



North Wiltshire Muster Roll Anno 30 Henry VIII (Year 1539)

In Tudor times each village was responsible for maintaining the necessary arms to defend themselves - this was known as the furnishing of harness. Muster commissioners would inspect the harness (which would include long bows, bills, salets (helmets), brigandines (torso armour) and gorgets (neck and shoulder protectors) and ensure each individual was also assessed with his quota of the cost. The muster roll records who owned the arms, along with value of land (valor terr et tent) or value of goods (valor bonorum) held by the other residents of the village who were liable to provide financial support if necessary. (These values have not been transcribed in the Wiltshire Roll)

There were two main arms used in this period. The bill had a point at one end and a blade at the side, so had a dual purpose in battle, while the bow was a long bow used for archery.



The Hundred of Chippenham The Borough of Chippenham



Surname	Given Name	Status	Notes
Andrewys	James		Byllman
Baker	Wylyam		Byllman
Banks	John		Archer
Beards	Wylyam		Byllman
Berkele	John		Byllman
Blecke	John		Byllman
Bodon	Peter		Byllman
Bradeley	Henry		Byllman
Bretyn	Robert		Byllman
Broke	Water		Byllman
Bryggs	John		Byllman
Bud	John		Archer

Bygs	John		Byllman
Chessam	Hohn		Byllman
Clarke	John		Byllman
Coxefillde	Wylyam		Byllman
Dodymede	Thomas		Byllman
Dyssher	John		Archer
Dyxen	John		Byllman
Fisser	John		Archer
Fisser	Robert	Servant	Archer
Foreward	Thomas		Archer
Gervis	Wylyam		Byllman
Goldeney	Henry		Archer
Gower	Adam		Byllman
Gryffyn	John		Archer
Hentlande	Robert		Byllman
Jamys	Richard		Byllman
Jonson	Wylyam		Byllman
Kean	Nicholas		Byllman
Lynsye	Robert		Archer
Maundrell	Henry		Archer
Mayden	Wylyam		Byllman
North	John	Parish Clerk	Archer
Payne	Wylyam		Archer
Pekeham	Wylyam		Byllman
Phelps	Robert		Byllman
Plumer	Wylyam		Byllman
Pyrry	Henry		Archer
Rede	John		Byllman
Rede	Thomas		Byllman
Robards	John		Byllman
Rockeley	Wylyam		Byllman
Rutter	Thomas		Byllman
Rychardson	John		Byllman
Sawyer	Wylyam		Byllman
Sckott	Thomas		Archer
Screvenar	Robert		Byllman
Screvenar	Wylyam		Byllman
Sease	John		Byllman
Showryng	Stephen		Archer
Smart	Edmond		Byllman
Stett	Thomas		Archer
Thorn	John		Byllman
Towghwoode	Thomas		Byllman
Wellthyn	William	Servant	Byllman
Wyllyams	Robert		Byllman

The whole Tything hath in redynes, iiij, horses, and vj harnes, with other small wepyns.