

Durham Priory – Prior of Finchale’s Accounts
(performances are at Durham except where marked F; F+D indicates accounts that include performances at both Finchale and Durham)

Introduction

1344-1529, but there is no relevant material before 1365. One or two membranes, overall length 451-879 mm., width 196-340 mm. Mostly single-column, with undivided expenses except in 1451. The earlier accounts show a strong tendency towards holdall items, but there is a separate line for each entry until 1411; from then until 1422-3 two or three items are usually combined per line; from 1424-32 most accounts have expenses in double columns; single items on each line return for the period 1432-52; thereafter, expenses are written in continuous subsection paragraphs.

Until 1448 the terminal date is usually the Monday after Ascension, with the following exceptions:

1367-8 – two rolls; the priorate changed hands either on the Saturday before St. Lawrence (7th August, when Uhtred of Boldon begins his account), or at the Assumption of the Virgin (16th August, when the retiring prior, John of Tykhill, closes his). It seems likely that both were at Finchale together during the handover period.

1395 – In addition to the 1395-6 account, which has the usual terminal dates, there is an account for a single term, rather roughly dated from the Friday before Pentecost to the Friday before Michaelmas (24th September).

1411 – Monday after Ascension to Christmas Eve, when there was probably a change of prior, though the account for the rest of 1411-2 is lost (in 1411 the prior is Thomas d’Autre, in 1412-3 he is William Poklyngton).

1440-1 – A single account runs from 13th February 1440 to Monday after Ascension 1441; the account for the earlier part of 1439-40 is lost.

From 1448-50 the terminal date is the Friday before Pentecost. In 1450-1 there are three accounts: Saturday before Pentecost to 18th September (Prior Henry Ferriby); 18th September to 14th February (John Hoton on behalf of Prior John Oll); 15th February to Pentecost (Prior Thomas Ayre). The reason for Oll’s exceptionally brief priorate is unknown, but as another monk compiles the account on his behalf he may have been ill. From 1451 onwards, the terminal date is Pentecost.

Finchale, the nearest to Durham of the Priory’s cells, was founded as a hermitage by St. Godric in the early twelfth century and bequeathed to Durham priory when he died. It was the richest and in many ways the most attractive of the cells, and was used as a place of retirement for elderly monks and for holidays – small groups of monks took turns to go on holiday there, normally for three weeks each year. Because it was a place of relaxation and a centre of pilgrimage in its own right, it is not surprising to find many minstrel payments from 1395 onwards, though there are a few cases where it cannot be certain whether the performance was at Finchale or at Durham (see the account for 1407-8 and end note). Besides the expected contributions to the Almonry Bishop of Durham, Finchale is the only cell to contribute to the ‘Bishop of Elvet’ (see the account for 1423-4 and end note), probably because it lay in the parish of St. Oswald’s Elvet, of which it remains a detached part today.¹

¹ Further on Finchale, see Dobson, *Durham Priory* 310-11; Butler and Given-Wilson, *Medieval Monasteries of great Britain* 234-36.

Texts

1365-6 (26th May – 18th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...

Et in *solucione facta Willelmo de Barnby deferenti firmam de yokflet vicecomiti Dunelmi pro secta curie Episcopo Elemosinarie* viij.s.viij.d.

...

1366-7 (18th May – 31st May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

expense: ...

Et in elemosina data die cœne et *episcopo elemosinarie et pro pargameno*

ix s. vj d.

...

1367 (31st May – 16th August)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

...

Item *Episcopo Elemosinarie pergameno clerico scribenti comptum cum sale empto*

xij.s.v.d.

...

1367-8 (7th August – 22nd May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...

Et in elemosina die cœne et *episcopo elemosinarie*

v s. ix d.

...

1368-9 (22nd May – 14th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...

Et in elemosina die cene *domini et episcopo elemosinarie et elemosina duobus regularibus et aliis* x s. iiij d.

...

1372-3 (10th May – 30th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...

d

...

Et in Elemosina die Cene data & *Episcopo Elemosinarie Dunelmi*

vij s. iiij d.

...

1374-5 (15th May – 4th June)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in elemosina in cena *domini* data et *episcopo* elemosinarie ix s.

. . .

1375-6 (4th June – 22nd May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in elemosina in die cene et *episcopo* elemosinarie et *sacristo* de finkhall ac
Episcopo Dunelmi *pro* secta curie de Windgate *sed hoc iniuste ut videtur quia*
habemus Windgate in *puram* et *perpetuam* elemosinam xix s. vj d.

. . .

1376-7 (26th May – 11th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in elemosina die cene et *Episcopo* Elemosinarie et *sacriste* de fynkhal et
episcopo Dunelmi *pro* secta curie *sed hoc iniuste vt videtur* xvij s. vj d.

. . .

1377-8 (11th May – 31st May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in elemosina die cene et *Episcopo* elemosinarie et *sacriste* de finkhall et late *circa*
domum in Eluet et *Episcopo* Dunelmi *pro* secta Curie *licet iniuste ut videtur*

xxvj s.

. . .

1378-9 (31st May – 23rd May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in elemosina die cene et *episcopo* elemosinarie *sacriste* de finkhall ac *domino*
episcopo dunelmi *pro* secta curie *licet iniuste ut videtur* xx s.

. . .

1379-80 (23rd May – 7th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in elemosina die cene et *Episcopo* elemosina^{rie} *sacriste* de Finkhall ac *domino*
Episcopo Dunelmi *pro* secta curie *quamvis iniuste u^t videtur* xvij s. x d.

. . .

1382-3 (19th May – 4th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in elemosina die Cene ac data Episcopo Elemosinarie & decimis sacriste de
ffinkhall. ac domino Episcopo Dunelmi pro Secta Curie xvij s. iiij.d.

. . .

1386-7 (4th June – 20th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in elemosina die cene & decima crofti domino episcopo pro secta curie ac
episcopo elemosinarie xvj s. viij d.

1387-8 (20th May – 11th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in elemosina in die cene et decima crofti et domino episcopo pro secta curie et
episcopo elemosinarie xvj s. viij d.

. . .

1388-9 (11th May - 31st May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in elemosina die cene et decima crofti et episcopo elemosinarie xv s. vij d.

1389-90 (31st May – 16th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in elemosina die cene et decima crofti et episcopo elemosinarie et secta curie
iniuste. xvij s. iiij d.

. . .

1390-1 (16th May – 8th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in elemosina die <*****> cene et decima crofti et Episcopo elemosinarie
xv s. iij d.

. . .

1394-5 (1st June – 24th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item Episcopo Elimosinarie iij s. iiij d.

1395 (28th May – 24th September) (F)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in vino *speciebus* in donis datis *confratribus ministrallis* et alijs *diuersis* ex
curialitate xliiij s. vj d.

. . .

1395-6 (24th May – 15th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item *Episcopo Elimosinarie ex Curialitate* iij s. iij d.

. . .

1398-9 (20th May – ?12th May) (F)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in donis datis *confratribus* et *scolaribus oxonie ministrallis ministris* et alijs ex
curialitate xlviij s. viij d.

. . .

1401-2 (16th May – 8th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in donis datis *Episcopo Elemosinarie* *scolaribus Oxonie* & alijs *pro vtilitate*
domus xx s. v d. ob.

. . .

1402-3 (8th May – 28th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in donis datis *Episcopo Elemosinarie* et alijs *pro utilitate domus* xvj s. viij d.

. . .

1403-4 (28th May – 12th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in donis datis *Episcopo Elemosinarie* et alijs *pro utilitate domus* v s.

. . .

1404-5 (12th May – 1st June)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

*Item in donis scolaribus Oxonie &
Episcopo Elemosinarie & alijs pro
vtilitate domus* xiiij s.

...

1405-6 (1st June – 24th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...

Item in donis scolaribus oxonie & Episcopo Elemosinarie & alijs pro vtilitate domus
xxviij s. vij^d.

...

1407-8 (9th May – 28th May) (F)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...

Item in donis hominibus de Gykliswyk & alijs pro vtilitate domus cum ministrallis
xxj s. d.

...

1408-9 (28th May – 20th May) (F)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...

*Item in donis datis hominibus de Gykleswyk & alijs pro vtillitate domus cum
ministrallis -* xxv s. ix d.

...

1409-10 (20th May – ?5th May) (F)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...

Item in donis hominibus de Gykleswyk & alijs pro vtilitate domus cum ministrallis
xxiiij s. vij d.

...

1410-1 (?5th May – ?25th May) (F)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...

Item in donis hominibus de gykleswyk & alijs pro vtilitate domus cum ministrallis -
xiiij s.

...

1411 (?25th May – 24th December)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...

Item Episcopo Elemosinarie ex curialitate iij s. iiij d. . . .

...

1412-3 (16th May – 5th June)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...
Item *Episcopo Elemosinarie* ex curialitate iij ^s. iiij ^d. et in pergameno papiro ...
...

1414-5 (21st May – 13th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...
Item *Episcopo Elemosinarie* iij s. iiij d. Et in pergameno et papiro emptis ij s. Et scribenti *compotum* iiij s - ix s. iiij d.
...

1415-6 (?13th May – ?1st June)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...
Item *Episcopo Elemosinarie* iij s. iiij d.
...

1416-7 (1st June – ca. 24th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...
Item *Episcopo Elemosinarie* ij s. Et in pergameno et papiro emptis ij s. Et scribenti *compotum* et alia *memoranda* iiij s. - viij s.
...

1417-8 (ca. 24th May – ca. 9th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense:² ...
Item *Episcopo Elemosinarie* ij s. Et in pergameno et papiro ij s. Et scribenti *compotum* *rentale* et alia *memoranda*³ iiij s. - viij s.
...

1418-9 (ca. 9th May – 29th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...
Item *Episcopo Elemosinarie* ij s. Et in pergameno et papiro ij s. et scribenti *compotum* *rentale* et alia *memoranda*⁴ iiij d - viij s.
...

² Bracketed letters legible only under ultra-violet light.

³ This word is legible only under ultra-violet light.

⁴ Raine's ed. (SS 6, p. clxxvii) reads 'necessaria', but this is an error.

1419-20 (29th May – 20th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item *Episcopo Elemosinarie* ij s. Et in pergameno et papiro ij <*****> iiij s. – viij s.

. . .

1422-3 (25th May – 17th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item *Episcopo Elemosinarie* ij s. Et pro pergameno et papiro ij s. Et scribenti
compotum et alia me<moran>⁵da <*****> viij s.

. . .

1423-4 (17th May – 5th June)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense *necessarie*: . . . Item *Episcopo Elemosinarie* iij s. In pergameno & papiro *emptis*
per tempus compoti – xxiiij d. Item *Episcopo* de Eluett ex *curialitate* – xx d. . . .

1424-5 (5th June – 21st May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Item *Episcopo Elemosinarie* iij s. iiij d.
Item in pergamenno et papiro *emptis per*
tempus compoti ij s. . . .

1425-6 (21st May – 13th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expensæ: . . .

Item *Episcopo Elemosinarie* iij s. iiij d.

. . .

1426-7 (13th May – 2nd June)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

In *solucione facta Episcopo*
Elemosinarie iij s. iiij d. . . .

1427-8 (2nd June – 17th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

⁵ Illegible letters supplied from Raine's ed., p. clxxxiii, and cf. account for 1418-9 above.

... Item *Episcopo Elemosinarie* 'ij s. iiij d.' ...

1429-30 (9th May – 29th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...

In solucione facta *Episcopo Elemosinarie per tempus compoti* ij s. iiij d.

...

1430-1 (29th May – 14th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...

In solucione facta *Episcopo Elemosinarie per tempus compoti* ij s.

...

1431-2 (14th May – 2nd June)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...

...

In solucione facta *Episcopo*⁶ *Elemosinarie* ij s.

...

1432-3 (2nd June – 25th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...

In solucione facta *Episcopo Elemosinarie* ij s.

...

1433-4 (25th May – 10th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...

In solucione facta *Episcopo Elemosinarie* ij s.

...

1434-5 (10th May – 30th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...

In solucione facta *Episcopo Elemosinarie* ij s.

...

1435-6 (30th May – 21st May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: ...

⁶ 'Episcopo' written over an erasure.

In solucione facta <i>Episcopo Elemosinarie</i>		ij s.
...		
1436-7 (21 st May – 13 th May)		
Prior of Finchale's Account	DUL	
Expense: ...		
In solucione facta <i>Episcopo Elemosinarie per tempus compoti</i>		ij s.
...		
1440-1 (13 th February – ca. 29 th May)		
Prior of Finchale's Account	DUL	
Expense: ...		
Et <i>Episcopo puerili Elemosinarie</i>		ij s.
...		
1441-2 (29 th May – 14 th May)		
Prior of Finchale's Account	DUL	
Expense: ...		
Et <i>Episcopo puerili Elemosinarie</i>		ij s.
...		
1442-3 (14 th May – 3 rd June)		
Prior of Finchale's Account	DUL	
Expense: ...		
Et <i>Episcopo puerili Elemosinarie</i>		ij s.
...		
1443-4 (3 rd June – 25 th May)		
Prior of Finchale's Account	DUL	
Expense: ...		
d		
...		
Et <i>Episcopo puerili</i>		ij s.
...		
1444-5 (ca. 25 th May – ca. 10 th May)		
Prior of Finchale's Account	DUL	
Expense: ...		
Et <i>Episcopo puerili</i>		ij s.
...		
1445-6 (10 th May – 30 th May)		
Prior of Finchale's Account	DUL	

Expense: . . .
d

. . .
Et *Episcopo puerili Elemosinarie* ij s.
. . .

1446-7 (30th May – 22nd May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .
d

. . .
Et *Episcopo puerili Elemosinarie* ij s.
. . .

1447-8 (22nd May – 6th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .
Et in donis datis et *Episcopo puerili elemosinarie* ix s. iij d.
. . .

1448-9 (10th May – 17th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

. . .
Et in diuersis donis datis hoc Anno Ac *Episcopo puerili Elemosinarie Dunelmi* xiiij s. iiij d.
. . .

1449-50 (17th May – 22nd May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Superplusagia: . . .
Et in diuersis donis datis hoc Anno Ac *Episcopo puerili Dunelmi & Cantoribus* at
festum Natale domini xij s. vj.d.
. . .

1451 (15th February – 13th June)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

DonA et exennia: . . . Et soluti *episcopo puerili* – ij s. . . .

1451-2 (13th June – 28th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense soluciones et allocaciones: . . .
Et in diuersis donis et exenniis datis hoc anno. ac *episcopo puerili dunelmi* et
cantoribus ad natale xxix s. x d. ob.
. . .

1452-3 (28th May – 20th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in diuersis donis et exennijs datis ac episcopo puerili – xxxiiij s. vj d. . . .

1453-4 (20th May – 9th June)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in diuersis donis datis ac Episcopo puerili. Et cantoribus erga natale vna cum xx s. datis parrochie de Giggleswyk ad facturam nouam campanam lxxvj s. ij d. . . .

1454-5 (9th June – ?25th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in diuersis donis datis ac episcopo puerili et cantoribus ad natale soluciones xxx s. x d. . . .
et allocaciones

1456-7 (16th May – 5th June)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .
d

. . . Et in diuersis donis datis ac episcopo puerili et cantoribus ad festum natale lxxvij. s. . . .

1457-8 (5th June – 21st May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in diuersis donis datis ac Episcopo puerili et cantoribus xxvj s. . . .

1458-9 (21st May – 13th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in diuersis donis datis [ac episcopo puerili] & Cantoribus – xxij s. . . .

1462-3 (6th June – 29th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account (F)
DUL

Expense: . . .
d

. . . Et in diuersis donis datis hoc anno Ministrallis et aliis – xij s. . . .

1463-4 (29th May – 20th May)

Prior of Finchale's Account (F)
DUL

Expense: . . .
d

. . . Et in diuersis donis datis Hoc Anno Ministrallis & aliis – x s. . . .

1464-5 (20th May – 2nd June) (F)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .
d

. . . Et in diuersis donis datis ministrallis et aliis v s. . . .

1466-7 (25th May – 17th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .
d

. . . Et soluti Episcopo puerili iij s. iiij d. . . .

1467-8 (17th May – 5th June) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs

iiij s.

. . .

Et Episcopo puerili

iiij s. iiij d.

1468-9 (5th June – 21st May) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .

Et in donis datis ministrallis & Alijs

.iiij.s. iiij.d.

. . .

Et Episcopo puerili -

.iiij.s. iiij.d.

1469-70 (21st May – 10th June) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs pauperculis iij s. iiij d. . . . Et
Episcopo puerili – iij s. iiij d. . . .

1470-1 (10th June – 2nd June) (F)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis datis ministrallis & alijs pauperculis .iiij.s. iiij.d. . . .

1471-2 (?2nd June – ?17th May) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis datis Ministrallis et Alijs pauperculis – iii s iiij d . . .
d

. . . Et Episcopo puerili iij s. iiij d. . . .

1472-3 (17th May – 6th June) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis datis ministrallis & Alijs pauperculus iij.s. . . . Et Episcopo puerili .iij.s.iij.d. . . .

1473-4 (6th June – 29th May) (F)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs pauperculus iij s. . . .

1474-5 (29th May – 14th May) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs pauperculus iij s. iij d. . . . Et soluti ad officium feretrarij pro episcopo puerili – iij s. iij d.⁷

1475-6 (14th May – 2nd June) (F)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs pauperculus iij s. iij d. . . .

1476-7 (2nd June – 25th May) (F)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs pauperculus – iij s. . . .

1477-8 (25th May – 10th May) (F)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs pauperculus iij s. . . .

1478-9 (10th May – 30th May) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs pauperculus iij s iij d . . . Et ad officium feretrarij pro ij^{bus} annis episcopo puerili vj s. viij d. . . .

1479-80 (?30th May – ?21st May) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs pauperculus – iij s. iij d. . . . Et Officio fferetrarij pro Episcopo puerili – iij s. iij d. . . .

1480-1 (21st May – 10th June) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs pauperculus – iij s. iij d. . . .
d

. . . Et Officio fferetrarij pro Episcopo puerili iij s. iij d. . . .

⁷ The last item is added in a different ink and possibly a different hand; further, see End Notes.

1481-2 (10th June – 26th May) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .
d

. . . Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs pauperculis – iij s. iij d. . . . Et Officio
fferetrarij pro Episcopo puerili – iij s. iij d. . . .

1482-3 (26th May – 18th May) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .
d

. . . Et in donis datis ministrallis & alijs pauperculis .iij.s.iij.d. . . . Et officio
feretrarij pro Episcopo Puerili .iij.s. iij.d. . . .

1483-4 (18th May – 6th June) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .
d

. . . Et in donis Datis ministrallis & alijs pauperculis iij s. iij d. . . . Et officio
feretrarij pro Episcopo puerili – iij s. iij d. . . .

1484-5 (6th June – 22nd May) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis Datis Ministrallis & alijs pauperculis – iij s. iij d. . . . Et
officio fferetrarij pro Episcopo puerili – iij s. iij d. . . .

1485-6 (22nd May – 14th May) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis datis ministrallis & alijs pauperibus – iij s. iij d. . . . Et
officio fferetrarij pro episcopo puerili – iij s. iij d. . . .

1486-7 (14th May – 3rd June) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis datis ministrallis & alijs pauperibus – iij s. iij d. . . . Et
officio fferetrarij pro Episcopo puerili – iij s. iij d. . . .

1487-8 (?3rd June – ?25th May) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .
mb2

. . . Et donis datis Ministrallis & alijs p<au>peribus – iij s. iij d. . . . Et officio
feretrarij pro episcopo puerili – iij s. iij d. . . .

1488-9 (25th May – 7th June) **(F+D)**
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . .
mb2

. . . Et in donis datis ministrallis et alijs pauperibus hoc Anno – iij s. iiij d. . . . Et officio feretrarij pro episcopo puerili – iij s. iiij d. . . .

1489-90 (7th June – 30th May) **(F+D)**
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis datis ministrallis & alijs pauperibus hoc Anno – iij s. iiij d. . . .
Et officio Feretrarij pro episcopo puerili – iij s. iiij d. . . .

1490-1 (30th May – 22nd May) **(F+D)**
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis datis minist[r]allis⁸ & alijs
d

pauperibus hoc Anno – iij s. iiij d. . . . Et officio fferetrarij & episcopo puerili – iij s. iiij d. . . .

1495-6 (7th June – 22nd May) **(F+D)**
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense: . . . Et in donis & regardis datis ministrallis & portantibus ferinam Hoc Anno
necessarie - v s. vj d. . . . Et Officio Feretrarij pro episcopo puerili – iij s. iiij d. . . .

1509-10 (27th May – 19th May) **(F+D)**
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense et: . . . Et in donis & regardis datis Ministrallis et portantibus fferinam et pisces
necessarie aque dulcis – xiiij s. iiij d. . . . Et soluit Officio fferetrarij pro Episcopo puerili
– iij s. iiij d. . . .

1510-1 (19th May – 8th June) **(F+D)**
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense et: . . . Et in donis ^{& regardis} datis Ministrallis et portantibus fferinam – xiiij.s.
necessarie iiij.d. . . . Et soluit officio fferetrarij pro Episcopo Puerili – iij.s. iiij.d. . . .

1511-2 (8th June – 30th May) **(F+D)**
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense et: . . . Et in donis & regardis datis Ministrallis & portantibus fferinam – xiiij.s.
necessarie iiij.d. . . . Et soluit officio fferetrarij pro Episcopo Puerili – iij.s. iiij d. . . .

1512-3 (30th May – 15th May) **(F+D)**

⁸ MS 'ministrallis'.

Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense et: . . . Et in donis & regardis datis ministrallis & portantibus fferinam & pisces
necessarie aque dulcis – xiiij.s. iiij d. . . . Et soluit Officio fferetrarij pro Episcopo
puerili – iij s. iiij d. . . .

1513-4 (15th May – 4th June) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense et: . . . Et in donis & regardis datis ministrallis & portantibus fferinam & pisces
necessarie aque dulcis – xiiij.s. iiij.d. . . . Et soluit Officio fferetrarij pro Episcopo puerili
– iij s. iiij d. . . .

1516-7 (11th May – 31st May) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense et: . . . Et in donis & regardis datis Ministrallis & portantibus ferinam – x s. . . .
necessarie
d
. . . Et soluit officio fferetrarij pro Episcopo puerili – iij s. iiij d. . . .

1525-6 (4th June – 20th May)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense et: . . .
Necessarie
d
. . . Et officio feretrarij pro episcopo puerili iij s. iiij d. . . .

1528-9 (31st May – 16th May) (F+D)
Prior of Finchale's Account DUL

Expense et: . . .
necessarie
d
. . . Et in donis datis ministrallis & alijs portantibus ferinam – viij s. . . . Et
Officio fferetrarij pro Episcopo Puerili – iij s. iiij d. . . .

Textual Notes

Terminal dates are normally the Monday after Ascension until 1448, when they move to the Friday of the same week (the Friday before Pentecost). From 1451 they move to Pentecost itself.

- 1368-9: Text from A (final draft with corrections); B (fair copy) substantially identical.
1372-3: Text from A; B substantially identical.
1374-5: Text from A; B substantially identical.
1375-6: Text from A (office copy with Waste and Arrears); B (fair copy) substantially identical.

- 1376-7: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1377-8: Text from B (final draft, before totals of subsections were added); A (fair copy, with totals for subsections) substantially identical.
- 1379-80: Text from A; B substantially identical. In both copies, the heading gives the year as 1369-70, but mention of debts outstanding from 1376 and the facts that this account begins on the closing date of the account for 1378-9 and takes up its closing balance show that the year 1379-80 is meant.
- 1390-1: Text from B, final draft with corrections (including an illegible deletion after 'die' in this entry), and without schedule of arrears and untenanted property; A (fair copy with schedule) substantially identical with the corrected form of B.
- 1394-5: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1395: Most of the contents of this account for a single term are incorporated in the following account for the year 1395-6; the fact that the payment(s) to minstrels do not appear in the latter suggests that minstrel payments may also have been summarised out in other years.
- 1398-9: Heading lost, but this account takes up the balance of the account closed on 20th May, 1398. It clearly covers one complete year; its closing date is assumed to be the Monday after Ascension, as is usual in these accounts.
- 1403-4: [Text from B; A substantially identical.](#)
- 1405-6: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1407-8: Text from B, probably a final draft, where the sum of Arrears has not been added up; A (fair copy, with total of Arrears) substantially identical.
- 1408-9: Text from B, probably a final draft, where the sum of Arrears has not been added up; A (fair copy, with total of Arrears) substantially identical.
- 1409-10: Heading damaged, but opening date (Monday after Ascension) and closing year are legible; the account is for one year, and the closing date is assumed also to be the Monday after Ascension.
- 1410-1: Heading damaged, but opening date legible as 'Monday . . . 1410, and closing date as 'Monday after the same feast'; both are taken to be Monday after Ascension, the usual terminal date for these accounts.
- 1411: Heading and text damaged, but the status added on the dorse confirms the closing date and adds the year 1411; the account covers about 30 weeks, so must have opened during the week after Ascension, thus confirming the closing date of the preceding account.
- 1415-6: Heading lost; opening date from the closing date of the previous account, whose closing balance is taken up at the beginning of this account. Closing date from the opening of the following account, whose arrears match the exonerations at the end of this account.
- 1416-7: Heading damaged; opening date clear, but closing date is '...day after Ascension', probably the Monday, which is the usual terminal date in these accounts.
- 1417-8: Heading lost and top part of account damaged, but the account appears to take up the closing balance of the account for 1416-7; approximate opening and closing dates, assumed to be around Monday after Ascension, are taken from the closing and opening dates of the preceding and following accounts.
- 1418-9: Heading damaged, but opening date is '. . . Ascension 1418', assumed to be Monday after Ascension, as usual in these accounts; closing date is clear.
- 1426-7: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1427-8: Text from A; B substantially identical.

- 1429-30: text from A (fair copy); B (probably the office fair copy, with one scribal error corrected in A) has this item damaged, but is substantially identical where legible.
- 1430-1: Text from A, probably a final draft or office copy, with some superscript corrections; B (fair copy) substantially identical.
- 1432-3: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1433-4: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1434-5: Text from A; B (in a different hand and without details of arrears) substantially identical.
- 1440-1: Text from A; B substantially identical. The heading gives the closing date as 'Monday after Ascension, 28th May', but in fact the Monday after Ascension was May 29th, as correctly stated in the account for the following year.
- 1441-2: Text from A; B (Prior of Durham's fair copy) substantially identical.
- 1442-3: Text from A; B substantially identical. The heading is damaged in both copies; in A the opening and closing years are '144*', the opening date is '. . . Ascension', and the closing date 'Monday after the same feast'. As this account takes up the closing balance of the account closed on Monday after the Ascension 1442 and closes with the balance taken up in the one that opens on Monday after Ascension 1443, the usual terminal dates are confirmed.
- 1443-4: Text from C (draft on paper); A and B (fair copies on parchment) substantially identical.
- 1444-5: Heading damaged, and days of the week after Ascension for opening and closing dates are not legible, but the preceding and following accounts confirm the usual terminal dates on the Monday after Ascension.
- 1445-6: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1447-8: Text from A; B substantially identical for this entry, though it has a different overall balance.
- 1448-9: Text from A; B substantially identical. This account changes the terminal date from the Monday after Ascension to the Friday before Pentecost (i.e. the Friday of the same week).
- 1449-50: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1451-2: Heading slightly damaged, and the year is legible only as '14*1-2', but the prior rendering the account is Thomas Ayer (Prior of Finchale 1451-7), and this account takes up the balance of the one closed at Pentecost 1451.
- 1454-5: Heading lost, but this account takes up the balance of that closed at Pentecost 1454; the account covers a whole year, and the closing date is assumed also to be Pentecost, as usual in this period.
- 1456-7: Text from B (draft on paper); A (fair copy on parchment) substantially identical.
- 1457-8: Text from B; A (Sub-Prior of Durham's fair copy) substantially identical.
- 1458-9: Text from B; A (Sub-Prior of Durham's fair copy) substantially identical. The Boy Bishop payment has been erased in both copies, but is legible under ultra-violet light; further, see end notes.
- 1462-3: Text from C (draft on paper); A and B (fair copies on parchment) substantially identical.
- 1463-4: Text from C (draft on paper); A (sub-prior of Durham's fair copy) and B (prior of Durham's fair copy), both on parchment, are substantially identical.
- 1464-5: Text from A; B omits 'diuersis'. Further (on 'le playerchambre') see End Notes.

- 1466-7: Text from B; A badly faded, and the sum is unclear even under ultra-violet light (it could be 'iij s. iiii d.')
- 1467-8: heading damaged: opening and closing dates are at Pentecost, but the year is legible only as '14**'; however, this account takes up the balance of the account closed at Pentecost 1467.
- 1471-2: Heading damaged; terminal dates legible only as '. . . 1471 until the same feast the following year', but this account takes up the closing balance of the account ended at Pentecost 1471 and leaves the balance taken up in the account that begins at Pentecost 1472.
- 1473-4: Text from B (probably a final draft), where Expenses have not been totalled up; A (fair copy) substantially identical. In B, the opening year is given as 1483, but the accountant is William Byrden, Prior of Finchale ca. 1466 – ca. 1478, so A's dating is the correct one.
- 1479-80: Heading damaged; terminal dates legible only as '. . . 1479 to same feast 1480'; terminal dates taken from close and opening of the preceding and following accounts, which leave and take up the opening and closing balances of this account.
- 1481-2: Text from A, which has an error in the total for receipts; B, with a corrected total, is here substantially identical.
- 1487-8: Heading lost, but this account takes up the balance of that closed at Pentecost 1487 and leaves the balance taken up in the one that begins at Pentecost 1488.
- 1488-9: Text from A; B is badly damaged, and has lost these entries.
- 1528-9: Much of this account is very faint and can be read only under ultra-violet light.

End Notes

- 1365-6: William de Barnby, who is otherwise unknown, is here bringing rent from Yokefleet, one of the manors attached to the Priory's franchise at Howden, East Yorkshire (on which, see Dobson, *Durham Priory*, 153-56). This is distinct both from the payment *pro secta curie* ('for suit of court', a feudal payment to the Bishop) and from the Boy Bishop payment.
- 1367: The overlap of dates between the 1367 and 1367-8 accounts is caused by John of Tykhill's replacement as Prior by Uhtred of Boldon. If, as seems probable, the Almonry Bishop ceremony took place just before Ascension Day, it ought not to appear in the 1367 account, which begins on the Monday after Ascension (unless it was paid in arrears, in which case it should not also appear in the account for 1367-8; for similar problems, cf. also the Chamberlain's Account for 1404-5 and End Note, and the Hostillar's Accounts for 1355, 1387 and 1405-6, and End Note). But it was probably a routine item copied from year to year because the Prior of Finchale expected to have to pay it.
- 1375-6: The Prior of Finchale (Uhtred of Boldon) is here objecting to the levy of feudal payment on the estate at Wingate, Co. Durham, on the grounds that Wingate has been granted to Finchale as pure alms and should therefore be free of duty. He maintains this objection in subsequent accounts until 1379-80 and again in 1389-90, but to no avail, as the bishop continued to levy the payment.

- 1385-6: The *decima crofti* ('tithe on the smallholding') seems to be the tithe payment levied by the Bishop on the land on which Finchale itself stood (see Raine, *Surtees Society* vol. 6, p. CCCCXXV, under *croftum Godrici*).
- 1395-6: As this account also covers the period of the 1395 account, it is surprising that its minstrel payment is not also included here; it may have been subsumed within a larger item for the whole year, such as alms *in die cene* 'alms on the day of the feast', or gifts to servants and others. On the date of the Almonry Bishop ceremony and the possibility that it was paid for in arrears, see the Hostillar's and Finchale accounts for 1405-6 and End Notes.
- 1405-6: If the Almonry Bishop ceremony was paid for in arrears, its appearance here must be a 'ghost entry' mechanically copied from the previous year, since there was no Boy Bishop in 1405 (see the Hostillar's account for 1405-6 and End Note).
- 1407-8: The living and vicarage at Giggleswick, West Yorkshire were in the patronage of Durham Cathedral Priory, and the income from them was assigned to the use of Finchale (Dobson, *Durham Cathedral Priory*, p. 151, fn. 1). The minstrel performances noted here may have been at Giggleswick, but the holdall nature of the item suggests that they were more probably at Finchale.
- 1423-4: This is the earliest known payment to the 'Bishop of Elvet', who seems to have been a separate Boy Bishop associated with the parish of St. Oswald's, Elvet, Durham; Finchale was part of this parish (and remains a detached part of it today). Other 'Bishop of Elvet' payments can be found in the accounts of the Hostillar between 1434 and 1441 and the Elvethall accounts from 1447-8 at least until 1459-60 (and further see End Note on the Elvethall account for 1460-1); Elvethall was the Hostillar's most important endowment (see Dobson, *Durham Cathedral Priory*, 42). For other examples of parish Boy Bishops, see Chambers, *The Medieval Stage* I, 359 and notes 6-8. It seems most likely that the 'Bishop of Elvet' held sway during Ascension week, when *The Rites of Durham* records that there were processions from the cathedral to the three major churches in the city, one of which was St. Oswald's. +REF
- 1458-9: The careful erasure of the Boy Bishop payment in both copies of this account, and the similar deletion in the Hostillar's account for the same year suggest that the ceremony was cancelled in one of these two years, most likely 1459; further, see Hostillar's Account 1458-9, End Note.
- 1474-5: This is the first account in which it is specified that the Boy Bishop payment is made to the office of the Feretrar. As he has no outgoings that seem to relate to the ceremony, it may have been discontinued, surviving only as a financial levy. Further, see the Feretrar's account for 1480-1, and End Note.