



Kelly's Directory Extract 1895

Rowde



Rowde is a parish and compact and healthy village, on the road from Devizes station on the Great Western railway, and 6 south-west from Calne, in the Eastern division of the county, hundred of Potterne and Cannings, Devizes petty sessional division, county court district and union, rural deanery of Avebury (Cannings portion), archdeaconry of Wilts and diocese of Salisbury. The village stands on a plain, a short distance from the base of Roundway Down which here shows itself with a bold, precipitous front. The spring-head of a stream, called Rowde Forde, rises near the foot of the Down, and as it flows onward, forms partly the boundary line between the parishes of Rowde and Bromham. The church of St. Matthew, anciently dedicated to St. Mary, is a Perpendicular structure of stone, consisting of chancel, clerestoried nave of three bays and aisles, north porch, with a rectangular western tower, turreted and embattled and containing a clock and 6 bells: in the chancel is a hagioscope: the church was rebuilt in 1833, excepting the tower and a portion of the chancel: it was re-seated with oak benches in 1871; in 1872 five stained windows were inserted in the aisles in memory of the Rev. A. B. Starkey M.A. late vicar: there is also one of the west side of the tower: in 1881 the organ, which stands in a chapel on the north side was enlarged; in 1886 the stained east window was added in memory of F. A. Locke esq. of Rowde Forde: a brass lecturn has been presented by C. H. Lowe esq. in memory of General Gordon: and in 1887 a carved oak screen was erected at the west end by the parishioners: there are tablets in the church to Wadham F. Locke M.P. ob. 1835, to Wadham F. Locke, ob. 1854, and to the Rev. William Higginson M.A. ob. 1816, vicar of this parish for 51 years: the mural monument in the chancel is to Thomas Spencer (ob. 1765) and family: there are about 350 sittings. The register dates from the year 1606. The living is a rectory, average tithe rent-charge £263, net income £250, with 2 acres of glebe and residence, in the gift of and held since 1874 by the Rev. Ellis Shipley Harris LL.M. of Emmanuel College, Cambridge. Here is a chapel for Wesleyan Methodists. Reading and coffee rooms were erected in 1887, by Mrs. Starkey in remembrance of her son, the Rev. Andrew Beauchamp Starkey, a former vicar, in connection with which is a library. There are charities amounting to £40 yearly for distribution. C. E. H. A. Colston esq. M.P. of Roundway Park, who is lord of the manor, Lieut.-Gen. Henry Francis Bythesea, rear-Admiral John Bythesea C.B., C.I.E., V.C. and Samuel Francis Glossop Bythesea esq. are principal landowners. There are 2,665 acres of land, resting principally on red sand and clay; it is well wooded, and mostly devoted to pasturage. Rateable value, £6,536; the population in 1891 was 1,195, including 318 within the borough of Devizes.

Caen Hill is a mile south-east; Smithwick, half a mile west-by-south; Rowde Croft, 2 miles north-west, Bricks and tiles are made here.

Parish Clerk, George Perrett.

Post, M. O. & T. O., S. B., Express Delivery & Annuity & Insurance Office. - Richard Stook, sub-postmaster. Letters received from Devizes at 6.45 a.m. & 5.10 p.m.; & box closes at 9.40 a.m. & 9.30 p.m.

National School (mixed), built in 1821 & enlarged in 1885, for 100 children; average attendance, 79; John Veale, master.

Infants' School, built for 60 children; average attendance, 45; Mrs. Bessy Stiles, mistress.

Carriers to Devizes pass through Rowde in the morning & on their return in the afternoon.

Gentry/Private Residents

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Chandler	Thomas Hicks			
Chard	Charles	Capt.		
Cunningham	Edward Benjamin Howard	Capt.		Foxhangers
Haden	George			
Harris	Ellis Chipley LL.M.	Rev.		
Hyatt		Mrs		
Lavington		Miss		Rowde Cottage
Lowe	Charles Henry			
McCraith		Miss		Foxhangers
Neumann	Chas. Wm.			Rowde House
Phipp		Mrs.		The Poplars
Pointing	Thomas Isaac			Lion Lodge
Reynolds		Mrs.		Prospect rise
St. George		Mrs.		
Smith	Thomas			Rowde lodge

Traders

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Bartlett	George		Farmer	
Buckland	Jesse		Market gardener	
Burton	Tom Frank		Miller (water)	
Butler	Danl. Wm.		Farmer	Rowdefield fm
Butler	Edwin		Farmer	
Butler	Fredk.		Farmer	Maltho. frm
Clements	Henry		Head Gardener to Chas. Henry Lowe esq	
Clarke	John		Manager	Coffee Tavern & Reading Rooms
Drewett		Miss	Dress maker	
Fielding	Fredk.		Cowkeeper	Caen Hill
Flower	George		Builder	
Franks	Mary Ann	Mrs.	Farmer	
Giddings	Thomas & Charles		Farmers	Rowde Hill farm
Golding	Samuel		Plumber	
Grist	Jacob	Mrs.	Farmer	Lowerr Foxhangers
Harford	John		Farmer	
Hunt	William		Farmer	Rowde farm
King	William		Cowkeeper	
King	Wm. jun.			George & Dragon P.H.
Lewis	John Dark		Farmer	Iron Pear Tree farm
Maffey	Henry		Grocer & baker	
Mitchell	Harvey Jn.		Fmr	Rowde Croft
Mulcock	George		Blacksmith	
Mullings	Richard Benoni		Brick, tile & pope manufacturer	Caen Hill
Oatley	Job		Coal dlr. & market gardener	
Part	Charles		Baker	Bridge house
Perrett	Geo.		Carpenter & wheelwright	
Pinchen	Frederick A,		Coal dealer Cross Keys P.H.	
Pocock	Edmund		Farmer	Durlet farm
Rossiter	Benjamin		Hawker	
Stiles	Henry		Farmer	
Stiles	Robert		Thatcher	
Stook	Richard		Baker, corn & provision	

			dealer; families waited on daily	
Strong	Thomas		Beer retailer & baker	
Wheeler	Jn.		Farmer	Foxhangers farm
Wells	Henry R.		Olive Branch Inn P.H.	Caen Hill
White	James		Foreman at Kennet & Avon Canal locks	
Wiltshire	Ernest		Farmer	Duret
Wiltshire	Thos. Frank		Farmer	Smithwick farm
Carpenter	Joseph		Secretary, Workmen's Club	
Strong	Thomas		Caretkr, Workmen's Club	
Wright	Charles		Shoe maker	