

Tom Malone

Tom was born on 12 September 1929 in Warwick, eventually he became the second youngest in a family of 10. His parents, Jim & Annie, were farmers at Freestone. To buy a bigger farm, the family shifted to Kokotongo in the Dawson Valley where they'd selected a block. This eventually proved unviable. The family decided to buy a dairy farm at Kiamba and Jim & Annie with their 3 younger children, Genny (Finter), Tom & Rita (Kane), started dairy farming. The children attended the Kiamba School, they walked two and a half miles along the Kiamba Road. The dairy farm was sold after almost 4 years, the family took on share farming at Bridges and the children attended the Yandina School. This farm was sold and the family moved to another share farm half way between North Arm & Eumundi. Tom sat for his scholarship exam at Yandina in 1942, he passed but was never advised of his success until 6 months later. A fact he never forgot as he continued to farm and missed the opportunity to go to High School.



Kiamba SS c 1940

Back - Doris Atkinson, Genny Malone, Jean Berry, Miss Henry
 Second - Gordon Love, Tom Malone, Alton Hayward, Pat Schmidt, Alan Parnell, Bobbie Berry, Tom Atkinson
 Third - Gladys Schmidt, Mabel Atkinson, Rita Malone, Muriel English, Josie Love, Hazel Parnell
 Front - Maurice Haywood, Lionel Schmidt & Billy Parnell

Tom's parent's bought a fruit farm at Woombye which Tom worked. He got a job at the Nambour Sugar Mill, then worked for a fertiliser company. He was stationed in North Queensland for a time.

He married Desley Neilen in 1964. He eventually bought Desley's parent's transport business in Maleny where he still lives. He became a qualified motor mechanic and after selling the transport business, worked at the macadamia nut farm repairing farm machinery for many years. Tom & Desley have 2 children and 6 grandchildren.



Tom continues to enjoy his retirement. He's had many overseas trips and been a "grey nomad" for many years. He's belonged to Rotary, SES, Vinnies, is the Fire Warden and continues to keep busy.