

Timeline of Education in Maleny

Before European settlement, the aboriginal people who lived in the dense scrub on the range were from the Nalbo, Dallambarra, Dungidau and Garumnga groups of the Wapa tribe. These groups gathered at Baroon Pocket, on the banks of the Obi Obi Creek, (the name being derived from Ubie Ubie, a famous aboriginal warrior) to feast on Bunya nuts.

- **1840s** Arrival of Europeans on the range. An escaped convict, James Doris, claims to be the first arrival in this area. He was followed by the explorer Ludwig Leichhardt in 1843.
- **1868** The Blackall Range was named after Colonel Sir Samuel Blackall, the Governor of Queensland.
- **1878** Jim Page Junior explores the range in search of red cedar. The first land was selected by Isaac Burgess.
- **1880** White settlement of the Blackall Range begun.
- **1884** Mrs. W. Grigor and Mr. J. McCarthy wrote to the Under-Secretary to the Department of Public Instruction requesting that a school be built on the range.
- **1886** The first school on the range was the Blackall Range Provisional School. It was housed in one of Mr. McCarthy's sheds. William Verrant was the first teacher and he enrolled twelve pupils. In 1937 it became known as the Wootha State School and closed in 1949 after operating for 63 years.
- **1890** First sawmill opened by J & T Lahey.
- **1892** Witta School opened and was closed in 1974 after 82 years. Known originally as the Teutoburg School.
- **1893** "The Great Flood" when nearly a metre of rain fell in just 24 hours. The Obi Obi Creek broke its banks to a point above the present Coral Street.
- **1898** Maleny North State School opened. Mr. Verrant now had to share his time between this new school and the original Blackall Range School. This school closed in 1914 and reopened in a new building in 1922, and finally closed in 1953 after 65 years.
- **1902** Bald Knob School opened and was closed in 1945 after 43 years.
- **1904** Butter factory commenced operations with nineteen farmers supplying milk.
- **1907** Joe Pollock built a hotel on land purchased from Francis Dunlop. When the North Maleny School was closed, it was moved to the rear of the building for use as a kitchen. Francis Dunlop established the first butcher shop on the site of the present primary school.
- **1911** Second butter factory was built when the ceiling of the original building collapsed.
- **1912** Landsborough Shire separated from Caboolture Shire
- **1913** Maleny Central School opened in Cedar St. The land cost £335 of which the local school committee had to raise £67. The first permanent teacher was Mr Burnett Bruce. 32 pupils were enrolled, a week later there were 52 enrolled.
There was an auctioneer, baker, butcher, blacksmith, two contractors, dairy company, hotel, plumber, saddler, saw-miller and two storekeepers. The population was about 510 and a coach service catered for travelers over the 10 miles (16 km) between Landsborough & Maleny.
The first motor car climbed the range to Maleny.

Curramore School opened and was closed in 1939 after 26 years.
- **1917** For seven months it "drizzled rain".
- **1918** The first motor ambulance in use in Maleny
- **1919** Booroobin State School opened and was closed in 1953 after 34 years.
- **1920** Soldier's Memorial Hospital opened as a memorial to those who had served in World War 1.
- **1923** First Maleny Show
- **1933** A measles and influenza epidemic sweeps the district

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- 1936 Followed by whooping cough
- 1939 Third butter factory factory opened.
- 1949 Wootha School closed and the building was moved to the Palmwoods School.
- 1951 School of Arts and adjoining cafe was burnt down.
- 1952 North Maleny School closed and is moved to the Maleny Primary School to become the High School.
- 1954 Maleny Secondary Department opened on the school site in Cedar St. 23 Students were enrolled. The staff was Principal - Herbert Hughes, Teachers - Ernest Whatmough, Janet McRobert & Doreen Brown. The Opening Ceremony was performed by the Hon G Devries, Minister for Education.

Maleny's first policeman, Constable T Lugge was appointed.
- 1957 Secondary Department was moved to a new building on the site of the now primary school. The following year the primary school was moved by trucks to the present site.
- 1959 New School officially opened by the Premier, the Hon Francis Nicklin
Pre School Centre opened
- 1960 Mary Cairncross Park opened
- 1963 Golden Jubilee to commemorate 50 years of Education in Maleny. Principal Ken Edser.
Secondary Department extended to include Years 11 and 12.

14 December. Building Day for the new Kindergarten & Pre School Centre in Cedar St on the old school site. 80 men, working in teams, constructed the building to lock up stage in one day.
- 1964 The new Kindergarten & Pre School in Cedar St was opened by Lady Abel-Smith (wife of the Governor of Qld).
- 1969 20 July Apollo 11 US spaceflight to land humans on the moon.
- 1977 Maleny Playgroup commenced.
- 1978 Maleny celebrated its Centenary. Book "By Obi Waters" published.
- 1979 Butter factory closes
- 1983 "Centenary Pool" opens
- 1986 Last graduates from the Maleny Secondary Department. For 30 years the school had Preschool to Year 12 on one site.
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- 1987 Maleny High School opens on the new site at the top of Bunya Street. First principal Mr R. McAlpine.
- 1988 Maleny Schools commemorate 75 years of Education. The book "Neath Cedar Boughs was published. The first time capsule was buried to be opened in 2013.
- 1995 Ananda Marga River School opened with 23 students at Bridge Creek.
- 1999 Maleny Flexi School opened
- 2000 Second time capsule buried
- 2013 Maleny celebrated a Century of Education. The two time capsules will be opened.