

Sutton Coldfield in 1416 — a thriving town?

By Roger Lea

The earliest known court roll for Sutton Coldfield dates from 1412, one of a number of early 15th century ones in the Middleton Papers at Nottingham University. The earliest of these which is complete and fully legible is for 1416. What can it tell us about life in Sutton Coldfield the year after the Battle of Agincourt, 20 years after *The Canterbury Tales* were written?

A court roll is the record of transactions at the manorial court, hand-written on a roll of parchment in medieval Latin. Although at first sight a dry and repetitive document, it can be a very fruitful source for the local historian, being full of the names of local people and recording minor events. A transcription (which probably contains errors due to the author's bad Latin) and translation of the 1416 roll follows this article, which begins with a summary of the contents.

The Court is also a View of Frankpledge, at which all the heads of households were required to renew their oaths of allegiance to the crown. This particular roll also includes the small court where minor claims were heard. The Lord of the Manor should preside, but the Earl of Warwick employed officials to do this for him in his many manors. Besides, the Earl of Warwick was away in France, this being the year after the battle of Agincourt, and he was given command of the army there after Henry V's return to England.

A series of local officials report to the court, beginning with the tithingmen for Great Sutton. Tithingmen, known as headboroughs or thirdbarrows in the vernacular, would have sworn fealty on behalf of all the households in their locality — theoretically, each tithingman represented twelve households, but in practice each of the five Quarters of Sutton had two tithingmen, regardless of differences in size; they were chosen anew at each court. They report that two new households have entered the tithing: every household had to belong to a tithing or else be outside the law (outlaws) — in this way the crown was able to account for everybody in the country, since everybody was covered by their local manorial court. Stray horses and other animals quite often feature in the court rolls, but problems with a winnower are unusual.

Next come the tasters of bread and ale, who list all the bakers and brewers and the amount of their fines. Although baking and brewing for resale were against the law, this was an artifice for ensuring good standards were maintained, and the fine was effectively a licence fee, as was the fine levied on the miller. He was fined for keeping excessive toll (the miller was allowed to keep a proportion of the flour he had ground as his payment) but this is probably a fiction, the real object being to record his name in the court roll as the certified miller for the manor.

The reports of the officials for the other four quarters follow. The names of the quarters are slightly different from later versions — it is usually Hill and Little Sutton, Warmley and Beyond the Woods, and Maney and the Wyld (see the map for approximate boundaries). There were two fights to report in Wygyngghull and Warmeley, as well as a bridge in poor repair, while blocked ditches were more of a problem at Maney.

Then the jury is sworn in. The next item exemplifies the feudal system, where land was held from the lord of the manor in return for services. By 1416 almost all the services had been converted into money rents, so a new tenant was required to make an initial payment or entry fine. This item shows that the open field system of agriculture was being practised in Sutton.

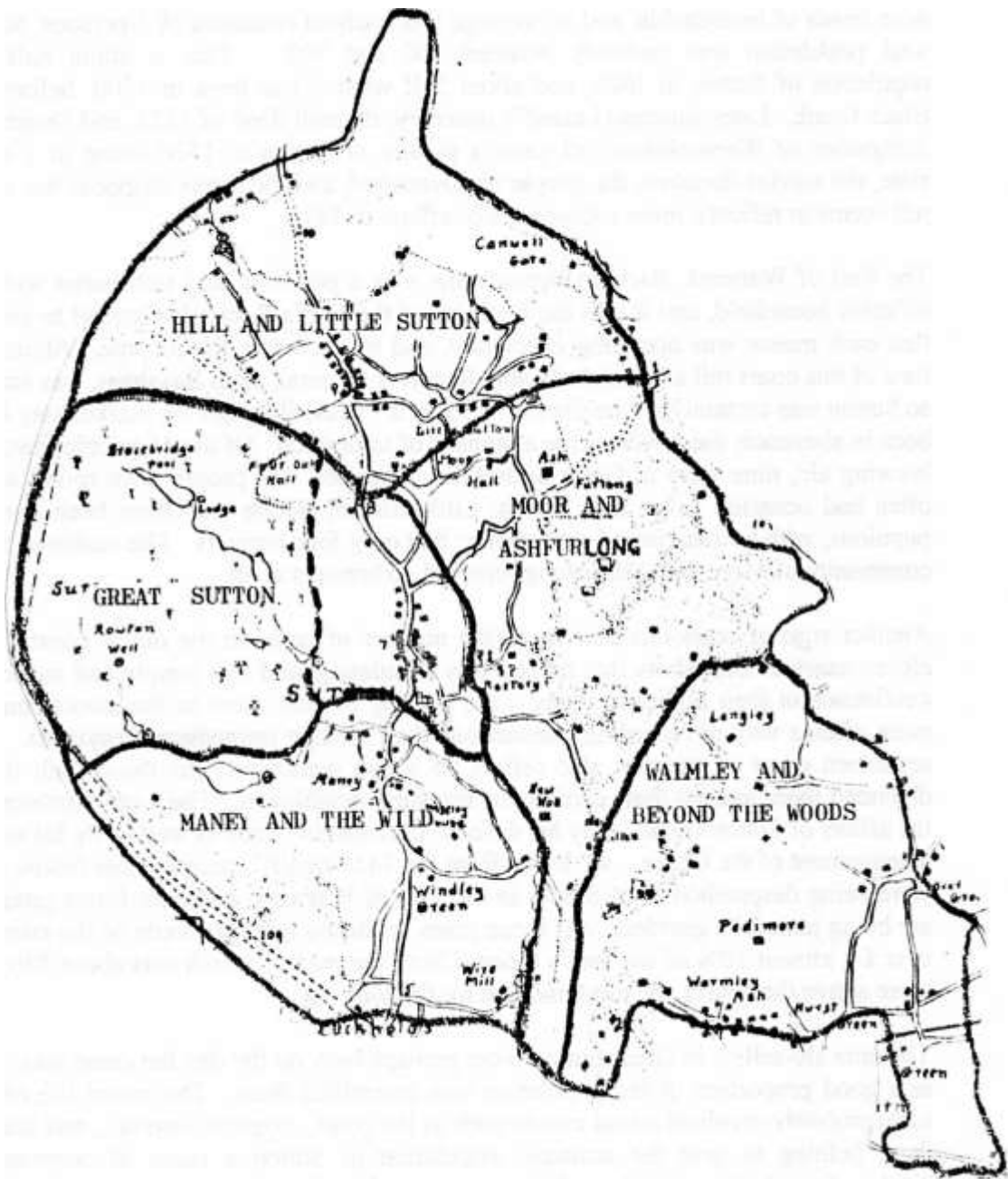
The lesser court dealt with pleas of trespass and debt, and most of the cases are carried forward to the next court. Among these are the reports of the head forester about pigs in the park, but it is not clear whether the "Further cases" relate to this court or to the main court. One of the foresters is again reporting, but this time it is clear that the court had powers to deal with infringements of the regulations of Sutton Chase, which extended over most of the neighbouring manors. There follow some disputes about property, and a dispensation to the wealthiest inhabitants to be excused attendance at the courts. The affeerers were responsible for checking that the proceedings were correctly recorded, and the proceeds of the court formed part of the manorial income for the lord of the manor.

Most of the people named in the court roll are otherwise unknown, although some also appear in the Bailiffs account of 1433 (see Proceedings vol. 5). Of the two chaplains named, John Verney was an official of the Earl of Warwick and had interests in Sutton including New Shipton and possibly the Chaplaincy of St. Blaize; William Wode is not otherwise recorded, but appears from the context to be another of the Earl's men. At this early date, the gentry were not identified by honorifics as they were in the later 10 century court rolls, but the wealthiest would have paid a fine to be excused from attendance at court — Richard Arderne (of Peddimore), the unnamed Lord of New Hall (possibly a tenant of the Earl's), and the heirs of Baldwin de Berford, perhaps the last of the great De Berford family of Langley Hall. The size of the fines may indicate the relative standing of these three stately homes.

Most of the surnames in the court roll are probably fixed by this date, but several of them still describe the trade of their bearers — some at least of the Bakers were still baking, and the Millward was milling, so perhaps Baxter, Bulker, Corvysor, Cutler, etc. were descriptive of recent ancestors if not still current in 1416. Other names relate to place of origin, such as Grendon, Binley, Kidderminster, while there are some much more local, Greve being a part of Sutton near Minworth, while Attewood, Othehethe and Othehurst are self-explanatory.

The court roll throws some light on a number of issues. There was a net gain of households in the year, since five newcomers were sworn in while only three had gone. All three of those who left were from Warmeley and Wygynghill quarter, an area where marginal land had been brought into cultivation in the thirteenth century; this and the houses that were in disrepair could be an indication of the reduced demand for resources following the Black Death. The areas where traditional open field agriculture were the norm seem to be almost without incident — Little Sutton, with a population as high as Great Sutton, has very little to report, although the question of hedges may be a straw in the wind if it marks an attempt to privatise part of the open field.

The Quarters of Sutton



Map to show the approximate boundaries of the Quarters of Sutton referred to in the Court Roll. The base map is a re-drawing by Norman Evans of Yates's *Survey of the County of Warwickshire*, 1789. Scale: 1 inch = 1 mile

Since every householder in Sutton owed suit to the court, and only a few are fined for absence, the court roll cannot be used to determine the population of Sutton; however, it can be used to make a guess. There are 127 names in the court roll; most of them were heads of households, and on average a household consisted of 5 persons, so the total population was probably between 500 and 700. This is about half the population of Sutton in 1600, and about half what it had been in 1300, before the Black Death. Later sources (Leland's *Itinerary*, the mill deed of 1533, and Dugdale's *Antiquities of Warwickshire*) all paint a picture of Sutton in 1520 being in a sorry state, the market forsaken, the people impoverished, and the assets stripped; this court roll seems to reflect a more robust state of affairs in 1416.

The Earl of Warwick, Richard Beauchamp, was a powerful and rich baron with an efficient household, and it was the business of the Earl's Receiver General to ensure that each manor was operating efficiently, and to maximise the income. About the time of this court roll a particularly able Receiver General, John Baysham, was active, so Sutton was certainly not neglected by its lord. Thus, although the market may have been in abeyance, there were quite a number of tradesmen. Of the 16 people fined for brewing ale, nine were in Great Sutton, an indication that people from round about often had occasion to go into Sutton; Little Sutton, which may have been equally populous, with two nucleated settlements, had only four brewers. The scattered rural community of More and Ashfurlong reported no brewers at all.

Another sign of economic activity is the number of cases in the minor court. The eleven cases of debt show that money was circulating, and that people had sufficient confidence in their ability to repay — the hearing of debt cases in the minor court is more often a way of recording transactions than seeking immediate repayment. The seventeen cases of trespass also reflect an active community, as those with rights defended them against their careless or thrusting neighbours. The Lord's interest in the affairs of Sutton is shown by his defence of manorial lands as well as by his active management of the Chase — we know from the 1433 bailiffs account that fallow deer were being despatched from Sutton to the Earl of Warwick, and here forest products are being jealously guarded. All these cases produced total proceeds of the court of over £4, almost 10% of the lord's income from the manor, which was about £50; the more active the courts, the more income for the lord.

The nine ale-sellers in Great Sutton were perhaps busy on the day the court was held, as a good proportion of the population was assembled there. The social life of the town probably revolved round events such as the court, religious festivals, and market days, helping to give the scattered population of Sutton a sense of community. Traders from further afield would bring news of local and national events to add to the local parish pump gossip, while the bailiffs and the clergy would give out official information. A complex web of people going about their daily business, making their living and enjoying their leisure; the court roll can only give us a glimpse of this, but it is all we have — there is no other source.

List of names

Surname	Forename	Event	Quarter
Aleyn	Lucia	brewer	Sutton
Aleyn	John	tman. deleted, tenement	L.S
Aleyn	John, jun.	excused	
Aleyn	Richard	debt, p, trespass p.	
Ammory	Cecilia	brewer	Sutton
Ardeme	Richard	fine	
Attewode	Christiana	brewer	Sutton
Baker	William	debt, p., trespass, p.	
Bakere	William	white bread,	Sutton
Bakere	Thomas de Erdington	white bread	Sutton
Bakere	William	tithingman	M. & W.
Barkere	William	affeerer	
Bamevyle	Thomas	excused	
Basse	William	trespass, d.	
Baxter	Elizbeth	brewer	Sutton
Bayly	Johanna	brewer	M. & W.
Bayly	Richard	trespass, d, trespass & debt p	
Benfyle	William	taster	L.S.
Bereford	Baldwyn	heirs fined	
Blake	William	trespass, p.	
Blithe	William	gone away	W. & W.
Breodon	John	excused	
Broke	Margaret	trespass d.	
Broun	Margeret	retailing	Sutton
Bulker	William	trespass p	
Bulkere	John	newcomer	More & A
Bynley	Matilda	brewer, debt d.	W. & W.
Cappe	John	defect, debt. d	W. & W.
Cappe	Thomas	debt d.	
Cole	Isabell	brewer	L. S.
Colet	William	land in Sutton Field	
Colet	Marian	excused	
Colet	Richard, executors	heriot	
Cort	John	taster	W. & W.
Corvyser	Thomas	debt, p	
Coteler	Henry	Trespass, p & d, debt d., repairs	
Depyng	Robert	Taster	Sutton
Depyng	John	brewer	Sutton
Edwyn	John	newcomer	More & A
Flynt	John	juror, pigs in park	
Gamell	William	juror	
Gibons	Thomas	excused	

Grendon	John	Tithingman, retailer, brewer, pigs, Sutton trespass p.	
Greve	James de	servant gone away	W. & W.
Gybon	Mageret	brewer	L.S.
Gybons	Richard	Tithingman	L.S.
Gybons	John, jun.	excused	
Gybons	John	debt, d.	
Ham	John	gone away	W. & W.
Hannes	Matilda	defect	M. & W.
Hardyng,	William	Owed suit	Sutton
Harries	Henry	selling fruit	
Hawker	Richard	excused	
Hemery	Henry	tithingman	W. & W.
Hewst	Richard	default	L.S.
Holbache	John	debt & trespass, p.	
Holden	Richard	forester	
Hosewent	Margeret	brewer	Sutton
Hosewent	Agnes	illegal hedge	L.S.
Hosewent	Symon	juror, trespass, d.	
Hosewent	Ralph	trespass, d	
Huchens	John	owed suit	M. & W.
Huchens	Robert	defect debt, p.	M. & W.
Huchons	Ralph	debt d	
Huchons	Thomas executors	To show, heriott	
Ireland	Allexander	bloodshed	W. & W.
Jolif	John	tithingman	More & A
Kene	William	affeerer	
Kyderminster	William	taster, pigs in park, trespasss p.	M. & W.
Kyderminster	Ralph	rescue	
Kyderminster	Richard	trespass, d.	
Loresone	Richard	debt & trespass p	
Lynton	Thomas	excused	
Mason	Thomas	horse bread, juror, entry fine, pigs in Sutton park, tr.	
Mason	Adonarius	pigs in park	
Maycok	William	Taster	Sutton
Messenger	Agnes	brewer	Sutton
More	John	tithingman, affeerer	L. S.
Mulward	Richard	tolum ex. pigs in park	Sutton
Mustardmaker	Symon	illegal hedge, taster	L. S.
Newhall	lord of	fine	
Notyng	John	debt, d.	
Othehethe	Thomas	excused	
Othehurst	John	bloodshed, trespass & debt p.	W. & W
Othehurst	Symon	juror	
Othelee	Thomas	tman., affeerer, pigs in park	M. & W

Otheloo	John	trespass, d	
Palett	Richard	gone away	W. & W.
Parkere	Hugo	juror, pigs in park	
Penne	Henry	land in Sutton Field	
Pentrich	Julia	brewer	L. S.
Pentrich	John	debt p trespass d.	
Perkyns	Thomas	insulted, taster	W. & W
Read	John	juror	
Read	John of Minworth	trespass d	
Redyng	Thomas atte	tithingman deleted	M. & W
Reed	William	debt, d, owes suit	
Rose	Thomas	newcomer	Sutton
Shropshire	Margeret	retailer	Sutton
Shropshire	John	excused	
Skelston	John	newcomer	W. & W.
Smyth	William	newcomer	Sutton
Smyth	John	tithingman, debt d.	More & A
Smyth	Adam	juror	
Smyth	Adam,(servant Jn)	excused	
Smyth	William, of Cruddeworth	debt & trespass, d	
Sponer	John	owed suit.	L. S.
Sponer	Robert	tithingman, insult	W. & W
Staleworth	William	Tithingman, horse bread, pigs in park	Sutton
Staleworth	Margeret	brewer	Sutton
Strynger	Elena	retailer	Sutton
Strynger	Symon	trespass, p.	
Tatlor	John	debt, d.	
Taylor	Thomas	juror, pigs in park, debt p.	
Taylor	John, of Oreton	trespass, d	
Tracy	John, of Erdinton	low hedge	
Turnor	John de Hulle	juror	L. S.
Verney	John	chaplain, pigs in park	Sutton
Warde	Thomas, of B'ham	trespass, p	
Warmeley	Agnes	debt d.	
Webbe	Isabell	debt, p.	
Whateley	Christiana	brewer	L. S.
Wilde	William atte	Tithingman, del.	Sutton
Wode	William, chaplain	trespass, p	
Wryght	John de Greve	juror	W. & W.
Wyforde	John	juror, pig in park	
Yuge	John	arrest	W. & W.

Transcription of the court roll

Sutton Collefield

Visus Franciplegii cum parva curia tenta ibidem die Martis proxima post festum Sancte Luce Evangeliste anno regnum Henrici Quinti post conquestu quarto. (20.x.1416)

Sutton Magna

Johannes Grendon (Willelmus atte Wilde) et Willelmus Staleworth decenarii ibidem presentant quod dant de elemosyna ad hunc die 21d. item presentant quod Willelmus Hardyng debet sectam et fecit defaltam ideo in misericordia item presentant quod Willielmus Smyth positus in decenne item Thomas Rose positus in decenne et prestiterunt sacramento Item presentant 9d de catall Weyvium per querendum examenque unde ballie sunt Et quia decenna (4d) ea non libere ballie ad spectum dominium ideo ipsis in misericordia Item presentant equus precie 2 s. Weyvium per eundem cum vendita in emptor Johannes Verney Capellano Item presentant quod Ricardo Mulward cepit tolum excessive confra assisam(2d) Item presentant unum ventilabrum (debito) precie 12d Weyvium per predictam examen unde ideo.

Elemosyna 21d positi in decenne ii Catall Weyvium 3s. 9d

Misericordia 6d.

Tastatores.

Robertus Depyng Willelmus Maycok tastatores ibidem presentant quod Willielmus Bakere (2d) Thomas Bakere de Erdington (2d) fregerunt assisam panis albi ideo in Item presentant quod Thomas Mason (2d) Willelmus Staleworth (2d) fregerunt assisam panis equinis ideo in misericordia Item quod Johannes Grendon (2d) Margareta Broun (2d) sunt regratores panem album ideo in misericordia Item presentant quod Christiana Attewode (2d) braciavit servisie Aglete Messenger (2d) braciavit servisie Johannes Grendon (8d) braciavit iiii Johannes Depyng (12d) vi Margereta Staleworth (14d) braciavit vii Cecilia Ammory (16d) braciavit viii Margereta Hosewent (6d) braciavit iii Lucia Aleyn (6d) braciavit iii et fregerunt assisam ideo ipsis in misericordia Item quod Elizabeth Baxter (2d) braciavit ii Item presentant quod Elena Strynger (1d) Margereta Shropshire (1d) sunt regratores servisie et fregerunt assisam ideo ipsis in misericordia.

Misericordia 7s. 8d.

Sutton Parva

(Johannes Aleyn) Ricardus Gybons et Johannes More decennarii ibidem presentant quod dant de elemosyna ad hunc die 20d. Item presentant quod Johannes Sponer (2d) debet sectam et non venit ideo ipse in misericordia Item presentant quod Symon Mustardmaker (1d) habet adhuc unam haiam ad nocumentum vicinorum iuxta tenementam Johannis Aleyn ideo in misericordia Item quod Agnes Hosewent (1d) habet adhuc unam haiam ad nocumentum in eodem loco ideo in misericordia Item presentant quod Ricardo Hewst (2d) facit defaltem ideo in misericordia.

Elemosyna 20d

misericordia 6d

Tastatores

Willelmus Benfyle et (Johannes More) Symon Mustardmaker tastatores ibidem presentant quod Margereta Gybon (2d) braciavit servisie Isabell Cole (2d) braciavit servisie Christiana Whateley (6d) braciavit iii Juliana Pentrich (4d) braciavit ii et vendiderunt contra assisam ideo ipsis in misericordia.

Misericordia 14d.

More et Asshforlong

Johannes Jolifet Johannes Smyth decennarii ibidem presentant quod dant de elemosyna ad hunc die 10d. Item Johannes Bulkere Johannes Edwyn positi in decenne et prestiterunt sacramentum.

positi in decenne ii

Elemosyna 10d

Wygyng hull et Warmeley

Henricus Hemery et Robertus Sponer decennarii ibidem presentant quod dant de elemosyna ad hunc die 10d Item presentant quod Johannes Yuge (4d) fregit arrestum decennarii - fecunt arresto apud Emedlee sine licence ideo in misericordia Item presentant sanguinis effusio inter Allexander Ireland et Johannem Othehurst ad iniurio dicti Alexandri - misericordia Item quod Johannes Ham Willelmus Blithe Ricardus Palett exonerati de decenne Item Johannes serviens Jacobi de Greve exoneratus de decenne Item presentant pon -- Gatebrugge ad nocumentum defectu Johannes Cappe (2d) ideo ipsi in misericordia Et ultimo habent districtio quod reparebat citra proxime festum (Sancte Andrew) Sacte Michaelis sub pena -- Item Johannes Skelston positus in decenne Item presentant quod Robertus Sponer (2d) fecit insulte contra pacem versus Thomam Perkyns ideo ipse in misericordia

Elemosyna 10d

Penum

exonerati 4 positi in decennio 1

Misericordia 12d.

Tastatores

Thomas Perkyns et Johannes Cort tastatores ibidem presentant quod Matilda Bynley (14d) braciavit vii et fregit ideo ipsa in misericordia

Misericordia 14d

Maney et Wyndeley

Willelmus Bakere et (Thomas attte Redyng) Thomas Othe Lee decennarii ibidem presentant quod dant de elemosyna ad hunc die 8d Item presentant quod Johannes Huchens (2d) debet sectam et non venit ideo ipse in misericordia Item presentant unum fossatum non inundatum apud Redelone (2d) defectu Roberti Huchens Matilda Hannes ideo ipsis in misericordia Item presentant unum fossatum apud Overaker non inundatum defectu ballivi domini nullo Et preceptus est quod fossatum apud Redelane inundetur citra proxima sub pena 5s4d Item presentant quod Willelmus Reed (2d) debet sectam et non venit ideo in misericordia.

Elemosyna 8d penum

misericordia 6d

Tastatores

Willelmus Kyderminster tastator ibidem presentat quod Johanna Bayly (2d) braciavit servisie et fregit assisam ideo ipsa in misericordia.

misericordia 2d

Xii Juratores

Willelmus Gamell Hugo Parkere Symon Othehurst Thomas Taylor Johannes Wryght de Greve Johannes Turnor de Hulle Thomas Mason Johannes Flynt Adam Smyth Symon Hosewent Johannes Wyforde dicunt super suorum sacramentum quod decennarii et tastatores bene et fideliter presentaverunt et nulla conc -

fnis per ingressio 8d.

Hic in curia venit Thomas Mason et dat domino de fine 8d per ingressionis hereditamenta si habeat ius in una selione iacente in campo de Sutton inter terra

Willielmi Colet ex parte una et terra Henrico Penne ex parte altera unde xii onerati sunt Qui dicant quod ignorant - preceptus est distringere usque ad proxima

districtio

Bedell presentat quod Radno Kiderminster (2d) fecit rescuss erga eum in officie suo faciendem ideo in misericordia

Rescue 2d

Modo de Curia Parva tenta ibidem die et anno Superdictis districtio

Symon Stringer querens de Johannes Othehoo de placito transgressionis quare boscum suum apud Keteryngesmore iniuste decisum

Idem Symon querens de eodem Johanne de placito transgressionis quare in separabile herbagie suo viam fecit iniuste ad dampnum 12d qui ponit se super homagio Idem Symon querens de eodem Johanne de placito transgressionis quare cum porcos suos destruxit harbagium suum ad dampnum 12d qui ponit se super homagio Willelmo Wode capellano et Thomas Warde de Bermyngham querentes de (Symone)

Radulphe Hosewent de placito transgressionis quare preceptus est dominis

Essoines

Johannes Gybons junior Johannes Shropshire Johannes serviens Adami Smyth

Thomas Otheheth Thomas Barnevyle Thomas Lynton Ricardus Hawker Johannes Aleyn junior Thomas Gibons Marian Colet Johannes Breodon essoinati sunt de secta sua ad hunc die secundum eorum consuetudo

districtio

Ricardus Aleyn querens de Johanni Smyth de placito debiti

Idem Ricardus querens de Symone Hosewent de placito transgressionis

Johannes Othehurst querens de Johanne Taylor de Oretton de placito transgressionis

Willelmus Blake querens de eodem de placito transgressionis

Thomas Corvyser querens de Johanne Gybons de placito debiti

Thomas Corvyser querens de Willelmo Reed de placito debiti

Isabell Webbe querens de Johanne Taylor de placito debiti

Henricus Coteler querens de Ricardo Bayly de placito transgressionis

Willelmus Baker querens de Johanne Notyng de placito debiti

Idem Willelmus querens de Ricardus Kyderminster de placito transgressionis qu. aro. dec. caru. quas de se sunt id da, 6d qui dedi. inde lex petit w. Kyderminster.

Idem Willelmus querens de Willelmo Basse de placito transgressionis

Johannes Holbache querens de Willelmo Smyth de Cruddeworth de placitis debiti et transgressionis

attachiare

Kaput Forestarius presentat quod Thomas Taylor (12d) Johannes Wyford (6d)

Willelmus Kyderminster (2d) Ricardus Mulwarde (12d) Johannes Grendon (12d)

Johannes Flynt (12d) Thomas Mason (4d) Willelmus Staleworth (2d) Adoniarus

Mason (2d) Hugo Parkere (1d) Johannes Vemey Capellanus (1d) Thomas Othelee (2d) habuerunt porcos suos emittes in parco domino et destruxerunt pasturam ibidem sine licencia ideo in misericordia

misericordia 5s 8d

continuetur

Dies datum est inter Ricardus Loresone querens et Johannes Read de Myneworth in placito transgressionis

Dies datum est inter eundem Ricardus et Thomas Cappe in placito debiti

Placitum continuetur inter Ricardus Bayly et Henricus Coteler defendens in placito transgressionis debitum de 20s cognitum

Dies datum est inter Robertus Huchons querens et Agnes Warmeley in placito debiti Ricardus Bayly (1d) non presens querens versus eundem Agnetem in placito transgressionis ideo nullo

essoines

Johannes Grendon defendens essoniatus est de legato versus Thomas Mason in placito transgressis et habet diem ultimam de levare

non presentant

Johannes Pentrich(2d) non presentat querens versus Agnetem Warmely in placito debiti

continuetur

Dies datum est inter Willelmus Kyderminster querens et Margereta Broke in placito transgressionis

ponit se

Willelmus Bulker(2d) ponit se in misericordia per licencia concordandi cum Johanne Pentrich in placito transgressionis

districtio

Adhuc disfrictio Matilda Bynley (ponit se) ad respondendum Radulpho Huchons in placito debiti

ponit se

Willelmus Reod (2d) ponit se in misericordia per licencia concordandi cum Thome Taylor in placito debiti

districtio

Adhuc districtioJohannem Cappe ad respondendum Johanni Othehurst in placito debiti

misericordia 7d

Plus examines

Attachiare forestario

Ricardus Holden unus forestarius presentat quod Henrico Harries (12d) collexit fructus in bosco domini et eos vendidit apud Colleslull ideo in misericordia Item presentat quod Johannes Tracy de Erdynton (4d) fecit haias suas minus altitudinis contra statutum forestarium ideo in misericordia

misericordia 16d

dies

Thomas Taylor habet diem usque ad proximam ad ostendere qualiter tenet le Hallofeld et qua recta habet lideyates ibidem.

Adhuc Johannes Othehurst habet diem usque ad proximam ad ostendere qualiter tenet unum croftum vocatum Sa-escroft quod clamat tenere libere et quod ballivi seisuerunt ut manerio domini nomine terra customaria est

homagio pena

Presentat quod Henricys Coteler nondum reparavit domus suas ruinosas sicut ei preceptus fuit ad ultimam curiam ideo habet diem quod repareat citra proxima sub pena forisfactura et scita sub pena 20s.

fines 2s 10d

Heredes Baldewyn Bereford (2s) dominus de Newhalle (6d) Ricardus Arderne (4d) fecerunt finem cum domino sectam curie iliis relaxandam usque festum Sancti

Michaelis

dies ad ostendare

Adhuc executores Thome Huchons habent diem usque ad proximam ad ostendare qua erectus debent edificare super customario domini vocatus Alchons

dies per herietum

Adhuc executores Thome Huchons et execuiores Ricardi Colet habent diem ad ostendare quare dominus non habet herietum postmortem predictorum Thome et Ricardi prout continetur in curie precedente

Afferatores

Willelmus Barkere Willelmus Kene Johannes More Thomas Othelee

Summa huius visus cum curia 33s 5d Inde custus fatentur circa ventilabrum weyvium apud Bermyngham 8d

Summa totalis omnie curie 4L 2s ob.

Translation of the court roll

Sutton Collefild. View of Frankpledge and minor court held there on the Tuesday after St. Luke's day in the fourth year of the reign of Henry V (20th Oct. 1416) Great Sutton. John Grendon (William atte Wilde crossed out) and William Staleworth, tithingmen there report that they have given 21d. in alms, that William Harding is amerced for defaulting, that William Smyth and Thomas Rose have been sworn in to the tithing. They report spending 9d in investigating the disappearance of a winnower which they were unable to recover and that a stray horse worth 2 shillings was sold to John Verney the Chaplain. Richard Mulward was amerced 2d for excessive tolls at the mill, and a winnower worth 12d was lost.

Tasters. Robert Depyng and William Maycok the tasters report William Baker and Thomas Baker of Erdington for breaking the assize of white bread, Thomas Mason and William Staleworth for breaking the assize of horse bread, John Grendon and Margaret Brown for retailing white bread, Christine Attewode, Agnes Messager, John Grendon (4 times), John Depyng (6 times) Margaret Staleworth (7 times) Cecily Ammory (8 times) Margaret Hosewent (3 times) Lucy Aleyn (3 times) and Elizabeth Baxter for brewing ale (amerced 2d for each event), and Elene Stynger and Margaret Shrophire are amerced 1d each for retailing ale.

Little Sutton

(John Aleyn crossed out) Richard Gybons and John More, tithingmen, report that they have given 20d in alms, that John Sponer and Richard Hewst defaulted, and that Symon Mustardmaker and Agnes Hosewent have nuisance hedges next to John Aleyn's house.

Tasters. William Benfyle and (John More crossed out) Symon Mustardmaker report that the following brewed and sold ale: Margaret Gybon, Isabell Cole, Christine Whateley (3) and Julia Pentrich (2) — amerced 2d each.

More and Asshforlong

John Jolif and John Smyth tithingnen report that they have given 10d in alms and that John Bulkere and John Edwyn have been sworn in to the tithing.

Wygyng hull and Warmeley

Henry Hemery and Robert Sponer tithingmen report that they have given 10d in alms and that John Yuge rescued his property which the tithingmen had legally impounded at Emedlee, amerced 4d. There was a bloody encounter between Allexander Ireland and John Othehurst to the hurt of Allexander. John Ham, William Blithe, Richard Palett and John the servant of James de Greve have left the tithing. The bridge at Gatebrugge is in disrepair through the fault of John Cappe, amerced 2d, and he has been distrained to repair it before the feast of (St. Andrew crossed out) St. Michael next. John Skelston has been sworn in to the tithing, and Robert Sponer disturbed the peace against Thomas Perkyns, amerced 2d.

Tasters. Thomas Perkyns and John Cort report that Matilda Bynley brewed ale 7 times, amerced 14d.

Maney and Wyndeley.

William Baker and (Thomas atte Redyng crossed out) Thomas othe Lee tithingmen report 8d given in alms. John Huchens defaulted. A ditch at Redelone is blocked through the negligence of Robert Huchens and Matilda Hannes, and a ditch at Overaker is blocked through the negligence of the Lord's bailiff; it is ordered that the ditch at Redelane be cleared before the next court on pain of 5s.4d. William Reed is a defaulter.

Tasters. William Kydenninster the taster reports that Joan Bayly brewed ale.

Twelve jurymen were sworn in : William Garnell, Hugh Parker, Symon Othehurst, Thomas Taylor, John Wryght of Greves, John Turnor of Hill, Thomas Mason, John Flynt, Adam Smyth, Symon Hosewent, John Wyforde, and declared that the tuthingmen and tasters had well and truly testified and concealed nothing.

Entry fine. Thomas Mason came into court to give the Lord 8d entry fine if the court allowed for his inheritance of a selion in Sutton Open Field between lands of William Colet and Henry Penne. A jury was sworn but could not decide on the matter, which is carried forward to the next court.

The Beadle reported that Ralph Kiderminster made a rescue during his term of office.

Lesser Court held there on the same day.

Distraints. Symon Stringer plaintiff versus John Othehoo in a plea of trespass re the unlawful felling in his wood at Ketryngesmore.

Ditto re making a road across his enclosed pasture causing 12d of damage. Ditto re allowing pigs into his pasture destroying 12d worth of herbage.

William Wode chaplain and Thomas Warde of Birmingham versus Ralph Hosewent in a plea of trespass as required by the Lord.

Essoins. John Gybons junior, John Shropshire, John the servant of Adam Smyth, Thomas Otheheth, Thomas Barnevyle, Thomas Lynton, Richard Hawker, John Aleyn junior, Thomas Gibons, Marian Colet, John Breodon are excused from paying suit according to custom

Distraints. Richard Aleyn v. John Smyth in a plea of debt

Richard Aleyn v. Symon Hosewent in a plea of trespass

John Othehurst v. John Taylor of Oretton, trespass.

William Blake v John Taylor of Oretton, trespass.

Thomas Corvysor v. John Gybons, debt.

Thomas Corvysor v. William Rede, debt.

Isabell Webbe v. John Taylor,debt.

Henry Coteler v. Richard Bayly, trespass.

William Baker v. John Notyng, debt.

William Baker v. Richard Kyderminster, trespass re ploughing for which 6d is due, he seeks judgment against Kyderminster. William

Baker v. William Basse, trespass.

John Holbache v. William Smyth of Curdworth, debt and trespass.

Attachments. The Head Forester presented that the following were amerced for releasing pigs in the Park which destroyed the vegetation there: Thomas Taylor (12d) Johannes Wyford (6d) Willelmus Kyderminster (2d) Ricardus Mulwarde (12d) Johannes Grendon (12d) Johannes Flynt (12d) Thomas Mason (4d) Willelmus Staleworth (2d) Adoniarus Mason (2d) Hugo Parkere (1 d) Johannes Verney Capellanus (1d) Thomas Othelee (2d)

Continuations.

A day was set for Richard Loresone v. John Read of Minworth, trespass, and Richard Loresone v. Thomas Cappe, debt.

Richard Bayly v. Henry Coteler, trespass, continued, a debt of 20s. acknowledged.

A day set for Robert Huchens v. Agnes Warmeley, debt.

Richard Bayly was amerced Id for absence v. Agnes Warmeley, trespass.

John Grendon, defendant, was excused by legate v. Thomas Mason, trespass, and has until the next court to raise it.

Absentee — John Pentrich amerced 2d v. Agnes Warmeley, debt.

A day set for William Kyderminster v. Margaret Broke, trespass.

William Bulker submitted to the mercy of the court for a concordance with John Pentrich in a plea of trespass.

Further, Matilda Bayly was distrained to answer Ralph Huchens, debt.

William read amerced 2d for a concordance with Thomas Taylor, debt.

John Cappe was again distrained to answer John Othehurst, debt.

Further cases.

Richard Holden one of the Foresters reported that Henry Harries, amerced 12d, collected fruit in the lord's wood and sold it at Coleshill, and John Tracy of Erdington, amerced 4d, had made his hedge too low according to the forest statutes.

Bound over.

Thomas Taylor to show on what terms he holds Hallfield and what right he has to the lideyates there in time for the next court.

John Othehurst to show on what terms he holds a croft called Sa..escroft which he claims is freehold, but the bailiffs have seized as being customary to the lord of the manor, at the next court.

It was reported that Henry Coteler had still not repaired his derelict houses as ordered at the last court, and he is given until the next court to do it on pain of 20s.

The heirs of Baldwin Bereford, the Lord of Newhalle, and Richard Arderne paid the lord fines to be excused from paying suit to the courts until Michaelmas

The executors of Thomas Huchons were given until the next court to show why they should be allowed to build on customary land called Alchons

The executors of Thomas Huchons and the executors of Richard Colet were given until the next court to show why no death-duty heriot had been paid as set out in the previous court.

Affeerers: William Barkere, William Kene, John More and Thomas Othelee.

Total for this View and Court 33s. 5d. Of which 8d costs for enquiries at Birmingham about the missing winnower.

Total of all the courts £4. 2s.½d.