

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 Hilliard QC
The Recorder of London

The High Bailiff of Southwark
Adam Rout
Head of Operations at MH and CCC

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

The Recorder of Southwark
HHJ Usha Karu
The Senior Resident The Sessions House

Foreman
David Wilson

clerk@guildablemanor.org
www.guildablemanor.org

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



Annual Letter 2018

12th October 2018

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 12th October 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; however, if there are Questions Without Notice then a written reply will be given afterwards and published in the Minutes*

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 ‡ (Manor Beadle)
(St Olave's side) ‡
(St Saviour's side) ‡**

**TITHINGMEN‡‡
AND
SERVED FOREMEN**

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

**HON TITHINGMEN
‡ Rule 7.9**

**HONORARY CHAPLAIN
‡ Rule 7.9**

Tithing*# 1-6 Sworn Officers

by succession and service under Rule 7

**Judy Tayler-Smith
Diane Riley
Dr Charlotte Grezo
Lawrence Day +
Simon S Walsh
Mark Skelton (J: 2017)**

**Rule 7.1 ‡ Rule 7.9 † Rule 7.10*

**Roger Davis, Mervyn Redding^
" " All other Officers and Tithingmen
‡ Rule 7.9 (^ Wine Steward) (+ Banqueting Steward)**

**Tony Sharp (F: 2001-2002)
Peter Gadbury (F: 2000-2001)
David Wilson
§ Charter of Charles I 1638 ‡ Rule 7.9**

**Terence Mullins ‡ (J - 2015),
Keith Horsman (J: 2017); and All Officers and Tithingmen
Steve Tamcken (J: 2018) and All Officers and Tithingmen
‡ Rule 7.9**

**Peter Gadbury (F: 2000-2001 & 2016-2017) ‡‡
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 & 2016) ‡‡**

**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)
‡‡ Rule 3.**

**Dr Ian Wingfield (F: 2002-2003)
Prof Frederick Trowman (F: 2007-2008 & 2016)**

**Ian Luder (F: 2014-2015); Brian Barker QC (HS 2013 - 2014);
Robin Sherlock; Ted Newman, Bryan Whalley.**

**Rt Rev Dr Karwei Dorgu, the Bishop of Woolwich.
Hon Assistant Chaplain Rev Jonathan Sedgwick, Rector of St George the Martyr.**

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'.

Front Page: The Assize of Survey of 'Guildable Manor Street': top The Foreman and Tithing finish their perambulation of the "Ways or Passages without Let or Hindrance" with the as empowered under the Assize of Survey of the 1550 Charter of Edward VI and the Worshipful the Mayor of Southwark

bottom The Foreman and Tithing with the Worshipful the Mayor of Southwark complete the Assize.

*Thanks to our Parish Beadle Keith Horsman for producing this and the other Manor ceremonial videos on You Tube:
Assize of Survey of the 7th October event:- https://youtu.be/NF_x1dohZsQ Please do hit the 'subscribe' icon on the site as well.*

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.

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. We admitted 5 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. Currently we have 108 Jurors Summoned.

PLEASE NOTE:- In compliance with the General Data Protection Regulations 2018, the Manor keeps its record of Jurors Names and Addresses in paper format and does not have any additional information. Communications are restricted to ordinary business of informing members of events. Communications via email are restricted to replies to enquiries from Jurors to the Clerk exclusively.

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

Court Leet 2017 Our most important event of the year was held on **29th November 2017** in the **Nave of St George the Martyr, Southwark**. The Court and Lunch was attended by **106 Jurors and Guests**, including the Old Bailey team. This was attended by 60 Jurors (the highest was 64 in 2015 and previous highest 59 in 2010). Simon Walsh offered to serve on the Tithing as Ale Sizer and intends to progress through all offices. Four were proposed for the Freedom. I also have to thank SF Diane Riley for stepping into the role of Affeeror due to the casual vacancy created by an unexpected resignation.

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**, at the **Winchester Room at The George Inn** on the High Street, a most

appropriate location for a Dickensian evening, on the **17th 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 27 members and their guests, a fall on 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 George Inn possibly requiring a new venue in due course. **Sadly we had just learned of the death of Juror Beryl Boulton (ten years Service) who passed away on Boxing Day 2017 and had attended the Court Leet only a few weeks earlier; before the Meal we held a Silent Tribute in her memory.**

Quit Rents and Court of Exchequer The combined Thanksgiving Service and Quit Rents Ceremony was held on **14th March**. Once again the Service was held at our guild-church **St George the Martyr, Borough High Street** conducted by **The Assistant Chaplain and Rector of our Guild Church, Rev Jonathan Sedgwick**. The Ceremony followed. The His Honour Richard Hone QC, **Deputy Queen's Remembrancer**, received the Quit Rents on behalf of the Crown from us (on behalf of the City). For this purpose was instituted the **Court of Exchequer** to which the Southwark Jurors were Summoned. The role of Clerk of the Court was performed by Nigel Lefton, Director of the City Remembrancer's department in the role of the **Attorney to the City of London**. This is one of only four City ceremonies in this format; the others being the Trial of the Pyx, the presentation of the Sheriffs and the presentation of the Lord Mayor. We then hosted a Luncheon at the St George's Hall, prepared by Masters Catering. Some **64 Jurors** and their guests attended. Our civic brethren and guests included the **Masters and Clerks of the Tax Advisers and the Actuaries** with 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 of passages from *Some Rules from the Conduct of Life* ('the little red book') at the luncheon. This year this was done by the enthusiastic Livery Masters attending. 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 **14th April** conducted by our Clerk, Tony Sharp, with five attendees. 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 but insists that attendees join for a social meal afterwards.

Justices and Jurors Lecture & Dinner: 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 at The London Bridge Hotel, Londinium Suite. This year's lecture and dinner was held at the London Bridge Hotel on **10th May** at which 47 attended an increase on last year. Our guests included **The Recorder of Southwark (Newington ILCC) HHJ Usha Karu, the Recorder of Westminster (Southwark CC) HHJ Barbara Taylor, the representing Blackfriars CC HHJ Jane Sullivan, the Deputy Queen's Remembrancer Richard Hone QC, the Attorney to the City of London Nigel Lefton and Richard Marks QC the Common Serjeant at CCC 'Old Bailey'**.. 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 **Lady Justice Dame Julia Macur, the Senior presiding Judge for England and Wales, who spoke on the how Judicial decisions are being represented in the media and how when this is beyond the rules regarding Contempt some of the judiciary have themselves sought redress in the Courts!**

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 23rd and 24th 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 Charles Bowman**, to the Mayor, Cllr Steve Iles, the Court and Freeman 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 **Londinium III 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 & Luncheon', was held on 12th September at our St George the Martyr, the first time we have organised this at lunchtime to gauge if more jurors would attend. The meal is always preceded by a Lecture on the history of the Borough or of Greater London. This year the lecturer was given by **Ireneo Grosso of Pre-Construct Archaeology on the 'Discovery of a Roman Sarcophagus in Swan Street SE1' the site of the old County Court**. Our principal guest was the **Chief Commoner John Scott, Ald Vincent Keaveny and The Hon Elizabeth Green the Sheriffs 'Elect' and also the first recipients of the Cadet and Reserves Units 'Guildable Manor Awards' for merit**

Lt Lee Richards of the City of London North East Sector Army Cadet Force with **CWO Alejandro Gallego** of '34 F' (Balham and Tooting) Squadron Air Training Corps. They were presented with a personal memento of a Manor Tankard. The Tithing had hoped that moving this event to an afternoon/ Lunch time would have improved attendance; unfortunately this was at an all time low of 35 (last year 43 and in 2013, 83) The Tithing welcomes feedback on this.

Because of the slightly longer 'year' between Courts we are able to include the **Annual Sheep Drive of the Woolmens' Company** on 30th September 2017, the Manor's formal welcome to the **The Rt Hon Lord Mayor, Ald Charles Bowman, the Sheriffs Ald Vincent Keaveny and The Hon Elizabeth Green** was well received and Foreman David presented the **Master Woolman, Andrew Dawson**, with an engraved Tankard. Some 20 Jurors and guests attended and 10 of them drove Sheep across the Bridge having been 'drawn' from the Lists by the Clerk. A jolly lunch was had at the Bunch of Grapes.

An additional and unique event was added on 7th October: **The Civic Opening of Guildable Manor Street** by the Foreman, Tithing and **The Worshipful the Mayor of Southwark Cllr Catherine Rose**. Although the street had been officially named in 2012 it could not be 'opened' until formally adopted by the Council which had to await the completion of the Thameslink London Bridge Station improvements. This was earlier in 2018 and so preparations were made for this event. As can be seen from the video on You Tube it was done with formality as an **Assize of Survey** within the ancient powers of the Manor Court. The New Thameslink Viaduct covers the street in its entirety which meant that although we had balmy weather we would be protected from the elements if things turned out otherwise. The Street is one-way from London Bridge Street to Railway Approach. Some 26 Jurors and guests attended and the Mayor of Southwark joined us for lunch had at the Bunch of Grapes.

*Thanks to our Parish Beadle Keith Horsman for producing this and the other Manor ceremonial videos on You Tube:
Assize of Survey of the 7th October event:- https://youtu.be/NF_x1dohZsQ Please do hit the 'subscribe' icon on the site as well.*

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.

On 9 January our Clerk was a guest at the **Plasterers Company's Spring Clerks' Dinner**. The **Tax Advisers invited myself and the Clerk to their Annual Civic and Charities Luncheon** on 19th June at Trinity House. The Clerk was also a guest of our own Constable, Judy Tayler-Smith, masquerading as **Master Upholder** at the Annual Church Service and Dinner of that Company at St Michael Cornhill and Armourers Hall on 20th February. On 20th June myself and the Clerk were official guests at '**The Presentation of the Knollys Rose**'. The Company of Watermen and Lightermen of the Thames went to All Hallows by the Tower garden and plucked a Rose flower and took it, led by the Doggett's Men with oars, to the Mansion House to the Lord Mayor followed by a Reception there then another before Lunch at Watermen's Hall!.

The **Watermen's Doggett's Coat and Badge Wager** was held on 4th September. 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

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.

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 13th September the accounts and expenditures were reviewed and **it was considered unnecessary to change the Fee for 2018-19**.

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.

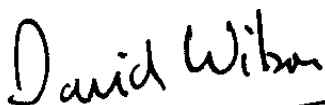
Banking and Audit Procedure: - All Expenditure is approved by the Tithing under general administration or as special purchases; the Tithing also receives Banquet Budget Reports from the Clerk at their meetings to monitor. Cheques / Payments are raised by the Treasurer on request of the Clerk, backed 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

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,



David Wilson, 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 28th day of November 2018 at 3.20pm.

Leslie Alden	Lawrence Day	Trevor Haynes	Simon McIlwaine	Tony Sharp	Hamish Wilson
Roy Alston	Roger D'elia	Christopher Hayward	Peter Miles	Robin Sherlock	Mary Wilson
Mark Alton	John Dewhurst	Richard Hollier	Linda Morris	Mark Skelton	Dr Ian Wingfield
Brian Barker QC	Geoffrey Drust	Jane Irwin	Terence Mullins	Lynn Smith	Norman Winnett
Alfred Bain	Edward Errington	Christopher Histed	Eoghain Murphy	Nicholas Somers	Patricia Winnett
Douglas Bainbridge	John Farrant	Janet Honnoraty	Edward Newman	Graham Sutherland	Michael Wren
Maureen Bonanno-Smith	Julie Fox	Michael Honnoraty	Stephen Nimmons	Doreen Sutton	
Paul Bethel	Dr Richard Fynes	Keith Horsman	John Nunneley	Dr Alexandra Tansey	<u>106</u>
Roland Billson	Peter Gadbury	Jill Jacobs	Stephen Osborne	Steven Tamcken	
David Boston	Sue Garland Worthington	Edward Jansz	Bryan Page	Judy Tayler-Smith	
Mark Bridge	Michael German	Barry Kemp	Dr Roy Palmer	Peter Thompson	
Dr Trevor Brignall	Norma Gibbes	Michael Khan	Jill Philps	Ian Tough	
Frank Brown	Christopher Godbold	Martin King	Gary Powell	Peter Townsend	
Christine Byron	Dr Charlotte Grezo	Jean-Yves Kirkbuddo	Martin Price	David Treais	
Edward Byron	Mark Griffiths	Ron Leek	Rosamunde Price	Prof Frederick Trowman	
Felicity Chadwick Histed	Leslie Grout	Alan Lettis	Mervyn Redding	Doreen Turner	
Paul Crisp	Rosemary Guest	Ann Lettis	Peter Rees	James Vickers	
Norman Dale	Nicholas Havell	Cyril Levy	Diane Riley	Simon Walsh	
Loraine Davis	Susan Haydock	Ian Luder	Colin Sach	Bryan Whalley	
Roger Davis	Hilary Haydon	Donald McEwan	Karen Sankey	David Wilson	

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

- 1.i) To Accept the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of 29th November 2017 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.
- 5) Any Other Business.

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING: WEDNESDAY 29th NOVEMBER 2017 at 2.15pm held at St George the Martyr, Nave, Borough High Street, Southwark, London SE1,

1.i) Attendance:

Leslie Alden, Douglas Bainbridge, Brian Barker, Maureen Bonanno-Smith, Beryl Boulton, Frank Brown, Paul Crisp, Loraine Davis, Roger Davis, Lawrence Day, Roger D'elia, John Farrant, Julie Fox, Roger France, Richard Fynes, Peter Gadbury, Norma Gibbes, Christopher Godbold, Charlotte Grezo, Leslie Grout, Rosemary Guest, Nicholas Havell, Susan Haydock, Trevor Haynes, Jane Irwin, Janet Honnoraty, Michael Honnoraty, Keith Horsman, Barry Kemp, Stephen Kirkman, Ian Luder, Simon McIlwaine, Peter Miles, Linda Morris, Terence Mullins, Bryan Page, Jill Philps, Gary Powell, Martin Price, Rosamunde Price, Mervyn Redding, Diane Riley, Karen Sankey, Tony Sharp, Nicholas Somers, Graham Sutherland, Doreen Sutton, Dr Alexandra Tansey, Judy Tayler-Smith, Peter Thompson, Adele Thorpe, Ian Tough, Prof Frederick Trowman, James Vickers, Simon Walsh, Bryan Whalley, David Wilson, Dr Ian Wingfield, Norman Winnett, Patricia Winnett, Michael Wren.

2.i) To Accept the Minutes of the Annual Meeting: Wednesday 30th November 2016 at 2.15pm held at The Nave, St George the Martyr, London SE1 as a Correct Record.

Agreed Nem Con

ii) Matters Arising. None.

3 i) To Accept the Annual Letter as Circulated.

Agreed Nem Con

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:-

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 *frid-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 landlord 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'.

'Guildable Manor Street' Assize Back Page *top left* The Orator Clerk, Peter, reads the Charters of 1327 and 1550 requiring the Sworn Officers to inspect any new 'ways or passages' in the Manor and that they are fit for public use 'without let or hindrance'. *top centre* The Foreman, David calls upon the Officers to join with him on the Survey of the new Street. *top right* The Clerk, Tony, awaits the return of the Officers to make their declaration as to the Street's fitness for public use. *centre* The Worshipful the Mayor, Cllr Catherine Rose, Cuts the Ribbon for the public to use the Street 'without Let or Hindrance'. *bottom* An excellent luncheon enjoyed in the nearby 'Bunch of Grapes'.

