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New Light on Henry Medwall

Sally-Beth MacLean and Alan H. Nelson

In 1980, in his Introduction to *The Plays of Henry Medwall*, Alan H. Nelson presented a fuller account of Medwall's life than was then otherwise available, based on new documentation he had discovered in the Public Record Office and in the archives of King's College, Cambridge. Transcripts and summaries of the same documents were published simultaneously in his 'Life Records of Henry Medwall, M.A., Notary Public and Playwright; and John Medwall, Legal Administrator and Summoner,' *Leeds Studies in English*, 11 (1980), 111-55.¹

The new light on Medwall's life added more precise details of his career at King's, including the apparent fact that he departed from the college on the very day in 1483 that his future patron, John Morton, was arrested and sent to the Tower by Richard III; his relationship to the career of his brother John, who was in the London cloth trade; and certifications of excommunication containing Medwall's notarial device.

More recently, during her research on Surrey dramatic records for the Records of Early English Drama series, Sally-Beth MacLean found further documentation dating back to 1449 that almost certainly concerns the Medwall family.² Nelson also found further new information in the archives of King's College. Together, we then mounted a search which has turned up yet more records (see Appendix for transcriptions of new Medwall records).

As the Election Indenture Roll for 1474 in the Eton College Archives makes clear, Henry Medwall came from the borough of Southwark in the county of Surrey and was probably born in 1462.³ Although no parish registers survive from Southwark parishes for this period, a variety of other records from the parish church of St Margaret are extant, including an important set of early churchwardens' accounts, memoranda, and a late fifteenth-century inventory. These documents provide further evidence of the Medwall family in Southwark.

St Margaret's was the parish church for most of the northern part of

Southwark, including Paris Garden and Bankside, until 1540. At the Dissolution, the parishes of St Margaret and St Mary Magdalene amalgamated to purchase the former priory church of St Mary Overy, rededicated as St Saviour's. (The old church of St Margaret's in the Borough High Street adjacent to the marketplace, having thus become redundant, was turned into a court house and prison by the justices of the peace for Surrey.⁴) Surviving parish accounts from before the Dissolution run in a broken series from 1444 to 1540, long enough to illustrate enrichment of the church's fabric and liturgy, as well as changes in its dramatic and musical activities.⁵

A prominent member of St Margaret's parish over a thirty-year period was a man named John Medwall. Beginning in 1455 and for six years thereafter, he received regular payments for unspecified services. In 1465-66 one aspect of these services is revealed in the payment to Medwall 'for playing atte Organs'. In fact, as we now hope to demonstrate, John Medwall would seem to have played a significant creative role in a period of musical transition at his church.

The clues in the St Margaret's churchwardens' accounts led us to search the Bede Roll of the Fraternity of St Nicholas, a precious record of London parish clerks and others who joined in carrying out the objectives of the Fraternity during the period 1449-1521.⁶ John Medwall is listed among the initial members of the Fraternity in 1449, and among those who died in 1491. Since the surname 'Medwall' is extremely rare in fifteenth-century English documents and since the Fraternity catchment area included Southwark, the Bede Roll supports our deduction from the churchwardens' accounts that John Medwall of St Margaret's served for a time as parish clerk.⁷

James Christie, in what remains the most detailed study of the Fraternity of St Nicholas, describes the following requirements for the parish clerk in the later medieval period: the clerk should be able to read, write, and keep accounts; he should take part in the cleaning of the sanctuary, vestments, and sacred vessels; he must make arrangements for services under the direction of the priest as well as be able to read epistles and lessons and to sing parts of the services in order to assist at mass, matins, and canonical hours.⁸ A special function of the parish clerk was the superintendence and training of younger singers, as well as oversight of 'conducts' or hired clerks. (An extension of this responsibility could be the organization of the boy bishop ceremonial during the Christmas season.)⁹ Parish clerks typically belonged to minor priestly orders and were allowed to marry.

As to the music with which John Medwall was involved, Frank Harrison has noted:

There is little evidence that polyphonic music was sung or played

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in parish churches before the second half of the fifteenth century. From that time larger churches began to provide themselves with the four things necessary for the adornment of their services with polyphony, namely a rood-loft, an organ, additional clerks or 'conducts', and books of pricksong.¹⁰

In 1446-47 St Margaret's responded early to this trend by purchasing, at the considerable expense of £5 6s 8d, a 'peyre of Newe Organes'. Payments for mending the arch in the choir and decoration of a rood loft in the same year suggest that this was a positive organ to be installed in the rood loft at the entrance to the choir. In taking this expensive step St Margaret's may have been emulating some of the larger London churches across the river; certainly the parish looked to London in hiring its first organ-player from Cheapside in the same year.¹¹ Parishioners were willing to make a substantial financial commitment to their church music: over the next two decades (before the accounts become summary), salaried organ-players were routinely hired by the church.

Following two organists named in earlier St Margaret's churchwardens' accounts,¹² an anonymous organ-player is paid from 1449 to 1454. Then a year intervenes before Medwall's first appearance, at a lower or perhaps partial salary (26s 8d rather than 40s): thus it seems likely that 1456, or 1455 at the earliest, was indeed John Medwall's first year as resident musician. By 1456 the custom of hiring extra singers for special festivals such as Christmas or Palm Sunday had begun; in 1457-58 Medwall's annual salary was 40s. During the next decade singers became the most frequently noted participants in the patronal festival of St Margaret (20 July), typically receiving one or two shillings. The development of more elaborate liturgical music under John Medwall appears to have coincided with a change in festive practice in the parish.

From 1444 (when the accounts begin) to 1459, specific payments for parish plays appear in ten of the fifteen annual accounts. Neither the subject matter nor the staging details of these plays is mentioned, but they are clearly associated with either the patronal festival of St Margaret or the feast of St Lucy (13 December). There is good reason to think that the players were parish clerks: specific reference is made to the clerks in payments for the play on St Lucy's day, and in a couple of years rewards for both plays were paid jointly. Such dramatic activity by clerks had precedents in the religious plays mounted by the London company of parish clerks (the Fraternity of St Nicholas), whose cycle of plays at Clerkenwell in the late fourteenth and early fifteenth centuries is well known.¹³ It is therefore likely that John Medwall was

involved in the production of the two plays that were mounted on St Margaret's day in 1456 and 1459 during his tenure as parish clerk.

After 1459 no more plays were performed at St Margaret's, whether because of changing taste or diminishing resources. It is possible that continuing musical expenditures had priority during the 1460s: Medwall's salary appears to have dropped during his last two years of regular employment at the church (1459-61) and the organists hired to replace him between 1462 and 1464 never reached the level of 40s paid in the 1440s and '50s. In fact, after 1464 the parish ceases payment of an annual salary, although payments for organ-playing upon special occasions continue, together with the hiring of singers. John Medwall returns to these accounts in 1465-67, receiving small amounts of 2d or 4d, presumably for single performances during Christmas and Easter terms, as well as at the patronal festival and dedication day services. The first book of accounts stops after 1468; subsequent accounts include only summary memoranda; further detailed churchwardens' accounts survive only for the years 1485-86 and 1486-87.

Although the records become irregular during the later fifteenth century, those that remain bear witness to John Medwall's continuing association and growing status within the parish of St Margaret. Memoranda for 1478-79 and 1482-83 show that he was churchwarden during these years, and in 1485 he acted as an evaluator of church goods for the inventory of the parish's rich holdings. Further evidence for polyphony at St Margaret's is provided in the two books of pricksong listed in the inventory, the more valuable book bought from John Medwall and valued at 9s. The churchwardens' accounts for 1485-86 show that Medwall continued to make a musical contribution to parish liturgy: he is paid 4d for singing on Easter Day 1485. The same account also may help to explain his qualifications for assisting in the evaluation of St Margaret's liturgical vestments and hangings. John Medwall is paid generously for three banners and cross staves, for mending a passion banner and colouring its staff, for four banners at the time of the dedication festival, and for completing work on the new St Margaret's cloth. It would seem, therefore, that he was artistic as well as musical, and may have had connections with the cloth trade.¹⁴ As a churchwarden and leading musician at St Margaret's, we might also expect that he would have had dealings with neighbouring parishes in Lambeth and Southwark, as well as with the two powerful monasteries in the area – St Mary Overy, Southwark, and St Saviour, Bermondsey.¹⁵

Although we have not been able to find a will which might confirm John Medwall as father of the playwright Henry and his older brother John (born c. 1456), the singularity of his surname, his age, his base of activities, and his interests make the relationship highly probable.¹⁶ If a father were to be invented for the John and

Henry Medwall discovered in the Public Record Office, the King's College Archives, and the plays attributed to Henry Medwall, he would be just such a man as appears in the church records of St Margaret's, Southwark. The younger son, Henry, was a highly competent man of affairs with a developed knowledge of music. The elder son, John, was active in the cloth trade, and served as a summoner for ecclesiastical courts. Both sons could claim honest descent from a father who was a musician and parish clerk, an owner of a pricksong book, a provider of cloth banners to his parish church, and finally, as a churchwarden and valuator, a man of some standing in his community.

The question now arises whether any of the previously published documents referring to John Medwall might concern the father rather than the son. Nelson has characterized Henry's brother John as conforming 'to what we know of summoners from historical documents and literary sources: he was a man who lived an erratic and frequently troubled life, surviving by his wits in the middle world where legal activity shades off into vice'.¹⁷ Most of the documents published in 1980 confirm this characterization, starting with the 1476 court case featuring young John as the ravisher of his associate's daughter. From this dubious start in the cloth trade he has a rough passage through the early 1480s, with two separate charges relating to debts, and arrest in London on a charge of resorting to 'force and armes'.¹⁸ However, two further documents from the same period have until now appeared oddly out of character for this John Medwall.

The first, probably dated 1478, features John Medwall as responsible administrator to the late John Multon (former churchwarden of the parish of St Margaret, Southwark) petitioning Chancery for recovery of an outstanding debt.¹⁹ John Multon was a churchwarden at St Margaret's in the 1450s, at the very time when our senior John Medwall is first recorded in the parish (1456).²⁰ It seems far more likely that John senior, with his long, responsible association with the parish, would have been made administrator to the estate of the late John Multon, who died in 1459.

The second document is even more out of keeping with what we know of the younger John's activities and character. This is the 1486 petition to John Morton, then bishop of Ely and chancellor, claiming reimbursement from the abbot of Bermondsey. Medwall had agreed to keep a votive mass of Jesus and to collect rents in London and Southwark for the abbot, but had run into excessive costs in repairing properties. What is intriguing here is the link between the man we now believe to be Henry's father, and Henry's future patron, John Morton. Bermondsey neighbours Southwark on the south bank of the Thames, and it is quite conceivable that John senior's initial appointment at St Margaret's led to other musical jobs in the area. He

would have been well qualified as a parish clerk to take on the Jesus mass, conducting men and boys at the prominent – and prosperous – monastery of St Saviour's even as he was still singing at St Margaret's in 1485 on an occasional basis. He also had experience of property management if we are right in assigning the previous document to him.²¹ Henry's name is attached to the same petition as a witness. Within a few months Morton had become archbishop of Canterbury, with a principal residence in neighbouring Lambeth. In January 1487 Morton appointed the erratic John junior summoner to the ecclesiastical Court of the Arches for London, Southwark, and the suburbs. We may now wonder whether the appointment was owing to the influence of the father, John senior, rather than the brother, Henry, whose own employment with Morton is only on definite record from 1490 to the turn of the century.

Finally, the John Medwall who dined at King's College 9 May 1484 may be the father rather than the brother of Henry (if indeed 'Iohannes' is not merely an error for 'Henricus').²²

No other document has yielded new information about members of Henry Medwall's family on the order of magnitude of the St Margaret's parish records, but further scattered details can now be supplied. An Emma Medwall whose death is recorded among the Fraternity of St Nicholas Bede Roll entries for 1498 seems an excellent candidate for Henry's mother, though the date of her initial membership, which might have helped confirm the relationship, is unfortunately not recorded. Another of the same name is Dame Emme Medwall of the nuns of Barking (just east of London), who, along with Dame Elyn Efelyke and Dame Kateryn Dolffaby, witnessed the will of Beatryce Tynggelden which was drawn up 14 April 1520 and proved 11 May of the same year.²³ No Southwark connection is known for Dame Emme Medwall, but the possibility that she was a daughter of John senior and Emma (and thus sister of John and Henry) or even a daughter of John the younger cannot be excluded, given our present knowledge.

A John Medwall who became a lay member of the Fraternity of St Nicholas in 1505 may be John the younger. To the previously known admission of a John Medwall into the London Mercers' Company in 1514 and the tenure of a namesake as 'keper of the Inglysshe hous at Andwerp' in 1520 and 1523 can now be added a 'Johannes Medwall' among English merchants in Antwerp in 1524.²⁴ Conversely, Nelson's discovery of an agricultural family surnamed Maydwell or Maydwall (variously spelled) at Coton near Cambridge must invalidate Nelson's previous suggestion that the John Maydwell who was a servant of King's College, Cambridge in 1489-90 was John Medwall the younger.²⁵

Among various late fifteenth- and early sixteenth-century King's College

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accounts (bound separately from the two formal series called *Mundum Books* and *Libri Communarum*) occur occasional personal accounts for members of college. Accounts headed 'Medwall' or 'Medewall' – clearly our Henry – run to 3s 4d for the year ending Michaelmas 1480, his initial year in the college; 13s 4d for the year ending Michaelmas 1481; and £1-4-6-¹/₂ for the year ending Michaelmas 1482. Medwall's expenses for 1482-83 total only 9s 3d. The account is annotated with the highly informative memo: '*Recessit ijdo die Iunii*'.²⁶ This date, 2 June 1483, does not match the 13 June arrest date of John Morton (Medwall's subsequent patron) as closely as the college's dining records, which imply 13 June precisely, but Nelson's earlier hunch that Medwall actively withdrew ('*Recessit*') from the college is now directly confirmed. No other college member is known to have withdrawn in a similar fashion during the second half of the fifteenth century, so the further suggestion that the action was extraordinary and somehow related to Morton's contemporaneous fall from grace if anything seems enhanced, though mere coincidence cannot be ruled out.

New evidence from the *Bede Roll* that Henry Medwall became a member of the Fraternity of St Nicholas as a priest in 1491 attests to his participation in the life of the London community following his ordination in 1490 and his activities as a notary beginning about the same time. His title of 'Magister' or Master seems to be an acknowledgement of the degree granted by the University of Cambridge in 1491, probably at the early July commencement ceremony; in records known heretofore he is usually called 'Dominus' (or its English equivalent, 'Sir'), appropriate to a Bachelor of Arts.

We could wish for the survival of more documents from late fifteenth-century Southwark and Bermondsey, and we remain in the dark as to the fortunes of Henry Medwall after he disappears from the records in 1501. Nonetheless, we believe that the distinct personalities of the elder and younger John Medwalls have emerged from these new records to correct and enrich significantly the biography of Henry Medwall, our first known English playwright.

NOTES

¹ See also *The Plays of Henry Medwall: A Critical Edition*, ed. M. E. Moeslein (New York, 1981). Moeslein searched for and identified many Medwall life records (pp. 11-29, 455-67), missing, however, Nelson's record [15], Medwall's notarial testification on a peace treaty dated 18 August 1489. This testification importantly demonstrates Medwall's early involvement in matters of state, presumably under Morton (albeit merely as a notarial witness), and tends to authenticate Medwall's notarial knot on certain significations of excommunication from the 1490s (Nelson's record [20], numbers 22, 29, 30, 32). Moeslein does not systematically assemble references to John Medwall, but undertakes a more extensive inquiry than Nelson into possible Medwall ancestors (pp. 13-14).

² MacLean's work in transcribing the St Margaret's, Southwark parish records had been preceded by John Payne Collier, who published full (and reasonably accurate) transcripts from P92/SAV/1, 19, 20, and 24 in the series titled 'Original Papers. St Margaret's, Southwark', *The British Magazine*, 32 (November 1, 1847), 481-96, 638-50; and 33 (January 1, 1848), 1-16, 179-84. Although Collier did not pursue the lead, he did note in passing: 'The name of the organist . . . was John Medwall, who had succeeded Fitchett, and who was, very possibly, in some way related to Henry Medwall, chaplain to Cardinal Morton, and author of the "goodly interlude of Nature", one of our very oldest printed dramatic productions' (*British Magazine*, 33, p. 3).

³ See Alan H. Nelson, 'Life Records of Henry Medwall', p. 118, [2].

⁴ St Margaret's is shown, just after it had become the Court House (later called the 'Counter'), on a map of Southwark, circa 1542, in the Duchy of Lancaster records at the Public Record Office (MPC. 64). For an adaptation of this map, see the frontispiece to William Rendle, *Old Southwark and its People* (Southwark, 1878). The building may have survived until the great Southwark fire of 1676.

⁵ The St Margaret's records are now in the Greater London Record Office, shelfmarked in a series with the post-1540 records of St Saviour's, Southwark. Transcriptions have been edited according to the guidelines established by the Records of Early English Drama series. We are grateful to the Greater London Record Office for permission to print transcripts from the records of St Margaret's, Southwark.

⁶ The Bede or Prayer Roll (actually a folio volume), shelfmarked as Guildhall Library MS 4889, is on permanent loan to the London Museum where it is on display. A microfilm of the original may be consulted at the Guildhall Library. We wish to thank the staff of both the Guildhall Library and the London Museum for permission to consult and quote from the original MS. A description of the Bede Roll and its contents is given by James Christie, *Some Account of Parish Clerks, more especially of the Ancient Fraternity (bretherne and*

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sisterne), of *S. Nicholas, now known as the Worshipful Company of Parish Clerks* (London, 1893), 30 ff. For a more recent account, see Reginald H. Adams, *The Parish Clerks of London: A History of the Worshipful Company of Parish Clerks of London* (London and Chichester, 1971), 23-24. Norman James of the Historical Manuscripts Commission, Quality Court, Chancery Lane is currently engaged in a full analytical edition of the *Bede Roll*.

⁷ John Gillon, a clerk from St Margaret's, Southwark, was one of the masters of the guild in 1513.

⁸ See Christie, *Some Account of Parish Clerks*, pp. 8-9, 14-17. See also Adams, pp. 2-9, and his modernized rendering of the duties of the mid-fifteenth-century clerks of St Stephen's, Coleman Street, pp. 25-27.

⁹ It is worth noting in this context that St Margaret's inventory for 1485 includes the following items for the traditional boy bishop ceremony: '. . . Item iiii chyldyrn copis of dyuers colors prys xx s. Item a Chesebull of Blev felwett with a Rede Crosse of Bavdekyn for synt nyclasys day prys vij s. vij d' (P92/SAV/24, fol. [6v]). There is, however, no direct indication of Medwall's involvement as parish clerk in these festivities during the 1550s and '60s.

¹⁰ Frank Ll. Harrison, *Music in Medieval Britain*, 2nd ed. (London, 1963), 197.

¹¹ Harrison, p. 213, notes that the church of St Peter, Cheap had an organ by 1433.

¹² An organ player named 'Mighell' is named in the year of organ purchase (1446-47), while John Fychette is paid 40s in 1447-48 and again in 1448-49.

¹³ See, for example, Hugh Baillie, 'A London Gild of Musicians, 1460-1530,' *Proceedings of the Royal Musical Association* 83 (1956-57), 24; and Adams, *Parish Clerks of London*, pp. 6-8.

¹⁴ For John Medwall's involvement in the cloth trade, see Nelson, 'Life Records', entries [4-5], [10-11]. Any attempt to trace John Medwall in the records of the London Clothworkers' Company is frustrated by the lack of surviving fifteenth-century accounts. Anne Lancashire, who has systematically searched what survives for her REED edition of London corporation and livery company dramatic records, reports that the Clothworkers' accounts begin in 1528/9; court minutes in 1536; lists of freemen in 1545, and of apprentices in 1606. Similarly, the Broderers' records start in the sixteenth century.

¹⁵ Neither St Mary Overy nor St Saviour, Bermondsey has monastic accounts extant for this period to allow us to explore this subject further.

¹⁶ We have looked for Medwall's will in all the likely as well as some less obvious sources of testamentary records surviving for the period: the wills in the Surrey Archdeaconry Court; London Court of Husting; London Commissary, Consistory and Archdeaconry Courts; the Prerogative Court of Canterbury; and the registers of the bishop

of Winchester and the archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth Palace. The records of the Consistory and Commissary Courts of Winchester and the Court of Arches start too late to be of use.

¹⁷ Nelson, 'Life Records', p. 114.

¹⁸ Nelson, 'Life Records', p. 113.

¹⁹ Nelson, 'Life Records', pp. 140-42. Although the document [12] does not have a specific year date, the men listed as current churchwardens in the petition held office during 1477-78, according to St Margaret's, Southwark Memoranda. Furthermore, in 1478, 6 February fell on a Friday, corresponding to the day of the week and month given in the endorsement.

²⁰ John Multon is listed among the churchwardens in 1456 (P92/SAV/1, p. 12). A receipt for his burial is recorded in the accounts for 1458-59 following those for St Margaret's day (P92/SAV/1, p. 14).

²¹ Medwall is one of the churchwardens referred to in a suit in Chancery before the archbishop of York regarding a message in the parish of St Margaret's (Public Record Office: C1/61/288). The suit was evidently heard during his tenure as churchwarden, 1482-83, judging from the other churchwardens named (Richard Dagnall, Richard Harryes and William Marchall).

²² Nelson, 'Life Records', [7.c.14].

²³ Guildhall MS 917/9, fol. 149v. We are grateful to Mary Erler for calling this document to our attention.

²⁴ H. J. Smit, *Bronnen tot de Geschiedenis van dem Handel met Engeland, Schotland en Ireland*, Rijks Geschiedkundige Publicatien, nos. 65, 86, 66, 91 (s'Gravenhage, 1928-50), vol. II, part I, no. 408: 'Johannes Medwall' is named along with other English merchants in Antwerp, 14 January 1524. The original document is PRO: SP1/234, fol. 61.

²⁵ King's College, Cambridge, Archive MSS 'College Accounts', vol. 3:1, unnumbered fols 4v, 19; 4:5, under 'Personal accounts ending Michaelmas 1490'; and vol. 5, notebook for 1-6 Henry VII, entries flagged in margin.

²⁶ Personal accounts for Medwall or Medewall in King's College, Cambridge, Archive MSS 'College Accounts', vols 3:6 (to Michaelmas 1480); 3:7 (to Michaelmas 1481); 4:1 (to Michaelmas 1482); 4:2 (to Michaelmas 1483).

APPENDIX OF NEW HISTORICAL RECORDS RELATING TO
JOHN AND HENRY MEDWALL

Religious Guild Records

Bede Roll of the Fraternity of St Nicholas (1448-1523)
London Museum: Guildhall MS 4889

1449

fol. [2] (Initial list of members)

...

Iohannes Medwall

...

1491

fol. [1]

...

Nomina sacerdotum

...

Magister Henrici Medwall

...

fol. [1v]

...

Hec sunt nomina mortuorum

...

Iohannes Medwall

...

1498

fol. [1v]

...

Nomina mortuorum mulierum

...

Emma Medwall

...

1505

fol. [1]

...

Nomina Laicorum

...

Iohannes Medwall

...

Parish Records

St Margaret's, Southwark Churchwardens' Accounts

Greater London Record Office: P92/SAV/1

1444-45

p. 3 (Payments)

...

also paid for a pley vpon seynt lacy day and for a pley vpon seynt Margrete day

xiiij s. iiij d.

...

1445-46

p. 3 (Payments)

...

also paid for a pley vpon seynt lacy day and for a pley vpon seynt Margrete day

xiiij s. viij d.

...

also paid for the grete procession vpon seynt Margrete day

xx s.

...

1446-47

p. 3 (Payments)

...

also for mendyng of the arche in the quere

iiij li. xiiij s. iiij d.

also paid for a peyre of Newe Organes

v li. vj s. viij d.

also for a pleyer to pley vpon the same Organes hyred in Chepe

xiiij s. iiij d.

also paid to Mighell for pleyng vpon the Organes

xij s.

also paid for a pley vpon seynt Margrete day

vij s.

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...		
also paid for peynting of the Rode lofte		xx d.
p. 4		
also for makyng of the mortesis for the baners in the Rode lofte		xx d.
...		
1447-48		
p. 4 (Payments)		
...		
also paid to Iohn ffychette Organ pleyer		xl s.
...		
1448-49		
p. 4 (Payments)		
...		
also paid to Iohn ffychette Organ pleyer		xl s.
...		
1449-50		
p. 6 (Payments)		
...		
Item peyd vpon seynt lucy day to the Clerkes for a pley		vj s. viij d.
...		
also peyd to the Organ pleyer ffor an hole yere		xxvj s. viij d.
...		
1450-51		
p. 6 (Payments)		
...		
also peyd to the Clerkes vpon seynt lucy day for a pley		vj s. iiij d.
...		
also peyd for wyne to the Clerkes		vj d.
...		
also peyd for a newe Surplyse to the Organ pleyer		v s.
...		

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also peyd to iij Clerkes vpon gangmonday viij d.

...

1451-52

p. 9 (Payments)

...

ffyrste peyd to the pleyers vpon seynt Margretes day vij s.

also peyd to the Mynstrell for the procescion xvj d.

also peyd for hyryng of the Germentes xiiij d. ob.

...

also peid to the Organ pleyer xxxiiij s. iiij d.

...

1452-53

p. 9 (Payments)

...

ffyrste peid vpon seynt Margretes day to the clerkes ij s.

...

also peid to Organ player xl s.

...

1453-54

p. 10 (Payments)

...

ffyrste [plei] peid for a pley vpon seynt Margretes day vij s.

...

also peid to the Organ pleyer xl s.

...

1454-55

p. 10 (Payments)

...

ffyrste peid for a pley vpon seynt Margretes day vij s.

...

1455-56

p. 10 (Payments)

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...
ffyrste peid for a pley vpon seynt Margretes day vij s.

...

p. 11

...

Item peyd to Iohn Medwall xxvj s. viij d.

...

1456-57

p. 12 (Payments)

...

Payed to Iohn Medwall vj s. viij d.

...

payed for a synger in Crystemas xxj d.

...

p. 13

...

Item to Iohn Medwall payed for Ester quarter x s.

...

payed for bred and wyne for the syngers on palme ssonday *summa* ix d.

...

payed to Iohn Medwall for midsomer quarter *summa* x s.

peyd to syngers vpon seynt Margretes day ij s.

...

1457-58

p. 13 (29 September-2 April) (Payments)

...

payed to Iohn Medwall for Mighelmas quarter *summa* x s.

...

Item payed to Iohn Medwall for Cristenmas quarter x s.

...

Item payed to syngers and for wasshyng of clothes xx d.

...

(2 April-28 September) (Payments)

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C ffyrste payed to Iohn Medwall for Ester quarter	x s.
...	
Item payd to Iohn Medwall for mydsomer quartere	x s.
...	
Item payd for syngers vpon seynt Margretes day	xx d.
...	
C Item payd to Harvy for his Chyldren vpon seynt lucy day	xx d.

1458-59

p. 15 (29 September-24 December)

C ffyrst payd to Iohn Medwall	x s.
...	
(25 December-24 March)	
C ffyrst payd to Iohn Medwall	x s.
...	
(25 March-23 June)	
C ffyrste payd to Iohn Medewall	x s.
...	
Item payd to Medewall for davy	x d.
...	
(24 June-28 September)	
C Item payd to Iohn Medewall	x s.
...	
Item payd vpon seynt Margretes day for a pley	vij s.
Item payd for wode to þe fyre. and to syngers	iiij s.
Item payd for þe wasshyng of v surplyse	x d.
...	

p. 16

...	
Item ¹ payd to William Povy. to Iohn Medewall and to Roger Grynder	iiij s. ij d.
...	

1459-60

p. 17 (29 September-24 December) (Payments)

C ffyrste payd to Iohn Medwall	x s.
--------------------------------	------

New Light on Henry Medwall

...		
(25 December-12 April)		
C ffyrste payd to Iohn Medwall		x s.
...		
(13 April-23 June)		
C ffyrste payd to Iohn Medwall		x s.
...		
(24 June-28 September)		
C ffyrste payd to Medewall		vj s. viij d.
...		
1460-61		
p. 17 (29 September-24 December) (Payments)		
...		
ffyrste payd to Medewall		vj s. viij d.
...		
p. 19 (25 December-4 April) (Payments)		
☉ ffyrste payd to Iohn Medewall		vj s. viij d.
...		
(5 April-23 June) (Payments)		
Item paid to Iohn Medewall		iiij s. iiij d.
...		
(24 June-28 September) (Payments)		
Item paid to a syngger		iiij d.
Item paid for flagges and Garlandis		vij d.
...		
1461-62		
p. 19 (25 December-17 April) (Payments)		
...		
☉ ffyrste paid to þe Organ player		iiij s. iiij d.
...		
1462-63		
p. 21 (from 18 April) (Payments)		
...		

Sally-Beth MacLean and Alan H. Nelson

Item paide to þe Organ plaier xij d.

...

Item paid to þe Organ plaier v s. viij d.

...

1463-64

p. 23 (10 April-23 June) (Payments)

...

Item paid to *Richard* Organ player xv s.

...

(24 June-28 September) (Payments)

Item paid to *Richard* Organ player viij s. iiij d.

...

(29 September-24 December) (Payments)

ffirst paid to *Richard* Organ player vj s. viij d.

...

(25 December-31 March) (Payments)

ffirste paid to *Richard* Organ player vj s. viij d.

...

Item paid for an Organ player vpon Ester day iiij d.

...

1464-65

p. 25 (24 June-28 September) (Payments)

...

ffirste paid vpon seynt Margretes day to þe Mynstrell xvj d.

Item paid to syngers atte sam tyme ij s.

Item paid for their dyner þe sam tyme ij s.

...

Item paid for Garlandis vpon Corpus christi day iiij d.

Item paid for ale to þe syngers j d.

Item paid for Garlandis vpon seint Margretes day and for an Organ player x d.

...

1465-66

p. 26 (24 June-28 September) (Payments)

...

New Light on Henry Medwall

ffirste paid for synggers at seynt Margretes day xvj d.
Item paid for ale þe sam tyme j d.

...

(29 September-24 December) (Payments)

ffirste paid vpon þe didicacion² day to þe synggers xij d.
Item paid for ale the same tyme j d.

...

(25 December-5 April) (Payments)

Item paid to Iohn Medewall for playing atte Organs iiij d.

...

1466-67

p. 27 (6 April-23 June) (Payments)

...

Item paid to Iohn Medewall. for playng atte Organs iiij d.

...

(24 June-28 September) (Payments)

ffirste paid for synggers vpon seynt Margretes day ix d.
Item paid for ale the sam tyme ij d. ob.
Item paid to Iohn Medewall iiij d.

...

(29 September-24 December) (Payments)

ffirst paid vpon þe dedicacion for Wyn to þe synggers iiij d.
Item paid to Iohn Medewall for playng atte Organs ij d.
Item paid to þe mynstrall iiij d.

...

St Margaret's, Southwark Memoranda

Greater London Record Office: P92/SAV/19

1477-78

fol. [1] (18 December)

...

Memorandum that Thomas Gryme, Robert Trotte Richard Colyns & Richard Brucy. church wardens of the *parissh*e Church of Saint margaretis of Suthwerk The xvij day of the monethe of december The xvijth yere of the Reigne of Kyng Edward the fourth yelde and made ther accomptis to Iohn Medwall Iohn Drayton Iohn Saynte &

William Hunte [Ma.hall], and deliuered the said xvij day of december the yere of the Reigne of the Kyng abovesaid in Redy money in the boxe to the vse and behofe of the said Church [xij li. j d.] xiiij li. 'xiiij s.'

...

1478-79

fol. [1] (21 December)

...

Memorandum that Iohn Sent 'Wylliam Hunt' Iohn Drayton & Iohn Medwall Cherche wardons of the parishe cherch of seynt Margyttes in Sowthwerke the xxj³ day of þe moneth of december the xixth yere of ye Reign of Kyng Edward ye iiiijth yeld vpp & made theyr a cowntes (*blank*) Rychard bryde Stevyn lytelbaker & Wylliam Charley and delyuered the seyde day & yere of Redy money in ye box to ye behofe of the seyde chyrche Summa xiiij li. iij d.

1481-82

fol. [1v] (4 February 1481/2)

...

Memorandum that William Purfote Richard Harries Stephyn litilbaker and William Charley as chirche Wardens of the parishe of Seynt Margaretes in Suthwerk made a full rekenyng and a dewe acompt to the parishons of the seide parishe fro the [fith] vth day of ffebruare that is to say the monday next aftir Candilmas day the xx^{ti} yere of Kyng Edward the iiiijth vnto the iiiijth day of ffebruare the xxj^{ti} yere of our seide souereyne lord by the space of a hole yere and that day all thynges rekenyd and alowid they delyuerd in redy money to the newe chirche wardens that is to sey Richard Harries Iohn Medwale William Marshall and Richard Dagenhale xij li. xxij d.

1482-83

fol. [2] (3 February 1482/3)

Memorandum that 'Richard' Harries Iohn Medwale William Marchall and Richard Dagenhale as Chirche wardens of the Parishe of seynt Margaretes in Suthwerke made a full rekenyng and a dewe Accompt to the Parishons of the seide parishe fro the iiiijth day of ffebruary Anno xxj Regis Edwardi iiiij^{ti} vnto iij^{de} day of ffebruary anno xxij^o of our side souerayne lord by the space of a hole yere and that day all thynges rekenyd and a lowid they deliuerd in redy money to the newe chirchewardens that is to say [Iohn Purfote] William Marchall Richard Dagenhale Iohn Abbes & Thomas Short vj

New Light on Henry Medwall

li. viij s.

Wherof delyuerd in bad golde to Thomas Shurt vj s. viij d.

...

St Margaret's Southwark Churchwardens' Account

Greater London Record Office: P92/SAV/3

1485-86

mb. 1 (2 February 1584/5-1 February 1585/6)

...

Item paid to Iohn Medwall for synggyng on Ester day in the chirch iiiij d.

...

Item paid to Medwall for iij baners and crose stavys ther vpon xx s. vj d.

...

Item paid for wood to þe bone fyer on Seynt Margaretes Evyn ij s. iiiij d.

Item paid to Clerkes and drynke for the syngers iiiij s. vij d.

...

mb. 2

...

Item paid to medwall and william Monforde on Criste day viij d.

...

Item paid [I] to synggers on the dedicacion day ij s.

...

Item paid to Iohn Medwall for the residewe of the makyng of Seynt Margaretes cloth
vj s. viij d.

Item paid on þe dedicacion day for garlondes viij d.

[Item paid to Iohn medwall for iij baner clothes]

...

It{e}m paid to medwall for mendyng of a paschon baner and coleryng of the staffe
ij s.

...

St Margaret's, Southwark Inventory

Greater London Record Office: P92/SAV/24

1485

fol. [5v] (16 November)

Thys Ben the goodes of the chyrche of syn Mergyttes in sothevarke delyuerd bey the chyrche Wardyns In the 3ere of ovre lord good M^lccccclxxxv in the monthe of november ye xvj day chyrche Wardyns Iohn Drayton William frere Iohn Bolle William Kelett delyuerd these goodes followyng to þe Clarkes of the chyrche in keypyng To thomas Heyte & to Iohn berkeley ye goodes valowd be William Perfett William arnold William Webbe William Marchall Iohn seynt Iohn Medwale Robert bonson William Charle

...Item a prykyd song boke of parchement yat syr Iohn Docheman gave prys vj s. viij d. Item anoder prykyd songboke of papyr bowght of Iohn Medwale prys ix s....

...

NOTES

¹ *there is a circled + in the left margin beside Item connecting the entry with accounts on p. 15 where a note at the foot of the page explains verte folium ad hoc signum +*

² *didicacion changed from didacacion*

³ *xxj changed from xvj*