

Maleny History Preservation And Restoration Society

HISTORY QUESTIONNAIRE

(Inga Green & Robyn Hankinson interviewing Janet Larney nee Dickson at 11 Stanley River Road on 7 October 1998 for Maleny Historical Society)

1. Biographical Details

Q 1. Could we please have your full name : Janet Larney nee Dickson

Q 2. Are you known by any other pen or nickname: Jean

Q 3. What address can we use for future contact: 11 Stanley River Road Maleny 4552

Q4. Could we have your date of birth please : 23.09.1922

Q5. Can you tell us where you were born: Gympie. Mum was up visiting an aunt up there and I was a premature baby.

Q6. Have you ever been married: Yes

Q7. Who did you marry, and what was their full name: John Walter Larney

Q8. Did they have a pen or nickname: Jack

Q9. What was the date of your marriage & where were you married (town & church): 8.12.1945 at the Presbyterian Church, Beech Street, Maleny

Q10. What is your partner's date of birth: 25.08.1924

Q11. Where was your partner born: Murwillumbah, NSW

(Questions 12 to 15 can include age, date & place of birth & death ect)

Q 12. What were your father and mother's full names (including your mother's maiden name): My fathers name was William James Dickson. He was born 16.06.1895 in Milton, NSW. He passed away 12.08.1982 in Maleny, he was 85.

My mother's name was Maude Shirley. She was born 10.08.1895 in Murwillumbah, NSW. She passed away in Maleny, aged 81, on 14.06.1977.

Q13. What were your father and mother in law's full names (including your mother in laws maiden name): My father in law's name was Rupert Terrance Larney. born Singleton, NSW on 07.03.1903. He passed away 20.05.1985 at Caloundra. My mother in law's name was Kate Bray, born 13.12.1903 in Albury, Victoria. She passed away 22.03.1987

Q14. How many brother's & sister's did you have & what were their names: I had two sisters. Their names were Lillian Rose and Mary, she was stillborn. And two brothers, Alexander James and Henry, he died as an infant.

Q15. How many children did you have & what were their names: I had two. Alexia Jean born 17.05.1947 and John Richard born 12.08.1952

2. HOUSE, SCHOOL, CHURCH & FAMILY

Q1. Can you tell us about the house/s you have lived in (from a child): When I was child it was a timber house, with a front verandah. With the four steps in the front and fourteen steps at the back.... a

laundry underneath. It was painted a stone colour, a red roof and it had a flower garden in front and lots of fruit trees and we grew all our own vegetables. After I married, we lived at Balmoral on the farm and then we shifted into Maleny. But the house on the farm was just a farmhouse. Then we shifted into Coral St and we lived there for the rest of our time in two different houses. We lived in a rented house of my father in law's and then we bought our own house. We lived there for years until we shifted over here (11 Stanley River Rd) ten years ago. Now we live in a double brick house and we've still got a garden and fruit trees and veges.

Q2. Why did you move to Maleny (if born in Maleny ignore Q 2-4)

Q3. How old were you:

Q4. What do you remember about the move:

Q5. Where was your home located & what was the countryside like around your home: In Obi Obi Lane. Mossman was the name of the house. There was all dairy farming and grassland, it was kikuyu and paspalum grass. That's about all, it was just a farm.

Q7. Where did you go to school & what type of school was it: Went to Maleny state school and Witta state school. I was out Witta for twelve months while dad was cutting timber, you know down..... They were both timber buildings, and I left school after scholarship, when I was fourteen and a half.

Q8. Tell us something about your school days: We rode horses to school. We rode a shortcut through Tom Porters farm, across Obi Obi Creek onto Dunlop's paddock, which is now Maleny Primary school grounds. Then down to Bunya Street, up Maple Street to the old school on the hill in Cedar Street. We had a horse paddock up there to let our horses go in and also a shed to put our saddles and bridles in. We always had to know our spellings and tables. We used to learn them going to school reading them, learning them on the horse. The "Three R's" were the main things in those days. We had slates and big, long desks with ink wells in and sat on a hard seat. I had pigtails and the boys used to grab the pigtails and tie them in the inkwells and things at the back.

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Q9. What happened when you left school, what did you do & how old were you: Well I had to go home on the farm then. **What kind of scholarship was it though, at fourteen?:** At Fourteen. Well that was scholarship, I 'spose that'd be . uh , what about year nine and ten now or something, would it? See there was no junior or seniors or anything like that, then, up here. You had to go away to boarding school but I didn'. I couldn't go because I..... I went home on the farm to milk cows, by hand, then petrol engine, then the electricity came, installed in 1937. 'Cause mum was sick. Out North Maleny way, where it came across to us .like. It was in the town before that. Mum was ill, my sister worked way and my brother, Alec, worked in the store Waddells and Lang Brown's in Maleny, until he joined the Navy. Later I worked in shops in town and worked for the tailor, Malcolm McGittren, until I married at twenty-three. I made Jack's wedding suit.

Q10. What do remember about the Union Church or any other Church: The Union Church. I remember was halfway up the hill, at Bunya Street now. We went to Sunday School there and then went on up to my grandparents place, a big home, queenslander on top of the hill, for a hot roast dinner each Sunday. The home was burnt down when Snow Mckillop owned it. The only other one I remember at that time was the Lutheran Church at Witta. I think all the other ones..... the Baptist Church was the next one that was built here, but uh, you know, I don't relate to them all, sort of thing. We were made go up there.[Union Church]

Q11. Tell us how you got to church:

Q12. Was there anyone who strongly influenced your life.....& Why: No I don't think so.....only my school teachers.

Q13. Where were your clothes bought, or how were they made and by whom: Well mum made our clothes when we were young. But in the teens Mrs Jack Rapp and her daughters did dressmaking. so we bought material from Tytherleighs shop and she made our frocks for about ten shillings each.

Q14 Tell us about the clothes you wore everyday, to school & to church: To school I wore navy blue box pleated tunic with white blouse and black leather shoes and socks. And to church we had coloured dress with cuffs and a "peter pan" collar. It's a little round collar. And hat and gloves, don't forget that.

Q15. Tell us something about your parents: Well I 'spose they were hardworking but they were always kind but strict, we never got hidings. They loved dancing, took us, all we kids, to all the dances and we learnt to dance from a early age. There was nothing else really, we just worked on the farm.

Q16. Can you tell us about courting in general in your day: I'm not going to tell you all. We mostly we'd all go out, you know, couples, boys and girls like. We'd go dancing, pictures or horse-riding you know. There'd be no smoking or drinking or drugs in those days like, it wasn't allowed, it wasn't the thing.

Q17. What was life like after getting married (ignore if single): We farmed for a short time, then came to town and Jack started at the Maleny Butter Factory. When the electricity came to Maleny about 1939, the City Electric Light. Jack started at the first depot in 1950. It was an old garage, where the present Energex depot is for auction now. It was old Bill Barr's garage, there was a mechanics there. he old depot still a garage was demolished, the house was bought by Ian Knight and is now a private home on Landsborough Road. That's how Energex started off many years ago. Jack, he was with the company for thirty-seven years. He saw changes, we saw changes from the C.E.L, that was City Electric Light, it started off. Then it was Southern Electric Authority {S.E.A.}, then it was Southeast Queensland Electricity Board {S.E.Q.E.B} and now it's Energex. We also had Hereford cattle as a hobby. Now we are retired and enjoy tripping away with our car and caravan.

Q18. Tell us something about the difficult times, and the "community spirit and effort"

Q19. What sort of work did you do (if farming what specific type)

Q20. What sort of work did your partner do (if farming-specific type)

Q21. Who, if anyone did you have work for you (e.g.; farmhand)

Q22. What significant changes have you seen in your lifetime (e.g. cars, planes, TV,(talking) movies, computers, automation): Cars, I suppose, I used to see the T-Model Ford's, couple of them had a few T-Model Fords around. My father had a Rugby, it even had blinds in the back. I wouldn't ride in it if I could get out of it. I'd rather ride my horse. I always thought he'd run over the edge or something. He wasn't a good driver. The movies... well we had silent movies here first, we used to go to as kids. Then, you know, there was the "talkies", as they called them. But they didn't call them movies in those days, they were pictures. Town is really busy now than when I was kid, we used to gallop our horses up the main street, which you wouldn't be able to do now, racing one and another to school. You'd ride your horse into town and tie your horse up, round about the, like down at the old blacksmiths shop or where Mary Nagy's Obi Centre is now. Well it was the old Bank yard then and it was vacant and uh all the kids tied their horses up. They should of made more room for parking back then, the council. I remember a real estate fella saying, oh about fifteen years ago I suppose, he said Maleny will be just like Buderim within the next twenty years. it's getting like that now.

Q23. Can you describe a general days work at home: Washing, you had to boil up the copper outside and the washsticks, poke them in sort of thing, put the wood under the copper fire and things like that. Wring it by hand, though we did have an old... you know the ones you put on the side of the... troughs, they were cement wash troughs those days, you know too. And you'd wring them out like. As children we had to go and get the cows in early of a morning like, at say five-thirty of a morning. Then milk, feed calves and wash the milking machines up. In early days we milked by hand though. After milking you'd have breakfast, do odd jobs around the farm, like go and get cow and calf

from over the paddock there or somewhere like that and..... dig some scotch thistles, all those sort of things. At night you'd listen to the wireless and uh.....then have your dinner, have a bath and go to bed. We used to have neighbours over sometimes, you know, sing and dance. We'd clear out a bedroom and uh all come in like and play the piano and button accordion. There was about five different families on farms around there and you'd have something like that once a month. It'd be at our place one month and their place another month. The ladies, the mother's, they'd have afternoon tea every now and again. Of course it would all be set up properly, afternoon tea cloths, doyleys etc. I remember I went to old John Skerman's place, my mother was friends there, 'cause everything was set up and I got into trouble 'cause I asked for a second biscuit. I got into trouble when I got home, I wasn't supposed to; you have one biscuit that's it. We had a wood stove, mum made a lot of our bread and dad would bring the rest of it home in the cream can, when he took the cream to the factory and that sort of thing.

Q24. What sport and recreation did you or your family play: When we were kids we were still on the farm, you know, from when we went to school we always had basketball and football. Played down here, with competition like, on the showgrounds. We used to play Woodford and Nambour, Kenilworth and Caboolture. And then Jack, Larney, he drove his father's truck, it was an International truck, that he had for a school truck to take kids to school in. We had board seats to sit on in the back, sort of thing, and we'd go to these different places and they'd return, wouldn't be, oh.... once every three weeks they'd come for a return match. Then, well we had roller-skating, in Harry Lyon's garage, that's where Peace of Green is now. Well that was the garage and we roller-skated out the back. We used to take a friend over to where Energex sub-station (currently for auction) is now, Sauls house, we used to take her over there and we'd roller-skate up the little bit of narrow bitumen and take her home, you know, 'cause she wasn't allowed to go home on her own, you know. After I was married we still played basketball and football, well the boys played football and the girls played, we call it basketball but now they call it netball, but it was basketball for us. We had a good team, you know. Not very often we'd go down to Caloundra at Christmas time there'd be a bus go from here like, for Boxing Day and New Years Day and uh we'd all pile on. But you'd have to be home, you know, to milk cows. The bus'd leave down there about three o'clock from Caloundra to get back up here, you'd have to be home to do the milking.

Q26. What memories do you have of music and the wireless: On the wireless we had the serials. There was "Green Bottle", "Dad & Dave" and "Bob & Dolly Dyer" and "Blue Hills". That was about all. The music was like hillbilly music most of the time round in those days. Not many people took on opera or anything like that.

Q27. where did you go for holidays, how often, and how did you get there: I had a week away to Brisbane with the Y.A.L, that's the Young Australian League, they showed us all over Brisbane. I was about fifteen at the time. But other than that we never had family holidays, 'cause only one could go away at a time, you know, because of milking. The transport down was the bus or the train. I ventured to Brisbane from Landsborough, when I was twelve. I had to go to South Brisbane station and I had to find my way there, which, the train only went to Central in those days. I walked across to South Brisbane station because I had to catch a train out to Runcorn, where my uncle lived. When I finally got out there, he had a chook farm with laying hens and that and of course "I made it" I yelled out and about five thousand chooks flew up, I frightened the lot of them. I got into trouble of course. That was about the only holidays when I was a kid. After I married, while the kids were little we used to go to Caloundra mostly and have a couple of weeks down there. Book a flat or something, my brother, Alex, his wife Peg and her three kids used to come too, like. We'd book two flats.....have a good time together, sort of thing. **The kids in one flat and adults in the other?:** Not in those days, you can do that now.

Q28. What do you remember about "Rawleigh's" products or home remedies for (e.g.: snakebite)

Rawleighs came around to the farms with cough mixtures, ointments - - - all good products.

3 MALENY TOWN - BUSINESSES, FACILITIES, LANDMARKS

Q1. What shops & businesses do you remember being in Maleny (e.g.: The old Bank Building, the old E S & A Bank of 1905, Butter Factory 1904, Myers & Hurst Emporium, Union Church

1910, Sawmills, Hospital, Joe Pollock's Hotel 1907, Watsons Garage, McLeans Bakery & Teahouse, Vetter's first bakery site, Walker's Bakery et ect): The old E.S. & A Bank, the Butter Factory and the Union Church, the sawmill, the Hospital, all of them. Watsons Garage is W.L. Watson & Son, actually and they built it. When they came here they bought Daddy, we used to call it Daddy Cook's, Mr A.C.K. Cooke house and ran it as a boarding house, that's the one that is beside Watson's Garage now. Watson's ran that as a boarding house and after that they built the garage, 'cause that land belonged to Cooke's, they bought it. And there was Jimmy Cork's Garage across the road. The old E.S. & A Bank was where Gary Myers Art Gallery is now, the vault is still in there, well I hope it's still is, was in there anyway.

The dentist when I first came to Maleny was Thomason, Arthur Thomason and he lived up Beech Street where Dave Erkskin-wyse lives now. He had the dentist shop there, 'cause everytime mum took me to the dentist my toothache got better before I got there. Later there was one in the main street, he was Arthur Thomason's son, Roy Thomason and it's the two story one there, which was the old ambulance station.

The Butter Factory, I think it was the third Butter Factory I remember, like, it's still on the same site now and they call it the farmer's something. (Queensco) It was owned by the Caboolture Co-op, they bought it and they made casene and stuff and they pumped the casene up to Cottee's piggery, where the Anglican Church is now. Casene is like a powder, a derivative of milk. They used to pump it out onto the grass and the grass was really lush. When we were farming it was always a Butter Factory but when Caboolture bought in like, they changed it into a milk factory. **{Because everyone used to have a separator, to separate the milk from the cream, they'd feed the milk to the calves and send just the cream to the factory. It started off as a cream factory, then they made butter out of the cream. Jeannie R.}** You feed your calves and pigs, everybody, all the farmers had pigs in those days and they'd take the cream to the factory and send the leftovers away to feed the pigs, waste not want not.

The Union Church was halfway up Bunya Street, under two big Camphor laurel trees. It got moved down to the corner of Coral Street and Myrtle Street. When they shifted it there it was known as the Cooperative Church. Then Uniting Church got it then, like. The Methodists had something to do with it I think. See when my mother died **{Brought out funeral notice}** Mum and dad were both buried from there, so it must have been..... they were five years apart they died, so it must have been known as the Cooperative Church for five years. see. **{ Myrtle Steet, the Cooperative Church; Inga reading from notice}** It's 'Recollections' now.

There was Tesch's sawmill out there, there was also a case mill along the Kenilworth Road it was on the right there before you get to Fleiter's Hill (?) and Viv Barsby he used to have that, he used to make cases, you know, boxes and things like that.

The Hospital, it was a rambling timber building in Bean Street opposite the new Hospital then. It was the general and public and the private and maternity, public and private. Then there was the nurses quarters and all the nurses stayed there in those days and, uh, you know, there'd probably be about five, six nurses staying there. Then there was a morgue downstairs under the Hospital. That was the Hospital morgue and then there was a morgue, it is still, the building is still there, behind.... Where Ellen Reardon used to live, what is it called now, you know where they've just put the road down to that new park (Graatz) there's a little building back in there now and that was the morgue. They used to keep the old hearse in there and I know (laughs) sometimes....there was a dance on at one stage and somebody locked a fella in the hearse, because things were never locked up in those days, you know you could just open the doors and they opened, so they opened up the hearse and locked him in.

I told you about the Watson's how they bought the house in Maple Street and ran the.... I don't know the year but Jack's sister married Neville Watson, so I can find out I just have to get a hold of them Neville will be out playing bowls. Then they had the bus run, down to Landsborough and they also had the taxi service.

McLeans Bakery & Cafe.... well there was living quarters up on top of it. I worked there part time when Ernie Millner bought it from the McLeans. McLeans was the building that got burnt down when the School of Arts got burnt down. Then Bert Crawley owned it after that, we had our wedding reception there. Then Cos Freelegos he was the owner when it got burnt down. Cosmos, he was a greek man. Walkers Bakery is now the Bushmans Warehouse, after the bakery closed there, Snow Ball ran a cafe and a fruit shop there. **{Behind Rather Bazaar or Peace of Green, what cafe used to be there? Robyn}** Well Betty Defenbach, she was there for a long time. George Shaw he was there first then Betty Defenbach bought from them I'd say, Betty and George and then Maggie and Jack Moore had it when the cyclone was on and all the top got blown back and Maggie comes out and wonders where all the front of the shop went to. (laughs) She was going crook at the SEQEB fellas because she had

no power and they said, oh have a look, that's why you've got no power, no roof! Of course she was deaf too, Maggie, she had a hearing aid and somebody said, put your hearing aid on. The School of Arts it was the main place for all our entertainment. All our pictures and dances ecetera was there.

There was another boarding house in Maple Street it was run by the three Miss Madden's, Allie, Lizzy and Kitty {three sisters}. Their brother was on a farm out Wootha, Frank Madden.

Q2. Can you estimate what year, are they still there & where are/were they located :

Q3. Tell us how people paid for their groceries & fruit shopping: { Showed us a radio license that you had to have if you owned a radio } [Jeannie: If you didn't have one or saw anyone suspicious you quickly hid your radio! laughs] The renewal fee was twenty one shillings. Then she showed us: This was heating and cooking appliance license, we bought an iron and to buy an iron you had to have this, this is during the war years you had to have these things. I saved some of these when I cleaned up, these are dad's ration tickets and you had to get applications for ration tickets and they used to stamp them for the petrol. This was our receiving license, this was Jack and mine back in seventy-four. { something to do with radio license } My mother's identity card, you had to have an identity card years ago, it says it must be kept in a cover and I still do [**Inga reads from card: You may need it under national emergency conditions!**] These are for meat, you could only get so much meat, and one for clothing. They were strict with all these sort of thing. These ones are for petrol, motor spirits. Thirty-first of May 1949, was valid until then. Of course two gallons went a long way in those days because where did you go! You went to town and back, not like now. So unless you had to use the car, you wouldn't use it. You would ride your horse or walk. All these here I'll keep for to put in the old house. All the groceries were itemised on dockets and they were added up in the head, mostly you would pay at the end of the month, when a monthly statement was sent out. When you paid you would get a packet of boiled lollies free. Your fruit and veges were at a separate shop where you would pay cash, they didn't have them at the grocery stores in those days. But if you paid cash at the grocery store or Drapery or anything they had this little thing on a string that used to go from where the counter-jumpers were up to the office. You'd go and she'd run up there and then the girl in the office, which was Beryl Crawley (Walker) and she send the change back. My brother, when he came out of the war ended up as General Manager of the Co-op's stores in Toogoolawah store, Esk & Millmeran.

Q4. How was food & mail delivered: We didn't we just used to pick it up, but a lot of people did do deliveries in an old truck. You collected the mail at the post office, everybody had a little peep-hole, pigeon hole and you'd ask for your name, say Larney's mail and they'd go to the "L's" and hand it over to you. The cream trucks would bring in the orders, like for outlying people and the food stores, they'd pack the things, put the order in and the blokes at the shops would pack them and the cream truck drivers's would deliver them back. The bread would be put in the cream cans and the meat in a calico bag and then put in a sugar bag and then they'd deliver them back to the customers, when they delivered the cream cans. But they were only put in boxes, the cream boxes most of the time, because most of the farms were in away off the road and they were dropped off at the cream boxes. Nobody ever touched things in those days except crows, they used to come and eat the bread sometimes.

Q5. How did you get to places like Landsborough, Nambour, Caloundra & Brisbane: Later on we had a bus service down to the train at Landsborough. Harry Lyons he was the owner then and later Wally Watson took over the bus service. You had to go to Landsborough to get to Nambour, until the road over Montville was made, it must have been made in the fifties some time, but before there was only a big stony hill there and it would be about where Lander's Shute is now, probably. It was a terrible, big stony hill there and cars couldn't get up because, you know even with chains on. A couple of truck driver's used to cart milk and they had chains on but they had to have five or six goes at it because the rocks would just skid back. You could get a bus from Landsborough to Caloundra all the time, there was good connections from Maleny to Landsborough. You'd have to catch the train to Nambour but we never caught it, I don't think I'd ever been to Nambour other than when I rode across for years. Then we had the steam train.

Q6. Tell us about the Maleny Show, CWA, RSL and any other organisations: We always looked forward to the show. I competed in the horse events from the age of seven, also rode in the nearby district shows. Uncle Charlie Dickson, he was the ring-master, in red riding coat and white jodphurs and

black boots. He rode a white horse, led each horse into the ring, they don't have anything like that these days. We had a grandstand down towards the tennis courts, it was pulled down years ago when it became unsafe, but I don't know when they pulled it down. This grandstand could take a hundred people. Myself and Laura Hapgood, that was a friend of mine, we used to ride all around North Maleny to get donations from residents for the show lunches. We used to go around and they'd give us money or say they'd donate sugar and cakes and tea, all that sort of thing. It was under the old show pavilion, it was all done under there and you'd have a few days before hand, all the cattle, Jim Grigors cattle, used to be down there on the showground and they used to sleep under there. you'd have to go under there and get rid of all the dirt and dust and all, you know, tables, big slabs with seats and you had to clean all those a couple of days before the show. I didn't do it but my mother did. I used to help but I used to be messing around with my horse. My mother was in Red Cross. No Senior Citizen's in those days it was mostly only Red Cross and CWA.

Q7. What do you remember of the Maleny Folk Festival: Well I think it was a great thing for Maleny, really. We saw some weird and wonderful things and I think it opened the eyes that there was another world out there, you know, to Maleny. We were only a quiet, little town. It never worried us, it worried a lot of people but it didn't worry us. In the first couple of festivals there used to be a bit of skinny-dipping going on, but in the later years they didn't, but that wasn't anything new. A seven year old drowned in the swimming pool one festival.

Q8. Do you attach any stories with local landmarks (e.g.: Soapy hill, the Ice Box, Obi Obi Creek, Street names, Mary Cairncross Park, Tesch Park { site of Ludwig Tesch's smithy }, Baroon Pocket Dam, Howell's Knob, Remington, Landers & McCarthy's Shutes', the 4000, Walkers Pinch, Devils Elbow ect ect): Well, down the Ice Box it was always damp and cold that's how it got it's name. We had a lot of landslips when they first had it there, the road would slip away. We'd perhaps gone to a dance at Landsborough and coming home there was no road there, so we had to go round the back road. The Soapy Hill was just out Wootha, opposite the Reesville turnoff, it's marked on Jack's SEQEB maps, that he had. It's the one out here where Johnny Woods is now, just before you get to the Reesville turnoff. That's the one that's marked on the map. Then there's the 4000, **{out the other end of Stanley River Road where you go down 'til you come out at Stanmore -Jeannie R }** The road was just gravel and the road used to grade at 4000 I think. The flagstone down here, we used have big floods years ago, the big trees being swept away. The scrub was felled on Bert Cork's Burn, they called it, that's out near Reynold's Crossing. When they cut Bert Cork's burn down there was huge trees, the Obi used to sweep around there. It's down off Landsborough Road off Gardner's Falls, well Reynolds crossing, you come right down and Reynolds crossing is the creek there, the Obi Creek, where they have the carpark to Gardner's Falls now. There's talk of putting a crossing in there again to open up North Maleny, it's a surveyed road. On the front of the book "Obi Obi Waters " there's a picture, and I'd like to know who put the log there in the first place, some of the bullockies must have. When a certain person was on that farm, he got somebody, only ten or twelve years back, there with some gelignite and blew that log up. Which is a shame. The flagstone near the showgrounds would be cut by floodwater's for a few days in heavy rain. The people from Wootha had to go around Mountain View to town in those days, your grandfather (**refers to Jeannie R**) tipped his car over there (flagstone) once. Some people were coming from Woodford and they were going out to Ellen Reardon's at Witta and they drove straight into it (the water) They were lucky they had got across the flagstone a little bit and the water was swirling and it tipped them on the top side (in the car) We were living in the house across the creek at the time and they came up to us, we knew them through Ellen Reardon, it was Ellen's sister, Eunice and they came up, it was Christmas day and we gave them some clothes of Jack's and mine and they changed, 'cause they were wringing wet, and away they went, Keith came in and picked them up and they went and had christmas lunch. The house I lived in was straight across the bridge on the left-hand side and we lived there for thirty years and seven in the one just up further in Coral Street. It was Jack's father's house but it's shifted to Caloundra, they pulled it down, it was a wooden house. So we bought the house near the bridge, it was a delapidated old joint and we fixed it up over the years, but it's getting a bit scatty again, they're not looking after it. Jack said he painted it for thirty years inside and out and that's why we have a brick house inside and out here. The Tesch Park, when we used to ride to town, or any people who rode to town, they'd tie their horses up there near the big, old weeping willow trees beside the blacksmith's shops. Then after a while Bill Landles, he was the next blacksmith and he built himself a little bit of a shack, it was up off the ground with two steps up into it. Then one of the floods came down and he stepped out next morning and he was up to his knees in water. That was one of the big floods, but what's going to happen when we do get big floods again. The flagstone was destroyed, which it shouldn't have been, it should of been heritage. The council broke it up so people

wouldn't go down there and pump water I reckon. In the early time when they used to have roadworks there was a fella by the name of Smokey Davies, he had a water truck and on the topside of the bridge, back in the paddock they had a great big well there, well it was a spring more than anything and it was in rocks. They blew a hole in it and it was always full of beautiful water and they used to collect all the water there for the roadworks there.

Baroon Pocket dam, well I used to know most of the families that lived down there, it's gone under water now. We used to ride down there and go up Mill Hill and go into Montville. Landers Shute, when we went to ride at the Nambour Show we rode out through Balmoral, down through the Shute, it was just a track down thru lantana. You go down there now to the water treatment plant, it was on this side. We used to ride down that way because of course there was no horse floats in those days. It would take you a day to go over there, sort of thing, and you'd put your horses at the showgrounds, compete the next day then ride home again. We often used to get some ribbons. During the war years, a couple of times they couldn't have the show, Maleny show here. I had a lot of ribbons and they couldn't get ribbons so I loaned them a lot of my ribbons and never got them back. They were supposed to just put them on the horse ride out and give them back, but they didn't. I cut the rest up and made ribbons for my daughter's hair.

Howell's Knob was first settled by Robert Howell out there and he owned Billy Aplin came back onto the farm then and that's where the name Howell's Knob came from.

Q9 What do you remember about some of the Aboriginal names & their meanings (e.g.; Wootha- meaning "big fellow"-Red Cedar): No, I don't remember about those, we didn't talk about that in those days.

Q10. What do you remember about the local dances, socials and the Pictures: Well we went to all the dances around. The main dance was the waltz and the pride of erin and the foxtrot, those type of things and the Lancers, which you never do now of course. It was a group dance, you get together and then swing one another around. The Lambert walk, we used to do that, it was a war time one really and the hokey-pokey. We'd go to the Conondale dances in Arthur Brooker's cream truck. He'd come and pick us all up in the cream truck and he had board seats across the back. It was only an open truck with board seats across. In the war years they had a gas powered thing to drive the truck because there wasn't enough petrol in those days. Coming home, he was coming up a couple of steep pinches. Well, one was called the Devil's Elbow. It's not where the new road is now. It was called the Devil's Elbow and of course it was all gravel in those days too. We'd all have to hop out. The old truck wouldn't get around there. The old gas producer wouldn't get around so everybody would have to get out and give her a bit of a push until she got up there. But they were good days. The movies we had in the School of Arts, it was destroyed by fire of course. It was all black and white then with Laurel and Hardy and Abbott and Costello and Charlie Chan. Or there was always a good Western on. In the 1940's technicolour came in. "Gone with the Wind" was the first one we saw up here, with Clarke Gabel and Vivienne Leigh in it. We had canvas seats up the middle and wooden seats on the side. The wooden seats were the cheapies. You had to book your seat too, because it was always full. We had a balcony upstairs and it was dearer again to go up in the balcony. Gordon Saul was the usher - went to usher us to our seats. Harry Lyons, he ran the movies. I think then they were very cheap to go into. I know at interval we used to go out and get threepenny icecreams and things like that. I think it was only about a shilling to go in, I think that might have been adults - I think it was only sixpence for kids.

Q11. Can you tell us what Maleny was like during the War years of 1939-1945: Maleny had the Red Cross and the community put on dances for the enlisted soldiers. Also we entertained the American servicemen with lunches and showed them around around the district. Sometimes the Americans came up here and thought they could take over the girls and the local soldiers, the 7th Division, that were here, there used to be fights. We weren't a bad looking mob of girls in those days. We had to have coupons for our food and clothes and petrol. Now, the 7th Division, they had a convoy of trucks, out North Maleny, like on the farm and they were all camouflaged. They'd cut down trees and put branches all over.....the trucks were camouflaged and then they cut down trees and got under all the lantana and all those things. They were really, well, hidden. So somebody from another division, I think they were over Montville, had to spot where they were and all that type of thing. A few of the chaps they used to come up. Mum would bake scones for them and they'd have a cup of tea and play cards and listen to the wireless, at our place. Of course I was doing my V.A.D (Voluntary Aid Detachment) training up at the hospital and even going through I had to have a password to go through their camp. We used to go up Obi Lane and that was the only way you could get out and of course they had it all

cut of there and you had to have the password to come in and out. At the Voluntry Aid Department we did our Home Nursing and First Aid course at the Maleny Hospital. We helped the sister's on night shift, we used to make beds and empty bedpans and sponge patients and take pills around but we actually didn't give the pills to the patient, we weren't allowed to do that. There was a couple of the old patients, the lights used to go out up there and you'd be running around with a lantern. There was one old patient, he had a hook on his arm, old Hookey McGinn an old chap from down Kenilworth, and you'd go past his bed and he'd put the hook out and grab you. He wanted a bit of a cuddle.

Q12. Tell us what it was like during the 1930's depression years: Well money was sort of scarce in those days, I know dad had to get extra work and he went scrub cutting. He and others were cutting a patch of scrub, they were cutting Tesch Brother's scrub, they had a patch down Conondale. Then he went to Landsborough Sawmill and Eumundi Sawmill's to work. To get the dole they only got 7/-6 a week those days and you had to feed kids and things. Dad, he wouldn't take any money, he'd want to earn it. They were very proud people, like the old people around.

Q13. What natural disasters do you remember in the area { like cyclones & floods & what year were they (maybe you've heard reports of the big flood of 1893 when 36 inches fell in 24 hours and most of Maple & Coral Sts were flooded): When the drought broke, I know our neighbours, dad told them be sure and not leave the cattle near the scrub, because there was a big steep gorge there. Anyway they thought they knew better and they thought, oh well, the cows would be better there. They had 22 cows, that pushed one another over the edge, they were trying to get shelter and there were 22 cows over the edge. He came to dad the next morning and he said, "Did the cows get into your place?". He said he couldn't find them. Dad said, "I told you where they would be." All these cattle were that poor and that too, from, you know, it was a big drought. **(WHAT YEAR WAS THE DROUGHT?)** We had 20 inches of rain of rain that time. The School of Arts was burnt down, as well, it was 25th May 1957. Mcleans Cafe, that used to be owned by Cos Freeleagus, that's where the fire started and it spread in, they couldn't save the hall. They used to use the R.S.L. Hall for everything until they built a new one. Then there was cyclone on New Years Eve and the Hospital was damaged and they had to bring all the patients down to the, well it's now the Community Centre, but they called something else after it was first built. The Community Centre hasn't been the name for that long, though it's been that way for a few years. The cyclone I think it was 1962-63. It was December, the New Years Ball was on that night, I was at home, 'cause my two kids were at the ball and everybody disappeared home but I had no way of getting to my kids, because we had the two-way radio and our phone was S.E.Q.E.B.'s phone. I couldn't leave the place, I had a board out the front, flapping away too, but nobody come down to fix it, but it didn't do any harm it was only a bit of a fascia board that went off the house. Edna Burgum, (Frank Burgum, was in S.E.Q.E.B. too) and Edna rang me and wanted to know where my kids were, 'cause she was going to pick hers up. I said they must be down there (School of Arts hall) somewhere, so she went and found them all sheltering down underneath the hall and she bought my kids home to me. Then they, well Lex wouldn't sleep in the front room because this board was flapping there, so she came out into the dining room. Bought her mattress out there and slept under the table, she reckoned she wasn't going to sleep in there (the front room) Maggie Moore's place it went to that time, it had the roof blown off. Of course the powerpoles were all blown over, there was no power. We had no power for about five days and a lot of the farmer's had to milk by hand and everything. Jack and some of the boys, they were out and I didn't see him for two days, they were out working, night and day to try and get the power back on. It was a bit hairy that one. That was the worst cyclone we've had up here, the clothes lines, hoists, were all just ripped around, twisted and blown around. They would of been the worse things. There was lots of cyclones about but, they were bad but we'd get cyclones every year, sometimes twice a year.

4 STORIES & PHOTOGRAPHS, MEMORABILIA, PAPER CUTTING & DOCUMENTS

Q1. Can you relate any funny stories or incidents you remember happening about yourself or somebody else in the district (CAN BE ANONYMOUS and include cars, trucks, animals, horses, bullocks, chooks, snakes ect): There was one cream carter, his name was Tom Brown out at Reesville. He used to deliver the empty cans back to the farms and he'd take the lids off and put them on the handle on the side of the can. Of course the bread would be in the cream cans and before some people picked their cans up they had a terrible hailstorm out there, stripped trees and things like that. The cans filled up and it was just a sheet of or a clonk of ice on top of the bread, they couldn't get their bread, of course. They reckon it was a couple of days before the ice melted in the cream cans. We had a few locals living around, in a way I suppose they shouldn't be named because there's relatives around. Three or four of them used to be down in a shed, old bachelors or they could have been widowers,

down where the medical centre is now, there used to be a shed, stables, down there years ago and they used to live in there. They used to like their flaggon of wine. Of course there was Johnny Sawdust, who worked out at the mill and he used to wheel the sawdust away. Old Charlie Pyach he used to work out on a farm, then there was another old fellow, I can't think of his name, the Baptists got him to go to church. He used to like his drink, and they got him to go to church and they told him he just had to get of his plonk or the devil would get him. Anyway he disappeared and they found his hat in the swimming pool down here (showgrounds) of course the bridge was here then, but his hat must have bklown off when he crossed the bridge. They found his hat in the pool the next day and people were diving in there lokking for him, my son was one of them. But he was up here in Max Graham's scrub, hiding up there.

Can you tell us about any characters" or "hard cases" you remember:

Q3. Do you have any photographs,memorabilia,paper cuttings or documents that you would like to donate to the Society as a contribution to the proposed book on Maleny History (THESE CAN BE EITHER DONATED OR LOANED for copying and if required to they will be returned) They could be family or township photos, achievement certificates, publicity articles, birth, marriage & death certificates ect [Any or all of these items could be of vital importance to Maleny History] YES

Q4. What do you like most about Maleny to-day: Well, Maleny's always been my home, I love living here. The green hills, the climate everything just suits me fine.

Q5. Is there anything about Maleny to-day, you would like to see change: We have to see progress I 'spose, we can't keep such a beaut place to ourselves. I've travelled around Australia a couple of times caravanning and lots of places small like Maleny even, like tourist places we've got here now. Well they have a special place for cars and caravans to pull up, you can get out and go and have a look at the shops and leave your car and caravan there and really go and look at the place. When people come here there's not a place for them to go. I'd like to see a big park for tourists around, for somewhere to park. Because you go loy'sd of places and they've got places like that, where you can pull up, because when you've got a caravan you just can't pull up anywhere. That's what I'd like to see them get a park for tourists around. It's got a lot to offer for future generations as a tourist town, we've got good shopping, Hospital, everythings here, nursing home, retirement village, it's just a good place to live. We've got our place for sale but we're going to buy another place in Maleny. We've got five acres but we just want something smaller because when you go way you need someone ijn to look after the place..

Q6. How would you see Maleny for future generations:

Q7. Finally is there anything else you would like to add that you feel is important and we have omitted to mention

THE MALENY HISTORY & AND PRESERVATION SOCIETY WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS PROJECT