



Miss E.S. Putwain – Mrs A.S.G. Vine – 1940 (Edition 1)

Miss E. Sisley Putwain was commended by Devonport assembly, Auckland, and went out to India in November 1940 to help Miss Sundgren in the orphanage at Trichur. She learnt the Malayalam language while helping the girls at the Rehoboth girls home. On June 1943 she was married to Mr Arthur S.G. Vine, a missionary from U.K., at Ootacamund. Mr and Mrs Vine made their home at Kuiranoor with Mrs Vine helping in the training of Indian girls and her husband engaged in village evangelism. They moved to Punalur in 1945 with 30 assemblies in an area of 30 miles and helped with ministry and teaching.

Their next move was after furlough in 1949 when they settled at Tiruvalla in Kerala and visited villages and the forest areas. Mr Vine helped at the four-month Bible School at Kottayam in 1950. The folk in Britain supplied an Austin 10 h.p. Countryman van in 1951 and that helped a great deal in taking teams of young men out on village visitation and door to door evangelism.

They made Coimbatore their centre of operations in 1953 and learning Tamil, engaged in a bi-lingual outreach both in town and country. Mrs Vine had excellent opportunities with the womenfolk in the town. Open air meetings and literature distribution helped build up the assembly and a new hall was built. Mrs Vine had helped in girls' rally work over their years in India and also in preparing literature for Rallies. A local Emmaus Bible School was started in 1955 and in the following two years Mr Vine helped in teaching at the Tamil Bible School at Madurai.

A new move was made in 1958 when they undertook the work at Dindigul a city of 100,000 people some 100 miles south-east of Coimbatore. In 1960 they began a small book shop there and in a campaign endeavoured to build up the small assembly of about a dozen believers. There were an unlimited number of villages all around that proved to be almost unevangelised. Mrs Vine helped at Hebron girls' school for six months that year and then at Coonoor Missionary Home the next year.

They returned to New Zealand in January 1962 for the sake of their teenage family, and Mr Vine took up secular employment while helping in assemblies in Auckland.

[Source entry includes photo captioned 'Mr and Mrs A.S.G. Vine and family in January, 1962.']