

The NEWTON Family

In 1927 **John** and **Nellie Newton** with family **Winnie, Bill, Nellie** and **Fred** arrived to occupy their farm at Curramore bought from **Robert King** the original owner of "*The Selection*" as he called it. They had previously emigrated from Manchester, England in 1913, almost penniless and in Australia took the opportunity to work hard and scrape together sufficient capital to put up the necessary deposit for the farm.

When they started on their farm the weather was cold and wet, as Maleny can no doubt be, reminding them of their home in Manchester where John had been a Dairyman's Assistant working with his father. More hard work and belt tightening ensured that they made it through the depression years. Winnie with **Tom Green** worked a second farm developed on the western end of the property.

Bill with Beryl took over the second farm a few years before the commencement of WW2. Ironically, times were better during the war with increased prices for dairy produce and despite shortages of some materials and services many improvements were made to both farms. Italian prisoners of war made a great contribution. Fred and Mabel operated the original farm during the war; John and Nellie senior were able retire later to Maleny Township.

Joe Metcalfe and Nellie had moved into Maleny Township where Joe worked at Tesch's sawmill from the early 1930's for many years before moving to a farm at Bald Knob. Tom and Winnie had moved to Goomboorian and later Kin Kin before and during WW2. Unfortunately, Tom died in 1948 and Winnie returned and remained living in Maleny, for the rest of her life. Fred and Mabel moved to a farm at Reesville in 1946 where they remained for many years before retiring.

The second farm passed out of the Newtons hands in 1946 and the original farm was sold in 1970, Bill and Beryl retiring to Maleny Township.

Generally it could be said that the Newtons of the second generation prospered and produced a plethora of offspring for the third generation, all of them receiving their early education in Curramore, Witta and/or Maleny Schools.

On reflection, John and Nellie were no doubt pleased with the decision to venture forth for a better life in Australia, in particular Maleny, though accepting that they would most likely never see their family or homeland again – and they didn't.

The second Generation is almost gone with Nellie Metcalfe still living at 103 and Beryl the wife of Bill in her 100th year being the last of that hardy lot. So it will be left to us of the third generation to pass on to those Newtons who are now scattered far and wide that this is where it started and where our roots are – here in Maleny!

John and Nellie's Golden Wedding day, September 1950.
Winnie and Nellie are behind with Fred and Bill at the back.

