

White Family

This family history, of the involvement of the White family, in Maleny's history was authored in April 2013 by Colin White with the generous help of Audrey May Johnson (nee Holroyd), Clarrie Wilkins and Dorothy Marilyn White (one of Arthur's Granddaughters).

IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR ANCESSORS!

Henry Kirke WHITE (known as Harry) was born 7 July 1880 in Nottingham, England. Harry first came to Australia in or about 1911 / 1912 and then requested his brother Arthur John join him at Woombye. When Arthur and his wife Gertrude Annie WHITE (nee FISHER) arrived in Australia, Arthur purchased land across the road from where the Big Pineapple is now using money given to him by his father Elijah. Elijah and his wife, Mary Jane WHITE (nee SHEPPERSON) never came to Australia.

Harry and Arthur worked the Woombye property growing citrus trees - mandarins, oranges, & lemons. They also had a poultry farm and one large avocado tree. They worked the property together until the outbreak of World War One when Harry joined the Australian Imperial Forces and saw active service at Gallipoli, Turkey on the morning of 25 April 1915 and then the Western Front in France. During this time his brother Arthur, who had the debilitating muscle disease, Paramyotonia Concenita, and could not use his hands properly, stayed on the Woombye property. As a result of being hit with shrapnel in the right chest and lung, on the Western Front, Harry was rehabilitated in England and discharged from the Australian Imperial Forces medically unfit.

Whilst back in England rehabilitating, Harry and his wife, Mable Eveline MEE, were married in Nottingham on 28 October 1915. Harry and Mable had two children in England prior to Harry returning to Australia, by himself, to be with his brother Arthur. Mable and the two children, Eveline Margaret (born 1916) and Audrey May (born 1918) followed at a later date to be together as a family. Young Audrey died at sea during that voyage.

After Mable and Henry were reunited they established their home in the Ashgrove area of Brisbane and had four more children - Francis Elsie WHITE, Kathleen Mable WHITE, Norman Eric Henry WHITE and Stanley Kenneth WHITE. Norman died at age 10 months and Stanley was born some 14 months later in 1924. The family moved to Barcaldine in Western Queensland for a short period for the purpose of a climate change, to aid Harry's breathing. The climate there was also not suitable for Harry, so they returned to the Ashgrove area. Sometime prior to the beginning of World War Two, Harry and Mable along with their three daughters and one son moved to Maleny. The climate in Maleny was good for Harry and they purchased a house on Tamarind Street. The house was named "SunnyHome" and at the time of composing this history, the house still existed, however, somewhat unrecognisable in comparison to the family photographs taken back during the time when Henry owned the property.

Over the years to come:

* Harry worked at the butter factory making butter boxes for the export market and became a close friend with Vic Waddell (owner of Waddell's Drapery in Maleny) and qualified as a Scout Leader within the Maleny Scout Group. Harry undertook the requirements to become a Scout Association Stage 4 Woodbadge holder at Erapah Scout Campsite at Victoria Point in the bay side suburbs of Brisbane. Harry's Stage 4 workbook/notebook is housed at the Wheelhouse Museum at BP Park Scout Campsite at Samford in the outer western area of Brisbane. Harry passed away at Maleny in 1946.

Harrys Family:

* His 1st born, a daughter born in 1916 in England, Eveline Margaret WHITE (known as Evie), was schooled at Maleny and married Ernest Anderson (Ernie) HOLROYD, a Maleny local and had two daughters and one son. Evie and Ernie divorced when their son was 10 months old. The two girls, Elaine Margaret and Audrey May stayed in Maleny and the boy, Raymond Anderson went with Evie to the Beaudesert area. Evie married Herbert James (Herb) LEO and had a second family. Evie's second family consisted of Patrick James LEO, Barry Michael LEO, Bernard (Bernie) John LEO and Ellen Margaret LEO, known as Margaret. Evie's two families did not intermix as Evie did not want her Leo family to know of the existence of the Holroyd family. Ernie farmed his own property in the Baroon Pocket until his death in 1967. Ernie is interred at the Witta Cemetery and Evie is interred at the Glen Eagle Cemetery near Beaudesert.

* Evie's first born, a daughter, Elaine Margaret HOLROYD was born in 1937, schooled and married in Maleny to Clarence Campbell Wilkins a Maleny local. They lived and worked the Wilkins's family dairy farm in the Baroon Pocket, selling it in 1976 to the Rasmussen family who had it resumed for the Baroon Pocket Dam in approximately 1982. At that time, the Wilkins's family then moved onto Gowland's farm, also in the Baroon Pocket which was formally owned by Bob Rough. Clarrie Snr managed it until retiring to Burrum Heads, north of Hervey Bay to enjoy their pursuits of fishing, crabbing, lawn bowls and socializing. The 5 Wilkins children, Clarence Ernest (Clarrie), Rodney John (Rod), Lynette Margaret (Lyn), Jennifer Dawn (Jen), and William Ian Douglas (Bill) were all born and schooled in Maleny. All the 2nd generation Wilkins children left Maleny as adults and Clarrie was the only one to return to Maleny. Clarrie and his wife, Vivien Ester (Bubs) DUNN, and his first born child (Clarence Andrew) lived in the Maleny area from 1977 to 1978. After that time, Clarrie and his family moved to Gladstone in Queensland where Clarrie became the Scout Leader for the Dolphin Sea Scout Group and qualified to become Scout Association Scout Association Stage 4 Woodbadge holder at Seonee Scout Campsite, Rockhampton. Thereafter, the Wilkins children only ever returned to visit Maleny. All the 2nd generation Wilkins' had children and none returned to Maleny.

* Evie's 2nd born, a daughter, Audrey May HOLROYD, was born in 1941, schooled and married in Maleny to Neville Douglas KUNOWSKI, a Maleny local. They had four children, all born in Maleny – Michael Warren, George Ernest, Joanne Marie and Belinda Ann. Audrey left Maleny with her family in 1968 and she returned regularly to visit. Audrey and the Kunowski children only ever visited Maleny and never returned to live in Maleny.

* Evie's 3rd born, a son Raymond Anderson HOLROYD, was born in the Nambour Hospital in 1944. He was brought up thinking his Dad was Herbert LEO, Evie's 2nd husband, and when he obtained his Birth Certificate to obtain his car drivers licence, he discovered the identity of his real father. Ray met his younger sister, Audrey, in about 1990 and they developed a close relationship until Ray's death in 2009. To the family's knowledge, Ray never met his real father or his older sister, Elaine or had any involvement with Maleny.

* Harrys 2nd born, a daughter, born 1918 in England, Audrey May WHITE died at 9 months old, on the 9 October 1918, during the family relocation voyage to Australia and was buried at sea that same day.

* Harry's 3rd born, a daughter, born in 1919 in Brisbane, Francis Elsie WHITE (known as Elsie). Elsie was schooled at the Bald Knob and Maleny schools and married William (Bill) ROSE at Landsborough and settled in Maleny. Elsie and Bill had no family. Bill a butcher, worked for McKillop's Butchers in their shop (Coral Street) which was on the site where the Maleny Library is now. Elsie and Bill relocated to Brisbane in the early 1960's. Elsie attended the 75th year School Celebrations at the Maleny School in 1988.

* Harry's 4th born, a daughter, born in 1920 in Brisbane, Kathleen Mable WHITE (known as Kath), was schooled in Maleny and married an out of townner, mothered 5 children and they nor she ever returned to Maleny. When Kath died in 2004, she had been married three times and divorced twice.

* Harry's 5th born, a son, born in 1923 in Brisbane and died 1923, Norman Eric Henry WHITE.

* Harry's 6th born, a son, born in 1924 in Brisbane, Stanley Kenneth WHITE married an out of townner, Jessie Emma Zillah CARROLL, and fathered 6 children. After some schooling in Maleny, Stanley qualified as a draftsman in Brisbane. When his father Henry died, Stanley sold the SunnyHome property in Tamarind Street. Stanley served, as a draftsman, in the Army during World War Two at Charters Towers, Townsville and Lae in New Guinea. After the war he returned to his trade and had a house built for his family at Wavell Heights in Brisbane. In 1953, Stanley wanted to try his hand at dairy farming, so, he sold the Wavell Heights property and took on share farming for relatives of his wife at Barney View, near Beaudesert. After a short time, in 1954, he with his wife and then 3 children relocated to Foxton's dairy farm at 171 Witta Road. Again after a short time, in 1956 / 1957, he with his wife and then 4 children relocated to the Tesch Brothers dairy farm at 418 Witta Road. Stanley, like his Dad before him, became good friends with Vic Waddell and served as the Chairman of the Maleny Scout Group. After leaving Witta in 1964 Stanley lived at Virginia and Nundah in Brisbane then Warana and Palmwoods on the Sunshine Coast. Stanley attended the 75th year School Celebrations at the Maleny School in 1988. He died at Erowal Nursing Home, Maleny in 2008.

*Stanley's 1st born, a son, born in 1944 in the South Grafton Hospital, NSW, Kenneth Norman WHITE did his later years of schooling in Maleny and then qualified as an Aircraft Engineer with Ansett ANA in Melbourne, Victoria. Once Ken left school, he never returned to live in Maleny. He did however, maintain his farming interests and purchased a property at Cedar Creek, via Gympie and raised beef cattle until his untimely death in 1988. Ken married a girl from Essendon, Victoria and fathered 2 children (a girl - Carol Judith and a boy – Brian Kenneth) who never became involved in the Maleny community. Ken attended the 75th year School celebrations at the Maleny School in 1988, a few months prior to his death. Upon his death, Ken had left instructions that he be buried at the Witta Cemetery which is across the road from the Witta Hall, where he had broken one of his front teeth, that tooth was capped with a gold filling. Obviously, that Witta Hall held a special importance to Ken!

* Stanley's 2nd born, a son, born in 1945 in the South Grafton Hospital, NSW, Ronald Leslie WHITE did some of his schooling in Maleny and then qualified as Aircraft Engineer with Ansett ANA in Melbourne, Victoria. Once Ron left school, he never returned to live in Maleny. Ron married a girl from Port Fairy, Victoria and fathered 3 children (2 girls – Julie Maree and Wendy Denise and a boy – Paul Ronald) who never became involved in the Maleny community. In the 1960's Ron became the Scout Leader for the 12th Essendon Scout Group in Melbourne. Ron did attend the 75th year School Celebrations at the Maleny School in 1988. As at 2013, Ron was living at Patterson Lakes in Victoria.

* Stanley's 3rd born, a son, born in 1947 at the Royal Brisbane Hospital, Barry WHITE did all of his schooling in Maleny and was in the first year of Grade 11s and Grade 12s. In 1964, whilst in Grade 12, Barry entered a model plane into the hobbies section of the Maleny Show and won 1st prize. The model plane was build out of a balsawood kit and was fitted with a small engine that had to be started by flicking the propeller with ones fingers. The model was controlled by wires as it was prior to the radio control types of today. Barry joined the Royal Australia Air Force and qualified as an Officer with an engineering Degree. Once Barry left school, he never returned to live in Maleny. Barry married a girl from England in Canberra, ACT and fathered 2 children (a girl – Kylie Sheila and a boy – Brett Barry) who never became involved in the Maleny

community. As at 2013 Barry was living at Canberra, ACT. Barry maintained his contact with his Maleny heritage by attending all the school reunions held at Maleny.

* Stanley's 4th born, a son, born in 1955 in the Maleny Hospital, Colin WHITE, started Grade 1 at Maleny School in 1961 and left Maleny whilst in Grade 4 in 1964 to relocate to Virginia in Brisbane with the family. Once Colin left Maleny, he never returned to live in Maleny, however, he did maintain an interest in visiting Maleny as often as he could. Colin married a girl from Banyo in Brisbane and fathered 1 child (a boy – Christopher Colin) who never became involved in the Maleny community. As at 2013 Colin was living at Nambour, Qld. In the 1970's Colin became the Scout Leader for the 12 Essendon Scout Group in Melbourne, Victoria and qualified to become Scout Association Scout Association Stage 4 Woodbadge holder at the Gilwell Park Scout Campsite in the Dandenong Ranges of Victoria. After returning to Queensland in 1975, Colin became Scout Leader for the East Chermside Sea Scout Group for a couple of years, then, in the 1990's served the Burnside Scout Group in Nambour as Group Chairman then Group Leader then Scout Leader over a period of several years. Colin maintained his contact with his Maleny heritage by attending all the school reunions, involving his class.

* Stanley's 5th born, a son, born in 1958 in the Maleny Hospital, Graham Alan WHITE, started Grade 1 at Maleny School in 1964 and left Maleny that same year to relocate to Virginia in Brisbane with the family. Once Graham left Maleny, he never returned to live in Maleny and never become involved in any of the Maleny reunions. During his lifespan, Graham married two Brisbane girls and did not have children. He divorced his 1st wife because of her unfaithfulness, and divorced his second wife to live in a same sex relationship. As at 2013, Graham, who changed his name by dead poll to Sean Graham Carroll, was living at Morayfield, near Caboolture.

* Stanley's 6th born, a daughter, born in 1964 at the Nundah Private Hospital, Brisbane. Shirley only ever visited Maleny when Stanley, his wife, Colin and Graham visited the family friends - Ian and Marge Matthie who were dairy farmers on Mountain View Road. During that family visit, Shirley was savaged by the Matthie dog, a working border collie. Shirley died prematurely as a result of an in-operatable brain tumour aged 41. The Matthie's farmed the Ayrshire breed of dairy cattle and their property held stud status. The Big Cow at Yandina was modelled on one of the Matthie's cows.