

LAND OWNERSHIP AT CRENDON – THE LAST 40 YEARS

	PRIOR TO 1964	730 ha
1964	Purchased Gregory's	104 ha
1966	Purchased Dhu's	97 ha
1972	Purchased Miller's (Rosa Glen)	263 ha
1974	Purchased Tony's Bull Paddock	18 ha
1976	Purchased Atherton's	108 ha
1977	Purchased Torridon	273 ha
1979	Purchased Shamraeff's	140 ha
1983	Crendon Holdings Pty Ltd purchased the remaining land held by the partners of M.C. Fry & Sons under it's option.	
1989	M.C. Fry partnership split into 3 trading units JS & LR Fry to become Torridon Grazing Pty Ltd GM & AC Fry trading as Intafry GL GE & MR Fry trading as Crendon Downs	
1996	Torridon purchased part Trigwell's	109 ha
2001	John and Larry purchased Carberdine	800 ha
2003	Paul and John purchased part Pike's	164 ha
2004	100 Years	

MRS. EDITH FRY *Bunbury Herald 6 June 1911.*

Quite a gloom was cast over the whole of the Brunswick district on Friday afternoon, when it became known that Mrs. Fry, for many years a resident of Bengier, and a very well known personality in the South West, had died at Donnybrook. The deceased lady had been ill for some considerable time, and the cause of death was double pneumonia.

Mrs. Fry, whose Christian names were Edith Horatia, came to this State from England about fifteen years ago, bringing with her her family of three sons and one daughter. They settled at Bengier, and developed the farm, and established the homestead known as "Shenfield", of which Mr. Stephen Fry, the eldest son is now the owner. Of a retiring disposition, and yet always kind and considerate, invariably at hand to assist her friends and neighbours in their troubles, Mrs. Fry, during her residence among the farming folk, won and retained the highest respect, esteem and admiration of the community. It is safe to assert that there was no one more beloved than she throughout the whole district, and the announcement of her demise has been the cause of universal sorrow and many expressions of sympathy for the bereaved relatives. Some few years ago the deceased lady went to live with her two younger sons, John and Phil, who are the owners of a valuable property, known as "Crendon" near Donnybrook. A few weeks ago she became seriously ill, and Dr. Joel, of Bunbury, was summoned, Medical attention, however, proved unavailing, and the lady succumbed on Friday afternoon.

Mrs. Fry's three sons survive her, but her only daughter, who was married to Mr. R. Clifton, some years ago, died only 12 months after the wedding. Mr. Stephen Fry, the eldest son, is a well-known resident of Bengier, and has a family of four sons, but the other two sons of the deceased, are unmarried. Mrs. Fry was a sister of Mr. J. Partridge, of Brunswick, one of the best known settlers of the South-West. She was in her 59th year.

The funeral took place on Sunday afternoon, the remains being interred in the Donnybrook Cemetery. A large number of Donnybrook friends attended, and the cortege, also included, as well as her West Australian relatives, a number residents and settlers of Bengier and Brunswick. Many floral tributes were received. The ceremony was conducted by the Rev. P.J. Ryall, and the service held in the Anglican Church was the first choral burial service yet held in Donnybrook. The coffin was borne to the graveside by her brother and three sons.

Recollections of Crendon.

Brief excerpts from diaries written by John Gurney Fry.

1904

- 13 March** Left "Shenfield" for "Crendon". John by train. Phil rode Jane.
Called in at "White Rocks" - Church - dardanup tea/bed/stabled Jane.
They took over 124 ewe lambs, 26 wether lambs (6 bells on lambs)
" " " 227 ewes - 3 bells- lambs 13/6, ewes 16/-
" " " 23 ewes - 400 contract - total 486
- 20 Mar** Church at Englishfield (regular occurrence).
25 Mar Selling sheep skins, wool, locks and horsehair.
1 May Bought seed wheat, wheatmeal, Oliver plough shares.
Workman received 6/- per day
- 11 May** Bentley took all his sheep.
21 Oct Thompson's Brook Bellringers gave entertainment in hay shed -
supper provided.
- 12 Dec** Eggs plentiful (10-15 per day) 6 dozen @ 1/3 to Donnybrook.
16 Dec Fixing up chaff cutter & horse works.
22 Dec Went to Donnybrook to get bread (several times).

1905

- 10 Jan** Church at Englishfield, 3pm & to tea afterwards.
4 Mar Work on sheep dip.
7 Mar Alf Trigwell dipped his 200 sheep in dip.
17 Jun Muck is often carted out from stables & pig sty.
23 Jun Carting gravel for horse works.
Incubator hatches 45 chickens, 3 dead, 3 infertile
26 Dec Picnic & cricket @ Englishfield.

1906

- 9 Jun** Picked up pig from station in buggy (large black)
Pine boards taken up from Mother's room (white ants).
15 Jun Sold 16 sheep skins, 3 lbs horse hair, 35 lbs fat to
Wills & Co., Fremantle.

1908

Fry's gave chaff to Rectory (for horse).

1910

Several neighbours used the sheep dip facilities.

Phil would go to singing or choir practice.

17 May

Alf & Randall Trigwell came and took horse works
away paying 6 pounds and 13 shillings.

1912

Jan

Phil had a military rifle.

12 Apr

Phil returned from camp at Rockingham.

Aug

Cutting poles and making bridge in 56.

31 Aug

Phil put in application for Lieutenant in Australian Light Horse.

1913

Feb

Military Parade at "Crendon" - 12 NCOs and men.

Had gingerale and lemonade.

Dec
sheep.

Putting up telephone poles and later to Torridon - shearing 1109

Recollections of Crendon.

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1914

19 Feb Telephone used for first time.

1915

8 Feb Phil sailed from Fremantle for war.

8 Sep Got wire per Rev. Knight. Phil killed in action (29 Aug 1915).

25 Nov John and CRT bought a shearing machine (share).

1916

27 Jul John & Rev. Knight to Perth, to get Ford motor car.

John used car plenty - took others to outings etc.

30 Sep John had bought "Fairkytes", and erected a spear pump.

9 Oct John and Mary engaged.

6 Nov Shearing at "Crendon" with machine.

Dec Sheep total 1435, inc ewes 663.

1917

12 Feb Mary & John's wedding. Rev. Knight drove to Australind.

12 Dec Nurse Hannah came to stay and work (till Jan 14).

23 Dec Philip Gurney arrived.

1918

Aug Building shearing shed and then yards.

28 Aug Doing bank below shearing shed.

John attended Butter Meetings in Bunbury.

1920

Jul New Quirk's gas light, supplied light in sitting room.

1922 Rabbit inspector came.

Apr carpenter started on Jessie's new room & nursery.

1923

Jun Carting stone for hay shed concrete floor.

Sep Doing cow shed, iron roof, concrete, etc.

16 Oct Mr. & Mrs. Robertson came to work.

1924

Nov J.G.F. returned unopposed to Road Board

1925

May First C.W.A. meeting (Aug big opening of rooms.)

Aug Made calf bale for feeding calves (v. good).

1928

Jun Fixing septic well etc.

1930

Jan Two ponies came from Benger, (Bessie & Jack).

30 Jan Miss Henry came to teach (in Nursery)

10 Feb Started in old cottage.

Philip to Hale School.

Apr J.G.F. caught a white kangaroo rat, albino, later given to South Perth Zoo.

Jul Gravel concrete for electric light (Delco).

Aug Alterations to sitting room (extend over verandah).

**Recollections of Crendon.
Brief excerpts from diaries written by John Gurney Fry.**

1930

Nov

Building sheep feet dip (foot rot)

1934

Feb

**Philip to Collie - Narrogin Ag. School.
Eo to school - Perth College.**

Important Dates associated with Fry's of Crendon.

4th Jan. 1889 Bentley bought "Crendon" farm from David Eedle for 2,900 pounds.
consisting of :- 380 acres Freehold.

1566 " Conditional Purchase.

3300 " Pastoral Lease

Total 5246 acres.

18th Jan 1917 Hudson bought block "Englishfield" :- 80 acres for 200 pounds.
now owned and farmed by Ian Trigwell.

20th July 1918 Patroni bought land "Old Crendon" for 7 pound per acre

c 1922 Sold "Good Hollow" to Glen V. Mitchell

Land Purchases :- by M.C.Fry & Sons

Gregories c1964

Dhus c1965

Tony's Bull Paddock c 1975

Athertons 1976

Torridon 1980

Back Duck Pond c 1986

John S. Fry bought "Jesses" c1997

Buildings on Crendon.

1895 Crendon Brick Homestead -- Bricks made between river and road
at Blackboy Flat.

16 Apr 1917 New kitchen to Crendon Homestead (Builder - Hough).

1917 Cow and Woodshed, just above old workshop.

1918 Shearing Shed (Shingle Roof), bank and yards.

1918 Worker's Cottage (Shingle Roof).

c1922 Nursery Flat (Builder - Bob Clay)

1949 P.G.Fry's House. (Builders, Philip, and Mal Robertson & F.Mutton)

1953 J.M.P.Fry's House (Builder - Ginger Delasale.)

c1954 Alterations done to Homestead for G.L. Fry.

1978 John Fry's House.

1990 Graeme Fry's House

Sheds rebuilt:

- 1956 Workshop
- 1960 Shearing Shed
Machinery Shed
- 1968 - 71 Hay Shed
- 1974 - 78 Roof raised
- 1969 Herringbone Dairy
- 1970 New Piggery
- 1982 Farrowing Pens

Crendon

- 14 Feb 1914 First used Telephone party-line with Torridon .
Telephone No. 5D & 5J
Single wire earth return.
- 1928 P.M.G. line to Sid Trigwells.
- 1942 Upper Capel party-line to R. Trigwell, W. Sears, W. Dilley, H.T. Williams.
- c1963 P.M.G. line to Crendon.

Lighting.

- Early 1920 Quirks Air Gas used to wind up weight for power to operate.
- c1928 Pressure lamp & kerosene wick lamps.
- 1930 32 Volt Delco automatic start-stop.
Generator belt driven by engine in dairy.
- 1961 S.E.C. connected. Connection 1/2 mile from dairy at top of Bracken .
Hill - 3 phase for irrigation pump Blackboy Flat.

Schooling

- 1927-29 Philip had Correspondence lessons at Crendon
Philip, Geordie, Eo, and Rachel went to State School - Donnybrook.
Driven in Essex car.
- 1930-33 Assisted School in old cottage.
- 1934 Tim went to Englishfield School.
Upper Capel Bus to Donnybrook.

Bitumen Road - to top of Big Hill, then
c1960 to Crendon.

- 1964 Major flood.
- Apr 1978 Cyclone Alby -
Blew some roof off Dairy
" " " " "Crendon" Homestead
Number of trees blown down
Bad fires - no fires on Crendon"

Dam Constructed.

1955 Started foundations
1956 Completed initial wall and overflow
1968 & 1974 Wall raised.

Vehicles - Cars.

July 1916 Took delivery of T Model Ford car
1918 Overland car
1924 Essex car
1934 Ford car - 4 cylinder
1938 Chevrolet utility
1947 Ford V8 Customline
1955 Graeme fell out of Customline.
1959 Humber (Three families shared two cars)
1960 Holden Station Sedan (Each family had own car)

Trucks

c1928-31 T Ford 30cwt Ruxel? axle (2 speed differential)
c1948 Diamond T
Austin
Bedford
International
Leyland

Four wheel drive.

Landrover
Suzuki

Farm motor bike

Tractors

- c1926 Early Fordson - steel angle cleats
1937 Rotary hoe
1938 English Fordson McGregor steel grips
later fitted rubber tyres on back. Hand winch to lift Rotary hoe.
1945-49 W4 McCormick Deering on rubbers.
c1948 Fordson Major. Crown wheel drive 3 point linkage.
Blade fitted steel from Bren Carrier.
Ford 3,000. Diesel selectospeed.
Ford Dexta.
1964 Ford Dexta - ex Gregories
Ford 2,000
International Hydrostatic 2nd hand Cab fitted.

Apple Orchards

- c1931 Main Block Little Hill
1949 Below Main Block and Passion Vines

Blackboy Flat - Apples and Oranges.
Canning Peaches
1966 Packed in shed at "Crendon"
1958 Fork-lift on W4.
1959-60 Bulk-bins

1981 Graeme's new Packing Shed and Cool Store

New Orchard - Little Hill
Trellis - Apples
Apricots

RECOLLECTIONS OF "CRENDON" (GLF)

by George Leake Fry from late 1924

My recollections of "Crendon" from about 1924 onwards as I would have been about 5 years old then.

Paddocks cleared then: the main flats that are now irrigated with the exception of the bottom of Black Boy Flat and back of Second Field.

Patroni's owned below Black Boy Flat and north of the river from B.B.F. This, I understand, was originally part of "Crendon", and was sold to Patroni's about 1910.

In the very early days, the system of clearing consisted of:—Ring barking, - cut a ring of bark around tree. This caused the tree to die. If not done properly, and a bit of bark was left, it would grow over, and the tree would not die.

It would take about 5 years to die, then the tree would be pulled over with a tree puller, and burned up. If the trees were not pulled over, as happened in heavy timber, pasture could be established, but then there were problems of falling limbs. Then a hot fire would be put through to burn up the logs. A horse would be used to pull logs and get cross burns to break up bigger logs.

Suckers from the trees that were ring-barked were a major problem as were seedlings. It would be necessary to go through every two years and knock off suckers. This was a bigger job than the actual ring barking. If not done, the bush finished up thicker than the original condition. This happened due to lack of labour and shortage of funds, during the First World War and the Depression in the early 1930s

Hill paddocks cleared:—

The 56 paddocks - there was supposed to be a 56 acre block in that vicinity. When fenced to smaller size it became Upper 56, Lower 56, and River 56.

Far Hill, when subdivided, became Near Far Hill, Far Hill Bush, and Far Far Hill

Snake's Gully and the Downs were one paddock. I suppose Snake's Gully was so named because the gully does twist around quite a bit.

Junction was so named possibly because it was at the junction of the two creeks.

Brockman's Road:— Brockman's from "Torridon" used to go to Donnybrook through there, as this road would join the Upper Capel Road at the bottom of Big Hill.

10 Acre:— There is a 10 acre surveyed block on the top of the hill. It has always been a mystery why it was taken up in the early days.

(Note) When Torridon was selected on Conditional Purchase, it was used as a Survey Datum Point.

The surveyed road to the above 10 Acre was between "Crendon" and Murphy's. (Murphy's) now being Jarvis's. This was never used as a road, though marked on the map.

Little Hill:- only the top was cleared. It was cleared by a Mr. Little.

(Note) To get a Title to land Conditional Purchase, each block had to be improved to a certain standard, such as fenced, and a certain amount of clearing done, and

ringbarking, but in some cases, it would grow up to be back to bush almost thicker than originally.

Moscos Clearing:-- This was burnt up by Mr. Moscos when being cleared. (He used to stammer a lot.) In the early days, there used to be a lot of Blue Rush growing on it. This was a type of plant with coarse leaves and blue flowers - stock would not eat it!

If ploughed properly, it would be killed. It grew in clumps and would choke out the pasture. If in small amounts, rabbits would dig up and eat the small bulbs on the bottom of the plant.

Lupin Paddock:-- When cleared this was planted with W.A. lupins. The stock were not very keen on eating them as they were the bitter strain. There was a lot of hard seed, and they continued to germinate for a number of years.

Englishfield:-- This paddock was so named by Bentley as it reminded him of England. Top northern slope was partially cleared. In the early days, a lot of ringbarking had been done. Some land had suckered and tree seedlings grew, particularly red gums. After burning and clearing, the ground would be disced, and sown to oats and clover. The main clearing on flats was between the fork of gullies, and was always referred to as the Cricket Pitch. I don't know if cricket was ever played there. It may have been when students first attended the Englishfield school. Randall and Clarry and Jess Trigwell went to Englishfield school there.

Paspalum:-- was sown to a mixture of pasture plants which survived for quite a while.

Duck Pond:-- was all bush. The clay depression on top next to the road, was reputed to have ducks on.

Osney:- I think a Mr. Osney was involved in clearing.

Old Orchard:- This is where the original house and shed were. Mrs. Valentine Mitchell (nee Moore) (Glen Mitchell's mother) was born there.

Old photos of Bentley's, show house and shed, hayshed and stalls on the top side of the road. The present brick house was built by Bentley in 1895. The bricks were burnt on the property. The brick pit was between the river and the road. Black Boy Flat was filled with rubbish and covered over in later years.

There used to be two gold prospecting shafts referred to as "Lands Claim" on the right side of the road coming out of Donnybrook, between Duck Pond and Far Hill Bush just before the creek coming out of F.H.B. These were filled with rubbish and covered over.

In the early days, to get land released on Conditional Purchase, it had to be fenced and partly cleared. This was the reason why such extensive ringbarking was carried out.

Before rabbits were a problem, cattle would survive just running in the bush. I remember there used to be a lot of bracken fern. I think letting the light in stimulated the bracken which was ideal cover for the rabbits.

Bracken was knocked down and thinned by dragging railway rails through it and hand cutting with a light sickle hook

In later years a small power mower Allan auto scythe with extension blade would cut about 5 feet. It was good on steep hills.

There were too many stumps and stones for a reciprocating mower.

The first tractor bought:- Early model Fordson coil ignition on flywheel, kleet angle Iron on back wheels, probably about 1925. This was converted to magneto ignition and governor. It was used as a stationary engine for circular saw for firewood and shearing. Was not very satisfactory.

When Philip and I came back home after attending Narrogin School of Agriculture, a Cork model English Fordson was obtained, second hand I think. Philip converted the old Fordson tractor to 1 cylinder and it was used to pump water in 56 well where windmill is now.

Rotary hoe was purchased and used on old tractor. A bit of contract work was done with it. It was difficult to go along the road, it had to be carted by truck I think. Glen Mitchell's long truck was very suitable. Later had rubber tyres on back wheels of tractor. Philip built winch to lift rotary hoe. This was a vast improvement

WD4 McCormack Dering tractor was purchased after the second world war. This had auxiliary hydraulics. This was later used with forklift in orchards carrying bulk bins and loading truck.

The English Fordson was fitted with a Gas Producer during the war, which was not very satisfactory.

Hay Baler:- The first at "Crendon". We were part of a syndicate. Randall Trigwell, and Billy Sears (Elsie Price's) father bought the baler. We supplied the engine. Early war years – Originally, the Massey Harris, later, a second hand Lister. This was a wire tyre, and wooden boards put in to separate each bale.

Hay was brought into the baler by horse and tumble sweep. Later, Trigwell's bought a wire tie pickup baler. The hay bales still had to be tied by hand. This was the most modern baler in the district at that time. This was later converted to automatic wire tying.

The hay was carted back to the hay shed on a low horse cart, about 25 - 30 bales at a time. Later string tied and poly string tied large round bales. Michael developed and built the Roll Chief for handling big round bales. This eliminated manual labour.

Milking:- My first recollection - handmilking in present calf shed. Cows backed out after milking and went out side gate. The first milking machine was a Warren Farmer. This had a pump to each pair of stalls. Shed converted to walk through. We milked up to about 30 cows with the milking machine. The milking machine was then converted to a 'McDonald' and doubled up.

The breed of cattle was Australian Illawarra Shorthorn. These produced good beef steers, and cows had better beef values when finished in the dairy. They had a lot to be desired in consistent good milking qualities - a lot of variation in production. The early Freisian had very low % of butter fat. Freisian herds on whole milk often had to have some Jerseys to keep up the quality, often as low as 2% butterfat.

When A.I. (Artificial Insemination) came in, and frozen semen was available from overseas from superior blood lines, the quality improved. A.I.S. and Jersey and Guernsey have been superseded, and now 95% of commercial herds are now Freisians.

Early days of machine milking:-- Cows washed to stimulate letdown and remove dirt from teats. Later stripping was stopped. Some old cows would not adjust, and were culled. Now washing discontinued except very dirty teats, cups put on and automatically removed when flow of milk stopped.

One person milking, where there used to be three.

When the present dairy was built, we were only selling cream. The skim milk being used for calves and pigs. The dairy was built to wholemilk standards, as we eventually hoped to get a quota.

About the time of the second world war, the wholemilk area was about the Dardanup Shire area and North. When it was first moved South, it extended along the Coastal Plains, Boyanup, and Busselton Shires. The next move was inland, taking in Donnybrook, Balingup, Bridgetown and Manjimup.

In the days prior to the second world war, practically everyone milked on a seasonal basis, i.e. April - January. This gave a monthly income. Prices were as low as about one shilling per lb. of butterfat. Cream would go three times a week to Donnybrook, then by train to Bunbury to Sunny West Dairies, to be made into butter. Later, Sunny West moved to Boyanup, buying out Foggit Jones. H.T. Williams used to cart cream from the Upper Capel area. They had about a two ton truck which they used to get full. They would back load with household requirements, and bagged super when required.

Super in bags would be railed from Picton to Donnybrook, then carted by truck to the old shearing shed, then spread by horse and super spreader.

When cattle were sold, they were driven to Donnybrook. It was quite difficult at times, as they were reluctant to go. Normally 2 or 3 mounted horses were used. The major difficulty, was chasing them up Murphy's Hill. The cattle realised they were going away and had the hill to go up, and no fence on the side of the road. It would take about 2 - 2½ hours to get the cattle to the sale yards or railway trucking yards.

Fat lambs were sold to the butchers (Egan and Co.) They were small lots, 12 - 15 would go in the spring cart.

Property Aquisition.

After world war 2. We were involved in the Farm Improvement group - Roger Watt being the Farm Adviser.

Gregory's was ½ cleared with regrowth suckers in the bush, north of the dairy, and virgin bush on high bank south of the river.

Dhu's and Gregory's were originally Patroni's. They sold to Landsettlement. Patroni's was originally part of "Crendon". Up next to the road was Freehold and some of the bottom was Leasehold.

"Atherton's" - This was purchased from Colin Atherton in the early 1970'. It was about ¾ bush - well fenced. They had grown potatoes and run a few sheep. The dams were built by Athertons.

"Torridon" was bought from Peter Cracknell about 1979/80. This was Perpetual Lease like Dhu's. There were a lot of ferns there.

Bush behind the Duck pond, down to Gorgoni's (now Ian Trigwell's) was a swap with C.A.L.M. land from East Kirup. We sold a lot of red gum logs for chipping. We got a higher price as we planted some with Tasmanian Blue Gums.

House Lighting.

Earliest recollection - "Crendon" had "Quirks Gas". A weight had to be wound up to supply energy to operate. There were pipes to main rooms and mantle on gas lighter. Kerosene lamps were used a lot. Alladin pressure lamps supplied good light, but it had to be shared by everyone. Candles were used to go to bed,

In the early 1930's the first electric light - 32 volt Delco. This started when the first light was switched on and stopped when the last was turned off.

When we installed the first milking machine, in the early 1940's, this engine, via a vee belt worked the generator. 6 volt car batteries made up the 32 volts. There was a system of electro magnets which released a weight that switched off the engine, and turned th main switch off.

Eventually the S.E.C. came through 1961. The main line came within ½ mile of the dairy on the top of the Bracken. Everything had to be rewired to the 250 volt, and only single phase to house and sheds - 3 phase to irrigation pump

Cars - The first car I remember, Dad had an Essex 6. This was a tourer. When driven from Perth, there was no oil in the gearbox. Gearbox cogs had to be replace by the dealer.

In the early days, the procedure was to push the car out of the garage backwards, then swing around below the cream shed, and roll start going down the hill. This was the procedure for later cars up to the chevrolet ute. It did cause trouble in the differential and gear boxes.

Next - 4 cylinder Ford tourer. We had first truck about this tine - 30 cwt, T Ford with duel axle. This was necessary to get a load up the Big Hill.

This was replaced by chevrolet utility during the Depression and until after the war.

A Ford V8 was purchased after the war, and sometime after George, and Michael were married in 1952, a second car, Humber was purchased, which was shared by the three families.

The first car I had for my own use was a Holden Station Sedan prior to 1960, so each family then had a car for their own use.

After many years of planning, the construction of the dam began in 1955. The dam took a couple of years to complete, and once finished held 80,000,000 gallons of water. It was later extended to hold 200,000,000 gallons. The original wall to the dam has since been extended and it can now hold up to 360,000,000 gallons.

When finished it was reputed to be the biggest dam in the district.

Recollections of "Crendon" by Rachel Mitchell
1936-1960's

John Gurney Fry died 9 March, 1936. Rachel in trouble and baby was adopted. Michael had accident which cut his feet badly. Mary held things together with Philip and George working 'Crendon'.

World War 11 started in 1939. Elizabeth went teaching. Philip in Home Guard and George away in Air Force. Robbie (W.B. Robertson) and Tony Coutas and Land Girls, Pat Scotland, Pat Foulds, Joan Royer, and Rachel worked on the farm at different times.

Milking 30-40 cows to send cream away. Also fed calves and pigs. There were also some sheep and beef cattle.

The orchard started producing apples which were packed in 1 Bushel wooden cases. About 1950, fruit was taken to Donnybrook to Central Packing Shed.

M.C. Fry and Sons carried on until about 1989.

Philip married Betty Farley in 1947. Elizabeth married Arnold Roberts in 1948. Michael married Audrey Quick, Rachel married Andrew Mitchell, and George married Betty Brown, all in 1952.

**Margaret, John, Alan, Roslyn and Julie &
Graeme, Bruce and Neville, &**

Linda, David, Mike and Pauline all grew up on "Crendon".



Recollections of CRENDON by Graeme Fry

- Born 1954 to parents Audrey & Mick
- Worked on farm during school holidays on various jobs including carting hay bales, picking up sticks, milking, tailing lambs etc.
- After finishing at Muresk Ag College in 1977, came back to farm to work fulltime taking over from Phillip when he became too ill to continue looking after orchard enterprise.
- At that stage Crendon had nearly 60 acres orchard, on 5 different areas, of mostly Cleopatra, Jonathon, Granny Smith, Yates and Lady Williams apples. Most fruit was sent to either Donnybrook or Karragullen to be packed for export and local markets.
- 1980—Dhu's orchard removed
- In 1981 I got married to Ann and lived in "Gregory's" house
- 1981—commenced new planting of apples on present orchard site in "Little Hill"
- 1982—Planted 2 acres apricots at "Little Hill"
- 1984—Built packhouse and cool rooms
- 1984—Became very ill with bowel cancer and was successfully treated by surgery and have fully recovered
- 1986—No3 orchard removed
- 1989—Crendon farm ceased trading as MC Fry & Sons and became 3 separate farms. I took over the orchard, packhouse and cool rooms as well as 800 acres of grazing land being "Atherton's" block and areas known as English Field, Duckpond and newly cleared land to the west known as West End and Larry's corner.
- 1989—No1 and No2 orchards removed
- 1991 Moved into new house built in orchard "Little Hill" on area previously used as rubbish dump for old machinery on track up through Little Hill bush.
- 1991—BlackBoy Flat orchard removed.
- 1995—1st registered existing business name of INTAFRY. At that stage we were growing and packing fruit, doing contract orchard work and raising cattle so the name derived from the saying "into this, into that, into everything"
- Present orchard at "Little Hill" has been expanded since 1981 to present size of 35 acres comprising $\frac{1}{3}$ plums and $\frac{2}{3}$ apples using modern planting practises such as different trellissing and modern automated drip irrigation
- 1997—Extended packhouse and loading areas as well as upgrading existing manual weight cup grader to 2nd hand electronic computerised weight grader from New Zealand and started packing all types of fruit for other growers for local, interstate and export markets.
- 1998—Became one of the first packhouses in Australia to become accredited with SQF 2000 quality management system as well as being an export accredited packhouse.
- 1999—Sold "Atherton's" block
- 2002—Leased grazing land to John Fry and now continue to operate orchard and packhouse
- 2003—Upgraded electronics on weight grader to increase efficiency
- Presently employ permanent orchard manager, permanent packhouse manager, permanent office manager, 7 permanent casual employees for work in the orchard and packhouse and up to 25 other casuals (mainly backpackers) for extra work in picking fruit and packing fruit.
- Have 3 children, Carly (20) who is at university studying science, twin boys Scott and Brendon (18) who have completed school and are taking a year off working on the farm before continuing studies. Ann currently works part time as a library aide at the Donnybrook primary school.