

## **ALBURY & DISTRICT TIME LINE**

Aboriginal occupation of the district began as early as 40,000 years ago. Site of Albury known as Bungambrawatha; river known as Millewa; meeting ground east of Albury known as Mungabareena; and Dights Hill to the west of Albury known as Jingera.

1824: Hume and Hovell's party arrived at Murray River, called it Hume River, and marked trees.

1835: William Wyse drove first cattle to Murray and established Mungabareena Station for Charles Ebden.

1836: Robert Brown opened first store near the Hovell Tree; Paul and Charles Huon established Wodonga Station.

1838: Thomas Townshend made first town map; slab hut Police Station built near river crossing.

1840: Brown's Hume Inn opened.

1846: Flour mill opened.

1847: Albury Court of Petty Sessions established.

1850: National School began; Thomas Mate opened general store.

1851: German migrants Schubach, Frauenfelder and Rau planted first vineyards in Albury.

1852: Gold specks found in Nail Can Hill, but rich Ovens goldfields drew most prospectors.

1853: Custom officer and resident magistrate appointed to Albury.

1854: Wodonga township began with police station.

1855: Captain George Johnston brought first paddle steamer from South Australia.

1856: First newspaper, the *Border Post* printed; Bank of New South Wales opened.

1857: Agricultural & Horticultural Society formed.

1858: Electric telegraph connected to Albury from Melbourne, and later from Sydney.

1859: First municipal council election; first mayor James Fallon; St Matthew's Anglican Church opened.

1860: First permanent courthouse built; *Albury Banner & Wodonga Express* newspaper established.

1861: Union Bridge opened; first hospital opened in Thurgoona Street.

1862: Gaol opened in Thurgoona Street.

1865: Wesleyan (Methodist) Church opened on corner Swift and Olive Streets.

1868: Sisters of Mercy arrived and began teaching girls.

1869: John Burrows bought Hume Flour Mills, business remaining with family until 1946.

1872: St Patrick's Roman Catholic Church opened.

1873: North Eastern Railway completed connecting Melbourne to Wodonga.

1875: Present Albury Post Office opens on site of older post office.

1876: Wodonga Shire created out of Yackandandah Shire.

1880: Great Southern Railway completed connecting Sydney to Albury; Albury population 5700.

1882: Gas works built in Kiewa Street: town gas lit. St John's Orphanage opened.

1883: Murray River rail bridge completed; Melbourne line extended to Albury linking rail systems of NSW and Victoria. Passengers changed at Albury and goods transshipped.

- 1884: Albury Iron Foundry established.
- 1886: Waterworks established and water piped to town; Telegraph Office built at corner of Dean and Olive Streets (now Conservatorium).
- 1888: Municipal sale yards opened at Newmarket, mostly for sheep.
- 1890: Number of houses in Albury 1000; Thurgoona wine industry peaked.
- 1891: Large-scale wool sales began prompting building of big wool stores.
- 1893: Arnold's fruit business began with wheelbarrow.
- 1898: Telephone exchange opened; builders Frew and Logan established; second Union Bridge replaced earlier bridge.
- 1899: Technical School began classes.
- 1903: Mott brothers started *The Border Morning Mail*.
- 1906: Mylons (later Mylon Motorways) started as a two-way horse-drawn bus service between Wodonga and Albury; Hume Shire Council proclaimed; St David's Presbyterian Church opened.
- 1908: Town Hall (now Albury Art Gallery) built.
- 1912: Betro Abicare, a Lebanese migrant, built the Big Store (Australian Building) on corner Dean and David Streets.
- 1914: World War I began, about 100 Albury men killed.
- 1916: Albury municipal electricity undertaking established.
- 1917: Highest river flood in 100 years recorded.
- 1918: Albury District Hospital opened in Wodonga Place.
- 1919: Hume Dam construction began: Town sewerage system laid out; Noreuil Park established.
- 1920: Albury High School established in old hospital building in Thurgoona Street.
- 1924: Amalgamated Textiles, later Macquarie Textiles, opened mill.
- 1925: Colonial Mutual (CML) office block and clock tower built.
- 1926: State Electricity Commission of Victoria supplied power to Albury and Wodonga.
- 1927: Regent Theatre opened: Defence Department resumed land at Wirlinga for ammunition depot.
- 1928: Forest Hill garden suburb started.
- 1929: Farmers & Graziers built Smollett Street wool store (now Australian Tax Office); Charles Kingsford Smith and Charles Ulm recommended aerodrome be built at present site.
- 1930: 2AY started broadcasts, followed by ABC Radio 2CO in 1931.
- 1931: Jock and Annie Haberfield began Haberfields Dairy in South Albury.
- 1932: Martins bus service began.
- 1935: Wool Exchange opened in new Commercial Club Dean Street; Wodonga municipal sale yards opened.
- 1936: Hume Dam completed.
- 1937: The Spirit of Progress express train began on Melbourne route.
- 1938: Aerodrome laid out.
- 1939: World War II began, claiming about 100 local lives; New Albury Hotel opened.

- 1940: Temporary army depots and stores opened in Albury; 2/23<sup>rd</sup> Battalion AIF (Albury's Own) raised at Albury Showgrounds; Bonegilla and Bandiana camps laid out.
- 1944: Liberal Party of Australia established by Menzies and others at Albury conference.
- 1945: Mercy Hospital opened in Olive Street.
- 1946: Albury population approaching 15,000, proclaimed a city; Mate's Ltd store sold to Burns Philp; SS& A Club opened in Dean Street.
- 1947 Bonegilla Migrant Reception Centre opened; First housing commission homes completed in North Albury.
- 1949: Riverina Daylight Express trains link Albury and Sydney.
- 1950: Upper Murray Regional Library established.
- 1954: Wodonga District Hospital opened, taking pressure off Albury Base Hospital.
- 1955: Road haulage on Hume Highway boosted after state tax on trucks abolished.
- 1956: Passenger train times between Sydney and Melbourne, changing in Albury, cut to 13 hours.
- 1957: Cardinal Gilroy opened new Mercy Hospital in Poole Street; Hume Power Station added to Hume Dam.
- 1958: Albury and other NSW municipalities form Murray River County Council.
- 1960: SS&A Club relocated to Olive Street.
- 1961: Third Union Bridge opened replacing the 1898 bridge.
- 1962: Standard rail gauge completed from Wodonga to Melbourne; Lavington and much of Thurgoona absorbed into city.
- 1964: Airport reconstructed to facilitate regular flights to Melbourne and Sydney; Civic Theatre opened; television in Albury-Wodonga commenced by AMV4 and ABC.
- 1965: Albury-Wodonga Complex Committee promotes cross-border growth.
- 1966: Albury and Wodonga's combined population reaches 36,000.
- 1967: Uncle Ben's pet food factory and Donga Meats abattoir opened in Wodonga; Victoria identifies "Wodonga-Albury" for accelerated development.
- 1970: Parkinson Street route chosen for expressway; Target store opened; Borg Warner opened large gearbox factory at Lavington (now Drivetrain International Systems).
- 1972: Riverina College of Advanced Education opened study centre in Albury, the precursor of Charles Sturt University; The Scots School created by merging Albury Grammar School (for boys) and Woodstock Girls' School.
- 1973: Whitlam government and NSW and Victoria agreed to establish the first national growth centre at Albury-Wodonga; Wodonga proclaimed Rural City; H.D Lee & Co began making jeans in Albury before relocating to Wodonga.
- 1974: Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation (AWDC) started with aim of 300,000 regional population by 2000; Sanyo opened television factory in Wodonga; Albury-Wodonga Continuing Education centre opened.
- 1976: AWDC housing program that produced 6000 sites started in Springdale Heights and Willow Park; Lincoln Causeway made 4 lane divided road.

- 1977: Natural gas supply started; Clyde Cameron Trade Union Training College opened in Wodonga (now Murray Valley Private Hospital).
- 1978: AWDC housing estate developed at St Johns Hill, Thurgoona; new sale yards at Bandiana opened.
- 1979: Albury-Wodonga Private Hospital opened; Centrepoint Arcade and Lavington Square shopping centres opened; Murray River Performing Group and Flying Fruit Fly Circus began.
- 1980: Peter Till Environmental Laboratory (Murray Darling Freshwater Research Centre from 1986) opened at Thurgoona.
- 1981: Myer Albury and Myer shopping centre open; Australian Newsprint Mills (now Norske Skog) opened.
- 1982: XPT trains start between Albury and Sydney (7 hours and 20 minutes); Army transfers its Apprentice School to Latchford Barracks from Balcombe Victoria; Shorko opened in Wodonga.
- 1983: New airport terminal and tower opened; Westend Plaza including K-Mart opened; Albury Sports Stadium opened.
- 1985: Wodonga bypass opens.
- 1986: Kimberley Clarke and Geofabrics opened factories; Albury selected for Australian Tax Office branch with 600 staff; paddle-steamer *Cumberoona* launched; sale of former milk depot to Wodonga Council made Gateway Island tourist precinct possible.
- 1987: Court House in Olive Street completed; Wodonga TAFE Institute opened; Ettamogah Pub opened.
- 1988: Bicentennial celebrated; Prime Minister Hawke opened Bicentennial Exhibition in Wodonga; Wodonga Institute of Tertiary Institute (precursor of La Trobe campus) opened.
- 1989: Charles Sturt University established; AWDC wind-down began.
- 1990: AWDC and Albury Council agree to develop Norris Park jointly.
- 1991: Albury-Wodonga Campus of La Trobe University established incorporating Wodonga Institute of Tertiary Education; Albury and Wodonga combined population exceeds 70,000.
- 1992: Overall Forge opened at Ettamogah; Albury-Wodonga Festival of Sport began with Zimbabwe-England cricket match.
- 1993: Macquarie Textiles completed \$60 million expansion; train times Sydney-Melbourne reduced to 10 hours.
- 1994: New Albury Base Hospital and new Police Station opened; Wodonga city enlarged to 430 square kilometres.
- 1995: Charles Sturt University bought land for Thurgoona campus (Riverina TAFE later purchased adjoining site).
- 1996: Amanda Duncan-Strelec elected first female mayor; Save Our City (pro-external bypass) campaign began; Victorian Premier Jeff Kennett unsuccessfully promoted Albury-Wodonga merger; slight movement in Hume Dam embankment led to emergency releases and flooding.

- 1997: Albury Council officially apologised for Australia's past injustices to Aborigines; SBS television available locally.
- 1998: \$33 million waste water treatment works opened at Waterview; Albury Gold Cup half-holiday became permanent feature.
- 1999: Army decides to close Buna Barracks in Victoria Street, later sold for housing.
- 2000: Mirambeena Community Centre, Lavington, opened.
- 2001: NSW and Victoria governments propose merger of Albury and Wodonga, but move was unsuccessful.
- 2002: Prime Minister Howard finally determined an internal route for Hume Freeway.
- 2003: Albury Council spending passes \$1 million-a-week mark.
- 2004: Council mergers tripled size of Albury city to more than 300 square kilometres by absorbing parts of Hume Shire.
- 2005: Council bought Greyhound Racing Track, Newmarket, and sold to Harvey Norman for shopping complex.
- 2007: Hume Freeway opened; Library-Museum opened; Harvey Norman Centre at Newmarket opened.
- 2008: Gardens Medical Centre opened.

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