



Post Office Directory Extract 1855

Ludgershall



LUDGERSHALL is a wide straggling village, in the Hundred of Amesbury, situated in a hollow, bounded on the south west by an extensive open country, and contiguous to the borders of Chute forest, distant 15 miles south east of Marlborough, 20 from Devizes, 17 from Salisbury, 7 from Andover station, and 63 from London. It was formerly a market town of considerable importance and ancient parliamentary borough, but now consists only of a few houses; and a few vestiges of an ancient castle, once the residence of royalty, are still to be traced. The annual fair, held July 25th is almost obsolete. The population is now 580, and the acreage 1,734 acres 3 roods 1 pole, the cultivation of which is the only source of dependence to the inhabitants. The church is an ancient structure, with low square tower and 5 bells; the upper part of the tower is brick built and each corner is surmounted with a pinnacle; the roof, formerly a flat lead one, has been removed and one of slate has been substituted. The interior has also been re-pewed and near the south porch is a niche containing two effigies in a recumbent position, with a costly monument of stone, supposed to belong to the Buckingham family. It is surmounted with a coat of arms and interspersed with various designs in ancient carving, but from the soft and porous nature of the stone and the ravages of time, this once magnificent tomb is rapidly falling to decay. The living is a rectory in the patronage of Sir Sanford Graham, commuted at £427. The Baptists and Primitive Methodists have places of worship here. A Free school, established and supported by voluntary contributions, is well attended. Biddesden House, a neat mansion with its park and gardens, the seat of the Rev T Everett, situated 1½ miles east of the village, and Chidbury Hill, on the summit of which is a large space of ground in the complete form of a heart, surrounded by tumuli, are objects of admiration and curiosity. There is a curious old churchyard cross. Rateable value £1,771 16s. 5d. Crowbush is half a mile north east; Down Farm 2 miles south west; Coldridge 2 miles north east.

Post Office: John Philips - sub-postmaster

Letters arrive by foot post from Andover at 11am; dispatched at half past 4 p.m.
The nearest Money Order Office is at Andover.

Carrier: William Beams - to Salisbury on Monday, to Newbury on Wednesday, to Reading on Thursday

Places of Worship:

Church - Rev. John Pannel, M.A. Rector; Rev. Frederick Iremonger, M.A. Curate; Henry Hunt, clerk
Baptist Chapel - ministers various
Primitive Methodist Chapel - ministers various

Gentry/Private Residents

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Everett	Thomas	Rev.		Biddesden House
Gregory		Miss		
Iremonger	Frederick	Rev., M.A.	Curate	

Traders

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
		Targett & Cusse	Grocers & Drapers	
Barclay	William		Tailor	
Beaden	James		Boot & Shoe Maker	

Beaden	John		Boot & Shoe Maker	
Beams	William		Carrier	
Berry	Isaac		Publican	Crown & Commercial Inn
Crooke	Evi		Farmer	
Crouch	Charles		Blacksmith	
Hamman	Richard		Boot & Shoe Maker	
Higgins	William		Grocer & Draper	
Higgins	William		Insurance Agent: Hailstorm & Norwich Union Fire & Life	
Hunt	Henry		Carpenter & Wheelwright	
Hunt	Sarah	Mrs.	Shopkeeper & Farmer	
Hunt	William		Miller	
Hutchins	Jane	Mrs.	Publican & Farmer	Queen's Head
Hutchins	William		Butcher	
Lansley	George		Blacksmith	
Perdue	Joseph		Bricklayer	
Philips	John		Furniture Broker	
Piper	William		Manager to Mrs. Jane Hutchins	
Smith	Charles		Surgeon	
Steele	Thomas		Farmer	Biddesden Farm
Sturgess	James		Bricklayer	
Waters	James		Land Surveyor	
Weeks	Stephen		Plumber, Painter & Glazier	
Williams	Evan		Farmer	