



The following document is part of a Dulwich Society project to digitise, transcribe and translate the Dulwich Manorial Court Rolls. They begin in 1333 and continue, with some breaks, to 1908.

A typical Manor Court Roll starts with apologies for absence and fines for non-attendance without excuse, followed by a list of local tenants serving on the manor jury, or 'Homage'. The 'Court Leet' or 'View of Frankpledge' dealt with minor offences, disputes between neighbours, and such matters as failing to keep ditches clear. The early Rolls list those with goods worth more than 30 pence, and those keeping pigs (and how many they kept). The 'Court Baron' dealt with property transactions and inheritance matters. Sometimes the functions of the two Courts, almost invariably held one after the other on the same day, overlapped. In time, the 'Court Leet' became increasingly less important.

For more details and links to images of the rolls and other documents please go to <https://www.dulwichsociety.com/courtrolls/>

Text in **red**, apart from modern notes by the transcriber, indicates text missing from, or entirely illegible in, the original Roll. Text in various shades of **grey** indicates text which, in the original Roll, is to a greater or lesser extent difficult to decipher. Otherwise, all contemporaneous text is in **black**, except for presumed later additions which are indicated in **brown** or **blue**.



Dillewyssh ¶Court held there on Tuesday, the 5th day of the month of April, in the 8th regnal
B.10. Year of king Henry the fourth

Excuses none

fine 8d. he paid { cc-To this Court came Thomas Aylsham, & surrendered into the lord's hands two acres of land, with appurtenances, in the lord's fiefdom, of which one acre [is] in The Apse & the other [is] in Crokstrete. And at the same Court, for a fine of 8d, the lord re-conceded the aforesaid two acres of land, with appurtenances, to the aforesaid Thomas & his wife Cristina, To have & to hold to themselves & their [heirs], at the will of the lord, according to the custom of the manor, And seisin was conceded to them by the rod. And he[sic] paid in open Court a fine for entry, as above. And they[sic] made customary fealty to the lord.

amercements 8d. { 2d 2d 2d 2d cc-Robert Dennyng, Knight, William Gonulde, John Lane, & Richard Coteller, suitors of the Court, now make default, therefore they are amerced.

amercement [blank] { a. he has a day in the feast of Trinity cc-Richard Courteour & Adam Lucas, pledges for Robert Dennyng, knight, put themselves in the lord's grace for trespass made in the lord's wood by the same Robert, in carrying away wood of the lord.

α.

Held in villeinage
 Order to distrain and to seize against the next

cc-It is further ordered, again, to Distrain William Pever Citizen & Goldsmith of London in all lands & tenements which Robert Dennyng, Knight, lately held freely in the lord's fiefdom, which the aforesaid William lately bought, so that he be at the next [court] for fealty & other things to be made to the lord. And to seize into the lord's hands all lands & tenements which the aforesaid Robert lately held in villeinage, And to answer for their profits
 -cause
 be^ he has not yet given satisfaction for rent & other services, as appear in the Rental & in the Court rolls of old times, over the name of Robert Knolles.

day at the next

cc-All the tenants of this lordship, through John Sodyforde, seek a day before the next Court, fixed to be held on Tuesday in the week of Pentecost next now coming, for then having ^ their charters, copy rolls & other muniments here, for renewing & making [up] the Rental & Customary of this manor, and to investigate or consider what lands & ^ tenements they hold, & in what way, & how, and by what services. And meanwhile it [i.e. the day] is conceded to them, on the application of the said John.

α.

order to answer for the profits

cc-All lands & tenements which Robert Woderove lately bought from Richard Courteour remain seized in the lord's hands. Therefore it is ordered that he [i.e. Robert] answer to the lord for the profits thereof, until &c.

stayed to the next

cc-Robert Gonulde & his wife Sibilla, plaintiffs, put themselves against John at Bregge, ^ tenant, defendant in a plea of land. Upon which, on the application of the aforesaid parties, a day is given to them to be at the next Court, namely on Tuesday in Pentecost week next coming, with their counsel ^ or excuses. And meanwhile the talks between the parties remain in their present state.

fo-- & he is sworn ---es by pledges of J. Carter & the same Walter
distrain before the next { cc-Further it is ordered to Distrain Walter, farmer of William Pever, and the aforesaid William Pever, so that they shall
separately be at the next [court] to answer for why the aforesaid William has not cleansed the ditches at
Amelles & Pirifelde, as he was ordered, to the common harm, and that the aforesaid Walter puts himself
in the tithing of the lord King, for residency.

stayed to the next { α.
cc-Further, 1 bay horse, coming as a stray at Michaelmas last past, remains in the custody of the bailiff until more than
a year [shall have passed] &c.

Ordered to answer for
the profits { α.
cc- All lands & tenements which were lately [those of] William Dene, Philip Haverynge, Adam Lucas, John
Carter, John Pottesblode, William Wedone, John Balle, John Lillebourne, William Lane, Robert
Tart, John Denewey & William Gonulde, in villeinage, remain seized in the lord's hands. Therefore
It is ordered that they should answer to the lord for the profits thereof, until &c.

Assessors [blank]

¶ Total of this Court -----16d.

Part 2

17 May 1407

Dillewyssh ¶ Court held there on Tuesday in Pentecost week, in the 8th regnal Year of king
Henry, the fourth after the conquest

Excuses none

a day at the next { cc-Adam Lucas has a day until the next Court, to show by his enrolled copies how he claims to hold his lands &
tenements within the lord's fiefdom, & by what services &c.

amercement 20s. { cc-Walter, farmer or bailiff of William Pever, cannot deny in the Court's presence that he effected a recovery on John, the lord's Bailiff, of certain cattle taken into the lord's fiefdom for existing arrears of rent & services, to the serious damage & contempt of the lord &c. Therefore amerced.

amercements 12d. { cc-Thomas Sheort, Richard son of William Knygth, John Bregge, John Denewey, Richard Coteler, & Thomas Aylsham, suitors of the Court, make default of this Court. Therefore they are amerced.

Postponed to the next { cc-Touching Robert Denny, knight, & his pledges, as appears in the preceding [roll], about amercements for trespass made in the lord's wood. They are postponed until the next [court]. And meanwhile there are to be talks between the lord & its counsel on the aforesaid matters.

Postponed to the next { cc-Touching William Pever or Robert Denny, knight, about making fealty to the lord & paying customary rent arrears retained by the lord, and a fine, as appears in the preceding [rolls] for several different parcels as appears in the Rental over the name of Robert Knolles, postponed until the next [court].

They are to be distrained before the next { cc-Alice, who was the wife of John Shrovysbury, Thomas Sampson, John Denewey, Richard Felmonger, John at Bregge, Richard, son of William, Knygth, Richard Depham, John Piebaker, Robert Gonuld, Thomas Longswete, John Elys, Robert Man, are to be distrained, that they shall be at the next Court to show their copy rolls of their lands & tenements that they hold, and in what way, & how, they claim to hold the tenements, and to peruse the Custumal & the Rental.

2d 2d
cc-~~John Carter & Will~~ Walter son of the farmer of William Pever, amerced. The same William does not have
the aforesaid William [sic, Walter] as he was ordered, therefore amerced. And it is ordered, &c., to Distrain
amercement 4d. the aforesaid William to cleanse the ditches at Amelles & Pyrifelde, as he was ordered, under
To distrain under penalty + cur--
penalty of half a mark. *under penalty of iiij s*

stopped
cc- Further, 1 bay horse, coming as a stray at Michaelmas last past, remains in the custody of the demesne
----- at the next farmer until more than a year has passed. And let there be a proclamation &c.

cc- John Lillebourne & William Gonulde gave the lord for a fine, for their lands & tenements which were
seized into the lord's hands, '*ichabendes ----- ut stda ----- xissa*', as appears -----

cc- ----- is ordered to answer to the lord for the profits of the lands & tenements which were lately William
Dene's, Philip Haverynge's, Adam Lucas', John Cartere's, John Pottesblode's, William Wedone's, John
Balle's, William Lane's, Robert Tart's, & John Denewey's, which were lately seized -----
----- ter being -----
----- for the profits -----
----- And ----- del -----

[B10 (front) tapers off into complete illegibility at this point. B10 (back) continues below.]

Roll B10 (back)

[The 'top' of this Roll is damaged, and where repaired (with fine white netting, as for Roll B9) is almost illegible. In addition, writing has seeped through from the other side of the Roll, in places making decipherment difficult.]

Part 2

17 May 1407 (continued)

D----- is to Robert Gonuld and -----
 ----- 'Ato' ----- at ----- upon which at the next [court] the aforesaid parties
 ----- next with his plea for the counsel
 of theirs 'fr-----d' & his aforesaid particulars.

B 10 v

Part 3

1 Dec 1407

Dillewyssh ¶ Court with View of Frank pledge held there on Thursday next after the feast of Saint Andrew the Apostle, in the 9th regnal Year of king Henry, the fourth after the conquest

Excuses none

α.

To distrain against the next { cc- It is ordered to distrain Adam Lucas, to show, [by] his copy of the roll, what, & by what services, he holds within the lord's fiefdom.

α.

cc- It is ordered to distrain Robert Dennyngge, knight, & his pledges, So that they be at the next Court, to answer to the lord on a plea of trespass, made in cutting down & carrying away bushes lately growing in the lord's wood, to the lord's damage of half a mark.



William[sic] Denny, knight

he is distrained by the beadle

amercement 3d
To distrain before the next
cc-Because the Bailiff does not have John at Bregge as he was ordered, therefore he is in mercy And it is ordered that he [John at Bregge] be distrained to be at the next to show the copy rolls of the lands & tenements which he himself holds within the lord's fiefdom and how and by what services he claims to hold &c

Ordered to seize
cc-The bailiff is ordered to make a seizure into the lord's hands of all lands & tenements which Richard Depham and Thomas Longswete hold within the lordship So that they be at the next to show copies therefor and how & by what services they themselves hold of the lord &c And that they answer for the profits until &c

amercement 40d
Order before the next
or R. Dennyng α .
cc-William Pever \wedge was ordered to cleanse ditches at Amelles & Pirifeld which are defective to the common harm under penalty of half a mark And now it is testified that they are not cleansed therefore he is in mercy And he is ordered to cleanse the same before the next under penalty of 10s

Fines 3s
cc-Philip Haverynge, Adam Lucas, John Carter, John Pottesblode, John Balle, William Lane, & John Denewey gave to the lord as fines for having back their lands & tenements which were seized into the lord's hands, the matter was expressed in the 3rd Court preceding, as appears &c

Ordered at the next
cc-Further it is ordered to answer for the profits of all lands & tenements which were lately those of Robert Woderove And to answer for the profits thereof Saving the right of whomsoever [&c]

Small taking[?]
Summons at the next

cc-Robert Gonulde & his wife Sibilla, plaintiffs, put themselves against John at Bregge, tenant, in a plea of land, And the aforesaid John, more wisely & solemnly called, does not come, but makes default after appearing. Therefore the is Bailiff \wedge ordered that he should take the aforesaid land into the lord's hands, And that the aforesaid John be summoned, by good [summoners], to be [at] the next [court], to receive what the Court is led to make upon this, and to hear its judgement therein, &c. He has a day at the next, because the Court is not briefed.

To seize, & answer for the profits

α .

cc-Further, the bailiff is ordered to answer for the profits of the lands & tenements which William Dene lately held at the will of the lord, in the lord's fiefdom at Dillewyssh, until &c.

Fine 4d
To distraint before the next

cc-Richard, son of William Knygth, comes & shows to the Court a copy[hold deed] of 1 messuage & 6 acres of land, with appurtenances, which were lately those of his father, the aforesaid William, Which he claims to hold by service of, yearly, 3s, reaping with 1 man for 3 days, hoeing for 1 day and a half, lifting the lord's hay together with other tenants, & other services &c. And he pleads that John at Bregge holds 3 acres thereof, for which he seeks that the rent thereof be apportioned, And it is conceded to him by the Court, for a 4d \wedge paid to the [demesne] farmer. And therefore fine is ordered to distraint the said John to hear its [the court's] judgement therein. he is to be distrained, & α .

common fine 4s
amercement 2d
to distraint before the next

cc-William Lane & John Pottesblode, head pledges there, come - as they ought - and present for the old common fine there : 4s. Likewise they present the default of William Gaweyn, in that he did not come to put himself in a tithing of $\frac{2d}{sworn}$ the King ; therefore he is amerced. And it is ordered that he be distrained before the next [court].

Rompsever 11d {
 cc-Likewise they present William Gaweyn, John Elys, Simon Greneslade, Walter Bekke, John Cartere, Philip
 1d 1d 1d 1d 1d 1d
 Haverynge, Adam Lucas, John Balle, John Pottesblode, William Lane, & John Bregge, [each] having cattle to the
 value of 30 pence, Whereof befalls to the lord 1d for each of them, according to custom.

amercements 8d {
 cc-Likewise they present John Horle, having an uncleansed ditch at Aspolle, and Adam Lucas likewise at Oldmede, to
 6d 2d
 the common harm of the country, therefore they are amerced, And they are ordered to make amends before the next.

Avisage of pigs 3s 3d {
 cc-William Lane acknowledges having, at Martinmas in winter, 8 pigs, Simon Grenslade likewise 3 piglets
 16d 8d
 & 10 female piglets, John Pottesblode 1 pig & 3 piglets and 4 female piglets, John Larke likewise 1 pig,
 7d 2d
 John Elys likewise 1 pig, Walter Becke likewise 2 pigs, Whereof befalls the lord, by custom, for each pig
 2d 4d
 2d, each piglet 1d, & each female piglet a halfpenny, to full 'Finium', &c.

amercement 10d {
 cc-Likewise they present John Pottesblode, //////////////// John Elys, & William Gaweyn, as hucksters & retailers of
 2d 4d 4d
 ale, & they break the assize, therefore they //////////////// are amerced

amercement 10d {
 cc-Likewise they present Thomas Aylesham, //////////////// tiler, for digging turves in the lord's soil without the lord's
 6d 2d
 licence, Therefore amerced. Likewise they present Robert Gonulde and William Dene, for raising one bridge without
 authority, & a certain ditch, to the common harm, therefore amerced. And [they are] ordered to make amends.

The 12 Jurors for the King
 To distraign before the next [court] {
 affirm they have presented all the above well & faithfully. Likewise they elect John Pottesblode to the office of
 Constable, & John Carter to the office of Borsholder [= senior tithingman], And they are sworn. Likewise they elected
 Robert Ketell & William Gonuld to the office of reeve, which is ordered. And they are to be distraigned
 for taking the oath.

Assessors of amercements : John Pottesblode } Sworn Court 'cog-- -----'
John Denewey }

[End of Roll B10. With the parchment running out, and narrowing, the last few lines have be squeezed in.]