

# John & Ann Jary

## & John & Ann Jary

St Margaret's Parish Church  
Cley-Next-the-Sea

by Carol Dew

Two headstones lie in St Margaret's churchyard in Cley-Next-the-Sea, each shared by a husband & wife. Both husbands were named John Jary; both wives were named Ann. The two John Jarys were born approximately 20 years apart.

The younger couple's stone also has a memorial for a Mary Ann Jary, but it does not denote her relationship to them. A third stone, in memory of Bartholomew Jary, lies adjacent to this stone.

The headstones lie very close to each other, in a small group of two rows near the main church entrance. (The location and orientation of the stones are discussed in more detail at the end of this text.)

### Wills & Probate

The elder John & Anne Jary, and one of their sons, left wills. John Jary's will was written on 24<sup>th</sup> October 1817. Ann Jary was named as Executrix. The will stated:

**I, John Jary of Cley next the sea in the County of Norfolk late an Officer of his Majesty's Customs, ... to my son John, who is an Officer of the Customs and now lives in the Parish of Morston, the sum of one pound ... to Ann my beloved wife [everything else].<sup>(1)</sup>**

John Jary died 7<sup>th</sup> June 1821, age 77.<sup>(2; 3; p17)</sup> His will was proven at Letheringsett on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June 1821.<sup>(1)</sup>

Ann Jary's will, written six months later, on 4<sup>th</sup> December 1821, named her children:

**I, Ann Jary in the Parish of Cley in the County of Norfolk ... Firstly ... to my son John Jary the Sum of one Pound. Secondly to my son Jacob the sum of one Pound, Thirdly to my daughter Ann Nichols the Sum of Twenty Pounds. Fourthly to my daughter Susannah Butters the Sum of Twenty Pounds, Fifthly to my daughter Mary Ann Jary the Sum of Seventy Pounds. Sixthly to**

**my daughter Alice Jary the Sum of Thirty Pounds. ... I also give and bequeath to my son Bartholomew Jary all my Household Furniture Money and Debts due to me and all my other personal of what kind or nature soever. I also nominate constitute and appoint my son Bartholomew Jary and my daughter Mary Ann Jary sole Executor and Executrix...<sup>(4)</sup>**

Ann Jary died 21<sup>st</sup> Jan 1823 at age 75<sup>(3)</sup> (76 according to her headstone.)<sup>(2)</sup> Her will was proven at Letheringsett on 18<sup>th</sup> February 1823.<sup>(4)</sup>

Bartholomew Jary, whom I believe to be the Bartholomew mentioned in Ann's will, wrote his own will on 29<sup>th</sup> June 1821, seven days after the death of John Jary. Mary Ann Jary was named as Executrix. From that will:

**... to my brother John, who is at present an officer of the Customs at Morston the sum of five shillings .... to my sister Mary Ann Jary all that freehold dwelling ... which my mother now lives in...<sup>(5)</sup>**

According to his headstone, Bartholomew Jary died 19<sup>th</sup> Dec 1836, age 63.<sup>(6)</sup> The date given when the will was proven was 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 1836. ("Effects sworn under £20. Testator died 20th Dec 1836.") His will was proven at Holt on 8<sup>th</sup> August 1837.<sup>(5)</sup>

To summarise, the children named in Ann's will were:

**John Jary** (referred to in both the elder John and Bartholomew's wills as an officer of the Customs living in Morston.)

**Jacob Jary**

**Ann Nichols**

**Susannah Butters**

**Mary Ann Jary**

**Alice Jary**

**Bartholomew Jary**

### Two Bartholomews and two Jacobs

One who lacked knowledge of his will could easily confuse this Bartholomew Jary with the Bartholomew enumerated in the 1841 and 1851 Cley censuses as the son of — as luck would have it — John & Ann Jary. That Bartholomew's age in 1841 was given as 45<sup>(7)</sup> (born ca 1796), and as 56 (born ca 1795) in 1851. His place of birth was given as Morston.<sup>(8)</sup> A transcript of the Archdeacon's Transcripts for Morston lists the baptism on 20<sup>th</sup> Jul 1794 of Bartholomew, son of John & Ann Jary<sup>(9)</sup>.

The confusion is potentially compounded by the fact that the headstone of the Bartholomew who wrote the 1821 will and died in 1836 lies directly next to the headstone of the John & Ann Jary who died in 1851 and 1854, respectively.<sup>(10)</sup>

In addition to two Bartholomew Jarys, there were also two Jacob Jary / Jairy baptised in Cley in the late 1700s, each the son of a John & Anne Jary / Jairy. (For the sake of clarity, the "Jary" spelling will be used from here on.)

*An excerpt from the Cley-Next-the-Sea Parish Register.*<sup>(11)</sup>

(Page 1 Baptisms 1779, Line 19)

**Jary Jacob, son of John & Anne Jary. 11/10/1779**

(Page 13 Baptisms 1791 continued, Line 16)

**Jairy Jacob, son of John Jairy and Ann (Whitaker). 18/12/1791**

The Jacob Jary who was baptised in 1779 may have been the Jacob Jary who married Mary Boyce<sup>(12: p22)</sup> and later became the father of Jemima Jary,<sup>(13: p42)</sup> who in turn married Thomas Dew.<sup>(14)</sup> Jemima appeared in the 1841 & 1851 Cley censuses with her family; the year of birth calculated from her father, Jacob's, given age in 1841 would have been *ca* 1781.<sup>(15)</sup> In 1851, it would have been *ca* 1779.<sup>(16)</sup>

The younger John & Ann Jary's headstone appears, at first glance, to memorialise a daughter, Mary Ann, who died in 1855 at age 66. However, as mentioned previously, her relationship to them is not specified on the stone, and she will be discussed later in this text.

One could make a tentative conclusion that there were two Jary families in Cley in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, each consisting of a husband named John and a wife named Ann. Each couple apparently named sons Jacob and Bartholomew, and at least one couple, and perhaps both, had a daughter named Mary Ann.

## *A Savage Connection*

In addition to the baptism entries for the Jacob Jarys mentioned above, the following entry appears in the same register:<sup>(11)</sup>

(Page 17 Baptisms 1792, Line 21)

**Jairy Alice dau John Jairy and Ann (Savage) 29/10/1792**

Ann Jary's will mentioned a daughter, Alice. If Ann named her children in the will in order of their birth, and if this is the Alice mentioned in the will, the Bartholomew who was her brother should have been born after 1792. Calculating from the age on his headstone, the Bartholomew Jary whom I believe to have been the son of the elder John & Ann was born around 1773.

However, the wording of Ann's will regarding Bartholomew is slightly different from her other children, in that she did not specifically state a number (*eg, Firstly, Secondly*) as she did with her other children.

In Bartholomew's will, he gave his sister Mary Ann the freehold dwelling his mother "now lives in." Perhaps Ann saved her bequest to Bartholomew until last in her will because it was more complicated than the ones she made to her other children. (Remember, Bartholomew's will was dated seven days after his father, John, died, and Ann's will was dated six months later.)

The headstone memorialising the elder John & Ann Jary lies next to the headstone of William Savage, who died in 1797 at the age of 77 years.<sup>(17)</sup>

Summarising this information: a daughter, Alice, was born to John Jary and Ann Savage Jary *ca* 1792. Ann Jary named a daughter, Alice, in her will in 1821. John & Ann Jary's headstone lies next to that of William Savage. William was 28 years older than the Ann Jary memorialised on the adjacent headstone.

From this, one could theorise that Ann Savage Jary was the daughter, or at least a close relative, of William Savage. Ann's husband preceded her in death, so it is easy to imagine that she buried her husband next to her father, with the intention of being buried there herself after her death.

## *A Family Custom*

In his will, John Jary stated he was "late an Officer" of Customs, and that his son, John Jary, resident of Morston, was also, at the time of the will (1817), an Officer of the Customs. Bartholomew referred to his brother, John, in the same way in his will.

Jacob Jary of Cley, father of Jemima, started out as a cabinet maker, according to the baptismal records of his daughters, Louisa, in 1814,<sup>(13: p5)</sup> and Anne, in 1818.<sup>(13: p18)</sup> When his son, John, was baptised in 1822, Jacob's occupation was "Cabinet Maker or Custom House Officer."<sup>(13: p30)</sup> When Jemima was baptised in 1825, his occupation was given as "Late cabinet maker now Tide Water (waiter?) Custom Ho."<sup>(13: p42)</sup> When his son, James, was baptised in 1828, Jacob's occupation was "Custom House officer."<sup>(13: p53)</sup> In the 1841 census, Jacob's occupation was given as Customshouse Officer.<sup>(15)</sup> In 1851, it was "Superannuated Customary Officer."<sup>(16)</sup> He was also included in the 1836 and 1845 White's Norfolk directories as a "tide waiter" in Cley.<sup>(18, 19)</sup> When Jemima and Thomas Dew married in 1858, Jacob's occupation was given as "Carpenter;"<sup>(14)</sup> the Customs House closed in 1853.<sup>(20)</sup>

Therefore, the elder John Jary and his namesake son were both Customs Officers, as was Jemima Jary's father, Jacob.

In the 1851 Cley census previously discussed, in which Bartholomew Jary was enumerated as the son of John and Ann Jary, John's occupation was "Late Tidew'r H M Customs."

His place of birth was shown as Stiffkey, and his age was 83, which would place his year of birth as *ca* 1768. His wife, Ann, was born in Mattishall. She was listed as being age 89, making her year of birth around 1762.<sup>(16)</sup>

This John and Ann's ages in the 1841 census were given as 70 and 80, respectively;<sup>(7)</sup> that would make John's year of birth around 1771, and Ann's around 1761.

Calculating from the dates of death and ages shown on their headstones, the younger John & Ann Jary were born *ca* 1767 and 1759, respectively.<sup>(2)</sup>

This leads me to suspect that the younger John & Ann Jary buried in the churchyard were also the John & Ann Jary of the 1841 & 1851 Cley censuses, whose son, Bartholomew, was born in Morston *ca* 1794.

The wills of the elder John and Bartholomew both identify a son and a brother, respectively, named John who was, in 1817 and 1823, a Officer of the Customs in Morston. I believe this was the same John Jary who was enumerated in the 1841 & 1851 Cley censuses — and I also believe he was the younger John Jary buried in the churchyard.

If this is the case, the John & Ann Jary who died in the 1820s were the parents of the John Jary who died in 1851, as well as of the Bartholomew who died in 1836. Both sons are buried near their parents.

### *Mary Ann Jary: whose daughter was she?*

Having made a tentative connection between the two John & Ann Jary couples, one returns to the Mary Ann Jary who is memorialised on the stone with the younger couple.

Transcripts of the Morston Archdeacon's Transcripts show a baptism of Mary Ann, daughter of John & Ann Jary, on 6<sup>th</sup> May 1796.<sup>(9)</sup> However, the Mary Ann Jary whose details are on the stone was born *ca* 1789. This is calculated from the age at death shown both on the headstone<sup>(10)</sup> and in the parish burial register (*Mary Jary, 9/12/1855; 66 yrs*),<sup>(21)</sup> so I do not think that the Mary Ann Jary baptised in 1796 was the Mary Ann Jary named on the headstone. The omission of the relationship between John & Ann Jary and Mary Ann Jary on the headstone strengthens this argument to some degree.

Rather, I think the Mary Ann whose details are on the stone was the Mary Ann Jary mentioned in Ann Jary's 1821 will—the sister of the Bartholomew who died in 1836 and of the younger John Jary whose stone she shares.

In the 1836 White's Directory of Norfolk, Bartholomew Jary was listed as the proprietor of a beer house in Cley.<sup>(18)</sup> In the 1845 and 1854 White's directories, Mary Jary was listed as the

proprietress of a beer house in Cley.<sup>(19, 22)</sup> She was enumerated in the 1841 Cley census as a Publican,<sup>(23)</sup> and in 1851 as an Innkeeper.<sup>(24)</sup> In both censuses, she was the sole member of her household. In 1851, she was listed as unmarried, and her place of birth was shown as Cley.

I have no documentation with which to back up this theory, but I suspect that Bartholomew Jary converted one or more rooms of his freehold into a beer house after the 1830 Beer Act went into effect. After his death in 1836, his sister, Mary Ann, inherited the freehold and the business, which she ran until her death in 1855.

### *Theories & Summary*

From the information presented here, I propose the following theories; *please bear in mind that these are theories only:*

(1) The John Jary who wrote his will in 1817 and died in 1821, and the Ann Jary who wrote her will in 1821 and died in 1823, were the same John & Ann Jary whose headstone lies next to that of William Savage.

(2) Ann Jary mentioned a daughter, Alice, in her will. In 1792, Alice, daughter of John and Ann Savage Jary, was baptised in Cley. The Ann Jary who wrote the 1821 will was born Ann Savage.

(3) The Bartholomew named in Ann Jary's 1821 will, the Bartholomew who wrote his will in 1821, and the Bartholomew Jary who died in 1836, and whose headstone lies in the Cley churchyard, were one and the same.

(4) The similar occupations of both John Jarys and Jacob Jary, father of Jemima Jary, is circumstantial evidence of all three men having been members of the same family.

(5) The John Jary enumerated in 1841 & 1851 in Cley, who gave his occupation as a retired Customs officer, and whose son was born in Morston *ca* 1794, was the son of the elder John and Ann Jary, and the brother of the Bartholomew Jary who died in 1836.

(6) The headstone of the younger John Jary couple belongs to the John Jary described in Item 5.

(7) The younger Ann Jary's maiden name might have been Whitaker. Further research is required in order to determine if the Jacob Jary born in 1791 to John & Ann (Whitaker) Jary was also the Jacob Jary who appeared in the 1851 Stiffkey census, enumerated as having been born in Stiffkey *ca* 1792.<sup>(25)</sup> However, it is certainly not outwith the realm of reason that John the younger would have returned home to Cley to have his son baptised.

(8) Considering that his occupation was similar to that of both John Jarys, and his age given on the 1841 and 1851 Cley censuses would be in keeping with a baptism in 1779, as well as the mention of a son named Jacob in Ann Jary's will, Jacob Jary, father of Jemima Jary, was born to John & Ann (Savage) Jary, and baptised on 11 October 1779.



If my conclusions are correct, there are three generations of the same family buried near each other in the Cley churchyard (and possibly more; these are only the ones who have headstones.)

John Jary and his wife, Ann Savage Jary, are buried next to Ann's father, William Savage. Three of John & Ann's children are buried near them — John, Bartholomew, and Mary Ann. Jacob, another son of the elder John & Ann, married Mary Boyce, and became the father of Jemima Jary, who married Thomas Dew. I have yet to find his burial information, but I suspect his death and burial were in Cley.

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*A diagram of the headstones' locations with regard to each other and to the church, containing a summary of information from the wills and parish registers, follows on the next page.*

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### *The children of John & Ann Savage Jary, according to the theories put forth in this writing:*

**John Jary:** born ca 1767 in Stiffkey; Customs Officer in Morston in 1817 & 1821; living in Cley by 1841; Married Ann (Whitaker?); possibly had a son, Jacob, born ca 1791 in Stiffkey & baptised in Cley, a son, Bartholomew ca 1794 in Morston, and a daughter, Mary Ann, ca 1796 in Morston. Son Bartholomew was living in John's household in 1841 & 1851. John died 1851 and Ann (Whitaker?) Jary died 1854; both buried St Margaret's, Cley.

**Jacob Jary:** baptised 1779, Cley; cabinet maker, then Customs House Officer in Cley until 1853, then carpenter. Married Mary Boyce. Father of several children, including Jemima Jary, who married Thomas Dew. Possibly died & buried in Cley.

**Ann Nichols**

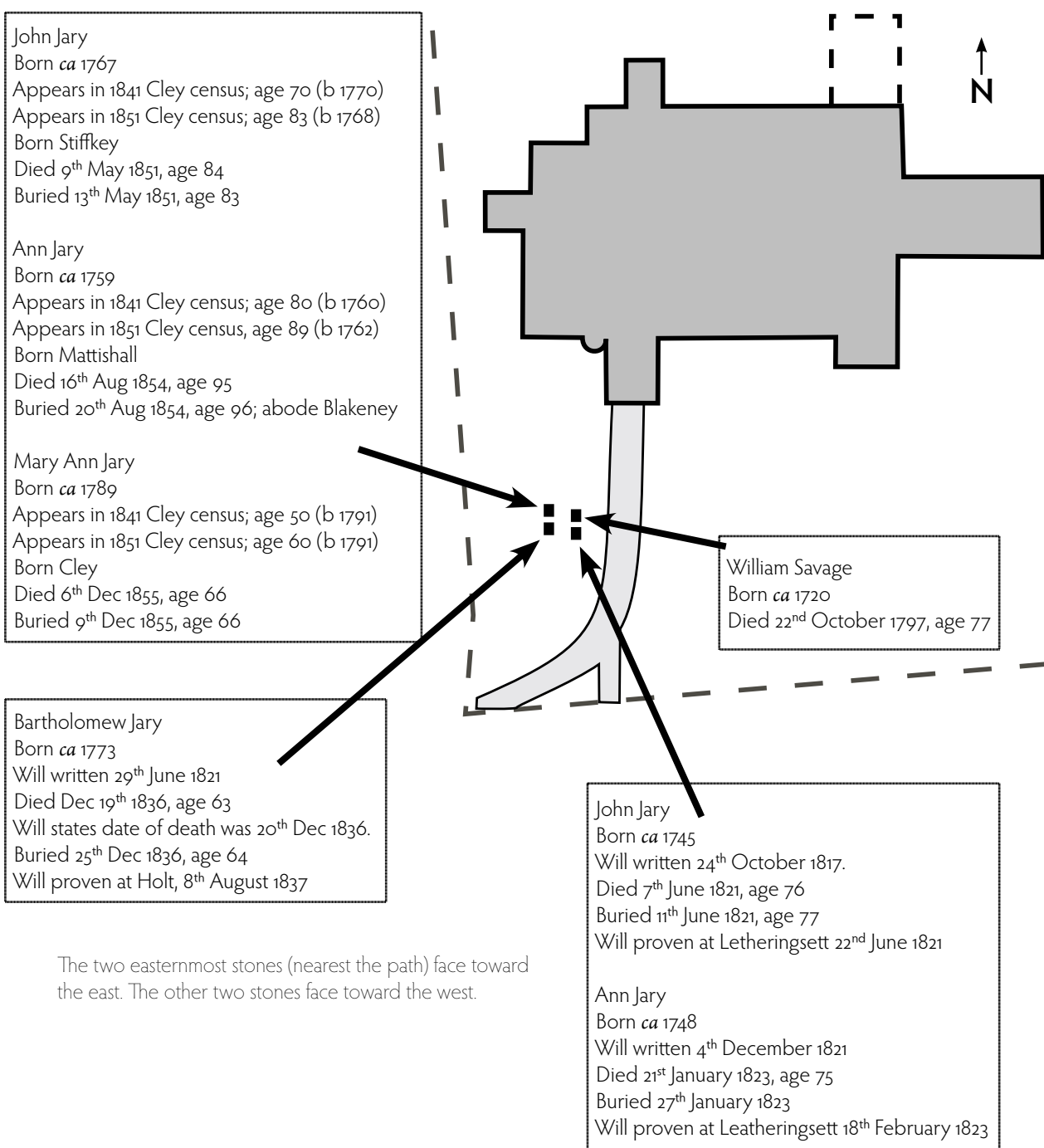
**Susannah Butters**

**Mary Ann Jary:** born ca 1789; never married. Inherited beer house from Bartholomew upon his death in 1836, ran it until her own death in 1855. Buried in St Margaret's, Cley - shares a headstone with her brother, John, and his wife, Ann.)

**Alice Jary:** Baptised Cley 1792.

**Bartholomew Jary:** born ca 1794. Proprietor of a beer house in Cley until his death in 1836. Buried in St Margaret's, Cley.)

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# St Margaret's Church Cley-Next-the-Sea

Dates of birth are calculated from the date of death and age as given on headstone, unless noted with census information. Places of birth are from the 1851 census. Burial information, including age and abode at death, is from the parish registers.

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