

William Blunden, senior of Basingstoke, clothier, 1646

Ref: TNA PROB 11/196/350

In the name of God Amen the ninth day of April in the sixteenth year of the reign of our sovereign Lord Charles by the grace of God of England, Scotland, France and Ireland King, defender of the faith etc., AD one thousand six hundred and forty I William Blunden the elder of Basingstoke in the county of Southampton clothier, being weak in body but in good and perfect mind and memory (praised be Almighty God), do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say: **first** I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God confidently trusting that for his mercy's sake set forth in the death of Jesus Christ his only Son and my only Saviour and Redeemer, He will receive it into His glory and plant it in the heavenly company of angels and blessed saints. **And my** body I willingly and heartily commend unto the earth whereof it came to be buried in decent manner in the church of Basingstoke aforesaid near unto the place where my wives and my son Thomas were buried in the middle range there assuring myself that at the great day of the general resurrection, when all men shall appear before the judgement seat of Christ, I shall receive the same body again not a mortal and corruptible body as now it is, but immortal and incorruptible.

Item I give and devise unto my son John Blunden all that my messuage or tenement with the garden, orchard, backside and other appurtenances thereunto belonging or appertaining situate, lying and being in Basingstoke aforesaid near unto the messuage or tenement wherein I now dwell and now or late in the possession and occupation of one William Hayne or of his assigns. **And the** wool plot adjoining to the said devised messuage or tenement or to the backside thereof. **The wool** house also adjoining to the said messuage or tenement and the little plot of ground adjoining to the said wool plot at the east end of the barn there. **And the** moiety or one half of the said barn being the east part and half thereof all likewise set, lying and being in Basingstoke aforesaid and now or late in my own possession, except and reserving nevertheless convenient cartways and passages to and from the other moiety and part of the said barn out of and to the lane there near adjoining; and also out of and to the backside belonging to the said messuage wherein I dwell respectively by, over and through the said backside and ground so devised unto my said son John lying on both sides of the as well between the said barn and lane as also between the same barn and the said backside belonging to the said messuage wherein I dwell in such sort as hereafter in this my will is or shall be expressed and devised unto my daughter Margaret Blunden. **And also** I give and devise unto my said son John Blunden twenty acres of my arable land, by estimation be they more or less, lying and being in the common fields of Basingstoke aforesaid, which said twenty acres I purpose and intend hereafter in my lifetime by God's assistance either particularly to assign out and appoint unto him, or else by my deed in writing to convey and assure unto him, or to his use, together with all commons and other appurtenances there unto belonging. **And I** likewise give and devise unto him, my said son John Blunden, all those my two other messuages or tenements with the appurtenances situate and being in the parish or village of Greywell in the county aforesaid and now or late in the several possessions and occupations of John Ham and Edward Payce or of their assigns and all outhouses, barns, stables, tan houses, tanyards, buildings, gardens, orchards, backsides, lands, meadows and pastures, feedings, commons and other hereditaments whatsoever to the said two last

mentioned messuages or tenements, and either of them respectively belonging or appertaining or to, or with them or either of them, now used, occupied or enjoyed to have and to hold the said several messuages, lands, tenements and hereditaments so devised unto my said son John and every of them with their and every of their appurtenances except before excepted unto him my said son John Blunden and the heirs of his body lawfully to be begotten. **And for** default of such issue I give and devise the remainder thereof unto my three daughters Margaret Blunden, Ann Blunden and Margerie Blunden and their heirs forever. **Item** I give and devise and bequeath unto my other son James Blunden one annuity or yearly rent charge of twelve pounds of lawful money of England to be yearly issuing going forth and payable out of my messuage or tenement and the lands, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging, or therewith used, occupied or enjoyed, set, lying and being in North Warnborough within the parish of Odiham in the county aforesaid and now or late in the possession and occupation of one John Reading or of his assigns, to have and to hold the same annuity or yearly rent charge of twelve pounds per annum unto him my said son James Blunden for and during the term of his natural life, and to be paid at the four most usual feasts or terms of the years, that is to say, at the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Saint Mary the Virgin, the Nativity of Saint John Baptist commonly called midsummer day, Saint Michael the Arch Angel and Saint Thomas the Apostle by even and equal portions. **And the** first payment thereof to begin and be made at any such one of the said feasts as shall first and next happen after my decease. **And if** it shall happen the said annuity or yearly rent charge of twelve pounds to be behind and unpaid in part or in all after either or any of the such feasts in which the same ought to be paid as aforesaid, then and so often for every such default my will is that it shall and may be lawful to and for him my said son John Blunden and his assigns, into and upon the said messuage or tenement, lands or hereditaments, out of which this said annuity or yearly rent charge is to issue and be payable as aforesaid and every of them and every or any part thereof to enter and distraint and the distress and distresses thereof from time to time had and taken to load, drive, bear, take and carry away and the same with him and them to impark, impound, detain and keep until he be of the said annuity or yearly rent of twelve pounds and every part thereof and of all arrears thereof if any happen to be well and fully satisfied and paid.

Item I give and devise unto my said daughter Margaret Blunden all that my said messuage or tenement with the appurtenances whereon I now dwell situate and being in Basingstoke aforesaid and all the outhouses, buildings, stables, edifices, gardens, orchards, backsides, wool plots and other appurtenances thereunto belonging or appertaining or therewith by me now used, occupied or enjoyed and not here before by me given or devised unto my said son John as aforesaid. **And also** the other moiety or one half of my said barn in Basingstoke aforesaid being the west parte and half thereof, together with the said convenient cartways and passages so here before excepted and reserved as aforesaid, to and from that moiety and part of the said barn out of and to the said lane there hereunto adjoining. **And also** out of and to the said backside so belonging to the said messuage wherein I dwell respectively by over and through the said backside and ground so lying in both sides of the said barn as well between the said barn and lane as also between the same barn and the said backside belonging to the said messuage wherein I dwell as aforesaid to carry and recarry corn and other carriages and commodities at all seasonable times at the will and pleasure of her my said daughter Margaret and her

heirs. **And I** also give and devise unto my said daughter Margaret all that my dye house and the backside and ground wherein the said dye house stands in Basingstoke aforesaid near unto the said messuage or house wherein I dwell. **And the** residue of all my arable lands lying and being in the common fields of Basingstoke aforesaid containing by estimation forty and three acres, be they more or less, with all commons and other appurtenances thereunto belonging. **All that** my acre of meadow, be it more or less, with the appurtenances in Wildmoor in the county aforesaid, and all that my acre of pasture ground by estimation, be it more or less, with the appurtenances lying and being in Basingstoke, heretofore parcel of the common field there called Holy Ghost field and lying near Worting in the said county. **And I** likewise give and devise unto my said daughter Margaret Blunden, all that my said messuage or tenement with the appurtenances situate and being in North Warnborough aforesaid and now or late in the possession or occupation of the said John Reading or his assigns, and all outhouses, barns, stables, edifices, gardens, orchards, backsides, arable lands, pastures, feedings, commons and other hereditaments to the same messuage or tenement belonging or appertaining or therewith used occupied or enjoyed, charged with and subject nevertheless to the payment of the said annuity or yearly rent charge so devised unto my said son James as aforesaid, to have and to hold the said several messuages or tenements, dye houses lands hereditaments or other the premises so given and devised unto my said daughter Margritt as aforesaid with the appurtenances and together with the said cartways and passages and every of them unto him my said daughter Margaret and the heirs of her body lawfully to be begotten. **And for** default of such issue I give and devise the remainder thereof unto my said other daughters, Ann Blunden and Margerie Blunden and their heirs forever.

Item I give and bequeath unto my said daughter Margaret Blunden the lease of the parroch or pightle which I heretofore took of Mr John Stocker deceased lying and being in Basingstoke aforesaid next unto the messuage wherein I dwell. **And all** the estate and term of years which I have yet to come therein. **And also** the two furnaces, vat and other implements and utensils in and belonging to my said dye house in Basingstoke aforesaid. **Item** I give and devise unto my said daughter Ann Blunden all that my messuage or tenement with the garden, backsides and other appurtenances thereunto belonging set, lying and being in Basingstoke aforesaid and now or late in the possession and occupation of Richard Marrgate or his assigns. **And all** those my four other messuages or tenements likewise set, lying and being in Basingstoke aforesaid next adjoining to the street there called Oat Street and now or late in the several possessions and occupations of Margaret Vinden widow, Jane Collier widow, William Poynder and Joane Alder widow, or some of them or of their several assigns together with the several gardens, backsides and other appurtenances to the said last mentioned four messuages or tenements respectively belonging or appertaining, to have and to hold the said five messuages or tenements and other the premises so devised unto my said daughter Ann with their and every of the appurtenances unto her my said daughter Ann Blunden and the heirs of her body lawfully to be begotten. **And for** default of such issue I give and devise the remainder thereof unto my said other daughters Margaret Blunden and Margerie Blunden and their heirs forever.

Item I give and devise unto my said daughter Margerie Blunden all that my messuage or tenement in North Warnborough aforesaid wherein one William Curtis

alias Peryn did heretofore dwell and now or late in the possession or occupation of George Searel and Edward Searle, or one of them or their or one of their assign or assigns, and the outhouses, barns, stables, edifices, gardens, orchards, backsides, arable lands, meadows, pastures, feedings, commons and other hereditaments with the appurtenances to the said messuage or tenement belonging or appertaining or therewith used occupied or enjoyed. **And also** all that my close or parcel of arable land enclosed containing by estimation one acre and half, be it more or less, with the appurtenances in North Warnborough aforesaid and now or late in the occupation of Robert Hunt or of his assigns to have and to hold the said messuage or tenement lands, hereditaments and other the premises so by me devised unto my said daughter Margerie with the appurtenances to her, my said daughter Margerie Blunden, and the heirs of her body lawfully to be begotten. **And for** default of such issue I give and devise the remainder thereof unto my said other daughters Margaret Blunden and Ann Blunden and their heirs forever.

Item I give and bequeath unto my said daughter Ann Blunden the lease of the close or parcel of arable or pasture grounds called or known by the name of Longcroffe with the appurtenances in Basingstoke aforesaid which I heretofore took of George Baynard gent., and all the estate and term of years which I have yet to come therein.

Item I give and devise to my grandchild William Harward the son of Walter Harward gent., all that my other messuage or tenement wherein William Turner, butcher, does now inhabit and dwell situate and being in Basingstoke aforesaid next adjoining to the street there called the Church Street with the backside and other appurtenances thereunto belonging, to have and to hold the same messuage or tenement and backside with the appurtenances unto him, the said William Harward and the heirs of his body lawfully to be begotten. **And for** default of such issue the remainder thereof unto my said daughter Ann Blunden and the heirs of her body lawfully to be begotten. **And for** default of such issue the remainder thereof to my said other daughters Margaret and Margerie and their heirs forever provided always, and it is nevertheless my will, intent and meaning, that from time to time and all times from and after my decease until the said William Harward (of which now an infant) shall accomplish and be of the full age of sixteen years, my said daughter Ann Blunden and her assigns to her and their own proper use shall and may freely have, hold, occupy, enjoy the said messuage or tenement and backside so devised unto him, the said William, with the appurtenances and receive, procure and take the rents, issues and profits thereof anything herein before contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

Item I give and bequeath unto my said daughters Ann Blunden and Margerie Blunden one hundred and twenty pounds apiece of lawful money of England to be paid unto them respectively by my executrix hereafter named within six months next after my decease. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my said daughter Ann Blunden the feather bed and flockbed which I usually lie upon and the bolsters and pillows, pair of blankets and coverlet belonging to those beds together with the bedstead and mat whereon the said beds and bedding are being in my lodging chamber and my great silver salt ungilded and the little silver salt usually standing or made to stand upon the top of the said great salt and my best silver bowl saving one, my broad wine silver bowl, half a dozen of my biggest pewter platters and half a dozen of my lesser sort of pewter platters, my biggest brass pot, two of my lesser kettles, one of my long spits, a pair of andirons usually standing in my kitchen, two beer barrels, the table

and frame in my lodging chamber, six joined stools, six cushions, my carpets usually lying upon the said table, the curtains belonging to my said bed, one pair of lockram sheets, a pair of pillow beres and the third part of all the childbed linen which I now have and which was my late wives' or either of them.

Item I give and bequeath unto my said daughter Margerie Blunden the feather bed and flock bed in the standing bedstead being in the chamber where my said daughters usually lodge and the bolsters, pillows, pair of blankets and coverlet belonging to the beds together with the aforesaid standing bedstead and mat whereon the said beds and bedding are, a pair of curtains (over *the* bed), my old silver beer bowl, my little silver wine bowl, half a dozen of my best pewter platters, half a dozen on my lesser sort of pewter platters, one brass pot, one kettle, a skillet, two beer barrels of the lesser sort, my little square table being in the said chambers where my said daughters lodge, six joined stools, six green cushions, a pair of lockram sheets and the like third part of my childbed linen as I have here before given unto my said daughter Anne.

Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter Amye, wife of the said Walter Harward (to whom I have already upon her marriage given a portion), ten pounds of lawful English money, one of my silver wine bowls, my lesser flagon and two of my biggest pewter platters.

Item I give and bequeath unto my said son John Blunden one of my silver wine bowls and all my shop stuff, working tools, cheese press, parchments and other implements for the making and dressing of a cloth together with my rack for the drying of cloth.

Item I give and bequeath unto my grandchild and godson Thomas Harward twenty shillings and to every of my other grandchildren, the children of my said daughter Amye, two shillings and six pence apiece, and to every one of all my godchildren twelve pence apiece.

Item I give and bequeath to the Church of Basingstoke aforesaid twenty shillings and to the cathedral Church of Winchester twelve pence. **Also** I give for a funeral sermon at my burial ten shillings. **Also** I give to all my work folks usually working in my house at or within a week next before my decease twelve pence apiece. **And** I also give and bequeath unto the poor of Basingstoke aforesaid forty shillings in case I shall not hereafter give them so much together in my life time. **Item** I give and bequeath unto the bailiffs and burgesses of the town of Basingstoke aforesaid for the time being at my decease five marks of current English money towards the raising of a stock for them. **And all** the rest and residue of my personal estate, money, plate, household stuff and other goods and chattels whatsoever and wheresoever (over and above the monies and legacies by me heretofore already given and disposed of), I give and bequeath unto my said daughter Margaret Blunden whom I make, constitute and ordain to be my sole executrix of this my present last will and testament revoking hereby all former wills and testaments whatsoever by me any time heretofore made. **And lastly** I do request, ordain and appoint my said son in law Walter Harward and my well beloved friends Master John Aylewyn and Master William Herne of Basingstoke aforesaid to be overseers of this my said last will and testament desiring them to take some pains therein that all things in this my will contained maybe

performed according to my true meaning. **And I** give to each and every of them, my said overseers, for their care and pains in that behalf twenty shillings apiece.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written William Blunden. **Signed**, sealed and published after the striking out of these words vizt (one of them or their or one) the fourteenth line and after the [raysaie] where are these words (sixteen years). **And after** the interlining of these words (and bequeath in one place), and of these words (grandchild and godson) Thomas Hayward twenty shillings and to every of my others) in to their place and also of these words: **Item** I give and bequeath to the bailiffs and burgesses of the town of Basingstoke aforesaid for the time being at my decease four marks of current English money towards the raising of a stock for them in another place. **In the** presence of Robertt Ansill, Thomas Browne, Robert Ayling.

Probate granted 11 June 1646, Margaret Blunden, daughter, the executrix.