

Thomas Novis, brazier of Lewes, 1774
Ref: Archdeaconry of Lewes A63 p35 1774 no.15

Written 28 October 1773, Proved 26 February 1774

In The Name of God Amen I Thomas Novis of Lewes in the County of Sussex Brazier being in good health and of sound mind memory and understanding Do make publish and declare this to be my last will and testament in manner and form following (that is to say) I give and devise to **William Shadwell of Ringmer** in the said county gentleman and **John Chambers of Lewes** aforesaid apothecary their heirs and assigns for ever All that my freehold messuage or tenement and blacksmith's shop situate lying and being in Cuckfield Town in the said county and now in the tenure or occupation of **Henry Broakfield** and **William Gibson** In trust to sell the same and out of the money arising by such sale after the payments of my just debts funeral expences and charges of proving of this my will I give and bequeath unto my housekeeper **Ann Feldwick** twenty pounds if she shall live with me at the time of my decease to be paid to her within one month next after the decease of **Elizabeth Palmer** hereinafter mentioned but in case the said **Ann Feldwick** shall happen to die before the said **Elizabeth Palmer** then she to have the power to dispose of the same by will I also give unto my **nephew Thomas Vengum** the sum of ten pounds to be also paid out of the money arising by the sale aforesaid to be paid to him within one month next after the decease of the said **Elizabeth Palmer** I likewise give to my **nephew Charles Vengum** the sum of twenty pounds to be also paid out of the money arising by the sale as aforesaid to be paid to him within one month next after the decease of the said **Elizabeth Palmer** as aforesaid But if the money arising by such sale shall be insufficient to pay my debts and expences as aforesaid and the legacys hereby given and bequeathed Then my will and mind is that the said **William Shadwick** and **John Chambers** do sell and dispose of so much of my personal estate as shall make good that deficiency Also I charge All that my copyhold messuage and dwelling-house situate on School Hill in Lewes aforesaid having properly surrendered the same to the use of my will with the payment of the legacies hereinafter mentioned (that is to say) I give and bequeath unto my sister **Elizabeth Palmer** wife of **Richard Palmer** in Lewes aforesaid hatt maker an annuity of sixteen shillings per month during the term of her natural life the first payment thereof to be made the first Monday in the month next after my decease and so to be paid the first Monday in every month so long as she shall live but if she lives at Lewes then to be paid to her weekly during such time as she shall so live at Lewes and her receipt whether sole or married shall be a sufficient discharge to my said executors for the same Also I give unto my **niece Mary Whiteman** daughter of my **sister Mary late wife of Robert Whiteman** blacksmith deceased the sum of two hundred pounds to be paid to her out of my said copyhold estate within one month after the decease of the said **Elizabeth Palmer** if she shall have then attained the age of twenty one years or be married and so charged I give and devise one undivided moiety or half part of All that my aforesaid copyhold messuage in Lewes aforesaid unto **James Lee of Ringmer** aforesaid coachman and **Mary his wife** and their assigns for and during the term of their natural lives and the life of the longer liver of them and from and after the decease of the survivor of them the said **James Lee** and **Mary his wife** I give and devise the said moiety or half part of the said copyhold messuage in Lewes unto the heirs of the body of the said **Mary Lee** I also give and devise the other undivided moiety or half part of the said copyhold messuage in Lewes aforesaid unto my said **nephew George Vengum** and to his

right heirs for ever subject nevertheless to the payment of the aforesaid annuity to my sister Palmer Also I give and bequeath unto the said **William Shadwell** and **John Chambers** all my household goods book debts stock and personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever In further trust to carry on the trade of a brazier until my **niece Mary Whiteman** shall attain the age of twenty one years under the management and direction of my housekeeper **Ann Feldwick** (if she shall then like to continue) for the sole use and benefit of my said **nephew George Vengum** as well as the profits arising from the rents of my copyhold messuage All the rest residue and remainder as well of my household goods stock stock in trade working tools goods chattels real and personal estate and effects whatsoever and wheresoever and the surplus of the moneys arising by the sale of my said freehold estate as aforesaid after all debts and expences incident to the trust aforesaid and my debts funeral expences legacies aforesaid and the charges of proving of this my will are fully paid and satisfied I give and bequeath unto my said **nephew George Vengum** and the said **James Lee** their heirs executors administrators and assigns for ever to be equally divided between them share and share alike as tenants in common and not as joint tenants And I do hereby nominate elect and appoint the said **William Shadwell John Chambers** my said **nephew George Vengum** and the said **James Lee** joint executors of this my will and my further will and desire is that my just debts and legacies be paid out of the money arising by the sale of my freehold messuage and premises in Cuckfield aforesaid so far as the same will go before any of them be paid out of my personal estate or out of my said copyhold messuage and premises in Lewes devised to my said **nephew George Vengum** and **James Lee** but in case the same shall be insufficient I charge my said copyhold estate in Lewes with the payment thereof In Witness whereof I the said Thomas Novis the testator have to this my last will and testament contained in two sheets of paper to the first sheet whereof set my hand and to this last sheet my hand and seal also this twenty eighth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy three

Thos: Novis

Signed sealed published and declared by the said Thomas Novis the testator as and for his last will and testament in the presence of us who in his presence and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses thereto and the interlineation between the twenty sixth and twenty seventh lines of the first sheet being first made and interlined

Thomas Cheesman

H Scrase

Joseph Smith

26th February 1774 Then were sworn William Shadwell and John Chambers two of the executors named in this will to whom was committed the burthen of the execution thereof (Power reserved to George Vengum & James Lee the other executors when etc)

By us

E Lund Surrogate

Transcribed by Robert Barber January 2010