# Ludgershall Inquests 1800 - 1849



#### 1832 EDWARD JERVIS

An inquest was taken by Mr Whitmarsh on the 6<sup>th</sup> inst. an inquest at Ludgershall, on the body of Edward Jervis, a native of Fovant, who was found dead in a barn belonging to Mr Hutchins, of the former place. Verdict Visitation of God.

Salisbury and Winchester Journal 13 August 1832

### 1834 ELIZABETH EDWARDS

Mr Whitmarsh held an inquest on Thursday at Ludgershall, on the body of Elizabeth Edwards. Deceased was about 18 months old, and having walked into the garden, fell into a pan of water and was drowned. Verdict Accidental Death.

Salisbury and Winchester Journal 08 September 1834

### 1837 DANIEL DOBBS

On Tuesday, Mr Whitmarsh held an inquest at Ludgershall, on the body of Daniel Dobbs, who fell down, while partaking of his dinner, and died within an hour afterwards. the knowledge that Dobbs lived on very unhappy terms with his wife, coupled with the circumstance of his awfully sudden death, gave rise to reports that he had been poisoned, and much interested was excited at the inquest. But it was clearly and satisfactorily proved by the surgeon that he died of apoplexy. The Jury therefore returned their verdict accordingly. Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 11 May 1837

#### THOMAS COOK

An inquest was taken on Tuesday, at Ludgershall, on a man named Thos Cook. The deceased was nearly 60 years of age. He had been at work all day on Saturday, in his usual health. On Sunday morning his wife left him in bed but hearing a slight noise about half an hour afterward, she went into his room and found him at the point of death. He lived but a few minutes afterwards. Verdict Died by the Visitation of God. Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 03 August 1837

#### 1839 JOSEPH HUNT

An inquest was taken by Mr Whitmarsh, during the past week, at Ludgershall, on the body of Joseph Hunt, who fell under the wheel of his car, whilst endeavouring to get off for the purpose of walking up Shaw Hill. He was severely injured in the head and survived two days. Verdict Accidental. Deodand 1s Salisbury and Winchester Journal 12 March 1838

#### JOHN STURGESS

On Wednesday, Mr Whitmarsh held an inquest at Ludgershall, on the body of John Sturgess, 67 years of age, who was found dead in his bed-room. Verdict Visitation of God. Salisbury and Winchester Journal 20 May 1839

### WILLIAM GEO BURBIGE

Inquest held before Mr Whitmarsh during the past week - at Ludgershall, on the body of a child, between one and two years of age, named Wm Geo Burbige. The child, in the absence of its parents, who were at work in afield, was entrusted to the care of a little girl, who left it for a few minutes, during which time it caught itself on fire and was so severely burnt that it survived but a few hours. Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 15 October 1840

### 1841 WILLIAM TAYLOR

Mr Whitmarsh held an inquest on Monday last at Ludgershall, on the body of Wm Taylor, 47 years of age. Deceased was on the previous Saturday afternoon returning from Burbage, with a waggon load of coal, riding on the fore part of the waggon. Within half a mile of Ludgershall, a gentleman came behind on horseback and the deceased, with the view of allowing him more room to pass, gave his horses a slight cut to draw in, when they immediately started off in a trot. In endeavouring to get down to stop them, he fell and the wheels passing over his body, killed him on the spot. Verdict Accidental. Decdand 1s

Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 10 June 1841

## 1842 HESTER DOBBS

Mr Whitmarsh held an inquest during the past week at Ludgershall, on the body of Hester Dobbs, 60 years of age, who lived alone in a cottage. She was found dead in her bed. Verdict Died by the Visitation of God Salisbury and Winchester Journal 17 October 1842

### 1844 ELIZA BEAMS

Mr Wilson held an inquest on Wednesday, the 30<sup>th</sup> ult., at Ludgershall, on the body of Eliza Beams, a child of seven years old, who received severe injury from her clothes taking fire on the Friday preceding, and died the following day. Verdict Accidental Death.

Salisbury and Winchester Journal 09 November 1844

### 1845 WILLIAM MATTHEWS

An accident, which terminated fatally, occurred at Ludgershall, last week, to William Matthews, a young man in the employment of Mr Crook. He was in the act of bringing home a plough and three horses, when the horses took fright at a number of pigs in the road, and ran away, throwing down Matthews, whose smock-frock caught in the whippence, by which he was dragged some distance, and sustained a very severe compound fracture of the leg, besides being otherwise bruised. The leg was the set the same evening; but mortification took place in a day or two, and he expired on the 26<sup>th</sup> instant. An inquest was held by Mr Wilson on the following day and a verdict of Accidental Death was returned, with a deodand of a sovereign on the plough and horses.

# 1847 JAMES SMITH

An inquest was held by Mr Wilson, on Wednesday last, at Ludgershall, on the body of James Smith, who on the Sunday night preceding was supposed to have fallen backwards when going up stairs to bed. The deceased and his brother Isaac had been drinking at a public house there, and on going to the house of the deceased, Isaac fell asleep in a chair, and upon awaking next morning, about three o'clock, discovered his brother lying dead, with his head fixed in the angle formed by the bottom stair and the post of the door at the foot of the stairs, with his legs doubled up over him. Verdict Accidental Death.

Salisbury and Winchester Journal 17 April 1847

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