



Post Office Directory Extract 1875

Bromham



Bromham is a parish, in the Northern division of the county, Potterne hundred, Devizes union and county court district, diocese of Salisbury, archdeaconry of Wilts, and rural deanery of Avebury, 4 miles north-west from Devizes, 7 south-east from Chippenham, 101 from London, and 4 east-by-north from Melksham.

The ancient houses of the village are built of timber and brick, and stand, without regard to regularity, on one side of an unpaved street, facing the church on the east and south.

The church of St Nicholas consists of a chancel, nave, south aisle, private chapel, and tower. The chancel was entirely rebuilt in 1865, at the expense of the rector. The other parts are of a mixed character, and the work of different periods. The old grey tower, standing on arches below, rises from the roof between the nave and the chancel. It has an embattled parapet, and is surmounted by a lofty spire. The interior of the church was restored, re-pewed, and a stone pulpit and reading desk erected, about 1843.

In the private chapel at the east end a beautiful stained window, in memory of the late John Bayntun Starky, who died in Australia, has been inserted by his widow; the subject is the Ascension. This chapel contains the full-length recumbent figure of a knight in armour, much defaced, supposed to represent an ancestor of the Bayntuns, of Spye Park. There are also many other monuments to the same family, which is very ancient, dating as far back as the reign of Henry VII. In the churchyard rest the remains of Thomas Moore, the poet, who died at Sloperton Cottage, long his favourite residence, in Chittoe Parish, in this county. A plain stone slab marks the place of his repose and that of his two children. Mrs Moore, relict of the poet, was also buried here in the year 1865; there is a beautiful stained window in the east to her memory.

The church is 100 feet in length and 60 feet in width; the tower contains a peal of 6 bells, and is 180 feet from the base to the point of the spire. The register dates from 1565. The living is a rectory, tithe rent-charge £820, with 60 acres of glebe and residence, in the gift of and held by, the Rev Edward Betenson Edgell, M.A., of Balliol College, Oxford.

Here is a National school, built by public subscription in 1867, at a cost of about £900, and a British school for boys and girls, and chapels for Baptists and Wesleyan Methodists. Here is a brewery.

On a gentle declivity, at the lower part of the village, is an almshouse of six tenements; on a stone in the centre is an appropriate Scripture quotation, and a Latin inscription, denoting that it was founded in the year 1612, in the 10th year of the reign of King James.

Rowdeford House, a modern building, is the seat of F A S Locke, esq., J.P. Part of this parish is in the ecclesiastical parish of Chittoe (which see). In 1864 the Bayntun estates were sold, the purchasers being the Crown and John W O Spicer, esq., of Spye Park, who is lord of the manor.

The soil is sand; subsoil, red sand. The chief crop is wheat.

The parish contains 3,593 acres of land; gross estimated rental, £7,879; rateable value, £7,157; and in 1871 the population was 1,219.

Westbrook is 2 miles north-west; **Nether Street**, a mile and a half east; **St Edith's Marsh**, 2 miles south-east; **Hawk Street**, half a mile south-east.

PARISH CLERK, James Akerman.

POST OFFICE, Mrs Mary Ann Gee. Letters received from Chippenham at 8.30 am.; dispatched thereto at 6.15 pm.
The nearest money order office is at Lacock.

INSURANCE AGENTS, Phoenix Fire, Isaac Matthews.
Union, J Lenthall.

NATIONAL SCHOOL, Miss Susan Beck, mistress; Miss Bessy Beck, infant's mistress.

BRITISH SCHOOL, Vacant.

CARRIERS, calling at the Bell Inn, St Edith's Marsh, in passing through to Devizes, all returning the same days.
Simpkins, from Wootton Bassett, Thursday; Eatwell, from Chippenham, Thursday;
James, from Calne, Thursday; Spackman, from Calne, Thursday & Saturday.

Private Residents

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Donsdon	Worthy			
Edgell	Edward Betenton	Rev. M.A., J.P.	Rector	
Gaby		Mrs.		
Locke	Francis Alexander Sydenham	J.P.		Rowdeford House
Long	John			The Firs, Nether Street
Milward		Mrs.		Marsh House
Starky		Mrs.		Battle House

Commercial

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Akerman	James		Farmer	
Akerman	Robert		Baker & grocer	
Amor	Matthew		Farmer	Tucker's green
Banks	John		Brewer & maltster	
Breach	George		Farmer	
Brown	Henry		Wood turner	The Pound
Brown	John		Wood turner	The Pound
Butler	Jesse		Baker	
Crook	Elijah		Shopkeeper	
Curnick	John		Farmer	Nether street
Cutting	James			Bell, St Edith's marsh
Davis	Edwin		Shoe maker	
Duck	William		Blacksmith	
Fennell	Emma	Mrs	Butcher	
Gale	William Dathan		Farmer	
Gee	Edward John		Farmer	
Gee	James William		Farmer	
Gee	John		Farmer	
Gee	Mary Ann	Mrs	Shopkeeper	
Gee	William		Farmer	
Hughes	Frank		Smith	
King	James		Mason	
Lenthall	Joseph		Grocer	
Long	James		Farmer	
Mathews	Isaac		Agent to the Woods & Forests Commissioners	
Minty	Edward		Tailor	
Mitchell	Edward		Market gardener	

Mitchell	Jonathan		Farmer	
New	Francis		Farmer	Nether street
Norman	William		Shoe maker	
Pearce	Joseph		Shoe maker	St Edith's marsh
Powell	Mary Ann	Mrs	Miller	
Powney	George		Brick & tile maker	
Powney	William		Carpenter	
Priday	Charles			Shoulder of Mutton
Reeves	Robert		Farmer	
Ruddle	William		Harness maker	
Sansom	John		Farmer	
Sansom	John		Bricklayer	
Webb	Benjamin		Bricklayer	
Webb	James		Market gardener	
Webb	Joseph		Market gardener	
Webb	William		Carpenter & grocer	
Webb	William		Market gardener	
Webb	William		Mason	
Weston	John		Market gardener	The Chantry
Weston	William		Farmer	Nether street
Weston	William		Farmer	St Edith's marsh
White	Thomas Nash			Greyhound
Wiltshire	George		Farmer	
Wiltshire	Jesse		Boot & shoe maker	
Wootton	James		Farmers	
Wootton	William		Farmers	
Wootton	James		Tailor	
Wootton	Joseph		Farmer	
Wootton	Stephen		Carpenter	