



Post Office Directory Extract 1875



Alvediston

Alvediston is a parish, in the Southern division of the county, hundred of Chalk, Tisbury union, Hindon petty sessional division, Shaftesbury county court district, Salisbury diocese and archdeaconry, and Chalk rural deanery, 14 miles west from Salisbury, 7 east from Shaftesbury, and 8½ south-east from Hindon; it lies for the most part in a deep bottom or hollow, on the left of the turnpike road leading from Salisbury to Shaftesbury, from which the usual mode of approach by pedestrians from Tisbury, via Swallocliff, is the ascent by means foot-holes in the almost perpendicular northern side of White Sheet Hill, the great exertion consequent upon which is repaid by the beautiful and commanding view of the surrounding country obtained, before making a nearly sudden descent on the opposite side of the hill into Alvediston below. In this neighbourhood begins a lofty down, known as **White Sheet Hill**, extending till it nearly reaches the city of Salisbury, a distance of 15 miles; on the summit of this hill, and along the whole of its length, formerly ran the turnpike road to Salisbury and London.

The church of St. Mary the Virgin is an ancient structure; it was thoroughly repaired by the inhabitants in 1836, and all the old monuments restored; it has a chancel, nave, two transepts, north chancel aisle, and a tower containing 3 bells; the east window is of stained glass, given by Lady Herbert of Lea, in memory of her late husband; the font is of great antiquity, said to be Norman; the church will seat 160 persons. The register dates from 1592. The living is a vicarage, yearly value £100, with residence, in the gift of the vicar of Broad Chalk, and held by the Rev. Philip Soulhieu Desprez.

The Earl of Pembroke is lord of the manor. The principal landowners are William Wyndham, Esq. of Dinton House, the Earl of Pembroke, and Frederick Gray, Esq.

The soil is loam and clay; subsoil, chalk and flint. The chief crops are wheat, oats, barley, and beans.

The area is 2,531 acres; gross estimated rental, £2,799, rateable value, £2,517; and the population in 1871 was 281.

PARISH CLERK, William King.

LETTERS are received from Salisbury via Swallowcliff. The nearest money order office is at Donhead St. Andrew.

WALL LETTER BOX cleared at 5.15 p.m.; Sundays 11.15 a.m.

NATIONAL SCHOOL, Miss Louisa Hancock, mistress.

Gentry

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Desprez	Philip Soulhieu	Rev.		Vicarage

Commercial

Mathews	Jane	Mrs.	Smith	
Mullins	Wm.		Shopkeeper & carrier	Crown Inn
Parham	Henry		Farmer	