

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 Nicholas Hillyard QC
The Recorder of London

The High Bailiff of Southwark
Charles Henty
The Secondary of London

The Queen's Remembrancer
Senior Master Barbara Fontaine
The Cursitor Baron of the Exchequer

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

Foreman
Ian Luder

clerk@guildablemanor.org
www.guildablemanor.org

The association of the Jurors of the Court Leet, Exchequer Court and Borough Court



HHJ Nicholas Hilliard QC takes the Oath of High Steward of Southwark prior to the Bridge House Yard Lecture 2015



at left
Foreman Ian presents The High Steward
with his Seal and Badge of Office as High
Steward

at right
Peter Moore, Director Pre-Construct
Archaeology gives his illustrated talk on the
medieval finds at
Borough High Street



Ceremonies and Receptions of the Year

l - r and t - b :- BHYD

Foreman Ian addresses the Jurors; Peter G and Keith W greet Chief Commoner Billy Dove; Cllr Clío Sones; Col Elizabeth Coles; Keith W and Bishop Michael; Jr Nic 2 Arts Scholars !; Jr Charlotte and Alex; Jr Brian, long serving!; Constable Keith and guests; Jr Michael and Master Peter; Served F'men Ians flanking David; Col Elizabeth, Cdt Ft Sgt Paige, Sqdn Ldr Kevin; Ale Taster Judy T-S, Ald Vincent, Simon T-S; Jr Nic and Ald Peter with Con Keith; Ale Sizer Adele with Jurors and Past Masters Michael, James V and not forgetting Rosemary V.



Annual Letter 2015

1st October 2015

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. On 18th September the Tithingmen scrutinised applications for and attendances and suitability of the Sworn and Supernumerary Officers and elected the following to serve in the relevant positions as per the indicated Rules:-

**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 †**

Supernumerary and appointed:-

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

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

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

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

HON AUDITORS §§
§§ Notified to Annual Meeting under Rule 8.
HON TITHINGMEN ‡ Rule 7.9

HONORARY CHAPLAIN ‡ Rule 7.9 The Right Reverend Dr Michael Ipgrave 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. The text and illustrations of this leaflet is reproduced at the back part of this Letter. This has led to further enquiries and even some recruitment as Jurors from that connection. Ineed also mention that Juror Dr Christine rigden was elected a Sheriff for 2015-16 and is the first current Juror to have been so for as long as an of us can remember

Tithing*# 1-6 Sworn Officers

by succession and service under Rule 7

Dr Keith Williams
Leslie Grout (F: 2013-2014)
Ian Tough JP (F: 2010-2011)
Judy Tayler-Smith
Adèle Thorpe
Dr Charlotte Grezo (J - 2000)

**Rule 7.1 ‡ Rule 7.9 † Rule 7.10*

**Roger Davis, Mervyn Redding^, Lawrence Day +
" " All other Officers and Tithingmen**

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

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

Terence Mullins ‡++ (J - 2015), All Officers and Tithingmen
Terence Mullins ‡++ (J - 2015), All Officers and Tithingmen
‡ Rule 7.9 (++) 'Manor Beadle')

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)
Ian Luder (F: 2014-2015)

Dr Ian Wingfield (F: 2002-2003) Prof Frederick Trowman (F: 2007-2008)
Ian Luder (F: 2014-2015); Brian Barker QC (HS 2013 - 2014);
Robin Sherlock; Ted Newman.

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. However the Annual Thanksgiving and Quit Rents this year was comfortably accommodated with our largest attended event in living memory – at 98. I am delighted that after the decline in numbers of Jurors in recent years, the trend was reversed this year. We admitted 9 new jurors and previously lapsed members. The Tithing hopes that this trend will continue and urges all members to introduce a guest to our events in the hope that they will wish to join themselves. The increase in Liverymen joining the Manor is indicative of our recognition in the Civic City and although we have quite a growing group of Past Masters, this year (apart from my own Mastership of the Arts Scholars) Juror John Dewhurst was Master Tax Adviser and Juror Peter Thompson is currently Master Actuary.

SUMMONS TO JUROR SERVICE AND MANOR FUNCTIONS

Both new and not so new Jurors often get confused by the formality of the procedures of the Courts and the social functions they receive information about. The Summonses are issued directly from the relevant Court (Old Bailey, Royal Courts and the Inner London Sessions House) and the invitation to the lunch or dinner comes from the Manor and not at the same time.

The Jurors Lists are formally entered at the Court and added to the Ministry of Justice's statistical returns for the composition of Juries nationally.

Ceremonial Dress of Officers

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.

Note by The Clerk

Remember that if new members are unlikely to become Liverymen but are attracted to the City's traditions, 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 being revised. 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 jointly and severally 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 The Manor participated in what is now the **Annual Sheep Drive of the Woolmens' Company** on 5th October 2014, the Manor's formal welcome to the Sheriffs and Livery Masters was well received and we shared in their national Press coverage.

Court Leet 2014 Our most important event of the year was held on **12th November 2014** when I was sworn in as Foreman in the **Nave of St George the Martyr, Southwark**. The Court and Lunch was attended by **98 Jurors and Guests**, including the Old Bailey team the highest attendance ever with 57 Jurors (47 last year and 59 in 2010).. We said our formal 'goodbye' to our High Steward, Brian Barker QC who is a Southwark resident and has indicated that he wishes to continue in association with us in his retirement. I presented him with a gift copy of '**Southwark and the City**' by **David Johnson**, the Corporation's official history of the Courts Leet and its involvement with the borough. Apart from myself, Adele Thorpe and Lawrence Day were Sworn as new Officers. Six 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 13th 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 53 members and their guests almost double last year's attendance. However, the format was agreed as most entertaining and suitable. It is following the success route of higher attendances and shall outgrow the London Bridge Hotel in due course, possibly requiring a new venue next year.

Quit Rents and Court of Exchequer The combined Thanksgiving Service and Quit Rents Ceremony was held on **17th March**, for new Freemen, Members and Guests. We first assembled at the **Chamberlain's Court**, where seven Jurors took the oath. Once again the Service was held at our guild-church **St George the Martyr, Borough High Street** conducted by **The Area Dean of Southwark & Newington Deanery Rev Andrew Moughtin-Mumby**. The Ceremony followed. The new Senior Master Barbara Fontaine, the **Queen's Remembrancer**, the first lady to hold the post in 860 years, received the Quit Rents on behalf of the Crown from us (on behalf of the City). For this purpose she instituted the **Court of Exchequer** to which the Southwark Jurors were Summoned. This is one of only four City ceremonies in which she 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 **112 Jurors** and their guests attended, a record for any event we have held. Our civic brethren and guests included the Masters and Clerks of the Actuaries, the Tax Advisers, the Watermen & Lightermen, The Fire Fighters, The Coopers 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 intended for Saturday **11th April** conducted by our Clerk, Tony Sharp, unfortunately there was insufficient applications - and 2 were lost in the post for weeks! Nevertheless, 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.

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 4th June and although we had the issues of change of venue and date and threatened transport disruption almost twice as many attended this year as last - 74 a record for this event - at St George the Martyr Church and Hall. Our guests included **The Recorder of Southwark, HHJ Roger Chapple, the Recorder of Westminster HHJ Alastair McCreish and Simone Jones JP representing the Camberwell Magistracy, HM Coroner for Southwark, Dr Harris, Assistant City Remembrancer Nigel Lefton** and others had accepted but had to withdraw at short notice due to a wave of chest infections in the period. 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 **President of the Queen's Bench, Sir Brian Leveson**.

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 20th and 21st June**. 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 Alan Yarrow** 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.

Summer Pomps; Tanners Company:- The Learned Clerk had discovered an association that he was dimly aware of for many years that a craft guild existed in Bermondsey and in fact had an extant Royal Charter of 1703. This is an incorporated guild similar to those in other parts of the country, but note not a City of London livery company. The Tithing were first of the view that this charter could be modernised and extended as for ourselves; but after a meeting with the Chief Clerk of the Privy Council it was proposed that we should sponsor its revival from moribund status at an event of our own held for the Company 'in trust' to promote Bermondsey's heritage. To that end under the Charter's provisions and as Gazetted an **Annual Thanksgiving Service and Installation Ceremony was held at the guild's church of St Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey Street on 1st July** at which our own Constable **Dr Keith Williams** was Sworn as Master, **Judy Tayler-Smith** as Upper Warden and **Adele Thorpe** as 'Other Warden' along with a Court of Assistants - again mainly of our own Jurors. All were ably installed by the Clerk with the Common Cryer of Southwark SF David Wilson delivering the charges and oaths with his usual aplomb. The Service was conducted by the **Company Chaplain, Rev Charlie Moore Rector of St Mary Bermondsey**, to whom the Court is grateful for the opportunity to re-establish the connection. This was regarded as essentially a Manor Summer Event, something long lacking in our calendar, the association between the two organisations is intended to be close and mutually beneficial. The Master, Wardens, Court of

Assistants and their guests, 35 attendees, then departed to the Leather Market pub and restaurant. This is actually located in what was indeed the original Tanners Club of 1878 and was a scene of much conviviality in the Tanners heyday and we hope for the future. Even ten years ago the aspect of Bermondsey would not have been attractive for such a reinstitution, but now the urban renewal of Southwark has spread into this once neglected and blighted district. The event was sufficiently successful and means that the Company can develop a life of its own. Its events shall be timed to fit in with the Manor's calendar to avoid clashes.

The **'Bridge House-Yard Lecture & Dinner'**, was held on 10th September at our now regular venue the Hall of St George the Martyr, Borough High Street. The **Chief Commoner, Billy Dove OBE**, is always our principal guest at this event and we welcomed also from the civic City **Ald Vincent Keveaney, Ald Peter Estlin, Remembrancer Paul Double**, and from our supported military units **Col Elizabeth Coles CO of 256 RAMC**, and **Sq Cdr Kevin Mehmet CO Dulwich ATC**. However this year uniquely we were requested by The Recorder of London, **HHJ Nicholas Hilliard QC to swear him in as High Steward** which was done with the due pomp as per the Manor's style. Common Cryer David Wilson read the Oath of the High Steward provided by the Court of Aldermen for the first High Steward in 1550 and the Foreman Ian Luder then presented him with the Badge-Seal of the Manor with a portcullis denoting the Office. This dinner is always preceded by a Lecture on the history of the Borough or of Greater London. This year the lecturer was given by **Peter Moore, Director of Pre-Construct Archaeology on the discoveries made at the site of the Spur and Nag's Head Inns** on Borough High Street earlier this year. **Fifty Five Jurors** and guests attended, which was a fall on last year, and the date may be too early for the calendar and will be reviewed.

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 as straight after 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 Prof Sir David Spiegelhalter of Cambridge University on 'The Risks of Every Day Life'. **On 24th November** the Clerk attended on our behalf the 'introduction' to the Liveries and City of the new **'Guild of Entrepreneurs'** their Installation of officers and Reception at the Ironmongers Hall. Three of our Jurors are associated, Adele being its Clerk pro tem until an appointment is made. On Saturday the **29th November** I was present, rather appropriately as Manor Foreman, at Southwark Cathedral for a Celebration Service for the **Innholders Company's 500th Anniversary** of Henry VIII's Royal Charter along with almost every other Master and Clerk of the Liveries and guilds. 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.

On 26th January our Clerk was guest at the **Annual Banquet at Drapers Hall of the Arts Scholars**. I was not forgotten, indeed **I presided as Master Arts Scholar!** A busy year in both guilds for me fortunately I stood down mid-year from the Livery post. In February I attended the **World Traders annual Tacitus Lecture and Reception** at Guildhall, the speaker being the newly elected Alderman of Bishopsgate **Baroness Scotland**, indeed in my capacity as Lord Mayor Locum Tenens I presided at the Wardmote as Returning Officer. Monday 11 June the Clerk 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. The **Tax Advisers** invited myself and the Clerk to their Annual Civic and Charities Luncheon on 18th June aboard **HQS Wellington**, for which connection with the Manor I am grateful as a Past Master of that company.

On 13th July 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 few years the Reception has become a major event attended by about half of the Livery Masters. This year the speaker was **Lord Neuberger** who is now the President of the Supreme Court, when he was the guest speaker at the JJD a few years ago he was Master of the Rolls. On 14th April our Clerk was a guest at the **Plasterers Company's Spring Livery Dinner**.

The **Watermen's Doggett's Coat and Badge Wager** was held on 1st August the **300th Anniversary of this event**. 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:- **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. My last visit on behalf of the Manor shall be to the **Annual Livery Dinner of the Actuaries** on HQS Wellington to be held 29th October and this time **their Master is no less than our own Juror Peter Thompson**.

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 Freddie Trowman 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 Formas for goods/ services/ banqueting are retained and payments banked by the Clerk. Receipts and Pro Formas 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 18th September the accounts and expenditures were reviewed and **it was considered unnecessary to change the for 2015-16.**

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.

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,



Ian Luder, ~~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 Tenants summonsed to attend as Jurors of the said Manor at
the Nave of St George the Martyr Church, Borough High Street SE1
on Wednesday the 18th day of November 2015 at 3.20pm.

Leslie Alden	Lawrence Day	Hilary Haydon	Ian Luder	Tony Sharp	Nicholas Williams
Roy Alston	Roger D'elia	Trevor Haynes	Sean McClafferty	Robin Sherlock	David Wilson
Brian Barker QC	John Dewhurst	Christopher Hayward	Simon McIlwaine	Janet Smith	Hamish Wilson
Jeremy Barrett	Daniel Doherty	Richard Hollier	Peter Miles	Lynn Smith	Mary Wilson
Leoniza Barrett	William Donovan	Janet Honnoraty	Terence Mullins	Nicholas Somers	Dr Ian Wingfield
Stewart Bell	Edward Errington	Michael Honnoraty	Edward Newman	Graham Sutherland	Norman Winnett
Tim Benjamin	Julie Fox	P Josephine Huggins	Stephen Nimmons	Dr Alexandra Tansey	Patricia Winnett
Beryl Boulton	John Freeman	Jill Jacobs	Bryan Page	Judy Tayler-Smith	William Whitfield
David Boston	Dr Richard Fynes	Edward Jansz	Jeffrey Penny	Peter Thompson	Sir David Wootton
Dr Trevor Brignall	Peter Gadbury	Donna Joscelyne	Jill Philps	Adele Thorpe	Michael Wren
Christine Byron	Dr Charlotte Grezo	Patrick Joyce	Martin Price	Ian Tough	Tim Wright
Edward Byron	John Garbutt	Dominic Kelsey	Rosamunde Price	Peter Townsend	
Valerie Carroll	Sue Garland Worthington	Martin King	Robert Prior	David Treais	
Claudio Chiste	Norma Gibbes	Stephen Kirkman	Mervyn Redding	Prof Frederick Trowman	
Paul Crisp	Christopher Godbold	Jean-Yves Kirkbuddo	Peter Rees	Christopher Trye	
Norman Dale	Leslie Grout	Simon Langton	Dr Christine Rigden	Dr Graham Turnock	
Richard Darby	James Gurling	Ron Leek	Diane Riley	James Vickers	
Gillian Davies	Leigh Hatts	Alan Lettis	Trevor Robinson CBE	Bryan Whalley	
Loraine Davis	Nicholas Havell	Ann Lettis	Colin Sach	Jane Williams	
Roger Davis	Susan Haydock	Cyril Levy	Karen Sankey	Dr Keith Williams	

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

1.i) To Accept the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of 12th November 2014 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 12th NOVEMBER 2014 at 2.15pm held at St George the Martyr, Nave, Borough High Street, Southwark, London SE1,

1.i) Attendance:

Leslie Alden; Jeremy Barrett; Leoniza Barrett; Beryl Boulton; David Boston; Andrea Coore; Paul Crisp; Loraine Davis; Lawrence Day; Roger D'elia; John Dewhurst; Daniel Doherty; John Freeman; Dr Richard Fynes; Peter Gadbury; Dr Charlotte Grezo; Norma Gibbes; Leslie Grout; Leigh Hatts; Nicholas Havell; Susan Haydock; Janet Honnoraty; Michael Honnoraty; P Josephine Huggins; Jill Jacobs; Patrick Joyce; Ron Leek; Ian Luder; Simon McIlwaine; Peter Miles; Edward Newman; Jeff Penny; Paul Phillips; Jill Philps; John Philps; Mervyn Redding; Diane Riley; Karen Snkey; Tony Sharp; Robin Sherlock; Nicholas Somers; Michael Stewart; Graham Sutherland; Judy Tayler-Smith; Adele Thorpe; Ian Tough; Prof Frederick Trowman; Dr Graham Turnock; Dr Keith Williams; David Wilson; Dr Ian Wingfield; William Whitfield; Norman Winnett; Patricia Winnett; Michael Wren; Timothy Wright.

2.i) To Accept the Minutes of the Annual Meeting: Wednesday 13th November 2013 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. None

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 and 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'.

Ceremonies and Receptions of the Year

l - r and t - b :- Quit Rents

Ian and Lin; QR Barbara; Ian and Colin, old friends!; Master Firefighter Brian; Paul, Clerk of the Tax Advisers; Ted, Keith and Ian, the team in waiting!; supported by Ian T and Judy; Jurors Alan and Ann with guests; Juror Richard F with guests; a family drink - Juror Charlotte, Alex and David the 'Cryer'; Our friends the Actuaries, Master and Clerk; Keith and Adele with our friends the Tax Advisers, Master & Juror John with Paul;



Quit Rents ~ 2015

l - r and t - b

Procession into Thanksgiving Service at St George's; Tony the Clerk calls the Jurors List; The Clerk of the Queen's Remembrancer calls for the Rent to be tendered; Foreman Ian "One Three"; Queen's Remembrancer checks the amount - "Eleven Pounds - Good Service!"; Afeeror Leslie, the Second Quit, the Chest; Constable Keith presents the Key; Waiting their turn i) Clerk and Forema; Recessional; Waiting their turn ii) The Cryer.

