



Post Office Directory Extract 1875



Chirton

Chirton (Churton or Cherington) is a parish and village, in the Northern division of the county, Swansborough hundred, petty sessional division, union, and county court district of Devizes, Salisbury diocese, Wilts archdeaconry, and Potterne rural deanery, situate 5½ miles south-east from Devizes.

The church of St John the Baptist, restored and re-seated in 1850, is a very ancient and beautiful structure, in the Transition Norman style, and consists of a chancel, nave, and aisles, and a square tower on the west, which has an embattled parapet and contains 5 bells. The south entrance has an elaborately wrought ancient Transition Norman arch, adorned with zigzag mouldings, a series of animals' heads and figures running round its outer part. The interior presents the same antique style. The nave is separated from the aisles by circular arches supported by pillars with Transition Norman capitals, each in a different style. There is a piscina in the chancel and another in the south aisle. The font is particularly fine, and evidently coeval with the church itself; around it is a representation of the Twelve Apostles. The register dates from the 17th century. The living is a vicarage, yearly value about £190, in the gift of the Lord Chancellor, and held by the Rev. George Ellis Cleather, M.A., of Exeter College, Oxford.

Here is a National school, erected in 1846.

The lordship of the manor is vested in the Heytesbury trustees.

The trustees of different charities hold land in this parish---the Heytesbury charity for almshouses, the Bradford-cum-Freshford charities for the same purpose, and the Froxfield charity for lay and clerical widows.

The soil and subsoil is green sand. The chief crops are wheat and barley.

The area is 1,858 acres; gross estimated rental, £2,978; rateable value, £2,726; and the population in 1871 was 357, including Conock.

Conock tithing, with 140 inhabitants is half a mile south-west.

PARISH CLERK, Stephen Hampshire.

POST OFFICE, Charles Lye, postmaster. Letters from Devizes at 8.45 am.; dispatched at 6 pm. The nearest money order office is at Devizes.

NATIONAL SCHOOL, Miss Elizabeth Abraham, mistress.

CARRIER, Fuller, passes Chirton to Devizes, every Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday returning same days.

Private Residents

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Cleather	George Ellis	Rev. M.A.	Vicar	
Clift		Mrs		
Foster		Miss		
Hayward		Mrs		Old Manor House
Hitchcock	William			Manor House
Nash	Jacob Hobbs			
Warriner	Gifford			Conock

Commercial

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Akerman	Edward		Farmer	
Chandler	George		Miller	Church Mills
Chivers	William		Beer retailer	
Goddard	William		Baker	
Hailstone	James		Carpenter	
Hayward	Mary	Mrs	Farmer	
Jefferies	Jeremiah		Carpenter	
Lye	Charles		Postmaster	
Lye	Jonathan		Blacksmith	
Plummer	John		Farmer	
Plummer	William		Farmer	Conock
Wedge	George		Blacksmith	
Weeks	James	Mrs	Farmer	
Wells	Diana	Mrs	Shopkeeper	
Wells	Henry		Farmer	
Wells	Sophia	Miss	Shopkeeper	
Wells	Susanna	Mrs		<i>New Inn</i>
Wells	William		Farmer	