



# Kellys Directory Extract 1915

## Steeple Ashton



**STEEPLE ASHTON** is a large village and parish, 2½ miles north from Edington and Bratton station and 4¼ east from Trowbridge station, both on the Great Western railway, 5 south from Melksham, in the Western division of the county, hundred and petty sessional division of Whorwellsdown, Westbury and Whorwellsdown union, county court district of Trowbridge, rural deanery of Potterne (Bradford portion), archdeaconry of Wilts and diocese of Salisbury. The church of St Mary the Virgin is a building of stone in the Perpendicular style, consisting of chancel, nave, aisles, north and south porches, and an embattled western tower containing a clock and 7 bells: the chancel was erected in 1853; the stained east window is a memorial to Walter Long esq.; the west window was filled with stained glass in 1879, and the other windows contain fragments of ancient stained glass: there are marble monuments to the Hon Thomas Beach, 1774; and Helen, his wife, 1771; to John Smith, 1775; Anne Cary, 1772; William Long, 1783; Henry Long, 1672; Richard Long, 1708; John Long, 1796; and brasses to the Right Hon Archibald Colquhoun, dated 1820; Maria Carpenter, 1652; Florentine and Richard Long, 1835; Thomas Flower, 1671; William Clift, 1799; Peter Crooke, 1633; and Roger Crooke, 1655; the church affords 400 sittings. The register dates from the year 1538. The living is a vicarage, with the ancient chapelry of Semington annexed, net yearly value £467, including 14 acres of glebe and residence, in the gift of Magdalene College, Cambridge, and held since 1897 by the Rev Edward Ponsonby Knubley MA of Magdalene College, Cambridge. Here is a Primitive Methodist chapel, built in 1854 and seating 150; and a Baptist chapel, built in 1864, with 100 sittings; a Sunday school was added in 1874. The Village Hall, an iron building, was erected in 1899. The market cross, erected in 1066, was restored in 1679, 1714 and 1887. Coral rag fossils have been found in large quantities in the parish at various times. Charities: in 1594 Roger Martin left 310; Margaret Roger, in 1595, £2; and Annie Martin, Anthony Martin and Peter Crooke smaller sums; in 1643 Samuel Martyn, by will, gave the close called "Luffenham", to furnish two coats and two gowns of frieze or other cloth yearly to two poor men and two poor women; Henry Long, in 1670, and Richard Long, in 1730, gave 3½ acres of land; John Brown, in 1722, gave 4 acres and £200 for the purchase of land, the rents to be given for life to 4 poor labourers; in 1737 Elizabeth Martyn gave certain land, the rents to be employed in buying linen cloth for poor women; John Hicks, in 1799, gave £5 for educating poor children; in 1813 the purchase money of a cottage belonging to the second poor of Hinton was invested in Consols and the interest devoted to the poor of the tithing; in 1815 John Togwell left £561 13s in Consols, the interest to be devoted to education; in 1828 the Rev Samuel Hey, then vicar, gave his library of 1,139 volumes and some articles of furniture for the use of his successors; in 1852 George Taylor left £3,000, the interest of which is to be expended in bread for 6 poor men and 6 poor women of the parishes of Keevil, Edington and Steeple Ashton. The Right Hon Walter Hume Long PC MP is lord of the manor and principal landowner. The soil is clay; subsoil, clay and stones. The chief crops are wheat and roots, with a large proportion of land in pasture. The area is 2,831 acres; rateable value £4,261; the population in 1911 was 688 in the civil and 1,476 in the ecclesiastical parish, including 157 inmates and 17 officials in the Melksham Poor Law Institution.

**Post, MO & T Office:** Miss Lucy Jane Bartlett, sub-postmistress. Letters are received through Trowbridge at 7.30am and 5.15pm; Sundays 8am; dispatched at 10.25am & 6.45pm; Sundays, 10am

**HINTON** (or Great Hinton) is a civil parish, 1¼ miles north; for ecclesiastical purposes it is still included in Steeple Ashton. Here is a Wesleyan chapel, built about 1864, with 100 sittings, and a Primitive Methodist chapel, built about 1859, and holding 60. The area is 676 acres; rateable value £1,214; the population in 1911 was 162.

**West Ashton**, formerly a tithing of Steeple Ashton and now a separate parish, is given under another heading.

**Parish Clerk and Sexton:** Francis Walter Berrett

**Wall Letter Boxes:** Hinton, cleared 7.25am & 6.45pm; Sunday, 10.25am & Ashton Common, cleared 7.05pm; Sunday 10.45am

## COUNTY MAGISTRATES FOR WHORWELLSDOWN PETTY SESSIONAL DIVISION

Long Right Hon. Walter Hume PC MP DL Rood Ashton House, West Ashton, Trowbridge, chairman  
 Cary William Henry, Mantua, Steeple Ashton, Trowbridge  
 Dickson Maj-Gen James Baillie Ballantyne CB CMG Keevil Manor, Trowbridge  
 Long Robert Chaloner Critchley, Northleigh, Bradford-on-Avon  
 Rogers William, Broadlands, Quidhampton, Salisbury  
 Soames Ward, The Grange, Hilperton, Trowbridge  
 Wallington Edward William CVO CMG Oriel House, Hilperton, Trowbridge  
 Watson-Taylor George Simon Arthur DL Erlestoke Park, Devizes  
 The Chairman of the Westbury & Whorwellsdown Rural District Council is an ex-officio magistrate  
 Clerk to the Magistrates, William John Mann, 9 Union Street, Trowbridge  
 Special & Petty Sessions are held on a Monday in every month at the Village Hall, Steeple Ashton, at 11am. The division comprises the following places: Steeple Ashton, West Ashton, Hinton, Keevil, Bulkington, East Coulston, West Coulston, Tinhead & Edington

**Assistant Overseer & Clerk to Parish Council:** Edward Morel, West Ashton

**Police Sergeant:** Herbert Boulton

**Elementary School (mixed):** erected in 1820, & enlarged in 1895, for 163 children; William Cray, master

**Carriers to Trowbridge:** Edward Rowland Rogers & Frank May, daily

### Gentry/Private Residents – Steeple Ashton

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Cary	William Henry	JP		Mantua
Gardner	William	MRCS LRCP		Ashton House
Impey	Edward			Manor House
Knubley	Edward Ponsonby	Reverend MA		Vicarage
Tucker	Emanuel			The Laurels

### Traders – Steeple Ashton

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Ashby	Emma	Mrs	Grocer	
Ashby	John Edmund		Farmer	Spiers Piece
		Banbury & Son	Saddlers	
Barnett	Jane	Mrs	Stationer	
Berrett	Francis Walter		Carpenter	
Brown	Alfred & George Thomas		Farmers	
Brown	Arthur Wilfred			Rose & Crown PH
Brown	Charles		Farmer	
Burbidge	John		Farmer	Snarlton
Burbidge	John		Farmer	Tylers
Burbidge	William		Builder	
Case	Emily Clara	Miss	Grocer	
Chester	William Page		Clerk of Works	
Cray	William		Tax Collector & Hon Sec of the Village Hall	School House
Gerrish	William		Farmer	
Gleed	Job		Farmer	
Grant	William & George		Hay & Straw Dealers	
Grant	Frederick George		Farmer	Ashton Lane
Gumm	George		Market Gardener	Ashton Common
Hawkins	Arthur		Farmer	

Hawkins	John		Farmer	
Hibberd	Tom		Farmer	(postal address, Edington, Westbury)
Hill	William			Long's Arms PH
Holloway	Louisa	Mrs	Grocer	
Holloway	Rosina	Miss	Dressmaker	
Hughes	Henry		Farmer	
March	John		Market Gardener	
Mason	Alfred Thomas		Plumber & Painter	
Matthews	George		Baker	
Matthews	William		Farmer	
May	Frank		Carrier	
Moore	A	& Son	Blacksmiths	
Orchard	Joseph		Beer Retailer	Ashton Common
Rogers	Edward Rowland		Carrier	Ashton Common
Rogers	Henry George		Farmer	Green Lane & Trowbridge
Sainsbury	George		Farmer	Stoney Gutter
Sims	Emily	Mrs	Farmer	Ashton Common
Sims	James		Farmer	
Smith	A	Hon Sec	Social Club	
Tucker	Alfred Emanuel		Farmer	Home Farm
Tucker	Herbert Edwin		Farmer	Church Farm
Tucker	Rupert		Farmer	New Grounds
Tucker	Tom		Farmer	Mill Farm
Watts	Edward		Farmer	
West	John		Farmer	
Woodman	Frederick		Farmer	

### Gentry/Private Residents - Hinton

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Hawkins	Frederick			

### Traders - Hinton

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Ball	John		Farmer	
Hilkins	James		Farmer	
Keen	Thomas		Farmer	
Langley	Howard John			New Inn
Milsom	Thomas Howard		Farmer	
Norris	Sophia	Mrs	Grocer	
Pearce	Priscilla	Mrs	Farmer	Bleet
Perrett	Worthy		Farmer	
Rogers	William Bleet		Farmer	
Thomas	Henrietta	Mrs	Farmer	Coldharbour
Townsend	Curwen William		Farmer	
Twinney	Albert		Pig Dealer	
Wareham	Ernest		Farmer	Church Farm
Watts	George		Farmer	
White	William		Thatcher	