

The Ancestors & Descendants of Robert Yeaw and Joan Treble of Kingston St Mary

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Introduction

For over 20 years I have been researching my ancestry, building on work done over the previous three or four decades by my aunt Alma Yea, whose success in unearthing early records in the pre-internet age was truly remarkable,

From reviewing many thousands of birth, marriage and death records, land deeds, taxes, court cases, wills and other legal records, I was able to document conclusively my own ancestry back to my 8th great grandfather Robert Yeaw who married Joan Treble in the Somerset village of Combe Florey in 1670. They made their family home in the hamlet of Cushuish nearby the village of Kingston St Mary, which Robert had earlier that year inherited from his deceased father John and where Joan was to bear him eight children most of whom were baptised in the local church of Kingston St Mary.

Cushuish is a very small hamlet between Cothelstone and Kingston St Mary. Collinson in his History of Somerset (Vol 3 p258) states it had just 17 houses and 20 families. Records have survived of the surrender deeds for transactions on two parcels of land and property in Cushuish tithing, part of the parish of Kingston St Mary in the hundred of Nailsbourne. With the common surname among those ceding the property, there can be no doubt these deeds refer to Robert who married Joane nee Treble and his father John Yaw, who was recorded as deceased on the latest of the three deeds dated 21 Sept 1670. Unfortunately neither the parish register nor Bishops Transcript records for Kingston St Mary before 1677 have survived, so it has not been possible to confirm dates of Robert's baptism, or his father's burial. There was no church at Cushuish itself, hence no parish register.

Thanks to Sheila Yeo of www.yeosociety.com (sadly now offline) - without whose help and encouragement I would have abandoned this task many years ago – I was able to initially publish a report on the fruits of this research on her website in 2008, with an update in 2015.

In the sixteen years or so since I published that first report, and as more and more records have been placed in the public domain I thought it was timely to update my previous report with this current version. My colleague and friend David Yaw and I have researched exhaustively the registers and other records of Kingston, Cothelstone, Cannington, Spaxton, Aisholt, North Petherton, West Monkton and neighbouring parishes.

In his standard reference work, Alfred Monday proposed that the Yea, Yeaw and similar surnames found across this part of Somerset probably stemmed from a common root. As we delved into the sources greatly expanded since Monday's work, we have come to a far more detailed understanding of the genealogy of this branch of the family and various lines of descent therein. In particular the outline of four family "grouplets" began to emerge as follows:

- John Yea of Aisholt, died 1574, his first wife Margaret, second wife Elizabeth, and son Richard ·
- John Yea of West Monkton died 1618 & his wife Ann ·
- John Yeaw of Aisholt died 1645 and wife Lucy died 1655 ·
- John Yeawe of Kingston St Mary died 1670, father of Robert Yeawe who married Joane Treable in 1670 in Combe Florey

The absence of parish register records from Aisholt pre-1652 is a serious barrier to fully documenting the family history of this branch. However, records of tax collections, wills and a court case enable us to establish the presence of three generations of Yea family in Aisholt from the 1540's and probably earlier until about 1600. As will be seen, subsequent tax records show a continuing Yea etc presence in Aisholt of another John Yea from the early to the mid-1600's when the latter John died in 1645. Two wills show a presence in nearby North Petherton through the third quarter of the 1600's.

Whilst we still cannot be certain and many gaps in the records remain as hence so do previous caveats, it still seems likely that Robert's ancestors and those of other Yea's in these parishes stem from a common root.

Given the many gaps in the records, we cannot be definitive in corroborating Monday's proposition that these individuals stem from a common root. However, the authors contend that the circumstantial evidence supports a credible case that these couples were not only members of a wider "clan", but were in fact successive generations in the same family branch. Hopefully further sources will come to light to confirm this is indeed the case.

Mike Darch 2025

Acknowledgements

The research into the ancestors and descendants of Robert Yeaw and his wife Joan nee Treble over more than twenty years has been a very personal mission for principal author Mike Darch, who in this report demonstrates his direct descent from them.

Virtually all research undertakings benefit from collaborative working, and family history research is no exception. He is pleased to acknowledge the following:

His Aunt Alma set out on this quest 40-50 years ago. Given the scant level of documentary sources available to her, results of her efforts are remarkable and formed the foundation of subsequent efforts.

Alfred Monday's book "The history of the family of Yea" published in 1885 remains the standard reference work for the history of the wider Yea family. While the primary focus of his work was on the descendants of Richard Yea of Oakhampton House, Wiveliscombe, his text contains several passages relevant to our research into Robert and Joan.

David Bromwich of the Somerset Record Society and staff in at the archives in Taunton, now the South West Heritage Trust, were most helpful in finding and making documents available.

Staff at the National Archives in Kew were also invaluable by making available and providing guidance on transcribing early records of tax assessments and legal disputes in the Court of Chancery.

Ruth McConnell in Canada kindly provided details of a St. Decuman's marriage on Robert & Joan's descendant Robert Yeaw and his wife Elisabeth nee Burge which extended this line for us in 2024.

Martyn Yeo kindly reviewed and suggested improvements to the draft text of this report. We take this opportunity to thank Martyn also for kindly publishing this report on the Yeoonline website.

Since Mike began researching his family history some 20 years ago, we have benefitted from the help of many people, which we gladly place on record in this volume.

Dedication

One person who stands out for particular mention is Sheila Yeo. From Mike's first hesitant beginnings as a novice researcher, through his first papers published on the Yeo Society website, to these latest updates thereof, Sheila had been a constant source of help, guidance and support – in short an inspiration.

Although he had an inkling of her illness, though not of its severity, it was typical of her that Sheila continued to respond to his queries to the end. We are sure we speak for many when we say how shocked and saddened we learned of her passing in May 2020.

We can think of no better way of expressing our appreciation and honouring Sheila than to dedicate this present work to her memory.

Mike Darch & David Yaw 2025

The Ancestors & Descendants of Robert Yeaw and Joan Treble of Kingston St Mary

Generation 1

1. **JOHN¹ YAW** was born about 1520 in Aisholt. He died in 1574 in Aisholt. He married (1) **MARGARET AISHE** about 1540. She was born about 1520. She died between May 1558-Aug 1559. He married (2) **ELISABETH ARTER** on 1558/59. She was born before 1538. She died between 1594-1600.

Notes for John Yaw:

About 1520: We find no record of John's birth or baptism which was probably some 30 years or more before the systematic keeping of parish records began. But he was listed in a tax collection in 1543 (see below) when he was almost certainly in his majority, and from which we may reasonably conclude he was born about 1520, probably in Aisholt.

1543: In his book "The history of the family of Yea", Alfred Monday noted in Appendix G that John Yea of Aisholt was listed in the Lay Subsidy Roll for Somerset in the 34th & 35th years of the reign of Henry VIII (ie 1543/4). He was probably referring to the following record.

A Lay Subsidy for the "Hundred of Cannyngton" lists 52 individuals in the parish of "Ayesholt", including Johne Yea (sic) who was assessed for Goods at 40 shillings and taxed at 4 pence. There are no other Yea's listed for Aisholt or adjacent parishes, so John's parents may have been dead by then or living elsewhere, and as an individual taxpayer, he had apparently established his own household. We should note here that directly adjacent to the entry for John Yea in the tax roll, we find entries for Isabella Aysh assessed and taxed at identical sums to John, and John Aysh, assessed and taxed half as much - presumably his immediate neighbours. Among other names adjacent to John in the tax roll listing and presumably also near neighbours, we find Walter Cridland & John Cridland; and Johanna Slocombe, surnames we meet elsewhere in the wider Yea family history. As will be seen, Isabel was almost certainly John Yea's mother-in-law, and John Aysh her son. (National Archives doc ref E179/170/203)

We find no record for John's marriage, though as will be seen, we find sources which confirm that he married a Margaret and that her maiden name was Aishe or Ashe. As it seems John had established his own household by the time of the tax collection in 1543, he and Margaret were probably already married by then, say in 1540 give or take 1 or 2 years. If Margaret was in her majority at marriage, we can estimate her birth similar to John's in around 1520.

1558: In her will of 15 May 1558, Isabelle Aishe widowe of Aisholte left several bequests to her named children and grandchildren. She appointed "John Yawe my son-in-law" as residuary legatee and executor. He proved the will in Taunton on 23 Sept 1558.

Before Aug 1559: As will be seen, a source from a court case confirms that Margaret died and that John re-married. Moreover, Alfred Monday in the same section of his book referenced above cites the will of John Arter of Aisholt from August 1559, in which the

Generation 1 (con't)

Testator left a bequest to “Elizabeth, the wyffe of John Yawe”. We find no record of John’s second marriage to Elizabeth, but we can conclude it must have preceded the date of Arter’s will. (See also notes for Elizabeth Arter below)

1574: John probably died in Aisholt in early-mid 1574, though we find no death or burial record for him. On 22 Sept 1574, the administration of the will of John Yea of Aisholt was granted to his relict Elizabeth with an inventory value of his estate of £31 16sh 6d. Only a list entry has survived and we find no copy of the will or abstract of its content. He was thus probably in his mid-50’s at death. (Wells Consistory, Book L3, Admons & Probates 1567/8 to 1578, P33 list entry 685; SWHT Taunton)

Notes for Margaret Aishe:

We have little direct information about Margaret. One of the few sources we have comes from a court case brought by Richard Yeaw in 1575 from which it is clear that Margaret was Richard’s mother and was the first wife of his father John. (Please see notes for son Richard below).

A second source provides a clue to her maiden name. A summary transcript of the will of Isabell Aishe of Aisholt from May 1558 states that she left a bequest of un-specified “goods” to Margaret Yawe. Since the Testator also appointed her son-in-law John Yawe as Executor, we may reasonably conclude that Margaret was Isabelle’s daughter and John’s wife

Will of Isabelle Aishe, widow of Aisholte. Dated 15 May 1558 To be buried in churchyard of Aisholt. To Rycharde Aishe my son household goods. To Rycharde my son’s wife clothing. To John my son the younger goods. To the said John’s wife clothing. To John my son the elders wife, clothing. To Thomas my sons wife clothing. To William Aishe my son goods. To said Williams wife, clothing. To Grace my daughter clothing. To Richard my daughter Margarets daughter (sic) goods. To Joan Yawe goods. To Dorothy Hogges and Barbara Hogges neckerchiefs and to Alice Brodelie. To Margaret Yaw goods. To Thomas my son 20d. To William my son 20d. To John Aishe, the elder my son 20d. To John, the younger my son a hosecloth. To my children eighteen pounds of yerne tom be divided amongst them in equal portions. To Agnes Oliver of Spaxton clothing. To Margery White my god daughter 4d. To Sir John Zelacke parson of Aisholt my gostlie father 20d. Residue to John Yawe my son-in-law, executor. Witnesses: Robert Butler, John Tyygche; Thomas Whyte. Proved 23 Sept 1558.

A third source cited above comes from the will of John Arter from August 1559 in which he left a bequest to Elizabeth, wife of John Yeawe from which we may conclude Margaret had died by then. (See also notes for Elizabeth below)

Will of John Arter of Aisholt dated 12 Aug 1559

“In the name of God Amen. The xiith daie of August and in the yere of our Lord God 1559 I John Arter of the pishe of Aisholt of pfitt memory Do make my Testament here folowige ffirst I bequethe my soul to Almighty god and my body to be bueried in the churchyard of Aisholt. Itm I geue to Willm Arter my brother xx sh in money. Itm I geue

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to Robert Arter my brother xx sh in money. Itm I geue to Katheren Arter my sister xx sh in money. Itm I geue to eu'y one in the howse xii d. Itm I geue to Elizabeth Yawe the wyffe of John Yawe iii sh iiii d. The Resydue of all my goodes not bequeathed I geue and bequethe to Jone Legge my mother whom I Do make my lawful executrix. Witness John Yaw and Richard Poyten". 107 Proved in the Court of the Archdeacon of Taunton 28th February 1559 (sic) (Source: Cited by Alfred Monday in "The history of the family of Yea", Appendix G, published 1885. Note the date the will was proved was 28 Feb 1559/60)

In summary, we have no baptism, marriage or burial record for Margaret. If she was of a similar age to John, she was probably born c1520; married to John in about 1540 when she was in her majority and died between May 1558 and August 1559 when she was probably aged less than 40.

John Yaw and Margaret Aishe had the following children:

- i. JOAN² YAW was born between 1540-1550 in Aisholt.

Notes for Joan Yaw:

We have no baptism, marriage or burial record for Joan. The evidence for her as a daughter of John & Margaret comes from the will of Isabell Aishe of Aisholte of May 1558, in which she left a bequest of un-specified goods to Joan Yawe. From other provisions in Isabell's will, we can reasonably assume Joan was the daughter of John Yea and Margaret nee Aishe. We might reasonably assume Joan was born in the first few years after John & Margaret's marriage, say between 1540 and 1550. She was probably still on her minority and un-married when Margaret left her a bequest in her will in 1558.

- ii. SIMON YAW was born between 1540-1550. He died in 1603 in Spaxton.

Notes for Simon Yaw:

We have included Simon Yaw here merely to capture a single later record for him. Our review of parish and other records in this region suggest there were relatively few members of the Yaw family named Simon. In the absence of firm evidence, we propose that he may have been a son of John & Margaret, and if this was indeed the case he was probably born in the few years after their marriage, say between 1540-1550. We have no marriage or burial record for him, but we do have a will list entry for him in 1603 where he was stated to be from Spaxton. The will itself has not survived, possibly destroyed in the bombing of Exeter. From research by Mike's Aunt Alma, she states his will referred to Richard Yaw (see below), though she cites no source for that comment. We include him here in the hope some further record may come to light.

- iii. RICHARD YAW was born between 1540-1550. He died in 1604 in Bridgwater.

Generation 1 (con't)

Notes for Richard Yaw:

We have no birth or baptism record for Richard - the Aisholt parish register pre-1652 has not survived and there are only few intermittent Bishops Transcripts from 1598, which is long after his birth. In 1575, Richard initiated a court case against his step-mother, his father John's second wife Elizabeth Yeaw. He was almost certainly above the age of majority to have the legal status to bring that case, so we may conclude he was born pre-1554. We have estimated that Richard's parents John & Margaret were probably married about 1540, so Richard may have been born a little earlier than 1554, say between 1540 and 1550.

1558: It appears that Richard was the beneficiary of a bequest in the will of 1558 of Isabella Aishe of Aisholt. We state "appears" because the transcript reads "To Richard my daughter Margaret's daughter goods". In the context of other provisions in her will, we can be reasonably confident that the Testator was referring to her daughter Margaret, the wife of John Yaw. It is possible that there is a drafting or transcription error and the forename of the beneficiary should read "Richarda", ie the female version of the name. However, it seems more likely the error is in the beneficiary's gender, and the text should read "Richard my daughter Margaret's son"

1575: In 1575 Richard initiated a case in the Court of Chancery against his step-mother, his father's second wife Elizabeth. Richard's case was that some years previously - no number of years stated but we can conclude it was certainly before 1559 - John Yeaw had taken out a lease from Sir Edmund Walgrave, Lord of the Manor of Aisholt on a property of some 40 acres, part of the said manor. The lease was on the three lives of himself, his (first) wife Margaret and their son Richard (ie the Plaintiff) and the longest liver. Margaret died, and John re-married to Elizabeth some time before 1559. In 1574, John made his last will and testament of which it appears no content and only an index listing has survived, in which he appointed Elizabeth his Executrix. John reportedly died the same year, whereafter Elizabeth proved his will and proceeded to administer the same. Richard's case was that Elizabeth had taken possession of the deed for the lease, occupied the property and refused to recognise John's right to the same.

Elizabeth's defence was that she knew of no such lease based on three lives as claimed by Richard. Moreover she claimed she had herself executed a lease on the property with Charles Walgrave, son of Sir Edmund who had died in 1571. If true, Elizabeth's lease must have been made after 1571, and most probably after the death of her husband in 1574 - and the conditions of lease apparently did NOT include the life of Richard.

As often happens with such cases, we find no verdict in the case. However, it appears that Elizabeth retained the property, as she was assessed for lands in

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Aisholt in the Lay Subsidies of 1581 and 1593/4. In the latter, the name Elizabeth Yeawe vid (ie widow) appears as the first entry in the list of taxpayers, and was assessed for lands at 20 shillings, with others the highest amount recorded. Richard does NOT appear in either of those tax collections, though we have no way of knowing whether he may have reached an accommodation and lived with his step-mother, or simply moved elsewhere. (For 1581/2, see "Two Tudor Subsidy Assessments" by A J Webb. For 1593/4, the authors reviewed NA Doc ref E179/256/4) (For a full transcript of the pleadings in this legal case and commentary thereon, please refer to Appendix at the end of this volume)

1587: The Somerset Archives hold the record of a lease dated 30 Sept 1587 to Richard Yawe of a property in Friarn Street, Bridgwater containing "half a burgage more or less". A burgage was a town ("borough" or "burgh") rental property, originally owned by a king or lord, but in this context owned by Bridgwater Corporation. The property usually consisted of a house on a long and narrow plot of land with a narrow street frontage. Rental payment ("tenure") was usually in the form of money rather than services as was the case in rural leases. It may be that having failed to recover his interest in the property in Aisholt, Richard moved to nearby Bridgwater. (SWHT Taunton doc ref D/B/bw/CL/60)

1604 In Appendix G of his book "The history of the family of Yea", Alfred Monday refers to the wills from 1603/4 of Simon Yea of Spaxton and Richard Yea of Bridgwater, noting that both were proved in the Archidiaconal Court at Taunton but both wills were missing at the time of his research in the mid-1880's. Notes from previous research by Mike's Aunt Alma - presumably taken from some abstract or index - state that Simon's will also mentions Richard Yea of Bridgwater, but with no further details as to whether he was perhaps an uncle or brother.

We should note here that this is the earliest reference we find to the forename Simon in the Yea, Yaw. Yeaw family. We find more incidences later in Cothelstone, Cannington and Enmore perhaps suggestive of naming to honour a father or brother, but in the absence of early parish baptism records we are unable to document this was indeed the case.

We find three records in Bridgwater in the early 1600's, viz the burial of for Richard Yaw on 15 March 1603/4; the baptism of Joan daughter of Richard Yawe & his wife Elizabeth on 12 Jan 1605 (1605/6 ?) cited by Alfred Monday; and the burial of another Richard Yowe in Bridgwater on 5 Jan 1609. A possible explanation is that the earliest of these is for Richard, son of John & Margaret, when based on our estimate of his birth, he would have been in his mid-50's at death - and moreover at which age it is unlikely he fathered a child Joan in 1605. Her father Richard may have been Richard's

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son - this said son then dying just four years after Joan's birth. Note the parish register at this period cites neither age nor marital status, so we can't be certain any of these records is a correct match.

Foot note re Aisholt:

As is clear from the foregoing notes, in the absence of parish register records in Aisholt pre-1652, we are reliant on handful of tax records, wills and a court case to establish a basic history of this branch in Aisholt of just two generations from about 1520 until about 1600.

Our inability to establish any descendants of John beyond Richard in the second generation is particularly frustrating as the gaps in various parish records which preclude us from documenting beyond any doubt the descendants of John beyond Richard in the second generation, compelling the authors to rely on circumstantial evidence and informed assumptions. We have noted that Elizabeth Yeawe was assessed for land in Aisholt in the Lay Subsidy of 1593/4. Thereafter, the precise dates of the next three collections are uncertain with only fairly wide ranges cited in the National Archives records. However a John Yeawe, Yeowe, Yoe was assessed for goods in those next three collections between 1600 & 1622, and John Yea for land in 1628/9 and 1641. Moreover the detailed will has survived of another John Yeaw of Aisholt who died in 1645.

We also identified that John Yea who died in 1574 was first married to Margaret Ayshe or Ashe who pre-deceased him by about 15 years. It seems the relationship between the two families was somehow maintained or perhaps revived. Again referring to Alfred Monday, he cites the will from 1669 of William Yeo of North Petherton in which the Testator refers to "John Ash of North Petherton my kinsman son of Nicholas Ash" and to "my Aunt Sarah Yeo". The latter also of North Petherton in her will of 1684 referred to both Nicholas and John as "my kinsman" - from which we might suspect her maiden name was Ash too. Note North Petherton is about 5 miles from Aisholt.

In summary, we can document the Yea presence in Aisholt from about 1520 until the turn of the century via John, first married into the Aysh family, and his immediate descendant Richard. While we can't be certain all those tax assessments in Aisholt concern one and the same John Yea, we can document a Yea presence throughout the first half of the 1600's. Nor from the sparse references in these wills can we be certain members of the Yea and Ash families later inter-married, but it appears they remained related until the 1680's.

In these small adjacent parishes, we can reasonably speculate some generational continuity was at work here. However, we are not able to

Generation 1 (con't)

demonstrate this with documentary evidence, and hence we will address the descendants of the later John Yea of Aisholt who died in 1645 in the 2nd generation below

- iv. MARY YAW was born on 13 Aug 1558 in Spaxton.

Notes for Mary Yaw:

1558: The Spaxton parish register commences in May 1558. The fifth entry under baptisms is for Mary the daughter of John Yae baptised on 13 August 1558. Mary was born about 3 months after Isabelle Aishe wrote her will, and hence was not named as a beneficiary. From our analysis of events in the court case brought by Richard, we concluded that his mother Margaret died in 1558/9. We might speculate that her death may have been during childbirth or later from the effects of giving birth to Mary. The presence of an infant might explain John's prompt re-marriage to Elizabeth. We find no marriage or burial record for Mary

Notes for Elisabeth Arter:

Bef 1538: We have no birth or baptism record for Elizabeth, though if she was of full age at her marriage (see notes for Richard), she would have been born before 1538.

Before August 1559: As noted earlier, Alfred Monday cited the will of John Arter of Aisholt dated 12 August 1559 and proved 12 February 1559/60 in Taunton. Arter left bequests to his brothers William and Robert Arter and to his sister Katheren Arter. He also left a bequest to Elizabeth Yawe, the wife of John Yawe - and John Yawe also witnessed the will. We might speculate that Elizabeth was also Arter's sister or possibly daughter, and that she was the second wife of John, as she is referred to in the court case brought by Richard (see his personal notes below). We should note that in his evidence, Richard states his father "intermarried one Elizabeth Yawe" - the term intermarry being in common use at this period. We cannot discern from this comment whether Richard was simply referring to Elizabeth by the name she was known at the time he brought his case, or whether she might have been previously married to another Yawe. But in making his statement, Richard did NOT refer to Elizabeth as a widow, so the former explanation seems the most likely and is what we have assumed for present purposes. The only issue we have of the marriage of John and Elizabeth is son John born 1565, about 6 years after their marriage in 1558/9. We might speculate there could have been other children born between these dates, though the mutilated pages of the Spaxton parish register preclude us from identifying any such other offspring.

1581: In a Lay Subsidy for this year, Elizabeth Yeawe was assessed Land at 20 shillings and taxed 16 pence. (Extracted from Two Tudor Tax Subsidies by A J Webb)

1593/4: In a Lay Subsidy for this year, Elizabeth Yeawe widow was assessed for land at 20 shillings and taxed 4 shillings. (National Archives doc ref E179/256/4)

After 1594: From the foregoing tax record, we can be sure Elizabeth was still alive in

Generation 1 (con't)

1593/4. It is difficult to establish the exact date of the subsequent tax collection, as the National Archive reference only gives a wide band of dates 1559-1621 which based on the Author's analysis of other legal documents, we can perhaps narrow to 1614-1618, and from which record Elizabeth's name is absent. We find no death or burial record for Elizabeth, so all we can state with certainty is that she died post-1594 and probably in Aisholt. She may have been somewhat younger than husband John, as she survived him by at least 20 years. If our estimated dob pre-1538 is correct, she was probably in her late 50's or early 60's at death

John Yaw and Elisabeth Arter had the following child:

2. v. JOHN YEAW was born on 23 Oct 1565 in Spaxton. He died in 1618 in West Monkton. He married ANN UNKNOWN.

Generation 2

2. **JOHN² YEAW** (John¹ Yaw) was born on 23 Oct 1565 in Spaxton. He died in 1618 in West Monkton. He married ANN UNKNOWN.

Notes for John Yeaw:

1558: The Spaxton parish register begins in 1558, though what remains of the original book is badly mutilated. However there are a few entries for the surname Yaw etc of reasonable legibility which allow us to build a credible partial picture of the family tree at this period. For instance, the baptism of Mary daughter of John Yea on 13 August 1558 is the fifth entry in the first page of the register.

1565: A key record in this early register is for the baptism of "John the sonne of John Yea" which is readily legible. Note no mother's names are included in the record of baptisms at this period - that practice in this and other parishes began much later. This entry lies on a mutilated page, but enough of the text is legible for us to be confident the baptism took place on 23 October 1565. We have evidence from a record of land transactions executed by Humphrey Quick of West Monkton and a will of John Yeo also of West Monkton, both from the 1620's that a John Yaw was living in this area at the time. We can't be certain that John referenced in these two sources was indeed the son born 1565 of John & Elizabeth nee Arter, though circumstances suggest this is the more likely explanation. From a timing viewpoint, and given the uncertainty around the birth years of Richard and Simon in Generation 1 above, it is possible John was descended from one or other of them. With this caveat, for these purposes we have assumed John was indeed the son of John Yaw and his second wife Elizabeth

1616: This indenture made March 12, 1616 between Humphrey Quick of Westmonkton, gent and Richard Warre of Hestercombe, esq witnessed that H.Q. for 360L hath sold to R.W., one messuage, and one cottage annexed with their appurtances containing 59a of land meadow and pasture, now or late in the tenure of John Tuthill; one tenement containing 38a of land meadow and pasture, now in the tenure of John Yewe; 5a of land sometime parcel of the tenement of Edmund Bayne, deceased and now in the tenure of John Yewe; 2a of meadow in the common meadow called Kitchams, late in the tenure of

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Humphrey Quick, gent, deceased and now in that of John Yeawe. one cottage containing 4a, now in the tenure of John Yewe, one tenement containing 13a of land, meadow and pasture now in the tenure of John Long; 3a of arable land lately severed from tje said tenement, and now in the tenure of Thomas Matthew; one tenement containing 30a of land meadow and pasture, now in the tenure of William Rayer; one cottage containing 5a of land meadow and pasture, now in the tenure of Petronell Fishe, widow; one cottage now in the tenure of Nicholas Travers; with all houses, lands and rights belonging to the premises, and all deeds concerning the same; to hold of the chief lord of the fee by the rents accustomed. And Humphrey Quick doth covenant that he hath full power to sell the premises, and that he hath not made any estates of the premises except the following:

Of the tenements wherein John Yeo now dwelleth to him, and Ann his wife, with reversion to William Edwardes for ninety-nine years if Marmaduke, John and Jane Edwardes his children shall live so long. Of the cottage of John Yeo to him for ninety-nine years if Symon Steevens, Thomas Steevens and Elizabeth Harris do so long live and that the premises shall be discharged of all encumbrances made by Humphrey Quick or Humphrey Quick his father, deceased.(Somerset Enrolled Deeds 1936)

From the records of the National Archives, it is clear Humphrey Quick had a close connection to West Monkton and in particular to the Manor there in which he was engaged both as plaintiff and defendant in cases brought in the Court of Chancery during the reign of James 1. From the text of the above deed, we cannot determine if all the properties referred to lie within the Manor and/or parish of West Monkton, or whether some of them lay elsewhere. What is clear is that John Yaw - and we have assumed that the various spellings of the surname in the deed refer to one and the same person - held the tenure and/or occupation of more than one property.

Subsequent to John's death in 1618, we find land tax records in the 1620's which concern another John Yaw who it appears had taxable property in more than one location. Moreover we find the will of John Yaw dated 1644 in which he bequeaths a legacy of part of his estate known as "Quickslands". The authors take these records to be circumstantial evidence that this taxpayer and testator is none other than the son of John who died in 1618 and inherited at least part of his father's estate. (See John of Aisholt in Generation 3)

1618: Death of John Yeo of West Monkton confirmed by the existence of the index of his will but subsequently destroyed in the war with no other evidence of his will or probate inventory ever found. However we do have the deeds above of land and Property transactions with Humfrey Quick

Notes for Ann Unknown:

We have identified Ann as the wife of John from the land deed executed by Humphrey Quick referred to above. We have found no marriage record for them, and hence no maiden name. She is recorded as a taxpayer in West Monkton in the Lay Subsidy of 1622

Generation 2 (con't)

under the name Anna Yae widow and in that of 1628/9 as Ann Yeo widow, in each assessed for Goods of £3. (National Archives doc refs E179/171/349 and E179/172/390 respectively)

We find no burial record for Ann. However, Fry's Index of Somerset wills lists the will of Agnes Yeo widow of Westmonckton from 1631 - a list entry only with no text or abstract - and in view of these two tax records, we might speculate whether that could be a mis-nomer for the will of Ann.

John Yeaw and Ann Unknown had the following children:

3. i. JOHN³ YEAW was born about 1590 in West Monkton?. He died on 04 Dec 1645 in Spaxton. He married Luce Unknown about 1610. She was born about 1590. She died on 11 Aug 1665 in Enmore.
- ii. WILLIAM YEAW was born on 13 Jun 1595 in North Petherton. He died in 1669 in West Monkton. He married Brigette Aishe between 1615-1620 in North Petherton.

Notes for William Yeaw:

Dwelly's transcripts cites the baptism of William Yeow in North Petherton on 13 June 1595. No fathers' names at the baptisms are recorded in the parish register at this period, precluding us from being more certain about William's parentage. We find no subsequent life event until his will made on 1 July 1669 when his residence was given as West Monkton, and proved just two weeks later on 14 July. He evidently died between these two dates. Dwelly's transcript of burials for North Petherton has no record for William's burial there in July in 1669. It seems more likely he was buried in West Monkton named as his residence in his will, though we cannot validate that as the parish register pre1710 has not survived. It is clear from his will that he was married to Bridget though we found no marriage record. She may have been his second wife as he refers to her as "my now wife". It appears he had no children either by a first wife or by Bridget as none are named as beneficiaries of his will. He did leave bequests to members of the Ash family, perhaps a continuation or renewal of links between the two families reaching back to John Yaw and Margaret Ash almost a century earlier. It seems Bridget survived William by 8 years. We find no burial record for her but Fry lists the will of Bridgett Yeo widow in Westmonckton in 1677. In the absence of clearer evidence of his parentage we have placed William as a child of John & Ann in order to capture the content of his will.

William Yeo of West Monkton, Somerset - 1669

Dated 1st July, 1669. Bodie to be buried in Christian burial; unto John Ash of North Petherton my kinsman son of Nicholas Ash all that Close of 3 Ackers lying in the North end of Westmunton (sic) Heiffield (*Monkton Heathfield*) after death of my now wife Bridgett Yeo and my Aunt Sarah Yeo; unto

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Thomas Upham son of Humphrey Upham my kinsman £20; unto Valentine Wooll my kinsman living in the parish of Bridgewater £20, to be paid to Edward Musgrave of this parish for their benefit; to the poor of the parish 20s; unto John Elmes, Clerk of this parish and his son John Elmes both my godchildren £5 after death of my wife, unto Ellinor Knight widow of Kingston 20s after the death of my wife. Residue unto my wife Bridgett. Witnesses : Edward Musgrave, Elizabeth Rayer, Joseph Pope. Proved 14th July, 1669. (Archd. Of Taunton)

iii. MARIE YEAW. She died in 1640 in Spaxton. She married UNKNOWN COLE.

Notes for Marie Yeaw:

We have identified Marie from two wills. The first is her own will made in 1639/40 in which she refers to her brother John Yaw of Postridge, Aisholt. The second is John Yea's will made in 1644 (see his personal notes) in which he made a bequest to his son John with a reference to the latter's aunt Marie Colles. We find no baptism, marriage or burial record for Marie, perhaps another reflection of the mutilated parish register of Spaxton.

19th Feb 1639/40 Will of Mary Coles of Spaxton in the County of Somerset. Widdow. Impromis & bequeath my selfe to be buried in the Christian Burial of the parish church yard of the parish aforesaid. Dated this 19th day of february in the fifteenth year of the King Charles that now is of England 1639/40 unto my brother, John Yawe my owne brother, his children (except his daughter Mary) Ten Shillings apiece, Manleys brothers, Ridons and Caswells, poor of the parish of Spaxton 10 sillings. **My brother John Yaw of Postridge** in the parish of Asholte the whole executor - My overseers John Crosse & John Caswell of Tuscell in the parish of Spaxton fe 2 shillings and 6 pence apiece. Witness William Blake, John Crosse, Alice Woodward, Pat Milverton. 3 July 1640

3rd July 1640 Marye Cole inventory. Dated 26 May. Marye widow of Spaxton. Inventory of £11 taken by John Yew, John Rogers, John Kerswell and exhibited at Milverton 3 July 1640. (Archdeaconry of Taunton, Inventories, page 105)

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3. **JOHN³ YEAW** (John², John¹ Yaw) was born about 1590 in West Monkton?. He died on 04 Dec 1645 in Spaxton. He married Luce Unknown about 1610. She was born about 1590. She died on 11 Aug 1665 in Enmore.

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Notes for John Yeaw:

Late 1580's: We found no baptism record for John as the son of John & Ann - the authors contend that a legacy in his will of 1644 concerning a property called "Quickslands" is consistent with the deed of 1616 citing John and Ann, and is strong circumstantial evidence he is indeed their son - probably born in West Monkton and later moving to Aisholt. As will be seen also from his will made in 1644, we can estimate the birth of two daughters in the period to around 1610-1615. We can thus infer he and Lucy were married just before 1610, and further that John was probably born in the late 1580's. That would be credible given his presumed father John Yaw's birth date in 1565.

1616/1618: From the deed executed by Humphrey Quick in 1616 cited earlier, it is clear that John & Ann had the tenure and/or occupation of more than one property. When John died in 1618, those properties would presumably have passed to his wife Ann and son John, for both of whom we find subsequent land tax assessments - though we can't be more specific since the will itself has not survived.

1627/1629: The Somerset archives hold two certificates confirming that for the year 1627/8 "John Yea of Aysholt" is rated at twenty shillings by land there, "where he had been residing for diverse (ie several) years". A certificate for the following year states he was rated at forty shillings for land. It is unclear why the certificates were issued -perhaps to establish Aisholt was John's main residence. (National Archives doc refs E115/483/3 and E115/436/133)

1639: In her will of 1639, Marie Colles of Spaxton widow made specific reference to "her own brother John Yaw of Postridge in the parish of Aisholt", who she appointed sole executor of her will.

1641: In a Lay Subsidy levied that year, John Yea was assessed for £2 in lands and taxed at 16 shillings - these figures about the average for the parish in this collection. (National Archives doc ref E179/172/394)

1641: Protestation returns. The Protestation returns for Cannington hundred have not survived. John would presumably have been included in the list of oath takers.

1644: Will of John Yeaw of Asholt, Somerset

In the name of God Amen in the year of our Lord God 1644 I, John Yeaw of Asholt, Somerset, husbandman sick in body but yet God be thanks in perfect memory do make this my last will and testament. I bequeath my soule unto Almighty God hoping to be saved by the merits of his son Christ Jesus and my body to be decently buried. I give to my son John Yeaw £5 a year out of Quicksland and my wife to have the tenement for her life if she keep herself widow. And my son John to have it after his mother for his own life. And if the said John shall happen to die before then to my two daughters, I give to my son Robert Yeaw the tenement in Cannington called Kingstreet when he shall come to the age of twenty one years and if it should happen he die a young man then to the rest. I give to my two daughters Luce Yeaw and Rebecca Yeaw threescore pounds each to be

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paid them when they marry. I give to my son Symon Yeaw three pounds a year until he shall be possessed of the tenement which I live in. I give to my daughter Elizabeth 20s, I give to my daughter Elizabeth's three children which she now hath 40s a piece when they reach 21 years, I give to my daughter Marie 20s and to her daughter Alice 20s. I give to my son John Yeaw one bed, bedsted a paire of blankets, a pillow & a coverlet which was his Aunt Maria Colles and my second best brush and one ponger, one platte and pewter and a long coffer when he shall happen to . I give Symon my son all the rest of my household stuff except to each of my daughter's children, Luce & Rebecca & Robert a coffer a piece and to Robert my son one bedstead and bed, a payre of blankets and pillow and a covelett after his mother's death and when Symon shall have the goods he pay unto Luce & Rebecca thirtie shillings a piece and to John twentie. All the rest of my goods and chattels not previously bequeathed I give and bequeath to Luce Yeaw my wife whom I make full and whole executor of this my last will and testament - Signed in the presence of Robert Harris, Jeffery Dues. Probate granted to Luce on the 3rd December, 1655. (PCC)

It is unclear why it apparently took 11 years for Lucy to be granted probate of her husband's will. In the preface to his Calendar of Somerset Wills, Fry states there was a period when local wills (ie Archdeaconry of Taunton) were referred to London. But he specifically refers to that period as 1652-1660, so it seems unlikely this was the cause. (Calendar of Wills & Administrations in the Court of the Archdeacon of Taunton; Edward Alexander Fry; British Record Society; London 1912)

1645: John Yaw died and was buried in Spaxton on 4 December 1645. Based on our estimate of John's birth date in the late 1580's, he was in his late 50's at death.

Notes for Luce Unknown:

We have no baptism record for Luce, who was probably born around the same time as John in the late 1580's. We estimate they were married just before 1610, and Luce went on to bear John three sons and four daughters. She survived her husband by some 20 years

1663: In a Lay Subsidy of 1663, Lucielia Yea widow was assessed in Aisholt for lands at £1 and taxed 8 shillings. Presumably this was for Postridge. (National Archives doc ref E179/172/422)

1664/5: In the Hearth Tax levied to be paid over these two years, the return for Aisholt lists "Lucy Yeawe widow now Simon Yeawe" assessed for 2 chimneys and four shillings. This presumably reflects Lucy living at Postridge in the first year of the levy, and then Simon taking occupation or tenure there after her death.

1665: Will of Luce Yaw of Asholt, Somerset, widow

To my son John Yaw Quicksland during his natural life to my son Robert Yaw's children

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20s apiece. Legacies to Richard Danger, Mary Danger and John Danger; £12 to Rebeka Lokier my daughter; to her four children John Lokier, Gabrell Lokier, David Lokier and Mary Lokier 20s apiece; to Humphrey Hole son of Alice Hole 20s; unto Henry Cridland my apprentice 20s; unto Richard Hole 10s; Residue unto Simon Yaw my son and executor. Son in law Gabrell Lokier and my kinsman Richard Hole, overseers. (Archd. Of Taunton)

1665: Luce's burial on 11th August 1665 was recorded in the parish registers at both Enmore and in Aisholt - the record in Aisholt stated that she was buried in Enmore, which was perhaps the location of her birth. She was probably aged about 70 at death.

John Yeaw and Luce Unknown had the following children:

4. i. ELISABETH⁴ YEAW was born about 1610 in Spaxton. She died on 05 Sep 1663 in Goathurst. She married Thomas Danger about 1633.
5. ii. MARIE YEAW was born about 1615 in Spaxton. She died on 16 Oct 1687 in Lydeard St Lawrence. She married Jeffery Dawe on 09 Feb 1636/37 in Lydeard St Lawrence. He was born on 11 Sep 1590 in Lydeard St Lawrence. He died on 12 May 1662 in Lydeard St Lawrence.
6. iii. JOHN YEA was born before 1623 in Spaxton. He died on 21 Sep 1670 in Kingston St Mary. He married (1) UNKNOWN about 1645. She died before 1662. He married (2) GRACE PYKE on 08 Apr 1662 in Crowcombe. She died on 01 Jan 1662/63 in Crowcombe.
7. iv. SIMON YEAW was born before 1623 in Spaxton. He died on 29 Apr 1667 in Enmore. He married Mary between 1655-1658.
8. v. ROBERT YEAW was born after 1623 in Spaxton. He died on 16 Jun 1683 in Cannington. He married Katherine Read between 1654-1664 in Cannington. She died on 22 May 1668 in Cannington.
9. vi. LUCE YEAW was born after 1623 in Spaxton. She died before 1665 in Fiddington. She married John Reaby on 30 Apr 1662 in Fiddington.
10. vii. REBECCA YEAW was born after 1623 in Spaxton. She died after 1655. She married Gabriel Lokier between 1644-1655.

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4. ELISABETH⁴ YEAW (John³, John², John¹ Yaw) was born about 1610 in Spaxton. She died on 05 Sep 1663 in Goathurst. She married Thomas Danger about 1633.

Notes for Elisabeth Yeaw:

About 1610: We find no baptism record for daughter Elizabeth. We might assume she was born in Spaxton, noted as her father's residence, and where the parish register is baldy mutilated. In her father John's will made in 1644, he left her a legacy of 20 shillings and 40 shillings each to her three un-named children when they attained the age of 21. Elizabeth was probably the older of John's four daughters.

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We find no marriage record for Elizabeth, but having borne three children by 1644 implies she was married by 1640 at the latest, and probably earlier. We find the baptism of Jone daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Danger in Goathurst on 13 Sept 1635. Assuming she was of full age, we might assume she was married in say 1633/4, implying she was probably born just after 1610.

In her mother Lucy's will of 1665, she left bequests to Elizabeth's three named children - viz Richard, Mary & John. Lucy's will makes no reference to Jone, the only child for whom we have found a baptism record, and who may have died in childhood.

1663: We find a credible record for Elizabeth's death with her burial as the wife of Thomas Danger in Goathurst on 5 Sept 1663. Based on our estimated birth date of 1610, she was only in her early 50's at death. Elizabeth died before her mother Lucy made her will, and hence does not appear as a beneficiary. Thomas evidently survived her as the burial note states she was his wife, though we found no subsequent burial record for him.

We find a credible record for Elizabeth's death with her burial as the wife of Thomas Danger in Goathurst on 5 Sept 1663. Based on our estimated birth date of 1610, she was only in her early 50's at death. Elizabeth died before her mother Lucy made her will, and hence does not appear as a beneficiary. Thomas evidently survived her as the burial note states she was his wife, though we found no subsequent burial record for him.

Thomas Danger and Elisabeth Yeaw had the following children:

- i. JONE⁵ DANGER was born on 13 Sep 1635 in Goathurst. She died before 1665.
 - ii. RICHARD DANGER was born after 1635 in Goathurst.
 - iii. JOHN DANGER was born after 1635 in Goathurst.
 - iv. MARY DANGER was born about 1635 in Goathurst.
5. MARIE⁴ YEAW (John³, John², John¹ Yaw) was born about 1615 in Spaxton. She died on 16 Oct 1687 in Lydeard St Lawrence. She married Jeffery Dawe on 09 Feb 1636/37 in Lydeard St Lawrence. He was born on 11 Sep 1590 in Lydeard St Lawrence. He died on 12 May 1662 in Lydeard St Lawrence.

Notes for Marie Yeaw:

About 1615: We find no baptism record for John's daughter Marie, who was probably born in Spaxton. Assuming she was of full age at her marriage (see below), we might assume she was born around 1615

1636/7: We find a match for Marie's marriage to Jefferie Dawe in Lydeard St Lawrence on 9 Feb 1636/7. It seems likely this was Jefferie's second marriage. (see his notes below). Marie bore Jefferie one daughter Alice. (see her notes below)

1639: In her will made in February 1639/40, John Yaw's sister Marie Colles left a

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bequest to each of John's children - with the explicit exclusion of Marie. There is no indication of a reason, but apparently Marie had somehow dis-pleased her aunt

1644: In her father John's will made in 1644, he left 20 shillings to Marie and another 20 shillings to her daughter Alice.

1665: Marie is not named as a beneficiary of her mother Lucy's will, not even a token bequest, and may have pre-deceased her mother.

1687: But we find a potential match for the burial of Mary Daw in Lydeard St Lawrence on 16 Oct 1687. The record makes no reference to the deceased's status eg widow so we can't be certain this is indeed Mary's burial. If correct, she was in her early 70's at death.

Notes for Jeffery Dawe:

1590: We find a baptism for Geffrey, son of Geffrey Daw on 11 September 1590 in Lydeard St Lawrence. We can't be certain this is the baptism of Marie's husband - he would have been 46 at their marriage and over 20 years older than Marie - though this is the only match we can find.

1629: We find a possible explanation for the difference in age at Jefferie and Marie's marriage - it seems probable this was Jefferie's second marriage. We find a credible match for the first marriage of Jeffery Daw and Alice Harris in West Bagborough on 6 October 1629. West Bagborough and Lydeard St Lawrence are about 5 miles apart.

1630/1637: The Lydeard St Lawrence parish register records the baptism of Jefferie son of Jefferie Daw on 15 August 1630. We find no other baptisms of children of Jefferie and Alice - though we find a credible record for the burial of "Alice Dawe wife of Jefferie Dawe" in Lydeard St Lawrence on 4 May 1636. Thus widowed with a young son to bring up, probably explains why Jefferie married rather promptly to Marie less than a year later on 9 Feb 1636/7.

1641: Jeffery Dawe's name figures on the list of about 180 males aged over 18 swearing the oath of loyalty under the Protestation return for the parish of Lydeard St Lawrence.

1644: Jefferie was a witness to the will of Marie's father John Yaw - though no reference is made to him being the son-in-law.

1654: Jeffery's son by his first marriage evidently survived into adulthood. We find the marriage of "Jeffery, the son of Jeffery Daw of Lydeard St Lawrence and Elizabeth Cockett of this parish" in Bridgwater on 24 June 1654.

1662: We find the record of the burial of Jeffery Daw in Lydeard St Lawrence on 12 May 1662. If we identified his baptism correctly, he was about 72 at death.

Jeffery Dawe and Marie Yeaw had the following child:

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11. i. ALICE⁵ DAWE was born on 18 Dec 1638 in Lydeard St Lawrence. She married RICHARD HOLE.
6. JOHN⁴ YEA (John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born before 1623 in Spaxton. He died on 21 Sep 1670 in Kingston St Mary. He married (1) UNKNOWN about 1645. She died before 1662. He married (2) GRACE PYKE on 08 Apr 1662 in Crowcombe. She died on 01 Jan 1662/63 in Crowcombe.

Notes for John Yea:

1623-1670: John's life events: We have researched extensively the clusters of BMD's and other records of the Yea family in Kingston St Mary and nearby parishes from which we might expect Robert to have descended, The one person we can identify with certainty is Robert's father, John Yeaw which relationship we can establish from particular property deeds (see below). We can also be confident that John died on 21 Sept 1670. We have been unable to discover with certainty any other documentary evidence of John's baptism or first marriage.

As will be seen, his son Robert married in Combe Florey in November 1670. Assuming he was then in his majority, we might infer he was born in the mid to late 1640's. He was NOT an only child, one of the property deeds mentioned above specifically refers to Robert as "filius junior" or younger son of John. It is clear from John Yaw's will of 1644 that his son John, Robert's presumed father, was then still unmarried. The Testator does not refer to him as a minor (as he did with another son) and hence we may assume John was born pre-1623 and married post-1644.

John's first wife, Robert's mother, may have died before 1662, though we find no will, death or burial record. This possibility arises from the record of the marriage on 8 April 1662 of "John Yeaw of Cannington" to Grace Pyke in Crowcombe, a village about 10km to the west of Cannington. Alas it was to be a short marriage, as the Crowcombe parish register records the burial of Grace, wife of John Yeaw on 1 Jan 1662/3. The same register has no record of the baptism of any issue of the marriage. What leads me to suggest that Grace may have been John's second wife is that just over a decade later, Robert would name his first-born daughter Grace, a forename I have not previously identified in the Yea family.

1660-1670: Land deeds in Cushuish & Cothelstone. A note by Alma confirms that she discovered records of three land transactions involving John Yea in the period 1660/1670 in the tithing of Cushuish, part of parish of Kingston in the Hundred of Nailsbourne. This led us to research exhaustively the registers and other records of each of these and neighbouring parishes. Cushuish is a very small hamlet lying between Cothelstone and Kingston St Mary. Writing in the 1790's, Collinson in his History of Somerset (Vol 3 p 258) states Cushuish had just 17 houses and 20 families. The overseers accounts of Kingston St. Mary's Parish Records of 1671 show the parish divided into five tithings - Kingston proper, Naylesbourne, Cowes-huish, North Fulford and Ilebeare (see the notes below for 1664/5)

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With the common surname among those ceding the properties, there can be no doubt these three deeds refer to John and his son Robert who later married Joane Treable. Unfortunately neither the parish register nor Bishops Transcripts for Cothelstone pre1658 nor Kingston St Mary before 1677 have survived, so it has not been possible to confirm dates of Robert's birth, or his father's death. There was no church at Cushuish itself, hence no parish register.

It is quite clear from the three deeds that there were two separate pieces of land acquired, one of 12 acres and one of 15 acres. The first deed of 12 acres specifically states the property was known as Middlebrook Farm. The second piece of land acquired by John was for 15 acres, and specifically excluded Middelbrook Farm. It was probably a property a little way up the hill and overlooking Middlebrook, which his son Robert inherited after his father's death in 1670 and where he subsequently lived.

1660 Deed: In the earliest of the three deeds, Geoffrey Oliver transfers 12 acres of land owned by William Oliver & John Oliver in the parish of Cushuish called Middlesbrook to be held by copyhold by John Yea and his descendants to hold for ever. (SWHT ref DD/SP/79 Absolute and Conditional Surrenders C1629-1675) the original of this record has not yet been found by the authors but was found by Mikes Aunt Alma in the same Ledger book whereby there is a note in the Kingston pages saying there is another deed for John Yea AFTER the deeds for Bishops Hull where it was apparently written in the wrong section)

1663 Deed: George Oliver surrendered into the hands of the lord one messuage and one half virgate (One virgate = approx. 30 acres) of land held by villein tenure [terra nativa] in the tithing of Coshuish, once of John Oliver and formerly of William Oliver (excepting certain parcels thereof called Middlebrookes, containing by estimation 12 acres, formerly surrendered by William Morcombe junior). To the use and behoof of John Yea, his heirs and assigns, **forever**, according to the customs of the manor of Taunton Deane. Having, etc. Taken the 18th day of April, in the 15th year of the reign of King Charles II now of England 1663, in the presence of Henry Gatchell and Humphrey Musgrave, tenants of the lord. Signed Henry Gatchell, Humphrey Musgrave, and with the mark of George Oliver. (SWHT ref DD/SP/79)

(Note: Copyhold tenure was a form of customary tenure of land common in England from the Middle Ages. The land was held according to the custom of the Manor, and the mode of landholding took its name from the fact that the "title deed" received by the tenant was a copy of the relevant entry in the manorial court roll. The privileges granted to each tenant, and the exact services he was to render to the lord of the manor and/or Lord Paramount in return for them, were described in the roll or book kept by the steward, who gave a copy of the relevant entry to the tenant. Consequently, these tenants were afterwards called copyholders, in contrast to freeholders)

1664/5 Hearth Tax: The transcripts of the Somerset Hearth Tax collection in 1664/5 record that John Yaw was assessed for 2 shillings and 4 shillings in Cushuish and for 5

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shillings and 10 shillings in Ilbeare - a tiny hamlet a couple of miles due south of Cushuish. The tax was collected in three half yearly assessments, hence the total for the second collection being twice the value of the first. It is unclear whether this record refers to two different individuals, or to one person assessed on two properties. We have other records referring to his assumed son John, suggesting our first assessment is more likely. (Dwelly's National Records Volume 1)

1670: John Yea death: In her notes of land transactions, Alma recorded that on 28 September 1670, Robert reported the death on 21 September of his father John. It seems likely that John was buried in Kingston St Mary, but unfortunately we are unable to validate that as the burial records from this period for neither parish have survived.

1670 Deed: In the third deed dated 21 September 22 Charles II (ie 1670) His son Robert is recorded as inheriting the messuage and half virgate of land following the death of his father. (Please see his personal notes below) (SWHT ref DD/SP/79)

Notes for Unknown:

We have been unable to identify a name for John's first wife, nor a marriage or burial record for her, which we estimate took place just after 1644 and before 1662 respectively. We know of the existence of at least one other child of John, assumed for these purposes to be by the same wife, from the reference in the above mentioned property deed to Robert as "filius junior" or younger son. We have not identified a match for the birth or baptism of an elder son

John Yea and Unknown had the following children:

- i. SIMON⁵ YAW was born after 1644. He died on 03 May 1696 in Cothelstone. He married Mary Brice on 19 Oct 1664 in Cothelstone. She died on 11 Dec 1696 in Cothelstone.

Notes for Simon Yaw:

Aft.1644: We can't be certain about the identity of Simon Yaw, for whom we have only fragmentary records. We know for certain that Robert Yaw was NOT the only son of John Yaw, and therefore had at least one brother. From various land transactions, it seems possible that a property occupied by Simon later came into the hands of Robert and one of his descendants. It is also the case that Cothelstone was a small hamlet, where we might expect people with the same surname - especially an uncommon one like Yaw - were from the same family. That said we can't be certain of exactly what was the relationship between Simon & Robert - uncle/nephew; cousins; or brothers. For current purposes and in order to capture the few records we do find on Simon, we have assumed they were brothers.

1664: The Cothelstone parish register records the marriage of Simon Yawe and Mary Brice on 19 October 1664. At this period the register makes no

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mention of bachelor, spinster etc, nor names witnesses. However, the register does include references to abode where this lies outside the parish of Cothelstone - though whether this was applied universally we cannot tell. But in the absence of such a comment in the record of Simon and Mary's marriage, it seems reasonable to assume they were both living in Cothelstone at the time of their marriage. Apart from Mary's marriage, we find no other BMD events for Brices in Cothelstone but there are numerous in Lydeard St Lawrence and that was the adjacent page to Simon's survey found in Cushuish OR Cothelstone. Neither do we find any baptisms of children of Simon & Mary in Cothelstone.

1664/5: In a register of properties in Cothelstone & Cushuish, Simon is shown at a tenement with an area of 5 acres and a value of £4. No name is given to this or other properties. Listed with him as tenants were his wife Mary and John Brice, who was perhaps her father or brother. The register shows the term under which the individual properties were held, variously for 1, 2 or 3 lives - though this information is blank in the case of Simon. The rent is shown as 5 shillings, and the herriott the best beast or £1 13sh 4d (ie one and two-thirds pounds) On the same page in the register are two tenements held by Edward Brice and his sister Katherine.

The Gloucestershire Archives hold a series of records of the landholdings of the Stawell family in Somerset. Among many other holdings, the Stawells were hereditary Lords of the Manor of Cothelstone. In 1708, we find record in which William Lord Stawell, then Lord of the Manor, made a lease to Robert Yaw of a property known as Whitehouse Close in Cothelstone - which had an area of 5 acres and an annual rent of 5 shillings. We can't discern whether these are one and the same properties, or whether the identical area and rent are purely coincidental. (please see also personal notes for Robert Yaw. (Gloucestershire Archives doc ref D678/2/T1/5 items 44 and 45)

1679: In the Somerset Quarter Sessions held on 8 July 1679, Simon Yaw of Cothelstone was accused of stealing corn from John Chilcott also of Cothelstone. The court heard evidence from Edward Chilcott (John's brother); John Hooper, tythingman; and John Parris, all of Cothelstone. Simon gave evidence in his own defence. No verdict is stated. (SWHT doc ref Q/SR/141/15)

Notes for Mary Brice:

We find no baptism record for Mary. Its possible she was born in Cothelstone, as we find the name of her presumed father John Brice listed among the list of males over 18 years of age who swore an oath under the Protestation on 6 March 1641/2. Mary survived her husband by about 6 months, and was buried in Cothelstone on 11 December 1696.

- ii. JOHN YAW was born after 1644. He died on 09 May 1716 in Kingston St

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Mary. He married MARY.

Notes for John Yaw:

1716:. As with Simon, we can't be certain about the identity and relationship of John - in fact even less so because we have just one single fragmentary record for him. To re-state, we know for certain that Robert Yaw was NOT the only son of John Yaw, and therefore had at least one brother. The sole source we have for John is an unreferenced record cited by Alma. She noted that in a land transaction she found for the 9th May 1716 - **the very same date that Robert's widow Joan wrote her first will** - one Mary Yaw reported the death of her husband John Yaw. The logical linkage between the two is that John's death prompted some inheritance as only widows and spinsters usually made wills at that time which necessitated Joan making a will - though from the text of the transcript of that will it's silent on which property that might have been. We might speculate it was Simon's property that on John's death it passed to Joan, and from her to her daughter Sarah or Robert Barrell son of son-in-law Daniel Barrell. whose wife Mary was Sarah's sister as per the deed of Robert Yaw in 1708.

As with Simon, we have insufficient information to determine what - if any - the nature of the relationship with Robert may have been. For current purposes and to capture Alma's note, we have assumed that Robert had a brother John, probably born shortly after 1644 as his brother and whose death Mary reported in 1716, when he would have been in his early 70's. However, we note here that find no record of such a burial in the registers of Combe Florey, Cothelstone or Kingston St Mary.

12. iii. ROBERT YEAW was born about 1650. He died on 27 Sep 1709 in Kingston St Mary. He married Joane Treble, daughter of John Treble and Agnes, on 15 Nov 1670 in Combe Florey. She was born on 25 Apr 1646 in Combe Florey. She died on 17 Jul 1722 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for Grace Pyke:

We find the marriage of John Yeaw of Cannington and Grace Pyke of 8 April 1662. I infer this could be the second marriage of John since Robert was to name his first daughter Grace - not a common name in any of the Yea etc branches.

7. SIMON⁴ YEAW (John³, John², John¹ Yaw) was born before 1623 in Spaxton. He died on 29 Apr 1667 in Enmore. He married Mary between 1655-1658.

Notes for Simon Yeaw:

Before 1623: We find no baptism for Simon - he was probably born in Spaxton where the parish register has survived but is badly mutilated. In his father John's will dated 1644, he left a bequest to Simon, though he made no reference to Simon then being unmarried (as he did with son John) nor to him being in his minority (as he did with son Robert). For

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these purpose, we will assume Simon was born pre-1623 and was still single in 1644.

After 1644: We find the baptisms in Enmore of John son of Simon and Mary in July 1659 and their daughter Mary in December 1660. We might thus expect to find a marriage there in the mid-late 1650's. However, the frontispiece to the Enmore parish register relating specifically to marriages states "We find not one in the Ancient Register Books from the year 1649 to 1653". A subsequent memorandum states "These marriages following being mis-placed in the Ancient Register and afterwards found are here inserted" - two for 1653; three for 1655; and five for 1656. None of these - nor for the years 1654, 1657, 1658 and 1659 which are included in the register - is a record for the marriage of Simon & Mary. Neither do we find a marriage record for them in Spaxton - again perhaps due to the missing parts of the parish register -so they may have married in some other parish.

1667: Simon was buried in Enmore on 29 April 1667. Based on our assumed date of birth he was probably then only in his mid-late 40's.

An inventory of Simon's assets was taken by William Thorne of Spaxton and Richard Thorne of Michael Creech (Creech St Michael?) on 22 April 1667. It is unclear whether Simon died on or before the 22nd and was buried a week later (burials were normally made one or two days after death) or whether he was terminally ill and the inventory was made in anticipation of his death. The identity of William and Richard Thorne is equally unclear - we might speculate whether they were relatives of Simon's widow Mary.

The main elements of the inventory are as follows: 11 acres of wheat in the ground; 18 acres of barley ditto; 6 acres of (potatoes ??); 11 acres of beans and peas in ground. We don't know if he had more land which was pasture or meadow. As livestock, he had 5 cows and 3 calves; 2 plough steers; 3 two year old colts; 4 yearlings; 2 mares; 3 oxen; 48 sheep.

The total value of his assets was estimated at £310, including extensive crops, farm and household effects, and a chattel lease in Otterhampton which was valued at £140. This was evidently a significant estate. We might speculate whether the 46 acres under crops was actually the property at Postridge in Aisholt which he inherited from his mother Lucy. It is unclear how he came to have the chattel lease in Otterhampton

A footnote to the inventory in Latin appears to state the inventory was exhibited in Taunton on 21 June 1667 before John Hill and William (Pierce ??), perhaps representatives of the Archdeaconry of Taunton. The footnote also appears to state that Mary Yeaw, Relict of the deceased, inherited his assets. Simon's untimely death left Mary with two small children to bring up. We find no subsequent re-marriage or burial for her. It is unclear who eventually inherited Simon's assets.

Simon Yeaw and Mary had the following children:

- i. JOHN⁵ YEAW was born on 15 Jul 1659 in Enmore. He married Susannah Collins on 28 Jan 1691 in North Petherton.

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Notes for John Yeaw:

We find a very clear record of John's baptism in Enmore in 1659. We find no marriage record for him in Enmore - though we do find a possible match in a marriage to Susannah Collins in North Petherton on 28 Jan 1691, when John would have been aged about 32. Enmore and North Petherton are less than five miles apart.

- ii. MARY YEAW was born on 21 Dec 1660 in Enmore. She died on 21 Jan 1757 in Enmore. She married Luke Parsons on 21 Apr 1686 in Aisholt. He died on 21 Feb 1727 in Aisholt.

Notes for Mary Yeaw:

While we find a very clear record of Mary's baptism in Enmore in 1660. We find a possible match for her marriage to Luke Parsons in Aisholt on 21 April 1686 when Mary would have been in her mid-20's. It appears Mary gave birth to twin daughters Mary & Betty baptised in Aisholt on 5 Jan 1686/7

Findagrave has an entry for the burial of Luke in Aisholt on 21 Feb 1727 when he would probably have been in his early 60's. The same source has a record for the burial of Mary in Enmore on 21 Jan 1757 with no reference to spinster, widow etc - Mary daughter of Simon & Mary would then have been in her late 90's, which would be very unusual at this period.

8. **ROBERT⁴ YEAW** (John³, John², John¹ Yaw) was born after 1623 in Spaxton. He died on 16 Jun 1683 in Cannington. He married Katherine Read between 1654-1664 in Cannington. She died on 22 May 1668 in Cannington.

Notes for Robert Yeaw:

Robert was born after 1623 - he was still a minor in 1644 as noted in his fathers will of 1644

1650 give or take a couple of years: Robert reached his majority and inherited that property in Cannington

1654-1664: A few years later, when there is a gap in the Cannington parish register he married Katherine, the daughter of William Read of Cannington, by whom he had the first two of three children, Robert & Katherine.

1664/5: Robert was living in Cannington/Rodway where he was assessed for one or two properties in the Hearth Tax

1665: At least two of Robert's children still living and receive bequests in Lucy's will

1666-69: Mary d/o Robert & Katherine bapt Cannington 4 April 1666. Katherine wife of Robert Yea buried 22 May 1668. Katherine Yeaw buried 22 Feb 1668/9 - no mention of infant etc.

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1683: On 8 June Robert Yeaw the Elder of Cannington made his will - £80 to daughter Mary at 21 - ie born post 1662. Son Robert, residuary legatee and sole Exec. On 16 June - just one week after making will - Robert the Elder buried in Cannington.

1683: On 30 Nov William Read made his will with a bequest of £20 to Mary, d/o Robert Yea (no mention of her being minor or father being deceased) Robert, Yea residuary legatee and sole Exec. Robert was probably in his majority then, hence born pre-1662. Read's will was also witnessed by John Yea, though it is unclear which John Yea this was.

1686: We have a credible match for the burial of William Reed in Cannington on 30 Aug 1686. On 15 Nov probate of Wm Read's will granted to Robert Yea Executor.

Robert Yeaw and Katherine Read had the following children:

- i. ROBERT⁵ YEAW was born between 1654-1662. He married Mary Blynman, daughter of William Blynman, on 01 Feb 1686/87 in Cannington or Over Stowey.

Notes for Robert Yeaw:

1686/7: On 1 Feb a marriage licence was granted to Robert Yeaw of Cannington & Mary Blynman, d/o Wm Blynman of Durleigh for a marriage to be solemnised in Cannington or Over Stowey. Though we have not found the parish record of this marriage

1692: Thomas Walford & his wife Mary, d/o Robert Yea dec'd, brought a court case against Robert Yea claiming maladministration of two wills - ie that he had failed to distribute to Mary the amounts bequeathed to her by Robert Yea their father and William Read. Note - In their evidence, Thomas & Mary apparently mis-construe the said administration. They claimed that Robert's father had commenced the administration of William's will - but that could not be the case as he had died before William made his will. It was Mary's brother Robert who administered both wills. (National Archives doc ref C8/356/172)

1695: Robert Yea of Cannington raised a Bill of Complaint dated 1695 and addressed to the Rt Hon Sir John Somers Knight, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, against Richard Jenkins, Thomas Jenkins and John Jenkins. The case

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concerned two sureties, one for £40 and a second for £20, that Robert had given to Thomas Jenkins of Spaxton. A dispute arose about the repayment and Thomas engaged an attorney John Jenkins. Despite the fact that Robert had given an undertaking to appear at the Court of Common Pleas in Westminster, bailiffs were eventually involved. They proceeded to seize Robert's goods - 19 bullocks; 6 steers worth £18; 10 cows worth £35; 3 yearlings worth £4 - of which the bailiffs sent back only 9 bullocks and sold the other 10 for £32. No money was returned to Robert. Jenkins died and appointed his two nephews as his Executors. Robert claimed they had raised sufficient monies to reimburse him but refused to do so. As frequently happens in such cases, the case papers do not include a verdict - such cases were often settled out of court. (National Archives doc ref C8/581/74)

- ii. KATHERINE YEAW was born between 1654-1664 in Cannington. She died on 07 Feb 1668/69 in Cannington.
 - iii. MARY YEAW was born on 04 Apr 1666 in Cannington. She married Thomas Walford on 18 Jan 1690/91 in North Petherton.
9. LUCE⁴ YEAW (John³, John², John¹ Yaw) was born after 1623 in Spaxton. She died before 1665 in Fiddington. She married John Reaby on 30 Apr 1662 in Fiddington.

Notes for Luce Yeaw:

After 1623: We have no baptism for John's daughter Lucy due to the missing Aisholt parish register for this period. In her father's will of 1644, he left her "threescore" or 60 pounds - which must have been a large sum of money indeed in those days, perhaps as a dowry as the money was to be paid at her marriage. She was probably still in her minority then, hence born after 1623.

1662: The Bishops Transcripts for the parish of Fiddington, a parish about 5 miles north of Aisholt, record a marriage transcribed as that of John Reaby and Lucy Geare on 30 April 1662. Lucy is an uncommon name at this time, and we might speculate whether this is a mis-transcription for Yeawe. The same source has the record of the baptism of John, son of John & Luce Reaby (also written as Kebby) on 21 February 1663. We can't be certain this is indeed the daughter of John & Lucy. Moreover, we should note that Lucy was NOT a beneficiary of her mother's will, and may have died before 1665.

John Reaby and Luce Yeaw had the following child:

- i. JOHN⁵ REABY was born on 21 Feb 1663 in Fiddington.
10. REBECCA⁴ YEAW (John³, John², John¹ Yaw) was born after 1623 in Spaxton. She died after 1655. She married Gabriel Lokier between 1644-1655.

Notes for Rebecca Yeaw:

After 1623: We have no baptism for John's daughter Rebecca - again due to the missing Aisholt parish register. In her father's will of 1644, he left her "threescore" or 60 pounds -

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which must have been a large sum of money indeed in those days, perhaps as a dowry as the money was to be paid at her marriage. Like her sister Lucy, she was probably still in her minority then, hence born after 1623.

Between 1644/1665: At some point between 1644 when her father made his will and 1665 when her mother Lucy made her will, Rebecca married Gabriel Lokier. Lucy bequeathed £12 to Rebecca and 20 shillings to each of her four children viz John, Gabrell, David & Mary. Having given birth to four children, her marriage was probably some ten years or so before Lucy made her will, hence between 1644/55. Lucy appointed her son Simon as sole Executor, and son-in-law Gabriel as one of the Overseers or Trustees of her will. We have been unable to discover any birth, marriage or burial records for Rebecca, Gabriel or any of their children.

Gabriel Lokier and Rebecca Yeaw had the following children:

- i. JOHN⁵ LOKIER.
- ii. GABRIEL LOKIER.
- iii. DAVID LOKIER.
- iv. MARY LOKIER.

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11. ALICE⁵ DAWE (Marie⁴ Yeaw, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 18 Dec 1638 in Lydeard St Lawrence. She married **RICHARD HOLE**.

Notes for Alice Dawe:

She was born in Lydeard St Lawrence on 18 December 1638. From the bequests in her mother Lucy's will, we can infer Alice married Richard Hole, who the Testatrix appointed as one of the Overseers (ie Trustees) of her will and to whom she referred as her "kinsman". Richard and Alice had a child Humphrey Hole, the latter also a beneficiary of Lucy's will.

Richard Hole and Alice Dawe had the following child:

- i. HUMFREY⁶ HOLE.

12. **ROBERT⁵ YEAW** (John⁴ Yea, John³, John², John¹ Yaw) was born about 1650. He died on 27 Sep 1709 in Kingston St Mary. He married Joane Treble, daughter of John Treble and Agnes, on 15 Nov 1670 in Combe Florey. She was born on 25 Apr 1646 in Combe Florey. She died on 17 Jul 1722 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for Robert Yeaw:

Robert is recorded as inheriting the messuage and half virgate of land following the death of his father as noted above.

21st Sept 1670 Land Transaction in Latin at SWHT archive, Taunton (SWHT doc ref ref DD/SP/79)

Hundred of Nailsbourne Deed: Robert Yea the son, junior, and next heir to John Yea formerly his father, deceased, for 1 messuage and one half virgate of land held by villein

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tenure [terra nativa] in the tithing of Cushuish (except a certain parcel thereof called Middlebrookes, containing by estimation 12 acres, formerly surrendered by William Morcombe junior), formerly of William Oliver and recently of George Oliver. And these premises came into the hands of the lord on the death of the said John Yea, formerly his father, having, etc. And this entry was made on the 21st day of September in the 22nd year of the reign of King Charles II of England [1670] in the presence of Robert Stowell and Robert Knight, tenants of the lord. With the mark of Robert Stowell, and signed by Robert Knight and Robert Yea.(kindly transcribed by Jane de Gruchy SWHT).

Note it was the custom in the Manor of Taunton Deane at that time for the youngest son to inherit - Robert was described as Robert fillius junior in the land deed. We have found no will for his father John, but it appears as younger son, Robert would have automatically inherited Cushuish. (The ancient customs of the manor of Taunton Deane: By H. B. Shillibeer, Sir R. (Richard) Phillips 1821)

This deed is a crucially important record in that it specifically states that Robert was the younger son of John, the vital piece of documentary evidence for Robert's immediate ancestry.

1670: The Combe Florey parish register records the marriage of Robert Yea and Joane Treable on 15 November. The ceremony thus took place about two months after Robert inherited his father's house and land. It appears the Treable or Treble family (both spellings found in the records) were long established in Combe Florey. (please see Joan's notes below) Joan was to bear him eight children, two sons and six daughters.

1672: In his "History of the Yea Family", Alfred Monday states (Appendix G, p xxiv) that "Robert Yea or Yawe, son and heir of John Yea in the 22nd year of Charles II lived at Yawe's tenement in the parish of Kingston. The old house has long since been destroyed but over the lintel of the door of a cottage near are the letters "RY" with the date "1672", the same year that Robert Yawe was entered as tenant on the Rolls of the Manor of Taunton Deane". Note the cited regnal year actually corresponds to 1670/1, but appears clear evidence Robert had just inherited this property following his father's death. The cottage known as Yeas Cottage is still standing and has now been divided into 2 semi detached thatched cottages with dates 1672. 1673 and 1674 carved in various parts of the structure

1707 to 1709: In an unreferenced source cited by Alma, Robert was assessed for rates on Whitehouse (see below) viz 1707 2 shillings; 1708 1 shilling; 1709 1 shilling 3 pence. It is unclear if Robert left the house in Cushuish to occupy Whitehouse, or whether he remained in Cushuish while Whitehouse was occupied by someone else, for instance his daughter Sarah. (see her personal notes)

1708: The Gloucestershire Archives hold an extensive series of records of the landholdings in Somerset and elsewhere of the Stawell or Stowell family. One particular holding in Cothelstone, where the Stawell family were hereditary Lords of the Manor,

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concerns Robert Yaw and his descendants. The earliest of these dates from 26 March 1708 and is catalogued as follows:

On 26 March 1708, the Rt Hon William, Lord Stawell, Baron of Somerton and Lord of the Manor of Cothelstone, made a lease to Robert Yaw of Cushuish, Somerset, yeoman of a messuage and Whitehouse Close (5 acres) at Cothelstone in the possession of Yaw by assignment from Thomas Bridges, for a term of 99 years determining on the deaths of Thomas Bridges, Sarah Yaw (daughter of Robert), and Robert Barrell, son of Daniell Barrell of Kingston, Somerset tailor, by Mary his wife (ie Robert's daughter); granted upon the surrender of an existing lease in which Thomas Bridges is the last life; consideration of £43; rent 5 shillings p.a. 5 shillings payable as herriot; and doing suit. W And counterpart. (Gloucestershire Archives doc ref D678/2/T1/5 items 44 and 45)

Robert's lease was evidently granted on the surrender of an existing lease, which was probably for three lives, which from other records seems to have been custom & practice in this manor. We have no other indication of to whom the then existing lease had been granted, nor the names of the other two lives on which it was let, only that the last of them was that of Thomas Bridges, who was also to be one of the three lives in the lease to Robert.

The parcel of Whitehouse Close extended over 5 acres. We should note here that in 1664, a property of that same acreage was held by Simon Yaw and occupied by Simon, his wife Mary & John Brice. We can't be certain these are one and the same property and if so, how the new lease came to Robert but it does seem likely. (See notes earlier for Simon in 1664)

The Stawells would execute two subsequent deeds on Whitehouse Close involving the Yaw family, please see notes for Joan Yaw nee Treble in 1720 and for Sarah, daughter of Robert & Joan for 1736.

1708: Will of Robert Yeaw of Kingston St Mary: Robert made his will on 13 September 1708, a full transcript by Martyn Yeo follows which the authors are pleased to acknowledge.

In the name of God Amen

On the thirteenth day of September in the sixth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Queen Anne & in ye year of our Lord God one thousand seven hundred & eight I Robt. Yeaw of Kingston in the county of Somersett yeoman being weak of body but of sound mind & memory thinking of my mortality doe constitute & ordaine this to be my last will & testamnt.

First I comit & comend my Soul into the hands of God that is in hopes of a joyfull resurrection through ye meritts of Christ Jesus my only saviour & redeemer and my body unto decent and Christian buriall in the parish church yard of Kingston afors[ai]d and as

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to those worldly things that God has been pleased to vouchsafe me I give & bequeath in manner as followeth

Imprimis I give to my son Robert Yeaw ten pounds to be paid within ye space of six years after my decease and if ye s[ai]d Robert my son shall happen to dye within the before limited time that ye said tenn pounds shall be & remaine amongst ye rest of my children that shall survive

Item I give to my daughter Grace ten pounds to be paid within ye space of five years after my decease and if ye said Grace shall happen to dye within ye afores[ai]d terme of years the s[ai]d ten pounds shall remaine amongst ye rest of my children that shall survive

Item I give to my daughter Mary ye sume of ten pounds to be paid the twenty eight day of this instant September & which shall [be] & is in lue of her said legacye only excepting this that if any of her brothers or sisters shall happen to dye before the limited time that she shall have her part with the rest if she be living at the time

Item I give unto Anstis my daughter ye sume of ten pounds to be paid within ye space of one year after my decease & if she shall happen to dye within ye space of one year that ye said ten pounds shall be equally divided betweene her three children at ye before limited time

Item I give to my daughter Sarah twenty shillings to be paid within one year after my decease and after ye decease of my executrix to have & receive a lease that doth belong to her concerning Whitehouse Tenement lying & being in Cothelstone formerly in the possession of Thomas Bridges

Item I give to my son John ten pounds to be paid within six years likewise after my decease and if he shall happen to dye within that space of years the said ten pounds shall be & remain amongst ye rest of my children that survive

Item I give to my daughter Joan ten pounds to be paid within the space of two years after my decease and if she shall happen to dye within the before men[t]ioned time ye s[ai]d ten pounds shall be equally divided amongst ye children of her body begotten

Item I give to my daughter Anne ye sume of ten pounds to be paid within the space of five years likewise after my decease and if she shall happen to dye before that space of five years the said ten pounds shall remain amongst all & every of the rest of my children which shall be living [at] y. time

Now after my debts paid and funerall expenses discharged I doe give and bequeath all my s[ai]d goods chattels bills bonds sum and sums of [money] together with all things and things of what nature or kind soever they be unto Joane my said wife whome I doe constitute & ordaine to be the sole & only executrix of this my last will & testam. and revoking all other wills by me made

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In witnesse whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seal ye day & year as abovesaid

Signum

Robert Yeaw

Signed & sealed in ye presence of us

Henry Cornish

Tho: Cole

Thomas Yard

Probatum fuit [suprascriptum] test[ament]um apud Taunton octavo die mensis Aprilis anno dom[ini] 1710 coram viro Richardo Healy segum dizo offiali ventio viri Edwardi Waple S. T. B. Arthiri Arthinatus Taunton thimo consistit[us] sub juram[en]to Joannae Yeaw relicta dict dest et extriris in eod testo nominat[a] cui er de bene er deger fideli complexi prima jurat er salvo jure injust et haber ad introdurend juveria bonorin et intra festum Th Johis Baptista prox futur[a]

Vera copia et examinat per Cann. Southey Regerum

Will dated 13 September 1708

Grant of probate dated 8 April 1710

Note by transcriber: the will is a copy of the original, certified as a true copy by the person named in the last line above. This certification is preceded by a grant of probate in Latin, which contains a number of abbreviations. The grant states that Robert's widow Joane Yeaw swore an oath, in her capacity as executor and in front of various named officials, at the consistory court at Taunton on 8 April 1710. She undertook to provide an inventory of Robert's possessions by the feast of St John the Baptist following (24 June 1710).

Review of wills of Robert Yaw & Joan Yaw nee Treble

A couple of points in Robert's will are worthy of comment. It appears he intended to leave bequests to every one of his children, which he listed in apparent birth order "apparent" only because the first two Robert & Grace were born before the commencement of the Kingston St Mary parish register. He left a bequest to an eighth child Ann for whom we have found no baptism, but made no provision for a daughter Agnes, whose baptism we do find in Cothelstone in 1689. A similar situation arose later with the two wills made by his wife Joan (see her personal notes). One explanation is that they indeed had daughters Ann and Agnes, and the latter died in infancy before his will was written, though we find no burial for her. Another explanation is that Ann & Agnes were one and the same person, christened as Agnes but later known as Ann. In

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documenting Robert & Joan's descendants, we have adopted the latter.

The provisions of Robert's will merit review. As noted earlier, his father John benefitted from three leases in the tything of Cushuish. As noted above, a deed from 1670 confirms that Robert inherited on his father's death the lease on a property in Cushuish made in 1663. That certainly formed part of Robert's assets at death. What is unclear is what became of the properties which were the subject of the other two leases. He also had a significant sum of cash.

Robert left bequests to each of his children, which he listed in apparent birth order, we use the term "apparent" only because the first two Robert & Grace were born before the commencement of the Kingston St Mary parish register. He left a bequest to an eighth child Ann, for whom we have found no baptism, but made no provision for a daughter Agnes, whose baptism we do find in Cothelstone in 1689. A similar situation arose later with the two wills made by his wife Joan (see her personal notes). One explanation is that they indeed had daughters Ann and Agnes, and the latter died in infancy before his will was written, though we find no burial for her. Another explanation is that Ann & Agnes were one and the same person, christened as Agnes but later known as Ann. In documenting Robert & Joan's descendants, we have adopted the latter.

Robert left the sum of £10 to each of seven of his eight children, the exception being daughter Sarah to whom he left 20 shillings - though he also left her an interest in a lease (see below). He did not favour his two sons with larger bequests than his daughters as was common at this period. For some reason, he directed that the legacies be paid within varying periods after his death. (See his Will above) With 6 daughters, it might be thought he gave consideration to their respective dowries. But that seems not to have been the case, as three of them were already married when he made his will, implying their dowries had already been settled.

The only real estate explicitly bequeathed in Robert's will was a lease on the tenement and land known as Whitehouse Close in Cothelstone comprising 5 acres. The lease was granted on 26 March 1708 by the Rt Hon. William, Lord Stawell, Baron of Somerton and Lord of the Manor of Cothelstone to Robert Yaw of Cushuish, Somerset, yeoman. It seems the property was already in Robert's possession, having received it by assignment from Thomas Bridge, who was the last surviving life on an earlier lease on the property which Bridge simultaneously surrendered.

The "new" lease to Robert was for a term of 99 years, determining on the deaths of Thomas Bridge; Sara Yaw (daughter of Robert); and Robert Barrell, son of Daniell Barrell of Kingston, Somerset, tailor, by Mary his wife (another of Robert Yaw's daughters). The lease came with a consideration of £43; rent 5/- p.a.; 5/- payable as herriot; and doing suit. (Gloucestershire Archives doc ref D678/2/T1/5 items 44 and 45)

The authors have been unable to identify Thomas Bridge and what relationship, if any, he might have had to Robert. Based on our estimate of Robert's birth year, he was about 58

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when Bridges' lease was surrendered, and Robert's deed of lease was executed. We might speculate that Robert's selection of his daughter Sarah, then aged 26 and un-married, and grandson Robert Barrell who was then 6, as the other lives on which the lease depended, reflected his intent to ensure that the lease ran for as long as possible within the 99 year lease after his own death. Robert also appointed Joan as residuary legatee and sole Executrix.

Robert left no bequests, even token, to any grandchildren, of whom the only ones he explicitly mentioned (albeit un-named) were the three children of daughter Anstis, to whom he directed her legacy of £10 should descend in the event she pre-deceased her father. Robert's son Robert and daughter Mary were then also both married, each with 3 children, though none of these grandchildren were left bequests. Daughter Joan married about 6 months before he made his will, and had no children at that time.

Notes for Joane Treble:

1646: The Combe Florey parish register records the baptism of Joane the d/o John and Agnes Treble on 25th April 1646. The Treble's were evidently a long- established family in Combe Florey as we find records in the parish register going back into the 1570s. Treble's Holford farm and Treble's Cottages are both marked on Ordnance Survey maps. The former is still standing and is now a listed structure.

1670: Robert Yea and Joane Treble were married in Combe Florey on 15 November. Joan was about 24 at marriage and was to bear Robert eight children, two sons and six daughters. Their first two children were probably baptised Kingston St Mary between 1671 and 1676 - the parish register there commences only in 1677. The next five of their children were baptised there, and the last, their eighth child Agnes was baptised in Cothelstone in 1689, when Joan was in her early 40's.

1709. In her notes for various land transactions, Alma noted that Joane Yea reported the death of her husband Robert on 28 Sept 1709 seperately from the Kingston St Mary parish register which records the burial of Robert Yawe on the same date.

1710: Joan was granted probate of Roberts will on the 8th of April in Taunton (see a certified copy of it on page 6 above)

1716: Joan made a will, a literal abstract of which follows.

Will dated 9th May 1716 of Joane YAW of Kingston widow (A.S?). Son John YAW. Henry Cornish of Kingston, yeoman. Thomas COLE of Kinston, yeoman. Daughter Anne YAW. Daughter Mary BURRILL wife of Daniel Burrill of Kingston, Taylor (Tailor?) Daughter Joane HART wife of Robert Hart of Skilgate, husbandman. Son Robert YAW. Grandchildren Joane WITHERS, John WITHERS, Sarah and William WITHERS, Jane Chaple (see notes later for the Chapple children - their first born was JAMES and it seems likely that this has been mistranscribed) Robert YAW, Lancelot COTHELSTONE, Witnesses William BURD, Francis SPURRIER, Sarah PAULL

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(witnesses have signed) (SWHT Calendar No: 37 , 1723)

This summary notes only the beneficiaries, and not the nature or value of legacies left to them. We might speculate that Joan's assets at this time consisted of money from her late husband's estate as residuary legatee, his bequests to his children presumably having been settled by this time, plus the lifetime interest in Whitehouse Close granted to Joan in Robert's will.

We should record here that on the very same date 9th May 1716, Alma recorded a note (no source cited) that Mary Yaw reported the death of her husband John Yaw. We consider Robert may have had a brother John, whose death Mary was reporting. We find no record of such a burial in the registers of Combe Florey, Cothelstone or Kingston St Mary and assume this was included in another land transaction that the authors have not yet found. See notes of his assumed brother above.

1718 14th January In an un-referenced source Alma noted that Joan Yaw leaves her lands in Taunton Deane to Daniel Barrell her son in law. We do not know what lands they were but might speculate they are the Cothelstone lands of Whitestone noted here. Equally it might have been something else that she had an interest in that was activated when John died in 1716

1718 In another un-referenced source cited by Alma. Joan must surely have been the "Widow Yeaw" rated at 4 pence for Whitehouse Close

1720: The Gloucestershire Archives hold the record of a second transaction on Whitehouse Close in Cothelstone which concerns the Yaw family, catalogued as follows:

Lease in reversion (11 May 1720) by Stawell to Francis Coles of premises as in item 44 (ie Whitehouse Close per deed of 1708 cited earlier) for a term of 99 years from the termination of the estates created by item 44 (those of Sarah, now the wife of James Chappell of Stowgurse, Somerset and of Robert Barrell) and determining on the death of Ruth daughter of Francis Coles aged 6; consideration of £10; rent and herriot as in item 44; and doing suit. And counterpart (Gloucestershire archives ref D678/2/T1/5 items 47-48)

That in 1720 the property was in the possession of Joan Yawe widow appears to be consistent with the legacy of a lifetime interest in the lease granted to her in Robert's will of 1708. This latest lease seems to be in effect an extension of that of 1708, as it refers to the lives of Robert's daughter Sarah - in the interim married to James Chapple - and Robert's grandson Robert Barrell. From the absence of any mention of Thomas Bridges, the third life in the deed of 1708, we might speculate he had died in the interim, his death perhaps prompting the opportunity to renew and extend the lease by the inclusion of Ruth Coles aged just 6.

1722: Joan made a will in 1722, she was then of Kingston, Somerset and a widow, and

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cited by Alfred Monday in his "History of the Yea Family" (Appendix G, p xxiii) as follows:

Will of Joan Yeaw of Kingston, widow Dated 31st May 1722:

My body I desire may be buried in Kingston Churchyard in Linen as nigh to the body of my husband as conveniently may be. She refers to her Taunton Deane Lands surrendered to the use of her son in law, Daniel Barrell She leaves her grandson Robert Yeaw son of her son Robert £30 To Mr Thomas Cornish and Thomas Cole of Kingston, yeomen she leaves property for the use and benefit of her grandchildren, Robert, John and James Hart, sons of her son in law Robert Hart. To her granddaughter Anstice Comer she leaves £10 to her grandchildren Robert and Mary Comer £10 unto her four grandchildren, the Winslies unto her daughter Sarah Chappell's children 20s to daughter Anne a legacy to Edward Wensley, her son in law - a legacy Executor and residuary legatee her son in law Daniel Barrell Witnessed by Richard Cridland, Elizabeth Canniford, John Canniford.

Comparing Joan's will of 1716 superseded by that of 1722 a point that merits comment. In her first will, she left bequests to sons John and Robert, In 1722 she left nothing to John nor his children, but did leave a bequest to grandson Robert, son of her son Robert - not referring to the latter as deceased. In 1716, she left bequest to daughters Ann Yaw, apparently un-married, and to Mary and Joan, both married. She also left bequests to her four Withers grandchildren bur not to her daughter Anstice, and to her Chapple grandson but not to her daughter Sarah. She made no provision for Grace who had died in 1713. In both her wills of 1716 and 1722, Joan appointed Thomas Coles as a Trustee of her will. There must surely be some connection between Thomas & Francis Cole

In 1722, in a principal legacy she surrendered her "Taunton Deane lands" to her son-in-law Daniel Barrell. It is unclear what properties Joan was referring to here. As we have seen earlier, in his will of 1708, Joan's husband Robert left her an interest in Whitehouse Close, Cothelstone. However, that was for her lifetime only, after which it was to pass to their daughter Sarah, and it would therefore appear Joan had no power to dispose of it other than as was limited in Robert's will. Her "Taunton Deane" lands must therefore refer to some other property, which perhaps formed part of her dowry and remained to her as a jointure of which she was free to dispose.

It is also unclear why she bequeathed her lands to son-in-law Daniel rather than to one of her own sons. She left a large bequest of £30 to her grandson Robert, son of her son Robert, but none to his other two children. She also left legacies to her other grandchildren, three of Robert Hart & Joan; three of Richard Comer & Anstice; four of her son-in-law Edward Winsey, husband of deceased daughter Grace as well as to Edward himself (see his personal notes); and un-named children of James Chappel and daughter Sarah. But she left no legacies to her other grandchildren, the five children of Daniel Barrell & daughter Mary; or the two children of her son John & his wife Ann. Note, in neither will did Joan refer to a daughter Agnes, and as noted in our comments above on Robert's will, we conclude that Agnes and Ann were one and the same person. Further reference is made in the personal notes of Joan's children below.

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1722: The Kingston St Mary parish register records the burial of Joan Yawe widow on 17 July 1722. Joan was aged about 76 at death.

Robert Yeaw and Joane Treble had the following children:

13. i. ROBERT⁶ YAWE was born between 1670-1676 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 07 Apr 1731 in Kingston St Mary. He married Elizabeth England on 24 Jun 1698 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 01 Mar 1729/30 in Kingston St Mary.
- ii. GRACE YAWE was born between 1670-1676 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 05 May 1713 in Kingston St Mary. She married Edward Wensley on 18 Sep 1712 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for Grace Yawe:

1670/6: We find no baptism for Grace - she must have been born in Kingston St Mary between 1670 and 1676, just before the earliest records in the parish register.

1712: The Kingston St Mary parish register records the marriage of Edward Wensley and Grace Yawe on 18 Sept 1712, when Grace was probably in her late 20's.

1713: Sadly, Grace's marriage was to prove a very short one. She died only 8 months later and was buried in Kingston St Mary on 5 May 1713. The parish register at this period makes no reference to wife of, widow etc - but since Grace was not referred to in the wills of her father or mother, we can be confident this record is the death of Edward's wife. We might speculate that Grace may have been the mother of the first of the four Wensley grand-children mentioned in Joan's last will, though we find no record of any such child in the parish register.

Notes for Edward Wensley:

Edward has proved something of an enigma, as we have been unable to find a baptism for him, nor are there any records of any other Wensley's in the Kingston St Mary parish register. The contemporary records in Clatworthy and Bormpton Ralph have baptisms for several Wensley's, but none which might give us a clue to Edward's origins. He married Grace after her father made his will in 1708, but neither Grace nor Edward was mentioned in her mother's first will of 1716, consistent with Grace's death in 1713. The records of their and other marriages in the parish register make no reference to

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the abode of bride or groom.

Joan left no legacy to Edward in her first will, but in her last will of 1722 she left bequests to Edward and to her four Wensley un-named grandchildren. A possible explanation is that Grace was Edward's second wife, and he already had four children from his first marriage, but in that case we might expect Joan to have made some provision for them in her first will, as she did for her other grandchildren. It is more likely that he re-married after Grace's death, and had four children by a second wife between 1713 and 1722. He evidently remained on good terms with his erstwhile mother-in-law Joan such that she left him and his children those legacies in her last will and testament. For these purposes, we have concluded that Edward fathered his children by an unknown second wife. (Please see also personal notes for Agnes aka Anne below)

We find a credible record for Edward's death in Hatch Beauchamp on 26 March 1752. If Edward was of similar age to Grace, he would have been about 80 at death.

14. iii. MARY YAWE was born on 16 Apr 1677 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 26 Apr 1724 in Kingston St Mary. She married Daniel Barrell on 18 Sep 1701 in Kingston St Mary. He was born about 1680 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 22 Oct 1727 in Kingston St Mary.
15. iv. ANSTICE YAWE was born on 05 Jan 1680/81 in Kingston St Mary. She married John Withers on 07 Jul 1701 in Taunton.
16. v. SARAH YAWE was born on 03 Sep 1682 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 12 Feb 1758 in Stogursey. She married James Chappel, son of James Chappel and Joan, on 19 Jun 1712 in St. Decuman, Watchet. He was born on 23 Feb 1683/84 in Stogursey. He died on 07 Jan 1757 in Stogursey.
17. vi. JOHN YAWE was born on 08 Apr 1684 in Kingston St Mary. He married Ann Cape on 06 Feb 1714/15 in Taunton. She was born on 21 Sep 1695 in Wellington. She died on 14 Sep 1755 in Wellington.
18. vii. JOANE YAWE was born on 21 Apr 1686 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 03 Mar 1716/17 in Skilgate. She married Robert Hart, son of James Harte, on 25 May 1708 in Kingston St Mary. He was born on 17 Sep 1687 in Skilgate. He died on 20 Mar 1760 in Skilgate.
19. viii. AGNES AKA ANN YAWE was born on 07 Apr 1689 in Cothelstone. She died on 29 Jul 1739 in Kingston St Mary. She married Richard Comer, son of John Comer, between May-Dec 1716. He was born on 02 Aug 1690 in Wellington. He died on 10 Nov 1745 in Kingston St Mary.

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13. **ROBERT⁶ YAWE** (Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born between 1670-1676 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 07 Apr 1731 in Kingston St

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Mary. He married Elizabeth England on 24 Jun 1698 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 01 Mar 1729/30 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for Robert Yawe:

1670/1676: We identified Robert from the will of his father Robert made on 13 Sept 1708 in which he left bequests to each of his children, apparently in order of their births. Our use of the term “apparent” is simply because the baptisms of Robert and his younger sister Grace pre-date the commencement of the Kingston St Mary parish register in 1676, while the baptismal dates for their younger siblings are readily legible. In the absence of a firm baptism date for him, we can at least bracket it between his parents’ marriage in 1670 and the earliest entries in the register in 1676.

1698: We find a clear record of Robert’s marriage to Elizabeth England in Kingston St Mary on 24 June 1698 when he was probably in his mid-20’s. She was to bear him five children between 1699 and 1713, one of whom died in infancy.

1709/1715: In his father Robert’s will made on 13 September 1708, he bequeathed Robert the sum of £10 to be paid within six years after the father’s death. Robert senior was buried on 28 September 1709, so son Robert should have come into his inheritance by 1715 at the latest.

1716/1722: In his mother Joan’s will dated 9 May 1716, she left bequests (unquantified in the transcript) both to son Robert and his son/her grandson Robert. However, in her will of 31 May 1722, which superseded the earlier one, she left no bequest to son Robert, but did leave £30 to his son/her grandson Robert, which was a significant sum at the time.

1720/1730: It appears that despite the legacy from his father, Robert may have fallen on hard times. In an un-referenced source for the parish accounts of Kingston St Mary cited by Alma, Robert is listed in each of the years 1720-1730 as a beneficiary of one shilling from charitable foundations established by Thomas Dyke and Margaret Bult for the poor of the parish.

1731: We find a good match for the burial of Robert in Kingston St Mary on 17 April 1731 - just over one year after the death of his wife Elizabeth. Robert was probably in his early 60’s at death.

Notes for Elizabeth England:

We find no baptism for Elizabeth in the Kingston St Mary parish register. She may have been born in Kingston St Mary at a similar time to Robert, and hence before the start of the parish register.

Robert Yawe and Elizabeth England had the following children:

20. i. SIMON⁷ YAW was born on 26 Nov 1699 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 06 Jan 1782 in Kingston St Mary. He married Elizabeth Castle on 04 May 1729

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in Kingston St Mary. She was born in Kingston St Mary. She died on 13 Jan 1782.

- ii. MARY YAW was born on 20 Sep 1702 in Kingston St Mary. She married Samuel Lyng on 02 Aug 1730 in Kingston St Mary. He was born in Bridgwater.

Notes for Mary Yaw:

Marriage record states that her husband Samuel was late Deacon of Bridgwater, but Clergy of the Church of England database has no record of him. Found no record of any children or subsequent burials for either of them

- iii. ROBERT YAW was born on 23 May 1708 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 24 Sep 1710 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for Robert Yaw:

Robert died in infancy - the Kingston St Mary parish register records the burial on 24 Sept 1710 of "Robert son of Robert Yawe"

- iv. JOANE YAW was born on 22 Feb 1711/12 in West Bagborough.

- 21. v. ROBERT YAW was born about 1713 in West Bagborough. He married Elizabeth Burge on 07 Nov 1729 in St. Decuman, Watchet. She died on 09 May 1773 in St. Decuman, Watchet.

- 14. MARY⁶ YAW (Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 16 Apr 1677 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 26 Apr 1724 in Kingston St Mary. She married Daniel Barrell on 18 Sep 1701 in Kingston St Mary. He was born about 1680 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 22 Oct 1727 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for Daniel Barrell:

In her will of 1722, his mother-in-law Joan Yaw referred to her lands in Taunton Deane surrendered to her son-in-law - it is unclear why these were surrendered to Daniel rather than to one of her own sons. She also appointed Daniel as residuary legatee and Executor.

In a list of rates for Kingston St Mary discovered by Alma, Daniel Barrell was assessed in 1726, either for two properties or twice for the same property noted as "late widow Yaw"; in 1728 for a property "late widow Yaw" and Cushuish; in 1728 and 1730 for a limekiln; and in 1730 for "late Yaws" followed in the same year by Thomas Cole late Daniel Barrell. Daniel died in 1727, so the later charges may have been against his estate. The reference to Thomas Coles may be connected to a lease recorded in the Gloucestershire Archives, summarised below. The same list records that Daniel & Mary's son Daniel was assessed for rates in Nailsbourne in 1736 and 1742

The Gloucestershire Archives hold a record of successive leases for terms of 99 years on a messuage and Whitehouse Close with 5 acres of land at Cothelstone by Lord Stawell, Lord of the Manor. In 1736, Stawell executed a lease on the property with John Sweeting gent of Cothelstone, effected upon the surrender of two earlier leases. The earlier lease was from 26 March 1708 to Robert Yaw on the lives of Thomas Bridge, Sarah Yaw daughter of Robert, and Robert Barrell son of Daniel Barrell, tailor. The subsequent lease

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was made on 11 May 1720 to Frances Coles on surrender of the lease of 1708 by Sarah, then wife of James Chapple of Stowgursey (sic), and Robert Barrell. (Gloucestershire Archives, ref D678/2/T1/5/41-50, Cothelstone Leases 1663-1736)

Daniel left a will, which may have been destroyed in the WW2 bombing of Exeter. It is listed in Somerset Wills & Administration Part 3, Administrations at Taunton 1596-1799, ref Kingston 46 1727.

Daniel Barrell and Mary Yawe had the following children:

- i. ROBERT⁷ BARRELL was born on 01 Oct 1702 in Kingston St Mary.
 - ii. GEORGE BARRELL was born on 05 Oct 1704 in Kingston St Mary.
 - iii. SARAH BARRELL was born on 21 Nov 1706 in Kingston St Mary.
 - iv. DANIEL BARRELL was born on 23 Jan 1708/09 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 10 Feb 1708/09 in Kingston St Mary.
 22. v. DANIEL BARRELL was born on 06 Dec 1711 in Kingston St Mary. He married Mary Hays on 22 Apr 1734 in Taunton.
 - vi. MARY BARRELL was born on 17 Nov 1715 in Kingston St Mary.
 - vii. JOSEPH was born on 17 Nov 1715 in Kingston St Mary.
15. ANSTICE⁶ YAWE (Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 05 Jan 1680/81 in Kingston St Mary. She married John Withers on 07 Jul 1701 in Taunton.

Notes for Anstice Yawe:

Married by Licence in Taunton St Mary Church 7th July 1701 Both John and Anstace recorded as being of Kingston

Notes for John Withers:

The Goathurst parish register has a credible match for John, son of John and Ursula Withers baptised Goathurst 18 Mar 1673/4. Goathurst is about 5 miles north-east of Kingston St Mary. The Combe Florey Register has a credible match for the burial of "John Withers of the parish of Kingston" on 14 June 1747. If both records are indeed for Anstice's husband, he was about 73 at death. We find no burial record for Anstice herself.

John Withers and Anstice Yawe had the following children:

- i. JOANE⁷ WITHERS was born on 06 Aug 1702 in Kingston St Mary.
 - ii. JOHN WITHERS was born on 26 Oct 1704 in Kingston St Mary.
 - iii. SARAH WITHERS was born on 24 Oct 1707 in Kingston St Mary.
 - iv. WILLIAM WITHERS was born on 08 Mar 1710 in Kingston St Mary.
16. SARAH⁶ YAWE (Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 03 Sep 1682 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 12 Feb 1758 in Stogursey. She

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married James Chappel, son of James Chappel and Joan, on 19 Jun 1712 in St. Decuman, Watchet. He was born on 23 Feb 1683/84 in Stogursey. He died on 07 Jan 1757 in Stogursey.

Notes for Sarah Yawe:

1708 In his will, Sarah's father Robert left her 20 shillings, and after the death of her mother, Sarah was also to receive the lease "concerning Whitehouse Tenement lying and being in Cothelstone formerly in the possession of Thomas Bridges", which was to be forfeit on Sarah's death (see also notes for her mother Joan for 1720 regarding a transaction concerning this property)

1712: The parish register of St Decuman (near to Watchet on the north coast of Somerset) records the marriage of James Chapple and Sarah Yaw on 19 June 1712. It is unclear why the marriage was solemnised in this parish where neither bride nor groom had any obvious family connection. We should note here that Sarah's nephew Robert born 1713, son of her brother Robert & his wife Elizabeth nee England, was later an apprentice in St Decuman and married there in 1729 (see his personal notes)

1716 In her first will of 1716, her mother Joan made no provision for Sarah herself, though she did leave a legacy to "Jane Chapple" - surely a mis-transcription for James, the only child of James & Sarah born at that time. In her last will of 1722, Joan again left no bequest to Sarah herself, but did so to Sarah's (un-named and un-numbered) children - in fact James & Sarah had three by then, though one was to die before reaching her majority.

1736: The Gloucestershire Archives cite a further lease made 25 Mar 1736 by Stawell to John Sweeting of Cothelstone Gent of the premises leased to Robert Yea in 1708 for a term of 99 years determining on the deaths of John Sweeting and Elizabeth his wife and Joan their daughter, granted upon the surrender of the leases granted to Robert Yea in 1708 and to Francis Coles in 1720; consideration £5; rent and heriot as in lease of 1708; and doing suit. This deed appears to extinguish Sarah's interest in the property (Gloucestershire Archives, ref D678/2/T1/5/41-50, Cothelstone Leases 1663-1736)

1758 The Stogursey parish register records the burial of Sarah Chappel widow on 12 Feb 1758. She was aged about 76 at death.

Notes for James Chappel:

The Stogursey parish register records the baptism of James son of James and Joan Chapple on 23 Feb 1683/4. The same register records the burial of "James Chappel Sen'r" died 2 Oct buried 28 Oct 1722 - this is almost certainly the burial of James' father. A more credible burial is that recorded in Stogursey as James Chapel on 7 Jan 1757. James was about 73 at death.

1719/1721: The Somerset Archives hold the record of Articles of Agreement for a 12 year lease of a mill and land at Kingston St Mary between Phillip Hembrough Gent of Bishops

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Lydeard and James Chapple of Kingston, miller (SWHT Taunton doc ref D/P/crch/23/4)
James Chappel and Sarah Yawe had the following children:

- i. JAMES⁷ CHAPPELL was born on 29 Dec 1713 in Stogursey.

Notes for James Chappell:

Note. Identified first as Jane Chappell in his grandmothers will of 1716 but it would appear that her name was incorrectly transcribed as per the Stogursey Registers

James was the first-born of James & Sarah's three children. He was the only one born before his grandmother Joane wrote her first will on 9 May 1716 in which she left legacies to him and her other grandchildren - though not to his mother Sarah. Joane wrote a later will on 31 May 1722, by which time James & Sarah's daughters Sarah and Ruth had been born (see below). In this will, Joane left legacies to "my daughter Sarah Chappel's children", without name or number, though she again left no bequest to Sarah herself.

- ii. SARAH CHAPPEL was born on 30 Aug 1716 in Stogursey. She died on 23 Feb 1736/37 in Stogursey.
- iii. RUTH CHAPPEL was born on 05 Jul 1721 in Stogursey. She married Robert Clark on 24 Dec 1754 in Stogursey.

Notes for Ruth Chappel:

17. JOHN⁶ YAWE (Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 08 Apr 1684 in Kingston St Mary. He married Ann Cape on 06 Feb 1714/15 in Taunton. She was born on 21 Sep 1695 in Wellington. She died on 14 Sep 1755 in Wellington.

Notes for John Yawe:

The Taunton St James parish register records the marriage of John Yea of Kingston and Ann Cape of Combe Florey on 6 Feb 1714/5, when John was aged about 30. The registry entry states that the marriage was by licence, though we have found no copy of the licence itself. Ann was about 10 years younger than John, and was probably not quite into her majority, which may have been the reason for the licence.

The uncommon (possibly unique ??) custom of the Manor of Taunton Deane was that the youngest son took precedence in inheriting the father's estate, and as such John could have expected to do so. But in his will, his father left £10 to John, and made no reference to any landed estate other than Whitehouse Close in Cothelstone which went to John's sister Sarah. We are unable to determine whether Robert's will was silent on the two properties in Cushuish he inherited from his own father because they passed to John under the customary practice, or because the leases had by then determined.

John was a beneficiary of his mother's first will of 1716, but he was not left any legacy in

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her last will of 1722. John married Ann Cape in February 1714/15. Their first child John was born in 1717 and hence was not mentioned in his grandmother's first will of 1716. They had a second child Sarah born in 1719, but neither John nor Sarah were left bequests in Joane's last will of 1722, although she appears to have legacies to all her other grand-children.

About a year after his mother made her last will, John was the recipient of an annuity from his brother-in-law Daniel Barrell who as noted earlier was a principal beneficiary of Joan's last will. Whether that was because John was in need, as some recompense for having no inheritance or some other reason, we just don't know, but John may have accrued assets from some source and passed them on to his sons, both of whom had properties in Wellington when they died, as will be seen

John & Ann apparently lived in the Kingston/Combe Florey area until at least 1737, where their children were born, and then moved to Wellington where both died.

Notes for Ann Cape:

There are no records for Ann being baptised in Combe Florey but there are numerous Cape records in Wellington and it is most likely she was one of the 2 following baptisms

Ann d/o George Cape bapt 21 Sept 1695

Ann d/o John & Elizabeth Cape bapt 31 Jan 1697/8

We find a credible burial record for her in Wellington on 14 September 1755, though the register entry makes no mention of her as wife or widow.

John Yawe and Ann Cape had the following children:

- i. JOHN⁷ YAWE was born on 27 Sep 1717 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 27 Jul 1781 in Wellington. He married Susannah Hartnell on 07 Feb 1758 in Wellington. She was born about 1737 in Clayhidon, Devon. She died on 20 Sep 1803 in Sampford Arundel.

Notes for John Yawe:

1717: The Kingston St Mary parish register records the baptism of John s/o John & Anne Yawe on 27 Sept 1717. He was aged about 5 when Joan wrote her will in 1722, but he was NOT one of the grandchild beneficiaries.

1758: The marriage of John Yaw bachelor to Susanna Hartnell spinster, both otp, was recorded in the Wellington parish register on 7 Feb 1758, when John was aged about 41. Both signed with their mark. Witnesses were Thomas Hoyle and William Stevens. They appear not to have had children, as we find no baptisms for their offspring between 1758 and John's death.

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1779: Thomas Marsh of Wellington Esq and John Yaw of Wellington Yeoman were parties to the release by bargain and sale of 7 acres called Brookes Park, Rowgreen, Wellington, dated 12-13 1779. John's younger brother Thomas was later involved in other transactions on this parcel - see his personal notes below. (SWHT doc ref DD/YW/13/1)

1781: The Wellington parish register records the burial of John Yaw on 27 July 1781. He was aged about 64 at death. We find no will for John.

Notes for Susannah Hartnell:

1736-8 We have found no baptism record for Susanna. But in her will (see below) she referred to her late brother Bishop Hartnell. Moreover, we find his marriage to Mary Lackington in Wellington on 17 Aug 1761 - three years after Susanna's own marriage there. With such an uncommon forename there can be no doubt this is the brother she referred to in her will. From the Bishops Transcripts on Familysearch, we find the baptism of Bishop, son of Richard Hartnoll and his wife Joan in Clayhidon, Devon on 16 May 1733. Clayhidon lies about 5 miles south-west of Weelington, just across the Somerset/Devon county border. Further, we duly find the marriage of Richard Hartnell and Joan Bishop both of Clayhidon in the parish register there on 14 April 1718. Their marriage is followed a series of baptisms, with some infant deaths. We find no baptism for Susanna, although the series of Bishops Transcripts is incomplete, notably with 1736 & 1738 missing. We have thus recorded Susanna's birthplace as Clayhidon with a birth range 1736-8. Susanna was thus probably around the age of majority at her marriage, and some 20 years younger than John.

1800: Susanna Yaw of Wellington widow made her will on 17 Feb 1800. We have not transcribed her will in full. She left her estate, which mentions the Nowers property, between her nephews and niece John, Richard, Bishop, Susanna and others, the children of her late brother Bishop Hartnell.

1803: The Sampford Arundell parish register records the burial of Susannah Yaw on 20 Sept 1803. The entry makes no reference to her being a widow. Based on our estimated date of birth she was about 65 at death. The parish lies about 2 miles south west of Wellington

1804: The Somerset archives hold a copy of the probate of Susanna's will granted on 21 January 1804 in the Consistory Court of Bath & Well by her nephew John Hartnell, her nephew and executor named in her will. The record also refers to Harris's Plot, whereon a cottage formerly stood [pulled down between 1784 and 1800], near to the Black Boy, ultimately acquired by John Pope. (SWHT doc ref DD/WTN/2)

ii. SARAH YAW was born on 31 Mar 1719 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 29

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Mar 1807 in Wellington. She married Thomas Porter on 02 Aug 1768 in Wellington. He died on 13 Jan 1792 in Wellington.

Notes for Sarah Yawe:

The Kingston St Mary parish register records the baptism of Sarah, daughter of John Yawe and his wife Ann on 31 March 1719

Given that her parents apparently moved from Kingston to Wellington after 1737, we find a credible marriage in the latter for Thomas Porter and Sarah Yaw. Banns for their marriage are recorded on 17, 24 and 31 August, but there appears to be a clerical error and this should read July. The marriage register entry states the ceremony took place on 2 August 1768, Thomas a widower and Mary a spinster both otp, both signing with their mark. Sarah was aged nearly 50 at marriage

We find a potential match for the burial of Thomas Porter in Wellington on 13 Jan 1792, no age stated. The entry is marked "W" which probably refers to the workhouse. We then find a potential match for the burial of Sarah Yaw widow in Wellington on 29 March 1807 - the entry states nom age and is marked "from the workhouse". If this is indeed the correct match, Sarah was almost 90 at death.

- iii. MARY YEA was born on 03 Dec 1727 in Combe Florey. She died before 1734.

Notes for Mary Yea:

We find the baptism in the Combe Florey parish register of Mary d/o John & Ann Yea on 3 Dec 1727. She probably died in childhood, though we find no burial for her in Combe Florey, as John and Ann had a second daughter Mary.

- iv. MARY YEA was born on 31 May 1734 in Combe Florey. She married John Lovell on 26 Sep 1756 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for Mary Yea:

The Combe Florey parish register records the baptism of Mary d/o John & Ann Yea on 31 May 1734. We find a credible match for her marriage after banns to John Lovel in Kingston St Mary on 26 Sept 1756. We find no close matches for the burials of John or Mary.

23. v. THOMAS YEA was born on 14 Aug 1737 in Combe Florey. He died on 17 Sep 1807 in Wellington. He married (1) ELIZABETH UNKNOWN before 1782. She died on 26 Jan 1783 in Wellington. He married (2) JANE ROBERTS, daughter of James Roberts, in 1783 in Wellington. She was born on 22 Aug 1764 in Wellington. She died on 10 Dec 1802 in Wellington.

18. **JOANE⁶ YAW** (Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 21 Apr 1686 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 03 Mar 1716/17 in Skilgate. She married Robert Hart, son of James Harte, on 25 May 1708 in Kingston St Mary. He was born on 17 Sep 1687 in Skilgate. He died on 20 Mar 1760 in Skilgate.

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Notes for Joane Yawe:

In her first will of 1716, her mother Joan left a legacy to daughter Joan, wife of Robert Hart of Skilgate, husbandman, consistent with her marriage in 1708, though she made no reference to any Hart grandchildren of whom three were born by then. In her mother's last will of 1722, she left legacies to Robert, John & James Hart, sons of son-in-law Robert Hart, with no mention of the Testator's daughter Joan - consistent with the latter's death in 1717, aged only 30 and only 9 years of marriage.

Notes for Robert Hart:

The Skilgate parish register records the baptism of Robert, son of James Harte on 17 Sept 1687. Robert was about 21 and Joan 22 at their marriage in 1708. Joan's premature death in 1716/7 left Robert with three children aged less than ten, the youngest less than two. Robert re-married to Katherine Cummins (mis-transcribed on Ancestry as Hamkins) in Skilgate on 7 May 1721. As the following court case shows, she appears to have been someone who didn't mince her words !!

Catherine Hart, Wife of Robert Hart of Skilgate, Labourer, is convicted of swearing 6 profane oaths. JP: J. Sydenham 14 Sep 1750 (swht ref Q/SR/318/3/23)

Robert Hart and Joane Yawe had the following children:

- i. ROBERT⁷ HART was born on 30 Apr 1709 in Skilgate.
- ii. JAMES HART was born on 28 Dec 1711 in Skilgate.
- iii. JOHN HART was born on 29 Apr 1715 in Skilgate.

19. AGNES AKA ANN⁶ YAWE (Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 07 Apr 1689 in Cothelstone. She died on 29 Jul 1739 in Kingston St Mary. She married Richard Comer, son of John Comer, between May-Dec 1716. He was born on 02 Aug 1690 in Wellington. He died on 10 Nov 1745 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for Agnes aka Ann Yawe:

Robert and Joan were known to have been paying rates in Cothelstone from 1707 but might have been there earlier from 1689 or before when Agnes was born

The Cothelstone parish register for the period 1658-1719 has survived. There are a few gaps in the baptisms in the earliest 3 or 4 years. The marriage records commence only in 1664, but appear pretty well complete thereafter. The burials for this period appear to be completely missing. BMD events range from a couple to a handful per year, though in some years none at all, perhaps reflective that Cothelstone was a small parish with a correspondingly small population. The baptism of Agnes in August 1689 is one of 2 events for the Yeaw family found in this range, the other is the marriage of Symon Yaw and Mary Brice in 1664

As has been mentioned in the commentary on the will of Robert from 1708, he left a bequest to daughter Ann. In Joan's first will from May 1716, she also left a legacy to daughter Ann Yaw - implying she was then still single. In Joane's will of 1722, she left legacies to her daughter Ann and three named Comer grand-children. In neither will did

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Joan mention Agnes. Moreover we find no baptism for a daughter Ann, but we do find the baptism in Cothlestone of Agnes daughter of Robert & Joan on 7 April 1689. We have concluded that this daughter was baptised as Agnes and known in later life as Ann.

We find a number of baptisms in Kingston St Mary of four children of Richard & Ann Comer between May 1717 and June 1723. Three baptisms were before 1722, consistent with the names of grandchildren in Joan's last will and testament. We can conclude that Richard & Agnes aka Ann were married sometime in the latter half of 1716, after her mother made her first will and some months before their first child was born in May 1717. However, there is NO record of their marriage in the Kingston St Mary parish register, nor have we found one elsewhere.

Agnes aka Ann pre-deceased her husband and her burial was recorded as Ann Comer in Kingston St Mary on 29 July 1739. She was aged about 50 at death.

Notes for Richard Comer:

As will be seen, their marriage, baptisms of their children and burials were in Kingston St Mary, the authors fist searched this area for Richard's baptism. The Kingston St Mary parish register records a series of baptisms of seven children of John & Elizabeth Comer between 1689-1700. However, none is named Richard, nor do we find his baptism there from inspection of the on-line images. Peter, Bishop of Bath & Wells issued a licence for the marriage of John Comer of Kingston and Joyce Brice widow of Cothelstone on 3 Sept 1683 for their marriage in Kingston or Cothelstone - however, the registers at neither parish record such a marriage being solemnized.

However, the Wellington parish register has a credible match in the baptism of "Richard son and Ann children of Richard Comer" on 2 August 1690 - presumably twins. (Note the surname is mis-transcribed elsewhere as "Tomes". Since Wellington is only about 10 miles from Kingston, we have assumed this is the correct match for Richard's baptism.

Richard Comer and Agnes aka Ann Yawe had the following children:

- i. ANSTICE⁷ COMER was born on 05 May 1717 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 10 Jul 1727 in Kingston St Mary.
- ii. MARY COMER was born on 05 May 1717 in Kingston St Mary.
- iii. ROBERT COMER was born on 14 May 1719 in Kingston St Mary.
- iv. SUSANNA COMER was born on 04 Jun 1723 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 10 Jan 1728/29 in Kingston St Mary.

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20. SIMON⁷ YAW (Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹) was born on 26 Nov 1699 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 06 Jan 1782 in Kingston St Mary. He married Elizabeth Castle on 04 May 1729 in Kingston St Mary. She was born in Kingston St Mary. She died on 13 Jan 1782.

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Notes for Simon Yaw:

The Kingston St Mary parish register records the baptism of Simon son of Robert Yawe and his wife Elizabeth on 26 Nov 1699. The same register records his marriage to Elizabeth Castle on 4 May 1729. Bride and groom were listed as both otp, though we find no baptism for Elizabeth there. She was to bear him three children. It appear the family may have lived in some hardship - Simon is recorded as a beneficiary of the same charitable foundations established by Thomas Dyke and Margaret Bult, as was his father, every year from 1731 to 1752, and on five occasions thereafter until 1780. We find the burial of Simon in Kingston St Mary recorded on 6 Jan 1782. He was about 83 at death. Elizabeth died just one week later, her burial recorded as Betty Yea on 13 January

Simon Yaw and Elizabeth Castle had the following children:

- i. SIMON⁸ YEA was born on 30 Apr 1731 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 25 Jul 1752 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for Simon Yea:

A publication by the Somerset Archaeological & Natural History Society titled "Parish Records of Kingston St Mary 1641-1852" by Robert W Ramsey F.S.A. F.R. Hist.S. includes the following dramatic commentary

In 1752 there was a village tragedy, the memory of which has been preserved by an entry on the flyleaf of the parish register "Wednesday July the 22 1752 Saml Bobbett kill'd Simon Yaw (his Father's apprentice) by sticking the prongs of a pick (ie pitchfork) into his poll of back part of his head. Buried 25. Fled from justice". The register of Burials has the terse entry "Simon Yaw bur 25th July 1752 murder".

A footnote to the article recounts that Simon was apprenticed to Mr Bobbett on 30 March 1739 at the usual age of 8. The authors have searched the literature in an attempt to discover whether Bobbett was ever held to account in a court of law for his mis-deed, but without success.

24. ii. SARAH YEA was born on 17 Jan 1734/35 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 22 Feb 1802 in Cannington. She married Jonas Coles, son of Jonas Coles and Joan, on 19 Jan 1751/52 in Taunton St Mary Magdalene. He was born on 18 Mar 1734/35 in Cannington. He died on 11 Jan 1802 in Cannington.
 25. iii. NICHOLAS YEA was born on 17 Jun 1737 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 31 Mar 1784 in Kingston St Mary. He married (1) ANN LINDEN on 29 Apr 1766 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 12 Jun 1778 in Kingston St Mary. He married (2) MARY HILL, daughter of Henry Hill and Mary, on 16 Sep 1781 in Kingston St Mary. She was born on 02 Sep 1753 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 17 Mar 1805 in Kingston St Mary.
21. **ROBERT⁷ YAW** (Robert⁶, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born about 1713 in West Bagborough. He married Elizabeth Burge on 07 Nov

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1729 in St. Decuman, Watchet. She died on 09 May 1773 in St. Decuman, Watchet.

Notes for Robert Yawe:

Robert was the second child with this forename born to Robert & Elizabeth, the first-born having died in September 1710 aged just two. We identified this second Robert from the two wills of his grandmother Joane nee Treble in both of which she left a legacy to grandchildren including Robert Yaw (1716) and to Robert Yeaw son of my son Robert (1722). It seems unlikely that this second son Robert was born between the death of the first-born Robert and birth of Joan, he was more likely to have been born after her.

As there appears to have been no record, we have assumed that he was baptised at West Bagborough. He married Elizabeth Burge in 1729 at St Decuman which lies immediately next to Watchet on the north Somerset coast about 10 miles north of West Bagborough and slightly further from Kingston St Mary. Moreover we already had a record of an apprenticeship of a Robert Yaw in St Decuman in 1729. If our estimated yob for Robert in 1713 is correct, he would have been 16 at marriage. The marriage of Robert & Elizabeth is recorded in the St Decuman parish register in 1729. The entry appears at the foot of a page in which neither Elizabeth's surname nor the date can be read with certainty. Bishops Transcripts states her surname was Burge and marriage was solemnised on 7th Nov 1729. The record of the marriage in the St Decuman parish register simply states the names of bride and groom, and there is no indication of a marriage by licence or with consent of the respective parents. In the absence of any other candidate, this record is a credible match for the marriage of Robert, son of Robert & Elizabeth nee England.

The authors of this publication remember having taken a photograph of a will in the very early days in Watchet for a Yaw family found in the archives of SWHT Taunton. Unfortunately we seem to have lost it on our pc. We are confident that it was for this Robert and his children as we have never found any others for a Yea/Yaw family in Watchet. The document is thought to be remembered as having burnt edges in parts on a single page of parchment that was written on both sides, found by chance and wrongly filed in another box of papers

Notes for Elizabeth Burge:

We find no baptism for Elizabeth in St Decuman. A search of baptisms for Elizabeth Burge or similar surname in other Somerset parishes including Wedmore (1700); Ilton (1703); Kilve (1704); Westonzoyland (1705); Elworthy and Bridgwater (1707). We can't be certain whether any of these is a credible match. Robert evidently pre-deceased his wife - the St Decuman parish register records the burial of Elizabeth Yaw widow on 9 May 1773. Given her marriage in 1729, she was probably in her sixties or early seventies at death.

Robert Yawe and Elizabeth Burge had the following children:

- i. ELISABETH⁸ YEA was born on 06 Dec 1730 in St. Decuman, Watchet. She died on 31 Jan 1731 in St. Decuman, Watchet.

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- ii. SARAH YEA was born on 08 Dec 1732 in St.Decuman, Watchet. She married JAMES TOWILL.
- iii. JOHN YEA was born on 26 May 1734 in St.Decuman, Watchet. He died on 26 Mar 1738 in St.Decuman, Watchet.

Notes for John Yea:

Bishop's Transcripts have John Yaw, son of Robert and Eliza Yaw being buried on 26 Mar 1738 in St. Decuman.

- iv. ROBERT YEA was born on 16 May 1736 in St.Decuman, Watchet.
- 26. v. WILLIAM YAW was born on 12 Mar 1737/38 in St.Decuman, Watchet. He died after 1770. He married Susannah Coates on 23 Mar 1764 in Holy Trinity, Ilfracombe. She was born on 14 Jun 1741 in West Down, Devon. She died on 31 Jul 1816 in Ilfracombe.
- vi. ELISABETH YEA was born on 08 Apr 1740 in St.Decuman, Watchet. She died on 09 May 1773 in St.Decuman, Watchet.

Notes for Elisabeth Yea:

- 22. DANIEL⁷ BARRELL (Mary⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 06 Dec 1711 in Kingston St Mary. He married Mary Hays on 22 Apr 1734 in Taunton.

Notes for Daniel Barrell:

Daniel married Mary Hays in Taunton on 22 April 1734. A pedigree extracted by Alma (no source cited) shows they had seven children, including three called Ann, the two first-born dying in infancy. We can identify the baptisms and burials for the first two, but the Kingston St Mary parish register has no baptism for the third.

Daniel Barrell and Mary Hays had the following children:

- i. ANNE⁸ BARRELL was born on 22 Dec 1734 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 26 Dec 1734 in Kingston St Mary.
- ii. GEORGE BARRELL was born on 23 Jan 1735/36 in Kingston St Mary.
- iii. ANNE BARRELL was born on 30 Apr 1738 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 09 May 1738 in Kingston St Mary.
- iv. ANN BARRELL was born about 1739 in Kingston St Mary. She died about 1740 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for Ann Barrell:

No baptism found. Taken from a private tree of the Barrell family

- v. WILLIAM BARRELL was born on 25 Nov 1739 in Kingston St Mary.
- vi. MARY BARRELL was born on 24 Aug 1742 in Kingston St Mary.
- vii. DANIEL BARRELL was born on 17 Aug 1744 in Kingston St Mary.

- 23. THOMAS⁷ YEA (John⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw)

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was born on 14 Aug 1737 in Combe Florey. He died on 17 Sep 1807 in Wellington. He married (1) **ELIZABETH UNKNOWN** before 1782. She died on 26 Jan 1783 in Wellington. He married (2) **JANE ROBERTS**, daughter of James Roberts, in 1783 in Wellington. She was born on 22 Aug 1764 in Wellington. She died on 10 Dec 1802 in Wellington.

Notes for Thomas Yea:

1737: The Combe Florey parish register records the baptism of Thomas son of John & Ann Yea on 14 Aug 1737. It appears that at some point after Thomas' birth his parents left the Kingston and Combe Florey area and moved to Wellington.

Bet 1758-1783: At some point Thomas married an unknown Elizabeth, probably after 1758 when he reached his majority, but before 1783, when we find the burial in Wellington of Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Yaw on 26 Jan 1783. We don't know where the marriage took place, though a careful inspection of the online images reveals NO record of their marriage in the Wellington parish register. We find no baptisms of children of a Thomas & Elizabeth Yaw in this period.

1783: The Wellington marriage register records the marriage by licence of Thomas Yaw widower and Jane Roberts spinster both otp on 16 Nov 1783. Thomas signed with his name and Jane with her mark. The officiating curate was John Shorland. The first witness to sign was John Cape, who we might speculate was a relative of Thomas' mother Ann nee Cape. The second witness was Abraham Shorland, who may have been a churchwarden as his name appears as witness to many other marriages in Wellington at this time, and was perhaps related to the curate.

Thomas was aged about 46 when he married Jane. She was to bear him nine children, the first born just a few months after their marriage, and the ninth, a daughter Jemima, in 1801 when Thomas was about 63.

1796: Thomas Yaw of Wellington whitebread baker acquired 4 acres, with field names specified, of a messuage called Nowers. Nowers was mentioned in the will of 1800 of Thomas' sister-in-law Susanna, wife of his brother John. The property was later mortgaged 1800/1809. (Bridge Family papers, SWHT Taunton doc ref DD/WEL/28)

1796: On 29 & 30 Dec, Thomas Yaw of Wellington yeoman executed a deed with Jane Govier of Trull widow for lease and release of 7 acres called Brookes Park, Rowgreen, Wellington, and mortgage securing £300. Note this parcel was the subject of an earlier transaction by Thomas' brother John - see the latter's personal notes. (SWHT Taunton doc ref DD/TW/13/2)

1798: On 26 Sept, Thomas executed a further deed with Jane Govier for the same parcel as in 1796, with a surcharge for £50 and interest. (SWHT Taunton doc ref DD/TW/13/3)

1800: On 21 February, Thomas Yaw of Wellington, white baker and Jane Govier of Trull widow executed a deed of feoffment for the same piece of land as the two earlier deeds

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with Thomas Wood of Wellington Gent. (SWHT Taunton doc ref DD/TW/13/4)

1800: On 3 July and again in September 1800 at the Somerset quarter sessions, Thomas Yaw of Wellington was convicted of selling bread under-weight. JP William Ayshford, Sanford. (SWHT Taunton doc refs Q/SR/368/4/69 and /470)

1807: The Wellington parish register records the burial on 16 September 1807 of Thomas Yaw aged 69 - a close match with his job of 1737.

Notes for Elizabeth Unknown:

At her burial she was recorded as Elisabeth Yaw Wife of Thomas

Notes for Jane Roberts:

If Jane was of full age at her marriage to Thomas in 1783 - though she might still have been a minor as they were married by licence - then she would have been born pre-1762. However, as she gave birth to their 9th child in 1801 when it is unlikely she was aged above say 45, we might set a birth range for her of 1756-1765. The Wellington parish register records the baptism of Jane daughter of James Roberts on 22 Aug 1764, a credible match from which Jane would have been aged about 19 at marriage. The same register records the death on 10 Dec 1802 of Jane, wife of Thomas Yaw, baker - when she was aged just 38, perhaps the travails of giving birth to nine children a factor in her untimely death.

Thomas Yea and Jane Roberts had the following children:

- i. JOHN⁸ YAW was born on 01 Jun 1784 in Wellington.

Notes for John Yaw:

1784: The Wellington parish register records the baptism of John, son of Thomas & Jane Yaw on 1 Jun 1784. We find no further record for him of a marriage or burial.

- ii. ANN YAW was born on 07 Sep 1785 in Wellington. She married Thomas Taylor on 17 Jun 1811 in Tiverton.

Notes for Ann Yaw:

1785: The Wellington parish register records the baptism of Ann daughter of Thomas & Jane Yaw on 7 September 1785.

1811: We find a possible match for Ann's marriage to Thomas Taylor in Tiverton on 17 June 1811, both noted as otp. Ann signed her name, Thomas with his mark. Witnesses were William (Manley ??) and Elizabeth Yaw, perhaps Ann's younger sister. Tiverton is about 15 miles from Wellington.

- iii. WILLIAM YAW was born on 19 Aug 1788 in Wellington. He died on 30 Jul 1802 in Wellington.

Notes for William Yaw:

1788: The Wellington parish register records the baptism of William son of

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Thomas & Jane Yaw on 19 August 1788.

1802: The same register records the burial of William Yaw on 30 July 1802, occupation recorded as a tanner but no age cited. If this is indeed Thomas & Jane's son, he was only 14 at death. Although at that age he could well have been in full time employment, we might expect his burial to be recorded as "son of ..." - see for instance the burial of William's brother George below.

- iv. ELIZABETH YAW was born on 25 May 1790 in Wellington.

Notes for Elizabeth Yaw:

1790: The Wellington parish register records the baptism of Elizabeth daughter of Thomas & Jane Yaw on 7 September 1785. We find no marriage or burial record for her

27. v. JAMES YAW was born on 23 Dec 1792 in Wellington. He married Ann Wyatt on 19 Oct 1815 in Tiverton. She died about 1860 in Tiverton.
- vi. GEORGE YAW was born on 29 Dec 1794 in Wellington. He died on 09 Feb 1806 in Wellington.

Notes for George Yaw:

1794: The Wellington parish register records the baptism of George son of Thomas & Jane Yaw on 29 Dec 1794. The register states he was then aged 3 months.

1806: The same register records the burial on 9 February of "George son of Thomas Yaw aged 11 years".

- vii. ROBERT YAW was born on 20 Apr 1796 in Wellington. He died on 04 May 1875 in Bampton. He married Jane Gunn, daughter of Thomas Gunn and Jane Heywood, on 10 Oct 1822 in Rackenford Devon. She was born on 19 Jul 1798 in Lower Bulworthy Rackenford Devon. She died in 1875 in Tiverton area.

Notes for Robert Yaw:

1796: The Wellington parish register records the baptism of Robert son of Thomas & Jane Yaw, born on 20 April 1796 and baptised on 3 Oct 1798 together with his brother Joseph.

1822: The Rackenford, Devon marriages register records the marriage after banns of Robert Yaw, bachelor resident in the parish and Jane Gunn spinster of the parish on 10 October 1822. Both signed their names. Witnesses were Robert Way and John Crudge. Robert Way may have been a churchwarden as he appears as witness to several marriages art this period. Rackenford lies about 7 miles north west of Tiverton and about 20 miles due west of Robert's

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birthplace of Wellington.

1841 census: Robert Yaw aged 45 Farmer living with his wife Jane 40 and (nephews) George 14 and William 11 at Waldrige, Oakford South Molton Devon. Robert and William born out of Devon County, Jane and George born in county. Note; George & William were Robert's nephews, the 2nd and 3rd sons respectively of his brother Joseph - note Robert's nephew Joseph, eldest son of Joseph was NOT living with them.

1851 census: Robert Yaw aged 53 born Wellington Farmer of 36 acres employing one man was living with his wife Jane aged 51 born Rackenford in Oakridge, Oakford, South Molton district near Tiverton. Living with them were their nephew George Yaw aged 23 born Tiverton, and William Brayely, lodger

1861 census: Robert Yaw (mis-transcribed on Ancestry as Yan) aged 64 born Wellington Farmer of 51 acres living with his wife Jane 62 born Rackenford Devon in Walrige, Oakford, South Molton district.

1871 census: Robert Yeo aged 74 retired farmer born Wellington and wife Jane 73 born Rackenford were living in Bampton.

1875: The death of Robert Yaw aged 79 was recorded in 1875 Q2 ref 5b p 316, his age at death a good match with his actual yob. He survived his wife by only a few weeks.

1875: Robert left a will though we have found no copy of it. The will of Robert Yaw late of the parish of Bampton in the County of Devon yeoman who died 4 May 1875 at Bampton was proved at Exeter by Frederick John Gunn of Axminster in the sd County Chemist and Druggist, the Nephew and sole Executor (Frederick was Jane's nephew - see note following her personal notes below). Effects under £450 (National Probate Calendar, Index of Wills and Administrations).

Notes for Jane Gunn:

1798: Jane daughter of Thomas & Jane Gunn was baptised at on 13 July 1798. Jane's parents Thomas Gunn of Rackenford and Jane Hayward of Witheridge were married after banns at Witheridge on 28 July 1796. Thomas & Jane were to have a large family - 5 daughters including Jane and five sons including William bapt Rackenford on 25 July 1805.

1875: Jane's death is recorded in Tiverton district in 1875 Q1 aged 76, a close match with her actual yob.

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Footnote for Frederick Gunn:

Frederick was Jane's nephew, the son of her younger brother William Gunn. William was baptised in Rackenford on 25 July 1805. The Molland parish register records the marriage by licence of William Gunn occupation schoolmaster and Ann Quartly, widow, both noted as otp, on 30 Aug 1828. William & Ann had a son Frederick Gunn - his middle name rendered as Henry - who was baptised in Molland Devon on 31 Jan 1830.

Ann's first husband William Bowdon Quartly died and was buried in Molland on 5 Feb 1823 aged just 26. He was the son of George Quartly and his wife Sarah nee Bowdon and was baptised in East Anstey, Devon on 25 Oct 1796. The marriage of William Bowdon Quartly & Ann Wait was recorded at St Georges, Botolph Lane, Middlesex on 27 July 1820 - he a bachelor, she a spinster and both noted as otp.

At some point William Quartly and wife Ann moved from London to Molland, where they had two children, possibly twins and perhaps born after their father's death - William Bowdon Quartly and Sarah Ann Quartly were both baptised in Molland on 8 June 1823.

In the 1841 census, William Gunn 35 occupation schoolmaster, Ann Gunn 40, Frederick Gunn 11 and Sarah Quartly 15 were living at the Red Lion Inn, Oakford - Frederick and Sarah being half-brother and half-sister by virtue of the same mother. All were noted as born in county except Ann. We subsequently find the marriage record of Sarah Ann Quartly and Henry Weekes in South Molton district in 1845 Q1.

By the 1851 census, William & Ann were living alone in Oakford Village, William 46 occupation schoolmaster born Rackenford, and Ann 51 born Shoreditch, London.

In the 1861 census, Frederick J Gunn aged 30 born Molland Devon occupation druggist & chemist was living in Ottery St Mary with his wife Emma 30 b Ottery St Mary. By the 1871 census, Frederick was exercising his profession in Axminster, and in 1881 - by which time he was a widower - in Exeter St Petrock. It appears he had no children of his own

Frederick John Gunn of Exeter, gentleman, wrote his own will on 2 June 1883. He generously bequeathed to his housekeeper another house he owned in Exeter. He made some charitable bequests including for the upkeep of the family vault where he desired to be interred. He appointed as his residuary legatee and co-executor his (half-)sister Sarah Ann, wife of Henry Weeks then residing in Barcelona, Spain. Noted as the wife of Henry Weeks MD of

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Barcelona, Sarah Ann proved the will on 20 Oct 1884.

28. viii JOSEPH YAW was born on 06 Mar 1798 in Wellington. He died on 03 Oct 1832 in Wellington. He married Jane Cook on 09 Nov 1826 in Tiverton. She was born on 16 Jun 1802 in Tiverton. She died on 29 May 1831 in Wellington.
- ix. JEMIMA YAW was born on 10 Jun 1801 in Wellington. She died on 28 Aug 1857 in Clifton, Bristol.

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24. SARAH⁸ YEA (Simon⁷ Yaw, Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 17 Jan 1734/35 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 22 Feb 1802 in Cannington. She married Jonas Coles, son of Jonas Coles and Joan, on 19 Jan 1751/52 in Taunton St Mary Magdalene. He was born on 18 Mar 1734/35 in Cannington. He died on 11 Jan 1802 in Cannington.

Notes for Sarah Yea:

Sarah was baptised 17 Jan 1734/5 in Kingston St Mary. Jonas, the son of Jonas Coles and his wife Joan, was of virtually the same age - he was baptised 18 March 1734/5 in Cannington, a son of the same name born to Jonas & Joan in 1731 having died in infancy. We find the marriage of Jonas Coles and Sarah Yea in Taunton on 19 Jan 1751/2. They were married by licence, perhaps because Sarah was then just 18. She was to bear him four children. It appears they lived initially in Cannington where their first child was baptised, before moving to Wembdon where the other three were baptised. We find the burial of Mr Jonas Coles of Wembdon parish in Cannington on 11 Jan 1802. It appears his wife survived him by only a few weeks, for we find the burial of Sarah Coles in Cannington on 22 February, although the parish register makes no reference to her as a widow. Both were aged about 67 at death.

Jonas Coles and Sarah Yea had the following children:

- i. JAMES⁹ COLES was born on 29 Jun 1754 in Cannington.
 - ii. SARAH COLES was born on 25 Jul 1756 in Wembdon.
 - iii. JONAS COLES was born on 18 Feb 1763 in Wembdon.
 - iv. ANN COLES was born on 24 Sep 1766 in Wembdon.
25. NICHOLAS⁸ YEA (Simon⁷ Yaw, Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 17 Jun 1737 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 31 Mar 1784 in Kingston St Mary. He married (1) ANN LINDEN on 29 Apr 1766 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 12 Jun 1778 in Kingston St Mary. He married (2) MARY HILL, daughter of Henry Hill and Mary, on 16 Sep 1781 in Kingston St Mary. She was born on 02 Sep 1753 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 17 Mar 1805 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for Nicholas Yea:

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1737: The Kingston St Mary records the baptism of Nicholas, son of Simon & Elizabeth Yawe on 17 June 1737

1766: Banns were read for the forthcoming marriage of Nicholas Yea and Ann Linden in Kingston St Mary on 30th March and 6th & 13th April. Nicholas was noted as quote “of Cothelstone (deemed extra-parochial) bachelor” and Ann otp spinster. The marriage was solemnised in Kingston St Mary on 29 April - the remarks about Nicholas Yea from Cothelstone being repeated in the marriage register. Both signed with their mark. Witnesses were Thomas White, probably a churchwarden as his name appears as witness to several marriages, and Thomas Trott. Ann was to bear him six children before her untimely death in 1778 (see her personal notes).

1781: Following Ann’s death and faced with bringing up six children including infants, Thomas made a second marriage to Mary Hill, solemnised after banns in Kingston St Mary on 16 Sept 1781. Bride and groom were both noted as otp and both signed with their mark. Thomas White was again a witness, along with Thomas Tudge. She was to bear him a single daughter Ann, at whose baptism Nicholas was noted as a pauper.

1784: Sadly, Nicholas’ second marriage was to last just three years. The burial of “Nicholas Yea a pauper” was recorded in Kingston St Mary on 31 March 1784. He was aged about 47 at death. The same page in the parish register records the burial of his daughter Mary just two weeks later (see her personal notes)

Notes for Ann Linden:

At her marriage in Kingston St Mary, Ann was noted as otp. We find no baptism record for her there, though there are possible matches for her baptism in Bradford on Tone on 2 Feb 1735 and Milverton on 26 Dec 1747. We find a credible march for Ann’s burial recorded in Kingston St Mary on 12 June 1778 - though the register makes no reference to her as wife of Nicholas.

Nicholas Yea and Ann Linden had the following children:

29. i. BETTY⁹ YEA was born on 15 Mar 1767 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 27 Jan 1838 in Kingston St Mary. She married Thomas Cealy on 23 Jan 1786 in Kingston St Mary. He was born in 1758. He died on 12 May 1816 in Kingston St Mary.
- ii. SIMON YEA was born on 15 May 1768 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 06 Jan 1782 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for Simon Yea:

1768: The baptism of Simon s/o Nicholas & Ann Yea is recorded in Kingston St Mary on 15 May 1768. Sadly he died in his early teens, buried in Kingston St Mary on 6 Jan 1782.

- iii. JOHN YEA was born on 06 May 1770 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 13 Jul 1848 in Kingston St Mary. He married Elizabeth Fouracre, daughter of Joseph Fouracre and Elisabeth, on 25 Mar 1801 in Kingston St Mary. She was born

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on 20 Jun 1762 in Combe Florey. She died on 01 Feb 1838 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for John Yea:

1770: The baptism of John s/o Nicholas & Ann Yea is recorded in Kingston St Mary on 6 May 1770.

1801: John Yea otp and Elizabeth Fouracre of Cothelstone were married after banns in Kingston St Mary on 25 March 1801. Both signed with their mark, and the sole witness was Thomas White. We find no baptisms for any children of John & Elizabeth - perhaps a reflection of Elizabeth's fairly late age at marriage. (see her personal notes).

1841 census: John aged 70 agricultural labourer was living in Toultons, Kingston St Mary with Jane Yea 84, both born in county.

1848: The Kingston St Mary register records the burial of John Yea, residence Fulford on 20 July 1748 aged 78 - .a close match with his actual y.o.b.

Notes for Elizabeth Fouracre:

1762: We find a credible match for the baptism of Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph & Elizabeth Fouracre, in Combe Florey on 20 June 1762.

1801: Elizabeth married John Yea in 1801, her abode then given as Cothelstone. She was then aged about 39.

1838: We find a credible match for the burial of Elizabeth as Betty Yea in Kingston St Mary on 1st February 1838 aged 71, her abode recorded as Fulford. The GRO records the burial of Betty Yea aged 71 in 1838 Q1 in Taunton Union, vol 10 p 374. Her age at death in both records is about 5 years off from her actual y.o.b. She died at the home of Peter Haddon (ie her brother-in-law, husband of sister Sarah aged 71 in 1838 as per a census return)

30. iv. WILLIAM YEA was born on 26 Jul 1772 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 25 Jun 1837 in Dodhill Green Poorhouse Kingston St Mary. He married Jane (Jenny) Facey, daughter of Aaron Facey and Elizabeth, on 26 Sep 1802 in Kingston St Mary. She was born on 21 Aug 1785 in Kingston St Mary. She died in 1857 in Taunton.
- v. SARAH YEA was born on 21 May 1775 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 25 Mar 1853 in Kingston St Mary. She married Peter Haddon, son of John Haddon and Mary, on 04 Apr 1799 in Kingston St Mary. He was born on 04 Jul 1773 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 24 Dec 1844 in Kingston St Mary.

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Notes for Sarah Yea:

1775: Sarah's baptism is recorded in the Kingston St Mary parish register on 21 May 1775. Her parents' names are given as Nicholas Yea and Mary his wife. This is a clerical error as at this time Nicholas' first wife Ann was still living - she didn't die until 1778.

1799: Sarah married Peter Haddon after banns on 4 April 1799 in Kingston St Mary. The marriage register entry states that Peter was otp and that Sarah was from Cothelstone. Peter signed his name, Sarah with her mark. Witnesses were Simon Snow and Thomas White. (Please see also Peter's personal notes below)

1841 census: Peter Haddon Male 68 b1773 Somerset. Sarah Haddon Female 66 b1775 Som, Robert Haddon Male 29 b1812 ,Som, Elizabeth Haddon Female 25 b1816, Som, Sarah Haddon Female 23 b1818, Som.

Notes for Peter Haddon:

Sarah's husband Peter Haddon was born on 1st July 1773 in Kingston St Mary, the son of John & Mary Haddon. The Kingston St Mary parish register records the marriage on 7 Nov 1772 of Peter's parents - his father John Haddon noted as a widower and Mary Daniel. We also identified that after her father Nicholas' death, Sarah's step-mother Mary nee Hill re-married to John Haddon - probably the son of John & Hannah Haddon bapt 23 April 1772. Although we have found no burial record for Hannah, we might reasonably conclude that she died sometime between the birth of John in April 1772 and his father's remarriage in Nov 1772 - and that John & Peter were half-brothers by virtue of having the same father and different mothers. Sarah was thus in the unusual situation that her step-mother was married to her brother-in-law. Peter was buried in Kingston St Mary on 24 Dec 1844 aged 71.

- vi. MARY YEA was born on 02 Sep 1777 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 14 Apr 1784 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for Mary Yea:

1777 / 1784 The baptism of Mary d/o Nicholas & Ann Yea is recorded in Kingston St Mary on 2 Sept 1777. Unfortunately she was to have a short life - the parish register records her burial as d/o Nicholas & Ann Yea on 14 April 1784 - just two weeks after her father's death and some six years after her

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mother's death.

Notes for Mary Hill:

1753: We find a credible match for the baptism of Mary, d/o Henry & Mary Hill on 2 September 1753 in Kingston St Mary. She was thus about 28 when she married Nicholas.

1796: Mary was aged only about 30 when Nicholas died in 1784. She gave birth to their daughter Ann some 4 months after Nicholas' death, and was thus left to cope alone with a new-born child and presumably as well as her step-children from Nicholas' first marriage. It appears she managed as a single parent for some time, and gave birth to an illegitimate child Joseph in 1786 (please see his personal notes) Eventually she may have remarried, as we find a credible match for the marriage after banns of John Haddon and Mary Yea on 5 Feb 1796 in Kingston St Mary. Although the record does not refer to Mary as a widow, one of the witnesses was Henry Hill, albeit the signature is not totally clear - but that would be consistent with the witness being Mary's father. We find a probable match for the baptism of John, the son of John & Hannah Haddon, in Kingston St Mary on 23 April 1772.

1805: We find a potential match for the burial of Mary Haddon on 17 Mar 1805 - though the record makes no mention of her as wife or widow.

Nicholas Yea and Mary Hill had the following children:

vii. ANN YEA was born on 25 Jul 1784 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for Ann Yea:

1784: The Kingston St Mary parish register records the baptism on 25 July 1784 of "Ann daughter of Nicholas & Mary Yea (a pauper)". The "pauper" remark refers to the father and is noted against several other contemporary baptisms. Note Ann was born about 4 months after her father's death - leaving her mother to cope alone with a new-born infant and presumably as well as several step-children from his first marriage. We find no marriage or burial record for Ann.

31. viii JOSEPH YEA was born on 26 Dec 1786 in Kingston St Mary. He died in 1853 in Malmesbury. He married Lucy Butler on 03 Apr 1809 in Bedminster. She was born on 18 Sep 1785 in Neath, Glamorgan. She died after 1871.
26. WILLIAM⁸ YAW (Robert⁷ Yawe, Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹) was born on 12 Mar 1737/38 in St. Decuman, Watchet. He died after 1770. He married Susannah Coates on 23 Mar 1764 in Holy Trinity, Ilfracombe. She was born on 14 Jun 1741 in West Down, Devon. She died on 31 Jul 1816 in Ilfracombe.

Notes for William Yaw:

William's surname was recorded as Yaw at his baptism. At his marriage in Ilfracombe, the parish register records him as 'William Yeaw of the parish of St Deacons in Somerset (St. Decuman, Watchet.) No further records have been found for him after the conception

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of his daughter Susannah in 1770.

Notes for Susannah Coates:

31st July 1816 Susannah died aged 76 years and was buried on the 6th August in Ilfracombe

1816: Will of Susannah Yeo, widow of Ilfracombe. Proved 30 October 1816. PROB 11/1585/204, records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. Transcribed by Ross Dunning

In the Name of God Amen I Susannah Yeo of the Parish of Ilfracombe in the County of Devon Widow considering the uncertainty of human life and being at this time in sound & disposing mind but indifferent in bodily health do make this my last will and Testament in the manner & form following I desire my remains may be interred in a plain decent manner in such place as my Executrix hereafter named may determine upon and my soul I commend to that gracious being who gave it me hoping for pardon of my sins & offences thro the intercession of my blessed redeemer And as to my worldly substance I give and bequeath the same of whatsoever nature or wheresoever situated unto my beloved daughter Susannah Edwards of Ilfracombe aforesaid Wife of John Edwards House Carpenter as the only return I can make her for her time and affectionate attention which she has shown me for many years past having resided with her without having been able to make her a proper compensation for my maintenance and as I have within a few days of the date hereof heard of the decease of my late Brother Philip Coates of Trinity Bay in the Island of Newfoundland and being informed that he has left me a legacy of Two hundred pounds Capital stock in the navy five per cent. I mean that the said legacy or the produce of it in whatever form the same may come shall be included in what I have above stated to be left to my said Daughter Susannah Edwards & become her property & I do hereby constitute & appoint the said Susannah Edwards whole & sole Executrix to this my will revoking hereby all former wills by me made dated Ilfracombe this twenty fourth day of January 1811 Susannah Yeo

Witnessed by Samuel May Surgeon Ilfracombe and George Henry May. Proved at London 30 October 1816 by Susannah Edwards

William Yaw and Susannah Coates had the following children:

32. i. ROBERT⁹ YEAW was born on 21 Aug 1769 in Ilfracombe. He died on 16 Oct 1816 in Liverpool. He married Sarah Leworthy on 29 May 1797 in Barnstaple, Devon. She was born on 01 Mar 1778 in Barnstaple, Devon. She died on 01 Aug 1854 in Barnstaple, Devon.
- ii. SUSANNAH YEAW was born in 1771 in Ilfracombe. She died on 02 May 1819

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in Ilfracombe. She married John Edwards on 25 Dec 1794 in Ilfracombe. He was born on 17 Jun 1769 in Northam, Devon. He died on 28 May 1846 in Ilfracombe.

Notes for John Edwards:

John and Susannah were married on 25 Dec in Holy Trinity Ilfracombe. John was a mariner, he was master of "the Jane" for about 20 years.

27. **JAMES⁸ YAW** (Thomas⁷ Yea, John⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹) was born on 23 Dec 1792 in Wellington. He married Ann Wyatt on 19 Oct 1815 in Tiverton. She died about 1860 in Tiverton.

Notes for James Yaw:

1792: The Wellington parish register records the baptism of James son of Thomas & Jane Yaw on 29 Dec 1792.

1815: The Tiverton parish register has a possible match in the marriage after banns of James Yaw and Ann Wyatt both otp on 19 October 1815. Witnesses were Ann Wyatt (sic) and James Taylor. Ann was to bear him six children

1841 & 1851 census: We find Ann and children in both censuses, though husband James appears in neither - in the 1851 census she is noted as a widow. However, we find no burial record for James in Tiverton or elsewhere.

Notes for Ann Wyatt:

1785: We find a credible match for the baptism of Ann, daughter of Thomas White (sic) in Cullompton, Devon on 24 April 1785 - baptised in the Cullompton Presbyterian Chapel.

1841 census: Ann Yeo aged 30 (an obvious recording error) laundress was living living in Water Lane Tiverton with (her apparent children) Ann 20 silk flower maker; Jane 15 silk winder; Robert 15; James 10; and Elizabeth 14 lace mender - all born in county. Note James was NOT living with them - he may have died before then.

1851 census: Ann Yeo widow aged 64 born Cullompton laundress was living with her daughter Elizabeth unmarried aged 22 born Tiverton lace mender at Water lane Tiverton

1859/60: We find three deaths in Tiverton in 1859/60. The most likely match is that for Ann Yeo in 1860 Q1 ref 5b p 322, age at death 73 - a reasonable match to her y.o.b. of 1785

James Yaw and Ann Wyatt had the following children:

- i. **JAMES⁹ YAW** was born on 10 Aug 1817 in Cullompton.

Notes for James Yaw:

On his baptism record, his father's occupation is given as shoemaker. James

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may have died in childhood, though we found no burial record, as James & Ann had a second son John b 1831 (see below)

- ii. ANN YAW was born on 17 Jun 1819 in Tiverton.

Notes for Ann Yaw:

Ann was born 17 June and baptised 27 June 1818, father's occupation cordwainer

- iii. JANE YAW was born on 17 Mar 1822 in Tiverton.

Notes for Jane Yaw:

On her baptism record father's occupation given as cordwainer.

- iv. ROBERT YAW was born on 29 Sep 1825 in Tiverton.

Notes for Robert Yaw:

Robert was born 29 Sept 1825 and baptised 2 Jan 1826, his father's occupation cordwainer - surname mis-transcribed as Gaw.

- v. ELIZABETH YAW was born on 24 Aug 1828 in Tiverton.

Notes for Elizabeth Yaw:

On her baptism record father's occupation given as cordwainer.

- vi. JAMES YAW was born on 04 Sep 1831 in Tiverton.

Notes for James Yaw:

On his baptism record father's occupation given as cordwainer

28. **JOSEPH⁸ YAW** (Thomas⁷ Yea, John⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹) was born on 06 Mar 1798 in Wellington. He died on 03 Oct 1832 in Wellington. He married Jane Cook on 09 Nov 1826 in Tiverton. She was born on 16 Jun 1802 in Tiverton. She died on 29 May 1831 in Wellington.

Notes for Joseph Yaw:

1798: The Wellington parish register records the baptism of Joseph son of Thomas & Jane Yaw, born on 6 Mar 1798 and baptised on 3 Oct 1798 together with his brother Robert,

1826: The Tiverton register records the marriage after banns of Joseph Yaw of Wellington & Jane Cook otp on 9 Nov 1826. Both signed with their mark. Witnesses were E Cook (probably her mother or sister - see Jane's notes) and (Ann ??) Sharland. Jane was to bear him three children in a sadly short marriage, both Joseph & Jane suffering untimely deaths.

1832: Joseph's wife died in 1831, and he did not long survive her. He died and was buried in Wellington on 3 October 1832 aged just 35. The register records his abode simply as "Wellington", with no mention of the workhouse, his wife's stated abode when she died. .

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Notes for Jane Cook:

1802: Jane was the daughter of William & Elizabeth Cook. She was born in Tiverton on 16 June 1802, and baptised there on 26 September 1802 together with her sister Elizabeth born September 1798.

1831: Only a year after giving birth to their third child Jane died aged just 27. She was buried in Wellington on 29 May 1831, her abode given as Wellington workhouse.

Joseph Yaw and Jane Cook had the following children:

33. i. JOSEPH⁹ YAW was born about 1824 in Cullompton?. He died in 1854 in Bristol. He married Sarah Hackwell, daughter of William Hackwell and Sarah Warren, on 07 Feb 1847 in Bedminster. She was born on 30 May 1829 in Clifton Bristol. She died in 1890 in Bedminster.
34. ii. GEORGE YAW was born on 11 Nov 1827 in Tiverton. He died in 1863 in Bristol. He married Hannah Dobney on 29 Oct 1852 in Clifton. She was born about 1821 in Taunton. She died in 1890 in Taunton.
- iii. WILLIAM YAW was born on 07 Apr 1830 in Wellington. He died after 1875.

Notes for William Yaw:

1830: The Wellington register records the birth on 7 April and baptism on 25 April 1830 of William, son of John & Jane Yaw, residence Wellington. John's occupation was given as husbandman.

1841 Census: Having been orphaned aged just two, William was probably brought up by his aunt and uncle. In this census, William aged 11 and his brother George 14 recorded as nephews were living with their uncle Robert Yaw aged 45 Farmer and his wife/their aunt Jane 40 in Oakford, South Molton district near Tiverton, Devon as YAW Robert born out of Devon County (Wellington Somerset) Robert and George were shown as born outside Somerset and Jane and William inside Somerset, consistent with their birth records.

After 1841: After the 1841 census, we find no further census, marriage or burial record for William. However, he was apparently still alive in 1875 when he was left a legacy of £15 in his uncle Robert Yaw's will.

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29. BETTY⁹ YEA (Nicholas⁸, Simon⁷ Yaw, Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 15 Mar 1767 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 27 Jan 1838 in Kingston St Mary. She married Thomas Cealy on 23 Jan 1786 in Kingston St Mary. He was born in 1758. He died on 12 May 1816 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for Betty Yea:

1767 The baptism of Betty d/o Nicholas & Ann Yea is recorded in Kingston St Mary on 15 March 1767.

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1786 Thomas Cealy bachelor and Betty Yea spinster both otp were married after banns in Kingston St Mary on 23 Jan 1786. Both signed with their mark. Thomas the son of William & Hannah Sealy was baptised in Kingston St Mary on 7 Feb 1758. Betty was to bear him two children.

1816 We find a credible record for Thomas's burial in Kingston St Mary on 12 May 1816 aged 58 - a good match with his year of birth

1841 census: Betty Sealy aged 78 was living with Faith Sealy 80, both of independent means, in Pickney, Kingston St Mary. Faith was must surely have been the widow of Thomas' brother James Sealy, who married Faith Hayward in Kingston St Mary on 2 Sept 1781. James also had an untimely death, and was buried in Kingston St Mary on 4 Feb 1816 aged just 54.

The census return shows Betty & Faith were living next door to Betty's son William Sealy b 1796 and his wife Mary and 7 children.

1843/4 Betty Sealy aged 80 residence Pickney was buried in Kingston St Mary on 17 Dec 1843. Her death was recorded in the first quarter of 1844, with GRO showing her age at death as 79 - a reasonably close match to her actual date of birth. Faith died soon afterwards and was buried in Kingston St Mary on 9 July 1844 aged 82

Thomas Cealy and Betty Yea had the following children:

- i. BETTY¹⁰ CEALY was born on 25 Jan 1787 in Kingston St Mary.
- ii. WILLIAM CEALY was born on 16 Mar 1794 in Kingston St Mary.

30. **WILLIAM**⁹ **YEA** (Nicholas⁸, Simon⁷ Yaw, Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 26 Jul 1772 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 25 Jun 1837 in Dodhill Green Poorhouse Kingston St Mary. He married Jane (Jenny) Facey, daughter of Aaron Facey and Elizabeth, on 26 Sep 1802 in Kingston St Mary. She was born on 21 Aug 1785 in Kingston St Mary. She died in 1857 in Taunton.

Notes for William Yea:

1772 The Kingston St Mary parish register records the baptism of William son of Nicholas & Ann Yea on 26 July 1772 - no reference to his father being a pauper as in a later baptism

1802 William Yea married Jane Facey after banns at Kingston St Mary on 26 September 1802, when William was about 30. Both were of this parish and signed with their mark. The sole witness cited was Thomas White, probably a churchwarden as he witnessed several other marriages.

1837 William died and was buried as William Yea in Kingston St Mary on 25 June 1837 aged 65 - a close match with his year of birth. His abode was given as Dodington Green Workhouse (KSM)

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Notes for Jane (Jenny) Facey:

1785 Jane daughter of Aaron & Betty Facy (sic) was baptised in Kingston St Mary on 23 Aug 1785.

1802 At her marriage to William, Jane was aged only about 17. She was to bear him ten children.

1841 census: Jane Yea aged 40 (a big under-recording - she was about 55) Labourer was living in Felis Street, Taunton St James with children Sarah (24) George 20 and Henry 18. Note this is right on the outskirts of Taunton and just before Kingston St Mary.

1851 Census: Jane Yea, widow aged 70 Pauper formerly house servant born Kingston was living with Sarah 44 her daughter unmarried Pauper formerly dressmaker at South St, Hill Place, Taunton St Mary Magdalene. Note this was near the Union Workhouse at Trinity, Taunton.

1857 Jane Yea of Taunton St Mary Magdalene was buried in Kingston St Mary on 25th January 1857 aged 75, a reasonable match with her actual birth date

William Yea and Jane (Jenny) Facey had the following children:

35. i. WILLIAM¹⁰ YEA was born on 09 Jan 1804 in Kingston St Mary. He died in 1860 in Taunton. He married Sarah Northcott, daughter of Robert Northcott and Mary Hiscock, on 26 Apr 1825 in Kingston. She was born on 26 Dec 1794 in West Monkton. She died in 1863 in Taunton.
36. ii. MARY YEA was born on 22 Dec 1805 in Kingston St Mary. She married John Hooper on 22 May 1825 in Taunton. He was born about 1787. He died on 06 May 1834 in Taunton.
- iii. SARAH YEA was born on 25 Dec 1807 in Kingston St Mary. She died on 10 Jun 1855 in Taunton.

Notes for Sarah Yea:

1841 Census living in Felis St Taunton St James.

1851 Census living with mother Jane in Taunton.

37. iv. JOHN YEA was born on 24 Dec 1809 in Kingston St Mary. He died in 1874 in Taunton. He married (1) ANN SOUTHWOOD on 31 Oct 1830 in East Stonehouse Plymouth. She was born about 1810. She died in 1854 in Taunton. He married (2) SARAH WEAVER on 07 Aug 1855 in Bridport. She was born about 1832 in Beaminster Dorset.
38. v. ANN YEA was born on 05 Feb 1815 in Kingston St Mary. She died in 1877 in Beaminster Dorset. She married George Dawe on 21 Dec 1829 in Kingston St Mary. He was born about 1803 in Beaminster Dorset. He died in 1877 in Beaminster Dorset.

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- vi. JAMES YEA was born on 05 Feb 1815 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 24 Aug 1817 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for James Yea:

1815: James son of William & Jane Yea was baptised in Kingston St Mary on 3 Feb 1815. William's abode was given as Kingston and occupation labourer. James was baptised together with his sister Ann. We might speculate whether they were twins, or whether one of those baptised was born a few years earlier, since the previous baptism of the elder brother John was some 6 years ago. James was buried 24th August 1817 in Kingston St Mary aged 2, residence stated as Yarford

- vii. GEORGE YEA was born on 27 Apr 1817 in Kingston St Mary. He died in 1896 in Taunton.

Notes for George Yea:

1817 George son of William and Jane Yea was baptised in Kingston St. Mary on 27 April 1817. William's abode was stated as Yarford and his occupation labourer.

1841 census; George 20 was living with his mother and siblings Sarah & Henry in Felis Street Taunton

1851 Census living in Pickney Agricultural Labourer aged 16 (a gross under-recording)

1861 Census living in Pickney Agricultural Labourer aged 40 lodger with John Burnell & family

1871 census: Living in Pickney Agricultural Labourer unmarried 54 b Kingston St. Mary

1881 Census living on his own in Pickney Nr Bishops Lydeard Agricultural Labourer aged 65

1891 census: George Yaw (sic) 75 Agricultural Labourer b Kingston St. Mary resident of Union Workhouse, Union Street, Taunton St Mary Magdalen. He was one of 202 residents at the time.

1896 The GRO records the death of George Yea in Taunton in 1896 Q3 aged 80, a close match with his year of birth.

39. viii JAMES YEA was born on 02 Jan 1820 in Kingston St Mary. He died in 1892 in Taunton. He married Elizabeth Weaver on 17 Sep 1860 in Taunton. She was born about 1836 in Beaminster Dorset. She died in 1921 in Bridgwater.
40. ix. HENRY YEA was born on 12 Jan 1823 in Kingston St Mary. He died in 1905 in Wareham. He married (1) ELIZABETH MARSH on 15 Nov 1846 in Wareham.

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She was born about 1825 in Wareham Dorset. She died in 1895 in Wareham. He married (2) ELLEN TROKE in 1902 in Wareham. She was born about 1839. She died in 1912 in Wareham Dorset.

- x. ELIZABETH YEA was born on 01 Jan 1826 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for Elizabeth Yea:

1826 Elizabeth d/o William & Jane Yea was b 1825 and baptised 1 Jan 1826 at Kingston St Mary, father's occupation labourer and residence Fulford.

1841 census: Elizabeth Yea 15 servant b Somerset was living in the household of Robert Middleton & family at Higher Marsh, Kingston. We find no further census, marriage or death records for her.

31. **JOSEPH⁹ YEA** (Nicholas⁸, Simon⁷ Yaw, Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 26 Dec 1786 in Kingston St Mary. He died in 1853 in Malmesbury. He married Lucy Butler on 03 Apr 1809 in Bedminster. She was born on 18 Sep 1785 in Neath, Glamorgan. She died after 1871.

Notes for Joseph Yea:

As noted earlier, Joseph born 1786 in Kingston St Mary near Taunton was the illegitimate son of Mary nee Hill, the second wife and then widow of Nicholas Yea. We should, caveat here that we can't be certain that it was Joseph son of Mary who married Lucy Butler and by whom a son Joseph ca 1810, as the following notes explain. Strictly speaking he and his children should not be included in this tree as he is not Joseph's son but we have included him here to facilitate the information

In the 1841 census. we find a Joseph Yea 55 Agricultural Labourer living alone at Frog Pool, Cullompton, Tiverton. His calculated yob of 1786 is a close match for Joseph son of Mary, though we should note that in this census ages were routinely up or down to the nearest five. Furthermore, the GRO has a death record for Joseph Yeo in Tiverton district (which includes Cullompton) in 1844 Q4 aged 60, which is also a reasonable match. However, the census return shows that Joseph in Cullompton was born in Devon, on which basis we might reasonably conclude this was not Mary's son.

We also find the marriage of Joseph Yoaw (sic - almost certainly a mis-transcription for Yea or Yaw) and Lucy Butler in St John the Baptist, Bedminster on 7 April 1809. Bride and groom were both listed as of this parish and witnesses were William Room and Sarah Dobson. We find a credible match for the baptism of Lucy, daughter of Edward & Mary Butler in Bedminster on 18 Sept 1785 at St Michaels, Bristol. Lucy was thus if similar age to Joseph. Moreover in our extensive database we find no other candidate of marriageable age than Joseph son of Mary. For these purposes we will proceed on the basis this is the correct match.

1841 census: We find neither Joseph nor Lucy in this census, when they would have been in their mid-50's.

1853 Death GRO record Malmesbury 1853 q3

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Joseph Yea and Lucy Butler had the following children:

41.
 - i. JOSEPH¹⁰ YEO was born about 1810 in Bedminster. He died in Dec 1871 in Bristol. He married Sarah Thomas on 18 Apr 1841 in North Petherton. She was born in 1807 in Bedminster. She died after 1871.
 - ii. LOUISA YEO was born about 1817. She died about 1838.
 - iii. GEORGE L YEO was born about 1818.
 - iv. JOHN YEO was born about 1821.
 - v. EDWARD YEO was born about 1823.
 - vi. JAMES YEO was born about 1826. He died about 1871. He married HARRIET PETERS. She was born about 1825.
32. **ROBERT⁹ YEAW** (William⁸ Yaw, Robert⁷ Yawe, Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵, John⁴ Yea, John³, John², John¹ Yaw) was born on 21 Aug 1769 in Ilfracombe. He died on 16 Oct 1816 in Liverpool. He married Sarah Leworthy on 29 May 1797 in Barnstaple, Devon. She was born on 01 Mar 1778 in Barnstaple, Devon. She died on 01 Aug 1854 in Barnstaple, Devon.

Notes for Robert Yeaw:

There is a family memorial stone in Ilfracombe which has the details of many of the Edwards and Yeo families starting from Susannah Yeo nee Coates which enabled us to record the death of Robert that happened in Darwen Street, Walton on the Hill, Liverpool in 1816

Notes for Sarah Leworthy:

Sarah was still a minor at her marriage and one of the transcripts we have seen stated that they were married "with consent of parents." Her death certificate confirms she was aged 77 that makes her 19 years old at the date of her marriage

Robert Yeaw and Sarah Leworthy had the following children:

- i. SUSANNAH¹⁰ YEO was born on 06 Jun 1798 in Barnstaple, Devon.

Notes for Susannah Yeo:

Baptised at St.Peter, Barnstaple

- ii. SARAH YEO was born on 03 Jun 1802 in Barnstaple, Devon. She died on 05 Jan 1808 in Barnstaple.

Notes for Sarah Yeo:

Baptised at St.Peter, Barnstaple

42.
 - iii. ROBERT YEAW was born on 15 Apr 1805 in Barnstaple, Devon. He died in Dec 1847 in St Thomas, Virgin Islands, West Indies. He married Jane Paddon on 15 Apr 1830 in Barnstaple, Devon.

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43. iv. JOHN LEWORTHY YEO was born on 27 Apr 1807 in Barnstaple, Devon. He died on 13 Jun 1881 in Bristol. He married Ann Bright on 13 Dec 1851 in Bristol.
- v. SARAH LEWORTHY YEO was born on 30 Oct 1809 in Barnstaple, Devon. She died on 19 Nov 1899 in Barnstaple, Devon. She married Thomas Joce on 14 Oct 1847 in Barnstaple, Devon.
44. vi. WILLIAM YEO was born on 08 Feb 1812 in Barnstaple, Devon. He died on 05 Nov 1879 in Tawstock, Devon. He married Mary Dennis on 23 Jul 1845 in Huntshaw, Devon.
- vii. LOUISA YEO was born in 1816 in Barnstaple, Devon. She died on 27 Mar 1881 in Barnstaple, Devon.
33. **JOSEPH⁹ YAW** (Joseph⁸, Thomas⁷ Yea, John⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹) was born about 1824 in Cullompton?. He died in 1854 in Bristol. He married Sarah Hackwell, daughter of William Hackwell and Sarah Warren, on 07 Feb 1847 in Bedminster. She was born on 30 May 1829 in Clifton Bristol. She died in 1890 in Bedminster.

Notes for Joseph Yaw:

1826 We don't have a birth or baptism record for Joseph, but from the various census returns (see below) he was born about 1826 in Cullompton, Devon

1841 census: Joseph Yeo aged 15 occupation carpenter born Devon was living with Thomas Chick, carpenter and his family in Bradfield village, 3 miles north-east of Cullompton.

1847: Joseph Yeo and Sarah Hackwell were married in Bedminster on 7 Feb 1847. Joseph was a Bachelor, occupation carpenter and Sarah a Spinster. Joseph's father is recorded as Joseph, labourer, and Sarah's father as William Hackwell, a hatter. Bride and groom were residing in King Street Bristol at the time of their marriage. Witnesses were Benjamin John Room and Mary Ann Lansdown. It is unclear if Joseph purposely changed his surname to Yeo on marriage, or if this was simply the result of the minister's spelling.

1851 census: We find two entries for Joseph in this census.

Joseph Yeo 25 carpenter b Exeter and wife Sarah 21 b Exeter were living at Clarence Square Bedminster with their sons Joseph 2 and John 2 weeks, both born Bedminster
Joseph Yeo 27 married carpenter b Cullompton (ie Cullompton) Devon was a lodger with George Bartam and his family at Pyleigh Court, Lydeard St Lawrence. Also living with them was Henry Hackwell unmarried 26 Sawyer b Bristol.

So here we have two entries for Joseph Yeo, both carpenters; both married though only one living with his wife; and both born a year or so apart in the Exeter area. How strange is that ??

A possible explanation is there is that the "two" Joseph's in the 1851 census are indeed

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one and the same person, and that one or other of the respondents didn't quite follow the instructions on listing people in the residence on census night. We can be pretty confident about Joseph living with Sarah nee Hackwell in Bedminster following their marriage there. And surely it is too much of a coincidence that the other census record has him apparently working away from home with Henry Hackwell, who is Sarah's brother. So is the answer that Joseph was at home with his wife who had given birth to their second son just two weeks before the census was taken and he completed the census record there, while his work colleagues also registered him in his absence ?? Or vice versa ??

1854: Unfortunately, Joseph's marriage to Sarah was not to be an enduring one. He met with a fatal accident recorded as follows:

He was a carpenter, killed at Shim Lane Bridge, Bedminster in May 1854. He went to work, his tool basket on his back, walking down the line and though the driver of the 7:50 down train blew his whistle several times and a boy called out, the buffer plank of the engine caught Joseph on the back and hurled him down the embankment. Death was instantaneous. He had been in the employ of the company for many years. He left a wife and three boys with another child expected at the time.

Categories: [Accidents & Fatalities] www.bristolinformation.co.uk

The GRO records Joseph's death in Bedminster in 1854 Q2 aged 30.

Notes for Sarah Hackwell:

1829: Sarah daughter of William Hackwell and his wife Sarah nee Warren was born on 30 May 1829 and baptised on 21 June 1829 at St Andrews Clifton.

1841 census: Not found

1851 census: Sarah Yeo 21 b Exeter (a mis-recording) was living in Clarence Square Bedminster with her two sons, one newly born, her husband apparently working away from home - see notes for Joseph Yeo. Their son William H Yeo was staying with Sarah's parents in Bedminster - see his notes.

1861 census: Sarah Yeo widow 29 Tailoress b Clifton was living with her mother Sarah Hackwell widow 60 laundress b Clifton and her son John Yeo 10 Scholar b Bedminster, all at Charlotte Street, Bedminster.

1862: Sarah gave birth to a daughter Ellen in Bedminster in 1862 Q1. Her birth is recorded in duplicate on FreeBMD with as Ellen Hussey and Ellen Hussey Yeo. The GRO records her only as Ellen Hussey MMN Hackwell. The birth certificate shows that Sarah and the father James Hussey were both living at the same address, presumably with Sarah as his common law wife.

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1864: James Hussey and Sarah Yeo (nee Hackwell) were married in Bristol district in 1864 Q2.

1871 census: Sarah Hussey 41 Tailoress b Bristol was living with her (second) husband James Hussey 52 Spring Maker b Bristol; her son (from her first marriage) John Yeo 20 Cooper b Bristol: and her two daughters (by her second marriage) Ellen 9 and Emma 6 both b Bristol

1881 census: Sarah Hussey 51 b Bedminster was living with husband James Hussey 61 Carriage & Coach Smith b Bedminster and their daughter Ellen 19 Tailoress b Bedminster, all at Windsor Terrace, Bedminster

1890: Sarah Hussey died in Bedminster in 1890 Q\$ aged 61 - a close match with her dob.

Footnote: Research of the Hackwell's

One of the pleasures of delving into family history is finding other spousal families with whom the Yeas, Yeos etc have inter-married, especially when we can identify and link up with other researchers to share information to mutual benefit. It is equally - if not more - pleasurable to be contacted by such other researchers who have found a Yea etc spousal link in their own family history.

Such a situation arose with Joseph Yeos wife Sarah Hackwell. Through the Yeo Society website, I was contacted in mid-2017 by a woman in Australia. She was then at an early stage of her research and having identified Sarah as a member of her own family tree, found the record of her marriage to Joseph Yeo - a member of my own tree. I was able to explain the circumstances of Joseph's death and Sarah's second marriage to James Hussey. From there, I was able to help her trace the Hackwell line back to the 1690s and John Hakewell (sic) in the parish of Haselbury Plucknett in south Somerset. From there and via many e-mails, a few surprises lay in store for her - the discovery of a Hackwell/Hakewell diaspora, with some family members migrating to south Devon; to the Bristol area where in the 1840s one family member was among the earliest adherents to the embryonic Bristol branch of the Church of Latter Day Saints; to the Midlands, North-West and North-East England; and eventually across the Atlantic to Canada; and to the USA as early pioneers joining the trail west to the Salt Lake City area where Hakewell descendants and practising members of the LDS Church still live today.

Joseph Yaw and Sarah Hackwell had the following children:

- i. WILLIAM HENRY¹⁰ YEO was born on 14 Mar 1847 in Bedminster.

Notes for William Henry Yeo:

1847 William Henry Yeo was born in Bedminster on 14 Mar 1847. The GRO records his birth with his mothers original surname Hackwell in 1847 Q2 - presumably because he was born late in the first quarter, he was only

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registered early in the second quarter.

1851 census: William aged 4 b Bristol was living with his grandparents, at 93 Charlotte Street, in St Pau'ls, Bedminster, Bristol William Hackwell 52 Baker born London and Sarah Hackwell 50 Laundress born Clifton, Bristol. He was probably living with his grandparents as his mother had given birth to another son just two weeks before the census.

1857 We should note here that GRO records the death of William Hambly Yeo in Bedminster in 1857 Q2 - which might be thought to be a transcription error of Henry. However, the deceased here was 44 at death hence is NOT the death of William Henry.

1861 census: We find a credible match as William Yow 18 Labourer b Clifton lodger with Jane Witchurch [sic] Coal Vendor & family in St Mary Redcliffe, Bristol - but note this is a few years off his actual date of birth.

1871 census: Not found, nor do we find any marriage or death record for him

- ii. JOSEPH YEO was born about 1849 in Bedminster. He died on 15 Jul 1853 in Bedminster.

Notes for Joseph Yeo:

1849 Joseph Yeo was born about 1849 in Bedminster Bristol.

1851 census: In the 1851 census, Joseph aged 2 born Bedminster was living with his mother Sarah and his infant brother John, to whom Sarah had given birth just two weeks before the census. However, we find no record of Joseph's birth or baptism in Bedminster, or anywhere else in Bristol or beyond.

1853: The GRO records the death of Joseph Yeo aged 5 in Bedminster in 1853 Q3.

His death certificate states he died from an abscess on the left side of his throat with his mother Sarah present on the 15th July son of Joseph Yeo, Carpenter of West St Bedminster

- iii. JOHN HACKWELL YEO was born in 1851 in Bedminster. He died in 1901 in Shepton Mallet. He married (1) LILLIE HILL on 19 Jan 1884 in Bristol. She was born in 1857 in Bristol. She died in 1926 in Bristol.

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Notes for John Hackwell Yeo:

1851: The GRO records the birth of John Hackwell Yeo MMN Hackwell in Bedminster in Bedminster in 1851 Q2. The census was taken on 31 March, and his mother recorded his age as 2 weeks, giving a date of birth around 15 March. John son of Joseph Hackwell and Sarah was baptised at St Paul's Bedminster on 27 April 1853

1861 census: Following his father's untimely death in 1854, John aged 10 scholar b Bedminster was living in Charlotte St Bedminster with his mother Sarah and his maternal grandmother Sarah Hackwell, also then a widow.

1871 census: After his mother's second marriage, Joseph H Yeo 20 occupation Cooper b Bristol was living in Brewers Place Bedminster with his step father James Hussey, mother Sarah and hid two stepsisters Ellen & Emma.

1876: John Hackwell Yeo b Bedminster enlisted for 12 years' service with the Royal Artillery at Woolwich on 22 Nov 1876. At attestation, he gave his age as 21 yrs 7 months - an under-statement as he was about 25- and occupation Cooper. As next of kin he listed his mother Sarah (no surname cited) of Bedminster. (National Archives Ref WO97 Box 4229 Box record no 41)

He served under regimental service number 3844 as a Driver - of horses at this period, as the artillery pieces were of course then horse-drawn. John served in the UK from enlistment until March 1879: in the Cape of Good Hope (ie South Africa) from March 1879 until Jan 1880; and in UK from Jan 1880 until Dec 1882 and from Dec 1882 until Jan 1883, in which latter period he was suffering from some injury.

His medical record shows his early service in UK was at Woolwich and Sheffield, the later part at Woolwich and Colchester. He was treated for muscular rheumatism, two bouts of infection and while in South Africa for enteric fever.

Unfortunately we have no details of John's service in South Africa. His service record states his tour of duty there began on 11 March 1879. From the military history of the war we might infer that John was among the reinforcements sent out to South Africa after the disastrous defeat at Isandlwana on 22 Jan 1879. The British lost 1300 killed and only 78 men escaped the carnage, so John was fortunate no to have been among the first brigades of Royal Artillery forces posted to South Africa. John may have been engaged in some of the subsequent battles at Hlobane on 28 March, Kambula 29 March. Gingindlova 2 April and Ulundi 4 July. British artillery - the Zulus had none - eventually proved decisive and Ulundi marked the end

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of what became known as the Anglo-Zulu War. For his service in South Africa John was awarded the Zulu War medal.

1881 census: By this census, John had returned to UK from his service in South Africa. We find John H Yea 20 unmarried Soldier, Driver in the Royal Artillery b Bedminster with his regiment at the camp of the Royal Horse Artillery Woolwich Common at Charlton next Woolwich.

1882/3: John appeared before an Army Medical Board on 4 Dec 1882 after sustaining an injury to his knee of a fractured patella, while on duty in June 1882. It was reported to the Board that John was of regular habits, good conduct and temperate character. He was discharged at Colchester on the grounds of being unfit for further military service on 2 Jan 1883. The entry in the register of discharges cites his regimental number then as 10689. He thus served just six years of his intended twelve

1884: John Hackwell Yeo married Lillie Hill on 19 Jan 1884 at St Phillip & St Jacob, Bristol. Bride and groom were both single. John's father was named as Joseph Yeo, and Lilla's as John Alexander Hill.

1891 census: John Yeo 40 Cooper b Bedminster and wife Lillie 34 Braider b Bedminster were living at St Werburgh's Park, St Phillip & St Jacob, Barton Regis. Living with them was Lilla's sister Alice Hill 24 single Dressmaker b Bristol.

1901 census: John Yeo 45 (an under-recording) Cooper at Brewery b Bedminster and wife Lilla 44 b Bristol St Phillip were living at Commercial Road Shepton Mallet. Still living with them was Lillie's sister Alice Hill 30 born Bristol St Phillip.

1901: John Hackwell Yeo's death on the 29th of June 1901 was sudden and seems to have occurred at Shepton Mallet Railway Station, so an inquest was held. A report of the inquest was printed in the 'Central Somerset Gazette' of Saturday 6th July 1901 headed as "Died in a Train" of which a brief account is written below:

A Bristolian named John Hackwell Yeo, aged 50, who was lately employed as a cooper at the Anglo Bavarian Brewery, paid a visit to Bristol on Saturday 29th June with his wife. Returning that night they had to hurry to catch their train, on seating himself he appeared to faint and his wife enquired if he was ill. He replied that he was alright but leaned against her and did not speak again. On arrival at Shepton Mallet at about eight o'clock he was assisted out of the train when he expired. The inquest was held on Tuesday 2nd July when the jury returned a verdict that the deceased had died from heart failure. (The above is taken from a third party and not direct from the source newspaper)

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Notes for Lillie Hill:

1911 census: Lillie Yeo 54 widow occupation Lavatory Attendant, Bristol Corporation b Bristol St Phillip & St Jacob was living at St Nicholas Rd, Bristol. The census return states she had borne no children.

1926:Lillie Yeo died in Bristol in 1926 Q1 aged 69.

34. **GEORGE⁹ YAW** (Joseph⁸, Thomas⁷ Yea, John⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹) was born on 11 Nov 1827 in Tiverton. He died in 1863 in Bristol. He married Hannah Dobney on 29 Oct 1852 in Clifton. She was born about 1821 in Taunton. She died in 1890 in Taunton.

Notes for George Yaw:

1827: George son of Joseph & Jane Yaw was born in Tiverton on 11 Nov 1827. Joseph's occupation was recorded as Labourer and residence Tiverton.

1841 census: Following the untimely death of both parents, George 14 born Devon was living with his uncle Robert (ie his father's brother), his wife Jane and George's younger brother William 11 at Waldridge, Oakford, Tiverton.

1851 census: George Yaw 23 unmarried Agricultural Labourer born Tiverton was living with his uncle Robert Yaw Farmer of 36 acres, and his wife Jane.

1852: George, son of Joseph Yaw and Hannah daughter of John Dobney were married on 29 October 1852 in Clifton, Bristol.

1861 Census: George Yaw aged 35 born Tiverton Labourer at Gas Factory with wife Hannah 38 born Sawston and children George W 7; Jane H 4; and Robert F (mis-recording for Robert J) 1 all born Bristol were living in Lyppiatt Buildings, Bristol Road, St George, Clifton.

1863: GRO records the death of George Yaw in Bristol in 1863 Q3 aged just 40

Notes for Hannah Dobney:

1871 census: Not found

1881 census aged 60 widow monthly nurse born and living in Taunton

George Yaw and Hannah Dobney had the following children:

45. i. **GEORGE WILLIAM¹⁰ YAW** was born in 1853 in Bristol. He died in 1908 in Taunton. He married Georgina Heard in 1883 in Taunton. She was born about 1863 in Wiveliscombe. She died in 1926 in Taunton.
- ii. **ROBERT YAW** was born in 1855 in Bristol;. He died in 1855 in Clifton Bristol.

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Notes for Robert Yaw:

1855: The GRO records the birth of Robert Yaw MMN Dobney in Clifton in 1855 Q3. He was baptised on 28 July at St Clements, Bristol, see below. Sadly he died in infancy - the GRO records his death aged 0 in Clifton in the same quarter.

- iii. WILLIAM YAW was born in 1855 in Bristol. He died in 1855 in Clifton Bristol.

Notes for William Yaw:

1855: The GRO records the birth of William Yaw MMN Dobney in Clifton in 1855 Q3. He was baptised on 28 July at St Clements, Bristol with his brother Robert - see above. Sadly, like his brother, William also died in infancy - the GRO records his death aged 0 in Clifton in the same quarter.

46. iv. JANE HANNAH YAW was born in 1856 in Bristol. She died on 02 Apr 1925 in Christchurch. She married UNKNOWN TAYLOR.
- v. ROBERT JOSEPH YAW was born in 1859 in Bristol. He died in 1898 in Chelsea.

Notes for Robert Joseph Yaw:

1859: The GRO records the birth of Robert Joseph Yaw MMN Dobnay (sic) in Bristol in 1859 Q3. Robert Joseph Yaw son of George & Ann - an apparent mis-recording or mis-transcription of Hannah - was baptised at St Phillip & Jacob Bristol on 10 July 1859.

1861 census: Robert aged 1 b Bristol was living with his parents, brother George & sister Jane Hannah at Lyppiatt Buildings, Bristol Road, St George, Clifton.

1871 census: Robert Yea aged 12 Worker at Silk Factory born Bristol was a boarder with William Vickery, Tailor and his wife Elizabeth in High Street Taunton St Mary Magdalene. His sister Jane Hannah was living in the same street with the Westlake family

1875 Robert was the beneficiary of a legacy of £15 under the will of his great uncle Robert Yaw.

1881 census: Robert J Yaw unmarried 21 Coach Painter b Bristol was living alone - although his status was noted as "son" in an apparent mis-recording - at Coal Orchard Road, Taunton St James.

1891 census: At some point, Robert made his way to London. We find Robert J Yaw single 31 Coach Painter b Bristol St Pauls as a boarder living with James Rapley and family in East Marylebone.

1898 The GRO records the death of Robert Yaw in Chelsea district in 1899 Q3 aged 39 - a close match with his dob. We find no marriage record for Robert - it appears he remained a life-long bachelor

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35. WILLIAM¹⁰ YEA (William⁹, Nicholas⁸, Simon⁷ Yaw, Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 09 Jan 1804 in Kingston St Mary. He died in 1860 in Taunton. He married Sarah Northcott, daughter of Robert Northcott and

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Mary Hiscock, on 26 Apr 1825 in Kingston. She was born on 26 Dec 1794 in West Monkton. She died in 1863 in Taunton.

Notes for William Yea:

1841 census: William Yea 35 Agricultural Labourer was living with wife Sarah 35 and daughter Eliza 15; son Elie 13 Labourer; and daughter Ann 7. in Pilberry, Taunton St James, all five born in Somerset.

1851 census William Yea, Head, M, 49, 1802 Labourer Kingston, St. Mary, Sarah Yea Wife, F, 50, 1801, Monkton? Eliza Yea, daughter, Unm, F, 22, 1829, Servt Kingston, Ann Yea, daughter, Unm, F, 16, 1835, Laundress, Cheddon. George Young, Kept Child Unm, M, 6, 1845, Scholar, Bish Lydeard, William Young, Kept Child Unm, M, 3, 1848, Taunton,

The authors was contacted by a correspondent from Australia in Nov 2015 regarding George & William Young's children, recorded as "kept children". It appears likely they are the base children of Louisa Young who died in Taunton in 1849 aged just 22. The GRO records for George & William's birth cite no mother's name. We have found no family connection to the Youngs other than William Yea's mother Jane Facey was living nearby to the Union Workhouse in Trinity, Taunton where William was born and where Louisa died.

He has William Young enlisting in the Royal Artillery in 1866 aged 18 and his family history in India onwards. Where did George go? He might have been recorded as Henry in the 1861 census aged 18 - there is no birth, death or census records for a Henry Young other than this one

1856: At son Eli's marriage, William's occupation stated as Labourer.

1860: William was buried in Bishops Hull on 12 May 1860, his abode cited as Tangier (Cottages), Bishops Hull

Notes for Sarah Northcott:

1841 & 1851 Censuses: Living in Pilberry and later White Hall Buildings, Taunton St James with husband William and children Eliza Eli and Ann

1861 Census: Sarah widow aged 60 born in Monkton Widow & Pauper was living in No. 21 Tangier Cottages Bishops Hull with daughter Elizabeth unmarried aged 30 born Kingston and Alfred 10; Walter 6 & Henry 2, grandsons all three born Taunton. Also living with them was William Young an orphan (see notes for William Yea)

1863: GRO records the death of Sarah Yea in Taunton in 1863 Q2 age at death 53, which should surely read 63.

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William Yea and Sarah Northcott had the following children:

- i. ELIZA^{II} YEA was born on 16 Mar 1826 in Kingston St Mary. She died in 1863 in Taunton.

Notes for Eliza Yea:

1626 Baptised 16th March. Born in the Soapouse, Kingston St. Mary

1841 & 1851 Censuses: Eliza was living in Pilberry, Taunton St James with William and Sarah her parents, brother Eli and sister Ann

1861 Census: Eliza was living in Tangier Cottages Bishops Hull with her widowed mother and her own 3 illegitimate children Alfred 10, Walter 6 and Henry 2. All three are recorded as born Taunton, though the GRO records cite no mother's name for any of the three births.

1863: Eliza died in 1863 Q2 in Taunton, her age at death recorded on GRO as just 30.

- ii. ELI YEA was born on 06 Jul 1828 in Kingston St Mary. He died in 1893 in Taunton. He married Elizabeth White on 28 Sep 1856 in Taunton. She was born about 1831 in Bath. She died on 23 Jul 1912 in Taunton.

Notes for Eli Yea:

1841 Census Labourer living in Pilberry, Taunton St James with William and Sarah his parents and sisters Eliza and Ann

1851 Census Agricultural Labourer lodging in 87 Rowbarton (next door to Elizabeth White his future wife)

1856 Labourer living in Rowbarton at Marriage date copy certificate seen

1861 Census Labourer born in Kingston St Mary living in 89 Rowbarton Taunton with his wives Uncle, Thomas Sully, his own wife Elizabeth, children Mary Ann, Henry and Elizabeth

1870 General Labourer at Henry's birth living in Rowbarton

1881 Census Labourer living in Greenway Lane Taunton

1891 Census Labourer born in Kingston living in Holway Taunton

1893: The GRO records the death of Eli Yea in Taunton in 1893 Q4 aged 61. (about 4 years younger than his actual age from his job)

Notes for Elizabeth White:

1841 Census Born in Walcot Bath aged 9

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1851 Census Born in Bath Launderess living with her Uncle Thomas Sully in 86 Rowbarton Taunton

1861 Census Born in Bath still living with her Uncle in Rowbarton but also with her now husband Eli and 3 of their children

1881 Census Born in Bath living in Greenway Lane Taunton

1891 Census Launderess born in Bath living in Holway Taunton living at 25 Kingston Road Taunton aged 83 with her son in law and his family John Grant (who married Nellie Yea aged 37 and had been married for about 8 years) Interned at St James Cemetery Taunton aged 81

- iii. WILLIAM YEA was born on 17 Oct 1830 in Kingston St Mary. He died on 31 Jul 1831 in Kingston St Mary.

Notes for William Yea:

Buried 31st July 1831 Kingston St Mary from the "Soaphouse"

- iv. ANN YEA was born on 14 Jul 1833 in Cheddon Fitzpaine.

Notes for Ann Yea:

1841 Census living in Kilkenny, Taunton St James with William and Sarah her parents, sister Eliza and brother Eli

1851 census age 16 yrs Un/mar, Assistant laundress b Kingston. Living with her parents in Whitehall Buildings Taunton.

- v. MARY YEA was born on 19 Apr 1835 in Cheddon Fitzpaine. She died in 1837 in Taunton area.

36. **MARY¹⁰ YEA** (William⁹, Nicholas⁸, Simon⁷ Yaw, Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 22 Dec 1805 in Kingston St Mary. She married John Hooper on 22 May 1825 in Taunton. He was born about 1787. He died on 06 May 1834 in Taunton.

Notes for Mary Yea:

1806: Mary daughter of William & Jenny Yea was baptised in Kingston St Mary on 22 Dec 1805.

1825: John Hooper bachelor and Mary Yea spinster both otp were married after banns at Taunton St James on 22 May 1825. Both signed with their mark. Witnesses were Elizabeth Bendell and Charles Hillman.

1841 census: Mary Hooper age 30 laundress and her presumed children John 15; William 12; and Mary Ann 9 all born in Somerset, were living with the family of David Stone in

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South Street, Taunton St Mary Magdalene. Since Mary & John were married in Taunton and apparently lived there, we may reasonably conclude their children were born there too

1851 census: Mary Hooper widow aged 46 Washerwoman born Kingston was living at South Street Taunton St Mary Magdalene. Living with her were her daughter Mary Ann aged 18 unmarried and her grandson Charles 4 both born Taunton. Two lodgers and a family of four were also living with her. Living next door but one were Mary's mother Jane Yea and sister Sarah.

1861 census: Mary Hooper widow aged 56 Laundress born Kingston was living at South Street Taunton St Mary Magdalene

1868: Mary Hooper was a fairly common name in Taunton. We find a credible match for her burial in Taunton in 1868 Q1 aged 64 reference vol 5c p 272. This is a close match with Mary's actual y.o.b.

John Hooper and Mary Yea had the following children:

- i. JOHN¹¹ HOOPER was born in 1826 in Taunton.
- ii. WILLIAM HOOPER was born in 1829 in Taunton.
- iii. MARY ANN HOOPER was born in 1832 in Taunton.

37. JOHN¹⁰ YEA (William⁹, Nicholas⁸, Simon⁷ Yaw, Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 24 Dec 1809 in Kingston St Mary. He died in 1874 in Taunton. He married (1) ANN SOUTHWOOD on 31 Oct 1830 in East Stonehouse Plymouth. She was born about 1810. She died in 1854 in Taunton. He married (2) SARAH WEAVER on 07 Aug 1855 in Bridport. She was born about 1832 in Beaminster Dorset.

Notes for John Yea:

1809: The Kingston St Mary parish register records then baptism of John son of William Yea & his wife Jenny on 24 Dec 1809.

1830: the marriage after banns of John Yea & Ann Southwood were recorded in East Stonehouse on 31 Oct 1830. John was recorded as a Private in the Royal Marines and Ann as a Spinster. Bride and groom were both stated to be of the parish - though that does NOT necessarily imply they were born there - and both signed with their mark.

1831: The naval records for this period include details of the service of six men with the name John Yeo or similar. Research by the co-authors (detailed note on file) confirms that despite some inconsistencies, two of the records are for the same man - and are indeed for the son of William & Jenny. The collection of records for Royal Navy personnel for 1831 lists John Yae aged 24 born 1807 in Taunton as a Private in the Royal Marines, enlistment date 7 May 1831. The record states he served in the 3rd Company, Plymouth Division. The record further states his ship or unit was "Dublin", located at Plymouth. This may be a reference to HMS Dublin, a 74 gun third rate ship launched in 1812 at Rotherhithe,

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and in 1826 reduced to a 40 gun ship. The differences in the dates 1807 and 1809 may be due to the recording of his birth and baptism dates, or perhaps a mis-recording. His enlistment date may be a mis-recording too - John was already serving in the Royal Marines at his marriage in 1830. (Archive ref ADM 37/8042 accessed via FMP)

1841 census: John Yea 31 occupation "Army" and (presumed wife) Ann 29 Dressmaker and (presumed children) George 7 and Eli 2 were living at Prospect Place, Plymouth St Andrew - none of the four born in Devon. We also find in the GRO records the birth of James Eli Yea mother maiden name Southwood in Plymouth in 1839 Q4.

1845: John Yae, Private 1st Class in the Royal Marines serving aboard the Caledonia made an allotment on 1 June 1845 to his wife Ann, residence stated as Newport Street, Stonehouse. The record states they were married at Stonehouse Chapel, though the date is unclear.

1848: John Yea Private 1st Class in the Royal Marines serving aboard HMS Thetis made an allotment for 1 Sept 1848 to his wife Ann, residence 4 George Street, Stonehouse. The record states they were married at Taunton on 30 Nov 1830. A note on the record states the Thetis was then at Leghorn - possibly Livorno in Italy.

1851: John Yea Private in the Royal Marines serving aboard the Impregnable made an allotment of 12sh per week from 1 Jan 1851 to his wife Ann Yae then living at Brownlow Place, Stonehouse. The record states they were married at Stonehouse on 30 Nov - year hidden in the binding.

1851 census: John Yea 38 (born 1813) Private Royal Marines and wife Ann 36 both born Taunton were living at Brownlow Place, East Stonehouse with their children Eli 10 born Plymouth; Ann 8 and John 5, both born East Stonehouse. The GRO records the births in East Stonehouse of Ann Sophia Yea in 1842 Q2 and Elias John Yea in 1845 Q2, mother maiden name Southwood in both cases.

1851: John Yae Royal Marine regimental number 349 was admitted as a Greenwich Pensioner on 4 Sept 1851 at a rate of £16 16 sh.

1854: John's wife Ann Yea died in Taunton in 1854 Q2 aged 44. This corresponds well with her age in the 1841 census, but is a few years off that given in 1851.

1855: About a year after Ann's death, John re-married again. We find a probable match in the marriage in 1855 Q3 of John Yea and Sarah Weaver in Bridport, Dorset which included Sarah's birthplace of Beaminster (Sarah and Elisabeth Weaver were sisters and John and James were brothers hence 2 sisters married 2 brothers)

1861 census: John Yea 50 Marines Greenwich Pensioner born Taunton and wife Sarah 29 born Beaminster, Dorset, were living at Taunton St Mary Magdalene with John's daughter from his first marriage Ann 19 unmarried Silk Throwster born Plymouth.

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1868: John Yae aged 57 Private Royal Marines (naval pension number 349) already in receipt of a naval pension of £16 16sh was awarded a Greenwich Hospital Pension of £7 12sh making a total of £24 8sh. The pension was to be paid by the Staff Officer's District in Taunton.

1871 census: John Yea 61 Greenwich Pensioner born Kingston (ie Kingston St Mary) Somerset and wife Sarah 38 Glover born Beaminster Dorset were living at Sunny bank, Taunton.

1874: John Yea died in Taunton district in 1874 Q1 aged 64, hence calculated yob 1810, a close match with his actual yob

John Yea and Ann Southwood had the following children:

- i. JOHN JOSEPH WILLIAM¹¹ YEA was born on 13 Mar 1831 in East Stonehouse. He died on 11 Nov 1840 in Mill Bay, Plymouth.

Notes for John Joseph William Yea:

1831 John Joseph William baptised 13th March son of John Yea, Private, Royal Marine, mother Ann.

1840 His death certificate states the death of John Yea son of John Yea, Private, R.M. aged 10 years in Plymouth vol 09 page 255. Informant Mary Frost present at the death 14/11/1840. Note. It did not include his 2 middle names Joseph William.

- ii. GEORGE YEA was born about 1834 in Plymouth.

Notes for George Yea:

Identified in 1841 census as George aged 7 but we haven't found a birth or baptism record for him

- iii. CHARLES HENRY YEA was born on 12 Dec 1836 in Devonport. He died on 18 Oct 1838 in Stoke Damerel.

Notes for Charles Henry Yea:

1836/7 born 12th Dec 1836 Baptised 27th Dec 1837 Wesleyan Methodist Non Conformist Church Plymouth Dock son of John and Ann. John's occupation stated as a Waterman.

1838 buried 18th Oct 1838 1 year 10 months old Stoke Damerel Abode Clarks Buildings.

- iv. JAMES ELI YEA was born in 1839 in St Andrew Plymouth. He died in 1914 in Bristol. He married Mary Jane Noyce nee Knight, daughter of John Knight, in 1877 in Clifton. She was born about 1852. She died in 1879 in Bristol.

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Notes for Mary Jane Noyce nee Knight:

Mary Jane was a widow when she married James. Her maiden name was Knight

- v. ANN SOPHIA YEA was born in 1842 in East Stonehouse Plymouth. She married John Babb on 18 Jan 1863 in Wincanton.

Notes for Ann Sophia Yea:

1861 Census Silk Thrower born in Plymouth living in South St Taunton with her parents

1863 Banns read in Wilton Taunton before their marriage in Wincanton

- vi. ELIAS JOHN YEA was born in 1845 in East Stonehouse Plymouth. He died in 1899 in Taunton. He married Elizabeth Stamp in 1867 in Taunton. She was born in 1848 in Taunton. She died in Taunton.

Notes for Elias John Yea:

1867 At his marriage he was using the name John and appears to have dropped his first name. The 5th child was named John Elias Yea and is our evidence for believing this is the correct person.

1881 Census Farm Labourer living in Victoria Place Taunton calling himself John

1891 Census Town Council Labourer living in King St Taunton calling himself John

1899 Buried as John in Taunton

Notes for Elizabeth Stamp:

1851 Census Silk Factory Worker living in Taunton with her mother

1871 Census Silk Factory Worker living in Townsend Cottages Taunton with her mother Jane Stamp and her own children William and Ann

1881 Census Silk Weaver living in Victoria Place Taunton

1891 Census described as Wife of James living in King St Taunton

1906 Remarried to William Godfrey in Taunton

Notes for Sarah Weaver:

1861 Census living with husband John and his daughter Ann Sophia in South St Taunton

1871 Census Occupation Glover living in Sunnybanks Taunton with husband John

38. ANN¹⁰ YEA (William⁹, Nicholas⁸, Simon⁷ Yaw, Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴,

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John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 05 Feb 1815 in Kingston St Mary. She died in 1877 in Beaminster Dorset. She married George Dawe on 21 Dec 1829 in Kingston St Mary. He was born about 1803 in Beaminster Dorset. He died in 1877 in Beaminster Dorset.

Notes for Ann Yea:

1815: Ann daughter of William & Jane Yea was baptised in Kingston St Mary on 3 Feb 1815. William's abode was given as Kingston and occupation labourer. Ann was baptised together with her brother James. We might speculate whether they were twins, or whether one of those baptised was born a few years earlier, since the previous baptism of the elder brother John was some 6 years earlier.

1829: George Daw of Beaminster Dorset married Ann Yea in Kingston St Mary on 21 Dec 1829. The record in the parish register states the marriage was by licence with consent of parents. That comment presumably applied in particular to the bride who as noted immediately above was baptised in 1815. If Ann was baptised shortly after her birth, then she was only about 14 at marriage, although with parental consent that was perfectly legal - the minimum age was not raised to 16 until 1929. As suggested above, Ann's baptism may have taken place a few years after her birth - as will be seen in the census returns which typically give her dob ca 1812. She was to bear him ten children.

1841 census: George Daw 35 Labourer and Ann 25 were living in Fore Place, Beaminster with (presumed) children William 12; Henry 5; Charles 2; and George 9 - both parents and all children born Dorset. The ages of the parents are probably rounded here - Ann with calculated dob 1816 would have been just 13 at the birth of William.

1851 census: George Daw 46 Labourer on Highways b Beaminster and wife Ann 38 b Kingston Somerset were living at Short Moor, Beaminster with children George single 18 Sail Cloth Weaver; Eli 9 Scholar; James 3; and Elizabeth J 7 months, all children b Beaminster. From this return, Ann's calculated dob 1813.

1861 census: Ann Daw married 49 Sail Cloth Weaver b Kingston Somerset was living at New Town, Beaminster with children James 14 Agricultural Labourer and Elizabeth 11 Scholar, both b Beaminster. Husband George was not listed with her- we find a probable match for George 56 and son Henry 24 both b Beaminster working away from home on the farm of Robert Bowering in Wareham, Dorset. Ann's calculated dob 1812.

1871 census: George Daw 77 (a probable mis-recording for 67) Labourer b Beaminster and wife Ann 62 b Kingston Somerset were living at New Town, Beaminster. Ann's calculated dob 1809.

1877: It appears Anne did not long survive her husband George. We find a credible death for Anne Dawe in Beaminster in 1877 Q3 aged 66 - a calculated dob of 1811

Notes for George Dawe:

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1876: We find a credible death record for George Dawe in Beaminster in 1876 Q1 aged 73.

See Ann's notes for other details of George

George Dawe and Ann Yea had the following children:

- i. WILLAM¹¹ DAWE was born on 02 Jun 1830 in Beaminster Dorset.
- ii. GEORGE DAWE was born on 25 Dec 1832 in Beaminster Dorset.
- iii. ROBERT DAWE was born on 01 Sep 1834 in Beaminster Dorset. He died before 1845.
- iv. HENRY DAWE was born on 11 Dec 1835 in Beaminster Dorset.
- v. CHARLES DAWE was born on 14 Feb 1839 in Beaminster Dorset.
- vi. ELI DAWE was born on 30 Mar 1842 in Beaminster Dorset.
- vii. ROBERT DAWE was born on 05 Feb 1845 in Beaminster Dorset. He died in 1850 in Beaminster Dorset.
- viii JAMES DAWE was born on 20 Oct 1847 in Beaminster Dorset.
- .
- ix. ELISABETH JANE DAWE was born on 04 Sep 1850 in Beaminster Dorset.
- x. ELLEN DAWE was born on 27 Jun 1857 in Beaminster Dorset.

Notes for Ellen Dawe:

The GRO records the birth of Ellen Dawe MMN Yaw in Beaminster in 1857 Q3. She was the couple's 10th child born when George was in his mid-50's and Ann was about 45. Judging from these records, it seems she was probably born and baptised right at the end of Q2, and her birth formally registered early in Q3

39. JAMES¹⁰ YEA (William⁹, Nicholas⁸, Simon⁷ Yaw, Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 02 Jan 1820 in Kingston St Mary. He died in 1892 in Taunton. He married Elizabeth Weaver on 17 Sep 1860 in Taunton. She was born about 1836 in Beaminster Dorset. She died in 1921 in Bridgwater.

Notes for James Yea:

British Army Service Records 1760-1915 Transcription. James YEA Calculated year of birth 1820 Kingston Taunton. Age at attestation 18 years Attestation date 16 February 1838. Discharge rank: Private Discharge corps: 12th Foot. Discharge soldier number: 1695. The National Archives reference: WO97 / 1427 / 227

1861 Census Chelsea Pensioner living in South St Taunton with wife Elizabeth

1871 Census - where is he? (not at home with his wife!)

1881 Census Pensioner & Labourer living in Tancred St Foundry Sq. Taunton aged 61

1891 census Army Pensioner living in Foundry Sq. Taunton

Notes for Elizabeth Weaver:

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1861 Census living in South St Taunton with her husband James Yea born in Beaminster

1871 Census living in Taunton married living in Sunny Banks Taunton with her children Elizabeth, William, James and Charles

1881 Census living in Tancred St Foundry Square Taunton aged 44

1891 Census living in Foundry Square

1901 Census living in Dorset St Bishops Hull (Widow) with her son Charles

Is she the sister of Sarah Weaver who married James's brother John in Bridport in 1855?

James Yea and Elizabeth Weaver had the following children:

- i. ELIZABETH¹¹ YEA was born in 1861 in Taunton. She married Thomas Smith in 1888 in Eccleshall B.

Notes for Elizabeth Yea:

1871 Census living in Taunton with her mother

- ii. HENRY YEA was born in 1864 in Taunton. He died in 1864 in Taunton.
- iii. WILLIAM WEAVER YEA was born in 1865 in Taunton. He died in 1921 in Bristol.

Notes for William Weaver Yea:

1871 Census living in Taunton with his mother

1881 census labourer living in Tancred St Foundry Square Taunton aged 16
Labourer

1891 Census General Labourer lodging with the Moores in Bristol

- iv. JAMES ELI YEA was born on 25 Dec 1867 in Taunton. He died on 12 Oct 1910 in Taunton. He married Keziah Jane Brinkworth in 1889 in Taunton.

Notes for James Eli Yea:

1867 Baptism at St James Taunton 25/12/1867

1871 Census Living in Taunton with his mother

1881 Census Apprentice Silversmith (aged 13) living in back of Whitehall in Taunton with James and Sarah Hall (Aunt and Uncle)

1891 Census Gold Jeweller living in Coal Orchard Taunton

1910 Probate Jeweller and Licenced Victualler of Turks Head Taunton
granted to Kezia his wife effects £635

- v. CHARLES YEA was born in 1870 in Taunton. He died in 1934 in Taunton.
- vi. AMY (AMELIA) YEA was born in 1873 in Taunton. She married Albert Grigg in 1896 in Taunton.

Notes for Amy (Amelia) Yea:

1881 Census living in Tancred Street Foundry Square Taunton aged 7

1891 Census Silk Thrower living in Foundry Square Taunton

- vii. SARAH JANE YEA was born in 1875 in Dronfield, Chesterfield, Derbyshire. She married Valentine Tregaskis in 1906 in Taunton.

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Notes for Sarah Jane Yea:

1881 Census living in Tancred St Foundry Square Taunton aged 5 born Dronfield Chesterfield

1891 Census Collar Stitcher living in Foundry Square Taunton

1901 Census Domestic Servant working for the Crockers in Dartmouth

40. **HENRY**¹⁰ **YEA** (William⁹, Nicholas⁸, Simon⁷ Yaw, Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 12 Jan 1823 in Kingston St Mary. He died in 1905 in Wareham. He married (1) **ELIZABETH MARSH** on 15 Nov 1846 in Wareham. She was born about 1825 in Wareham Dorset. She died in 1895 in Wareham. He married (2) **ELLEN TROKE** in 1902 in Wareham. She was born about 1839. She died in 1912 in Wareham Dorset.

Notes for Henry Yea:

1841 Census living in Ixlis St Taunton St James with his mother Jane

1851 Census living in Wareham with Elizabeth his wife, William Henry and George Charles their sons

1861 Census Agricultural Labourer living in Wareham with Elizabeth his wife and children William, George, Elizabeth, Mary, James and Joseph

1871 Census Labourer living in New St Wareham with Elizabeth his wife and children Mary Ann, James, Joseph, Henry and Lilie Rhoda

1881 Census Well Sinker in New St Wareham

1901 Census Railway Labourer in New St Wareham

1902 Marriage q4

Folklore says kicked out of family home in Kingston St Mary because he was a drunkard! Political Agitator going around Wareham on his Pony & Trap

Notes for Elizabeth Marsh:

1861 Census Living in Pound Lane Wareham

1871 Census Living in New St Wareham

1881 Census Living in New St Wareham

Henry Yea and Elizabeth Marsh had the following children:

- i. **WILLIAM HENRY**¹¹ **YEA** was born in 1848 in Wareham Dorset. He died in 1927 in Bournemouth. He married Dorothy Wilson on 12 Sep 1881 in Gateshead. She was born about 1855 in Holystone Northumberland. She died in 1931 in Bournemouth.

Notes for William Henry Yea:

1861 Census Living in Pound Lane Wareham

1891 Census living in Lyndhurst Hants with his wife Dorothy and son William

- ii. **HENRY YEA** was born in 1849 in Wareham Dorset. He died in 1849 in Wareham.

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- iii. GEORGE CHARLES YEA was born in 1850 in Wareham Dorset. He died in 1887 in Leighton Buzzard. He married Clara Elizabeth Washington in 1879 in Leighton Buzzard. She was born in 1854 in Woburn, Leighton Buzzard.

Notes for George Charles Yea:

1861 Census Living in Pound Lane Wareham

Notes for Clara Elizabeth Washington:

Probably born as Clara Elizabeth Washington in 4th qtr 1854 in Woburn just outside of Leighton Buzzard

1881 Census staying as Clara Yea, married as a visitor in Hammersmith with her sister Elizabeths family

1891 remarried in Leighton Buzzard 1st Qtr 3B-649 to either Thomas Walter Reeve or William Delve. We would have to get the certificate to find out which one

- iv. ELIZABETH JANE YEA was born in 1852 in Wareham Dorset. She married Alfred Joseph Oxborrow on 07 Mar 1875 in Ipswich. He was born about 1856.

Notes for Elizabeth Jane Yea:

1861 Census Living in Pound Lane Wareham

1871 Census Living in West St Wareham with Emily Davies as her servant

- v. MARY ANN YEA was born in 1853 in Wareham Dorset. She died in 1907 in Portsmouth. She married (1) UNKNOWN. She married (2) WILLIAM CHRISTOPHER in 1876 in Lytchett Minster, Dorset.

Notes for Mary Ann Yea:

1861 Census Living in Pound Lane Wareham

1871 Census Living in New St Wareham

Notes for William Christopher:

widower when he married Mary Ann

- vi. JAMES YEA was born on 02 Apr 1855 in Wareham Dorset. He died on 15 May 1903 in Southfields Wandsworth. He married (1) ALICE BACKHOUSE in 1880 in Leighton Buzzard. She was born about 1857 in Leighton Buzzard. She died in 1890 in Bournemouth. He married (2) LOUISA STICKLEY in 1892 in Christchurch. She was born about 1856. She died in 1927 in Alverstoke.

Notes for James Yea:

1861 Census Living in Pound Lane Wareham

1871 Census Living in New St Wareham

James Yea born in Wareham in 1855 left Dorset, went to join his brother in Bedfordshire (Charles George) and married Alice Backhouse. They moved to Hampshire, by which time they had two children, Alfred James and Alice

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Eliza. Alfred was a sailor on the training ship HMS Impregnable, and died at Haslar Hospital a month before his 17th birthday. In 1890 Alice died in Bournemouth, and James married an army widow, Louisa Stickley in 1892. Their first child together was Lilian who was born 20th December 1894 at South Stoneham in Hants. By 1896 James and Louisa moved to Southfields in Wandsworth, and in 1897 James Cyril was born. About a year after he was born, James sr. contracted TB, and his illness was of 5 years duration. He died on the 15th May 1903 at home in Burr Road, Southfields. notes from Fredrica Caton

Notes for Alice Backhouse:

1881 Census living in St Pancras as the family Launderess for the Sear family (married at the time as Alice Yea)

Notes for Louisa Stickley:

Louisa was an army widow when she married so this was not her maiden name

- vii. EMILY YEA was born in 1857 in Wareham Dorset. She died in 1859 in Wareham.
- viii REBECCA YEA was born in 1858 in Wareham Dorset. She died in 1859 in Wareham Dorset.
- ix. JOSEPH YEA was born in 1860 in Wareham Dorset. He died in 1928 in Castle West. He married (1) MARGARET ANN BROWN on 01 Jan 1895 in Gateshead. She was born about 1864. She died in 1907 in Newcastle. He married (2) LILY ELIZABETH BROWN on 31 Jan 1910 in Newcastle T. She was born about 1887. She died in 1928 in Newcastle T.

Notes for Joseph Yea:

1861 Census Living in Pound Lane Wareham

1871 Census Living in New St Wareham

British Army Service Records 1760-1915 Transcription. Joseph YEA
Calculated year of birth: 1860. Parish of birth: Wareham Age at attestation: 19 years 9 months. Attestation date: 27 December 1879 Attestation corps: Royal Artillery. Attestation soldier number: 6920
The National Archives reference: WO97 / 6383 / 104

- x. EMILY YEA was born in 1862 in Wareham Dorset. She died in 1865 in Wareham.
- xi. MINNIE YEA was born in 1864 in Wareham Dorset. She died in 1865 in Wareham.
- xii. HARRY YEA was born in 1867 in Wareham Dorset. He died in 1949 in Poole. He married Emma S Cox in 1890 in Wareham Dorset. She was born about

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1870. She died in 1942 in Poole.

Notes for Harry Yea:

1881 Census living in New St Wareham

xiii LILLIE RHODA YEA was born on 03 Jan 1870 in Wareham Dorset. She married George Battrick on 25 Dec 1890 in Wareham.

Notes for Lillie Rhoda Yea:

1871 Census Living in New St Wareham **1881** Census living in New St Wareham

41. **JOSEPH¹⁰ YEO** (Joseph⁹ Yea, Nicholas⁸ Yea, Simon⁷ Yaw, Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born about 1810 in Bedminster. He died in Dec 1871 in Bristol. He married Sarah Thomas on 18 Apr 1841 in North Petherton. She was born in 1807 in Bedminster. She died after 1871.

Notes for Joseph Yeo:

1841 census aged 30, Sailor living in Golds Building Bridgwater with Sarah aged 30 Joseph 7 and Ann 2 and yet we have his marriage as 1841 North Petherton - this doesnt seem to stack up and needs checking - I think Sarah is his second wife and that his first wife by whom he had the first 2 children is either dead or divorced

We will need to get the birth certificate of Mary Ann born 1839 to determine the mothers maiden name of her and Joseph

1851 Census aged 40 born Bristol re of Parish, Mason, living in Bedminster with wife Sarah 40 born Bedminster and children Joseph 15, Mary Ann 12, John 8, George 6 and James 3 all born Bedminster

1861 Census aged 50 born Bristol, Mason, living in Trenchard Place Bristol with wife Sarah born Neath aged 55 and Son Joseph aged 20 Mason, George 17, James 14, and Mary Ann 22 all born in Bristol

1871 Census Joseph 61 born Bristol Redcliffe with Sarah aged 67 born Neath and living with his son James, Wood and Stone Carver and Lucy his wife in St George Bristol

Joseph Yeo and Sarah Thomas had the following children:

- i. **JOSEPH¹¹ YEO** was born in 1836 in Bedminster. He died in Mar 1908 in Bristol. He married Eleanor Johnson on 16 Aug 1869 in St. Phillip, Sheffield. She was born in 1852 in Newcastle.

Notes for Joseph Yeo:

1841 Census living with his parents in Bridgwater Somerset aged 7. Later census returns would suggest he was born in Bristol

1851 Census George 6 living with father Joseph 40 born Bristol re of Parish,

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Mason, living in Bedminster with wife Sarah 40 born Bedminster and children Joseph 15, Mary Ann 12, John 8, and James 3 all born Bedminster

1861 Census George 17 living with father Joseph aged 50 born Bristol, Mason, living in Trenchard Place Bristol with wife Sarah born Neath aged 55 and Son Joseph aged 20 Mason, James 14, and Mary Ann 22 all born in Bristol

1901 Census Joseph 65 b Bedmister Ellen 49 b Newcastle and son James 10 born Bristol

Notes for Eleanor Johnson:
known as Ellen

- ii. MARY ANN YEO was born in 1839 in Bedminster.

Notes for Mary Ann Yeo:

GRO Ist Qtr vol11 p63 Bedminster MMN Thomas

- iii. JOHN THOMAS YEO was born in 1841 in Bedminster.

Notes for John Thomas Yeo:

YEO, John Thomas GRO Reference: 1841 D Quarter in BEDMINSTER
Volume 11 Page 64 MMN Thomas

- iv. GEORGE THOMAS YEO was born in 1843 in Bedminster. He married Sarah Ann Martin on 19 Sep 1864 in St James Bristol.

Notes for George Thomas Yeo:

YEO, George Thomas Yeaw GRO Reference: 1843 S Quarter in
BEDMINSTER Volume 11 Page 64 MMN Thomas

- v. JAMES YEO was born in 1846 in Bedminster. He married Lucy Newman on 22 Aug 1870 in Bristol. She was born in 1843 in Box Chippenham.

Notes for James Yeo:

1846 James Thomas Yeo GRO Reference: 1846 J Quarter in Bedminster.
Volume 11 Page 64 MMN Thomas

1871 Census living with Lucy his wife and his mother Sarah aged 67 born Neath and father Joseph 61 born Bristol Redcliffe

1881 Census living with Lucy his wife and children

Had a stonemasons business in Nottingham called Sharp & Yeo in the late

Generation 10 (con't)

1800's

Notes for Lucy Newman:

1881 Census Lucy born Box Chippenham

42. **ROBERT¹⁰ YEAW** (Robert⁹, William⁸ Yaw, Robert⁷ Yawe, Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵, John⁴ Yea, John³, John², John¹ Yaw) was born on 15 Apr 1805 in Barnstaple, Devon. He died in Dec 1847 in St Thomas, Virgin Islands, West Indies. He married Jane Paddon on 15 Apr 1830 in Barnstaple, Devon.

Notes for Robert Yeaw:

Feb 24th 1848 In a news article in the North Devon Journal , page 3. "We regret to learn the intelligence has reached his family this morning, that Mr. Robert Yeo, son of Mrs. Yeo [Sarah Yeo nee Leworthy] of Boutport Street, Barnstaple was at St. Thomas's in the Virgin Islands in the West Indies in December last, on board a merchant vessel. Accidentally fell from the mast head to the deck and died of his injuries almost immediately. He has left a widow and five children to mourn his bereavement."

Notes for Jane Paddon:

1851 Census Robert was a mariner and had moved the family from Barnstaple to Bristol prior to this census as Robert died in Dec 1847 and Jane moved three of her children (Louisa, William and Joseph) into the workhouse, while Jane tried to make a living as a dressmaker with oldest son Robert (a mariner - hired by his relatives the Edwards) and youngest son John.

Robert Yeaw and Jane Paddon had the following children:

- i. **ROBERT¹¹ YEO** was born on 07 Nov 1833 in Barnstaple.
- ii. **LOUISA ELLEN YEO** was born on 07 Sep 1837 in Barnstaple. She died on 03 Oct 1899 in Bristol.

Notes for Louisa Ellen Yeo:

Baptized on 21st May 1848 St. Andrew, Bristol. Birth date on Baptism record.
Buried in Ridgeway Park Cemetery, Bristol

- iii. **WILLIAM YEO** was born about 1839 in Barnstable. He died in 1899 in Gloucestershire. He married Ann Croden on 10 Mar 1862 in St. Phillip and St. Jacob. She was born about 1841. She died in 1890 in Barton Regis, Gloucestershire.

Notes for William Yeo:

Death date confirmed in Civil Registration Index volume 6A page 38

Notes for Ann Croden:

Age 21 at marriage. No baptism ever found

- iv. **JOSEPH GREEK YEO** was born on 22 Apr 1842 in Barnstaple.

Notes for Joseph Greek Yeo:

Birth date confirmed 22nd April 1842 in Barnstaple. Civil Registration birth index Vol10 page 20

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- v. JOHN LEWORTHY YEO was born in 1847 in Bristol.

Notes for John Leworthy Yeo:

John Leworthy Yeo Birth Index vol 11, page 246 GRO Clifron Bristol

43. **JOHN LEWORTHY¹⁰ YEO** (Robert⁹ Yeaw, William⁸ Yaw, Robert⁷ Yawe, Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 27 Apr 1807 in Barnstaple, Devon. He died on 13 Jun 1881 in Bristol. He married Ann Bright on 13 Dec 1851 in Bristol.

Notes for John Leworthy Yeo:

Baptised at St.Peter, Barnstaple. Johns death was reported in the Bristol Mercury and Daily Post 14 Jun 1881

John Leworthy Yeo and Ann Bright had the following children:

- i. ALFRED BRIGHT¹¹ YEO was born on 15 May 1853 in Bristol. He died in Mar 1933 in Totnes. He married Helen White in Dec 1880.
- ii. SARAH ANN LOUISA YEO was born in 1854 in Bristol. She died on 10 Sep 1938 in Hounslow.

Notes for Sarah Ann Louisa Yeo:

The probate record for Sarah Ann Louisa Yeo describes her as a spinster of 35 Lyncroft Gardens, Hounslow, Middlesex and gives her date of death as 10 September 1938. Administration of her estate was granted on 23 September to civil servant Harry Leworthy Yeo.

Harry (whose parents were Alfred Bright Yeo and Helen White) was Sarah's nephew. His line of descent goes back to Robert Yeo and Sarah Leworthy of Ilfracombe, and this marriage appears to be the source of his second forename)

44. **WILLIAM¹⁰ YEO** (Robert⁹ Yeaw, William⁸ Yaw, Robert⁷ Yawe, Robert⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹ Yaw) was born on 08 Feb 1812 in Barnstaple, Devon. He died on 05 Nov 1879 in Tawstock, Devon. He married Mary Dennis on 23 Jul 1845 in Huntshaw, Devon.

William Yeo and Mary Dennis had the following children:

- i. ANNIE CATHERINE¹¹ YEO was born about 1847 in Barnstaple. She died on 13 Oct 1925 in Barnstaple.

Notes for Annie Catherine Yeo:

She never married

- ii. MARY LOUISA YEO was born in 1850 in Barnstaple. She died on 19 Dec 1937 in Barnstaple.

Notes for Mary Louisa Yeo:

She never married

45. **GEORGE WILLIAM¹⁰ YAW** (George⁹, Joseph⁸, Thomas⁷ Yea, John⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹) was born in 1853 in Bristol. He died in 1908

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in Taunton. He married Georgina Heard in 1883 in Taunton. She was born about 1863 in Wiveliscombe. She died in 1926 in Taunton.

Notes for George William Yaw:

25 Dec 1853 Christening, Bristol, St Philip and Jacob, Gloucestershire.

1875 Left £15 in his Great Uncle Roberts will in 1875

1891 Census age 37 born Bristol living Taunton with wife and 5 children

1901 Census age 43 born Bristol living Taunton with wife and 9 children Warehouse Worker in Collar Works

Notes for Georgina Heard:

1911 Census aged 47 Taunton

George William Yaw and Georgina Heard had the following children:

- i. EVA MAY¹¹ HEARD was born in 1883 in Taunton. She died in 1955 in Taunton.

Notes for Eva May Heard:

1883 Born out of Wedlock perhaps as Eva May Heard

1891 Census living with parents as YAW aged 7

1901 Census living with parents as YAW aged 17

1911 Census aged 27 Taunton area living with her mother Georgina YAW

1955 Death as Eva M Yaw Taunton aged 71

- ii. GEORGE WILLIAM YAW was born in 1885 in Taunton. He died in 1935 in Bristol.

Notes for George William Yaw:

Medal Card of Yaw George W Wiltshire Regiment 10813 Private Wiltshire Regiment 10813 Corporal. Date: 1914 - 1920

- iii. ROBERT JOSEPH YAW was born on 05 Apr 1887 in Taunton. He died on 12 Sep 1931 in Hamilton Wentworth Ontario Canada.

Notes for Robert Joseph Yaw:

1911 Census Robert Joseph Yaw aged 23 born 1888 serving on Overseas Military Institution with the 2nd Battalion Somerset Light Infantry

Medal Card of Yaw Robert J Somerset Light Infantry 7725 Private Somerset Light Infantry 7725 Acting Warrant Officer Class 1 .Date 1914 - 1920 Online Document WO 372/22 .Medal Card of Yaw R J Somerset Light Infantry 7725

Company Serjeant Major. Date: 1914 - 1920 Online Document WO 372/23

1926 Departs Liverpool to Quebec Canada on the ship Doric DOB 1887

1931 Death reported in Canada - reported to have been in the province for 5 years no family data known except birthdate recorded as 5th April 1887

England. Death reported by Major A Mason so looks as though he never married - worked as a clerk for the city corporation

Generation 10 (con't)

- iv. HANNAH JANE YAW was born in 1889 in Taunton. She died in 1961 in Wells. She married Charles Harding on 05 Aug 1911 in Taunton.

Notes for Hannah Jane Yaw:

1911 Census aged 22 Taunton

Hannah Jane Yaw, born Taunton March 1889 and married at Taunton Register Office 5th August 1911. 4 births are recorded with family name Harding and spouse name Yaw in Taunton, Axbridge, Bridgwater between 1911 and 1920. Hannah J Harding died in Wells in March 1961 aged 72.

- v. THOMAS GILBERT YAW was born in 1891 in Taunton. He died in 1959 in Exmoor. He married Lillian Norman in 1919 in Taunton.

Notes for Thomas Gilbert Yaw:

1911 Census aged 20 Taunton

- vi. HENRY JOHN YAW was born in 1893 in Taunton. He died on 29 Apr 1916 in Bienvillers military cemetery, Grave VII.A.2 France.

Notes for Henry John Yaw:

1911 Census aged 17 Taunton

1914 Online Document WO 372/22, Medal Card of Yaw Henry J Somerset Light Infantry 17445 Lance Corporal Somerset Light Infantry 17445 Private .

1916 Buried in Bienvillers military cemetery, Grave VII.A.2 France

- vii. GEORGINA LILLIAN YAW was born in 1895 in Taunton. She died in 1951 in Taunton.

- viii FRANCES MAUD YAW was born in 1898 in Taunton. She married John J Bishop in 1917 in Taunton. He was born in 1887.

Notes for Frances Maud Yaw:

1911 census aged 13 Taunton

- ix. FLORENCE BEATRICE YAW was born in 1899 in Taunton. She married Alfred H Holcombe in 1930 in Taunton.

Notes for Florence Beatrice Yaw:

1911 Census aged 11 Taunton

- x. FREDERICK REGINALD YAW was born in 1901 in Taunton. He died in 1950 in Taunton.

Notes for Frederick Reginald Yaw:

Medal Card of Yaw Frederick R Somerset Light Infantry 20323 Private .

Date: 1914 - 1920 Served in India. Online Document WO 372/22

46. JANE HANNAH¹⁰ YAW (George⁹, Joseph⁸, Thomas⁷ Yea, John⁶ Yawe, Robert⁵ Yeaw, John⁴ Yea, John³ Yeaw, John² Yeaw, John¹) was born in 1856 in Bristol. She died on 02 Apr 1925 in Christchurch. She married UNKNOWN TAYLOR.

Generation 10 (con't)

Notes for Jane Hannah Yaw:

21 Dec 1856 Christening, Bristol, St Philip and Jacob, Gloucestershire, England

1861 Census living in Bristol St George with parents born Bristol

1871 Census servant aged 14 borb Bristol living in taunton nursemaid to the Westlakes

1881 Census as Jane Yeo aged 25 living in bristol born Bristol Servant - Parlour Maid aged 25

1891 Census Jane Yea Machinist aged 33 born Bristol living in Westminster London

1901 Census Jane H Taylor Head (no husband present) living in Lyndhurst Beresford Rd Pokesdown Christchurch age 43 born bristol with daughter Dorothy May Taylor aged 2 (7?) born Southsea

1911 Census Jane Hannah Taylor aged 54 Widow born bristol living in Lyndhurst Beresford Rd Southborne Bournemouth with daughter Doroth May Taylor 17 born Southsea. In this same census she states that she has had 2 children - only 1 of which is now living.

1925 Jane Hannah Yaw, (born Bristol Dec 1856 , died in Bournemouth on 2/4/1925 and left her estate to Dorothy May Taylor Yaw, found in Probate Records

No marriage record can be found. Without getting the birth cert it would be reasonable to assume she never married and Dorothy was her illegitimate child (Perhaps Mr Taylor whom she was fond enough to name the child after, died before they could be married. Her will (on file) has now been found when she refers to her and Dorothy "commonly known as Taylor" but officially known as Yaw - suggesting that she never married Mr Taylor.

Unknown Taylor and Jane Hannah Yaw had the following children:

- i. DOROTHY MAY TAYLOR¹¹ YEW was born in 1893 in Portsea. She died in 1958 in Poole Dorset. She married Robert Coledge Fudge in 1936 in Bathavon. He was born in 1903 in Bath, Avon.
- ii. UNKNOWN YAW.

Notes for Unknown Yaw:

1911 Census Jane Hannah Taylor aged 54 Widow born bristol living in Lyndhurst Beresford Rd Southborne Bournemouth with daughter Doroth May Taylor 17 born Southsea

In this same census she states that she has had 2 children - only 1 of which is now living. We havent yet identified the other child shown here for the record as "Unknown"

APPENDIX

Richard Yeaw vs Elizabeth Yeaw

**Subject: Part of Manor of Aisholt, Somerset
National Archives doc ref C3/201/1 from 1558-1579**

This record consists of four documents, viz Richard's Bill of Complaint; Elizabeth's Answer thereto; and Richard's Replication (in duplicate) to her Answer. The records are transcribed below in this order, followed by a commentary on the case.

Transcript

**To the Right Honourable Sir Nicholas Bacon Knighte
Lord Keeper of the Great Seale of England**

In moste humble wyse complayninge sheweth unto ye good Lordshippe ye poor and dailie orator Rychard Yawe whereas one John Yawe ffather unto your sayd orator about (*blank*) yeares now paste did procure and obtain from Sir Edmund Walgrave Knighte lord of the manor of Aisholte within the countie of Somersett one tenement contayninge fowertie acres of meadowe and pasture or thereabouts lyinge and beinge in the said manor of Aisholt to be hadd and holden unto hym the said John Yawe Margarett his then wife and to the now complaynante for terme of their lyves and either of them longest lyvinge successivelie as yr Lordshipp's orator is informed for the certaintie thereof by means of not having the sayd leas he cannot directlie sett down, sithence (= *since*) which tyme and within short space after the said Margarett then wyeff of the said John Yawe died.

After whose decease the said John Yawe intermarried one Elizabeth Yawe and one yeare now paste made his laste will and testament in wrytinge and did by the same constytute ordaine and appointe the said Elizabeth his then wieff his executor and then died. After whose decease she the said Elizabeth tooke uppon her the admynistration of the said testament intermeddlinge and searching for the said goods found amongst other thynges in the custodie of the said John Yawe her husband deceased the lease of the said tenement and

other the premisses.

And now so yt is maye it please your good Lordshippe that the said dede of demyse beinge so casuallie come to the hands custodye and possession of her the said Elizabeth Yawe, she by colloure and pretence hath and sithence (= *since*) the death of the said John Yawe the father detayned and yet doeth detain and withholde the possession of the said tenement and other the premisses and notwithstanding yr said orator hathe often and sundriye tymes required the redelivrye of the said leas and possession of the said tenement, yet she the said Elizabeth that to doe hathe allwaies denied and yet doeth denie contrarie to all lawes equitie and good conscience so that ye said orator can by noe meanes gett or obtain the possession thereof.

In consideration whereof and for as much as yr said orator hath no ordinarye remedye by the due course of the common lawes of this realm and for that he knoweth not the certen or trew date of the said leas nor yet wherein the same is conteyned, yt may therefore please your good Lordshippe the premisses considered to grante unto yr said orator the Queens majesties most gracious wrytte of subpoena to be directed unto the said Elizabeth Yawe widow commanding her by vertue thereof at a certan tyme and under a certan paine by your Lordshipp therein to be limitedt personallie to appear before your good Lordshipp in the Queens moste honourable courte of channcerye then and there to answer to the premisses and to bring with her the said lease or else to answer directlie what is become thereof and what certen tittle she doeth pretend unto the said leas and other the premises and by what conveyance, and further to stand unto and abide by such order and direction therein as to your Lordshipp shall be thought most meet and conveniente. And your said orator shall dailie pray for the preservacion of your good Lordshipp in honour longer to contynew

**The Answer of Elizabeth Yawe widowe Defendante to the Bill of
Complaynte
of Richard Yawe Complaynante**

The sayed Defendante sayeth that the sayd Bill of Complaynte against her exhbyted in this honourable courte ys uncerten untruwe and insufficyente in

the lawe to be answered unto And the matters therein containd are for the moste parte thereof devysed imagindd and sett fforth upon malice and displeasure to the ende and intente unjustlie to vex and moleste this Defendante without any good cause or juste ground of

Nonethelesse yf this Defendante by the order of this honourable courte shall be enforced to make anye further answer to the same insufficyent Bill of Complaynt then the advantages and exceptions to the incertayntye and insufficyencye thereof att all tymes hereafter saved to the same Defendante, The sayde Defendante for answer to the same insufficyent Bill of Complaynte and for playne declaracyon of the truethe touchynge the (surmised ??) matters therein contained sayeth that one Charles Walgrave of Co**ey (Cossey ??) in the Countie of (Som't ??) being seyzed of and in the sayed messuage lands and premisses in the Bill specyfied by his sufficyent dede indented dyd demise grannte and to ffarme lett unto the sayde Defendante the sayed tenement with the appurtenance and certain lande meadowe and pasture thereunto belonginge to have and to hold by the sayde Defendante for the terme of her natural lyefe by fforce and vertue whereof she this Defendant into the sayed tenement and premisses entered and was and ys thereof lawfullye possessed

And the iyssues and proffytte thereof comynge and growinge doethe receyve and ymloye to her own use as lawfull is for her to doe. Without that the sayed Sir Edmund Walgrave Knight in the bill specyfied to the knowledge of this Defendante dyd demise and grannte the aforesaid messuage and premisses to the sayd John Yawe Margarett his wyeff and the Complaynante for terme of theyre lyves successyvelye in suche manner and fforme as by the sayd bill of complaynte is alleged

Or that anye suche deed or demyse att anye tyme came to the hands and possession of the sayd Defendant Or that she this Defendant by ... or pretence .. sithence (= *since*) the deathe of the sayd John Yawe hath detained and withholden the possession of the sayd tenement and other the premisses otherwise than lawfull was and is for her to do.

And wythowt that that (*sic*) anye other matter or thyng in the sayd bill of complaynte containd materiall or effectuall for this Defendante to make answer unto and herebefore not sufficyentlie confessed avoided denied or traversed is trewe All whiche matters the said Defendant is readye to aver and prove as this honourable courte shall awarde. And prayethe that she

maye be dismissed further of the said Court with her reasonable costs and damages in that behalf sustained.

(Note the document record contains two Replicacions of Richard Yeaw to Elizabeth's Answers. They are essentially the same in that they simply re-iterated the truth of his Bill of Complaint. It is unclear which of the two may have been set before the Court)

1. The Replicacion of Richard Yeaw complaynante to the Answer of Elizabeth Yeaw defendante

The said complaynante for replicacion to the said answer sayeth that his said bill of complaynte exhibited in to this honourable courte is most certen and verye trew and that this complaynante will aver and maintain all and anye matter in the said bill to be sett forthe as in the said bill are trewlie expressed without there is anie other matter or thyng contained in the said answer materiall or effectuall to be replied unto and not in this replicacion replied unto confessed or avoided traversed or denied is trew, all which matters the said complaynante is readye to aver and prove as this honourable courte shall award and praiethe as before in his said bill of complaine he hathe praied.

2. The Replicacion of Richard Yeaw complaynante to the Answer of Elizabeth Yeaw defendante

The said complaynante for replicacion sayeth that the said bill of complainte by hym exhibited is trew certen and sufficient in the lawe to be answered unto and that this complaynante will aver maintain and prove all and anye matter in the said bill to be sett forthe as he in the said bill is trewlie expressed without that there is anie other matter or thyng maintained in the said answer materiall or effectuall to be replied unto and not this replicacion replied unto confessed nor avoided traversed or denied is trew. all which matters this complaynante is readye to aver and maintain as this honourable courte shall award and praieth as before he hath praied.

(Transcribed by the Authors from documents at the National Archives, Kew,
Commentary

None of the four documents are dated, but Richard's Bill of Complaint was addressed to Sir Nicholas Bacon as Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, who served 1558-1579, which thus brackets the period. The Aisholt parish records pre-1652 have not survived, which complicates any analysis of the protagonists and timeline.

Richard, son of John and Margaret Yawe, both deceased, raised a Bill of Complaint against Elizabeth Yawe, the widow of his late father who had re-married after the death of Margaret. In Richard's Bill, he refers to his father's second marriage to Elizabeth Yeaw – see comment on her surname below.

Richard sought recovery of a tenement clearly stated as lying in Aisholt under a lease thereon from Sir Edward Walgrave, and held on the lives of John, Margaret and himself and the longest living of the three. Note when the deed was executed, Richard was probably not in his majority – that was not a legal requirement. We have seen many other cases where one or more of the lives in a lease was that of a child, which had the benefit to the lessee of securing some inheritance and extending the term of the lease. His evidence gives the size of the tenement as about 40 acres. Elizabeth's defence was that she held the tenement under a lease from Charles Walgrave of Cofley (??), in the Countie of Somerset (??).

Edward Walgrave was a prominent Catholic, a principal adviser to the Princess Mary and after she acceded to the throne was rewarded with a Privy Counsellorship and knighted at her coronation. His family seat was in Essex, but he assiduously enlarged his land-holdings elsewhere including purchasing some 15 manors in North Somerset – apparently including Aisholt. After Queen Mary's death, he fell from grace and was imprisoned in the Tower of London by Queen Elizabeth, where he died on 1 September 1561. He had made a will in 1559 leaving a lifetime interest in his lands to his wife, amending that shortly before his death such that in the event of her death, his nominated trustees would hold the same on behalf of his five children – including his elder son Charles

Hence we know John Yawe's lease was certainly executed *before* 1561, and if Elizabeth did indeed hold a lease from Charles, this must have been executed *after* 1561.

According to the Head of Legal Records at the National Archives in Kew, many cases for which they hold pleadings from the Plaintiff(s) and Defendant(s) never went as far as a hearing, often being settled out of Court beforehand. However, where the records include a "Replicacion" by the Plaintiff to the Defendant's Answer – as is the case here - that is often an indication that the case had a full hearing in Court. Despite that, as frequently occurs, we find no verdict or conclusion in the case. However, it appears Richard may not have been able to recover the property, at least in the short term, because Lay Subsidy records show Elizabeth Yeawe was assessed for land in 1581 and again in 1593/4.

We do find further clues to Elizabeth's identity. In April 2016, MD identified a source document showing that on **22 Sept 1574**, the administration of the will of **John Yea of Aisholt** was granted to his relict Elizabeth. In his complaint, Richard states his father wrote his last will and testament "one year past". We can thus conclude John probably died **mid-1574**, and that Richard raised his Bill of Complaint in **mid-1575** – some 4 years before the end of Sir Nicholas Bacon's term as Lord Keeper. These two sources must surely relate to the same John & Elizabeth

Furthermore, Alfred Monday in his book "The history of the family of Yea" refers to the will of John Arter of Aisholt dated **12 August 1559** and proved 12 February 1559/60 in Taunton. Arter left a bequest to **Elizabeth Yawe, the wife of John Yawe** – and John Yawe also witnessed the will. We might speculate that Elizabeth was Arter's sister, and that she was the second wife of John, as referred to in Richard's Bill of Complaint. As John was evidently already married to Elizabeth in 1559, Margaret must have died before then.

Note also that Arter appointed his **mother** Jone Legge (note her surname - a second marriage for her ??) as his executrix, suggesting Arter died in middle rather than advanced age. In that case his sister Elizabeth may have been considerably younger than John Yawe, who at the time of their marriage had a son Richard perhaps already in his majority (see below).

Assuming Richard was in his majority when he lodged his complaint in 1575, he must have been born before 1554. If he was also in his majority as one of the three lives with John & Margaret in the lease with Edward Walgrave pre-1561, he would have been born even earlier, pre-1540 – though we have seen cases where one or more of the lives in a lease was that of a minor, so this earlier date is not conclusive. We might reasonably infer a job for John & Margaret a few years either side of 1520, so John may only have been in his 50's at death and Margaret in her 40's

We find no further conclusive records for Richard, eg of a marriage or baptisms of any children. The Somerset Archives have a record for a lease from 30 Sept 1597 to Richard Yawe for a property in Friarn Street, Bridgwater. Monday states the will of Richard Yawe of Bridgwater was proved in Taunton in 1603/4, though the will itself was missing. The Bridgwater parish register records the burial of Richard Yawe on 14 March 1603/4, which is probably that of the Testator, though we can't be certain all these records refer to one and the same Richard from the court case.

Given the tenement in the case was stated as located in Aisholt, we might speculate this was the property which was later known as Postridge and held by John Yea of Aisholt who died in 1645. We might further ponder whether Richard could have been the father or perhaps more likely grandfather of the later tenant John.

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