



Coroners Bills

1752-1796

Bromham

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	
1764	23-Apr	Cousens	Lucy	Clare	John	Fell into a tub of scalding lees and was suffocated	Bromham	5	1	3	9	
1770	03-May	Edmunds	Robert	Clare	John	Aged about 3; Fell into the mill pond and was drowned	Bromham, Westbrook Mill	6	1	4	6	
1771	12-Apr	Fennel	Mary	Clare	William	Fell into a well and was drowned	Bromham, Westbrook	5	1	3	9	
1768	06-Dec	Harring	William	Clare	John	Killed by a haystack fulling on him	Bromham	5	1	3	9	

1765	20-Mar	Heslop	Benjamin	Clare	John	Found dead in a lane; it appeared by evidence that he fell from a horse; Fell from a horse which caused his death	Bromham, Nether Street	5	1	3	9	
1768	25-May	Hunt	Henry	Clare	John	Unfortunately killed in a fighting battle with Robert Smart, late of Chittoe; Manslaughter	Bromham	5	1	3	9	At Salisbury assizes on 21st July 1868 Robert Smart was charged with murder on the indictment and manslaughter on the inquest, was acquitted of murder but convicted of manslaughter, and sentenced to be burnt on the hand and to 3 months imprisonment in the county gaol
1762	25-Jan	Hutchens	Unknown	Clare	John	A female infant bastard which Christian Hutchens late of Bromham a single woman, privately and secretly brought forth alive and afterwards killed; Murder	Bromham	5	1	3	9	Bill allowed by W. Willy and E Goddard; At Salisbury assizes on 6th arch 1762, Christian was remanded to the next assizes because prosecution evidence was not ready; On 24th July she was acquitted of the murder on both the indictment and the inquest.
1753	24-Apr	Pointer	James	Clare	John	Aged 2; Died 22nd April; Drowned in a tub of wort	Bromham	4	1	3	0	
1771	Oct-Dec	Unknown	Unknown	Clare	William	Sir Edward Bayntun having reason to suspect the violent death of an infant. It proving otherwise, no inquest was taken	Bromham, Spye Park			10	6	