

# *Account of Purley on Thames*

## Elliott Hodgkin

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*Article in Purley Parish News May 1967 - anon*

A mural tablet in our church, immediately behind the Lectern, records the fact that Charles Ernest Hodgkin was "for 48 years churchwarden of this parish" During those years he was both its friend and benefactor. His son Elliot, was born at Purley Lodge on 19th June 1905. An entry in the church register gives the date of his baptism as the 23rd July - by the Rev J H D Matthews.

Though destined for the Pulsometer, Eliot became an artist. He has long been a regular exhibitor at the Royal Academy. He has had one man exhibitions both in London and New York. Two of his pictures are in the Tate Gallery, having been purchased with money from the Chantry bequest. The smaller and later of these pictures is of flowers and plants found near his home "at Purley, Berkshire".

It is in portraying flowers, fruit and foliage that Eliot Hodgkin excels, and where we cannot fail to observe the delicacy of his touch and the inspired closeness to nature.

He himself has written "what I want to paint are the things that have been seen so often that people no longer notice them - or if they are noticed they are no longer thought beautiful - I try to show these things exactly as they are, yet with some of their mystery and poetry."







