



## Cleeve Prior Chroniclers

### The kings Arms & the Cottages Early Days

In 1851 Clara Keen was 5? & a scholar in Cleeve Prior

In 185?she created a sampler which hangs in the hall today

	<del>Catharina Bennett</del>	<del>serv</del>	<del>u</del>	<del>12</del>	<del>12</del>	<del>Ag Lab</del>	<del>Gleason Howard</del>
27	Clara Keen	John Mills	husb	30	16	Household work	Worcester Cleeve Prior
		Mary G.	Wife	28	16	Putrid Baker	Gleason Campden
		Henry Keen	Sister	28	16	Household work	Worcester Cleeve Prior
		Rebecca Keen	niece	u	16	Scholar under Governess	Warwick Stratford-on-Avon
		Anna G.	niece	u	16	G. G.	Birmingham
		Clara G.	niece	u	16		

In 1861 Clara Keen was 13 & working in Cleeve Prior

		<del>John Mills</del>	<del>Head</del>	<del>Mar</del>	<del>46</del>	<del>Agricultural Labour</del>	<del>Clara Keen</del>
37	(Household)	John Mills	Head	Mar	46	Labourer	Clara Keen
		Mary Mills	Wife	Mar	57	Household Work	Do Do
		Rebecca Keen	Niece	Mar	35	Scholar	Birmingham Stratford-on-Avon
		Clara Keen	Niece	Mar	13	Scholar	Clara Keen Stratford-on-Avon

**8<sup>th</sup> December 1864** the ecclesiastical Commissioners the records indicate that the premises at that time indentured or contracted to Thomas Bissel, Charles Silvester & Richard Keen are sold to Richard Keen. The Sale included:

*“All that cottage with garden and appurtenances thereunto belonging situate in the town of Cleeve Prior in the County of Worcester having the street on the west side & dead Furlong on the East side thereof late in the occupation of William Cooke and afterwards of Henry Silvester and now of [we believe it stood empty]. Together with the out buildings and garden thereto belonging & occupied therewith containing in the whole twenty perches or thereabouts, be the same more or less. Secondly all that messuage or tenement now used as a public house and known as the Kings Arms with garden, barn, stable & other buildings thereto belonging situate at the far end of the village of Cleeve Prior aforesaid containing with the scites of buildings thirty two perches or thereabouts be the same more or less adjoining or near to a cottage formerly in the occupation of Benjamin Field, and afterwards of the said Henry Silvester and now of [blank] and all ways watercourses fences rights members and appurtenances to the said hereditaments and premises belonging or appertaining and all and singular the rents fines hereto suits and services due or payable in respect of the same hereditaments or any of them.”*



## Cleeve Prior Chroniclers

### The Kings Arms & the Cottages Early Days

---

The document prepared, released the properties of any previous copy holder, or ties under manorial law, making the freehold over to Richard Keen. One of the conditions of the deed is that if Richard Keen should die then his widow

*“shall not be entitled to dower in or out of the premises”*

#### **14<sup>th</sup> February 1870, Richard Keen died**

In his will, describing himself as a carpenter, he leaves his two cottages, in trust to his daughter Ann Huband of Cropthorne. There was an additional condition which was that

*“The same to be received by her for her separate use, free from the debts & control of her husband”*

After her death the estate is to be sold by the trustees & the proceeds split between her children who have reached 21 years old.

He leaves his public house garden & appurtenances to his daughter Clara Keen. He states that there is to be a mortgage on the Public House of £135 which is to be made over to his sister Mrs Bateman solely at Clara's cost. He also puts a charge on the property of Two Pound & Two shillings to be paid as an annuity twice a year to his niece Rebecca Keen.

He appoints Henry Adkins, Gentleman & Farmer [Chronicler says he lives at Upper House], along with Clara as his trustee

**In 1893** Clara's husband Eli Ankers dies at the age of 56 whilst innkeeper of the Kings Arms. Clara continues on in the pub till she sells to Frederick White

**On 27<sup>th</sup> January 1911**, John Huband, 52, of Sutton Coldfield, makes a legal declaration being a surviving son of Ann Huband. He states:

1. That Richard Keen's will gave two cottages over to trustees with the rent to go to his daughter, and that on her death they should be sold & the proceeds split between the designated heirs, and the will was approved.



## Cleeve Prior Chroniclers

### The kings Arms & the Cottages Early Days

---

2. His mother married his father David Huband on the 5<sup>th</sup> March 1856 in Cleeve Prior.
  - a. There was a son William born on 16<sup>th</sup> December 1856, however he died on 28<sup>th</sup> August 1869.
  - b. John Huband was born 26<sup>th</sup> July 1858.
  - c. Elizabeth Huband was born on 20<sup>th</sup> February 1860
  - d. Clara Huband was born 14<sup>th</sup> November 1869, and died on 20<sup>th</sup> December 1873
  - e. Emily Huband was born 10<sup>th</sup> August 1876.
3. David Huband has died on 10<sup>th</sup> July 1907 followed by his mother on 25<sup>th</sup> November 1909
4. That all the above named are as the certified records.
5. That John Huband, Elizabeth Huband [now Harburn], and Emily Huband are the surviving heirs and they agree to sell the cottage adjoining the Kings Arms to Frederick White. The sale price was £80

It says that the other cottage mentioned in the said will

“Having reverted to the ecclesiastical commissioners on the death of Ann Huband, as the cottage was to be held by the testator Richard Keen only for the lives of certain persons long since deceased.”

### **The Den**

**20<sup>th</sup> June 1922**, Frederick White now listed as living in at Malt House Farm [Peacock House] sold the cottage adjacent the pub to Maude Cohen, wife of John Alban Cohen of Sutton Coldfield for £200 as a country retreat, which she called “The Den”

In 1951 on the death of Maud the premises passes to John Palmer who in 1953 mortgaged it prior to its sale to Beatrice Stephenson in 1954.



## Cleeve Prior Chroniclers

### The kings Arms & the Cottages Early Days

---

#### Potter

In 1970 it was bought by Mr & Mrs Griffin who removed the scullery and replaced it with a flat roofed Kitchen and other 1960 style alterations including a staircase.

1974

Bought by Anna Stokes [who subsequently reverted to her maiden name of Boers]