



# Kelly's Directory Extract 1915

## Compton Bassett



**COMPTON BASSETT** is a small parish and rural village 4 miles north-east by road, and 2.5 by footpath from Calne terminal station on a branch of the Great Western railway, 8 south from Wootton Bassett and 85 from London, in the North Western division of the county, Calne hundred, union, county court district and petty sessional division, rural deanery of Avebury, (Avebury portion), arch-deaconry of Wilts and diocese of Salisbury. The church of St Swithin is an edifice in the Norman and Perpendicular styles, consisting of chancel, nave of 4 bays, aisles, north porch, and an embattled western tower containing 5 bells: there is a rich Tudor rood screen: the chancel was rebuilt in 1866, and a stained window inserted, in memory of Rev William Dalby, a former rector, and there are seven others: the church affords sittings for 250 persons. The register dates from the year 1558. The living is a rectory, net yearly value £261, with residence, in the gift of the Bishop of Salisbury, and held since 1915, by the Rev Lawrence William Greenstreet BA of Worcester College, Oxford. Compton House is a mansion of stone, erected in the latter half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century: it has extensive park and pleasure grounds, and is the property of Major Godfrey C Walker-Heneage, MVO, lord of the manor and principal landowner, and the residence of Lt Col Alfred Western Hatchell Hornsby-Drake. The soil is chalky, sub-soil chalk; the chief crops are wheat, barley and turnips: the area is 2576 acres, assessable value, £2859: the population in 1911 was 298 in the civil, and 323 in the ecclesiastical parish.

By Local Government Board Order 14451, dated March 25<sup>th</sup> 1883, Cowitch Farm and cottages were transferred to Hilmarton for civil purposes.

Sexton: Francis Edward Billett

Post Office: Charles White, sub-postmaster. Letters arrive through Calne and are delivered 7.25am & 6pm, weekdays only; dispatched at 8.25am & 6.55pm. Hilmarton is the nearest money order and Calne, 4 miles distant, the nearest telegraph office. Pillar Letter Box: Compton House, cleared at 8.40am & 7.10pm, weekdays only

Elementary School (mixed) built in 1843 for 120 children: Mrs Mary L Tucker, mistress.

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Birkenshaw	Thomas W.		Gardener to Lt. Col. Hornsby-Drake	
Bishop	Walter		Gamekeeper to Lt. Col. Hornsby	
Blackman	Frank		Publican	White Horse Inn
Bodman	Benjamin		Farmer	The Freeth
Bodman	Henry		Farmer	Dugdales
Burrow	James		Farmer	The Breach Farm
Doble	James		Farmer	Nolands Farms
Eatwell	John			
Goodenough	Albert		Wheelwright	
Greenstreet	Lawrence William	Reverend BA.	Rector	Rectory
Hornsby-Drake	Alfred Western Hatchell	Lieutenant Colonel		Compton House
Joy	Guy Lionel		Farmer	
Mackay	William		Farmer	
Mifflin	William Brind		Farmer	White's Farm
Vines	William		Farmer	Manor Farm
Wild	John		Farm Bailiff to Maj. Walker-Heneage	
Wild	Maurice		Assistant Overseer	