

The EGAN Family

by Maureen Glover (nee Egan)

The association of the Egan family with the Maleny community began with the arrival of **Charles**, son of **Patrick Egan** and **Elizabeth Scollen** (both born in Ireland). Charles had a cream run in NSW, from Wandandian to Nowra but sold it to take up dairying. Maleny, 'the dairyman's paradise' was his choice so, in August 1915 he purchased **Arthur Thomason's** farm at North Maleny.

With Charles came his wife **Louisa Jane** (daughter of **Andrew Myers** and **Sarah Newton** of Milton NSW) and their three children – **Cecil Vivian**, **Ella Mary** and **Reginald Charles**. The children were all among the first pupils when the North Maleny School opened.

Charles first partners on the new farm were his sister **Mary** and her husband **William Loadsman**. Soon Louisa's parents arrived and the partnership became 'Egan & Myers'. Some Myers siblings also settled in Maleny, as did **Margaret Guthrie**, cousin to Charles.

After the death of Charles in 1948 his sons continued to farm the property. Their children – **Valerie**, daughter of Cecil and Vera (Simmonds) and **Maureen** and **John**, children of Reg and Jean (Smith), attended the same school as their fathers had done. Maureen and John were pupils when the school closed. They continued their education at Maleny Primary and then Secondary schools. Their secondary years being spent in the old North Maleny School building that had been trucked to Maleny to become the first 'High Top'.

Charles, Louisa Jane, their sons and daughters-in-law, the Myers parents, and some cousins all rest in the Witta Cemetery.



Charles & Louisa Jane EGAN standing in front of "Kemberton" their North Maleny home.
Sitting – L: Patricia Champion holding Maureen. Miss Champion was Head Teacher, North Maleny School 1943 – 1947. She boarded with the Egan family. R: Ella Egan holding John