



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**.

**Dulwich** in  
the County of Surrey,  
Year 1620 ----

**At the View of Frank Pledge With Court Baron,** of Edward Allen

Esquire, there held on Wednesday the twenty-sixth Day of April in the Eighteenth Year of the Reign of our Lord James, by the grace of god King of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c., and of Scotland the Fifty-third Year, in the Presence of John Harryes Esquire, Steward there.

*M.7*

Excuses

Thomas Hamon, senior, Excused through Mathias Allen ; Richard Pare Excused through Robert Bodger ; John Pagett Excused through Robert Starkeye ; William Perrye Excused through William Mathew ; John Tapneye Excused through Robert Starkeye ; Favor Fox Excused through Mathias Allen ; Thomas West and John Bennett Excused through William Mathew.

Constable

Richard Stawton } Appears and, Sworn, presents with an Oath.

Tithingmen

Robert Hewitt<sup>^</sup> } does not Appear  
et } Bodger  
John Bodger . } ^ Appears and, Sworn, presents with an Oath.

Taster  
of Ales

Ralph Canterbury } Appears and, Sworn, presents with an Oath.

Head Pledges  
& Homage

Richard Talboyes, gent.	} Sworn	Matthew Wythers	} Sworn	Edmund Redman	} Sworn
Nicholas Foster --		Robert Bodger		William Mathew	
Richard Stawton		John Staple		Walter Bone, senior	
John Cassinghurst		Henry Collyns		John Bodger --	
Mathias Allen --		Robert Starkeye		Walter Bone, junior	

Common Fine  
4s, paid to the  
Lord o---

} Who Say upon their oath that they Gave the Lord as the Common Fine at this Day for  
Dulwich as appears in the Heading.

Who, Sworn and Charged to enquire of and upon Various Matters, not only for the Lord King, but also for the Lord of this Manor, Say upon their Oath that Samuel Bridges, Robert Baxter, William Laughton[sic, Laughton], and [Dr.] John Nott, are Residents within the boundary of this Manor, and Owe suit of Court, and now at this Court they make Default. Therefore each of them is amerced, as appears on their Heads. [Which it does not.]

**In the first place**, The Jurors present that Edward[sic] Redman has enclosed the Common Foot way within the Jurisdiction of this Court, Leading through the lands of the aforesaid Edward, from Dulwich Common towards Dulwiche Court lodge. And now at this Court it is Ordered that the aforesaid Edward (in English, '*shall laye forthe*') the aforesaid way before the seventh Day of May next coming, under penalty of o----- 13s 4d.

hordeum = barley;  
horreum = barn

**Likewise**, they likewise present that Robert Starkeye has not repaired the Common foot way by his '*hordeum*'[sic, horreum] (in English '*his barne*') within the Jurisdiction of this Court, nor has he scoured the pond (in English '*the Pond*'), to the annoyance of All of the people of the Lord King travelling by the aforesaid way. And now at this Court it is likewise Ordered that the aforesaid Robert shall adequately repair the aforesaid way, and make a rustic stile there, so that the King's people may more easily travel by the aforesaid way, before the seventh Day of May next coming, under penalty of o----- 20s

**Likewise**, they likewise present that John Stocke has not repaired the bridges Leading across his lands towards Greenestreete, but has allowed them to fall into decay. And now, at this Court, it is likewise

Ordered that the aforesaid John shall repair the aforesaid bridges before the Seventeenth Day of May next coming, under penalty of o----- 40s.

**Likewise**, they likewise present that Walter Ethersall has not scoured his ditches from the great Elm above his barn [*'hordeum'*, lit. *'barley'*] near to his Mansion House, to Matthew Withers' barn [*'hordeum'*, lit. *'barley'*]. And now it is Ordered that the aforesaid Walter shall Scour the aforesaid ditches before the Last Day of May next coming, under penalty for each rod which shall then not have been Scoured, of o----- 2s.

**Likewise**, it is likewise Ordered that the aforesaid Walter shall make a new rustic stile at the end of his orchard before the Last Day of May next coming, under penalty of o----- 5s.

**Likewise**, they likewise present that [Samuel] Bridges has not scoured his ditches between his lands and the lands of John Cassinghurst, in the manner and form that he was instructed, at Howlettes bridge, and now it is ordered that the aforesaid [Samuel] Bridges shall Scour the aforesaid ditches before the Last Day of May next coming, under penalty for each rod which shall then not have been Scoured, of o----- 2s.

**Likewise**, they likewise present that Walter Ethersall, [Henry?] Collins, Matthew Withers, and Robert Best, did not come with their Carts and Carriages to repair the Common high ways at the Days appointed for the surveys of the high ways. Therefore, at this Court it is Ordered that the aforesaid Walter, [Henry?], Matthew, and Robert, shall come with their Carts and Carriages at the Days appointed for the surveys of the aforesaid ways, under penalty for each Defaulter thereby, of o----- [blank]

[End of L2 [previously M7] (front). L2 [previously M7] (back) continues below.]

Roll L2 [previously M7] (back)

*[Wednesday] 26 Apr 1620 (continued)*

M7v

**Likewise**, they likewise present that Daniel Cranwell, [blank] Kitchin, Widow, John Underwoode, and Richard Warde, did not come with their workmen to repair the Common high ways at the Days appointed for the surveys of the high ways. Therefore, at this Court it is Ordered that the aforesaid Daniel, [blank], John, and Richard, shall come with workmen at the Days appointed for the surveys of the aforesaid ways, under penalty for each Defaulter thereby, of o----- [blank]

**Likewise**, they likewise present that Walter Boone senior, because he effected a Recovery, within the jurisdiction of this Court, of a certain mare and filly which were taken upon the land of William Allen, Esquire, within the jurisdiction of this Court, on the twentieth Day of April in the Year of the Lord 1620, Therefore he is amerced o----- 6s 8d.

**Likewise**, they likewise present that Robert Best shall Scour his ditch towards Ashpooles ende, before the Last Day of May next coming, under penalty for each rod which shall then not have been Scoured, of o----- 12d.

**Likewise**, it is Ordered that Walter Ethersall shall move the Mounds of earth next to his House, lying in the Common road, within the jurisdiction of this Court, before the Last Day of May next coming, under penalty of o----- 10s.

Likewise, it is likewise Ordered [*sic, they likewise present*] that all the Inhabitants of Dulwiche have not scoured the Common ponds of the aforesaid Manor, but have allowed them to stand without water, to the damage of the health of animals for Want thereof , And now it is likewise Ordered that all the Inhabitants of the aforesaid Manor shall Scour the aforesaid Common ponds before the first Day of November next coming, under penalty for each refusing so to do, of o---- 10s.

Likewise, they likewise present that Theodore Owle and Robert Wall of Lambethe are Common bakers, and on Several occasions baked bread Lacking true and full Assize, and [sold] the same to Several persons within the boundary of this Manor between the first Day of April and the seventh Day of the same Month of April last past. Therefore each of them is separately amerced: Theodore Owle o---- 40s, and Robert Wall o----- 30s.

Assessed by the whole  
Homage

[End of Roll L2 [previously M7].]