

The Dukes of Leeds - A Potted History



Ducal Monument

Harthill Memories and History Society

All Hallows Church, Harthill



*The burial place of 2 Barons, 3 Baroness', 6 Dukes, 6 Duchess',
6 of their children, and 1 brother.*

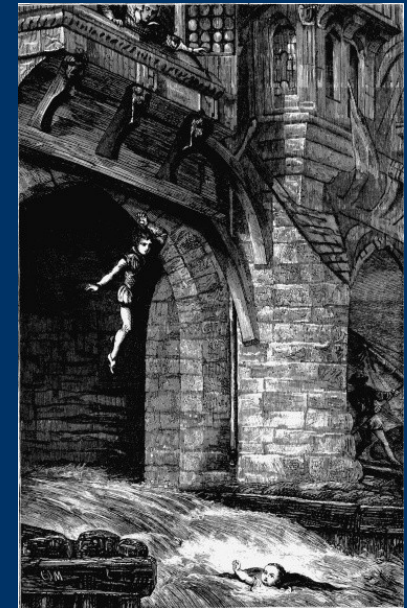
The Beginning of the Osborne Story



Sir William Hewett

In 1544 William Hewett, born in Wales, Yorkshire, engaged as an apprentice, Edward Osborne, the 14-year-old second son of Sir Richard Osborne of Kent, to work in his cloth merchant's business on London Bridge.

As the story goes – William's infant daughter Anne fell into the river Thames from a window ledge and Edward jumped into the river to save her. This act cemented a long-standing business relationship between William and Edward and laid the foundations of Edward's future business success.



In 1559 William Hewett became Lord Mayor of London



In 1562 the 32-year-old Edward Osborne married 18-year-old Anne Hewett, and as a wedding present William gave them his estate and manor house in Essex.

Edward and Anne Osborne had five children 3 Girls and 2 Boys with their eldest son Hewett Osborne, born 1566, being the heir apparent.

Just prior to his death in 1567, the 73-year-old William Hewett secured lands and properties in Kiveton, Harthill, Todwick, Aston, Woodsetts and Killamarsh, for his grandson Hewett Osborne.

Anne died in 1585 aged 41 and was buried with her father and mother at St. Martin Orgars Church, London.

Sir Edward died in 1592 aged 62, and was buried at St Dionis Backchurch, London.



Hewett Osborne 1566 - 1599

In 1588, Hewett Osborne married Joyce Fleetwood the daughter of Thomas Fleetwood a former master of the mint under King Henry VIII.

They had two children:

- Alice Osborne born 1592
- Edward Osborne born 1596

In the late 1590's, to help finance his military career, Hewett Osborne transferred his ownership of the leases on some properties in Harthill, Woodall and Wales to other interested parties .

Apart from these minor transactions, most of the wealth that his grandfather and parents had created remained largely intact.



In the late 1500's, Hewett Osborne fought in Queen Elizabeth's campaign to quell a rebellion in Ireland.

The 33-year-old Hewett was knighted for his service in 1599. However, he died in the same year when he was ambushed by Irish rebels.

He has no known grave.

Edward Osborne 1596 – 1647



At the age of three, Edward Osborne became the heir to the family estates, properties, and interests, in Yorkshire and Essex. For his own protection he was made a Ward of the Crown.

In 1600 his mother, Joyce Osborne (nee Fleetwood), and her brother Sir George Fleetwood purchased Edward's wardship for £420.

In 1604, Joyce married Sir Peter Frecheville at Wales Parish Church.

Edward, and his sister Alice, spent the later days of their childhood in Sir Peter's home at Staveley.





At the age of 24 Edward bought the old manor house at Kiveton. He then sold his Essex estate to finance his Yorkshire business ventures.

In 1618, The 26-year-old Edward married the 32-year-old Margaret Belasyse, the daughter of the, 1st Viscount Fauconberg, one of the most powerful families in the North of England.

In July 1620, King James made Edward a baronet, and he was given the title of Sir Edward Osborne of Kiveton.

Edward and Margaret had one child - Edward Osborne born 1621.

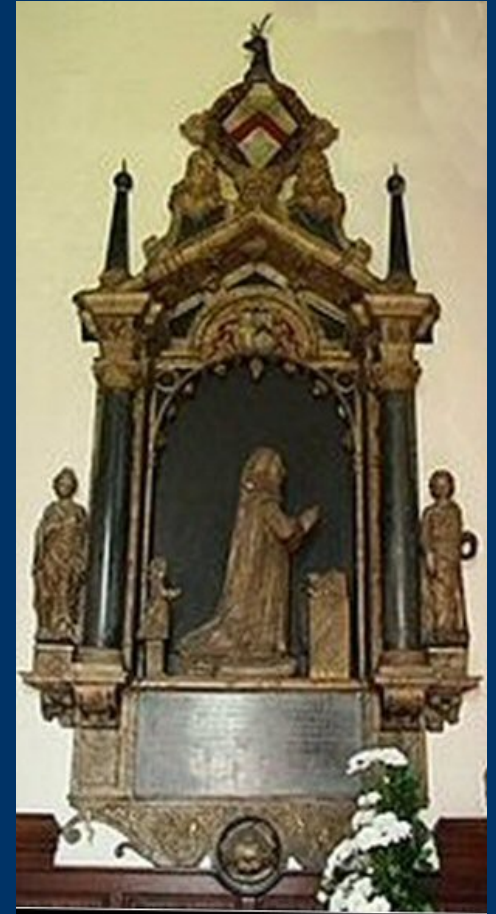
Throughout mid 1600's Edward continued to purchase properties and manors in this area.

However, the Charworth's of Harthill Manor resisted his attempts to buy them out.

In 1624 the 38-year-old Lady Margaret died and was laid to rest in the Chancel of All Hallows Church, Harthill.

After her death Edward had a marble monument to her placed on the north wall of the sanctuary.

Depicted on the monument is a central female figure in early 17th century dress, kneeling with hands in prayer at a desk. On the right, half hidden at the back of the desk, is a small infant in a shroud; at the left front on a plinth is a small standing figure of a young girl in early 17th century dress with her hands held together in prayer.





In 1625 when Charles Stuart was crowned King, Edward became one of his loyal supporters.

In 1630, Edward married his second wife the 30-year-old Anne Walmesley.

Edward and Anne had four children:

Joyce, born 1630

Thomas, *(born 1631 and died shortly afterwards)*

Thomas, born 1632

Charles, born 1633

Anne passed away in 1666, aged 60, and was buried in the chancel of All Hallows Church, Harthill.

In 1633, Edward became the President of the Council of the North.

During his tenure he lived at York Manor (Kings Palace), York.



In 1636, Edward bought the Manor of Thorpe Salvin including Thorpe Salvin Hall.



Thorpe Salvin Hall



In 1638, a tragic accident occurred at York Manor when a violent storm caused the collapse of a high chimney stack.

The chimney fell through the roof and ceiling of the house, killing his 17-year-old son Edward. His 6-year-old second son Thomas, escaped unharmed.

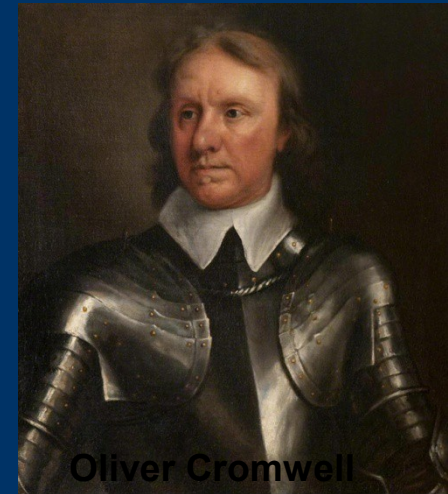


In 1642 when the English Civil War broke out Edward became a Royalist Commander.

In 1644, the tide started to turn for the Royalist cause, and in June 1645 King Charles was defeated at the Battle of Naseby.



Even though the King had been defeated
The fighting continued.



In 1646, a skirmish was fought on the flats at Thorpe Salvin between the Royalist garrison from Welbeck, and Parliamentarians lead by Captain De Rhodes from Barlborough.

Five royalists were killed and were buried in St Peter's churchyard, Thorpe Salvin.

A further forty Royalist soldiers were wounded after quarter was given.

The captured included Thomas Battersby of Whitwell, whose hand they cut off.



Anne Battersby, a descendent of Thomas Battersby, delivering coal at Barlborough

Each day she drove her horse and cart from the village of Belph.
At the end of the day she called at a public house for ample refreshment.
The horse always managed to take her home afterwards.



1645 - After the Civil War, the new Commonwealth Government sequestered Edward's estate, and he was obliged to pay a fine of £1,649 to recover it.

He retired back to Old Kiveton Hall, and died 1647, aged 51.

At the time of his death his personal goods were valued at £2,019/2s/5d.

He was laid to rest in the chancel at All Hallows Church, and his second son Thomas Osborne, aged 15, succeeded him.

On 30 January 1649, Charles I was executed.

Thomas Osborne 1632 - 1712



2nd Baronet of Kiveton 1647

In 1651, at the age of 19, Thomas, now living at Thorpe Salvin Hall, married Bridget Bertie, daughter of the 2nd Earl of Lindsey

Thomas and Bridget had ten children:

- Thomas born 1655, died in 1689 without issue
- Elizabeth born 1656, died in infancy
- Anne born 1657
- Peregrine Osborne born 1659 (The heir apparent)
- Bridget born 1661
- Katherine born 1662
- Martha born 1663
- Sophia born 1664
- Penelope born 1669, died in infancy



Bridget Bertie

Oliver Cromwell died in 1658, and in 1660, the previous loyalty of the Osborne family was rewarded when Charles II came to the throne of England.

In 1675, Sir Thomas built Osborne House, Harthill, for his brother Charles who had remained a bachelor.



The house still stands today, and in its day it was a typical bachelor's country house of the Stuart period. The interior had the master's quarters - two rooms and a bedroom. The two downstairs rooms were served from a passage leading from the servants' quarters. There were two flights of stairs, one for the master and one for the servants



In 1673 King Charles II made Thomas:

Viscount Latimer of Danby in the County of York;

Viscount Osborne of Dunblane, Scotland;

Baron Osborne of Kiveton in the County of York

1674 Thomas was elevated in rank to the Earl of Danby in the County of York.

In 1675, Thomas purchased Harthill's chief manor house from Grace, Viscountess Charworth, a purchase which his father could never broker. The manors of Kiveton, Thorpe Salvin, and Harthill, were now all in the family's possession.



Church - **Harthill Manor House** - **Manor Farm**



In 1679 Thomas, by now Lord High Treasurer to Charles II, was accused by the House of Commons of high treason and was committed to the Tower of London for five years with five other “Popish Lords”.

When he was released in 1684, he left London and politics for good.
(So, he thought!)

In 1685 when James II (James IV of Scotland) was crowned King of the United Kingdom, Thomas returned to London and politics once more. And when the King's second wife (Mary of Modena) produced a son and future Catholic heir to the throne, Thomas felt that the Protestant cause in England would be lost forever.



In 1687, in an act of high treason, Thomas met with William Cavendish the Earl of Devonshire, Baron John D'Arcy of Aston, and Sir Henry Booth the Baron Delamere, at the Cock and Pynot Inn on Whittington Moor.



At a further secret meeting in 1688, an invitation was sent to the Dutch Prince William of Orange to come to England with a small army and take the realm from James II.

The invitation was signed by seven Englishmen, later named 'The Immortal Seven'.

- Charles Talbot, the Earl of Shrewsbury
- William Cavendish, the Earl of Devonshire
- Thomas Osborne, the Earl of Danby
- Richard Lumley, the Viscount Lumley
- Henry Compton, the Bishop of London
- Admiral Edward Russell, the Earl of Orford
- Henry Sydney, the Earl of Romney



In November 1688, William landed with his small army of 15,000 Dutchmen at Brixham, Torbay.

The watching crowds on the cliff-tops were witnessing the first successful invasion of Britain since 1066.

After landing, William's army marched on Salisbury to meet James' army, but James had already fled to London.

In December 1688 James was allowed to escape to France, without a battle being fought in the defence of the realm.



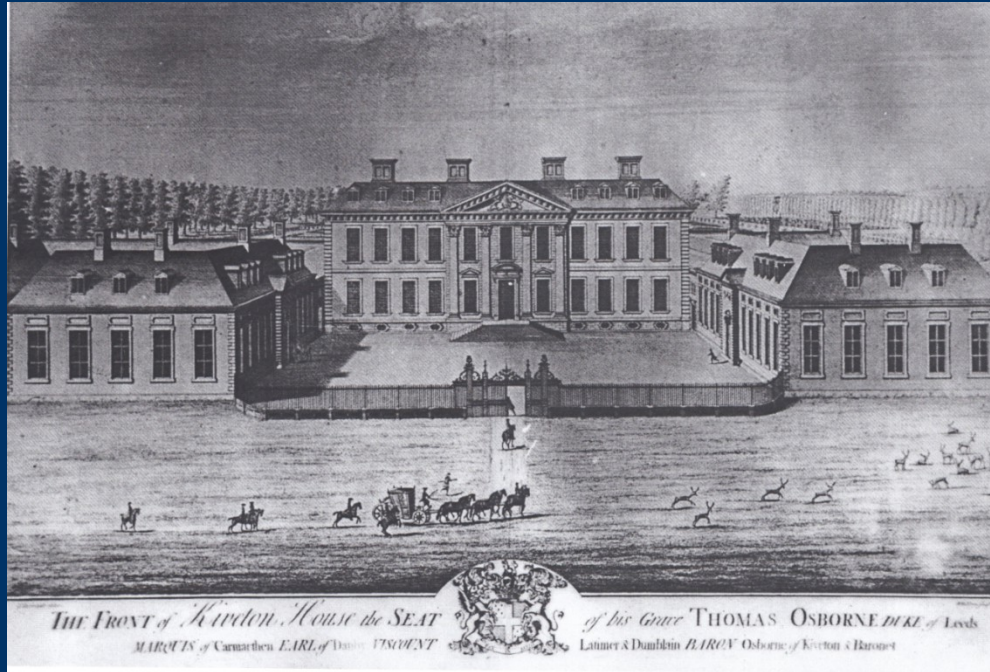
In February 1689 Parliament offered the crown jointly to William and his wife Mary if they accepted the **English Bill of Rights 1689** - *An Act Declaring the Rights and Liberties of the Subject and Settling the Succession of the Crown*.

William's wife Mary, Princess of Orange, was the eldest daughter of James II, by his first wife, Anne Hyde.

In 1694, Thomas was created 1st Duke of Leeds.



In 1694 Thomas commenced work on building Kiveton House
(the work was completed in 1704).



In 1712 Thomas was taken ill at the home of his grandson in Northamptonshire. He died there, aged 81.

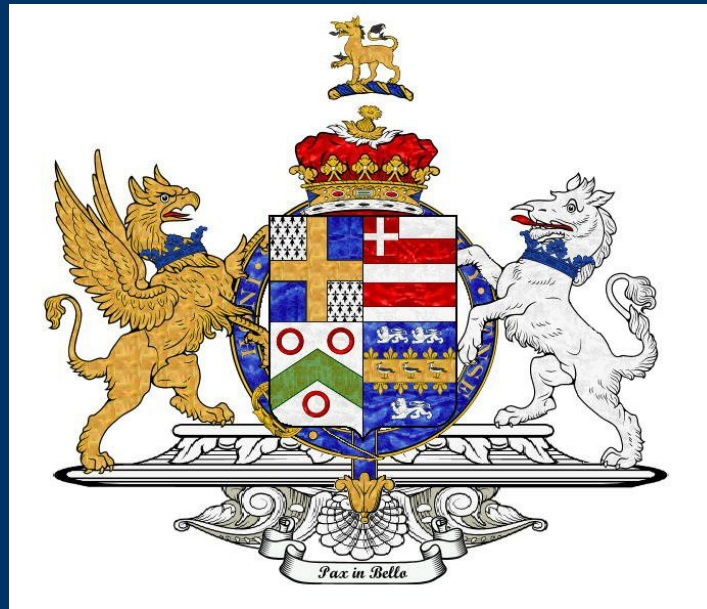
He was laid to rest in his newly created family chapel at All Hallows Church, Harthill.

The Duke of Leeds Chapel

Prior to his death in 1712, Thomas had St. Mary's Chapel in All Hallows Church restored to house his own tomb. He also had a family burial vault constructed beneath it.



During Victorian times Thomas' tomb was moved from its central position in the chapel to accommodate the organ pipes.



Following the death of Thomas there were a further 11 Dukes of Leeds, varying in fame and fortune



Peregrine Osborne 1659 - 1729

2nd Duke of Leeds 1712

In 1682 Captain Peregrine Osborne married Bridget Hyde the daughter of Baronet Thomas Hyde of Hertfordshire.

They had four children:

- Bridget Osborne born 1688, and Mary Osborne born 1688
- William Henry Osborne born 1690 (Died of smallpox in 1711)
- Peregrine Hyde Osborne born 1691

Within four years of his marriage to Bridget, Peregrine had swallowed up his and his wife's fortune and accumulated £9,989 worth of debts.

Peregrine died, in needy circumstances, in 1729, aged 70, at his home in Hertfordshire.

He was buried at St John the Baptist Church, Aldbury. Bridget died four years later and was buried alongside him.



Sir Peregrine Hyde Osborne 1691 - 1731 *3rd Duke of Leeds 1729*

Peregrine married three times:

Lady Elizabeth Harley, December 1712, who died 14 days after giving birth to their only child, Thomas Hyde Osborne born 1713. Her burial place is unknown.

Lady Anne Seymour, September 1719. Died 1722, laid to rest in Leeds Chapel Vault, All Hallows Church, Harthill.

The 20-year-old Juliana Hele, April 1725.

Juliana outlived the Duke by more than 63 year, and her dower amounted to £3,000 per annum, and she consequently drew from the estate £190,000 during her dowager duchess years.

Sir Peregrine died aged 40 in May 1731, and was laid to rest in Leeds Chapel Vault, All Hallows Church, Harthill.

Sir Thomas Hyde Osborne 1713 – 1789

4th Duke of Leeds 1731



He married Lady Mary Godolphin, daughter of Francis Godolphin, 2nd Earl of Godolphin in 1740.



Their only child, Francis Hyde Godolphin Osborne was born in 1750.

In 1764 Lady Mary died suddenly at the age of 40, while at dinner in Hertfordshire.

Thomas Osborne died in 1789, aged 76.

They were both laid to rest in the Osborne family vault at All Hallows Church, Harthill.

Sir Francis Hyde Godolphin Osborne 1750 -1799

5th Duke of Leeds 1789



The 23-year-old Sir Francis married the 19-year-old Baroress Conyers, Amelia D'Arcy, in November 1773. They had 3 children:

- George, William, Frederick Hyde Godolphin Osborne, born 1775
- Henrietta Juliana Hyde Godolphin Osborne, born 1766
- Francis Osborne, 1st Baron Godolphin, born 1777

Sir Francis became Secretary of State for Foreign affairs under William Pitt in 1783.



On 13 December 1778, Amelia eloped with Captain, John "Mad Jack" Byron. Francis divorced her by Act of Parliament in May 1778.

In 1788, Francis married his second wife 24-year-old Catherine Anguish.



Sir Francis Godolphin Osborne died at St James' Square, London in 1799, aged 49 .

He was laid to rest in the Osborne family vault at All Hallows Church, Harthill.

Lady Catherine Died 9 October 1837, aged 73. Her burial place is not recorded.

Sir George William Frederick Hyde Godolphin Osborne

1775 - 1838

6th Duke of Leeds (1799)



Sir George inherited the title 'Baron D'Arcy de Knayth & Conyers' from his mother, Amelia.

In 1797, at the age of 22, he married the 21-year-old Lady Charlotte Townshend, daughter of the 1st Marquess Townshend.



They had three children:

- Francis Godolphin Osborne, born 1798
- Charlotte Mary Anne Georgiana Osborne, born 1806
- George Thomas William Osborne, born 1812





In 1811 Sir George, left the family seat of Kiveton House, and moved to a more magnificent family home - Hornby Castle, Bedale, North Yorkshire.

In 1831, at the age of 19, His second son Lord Conyers, was accidentally killed during a fight with a friend at Oxford University.

The Duke of Leeds died in London in 1838, aged 63.

Lady Charlotte the Duchess of Leeds died at Hornby Castle in 1856, aged 80.

All three were laid to rest in the Osborne family vault at All Hallows Church, Harthill.

Sir Francis Hyde Godolphin D'Arcy Osborne 1798 - 1859

7th Duke of Leeds 1838



In 1828, the 30-year-old Francis married the 36-year-old Louisa Catherine Caton of Maryland.

Sir Francis died in 1859, at the Clarendon Hotel, London from diphtheria, aged 61, and was laid to rest in the Osborne family vault at All Hallows Church, Harthill.

Sir Francis and Louisa had no children, and on his death, his title passed to his cousin the Baron Godolphin.

Catherine outlived him by 15 years.

Sir George Godolphin Osborne 1802 – 1872

8th Duke of Leeds 1859



In 1859, at the age of 57, Sir George, the 2nd Baron Godolphin, inherited the Dukedom of Leeds from his cousin Francis, the 7th Duke of Leeds.

Sir George Godolphin Osborne died in 1872, at his home in Cambridgeshire, aged 70.

He was laid to rest in St Giles' Churchyard, Stoke Poges, Buckinghamshire, beside his wife Harriet, who died in 1852.

Prior to George becoming the 8th Duke of Leads, his father Lord Francis Osborne, 1st Baron Godolphin, and his mother Elizabeth were both laid to rest in the Osborne family vault at All Hallows Church, Harthill.

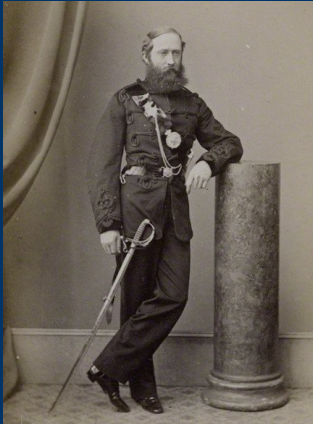




In April 1874 the Dowager Duchess Louisa Catherine Osborne (Age 82), wife and widow of 7th Duke of Leeds, was the last family member to be laid to rest in the Leeds Chapel Vault.

Sir George Godolphin Osborne 1828 – 1895

9th Duke of Leeds (1872)



In 1861, Sir George married Francis Georgiana Pitt-Rivers.

George and Francis had nine children.



Their eldest surviving son, George was born in September 1862.

The Godolphin Osborne's owned properties in West Cornwall, which included Godolphin House and estate, which is now National Trust Property.

Sir George died in December 1895, at Hornby Castle, aged 67. His wife Francis died in October 1896, aged 59.

Both were laid to rest in St Mary's churchyard adjoining Hornby Castle, Bedale.

Sir George Godolphin Osborne 1862 – 1927

10th Duke of Leeds 1896



In 1884, at the age of 24, Sir George married the 22 year old Lady Katherine Francis Lambton.

The couple had 5 children. Their eldest son John Francis Godolphin Osborne was born in 1901



In August 1921, the Duke sold all his tenanted farms, lands and other properties in Harthill, Woodall, Kiveton, Todwick, Aston, Woodsetts and Thorpe Salvin by auction.

Sir George died in 1927, aged 64. He was buried in St Mary's churchyard, Bedale.

In 1952 Katherine died in Italy, aged 90.

Sir John Francis Godolphin Osborne 1901 - 1963

11th Duke of Leeds 1927

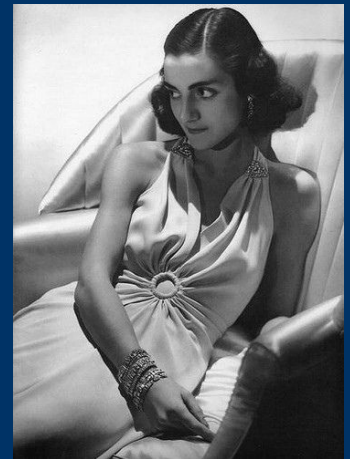


In 1927 at the age of twenty-six, Sir John inherited half a million pounds after tax from his father. However, his father also left large gambling debts.

The Hornby Castle estate was placed on the market in 1930 and the Duke spent the rest of his life as a tax exile on the French Riviera, and at his house on the island of Jersey.

The Duke married three times:

In 1933 he married the 25-year-old Serbian ballet dancer Irma Amelia de Malkhozouny. Their marriage dissolved in 1948. They had no children.



In 1949 he married Audrey Young (marriage dissolved in 1955). They had one daughter, Lady Camilla Dorothy Godolphin Osborne (born 1950).



Lady Camilla Osborne



In 1955, he married the 26 year-old Caroline Fleur Vatcher, daughter of Colonel Henry Monckton Vatcher of Jersey, who died in 2005 (aged 74), and was the last Duchess of Leeds.

Sir John died in France in 1963, age 62. He was laid to rest in the communal cemetery Roquebrune-Cap-Martin, France.

He was succeeded by his second cousin once removed Francis D'Arcy Godolphin Osborne.

Sir Francis D'Arcy Godolphin Osborne 12th Duke of Leeds (1963 – 1964)

From 1936 – 1947 Francis was the British ambassador to Pope Pius XII.



During WWII Francis was one of a group inside the Vatican, led by Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty and the French diplomat François de Vial, who helped conceal some 4,000 escapees from the Nazis. 3,925 of them survived the war.

Their story was portrayed in the 1983 film
'The Scarlet and the Black'.

After the war he remained in Rome, and he was often seen cycling around the city.



In 1963 at the age of 79, Sir Francis succeeded his second cousin once removed as Duke of Leeds.

Sir Francis was the great-great-grandson of the 5th Duke of Leeds. He was not a wealthy man, and on inheriting the title, he asked the estates executors if they could forward him a small sum of money so he could buy a warm coat for the winter.

In 1964, having held the title Duke of Leeds for less than a year he died in Rome without an heir, aged 80.



He was laid to rest in the "Non-Catholic Cemetery" in Rome, and upon his death all his titles became extinct.

This presentation is dedicated to:
Kathleen Ella Sharpe

Further researched by Brenda Needham, Don Conacher and Edward Mullins, and members of
Harthill Memories and History Society.
Compiled by Edward Mullins

Sources:

Lady Camilla Dorothy Godolphin Osborne
The Complete Peerage of England, Scotland, Ireland, GB and the UK – Extinct or Dormant by the
Hon Vicary Gibbs
Leeds University Library
All Hallows Church Records
History of Parliament Online
Encyclopaedia Britannica
The Peerage.com
Genuki.org.uk the Harthill census
Harthill Memories and History Society Archives
Wikipedia

<https://www.harthillwoodallhs.uk/>
