ISLE OF WIGHT TIMES Thursday 19th November 1931

MR JOSEPH HAWKINS

It is with sincere regret that we record the death of Mr. Joseph HAWKINS which occurred at his daughter's residence, 2, Meaders Road, Ryde, on Tuesday week, November 10th. Mr. HAWKINS, who had reached the ripe old age of 91, was very well known all over the Island as the oldest Salvationist. Born at Westmill, Carisbrooke, on January 14th. 1840, he commenced work at the early age of 7. For 14 years he was engaged in farm work, and then he came to Ryde working first for Messrs. COLENUTT's, the provision merchants, and later with Messrs. WOODS. At the age of 46 he again took to work on the land which he carried on until the age of 82. Mr. HAWKINS had lived in Ryde for 70 years, and had belonged to the Salvation Army for 37 years. He was one of their keenest members and up to the very last attended their open air meetings. He married twice, his first wife to whom he was wedded at the age of 21 dying over 40 years ago, and his second wife predeceased him about 11 years ago. He leaves 5 daughters, 1 son, 16 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren.

The funeral took place on Saturday, and a service was conducted at the Salvation Army Hall. The family mourners were Mr. and Mrs. E. J. HONEYBOURNE, Mr. and Mrs. A. MOSES, Mr. and Mrs. A. WEEKS, Mr. and Mrs. R. CHAPMAN, Mr. and Mrs. W. WILLIAMS (daughters and sons-in-law), Mrs. F. WILLETT, Mrs. W. TAYLOR, Mrs. E. C. SMITH, Miss H. MOSES, Miss P. WEEKS, and Miss C. GREGORY (grand-daughters), Mr. L. ROWDEN and Mr. H. REED. His Salvation Army cap and bible were placed on the coffin and the cap was buried with him.

On Sunday evening a memorial service to Mr. HAWKINS was conducted by Capt. John MURRAY in the Salvation Army Hall before a large congregation. Tributes to the departed "happy warrior" were paid by Sergt.-Major HAYLES, Mrs. GIBBONS, and Sergt.-Major HONEYBOURNE, of Sholing.

Researched & typed by Ann Barrett David Harris Kate MacDonell