

# Our Family's Rich Heritage

*By Mark Wareham, first edition  
15<sup>th</sup> December 2011*

Featuring  
**Blachford** family ancestors of the –  
Wareham family of Shaftesbury and Shroton (Iwerne Courtney) in Dorset  
and the Russell, Hurdle and Tapper families of Shroton  
and  
**Dodington** family ancestors of the –  
Wareham family of Shaftesbury, Stainer family of Donhead and Shaftesbury  
and the Love family of Motcombe in Dorset and Mere in Wiltshire

# Introduction

My father's Wareham family is fortunate to be able to claim ancestral connections to two lines that were landed gentry - the Blachfords of Fordingbridge and the Dodingtons of Mere. The choice of the title of this work is appropriate because I am going to look into our 'rich' roots in terms of historical value as well as wealth and social status. As a result of our connection to these two families we have so called 'gateway' ancestors, Susannah Blachford of Fordingbridge and Martha Dodington of Mere and they help us trace a family lineage back to the medieval period and beyond. The Blachford family held Sandhill Manor (now called Sandleheath) near Fordingbridge in Hampshire and the Dodington family held Woodlands Manor in Mere in Wiltshire.



Page four shows the lines from my two great grandparents, Sidney's parents Walter George Wareham and Harriet Stainer, to Susannah and Martha. One of my grandfather Sidney Wareham's (pictured right) great x 7 grandfathers was the gentleman and Lord of the Manor of Woodlands, William Dodington and another great x 5 grandfather was the gentleman, Mr Daniel Blachford who grandson of the Lord of the Manor of Sandhill.

Most of my Wareham and Stainer family ancestors were labourers (otherwise called peasants in the medieval period) or tenant / yeoman farmers. However the family history of the working classes and even farmers mostly runs dry in the 16<sup>th</sup> century due to a lack of documentary evidence. For example parish registers, which are invaluable for tracing baptisms, marriages and burials, did not start in England until 1538. For families that lacked property and left no wills it is almost impossible to find the names of ancestors before this time. Even for the propertied tenant farmers it gets tough to make connections during the early 16<sup>th</sup> century and therefore to make links much further back. However with 'gateway ancestors' where you can link to gentry, then you are much more likely to find historical lines that can enable you to link much further back into history.

In this essay I list some of the many fascinating ancestors that my Wareham family, and many of the ancestors of the other families listed above, can lay claim to be descended from. This essay is not about the Wareham family genealogy in general and the histories of the ancestors of the 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries is recorded elsewhere. This essay is only about those ancestors of the landed gentry and nobility who did something of note in history. They are ancestors who achieved great things or held great offices or lands in the period from after the fall of Rome through to the English Civil War. I will attempt to tell some of the story of the lives of these ancestors but this is not a research project and not first hand material. This is just an attempt to make history relevant for fellow family members by presenting the historical information shown elsewhere in a form that shows how we are connected to some important families and events in our country's heritage. I hope that relatives find this study of interest and that they are encouraged to look further into many of the historical events referred to herein. I think that it should help to make history come alive and if you have never been interested in major events from the past before, hopefully knowing that you are connected to people involved does make it more personal. Even if you have always been interested in history, being able to say, for example, that you are descended from a person who fought at the Battle of Agincourt is an exciting thing. If it encourages any of the younger generations of our family lines to study history as an interest, and not just because your school says that you have to, then I will be well satisfied with this work.

I cannot say for absolutely certain that we are linked genetically to every single person listed in this essay. The family line connections are based on tracing genealogy through written records of baptisms, marriages, wills, estate records, pedigrees produced by royal heralds and other evidence. But this is not confirmed by DNA evidence because that would be impossible to achieve. DNA analysis can only be used to trace direct lines of male (e.g. all of your father's fathers) and female (or mother's mothers) descent. That is because there are only such ancestral indicators left on only the 'x' and 'y' chromosomes that are shown in such a test and these genes are only passed from fathers to sons and mothers to daughters. All of the ancestors listed in this essay come through a combination of maternal and paternal descent to my grandfather and so the best that one can say about this study is that it is a heritage based on good documentary evidence, not on genetics.

In this essay I list the families in alphabetical order and refer which of the two originating lines that they are connected to – the Blachfords or the Dodingtons. In some cases the listed ancestor may be linked to both families. There is not enough space here to list all of the thousands of medieval and noble ancestors that I have researched so far, I have over 5,000 names in total on my database. But hopefully you will get an idea of the rich heritage of the Dodingtons and Blachfords, and hence we Warehams, from this work.

### Notes -

- At the end of the essay I also list other individual ancestors of note but haven't listed whole family ancestries in these cases. If you are interested in seeing the line of descent please contact me.
- Where a family name is listed in bold it is a link to another family listed elsewhere in the essay. By following these highlighted names you can follow the ancestral connections between each of the lines.
- Shown at the start of each family history page is a family coat of arms. These are the arms that have been officially attributed by the royal heralds to the people mentioned in the list. There is a modern habit of using coats of arms for all family surnames however strictly the granting of such arms was a mark of high status and in this essay the arms used are only those granted in the proper manner.
- The ancestral generations stated are those from my grandfather, Sidney Wareham. For example Dorothy Arundell on page 5 is his great x 12 grandmother. Therefore if Sidney was your father add one to the number of generations of descent from the listed name, two for his grandchildren or three for great grandchildren and so on.
- Please excuse the familiarity of using ancestor's first names on occasion rather than their title. For example calling an ancestor William (as in William Montague) rather than Salisbury (as in Earl of Salisbury), as would be a more formal and accepted manner of talking about titled ancestors. As a descendent I think this element of family association is not a sign of lack of respect.
- For more detailed information about some of these lines please refer to my Blachford and Dodington family spreadsheets available online.
- If you are interested in any of the source material, then some of it is listed at the end of the essay, but for more detailed information if you need it please do contact the author –
  - mark.wareham2 (at(@)) ntlworld.com
- With regards to pictures and photographs used in this essay to make it more presentable I have attempted to use those either taken myself or out of copyright and available on open use sites like Wikipedia. This article is a private work and only intended for family history purposes and not for commercial gain or profit. However if any photos are copyrighted and you object to the usage, I apologise as it is an honest error and if you hold that right then please let me know and I will delete it.

## Ancestral line to the Dodingtons –

Sidney Ernest <b>Wareham</b>		
Harriet Rose <b>Stainer</b>	m 28/6/1902 Tisbury, Wilts	Walter George Wareham
b 12/6/1880 Donhead St Mary, ba ?		b 25/6/1865 Iwerne Courtney, Dorset
d 10/9/1960 * bu Charlton, Wiltshire		d 16/4/1945 Higher Coombe C bu 20/4/45 Charlton, Wilts
Sarah Love	m 20/6/1872 Enmore Green, Dorset	Richard John Stainer
b 30/5/1852 Enmore Green		b 6/11/1853 St James, Shaftesbury
d 16/4/1916 West Harnham, Salisbury, Wiltshire (age 63) bu ?		d 4/10 bu 9/10/1939 Fordingbridge, Hampshire (age 85)
George Love	m 22/2/1830 Motcombe	Martha Case
b 6/9/1807 Motcombe, Dorset		bo 1809 Shaftesbury bapt 1/3/1818 Mot
d 7/2/1878 Enmore Green (age 70)		d 30/3/1893 Enmore Green (age 84)
William Love	m 29/4/1793 Motcombe	Elizabeth Arnold
b 17/1/1769 Mere, Wiltshire		b 15/5/1768 Motcombe
d 24/3/1833 Motcombe (age 65)		d 30/8/1846 Motcombe (age 80)
Joseph Love	m 4/11/1768 Mere, Wilts	Mary Snook
bo 1738 ba 17/7/1743 Mere		b 5/4/1738 Mere
d 24/12/1823 Mere (age 85)		d 15/12/1830 (age 92) Mere
Martha <b>Dodington</b>	m 15/9/1737 Mere, Wilts	Michael Love

## Ancestral line to the Blachfords –

Sidney Ernest <b>Wareham</b>		
Walter George Wareham	m 28/6/1902 Tisbury, Wilts	Harriet Rose Stainer
b 25/6/1865 Iwerne Courtney, Dorset		b 12/6/1880 Donhead St Mary, ba ?
d 16/4/1945 Higher Coombe C bu 20/4/45 Charlton, Wilts		d 10/9/1960 * bu Charlton, Wiltshire
Jane Russell	m 25/9/1847 Iwerne Courtney	George Wareham
b 17/2/1828 Iwerne Courtney		b 6/11/1825 Iwerne Courtney
d 13/10/1899 Iwerne Courtney		d 29/3/1883 Iwerne Courtney
Maria Hurdle	m 24/8/1812 Iwerne Courtney	Joseph Russell
b 9/1/1791 Iwerne Courtney		b 1788 Shillingstone, Dorset
d 17/8/1880 Iwerne Courtney		d 8/8/1872 Iwerne Courtney
Elizabeth Tapper	m 27/6/1784 Iwerne Courtney	Thomas Hurdle
b 1766 East Orchard in Iwerne Minster		b 12/10/1761 Iwerne Courtney
d 2/1/1829 Iwerne Courtney		d 23/9/1810 Iwerne Courtney
Susannah <b>Blachford</b>	m 29/12/1763 Fontmell Magna	James Tapper

## The Arundell family of Cornwall

(Blachford line)



**Dorothy Arundell**

**(c 1460 to ?)**

Great x 12 grandmother

Dorothy married Sir Henry **Strangeways** of Dorset.

**Sir John Arundell**

**(1421 to 1473)**

Great x 13 grandfather

John was Lord of Lanherne in Cornwall and at one time was High Sheriff of the county. He was a supporter of the Lancastrian cause in the Wars of the Roses.

John's marriage to Katherine Chidiocke, as her second marriage, in 1451 brought with it lands in Dorset, Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire. He was knighted in 1463.

In early 1471 Queen Margaret of Anjou went to Exeter to gather forces for her husband King Henry VI and John was one of those who came to her aid and a substantial force of west-country men was raised. John then proceeded to fight for the red rose under the Duke of Somerset at the Battle of Tewkesbury in May 1471. Fortunately for John when Yorkist King Edward IV was victorious he was in a much more secure position than after previous battles in the wars and so was less eager to exact vengeance on defeated rivals. Edward's rival for the thrown King Henry VI was murdered in the Tower of London and Henry's son Edward lay dead at Tewkesbury. As a result of this security John and other Lancastrians who survived the battle were not executed but instead faced heavy fines. John was forced to pay 6,000 marks.



John's great grandson Thomas Arundell bought Wardour Castle in Wiltshire in 1547 and founded a junior branch of this line there.

**Sir John Arundell**

**(1367 to 1473)**

Great x 15 grandfather

John was Lord of Lanherne in Cornwall and in 1418 he took 364 men-at-arms and 770 archers into France in support of King Henry V's invasion.

The Arundells may descend from a Roger de Arundell who was a companion of William the Conqueror and who held land in Somerset at the time of the Domesday book. But the earliest traceable ancestor is Sir Ralph Arundell (great x 21 grandfather) who in 1260 was High Sheriff of Cornwall.

## The Assenhull family of Methley, Yorkshire

(Blachford line)



### Constance Assenhull

(1405 to ?)

Great x 15 grandmother

Constance married Richard **Waterton** in 1435. In dowry Richard received property in Yorkshire which had belonged to Constance's mother.

### Sir William Harpeden

(1360 to 1443)

Great x 16 grandfather

William was probably the valet of the chamber of Henry Bolingbroke and he accompanied his master on expeditions to Prussia and the Holy Land in 1390 and 1392. He may be identified with the William Harpeden, esquire, who witnessed the will made by Henry's father, John of Gaunt, in 1398. William was certainly the 'king's esquire' to who in 1397 was granted for life by the king the late Earl of Arundell's grange at Tyburn, Middlesex, 'in aid of the maintenance of his estate', and who, in 1399, when preparing to embark with the royal army for Ireland, received a life annuity of £20 charged on the exchequer.

Bolingbroke accepted King Richard II's esquire into his own household not long after his accession to the throne, and confirmed his annuity in 1400. William was among those selected to escort the king's daughter Blanche to Germany for her marriage in the spring of 1402, and in the following year he was sent on royal business to Picardy. Before the autumn of 1404 he had been made an usher in the King's chamber. It was then that, by reason of his marriage to widow Joan Hasilden, daughter of Sir John de **Burgh**, that the king granted him and his wife an annuity of £40 for life from the issues of the estates of the duchy of Lancaster in Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire. The alteration in his status as a consequence of this opportune match prompted him to change his name, and henceforth he is known as Assenhull. His appointment as a JP in Cambridgeshire in January 1406 followed hard upon his first election as shire knight for that county; the electors having no doubt taken into account his position in the royal household, which he may well have retained until Henry IV's death. In the course of the reign the king occasionally made Assenhull gifts of timber from duchy parks for repairs to his houses, and an earlier grant of two tuns of wine a year made to Joan Hasilden was transferred to her new husband. William's marriage brought him substantial landed holdings in Cambridgeshire and Yorkshire capable of providing him with annual revenues estimated in 1436 at £95, with other sources of income such as annuities added at least £45 more.

During the first year of King Henry V's reign Assenhull was appointed as escheator of Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire, and the letters patent granting him wine from the king's presage were confirmed even though he was no longer a member of the royal household. He entered a contract in 1415 to serve on Henry's first expedition to France with a band of two men-at-arms and six archers, but while fulfilling this undertaking he fell sick at the Siege of Harfleur (18<sup>th</sup> August to 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1415, pictured right) and returned to England on 7<sup>th</sup> October, leaving his archers to carry on to meet the French at Agincourt without benefit of his leadership. Nevertheless, it was probably on this campaign that he attained his knighthood.



In May 1416 Sir William undertook to spend three months at sea in the force sent to relieve the garrison at Harfleur, and immediately after his discharge he secured election to Parliament for the second time. He was responsible for holding the parliamentary elections for Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire during his shrievalty of 1419, and at those held subsequently, for the two Parliaments of 1421, he headed the lists of electors present at the shire court at Cambridge. Evidently reluctant to undertake further military service in person, in March 1422 he supplied a man-at-arms to go in his place to join the royal armies in France.

King Henry V's death had no noticeable effect on William's role in local administration. He sat as a MP in five of the first six Parliaments of the new reign, and while that of 1422 was in session he obtained formal confirmation that the casks of wine originally granted him by King Henry IV would continue to be assigned every year. During 1425 he secured letters patent exempting him for 12 years from being made to hold royal office against his will. Even so, he continued as before to take on a variety of governmental duties in the localities.

Frequently a member of committees to raise loans for the Crown, William made one such loan, of 40 marks, in 1430, and six years later he was asked by the Council for another, of £40, towards financing the Duke of York's army. He was on good terms with one of the most diligent councillors of King Henry V's minority, Sir John **Tiptoft** (d 1443), steward of the Household, who in 1431 named him as a trustee of his estates in Cambridgeshire and Middlesex. Naturally, he was listed among the Cambridgeshire gentry required in 1434 to take the oath against maintenance of those who broke the law.

Having founded a perpetual chantry in the house of the Carmelites at Cambridge with the intention that it should be his place of burial, in 1440 he obtained permission from Pope Eugenius IV to have his wife's body exhumed from Guilden Morden parish church and re-interred in the friary. He died shortly before 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1443.



## The D'Aubigny family of Belvoir

(Blachford and Dodington lines)



*Isabel D'Aubigny*

*(c 1240 to 1301)*

Great x 19 grandmother

Isabel married Sir Robert de **Ros**.

*Sir William D'Aubigny*

*(c 1205 to 1275)*

Great x 20 grandfather

William was Lord of Belvoir and held Belvoir castle in Leicestershire.

*Sir William D'Aubigny*

*(1185 to 1236)*

Great x 21 grandfather

William was Lord of Belvoir and built a castle on his lands. He was High Sheriff of Warwickshire and Leicester. He initially stayed neutral in the baron's rebellion against King John but then joined the barons after their successes. William became one of the twenty five sureties (a guarantor) of the Magna Carta. The picture to the right is of King John being forced to sign the charter by the rebellious barons, like William, at Runnymede in 1215.



William held Rochester castle in Kent for the rebels but in late 1215 he and about 100 knights were besieged by the king after renewed hostilities. After the outer walls were breached, the rebels fled to the relative safety of the inner keep. A longer siege then ensued but the walls were eventually undermined by fires in underground mines and the rebels surrendered. William was imprisoned but escaped being executed.

On accession of King Henry III, William renewed his loyalty to the crown and fought in the king's forces at the second Battle of Lincoln in 1217. He was later buried at Newstead Abbey in Nottinghamshire.



*Sir William D'Aubigny*

*(1185 to 1236)*

Great x 23 grandfather

William was known as the 'Brito', probably because he was son of a Lord of Breton in France. He fought for King Henry I at the Battle of Tinchebray in Normandy in 1106 shown in a medieval picture on the left. This battle was fought against the king's rival for the throne Robert Curthose, the Duke of Normandy. William won great praise for his gallantry at this battle and he is said "by a charge of much spirit, [to have] determined at once the fate of the day." The monk Matthew Paris records "in this encounter chiefly deserveth honour the most heroic William d'Albini, the Briton, who with his sword broke through the enemy and terminated the battle."

William was high in the king's favour and he married Cecily **Bigod** and through her held lands in Belvoir in Leicestershire. He became an itinerant justice in England and travelled the country to hear pleas and supervise and supplement the local courts. This was a system out of which English Common Law was to develop.



**The Badlesmere family**  
(Blachford and Dodington lines)

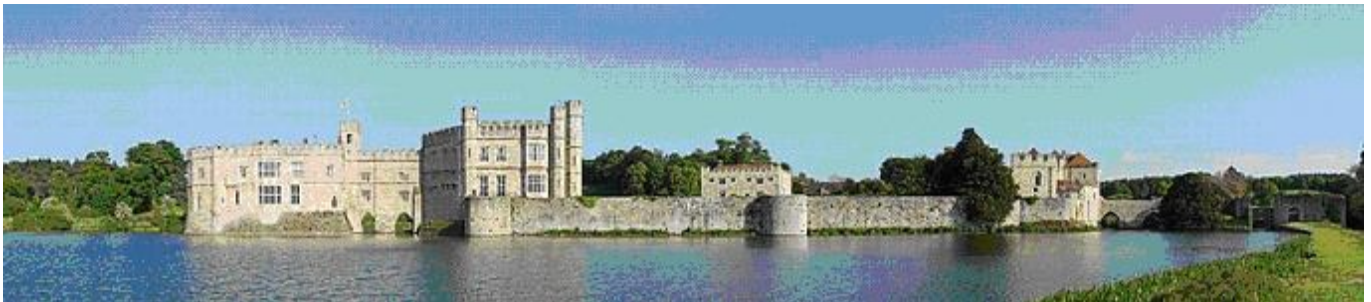


**Elizabeth de Badlesmere**  
**(1313 to 1356)**  
Great x 18 grandmother

Elizabeth married firstly Sir Edmund **Mortimer**, son of Roger the first Earl of March. After being widowed she secondly married Sir William de **Bohun**, Earl of Northampton.

**Sir Bartholemew de Badlesmere**  
**(1275 to 1322)**  
Great x 19 grandfather

In 1307 Bartholemew became governor of Bristol Castle. King Edward II appointed him as a steward of his household and he made a compact with some other noblemen to gain supreme influence in the royal council. Although very hostile to Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, Bartholemew helped to make peace between the king and the earl in 1318, and was a member of the middle party which detested both Edward's minions, like the **Despencers**, and his violent enemies like Lancaster. The king's conduct, however, drew him to the side of the earl, and he had already joined Edward's enemies when, in October 1321, his wife, Margaret de **Clare** refused to admit Queen Isabella to her husband's castle at Leeds in Kent (photo below Photo by David Iliff. License: CC-BY-SA 3.0). The king made an assault on the castle; eventually capturing it. When he seized and imprisoned Baroness Badlesmere and their five children, civil war broke out. After the defeat of the Earl of Lancaster at the Battle of Boroughbridge, Bartholemew was captured, attainted, and executed by being hanged, drawn and quartered at Blean near Canterbury on 14 April 1322. His head was then displayed on the Burgh Gate at Canterbury.



**Sir Guncelin de Badlesmere**  
**(c 1230 to 1301)**  
Great x 20 grandfather

Guncelin fought for King Edward I in his expeditions in Wales and Gascony in France.

**Sir William de Badlesmere**  
**(c 1170 to ?)**  
great x 22 grandfather

William was an adherent to the cause of the rebel barons against King John and he was captured following the breaking of the siege of Rochester Castle in Kent in 1215 (picture right from Geoff Cooper). The besieged rebels had been commanded by fellow ancestor Sir William **D'Aubigny**. William de Badlesmere wasn't released by John's son King Henry III until 1222.



## The Beauchamp family of Warwick

(Blachford line)



### *Eleanor Beauchamp*

(c 1410 to ?)

Great x 14 grandmother

Eleanor was the daughter of Sir Richard Beauchamp and his wife Elizabeth **Berkeley**. She married Sir Thomas de **Ros** in about 1425.

### *Sir Richard Beauchamp, 13<sup>th</sup> Earl of Warwick (1<sup>st</sup> creation)*

(1382 to 1439)

Great x 15 grandfather

Richard was knighted on the coronation of King Henry IV in 1399. He succeeded to the earldom in 1401. He fought in Wales against the rebellion of Owain Glyndwr and after the Battle of Shrewsbury in 1403 he was made a Knight of the Garter. He struck up a companionship with young Prince Hal (future King Henry V) during this period. He went on Pilgrimage to the Holy Land and returned to England in 1410 via Russia and Eastern Europe. With King Henry V on the throne in 1413 Richard was given numerous responsibilities by the Crown and he accompanied the King on his invasion of France. He was present at the siege of Harfleur and was with the King again in 1417. Under King Henry VI he gained in power and influence and gained several posts in France where he spent much of the rest of his life attempting to subdue French resistance. He was considered one of the most powerful lords when he died in 1439 and was a loyal servant to the Lancastrians.



### *Sir Thomas Beauchamp, 12<sup>th</sup> Earl of Warwick (1<sup>st</sup> creation)*

(1339 to 1401)

Great x 16 grandfather

Thomas accompanied John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, in his campaigns in France in 1373 and at the time was made a Knight of the Garter. He fought in Scotland in 1385. In 1387 he was one of the appellants (pictured right in front of the King in the group of five knights, from left to right – Richard **Fitzalan**, Thomas of Woodstock, Thomas de Mowbray, Henry Bolingbroke (later King Henry IV) and Beauchamp) who tried to separate King Richard II from his advisors but was later charged with treason, forfeiting his title and lands, and was imprisoned on the Isle of Man and the Tower of London. He

was released and restored in 1399 after Henry Bolingbroke's victories.

### *Sir Thomas Beauchamp, 11<sup>th</sup> Earl of Warwick (1<sup>st</sup> creation)*

(1313 to 1369)

Great x 17 grandfather

Thomas was born at Warwick Castle and in the 1330's served frequently in wars in Scotland. He was Marshall of England from 1344 until 1369 and was one of the commanders at the great English victories of Crecy and Poitiers in France. His tomb effigy at St Mary's in Warwick is shown on the right where he is alongside his wife Katherine **Mortimer**.



### *Sir Guy Beauchamp, 10<sup>th</sup> Earl of Warwick (1<sup>st</sup> creation)*

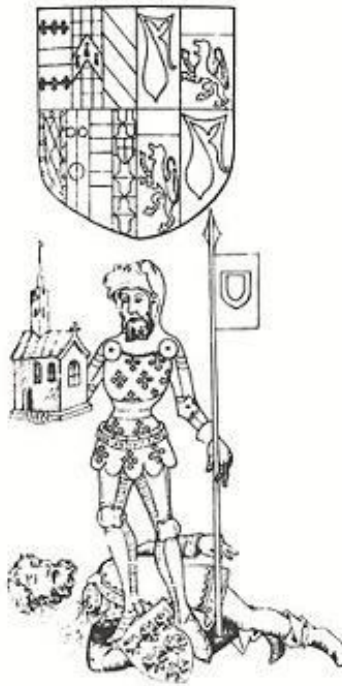
(c 1272 to 1315)

Great x 18 grandfather

Guy was an English magnate who was one of the principle opponents of King Edward II and his advisor Piers Gaveston. He was a founding member of the Knights of the Garter. Guy distinguished himself in the victory against

the Scots at Falkirk in 1298 under King Edward I. But he soon fell out with his son when he took the throne. In 1312 Guy captured Piers Gaveston and after an improvised trial had him killed.

Guy died after illness in 1315 and he is pictured below from the 15<sup>th</sup> century Rous Rolls over a body of the decapitated Gaveston.



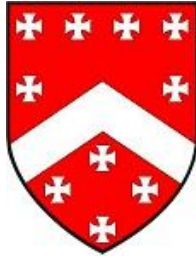
**Sir William Beauchamp, 9<sup>th</sup> Earl of Warwick (1<sup>st</sup> creation)**  
**(1237 to 1298)**

Great x 19 grandfather

William was a close friend of King Edward I and one of his commanders in his wars against the Welsh. William inherited his title from his mother Isabel daughter of William Mauduit. His daughter Isabella married Sir Hugh **Despencer** the elder.

## The Berkeley family of Berkeley, Gloucestershire

(Dodington line from Margaret born about 1500 and Blachford from Elizabeth born about 1390)



**Margaret Berkeley**  
**(c 1500 to ?)**

Great x 12 grandmother

Margaret married William **Francis**, esquire, in about 1520.

**Richard Berkeley, Esquire**  
**(? to 1514)**

Great x 13 grandfather

Richard held the Manor of Stoke Gifford in Gloucestershire and Weoley Castle in Worcestershire.

**Sir William Berkeley**  
**(1433 to 1501)**

Great x 14 grandfather

William of Weoley in Worcestershire and Stoke Gifford in Gloucestershire was Sheriff of Worcester in 1466. In 1476 he accompanied the Duke of Clarence to fight in France and in 1478 he was an MP for Worcester. He was created a Knight of the Order of the Bath in 1483 at King Richard III's coronation and he fought at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485 for the Yorkists. After Richard's defeat he fled to France and was proclaimed a traitor by the new King Henry VI, but in 1486 he was granted a general pardon and his lands were restored to him.

**Sir Maurice Berkeley**  
**(1298 to 1347)**

Great x 18 grandfather

Maurice founded the line of Berkeley of Stoke Gifford and was the second son of Maurice senior. He fought at the Battle of Crecy and was killed at the Siege of Calais a year later in 1347.

**Sir Maurice de Berkeley**  
**1271 to 1326**

Great x 19 grandfather

Maurice was 2<sup>nd</sup> Baron Berkeley which title he took in 1308. He was involved in the Scottish Wars from about 1295 to 1318. Maurice was Governor of Gloucester 1312, Governor of Berwick-on-Tweed from 1314, Steward of the Duchy of Aquitaine in 1319 and Justiciar of South Wales in 1316. In 1314 he was at the Battle of Bannockburn but escaped from that crushing defeat and helped raise the ransom for his father and brother who were both captured by the Scots. In 1322 with the Earl of Lancaster he rebelled against King Edward II and was captured and imprisoned in Wallingford Castle in Berkshire where, despite attempts to rescue him, he died in 1326. He was buried in St Augustine Abbey (Bristol Cathedral) and his tomb is pictured to the right (from Wikipedia) and below, showing the crest on his shield (from the Medieval Combat Society). Sir Maurice was the son of Sir Thomas (d 1321).



**Elizabeth Berkeley**  
**(c 1390 to ?)**

Great x 15 grandmother

Elizabeth married  
Richard de **Beauchamp**  
(13<sup>th</sup> Earl of Warwick).  
She was the daughter of





Sir Thomas (d 1417).

**Sir Thomas de Berkeley**  
**(1353 to 1417)**

Great x 16 grandfather

Thomas was the 5<sup>th</sup> Baron Berkeley. He was born in Berkeley Castle and his monumental brass at Wootton-under-Edge in Gloucestershire is pictured to the right (from Wikipedia).



**Sir Maurice de Berkeley**  
**(c 1330 to 1368)**

Great x 17 grandfather

Maurice was the 4<sup>th</sup> Baron Berkeley and when only about seven years old he had accompanied his father in the wars in Scotland. In 1338 he married Elizabeth le **Despencer**. Maurice fought at the Battle of Crecy in 1346 and in 1347 at the Siege of Calais. He was at the Battle of Poitiers in 1356 where, although being a decisive English victory, he was wounded and taken prisoner. He was kept captive until 1361 due to problems raising money for his ransom. His restored effigy in Bristol Cathedral is pictured left (from Wikipedia).

**Sir Thomas de Berkeley**  
**(c 1295 to 1361)**

Great x 18 grandfather

Thomas was 3<sup>rd</sup> Baron Berkeley and was known as 'Thomas the rich'. He was responsible for building most of what is now Berkeley Castle (see below). He and his brother continued the resistance against King Edward II after the death of their father in custody and he was released from imprisonment by Edward, Prince of Wales, and his mother Isabella.

In 1327 Thomas was made joint custodian of the deposed King Edward II, whom he received at his castle, but being commanded to deliver over the government to his fellow custodians, Lord Maltravers and Sir Thomas Gournay, he left there to go to Bradley "with heavy cheere perceiving what violence was intended".



As an accessory to the murder of the deposed king, he was tried by a jury of 12 knights in the 4th year of King Edward III, but was honourably acquitted (some later historians believe that Edward II was not actually murdered but escaped and lived out the rest of his life in France).



Thomas was at the Battle of Crecy in 1346 with his son and he was also with his son at the Battle of Poitiers in 1356. His tomb and effigy in Bristol Cathedral is shown above. Thomas was the son of Thomas (d 1321)

**Sir Thomas de Berkeley**  
**(1245 to 1321)**

Great x 20 grandfather

Thomas was the 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Berkeley and he was one of the most remarkable men of his age, Smyth calls him-

*"A man of men; a man for all hours and all affairs; a man at home and abroad, in peace and in war, in the foreign embassies of his Prince, and, in his country governments, of an universal understanding. And for his private husbandries and house keepings he admitted of few compeers. A wise, devout, and honest lord, much to be preferred above the best of his six forefathers."*

From 1265 till 1319 he was almost constantly in arms - in 1265 he fought at the Battle of Evesham in Worcestershire for the royalists. In 1298 he fought at the Battle of Falkirk and was at the Siege of Caerlaverock in Dumfries in 1300. In 1307 he was on embassy to Pope Clement V in Rome and in 1314 he fought at the Battle of Bannockburn and was taken prisoner, for which a huge ransom was paid for his release.

**Sir Maurice de Berkeley**  
**(1218 to 1281)**

Great x 21 grandfather

In 1256, King Henry III, having been the guest of his son Prince Edward at Bristol was, on his return, royally entertained by Maurice, Lord Berkeley, for three days at Berkeley Castle. Maurice was in arms with his proportion of followers on the king's summons on no less than sixteen different occasions, against the French, Scots, Welsh and rebels at home. However he found time to attend to his own concerns and effected many great improvements on his estates by means of enclosures and exchanges. He converted Whitcliff Wood into a Park and enclosed it. He also made fishponds and beautified the east, west and south sides of the castle with walks and gardens. He died in 1281 and was buried with his predecessors in St. Augustine's. His eldest son Maurice having been accidentally killed at a Tournament at Kenilworth, he was succeeded by Thomas his second son.

**Thomas Berkeley**  
**(c 1170 to 1243)**

Great x 22 grandfather

Known as 'the observer' he gained the livery of Berkeley castle. Thomas was buried at Bristol and his tomb effigy is shown below (from the Medieval Combat Society website).



**Robert Fitzharding, Lord Berkeley**  
**(1095 to 1171)**

Great x 24 grandfather

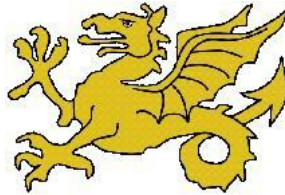
Robert was the founder of the Berkeley family. He was a rich merchant of Bristol and was the eldest son of Harding and succeeded him in his estates and in the office of Praepositus at Bristol. He rendered important services both with arms and money to the Empress Matilda, daughter of King Henry I, and her son Henry **Plantagenet** in their contest for the Crown with the usurper Stephen. Young Henry, on the ultimate success of his party, bestowed upon Robert the great Manor and Barony of Berkeley, which had been previously held from the crown by Roger (called Roger de Berkeley) the lord of Dursley. Roger held his inheritance by force of arms and to settle the dispute the king gave him the Manor of Dursley in fee, on condition of his surrendering Berkeley to Robert; a double marriage was also arranged between the two families, Robert's eldest son Maurice marrying Alice the daughter of the Lord of Dursley, while Roger's son espoused Helen, one of the daughters of Robert Fitzharding. After this they all seemed to have lived in peace and the new lord of Berkeley took quiet possession of his castle and manors. In 1140 Robert commenced the long series of benefactions to the church for which his family were so remarkable, by building and endowing the monastery of St. Augustine at Bristol, the church of which is now the Cathedral. It was consecrated and dedicated on Easter Day 1148 when Robert laid upon the high altar his deed of gift by which he endowed it with many fair manors and lands which still form the endowment of the Bishopric. He died in 1170 and was buried in St. Augustine's, in a monk's habit and cowl, having some time previously become a regular Canon therein. His tomb is pictured below.





**Eadnoth**  
**(c 1030 to 1068)**  
Great x 26 grandfather

Eadnoth was the father of Harding and the grandfather of Robert Fitzharding. He was known as 'Eadnoth the Staller' and was an Anglo-Saxon landowner. He was a steward to the kings of Wessex (the arms of Wessex shown below, from Wikipedia) - Edward the Confessor and Harold II. He had holdings throughout Wessex before the Norman Conquest.



After the Conquest Eadnoth gave his allegiance to the Norman, King William I and in 1068 he was killed at Bleadon in Somerset opposing an invasion by the deceased King Harold's two sons Godwine and Edmund. They were not to succeed in attempts to regain the crown of Wessex or of England which was to remain fully under the control of the Normans who created a dynasty that traces its descent to our modern royalty.

## The Bigod family of Norfolk

(Blachford and Dodington lines)



### *Cecily Bigod*

(1106 to ?)

Great x 23 grandmother

Cecily married William D'**Aubigny** in about 1120.

### *Sir Roger Bigod*

(c 1050 to 1109)

Great x 24 grandfather

Roger came from a fairly obscure family of poor knights in Normandy. Robert le Bigot, certainly a relation of Roger's, possibly his father, acquired an important position in the household of William, Duke of Normandy (later King William I, the Conqueror), due, the story goes, to his disclosure to the duke of a plot by the duke's cousin William Werlenc. Both Roger and Robert probably fought at the Battle of Hastings in 1066.



After the Norman conquest of England the Bigods were rewarded with substantial estates in East Anglia. The Domesday Book lists Roger as holding six lordships in Essex, 117 in Suffolk and 187 in Norfolk. Roger's base was in Thetford, Norfolk where he founded a priory and he later donated to the great monastery at Cluny.

In 1101 he further consolidated his power when Henry I granted him licence to build a castle at Framlingham, which became the family seat of power until their downfall in 1307. Another of his castles was Bungay, also in Suffolk. Both these were improved by successive generations.

In 1069 he, along with Robert Malet and Ralph de Gael (the then Earl of Norfolk), defeated Sweyn Estrithson (Sweyn II) of Denmark near Ipswich. After Ralph de Gael's fall in 1074, Roger was appointed High Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk, and acquired many of the dispossessed earl's estates. For this reason he is sometimes counted as Earl of Norfolk, but he probably was never actually given that title at the time although his son Hugh was to certainly to become 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Norfolk.

Roger acquired further estates through his influence in local law courts.

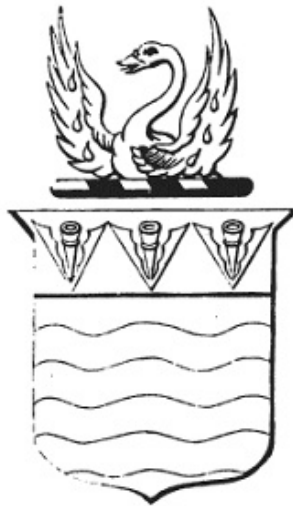
In the rebellion of 1088 he joined other Anglo-Norman barons against King William II, who, it was hoped, was to be deposed in favour of Robert Curthose, Duke of Normandy. He seems to have lost his lands after the rebellion had failed, but soon recovered them.

In 1100, Roger Bigod was one of the King's witnesses recorded on the Charter of Liberties, an important precursor to the Magna Carta of 1215.

In 1101 there was another attempt to bring in Robert of Normandy by unseating Henry I, but this time Roger Bigod stayed loyal to Henry.

He died on 9 September 1107 and is buried in Norwich.

## The Blachford family



**Susannah Blachford**  
**(1744 to 1817)**

Great x 3 grandmother

Susannah married James Tapper of Iwerne Minster at Fontmell Magna in Dorset in 1763.

**John Blachford**  
**(1715 to 1773)**

Great x 4 grandfather

John was born in Fordingbridge in Hampshire and he took over Hartgrove farm (later called Blatchford and now Blackberry farm) near Fontmell Magna from his father's cousin (at one time Mayor of London) in about 1750.

**Daniel Blachford, gent**  
**(1681 to 1726)**

Great x 5 grandfather

Daniel was a gentleman farmer of Gorley and then of Bicton in Fordingbridge.

**Daniel Blachford, gent**  
**(1651 to 1720)**

Great x 6 grandfather

Daniel senior was a gentleman farmer and he was probably born at Sandhill (now Sandleheath) Manor (pictured below). He held Parsonage farm from 1679 till 1699 and owned Ashford farm, also at Fordingbridge, in 1695.



**Robert Blachford, gent**  
**(1624 to 1670)**

Great x 7 grandfather

Robert inherited the Manors of Durston in Somerset and Sandhill, near Fordingbridge, in Hampshire from his father and through his mother Eleanor. He was a royalist in the civil war (see separate essay about him and his grandfather) and he was fined by Parliament after the war as a result of his royalist 'delinquency', as the roundheads called it. Robert also owned a house in Salisbury.

Robert married Elizabeth **Wright** of Winchester at Fordingbridge in 1647.

**Richard Blachford, gent**  
**(1601 to 1635)**

Great x 8 grandfather

Richard held the Manors of Durston in Somerset and Sandhill in Hampshire on marriage to heiress Eleanor **Waterton** of Newport on the Isle of Wight. In 1624 he became a Freeman of the Borough of Dorchester in Dorset and in 1633 became a merchant in London. That same year he was granted the coat of arms by the Royal Heralds in London, shown below, and this incorporated the arms of Blachford on the left side and through his marriage (from top left to bottom right) the arms of the families of **Waterton**, **Assenhull**, **Burgh**, Bellew, **Moleyns**, Courte, **Montague**, **Grandison**, **Tregoz**, **Ewyas**, **Monthermer** and **Hymberford**. Richard died at a young age and was buried in the Church of St Mary Woolnoth in the City of London.



**Richard Blachford, gent**  
**(1570 to 1652)**

Great x 9 grandfather

Richard spent his early years in the employ of a Gilbert Smyth, a merchant in the town of Exeter who imported and exported goods through the port of Weymouth. In about 1593 he started his own business in Dorchester and went into partnership with John Finn and son importing and exporting wool. Richard's clothing business expanded and due to this success he became a town Councillor, an Alderman, a member of the company of Freeman and Bailiff of Dorchester. He was Mayor of Dorchester in 1630 and 1646. Richard became a Parliamentary captain during the civil war and raised a troop of soldiers. It is unlikely that he saw active service however as he was already 69 years old when the war broke out.

Richard married Frances, daughter of John Combe of Ashmore in Dorset, in about 1600.

Richard's father was William Blachford, son of John Blachford. William was also a merchant as was his father and John probably came from Exeter in Devon. He was married in the merchant quarter of that city in 1543.

The Blachford name probably comes from the hamlet of Blatchford in Sourton, Devonshire.

**The Bohun family of Essex and Hereford**  
(Blachford line from Elizabeth and Dodington from Margaret)



**Elizabeth de Bohun**  
**(? To 1385)**

Great x 17 grandmother

Elizabeth married Richard **Fitzalan**, 11<sup>th</sup> Earl of Arundell.

**Sir William de Bohun, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Northampton**  
**(1314 to 1360)**

Great x 18 grandfather

William assisted at the arrest of Roger **Mortimer**, the Earl of March, in 1330, so that young King Edward III could take full control of the crown. He became a trusted friend of the king and a commander of his armed forces. He was active in the renewed wars with Scotland.



In 1335 William married Elizabeth de **Badlesmere**. Elizabeth and William were granted some of the property of Elizabeth's first husband, who had also been Mortimer's son and heir. William was created Earl of Northampton in 1337, one of the six earls created by Edward III to renew the ranks of the higher nobility. Since de Bohun was a younger son, and did not have an income suitable to his rank, he was also given an annuity until suitable estates could be found. He served as High Sheriff of Rutland from 1349 until his death in 1360.

In 1339 he accompanied the king to Flanders. He served variously in Brittany and also in Scotland, and was present at the great English victories at Sluys (a naval battle pictured below) and was the commander of the left flank of the English army under Edward, Black Prince of Wales at Crecy (pictured above). His most stunning feat was commanding an English force to victory against a much bigger French force at the Battle of Morlaix in 1342. Some of the details are in dispute, but it is clear that he made good use of pit traps, which stopped the French cavalry.

In addition to being a competent warrior, William was also a renowned diplomat. He negotiated two treaties with France, one in 1343 and one in 1350. He was also charged with negotiating in Scotland for the freedom of David Bruce, prisoner of the English. William's granddaughter Mary was mother of King Henry V, making that king a first cousin 15 times removed from Sidney Wareham.

Sir William was the son of Sir Humphrey de Bohun (d 1322).



**Margaret de Bohun**  
**(1311 to 1391)**

Great x 19 grandmother

Margaret married Sir Hugh **Courtenay**, Earl of Devon and was the daughter of Sir Humphrey de Bohun (d 1322).

**Sir Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford and Essex**  
**(1276 to 1322)**

Great x 19 grandfather



Humphrey, his tomb sketched below right, was born at Pleshey Castle in Essex and succeeded his father as Earl of Hereford and Essex. Humphrey was one of several earls and barons under King Edward I who laid siege to Caerlaverock Castle in Scotland in 1300 and later took part in many campaigns in Scotland. He also loved tourneying and gained a reputation as an "elegant" fop. In one of the campaigns in Scotland Humphrey evidently grew bored and departed for England to take part in a tournament along with Piers Gaveston and other young barons and knights. On return all of them fell under Edward I's wrath for desertion, but were later forgiven. It is probable that Gaveston's friend, Edward (the future Edward II) had given them permission to depart. Later Humphrey became one of Gaveston's and Edward II's bitterest opponents.

In 1314 at the Battle of Bannockburn, Humphrey should have been given command of the army because that was his responsibility as Constable of England. However, since the execution of Piers Gaveston in 1312 Humphrey had been out of favour with Edward II, who gave the Constablership for the 1314 campaign to the youthful and inexperienced Earl of Gloucester, Gilbert de Clare. Nevertheless, on the first day, de Bohun insisted on being one of the first to lead the cavalry charge. In the melee and cavalry rout between the Bannock Burn and the Scots' camp he was not injured although his rash young nephew Henry de Bohun, no older than about 22, charged alone at Robert Bruce and was killed by Bruce's axe in his head.

On the second day Gloucester was killed at the start of battle. Humphrey fought throughout the day, leading a large company of Welsh and English knights and archers. The archers had success at breaking up the Scots schiltrons until they were overrun by the Scots cavalry. When the battle was lost he retreated with the Earl of Angus and several other barons, knights and men to Bothwell Castle, seeking a safe haven. However, all the refugees who entered the castle were taken prisoner by its formerly pro-English governor Walter FitzGilbert who, like many Lowland knights, declared for Bruce as soon as word came of the Scottish king's victory. Humphrey was ransomed by King Edward II, his brother-in-law, on the pleading of his wife Elizabeth.

In 1322 Humphrey joined other barons in a rebellion against King Edward II and his **Despencer** family counsellors. On 16<sup>th</sup> March at Boroughbridge in Yorkshire led an attempt to storm the bridge and –

"[The 4th Earl of] Hereford led the fight on the bridge, but he and his men were caught in the arrow fire. Then one of de Harclay's pikemen, concealed beneath the bridge, thrust upwards between the planks and skewered the Earl of Hereford through the anus, twisting the head of the iron pike into his intestines. His dying screams turned the advance into a panic."

Humphrey had married Elizabeth **Plantagenet**, daughter of King Edward I, in about 1310.

**Sir Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford and Essex**  
**(1249 to 1298)**

Great x 20 grandfather

Humphrey was known primarily for his opposition to King Edward I over excessive taxation. He was an active participant in the Welsh wars and maintained for several years a private feud with the Earl of Gloucester. Humphrey inherited the earldoms of Hereford and Essex from his grandfather in 1275, his father dying beforehand. He also inherited major possessions in the Welsh Marches from his mother, Eleanor de Braose, a daughter of the Baron of Abergavenny.

Bohun's spent most of his early career reconquering Marcher lands captured by Llywellyn ap Gruffydd during the Welsh war with England. This was finally accomplished through Edward I's invasion of Wales in 1277. Humphrey also fought in Wales in 1282–83 and 1294–95. After concessions from the king he and his ally Bigod agreed to serve on the Falkirk campaign against the Scots. Humphrey died shortly afterwards in 1298.

**Sir Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford and Essex**  
**(1208 to 1275)**

Great x 22 grandfather

Humphrey was 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Hereford, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Essex and Constable of England. He was High Sheriff for Kent in 1240 before going on Pilgrimage to the Holy Land from where he returned before 1258.

**Sir Henry de Bohun, Earl of Hereford**





**(1176 to 1220)**

Great x 23 grandfather

In 1199 Henry was created 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Hereford and Constable of England. He was one of the 25 sureties of the Magna Carta signed in 1215 and was excommunicated by the Pope. Henry supported the French King Louise VIII against future King Henry III and was captured by English forces at the Battle of Lincoln in 1217.

**Sir Humphrey de Bohun**

**(c 1140 to 1181)**

Great x 24 grandfather

Humphrey was Constable to King Henry II and sided with the king in the rebellion of 1173/4. In 1174 he witnessed the Treaty of Falaise reached with William of Scotland. He died on campaign with Prince Henry in France.

**Sir Humphrey de Bohun**

**(c 1110 to 1165)**

Great x 25 grandfather

Humphrey held lands in Wiltshire including Trowbridge Castle. He sided with Empress Matilda after she landed in England in 1139 in her war against King Stephen. He later fell out of favour of Matilda's son King Henry II.

**Sir Humphrey de Bohun**

**(c 1070 to 1123)**

Great x 26 grandfather

Humphrey married Maud, a daughter of Anglo-Saxon landowner Edward D'Evereux, and through which he inherited lands in Wiltshire. This marriage helped form a basis for the fortunes of the Bohun family in future generations.

**Sir Humphrey de Bohun**

**(c 1040 to 1123)**

Great x 27 grandfather

Humphrey, known as 'Humphrey with the Beard' to distinguish him from other Normans who were mostly clean shaven, was a Norman soldier who probably fought at the Battle of Hastings and was given land as a result of William's conquest of England. The Bohun family possessed lands in western Normandy at the time of the conquest.

## The Bolling family of Bradford, Yorkshire

(Blachford line)



### **Rosamund Bolling**

**(1476 to 1553)**

Great x 12 grandmother

Rosamund married Sir Richard **Tempest** in 1497. Rosamund and husband Richard were granted Bolling Hall and surrounding lands as dowry. Her father moved to live at Cledhow Grange. Richard died in 1537 and Rosamund managed the estates until she died in 1553 when it passed to their son John. The Hall stayed in the Tempest family until 1639 and is now a museum. The only surviving part of the property from the medieval time is the tower in the centre of the pictured on the right (by P Thornborow, West Yorkshire Archaeology Services). This building may have had some defensive purpose but it is not strictly a castle structure and it would have originally held the apartments of the Bolling family.



### **Tristram Bolling, esquire**

**(1434 to 1502)**

Great x 13 grandfather

Tristram was Lord of Bolling Hall at Bradford in Yorkshire. He was a strong adherent to the Lancastrians in the Wars of the Roses, like most of the northern nobility and gentry, and he fought alongside his father at the Battle of Towton (depicted below by Richard Caton Woodville) in 1461. Towton was probably the bloodiest battle ever to have taken place on British soil and of 50,000 soldiers 28,000 were killed. Most of those killed were in the rout after the Yorkists broke the Lancastrian lines and recent evidence has uncovered stories of brutal executions and slayings, some involving torture and mutilation, of Lancastrian prisoners. Luckily Tristram, despite being on the losing side, escaped and lived another 41 years.



### **Robert Bolling, gent**

**(1396 to 1487)**

Great x 14 grandfather

Robert was the gentleman Lord of Bolling Hall in Yorkshire. Like his son Tristram, he was a solid Lancastrian and he fought alongside him at Towton in 1461. Like his son he also escaped with his life but was attainted (robed of title and lands) by the victorious King Edward IV. In 1474 Robert wrote to the Yorkist king and pleaded for forgiveness on the basis, as he says, that he was compelled to fight by his Lord John Clifford. Robert was pardoned but had to wait until 1475 when a letter responding to his petition was delivered by the Duke of Gloucester, the future King Richard III. This,

according to the Towton Battlefield Trust, was a rare event and to quote 'I am not aware of anyone else getting such a reversal by King Edward III' and may be testimony to either Robert's basis for his claim or to him being a skilled negotiator.

The property on which Bolling Hall was built and subsequently named was purchased from the de Laci family by William Bolling (great x 19 grandfather) in 1316. The earliest known ancestor of the family was a William de Bolling (great x 22 grandfather) who was born in the mid 12<sup>th</sup> century and who was a benefactor of Kirkstall Abbey in Yorkshire.

## The Bonville family of Devon

(Dodington line)



### Margaret Bonville

(c 1430 to ?)

Great x 15 grandmother

Margaret married Sir William **Courtenay**.

### Sir William Bonville

(1393 to 1461)

Great x 16 grandfather

William was a Knight of the Shire of Somerset and shortly before his death he was made a Knight of the Garter, making him the latest ancestor linking to this order. He was 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Bonville and was High Sheriff of Devon in 1444. He was constable of Exeter Castle and a joint commissioner of array for Devon and Cornwall three times in the late 1450's and his main residence the Manor of Chewton Mendip in Somerset.

During the Wars of the Roses, Lord Bonville supported the Yorkist cause and on 30<sup>th</sup> December 1460, immediately after the Battle of Wakefield his son William and grandson Lord Harington were both beheaded on the battlefield. The executions were carried out by the triumphant forces of Margaret of Anjou who led the Lancastrians in that action. Less than two months later, the Yorkists suffered another defeat at the Second Battle of St Albans, pictured below, and after the Yorkist commander, the Earl of Warwick, had fled William and another noble had kept guard

over Lancastrian King Henry VI to see that he came to no harm. The king had been held in captivity by the earl and brought to the battle in the train of the Yorkist army, but he was abandoned on the battlefield in the flight. In return for their gallantry, King Henry VI promised the two men immunity but Queen Margaret remembered that William was one of the men who had held King Henry in custody after the Battle of Northampton in July 1460, and wanted her revenge. Disregarding her husband's promise she gave orders for William's decapitation the next day. It is alleged that she put the two men on trial, and had her seven-year old son, Prince Edward preside as judge. "Fair son", Margaret is said to have enquired, "what death shall these knights die?" The boy allegedly replied that they were to have their heads cut off, an act which was swiftly carried out, despite the king's pleas for mercy. A stunned William was alleged to have



said to young Edward "may God destroy those who taught thee this manner of speech". Prince Edward was killed at the Battle of Tewkesbury in 1471, the only English heir apparent to the throne to have been killed in battle.

Upon William's death his title was passed to his great-granddaughter, Cecily Bonville, the seven-and-a-half-months old daughter of his grandson, Lord Harington. She became the wealthiest young heiress in England, having also inherited the vast Harington estates. She would go on to marry on 18 July 1474, Thomas Grey, 1<sup>st</sup> Marquess of Dorset, the eldest son of Elizabeth Woodville, Queen consort of Yorkist king Edward IV by her first marriage.

## The De Burgh family of Burgh, Cambridgeshire



### *Sir John de Burgh* *(1328 to 1393)*

Great x 17 grandfather

John was Lord of the Manors of Borough Green in Cambridgeshire and Cawthorne, Penistone, Walton and Hackforth in Yorkshire. He married twice, firstly to Mary de Grey (whose great grandfather was Sir William de Valence, see under **Lusignan** family) and their daughter Katherine married John **Waterton** and secondly to Katherine de Engaine and their daughter Joan married Sir William **Assenhull**. Then children from those two lines (half first cousins) Richard Waterton and Constance Assenhull married in 1435.

### *Sir Thomas de Burgh* *(1278 to 1332)*

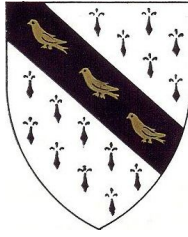
Great x 19 grandfather

Thomas, grandfather of John, was an MP for Cambridgeshire. He married Lucy Bellew in about 1300.

Both the Bellew and Burgh family arms appear on the **Blachford** family crest produced in 1633.

## The Cheney family

(Dodington line)



### **Cecily Cheney**

(c 1450 to ?)

Great x 14 grandmother

Cecily married Sir William **Courtenay**.

### **John Cheney**

(c 1420 to 1487)

Great x 15 grandfather

John held the offices of Sheriff of Somerset, Dorset and Devon at various times in his life.

### **William Cheney**

(c 1300 to 1346)

Great x 18 grandfather

William was warden of the Channel Islands. He was killed at the famous English victory of Crecy in France in 1346.

### **William Cheney**

(c 1230 to 1265)

Great x 20 grandfather

William died of wounds, including being blinded, at the Battle of Evesham in 1265. He was presumably fighting on the side of the rebel leader Simon de Montfort although this is not confirmed in any of the evidence. Simon's death and the mutilation of his body is shown in the medieval picture below.





## The Clare family of Ireland

(Dodington and Blachford line)



### *Margaret de Clare*

(1287 to 1333)

Great x 18 grandmother

Margaret married Sir Batholemew de **Badlesmere**. She was the daughter of Thomas, Lord of Thomond in Ireland and his wife Julianne Fitzgerald. Julianne's mother was Emmeline de **Longespee**.

### *Sir Richard de Clare, Earl of Hertford and Gloucester*

(1222 to 1262)

Great x 20 grandfather

Richard was 6<sup>th</sup> Earl of Hertford and 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Gloucester. He served King Henry III in France and Scotland. He was poisoned in 1258 when he survived but his brother died. However following another attempt on his life in 1262 he was then alleged to have died of poisoning.

### *Sir Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Hertford and Gloucester*

(1180 to 1230)

Great x 21 grandfather

Gilbert was 6<sup>th</sup> Earl of Hertford (inherited from his father) and 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Gloucester (inherited through his mother Amice who was the daughter of Sir William FitzRobert, Earl of Gloucester). He is pictured to the right from the stained glass window at Tewkesbury. In 1215 Gilbert and his father were made sureties of the Magna Carta and he opposed King John in the baron's revolt and favoured the cause of 'le Dauphin' of France. In 1217 he was taken prisoner by Sir William **Marshal** but proceeded to marry his captors daughter Isabel. In 1222 he accompanied his father-in-law in an expedition into Wales and was present when King Henry III confirmed Magna Carta in 1225. In 1228 he was part of another expedition into Wales and he died in 1230 on return from an expedition to Britany.



### *Sir Richard de Clare, Earl of Hertford*

(1162 to 1218)

Great x 22 grandfather

Richard sided with the barons against King John and his castle at Tonbridge in Kent was captured. He played a leading role in negotiations for the Magna Carta and was one of the twenty five sureties. As a result of his opposition to the King he was excommunicated by the Pope.

### *Sir Roger de Clare, Earl of Hertford*

(1116 to 1173)

Great x 23 grandfather

Roger was 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Hertford, which title he inherited from his brother who had died without issue.

### *Sir Richard de Clare*

(1094 to 1136)

Great x 24 grandfather

Richard held the Lordship of Ceredigion in Wales and was active in opposing Welsh uprisings. In 1136, ignoring warnings of danger, he made his way into Ceredigion but was ambushed and killed. He was buried at Tonbridge priory in Kent. His son Richard became first Earl of Hertford.

### *Sir Richard Fitzgilbert*

(c 1030 to 1091)

Great x 26 grandfather



Richard was a Norman Lord who participated in the conquest of England under William and he was probably present at the Battle of Hastings in 1066. He was a son of the Count of Brionne in Normandy. With the conquest Richard was granted 176 lordships and large grants of land throughout England and he built castles at Clare in Suffolk and Tonbridge in Kent. Richard was joint Chief Justiciar and he played a large part in suppressing the Anglo Saxon uprising in the north of England in 1075. After King William died, Richard and other lords attempted to put Robert Curthose on the throne and opposed his brother William Rufus. But William was successful after having attacked Richard's stronghold of Tonbridge and briefly became King. It is rumoured that Richard's son, Gilbert, may have been present at William's mysterious death in the New Forest. There is good reason to believe that rather than an accidental killing, William was in fact murdered.

## The Courtenay family of Powderham, Devon

(Dodington line)



### *Cecily Courtenay*

*(1480 to ?)*

Great x 13 grandmother

Cecily was mother of William **Francis** following her marriage to Nicholas Francis, esquire, of Combe Florey in Somerset. Cecily was the daughter of Sir William Courtenay of Shute in Devon and his wife Cecily **Cheney**.

### *Sir William Courtenay*

*(c 1440 to 1512)*

Great x 15 grandfather

William was a supporter of the House of Lancaster and loyal to Henry Tudor, future King Henry VII. He married Margaret **Bonville**.

### *Sir Philip Courtenay*

*(1404 to 1463)*

Great x 16 grandfather

Philip was cousin of Sir Thomas Courtenay, 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Devon, through a junior branch of the family. Philip owned Powderham Castle in Devon, which he had inherited from his uncle. In 1440 Philip was joint commander of a fleet to repress pirates.

Despite being related to the Earls of Devon, Philip was an adherent of the Bonville family of Devon and his son even went on to marry one of the daughters of Sr William Bonville. The Bonvilles and senior Courtenays had a violent feud in Devon in the 1450's, probably arising from a dispute over land and jealousy over power and influence in court, and as a result of his affiliations Philip was besieged in Powderham Castle in 1455 by his cousin the Earl Thomas. But Philip held out. Philip probably took the side of the House of York in the Wars of the Roses as did the Bonvilles whilst the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl Courtenay and his son took the side of Lancaster. Philip was however forced to swear allegiance to King Edward IV when he took the thrown.

Philip married Elizabeth **Hungerford**, daughter of Walter of Agincourt fame. Philip was grandson of –

### *Sir Philip Courtenay*

*(c 1342 to 1406)*

Great x 18 grandfather

Philip was known as a rash, angry and temperamental man, but was skilful in naval and military affairs. Philip served during the Spanish War. He was with the Black Prince at a famous victory at Battle of Najera and was knighted after the battle. In 1383 he was made Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and served for 10 years. He was briefly imprisoned in the Tower of London in 1402 for clerical abuses against the Church.

### *Sir Hugh Courtenay, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Devon*

*(1303 to 1377)*

Great x 19 grandfather

Hugh was a badly behaved fellow, being apparently self-important and 'puffed up'. He married Margaret de **Bohun**. In 1335 The king granted his wish to be elevated to the earldom of Devon. No sooner was he then bragging to the peasant folk in that county that he was the only font of justice. Hugh was a Knight of the Garter and built the religious house of White Friars on Fleet Street in London. At the Battle of Poitiers in 1356 Hugh was put in charge of the baggage train and sent to the rear, which turned out to be a good thing as it blocked the French escape route leading to much greater casualties



and prisoners from their army than may otherwise have been the case. On return from France he was granted a pension but was one of the poorest earls in England. He was buried in Exeter Cathedral in 1377 and the head of his effigy is shown above.

**Sir Hugh Courtenay, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Devon**  
**(1276 to 1340)**

Great x 20 grandfather

Hugh was involved in the Scottish campaigns of King Edward I 1297 to 1300 and 1301 to 1308. He was made a Knight banneret, one of the king's elite household. Under King Edward II he was made Lord Ordainer at the ruling council in Leeds and in 1318 he was appointed to the king's council. He was declared Earl of Devon by King Edward III in 1335 as a result of his service as a great soldier and statesman.

**Sir Hugh Courtenay**  
**(c 1250 to 1292)**

Great x 21 grandfather

Hugh was an important landowner in southern England. He married Alianore le **Despencer**.

Previous Courtenays held land in Devon back to the time of the conquest and were Lords of Okehampton. They also had interests at Iwerne Courtney in Dorset (hence the second name of that village) and Sir Robert Courtenay, Hugh's grandfather, was buried there in 1242. The name Courtenay comes from the family who came to England alongside William the Conqueror and from the land in Loiret in France.

## The Danyers family of Yorkshire

(Blachford line)



**Margaret Danyers**

**(1347 to 1427)**

Great x 17 grandmother

Margaret married secondly Sir John **Savage** in 1376. She also had husbands firstly Sir John Radcliffe and finally Sir Piers Legh. She was an heiress in her own right and was granted the land that became Lyme Park in Cheshire as the reward for her grandfather's service to the Black Prince and it passed into the Legh family.

**Sir Thomas Danyers**

**(c 1320 to 1353)**

Great x 18 grandfather

Thomas was Lord of Bradley and Clifton in Yorkshire. He died a year before his father and left his daughter as heir to her grandfather.

**Sir Thomas Danyers**

**(1294 to 1354)**

Great x 19 grandfather

Thomas was Lord of Bradley and Appleton and was part of the English army under Edward, Black Prince of Wales that in 1346 met the French at Crecy. Thomas distinguished himself in the battle by rescuing the Black Prince's standard when it was nearly captured by the French.



Thomas captured the Count of Tankerville the chamberlain of the King of France, probably at the Siege of Caen prior to Crecy, and received a ransom of 10,000 nobles for him. This greatly improved his wealth. Also in recognition of his services in France, Thomas was later given 40 marks a year out of the royal manor of Frodsham until such time as he should receive land worth £20 a year for himself and his heirs forever.

On his return to England, Thomas became Sheriff of Cheshire for the second time in 1349. However, in 1353 he was accused of bribery and theft and was dismissed from his office. Among the charges was that he broke into the treasure

house to steal a bond recording a debt he owed to the Black Prince, who was Earl of Chester. He pleaded guilty and was fined but did not lose his property. He died the following year.

## The Danvers family of Prescott, Oxfordshire

(Dodington line)



**Margery Danvers**

**(1466 to c 1505)**

Great x 11 grandmother

Margery married Sir Thomas **Englefield** in about 1485.

**Richard Danvers, gentleman**

**(c 1440 to 1489)**

Great x 12 grandfather

Richard was Collector of Customs at Southampton and a Member of Parliament twice- once for Horsham in Sussex and secondly for Shaftesbury in Dorset, although he had no connections with either borough.

Richard's father, John, was also an MP.

Family background - "This family, denominated from the town of Anvers, in France, and anciently written de Anverso or D'Anvers, descend from Roland D'Anverso, who entered England with William the Conqueror [and probably fought at the Battle of Hastings]; and though we find not any lands he held by gift of that Prince, who very liberally rewarded his followers, especially those who took up there abode here, yet Ranulph D'Anvers, his son, received of Crispin, Lord of Wallingford, (whose Knight he was) the manors of Marlow, Dorney and Huckham, to hold of his Honour of Wallingford."

## The Despencer family

(Dodington line)



*Elizabeth le Despencer*  
*(1325 to 1389)*

Great x 17 grandmother

Elizabeth married Sir Maurice **Berkeley**. She was daughter of Hugh the younger (d 1326).

*Sir Hugh le Despencer*  
*(c 1286 to 1326)*

Great x 18 grandfather

Hugh Despencer the younger was knight of Hanley Castle in Worcestershire, King's Chamberlain, Constable of Odiham Castle, Keeper of the castle and town of Portchester, Keeper of the castle, town and barton of Bristol and, in Wales, Keeper of the Castle and town of Dryslwyn, and the region of Cantref Mawr, Carmarthenshire. He was Lord of Glamorgan and Keeper of the castles, manors and other lands in Wales. He was given Wallingford Castle.

In 1306 Hugh married Eleanor de **Clare**.

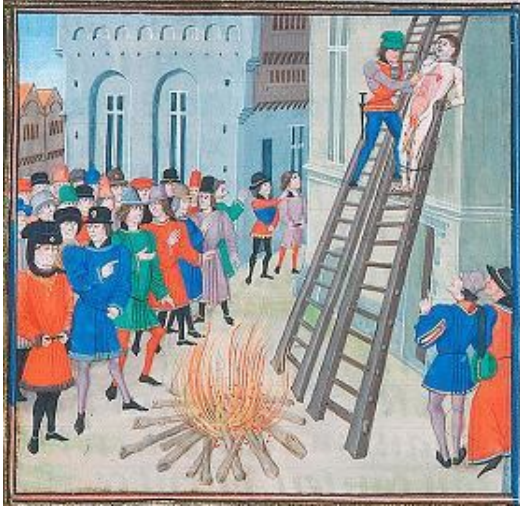
Hugh Despencer the younger became royal chamberlain in 1318 and as a courtier he manoeuvred into the affections of King Edward II. This was much to the dismay of the baronage as they saw him both taking their rightful places at court and being a worse version of Piers Gaveston. By 1320 his greed was running free and he seized lands. He even allegedly had Lady Baret's arms and legs broken until she went insane so he could get hold of her property.

By 1321 he had earned many enemies in every part of society, from Queen Isabella to the barons to the common people. Finally the barons prevailed upon King Edward and forced Despencer and his father into exile in August 1321. His father fled to Bordeaux, and Hugh became a pirate in the English Channel. Following the exile of the Despenchers, the barons who opposed them fell out among themselves, and the King summoned the two men back to England. Early in the following year, King Edward took advantage of these divisions to secure the surrender of Marcher Lord Roger **Mortimer**, and the defeat and execution of the Earl of Lancaster, the Despenchers' chief opponents. The pair returned and King Edward quickly reinstated Hugh as royal favourite. His time in exile had done nothing to quell his greed, his rashness or his ruthlessness. The time from their return from exile until the end of Edward II's reign was a time of uncertainty in England. With the main baronial opposition leaderless and weak, having been defeated at the Battle of Boroughbridge, and Edward willing to let them do as they pleased, the Despenchers were left unchecked. They grew rich from their administration and corruption. This period is sometimes referred to as the "Tyranny". The maladministration caused hostile feeling for them and, by proxy, Edward II. Hugh repeatedly pressed King Edward to execute Mortimer, who had been held prisoner in the Tower of London, following his surrender. However, Mortimer escaped from the Tower and fled to France.

Queen Isabella had a special dislike for Hugh the younger. Various historians have suggested, and it is commonly believed, that Hugh and King Edward II had an ongoing sexual relationship. While Isabella was in France to negotiate between her husband and the French king, she formed a liaison with Roger Mortimer and began planning an invasion. Hugh supposedly tried to bribe French courtiers to assassinate Isabella, sending barrels of silver as payment. Roger Mortimer and the Queen invaded England in October 1326. Their forces numbered only about 1,500 mercenaries to begin with, but the majority of the nobility rallied to them throughout October and November. By contrast, very few people were prepared to fight for Edward II, mainly because of the hatred that the Despenchers had aroused. The Despenchers fled west with the king, with a sizable sum from the treasury. The escape was unsuccessful. Separated from the elder Despencer, the King and Hugh the younger were deserted by most of their followers, and were captured near Neath in mid-November. King Edward II was placed in captivity and later forced to abdicate in favour of his son. The elder Despencer (the father) was hanged at Bristol on 27 October 1326, and younger Despencer (the son) was brought to trial.



Hugh the younger tried to starve himself before his trial, but face trial he did on 24 November 1326, in Hereford, before Mortimer and the queen. He was judged a traitor and a thief, and sentenced to public execution by hanging, as a thief, and drawing and quartering, as a traitor. Additionally, he was sentenced to be disembowelled for having procured discord between the king and queen, and to be beheaded, for returning to England after having been banished. Treason had also been the grounds for Gaveston's execution; the belief was that these men had misled the king rather than the king himself being guilty of folly. Immediately after the trial, Hugh was dragged behind four horses to his place of execution, where a great fire was lit. He was stripped naked, and Biblical verses denouncing arrogance and evil were written on his skin. He was then hanged from a gallows 50 ft (15 m) high, but cut down before he could choke to death. In Froissart's account of the execution, Hugh was then tied to a ladder, and—in full view of the crowd— had his genitals sliced off and burned (in his still-conscious sight) then his entrails slowly pulled out, and, finally, his heart cut out and thrown into the fire. Just before he died, it is recorded that he let out a "ghastly inhuman howl", much to the delight and merriment of the spectators. Finally, his corpse was beheaded, his body cut into four pieces, and his head mounted on the gates of London. Mortimer and Isabella feasted with their chief supporters, as they watched the execution.



Four years later, in December 1330, his widow was given permission to gather and bury his remains at the family's Gloucestershire estate but only the head, a thigh bone and a few vertebrae were returned to her.

**Sir Hugh le Despencer, Earl of Winchester**  
**(1261 to 1326)**

Great x 19 grandfather

Hugh was to become known as 'the elder' to distinguish his son who died in the same year. He married Isabella de **Beauchamp**. He was created a baron in 1295 and remained loyal to King Edward II during the controversy over Piers Gaveston. As a result of his close affiliation to Edward other barons became jealous and managed to force him into exile in 1321. A year later he was recalled by the king who needed his support and he was created Earl of Winchester but when the queen and Mortimer rebelled they captured both Despenchers and Hugh the elder was hanged at Bristol.

**Alianore le Despencer**  
**(1262 to 1328)**

Great x 21 grandmother

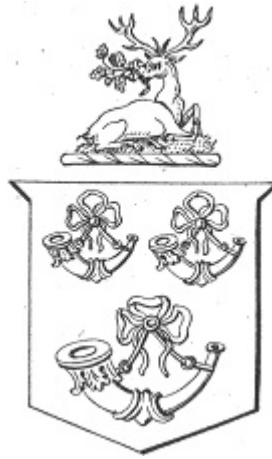
Alianor married Sir Hugh **Courtenay**. She was daughter of Hugh (d 1265).

**Sir Hugh le Despencer**  
**(1223 to 1265)**

Great x 22 grandfather

Hugh was the 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Despencer. He served as Justiciar of England and was once Constable of the Tower of London. He allied with Simon de Montfort during his rebellion against King Henry III and fought with the rebels at the Battle of Lewes in May 1264. Hugh was killed by Sir Roger **Mortimer** at the subsequent Battle of Evesham the following year. This killing helped to found the hatred between the Mortimer and Despencer families that lasted into the 14<sup>th</sup> century.

## The Dodington family of Mere, Wiltshire and Dodington, Somerset



**Martha Dodington**  
**(1707 to 1745)**

Great x 4 grandmother

Martha was born at Mere in Wiltshire. She was the daughter of a poor labourer called John but the granddaughter of a gentleman called Vaughan.

**Vaughan Dodington, gent**  
**(1631 to 1697)**

Great x 6 grandfather

Vaughan was born at the Little Durnford Manor in Wiltshire. When his father inherited Woodlands Manor in Mere (pictured right) in about 1635 he returned to live there with his family. In about 1655 Vaughan married a woman called Elizabeth and they had four children but only one, John, survived to adulthood.

Vaughan's elder brother Stephen was active in the civil war as a royalist and was a servant of the Phelips family of Montacute in Somerset who were close to Prince Charles (future King Charles II). Stephen was friends with a Mr Willoughby of East Knoyle who was involved in and prosecuted for his part in the royalist Penruddock uprising in 1655. Stephen, and possibly his brother Vaughan, may have got involved in this short lived rebellion but avoided capture and prosecution. Vaughan was granted £20 a year for life from the will of his father William in 1657. However this bequest relied on the continuance of the ability to pay it from the Woodlands estate and in 1672 his brother, who was then Lord of the Manor, mortgaged the estate. This was because of financial problems probably due to a number of factors including the small unsustainable nature of the holding, their spending to support the royalists in the civil war and their adherence to the marginalised Catholic faith. In 1705 Stephen sold the Manor completely but the family had already run out of money before then because in 1697 Vaughan had died and was buried as a 'gentleman, poor'.



**William Dodington, gent**  
**(c 1596 to 1657)**

Great x 7 grandfather

William was almost certainly a great grandson of Christopher Dodington and his wife Margaret through one of their three sons, all of who died in young adulthood – Thomas, William and Francis. In 1617 William married Susanna **Younge** of Little Durnford and he lived in Durnford till about 1635 when he inherited the Woodlands estate and moved back to south west Wiltshire.

**Christopher Dodington, esquire**  
**(c 1540 to 1584)**

Great x 10 grandfather

Christopher was Lord of the Manor of Woodlands. He married Margaret **Francis** of Combe Florey in Somerset. Christopher was almost certainly an adherent to the Roman Catholic religion, a so called recusant, and he

continued to keep a private chapel at the Manor house for religious ceremonies despite the reformation of the Church of England.

**Philip Dodington, esquire**

**(c 1510 to c 1560)**

Great x 12 grandfather

Philip married Agnes **Horsey** of Clifton Maybank in Dorset. He was Lord of the Manor of Woodlands in Mere.

**William Dodington, gent**

**(c 1450 to ?)**

Great x 13 grandfather



William married Jane **Poyntz** of Iron Acton in Gloucestershire. He was Lord of the Manor of Woodlands.

William descended from a line of Dodingtons in Wiltshire back to Thomas of Dodington in Somerset who in about 1360 married Jane Guphaye of Woodlands Manor in Mere. Through this marriage this cadet branch of the Dodingtons of Somerset became Lords of the Manor of Woodlands (pictured left).

Earlier generations of the family descend from William who took the name of Dodington from the parish which was named after a much earlier landholder Doda. William was son of Adam de Counteville, a Norman, and Amelia de Stringston who came into the estate in the reign of King Henry II.

## The Englefield family of Englefield, Berkshire

(Dodington line)



### **Eleanor Englefield**

**(c 1510 to ?)**

Great x 10 grandmother

Eleanor married Thomas **Tropnell** in about 1530.

### **Sir Thomas Englefield**

**(1455 to 1514)**

Great x 11 grandfather

Thomas was educated in law at the Middle Temple in London by his grandfather who died in 1470 and from whom he inherited the Englefield estates. Thomas married Margery **Danvers**.

In 1493 Thomas became a Justice of the Peace for Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire. In 1496 he was knighted on the marriage of Prince Arthur to Catherine of Aragon. He was elected as an MP and became Speaker of the House of Commons during the first Parliament called by King Henry VIII in 1497. In 1501 he was received into the Order of the Bath and he received many royal commissions during his life, mainly dealing with matters of justice or tax collection.

In 1509 he was made a king's councillor and became an executor to the will of King Henry VII. With the accession of King Henry VIII, Thomas became one of the key men of experience upon whom the young monarch relied in the early years of his reign. When the king travelled to France in the Summer of 1513, Thomas was appointed as one of the four councillors whose job it was to advise Queen Catherine. During this time the queen in the king's absence directed English armed forces in repelling a Scottish invasion and this led to the victory and the Battle of Flodden Field on 9<sup>th</sup> September 1513.

### **Robert Englefield, esquire**

**(c 1410 to 1470)**

Great x 13 grandfather

Robert was an esquire of the household of King Henry VI.

### **Sir Philip Englefield**

**(c 1390 to 1439)**

Great x 14 grandfather

Philip was one time Sheriff of Oxfordshire and Berkshire.

### **Sir Roger de Englefield**

**(c 1280 to 1317)**

Great x 16 grandfather

A knight of the county of Berkshire and Lord of the Manor, his effigy on his tomb at St Mark's Church, Englefield is pictured on the right (from the medieval combat society website).



The Baronetage of England .... By William Bethan says – "This very ancient family, according to Camden, surnamed from the town of Englefield in Berkshire, are said to be possessed thereof in the second year of the reign of King Egbert, 264 years before the Norman conquest, in the year 803; at which time was an oratory, as appears by a terrier of the land belonging to the same, where it is called Cantaria de Englefield. This family has always been reputed to be of Saxon extraction, as indeed the ancient writing of the name, de Engelfelt, and their being fixed at Englefield aforesaid, in the time of the Saxons, seems to indicate ..."

## The Ernley family of Hampshire and Sussex

(Blachford line)



**Mary Ernley**

**(c 1520 to after 1570)**

Great x 12 grandmother

Mary married Walter Skilling of Draycot in Wiltshire in about 1540.

**John Ernley, esquire**

**(c 1465 to c 1520)**

Great x 13 grandfather

John was Lord of the Manors of Fosbury and Bishops Cannings in Wiltshire. He was son of Edmund, son of John Ernley (or just Ernle) who was Lord of the Manor of Sidlesham in Sussex. This John senior had married Margaret **Morley** of Glynde Place, Sussex in about 1440.



## The Ewyas family of Ewyas-Harold, Herefordshire

(Blachford line)



**Sybil de Ewyas**  
**(1178 to c 1234)**

Great x 22 grandmother

Sybil married Robert de **Tregoz** in about 1198 at Ewyas Harold in Herefordshire.

**Sir Robert FitzHarold de Ewyas**  
**(1125 to 1195)**

Great x 23 grandfather

Robert was the founder of the Abbey of Dore in Herefordshire in 1147. He held the castle of Ewyas Harold. This was a motte and bailey castle, one of few to be built before the Norman conquest and the remains of which are shown to the right.



**Harold de Ewyas**  
**(1051 to after 1115)**

Great x 25 grandfather

Harold was an Anglo Norman lord and he was born in England before the conquest. He was probably named after Harold Godwinson (future King Harold of Hastings fame) because his father, Ralph of Mantes, was on close terms with the Godwin family. Young Harold was in the royal household of King Edward the Confessor and brought up by his wife Edith of Wessex. He survived the conquest and was granted his father's lands in Herefordshire including Ewyas Harold and Sudeley Castle but was initially stripped of his earldom.

**Sir Ralph de Mantes, Earl of Hereford**  
**(1026 to 1057)**

Great x 26 grandfather

Ralph, known as 'the Timid', he was Earl of Hereford prior to the Norman conquest. He came to England from France in 1041 with his uncle King Edward the Confessor. He became benefactor of Peterborough Abbey where he was later buried. Ralph initially opposed the Godwins when they quarrelled with King Edward in 1051 and he raised money to support the king. He jointly commended a fleet of ships to prevent the return of Harold Godwinson but was unsuccessful. But Ralph was later given title by the new King and his earldom. In 1055 Ralph attempted to oppose an invasion by the exiled Earl of East Anglia and the ruler of Wales, but he was defeated disastrously and Hereford was sacked. The name 'the timid' was applied as a result of the rout and it was left to King Harold to chase the invaders back to Wales.

**Drogo de Mantes, Count of Vexin**  
**(996 to 1035)**

Great x 27 grandfather

Drogo was Count of the Valois and the Vexin in France. He married Goda, a daughter of King Etheldred the Unready of England (see **Wessex**) and his wife Emma of **Normandy**. Drogo died on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

## The Fairfax family of Yorkshire

(Blachford line)



**Agnes Fairfax**

**(c 1460 to ?)**

Great x 13 grandmother

Agnes married Sir John **Waterton**.

**Sir Guy Fairfax**

**(c 1440 to 1495)**

Great x 14 grandfather

Guy was an English judge. He inherited the Manor of Steeton in Yorkshire where he built a moated house, its courtyard and chapel being consecrated by the Archbishop of Rotherham in 1477. The gateway to the house is shown to the right (from Barry Robert's family ancestry website). Guy was educated at the legal house of the Gray's Inn in London and throughout his life was involved with the application of justice. In 1468 he was appointed a king's serjeant (a legal advisor to the king), in 1476 recorder of York and 1477 a judge of the king's bench.



Guy was an ardent Yorkist in the Wars of the Roses and was allowed to wear a white rose on the shoulder of the lion on his coat of arms as a sign of allegiance. He fought at the Yorkist victory at Towton in 1461.

Guy had married Isabella **Ryther**.

**Sir Richard Fairfax**

**(c 1420 to ?)**

Great x 15 grandfather

Richard served for a time as Chief Justice of England under King Henry VI. He came from a line of Fairfaxes seated at Walton in Yorkshire.

**William Fairfax**

**(c 1220 to ?)**

Great x 23 grandfather

William was High Sheriff of York in 1249.

## The Fitzalan family

(Blachford line from Elizabeth and Dodington from Katherine)



### Elizabeth Fitzalan

(1367 to 1425)

Great x 15 grandmother

Elizabeth was born in about 1367 and by December of 1378 she would be married as a child to her first husband Sir William Montague, son of the Earl of Salisbury. Sir William Montague was killed in a tilting match at Windsor in 1382 and Elizabeth would marry as her second husband Thomas Mowbray, the Earl of Nottingham and later the Duke of Norfolk, in July of 1384. This marriage would last for 15 years until Thomas Mowbray's death in Venice on September 22, 1399. The now twice widowed Duchess of Norfolk would next marry Sir Robert **Goushill**. After Robert's death in 1403, she would marry Sir Gerald Usflete of Yorkshire as her fourth husband before April 18, 1411. He was the steward of the Duchy of Lancaster in Lincolnshire. Elizabeth would become a co-heiress of her brother Thomas, Earl of Arundell and Surrey, in 1415 and she outlived all four of her husbands choosing to be buried alongside Sir Robert Goushill in Nottinghamshire.

### Sir Richard Fitzalan, Earl of Arundell and Surrey

(1346 to 1397)

Great x 16 grandfather

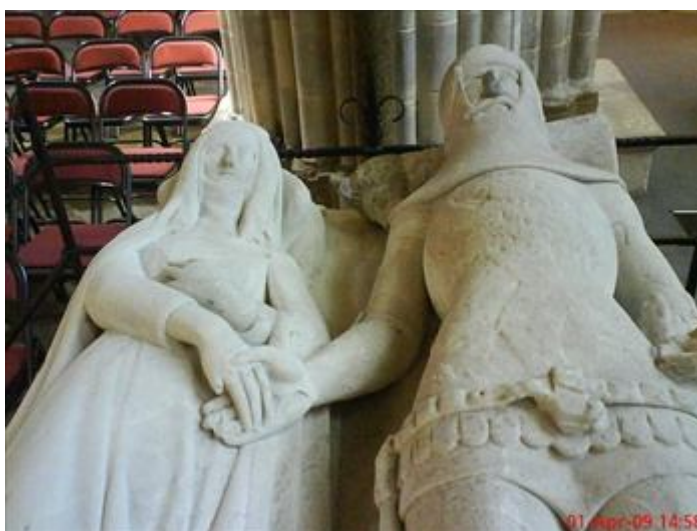
Richard was son of Richard Fitzalan and his second wife Eleanor. He was Admiral of the South and West and in 1386 became a Knight of the Garter. He was 11<sup>th</sup> Earl of Arundell and 9<sup>th</sup> Earl of Surrey. Richard was closely associated with the Duke of Gloucester who opposed King Richard II's attempts to make peace with France in the Hundred Year's War. As a result Richard took sides with Gloucester in his power struggle with the king. In coming years Richard was one of the Lords Appellant in the Merciless Parliament which condemned the king's favourites (see under Thomas de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick) and also lost favour with the king by ignoring his queen's pleading for mercy when Sir Simon Burley was executed. In 1394 Richard turned up late for the queen's funeral and this infuriated the king and in 1397 he was imprisoned for his opposition and plotting with the Duke of Gloucester. Richard was beheaded in London and buried at Augustine Priors, Bread Lane. Richard had married Elizabeth **de Bohun**.

### Sir Richard Fitzalan, Earl of Arundell and Surrey

(c 1306 to 1376)

Great x 17 grandfather

Richard, whose tomb at Chichester Cathedral is pictured to the right (from Wikipedia), was 10<sup>th</sup> Earl of Arundell, which title he inherited from his father. Richard also became 8<sup>th</sup> Earl of Surrey when he inherited that title from his mother Alice de Warenne. In 1330 Richard had to flee to France for taking part in a failed rebellion against Roger **Mortimer** but was allowed to return the following year when King Edward III was instated to personal rule and regained his father's lands and title.



Richard spent a lot of time as a loyal soldier to Edward III in the wars against Scotland and France. He was at the Battle of Sluys in 1340 and in 1346 he was one of the three principle commanders of the English army at the famous victory at the Battle of Crecy. Richard initially married Isabel le Despencer but that marriage was annulled in 1344 and he then married Eleanor Plantagenet (see under House of **Lancaster**), with whom he had allegedly been previously having an affair.

**Sir Edmund Fitzalan, Earl of Arundell**  
**(1285 to 1326)**

Great x 18 grandfather

Edmund was 9<sup>th</sup> Earl of Arundell and served under King Edward I in his Scottish wars. However when King Edward II came to power Edmund was initially hostile and swore to hunt down the king's favourite Gaveston when he was sent into exile. Edmund was one of the earls to try and execute Gaveston in 1312. Edmund then refused to participate in the invasion of Scotland in 1314 which led to the disastrous Battle of Bannockburn. However around this time Edmund returned to loyalty to the king due to pardons and a marriage between his son and Isabel le Despencer, daughter of loyalist Hugh the younger. Edmund joined the king in 1322 in a campaign against the rebellious Mortimer family however in 1325 when Roger Mortimer invaded with Queen Isabella he escaped with the king. He travelled to Shropshire to attempt to gather forces to oppose Mortimer but was captured in Shrewsbury. Edmund was executed on order of Mortimer and was beheaded with a blunt sword which allegedly took 22 strokes to take his head off. Edmund's final resting place was Haughmond Abbey in Shropshire.

Edmund's daughter Katherine married Sir Henry **Hussey** of Dorset.

**Sir John Fitzalan**  
**(c 1200 to 1240)**

Great x 21 grandfather

John was Lord of Oswestry in Shropshire and a baron. He sided with the rebels against King John. Through his marriage to Isabel, daughter of Sir William **D'Aubigny**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Arundell, his descendents inherited that title.

The Fitzalans trace their lineage to Alan FitzFlaad (x 24 great grandfather) who was a Breton knight born in about 1080.

## The Fitzwarin family of Shropshire

(Blachford and Dodington lines)



**Mabel Fitzwarin**

**(c 1245 to ?)**

Great x 20 grandmother

Mabel married Sir John de **Tregoz**.

**Sir Fulk Fitzwarin**

**(c 1160 to 1258)**

Great x 21 grandfather

Fulk was son of the Lord of the Manor of Whittington in Shropshire however despite paying £100 for his inheritance from his father, the manor was instead granted by the King to Roger of Powys. This caused Fulk to join the wider rebellion against King John and between 1201 and 1203 he was in arms against him. The King at one stage sent 100 knights to put down Fulk and his comrades but by 1204 the matter must have been settled amicably as Fulk had recovered Whittington and was paying duty on the estate to the King. Fulk lived to a great age for the time.

After his death his life became the subject of a romance which in the 16<sup>th</sup> century was published. According to this tale, as a young boy, Fulk was sent to the court of King Henry II, where he grew up with the future King John. John became his enemy after a childhood quarrel during a game of chess. As an adult, Fulk was stripped of his family's holdings, and took to the woods as an outlaw. This story has been noted for its parallels to the Legend of Robin Hood, pictured right. Robin Hood, if he ever existed, is arguably a mixture of tales of the various rebellious landowners against King John and certainly Fulk influenced this legend through his personal stand against the King after having his lands withheld from him. As such this ancestral line provides an interesting connection to this mythical figure from our history, pictured right as depicted by Errol Flynn.





## The Francis family of Combe Florey, Somerset

(Dodington line)

**Margaret Francis**

**(c 1545 to 1614)**

Great x 10 grandmother

Margaret married Christopher **Dodington** of Mere in Wiltshire. Her father was Nicholas son of William Francis, both esquires.

**Nicholas Francis, esquire**

**(c 1480 to 1526)**

Great x 13 grandfather

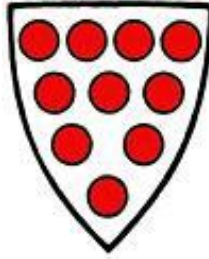
The picture below is of the monumental brass of Nicholas Francis at Combe Florey in Somerset.



Nicholas was a member of a family who were Lords of the Manor of Combe Florey in Somerset for 12 generations. He was the son of William Francis, esquire, and his wife Margaret **Berkeley** and grandson of Nicholas Francis, esquire and his wife Cecily **Courtenay**.

## The Gifford family of Itchell, Hampshire

(Blachford line)



*Alice Gifford*

*(c 1503 to after 1524)*

Great x 13 grandmother

Alice, of Sambourne in Hampshire, married John **Skilling** in about 1520. She was the daughter of John Gifford, a gentleman.

*John Gifford*

*(c 1410 to 1444)*

Great x 16 grandfather

John was a gentleman and was Lord of the Manor of Itchell in Hampshire from 1428. He was High Sheriff of Southton (Southampton, part of Hampshire).

*John Gifford*

*(c 1290 to 1327)*

Great x 20 grandfather

John was a landed gentleman who under Humphrey de **Bohun**, 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Hereford, joined the rebellion of the barons against King Edward II and the Despencers. He may well have been at the Battle of Boroughbridge in 1322 and he certainly lost his lands at Itchell straight after the rebels were defeated, having been labelled as a traitor. However John was lucky and regained his lands immediately prior to his death after pleading for a pardon.

*Hugo Gifford*

*(1210 to 1256)*

Great x 22 grandfather

Hugo was the father of Matilda Gifford who became an Abbess at Shaftesbury.

## The Goushill family of Hoveringham, Nottinghamshire

(Blachford line)

**Joan Goushill**

**(1401 to 1466)**

Great x 15 grandmother

Joan married Sir Thomas **Stanley**.



**Sir Robert Goushill**

**(c 1350 to 1403)**

Great x 16 grandfather

In 1390 Robert received a King's pardon for alleged outlawry and other felonies through the supplication of Earl of Nottingham, Thomas Mowbray. Robert was a supporter of Mowbray's and would be his servant for the next decade. During the 1390's, Robert would be in the retinue Mowbray, who had also become Marshal of England and Duke of Norfolk, serving as his esquire and attorney. When Mowbray received his ducal elevation in 1397, he gave to his esquire Robert a £20 annuity for life from his manor at Willington. This grant was confirmed by King Henry IV in November of 1399. In 1398, after the Duke was banished by King Richard II, Robert was appointed one of the attorneys for

Mowbray. At the coronation of King on 13<sup>th</sup> October 1399, Robert would make a plea for the return of his banished Lord, not knowing Mowbray had already died of the plague in Venice, Italy on 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

In the mid 1390's, Robert had married as a first wife Joan, a widow of Sir Ralph Bracebrugge. She died early in the year 1400. In 1397 King Richard II appointed Sir William Bagot and Robert, as Sheriff of Warwickshire, to seize into his hands the goods and chattels of Thomas the late Earl of Warwick. After King Richard II was deposed, the new King Henry IV made a grant on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1400 to his kinswoman Elizabeth, the widow of the Duke of Norfolk, of the remaining goods of the late Duke as well as clearing the debts that the Duke had owed to the deposed King. Others to share in the remaining goods of the deceased Duke of Norfolk included Robert Goushill.

Robert married the widowed Elizabeth **Fitzalan**, Duchess of Norfolk, in the latter part of 1400 or early 1401 without licence and as a result on 19<sup>th</sup> August, King Henry IV seized Elizabeth's land as punishment. On 28<sup>th</sup> September, Henry IV would pardon Robert Goushill esquire and Elizabeth for their trespass and they were restored to all lands assigned to her in dower with the issues from the time of their marriage.

Robert was knighted by King Henry IV prior to the Battle of Shrewsbury on 21<sup>st</sup> July 1403 when fighting against the rebel army of Henry Percy (Hotspur). The army of the King won the day with the killing of Hotspur during the conflict. Robert performed gallantly, but was badly wounded in the side. He was found lying wounded by his servant and Robert asked that his armour be removed and a note sent to his wife Elizabeth in case of his death. The servant then stabbed and murdered Robert and made off with his purse and ring. Another wounded man lying nearby recognized the servant, and he was later caught and hanged for the crime.

Roberts's heirs were his two daughters Joan and Elizabeth, aged two years and one year respectively. Pictured right and above is the tomb of Robert and his wife Elizabeth, who outlived him by 22 years.



**Sir Nicholas Goushill**

**(c 1320 to ?)**

Great x 17 grandfather

In the calendar of patent rolls of King Richard II on March 12, 1386, the King orders the arrest of Sir Nicholas Goushill the elder and his son Robert to answer the suit brought by William Birkes accusing the Goushills of threatening him with the loss of life and limb that he dare go about his business. On 16<sup>th</sup> July, Sir Nicholas Goushill received the King's pardon.

The Goushill family had held extensive lands in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire since the 13th century. Walter Goushill, an early ancestor in the direct line, gained a number of these considerable holdings for the Goushills through his marriage to Maud (Matilda) Hathersage, the co-heiress of Mathew Hathersage in Derbyshire.

## The Grandison family of Oxfordshire

(Blachford line)



### Catherine Grandison, Countess of Salisbury (1304 to 1349)

Great x 18 grandmother

Catherine was Countess of Salisbury in her own right. She was alleged to be the woman in whose honour the order of the Knights of the Garter was founded and this is the story from Costain –

"The daughter of a handsome Burgundian knight and Sibyl, the heiress of **Tregoz**, Catherine de Grandison had inherited wealth from her mother and beauty from her father. When David of Scotland laid siege to Wark Castle, the seat of the family, it happened that her husband (Sir William **Montague**) was a prisoner in France and so the conduct of the defence had fallen on her slender shoulders. The fair Catherine showed a rare fighting spirit and held the invaders at bay with a small garrison consisting of the constable, a few knights, and not more than two score archers and servants.

However, the wail of the pipes around the walls day and night had begun to weigh on her, together with the frequent sound in the distance of Hey, Tuttie Tatie which meant that more of the wild Scots were arriving. When she saw an English army approaching with the royal standard carried in the lead, she was delighted beyond measure. It is quite understandable that she lost no time in discarding the chain-mail jacket and the steel helmet in which she had subsisted for so long and arraying herself in her very best raiment to welcome the king (Edward III **Plantagenet**, pictured right showing the badge of the Order).



The fashion in clothes for ladies of rank had been changing, at the dictate of France. No longer were they content to appear in the loose flowing robes which afforded such slim chances of displaying their charms. When she went down to the drawbridge to greet the king, the fair Catherine wore a tight inner jacket of a tawny shade, buttoned straight down in front, and over this a very gay surcoat of lustrous brown and gold, with the hanging sleeves which were the very latest thing in feminine attire, and a very fetching device indeed. The surcoat was elaborately embroidered with the heraldic quarterings of the family and with a great many garters in a variety of shades. To borrow a modern word, there had been a "run" on the garter as a symbol for decoration. It was used for the men quite as much as for the ladies, and the royal accounts refer to a blue taffeta bedcover "powdered" with garters for the king himself. Another item is found of a jupon "for the king's body", with garters and buckles and pendants of silver gilt.

The king had a roving eye and a plausible tongue, but he was silent as he followed the chatelaine to the best chamber in the castle. Wark was one of the very earliest Norman castles and so was little more than an empty shell, the great hall extending clear to the beamed roof and the personal apartments being mere cubicles along the outer walls. The king was to have the lady's own chamber, which was little larger than any of the others but warmly furnished, no doubt, with rugs and hangings. It was reached by a steep and dark staircase opening off from the entrance.

The story runs that when they reached the entrance to the tiny room the king seemed disposed to take advantage of her husband's absence. Much to his surprise, he was rebuffed, gently but firmly. She returned sometime later to summon him to the evening meal, which was spread out on the long table in full view below, and was somewhat disconcerted to find that he had not arrayed himself in his full finery but apparently had spent the interval in thought. He paused in the doorway and regarded her with sombre eyes. She began to regret then that she had gone to such pains with her own attire, fearing that he had misconstrued her motives. "I pray you will think well of what I have said", stated the king, "and so have the kindness to give me a different answer."

"I hoped, gracious liege," she replied "that the good Lord in heaven would drive from your noble heart such villainous designs." The she paused before going on. "I am, and ever shall be, ready to serve you, but only in what is consistent with my honour, and with yours."

The king was silent all through the meal and he left at an early hour the next morning. He had quite apparently given the situation much earnest thought and had arrived at a decision in line with the principles of the new order. The first thing he did on reaching his camp was to give instructions that the Earl of Salisbury, her husband, was to be ransomed and brought home at once.

This was how things stood between the king and the virtuous lady of Salisbury, if the story is to be believed, when a great ball was held a Windsor Castle to inaugurate the order. The earl had been brought back in the meantime and Edward, according to Froissart, "expressly ordered the Earl of Salisbury to bring the lady, his wife... All the ladies and damsels who assisted at this first convocation of the Order of the Garter came superbly dressed, excepting the Countess of Salisbury, who attended the festival dressed as plainly as possible." ...

It happened that the good lady had the misfortune to lose a garter during the dancing. This was quite a common occurrence, for elastic materials were still a matter of the distant future. Although she was plainly attired on the surface, the fair Katherine had seen to it that the accessories she wore were of the best. The garter was a handsome little trifle, of fine silk and most neatly jewelled. Knowing to whom it belonged and being "in full knowledge of their lords feeling," everyone smiled when he paused to survey it as it lay on the floor at his feet. Observing this, he stooped and picked it up and then fitted it on his own sleeve, "Honi soit qui mal y pense [Evil to him who evil thinks]", said the king in the hearing of all."

William and Catherine Montague's daughter, Philippa, married the 2nd Earl of March Sir Roger de **Mortimer**.

**Sir William Grandison**

**(1264 to 1335)**

Great x 19 grandfather

William was first Baron Grandison and was in the service of Edmund, Earl of Lancaster and was in Gascony with him in 1296. On 4<sup>th</sup> November 1288 he had letters of protection when remaining in Wales in order to fortify the castle of Caernarfon. He was present at the siege of Caerlaverock in July 1300 and he attended the coronation of King Edward II on 18<sup>th</sup> January 1308.

William descends from a line of nobility from Grandson in Switzerland from where they take their name.



## The Horsey family of Clifton Maybank, Dorset

(Dodington family)



### Thomas Horsey, Esquire

(1415 to 1469)

Great x 15 grandfather

Thomas was son of Sir John Horsey and his wife Alice and inherited estates at Clifton Maybank from his elder brother Henry. The Maybank estate had come into the Horsey family through Sir John's father, John, who had married Elizabeth Maybank. Thomas married Eleanor Fitzjames and their daughter Agnes married Philip **Dodington** of Mere in Wiltshire. Thomas' son bought estates around Sherborne after the dissolution of the Abbey and sold the Abbey itself to the borough, hence avoiding the destruction that other buildings like nearby Shaftesbury suffered. Thomas junior's tomb can still be found in the Abbey Church today.

### John de Horsey

(c 1250 to c 1290)

Great x 18 grandfather

John de Horsey left a wife Cristina (who died in 1330 and buried in St Francis Church in Bridgwater) and a son and heir William. He was 'seised in fee' of half a knight's fee in Charlton Mackerel in Somerset and held the Manor of Horsey of the heirs of Patrick de Chaworth by service of half a knight's fee.

### Philip de Horsey, gent

(c 1150 to ?)

Great x 21 grandfather

In King Henry II's time - Horsey and Powlett were fiefs of the Lordship of Bridgwater, knight's fee afterwards held by Philip de Hosia and his son William. This William may have been the first to use the family arms above.

From - Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society, article "The Horsey Family" by John Batten – "... since the beginning of the 11th century ... they were seated in Somersetshire ... at Horsey, a hamlet in the parish of Bridgwater called 'Hursi' in Domesday book. From this place, which means in Anglo-Saxon, an island for keeping or breeding horses, they took the name of Horsey; unless we accept the more romantic derivation from the Saxon chieftain Horsa, who, with his brother in arms, Hengist, is said to have paid a friendly visit to our island in the 5th century.

## The Hungerford family of Farleigh Hungerford, Somerset

(Dodington line)



### Sir Walter Hungerford (1378 to 1449)

Great x 17 grandfather



The picture on the left is of the tomb of Sir Walter Hungerford in Salisbury Cathedral. Sadly an old brass which used to adorn it has long since vanished. The outline can still be seen.

Walter was created 1st Baron Hungerford of Farleigh. He was a Lancastrian supporter and served in Parliament for Wiltshire and Somerset and became Speaker.

Walter won renown as a soldier and fought in many battles of the hundred year's war. In 1415 he accompanied King Henry V to France with twenty men-at-arms and sixty horse archers. He fought bravely at Agincourt, where he led a retinue of 16 lances, and is believed to have been the one, wrongly attributed in Shakespeare's

play to the Earl of Westmoreland, to have expressed with regret that the English did not have ten thousand more archers. He received a friendly but sharp rebuke from the king who said that they had enough men and that 'many more gentlemen abed in England would later wish they were present there on St Crispin's Day'.

In 1421 Walter was made a Knight of the Garter and he became an executor of King Henry V's will.

The Hungerford arms above can briefly be seen held by a mounted knight in the Agincourt battle scenes in the Kenneth Branagh film version of Henry V.

### Sir Thomas Hungerford (1348 to 1398)

Great x 18 grandfather

The picture right is of the gateway of Farleigh Hungerford castle (from English Heritage). Thomas was the original builder of Farleigh Hungerford castle, although it was originally crenulated without official permission from the king which was eventually received in 1381. Thomas is generally recognised as the first elected Speaker of the House of Commons. He served as steward to the household of John of Gaunt (see **Lancaster**) and was bailiff for the Bishop of Salisbury.



## The Hussey family of Harting, Sussex

(Dodington line)



### Elizabeth Hussey

(c 1410 to ?)

Great x 14 grandmother

Elizabeth married Nicholas **Poyntz**, esquire of Acton Court in Gloucestershire.

### Sir Henry Hussey

(c 1360 to 1450)

Great x 15 grandfather

Henry was a Knight of the Shire for Sussex and married a lady in waiting (Constance) at the court of the King. He held land at South Harting in Sussex, Saperton in Gloucestershire and Hascombe in Surrey.

### Sir Henry Hussey

(c 1290 to 1349)

Great x 17 grandfather

Henry was a Knight of the Shire of Dorset and married Katherine **Fitzalan** a daughter of the Earl of Arundell.

### Sir Henry Hussey

(1265 to 1332)

Great x 18 grandfather

Henry fought for Kings Edward I and II in wars against the Scots and in Gascony. He was Knight of the Shires of Gloucester and Sussex. He was Sheriff of Surrey and Sussex. Henry attended the coronation of King Edward II "in the train of the king and queen".

### Sir Henry Hussey

(1240 to 1290)

Great x 19 grandfather

Henry was a loyalist in the Baron's War against King Henry III of 1264. He enclosed Harting manor in Sussex in 1266. Henry fought in the wars against the Welsh under King Edward I and in 1289 he was constable of Porchester Castle.

### Henry Hussey

(1110 to 1191)

Great x 23 grandfather

Henry died in the Holy Land whilst in crusade under King Richard the 'lionheart'. He was a great age at the time.

### William Hussey

(1030 to ?)

Great x 25 grandfather



William was a Norman soldier who is believed to have fought at the Battle of Hastings in 1066.

## The Hyde family of Norbury, Cheshire

(Dodington line)



**Joanna Hyde**  
**(c 1560 to 1622)**

Great x 8 grandmother

Joanna married Edward **Younge**, esquire, of the Manor of Little Durnford, Wiltshire in her home parish of Tisbury in 1584.

**Lawrence Hyde, esquire**  
**(1510 to 1590)**

Great x 9 grandfather



Lawrence was born in Norbury in Cheshire and was well educated as appears to have been the common practice in the family. He was placed in the auditor's offices of the exchequer in London and gained experience in professional service. He then came into the service of Sir John Thynne of Longleat in Wiltshire and whilst he only served a year and did not get a lot of advancement through the position he did become connected with the county and he married with the widow of Mathew Coalhurst, Anne (whose maiden name was **Sibell**). This was a profitable marriage because Anne was tenant of Wardour Castle (pictured left) after her husband died and it is almost certain that Lawrence also lived there for a short time between their marriage in about 1559 until about 1570 when the Earl of Pembroke sold the castle back to the

**Arundell** family from whom it had been confiscated in 1552. Lawrence then bought the nearby Manor of West Hatch and settled there to live out the rest of his life. Sadly the original manor building where they lived was largely destroyed by fire.

Through his son Henry and his son Edward, who later became Earl of Clarendon and was a close advisor to King Charles I during the English Civil War, Lawrence was to become great grandfather of a queen consort and great x 2 grandfather to two English queens. Lawrence's great granddaughter Anne Hyde married in 1660 to King James II and their two daughters Mary and Anne (her statue pictured right outside of St Paul's Cathedral) went on to become Queen of England. However none of Anne Hyde's children produced heirs and the crown passed to the House of Hanover in 1714. Through Lawrence Hyde, Queens Anne and Mary Stuart were 3<sup>rd</sup> cousins 7 times removed of my grandfather, Sidney Wareham.



Lawrence was descended from a family which had been located at Norbury in Cheshire since the 13<sup>th</sup> century and who acquired that Manor through marriage to the Norbury family who held it since before the time of the Norman conquest.

**Sir John Hyde**  
**(c 1320 to after 1356)**

Great x 15 grandfather

John was knighted before 1353 and served with the Black Prince as a gallant soldier in the wars of the period against France, 'and was engaged under the banners of the Earl of Chester, fighting for the cause of England at the Battle of Poitiers in 1356. Sir John Hyde is chronicled as having led 71 archers to the King's wars.



## The Hymerford family of Folke, Dorset

(Blachford line)



### Elizabeth Hymerford

(c 1500 to ?)

Great x 12 grandmother

Elizabeth married John **Moleyns** of Sandhill Manor in Fordingbridge in Hampshire in about 1520.

### Henry Hymerford, gentleman

(c 1475 to after 1514)

Great x 13 grandfather

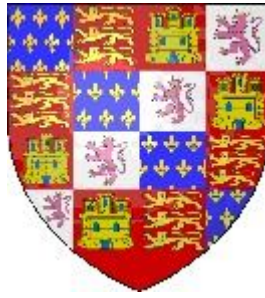
Henry was a gentleman who lived at Folke in Dorset. He was part of the family who were Lords of the Manor of Coker in Somerset and who owned 'Hymerford House' pictured below. Their coat of arms pictured above, shown on the 1633 Blachford family crest, also appear over the main door of the House below.





## The House of Lancaster

(Blachford line)



### Joan Beaufort, Countess of Westmoreland (1380 to 1440)

Great x 14 grandmother

Joan was the daughter of the Duke of Lancaster and she was sister of the 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Somerset and half-sister of King Henry IV Plantagenet. She married Sir Ralph Neville who became 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Westmoreland, their daughter Cecily **Neville** married Richard Plantagenet, 3<sup>rd</sup> Duke of **York**. Whilst she was grandmother of the Yorkist Kings Edward IV and Richard III, it is through her that there is the connection between the House of Lancaster and House of York at the beginning of the Wars of the Roses. Through her brother the Duke of Somerset she was great aunt of Lady Margaret Beaufort who married Sir Edmund Tudor who were the parents of Henry Tudor who was to become King Henry VII. Through her half-nephew King Henry V she was related to the Lancastrian King Henry VI. She was buried with her mother in Lincoln Cathedral. The tomb was destroyed during the civil war and the picture to the right was made in 1640. Joan's effigy was the smaller one in the foreground.



Joan was born illegitimately to John of Gaunt, pictured below, and his then mistress Katherine Swynford although she was later declared legitimate by their later marriage.

### John of Gaunt Plantagenet, 5<sup>th</sup> Earl and 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Lancaster (1380 to 1440)

Great x 15 grandfather



John of Gaunt (born in Ghent, hence the name) was the founder of the royal House of Lancaster and his descendents were King Henry V, of Agincourt fame, whose son King Henry VI was on the thrown at the start of the Wars of the Roses. John's great granddaughter Margaret Beaufort married Sir Edmund Tudor and their grandson Henry Tudor was to become King Henry VII and the founder of the royal House of Tudor.

John was the son of King Edward III **Plantagenet** and his wife Philippa of Hainault. He inherited the title of Earl and Duke of Lancaster from his father-in-law Henry Plantagenet of Grosmont. Henry was the son of Henry Plantagenet (see below).

John's brother was Edward, the Black Prince of Wales. His main residence was at Kenilworth Castle and he was known to have been a custodian of the religious reformer John Wyclif and the patron of the writer Geoffrey Chaucer. When John's brother Edward died young and his nephew King Richard II inherited the thrown he became protector of the king and the country in Richard's minority. Edward was careful never to covet the thrown for himself, although some accused him of this, but he was blamed for making serious mistakes which was to lead to the Peasant's Revolt in 1381. In the Revolt John's Palace at Savoy in London was destroyed.

John was a principle military commander in France in the 1380's and 1390's but he never achieved the stunning successes in battle that are forever associated with his late brother.

John became King of Castille and Leon in 1371 after his marriage to a Spanish princess, the arms of Castille (the fortress) and Leon (the lion) can be seen in the crest above and on John's coat in the picture.

**Eleanor Plantagenet**

**(1312 to 1372)**

Great x 17 grandmother

Eleanor married Sir Richard **Fitzalan**, Earl of Arundell.

**Sir Henry Plantagenet, 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Lancaster and 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Leicester**

**(1281 to 1345)**

Great x 18 grandfather

Henry inherited the titles of the Earl of Lancaster and of Leicester when his elder brother Thomas was executed for treason in 1322 for rebelling against King Edward II. Whilst Henry had not been heavily involved in the previous revolts like his brother, he soon joined with Sir Roger **Mortimer** and Queen Isabella when they invaded England and he went in pursuit of the fleeing Edward II. He captured him at Neath in south Wales and then incarcerated him in Kenilworth Castle. When King Edward III came to the throne Henry was appointed as the King's Chief Advisor and he was also appointed captain-general of the King's forces in the Scottish marches. Henry was appointed High Sheriff of Lancashire in 1327. In 1330 he became blind.

**Sir Edmund Plantagenet, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Lancaster and 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Leicester**

**(1245 to 1296)**

Great x 19 grandfather

Known as 'crouchback', Edmund was the son of King Henry III **Plantagenet** and wife Eleanor of Provence. His seal is shown on the right.

In 1271 he took the cross and accompanied his elder brother King Edward III on the Ninth Crusade to Palestine and this is where it is alleged that his nickname comes, being a derivative of 'cross back'. Edmund died at the Siege of Bordeaux in France and was buried at Westminster Abbey in London. He had married Blanche of Artois, daughter of Robert the Count of Artois.



## The Longespee family of Salisbury

(Dodington and Blachford lines)



### *Emmeline de Longespee*

(c 1240 to ?)

Great x 20 grandmother

Emmeline married Sir Maurice Fitzgerald and they were parents of Julianne Fitzgerald, mother of Margaret de Clare.

### *Sir Stephen de Longespee*

(c 1210 to 1260)

Great x 21 grandfather

Stephen was seneschal (a royal officer) of Gascony in France.

### *Sir William de Longespee, Earl of Salisbury*

(1173 to 1226)

Great x 22 grandfather

William was an illegitimate son of King Henry II **Plantagenet** and, probably, Ida de Tosny. King Henry acknowledged William as his son and conferred on him the Honour of Appleby in Lincolnshire. He was married by his half-brother King Richard 'lionheart' to Ida the Countess of Salisbury and through her he took the title of Earl of Salisbury. During the reign of King John, William was present at court for several important ceremonial occasions and held numerous offices including Sheriff of Wiltshire. In 1210-12 William was on expeditions to Wales and Ireland and in 1213 he led a large fleet to Flanders where he seized or destroyed a large part of a French invasion fleet at Damme. In 1214 William was captured at the Battle of Bouvines in France. He had been sent in support of the German King, an English ally, who had been invading France and William had commanded the right wing of the army. Returned to England, William was one of few barons who remained loyal to King John, his half-brother and after the signing of the Magna Carta he commanded the King's armies in the south. William fought alongside Sir William **Marshal** at the Battle of Lincoln. However when Prince Louise landed in England and thinking John's cause was lost he changed sides.

When young King Henry III came to the throne William pledged his allegiance and He held an influential place in the government during the king's minority and fought in Gascony to help secure the remaining part of the English continental possessions. William's ship was nearly lost in a storm while returning to England in 1225, and he spent some months in refuge at a monastery.

William's death is something of a mystery. Whilst hosting a banquet in the main hall at Salisbury castle he took ill and died. It is alleged that he was poisoned by rival Hubert de Burgh who was jealous and enamoured of his wife Ela. This story appears to be confirmed by the discovery in the 18<sup>th</sup> century of a rat inside William's skull in his tomb that contained traces of arsenic. However despite this murder Ela never remarried and instead went to be a nun at Lacock. William was buried at Salisbury Cathedral, he had been present at the laying of the first foundation stones in 1220, and his fine tomb is pictured below.



## The Ludlow family of Hill Deverill, Wiltshire

(Dodington line)



**Margaret Ludlow**  
**(c 1440 to ?)**

Great x 12 grandmother

Margaret married Thomas **Tropnell**.

**William Ludlow, Esquire**  
**(c 1390 to 1478)**

Great x 13 grandfather

William was the founder of the Ludlow family who were to become seated at Hill Deverill in Wiltshire and from which line the later civil war regicide Sir Edmund Ludlow descends. William was probably an orphan to a servant of Henry Bolingbroke (later King Henry IV) and he first came to notice as a servitor to the king's cellar in 1412. He was also a Royal Comptroller (butler). William became an equerry to young Prince Henry and was with him after he became King Henry V on his expedition to France. He may have fought at Agincourt in 1415.

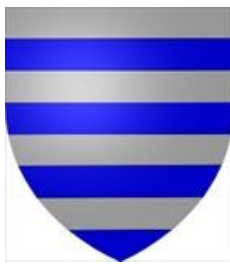
William became Marshall of Calais and MP for Ludgershall in Wiltshire. William was granted the Manor of Hill Deverill and also bought property in Salisbury. He married Margaret Rymer of Ringwood in Hampshire whose grandfather had been MP for Salisbury. He became a patron of St Thomas Church (pictured below) in the City and his coat of arms can still be seen in the rafters of the church today (shown right). When William died in 1478 he was buried in St Thomas Church and his tomb, which had an effigy on it, used to sit on the north side of the chancel. Sadly in the 18<sup>th</sup> century when the church was renovated the tomb was destroyed and William's bones, with those of his wife and their child, were 'thrown into some unknown corner'.





## The Lusignan family of Lusignan

(Both lines)



### Jeanne de Lusignan

(1260 to 1323)

Great x 19 grandmother

Jeanne married Piers de Geneville and their daughter Joan married Sir Roger **Mortimer**, Earl of March.

### Hugh XII de Lusignan

(c 1235 to c 1275)

Great x 20 grandfather

Hugh was seigneur of Lusignan, Couhe, and Peyrat, Count of La Marche and of Angouleme.

### Hugh XI de Lusignan

(1221 to 1250)

Great x 21 grandfather

Hugh was Count of La Marche (from his father) and of Angouleme (from his mother). He went on the Seventh Crusade and was killed at the defeat of the Battle of Fariskar in Egypt. Hugh XI was the son of Hugh X.

### Sir William de Valence

(c 1225 to 1296)

Great x 21 grandfather

William was Lord of Pembroke and Wexford and a half brother of Henry III, being the son of Hugh X de Lusignan and Isabella of Angouleme. He was probably born at Valence near Lusignan in France. In 1247 William and two of his brothers, Guy and Aymer, and his sister Alice came to England at the invitation of Henry III. In addition to his French lands William acquired vast estates in England and Ireland by his marriage, on 13<sup>th</sup> August 1247, with Joan, daughter of Warin de Munchensy, Lord of Swanscombe. He was also granted lands and honours by the King and was unpopular with many English born barons as a result. William fought for the King in 1264 at the defeat of the Battle of Lewes after which he fled back to France. But the following year he returned and took part in the Siege of Gloucester and royalist victory at the Battle of Evesham. William served King Edward I in Wales and Scotland.

He died at his manor in Kent on 16 May 1296 and was buried in St Edmund's chapel in Westminster Abbey. His tomb is the only existing example in England of Limoges champlevé enamel-work. An inscription no longer remains



but it was used to say: "All England, thou weepst, for the royal progeny with which thou wert accustomed to bloom is dead. William, whom the humblest tomb contains, shows forth an illustrious name, Valence, a noble surname, such as he ought to claim for himself. Valiant, he prevailed, victorious by virtue and valour; and, peaceful, gave pleasure with his vigour of mind and of character; generous, capable, steadfast; eagerly prosecuting wars, competent and modest, faithful, striving for distinction. In 1300 less four years in the month of May death, with his own sword,



struck him down. Thou who readest these words remember how full of fear is the way, and see how both thou and I shall die, all unknowing of the hour. O merciful Christ, let him, I pray, enter Heaven, and let him see nothing melancholy; for he excelled in all these ways."

William was the great grandfather, through his daughter Isabella of Pembroke, of Mary de Grey who married John de **Burgh**.

### Hugh X de Lusignan



**(c 1190 to 1249)**

Great x 22 grandfather

Father of Hugh XI and William de Valence, Hugh married the widow of King John **Plantagenet** of England, Isabella of Angouleme, after having been originally betrothed to her before Isabella had married John when she was 12 years old.

**Hugh IX de Lusignan**

**(c 1165 to 1219)**

Great x 23 grandfather

Hugh seigneur of Lusignan. He died after the Siege of Damietta in Egypt whilst on the Fifth Crusade. This crusade was to end in a crushing defeat for the crusaders.

**Hugh VIII de Lusignan**

**(c 1110 to 1170)**

Great x 25 grandfather

Hugh was seigneur of Lusignan and Couhe and Count of La Marche. Hugh's son Guy became King of Jerusalem with a marriage to Queen Sybilla. After the loss of Jerusalem Guy became Lord of Cyprus. In 1164 Hugh went on pilgrimage to the Holy Land and was captured by Nur-ad Din after the Battle of Harim in modern Syria on 12<sup>th</sup> August. He was held prisoner in Aleppo and I believe he died still in captivity.

**Hugh VII de Lusignan**

**(1065 to 1151)**

Great x 26 grandfather

Hugh took the cross in 1147 and went on the Second Crusade under King Louise VII of France.

**Hugh VI de Lusignan**

**(c 1040 to 1102)**

Great x 27 grandfather

Hugh was Lord of Lusignan and Count of La Marche. He and two of his brothers took the cross and joined the Crusade of 1101, a minor crusade which followed the First Crusade. This crusade ended in defeat by Muslim forces in what is now northern Turkey. Survivors of the crusade arrived at Antioch in late 1101 and at Easter 1102 they arrived at Jerusalem. Hugh was one of these survivors and under the command of King Baldwin I of Jerusalem he went to head of an Egyptian invasion but was killed at the Battle of Ramla.

Hugh was descendent of a line of Hughs who were Lords of Lusignan back to the 1<sup>st</sup> Lord who was born in about 900AD. The second Lord Hugh de Lusignan built the castle at Lusignan.

## The Manners family of Yorkshire

(Blachford line)



**Margaret Manners**  
**(1486 to 1559)**

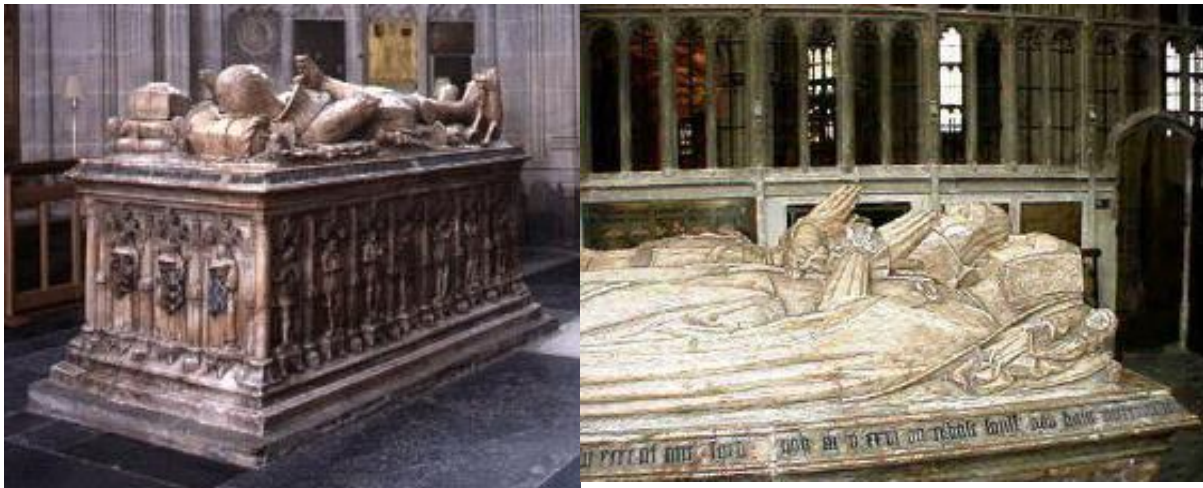
Great x 11 grandmother

Margaret married Sir Henry **Strangeways** in 1526.

**Sir George Manners**  
**(c 1460 to 1513)**

Great x 12 grandfather

George was 12<sup>th</sup> Baron de Ros having inherited from his mother. He married Anne **St Leger**. He was knighted by the Earl of Surrey in Scotland whilst serving as a soldier in 1497. After following King Henry VIII into France, George died at the Siege of Tournai in modern Belgium in 1513. His tomb and that of his widow Anne in the Rutland Chantry in the Chapel of St Georges at Windsor Castle is shown below. Rutland had been the chantry chapel of Anne's parents Sir Thomas St Leger and Anne, Duchess of Exeter.



**Sir Robert Manners**  
**(c 1430 to 1495)**

Great x 13 grandfather

Robert was an MP and became Admiral of the English Fleet. He was Sheriff of Northumberland and he fought for King Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485. He married Eleanor de **Ros** in 1469.

**Sir Robert Manners**  
**(c 1430 to 1495)**

Great x 14 grandfather

Robert was a Justice of the Peace in 1438, when he succeeded to the family property. He was sheriff of Northumberland in 1454, and M.P. for Northumberland in 1459. He married Joan Ogle.

In 1461 Robert fought for the victorious side at the Yorkist success at the Battle of Towton.

## The Marshal family of Pembroke

(Blachford and Dodington lines)



### Isabel Marshal (1200 to 1240)

Great x 21 grandmother

Born at Pembroke castle in Wales, Isabel married Sir Gilbert de **Clare**.

### Sir William Marshal, Earl of Pembroke (1147 to 1219)

Great x 22 grandfather

William was arguably one of the greatest men of his age, he was a stalwart of defence of the realm. He was a worthy knight and a great statesman. He was forged in battle, for example in 1152 when King Stephen besieged Newbury castle young William was used as a hostage to ensure that his father John kept his promise to surrender the castle. John, however, used the time allotted to reinforce the castle and alert Matilda's forces. When Stephen ordered John to surrender immediately or watch as he hanged William in front of the castle John replied that he should go ahead saying, "I still have the hammer and the anvil with which to forge still more and better sons!" Fortunately for the child, Stephen could not bring himself to



hang young William. Being the son of a minor noble William has few lands to inherit but had to make his own way in life. He was brought up in France where he did his training to become a knight and returned to England in the household of his uncle Patrick, Earl of Salisbury. William made money from taking part in dangerous tournaments and he became the greatest jousting knight of his age. He is pictured left unhorsing Baldwin de Guisnes and in his career he is alleged to have bested 500 other knights.

William was appointed to the King's household and became mentor and idol to Henry the son of King Henry II and Eleanor of Aquitaine. He gained in wealth enough to raise his own company of knights but fell out briefly with the King and went to France for a time. When the young Henry died he went on pilgrimage to Jerusalem and returned in 1185 and reconciled with King Henry II. William married Isabel de Clare, daughter Richard the Earl of Pembroke in 1189. This marriage transformed William into one of the richest men in the kingdom and he gained the title of Earl of Pembroke in 1199.

When John became King in 1199 William became a loyalist and fought against the Capetians in Normandy in 1201-3. However when William gave homage to the King of France in attempt to keep hold of lands in Normandy lost by John the two men fell out and they were in conflict until 1212 when William regained the King's favour. Throughout the first baron's war William was one of the few English Earls to remain true to King John and when John died he entrusted his son to William's care and William took charge of the King's funeral.

In 1216 William was named as protector to the young King Henry III and was in effect ruler of the country in Henry's minority. Despite being almost 70 years old by this time he vigorously opposed the rebel barons and at the second Battle of Lincoln he charged at the head of the young King's army and led them to victory. In 1217 William negotiated a peace with Louise of France and showed sound statesmanship in the terms reached. William reissued Magna Carta and it is arguable that without his prestige and the trust that the nobles had in William that the Plantagenet line may not have survived the disaster of King John. In 1219 William and on his deathbed William was invested into the order of the Knights Templar and he trusted the regency to the care of the papal legate. William was buried at Temple Church in London where his effigy can still be seen (above original and below plaster cast of original made before bomb damage).



## The Moleyns family of Fordingbridge, Hampshire

(Blachford line)



**Jayne Moleyns**  
**(c 1584 to 1622)**

Great x 9 grandmother

Jayne was the heiress to her father William, son of Henry Moleyns, who died without a son. In 1602 she married Robert **Waterton** at Northwood on the Isle of Wight.

**Henry Moleyns, gent**  
**(c 1540 to c 1613)**

Great x 11 grandfather

Henry was Lord of the Manor of Sandhill (Sandleheath) near Fordingbridge in Hampshire. He also held land in Somerset having bought the Manor of Crosse from his female cousins in 1590. In 1597 Henry sold lands held in Berkshire inherited from his grandfather. He married Alice **Skilling** of Draycot in Wiltshire in about 1560.

**John Moleyns, gent**  
**(c 1505 to 1554)**

Great x 12 grandfather

John was Lord of the Manor of Sandhill in Hampshire and Sutton Horsey in Somerset. The latter he inherited from his uncle Robert Montague who died in 1509. He married Elizabeth **Hymersford** of Folke in Dorset in about 1535.

**William Moleyns, gent**  
**(1470 to 1553)**

Great x 13 grandfather

William was Lord of the Manor of Sandhill in Hampshire, Crosse in Durston in Somerset and Funckton, near Christchurch in Dorset. He also held 'Moleynsmill' in South Petherton in Somerset. This mill was named after his family and it was sold in 1572 by his son Anthony. Milling continued here until the 1970's when it was known as 'Shutler's Mill'. William also held lands in Berkshire.

William married three times, firstly to Emelyn Waldron of Devon, secondly to a daughter of William **Montague** of Somerset (who was mother of John) and finally Anne daughter of Sir Alexander Colepeper of Kent.

**Richard Moleyns, gent**  
**(1428 to 1507)**

Great x 14 grandfather

Richard was Lord of the Manors of Sandhill in Hampshire, which he held by fee from Richard Bulkeley of Fordingbridge, and Funckton in Dorset. He held mills in Somerset. He married a sister of Robert Courte of Mackney in Berkshire who was auditor to Prince Arthur (brother of the future King Henry VIII).

In 1507 he made his will and left money to the upkeep of the two bridges into Fordingbridge and left instructions to be buried under the chancel of St Mary's Church.

**John Moleyns, gent**  
**(1410 to 1483)**

Great x 15 grandfather

John held lands and property in South Petherton in Somerset. When he died he was of 'Sandhill in Fordingbridge' in Hampshire. In 1483 he left instructions to be buried in the east part of St Mary's Church in Fordingbridge under the image of St Michael the Archangel.

**Nicholas Moleyns, gent**  
**(1382 to 1429)**

Great x 16 grandfather

Nicholas was a landowner in Fordingbridge in Hampshire and South Petherton, Montacute and Kingsbury Episcopi in Somerset.



## The Montague family of West Camel, Somerset and Salisbury, Wiltshire

(Blachford line)



### **William Montague, gent** **(c 1415 to 1482)**

Great x 14 grandfather

William was Lord of the Manor of Slowe, West Camel in Somerset. He was the son of John Montague who was son of Robert son of Sir Richard. William's daughter, whose name is unrecorded, married William **Moleyns** of Sandhill in Fordingbridge in Hampshire.

### **Sir Richard Montague** **(c 1360 to 1429)**

Great x 17 grandfather

Richard was a Knight of the Shire and was one time Sheriff of Somerset. He held lands at West Camel in Somerset.

### **Sir John Montague** **(1327 to 1390)**

Great x 18 grandfather

John was a soldier and fought at the famous Battles of Crecy and Poitiers in France. Due to his nephew, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Salisbury, being killed in an accident without an heir, the earldom passed to his son who later became the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Salisbury. John had married Margaret de **Monthermer**, a descendent of King Edward I and he was buried at Salisbury Cathedral. His tomb is shown right.



### **Sir William Montague, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Salisbury** **(1303 to 1343)**

Great x 19 grandfather



William (pictured in armour and with his family crest on the left) was the 3<sup>rd</sup> Baron Montague and he became the 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Salisbury (2<sup>nd</sup> creation). He was one of the founder members of the Knights of the Garter. William rose to influence when he became a close companion to King Edward III when he was one of a group of nobles that helped capture Edward's father-in-law Mortimer when the latter was a young man and ensure that he gained rightful authority in his realm. He accompanied King Edward III when repelling the Scottish invasion of 1327 and fought at the Battle of Halidon Hill (an English victory) against the Scots. William was made Marshall of England and he married Catherine de **Grandison**. Their daughter Philippa married Roger de **Mortimer**.

William fought in Flanders against the French but was captured and released as part of a prisoner exchange. He captured the Isle of Mann from the Scots in 1344 and was hence called the 'King of Mann'. William probably died due to wounds sustained at a tournament.

### **Sir Simon de Montague** **(1250 to 1316)**

Great x 20 grandfather

Simon was first Baron Montague.

The line of the Montague family originates in Montagules-Bois, Normandy in France.

## The De Monthermer family of Gloucester

(Blachford line)



**Margaret de Monthermer**  
**(1329 to 1394)**

Great x 15 grandmother

Margaret married Sir John **Montague** in 1340.

**Sir Thomas de Monthermer**  
**(1298 to 1340)**

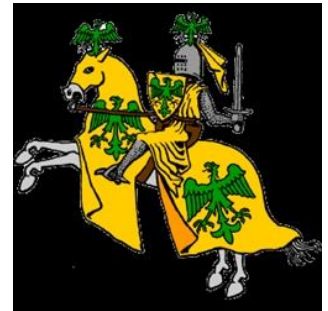
Great x 16 grandfather

Thomas was 2<sup>nd</sup> Baron Monthermer. He died after wounds received at the Battle of Sluys in 1340 against the French. Thomas married Margaret **Tiptoft**.

**Sir Ralph de Monthermer**  
**(1298 to 1340)**

Great x 17 grandfather

Ralph was 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Monthermer. He married the daughter of King Edward I, Joan of Acre **Plantagenet**, but the King was enraged at the 'lowly' wedding to a common knight when he had arranged for her to marry someone else of higher status. Ralph was thrown in prison and Joan is alleged to have protested "no one sees anything wrong if a great Earl marries a poor and lowly woman. Why should there be anything wrong if a countess marries a young a promising man?" The King released him in August 1297 and allowed him to hold his title as Baron during Joan's lifetime. He fought at the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314 and was captured. However he was released without ransom by Robert the Bruce for having helped him at the English court and having warned him about the threat posed by his father in law in 1306.



## **The Morley family**

(Blachford line)

### **Margaret Morley**

**(c 1430 to 1475)**

Great x 15 grandmother

Margaret married John **Ernley** of Wiltshire.

### **Nicholas Morley, esquire**

**(1410 to 1474)**

Great x 15 grandfather

Nicholas Morley was one of the principal gentlemen of Hertfordshire, a standing that was probably conferred on him by his marriage to Joan **Waleys** which brought him the Waleys estates in Aspenden, Ardeley and Westmill. He sat as M.P. for the shire in 1435, 1437, 1442, 1445-6, and acted as Justice of the Peace for Hertfordshire, 1435-7, 1451, 1457, 1461-4; escheator, 1439-40; sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire 1442-3. In 1449 and 1450 he was retained with 20 men at arms for service in France.

Nicholas appears to have been unscrupulous and tenacious in asserting his rights, perhaps necessary in the 15<sup>th</sup> century for the founder of a new family, but these characteristics brought him into conflict with his overlord the Archbishop of Canterbury and even with a group of tenants of his manor of Glynde in Sussex. His quarrel with Sir John Fortescue, the Lancastrian Chief Justice of the King's Bench, may have provided a personal reason for his support of the Yorkist cause. Sir John Fortescue, as guardian of William Waleys III, opposed the efforts of Morley's wife and her sisters to win Glynde, and Morley's opponents accused him of slandering Sir John.

In 1461 Morley was active in support of the Yorkist cause in Hertfordshire and the neighbouring counties where he had been commissioned to call together the king's lieges and purvey horses. Towards the end of his life he interested himself in his Sussex estates and represented Bramber as M.P. 1453-4, Shoreham, 1460-1, and East Grinstead, 1467, and was Justice of the Peace for the county from 1463 till his death some time between 1472 and 1474.

### **Francis Morley, gent**

**(c 13810 to ?)**

Great x 16 grandfather

Francis Morley was a Lancashire gentleman.

## The Mortimer family of the Marches

(Blachford line)



**Anne de Mortimer**  
**(1390 to 1411)**

Great x 14 grandmother

Anne married Richard of Conisburgh, 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Cambridge (see House of **York**). She probably died in childbirth aged just 21.

**Sir Roger de Mortimer, 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of March and 6<sup>th</sup> Earl of Ulster**  
**(1374 to 1398)**

Great x 15 grandfather

Roger inherited the titles of March (from his father) and Ulster (from his mother) at age seven. Because Roger's mother, Philippa **Plantagenet**, was the only heir of King Edward III's second son Lionel of Antwerp, 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Clarence, Roger was heir presumptive of King Richard II. However he was killed at Kells in Ireland in a fight with an Irish clan in 1398 and his title and claim to the throne passed to his young son Edmund. When Henry Bolingbroke usurped the throne in 1399, Edmund was briefly held in captivity but later released and when he came of age he was loyal to King Henry IV and his son, even informing on the plot by his cousin, Richard of Conisburgh (see under York) and others which attempted to put him on the throne.

**Sir Edmund de Mortimer, 3<sup>d</sup> Earl of March**  
**(? to 1381)**

Great x 16 grandfather

Edmund's marriage to a granddaughter of King Edward III was to have far reaching consequences for English history as with the usurpation of the crown by the House of **Lancaster** his descendants were to form the House of **York** which led to the Wars of the Roses.

**Sir Roger de Mortimer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of March**  
**(1328 to 1360)**

Great x 17 grandfather

Roger was 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of March. His early years were set with uncertainty after grandfather's execution which was followed the next year by the death of his own father Edmund. However he was to distinguish himself in the wars in France and he fought at the Battle of Crecy. He was one of the founder members of the Order of the Garter. Roger married Philippa **Montague**.

**Sir Roger de Mortimer, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of March**  
**(1287 to 1330)**

Great x 19 grandfather

Roger was 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of March. He was born at Wigmore Castle in Herefordshire. Mortimer became disaffected with King Edward II and his **Despencer** allies and he led an uprising in 1321 but was captured and imprisoned in the Tower of London. Roger escaped to France in 1323 and when Queen Isabella also fled there from her husband they became lovers. With help from Isabella's Hainault family Roger led an invasion of England in 1326 and were soon supported by young Prince Edward and the Earl of Lancaster. London turned against the King and after fleeing into Wales, Edward II was captured and possibly murdered at Berkeley Castle or possibly exiled for life. Pictured left from a 14<sup>th</sup> century manuscript is Roger and Isabella in the foreground surrounded by knights.



Roger's powers grew after their removal of King Edward II but other

nobles soon became suspicious of his motives and eventually companions of young Prince Edward (such as Sir William **Montague**) seized him. Despite pleading from his mother Isabella, Edward ordered Roger to the Tower of London. He was condemned for treason and was hanged, drawn and quartered at Tyburn. Roger's legitimate wife was Joan de Geneville and despite his affair with Queen Isabel, she petitioned the King for his body and he was eventually buried at Wigmore Abbey. Joan, whose grandmother was Jeanne de **Lusignan**, was later buried alongside him.

**Sir Roger de Mortimer**  
**(1231 to 1282)**

Great x 21 grandfather

Roger was 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Mortimer. He was a loyal ally of King Henry III and helped him in his wars against the Welsh. He almost lost his life fighting for the King at the Battle of Lewes but in 1265 at the Battle of Evesham he was on the winning side. Roger killed the rebel leader Sir Simon de Montfort and was awarded with his opponent's severed head which he sent home to Wigmore Castle as a gift for his wife. Roger had married Maud de Braose. When Roger died in 1282 he was buried at Wigmore Abbey and the inscription on his tomb read –

*Here lies buried, glittering with praise, Roger the pure, Roger Mortimer the second, called Lord of Wigmore by those who held him dear. While he lived all Wales feared his power, and given as a gift to him all Wales remained his. It knew his campaigns, he subjected it to torment.*

**Sir Ralph de Mortimer**  
**(1231 to 1282)**

Great x 22 grandfather

Ralph married Princess Gwladus, daughter of Llewellyn ab Iwerth through his marriage to Joan **Plantagenet** daughter of King John. Through this marriage subsequent generations of Mortimers, and my grandfather Sidney Wareham, could claim descent from the Welsh Kings of Gwynedd.

The Mortimers got their name from the Province of Mortemer in Normandy and after the conquest they received lands in the Welsh Marches from William the Conqueror.



## The Neville family

(Blachford line)



**Cecily Neville**  
**(1415 to 1495)**

Great x 13 grandmother

Cecily was born at Raby Castle in Durham. She married Richard **Plantagenet**, Duke of York and was the mother of Kings Edward IV and Richard III. She is also an ancestor of the Tudor Kings and, through King James Stuart I, of the House of Hanover and so an ancestor of our present Queen.

**Sir Ralph Neville, Earl of Westmoreland**  
**(c 1350 to 1425)**

Great x 14 grandfather

Ralph was 4<sup>th</sup> Baron Neville of Raby and was made 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Westmoreland by King Richard II due to his opposition to the rebel Lords Appellant. He was later made Lord of Richmond by King Henry IV. He spent a lot of his life defending the northern border of England, for example in 1415 when King Henry V was in France he defeated the Scots at the Battle of Yeaveering. Ralph was buried at St. Mary's Staindrop Church near Raby. He is pictured right in a contemporary print with his twelve children behind him at prayer. Ralph had married Joan Beaufort, daughter of the Duke of **Lancaster**.



**Sir John Neville**  
**(1328 to 1388)**

Great x 15 grandfather

John was 3<sup>rd</sup> Baron Neville of Raby and was a Knight of the Garter. He was born at Raby Castle pictured below. He fought at the Battle of Neville's Cross in 1346 against the Scots where he was a captain in his father's division in this English victory.

**Sir Ralph Neville**  
**(1291 to 1367)**

Great x 16 grandfather

Ralph was 2<sup>nd</sup> Baron Neville of Raby. He led the English forces in defeating King David of Scotland in 1346.



## The Normans

(Blachford and Dodington lines)



This is only a very brief description of the Norman ancestors. There is plenty of other material available which tells the stories of the lives of these people and so I won't go into much depth here.



### Empress Matilda of England (1103 to 1167)

Great x 22 grandmother

Matilda, otherwise known as Maude, fought her cousin King Stephen for the thrown of England and the country was thrown into a civil war from 1139 till 1154. She was eventually successful in getting her son Henry **Plantagenet** crowned King when Stephen died without a male heir.

### King Henry I (1068 to 1135)

Great x 23 grandfather

Henry was King of England from 1100 to 1135. Known as Beauclerc he was born in Selby in Yorkshire and could claim to be the first Anglo-Norman King as his father was a Norman and his mother Matilda of Flanders was a descendent of King Alfred the Great of **Wessex**. Henry married Princess Matilda of Scotland, daughter of King Malcolm III. This marriage also reinforced the Anglo Saxon heritage of subsequent Kings of England because Matilda was a descendent of King Ethelred the Unready of Wessex.



### King William I (1035 to 1087)

Great x 24 grandfather



William was Duke of Normandy and gained the crown of England by conquest in 1066 after the Battle of Hastings. The subsequent Norman conquest profoundly changed English society and planted a Norman elite which still exists today and changed customs, the language, legal system and government. William was also known as 'the bastard' because his mother had been a lowly woman who conceived him out of wedlock.

### Duke Robert I (1000 to 1035)

Great x 25 grandfather

Robert was Duke of the Normans called 'the Magnificent'.

### Duke Richard II (970 to 1027)

Great x 26 grandfather

Richard was Duke of the Normans called 'the Good'.

The line goes back to the first Duke of Normandy, Rollo (great x 29 grandfather), who was born in Scandinavia and was of Viking descent like his people who had settled in the area. The name 'Normandy' comes from 'land of the Norsemen'. Rollo converted to Christianity although towards the end of his life he is alleged to have 'gone mad' and reverted to his worship of Norse gods. He is alleged to have been son of Ragnvald, the Earl of Orkney, a Viking.

## The Plantagenets

(Blachford to King Edward III and Dodington line to King Edward I)



This is only a very brief description of the Plantagenet ancestors. There is plenty of other material available which tells the stories of the lives of these people and so I won't go into much depth here.

### **King Edward III Plantagenet** **(1312 to 1377)**

Great x 16 grandfather

Edward was King of England from 1327 till 1377. Arguably a 'great' King he started the Hundred Years War against France and whose son the Black Prince (both shown in the medieval picture on the right) led his armies to famous victories at Crecy and Poitiers. Edward married Philippa, daughter of William Count of Hainault in France and great granddaughter of King Philip III of France.



### **King Edward II Plantagenet** **(1284 to 1327)**

Great x 17 grandfather

Edward was King of England from 1307 till 1327. After an unpopular reign due to the influence of favourite Piers Gaveston and the disaster of Bannockburn, Edward was forced to resign his throne in 1326 by an uprising supported by the majority of nobles and led by his Queen Isabella of France, daughter of King Philip IV, and her lover Sir Roger **Mortimer**. Whilst it was historically claimed that Edward was murdered brutally (by a hot poker thrust up his anus) whilst being held prisoner at Berkeley Castle, historians now claim that in fact he escaped to France and lived out the rest of his life in exile, not wishing to challenge his son and heir once he had gained the throne.



### **King Edward I Plantagenet** **(1239 to 1307)**

Great x 18 grandfather

Edward, shown left, was King of England from 1274 till 1307. Also known as 'Longshanks', because of his size, or the 'Hammer of the Scots', because of his wars against Scotland. He also led a conquest of Wales and built a large number of castles there to suppress the Welsh. Edward married Eleanor of Castile, daughter of King Fernando III Alfonsoz of Castille and Leon.

### **King Henry III Plantagenet** **(1206 to 1272)**

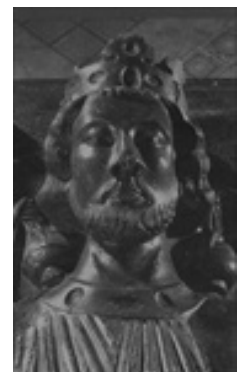
Great x 19 grandfather

Henry was King of England from 1216 till 1272, a reign of over 50 years. England prospered during his reign although he spent much of his reign fighting his barons over the Magna Carta. He married Eleanor of Provence, daughter of the Count of Provence in France and maternally granddaughter of the Count of Savoy.

### **King John I Plantagenet** **(1166 to 1216)**

Great x 20 grandfather

John, whose effigy at Worcester Cathedral is pictured right, was King of England from 1199 till 1216. He is a controversial King, claimed by many to be the worse English King ever but by others to have been mistakenly portrayed. He signed Magna Carta in 1215. John married Isabella of Angouleme when she was aged about 11. Isabella was daughter of the Count of Angouleme.





**King Henry II Plantagenet**  
**(1133 to 1189)**

Great x 21 grandfather

Henry, pictured right, was King of England 1154 till 1189. With his Kingdom in England and in France he was arguably the most powerful of the English medieval Kings. He married Eleanor, daughter of the Duke of Aquitaine and Count of Poitiers.



**Geoffrey Plantagenet, Count of Anjou**  
**(1113 to 1151)**

Great x 22 grandfather



The Count of Anjou (pictured left) and son of Fulk V and his first wife, Geoffrey married Empress Matilda, daughter of King Henry I of England (see the **Normans**) and thus started the Plantagenet royal line of England when their son became King Henry II after the settlement following the civil war with King Stephen, who was a grandson of William the Conqueror. The name Plantagenet comes from the shrub *Planta genista* and it is claimed the nickname arose because Geoffrey wore a sprig of the common broom in his hat. Another legend said that the Plantagenets, arising from the Counts of Anjou and so called Angevins, arose from a daughter of the Devil and 'from the Devil they came and to the Devil they will return', said Gerald of Wales.

**Fulk V, Count of Anjou**  
**(1089 to 1143)**

Great x 23 grandfather



Fulk was Count of Anjou and for the last 12 years of his life he became King of Jerusalem. The coat of arms of the Kingdom of Jerusalem are shown on the left. In 1110 he married his first wife Ermengarde of Maine. His second wife was Melisende and their marriage is pictured to the right. Melisende was the daughter of Baldwin II, King of Jerusalem and

because Baldwin had no male heirs this marriage led to Fulk and his wife becoming King and Queen of Jerusalem in 1131 when Baldwin died.

Jerusalem had become a crusader state following the first crusade when it was captured in 1099. Fulk spent a lot of his time as King fighting neighbouring crusaders and also threats on the borders with Arab leaders. He died in a hunting accident in Acre and was buried in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. The crusaders held Jerusalem until 1187 when it was captured by Muslim Arab leader Saladin from Fulk's granddaughter Sybilla and her husband Guy de **Lusignan** (as made famous in the film 'the Kingdom of Heaven', a film which does not accurately portray Guy and Sybilla's actual relationship).



## The Poyntz family of Iron Action, Gloucestershire

(Dodington line)



### Nicholas Poyntz, esquire

(c 1410 to 1449)

Great x 14 grandfather

Nicholas held the Manor of Iron Acton in Gloucester and married Elizabeth **Hussey**. His daughter Jane married William **Dodington** of Mere in Wiltshire.

### Sir John Poyntz

(c 1310 to 1377)

Great x 16 grandfather

John was appointed Sheriff of Gloucester in 1363 and inherited Acton Court from his uncle. He seems to have been a headstrong character, with little respect for the law. He once led a raid on Hereford prison to liberate certain parties who had been arrested. John was not above liberating a few deer from his neighbour's park either. Yet one of the posts he was expected to take on as a local landowner was Commissioner of the Peace. His tomb at Iron Acton is shown below (from the David Robart's ancestry website).



### Sir Hugh Poyntz

(c 1270 to 1307)

Great x 18 grandfather

Hugh was a soldier who fought in the wars of King Edward I in Wales, Gascony and Scotland. He was summoned to Parliament as a baron in 1295. In 1298 he fought in the English victory at Falkirk.

### Nicholas Poyntz

(c 1230 to 1273)

Great x 19 grandfather

Nicholas was Lord of Curry Malet in Somerset, inherited from his mother Hawise Malet. He had a military summons from the Crown to march against the Welsh in 1257/8. Shortly afterwards he joined with the de Montfort rebellion against King Henry III.

### Hugh Poyntz, esquire

(c 1200 to ?)

Great x 20 grandfather

Hugh joined the baron's revolt against King John and as a result his lands in Somerset, Dorset and Gloucester were seized by the Crown in 1216. He was captured and imprisoned in Bristol castle.

The Poyntz family trace their lineage back to Drogo Fitz-Pons (great x 25 grandfather), a Norman knight who accompanied William the Conqueror into England.



## The Ros family of Helmsley, Yorkshire

(Dodington line)



### Eleanor de Ros

(1449 to 1487)

Great x 12 grandmother

Eleanor married Sir Robert **Manners** in 1469.

### Sir Thomas de Ros

(1427 to 1464)

Great x 13 grandfather

Thomas was 10<sup>th</sup> Baron de Ros of Helmsley and he married Philippa **Tiptoft**. Thomas was a follower of the House of Lancaster in the Wars of the Roses and in 1461 he was knighted by Edward, Prince of Wales, prior to the Second Battle of St Albans. He accompanied King Henry VI to Berwick after the Lancastrian defeat at the Battle of Towton and was attainted by King Edward IV. He was captured in 1464 and beheaded by treason by the Yorkists at Newcastle.

### Sir Thomas de Ros

(1406 to 1430)

Great x 14 grandfather

Thomas was 9<sup>th</sup> Baron de Ros. He married Eleanor **Beauchamp**. He fought at the Battle of Verneuil in France in 1424 under the command of the Duke of Bedford and he was knighted by King Henry VI in 1426. He was an MP in 1429 but during a minor skirmish in France in 1430 he fell into the River Seine and drowned.

### Sir William de Ros

(c 1369 to 1414)

Great x 15 grandfather



William was 7<sup>th</sup> Baron de Ros. He was Lord Treasurer of England. He was one of the first to support Henry Bolingbroke's rebellion against King Richard II and he was present at his abdication and Henry's proclamation as new King Henry IV. He remained on the Privy Council for the rest of his life and appears to have been a favourite of the first king of the House of Lancaster and was made a Knight of the Garter.

### Sir William de Ros

(1255 to 1317)

Great x 18 grandfather

William was 2<sup>nd</sup> Baron de Ros. He was an unsuccessful claimant to the Crown of Scotland from his great grandmother. He was active in the wars in Gascony and Scotland and he fought at the Battle of Falkirk in 1298.

### Sir Robert de Ros

(c 1212 to 1285)

Great x 19 grandfather

Robert was 1<sup>st</sup> Baron de Ros, he married Isabel D'**Aubigny**. In 1264 he was one of the insurgent barons who defeated King Henry III at the Battle of Lewes in the de Montfort rebellion. He took the king and Prince Edward (future King Edward I) prisoner and confined them in Hungerford Castle. He received a pardon, on Prince Edward's insistence, after the rebels were defeated at the subsequent Battle of Evesham. In 1276 he gave evidence against Welsh Prince Llewellyn at Westminster. Robert died in 1285 and was buried at Kirkham Priory in Yorkshire and his effigy on his tomb is shown on the left.

**Sir Robert de Ros**  
**(c 1170 to 1226)**

Great x 21 grandfather

When the struggle of the barons for a constitutional government began, Robert at first sided with King John, and obtained some valuable grants from the crown, and was made governor of Carlisle; but he subsequently went over to the barons and became one of the celebrated twenty-five "Sureties" appointed to enforce the observance of Magna Carta, the county of Northumberland being placed under his supervision. He gave his allegiance to King Henry III and, in 1217-18 and his manors were restored to him. Although he was witness to the second Great Charter and the Forest Charter, of 1224, he seems to have remained in royal favour. He married Isabel daughter of King William I 'the Lion' of Scotland. Robert built Hamlake Castle and when he died in 1226 he was buried at Temple Church in London and his effigy is shown below.



## The Ryther family of Yorkshire



### Isabella Ryther

(c 1440 to ?)

Great x 14 grandmother

Isabella married Sir Guy **Fairfax**.

### Sir William Ryther

(1408 to 1475)

Great x 15 grandfather

William was a firm supporter of the Yorkists in the Wars of the Roses. He was appointed Sheriff of Lincolnshire in 1450 and held land at Ryther in Yorkshire where he was seated. In 1461 he fought at the Battle of Towton which was a Yorkist victory. He died in 1475 and was buried at All Saint's Church, Harewood in Yorkshire. His alabaster tomb and that of wife Elizabeth (nee Gascoigne) is shown below.



### Sir Robert Ryther

(c 1280 to 1327)

Great x 20 grandfather

Pictures of the tomb effigies of Sir Robert and his wife Maud are shown left and right. A photo of his tomb is below.

Robert fought in the Scottish wars of King Edward II from 1312-18. In 1318 he was High Sheriff of York. Robert joined the rebel barons against the King and fought at the Battle of Boroughbridge in 1322. He survived the battle but was afterwards imprisoned in York.



## The Savage family of Yorkshire

(Blachford line)



**Elizabeth Savage**

**(c 1460 to ?)**

Great x 13 grandmother

Elizabeth married John Leeke, esquire, and their daughter Muriel married Sir Robert **Waterton**

**Sir John Savage**

**(1422 to 1495)**

Great x 14 grandfather

John, who married Katherine **Stanley**, was seated at Clifton in Cheshire. He was knighted by King Henry VI. John was a Mayor of Chester, held offices connected with the Royal Manor and Forest of Macclesfield, and King Henry VI made him one of the "feoffees" or trustees of the Duchy of Lancaster.

One of his sons, called Thomas, became Archbishop of York and another son, called John, became famous for being a commander in Henry Tudor's army at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485. One of the main turning points in this battle was when John's brother-in-law, Sir Thomas Stanley, joined the affray on the side of Henry Tudor when he had originally openly pledged his support to King Richard. This family tie between John Savage junior, in Tudor's army, and Thomas Stanley, supposed to be supporting Richard, in addition to the fact that Stanley had married Tudor's mother Margaret Beaufort, made Henry all the more confident that whilst the numbers he had facing Richard were small, that he would eventually muster more support to carry the day.

**John Savage**

**(1410 to 1463)**

Great x 15 grandfather

This John married Elizabeth Brereton and led a quiet life as a country gentleman.

**Sir John Savage**

**(c 1380 to 1450)**

Great x 16 grandfather

This John followed King Henry V into France and fought at the Battle of Agincourt. The picture to the right is 'The Morning of Agincourt, by Sir John Gilbert'. John was knighted as a result of his gallant service in this famous victory.

His parents were Sir John Savage and Margaret **Danyers**.

The Savage surname originates from Normandy in France although the earliest ancestor of the line in England, John le Savage, was born in 1024 in Derbyshire and was therefore in England before the later conquest.





## The Savile family of Thornhill, Yorkshire



### Elizabeth Savile (c 1430 to 1493)

Great x 14 grandmother

Elizabeth married Sir Robert **Waterton**.

### Sir John Savile (c 1400 to 1481)

Great x 15 grandfather

John was an active and influential Yorkist in the Wars of the Roses. In 1461 he was appointed to the coveted position of steward of Wakefield in Yorkshire and in this office he was custodian of the castle at Sandal. He was High Sheriff of Yorkshire in 1455 and 1461 and MP for the county in 1450 and 1467.

John's military service started in 1441 when he served in France, when he bought a suit of armour. He was knighted by the Duke of York in about 1442. When the Wars of the Roses broke out John was a trusted member of York's forces and in he was present with Yorkist forces at the First Battle of St Albans. John is also likely to have been at the Battle of Wakefield in 1461 and was probably captured.

In the 1470's England was secure under King Edward IV but a local rivalry between John and his neighbour the Pilkington family broke out and led to violence. This rivalry had been simmering since the 1460's when the Pilkingtons had been accused of several crimes against the Saviles and their supporters. By this time John was too old and infirm to take an active role but his sons engaged in bitter small scale fighting over land disputes.

John died at Sandal castle in 1481 and was buried at the Church at Thornhill. He left a substantial amount of money, property and lands to his children. His alabaster tomb is shown in the picture to the right (from the Church Monument Society website).



### Sir Thomas Savile (c 1380 to 1449)

Great x 16 grandfather

Thomas inherited Eland estates from his uncle and Thornhill estates from his mother and became a wealthy landowner. Thomas was knighted in about 1430 and he became a knight of the Shire in 1442. Thomas' will in 1449 suggests he was a pious man as he left several bequests to religious houses and the Church. Thomas married Margaret Pilkington.



### Henry Savile, esquire (c 1360 to 1412)

Great x 17 grandfather

Henry married Elizabeth Thornhill and gained considerable land through this heiress as a result. Elizabeth was the great granddaughter of Sir John Thornhill whose tomb at Thornhill is pictured to the left.



**Sir John Savile**  
**(1325 to 1399)**

Great x 18 grandfather

John married Isabel de Eland in 1353 and gained land through this heiress as a result. John was a valiant and loyal soldier during the French wars of the period and fought at the Siege of Calais in 1346/7. He joined the Black Prince in Gascony and was probably at the Battle of Poitiers in 1356. He fought under the Duke of Lancaster in Brittany and in 1367 he was part of John of Gaunt's retinue at the Battle of Najara in Spain. John also had a successful political career and held numerous local commissions and became an MP.

## The Sibell family of Farningham, Kent

(Dodington line)



**Anne Sibell**  
**(c 1540 to 1606)**

Great x 9 grandmother

Anne married firstly Matthew Colthurst of Claverton in Bath. Matthew at the time held Wardour Castle in Wiltshire and he died in 1559. Widowed Anne then married Lawrence **Hyde**. Anne died in 1606 whilst living at West Hatch near Tisbury having outlived both her husbands. The memorial to her and Lawrence is pictured below, alongside a print of the brass, is in the Church at Tisbury. Anne is pictured on the right with four daughters, Joanna being an ancestor on this line, and husband Edward to the left with six sons, one of whom Henry was to become great grandfather to two English Queens, Anne and Mary.

The motif at the top reads 'every man living in his best estate is altogether vanity', a lesson from our ancestors long past which I think we should listen to in these vainglorious times.



**Nicholas Sibell, gent**  
**(c 1520 to 1548)**

Great x 10 grandfather

Nicholas was a gentleman and landowner in Kent. He held land in the parishes of Kingsdown and Farningham and held the Manor of Chimbhams in the latter. His family coat of arms shown above and in a contemporary picture to the right is of a leopard holding or looking into a mirror.



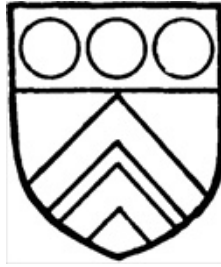
**Nicholas Sibell, gent**  
**(c 1400 to 1465)**

Great x 12 grandfather

Nicholas was a Justice of the Peace in Kent in 1461 and 1464. His father John was a merchant and property owner in London.

## The Skilling family of Wiltshire

(Blachford line)



**Alice Skilling**

**(c 1549 to ?)**

Great x 11 grandmother

Alice married Henry **Moleyns**.

**Walter Skilling, Esquire**

**(1520 to 1559)**

Great x 12 grandfather

Walter was an Esquire, as confirmed by his will, and held land in Wiltshire and Hampshire. He married Mary **Ernley**. He was a Catholic and his descendants continued to adhere to this faith after the reformation of the Church of England. He was living at Rollestone in Wiltshire when he died.

**John Skilling, Esquire**

**(1490 to 1524)**

Great x 13 grandfather

John was an Esquire and landowner. He held manors of Lainston and Draycot Filliot in Wiltshire. In 1520 he was High Sheriff of Wiltshire. He married Alice **Gifford** of Hampshire.

**Michael Skilling, gent**

**(c 1400 to 1445)**

Great x 16 grandfather

Michael was also a successful and wealthy lawyer and invested in Lainston near Winchester in Hampshire. He was legal advisor to Winchester City and on the Council of Winchester College.

**Michael Skilling, gent**

**(c 1360 to 1463)**

Great x 18 grandfather

Michael was a successful lawyer and Justice of the Peace for Hampshire. In 1367 his father had obtained the Manor of Draycot in Wiltshire and it was to remain with the Skillings for the next 400 years.

## The Stanley family of Stanley, Derbyshire

(Blachford family)



### Catherine Stanley (c 1430 to 1498)

Great x 14 grandmother

Catherine married Sir John **Savage**.

### Sir Thomas Stanley (c 1405 to 1459)

Great x 15 grandfather

Thomas was 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Stanley and titular King of the Isle of Mann. He served as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland between 1431 and 1436 and represented Lancashire in the House of Commons. He was Chamberlain to King Henry VI and shortly before he died he was made a Knight of the Garter. Thomas married Joan **Goushill**.

Thomas' son Thomas (ancestor Katherine's brother) was the Baron Stanley who on the field of the Battle of Bosworth changed allegiance from King Richard III to Henry Tudor. Partly thanks to that 'treason' against the ruling monarch, Henry won the battle and Richard was killed. Henry became King Henry VII and Thomas Stanley became 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Derby (3<sup>rd</sup> creation) and from whom all the subsequent and powerful Earls of Derby descend.

### Sir John Stanley (1386 to 1436)

Great x 16 grandfather

John was a steward to King Henry IV. He married Isabel Harrington. John inherited the title of King of Mann from his father and twice visited the island to put down rebellions in 1417 and 1422. He is credited with putting the laws of the island into writing. He fought at Agincourt in 1415 with eight men-at-arms and 24 archers. He was present at the capture of Rouen in 1418.

### Sir John Stanley (c 1340 to 1414)

Great x 17 grandfather

John was second son of William Stanley of Storeton, Master Forester of Wirral and his wife Alice Massey. He was a soldier with an exceptional military record and confident of King Richard II who had appointed him deputy to Robert de Vere, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. He married Isabel Lathom, in 1385, when he was 40 and, due to unexpected deaths of various closer heirs, received from her large estates in southwest Lancashire and Cheshire. The Stanleys were adroit at joining the winning side and thus in 1399 he had joined Henry Bolingbroke against Richard and, after Henry was crowned King, received several more estates in Cheshire.

In 1405 he was granted the Lordship of Man in return for his help in suppressing the rebellion in Wales led by the Percys. Legally this was not yet Henry's to give as the current Lord, Henry de Percy, had not yet been attainted - he actually had avoided being at the Battle of Shrewsbury in 1403 due to illness and managed to apologise his way out, saving his head but still losing the island. In 1408 John was sent, as Lord Lieutenant, back to Ireland where he died in 1414. His body was returned to Lathom and buried in Burscough Priory near Ormskirk.



## The St Leger family of Kent

(Blachford family)



**Anne St Leger**  
**(1476 to 1526)**

Great x 11 grandmother

Anne was originally contracted to marry Sir Thomas Grey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marquess of Dorset and grandson of Queen Elizabeth Woodville, but this marriage never happened and instead she married Sir George **Manners**.



**Sir Thomas St Leger**  
**(c 1440 to 1483)**

Great x 12 grandfather

Pictured to the left with his wife Anne, Duchess of Exeter and daughter of Richard Duke of **York**, he being her second husband, Thomas was a Knight of the Order of the Bath and one time ambassador to France. He played a key role in ending the Hundred Years War when he signed the Treaty of Peacocking with King Louise IX.

In 1465 Thomas had a lucky escape when he was pardoned by King Edward IV after brawling in the Palace of Westminster and when he was sentenced to have a hand cut off. He was granted a reprieve.

Thomas fought for the Yorkists at the Battles of Barnet and at Tewkesbury in 1471. However after his wife died in 1476 and he had his offices stripped from him by her brother, he joined the rebellion led by the Duke of Buckingham against the Yorkist King, his brother in law Richard III. The rebellion originally aimed to put King Edward V back on the throne but when rumours arose that he and his brother, the two 'Princes in the Tower', were dead, the aim was to support a claim by Henry Tudor. However the Buckingham rebellion quickly crumbled and the Duke was captured and executed at Salisbury on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1483. Thomas was captured and executed at Exeter on 8<sup>th</sup> November.

Thomas's ancestors were Lords of Ulcombe in Devon going back to -

**Sir Ralph St Leger**  
**(c 1196 to 1220)**

Great x 21 grandfather

Ralph was a Knight Templar, like his father, and he also took part in the crusade under King Richard I. He was later a signatory to the Magna Carta in 1215.

**Sir Ralph St Leger**  
**(c 1170 to 1202)**

Great x 22 grandfather

Ralph was a Knight Templar (pictured right). He was Lord of Ulcombe in Devon and followed King Richard I the Lionheart on the 3<sup>rd</sup> crusade. Ralph was at the Siege of Acre in Palestine in 1187.

He died shortly after his return to England and his tomb still exists in Ulcombe Church.

**Ralph De St Leger**  
**(c 1040 to 1087)**

Great x 25 grandfather

Ralph was a Norman knight. He fought at the Battle of Hastings in 1066 and was granted lands after the conquest by King William I.





**The Strangeways family of Melbury Sampford, Dorset**  
(Blachford family – relies on assumed **Wright** family ancestry)



**Sir Henry Strangeways**  
**(c 1500 to 1544)**  
Great x 11 grandfather

Henry and his father Giles who was Lord of the Manor of Melbury Sampford in Dorset attended, on invitation, a gathering organised by King Henry VIII called 'the Field of the Cloth of Gold' in March 1520.



In 1544 Henry was killed at the first siege of Bolougne during King Henry VIII's second invasion of France. He had married Margaret **Manners** of Hamlake, Helmsley in Yorkshire in 1526 and their daughter Elizabeth married William **Wright** of Winchester.

**Sir Henry Strangeways**  
**(c 1440 to 1504)**  
Great x 13 grandfather

Sir Henry married Dorothy **Arundell**. He was buried at Abbotsbury in Dorset.

## The Tempest family of Bracewell, Yorkshire

(Blachford line)



### Sir Richard Tempest (1480 to 1537)

Great x 12 grandfather

Richard had the command of some soldiers at the Battle of Flodden Fields in 1513 against the Scots. He was under the command of the Thomas Howard, Earl of Surrey and Richard is said to have 'fought gallantly' in the battle which was a decisive English victory. He was knighted in 1513 and was an MP in 1529.

Richard was a staunch catholic and he opposed King Henry VIII over the closure of the monasteries. He took part in the Pilgrimage of Grace which was a protest of nobility and people in the north of England against the dissolution. The king showed apparent good will and made concessions to appease the protestors. However once they had returned home and Henry was secure again he took vengeance on the leaders. Richard was captured but died in prison in 1537 and so avoided execution.

Richard had married Rosamund **Bolling** of Bradford in Yorkshire and their daughter Joan married Sir Thomas **Waterton** of Walton in Yorkshire. One of Richard's sons was on the jury of the trial of Catherine Howard, one of King Henry's VIII's wives. Richard was the son of Sir Nicholas Tempest and wife Margaret Pilkington.

### Sir John Tempest (c 1420 to 1464)

Great x 14 grandfather

John was at one time High Sheriff of the counties of Yorkshire and Lincolnshire. He was 'zealously' devoted to the House of Lancaster and once afforded a place of concealment to King Henry VI at Bracewell (his seat in Yorkshire) at the start of the Wars of the Roses after the Battle of Hexham in 1464. He died later the same year.

### Sir Piers Tempest (c 1378 to 1428)

Great x 15 grandfather

Piers was an English hero and accompanied King Henry V into France. He was knighted on the field after the famous Battle of Agincourt in 1415. The picture on the right is a 15<sup>th</sup> century miniature of the battle and it shows how important the longbow archers were to the outcome.



### Sir Richard Tempest (c 1356 to 1428)

Great x 16 grandfather

Richard had an illustrious military career involving battles with the Scots and French and extensive administrative responsibilities in the north of England under five kings of England, from Edward III to Henry VI. He fought in Gascony in 1378 and Scotland in 1385.

### Sir John Tempest (1283 to 1351)

Great x 19 grandfather

John was Lord of Bracewell and Waddington and he was summoned to attend the King at Westminster with men at arms in 1323. He was engaged with Roger, Lord Clifford, and the Earl of Lancaster in removing Piers de Gaveston, favourite of Edward II, from the Counsels, an act of duty to their deceased sovereign (King Edward I), rather than of disobedience to the then living one, and he received a pardon under the great seal.

The Tempest family is Norman in origin.

## The Tiptoft family of Stokenham, Devon

(Blachford line)



### *Sir John Tiptoft*

*(c 1390 to 1443)*

Great x 14 grandfather

John was knighted in 1399, on the eve of Bolingbroke's coronation as King Henry IV. He held lands in Cambridge, Hampshire and Wiltshire. John fought against the Welsh, at the Battle of Shrewsbury in 1403, pictured left, against Hotspur and he helped quell a rebellion in the north. He was an MP and was Speaker of the House in 1414. After King Henry V's victory at Agincourt John was involved in the subsequent diplomacy with France and he became Seneschal of Aquitaine. John was an advisor to King Henry VI and became a Steward of the Household. John's daughter Philippa married Sir Thomas de **Ros**. John was son of Payne, grandson of the Payne de Tiptoft, senior.

### *Sir Payne de Tiptoft*

*(c 1280 to 1314)*

Great x 17 grandfather

Payne senior was the first Lord Tiptoft and was summoned to Parliament in 1308 by King Edward II as Baron Tiptoft. He was killed at the Battle of Bannockburn against the Scots in 1314. Payne's daughter Margaret married Sir Thomas de **Monthermer**.

### *Sir Robert de Tiptoft*

*(c 1247 to c 1298)*

Great x 18 grandfather

Robert was Governor of Porchester Castle. He attended to Prince Edward (later King Edward I) in the Holy Land on crusade in 1270. He became Governor of Nottingham Castle, Justice of South Wales and Governor of Carmarthen and Cardigan Castles. Robert fought in the battle at which Rhys Ap Meredith of Wales was defeated and captured. He fought in the wars in Gascony and Scotland after 1293.

## The Tregoz family of Ewyas-Harold, Herefordshire

(Blachford line)



### Sir John de Tregoz (1234 to 1300)

Great x 21 grandfather

John found the favour of King Henry II despite his father's 'treason'. He attended the King in an expedition into Wales and joined the later campaign in Gasgony. He had permission to reside at the Castle of Devizes. He was in the Scottish wars and summoned to Parliament in 1299 as a Baron. John's daughter from his marriage to wife Mabel **Fitzwarin**, Sybil, married William de **Grandison** at Donyatt in Somerset in 1285.

### Robert de Tregoz (c 1190 to 1265)

Great x 22 grandfather

Robert was killed at the Battle of Evesham in 1265, pictured right) whilst supporting the rebel barons against King Henry III.

### Robert de Tregoz (c 1168 to c 1215)

Great x 23 grandfather

Robert was a feudal Lord and Sheriff of Wiltshire.





## The Tropnell family of Great Chalfield, Wiltshire

(Dodington line)



**Maria Tropnell**  
**(c 1540 to 1575)**

Great x 9 grandmother

Maria married John **Younge** of Durnford in Wiltshire.

**Thomas Tropnell**  
**(c 1520 to 1548)**

Great x 10 grandfather

Thomas married Eleanor **Englefield** of Englefield in Berkshire.

**Thomas Tropnell**  
**(c 1405 to 1488)**

Great x 12 grandfather

The Tropnell family were of modest Wiltshire stock but the fortune of Thomas was as a consequence of his work as receiver-general of the Lords of Hungerford and an intimate supporter of this powerful family until the close of his life. Probably a lawyer by profession he was returned as a MP for their county held seat in 1429 and again in 1449. Tropnell soon cast his eye on the desirable Chalfield estate in Wiltshire. For more than thirty years this Lancastrian supporter was embroiled in litigation, claims and counter-claims, between the several heirs of Sir Henry Percy's daughter Beatrice, and those of Constance and her husbands who resorted to planning an attack on the property to gain possession in July 1431. By 1452 Thomas was the tenant of the manor of Great Chalfield and by 1467 he obtained a release on any claims on the property from the direct heir of Beatrice (nee Percy). In 1482 he obtained several legal opinions confirming his ownership and the matter was finally settled.



Pictured above is the manor house of Great Chalfield built by Thomas Tropnell 1465-1480. Thomas also held other land in Wiltshire including property between Fisherton and Crane Bridge Street in Salisbury.

Thomas had married Margaret **Ludlow** of Hill Deverill in Wiltshire.



## The Waleys family

(Blachford line)



*Joan Waleys*

*(c 1410 to ?)*

Great x 16 grandmother

Joan married Nicholas **Morley**, esquire.

*John Waleys, esquire*

*(c 1390 to 1418)*

Great x 17 grandfather

John was the only Lord of Glynde Manor in Sussex among his family not to achieve knighthood; however he acquired prestige when he fought as an esquire under the banner of Thomas, Earl of Arundell, in the Agincourt campaign in 1415. Although not a knight, his was the most successful marriage of his line. His wife Joan Turk, whose father Sir Robert Turk had been a wealthy citizen and grocer of London, had inherited through her mother Beatrice, the Kendale and Boys properties in Hertfordshire and Hampshire. However the Waleys family did not long to enjoy this fortunate addition to their estates. John died in 1418 and his young son John died within age leaving the inheritance to be disputed over and divided between his four sisters and their nearest male relations.



*Sir William Waleys*

*(c 1360 to 1409)*

Great x 18 grandfather

William represented Sussex as Knight of the Shire in four Parliaments between 1380 and 1390. He was twice the Sheriff of Surrey and Sussex in 1383 and 1395. His wife Margaret, daughter of Sir John St. Clere, Chief Forester of Ashdown Forest to John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, survived him.

## The Waterton family of Newport, Isle of Wight and Walton, Yorkshire

(Blachford line)



### *Eleanor Waterton*

*(1605 to after 1648)*

Great x 8 grandmother

Eleanor was the heiress of her parents Robert and Jayne Waterton and she married Richard Blachford in 1623 at Fordingbridge in Hampshire. After her first husband died after only five years marriage in 1638 she remarried Thomas Cesar at Newport on the Isle of Wight in 1646. Her eldest son through her first marriage, Robert **Blachford**, inherited from her.

### *Robert Waterton, gent*

*(1565 to 1648)*

Great x 9 grandfather

Robert was a gentleman, property owner and merchant of Newport on the Isle of Wight. He was a burgess of the town of Newport and Mayor in 1611, 1620, 1627 and 1638. He was a royalist on the outbreak of the civil war and was a friend of the Oglander family of the Isle of Wight. Robert also owned farms at Over Burgate near Fordingbridge in Hampshire and was Lord of the Manors of Crosse in Durston, Somerset and of the Manor of Sandhill Manor near Fordingbridge, both of which he held from his wife Jayne **Moleyns**. In 1610 he paid £10 as a loan as part of King Charles I's efforts to raise funds for his treasury.

Some time between 1603 and 1625 Robert took a complaint to the Court of the Star Chamber about an attack by some citizens in Newport upon his person and property. The attack by his adversaries, some of which were members of his own family, took place with daggers, swords, bills, long pikes, staves, hammers and pitchforks and Robert said that he was beaten and suffered blows to his body. Whatever the outcome of this trial he recovered and held property for the rest of his life and status in Newport. He must have reconciled with some of his family who were mentioned in his complaint in 1625 but then also mentioned in his will in 1648. Robert was buried at Newport.

### *Francis Waterton, gent*

*(c 1536 to 1605)*

Great x 10 grandfather

Francis was a gentleman, property owner and merchant of Newport on the Isle of Wight and he also held some property interests near his old family seat at Wakefield in Yorkshire. He was a younger son of Sir Thomas Waterton and his wife Joan **Tempest** and he moved to Wight from Yorkshire in about 1560 where he married Christian Markes in 1564. In 1559 he had been executor of his sister Rosamund's will.

Francis died in 1602 at Newport where he was buried.

### *Sir Thomas Waterton*

*(1500 to 1558)*

Great x 11 grandfather

Thomas was Lord of the Manor of Walton, near Wakefield in Yorkshire. In 1542 Thomas was engaged in the Scottish war and that same year he was a Member of Parliament, temporarily replacing Sir Robert Bowes who had been captured by the Scots. In May 1544 he had command of 100 men in Scotland and on 11<sup>th</sup> of that month he was knighted by the Earl of Hertford at Leith. He served as High Sheriff of York from 1553 to 1558, during the reign of the last Catholic Queen, Mary. This was the last public office to be held by the Catholic Watertons until the 19<sup>th</sup> century, they were marginalised by the Protestant Reformation and chose to hold true to their Catholic faith.

### *Sir Robert Waterton*

*(1478 to 1541)*

Great x 12 grandfather

Robert was Lord of the Manors of Walton, Cawthorne and Burn in Yorkshire and Corringham in Lincolnshire. He married Muriel Leeke (daughter of John Leeke, esquire, and his wife Elizabeth **Savage**) in about 1500 and he was knighted on 14<sup>th</sup> November 1501, on the marriage of Arthur, Prince of Wales to Catherine of Aragon. In 1510 he was a Justice of the Peace in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire. He was Master of Horse to King Henry VIII but refused to acknowledge the King as 'supreme head of the church in England' and so received a letter from the King saying: "Waterton, I will take thy estate, but I will save thy life. Henry Rex". Waterton refused to concede and he remained true to the Church of Rome and lost possessions as a result.

**Sir John Waterton**

**(c 1460 to 1495)**

Great x 13 grandfather

John was Lord of the Manors of Walton, Cawthorne and Burn in Yorkshire and Corringham in Lincolnshire. In about 1475 he married Agnes **Fairfax** and in 1490 he was admitted to the Guild of Corpus Christi in York, a religious order (Richard, Duke of Gloucester and future King Richard III had also been a member).

**Robert Waterton**

**(c 1440 to 1482)**

Great x 14 grandfather

Robert married Elizabeth **Saville** in about 1460.

**Richard Waterton**

**(1405 to 1479)**

Great x 15 grandfather

Richard was Lord of the Manors of Walton, Cawthorne, Penistone, Manston and Burn in Yorkshire and Corringham in Lincolnshire. He married Constance **Assenhull** in about 1435. Between 1453 and 1458 he was High Sheriff of Lincolnshire. In 1461 he was present at the Parliament at Westminster after the defeat of the Lancastrians at the Battle of Towton.

**John Waterton**

**(1375 to 1417)**

Great x 16 grandfather

John was Lord of the Manor of Corringham in Lincolnshire. In about 1399 he married Katherine de **Burgh**. In 1417 he was High Sheriff of Lincolnshire.

The Watertons were originally from Lincolnshire, and had migrated to Yorkshire. Their line stretches back to a Reiner de Normanby was the first to adopt the name 'Waterton' which was derived from land called Watretone on the River Trent in the Isle of Axholme, Lincolnshire.

## The House of Wessex (Blachford and Dodington lines)



There is only a very brief description of the Anglo Saxon lines on these pages. There is plenty of source material available elsewhere which tells the stories of the lives of these ancestors.

### King Ethelred the Unready (968 to 1016)

Great x 27 grandfather

Ethelred was King of England from 978 to 1016. After fighting against the Danish through most of his reign, he was eventually succeeded by the Dane Canute to the throne of England. Ethelred married Emma, daughter of Duke Richard I of **Normandy**, and their daughter Goda married the Count of Vexin, Drogo de Mantes and was grandmother of Harold de **Ewyas**. Ethelred was also an ancestor of Matilda of Scotland who married King Henry I **Plantagenet** through his grandson Edward Aethling whose daughter Margaret married King Malcolm III of Scotland. Ethelred was buried in the old Cathedral of St Paul's.

### King Edgar the Peaceful (943 to 975)

Great x 28 grandfather

Edgar was King of England from 959 to 975 and was buried at Glastonbury Abbey.

### Saint Ælfgifu of Shaftesbury (c 920 to 944)

Great x 29 grandmother

Queen consort of King Edmund and mother of King Edgar, she had a connection to the nunnery at Shaftesbury where she was buried and was later revered as a saint. Her feast day was 18<sup>th</sup> May. The picture to the right is of the ruins of Shaftesbury Abbey (from Wikipedia).



### King Edmund I (922 to 946)

Great x 29 grandfather

Edmund was King of England from 939 to 946. He was killed by a thief in Gloucestershire and was buried at Glastonbury Abbey.



### King Edward the elder (874 to 924)

Great x 310 grandfather

King of England from 899 to 924 he was probably the first King of England as he extended the control of the Anglo Saxons of Wessex over most of the rest of the country. He was buried Winchester then later transferred to Hyde Abbey.

### King Alfred the Great (848 to 899)

Great x 31 grandfather

Alfred was King of Wessex from 871 to 899. He was noted for his defence of southern England against the Vikings and his fortification of many towns against attack. Alfred finally defeated the Danes in 878 and managed to convert their King to Christianity and this led to a relative period of peace.

Alfred He was also well known for his scholarship and for his promotion of education amongst his people. Alfred devoted considerable attention and thought to judicial matters and he had a desire for fair treatment of people under the law.

Alfred's daughter Aelfryth married Count Baldwin of Flanders and his great x 4 granddaughter married William the Conqueror the **Norman**.

He was buried at Winchester and later transferred to Hyde Abbey but his remains were lost. He is only one of two English Kings to have been granted the title of 'Great'.

**King Æthelwulf**  
**(795 to 858)**

Great x 32 grandfather

Aethelwulf was King of Wessex from 839 to 858, his remains were finally interred at the old Winchester Cathedral.

**King Egbert**  
**(770 to 839)**

Great x 33 grandfather

King of Wessex from 802 to 839, he defeated King Beornwulf of Mercia at the Battle of Ellandun (Wroughton near Swindon) in 825.

The line then follows a number of nobles and princes in the House of Wessex and of Kent to early Anglo Saxon Kings of the realm. However the historical record and dates mentioned here is disputed by some scholars.

**King Ceawlin**  
**(? to c 593)**

Great x 42 grandfather

King of Wessex from 560 to 593, he was active during a period of expansion of the rule of the Anglo Saxons of Wessex. In 577 Ceawlin defeated three Kings of the Britons at the Battle of Deorham in modern Gloucestershire.

**King Cynric**  
**(? to c 560)**

Great x 43 grandfather

King of Wessex from 534 to 560, he is said to have captured Old Sarum in 552 and with his son Ceawlin defeated the Britons in 556 at Barbury Castle near Swindon in Wiltshire.

**King Cerdic**  
**(? to c 534)**

Great x 44 grandfather

Cerdic is alleged to have been the first King of Anglo Saxon Wessex from 519 to 534.

According to the Anglo-Saxon Chronicles, the only historical record for this period, the Anglo Saxons under Aelle and Aeth were defeated by King of the Britons Arthur at the Battle of Mount Badon in the year 500. According to this tale the Saxons had settled in the east of the country and had been at war with the Britons, who held most of the south west and Wales, for almost 50 years. This record is however disputed by some historians who believe in a much more peaceful settlement and cultural change to Anglo Saxon Britain than is more traditionally portrayed.



## The Wright family of Winchester, Hampshire and East Anglia

(Blachford line)



**Elizabeth Wright**  
**(1620 to 1663)**

Great x 7 grandmother

Elizabeth married Robert **Blachford** of Fordingbridge at Rockbourne in Hampshire in 1647. It is not known who her father was but when she married she was known as 'Elizabeth Wright of Winchester. It assumed therefore that due to her status in marrying a country gentleman and the link to the Wright family of Winchester, that she is the granddaughter or great granddaughter of William Wright, esquire, and his wife Elizabeth. Her mother Helen remarried a Daniel South of Rockbourne.

**William Wright, esquire**  
**(c 1540 to 1615)**

Great x 10 grandfather

William was a property owner in the Soke (a group of parishes outside of the main city walls) of Winchester in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century. He married Elizabeth **Strangeways** in about 1570.

**George Wright**  
**(c 1520 to after 1572)**

Great x 11 grandfather

George was Lord of the Manor of Little Buckenham in Norfolk.

**John Wright**  
**(? to 1541)**

Great x 13 grandfather

John held the Manors of Tindalls and Rowses in East Laxham, Norfolk.

**Thomas Wright**  
**(? to c 1509)**

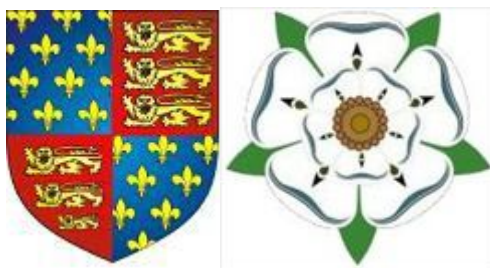
Great x 14 grandfather

Thomas was Lord of the Manor Kolverstone, Thetford in Norfolk

Of the Wright family from Burke's Peerage – ""The Wrights of Kilverstone, one of the oldest families in Norfolk, and contemporaneous with the Bedingfields, Jerninghams, Patons and Woodhouses, have been seated in that county time immemorial. Owing, however, to the destruction of deeds and other documents, which were lost, with a great portion of the ancient property, by the negligence and dishonesty of guardians in long minorities, their descent can only now be authentically traced to the time of Henry VII."

## The House of York

(Blachford line – note, relies on assumed **Wright** family lineage)



### Anne Plantagenet, Duchess of Exeter (1439 to 1476)

Great x 13 grandmother

Anne was the sister of King Edward IV (although Edward's parentage is questionable) and King Richard III. She married firstly Henry Holand, 3<sup>rd</sup> Duke of Exeter, who sided with the Lancastrians against her family of York. Her husband was attainted and his lands were granted to Anne and they separated in 1464 and divorced in 1472. She married secondly Sir Thomas **St Leger** who was a Yorkist but, after Anne died, he later rebelled against her brother King Richard III and was executed as a result. She is buried at St Giles, Windsor with her second husband Sir Thomas.



### Richard Plantagenet, 3<sup>rd</sup> Duke of York (1411 to 1460)

Great x 14 grandfather

The father of two kings, Richard was the head of the House of York at the start of the Wars of the Roses having rebelled against the King and claimed the throne. Richard became Lord Protector of the country in 1453 when King Henry VI suffered a mental breakdown. Then following Henry's recovery Richard was dismissed in favour of the Duke of Somerset and this rivalry led to a fight for the crown.

Richard led his forces in battle in the early stages of the wars at –

- 1455 1<sup>st</sup> Battle of St Albans
- 1459 Battle of Ludford Bridge
- 1460 Battle of Wakefield

At the latter battle Richard was killed and his body was buried at Pontefract. However his head, wearing a paper crown, was displayed by his Lancastrian opponents on a bridge into York, as shown on the right.



His son Edward took up the leadership of the Yorkists and he became King Edward VI.

Richard, through his granddaughter Elizabeth, was the great grandfather of King Henry VIII Tudor. This makes the Tudor King a 2<sup>nd</sup> cousin 13 times removed of my grandfather's.



### Richard Plantagenet, 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Cambridge (1375 to 1415)

Great x 15 grandfather

Richard was one of the fomenters of the Southampton Plot against King Henry V prior to the Agincourt campaign, made famous by the scene of their condemnation by the King in Shakespeare's play. The plot, aimed at putting Sir Edmund **Mortimer** on the throne, was revealed and Richard was stripped of all his titles and estates. He was then beheaded on 5<sup>th</sup> August 1415 at Southampton Green in Hampshire.

Richard had married Anne de **Mortimer** and they had three children.

**Edmund Langley, 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of York**  
**(1341 to 1402)**

Great x 16 grandfather

Edmund was the younger son of King Edward III **Plantagenet** and was founder of the House of York which was to rival the House of Lancaster for the throne throughout the latter part of the 15<sup>th</sup> century in the Wars of the Roses.

## The Younge family of Durnford and Harnham, Wiltshire

(Dodington line)



**Susanna Younge**

**(1595 to after 1631)**

Great x 7 grandmother

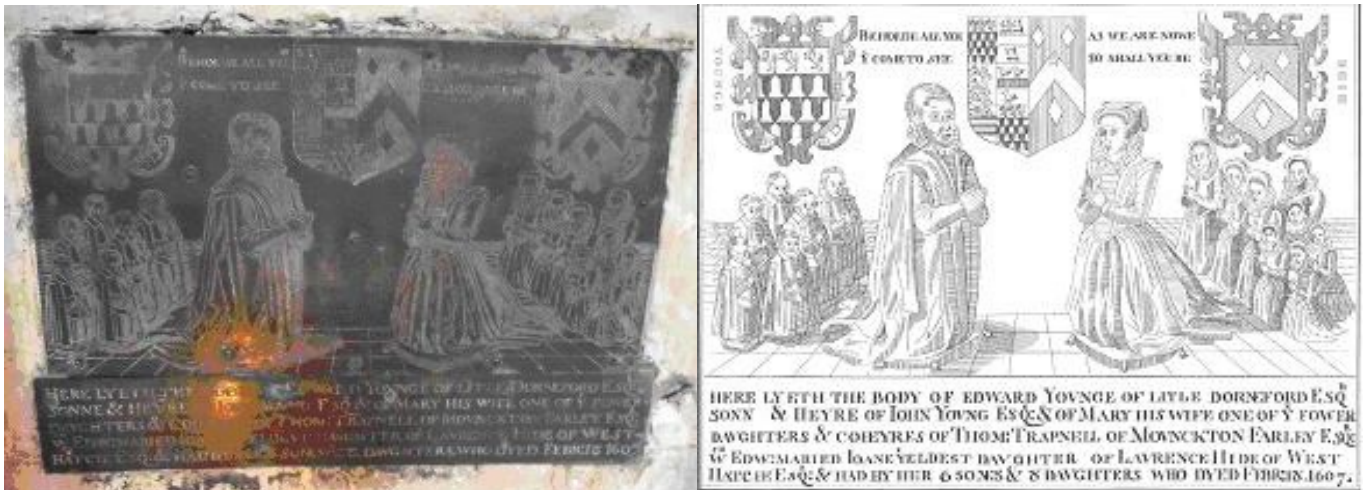
Susanna married William **Dodington** in 1617 in Durnford in Wiltshire. She died sometime between 1631 and 1657.

**Edward Younge, esquire**

**(1567 to 1607)**

Great x 8 grandfather

The picture below is of the monumental brass of Edward and Joanna Younge at Durnford Church, north of Salisbury, in Wiltshire. It shows Edward and Joanna and six sons and eight daughters, one of whom is family ancestor; the young Susanna.



Edward was Lord of the Manor of Little Durnford in Wiltshire. The Victoria County History says – “The manor house at Little Durnford in the Middle Ages was presumably beside the river on or near the site of Home Farm; in 1469 it included a hall and other rooms all described as new. The current Little Durnford Manor, on higher ground to the north-east, was built for Edward Young and completed c. 1740; although it is unlikely to be on the site of the medieval manor house ...”

Edward also held lands and tenements in East and West Harnham and at Britford and Fittleton in Wiltshire. In 1584 he married Joanna **Hyde** at Tisbury.

**John Younge, gent**

**(c 1540 to 1588)**

Great x 9 grandfather

John was a gentleman of Little Durnford in Wiltshire. He also had a house and lands in West Harnham near Salisbury. He owned the George Inn, Fisherton Anger near Salisbury and inherited Durnford Manor through his marriage to Maria **Tropnell**.



## Other ancestors of note

### King Charlemagne the Great of Franks

(747 to 814)

Great x 33 grandfather (both lines)

Charlemagne was Holy Roman Emperor and he created a Frankish empire in central Europe. His rule helped to define Western Europe and the European Middle Ages. Arguably most people in modern Europe are descended from this great King.

### King Charles II of the Franks

(823 to 877)

Great x 32 grandfather (both lines)

Charles was Holy Roman Emperor and King of Western Francia. He was called 'the Bald'.

### Sir Baldwin Fulford

(c 1410 to 1461)

Great x 15 grandfather (Blachford line)

Sir Baldwin de Fulford, of Great Fulford in Devon, was born about 1410. He was High Sheriff of Devon in 1459 and Under Admiral to Holland, Duke of Exeter, High Admiral of England. Baldwin served in the Hundred Years War and then, in the mid 1450's, set out on his travels. He went on a pilgrimage to Compostella, Rome and Jerusalem in 1456 alongside diaries William Wey.

Baldwin returned some two years later covered in glory:

"Sir Baldwin was a great soldier and traveller of so undaunted resolution that for the honour and liberty of a royal lady besieged in a castle by the infidels he fought a single combat with a Saracen for bulk and bigness an unequal match who yet he vanquished. In commemoration of this victory two Saracens were granted as supporters to Fulford arms."

Baldwin later played a major role in the Wars of the Roses and in February 1460 undertook to serve King Henry VI at sea in command of 1,000 men. His task was to seek out and destroy the Earl of Warwick and others after the raid on Sandwich in January. On 29<sup>th</sup> March 1471 he fought at the Battle of Towton, with his eldest son Thomas, but after that crushing victory for the House of York he was captured, imprisoned at Bristol castle and on 9<sup>th</sup> September he was hung drawn and quartered in the city. The execution took place on the High Street whilst vengeful King Edward IV watched from the tower of St Ewen. Baldwin's severed head was then hung at the market place in Exeter and was returned to his family later for burial. All his estates were confiscated but his son, Sir Thomas, managed to win them back.



### Sir Hugh de Morville

(? to 1204)

Great x 27 grandfather (Blachford line)

Hugh was Lord of Westmoreland. He was one of the three murderers of Thomas Beckett, Archbishop of Canterbury in 1170 after having, allegedly, misunderstood King Henry II's utterances and asking 'will no one rid me of this turbulent priest?' Henry II certain took the blame for the murder. After the murder the four assassins, on advice from the King, fled to Henry's castle at Knaresborough. They were excommunicated by the Pope in 1171 and after an audience in Rome in 1174 the Pope ordered them to be exiled and fight as Knights Templar in the Holy Land.



### Flavius Afranius Syagrius

(c 345 to ?)

Great x 46 grandfather (both lines)

Flavius is arguably the most distant ancestor that can be fairly reliably assumed, without using guesswork, of our current Queen Elizabeth and also of my grandfather Sidney Wareham



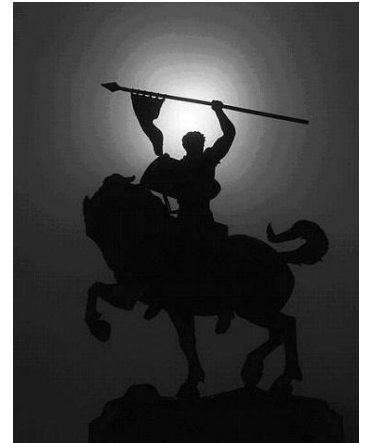
through their common ancestor King Edward I and King Charlemagne (see above). Flavius was Roman politician and administrator in the period of the Western Roman Empire. He was a member of the Gallic-Roman aristocratic family of the Syagrii, with originated from Lyon. He was a Roman consul in Gaul but was removed by Emperor Valentinian I after a failed military operation and then dedicated himself to a private life. He then restarted his career under Emperor Gratian, probably due to a mutual friendship with the poet Ausonius. In 379 he became a proconsul in Africa, hence his adoption of the name Afranius, and between 380 and 382 was Praetorian Prefect of Italy.

Flavius grandson (great x 44 grandfather), through his daughter Syagria, Tonantius Ferreolus was Praetorian Prefect of Gaul from about the year 451. Tonantius married a niece of Emperor Avitus. Their son Tonantius (great x 43 grandfather) was a Gallo-Roman Senator.

**Rodrigo Diaz De Vivar**  
**(1044 to 1099)**

Great x 25 grandfather (both lines)

Known as 'el cid' he was a Castilian nobleman, military leader, and diplomat. Picture below from Wikipedia. He was great x 5 grandfather of King Edward I **Plantagenet** through Edward's mother Eleanor of Castille in Spain.



## **Some of the Sources**

Not all are listed. Those listed here are main source materials and are in addition to any primary sources such as parish registers and wills from the county or national archives. Also used throughout this study are the Harleian Visitations (Royal Heralds) of various counties where pedigrees are proven in addition to Burkes and Collins Peerage studies.

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### **Berkeley –**

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### **Blachford –**

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### **De Bohun and Badlesmere –**

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### **Dodington –**

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The Book of Mere, Portrait of a Wiltshire Town

Mere in the 18th Century by A Joyce Rutter, 1972

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### **Fulford -**

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### **Grandison –**

*The Three Edwards: A History of the Plantagenets*, Thomas B. Costain courtesy of

<http://www.montaguemillennium.com/familyresearch/garter.htm>

### **Harpeden –**

History of Parliament online

### **Hyde –**

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The Life of Edward, Earl of Clarendon

A Tisbury History by JP Drury

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Annals of Hyde and District by Middleton, Thomas

### **Le Despencer –**

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### **Lusignan –**

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### **Goushill –**

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### **Moleyns –**

Victoria County History of Somerset and of Hampshire.

**Montague –**

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**Morley –**

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**Savage -**

Richard the Third Society - [www.richardiii.net](http://www.richardiii.net)  
battlefield-site.co.uk

**Saville –**

The Saville household website - <http://www.savillehousehold.co.uk>

**Tropnell -**

Great Chalfield Manor, from Great Medieval Houses of England by Anthony Emery

**Waterton –**

Overtown miscellany, ancestry of Charles Waterton, squire - [http://www.jss.org.uk/cw/Charles\\_Waterton/index.htm](http://www.jss.org.uk/cw/Charles_Waterton/index.htm)  
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