

# The ELDER Family

**Ken and Una Elder** came to Bald Knob in 1921. Ken was from New Zealand but had fought with the Australian forces at Gallipoli, Egypt and France and was wounded badly in France. Una came from Forbes, New South Wales and was a physiotherapist. They cleared the land on a small block and first established bananas. Following a glut of bananas they tried many small crops including beans, tomatoes, pecan nuts, ginger and tea tree oil but eventually ended up with a small dairy farm with firstly pigs, then poultry, to use the skim milk.

It was a great struggle for them but they loved living in the countryside. Ken and Una had two daughters, **Robin** and **Jean**. Robin married **Barry Simpson** and they had four sons, **Peter, John, David** and **Tim**. There are now nine great-grandchildren and most of them live at Bald Knob. Barry and Robin Simpson bought the **Lambton** farm next door and farmed the two properties together. They had poultry at first but when the Maleny Butter Factory changed to take full cream milk, they relied solely on dairying. The family holdings are now much greater and their milk is supplied to Maleny Cheese. After working as a scientist at The Animal Research Institute, Jean now lives in the 90 year old family home. The grandchildren include an engineer, a dairy farmer, an expert fencer and a plasterer. The great-grandchildren include a speech therapist, an engineering student, a diesel mechanic, an Emerald Agricultural College graduate and students in Theatre and Aircraft Maintenance.



**Front Row:** L-R James, Heather, David (holding Tess), Robin, Daniel (behind), Barry, Matthew (behind), Tim (holding Lachlan), Jenny, Amy (front), Christopher.  
**Back Row:** L-R Jean, John, Kathryn, Peter (holding Michael). Later addition William

**Below:** Ken & Robin Elder on horse-drawn sledge.



**Below:** Una Elder on her horse 'Blue'.

