

William Paice of Basingstoke, yeoman, 1640

Ref: Hants. RO 1640A/130

In the name of God Amen, I William Paice of Basingstoke in the county of Southampton yeoman, being at present sick in body but of perfect mind and memory (thanks be therefore given to Almighty God), do make and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following (that is to say): **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 and be numbered amongst his elect children through the only merits, death and passion of Jesus Christ my Saviour and Redeemer and by ne other merit or means whatsoever. **And my** body to be buried in the parish churchyard of Hartley Wespall in the county of Southampton aforesaid as near as conveniently it may to the place where the body of my late dear wife was laid. **As for** the temporal goods which God of his goodness and mercy has bestowed on me, I do bequeath and dispose of the same in manner as follows. **First** as conscience binds me I will that all the debts which I duly and truly owe unto any man shall be duly paid unto them as soon as may be after my decease, which being done and performed I give and bequeath to the cathedral church of Winchester six pence. **I give** and bequeath unto the churchwardens and overseers of the poor of the aforesaid parish of Hartley Wespall for the time being and their successors all and singular such part and parcels of land lying and being in Sherfield upon Loddon in the said county of Southampton which were granted unto me by Richard Mershe of Sherfield aforesaid by indenture dated the twentieth of February in the first year of the reign of our sovereign Lord King Charles. **To this** end and purpose that during the residue and remainder of the thousand years therein to come and unexpired the said churchwardens of Hartley Wespall aforesaid and their successors for the time being shall employ and bestow the one half of the yearly rent and profit that shall be thereof yearly made and raised, for and towards the necessary maintenance and repairing of the parish church of Hartley Wespall aforesaid. **And also** that the overseers of the poor of the parish of Hartley Wespall aforesaid and their successors for the time being, shall employ and bestow the other moiety of the said yearly rent and profit that shall be thereof yearly made and raised for and towards the necessary relief of such poor people of that parish as they the said overseers in their discretion shall think meet. **I give** and bequeath towards the repair of the parish church of Stratfield Turgis in the said county of Southampton the sum of ten shillings and to the poor of the same parish tenn shillings. **Item** I give and bequeath unto William Hawkins of Basingstoke aforesaid linen draper ten shillings. **Item** I give and bequeath unto Johane Smith, the wife of Robert Smith ten shillings. **Item** I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth Hawkins, sister to the said William Hawkins ten shillings. **Item** I give and bequeath to Richard Hawkins of Basingstoke aforesaid weaver, ten shillings. **And to** Richard, John and William Hawkins his three sons, to each of them ten shillings apiece to be paid unto them when and as soon as they shall accomplish their several ages of twenty and one years. **Item** I give and bequeath unto Thomas West, Barbarah West and Elizabeth West the children of Thomas West of Basingstoke aforesaid clothier, ten shillings apiece to be paid unto them when and as soon as they shall accomplish their several ages of twenty and one years or days of marriage. **Item** I give and bequeath to Henry Hawkins my son in law ten shillings. **Item** I give and bequeath unto William Hearne son of William Hearne of Basingstoke aforesaid the sum of ten pounds. **To John** Hearne, one other of the sons of the said

William Hearne, forty pounds. **To Margerye** Hearne, daughter of the said William Hearne the father, forty pounds. **To Alice** Hearne, one other of the daughters of the said William Hearne, ten pounds. **To Barbarah** Hearne, one other of the daughters of the said William Hearne, forty pounds, which said several sum of money given and bequeathed to the said William Hearne's children, my will and meaning is shall be paid unto them at their several and respective ages of twenty and one years or days of marriage which shall first happen. **And in** case any or either of them happen to die before ~~the~~ marriage or age of twenty and one years, that then the part and portion of him or her so dying to be equally divided amongst the survivors. **Item** I give and bequeath unto every one of my godchildren twelve pence apiece. **Item** I give and bequeath unto every one of my father's brother's children that are now living the sum of twelve pence apiece. **And to** every one of my father's sister's children that are now living the like sum of twelve pence apiece. **And to** every one of my mother's brother's children that are now living the like sum of twelve pence apiece. **And to** every one of my brother's and sister's children that are now living the like sum of ~~twelve pence apiece~~ two shillings apiece. **Item** I give and bequeath unto Izabell Eades the daughter of Robert Eades of Worcestershire tailor, if she be living the sum of twenty shillings. **All the** rest of my goods, cattle and chattels household stuff and implements of house, money, plate and whatsoever else is mine and not before given and bequeathed I do hereby give and bequeath unto my son in law William Hearne of Basingstoke before named and to Margerye his wife, my daughter in law, whom I do hereby make the absolute and sole executors of this my last will and testament. **And do** hereby annihilate and make void all former wills by me made. **And I** do hereby nominate and appoint my very good friends and neighbours William Clough and John Coleman of Basingstoke aforesaid linen drapers to be overseers of this my will giving unto each of them the sum of two shillings and six pence apiece for their care and pains to be taken herein. **In witness** whereof I have hereunto put my hand and seal the five and twentieth day of September AD 1640 and in the sixteenth year of the reign of our sovereign Lord Charles by the grace of God King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland defender of the faith etc.

Signed, sealed, published and declared
to be the last will and testament
of the said William Paice in
the presence of

The mark of William Ryme
John Borne, Hugh White

An inventory of all the goods and chattels of William Paice late of Basingstoke deceased, taken and appaised the 18th day of November 1640 by Hugh White and William Hawkins as follows vizt.

	£	s	d
Item his wearing apparel	4	0	0
Item a silver tanker and gilt salt	4	0	0
Item a trunk	0	6	8
Item 4 books	0	13	4
Item a gorget	0	13	4

Item a sword and scarf ⁺	1	0	0
Item upon specialty	300	13	08
Item in desperate debts	8	0	0
Item a musket furnished	1	5	0
Item a padason* and halbert	0	10	0
Item a fowling piece	0	13	4

An inventory of all the goods at Hartley Wespall

Item the hay	13	6	8
Item a casting net	0	3	4
Item a poleaxe, hook and halbert	0	3	0
Sum is	335	8	4

By me Christopher Tooley

Item a cheese press	0	3	8
Item a pair of partridge nets	0	4	0
Item a press and bedstead	0	10	0

Hugh White
William Hawkins

+ Possibly a sash or mis-spelling of casque (a helmet).

* Probably partisan, a pole arm.

He was probably in the Trained Band or a veteran of the Bishops' War.