



Post Office Directory Extract 1875

Broad Blunsdon



Blunsdon St. Leonard (or Broad Blunsdon) is a tithing and ecclesiastical parish, formed out of the parish of Highworth in 1864, within the parliamentary borough of Cricklade, in the Northern division of the county, hundred and union of Highworth, county court district of Swindon, diocese of Gloucester and Bristol, archdeaconry of Bristol, and rural deanery of Cricklade, distant from Highworth 3½ miles south-west, 5 north from Swindon and 80 from London.

The church of St. Leonard is a handsome structure, and consists of chancel and chancel-aisle, nave, and south aisle, with square tower containing 4 bells; it was completely restored in 1872. The register dates from 1679. The living, formerly a chapelry of Highworth, has been endowed by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners with £300 yearly, and constituted an independent rectory, in the gift of the Bishop of the diocese, and held by the Rev. William Harris Roach, M.A., of Pembroke College, Cambridge.

There is a school for boys and girls, built upon the church land, supported partly by the rector and partly by the weekly payments of the children. Here is a chapel for Primitive Methodists.

At Bury Town, in the parish, there is a camp and some old armour, in the possession of Mr Smith, a farmer there, was dug from a barrow near the camp.

The manorial rights are divided, and there are a number of landowners with separate holdings.

The soil is Clay and stone brash. The crops are grass, wheat, barley, beans and roots.

The area is 2,242 acres; the population in 1871 was 944.

Oldcroft, a quarter of a mile south, is the handsome residence of H C Crowdy, Esq.; **Hyde** is a hamlet, 2 miles south-east.

PARISH CLERK, James Bradfield.

POST OFFICE, William Hopkins, receiver. Letters arrive from Highworth at 7.30 a.m.; dispatched at 5.40 p.m. week days only. The nearest money order office is at Cricklade.

NATIONAL SCHOOL, Miss Mary Ann Thomas, mistress.

CARRIERS, John Thomas, through from Highworth to Cirencester, Monday & Friday; Selman & Co. from Highworth to Cricklade, Wednesday; and to Swindon on Monday.

Private Resident

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Akerman	George			The Retreat
Calley	John William	Rev. M.A.	Vicar of Little Blunsdon	
Crowdy	Henry Crowley			Oldcroft
Hunt	William			
Middleditch	Edward Taylor			Blunsdon House
Roach	William Harris	Rev. M.A.	Rector	
Woolford		Mrs.		

Commercial

Austin	John		Carpenter & wheelwright	
Boulton	William		Shopkeeper	
Brooks	William		Farmer	
Clack	Charles		Boot maker	
Day	James		Stone mason	
Deacon	Joseph		Butcher	
Eggleton	James		Blacksmith	
Hall	Thomas Harding			Crown Inn
Hall	William		Corn dealer & farmer	
Hiett	William		Shopkeeper	
Hinder	Henry		Farmer	Hyde
Hockey	Alfred		Florist	
Hopkins	William		Shopkeeper & tailor	
Hornblow	William		Haulier	
Howard	Henry		Boot maker	
Hunt	Edwin		Baker & grocer	
Jarvis	Richard		Blacksmith	
Keene	Israel		Baker & grocer	
Keylock	Hannah	Mrs.	Farmer	Manor farm
Legg	William		Shoe maker	
Merrett	John		Carpenter & shopkeeper	
Pinniger	Thomas		Farmer	Hyde
Rogers	John		Shoe maker	
Smith	Edward		Butcher	
Smith	Henry		Farmer	Lower Bury Town farm
Smith	Thomas		Farmer	Bury Town farm
Speck	William		Market gardener	
Titcomb	Edwin		Farmer	Hyde
Tombs	Henry		Thatcher	
Trayden	Allen		Farm bailiff to Edward T Middleditch, Esq.	