



Post Office Directory Extract 1855

Berwick St. John



Berwick St. John, a township, parish and village 17½ miles south-west from Salisbury, and 112½ from London and 8½ east of Shaftesbury, in the Chalk Hundred, Tisbury Union, Hindon division, Salisbury bishopric, South Wilts. The population in 1851 was 482; there are 3,669 acres of arable and down land. A strong earthwork or fortification, known as Winkelbury, or Vespasian's camp, is on a lofty ridge in this parish, and commands a view over Dorsetshire, the Downs, and a portion of Hampshire, as far as the Needle Rocks in the Isle of Wight. The rich forest of Cranborne Chase occupies the foreground, and the uninterrupted view to be obtained over Wiltshire is finely and beautifully varied. The Ebele river rises here, and flows towards the Avon. The living is a rectory, value £500, in the gift of New College, Oxford; the incumbent is the Rev. Richard Downes, M.A; the curate is the Rev. William Smith, D.D. The church of St. John The Baptist, built in the reign of Henry VII, is a cross-shaped structure, with a finely-ornamented low square tower (having 5 bells) rising from the middle; it is in excellent repair. The churchyard is kept neatly and in good order. In the interior of the church are monuments to the Grove family, and other families of distinction; against the walls are two elliptic arches over ancient effigies, said to be those of Knights Templars, and clad in mail. There is a National school, built on glebe land, in 1835, at the sole expense of the rector, and principally supported by him. There is a small sum left in charities by the late Lord Rivers. John Grove, Esq., of Fern House, and Lord Rivers, of Rushmore Lodge, are the lords of the manor.

WATER STREET and Duck Street adjoin the village.

BURY COURT is 2 miles south-west; Win Green, 2 miles south-west; Bredmore, or Bridmore, 2 miles south-east; Woodland, half a mile north-east. To the north is White Street Hill

EASTON is a farm.

Letters are received through Donhead St. Andrew, via Salisbury. The nearest money order office is Shaftesbury.

National School - Mrs. Sarah Bugden, Mistress

CARRIER - Robert Lathey, to Shaftesbury, Saturday; returning same day

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Downes	Richard	Rev., M.A.	Rector	
Gilbert	Thomas	Esq.		
Rivers		Lord		Rushmore Lodge
Shere		Mrs.		
Smith	William	Rev., D.D.	Curate	

TRADERS

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Antell	Charles		Farmer	
Barnett	Thomas	Mrs.	Farmer	Easton Farm
Bengefield	Charles		Farmer	
Burt	George		Smith	
Foot	Stephen		Carpenter & Parish Clerk	
Henstridge	John		Mason	
Lathy	Robert		Shopkeeper & Carrier	
Shere	Thomas		Farmer	
Sims	Benjamin		Farmer	
Trowbridge	Henry		Shopkeeper	