

Noongar Town Names & their Meanings

Balingup: Believed to honour an Aboriginal hero, Balingan.

Bindi-Bindi: A stick used like a button to close the front of the kangaroo skin cloak.

Boyanup: A place where quartz rock for spears was found.

Boyup Brook: Booy means “smoke”.

Corrigin: Unfortunately, like many south-west words, its meaning is now lost.

Cowaramup: Place where the purple-crowned lorikeet was to be found.

Cunderdin: Place of the bandicoot. The name of a waterhole near by.

Dandalup: A place of water.

Dardanup: Darda - referring to death or a place where people mourn for their dead relatives.

Darkan: Believed to mean black rocks.

Gingin: From jin-jin - a word like janjn, the bush pear tree.

Gnowangerup: Place of gnow or malleefowl which made large ground nests in the area.

Kojonup: From kodja - stone axe - suggesting that stone for axes was quarried here.

Mandurah: Place where people meet to trade.

Manjimup: Manjim - a swamp plant with edible roots.

Meckering: Moon on the water - perhaps the reflection of the moon on ponds or salt lakes.

Mingenew: Place of ants - minja

Moora: Means good spirit, from a local word mau-mau.

Nannup: A place where Noongar people camped for long periods of time.

Narrogin: From Gnarajin - a word meaning waterhole.

Nornalup: Place of the noorn - black snake.

Pingrup: Believed to mean a grassy place.

Pinjarra: Swamp lands or many trees.

Quairading: Quarra - bush kangaroo; so, place of the quarra.

Quindalup: Means a happy place to live.

Tammin: The home of the black-gloved or black-pawed wallaby or of the tammar.

Wagin: Place of the Waitj - Emu.

Yallingup: Perhaps from Yalungup which means place of love.