



# HEADSTONE MANOR & MUSEUM

A message from....  
Bill the Duck!



Hey! 🖐️ We're now visiting the last and oldest rooms of Headstone Manor!

The beautiful Great Hall was built in 1310 and was originally three times the size it is now. Sadly the other two thirds burnt down at some point, but there's a drawing below that shows how big it would have looked! So grand! And look at that feast - it just goes to show how fancy the Ramsey family, who built this house, really might have been. It's the same with the moat - it wasn't to keep away enemies, they just wanted to show off!

A few years after the Ramseys built the Manor house, it was sold to its first Archbishop of Canterbury owner, John Stratford. The Archbishops had owned a Harrow Manor since the 9th Century and now Headstone became their new main residence. Lots of changes went on in here, what with the post-fire Georgian-era eastern wall with sash windows which were later bricked up, and the new fancy Elizabethan window, but it still retains its Medieval grandeur!

Next to the Great Hall is the Buttery, which was also built in 1310. It's the coldest room in the house, Margery says she liked to find work in there in the Summer so she could stay cool! Although the name makes it sound like this is where butter was made, it is actually where they kept the 'butts', casks of beer, wine or water (tehe!). It's quite likely though that because the room is so cold they also kept food in here.

So, that's the last room in the Manor House, but don't worry, the tour is not over yet, Headstone Manor's history goes back even further than this!



The Great Hall is the oldest  
part of the house & has  
seen lots of changes!

The earliest  
construction was circa 1310.



The big Elizabethan window  
was added in the late 1500s.



This wattle  
and daub  
wall shows  
how the Hall  
was originally  
constructed.  
The lower  
panelling is  
Georgian.





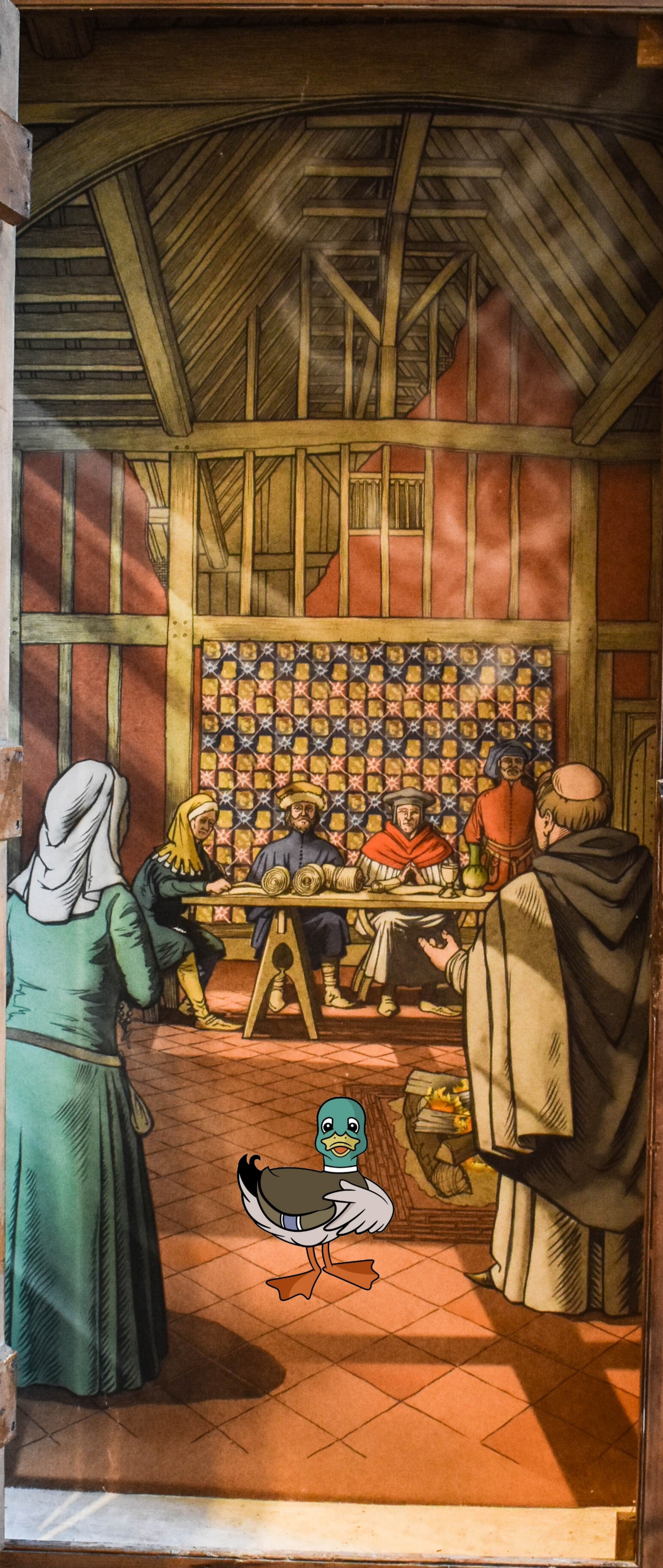
This beautiful ceiling was once covered up.



That's the window from  
the Victorian room!



The original Hall was  
three times its current size.



The eastern part of it,  
illustrated here, burned down.



*Outside, you can walk the paths of the original foundations...*



*...as marked by these brick lines in the gardens.*





The final room in our tour of  
the Manor House is the Buttery.  
Even though it's as old as the Great Hall,  
it's barely changed at all since 1310!





This room was naturally cool, as it  
is partially below ground!

All sorts of delicious  
food was kept here,  
under lock & key!

In fact, the original  
medieval door and  
lock are still in  
place.

