

Account of Purley on Thames

R900013

Heraldry

Introduction

Purley Heraldry can be divided into three groups: first the armorial bearings of the several families who owned the manors; second, the arms that are displayed on memorials in the church and third, the arms displayed in Purley Hall. Purley church has no hatchments which are a feature of many churches.

Manorial Families

HUSCARLE

The Huscarles were Lords of Purley Magna from 1166 to 1369. Their arms were:-

Azure three axes argent

CAREW

The Carews were Lords of Purley Magna from 1369 to 1485. Their arms were:-

Or three lions passant sable

ST JOHN

The St John's were Lords of Purley Magna from 1514 to 1786. Their arms were:-

Argent a chief gules with two molets or therein

STORER

The Storer's were Lords of Purley Magna from 1793 to 1926. Their arms were:-

Six pieces gules argent with three cranes argent in the gules

HYDE

The Hydes were lords of Purley La Hyde from around 1550 to 1723. Their arms were:-

Gules two cheverons argent

Arms at the Church

GRANDISON

On the south wall of the tower is the arms of Viscount Grandison. They are carved in stone and are St John quartered with Poynings and Tregose.

Quarterly 1&4 - [Silver] on a chief [gules] two molets pierced [Gold] (St John)

Quarterly 2 - Paly [silver] and [azure] on a bend [gules] three eagles [gold] (Grandison)

Quarterly 3 - [azure] two bars gemel and in chief a lion passant [gold] (Tregose)

A crescent for difference in centre chief

Note (from Coats of Arms in Berkshire Churches) This shield probably represents Sir John St John (d1648) who was the son of John St John (d1594) of Lydiard Tregose, Co Wilts by his wife Lucy, daughter and heir of Sir Walter Hungerford of Farley, Co Wilts. He married firstly Anne, daughter of Sir Thomas Leighton of Feckenham, Co Worcester, and secondly Margaret, widow of Sir Richard Grubham, Kt. By his first wife he

had issue seven sons and three daughters. He was knighted at Whitehall on Feb 2, 1608, and was created a baronet, at the first institution of the order, on May 22, 1611. He had an estate at Battersea and Wandsworth. During the Civil War he was a Royalist and had three sons killed in the King's service. He was M.P. for Wiltshire 1624.

His sister Anne married Sir George Ayliffe, Kt of Grittenham, Co Wilts., and was the mother of Ann (d 1632), the first wife of Edward Hyde (1609-1674) afterwards 1st Earl of Clarendon. Ann (d 1632) dsp of the smallpox at Reading some six months after their marriage. The arms of Grandison and Teegoze were brought in by the marriage of William Lord Grandison (d 1335) with Sibyl, younger daughter and coheir of Sir John Tregoz of Ewyas Harold who were ancestors, through Patshall and Beachamp. [Compl. Peer iii (1913), 265:vi(1926)60-62; Colins Peer (1812), 53]

HYDE

On the south inside the tower is the memorial to Ann Hyde. Above is a shield of arms:-

"Sable a cheveron argent between three leopards' heads or (for Noble) impaling Argent two battled bars sable and a chief with three shells sable therein.

Over the shield is a helm with a crest of a griffon's head with the motto "Fructus Virtutis"

An alternative description given in 'Coats of Arms in Berkshire Churches' is:

Above: - Azure a chevron between three lozenges gold and on the chevron a molet gules for difference
HYDE - impaling Sable a lion between three crosslets gold AYLIFFE

Centre - Dexter HYDE Sinister HYDE impaling AYLIFFE

Below: - dexter AYLIFFE impaling St JOHN sinister AYLIFFE

ST JOHN

Also in the tower is a memorial to Jane St John. On the tablet is a shield :-

Azure a dove rising holding an olive branch and a molet argent between two crosses formy or in the chief (the arms of John Leng bishop of Norwich 1723-7) impaling those of Noble

LIEBENROOD

On a mural marble on the outside east wall of the tower facing the nave.

Silver three bends sable on a chief gules a demi-stag silver LIEBENROOD impaling Gold a chevron azure (?sable) citised between three griffin's head couped

on a mural marble to Ann Liebenrood there are two bearings defaced.

On a mural marble to John George Liebenrood

LIEBENROOD and in pretence

Quarterly 1&4 - Silver two bars azure an anchor gold (ALLEN)

Quarterly 2&3 - Gules on a bend silver three crosslets fitchy sable (RERESBY)

SPARROW

On a mural marble in the tower to Elizabeth Sparrow.

Silver three sprigs of roses vert and a chief gules impaling Silver a fesse sable between three squirrels CHAMBERS of Boxley Yorks.

WORLIDGE

on a mural marble to Philip Worlidge there are traces of

gules a chevron between three flying swans WORLIDGE

HAWES

on a mural marble to Thomas Hawes inside the tower.

Sable a chevron (now silver) between three leopard's heads gold HAWES

Purley Hall Arms

In the centre of the ceiling of the entrance hall is a shield charged as follows:-

1 and 4 - A chevron between three leopards' heads (Hawes)

2 and 3 - A fesse between two running greyhounds (Hall?) impaling a bend between two lions's heads razed with three crosses formy on the bend (Atherley)

The shield is enclosed in a circle with the motto "Floresco et Evanesco"

In the upper lights of the windows of the drawing room are two pieces of heraldic glass. The first is charged:-

Hawes impaling Argent two bars sable battled on both sides with three whelk shells sable in the chief with the crest of a griffin's head and the motto "Fructus Virtutis"

The second is:-

Azure a dove holding an olive branch with a molet between two crosses formy or in the chief (for John Leng bishop of Norwich 1723-7) impaling Hawes.

Above is a mitre with the motto "Noli Altum Sapere"

Bibliography

The Coats of Arms in Berkshire Churches by PS Spokes - originally published in BAJ XLII(1938)