

**Lord of the Manor**  
The Lord Mayor, Commonalty and Citizens  
of the  
City of London  
Since 1327

~  
**Borough founded by King Alfred**  
ca 880 AD

~  
**Southwark Jurors in Domesday Book**  
1086

~  
**Parliamentary Borough**  
1295

~  
**Preserved Legal Jurisdiction**  
*Administration of Justice Act 1977*



## **GUILDABLE MANOR**

Colechurch House, London Bridge Walk, London SE1 2SX  
Registered Address  
020 7394 1271

### **Senior Patrons**

*The High Steward of Southwark*  
HHJ Brian Barker QC  
The Recorder of London

*The High Bailiff of Southwark*  
Charles Henty  
The Secondary of London

*The Acting Queen's Remembrancer*  
Deputy Senior Master John Leslie  
The Cursitor Baron of the Exchequer

*The Recorder of Southwark*  
HHJ Roger Chapple  
The Senior Resident The Sessions House

**Foreman 2013-2014**  
**Leslie Grout**

clerk@guildablemanor.org  
www.guildablemanor.org

*The association of the Jurors of the Court Leet, Exchequer Court and Recorder's Court*



Front Cover Page (top)  
**Borough Recorder's Court 10<sup>th</sup> October 2013**

*The first formal Court was held at Amigo Hall SEL. left - right:*  
Marshal (TS), Clerk of the Court (Michael Cleere), Foreman (MH), HHJ Timothy Pontius (Guest Speaker), The Mayor of Southwark (Cllr Abdul Mohamed),  
The Recorder of Southwark (HHJ Roger Chapple), The Common Cryer (DW) The Deputy Mayor of Southwark (Cllr Sunil Chopra), The Clerk of the Jurors (FT).

Front Cover Page (bottom)  
**The Presentation of the Knollys Rose to the Lord Mayor at Mansion House by the Watermen's Company**  
*The Master Waterman & Lighterman, Bob Prentice, Foreman Leslie and Lord Mayor Fiona at the Reception following the Presentation.*

## The 'Quit Rents' Reception and Luncheon 2014



# Annual Letter 2014

1st October 2014

Dear Jurors,

*As required under Rule 6.1 the following is provided for your information*

## Annual Letter

You have been notified of the High Steward's Precept and by now received your Summons for the November Court Leet. Please find my Letter, the formal Notices, the Agenda\* and abstract of Audited Accounts for the Annual Meeting, which shall take place at that venue at 2.15pm that day, enclosed: This document shall be taken 'as read' at the meeting.

*\*ie draft agenda; members may propose any business before the Meeting for inclusion, or use 'AOB' at the Meeting*

### **The Officers to be Sworn are:-**

- 1: FOREMAN#**
- 2: CONSTABLE\***
- 3: AFEEROR\***
- 4: FLESH TASTER\***
- 5: ALETASTER\***
- 6: ALESIZER †**

### **Tithing\*#<sup>1-6</sup> Sworn Officers**

*by succession and service under Rule 7*

**Ian Luder**  
**Dr Keith Williams**  
**Ted Newman**  
**Robin Sherlock**  
**Judy Tayler-Smith**  
**Adèle Thorpe**

*\*Rule 7.1 † Rule 7.10 # Rule 7.9*

### **Supernumerary and appointed:-**

**ALE CONNERS (St Saviour's and  
St Olave's side) ‡**

**Roger Davis, Mervyn Redding<sup>^</sup>, Lawrence Day +**

**" " All other Officers and Tithingmen**

*‡ Rule 7.9 (^ Wine Steward) (+ Banqueting Steward)*

**CLERK OF THE MANOR ‡**  
**ORATOR ~ CLERK ‡**  
**OUTROPER OR COMMON CRYER ‡ §**

**Tony Sharp (F: 2001-2002)**  
**Peter Gadbury (F: 2000-2001)**  
**David Wilson (F: 2005-2006)**  
*§ Charter of Charles I 1625 ‡ Rule 7.9*

**BEADLES ‡**  
**(St Olave's side)**  
**(St Saviour's side)**

**All Officers and Tithingmen**  
**All Officers and Tithingmen**  
*‡ Rule 7.9*

**TITHINGMEN ‡ ‡ AND  
SERVED FOREMEN**  
*‡ ‡ Rule 3.*

**Peter Gadbury (F: 2000-2001) ‡ ‡**  
**Tony Sharp (F: 2001-2002) ‡ ‡**  
**Dr Ian Wingfield (F: 2002-2003) ‡ ‡**  
**Diane Riley (F: 2004-2005)**  
**David Wilson (F: 2005-2006) ‡ ‡**  
**Cyril Levy (F: 2006-2007)**  
**Prof Frederick Trowman (F: 2007-2008)**

**David Boston (F: 2008-2009)**  
**Ron Leek (F: 2009-2010)**  
**Ian Tough (F: 2010-2011)**  
**Janet Honnoraty (F: 2011-2012) ‡ ‡**  
**Michael Honnoraty (F: 2012-2013)**  
**Leslie Grout (F: 2013-2014)**

**HON AUDITORS §§**

*§§ Notified to Annual Meeting under Rule 8.*

**Dr Ian Wingfield (F: 2002-2003) Janet Honnoraty (F: 2011-2012)**

**HONORARY CHAPLAIN ‡**

**The Right Reverend Dr Michael Igrave OBE, Bishop of Woolwich**

*The three Southwark Courts Leet retain the right to sit for their customary business including "... the appointment of traditional officers" as a limited jurisdiction under the 'Administration of Justice Act 1977; §23 (1)(a) and Sch 4 Pt III'.*

## General

Whenever representing the Manor at a City / Livery event the Foreman is often greeted with almost incredulity by new Masters of Livery (fortunately not by their Clerks nor by the senior dignitaries, the Aldermen, Sheriffs, Lord Mayor etc) and because of this we have produced a small leaflet to hand out explaining our relationship with the City and our history. This has led to further enquiries and even some recruitment as Jurors from that connection.

## Membership and Tenancy

As the Manor membership expands, so does the cost of running it; nor are we quite big enough to benefit from an economy of scale. The costs of holding the Court Leet have risen and the necessity is now that we have to hire larger venues to hold this means our margins are squeezed. The Tithing was expecting a major loss of membership, especially among those Jurors who had not been attending functions for some years. For some time the Tithing has expected a fall in the number of Jurors

due to the state of the economy on members spending powers, this year we stabilised and recovered from last year's major loss of Jurors. Nevertheless we admitted some **nineteen** new members this year. We are grateful that this year we have recruited five Livery Masters, persons who are either within their Mastership year, about to take it up or are about to retire. This we believe indicates the Manor's growing status amongst the Livery. However, we must note especially the generous behaviour of **Ald Ian Luder (LM 2008-09)** who has agreed to fill the vacancy of Foreman for the year ensuing mine, arising from an unexpected resignation from the Tithing a while ago. We are especially gratified as he is also undertaking these duties whilst Master Art Scholar 2014-15. Ian has been a discreet but firm supporter of the Manor since before his period as Sheriff and Lord Mayor and was instrumental in assuring due recognition of the Manor's role when as LM he held a celebration of 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Colechurch London Bridge with a special combined Liveries event a 'Fayre' on the present bridge.

There are now **100 Jurors**, again and we expect a number of new members before Christmas to take us back to over the 100 figure in the New Year. Nevertheless some of the resignees still attend our events as the partners of the remaining 'family' Juror. This membership gives us the critical mass to support functions. **The Tithing would nevertheless request that you actively recruit suitable persons to become Jurors**, especially if they are unlikely to become Liverymen but are attracted to the City's traditions, and of course we offer the unique combination of the Southwark arrangements to propose them for the Freedom and to celebrate its receipt at View of Frankpledge and Quit Rents. Of course active Liverymen are very welcome. We have some very senior City representatives at these events, who have indicated that they are most impressed with the ceremonial aspects and conviviality. A general rise in costs for functions over the last two years may be reflected in the subscriptions for these events. The Tithing is mindful that charges have to be levied at a rate that keeps them attractive for the members.

#### Why are Manor members 'Tenants' and 'Jurors'?

**The qualification for 'Listing for Summons' to the Court Leet is being a Tenant in the Manor. In late July the High Bailiff confirms the date of the Court Leet and asks for a list of those qualified (bona fide Tenants) from the Clerk. The Clerk sends the members list of that date to the City Surveyor's Dept (the landlord) with a note to say that all named are liable under the terms of our Lease at Colechurch House; that legal status is a 'tenancy'. The List is then as such sent to the Old Bailey.**

**However, in the interim period between members joining the Manor and the Court at which one becomes a 'Sworn Juror', they are referred to as just 'Tenants' and this slight difference is similar to the distinction in the City Livery Companies where one is firstly a 'Freeman' of the company and then are 'en clothed' in the Livery as a full member.**

*Note by The Clerk*

**Events and Functions of the last year** Before taking Office I participated in the Sheep Drive of the Woolmens' Company in September 2013, the Manor's formal welcome to the Sheriffs and Livery Masters was well received and we shared in their national Press coverage.

**Court Leet 2013** Our most important event of the year was held on **13th November 2013** when I was sworn in as Foreman in the **Amigo Hall, St George's RC Cathedral, Southwark**. The Court and Lunch was attended by **70 Jurors and Guests**, including the Old Bailey team; we said formal 'welcome' to our new High Steward, Brian Barker QC who is a Southwark resident. A slight fall in Jurors attending was disappointing and still in decline despite our stabilisation of membership (47, down from 48 last year and 59 in 2010). Judy Tayler-Smith and Mervyn Redding were Sworn as new Officers but Robin Sherlock was recovering from surgery and could not attend. Five were proposed for the Freedom.

**Borough Pickwick Club** The Tithing's decision to hold a New Year event, in lieu of one at Christmas, the Tithing and Jurors 'posing as' **The Borough Pickwick Club**, was regarded as a success and to be repeated again in future years. This again took place at our old regular venue of **The London Bridge Hotel on 13<sup>th</sup> January**. The evening of very light entertainment, short readings from the master story writer, but most importantly fellowship and good company involving a Southwark theme. There were 32 members and guests. However, the format was agreed as most entertaining and suitable so that the Tithing has agreed this is to become an annual event. Hopefully, it shall follow the success route of higher attendances and shall outgrow the London Bridge Hotel in due course.

**Quit Rents and Court of Exchequer** The combined Thanksgiving Service and Quit Rents Ceremony was held on **13<sup>th</sup> March**, for new Freeman, Members and Guests. We first assembled at the **Chamberlain's Court**, where six Jurors took the oath. This is less than half as in previous years and reflects both the recession and the decline in recruitment of new Jurors. Once again the Service was held at our guild-church **St George the Martyr, Borough High Street** conducted by our The Venerable Dr Jane Steen, **Arch Deacon of Southwark**. The Ceremony followed. The Deputy Senior Master John Leslie, the **Acting Queen's Remembrancer**, received the Quit Rents on behalf of the Crown from us (on behalf of the City). For this purpose he instituted the **Court of Exchequer** to which the Southwark Jurors were Summoned. This is one of only four City ceremonies in which he participates; the others being the Trial of the Pyx, the presentation of the Sheriffs and the presentation of the Lord Mayor I then hosted a Luncheon at the St George's Hall, luncheon prepared by **Masters Catering**. Some **81 Jurors and their guests** attended, a recovery of attendance to previous levels after a decline. Our civic brethren and guests included the Masters and Clerks of the Actuaries, the Tax Advisers, the Watermen & Lightermen, The

Fire Fighters and their partners and other leading City personages who all expressed their appreciation of the entire event. One of our practices, which has been remarked upon by visiting livery, is the reading by our new freemen of passages from *Some Rules from the Conduct of Life* ('the little red book') at the luncheon. Apparently, visiting livery are much taken with it and have indicated they are to adopt it within their own companies. The Tithing regard the arrangement for this event at St George the Martyr as most suitable, enabling Service, Ceremony and feast to be held at the same convenient and most historic venue.

**The History Tour of the Borough** The annual guided walk was held on Saturday **12<sup>th</sup> April** conducted by our Clerk, Tony Sharp, and started at Borough Tube Station and finished at The Mudlark, Montague Close where we had excellent individual lunches and drinks. Fifteen attended. These tours are probably the most convenient and accessible way to understand the fascinating history of the Manors. The Clerk is prepared to organise additional tours for members at any convenient time along the same format, he makes no charge for this.

The Foreman and Tithing hosted a **Breakfast, Reception and Lecture with Terry Waite**, on the morning of **15<sup>th</sup> April**, for the entire Livery represented by their **Masters and Clerks**, some 70 guests attending representing **some 30 Companies** and also in attendance was Mr Sheriff Waddingham. The Event was co-hosted with **Roast-Restaurant** at the Borough Market. Terry gave a talk on the activities of his charity **Y-Care International** and a few of the Livery gave immediate offers of support. It is hoped to repeat this in 2015. Reactions from the Companies to this event was to great it as a great success. NOTE – This was a sponsored event and was not open to the Jurors.

**Justices and Jurors Dinner: Spring Banquet** This is now one of our most prestigious events and combines our status as threefold, a legal body, a City and a Southwark institution. Although Southwark was the historic home of many courts and their jurisdiction prisons, The King's Bench and the Marshalsea, the Borough Compter, the White Lion, the Clink, the Surrey County gaols and our own Court House and the Union Hall, it is still today the home borough of three Crown Courts and its Coroner's and the Camberwell Green Magistrates Courts; Note 'court Districts' not mere court rooms or houses. It is hard to find any other borough with more than one of these. Uniquely, therefore I presided at a function to entertain and inform, our double mission, the several Senior Residing Justices of the Southwark courthouses. This year's lecture and dinner was held on **7<sup>th</sup> May** at St George the Martyr Church. Apart from our own **High Steward, Brian Barker QC** the Recorder of London, our guests included **HHJ Nigel Seed QC** for ILCC and **Geraint Evans Chief Clerk of the RCJ**, one of the 'partners' of senior guests was THE rT rEV Christopher Chessum, Bishop of Southwark who made up an interesting pairing with our own Hon Chaplain Bishop Michael.. Attendance was badly affected by an announced Underground Strike which in fact did not go ahead. The status of this event is without parallel, not even the City Corporation itself could do this as a formal function and with the list of speakers that we have had thus far has its own pre-eminence on the legal circuit. It was fitting therefore that the speaker was the **Chancellor of the High Court, Sir Terence Etherton**, who spoke on the criminal law's effect on sexual orientation over the years..

**The Rochester Visit** has now become a regular feature of our year, hosted by our sister FEW Guild, The Rochester Oyster and Floating Fishery, held on **Saturday/ Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> July**. This is a working guild and company of fisherman and has statutory rights of Presentment at the said court which is presided over by the Admiral of the Medway the Mayor of Medway borough with a group of six robed Councillors forming the Admiralty Court. The day started with the Admiralty Court held in the beautiful Guildhall. The Manor Officers were also permitted to convey the **Greetings of the Rt Hon the Lord Mayor Fiona Woolf** to the Mayor, Cllr Barry Kemp, the Court and Freemen of the Medway. We then processed the Mayor of Medway from the Guildhall to the river and then took to boats for beating the bounds to Hawkwood Stone and ended with an entertaining luncheon at the Rochester Cruising Club. Once again, this year we were provided by the **City of London Port Health Authority** with the **Lady Aileen 50ft launch** for both days of the event which enabled us to provide places aboard for up to 10. We are extremely grateful for the warm hospitality extended to the Manor by the Rochester guild, the Cruising Club and Mayor of Medway every year at this event. This event is by invitation to the Manor Officers and therefore as guests ourselves we cannot invite Manor members on a subscription basis.

The **'Bridge House-Yard Lecture & Dinner'**, was held on **17<sup>th</sup> September** at our now regular venue the Hall of St George the Martyr, Borough High Street. The **Chief Commoner, John Bennett**; the Director of the Port Health Authority **Jon Averns** an old friend of the Tithing as he attends with us the Rochester event, the City Launch being part of his many responsibilities. Our sister guild of the Watermen & Lightermen's Master This dinner is always preceded by a Lecture on the history of the Borough or of Greater London. This year the lecturer was **Dr Chris Constable the London Borough of Southwark's Archaeological Officer** who gave us a 'round up' of the more significant discoveries around the area of Guildable Manor Street! **Sixty Nine Jurors** and guests attended again as last year to the high levels we had up to 2008.

The Tithing would urge all of the members to try and come to these functions with friends, partners and paying guests. Those of you who are **Liverymen** who intend to sponsor persons for the Freedom by Redemption without the intervention of a Livery Company are urged to consider making use of the **View of Frankpledge** and **Thanksgiving Service and Quit Rents Ceremony** events to be proposed for and celebrate the receipt of the Freedom in a suitable commemorative and dignified way.

Invitations to Guilds, Livery functions etc Throughout the year either myself, an Officer, or the Clerk represented the Manor as invited guests at Livery and City events. My year as Foreman got off to a flying start two weeks before I was

Sworn In, in that I was invited by **the Governors of Charterhouse and Museum of London to a joint exhibition** and reception on the history of City Philanthropy **hosted by the Lord Mayor**. Immediately following the Court Leet in the evening I attended **the Worshipful Company of Actuaries Annual Lecture and Dinner for all the Livery Masters**. This is always held in the delightful Hall of Staple Inn on High Holborn and has become a regular invitation to the Foreman. The Lecture was given by Sir Philip Craven MBE, President of the International Paralympic Committee telling us of his involvement with the Olympic Year and future Olympiads. On the evening of 23 January I attended the Mansion House for **the Lord Mayor's Charity Leaders' Programme lecture by Sir Ronald Cohen** the philanthopist followed by a Reception, moving among not just the Livery Masters but many other business and community leaders. On 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb I attended the **Iron Bridge Museum Trust** Livery Reception at Insurers Hall, the annual visit by Livery to the museum is very well attended and it is usually when the 'Year's Past Masters Association' is formed. The Manor's principal regular charity due to our status as a Court is the **Sheriffs' & Recorder's Fund** which organised an evening's entertainment, on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, for the Livery and Guilds to which we were invited. This was called '**Trial and Error**' The play performed by members of the Judiciary, barristers and willing legal thespians gave us an insight and very humorous peek in to some of the most famous and infamous trials of 400 years of Newgate and the Old Bailey. Each separate trial was sponsored by a Livery Company: Lady Chatterley's Lover by the Feltmakers and Fagin's Last night by the Tax Advisers to name just two. **The Pewter Live Exhibition** was held at Pewterers Hall for a week of displays of the craftsmanship and artwork in this material, one item was a scaled replica of a Spitfire wing, as a desk! A Special Preview and Reception for the Livery and Guilds Masters was held on the 21<sup>st</sup> May.

Monday 23 June I was official guest at '**The Presentation of the Rose**'. **The Company of Watermen and Lightermen** of the Thames went to a garden in the City of London and plucked a Rose flower and took it to the Mansion House. We processed with the Master and Wardens of that company led by the Dogget's Men carrying their oars to give it to The Lord Mayor who accepted it. The ceremony dates from 1381. Incidentally, the Manor is the only Guild/ Livery guest at this event and deepens our relationship with the Watermen along with our attendance at Doggett's Wager. The Lord Mayor gave us a Reception which set us up for the Company's pre Lunch Reception at the Watermans' Hall.

**The Drapers Company** celebrated 650 years of their first Charter with an Exhibition regarding their educational charitable activities and Reception 4<sup>th</sup> July attended by most of the Livery Masters and myself.

**On 7<sup>th</sup> July I had a 'full day' at the Old Bailey as I was given lunch by the Sheriffs** and that evening was held the **Sheriffs' & Recorder's Fund AGM**. When the Manor began attending the AGM of the Fund we were one of very few City institutions, guilds, livery or ward clubs, to support it; over the last two years the Reception has become a major event attended by about half of the Livery Masters.

As mentioned above I had already attended at the **Actuaries Hall at Staple Inn** for their annual dinner for Masters their Guest Speaker was **Donald Brydon CBE**, Chairman of Royal Mail Group. On 8 January our Clerk was a guest at the **Plaisterers Company's** annual Clerk's Dinner. In February I attended the **World Traders annual Tacitus Lecture and Reception at Guildhall**. **The Tax Advisers** held their annual charity and prizes luncheon at Founders Hall on 26th June, **the Master, John Dewhurst, is one of our Jurors** but the representative of the **Cadet Forces** receiving the awards was also our **fellow Juror Nick Williams!!** On 28<sup>th</sup> June I was present the **Royal Hospital Chelsea for a Solemn Drumhead Service of Remembrance** to commemorate the volunteers of WWI held by the RFCA in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen with most of the Livery Masters attending. The Watermen's **Doggett's Coat and Badge Wager was held on 15<sup>th</sup> July**. Indeed, I was the principal guest of honour of the Master on the Cruise and Luncheon because like the Watermen we are not a Livery (the Livery are entertained by the Fishmongers). Further invitations:-**Royal Society of St George City Branch Summer Reception** 21<sup>st</sup> July at the Royal College of Physicians. The Livery **City University and Cass Business School Lectures** are an opportunity to meet informally a very wide selection of Masters and Clerks. We are, due to our location, members of the **London Bridge Business Improvement District** and this affords an opportunity for networking and promoting the Manor among the local business community, which includes the international HQs of many major corporations. There was a Livery Masters invitation to visit **The Grange** in Bookham Surrey a specialist centre to train those with Learning Difficulties in various arts and crafts. on 24<sup>th</sup> September. After this report goes to print for distribution to the Jurors I shall with other Officers, on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October once again **Greeted the Master Woolman at their now Annual Sheep Drive** and SF Mike Honnoraty can be seen on the front cover of this Annual Letter doing so last year. On the 9<sup>th</sup> October I shall attend with the Clerk the new **Sheriffs' Quit Rents ceremony** at the RCJ as a guest of the Queen's Remembrancer, this is now a regular invitation to the Foreman and Clerk. Finally along with the rest of the Livery Masters and Clerks we attended the Worshipful Co of **Painter Stainers Reception and Exhibition 'Art in the City'** at their Hall on 15<sup>th</sup> October. **Wider afield:- The Court Leet and Court Baron of the Manor of Bromsgrove Spring Court of Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** two Served Foremen of the Guidable Manor, Janet and Michael Honnoraty, were invited to represent Southwark by the **Reeve of Bromsgrove Court Leet, Manor Juror Hamish Wilson** and the Bailiff of the Court, Richard Harper. The Court was held in the beautifully re-built and restored Guesten Hall, a magnificent building with a 14th century Grade II listed roof. The proceedings followed the historic and little changed formula as closely as possible and the Agenda included an interesting item headed "Report on Heriots", the customary tribute, of goods or chattels to the Lord of the Manor as a fee paid on the decease of a tenant (or Juror). Bromsgrove Court Leet now has three lady Jurors, for the first time in its history, and it continues to be a very prominent organisation within the town. At the conclusion of the formal Court a delicious dinner was served and enjoyed by all. SFs Janet and Michael Honnoraty also represented the Manor at **Bromsgrove Court**

**Leet Ale Tasting** on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September **and** shall also be representing the Manor at their Bailiff's Dinner that will be held on 7th November

**Finances and Audit of Accounts** With this letter you will find a copy of the abstract of the Audited Accounts which are placed before the Annual Meeting. As you can see, above, the Tithing has chosen Janet Honnoraty and Ian Wingfield to undertake these duties from next year. Authority over expenditure on goods and services is exercised by the Tithing and the Tithingmen.

**Banking and Audit Procedure:** - All Expenditure is approved by the Tithing under general administration or as special purchases; the Tithing also receives Banquet Budget Reports from the Clerk at their meetings to monitor. Cheques / Payments are raised by the Treasurer on request of the Clerk, backed by an Invoice/ Receipt. All Income Pro Forms for goods/ services/ banqueting are retained and payments banked by the Clerk. Receipts and Pro Forms are attached to a narrative Memo by the Clerk and are given to the Auditors at the next Tithing Meeting, along with Bank Statements, with any used Pay-In and Cheque Books, to check off. The full narrative is also given on the Income and Expenditure report. The Auditors receive all other Pay-In and Cheque Books at end of FY to complete the account, balances and Income and Expenditure report, with the Treasurer and Clerk. The abstract of the Accounts are approved by the Auditors as attached to the Annual Letter.

*Note by the Auditors*

The **Tenancy Fee Account** has to carry the costs of communications, the Tenancy Fee and sundry other items which the membership as a whole ought in fairness to carry, such as funding the costs associated with the **Court Days and** entertaining our official guests. However, at the last Tithingmen's meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> September the accounts and expenditures were reviewed and **it was considered prudential to increase the Tenancy Fee to £55.00 for 2014-15.**

**Merchandise & General Account.** Originally this account generated major surpluses by sales to third parties and was our principal subsidy when the Manor was expanding its activities and before we could recruit a 'critical mass' of support to events and membership. These 'customers' have now declined due to the recession and now the account's activity was mainly of expenditure and stock purchase. The value of the stock is written down as nominal on purchase as it is acquired as a much larger order the cost of which is covered on the initial part sale. The value of the stock is realised as full profit at sales. The prices for Guildable Manor Merchandise for our own members are deliberately set at below High Street rates to encourage membership identity, in most cases they are priced at a little above cost. These items are of exceptional quality and value.

A query was made as to why the Manor's colours are Red and Silver. The Lord of the Manor of Southwark is the Corporation of London and its heraldic tinctures are *Gules* and *Argent* - we therefore wear the City's 'livery'. However, as the Borough Court we wear blue shell gowns with green and 'gold' facings, which are the LBo Southwark heraldic colours.

**Banqueting Account.** With the combination of attenders and reasonably priced caterers this account again realises modest surpluses, which are applied to charity. Event subscriptions are closely budgetted to attract support. All of our major functions follow a format of an Event, be it ceremonial or a talk or other entertainment, a good quality meal at excellent prices with drink, usually with excellent company and official guests. This is a sensible mixture of formal and informal. No Livery Company can offer this value and no City Ward Club has this level of civic status and pomp. I would ask all members to bring guests with a prospect of joining a unique institution as an introduction to the rich heritage of both the City of London and Southwark.

**Charitable Donations (Banqueting Account)** The Tithing, in accordance with last year's Annual Meeting made further contributions to charitable objects, many of these were laying in long-term 'goodwill' with various institutions to develop better relationships. Some payments for venue hire are treated as 'gifts' as that is the way the relevant institution prefers this to be regarded. In fact despite a certain decline in attendances to certain functions in the year we have largely maintained our charitable donations. The Tithing of Officers shall vary these amounts as to what is a prudent disbursement in regard to the balance of the Accounts.

## Queries

**If any one has any questions arising out of this Letter, the Accounts or from the Minutes of the last General Meeting, (previously distributed and reproduced below) the point of circulating these in advance is to ask you to give me Notice, in reasonable time before the meeting, so that a detailed answer can be prepared and made at the Annual Meeting at which these documents shall be taken 'as read'. Any AOB questions at the meeting shall be dealt with in full in writing after the meeting. Likewise, at any other time during the year, if members have any queries of, or want to make suggestions to, the Tithing then a note about these shall receive a detailed and considered reply.**

Yours sincerely,



**Leslie Grout, For and on behalf of the Tithing of the Guildable Manor.**

# THE COURT LEET OF THE GUILDABLE MANOR OF SOUTHWARK

The names of the Free Tenant Burgesses summonsed to attend as Jurors of the said Manor at  
St George the Martyr Church Nave, Southwark SE1  
on Wednesday the 12th day of November 2014 at 3.20pm.

Leslie Alden	Lorraine Davis	Leslie Grout	Martin King	Diane Riley	Dr Graham Turnock
Roy Alston	Roger Davis	James Gurling	Jean-Yves Kirkbuddo	Colin Sach	Bryan Whalley
Jeremy Barrett	Lawrence Day	Leigh Hatts	Ron Leek	Karen Sankey	Jane Williams
Leoniza Barrett	Roger D'elia	Nicholas Havell	Cyril Levy	Tony Sharp	Dr Keith Williams
Lee Bartlett	John Dewhurst	Susan Haydock	Ian Luder	Robin Sherlock	Nicholas Williams
Tim Benjamin	Daniel Doherty	Hilary Haydon	Simon McIlwaine	Lynn Smith	David Wilson
Beryl Boulton	William Donovan	David Henderson	Peter Miles	Nicholas Somers	Hamish Wilson
David Boston	Edward Errington	Lesley Henderson	Edward Newman	Graham Sutherland	Mary Wilson
Dr Trevor Brignall	John Freeman	Richard Hollier	Stephen Nimmons	Michael Stewart	Dr Ian Wingfield
Christine Byron	Dr Richard Fynes	Janet Honnoraty	Bryan Page	Dr Alexandra Tansey	Norman Winnett
Edward Byron	Peter Gadbury	Michael Honnoraty	Jeffrey J Penny	Judy Tayler-Smith	Patricia Winnett
Valerie Carroll	Kathleen Gill	P Josephine Huggins	Paul Phillips	Peter Thompson	William Whitfield
Andrea Coore	Benjamin Gillam	Jill Jacobs	Jill Philips	Adele Thorpe	Sir David Wootton
Paul Crisp	Dr Charlotte Grezo	Edward Jansz	John Philips	Ian Tough	Michael Wren
Norman Dale	John Garbutt	Donna Joscelyne	Simonie Prior	Peter Townsend	Tim Wright
Richard Darby	Norma Gibbes	Patrick Joyce	Mervyn Redding	Prof Frederick Trowman	100
Gillian Davies	Adrian Greenwood	Dominic Kelsey	Peter Rees	Christopher Trye	

## AGENDA FOR ANNUAL MEETING, ON THE ABOVE DATE AND VENUE at 2.15pm

- 1.i) To Accept the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of 13th November 2013 as a Correct Record.
- ii) Matters Arising.
- 2.i) To Accept the Annual Letter as Circulated.
- ii) Matters Arising.
- 3.i) To Receive the Abstract of the Audited Accounts as Circulated.
- ii) Matters Arising.
- 4.) i) Votes of Thanks, proposed by the Foreman.
- 6) Any Other Business.

## MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING: WEDNESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2013 at 2.15pm held at The Amigo Hall, St George's RC Cathedral, Southwark, London SE1,

### 1.i) Attendance:

David Boston, Valerie Carroll, Paul Crisp,, Roger Davis, Dr Richard Fynes, Peter Gadbury, John Garbutt, Adrian Greenwood, Leslie Grout, Leigh Hatts, Susan Haydock, Hilary Haydon, Janet Honnoraty, Michael Honnoraty, P Josephine Huggins, Jean-Yves Kirkbuddo, Ron Leek, Cyril Levy, Douglas Lewins, Edward Newman, Bryan Page, Makia Pai, Jeffrey Penny, Paul Phillips, Jill Philips, John Philips, Mervyn Redding,, Diane Riley, Colin Sach, Tony Sharp, Lynn Smith, Graham Sutherland, Dr Alexandra Tansey, Judy Tayler-Smith, Adele Thorpe, Ian Tough, Prof Frederick Trowman, Dr Graham Turnock, Bryan Whalley, William Whitfield, Dr Keith Williams, Hamish Wilson, Mary Wilson, Dr Ian Wingfield, Norman Winnett, Patricia Winnett,.

- 2.i) To Accept the Minutes of the Annual Meeting: Wednesday 14th November 2012 at 2.15pm held at The Amigo Hall, London SE1  
as a Correct Record.  
Agreed Nem Com
- ii) Matters Arising. None.

- 3 i) To Accept the Annual Letter as Circulated.  
Agreed Nem Com

- ii) Matters Arising: a) In regard to the reference to the Tenancy Fee rate, the reference to the year and level of increase was incorrect and it was confirmed that it should have read "for 2013-14" and the rate remains at £50.00.  
b) It is was Notified that Robin Sherlock would not be Sworn this day as absent due to ill-health; he will therefore be Listed as Supernumerary and his progression shall be reviewed next year.

- 4.i) To Receive the Audited Accounts as Circulated.  
Agreed Nem Com.
- ii) Matters Arising. None

5.) Votes of Thanks, proposed by the Foreman. The Foreman thanked all of the Officers for their support over the last year and also the Jurors for attending functions.

- 6.) Any Other Business:- None.

END.





## GVILDABLE MANOR

### *What has Southwark to do with the City?*

#### *A Summons from the 'Old Bailey'*

**“Juror of the Town and Borough of Southwark ‘Guildable Manor’:** *You are hereby summoned to appear personally before the High Steward of the said Manor, at a Court Leet and View of Frankpledge with the Court Baron of the Mayor and Commonality and Citizens of the City of London to be held at (a venue and date/ time) then and there to serve as a Juror of the said Court. Hereof you are not to fail on pain of amerciamment. High Bailiff”*

Since the Georgian era the **High Steward of Southwark** has usually been a supplementary office of the **Recorder of London** (the senior judge of the Central Criminal Court at Old Bailey), with the **High Bailiff of Southwark** being an additional office of the **Under Sheriff & Secondary of London** (the senior officer of that Court). This arrangement of the City’s Law Officers Swearing the Jurors (‘freemen’) and Foreman and Tithing (‘Master and Wardens’) is unique in the City, unlike the Liveries and guilds which Swear their own Freemen and Courts of Assistants. The City’s authority in Southwark in relation to its manors there dates from 1327, considerably pre-dating most of the livery companies foundations. The City supported Isabella and Mortimer’s revolt against Edward II and jurisdiction over Southwark was one of its rewarded and privileges for that. However, it is the Manor’s officers which conduct all ceremonial in the Borough and not (as in the City) the Guildhall officials.

**Procedure;** The Court is assembled, the Jurors are sworn in and they name their Foreman and he names a Constable, an Affeeror, a Flesh Taster and Ale Conners, who take their oaths. The Affeeror, a-fee-rs ie prices the fines; the Ale Conners and the Flesh Taster are appointed to test the quality and measure of beers and meats, ie check weights and measures. The High Bailiff then reads the Riot Act, from an original King’s Printers Copy without which it has no proclamatory validity. After this the Foreman states any ‘presentments’, ie the cases he wishes to present. There have been none since the early Victorian period. The High Steward then delivers his ‘charge’ to the Jury, a talk on some historical matter or an issue of some current legal concern and controversy. The Court then adjourns to allow the Jurors to continue in a convivial way entertaining their guests and the Old Bailey officers to a festive meal.

#### **The Courts Leet of the Ancient Manors of Southwark**

The members of the ‘Guildable Manor’ are the Free Tenants or Burgesses of the ‘Town and Borough of Southwark’. The original *burh* of Southwark (*fuðringa geþeorce*) was founded by **Alfred the Great** ca 879-880 as part of a system of 33 forts to defend the kingdom of Wessex from the Vikings. As the ruins of ‘Londinium’ where at that time occupied by a Viking army and not settled by Alfred until 886 then Southwark was a ‘borough’ before the ‘City of London’ was so. These forts had become by the late tenth century settlements and towns in which there were markets, tradesmen/ craftsmen and a mint. The denizens had certain rights within the feudal system which meant they were ‘free’ of manorial obligations, indeed they began to exercise within their settlements what were effectively manorial rights of a ‘lord’. Apart from trade and administrative control the ‘freemen’ or burgesses (*burh* members) also dispensed local justice and this too grew from an early Anglo-Saxon procedure of the *frith-borh*. This was the ‘peace-oath’, which required all freemen to pledge by oath to uphold the peace of the realm. They did this by binding each other in mutual cogniscence, usually in an assembly of a tenth part, a ‘tything’, of a ‘hundred’ (a subdivision of a shire with a taxable value of a hundred hides). This procedure is prefigured in King Alfred’s law codes by an arrangement called the *gegilden* and references to tenth century *‘frith gilds’*.

#### **Domesday**

The clearest proof of the ancient status of the Southwark free-tenants is their first written appearance; this is in *Domesday Book* compiled in 1086 for William I ‘the Conqueror’. This was a national record of account to list what was owed to the king by his tenants in chief, his fellow Norman conquerors and the senior Prelates of the Church, whom were the greatest landholders. These in turn had sub-let to others, so that ownership and duties, either food-rents or military services, had become confused as to who owed them, the tenant in chief or the under-tenant. The king therefore sent his commissioners across the nation to interrogate these to provide evidences, they also asked the king’s local agent in the shires or counties to confirm these statements, the ‘shire-reeves’. These sheriffs could not know everything, but they could ask the local freemen on oath to announce their opinion of this information. The point is that the freemen could express the truth in the knowledge of royal protection from the wrath of local magnates. In the sections of *Domesday Book* in regard to our manor, the ‘Men of Southwark’ are shown as doing this. **In 1295 the first Parliament** to summons representatives of the shires and boroughs, included two Members from Southwark elected by the burgesses..



Map of Southwark - shaded area is the Guildable Manor

## Jurors of Southwark

Breaches of the peace were dealt with by mutual sanction, ie the freemen had to deliver a miscreant as summonsed to a court of justice, usually that of a sheriff or deputy. The hearing of a court involved witnesses, accused and neutrals; that arrangement is the foundation of trial by jury. Only freemen could give an oath (anyone who was a bondsman of another would be unable to do so) and so only freemen could form the jury. If the accused did not appear, the remaining members could swear an oath to the effect that they had no hand in the escape of the summoned man. If they did not swear this oath before the court, the tything would be held responsible for the deeds of the fugitive, and would be held collectively responsible and pay any fines for the offender's actions.

Therefore, the peace-pledge is the freemen's-pledge and the Norman French word for Freeman was 'frank'. The '**View of Frankpledge**' is the mutually cogniscent oath of the freemen to uphold the king's peace. That is therefore a royal or national law court held at local level, shire, borough or manor. The other court of a manor is the Court Baron, ie of the lord of the manor or land-lord to whom complaints and proofs of tenurial obligations on his land would be made. This was a strictly local customary matter, but a 'civil' court of first instance. As both Court Baron and View were assemblies at which freemen would be involved (free-tenants of a manor held property by 'burgage' ie money-rent, not labour-rent as bondage) it was a simple step to regard these courts as the same assembly but dealing with either local 'civil' matters or 'national' criminal concerns. English law was 'common' ie nationally similar.

## Manor Officers

Manors were jurisdictions to themselves before the development of local councils and the modern justice system. The Lord of the Manor required that the tenants under him should form a group to put offenders against the peace to trial and appoint representative officers under the Foremen. They in turn used this assembly, the **Court Leet**, as the forum for them to make complaints to the landlord, to pay their rent/ rates, to hold inquests and to maintain the Peace by enforcing their judgments, hence the role of **Constable**. The taking of fines and other fees was the duty of the **Affeeror**. The Jury combined the roles of weights and measures inspectors by appointing some of their fellows to check on local traders and the fitness of the goods they sold, thus the appointment of **Ale-Conners** and **Flesh Tasters**. Like all juries the person who delivered, or 'presented' the verdict to the lord was the **Foreman**.

## The City acquires the two other Southwark Manors: Charter of 1550



The Manor Officers process the Foreman, High Steward and High Bailiff & other City justices to the Court House, ca 1695

Despite taking charge of the *burh* the original problem of legal control had not been effective, especially as the built up area and population grew around the original settlement. The City was constantly trying to get the other authorities in Southwark to co-operate with it to ensure effective policing and due process. The City therefore decided to acquire the two neighbouring manors next to the Guildable. The opportunity arose consequent on Henry VIII's Reformation which abolished the privileges of the monasteries. **Edward VI's** guardians agreed to part with the Crown's interest.

The charter is dated **23rd April 1550**. These properties are now informally known as the **Great Liberty** and the **King's Manor** (the words "Liberty" and "Manor" are interchangeable).

The City also created an additional Alderman to have special jurisdiction over these officials and declared the area as a Ward of the City which for that purpose was called "**Ward of Bridge Without**". Aldermen of the City have always been elected, either 'once for life' or nowadays for six years. However, the incumbent of the new Ward was anomalous in that he was not elected by the local tenants and freemen but appointed by the Court of Alderman. As the Recorder~High Steward was also appointed by the Court of Aldermen this meant Southwark had two associates on that body neither of whom were ever elected within the Ward. There were never any Common Councilmen for the Ward, the Courts Leet fulfilled that representative function. The three Southwark Courts Leet retain the right to sit for their customary business including "...the appointment of traditional officers" as a limited jurisdiction under the 'Administration of Justice Act 1977; §23 (1)(b) and Sch 4 Pt III'.

# The 'Quit Rents' Reception and Luncheon 2014



# Quit Rents Ceremony 2014



Procession



The venue



Reading of the Charter of 1327



Constable and Afeeror



Acting Queen's Remembrancer and Senior Clerk



Foreman Quits the 1327 Rent "One"



"Eleven"



Assessing the First Quit



Rendering the Quit of 1550



Constable and Afeeror awaiting Assessment

*The City of London's jurisdiction in the original burgh of Southwark 'alias Guildable Manor' stems from the Charter of Edward III of 1327. This was granted to the City for its support of Queen Isabella and Earl Mortimer's overthrow of her husband Edward II to replace him with the young heir to the throne. The Charter stipulates that the 'farm', ie rental, of the borough is to be paid yearly to the Exchequer for the sum 'accustomed' which is £11.00, in fact eleven pounds of silver pennies at that time but now represented by forty four Crown pieces. The second part of the ceremony represents the purchase price of the other two manors of Southwark that the City acquired from Edward VI's government in 1550. The Southwark manors are in fact jurisdictions rather than guilds and so their members are Jurymen of the courts. To this end one of the last Courts of Exchequer to be constituted under its judge, the Queen's Remembrancer (the Senior Master of the Superior Courts), receives the Quit Rents on behalf of the Crown. Each year it is the Southwark Foreman and Officers who ensure that the City's obligations to the Crown are fulfilled and the Lord Mayor and Commonalty's rights and jurisdiction maintained at this ceremony which underpins the Court Leet. The practical payment is in fact still made by the City's regular disbursements by the City's Chamberlain and it is his Court Clerk who attends as a Guildhall witness to the rendering of the rents.*

*Floreat Villa et Burgus de Southwarke*