

The Genealogy of the Trussell Family

from C13th to C15th/16th

Ann Darracott



Maidenhead Civic Society has a long standing interest in the heritage of the Maidenhead area and has supported the study of the history, in particular, of several of the listed buildings from the medieval period. This has proved useful when commenting on planning issues concerning them.

The buildings are:-

Ockwells Manor – a C15th manor house built by John Norreys (Norys), Esquire to the Body of Henry VI, which has important armorial glass in the Great Hall.

Bisham “Abbey” – originally a preceptory of the Knights Templar that was added to by William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury in the C14th when he founded a priory on the site. Subsequent owners made further alterations. The priory was demolished during the dissolution of the monasteries. Henry VIII re-established the priory as an abbey that only lasted six months but the name has stuck.

St. John the Baptist Church, Shottesbrooke – also C14th, and the finest decorated period church in Berkshire, part of a college founded by Sir William Trussell.

There are links between these buildings, with representatives of the same families (Beauchamp, Montacute, Neville and Mortimer) occurring in the armorial glass. The study of Bisham “Abbey” complements in particular the study of St. John the Baptist Church at Shottesbrooke, founded by Sir William Trussell in 1337. The Shottesbrooke Church was contemporary with Bisham Priory Church, lost in the C16th. This study of the Trussell family complements work on heraldry once at Shottesbrooke and documents also Trussell involvement in other churches where they worshipped and that often included putting up their heraldry, some of which is extant. It is also an attempt to clarify the biographies of the various medieval Trussells, including many Sir William Trussells.

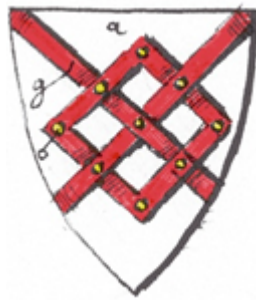
Bisham “Abbey” is in the ownership of Sport England and Ockwells Manor is in private hands. Both are inaccessible to the general public except on special occasions. To increase awareness of these magnificent local heritage buildings Maidenhead Civic Society has designed and produced presentations that provide virtual tours of both buildings. For further information contact the Society via the website www.maidenheadcivicsoc.org.uk or by email to info@maidenheadcivicsog.org.uk.

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There were many medieval Sir William Trussells, several given to riotous behaviour. This booklet is an attempt to clarify which William Trussell did what.

It has been helped by the realisation that the senior line of the Trussells (Tree 2) bore a different armorial coat (*argent a fretty gules bezanty at the joints*)¹ to that of the junior branch (*argent a cross fleure/florettee gules*) (Tree 1).



Coat of Senior Line



Senior line with bordure at Warfield, Berks



Coat of Junior Line

Most of the confusion seems to relate to the careers of the Sir William Trussell (d.1346/7) who took a major role in the deposing of Edward II and the Sir William Trussell of Kibblestone, Staffs (d.1363) who founded a collegiate church at Shottesbrooke, Berks, in 1337. Armorial glass that was once in the Shottesbrooke church includes extant coats for Edward III and his wife Philippa of Hainault, William Clinton, Earl of Huntingdon, Ralph, Baron Stafford and Ralph Neville, Lord Raby. Elias Ashmole visited the church in the mid C17th and has left a record of the armorials he saw.²

¹ Foster (p193) *Fretty* = a pattern of frets. The early variant of Fretty was *Trellis* described by Brooke-Little (p56) as where pieces do not interlace, but one set overlies the other with nails fastening where they cross - *argent, a trellis gules cloue or*. This latter form is closest to that shown by extant Trussell coats though overlaying is not apparent, the “nail”/bezant providing the join (see above from Warfield and Appendix B). This arrangement could easily have become, or be seen as, a single fret, as depicted by Ashmole from Shottesbrooke (see above left and Appendix B).

² Ashmole 850; f290 & 291. Bodleian Library, Oxford University. All are reproduced in Darracott 2014a with permission from the Bodleian Library, Oxford. Appendix A lists the personalities given in Darracott 2014a. See Appendix B for Trussell armorial glass once at Shottesbrooke.

Sir William Trussell of Flore (d.1346/7), though he helped depose Edward II, had in his son's reign, an outstanding career as diplomat, escheator, JP, and member of the Council, being awarded 1000*l* in 1336 *for his services as well as beyond the seas as within*. Sir William Trussell of Cubblesdon (Kibblestone), Staffs, and Shottesbrooke, Berks (d.1363), king's yeoman, was from 1333 Edward III's Receiver, *appointed by the King by word of mouth to receive and administer all moneys pertaining to the chamber* and was rewarded by the king, at intervals from 1332, for long service *staying continuously by the king's side*, rewards that included custody of Beaumaris and Odiham Castles. He was at the battle of Crecy in 1346 and the siege of Calais. In 1361, *in consideration of his good service from his youth and his manifold labours endured for the king*, the rent on the manor of Eaton Hastings he held was reduced to 40*l* yearly.

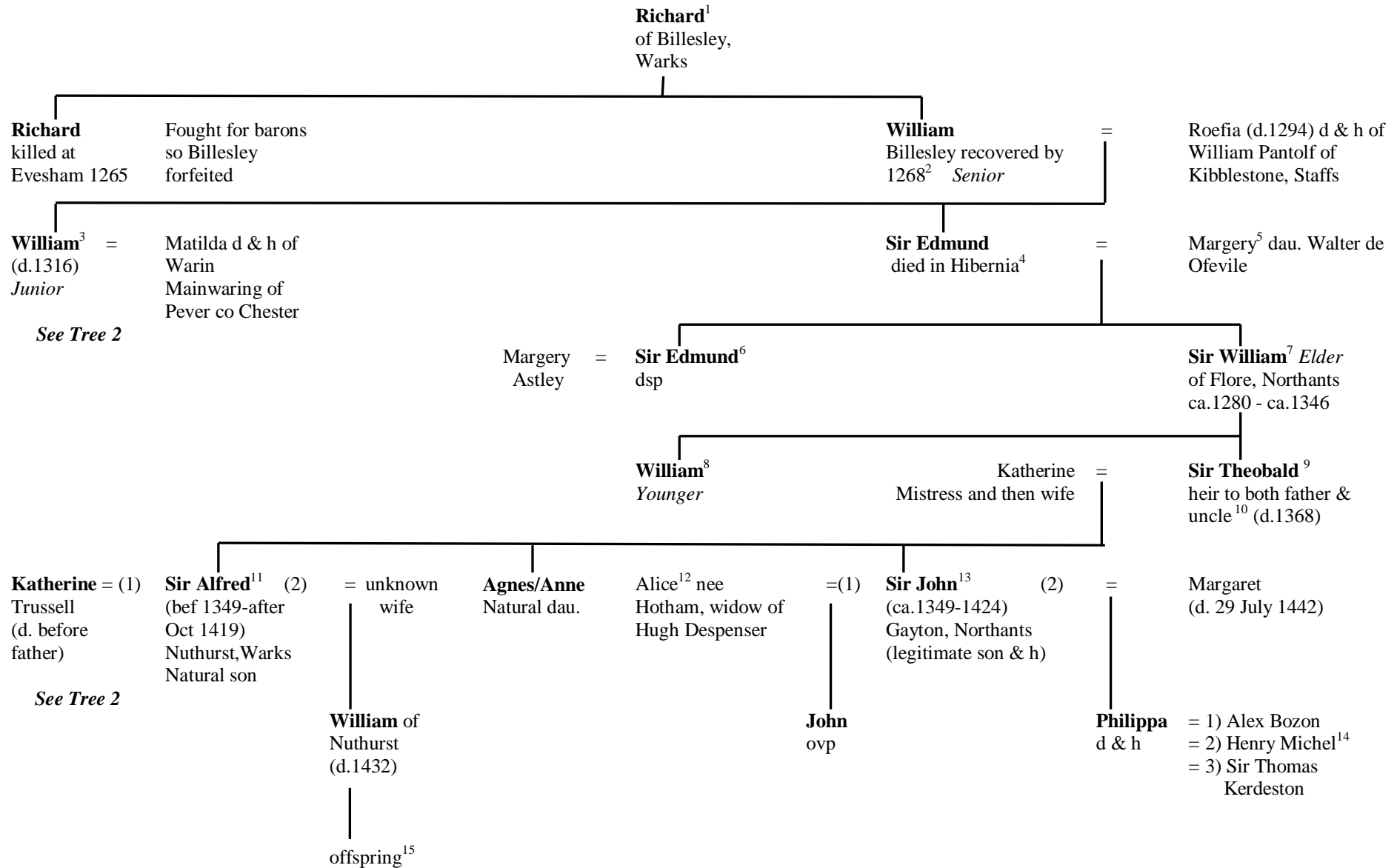
However, the family trees show there were other Sir William Trussells and several cadet lines which should bear a difference mark on their coat. Ashmole did not record a difference mark on the Trussell coat at Shottesbrooke which William, a second son, should have borne. I believe that the bordure on the Warfield Trussell coat is such a mark, that it represents Sir Warin Trussell, a third son and brother of Sir William Trussell of Shottesbrooke, and was used by his descendants; see examples from the church in Warfield, Berks and Sheriffhales, Salop (above & Appendix B).

The Trussell family, beginning in Warwickshire in the C12th, expanded so that by C14th members of the family also held land in Berkshire, Cheshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Staffordshire, gained in part by judicious marriages and despite a tendency to rebel. After C14th they were less successful. The assets of the senior line passed first to Margaret Trussell and then when her line failed to Sir William Trussell (d.1464), son of her cousin Laurence. This last line eventually failed when the last male heir died an infant in C15th and his sister, Elizabeth Trussell, and the Trussell assets, passed by marriage to the de Vere family, Earls of Oxford (see Tree 2).

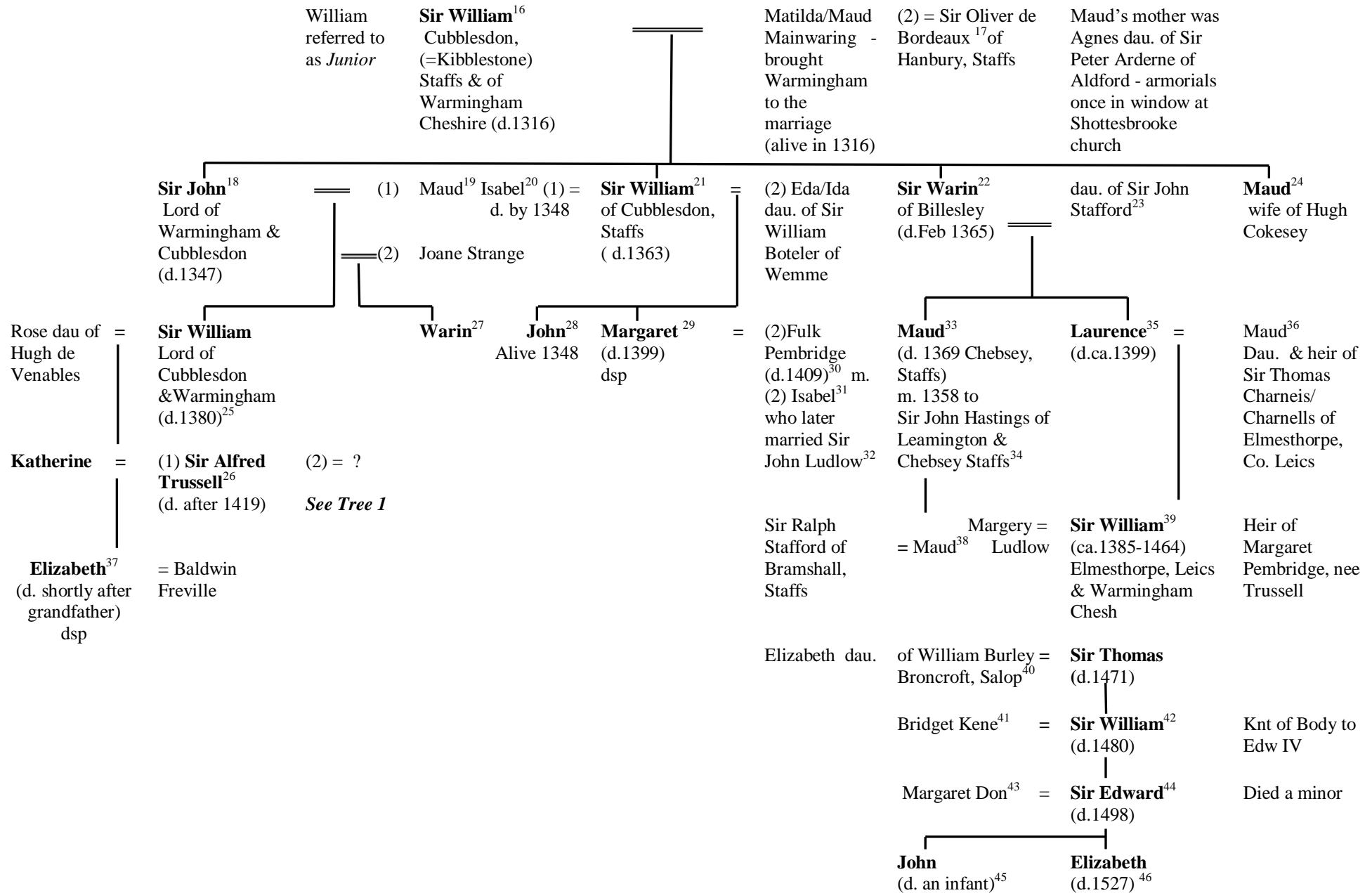
The junior branch of the family had a more colourful history with Sir Theobald Trussell inheriting from both his uncles, including the famous Sir William Trussell (d.1346), but neglecting to marry so that his eldest son, Alfred, could not inherit. Alfred survived by marrying Katherine, heiress of the senior line, and with handouts from his younger, but legitimate, brother and from Margaret Trussell, his daughter's heir. Alfred won in the end as the junior legitimate line died out but his kept going via his second wife (see Tree 1).

The Trussells were patrons of many churches in the counties where they held land and evidence of this patronage survives in the form of armorial records and extant armorial glass. Appendix B includes details of the armorial record, photos of the churches and, if present, the armorial glass. No male Trussell effigies have so far been found but we do have two female Trussells whose images are extant: Margaret Trussell (d.1399) whose brass occurs in St John the Baptist Church, Shottesbrooke, and Elizabeth Trussell (d.1527), the last heir of the main line of the Trussells, whose effigy occurs with that of her husband, on a tomb at St Nicholas Church, Castle Hedingham, Essex.

Trussell Family Tree 1 - Ancestors and Junior Branch



Trussell Family Tree 2 – Senior Branch



Notes for Trussell Family Trees

¹ According to Dugdale (p536) the first Trussell to hold Billesley, Warks, was Osbert Trussell, held from the Earl of Warwick in the reign of Henry I (1100-1135) and it was his grandson, also Osbert Trussell, who held Billesley in II Henry 2 (1164). In the same reign, this Osbert became tenant in chief of Marston Trussell, Northants, held from the Earl of Leicester (Short outline of history of Marston Trussell & church of St Nicholas). This Richard was the latter's grandson. A seal of his bore *frette with a label of 6 points* (Dugdale p536) the label probably indicating his father was still alive. Dugdale (ibid) notes that some of his posterity bore wholly *frette*. In the retinue of Walter Beauchamp in the rebellion of the barons against King John (Ibid p536) when he forfeited his lands but recovered them soon afterwards (VCH Warks, vol 3, Billesley). His father, Sir William Trussell, was married to Agnes, daughter of Robert Loxley (Dugdale p536), said to be Robin Hood and is probably the William who founded chantry chapels in St Nicholas's Church, Marston Trussell in 1282 (see church guidebook above) and possibly put up the Trussell armorial glass still to be seen in the church (see Appendix B). This Richard is possibly the Richard Trussell who was lord of the manor of Marston Trussell (Northants) in 1233 (Wikipedia Marston Trussell acc Nov 2014) and who presented his son Richard as rector of the church, though only a subdeacon, in that year (see church guidebook above). Presumably this latter Richard was the one killed at Evesham in 1265 fighting against Henry III. Margaret Pembridge (nee Trussell) and her husband Fulk (see Tree 2) were dealing with Marston Trussell and other manors in Northants in 1383 (VCH Northants, vol 4, Langport). In 1409 when he died Fulk was still holding the manor and advowson of Marston Trussell, held from the lord of Astley (CIPM 19 Pt IV no 581).

² Milverton and Allenhall, Warks, that had also been seized due to the rebellion of his brother Richard, were regained by William (Dugdale p 186, 536 *Senior*; see tree p537). A retainer of the Earl of Warwick, he held many posts in Warwickshire in the reign of Henry III including being constable of Sauvey Castle, Leics, from 1246 to 1248 (CPR 1232-1247 p478; CPR 1247-1258 p18), Sheriff of Warks and Leics and Justice of the Peace (see Dugdale p536-537 who says he was a man of great account in his time). It may be this William who was Sheriff of Kent for Edward I in 1296-1297 (CPR 1334-1338 p239). His marriage brought him estates in Staffordshire including Kibblestone, and in other counties, so Billesley ceased to be the chief seat of the family (VCH Warks, Billesley). His wife held Kibblestone as tenant of William le Botiller of Wemme, a minor in ward to Edward I (CFR E1 6 Apr 1294). Her grandsons, John and William both married Botillers (see Tree 2). A William, son of Richard, appointed Edmund Trussell as one of his attorneys in Ireland in 1316 (CPR 1313-1317 p388), 1318 and 1320 (CPR 1317-1321 p205, 206, 490) but it seems unlikely to be this William unless he was very long-lived.

³ *Junior* (according to tree in Dugdale p537) but patents say *younger*. To be distinguished from William Trussell, the younger, son of William Trussell (d.1346/7). Aged 32 when his mother died (CIPM E1 V3 172 Roesia (Rose) Trussell). It may be this William who with Philip de Geyton was responsible in 1294 for assessing and levying in Northampton a tenth of all moveables granted to the King (Edward I) in aid of his war (CPR 1292-1301 p103). Justice of Chester on 23rd June 1301 when on a commission to deal with land issues in Chester and Flint belonging to the Earl of Chester (Edward the king's son i.e. the future Edward II) (CPR E1 23 June 1301). On 2nd June 1301, on behalf of the earl and king, appointed to select in Chester and North Wales and take to Carlisle, Welsh *Footmen* to fight the Scots (CCR E1 2 June 1301; CPR 1292-1301 p589). In 1302 on a commission of oyer & terminer touching persons who despoiled some Welshmen who had been to Edward Prince of Wales in the Scotch War and were returning home and killed some of them (CPR 1301-1307 p85). In 1304 as Justice of Chester on another commission investigating land issues in the counties of Chester and Flint that should belong to Edward, Prince of Wales (ibid p238) and in the same year had to sort out the murder of the steward of Amadeus, Count of Savoy, in co Stafford (ibid p277) and with Roger Mortimer and others resolve a dispute in Shropshire involving the tenants of the late Earl of Arundel whose heir, Edmund Fitzalan, was ward of the count (ibid p287-288). In 1308 William Trussell *the younger* and his wife, Matilda are licensed to grant the manor of Warmingham and the advowson of the church, of her inheritance, to Agnes late the wife of Warin Mainwaring for life (CPR 1307-1313 p 47), her mother. In 1318 the executors of his will to have scutage of the knights' fees arising from his service with Edward I in Scotland in 1300, 1301 and 1306 (CChan SR 19 May 1318). Dugdale speculates that it was this William Trussell who assisted Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, and Guy Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, in the murder of Piers de Gaveston in 1312 but this seems to be a mistake. He also implicates Edmund Trussell of the junior branch (Dugdale p538 & 539). However, William, Edmund's elder brother, has also been so identified (VCH Warks, vol 3, Billesley). Both occur in the list of those pardoned for the offence in 1313 (CPR 1313-1316 p 21); actual murder done by two Welshmen (Phillips p190).

⁴ See tree in Dugdale p537. It may be this Edmund who was an attorney for William, son of Richard Trussell, perhaps his father, in Ireland in 1316 (CPR 1313-1317 p388) and in 1318-1320 (CPR 1317-1321 p205, 332, 423, 490)

⁵ Brought the Oseville interest in Holt to the marriage, sometime between 1327 and 1332 (VCH Leics, vol 5, Medbourne).

⁶ Younger brother of William. Coat *argent a cross fleure gules debruised with a bend* (Dugdale p538). With his brother William he was an adherent of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster. In 1313 he and his brother William were pardoned for their involvement in the death of Piers Gaveston (CPR 1313-1317 p22) whilst in 1318 both brothers and nephew, William, were pardoned for outlawry as adherents of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster (CPR 1317-1321 p229-230). Writ for his arrest and his brother William, issued in September 1322 (CPR 1321-1324 p205), probably due to their participation in Lancaster's rebellion. Occurs in a number of Commissions of *Oyer & Terminer*; in 1339 resolving a complaint of Henry, Earl of Lancaster re hunting in his park in Co Derby (CPR 1338-1340 p361) and in 1341 dealing with offences in Leicestershire (e.g. CPR 1340-43 p312). In the same year obtains

pardon at the request of Henry, Earl of Lancaster & Leicester re acquiring rents in Higham Ferrers and Melton Mowbray without license (Ibid p176). Founded a chantry in Hill Morton parish church in 1342 for the souls of Thomas Astley, Margery his wife and others including Thomas Astley Knight (CPR 1340-1343 p565). The latter Thomas of the senior branch founded the chantry in St Mary's Astley in 1337 which he changed to a collegiate college in 1343 (CPR 1334-1345 p389 & ibid 1343-1345 p1-2). In that year the Hillmorton Church was appropriated to the newly founded college (CPR 1343-1345 p114, VCH Hillmorton). Edmund is thought to have been the second husband of Margery Astley. Her previous husband, Thomas Astley, had founded a chantry in the Hillmorton church in 1334 (VCH Warks, vol 6, Hillmorton). Dugdale dates the chantry founded by Edmund to 12E3 (1337/8) (Dugdale p14, p539). Edmund also founded a chantry in Theddingworth church in 1346 (VCH Leics, vol 5, Theddingworth; CPR 1345-1348 p93). In 1347, as Edmund had refused to surrender to Queen Philippa or her ministers the son and heir of John de Oseville, a minor, whose wardship and marriage pertained to the Queen, the King's serjeant of Arms is instructed to find the heir and bring him to her (CPR 1345-1348 p466).

⁷ Coat *argent a cross fleure gules*. This coat was used by William Trussell at Boroughbridge in 1322 (see Foster p193) when he rebelled against Edward II. William's principal seat was Flore, Northants, but also of Billesley, Morton Bagot & Nuthurst (Dugdale p539, VCH Warks, vol 3, Billesley). He acquired Nuthurst at the beginning of Edward III's reign, a manor previously held by the Hastang/Hastings family (Dugdale p701). Knighted with Edward Prince of Wales in 1306 before going on campaign to Scotland (Phillips p112; see also Shaw vol 1 p113 who lists the 267 men made Knight of the Bath in 1306, noting (p111) he was unable to find said list in the authority cited by Ashmole). From 1307, for at least 30 years, he was a Lancastrian retainer (ODNB William Trussell d.1346/7). In 1313 he received a pardon alongside Thomas of Lancaster and Guy de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, together with his brother Edmund and many others (including a Fulk Pembridge), for any involvement in the capture, detention or death of Piers Gaveston (CPR 1313-1317 p21). In 1318 was pardoned for outlawry as an adherent of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster together with his brother, Edmund and son William (CPR 1317-1321 p 229-230). Participated in Lancaster's rebellion of 1321-2 against Edward II and following the debacle at Boroughbridge fled abroad (ODNB William Trussell d.1346/7) with his son William and brother Edmund (VCH Warks, vol 3, Billesley). In September 1322 Robert Digby was appointed to arrest both William and his brother Edmund (CPR 1321-1324 p205). In April 1324 his principal manor, Flore, Northants, was granted to John de Kaen (CPR1321-1324 p408). Morton Bagot plus some hamlets having been taken into the king's hands by 1327 had been transferred to Sir John Trussell of the senior branch, though William's brother Edmund still held some land there (see VCH Warks, vol 3, Morton Bagot). January 1326, William Trussell mentioned as a rebel together with Roger Mortimer and others (CPR 1324-1327 p238). Sept 1326 returned with Isabella, Edward her son (later Edward III), Roger Mortimer and Edmund of Woodstock, Earl of Kent, half -brother of Edward II (Phillips p503). 27 October 1326 was judge in the trial of Hugh Despenser, the elder, Earl of Winchester, and on 24 November of his son Hugh Despenser, the younger (ibid p516). His principal claim to fame arises from his part in Edward II's deposition in January 1327 when he, on behalf of parliament, renounced fealty to Edward II (ODNB William Trussell d. 1346/7). Trussell was still allied to the house of Lancaster and Henry, Earl of Lancaster, who had inherited from his brother Thomas, played a leading role in the deposition of Edward II and raising his son to the throne. Henry led the magnates at Edward's coronation and was appointed chief guardian of the young king (ODNB Henry of Lancaster d.1345). However, in 1328 disaffection with Isabella and Mortimer grew and Lancaster emerged as the leader of the opposition but was forced to submit to Mortimer, his lands along with those of his followers being seized on 16th January 1329(Ibid). Mortimer offered the rebels an amnesty from which Trussell was excepted (ODNB William Trussell d.1346/7). William Trussell was among his adherents who were banished from the realm (ODNB Henry of Lancaster d.1345). Lancaster, who had regained his lands by paying a fine, travelled to France in September 1329 with a retinue and was still abroad in January 1330 when the king commissioned his envoys to negotiate for a marriage between his sister Eleanor and Philippe's eldest son, Jean (Ibid). Dugdale (p539) suggests that Trussell repented of his involvement in the deposition of Edward II or that he abominated his cruel murder. He says Trussell's offence was to adhere to Edmund, Earl of Kent, who had supported the deposition of his half-brother but later, having been duped into thinking the king was still alive, attempted to release him from captivity (ODNB Edmund Earl of Kent (d.1330)). Trussell had apparently returned to England by March 1330 when, at the Winchester parliament, he was reconciled to Mortimer and pardoned (ODNB William Trussell (d.1346/7)) The patent of 21st March, pardoning him, says he *submitted to the king's grace* though Mortimer must have been pulling the strings. All his lands, goods, chattels advowsons etc in Northampton, Cambridge, London, Warwick, Leicester plus the town of Rushton and land in Flore were restored to him (CPR 1327-1330 p500, 516). Two days earlier on 19th March at that same parliament Edmund was indicted and condemned to death resulting in him being beheaded outside the walls of Winchester Castle by a common criminal, as no-one else would do it (ODNB Edmund, Earl of Kent d.1330). On 21st March he is referred to as the late Earl of Kent *who has been condemned to death by his peers in the present parliament for high treason* (CPR 1327-1330 p556). In May Trussell was appointed to arrange the same marriage as Lancaster's envoys and may have been one (ODNB William Trussell (d.1346/7), Dugdale p539). These negotiations were evidently unsuccessful as in September 1330, as king's secretary, he was to treat with the king of Aragon for a marriage between Peter his eldest son and Eleanor the king's sister (CPR 1330-1334 p7), going beyond the seas on the King's service he nominated Thomas and Edmund Trussell his attorneys in England until Easter (ibid 1330-1334 p3). Edmund would be his brother. Thomas was probably the King's Clerk, who was made Archdeacon of Middlesex by the king in 1331 (Ibid p90) and was almost certainly a kinsman. Mortimer was overthrown in October 1330 at Nottingham and condemned in November but after the coup William still continued to go overseas on the king's service). According to Dugdale (p539) William Trussell of Flore's career after 1330 found him employed as a Commissioner in Warwickshire and Leicestershire undertaking gaol delivery in Warwick (1331/2); hearing felony cases (1335/6); putting the King's case to the clergy for loans to prevent war between England & France (1336/7); conservation of peace in Warks, Worcs and Oxon (1337/8); and in 1334/5 a member of the King's Council. The following gives more details. In 1333 when going

beyond the seas this William is referred to as William Trussell of Flore and *the elder* (ibid 1330-1334 p429) which helps identify him. In 1332 he is accompanied by William, his son, *the younger* (ibid p253); 1331 to treat with Philip king of France for a marriage between Edward, the king's son and a daughter of the French king (ibid p157); 1333 to treat for a marriage between the John, Earl of Cornwall and Joan daughter of Ralph, count of Eu (ibid p413); 1334 to treat for a marriage between Blanche, granddaughter of Alphonso X king of Castile and Leon and John of Cornwall, the king's brother (ibid p564); also in 1334 to receive in the king's name the homage of the Count of Savoy (CPR 1334-1338 p3); 1336 to treat with Philip King of France re. a crusade to the Holy Land and a dispute in the duchy of Aquitaine (ibid p301). It is probably this William who with William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, and William Clinton, Earl of Huntingdon, was abroad in 1337 to negotiate a marriage between the son of the Count of Flanders and Joan the king's daughter (ibid p420-421). Both these earls were known to his namesake, William Trussell of Kibblestone, who put up their coats in the windows of his collegiate church at Shottesbrooke (see Appendix A & Darracott 2014a). No wonder he was awarded 1000*l* in 1337 *for his services as well as beyond the seas as within* (CPR 1334-1338 p466)! Trussell's ODNB entry says that in January 1331 he was one of the jury of knights who exonerated Thomas Berkeley from culpability in Edward II's death; in the summer of 1331 he was sent to France to negotiate a marriage between Edward of Woodstock (d.1376) and Jeanne, daughter of the King of France and in 1332 both he and his son William were sent to the Avignon curia (ODNB William Trussell (d.1347)). This William was older than his namesake of Kibblestone and significantly in October 1331 when Edward III granted him Berges in Flanders, it was for his service to the present king and the king's progenitors (CPR 1330-1334 p214). He resumed the post of escheator south of the Trent, a post he had been appointed to in February 1327 and still held it in April 1336 when he occurs, as escheator, in the license in mortmain to his kinsman William Trussell of *Kibleston*, concerning divine service in the latter's manor of Shottesbrooke (CPR 1334-48 p252). He was still escheator in 1339 (ibid 1338-1340 p203) but was referred to as *late escheator* in 1340 (Ibid p6 et seq). In 1336 William Trussell *the elder* was to arrest felons in Warwick & Leicester (CPR 1334-1338 p 368) and in 1338, again referred as William Trussell *the elder* in his complaint against the group of men that invaded his close at Flore, co Northampton (CPR 1338-1340 p77). Also in 1338 it is likely to be this William who was responsible, with Thomas (Beauchamp), Earl of Warwick, Hugh le Despenser and others, for keeping the peace and arresting persons for felonies trespasses & misdeeds in Worcester, Warwick & Oxford (CPR 1338-1340 p141); in 1340 with Thomas Astley, he was ordered to take a suspect to the Tower of London (CPR 1338-1340 p483). In April 1339, as Admiral of the King's Fleet west from the Thames he was going to sea on the king's service, accompanied by his son (*fitz*) William, as was Robert *de Morle*, Admiral of the Fleet northwards (CPR 1338-1340 p215). Sir Robert Morley is known to have been involved in assembling Edward's fleet at Sluys and the *king's service* was probably in preparation for the battle of Sluys (on 24th June 1340). Trussell replaced Bartholomew Burgherssh who held the post in 1338 (ibid p189). It is also likely to be this William who was at the battle of Sluys in 1340 and was one of the men sent by Edward to parliament to describe this victory and argue for funds (see Burtscher p39). The Admiral of the western fleet and the northern fleet in 1342 has been regarded as the same man (Burtscher p39) though in May 1342 the Admiral to the north was Robert Morley (CPR 1340-1343 p538). In 1341 he was one of the envoys sent to near Tournay (Tournai) to arrange negotiate a peace treaty with France (CCR 1341-1343 p368). In October 1342 he accompanies the king overseas (ibid 1341-1343 p660) and in Flanders, as king's councillor, obtained a commitment from the whole county of Flanders to make an alliance with Edward and behave to him as loyal subjects (Ibid p692-3). It is probably this William who was appointed in 1342 to investigate whether ministers involved in arranging for ships to go from the mouth of the Thames towards the north on the king's business had been taking bribes (CPR 1340-1343 p592) and arrested a ship, as Admiral of the North, for the king's passage from Sandwich (Ibid 1343-1345 p258). Burke (p540) says the William Trussell summoned to parliament as a baron in 1342 and made Admiral of all the Fleet is this William. In 1344 he was an envoy sent to Spain to treat with King Alfonso concerning an alliance and a marriage between Alfonso's eldest son and Joan, King Edward's daughter (CCR 1343-1346 p448,492). In 1345 he was granted 40*l* yearly for attending the council (ibid 1343-1345 p527) and he was in the commission to assist Lionel, the king's son, Keeper of the Realm, while the king was without the realm (CPR 1343-1345 p 487). In 1351 he is referred to as William of *Nothurst*, late escheator on this side the Trent, and Admiral of the King's Fleet in the west, in a petition from Gilbert Chasteleyn who held land etc from William in Loxley, co Warwick, wishing that he and his heirs may be discharged of all manner of demand, on the grounds that William was a minister of the king (CPR 1350-1354 p71).

He was dead by Sept 1347 when his son Theobald refers to him as being deceased, when petitioning to obtain a moiety of the manor of Gayton (CPR 1345-1348 p458). Around that time Westminster Abbey received a legacy from his executors. Weever (p262) refers to his burial there. His ODNB biographer says that *between 1333 and 1345 a William Trussell, who could equally have been the son, was engaged in numerous diplomatic missions: to the papal court several times, to France, to the Low Countries, and to Austria. In 1340 a William Trussell sailed with the king and was sent back to announce to parliament the naval victory of Sluys. The same man in April 1343 in the White Chamber at Westminster Palace gave assent to the truce with France on behalf of the knights and commons (les Chivalers des Counteez et les Communes). Whether he is to be identified as the judge of the earls of Monteith and Fife after the battle of Neville's Cross (1346) is unclear.* The Trussell involved in the diplomatic missions and the victory of Sluys is likely to be this William. However his kinsman William Trussell of Kibblestone may have been the judge of the Scottish earls (see his note). William Trussell of Flore was dead before September 1347. If he was the judge of the Scottish earls it was near to the end of his very eventful life. He was obviously a capable public servant but one can speculate that his kinship to his namesake of Kibblestone who was close to Edward III in the 1330s may have persuaded the king to overlook this William's involvement in the abdication of his father.

⁸ In 1318 with his father and uncle he was pardoned for outlawry as an adherent of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster. A John Trussell, son of John Barton was also pardoned (CPR 1317-1321 p229-230). In May 1322 he and his father William were in a group that trespassed in various manors in Leicestershire that were in the king's hands (CPR 1321-24 p167). He

apparently was a fugitive from justice with his father William and uncle Edmund after the battle of Boroughbridge in 1322 (see VCH Warks, Billesley, citing Wm Salt Soc X, p48). In 1344 he was part of a group appointed by the king to enforce his wishes concerning the presentation to St Peter's Church, Staunford (CPR 1343-1345 p406) but in 1345 was fined in Northampton when he evidently led a group that stole fish and timber at Holewell (Ibid p497-8; interestingly this patent seems to indicate he had a son William). In January 1347 at Calais a pardon was issued to Henry Neuman of Northtoft, co Northants regarding the death of William Balaunce of co Warwick, an esquire of William, son of William Trussell, knight (CPR 1345-1348 p483). The latter patent suggests his famous father was still alive in January 1347. It seems likely his father died in that year and William his son cannot be clearly identified in subsequent patents. Dugdale only mentions Theobald as William's son.

⁹ Of Flore, Northants, landowner of some consequence in Leicestershire (eg Theddingworth VCH Leics) and Northamptonshire, inherited from his own father and his uncle Edmund (Roskell et al *Sir John Trussell*). In 1337 he accompanied his father, William Trussell, going beyond the seas on the king's business (CPR 1334-1338 p421); in 1344 he was fined for trespass in Rokyngham Forest (Ibid 1343-1345 p378).

¹⁰ He inherited from his father and his uncle the manors of Peatling, Fleckney and Thorpe (Leics), Flore (Northants) and Nuthurst (Warks) that nearly all passed to John his first legitimate son (Roskell et al *Sir Alfred Trussell*). Theobald's first two children, Alfred (Alured/Avery) and Agnes, by his mistress Katherine were illegitimate. Having married her, their son John became his heir (Roskell et al *John Trussell* (d.1424)).

¹¹ Or Avery/Alured. Eldest son but was not the heir as he was illegitimate. Was given Nuthurst at his legitimate brother's expense (Roskell et al *Sir Alfred Trussell*). In the retinue of Thomas Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick (Dugdale p 538). One of the most eminent men in Warwickshire (VCH Warks, vol 3, Billesley). In an attempt to secure the holdings of the Kibblestone branch he married his kinswoman Katherine Trussell (Roskell et al *Sir Alfred Trussell*) (see Tree 1). Their daughter Elizabeth married Sir Baldwin Freville (see Tree 2 but died without producing heirs: Margaret Pembridge, nee Trussell was her heir. The Pembridges settled on him in tail –male the Warwickshire manors of Morton Bagot, Billesley & Milverton (Roskell et al 1993 *Sir Alfred Trussell*). Morton Bagot and Billesley had been held by Alfred's grandfather (see Dugdale p539), the famous William. His lands, including Billesley and Morton Bagot, came into the hands of Edward II after Trussell joined Lancaster's rebellion in 1322. Morton Bagot and Billesley were evidently granted to Sir John Trussell of Cubbleston who transferred the latter to his brother Warin for life (VCH Warks, Billesley; Morton Bagot) i.e. transferred to the senior branch of the family. As with Billesley, John seems to have retained the Advowson of the church as Sir William Trussell of *Cubleston* who was patron of the church at Morton Bagot in 1361(Dugdale p568) was probably John's son. By 1413 Alfred was patron of the church (ibid), having inherited the manor of Morton Bagot from the Pembridges, and his descendants retained the manor and were patrons of the church. Alfred was elected to the assembly of estates that deposed Richard II in 1399. Retainer of Thomas Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick (d. after Oct 1419; Roskell et al, *Sir Alfred Trussell*).

¹² Daughter of Sir John Hotham, she was abducted by John Trussell shortly after the death of her husband Hugh Despenser (Roskell et al, *Sir John Trussell* (d.1424)).

¹³ The first child born in wedlock and so became the heir. Held the manors of Theddingworth, Littlethorpe, Peatling Magna, Fleckney, Holt and Bringhurst in Leicestershire and Gayton, Hothorpe, West Hall (in East Carlton), Drayton and Flore in Northamptonshire. Had a reputation for highhanded and often lawless behaviour. In 1379 after the death of his wife Alice, who he had abducted, lost control of her manors of Collyweston (Northants), Solihull (Warks), Bonby (Lincs) & Hotham (Yorks) due to an earlier settlement in favour of Sir Hugh Despenser the younger, child of her first marriage. After Despenser's last heir died in 1412 began a series of acrimonious law suits on behalf of his own son John, a reputed idiot, as the rightful heir of the Hotham estates; by nature an intransigent and sometimes violent man. In the Tower in 1378 when his elder brother, Alfred, and his stepson, Hugh Despenser, offered guarantees for his future good behaviour; a retainer, with his brother Alfred, of Thomas Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick; resisted Henry of Bolingbroke when he landed in 1399. His second wife shared his belligerent temperament and after his death a struggle began between Margaret and their daughter Philippa for control of the Trussell estates. When his widow died in 1442 almost all was still in her possession (Roskell et al, *Sir John Trussell*).

¹⁴ According to Dugdale p537.

¹⁵ William, died in 1432, his son John being then under age. John's son Thomas was sheriff of Warwickshire and Leicestershire in 1509. He died in 1517, having settled Billesley manor in 1508 upon his son William on his marriage with Cecily Curzon. William, a servant of Jasper duke of Bedford (Wedgewood p 879) died before his father, and in 1517 the manor passed to William's infant son Alfred, or Avery, then aged 4. The king granted the wardship of Alfred to Sir Robert Norwich, Chief Justice of Common Pleas, and he sold it to Robert Fulwood of Tanworth, whose daughter Margaret, Alfred afterwards married. During his long minority one Richard Fulwood, who occupied the manor, claiming under Thomas Trussell's will, allowed the buildings of the manor to fall into decay and pulled many of them down, besides cutting and wasting the timber on the manor. Alfred was succeeded by a son John, whose son Thomas Trussell made conveyances of the manor in 1585. On 6 August of that year Thomas committed robbery and felony on the highway at Bromley, Kent, and was in 1588 attainted and sentenced to death. Billesley manor passed to the Crown. The advowson of the church descended with the manor until the C19th (VCH Warks, vol 3, Billesley). The manor house is said to have been rebuilt after 1600 by Sir Robert Lee who purchased the manor from the Crown for £5000 in 1592 (information from Billesley Manor Hotel). The great hall has a modern shield of the senior Trussell coat in recognition that this manor was held initially by the senior line rather than the junior line of this Trussell and his descendants.

¹⁶ According to a list published by Ashmole, a William Trussell was among 267 men knighted on 22 May 1306 when Edward, Prince of Wales, later Edward II, was knighted by his father Edward I (Shaw vol 1 p 113). Shaw (note p111) was unable to find such a list in the authority cited by Ashmole. If the list can be relied on it may have been this man. Interestingly, also in the list is a William Montacute, possibly a kinsman of the William Montacute who was a donor to this man's son, William, in 1337.

¹⁷ Alias *Burdegala*; King's yeoman in 1317 when he was granted *Foly Johan* within Windsor Forest and licensed to enclose his wood there and make a park (CPR 1313-1317 p640 &641). In 1326 he held lands and rent in Eton, New & Old Windsor with successive remainders to William Trussell, Matilda's son & to Warin his brother and his own right heirs (CPR 1324-1327 p214). In 1334 William was granted *Folie Johan* subject to Oliver and Matilda having no heirs (CPR 1334-1338 p28) and two years later, after Matilda's death, the grant was enlarged so that he inherited it after the death of Oliver (ibid p271). By 1359 all these lands were granted by William to Edward III in exchange for Eaton Hastings, a village north west of Faringdon (see his note).

¹⁸ In 1336 he arranged for three chaplains to pray for the soul of himself and his mother in the parish church of Warmingham (CPR 1334-1338 p194) and in the same year was to arrest a felon in Stafford (ibid p362). In 1337 he wrote to Warin, his brother, informing him that he had granted the reversion of the manor to Richard Longespey, parson of Warmingham, after Warin's death (VCH Warks Billesley). Longespey is recorded as rector in 1317 whilst in 1350 the rector was Warin Trussell; earlier in 1306, a Thomas Trussell was rector (information in St Leonard's Church, Warmingham). He may be the John who was appointed to arrest felons in co Northampton when William Trussell, the elder (his cousin) dealt with Warwick & Leicester (ibid p368-9). He may also be the John who, again in 1336, was pardoned *of the account required of him at the Exchequer for the time in which William Trussell, his grandfather, whose heir he is, was Sheriff of Edward I in Kent and of the time in which he himself had custody of the lands late of Luke de la Bare, Constable of the castle of Tonebrigge* (Tonbridge)(CPR 1334-1338 p239). In 1338 John Trussell of Cubleston was licensed to crenellate his dwelling place of Cubleston (CPR1338-1340 p22). In 1344 he was a commissioner for peace in Stafford (Ibid 1343-1345 p 395); in 1341 one of the magnates for Northampton to hear complaints concerning the wool sack levy granted to the king (ibid 1340-1343 p314). Dugdale draws Trussell shields that where once in the east window of All Saints Church, Billesley (Dugdale p540). All show the coat used by the junior line of the family *argent a cross fleure gules*. Billesley was among the estates seized from Sir William Trussell (d.ca 1346), of the junior line, that by 1337 had been granted to Sir John Trussell of Kibblestone, of the senior branch, who transferred it to his brother Warin (VCH Warks, vol 3, Billesley). It remained with the senior branch until 1383 when Margaret Pembridge, nee Trussell transferred it to Sir Alfred/Avery/Alured Trussell of the junior branch. John appears to have retained the advowson of All Saints Church at Billesley. He and then his son William were recorded as patrons (from ca. 1339 to 1361) until replaced by Alfred by 1392 (Dugdale p 540). Alfred, or a descendent, must have put up the armorial glass after Billesley was regained. Identification of who is represented by impaled coats, including Harewell, Rous and one unidentified coat, (see Appendix B) demonstrating marriages with Trussells (see Dugdale p540) will clarify which Trussell put the armorial glass up. Dugdale (p538) says John in 1340/41 describes himself as "of Acton" and his brother William "of Cubleston". In 1342 John Trussell of Acton and Alice his wife settled the manor of Bednall & Brocton for themselves for life with remainder to William Trussell of Kibblestone in Stone (his brother) but Acton passed to another William, son of John, who in 1371, settled it on Margaret (William "of Cubleston's daughter) and her husband Fulk Pembridge (VCH Stafford, Acton). In Nov 1345 John and William (probably his brother) were with William le Botiler and the Sheriff of Salop on a commission led by Richard, Earl of Arundel, Justice of North Wales, to arrest Adam Peshale (CPR 1345-1348 p34).

¹⁹ Dugdale (p539), repeated by Ormerod, says his wife, and mother of William, was Maud, daughter of Sir William Boteler (d. in childbirth). It seems likely that she was a sister to Ida who married John's brother William as his second wife. Dugdale gives John a second wife, daughter of John Strange, who gave him three more sons, Warin, Fulk and John (tree p 537). Ormerod (p227) says these sons appear in an entail of 11 EIII (1336.7) but gives identical sons to John's brother William citing an original pedigree (ibid p229). He concludes this is unimportant as they must have died issueless (ibid p227). There is evidence that John had sons William and Warin, and William had a son John. However, by 1342 John (d.1347) had a third wife, Alice (see his note).

²⁰ First wife of William Trussell: Ashmole visited St John the Baptist Church, Shottesbrooke, in 1664-66 and drew the extant armorial glass (Ashmole 850 f.290 &291 in the Bodleian, reproduced in Darracott 2014a). The double Trussell tomb for William and his wife in the north transept once had in its north window three Trussell coats, two of which were impaled. One is for William and his second wife Ida Boteler. It has been suggested that the other impaled coat was for his first wife, Isabel, surname unknown (Darracott 2014a, p25). The impalement *azure two bars argent* is likely to be the coat of the Venables family and <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=jweber&id=107558> says his first wife was Isabel (Rose) daughter of Hugh Venables of Kinderton cum Hulme, Cheshire, and they had a daughter Isabel who married John St Pierre (see also VCH Warks, vol 6, Hunningham). However, according to Dugdale, Rose Venables was the wife of his nephew William (see above). Either both had Venables wives or nephew William contributed to the glazing putting up the coat of himself and his wife.

²¹ Dugdale has him of Acton, Staffs (Dugdale tree on p537) but says John (his elder brother) in 1340/41 describes himself as "of Acton" and his brother William "of Cubleston" (Ibid p538). Maybe they exchanged manors. In 1318 he was on a commission of oyer & terminer concerning a death in Salop (CPR 1317-1321 p296) in the same year that his namesake of *Nothirst* (Nuthurst) held the same position in Northampton (ibid p303). In 1326 Oliver de Bordeaux, second husband of William's mother, Maud arranged for lands in Windsor and Eton to be held by the Vicar of the Old Windsor Church and re-granted to him and his wife and the heirs of their bodies, with successive remainders to William, Maud's son and his brother Warin (CPR 1324-1327 p214). In 1332 he was granted 50 marks yearly from the Exchequer for his continual stay by the king's side until he receive the equivalent in

land or rent (CPR 1330-1334 p233) which was partly satisfied with the grant of the manor of *Woghfeld* (Winkfield?), Berks, forfeited by Roger Mortimer (Ibid p242). This was exchanged shortly after for the manor of Roddeston, co. Northampton (ibid p258) which in 1334 was exchanged for the manor of Bricesbury in the town of Kempston (ibid p512, 548). From 1333 to 1335 William was Receiver for Edward III “*He was appointed by the King by word of mouth to receive and administer all moneys pertaining to the chamber*” (Tout p256, 286; CPR 1340-1343 p448). He is thought to have been with the king in Scotland in 1333 (pers. comm Ian Mortimer 2012) and in 1335 (Darracott 2014a p35). Note: in 1333 the battle of Halidon Hill and siege of Berwick (then in Scotland) took place. This was an important victory and William Montacute, made Earl of Salisbury in 1337, who distinguished himself at the siege, had details of the victory inscribed on the foundation brass of his priory at Bisham (see Ibid p10). The priory was founded in the same year, 1337, that Trussell founded the collegiate church at nearby Shottesbrooke (see below). In Nov 1333 Trussell was granted custody of Beaumaris Castle for life (CPR 1330-1334 p480) and in 1334 Edward III enlarged the grant of custody of Beaumaris castle to him, again in consideration of his long service staying continuously by the king’s side (CPR 1334-338 p13; Dugdale p538) the same reason being given for the grant in 1335 of custody of the lands of Hugh St John and the marriage of his heir and, in 1337, of the lands of William St John during the minority of his heir, Giles (CPR 1334-1338 p181, 433); in 1335 as constable of Odiham Castle he was to have his repairs inspected and audited (CPR 1334-1338 p208) and was still repairing the castle in 1362(CPR 1361-1364 p245,247). Dugdale (p538) says he was Sheriff of Anglesey in 8 EIII (1334), a post he still held in 1338 (CPR 1338-40 p49). In 1335 John of Oxonia enfeoffed William Trussell of *Kibleston*, king’s yeoman, with the manor of Shottesbrooke (CPR 1334-38 p91). In 1336 Trussell obtains a licence in mortmain for 40s in rent and the advowson of the church, parcel of the manor of Shottesbrooke, held in chief of Windsor castle, in service of rendering 20s at the castle, as appears by the inquisition taken by William Trussell, escheator on this side of the Trent, to six chaplains to celebrate divine service in the church for the good estate of the king and the grantor for life, for their souls after death and for the souls of the king’s progenitors and heirs and of the grantor’s father, mother and other ancestors (Ibid p252). The William Trussell mentioned in the 1336 licence obtained by William Trussell of *Kibleston* was made escheator south of the Trent on 27th Feb 1327 shortly after the end of Edward II’s rule in January 1327; the escheator is the William Trussell (d.1346/47), who was allied to Roger Mortimer (see Tree 1). On 8 April 1337 Edward III enlarged this licence for the alienation in mortmain of 100s yearly to these chaplains. Two days later there was confirmation of a grant by William Montacute (who had recently founded a priory at nearby Bisham) to Trussell of a purpresture called *Benetfeldesheth* (?Binfield Heath) sometime of the Knights Templar; and lands called *Shiteangrecrofes* in Shottesbrooke (Ibid p424). These licences are regarded as indicating the founding of a collegiate church dedicated to St John the Baptist at Shottesbrooke that probably involved rebuilding an existing church in the *new* C14th style (Darracott 2014c p2). In 1338 he was excused from removing claws from his dogs (CPR 1338-1340 p192) and had an enlargement of the grant of the manor of Brucebury (ibid p2). In the following year he was released from paying 20s rent to Windsor castle for Shottesbrooke instead being required to supply of a pair of gilt spurs (Ibid p266). In 1339 William, Isabella his wife and her guardian John Stopham negotiate with the two chaplains at Shottesbrooke concerning the manor of Shottesbrooke and lands in Shottesbrooke and Waltham St Lawrence, these possibly part of the foundation of the college (Berks Feet of Fines pt II, no 537 p107). In 1340, because of the affection the king bore him, William was granted the advowson of the church of Bastelden (Basildon?) and licence to grant it to his warden and chaplains. The chantry was to pray for the king, William and all Christian souls (Ibid p469-470). In 1341 the warden of the chantry was licensed to acquire rights to land in nearby Cookham (CPR 1340-1343 p230) and in 1343 in Waltham St Lawrence and Shottesbrooke (Ibid 1343-1345 p5). The armorial glass that Trussell put up in the church was seen by Elias Ashmole in the mid-C17th and included the coats of barons and knights, including Trussell, who fought for Edward III in Scotland and on the continent plus several coats for the King and one for his wife Philippa of Hainault (see Appendix A & Darracott 2014a). In 1339 William made a settlement of Shottesbrooke on himself and wife Isabel with remainder to his brother Warin (VCH Berks vol 3 Shottesbrook p165). Isabel died before 1348 when he settled the manor of Shottesbrooke on himself, Ida his wife and his son John and his heirs (ibid citing CPR 1348-50 p148). In 1340 he was to arrest John de Moleyns, Knight, and take him to the Tower. Moleyns been captured by William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, Marshall of England, but had escaped (CPR 1340-1343 p104). William evidently had a commission to take into the king’s hands all the lands belonging to John. In 1341 the manor of Silveston, co. Northampton, that the latter had granted to the Burnham Abbey, co. Berks, was restored to the abbess and convent (CCR 1341-1343 p158, 248-9). Also in 1341 he and his brother Warin were to be paid by the king, possibly for service overseas (CCR 1341-1343 p84). In 1342 he successfully appeals to the king to be discharged from *the sum of wool exacted from him* (ibid 1341-1343 p491, 642,686). A William Trussell, of co Northampton (ibid 1343-1346 p256) in 1343 and 1344 was a justice involved in enquiring about wool *not coketted or customed* being taken out of the realm and other matters (Ibid 1343-1346 p247, 359,382). In April 1343 William Trussell of Cubbleston acknowledges he owes Queen Philippa 120l (CCR 1343-1346 p122) and in May nominates attorneys until Michaelmas as he is staying beyond the seas (CPR 1343-1345 p35). In September 1346, at Calais, when general pardons were issued for good service in the war of France, many men received pardons on the testimony of William Trussell (see CPR 1345-1348 p483-503). He occurs five times being referred to once as *of Cublesdon* (p500) and once in association with John Brocaz (p496). Sir John Brocas was of Clewer and Windsor (Roskell et al Sir Bernard Brocas), not far from Shottesbrooke in Berkshire. Edward, Prince of Wales (the Black Prince), and the earls of Warwick, Arundel, Northampton and others also gave testimony, suggesting William Trussell was of a comparable status (see Appendix A for their armorials once in the Shottesbrooke Church). In October 1346, at Calais, a patent records that William Trussell of Cublesdon, late receiver of the king’s chamber, having rendered an account for his time in the chamber was released by the king (CPR1345-1348 p476); the auditors of the chamber had accepted his accounts in the previous year (Ibid 1343-1345 p542). Sir William Trussell of *Cubleston* and Sir Warin Trussell were at Crécy with Edward III in the centre battle, William with the larger retinue (Ayton & Preston p248). The founder of the Shottesbrooke college is considered to have taken part in the Crecy campaign and was at the siege of Calais (1346- 1347)

Saul (p269-70). In 1348 he was responsible for delivering Maurice Fitz Thomas earl of *Dessemount* (Desmond) to Richard Talbot so that he could be brought before the king to answer his indictment (CCR 1346-1349 p494). The biographer of his namesake, Sir William Trussell of Flore (ODNB William Trussell d. 1346/7) queries whether the latter William is to be identified as the judge of the earls of Monteith and Fife after the battle of Neville's Cross (1346). A case can be made for his kinsman William Trussell of Kibblestone to be the judge of the Scottish earls. Duncan, Earl of Fife, had previously been captured at Halidon Hill in 1333, apparently his kinship to Edward III (he had married a granddaughter of Edward I) saved him from execution after his capture at Neville's Cross. However his fellow prisoner John Graham, Earl of Monteith (Menteith), was hung, drawn and quartered for treason as he had previously sworn allegiance to Edward in the 1330s; for combatants see <http://durhamcow.com/durham-events/battle-of-nevilles-cross/>. The Lanercost Chronicler's account of the battle includes sarcastic remarks about Patrick 9th Earl of Dunbar & Earl of March, and Robert Stewart (later Robert II King of Scotland) who both fled the field in 1346 (Lanercost Chronicle p339- 340). This same Patrick, in 1333 after the battle of Halidon Hill, had handed over Berwick Castle to Edward, taking an oath to remain faithful to the king's cause forever (ibid p281). William could have met the earl then, who in 1355 was involved in the recovery of Berwick (though not the castle) and in 1357 was one of the Scottish ambassadors who met at Berwick to discuss the liberation of David II king of Scotland, captured at the battle of Neville's Cross. He was one of the hostages until the ransom was paid. His wife was the famous Black Agnes of Dunbar (Wikipedia Patrick V Earl of Dunbar (1282-1360) acc Dec 2014). In 1347 William, as Constable of Odiham Castle, was to receive the Scottish lords, Sir Walter Halyburton and Sir William Ramsay, from Thomas Foxley, Constable of Windsor Castle (CCR 1346-1349 p272 several pages in this volume are inaccurately dated to 1327, giving rise to erroneous statements that William was Constable from that date). William was gaoler of David II, from 1355. In September 1357 when the king was ransomed he accompanied Trussell to Shottesbrooke where they spent the night before proceeding to London, Canterbury, back to London and then to Berwick, Trussell returning after the peace treaty was signed (MacGregor p106).The collegiate church this William founded at Shottesbrooke in 1337 once had armorial glass, a remnant of which survives, representing men active in the service of Edward III from the overthrow of Mortimer in 1330 to the siege of Calais in 1346-7 (see Appendix A), including the extant coat of Ralph Neville, 2nd Lord Raby who defeated and captured David II of Scotland in 1346 and gave his name to the battle (see Darracott 2014a p21).

Patents of 1359 show that Edward III exchanged Eaton Hastings (north west of Faringdon) with William Trussell of Cublesdon who granted the king Foly Johan and other lands in Old & New Windsor, Ascot and land in Eton which his stepfather Oliver de Bordeaux had been granted by the late king (CPR 1358-1361 p148,262). In 1361, *in consideration of his good service from his youth and his manifold labours endured for the king*, the rent on the manor of Eaton Hastings was reduced, so that he and his heirs should hold the manor at 40l yearly (Ibid 1361-1364 p34). In 1366, William having died, Eaton Hastings was inherited by his daughter Margaret. The king pardoned Margaret and her husband, Fulk Pembridge, all debts he might have against them as tenants (Ibid 1364-1367 p331). In 1371 William Trussell of Cublesdon, Margaret's cousin, paid a licence fee of 60l to the king for Margaret and her husband Fulk Pembridge to enfeoff him with the manors of Eaton Hastings and Shottesbrooke and the advowsons of the church at Eaton and the chantries at Shottebrooke and for him to grant the same to them and their heirs with reversion to William and his heirs (Ibid 1370-1374 p118, Berks Feet of Fines Pt I no 917 p191-192)). As Margaret and cousin William left no heirs both manors, after the death of Fulk and his second wife Isabel, were inherited by Margaret's heir, William, son of Laurence Trussell, another cousin. Both manors descended eventually to Elizabeth Trussell who married John de Vere, later Earl of Oxford. Their son John sold Eaton Hastings in 1544 to Henry VIII (VCH Berks. vol 4 Eaton Hasting).

²² Billesley was among the manors seized by Edward II from William Trussell (d.ca 1346) of the junior branch, after he joined the 1322 rebellion, and given to Sir John of the senior branch. John subsequently transferred it to his brother Warin for life (VCH Warks, Billesley). In July/August 1346 Sir Warin Trussell and Sir William Trussell of *Cublesdon* were at the battle of Crécy (Ayton & Preston p248). Foster p193 identifies both at the siege of Calais (1345-7), each bearing the senior Trussell coat (described as *argent, fretty gules, bezanty at the joints*). William and Warin were the second and third sons respectively so should have borne difference marks. Confusion arises from a Roll of Arms of 1352- 60 (Soc.Antiq MS 136) that includes drawings of the undifferenced Trussell coat and one with a *bordure azure*. Unfortunately the latter was mistakenly identified by the herald as the coat of William, the former is only labelled *Mons* Trussell. There was also an unidentified Trussell knighted at the capitulation of Calais in 1347 (Foster p193 says 1348).The senior Trussell coat with a blue bordure is said to have occurred at Crécy in <http://www.krigsspil.dk/download/hyw/eleft11x.jpg> . This internet site mistakenly identifies this coat as representing William Trussell, second son of Sir William, who with his father fought at Boroughbridge for Thomas of Lancaster in 1322. These Trussells were of the junior line and had a different coat (see Tree 1). A Trussell coat (*argent a fret gules bezanty at the joints with a bordure azure*) is extant in a window of St Michael's Church, Warfield, Berks, and I believe it represents Sir Warin Trussell. The same coat occurs in windows in St Mary's Church, Sherifffhales, representing one of Warin's descendents (see note of William Trussell (d.1464) below). In August and December 1347, Warin and his brother William borrowed money, using as surety *their lands and chattels in co. Berks* (CCR 1346-1349 p371, 414) and *co Stafford* (Ibid p 418-9). Perhaps the land Warin held in Berkshire included Warfield. The money seems to have been used to prevent their nephew William being imprisoned in the Marshalsea (see his note).

²³ Ormerod p229.

²⁴ See family tree in Ormerod p229. However, Hugh Cokese (1273-1301) is also given as the husband of Dionysia le Boteler, whose sister Ida married William Trussell of Odiham (i.e. of Kibblestone, Staffs, and Shottesbrooke, Berks). Margaret, William's daughter, and her husband Fulk Pembridge, released to Walter Cokese, the son of Dionysia and Hugh, ca. 1374/5, their right to a fourth part of the manor of Willey in Warwickshire (Dugdale p48-49).

²⁵ Dugdale says (p538) in 1345/6 he was in Gascony on the King's service. In July/August 1346 his uncles, Sir William Trussell of Cublesdon and Sir Warin Trussell, were both at Crécy (Ayton & Preston p248) and William was also at the siege of Calais 1345-47 (see his note). Foster (p193) describes a Sir William bearing the senior Trussell coat with a three point label azure, and indicating he was also at Calais. The coat of the William of this note would have borne a label as his father John was alive until 1347 and such a coat occurs in a window of St James Church, Acton Trussell, a manor that he inherited from his father in 1342 (VCH Stafford Acton). He could not have been at Calais after February/March 1347 as in March William, son of John Trussell of Cublesdon was in a group accused of ravishing and abducting Margery de la Beche (CPR 1345-1348 p310). By May he had escaped to Scotland (Ibid p319-320); in June 1347 William, son of John Trussell of *Cublesdon*, is among those to be arrested and taken to the Tower accused of rape and other felonies (Ibid p 379); in October 1347 he was to be committed to the Marshalsea prison of the King's Bench (ibid p460) but evidently wasn't there in December, when his uncles William and Warin, with others, were bound for 3000*l* to deliver him to the warden of the Marshalsea. It appears that they had to pay the money (CCR 1346-1349 p415, 418-9); their nephew William receiving a pardon in 1349 (CPR 1348-1350 p379). As an outlaw he may have qualified for the pardon by perhaps going to Calais to fight for the king in late 1347/1348 but as his father died in 1347 wouldn't then have borne a label on his coat. William was at Poitiers in 1356 with the Black Prince (*fighting near unto his person*) and received annuities from the Prince in 37 E3 (1362/3) and 40 E3 (1365/6)(Dugdale p538), both annuities (of 40*l* and then an additional 40marks) given *for great and gratuitous service* being inspected and ratified in 1367 (CPR 1367-1370 p45-46) in which latter year he had a licence from the king to impark his wood at Sheriff Hales in Salop and to make a castle (crenellate) of his manor house there (Dugdale p538, CPR 1367-1370 p17,18). He settled Acton Trussell, Staffs, on his cousin Margaret in 1371 (VCH Staffs, vol 5, Acton Trussell & Bednall; see also VCH Berks, vol 3, Shottesbrook p165). He evidently held lands in the Chester area from the Earl of Chester (the Black Prince); 1376/77 permission to give the advowson of the church of Warmingham to the prioress and convent of Chester (*unless it was parcel of the manor of Warmingham held of the earl in knight's service*); 1378 on the death of Edward Prince of Wales the escheats show he holds four and a half knights (Ormerod p227). In 1377 with others he was on a commission of array in Stafford to resist a foreign invasion (CPR1377-1381 p-40) and in 1378 he was given custody of Beaumaris castle for life (ibid 1377-1381 p153-4), a post held earlier by his uncle William. He was governor of Calais in 1379 (Dugdale p538) where he died (Ormerod p227) and appears to have made his will before he went. His will of 10th February 1379 says that he wished to be buried in the chapel of Marston Trussell; Elizabeth was his heir and his brother Warin was an executor (the other executors were Sir John Clinton, Sir Reginald Grey and Sir Walter Cokese). Also mentioned in the will, Elizabeth's father Sir *Amery* (Alfred) Trussell and his cousin, Sir Thomas Arderne (Nicolas p107). In 1379 an inquisition of his lands held of the earl (of Chester) including the manor of Brewardeshalgh and custody of the East Gate and lands and rents in Chester, gives Margaret, wife of Fulk Pembridge as his next of kin whilst a further inquisition regarding the manors of Ashton (near Kelsall), Northrode and Warmingham gives Elizabeth daughter of Katherine and Alfred Trussell as his heir (Ormerod p227). The Black Prince's widow, Joan, Fair Maid of Kent, had wardship of Elizabeth. After Elizabeth's early death these manors went to her heirs, her great aunt Margaret and her husband Fulk Pembridge. When Margaret died, William, son of Laurence, was her heir though her husband was still holding Warmingham in 1408 (Ibid p228). An inquisition of 1393 noted that William (d.1380) held the manor of Tetton and Warmingham by barony (ibid p227). The website http://www.krigsspil.dk/download/download_3.html says a William bearing the coat of the senior branch with a 3-pt label (indicating an eldest son) was at Poitiers in 1356 with his uncle, another William. William the nephew was at Poitiers but, as his father had died in 1347, should not have borne the label.

²⁶ Also given as Alured/Avery and of the junior branch of the Trussells. Natural son of Theobald Trussell and grandson of Sir William Trussell (d.ca.1346) who rebelled against Edward II in 1322 resulting in his lands being seized and who later played a leading role in the forced abdication of the king. This Trussell family bore a different coat (*argent a cross pate floretee gules*) to that of the senior branch of the family (see Tree 1) and this is the coat once seen in the east window of All Saints Church, Billesley (see Appendix B from Dugdale p540) so a junior Trussell put it up. Billesley was among the manors seized by Edward II after the 1322 rebellion and transferred to the senior Trussells. It remained with the senior line until Margaret Pembridge (nee Trussell) returned it to Alfred after the death of his daughter Elizabeth, by 1383 (Roskell et al *Sir Alfred Trussell*). Patronage of the church reflects this; from ca. 1339 to ca. 1361 the patrons of the church were from the senior Trussells whilst in 1392 the patron was Alfred (*Aluredus*) (see Dugdale p540). It is probable that the armorial glass was put up by Sir Alfred Trussell after he regained Billesley or by a descendent. Identification of who is represented by the impaled coats (Trussell impaling unknown; Trussell impaling Rous; Trussell impaling Harewell) once there would help resolve the matter. The junior Trussell coat among many, including Harewell, Boteler and Freville, were once in windows of the church in Henley-in-Arden (see Appendix B) together with coats for Henry VI and Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick (Dugdale p599). These armorials can be dated to after 1423 as the Beauchamp coat bore an inescutcheon for his second wife Isabel Despenser who he married in that year. The Trussell coat here would most likely represent William, Alfred's son. Foster (p193) says Avery (Alured/ Alfred) bore the field *or not argent* (citing the Surrey Roll) but lists him with Warin and William from the senior branch of the family who bore a different coat (*argent a fret gules bezanty at the joints*). Unfortunately this coat (*or a cross pate floretee gules*) is, by mistake, on an altar cloth at St John the Baptist Church, Shottesbrooke, that represents past owners of Shottesbrooke.

²⁷ Dugdale (tree on p537) gives John (d.1347) three additional sons, John, Warin and Fulk, by a second wife, a daughter of John Strange. Ormerod (p229) identifies her as Joane, daughter of Sir John Strange. He suggests these sons died issueless (Ibid p227). Warin, according to Dugdale (p537), was Rector of Warmingham (information in St Leonard's Church, Warmingham, lists rectors: 1306 Thomas Trussell and later 1350 Warin Trussell). He was an executor of his half-brother William (Nicolas p107) and when young appears to have joined him in his riotous activities. In August 1347 William and Warin Trussell (both chevalier) were among a group that broke into the park at Eyton in Essex in the king's hands due to the nonage of the heir of John de Lovayne, where they hunted, felled trees, fished and carried away fish and trees as well as deer (CPR 1345-1348 p393). Earlier, in Dec 1342, William Clinton, Earl of Huntingdon, complained that a group including Warin had hunted deer and other game in his park at Aston Cantelowe, Warwick, and beaten up his servants (CPR 1340-1343 p588).

²⁸ CPR 1348-50 p148. John must have predeceased his father as the estate devolved at his own death in 1363 on his daughter Margaret (VCH Berks vol 3 p165). A John Trussell was knighted by Edward III at the siege of Calais in 1347 together with an unidentified Trussell (Shaw vol 2, p7). According to Foster (p193) the John knighted at the capitulation of Calais bore the coat of the junior branch of the family whilst the unidentified Trussell was of the senior branch. However, there is no obvious candidate for this John in Tree 1. If Foster mixed up the coats (he does attribute the senior coat to a Sir John, Richard and Thomas), the John Trussell knighted at Calais could be either this John, his cousin John, (if he existed) or, less likely, his uncle John. If this John was at Calais this may have contributed to his early death by either disease or wounds.

²⁹ Aged 14 when her father died, she inherited from him Bruscebury in Kempston (Bedfordshire) and Eton Hastings and Shottesbrooke, two important advowsons and other properties in Berkshire. She also inherited estates from the Boteler family. It was from her cousin, William Trussell (d. 1380) that she inherited her most substantial properties. The estates included the bailiwick of the east gate of the city of Chester; land in Delamere Forest (all in the county of Chester); Kibblestone, Acton Trussell (in Staffs); Sheriff Hales (on the Salop/Staffs border); and manors in Northants and Leics. She also held a fifth part of Weston under Lizard, Staffs, from her first husband. She died in 1399 (Roskell et al *Fulk Pembridge (d.1409)*); Ormerod p 229 has 22 Ric 2 = 1398) and was buried in the floor of the north transept of St John the Baptist Church, Shottesbrooke, in front of the tomb of her father and mother. The brass on her monument shows a woman with an elaborate headdress, her head resting on a cushion. The brass border inscription, recorded by Ashmole (Ashmole 850 f 293 Bodleian) but now mostly lost, was in French, noting that Lady Margaret was the wife of *Monsieur F... Pennbrigg Chevalier*. Her estates ought to have passed to William Trussell (grandson of her uncle Warin) but jointures made during Margaret's life allowed her husband Fulk to retain them for life.

³⁰ Of Tong castle, Salop, married before Aug 1363 to Margaret Trussell (d.1399). In 1407 William Trussell (d.1464), heir of Fulk's first wife Margaret, agreed that Isabel, Fulk's second wife might keep possession of his Berkshire & Oxfordshire inheritance for 20 years after Pembridge's death, there is speculation that Fulk had some financial hold over William's affairs (Roskell et al *Fulk Pembridge (d.1409)*). It seems these were not the only Trussell estates to be retained as Acton Trussell in Staffordshire was not inherited by William until Isabel died in 1446 (VCH Staffs – Acton Trussell). After Fulk's death in 1409, his second wife, Isabel, established a college at Tong to pray for the soul of Fulk and for that of Margaret his first wife (Tong Church guide). She was chiefly instrumental in building the magnificent church at Tong and erecting the alabaster monument of Fulk that remains there (Roskell et al *Fulk Pembridge (d.1409)*). It is hard to escape the conclusion that Trussell money helped build it.

³¹ Died 1446. Daughter of Sir Ralph Lingen of Wigmore, Herefs (Roskell et al *Fulk Pembridge (d.1409)*). Foundress of the collegiate church of St Bartholomew's, Tong, Salop.

³² Ormerod (p229) cites offspring from this marriage including William and Margery who married Sir William Trussell (d.1464).

³³ Ormerod cites two sisters of Maud: Elizabeth wife of John Kieriol and Frances wife of William Sale (p229).

³⁴ 8.6 miles from Acton Trussell.

³⁵ He appears to have also had a brother Philip. In 1340 Laurence Trussell and Philip his brother were enfeoffed with the manor of Chesewardyn (CPR 1338-1340 p543). Outlawed in 1396 for debt at suit of John Duke of Lancaster (CPR 1391-1396 p723). Acquired Bilton in right of his wife after a law suit (VCH Warks, vol 6, Bilton).

³⁶ Brought land in Fleckney, Leics to the marriage (before 1383). Trussells already held land there, William (presumably d.1363) had free warren there in 1331 (VCH Leics, vol 5, Fleckney).

³⁷ Elizabeth (d.1383) when Margaret, wife of Fulk Pembridge, was her heir. Margaret granted the manor of Billesley to Sir Alfred Trussell in heir male. He married again and produced heirs (VCH Warks, vol 3 Billesley).

³⁸ Maud had a younger sister Joan who married Sir John Salisbury and held Upton Waryn, Co. Worcs, and Chebsey, Staffs, for her part. Custody of the lands of Maud and Joan had been granted by the king in 1369/70 to John Beauchamp and John Rous who by patent in the following year passed the lands to Ralph Lord Stafford, probably the reason why Maud was married to Ralph Stafford. Maud had livery of lands in 1374/5 and held the manor of Lemington (Hastang) with the manor of Grafton, Worcs. From Ralph Stafford & Maud descended the Staffords of Grafton (Dugdale p213).

³⁹ Married before March 1402 to Margery, daughter of Sir John Ludlow (d.1398) of Stokesay Castle, Salop. In 1407 William grants manor of Shottesbrooke and advowsons of two chantries to Fulk Pembridge and confirmed estates which latter has in manor of Eaton Hastings in Cos. Berks and Oxon held by him and his late wife Margaret. Manors and advowson to go to Isabel (his present wife) for 20 years after Fulk's death then to William and his heirs (CPR 1405-1408 p336; Roskell et al *William Trussell (d.1464)*). The failure of both William Trussell (d.1380) and Margaret Pembridge (née Trussell) to produce an heir resulted in the extensive Trussell estates being inherited by this William viz.

Kibblestone and Acton in Staffordshire; Sheriff Hales on the Staffordshire border with Shropshire; five manors in Northamptonshire, Shottesbrooke, Eton (Eaton) Hastings and other property in Berkshire; the bailiwick of the east gate of the city of Chester; and land in the forest of Delamere elsewhere in the palatinate. However, when Fulk died in 1409 William could only take possession of the Cheshire estates and of Eaton Mauduit in Northants; the Berkshire properties were not his before 1428 and for the rest he had to wait until he was aged over 60 (Roskell et al , *William Trussell (d.1464)*; VCH Staffs, vol 5, Acton Trussell and Bednall). Inherited Elmesthorpe and other manors from his mother and after his stepfather's death ca. 1415 made it his chief place of residence. His biographer says he *tended to riotous behaviour*, was at Agincourt in 1415 and the Cade rebellion of 1450 in Kent when he was among those who obtained a general pardon (Roskell et al, *William Trussell (d.1464)*). In St Mary's Church, Sheriffhales, there are two ancient Trussell shields, the senior coat bearing a blue bordure and this same coat impaling *argent a lion rampant sable, tongued and clawed or, a fess counter compony or and azure* (the latter coat has been placed reversed sometime in the past); see Appendix B. This may be the coat of William and Margaret Ludlow. The coat of a Sir John Ludlow in 1348 was *or a lion rampant sable* (Foster p134). The Trussell coat with bordure is extant on a tile on the floor of the medieval Langley Chapel, Shropshire (see Appendix B).

⁴⁰ Roskell et al *William Burley (d.1458)*.

⁴¹ Daughter of William Kene by Elizabeth Chichele, niece of Henry Chichele, Archbishop of Canterbury (Burke p540). However, Margaret, daughter of Kyme of Kent, has also been given as his wife (Ormerod p229).

⁴² In 1472 had custody of the palace of Edward IV at Westminster; 1475 when Knight of the Body, served this king in his French wars; 1476 Sheriff of Warks & Leics (Dugdale p539). Dead by June 1480, his lands and the keeping of his heir, Edward, was granted to William, Lord Hastings (Wedgewood p 879). William died seized of Acton Trussell, Bedenhale, Sheriffhales, Thrift Haly, (Staffs & Salop), Woburn (Norfolk), Shottesbrooke (Berks); and manors in Leics, Northants and Essex, plus Billesley (Warks) (Dugdale p539).. Dugdale, referring to Billesley, says *but how that comes to pass I do not apprehend*. Billesley would have been seized by Edward II due to William Trussell's (d.1346/7) participation in the rebellion of Thomas of Lancaster in 1322 (see Tree 1). It was granted to Sir John Trussell of Cubbleston of the senior branch who transferred it to his brother Warin for life (VCH Warks, vol 3, Billesley). Billesley was among the manors transferred by Margaret Pembridge (nee Trussell) to Sir Alfred Trussell (d.ca. 1419), but apparently by 1481 it was back with the senior branch of the Trussells.

⁴³ Daughter of Sir John Dun (see Ormerod p229) or Don/Donne. Her mother was Elizabeth Hastings (d.1508), sister of William Hastings (1st Baron Hastings) who evidently made good use of the grant of the keeping of Edward Trussell (see above).

⁴⁴ In 1481 he was a minor and the wardship of his lands was given by the Earl of Chester (Edward, Prince of Wales, son of Edward IV) to the king (Ormerod p228). Edward IV evidently granted or sold it to his loyal supporter William Hastings (1st Baron Hastings), who was executed in 1483 when Edward's brother, Richard III, seized the throne and is buried in St George's Chapel, Windsor. Hastings in his will wished his brother-in-law (& Edward Trussell's father-in-law) Sir John Don to purchase the wardship (Wikipedia Elizabeth Trussell acc Nov 2014). Edward Trussell died, still a minor and ward, on 14th June 1498 (14 Hen VII), when his son John aged one year and upwards at his father's death also became a ward of the Prince (Ormerod p228). The Prince of Wales in 1498 would be Henry VII's son, Arthur (d.1502). The manor of Warmingham in Cheshire had been held of the Earl of Chester since at least 1376/77 (see Ibid p 227-228).

⁴⁵ In 1499 John died and his sister Elizabeth was heir. In 1500 George, Earl of Kent, had wardship of all their manors and lands held of the Earl of Chester; however, by 1506 Elizabeth was ward of the King (Henry VII) (Ormerod p228) see note for Elizabeth his sister.

⁴⁶ Elizabeth, born 1496, became heir, aged 3. Wikipedia (acc Nov 2014) says her wardship and marriage was purchased by George Grey, 2nd Earl of Kent, who wanted Elizabeth for his son Henry by his 2nd marriage. However after George's death in 1503, she was abducted by Richard Grey, 3rd Earl of Kent, his eldest son and heir by his 1st marriage. Henry VII fined him 2500 marks which Richard failed to pay. Due to these events her wardship and marriage was sold by Henry VII to John de Vere, Earl of Oxford (d.1513), and his cousin, also John, who married her between April 1507 and July 1509, becoming afterwards 15th Earl of Oxford (d.1540) Dugdale (p539). The Trussell manor of Acton descended with the earldom (VCH Staffs, vol 5, Acton Trussell & Bednall) as did Shottesbrooke until 1578-9 when his descendent Edward de Vere sold it to Thomas Noke (VCH Berks, vol 3, Shottesbrook, p166). The altar tomb of the 15th earl and Elizabeth Trussell, made of touch, is extant in the chancel of St Nicholas Church, Castle Hedingham, Essex. The 15th earl was alive at the time of the dissolution of the monasteries, so was therefore unable to be interred at the de Vere's traditional resting place, Earls Colne Priory (information from St Nicholas Church website). The tomb was moved from the centre of the chancel during restoration work in the 19th century. The moulded slab at the top of the tomb bears an armorial of de Vere impaling Trussell surrounded by the garter. Elizabeth's coat is represented as Trussell quartering Burley, her great-grandmother being Elizabeth Burley. Her Trussell coat is undifferenced i.e. there is no bordure present, which has been suggested as the difference mark for this branch of the Trussells (see note for William Trussell d.1464). Puzzlingly, this tomb in 1767 was described by Weever (p378-9) as being ruinous and on which he found *nothing engraven* except the names of the children the earl had by his wife Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Edward Trussell.

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Links to the original source are included for some references.

Abbreviations:

CCR = Calendar of Close Rolls

CPR = Calendar of Patent Rolls

CIPM= Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem

VCH = Victoria County History

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Appendix A

List of personalities once represented in Armorial Glass in the C14th St John the Baptist Church, Shottesbrooke

Source Ashmole 850 (fl 290-291) Bodleian Library, Oxford; Identifications from Darracott (2014a)

Chancel (21shields in total)

East Window -7 shields

Warene John, Earl of Surrey (d.1347)

Fitzalan Richard, Earl of Surrey and Earl of Arundel (d.1376)

Joan, Fair Maid of Kent (d.1385)

Bohun Humphrey, Earl of Hereford and Essex (d.1361), or Bohun William, Earl of Northampton (d.1360)

Mortimer Roger, 2nd Earl of March in 1354 (d.1360)

Montacute William, Earl of Salisbury (d.1344)

Edward, the Black Prince, son of Edward III (d.1376), or Henry of Grosmont, Earl of Derby & Lancaster (d.1361)

South Windows - 8 shields (3 windows)

Beauchamp Thomas, Earl of Warwick (d.1369)

Clifford Robert (d.1344), or Clifford Roger, Lord of Westmoreland (d.1390)

Latimer William, Lord Latimer (d.1335)

Percy Henry, Lord Percy (d.1352)

Ferrers Henry, of Groby (d.1343)

Mauny (Manny) Walter (d.1372)

Ufford William (d.?) or Ufford Thomas (d.1367) **extant**

Pembridge Robert?

North Windows – 6 shields (2 windows)

Neville Ralph, 2nd Lord Raby (d.1367) - **extant**

Martin William or Mauduit John (d.1347)

Mauley Peter, Lord Mauley (d.1355)

Talbot Richard (d.1356)

Grey family of Codnor, or Grey Reginald of Ruthin, or Grey Roger, Lord Grey of Ruthin (d.1353), or Grey John, son of Roger Lord Grey of Ruthin, or Grey John of Rotherfield (d.1359)

Dacre William (d.1361)

North Transept

West Window

Edward III – extant and in its original position

North Window

Trussell William (d.1363) founder of collegiate church

Trussell impaling Boteler for his marriage to his second wife Ida Boteler

Trussell impaling Venables: possibly his first wife Isabel was a Venables.

East Window

Trussell William (d.1363)

South Transept

West Window

Edward III

Gules 6 crescents (3, 2, 1) Unknown coat

South Window

Edward III

Arderne from Cheshire & Lancashire. Agnes daughter of Sir Peter Arderne of Aldford was the maternal grandmother of William Trussell (Ormerod p229)

Arderne

East Window

Edward III

Gules 6 crescents (3, 2, 1) Unknown coat

NAVE

West Window

Edward III - 2 coats

South Windows (two of)

Edward III - 2 coats

Clinton William, Earl of Huntingdon (d.1354) **extant**

Stafford Ralph, Lord Stafford (d.1372) **extant**

Philippa of Hainault, Queen of England (d.1369) **extant**

Location uncertain

Mortimer impaling Stafford for Edmund Mortimer, Earl of March (d.1425) and his wife Ann Stafford (d.1432)

Edmund, Earl of Stafford (d.1403) quartered with Anne of Gloucester, her coat taking precedence. Ann Stafford's parents

These two coats were later additions to the glazing

The list includes 24 coats that represent men who fought for Edward III, including Trussell plus several coats for Edward III and one for his wife Philippa of Hainault.

Trussell seems to have put family coats (Arderne) in the south transept. The unidentified coat (*gules 6 crescents 3, 2, 1*) also once there may be another family member. Such a coat was recorded by Ashmole (Ashmole 850 f. 294) in the chancel of the church at White Waltham, a village close to Shottesbrooke.

In 1330 William Montacute (see east window above) led a group including William Bohun that succeeded in overthrowing Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, at Nottingham Castle – a coup that gave Edward III power. As Trussell was rewarded in 1332 for his continual stay by the king's side it is likely Trussell was also at Nottingham. In 1337 Montacute was made Earl of Salisbury and Bohun, Earl of Northampton by Edward III, in the same year that Montacute founded a priory at Bisham and Trussell a collegiate church at Shottesbrooke. Armorial for both earls were among the coats put up by Montacute's brother-in-law, John Grandison, Bishop of Exeter, in the St Gabriel's Chapel of the cathedral dated to ca1350-1361 (see Darracott 2014b p69, 70, 178-179).

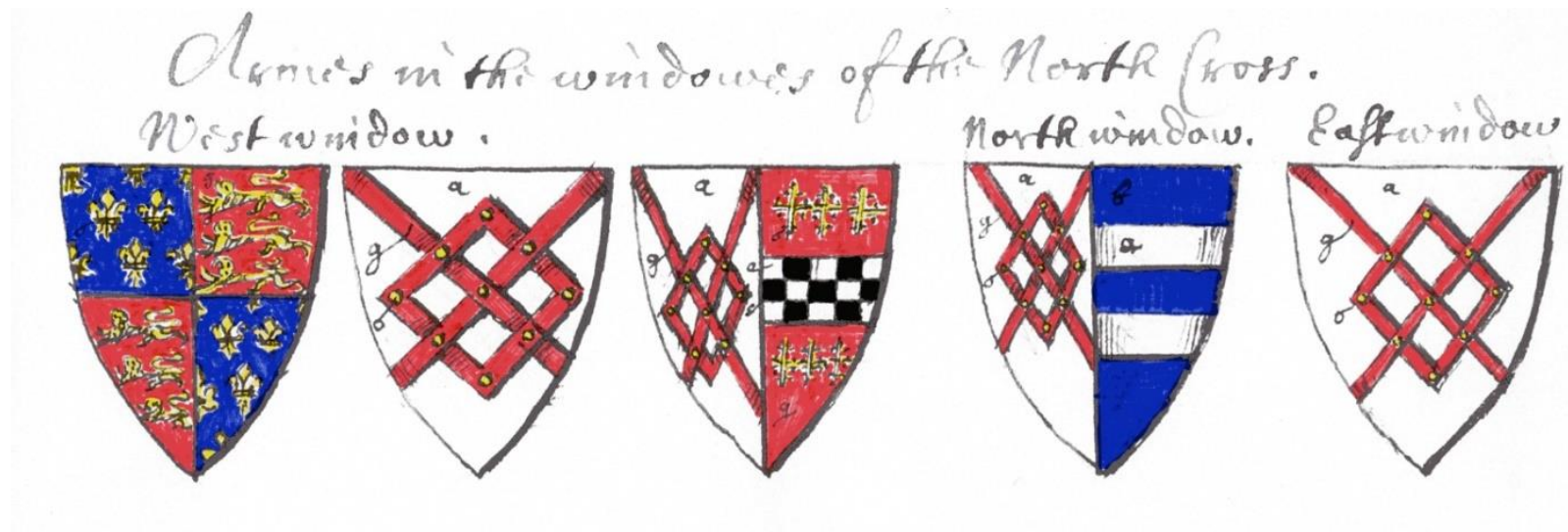
Appendix B

Churches linked to the Trussells

Trussells have held land in England since C12th. Certain manors usually held for a long time have had the name Trussell added e.g. Billesley in Warwickshire; Marston in Northamptonshire; and Acton in Staffordshire. The family grew and held land in many other counties including Berkshire, Cheshire, Leicestershire and Shropshire, acquired by marriage, from the king of the time or from relatives. The lord of the manor would often rebuild the local church leaving some evidence of his contribution. This Appendix documents such evidence of Trussell involvement.

St John the Baptist Church, Shottesbrooke, Berkshire – Trussell Coat of the Senior Line

Source: Ashmole 850 f.291 Bodleian Library, Oxford (coloured for Civic Society Newsletter of May 2014). None of these armorials survive.



Left to Right

*Edward III; Sir William Trussell; Trussell impaling coat of 2nd wife Ida Boteler;
Trussell impaling probably coat of 1st wife Isabel Venables; Sir William Trussell*

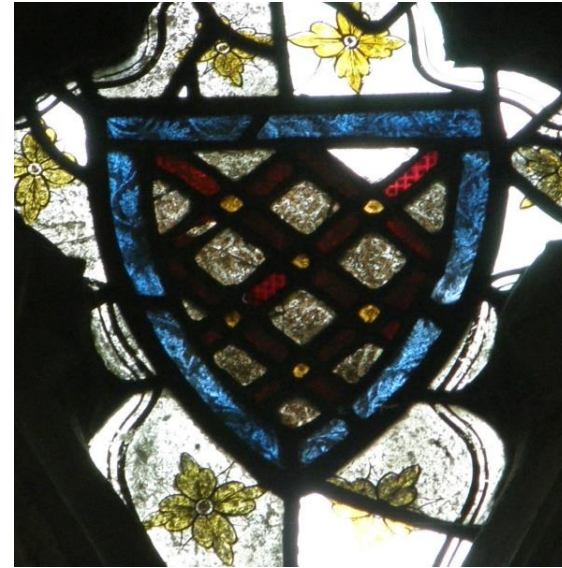
N.B. Ashmole identified the tomb as for Sir John Trussell and his wife Maud Boteler. However John's brother, William, is the founder of this collegiate church. Both brothers married Botelers. William, as a second son, should have borne a difference mark on his coat but Ashmole did not draw such a mark.



This Grade I church is C14th, part of a college founded in 1337 by Sir William Trussell (d.1363). The church houses the tomb of Sir William Trussell (d.1363) and his second wife, Ida Boteler. Portrait corbels under the tower are probably for Sir William and his Queen, Philippa of Hainault. In its curvilinear decorated windows, Trussell put up armorial glass for himself, his family and his associates. There is still a remnant of the armorial scheme, including the Queen's, but none of the Trussell coats survive (for Ashmole's drawing of them, see above).

I believe the armorial glass was put up by Trussell, probably before the death of William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, in 1344. The men represented in the armorial glass (see Appendix A), fought for Edward III in Scotland and on the continent. Some were prominent in the coup to overthrow Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, in 1330 and were present at the battle of Halidon Hill and the siege of Berwick in 1333; the battle of Sluys and siege of Tournai, and the following truce of Esplechin in 1340; the battle of Crecy and the battle of Neville's Cross in 1346, and the siege of Calais in 1346-7. Many became Knights of the Garter after the Order was created by Edward III in 1348/9. Sir William and brother, Sir Warin were both at Crecy.

St Michael the Archangel, Warfield, Berks – Trussell Coat of a cadet Senior Line



The church dates from C13th. About 1350 the north chapel was added, and not long afterwards the chancel was rebuilt and probably enlarged to its present size; the nave & transept were rebuilt mid-C15th. It was restored in 1872¹ and has recently had a dramatic reordering. It is suggested here that the Trussell coat, differenced with a blue bordure found in a window on the north side of the chancel, is for Sir Warin Trussell (d.1365). On the south side is the Royal coat (*France quartering England*) held by Edward III from 1340. It seems likely both were involved in its rebuilding.

The new Pevsner² dates the Warfield armorial glass to 1377, probably because a church guide says the church was rebuilt in the reign of Richard II. Spokes suggested that the coat represents *Sir William Trussell of Shottesbrooke (d.1363) for it is contemporary with the 14th century tracery of the window, as is the shield of the Royal Arms (for Edward III) in the south window. However the azure border may indicate another member of the family.*³ As a third son, brother Warin, is more likely to have borne the border (bordure). The Royal coat of Edward III also occurred several times (one is extant) in the Shottesbrooke church that Warin's brother William founded.

Ashmole recorded the coats of William Bohun, Earl of Northampton (d.1360), and William Montacute Earl of Salisbury (d.1344) or his son, and in the north window of the north chapel in the Warfield church.⁴ Armorial glass for Montacute and an undifferenced Bohun coat were among the shields recorded by Ashmole from the collegiate church at Shottesbrooke, founded by Sir William Trussell (see Appendix A). He would have known both earls as would his brother Warin. Both Trussells were at Crecy in 1346 as was the Earl of Northampton and Salisbury's son, William Montacute.

¹ VCH Berks vol 3 Warfield. Strangely, the armorial glass is not mentioned.

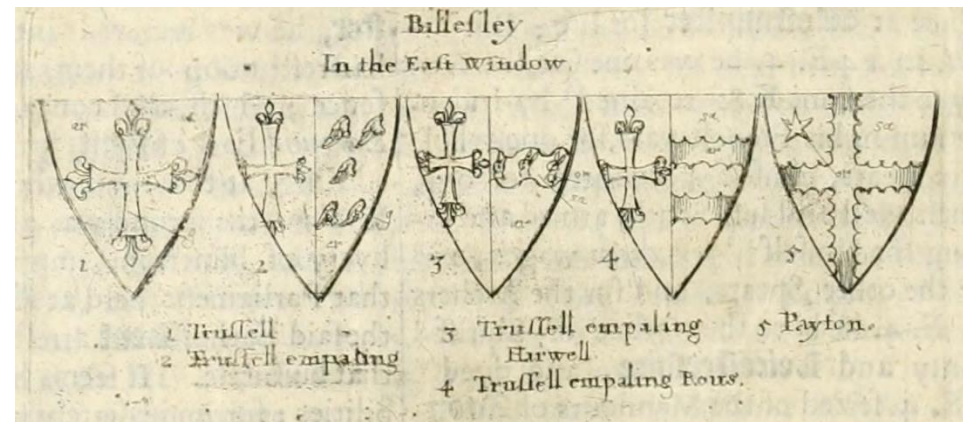
² Tyack et al p598.

³ Spokes p185.

⁴ Ibid who reproduced Ashmole's drawing opposite p183.

All Saints Church, Billesley Trussell, Warwickshire – Trussell coat of the Junior Line

Source: Dugdale p540. None of these armorials survives.



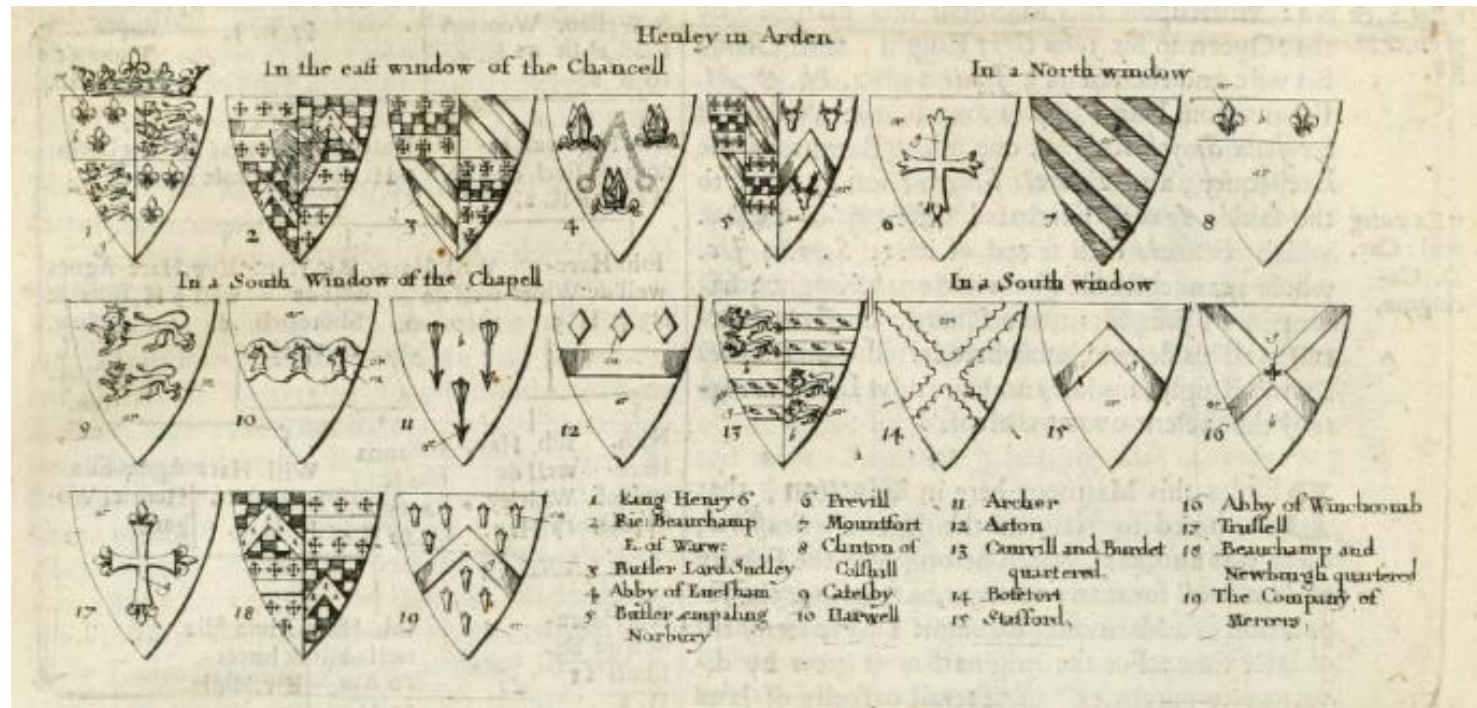
Trussell coat probably representing Sir Alfred (Avery/Alured) Trussell (d. after Oct 1419) or a descendent



Billesley Trussell was held by Osbert Trussell in C12th and was initially the main seat of the family. It was one of the manors seized from William Trussell (d.1346/7) after he rebelled in 1322, when Edward II transferred it to John Trussell of the senior branch. It was later given back to Alfred Trussell of the junior branch by Margaret Pembroke (nee Trussell) and her husband (see tree 1 & 2). Alfred was probably responsible for the Trussell armorial glass once in the church (see above). The church, modified in the C17th, is now in the care of the Churches Conservation Trust. It is adjacent to the remains of the medieval village of Billesley Trussell and to Billesley Manor House hotel, a late C16th - early 17th mansion.

Henley-in-Arden Church of St John the Baptist, Warwickshire - Trussell coat of the Junior Line

Source: Dugdale p599 None of these armorials survive though the Trussell coat and several of the others are displayed as Lords of the Manor in the town's Heritage Centre.



Trussell coat (no. 17) could represent Sir Alfred Trussell (d. after Oct 1419) or his son William Trussell of Nuthurst (d.1432) or even his son, John. Nuthurst is close to Henley-in-Arden

The presence of armorials for Henry VI (1) and Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick (d.1439) (2) indicates that at least some of these armorials were put up in the C15th. If they were raised in the lifetime of the Earl of Warwick, they date from 1423 to 1439. In 1423 he married, as his second wife, Isabel Despenser, whose inescutcheon (Clare quartering Despenser) occurs on his coat. They both died in 1439. The main body of the church is said to be probably about 1450 though the tower is earlier (VCH Warks, Henley-in-Arden). A guild of the Holy Trinity, St John the Evangelist & St John the Baptist was founded by Ralph Boteler, (3) in the church by 1408 (ibid) and in 1449, by then Lord Sudeley, he was granted a charter for the town and manor by Henry VI. The guildhall is located next to the church. It is likely that many of the coats seen by Dugdale represent members of the guild.

A display in the town's Heritage Centre of Lords of the Manor identifies the Trussell coat as representing the famous William Trussell (d.1346/7) but as indicated above I believe the coat, once in the church, represents one of his descendants. The display also has the coat of Archer as representing Thomas Archer, who was Lord from 1673, and whose father Simon worked with Dugdale on his *History of Warwickshire* (Wikipedia Dugdale acc Aug 2015). However, the *History* was published in 1655, before Archer was Lord, so coat no. 11 above is unlikely to represent him.

The mother of Sir William Trussell of Kibblestone, Staffs, was Ida Boteler (see tree 1). Sudeley was probably a kinsman. The Freville coat (6) may be for Baldwin Freville, husband of Elizabeth, Sir Alfred's daughter (tree 1). The Harewell coat (10) may represent a kinsman of the Harewell married to a Trussell (see Billesley above).

Further work is needed to clarify whether there is an overall scheme for the coats seen by Dugdale.



St John the Baptist Church, Henley-in-Arden with the Guildhall next door, on the left



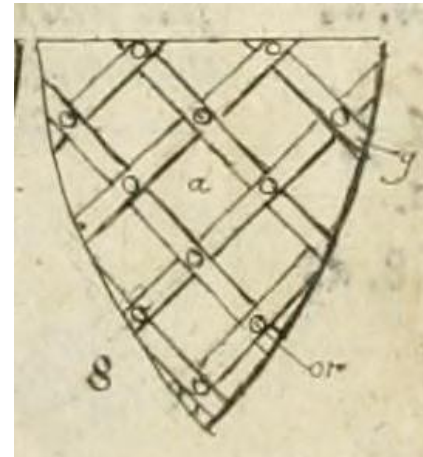
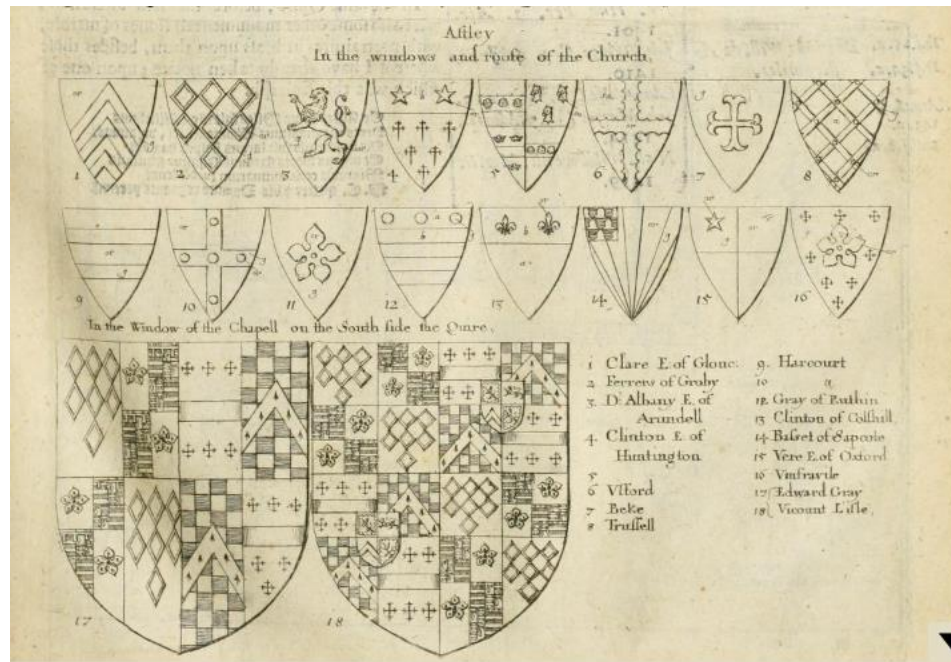
*The coat of Ralph Boteler on the Guildhall.
He founded the Guild by 1408, made KG by
April 1440, and Lord Sudeley in Sept 1441*



*The coat of Trussell (junior line) from a
modern display in the Heritage Centre,
Henley-in-Arden*

Astley Collegiate Church (St Mary's), Warwickshire – Trussell Coat of the Senior Line

Source Dugdale p75. None of these armorials survive except perhaps part of 17 below. C17th replicas of 4, 9, 10, 12 & 15 are on the panelled oak roof together with coats of families connected to the Newdigates (see information in the church).



Thomas Astley, who fought at the battle of Crecy in 1346, appears to have put up in the windows of Astley Church the coats of many of the men who fought alongside him including the coat of William Trussell (d.1363) (no 8) of the senior line. The only survival is a Beauchamp coat, perhaps part of the impaled coat of no. 17 above (a later armorial), that is now in the south window of the chancel.

In 1338 Thomas Astley, founded a chantry in the church and then rebuilt St Mary's in 1343 as a collegiate church. Of this church only the chancel remains, converted into the nave in 1607 when a new chancel was added. Dugdale did not record the Astley coat (*azure a cinquefoil ermine*) in the windows and roof of the church so it is likely some damage had occurred by the C17th. Of the smaller coats drawn by Dugdale, several appear to be the coats of men who fought alongside Thomas Astley at the battle of Crecy in 1346, suggesting that commemoration of that victory was part of the scheme. Astley was in the rear guard together with Richard Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel (3), Robert Ufford, Earl of Suffolk (6), William Clinton, Earl of Huntingdon (4), whilst in the vanguard were John de Vere, Earl of Oxford (15), John Grey of Ruthin (12), both William (8) and Warin Trussell. Robert Ferrers, Simon Basset, and Godfrey de Harcourt were also there (see Ayton & Preston p243 et seq) but it is uncertain whether coats 2, 9 & 14 are theirs. Also at Crecy was Thomas Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick; Thomas Astley was married to his sister, Elizabeth, both children of Guy

Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick (Dugdale p70) by Isabel de Clare (1). Beauchamp and Astley coats are extant on medieval tiles in the church and on the gables of the outside of the former chancel are several coats for Astley, Beauchamp and Clinton. It is assumed this indicates that Thomas Astley (d. after 1349), Thomas Beauchamp (d.1369), Earl of Warwick, and William Clinton (d.1354), Earl of Huntingdon, were major donors. Warwick was also Astley's overlord.

Interestingly, William Trussell (d.1363) in his collegiate church at Shottesbrooke, Berks, founded in 1337 – six years before Astley founded his college at St Mary's – put up some of the same coats in the windows of his church i.e. his own plus Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, Ferrers of Groby, Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel, and Clinton, Earl of Huntingdon (extant) see Appendix A. The Trussell coat at Astley, as at Shottesbrooke, was not drawn with a difference mark, which should have been present as he was a second son.

Note: The Thomas Astley, mentioned above, who died after 1349, is not the Thomas Astley (d. before 1342) whose widow Margery married Edmund Trussell (Tree 1). The latter Thomas was of a junior line who founded a chantry in the church of Hillmorton that was appropriated to St Mary's Astley when his namesake founded his college there in 1343 (VCH Warks Hillmorton). Edmund was of the junior line of Trussells, whilst it is the coat of the senior line that in C17th was in Astley church when Dugdale visited.



St Mary's Church Astley from the south east; the blocked-up east window of the original chancel is visible



Floor Tiles for Astley and Beauchamp



*Coats in the gable of the former chancel for: left: William Clinton, Earl of Huntingdon & Thomas Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick;
right: Thomas Astley, and Clinton again*

The last Astley (Sir William) died in 1420. His daughter Joan inherited Astley and married as her 2nd husband Reginald, Lord Grey of Ruthin, after the death of her 1st husband Thomas Raleigh (d.1404). Their son Edward Grey* (d.1457) married Elizabeth daughter of Henry Ferrers of Groby (Dugdale p69-75). Their 2nd son, Edward Grey (d.1492) married Elizabeth Talbot* whose grandfather was the famous Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick (d.1439), and whose brother Thomas Talbot (d.1470) was Lord Lisle. After Talbot's death, Edward was made Lord Lisle by Edward IV and Viscount Lisle by Richard III, in right of his wife. Dugdale (p74) says Edward Grey founded the chapel in this church where his armorials were located. The chapel must be part of the original chancel, converted into the nave in 1607.

* indicates their effigies are extant together with one for Cecily Bonville, 2nd wife of Thomas Grey, Marquess of Dorset (d.1529).



Left to right: Cecily Bonville, Elizabeth Talbot and her husband Edward Grey, Viscount Lisle

Edward inherited Astley because his elder brother, John, was killed fighting for Henry VI at the second battle of St Albans in 1461. John and his wife Elizabeth Woodville lived at Ashley Castle (Landmark Trust information board at the castle). After John's death Elizabeth's effort to obtain her jointure led to her meeting Edward IV who fell in love with her. They were secretly married in 1464 with long lasting consequences not least to Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick, based in Bisham Abbey, Berks.

It is likely that Edward Grey provided the choir stalls in the C15th during the reign of Edward IV. This is suggested by the badges on the misericords for Edward IV (lion), Richard Duke of Gloucester (boar; also found in stained glass); John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, Grey's father-in-law (Talbot dog); and probably Henry Stafford, Duke of Buckingham (Stafford bull terrier) who was married to Catherine, sister of Elizabeth Woodville. Double and single roses feature as supporters on the misericords. Whilst the rose is associated with the Virgin Mary to which Astley church is dedicated and is found on misericords in the reign of Henry VI, before Edward seized the throne, it is also true that Edward IV was referred to as the *Rose of Rouen* in a poem written after the Battle of Towton in 1461, as he was born in Rouen. Although the church guide says these stalls are C14th, they have been dated to C15th (VCH Warks, Astley). Stylistically they are similar to C15th stalls found in Great Malvern Priory, rebuilt in the C15th in the reign of Henry VI (Darracott 2005) and elsewhere.



Boar badges linked to Richard, Duke of Gloucester. Left: on a misericord; right: In a south window of the chancel



Badges on misericords linked to: left: Talbot dog of John Talbot, Earl of Shrewbury (d.1453); right: Lion of England for Edward IV



Badge on misericord of the Staffordshire Bull Terrier probably for Henry Stafford, Duke of Buckingham



Badges on misericords of roses that are associated with the Virgin Mary but also Edward IV (the Rose of Rouen)

Next door to the church is **Astley Castle**.

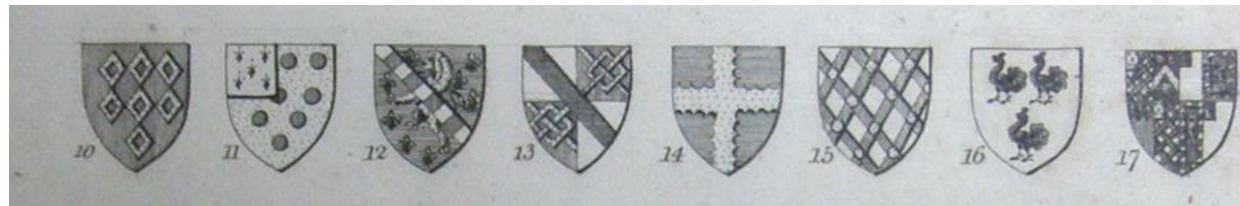


Inside the façade of the castle, a modern habitable property has been created for the Landmark Trust by architects Witherford Watson & Mann. Their prize-winning design uses space on the first floor, where probably the Great Hall once was, to create a large room for living, cooking and dining in. The Trust have produced a guidebook that traces its history.

The suggestion is that the Trussell coat once in Astley church represented Sir William Trussell who also founded a collegiate church at Shottesbrooke, Berkshire, in 1337, some six years before Sir Thomas Astley did the same at Astley. It is therefore an interesting coincidence that the Landmark Trust has its headquarters next door to the Shottesbrooke church.

St Mary's Church, Elmesthorpe, Leicestershire Trussell coat of the senior line

Source: Nichols pl CXIX p606 None of these armorials survive.



St Mary's Church from the south west; left: in 2015 right: ca. 1811 (from Nichols)

Elmesthorpe came to the Trussell family by the marriage of Laurence Trussell to Maud Charneis/Charnells before 1383 (see Tree 2).

This church today is partly ruinous. The church guide says the ruined part was built in 1280. In 1485 the village became depopulated and the church fell into disrepair, with only the tower remaining. By 1600 it was roofless and was still so by 1811 (see drawing above from Nichols pl XCIX p606). In 1868 it was rebuilt on the foundations of the ruin. The guide says that the piscina and sedilia are probably part of the original building. It seems likely

that none of the stonework of the windows survived. They have been rebuilt in the curvilinear style of the decorated period. Regarding the armorials, Nichols reported that a Mr Burton saw arms (10-15 above) in the church. Nichols also illustrated two more coats (16&17) though it is not known where he got this information. It seems unlikely they were still there in C19th. Coats identified are: Ferrers of Groby (10), Beaumont (12), Despenser (13), Charneis/Charnells (14) and Trussell (15). Three of the coats (10, 14 & 15) represent lords of the manor. The Trussell coat is undifferenced. It is suggested elsewhere (see Warfield and Sheriffhales) that this cadet line of the senior Trussells should have borne a blue bordure.

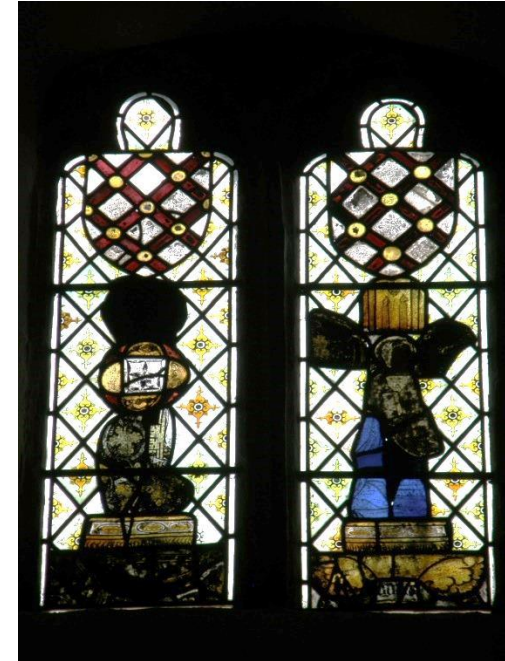
Records indicate that from C13th the Charneis/Charnells family were patrons of the church until 1424 when William Trussell, knt (d.1464), was patron (Nichols p607). Laurence Trussell became lord on his marriage to Maud Charneis at the beginning of Richard II's reign (succeeded 1377) though his son William did not inherit until after the death of his stepfather, Sir Robert Litton ca 1415 (Roskell et al Sir William Trussell d.1464). Nichols says it remained with the Trussells for five generations (who appear to have farmed it out). Probably drawing on inquisitions post mortem he says that in 1387 Henry Ferrers of Groby (deceased) had held Elmesthorpe in the same year that Baldwin Freville, (deceased), had held certain lands there. In 1418 a later Baldwin Freville (probably husband of Elizabeth Trussell see Tree 2) died seised of certain lands in Elmesthorpe. In 1444 it was found that William Ferrers of Groby (deceased) had held the manor whilst in 1457 Edward Grey, Lord Ferrers of Groby, died seised of Elmesthorpe (Nichols p604) gained by marriage to Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Ferrers (d.1425) who died before his father William (ODNB Ferrers family cf death dates). Edward was the son of Sir Reginald Grey who married Joan Astley (see Astley above).

Note: Elmesthorpe is about 50miles from Astley in Warwickshire.

In 1480 another William Trussell, knt, was seised of the manor and the advowson of the church and Edward Trussell was his heir. Edward's heir was a daughter Elizabeth who married John de Vere who became Earl of Oxford. His grandson sold the manor to Sir James Harrington in the reign of Elizabeth I (see Tree 2).

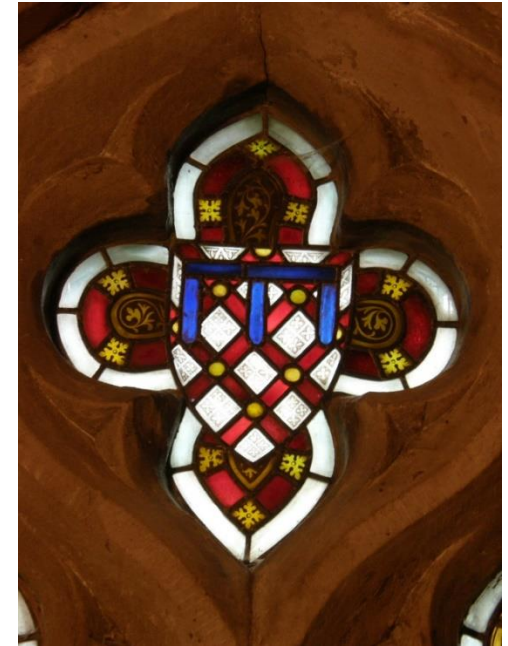
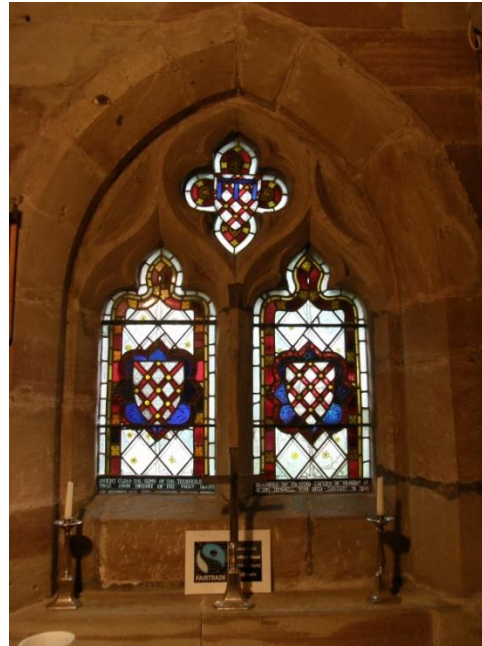
On 17th August 1484, King Richard III arrived at Elmesthorpe and as accommodation could not be found in a village, his chief officers slept in the church (Nichols p604).

St Nicholas Church, Marston Trussell, Northamptonshire – Trussell Coat of the Senior Line



Osbert Trussell was installed as tenant in chief of Robert, Earl of Leicester in the mid C12th. The Trussell family were known in the area until C16th. The present church was built between the C12th and C14th. It was restored at the beginning of the C20th but much of the original material was re-used (church guide). The Trussell armorial glass still to be seen in the church may have been put up by the William Trussell who founded chantry chapels in the church in 1282 (*A short outline of the history of Marston Trussell and the church of St Nicholas*) or a later Trussell. A list of incumbents in the church records Richard Trussell (subdeacon in 1233), and Laurent Trussell (subdeacon in 1313; priest in 1349). There is a Laurence Trussell (d.ca 1399) (see tree 2) but he was of a cadet line. Whoever put up the glass was from the main line as it is undifferenced.

St James Church, Acton Trussell, Staffordshire - Trussell Coat of the Senior Line



The church is said to have been originally built in 1212 but its windows are of the C14th. It was enlarged and rebuilt in 1869.

It still has armorial glass for the senior Trussell line now located in a chapel on the north side of the church. It is suggested here that the Trussell coat with the three point label is for William (d.1380) son of John Trussell (d.1347) who inherited the manor of Acton Trussell from his father in 1342 (VCH Stafford Acton), whilst the two without the label are for his father. It is likely one or both rebuilt the church in the C14th.

The inscription at the bottom of the window says ANCIENr GLASS THE ARMS OF THE TRUSSELL FAMILY RESTORED BY RICHARD LOCKER IN MEMORY OF UNCLE JOHN HIGGOTT OF THE MOAT HOUSE ACTON TRUSSELL WHO DIED JANUARY 12 1862.

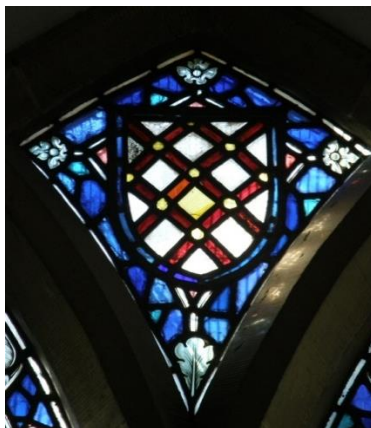
The **Moat House** at Acton Trussell is a C14th moated manor house not far from the church, probably built by the Trussells in the C14th. It is Grade II* listed and located on a scheduled ancient monument; it is now a hotel & conference centre. The windows of its pub have modern copies of the Trussell armorials in the church.



Acton Trussell was settled by William Trussell (d.1380) on his cousin Margaret (d.1399), daughter of his uncle, William Trussell (d.1363) founder of the Shottesbrooke Church (see above). She settled it on her husband Fulk Pembridge (d.1409) for life, who after her death evidently persuaded her heir, another William (d.1464) to allow it to be retained by his second wife, Isabel, for twenty years after his death. Acton Trussell was not regained by William until 1446 when Isabel died. Acton then descended in his line until the last female Trussell married into the earls of Oxford (see Tree 2).

The funds generated by this manor and other Trussell manors held by Isabel Pembridge must have helped finance the building of St Bartholomew's Church at Tong of which she is foundress (see below).

St Mary's Church, Sheriffhales, Shropshire – Trussell Coat of a cadet Senior Line



The church was originally built in C12 to C14th, re-faced in C17 & C18 and whole restored in 1884 (according to English Heritage Grade II* listing data, which does not mention the armorial glass).

It is suggested here that the Trussell coat (*argent a fret gules bezanty at the joints with a bordure azure*) in the church, is for William Trussell (d.1464) and the second coat, Trussell impaling Ludlow, represents his marriage to Margery Ludlow (see Tree 2 above). William was a descendent of Sir Warin Trussell and a similar coat is extant in a window of St Michael's Church, Warfield probably representing Sir Warin (d.1365). The impaled shield has been reversed sometime in the past. It is shown here in its correct blazon.

This is the William who eventually inherited Acton Trussell (see above) and other Trussell estates after the death in 1446 of Isabel Pembridge whose first husband, Fulk, had obtained them from his first wife, Margaret Trussell. William's wife, Margery Ludlow, was the daughter of Isabel Pembridge by her second husband, Sir John Ludlow of Stokesay Castle, Shropshire. See below for Isabel's foundation at Tong.

Sheriffhales is only 14 miles as the crow flies from Acton Burnell, located just south of which is the medieval Langley Hall moated site and Langley Chapel, both in the care of Historic England. The Chapel dating from the C14th was refitted in the C17th when medieval tiles were re-used. An extant tile bearing the Trussell coat with the bordure (see above, far right) suggests Trussell involvement in an earlier Chapel refurbishment, perhaps by this William.

Other Churches linked to the Trussells

St Leonards Church, Warmingham, Cheshire



Warmingham came to the Trussell family by the marriage of William Trussell (d.1316) with Maud Mainwaring (see Tree 2). It is said that their country seat was to the south of the church (church guide). The present building dates from 1870.

All Saints Church, Peatling Magna, Leicestershire



It dates from C13th with the roof being altered in either C14th or C15th. It appears some of the windows were replaced in C14th & C15th. Peatling Magna was one of the manors held by Sir William Trussell (d.1346/7) that descended to his son Theobald and then to the latter's first legitimate son John Trussell (d.1424); all of the junior branch (see Tree 1). It is likely there was Trussell involvement in the building of the church.

All Saints Church, Flore, Northamptonshire



The church is C13th & C14th; south porch & east end chancel C15th. C14th piscina with ogee arch at the east end of the south aisle. Repaired C18th, interior restored 1896-7. Flore was the principal seat of the famous Sir William Trussell (d.1346/7) (see Tree 1). Apparently there as once an effigy of his son Theobald at the east end of the north aisle. It was removed by 1838 and kept in the garden of George Barker but is now lost (pers. comm John Smith July 2015). A drawing of the effigy is in Northamptonshire Library.

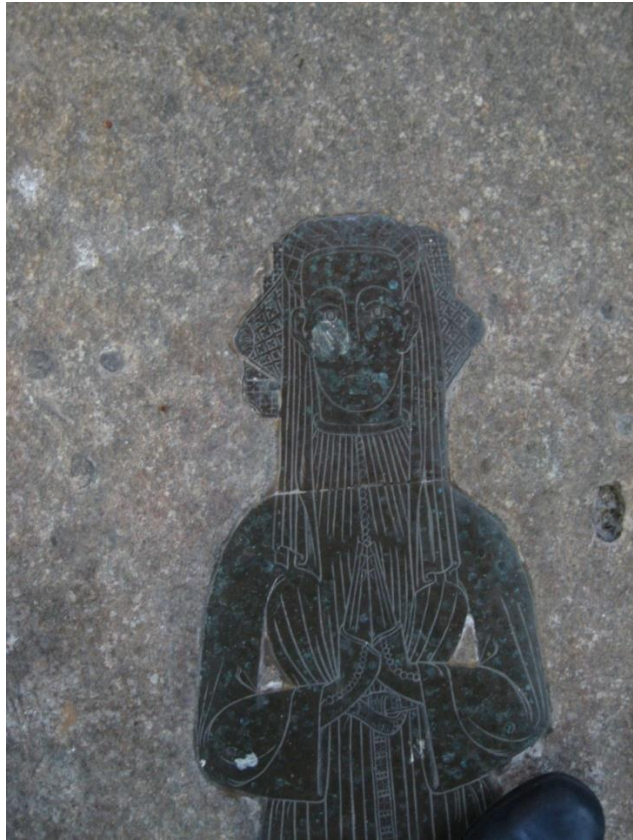
It is likely there was Trussell (junior line) involvement in the building of the church.

St Bartholomew's Church, Tong, Shropshire



Lady Isabel Pembridge, second wife of Fulk Pembridge, obtained a licence in 1409, from Henry IV, to found the collegiate church of St Bartholomew's at Tong so that masses could be said for the souls of her husband and Margaret Trussell his first wife (Tong Church guide). The money to build it would appear to have come from the Trussells. Isabel was supposed to retain Trussell estates for 20 years after Fulk's death (in 1409) but still held Acton Trussell on her death in 1446.

By tradition, a crown of roses is placed on the head of the foundress on midsummer's day, the feast of St John the Baptist, which should remain until replaced the following year. Unfortunately, Margaret Trussell has no such glorious setting or tradition to remember her, though her brass survives in the church of St John the Baptist, founded by her father, Sir William Trussell, at Shottesbrooke. It is perhaps no coincidence that the tradition to celebrate the foundress in the Tong Church occurs on the feast day of this saint.



Part of the brass of Margaret Pembridge (nee Trussell) first wife of Fulk Pembridge, in the north transept of St John the Baptist Church, Shottesbrooke, Berkshire that houses the tomb of her parents.

Note: Unfortunately there does not appear to be a church at Kibblestone (Cublesdon), another important manor of the Trussells.

St Nicholas Church, Castle Hedingham, Essex



This church dates from the C12th. In the early C16th the south porch was added, and the parapets of the nave and aisles were rebuilt. Early in the 17th century the nave was shortened by one bay at the west end, and the west tower was built. The church was restored in the 19th century.⁵

It seems that when the parapets were rebuilt the windows of the clerestory of the nave were replaced using brick. Over the head of each window outside, is a square sunk panel on which are carved a boar having a molet on its side and molets alone arranged alternately. Probably this work was done when the tomb of John de Vere, 15th Earl of Oxford, and Elizabeth Trussell was about to be placed in the chancel. The boar and molet are de Vere badges, the molet occurring on the de Vere coat. As Elizabeth brought the Trussell assets to her marriage it seems likely that Trussell money contributed to the rebuilding of the church in the C16th.

⁵ Castle Hedingham – Inventory

The altar tomb of the 15th earl and Elizabeth is of unpolished touch with a polished moulded slab, also of touch, having two panels. In the lower panel are two kneeling figures: a) of a man in fluted plate armour with a tabard of arms as on the first half of shield in the upper panel, mantle of the Order of the Garter, the Garter escutcheon being on the right shoulder; and b) of a woman in pedimental head-dress and heraldic mantle with the same arms as the tabard. The upper panel displays the initials I. O. (John Oxford) and a shield of arms surrounded by the Garter, supporters, crest, etc representing de Vere impaled with Trussell.⁶



Side View of tomb. Panelled, with kneeling figures of four sons (now against the wall) and four daughters with their names (l-r: Elizabeth, Anne, Frauncis, Ursela; and mottoes Verite vient on the end pilasters. When the tomb was moved to its present place it was reversed, and the children now face west instead of east.

Dates carved/scratched on the sides of the moulded slab: 1539 (2); 1661; 1669; 1684; 1724; 1734. The slab has been described as black marble but this would be too hard to carve.

⁶ Ibid



View of armorial surrounded by the garter on upper panel.

Shield—quarterly of eight

- 1) quarterly a molet in the quarter, for de Vere*
- 2) a lion and over all a fesse with three crosses formy fitchy thereon, for Colbroke*
- 3) three chevrons for Clare*
- 4) a saltire between twelve cherries, for Sergeaux*
- 5) a fesse between two gemel bars, for Badlesmere*
- 6) barry wavy, for Samford*
- 7) a lion, for Fitz Hamo*
- 8) de Vere as in 1)*

impaling

- 1) & 4) a fret bezanty at the joints for Trussell*
- 2) & 3) two bars for Burley*

A very eroded version of this coat occurs on the east end of the tomb. This would have been at the west end before the tomb was moved.



The lower panel showing the kneeling figures of John de Vere, 15th Earl of Oxford, and Elizabeth Trussell.

Elizabeth was the last Trussell heir (see Tree 2), bringing to her husband the Trussell wealth; a marriage that marked the end of the main line of the Trussells.



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