

The GINDERS family

My ancestors, who were named Ginders, lived at nearby Quixhill, Denstone and Prestwood but held or rented land and properties around Ellastone. There is evidence that they were living at these places from around the year 1430 but prior to the late 1500's Rocester Church was their choice of a place for worship, baptisms, marriages and burials. However from about 1589 onwards and for reasons unknown, they had changed their allegiance to Ellastone St. Peters.

The first recorded event at Ellastone is my 9xGreat Grandfather Roger Gynder who married Ann Sponer at Ellastone St. Peters, Sept. 6th 1589. His burial took place at Ellastone St. Peters, 15th Nov. 1601. The parish register entry notes that he was a 'husbandman'. There are many mentions of the Ginders' births, marriages and burials at Ellastone from 1601 onwards, among which is to be found the marriage of my 8xG. Grandparents William Ginder (of Quixhill), (baptised 16th March 1593), and Janne Buxton who were married at Ellastone St Peter's 23rd Nov 1628. Their son, my 7xG. Grandfather William Ginder is listed as a Churchwarden at St Peter's in 1657 and there is a mention of 'George Gerratt for Ginders Churchwarden' in 1686. The last recorded Ginders event at Ellastone is a Frances Ginder, burial Ellastone 27th March 1768.

I hold a series of indentures related to Ginders and Ellastone from the 1600's which have many references to the names of local people (sometimes mentioning their status) and meadows, closes parcels of land and properties etc.

I also have a number of my Ellastone area ancestors' wills and inventories from the 1500's and 1600's. Surnames mentioned in these include several family names which appear to be associated with and have a long established link with the area, notably Botham, Bott, Needham, Gerrard, Wotton, but there are also many more.

I would be pleased to share any or all of the above with yourselves or any other interested parties and I wonder if you could please tell me if there have been any other offers or enquiries re the Ginders name?

My wife and I visited Ellastone and the lovely church about five or six years ago while we were holidaying in Matlock. Due to time constraints we only managed to stay for about an hour but as luck would have it we found the Church open and I introduced myself to a very pleasant and helpful lady who explained that it was her turn on the rota to clean the Church. Although this lady had no knowledge of the Ginders name she directed us to where the oldest graves were to be found and I explored the area but unfortunately there were no 'Ginders' to be found among the inscriptions (although we photographed a small headstone with the inscription 'IG 1707' but I do not know if this a Ginders or not) However I was far from disappointed at our visit as we took photographs and found my time there evocative and rewarding.

Alan would be interested in hearing from other people researching their Ancestors in Ellastone

Email, al.genders@ntlworld.com