

# The Gympie Researcher

*The newsletter of the  
Gympie Family History Society Inc.*

June 2017 No. 87

I.S.S.N 1035 - 3534



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MEMBERSHIP FEES:	Annual fees are: All due by 31st August each year Single Membership \$35 Family Membership \$45 (Two members of an immediate family residing at the one address) PRO RATA till 31st August 2017		
	Dec to Feb	Mar to May	Jun to Aug
Single Membership	\$30	\$20	\$10
Family Membership	\$40	\$30	\$20
INFORMATION:	Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Gympie Family History Society Inc.		
WEB PAGE:	<b>www.gfhs.com.au (new website address)</b>		

### EDITORS COMMENT

I will be spending more time at home to ensure the June edition of the Researcher is ready in time. The September edition will be the last one for me and I am hoping Conny will step up and put her name down for the position. She will be a great asset to the position. I'm proud that over my time as editor of the Researcher I managed to increase the magazine from 3 to 4 magazines a year and keep it that way. Thank you to everyone who has contributed stories.

### PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello to all. I have been on the missing list for a while but am slowly getting back to work. Thankyou to those who asked how I was going. In that time we had a crawl that was very well attended, as usual more attended than booked. One day we may run out of food. Marilyn is doing a great job with the land records & Kerry Ann also. Work on the WW1 book was the main focus for all but has now been launched. with great gusto on 29th April at the Civic Centre. Hopefully it will sell well at \$30 for a wonderful book. Indexing is going well and the scrapbooks are getting done slowly but now I have Kay helping it may improve.

Friday 3rd May Well you can never know what can happen at the rooms. Today we celebrated Joyce's 80th birthday, had a lovely morning tea with much hilarity and gained a new member. When we settled back at work we had a surprise visit from Jennifer Nichols, an ABC Sunshine Coast journalist. She took some photos and asked what interesting facts we find out delving into family history. I think it is going on to the ABC Sunshine Coast Facebook page. She did record the interview with me—maybe it will go on to ABC radio!!!

Thankyou to Bendigo Bank, Lynne Wilson (flowers) and Lyn and Wes Fleming for picking up the books. That's it folks. Margaret

### RESEARCH REPORT

Glenda Lister Re Annie Brindley Ryan, by phone Emailed research Fees  
 Sandra Green Re Alfred & Kathleen Taylor by walk in “ “  
 Merilyn & Peter Milton Re Reginald Baylis Turk walk in \$30 Ongoing  
 Kerryn Jane Brown Re Sarah Ann Slator Photographs  
 Troy Reeves Re Reeves and Gates Website 29/4 Main Index posted  
 Geoff Curtis Re Daniel Joseph Curtis DD\$30 Website  
 John Shackleton Re Thomas Edward Atkinson, Grace Brogden Website  
 Emailed fees.  
 Bill Palmer Re Thomas Buss Mining accident 1875

**RESEARCH FEES**

Members           Free (when visiting personally to the rooms and doing your own research although we are happy to help guide you or if you are from interstate and are not able to do your own research)

Non Members   (at our discretion)

Mail & Internet Inquiries

**\$30.00 Australia**

**\$35.00 overseas**

For Research Requests:

email c/- research@gfhs.com.au or mail to: GFHS, P O Box 767, Gympie QLD 4570

The Research Process Explained:

You make your enquiry, we then look to see what information we can find quickly—then we contact you to see if you wish to proceed and advise of the fees.

If you do, we ask for \$30 (or \$35 overseas—to cover extra postage). Once payment is received, we then investigate either your specific queries or start at the beginning and check cemetery records, BDM registers, local registers, school registers, pedigree charts, some shipping, local history books, Gympie Times records, previous cemetery crawl presentations, previous research requests, mining, electoral rolls and so the list goes on.

We hold a lot of various local registers and cuttings and basic items you would find in a local history library. We also have access to the internet and can often suggest websites and ways of searching that you may not have thought of.

We do many hours of ongoing research and then either email the information to you as we go, or mail packets to you so you have the hard copies. We then also keep the information we have researched for you on file and it is then available to future people who may be researching your names too. Many times we have put people in touch with other searchers of their own trees.

Our research people do so much more work than you would realise to help you in your search for information. Please feel confident that everything possible is done by our volunteers to supply you with any relevant information we may have in our library.

The funds raised from your payments for our research, assist us with obtaining further records and to produce books and CD's for easy access of family details in Gympie and the surrounds.

Payment can be by either cheque sent to our P O Box as above or direct deposit into our Bank account is another option for those who feel comfortable with the method. Details of our bank account are: BSB 633000 Account# 153118963 and is with Bendigo Bank. We ask that you confirm by email to secretary@gfhs.com.au. if possible when you have made the payment. Then we can allocate your payment and get on with the research!

**Our research officer is Denise JULER**

**NEW**

[www.gfhs.com.au](http://www.gfhs.com.au) Check it

# *Cemetery Crawl*

## *Wednesday 14 June 2017*

Time: 6.30pm start (so come along a little earlier for a chat and to meet new people) - there is also a fruit tray raffle \$1 ticket drawn on the night. Postcards for sale \$10 for 6 or \$2 each

Where: Meet at the shed at the Gympie Cemetery

Cost: \$7.50 (includes a light supper & a booklet)  **{\$5 members}**

Bring: Good walking shoes, a torch, bug spray,

To Book: Ring Di Woodstock on 0419 224 628 (this assists with catering and printing)

Some of the family names:  **{TO confirm before it goes out}**

**This is on—regardless of the weather!!!**

## Mystery History Bus Tour

We may do another one yet

### LIBRARY HOURS

Wednesday 9.30am to 2pm

Friday 9.30am to 12pm

Saturday 1pm to 4pm

**PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE {Please note that some prices have changed}**

- **Gympie's Great War 1914**—Through the months of 1914 through the words of the local papers and including the stories of the men who enlisted in 1914. \$30 plus B
- **MINING ACCIDENTS SERIES** by Betty D'Arcy, information on mine accidents from the annual reports of the Mines Dept. (Qld) Volumes 1-14 (1878-1945). Cost per volume \$13 plus p&h B, order whole set add p&h **E**, order 5 copies add p&h **D**
- **PIONEER REGISTER** of families of Gympie and Surrounds (pre 1900) \$30 plus p&h **B**
- **PIONEER HEADSTONE BOOK** of Tozer Park & King Sts Gympie \$30 plus p&h **B {updated}**
- **A GOLDEN FUTURE 1867-1967** Stories, reports & photos of Gympie (photocopy version) \$15 p&h **B**
- **HISTORIC SKETCH OF GYMPIE 1867-1927** Stories & photographs of people & events of that period, includes index. (photocopy version) \$15 plus p&h **B**
- **The Gympie Chinese Vol 1** Stories of the early Chinese people of Gympie. \$15 p&h **B**
- **COOLOOLA COAST CEMETERY** (Tin Can Bay & Rainbow Beach) transcribed 2001. Headstones, burial register in date order. Cost \$15 plus p&h **B**
- **GYMPIE FUNERALS Cooloola Crematorium— funeral notices transcribed from their website**
  1. **2010 part year** \$10 plus p&h **A**
  2. **2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015** \$15 each plus p&h **A**
- **GYMPIE CEMETERIES**
  1. **Headstone Transcriptions to 1995** \$25 p&h **C**
  2. **Burial Register 1866-1994.** King Street, Tozer Park Road & Two Mile cemeteries \$35 p&h **C**
  3. **Burial Register 1995-1999** Two Mile Cemetery, Cooloola Coast Crematorium register of burials in other towns \$15 plus p&h **A**
  4. **Burial Register 2000-2004** Two Mile Cemetery, Cooloola Coast Crematorium register of burials in other towns \$15 plus P&H **A** (Set of all 4 books) \$90 plus p&h **D**
  5. **Cemetery Crawl on Tour #1 (Tiaro, Munna Creek, Miva & Gunalda)** \$15 plus p&h **B**
  6. **Cemetery Crawl on Tour #2 (Kenilworth, Brooloo, Bollier, Gheerulla)** \$15 plus p&h **B**
  7. **Cemetery Crawl on Tour #3 (Kilkivan, Woolooga & Boonara)** \$15 plus p&h **B**
  8. **World War 1 Crawl August 2014** \$10 plus p&h **B**
  9. **World War 1 Crawl April 2015** \$10 plus p&h **B**
  10. **World War 1 Crawl November 2015** \$10 plus p&h **B**
- **GYMPIE TIMES SERIES**
  1. **1868-1874** Births, deaths and marriages, funerals and miscellaneous
  2. **1875-1884** Births, deaths and marriages, funerals
  3. **1885-1889** Births, deaths and marriages, funerals
  4. **1890-1894** Births, deaths and marriages, funerals & in memoriam
  5. **1895-1899** Births, deaths and marriages, funerals & in memoriam
  6. **1900-1904** Births, deaths and marriages, in memoriam, wills/probates
  7. **1905-1909** Births, deaths and marriages, in memoriam, inquires/court  
(Set of all 7 books) \$95 plus p&h **D** or each book \$15 plus p&h **A**
- **GYMPIE CEMETERY CRAWL BOOKLETS** Presentations of headstones by our members. Approximately 10 names described per booklet. Includes some photos of headstones. Cost \$5 each plus p&h **B** for 3 booklets (we are up to book 40 now) (see website for a list of names)

Postage codes: **A**=\$4    **B**=\$5    **C**=\$8    **D**=\$10    **E**=\$16    to any part of Australia

*Also Old photos of Gympie in Postcards \$2 each or a set of 6 for \$10 (postage is \$2.50)*

BSB 633000 Account# 153118963 and is with Bendigo Bank if you wish to order and pay by deposit—don't forget to email secretary@gfhs.com.au with your order and mail address

**At Last!:** The GFHS are very honoured to present our first book in a series. It has been a long time coming (4 years to be exact) and we hope you enjoy it.

This is a unique look at WWI and differs greatly from any other book on this subject which has been presented in so very many formats. We have set the content of the information in date order through the months of 1914 as seen through the eyes of the families and community of Gympie and the surrounding areas via their lifeline to the outside world—the local newspapers.

We are so proud that The Nashville Times (15 Feb 1868) began with a 6 page edition on the goldfields. This grew and changed its name to the Gympie Times and Mary River Mining Gazette in October the same year. They were digitalised by Trove (<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/>) from the first edition to the end of 1919—and this was only done a few years ago. Perfect timing for us to research this book and also for the next ones in the series. We are currently planning one book per year of the war, in the same format so this means at least another 6 or so!

We invite information and especially family photos of any of the men and women who enlisted over the years to be forwarded to us at:  
**[diggers@gfhs.com.au](mailto:diggers@gfhs.com.au)**

The 1914 book can be purchased at our rooms for \$30 or through our website.

A huge thank you to Lyn Fleming who began this book with me 4 years ago.

Also Robyn Dahl who is the keeper of the files on the Diggers and Nurses.

Also to Brett and the other members who have assisted along the way. It has been a labour of love and honour to tell the tales.

Regards Di Woodstock

PS: May the next ones be easier!!

# Gympie's Great War



## 1914

*First book in a series through the War years*

## PICTURES FROM THE BOOK LAUNCH



The two ladies who made this occasion possible. Robyn Dahl and Di Woodstock

Below: From the George Thomas collection kindly displayed by Val Thomas.

Middle: The cakes

Bottom: Mary-Helen Buchan who sang her own song "Before they were Heroes" as well as 'In Flanders Fields.' Thankyou to Cobb & Co. Nine Mile Camping Ground for the use of their WW1 re-enactment video, and

Jamie-Lee Griffiths who played the Last Post.



The Gympie Researcher





Above: Our lovely book and raffle sellers: Kerry-Ann Langford and Denise Juler



The history of the 5th Light Horse Gympie Infantry, was given by one of its members Shirley.

Bruce Woodstock read a short story from the book on George Thomas, father in law of Val Thomas and Henry Buchanan Uncle of Val Buchanan's husband Keith.

Our oldest guest Tab Greber who was born in 1917 with Julie Lee From the Light Horse



Linda Birt and our President Margaret Long cutting the cake.

We may have made some mistakes but the compliments we received were unanimous it was a wonderful day. Congratulations to everyone who helped.

## THE SALVATION ARMY - MARCH TO THE GOLDFIELDS

The first Salvation Army Meeting was held in Gympie on October 8th, 1886 by Captain Dave Buckingham who was transferred south to Gympie from Maryborough.. Captain Buckingham was born in Tasmania in 1862, joined the Army in 1884 and was appointed to Maryborough in 1885. His seven and a half months in Maryborough saw 500 people saved. He was over 6 feet tall had a very loud voice and was banned from visiting the Maryborough Hospital as a recognized Minister for praying too loudly. He was also misunderstood, in a letter to the Mayor of Maryborough, Buckingham enquired about the man's soul, writing, '*are you prepared to die?*' Some in the community, however, thought it was a threat on the Mayor's life because he had refused permission for the Salvation Army to parade in the streets.



As in many other places, heckling and abuse was followed by actual violence but, in a gold town over-supplied with hotels and drinking problems, Gympie was a rewarding field in which to work and in 3 weeks, 167 converts were pointed to Christ.

The Gympie Times and Mary River Mining Gazette on 30th September 1886: *By the announcement in another column it will be seen that the Salvation Army have extended their march to the goldfields, and purpose entering into action without delay. For the assault against the world, the flesh and the devil, they have secured a large building in lower Mary Street as the base of their operations, and the first assembly will be called, and the war cry raised on Sunday next, the directions of the various manoeuvres devolving upon Mrs. Major Wright.* This meeting was held on the corner of Mary and Smithfield Streets where the ANZ bank is today..

The same paper advertised: *Harris & McFie have received instructions from T.B. Tronson esq., to sell by public auction, on his premises, Mary Street, on Saturday next, 2nd October, 1886, 11 o'clock sharp. Inconsequence of his having let the premises to the Salvation Army.*

Gympie Times Letter to the editor 26th October 1886, *Sir—I think it would be advisable to have more police protection granted to the Salvation Army, especially on Sunday nights, when some ignorant portions amuse themselves throwing stones at the hall while public worship is being carried out.* 28th October: *On Monday Richard Molloy and William White, two boys of 12 and 14 years of age respectively brought up for throwing stones at the Salvation Army Barracks, where discharged with a caution.*

Gympie Times 5th April 1887: *When the Salvation Army planted themselves here I did not object to my wife and daughters going there alone occasionally as spectators; The truth is now I find that signs of mental weakness are beginning to manifest themselves. I would warn all husbands to closely watch their wives and daughters who nightly throng these meetings.*

Numerous letters were written to the newspaper, the majority showing support for the good the Army was doing, however Alderman Bright was in total opposition to the Army marching through the streets with torches. Source Trove; Salvation Army Maryborough

He became the owner of the Apollonian Hotel in 1883 having previously owned hotels in Maryborough and Kilkivan. Ashbury Bright ran the hotel in a straightforward and competent manner. He maintained the earlier traditions of the establishment without any great innovation of his own. Fairly early he became a Councilor and once in 1887 in Council, he objected to the Salvation Army marching along the streets creating a danger to traffic. This resulted in a stream of letters, for and against, to the Gympie Times who had reported the good Councilor's motion.

Another result was that the Salvation Army now recognized Ashbury Bright, seller of intoxicants, as the mortal agent of Satan. In consequence they relocated their extremely noisy evening band and prayer meetings to immediately outside the verandah of the Apollonian Hotel bar, wherein the clientele's peaceful inoffensive sipping became unbearable misery.

In 1886 Ashbury Bright, pillar of local government, finally lost his self control and threw the leading Salvationists, one of whom was Captain Arthur Smith off the footpath. For this he found himself in court, albeit with a friendly magistrate. After a short consultation the Bench decided to dismiss the case, with 47s and 6p costs against the complainant.

*Gympie Times 31st March 1888: 'Ashbury Bright summoned 'Captain Skinner', of the Salvation Army, for using language calculated to cause a breach of the peace. - On the 14th instant, between 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon complainant was leaning on the window of his house, Apollonian Hotel, when defendant crossed over to him and said 'Good day. Complainant said who are you directing your conversation to? Defendant replied, "To you." Complainant told defendant he did not wish to hold conversation with him, and being asked why, said it was because of the ill treatment you gave that woman who was lecturing last night. 'Defendant then said 'You are a liar' where upon complainant told him to go on, or he would make it hot for him. Captain Robert Skinner stated that when passing the complainant's house on the day in question he said, 'Good day Sir,' to him. Complainant came over to him and said 'I'll spit in your b—eye,' and thereupon spat in defendants mouth, saying, I'll hit you under the d—ear,' struck him under the left jaw.' The complainant said 'Go and hear what that woman has to say about you,' to which he replied 'She's a liar like yourself, that complainant had several times told him he did not want to have anything to do with the Army people, and that the reason why he (defendant) did not lay any information when assaulted by complainant was because he took the Christian side of it. Charles Canning deposed that Bright blew his nose in front of the Captain and said, 'Take that and F. Dawson deposed that since the 14th Bright had several times spoken to or at Captain Skinner, and he heard him say, 'take that'. After the argument on each side were heard, defendant was fined £2, with 49s 6d costs, or in default, one month's imprisonment in Brisbane Goal.'*

William Booth the founder of the Salvationists once said, 'We are a volunteer Army', his son Bramwell said, "Volunteer, I'm no volunteer, I'm a regular," so the word volunteer was changed to salvation. It was modeled after the military, with it's own flag, hymns (often set to folk law music sang in the pubs) and uniform. While William preached to the poor, his wife Catherine spoke to the wealthy gaining financial support for their work. The 3 's's' best expressed the way the army administered to the 'down and outs', first soup, soap and finally salvation. Any member of the public was invited to attend their meetings, they encouraged their members to refrain from drinking alcohol, smoking, drugs and gambling. There uniforms were to be tailored in the country in which they worked. Source: Trove



**.GYMPIE CEMETERY TRANSCRIPTION:  
GEORGIANA MARY, WIFE OF JOSEPH HOPKINS OF THE SALVATION ARMY, DIED 20TH DEC 1892 AGED 30 YEARS 5 MONTHS.**

A big thankyou to Joan Pack of the Salvation Army, Heritage Preservation Centre, Bexley North, N.S.W. for supplying me with Mrs. Captain Hopkins story from 'The War Cry' 7 January 1898.

Georgiana Mary Edwards story as told on her death bed. *"She fought as a soldier for a couple of years, when the call came to go into the field as an officer. Ever since her conversion she has made it a sacred rule never to question God's call, but to go forward and do His biddings at all costs, so when the summons came to leave home and friends for the front of the*

*battle, she readily answered you, and never for one moment did she go back from that consecration. Captain Edwards was sent to Ulverstone as her first station. From here she went to Latrobe and Hobart, in the same colony, and on January 6th 1888, she joined hands and heart with a comrade officer and became Mrs. Captain Hopkins. The Captain and his wife have seen a good bit of fighting since then. They have had 5 stations in Tasmania, 6 in Victoria and 3 in Queensland. Only about a couple of months ago they came to Gympie. Mrs. Hopkins always took her place by her husband's side in the front of the battle. The day before she sickened with the fever which caused her death (typhoid) she was out with her husband, visiting the people, and doing all she could to shepherd the flock God had placed them over. "*

*"About a fortnight before her death, when the fever was at its height, she drew me close to her bedside, and in broken accents said, 'I want you to listen to this—so that you can tell the people—how I died. Oh! ' she said, ' such peace—I havn't a single worry or care.'" She called her husband to her bedside, and told him what she wanted him to do.*

They have one darling child, a little girl between 2 and 3 years of age, she wished him to take baby to Lily, her sister, in Melbourne, and then go back to the fold.. Mrs. Hopkins story is partially told by herself, as follows, though the account was never finished

*"I was born on the 4th July, 1862, in Hobart, Tasmania. Left Hobart at the age of 5 years, for Launceston. When about 10 years old, Walter Douglas a good, holy living man, was telling me of the love of Jesus. I felt I wanted to be good, so went out to the form, but I really did not accept Christ as my own personal Savior. I enjoyed the singing, for it is always upon my mind. Oh I thought I was such a good little child. So it went on for years, myself and everyone else, thinking the same; but oh, if I and they all could have seen my dirty, filthy, black heart, full of all sorts of spiders! There was hatred, lying, jealousy and that dreadful big spider, self opinion. Well, at last the poor, ill despised Salvation Army came to Launceston. My mother always being one to go and see everyone, and hear what they preached, went to their meeting in the pavilion. She was so delighted with them, and could see they were people of God, that she.*

*persuaded my sister and me to go. Not we! go to hear such a mad lot; I thought they were hypocrites.”* She tells of her staying at the back of the pavilion and thinking what a low lot they all were.

Her Ma eventually got her closer to the front and she listened attentively and thought. “*Oh how blind I was, I heard them say they knew their sins were all forgiven.*’

Here the account breaks off, but her husband writes: ‘*She was converted eventually, by God’s grace, through the Army, in the old pavilion, Launceston, on December 10th, 1883, and how beautifully does her death bed show how the lassie who once was “afraid to die” had all fear taken away when it came to her turn to cross the river.*’

*“A beautiful testimony: Another warrior has fallen: a gap has been made in the ranks: the sword which has been wielded so valiantly for over 9 years is laid aside, and our beloved comrade, Mrs. Captain Hopkins, has gone to her reward. A little over a month ago she sickened with typhoid fever, and although every effort was made to combat the disease, Human skill failed, and on December 21st the chariot lowered, and like a true soldier, she answered the summons without a tremor of fear.”*

*“At the graveside the Captain spoke a few words which moved almost everyone present to tears. He felt his heart was wounded— well nigh broken. He had lost a good wife, one who had been a true helpmate, and had acted as his right hand ever since they became one; but although his loss was great, he would not deny her the rest she had entered upon. He had made up his mind to fight on, and live more than ever for souls, and by and by he would clasp her hand in the golden city.”* War Cry January 7th 1893

**WW1**—In 1915 a meeting was held in Brisbane for delegates from all parts of Queensland to discuss the war. The Salvation Army had more than 50 service camps on the battle fields. They were among the foremost, on the outbreak of war to help with materials and money. The work done by their Australian volunteers resulted in the purchase of four Motor Ambulances, the Corps had 13000 men in the firing line. Gympie Corps held a Spring Fair as part of their effort, the money going to buying more ambulances and the wounded soldiers fund.

In 1916 over 70000 men had been recruited from the ranks of the Salvation Army. There were many instances reported of German Salvationists meeting British Salvationists on the battle field., recognizing each other by their badges.

Gympie Times 13th April 1918: *“The Salvation Army expended the whole of its special funds for war work. From August, 1914, up to and including April 1918, 34,116,584 visits have been by soldiers to Salvation Army huts at home, in addition to those using the accommodation in France and elsewhere. 300 thousand men of his Majesty’s forces have slept in it’s London Hostel, 54,000 naval men have received hospitality in its naval homes during the past 12 months, and over 100,000 men have been carried in its Red Cross ambulances in France.”* Source: Salvation Army Historical Preservation Society

**CAPTAIN ROBERT THOMPSON:-** Was born in 1863 at St Croix in the West Indies. He arrived in Melbourne on the 15th March 1864. On the 1st January 1888 he joined the Salvation Army as a cadet at their college. . On the 1st September 1902 he married Alice Turk nee Long. Alice married George Turk in 1880 and was widowed with four

*Children.* Alice Mary, Samuel George, William Frederick and Herbert Henry. Robert and Alice owned a confectionery shop in Hilton Road from 1903 to 1919. Robert was also the Officer Commanding the Gympie Corps of the Salvation Army from the 14th July 1898 to the 16th February 1899.

Nambour Cronical, 31st October 1924—*Word was received on Tuesday that Mrs. Thompson, wife of captain R. Thompson, of the local Salvation Army Corps, who was returning with her husband from an extended visit to the British Isles and France, had died on the steamer Ballarat, when that ship was within two days sail of Fremantle. The deceased, who was 64 years of age, visited France for the purpose of seeing the grave of her son who as a member of the Royal Flying Corps paid the extreme sacrifice in the late Great War and was well known and respected here. A daughter (Mrs. Skinner) resides at Gympie. Mrs. Thompson was twice married. The remains were buried at sea.*

Nambour Cronical, 5th December 1924: *On Sunday night, a large number of Salvationists and friends of the late Mrs. Thompson attended the memorial service at the Salvation Army Hall, Gympie, to show their respect to the departed lady and their sympathy for Envoy Thompson in his bereavement, —*

Alice's will was granted to Robert Thompson of North Arm. William Frederick Turk of Red Hill, Gympie, and Samuel George, Coachbuilder of Red Hill, Gympie, were both Trustees.

Queenslander 21st March 1935: *Through the culmination of a boy and girl romance of more than 50 years ago, the marriage last week of Envoy Robert Thompson, of the Salvation Army, to Mrs. Mary Malam was the outcome of a courtship extending over a few brief weeks. The bridegroom is 72 years of age and his bride 5 years younger. — Mr. Thompson, who had been an active worker in the Salvation Army for about 45 years, he first met his bride, when they were Sunday School class mates at the Methodist Church in Ann Street more than half a century ago. Though attracted to each other, their ways soon separated, and it was not until about 30 years later that they met again at Gympie. Both were then married, Mrs. Malam having a grown up family. Again they drifted apart, and it was only a few weeks ago, upon learning that Mrs. Malam was residing at Albion, that he called upon her and renewed their friendship. Robert passed away in Brisbane in 1946.*

**WW2**— The Salvation Army went to work, at home and on the battlefield offering home comforts, advice, support and spiritual assistance. The 'Hop in Tents' and canteens were set up in North Africa and the jungles of New Guinea. Where ever an Australian soldier served, the Salvation Army endeavoured to be there too.

**From An Extraordinary Cup of Tea Red Shield appeal 2014:**

*'In early September 1943, my father's artillery unit landed in the north-east of New Guinea in support of an offensive against the Japanese who held the township of Lae on the Huon Gulf. Dragging 25 pound guns, they needed to cross 3 rivers, they were greeted by a sign "Wobble Inn". Here were the Salvos in the middle of the jungle, with billies boiling, serving the most welcome cup of tea I had ever tasted.'*

Source: Trove ; ancestry.



This folding down reed organ, with double reeds and a 4 octave keyboard was used in Gympie by Miss Eva Coe of the Salvation Army.

These instruments were popular with missionaries and also used during WW2 by the Armed Forces Chaplains. It is now housed at the Gympie Museum, kindly donated by Captain C. Ring of the local Salvation Army.

Eva Coe was a school teacher who taught Eva Burrows at One Mile State School, and joined the Salvation Army. Eva Burrows father was Robert an Adjutant in Gympie from January 1936 to January 1937. One of 9 children she entered the Salvation Army's International Training College in London.

She studied at London University to be a teacher and served at the Howard institute in Rhodesia from 1952 to 1967. Her next achievement had her serving at the College for Officers, London from 1970 to 1975, first as Assistant Principal, then as Principal. From there she became leader of their Social Services for Women in Great Britain, leader of their work in Sri Lanka, Scotland and Australian Southern Territories. In 1986 she became the organization's youngest commander she was 56 years of age. During her seven years as the leader of the Salvation Army, the highest ecclesiastical position held by any woman in the world. She proved highly effective, directing operations in some 90 countries and reawakening the army's founding spirit of evangelism by leading it back into Eastern Europe after the fall of communism. At the end of her term as General, she was extended a further 2 years because of her excellent record and achievements. Burrows continued active salvation warfare, having completed a ten year post on the board of the International Bible Society and being the international champion of the 'Be a Hero' campaign..

A special mention should be made of Major Joyce Harmer and her husband Hilton Harmer, court chaplains at Sydney's Magistrate Courts. Joyce was bought up in a strict Salvation Army home in Gympie. Her father's austere, often violent, rule saw her leave home as a teenager, she married her childhood sweetheart, Hilton, Harmer at the age of nineteen. They left a year later for the Salvation Army college in Sydney. Joyce battled with post natal depression and raised her own family in what were often trying circumstances.

The aura around Joyce is described as "spiritual fragrance." She is gentle, yet unperturbed in any situation of tragedy or disaster. She took care of the six rape victims during the trial of four Pakistani gang-rapist brothers from Sydney's inner west in 2002. "I tried to be strong for the girls who suffered during the trial, and it was awful, watching the perpetrators sniggering in the face of their emotional torment." She also was the only comfort for Kathleen Folgigg, serial child killer, who was found guilty of killing her 3 babies, and manslaughter of a fourth between 1991 and 1999. When the court cases were over there was still a need for caring, comfort and encouragement.

Joyce retired in 2004 and completes her Ministry from home. Hilton still prefers to remain out in the mission field. Her life story is found in the book, "An Angel in the Court"  
Source: An Angel in the Court; Retired Officer Ministers; Gympie Museum website

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