

## HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The City of Wanneroo recognised the importance of Buckingham House to Wanneroo's history and acquired the house on a one acre (0.4 hectare) lot in the 1970s. The house was restored and officially opened in 1985.

Buckingham House is now listed in the Heritage Council of Western Australia's Register of Heritage Places.



CHILDREN USING WASHING BOARDS.

## HERITAGE ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

Buckingham House is used as the centrepiece for the City of Wanneroo's Heritage Activities Program. School and community groups are able to experience first hand what life was like for the early settlers. Children can participate in interactive activities such as sewing, hand washing and making damper with guidance from volunteers. The house is also open to the public for other special events.

For bookings and further information, contact the City of Wanneroo on 9405 6217.



CHILDREN MAKING DAMPER AT BUCKINGHAM HOUSE.

## Acknowledgements

Information for this brochure has been compiled from City of Wanneroo documents and public records held at the State Records Office of WA, Battye Library of WA History, State Library of Western Australia, and the Local Studies Section at the Joondalup Central Regional Library. Additional material was drawn from the following texts:

Chambers, A. (1991). *The Pioneers: a story of Wanneroo*. Perth: City of Wanneroo.

Marwick, B. (2002). *Stories of Old Wanneroo as told to Bill Marwick*. Perth: City of Wanneroo and Wanneroo and Districts Historical Society Inc.

Marwick, B. (2005). *The Times of Wanneroo as told to Bill Marwick*. Perth: Wanneroo and Districts Historical Society Inc.

Oral History *Transcript: Mrs Erica Mary Parin (nee Togno)*. (31 July, 1996). Perth: City of Joondalup/City of Wanneroo.

Wanneroo Joondalup Yanchep: Environment People Planning. (1998). *Edited by Gentilli, J. & Bekle H.* Perth: City of Wanneroo.

### Front Cover Photographs (top to bottom):

Frank Wilson renovating the Neville Dairy; photographs courtesy of Neville family (City of Wanneroo Photographic Collection).

Erica Parin (nee Togno) outside Buckingham House. (Photograph courtesy of Community Newspapers).

Phillip and Dianne Neville with milking cows at the back of the Neville Dairy; photographs courtesy of Neville family (City of Wanneroo Photographic Collection).

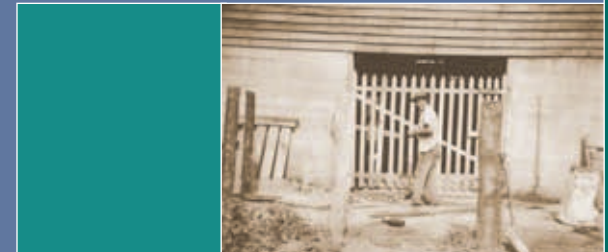
## Further information

Bookings for Heritage Activities Program:  
Phone 9405 6217

In addition to the Heritage Activities Program bookings, Buckingham House is open to the public twice a year on Open Days.

For more information: Phone 9405 5000  
or visit [www.wanneroo.wa.gov.au](http://www.wanneroo.wa.gov.au)

## Buckingham House



## BUCKINGHAM HOUSE

Historic Buckingham House is located in the vicinity of the original Wanneroo Townsite at 10 Neville Drive, Wanneroo. This heritage site provides people with an opportunity to step back in time and have a taste of the City of Wanneroo's heritage.

The house was built during 1880-90 by the Buckingham family and is a typical example of a dwelling of the era with its simple four room layout, steeply pitched roof and random rubble limestone exterior. The house is one of the few remaining historical cottages of its type in Perth's northern suburbs.



Photograph courtesy of WA Newspapers.

BUCKINGHAM HOUSE FROM THE WEST, CIRCA 1970.

## BUCKINGHAM FAMILY

Buckingham House was home to John and Emily Amelia Buckingham and their seven children. John was an English migrant who arrived in the colony in 1850, while his wife Emily Amelia was the daughter of Carine settlers Alfred and Caroline Okely.

The cottage is located on the eastern shore of Lake Joondalup on land purchased by John Buckingham in the 1870s and 1880s. The Buckinghams were graziers with the property providing vital access to water and the northern stock route on the western side of Lake Joondalup.

During the family's time in Wanneroo, John Buckingham leased Crown Land to the east of the property and some 3000 acres (1214 hectares) further north at Pinjar for additional grazing land.

John Buckingham was an active member of the early Wanneroo community. Along with other settlers, he lobbied the Perth Districts Road Board for improvements to be made to Wanneroo Road. Buckingham also donated five acres (2 hectares) of land to the Education Department in 1898 for a new school to be built near the existing junction of Dundeebar and Wanneroo roads.

The Buckingham family left the Wanneroo area in the late 1890s but retained ownership of Buckingham House and surrounding lands.

For the next two decades the Buckingham House property was leased to various Wanneroo families, including the Ashbys and Berrimans, for market gardening and other farming activities. In the 1920s, the property was sold to Catherine Wade, and later to George Tapping.



City of Wanneroo Photographic Collection.

CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPH OF BUCKINGHAM HOUSE.

## FARM LIFE AT BUCKINGHAM HOUSE

In the 1940s, Italian migrants Beniamino (Bert) and Maria Tognos took over the Buckingham property to establish a dairy farm. The property consisted of some 240 acres (97 hectares) with a mile wide (1.6 kilometres) frontage to Wanneroo Road, extending south to Church Street and west to Lake Joondalup.

The Tognos employed three men to cope with the workload of running more than 150 dairy cows. The family also grew crops such as maize and lucerne. The cows' feed was supplemented with grass from Flynn's Valley. If the cows were off their feed, Maria boiled pots of barley water to get them eating again. After milking, the cows were free to roam across a deserted Wanneroo Road into the surrounding bush.

The Tognos' daughter Erica recalls the swampland near the lake was infested with snakes.



Photograph courtesy of Neville family.

Jack and Dot Neville purchased the property and continued to run a dairy during the 1950s and 1960s. The family grew oats and maize, and supplemented the cows' diet with vegetable leaves, wheat husks and brewing grain. The cows were also given rock salt and mineral licks to prevent them falling ill with coastal diseases.

JACK NEVILLE MILKING COWS.

Until the dairy was fenced, wild brumbies posed a problem for the family as they wandered through the dairy and down to the lake to drink.

Jack sometimes trapped wild ducks at Lake Joondalup and kept them with the family chickens until they were ready for eating.

The Nevilles sold the property to developers in the late 1960s for the establishment of a housing subdivision.



Photograph courtesy of Neville family.

JACK, PHILLIP AND GREG NEVILLE SITTING IN A CROP OF MAIZE GROWN BEHIND THE HOUSE.