

WANDONG SETTLEMENT TIME LINE

- author Sue Marstaeller

- 1825 - 13th December - Hume & Hovell discover and name Mt Disappointment
- 1838 - First Sydney Road trail surveyed and blazed.
- 1850 - Magpie & Stump Inn opened 7 miles from Broadford on the stock route - preferred to Sydney road.
- 1855 - Glenburnie Run Pastoral lease first tenant John Aitken.
- 1860 - Timber industry starts in Mt. Disappointment forest.
- 1861 - Magpie & Stump closes it's doors.
- 1869 - Construction starts on the North Eastern Railway single broad gauge track.
- 1870 - Gold discovered near Clonbinane - many mines opened.
- 1871 - St John's Church of England opens at Lightwood Flat.
- Lightwood School No 1277 opens in church building.
- 1872 - North Eastern Railway opened.
- 1873 - New Lightwood school built at corner of Arkell's Lane and Kilmore Road.
- 1876 - Township formed - once known as Morphett's Siding and renamed Wandong (ghosts in aboriginal dialect).
- First store and post office opened - Frederick Arkell was the first postmaster.
- 1877 - School moved to present site - renamed Wandong State School No 1277.
- 1880 - Robert Affleck Robertson purchased the Derril Mill and opened the Wandong Timber Company.

- 1882 - Railway line doubled - broad gauge.
- 1883 - Comet Mill and township built.
- 1884 - Wandong consists of two stores, one blacksmith, a railway station and a school.
- Comet Mill school opened No.2799
- 1888 - Tramline built to service mills in forest.
- Traveller's Rest Hotel built.
- Wandong Timber Company liquidated.
- 1889 - Victorian Terra Cotta Lumber Company started producing bricks.
- Seasoning Works opened.
- Derrill Mill destroyed by fire.
- 1890 - New St. John's church built at Wandong, near the freeway today.
- Kilmore to Bendigo railway spur opened from Kilmore Junction formerly named Summit (now known as Heathcote Junction).
- 1891 - St. Michael's Catholic church built on present site.
- 1894 - Kilmore Water Trust brings water to Wandong.
- 1892 - Auction of house lots in Wandong township.
- Australian Seasoned Timber Company bought out Wandong Timber Co, Seasoning Works & Terra Cotta Lumber Co.
- 1898 - Terra Cotta Lumber Company closed down.
- 1900 - Comet Mill destroyed by fire - rebuilt.

- 1902
 - Wandong Mechanics Institute and free Library opened.
 - Police station closed down.
 - Comet Mill and school closed down.
 - Australian Seasoned Timber Company assets sold and removed.
- 1911
 - First Parent Committee formed at Wandong State School.
- 1914
 - Sydney Road declared a main road.
 - Teachers residence detached from schoolhouse.
- 1916
 - Some residents went to fight in WW 1.
- 1917
 - Auction of house lots in Kilmore Junction.
- 1919
 - Large fire in southern part of forest.
- 1922
 - Kilmore Junction renamed Heathcote Junction.
- 1924
 - School shelter shed built with a picnic to celebrate.
- 1926
 - Large forest fires in the south, west and north of Mt. Disappointment State Forest.
- 1928
 - Sydney Road renamed the Hume Highway - still a narrow two lane road.
- 1930
 - School residence burnt to the ground - new one brought in and resited.
- 1932
 - St. John's church burnt to the ground.
- 1933
 - Traveller's Rest Hotel burnt to the ground.
 - Wandong Park declared a recreation reserve.
 - New St. John's church opened on present site in Wandong Avenue.
- 1938
 - Large forest fires in Mt Disappointment forest, same areas as 1929 - all sawmills in forest areas closed down by Parliament.

- 1941 - Wandong State School won Best School Garden Award.
- 1946 - A number of men went off to World War 11.
- 1956 - Electricity switched on in Wandong.
- 1960 - Brick store built by Mr & Mrs Clarke.
- 1961 - Concrete bridge over rail at Wandong replaces rail crossing.
- 1962 - Standard Gauge rail line completed and trains now travel through to Sydney.
- 1963 - Wandong Rural Fire Brigade formed.
- 1968 - Branch rail line from Heathcote Junction to Bendigo closed.
- School pine plantation started with 400 trees planted by students and parents.
- 1969 - New school building opened by Mr Lindsay Thompson, Minister for Education.
- Hume Freeway bypass from Wallan - Broadford started.
- 1970 - Wandong Fire Brigade opens its first station.
- 1972 - First Country & Western Music Festival started by the Lion's Club held at the reserve (1800 attended).
- Wandong-Wallan Lion's Club formed.
- 1974 - Wandong State School celebrated its centenary with 400 past and present teachers and pupils attending.
- 1976 - Hume Freeway - a modern 4 lane highway opened by the Premier of Victoria Rupert J Hamer.
- 1978 - Music Festival now the Truck & Country Music Festival attracted 30,000 people.
- School residence removed.

- 1982** - Big fires surrounded the town on four sides, many homes burnt.
- 1987** - Original store, now a residence was burnt down on New Years Eve.
- 1990** - New Shell service station and general store opened with 24 hour trading.
 - Community Centre building opened.
 - New brick school opened by Mr B Pullen, Minister for Education & Training
- 1993** - New fire station in Rail Street was opened.
- 1994** - New Magpie & Stump Hotel opened in Wandong.
- 1996** - Caltex Service Station opened with 24 hour trading in Wandong on former brickworks site.
- 1998** - Big pine plantation fire from Clonbinane to Wandong.
 - School's Pine Plantation harvested and sold.
- 2004** - Wandong Plaza opened with bakery, IGA supermarket, hairdresser, video shop and Dundee's takeaway.

