

## ALBURY & DISTRICT TIMELINE

Aboriginal occupation of the district began as early as 40,000 years ago; the site of Albury was known as Bungambrawatha; the Murray River was known as Milawa Billa; the meeting ground east of Albury known as Mungabareena; and Dight's Hill to the west of Albury known as Jingera.

- 1824 Hume and Hovell's party arrived at Murray River, called it Hume River, and marked trees.
- 1835 William Wyse drove first cattle to Murray and established Mungabareena Station for Charles Ebdon.
- 1836 Robert Brown opened first store near the Hovell Tree; Paul and Charles Huon established Wodonga Station.
- 1838 Thomas Townsend made first town map; slab hut Police Station built near river crossing.
- 1840 Brown's Hume Inn opened.
- 1843 Punt established across Murray by Robert Brown.
- 1846 Flour mill opened.
- 1847 Albury Court of Petty Sessions established.
- 1848 Surveyor Thomas Townsend extends Albury's street layout northwards.
- 1850 National School established on the corner of Dean & Kiewa streets (later Mates store site); Thomas Mate opened his general store on Townsend & Hume streets corner.
- 1851 Colony of Victoria formed. German migrants Sebastian Schubach, John Frauenfelder and Heinrich Rau planted first vineyards in Albury; Gold discovered at Black Range.
- 1852 Site of Belvoir (Wodonga) fixed on south side of Murray River.
- 1853 Introduction of custom duties, custom officer and resident magistrate appointed to Albury.
- 1854 Wodonga township began with police station.
- 1855 Captain George Johnston brought first paddle steamer from South Australia; Catholic Denominational School opened.
- 1856 First newspaper, the *Border Post* printed; Bank of New South Wales opened; Albury town population 645
- 1857 Agricultural & Horticultural Society formed.
- 1858 Electric telegraph connected to Albury from Melbourne, and later from Sydney; Mechanics Institute formed.
- 1859 Albury proclaimed a Borough June 8, 1859; first municipal council election; first mayor James Fallon; St Matthew's Anglican Church opened.
- 1860 First permanent courthouse built; *Albury Banner & Wodonga Express* newspaper established.
- 1861 Union Bridge opened; first hospital opened in Thurgoona Street.
- 1862 Gaol opened in Thurgoona Street; National School moved in January to Olive street, Mr & Mrs Dwyer in charge (the site later became Albury Public School).
- 1865 Wesleyan (Methodist) Church opened on corner Swift and Olive Streets.
- 1868 Sisters of Mercy arrived and began teaching girls.
- 1869 John Burrows bought Hume Flour Mills, business remaining with family until 1946.
- 1872 St Patrick's Roman Catholic Church opened.

- 1873 North Eastern Railway completed connecting Melbourne to Wodonga. Albury Brass Band established, becomes Albury Town Band in 1887, then Albury City Band in 1946.
- 1875 Present Albury Post Office opens on site of older post office.
- 1876 Wodonga Shire created out of Yackandandah Shire.
- 1880 Great Southern Railway completed connecting Sydney to Albury; Albury population 5700.
- 1882 Gas works built in Kiewa Street, town gas lit. St John's Orphanage opened.
- 1883 Murray River rail bridge completed; Melbourne line extended to Albury linking rail systems of NSW and Victoria. Passengers changed at Albury and goods trans-shipped.
- 1884 Albury Iron Foundry established.
- 1886 Waterworks established and water piped to town; Telegraph Office built at corner of Dean and Olive Streets (now Conservatorium).
- 1888 Municipal sale yards opened at Newmarket, marketing cattle & sheep.
- 1890 Number of houses in Albury 1000; Thurgoona wine industry peaked.
- 1891 Large-scale wool sales began prompting building of big wool stores.
- 1893 Arnold's fruit business began with wheelbarrow.
- 1898 Telephone exchange opened; builders Frew and Logan established; second Union Bridge replaced earlier bridge.
- 1899 Technical School began classes.
- 1902 The *Border Post* ceases publication.
- 1903 Mott brothers started The *Border Morning Mail*.
- 1906 Mylons (later Mylon Motorways) started as a two-way horse-drawn bus service between Wodonga and Albury; Hume Shire Council proclaimed; St David's Presbyterian Church opened.
- 1908 Albury Town Hall (now Murray Art Museum Albury - MAMA) opens.
- 1909 Black Range as a name for a village ceased June 14, 1909, the village being officially renamed Lavington from June 15.
- 1912 Betro Abicare, a Lebanese migrant, built the Big Store (Australian Building) on corner Dean and David Streets.
- 1914 World War I began, about 100 Albury men killed.
- 1916 Albury municipal electricity undertaking established.
- 1917 Highest river flood in 100 years recorded.
- 1918 Albury District Hospital opened in Wodonga Place.
- 1919 Hume Dam construction began. Town sewerage system laid out; Noreuil Park established.
- 1920 Albury High School established in old hospital building in Thurgoona Street.
- 1924 Amalgamated Textiles, later Macquarie Textiles, opened mill.
- 1925 Colonial Mutual (CML) office block and clock tower built.
- 1926 State Electricity Commission of Victoria supplied power to Albury and Wodonga.
- 1927 Regent Theatre opened. Defence Department resumed land at Wirlinga for ammunition depot.
- 1928 Forest Hill garden suburb started.

- 1929 Farmers & Graziers built Smollett Street wool store (later Australian Tax Office); Charles Kingsford Smith and Charles Ulm recommended aerodrome be built at present site.
- 1930 2AY started broadcasts, followed by ABC Radio 2CO in 1931.
- 1931 Jock and Annie Haberfield began Haberfield's Dairy in South Albury.
- 1932 Martin's bus service began.
- 1935 Wool Exchange opened in new Commercial Club Dean Street; Wodonga municipal sale yards opened.
- 1936 Hume Dam completed, official opening by Governor-General, Lord Gowrie on November 21, 1936.
- 1937 The *Spirit of Progress* express train began on Melbourne route.
- 1938 Aerodrome laid out.
- 1939 World War II began, claiming about 100 local lives; New Albury Hotel opened.
- 1940 Temporary army depots and stores opened in Albury; 2/23rd Battalion AIF (Albury's Own) raised at Albury Showgrounds; Bonegilla and Bandiana camps laid out.
- 1944 Liberal Party of Australia established by Menzies and others at Albury conference.
- 1945 Mercy Hospital opened in Olive Street.
- 1946 Albury proclaimed a City December 18, 1946; Albury population approaching 15,000; Mate's Ltd store sold to Burns Philp; SS& A Club opened in Dean Street.
- 1947 Bonegilla Migrant Reception Centre opened; First housing commission homes completed in North Albury.
- 1949 Riverina Daylight Express trains link Albury and Sydney.
- 1950 Upper Murray Regional Library established. The *Albury Banner* ceases publication.
- 1954 Wodonga District Hospital opened, taking pressure off Albury Base Hospital.
- 1955 Road haulage on Hume Highway boosted after state tax on trucks abolished.
- 1956 Passenger train times between Sydney and Melbourne, changing in Albury, cut to 13 hours.
- 1957 Cardinal Gilroy opened new Mercy Hospital in Poole Street; Hume Power Station added to Hume Dam.
- 1958 Albury and other NSW municipalities form Murray River County Council.
- 1960 SS&A Club relocated to Olive Street; large increase in Hume Weir pondage.
- 1961 Third Union Bridge opened replacing the 1898 bridge.
- 1962 Standard rail gauge completed from Wodonga to Melbourne, opened April 13, 1962; Lavington and much of Thurgoona absorbed into Albury City.
- 1963 Albury Airport completed for commencement of air services, December 15, 1963
- 1964 Airport officially opened by Hon D Fairbairn, Minister for National Development, September 13, 1964; airport reconstructed to facilitate regular flights to Melbourne and Sydney; War Memorial Civic Theatre opened, May 22, 1964; television in Albury-Wodonga commenced by AMV4 and ABC.
- 1965 Albury-Wodonga Complex Committee promotes cross-border growth.
- 1966 Albury and Wodonga's combined population reaches 36,000; opening of new Regional Library, April 4, 1966.

- 1967 Uncle Ben's pet food factory and Donga Meats abattoir opened in Wodonga; Victoria identifies "Wodonga-Albury" for accelerated development; opening of Jelbart Park (North Albury) Swimming Centre, February 4, 1967; first traffic lights switched on, corner of Dean & Kiewa streets.
- 1970 Parkinson Street route chosen for expressway; Target store opened; Borg Warner opened large gearbox factory at Lavington (after a number of name changes, became Drivetrain International Systems which closed in 2014).
- 1972 Riverina College of Advanced Education opened study centre in Albury, the precursor of Charles Sturt University; The Scots School created by merging Albury Grammar School (for boys) and Woodstock Girls' School.
- 1973 Whitlam government and NSW and Victoria agreed to establish the first national growth centre at Albury-Wodonga; opening of City Hall in Albury Civic Centre, May 19, 1973; Wodonga proclaimed Rural City; H.D Lee & Co began making jeans in Albury before relocating to Wodonga.
- 1974 Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation (AWDC) started with aim of 300,000 regional population by 2000; Sanyo opened television factory in Wodonga; Albury-Wodonga Continuing Education centre opened, Albury Art Gallery opened in old Town Hall building, May 22, 1974
- 1976 AWDC housing program that produced 6000 sites started in Springdale Heights and Willow Park; Lincoln Causeway made four lane divided road.
- 1977 Natural gas supply started; Clyde Cameron Trade Union Training College opened in Wodonga (later became Murray Valley Private Hospital).
- 1978 AWDC housing estate developed at St John's Hill, Thurgoona; new sale yards at Bandiana opened.
- 1979 Albury-Wodonga Private Hospital opened; Centrepoint Arcade and Lavington Square shopping centres opened; Murray River Performing Group and Flying Fruit Fly Circus began.
- 1980 Peter Till Environmental Laboratory (Murray Darling Freshwater Research Centre from 1986) opened at Thurgoona.
- 1981 Myer Albury and Myer shopping centre open; Australian Newsprint Mills (now Norske Skog) opened.
- 1982 XPT trains start between Albury and Sydney (7 hours and 20 minutes); Army transfers its Apprentice School to Latchford Barracks from Balcombe Victoria; Shorko opened in Wodonga.
- 1983 New airport terminal and tower opened; Westend Plaza including K-Mart opened; Albury Sports Stadium opened.
- 1985 Wodonga bypass opens.
- 1986 Kimberley Clarke and Geofabrics opened factories; Albury selected for Australian Tax Office branch with 600 staff; paddle-steamer Cumberoona launched; sale of former milk depot to Wodonga Council made Gateway Island tourist precinct possible.
- 1987 Court House in Olive Street completed; Wodonga TAFE Institute opened; Ettamogah Pub opened.
- 1988 Bicentennial celebrated; Prime Minister Hawke opened Bicentennial Exhibition in Wodonga; Wodonga Institute of Tertiary Institute (precursor of La Trobe campus) opened.
- 1989 Charles Sturt University established; AWDC wind-down began.

- 1990 AWDC and Albury Council agree to develop Norris Park jointly.
- 1991 Albury-Wodonga Campus of La Trobe University established incorporating Wodonga Institute of Tertiary Education; Albury and Wodonga combined population exceeds 70,000.
- 1992 Overall Forge opened at Ettamogah; Albury-Wodonga Festival of Sport began with Zimbabwe-England cricket match.
- 1993 Macquarie Textiles completed \$60 million expansion; train times Sydney-Melbourne reduced to 10 hours.
- 1994 New Albury Base Hospital and new Police Station opened; Wodonga city enlarged to 430 square kilometres.
- 1995 Charles Sturt University bought land for Thurgoona campus (Riverina TAFE later purchased adjoining site).
- 1996 Amanda Duncan-Strelec elected first female mayor; Save Our City (pro-external bypass) campaign began; Victorian Premier Jeff Kennett unsuccessfully promoted Albury-Wodonga merger; slight movement in Hume Dam embankment led to emergency releases and flooding.
- 1997 Albury Council officially apologised for Australia's past injustices to Aborigines; SBS television available locally.
- 1998 \$33 million waste water treatment works opened at Waterview; Albury Gold Cup half-holiday became permanent feature.
- 1999 Army decides to close Buna Barracks in Victoria Street, later sold for housing.
- 2000 Mirambeena Community Centre, Lavington, opened.
- 2001 NSW and Victoria governments propose merger of Albury and Wodonga, but move was unsuccessful.
- 2002 Prime Minister Howard finally determined an internal route for Hume Freeway.
- 2003 Albury Council spending passes \$1 million-a-week mark.
- 2004 Council mergers tripled size of Albury city to more than 300 square kilometres by absorbing parts of Hume Shire.
- 2005 Council bought Greyhound Racing Track, Newmarket, and sold to Harvey Norman for shopping complex.
- 2007 Hume Freeway opened; Albury LibraryMuseum opened; Harvey Norman Centre at Newmarket opened.
- 2008 Gardens Medical Centre opened.
- 2010 Charles Sturt University Albury Campus relocates form central Albury to Thurgoona.
- 2011 Construction of Volt Lane development begins in central Albury including a new Australian Taxation Office premises.
- 2012 New Australian Taxation Office opens in Smollett St.
- 2014 Motor car gear box manufacturing (Borg-Warner, BTR, ION, Drivetrain Systems International) closes down in October after 43 years in Albury; Albury Ambulance Station moves from Dean St Albury to Wagga Rd Lavington.
- 2015 Murray Art Museum Albury, MAMA, opens October 2, 2015.
- 2016 The Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre opens.