

# SEARCHING FOR MARY ANN LINDLEY

## INTRODUCTION

Mary Ann Lindley nee Edwards was my Great Grandmother

For over 25 years I have been searching for Mary Ann Lindley nee Edwards, she was born at Wednesbury in Staffordshire in 1824 to parents of James Edwards and Ann Robinson.

Her father was a canal navvy and travelled the country, he came to Leeds in the 1830's where he had more children, Henry, John & George William Edwards

By the time of the 1851 census James Edwards must have died as Ann his wife was shown as a widow.

Mary Ann was married to William Lindley in 1850 and lived at Jack Lane Hunslet, with a son John and a William who it said was by a former wife. I found that William Lindley had been married previously to a Jane Lister in 1846 and that she had died in 1849 of cholera. William was her son and although on the census it said 'William Lindley' by a former wife, in fact he was William Lister, and on the 1861 census was shown as William Lister.

William & Mary Ann had more children at Hunslet, namely James 1852, and then moved to Thornhill Lees Dewsbury as William was now working in the Glass Works of Kilner Brothers. They had more children, Ann Elizabeth 1854, Mary 1857, Kesia 1861, and William Henry 1865. The family moved again in 1867 to Conisbrough to the then new Kilner glassworks and had more children, Mary 1867 (the first Mary had died) Emma 1870, Sarah 1872, Betsey 1874, Lillie 1873, Edith no birth date but she died in 1876.

On the 1871 census the family was still at Conisbrough, but on the 1881 census Mary Ann was a widow, William had died in 1880 age 67, and is buried in the church yard at Conisbrough in an unmarked grave. Some of the children had died by this time.

On the 1881 census, the family were called Findley on the IGI there must have been a miss transcription of the name. The family were now consisted of Mary Ann, William Henry, Lilly and Mary. But further research showed the family as 'Lindley' Mary Ann had taken in Lodgers and her Nephew George William Edwards were living with the family.

Mary	Do	Do	60	Do	Do	Staffordshire
Marjaston Lindley	Head	Widow	68	Do	Do	Staffordshire
William H. Do	Boys	16	12	App. Glass Blower	Do	Wid's Thornhill Lee
Mary Do	Do	12	7	Schooler	Do	Conisbrough
Lilly Do	Do	7	4	Do	Do	Conisbrough
George W. Edwards	Nephew	Widow	32	Class	Blower	Do Hunslet
William Lister	Boys	Widow	15	Do	Do (App.)	Do Conisbrough
Total of Males and Females...			12	13		

Extract of the 1881 census

By the 1891 census there was no sign of Mary Ann or Lilly or Mary, but William Henry (her son) had married and lived at Conisbrough and worked at the Kilner glassworks.

Mary her daughter had lived at Bradford, but tragedy had struck; she had hanged herself and is buried in the church yard at Conisbrough in an unmarked grave as many of the children were.

The 1901 and 1911 census was checked for both Mary Ann and Lilly, there were no sign of them or of Mary Ann having married again and no death either for her or Lilly.

So other possibilities had I pursued:

Not available on census night.

Moved to another County.

Emigrated

They could not be found in another County, the emigration theory became a possibility

### **Emigration**

This looked a long shot, I had a contact in America whom I had done some research for, and so I contacted her and asked her to look on some census documents for 1890 and 1900 in any state.

### **Information from America**

First the 1900 census, found Mary Ann Lindley aged 76 living with her now married daughter Lillie Habner, living in Michigan and a grandchild Lorene aged 5.

The census had many other details, such as were born i.e. England, date of birth, how many times married. It also gave the year of arrival in America as 1890.

From this my contact had checked the passenger lists and found that Mary Ann was down as Mrs W. Lindley and Lillie was her daughter. Lillie's (note the difference in spelling for Lilly) living in Grand Rapids, Kent Michigan. As to why they should emigrate at Mary Ann's time of life (aged 67) I am not sure, maybe a relative was there.

### **Passenger List from England**

Arrival Date:	10 Jul 1890
Birth Year:	abt 1873
Age:	17
Gender:	Female
Ethnicity/Race/Nationality:	English
Place of Origin:	England
Port of Departure:	Liverpool, England and Queenstown, Ireland
Destination:	United States of America
Port of Arrival:	New York
Port Arrival State:	New York
Port Arrival Country:	United States
Ship Name:	City of New York
Arrival Date:	10 Jul 1890
Birth Year:	Abt 1873

Image of the ship they sailed in from England in 1990



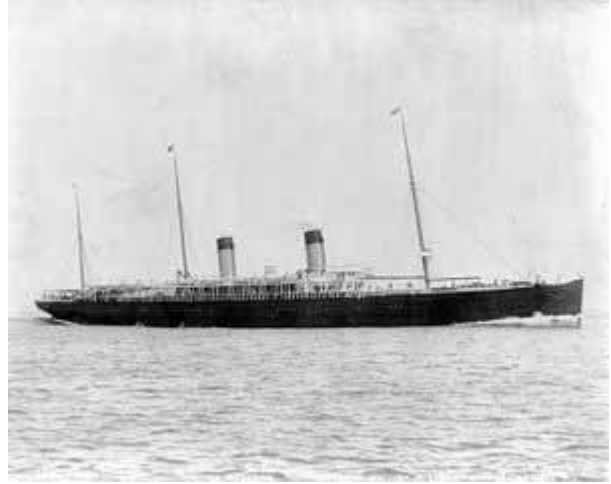
A section of the actual passenger list

Thomas Edwards	30	M	Winn	England	England	U.S.	2nd Cabin		
Emily	22	W	Wife	"	"	"	"	4	
F. Victor	2	M	Child	"	"	"	"		
Louisa M. Keating	31	W	Wife	"	"	"	"	4	
Arthur S.	8	M	Child	"	"	"	"	2	
Robt. Hodgegate	42	M	Blacksmith	USA	"	"	"	2	
High Alvin	15	W	Spin	England	"	"	"		
Mrs Wm. Piggott	24	W	Wife	"	"	"	"	6	
Reginald	4	M	Child	"	"	"	"	2	
Kate M. Bartley	30	W	Spin	Ireland	Ireland	"	2-5	2	
Kate Kelly	25	W	Wife	"	"	"	"	1	
Lillie Lamb	60	W	Wife	"	"	"	"	4	
Lonell Lindley	67	M	Spin	England	"	"	18-9	4	
Ellis Lilli	17	W	Spin	"	"	"	"	2	
Barth O'Brien	20	M	Spin	Ireland	Ireland	"	"	1	
Richard Burton	47	M	Spin	"	"	"	"	2	
William Boyman	36	M	Winn	England	England	"	"	3	
		First Cabin passengers.							
M. F. O. French	52	M	Winn	USA	England	USA	Stiloom	5	
J. A. Harris	52	M	Winn	"	"	"	11-2	12	
Harris A.	20	M	Winn	"	"	"	"	5	
D. Johnson	39	M	Winn	"	"	"	"	1	
J. W. Rorie	53	M	Winn	"	"	"	"	3	
W.H.	16	M	Winn	"	"	"	"		
32		16-48							

Note: Mary Ann Lindley was shown as Mrs W. Lindley

New York Passenger Lists, Ellis Island, Lillie Habner nee Lindley after a visit to England in 1903

Given Name:	Mrs. G.A.
Surname:	Habner
Last Place of Residence:	Chicago
Date of Arrival:	09 Sep 1903
Age at Arrival:	29y
Ethnicity:	England
Port of Departure:	Liverpool
Port of Arrival:	New York
Gender:	Female
Marital Status:	M
US Citizen:	
Ship of Travel:	Majestic (1890)



Further census were examined, i.e. 1910, 1920 and 1930, Mary Ann must have died between 1900 and 1910 as she did not appear on these census.

Further evidence showed that Lillie Habner nee Lindley and her daughter Lorene had visited England in 1903 aboard the SS Majestic (see details above) and I do not think that Lillie would have left her mother, then aged 76.

More research is required to establish the death and burial details of Mary Ann Lindley.

This is an amazing story and I am very pleased that at long last I have found Mary Ann.

John Lindley