

Post Office Directory Extract 1855 Avebury



Avebury - is a township and parish on the Kennet, in the Hundred of Selkley and Marlborough Union, containing the village of Avebury, with the hamlets of Beckhampton and West Kennet, 7 miles west of Marlborough, and 9 north-east from Devizes. The population, in 1851, was 768, and the area 4,544 acres. The church of St. James is a fine old building, with a well-built tower, containing 5 bells and a clock; within is a Norman font, the bowl of which is carved with the figure of a bishop holding the Gospels to his breast, and piercing with his crozier, a serpent which lies coiled around. The living is a vicarage, united to that of Winterbourne Monkton, valued at £196 10s., in the gift of the Lord Chancellor. The vicar is the Rev. John L. Ross. Here is a National school well supported. At West Kennet, 1½ miles south-east of the village, is the brewery of the long celebrated Kennet ale. The Devil's Den is to the east.

Beckhampton is 1 mile south-west; Penning Barn, 1 mile south-west; Waden Hill, half a mile south-east. This latter seems to take its name from the god Waden, or Woden. On Windmill Hill are numerous barrows. Silbury Hill is 1 mile south. The remains of the Druidical temple at Avebury are crossed by two roads.

Post Office - Mrs. Mary Gale, receiver. Letters arrive by foot post from Marlborough at 9. a.m.; dispatched ½ past 4 p.m. The nearest money order offices are at Marlborough and Calne.

Church - Rev. John L. Ross, vicar; Lawrence Chivers, clerk

National School - Lawrence Chivers, master; Mrs. Sarah Chivers, mistress

Carrier to Marlborough - Spackman, to the "Green Dragon", High Street, Tuesday & Saturday.

Gentry

| Surname | Given Names | Title | Industry/Occupation | Place/Parish |
|------------|--------------------|-------|---------------------|--------------|
| Brown | George | Esq. | | |
| Butler | George | Esq. | | West Kennet |
| Fitzgerald | Charles Penruddock | Esq. | | |
| Hawkins | Sarah | Mrs. | | |
| Kemm | | Mrs. | | Manor House |
| Kemm | Thomas | Esq. | | West Kennet |
| Pyke | James | Mr. | | |
| Ross | John Lockard | | Vicar | Vicarage |
| Tanner | William | Esq. | | West Kennet |
| Wentworth | Jane | Mrs. | | |

Traders

| Surname | Given Names | Title | Industry/Occupation | Place/Parish |
|------------|--------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Bedford | John | | Boot & Shoe Maker | |
| Butler | George | | Maltster & Brewer of the Kennet Ale | West Kennet |
| Brown | George | | Farmer | |
| Chivers | John | | Thatcher | |
| Chivers | Lawrence | | National Schoolmaster & Parish Clerk | |
| Dark | Isaac | | Farmer | |
| Deacon | Jeremiah | | Boot & Shoe Maker | |
| Dew | James | | Carpenter | |
| Fitzgerald | Charles Penruddock | | Surgeon | |
| Fowler | Joseph | | Blacksmith | |
| Gale | Mary | Mrs. | Postmistress | |
| Kemm | Thomas | | Farmer | |

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| Marchant | Job | Tailor | |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Neate | Thomas | Publican | Red Lion |
| Paradise | James | Blacksmith | |
| Piniger | Jacob | Farmer | West Kennet |
| Piniger | Thomas Lord | Farmer | Beckhampton |
| Pratt | William | Saddler | |
| Shipway | John | Bricklayer | |
| Sloper | George | Butcher, Baker & Shopkeeper | |
| Sloper | Simon | Publican | Waggon & Horse, Beckhampton |
| Smith | George | Carpenter & Shopkeeper | · |
| Smith | Joseph | Shopkeeper & Beer Retailer | |
| Titcomb | Richard | Carpenter | |
| Treene | William | Trainer of Horses | Beckhampton |
| Wentworth | John | Farmer | Beckhampton |
| Wentworth | Samuel | Farmer | |