

Kelly's Directory 1923

WEST KNOYLE is a parish 5.5 miles north east from Gillingham station on the Salisbury and Yeovil section of the Southern Railway, 3 east from Mere and 7 north from Shaftesbury, in the Westbury Division of the county, hundred and union of Mere, petty sessional division of Tisbury, county court district of Shaftesbury, rural deanery and diocese of Salisbury.

The church (dedication unknown, probably St. Mary the Virgin) is an edifice of stone, chiefly in the Early English style and was rebuilt, except the tower, in 1878-8. It consists of chancel, nave, vestry and organ chamber, south porch and a Perpendicular embattled western tower with pinnacles containing 4 bells. There are stained windows and tables to the Willoughby family. The church has sittings for 110 persons.

The register dates from the year 1718, those of earlier date having been burnt.

The living is a rectory, net yearly value of £400 with residence and 51 acres of glebe in the gift of the Earl of Pembroke M.V.O. and held since 1907 by the Rev. George Walter Griffith B.A. of Pembroke College, Oxford.

There is a charity of £16 a year, left by Christopher Willoughby Esq for four poor widows who do not receive parochial aid. North-east of and close to the church formerly stood the residence of the Willoughby family, which was pulled down about 1745. The terraces of the gardens still remain.

The principal landowners are Arthur Rabbits White Esq, O.B.E., D.L., J.P., N. Coles Esq., and G.E. Hughes Esq.

The soil borders on the chalky stratum and is principally of stiff loam clay. The land is partly pasture and partly arable growing wheat, oats and barley. The area is 2,016 acres, rateable value £2,540. The population in 1911 was 137

Parish Clerk - Sidney Gray

Post Office - Mrs Mable Emily Riddick, Sub-Postmistress

Assistant Overseer & Clerk to the Parish Council - T Tanswell, Mere

Elementary School (mixed) built in 1874 for 50 children.

Miss E.G. Green, Mistress

Gentry/Private Residents/Traders

Surname	Given Name	Industry/Occupation
Griffith, Rev	George Walter	The Rectory
Coles	Richard Edmund Newbury	Farmer, Manor Farm
Dammers	Edw. Max	Farmer, West Hill
Golledge	Benjamin George	Dairy Farmer, East Hill
Golledge	Matthias	Cowkeeper, Feltham Farm
Gray	Sidney	Parish Clerk
Green, Miss	E G	Schoolmistress
Harrington	Jas	Farmer, Oxleaze Farm
Hughes	Ernest	Farmer, Broad Mead Farm
Jukes	Reginald Arthur	Farmer, Bush Farm
Riddick	Mable Emily	Sub Postmistress

Jan Oliver

Updated November 2013