



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 L15 [N.B. This Roll was previously named S2.]

Roll L15 [previously S2] (front) [Wednesday] 1 April 1635

1635

S2

Manor of Dulwich

[The text to the right is initially obscured, as shown, by what look like inky fingerprints.]

View of Franci pledge with Court Barron there, started and held the first day of April in the eleventh Year of the reign of our Lord Charles now king of England &c., by Thomas Edgar, Steward there :

Jurors for the king

James Nelham
Paul Baxter
John Duffell
John Bodger
Edmund Redman
Faver Fox
John Barret

Sworn for the king

Robert Kingsland
Hugh Bolton --
Richard Crane
William Staple
Henry Collens
Edmund Cozens &
Thomas Hamon

Amercement **First**, they present that John Apleton, gentleman, and Richard Tredgould, inhabitants within the purview of this Leet, were at the last Court there, held on the fourteenth day of April, Anno Domini 1634, ordered to make the water-course one foot wider in their land ['fundo'], from the northern [illegible] of the Nulands, as far as the Eighteene Acres towards the west, before the last day of October[sic] last past, which is still not done; therefore they are amerced: £3 – 6s – 8d.

amercement Also, they present that at the last Court there held, Henry Hutchinson and Paul --- Baxter, inhabitants within the purview of this leet, were ordered to scour their ditch or water-

course in Croxstead Lane, before the last day of July last past, which is still not done;
therefore they are amerced ----- £1 – 13s – 4d.

appropriate
penalty

Also, it is ordered that the said John Apleton and Richard Tredgould shall cut, or cause to be cut, the said ditch or water-course, from the north end of the Nulands as far as the west end of the Eighteene Acres, one foot wider in their land [**‘fundo’**], so that the water may have a better course; and the same to be done before the last day of November n^{xt}[**‘sic’**] next to come, under pain for each and every perch then unscoured ----- £0 – 2s – 0d.

appropriate
penalty

Also, it is ordered that the said Paul Baxter shall scour, or cause to be scoured, the said ditch or water-course in Croxstead Lane, so that the water may have a free run; and the same to be done before the last day of July next to come, under pain for each and every perch then under-scoured of ----- 0 – 0 – 6d.

appropriate
penalty

Also, it is ordered that John Merriton shall fence his close, in English *‘the Inclosure’*, that over-spreads the high-way, and fill in his ditch, as it was in olden time; and remove his *‘Orbitem’*, in English *‘his Style*[**‘i.e. stile’**] which he put in the same close, and lay the high-way open, before the second day of July next to come, under pain of ----- £5 -- 0 – 0.

appropriate
penalty

Also, it is ordered that the said Richard Tredgould shall remove his barn that stands in the high-way, and lay the high-way open again, as it was in olden time; and the same to be done before the second day of July next to come, under pain of ----- 5^{£i} -- 0 – 0.

appropriate
penalty

Also, it is ordered that Thomas Hamon shall remove the [**‘illegible’**] of his lands which [**‘illegible’**] in the high-way, from his barn as far as ~~to~~ the west end of the Ashepoole, so that *‘non offendit’* [**‘?he does not block’**] the high-way as formerly; and the same to be done before the sixth day of August next to come, under pain of ----- £2 – 0s – 0d.

appropriate
penalty

Also, it is ordered that none of the inhabitants of Dulwich and within the purview of this leet shall at any time dig land or earth, in English 'Loomer' [i.e. loam] next to the eastern end of the Burial Ground, in the road which leads to the Court of Dulwich called Dulwich Court, under pain of ----- £1 – 6s – 8d.

appropriate
penalty

Also, it is ordered that Nicholas Bodger shall impound, in English 'shall kennell', his hunting dogs, or keep them within their compounds [lit. 'liberties'], so that they do not lead to damage to his neighbours, or hurt them, as they did previously; and the same to be done before the twentieth day of July next to come, under pain of ----- £6—6s- 8d.

amercement

Also, it appears that, at the last Court held here, Walter Ethersall was presented because he sold ale by illegal measures, and broke the Assize; therefore he is amerced ----- 0 -- 3s—4d.

amercement

Also, it appears that, at the last Court held here, the said Walter Ethersall was presented because he held a drinking house and irregular nights; therefore he is amerced ----- 0 -- 3s—4d.

appropriate
penalty

Also, it is ordered that Hugh Bolton shall not put in his pinfold, nor cause to be penned or molested, any sheep of any of the inhabitants of Dulwich, other than his own, under pain for each such offence of ----- £0 --- 10s --- 0d

by , their Steward

[End of L15 [previously S2] (front). L15 [previously S2] (back) follows below.]

appropriate
penalty

Also, it is ordered that Walter Ethersall shall scour his land next to Thomas Hamon's house, as far as the northern part of Faver Fox's barn, before the seventh day of October next to come, under pain for each perch then under-scoured of
£0 --- 1s --- 0d.

appropriate
penalty

Also, it is ordered that the said Walter Ethersall shall throw a bridge over, or at least make firm, that part of his ditch which is a Cart-way, so that water does not flow into the high-way; and the same to be done before the seventh day of October next to come, under pain of ----- £0 --- 6s --- 8d.

Office of
Constable

Also, the Head pledges elected William Staple, one of the residents within the purview of this leet, to exercise and execute the office of Constable there; who, being now present in Court, undertook his bodily oath to execute that office well and faithfully &c.

Office of
Headborough

Also, they likewise elected John Starky and Henry Mathewe, residents within the purview of this Leet, to hold the office of Headboroughs there; who, being now present in Court, each of them was sworn, separately and respectively, to execute that office well and faithfully, &c.

Office of
Aleconner.

And also, they likewise elected Robert Sheapard, one of the residents within the purview of this Leet, to hold the office of Aleconner there; who, being now present in Court, undertook his bodily oath to execute that office well and faithfully, &c.

S

by  Steward
there
