



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**.

Roll F3 [previously E3] (front)

[Sunday] 29 Nov 1523

Dullewyche View of Frank pledge with Court there held the 29th day of November
E3 in the 15th regnal Year of king Henry VIIIth & c

Constable there
amercement 40d. Henry Dove, Constable there, & presents that Richard Lane made an assault on Walter Davy with one 'gesa', called a hokyd bylle [i.e a billhook], worth 8d, & moreover drew blood from him, therefore he is amerced c----- 40d.

amercement 40d. And he further presents that Walter Davy made an assault on Richard Lane with one 'gesa', called a hokyd bylle, worth 8d. & moreover drew blood from him, therefore he is amerced c----- 40d.

Headmen there
Common fine 4s. John Dove c-----
John Webstare c----- } Sworn, & rendered to the lord as the Common fine assured at this day c----- 4s.

Taster of ale
Michael Cassyngar, ale taster, & presents that Thomas Henley, junior, is a common brewer of ale, therefore he is amerced c--- 2d.

To this Court comes Thomas Cassyngar, & he is sworn into the Assize of the lord King.

12 for the King

Henry Knyght c-----
Henry Ode
Edward Hunte
Henry Hunte c-----

Sworn

John Cassyngar c-----
John Whatefore
Henry Henley
Thomas Henley junior c-----

Sworn

William Smyth c-----
William Baker
John Gonnelle
John Hunte c-----

Sworn

Penalty 3s 4d.

The Jurors present that Margaret Dove, because she has not scoured her ditches next to Carters Hawe, & has warning to make amends before the feast of the Annunciation of the blessed Mary next to come, under penalty of c-----3s 4d.

Penalty 5s.

Likewise they present that Richard Lane, because he has not scoured the ditch next to the tenement in which Walter Davy now stays, containing by estimation 30 perches, & has warning to make amends before the feast of Philip & James, under penalty of c-----5s.

Rompeny

Custom

To this Court come Richard Lane, Henry Dove, John Dove, Henry Ode, Henry Hunte, Walter Davy, Edward Hunte, Henry Bassenden, John

Cassyngar, John Webstar, Henry Henley, Thomas Henley junior, Michael Cassyngar,

Rumpenny

John Whateford, John Wylcokes, & William Cookes, who have goods & Cattle to the value of

2s 6d. in the Community of the lord, therefore they give the lord, of ancient custom, 1d for each of them, called

Rumpens c-----[16d]

Penalty 5s.

Likewise they present that the heirs of John Legh, knight, because they have not scoured their ditches in The Napse, containing by estimation 30 perches, & have warning to make amends before the next Court, under penalty of c--5s.

Likewise they present that one horse coloured black, valued at 2s, came into the lordship as a stray one whole year ago, and is in the Custody of John Webstar.

Strays

Likewise they present that one bull coloured Red, valued at 10s, & came as a stray at the feast of All Saints last past, & is in the Custody of Thomas Henley Likewise they present that one ~~eh~~ ewe coloured black, valued at 16d, & came as a stray at the feast of saint John the Baptist last past, & is in the Custody of Thomas Henley

Now of the Court

Homage there They present that Henry Wyatt, Robert Draper, & Richard Lane, because they make default of suit of Court, therefore each of them amercements 18d. is amerced 6d.

Likewise they present that John Legh, knight, who held of the lord by Charter one tenement called Hamelles & certain lands, by yearly rent of 11½d. & by other service[, has closed his last day,] & that John Legh is his kinsman & heir, namely the son of Ralph, brother of the aforesaid John, & is of full age, whom the bailiff there is ordered to distrain for Relief.

& Further they say that the aforesaid John, who held of the lord, by charter, 7 acres of land, by yearly rent of 12d. & one pound of Cumin & by other service[, has closed his last day,] & that John Legh is his kinsman & heir, namely the son of Ralph, brother of the aforesaid John, whom the bailiff there is ordered to distrain for his Relief, & to make fealty to the lord c-----

Likewise they present that John Legh, knight, claims to have 10 acres of land in the Napse, & whether they are free or by

for five acres
Web[star] yearly rent 20d
Fine 5s

charter the Jurors do not know, & whether parts are free or by copy[hold] the Jurors do not know

Likewise they present that Thomas Webstar, who held of the lord by Copy[hold] of the Court one parcel

of land called Berdes, containing by estimation 5 acres, & died seised thereof after the last Court & John

Webstar is his son & heir, & renders yearly therefor 20d, & there befalls to the lord, as a

heriot, one bull worth 10s, which said John is present in Court & seeks to be admitted

Fine 5s.

To whom the Lord, by the Steward, conceded seisin thereof to him, to have & to hold the aforesaid five acres

More on the back

of land to himself, his heirs & assigns, at the will of the Lord, according to the Custom of the manor,

by the rent & services thereof owed & by law accustomed, & he made fealty to the lord, & So

he was admitted tenant, & he gave to the lord as a fine for having such entry therein c---- 5s

[End of F3 [previously E3] (front).

NB : the Webstar slip shown above was present in 1982, but by 2020 had become detached.

F3 [previously E3] (back) follows below.]

Roll F3 [previously E3] (back)

[Sunday] 29 Nov 1523 (continued)

E3v

The Jurors say that Richard Lane wrongfully encroached, in siting a hedge between one Field

called Olde Loond & one Field called 18 Acres, by the space of four feet in

width & by estimation in length 30 perches, & had at the last Court to

remove it before the next Court, under penalty of 6s 8d, & now he has a new warning to

remove the aforesaid hedge there, to where from ancient custom it used to stand, before the feast

of Philip & James next to come, under penalty of 13d 4d.

& Further they say that the aforesaid Richard Lane, [because he] encroached on the demesne land in digging one ditch between the land called Brownynge & the demesne land called Wodseyre, by estimation in length 10 perches & in width 3 feet, he has a warning to make amends before the next Court, under penalty of c----- 40d Likewise they present that Richard Lane, because he dug one pit for 'luto' called Cley [i.e. clay] under John Dove's barn, & he has a warning to fill it in before the feast of saints Philip & James, under p penalty of c----- 6s 8d.



Likewise they present that Richard Lane, because he encroached, in siting a hedge on the High way at His tenement in Dullewyche, by estimation in width 8 feet, and in length as much extent as his land contains, & he has a warning to remove it before the next Court, Under penalty of c----- 6s 8d.

Likewise they present that Richard Lane, because he wrongfully sited one hedge upon Henry Ode's land at Copsyd Halle, & he has a warning to site the aforesaid [hedge] there to where, from ancient custom, it formerly used to stand, before the feast of saints Philip & James, Under penalty of 6s 8d.

Election They elected John Dove into the office of Constable.

They elected John Webstar & Thomas Henley into the office of Head tithing-men.

They elected John Hunte into the office of Ale Taster.

Assessors Henry Knyght cc----- } Sworn
Henry Ode cc----- }

To this Court comes John Dove, third son of his father John Dove, & Shows [his copyhold deeds] to the Court, and Says that all the parcels of land which the aforesaid John Dove, his father, surrendered to his use, are not entered in his Copy in particular, but in gross, & to this they are[sic] testified by the Homage, therefore it is considered by the Court that his copy should be entered anew in this Court as follows :

At the View of Frank pledge with Court, there held on the Thursday namely on the feast of saints Simon & Jude, in the 23rd regnal year of King Henry VIIth [i.e. on 28 Oct. 1507] is thus enrolled : at this Court the Steward records a certain surrender made to him outside the Court, whereby John Dove &[sic] surrendered into the lord's hands all that tenement, with its appurtenances, which James Pyke lately held of the aforesaid John to farm, with all the lands & tenements to the same belonging, and also the various parcels following : namely one Croft called Uppercrofte ; eight acres of land lying in a certain Field called Grete Nappys, lying in several parcels there ; & 2 acres of land lying in another field called Lyttell Nappsse, & lying between lands lately of John Legh, ~~kn~~ knight, on either side ; & two Closes,

of which one called Longeborne contains two-and-a-half acres, & the other is called Greteborne ; two acres of meadow called Aspole ; two acres of land lying at Camerwell Hylle, lying between land lately of John Wylde on the east side & land of Henry Wodcoke on the west side ; two acres of land called Lordscrofte ; one acre of land called Wrethes Acre ; one acre of land lying in Newlandes, with appurtenances, to the Use of John Dove, third son of the Same John Dove the father, & of the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, & for want of such issue it ought to remain to John Dove, brother of the same John Dove, & the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, & for want of such issue it ought to remain to Henry Dove, son of the same John Dove the father, & the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, & for want of such issue it ought to remain to his[?] brother Humphrey Dove & the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, & for want of such issue it ought to remain to John Scotte, his heirs & assigns, forever, in manner & form just as is more fully contained in the last Will of the same father, To whom the lord, by the Steward, conceded ~~there~~ ~~seisin thereof to him~~ ~~seisin thereof to him~~ seisin thereof to the same John Dove, to have & to hold the aforesaid tenements & other premises, with their appurtenances, to the aforesaid John Dove & his heirs, in the form aforesaid, at the will of the Lord, according to the Custom of the manor, by the rent & services thereof owed & by law accustomed, & the aforesaid John Dove, the third son, gave to the lord, as a fine for having such entry therein, as much as he gave as rent, & he was admitted tenant, & he made fealty to the lord.

[End of Roll F3 [previously E3], apart from numerous holes at the bottom for stringing Rolls together.]