

**THOMAS DUCKETT 1713-1766**

*Thomas Duckett was born on 10<sup>th</sup> February 1713*

*This Will was made on 27<sup>th</sup> February 1764 (he was aged 51)*

This is the last Will and Testament of me Thomas Duckett of Hartham in the County of Wilts Esquire.....

and for default of such issue to my neice (sic) Grace Goldstone Spinster and her assigns for and during the term of her natural life without Impeachment of Waste and from and after the determination of that Estate to the said John Allen and Daniel Bull and their heirs for and during the life of the said Grace Goldstone Upon trust to preserve the contingent Remainders hereinafter limited (sic) from being defeated or destroyed and for that purpose to make entries

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and bring actions as occasion shall require bur nevertheless to permit and suffer the said Grace Goldstone and her Assigns during her life to receive and take the Rents Issues and profits thereof to and for her own proper Use and Benefit and from and after the death of the said Grace Goldstone To the ffirst Son of the body of the said Grace Goldstone lawfully to be begotten and to the heirs Male of the Body of such first Son lawfully Issuing and in default of such Issue to the second third fourth fifth sixth and every other the Son and Sons of the Body of the said Grace Goldstone lawfully to be begotten severally successively and in remainder one after another as they and every of them shall be in seniority of Age and Priority of Birth and to the several and respective Heirs Male of the Body and Bodys (sic) of all and every such Son and Sons lawfully issuing the older of such Son and Sons and the Heirs Male of his and their Body and Bodys lawfully Issuing being always to be preferred and to take before the Younger of such Son and Sons and the Heirs Male of his and their Body and Bodys lawfully Issuing and in default of such Issue to the first second third and all and every other the Daughter and Daughters of the Body of the said Grace Goldstone lawfully to be begotten severally successively and in remainder one after another as they shall be in seniority of Age and Priority of Birth and to the Heirs of the Body and Bodys (sic) of such Daughter and Daughters lawfully issuing the elder of such Daughter and Daughters and the Heirs of her Body being always to be preferred and to take before the Younger of such Daughter and Daughters and the Heirs of her and their Body and Bodys and for the default of all such Issue To my Neice Grace Horne Spinster .....

(there follows a repeat of the succession as above for Grace Goldstone)

.....and for default of all such issue unto my own Right Heirs for ever and I do hereby declare it to be my Intent and Meaning that the said term of ffive hundred years so as aforesaid devised to the said John Allen and Daniel Bull and the survivor of them his Executors Administrators and Assigns is so devised to them upon Trust for the better securing the payment of the Annuitys hereinbefore Given and Bequeathed and also Upon Trust to secure an Annuity of One hundred pounds a year which I hereby direct to be paid to the said Grace Horne for her natural life to commence whenever the said Grace Goldstone shall come into possession of the said premises by Virtue of the Limitations aforesaid in case the said Grace Horne shall be then alive provided always nevertheless and my Will and Meaning is that it shall and may be lawful to and for every person or persons whom I have made or directed to be made Tenant for Life when in his or her actual possession by any Writing or Writings Indented to be by him or her signed sealed and delivered in the presence of two or more credible Witnesses to demise or lease all or any part of the said Premises Messuages Lands Tenements or Hereditaments so hereby limited or directed to be limited to them for life to any person or persons for any Term or Number of Years not exceeding Twenty years to commence in possession and not in Reversion reserving upon every such lease or leases during the continuance of the same respectively the best improved yearly Rent that can be gotten for the same without taking any ffine or fforfeit and so as such Lease or Leases be not made Dispunishable of or for Waste and my Will and Meaning further and is that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said William Duckett and Skinner Duckett respectively when and as they shall be in the actual possession of the said Manors Messuages Lands Tenements or Hereditaments so hereby limited or directed to be limited to them as aforesaid to settle assure limit and appoint by any deed in Writing under his hand and seal such part or parcel of the said premises as he shall think fit or a Jointure for a Wife for and during her natural life in Lieu and bar of Dower. And My Will and Mind further is that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Grace

Goldstone and Grace Horne or either of them respectively when and as they shall respectively be in the actual possession of the said premises to settle assure limit and appoint by any Deed in Writing under her Hand and Seal such part or parts of the said Manors Messuages Lands Tenements or Hereditaments so hereby limited or directed to be limited to them as aforesaid as they shall think fit unto anf for the sole proper Use and Behoof of any Husband they may respectively

marry for and during the Term of the natural life of such Husband or Husbands And I do hereby direct that until such purchase or purchases can be found the Money arising by the Sales aforesaid and the residue of my personal Estate to be laid out in Land as before directed shall be invested in Government or real Securitys at the discretion of my said Trustees and the Interest and dividends thereof shall be paid to the same persons as would be intitled to the Rents of the Lands according to this my Will in Case the same was laid out provided always nevertheless and my Mind and Will is that when and as often any of the daughters of the said William Duckett Lionel Duckett or Skinner Duckett or the said Grace Goldstone or Grace Horne or either of their issue Male or ffemale shall respectively come into possession of or become intitled to the Manors Messuages Lands Tenements or Hereditaments so hereby limitted or directed to be limited to them as aforesaid and when any of them shall be married or shall marry then that such Daughter and Daughters and the said Grace Goldstone and Grace Horne and their Issue Male or female so coming into possession and the Husbands of such of the ffemales as shall be married or shall marry respectively do and shall within one year next after they shall respectively come into possession (in case they shall respectively be of the age of Twenty one years at the time they so come into possession and if they shall not be of the age of Twenty one years at the time they come into possession then within one year next after they shall respectively arrive at the age of Twenty one years) take upon herself himself or themselves the sirname of Duckett and the entire Coat of Arms belonging to my family and in default or Neglect thereof it is my Will that the next person in remainder taking upon herself or himself the Sirname of Duckett and the Arms of my family as aforesaid shall become intitled to the said Manors Messuages Lands Tenements or Hereditaments and every part thereof in the same Manner as if such person so neglecting or refusing had been actually dead and my Will is and I do hereby direct that my Executors hereinafter named be reimbursed and paid all their Charges and Expenses in relation to the Execution of the Trusts hereby reposed in them by this my Will and that neither of them be charged or chargeable with or

for any part of my Estate further than he shall actually receive or than shall come into his hands nor shall they be answerable for the Acts or Defaults of each other nor for any loss that shall happen but from their wilful Default And Lastly

I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint the said John

Testament hereby revoking all former and other Wills by me at any Time heretofore made and declaring this to be my last In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty seventh day of february in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty four (*sig.:*) Thos Duckett. Signed sealed published and declared by the above named Thomas Duckett the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as Witnesses thereunto (*sigs.:*) David Allen Bernard Baines John Stewart

There is a codicil dated 17<sup>th</sup> September 1764 leaving some extra bequests but not altering the original will.

*(Thomas Duckett , aged 52, married 31 Mar. 1765, Anne Ferrier of Haverfordwest, aged 20)*

*The next day Bull paid them a visit; and found it difficult to form a judgment of Duckett's mental condition as he had 'so far lost his speech by the palsy in his tongue and mouth, that nobody but those about him know what he says'. If the marriage settlement affected Shelburne's purchase, and her concurrence is required, 'the completion of that affair must be postponed till she's of age'.*

Whereas I Thomas Duckett of Hartham in the County of Wilts did on my marriage with my dearly beloved Wife Mary Duckett give my brother John ferrier a Bond of Eight thousand pounds In trust for the security of ffour hundred pounds a year an Annuity unto my dealy beloved Wife I do hereby confirm the same and do charge my real and personal Estate with the payment of the same and being desirous of making a further provision for my dearly beloved Wife in failure of Issue of my Body or if any that she will survive such issue I do hereby revoke that part of my Will relative to the devise therein made of my Manor House and Desmesne Lands of Hartham and my ffarm lands of Hatt. and I Give Devise and bequeath unto my dearly beloved wife Mary Duckett my Manor House of Hartham together with the ffurniture therein and my demesne Lands of Hartham and all my ffarm and lands of Hatt all which are situated in the County of Wilts To hold the same for and during her natural life and in failure of Issue of my Body unto my brother Lionel Duckett and his heirs for ever and I do appoint my dearly beloved Wife Mary Duckett and my much esteemed friend John Allen Esquire of the County of Pembroke Guardians of my child or Children that I may have by my dearly beloved Wife Mary Duckett and tis my Will and Desire that this my

Codicil shall be part and shall be annexed unto my Will  
In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and  
seal this 4<sup>th</sup> Day of July 1765 – Tho Duckett – signed  
sealed published and declared by the above written homas  
Duckett to be a Codicil to be annexed to his Will in our  
presence and we in his presence and at his request  
attested the same – Geo. Vaughan Willm Brewer, Danl  
Vaughan

*Thomas Duckett died in March 1766*

On the Twenty third day of June in the year of our  
Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty seven  
Administration (With the Will and two Codicils annexed)  
of all and singular the Goods Chattels and Credits of  
Thomas Duckett deceased was granted to William Duckett Esquire  
the Brother of the deceased and residuary legatee named in  
the said Will he having been first sworn duly to administer  
John Allen and Daniel Bull Esquires the Executors and  
residuary Legatees In Trust named in the said Will (with two  
codicils annexed) having appeared by their proctor and  
declared they would not take upon the execution thereof.