



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 1903.

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 R1 [This Roll was previously named h4.]

Roll R1 [previously h4] (front) [Thursday] 4 May 1732

Manor of Dulwich in } h 4
the County of Surrey }

Pledge
Court Leet and View of Frank[^]with Court Baron of the Master, Warden, Fellows, Brothers, Sisters and Scholars of the College of Dulwich, Lords of the aforesaid Manor, there held on the Fourth day of May 1732, And in the Fifth Year of the reign of our Lord George the Second, now King &c., in the presence of John Wishaw, Gentleman, Steward there.

Jurors for the Lord King, now the Homage :

Thomas Dodd, Sworn

John Budder

William Budder

John Davis -----

Sworn

William Drewitt

Francis Friend

John Heath_____

Sworn

Thomas Wotton

John Humphry

Robert Budder

Jurati

William Bridle

Richard Green

Thomas -----

Sworn

Richard Webb was elected by the Jurors into the Office of Constable for one whole Year now next ensuing, And he undertook his oath to execute the aforesaid Office;

William Drewitt was elected by the Jurors into the Office of Headborough for One whole Year next ensuing, who does not come here in Court to take up that Office; Therefore he is ordered to declare his oath before any of the Lord King's Justices of the Peace for the County of Surrey aforesaid, to undertake to Execute that Office for the ensuing Year, within ten days then next ensuing, under penalty of forty shillings.

Thomas Witton was elected by the Jurors into the Office of Aleconner for One whole Year next ensuing, And he undertook his oath to execute the aforesaid Office.

At this Court it is Found by the Homage That Thomas Ingram, one of the Customary Tenants of this Manor, since

the last Court and before this Court, namely on the First day of September in the One Thousandth Seven Hundredth and thirty-first Year of our Lord, surrendered into the hands of the Lords of the aforesaid Manor, by the hands and acceptance of the aforesaid John Whishaw, the aforesaid Steward, according to the custom of the aforesaid Manor, One Messuage and three Acres of land, with appurtenances, then in the tenure or Occupation of a certain Gertrude Booth, to the benefit and use of William Levens, his heirs and Assigns, for ever; And now at this Court, comes the aforesaid William Levens, in his own person, and seeks to be admitted Tenant thereof; To which the Lords, by their aforesaid Steward, at this Court granted and delivered Seisin thereof by the Rod, **To Have and to Hold** the aforesaid Messuage and three acres of land, with appurtenances, to the aforesaid William Levens, his heirs and Assigns, for ever, of the Lords, by the rod, at the will of the Lords, according to the custom of the aforesaid Manor, by the rent and services hitherto owed and by right accustomed; And the same William gave to the Lords for a Fine as appears &c., and he made fealty to them, and he was Admitted tenant thereof.

[blank]

And thereupon the aforesaid William Levens, being admitted Tenant as aforesaid, immediately after his aforesaid admission made in that respect, at this same Court, in open Court, surrendered into the hands of the Lords of the aforesaid Manor, by the hands of the aforesaid Steward, the aforesaid Messuage and the aforesaid three Acres of land, with appurtenances, to the benefit and use of himself, William Levens, for the term of his natural life, And, after his death, then to the benefit and use of His Wife Alice^{Levens} for the term of her natural life, and after the deaths of themselves, William Levens and his wife Alice, and the survivor of them, then to the benefit and use of the Testament and last Will in writing of himself, William Levens, **of** such person and of such persons, and for such Estate and Interest

----- Will of himself, William Levens, may be limited and appointed
And p----- himself, William Levens, then to the Benefit and use
of the right heirs -----
Levens and his wife Alice
and his wife Alice
And afterwards -----s in **their own** Persons
and ----- tenants thereof Upon which ----- Seisin thereof -----
To Have and to Hold ----- for the term of -----

----- for the Term of his/her life -----
----- Levens and His wife Alice, And -----
----- of the Lords, according to the custom of the aforesaid Manor, by the Rent and services
thereof hitherto owed and by right accustomed, and he/they gave to the Lords for a Fine for such their admission
----- and the aforesaid William made fealty, but the Fealty of Alice, his
wife, ----- is postponed until, &c.

*[Examined by me John Whishaw
Steward &c.]*

End of R1 [previously h4] (front). Roll R1 [previously h4] (back) is entirely blank.]

[End of Roll R1 [previously h4].]