

## **Thomas Redfern (1770? - Oct 1814 Chapmanslade, Wiltshire)**

Brother of surgeon William Redfern

1789-1794: partnership with the local apothecary John Dodd in Trowbridge. After 1794 Dodd set up on his own, until his death in 1800.

- 20 Apr 1790: Thomas, 'Bachelor', married Ann Perry, 'Spinster', in St James Church.

Ann Perry [1756? – 1823] was daughter of Jacob Perry, a sheargrinder. For a time the family lived in one of the fine old timber-framed houses on the site of No. 5 Fore Street, Trowbridge.

- 24 Feb 1792: Thomas Jnr. (born 25 Feb 1792 Trowbridge, Wiltshire – died 3 Mar 1820 Chapmanslade, Wiltshire). 7 Jan 1801, Christened St James Church, Trowbridge. Surgeon. Without issue.
- 24 Sep 1795 National Archives: letter to William White to found Masonic Lodge in Trowbridge.

Up until 1797? William Redfern lived with his brother. [Medical Matters - believed to live his brother as a youth.] Possibly 14 when his brother entered the partnership with John Dodd in 1789.

After the death of his father-in-law Jacob Perry in [October] 1798, the family moved to his house, later No. 13 The Conigre. Trowbridge.

- 9 Sep 1799 Salisbury Journal: T. Redfern of Trowbridge issued Wiltshire Game Certificate.
- Aug 1800- Aug 1801 Sutro Library: Series of letters to and from a Thomas Redfern to Sir Joseph Banks.
- 7 Jan 1801: Thomas Redfern Jnr baptized in Trowbridge, gave DOB 25 Feb 1792.
- 6 Sep 1802 Salisbury Journal: Thomas Redfern of Trowbridge issued Wiltshire Game Certificate.
- 8 Apr 1807 many newspapers including London Morning Post : Bankrupt Thomas Redfern of Trowbridge, surgeon and apothecary, dealer and chapman, to surrender April 21, 23, May 19 at the Three Woolpacks Inn, Trowbridge.
- 8 Jun 1807 Salisbury Journal: For sale by auction. Mr Redfern, surgeon and a bankrupt. 9 lots with 8 dwelling houses and at least 13 acres. 'Thomas Redfern, Ann Redfern and Thomas, their son.'
- National Register 1 May 1808: Bankruptcy discharge certificate dated 29 May issued to Thomas Redfern, surgeon in Trowbridge.

The bankruptcy was ended and the property restored apparently with the help of Benjamin Richardson, rector of Farleigh Hungerford. [a nearby village in Somerset]

Sporting Magazine v35 December 1809: Thomas wrote to the Salisbury Journal replying to a letter from An Impartial Amateur of Frome about the result of a backword match.

In July 1810, John Macarthur, then friend of William Redfern, visited Thomas Redfern in Trowbridge. At this time Macarthur was Australia's leading wool producer.

In 1810, at a dinner at Mr Webber's in the Courts in Trowbridge, [a place with antecedents relating to the courts of the castle, not a judicial body. Courtyard comes from this root.] he criticised the way that Trowbridge Reading Society was run, saying books were smuggled away. The secretary, John Thomas Maynes, told Redfern that it was an insinuation unbecoming to a gentleman; Redfern went to the

Woolpacks [another public meeting place] and wrote a challenge, but Webber refused to allow it to be delivered. The next morning Redfern apologised.

- 25 Oct 1814: Thomas Redfern buried Chapmanslade, Wiltshire.
- 25 Apr 1820 Belfast Newsletter: “On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of last month at Trowbridge, Wilts. Mr. Thomas Redfern, Surgeon – a very skillful intelligent young man, nephew to Mr. Joseph Redfern of this town.”
- 9 Mar 1820 Bath Chronicle: Died ‘Mr Thos Redfern surgeon, a very skilful, intelligent young man.’ Buried 13 March in Chapmanslade.
- 1 Apr 1820 Monthly Magazine: “Died. At Trowbridge, Mr. T. Redfern, much respected”
  
- 6 Aug 1822: Ann Redfern’s will left all property ‘to William Redfern, now residing in New South Wales, the Brother of my late Husband’.
- 22 May 1823 Wiltshire Gazette: Died ‘Mrs Redfern, relict of Mr Thos. Redfern, formerly surgeon and apothecary, of Trowbridge’. Buried 17 May in Chapmanslade.
- 28 May 1823: William Redfern executes Ann’s will from Newington, London (Redfern was in the UK between Feb 1822 and Oct 1823). The signature matches that on documents from NSW.

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