



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 N9 [This Roll was previously named V.]

Roll N9 [previously V] (front)

V r

Part 1 [Thursday] 16 April 1668

Manor of  
Dulwich in the  
County of Surrey

H—

Court View of Frank pledge with Court baron there held on Thursday, the sixteenth day of April in the twentieth Year of the reign of our lord King Charles the second &c., And in the Year of our lord Christ 1668, by Thomas Edgar, Steward there, is thus enrolled :

Inquest	Thomas Blechenden	} Sworn	Thomas Wingfeild	} Sworn	John Bowden	} Sworn	John Redman	} Sworn
	Thomas Wrench		Thomas Hamond		John Starkye junior		John Hamon	
	John Starkye senior		Thomas Butterfeild		John Davyes		Faver Barret	
	Nicholas Staples		Silvester Cutter		Thomas Cranwell			

Excuses from Common	Daniel Scryvener	Robert Budder ----- by Faver Barret
[suit]	John Barrett by Faver Barret	Simon Hewytt ----- by Thomas Wingfeild

following,

Constable John Bowden was elected by the Jurors in the office of Constablei for one whole year and was sworn in Court to execute that office.

Headboroughs Also, in the same way, Thomas Cranwell and John Starkye were elected in the office of Headborough for one whole

year following, and both were sworn in open Court to execute that office &c.

Aleconner

Also, in the same way, Thomas Janes was elected in the office of Aleconner for one whole year following, and was sworn to execute that office &c.

Part 2

[Thursday] 6 May 1669

Manor of  
Dulwich in the  
County of Surrey

H—

Court View of Frank pledge with Court baron there held on Thursday, the sixth day of May in the twenty-first Year of the reign of our lord Charles the second, by the grace of God King of England &c., and in the Year of the lord Christ 1669, by Thomas Edgar, Steward there, is thus enrolled :

Inquest

John Starkye senior  
Thomas Wrench  
Thomas Butterffeild  
James Ireland -----

Sworn

John Bowden -----  
Daniel Scryvener  
John Starky Junior  
Faver Barrett

Sworn

Thomas Cranwell  
Richard Perrye  
John Davys  
John Hamond

Sworn

Richard Scotsone -----  
Silvester Cutter  
Thomas Jeames

Excuses from Common  
[suit]

John Lewys and  
John Barrett

} by Thomas Cranwell ;

H—

William Budd H—  
Richard Eaton  
Philip Cane

} by John Starkye Junior.

Excuses from Common *Simon Hewytt ----- by Daniel Scryvener ----- ; Edward Bennett ----- by Silvester Cutter.*  
[suit]

Constable *John Hamond was elected by the Jurors in the office of Constable for one whole year following, and was sworn in open Court.*

Headboroughs *Also, in the same way, Richard Perrey and Thomas Hill were elected in the office of Headborough for one whole year following, And the aforesaid Richard Perrey was sworn in open Court, &c., but the aforesaid Thomas Hill being absent, was certified &c.*

Aleconner *Also, in the same way, Robert Slonne was elected in the office of Aleconer within the precinct of this Leet, for one whole year following, and was sworn in open Court.*

amercement *Also, they present the residents within the precinct of this Leet Whose names are following, for default in non-appearance at this Court, amerced, as appears over the head of each of them :*

*2s 6d                      2s 6d                      2s 6d                      2s 6d                      2s 6d                      2s 6d*  
*William Stroud,    Nicholas Thurman,    Roger Hasnet,    Robert West,    William Barber,    Nicholas Staples,*  
*2s 6d                      2s 6d                      2s 6d                      2s 6d                      2s 6d                      2s 6d*  
*John Oxley,    Richard Wells,    Thomas Wingfeild,    John Hamond,    Nicholas Bodger Junior,    Thomas Hill*  
*2s 6d*  
*Samuell Oxley.*

amercement  
homage[?]  
20s *Also, they present that Nicholas Thurman, without the Lords' licence, dug out upon the Common a certain quantity of Turves, in English 'green Turf', to the damage of the soil and grass, and to the disinheritance of the Lords; therefore amerced twenty shillings.*

penalty *Also, it is ordered that ~~W~~William Stroud shall cleanse his ditch next to the high-way, being unclean for about twenty rods, before the feast of saint Michael Archangel next ensuing, under penalty for each rod then undone of ----- 1s.*

*Also, it is ordered that Silvester Cutter shall cleanse his ditch next to the high-way, being unclean for about thirty rods, before the feast day of saint Michael now next ensuing, under penalty for each rod then undone of ----- 1s.*

*Also, it is ordered that Richard Wells shall cleanse his ditch next to the high-way, being unclean for about ten rods, before <sup>or at</sup> the feast day of saint Michael now next ensuing, under penalty for each rod then undone of ----- 1s.*

*Also, it is ordered that Nicholas Bodger shall cleanse his ditch next to the high-way, being unclean for about ten rods, before the feast day of saint Michael next ensuing, under penalty for each rod then undone of ----- 1s.*

**Part 3**                      **[Thursday] 28 April 1670**

**Manor of Dulwich in  
the County of Surrye**

*Court View of Frank pledge with Court Baron there held on Thursday, the twenty-eighth day of April, in the twenty-second Year of the reign of our lord Charles the second, by the grace of God King of England, &c, and in the Year of the lord Christ 1670, by Thomas Edgar, Steward there, is thus enrolled :*

*Inquest*

*Thomas Blechenden  
Nicholas Thurman  
John Starkye senior  
Richard Wells  
Thomas Wrench  
John Hathwaye* } **Sworn**

*John Davyes -----  
John Starkye Junior  
John Bowden  
Daniel Scryvener  
John Hamond  
John Oxlye -----* } **Sworn**

*Sylvester Cutter  
Thomas Hills  
William Terrye  
Thomas Butterfeild &  
Faver Barrett*

Excuses *Thomas, servant* } excused from Common *[suit]* by } *Antony Bennet* } excused from Common *[suit]* by }  
 To *John Lewys, and* } *Richard Perry* } *Edward James* } *Sylvester Cutter* }  
*Richard Eaton* }

Constable *Thomas Cranwell was now by the Jurors elected in the office of Constable for one whole year ensuing within the precinct and was sworn in Court &c*

Headboroughs *Also, in the same way James Ireland and David Payne were elected in the office of Headboroughs for one whole year ensuing, executing within the precinct of this Leet, And the aforesaid David, present in Court, undertook the oath &c*

Aleconner *Also, in the same way Nicholas Bodger was elected in the office of Aleconner for one whole year ensuing, executing within the precinct of this Leet, And he undertook the oath &c*

**At this Court** *it is testified by Thomas Edgar, Steward there, and was found by the Jurors (whereof some of them are copyhold tenants of several lands and tenements held of this Manor) that since the last Court, namely on the second day of July in the twenty-first Year of the reign of our lord Charles the second, by the grace of God now King of England, &c., and in the Year of the lord Christ 1669, Albert Skynner, Citizen and merchant of London, copyhold tenant of this Manor to himself and his heirs at the will of the lords of various copyhold lands and tenements held by copy of the rolls of the Court of the said Manor, that is to say of one piece or parcel of land containing by estimation two acres, be they more or less, lying upon lands of the College of Dulwich towards the north, and upon other lands of the said College towards the east, And upon other lands of the said College towards the south and west, And another piece or parcel of land containing by estimation two acres, be they more or less, lying between certain lands of the said College, And another piece or parcel of land containing by estimation two acres, be they more or less, lying upon certain lands of the said College towards the east, west, north & south, in several parts thereof, came (outside the Court, in the presence of the aforesaid Thomas Edgar, the aforesaid Steward), And he same Albert Skynner, the tenant thus seised thereof, thereupon surrendered the same copyhold lands and premises, with appurtenances, by the wand, out of his own hands into the hands of the lords, by the hands of their Steward, according to the custom of the aforesaid*

Manor, To the benefit and use of Nicholas Thurman of London, merchant, his heirs and assigns absolutely, for ever, at the will of the lords, according to the custom of the aforesaid Manor, **Now** at this Court came the aforesaid Nicholas Thurman and sought of the lords that he himself be admitted to the copyhold lands and tenements, to himself and his heirs according to the tenor and effect of the aforesaid surrender, To which Nicholas the lords of this Manor, by <sup>their</sup> Steward, in open Court, delivered seisin of the aforesaid copyhold lands To hold to the same Nicholas and to his heirs, at the will of the lords, according to the custom of the aforesaid Manor, by the rent and other services thereof hitherto owed and by law accustomed, And he gave the lords for a fine, and he was admitted tenant thereof &c.

And the Court sitting after the admission of the aforesaid Nicholas Thurman, the aforesaid Nicholas himself in open Court surrendered the aforesaid copyhold lands out of his own hands into the hands of the lords, by the wand, by their Steward, to the benefit and use of Nicholas himself and his wife Elizabeth, and to the heirs of Nicholas himself forever, Upon which, at the request of the aforesaid Nicholas in ----- and as attorney for his wife, the Lords of this Manor, by their Steward, in open Court, delivered to the aforesaid Nicholas in ----- and as attorney for his wife, by the wand, <sup>†</sup> seisin of the aforesaid six acres of land, be they more or less, **To hold** to the aforesaid Nicholas and Elizabeth for the term of their lives and of the longer liver of them, and of the heirs of Nicholas himself for ever, at the will of the lords, according to the custom of the aforesaid Manor, by the rent and other services thereof hitherto owed and by law accustomed, And they gave the lords for a fine, and they were admitted tenants thereof &c.

[Turn over]

[End of N9 [previously V] (front). N9 [previously V] (back) follows below.]

Roll N9 [previously V] (back)

Part 3 [Thursday] 28 April 1670 (continued) [The opening paragraph, written in an untidy scrawl anyway, is much damaged and worn.]

----- This Court ----- of Them ----- or tenants of -----

----- by 'ter--- cotlo---' that -----s Nicholas Staples, copyhold tenant of this Manor, Namely -----is -----  
----- 'tam pertic' -----'nxat dedesem' by Robert Holmes -----  
----- four acres ----- being in two parcels, in English 'twoe fields', died seised thereof, and -----  
**Elizabeth** Cooper de Lambeth Marshe, **wife of William Cooper**, is sister and nearest heir thereof of the aforesaid Nicholas -----  
aforesaid ----- to the aforesaid William Cooper her husband 'pr- ---umilime' they sought of the lords that the aforesaid Elizabeth -----  
'J-----' aforesaid copyhold lands and tenements -----'lat' be admitted, to herself and her heirs at the will of the lords --- And -----  
--- of this Manor, in open Court, by their Steward, ----- to the aforesaid Elizabeth, by the wand, seisin of the four acres, in English 'four acres',  
----- held by separate tenants 'nu---' that ----- of the aforesaid two parcels of land, in English 'twoe fields', containing by estimation  
four acres To hold to the aforesaid Elizabeth and to her heirs, at the will of the lords, according to the custom of the aforesaid Manor, by the rent  
and other services thereof hitherto owed and by law accustomed, And the aforesaid William Cooper, present in Court, in right of the aforesaid  
Elizabeth his wife, and for the aforesaid Elizabeth, gave to the lords for a fine, And the aforesaid Elizabeth was admitted tenant thereof.  
And, the Court sitting, the aforesaid William Cooper and Elizabeth, after the aforesaid admission (Elizabeth herself first and privately examined by  
the Steward, as he ought, and consenting) in open Court surrendered out of their hands, by the wand, the said messuage divided into two tene-  
ments as aforesaid, and the aforesaid four acres, by estimation, of which the aforesaid Elizabeth, just as is aforesaid, was admitted at this Court,  
into the lords' hands, by the hands of the aforesaid Steward, to the benefit and use of the aforesaid Elizabeth Cooper and of her assigns, for and  
during her lifetime, and after her death to the benefit and use of John Cooper, son of the aforesaid William Cooper, and of his heirs, at the will of  
the lords, according to the custom of the aforesaid Manor, by the rent and other services thereof hitherto owed and by law accustomed, And the  
aforesaid William and Elizabeth, present in Court, sought of the lords that the aforesaid Elizabeth and the aforesaid John the son be admitted to  
the messuage and to the aforesaid copyhold lands, according to the form and effect of the aforesaid surrender, Upon which the lords of this  
Manor, in open Court, by their Steward, delivered to the aforesaid Elizabeth seisin of the aforesaid copyhold messuage and lands To hold to the  
same Elizabeth for the term of her life, and after her death in remainder to the aforesaid John the son, and to his heirs, at the will of the lords,  
according to the custom of the aforesaid Manor, by the rent and other services &c., And the aforesaid Elizabeth gave to the lords for a fine as  
much for having her own entry as for the status of the aforesaid John the son, And thus they were admitted tenants &c.

# Manor of Dulwich in the County of Surry

Court view of Frank pledge with Court Baron, there held on Thursday, the eighteenth day of May in the twenty-third Year of the reign of our lord Charles the second, by the grace of God King of England &c., and in the Year of the Lord Christ 1671, by Thomas Edgar, Steward there, is thus enrolled :

Inquest

Thomas Blechynden  
John Starkye senior  
Daniell Scrivener  
John Oxlye

Sworn

Thomas Wrench  
Thomas Butterfield  
John Starkye Junior  
John Bowden

Sworn

Richard Wells  
David Paine  
Richard Perrye  
Thomas Hill

Sworn

John Hamond  
Faver Barrett  
James Irelande  
Thomas Whitehand  
William Terrye

Excuses from common John Davis, by David Paine  
[suit]

John Lewis, by David Paine

Constable

At this Court the Jurors present that John Oxlye is elected in the office of Constable, for one whole year next ensuing, within the limits of this Leet, and he undertook the oath, &c.

Headboroughs

Also, they present that William Terry and Thomas Whitehand are elected in the office of Headboroughs for one whole year next ensuing, within the limits of this Leet, and each of them was sworn in open Court to execute that office.

Aleconner

Also, they present that John Lewis is elected in the office of Aleconner for one whole year next ensuing, within the limits of this Leet, and he was sworn in Court [despite being supposedly absent] to execute that office.

*Part 5*

*[Thursday] 2 May 1672*

Manor of  
Dulwich in the  
County of Surrey

Court view of Frank pledge with Court Baron there held on Thursday, the second day of May in the twenty-fourth Year of the reign of our lord Charles the second, by the grace of God King of England, &c., and in the Year of the Lord Christ 1672, by Thomas Edgar, Steward there, is thus enrolled :

Inquisicio

John Oxlye	}	Sworn	John Hamond	}	Sworn	Daniel Scrivener	}	William Terry	}	
Thomas Whitehand		Sworn	John Bowden		Sworn	Thomas Wrench		Sworn		Nicholas Bodger
Richard Wells		Sworn	Thomas Hill		Sworn	John Davyes		Sworn		Richard Perrye

Excuses from  
common [suit]

David Paine excused, by Thomas Browne; Thomas Blechynden and Edward Sones, by Thomas Whitehand; James Ireland, John Baker, by John Oxlye.

Constable

Richard Wells was elected in the office of Constable for one whole year next ensuing, and, present in Court, undertook the oath to execute the aforesaid office well &c.

Headboroughs

Nicholas Bodger and Thomas Cranwell were elected in the office of Headboroughs for one whole year next ensuing, And the aforesaid Nicholas Bodger, present in Court, undertook the oath to execute the aforesaid office, but the aforesaid Thomas Cranwell, being absent, was certified by the Steward to undertake the oath in the presence of a Justice of the peace &c.

Aleconner

William Hoult was elected into the office of Aleconner for one whole year next ensuing, and, present in Court, undertook the oath to execute the aforesaid office &c.

At this Court licence was given in the following words, namely: The Manor of Dulwich, in the County of Surry :

At the Court Leet held there on Thursday, the second of May, in the twenty-fourth Year of the reign of our Lord Charles the second, King of England, &c., and in the Year of the Lord Christ 1672, The Lords of the Manor, in open Court, did give licence to William Cooper & his wife Elizabeth, copyhold tenants of the same Manor, to lease, to whichever person or persons they please, the copyhold of which they or either of them are tenants, for any period or term not exceedinge eight yeares from the date of the said Court, in such reasonable manner as is usual between Landlord & Tenant, & they paid five shillings for a fine.

penalty The Jurors present that a 'ditch' of [Sir] Roger Harsnett lying next to the Common, being open six feet in length, ten feet in width, and six feet in depth, <sup>'ra---ne nunc'</sup> is harmful to the aforesaid Common, and to the injury of the tenants communing there. Therefore it is ordered that the aforesaid Roger shall amend the aforesaid 'ditch' to its proper form before the feast of Saint Michael Archangel next ensuing, under penalty of forty shillings.

penalty Also, they present that a very old Stable belonging to the messuage of John Lewis stands upon the soil of the Common, and being '-----ach-----ter' upon the Common there. Therefore it is ordered that the aforesaid John Lewis shall take down, in English '*carrye downe*', the same stable before the feast of Saint Michael now next to come, under penalty of twenty shillings.

penalty It is Ordered that [blank] Easton, widow, shall scour her ditch next to the Common, twenty perches or thereabouts, and the Jurors impose a penalty upon her of twelve pence for each perch thereof unscoured, in English '*unscoured*', at the feast of Saint Michaelis Archangel now next ensuing.

penalty Further, it is ordered that Thomas Butterfield and Thomas Hill shall scour three perches of their two ditches next to the Common ----- thirty-five rods, in English '*rodds*', or thereabouts, And the Jurors impose upon them a penalty of respectively twelve pence for each rod thereof unscoured, in English '*unscoured*', at the feast of the birth of John the Baptist next ensuing.

penalty Further, it is ordered that Thomas Oxlye shall scour his ditch next to the Common, by fifty rods or thereabouts, And the Jurors impose a penalty of twelve pence upon him, for each rod thereof unscoured, in English '*unscowred*', at

the feast of Saint Michael Archangel next ensuing.

Likewise it is ordered that each of the tenants wanting in appearance at this Court, to perform suit of Court and services &c., the names of whom follow, be amerced as appears over their head in the following form:

Roger Harsnett,	Robert West,	John Starky senior,	Thomas Butterfeild,	Thomas
<sup>5s</sup> <sub>2s 6d</sub>	<sup>5s</sup> <sub>2s 6d</sub>	<sup>2s 6d</sup> <sub>2s 6d</sub>	<sup>2s 6d</sup> <sub>2s 6d</sub>	<sup>2s 6d</sup> <sub>2s 6d</sub>
Cranwell,	John Starky Junior,	Anthony Bennet,	John Hathwaie,	Silvester Cutter
	<sup>2s 6d</sup> <sub>2s 6d</sub>	<sup>2s 6d</sup> <sub>2s 6d</sub>	<sup>5s</sup> <sub>2s 6d</sub>	
Robert Budder senior,	Thomas Bagler,	Robert Budder junior.		

Manor of  
Dulwich in the  
County of Surry

\* surviving spouse of  
Nicholas Thurman (died  
c. April 1671)

The Lords of this Manor, by me their Steward, & their authority for that purpose given & 'afore d—ijd' them, do license Robert Thompson Esquire & his wife Elizabeth\*, she being copyhold tenant of several pieces of copyhold held of the said Manor, to 'E—ct' & take down, lop, & of the several ----- certain trees therein growing, pollard, or of that nature, so that they do not exceed the number of thirty-five, And do likewise give license to the said Robert & Elizabeth '—don so' the said copyhold lands, or any part thereof, to any person or persons, at their pleasure, for any period or term of years not exceeding the term of twenty-one years commencing at the feast of the nativity of Saint John the Baptist now next ensuing. Given under my hand & seal this sixteenth day of May in the twenty-fourth Year of the reign of our lord Charles the second, by the grace of God King of England &c., and in the Year of the Lord Christ 1672

Robert Thompson Esq.  
& Elizabeth his wife  
Licence to pollard and  
to let their copyhold

V 1672

[End of Roll N9 [previously V].]