



Post Office Directory Extract 1875



Keevil

Keevil is a parish, in the Northern division of the county, hundred of Whorwelsdown, Westbury union, and Trowbridge county court district, diocese of Salisbury, archdeaconry of Wilts, and rural deanery of Potterne, 4 miles south from Melksham, 104 from London, and 4 east from Trowbridge.

The Church of St. Leonard is a plain stone structure, having chancel, nave, and aisles, and a square embattled tower with clock and 6 bells. The register dates from the year []. The living is a vicarage, value £250, in the patronage of the Dean and Canons of Winchester, and held by the Rev. William Henry Pooke-Chamberlaine, M.A., of Worcester College, Oxford.

The Wesleyans have a place of worship here. The National school was erected in 1869, for boys, girls and infants.

Keevil is the centre of a district in which two important associations carry on their operations.

The first, called the "Keevil District Horticultural Society," was established in 1859, with a view to encourage horticultural pursuits, chiefly among the working classes throughout the district, which comprises a circuit of about 4 miles; also to encourage the growing of agricultural roots, and the production of wool of a superior quality. Two shows are held annually, when prizes are awarded for the best productions. The horticultural show is held in August, and the show of agricultural roots and wool is in November; the shows are held in various places throughout the district. This society has met with great success in its operations, and is under the patronage of all the leading local gentry. There are about 200 subscribing members.

The second, called the "Keevil Mutual Cattle Association," was formed about a year later, and also comprises a circuit of about 4 miles. Its object, on its first formation, was to protect its members (on the principle of insurance), against losses among their cattle arising from pleura-pneumonia, but at a later date was so altered as to embrace losses from rinderpest, or cattle plague. The farmers and graziers in the district seem fully alive to the advantages this society offers, as it is well supported, a great quantity of cattle being insured therein. The society's general meeting is held at the Rose & Crown Inn, Keevil, the second Wednesday in May.

William W B Beach, esq., M.P., Oakley Hall, Hampshire, is lord of the manor, and the principal landowner.

The soil is clay; subsoil, clay and brash. The chief crops are nearly all pasture, the remainder wheat, barley and oats.

The parish contains 2,883 acres of land; rateable value, £4,895; the population in 1871 was 628.

PARISH CLERK, George Wilkins.

LETTERS through Trowbridge, which is the nearest money order office. There is a pillar-box at Keevil, cleared at 5.50 pm.; on Sundays at 10 am.; and one at Bulkington, cleared at 6.30 pm.

NATIONAL SCHOOL, Mrs Ann Rodgers, mistress.

ORGANISATIONS

Keevil District Horticultural Society, Job Lockyer Seale, M.D., of Steeple Ashton, president & treasurer. John Isaac Watts, Whistley farm, near Devizes, & N Watts, Pinckney farm, Hon secs.

Keevil Mutual Cattle Association, Joseph Collett, chairman, treasurer & hon. Sec.

Private Residents

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Pooke-Chamberlaine	William Henry	Rev. M.A.	Vicar	
Wallington	John William	Col., J.P.		Manor house

Commercial

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Budd	Elizabeth	Mrs		Rose & Crown
Collett	Joseph		Farmer & auctioneer	
Ellis	Thomas		Farmer	
Ghey	Henry		Farmer	
Grant	Martha	Mrs	Grocer	
Hunt	William	Mrs	Farmer	
Jefferies	James		Wheelwright	
Maslen	Joseph	Mrs	Farmer	
Matthews	John	Mrs	Farmer	
Mineas	William		Stonemason	
Orchard	William		Wheelwright	
Orchard	Daniel		Smith	Beach Arms
Parsons	William		Farmer	Pyetts farm
Perret	George		Farmer	
Pocock	John		Farmer	
Rogers	Joseph			Long's Arms
Rose	William		Farmer	Woodhouse farm
Taylor	John		Farmers & maltsters	Baldham farm
Taylor	Samuel		Farmers & maltsters	Baldham farm
Watts	Daniel		Farmer	Pinckney farm
Watts	Eleanor	Mrs	Farmer	Horseshoes farm
Witt	William		Baker & shoe maker	