



DEEP RIVER (of the Sealers)

1862

Giblett settled in Manjimup area...Giblett Forest Block in forest later named after him.

to Crystal Springs. Their cattle track crossed Frankland and Deep Rivers and Bell Brook... Camp at Crystal Springs still there (2013).

1868

West Australian convicts: 10 January – “Hougoumont” was the last ship with 229 convicts aboard. Many freed men moved to farming country.

Blechynden Lease was from Point Nuyts – Deep River – Mount Clare...held 1870-1890.

1871

Governor Weld went by horse from Albany – Busselton via Broke and Walpole on tour of inspection of Southern Districts...found stock on coastal hills... accompanied by Andrew Muir, Police Orderly and Aborigine. Weld named Weld River...Andrew Muir named ‘My River’. Weld Forest Block is named after this Governor.

1869

Muir et al already grazing cattle on coastal hills...ticket-of-leave men used as shepherds. John Mottram, stockman/ticket-of-leave man settled at ‘Peppermint Grove’ on Warren River.

Weld was Governor between 1869-1875...Weld Forest Block named after him...he proposed long-term leases (Concessions) for timber companies in order to attract investors...last concession expired in 1929.

1877

Baron Von Mueller and Andrew Muir (Deeside) collected botanical specimens on coastal hills (via Broke).

1870's

William and Tom Moir settled at “Mannerup”. They used Landors’ slab hut south of Deep River mouth when they brought cattle to the coast. Their lease was from Long Point to Point Nuyts

1879

Baron Von Mueller’s “Report of the Forest Resources of WA” published...warned about wholesale clearing of land for agriculture in the South West...Forest resources were not inexhaustible.

1880's

Walpole, Rest Point: Timber cutting in area...4 saw-pits/ballast...shallowdraft vessels used to negotiate Nornalup Inlet mouth...small scale operation.

Oysters bagged and shipped to Albany...venture failed.

1886

Chief Surveyor HF Johnston and police party left Vasse to examine timber country around Nornalup Inlet and Deep River...became Surveyor-General from 1896-1915.

1887

Bert Saw born in Albany...parents Thomas and Eliza Saw (Later at Bow Bridge).

1890

Baron Von Mueller made a plea for flora and fauna reserves in the South West.

1891

Two Houses of Parliament formed in Western Australia.

1892

Bayley and Ford pegged claim – Coolgardie...the need for timber in the gold fields was a boon to timber companies in the South West.

1893

Hannan pegged claim – Kalgoorlie.

Map of Pastoral Leases and Reserves on Western Australia's South-west coastal dunes produced.

1895

Agricultural Bank of Western Australia opened its doors.

1896

Thomas and Edwin Hughes squatted at Broke Inlet...fishermen.

Premier John Forrest tabled Crown Lands Timber Bill to restrict large scale exploitation of the State's timber resources.

1898

The Land Act (drastically altered 1896 Bill) was passed...allowed exploitation.

London based company given Special Timber Licence over 300,000 acres...Broke Inlet – Hilltop – Giants – Great Southern Railway (Albany).

Millars Karri and Jarrah Forests Ltd...60,000 acres...west of Deep River – Walpole Inlet area.

In 1903 during a Timber industry recession many leases were abolished including Walpole – Nornalup.

1899

Permanent Reserves Act designated A, B & C Class Reserves...Walpole – Nornalup eventually given C Class Reserve status.

Crown Timber Act became law...Premier, John Forrest.

Timber licences (large scale) issued to Millars Karri & Jarrah Forests Ltd ...conditions not met...eventually forfeited...milling had begun in Denmark area.

Pierre Bellanger landed at Fremantle...Married Winifrede.

The crew of the "Dunskey" helped rescue survivors from the "City of York" in July, Rottnest. The "Dunskey" sailed between Albany and Fremantle. After 1911 carried goods and passengers to Nornalup Inlet...wrecked at mouth of Wilson Inlet, 1917.

1901

Federation

1903

"Escort" (coastal shipping) wrecked at Rocky Point near Nornalup Inlet.

1906

Hounslows' two leases; Knolls/Coalmine and Deep River mouth to coast lapsed..."Industrial Co-operative Farm Colony" to Nornalup failed... Settlers had trekked to within 7 miles of Walpole.

FS Brockman (Chief Inspecting Surveyor) classified land...Blackwood River – Wilsons Inlet including Nornalup for timber, dairy, fruit industries.

1908

Pierre and Andre Bellanger rode overland from Albany and stopped at Quarram shepherd's hut...next day reached Frankland River and chose a farm site. Madame Bellanger (Winifrede) in Toodyay with children...George (b 1902), Louise (b 1903), Muriel (b 1907).

First oil well in Western Australia...mouth of Warren River...at "The Colonel's".

First T model Ford produced...several settlers in the district owned these before WWII.

Thomas Saw investigated land at Bow River...took up 4 blocks.

Harry Parker pegged his selection at Kent River.

Town of Manjimup surveyed.

1909

January: Bert Saw & his uncle WJ Cooper made first camp at Bow River, built shingle huts...WJ Cooper brought first cows to the Bow...cows got 'Coastie' disease. Bert Saw and Harry Parker built first bush bridge at Kent River.

Captain Douglas "Grace Darling" landed Pierre Bellanger and three men at Nornalup Inlet to prepare farm house site up the Frankland River near Freshwater Creek.

1910

Frank Skinner Thompson sailed from England to Western Australia...family followed later.

Chief Surveyor Brockman's Report (Annual

Publication) after he travelled 10 miles down Frankland River to the Nornalup Inlet...expressed enthusiasm for agriculture in the rich soil of the Karri forest...this appealed to the tree fellers as well as the farmers.

Australia Post 100 years.

Australian Treasury allowed to issue paper money...Australian Bank Notes Act.

Bob Nockolds arrived in Denmark with wife Jessie...Bakery set up.

Mail from Denmark brought on pack horse to Harry Parker's at Kent River.

Bellanger family arrived from Albany on board the "Grace Darling"...Pierre, Winifrede and 4 children...Maude (b 1910 Albany)...landed at Nornalup Inlet mouth and set up 'Depot' 100 metres north of Skippy Rock...accompanied by Charlie Benson (Carpenter) and Dorothy Reece (Governess). Andre Bellanger came overland with pack horse and cow. Family rowed upriver to Nornalup...huts and tents.

James Mitchell and official party visited Nornalup...840 acres set aside as A-class Reserve on the Frankland River...Nornalup NP (declared in 1921)...changes to status would require an Act of Parliament.

First bush bridge built at Bow river (Bert Saw & WJ Cooper).

Denmark – Nornalup Road construction began.

Blocks available in Manjimup (Warren Rd Board...1924 changed to Manjimup Rd Board.

Frank Skinner Thompson and Family arrived in Albany 24th December...Frank came on the "Grace Darling" to 'Tinglewood' for Christmas on Deep River...Willie Stewart (Denmark) came to help clear land.

Halley's Comet observed.

"Dunskey"...Captain A Armstrong...steam tug on Albany – Fremantle run until 1917.

1911

January: Mrs Alice Thompson and 4 children arrived on the "Dunskey" to live at 'Tinglewood' on Deep River...children: Dorothy (b 1895), Frank (b 1897), Phyllis (b 1900) and Nora (b 1901)...A party of cattlemen turned up at Depot...Muir and Blechyndens.

Travellers from Manjimup stopped and camped at 'Tinglewood'...the Thompsons had row boat access only to Bellangers...down the Deep River, across Nornalup Inlet and up the Frankland River...a long row to collect mail and small parcels.

"Mandalay" wrecked at Mandalay Beach...Captain Tonnesen and crew survived.

New Bow River Bridge built...the 56 km track from Denmark to Bow Bridge via the coastal hills was inaccessible in winter.

Charlie Benson stayed...worked for Saws, Bellangers.

Ted Bellanger born at Nornalup...first birth in the district...Mrs Thompson attended.

1911 – 1914

Bellangers' house built, 'Nornalup Park'.

1911 – 1920

Both Inlets closed to netting.

1912

Gordon – Frankland Aborigines rounded up...taken to Marribank Mission near Katanning.

Sydney Jackson identified Red Tingle with Frank Thompson Jr as guide.

Burnside Forest Block was named after Judge Burnside, Perth. His son Dr Bruce Burnside settled at Nornalup in 1930.

Charlie Benson married Dorothy Reece (Bellanger employees)...First newly-weds in Nornalup.

Frank Skinner Thompson began building his first house (used salvage from "Mandalay").

Pack track over coastal hills from Denmark closed...Bert Saw's all-weather axe-cut track used by travellers.

1912 – 1913

Survey party sounded Nornalup Inlet...put down well at Nornaculup (Peppermints) near 'the Depot'.

1913

First timber mills in Manjimup / Pemberton / Northcliffe: workers went to coast for holidays (including Nornalup Inlet and Tinglewood).

Marie Bellanger born at Nornalup (no midwife due to bad weather).

Denmark-Kent River mail service run by JD Smith for three families west of Bow River (Saw, Bellanger and Thompson). He used buckboard and 4 horses on the rough track.

Charles Magnus Benson Jnr born.

Trans-Australian Railway completed 14th September 1913...opened 22nd October 1913.

Survey team for Nornalup Railway line began work.

1914

Transport ships left Albany for Egypt with 30,000 Australian and New Zealand troops.

"Dunskey" ferried soldiers ashore from assembled troopships bound for Gallipoli and European Western Front while in Albany.

Aborigines in Denmark area had disappeared...disease, flu / measles / TB.

1915

Anzac Cove...Gallipoli Campaign failed.

Thompsons completed new house (Charlie Benson assisted) at Tinglewood...grew onions and potatoes for Albany market.

Clarrie and Thomas (father) Saw arrived at Bow River – Charlie Benson built a house for them.

1917

Charlie and Dorothy Benson moved to Irwin Inlet with 2 children.

Bert Saw's axe-cut road upgraded...Passable all year round including creek crossings...Bert's father Thomas and brother Clarrie went to the Bow and built the first 'proper' house.

Survey teams cleared road from Nornalup west to Walpole Inlet (Railway Siding site)...first Railway survey teams arrived.

JD Smith purchased a Model T Ford truck for his mail service (Denmark to Bow Bridge).

Bernard Bellanger born at Nornalup...no mid-wife due to bad weather!

"Dunskey" took stores and surveyors to Nornalup...wrecked at Wilson Inlet on return to Albany...Thompson family lost 12 months of supplies and all their potatoes and onions for Albany markets.

Bellangers opened "Nornalup Park Guest House" for guests and paying visitors.

Daylight saving introduced in Australia.

1917-1923: Frank Thompson Jnr worked to earn money...road and bridge building, surveying and farm jobs.

1918

Surveying for the Denmark – Nornalup – Pemberton Railway continued.

Eliza Saw arrived in Bow River...Clarrie, Bert and Nellie Saw had all enlisted earlier.

11th November: Armistice Day

1918-1920 Bert Saw completed Forestry Course in England before returning to Bow Bridge.

Forests Act of 1918 drafted by C Lane-Poole... Conservator of Western Australia Forests 1917-1921...basis for sound forest policy and

dedication of forests in perpetuity...Lane and Poole Forest Blocks near Pemberton were named after him.

1919

Gradual recovery from WWI.

Supplies brought to Nornalup Inlet on the "Eucla".

Winter: Tom and Nell Swarbrick and sons Tom and Terry came to Nornalup... lived in tents.

1919-1921: Nornalup and Walpole Inlets opened to netting.

Nornalup Fishing and Packing Company: Tom Swarbrick worked fishing, rowing boat, canning and smoking fish for the owner, Alex Trouchet (Perth Chemist).

James Mitchell became Premier (previously Minister for Agriculture 1906-1911). Group Settlement was 'his baby'.

Small camp set up in Railway Reserve on track from Nornalup for surveyors...Site now Pioneer Park.

1920

Newdegate appointed Governor...he supported James Mitchell's Group Settlement plans... Newdegate Island (known as Snake Island) in Nornalup Inlet was named after him.

Bert Saw returned from England. Operated Telephone Exchange / Mail depot / sold milk.

Captain Tom Price arrived at Nornalup.

Tom Swarbrick built small hut at Nornalup.

Surveyors for railway were working at Owingup Swamp.

Nornalup Bridge built (humped)...also Walpole River & Deep River bridges then Manjimup Road cleared.

Broke Inlet area became a "C" Class Reserve... remained open to grazing cattle.

Crystal Springs and Nornalup log cabins built for Prince of Wales (Edward VII) visit but not used.

Women granted right to be elected to Parliament.

1920's

Arthur Haynes arrived in Nornalup...Plozza family cleared his land...the Bellangers grew asparagus – fresh for Albany market.

Tom Swarbrick Jnr and Frank Thompson Jnr worked on local roads, bridges and survey line for future railway to earn money for their families.

1921

Nornalup National Park (12,000 hectares) was declared.

First motor cars in good weather (Manjimup – Nornalup).

Northcliffe group settlement began and railway from Pemberton to Northcliffe constructed.

Alf Randall arrived at Nornalup (fishing and tour boat).

Nornalup Packing & Fishing Company closed.

1922

Perth General Post Office officially opened.

Tinglewood: First paying guests...slept in tents and barn.

Broke Inlet: Herb Clarke fish canning...built huts on south side.

Bellangers: 30 cars in 9 months reached Nornalup. Bernard Bellanger aged 6 began correspondence lessons.

Perth Chemist Alex Trouchet built small general

store at Nornalup...stores arrived on the "Eucla"...set up an asparagus cannery.

1924

Group Settlement: Group 116 Tinglewood and 105 Kentdale settlers arrived.

Warren Road Board renamed Manjimup Road Board... many complaints about the Manjimup – Nornalup track.

Louise Bellanger married Captain Tom Price... Nornalup's first wedding ceremony.

Thompsons: Tinglewood extended mostly by Frank Jnr...Garage and two-storey Guest House started...used materials from "Dunskey" wreck (1917)...bought motor launch.

Alf Jones' one ton truck for passengers and goods ran from Manjimup to Nornalup.

'Peppermints' preferred site for town...Surveyors built road to Rocky Point near mouth of Nornalup Inlet.

Harry North's Store on Valley of the Giants Road built to supply settlers.

Mrs Ebbett (Snr) went to Bow River with sons George and Ernie.

Tinglewood settlers found giant Tingle trees in Valley of the Giants.

Harry Parker built a shop at Kent River for construction workers. He distilled whisky from the green centres of grass trees, illegally.

Bob Nockolds set up a small store in Nornalup, put in a Manager.

Railway one mile from Frankland River where Nornalup Station would be.

1929

Mr Redwood appointed Officer in Charge of drawing up plans for town site (Walpole)...he later came to live in Walpole.

1929



December 1929 : Railway officially opened.
Mrs Thompson and Mrs Bellanger held the ribbon.
Captain Tom Price was station caretaker until 1957.

Surveyors prepared for (Walpole) Land Settlement Scheme. A camp on Railway Reserve, 'Main Camp', set up – tents and a Depot.

Harley Swarbrick born in Albany. Frank Thompson brought the news to Rest Point on his return from Nornalup.

The Swarbrick raised a small income from their guesthouse, ferrying campers to the Peppermints and organising fishing outings.

building. Settlement Road (now North Walpole Road) cleared and the 8 miles of track to Nornalup improved. Eventually 83 miles of tracks altogether were cleared in the district, included Valley of the Giants Road (previously a rough track built 1924).

Dairy farmers took cream cans to Marks Sid-ing and later to Hazelvale Cream Depot (near Frankland River bridge) on G Road, Hazelvale. Cream went to Great Southern Butter Factory in Denmark.

Winter rainfall 61 inches.

James Mitchell visited Group 116, Tingledale (cuppa at Ravenhills).



Bob Nockolds' first store (tin shed) set up; Managers Monty Thurston and Jim Rickey.


11th June: First train to Nornalup. 34 miles of track cost £367,000.

Depression Years – Sustenance Scheme: Out-of-work, married men arrived for road/bridge

Earliest photo in WNDHS collection of 'Cars in Tingle Trees'.



October: Dr Bruce Burnside purchased Pierre Bellanger's property at Nornalup by auction.

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