

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE4062

Griffin, Mary (Sister Mary Evangelist)

(- 1952)

Died 31 December, 1952, Cootamundra New South Wales Australia

Occupation Religious Sister

Summary

Sister Mary Evangelist was one of the first six nuns to form the Sisters of Mercy at Broken Hill, New South Wales.

Details

The first six nuns to arrive in Broken Hill came from Singleton in the Diocese of Maitland, and founded the St Joseph's Convent in February 1889. They were: Ann Agnes Callen (Sister Mary Josephine), Margaret Hennessy (Sister Mary Clement), Sarah Gallagher (Sister Mary Gertrude), Ellen Dwan (Sister Mary Patrick), Margaret Morris (Sister Mary Ita) and Mary Griffin (Sister Mary Evangelist). Sister Mary Josephine was appointed Reverend Mother of the Sisters of Mercy by Bishop Dunne. Under her leadership, they visited the sick and poor of Broken Hill, provided a home for orphans, and opened five schools in the town by 1896.

Mary Griffin grew up at Balranald, New South Wales, and was possibly working as a pupil-teacher at the Loreto Convent School in Melbourne when she met the Sisters from Singleton who were on their way to Broken Hill. She joined the group and taught at Broken Hill high schools until she was appointed Superior of the Mt Barker Convent in 1924. Sister Mary Evangelist spent several years as Superior of the Sisters' Rest Home at Sans Souci, and as leader of the Deniliquin Community.

Published resources

Book

Some Outstanding Women of Broken Hill and District, Camilleri, Jenny, 2002

Site Exhibition

Unbroken Spirit: Women in Broken Hill, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2009,
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/bh/bh-home.html>

Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

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Created 16 February 2009
Last modified 20 November 2018