REVEREND WILLIAM T WATSON 1857

William T Watson was appointed vicar of Cotterstock in 1857. He was married to Mary Ann Watson and at the time of the 1861 census they are living at "Parsonage House" in Cotterstock. William and Mary have five children: William S- 5, Marian - 4, Gertrude - 3, Helena - 2 and Catherine - 6 months. Interestingly by the time of the 1871 census Mary Ann has given birth to four more children: Harry - 8, Arthur - 5, Ethel - 4 and Edith - 2. William is still running the school in 1871 and under "occupation" he classes himself as vicar and tutor.

This is how The Parsonage/Old Vicarage looks today

They have a number of staff, a house servant, nurse, cook etc. William established a boarding school at the rectory and the staff probably helped to look after the pupils. His pupils are listed in the census of 1861. It is interesting to note that the pupils come from all over the country: Norfolk, Glamorgan, Warwickshire, Dorset, etc. Alfred James Abbey was one of the pupils at William's school, later he became Vicar of Cotterstock in 1873 and was responsible for transforming the Church into the building we see today.



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