

**Thomas Hall of Basingstoke, clothier, 1641**

**Ref: Hants. RO 1641A/042**

**In the name of God Amen** the ninth day of January AD 1640 and in the sixteenth year of the reign of our most gracious sovereign Lord Charles by the grace of God King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland defender of the faith etc., I Thomas Hall the elder of Basingstoke in the county of Southampton clothier, being of good and perfect mind and memory thanks be therefore given to Almighty God do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. **First** and principally I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my Maker and Creator hoping and assuredly trusting that after this life ended I shall be received into his everlasting kingdom through the only merits, death and passion of Jesus Christ my Saviour and Redeemer and by no other merits or means whatsoever. **And my** body being earthly I commit the same to the earth again to be interred and buried in the Holy Ghost chapel beyond the hither door that enters into Mr Sandes, his chapel, by the discretion of my executor and overseers hereafter named. **And for** such temporal goods whereof the Lord of His goodness has bestowed on me in this life I will, devise and bequeath the same in form following.

**First** I will that all such debts as I duly or truly owe unto any man shall be truly paid in as convenient time as may be after my decease, which being done and performed **item** then I give and bequeath unto the poor people of Basingstoke aforesaid forty shillings of lawful money of England to be paid unto them by the discretion of my said executor and overseers hereafter named. **Item** I give and bequeath unto the church of Basingstoke aforesaid six shillings and eight pence of like money to be paid within one month next after my decease. **Item** I give and bequeath unto Margerye my wife ten pounds per annum of lawful money of England to be paid unto her yearly during the natural life of my said wife by my said executor and his executors and assigns at four points in the year by equal portions. **And moreover** I give and bequeath unto her my said wife all such goods and household stuff as she, my said wife, brought unto me in marriage with her. **Item** I give and bequeath unto the bailiffs and burgesses of the town of Basingstoke aforesaid and others of the Corporation of the same town by whose names or titles soever they be called and their heirs and successors forever, all these my three messuages or tenements with the appurtenances situate, lying and being in Basingstoke aforesaid in a certain lane there called Stewe Lane, between the tenements there of Thomas South of the south part and the tenement of the heirs of Richard Pavier on the north and west parts to have and to hold to them, the said bailiffs and burgesses and others aforesaid their heirs and successors forever, to and for the uses, intents and purposes hereafter in their presence mentioned and expressed. **(That is to say)**, to and for the use and behoof of three poor widows to reside and inhabit in the said messuages or tenements paying no rent at all, which said widows I will shall be from time to time elected and chosen by the nearest of my kindred, and which said widows shall be people of honest condition and of the age of fifty years.

**Item** I give and bequeath unto my kinsman Thomas Brackley the son of Richard Brackley upon hope that he will be a dutiful son to his father and be ruled and ordered by him, and unto John Cumen the son of William Cumon all that my messuage or tenement situate in Basingstoke aforesaid between the tenement of John Chamberlyn on the east part and a tenement belonging to Viables Farm on the

west part to have and to hold to them, the said Thomas Brackley and John Cumon their heirs and assigns forever, to their only proper use and behoof forever. **Item** whereas the said William Cumon is and stands indebted unto me in the sum of twenty pounds I do now give and bequeath the said sum of twenty pounds unto Dorothye his wife and his children equally to be divided amongst them. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my kinswoman Elizabeth Munday of Rumsey and to her children ten pounds which she is and stands indebted unto me equally to be divided amongst them. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my kinsman Richard Haskar the son of William Haskar five pounds of current English money to be paid him within six months next after my decease and to every one of his children I give and bequeath twenty shillings apiece of current English money. **Which** legacies by me given to the said children I will shall be paid to their father before named within six months next after my decease to the end that he may put forth and employ the same for the best benefit of the said children against they shall accomplish their several ages of twenty and one years.

**Item** I give unto my kinswoman Margerye Hankyn the wife of Ambrose Hankyn of West Sherborne four pounds of current English money to be paid unto her within six months next after my decease. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my godson Thomas Hankyn, son of the said Ambrose, forty shillings of current English money and to his other four children twenty shillings apiece of like money to be paid to their father within six months next after my decease, to the end that he may put forth and employ the same for the best benefit of the said children against they shall accomplish their several ages of twenty and one years. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my kinswoman Elizabeth Vokes the wife of [missing] Vokes of Aldermaston forty shillings of current English money to be paid unto her within six months next after my decease. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my goddaughter Agnes Murrall the wife of [missing] Murrall of East Sherborne forty shillings of current English money to be paid unto her within six months next after my decease. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my godson Thomas Hall, the son of Richard Hall of this town, forty shillings of current English money and to every one of the other children of the said Richard Hall twenty shillings apiece of like money, which legacies before by me given and bequeathed to the said children I will shall be paid to their father within six months next after my decease, to the end that he shall put forth and employ the same for the best benefit of the said children against they shall accomplish their several ages of twenty and one years.

**Item** I give and bequeath unto my godson Thomas Cooper the son of Thomas Cooper twenty shillings of current English money to be paid unto him within six months next after my decease. **Item** I give and bequeath unto Dorothie Hall, the daughter of my kinsman Richard Hall deceased, twenty shillings of current English money to be paid unto her within six months next after my decease. **Item** I give and bequeath unto the two daughters of my kinsman Richard Brackley namely Dorothie Brackley and Alice Brackley five pounds apiece of current English money to be paid unto them within six months next after my decease. **Item** whereas my kinswoman Dorothie Cumen has in her custody of my proper goods a great brass pot and a cauldron, an orris coverlet and certain other things I do now give and bequeath the same goods to Elizabeth Cumon my goddaughter. **The rest** and residue of all and singular my goods and chattels, my debts being first paid, my wife paid her yearly annuity of ten pounds per annum according to this my will, legacies aforesaid

performed and funeral expenses discharged, I wholly give and bequeath unto Richard Brackley the younger my kinsman of Basingstoke aforesaid whom I make and ordain to be the full and sole executor of this my last will and testament. **And I** do make and ordain as overseers of the same my trusty and well beloved friends Mr Andrew Bristow, Mr Richard Brackley the elder, my kinsman Mr Robert Stocker junior and William Cumen desiring them to be aiding and assisting unto my said executor to see this my said will performed, unto each of which for their pains to be therein taken I give and bequeath six shillings and eight pence apiece of current English money. **And I** do hereby revoke and disannul all former wills by me made and I will that none of them shall stand in force but only this my will. **In understanding** whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written.

Signed, sealed, published and declared to be the last will and testament of the said Thomas Hall and these words in the first sheet (in the Holy Ghost chapel beyond the hither door that enters into Mr Sandys his chapel) and these words (with the appurtenances) in the second sheet interlined before sealing in the presence of

John Borne  
The mark of John Lambelle

Thomas Hall

My uncle Thomas Hall's last will and testament.

(No probate date written.)