

## **Translation of the 1205 charter**

**John, by the Grace of God King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy and Aquitaine, and Earl of Anjou**, to his archbishops, bishops, abbots, earls, barons, justices, sheriffs, reeves, ministers, and all faithful servants, greeting.

**Know ye** that we have granted and by this our charter confirmed to our burgesses of Huntingdon, our borough of Huntingdon with all its appurtenances, to have and hold to them and their heirs from us and our heirs at fee farm, rendering to us and our heirs yearly the due and ancient farm and ten pounds of increase, by their hands at the two exchequers, to wit, one moiety at the exchequer of Easter, and the other moiety at the exchequer of Saint Michael, for all service.

**Also** we have granted and confirmed to them that the aforesaid borough of Huntingdon, and the burgesses dwelling therein, shall have and hold the same liberties and free customs as other free boroughs and our free burgesses of England have; and we make prohibition upon forfeiture to us that no sheriff or any other person should hereafter interfere contrary to the spirit of this our charter aforesaid, wherefore we will and firmly command that the aforesaid burgesses and their heirs shall have and hold the aforesaid borough of Huntingdon with all appurtenances at fee farm, and that the same borough and the burgesses shall have and hold the same liberties and free customs as any other boroughs and our free burgesses of England have, well and in peace, freely and quietly, entirely, fully, and honorably, in wood and plain, in ways and paths, in meadows and pastures, in fees and lordships, in waters and mills, in animal enclosures and fisheries, in moors and marshes, within borough and without, and in all places and things, with all liberties and free customs to the aforesaid borough, pertaining by the aforesaid farm as is aforesaid.

**Witnesses:** G. fitz Peter Earl of Essex, The Earl W. Marshal, The Earl W. Sarum, W. Earl of Warrenn, W. Earl of Arundel, R. Constable of Chester, Saier de Quency, Simon de Patishill.

**Given by the hand of Hugh of Wells, Archdeacon of Wells, at Havering, the seventh day of August, in the seventh year of our reign.**