



Post Office Directory Extract 1875



Mere

MERE is a market and union town and parish, in the Southern Division of the county, diocese and archdeaconry of Salisbury, rural deanery of Wyllye, Mere hundred, Hindon petty sessional division, and county court district of Shaftesbury, 23 miles west-by-north from Salisbury, 102 from London, 7 west from Hindon, 7 east-by-north from Wincanton, 6 from Semley Railway Station, and 4 from Gillingham railway station, situated on the borders of three counties – Wilts, Dorset and Somerset –which unite in the vicinity, and is on the road from Salisbury to Taunton Dean. The town is lighted with gas : the works were erected in 1866. The church of St. Michael the Archangel is a stone building : the eastern part of the church is separated by a beautifully carved oak screen : in a Gothic niche over the porch, on the north side, is the figure of a saint, which appears to be of an earlier date than the church itself : the tower, with clock, playing the chimes, is at the west end ; it is very stately and well built, square in form, turreted, 35 yards high, surmounted at the angles with four lofty pinnacle, and containing 6 musical bells. The register dates from 1572, and the churchwardens books, still preserved date from 1556. The living is a vicarage, yearly value £400, with residence, in the gift of the Bishop of Salisbury, and held by the Rev. Charles Henry Townsend, M.A., of Lincoln College, Oxford. Here is a National school. And a large British school, with class rooms attached, supported by voluntary contributions and the government grant ; also chapels for the primitive Methodists, the society of friends, and independents, the latter a large and handsome Gothic structure, erected at a cost of over £5000, at the sole expense of Charles Jupe, esq., built of local, Bath, and Ham Hill stone. The following is a list of places in Mere union:- Bourton (Dorset), Chaddenwicke, Kilmington (Somerset), Kingston Deverill, East Knoyle, West Knoyle, Maiden Bradley, Mere Town, Monekton Deverill, Upper Pertwood, Sedghill, Silton (Dorset), Stourton, Woodlands, and Zeals. The workhouse is in Castle Street. The market is on Tuesday : and annual fairs are held on the 17th of May and the 10th of October. In the Market place was formerly a market house of great antiquity; the same being in a dilapidated state it was found necessary to raze it ; on the site of which was erected, in 1866, at the expense of H.R.H. Duke of Cornwall, an illuminated clock tower. Silk throwing is carried on here, employing about 300 hands. The charities amount to £169 yearly. Here is a literary institute and reading room, and in 1859 a penny bank was established. In 1856 a cemetery was opened : during the excavations necessary in its formation an earthen vessel was discovered, containing 400 roman coins of very ancient date : two mortuary chapels have been erected. Mere constitutes a part of the Duchy of Cornwall : in the year 1253 permission was given to Richard, Earl of Cornwall, to build a castle on the hill, now known as Castle Hill, and afterwards to Fortify it. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as Duke of Cornwall, is lord of the manor. The principal landowners are H.R.H. Duke of Cornwall, Miss Grove, Meyrick Banks, esq., and Sir Henry A. Hoare, Bart. The soil is various, clay, chalk, and flint ; subsoil, chalk and gravel. The chief crops are wheat, beans and oats, north ; and on the south of the town (which is principally clay), fine grazing land. The Ashfield water rises from a chalk hill in the neighbourhood, and after several mills have been turned by the stream, it passes on and joins the river Stour. The parish contains 7,355 acres; gross estimated rental £3246; rateable value, £11,627 19s. ; and the population in 1871 was 1382, exclusive of the tithings, and in the whole parish, 3161.

Parish Clerk, Frederick Cross

CHADDENWICKE is a tithing, with 29 inhabitants, 11.5 miles north-east; WOODLANDS, a tithing, 1 mile south, with 1197; Woolverton, Bush Hayes, Manor House, Barrow Street, and Burton are adjacent places.

Zeals is a tithing of Mere, to the west, and was formed, in 1848, into an ecclesiastical parish. The church of St. Martin is a gothic stone building, erected in 1846 ; it has chancel and nave, with south entrance porch : the chancel is paved with encaustic tiles, on the north of the chancel is an organ-chamber, built in 1874, containing an organ erected in memory of the late W. Chafyn Grove ; there are four stained windows to his memory, three of which were erected by his tenants ; the church is seated with open benches, and will hold 280 persons. The living is a rectory, yearly value £300, with residence, in the gift of the vicar of Mere, and held by the Rev. Leonard Ramsay Henslow, M.A., of St John's College, Cambridge. Here is a National school, with class rooms and residence attached ; a Congregational

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chapel, and a school carried on therewith; and a chapel for primitive Methodists. Here are four alms-houses, erected and endowed by the late William Chafyn Grove, esq., in memory of his mother. Miss Grove is owner of the manor and the principal part of the land. The area is 1540 acres, and the population in 1871 was 554.

Parish Clerk – James Forward.

POST OFFICE – Tom Smart, Receiver
Letters via Bath, arrive at 6:15a.m. ; dispatched at 7p.m.
The nearest money order office is at Bourton, & the nearest telegraph office, Mere

SCHOOLS:-

<i>National,</i>	Mrs Mary Mees	Mistress
Congregational	Mrs Kate Duffield	Mistress

POST, MONEY ORDER & TELEGRAPH OFFICE

Savings Bank & Government Insurance & Annuity Office
Robert Randall, postmaster
Letters via Bath are delivered at 7.30 a.m. ; dispatched at 6.45 p.m.

INSURANCE AGENTS :-

<i>Norwich Union</i>	E. A. Card
<i>Whittington Life</i>	G. King

PUBLIC ESTABLISHMENTS:-

<i>Local Board of Health,</i>	The managers are the Board of Guardians
<i>Union Workhouse,</i>	Herbert Samuel Lance Master
	Mrs. Elizabeth Lance Matron

PUBLIC OFFICERS:-

<i>Clerk to the Guardians of the Mere Union,</i>	Ernest Baker
<i>Medical Officer of Health</i>	Wilton Provis, M.D
<i>Registrar of Births, Deaths & Marriages for the Mere District</i>	Valentine Heals Norris
<i>Deputy</i>	Robert Randall
<i>Relieving Officer & Sanitary Inspector for Mere Union</i>	Valentine Heals Norris
<i>Superintendent Registrar for Mere District</i>	Ernest Baker
<i>Clerk to the Burial Board</i>	John Farley Rutter

SCHOOLS:-

<i>National</i>	Edward Pedler	Master
	Miss Elvira Saunders	Mistress
<i>British (mixed)</i>	Henry Bunting	Master
	Miss Olive Clement	Infants' mistress

CARRIERS:-

John & Charles Dore's van leaves Mere daily for the Gillingham station		
Charles Bealing,	From Mere to Wincanton,	on Wednesday
	To Warminster,	on Thursday
	To Frome,	on Monday
	To Shaftesbury,	on Saturday

Gentry/Private Residents

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Card	Charles			Market Place
Card	Edwin Austin			
Coleman		Miss		
Coleman	Thomas			Deans Orchard
Cross		Mrs		
Godwin		Mrs		

Jupe	Charles			
Jupe	Isaiah Maggs			Castle House
Jupe		Mrs		Lord's mead
Matthews		Mrs		Castle Street
Mitchell	Edward Paul			Market Place
Mitchell		Mrs		
Mitchell	William			
Phillips	Henry			Castle Street
Provis	Wilton		M. D.	The Chantry
Rumsey	Charles			
Rutter	John Farley			
Snook	Walter			
Standerwick		Mrs		
Standerwick	Thomas			
Townsend	Charles Henry	Rev	M. A. Vicar	

Traders

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Alford	John		Blacksmith	
Alford	John Junior		Blacksmith	
Athoe	George		Grocer	Market Place
Avery	Thomas		Mason & Coal carrier	
Baker	Ernest		Farmers	Mere Down Farm
Baker	Thomas Henry		Farmers	Mere Down Farm
Ball	Joseph		Publican	Talbot Hotel, Commercial Inn & Posting house, Market Place
Baverstock	Edwin		Tailor	
Baverstock	Samuel		Tailor	
Bealing	Daniel		Farmer & Dairyman	
Belbin	Joseph		Wheelwright & Surveyor	
Biggin	William		Farmer & Dairyman	Chaddenwick
Bracher	Edwin		Chemist, Bookseller, Stationer & Printer	Market Place
Bristol	Henry		Miller & corn Dealer	Mere Mill
Bristow	George		Shopkeeper	
Charlton	Charles		Pork Butcher	Market Place
Charlton	John		Coal carrier & Shopkeeper	
Coward	Charles		Builder & contractor	
Coward	James		Carpenter & Builder	
Coward	James		Shopkeeper	
Cowley	John		Farmer	Rook Street
Dismore	Benjamin		Whitesmith & Tinman	Market Place
Doddington	John		Coal Carrier	
Dore	Charles		Carriers & Shopkeepers	
Dore	John		Carriers & Shopkeepers	
Dowding	James		Edge tool maker	
Dowding	Rt.		Farmer, Dairyman & Maltster	
Down	James		Pork Butcher	
Down	William		Boot & Shoe maker	
Farthing	Charles		Builder & Contractor	Castle Street
Foot	Henry James		Baker & Corn factor	
Foot	Fred		Baker & Shopkeeper	
Glover	Alfred		Tailor	

Glover	John		Hair dresser, plumber & painter	
Goldsborough	Robert		Bible, tract & educational depository & homeopathic dispensary	
Henwood	Eli		Leather dresser, fellmonger & glover	
Herrington	Thomas		Farmer	Barrow Street
Hetherington	Thomas		Inland revenue officer	Woodbine Cottage
Hooper	John		Mason	
Hooper	Samuel		Watch & Clock dealer & machinist	Salisbury Street
Hull	Hannah	Mrs		Ship Inn, Market Place
Ings	Frederick		Beer retailer	
Jordan	Henry		Chimney Sweeper	
Jupe	Charles	& Son	Silk Throwsters	
Jupe	Harriet	Mrs	Farmer	Woodland Farm
Jupe	Thomas		Farmer	Barton
King	George		Baker & Grocer	
King	James		Shoe maker	
Lampard	John			Angel Inn, Market Place
Lander	Ann	Mrs	Brewers, maltsters & beer retailers	
Lander	Charles		Brewers, maltsters & beer retailers	
Lander	Henry		Ironmonger	
Larkam	Elizabeth	Mrs	Spirit merchant & agent for Henry Brett & Co's "Eau de Vie" pure brandy	
Long	Charles		Cooper	
Long	Lot		Thatcher	
Maidment	James Perman		Farmer	
Maidment	Matthew		Farmers	Swine's Ford Farm
Maidment	William		Farmers	Swine's Ford Farm
Farley	John Rutter		Secretary	Mere Gas, Coal & Coke Co. Limited
Mitchell	Edward Paul		Farmer	Manor House Farm
Mitchell	John		Farmer	Mere Park Farm
Mitchell	John Thomas		Farmer	Barrow Street
Mitchell	William		Cheese factor	
Norris	John		Baker	
Norris	John		Farmer	
Norris	Matthew		Baker & Shopkeeper	
Norris	Thomas		Boot & Shoe maker	
Farley	John		Secretary	Penny Bank
Perrett	William		Farmer	White Hill & Bush Hayes Farms
Provis	Wilton	M.D.	Surgeon	The Chantry
Randall	Robert		Stationer, House Painter, paperhanger, postmaster & deputy registrar	
Goldsbrough	Robert		Secretary	Reading room, Salisbury Street
Reed	Charles		Cattle dealer	Prospect Farm
Rumsey	Charles		Surgeon	
Rutter	John Farley		Solicitor, agent to the County Fire & Provident Life Insurance Cos, clerk to the burial board & Secretary to the gas company	Salisbury Street

Selwood	William Henry		Farmer	Mere Mill
Stier	Frederick		Watch & Clock maker	
Taylor	Henry		Farmer, Coal Haulier & Marine store dealer	
Thompson	John		Glove & Gaiter maker	
Toop	Charles		Shopkeeper	
Walton	John	& Co	Family drapers, grocers, ironmongers, furniture warehousemen & stamp office	Market Place
Way	John		Hair dresser & bird stuffer	
Welch	John		Boot & Shoe maker	
Westcott	Elizabeth	Mrs	Straw bonnet maker	
White	William		Farmer	Chaddenwick
Wikham	Austin		Butcher	
Card	Edward Austin		Manager, (Branch of) Wilts & Dorset Banking Co, draw on London & Westminster Bank, open from 10 till 3	
			Wilts Rifle Volunteers (8 th) Head Quarters & Armoury,	"Ship Inn," Castle Street

ZEALS

Charlton		Miss		
Grove		Miss		Zeals House
Henslow	Leonard Ramsay	Rev, M. A.	Rector	Rectory
Howell		Mrs		Woolverton
White	John			
White	Richard			

ZEALS - TRADERS

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Burpitt	Frederick		Farmer	
Dyke	Henry		Farmer & Dairyman	
Foot	George		Painter & Glazier	
Forward	James		Carpenter	
Glover	James		Plumber, painter & glazier	
Green	Samuel		Boot & Shoe Maker	
Hartgill	William John		Maltster & Brewer	Bell & Crown
Ings	Felix		Dairyman	
Lawrence	Charles		Butcher	
Pennans	Charles		Boot & Shoe Maker	
Perrett	Charles		Farmer	
Pitman	Samuel		Dairyman	
Saunders	Joseph		Dairyman	
Sharp	Thomas		Millwright	
Smart	Tom		Shopkeeper & Post office	
White	John		Farmer	Zeals Farm
White	Richard		Farmer	
Williams	Charles		Draper & Grocer	