



60 YEARS AT THE KEY BOARD

Keysborough. — Mrs. Adelaide Maude Dyer, of Festival Cres., Dandenong (pictured), has 60 years unbroken service to her credit as organist at the historic greystone Keysborough Methodist Church.

She will celebrate her 74th birthday on February 24, and gave up active participation in Sunday services only 18 months ago owing to the ill health of her late husband.

Her association, however, does not start as an organist. She was christened at the Keysborough Church, attended Sunday School and married there.

Her grandfather was a member of the church from the time of its inception, and that is thought to have been more than 114 years ago. Unfortunately the original church records were destroyed in a fire.

Mrs. Dyer's two daughters Adelaide (Mrs. Hempel) and Edna (the late Mrs. Lawton) were both christened and married in what is known as the 'family church'. Their five children were also christened there, and Mrs. Dyer's granddaughter, Jan, 19, is at present a member of the Sunday School staff.

Mrs. Dyer and her family have taught, at Sunday School, four generations of the Corrigan family.

Mrs. Maude Dyer was born in the 'Borough', the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. William John Trebilco.

Mrs. Trebilco was the former Miss Sarah Anderson, whose father, the late Mr. Jacob Anderson, migrated to Australia from Norway 115 years ago.

Mr. Anderson took up land in Church and Perry Rds., and the property is still conducted as a market garden by a member of the family, Mr. Eddie Trebilco, who was born and lived in the one house for 66 years.

On Mrs. Dyer's father's side of the family there is a 78-years plus district association.

The late Mr. Trebilco migrated from Cornwall, England, to Keysborough.

Mrs. Dyer can remember her mother telling her when the original part of the weatherboard building at present adjoining the stone church was used as a composite centre — State School, Sunday School and Church.

The 'new' stone church is thought to be over 100 years old, but there is no commemoration stone.

It is interesting to note that the stones for the church were made on the property opposite, which is known locally as McMullen's Paddock.

Mrs. Dyer's partially unfulfilled ambition — 'I would like to have been a real musician,' she said wistfully.

(Picture by Graham Southam.)

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