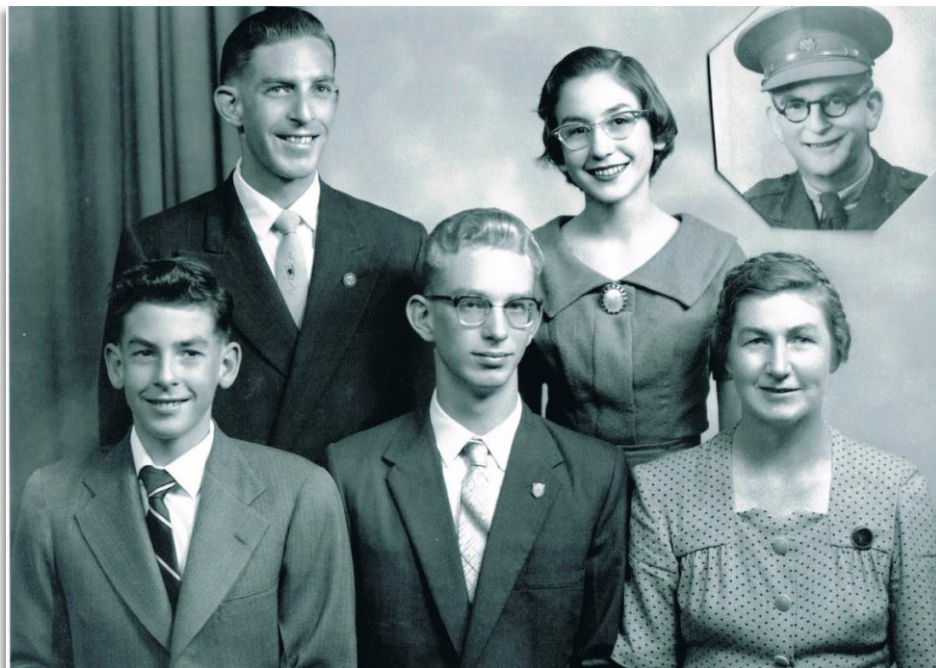


The McHUGH Family

by Alvin McHugh

My father, **Ronald Hugh McHugh**, accepted an invitation to take part in a mission conducted by the Baptist Church in Maleny in 1931. The district of Maleny reminded him of his home state, Tasmania, so at the conclusion of the mission he decided to stay.



Back L-R Alvin, Rowena & Ronald. Front L-R Ian, Ken & Doris

During this period my Mother and Father met and, in due course, were married in Maleny on 31st January 1934. I arrived on 13th March 1935 and in 1936 this young family relocated to The Grange in Brisbane where my Father took up the ministry of the Newmarket/Grange Baptist Church. My sister, **Rowena** was born on 22nd September 1938 in the then new, Royal Brisbane Women's Hospital. Our family continued to reside at The Grange until 1941 when my Father joined the YMCA War Services to do his bit for the war effort.

We relocated back to Maleny and moved into my Great-Grandfather's cottage which was located in what is now called Cedar Street, opposite the Headmaster's house and the Maleny State Primary School. Soon after we arrived back in Maleny, my brother **Ken** was born on 28th October 1941. Then my brother **Ian** arrived on 11th April 1944. So we saw out the duration of the 2nd World War in our Great-Grandfather's cottage witnessing many Army convoys that passed through Maleny and experiencing Air-Raid drills in the slit trenches which had been dug out under the Camphor Laurel trees in the school yard. 1946 saw a dramatic change in the family's circumstances. My Mother became very ill and was hospitalised for about a year. The four of us were taken in and cared for by our Grandmother **Melvena Skerman**. Her home which became our home, was located in what is now known as Coral Street, next door to the old Butter Factory and overlooking the Show Grounds. A new Medical Centre has been built on this site. I left Maleny in 1950 to further my education at Brisbane Grammar School where I was a boarder for two years, then one more year as a day boy. I left school in

December 1952 and joined the Bank of New South Wales (now Westpac) where I was employed for the next 38 years.

In the meantime, in 1951 our family relocated for the last time to Chermside so that Rowena, Ken and Ian could further their education and future careers.

Back – Rowena, Kenneth & Ian
McHugh, Lorraine Dallas.
Front – Vivian Dallas

