

Thank you very much for the opportunity to talk with you on Sunday evening (3 Sep) regarding your great-grandfather, John Clarke Sloan. As I said then, I am very interested to learn more about Mr Sloan because of the way my father talked about him during my years as a child, teenager and perhaps as a young adult. As I have learned from you, Mr Sloan would have been alive during some of that time as I'm thinking about my boyhood years in the 1940s after World War II.

As I said, my father never made it clear exactly when and where he knew Mr Sloan though it could be in the north-eastern Darling Downs (Jimbour - Jandowae - Dalby) in the late 1920s or early 1930s or perhaps in the Stanthorpe district at any time over those years (he visited Stanthorpe from the Downs prior to settling in the district in 1933). My father became a Christian sometime in the years prior to marrying Mum in 1937 and was a staunch Christian till he died, and I can't but feel that some of his style as a Christian owed something to Mr Sloan (from what Dad and Aysha Boulter said of him). I have the impression that Mr Sloan was a very forthright man, very much a man's man. I have been an active Christian all my teen and adult years and am interested in Mr Sloan from that perspective as well as for his influence on my father.

I was able to log on to your Sloan Family website and have the dates etc. from that site. I also printed a photo. for my own information and saw the other photos.

I'm wondering whether you might be able and willing to answer some questions about Mr Sloan's work as a Christian evangelist. If so, would you answer the following or tell me how I might find answers. please?

1. The photo at the top left corner of the "Sloan Family" website shows a horse drawn 4-wheel wagon with the sign on it "Methodist Bush Mission." Was this Mr Sloan's means of transport? Did he work under the auspices of the Methodist Church? Do you have a date for the photo. and the name and location of the church in the background? I'm assuming from the style of the building that it is a church.

Interestingly, the State Library of Qld. has in its digital photo. library (which can be viewed on the internet) a photo. of the same or an identical wagon, entitled "Methodist Bush Mission, Roma, 1906." A minor difference is that the State Library photo. shows the wagon with 3 horses, whereas the one on your family website appears to have only 2 horse. The Roma photo. was taken with the horse and wagon on a dirt road outside a paling fence in front of building which could be an old-style public hall or maybe a church.

2. Assuming that Mr Sloan worked under the auspices of the Methodist Church, do you know of any further records about the work of the Methodist Bush Mission and about Mr Sloan's actual travels and ministries?

I have been told that a lot of old Methodist records and photos. were given to the John Oxley Library at the State Library of Qld. at one time but I have no idea what records are in that collection or even how accessible they are.

Thanks for taking the time to read this message. I look forward to hearing from you and learning a little more about Evangelist J C Sloan.

John Parker
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