

Cheltenham Manor Court Records, 1494-5

TNA SC2 175 27 is a roll of Cheltenham Manor Court material from several different reigns.

Two membranes of rather variable legibility cover a partial year from October 1494, and are transcribed here. Illegible passages indicated by

View of Frankpledge 16 Oct [10] Henry VII [1494] before [.....] steward
Bailiff.

Henry Hall q versus Agnes Frensh in a plea of [trespass]. Bailiff therefore ordered etc

Johnford q versus Thomas Ricards and Richard Fosther/Fysher? and John Bay[elle]?....
in a plea of debt

Richard ...arstone q versus John Pate in a plea of trespass

Walter Alesaunder q versus Henry Rob[er]ts in a plea of trespass, that on 10 Apr
..... at Kingsham and broke and entered and [consumed] his grass
..... whereby he says he is deteriorated and has damages [to an unclear amount]
...in person comes and says he is not culpable to the next court

John Lane bailiff presents that ?smart? in person gave and granted for William ...
[inferred: a half-burgage] in Cheltenham between a burgage of Croke on the E side, and
a burgage of Walter Style on the W side of said burgage to William and his wife Agnes
and their heirs and assigns in perpetuity [subject to customary dues] ... falls to the lady
relief 6 ½ d.; makes fealty and is admitted.

The same bailiff comes and swears that John Frenshe gave and granted to John Style and his
wife Alice [some quantity of burgage?] between a burgage of the said John Frenshe E and a
burgage of John Harte W, to hold [subject to usual dues] Relief when due 12d. Makes
fealty, is admitted.

Same bailiff comes and swears that John Hall sen. gave and granted to Thomas Goodrich a
quantity of burgage in Cheltenham, to have and to hold the said quantity of burgage to him
and heirs of the chief lord of fee etc. Relief [unclear, looks like 2d in margin]. Fealty,
admitted.

[Bradwell] Tithingman with all his tithing being exacted comes and presents that common
fine is 5s and that Walter <2d.> ??Tanty this day owes suit and makes default. Therefore in
mercy, otherwise all is well.

[Westal] Tithingman etc comes ... 3s. All well. Walter Whithorne is chosen for office of
tithingman for this year.

[Bafford] Tithingman as before, 3s. 5d. Ordered by common assent of all [that no-one is]

[allow] his sheep in pastures in Ravensgate field, Newlond, Frekenhill, [or] Ryefeld before feast of S Martin? ...next, on pain of 6s. 8d. for anyone in breach; nor from feast of St Peter ad vincula on pain of forfeit to the lady 6s. 8d. Otherwise all well.

[Ashley] Tithingman comes, says common fine is 5s. Ordered by common consent that [no-one is to keep]..... his sheep in a certain field called the cornefield in the vill of Chorleton to the end of St Martin on pain of 3s. 4d. for each offence.

Ordered that John Hobbes is to remove his gelding [ox, horse?] from where it is kept to the annoyance of his neighbours before All Saints next or to keep it in separate pastures, on pain of forfeit to the lady ?3s.?

[Charlton] Tithingman etc, common fine 2s. 6d. The miller there takes excessive toll, therefore in mercy 6d. And that Thomas <6d.> Sturmy made assault on John Wheler with an iron chain of value

And that John <6d.> Roche made assault on John Parson/Packer with a stick of no value and drew blood.... Therefore is ordered etc. And that John [Packer?] in similar fashion made assault on the said John Roche with a stick of no price, and drew blood [...]

[Leckhampton]. Tithingman etc, 3s., and presents that ditches at Collamstrete are collapsed through fault of Richard Schepard, therefore he is ordered to scour the said ditches well and sufficiently, on pain of 12d. Otherwise all is well.

[Swindon] Tithingman there presents that common fine is 2s., and that the miller <6d.> there takes excessive toll. And that a ditch at Swyndonhegge is collapsed through the fault of Walter Newbrey, therefore he is ordered to sufficiently scour it before Christmas on pain of 20d. Otherwise all well.

[Alstone] Tithingman etc, 2s. 3d. The miller <6d.> there takes excessive toll. And that a sheep price 12d. came as a stray at Feast of Nicholas and this year remained in the custody of John Pate ...

A red heifer came as a stray at the same feast and remained in the custody of John Sturmy of Arle.

Ordered by common assent there that no-one shall permit his sheep to pasture in Bayshill, in Hasoldfeld nor in Alstone Mede until feast of Purification of BVM, on pain of 3s. 4d.

[Arle] Tithingman etc., common fine 3s. And that the miller <6d.> there takes excessive toll. And that a sheep of [blank] price came as a stray at Lady Day and remains in the custody of Thomas Sturmy. Whole tithing of Arle is ordered that the common way at Whymley be well and sufficiently repaired [before illeg date] on pain of 12d for defaulters. Otherwise all well.

[Cheltenham] Tithingman etc., common fine 5s. and that Thomas <3d.> Machyn, Thomas <3d.> Ricards and John <3d.> ?Colin, millers there, take excessive toll.

And that Thomas <2d.> ?Goodysch, Henry <2d.> Tanner and John <2d.> Smyth

did [something] in the king's highway, to the annoyance of their neighbours.

Further presented that Richard <6d.> Feyraunter and Roger <4d.> Feyraunter made assault on John ... with two [weapons] worth 8d. Therefore in mercy. And that Richard <6d.> Colw.te

John <4d.> Feyraunter and Henry <6d.> Hall and Thomas <6d.> Feyraunter made assault on Thomas Rogers clerk, John Jones and Thomas ?.....? with five ?cudgels? worth 20d.

Therefore in mercy And that John Owtredg? is chosen to office of tithingman for the year

[Borough] Bailiff of borough with burgesses comes and presents that Richard owed suit at last court [and did not come] therefore forfeits 2d. And that John Reeve brewed and broke assize ... [but claims he should not pay?] nisi et quousque 10d. ... Otherwise all well.

Jurors say upon oath that [the foregoing is true. Furthermore, that] ?John and Thomas ... and Pate are common bakers and do [something], therefore each in mercy. And that Walter <4d.> Combe and ... <4d.> Jones and John <4d.> Hall, and ... <4d.> ... and John <4d.> Hall sen. are common butchers and sell rotten [meat] and take excessive money.

John Lane bailiff of the borough comes and presents that Walter <6d.> Wynbold and Walter <6d.> Ker..... and Robert <2d.> Gotlys....broke [assize or something], therefore in mercy as shown over their heads.

Sum of perquisites this court	16s. 9d.
Expenses of steward and others	... 7...

[heading obscure]

... .. knight, Edward Berkeley knight, and Christopher Throgmorton are free tenants
... as shown over their heads.

For suit of court: Roger <8d.> Horwod, Walter <8d.> Newbrey, William <8d.> Millen, William <8d.> Sewall, Henry <8d.> Forthy? , John <12d.> ...dinge, Kempe, Richard <8d.> ...ey, William <8d.> Brusche, William <8d.> Forty? William <8d.> For..., ...
... paid fines as over their heads at this court.

Cheltenham. Court held there on the eve of ?Corpus? in year [9 apparently crossed through] 10 Henry VII [1494]

Essoins: Thomas ... per...; John ... per William ?..remys, Thomas Brusche per Walter Brusche

...-regge versus NN in a plea ...

NN versus Thomas Keynton in plea of debt [x]s. Bailiff ordered to distrain for the next court.

NN versus ?Henry Hyett in a plea of trespass.

[Bailiff] of Cheltenham presents that Richard Aspley made assault on ?John? ?Morwod with a stick of [no] value, and is distrained.

NN presents that ... ?Kemp who held of the lady [certain] lands [has died, therefore] a heriot of [a beast], value 30s., currently in the keeping of John Kemp.

.....

.... John Whitford who held land of the lady for a term [has died?]

....[came as a stray] a cow value 6s. 8d., which remains in the keeping of John Whitford

[a tithingman] presents that Thomas Sherford [and others illegible] brewed and broke the assize. [fines illegible]

[a different tithingman] presents that John <3d.> Smyth [and others, also 3d.] brewed and broke the assize.

[ordered that] proclamation be made that if anyone desired to come into court to claim a messuage with appurtenances in Westhale called Bald[....] [but] to this court no-one came.

Also [ordered that] proclamation be made that if anyone desired to come into court to claim a messuage late of John Frenshe ... [but] no-one came.

Sum of perquisites of this court: 41s. 6d. Affeerers: Thomas Taylor & William Whithorne, sworn

Steward's expenses: 3s. 4d.

Sum total of perquisites for courts in the preceding year, except cert rents: £5 5s. 9d.

Sum of cert rents for preceding year: £3 8s. 4d.

Court held Thursday after feast of Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary [8 Dec] in [10th] year of Henry VII [1494]

Essoins. [Jn?] Goodrych is essoined per Walter Whythorne, John Frensch per Thomas Sturmy, Robert Whithorne
William Blyke per Giles Godrige

Thomas Ricardes plaintiff versus Richard Fyscher executor of will of Thomas Asplyn in a plea of debt.

John Godryge represented by ?Thomas Godryge as his attorney versus Walter Alesander in a plea of trespass.

Walter Alysaunder puts in his place Thomas Taylour as his attorney versus John Godryge in a plea of trespass.

John Grenfeld bailiff there presents that Joan Walker who [held] of the lady according to custom of the manor there a messuage [died] on Tuesday after the feast of Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary next after this court. Upon which death there falls to the lady a heriot bailiff there.

NN 12d. and Isabella <12d.> Taylour and Henry <10d.> Lewyn come and give to the lady as a fine for licence to brew this year.

Tithingman of Cheltenham presents that Thomas <3d.> Borne, Joan <3d.> ?Carter, Hugh <3d.> of Leckhampton, John <3d.>Richard <3d.> Feyranter, Ralph <3d.> [?G]eflyng..., John <3d.> Wilschyre and Walter <3d.> Mochegros¹ brewed and broke the assize
John Grenfelde bailiff of the borough presents that William <2d.> Lane, Thomas <2d.> Sturmy, Walter <2d.> Ferm[er] and John <2d.> Benfield

Tithingman of Alstone presents that a calf of price 3s. came as a stray at the feast of Nativity. [name], Walter Pattes, Thomas Heye, John Reve came and gave to the lady as a fine for licence [to brew].....

[names] came and gave the lady as a fine

Tithingman of Alstone presents [a stray]

Sum of perquisites this court: 10s. 9d.

Steward's expenses: 2s. 10d. Affeerers: Thomas, John, sworn

¹ Muchgros: small place in Longdon Worces, and a known personal name too.

Cheltenham. Court held there 2 April 10 Henry VII [1495]

Essoins: none.

Plea of trespass: Richard Barston plaintiff versus John Pate in a plea of trespass, that on 10 Aug. 4 Henry VII the said defendant at Alstone within the jurisdiction of this court broke and entered plaintiff's grassland there (lately growing) with his animals and consumed it, whereby plaintiff is the worse off and has damages of 6s. 8d. Whereupon he states his suit. Defendant came and defended with force and right. He says that he is not guilty thereof, and places himself on the country. ... bailiff is ordered to summon 24 good men and true, to enquire ...

Tithingman there [prob Cheltenham] presents that a calf price 2s. came as a stray at Michaelmas and for the year remained in the keeping of ?John ?Reve.

Similarly, a sheep price 10d. came at Michaelmas and remains in the keeping of John Reve sen.

Bailiff presents that a foal price 3s. 4d. came as a stray at feast of St Peter ad Vincula and remains

Same bailiff presents that John Gynes who held of the lady according to custom of the manor a messuage with appurtenances in Northfeld [died on x] day of month of March, therefore falls to the lady a heriot 1 bowl, price [unstated] which remains in the custody of John Grenhill bailiff there.

Same bailiff presents that Joan Walker gave and granted to Robert Goodryg a messuage with appurtenances in Sandford lately of [her husband] Walker to hold for a term of 12 years thence following, paying yearly at the usual terms ... to the lady 2d...

Tithingman of Cheltenham presents that Thomas <3d.> Borne, John <3d.> [...]ton, Richard <3d.> Snapys, Thomas <3d.> ?Holdye, Richard <3d.> Taylour gen/sen, [1 more, illeg] Robert <3d.> Pollynge and John <3d.> Coke brewed and broke the assize, therefore in mercy.

Thomas Benfeld bailiff of the borough presents that John <2d.> Benfeld, William <2d.> Lane, Thomas <2d.> Sturmy, Thomas <2d.> ..., ...<2d.> ..., and Walter <2d.> Wynbold brewed and broke the assize, therefore are in mercy. Also, Elizabeth Wells who held of the lady [a messuage?]. died on 10 Sept. last, after whose death therefore heriot to the lady 1d. and a bowl price 10d.

Sum of perquisites this court: 10s. 3d.

Steward's expenses 2s. 6d. Affeerers [names illegible]

Cheltenham. Court with view of frankpledge held there Monday after feast of St Mark Evangelist [25 April] in the above year [1495]

Cheltenham. Grant of land. John Grenhill bailiff there presents that Walter Westlond gave and granted to his son Edmund Westelond a [messuage with appurtenances in] Cheltenham in which Thomas Mason now lives, with 2 a. arable land in the fields of Cheltenham [of which one and a] half acres lie in Wymondislond, and the other half acre shoots upon Lompitts way, to have and to hold to the said Edmund for a term of 12 years next after the death of the said Walter rendering to the lady all rents anciently due and custom of base tenure ... and is admitted.

To the same court comes the same bailiff and presents that Agnes Frensche gave to her daughter Katherine Lovell [four messuages] in Charlton Kings, late in the tenure of Thomas Frensche, to hold the said 4 messuages with appurtenances for a term of 12 years after the death of Agnes according to manorial custom there of base tenure

Tithingman of Cheltenham presents that a black horse came as a stray at feast of St Martin. The same comes, and presents that a pig of price 6d. came as a stray at same feast, and for the past year remains in the keeping of

Bradwell. Tithingman with tithing comes, common fine 5s. And that a lane at Ashbruge [is defective through the fault of the whole tithing] of Bradwell. Therefore they are ordered to well and sufficiently mend the said lane before the feast of St John [and for any] default after reasonable warning by the tithingman, 20d.

[Leckhampton] Tithingman etc, common fine 3s. And that Thomas <3d.> Borne assaulted Richard Balingier with

[Cheltenham] Tithingman etc, common fine 5s; and that 1 sheep price 6d came as a stray at feast of [2 words]. Therefore bailiff ordered to make proclamation. And that John Gorge forfeited

[Charlton Kings] Tithingman etc. common fine 2s. 6d. And that the miller <6d.> there takes excessive toll.

[Swindon] Tithingman etc. common fine 2s. And that the miller <6d.> there takes excessive toll.

... John Scherford made assault on him with a bow price 2d., and that the same John assaulted [someone else] with a [something] of no value, and drew blood.

[Also that] a ditch at Swyndonhegge has collapsed [through the fault of NN] who remains in the service of NN and he should well and sufficiently scour it before the feast of St John Baptist, on pain of ...

.... Thomas Hall has not sworn [allegiance?] to the lord king, is therefore ordered to be here at next court.

[Westal] Tithingman etc. common fine 3s. And that a ditch at Westhale Grene is collapsed through the fault of John Baker. He is ordered to well and sufficiently repair it, on pain of 12d.

[Alstone] Tithingman attends with his tithing, and presents that the common fine is 2s. 3d. And that Thomas Brusche miller there [takes excessive toll]

No-one is to keep animals in the corn [*one illegible word apparently in English: hed...*] before the end of harvest, upon pain of 3s. 4d. for each and every offence. They present that [first name] ?Holden who at this court owed suit of court makes default. They present that William Pates, William Clerke and Thomas Lane remain in the frankpledge but have not made fealty to the lord king. Ordered that no-one is to put any animals in Alstone Mead in that vill before the feast of Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, upon forfeit of 3s. 4d. Otherwise all well.

[Bafford] Tithingman there presents common fine is 3s. 5d. And that the common way at [?H/G]oune Strete² is flooded through the fault of the tithing of Bafford; they are therefore [ordered] to make good said road before feast of Pentecost on pain of 20d. for anyone doing the contrary without good reason.

[one illegible name, 3d.] brewed and broke the assize.

[Arle] Tithingman comes, presents that common fine is 3s. And that the miller <6d.> takes excessive toll; and that Thomas Thomas ?Baldinger?, John Brusche and William Grevile allowed their pigs to get into the common pasture there contrary to order given at the last court, [therefore fined illegible amount]

[Cheltenham] tithingman there presents common fine is 5s., and that Thomas <3d.> Machyn, Thomas <3d.> Ricardes, John <3d.> Lane are millers [and take] excessive toll; and that Henry <2d.> Ed[....?] has left beams/timbers standing [2 illegible superscript words, possibly English gloss] in the king's highway, [creating] nuisances; and that William <3d.> Cow.er., John <3d.> Langton and John <3d.> [...] brewed and broke the assize.

And that the common way at Bonessale Lane [i.e. Bouncers Lane] is flooded through the fault of Richard Bathron[t] and William Wynbold; they are therefore ordered to well and sufficiently repair the said way, before the feast of St John Baptist, on pain of [3s. 4d.]. And presented that the common way at Rodwey is flooded through the fault of the whole tithings of Charlton and Cheltenham, therefore they are ordered to well and sufficiently repair the said way before the feast of St John the Baptist on pain of 6s. 8d. for defaulters. Otherwise all is well.

² Compare Cowins Lane, seen in Charlton Kings in 1697. (MCB)

[Cheltenham] Bailiff there with his burgesses presents that William Combe, Thomas Broke, William Lane, Reynold Lane, Thomas Whyte who this day owe suit of court make default. And that the common watercourse there is flooded through the fault of John Newland clerk; therefore he is ordered to repair it before next court on pain of 20d. And that steers/bullocks (*castrati*) are to pastured in le M[ar]she only at night, on pain of 40d. and that nobody shall permit their animals to cross into le Mershe before the feast of St Martin, on the same penalty.

No geese or ducks to be allowed into the common stream, on the same penalty.
No woman is to wash linen sheets (*linthiamina*) in the said brook, on same penalty. No-one other than the common oxherd/swineherd (*bubulcus*) to pasture animals in the Marshe, on pain of 20d. And that no-one is to oppress the common pasture at the Marshe with their animals [3 or 4 words unreadable].

[All?] tithingmen and the jury say upon oath that John <2d.> Grinette, John <2d.> Baker, Thomas <2d.> Keynto[n], William <2d.> Hyckes are common bakers there and broke the assize; and that Richard <4d.> Feyraunter, John <4d.> Hall sen., Walter <4d.> Combe, John <4d.> Hall jun., John <4d.> Feyraunter are butchers there and sold meat and took excessive money, therefore etc. It is ordered with the assent of 12 jurors that no-one is to sell any baked loaves (*panes pistas*) in Tewkesbury or in any other place except in this town, on pain of 40d. after reasonable notice being given to them.

Also presented that John Grene and Isabel Taylor sold ale against the assize, therefore in mercy [no amount?] and they are ordered that they should sell no ale until the tithingman has tasted it, upon same penalty. And that the ale there be rectified before feast of Finding of the Holy Cross because it has now been [decided?] that 6½d. upon pain of 3s. 4d. Also sworn that all the foregoing is true. And at this court proclamation was made that if anyone to come in court to claim a messuage in Westhale with appurtenances called Baldrege in a certain ... called Grand[in?], but to this court no-one came.

And at the same court proclamation was made that if anyone wished to come into court and claim a messuage with appurtenances in Arle called Pyrор[c]had [ie, "Pearorchard"] late in the tenure of John Frensche, but to this court no-one came.

Sum of perquisites this court 10s. 2d. Affeerers: Reynold Wod and William ?Danger sworn
Steward's expenses 6s. 4d.

Transcription completed by Cheltenham Local History Society Latin Group in September 2013, from images taken at TNA in 2011.
