

**Durham Priory – Prior of Lytham’s Accounts**  
(performances are at Durham except where marked L; L+D indicates accounts that include performances at both Lytham and Durham; **accounts probably relating to Lancashire performances are in brown – but see End Note 1456-7 for doubtful cases**)

**Introduction**

1342-1534, but there is no relevant material before 1346. One membrane, length 310-802 mm., width 203-335 mm. Single-column with undivided expenses. The first relevant account has expenses written as a continuous paragraph, but thereafter each item has a separate line. The usual terminal date is the Monday after Ascension, except for the period 1393-5, when it is Pentecost (on 1394-5, see Textual Note). In 1456-7 the account runs from St. Lawrence (10<sup>th</sup> August) to the Monday after Ascension; the account for the earlier part of the year may never have been written, since the eccentric opening date was caused by the death of the previous Prior – see Textual Note.

Lytham Priory, on the north bank of the River Ribble, was founded between 1189 and 1194 as a result of a gift from Richard Fitz Roger, a local magnate who was inspired by gratitude to St. Cuthbert for miraculous cures of himself and his infant son.<sup>1</sup> It was relatively prosperous, but for much of the time from the early fifteenth century until the dissolution its prior was on bad terms with many of the local landowners. The exception was during the priorate of William Partrike (1431-1446), a rather acquisitive monk who took the side of the local magnates against the mother house and tried unsuccessfully to detach Lytham from its dependence on Durham.<sup>2</sup> In view of this, the large number of payments to minstrels at Lytham seems surprising, as does their absence from precisely the period of Partrike’s priorate, despite the survival of an almost complete run of accounts for that period. The fact that he made only one contribution to the Almonry Bishop ceremony in Durham, and that in his first year at Lytham, is less surprising. Some of the early minstrel payments are probably to be explained by the friendship between the Durham monks and the family of John of Gaunt (see the account for 1396-7 and End Note), but the later ones probably merely reflect to relative prosperity of the cell, though the sums involved drop to a low level in the later fifteenth century before rising modestly thereafter and becoming fixed at 10 shillings per year from 1506 onwards.

**Texts**

**1346-7** (29<sup>th</sup> May – 14<sup>th</sup> May)

**Prior of Lytham’s Account** DUL

Expense: . . . Et in curialitate facta fratri roberti torpe.<sup>3</sup> j. kirkelan.<sup>4</sup> episcopo elemosinarie. domino ade cort pro itinere conuentus vna cum quinque solidis missis pro festo sancti andree<sup>5</sup> – ix.s. . . .

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<sup>1</sup> W. Farrer and J. Brownhill, *Victoria History of the County of Lancaster*, vol. II, London, 1908, 107-11; Lt. Col. H. Fishwick, *The History of the Parish of Lytham in the County of Lancaster*, Chetham Society vol. 60, Manchester, 1907, 65-93.

<sup>2</sup> See Dobson, *Durham Priory*, 327-41.

<sup>3</sup> Sic. Text from A; B reads ‘roberti torpe’.

<sup>4</sup> B reads ‘kyrkeland’.

<sup>5</sup> B reads ‘pro festo sancti andree missis’.

**1352-3** (?21<sup>st</sup> May – ?6<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in Curialitate facta senescallo ducis. balliuis. subballiuis. hustrionibus. & aliis  
superuentientibus per vices. xlvj.s.vijj.d.

. . .

**1353-4** (?6<sup>th</sup> May – ?26<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .

Item Senescallo ducis balliuis subballiuis hustrionibus & aliis superuenientibus  
xliij.s.

. . .

**1354-5** (26<sup>th</sup> May – 18<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in Curialitate facta balliuis subballiuis ducis hustrionibus & aliis xx.s.

. . .

**1393-4** (25<sup>th</sup> May – 7<sup>th</sup> June) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in donis datis diuersis Officialibus & Ministrallis per vices xxvj s. viij d.

. . .

**1394-5** (?7<sup>th</sup> June – ?30<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .

Item in donis datis diuersis Officialibus & Mynstrellis<sup>6</sup> xxvj s. viij d.

. . .

**1395-6** (24<sup>th</sup> May – 15<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .

d

. . .

Item in donis datis diuersis officialibus & Ministrallis xx.s.

. . .

**1396-7** (15<sup>th</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> June) (L)

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<sup>6</sup> Text from A; B reads 'mynstrarellis'.

**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

...

In donis datis diuersis ministris domini ducis & Ministrallis xxj s. iiij d.

...

**1397-8** (?4<sup>th</sup> June – ?20<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

...

In donis datis diuersis Officialibus domini Ducis & Ministrallis diuersorum dominorum  
xxiij s. iiij s.

...

**1398-9** (20<sup>th</sup> May – 12<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: ...

In donis diuersis officialibus & Ministrallis xij s. iiij d.

...

**1399-1400** (12<sup>th</sup> May – 31<sup>st</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: ...

In donis datis diuersis officialibus & Ministrallis x s. vj d.

...

**1400-1** (31<sup>st</sup> May – 16<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: ...

Item in donis datis Ministris domini Regis & Ministrallis xx s.

...

**1401-2** (16<sup>th</sup> May – 8<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: ...

Item in donis diuersis officialibus domini Regis & Ministrallis per tempus compoti  
xij s. iiij d.

...

**1415-6** (13<sup>th</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> June) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: ...

Item in donis datis ministrallis & alijs per tempus compoti xxiiij s. x d.

...



**1425-6** (?21<sup>st</sup> May – 13<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .  
Item in donis datis ministrallis & alijs x<v>.s. vj d.  
. . .

**1426-7** (13<sup>th</sup> May – 2<sup>nd</sup> June) (L+D)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .  
Item in donis datis ministrallis & alijs xj s. x d.  
. . .  
°Item episcopo puerili de elemosinaria iij s. iij d.°

**1427-8** (2<sup>nd</sup> June – 17<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .  
Item in donis datis ministrallis & alijs xliij s. x d.  
. . .

**1428-9** (17<sup>th</sup> May – 9<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .  
Item in donis datis ministrallis & alijs x\*\*\* j d.  
. . .

**1429-30** (9<sup>th</sup> May – 29<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .  
Item in donis datis ministrallis & alijs xj s. vij d.  
. . .

**1430-1** (29<sup>th</sup> May – 14<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .  
Item in donis datis ministrallis & alijs xij s.  
. . .

**1431-2** (14<sup>th</sup> May – 2<sup>nd</sup> June)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .  
Item <e>piscopo puerili Elimosinarie Dunelmi iij s.

**1447-8** (22<sup>nd</sup> May – 6<sup>th</sup> May)      **(L+D)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense:      . . .

    Item in donis datis ministrallis & alijs      viij s.

    . . .

    Item episcopo puerili      ij s.

    . . .

**1448-9** (6<sup>th</sup> May – 26<sup>th</sup> May)      **(L)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense:      . . .

    Item in diuersis donis datis ministrallis & alijs      vj s. viij d.

    . . .

**1449-50** (26<sup>th</sup> May – 18<sup>th</sup> May)      **(L)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense:      . . .

    Item in diuersis donis datis ministrallis<sup>7</sup> & alijs<sup>8</sup>      vj s. viij d.

    . . .

**1450-1** (18<sup>th</sup> May – 7<sup>th</sup> June)      **(L)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense:      . . .

    Item in diuersis donis datis ministrallis & alijs eodem Anno      xx s.

    . . .

**1451-2** (7<sup>th</sup> June – 22<sup>nd</sup> May)      **(L)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense:      . . .

    Item in diuersis donis datis ministrallis & alijs eodem anno      xx s.

    . . .

**1452-3** (22<sup>nd</sup> May – 14<sup>th</sup> May)      **(L+D)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense:      . . .

    Item in Diuersis Donis Datis Ministrallis & alijs      xiiij s. iiij d.

    . . .

    Item Episcopo puerili Elemosinarie      xx d.

**1453-4** (14<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June)      **(L+D)**

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<sup>7</sup> Text from A, but B identical; the writer seems to be trying to add a Latin ending to the end of the English word. The same form is repeated in the accounts for the next two years, along with what looks like a standardised quota of 20 s. for this item.

<sup>8</sup> Text from A; B adds 'hoc anno'.

**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .

*Item in diuersis donis datis <m>\*\*\*stralis & alijs* x s.

. . .

d

. . .

*Item Episcopo puerili Elemosinarie* xx d.

**1454-5** (3<sup>rd</sup> June – 19<sup>th</sup> May) (L+D)

**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .

*Item in diuersis donis datis ministrallis* x s.

. . .

*Et episcopo puerili Elemosinarie* ij s.

**1455-6** (19<sup>th</sup> May – 10<sup>th</sup> May) (L+D)

**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .

*Et in diuersis donis datis Ministrallis* vj s. viij d.

. . .

*Et episcopo Puerili elemosinarie* ij s.

. . .

**1456-7** (10<sup>th</sup> August – 30<sup>th</sup> May) (L?)

**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .

*Et in donis datis ministrallis dominorum & magnatorum patrie ac alijs diuersis*  
xj s. iiij d.

. . .

**1457-8** (30<sup>th</sup> May – 15<sup>th</sup> May) (L?)

**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .

*Et in donis datis ministrallis dominorum & magntorum infra patriam & alijs diuersis*  
*ex curialitate* viij s. ij d.

. . .

**1458-9** (15<sup>th</sup> May – 7<sup>th</sup> May) (L?)

**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .

*Et in donis datis Ministrallis dominorum & magnatorum infra patriam & alijs diuersis*  
*ex curialitate* ij s. ij d.

. . .

**1459-60** (7<sup>th</sup> May – 26<sup>th</sup> May)      **(L)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense:      ...  
    Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs      viij s.  
    ...

**1460-1** (26<sup>th</sup> May – 18<sup>th</sup> May)      **(L)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense:      ...  
    Et in donis datis ministrallis & alijs      .v.s.  
    ...

**1461-2** (18<sup>th</sup> May – 31<sup>st</sup> May)      **(L+D)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense:      ...  
    Et in donis datis ministrallis & alijs      iij s.  
    ...  
d  
    ...  
    Et Episcopo puerili ex curialitate      ij.s.  
    ...

**1462-3** (31<sup>st</sup> May – 23<sup>rd</sup> May)      **(L+D)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense:      ...  
    Et in donis datis ministrallis & Alijs.      ij.s.viij.d.  
    ...  
    Et Episcopo puerili ex curialitate      ij.s.

**1464-5** (14<sup>th</sup> May – 27<sup>th</sup> May)      **(L)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense:      ...  
    Et in donis datis ministrallis & Alijs diuersis per idem tempus.      ij.s.  
    ...

**1465-6** (27<sup>th</sup> May – 19<sup>th</sup> May)      **(L)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense:      ...  
    Et in donis datis ministrallis & Alijs mendicantibus      x.s.  
    ...

**1467-8** (11<sup>th</sup> May – 30<sup>th</sup> May)      **(L+D)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense: . . .  
*Et in donis datis ministrallis & Alijs diuersis mendicantibus per idem tempus* x.s.  
 . . .  
 Et Episcopo puerili hoc Anno ij.s.  
 . . .

**1468-9** (30<sup>th</sup> May – 15<sup>th</sup> May) **(L+D)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .  
*Et in donis datis ministrallis & Alijs diuersis mendicantibus per idem tempus* ix.s.  
 . . .  
 d . . .  
 . . .  
 Et Episcopo puerili ij.s.

**1469-70** (15<sup>th</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> June) **(L+D)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .  
*Et in donis datis ministrall<is> & Ali<j>s mendicantibus* viij.s.  
 . . .  
 Et <e>piscopo puerili hoc Anno. ij.s.

**1470-1** (4<sup>th</sup> June – 27<sup>th</sup> May) **(L)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .  
*Et in donis datis ministrallis & Alijs mendicantibus* xj.s.  
 . . .

**1471-2** (27<sup>th</sup> May – 11<sup>th</sup> May) **(L+D)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .  
*Et in donis datis ministrallis & alijs mendicantibus* ix.s.  
 . . .  
 Et Episcopo puerili hoc Anno ij s.

**1474-5** (23<sup>rd</sup> May – 8<sup>th</sup> May) **(L+D)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

E<x> pense: . . .  
*Et in donis datis ministrallis & alij<s> mendicantibus* x s. vj.d.  
 . . .  
 Et Epi..... <p>uerili ij s.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>9</sup> The lower part of this roll has been broken into strips, and it is not certain that the sum of 2 s. belongs to the Boy Bishop line, but as it and the items immediately above it show the same sums as for the previous year, this reading can be regarded as reasonably certain.

**1475-6** (8<sup>th</sup> May – 27<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .  
Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs pauperibus mendicantibus xj s. iij d.  
. . .

**1476-7** (27<sup>th</sup> May – 19<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .  
Et in donis datis Minist<rallis> & alijs mendicantibus x s. viij d.  
. . .

**1477-8** (19<sup>th</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .  
Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs mendicantibus x s. viij d.  
. . .

**1478-9** (4<sup>th</sup> May – 24<sup>th</sup> May) (L)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

\*\*\*\*\*se: . . .  
Et in donis . . . alijs \*\*ndicantibus xix d.  
. . .

**1479-80** (24<sup>th</sup> May – 15<sup>th</sup> May) (L+D)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .  
Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs pauperibus me[n]dicantibus<sup>10</sup> viij s.  
. . .

d  
. . .  
Et Episcopo puerili ij s.<sup>11</sup>

**1481-2** (4<sup>th</sup> June – 20<sup>th</sup> May) (L+D)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: . . .  
Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs mendican . . . ix s. viij d.  
. . .

Et episcopo puerili ij s.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>10</sup> MS 'medicantibus', probably omitting a nasal stroke.

<sup>11</sup> This item has been scribbled at the end of the subsection in a different ink, but probably in the same hand, apparently as an afterthought.

...  
**1482-3** (?20<sup>th</sup> May – ?12<sup>th</sup> May) (L+D)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: ...  
*Et in donis datis ministrallis & alijs mendicantibus* vij s. viij <sup>d</sup>.  
...  
Et *Episcopo* puerili ij s.  
...

**1483-4** (12<sup>th</sup> May – 31<sup>st</sup> May) (L+D)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

...  
*Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs mendicantibus* vj s.  
...  
d  
...  
Et *Episcopo* Puerili ij s.  
...

**1484-5** (?31<sup>st</sup> May – ?16<sup>th</sup> May) (L+D)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense: ...  
*Et in donis datis Ministrallis & alijs mendicantibus* - v s.  
...  
Et *Episcopo* puerili ij s.  
...

**1486-7** (8<sup>th</sup> May – 28<sup>th</sup> May) (L+D)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense *necessarie*: ...  
*Et in donis datis ministrallis & alijs mendicantibus* v s.  
...  
Et *Episcopo* puerili ij s.

**1488-9** (19<sup>th</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> June) (L+D)  
**Prior of Lytham's Account** DUL

Expense *necessarie*: ...  
*Et in donis datis ministrallis & alijs mendicantibus* v s.  
...  
Et *Episcopo* puerili ij s.  
...

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<sup>12</sup> The Boy Bishop payment has been added between the last two lines of the subsection, in a different ink but in what is probably a less tidy version of the same hand.

**1490-1** (24<sup>th</sup> May – 16<sup>th</sup> May)      **(L+D)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense *necessarie*: . . .

*Et in donis datis ministrallis & alij<s> mendicantibus*      *iiij s. iiij d.*

    . . .

    Et *episcopo* puerili      *ij s.*

    . . .

**1491-2** (16<sup>th</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> June)      **(L+D)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense *necessarie*: . . .

*Et in donis datis ministrallis & alijs mendicantibus*      *iiij s.*

    . . .

    Et *episcopo* puerili      *ij s.*

**1492-3** (4<sup>th</sup> June – 20<sup>th</sup> May)      **(L+D)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense *necessarie*: . . .

*Et in donis datis ministrallis & alijs mendicantibus*      *vj s.*

    . . .

    Et *Episcopo* puerili      *ij s.*

**1494-5** (12<sup>th</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> June)      **(L+D)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense: . . .

*necessarie*      *Et in donis datis ministrallis & alijs mendicantibus*      *vj s.*

d

    . . .

    Et *Episcopo* puerili      *ij s.*

**1495-6** (1<sup>st</sup> June – 16<sup>th</sup> May)      **(L+D)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense *necessarie*: . . .

    Et in donis *Datis ministrallis et alijs mendicantibus*      *iiij s.*

    . . .

    Et *Episcopo* puerili      *ij s.*

**1496-7** (16<sup>th</sup> May – 8<sup>th</sup> May)      **(L+D)**  
**Prior of Lytham's Account**      DUL

Expense *necessarie*: . . .

	<i>Et in donis datis ministrallis &amp; alijs mendicantibus</i>	*** <sup>13</sup>
	... Et <i>episcopo puerili</i>	ij s.
<b>1497-8</b> (8 <sup>th</sup> May – 28 <sup>th</sup> May)	<b>(L+D)</b>	
<b>Prior of Lytham's Account</b>	DUL	
Expense:	...	
<i>necessarie</i>	<i>Et in donis datis ministrallis &amp; alijs mendicantibus</i>	x s.
	... Et <i>episcopo puerili</i>	ij s.
<b>1498-9</b> (?28 <sup>th</sup> May – ?13 <sup>th</sup> May)	<b>(L+D)</b>	
<b>Prior of Lytham's Account</b>	DUL	
Expense <i>necessarie</i> :	...	
	<i>Et in donis datis ministrallis &amp; alijs mendicantibus</i>	xi<j> <sup>14</sup> s.
	... Et <i>episcopo puerili</i>	ij s.
<b>1499-1500</b> (13 <sup>th</sup> May – 1 <sup>st</sup> June)	<b>(L+D)</b>	
<b>Prior of Lytham's Account</b>	DUL	
Expense <i>necessarie</i> :	...	
	<i>Et in donis datis ministrallis &amp; alijs mendicantibus</i>	xij s.
	... Et <i>episcopo puerili</i>	ij s.
<b>1500-1</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> June – 24 <sup>th</sup> May)	<b>(L+D)</b>	
<b>Prior of Lytham's Account</b>	DUL	
Expense:	...	
<i>necessarie</i>	<i>Et in donis datis ministrallis et alijs mendicantibus</i>	xij s.
	... Et <i>episcopo puerili</i>	ij s. <sup>15</sup>
<b>1501-2</b> (24 <sup>th</sup> May – 9 <sup>th</sup> May)	<b>(L+D)</b>	
<b>Prior of Lytham's Account</b>	DUL	
Expense:	...	
<i>necessarie</i>	<i>Et in donis datis ministrallis et alijs mendicantibus</i>	xj s.
	... Et <i>episcopo puerili</i>	ij s.
<b>1502-3</b> (9 <sup>th</sup> May – 29 <sup>th</sup> May)	<b>(L+D)</b>	
<b>Prior of Lytham's Account</b>	DUL	

<sup>13</sup> The sum is damaged and illegible.

<sup>14</sup> The last digit of the sum is legible only under ultra-violet light.

<sup>15</sup> This item has been written over an erasure which is not now legible.

Expense <i>necessarie</i> : . . .		
	<i>Et in Donis datis ministrallis &amp; alijs mendicantibus</i>	xij s.
	. . .	
	Et <i>Episcopo puerili</i>	ij s.
<b>1503-4</b> (29 <sup>th</sup> May – 20 <sup>th</sup> May)	<b>(L+D)</b>	
<b>Prior of Lytham's Account</b>	DUL	
Expense: . . .		
<i>necessarie</i>	<i>Et in donis datis Ministrallis &amp; alijs mendicantibus</i>	x s.
	. . .	
	Et <i>Episcopo puerili</i>	ij.s.
<b>1504-5</b> (20 <sup>th</sup> May – 5 <sup>th</sup> May)	<b>(L+D)</b>	
<b>Prior of Lytham's Account</b>	DUL	
Expense: . . .		
	<i>Et in Donis datis Ministrallis &amp; alijs mendicantibus</i>	xij s.
	. . .	
d	. . .	
	Et <i>Episcopo puerili</i>	ij s.
<b>1506-7</b> (25 <sup>th</sup> May – 17 <sup>th</sup> May)	<b>(L+D)</b>	
<b>Prior of Lytham's Account</b>	DUL	
Expense: . . .		
	<i>Et in donis datis ministrallis et alijs mendicantibus</i>	x s.
	. . .	
	Et <i>Episcopo puerili</i>	ij s.
<b>1509-10</b> (21 <sup>st</sup> May – 13 <sup>th</sup> May)	<b>(L+D)</b>	
<b>Prior of Lytham's Account</b>	DUL	
Exspense: . . .		
	<i>Et in donis datis ministrallis ac alijs mendicantibus</i>	x s.
	. . .	
	Et <i>episcopo puerili</i>	ij s.
<b>1514-5</b> (29 <sup>th</sup> May – 21 <sup>st</sup> May)	<b>(L+D)</b>	
<b>Prior of Lytham's Account</b>	DUL	
Expense: . . .		
	<i>Et in donis datis Ministrallis &amp; alijs</i>	x s.
	. . .	
	Et <i>Episcopo Puerili</i>	ij s.
<b>1525-6</b> (29 <sup>th</sup> May – 14 <sup>th</sup> May)	<b>(L+D)</b>	
<b>Prior of Lytham's Account</b>	DUL	

Expense:	...	
	Et in donis datis ministrallis & alijs	x s.
	...	
	Et episcopo puerili	ij s.
	...	

### Textual Notes

- 1346-7: Text from A; for variants in B, see footnote; B has lost its subsection headings. A has no heading and the top of B is lost; the closing date is that of the *status* at the end of this account, the opening date that of the *status* at the end of the account for the preceding year. See also End Note.
- 1352-3: Heading damaged, and terminal dates legible only as ‘Monday after the feast . . . 1352 until the same day a year later’. The account for 1353-4 begins on an illegible day of the week after Ascension, so the terminal dates for this account are probably Monday after Ascension.
- 1353-4: Heading damaged, and terminal dates legible only as ‘. . . after the feast of the Ascension until the same day a year later’ – see textual note on the preceding year.
- 1393-4: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1394-5: Text from A, including what looks like the English word ‘Mynstrellis’; for variant in B see footnote. The heading of both copies gives the terminal dates as ‘from 1395 until the same feast a year later’; this probably refers to Pentecost, when the account for 1393-4 begins, rather than the Monday after Ascension, when the following account begins, but this cannot be certain.
- 1396-7: Text from A; B substantially identical. Both are without subsection headings.
- 1397-8: Text from A; B substantially identical, though its sum for this item is only partly legible. Neither copy has subsection headings. The exact opening date was originally omitted from the heading in both copies, and has been added only as ‘from Monday after the feast’; this is assumed to be the Monday after Ascension, the closing date of the account for 1396-7, whose closing balance is taken up at the beginning of this account.
- 1416-7: Text from B, with uncorrected balance; A substantially identical.
- 1419-20: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1420-1: Text from B, with an error of two pence in the total of Expenses; A, with a corrected total, is here substantially identical.
- 1421-2: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1422-3: Text from A; B (with a different debt to the accounting Prior) and C (identical with A) are here substantially identical.
- 1424-5: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1425-6: Heading damaged, and terminal dates are legible only as ‘M(onday) . . . 142\* until Monday after the Asc(ension) . . .’. But this account takes up the closing balance of the account closed on Monday after the Ascension 1425, so the year must be 1425-6 and the terminal dates are probably both Monday after the Ascension.
- 1426-7: The Almonry Bishop payment has been added at the end of the section in a different hand.

- 1428-9: The sum for this item is largely illegible because of extensive damage to the right-hand side of the roll, and even the partial reading of it offered here is visible only under ultra-violet light.
- 1429-30: Text from B, the clearer of two identical copies.
- 1430-1: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1447-8: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1448-9: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1449-50: Text from A; for variant in B see footnote.
- 1450-1: Text from A; B has no subsection headings, but is otherwise substantially identical.
- 1451-2: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1452-3: Text from B; A slightly damaged but here substantially identical. In both copies, the Boy Bishop item seems to have been squeezed in as an afterthought at the end of the subsection, but it seems to be in the same hand as the rest of the account.
- 1454-5: Text of the minstrel item from D (draft on paper, based on the account for the previous year), which omits the Boy Bishop payment. Text of the Boy Bishop payment from A (fair copy on parchment), with which B (the Prior of Durham's fair copy on parchment) and C (another fair copy on parchment) are substantially identical. In all of them the Boy Bishop payment comes last in the subsection, and it may have been an afterthought, or more probably a correction; further, see End Note.
- 1455-6: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1456-7: William Dalton, the accountant here, was presented as Prior of Lytham on 14<sup>th</sup> August 1456 following the death of John Barlay (Reg. IV f. 100), so the feast of St. Lawrence given as the opening date of this account must be the one close to that date (Lawrence the Martyr). Further, see End Note.
- 1457-8: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1459-60: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1460-1: Text from A; B (Prior of Durham's copy) substantially identical.
- 1461-2: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1462-3: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1464-5: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1477-8: Text from A; B damaged, but substantially identical where legible.
- 1478-9: The lower part of this roll is severely damaged; the surviving text does not mention minstrels, but the wording seems to be the same as that of the minstrels' payment for each of the two preceding years.
- 1482-3: Heading lost; year and terminal dates are taken from the fact that this account takes up the closing balance of the account closed on 20<sup>th</sup> May 1482 and closes with that taken up at the beginning of the account for 1483-4.
- 1483-4: No subsection headings.
- 1484-5: Heading lost, but this full-year account takes up the balance of the account closed on 31<sup>st</sup> May 1484; the closing date is assumed also to be the Monday after Ascension, as usual in these accounts.
- 1488-9: Text from A; B substantially identical.
- 1498-9: Heading damaged, and only opening year is partly legible as '149\*'. This account takes up the closing balance of the account closed on 28<sup>th</sup> May 1498, and its closing balance is taken up at the beginning of the account opened on 13<sup>th</sup> May 1499; both dates are the Monday after Ascension, as usual.

## End Notes

- 1346-7:** Robert T(r)orpe and Adam Cort were both Durham monks, and the former is known to have been attached to Lytham at this time. Cort's journey is unexplained: he had not been an exemplary monk, and this is the last known reference to him. He may either have absconded from the Priory or have died of the Black Death in September – November 1349, when the Priory records are briefly disrupted (information from A.J. Piper). J. Kirkland is unknown, but may have been a servant at Lytham.
- With the possible exception of the doubtful reference to the 'clerks of St. Nicholas' in the Holy Island account for 1342-3 (qv., with End Note), this is the earliest surviving reference to the Almonry Bishop of Durham; further, see Appendix D.
- 1352-3:** The duke referred to here is Henry of Grosmont, 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Lancaster 1351-61 (see McKisack, *The Fourteenth Century*, 148 etc.).
- 1396-7:** 'domini ducis' refers to John of Gaunt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke of Lancaster – cf. the near-identical wording which identifies his son as the King (Henry IV) in the accounts for 1400-1 etc., and cf. the Durham Bursar's accounts for 1363-4, 1399-1400 etc and End Notes for Durham Priory's cordial relationship with both father and son.
- 1454-5:** Since version D (the paper draft for this account) is worked up from the account for the previous year, which includes a Boy Bishop payment, it seems surprising that it omits the payment, while all three revised copies include it. It is hard to avoid the suspicion that the Prior of Lytham initially tried to avoid this payment but was then required to add it at the end of Expenses.
- 1456-7 (and two following years): The word *patria* in the Durham Priory Accounts usually refers to the County Palatine of Durham, the lands *inter aquas* (i.e. between the rivers Tyne and Tees), but in view of Lytham's remoteness from Durham and the infrequency of its prior's visits there (see Dobson, *Durham Priory* 328-9), that meaning seems unlikely here. It probably refers to the area round Lytham, but whether to the local area of Amounderness or to the whole Duchy of Lancaster is not clear.