



Coroners Bills 1752-1796

Bradford-on-Avon

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	
1771	27-May	Andrews	George	Clare	William	Died On 25th May fell into the Avon and was drowned	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1764	17-Dec	Baker	John	Clare	John	Drowned in or near the Avon; accidental death	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	Late of Devizes
1754	16-Sep	Barton	John	Clare	John	Died on 15th September; Hanged himself; lunacy	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	

1753	06-Sep	Beal	George	Clare	John	Died on 5th July; Accidentally killed when his gun went off	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	Gentleman
1771	14-Aug	Beaumont	George	Clare	William	On 12th August crushed to death by the fall of a very large stone in a quarry belonging to the Duke of Kingston Upon Hull; Crushed to death	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1761	31-Oct	Bennet	Thomas	Clare	John	Died on 30th October; Pecked headlong into a tub of water and was drowned	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1757	29-Mar	Chapman	Elizabeth	Clare	John	Fell into the Avon and was drowned	Bradford-on-Avon, Belcombe Brook Meadow	13	1	9	9	
1772	28-Nov	Chapman	Richard	Clare	William	Found dead in a ground; being weak and infirm, rambled from his home in tempestuous weather	Bradford-on-Avon	13	1	9	9	
1766	16-Nov	Clarke	Ambrose	Clare	John	Fell into the Avon and was drowned	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1760	21-Jan	Coles	John	Clare	John	Fell into a quarry-pit nearly 50 feet deep	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1770	13-Aug	Dory	Thomas	Clare	John	Went into the Avon to bathe and was drowned	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1772	14-Apr	Fennell	John	Clare	William	As imagined, trying to get into a boat on the Avon, fell into the river and was drowned	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1759	17-Apr	Ferris	Richard	Clare	John	Murdered by his brother John Ferris	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	At Salisbury Assizes on 28th July 1759 John, charged with Richard's murder on both the indictment and the inquest, was

													convicted of manslaughter and was sentenced to be burnt on the hand
1769	10-Jan	Grant	Unknown	Clare	John	Male infant bastard; found dead in the arms of its mother, Mary Grant, single woman; it died a natural death and not by any violence done it by Mary	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0		
1760	23-Mar	Green	William	Clare	John	Fell out a boat into the Avon and was drowned	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0		
1772	01-Oct	Green	William	Clare	William	Threw himself into a well and drowned himself; Lunacy	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0		
1758	22-Mar	Gulliver	William	Clare	John	Received a blow on the left side of his head which fractured his skull and occasioned his death; John Gulliver, a kinsman, threw a stick at a horse and by chance it glanced over the horse's nose and struck William; Accidental Homicide	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	At Salisbury Assizes, 15 July 1758, John was acquitted of William's murder on the indictment	
1762	09-Jan	Harding	Charles	Clare	John	Aged 2; Drowned in the Avon; Accidental death	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0		
1173	28-May	Hathaway	John	Clare	William	Found dead in Hay Lane; Natural Death	Bradford-on-Avon, Hay Farm	15	1	11	3		
1774	03-Jun	Hawkins	Henry	Clare	William	Thrown from his horse in the Avon and drowned	Bradford-on-Avon	13	1	9	9		
1753	19-Nov	Hibberd	Sarah	Clare	John	Fell into a fire and was burnt to death	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0		
1774	21-Mar	Hornham	Mary	Clare	William	Fell into the water at Trowle Bridge and was carried into the Biss	Bradford-on-Avon	13	1	9	9		

1772	11-Sep	Hudd	James	Clare	William	Aged under 3; Found drowned in a ditch	Bradford-on-Avon, Ford Lane	12	1	9	0	
1760	04-Jan	Marks	Samuel	Clare	John	Found dead in a stable belonging to Mr. John Balward of Bradford; No marks of violence; Accidental death	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1763	11-Mar	Milsam	Thomas	Clare	John	Rambled into the Avon and was drowned; Accidental death	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1759	24-Jul	Moody	John	Clare	John	Drowned in the Avon; accidental death	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1772	18-Dec	Newton	William	Clare	William	Fell out of a store-room upon the floor of a workshop belonging to Mr. Francis Yerbury, of which he languished and died	Bradford-on-Avon	13	1	9	9	
1757	27-Jan	Rakes	Ann	Clare	John	Cut her throat; lunacy	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1773	08-Feb	Roberts	Mary	Clare	William	In the night fell with great violence from top of a high staircase onto a stone pavement which fractured her skull	Bradford-on-Avon	15	1	9	9	
1764	07-Oct	Rudman	John	Clare	John	Killed by a fall from of a tree	Bradford-on-Avon, Fort Farm	13	1	9	9	
1759	04-Mar	Saunders	William	Clare	John	A mark of violence appeared on the right side of his head near the temple He died of that hurt which he received the day before by falling out of a hayloft	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1768	01-Jul	Selfe	Jane	Clare	John	Aged 2; Fell into a tub of water and was drowned	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	

1763	07-Apr	Silby	Benjamin	Clare	John	Suffocated in a tub of scalding wort	Bradford-on-Avon, Great Trowle	13	1	9	9	
1763	22-Mar	Smart	Mary	Clare	John	Found dead in Thomas Flemings house; no marks of violence; Apoplexy	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1767	07-Aug	Smith	John	Clare	John	Crushed to death by a waggon going over his head	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1760	09-Feb	Smith	Unknown	Clare	John	A male infant bastard, supposed to be born of the body of Sarah Smith of Bradford-on-Avon; Still-born and not at its full time	Chippenham	10	1	7	6	
1767	05-Jun	Strawbridge		Clare	John	A female infant bastard, which Ann Strawbridge, late of Bradford-on-Avon, single woman brought forth alive and afterwards threw into a great bunch of nettles where it lay for some hours and was stung to death.; Murder	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	At Salisbury Assizes on 1st August 1767 Ann was convicted of the murder on the indictment and sentenced to be hanged
1766	03-Aug	Symms	Richard	Clare	John	On 2nd August fell into a necessary or bog-hole and was suffocated	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1773	18-Oct	Thrush	Adam	Clare	William	Adjourned until 26th October; Killed by his son-in-law, Isaac Harvey, who threw a stone and fractured his skull; manslaughter	Bradford-on-Avon	26	1	19	6	
1772	09-Jun	Tovey	Daniel	Clare	William	Drowned in the Avon	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1755	28-Aug	Ward	John	Clare	John	Accidently drowned in the Avon	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	

1762	27-Dec	Webb	Samuel	Clare	John	Killed by a fall from a ladder	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1762	09-Jan	West	Ann	Clare	John	Fell into the Avon and was drowned	Bradford-on-Avon	12	1	9	0	
1774	03-Jun	White	Samuel	Clare	William	Aged Under 6; Killed by a violent fracture to his skull caused by the wheel bar of a chaise running against him.	Bradford-on-Avon	0	1	0	0	