

# THE MATERNITY of JOHN and BEATRIX de BREWES

by P.W. Mackenzie

## Introduction

This article investigates who was the mother of Beatrix de Brewes and her brother John de Brewes. Beatrix and John were the children of Peter de Brewes of Wiston, Sussex who died during 1378.

*Madden, Bandinel, and Nichols* in an article in *Collectanea Topographica Et Genealogica*<sup>1</sup> concluded that a Joan Foliot and John Mautravers had the following daughters, Joan the wife of Ralph Warren and Alan Cheney, Alice the wife of Thomas de Rodburgh and John Browning, and Elizabeth the wife of Roger Folville and William Latimer<sup>2</sup>. They also concluded that, after the death of John Mautravers, Joan Foliot had then married Alexander Venables from whom there was no issue. However, they were unsure of whether there was any relationship between this Joan Foliot, and Joan the wife of Nicholas Percy and their children. Indeed, Madden et al make no mention of a Peter de Brewes at all.

But *F.N. Craig*<sup>3</sup> in a latter paper correctly identifies that this Joan Foliot had successively married Nicholas Percy, John Mautravers, and Alexander Venables. He also cites evidence that Joan Foliot and Nicholas Percy had a daughter named Joan who married Peter de Brewes of Wiston. In a still latter article<sup>4</sup> he reports that Joan Foliot by her marriage with John Mautravers had also the following children Alice, Elizabeth, and Joan. Though *F.N. Craig* cites no evidence for this Joan Mautravers. *Complete Peerage*<sup>5</sup> makes a similar conclusion to *F.N. Craig* that John Mautravers and Joan Foliot had three children, Alice, Joan, and Elizabeth. In this regard, *Complete Peerage*<sup>6</sup> cites a Cheshire inquisition post mortem<sup>7</sup> and Hutchins<sup>8</sup>, but note his accounts are discrepant and are obviously incomplete. As will become apparent the existence of this Joan Mautravers or otherwise is an important aspect of this study.

Recently, P. W. Mackenzie, in a post on the Internet news group [society.genealogy.medieval](http://society.genealogy.medieval) dated 17 December 2004, proposed that Peter de Brewes had married firstly Joan, daughter of Nicholas Percy, and secondly Joan Howard, a daughter of Alice and John Howard of Norfolk. Douglas Richardson had included this proposal in his book *Magna Carta Ancestry* published in March 2005, which has caused a controversy as to the maternity of Beatrix de Brewes [see posts on the news group [society.genealogy.medieval](http://society.genealogy.medieval) during the month of October 2005]

Since that time further references have come to hand. This paper will firstly outline in roughly chronological order extracts of references relevant to the subject in hand. I have collated a large number of references, some of which were not available to previous researchers. Secondly, I will undertake a review of these references and seek to throw some light on the vexed question of the maternity of Beatrix de Brewes.

## Extracts

As with many genealogical studies, the current investigation begins a number of generations before the persons of interest.

We first have an inquisition post mortem<sup>9</sup> on Thomas de Saunford alias Sanford in 27 Edw. 1 [1299] which states that the said Thomas held the following possessions in Chester of the king in chief on the day of his death; a sixth part of the rents, tolls, perquisites and mill of Nantwich ( Wicum Malbancum); a sixth part of the manor of Haselinton; a sixth part of the manor of Aston, 5 shillings rent in Chester, half a carucate of land in Wilaston held of William Chanu. In another inquisition post mortem on the same Thomas but in Devon, it is stated he held the manor of Whyteford. In the Cheshire inquisition it is stated that his sister Auda is his next heir and is aged 24, whereas in the Devon inquisition it is stated that Alda is his next heir and is aged thirty.

*F. N. Craig*<sup>10</sup> has identified this Thomas de Saunford as being the son of Laurence de Sanford and Hawise Corbet. *F. N. Craig*<sup>11</sup> further cites a plea concerning land in Dauteseye in 1312 where Ada is identified as the daughter and heiress of Laurence Sanford and the wife of Walter Folyot<sup>12</sup>.

In 1303, an Ada de Saunford together with Alionora de Curtenay were said to hold Coliton and Whiteford in Devon<sup>13</sup>. In the same year, an Alda de Sanford presented her candidate to the church of Melbury-Samford (Melbury Tuberville)<sup>14</sup>. Later on in 1308, a Walter Foliot and Ada presented their candidate to the church of Melbury-Samford (Melbury Tiberville)<sup>15</sup>. In 1310/12, Walter Ffloyot and his wife Alda his wife were sued by Agnes, widow of William de Wylaston for dower of lands in Wylaston juxta Wich Malbank<sup>16</sup>. Sometime later, on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 1324, Walter Foliot and Ada were presented to the church of Melbury-Osmond<sup>17</sup>. Hutchins in his book "History of Dorset" states that Walter Foliot is described in the epitaph in the church of Melbury Samford as "Dominus de Melbury Osmond"<sup>18</sup>.

An important reference concerning this review is a feet of fine<sup>19</sup> stating that "By a fine levied in the quinzine of St. Martin 6 Edw 11 (1312) in which Peter Blunt was querent and Walter Foliot and Adam his wife were deforcians, the manor of Melbury Saunford co. Dorset, and the manor of Whyteford, co. Devon were settled on the said Walter and Ada for their lives, remainder to Nicholas Percy and Joan his wife and the heirs of the body of Joan begotten by said Nicholas, remainder to the right heirs of Ada".

Nicholas Percy and John Mautravers the younger, and others were pursued by the kings men as outlaws in 1321 and 1322<sup>20</sup>. Apparently, they were members of Earl of Lancaster's party and fled abroad after the battle of Boroughbridge in 1322<sup>21</sup>. A commission of inquiry found Nicholas de Percy died at Melane 6<sup>th</sup> August 1324 "having been struck on the head so that his brain came out"<sup>22</sup>. The same commission of inquiry<sup>23</sup> found that Nicholas de Percy possessed land and tenements in Knouke, which were taken into the king's hands by his forfeiture. *F. N. Craig*<sup>24</sup> cites an inquisition post mortem<sup>25</sup> on Nicholas Percy in 1327 mentioning that Nicholas had a daughter and heir Isabel, aged seven, and held a moiety of the manor of Knouke, Wiltshire since 1318<sup>26</sup>. He also held Burbage Savage, Wiltshire, of Henry Tyeys, to be held while Nicholas served him<sup>27</sup>.

Ada Saunforde had died by 1331 when an inquisition post mortem<sup>28</sup> was held in Chester. Alda was seised of the following possessions in Cheshire: Nantwich (Wyci Malbani) Neuehalle, Astoun by Neuehalle, and Couhulle; a sixth part of the towns Haslintoun; a twelfth part of the town and 5s rent there; a sixth part of the serjeantry and bedelry of the hundred of Nantwich all held of the king in chief by service of a knight's fee. She also held the manor of Rydingges held of Thomas Schauē in chief by service "unius sacke et j pickle" when there is war in Wales. The inquiry found that her next heir was Joan, aged 26 years, the wife of John Mautravers. This last mentioned John Mautravers<sup>29</sup> was the father of John Mautravers the younger the associate of Nicholas Percy.

The next reference of relevance is from Hutchins History of Dorset who states that Sir John Mautravers, senior, knt, presented in 1337 his candidate to the church of Melbury Osmond<sup>30</sup>.

We next have an undated licence but presumably in the year 1336/37, where John de Warrene, Earl of Surrey, has a licence to grant to Ralph de Warrene, and Joan his wife, a sixth part of the barony of Wich-Malbank, to hold to them and the heirs of their bodies, and, them failing, to John Mautravers, senior, and Joan his wife, and the heirs of the same John for ever<sup>31</sup>. This licence does not seem to have come into effect for we have another licence of the same type but dated 20 November 1338, where John de Warrene, Earl of Surrey has a licence to grant a sixth part of the barony of Wich-Malbank to John de Gaydon and William de Blorton, in trust to grant the same to John Mautravers and Joan his wife, for life, with remainder to Ralph de Warrene, and Joan his wife, and the heirs of their bodies, and, them failing, to the right heirs of the said Joan, wife of the aforesaid John Mautravers<sup>32</sup>. During this period, in 1337, John de Warrene, Earl of Surrey, was appointed to "arrest and imprison William, son of William de Percy, parson of the church of Folke, who with others abducted Joan the wife of John Mautravers, the elder, and goods of the said John."<sup>33</sup>.

In the year 1338, we have a feet of fine<sup>34</sup> recorded at York, dated on the quinzane of St. Hilary, 12 Edw III between Ralph de Warennā and Joan his wife, claimants, and John Mautravers senior and Joan his wife deforciantes concerning the manor of Whiteford (Whiteford in Shute). A plea of covenant was summoned. Ralph acknowledged the manor to be the right of Joan the wife of John. For this John and Joan his wife granted the manor to Ralph and Joan his wife and gave it up to them at Court. To have and to hold to Ralph and Joan his wife and the heirs of their bodies begotten of John and Joan his wife and the heirs of Joan forever. Rendering therefore yearly one rose at the feast of the Navitivity of St. John the Baptist for all service etc., to the said John and Joan his wife and heirs of Joan belonging, and rendering therefore on behalf of John and Joan his wife and the heirs of Joan to the chief lord of that fee all other services which to the said manor belong for ever. Should Ralph and Joan die without heir of their bodies begotten the manor shall revert in its entirety to John and Joan his wife and the heirs of Joan quit of the other heirs of Ralph and Joan his wife. To hold of the chief lords of that fee by the services which belong to the manor for ever.

One year later in 1339, we have another feet of fine<sup>35</sup> stating that "This is the final concord made.. etc... at York day fifteen days before Saint Hilary 12 Edward III between John Mautravers Senior and Joan his wife querents and John de Archer

parson of the church of Wychampton, Hugh Filiol parson of the church of Lichet Mautravers, William Filiol, and Thomas de Homere deforcians concerning the manor of Melbury Samford and Melbury Osemond with appurtenances. From which penultimate agreement..... said John Mautravers and Joan recognize the aforesaid manor is by law the possession of John de Archer, etc of the gift of the aforesaid John Mautravers and Joan. And by this they recognise....the same John ..etc...grants the aforesaid John Mautravers and Joan the aforesaid manor with appurtenances for the term of their life. With remainder to Ralph de Warrenna and Joan his wife and the heirs of the same Ralph procreated of the body of the Joan, etc...And if....etc... remainder to the right heirs of the aforesaid Joan wife of the aforesaid John Mautravers”.

John Mautravers was dead by April 1340 when Joan in her widowhood gave all her lands in Cheshire to Alexander Venables whom she subsequently married. Later there is a reference<sup>36</sup> in the patent rolls dated 7<sup>th</sup> Sept 1342 stating that Alexander de Veneables and Joan his wife, late the wife of John Mautravers the elder, have letters nominating attorneys in Ireland. This Alexander Veneables presented his candidate to the church of Melbury Samford on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 1344<sup>37</sup>. Later in 1346, Alexander Venables was found to hold in Melbury Turberville in the hundred of Tollerford a half knight's fee, which Ada Saunford formerly held<sup>38</sup>.

The first reference we have to Peter de Brewosa alias Brewes is a grant on the 6th April 1342 to him and his heirs of a weekly market and yearly fair at the town of Wytteford, Devon<sup>39</sup>.

Soon thereafter we have a fine<sup>40</sup> dated 3 July 1344 ordering the sheriff of Devon to cause the manor of Whiteford, co. Devon, and a moiety of the hundred of Colyton (Devon), to be taken in the presence of Peter de Brewose, and kept safely, so that he may answer to the exchequer for the issues thereof; said Peter and Joan his wife having granted the same to the king by charter, to hold as freely as Ada de Saunford, Joan's grandmother, held the same. Peter de Brewose and Joan his wife having granted<sup>41</sup> the manor of Whiteford, co. Devon, and a moiety of the hundred of Colyton to the king in the form of a charter dated at Westminster on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1344.

We find that a year later, on the 16 March 1345, the king was still in possession of the manor of Whiteford and half hundred of Colyton, when a dispute arose between him as lord of Whiteford and Sir Hugh de Courtenay, the other parcener of the hundred of Colyton<sup>42</sup>.

A further year later in 1346, we find that Peter de Brewese, the king's yeoman, and Joan his wife are again in possession of the manor of Whiteford together with the moiety of the hundred of Colyton<sup>43</sup>. Peter and Joan, and their heirs were granted the manor and moiety by special grace from the king<sup>44</sup>. Contrary to an earlier reference, Ada de Saunford is referred to in this grant as the aunt of said Joan. In the same year 1346, Peter de Brewosa, the king's yeoman, and his heirs were granted a yearly fair at their manor of Whiteford Devon<sup>45</sup>.

In the same year 1345/46 Hudson in his article “A series of court Rolls of Wiston”<sup>46</sup> refers to an interesting entry in the court rolls, which mention cattle being brought

from Whiteford to Wiston, Sussex. This is a good ten years prior to Peter de Brewes formally acquiring the manor of Wiston.

The next interesting references are two Cheshire inquisition post mortems<sup>47</sup> on Joan the wife of Alexander Veneables. Joan had died prior to the 12<sup>th</sup> day of February 1347 when the writs for the inquisitions were issued. Joan the subject of these inquisition post mortems, is stated as being a widow when she married Alexander Venables. In one inquisition post mortem held on 3rd March 1347 the inquiry found that Joan daughter of Nicholas de Percy currently the wife of Peter de Brewes is the next heir of Joan, and that Joan daughter of Nicholas Percy is twenty-six years. In the other inquisition post mortem, presumably the latest one<sup>48</sup>, the inquiry found that her next heirs were Joan a daughter of Nicholas Percy and currently the wife of Peter de Brewes, and Alice a daughter of John Mautravers, and that Joan the daughter of Nicholas Percy and Alice were sisters. It further states that Joan the daughter of Nicholas Percy was twenty-six years old and Alice was twenty-one years old on the festival of St. Michaelmas last. From this we can conclude that Joan the daughter of Nicholas Percy was born in 1321, and Alice was born on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 1325<sup>49</sup>.

In the aforementioned Cheshire inquisitions post mortem<sup>50</sup>, the inquiry found that Joan did not hold any lands of the county of Cheshire on the day of her death as she had previously given all her lands and tenements she held in Cheshire in her widowhood to Alexander Venables by charter in April 1340. The inquiry when asked whether the aforesaid alienation and gift was made by license of the lord of the county Cheshire or not, said they knew not. The inquiry also found that the aforementioned lands and tenements were seised by the escheator, which included: a sixth part of the manor of Wic Malbancum; a sixth part of the manor of Ashton and Neuhall; a sixth part of Cowle; free rent worth six shillings and eight pence in Breton & Hurdleston; free rent worth five shillings in the city of Chester; free rent worth seventeen shillings 10 ½ pence in Haslington; and in return for one pound of pepper the same villa and all lands in that place in desmesne; and lands and tenants which are worth per annum in all issues sixty three shillings; a sixth part of the serjeantry, bedelry and additional service of the hundred of Wic Malbanc; and all the aforesaid lands, tenements, and rent are held in chief of the lord of the county Cheshire by service; a sixth part of the barony; one plot of land held of Thomas Chanu in Wylaston which is called le Ruding;

Lastly, it should be noted that there is no mention in these inquisitions post mortem<sup>51</sup> that the sisters Alice and Joan were daughters of Joan the subject of this inquisition. Furthermore, there is no mention in these inquisitions post mortem that Joan who was the wife of Alexander Venables and the subject of this inquisition had previously married either John Mautravers or Nicholas Percy. However, there is a reference<sup>52</sup> in the patent rolls dated 7<sup>th</sup> Sept 1342 stating that Alexander de Veneables and Joan his wife, late the wife of John Mautravers the elder, have letters nominating attorneys in Ireland. From both these references we can conclude that Joan the subject of this inquisition married firstly Nicholas Percy, then John Mautravers, then Alexander de Venables. Also, that Joan, the wife of Peter de Brewes, was the daughter of Nicholas Percy and said Joan; and that Alice was the daughter of John Mautravers and said Joan; and that her co-heirs Joan and Alice were half sisters.

According to Vincent<sup>53</sup> this Alexander Venables died without heirs in 1350. Though we find from Feudal Aids<sup>54</sup> of 1346 that Alexander Venables was in the possession of the manor of Melbury Turberville in the hundred of Tollerford, county of Dorset, which we are told was formerly in the possession of Adam [sic] Saunford. Subsequently, we find from the Feudal Aids<sup>55</sup> of 1428, that Roger Venables held Melbury Turberville, which we are told was formerly held by Alexander Venables, and Ada Saunford. Contrary to this we have a Feudal Aid<sup>56</sup> in 1431 where John Browning ( the husband or son of Alice) of Melbury Osmond held the manor of Melbury Turberville.

The next reference we have is from Hutchin's "History of Dorset"<sup>57</sup> which states that Peter de Brewes, knt. presented (his candidate) to the church of Melbury Samford co. Dorset on 16<sup>th</sup> February 1349.

In the same year there is recorded in the Escheators Accounts<sup>58</sup> for Cheshire a fine stating that for 24 pounds 7 shillings and 4 ½ pence received of Peter de Brewes and Joan his wife of a fine for having again of 1/6<sup>th</sup> part of the Barony of Nantwich, which after the decease of Joan, who was the wife of Alexander de Venables, the same escheator caused to be seised into the hand of the lord the earl, for a certain alienation made, of the aforesaid 1/6<sup>th</sup> part of the barony, the licence for the same not having been obtained : which certain part is held of the lord the earl in chief, Wherefore the lord sent his letters to the same escheator that the monies aforesaid having been received, he cause to be delivered to the said Peter and Joan his wife, the aforesaid 1/6<sup>th</sup> part of the barony aforesaid, with all the issues taken therefrom, the dated whereof under the seal of Chester, at Chester, the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March this year.

Again in the same year 1349, we have a Commission<sup>59</sup> of oyer and terminer touching a complaint by Peter de Brewese alleging that, whereas he, in his manor of Skeyton, co. Norfolk, which by writing of Edward de Garrenne, late lord of that manor, is bound to him in a rent of 10 marks for which he can distrain when in arrear, had taken certain cattle of Cecily late the wife of the said Edward by John Bryd and Richard Chinham, his servants, for 5 marks of the rent in arrear, and the same John and Richard would have impounded these, some evildoers rescued them and assaulted John and Richard and other of his men and servants, whereby he lost their service for a great time. At first sight this reference appears to have no relevance to the present subject. However, the surname de Garrenne is a common variant of the surname Warrenne. It is also well known<sup>60</sup> that John de Warenne, 8th Earl of Surrey had a mistress, Maud de Nerford, by whom he had several illegitimate children. In his will<sup>61</sup> dated 24 June 1447 and proved 26 July 1347, the earl specifically names a son, Edward. According to Omerod<sup>62</sup> this Edward is the illegitimate son of John, the 8th Earl and Maud de Nerford, and held the manors of Skeyton and Booton. Omerod further states that this Edward was the ancestor of the Warren family of Poynton.

Blomefield<sup>63</sup> reports that in 1323 Oliver de Redham and Ralf, Rector of Skeyton, acting as Trustees, settled a moiety of the manor of Booton, together with the manor of Skeyton, on Sir Ralf de Skeyton for life, and then on Maud de Nerford and her two sons, Ralf and Edward, who took the name of Warren. Watson<sup>64</sup> refers it seems to this same settlement, but states one Rither vicar of Aylesham, had released his right, as a trustee in the said manors to said Maud and heirs of her body. Blomefield<sup>65</sup> also reports that subsequent to the settlement, Alice, sister and heiress of Sir Ralf, then

widow of Hauteyn her second husband, released all her moiety of said manors to Maud de Nerford. Watson<sup>66</sup> dates this release as 1326, and states Alice settled this moiety on Maud de Nerford, and heirs of her body, with remainder to Ralph son of said Maud and heirs of his body, remainder to his brother Edward and his heirs of his body, remainder to Alice and her heirs. Watson<sup>67</sup> also refers to an indenture dated 1326, concerning the manors of Skeyton, Booton, and lands and rent in Booton, Skeyton, Canston, Bradiston, Tybenham, and Briston to be settled as above.

Maud died sometime prior to 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1345<sup>68</sup>. At this point, the manor of Skeyton, Norfolk fell to her son, Edward de Warenne, for we have Feudal Aids<sup>69</sup> stating that Edward de Warrenne knight, in 1346, held lands in Skegton in the hundred of South Erpyngham, Norfolk together with lands in Crostweyt, Berton and Tybenham outside of said hundred, which was formerly held by John de Skegton. In the same year, Edward Warrene was mesne lord of lands in Rougham, Fransham in the hundred of Laundich, Norfolk. Also, in the same year, Edward Warrene and William Whitewell were joint mesne lords of certain lands and tenements in Crostweyt in the hundred of Tunstede, Norfolk, which mesne lordship was formerly held by the heirs of John de Skegton. From this we can conclude that his brother Ralph Warrene was dead by 1346.

The next reference of importance concerns the manor of Whiteford in Devon. Peter de Brewes and Joan his wife on the 27<sup>th</sup> January 1352 sold this manor with the moiety of the hundred of Colyton to the King. Moreover, Peter and Joan undertook for themselves and the heirs of Joan that they would warrant the manor to the King and his heirs against all men forever. For this the King gave to Peter and Joan 200 marks of silver.<sup>70</sup>

Later that year in 1352 a dispute arose<sup>71</sup> between Hugh de Courtenay, Earl of Devon and Peter de Brewosa over the hundred of Colyton. The former alleging before a commission of inquiry that he and his ancestors for time out of mind have held the hundred of Colyton paying only to the lords of the manor of Whiteford in the same county a moiety of the profits of the hundred, and Peter de Brewosa, late lord of the manor, for the disinhercion of the earl of his right in this behalf granted the manor, with a moiety of the hundred, to the king, by pretext of which grant the sheriff of the county has entered the hundred, delivering the issues and profits of the hundred to the said Peter to the great damage and peril of the dishersion of the earl, and prays the king will order his hand to be removed from the hundred. In December of the same year the sheriff was ordered to permit Hugh de Courteneye, earl of Devon, to hold the hundred of Colyton in that country, restoring the issues thereof to him.

In the same year, on the 24<sup>th</sup> October 1352 in London, an order was issued by the prince to Sir Thomas de Ferrers, justice of Cestre, to proceed according to law and reason in taking the assize of novel dissesin which the prince understands to be pending before him in the court of Cestre, in pursuance of a petition from the prince's yeoman, Alan Cheyne, and Joan his wife, showing that Alexander de Venables, (sometime husband of Joan late the wife of Nicholas de Percy, mother of the aforesaid Joan wife of Alan, whose heir she is), gave and granted to William de Prayers of the county of Cestre, his wife being unable to oppose him in his lifetime, the manor of Ruddyngges which the petitioners claim as Joan's inheritance, to do what law and

reason demand, without showing favour to either party, if Alan and Joan wish to sue for the manor against William in the court of Cestre<sup>72</sup>.

On the next day 25<sup>th</sup> October 1352 in Westminster, a commission of oyer and terminer<sup>73</sup> was instituted by the king on the complaint by Peter de Brewese, 'chivalier', that Alan Cheney, Robert Neel, Richard Whithed, William 'Alansservant Cheney' and others, broke his houses at Chesham Boys, co. Buckingham, and carried away his goods.

One year later we have a reference<sup>74</sup> dated 24 Sept 1353 at London which states payment has been made since Michaelmas to Sir Peter de Brewese, knight, by the prince's order in lieu of the like amount lately levied from some lands of his in the county of Chester which were seised into the prince's hand as forfeit because he failed at the time to produce the prince's charter touching the matter at issue.

We have next a patent roll<sup>75</sup> dated July 8 1355 at Westminster, which states whereas Peter de Brewes and Joan, his wife, by charter lately granted to the king their whole manor of Whiteford, co. Devon with a moiety of the hundred of Colyton, to hold to him, his heirs and assigns, as freely as Laurence de Saunford, knight, and his daughter Ada, aunt of said Joan, held the same; the king has granted the same to said Peter and Robert Daunz, chaplain to hold to them, their heirs and assigns as fully and entirely as Peter and Joan held the same, absolutely. Presumably, the aforementioned charter is the one mentioned earlier dated 27<sup>th</sup> January 1352.

Subsequently, on 18<sup>th</sup> October 1356 a licence<sup>76</sup> was granted for Peter de Brewes, 'chivaler', and Robert Daunz, chaplain, to grant to Hugh de Courtneye, earl of Devon, Margaret his wife, Elizabeth de Veer and the Earl's heirs, the manor of Whiteford and a moiety of Colyton hundred, co. Devon, (except one messuage called "Presteshous" and an acre of land in the manor) held in chief rendering yearly to said Peter, Robert and heirs of said Peter 100s. A month later on 14<sup>th</sup> November 1356 the deed was enrolled<sup>77</sup> testifying that whereas Peter Brewes, knight, and Robert Duanz, chaplain, by a fine levied in the king's court, have granted to Sir Hugh de Courtenay, earl of Devon, and to Margaret his wife and to Elizabeth de Veer and the earl's heirs their manor of Whiteford in that country with a moiety of the hundred of Colyton and all the liberties and rights pertaining to the said manor except a messuage called 'Presteshous', one acre of land and 100s. rent, which rent is reserved in the said fine to Peter and Robert and Peter's heirs, and the messuage and acre of land are excepted in that fine, Peter and Robert have released to the earl, Margaret and Elizabeth and to the earl's heirs all their right in the said manor and moiety of the hundred with all appurtenances except and saving to Robert and Peter the said messuage, acre of land and rent, with warranty against all men save Alice daughter of John de Mautravers and her heirs. The aforesaid fine was put before the King's Justices at Westminster on 20 October 1356 and afterwards granted and recorded on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1357<sup>78</sup>.

Peter de Brewes, knight was granted<sup>79</sup> a licence on 20<sup>th</sup> May 1357 for the alienation in mortmain of a messuage, 1 acre of land and 100s of rent in Whiteford, held in chief, to a chaplain to celebrate divine service daily in the new chapel of St. Mary, Whiteford, for the good estate of the said Peter, and of Hugh De Courtneye, earl of Devon, and Margaret his wife, for their souls when they are dead, and for the souls of the ancestors of said Peter.



On the 1<sup>st</sup> November 1357 the king granted<sup>80</sup> for 1,000 marks to the said Peter and Joan, his wife of the manors of Wistneston, Asshehurst, Chiltyngton, Sloughtre, Hyen and Yryngham, which the king had of the gift and feoffment of Roger Bavent, 'le fitz', to hold to them and the heirs of the body of the said Peter, with the members, knights' fees, advowsons of churches, etc with remainders to Peter son of Thomas de Brewosa, 'chivaler', and the heirs male of his body, and to the right heirs of the said Peter de Brewosa. Grant to them also free chace within the manors of Wistneston and Asshehurst, wreck of sea within the manors of Hyen and Yryngham, and wayf and strayf within all manors. Peter de Brewosa by the king's command has paid 850 marks to the prioress and sisters of Dertford and the residual the king has remitted to him.

The Wiston Account Rolls<sup>81</sup> mentions the lords coming and his expenses for the month of September 1357. The roll also mentions the transfer of stock from Whiteford to Wiston. Also, it mentions that men are paid for going to the lord's manor of "boys" [Chesham Bois] and horses and cattle being sent from there to Wiston.

We now draw your attention to a final concord made<sup>82</sup>, at Westminister fifteen days before Easter, 35 Edw III ( 26<sup>th</sup> March 1361), between Alan Cheney and Joan his wife querents and Thomas de Radburgh and Alice his wife deforciant concerning a moiety of the manor of Melbury Sandford and Melbury Usmond with appurtenances which states: Alan and Joan [*holding*] of the aforesaid Thomas and Alice and the heirs of Alice for the term of the life of Alan and Joan paying one rose per annum at the feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist etc. And rendering the same to the chief lords of that fee for the aforesaid Thomas and Alice and heirs of the Alice all other services which are pertinent to the aforesaid moiety. And after the death of Alan and Joan the whole reverts to Thomas and Alice and the heirs of Alice. And by this grant the same Alan and Joan give one hundred silver marks to Thomas and Alice.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> May 1365, the king granted<sup>83</sup> to Peter de Brewes the manor of Wedon hill in Chiltern and all lands in the parishes of Chesham, Amondesham, and Little Missiden in Buckinghamshire late of Ralph de Wedon, knight, deceased, now held for life by John Cobbeham, knight, son of Mary, late countess Marshall, which shall remain to him and his heirs, to hold by the services whereby the said Ralph held. As mentioned before Peter was already in possession of properties in Chesham Bois in 1352. Subsequently, on 21 August 1368, Peter de Brewes, knight granted<sup>84</sup> to trustees the manor of Wedon Hill in Amersham in Chiltern in the county of Buckingham, all lands and tenements in the parishes of Chesham, Amersham and Little Missinden which belonged to the late Ralph of Weedon knight, together with the manor of Cheshamboys with the advowson of the Chesham church. This grant was witnessed by John Cheyne, knight, Phillip de la Vache, Thomas Cheyne, Thomas de Mussyngden, Godfrey Sifrewast, John atte Broke at Wistneston.

The next reference is the Wiston Account Roll<sup>85</sup> for the period Michaelmas ( 29 Sept) 1369 to Michaelmas (Sept 29) 1370. The roll mentions expenses of wages to the bailiff when the lord was about the burial of the lady. Apparently she was buried at Chesham Bois. In the succeeding years in the rolls her "obit" is provided for. Apparently, her name is not mentioned in these rolls.

Around the same time we have a feet of fine dated 28<sup>th</sup> April 1370 between Hugh Courtenay, earl of Devon, and Margaret, his wife, and Elizabeth de Veer, querents, by Robert Lough, in their place, and John Bronyng and Alice, his wife, deforciant, concerning two parts of the manor of Whiteford and of a moiety of the hundred of Colyton in Devon, where John and Alice have acknowledged the two parts to be the right of the earl, and have remised and quitclaimed them from themselves and the heirs of Alice to the earl, Margaret and Elizabeth and the heirs of the earl for ever. In return, the earl, Margaret and Elizabeth have given them 200 marks of silver<sup>86</sup>.

Shortly thereafter we have a plea<sup>87</sup> before the Justices of the King's Bench during Michaelmas term in the forty-fourth year of the reign of the aforesaid king [1370] where the sheriff of Dorset was commanded with a certain fine [*Here is recited the fine of 12 Edw. III viz. "This is the final concord made at York day fifteen days before Saint Hilary 12 Edward III Between John Mautravers Senior and Joan his wife querents and John de Archer parson of the church of Wychampton, Hugh Filiol parson of the church of Lichet Mautravers, William Filiol, and Thomas de Homere deforciant concerning the manor of Melbury Samford and Melbury Osemond with appurtenances. From which penultimate agreement said John Mautravers and Joan recognize the aforesaid manor is by law the possession of John de Archer, etc of the gift of the aforesaid John Mautravers and Joan. And by this they recognize the same John grants the aforesaid John Mautravers and Joan the aforesaid manor with appurtenances for the term of their life. With remainder to Ralph de Warrenna and Joan his wife and the heirs of the same Ralph procreated of the body of the Joan., And if etc remainder to the right heirs of the aforesaid Joan wife of the aforesaid John Mautravers."*] And from information John Brounyng and Alice his wife and Roger Folvill de Clonne and Elizabeth his wife, the daughters and heirs of said Joan who was the wife of John Mautravers, as the king understands that the aforesaid John Mautravers and Joan his wife are dead, and likewise the aforesaid Ralph de Warrenna and Joan his wife are dead without heirs of the body of the Joan procreated by the aforesaid Ralph, and that a certain Alan Cheyne knight entered and held the aforesaid manor Melbury Samford and Melbury Osemond with appurtenances contrary to the form of the fine--After several adjournments Alan replied that the said Roger and Elizabeth ought not have execution, because she is a bastard.

Apparently the aforesaid dispute was resolved for we have a fine<sup>88</sup> on 17<sup>th</sup> October 1373 where Alan Cheyne, Knt, after reciting that Thomas de Rudburgh and Alice his wife lately granted by fine to him the said Alan and Joanna his wife now deceased, a moiety of the manor of Melbury Osmond, grants to Roger Folyvll of Clonne and Elizabeth his wife his life estate in the moiety of the said manor, together with the advowson of the church.

Earlier in that year, we have a feet of fine dated 8<sup>th</sup> May 1373 and 19 June 1373 between Hugh de Courtenay, earl of Devon, and Margaret, his wife, and Elizabeth Lutrell, querent, and Roger Folvill of Cloune and Elizabeth, his wife, deforciant concerning a moiety of the manor of Whyteford and of the hundred of Coliton in Devon, where Roger and Elizabeth have acknowledged the moiety to be the right of the earl, and have remised and quitclaimed it from themselves and the heirs of Elizabeth to the earl, Margaret and Elizabeth Lutrell and the heirs of the earl for ever, in exchange for 200 marks of silver<sup>89</sup>.

In the same year, we have an inquisition post mortem<sup>90</sup> dated 13 March 1373 on Alice late the wife of John Howard, knight for Norfolk. She was found to have held the manor of Fersfield and the manor of Uphalle in Garboldecham. Alice had enfeoffed Peter de Brewes, knight and other trustees of both the above manors, and the feoffees have been in possession ever since. She died on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 1372. Robert Howard, her son, aged 30 years or more, was her heir.

Sometime later on the 26<sup>th</sup> April 1378, we have Ralf the Abbot of Missenden Abbey granting to Lord Peter de Brewer (sic) of the fraternity of their house and of their prayers for his health during his life and for his soul after death and that of Joanna his wife<sup>91</sup>.

Peter de Brewes, knight of Sussex died before the 4<sup>th</sup> of October 1378 when the escheator was ordered<sup>92</sup> to take into the king's hands and keep safely until further order Peter's lands in his bailiwick of Sussex and Buckingham and to make inquisition touching his lands and heir. Apparently, the record of his inquisition post mortem is missing. His son and heir John de Brewes<sup>93</sup> took possession of the manor Wiston sometime between 1378 and 1379<sup>94</sup>. Around the same time, John de Brewes is mentioned as having two brothers Richard and Thomas<sup>95</sup>, and at a later date a sister Philipia<sup>96</sup>. They must have died without heirs by 1426, as John de Brewes sole heir was his sister Beatrix wife of Hugh Shirley<sup>97</sup>.

We now turn to Peter de Brewes' career highlights. Peter de Brewes was granted in 26 August 1346 an annuity for life to support the order of knighthood taken from the King and for his fee for his stay with him<sup>98</sup>. In the war against France in 1346/1347 Peter de Brewes served as a knight in the Kings Division<sup>99</sup>. It is probable that the King awarded this knighthood during Peter de Brewes' service in France. Other letters patent were granted after the war to Sir Peter de Brewes concerning the annuity in 1347, 1348, 1349, 1351 and 1364<sup>100</sup>. The newly crowned King Richard, in March 1378, further confirmed this annuity<sup>101</sup>. The earliest reference to Peter de Brewes' service with the King is in July 1345, one year prior to the war, and has him as the King's yeoman<sup>102</sup>. The latest reference to Peter de Brewes as the King's yeoman is 16 August 1346, just prior to his knighthood<sup>103</sup>. The wardrobe accounts further show that Peter de Brewes was a knight of Edward's chamber from at least 1364 until the end of Edward's reign (1377). It seems that Peter de Brewes was not yet a chamber knight in 1346 as the wardrobe accounts show that in April 1346, material for coats and hoods were delivered to the King's person, eleven knight's of his chamber, and to Peter de Brewes amongst others for use at the Hastiludes at Lichfield. Again, around Christmas 1348 garments were given by the King to a number of people including Sir Peter de Brewes<sup>104</sup>. It thus seems that Sir Peter de Brewes was in the service of the King from at least 1345 to 1378, approximately thirty years or more. According to Chris Given-Wilson<sup>105</sup> Peter de Brewes "played little part either in government or in affairs at court; both he and Esmond Everard,... were unremarkable men, and politically insignificant, though presumably the king counted them among his friends.

It is abundantly clear from all the aforementioned references, when read together, that Peter de Brewes was born around or prior to 1320 and died in 1378.

We next have a whole series of references<sup>106</sup> in 1378, concerning a suit brought by Margery, the daughter of John Nerford to annul her contract of marriage with John Brewes, the son of Peter de Brewes knight of Sussex. John Brewes and others forcibly abducted Margery, and took her to the Bishop's of Norwich lodging where Robert Howard received and hid her, with the intention of resisting an appeal pending in the papal court. Peter de Brewes had been previously granted<sup>107</sup> in 1364 the wardship and marriage of the heir and daughter of John Nerford, to wit Margery Nerford who was 5 years old at the time of the grant. Some genealogists have this Margery Nerford as the grand niece of Maud Nerford the mistress of John, the 8<sup>th</sup> Earl of Surrey<sup>108</sup>.

The next reference<sup>109</sup> we have is an indenture dated 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1386 between John Brounyng and Alice his wife of the one part, and Elizabeth who was the wife of Roger Clonne of the other part. The said Elizabeth to recover the moieties of the manors of Melbury Osmond and Melbury Sampford, part of the inheritance of the said Alice and Elizabeth, together with the advowsons of the churches of said manors, at the next coming of the Justices of Assize to Dorchester, as one of the daughters and heirs of Johanna, who was the wife of John Mautravers the elder.

We next have a writ<sup>110</sup> for livery dated Feb 19 1385-6 to John Browning and Alice his wife, of a 6<sup>th</sup> part of the barony of Nantwich, descended to them as follows, viz., Joan daughter and heiress of Lawrence de Saundford, Kt., being seized of the said 6<sup>th</sup> part, married John Mautravers, Kt., and by a fine 12 Edw. 3., enfeoffed Master John de Geydon and William de Blorton of the same, who re-enfeoffed the said John and Joan of it for their lives, with remainder to Ralph de Warenne, and Joan his wife, and the heirs of their bodies, and them failing, to the right heirs of Joan wife of John Mautravers ; John and Joan died, seized of the said 6<sup>th</sup> part, whereupon the aforesaid Ralph and Joan entered upon the same, the said Ralph dying without issue, Joan continued her estate in the said sixth part, and married Alan Cheyne, Kt., and by a fine, 27 Edw. 3., passed the said 6<sup>th</sup> part to John de Brunham, parson of the church of Hanmer, and John de Newenham, parson of the church of Chedle, who by fine, 27 Edw. 3., re-enfeoffed of the same, the said Alan and Joan and their heirs, with remainder to the right heirs of the same Joan ; Joan dying without issue, about the Feast of the Assumption of St. Mary, 44 Edw. 3. [15<sup>th</sup> August 1370], Alan enjoyed the said 6<sup>th</sup> part till the morrow of the feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul [28<sup>th</sup> June], when he died, viz., for 14 years, when it descended to Alice wife of John Browning, as daughter and heir of Joan wife of John Mautravers, and sister and heir of Joan wife of Alan.

We next have a feet of fine<sup>111</sup> which shows that John de Brewys of Wiston married Margaret daughter of Thomas Ponynges, knight, lord of St John, sometime prior to 12<sup>th</sup> August 1409. Apparently his first wife Margery Nerford obtained her divorce for Margery Nerford was still living at this time as she made her will on the 30<sup>th</sup> October 1417<sup>112</sup>. Complete Peerage<sup>113</sup> suggests she obtained her legal freedom in 1383 as she was dealing solely with her inheritance at this time.

John de Brewes died on the 29<sup>th</sup> November 1426 and is commemorated<sup>114</sup> on a brass in the south chancel of Wiston. The inquisitions post mortem<sup>115</sup> of John de Brewes taken in 1427, found that he held the manors of Wistnoston, Asshurst, Chiltington, Slaughter, Heene & Erringham in Sussex with appurtenances, the manor of

Wedonhull in Buckinghamshire with appurtenances, in common with Margaret, lately his wife, still surviving, daughter of Thomas Ponynges, knight, lord of St John. And that Beatrix, lately wife of Hugh Shirley, knight, is the sister of the same John Brewys and his nearest heir and that the same John Brewys, named in the said writ, died without an heir of his body existing and that the said Beatrix is sixty years of age and more.

The last reference is two arms depicted in the East window of the Chancel of Wiston Church [see Photographs 1 and 2]. According to Fane Lambarde FSA<sup>116</sup> in his article "Coats of arms in Sussex Churches" one of the arms [Photograph 1] displays the family emblem of de Brewes dexter and the family emblem of de Clifford impaling with the words above it "Pp. Dame Anneys de Br." Lambarde also states that the other arms [Photograph 2] displays the family emblem of de Brewes dexter and the family emblem of Howard impaling with the words above it "Pp. Dame Joh'ne de Br.". At first sight, these arms appear significant, as there were only two generations of the de Brewes family who had occupied the manor of Wiston, namely Peter de Brewes and his son John. Furthermore, the abbreviations Pp. Dame stands for 'priez peur dame' which is Norman French for "Pray for lady....". This could be argued as referring to the lady of the manor.

However, caution should be exercised in relying on Lambarde's conclusion, as the glaziers who reset the windows in the 1930's commented that the inscriptions may not necessarily be linked with the arms they had originally been set with<sup>117</sup>. They commented that there were more inscriptions than fits these two shields, and these were not the only shields in the original windows.

Turning now to Photograph 1, it should be noted that whilst the inscription seems to state "pp dame anneys de br", everything after the y is in a different colour and the lines that the writing sits on don't match. Turning to the shield itself, it should be noted that there is only one small piece of red glass, amongst other spurious glass in that area, which I submit is not enough to prove that it is a fess gules. But even if it did suggest a fess gules it is not possible to determine if the fess was charged with anything, such as fretty (Cheyne), or cinquefoils, lions etc - (Clifford or Capel or Deincourt or Pitchford). On the other hand, if there was no fess gules and the shield was purely checky or and azure then this suggests the shield of the arms of John Warrene, Earl of Surrey. Even so, there's only one piece of blue glass and it's clearly not contemporary with the rest, so we cannot even be certain that it is a checky or and azure.

Turning now to Photograph 2, the inscription seems to state "pp dame johne de br". As to the shield, unfortunately, there is only one piece of red glass, so it seems we cannot say with certainty that the argent bend and the crusily fitchee lie on a background of gules, and as such we cannot say with any certainty that these are the arms of Howard.

Consequently, these windows are not great pieces of evidence and can only be used as indicators for areas for further research.



Fig. 1 showing a shield in a window of the chancel of Wiston chapel. Photograph taken by Doug Thompson 2007.

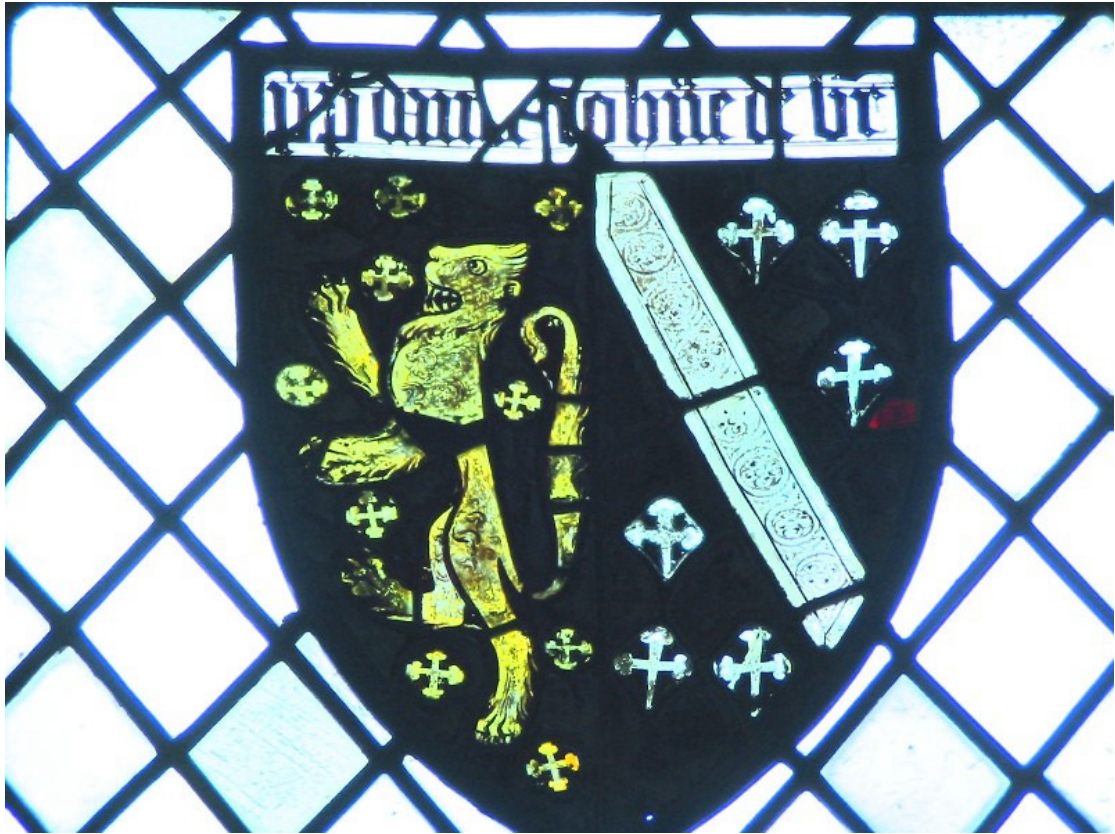


Fig. 2 showing a shield in a window of the chancel of Wiston chapel. Photograph taken by Doug Thompson 2007.

## REVIEW

The references show that Ada Saunford, was born around 1269 and had died by 1331, and she was the sister and heir of Thomas de Saunford who had died by 1299. Thomas was the son and heir of Laurence Saunford and Hawise Corbet. Ada married Walter Foliot and had an heir<sup>118</sup> Joan Foliot who was born around 1305 and who died prior to Feb 1347.

This Joan Foliot married firstly Nicholas Percy around 1312 when she was approximately seven or eight years old. Nicholas Percy died some twelve years later on the 6<sup>th</sup> August 1324. Joan Foliot then married John Mautravers shortly thereafter, probably in the same year 1324 or the next 1325. John Mautravers lived another sixteen years before dying around 1340. Lastly, she married Alexander Venables shortly after April 1340. She had a daughter and coheir by Nicholas Percy named Joan who was born in 1321, and who subsequently married Peter de Brewes. Apparently, she had another daughter Isabell by Nicholas Percy in 1320 but who was presumably dead by 1347. Joan Foliot had two further daughters and coheirs by John Mautravers, one named Alice who was born on 29<sup>th</sup> September 1325, and another, a younger sister, named Elizabeth. Of these daughters of Joan Foliot, only Joan Percy and Alice Mautravers are mentioned in her inquisition post mortem in Cheshire. Joan Foliot apparently had no children by Alexander Venables.

*Evelyn Philip Shirley* in his book *Stemmata Shirleiana* [Westminster, 1841] stated that Peter de Brewes married Joan the daughter of Sir John Weedon of Wedon Hill manor, Buckinghamshire. The basis of this statement seems to be that Peter de Brewes came into possession of Wedon Hill by way of marriage. We have found no authority for this suggestion. Indeed, Weedon Hill was in the possession of Ralph Weedon in 1301<sup>119</sup> and a William de Hynton cousin and heir of Ralph Weedon granted<sup>120</sup> Weedon Hill to Mary (de Brewes) the Countess of Norfolk and Marshall of England and her son John de Cobham in 1349. Mary<sup>121</sup> was the sister of Peter de Brewes of Tettebury and Chesworth. Mary died in 1362<sup>122</sup> and her son and heir John de Cobham subsequently granted<sup>123</sup> in 1363 the same manor to the king who afterwards granted<sup>124</sup> it to John de Cobham for life. The king granted<sup>125</sup> the remainder to Peter de Brewes of Wiston in 1365. We submit there is no basis for this marriage of Peter de Brewes and Joan Weedon.

We now turn to Joan the wife of Alan Cheney, formerly the wife of Ralph Warrene. There are only two references, which directly state the familial relationship between Joan wife of Alan Cheney and Joan Foliot who was in turn the wife of Nicholas Percy, John Mautravers and Alexander Venables. One reference specifically says “...descended to Alice....., as daughter and heir of Joan wife of John Mautravers, and sister and heir of Joan wife of Alan.”<sup>126</sup> It should be noted that in medieval times the term “sister” was also commonly used to refer to “half sister”, as is the case today. Indeed, Alice the daughter of Joan Foliot and John Mautravers and her half sister Joan the daughter of Joan Foliot and Nicholas Percy are referred to as sisters in Joan Foliot’s inquisition post mortem. The other of the two references says “*Joan late the wife of Nicholas de Percy, was the mother of ...Joan wife of Alan Chenye, whose heir she is*”<sup>127</sup>. These two references prima facie infer that Joan wife of Ralph Warrene and Alan Cheney was the daughter of Joan and Nicholas Percy and half sister to



Alice. Thus, we submit that this Joan was the daughter of Nicholas Percy and was born in 1321. She married Ralph Warrene sometime around 1338, and subsequently married Alan Cheney sometime prior to 24<sup>th</sup> October 1352. This Joan died on the 15<sup>th</sup> August 1370 and Alan died fourteen years later on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1384. This is contrary to the conclusion made by Madden, Bandinel, and Nichols in *Collectanea Topographica Et Genealogica*<sup>128</sup>. However, they were apparently unaware of Joan Foliot's first marriage to Nicholas Percy, and they erroneously made this Joan the daughter of Joan Foliot and John Mautravers. Complete Peerage and F.N. Craig, apparently perpetuated this error.

On the other hand, we also have numerous references to a daughter of Nicholas Percy named Joan being married to Peter de Brewes from about 1342 to 1352. There are two possible solutions to this apparent contradiction. The first scenario is that Joan Foliot and Nicholas Percy had two daughters named Joan. In medieval times, the practice of giving a child the same name as a living elder brother or sister was not remotely common. The practice appears to be have limited to where the elder one had died or they were half brother or sister, which was not the situation in this case.

The only remaining viable solution to this apparent contradiction is that Joan Foliot had only one daughter named Joan. Specifically, Joan Foliot had by Nicholas Percy a daughter named Joan who married Ralph Warrene around 1338 who latter died sometime prior to 1342, whence she married Peter de Brewes who divorced her sometime between 27<sup>th</sup> January 1352 and 24<sup>th</sup> October 1352, after which she had married Alan Cheney. This is supported by the fact that Peter de Brewes in 1349 temporarily held the manor of Skeyton of Norfolk, presumably on behalf of his wife Joan as her dower from her first husband Ralph Warrene. As mentioned earlier the aforementioned references indicate that Ralph Warrene was the illegitimate son of John Warrene, Earl of Surrey, and his mistress Maud Nerford. Whilst we do not have any specific evidence as to the date of death of this Ralph, he appears to have died sometime before 1346 for at this time his brother Edward was in sole possession of Skeyton. Furthermore, he is not mentioned in his father's will of 1347 whereas his brother Edward is mentioned. In further support, there is evidence of disputes between Alan Cheney and Peter de Brewes around the period 1352. In one dispute, Peter de Brewese complained that Alan Cheney and others broke into his houses at Chesham Boys, co, Buckingham and carried away his goods. It may be speculated that the goods in question were those of Joan, the former wife of Peter and now the wife of Alan Cheney. Another dispute resulted in Peter de Brewes losing the properties in Cheshire to Alan Cheney and Joan his wife. Peter de Brewes did retain Whiteford, but he did so through a series of complex transactions with the king. Peter de Brewes was finally holding Whiteford on his own with a trustee sometime prior to July 1355, after which he divested himself of it in 1356. Thus from this date Peter de Brewes and his subsequent heirs held no interest in the properties of his former wife Joan Percy.

Indeed this solution may answer the question of how Peter de Brewes and Joan his wife came into possession of the manor of Whiteford *before* the death of her mother Joan Foliot. By virtue of the fine<sup>129</sup> of 1312, Joan the wife of Peter de Brewes and daughter of Nicholas Percy and his wife Joan Foliot, was entitled to the possession of the manor of Whiteford, co. Devon upon the death of her mother Joan Foliot. But it should be noted that Joan Foliot did not die until 1347 and Peter de Brewes and Joan

his wife were already in possession of the manor in 1342. According to the fine of 1338, Joan Foliot and her then husband John Mautravers sub-feudated the manor of Whiteford to Ralph Warrena and Joan his wife for a nominal service. It is thus proposed that after Ralph's death sometime prior to 1342 his wife then married Peter de Brewes and as such Peter held the manor in the right of his wife. According to this fine his tenure was in effect only a life interest with a reversion to John Mautravers and Joan his wife and her heirs quit of any other heirs of Ralph and Joan. This wording of this reversion was ambiguous and potentially may have had the effect of disinheriting the heirs of Peter de Brewes and Joan his wife if there were any, contrary to that intended by the fine of 1312. Presumably, to safeguard their interest Peter de Brewes and Joan his wife conveyed the manor to the king in 1344 who a couple of years later in 1346 granted by special grace the manor back to Peter de Brewes and Joan his wife and their heirs to hold in chief. Sometime later in early 1352 Peter de Brewes and his wife Joan again conveyed the manor to the king who in turn regranted it in 1355 to Peter de Brewes and Robert Daunz, chaplain, and their heirs. It is believed Peter de Brewes divorced his wife in the latter half of 1352. Peter de Brewes and Robert Daunz sold this manor to the Courtney family in 1356. It wasn't until Joan's death in 1370 that the reversion of the fine of 1338 came into effect and Joan's half sisters Alice and Elizabeth put in a claim against the Courtney family. Alice and Elizabeth then released any right they had in the manor in return for 200 marks of silver each.

As to the descent of the manor of Melbury Saunford, co. Dorset, the circumstances were slightly different. This manor was also the subject of the aforesaid fine of 1312. By virtue of this fine, the aforesaid Joan Percy the wife of Peter de Brewes, was likewise entitled to the possession of the manor of Melbury Saunford upon the death of her mother Joan Foliot. However, apparently Joan Foliot and her husband John Mautravers conveyed this manor to trustees who in 1338 conveyed it back to them for the term of their life, with remainder to Ralph de Warrenna and Joan his wife and the heirs of the same Ralph procreated of the body of the Joan, and remainder to the right heirs of Joan wife of John Mautravers. After the death of Joan Foliot in 1347 (her husband John Mautravers having predeceased her) her son-in-law Peter de Brewes took possession of Melbury Saunford on behalf of his wife Joan Percy, who we submit was the former wife of Ralph de Warrenna. What is unusual but not all that uncommon about this descent is that Peter de Brewes and Joan Percy and their heirs, would have had rights to this manor by virtue of both the fine of 1312 and the fine of 1338. However, if our submission is correct that Peter de Brewes divorced his wife Joan Percy without any heirs by her, then he would have had no rights at all to this manor after the divorce. This is in agreement with the historical record, where afterwards the aforesaid Joan and her subsequent husband Alan Cheyne were recorded as being in possession of the manor Melbury Saunford.

There remains of course the descent of the 1/6<sup>th</sup> part of the barony of Wich-Malbank in Cheshire. The relevant fines appear to be two fines in 1338 and two fines in 1354. In 1338, apparently Joan Foliot and her husband John Mautravers conveyed by fine this manor to two trustees John de Gaydon and William de Blorton who in turn conveyed it back by fine to Joan Foliot and her husband John Mautravers for the term of their life, with remainder to Ralph de Warrenne, and Joan his wife, and the heirs of their bodies, and, them failing, to the right heirs of the said Joan, wife of the aforesaid John Mautravers. Subsequently, in 1354 Joan and her husband Alan Cheyne, Kt.

conveyed by fine the 6<sup>th</sup> part to John de Brunham, parson of the church of Hanmer, and John de Newenham, parson of the church of Chedle, who again conveyed by fine the same to said Alan and Joan and their heirs, with remainder to the right heirs of the same Joan. It is stated in the Recognizance Rolls of Chester in 1385/86 that *John Mautravers and Joan died, seized of the said 6th part, whereupon the aforesaid Ralph and Joan entered upon the same, the said Ralph dying without issue, Joan continued her estate in the said sixth part, and married Alan Cheyne, Kt.* This is not strictly correct, for other records clearly show that after the death of John Mautravers, Joan gave all her lands and tenements she held in Cheshire in her widowhood to Alexander Venables by means of a charter in April 1340. She subsequently married Alexander Venables and died in 1347. It seems no licence was obtained for this alienation and the escheator for Cheshire caused the 1/6<sup>th</sup> part of the barony to be seised into the hand of the lord the earl. In 1349, Peter de Brewes and Joan his wife paid a fine to the escheator and the aforesaid 1/6<sup>th</sup> part of the barony were delivered to them. If we are correct that Peter de Brewes divorced his wife Joan in 1352 without any heirs by her, then he would have had no rights at all to this part of the barony after the divorce. This is in agreement with the historical record, where in 1354 we have the aforesaid Joan and her subsequent husband Alan Cheyne dealing with the barony.

It would be remiss of me not to consider in detail F.N. Craig's proposal that there were two Joans. Namely, there was one Joan who was the daughter of Nicholas Percy and who was married to Peter de Brewes, and there was another Joan who was the daughter of John Mautravers and who was married firstly to Ralph Warrena and subsequently Alan Cheyne. Whilst the fines of 1338 appear to infer that the aforesaid Joan wife of Ralph Warrena was the daughter of John Mautravers, it should be emphasized there is no evidence whatsoever specifically stating that John Mautravers had a daughter named Joan by his wife Joan Foliot. Indeed, the aforementioned evidence stating the familial relationships between the parties in question prima facie contradicts this proposal. It should also be noted that Alice was the eldest child of John Mautravers born of Joan Foliot. This raises the question why the alleged Joan Mautravers as a younger sister was preferred to Alice Mautravers as the recipient of the estate of Joan Foliot. In addition, *if* Craig's proposal was correct it would seem that after the death of Joan [the wife of Ralph Warrene, Alan Cheyne and daughter of Joan Foliot] in 1370 without any heirs of her body, then according to the feet of fines of 1338 her estates in Dorset and Cheshire should have descended to her coheirs John de Brewes the son of Joan her sister and wife of Peter de Brewes, Alice her sister, and Elizabeth her sister. But we have found no evidence suggesting John de Brewes made a claim to these estates. Also, if Craig's proposal is correct this raises the question why Peter de Brewes was in possession of the manor of Skeyton instead of Alan Cheyne. Furthermore, his proposal does not explain why Peter de Brewes was in possession of the manor of Whiteford instead of Ralph and/or Alan Cheney. This raises serious doubts concerning the validity of Craig's proposal.

Shortly after in 1357, Peter de Brewes and a wife of his named Joan purchased the manor of Wiston in Sussex. Thus in view of the foregoing, Peter de Brewes had by 1357 married again to another Joan. A hint of the identity of this Joan may be found in the chapel of the Wiston manor, where one window displays an ancient shield consisting of what appears to be the family emblems of de Brewes dexter and Howard sinister with the words above it "Pp. Dame Joh'ne de Brewes." In addition to this, we have a series of references in 1378 relating to the abduction of Margery Nerford by

John de Brewes [the son of the aforesaid Peter de Brewes], Robert Howard, Thomas Howard and others to prevent Margery from appealing her divorce from John de Brewes. As the de Brewes family occupied Wiston for only two generations, it is most likely that Joan Howard married either Peter or John. Furthermore, in an Inquisition post mortem dated 1374, on Alice late the wife of John Howard knight, mention is made of Alice in 1369 enfeoffing Peter de Brewes knight and others of the manors of Garboldecham, Uphalle Norfolk. The inquisition post mortem found that Robert Howard her son aged 30 was her next heir. This seems to suggest that Joan Howard was from the family of Alice Howard and was probably a daughter and married into the de Brewes family sometime in the period during or after 1352. It is unlikely that Joan Howard married John de Brewes as he was already married to Margery Nerford in 1378 and most likely was his intended since 1363, when Peter de Brewes was granted guardianship of Margery Nerford. Whilst the foregoing is circumstantial evidence that Joanne Howard married Peter de Brewes, it should be remembered there is no evidence so far that I have found, specifically stating that Peter did marry Joan Howard and that Alice and John Howard had a daughter named Joan.

Summarising, I submit that, Peter de Brewes firstly married around 1342 Joan Percy, who was the former wife of Ralph Warren. Peter de Brewes subsequently divorced his wife in 1352 and then married his next wife Joan Howard who died during Michaelmas 1369/70. Subsequently, Peter de Brewes died in late 1378<sup>130</sup>.

Turning now to the maternity of John de Brewes, we find that he was of age when he entered the manor of Wiston at the death of his father in 1378. This makes John de Brewes as being born on or before 1357. Thus in view of the foregoing it is proposed that he was the son of Joan Howard the second wife of Peter de Brewes. Specifically, we submit we can exclude Joan Percy as his mother, as there is no evidence he laid claim to her estates, as he would be entitled to if he were her son. Furthermore, the references show John de Brewes had close associations with Robert Howard. As to the maternity of Beatrix de Brewes, we find from the inquisition post mortem on John de Brewes that she was born around 1367. Thus it is proposed that she was also the child of Joan Howard, the second wife of Peter de Brewes.

## **Acknowledgements**

I wish to thank Chris Phillips for his help in obtaining a number of these references. As I reside in Australia many thousands of kilometres from the main depositories, Chris' help has been greatly appreciated. I also wish to thank Doug Thompson as a contributor to my thought processes and his help in obtaining references and translating.

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<sup>1</sup> Collectanea Topographica Et Genealogica; By Frederic Madden, Bulkeley Bandinel, John Gough Nichols 6:339

<sup>2</sup> Collectanea Topographica Et Genealogica; By Frederic Madden, Bulkeley Bandinel, John Gough Nichols 6:335

<sup>3</sup> F.N. Craig, The New England Register, 142[1988]: p241

<sup>4</sup> F.N. Craig, The New England Register, 150[1996]: p315-324 Table 5

<sup>5</sup> Complete Peerage Volume 8 page 580,581

<sup>6</sup> Complete Peerage Volume 8 page 580,581

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- <sup>7</sup> National Archives [CHES 3/1](#); Your Archives CHES 3/1
- <sup>8</sup> Hutchins, Dorset, vol ii, p657, vol iii, p315.
- <sup>9</sup> CIPM 3:392
- <sup>10</sup> page 240, "Maternal Ancestry of Governor Thomas Dudley: Purefoy, Ayot, and Denton Lines" by F.N. Craig; July 1988, The New England Historical and Genealogical Register
- <sup>11</sup> *ibid*
- <sup>12</sup> Cal. Close Rolls, Edward II, 1:418
- <sup>13</sup> Feudal Aids 1:365
- <sup>14</sup> Collectanea Topographica Et Genealogica By Frederic Madden, Bulkeley Bandinel, John Gough Nichols 6:334-361
- <sup>15</sup> *ibid*
- <sup>16</sup> *History of Cheshire* (2nd edn, 1882) by George Ormerod citing (Plea Rolls 4 & 5 Edw. 11 m 32 d)
- <sup>17</sup> Collectanea Topographica Et Genealogica By Frederic Madden, Bulkeley Bandinel, John Gough Nichols 6:334-361
- <sup>18</sup> Hutchins - History of Dorset Vol 4:438.
- <sup>19</sup> Collectanea Topographica Et Genealogica By Frederic Madden, Bulkeley Bandinel, John Gough Nichols 6:334-361
- <sup>20</sup> CP 1321-1324:40; CP 1321-1324:164-165; CP 1321-1324:165
- <sup>21</sup> Complete Peerage Vol 8, page 580; King Edward II: Edward of Caernarfon, His Life, His Reign, and its Aftermath, 1284-1330 by Roy Martin. Haines
- <sup>22</sup> CIM 2:205,206
- <sup>23</sup> *ibid*
- <sup>24</sup> page 240, "Maternal Ancestry of Governor Thomas Dudley: Purefoy, Ayot, and Denton Lines" by F.N. Craig; Volume 150 July 1996, The New England Historical and Genealogical Register
- <sup>25</sup> CIPM 7:2
- <sup>26</sup> Cal Inquisition Miscellaneous Vol 2: p174
- <sup>27</sup> Cal. Close Rolls, Edward II, 4:241
- <sup>28</sup> CIPM 7:200
- <sup>29</sup> Completer Peerage vol 8;580-581.
- <sup>30</sup> History of Dorset - Hutchins 2:656
- <sup>31</sup> 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records By Great Britain Public Record Office p508; [10 & 11 Edw. 3. m. 2 d. (4).]
- <sup>32</sup> 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records By Great Britain Public Record Office; p508; [12 & 13 Edw. 3. m. 1 (4).]
- <sup>33</sup> Cal. Pat. Rolls, Edward III 3:445
- <sup>34</sup> Devon Feet of Fines. Volume 2. 1 Edward I-43 Edward III. 1272-1369. Rev. Oswald J. Reichel, Lieut.-Colonel F. B. Prideaux and H. Tapley-Soper. (Devon and Cornwall Record Society; Exeter, 1939), page 306
- <sup>35</sup> Collectanea Topographica Et Genealogica By Frederic Madden, Bulkeley Bandinel, John Gough Nichols 6:334-361
- <sup>36</sup> CP 1340-1343:511
- <sup>37</sup> History of Dorset - Hutchins 2:656
- <sup>38</sup> Feudal Aids Vol 2 p 55.
- <sup>39</sup> CCH 1341-1417 page 10
- <sup>40</sup> CF 1337-1347:378,379
- <sup>41</sup> CC 1343-1346:450,451,474
- <sup>42</sup> CF 1337-1347:412, 416; CIM 1345:486,487
- <sup>43</sup> CP 1345-1348:124, 168; Feudal Aids 1:428
- <sup>44</sup> CP 1345-1348:124, 168
- <sup>45</sup> CCH 1341-1417 p51
- <sup>46</sup> SAC 53:144; 54:146
- <sup>47</sup> National Archives [CHES 3/1](#); Your Archives CHES 3/1
- <sup>48</sup> Date of the Inquiry illegible
- <sup>49</sup> It is not possible to directly determine the date of Alice's birth due to the fact the date of the inquiry is illegible. However, it is possible to indirectly determine her birthdate with reference to the first inquiry as her sister's Joan age is given as the same in both inquiries.
- <sup>50</sup> National Archives [CHES 3/1](#); Your Archives CHES 3/1
- <sup>51</sup> *ibid*.
- <sup>52</sup> CP 1340-1343:511

- <sup>53</sup> Collectanea Topographica Et Genealogica By Frederic Madden, Bulkeley Bandinel, John Gough Nichols 6:339
- <sup>54</sup> Feudal Aid Volume 2 p55.
- <sup>55</sup> Feudal Aid Volume 2 p78; p55.
- <sup>56</sup> Feudal Aid Volume 2 p104,108.
- <sup>57</sup> History of Dorset - Hutchins 2:681.
- <sup>58</sup> Accounts of the chamberlains and other officers of the county of Chester, 1301-1360 : (from the original rolls preserved in the Public Record Office, London) Record Society for the Publication of Original Documents relating to Lancashire and Cheshire. [Publications], v. 59 [year 1910]. p154
- <sup>59</sup> CP 1348-1350:451,452
- <sup>60</sup> Complete Peerage Vol 12 p 511.
- <sup>61</sup> Test. Ebor. Vol 1 p 41.
- <sup>62</sup> History of Cheshire by Omerod, vol iii p.680,682; Complete Peerage Vol 12 part 1 p511 note k.
- <sup>63</sup> Blomefield, History of Norfolk 3 (1769) page 609
- <sup>64</sup> Watson, John. Memoirs of the ancient earls of Warren and Surrey, and their descendants to the present time. By the Rev. John Watson, 1782, vol 2 p91
- <sup>65</sup> Blomefield History of Norfolk 3 (1769) page 604
- <sup>66</sup> Watson, John. Memoirs of the ancient earls of Warren and Surrey, and their descendants to the present time. By the Rev. John Watson, 1782, vol 2 p91
- <sup>67</sup> ibid.
- <sup>68</sup> Calendar of Patent Rolls Edward III Vol 7 Page 16
- <sup>69</sup> Feudal Aids Vol 3 Page 485, 483, 539
- <sup>70</sup> Devon Feet of Fines. Volume 2. 1 Edward I-43 Edward III. 1272-1369. Rev. Oswald J. Reichel, Lieut.-Colonel F. B. Prideaux and H. Tapley-Soper. (Devon and Cornwall Record Society; Exeter, 1939), page 346 citing Devon fine No. 1422
- <sup>71</sup> CP 1350-1354:337; CC 1349-1354:455
- <sup>72</sup> Register of Edward, the Black Prince, Preserved in the Public record Office, Volume 3, page 79; The original document at the National Archives E 36/279 states “....*Alexandre de Venables jadis baroun Johane feut la femme Nichol de Percy miere l’avantditz Johane femme le dito Aleyn qi heire ele est...*”
- <sup>73</sup> CP 1350-1354:200
- <sup>74</sup> The Black Prince's Register 1353:101
- <sup>75</sup> CP 1354-1358:271; CP 1354-1358 p 274.
- <sup>76</sup> CP 1354-1358:466,460
- <sup>77</sup> CC 1354-1360:325-326; CIPM 15:308; CC 1392:442
- <sup>78</sup> Devon Feet of Fines. Volume 2. 1 Edward I-43 Edward III. 1272-1369. Rev. Oswald J. Reichel, Lieut.-Colonel F. B. Prideaux and H. Tapley-Soper. (Devon and Cornwall Record Society; Exeter, 1939), page 395 citing Devon fine No. 1444
- <sup>79</sup> CP 1354-1358:543
- <sup>80</sup> CP 1354-1358:651
- <sup>81</sup> Sussex Archaeological Collections Vol 53: p144; Vol54: p146.
- <sup>82</sup> Collectanea Topographica Et Genealogica By Frederic Madden, Bulkeley Bandinel, John Gough Nichols 6:334-361; Hutchins - History of Dorset 2:656
- <sup>83</sup> CP 1364-1367:127
- <sup>84</sup> Reference: D-X787/8, Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies: Small accessions 701-800, (<http://www.a2a.org.uk>)
- <sup>85</sup> SAC 53:144; 54:146
- <sup>86</sup> The website [www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk](http://www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk) citing CP 25/1/44/60, number 380.
- <sup>87</sup> Collectanea Topographica Et Genealogica By Frederic Madden, Bulkeley Bandinel, John Gough Nichols 6:334-361; Hutchins - History of Dorset 2:656
- <sup>88</sup> Collectanea Topographica Et Genealogica By Frederic Madden, Bulkeley Bandinel, John Gough Nichols 6:334-361, Hutchins - History of Dorset 2:656
- <sup>89</sup> The website [www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk](http://www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk) citing CP 25/1/44/61, number 406.
- <sup>90</sup> CIPM 13:267
- <sup>91</sup> Cartulary of Missenden Abbey, No. 912. fo.I98., Vol 12 Buckinghamshire Record Society Vol 12
- <sup>92</sup> CF 1377-1383:153
- <sup>93</sup> CP 1396-1398:319
- <sup>94</sup> SAC 53:144; 54:146

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- <sup>95</sup> Wiston Account Roll Michaelmas to Michaelmas (29 Sept to 29 Sept)1379/1380 SAC 53:144; 54:146
- <sup>96</sup> Wiston Account Roll Michaelmas to Michaelmas (29 Sept to 29 Sept) 1385/86 SAC 53:144; 54:146
- <sup>97</sup> National archives C139/29
- <sup>98</sup> CP 1345-1348: p168
- <sup>99</sup> George Wrottesley, "Crecy and Calais" in Collections for a History of Staffordshire, edited by the William Salt Archaeological Society, 18[1897]
- <sup>100</sup> CP 1345-1348:435; CP1348-1350:192, 272, 342;CP 1350-1354: 141;CP 1354-1358: 136-137; CP 1364-1367:441
- <sup>101</sup> CP 1377-1381 :184
- <sup>102</sup> CP 1343-1345:538
- <sup>103</sup> CP 1345-1348: 168
- <sup>104</sup> Archaeologica Vol 31: 117 Observations on the order of the garter
- <sup>105</sup> The Royal Household and the Kings Affinity, Chris Given-Wilson, p160 and Appendix IV
- <sup>106</sup> SC 8/18/889; CP 1377-1381:260; 299;301;307,308,309,311,374  
CC 1377-1381:222,223; The Parliament Rolls of Medieval England by SDE
- <sup>107</sup> CP 1364-1367:409; CIPM 11:429,430
- <sup>108</sup> Complete Peerage, vol 9 pages 469 to 472; Select cases before the King's Council 1243 – 1482 Edited by Selden Society, pages 28,29; Blomefield vi, page 230; the last reference cited on <http://www.british-history.ac.uk>
- <sup>109</sup> Collectanea Topographica Et Genealogica By Frederic Madden, Bulkeley Bandinel, John Gough Nichols 6:334-361
- <sup>110</sup> 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records By Great Britain Public Record Office No. 1--Welsh Records : Recognizance Rolls of Chester, p62, -- citing [9& 10 Ric. II m. 2 d. (1).]
- <sup>111</sup> National archives C139/29
- <sup>112</sup> Complete Peerage Vol 9 p471n.
- <sup>113</sup> ibid
- <sup>114</sup> SAC Vol 80 p143
- <sup>115</sup> National archives C139/29
- <sup>116</sup> Sussex Arch Coll Vol 72 (1931). p.230
- <sup>117</sup> Sussex Record Office, Miscellaneous Records.
- <sup>118</sup> It should be noted that whilst, the inquisition post mortem of Ada de Saunford states that her next heir is Joan, the wife of John Mautravers, it gives no hint of the relationship between them. Of all the aforementioned references, two refer to Ada as being the aunt of Joan wife of Peter de Brewes, and one refers to Ada as being the grandmother of Joan wife of Peter de Brewes. The latter must be the correct scenario as it fits chronologically. For if the former scenario was correct, this would make Ada's heir and supposedly sister Joan who according to Ada's inquisition post mortem was born in 1305 being the daughter of Laurence Saunford who was dead by 1271, which is not possible. Furthermore Ada was the sole heir of her brother Thomas when he died in 1299. In further support of this conclusion, it should be noted "Nepta" can mean "niece" or "granddaughter" and has probably been misinterpreted at some stage.
- <sup>119</sup> CIPM 4:41
- <sup>120</sup> CC 1349-1354:89,90
- <sup>121</sup> Complete Peerage Volume 9 page 598.
- <sup>122</sup> CIPM 11:305-314
- <sup>123</sup> CC 1360-1364:528,529
- <sup>124</sup> CP 1364 p479
- <sup>125</sup> CP 1364-1367:127
- <sup>126</sup> 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records By Great Britain Public Record Office No. 1--Welsh Records : Recognizance Rolls of Chester, p62, -- citing [9& 10 Ric. II m. 2 d. (1).]
- <sup>127</sup> Register of Edward, the Black Prince, Preserved in the Public record Office; page 79
- <sup>128</sup> Collectanea Topographica Et Genealogica; By Frederic Madden, Bulkeley Bandinel, John Gough Nichols 6:339
- <sup>129</sup> A fine is a fictitious suit enabling the conveyance of hereditary estates between parties, which is so called because it puts an end to not only to the suit thus commenced but also to all other suits and controversies concerning the matter. The ancient common law with respect to fines is set out the statute of 18 Edw. I., in these words: " And the reason, why such solemnity is required " in the passing

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of a fine, is this: because the fine is so high " a bar, and of so great force, and of a nature so powerful " in itself, that it precludes not only those which are parties and privies to the fine, and their heirs, but all other persons in the world, who are of full age, out of prison, of sound memory, and within the four seas, the day of the fine levied; unless they put in their claim on the foot of the fine within a year and a day." But this doctrine, of barring the right by non-claim, was abolished for a time by a statute made in 34 Edw. III. c. 16, which admitted persons to claim and falsify a fine, at any indefinite distance; whereby, great contention arose, and few men were sure of their possessions, till the parliament, held in 4 Hen. VII., reformed that mischief, and excellently moderated between the latitude given by the statute and the rigour of the common law. For the statute then made, restored the doctrine of non-claim ; but extended the time of claim to five years. There were then four methods of claiming, so as to avoid being precluded by a fine: 1. By action; 2. By entering such claim on the record at the *foot* of the fine; 3. By entry; and 4. By continual claim.

Reference: p 353 Vol. 2 "Commentaries on the Laws of England: In Four Books : with an Analysis of the Work" By William Blackstone, John Eykyn Hovenden, Archer Ryland, William Blackstone Collection (Library of Congress) Published by S. Sweet, 1836

<sup>130</sup> We refer to the Missenden Abbey grant of 1378 [see n. 91]. My interpretation of this grant is that Peter was granted fraternity and that prayers are to be said for his soul after his death and for Joan's soul (who is already dead). If this interpretation is incorrect, then Peter de Brewes was possibly married a third time to still another Joan.