



CORONERS INQUESTS



East Grafton, Great Bedwyn

John Sheffard

On Wednesday John Sheffard, at East Garston, in this county, labourer, being at plough in the field, took an opportunity to send the boy away that was with him, and then retired into an adjacent wood, and hanged himself with a with, and on Thursday the Coroners inquest sat on the occasion and brought in the verdict Lunacy.

Marlborough Journal, Saturday 13 April 1771

OPC Note:-

William Clare was the coroner who conducted the inquest and a bill o £1 13s 6d. was raised for travelling 18 miles to conduct the inquest. The suicide took place in Pyke's Coppice in the tything of East Grafton in the parish of Great Bedwyn and not in East Garsdon as reported above. The bill also states that the death took place on the 9th April which was a Tuesday. The bill was allowed by Thomas Johnson and Paul Newman at the Quarter Sessions at Marlborough on the 9th October 1771.