Kelly's Directory 1880

WEST KNOYLE is a parish in the Southern division of the county, Mere hundred and union, Hindon petty sessional division, Shaftesbury county court district, Chalke rural deanery, second portion, Salisbury archdeaconry and diocese, 3 miles east from Mere, 4 west from Hindon, 7 north from Shaftesbury and 5.5 north from Gillingham, the nearest railway station.

The church, of which the dedication is unknown, was rebuilt AD 1878, except the tower: it is 76 feet long and 17 feet wide and consists of a chancel and nave with a vestry and organ-chamber on the north side; it is handsome and well fitted, with a reredos and chancel seats of carved oak, an organ and some stained windows; the old Perpendicular tower, lately repaired, has a peal of 5 bells: there are some tablets to the Willoughby family.

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

The living is a rectory, yearly value £428, with 51 acres of glebe, in the fit of the Earl of Pembroke and held by the Rev. Edward Inman MA of Oriel 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. At the north east of and close to the church, was formerly the residence of the Willoughby family, pulled down about 1745, the terraces of which still remain.

Sir H.A. Hoare, bart, is lord of the man and sole landowner.

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 1,906 acres, rateable value £2,155. The population in 1871 was 202.

Parish Clerk: John Gatehouse

National School (built 1874): Miss Jane Wheeler, Mistress

Letters through Bath, delivered at 9.30am. Wall letterbox cleared at 5.15pm, Sunday 11am. The nearest money order and telegraph office is Mere.

Gentry/Private Residents/Traders

Surname	Given Name	Industry/Occupation
Inman, Rev, M.A.	Edward	The Rectory
Andrews	Henry	Farmer, Bush Farm
Andrews	William	Farmer, Oxleaze Farm
Broadway	John	Farmer, Broad Mead Farm
Gatehouse	John	Parish Clerk
Godwin	Robert Charles Rumsey	Farmer, Manor Farm
Hall	Clement	Farmer, West Hill Farm
Hazzard	Henry	Blacksmith
Mathews	Samuel	Baker & Grocer
Ricketts	Charles	Dairyman
Scammell	Thomas	Bailiff to RCR Godwin, Esq
Wheeler, Miss	Jane	Schoolmistress