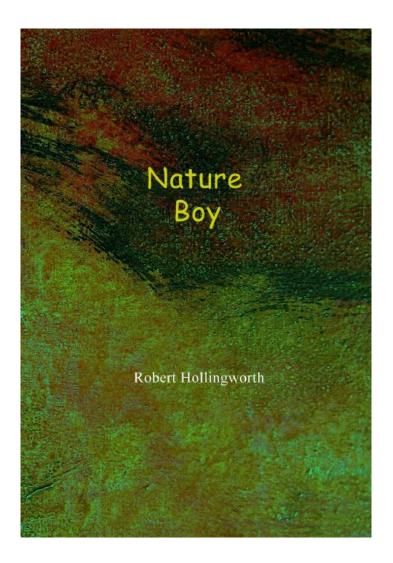
Nature Boy

by Robert Hollingworth 2004

The author, born at Lorne, Victoria, is growing up a fifth generation country boy in the fifties, totally oblivious to life's possibilities – until he discovers modern art at the age of thirty-three...



A working class English family arrive in Australia in 1852, not by choice, but because of an unforeseen catastrophe of historical significance. They are the author's own forebears.

This story begins as Hollingworth looks back on these early selectors who take up virgin bushland on the West Coast of Victoria. With insight and sensitivity, he tells the story of these family generations and the events that lead him towards contemporary art 150 years later...

Although it is about the author's own personal journey towards Australian art and culture, it is this country's story too as it rises out of colonialism and encounters the modern world, gradually learning to recognize such things as Aboriginal culture, the unique natural environment and its own place in the world.