

Edward & Elizabeth (Downes) Lawley's Descendants

Edward & Elizabeth (Downes) Lawley, married in 1892 and immigrated to Brisbane from Shropshire England. They departed Brisbane after the "Great Flood" and moved to



Maleny, with Elizabeth carrying baby Ernest on horseback, led by Edward. They initially lived in a house opposite the original site of the first Maleny School but later bought land at the top of the hill overlooking town on North Maleny road. A house and cattle bails were built, cattle bought and a new Dairy, 'GreenRidge' was underway. They had four children **1. Ernest Edward Downes, 2. Ethel Mary Elizabeth, 3. Edgar Walter Hill and 4. Norman Horace Edward**. It is believed that all four children were educated at North Maleny School, Pre- 1913.

1. **Ernest Lawley** married Minnie Clark from 'Rockview' Reesville in 1917. They created a Dairy Farm named 'Arley' at Kings Lane, Reesville, breeding Illawarra cattle. They



Ernest with clock
Winner State Dairy Competition
1951

had three children, Evelyn May Downes, Alan Edward and Valerie Claire, all of whom were educated at the original old Maleny School. Evelyn never married and lived her whole life at 'Arley'. She was a well-known Music teacher to pupils from all around the neighbouring districts. Evelyn helped to organise many school Eisteddfods and concerts as well as acting as the accompanist at many local functions. Valerie married Roy Beausang, a Dairy and Beef Farmer from Conondale. Their three children, Rodney, Judith and Barbara, all attended Maleny State High School. Alan married Jessie Williamson in 1949. Together they worked 'Arley' with Alan's Dad (Ernest) continuing to breed quality Illawarra cattle. Alan and Jessie had five children, three of whom, Robyn Alison, Edward Downes and Gregory John, attended Maleny State Primary and High Schools. Robyn married Ken Webster and now lives and works the Webster farm 'Yaralla' at Wootha. They had three children, Alison, Mark and Peter who were also educated at Maleny State Primary and High Schools. All three are still living and

working here in Maleny with the next generation currently attending local schools.

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3. **Edward Downes Lawley** married Robyn Bayfield in 1975. He and Robyn had three children, Michelle, Adam and Deborah, all of whom were educated in Maleny. Edward remarried Karen Biggs and continues to farm beef cattle on his property, 'Arley Park', a part of the original 'GreenRidge', as well as running a Construction Company. Gregory Lawley married Cathy Smeeton and had four children, Jason, Michael, Daniel and Jessica, all were educated at Maleny Primary and High Schools. 2. Ethel Lawley married Lew Rough and they had two children Enid and Norman both educated in Maleny. 3.
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5. **Edgar Lawley** married Nellie Smith and worked the original Dairy Farm 'GreenRidge'. They had two children Walter and Una and both were educated at Maleny School.

Walter married Teana McGill and continued to live at 'Greenridge'. They had two children, Kerry and Karen. Both were educated at Maleny Primary and High Schools. Kerry Lawley married Fiona Cruden, they still live in Maleny and have two children Keiryn and Nicholas both educated at Maleny Schools. Una Lawley married Nathan Alport and moved from Maleny.



Walter & Tina Lawley with their daughter Karen & family.
Lawley House, 2013



Kerry Lawley at Lawley House 2020

6. 4. **Norman** married Vera Hush and moved from Maleny. They had one son, Brian Edward