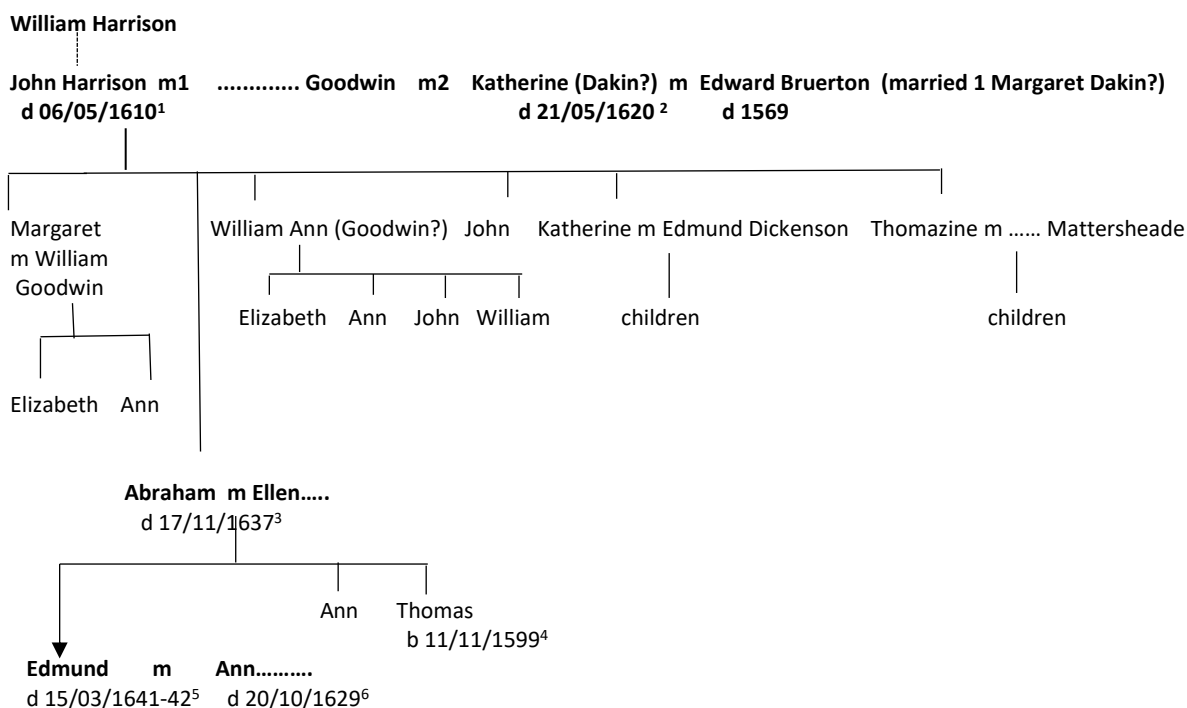


## John and Katherine Harrison: Leaseholders of Under Whitle 1581-1610

### Dubious practises, malicious claims and connexions to Queen Elizabeth's court?



### **Background and Cronkston Grange**

In the early Tudor period, there were, at least, two branches of Harrisons in the Hartington area, one based at Glutton and the other at Cronkston Grange, but it is not known how they relate to each other. We now know that John Harrison came from Cronkston Grange.

Harrisons had lived at Cronkston (Grange) from, at least, the 1530s. Cronkston, along with Pilsbury Grange, belonged to the monastery of Merevale, but was leased out to tenant farmers. Cronkston was tenanted by both the Harrisons and the Sleighs, whilst another branch of the Sleighs rented Pilsbury. Following the dissolution of the monasteries Cronkston was 'gifted' to the Earl of Shrewsbury in 1542. The earliest references to Harrisons living there come from this time.

*'Shortly before the Dissolution, Cronkston and Pilsbury were the most valuable of the Merevale possessions. An inventory taken during the reign of Henry VIII lists "Sheepe at Crouxston in ye Peake: Item at Crouxstonne in the Peke in the tenure of Rychard Slyght and William Haryson four score shepe at 1s:8d the piece - £6 : 13s : 4d."' <sup>7</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> Hartington St Giles Parish Registers (HPR) 'Sepult Johis Harrison Senioris de Earle Stearnedale' Maii 6 1610

<sup>2</sup> HPR :May 21 1620 'Sep Katherina Harrison quond ux Johis harrison apud Chelmorton'; Chelmorton St John the Baptist Parish Registers (CPR) '(illeg.) Harrison the wife of John Harrison of Earl Sternd(ale) (illeg) buried XXlth day of Maye 1620'

<sup>3</sup> Sheen Parish Registers (SPR) 1637: 'S Abrahami Harrison septendecimo die Novembris

<sup>4</sup> SPR 1599 : 'B Thoma filij Abraha(illeg) Harrison & Hellena uxor eius 11 die Nov...'

<sup>5</sup> SPR 1641/42 : 'S Edmundi Harrison quindecimo 2 die Martii'

<sup>6</sup> SPR 1629 : 'S Anna uxoris Edmundi Harrison 29 die Octobris'

<sup>7</sup> 1530s? Weston Ron. 'Hartington, A Landscape History from the Earliest Times to the Present Day' p101 Taken from Dugdale William : 'Monasticon Anglicanum' London, 1846 Vol 5 p485 Other small references to Cronkston on p483-6 along with small refences to Pilsbury [https://archive.org/details/b30455832\\_0005/page/484/mode/2up](https://archive.org/details/b30455832_0005/page/484/mode/2up)

*'1542 Deed of gift Henry V111 to Earl of Shrewsbury includes... 'lands that were part of Cronxton lying in Co. Derby with list of several tenures and cojoint occupation of Richard Slee (Sleigh), William Harryson, Hugh Harryson, late belonging to the monastery of Merevale.'*<sup>8</sup>

We suspect, but have no concrete evidence for it, that he was the son of William Harrison above. In June 1574, a John Harrison appears on the Hartington court rolls as part of the Jury of 'Socage' and continues as a juror throughout the rest of the decade. He is not on the previous Jury, (22 October 1573), but a William Herryson is - so it is tempting to speculate this was his father, or a relative, and John took his place following William's death or incapacity.

### **First wife and earliest references**

John married twice, with his first wife being the daughter of Alexander Goodwin of Hartington. Richard Sleigh would marry her sister.<sup>9</sup> Though John had six children, we only know for sure that he and his first wife had one daughter, Margaret, who died as a young woman. It is likely that, at least, John's two eldest sons, William and Abraham, were hers as well.

So far, the earliest reference to John is in Alice Harrison's will, which was written in May 1559. Alice, who was a widow, living in Hartington, refers to leaving 2 lambs to John Haryson's two children but does not mention their names or their relationship to her. She also leaves money, sheep and lambs to George and Grace Manifold and their children, George and Hugh. George and Grace Manifold were living at Under Whitle at this point.<sup>10</sup> If it does refer to this John Harrison, then, by this point, he was married to his first wife. It also seems to indicate there is a relationship/ connection between himself and the Manifolds - whose farm he will eventually take over.

The next reference is when he appears on the Hartington court rolls as part of the Jury of Socage in June 1574. Hartington had two juries: a Jury 'de Socage' and a Jury 'de bond(age)'. The Jury of Socage were higher status tenants i.e. they paid rent but did not have to do military service and /or other services. The Jury of Bondage was made up of those tenants who paid rent but who also had to perform other services as well, such as military service. Each jury tended to have the same people regularly appearing but names which appear on one jury do not occur in the other. John appears regularly on the Jury de Socage up to the mid-1590s.<sup>11</sup>

### **Marriage to Katherine Bruerton**

After his first wife's death John remarried sometime between February 1575 and May 1579.<sup>12</sup> His wife was Katherine, the widow of Edward Bruerton of Hurdlow, who had died in 1569. She appears to have been Edward's second wife. Edward left six surviving children but it isn't clear if any were Katherine's.

### **Edward Bruerton**

For this area, at this time, Edward appears to be a wealthier yeoman farmer. Not only does he have the house, farm and lands in Hurdlow, he is subletting two tenements /farms in Cowdale and Buxton plus he mentions having rents in Cheshire, as well as in Derbyshire, and Buxton milne. Although not to be paid out immediately,

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<sup>8</sup> Wiltshire, Mary and Woore, Sue : 'Monastic Granges of Derbyshire' 2018. p70 Taken from Staffs Record Office (SRO) :D1529/2 1542

<sup>9</sup> TNA : DL 4/37/4: Needham v Harrison. 19 Jan 38 Eliz1 Thomas Newton's deposition

<sup>10</sup> Diocese Of Lichfield and Coventry Wills and Probate 1521-1860 (PD) Alice Harryson, Hartington Probate 1564 Sept 26 The will also refers to a daughter Margaret; Jane Frost; daughter Ales; daughter Elizabeth; Ales Staden; Sir Ric Frost; Thomas Staden and John son of Ric Staden; John Frost; Margaret daughter of James Haryson her son; her son Richard Haryson's daughter Elizabeth; William Rogers her servant; and Michael Wheldon. Executors were her sons- Richard and James Harrison. Witnesses Ric Frost priest, William Harryson, Ric Slyght, Hugh Slyght (of Broad Meadow?), and William Rogers

<sup>11</sup> Sheffield City Archives (SCA) Hartington Court Roll 1573-4 D/100/47 -53

<sup>12</sup> 'May 1579 :The complainant's ( John Harryson of Hordlowe) case was that the Queen had, under the seal of the Duchy at a certain date ' whereof your said orator for want of having the same doth not certainly know about, 8 Feb. in the 17<sup>th</sup> year of the Queen's reign ( Feb. 1574/5), granted to Katheren Bruerton , widow, now complainant's wife,..... (axon p

he was leaving £200 to his 5 younger, legitimate, children with his eldest son, William, having lands and a house when he was 21.

Edward also left over £12 to both his and his father's illegitimate children together with 8 ewes to his servants. When his goods were appraised though he only had a few cattle, he had at least 3 oxen and 68 sheep. His house appears to be a little more comfortable with feather beds and lots of blankets and coverlets. He had 20 pewter dishes, well above average, and 10 silver spoons – these were aspirational items for the local wealthier yeoman farmers. Having 10 spoons meant 1 for each member of the family plus 2 extra. If he was a tenant in chief, this would also give him a higher status. A comparison between the 1614 map in Weston and the 1883 Derbyshire XXII.SE (includes: Chelmorton; Flagg; Hartington Middle Quarter; Hartington Upper Quarter; Monyash.) Surveyed: 1878 to 1879 Published: 1883 <sup>13</sup> shows that William Bruerton's farmstead, and presumably his father's, was at the site of where Hurdlow Hall now stands.

Edward was the son of William Bruerton, who also had an illegitimate son Richard. Edward also had an illegitimate daughter, possibly, called Amy. Some of these children appear to be young. Though he mentions his wife Katherine there aren't any reference as whether he was married before. Not only did Edward leave a will and an inventory, ([see Wills](#)) there was an inquiry over Edward's estate in 1575 which is recorded in the Courts of Inquisitions Post Mortem and the Court of Wards.<sup>14</sup>

### Bringing wealth and money?

According to Edward's will Katherine is given:

- Buxton Mill,
- the rents from a farm in Buxton,
- and can live in 'the house where I dwell' together with its lands for 20 years.....

..... provided she keeps herself 'sole and unmarried'. There is no reference to her being his 'beloved wife' and the lands etc are being given to her so she can bring up and educate 'his' children. It appears she was to have nothing if she remarries.

Katherine seems to have been quite shrewd. In February 1572/3 she either takes on new leases or renews some of Edward's farms and lands in her name.

*'Lease: for £7.10s: Henry Sacheverelle to Katerenne Brereton of Hurdlowe widow:-- messuage late occupied by Charles Mosley; moiety of the White Knolle late occupied by Christopher Glossoppe; and the Long Close, late occupied by Thomas Browne, all in Buxston --: Messuage and Long Close for 21 years at 22s.4d. rent; and moiety of the Whyte Knolle for 12 years at 6s.8d. rent. K.B. also to pay 4 capons yearly and 29s. yearly in war time in lieu of military service. Witn. German Cherneley, John Jackson, Thomas Johnson.'* Nottinghamshire Archives <sup>15</sup>

It is likely she also renews the lease of Buxton milne in her name, as directed to in Edward's will, – but seems to take it all of it rather than just having half as there are no indications in any of the court cases about the mill that the Bruerton's have part of it. (See below)

Though it looks as if William and Elizabeth are his first wife's children I do not know whether any other of Edward's children are Katherine's.<sup>16</sup> John Harrison does not leave anything to any Bruerton – not even a nominal amount – what does that mean if anything? The only children who I have found out about are

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<sup>13</sup> National Library of Scotland: Derbyshire XXII.SE (includes: Chelmorton; Flagg; Hartington Middle Quarter; Hartington Upper Quarter; Monyash.) Surveyed: 1878 to 1879 Published: 1883 <https://maps.nls.uk/view/101600598>

<sup>14</sup> TNA WARD 7/17/29 WARD 7 - Court of Wards and Liveries: Inquisitions Post Mortem :Bruerton, Edward: Derby Date 17 Elizabeth 17 Nov 1574 – 16 Nov 1575 (NB Place description is county) TNA C 14 2/170/18 Description: Chancery: Inquisitions Post Mortem, Series II, and other Inquisitions, Henry VII to Charles 1: Bruerton, Edward: Derby Date 17 Elizabeth 17 Nov 1574 – 16 Nov 1575  
From the National archives:

Inquisitions post mortem were local inquiries which took place when people were known, or believed, to have held lands of the Crown in order to discover what income and rights were due to the Crown and who the heir should be. The Court of Wards and Liveries was a financial institution responsible for collecting feudal dues and practical and legal matters relating to the Crown's right of wardship and livery. The Crown could take on responsibility for young orphaned heirs where their father had been a Tenant in Chief of the Crown. This included having rights over the deceased's estate.

<sup>15</sup> Nottinghamshire Archives: 157 DD/P/56/ Date 20 Feb. 1572/3

<sup>16</sup> Yorkshire Archaeological Journal Vol 17.

Elizabeth and William Bruerton. Elizabeth seems to have moved to/lived in Yorkshire as she married George Anlaby of Thorpe Bassett. William eventually has Hurdlow.

However, by 1587, relations between Katherine and William Bruerton appear strained and she complains to the Earl of Shrewsbury about him. The catalogue summary states he is a servant of the Earl.

*'Petition of Katheren Harryson, late wife of Edward Bruerton and executrix of his will, to George, 6th Earl of Shrewsbury, complaining of the conduct of William Bruerton, his eldest son and servant to the Earl, in threatening to seise a cottage at Buxton, [co. Derby], contrary to the provisions of the will made 17 years previously. 1p.'*<sup>17</sup>

Edward's will stated she has the tenement at Buxton provided she remains sole and unmarried - so William appears to be well within his rights to claim it.

John would acquire Buxton Mill through Katherine. From now on, until his death, there are a number of documents indicating his attempts to acquire or retain land and property.

### **Buxton Mill**

By 1579 John Harrison, of Hurdlow, was the tenant of Buxton/Fairfield Mill, acquired through his wife, and had laid a complaint against William Norton of Buxton, Yeoman, and Nicholas Garland of the same town, yeoman, and Elize Barker of Cowdale, near Buxton yeoman. According to the complaint the defendants:

*" had withdrawn their soke and suit and ground grain elsewhere at other milnes and at the two other erected new Spanish milnes or other like milnes of the said Norton and Garland in Buxton aforesaid being able to grind twelve quarter of corn, grain and malt daily."*

A further complaint was that the defendants had converted three hundred acres of arable land to pasture with great reduction in the amount of grain grown and coming to the mill to be ground. Barker's reply was to that he was entitled to grind at the Queen's other milne called Blackwell milne or elsewhere and that he received the best service at Blackwell mill so went there.<sup>18</sup>

*'The complainant's (John Harryson of Hordlowe) case was that the Queen had, under the seal of the Duchy at a certain date ' whereof your said orator for want of having the same doth not certainly know about 8 Feb. in the 17<sup>th</sup> year of the Queen's reign ( Feb. 1574/5), granted to Katheren Bruerton , widow, now complainant's wife, to the said water mylne , soke and suit at a yearly rent of 41s 8d, that the same Katheren Bruerton quietly enjoyed the same until her marriage to the complainant about three years before , and that he had entered upon the mill.....'* <sup>19</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> Lambeth Palace Dated 1558-1603 MSS/694-710 - Shrewsbury Paper Shrewsbury Papers Folio 1  
25 Robert A. Water Mills on the Derbyshire Wye, page 9.

<sup>19</sup> DRO [LS/942.51BUX/BK/C21322589](#) Taken from Ernest Axon Historical notes on Buxton, it's inhabitants and visitors. Axon records the case John Harryson of Hordloew v William Norton , William Jackson , Nicholas Gardener all yeomen of Buxton and Elize Baker of yeoman of Cowdale. John complained that the lease to his wife had come into the hands of the defendants and they had not only all withheld their soke and suit , ground their grain at mills further distance from their habitation but' have persuaded and gone about to procure and persuade divers others ... to grind their corn and grain elsewhere at other milnes and at the 2erected new devised Spanish milnes and other like mills of the said Norton and Garland in Buxton.' He also complained of their abuse and fraudulent practice in obtaining great quantities of arable land ad turning about 300 acres of it into pasture land 'meaning to impoverise .. that he should not be able to pay the tent reserved in the leases , for the said milne nor maintain his poor wife and children.' John stated that he had gently required defendants not only to deliver the lease , to do their soak and suit at his milne and to 'deface their two newly erected milnes, and maintain tillage' but they had refused. Axon states that only Elize Barker's account had bee found . He describes himself as a 'poor simple old man' who denies all Harryson's charges and claims that he was entitled to grind his corn I Blackwell and elsewhere 'where he thought good or was best used for that he is not bound by any usage or

The complaint wasn't sorted as John is back again 1579/80 stating that after his complaint a commission and jury had been set up and depositions taken. These had gone to Henry Bagshaw of Ridge, gent for his signature to certify these depositions but he had refused to sign them. He also stated that October 'last' he had complained to the Queen's steward that Eliz Butler, John Lyndley, Thomas Maycocke, Alice Botham and George Goodwin had withdrawn suit and soke at his mill. John stated that on the 21<sup>st</sup> Oct 1579, when a jury made up of Edward Ollerenshawe, Thomas Mosley, Anthony Clayton, John Wright, Thomas Maler, Humphrey Dakin, Thurstan Dale, Richard Goodwin the elder, Richard Blackwell, Anthony Foxe, Adam Padley, Richard Bradbury, Raphe Woodward, Richard Ollerenshawe, and Edward Shore, the Steward charged them that all, who didn't come to Buxton mill, should pay 3s 4d each time they went elsewhere. They spent a day and half discussing this – at end 5 of the Jury disagreed. But then in January 1579/80 all the jury except 1, ( Thomas Mosley), agreed with his statement of facts. John also claimed 'if he had no remedy, he would not be able to pay the rent for the mill, keep it in repair and so such other suits and services in the Queen's Majesty's wars which is or shall be due.'

### **Acquiring land in Whitle**

Although Norton and co. seem like they were deliberately trying to take his business, I am not sure about John pleading poverty. At some point he had taken the mortgage of Hugh Manifold's lands in Whitle. By 1580, Hugh Manifold, who held copyhold lands in an area of Whitle had mortgaged them to John Harrison. These were paid off, on September 28 1580, by Robert Needham of Shavington. '*Paid for Hugh Monifolde to John Harison of hoordlow for the redeeming of his copyhold lands to him mortgaged £ 13 Payed further for the said Hugh to the said john for the discharging of his ... ti?..sship? to another person 30s*'<sup>20</sup> This money does not seem to have been needed to keep him from want as in 1581 he acquires the lease to Whittle Banke, paying £20 initially, and the another £20 in instalments- a considerable amount of money.

Though he acquires the lease for the farm at Whitle Bank, in 1581, it does not look as if he lives here. It will be a much smaller farm than Hurdlow. By 1590, it had been given to Abraham and his wife.

### **Land in Earl Sterndale**

It also looks as if in 1585 he acquires land in Earl Sterndale. The 1614 survey of Hartington mentions that '*The same William (Harrison) holdeth by the s.. ( cannot read this word) of John Haryson his father deceased 19 Maj 27 Eliz all his messuage, one cottage and one close called le dale and a croft called himigerhill in Sterndale.*'<sup>21</sup>

Meanwhile in 1584 John is back in court defending himself, with others, in a case land rights at Alderscliffe within Earl Sterndale.<sup>22</sup>

### **Buxton Mill again**

After complaining that others were not paying their dues at Buxton Mill, in 1587/8 John Harrison is defending himself against a complaint that he has not been paying the tithes on it.<sup>23</sup> Raphe Blackwell stated that he had bought the tithes for Buxton mill from Richard Wendersley in 1578 '*now in the tenure of John Harryson..... but now the said John Harryson being occupier of the said water mill and having in his hands custody and possession of certain deeds, evidences and charters concerning the tithes of the profits of the said mill..... doth deny to deliver to him such tithes of the profits of the said mill .. and also very untruly denieth him to have any tithes thereunto at all whereby (he) hath sustained loss and damage to the value of twenty pounds and above..*'

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custom only to go at his liberty to such of them as he should have best liking of' and because he found himself 'best used' at Blackwell mill he had gone there.

<sup>20</sup> Staffordshire Record Office (SRO) WG38/2/5 William Salt 270/38

<sup>21</sup> Sheffield Record Office ACM/ D/99 Survey of the Manor of Hartington 1614

<sup>22</sup> TNA DL 4/26/33 Needham v Harrison. Plaintiffs: Robert Nedeham and others. Defendants: John Harrison and others. Documents: depositions concerning Alderscliffe near Earl Sterndale, Derbyshire. Taken 31 August, 26 Eliz. (1584)

<sup>23</sup> DRO Axon, Ernest ibid (Possibly TNA Blackwall v Harrison E 133/22/54 ( no details given in catalogue)

This is at the same time Katherine is complaining about William Bruerton attempting to seize the cottage in Buxton . ( See above)

Sometime between 1558 and 1603, he is again in court over the mill. John Harrison was the plaintiff, in a case involving John Holme senior and John Holme junior, in regard to a lease of a watermill in the parish of Hartington. John Harrison claimed he had contracted for the watermill with the defendant, John Holme senior, who was bailiff to Henry Cavendish esq.<sup>24</sup> In his will John makes it clear he has leased 'Buxton mills' from Henry Cavendish.

### **The Goodwin Feud**

Added to these land disputes there is a long running dispute between the Goodwins and his family. John Harrison and his first wife had a daughter, called Margaret, who married William Goodwin. As part of this marriage the Harrisons argued that two messuages and their lands had been settled on her or her children.

*'Goodwyn v Goodwyn. Plaintiffs: Richard Goodwyn. Defendants: Humphrey Goodwyn, Henry Harryson. Subject: To support a marriage settlement. Two messuages in Monyashe [Monyash], Derbyshire and Hourdelowe [Hurdlow], Derbyshire and divers lands thereto belonging, which, on the marriage of William Goodwyn and Margaret Harryson, the daughter of John Harryson, were conveyed to trustees to divers uses. Document type: [Pleadings]'*<sup>25</sup>

However, Margaret dies leaving two children, Elizabeth and Ann. Her husband claims that the land had not been settled that way.

*Short title: Goodwyn v Harryson. Plaintiffs: William Goodwyn. Defendants: John Harryson Plaintiffs: William Goodwyn. Defendants: John Harryson and William Harryson. Subject: For production of a deed of settlement. Divers messuages and tenements in Monyashe [Monyash] and Hourdelowe [Hurdlow], Derbyshire, settled by plaintiff's father Humphrey Goodwyn, on plaintiff's marriage. Document type: [Pleadings]*<sup>26</sup>

The Harrisons then claim that William, and his second wife, Elizabeth, are trying to avoid Margaret's children having this settlement and instead are trying to appropriate it for their son.

*' Issue two daughters ( of William and Margaret ) viz . Elizabeth and Anne yet lyving . Said Margaret deceased , said William married another wyfe viz . Elizabeth daughter of Anthony Hyde father of said Thomas Hide by whome he hath yssue now a sonne by reason whereof the said Thomas Hide confederating with one Humfrey Goodwyn and Henry Haryson now tenants or occupyers of the premises seeking to avoyde the conveyance to the said Henry Sheldon and the said William Harryson to the disinherison of the said two daughters in tyme to come but for the advancement of the said Elizabeth the ' nowe wief of the said William and hath gotten by casual or other means the wrytings etc . out of the hands of your said orator whoe had the same in trust of or the said twoe daughters to and for whose use and the said Margaret your orator gave his word etc . and doe utterlie refuse to returne said writings etc . With answers of Henry Harrison and of Humfrey Goodwyn . Chancery Proceedings , Elizabeth , G, bundle 3 , no . 49'*

The arguments are continuing thirty one years after the marriage of William and Margaret Harrison! William Goodwyn claims that he was going to use the rents on the property to pay for his daughter Elizabeth's dowry but the Harrison's 'secretly take her away'and married her to Thomas Needham. The Harrison's had also complained that Margaret's daughter Ann had been dissolutely educated.

*'Should answer to the conveyance of secret estates to persons unknown to the plaintiff with purpose to disinherit his two daughters had by said Margaret and this defendant's careless and dissolute education Of his daughter Anne . Albeit that the first point in former answer appeareth to be sufficiently answered and the said two other points are not materiall , yet to satisfy the Court the defendant saith that defendant about the time of his marriage with the said Margaret did not promise etc . etc . and he saith that it is since the said marriage*

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<sup>24</sup> TNA C 2/Eliz/H10/14

<sup>25</sup> TNA C 2/Eliz/G5/49 1558-1603

<sup>26</sup> TNA C 2/Eliz/G6/36 1558-1603

*celebrated some thirty-five years and he saith that he hath conveyed the said land so as his issue male may inherit before his issue female to the said estates but one lease of his defendant's said land in Hurdlow and Monyarsh in county Derby unto one Humfrey Goodwin and Henry Harrison for twenty -one years towards the payment of marriage portion of one Elizabeth one of the daughters of this defendant by the said Margaret whom one Thomas Needham by the plaintiff 's practice did secretly take away and marry with out this defendant' s privity . And defendant saith he hath care fully brought up Anne in said report married as well as his other children and not to be termed an idiott etc . etc . Chancery Proceedings , James I , H, bundle 3 1 , no . 50'*

It becomes quite aggressive with William Goodwyn being called an idiot and even the Lord Chancellor gets involved writing to the Earl of Shrewsbury about the situation.

*' Sir Christopher Hatton, Lord Chancellor, to the Earl of Shrewsbury, from London, 18 February 1589/90, about a suit in Chancery between William Goodwin, plaintiff, and John Harrison, defendant, for setting aside the former's bond to leave his land to the daughter of his first marriage in favour of the sons of another marriage. Asks the Earl to call the parties before him, since he had already 'dealt in the same cause,' and to assess a sum to be paid to Goodwin's daughter and to report to the Court. 1p. Address: Privy Councillor.'*<sup>27</sup>

The dispute spills over into the next generation with the Goodwin's and others being accused of theft and who retaliate by sating John Harrison's son William had poisoned Katherine Wardle.<sup>28</sup>

### More Land Disputes

Other disputes indicate other land holdings or his rights to the commons.

- In 1584: Robert Needham and John Harrison are in dispute over the enclosing of Alderscliffe near Earl Sterndale.<sup>29</sup> This appears to resurface again 1594-5, between 1603-1625 and in 1606-7<sup>30</sup>. Whatever the arguments, John Harrison refers to his tenure and term of years at Alderscliffe in his will.
- *'Needham v Harrison. Plaintiffs: Robert Needham and others. Defendants: John Harrison and others. Documents: depositions concerning Hartington, Derbyshire. Taken 19 January, 38 Eliz. 1595 Deponents for plaintiffs: includes Roger Wheldon of Crowdycote, yeoman, aged 70 years and more, whose memory goes back 60 years [to 1536] deposed that he knows Crompton Grange in Hartington manor. It was held by the Abbey of Merevale and that it had been in 'ould tyme fenced with an earth dyche' and is now fenced with stone walls. The tenants of Hardlow, Needham Grange and Crowdyctoe had common rights there until recently when the shepherds of Crompton Grange walled it in. [Recalls that common land had been enclosed during his memory at Clements Seat in Hartington, Chelmorton, Kings Starndale, Cowdale and Staddon] Deponents for defendants: includes Richard Sleigh of Ludwall, clerk, aged 54, **deposed that the defendants hold the lands in question as copyhold of Hartington manor let to them by Henry Cavendish [esquire] who was the Duchy of Lancaster lessee. He has heard that the land called Haybatts was the common of Earls Sterndale until its enclosure 30 years ago; Humphrey Goodwin of Earls Sterndale, husbandman, aged 57; Nicholas Sleigh of Derby, glover, aged 65. 38 Eliz'***
- In 1608 John Harison, gent, and (his son) William Harison gent took a case against Roger Goodwyn, William Goodwyne, yeoman, John Forst of the Strand, Middlesex, yeoman, Thurston Dale, Thomas Forggatte, William Brereton, Humphrey Goodwyn, Ralph Sternedall, and others, over the failure to execute a commission from the Duchy of Lancaster for stinting the common of Hartington, and maintenance of a suit for the same common. Stinting or the allocation of the number of animals

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<sup>27</sup> 1589/90 Lambeth Palace MSS/694-710 folio 3 1589/90

<sup>28</sup> TNA STAC 8/183/3 William Harrison is accused of poisoning Katherine Wardle.

<sup>29</sup> TNA DL 4/26/33 1584 Aug 31

<sup>30</sup> TNA DL 4/37/4 (1594-95) Needham v Harrison and others; TNA STAC 8/222/17 (1603-25) Nedham v. Harrison (Earl Sterndale), Sleighe and Wheldon; ; TNA DL 4/51/74 (1606-7) Plaintiffs: Needham and others. Defendants: Harryson. Documents: examinations concerning Hartington, Derbyshire.4 James I

allowed on the land was important to prevent overgrazing. However, individuals wanted to be allocated as many as possible.<sup>31</sup>

- John was also involved, both as a defendant and as a witness regarding landlords ownership and rights at Quarnford pastures or commons. Between 1558 and 1603 John Harrison was one of several defendants against Sir John Savage kt. claiming right of common and pasture as customary tenants of the Queen's manor or lordship of Hartington.<sup>32</sup> In the late 16<sup>th</sup> century the petition to the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster by John Harpur of Swarkestone, against Henry Cavendish, regarding ownership of the lands includes John Harrison as a witness.<sup>33</sup>

## Death and Will

By February 1607, if not before (see above), John and Katherine had moved to live at Earl Sterndale.<sup>34</sup> His will indicates this is where he was living at the time of his death in 1610. He was buried, at Hartington St Giles, on May 6<sup>th</sup> 1610.

Though there isn't an inventory his will indicates that he was a yeoman and, for the area, reasonably well off. He was leaving £72, plus another £20 to be paid over 4 years and £2 a year to be paid to one of his daughters. He also had over 80 sheep – at least twice the average amount. He also mentions 5 servants. It also shows he also had lands at Fullowe meadows in Crowdicote and had 1/3 share of land at Thirklea. His will also refers to his tenancy of mills called Buxton Mills. This may be because there are two mills there under the same roof, one of which is new.

*“ our mill of Fairfield, otherwise called Buxton Mill, with all its soke and suit to the same mill belonging or appertaining. And also one other mill there newly built, under one and the same roof”<sup>35</sup>*

Katherine died ten years later and was buried at St John the Baptist, Chelmorton on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 1620. It is unclear why she was buried at Chelmorton. Is it a possibility she was being looked after by a relative who was working Buxton/Fawfield Mill or was she a Dakin from Chelmorton after all wanting to be buried in her home parish?

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<sup>31</sup> TNA STAC 8/183/

<sup>32</sup> TNA C 2/Eliz/S13/18 Sir John Savage Kt. versus Richard Bateman, Humphry Goodwyn, John Harrison, John Fearnese, Roger Wordle, and Nicholas Wheldome, regarding the plaintiff's title in fee, and for relief as to the defendants claim of common of pasture. A piece of waste ground containing 3,000 acres called Warneford Pastures, adjoining to the plaintiff's lands in Warneforde [Quarnford], Staffordshire, and to Dane Head; the defendants claim in their answer, right of common and pasture as customary tenants of the Queen's manor or lordship of Hartington, Derbyshire, parcel of the honour of Tutbury, parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster.

<sup>33</sup> DRO D2375/L/S/8/1 (D2375/M/141/10)

<sup>34</sup> See Footnote 17 TNA STAC 8/222/17

<sup>35</sup> Weston R. Hartington Ibid page 9