

The following are memories recorded by Glad Penney of her life in Maleny. A person who contributed significantly to the history of Maleny.



I am a great granddaughter of Jane Dunlop and a great niece of Francis Dunlop who were pioneers of Maleny and settled on land where the Primary and High Schools are now located. My great grandmother was the first white woman to reside in Maleny and she had 7 children. There are two headstones located on the front boundary of the Maleny State School, which belong to my Great Grandmother Jane Dunlop and Great Aunt Margaret Hankinson.

My Grandmother, another Jane, married George Trail in October 1883. They had 4 children. Jane (Hankinson), George (my father), Annie (died aged 4 years) and Frank. Grandfather George was killed in a pitsaw mill accident in 1896.

My mother Annie Grundon was one of 10 children and married George Trail in 1918. They had 4 children, Glad (that's me) Bob, Don and Betty (Ferriday).

My father was educated in Maleny in the early 1890's at the Blackall Range School and later at the Wootha School. He worked across the district as a bullocky often carting timber. He did a lot of his work with my uncle, Mac Grundon who lived at Conondale. My father established a dairy farm on blocks of land he acquired in 1913 and 1916. Our farm at Maleny was located on land between Macadamia Drive (now known), Bean and Palm Streets and Bridge Creek Road. The existing Soldiers Memorial Hospital and Live Life Village are today located on part of Dad's farm.

The original family farmhouse, which was opposite the existing Ambulance station in Bean Street, burnt down in 1937. The replacement home was built closer to the dairy off Palm Street. In 1946 the state government resumed part of the farm for the purpose of building a new hospital.

Now about me, I was born in Brisbane on 4<sup>th</sup> July 1920. The eldest of four children, two girls and two boys (Bob, Don, Betty and me). My mother passed away on the 27 November 1933 aged 43. She did not enjoy very good health so I helped out with housework and washing. She was a very good dressmaker and made all our clothes. I learnt a lot from my mother, much of which would be very important in my future adult life.

I remember when my father was working the bullock teams close to home, Mum would load all us kids in the sulky and we would take the lunch to the men and have a picnic. I would help her get it ready, making sandwiches and packing the food into a basket. Mum would make tea in a billy can and I would have to carefully hold the billy so it wouldn't spill out and burn myself. These were good times and everyone enjoyed the picnics. There were times for dipping of the cattle on Barneys down Conondale way. There was a hut on the place near the dip where Tom Harper and Jack Stirling, who worked for Dad from time to time lived. Tom and Jack would be entrusted in watching over the kids as we weren't allowed to near the fire or the dip. Old Tom would make us damper which we would eat with syrup. But all those fun times stopped after mum died.

I was 13 when our mother suffered a stroke and didn't recover. After mum passed away my sister Betty and I were looked after by families in Maleny for about 4 weeks until Dad was able to engage a housekeeper. Mr & Mrs Waddell, the storekeepers took in Betty and I went out to stay with Mr and Mrs Lawley.

I finished school at the end of primary school and not long after that my father had a heart attack and had to leave the farm as part of his recuperation. So we all went to live in Brisbane with some friends for a few years. I went to college for 1 year. Bob, Don and Betty finished school in Brisbane.

After college in Brisbane I went back to Maleny to live with Grandmum and Uncle Dunlop. I spent most of the war years at home working on the farm so Dad didn't have to do the work. I really wanted to be a nurse but wasn't old enough and my father wouldn't sign the papers.

I met Bill Penney when I was about 20 at Maleny and we got married in 1945 when he returned from the war. We have 7 children. Colin, Alan, Karen, Ted, Joy, Robyn and

Fiona. All were educated at Maleny Schools. They all moved away except Colin who married Joy Murdoch, a Home Economics teacher at the High School. They have 2 daughters, Sharon & Leigh, both educated at Maleny. Joy & Wayne Peters moved back to Maleny with their daughters, Julie and Christine. Christine finished Years 11 and 12 in Maleny. Now some of my Great Grandchildren, fifth generation of the Trail family, are going to school at Maleny.

My Dad had given Bill and me an allotment of land for a wedding present. This block was part of the land resumed by the state government for the future hospital. So Bill and I purchased another block from my dad, a little bit up the road, known as 21 Bean Street. We bought an old house, pulled it down and rebuilt it on our new block. Bill made several changes to it over the years but it was always home. Living near the hospital was also pretty handy especially when you have 7 active children.

Bill and I were a little two piece band, we played mainly at the dances at Conondale. Bill played the drums and I played the piano. When the kids were smaller they would come with us.

As I previously said I had learnt a lot from my mother and I was able to make all the children's clothes. I made all my daughter's wedding frocks and their bridesmaid's frocks as well as the flower girls, plus my own outfit for the weddings. Oh, I also had time to make and ice the wedding cakes. I may have even done the catering for one or two of them as well.

Life really started to change in my fifties when I took up a casual domestic position at the hospital. A casual position which lasted some 7 or 8 years. It was during this time I also got my driver's licence. When I was 59 I suffered a heart attack resulting in bypass surgery and my retirement from the hospital. With this new freedom and restored health I joined the Maleny Bowls club and started a new phase of my life. I held most positions in the Maleny Club and went on to be Association President and later Games Assistant for the Association. I enjoyed the many trips around Queensland with my bowling friends visiting quite a few places. At this time I also took up patchwork quilting and candle-wicking and did a lot of crocheting, particularly doilies and tablecloths.

I have finished a quite few quilts now and they are spread over many beds throughout the family homes. One quilt I did, found its way to Norway as a wedding present for Joy's exchange student.

When Bill's health started to fail I gave up bowls to care for him. Bill passed away peacefully on 12 January 2008. In January 2011, my life started to fall apart again

when my third son Ted was diagnosed with cancer. Ted passed away peacefully with family by his side on 25 August 2011.

I continued to live at 21 Bean Street, not far from where I started my life, some 95 years, when I moved into Erowal in March 2016. This change provided new opportunities for me to finally take up painting and continue with my patchwork and sewing. Regular visits from my family and friends were also a highlight.

On Wednesday 12 April 2017, past and present histories merged in Maleny at the opening of the new police station. I was very proud to be on hand to witness and assist my grandson, Mark Ryan, Minister for Police, officially open the new Maleny Police Station on land originally settled by my father George Trail.

What a wonderful journey my life has been. I have 15 grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren. My grandchildren's occupations include managers, farmers, child care workers, teacher, hairdresser, beautician, butcher, tiler, builder, soldier, lawyer/politician and social worker.

I am a very proud mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

Sadly Glad passed away on 8 November 2017, aged 97 years, and these memories were shared in her eulogy.