



Post Office Directory Extract 1855



Broughton Gifford

BROUGHTON GIFFORD is a township, village and parish, 3½ miles north-east of Bradford, 8½ south-west of Chippenham, 5 south of Corsham, and 2 west of Melksham station, 102 from London, 10 south-east of Bath, in Bradford Hundred and Union, and North Wilts division, containing 1,677 acres of arable and pasture land; the population, 693. The living is a rectory, in the diocese of Sarum, value £460, and 22 acres of glebe land, in the gift of the Lord Chancellor; the incumbent is the Rev. John Wilkinson M.A. The church, which has been entirely restored and re-seated, is an ancient structure, having a nave, chancel, north and south aisles; the tower at the west end is square, having immense buttresses, a turret, and an embattled parapet, with 9 bells; in the interior the aisles are separated by pointed arches; the pillars in the interior of the church are different - those on the south side being octangular; those on the north, round with an ovolo moulding. These last, together with other part of the church, show that an ancient structure of Norman times existed here once, and that the present building was erected probably in Henry VIIIth's reign, some of the old materials having been incorporated in it. There is a curious old brass to the memory of Robert Long, Esq. Here is a charity of Ann Harding and Betty Paradise, who left on July 11.1786, £20 yearly to educate 20 poor boys or girls (this is now merged in the National School), and £7 yearly to be distributed at Christmas between 10 poor persons who have not been on the parish books. Mrs. Purbeck left by will £5 yearly, to be distributed at Christmas, in sums of 5s. each, to the most deserving and necessitous families. Here is a National School, a new school-house, on the most approved principles, having been lately erected. Lord Broughton is the lord of the manor, taking his title from the village. This was a Roman fortified station.

POST OFFICE - James Collett, postmaster. Letters arrive from Melksham at ½ past 9 a.m.; dispatched 5 p.m. The nearest money order office is at Melksham.

Gentry/Private Residents

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Cogswell	Benjamin	Esq.		Holybrook House
Wilkinson	John	Rev., M.A.	Rector	Rectory

Traders

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Bryant	Henry		Shoemaker	
Bull	John		Farmer	
Cantello	James		Master of National School	
Cantello	Jane	Mrs.	Mistress of National School	
Cantello	William		Shoemaker	
Collett	James		Parish Clerk & Postmaster	
Collett	Simeon		Shopkeeper & Shoemaker	
Cox	Henry		Farmer	Common
Dark	John		Farmer	
Eyers	Edward		Cooper & Shopkeeper	
Gerrish	William		Carpenter	
Gere	Jacob		Baker & Shopkeeper	
Green	Simeon		Tailor	
Harding	George		Carpenter	

Harding	Jeremiah		Wheelwright	
Isaac	Eliza	Mrs.	Farmer	
Porticary	Sarah	Mrs.	Shopkeeper & Beer Retailer	
Rose	Henry		Farmer	
Seager	John		Publican	Bell Inn
Sly	Elizabeth	Miss	Farmer	
Smith	James		Farmer	Monkton Farm
Smith	John		Farmer	Monkton Farm
Spackman	Charles		Farmer	
Spackman	Richard		Farmer	
Spackman	Thomas P.		Farmer	Common
White	Skreen		Beer retailer	