



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**.

£.1.

Dulwich

View of Frank pledge with the first Court barron of Francis Calton Esquire, there held on Saturday namely the twenty-second Day of October in the twenty-eighth Year of the reign of our Lady, Queen Elizabeth, by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the faith &c., by John Kytchin Esquire, Steward there.

Tithingmen's Excuses Robert Kynsman, Christopher Heath, William[sic, ?Walter] Bone, Henry Jackson, John Fearinge, John Badger Junior, Richard Watford, Thomas Hamon, John Hamon, William Hamon, Thomas Ambler, Are Tithingmen within the bounds of the View of Frank pledge, and are excused.

Jurors	Ellis Parrye -----	} Sworn	John Heathe -----	} Sworn	John Staple -----	} Sworn	Christopher Curson -----	} Sworn
	Roger Hamon -----		Thomas Shott -----		Nicholas Foster -----		Thomas Warde -----	
	Henry Mathie -----		Thomas Fearinge -----		John Lewys -----		John Bone -----	
	John Shott -----		Henry Hunter -----		John Mason -----		Solomon Sergeant -----	

Common fine is yearly – 4s **In the first place** They say upon their oath, That the Common fine of this Manor is yearly ----- 4s, Paid at the View of Frank pledge held within the month of Saint Michael. And now it is paid by the Head pledges

Tithingmen who make default **Likewise** They say that Walter Bone, John Bedell, Robert Lewys, John Hale, Thomas Salter, Thomas Claye, Robert Morris, William London, Richard Claye, Henry Curson, Gabriel Shorrye, John Lewys, John Cassenger, Christopher Cassenger, Henry Shott, William Newett, Robert Badger Junior, a servant of Robert Kynsman, a Servant of Dalton, Are Tithingmen within the bounds of the View of Frank pledge, and at this Day make Default. Therefore each of them is in the mercy of the Lord ----- 2d.

Amercement **Likewise** They say that the hedge/fence of Robert Scott has not [been removed] according to the ordinance made

	in that respect at the last court. Therefore he is in the Lord's mercy -----	10s.
Amercement	Likewise They say that the Said Robert Scott cut down ' <i>Dumos</i> ' called ' <i>Furses</i> ' within the Liberty of this manor Therefore he is in the Lord's mercy -----	5s.
Amercement	Likewise They say that Walter Bone and John Hall have not worked in the highways with their Carts in the year already Last past, according to the form of the Statute published and provided in such a case. Therefore each of them is amerced -----	10s.
Sworn to allegiance to the Lady Queen	Likewise They say that John Mathewe, Thomas Cranfeild, Robert Badger, and Henry Shott, Are aged Twelve years and more, and have stayed within this Lordship for the space of one year and one Day and more, and [are] Sworn into Allegiance to the Lady Queen.	
Penalty imposed	In the first place it is Ordered that John Hall should repair his ' <i>concauum</i> ' called ' <i>his sluice</i> ' before the feast of Easter net, Under penalty of forfeiting to the Lord -----	5s.
Penalty	Likewise it is Ordered that Nicholas Foster should set right his hedge/fence encroaching upon the Lord's waste, Before the feast of the Annunciation of the Lady next, Under penalty of forfeiting to the Lord for each Rod -----	12d.
Penalty	Likewise it is Ordered that the hedge/fence between the land of Henry Mathewe and Thomas Becke otherwise Gyles, in the Napps, should be set right before the feast of Saint Michael Archangel next, Under penalty of forfeiting to the Lord for each Rod -----	12d.
Penalty	Likewise it is Ordered that John Staple should scour his part of Newlandes ditch before the feast of Pentecost next, Under penalty of forfeiting to the Lord -----	5s
Penalty	Likewise it is Ordered that Thomas Wyghtman should make his ditch of Bornes to be scoured before the feast of saint John the Baptist next, Under penalty of forfeiting to the Lord for each Rod -----	4d.
Penalty	Likewise it is Ordered that Roger Hamond should scour his ditch adjacent to the land of Thomas Wyghtman [before]	

the aforesaid feast of saint John the Babptiste[sic] next, Under penalty of forfeiting to the Lord for each Rod -----4d.

Constable

Roger Hamond is elected into the aforesaid office for this year, and is Sworn.

Head pledges

John Staple and John Hall are elected into the aforesaid office for this year, and are Sworn.

Taster of ale

William Fletcher is elected into the aforesaid office for this year, and is Sworn.

Now of the Court barron

Tenant excused

Thomas Calton is a Customary tenant of this Manor and is excused.

Tenants who
make default

In the first place They say upon their oath that Peter Marshe gentleman, the heirs of Henry Knight, Thomas Claye, and Nicholas Frend, Are tenants of the Court, and Owe suit of Court and Owe suit of Court[sic] and at this Day make default. Therefore each of them is in the Lord's mercy ----- 2d.

Likewise They say that Benedicta Fromans, Widow, who was Seised to herself and her heirs by Copy of the Rolls of the Court, Of and in seven acres of land Lying in three parcels within this Manor, And also Of and in three acres of land Lying also within this manor next to Gaskoyns pytt, And also Of and in four acres of land Lying in the Apps within this manor, Died seised thereof, And that by the Custom of this Manor the aforesaid premises Descend, and Ought to Descend, to a certain Frances Fromans, Youngest son of the Said Benedicta, whereby falls to the Lord As a heriot Two cows worth ----- £3 3s 4d. Which said Francis, present here in Court, seeks for himself to be admitted to all and singular the aforesaid premises, with appurtenances. To whom the Lord, by his steward, conceded seisin thereof by the rod. To Have and to hold to the same Francis, his heirs and assigns, of the Lord, by the rod, at the will of the Lord, according to the Custom of the Manor, by the yearly rent of ----- 5s. And heriotable when it befalls, And other services thereof hitherto Owed and accustomed. And the said Francis Gave the Lord As a fine for his entry

Admission of

Francis Fromans -----53s 4d. And he made fealty to the lord, and he was admitted tenant thereof.

Admission of
Thomas Crofte

Likewise They say that John Crofte, who held of the Lord to himself and his heirs according to the Custom of this Manor one Messuage or tenement and Thirteen acres of land with appurtenances, in the tenure of John Bedell or of his assigns, And one Cottage with appurtenances in the tenure of Robert Kynsman, died Since the last Court seised thereof, And that the aforesaid Messuage, And all and singular the aforesaid premises Descend, and Ought to Descend, to Thomas Croft, son of the said John, and that there falls to the lord as a heriot by the death of the said John --- 5s 6d, because he had no animal at the time of this death. Which said Thomas, present here in Court, seeks for himself to be admitted to the aforesaid Messuage and all and singular the aforesaid premises with appurtenances. To whom the Lord, by his steward, granted seisin thereof by the rod, to have and to hold to the same Thomas, his heirs and assigns, Of the Lord, by the rod, at the will of the Lord, according to the Custom of the Manor, by the yearly rent of ---5s 6d, **And** heriotable whenever it befalls, And other services thereof hitherto Owed and accustomed. And he Gave the Lord As a fine ----- £10. And he made fealty to the Lord, And he was admitted tenant thereof.

Likewise They say that Richard Wryght was seised according to the Custom of this manor Of and in One Messuage and fifteen acres of land lying within this Manor, And died seised thereof. After whose death the aforesaid premises Descend, and Ought to Descend, according to the Custom of this Manor, Katherine (the wife of Thomas Ward), Elizabeth, Agnes, Mary, and Ellen Wryght, As daughters and co-heirs of the aforesaid Richard. And that there falls to the Lord a heriot, already paid. And they further say that the aforesaid Elizabeth has died since the Last Court. And that by the death of the aforesaid Elizabeth a fifth part of the aforesaid premises descends to the aforesaid Katherine, Agnes, Mary, and Ellen, as sisters of the Said Elizabeth. And now at this Court comes the aforesaid Agnes and seeks to be admitted not only to the fifth part of the aforesaid premises which fell to herself after the death of the aforesaid Richard, her father, but Also to the aforesaid fourth part of a fifth part of the aforesaid premises which falls to her after the death of the aforesaid Elizabeth. To whom the Lord, by his steward, conceded seisin thereof, by the rod. To Have and to hold to the same Agnes, her heirs and assigns, Of the Lord, by the rod, At the will of the Lord, according to the Custom of the aforesaid Manor, by the yearly rent of ---16d, And other services thereof hitherto

Admission of
Agnes Wright

Owed and accustomed. And the Said Agnes Gave the Lord As a fine --- 20s. And she made fealty to the Lord, And she was admitted tenant thereof.

More of this Court appears On the Back of this Roll

[End of J10 [previously L1] (front). J10 [previously L1] (back) continues below.]

Roll J10 [previously L1] (back) *[Saturday] 22 Oct 1586 (continued)*

L1v

Likewise to this Court came Thomas Ward and his wife Katherine, one of the daughters of the aforesaid Richard Wright, and seek that she be admitted to a fourth part of a fifth part of the aforesaid Messuage and of the fifteen acres of land which falls to her by and after the death of the aforesaid Eilzabeth, her sister. To whom the Lord, by his steward, conceded seisin thereof, by the rod, To Have and to hold the aforesaid fourth part of a fifth part of the Messuage and aforesaid premises to the aforesaid Katherine, her heirs and assigns, Of the Lord, by the rod, At the will of the Lord, according to the Custom of the Manor, by the rent, services and Customs thereof Owed and accustomed, And heriotable whenever it happens. And at this Court the Said Thomas and Katherine Gave the Lord As a fine for the entry of the Said Katherine ---- 8s. And the Said Thomas made fealty to the Lord, And the said Katherine was admitted tenant thereof.

fine ----8s

Likewise to this this[sic] Court comes Edmund Bowyer esquire, and seeks to be admitted to eleven acres of land Lying at Howlettes bridge, with appurtenances, Which Thomas Ode, Customary tenant of this Manor, At the Court held within this Manor on the Eleventh Day of April in the twenty-fourth Year of the reign of the now Lady Queen, Surrendered To the benefit and Use of the aforesaid Edmund Bowyer, his heirs and assigns, as

fine paid -----£3

fully appears by the Roll of the Court bearing Date the same Eleventh Day of April, And of which Elizabeth Ode, lately the wife of the aforesaid Thomas Ode, afterwards, namely after the death of the aforesaid Thomas, Surrendered, gave up, and released, into the hands of the then Lady of the aforesaid Manor, outside the Court, by the hands of Christopher Curson and Thomas Warde, Two Customary tenants of this Manor, according to the Custom of this Manor, All her Right, title, estate, Calaim, Interest and Demand, To the benefit and use of the aforesaid Edmund Bowyer, his heirs and assigns, for ever, as also fully appears by the Roll of the Court bearing Date the twenty-sixth Day of October in the twenty-sixth Year of the reign of our now above-stated Lady Queen. To Which said Edmund, present here in Court, the Lord, by his aforesaid Steward, conceded seisin of the aforesaid eleven acres of land with appurtenances, by the rod. To Have and to hold to the same Edmund, his heirs and assigns, according to the form of the aforesaid surrender, Of the Lord, by the rod, At the will of the Lord, according to the Custom of the Manor, by the rent, services and Customs thereof from of old times Owed and accustomed, And heriotable whenever it befalls. And at this Court the Said Edmund Gave the Lord as a fine for his entry three Pounds, And he made fealty to the Lord, And he was admitted tenant thereof.

executed by me, John Kytchyn, Steward

Assessed for the Court by Ellis Parrye and
Christopher Curson }

[End of J10 [previously L1] (back), apart from, at the bottom :]

Dulwich Courte
Rolle 1586

[End of J10 [previously L1].]