

**Will of William A'Barrowe of Biddenden, Kent,
dated 8th September 1558 and Proved 10th February 1558/59**

All spelling etc. is as in the original document. Text in [] is by way of explanation and correction.

Missing words are guesstimated and placed in (). See also end notes.

In the name of God Amen the viijth [8th] daie of September In the yere of o^r Lord God a thowsand five hundreth fryftie [fifty] and Eighte [1558] In the fyrste and Sixte yeres of the raigne of o^r Sovereigne Lord and Ladie Phillip and Marye by the grace of God Kinge and Quene of England [England], Spaine, Francc bothe Critlls ? July and Ireland, Defendo^{rs} of the faithe &c.

I **Willm [William] ABarrowe** of the parrishe of Biddenden In the Countie of Kente beinge hole of mynde and of good aand pfecte Remembrancc (thanks be to God) doe ordeine and make this my present testament and Laste will in manno^r and forme folowing (That is to saye)

ffirste I bequethe my soule into the hands of Almightye God my maker and redemer and my bodie to the erthe (* see end notes) to be buried within the churche yeard of Biddenden aforesaid

Item I will there shalbe bestowed at mye owte beringe [out burying] and other charitable deds x^s (2* see end notes)

Item I will to my **sonne John ABarowe** five m^rks [5 marks (2* see end notes)] of good and Lawfull monye of England and a cowe and a bedd of flocks to be delivered To him by my Executor when he comethe to the age of xxijth [22] yeres

Item I will to my **daught(er) Elizabeth ABarowe** fortie shillings (2* see end notes) of good and Lawfull monye of England, and the valewe of xiijs iiij^d [13 shillings & 4 pence (2* see end notes)] in howseholde stufte or ells in mony whether she will be paid and delivered to my said daughter by myne Executor with a flockbedd and a cowe when she shall accomlishe the age of xx^{ti} [20] yeres

The residewe of all my goods not above bequethed after mye debts paid, my leagcies and dunerall Expenses deducted and alowed I geve them holie unto **Lawrence ABarowe my sonne** whiche **Lawrence** I doe constitute ordeine and make my sole executo^r Justlie and trulie to pforme this my testamente and Last will

In wittnes of the same: **Thomas ABarowe** and **Thomas Svenherste** with others /

Probatum fuit: *Decimo (die) february Anno dini 1558* [10th February 1558/59]

Notes: * For some reason, the parish register was not kept from July 1558 until March 1558/59 – and **William ABarowe's** burial is not to be found.

- 2* 10 shillings in 1558 is approx. £231 today (2023);
 - 13 shillings & 4 pence = $\frac{2}{3}$ of a pound, which is approx. £308;
 - 40 shillings + £2, which is approx. £924;
 - A mark is $\frac{2}{3}$ of a pound, so 5 marks is approx. £1,539.
- [Source: *Bank of England Inflation Calculator*]