

# Some medieval Keresley Families

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The medieval population of Keresley has been estimated to be around 30 people in ten or more houses - this is an attempt to outline some of those families. The sources are the "Calendar of Deeds and Documents of Queen's College Oxford" Vol. II, compiled in 1931 by N. Denholm-Young, and deeds in the Coventry City Council, recording land transactions. These refer to many classes of people, from 'lord' to serf. There would have been some people not mentioned, or mentioned in deeds which have been lost. The families are 'of Keresley' in that they are actually living here, rather than just holding land.

Spellings are variable. For example the Bulbek family is recorded as Bolebec, Bulbek and Bulebec.

The great majority are male, because women or 'maidens' could not in general hold land. They are mostly mentioned as a widow or a maiden transferring their land.

A definite date like 1290 is the actual date of the deed. A range like 1280-89 means some time within these limits. A lot happened in 1294 - possibly the death of Thomas de Keresley.

## *The Bulbek family*

Walter		before 1294	
Simon	son of Walter	1280-89	This might be 'Simon Bithebroc', serf to Thomas de Keresley, who was granted to Roger, Thomas' son
John	son of Simon	1290, 1294	
Henry		1334, 1336, 1341 and 1342	
John		1368, 1400	Held Hullefeld = 'hill field'
Herbert		1401	

## *Janne*

Only one member, William, in 1348 - the peak of the Black Death. There was a medieval Jannylane.

## *le Cartere*

This family gave their name to Carters Lane, later called Thompsons' Road and Lane

Thomas	1294	
Roger	1340, 1341, 1349, 1353	
Edith	1383	Held Warde Parrock
John	1340	
William	1353	

## *Baldrik*

Of Blackadder fame, in Keresley in 1311 and 1341

## *atte Berne*

In 1326 Isabella, daughter of Gilbert, gains land and grants it to someone else 'in her maidenhood'.

### *de Keresley*

This family calls itself 'lord of Keresley'

Thomas		1260-1294	
Walter	son of Thomas	1260	Holds Goldecroft between Putcroft and Caldewellcroft
Roger	called 'Bithibrok', son of Thomas	1260, 1294	
Richard		1330, 1341	
Adam		1368, 1383, 1392	A bailiff

### *Heyne*

The Heyne family gives its name to le Haynelane, the footpath now called Hen Lane, which marks the northern boundary of the City

Richard		1317	spelt 'Hayne'
William		1368	Held land next to Hullefeld

### *Bunce*

Probably the origin of Bunson's Wood, Richard Bonse or Bunce was around 1280 to 1289

### *Northcroft*

There are more mentions of the Northcroft family than any other. They have a confusing habit of calling themselves William. There were places called Northcrofthead and NorthcroftEnd.

William		1280-1294, 1317	
Robert		c1290	around same time as William
Roger	son of William	1290, 1293, 1294	
Richard		1336, 1341	gives Lucecroft to daughter Juliana
Juliana	daughter of Richard	1336, 1341	grants Lucefeld to Henry le Baxtere, 'in her maidenhood'
Thomas		1334, 1401, 1401	
William		?	
William	son of William	1477	cannot be the son of the 1280 William
Richard	son of William	1516	probably son of the 1477 William

### *Luze - Lucy*

They give their name to Lucecroft and Lucefeld

William		1294	
?	Wife of William	1294	
Richard	son of William	1294, 1317	

### *Flecchere*

Richard the fletcher, husband of Amice, was around in 1349 - the Black Death

### *The Tailor*

Adam has no surname, other than 'the Taylor', and also sutor, or cobbler. He was around before 1294. In 1295 his widow Alice grants their 4 furrows to Gilbert Kenno of Fillongley, because she cannot hold land. But Roger Northcroft grants her 6 strips to live on. Thomas is Adam's son.

### *de le Hul*

'from the hill'. Sometime before 1294, Thomas de Keresley grants his serf Thomas de le Hul to his son Adam. A lord could do anything with a serf short of maiming or killing them. They could be sold, as here. Richard del hul in 1327 and 1340 is probably his son. Richard super le hul in 1339 is probably the same person

### *Botyller*

Its not clear if these were related:

Richard	Butiler	1280-94	
William	Botyller	1403	Knight in 1415, and serjeant
Thomas	Botiller	1415	Exhall
John	Btteler	1499	Gentleman, son of Thomas

### *Sewale*

Richard, 1466, husbandman

### *Pykhorn*

They give their name to Pikehorn Wood:

Thomas	1297	
John	?	
Juliana	1331	widow of John
Thomas	1348	son of John - Black Death year