



## Coroners Bills 1752-1796

### Brinkworth

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	
1752	29-Aug	Hale	William	Waylen	William	Infant	Brinkworth	20	1	15	0	
1765	01-Oct	Hayward	William	Clare	John	Aged 3; Playing with some other children by the side of a pond; Fell into a pond and was drowned	Brinkworth	18	1	13	6	

1764	09-Nov	Matthews	Thomas	Clare	John	Fell into a pond and was drowned	Brinkworth	18	1	13	6	
1755	30-Jul	Preddy	Anthony	Clare	John	Accidentally drowned in a ditch	Brinkworth	20	1	15	0	
1753	11-May	Selman	William	Clare	John	Accidental Death	Brinkworth	20	1	15	0	
1763	21-Jan	Vizard		Clare	John	Female Infant, which Sarah Vizard of Brinkworth privately and secretly brought forth alive and afterwards killed; Murder	Brinkworth	20	1	15	0	At Salisbury Assizes 5th March 1763 Sarah was acquitted of murdering her bastard child on the inquest
1758	13-Mar	Wiltshire	Joseph	Clare	John	Found dead in a wood in Lydiard Millicent; no marks of violence; Accidental death	Brinkworth	20	1	15	0	