

# The Mais Family of Gloucestershire

The earliest record of this Mais family is of the marriage between John Mais and Elizabeth Batman on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1670 at the church of St Mary, Redcliffe, Bristol.

Their first child was born in 1671 and christened at St Mary's on the 19<sup>th</sup> June that year with the name John Maies. At this time the spelling of the name was variable-sometimes it was Maies and others Mayes. There were seven children of the marriage but details of their descendants are not known. In 1714 John was recorded as a shipwright and when he signed his will in 1755 he described himself as John Maies of Sea Mill Docks in the parish of Westbury on Trym in the County of Gloucester Shipwright.

No record of the death of John senior has been found but Elizabeth died in 1709 and is buried at St Mary, Redcliffe.

John Maies married three times, the first being to Ann Llewellyn at St Mary's when he was 31. The couple had eight children with two dying in childhood. Ann herself died young and in 1724 John married again. His new wife was Elizabeth Cooke and she bore him four sons before dying herself in 1741. After two years as a widower, John then aged 72 married Joan Wane. There is no record of Joan's birth but she was young enough to have six children with John between 1744 and 1756.

John now had thirteen surviving children and lived into his eighty eighth year and records show that he was buried on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1758 at Westbury on Trym.

By the middle of the eighteenth century the family was using the spelling as Mais .

TO BE CONTINUED