

## Kelly's Directory 1931

SEMLEY is a parish, running nearly east and west, and lying in a beautiful valley, with a station, 1¼ miles from the church, on the Salisbury and Yeovil branch of the Southern railway, 20 miles south-west from Salisbury, 6 south-east from Mere, 3 north from Shaftesbury and 101 from London, in the Salisbury division of the county, Chalke hundred, Tisbury rural district, Shaftesbury county court district, Tisbury and Mere petty sessional division, rural deanery of Chalke (Tisbury portion), archdeaconry and diocese of Salisbury.

There is richly wooded country in the background on the north, and the Dorsetshire hills are seen in the distance stretching along its front in the south.

The old church of St Leonard, an ancient cruciform structure, was pulled down in January, 1974, and the present building erected in 1875, at the expense of the Dowager Marchioness of Westminster; it is of stone, in the Early Decorated style, and consists of chancel with south aisle, nave of four bays, south aisle and a loft embattled western tower with clock and 6 bells.

There is a stained window in the chancel to the Rev Henry Hall M.A. and others to Arthur and Lucy Fane, Vere Fane Benett-Stanford esq., to John Edward Benett of Pythouse, to seven officers killed at the Gate Pa in New Zealand, 30<sup>th</sup> April 1864, and to Mrs Pike of Musters; in the nave are two tables to the Benett-Stanford and Pike families. The church affords 350 sittings.

In the churchyard is a bronze equestrian monument to Lt Armstrong and also a memorial cross of Cornish granite to the men of the parish who fell in the Great War, 1914-1918. The register dates from the year 1657.

The living is a rectory, net yearly value £650, with residence, in the gift of Christ Church, Oxford, and held since 1914 by the Rev Richard Morgan Rees M.A. of that college.

There is a Baptist chapel, which was built in 1817, to seat 260 persons.

£3 3s yearly was left in 1779 by John Parham for clothes, and the interest on £300 left by Miss Dinah Bracher, for the poor of the parish.

Anne, Lady Arundell of Wardour is lady of the manor. The principal landowners are Lt Col J M Fane-Bennett-Stanford J.P. and Walter Richard Shaw-Stewart esq., M.B.E., D.L., J.P.

The soil is clay, subsoil gravel. The land is principally pasturage, but wheat, oats and barley are grown. The area is 2,981 acres of land and 5 of water.

The population in 1921 was 556.

Sexton: William Hull

Post Office

Letters through Shaftesbury, nearest M.O. office & Semley railway station nearest T & Tel Call office.

Railway Station

A motor conveyance meets certain trains and conveys passengers to Shaftesbury.

Gentry/Private Residents/Traders

Marked \* Farm 150 acres or over

Surname	Given Name	Industry/Occupation
Bapty	George Frederick W	Gutch Common
Giberne	Harold Buller	Seniors
Heavens, Rev	George	Congregational Minister, The Manse
Lambe, Air Vice Marshal	Charles Laverock CB CMG DSO	Grove House
Rees, Rev	Richard Morgan MA	Rector, The Rectory
Wightwick	Edward Arthur	Broad Oak
Young	Samuel John	Bull Marsh
Alford	Felix	Bootmaker
Baker, Mrs	Emily	Farmer, Westwood
Bartlett	Percy Edward	Farmer, Church Farm
Board	Shadrack	Farmer, Marshes Farm
Coles	Frederick	Farmer, Glebe Farm
Coombes	George	Farmer, Amberleaze Farm
Cross	Henry Gerald	Farmer
Doggrell	William	Farmer, Hatt's Farm
Edmunds	Herbert	Grocer, Barker's Hill
Garrett	Tom	Farmer*
Grocott & Son		Grocers, Bakers, Hardware, &c
Hiscock	Leonard Allan	Farmer, Chaldicott's Farm
Langford	Sydney	Farmer, Kirton Farm
Masters	Bryant	Farmer, Leggatt's Farm
Nutbeem	Sidney	Farmer, Knipe's Farm
Parham	John	Chimney Sweep, Gutch Common

Parsons	James	Farmer
Pike	Walter S	Farmer, Whitebridge Farm*
Pitman	John & William	Poultry Dealers
Railway Hotel	Wm Mallett, proprietor	Semley Station
Randolph	Fred	Benett Arms Inn
Sampson	William Charles	Farmer, Hook Farm
Semley Reading Room		Ernest Coward, Hon Sec
Southern Counties	Agric Trading Society Ltd	
Stainer's		Motor Garage
Sully	William	Blacksmith
United Dairies Wholesale		TN Shaftesbury 36
Wescott	J & Son	Coal Merchants
Young	Ernest G	Farmer, Harthill Farm
Young	Samuel John	Farmer, Bull Marsh*