

**John Box of Basingstoke, innkeeper 1694**

**Ref: Hants. RO 1694A/015**

**In the name of God Amen** I John Box of Basingstoke in the county of Southampton *missing* but of a sound and perfect mind and memory, thanks therefore given to Almighty God, do the one and thirtieth day of October in the year of Our Lord one thousand six hundred ninety and three make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following hereby revoking all former and other wills by me at any time made. **Imprimis** I bequeath my soul unto God who gave it hoping for everlasting mercy through the death and merits of Jesus Christ my Saviour and Redeemer and my body to the earth to be buried at the discretion of my executors hereafter named. **And as** touching that worldly estate which God in His mercy has bestowed upon me I give bequeath and dispose of the same in manner following. **In the** first place I give to my son John Box five and twenty pounds to be paid him at the age of five and twenty years. **Item** I give and bequeath unto my five children Stuart Box, Francis Box, Martha, Anne Box and Elizabeth Box one hundred pounds apiece of lawful money of England to be paid them respectively when they shall attain to their respective ages of four and twenty years. **And also** I give unto every other of my child and children that shall be born after the sealing and publishing of this my will the sum of one hundred pounds apiece to be paid at his, her or their respective age of four and twenty years. **And if** my said children Stuart Box, Francis Martha, Anne and Elizabeth Box or any other of my child or children that shall be born after the making of this my will as aforesaid shall happen to die before his, her or their portions shall become due or payable as aforesaid, then my will and meaning is and I do hereby declare that the portion and portions of every one so dying shall be paid unto the survivors and survivor of them the said Stuart Box, Francis, Martha, Anne, Elizabeth and such after born child and children share and share alike. **Item** I give, devise and bequeath unto my dear wife Elizabeth Box all my messuage, lands, tenements and hereditaments lying and being in Basingstoke aforesaid and in Sherborne St John in the said county of Southampton with their and every of their appurtenances for and during the term of her natural life. **And after** her decease then I give and devise the same messuage, lands, tenements, hereditaments and premises unto my said son Stuart Box and the heirs of his body lawfully to be begotten. **And for** want of such issue to the use and behoof of my said son Francis Box and the heirs of his body lawfully to be begotten. **And for** want of such issue to the use and behoof of my other son and sons of me the said John Box if it shall be born after the sealing and publishing of this my last will and testament as they shall be in seniority of age and priority of birth and the heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten, the elder of such after born son and sons and the heirs of his body to be always preferred before the younger and the heirs of his body. **And for** want of such issue to be to the use and behoof of all and every the daughters of me the said John Box and the heirs of their bodies lawfully to be begotten share and share alike. **And for** want of such issue then to the use and behoof of the right heirs of me the said John Box forever provided nevertheless and it is the true meaning of this my will. **And I** do hereby order appoint and declare that if my personal estate shall not be sufficient to pay and discharge all the debts *illegible* owed by me at the time of my decease and discharge all the legacies by this my will before bequeathed, that all and every my messuage, lands, tenements and hereditaments herein and hereby before bequeathed shall be charged with and liable to the payment of the sums debts and legacies. **All the** rest and residue of my goods and chattels and personal

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*missing* whatsoever I give and bequeath unto my said wife Elizabeth and do make her the said Elizabeth my wife full and sole executrix of this my last will and testament. **And I** make and ordain my loving friends John May of Worting in the said county of Southampton gent., and James Chadleigh of Basingstoke aforesaid gent., overseers *missing* desire them to see this my will duly and truly performed. **In witness** whereof *missing* John Box hereto *illegible*.

Signed, sealed, published and declared  
by the within named John Box to be the last  
will and testament in the presence of

Joseph W *illegible*  
*Illegible*  
*Illegible*