



# Post Office Directory Extract 1875



## Froxfield

**Froxfield** is a straggling parish on the Berkshire border, in the Southern division of the county, hundred of Kinwardstone, Hungerford union and county court district, diocese of Salisbury, archdeaconry of Wilts and rural deanery of Marlborough, 2¼ miles west-by-south from Hungerford, 64 from London and 7 east from Marlborough, situated on the Bath road. The Kennet and Avon canal passes through here.

On an eminence, west of the village, is the parish church of All Saints, a brick building, with low tile roof, and wooden belfry and 2 bells. The register dates from 1519. The living is a vicarage, yearly value £120, in the gift of the Dean and Canons of Windsor, and held by the Rev. Thomas Phelps, M.A., of Hertford College, Oxford, who is also the officiating minister at the Hospital.

Froxfield is most notable for the Almshouses, or Somerset Hospital, founded in 1686 by Sarah, Duchess Dowager of Somerset, who bequeathed landed and other property for its erection, and for the maintenance of 30 widows. Twenty apartments were added to the building in 1773, and the revenue, having since increased, enables the trustees to afford asylum, with an allowance of £36 per annum, to 50 widows. The building is an oblong quadrangle, with a small chapel within it, erected by Thomas, the late Earl of Ailesbury, the minister of which has an annual stipend of £70. Thirty widows of laymen, and 20 widows of clergymen, from different parts of England, within 150 miles of London, are eligible to this munificent charity. The trustees, 12 in number, chosen from the nobility and gentry of the country, nominate the steward and chaplain of the establishment.

There is a parochial school for sixty children.

The Marquis of Ailesbury is lord of the manor. The principal landowners are the Marquis of Ailesbury and Francis Leyborne-Popham, esq.

The soil is gravel; subsoil, flinty. The chief crops are wheat, barley and oats.

The area is 2,214 acres; gross estimated rental, £3,575; rateable value, £3,214; and the population in 1871 was 480.

**Hughditch, Oakhill, and Rudge** are tithings of Froxfield.

PARISH CLERK                      John Humphreys

POST OFFICE                      Samuel Savage                      Receiver  
Letters arrive by foot post from Hungerford at 7 am. & dispatched at 6.10 pm.  
The nearest money order office is at Hungerford.

PAROCHIAL SCHOOL              Mrs Harriet Hall                      Mistress

SOMERSET HOSPITAL (Almshouses)

Lay Widows	The trustees will present as vacancies occur, according to the rotation in list (A)	
	Wilts, Berks and Somerset	5
	London and Westminster	5
	Counties at large, any place within 150 miles of London, except Wilts, Berks and Somerset	10
	according to the rotation in list (B)	
	Manors of Froxfield, Huish and Shaw, Broad Town,	

Wootton Rivers and Thornill, in Wilts 10  
 Total lay widows 30

Clergy Widows The trustees will present according to the list (B)  
 Wilts, Berks and Somerset 10  
 London and Westminster 5  
 Counties at large (as above) 5  
 Total clergy widows 20

Total number of widows 50

Widows eligible for nominations must be such as shall be settled in some parish within the district from whence they are to be selected.

Or whose last place of residence shall have usually been within such district for the space of forty days previous to the vacancy.

As the trustees present in rotation, application to them individually is the only mode of obtaining a nomination.

List (A) Lay	The Marquis of Lansdowne	Bowood, Calne
	Rt. Hon. T H S Sotheron-Estcourt	Estcourt, Tetbury
	G H Walker-Heneage, esq.	Compton Bassett, Calne
	H N Goddard, esq.	Clyffe Manor, Wootton Bassett
	Marquis of Ailesbury, K.G.	Savernake Forest, Marlborough
	F Leyborne-Popham, esq.	Hunstrete House, Chelwood, Bristol
	Ambrose L Goddard, esq.	The Lawn, Swindon
	The Rt. Hon. Lord Ernest Bruce, M.P.	6 St George's Place, Hyde Park Corner, London, SW
	Sir J W Awdry	Notton, Chippenham
	Earl of Suffolk	Charlton Park, Malmesbury
William Honeywood , esq.	Chilton Lodge, Hungerford	
Thomas Chaloner Smith,. Esq.	Chilton House, Hungerford	

List (B) Clergy & Manor	Marquis of Ailesbury, K.G.	H N Godard , esq.
	Lord Ernest Bruce	Sir J W Awdry
	Marquis of Lansdowne	Ambrose L Goddard, esq.
	Rt. Hon. T H S Sotheron-Estcourt	G H Walker-Heneage, esq.
	Francis Leyborne-Popham, esq.	Earl of Suffolk
	William Honeywood, esq.	Thomas Chaloner Smith, esq.

Chaplain	Rev. Richard Walter Dartnell, M.A.	Huish
Officiating Minister	Rev. Thomas Phelps	Froxfield
Surgeon	Richard Hemsted Barker	Hungerford

CARRIER between Hungerford & Marlborough passes through daily.

**Private Residents**

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Bleack	William	Mrs		Rectory House
Phelps	Thomas	Rev., M.A.	Vicar	
Redman	John			

**Commercial**

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Appleford	Henry		Farmer	

Beard	Edward Howard			<i>Pelican</i>
Birchfield	Henry		Farmer	Rudge
Brown	Aaron		Porter to the Somerset Hospital	
Canning	William		Farmer	Oak Hill
Checker	John		Builder	
Coombs	Richard		Saddler & harness maker	
Francis	John		Carpenter	
Humphries	John		Blacksmith	
Lewis	William		Farmer	Rudge
Nash	William		Bricklayer & shopkeeper	
Oliver	Elisha		Carrier	
Redman	John		Farmer	
Savage	Samuel		Grocer, draper & postmaster	
Shier	Isaac		Farmer	Rudge
Withers	Charles		Shoe maker	
Withers	Henry		Shoe maker	