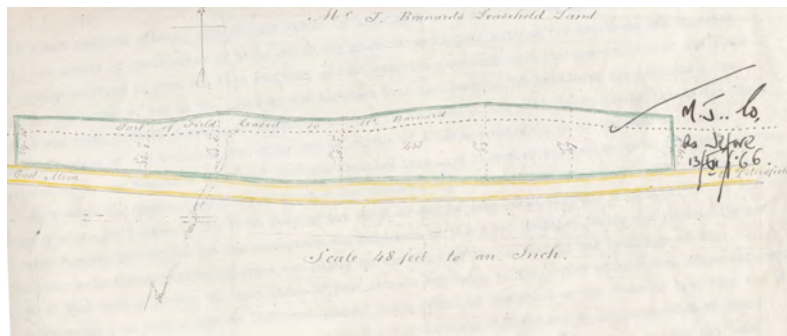


Extracts from the Log Books of East Meon National School 1863 – 1964



Above, the land donated by the Bishop of Winchester for the building of the School, 1845. Below, the National School in the early 1900s

1863

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Feb 23 | Owing to the illness and subsequent deaths of G. Forbes, Esq, and J.H. Waddington, Esq, two gentlemen of our Committee, a log book was not procured at the commencement of the year. |
| March 10 | The children had a whole holiday, being the Prince of Wales' Wedding Day. |
| May 4 | 117 in attendance. The children went out at 11 o'clock to go to Bereleigh with May garlands. |
| June 29 | Holiday. The celebration of the Queen's Coronation |
| July 9 | Attendance rather small, being the hay season. |
| Sept 7 | Opened school after the Harvest vacation, but owing to much wet the Harvest is not completed, consequently scarcely any children present. |
| Sept 28 | Attendance not yet very good, some of the children not having finished gleaning. |

- Nov 9 Winter cloaks given out.
- Nov 16 Elizabeth and Thomas Mellersh left for winter.

1864

- Jan 26 Half-holiday – Pupil-teachers having to go to Petersfield to be inspected.
- Jan 28 The children had a game of play in the afternoon, as a reward for their good conduct at the Inspection.
- Feb 1 Mixed 1st Class boys with girls in reading; they read with too much tone, and with their teeth closed.
- March 28 First Class boys and girls stupid in lower rules of Arithmetic.
- Oct 3 Kate Arnold left for winter. Adult school for men and boys opened.
- Oct 31 Find the mixing of boys and girls daily tends to soften the manner of the boys.
- Dec 16 Both Sarah Green and Elizabeth Beagley reprimanded and kept in after school for inattention and carelessness in preparing their Scripture exercises

1865

- Jan 3 David Eldridge sick, having the ends of two of his fingers taken off.
- Feb 24 The last evening of attendance in the Adult School. 21 present.
- April 26 Elizabeth Dennis expelled for refusing to pay her school fees.
- Sept 4. Re-opened the school after Harvest. 102 children absent owing to the gleaning not being finished and other children are hopping.
- Oct 6 Several children absent without leave, having gone to Petersfield Heath Fair.
- Nov 21 Had occasion to admonish the Pupil-teachers fro playing with the children during school hours.
- Dec 11 Fanny Cooper admitted 11 years of age.

1866

- Jan 18 Very few children present, being unable to pass through the water. 20 sick.

- Jan 24 Olive Pike, belonging to the Infant Class, died from Scarlet Fever.
- Feb 23 The Adult School closed for the season.
- March 7th The children attended Divine Service at Church, being a day of humiliation on account of the 'Cattle Plague'
- Dec 31 Sarah Green and Elizabeth Beagley completed their apprenticeships.

1867

- Oct 14 Bessie Attwood engaged as Paid Monitor.

1868

- March 3 Summary of the Inspectors' Report. 'The school has done much better in Arithmetic this year, and is in an efficient state in other respects.' I Waddington
- June 19 Mrs Lewis of Westbury Park gave the children a treat of tea, cake and bread and butter at her own home.

1869

- Jan 3 The Assistant Mistress gave a quarter's notice to leave, not being satisfied with her stipend (£25. p.a.)
- Jan 8 James Leach, Harry Leach and Edwin Rhodes each made use of very indecent language when going to Church, made a complaint to the Vicar, who ordered them to be whipped in his presence.
- March 8 Summary of the Inspector's report on the school and remarks: 'This difficult school is conducted with considerable skill and success. The Room is too full, and it would be very desirable to occupy, in addition, the large room which is at present brick floored.'
- March 23 Annie Willis left because she would not attend the Sunday School and refused to pay the extra fee enforced by the rules of the School.
- October 26th In the afternoon, the children and teachers went to witness the laying of the foundation stone of the new church of St John the Evangelist at Langrish, and afterwards were regaled with tea, cake, &c. the gift of J.Waddington Esq.

1869

- Jan 19 Frank and Anne Rogers are in the Union at Petersfield for a short time. Are eligible for inspection. Have sent to ascertain if they

can be allowed to attend tomorrow.

- Jan 28 The Revd Brodie resolved that John Lintott be excluded from all benefits and presents for the present year as a punishment for theft. *(He had stolen 8 pence from another boy on 10th January, which was reported to his father, 'who wishes his boy to be whipped'. Presumably this was done.)*
- May 13 A holiday being the Anniversary of the Friendly Society.

1872

- Jan 12 Re-opened the school after the Xmas vacation. The Revd W. Brodie entertained the children with a Magic Lantern
- March 1 The children had a holiday on Tuesday 27th February, being Thanksgiving Day for the recovery of the Prince of Wales.
- Sept 26 The new school at Langrish is about to be opened.
- Nov 22 Have resolved to discontinue corporal punishment for a while
- Dec 1 Charles Brewer left. His parents refused to pay the school fee of one penny per week.

1873

- Jan 12 Cannot possibly maintain order without occasionally using the cane.
- Feb 21 Many of the scholars stay away to pick up wood for firing – the high cost of coal being the cause chiefly.
- Oct 23 The well has been dry since the middle of July, and twice since then the tank has been empty. Consequently there was no water for school or domestic purposes without fetching it from the river.

1874

- Feb 13 Received monthly attendance cards from the Guardians of the poor, for those children whose School Fees are paid out of the Poor Rate.
- June Mrs Forder took some of the boys out of school to play a game of cricket. During the game, Frank Rogers would not conform to the rules of the game. The other boys unanimously agreed that he was wrong, but he would not give in, and put himself into a violent passion, and threw the bat with great force, which hit George Collins in the back and prostrated him. Mrs Forder chastised him. *(He was subsequently suspended from the school*

until after the summer holiday.)

Sept 29 My duties, as Mistress, close today, also that of my husband as Master, having been 28 years, having commenced on September 29th 1848. *E Forder*

Nov 20 – 24 Admit Albert Watts 9 years unable to say letters.



William Stephens Tregear, top left. Top right, the living room at the School House. Mary Tregear burst into tears when she first saw it, unable to imagine how the whole family would fit in it, Below, the Tregears, Back row, Katie, Lizzie, Evie, Mr and Mrs Tregear seated, Ethel on ground in front

1876

William Stephens Tregear, his wife and daughters, arrived as Master and teachers at the school in 1876

June 21

The heat has been so intense during the week that the work of the school has been very difficult. The Rev W. Brodie examined in Religious Knowledge.

1877

Jan 1

Admit George and John Shawyer 9 and 7 – unable to read

May 7 - 11

Greatest number present at one time 144.

- May 28 Admit two boys and 1 girl from the Dame's school in the village.
- Oct 15 Have difficulty in obtaining the age of some children
- Nov 2 The Parish Loan Blankets distributed causing many to be away.
- Nov 28 170 on register, about 40 absent.

1878

- Jan 12 Many stay at home and play around the door with the knowledge of their parents who take no steps to get them to school
- Jan 31 Holiday – the Master having lost the Infant of the family, Edith Tregear 6 months, buried in E.Meon churchyard.
- Feb 18 Children away now to gather swede greens. Some make a trade of it by picking and selling.
- March 7 Owing to the daily increasing number of cases of measles in this parish, I think it would be very beneficial to the children and also as a means of arresting the increase, if the school was closed for at least three weeks. George Pink, Medical Officer of Health.

The managers acting on the above closed the school on Friday March 8th. Average much reduced, the daily attendance being 123 – 119 – 94 – 56 – 0 – 85 – 79 – 70 – 61, average 87. Present at all 130.
- April 15 Had occasion to cane Ernest Poynton for refusing to obey the monitor on Tuesday morning. Did not come to school any more during week. Average 134.
- July 1 Master out of school much of Wednesday. His youngest child being very ill. Also Thursday when she died. (Laura Margaret Tregear 3 years buried E.Meon 9th July)
- July 15 The Master obliged to call in the doctor for another daughter. The doctor ascribes the ailment to the water and closets – the closets being too close to house and school.
- Sept 23 W.Budd left to assist his Father in the bar of the Inn (The George)
- Oct 1st 'The following will show the great difficulty of the master with the pupils of Eastmeon.

Mrs Attwood writes to the School Master today that she does not wish for either of her girls to do the school knitting as she can always find work of her own for them to do if they want to learn to knit she will learn them herself and she also wishes to say that if the school master ever dares to lay the weight of his

hand or strikes either of her children again, she will take and go to Mr Waddington and you are not allowed to strike children and therefore mind you do not take it upon yourself to strike them and besides the child told you the truth this morning about his sums he forgot to bring them and another thing they are sent to school to learn not to have to bring his lessons home to learn/ I will not have spite shown towards my children and if it continues I can send them elsewhere. I am quite independent about that and please to let the children to come home at proper times not to keep them in after the rest are gone of I will come and fresh them out. I will not have my children kept in or thrashed and knocked about by you, from Mrs Attwood.

- Oct 3 Difficulties sometimes creep up with the elder boys and the Masters because he using them in school as monitors they in the lessons have to send them out for inattention. The elder ones use their influence to begin quarrels out of school.
- Oct 7 Petersfield Heath Fair – many of the children taken by their Parents although it is not a pleasant fair in is usual acceptance.
- Oct 14 Average low 118. Many children at work and others kept at home for no reason whatever. Many think because we are not under a Board there is nothing to compell attendance
- Dec 16 Small attendance this week. Two funerals on Thursday, a great number of the children in the churchyard.

1879

- Jan 22 The temperature this morning as yesterday and Monday 44* to 45*.
- Jan 24 Unable to get the warmth of the room above 48*
- July 21 George Budd again exhibiting his evil genius. Mr Waddington cautioned him with prospect of Industrial School.
- Dec 15 Three dancing bears passed through the village. Children late watching them.

1880

- Mar 9 George Edwards 10 minutes over his reading would not speak for class to hear – at last would not utter a syllable. Caned him with 6 stripes.
- April 29 Many away on Friday afternoon probably to see the Steam Ploughs pass up the hill.
- May 24 Friday afternoon holiday to prepare for a tea and meeting after

to advocate temperance – drink a crying evil of East Meon.

Nov 8 Many let out early to obtain Loan Blankets.

1881

Jan 24 Took no pence from those who were presence. The attendance about half of usual number. Consulted on Tuesday with Correspondent about asking the Inspector to postpone the Examination. Unable to use Infant room, Snow penetrated the ceiling. Friday afternoon attendance very low. The water coming under the backdoor across the room.

March 21. Extract from H.M. Inspector's report – 'The stove in the class room emits a most objectionable smell of sulphur – the large room is insufficiently warmed.

March 23 Half holiday. A public tea at the opening of E.Meon Reading Room.

1882

Feb 6 Took this week a knife from Walter Beckingham because he draws it out in his quarrel and threatens to use it on his opponent.

1883

May 14 Agnes Shawyer punished for dirty writing turned sulky and impertinent. Put her on chair and otherwise punished heer. Thursday, still refused to obey. Left to stand in front of class morning and afternoon. 152 attendance – best for years.

Dec 11. The Assistant E.A.Tregear unwell – diphtheria.

1884

May Day Many absent – going about singing &c in the hope of a little money.

1885

Feb 6 Several at home – stonepicking – chilblains

July 15 Caned G. Claves for biting his teacher and he threatens to tell his father.

Dec 2 Master out of school for recording his vote for M.P.

Dec 24 The Officer visited on the 22nd but cannot see any good whatever

from the visits of any other action in regard to the attendance.

1886

Feb 26 Small school today as Fox hounds met at Park, always less in school on such days.

1887

May 9 Mr Tregear Certificated I Class
Miss E. A. Tregear Assistant Infant
F.W.Chapman 4th year
Miss A.M.Hibbert Ast 84 –
Signed by B Aylwin Correspondent

1888

Mar 23 Cannot get parents to believe that they do children an injury by keeping them home.

1889

139 children had the measles during the month we were closed.
July 31 The choir went to Crystal Palace. Miss Hibbert accompanied them.

1890

Oct 15 The new peal of bells in church tower to be dedicated. Harvest Festival at same time.

1891

Aug 3, This is the second week of the Camp for Autumn Manoeuvres of Cavalry, which will take place about September – 10,000 troops expected to camp in the valley.

Oct 12 No fees, as Committee had accepted Assisted Education Act of '91.

1892

Admitted a boy who cannot say a letter.
Nov 1 First lesson in cookery for school

1894

June 28 Coronation Day. Half Holiday

1895

May 20 C. Council Dairy School has a Second Class in the village as the 1st has been successful. Faith and Daisy Adams 6th Standard girls have become proficient in butter making.

1896

July Faith and Daisy Adams have gained Dairy Scholarship entitling them to a month at the C. Council's Dairy School free of expense.

July 17 Supply of water from the tank quite gone. All must be fetched from the river or wells.

July 20 The machines busy among wheat. Telegraph poles were erected today outside school.

1897

Jan 29 Edgar Potter impudent to teacher. Tells master that we are all to let him alone. Laid him on the table and cane him. Left him on the table for 8 or less minutes.

Feb 4 Gilbert Kille again caned for inciting a brother, who had been wilfully disobedient, not to submit. The younger made a rush for the door.

1897

Oct 8 At Coombe, a farm turned into a pheasant and pounty farm – an influx of families expected.

1900

Mar 1 Ladysmith relieved. A holiday in the afternoon.

May 21 Holiday – Relief of Mafeking. Rejoicing with plenty of bunting. Torchlight procession &c. Enthusiastic demonstration.

May 31 Holiday – Johannesburg entered by Lord Roberts and troops.

1901

Jan 31 Gave on February 1st a holiday so that the teachers might see the procession of our beloved Queen at Portsmouth (funeral)

- June 10 Band of Hope demonstration in the village. No school in the afternoon – the greater portion of the school attending.
- Aug 1 Found two boys asleep this morning. An enquiry found that they went to pick mushrooms. Got up at 3.30am and went to bed at about 10 and this is the second dame. Hence overcome and went to sleep.



Left, boys and girls by their respective doors to the school and Mr and Mrs Tregear. Right, boys with W.S. Tregear, right, and Katie and Evie Tregear on left.

1902

21. Mr. W. S. Tregear, the Head Master of this School died, while teaching his Class, in the large room, in the afternoon of today, at 3.30. He fell in a fainting fit between the desks, and never rallied, although all that could be done to revive him by the usual means was done by his daughters, the Assistants.

- Jan 21 (above) Mr W.S. Tregear, Head Master, died, whilst teaching his class, in the large room, in the afternoon of today, at 3.30pm. He fell in a fainting fit between the desks, and never rallied, although all that could be done to revive him by the usual means was done by his daughters, the Assistants. (Aged 63, buried 24th January)
- Jan 22 The Shool met this morning under the temporary charge of Wm Taylor Tregear CT. BA. The Rev Masters, Vicar of the Parish and decided that School should be closed after the morning meeting until Friday morning. The formal notice of the passing of their Exam by the Pupil Teachers had come; it was the last thing my Father had spoken of to his family, expressing his pleasure at the results.
- Jan 27 The School reopened this morning at the usual time, after suspension of work from Wednesday afternoon, 22nd, until today – under the charge of Miss E.A. Tregear and the remaining staff of the school. The usual course of work is to be followed. The Rev Masters was present and arranged to give instruction in

Scripture to the Upper Classes on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Miss Evelyn Tregear is at present giving voluntary assistance in the work of the School.

April 1

F. Tomlinson entered upon duty as Head Teacher

Dec 2

Dr Batten order school closed until further notice. Outbreak of diphtheria.



Class of girls, date unknown

1903

Jan 15

School closed by Dr Batten's order, there being an epidemic of whooping cough.

May 5

Mrs Tomlinson absent with diphtheria

Oct 5

The Southampton County Council took over the direction of Elementary education from Oct 1st 1903

1906

Jan 2

School closed by Medical Office of Health there having been fresh cases of scarlet fever.

1907

June 14 School closed for a fortnight. Haymaking holiday. Whooping cough and chicken pox have caused the attendance to be small.

1910

March 31 Letter from Correspondent saying Managers had agreed to exclude children on attaining the age of 14 years.

May 11 The Managers are now allowing children to remain at school until 15 years of age.

May 20 School closed. Royal Proclamation from His Majesty King George V. Funeral of the last King Edward VII.

1912

Nov 1 School gardening has begun.

1914

Visit without notice by Dr Hoyle for vermin inspection.

1915

Feb 2 Admitted 2 Belgian refugees, one placed in the infants and one in Standard V.

1919

July 19 Peace Celebrations. Children had tea in Mr David Coles' meadow after joining in procession through the village. Bonfire and sports.

1923

April 26 School closed for the wedding of the Duke of York and the Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon by order of His Majesty the King.

1926

May 21 Empire Day kept. The vicar gave a flagstaff and Mr Sam Hardy a Union Jack. There was an address by Major General Sir John Capper, KCB, KCMVO with suitable songs and a salute by the children.

1927

Nov 1 Mr George Samuel Kesterton commenced duties as Heat Teacher. Number on roll 114.

1928

Jan 27 Visit of oculist

April 23 24 children under 11, conducted by Miss G. Simpson, have competed in the Petersfield Musical Festival today, and secured 3rd place for Junior choirs.

1929

Jan 7 A school library has been started.

1930

June 3 Two boys, Douglas Lambert and Alan Banham, have been invited to an interview at Churchers College on Thursday in connection with County Junior Scholarships, 1930

June 10 26 Senior Scholars visited Dress Rehearsal for Aldershot Military Tattoo. They were under the supervision of the Head Teacher who explained the various historical episodes as they were presented.

1931

June 27 A team of senior girls obtained 3rd place in Folk Dancing at Steep.

Aug 3 90 specimens of needlework were entered for competition in Flower Show.

1932

Oct 5 A wireless set has been installed in the school, funds being raised by the scholars/

Dec 26 A concert was given by the scholars in the Court house before a crowded audience.

1934

Nov 19 Milk Scheme commenced this morning – 36 children – milk supplied by Messrs W & E Gordon, Church Farm.

1935

May 6 School closed all day on account of his Majesty's the King's Silver Jubilee. The school sports were carried out in the afternoon followed by tea, after which each child was presented with a mug suitably inscribed to commemorate the occasion.

1936

Jan 21 The vicar addressed all the children this morning on the death of His Majesty the King George V. The flag was flown at half mast.

1938

May 9 History Lesson at 11.30 interrupted by mice running over room. This happened during Scripture last week. Matter was reported to Managers. This morning, one large mouse was caught by a boy in his hand. They come up through holes in the floor. (*and again on May 18th ...*)

June 13 Gwendoline M Hoyes commenced duties as Head Teacher. The school is in a deplorable condition in every way. There is practically no stock in school. Many of the textbooks have been mutilated and scribbled on. There seems to be no discipline and the tone of the school is very poor.

Sept 5 75 children in school.

1939

Nov 1 21 evacuated children admitted

Nov 21 Afternoon session now commences at 1pm and ends at 3.30pm to enable children to reach home before the 'blackout'.

1940

Feb 17 Children's gas masks tested by Mr Swayne and helpers

April 18 Only 86 children present (out of 144) owing to severe aerial activity during the night and until 4am this morning. School closed for one week for potato picking.

June 10th Work commenced on school garden. The work of clearing the ground should have been done weeks ago as one of the Managers, who is a farmer, promised to plough and harrow it. This has not been done, so we are endeavouring to clear a patch ourselves in order to plant the potatoes before it is too late. Extra time is being given to this work at present with the

consent of the Managers.

June 26

No school today. Many bombs were dropped and several roads were closed temporarily on account of unexploded bombs



East Meon children celebrating VE Day

1944

March 13

School dinners started. 80 children served with dinners. Everything very satisfactory. Mrs Ward has been appointed cook with Mrs Kittle as full time helper and Miss Hobbs as part time helper.

April 21st

School closed for fortnight's holiday for potato planting.

1945

March 1st



The Rev F. A. Saunders (left), who is shortly leaving the parish to take up work elsewhere, was presented with book tokens to the value of £2.15.0 from the children and staff of the school. He has always taken a great interest in the school, the children and his genial manner & cheery smile will be greatly missed by all. We wish him every happiness and success in his new work, but very much regret his departure.

Mar 23

Two girls, Joan Phillips and Margaret Woodfield sat the Entrance Examination to Secondary Grammar Schools at Petersfield this morning, after being successful in the Intelligence Test.

May 8 & 9

V.E. Day holiday. Celebrations at the school consisted of suitable hymns and prayers followed by 'There'll always be an England' 'Rule Britannia' and 'God Save the King'. The Union Jack was hoisted in the playground and rousing cheers given for the Prime Minister &c.

1946

Jan 25 Fifteen children attended Petersfield Senior School to take Part 1 of the Common Entrance Exam. Copy of Report by H.M.I. Miss V.H.Comber Taylor (Inspected 11th December 1945)

1947

Jan 6 School re-opened. 26 of the Senior children (11+ to 13) have been transferred to Petersfield. We are now re-organised as a Junior School, 72 children on books.

Nov 20 The wedding of HRH the Princess Elizabeth and Lt Philip Mountbatten. A day's holiday granted by the King.

1948

April 26 A whole day's holiday granted on the occasion of the Silver Wedding of their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth.



In 1939, a New York magazine sent a photographer to record a day in the life of a village bobby, and East Meon's Dennis Thorne was the subject. Left, he teaches road drill in the school playground. Right, the children line the school wall to greet him.

1950

May 3 We have learned that the school is not officially a controlled school.

1952

Feb 6 H.H. King George VI died suddenly today.

Feb 15 At 1.55pm the children attended a short service in the Church. They observed the two minutes silence for our late Sovereign, this being the day of his burial.

1953

- May 11 Olivia Woodfield has qualified for admission to a Grammar School.
- June 2/3 The Coronation of H,H, Queen Elizabeth II. Two days holiday granted.
- Sept 21 Schools broadcasts commenced.

1954

- Feb 17 48 children visited the Savoy Cinema in Petersfield to see the film 'the Conquest of Everest'.
- Nov 24 Empire Day was observed with special prayers and hymns, and later the children listened to the BBC's special broadcast to schools.

1955

- Dec 6 So many of the children are of low mentality
- Dec 19. Miss Gewndoline M. Hoyes resigned as headmistress after 18 ½ years.

1959

- July 17 Parents Day and Prizegiving.



Mrs Hastie, left, with Lamberts, with whom she lodged

- July 24 Mrs Hastie, assistant teacher at the school for 21 years, terminated her duties.

1960

- May 1 Total on roll 98. Rooms overcrowded.

1961

- July 7 46 children visited Windsor and London Airport.
- Dec 7 Classrooms exceptionally cold this morning – 40 degrees rising to only 50 by the end of the afternoon.
- Dec 18. School very cold. Two classrooms were 32 degrees at 9.00am, rising to 48 degrees by the end of the afternoon.

1962

- Jan 31 Impossible conditions this morning. Temperature again only 39 degrees at 9am in the Infants room. By 10.15 the temperature was only 42 degrees. Children are really cold and jumping and running activities taken regularly throughout the day to keep warm.

1963

- Jan 9 Very heavy snowfalls since Christmas. Roads into the village were closed for 2 days. Roads to Coombe and Bereleigh still impassable.
- Jan 16 School temperature 38 degrees this morning.
- Jan 21 Sanitary and water arrangements completely broken down.
- Feb 4 Everywhere frozen again. Temperature 34 degrees.

1964

- July 29 School closed for the summer holiday. This is the last occasion on which this building will be used as a school under the Hampshire Education Authority. It has been in use since approximately 1840 and has served the village well.