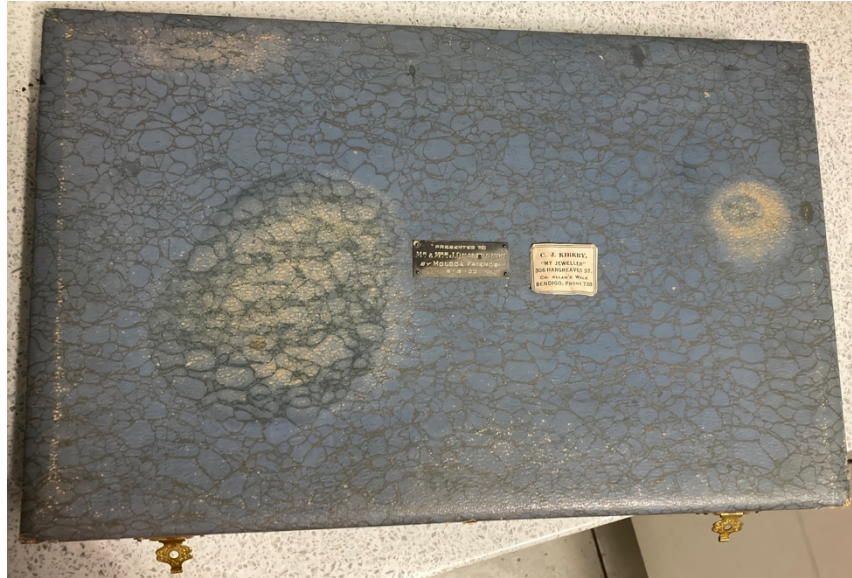


## Notes on Henry Thomas (Jack) Qualtrough of Bendigo

CUTLERY SET and NEWSPAPER ARTICLE presented to the Bendigo Historical Society June 2024 by the Qualtrough Family. The cutlery set was donated to the Bendigo Historical Society by his Grandson Barry Qualtrough and his wife Anna.



Cutlery set presented to Mr and Mrs J Qualtrough by Mologa Friends 8/9/1933



# Notes on Henry Thomas (Jack) Qualtrough of Bendigo

CUTLERY SET and NEWSPAPER ARTICLE presented to the Bendigo Historical Society June 2024 by the Qualtrough Family

Henry (Jack) was born 5/4/1888 – Died 1971 He married Elsie May Powell 10/11/1913 at St Pauls in Bendigo

Elsie May Powell was born 18/6/1895 She died in 1975

Jack was raised on an orchard by his Grand-Parents at Wattle Glen. He left home and worked in the bush for most of his life before retiring in 1953.

Jack worked at many jobs including the construction of the Burrinjuck Dam in NSW, sleeper cutting up at Nyah, and at the Government Camp at Redcastle, near Heathcote and around Majors Line near Tooberac. His name appeared at many shows and fetes that had wood chop contests.

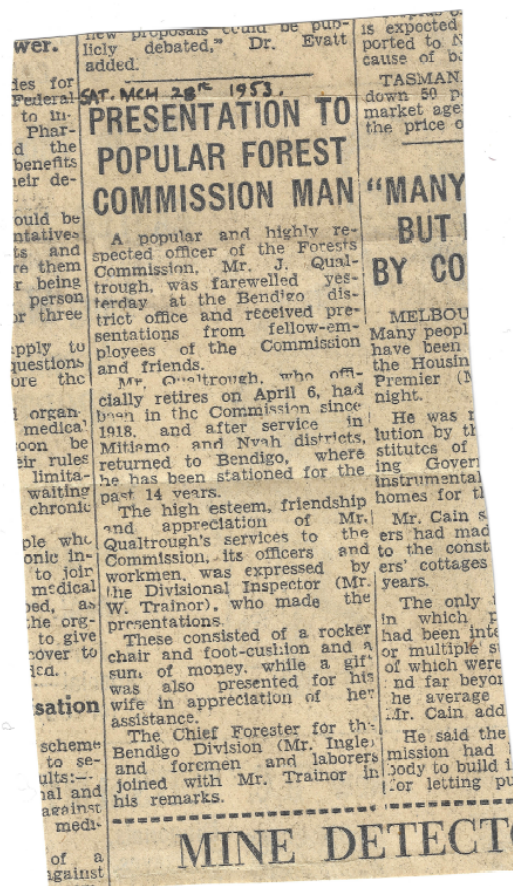


Jack and Elsie lived with Elsie's Parents, George and Martha Powell, orchardists at Grassy Flat in Bendigo before he took on

Forester in charge of the Government Work Camp at Mologa, a township in the Mallee North of Bendigo and beside the Terrick Terrick native pine forest.

Elsie's Mother was the daughter of Archibald Campbell, also of Grassy Flat and a wood carter

In 1933 with a large family; they returned to Bendigo and lived at 237 (Now 44) Belle Vue Road in Golden Square. The people of Mologa presented them with a CUTLERY SET when they left the district.





For the next 20 years Jack worked for the Forests Commission and was in charge of the Kimbolton Forest, between Bendigo and Eppalock.

The NEWSPAPER Article gives an insight into the popularity and respect that he had from all who knew him.

The photo above is of Jack (25) and Elsie (18) on their wedding day - 10th November 1913 at St Pauls Cathedral, Bendigo, Victoria, Australia.

Below Left to Right: George T Powell (Elsie's Father), Jack Qualtrough, Elsie May Powell, and perhaps Arthur Powell? (Elsie's Brother)



Left to Right: George T Powell (Elsie's Father), Jack Qualtrough, Elsie May Powell, and perhaps Arthur Powell? (Elsie's Brother)

Elsie and Henry in 1945 at  
237 (now 44) Belle Vue  
Road Golden Square



Henry Thomas (Jack) with his youngest son Alan  
Qualtrough (about 1970)





## **Notes by his Daughter Lila Qualtrough (Fuller) April 2001 - Updated by his Grandson Malcolm in May 2016**

### **Before Bendigo:**

After the turn of the 20th century Jack worked and lived around Majors Line near Tooborac, Victoria. He is mentioned in many newspaper articles as competing in wood chopping events at local shows and sports days. Elsie Powell lived with her parents, George Thomas Powell and Mary Martha Campbell at or near Costerfield, North East of Heathcote and near Majors Line.

George Powell eventually took over his father's orchard at Grassy Flat on McIvor Road near the corner of Powells Road which is named after them in Bendigo. Mary Martha's father Archibald was a farmer and worked for the Powells as a wood carter and he lived opposite them in Grassy Flat.

Elsie's mother left home and took her and her sister Gertrude to Western Australia where Elsie attended a convent school. George Powell eventually took them back in. Between 1903 and 1909, Mary Martha left again or was divorced. She lived with one of her sons we think, Albert Charles Powell at No 7 Bridge Street, Bendigo. Mary died at the Bendigo hospital of acute rheumatism when she was 48 years old on the 7th April 1914. George Powell married Mrs Maud Alice Fitzpatrick who died in 1930.

George died in 1945 and he is buried in the Bendigo Cemetery with Mrs Fitzpatrick's daughter Alice.

We lived in McIvor Road next door to Mum's father, George Thomas Powell, and his second wife Alice Fitzpatrick. (The early 1920s) Their property was on the corner of McIvor Road and Powell Road, Grassy Flat. One or two blocks closer to the city lived George's older brother Tom Powell and his wife - their orchard property was bounded by high black-berry hedges - where women wearing old-fashioned sun-bonnets - and atop quite high ladders would be busily employed filling billies (made from 7 pound Golden Syrup Tins) - the luscious ripe fruit - in cream.

Another brother Jim Powell had an orchard several blocks East in Powell Road (I think the road name was changed later).

Grandad had a lovely orchard - growing apples, pears, peaches, etc. and fodder for the animals - several cows (Jerseys I think) and Tommy - a little old horse whose task it was to pull the buggy back and forth to the city.

Grandad cut the grass with a scythe and it was fascinating to watch him sharpening the long blade with a large honing stone, and then see the grass parting.

Grandma set the milk in large shallow bowl on the stove - then skimmed off the beautiful clotted cream. In season ripe peaches and small tins of ice-cream 1/- (one shilling) were sold at Gundry's store next door to the Lyric Theatre in High Street.

Tommy's pace to the shops was quite sedate; but once homeward bound and atop the McIvor Road Hill - he'd have been a contender for the Melbourne Cup!

Beside Grandad's there was a vacant paddock, probably where the animals were grazed - then came our home. Of my life there, my memories are - of Jack (my oldest brother) and perhaps my other brother Will too - crying with tooth-ache and perhaps ear-ache - in front of an open fire in the evening.

We were playing in the paddock one afternoon - probably Jack, Will and I, and perhaps my sister Molly as well - there was a horse and gig at the front gate and someone, a man, walking towards the house which was set back some way from the road. There was a new baby - must have been Alan (born 1924) - and still in my mind I remember thinking the doctor must have brought that baby in the large shallow china bowl that babies were always bathed in!

### Memories of "Cocky" (Cockatoo)

He would follow as Dad planted beans or pea seeds - picking each one out again along the rows - persistently ignoring dire warnings of trouble.

Once Dad picked up a green tomato and threw it - breaking Cocky's leg - and forever after the bird walked with a limp. One day mum was greeted at the front door by two irate old ladies.

Driving sedately along McIvor Road, beneath a large Ironbark tree near the front gate they were affronted to be treated to some rather unprintable remarks from "Those renegade two boys - Jack and Will!" Of course the culprit was the "Cocky" whose vocabulary was rather remarkable.



The boys were well known to the wood-cutters and they often arrived home atop a dray-load of logs being horse drawn to the city - having spent all day wandering in the forest in preference to going to school!

Photo Above: Elsie and Henry in 1947

Photo Left: Eldest son Jack – during World War 2



Left: Eldest son Jack, below William Arthur Qualtrough (1916-1922) Right and Below: John Thomas (Jack) Qualtrough (1914-2004)



## Mologa

Photos of the Mologa State School were kindly provided by <https://www.pyramidhill.net.au/pyramidhill-museum>

I think the Forestry Commission probably already employed Dad. In about 1925 or 26 he was sent to Mologa to take charge of Terrick Terrick Forest. I think we started school at the old Central Mologa site probably only a short while before the new school was built beside the railway line.

The Forestry Commission had built a home where we lived quite comfortably in-or rather right beside that lovely Terrick Terrick pine forest until about 1933 when Dad was moved back to Bendigo.



Lila Qualtrough on the Left, and sister Maude (Mollie Qualtrough), 4th from Right  
Mologa (formerly Mologa East) State School in 1930





Son Jack Qualtrough in the Left of Photo at Mologa State School 1927



Molga State School No 1836 Year 1929

Back Row: Lila Qualtrough, Neil Phillips, Marie Gavin, Ruth Johnson, Dorothy Fyffe,  
 Dorothy Jones Second Row: Bernie Fyffe, ? , Mollie Qualtrough, Jean Bausch, Nina  
 Windridge, Eileen Jones, Moira Sherlock, Joyce Fyffe  
 Third Row: Lena Alford, Heather Johnson, ?,?,?  
 Front Row: Fred Bausch, Alan Qualtrough, Dave Williams, Roy Gamble, Bob Qualtrough





Molga State School No 1836 Year 1929

Back Row: Alan Qualtrough, Marie Gavin, Jim Sherlock, Ruth Johnson, Dorothy Fyffe  
 Second Row: Moira Sherlock, Eileen Jones, Mollie Qualtrough, Nina Stewart, ? , Dorethy Jones, LilaQualtrough Front: ????

Mologa State School 1929

Back: Jim Sherlock, Dave Williams, Jack Gavin, Alan Qualtrough, Eddie Sherlock, Bernie Fyffe  
 Front: Fred Bausch, Roy Gamble, Bob Qualtrough







Mologa State School No 1836 in 1929

Back Row: Nell Phillips, Dorothy Fyffe, Ruth Johnson, Jean Bausch, Nina Windridge, Merle Williams, Dorothy Jones, Lila Qualtrough

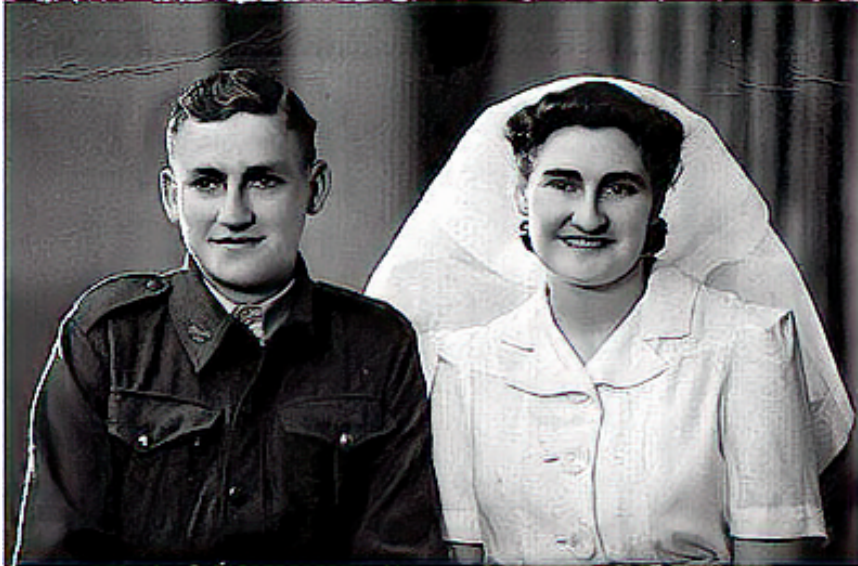
Front: Mollie Qualtrough, ? , Lena Alford, Joyce Fyffe, Heather Johnson, Sheila Johnson, ? , Eileen Jones



Alan Qualtrough at the Mologa State School about 1929

**The family moved to 237 Belle Vue Road in Golden Square;** the house, a large red-brick residence, on about an acre was formally a mine-manager's residence (Robert Lisle). The house was re-numbered to 44 about 1960

Brother William died in 1922. He contracted blood-poisoning from a pulled tooth.



Lila and brother Alan Qualtrough in 1942

Lila Qualtrough (born 1920) was trained as a nurse at the Bendigo Base Hospital.

She married George Fuller and they lived for many years in Leeton, NSW and then Melbourne and Adelaide.





Right: Lila with her mother Elsie May and her sister-in-law Betty Qualtrough in 1946



Below: Second youngest daughter Nina Qualtrough married Roy Furness and lived at Sutton Grange, where Roy was the water Bailiff.

Later they owned and managed the Colibinabbin Hotel in central Victoria and then the Limerick Castle Hotel in Bendigo.





Four Qualtrough Sisters and their Mother:

Back Row: Margaret (Qualtrough) Mathers, Malcolm Qualtrough, Molly (Qualtrough) Burke, Elsie (Powell) Qualtrough, Lynette Burke, Lila (Qualtrough) Fuller;

Front Row: Mick Burke (on ground), Roy Furness, Susan Furness, Joy Marie Fuller, Nina (Qualtrough) Furness at the Burke's house in Sunshine, Victoria in about 1958



Elsie May Powell (Qualtrough) with her grandson Malcolm and Jillian Martin (Qualtrough) on 30th March 1974 at Swan Hill, Victoria.



## **Lila Continues:**

I had only three months at Golden Square State School - gained a merit certificate then left school to be a 'help mate' to Mum whose health was not good. I nursed her for three winters when she succumbed to severe bouts of bronchitis.

Dad became very ill with pneumonia in the early Bendigo years during a very bad flu epidemic - it was likened then to the 1919 epidemic known as the 'Bubonic Flu'. Poor Mum - we kids were all ill - Dad was admitted to the Bendigo Base Hospital with pneumonia and the doctors told her he wouldn't survive!

God be praised - he did recover, and came home singing the praises of the "wonderful angels who looked after him in heaven." Yes those beautiful starched organized cap tails, we trained nurses were privileged to wear, were something to be proud of.

In regards to Dad's childhood years I remember he would speak lovingly of Uncle Harry, Auntie Emily and "The Old Doctor" at Wattle Glen. Perhaps the latter owned the orchard that was talked of. Dad certainly knew a lot about growing both fruit and vegetables.

He worked at cutting sleepers in along the Murray River - his much loved river where he lived in a tent - loved early morning swims, fishing and I think the company of other sleeper cutters. He'd say "A man would never starve so long as he had some potatoes, onions and a fishing line!"

Quite likely he was already employed at this time by the Forestry commission and left cutting sleepers to be placed in charge of some of the Forest Areas around Bendigo (Kimbolton Forest towards what is now Lake Eppalock). He certainly knew and loved the entire area - was keen on wood cutting competitions and was, I think well-known in that area. He certainly could "make the chips fly" with his specially sharpened axe.