

Memories of School in Maleny

by **Betty M. TRIM** (nee **Alcorn**) Born 1924

- Primary School 1931 – 1937
- Last Headmaster – **Mr. Goodsall**
- Most Memorable Teacher – **Miss. Kingsford** (Kindergarten) & Mr. John Mogridge (Mid school)

One of my memories was being taken over to **Mr. Mogridge's** house to listen to the Coronation from his home radio (circa 1936). He was recently married at that time. I started school at a later age (7) than most because I had to wait until someone else could accompany me to school from the farm "*Bonnie View*", which was about 2.5 miles NW of Maleny on the Witta Road. The only way to school at that time was by horse or walking. **Les Boyland** was the son of share farmers on my parent's property at the time and so I 'doubled' behind Les! Eventually a quiet horse was found for me.

The School had a horse paddock of a couple of sloping acres where we would leave the horses during the school day. I remember at about age 10 when I had my own horse, named '*Bonny*'. I used to struggle to catch her on damp days as she was a very flighty horse. One day I had to call my father from the headmaster's house to drive into town to come and help me catch the horse. My father wasn't too agreeable because it was in the middle of milking time. As I grew older it was my job to bring in the horses before leaving for school – chasing them over half the farm which was 110 acres, misty weather and all. Of course it was very exciting riding home from school. We kept to the verge but not much traffic in those days – timber trucks and cars (most of which we knew). The horses in particular were glad to race home. A visiting music teacher (from Nambour) visited once a week, giving lesson's in the School of Arts.

Both my sister Grace and I spent a couple of years 1938 – 39, at boarding school in Warwick. Grace spent her 1st year past primary at Nambour Rural School. I remember the 30's with very poor farming incomes, so it took penny pinching to be able to send two daughters away. Social life for teenagers during the 30's was very restricted – tennis providing the only non-team sport (football for the boys and those old enough having to return home for milking). The War Years followed the difficult 30's then my father died in 1943 with a heart attack after cranking our Buick car, on his way to church!



Betty Trim (Alcorn) circled