

The VANDREIKE Family

by Maureen Morris, granddaughter of Fred and Bertha Vandreike

Friedrich (Fred) and **Harry Vandreike** were pioneers of Witta having obtained original selections of land granted by the Government at Teutoburg (now Witta) in 1887. The Vandreike families donated land to the community for the school, church, sportsground and cemetery. The first school was built of pit-sawn timber by Mr. Fred Vandreike and **Mr. Ludwig Bergann** which opened on 3rd October 1892.

Fred married **Bertha Kelk** in 1903 and they raised seven children. The Vandreike children - **Mabel, Henry, Violet, Berthold, Vera, Edna** and **Vernon** attended Witta School. Several schoolteacher's boarded at the family home, as well as visiting music teachers and clergymen. Today, *Vandreike Park* at Witta honours the family and their pioneering efforts.



Vandreike Family at Witta. Back Row: Henry (Nugget), Adeline, Mabel.
Front Row: Berthold (Bert), Fredrich (father), Edna, Bertha (mother) with baby Vernon (Dick) & Vera



Witta School Diamond Jubilee 4-10-1952. Fred Vandreike - back row 2nd from right