DATE | INFORMATION
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1836 | Major MITCHELL camped and named Mount Kerang (?Aboriginal word "Kewang" meaning moon - other Kerang towns in Asia). Area known as District of Swan Hill in the Port Phillip Settlement of NSW.
1843 | First Northern Station established at Duck Swamp (later Durham Ox) by Edward ARGYLE
1845 | Reedy Lake Station established by Robert Tertius CAMPBELL & George Campbell CURLEWIS
1846 | BEVERIDGE BROS passed through area to settle at Tyntynder (north of Swan Hill)
1846 | Tragowel Station established (south of current Kerang) by Edward BRADSHAW
1848 | Loddon Inn' licensed at Upper Kerang by ex-sailor Richard BEYES. (Natural crossing of Loddon River)
1849-50 | 'Bridge Store' opened by Edmund HILL at Upper Kerang (Old Kerang)
1851 | Gold discovered at Bendigo
1853-4 | Thomas FARMER bought both store and hotel at Upper Kerang
1854 | Fortnightly delivery of mail between Serpentine and Swan Hill by William DEAKIN & Arthur BILL
1856 | Saddlery opened at Upper Kerang by A D FRASER
1857 | First Church (Wesleyan) built at Upper Kerang by George ADAMS Senr for Mrs LITTLETON and Mr A D FRASER (saddler)
1858 | Woodford John Williams PATCHELL arrives in the district. Takes over 'Bridge Store', eventually shifting down river 2½ miles because of a land dispute with Thomas FARMER
1859 | W J W PATCHELL builds first store in New Kerang (now Nolan Street)
1859 | COBB & Co takes over transportation & communication of the district - a twice weekley service between Sandhurst & Swan Hill (Sandhurst known as Bendigo before 1855 and after 1891)
1860 | Reedy Lake Station split into seven separate stations - Bael Bael, Lake Boga, Lake Meran, Long Lake, Pental Island, Quambatook and Reedy Lake whilst owned by C E EBDEN & S KEEN.
1860 | BURKE & WILLS and party camp at Tragowel station, whilst owned by John HOLLOWAY
1861 | Kerang proclaimed a Township. First form of local Government was under the name of The Swan Hill District Roads Board, although based at Kerang. First members were Peter BEVERIDGE (Chairman), Henry RAINS & Robert TAYLOR, all of Swan Hill
1862 | Kerang Cemetery established at the north end of Westblade Avenue. Earliest grave 11 Jan 1863. Lawn cemetery established by Cemetery Trust 1976.
1862 | Kerang Post Office established temporarily in several locations
1863 | Rate-book for Swan Hill Roads Board begins
1863 | First bridge built over the Loddon River at present site by W J W PATCHELL. Replaced 1885
1864-5 | Shire of Swan Hill divided into three Ridings - East Loddon, West Loddon & Lower Murray
1866 | W J W PATCHELL became the first irrigator in the area. Experimented and succeeded with crops of barley, millet, oats, maize, cotton, beet, tobacco & sugar cane
1866 | John SCANTLETON obtains license for Kangaroo Inn at Lake Charm (14 miles north of Kerang) which becomes a COBB & Co stop. (Delicensed 1921)
1870 | THE GREAT FLOOD, an inland sea from Sandhurst to Swan Hill, caused by 27½ inches of rain
1871 | District gazetted a shire - known as Shire of Swan Hill, though still based at Kerang
1871 | Constable Patrick O'DONNELL - first Police Officer appointed to district
1871 | Mr John McGILLIVRAY begins a school in a bark hut in Nolan street
1872-3 | Shire of Swan Hill divided into three Ridings - East Loddon, West Loddon & Lower Murray
1873 | George ADAMS & SONS commence business in Scoresby Street as builders and eventually as Undertakers. Built Commercial Hotel for Henry TAVERNER. (still licensed 2014)
1874 | First Shire hall built cnr Nolan & Wyndham Sts by George ADAMS Senr
1874 Land & Survey Office opened cnr Wellington & Fitzroy Sts. Shire Hall Hotel opened in Nolan street. (Delicensed 1922)
1874 First part of State School No 1410 built by George ADAMS in Victoria St. Brick building built 1881
1874 PAY'S Store opens in Victoria St
1874 First Shire Council elected by rate-payers. President Henry TAVERNER, Secretary Charles E ALBRECHT
1875 Bank of Victoria established cnr Wyndham & Fitzroy Sts
1875 Kerang Turf Club formed
1875 Police Station built cnr Burgoyne & Shadforth Sts. Shifted to Albert Street 1968
1875 The Wesleyan Church shifted from Upper Kerang to cnr Vaughan & Fitzroy Sts
1876 Buildings moved from Upper Kerang to New Kerang
1877 First brick kiln built by J W J PATCHELL near cemetery
1877 First newspaper started by Wm John DVAEY. Named 'The Kerang Times & Swan Hill Gazette'. Later 'The Kerang Times' (see 1901)
1877 Stock sales operational in Kerang. Yards built cnr Nolan & Scoresby Sts
1877 National Bank established cnr Scoresby & Victoria Sts
1878 First Baptist Church built cnr Fitzroy & Scoresby Sts
1879 First Church of England Church built in Burgoyne Street. Moved to cnr Victoria & Wyndham Sts 1900
1880 Mechanics' Institute built in Fitzroy St. Became the Regent Picture Theatre 1937-1966
1880 E S & A Bank built cnr Wellington & Fitzroy Sts
1883 First brick water tower built cnr Wellington & Shadforth Sts by Mr EDWARDS
1884 Kerang Railway station opened 24th October by several politicians, the Shire President Cr J CULLEN Jnr and Shire Secretary Mr T WESCOTT. To Swan Hill by 1890.
1884 Royal Hotel built for Mr Patrick O’DONNELL, cnr Victoria & Scoresby Sts. Still licensed 2014
1884 Exchange Hotel built Wellington St for TAVERNER. Still licensed 2014
1884 Kerang Fire Brigade formed
1884 Kerang Masonic Lodge No 2122 constituted 11th September. Later No 100
1885 'Kerang Observer' founded by W J DAVEY. Last issue 1928
1885 First Roman Catholic Church built cnr Nolan & Wattle Sts. (Parish of Pyramid)
1885 Kerang Agricultural Society formed
1885 Shire of Gordon formed from southern part of Shire of Swan Hill
1885 Kerang Football Club formed
1886 Commercial Hotel (No 2) built for CADUSCH cnr Victoria & Wellington Sts.
1886 Kerang Post Office built Victoria St. Brick building still used as Post office 2014
1889 Tramways Trust opens Kerang to Koondrook tramline on 19th July. Last goods tram 1967.
1890 Mildura Shire proclaimed, severing Nth-west portion of Lower Murray Riding, of the Shire of Swan Hill
1892 St Andrews Presbyterian Church built in Victoria St
1893 Swan Hill area seceded from the Shire of Swan Hill to become the Shire of Castle Donnington, based at Swan Hill
1894  Swan Hill Shire (Kerang) re-subdivided into 4 Ridings - North-east, South-east, North-west, South-west

1898  Shire of Swan Hill changes its name to the more logical one of The Shire of Kerang.

1901  George ADAMS acquires 'The Kerang Times'. He amalgamates with 'The Kerang Observer' and calls the paper 'The Kerang New Times'. This name remained until 1971 when the local paper became 'The Northern Times'. Remains in 2014

1902  Alexandra Park established. Named after Queen Alexandra of Britain

1904  Opening of Koondrook/Barham bridge over the Murray River on 8th October

1905  Electric Light to Kerang by a private company of Bendigo. Street lighting from sundown to 1am with 200 installations. Power House built Fitzroy Street 1912

1905  Kerang Co-operative Butter Factory commences business. Closed c.1950

1906  Water Commission of Victoria took over all Water Trusts in Kerang area

1908  Telephone service began in Kerang

1909  Laanecoorie Weir breaks and floods Kerang township

1912  St Joseph's Roman Catholic School opened in Nolan street

1912  New Court House built in Victoria Street. (Old Court house 1877)

1914  984 World War 1 enlistments from Shire of Kerang


1919  Kerang High School proclaimed in Murray Street

1926  Kerang Memorial Chambers built Victoria Street. Opened by Lord SOMERS

1927  Miss Karlie McDONALD drowned in Loddon River swimming pool, whilst saving a Kerang High School pupil. Town clock built 1933 as a memorial for her.

1927  Third bridge built over the Loddon River at Kerang by Country Roads Board of Victoria.

1932  Kerang Sewerage Authority constituted and finally implemented 1938

1935  Kerang gained 11 miles of concrete footpaths

1940  Municipal Sale Yards opened south-east of Wellington St railway crossing at cost of £11,000. Opened by Hon Norman MARTIN M.L.A.

1946  Duke and Duchess of Gloucester visit Kerang 15th November

1948  Memorial Community Centre built in Nolan Street (Kerang Town Hall) in memory of 1,151 enlistments for World War 2 from the Shire of Kerang.


1953  Township of Kerang becomes the 5th Riding of The Shire of Kerang

1954  New Kerang & District Hospital built in Burgoyne Street

1966  Kerang Borough formed from 5th Riding. Ended 1995 when Shire of Gannawarra formed

1967  Kerang South Primary School commenced to cover the southern part of the town

1969  Kerang Historical Society formed in old home of SHELDON family in Riverwood Drive

1979  Glenarm Nursing Home built north of Kerang Hospital in Burgoyne Street

1982  Kerang & District Family History Group formed. First President Margaret MURPHY, Secretary Pat GILLINGHAM, Treasurer Audrey WOOD.