**Will of John Newton of Woodhead 1798**

In the Name of God Amen I **John Newton** of

Woodhead in the Parish of Mottram Longdendale and County

Palatine of Chester being weak in body but of sound and disposing

mind and Memory (praised be God for the same) Do make and ordain

this my last Will and Testament in manner following First I give

and bequeath to my Son **George** all that my Messuage or Dwelling

House situate at Tintwhistle in the Parish of Mottram aforesaid

together with the Appurtenances and Outhousing thereunto belong

ing which is Freehold to him his Heirs or Assigns for ever and

also an Orchard which is Leasehold now occupied with the

abovementioned Dwelling house and in the tenure or Occupation

of **Joseph Dearneley** his assigns or undertenants and whereupon

I am now erecting two Messuages or Dwelling houses and if I

should die before I have compleated the same it is my Will

and mind that the said Houses be finished up and made tenan

able according to the Custom of the County out of my personal

Estate by my Executor herein aftermentioned all which

said Premises with the Privileges and Appurtenances there

unto belonging I give unto my said son **George** to enter to the

same at my Decease Also I give unto **Nelly** my loving

Wife the Rents and Profits of all those my six Messuages

or Dwelling Houses situate at Wedneshough in the parish

of Mottram aforesaid during the Term of her natural Life if

she so long continue my Widow in lieu of her Dower or third

which said Houses are in the several Tenures or Occupation

or were of late of **Thomas Heathhead Nicholas Booth**

**Thomas Bradbury Robert Hayward Thomas Harrap** and

**John Cooper** and within twelve Months next after the

Decease of my Wife my Will and Mind is that my Executors

hereinafter named shall sell all the aforesaid six Dwelling

houses for the best price they can get and divide the Money

in Manner following viz To my Daughter **Mary** the

Wife of **Samuel Dearneley** of Woodhead the Sum of

Forty Pounds of lawful Money To my Daughter **Ann** the

Wife of **John Bower** of Woodhead the Sum of Sixty Pounds

to my Daughter **Sarah** the Wife of **Joseph Dearneley** of

Tintwhistle the Sum of Forty Pounds and to my Daughter

**Lydia** the Wife of **Joseph Hollingworth** of Tintwhistle the

Sum of Sixty Pounds of like lawful Money and what further

Sum of Money the aforesaid Houses shall be sold for more

after making up the afore mentioned several sums for each

of my Daughters and defraying the necessary Expenses

attending this sale of the same my Will and mind is that the

remaining Money if any there be shall be equally divided

amongst my said four Daughters and my son **George** Share

and Share alike Also I give and bequeath my said four

Daughters the Sum of One hundred and Sixty Pounds

secured upon the Turnpike Road leading from Hudders-

field to Enterclough Bridge to enter the same at my Death

and to be divided equally amongst them share and share

alike Also I give and bequeath unto my son **John** all that my

Freehold Messuage or Tenement situate at Tintwhistle late the

Property of **James Cocker** consisting of an House Garden and

Croft with all the Priveleges and appurtenances there unto

belonging to him and his heirs for ever Also I give unto my

said son **John** the Tenant Right of those two farms which I

now enjoy at Woodhead aforesaid with all my Stock of Sheep

and Cattle Household Goods Husbandry Gear and Personal

Estate whatsoever and wheresoever note herebefore in this my

Will disposed of to enter to the same at my Death subject

nevertheless to the Conditions following That is to say That

my said son **John** shall pay to my son **Joseph** the Sum of

One hundred and Eighty Pounds of lawful Money provided

so much Money shall then be wanting to make up my son

**Joseph**’s Fortune two hundred and fifty Pounds he having

Already received of me the sum of Twenty Pounds Fifty

Pounds whereof to be paid at the End of twelve months next

after my Death and the remaining Sum of One hundred

and thirty Pounds at the End of three years next after my

Death and my Will and mind is that my Wife if she chooses

shall live with my son **John** if both be agreeable and if not

that she shall have the Chamber over the Kitchen adjoining

the House where in I now dwell for to live in with decent

furniture such as she chooses so long as she continues my

Widow and also that she shall have free liberty to wash bake

and brew and do other necessary Business in the Kitchen

And whereas I am in expectation of some Money to be left me

by the last Will of my Father in Law **William Kelsall** my Will

and mind is that what money shall be so left to me shall

be equally divided amongst all my Children share and share

alike And I also hereby charge my son **John** with the Payment

of all my just Debts and Funeral Expenses and the Expense of the

probate of this my Will and I do appoint my son **John** my son in

law **Samuel Dearneley** and my friend **Joseph Hyde** of Tintwhistle

joint Executors of this my Will declaring it to be my last Will

and revoking all former Wills by me heretofore made. In witness

whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal this eighteenth Day of

April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety six

Signed sealed published and declared by the said

Testator as and for his last will and testament in **John Newton**

the presence of us who in his presence and assignes

have subscribed our Names as witness

**Joseph Broadbent James Sykes David Whitehead**

The Ninth day of April 1798 **Joseph Hyde**

**John Newton** & **Samuel Dearneley** the Executors

within named were sworn in common form

Value of the Effects before me

Above 300£ & under 600£ **James Turner** Surrogate

Probate dated 9 April 1798

*Note:* Regarding the turnpike road mentioned above, Enterclough Bridge crossed the River Etherow (then known as the River Mersey) at the foot of Hey Clough, just west of Woodhead and now under the Woodhead Reservoir. (The modern accepted start of the River Mersey is in Stockport, after the River Etherow has joined the River Goyt and River Tame.)

*Trancription by Janet Davies, 2014*

**People named in the above will of John Newton**

Wife: Nelly (Ellen)

Sons: George, John and Joseph

Daughters: Mary, wife of Samuel Dearneley of Woodhead

Ann, wife of John Bower of Woodhead

Sarah, wife of Joseph Dearneley of Tintwhistle

Lydia, wife of John Hollingworth of Tintwhistle

Father-in-law: William Kelsall

Tenants: Thomas Heathhead, Nicholas Booth, Thomas Bradbury

Robert Hayward, Thomas Harrap, John Cooper

Executors: John Newton, his son

Samuel Dearneley, his son-in-law

Joseph Hyde, his friend (brother-in-law of Samuel Dearneley)

Witnesses: Joseph Broadbent, James Sykes, David Whitehead

The Newton farm was probably located on Heyden Brook, north of Woodhead. It would have been the last farm before the road went over the moors to the Holme Valley. A Thomas Newton is named as obtaining a lease from Sir Thomas Wilbraham for Edenbooth in Longdendale in 1684 (A2A). In 1797 John Newton, brother-in-law to Samuel Dearnaley of Woodhead, paid land tax of £6 6s at Eyden Booth (tamesidefamilyhistory.co.uk). And in the 1871 census a John Newton had renamed the property The Tollemache Arms and was listed as licensed victualler and farmer of 152 acres.

*-JAD*