

## Bakewell Union Workhouse – Record of Inmates and Staff, 1851

Who lived within these walls in 1851?



Bakewell Union Workhouse,  
[c. 1900]



Present day view of Newholme  
Hospital, Bakewell (formerly  
Bakewell Union Workhouse)

## **Bakewell Poor Law Union and Bakewell Union Workhouse – Background Information**

The Poor Law Amendment Act (more commonly known as the 'New Poor Law' Act) of 1834 aimed to create a more uniform, centralised system for dealing with poor relief. At a local level, parishes were grouped into together into Poor Law Unions run by Boards of Guardians.

Following the New Poor Law Act, the Bakewell Poor Law Union came into being in July 1838 and represented 50 Derbyshire parishes (including: Abney and Abney Grange, Aldwarke, Ashford, Bakewell, Baslow and Bubnell, Beesley, Birchover, Brushfield, Calver, Chelmorton, Cromford, Curbar, Darley Dale, Edensor, Eyam Woodlands, Flagg, Foolow, Froggart, Grange Mill [Ironbrook Grange], Gratton, Grindlow, Haddon Over, Halzebadge, Harthill, Hartington, Hassop, Hathersage, Highlow, Great Hucklow, Little Hucklow, Litton, Great Longston, Little Longston, Matlock, Middleton-by-Youlgreave, Moneyash, Nether Padley, Pillsley, Rowsley and Alport, Sheldon, Stanton, Stoke, Stoney Middleton, Taddington and Priestcliffe, Tideswell, Wardlow Miers, Wensley and Snitterton, Whestone, Winster).

The New Poor Law system was centred on the workhouse. Rather than being given poor relief in their own homes, poor people generally could now only get assistance if they entered the Union Workhouse. Conditions in Union Workhouses were deliberately harsh to ensure only the very desperate applied to enter. Families could be split up and housed in different parts of the workhouse, inmates of all ages were forced to do hard menial labour (such as breaking up stones) and children could be hired out to work in factories, mines, etc. In October 1838, the Bakewell Poor Law Union set up a sub-committee to provide a temporary workhouse for the union. At first the Union rented a private workhouse at Ashover, and from 1840, it appears they paid for its paupers to be housed in the new Chesterfield Union Workhouse before building their own workhouse at Newholme, Bakewell. The new Bakewell Union Workhouse building was completed in 1841 with capacity for up to 200 inmates. In May 1841, Thomas Gratton and his wife Catherine (of Chesterfield) were elected as first master and matron of the new workhouse. In the early 1900s, in order to try and shake off the stigma of the 'workhouse', the building became known as Bakewell Public Assistance Institution and later, when it passed into the control of the NHS, it became Newholme Hospital. Hardly any records of pauper inmates at Bakewell Union Workhouse survive, however, in addition to lists of inmates which can be obtained from UK Census records, Bakewell Poor Law Union Board of Guardians minute books [which include reference to individual pauper cases], Aug 1838 - Feb 1930 are available (*Derbyshire Record Office: D521/W1/1-45*). For more information see <http://www.workhouses.org.uk/>. The following alphabetical list of Bakewell Union Workhouse inmates and staff is taken from the UK census which took place on *30 March 1851*.

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**INMATES AND STAFF LIVING IN BAKEWELL UNION WORKHOUSE 1851** (arranged in alphabetical order)

Name	Relation to head of household	Condition (married, unmarried, widowed, etc.)	Age		Rank, Profession or Occupation	Where Born	Whether blind or deaf and dumb
			Male	Female			
Adams, Louisa	Officer	U		29	Nurse	Quarndon, Derbyshire	
Allen, Ann	Inmate	U		N.K.		Not known	Idiot
Allen, John	Inmate	U	20(? N.K.)			Not known	Idiot
Allen, William	Inmate	U	22		None	Not known	Idiot
Bagshaw, John	Inmate	U	22		Tailor	Sheldon, Derbyshire	
Barton, Mary	Inmate(?) – wife of Thomas Barton	M		64		Crookes, Yorkshire	
Barton, Thomas	Inmate(?)	M	64		Agricultural labourer	Hassop, Derbyshire	
Bateman, Elizabeth	Inmate	W		80		Reddish, Lancashire	
Bennett, John	Head	M	28		Master of Workhouse	Stockport, Cheshire	
Bennett, Nancy	Wife	M		30	Matron of Workhouse	Turton, Lancashire	
Beswick, James	Inmate	U	5			Baslow, Derbyshire	
Bowden, Hannah	Inmate			7		Not known	
Bowden, William	Inmate		10			Not known	
Bower, Matthew	Inmate	U	19		Silk weaver	Macclesfield, Cheshire	
Bowler, Cornelius	Inmate		6			Nottingham	Y
Bowler, Ellen	Inmate			8		Darley, Derbyshire	
Blackshaw, William	Inmate		10			Not known	

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Broomhead, John	Inmate		8			Hathersage, Derbyshire	
Bunting, John	Inmate	W	74		Agricultural labourer	Hartington, Derbyshire	
Bunting, Joseph	Inmate		7			Matlock, Derbyshire	
Burdekin, Thomas	Officer	U	32		Porter	Ashford, Derbyshire	
Buxton, Jane	Inmate	U		40	Servant	Middleton-by- Youlgreave, Derbyshire	
Buxton, Jane	Inmate - dau of Jane Buxton			11 mon ths		Bakewell, Derbyshire	
Caldwell, Margaret	Inmate	W		60	None	Not known	
Carman, Lydia	Inmate	U		46	Charwoman	Cromford, Derbyshire	
Carman, Mary	Inmate	U		21	Cardroom hand	Cromford, Derbyshire	
Chapman, Abel	Inmate	W	78		Labourer	Stoney Middleton, Derbyshire	
Chapman, James	Inmate	W	60		Blacksmith	Wadslow, Yorkshire	
Chatterton, Betty	Inmate	U		50	None	Not known	Idiot
Cocker, Benjamin	Inmate	W	69		Silk weaver	Stoney Middleton, Derbyshire	
Cooke, Elizabeth	Inmate	W		70	Servant	Youlgreave, Derbyshire	
Critchlow, John	Inmate	W	63			Monyash, Derbyshire	Blind
Crowther, Martha	Inmate			9		Matlock, Derbyshire	
Dunn, Jane	Inmate	U		40	Charwoman	Darley, Derbyshire	
Fantom, Henry	Inmate	U	53		Handloom weaver	Darley, Derbyshire	
Fearn, Ellen	Inmate	U		24	Mill hand	Tideswell, Derbyshire	
Fentom, Thomas	Inmate	W	76		Blacksmith	Bakewell, Derbyshire	
Fletcher, Joseph	Inmate	U	N.K.		Idiot	Not known	Idiot
Flint, Jane	Inmate	U		25	Cotton spinner	Tideswell, Derbyshire	
Frost, Mary Ann	Inmate	U		21	None	Salford, Lancashire	
Gladwin, Elizabeth	Inmate(?) -	U		3		Bakewell, Derbyshire	

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	dau of Hannah Gladwin						
Gladwin, Hannah	Inmate(?)	U		28	Charwoman	Biggin, Derbyshire	
Gladwin, John	Inmate(?) - son of Hannah Gladwin	U	6			Birchover, Derbyshire	
Gladwin, Mary	Inmate(?) - dau of Hannah Gladwin	U		10 months		Bakewell, Derbyshire	
Gladwin, Thomas	Inmate(?) - son of Hannah Gladwin	U	9			Winster, Derbyshire	
Gould, John	Inmate		12			Levenshulme, Lancashire	Y
Gould, William	Inmate		5			Levenshulme, Lancashire	Y
Green, Catherine	Inmate			6		Not known	
Green, Charles	Inmate		13			Not known	
Green, George	Inmate		9			Not known	
Hadfield, Mary	Inmate			3		Brampton, Derbyshire	
Hancock, Benjamin	Inmate	W	76		Labourer	Foolow, Derbyshire	
Hague, Thomas	Inmate	U	26		None	Not known	Idiot
Hartle, Adam	Inmate	W	70		Cotton spinner	Alendin(?), Wales	Y
Henshaw, John	Inmate	M	27		Agricultural labourer	Denstone, Staffordshire	
Henshaw, Matilda	Inmate	U		26	None	Matlock, Derbyshire	

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Hibbs, Ann	Inmate	W		75	Charwoman	Poynton, Cheshire	
Hodgkinson, John	Inmate	W	79		Labourer	Gratton, Derbyshire	
Holmes, Joseph	Inmate	W	59		Labourer	Darley, Derbyshire	
Holmes, Mary	Inmate			12	Servant	Not known	
Howard, William	Officer	U	36		Schoolmaster of Workhouse	Bakewell, Derbyshire	
Howe, Joseph	Inmate	U	28		Needle-maker	Hathersage, Derbyshire	
Jacques, Ellen	Inmate	U		51	Charwoman	Sutton, Nottinghamshire	Y
Kidd, Louisa	Inmate(?) - dau of Mary Kidd	U		8 days		Bakewell, Derbyshire	
Kidd, Mary	Inmate(?)	U		28	Seamstress	Cromford, Derbyshire	
Kirkham, Joseph	Inmate	Bach	50		Labourer	Not known	
Knowles, Elizabeth	Inmate	M		28	Charwoman	Tideswell, Derbyshire	
Knowles, Mary Ann	Inmate - dau of Elizabeth Knowles			1		Taddinton, Derbyshire	
Knowles, M. A.	Inmate			19(? )		Not known	
Ludlam, Jos.	Inmate	U	33		Cotton packer	Ardwick, Lancashire	
Macquire, Sarah Ann	Inmate			7		Salter Brook, Yorkshire	Y
Marples, Hannah	Inmate	U		33	Charwoman	Baslow, Derbyshire	
Marples, Mary Ann	Inmate	U		3		Baslow, Derbyshire	
Marples, Robert	Inmate	W	70		Fell monger	Baslow, Derbyshire	
Marshall, Mary	Inmate	U		58	Factory hand	Matlock, Derbyshire	
Melland, John	Inmate		12			Alport, Derbyshire	
Merchant, Richard	Inmate	U	46		Agricultural labourer	Matlock, Derbyshire	
Middleton, Mary	Inmate	W		43	Cotton doubler	Bradwell, Derbyshire	

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Middleton, Robert	Inmate		9			Bradwell, Derbyshire	
Middleton, Thomas	Inmate	W	11			Not known	
Mycock, Martha	Inmate	M		47	Servant	Brushfield, Derbyshire	
Mycock, Jane	Inmate - dau of Martha Mycock			7		Taddington, Derbyshire	
Neal, Elizabeth	Inmate(?)	W		44	Servant	Matlock, Derbyshire	
Oldfield, Ann Jane	Inmate(?) - daughter of William Oldfield			5		Taddington, Derbyshire	
Oldfield, Elizabeth	Inmate(?) - wife of William Oldfield			49		Grindlow, Derbyshire	
Oldfield, Elizabeth	Inmate(?) - dau of William Oldfield			8		Tideswell, Derbyshire	
Oldfield, Elizabeth	Inmate	M		59	Spinner	Mansfield	
Oldfield, Thomas	Inmate(?) - son of William Oldfield		2			Chelmorton, Derbyshire	
Oldfield, William	Inmate(?)	M	63		Miner	Great Hucklow, Derbyshire	
Orme, Elizabeth	Inmate	U		52	Charwoman	Bonsall, Derbyshire	
Robinson, Hannah	Inmate	W		83	None	Chelmorton, Derbyshire	

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Rose, Daniel	Inmate	M	55		Cotton dresser	Hope, Derbyshire	
Simpson, John	Inmate	U	16		Labourer	Matlock, Derbyshire	
Skidmore, John	Inmate		10			Little Longstone, Derbyshire	
Sloe, Elizabeth	Inmate			8		Not known	
Smith, Obadiah	Inmate		83		Plasterer	Matlock, Derbyshire	
Taylor, Julia	Officer	U		49	Schoolmistress of Workhouse	Chesterfield, Derbyshire	
Thorpe, Robert	Inmate	U	65		Agricultural labourer	Wingfield, Derbyshire	
Walker, James	Inmate		7			Wardlow, Derbyshire	
Ward, William	Inmate		7			Cromford, Derbyshire	
Warhurst, Henry	Inmate	W	71		Grocer	Tideswell, Derbyshire	
White, John	Inmate	U	83		Agricultural labourer	Bonsall, Derbyshire	Blind
Wild, John	Inmate	U	12		None	Ashford, Derbyshire	
Wildgoose, Elijah	Inmate	W	67		Agricultural labourer	Darley, Derbyshire	
Wildgoose, Francis	Inmate		6			Ashford, Derbyshire	
Wildgoose, Maria	Inmate - dau of Sarah Wildgoose			3		Hayfield, Derbyshire	
Wildgoose, Mary	Inmate - dau of Sarah Wildgoose			1		Bakewell, Derbyshire	
Wildgoose, Sarah	Inmate	U		28	Seamstress	Matlock, Derbyshire	
Wilson, Joseph	Inmate		10			Hassop, Derbyshire	
Wilson, William	Inmate	W	71		Card grinder	Holborn, Middlesex	Y
Wright, Mary Jane	Inmate			5		Chelmorton, Derbyshire	
Younger, Lewis	Inmate		6			Cromford, Derbyshire	

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