



An Elizabethan Revel

Langley Revel

Langley Fitzurse

The ancient feast of this parish is still observed on the Sunday after old St. Peter's Day, July 11. Aubrey says that in his day Langley Revel was one of the eminentest feasts in these parts. It was probably in its original institution a religious festival, commemorating the dedication of the Church. The old Church of St. Peter's, Langley, stood, as Canon Jackson records, about the middle of the village, on the high ground on the north side of the lane leading to the present Church. It had fallen into ruins, and had been converted into a dwelling-house before 1670. Some quoins, and part of the head of an archway, still remain, built into the back wall of a cottage belonging to Walter Coleman, esq., and now occupied by Mr. John Weakley. The old churchyard, half-an-acre in extent, covers the area of two cottage gardens; it was held by the wardens of St. Peter's chapel of the Abbey of Glastonbury for 90 years, on a payment of 2d. a year. Honest John Wastfield, of Langley, told J. Aubrey that he had been Peterman of St. Peter's Chapel in the beginning of Queen Elizabeth's reign.

The children's annual festivities were celebrated on Thursday July 15. By the kind leave of Charles Cotes, esq., they met at the Ridge, in this parish.

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