

Mary Fenwick Josephine Grigor

Mary Fenwick Josephine Grigor was born on the farm at Wootha on 27th January 1899. Her father was John Grigor. He selected the Wootha farm in 1887. John Grigor's mother established the Cobb & Co coaching station at Glasshouse



Mountains. He married Elizabeth McCarthy, daughter of Joseph & Maria McCarthy. Their family consisted of four boys, John, James, George, Harold & Mary. In 1919, Mary married Con Keleher. Their family consisted of boys & one girl. Mary died on 8th July aged 70 years.

John Grigor was a timber getter harvesting the timber with bullock wagons. He used McCarthy's Chute to shoot the logs down to Peachester, reload on bullock wagons, deliver the logs to Coochin Creek and raft them down to Brisbane behind a steamer. A cedar tree

from Noel & Fay Keleher's farm (second log) measured 13ft 6ins long by 13ft 6 ins diameter. It was not allowed to go by rail, so was taken to Coochin and went behind the steamer to Brisbane. From there it was taken to England for display at the British/ Franco Exhibition. John Grigor was a councillor of the old Landsborough Shire , Division 1.

Mary Fenwick Josephine Grigor was the only daughter of John Grigor & Elizabeth McCarthy, daughter of Joseph & Maria McCarthy. In 1919 she married Con Keleher and had a family of three boys and one girl. The family worked the farm at Wootha as a dairy & small piggery. Con Keleher expanded his interests running the first successful motorised delivery service from Brisbane to Maleny, ran a large piggery in Maleny and was an agent for J C Hutton. His wife attended to the office side of his businesses.

In 1942 Con was severely injured in a road accident. For 2 years after the accident, Mary kept the farm & business running with the help of her youngest son, while Con was in Royal North Shore Hospital, Sydney, undergoing several unsuccessful operations. Mary was an astute business woman, an awesome worker, and accomplished equestrienne winning countless ribbons at Show events. She was a successful gardener, growing all her fruit & vegetables and making all the jams & pickles which graced her table. She cured meat, made butter & bread & soap. She raised poultry - fowls, ducks, guinea fowls, turkeys & geese who terrorised all who walked by. Mary Keleher died on 8th July 1969, aged 70 years.

Fay Keleher remembers being told that 'Nana' descended from the Scottish Sir John Fenwick, beheaded for his stubbornness. Fay believes this and remembers her as being a lady who never allowed anything to defeat her.

Fay Keleher

Cures

Toothache - a drop of oil of cloves in the aching tooth

Earache - a few drops of warm olive oil in the ear

Infected cuts - hot bread poultice soaked in castor oil and bound to the wound

Diarrhoea - 1 plain junket tablet crushed in 2 tablespoons water & swallowed

(nasty taste)

Regularity - castor oil

Sore throat - teaspoon sugar with 2 drops of kerosene

School sores - sulphur & treacle mixed together

Fleas (ground) - sprinkle coarse salt & lime on the ground

Fay Keleher

Cough Mixture

Boil 2 ozs Spanish liquorice and 1 tablespoon linseed oil in 1 quart of water for half an hour. Strain and make liquid up to 1 pint by adding more boiling water if necessary.

Take 2 tablespoons full 3 times a day. Treacle may be added to sweeten the mixture if desired.

Fay Keleher

From "Souvenir Recipes from Pioneer Days" by Desley Malone