



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 18 [previously H5] (front) *cf Roll 17 [previously H4] (front), which omits lines 29-32, 37-38, and 35 here.*

Part 1 *[Thursday] 4 May 1564*

Dulwyche **View of Frank** pledge with Manor Court, there held on the fourth day of May in the Sixth Year of the Reign of our lady Elizabeth, by the grace of god Queen of England, France & Ireland, defender of the faith &c.

Excuses Mathew Draper, gentleman, is excused, through Henry Hunte. John Webster is excused, through his wife Elizabeth.

twelve Jurors for the
Lady Queen

John Dove	-	Henry Hurscroft	John Hethe
John Crofte		Richard Wryght . Sworn	Edward Casinghurst
Thomas Wodd[Ode]		John Lewes	Nicholaus Juxe
Robert Brokesbe		John Hunt	John Cassinghurst
Christopher Cueson[sic]		John Henley	John Cockes
Thomas Whippe		Thomas Huant[sic]	William Smythe
John Mathewe		Henry Henley	John Beaket
Common Fine		John Bagger	Thomas Dalton

The Jurors present that they gave the lady as the common fine at this day c----- 4s.

Sworn into the assize Simon Wylson, Robert Etheroppe, William Backer, John Backer.

Presentation of the Constable John Lewes, Constable, says that all's well, and in place of John Lewes, John Mathew is Elected into the office of Constable for this year to come, and he was Sworn.

Head pledge Thomas Hunt presents that one bull-calf called '*a steer*' came within this lordship Before the feast of Easter and is not yet proclaimed, & Remains in the Custody of John Cockes and John Cassinghurst, and further he says that all's well, and John Hethe and Henry Henley is[sic] Elected into the office of the Headborough for this year to come.

Taster of ale Thomas Dalton presents that John Bagger sold ale by the pots called Stones Cruses, and not by the pots Sealed with the Seal of the Clerk of the market, and because he sold ale for far too much, therefore he is amerced c----- 12d. And in place of the aforesaid Thomas Dalton, Thomas Fering is elected into the office for this year to come, and he was Sworn.

The Jurors present that John Croftes that[sic] himself should Scour four [and] a half Rods of his ditch leading from Ashe pole end, before the feast of All Saints, Under penalty for each Rod c-----12d.

It is ordered that William Stevenson should himself scour his ditch leading from Peri filde towards London before the same feast, under similar penalty.

The Jurors present that one bull called '*a brown hawked steer*', and it Remains in the hands of John Casingar and John Coxe, and is appraised at c-----13s 4d, and it came within this lordship as a stray before the 18th day of April last past, and has not yet been proclaimed.

The Jurors present that since the last court Walter Dove died, who held of the lady by copy of the court one acre of land, and that Samuell Dove is his son and nearest heir, and is aged 14 years, but of what befalls to the lady the aforesaid are entirely ignorant. Therefore the bailiff is ordered to Seize the said land, until &c.

John Mathewe is Elected into the office of Constable, and Henry Henley and John Heathe are Elected into the office of the Headborough, for this year to come.

Now of the court baron :

To this court came Thomas Ode and his wife Elizabeth, & in open Court he[sic] Surrendered into the lady's hands two acres of arable land Lying in Middle fylde, which aforesaid two acres of land lately befell to him after the death of his father Henry Ode, to the benefit & use of John Dove, his heirs & assigns, to whom the lady, by her steward, conceded seisin thereof to him, to have & to Hold the aforesaid two acres of land to the aforesaid John Dove, his heirs & assigns, at the will of the lady, According to the custom of the manor, by the Rent [&] services thereof hitherto owed & by Law Accustomed, and he gave the lady as a fine for having such estate therein c-----3s 4d, and heritable when it happens, as appears in the Rolls of the court, and the aforesaid John Dove made fealty to the lady, and he was admitted Tenant thereof.

Part 2

[Tuesday] 12 February 1566

Dulwytche

View of frank pledge with Court barron of Margarit Calton, widow, there held on the 12th day of February in the eighth year of the Reign of our lady Elizabeth, by the grace of god Queen of

England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c.

Excuses

Mathew Draper, gentleman, is Excused, through Thomas Whippe, Thomas Hunt, John Croft, because Robert Brokesbye is a tenant of this manor [but] does not appear, as he was ordered, therefore he is amerced 4d.

Constable
there

John Mathewe, Constable there, presents that all's well, and in place of the aforesaid John Mathewe is elected Richard Wright, and he was Sworn.

Head pledges

John Hethe and Henry Henley present that all's well.

Common fine

The Homage there presents that it Assuredly gave the lady at this day, from ancient Custom, c----- 4s, and further it says that all's well, and in his[sic] place is elected John Cassynghurst [and] John Hunt [or, more likely, 'in place of John Cassynghurst [as Headborough] is elected John Hunt'].

Taster of ales

Thomas Feringe is the taster [of ales], and says that all's well.

12 Jurors for the Lady John Dove

Henry Hurscroft

Queen

John Croft

Richard Wright

John Cassinghurst

Thomas Wood[=Ode]

John Lewes

John Coxe

Robert Brokesbye

John Hunt

Thomas Feringe

Christopher Curson

Thomas Hunt

Edward Cassinghurst

Thomas Whippe

Henry Henley

Nicholas Juxe

John Mathewe

Henry Knyght

Now of the Court baron :

To this Court came John Hunt and, in open Court, Surrendered into the lady's hands one tenement With two acres of arable land called Watkins Croft [=Walkers Croft] in Dulwitche aforesaid, to the Benefit and use of Walter Bow[y]er, his heirs and assigns, whereby there befalls to the lady as a heriot c----- 6s 8d, upon which came the aforesaid Walter Bowyer, and Took out of the said lady's hands the said tenement with two acres of arable land, with all its appurtenances, [to have and to hold] to the aforesaid Walter Bowyer, his heirs and assigns, at the will of the lady, According to the Custom of the manor, Rendering therefor yearly c----- 8d besides all other burdens and services thereof hitherto owed and by Law accustomed, and he gave the lady as a fine for having such estate therein c----- 26s 8d, and heritable when it happens, According to the custom of the manor, and he made fealty to the lady, and Seisin was delivered to him by the rod, and he was admitted tenant thereof.

more on the back

[End of I8 [previously H5] (front). I8 [previously H5] (back) follows below :]

Roll I8 [previously H5] (back)

H5V

~~To this Court came John Crofte, and in open Court Surrendered into the lady's hands one Tenement with fifteen Acres by estimation of arable land in Dulwitche, lately Lane's Lande, with each of its appurtenances, to the benefit and use of Richard Wright and his wife Catherine, and the heirs of their body lawfully begotten, and for want of Such heirs the Remainder thereof to the Right heirs of the said John Crofte, To Have and to Hold the aforesaid Tenement and fifteen Acres of arable land in Dulwitche~~

~~aforesaid to the aforesaid Richard Wright and his wife Catherine as above
Immediately after the death of the aforesaid John Crofte, and further it is
Contemplated that the aforesaid Richard Wright Pays Yearly During the
natural life of the aforesaid John Crofte £4, and for freedom of Rent 5s in
each Year, and he[?] gave the lady as a fine as appears in the heading.~~

[For a second, more successful, attempt at this transaction, see Roll I9 [previously H6] (back).]

[At the bottom of the sheet :]

1563
1570
F
4
Rolls from the 5th of Elizabeth to the 10th

[End of Roll I8 [previously H5].]