

# Cheltenham Manor Courts, 1500-01

This transcript was prepared by the late Jane Sale of Charlton Kings. It has been slightly reformatted, with minor editing and a few corrections, following a comparison with the original by James Hodsdon in August 2013. The source material is three membranes stitched together at the top edge, held at Gloucestershire Archives under ref. D7661, Box 4/30. All have suffered similar ancient damage and some loss of text down one edge, but are otherwise generally legible.

Ellipses [...] indicate losses, usually of one to three words. Words in square brackets are reasonable inferences.

These records date from the period when the manor was held by the Abbess of Sion.

The following courts are recorded:

15<sup>th</sup> October 1500 – Court and View of Frankpledge

13<sup>th</sup> January 1500/01 – Court

8<sup>th</sup> March 1500/01 – Court

19<sup>th</sup> April 1501 – Court and View of Frankpledge

10<sup>th</sup> May 1501 – Court

15<sup>th</sup> June 1501 – Court

6<sup>th</sup> July 1501 - Court

3<sup>rd</sup> September 1501 - Court

# Cheltenham Manor Courts, 1500-01

## *Membrane 1*

### **Court and View of Frankpledge held there 15 October, 16 Henry VII, before William Grevyll. head steward**

[Essoins] None

Walter the under-bailiff comes and presents that Walter Alysaunder who holds 3 messuages with appurtenances in Cheltenham and Chorleton died on the feast of the beheading of St John the Baptist [29 Aug] last. Heriot 3 beasts priced at 80s which remain in custody of Johanna Alysaunder his wife.

The same bailiff presents that Wm Hobe, a tenant of the lady, died on 4<sup>th</sup> August last. Heriot 1 beast priced at 13s 4d which remains in custody of Richard Dobyns [?]

The same bailiff presents that John Frensch has granted to Wm Andrews and John Frensch jun. 1 messuage with appurtenances in Cheltenham to use of Reginald Frensch his son to have and to hold to said Wm and John for term of 12 years. Paid 4d for enrolment.

To same court came John Lovyare, son and heir of Richard Lovyare and pleaded to hold in base tenure 1 messuage with appurtenances in Sandford. Gave to the lady for a fine 20s and made fealty.

To same court came Thos Atkyns and gave as a fine for licence to marry Agnes Hawthorn, relict of Walter Hawthorn and to hold 1 messuage with appurtenances in Northefeld. Fine for entrance 33s 4d. He made fealty and was admitted tenant.

To this court came Richard <8d> Stubbe, Walter <12d> Combe, Thos <12> Wymond, John <12d> Style, John <12d> Eruette, Felicia <12d> Lelvyn and Walter <10d> Gorle for a licence to brew this year.

[...] The tithingman there with his whole tithing, having been sworn presented the common fine to this day of 3s, and that Wm Holders is elected tithingman there for this year and all else is well.

[...] The tithingman there was sworn and presented the common fine to this day 5s. And that Wm Russell who owes suit of court has made default and is in mercy. And that John Crompe is elected tithingman for this year and that Wm Warner is sworn in as assisor of the lord King in that tithing, and all else is well.

[Bafford]: The tithingman there was sworn and presented the common fine to this day 3s 5d. And that Walter Crompe who owes suit of court made default so is in mercy, all else is well.

[...] The tithingman there was sworn and presented the common fine to this day 3s and all else is well.

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[Alvuston]: The tithingman there was sworn and presented the common fine to this day 2s 3d. And that the miller <6d> there took an excessive toll so is in mercy. It is ordered by the assent of all tenants that each of them holding any land from the tenement of Richard Parsons as far as the tenement of Alice Lane should clean out their ditches before the feast of All Saints next in future under pain of 12d each if deficient. And that Thos Clerke is elected tithingman there for this year

[Swindon] Tithingman there sworn and presented common fine to this day 2s. And the miller <6d> there charges an excessive toll. The ditch at Brode Scherde needs cleaning out to default of John Sturmy, he should clean it before feast of All Saints under pain of 12d and all else is well.

[Cherleton] tithingman having sworn presented common fine to this day 2s 6d and that the miller <6d> there charges an excessive toll.

And that Roger <2d> Whelar, John <2d> Whithorn and Wm <2d> Newman owe suit of court and have made default.

Richard <4d> Hanes made an attack on Wm Steyare with his fist, and that same Wm <4d> attacked Richard with a stick of no value, all else is well.

[...] Tithingman having been sworn presented the common fine 5s and that John Owtrege permitted a ditch at Dangersbryg to stay uncleaned therefore he is ordered to clear it before the feast of All Saints under pain of 20d, all else if well

[...] Tithingman sworn and presented common fine 3s and that Richard <8d> Milton, Richard <8d> Harryes and Wm <8d> Schell oppressed the common pasture there with their sheep and that Walter Brusch is elected tithingman for this year

[...] Tithingman sworn presented the common fine 5s and that John Grenhill and Walter Wymbold common millers there take an excessive toll

and that Henry Tame and Wm Perbarre have works across the kings highway to the harm of the people.

John <3d> Feyrant, Wm <3d> Yate, Henry <3d> Forthey, Thos <3d> [S]ymond, Richard <3d> Taylor and Thos <3d> Hey brewed and broke the assize.

The course of the common stream flooded to the default of Wm Millener, so he is ordered to scour the course before the feast of St Edward under pain of 3s 4d.

[Bailiff of the borough] with his burgers having been sworn presents that Thos <2d> Benfeld and John <2d> Benfeld who owe suit of court have made default so in mercy, and that said Thos Benfeld, John Benfeld, Wm Grinell, [...] and John Wodd reside in this borough have not sworn in the assize of the lord King so it is ordered that they be given a day for the court to receive their oath under pain of 20d each for deficit.

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[...] present that Thos <2d> Sturmy, John <2d> Martyn, Margaret <2d> Benfeld and Walter <2d> Fernor brewed and broke the assize and that Thos [...]rowe is elected as bailiff for this year and all else is well.

[...] Thos Machyn sen., Thos Machyn jun, Walter Wymbold, John Brevell, Thos Daffey, [.....], John Hygges, Thos Land, Robert Gregory, Walter Brusche, John Machyn, Walter [...thorn], Richard Alysaunder, Thos Scherford and John Harte who had been elected for this, swore on their oath that all which had been presented before them was true.

Total perquisites of this court –  
And in tithing money rendered at the View 34s 2d  
Expenses of the steward 11s 7d

# Cheltenham Manor Courts, 1500-01

*Membrane 1, verso [Right side illegible]*

**Cheltenham: court held there Wednesday next after feast of Epiphany in year above  
[13<sup>th</sup> January 1500/01]**

Essoins: none

John Grenhill bailiff presents that John who held from the lady 2 messuages with appurtenances in Chorleton died 4 January last. Heriot 1 vat priced at 5d and 1 pig priced at 2d which remain in [...]. The bailiff also presents that Thomas Hall who held from the lady 1 messuage with appurtenances in Cheltenham died 4<sup>th</sup> October in the said year. Heriot 1 red beast priced 10s and delivered to the bailiff. [...]

Cheltenham tithingman presents that Robert <3d> Dollyng, Wm <3d> Towkare, Thos <?> [Agar], [...] <3d> Hancock and Thos <3d> Dene brewed and broke the assize.

Bailiff of the borough presents that Thos <2d> Sturmy, John <2d> Benfeld, Thos <2d> Spede brewed etc.

Heirs of Henry [crossed out] Richard <10s 8d> Barrette because he did not come to answer Henry Forthey in plea of debt.

Walter <2d> Whithorn because he did not come to answer John Walkare in plea of trespass.

Robert <2d> Godryge for licence to agree with John Frensch in plea of trespass.

John <2d> Lawton because he did no come to answer Edo Westlond in plea of detention.

Richard <2d> Downhals for licence to agree with John Fynche in plea of trespass.

Total Perquisites of this court – 30s 1d  
Expenses of the steward 10s 3d

## Cheltenham Manor Courts, 1500-01

**Cheltenham: court held there on Monday next after the feast of St Chad the Bishop in the Year as above. [8<sup>th</sup> March 1500/01]**

Essoins: None

Thos Lane asks the lady for licence to marry Elizabeth Blyke previously [.....] Blyke and to have 1 messuage with appurtenances in Hamme. The lady granted the holding to him in base tenure. Paid fine for entry 26s 8d and made fealty.

John Hall bailiff of the borough presents that Elizabeth Reve previously [.....] granted to John Ryce 1 burgage situated in Cheltenham between the burgage of Senior bedel [?] [...] on west side and the burgage of [the chantry of] St Katherine of Cheltenham on the east. To hold to John Ryce and his heirs and assigns for ever, paid relief 4s and made fealty.

The Cheltenham tithingman presents that Wm <3d> Towkare and John <3d> Corrier [.....]

Total perquisites of this court - 31s 2d

From which in expenses of the steward – 8s 11d

# Cheltenham Manor Courts, 1500-01

*Membrane 2, recto*

**[Cheltenham] Court and View of Frankpledge held there Monday next after Low Sunday in the year above [19th April 1501]**

[Essoins] None

[Bradwell] tithingman there came with all his tithing and having been sworn presents the common fine to this day of 5s. Thomas Hore has not yet cleared a certain ditch at Aschebriglane which he had been ordered to do so fined 3s 4d. Walter Laverano [?] who owes suit of court has made default so is amerced.

[Chorleton] tithingman there having been sworn presents the common fine to this day 2s 6d and that the miller <6d> there takes an excessive toll.

John <2d> Whitfare, John <2d> Whelare, Thos <3d> Jonson and Wm <2d> Towkare who owe suit of court have made default and are amerced. Everything else is well.

[...] tithingman there having been sworn presents the common fine to this day 3s and that 1 ditch at Sandfordes Mede is flooded in the fault of John Alysaunder who must improve it before the next court under penalty of 12d. All else is well.

[...] tithingman there having been sworn presents the common fine to this day 3s.

Wm Gyford and John Gyford who owe suit of court have made default and are amerced.

Wm Hore is sworn assizer to the lord King in this tithing and all else is well.

Swyndon tithingman there having been sworn presents the common fine to this day 2s and that the miller <6d> there takes an excessive toll.

Richard <6d> Downhall attacked Richard Sturmy with a stick of no value and drew blood.

Ascheley tithingman there having been sworn presents the common fine to this day 5s and that a common road there called Cawell is in default of the whole tithing, so it should be sufficiently mended before the next feast of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist under penalty of the whole tithing of 6s 8d. All else is well.

[...] tithingman there having been sworn presents the common fine to this day 3s and that the miller <6d> there takes an excessive toll.

[Alvuston] tithingman there having been sworn presents the common fine to this day 2s 3d and that the miller <6d> there takes an excessive toll.

John Scherford attacked Richard Reve with a stick of no value and drew blood so is amerced.

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[...] tithingman there having been sworn presents the common fine to this day 5s and that Walter <3d> Wynbold and John <3d> Grenhill common millers there take an excessive toll.

Wm <2d> Parkare and Henry <2d> Tanner have a stall in the Kings highway to the harm of the people. Wm <3d> Yate, Wm <3d> Towkare and John <3d> Corrier have brewed and broken the assize.

Wm Millener has not yet cleared a certain ditch at Frogpittes as was ordered at the last court so is penalised 40d. All else is well.

[Bafford] tithingman there having been sworn presents the common fine to this day 3s 5d. All else is well.

[Cheltenham] bailiff of the borough presents that John <2d> Benfeld and Marian <2d> Martyn brewed and broke the assize.

The course of the common stream there has flooded from the mill of the Abbott of Cirencester as far as the return in default of John Ryce and Wm Latyner.

They are ordered to clear it before the next court under penalty of 20d each if deficit.

[Jury] namely Richard Feyrant, Wm Russell, Wm Parkare, Robert Gregory, Richard Maunsell, Richard Style, Wm Combe, Wm Lane, Thos Lane, John Broke, Thos Brusche and John Harte who were elected for this trial said on their oath that John Scherford previously of Arle in county of Gloucester and within the Liberty of Cheltenham on 6<sup>th</sup> March in the sixteenth year of Henry VII [1501] with force and arms, namely sword and cutlass attacked Richard Reve at Alston within the jurisdiction of this court, beating, wounding and maltreating him against the peace.

The aforesaid jury said on their oath that John Morwode sold unwholesome fish against diverse laws of the lord King. It was ordered with assent of the aforesaid jury that he should not do so in the future under penalty of 6d for each default.

[Jury] namely Thos Sturmy, Thos Machyn jun, Thos Scherford, John Brevell, Thos Fynche, Wm Grynd[ell], Thos Elbarow, John Aleyn, John Rolfe, Richard Fischer, Wm Aleyn, John Taylor and Wm Hubbard who were elected for this trial said on their oath that John <4d> Hall sen., Richard <4d> Feyrant, John <4d> Hall jun. and John <4d> Feyrant were common butchers and had sold unwholesome meat and took excessive profit. It was ordered with the assent of the aforesaid jury that each of the forenamed butchers should sell to each pauper a pennyworth of meat or halfpennyworth of mutton as and when it was requested under penalty for each default of 40d.

They affirmed that all other things presented above were true.

Total perquisites of this court except certain rents 14s 1d  
And in tithing payments rendered at the View 34s 2d  
From which expenses of the steward 11s.



## Cheltenham Manor Courts, 1500-01

**[Cheltenham] Court held there 10<sup>th</sup> May in the year shown above [10<sup>th</sup> May 1501]**

[Essoins] None

[Cheltenham] Walter Godryge sub-bailiff presents that John Pate gave and granted to Thomas [.....] and Richard Alysaunder 1 messuage with appurtenances in Newinton except 1 close in said Newinton [...] aforesaid John Pate and his assigns to have and to hold the aforesaid messuage except [.....] Thomas and Richard for the term of 12 years beginning at the feast of St Michael the Archangel next after this date [...] to the use of the Church of Cheltenham

[Cheltenham] George Hurste bailiff of the borough presents that Reginald Wodd has given and granted to Wm Wodd his son a quantity of 1 burgage in Cheltenham between the burgages of Elen Hickes on both sides, also said Reginald granted to said Wm half another burgage in Cheltenham between the burgages of Saint Katherine on both sides to hold the said quantity and half burgage to said Wm his heirs and assigns perpetually. Gave to the lady as relieves viz for the quantity [6d] and for the half burgage 6d and made fealty and was admitted.

*Continues to Membrane 2, verso*

John Hall bailliff of the borough and presents that William Hall has given and granted to Walter [.....] a quantity of 1 burgage in Cheltenham between the burgage of Wm Mason on the east and a burgage of said Walter on the west. To have and to hold said quantity of a burgage to said [Walter] his heirs and assigns for ever. Paid relief 2s 4d and made fealty and was admitted.

Walter Godryge under-bailiff and presents that Wm Millener who holds 2 messuages with their appurtenances in Cheltenham died 20<sup>th</sup> April of the year above. Heriot 2 sheep priced at 2s and they remain in the custody of the bailiff.

Tithingman of Cheltenham presents that Wm <3d> Yate has brewed and broken the assize.

Total perquisites of this court – 5s 4d

From which in expenses of the steward 5s

## Cheltenham Manor Courts, 1500-01

**Cheltenham court held there Tuesday next after the feast of St Barnabas the Apostle in the year as above. [15 June 1501]**

Essoins: Thos Machyn and Richard Feyrant were essoined by Thos Sturmy.

John Owtrege granted to Walter Combe all right and [...] in 1 messuage in Cheltenham from the gift and concession of Walter Newbrege as per copy of the same court [...] John for term of 12 years more fully described in the Record.

The same bailiff presents that Walter Godryge granted to Thos Taylor one [parcel] of arable land in Frebynhull to have and to hold the aforesaid parcel of land to the aforesaid Thos for the term of 12 years beginning at the feast of St Michael the Archangel next after the present date. Gives to the lady for enrolment 4d.

Richard Baron sub-bailiff presents that same Walter Godryge has given and granted [Margaret] Hale 3 acres arable land in Chorleton in a field called the Ryfeld which were previously of the aforesaid [Margaret] to have and to hold the said 3 acres of land to said Margaret for the term of 12 years beginning at the feast of St Michael Archangel next after the present date. Gave to the lady for enrolment 4d.

Tithingman of Cheltenham presents that Richard <3d> Meke and Thos <3d> Dene have brewed and broken the assize.

Bailiff of the borough presents that Thos <2d> Sturmy and Wm <2d> Land brewed etc.

Total perquisites of this court – 10d.

From which expenses of the steward 9s 10d.

# Cheltenham Manor Courts, 1500-01

*Membrane 3, recto*

**Court held there the Tuesday after the feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the year above. [6<sup>th</sup> July 1501]**

[Essoins] None

[...] to this court came John Frensch who having been sworn presents that Henry Forthey and Cecilia his wife have given and granted to Richard Marston 1 cottage in Cheltenham next to a lane called le Millane with 1 close and garden adjacent with 4 acres land in the fields of Cheltenham of which 1½ acres lie in certain furlong there called 'hetherforlong', ½ acre lies at Wymondes lond and the other 2 acres lie 'behynd the Heyde' towards the close of John Hall. To have and to hold said cottage with other named premises to aforesaid Richard for term of the life of said Henry and Cecilia and the longest living of them and for 12 years following according to the custom of this manor. Gave to the lady for enrolment 4d.

Tithingman of Cheltenham presents that Wm <3d> Towkare brewed and broke the assize. John <6d> Meke and George <6d> Milward attacked the servant of John Jonson with a stick of no value and drew blood and that Thos Send brewed and broke the assize so is amerced.

Tithingman of Arle having been sworn presents that 1 sheep priced at 7d came from outside on feast of St Martin last and remains in custody of Walter Brusche. It was ordered that the bailiff make a proclamation.

John <4d> Maunsell attacked John Gorle with his fist and is amerced.

Total perquisites of this court - 2s 4d.

From which in expenses of the steward 5s 6d.

## Cheltenham Manor Courts, 1500-01

**[...] Court held there Friday next after the Beheading of St John the Baptist  
[3<sup>rd</sup> September 1501]**

[Essoins] None

[...] to this court comes Thos Godryge and receives from the lady of the manor for his use only 1 close in Hamme called Schake Brechs lying in Hamfeld with Cuthambuttes and 1 Breche next to Grenewey called le Hays and 1 piece of land in Batildon with 2 headlands [*hadlondye*] together there. To hold to him and Alice his wife for the term of their lives or the longer living of them. Rendering to the lady annually 4s and all other accustomed services. Gave 20s as fine for admission and made fealty.

To the same court comes Richard Dobyns and receives from the lady of the manor the reversion of 3 messuages with their appurtenances in Cheltenham until recently in the tenure of Leticia Rycardes, who has now died. Gave £10 as fine for admission, made fealty and was admitted.

Total perquisites for this court £11  
From which in expenses of the steward 19s 6d.