



1930

Hazelvale Mission House set up in an empty Group 138 house. Sister Anderson provided medical help for Group 138, 139 settlers. Deaconess Fleck called on settlers and assisted Sister Anderson during her visits to the Group Settlements.

Town site surveyed for buildings, roads, bridges – to be a holiday destination for mill-workers et. al. Reserve Board proposed an area for small, suburban “cottage” lots.

Horseyard Hill horseyards established. Jim Snell the blacksmith arrived.

Bayley Bros Butchers delivered meat and mail from Denmark.

Telephone line reached Jarrah Glen Exchange (North Walpole).

Walpole Land Settlement Scheme began.

October Ballot 29 blocks, November Ballot 36 blocks each about 120 acres (47.6 hectares).

Some Sustenance men applied for and received

blocks e.g. Jermyn Armstrong, Charles Gardiner and Mick Quinn...the land was to be a Free Grant.

Government Lands & Surveys Department was responsible for finance and management.

The Miguel family (North Walpole) quickly established pasture and vegetables which went to Kalgoorlie.

Coal mining venture at Coalmine Beach failed.

Denmark-Nornalup Road: bridges, culverts, drainage, buildings, roads surveyed and upgraded. Unmarried/unemployed men commenced work on same (Sustenance Scheme)...known as ‘Swampies’.

‘Main Camp’ operating...Bob Nockolds built second store (tin shed) to replace first store.

Bill Harrison’s house, first in Walpole...moved from Hazelvale and rebuilt in Main Street.

Dr Bruce Burnside and family purchased ‘Nornalup Park’ by auction and settled there, renaming it ‘Crantock’.

1931

Patricia (Pat) Armstrong, born 25th November in the original shack built by her father, was the first child born in the Walpole Land Settlement.

James Mitchell became Premier after 6 years in opposition.

'Felix the Cat' comic strip by Australian cartoonist appeared.

Bert Stewart and Fred Palmer among first to get cows in North Walpole.

Annual Boxing Day Picnics begun by the Swarbrick family (Rest Point).

Harry Parker bought three abandoned Group houses £100 each...built Kent R Hall (Joe Thornton helped) used for social events and as a dental surgery.

February: First application from Walpole Settlers Association – appealed for school.

July: Premier John Forrest visited district.

School Inspector visited. Recommended three schools for North Walpole.

August: Three sites approved...clearing began.

1932

Mob of horses brought by train and led to Walpole...Horseyard Hill...to be borrowed by each settler one day per week...not all trained work horses.

'Main Camp' gazetted as a town named Nornalup. It was renamed Walpole after the Bellangers et al objected...their settlement (and later the Railway Station) had been known as 'Nornalup' since 1911. Town Planning Scheme submitted by DL Davidson, Town Planning Commissioner to CG Latham, Minister for Lands...plans approved.

British Australian Tobacco Company invested in land at Crystal Springs for tobacco growing following Captain Tom Price's successful crops at Nornalup.

Schools #1, #2 & #3 opened.

Dr Burnside held his surgery in Bob Nockolds' Store #2 (tin shed).

Nornalup Cottage Hospital opened...Sister Anderson in charge and Sister Bazett...both left in 1934. Dr Burnside assisted as required, also acted as dentist.

Deaconess Fleck transferred to Sydney...Hazelvale Mission house used infrequently.

RSL Branch formed and Charter received...met in a tin shed next to Pierce's property.

The 'West Australian' 100 years old.

1930's: Manjimup Road Board built a Council Depot on Swan Street (now Department of Environment & Conservation – DEC).

Walpole Progress Association formed.

Jim Shaw (Nornalup) ran tourist trips up the Frankland River in the 'Elmena'.

1933

Town Oval: Sunday Busy Bees to clear area...started by Phyllis & Frank Jnr Thompson.

Walpole blocks "Cottage Lots" in town surveyed...town site gazetted 'Walpole'.

Bob Nockolds moved to Walpole...ran store himself.

Bayley Bros Butchers (Denmark) set up butcher shop in main street.

Goods from Manjimup delivered to settlers by Alf Jones and his 'Tucker Truck'...assisted by Tom Zeebe.

Sunny West took over Butter Factory in Manjimup.

'Nornalup Tobacco Plantation' was producing tobacco....short lived project as profits were too small....Captain Tom Price had also built a kiln and storage shed.

1934

The town name 'Walpole' was confirmed – 100 years after Governor Stirling named Walpole River.

First Settlers' excursion on "Lady Walpole" (newly built by the Swarbricks).

Central Hall North Walpole was built on Reserve #2125 (on land granted to Walpole Branch of ALP).

New Hall started in town...Lot 35 approved... (opened Dec 1939) Builder Bill Harrison...on site behind Pioneer Store and adjacent to the Town Oval...Busy Bee to clear land.

North's Store (Tingledale), run by Bruce & Mary McMurray, closed...they moved to Walpole.

Alf Jones contracted to cart from Railhead Nornalup to Walpole...also carted cream to the train twice weekly from nearer settlers in North Walpole and Hazelvale...later took cream to North's Store, Tingledale to connect with a truck from Denmark's Great Southern Butter Company...Alf built a house in Walpole.

'Waratah' schooner wrecked at Inlet mouth... Swarbricks salvaged timber.

Mr McIntosh bought some land from P Belanger, Nornalup...built 'Jesmond Dene'.

1935

Bob Nockolds built #3 Store 'Pioneer Store'... builder Bill Harrison ...weatherboard ...on main street. Bob had the Post Office Licence...Bruce McMurray became Bob's partner and accountant, May McMurray ran the Post Office.

Walpole Cemetery opened...First burial – Phyllis Stewart (not 2 years old).

Agricultural Bank granted settlers an additional £10

to improve shack interiors... bank also concerned about lack of pasture and inadequate cream cartage to Denmark.



The 'Ideal Tearooms' owned by Bob Nockolds, was run by the two Ward sisters...also ran the boarding house at the rear.

Bus Service: Parlour Coach (Reo Bus)...first passengers to Rest Point from Albany.

c 1935: The Miguel family moved to Crystal Springs to grow tobacco. A vegetable and strawberry farm was set up by D Gibbs & C Hodgkin.

1936

Hazelvale Group 138: 20 families now reduced to 5.

Denmark-Nornalup Road upgraded.

'Denmark Red Lick' containing copper and cobalt developed to prevent 'Coasty' disease in cattle.

Child Endowment paid once per month.

First CWA Cookbook published.

1937

More Sustenance workers arrived to clear land...known as 'swampies'.



FIRE: Many farmers throughout district were ruined by this catastrophe...Nornalup Bridge was destroyed...access between Walpole and Nornalup was via G Road (now Bridge Road)... Road built around West Knoll to Sandy Beach to help clean-up.

1938

Rationing: no new tyres except for emergency services...Swarbricks' Ford had no tyres...introduced because of impending war in Europe.

Cream Receiving Depot set up (Frankland River bank) by Great Southern Butter Company, Denmark. Phil Dawson Snr carted North Walpole settlers' cream to the Depot. Dawson Forest Block was named after the Dawson family.

The State Government transferred Management and Accounts to the Agricultural Bank. All monies owing were treated as mortgages...the Denmark Branch sent reports to Head Office, Perth. Now 46 occupied and 20 vacant farms in North Walpole.

Fertiliser firms began selling pre-mixed fertiliser...superphosphates with added minerals and trace elements for pastures.

Dora Nockolds ran Post Office in her father Bob's Pioneer Store...Bob delivered supplies to Settlers on Saturdays...he ran store till 1945...gave credit for goods to help farmers.

Tom Swarbrick still Honorary Ranger. Problems at 'Peppermints' (Nornalup Inlet) Campsite...becoming untidy and unhygienic. Harley Swarbrick (aged 9) rode a bicycle 7 miles to #1 school each day.

Bow Bridge sawmill built by Jack Smith...commenced operations January, 1939.

1938-39

Swarbrick "Lady Walpole"...Free school excursions began...annually for many years (except for 1940-44).

Rationing, especially fuel...car pools to go shopping on Child Endowment Day or for emergencies.

Frankland River bridge re-opened after 1937 fire. Manjimup: problems with road maintenance especially Walpole district.

1939

WWII: opportunity for some people to leave their farms...influx of new settlers.

September 1: War declared...locals joined up unless man-powered...wages 5/- per day which was more than they earned farming.

Man-power Committee: decided who could enlist...unless wives and children/others could run the farms, men couldn't enlist.

Schools closed due to lack of staff...re-opened when teachers became available.

Rest Point: Summer movies eg. 'Bengal Lancers'

Tom Swarbrick made and sold bread to Walpole 'townies'.

Only thirteen of the original settlers left...now 163 people in district altogether.

No milking machines...usually children's job to hand-milk the cows.

Ned Hughes granted Condition Purchase of 10 acres at Broke Inlet...this has remained the only piece of private land on the Inlet...known as 'Camfield' (declared a town in 1957, cancelled in 1967).

December: Rest Point Boxing Day Sports, last one till 1945.

December 24: Walpole Hall opened on Lot 35 (5 years to plan and build)...Bill Harrison, builder. Servicemen presented with wallets before leaving Walpole after enlisting...included Johnny Nockolds, Terry and Tom Swarbrick.

Electricity: Main Street only from Nockolds' private lighting plant (run by Bill Harrison)...wiring to businesses in Main Street...Jack Wilson (electrician) and wife lived in Prince of Wales' cabin at Crystal Springs.

Manjimup Road Board roads: Problems with maintenance...few rate payers...top speed 24-32 mph in fine weather. December 14 meeting at which transfer of Walpole district to Denmark Rd Board was discussed. Requested that Sustenance men work on the roads. South Coast Highway upgrade continued...both ends bituminised...gap in middle included Walpole.

No public transport.

Dr Burnside enlisted, transferred to Northam Hospital until 1945.

Nornalup Hospital closed due to lack of staff about this time. Nursing Sisters Greaves, Smith and Kenny had successively carried on there after 1934.

1940

Mrs Shotter, trained nurse – and family arrived in North Walpole. Sick/injured went by car-pool to Denmark.

Ned Hughes (at Broke) died.

George and Barbara Ebbett married...had dairy farm at Bow Bridge...lived in saw's shingle hut...opened Bow Bridge Store.

Jane M Price born (in Albany).

Number of farmers in district declined from 46 (1938) to 32...Women now ran many of the farms.

Gas producers on trucks compulsory.

Agricultural Bank compiled a list of the 36 families left in North Walpole...made bank loan for capital improvements available...bank manager Bill Johnston and wife lived in the Walpole bank cottage which had been shifted from a Group Settlement farm.

1941

#3 School closed December 1941 – February 1943.

CWA formed...raised funds for town medical kit...met in old smithy of Jim Snell, Blacksmith...on Railway Reserve (eventually burnt down).

Penicillin and sulphur drugs in use.

“Swampies” left town for Armed Forces/Factories.

Child Endowment: Vital for impoverished families in the district.

c 1941: Mrs McMurray took over ‘Ideal Tea-rooms’ from Clarrie Ward.

1942

CWA arranged to provide fruit for local children...brought by train until c 1949.

#2 School closed temporarily...no teacher.

VDC: Volunteer Defence Corps formed (Walpole-Tingledale-Scottsdale)...Captain Tom Price taught signals...trained in forest and on coastal hills by Paddy Cochrane.

Personal rifles taken by Army...some men in VDC used broomsticks until all members were issued with full kits and .303 rifles.

Singapore fell.

Japanese attacked Broome March 3.

Japanese attacked Darwin February-April.

November: Kokoda fell to Japanese.

November 11: HMAS ‘Sydney’ sunk by ‘Kormoran’

Bow River mill closed...Jack Smith and family moved back to their Boddington farm.

Mrs Jessie Nockolds had a flower garden in front of the Store about where the median strip between Nockolds Street and the Highway is (2013).



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