ALBURY & DISTRICT TIMELINE

Please advise any corrections or omissions to rlee024@gmail.com
This timeline is to reflect more recent interpretations of history.

Pre-1824

Pre-European settlement: Indigenous people occupied this part of the Murray Valley for tens of thousands of years. By the 1820s those in the Albury district spoke a Wiradjuri language, though may have recently displaced a group known as the Jeihi. Different language groups occupied areas south of the Murray. Most people would have spoken more than one language. The Wiradjuri, the largest nation in NSW, occupied a large west of the Great Dividing Range. In 1824, Wiradjuri warriors, led by Windradyne, fought a war against the British in the Bathers district, ending in an extermination campaign that massacred indigenous men, women and children. Weeks later, and against this background, Hume and Hovell led an expedition through Wiradjuri country from Yass to Albury, but encountered no hostility from the Wiradjuri. Historians believe that in the 1840s indigenous Australian groups in the Albury-Wodonga region were still numerous. In later decades, many died as a consequence of settler violence, being pushed off their lands and contracting diseases brought by the Europeans.

Indigenous Australians occupation of the district began as early as 40,000 years ago – it was Wiradjuri Ngurambanggu country, an area 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. A large rock, has been placed at Mungabareena inscribed, ‘Gawaimbanna-Gu Wiradjuri Nguranban’ – ‘Welcome to Wiradjuri Country.’ Official unveiling ceremony November 19, 1994 by Mayor Jim Paterson and Pastor Cec Grant Wiradjuri elder.

1824 Hamilton Hume & William Hovell set off from Hume’s father’s property ‘Appin,’ Gunning on October 3, en-route to Port Phillip, with a party of six, Claude Bossawa, Henry Angel, James Fitzpatrick, Thomas Boyd, Thomas Smith and William Bollard. According to his diary arrived in this district November 16, naming the river Hume (possibly after his father or after Hume himself, the first to see the river). Hovell marked a tree, November 16/17, and re-cut the inscription again in 1857. Hume also marked a tree with the words ‘Hume River’ (location on Townsend’s 1836 map). The tree was destroyed by fire after white settlement (the stump was said to have been seen by Robert Brown in 1857).

1825 Hume & Hovell return through Albury area in January.

1830 Captain Sturt named the river south of Murrumbidgee, Murray River, January 14.

1835 NOTE: more information on early settlement along the Murray and into Victoria can be found in Dr Arthur Andrews’ article ‘Early Settlement’ – go to https://alburyhistory.org.au/resources/history-topics/

Charles Hotson Ebden selected on both sides of the river, including the ‘Bonegilla Run’ the ‘Mungabareena Run’ and the whole of the land on which Albury now stands. He erects a homestead at Bonegilla and places William Wyse, as stockman in charge.

William Wyse drove the first cattle to the Murray (Hume) River arrives November.
1836  Robert Brown opened first store near the Hovell Tree in the area known as ‘The Crossing Place.’ Paul and Charles Huon established ‘Wodonga Station’ including Baranduda and Middle Creek; set up a homestead on the banks of the Wodonga Creek. John Dight forms ‘Bungowannah Run’ ten miles downstream of The Crossing Place. Major Thomas Livingston Mitchell, Surveyor-General of NSW, explored vast tracts of land from the Murrumbidgee through western Victoria to Portland. He named it ‘Australia Felix;’ he published this work and it attracted a large number of emigrants; crossed the Hume/Murray River at Howlong (‘Oolong’) on return to Sydney.

1837  ‘Mungabareena Run’ gazetted February 7, in the name of Captain William Mitchell of Brisbane Meadows, near Bungonia, NSW (married Elizabeth Huon 1813); he died in September and his son Thomas Mitchell (not the explorer) took over management; transferred to his mother, Elizabeth Mitchell, homestead established on site which later became Albury waterworks pumphouse. Tender of Joseph Hawdon for the conveyance of fortnightly horse mail between Melbourne and Yass, accepted November. Charles Bonney, working for Charles Ebden, left Albury with a mob of sheep establishing the first track to Port Phillip, a track which was afterwards known as the Sydney-road. Early pioneers: Dr Reid, Coghill, Ryrie and Faithfull.

1838  January, first mail established between Sydney and Melbourne carried by John Bourke employed by John Hawdon. Thomas Scott Townsend drew first town map of Albury after instructions from the Governor to the Surveyor General on June 29. Killings, later known as the Faithfull Massacre took place in the Benalla region in April; resulted in the government ordering police posts on the Murray and other sites; these were called Border Police (they were soldiers). The first police camp and station (slab hut) near the river crossing in October on the river below Scotsman’s Hill (approximately present junction of Smollett Street and Howlong Road) manned by five armed and mounted police, in charge of Sergeants Leary and Rose. First white lady to cross the Murray River at Albury was Mrs Joseph Hawdon, March 1. Early pioneers Osborne, Barber and Morrice.

1839  Townsend’s plans conveyed to Deputy Surveyor-General January 12, and design mentioned in Government Gazette; NSW Governor, Sir George Gipps, approved a plan for a village on the site of ‘The Crossing Place’ to be known as Albury on April 11, mentioned in Government Gazette April 13. First sale of 12 allotments (in Sydney), for Albury township on the Murray, October 10. Government Gazette, October 16, advertised weekly mail services between Yass and Melbourne. First record of a Post Office in Albury district appeared in a ‘register of inward correspondence’ March 15, in a letter from Colonial Secretary, approving the establishment of a post office at The Crossing Place. Lady Jane Franklin, wife of the Governor of Van Diemen’s Land, passed through Albury, April. A plan of a road between Gundagai and Port Phillip mapped by W H Wells, called the Port Phillip Road. Many early arrivals claim as much land as they could. The formation of the lower Yackandandah station by Mrs Elizabeth Mitchell; station was for sheep only. 20 mounted police stationed based at five stations between Melbourne and the Murray, Major Nunn and Captain Christie being in command. Early arrivals Belcombe, Mitchell and Hope.

1840  Robert Brown obtained a licence and built the Hume Inn, licensed June 17, held licence till 1846, transferred to William Conley and in 1847 to Charles Crisp. First picnic race meeting held by the river. First European child born in this district south of the river was Mrs H M Armstrong daughter of Mr A A Huon October 16.
Dr John Creighton settled in as Albury district’s first General Practitioner. At that time, Albury had a few houses, a blacksmith shop, the inn run by Brown and the Police Barracks. Cropper brought sheep from Maneroo to Laceby and owing to drought took them through the hills and built a rough shearing shed at ‘Woolshed Creek.’ Early arrival Hanel.

First fine house erected by Robert Brown, valued at £2,000, and a new Hume River Inn built. Elizabeth Mitchell arrived at ‘Mungabareena’ with seven of her children.

A Post Office established in Albury April 13. Presbyterian Church sent minister on preaching tour throughout the district. Original primitive punt (canoe, rope and pole) established by James Gullifer and operated by Aborigine Merriman; purchased by Robert Brown and replaced by log punt. First Roman Catholic Mass, November 25, conducted by Fr Charles Lovat.

Flooding at Albury.

Horse racing – first known Albury Cup was awarded to Joseph Spalding owner of ‘Romeo.’ The race in one-mile heats on a course at the south end of Townsend Street. Post Office closed. Robert Brown moved away, Edward Crisp purchased the punt and Hume Inn.

Census population of Albury 43 males and 22 females.

Post Office re-opened with John Roper as postmaster, February 1. Albury Court of Petty Sessions established January 1 with Mr John Roper appointed first clerk. John McEvan appointed Chief Constable and Bailiff October 4.

Surveyor Thomas Townsend extended Albury’s street layout northwards. Edward Crisp organised a punt (also referred to as a ferry) to cross the river. Roman Catholic Bishop Goold passed through Albury. John Roper purchased allotment NW corner Dean and Kiewa Streets. The Community School was opened in a bark hut by Mr Rowley. Henry Taylor was the first public pound-keeper. Snow August.

Ferry for Albury gazetted August 14. Thomas Townsend designated land to the north of Albury as cemetery site (Pioneer Cemetery). ½ acres was allocated for a National School on the south-east corner Dean & Kiewa streets, 1 acre on the north-east corner (PO corner) for a Court House and 1½ acres for St Matthew’s Church, Kiewa Street.

Albury Anglican parish established in February with the Bishops of Sydney and Melbourne coming together in Albury. Steam powered flour mill opened by Richard Heaver on south side of Hume Street just east of Townsend Street, builder Luke Everett in May. National School (Public), under Henry Rich, began SE corner Dean and Kiewa Streets, July 22, Henry Wyse the builder. Thomas Hodges Mate opened general store at 419 Townsend Street, May (though the store’s Jubilee was celebrated November 21).

Population 442. Colony of Victoria received Royal Assent July 1. German migrants Sebastian Schubach, John Frauenfelder and Heinrich Rau arrived in May and planted the first vineyards in Albury. Gold discovered at Black Range (Later called Lavington) by Richard Heaver and James Dennison in November. Police Act extended to Albury on May 27. Presbyterian Church commenced with Rev David Ballantyne being sent from Melbourne in May. ‘Black Thursday’ bush fires on February 6. Benevolent Society formed. Church of England clergyman, Rev Henry Elliot took up duties in August. A court house was erected in Wodonga Place.
1852 Site of Belvoir (later called Wodonga) fixed on south side of Murray River, April 30. Rose Inn, vicinity 482 Kiewa Street, opened, licensee John Nichols. Flooding at Albury.


1854 Belvoir township gained a police station. Government Gazettes that John Kelly, sub-collector of Custom, appointed January 2. Inland Customs Office appointed April. Albury and Belvoir also appointed a collection point to impose poll tax for Chinese entering Victoria. Fr John Maher (or Meagher) appointed resident Roman Catholic priest, Oct 1.

1855 Owned by Francis Cadell, and skippered by Captain George Johnston the first paddle steamer, ‘Albury,’ arrived from South Australia on October 2. The Roman Catholic Church established a denominational school, teachers Mr & Mrs Tuohy. The Albury Benevolent Society formed May 26. First mention of a band in Albury, a German band that played on the PS Albury.


1858 Electric telegraph reached Belvoir January 30, opened April 9. The Sydney telegraph line reached Albury October 29, Albury then became the repeater station between the two; the office was a room in the Rose Inn, vicinity 482 Kiewa Street. Mechanics’ Institute Room opened August 26. New library opened Kiewa Street opposite the National School July 7. The Hume Monument (marble obelisk) unveiled near wharf and Hovell Tree enclosed by iron fence July 19. Foundation stone for Albury Presbyterian Church, 515 Smollett Street, laid October 21 by Rev D H Ballantyne. Foundation stone laid for Catholic
Church in February, the first religious edifice to be erected by the Catholics in Albury. The building opened as St Bridget’s Church and schoolroom on October 24. New building 473 Townsend Street (later ‘Kia Ora’), built for Bank of NSW, opened June 1. ‘Albury Telegraph & Federation Journal’ commenced January 30 and shortly after merged with ‘Border Post.’ New ferry gazetted December 1. Public meeting to discuss a hospital called August 18. German Harmonic Society formed in May. First German Ball held at the Exchange Hotel, August 14 (theatre opened at same hotel). Post Office moved to T H Mate’s store Townsend Street, February 11. Three acres granted to Show Society on western side of Thurgoona Street. Bank of Australasia commenced business April 7. Doctors Silver and Barnett arrive in Albury.


1861 Census population 1,587. In March, Council recommended appointment of trustees for Cemetery but not made effective for some years. Union Bridge opened September 2, contractors William Brickell and Adam Kidd. Albury Hospital and Benevolent Asylum, vicinity SW corner Thurgoona and Pemberton Streets completed by March 27, and concert held for building opening on April 13. Braidwood designed Gaol completed, vicinity Cahill Place (2017) & Thurgoona Street (first occupant was the builder). Post Office was conducted from Mate’s store, Hume & Townsend Streets. Telegraph office opened August 22, NE Corner of Dean and Kiewa Street (Post Office corner 2017). New National School building erected NE corner Olive and Smollett Streets with master’s residence attached, opened January 13, Rogers & Pool builders. Time ball affixed in front of Telegraph Station July 20. First Masonic Lodge, ‘The Hume’, opened December 29. Philharmonic Society first
performed November 20. A manse built next to Presbyterian Church, Smollett Street. Robertson Land Act or Free Selection Act enacted. Lavington called for a National School in May. Mechanics’ Institute original building commenced and opened 1863. Black Range (Lavington) proclaimed a goldfield December 31.

1862 Albury National School moved to Olive Street in January, run by Mr and Mrs William Dwyer. Thuroona opened a new school (Newtown had been the area’s name since 1850). On May 23, Lavington school teacher had not been paid so resigned and a new teacher appointed. Gaol’s first official officer began in March. Post Office removed from T H Mate’s to Townsend Street. NSW imposed a poll tax on Chinese crossing the Murray from Victoria, but withdrew five years later.


1864 Land dedicated for Botanic Gardens and public reserve May 4. Albury Turf Club, later Albury Racing Club erect the Ledger Stand. Dr Barnett forms Albury Volunteer Band, Isaac Davis bandmaster. Model School established opened by Mr D Patterson.

1865 Wesleyan (Methodist) Hall, SW corner Swift and Olive Streets, foundation stone laid by Mrs Hugh Moffitt August 30. Black Range School opened October 16, but closed 1868. Crushing plant for Black Range christened ‘The Lavington,’ on November 27.


1867 Additions made to the Model School. Extensive flooding in Albury, October level was 16’2” (4.93m). Foundation stone laid for the Telegraph Office, eastern side of the Town Hall on October 31. J T Fallon purchases the Murray Valley Vineyard, December 23.

1868 Hume Inn destroyed by fire (October). Sisters of Mercy (seven) arrived in Albury July 22 from Goulburn to start a convent school. Foundation stone for the convent in Olive Street was laid July 26. Large contingent of German Lutherans from South Australia pass through Albury.


1870 Albury Free Public Library housed in Mechanics’ Institute opened February 21 by the mayor. Foundation stone St Patrick’s Catholic Church laid August 21. Hibernian Australasian Catholic Benefits Society founded; June 25 as shown on plaque on CBC building Olive Street in 2017. Opening and Blessing of St Bridget’s Convent, February 6, by Bishops of Maitland and Bathurst. Flooding again October 23, 24, reading 19ft (5.79m).
John Burrows announced new flour mill called ‘The Hume’ for Albury, vicinity 649 Dean Street. Independent Order of Rechabites and Hibernian Catholic Benefit Society formed.

1871 Census population 2,592. Albury floating baths established at the river in January. First pile driven for construction of a 160-foot wharf, January 24, completed by May. Crane for wharf installed November 22. Opening of Freemasons’ Hall new lodge room October 4. Albury Protestant Association formed May 2. Flooding again, approximately 16’ (4.87m). Grammar school re-located to St Matthew’s Church Hall 517 Olive Street.

1872 St Patrick’s Roman Catholic Church opened November 24, architect John Gordon and builder James Walsh. Completion of the overland telegraph. The Independent Order of Good Templar’s Lodge opened. Two bridges completed in Dean Street over Bungambrawatha Creek, contractor John Driscoll, January.


1874 St Matthew’s Church of England foundation stone laid March 20, by T H Mate. Manchester Unity Oddfellows Hall, 552 Kiewa Street, opened May 18, contractors Harley and Charles Rosensi. Victorian Government gazetted name change from Belvoir to Wodonga, August 15. Thurgoona Post Office was established as a non-official allowance office January 1 at Wignell family home; Wignells continued to operate Post Office until 1925. George S Dulley appointed first Municipal Sanitary Inspector January 24. Congregational/Independent Church vicinity of 488 Swift Street foundation stone laid December 18, by J F Skinner. Turks Head Hotel, Wodonga Place, started life. Laying of Foundation stone for the new Police Barracks by Mayor Kenneth McLennan October 31.

1875 William Hovell died at Goulburn November 9. Congregational (Independent) Church, 488 Swift Street, opened September 12, architect and contractor Alex Jackson. Samuel Mudge, Town Clerk, planted first street tree, vicinity 618 Olive Street, on August 28. Wesleyan (Methodist) Church, SW corner Olive and Swift Streets, foundation stone laid January 19 by Rev R C Flockhart, opened November 21. Albury Club formed at meeting at the Albury Hotel, 579 Dean Street. Second Volunteer Fire Brigade forms March (first had folded in 1873). First Australian sparkling wine (‘Champagne’) tasted at J T Fallon Cellars made by Francois Gaston Leonce Frere for the Murray Valley Vineyard, November 23.

by Reverend Masters. Ettamogah vineyard passes to Harbottle, Alsop & Co. Australian
Joint Stock Bank purchases site SW corner Dean & Kiewa streets, building completed
December 1877.

1877 Matthew Peasley appointed curator of the Botanic Gardens, first tree planted by Mayor W
J Jones. Bank of Australasia purchases site in Dean Street September. Alexandra Park is
bisected by a railway line October (line completed October 1881).

1878 Masonic Hall opened at 562 Kiewa Street, Combermere Lodge constituted June 4 and
opened July 30. Post Office foundation stone, NE corner Dean and Kiewa Streets, laid
September 28. First telecommunication between Sydney and Melbourne in January. Rev
Joseph Masters appointed Headmaster of Grammar School. Australian Joint Stock Bank,
with residence, built SW corner Dean and Kiewa Streets, later Commercial Banking
Company of Sydney. Meeting to establish a pigeon shooting club May

Robert Brown died at Corowa, 19 February, buried at Mulwala. First street lighting, with
kerosene lamps began in May. Flooding reaching 16 feet again. New Post Office finished
by Alexander Frew (Snr) mid-year and clock installed and struck November. Major tree
planting work took place (costing £1 12s 6d), tree planted on corner Dean & Kiewa Streets
by Mayor A H Emerson (see plaque in front of Post Office, Dean Street 2017). Five acres NE
corner Young and Guinea Streets became new Showgrounds and first stock show and
Industrial exhibition held there in August 15. Extensions to gaol took place over next three
years. Second Fire Brigade disbands; many big fires, largest destroys Imperial Hotel & guts
Bank of NSW, Townsend St. Albury Convent Chapel blessed and opened October 12.

1880 Great Southern Railway completed connecting Sydney to Albury. The first train (carrying
Sir Henry Parkes) arrived December 28. Albury Railway Station approved by government
to go ahead March 20. Mrs Elizabeth Mitchell (nee Huon) died September 6. She owned
Mungabareena Run which included Albury. First noted date for a burial at Thurgoona
Orphanage Cemetery, January 20. Bungambrawatha Creek surveyed for 8 miles by W
Duffy, Road Engineer, new channel passed under Dean Street. Compulsory attendance
legislated for school attendance. Survey conducted from Botanical Gardens to Black
Range, 8 miles to create a new drainage system for the creek, May. New saleyards for T F
Waller & Co opened SW corner Wilson and Olive Street.

1881 Census population 5,715. Masonic Concord Lodge Albury formed September 7. Newtown
Orphanage (Thurgoona) foundation stone laid October 2, by Rev J Dunne. Albury’s only
execution took place on June 1 after trial of Henry Wilkinson on April 11. Great Southern
Railway line officially opened February 3 by Sir Henry Parkes at Albury. Albury Racing Club
formally constituted January 19, replacing the Albury Turf Club and the first race meetings
under that name took place March 30 and April 1. Border Brass Band (Billson’s) forms,
bandmaster Gideon Townsend.

1882 Newtown Orphanage St John’s Road Thurgoona opened by Dr Lanigan, Roman Catholic
Bishop of Goulburn on April 16. Showground reserve of five acres in Young Street,
dedicated October 24. Pumping station being built at Mungabareena to provide Albury
with a reticulated water supply, Minister sanctioned works in April (previously Albury had
a water supply – water carts). Lavington Public School commenced in July, with Mr J
McKenzie arriving a month later and a school was erected. Albury Railway Station and
Station Master’s residence opened February 26, builders Stevens, Kyle, Cunningham & Harris. Church of England Grammar School, 515 Olive Street, opened. Albury Public School building completed NE corner Olive and Smollett Streets. Albury Club moved to 519 Kiewa Street. New fire brigade February 20. Meeting called to form the Albury Gas Co, July 5.

1883 Official opening of Albury Railway Station June 11. Murray River temporary rail bridge tested June 12. Melbourne line extended to Albury linking rail systems of NSW and Victoria. First train trip Melbourne to Sydney June 14. Passengers changed at Albury, and goods were trans-shipped. First passenger trip Melbourne to Sydney August 21. Wesleyan (Methodist) Church service held at Black Range (Lavington) in a building at the end of Prune Street. Gas mains laid down in February. First gas town light available at start of June, and Albury streets illuminated June 2 official opening in June at 441 Kiewa Street. New building for Girls’ Public School completed, NE corner Smollett and Olive Streets. Plaque from Mechanics’ Institute has ‘This Hall’ erected and finished March, corner stone laid by Mrs George Day, November 9. Architect Philip Kennedy and contractor D Hehir. First official Albury Cup won by ‘Coolabah.’ Smollett Street extended west of Wodonga Place to the new Howlong Road without however the provision for a bridge over the Bungambrawatha Creek. A buckle plated bridge constructed by Messrs Jackson, Hudson and Brookbank in Dean Street over the relocated Bungambrawatha Creek. Work starts on Albury waterworks reservoir contractor Mr Martindale June 4. Twenty-four by-laws published in the NSW Government Gazette regarding Albury’s sewerage system May 12. Salvation Army hold their first service in the Botanic Gardens Sunday July 1.

1884 Iron railway bridge over the Murray (lattice design built in England and shipped to Australia) opened August 2, builder Alexander Frew (Snr); mayor Luke Gulsom and T H Mate fasten the last bolt. Melbourne train crossed new bridge between Albury and Wodonga, October 14. President Dr A Andrews opened Mechanics’ Institute Hall extensions, March 18. Hamilton Hume Memorial moved from wharf to Botanic Gardens (the word ‘District’ added to the inscription). Black Range (Lavington) school house built, (demolished 2009). Young Street Showgrounds grandstand erected, capacity 600, designed by George Mackay. Court House iron gates installed. Several bandsmen split from Albury Brass Band to form Albury Premier Brass Band, bandmaster Phillip Helm.

1885 Albury proclaimed a town on March 20. Foundation stone of Temperance Hall erected (vicinity NW corner of Kiewa and Stanley Streets), laid by T Affleck in April. St Patrick’s Hall and boys’ school foundation stone laid October 4, (later known as Christian Brothers College, SE corner Smollett and Olive Streets); four Patrician Brothers arrive from Ireland to teach at the Catholic boys’ school, one drowns in Murray four weeks later. Albury Volunteer Infantry Corps formed in June. Coursing Club (dogs) formed in August and many hares escaped during the first event at Albury Racecourse. Third Albury Volunteer Fire Brigade forms in January, Walter Billson first Captain; biggest Albury fire in December destroys AMP building, guts Albury Banner building, Dean St. Catholic Library stone laid with motto AMDG (Latin: Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam), 497 Smollett Street on wall in Olive Street. The Denominational School sold to Wilson and Smith.

1886 Waterworks at Mungabareena established and water piped to town via Eastern Hill, turned on January 9. Telegraph Office built at NW corner of Dean and Olive Streets. Recreational land (East Albury tennis courts) dedicated January 15. ‘Cumberoona’ paddle steamer arrived in Albury August 23. Lawn tennis events began. Ice-making factory began, operated by Watson & Young. Elm Court, 435 Townsend Street, built by Neill & Jackson for
James Higgins, coachbuilder. Albury Gun Club formed – shooting took place at Albury Cricket Ground. Albury Brass Band’s first professional bandmaster, Daniel Pogson, arrives (two of his sons later became bandmasters). Albury Borough Council met for the first time at the old Telegraph Office (later sold for demolition for the new Albury Town Hall).

1887 Area around river (later named Noreuil Park) dedicated for public recreation, May 5. Land on Sydney Road, vicinity 94 Borella Road, dedicated for public recreation August 12. Waite’s Park and Brown’s Lagoon dedicated for public recreation May 13. St Matthew’s new Sunday School Hall, 515 Olive Street opened April 24. First St Patrick’s Hall, SE corner of Smollett & Olive Streets, opened November 27 for school purposes (later CBC school). Key to the Waterworks handed to the mayor, March 1. Railway signals box built. Elizabeth Street, off western Dean Street, laid out on the former Bungambrawatha Creek channel. Albury Brass Band became Albury Town Band. Municipal cattle sale yards dedicated March 25. Alexandra Park has fence installed and Council set aside 30 acres for night soil depot.

1888 Municipal sale yards (mainly sheep) opened at Newmarket, by Mayor T H Mate, November 7. Municipal baths near Dean Street and Bungambrawatha Creek (Gertrude Park) opened in March, separate hours for ladies and men. Smollett Street iron arch bridge over Bungambrawatha Creek opened without ceremony, designed by J A McDonald, built by local builder Francisco Romero, September 17. First skating rink opened in July, by Darby & Healey on the top floor of the Exchange Hotel stables. Albury Public School status change in January to a Superior Public School (senior students will work towards the Junior University examination).


1890 Number of houses in Albury reached 1000. Thurgoona wine industry at peak production at St Hilaire, Ettamogah, Murray Valley and Valverde vineyards. Albury ‘Chinese disinterment case’ in November, incorrectly caused community outrage, when 28 bodies were exhumed preparatory for bones to be returned to China. Snowed in September. Rotunda in Botanic Gardens used for the first time November 23. First section of ‘Adamshurst,’ 603 David Street, built for George Adams and family. Temperance Hall became Federal Theatre, vicinity NW corner Stanley and Kiewa Streets.


1892 Superior Boys’ School opened. Victorian Government increased stock tax on horses and cattle on January 1, which destroyed the Wodonga Market. Arnold’s fruit business began

1893 Free Industrial Museum established at 557 Dean Street, opened by Mayor G H Billson, October 27. Albury Bicycle Club formed in March. Albury & Border Cricket Association and Ovens & Murray Football Association formed in this year. Mechanics’ Institute double storey structure opened by Hon F B Suttor, MLA, March 17.


1895 Albury Athletics club formed in June. Thurgoona Vine & Fruit Growers Association began. Industrial Museum opened in the model school building in Olive Street by Mr Jacob Garrad MLA Minister for Education February 6. Thurgoona Vine and Fruit growers Association formed.

1896 Albury water supply catchment area and water district proclaimed March 24. Federal City lawn tennis courts opened in August. Albury Rifle Club formed February 7, affiliated with H Company, 1st Regiment Volunteer Infantry. Albury Industrial Exhibition ran from September 7 to November 2 in Market Square, Dean St.

1897 Albury Co-operative Butter Factory and Produce Company Ltd with chilling facility, opened February 27, vicinity SW corner Creek and Stanley Street. Cycle track put down at the show grounds, Young Street, November. Henry Hague appointed Headmaster of Black Range school and remained for 29 years. Museum taken over in March by government and made a branch of the Sydney Technological Museum.

1898 Telephone Exchange opened July 30 with 17 subscribers. Frew and Logan, builders, established, NE corner Young and Wilson Streets. Second Union Bridge replaced earlier bridge, opened December 31, builders J B & W Farquharson. ‘The Albury Herald’ began in April. Lavington Library and Reading Room began at Literary Institute. Patrician Brothers left Albury and Sisters of Mercy continued to teach both boys and girls. Springfield Girls’ School, SE corner Crisp and Macauley Streets, commenced by Miss Jessie Heath at her family home. Caledonian Society’s inaugural meeting May 18. First poker machine installed at Salutation hotel. Union Bank of Australia opened in September, Beehive Building Dean Street, manager Mr Stephens. Burnley Hospital, 525 Swift Street located behind Dr Cleaver Woods new home October – the hospital had all the up-to-date facilities including an X-Ray machine (newspapers suggest it opened in 1888).

Bank of NSW opens new building 613-615 Dean Street June 22, demolished for present building 1938.

1900 Reserve for athletics excised from Garden’s Reserve on August 22. Motorised steam transport car driven over the Union Bridge May 5 (vehicle inventors H Thomson and H Holmes vehicle called the ‘Thomson Phaeton’). New Catholic Presbytery Foundation stone laid March 21, 515 Smollett Street. T H Mate set up a timber yard 576 Townsend Street NE corner.

1901 Census population 5,821. Australian became a nation, Federation Day January 1. The Sportsground, SW corner Wodonga Place and Smollett Streets, laid out and formally opened May 25. Stores until this time opened from 8am to 11pm. From January 1, stores closed at 6pm with late night trade on Fridays. First petrol car passed through Albury with Messrs Foy, Macken & Elliott, November 1. Snow July 27. Prince George and Princess Mary Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York (later King George V) passed through Albury May 18. ‘Adamshurst’ 603 David Street, further extended for George Adams.

1902 The ‘Border Post’ ceased publication. New stage erected at Mechanics’ Institute, John Wilkinson president. Benevolent Society formed in June. Another grandstand completed at the race course in March. Commonwealth of Australia gave women over 21 and British subjects the right to vote. Clifton Lodge Private Hospital, 492 Olive St, former home of Dr Andrews, Matron Samuel in charge. A well sunk at Lavington to 100 feet (30.5 metres) opposite and slightly east of school and used for about the next 30 years.

1903 Hamilton and Decimus Mott began ‘The Border Morning Mail’ October 24 (first on microfilm November 6, 1903). Albury Council appointed R Horsefield as first Municipal Engineer, on August 21. St Joseph’s Women’s Branch began. Loyal Murray Lodge of Oddfellows erected a new Hall at Eastern end of Dean Street, opened January 14. From 1 July, H Company (Albury) and G Company (Wagga) were combined to form No 4 New South Wales Battery, Australian Field Artillery.

1904 A small Roman Catholic Church, St Mary’s, in Carsten Street, Black Range opened June 19, by Rev Fr Griffin. In November, the Catholic Church purchases land and buildings from trustees of Presbyterian Church on western end of the block bound by Kiewa, Smollett, Olive & Hume streets. Telegraph Office transferred to Post Office in the week of May 20. Pavilion erected for Albury Show Society, builder Ernest Sharp, architect H Thompson, opened in August at Young Street Showground.


1908 Albury Town Hall (Murray Arts Museum Albury 2015) opened by Premier Hon C G Wade KC on July 17, builder Ernest W Sharp. Premier also opened the R M Wilkinson Memorial Gates at the Botanic Gardens the same day. Lavington Progress Association re-formed with meeting November 20. Cyclone in Albury September. Minnie and Lizzie Walsh take over Chelvey Private Hospital, Olive St, the former home of Dr Andrews. St Matthew’s Club established July 15 in Olive Street Hall.

1909 Lavington became official name for village of Black Range, June 15. New Masonic Temple, 562 Kiewa Street, opened June 29, consecrated September 22. Extensive flooding at Albury in June and August. Albury Parents & Citizens Association formed October 19 to promote the needs of all schooling in the area. Meeting to form the Albury & Border Tennis Association, October 13. Gordon Fleming began Boy Scout group but it lapsed when he left Albury.

1910 Thurgoona Bush Fire Brigade formed January 14. Lavington Literary Institute, SE corner Urana Road and Hague Street (name later changed to School of Arts) opened by Dr A Andrews, August 13, a brick structure built by S Parnall; plaque on building reads ‘Laid May 18, 1910, Jas Colquhoun, President.’ Albury Council invested in a steam roller on October 29, retired 1938 and later used as climbing equipment at Bilson Park. Abe Nathan’s Emporium, SW corner Townsend and Dean Streets, destroyed by fire December 13. New John Burrows’ flour mills, SE corner Young and Wilson Streets, began. West’s Olympia (Malcolm’s) open air theatre, Kiewa Street (opposite St Matthew’s Church), opened December 13. Dalgety’s built first wool store, NE corner Young and Wilson Streets.
Albury & Border Easter Tennis Tournament March 2. Glenair and Albury Ladies’ College merged and re-established at ’Springfield,’ SE corner Macauley and Crisp Streets, by Miss Jessie Heath. New Industrial exhibition hall built at show grounds, Young Street, tender accepted May. Plans for Albury underground sewerage plan adopted.


1912 Betro Abikhair, a Lebanese migrant, built the Big Store (‘Australia Building’), SE corner Dean and David Streets, opened August 31. The Model Store, NE corner of Wilson and David Streets, owned by Charles and George Reis, opened May 4. Continental Bathing (gentlemen must be accompanied by a lady) introduced in February. Albury Golf Club links to be established in North Street, vicinity corner Cemetery Road (later David Street). Lavington Agricultural Bureau formed. Dean Square (formerly Market Square) opened by Mayor James Allan on December 19. St Matthew’s Hall vicinity 511-515 Olive Street (Court House in 2017), stone laid by George Adams of ‘Adamshurst’, November 20. United Ancient order of Druids established. J Burrow Pty Ltd, flour millers, built giant silos, SE corner Young and Wilson Streets, opened December. New Superior Public School commenced in August. Horse drawn fire engine was to have a motor pump July. Melbourne to Albury telephone connection completed March 11. Meeting of ratepayers held to hear explanation of Council’s proposals re electric lighting scheme for town – poll taken, ratepayers asked if in favour of the proposal to borrow £10,500 for the scheme. Five tennis clubs form an Association, December.

1913 Baseball and hockey clubs formed May 24. Ladies’ hockey formed in June. Rotunda opened in Dean Square as memorial to pioneers, first used April 12. St John’s Newtown Orphanage added a second storey, John Ward Cochrane builder. New Lavington School erected, opened by Dr A Andrews on August 13. A D Robbins and A W Porter monoplane test flight at Bungowannah in July. Thurgoona School of Arts foundation stone laid March 19 by Mr Mitchell of ‘Maryvale’ and opened July 16, with a silver key. Smallpox closed the border July to September. Town water extended to racecourse October 30. Albury Technical Collage shifts to vacant Telegraph building Olive Street. From July 1 the Albury Superior Public School was raised to the status of a District School.

1914 World War I declared August 4. Land for a new hospital selected in Wodonga Place in June, opposite Botanic Gardens. Theatre Royal or Royal Palais owned by F C Blacklock opened 11 May, designed by S M Logan, built by Frew & Logan. Orchestral, Choral and Philharmonic Societies all amalgamated in April. New Technical College opened at the former Telegraph Office (NW corner Dean and Olive Streets) by Alderman Alf Waugh on March 21. Smallpox again closed the border July and August. Soccer game played by Albury Club June 7. Turf cricket wicket laid at Albury Sportsground in January. March 7, pilot Harry Hawker landed the first aeroplane at Albury, crash-landed his plane at Albury Racecourse (also sets an Australian altitude record 7800 feet, 2377m, March 8). Mueller petrol-electric (hybrid) road train drove down Dean Street, May.
1915 Grandstand at Sportsground opened by Alderman Alfred Waugh, July 5, builder J W Cochrane. First Albury Scouts re-formed by Frank Brown, October 27, previously commenced 1909. Foundation stone of Albury District Hospital, Wodonga Place, laid May 24. Customs house closed November 30. TH Mate’s Store, SE corner Dean and Kiewa Streets, destroyed by fire, December 12. New brick and iron building to house the new electric lighting generator and water pumping plant at waterworks, December. Charles C Reade arrives and raises interest in Town Planning which Council adopt some of his recommendations November.


1917 Large flooding October 23 at Union Bridge, compared to floods of 1870. Christian Brothers come to Albury and start Christian Brothers Collage for boys on SE corner of Smollett and Olive Streets. Monastery and school (St Patricks Hall transformed) opened by Dr Gallagher, Bishop of Goulburn, on February 11. 13th Battery, 5th Field Artillery Brigade (Albury Battery) fighting at French village, Noreuil, on Western Front in April.

1918 Albury District Hospital opened in Wodonga Place by Hon David Storey, February 23, Government Architect George McRae designed the building. Blocks at Lavington designated for returned servicemen. Armistice Day November 11. Convent of Mercy extension to boarding wing blessed, May 25 opened 1919. Logan’s timberyards, Spencer, Macauley and Wilson Streets, suffered a serious fire November 22. Rokeby Private Hospital, 564 David Street (south of Soden’s Hotel) — run by Dr Shellshear and sold to Dr Gordon Paton February 1918; run by Sister Dempsey till 1922 then Sister Whitehead who retired October 1943 when Albury District Hospital took over.

1919 Hume Dam construction began in July, first sod turned by Governor-General His Excellency Sir Ronald Munro-Ferguson, November 28. Noreuil Park name chosen by returned Albury men who worked on clearing the ground, ratified at Council meeting November 14, in honour of Albury Battery. Basic dressing shed built at Noreuil Park. St David’s Presbyterian Church War Memorial, outside church in Olive Street, dedicated November 28. Peace Day Celebration, July 19. Albury Swim Club formed in December. Lavington’s first Annual Fruit Show, April 9 & 10. Influenza epidemic (Spanish Flu) reached Albury, isolation camp set up on sportsground, borders closed, masks worn etc, from January 28 midnight to August. Returned Soldiers League formed. Opening of Methodist (Wesleyan) Church, Bungowannah. Flooding between Albury and Wodonga. Meeting of Albury Grammar to form ‘The Grammar School Old Boys’ Association’ August 12. Number 3 bridge opened on the now Lincoln Causeway by Minister Vic Clark November 12. NSW Public Works Department handed over the reticulation section of sewerage scheme to council, enabling
private connections to begin July. Meramie Private Hospital commenced on SW corner Kiewa and Victoria Streets c1913, then 1919 moved to ‘Delaware’ home of C H Griffith, 597 Kiewa Street and nurse Sister Alma Burt renamed it ‘Meramie.’ The Aerial Transport Co. sought landing rights at Alexandra Park for commercial flights, November. A G Colquhoun & Co established.


1922  Albury Bowling Club greens opened by President J Stephens at 620 Macauley Street, October 14 – the site purchased by the Bowling Club, immediately north of the North Albury Tennis Club, was owned by Mr P D Burrows (late 1941 the Bowling Club purchased the tennis club for £862 and the tennis club folded). Concrete bridge over Wodonga Creek opened by Hon F G Clarke MLA October 20. St Matthew’s Church of England War Memorial unveiled April 19 (relocated to rear of church in QEII square 1991). O&M Bowling Association formed. Snowed June 30.


1924  Wesleyan Church, (Methodist) Urana Road, opened in February 18 by Rev P O Davis. Amalgamated Textiles (Aust) Pty Ltd, later Macquarie Worsted then, Macquarie Textiles building plans approved March 6. Seventh Day Adventist’s built a timber church on Sydney Road (vicinity Broad Street north). Vallombrosa Estate East Albury released. Dedication of partially built War Memorial, Monument Hill, November 16 by Senator (Major General) C F Cox; enough money raised to complete the project. Hume & Hovell Centenary’s week-long celebrations in November included Children’s Day; memorial to explorers unveiled by R T Ball MLA at Hume Weir, on November 20; bronze plaque acknowledging Hume and Hovell was laid in Council chambers. Water reservoir placed on Western Hill. Lutheran School


1926 State Electricity Commission of Victoria supplied power to Albury, May 20. On September 2, Governor-General, Sir Dudley de Chair, was tendered a civic reception at Dean Square followed by opening the Scout Hall in Mitchell Street (with souvenir key). He proceeded to the Commercial Club, 611 Dean Street and with Abe Nathan proclaimed that building open, F W Le Quere builder. Sir Dudley de Chair then proceeded to Albury High School, Kiewa Street, to unveil the foundation stone, and Mrs Mitchell of Table Top presented the school with one thousand pounds and a hostel was proposed. In the evening, Amalgamated Textiles (woollen mills) was also opened by Sir Dudley de Chair. Roman Catholic Parish Hall (St Patrick’s Hall) foundation stone laid by Rt Rev J W Dwyer May 9 (opened later that year). Land dedicated for public use in Mitchell Street on October 15, became Albury Tennis Club. Rosehill Girls’ School, SW corner of Young and Crisp Streets, opened by Miss Lillian Windridge. Circular garden proposed in August, for front of Railway station. Choral Society formed May 30. Albury District Rural Co-Operative (butter factory), 251 Fallon Street, inaugurated September. Regent Theatre completed for Mr Betro Abikhair, leased by Hoyts. Further land approved for recreational use November 5, now known as North Street oval, SW corner North and Keene Streets. Albury Advancement Association formed July 1. West Albury Progressive Association formed May. North Albury Parents’ and Citizens’ Association formed July 5. Albury & District Rural Co-operative Society Ltd (known as the Butter Factory) inaugurated September 15. Alexandra Park, all land east of the railway line dedicated to Council. Noreuil Park Boating & Recreation Club hold the first Albury Henley (festivities, new timber dance floor and 5,000 attend).

1927 Regent Theatre formally opened Saturday, 19 February, by Mayor Alfred Waugh. Roman Catholic Hall opened in Smollett Street, on site of first Presbyterian Church. Defence Department resumed land at Wirlinga and established an ammunition depot (Closed 1982). A meeting convened to establish Albury District Ambulance’s first motor vehicle March. Albury branch of CWA first meeting April 5. Duke and Duchess of York (future King George VI and Queen Elizabeth) passed through Albury on May 7. Hume Shire Council Chambers’ foundation stone laid, SW corner Englehardt and Kiewa Streets, by President P B Bell, on May 19; building opened November 8. North Albury bus service began in September. North Albury Infants’ School opened SE corner Mate and Fallon Streets, in
1928

1929
Albury Grammar School acquired by the Presbyterian Church, February 1. Farmers & Graziers built Smollett Street wool store (previously Empire Theatre & Hotel). Charles Kingsford Smith and Charles Ulm recommended aerodrome be built at present site. Sewerage connections to north and west Albury nearing completion in December. Mate’s second floor on their Dean Street store completed. Foundation stone of Baptist Church, NE corner of Crisp and Macauley Streets, laid September 6. New baths opened next to Sportsground, October 26. Ladies’ Hospital Auxiliary formed in December. Rangers (older Girl Guides) group formed. Albury and St Patrick’s Football Clubs became East and West Albury due to sectarian differences; the dividing boundary was Olive Street, March 4. Noreuil Park declared a camping ground for tourists on October 31. Dean Street bridge over Bungambrawatha Creek widened by Bartleson

1930
Baptist Church, NE corner Macauley and Crisp Streets, opened November 15, by chairman of Baptist Home Mission Society, Mr W H G Ellingworth; builder was Mr Wiseman. Radio 2AY commenced broadcasting December 17. Bethanga Bridge opened for traffic August 9. Albury Brownie Pack began. Albury Croquet Club’s first meeting May 15. West Albury tennis Courts opened December. ‘Diggerville’ tennis courts, North Street opened November 1930 and operated until 1996 when it combined with St Patrick’s.

1931
1932  Australian Legacy Club formed in Albury, October 28, Dr Leslie Woods, president. Jubilee celebrations for Lavington School, December 15. Book of Remembrance, listing Albury and District servicemen and women, unveiled April 25; the idea was suggested in 1927 and Mrs F B S Falkiner offered to meet the cost. Noreuil Park floodlit and opened by Mayor C E Bunton December 19. Inauguration of a ‘Wool Week’ in February. Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester visited Albury on route to Melbourne and presented the prizes in the MacRobertson International Centenary Air Race October 22. Dean Street road railway overpass bridge built, half at Albury Municipal Councils cost (demolished 2006).

1933  Population 10,543. Sydney to Melbourne Highway diverted through Lavington, August and September, as Bowna was inundated with water due to the Hume Weir. West Albury Infants’ School approved October 30. East Albury Golf Club granted land at Alexandra Park for a compact nine-hole course, May. Miss Fanny Brown, daughter of Robert Brown and first white girl born in Albury, dies in Corowa aged 90, July. Albury Croquet Lawns officially opened October 28.

1934  KLM’s DC2 ‘Uiver’ landed in Albury at 1.17 am October 24, left Albury that morning to Melbourne for the race finish. The landing and take-off was assisted by the public which took place at the Albury race course. Mayor of Albury, Alfred Waugh awarded the Order Oranje-Nassau on the command of her Majesty Queen Wilhelmina of Netherlands, December 17. Gold handled gavel and illuminated address presented to Albury from Dutch East Indies Company (Netherlands) December 13. Plaque in LibraryMuseum presented from the people of the Netherlands. ‘Pyjama Girl’s” burned body found in a culvert in Howlong Road, September 1. Foundation stone of CWA Health Centre, 561 Kiewa Street, unveiled by Dr W Cleaver Woods, December 18. Council took over the Mechanics’ Institute renaming it the Plaza Theatre. Murray Valley Coaches began December 1. Foundation stone of Ambulance Station, 663 Dean Street, laid by Alderman Alf Waugh August 1; opened December 13, by Mayoress Mrs A Waugh; architect Louis Harrison, builder G E (Percy) Ried. Albury and Border Eisteddfod commenced June. Former hospital/high school in Thurgoona Street demolished. Murray Valley Coaches formed.

1935  Wool Exchange built by the Commercial Club at 618 Dean Street opened October 16 by Mr Graham Waddell MLA and Club chairman, C H Griffith; contractor G F Halls. Plaque laid for Commercial Club by Chas W Hill May 21 also noting the club established 1890 Wodonga municipal sale yards opened November 19, valued at £10,000. Three new school classrooms erected at the Albury Grammar School. F J Bellbridge Memorial Gates dedicated at showgrounds, September 10. Albury Ski Club formed in May, W P Crosswaite, president. United Charities Society and Benevolent Societies combined in April. C H Griffith and G M Stedman subdivided 20 acres called Forest Hill (Forest Hill was used as a location by earlier townspeople).

1936  Hume Dam completed, official opening by Governor-General, Lord Gowrie on November 21. It took 17 years to build; (Weir increased its size between 1950-1961 and substantial work to reinforce it between 1994-2003). Albury Show Society selected a new 14-acre site, bounded by Mate and Fallon Streets for the new Showgrounds; later expanded to Smith Street, (38 acres) and in 1955 to 51 acres. Rover Scout Den opened by Lord Gowrie, Governor-General, November 20. Mothers’ Club formed in June, with Mrs G Davidson, president and Mrs Pratt as secretary. West Albury Infants’ School building opened in January. Albury Bowling Club rooms built by J W Cochrane at 622 Macauley Street, S S Oxenham architect. Foundation stone of Baptist Sunday School, Macauley Street, laid


1939 World War II began. New Albury Hotel opened, 491 Kiewa Street. Rosehill Girls’ School moved to Griffiths’ property off Schubach Street, East Albury and renamed after the property as Woodstock Girls’ School, Miss Anna Drennan Principal. Private and Intermediate wards added to Albury District Hospital opened February 24. Flooding between Albury and Wodonga. New Albury Hotel at 491 Kiewa Street for the Richmond NSW Brewing Co designed by W H Merritt and constructed by Snider construction, architectural plans dated December 1939. New St Brigid’s Primary School building blessed and opened by Bishop Henschke, June 4. Tourist Bureau opened. New cycle track opened at Albury
Sportsground March 25. North Albury Red Cross formed at a meeting October 9. Newly-elected NSW Premier, Alexander Mair, the MP for Albury was received in Albury with the unveiling of the Mayoral and town clerk robes (chains-of-office arrived later) August 11. Reserve in Vallombrosa Estate (East Albury) named Fellowes park after J E C Fellowes, for services June1. Many street names adopted by council June 1.

1940 Temporarily Army depots and stores opened in Albury at the Showgrounds and on August 20 the 2/23rd Battalion AIF (Albury’s Own) was raised. Bonegilla and Bandiana camps laid out. Alfred Waugh portrait hung in Town Hall, December 12. Major 3-storey classroom extensions for St Joseph’s Ladies’ College opened by Bishop Henschke, 22 September. Legislation enacted to reduce Saturdays to half-day working. Albury pool tiled and chlorinated to Olympic standard, re-opened by Mayor Alderman Doug Padman in February 20. Modern trunk line installed at the Post Office in January. District Council of Parents & Citizens Association formed to operate circulating libraries for schools. West Albury Union Church declared free of debt and opened by Premier of NSW Hon Alexander Mair MLA June 23; weatherboard building transported from Table Top to site. Royal Stadium Albury holds Australian heavyweight wrestling title between Australian George Pencheff and Leo Demetral of the USA. Planes landed piggy back in a farm paddock near Brocklesby September 29. Albury railway platform extended by 190 feet (58m), February to make it the longest platform in Australia, 445 m long – Station is Australian National Heritage listed. CUSA (Catholic United Services Auxiliary) Hut at Albury Showgrounds opened by Bishop of Wagga December 15.

1941 Water reservoir installed on Nailcan Hill, May-August. Albury Infants’ School (The Manor) foundation stone laid by Hon Clive Evatt MLA, October 6, and opened in July 17. Builder F W Lemcke. Snow on One Tree Hill August 1941.

1942 The RAAF established the Etamogah depot on One Tree Hill, Closed July 30, 1961. Lavington Public School’s Hague Memorial Gates opened September 5. Albury Infants’ School opened July 17 by Hon Clive Evatt KC Minister for Education. Council purchase a three wheeled electric truck, to be used by electrical department July, Boortkoi Private Hospital, 566 Wyse Street – run by Sister Aikins who purchased a Griffith family home; Albury District Hospital leased Boortkoi as a maternity hospital, March 1942; later became the YWCA hostel after the war.

1943 Gates at Base Hospital opened in memory of C H Lester. Wodonga rail-bus disaster on Thomas Mitchell Drive killed 23 soldiers, a female Army clerk and the civilian bus driver, 6.30pm May 8. Albury Volunteer Observation Post set up in CML building September 8. Lady Gowrie opened a recreational centre for men and women in former picture theatre, Dean Street, April 27. Alamac clothing factory began operations.

1944 Liberal Party of Australia established by Robert Menzies and others at an Albury conference in Mate’s Lounge, December 14 to 16. Murray Valley Development League formed at conference, August 15, 16 at the suggestion of Albury Council. St James’ Church, Urana Road, Lavington Memorial Gates opened. Volunteer Aid Raid Observers’ Post erected in Billson Park in September.
1945  Albury Library adopted the NSW Library Act and established a Junior Free Library, Brenda Roxburgh librarian. Golfington Estate, David Street between North Street and the Cemetery put on the market by B F Mudford. Murray Valley Coaches commenced in December. Albury Kindergarten opened behind 553 Kiewa Street September 15, Miss Ann Hogan, directress. Chelvey Private Hospital, 492 Olive Street (present Hume Bank location), previously home of Dr A Andrews – he turned it into what is said to be the first private hospital in Albury; in 1901 the Andrew’s family shifted further north in Olive Street; the first matron was Sister Bugden; in May 8, 1945 Chelvey Hospital was renamed Mercy Hospital and run by the Sisters of Mercy until 1957 when the Mercy Hospital was opened in Poole Street. First Australian Broadcasting Commission (ABC) concert held October 2. Features the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. Major drought in Albury and Hume Weir has 27 days of water left. Alamac sold to White Manufacturing and a name change to Adelyn. A new building approved by council for Murray Valley Apiaries, Fallon Street, October 26. East Albury Cricket Club formed at a meeting October 26 and first game played in ‘B’ Grade November 10. Albury new trotting track unveiled at Albury Show, November 2. First advertisement found for Baker Motors Olive Street September 15.

1946  Albury proclaimed a city on December 20 by NSW Government and celebrations ensued with the announcement. Mate’s Ltd store sold to Burns Philip. SS&A Club opens in Dean Street. First Sheep Show held in Albury August 6 & 7, opened by Governor-General the Duke of Gloucester. Burrows Flour Mills sold to Bunge. Catholic United Service Auxiliary hut removed from showgrounds to 609 Young Street and converted to a church called St Joseph’s (last service July 4, 2004). Duplex teleprinters were installed to replace the old Morse Code system April 24. Albury Grammar School purchases 25 acres of old showgrounds. North Albury Youth Club Hall licenced August 9. East Albury Rovers Football Club formed, playing in the District League. North Albury Football Seniors Club joined the Chiltern & District League (Juniors are mentioned in earlier years, the club also mentioned in 1911 & 1919. North joined the O&M in 1947).

1947  Population 14,412. Migrant Reception Centre opened at Bonegilla. The first migrants arrived in Melbourne on the ‘USS General Heinzselman’ December. In February, first six NSW Housing Commission homes completed in North Albury, western side of Mate Street to the north of the PO (commenced 1946 with 19 cottages to be completed); architect Albert Hanson Sydney, builder F W Lemcke Albury. ‘Blackie House,’ modern maternity unit, added to Albury District Hospital in February, funded by money from will of Mr Blackie, local pharmacist, Redvers Mould builder. New Nurses’ Home opened February 23, 1947 by Hon C A Kelly MLA, Minister for Health. First Art Exhibition at Plaza Theatre in July, Council provided prize of £75. Governor-General Lieutenant-General Sir John Northcott unveiled a bronze plaque recording the proclamation of Albury as a city in April when celebrations included entertaining 100 pioneers. North Albury Progress Association reformed in May. Young Women’s Christian Association (YWCA) bought Boortkoi Private Hospital, 566 Wyse Street, offering accommodation for young women from November 10. Australian Rules football and cricket fields laid out at Alexandra and Billson Parks. North Albury Football Club admitted to Ovens & Murray League. First Travelodge opened by Murray Valley Coaches, NE corner Swift and Kiewa Streets, F W Lemcke builder August 15. North Albury Presbyterian Church (later St Andrew’s) first service on November 16, held in North Albury Youth Club Hall. August 19. Albury Town Band became Albury City Band.
Floodlights and sports hall installed at sportsground. West Albury Public Hall licenced September 5.

1948 Alfred Waugh died August 19; he served 27 terms as an alderman commencing in 1903, 19 terms as mayor. New Grammar School block opened by Rt Rev Alexander MacEwan Stevenson in September. In May, Albury Council gave businesses three years to remove all balconies and verandah structures. Lutheran Church Hall, 436 Guinea street foundation stone laid in May, dedication service on November 6, builder A B Chick. In September, new senior classroom block, including six classrooms, assembly hall and science block was opened at the Albury Grammar School, by Rt Rev Alexander Stevenson, sited east on the former site of Albury Showgrounds; F W Lemcke build. The Border Morning Mail becomes a tabloid newspaper (Previously broad sheet). Albury council names Greenfield Park, Noreuil Park Oval and Lambert Reserve (after Harry Lambert) June 2. Greenfield Park, on top of an old tip, is earmarked for women’s basketball and hockey, June 2. Minister agree to increase capacity and add a top to the Hume Dam October 18. South Albury Youth Club Hall licenced July 9. Council outlay £75 for (The green tin Shed) at Alexandra Park, Newmarket Cricket Club formed and second concrete wicket laid on Alexandra Park Number 2.

1949 Riverina Daylight Express trains link Albury and Sydney on September 19. Stone unveiled 23 September, by Clive R Evatt KC MLA, Minister for Housing, at a multi-story building of welfare housing, SW corner Pemberton and Thurgoona Streets using bricks from June demolition of gaol; F W Lemcke, builder. Adult section of the library became linked with six NSW public libraries in this region. Town planning committee formed. Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Act enacted, officially began October 17, completed in 1974. Memorial Bowl, below Monument proposed by Mayor C E Bunton in January. Greenfield Park, Alma and North Streets, dedicated June 17. J C King Park, SW corner David and North Streets, gazetted for public recreation June 17. The Albury District Hospital wins £250,000 to upgrade the site and becomes a Base Hospital, November 21. Albury Council calls a meeting of border Councils and Shires (NSW and Vic) to form a Regional library, April 29. Hume Shire propose a number of name changes to roads around Lavington June.

1950 The Upper Murray Regional Library forms July 1 and over time most of the district’s regional centres join the UMRL. City town plan draft exhibited in June. ‘The Albury Banner & Wodonga Express’ ceased publication May 26. Further waterworks development under Roy Collings, Town Clerk. Alfred Waugh memorial water fountain, made of Tasmanian red granite, opened in Civic Square, April 3. Town Hall re-modelled in October. Seventh -Day Adventist built school in Parkinson Street, East Albury, later became Border Christian College 24 Ava Ava Avenue, Thurgoona. Technical College building erected in Poole Street west. First television views by Astor Mobile Television Unit, May 1. Albury District Hockey Association formed. Maples Furniture donated bus stop shelters on Lavington and North Albury routes in November (remaining one at corner Hague Street and McDonald Road 2017). Dairy Farmers Co-operative Milk Co Ltd began in Fallon Street in December, site of former butter factory. First recorded cricket match on new concrete wicket at Noreuil Park, November 25. Noreuil Park Kiosk built 1950 partially demolished April 1994. Cricket grounds Number 3 and 4 added to Alexandra Park.

1951 First annual Floral Festival, March 14-18 and Floral Queen crowned March 18. Council proposed a ten-acre block for the city’s civic centre bound by Dean, Kiewa, Swift and Olive Streets. Transfer of Albury Cemetery from the combined trusts to the Albury City Council.
1952 New water supply to Lavington, officially turned on September 2 by Minister for Public Works, J B Renshaw. North Albury Presbyterian Church Manse-Hall, Buckingham Street, North Albury opened November 16 by Rev John Armour. Windsor Park Bowls Club NE corner Young Street and Railway Place formed (closed March 1994). Turf wicket laid at Alexandra Park Number 1 by East Albury and Newmarket Cricket Clubs, hockey arrived using the Number 1 and 2 grounds.

1953 Albury Business & Professional Women’s Club formed in October (Closed 2008). Albury Film Society formed. First Hampstede Heath held in Dean Street on November 9. Overhead telephone lines removed from Dean Street in October. Sportsground score board commemorating the two wars installed. Fruit Fly outbreak in Lavington spells the end of the orchard industry, February. Red Cross building near the corner of Dean and Macauley Streets is opened, August 11 by J F Clark, builder F W Lemcke. Lavington get its first public bush fire-fighting service, December. Police Boy’s Club commences (PCYC). Greenfield Park extends after council purchases ‘Walnut Shell’ houses. Dairy Farmers Cooperative brought North Albury Co-operative Society. East Albury/Newmarket Progress Association granted land in Short Street for tennis courts, June.


1956 Inter-Capital Daylight Express times between Sydney and Melbourne, changing at Albury, cut to 13 hours. St Mark’s Church of England opened, 328 Gulpha Street. Foundation stone for Seminary of the Divine Word Missionary Order laid in March, Centaur Road (became in time Lavington Sports Club). St Anne’s Sacred Heart Primary School foundation stone laid, corner Lowry and Curlow Streets, March 11, by Bishop Henschke. Tallangatta township moved. Sky-Line Drive-in, Wodonga opened January 26. Plaque erected at the site of


1959  East Lavington Public Street, 518 Daly Street opened September 25, by J F Bingham. Albury Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen’s Club new building, Olive Street, foundation stone laid by Lt General Sir John Northcott, May 2. Lincoln Causeway named after Merv Lincoln, Olympic athlete. Pollard Arch over Lincoln Causeway opened by Princess Alexandra, September 16. She spent the previous night at Bungowannah Park. Levee built along Murray River from Doctors Point to the railway embankment. Christian Brothers’ College remained in Smollett Street for primary boys, secondary students moved to new campus 294 Fallon Street, became St Thomas Aquinas College. Automatic Telephone Exchange 473 Kiewa St


1961 Third Union Bridge opened April 7, by Premier NSW, Mr R J Heffron, replacing the 1898 bridge. Quota Club Charter Dinner May 13. St Matthew’s War Memorial Parish Centre opened April 29, builders A B & M A Chick (located east, behind St Mathews Parsonage in Civic Square). St David’s Presbyterian Hall opened March by Minister H W R Norwood BA, BD, bricklayers Tom and Maurice Gulson. Shepparton Television GMV 6 commenced December 23. Albury Public School Assembly Hall foundation stone laid in March. Planning and reconstruction of the Albury Aerodrome took place. Albury North High School, Fallon Street, had first student intake January and occupied new buildings on June 8. Ettamogah RAAF Base Ammunition Store, used during WWII, closed July 30. Chapel at St John’s Thurgoona blessed & opened by Rev F A Henschke September 21 (site of earlier chapel 1869). West Albury public golf course opened. Hume Highway re-routed by extending Young Street to Hume Street. Thurgoona Post Office closed. Hume dam was enlarged and construction of the reinforced concrete hoist bridge supporting the equipment for the 29 spillway gates. Modifications were carried out during 1950-1961 to enlarge the reservoir to its present capacity of 3,038,000 ML which enabled it to accommodate additional water from the Snowy Mountains Scheme. Machine that can dig a grave in 19 minutes
(previously 7.5 hours) is trialled in Albury November. Waterworks chimney stack demolished March.


1964 Albury Airport officially opened by Hon D Fairbairn, Minister for National Development, September 13. Runway reconstructed to facilitate regular flights to Melbourne and Sydney. Ambassador for the Netherlands unveiled a plaque to commemorate the Uiver landing in 1934. War Memorial Civic Theatre opened, May 22, by Premier Renshaw MLA, value £230,000. A local television station in Albury-Wodonga started with AMV4 September 7, followed by ABC (ABAV-1) December 15. Foundation stone laid for the Greek Orthodox Church, SE corner Olive & Hovell Streets, March 22, by His Eminence, Archbishop Ezekiel. Albury Public School Assembly Hall opened December. Albury Lapidary Club began in October. Woolworths Supermarket opened SE corner Union Road and Mate Streets. Dean Square band rotunda demolished July. Lavington’s post office receives grade two status July 1. Albury Council holds the Local Government Association of NSW Conference, October 27-29. Murray River County Council’s new 490 David Street
headquarters is opened, February. Last act at the Mechanics’/Civic/Plaza Theatre, April 23.
G J Coles stores moved to 519 Dean Street.


1968  Royal Palais Kiewa Street (Westend Plaza 2017) to be demolished in March. Kalianna Enterprise Inc gained Lions’ Club support in July. Building plans approved May 23 and

1969


1970

factory production and opening day March 21. Valetta House, Swift Street, demolished for the Entertainment Centre, commenced last week February. Sarah Coventry (Jewellery manufacturer Wodonga) officially opened February 14.


1972 The Scots School, Wood and Perry Streets, created by merging Albury Grammar School (for boys) and Woodstock Girls’ School. Stargazer Drive-in Cinema, Thurgoona first night October 5. Hoyts Theatre, vicinity 483 Olive Street, closed April 12. New Albury City Hall (later known as Civic Hall/Convention Centre and then the Entertainment Centre), Swift Street opened May 19 by Hon M Morris MLA followed by a Grand Ball. Lavington Aboriginal Families’ Resettlement Scheme began. Jelbart Park has heated pool approved by council. Lavington Sports Club started building a $1 million extension including grandstand. Caravan and camping park at Noreuil Park moved to the Albury Showgrounds, Fallon, North and Mate Streets. Old Union Bridge is demolished, November. The formal start of Riverina College of Advanced Education (the precursor of Charles Sturt University, established 1989) on January 1 (classes began in Albury area at a later date). Bandiana Military Museum, Gaza Ridge barracks established.

Canoe Club began at Albury initially called Bogong Canoe Club followed by Kaiela Canoe Club. Lavington Sports Club opened. Flooding August.


1975  Foundation stone for Albury City Chambers, 533 Kiewa Street; Chick-Costain venture (foundation stone laid by Hon T L Lewis MLA Premier of NSW June 4.). Abattoirs located at Saleyards south-west corner East Street and Borella Road closed April 1. SS&A Club extensively extended. Third largest ever floods in Albury, 5.66 m, in November. Colour Television came to Albury. Glenroy Public School, Logan Road, opened. Seventh-Day Adventist Church and School, 805 David Street dedicated August 30, by Pastor Robert Frame. Murray High School, SE corner Kaitlers Road and Kemp Street. Lavington, constructed throughout 1975. Major renovations and additions at St Anne’s Primary, Lowry Street. Albury Kindergarten relocated to 714 Alma Street December 4 opened by Mayor Cleaver Bunton. First night football game at Lavington Sportsground March 1. AWDC Carramar nursery, Riverina Highway, opened. Albury Pre-School Kindergarten opened by Senator C E Bunton OBE, builders K & J Allen. Alexandra tip site Keene Street closed December 4, new site at 672 Kemp Street, Lavington. H D Lee factory opened April (jeans manufacturer Wodonga). Jindera Brickworks commenced (later taken over by Boral Ltd 1979 and rebranded PGH Bricks 2015)


1978  AWDC housing estate developed at St John’s Hill, Thurgoona mid-year. Cleaver E Bunton OBE awarded OAM. Collings Park, Walsh Street East Albury, plaque unveiled June 28, recognising Roy Collings, Town Clerk 1935-59 (plaque in Kim Avenue). Albury and District Police-Citizens Boys’ Club plaque unveiled and tree planted May 25, by Premier of NSW, Neville Wran QC MLA, marking beginning of construction. Plaque for City of Albury, Alexandra Park Sporting Complex unveiled March 13, by Premier Wran. Lt Albert Borella VC MM MID plaque unveiled by Rowan Borella July 17 on Borella Road, re-located north of playground in Broad Street owing to road changes. St John’s Orphanage closes and Guadalupe House for disabled men opened at St John’s Thurgoona. Chair at Council chamber dedicated to Cleaver E Bunton, OBE OAM. Ryan’s Hotel purchased for $800,000 by Melbourne consortium, later demolished, replaced by modern shops. Harold Mair, OAM, elected as Labor candidate to NSW Government (served until 1988). Border Bushwalking Club first meeting June 7 and officially formed July 11. Springdale Heights gets a bus service January 23. New Greek School Hall in Olive Street blessed and opened. Italo Australian Sports Club conceived and later became the Albury Wodonga Italian Community with rooms in Abercorn Street. Albury-Wodonga Australia’s Inland port established allowing direct consignments of goods to the area with necessary customs and quarantine clearances.

connected to the Hume Highway, July 2. Arrival of a DC2 aeroplane in Albury to be restored by Rotary Club of Albury West August 31. Purchased from Davidson Aero at a cost of $3,500.


1982 XPT trains start between Albury and Sydney Plaque commemorating 25 years of XPT services to the region August 23 (7 hours and 20 minutes). Army transfers its Apprentice School to Latchford Barracks from Balcombe Victoria. Shorko opened in Wodonga; Alexandra Park Athletics’ track opened by Alderman J L Roach November 14. A/W Volunteer resources group established. New Albury Central fire station at 817-821 Mate Street July 23. Army closes 311 Supply company ammunition depot at Wirlinga. Wodonga

1983 New airport terminal and tower opened December 16, by Hon Kim C Beazley MP. Plaque unveiled by Hon Peter Cox MP June 11, to commemorate the centenary of the rail link between Sydney and Melbourne. The museum of Applied Arts and Sciences closes February 14 and collection taken to Sydney, funding from the NSW Government was forth coming and the regional museum was to be administered by the Albury City Council - the Albury Regional Museum at former Turks Head Hotel handed over to Albury Council, ceremony by Premier Neville Wran MP, December 7. Xavier High School instituted by amalgamating St Thomas Aquinas boys’ school and St Joseph Ladies’ College. Kirinari Disability Services opened first house in West Albury in May. Seventh-Day Adventist School in Thurgoona opened, Woodstock Centre (Reservoir Road) opened for people with disabilities, November, later became Woodstock Support Inc. Fred Osborne Billiards Classic competition commenced. Prince Charles and Lady Diana welcomed to Albury March 23; they stayed at Wooma and their stay concluded in April. Work begins on Bonnie Doon park area and earmarked for expansion, July 4. Latchford Barracks opened, January 1983 for the 38th Class of Army Apprentices. Fluoridation to Albury’s water supply, December 1983. Shorko (Australia) Pty Ltd opened a $16 million packaging film plant, Melrose Estate Wodonga. Latchford Barracks $40 million expansion completed.


of Twin Cities Gay Group February 11 (group merged in the mid-1990s to form Hume Phoenix support group for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people).

Shalom Cottage, home for dementia sufferers opened in the UPA centre by Harold Mair, September 16. Museum collection transfer of ownership to the Albury City Council, February. St Hilaire estate commenced. Maternity ward transferred to Mercy Hospital September. Rotary Club of Lavington established. Radio 2REM FM commenced in new studios moving from Ettagomah to 243 Borella Road, March. AWDC provides loan to V-Line to develop tracks to Bandiana, coupled with Customs and Excise facilities (Inland Port) November. Albury Aboriginal Land Council was formed with David Clark as chairman – he later became NSW Aboriginal Lands Council chairman.


1987 Court House, 515 Olive Street opened October 26, by Hon Barrie Unsworth MP, cost $2.5m, Peter’s Construction build. Wodonga TAFE Institute opened. Murray River County Council built a $6.5m building, April 1. Ettamogah Pub at Table Top opened April 1. Umpires’ Rooms completed at Noreuil Park, June 10. Tax office moved in to former Farmers & Graziers building, SE corner Smollett and Townsend Streets, October and the $10m development officially opened December. St Peter’s Lutheran Education Centre opened, August 9. Thurgoona Public School opened, November 23 by member for Albury Mr H Mair. Telegraph system became computerized. St John’s Anglican Church, Thurgoona, re-opened after four years in December. Macquarie Worsted Ltd (woollen mills) taken over by General Investments Australia Ltd. Lavington Library gets the go ahead, valued at $400,000. Meeting to form the Thurgoona Football Club December 1. Sewerage $2.3m upgrade completed September. Council’s first compulsory annual report printed October 2. Playground for
Endeavour Park, Kurnell Place, November. Botanical Gardens granted a heritage listing, November. Albury’s first 24-hour petrol station (Ampol), 840 David Street, September 27. Museum to the 8/13th opens at Buna Barracks, Victoria Street, June. Vietnam Memorial established at the Civic Centre. Kimberly Clark opened June 6 by Senator John Button. Wodonga Plaza sold to Alter’s Pacific Shopping Centres March. Murray Darling Freshwater research centre opened by Hon Gareth Evans October 24. Fruit Flies become an annex of Wodonga High School, to be known as the Flying Fruit Fly School of Acrobatic Arts & Performance Skills. Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation moves into it’s new $4.2m office block Thurgoona December.


1989 Riverina College of Advanced Education, later Riverina Institute of Higher Education became Charles Sturt University, Albury Campus. AWDC wind-down began with Gordon Craig retiring. The Ministerial Council decided to return planning to local government. Kalparrin Inc (Disability Services) established. The Scots School’s Chapel and Auditorium opened. Union Bridge widened 1989/90. Huge lightning storm causes Albury to be blacked out, cause by lightning striking the Union Road substation September 10. Bungambrawatha Creek bridge, Dean Street concrete deck added and widened and a plaque added, December. The foundation stone to the Lutheran Aged Care Cottages is laid. Albury Wodonga Tourism wins the NSW Tourism Award. Hume Permanent changes name to Hume Building Society and introduces first ATMs in a workplace at Uncle Ben’s and Australian Newsprint Mill. Mercy Hospital $3.32m three level building extensions opened. Launch of Albury-Wodonga Art Foundation by Hon E G Whitlam March 17.

1990 AWDC and Albury Council agree to develop Norris Park jointly August. Charles Sturt University began purchasing sites in Olive Street north including ‘The Cedar.’ St Matthew’s bells arrived and were installed. Dartmouth overflowed for the first time in August. New Thurgoona Telephone Exchange. Stargazer Drive-in cinema, Thurgoona closed December

1991 Albury and Wodonga combined population exceeded 70,000. Albury-Wodonga Campus of La Trobe University established January 1, incorporating Wodonga Institute of Tertiary Education (began February 1, 1987) opened by Governor-General Bill Hayden, March 15. St Matthew’s Church destroyed by fire, September 14. Vietnam Memorial and Avenue of Honour, on road to Airport, opened August 17 by Mayor L Langford (987 trees planted). Purpose built Lavington Library opened in Griffith Road, builders Zauner Construction, opened by Mayor Les Langford August 23. Kiewa Street Bridge over Bungambrawatha Creek, opened by Mayor L Langford December 16. Waterworks doubled its capacity with new pumps. Methodist Church site, SW corner Olive and Kiewa Streets, sold to Police Department. New management structure for Albury Council came into effect January 1. Albury/Wodonga Community Theatre (ACT Inc) commenced as a company. Plaque in honour of William Chauncy, district surveyor who designed and supervised the construction of the first bridge over the Murray, located at entrance to Noreuil Park, Wodonga Place, unveiled August 3. Borella Road bridge widened, opened December 13. Poker machine are allowed in Victoria and changes the operations of the local large clubs in Albury. ‘Winan-Gidjal’ (learning), the Aboriginal education centre opened at Charles Sturt University Murray.

1993 Macquarie Textiles (woollen mills), Schubach Street, completed $60 million expansion. Albury Tourist Bureau, Wodonga Place, closed. Thurgoona Community Complex handed to Albury Mayor, Ald A McLeish, by Mr M Hanrahan, Chairman of AWDC Board, December 13. Dean Street improvements included gardens, acknowledged by plaque outside post office and tribute to Robert Harvey planner in garden bed corner Kiewa and Dean Streets. Sydney-Melbourne Express replaced by Countrylink XPT. Tourist watercraft, ‘Discovery,’ launched at Noreuil by owners Russell and Sheryl Thompson. Phos-Watch campaign began November 1, aimed to reduce phosphates in waste water. Reconstruction of Albury Swim Centre opened March 7 by Ian Glachan MP. Plaque in memory to the pioneers of Lavington, 1900-1950, presented by the back to Lavington committee October 3 & 4. Dalgety Farmers’ Wool Store finishes business as a wool centre, March 19. The ‘Back to Reality’ foundation is starting in a bid to help street kids, September. The first sod turned for Latrobe University, February. The Museum Collection is moved to storage at Thurgoona, December. Dean Street upgrade opened, July 17. St David’s Church dedication of new buildings, including the Wesley centre November 28. Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation building purchased by Charles Sturt University to develop its Murray Campus.

1994 New Albury Base Hospital, Borella Road, officially opened November 9 by Hon Ron Phillips MP, Minister for Health (first patients October 4). New Police Station, Olive Street opened October 6 by Hon Gary West MP. Wodonga City enlarged to 430 sq. km. St Matthew’s reconstructed during this year, mainly by A B & M A Chick, reconsecrated in September. Various plaques recognising International Year of the Family unveiled by Cr J Patterson (Mungabareena Road) in May. Avenue of trees, Populus simonitii, planted on Mungabareena Road in September. State Emergency Services, Albury Hume, headquarters officially opened by Hon G B West, Minister for Police and Emergency Services, on October 6. Railway Station renovations recognised in building awards, opening of waiting rooms, March 14 by Hon Bruce Baird MP. Bungambrawatha Creek mitigation plaque unveiled by Hon G Souris and Mayor A J McLeish, on June 2. Woollen mills company changed name to Macquarie Textile Group Ltd. Thomas and Charlotte Mitchell painting received by Regional Art Gallery, April 21. Lutheran Age Care facility ‘Yallaroo’ opened (Somerset Drive). Mungabareena Aboriginal Corporation formed.

1995 Charles Sturt University bought land for Thurgoona campus (Riverina TAFE later purchased adjoining site). Albury Base Hospital Wodonga Place closed. Amanda Duncan-Strelec elected first female mayor of Albury. The first satellite pay TV operators start in Albury, March. The Federal Government sets a five-year wind-up of the AWDC and a sale of almost $100 million worth of property. Sunday trading for all businesses at Lavington Shopping Centre begins, December. Pavers laid in Dean Street between Olive and David Streets. Hume ‘Break Even’ service for responsible gambling by Upper Murray Health commenced February.

1996 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. Albury Cinema Centre expanded to six screens with $6m investment. Roy Herbert Benyon Reserve, off Mountford Crescent (Eastern View) East Albury, plaque unveiled by Mayor Patricia Gould in December. Albury Dental and Community Health Centre, 596 Smollett Street, opened by Dr Andrew Refshauge, Deputy Premier May 31. Albury North High School changed name to James...


1999 Department of Defence closed 8/13th Victorian Mounted Rifles’ Buna Barracks in Victoria Street, site later sold for housing. 2/23 AIF Battalion Association adopted the Albury Base Hospital Children’s Ward, plaque unveiled November 30. Border Mail opened new building at McCoy’s Road Wodonga, June 31, cost $8m. Cleaver Ernest Bunton OBE, OAM, known as ‘Mr Albury,’ who completed half a century as an Alderman and was Mayor 28 times, died January 20. Murray Valley Private Hospital and Oncology Centre (formerly Clyde Cameron College) Wodonga, opened by Hon Michael Woodridge, March 12. Kosovo refugees arrived in Albury-Wodonga in March. Melanda Family Day Care Administration Centre, 1132 Burrows Road, opened by Mayor P Gould, May 12. $33 million waste water treatment works opened at Waterview, Howlong Road. Plaque at Oddies’ Creek commemorating the work of John & Margaret Baker, Lex & Heather Bartram and Ian & Jane Pike, killed in an aeroplane crash and recognised for their work for Albury, commemorated September 8 by Mayor Patricia Gould. Upper Murray Regional Library administration centre opened at Moorefield Park Drive Wodonga, August 20. Pemberton View Lutheran aged care services foundation stone unveiled May 2 by Chaplin Carl Dohler and time capsule Rose Place West Albury to be opened September 19, 2024.

2000 Majority of Kosovo refugees left in June. Mirambeena Community Centre, 19 Martha Mews, Lavington, opened August 3 by Mayor Les Langford. West End Plaza underwent a $15m renovation, opened by Tom Pearsall, November 26 (land was purchased 1984 & shops and car park built). Victoria Street Barracks Museum shifted to North Bandiana.

2001 NSW and Victoria Government’s proposed merger of Albury and Wodonga was unsuccessful. Xavier High School, South Campus students Years 9 to 12, vacated Kiewa Street, and settled at 294 Fallon Street to join Years 7 to 8 (the site was former Aquinas College). Neil Carr memorial bridge at National Forest Grove unveiled, September 2001. First Hockey synthetic field was replaced with a wet synthetic surface. A partnership between Mungabareena Aboriginal Corporation and Woomera Aboriginal Corporation produced the Koori Cross Border Health Plan.


2005 Council purchased greyhound racing track, Newmarket, and sold to Harvey Norman for shopping complex. Centrepoint Arcade re-development opened by Pearsall family in December. Fallon’s cellar has 28 beams and 21 columns removed from the Kiewa Street site. “Shalom Hostel” (part of Lavington UPA Homes) opened by Sussan Ley November 16. J C King Netball courts re-surfaced. Albury Wodonga Aboriginal Health Service becomes fully operational June 27.

2006 Borella Road & North Street bridges completed over Hume Freeway. Baptist Church Thurgoona services began November (though Sunday School started in October 1980). Cricket Albury-Wodonga formed August. Albury Regional Museum at the Turks Head closed its doors in November prior to moving to the new LibraryMuseum building in Kiewa Street. Dairy Farmers Co-op, Fallon Street demolished due to freeway changes. Albury ‘Pub lockout’ to licenced premises after 1.00 am from July 1.
2007  Hume Freeway Internal Bypass opened by Prime Minister John Howard March 4. Albury LibraryMuseum opened July 27, SE corner Kiewa and Swift Streets, by Mayor Amanda Duncan-Strelec. Official opening of the Mott Family Border Mail ‘Info-zone’ at the LibraryMuseum by Mayor Cr Stuart Baker November 24. Harvey Norman Centre at Newmarket opened. Information Centre at Railway Station opened by Mayor Amanda Duncan-Strelec, June 12. Art installation erected on Victorian (southern side) side of Union Bridge (named ‘Porta’ from Latin meaning gate, entrance or exit), artist was Ken Raff. Albury Lapidary and Allied Crafts building opened by Mayor Amanda Duncan-Strelec March 11, at 304 Eames Street, site of former Diggersville Tennis Club courts. Fallon’s wine cellar demolished for Quest Apartments, 550 Kiewa Street. Albury Bowling Club had previously shifted to Bunton Park and changed its name to North Albury Bowling Club.


2010  Charles Sturt University Albury Campus relocated from central Albury to Thurgoona 2009-2010. Plaque remembering National Servicemen unveiled in Harold Mair Park, Dean Street east, installed by Albury-Wodonga branch National Servicemen’s Association, April 11. Flying Circus Training Facility in former Adelyn factory, opened by Hon Simon Crean MP, November 4. Thurgoona Plaza opened in March. Lavington lighting upgrade $500k. Charles Sturt University dentistry and oral health campus completed. Final freight train uses original Wodonga train line and first train travels over the Causeway rail bypass (works cost $181 million). Caravan Albury Wodonga served its first meals May. Hume Building Society lease second electric car from Baker Motors though Albury Council electrical department used one in the 1950s (undated).


2013 Lavington Library moved to North Point Tower July 12, Zauner build. Upper Murray Regional Library closes its doors after 63 years. Floral panels on eastern side of Harold Mair Bridge installed, artists M Laubli and L Gavioli. Hilltop Centre part of Albury Wodonga Cancer Centre completed January.


2016 Census population 51,076. The Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre opened November 16. New building at J C King Netball Park surface opened in May. Public Art project Volt Lane by Nat Ward in partnership with AlburyCity in September. AlburyCity awarded the A R Bluett Award for excellence in local government in October. Fallon’s cellar timber used in seating in QE11 Square, Wodonga Place, and Wagirra Trail including the Yindyamarra sculpture walk. Submissions to the AlburyCity 2030 draft plan closed March 24. Albury Waste Management Centre opened November 3. Urana Road oval new Pavilion opened May 14 by Mayor Cr. Hank van de Ven. Retro café (Youth café) opened November by Mayor Kevin Mack. Age Concern amalgamates and becomes Live Better.
Memorial Uiver memorial removed to Smart Air hanger May 12. ‘Tea Cup’ community garden commences in Broad Street, November 27.


2019  Jones Street walk bridge opened March. Oddies Creek playground have additional equipment added, April. Collings Park new centre concrete wicket installed, May. Opening of new play space at National Foresters Grove, June 2. Murray Park estate, Thurgoona approved July 22. Railway station has two slate roofs completed, July 22. Albury council management adopt a new model with General Manager, two deputy chief executives and ten service clusters taking effect from October 1. Border Mail owned by John Fairfax Holdings sold to Anthony Catalano & Alex Waislitz of Australian Community Media July 1. The Elms estate, Table Top Road approved July. JC King Netball open a new pavilion valued at $2 million July 3. Opening of Albury’s new renewable energy hub. Australia first solar farm built on top of a capped land fill site (Mudge Street). Sale of Lavington shopping centre including Coles supermarket. Tim Fischer (politician and past deputy prime minister) died and a State funeral held at Albury entertainment centre August 29. Visy purchases Norske Skog’s plant Ettamogah. Brain and Mind centre at Mercy Hospital
opened by premier Gladys Berejiklian October 2. New Nagle centre, part of St Vincent de Paul housing complex, was formally Riches Lane (now Dempsey Close) opened and blessed September 11 (38 units replaces Quamby house shelter for homeless men). Two gym training equipment stations placed on East Albury to Thurgoona walking track September. Two cities one community – the Albury and Wodonga councils will work together to share facilities, venues, infrastructure and services – Regional Deal announced March 20. First ‘Gardenesque’ event held at Botanic Gardens October 12, 13. Endeavour Park play space opened Kurnell Street October 18. The Young@Pak a Parkinson support group forms for local people under 65 years. Active space Waites Park South Albury opened November 10. 100-year commemorative plaque unveiled at Hume Weir picnic area November 28. A Mart Furniture opens November 28. Instillation ‘Summer Place’ is erected QEII square November closes March 2020. Noreuil Park carpark and additions completed November. Norske Skog to close and majority of staff to leave December 20. 13CABS commenced business November. East Albury three gym stations opened in parkland beside Hume Freeway October. Council proceeds to switch 8,200 street lights to LED fixtures, July.

2020 January, devastating fires in the Upper Murray including dangerous levels of bushfire smoke engulfing Albury-Wodonga, NSW and Victoria, some sports and outdoor activities postponed. Council Electric car charging station opened and located at second floor of carpark in Kiewa Street 26 February. Former local, Judge Sean Grant, returns to Albury as first resident District Court Judge, February 10. Coronavirus (Covid-19) Pandemic – March 13 Government imposes restriction; Stage one restrictions imposed March 22; Stage two March 26; first case on the Border found March 22 and first death (patient returned from Ruby Princess cruise ship) April 2-3 at Albury Base Hospital. A full version of events to be released soon. War Memorial landscaping, improvements and up-grades, has Flag raising ceremony May 15. Viewing platform at Leaney’s Bend along Wagirra trail, Kremur Street June. First ‘Red Light’ Speed camera turned on June 29 – intersection East West Guinea and Young Streets. Uber ride sharing business commenced June 26. AlburyCity begins on Instagram July 2. Albury-Wodonga Regional Deal officially signed July 9 to reduce regulatory barriers to create more jobs and community infrastructure.

2024 Bi-centennial celebrations of Hume & Hovell crossing place. Pemberton View Lutheran age care time capsule, Rose Place West Albury to be opened September 25, 2024.

2088 Time capsule buried at Australia Park beside Turk’s Head building to be exhumed 25 September 2088.

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