

Seeking Rose Andrews

20 September 2013 from Julie

I've spent years trying to find this lady with no luck. I know so much about her AFTER her marriage in 1892 but I can't find her birth/baptism in the East Meon area.

She was ROSE HELENA ANDREWS, the various census returns give her place of birth as East Meon, Meonstoke and Winchester. The year of birth ranges from 1866 - 1872 ish, as of course there were inaccuracies. There is a Rose Kate Andrews birth in E.Meon but that's definitely not her. There is also another Rose/Rosa on various transcripts for East Meon but her father isn't called Charles.

On various websites I've found a Rose Andrews born in Fareham in 1868 but she is the daughter of a John, there's another Rose born in Romsey 1866, but her father was Henry. I wonder if it was a nearby village rather than actually in East Meon?

I haven't found her on the 1871 census as a child. There's a Rose Andrews aged 6 b. East Meon, mother Louisa is a widow. That Rose has an older brother Charles but my Rose wasn't the daughter of this Louisa because she was Louisa (nee Evered) who married John Andrews in 1849 and they had the children listed on the 1871 census - so the name doesn't match for Rose's father.

A very likely entry for Rose in 1881 is in Winchester.... Rosa H. Andrews, Servant. Single. aged 16. b.1865 East Meon, Hampshire... I'm sure this is her. In 1891 Rose was at 4 Halkin Street West, London - as a servant.

Rose left Hampshire as a young lady & went to work in London. I have her marriage to Eric Henry Treadwell in Chelsea in 1892, she was aged 23 on the certificate & her father was Charles Andrews, a gamekeeper.

I have her death certificate showing her age as 82 in 1949 in Hammersmith. All I need is her birth so I can find her mother's name and the rest of her family.

I hope some kind soul can help me with this one as I'm stuck now... this mystery is driving me mad !!!

23 September 2013 from David Hopkins

Dear Julie

The research on Rosa does present a few challenges, doesn't it? Firstly, the "Andrews" do not appear in any East Meon Parish Records....but the family lived and gave birth to Rosa and siblings in East Meon without doubt. Explanation?

They were either godless or non-conformists! There are a number of "Andrews" in South Hampshire who were "Independents" (and hence would not necessarily have children baptised in the Parish Church and East Meon did have a Baptist Chapel who only baptised adults anyway. I have traced some entries for births in the family in the Birth Register for Petersfield (which was the town of Registration for East Meon) so buying the Birth Certificates from the National Archives will tell a fuller story.

John Andrews' death? There are a number of candidates in the National Register of Deaths...but not in Petersfield... so the death of Rosa's father represents a difficulty without acquiring a number of death certificates on spec. Likewise, despite a very hard look I cannot find the family entry in the 1861 Census. That usually means they have been wrongly transcribed/indexed from past experience!

If that sounds like bad news....there are lots of things I may have discovered of which I think there is a high probability of being accurate. They are in the PDF file I am attaching. The family is from an area of Hampshire which is a "bit between places" and there have been shifts in the larger parish district. You will find Fair Oak is a sub parish of Bishopstoke: Bishopstoke more broadly linked to South Stoneham or Winchester. I have included my sources. If you have a subscription to Ancestry.co.uk I can open the info more directly on the software which will make looking at the original documents easier when you check my hypotheses and inevitable assumptions.

One final observation...there seems to be another Andrews family in St. Maurice's, Winchester with remarkably similiar family names. I'm reasonably sure they are different, but they do confuse things somewhat. Charles Andrews (born Meonstoke) could be Rosa's brother (Meonstoke adjoins East Meon) but there are other Andrew families in the Meon Valley and as he is a boarder I cannot be sure.

Hope this all helps. Please let us know how you progress and especially if you unearth more detail for Rosa and her siblings childhood in East Meon

Good Luck. David

Post by Julie 20th August 2016

I have since found her exact birthdate which is 1.9.1869 but I still can't find her baptism. I know plenty about her adult life - she liked a drink (!) and treated my grandmother very cruelly causing her to become deaf. Rose lost 2 children when they were very young and her 21 year old son was killed in WW1 - I have all the paperwork regarding that and a photo of him in uniform along with some of his grave. One taken at the time in 1917 and a more recent one. If anyone needs any help please contact me and if you find her baptism entry then I would love to hear from you - I really want to know her mother's name. Kind regards, Julie