

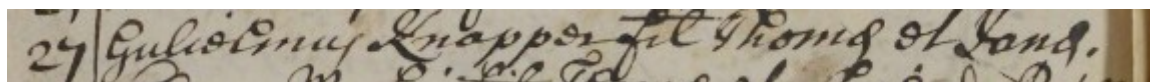
Supplement dated February 2020 - to the First Edition of: The Knappers – Family History book – Phil Walton dated September 2016

Introduction:

Chapter 1 in the book refers to the name “Knapper”. Chapter 2 refers to my earliest records and opens with “My earliest recorded Knapper is William, he was born in the early 1700's and lived at Talke o'th'hill Staffordshire. He was a brick and tile maker. William married twice.....” These are not now my earliest records.

Before William Knapper (1735)

For many years I always held some records of Knapper baptism's, marriages and burials for the mid to late 1600s and early 1700s in the Stoke, Newcastle under Lyme and Trentham area. I never linked them (others had but I was sceptical) with the Audley Knappers. In fact I had two “William Knappers” my main one who I believed was born around 1735 (based on the birth dates of his children following his marriages to Jane Hancock and Mary Adgett in Audley). The other William I believed was born around 10 years earlier who married Mary Leech (in Newcastle under Lyme) and Barbara (maiden name unknown) in the same area. It does seem that in fact there was only one William and he married four times. He was born in 1718/19. Regarding William's birth record -



The above shows the original entry in the St Peters Stoke register for Williams baptism. The entry is in Latin– the name Gulielinus is translated as William. The small extract above does not show the full date. It is Jan 27 – the year is written as 1718. I record the year as 1719 – it is sometimes recorded as 1718/19. Before 1752 Britain was still using the Julian calendar where the year change occurred on the 27th March. In 1752 Britain came into line with most of Europe and started to use the Gregorian calendar and the year change moved to Jan 1st. The above entry also tells us that Williams father and mother were Thomas and Jane.

