

## Appendix 3 Bishops

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There is no knowledge of the jurisdiction of bishops before the coming of Birinus. Undoubtedly there were bishops in Roman Britain and probably in this area at least until the coming of Aella and the Saxons in the early 6th Century. They tended however to be somewhat different in character from later bishops in that they would be consecrated men who merely performed the spiritual duties of a bishop and did not exercise any authority.

The Diocese of the West Saxons was established in 635, originally at Dorchester on Thames, but the bishops soon moved back to Winchester. However for the Purley area jurisdiction varied between the bishops of Wessex and Mercia as the territory changed hands between the two kingdoms.

### Diocese of the West Saxons (Dorchester)

635-651	Birinus (died 651)
651-662	Agilbert (became bishop of Paris c671)
662-666	Wini (of Winchester)
666-670	vacant
670-675	Hlothere (of Winchester, died 676)
675-?	Seaxwulf (of Mercia)
680-?	Aetla
685-705	Haedda (of Winchester, died 705)

On Haedda's death the king of Wessex made the seat of the see formally at Winchester where it had effectively been for several years, as Dorchester (and Purley) had been part of Mercia from 661-685.

### Diocese of Winchester

705-744	Daniel
744-754	Hunferth
754-758	Cyneheard

Purley was again part of Mercia from 758 to 851 and in 844 Bishop Coelred of Leicester was exercising his right to grant land in the area.

### Diocese of Lincoln (Bishops of Leicester)

758-764	Torhthelm
764-785	Edabeorht
785-802	Unwona
802-816	Wernbeorht

816- ? Rethlun?  
-840 Ealdred  
840-851 Ceoldred

In 851 Purley returned to Wessex where it remained until Wessex and Mercia were joined within England.

### **Diocese of Winchester**

851-852 Helmstan (died 852)  
852-862 Swithun (died 862)  
862-870 Ealhfrith  
870-872 Aethelred (became Abp Canterbury 870) (died 888)  
872-879 Tumbert (died 879)  
879-908 Denewulf (died 908)

The diocese of the West Saxons was split up in 909 and Purley became part of the diocese of Ramsbury which included at first Wiltshire and Berkshire. Later the diocese of Sherborne was merged with Ramsbury and Dorset became part of the enlarged diocese. For many years Ramsbury was under the jurisdiction of the Archbishops of Canterbury after its Bishops had been translated and no successor appointed.

### **Diocese of Ramsbury**

909-926 Ethelstan  
926-942 Oda (became Abp Canterbury 940) (died 959)  
942-952 Aelfric  
952-969 Oswulf  
970-981 Aelfstan (died 981)  
981-985 Wulfgar  
985-994 Sigeric (became Abp Canterbury 989) (died 994)  
994-1005 Aelfric II (became Abp Canterbury 994) (died 1006)  
1005-1045 Beorhtweald (died 1045)  
1045-1078 Herman (died 1078)

After the Conquest King William decreed that in future all the bishops must have their seat in a cathedral city, rather than living on their manors. Thus the seat was moved from Ramsbury to Old Sarum and later to New Sarum, the present Salisbury. There were many periods when the see was vacant and jurisdiction exercised by the Archbishop of Canterbury with revenues going to the crown.

### **Diocese of Salisbury**

1078-1099 Osmund (died 1099)  
1100-1107 vacant  
1107-1139 Roger (elected 1102, consecrated 1107, died 1139)  
1139-1142 vacant  
1142-1184 Jocelin de Bohun (died 1184)  
1184-1189 vacant  
1189-1193 Hubert Walter (Became Abp Canterbury 1193, died 1201)  
1194-1217 Herbert Poore (died 1217)  
1217-1228 vacant  
1228-1246 Robert Bingham (died 1246)  
1247-1256 William of York (died 1256)  
1257-1262 Giles of Bridport (died 1262)  
1263-1271 Walter de la Wyle (died 1271)  
1271-1284 Robert Wickhampton (died 1284)  
1284-1286 Walter Scammel (died 1286)  
1287-1288 Henry Brandeston (died 1288)  
1288-1291 William de la Corner (died 1291)  
1291-1297 Nicholas Langespee (died 1297)  
1297-1315 Simon of Ghent (died 1315)  
1315-1330 Roger Martival (died 1330)  
1330-1375 Robert Wyville (died 1375)  
1375-1388 Ralph Erghum (became Bp Bath and Wells 1388)  
1388-1395 John Waltham (died 1395)  
1395-1407 Richard Mitford (died 1407)  
1407 Nicholas Bubwith (became Bp Bath and Wells 1407)  
1408-1417 Robert Hallum (died 1417)  
1417-1426 John Chandler (died 1426)  
1426-1428 vacant  
1428-1438 Robert Neville (became Bp Durham 1438)  
1438-1450 William Aiscough (murdered 1450)  
1450-1481 Richard Beauchamp  
1482-1485 Lionel Woodville  
1486-1493 Thomas Langton  
1494-1499 John Blyth  
1500-1501 Henry Dean (became Abp Canterbury)  
1502-1524 Edmund Audley

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1524-1535 Lorenzo Campeggio (deprived 1535)  
1535-1539 Nicholas Shaxton (forced to resign 1539)  
1539-1557 John Capon (died 1557)  
1557-1559 vacant  
1559-1571 John Jewel (died 1571)  
1571-1577 Edmund Gheast (died 1577)  
1577-1589 John Piers (became Abp York 1589)(died 1594)  
1589-1591 vacant  
1591-1596 John Coldwell (died 1596)  
1596-1598 vacant  
1598-1615 Henry Cotton (died 1615)  
1615-1618 Robert Abbot (died 1618)  
1618-1619 Martin Fotherby (died 1619)  
1620-1621 Robert Townson (died 1621)  
1621-1641 John Davenant (died 1641)  
1641-1660 Brian Duppa (became Bp Winchester 1660)(died 1662)  
1660-1663 Humphrey Henchman (became Bp London 1663)(died 1675)  
1663-1665 John Earle (died 1665)  
1665-1667 Alexander Hyde (died 1667)  
1667-1689 Seth Ward (died 1689)  
1689-1715 Gilbert Burnet (died 1715)  
1715-1721 William Talbot (became Bp Durham 1721)(died 1730)  
1721-1723 Richard Willis (became Bp Winchester 1723)  
1723-1734 Benjamin Hoadley (became Bp Winchester 1734)  
1734-1748 Thomas Sherlock (became Bp London 1748)  
1748-1756 John Gilbert (became Abp York 1757)(died 1761)  
1757-1761 John Thomas I (became Bp Winchester 1761) (died 1781)  
1761 Robert Hay Drummond (became Abp York 1761)(died 1766)  
1761-1766 John Thomas II (died 1766)  
1766-1782 John Hume  
1782-1791 Shute Barrington (became Bp Durham 1791)(died 1826)  
1791-1807 John Douglas  
1807-1825 John Fisher (died 1825)  
1825-1836 Thomas Burgess (died 1837)

In 1836 there was a wholesale revision of diocesan boundaries and Berkshire was transferred to the Diocese of Oxford.

**Diocese of Oxford**

1836-1845 Richard Bagot (became Bp Bath and Wells 1845)  
1845-1869 Samuel Wilberforce (became Bp Winchester 1869)  
1870-1889 John Fielder Mackarness (died 1889)  
1889-1901 William Stubbs (died 1901)  
1901-1911 Francis Paget  
1911-1919 Charles Gore (resigned 1919, died 1932)  
1919-1925 Herbert Murray Burge  
1925-1937 Thomas Banks Strong (resigned 1937)  
1937-1955 Kenneth Escott Kirk  
1955-1971 Harry James Carpenter  
1971-1978 Kenneth James Woollcombe (resigned)  
1978-1986 Patrick Campbell Rodger (retired 1986)  
1987-2006 Richard Harries (retired 2006)  
2007- John Pritchard

There were also Bishops of Berkshire of whom only a few have been identified by name. It is presumed that they acted as Suffragens. It is also possible that a number of the Archdeacons of Berkshire were raised to episcopal rank.

In recent years there has been a Suffragen Bishop of Reading who has effectively functioned as the Bishop of Berkshire.

### **Bishops of Berkshire**

-949 Cynsige (became Bp Lichfield 949)  
c1305 David Martin  
c1430 Richard Katensis

### **Suffragen Bishops of Reading**

1889-1922 James Leslie Rendall (died 1922)  
1922-1942 no appointment  
1942-1954 Arthur Groom Parham (retired 1954)  
1954-1972 Eric Henry Knell (retired 1972, died 1/1987)  
1972-1982 Eric Wild (retired 1982)  
1982-1989 Ronald Graham Gregory Foley  
1990-1996 John Bone (retired 1996)  
1997-2004 Dominic Walker (Bp Monmouth 2004)  
2005-2010 Stephen Cotterell (Bp Chelmsford 2010)  
2011- Andrew Proud

