

WILL OF AGNES WHITLOKE 1491

Included in the "REF" additions this issue is the Will of an Agnes Whitloke dated 1491. It is our belief that this Agnes is Agnes De la Beche the heiress of the ancient De la Beche family who married John Whitloke about 1454. Sir James Whitlock (1570-1632) mentions Agnes De la Beche in *Liber Familicus* and comments she used the term "generosa" or Gentlewoman which was unusual for the time. Agnes' mentions her husband, John Whitloke and makes him executor of her will so she obviously held property in her own right. The will is written in English but is tough going to read. Jim Whitelock and I have both had a go at it but if there are any experts in Medieval handwriting any help would be appreciated as there are still a few words we cannot decipher. If the will indeed is Agnes De la Beche's it is a terrific find and I hope to print a copy in the next Newsletter.