the Sandyfields pasture grounds  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile W from the Church.  
G Hawkins grove one mile NW from the Church about Wyke.  
H Milckins Mead one and  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile N from the Church.  
I the 3 Corner Paddock one Mile S from the Church.  
K Westfield Paddock 2 Miles west from the Church.

1746

February 1

George Foot, yeoman of Stockwood, buried Keynsham.

[PR]

April 15

Marriage licence between James Wallis of Brislington, baker, bachelor and Hester Harding of St Philip and St Jacob, Bristol. [Bondsman Thomas Harding of same, maltster]. They were married at Bath Abbey the same day.

[Jewers, PR]

June 15

James Perry of St John the Baptist and Mary Evans of Bustleton married by licence at Bath Weston.

[PR]

October 18

"To be Let"  
A FARM

"Situate at Briflington in the County of Somerset  
Late in the Occupation of Thomas Harrill

"Containing about 25 Acres with good Messuages, a large Stable, Barn and other Outhouses, a good Orchard, well water'd all lying compactly together, and well inclosed with a Right of Common.

for further Particulars enquire of Mr Richard Jolliffe on Redcliffe Hill, Bristol."

[FFBJ]

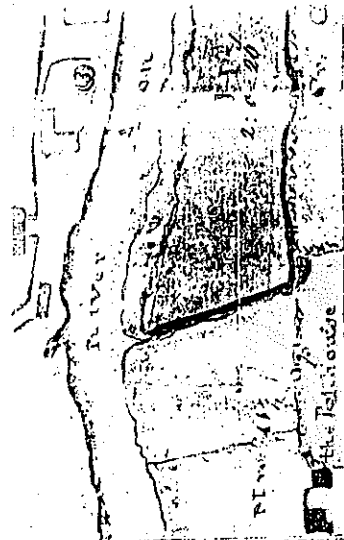
[The farm was still on offer on 27 December.]

November 22

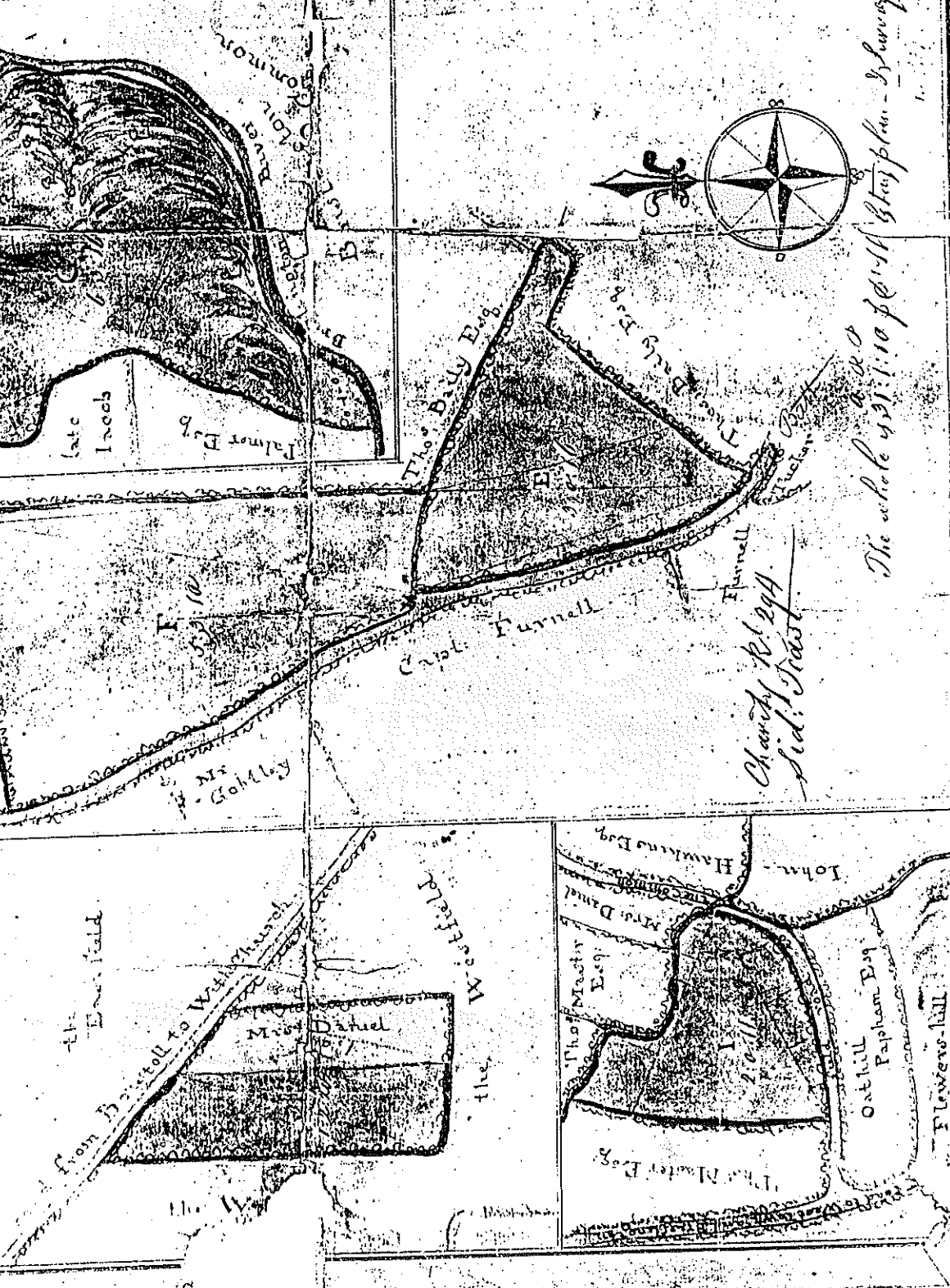
Marriage licence, Jacob Watts of Brislington, sackweaver and Elizabeth Haines of Bristol, spinster.

[Jewers]

Remains  
 of the old Church of St. Andrew's, which was destroyed by fire in the year 1791. The site is now a field. The church was situated about 1/2 mile from the Church of St. Andrew's, and one of the 2 Mills West from the Church of St. Andrew's.



**ALAN and SURVIVORS**  
 of a parcel of Bartholomew's lands belonging to the Corporation of Bristol and being situated in the Manor and Parish of Bristol and in Somersetshire.

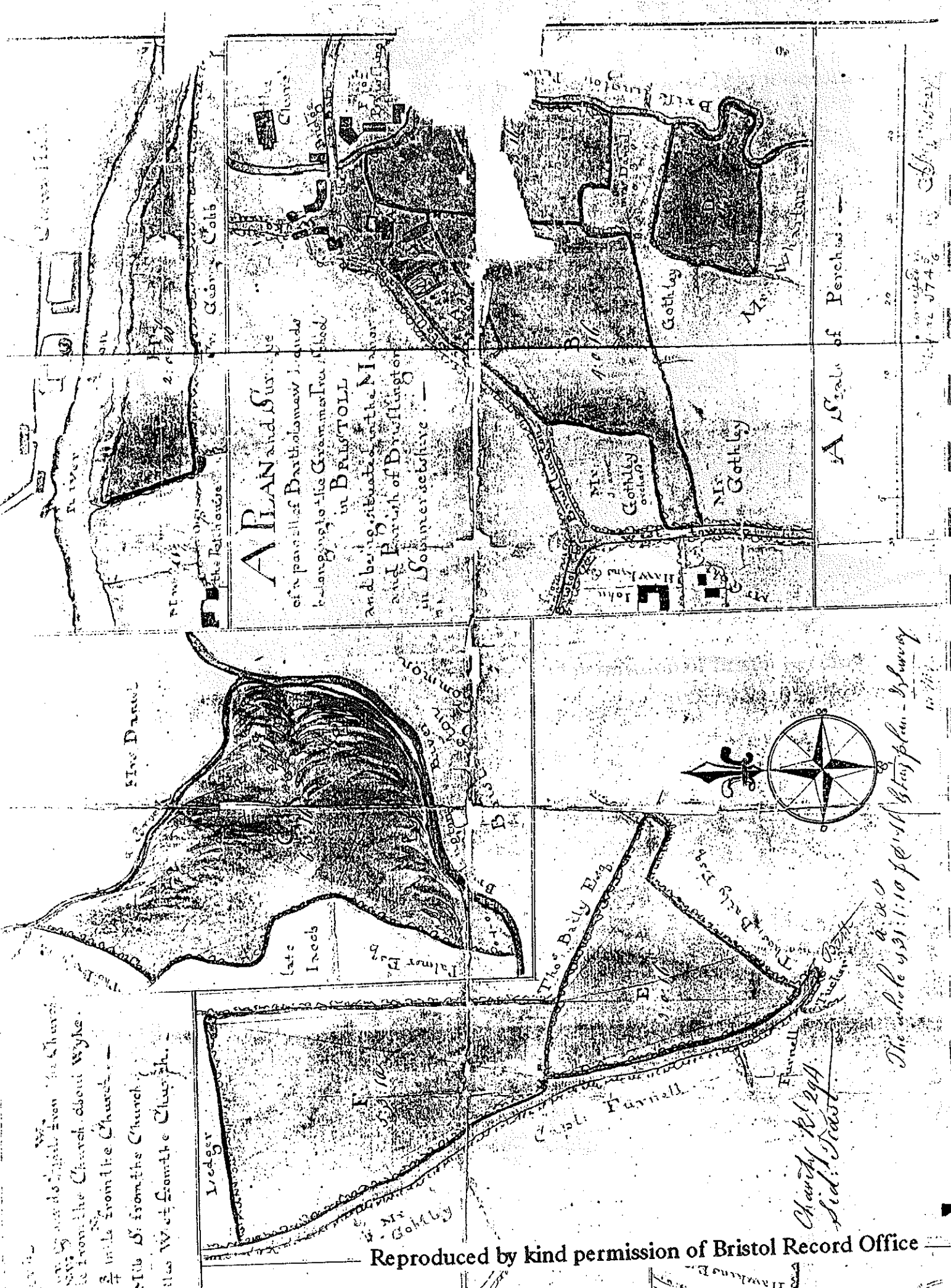


Charity Plot  
 Sid. West

The whole is 1:10 p.m. Survey

A State of

The Church is about 1/2 mile from the Church.  
 The Church is about 1/2 mile from the Church.  
 The Church is about 1/2 mile from the Church.



# ALAN and Susan

of a parcel of Bartholomew lands  
 belonging to the Grammar School  
 in BRISTOLL  
 and being situated in the Parish  
 of St. James of Bristol  
 in Somersetshire.

A State of Perches.

Church Rd 294  
 Sid. Trust

The whole is 1:10 p. 111. Stay plan - Survey

December 6

"Thursday morning, very early, the London Stage was stopt and robb'd on Busselton Common by three fellows poorly mounted: supposed to be the same three that have infested the Rope Walk near Lawford's Gate for some time."

[FFBJ]

1747

January 16

Richmond Day, a Bristol merchant brought a complaint of nullity against Michael Hunt, perpetual curate of Brislington, in respect of the solemnisation of clandestine marriages. Mr Day's particular grievance may well have concerned the marriage of Henry Bradburne of Bath, merchant and Mary Day, spinster of St Nicholas, Bristol, aged 26, by licence, at Brislington, on 1 July 1744, though nowhere in the lengthy text of the proceedings is particular reference made to it. The affair was dragged through the Court of Arches at Doctors Commons over a period of years when finally Mr Hunt, and a certain John Hawkins were "pronounced contumacious and decreed to be excommunicated" the dread sentence suspended until the court sat again. The case may be going on still. [Arches, 2655, A 31.]

August

The tombstone survives in Brislington churchyard of Anna Maria, the daughter of James Rumsey of the City of Bristol, who died aged 10 months. Her sister Hester aged 1 year, died 11 September 1751, and brother Henry also aged one year, were buried in the same grave.

October 20

A bond for the sum of £40 was obtained from Samuel Sheriff, a hemp dresser of Brislington, to indemnify the parish in "respect of the bastard child of Hannah Harris, of which he is the putative father". [BRO P/StLB/OP/17/71]

1748

August 1

"Lost or Stray'd out of Busselton Common near Bristol, a dark brown mare, 13 hands and 3 inches high. Has a star on her forehead, her mane hanging at both sides of her neck, has a light brown muzzle, a thick white tail, a grey patch on her near hip and had no shoes on when lost. Whoever will give intelligence of the said mare to William Mills at the Greyhound in Busselton shall be well rewarded and have all reasonable charges." [BathJ]

October 26

Probate of the will of James Harrill of Brislington, who died July 9, 1748, leaving the bulk of his estate to his widow Mary, and son Thomas, and also

"To daughter Sarah White, one shilling  
daughter Rachel Weeks, £20  
daughter Leah Harrill, £20 to buy her clothes when she is of age  
daughters Mary & Hannah Harrill, ditto  
daughter in law Dorothy Wilcox, one shilling  
son in law Philip Haines, one shilling  
grandson George Harrill, one shilling  
grandson Job Haines, five shillings

"If my wife do contract marriage then I do bequeath her only £40 with the rest divided between Rachel, Leah, Mary, and Hannah."

Trustees Israel Gleson, gent., and Henry Harrill, yeoman, both of Brislington. Witnessed by Henry Harrill and Richard Miles. [BRO 26992/6]

[Sarah's legacy may not have been the proverbial "cut off with a shilling". Perhaps she had received her portion on marriage. Even if she had incurred her father's displeasure, she was compensated by her mother in 1764, and then another daughter felt an apparent cool draught. Mary Harrill did not remarry.]

December 5

"On Wednesday night, a Colonel and his lady were attacked in a coach on Busselton Common by two highwaymen, notwithstanding several servants had loaded pieces behind the coach. The Colonel bid the highwaymen to make off or they were both dead men. They took his advice, and tho' pursued made their escape by the darkness of the night." [BathJ]

December 27

Thomas Sidnell of St James and Mary Courtier of Brislington married by licence at Keynsham. [PRJ]

1749

August 1

The City of Bristol was again shaken by rioting, this time in protest against a newly erected turnpike at Ashton. Twenty six rioters were rounded up and thrown into prison. The Kingswood colliers joined the fray, and as in 1738, "crossed the river into Busseltown and roamed further beyond Keynsham trying to gather support and raise contributions to their cause." In October, three of those awaiting trial died of small pox in prison. The following April, two men, John Perryman and Abraham Roach were found guilty and hanged at Ilchester. The remainder were acquitted. [BathJ]

September 18

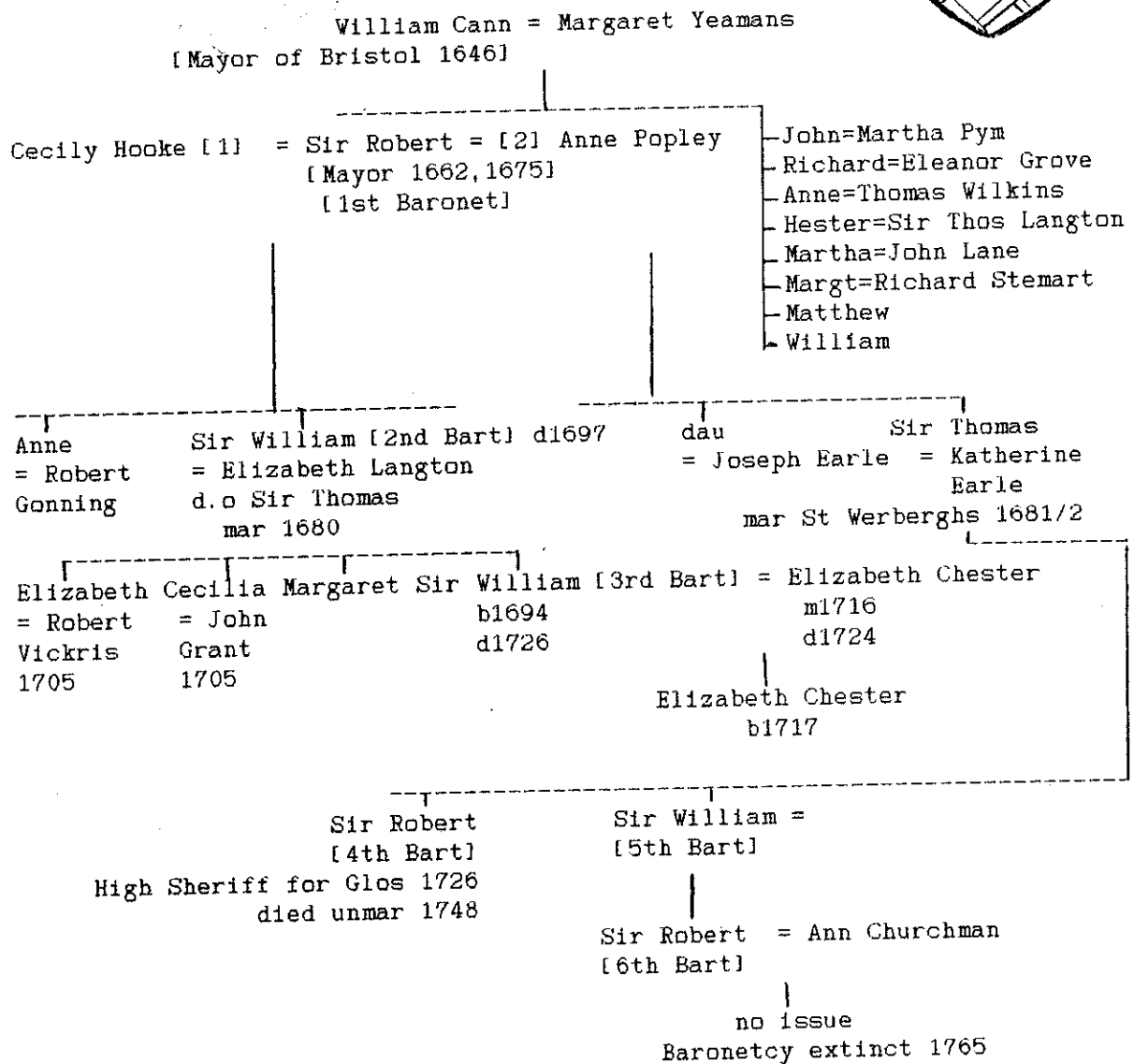
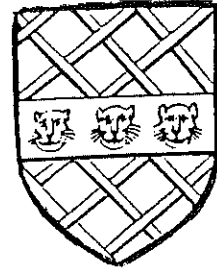
"Last Monday evening about half an hour after 7 o'clock, Mr Richard Peasley, Clerk of Busselton, going home with two horses, one loaded, one he rode upon was beset by two footpads with large clubs and sticks between Busselton and Bristol [midway between the Long Stone and the Coal Barton]. One of them asked him the time of the evening and receiving an answer, three other stout fellows seized his horse's bridle and gave him a great many violent blows over the head and arms, but finding they couldn't unhorse him, dammed his hard head and tilted him off by taking hold of one of his feet and by the fall he was much bruised. They then dragged him to the other side of the road, when three lay upon him, while the others stood guard and took out of his pocket £1. 1s 0d [one Guinea = £1.05], but missed his watch, which they would have had likewise had they not apprehended some other persons coming up the road and they made off." [BathJ]

Happily Richard Peasley survived the ordeal, but another old friend took her final leave, and so temporarily must we....

November 23

Lady Cobb - the former Ann Langton - was buried at Newton St Loe. [PRJ]

Family Tree of the CANN family of Bristol and Brislington.



Notes:

1. Margaret Yeamans was a sister of Robert Yeamans who was executed in Bristol during the Civil War by the Parliamentarians for a Royalist plot.
2. Sir Thomas Langton married firstly Hester Cann and secondly Elizabeth Gunning. Elizabeth Langton, the wife of Sir William of Brislington, 2nd Baronet, was a daughter of the second marriage.
3. Sir William Cann's will, proved 1698 refers to a dispute between "me and my brother Sir Thomas concerning the different wills of our late father, Sir Robert Cann."
4. On the death of Sir William, the 3rd Baronet, the title passed to his cousin, Sir Robert who died unmarried in 1748. He was succeeded by his brother, Sir William.
5. Sir William had one son, Sir Robert, who died without issue, and the Baronetcy became extinct in 1765.

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APPENDIX I  
"Wandering people" in Churchwardens' Books 1700-30 & Overseers' Books 1719-37

WOMEN:

| Number | No of ch    | Pregnant | Ch born in parish | Number | No of ch | Pregnant | Ch born in parish |
|--------|-------------|----------|-------------------|--------|----------|----------|-------------------|
| 1      |             |          |                   | 1      |          |          | yes               |
| 1      | 6           |          |                   | 1      |          |          | yes               |
| 1      |             |          |                   | 1      | 1        |          |                   |
| 1      |             |          |                   | 1      |          | yes      |                   |
| 3      |             |          |                   | 1      |          | yes      |                   |
| 2      |             |          |                   | 1      |          |          | yes               |
| 1      |             |          |                   | 1      |          |          |                   |
| 1      | 5           |          |                   | 1      | 2        |          |                   |
| 1      |             | yes      |                   | 1      | 1        |          |                   |
| 1      | 2           |          |                   | 1      | 1        |          |                   |
| 1      |             | yes      |                   | 1      |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             | yes      |                   | 1      |          |          |                   |
| 1      | 1           |          |                   | 1      |          |          |                   |
| 2      |             |          |                   | 1      |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             |          |                   | 1      | 1        |          |                   |
| 1      |             |          |                   | 1      |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             |          |                   | 1      |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             |          |                   | 1      |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             |          |                   | 3      | 3        |          |                   |
| 1      |             | yes      |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 2      |             |          |                   | 79     | 35       | 13       | 5 total           |
| 1      | 1           |          |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             |          |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             | yes      |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             | yes      |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             |          |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 2      | "children"* |          |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 2      | "children"* |          |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 3      |             |          |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             |          |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 1      | 2           |          |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             |          |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             |          |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 2      | 1           |          |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             | yes      |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 1      | 3           |          |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             | yes      |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             |          | yes               |        |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             |          | yes               |        |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             | yes      |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             | yes      |                   |        |          |          |                   |
| 1      |             | yes      |                   |        |          |          |                   |

[\* number of children not given, but counted as two.]

One woman was "crazy"; one was "a blind girl", one was "sick" and one had smallpox. The sexes rarely travelled together, and were generally solitary or in small same sex groups, though two soldiers had their wives with them and three women and three children travelled with another disbanded soldier.

Of the thirteen women shown as "pregnant" in the table, five were described "great-bellied" or "big with child"; seven were "in travail" and one was "in labour". Most, like all the travellers, were given small sums of money and moved on. Some, who seemed about to give birth were supplied with additional assistance to hurry them out of the parish: in 1711 a man with a horse was paid 1s 0d to carry off "a great bellied woman" and in 1719, a man was paid one shilling and sixpence to take another to Bristol. In 1721 the fee had increased to three shillings when a man was paid to "carry off a woman in travail". In 1726 a man with a horse received the large fee of 6s 6d to remove a "woman in travail", while in 1728 the cost of paying a man to carry off another "great bellied" woman was 3s 6d. In 1732 the overseers "gave a woman in distress, being in labour, 1s 6d to pay the Bath Carrier."

Some babies, inconveniently for Brislington ratepayers, arrived before their mothers could be moved on, and having been born in Brislington, became the responsibility of the parish. In February 1727, Hester Gleson, an experienced midwife was paid £1. 1s 6d for attending a woman in childbirth, and two shillings and threepence was spent on "Mr Hunt for christening the child and the gossips", [ie Godparents, who no doubt had to wet the baby's head.] In 1733, Amy Peasley's fee for "delivering a woman and tending her at John Gleson's" was 5s 0d.

It was expected that wandering women given half a chance, would abscond, leaving their children behind to be cared for by the parish. In 1701 Robert Jones was paid 10s 0d for three journeys going "after the mother of the child that was left", and "his kinswoman", [unnamed], engaged in the same task received 3s 6d. To no avail, even when "the Bellman was paid 2s 0d for crying the child". A watch might be kept, as in April 1726 when the overseers minuted: "paid for ale to Martha Robins, got for them that sat up to watch a woman that had a child, for fear she leave, 1s 1½d." .... but the woman absconded anyway, and the overseers had to pay "Mary Lewis for keeping the child the first week and loan of her clothes, 3s 6d. A pair of shoes and shirting for the child left in the parish, 1s. A bodice, undercoat and frock for the child left in the parish, 7s 11½d. One clout for the child left in the parish - 1s 3d." [This was not a blow to the head, for no doubt thick ears came free to such unfortunate children, but an example of the proverbial garment which should "n'er be cast till May is out"!]. Another child was abandoned at Richard Peasley's in April 1727, and all sorts of parish expense ensued.

On 16 August 1710, a woman was found dead in the highway.

During the same period 40 civilian men [including one described "person" who I assume was male], travelling through Brislington received parish relief, usually between 3d and 6d each. Five were either crippled or

lame, and included one in 1709 for whom the constable was paid "for carrying the cripple with a pass through the shire, 9s 4½d", and another in 1713, for which the removal fee was 10s 11d. Only one man had children - three - with him. An intriguing entry occurs in 1718 when two groups of "passengers", 28 people in all, were moved on. These, presumably men, women and children, may have been thought so undesirable that transport had been arranged to get them away: perhaps they were itinerant Irish or gypsies.

The third category of transients passing through our parish were redundant soldiers and sailors.

| Soldiers                     | Sailors                   |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 4                            | 4                         |
| 2                            | 2                         |
| 1 maimed                     | 2                         |
| 3                            | 4                         |
| 3                            | 3                         |
| 2 maimed                     | 3                         |
| 7 wounded                    | 4                         |
| 5 wounded                    | 3                         |
| 2                            | 1                         |
| 1                            | 1                         |
| 7 wounded                    | 1 wounded                 |
| 2 wounded                    | 3                         |
| 1 wounded                    | 3                         |
| 1 wounded                    | 12                        |
| 2                            | 6                         |
| 1                            | 3                         |
| 1                            | 2                         |
| 1                            | 3                         |
| 1 disbanded + wife           | 7                         |
| 1                            | 4 Dutch "castaway" [1720] |
| 1 disbanded + 3 women & 3 ch | 6                         |
| 1                            | 3                         |
| 1                            | 2                         |
| 1                            | 4 Dutch [1722]            |
| 1                            | 3                         |
| 2                            | 5                         |
| 1 sick                       | 2                         |
|                              | 4                         |
| ---                          | ---                       |
| 55                           | 100                       |

also "several disabled soldiers and sailors with wives and children 10s 0d" and "3 soldiers and sailors".

The disbanded soldier who arrived with three women and children in early October 1734, being too sick to travel on, was given various payments amounting to 11s 0d by the overseers. He did not improve, and by November 25 was dead. Rev. Michael Hunt charged 3s 0d for conducting the funeral and the clerk received 2s 0d. The coffin was supplied by Daniel Merryweather for 7s 0d, and wool for the shroud was 1s 6d. The bearers received 2s 0d for ale. I can only assume that the "Dutchmen" who passed through caused quite a stir.

Appendix II

PARISH APPRENTICES 1700-49 [BRO P/StLB/OP/15/h]

- 1705 Ann Emblin to Giles and Mary Ithell  
1715 Elizabeth Bungy to John Feere  
1720 Rachel Bird to William Bush, gent  
Mary Hook to John Hawkins, gent  
Thomas Bird to Ezekiel Longman, gent  
1729 John Current to Giles Bailey, esq  
Charles Gane to Humphrey Tucker  
1732 Catherine Lockyer to William Morgan  
Thomas Loscombe to Robert Tucker  
1738 Elizabeth Winter to Henry Jones, yeoman  
Eleanor Wickwick to James Wilmott  
1740 William Wickwick to William Reeve  
John Wickwick to Robert Blanche  
Sarah Somerhill to Roger Merryweather  
Benjamin Somerhill to Richard Hardy  
John Sargeant to James Moon  
William Badman to Thomas Taylor [not executed]  
William Badman to Joseph Little, gent  
Ann Guy to John Coysgarne  
1741 Mary Weston to Roger Merryweather  
Joseph Weston to John Hawkins  
1742 Francis Hawkins to Peter Weymouth, jun  
Deborah Guy to William Jones  
1745 Paul Priest to Joseph Freeman  
John Loscombe to Thomas Phelps  
Mary Elliott to William Lydyard  
John Williams to Thomas Marsh [not executed]  
Mary Williams to Elizabeth Bush " "

APPRENTICES BOUND OUTSIDE THE PARISH

- 1704 Clement Salter to Abraham Gibbs, of Bristol, weaver  
1715 Grace and Timothy Bull to Timothy Tucker, of Bristol, tiler



## APPENDIX III

## MARRIAGES AT BRISLINGTON 1700-49

[Marriages 1700-1708 from the parish register, after which there is a gap; 1713-49 taken from Rev Shickle's transcript, the original filed at BRO under P/StLB/R/1c being very fragile and not fit for production.]

- 1700 May 27, Thomas Hosskins & Sarah Meren  
 1701 Oct 2, Matthew Needleton of Downing & Elizabeth Williams  
 1703 May 20, Thomas Cox & Damaris Phillips  
 1704 Sep 28, Abraham Meryweather & Sarah Crew (at Kainsham)  
 1704/5 Feb 19, Mr Robert Vickris & Mrs Elizabeth Cann  
 1705 Apr 26, Walter Anthony & Rodya Barrott  
     Apr 29, William Goosh & Mary Gray  
     May 1, Humphrey Tanner & Jone Meryweather  
     May 3, Nathaniel Browne & Katherine Harrill  
     May 22, William Morgan & Grace Phillips  
     Dec 25, Peter Waymouth & Dorothy Green  
     Dec 27, George Lann & Ann England  
 1706 May 13, Richard Fry & Sarah Washfield  
     May 23, William Chalinder & Sarah Bony of Kainsham  
 1707 Jun 5, John Balle & Susanna Bornell  
 1708 Jul 8, Robert Lushe & Ann Peasley  
 1713 Apr 5, Daniel Merryweather & Frances Green  
     May 3, John Ash & Abigail Hicks  
     Nov 13, William Machen & Elizabeth Marten  
 1724 Aug 2, John Gray of Warminster & Millicent Slinger, sp  
     Dec 24 James Hale & Hester Coleman  
     Dec 25, Joseph Gool & Martha Colman  
 1725 May 9 Samuel Cole & Sarah Smith  
     May 24, John Merriweather & Margaret Price  
 1725/6 Feb 7, John Minor & Mary Morgan  
     Feb 17, John Cook & Lattis Griffin  
 1726 Sep 13, Richard Simes & Ann Linard  
     Nov 13, Thomas Bull & Mary Scot  
 1727 Nov 19, Richard Waters & Mary Shell of Cassell Presinks (sic)  
 1728 Aug 4, Samuel Stone & Mary Hix  
     no date, William Ogborn & Elizabeth Fear  
     Oct 6, John Palmer & Ann Shote  
 1733 Apr Thomas Evans, gentleman & Mary Barret, spinster  
     May 10, John Hale, gentleman & Anne Matthews, spinster  
     Aug 21, George Webb, sadler & Grace Dory, widow  
     Sep 18, Rice Jones, mariner & Elizabeth Harris, widow  
     Nov 13, John Richards, husbandman & Grace Howell, widow  
 1735 Apr 6, Richard Peasley & Mary Griffin  
     Apr 10, Isaac Fillimore & Jone Glister  
     May 1, John Beal, blacksmith & Hester Padding [?]  
 1736/7 Jan 3, Charles Holt & Elizabeth Trotman  
     Mar 6, Richard Lewis & Prissilla Ridmon  
 1737 May 30, James Townsill of Was... [?] & Mary Thomas  
 1738 Jul 6 Thomas Bright & Hannah Cook  
     Jul 17, Abraham Adlom & Sarah Daniell  
 1738/9 Jan 21, John Gane & Mary Roch  
     Jan 29, Joseph Hall of SS Philip & Jacob & Mary White  
     Feb 26, Mr Thomas Bush & Mrs Margaret Doninn

- 1739 Apr 29, Richard Jones & Mary Manly  
 May 11, John Linard & Jane Glison  
 Jul 1, Samuel Wickwick & Betty Williams  
 Aug 21, Hendry Linerd & Elizabeth Pritchatt  
 Aug 21, Thomas Dinn of Middlezoy & Elizabeth Brown  
 Oct 21, Daniel Coirin of Bristol & Elianor Owen of Bath,  
 spinster
- 1740 Apr 1, Henry Hudd, blacksmith & Hester Coomb, spinster
- 1741 May 31, Jonathon Phillips & Mary Stockman
- 1742 May 1, Thomas Radford & Mary Craddick  
 Sep 12, Robert Robins & Mary Aubrey  
 Sep 26, John Minor & Ann Vadom
- 1742/3 Feb 7, William Fisher & Jane Thornly
- 1743 Apr 3, Robert Gay of Bedminster & Martha Fisher  
 Aug 25, Lacy Rumsey & Elizabeth Funnell  
 Oct 11, John Brookmann & Mary Sargent  
 Dec 25, Thomas Williams & Ann Showring
- 1743/4 Jan 5, Benjamin Fry & Mary Showring  
 Jan 28, Joseph Hopton of St Mary Port, Bristol & Jane Fisher,  
 spinster, by licence

["This marriage was omitted registering by the late incumbent Mr Hunt and is now inserted on the affidavit of Henry Cox as a witness of the marriage and Richard Peasley, clerk, to the handwriting of Mr Hunt in a certificate of the said marriage, and sworn before Henry Maggleworth. Mayor of Bristol, in the year 1759"]

- 1743/4 Feb 5, George Hawkins & Elizabeth Tippatt
- 1744 Apr 3, Thomas Toyland & Sarah Matthews  
 Jul 1, Henry Bradburne of Bath, merchant & Mary Day, spinster of  
 St Nicholas, Bristol, aged 26, by licence  
 Jul 7, Philip Foord of St Thomas, Bristol, innholder, & Mary Hill  
 widow, by licence  
 Jul 30, William Watkins of Bath, gentleman & Frances Penelope  
 Vernon of St Augustine, Bristol, aged about 21 years,  
 by licence  
 Nov 19, Thomas Tippott & Rachel Mearne
- 1745 May 5, George Hews of Paulton & Mary Bright  
 May 9, James Lane & Anne Wilcox of Bath  
 May 16, William Weeks & Rachel Harrill  
 Oct 3, Thomas Lacy & Ruth Locker \*
- 1745/6 Jan 5, Francis Haggott of SS Philip & Jacob, Bristol & Mary  
 Fry
- 1746 Mar 31, Joseph Gay & Elizabeth Thorn  
 Sep 26, Thomas Titcomb & Elizabeth Woodward
- 1747 May 28, John Cogins & Ann Challinder, both of Busseton  
 Oct 25, Andrew Caines & Mary Woddam
- 1747/8 Feb 15, George Harrington of Upton, Bitton, widower & Bety  
 Gray of Kelson, widow, by licence  
 Mar 22, Francis Laboe of Pridee, mariner & Hannah Coward  
 of Bedminster
- 1748 Apr 4, Isaac Mearn and Mary Jones of Keynsham  
 May 11, Henry Eynen, mariner & Mary John, spinster, both of  
 Portbury

1748 Jun 20, Kingston Sweet of Pensford & Mary Jones\*  
 Aug 3, John Gerris, bachelor & Betty Rowe, spinster, both of  
 St James Bath.  
 Oct 21, John Hamley of Taunton & Ann Haget of Clifton  
 Nov 27, Henry Lewis & Anne White  
 1748/9 Jan 18, William Cole, husbandman & Ann Goodenough, spinster,  
 both of Winford, Somerset  
 1749 Dec 16, Solomon Camry [?] & Ann Wall both of Cassel Presinks  
 Dec 21, William Hamley & Jane Jones  
 1749/50, Feb 18, William Bishop & Mary Bodylaine, both of Keynsham,  
 married by Mr Bullord at Brislington, being approved by Mr Hunt  
 the Minister, by banns

[\* A significant number of couples who took out licences from the Bishop of Bath and Wells were given the option of marrying at Brislington or Burnett. This was very likely because Rev Michael Hunt was Rector of Burnett as well as Vicar of Brislington. Only two of the of these licence holders [asterisked above] were married at Brislington.]

#### Appendix IV

#### OCCUPATIONS

The occupations listed in the text point to a community whose main dependency was on the land - there were nine husbandmen and fifteen yeomen, but the term "yeoman" could denote status as well as occupation. Several "yeomen", so described followed other work, like the Lawrences, who prospected for coal. The chief manufactory was pottery, with nine men described potters or gallypotmakers, but as is noted in the main text, the Brislington pottery was in decline, with the potters moving into Bristol. Other manufacturers were basketmakers [5], ropemakers [2], and sackweavers [2]. There were five carpenters, five coalminers or colliers, and one coaldriver. There were three bakers, blacksmiths/farriers, carriers, cordwainers. Four men were merchants, though it is supposed some of these were retired, and three men departed as soldiers. There was room for only one: aleseller, brewer, butcher, coaldriver, gardener, hempdresser, horsekeeper, linendraper, locksmith/ironworker, mariner, mercer, quarrier, saddler, soapmaker, surgeon, tailor, [he made the badges for the paupers!], thatcher, weaver. Only four were described servants and three labourers, but this is misleading, for the vast majority of the men would have worked for others, see for example, 1735, when Daniel Merryweather "and his man" were summoned to prop up Joshua Wharton's trees which had been blown down in a gale. Likewise, we know that the servant turnover was brisk in Joshua's household, male as well as female.

A woman's business was to be married and her place was in the home, though women often became competent in their husband's trade. Those women who were obliged to take up paid employment outside their own homes moved into somebody's else's - as domestic servants. At least five worked at the Whartons, and this was just one relatively well to do household. Others were were paid for labour of an irregular variety, like Sarah Glover, sempstress, who made shifts for paupers, and those who acted as midwives. Only Joan Tranter, an aleseller, had her own named trade.

## APPENDIX V

### QUAKERS

A Quaker Burial Ground existed in Brislington, apparently from the later years of the 17th century, with the earliest monumental inscription said to be 1716 on a grave of a member of the Lyne family. Sadly the burial ground was paved over in the early 1970's, with, I understand, the gravestones still below. During the period covered by this volume, the parish register identifies the following Quaker burials:

1702/3 Jan 24 Judy Daniel  
Mar 7 a female child of Daniel Hollister of Whitchurch  
1703 Aug 19 a young child of Isaac Peetstow of Beeton, [Bitton], Glos  
1703/4 Jan 13 John Fracks, a poor man of Beeton, Glos  
Feb 3 Sarah Lydyet of Kainsham  
May 4 daughter of Thomas Ginkins of Kainsham  
May 12 William son of " " " "  
Nov 29 Richard Notte of Beeton  
1704/5 Feb 27 a son of Thomas Ginkins of Kainsham  
1705 Jun 29 George Ailing of Saltford  
Sep 20 James son of Joseph Daniell  
Oct 7 a son of Edward Linne of Bristol  
Oct 7 a child of William Sellwood  
1705/6 Jan 29 a child of Daniel Hollister of Whitchurch  
Feb 27 a child of Thomas Ginkins of Kainsham  
1706 May 9 Widow Racy of Kainsham  
May 15 Charles Sanders of Kainsham  
May 26 William Sillwood, senior  
1721 Isaac Selwood in Quaker's Yard.

Strangely, despite a sizeable Quaker community in Brislington, [see Bulletins II], the majority of the above came from outside.

## APPENDIX VI

Addenda to Brislington Bulletins II

Brislington boys apprenticed to Bristol masters, 1668-71.

[transcribed by Mr D Ivory, held at BRO]

20 July 1668: Stephen Rice, son of John of Brislington, tailor, to John & Mary Jones, mason  
1 May 1669: Jacob Bungay, son of William of Brislington, yeoman, to Philip and Margaret Grubb, farrier  
18 February 1669/70: Thomas, son of Henry Caines, yeoman, to John & Susan Watkins, cooper.

-----  
Marriage Ebenezer Pike, merchant of Cork & Sarah Pope, widow of Brislington 18 July 1694. Bristol Quakers.  
-----

"Servants to Foreign Plantations" 27 May 1680 - 12 June 1686

6 January 1684/5: Tobey Grey of Busselton to Jamaica  
2 December 1685: John Purnell of Busselton on board "Maryland Merchant" to Virginia.



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NB \* denotes the same name appears more than once on the page

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# The Lindegaard List

|                                     |  |
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| Killed in a Coalpit I               | Fatalities in the Kingswood mines            |
| Supplement to Killed in a Coalpit I | Fatalities in the Kingswood mines            |
| Killed in a Coalpit II              | Fatalities in the Mendip mines               |
| Killed in a Coalpit III             | Fatalities in the Bedminster mines           |
| The Annals of Kingswood 1750-1775   | A catalogue of events                        |
| The Annals of Kingswood 1776-1795   | A catalogue of events                        |
| Black Bristolians                   | The black residents of Bristol in the 17/18c |
| The Budgetts of Kingswood Hill      | Story of the famous grocery family           |
| The Simple Annals of the Poor       | Family life in 3 parishes, 1550/1650         |
| The Brislington Bulletins           | A catalogue of events                        |

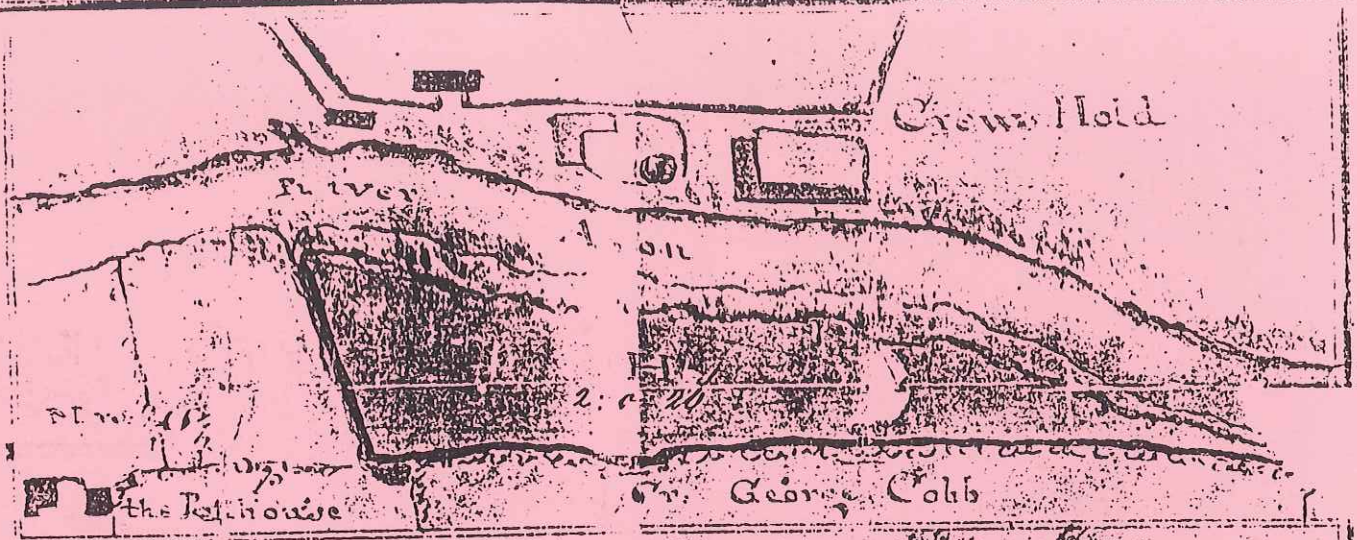
All are available from the author, D.P.Lindegaard, B.A.,  
49 Clayfield Road, Brislington, Bristol, BS4 4NH  
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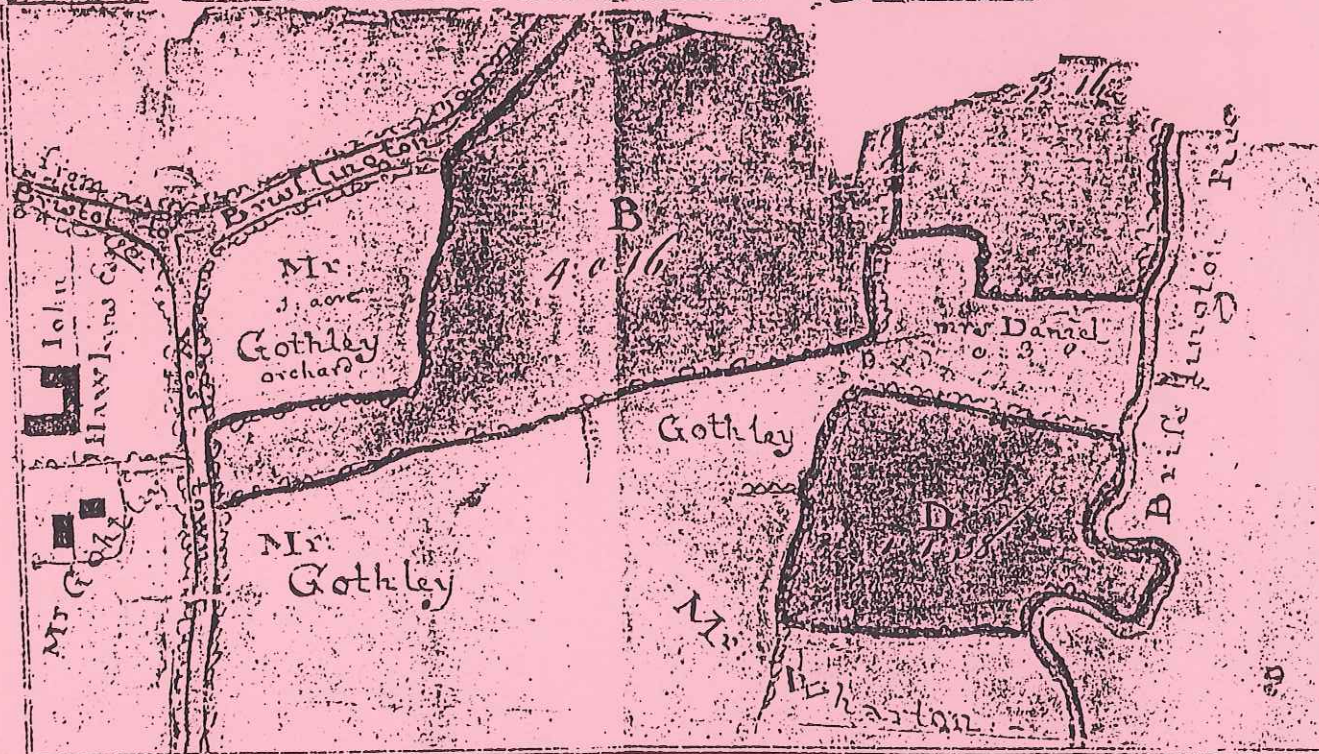
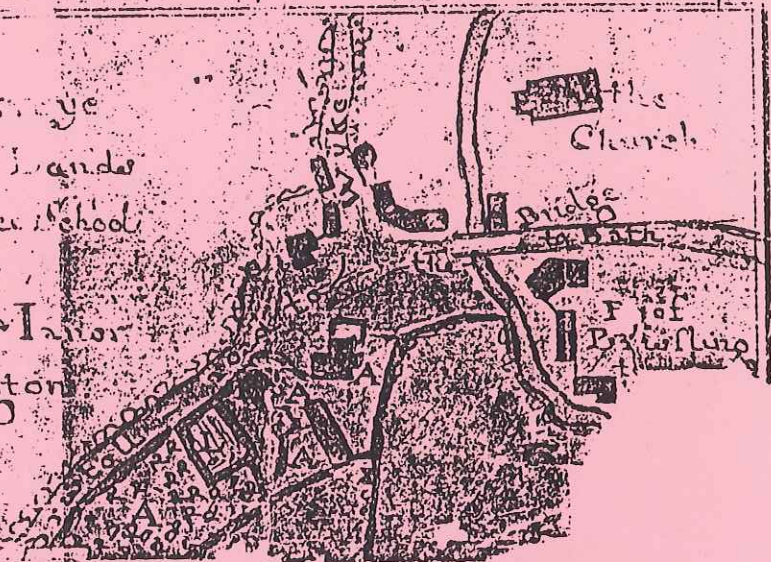
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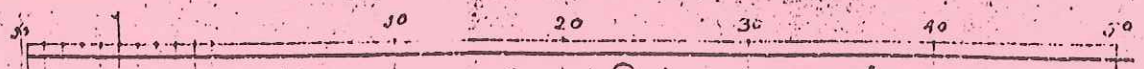


A PLAN and Surveye  
 of a parcel of Bartholomew Lands  
 belonging to the Grammar School  
 in BRISTOLL  
 and being situated in the Manor  
 and Parish of Brighthampton  
 in Sommersetsshire. —



£3.75

A Scale of Perches. —



Surveyed in the year 1745 by *John West*