



Coroners Bills 1752-1796

Bishops Cannings

County coroners were introduced in England in around 1194 once established other boroughs and liberties sought the right to have their own coroner. Often in Medieval times the coroner also assumed the role of the sheriff and his duties weren't limited to holding inquests on dead bodies although almost a full time post they were unpaid for the duties apart from those that were deemed murder or manslaughter when they would receive 13s. 4d. From the 24th June 1752 a law was passed allowing the coroner to claim £1 for every inquest they attended not held in a gaol and also to claim 9d per mile travel allowance from the place of residence. Inquests held in any gaol were performed at a rate totalling no more than £1. These costs were to be paid from the county rates. In cases of homicide the coroner also received the former fee of 13s. 4d. The coroners submitted their bills at the quarter session sittings for approval.

Year	Date	Surname	Given Names	Coroner		Details of Inquest	Place of Inquest	No. of Miles Travelled	Coroners Bill			Notes
				Surname	Given Names				£	s	d	
1772	11-Aug	Cains	Hugh	Clare	William	Found dead in a ground	Bishops Cannings	3	1	2	3	
1772	05-Feb	Cooper	Solomon	Clare	William	Died in the deep snow returning home from Calne	Bishops Cannings, Shepherds Shore	4	1	3	0	
1757	15-	Doust	John	Clare	John	Found dead in a barn; No marks of	Bishops Cannings	3	1	2	3	

	Nov					violence; Accidental Death						
1770	13-Oct	Etwal	William	Clare	John	Died on 13th October; Fell downstairs and was killed	Bishops Cannings	3	1	2	3	
1766	21-Dec	Higgins	Edward	Clare	John	Found dead in the Bishops Cannings to Devizes Road; No marks of violence; Severe weather	Bishops Cannings	3	1	2	3	
1754	24-Sep	King	William	Clare	John	Killed by a waggon	Bishops Cannings	2	1	1	6	
1762	11-Jan	Mabbot	John	Clare	John	Killed by a stone-quarry falling in upon him	Bishops Cannings	3	1	2	3	
1768	24-Mar	Milsam	Joseph	Clare	John	Killed by a horse dragging him in a stirrup	Bishops Cannings	3	1	2	3	
1760	12-Mar	Offer	John	Clare	John	Found dead in a barn; No marks of violence; Accidental Death	Bishops Cannings	3	1	2	3	
1773	28-Sep	Rogers	Robert	Clare	William	Inadvertently drank 4 half-pints of strong spiritous liquor called gin, of which he died	Bishops Cannings	3	1	2	3	
1769	05-Jun	Webb	James	Clare	John	Fell into a pond and was drowned	Bishops Cannings	2	1	1	6	