

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 1946

## Maleny Pioneer Passes

MR. A. C. K. COOKE

In the Maleny Hospital on Friday evening there passed away at the age of 74 years, Mr. Alfred Charles King Cooke, a well-known and esteemed resident of Maleny.

The late Mr. Cooke was born in Kiama (New South Wales). Marrying in 1894, he came to Maleny from the Northern Rivers in 1903, where he acquired property and commenced in the dairying industry. In coming to Maleny Mr. Cooke brought with him a fine team of A.I.S. cattle headed by that great sire, "Perfection," an animal which was a consistent prize-winner in earlier Brisbane and district exhibitions.

Ever having the advancement of the district at heart, Mr. Cooke identified himself with many of its institutions, and these stand to-day as a worthy memorial of his hard work and zeal. His consistent advocacy led to the laying down of the first metal road from Landsborough to Maleny, also

the installation of the telephone and daily mail service. In Local Authority matters he played a most prominent part, being a member of the Landsborough Council, and also its chairman for many years. His interests were also allied to the Maleny Co-operative Dairy Association, as a member of the board and also chairman. His work in connection with the early stages of the Murarrie Bacon Association are well known to many residents of the district, and his part played there had much to do in placing the affairs of this Association on the sound basis which characterises it to-day. He was a member of this board, and only a short time ago relinquished the position as its chairman. In direct local affairs he was chairman of the Maleny Patriotic Committee during the first World War and also for a period during the last war, retiring from the position owing to failing health. In the Maleny Bowling Club he was one of the early members, having held the position of president. He was also a member of the Maleny School of Arts Committee. The success of the Maleny-Landsborough Branch of the

R.A.C.Q. was largely due to his enthusiasm and energy, whilst also, he gave of his best in the interests of the improvement of the North Coast road, afterwards to become known as the Bruce Highway. In addition to his dairying interests, Mr. Cooke at one time conducted an auctioneering business. The Maleny Soldiers' Memorial Hospital also stands as a monument to his work in its interests.

The late Mr. Cooke is survived by his wife, six daughters, Mesdames W. Collard (Maleny), Morrish (Mooloolaba), D. Wall (Witta), McDonald (Toowong), Quinn (Toowong), and Miss Freda Cooke (Wooloowin), and five sons, Messrs. A. S. Cooke (Maleny), W. A. K. and W. J. K. (Witta), R. (Conondale), and S. Cooke (Maleny), also 20 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.



ACK Cooke & Family  
Image from the Landsborough Museum

More in the Hinterland Times -  
<https://www.hinterlandtimes.com.au/2016/12/21/cooke-park-in-maleny-is-a-testament-to-generosity/>