

“Ordinary People doing Extra Ordinary Things”

Ordinary! I aint ordinary. Ya don't call me ordinary. I live in Ingham. Ain't seen no ordinary people livin 'ere. Matter-of-fact never did see none 'ere. Never will, no doubt.

'Way back maybe, I dunno. Too busy jus' livin life.

Maybe I was born ordinary. Down there, in Gatton. Jus' whistles blowin' when I was born, jus' ordinary like, jus' church bells ringin'. Nuthin special, like.

Moved to Eumundi me Mum and Dad did. Jus' ordinary there too. Me Dad flagged down an express train steamin' down the track, jus' to save me life. But that was me dad, not me like. All in a day's work for me dad, me Scottish dad. But nothing extraordinary.

Let me see. We moved to Ingham. As I say, aint no ordinary person livin 'ereabouts that I 'ave yet to 'ear about.

Way back in the sixties, I daresay. Ya know how the men are always pullin' things down, putting them up again? Well.....out Victoria Mill, they pulled the chimney stack down once, to clean it or some such. Then got out the 'struction book, to see how to put it up again. All in French! Got in one of those ordinary intinerent teachers in them days, from the High School. She soon had that stack up right.

That reminds me of the first bomb up there, the orderly, no-panic evacuation and all. And this teacher's class of all very extraordinary girls, all thirty of them. They really and truly trusted her with their young lives.

All the students she ever taught, male and female, Primary and Secondary, you name it – she must have taught thousands of 'em - all extraordinary people. Ain't no ordinary ones in Ingham.

An' talking' 'bout Primary School children.....

One of those, long years ago, jus' mother o' those extraordinary ones, out at Cordelia ya know. 'E taught that same teacher the greatest lesson she ever learned - somethin' 'bout love and what love can do. She saw it; with 'er own eyes she saw this youngster, who couldn't walk, jus' perform such a miracle that everyone at that school was changed forever.

I will tell ya, aint no ordinary people in this 'ere town.

Delphine Roberts.