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



GVILDABLE MANOR

Guildable Manor, Colechurch House, London Bridge Walk,

PO Box 80905, London SE1P 6UY
020 7394 1271

NOTE NEW ADDRESS DETAILS AND POST CODE

Senior Patrons

The High Steward of Southwark HHJ Mark Lucraft KC The Recorder of London

The High Bailiff of Southwark
Myles Kaplan
Head of Operations at MH and CCC

Deputy forr the King's Rembrancer HH Stephen Kramer KC

HHJ Michael Evans KC The Senior Resident The Sessions House

ForemanJohn Spanner TD

clerk@guildable manor.orgwww.guildablemanor.org

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





Dear Jurors,

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

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 **29th September the** Senior Tithingmen and current Foreman 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:- Tithing*# 1-6 Sworn Officers

by succession and service under Rule 7

1: FOREMAN
2: CONSTABLE
3: AFEEROR*
4: FLESH TASTER*

Julie Fox
Royston Fox
Daniel Heath
Antonio Masella

5: ALETASTER Mark McAllister and Clive Grimley

6: ALESIZER † Yousif Jabro

*Rule 7.1 ‡ Rule 7.9 † Rule 7.10

Supernumerary and appointed:-

ALE CONNERS (St Saviour's and Keith Horsman', Keith Schnaar', Cedric Gerreyn',

St Olave's side); " " All other Officers and Tithingmen

‡ Rule 7.9 (^ Wine Steward)

CLERK OF THE MANOR:

Tony Sharp (F: 2001 - 2002)

OUTROPER OR COMMON CRYER: \$\)
Simon S Walsh (F: 2021 - 2022)
\$\)
Charter of Charles 1 1638 \(\frac{1}{2}\) Rule 7.9

ORATOR ~ CLERK: Mark McAllister

BEADLES ‡ (Manor Beadle) Keith Horsman ‡ (J - 2015),

(St Olave's side) ‡ Keith Schnaar ‡ (J - 2021), and All Officers and Tithingmen (St Saviour's side) ‡ Cedric Gerreyn ‡ (J - 2024), and All Officers and Tithingmen

Additional applicants are always welcome for Beadles duties

‡ Rule 7.9

TITHINGMEN ‡‡ Leslie Grout (F: 2013-2014) ‡‡ Dr Ian Wingfield (F: 2002-2003, 2019-2021)

Lawrence Day (F: 2023-2024);‡‡

HON AUDITORS §§ Simon Walsh (F: 2021 - 2022)

§§ Notified to Annual Meeting under Rule 8. Cedric Gerreyn

HON TITHINGMEN Ian Luder (F: 2014-2015); **Brian Barker KC** (HS 2013 - 2014); **Rule** 7.9 **Hon Juror: Bryan Whalley.**

HONORARY CHAPLAIN Vacant.

‡ Rule 7.9 Hon Assistant Chaplain Rev Charlie Moore, Rector of St Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey.

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'.

From Foreman John

It has been a real privilege serving as Foreman of the Guildable Manor of Southwark, and I am extremely proud to do so; in forty years' of experience of the City and the Livery Companies, I have never come across an organization with so much history, which is so aware of this incredible history, and which continues with so many of its ancient traditions. I say so having served as Master of two Livery Companies, Glovers and Arts Scholars. The Court Leet and the Quit Rents ceremonies are remarkable evidence of this continuance, and the Guildable Manor is extremely fortunate to have High Court Judges and City of London Officers regularly attending these, and participating in them. We are also extremely fortunate in having Tony Sharp as our Clerk – without him we would certainly not have the calibre of guests, speakers and participants that we do at our events; his dedication to the organization is quite awesome, and we all owe him a huge debt of gratitude. I have had a wonderful year – apart from our formal events, the annual Borough Pickwick Club was a delight, the Clerk's annual walk round the borough is something of legend, and the weekend in Rochester for the Admiral's Cruise, on board Londinium III was two days of fun, food

and an excess of alcohol. I have learnt much – the Bridge House Yard lecture was fascinating look at the Roman roads of Southwark, and the Justices' and Jurors' dinner, with a lecture from the President of the King's Bench Division, was continuing proof that the Clerk has some sort of hold over the most senior members of the judiciary. I have also had the joy of attending a number of City events wearing the Foreman's badge, and explaining to City worthies just what the Guildable Manor is, and why they should consider joining it. Floreat Burgus et Villa de Southwarke!

Membership and Tenancy

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 THREE new jurors. The Tithing hopes that this trend in recruitment 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 63 Jurors Summonsed, a drop from 82 since 2020 because of illnesses, death and formal resignations mainly due to age and location and lack of recruitment. These falls in memberships are common in the City guilds and there is a suspicion that it is due to underlying demographic changes as well as drop outs from the pandemic. Due to general inflationary pressures the Tenancy Fee and Functions Subscriptions are to rise to £80.00.

PLEASE NOTE:- In compliance with the <u>General Data Protection Regulations 2018</u>, the Manor keeps its record of Jurors Names and Addresses in paper format and does not have any additional information, copies are sent to the High Bailiff for Summons and names are supplied to various publications. 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.

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.

Events and Functions of the last year

We hope to introduce more informal functions, especially when we get our new facility at the New Colechurch House.

The Annual Court Leet 2024 Our most important event of the year was held on 13th November 2024. I was Sworn before the High Steward as Foreman. This was held at The Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, SE1. This was presided over by the High Steward, HHJ Mark Lucraft KC, of the Central Criminal Court and the High Bailiff, Myles Kaplan, Head of Operations CCC. Some Thirty Five Officers, Jurors and Guests attended, a dissappointing reduction on 2023 with 48.

Borough Pickwick Club 2025 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**, held at the **The George Inn**, High Street SE1 a most appropriate location for a Dickensian event, on the **17th January**. **Sixteen** Tithing, Jurors and guests enjoyed short readings from the master story writer, a fall from 19 of the previous year, but most importantly fellowship and good company involving a Southwark theme. We had some two new members attending. A Livery Master who attended in the past told our Clerk at another event that he thought it was one of the most fun occasions in the City he had ever been to.

WALKING TOUR 2025, 12th April; **15 attendees - highest for some years:** This was enjoyed by the members and their guests. This started at London Bridge to cover the northern part of the manor area ending eventually, at Old St Thomas's via the Guy's Chapel. New members should certainly book in for this as it is the easiest way to understand the history and layout of the area within context. One new member said it was the best and most informative tour he had ever been on in London. All rounded off with Lunch at the Barrowboy & Banker.

Annual Thanksgiving Service, Charter Day, Quit Rents Ceremony 2025. This year was held 1st April. This was held at St Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey Street SE1 and the Luncheon was at the Great Hall of the Lalit Hotel. Presiding and receiving the Quits was the King's Royalties Collector HH Stephen Kramer KC and the Attorney to the City of London, Katie Foster Senior Counsel the City Remembrancer's Office. The Service was led by our Honorary Foreman's Chaplain, Rev Peter Welby, Curate of St Mary's. Thirty Two Officers, Jurors and Guests attended and we were satisfied with the necessary reorganisation and transit between venues.

SPRING DINNER (**BRIDGE HOUSE YARD LECTURE 2025**) 14th May: Normally this is held in the Autumn but the date was flipped with the Spring Justices Lecture and Dinner because the speaker had other commitments. This was held at The Mudlark, Montague Close, London Bridge, SE1. Our lecturer was Becky Haslam, of AOC Aechaeology, speaking on the 'lost Roman Roads of Southwark'. **Our Official Guest was one of the two Bridge Masters, Giles Shilson CC**. Just 19 members and guests attended.

MIDSUMMER POMPS LUNCH 2025 - 18th June: Held at Cote Brasserie, Hay's Galleria: It was felt that Cote Brasserie was a good alternative with natural lighting and that we hold another informal lunch there again. Some 16 attended.

ROCHESTER VISIT 2025: This had for the current year been divided into two events of the ADMIRALTY CRUISE on 21-22 June and the COURT 4th October. Officers attending led by the Foreman 'all aboard' the Londinium III under the Manor pennant.

JUSTICE & JURORS 2025: 16th September; Normally this is held in the Autumn but the date was flipped with the Spring Brifge House Lecture and Dinner because the speaker had other commitments. These have become biennial because in fact every senior Head of Division Judge has been a guest speaker in previous years. This was held at the Old Court Room No2 'Chambers' of the Dixon Hotel which was a distinguished venue and our guest lecturer, Dame Victoria Sharp, President of the King's Bench Division reminisced that she ahd appeared there as a junior Barrister when it was the Tower Bridge Magistrates Court. 28 Jurors and guests attended.

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.

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 Simon Walsh and Laurence Day 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 the accounts and expenditures were reviewed and **it was considered necessary to change the Fee for the year ensuing to £75.00.**

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 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

Queries

If anyone has any questions arising out of this Letter, the Accounts or from the Minutes of the last General Meeting, (previously published on the website, 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,

Thustanner

John Spanner TD, 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 Great Hall, Lalit Hotel, Southwark SE1 on Wednesday the 19th day of November 2025 at 3.20pm.

Roy Alston	Ron Deal	Daniel Heath	Kevin McNicholas	John Spanner
Mark Alton	Julie Fox	Keith Horsman	Daniel Moody	Martin Thacker
Brian Barker KC	Royston Fox	Yousif Jabro	Margaret Neary	Ian Tough
Paul Bethel	Dr Richard Fynes	Leslie Jardine	Paul Nichols	Dmytro Tupchiienko
Alexander Bogdanov	Michael German	Odon Kassindi	Stephen Osborne	James Vickers
Kieran Buckley	Cedric Gerreyn	Prof Stephen Keevil	John Peters	Simon Walsh
Matthew Cavanagh	Christopher Godbold	Martin King	Graham Powell	Richard Wernick
Mikhail Charles	Clive Grimley	Ron Leek	Lucy Riley	Bryan Whalley
Alan Cook	Leslie Grout	Ian Luder	Amelia Sankey	Dale Glynne Williams
Alexander Crisp	Rosemary Guest	Peter Mantell	Karen Sankey	Dr Ian Wingfield
Paul Crisp	Paul Gwilliam	Antonio Masella	Keith Schnaar	Michael Wren
Norman Dale	Trevor Haynes	Mark McAllister	Tony Sharp	
Lawrence Day	Christopher Hayward	Simon McIlwaine	Lynn Smith	TOTAL = 63

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

- 1.i) To <u>Accept</u> the Minutes of the General Meeting of <u>13th November 2024</u>, as published on the Manor website in November that year and circulated in October this year with the <u>Annual Letter and Audited Accounts</u> 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 THE ANNUAL MEETING: 13th NOVEMBER 2024 at 2.15pm HELD AT THE AMIGO HALL, ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL LONDON SE1

(ie draft Minutes, please notify Clerk of errors and ommisions)

1.i) Attendance:

Mark Alton; BrianBarker; Alexander Bogdanov; Matthew Cavanagh; Mikhail Charles; Alexander Crisp; Paul Crisp; Julie Fox; Royston Fox; Cedric Gerreyn; Clive Grimley; Leslie Grout; Rosemary Guest; Daniel Heath; Keith Horsman;; Prof Stephen Keevil; Peter Mantell; Antonio Masella; Mark McAllister; Simon McIlwaine; Daniel Moodey; Margaret Neary; Stephen Osborne; Amelia Sankey; Keith Schnaar; Tony Sharp; Lynn Smith; John Spanner; Simon Walsh

- 2.i) To Accept the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of 2023 were posted on the Manor website in November that year and these Minutes were circulated in early October this year with the Annual Letter and Audited Accounts 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. Notice given of the change and addition of Officers as notified:
- 4.i) To Receive the Audited Accounts as Circulated.

Agreed Nem Com.

- ii) Matters Arising. None.
- 5. i) Votes of Thanks, proposed by the Senior Tithingman Walsh. Lawrence Day as Foreman was indisposed and thanked all of the Officers for their support over the last year and also the Jurors for attending functions.

 ii) Agreed Nem Con.
- 6.) Any Other Business:- None.



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 amerciament. 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 rewardeds 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 gepeorce) 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 frið-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.