



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 K1 [previously L6] (front) [Monday] 27 Oct 1600

N.B. This Roll is elaborately written, in classic Gothic script, but at the top is much faded and worn.

L.6.

Dulwich || View of Frank pledge with Court Baron of Francis Calton Esquire there held on Monday the twenty-seventh day of October in the forty-second Year of the reign of our lady Elizabeth, by the grace of god Queen of England, France & Ireland, defender of the faith, &c.

Excuses Thomas Turnor is Excused through Thomas Hamond ; Edward Reynoldes is Excused through John Mathewe ; Christopher Savage through John Mathewe ; Francis Borne is excused through Francis Feringe ; Richard Needham through the same ; John Cassinghurst through Thomas Beck ; John Heath through the same ; Robert Badger senior through Robert Badger junior ; James Pynfold through John Hunt ; Walter Hethersalle through John Staple ; & Robert Kingsland through Nicholas Foster.

Sworn for the
Lady Queen, with
the Homage

Nicholas Knight gentleman
Thomas Parrye gentleman
Nicholas Foster
John Bone
John Hall

} Sworn

John Ambler
Robert Badger junior
John Mathewe
Richard Watford
John Lewes
Thomas Beck

} Sworn

Henry Mathewe
George Barrett
Henry Hunter
Thomas Hamond
Robert Best

} Sworn

To this Court comes John Staple who has stayed within the bounds of the aforesaid Manor for a period of one Year, And he was sworn to the lady Queen

The Jurors for the Lady Queen present, upon the oath of John Halle, that [blank] Lewes, Widow, & Elizabeth Longe, Wife of John Longe, effected a recovery upon Richard Wright & John Wonghane, servants of the aforesaid John Halle, & took his pigs

away from the aforesaid John & Richard, in breach of the peace of the Lady now Queen. Therefore they are amerced.

And that Richard Bassingtone broke into the Lord's pound. Therefore he is amerced.

And that the '*mete*', in English 'the Buttes', are in decay for want of their repair. Therefore the inhabitants of the Town of Dulwich are amerced 6d. And further they are ordered to repair them before the feast of Pentecost, under penalty of 3s 4d.

And that John Goare, gentleman ; Walter Crane ; Edward Strange ; Richard Stukdove ; John Goodworth ; John Longe ; Richard Henricke ; & Arthur Pepper, are resident within the bounds of this View of Frank pledge, owe suit of this Court, And make default. Therefore each of them is amerced 2d.

Likewise they elected John Boane to exercise the office of Constable for this coming Year. And he was Sworn.

Likewise they elected John Ambler & George Barret to exercise the office of Head tithingmen for this coming Year. And they were Sworn.

Likewise they elected Henry Mathewe to the office of taster of ale for this coming Year. And he was Sworn.

The Homage presents that Paul Bushie, Clerk, Customary Tenant of this Manor, surrendered into the Lord's hands, by the hands of Nicholas Knyght & Thomas Parrye, two Like Tenants of the same Manor, according to the custom of that Manor, One acre of Customary land called Kennalles Acre, be it more or less, in Dulwich aforesaid, Abutting upon land of Francis Caltone Esquire towards the South & west, upon the High way towards the east, And upon land of Humphrey Emersone, gentleman, towards the north, with its appurtenances whatsoever to the said acre appertaining, To the benefit & Use of Humphrey Emersone junior, Youngest son of the aforesaid Humphrey Emersone, & his heirs, whereby falls to the Lord as a Heriot 4d, being the Yearly rent, because he had no animals. And because no-one comes to take the above aforesaid tenement out of the Lord's hands, Therefore the Bailiff is ordered to seize the same tenement into the Lord's hands, with appurtenances, And to answer to the Lord for the profits thereof &c.

Likewise it presents that Nicholas Knight, Customary Tenant of this Manor, surrendered into the Lord's hands, by the hands of Thomas Parrye & Nicholas Foster, two Like Tenants of the same Manor, all those parcels of Customary land following, namely one messuage, one barn, one orchard, with their appurtenances, one pigstie containing by estimation one acre, One piece of land called

Howlettes containing by estimation five acres, One Close called the Wheatfield containing by estimation twelve acres, One Close called the Oatfield containing by estimation twelve acres, One Close called the Fallow or the Wheatfield now sown, & the Copses around the same, containing by estimation seven acres & a half of One acre, the Borne with the Copses around them, containing by estimation three acres, the Slip & the Copse adjoining to the Eighteen Acres, containing by estimation three acres, the Copses called the Waterings, containing by estimation two acres, with all & singular their appurtenances, To the benefit & use of Edward Duke, gentleman, & his heirs, according to the custom of the Manor, under this Condition following, namely that if the aforesaid Edward Duke & a certain Francis Calton, their heirs, Executors, Administrators or Assigns, or either of them, well & faithfully pay to the aforesaid Nicholas Knighte, his Executors, Administrators or Assigns, four hundred pounds of good & legal English money in manner & form following, that is to say One hundred pounds thereof upon the festival day of saint Bartholomew the Apostle next following the date of the aforesaid surrender, And upon the festival day of saint Bartholomew the Apostle which will be in the Year of the Lord one thousand six hundred and one another Hundred pounds, And upon the festival day of saint Bartholomew the Apostle which will be in the Year of the Lord one thousand six hundred and two another Hundred pounds, And upon the festival day of saint Bartholomew the Apostle which will be in the Year of the Lord one thousand six hundred and three another Hundred pounds, At the then mansion house of Humphrey Emersone, Gentleman, in the Burrowe of Southwarke, according to the Conditions of four separate bonds therein made by the aforesaid Francis Caltone & a certain Edward Wilsone, Clerk, to the aforesaid Nicholas Knight, But if there shall be any default of payment of the said Total, that then the aforesaid surrender shall be void, & all admissions thereupon cancelled, And that then & thenceforth it will be legal for the aforesaid Nicholas Knight & his heirs to re-enter into the aforesaid premises with appurtenances, & to have the same again as in its former state, this present surrender or any in the same vein to the contrary notwithstanding, And because no-one comes to Take the aforesaid surrender, Therefore it remains in the Lord's hands for want of a Tenant &c.

Likewise it presents that Paul Bushie, Clerk, who freely held of the lord, to himself & his heirs, One Messuage & six acres of land, with appurtenances, called Kennalls, be it more or less, by fealty, suit of Court, & rent of eight pence Yearly, since the last Court alienated the aforesaid premises, with appurtenances, to one Humphrey Emersone & his heirs, whereby falls to the Lord, as relief, 8d. And because the aforesaid Humphrey does not come, not only to pay the relief but also to make fealty, Therefore the bailiff is ordered to distrain him that he be at the next Court held for the aforesaid Manor, to make fealty & other services owed & by law accustomed for the same &c.

Likewise it presents that Elizabeth Frinde, who freely held of the Lord, to herself & her heirs, One Messuage, One Barn, & One garden, with appurtenances, by fealty, suit of Court, & rent of 2½d Yearly, died since the last Court, Whereby falls to the Lord as relief 2½d. And that And that *[sic]* **[Rebecca]** Frinde, **[Agnes]** Frinde & **[Mary]** Frinde are the daughters & co-heirs of the aforesaid Elizabeth, And because they do not come, not only to pay the relief but also to make fealty, Therefore the Bailiff is ordered to distrain them that they be at the next Court held for the aforesaid Manor, to make fealty & other services owed & by law accustomed for the same & c.

And that Edmund Bowyer, Esquire ; John Bowyer, gentleman ; Paul Bushie, Clerk ; Nicholas Knight, gentleman ; & Ellis Parrye, are Customary Tenants of this Manor, owe suit of this Court, And make default. Therefore each of them is amerced 3d.

And further it presents that all's well.

Total of this Court [blank]

[End of K1 [previously L6] (front). K1 [previously L6] (back) follows below.]

[At the top, in ?Edward Alleyn's handwriting :] Court rolls Held

by Sir Francis Calton, but there

want many .

Roll
L.1--9

Roll K1 [previously L6] (back)

[Tuesday] 26 Oct 1602

L 6 V

Dulwich ¶ View of Frank pledge with Court Baron of Francis Calton Esquire there held on Tuesday Namely the Twenty-sixth of October in the forty-fourth Year of the reign of the lady Elizabeth, by the grace of god Queen of England, France & Ireland, Defender of the faith, & c.

Excuses ¶ Nicholas Foster excuses from common [suit] ; Robert Starkey excuses from common [suit] ; Walter Bone excuses from common [suit] ; Christopher Savage excuses from common [suit] ; Thomas Walker Excuses from common [suit] ; Thomas Lane Excuses from common [suit] ; Thomas Turner, gentleman, Excuses from common [suit].

Sworn for the
lady Queen, with
the Homage

Humphrey Emerson gentleman
Thomas Parrye [gentleman]
Ellis Parrye
John Boane
Henry Hunter

} Sworn

John Heath
Thomas Hamond
John Staple
John Mathewe
Thomas Abeck

} Sworn

Robert Badger senior
John Cassinghurst
Richard Watford
Robert Kingsland &
Henry Mathewe

} Sworn

Who say upon their oath that they gave the lord as the common fine 4s.

Likewise it presents that Edward Reynoldes, Humphrey Roper, John Starkey, John Fearinge, John Robertes, John Longe, John Hunt, Reginald[sic, Richard] Stoughton, Henry Mathewe, John Staple junior, Edward Kippinge & Thomas Lane, are residents within the bounds of this View of Frank pledge, And at this day make default. Therefore each of them is amerced 2d.

Likewise it presents that Christopher Savage assaulted & made an affray upon George Barrett, and drew blood from him. Therefore he is amerced 3s 4d.

To this Court Comes Humphrey Emerson, gentleman, And makes fealty to the lord for One messuage & six acres of land, be it more or less, called Kennalles, which he claims to hold of the lord of this Manor by rent of 8d Yearly & suit of Court &c.

Likewise they elected John Longe Constable for this coming Year, And he was sworn to exercise the aforesaid office truly & faithfully &c.

Likewise they elected John Cassinghurst & Walter Ethersalle to the office of head tithingmen for this coming Year, And they were sworn to exercise the aforesaid office truly & faithfully &c.

To this Court Comes Richard Cursone, Youngest son of Christopher Cursone, And seeks of the lord to be admitted to One tenement, with three acres of land & Wood, more or less, with appurtenances, Called Gorye Landes, in Dulwich, To whom the lord, by his Steward, conceded seisin thereof by the rod, to hold to himself & his heirs at the will of the lord, according to the custom of the Manor, by rent of 12d Yearly & a heriot when it befalls, And other services & customs thereof hitherto owed & by law accustomed, And he gave the lord for a fine as appears in the heading and he made fealty, And he was admitted Tenant thereof.

Fine £3

Since at the View of Frank pledge with Court Baron here held on Monday, Namely the 27th day of October in the 42nd Year of the reign of the Lady Elizabeth, now Queen of England, it was presented by the homage that Paul Bushie, Custumary Tenant of this Manor, surrendered into the Lord's hands, by the hands of Nicholas Knight and Thomas Parrye, two like tenants of that Manor, One acre of customary land called Kennalles Acre, be it more or less, in Dulwich aforesaid, abutting upon land of Francis Caltone Esquire towards the South & west, upon the High way towards the east, And upon land of Humphrey Emerson, gentleman, towards the north, with its appurtenances whatsoever to the said acre appertaining, To the benefit & Use of Humphrey Emerson junior, & his heirs, whereby falls to the lord as a Heriot 4d, being the yearly rent because he had no animals, And because no-one came to take the above aforesaid tenement out of the Lord's hands, Therefore the Bailiff was ordered to seize the same tenement with appurtenances into the lord's hands, and to answer to the lord for the profits thereof &c. And now to this Court Comes the aforesaid Humphrey [junior] by his Attorney Humphrey Emerson senior, And seeks admission to the aforesaid premises, To whom the lord, by his Steward, conceded seisin thereof to him by the rod, to hold to himself & his heirs at the will of the lord, according to the custom of the Manor, by the rent & other services & customs thereof hitherto owed & by law accustomed, And he gave the lord for a fine [24s and] he was admitted Tenant thereof, but fealty is postponed until &c.

Fine 24s

At this Court the lord, by his Steward, conceded to Humphrey Emerson senior not only the wardship of the body of the aforesaid Humphrey Emerson junior, but also occupation of the aforesaid premises during the minority of the aforesaid Humphrey junior, To hold to himself & his Assigns during the aforesaid minority, ad the Will of the lord, according to the custom of the Manor, by the rent & other services & customs thereof hitherto owed & by law accustomed, And he gave the lord for a fine &c.

Fine 3s 4d

The **Homage** presents that Edmundu Bowyer Esquire ; John Bowyer, Gentleman ; Nicholas Foster ; Richard Cursons ; Thomas Turner ; & Ode's heirs, are Customary Tenants of this Manor, owe suit of this Court, And at this day make default. Therefore each of them is amerced 2d.

Likewise it presents that the Tenants of Little Brownings, now in the tenure of Thomas Parry, were Used & were accustomed to have a Way for a period of thirty Years Or thereabouts through a certain Close called Brownings, in the tenure of Walter Ethersalle, to do carting to and fro [**'cariandum & recariandum'**] by whatever means &c.

The Tenants of Great Bornes & Little Bornes are **Ordered** to scour the ditches from the upper part of the same As far as the common tract in Crocksted Lane before the first day of May next, under penalty of 12d for each rod not then done.

John Robertes is also **Ordered** to make a '*Janua*', Called 'a grate', to the end of the common tract of water called 'the comon suere' [**i.e. the common sewer**] going out of Crocksted Lane in **[blank]** , and further John Mathewe is ordered to erect a post to hang the same, before the aforesaid day, under penalty of 6s 8d for each of them.

And further it presents that all's well.

Total of this Court **[blank]**

[End of Roll K1 [previously L6].]