

- ON THIS DAY -

Last updated 25<sup>th</sup> October 1996

**Ref**

**Source Year Event**

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**JANUARY 1**

1	1860	Opening of the first Post Office at "The Settlement" with the name "The Settlement". On the suggestion of the first Postmaster, George Knight, it was immediately changed to Milton.
1	1877	Laying of the foundation stone for the Wesleyan Church on the corner of Junction Street and Berry Street, Nowra. By the Rev J H Fletcher, Principal of Newington College, Sydney.
13	1880	Savings Bank facilities were opened in Berry.
1	1883	Post Office established at Yalwal. Mrs C Sivewright was in charge.
1	1891	Laying of the foundation stone for the Presbyterian Manse, Broughton Creek (later re-named Berry).
1	1892	Opening of the Wesleyan Church School, Parma Creek. This was later destroyed by fire in 1909.
19	1893	Opening of a direct line of coaches from Nowra to Bega by R T Thorburn with regular stops along the way. To keep the service going more than 150 horses and 40 coaches were used to cover the 320 mile run.
1	1921	A E French purchased the Ulladulla and Milton Times from Herbert Bishop.
1	1967	The Junior Farm Movement Branch at Kangaroo Valley became part of the Rural Youth Movement, the name being used Nationwide.
15	1983	The Lady Denman begins her final "tow" to her final resting place - behind a bulldozer up a channel towards what was to become the Lady Denman Maritime Museum.

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**JANUARY 2**

17	1945	The land of the Naval Air Station now occupied by HMAS Albatross was commissioned as HMS Nabbington by the Royal Navy.
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- 38      1998      Declaration of Jervis Bay as one of two of the first marine Parks in NSW . The joint declaration was made by Minister for Fisheries Bob Martin and Environment Minister Pam Allan. Both Ministers were visiting the area for the occasion.

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**JANUARY 3**

- 1      1904      Opening of the Presbyterian School Hall, Kinghorn Street, Nowra.
- 15      1980      The Lady Denman was towed by harbour tugs out through Sydney Heads into the open sea where HMAS Snipe was to take her into tow to Huskisson. However, a southerly buster came in and HMAS Snipe, fearing the Lady Denman would sink turned around (tow and all) and made it back to Garden Island.

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**JANUARY 4**

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**JANUARY 5**

- 16      1940      Greenwell Point Public School was closed, not re-opening until 29th January 1952.

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**JANUARY 6**

- 1      1909      Opening of the fire station in Junction Street, Nowra, by Mark Morton MLA. It cost £280/-/- and was a brick building with an iron roof. Fireman's quarters were added in 1919 and a Dennis turbine fire engine was installed in 1930.

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**JANUARY 7**

- 13      1899      Dedication of the second Berry Cemetery some four miles east of Berry on the corner of Beach Road and Harley Hill Road. It was known as "The New Cemetery". Other small cemeteries once associated with local churches exist at Bellawongarah, Wattamolla, Woodhill, Broughton Vale and Foxground. The land they occupy has now passed into private hands and the burial grounds are no longer in use.

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**JANUARY 8**

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**JANUARY 9**

- 1      1822      Alexander Berry, in the vessel "Snapper" arrived at Shoalhaven. He was prevented from entering by a line of breakers and so sailed 3 miles south to enter by the Crookhaven River. Finding the northern arm separated by some 250 yards of sand spit from the southern

arm, the party "hailed the boat across". He later returned in June 1822 to settle in the area.

1 1887 A timber built, Wesleyan Church was opened in Kangaroo Valley.

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### **JANUARY 10**

1 1908 The first consignment of milk was sent from the Nowra Co-Operative Dairy Company to the Sydney trade. This action changed the whole outlook of the Shoalhaven Dairy Industry.

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### **JANUARY 11**

4 1933 Seven Mile Beach was made famous as the take-off point by aviator Sir Charles Kingsford Smith for the first crossing of the Tasman Sea. The flight took more than 14 hours. Whilst it is acknowledged that the take-off run started in Kiama Municipality, many argue that the wheels of the "Southern Cross" actually left terra-firma in Shoalhaven.

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### **JANUARY 12**

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### **JANUARY 13**

19 1829 Sarah Claydon (nee Faulks) was born. Sarah Claydon was loved by many in the Milton Ulladulla area for her untiring work as a mid wife and the work she did in caring for the sick.

8 1896 Hottest day ever recorded in Milton - 46 . Bushfires raged throughout the district. The school and teacher's residence were destroyed.

11 1913 The Commonwealth Bank began business in NSW taking over the agencies of the Government Savings Bank.

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### **JANUARY 14**

1 1939 "Black Saturday" for Yalwal when bush fires burnt out everthing except the Post Office and Anderson's and Fletcher's property. Yalwal was never rebuilt.

These fires swept through the whole of the northern Shoalhaven. All of the mountains around Berry were ablaze. Kangaroo Valley was swept by flame.

The calamity saw the formation of the Bush Fire Brigade. The brigade at Nowra was formed in January 1940, closely followed by others.

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**JANUARY 15**

- 1        1873        Laying of the foundation stone of the Nowra Presbyterian Church by Mrs Grant using a silver trowel and myall mallet. The Church was built in freestone to accommodate 218, cost £1187 and was opened in January 1875.
- 26       1930        The Daily Telegraph Pictorial reported that Edward Humphries (aged 74) and Thomas Humphries (aged 64) were fined £300/-/- for being in possession of an illicit still in Kangaroo Valley. They claimed in their defence that they made the "Moonshine" or "Mountain Dew" for their own use.

Their mother, Mrs Humphries, was 104 at the time. She told friends of the terrible news that "the boys have got caught and I've only got enough stuff to last for two more years .....". She died when she was 106.

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### JANUARY 16

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|----|------|--|
| 1  | 1868 | The "Kiama Independent" reported that of "Illeroo Road", "horsemen may now ride over without dismounting".   |
| 23 | 1877 | A letter was sent "from the humble inhabitants of the town and suburbs of Ulladulla" to the Council of Education of the State of New South Wales in Sydney petitioning for the erection of a public school and teachers residence. |
| 5  | 1885 | A two day cricket match began on Nowra Recreation Ground between the English XI and the Shoalhaven XI.   |
| 13 | 1977 | The second extensions to the Berry Bowling Club was officially opened.   |

### JANUARY 17

### JANUARY 18

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|----|------|---|
| 1  | 1891 | Opening of the Roman Catholic Church, Milton, by Bishop Higgins.  |
| 13 | 1906 | Opening of the Berry School of Arts Building.   |
| 13 | 1964 | The RSL Hall in Alexandra Street, Berry, was opened by C M Dawson, State Councillor.  |
| 1  | 1969 | Opening of the historic park and museum on land at the north western end of Hampden Bridge, Kangaroo Valley, by the Minister for Lands. This historic park and museum had been developed by the kangaroo Valley Historical Society and is known as the Pioneer Farm Museum. |

### JANUARY 19

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|----|------|---|
| 7  | 1888 | Nowra held its "Grand Centennial Demonstration" at the Shoalhaven Agricultural & Horticultural Association ground. The day was declared a public holiday. Spectators paid 1/- and children 6 <sup>d</sup> . They were able to watch from the recently completed grandstand. |
| 19 | 1891 | Consecration of "St. Mary's Star of the Sea" Catholic Church by Bishop Higgins.   |

### JANUARY 20

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|----|------|--|
| 23 | 1920 | The business firm Kirton and Earnshaw Ltd, coal contractors and colliery agents of Sydney and Newcastle set up a timber mill at Red Head (now called Bendalong). |
|----|------|--|

1 & 36    1958        The Royal Australian Naval College, Jervis Bay, was commissioned as HMAS Creswell under Captain W J Dovers. The RANC had just returned from where it had been located at the Flinders Naval Depot from the 11<sup>th</sup> August 1930. The name Creswell comes from Admiral Sir William Creswell, one of the founders of the RAN.

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### **JANUARY 21**

3        1941        Serviceman Ray Hollands (NX7877) was killed in action at Tobruk in the Middle East during World War II. Hollands Road, Nowra, was named after him.

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### **JANUARY 22**

13       1869        James Wilson, local businessman, was elected first Mayor of the Municipality of Berry.

13       1878        The Presbytery of Illawarra met to discuss a petition signed by 88 heads of families from the Broughton Creek district. The Presbytery declared Broughton Creek a separate charge.

1        1900        Banking facilities were introduced at the Post Office at Yalwal.

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### **JANUARY 23**

1        1863        "The Pluto" began dredging the Shoalhaven River between the punt crossing at Bomaderry and Appletree Island (Greenwell Point). It kept to the task for 10 years.

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### **JANUARY 24**

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### **JANUARY 25**

2        1995        Arthur Boyd, Shoalhaven's and Australia's most famous artist, was named Australian of the Year. Arthur Boyd gave Bundanon, his property on the Shoalhaven River, to the nation of Australia as a living Art Centre. The property, that of his brother-in-law, Sir Sydney Nolan, the buildings and all the collected art works from the Boyd family are valued at about \$8.5 million. The announcement was made at 8:00 PM for publication on the next day - Australia Day.

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### **JANUARY 26**

26       1872        The first service was held in the Anglican Church, the Church of the Good Shepherd, Kangaroo Valley.

- 1 1879 Laying of the foundation stone for the Rectory at Kangaroo Valley. This day was not known as Australia Day but rather Anniversary Day.
- 7 1888 The Anniversary Day regatta saw young Sculler, James Stanbury from Saltwater Creek, up the Shoalhaven near Burrier win both the Centennial Handicap Wager Race and also the South Coast Championship Race. Stanbury went on to win the world title in 1891 and held it for 5 years. He later regained the world title in 1905-06, at the age of 37 years.
- 1 1899 Meroo Public School opened in its new brick building. David Davis, MLA, performed the ceremony which was followed by a picnic and sports.
- 28 1995 Shoalhaven listed as the most popular tourist destination in New South Wales in that it recorded more occupied hotel, Motel and Guest House Room Nights and more occupied Caravan Park Site Nights than any other Local Government Area. This was for the year 1993/94.

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#### **JANUARY 27**

- 1 1880 Opening of the Public School at Worragee (Worrigeer) by John Lamond, Chairman of the Public School Board.
- 11 1939 The Rural Bank (now the State Bank of NSW) purchased its Junction Street, Nowra, property for £3,050 but didn't actually open a branch until 1948.
- 3 1942 Lyl Bainbridge (NX54 242) a member of the 2/18th Battalion was killed in action at Nithsdale Estate, Merring, Malaya, in World War II. Bainbridge Crescent, Nowra, was named after him.

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#### **JANUARY 28**

- 19 1951 The new Catholic Church School at Milton was opened by Father J J Brohan, the Parish Priest.

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#### **JANUARY 29**

- 5 1887 The Bridge Hotel in Nowra was opened.
- 16 1952 The Greenwell Point Public School was re-opened after a closure of 12 years. It had enrolments from Pyree, Nowra, Roseby Park and Correspondence School. 15 children attended on the first day. There was no material, no desks, a dilapidated fence and most things in a poor state of repair. The teacher was Mr H T Davy.

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#### **JANUARY 30**

- 19      1870      The Barque "Camden", weighing 235 tons was wrecked off Brush Island, south of Bawley Point.
- 1        1960      Laying of the foundation stone by K G H Hawkshaw for the Council Chambers for Shoalhaven Shire Council, in Junction Street, Nowra.

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**JANUARY 31**

- 18      1982      Alderman Paul Bland opened the Wandandian Tennis Court. This had been built and financed by the Wandandian Progress Association.

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**FEBRUARY 1**

- 19      1860      John Booth, sole proprietor of the town of Milton, sold lots by auction. Prices ranged from £8/-/- to £27/10/-.
- 26      1870      Walter Arthur Nugent commenced duties as Kangaroo Valley's first Postmaster at a salary of £12/-/- per annum.
- 1        1879      First edition of the second Nowra paper "The Telegraph & Shoalhaven Advertiser", printed and published by Joseph Weston, it was organised by John MacLean as an opposition paper to C I Watson's "Shoalhaven News".
- 5        1957      Governor General, Field Marshall Sir William Slim made the first vice-regal visit to the Berry Show.
- 1        1958      The opening of the Nowra kindergarten was performed by Mrs Corbett, general secretary of the Kindergarten Union of New South Wales.

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**FEBRUARY 2**

- 1        1867      Shoalhaven's first local paper was established by Charles Isaac Watson, entitled "The News, Shoalhaven". On May 18th a sub-title, "Shoalhaven and Southern Districts Advertiser", was added. On June 24th, 1871 it changed its title to "The Shoalhaven News, Ulladulla and Southern Coast Districts Advertiser" and, on October 13th 1873 changed its sub-title to "Broughton Creek, Kiama and Ulladulla Advertiser". It was printed at Terara, the principal Shoalhaven town at the time.

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**FEBRUARY 3**

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**FEBRUARY 4**



- *On This Day* -

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|----|------|--|
| 1  | 1875 | First show of the Shoalhaven Pastoral, Agricultural and Horticultural Association.   |
| 16 | 1889 | Recorded in the minutes of the Pyree Cricket Club that the challenge from Greenwell Point Cricket Club be accepted. Match to be played at Greenwell Point on Saturday, February 9th, 1889. |
| 1  | 1961 | The Huskisson RSL Club, built in brick, concrete and steel at a cost of £30,000 was opened by Councillor, Dr F P Ryan, President of Shoalhaven Shire Council.                              |

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**FEBRUARY 5**

- 9        1919        The Pneumonic Influenza epidemic which hit Sydney in January 1919 had made its presence felt in Nowra. The Shoalhaven Telegraph of this date (5/2/1919) stated "the New South Wales Health Authorities recommend for protection against the germ, the use of a solid inhalant from the formula of which Wawn's Wonder Balm is made. Apply this up each nostril three or four times a day - price 2/- a tube".

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**FEBRUARY 6**

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**FEBRUARY 7**

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**FEBRUARY 8**

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**FEBRUARY 9**

- 16       1889        In a match played between the Pyree Cricket Club and the Greenwell Point Cricket Club, Pyree won by 5 wickets. The return match was won by Greenwell Point by 55 runs. Participating cricket clubs in those days were Nowra, Milton, Burrier, Coolangatta, Numbaa, Meroo, Cambewarra, Comerong, Bowral, Pyree and Greenwell Point.

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**FEBRUARY 10**

- 1        1958        The Graham Park Artificial Breeding Station was opened by the Premier of NSW, Hon J J Cahill. Construction cost was £200,000. It resulted in the breeding of a better class of stock and a consequent increase in milk production and quality.
- 1        1964        On this fateful night the aircraft carrier HMAS Melbourne and the destroyer HMAS Voyager collided 19 miles to sea. The Voyager was cut in half and 79 of her crew were lost. (82 lives lost?).
- 16       1976        The first meeting of the Culburra & Districts Community Health Service - Greenwell Point Ladies Auxiliary.

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**FEBRUARY 11**

- 3        1942        Private Charles Bruce Miller (NX65265) of the Army Service Corps was killed in action at Singapore. Miller Avenue, East Nowra was named after him.

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**FEBRUARY 12**

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**FEBRUARY 13**

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**FEBRUARY 14**

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**FEBRUARY 15**

- 1      1902      Bridge over Broughton Creek, known as Moeyan Bridge, was opened to connect Berry with Far Meadow.

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**FEBRUARY 16**

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**FEBRUARY 17**

- 1      1867      A sunday school for Anglicans, Presbyterians and Wesleyans began at Cambewarra. Cambewarra at the time had alternative names of "Bullamiah" and "Good Dog".
- 1      1956      The Minister for Health opened the new Showgrounds at Kangaroo Valley in conjunction with the annual show.
- 1      1963      The first Mass was celebrated at the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, Bunberra Street, Bomaderry.

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**FEBRUARY 18**

- 26      1870      Dedication of the burial ground, Kangaroo Valley. Provision was made, in separate parts, for all denominations for which there were churches, a Jewish section, a general (non-denominational) section and a section for pagans, infidels and suicides.

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**FEBRUARY 19**

- 11      1918      The Australian Joint Stock Bank was amalgamated with the City Bank of Sydney and became the Australian Bank of Commerce. This meant it had two branches in Nowra. It was soon looking for new premises.

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**FEBRUARY 20**

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**FEBRUARY 21**

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**FEBRUARY 22**

- 19      1932      The vessel "Northern Firth" was lost off Brush Island, south of Bawley Point. The ship weighed 1,954 tons and was carrying 1,800 tons of general merchandise which the locals pillaged before a guard could be placed on the cargo. The Captain was McDonald.

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**FEBRUARY 23**

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**FEBRUARY 24**

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**FEBRUARY 25**

- 9      1984      Osborne Nursing Home (now known as the Shoalhaven Retirement Village) was opened by Senator Don Grimes - Federal Minister for Social Security.

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**FEBRUARY 26**

- 1      1909      Death of Sir John Hay LL.D. of Coolangatta. It was under Sir John's auspices that the bequest of the late David Berry, of £100,000/- for a hospital for Berry, was fulfilled.

The Government took over control of the hospital in exchange for a large area of foreshore of Sydney Harbour to the mutual satisfaction of the Government and people of Sydney and Berry. The hospital continued to serve not only Berry but the whole of the Shoalhaven area for almost half a century before a public hospital was erected in Nowra.

- 9      1938      The new ambulance headquarters in Kinghorn Street (the building now occupied by the South Coast Register), was opened by the Minister for Health, Mr H P Fitzsimons. It cost £2,138 and the furnishings cost £89/-.

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**FEBRUARY 27**

- 1      1918      Opening of the bowling green for the Nowra Bowling and Recreation Club.
- 2      1995      John Hatton announces his retirement from State Parliament after representing the Shoalhaven in the Seat of the South Coast for almost 21 years.

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**FEBRUARY 28**

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**FEBRUARY 29**

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### **MARCH 1**

- 1 1867 First Ulladulla Agricultural Society Show. Held in the paddock of W Martin opposite central stores, fruit was good despite the flying foxes, cattle were first rate but horse breeding had been neglected. The show made a profit of £7/18/-.
- 4 1910 Brundee officially named after formerly being known as Berrellan.
- 1 1913 The Royal Australian Naval College was established in temporary premises in Geelong, Victoria until the permanent site at Jervis Bay was ready for occupation in 1915.
- 36 1915 The Official Opening Ceremony of the Royal Australian Naval College, Jervis Bay, was conducted by the Governor General Lord Denham.
- 11 1987 The United Permanent Building Society in Junction Street, Nowra, became the National Mutual Royal Savings Bank (NSW) Ltd. It was later taken over by ANZ Bank.

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### **MARCH 2**

- 1 1964 Two new breakwaters for Ulladulla Harbour, the southern being 115 feet and the northern being 525 feet long were opened by Hon. P N Ryan, MLA.
- 16 1978 The bowling green of the Greenwell Point Womens Bowling Club was officially opened by the State President of the NSW Womens Bowling Association, Mrs L Atkinson.

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### **MARCH 3**

- 1 1963 First meeting of new Tourist Association represented by Shoalhaven Shire Council, Municipality of Shellharbour and Municipality of Kiama. Mr A N Hindmarsh was elected President.

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### **MARCH 4**

- 1 1886 The Kangaroo Valley Agricultural & Historical Association held its first show on March 4th & 5th on temporary grounds.
- 2 1993 The Prime Minister of Australia, the Right Honourable Paul Keating, MP, visited the Shoalhaven on a whirlwind tour in support of the Australian Labor Party Candidate, Mr Peter Knott. The seat was the marginal seat of Gilmore. The General Election was scheduled for March 13th, 1993.

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### **MARCH 5**

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**MARCH 6**

- 1      1869      The Shoalhaven News announced the formation of a new Shoalhaven pastoral, Agricultural and Horticultural Association. President was James Aldcorn. Annual subscription £1/-/-.
- 2      1993      The Leader of the Federal Opposition, Mr John Hewston, MP, visited the Shoalhaven on a whirlwind tour in support of the Liberal Party Candidate, Mr Bill Eddy. The seat was the marginal seat of Gilmore. The General Election was scheduled for March 13th, 1993.

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**MARCH 7**

- 1      1954      The foundation stone for St. Patrick Roman Catholic School, Berry, was laid by Bishop McCabe of Wollongong.
- 1      1958      A new bridge of pre-stressed concrete, the first of its kind in Australia over Broughton Creek near the Berry Training Farm, was opened by Sam Larter, the oldest living resident in the area.
- 1      1959      The inaugural charter dinner of the Nowra Lions Club was held. Gordon Cook was elected President.

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**MARCH 8**

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**MARCH 9**

- 1      1957      The Nowra Olympic Swimming Pool was opened without ceremony by R H Bruderlin, President of the Festival Committee. The official opening did not take place until 23rd November, 1957.
- 1      1958      The new St. Michael's Roman Catholic School, Nowra, was opened by the Most Rev Dr T McCabe, Bishop of Wollongong. It was built of brick, had six rooms and cost £17,000.

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**MARCH 10**

- 1      1801      Lt. James Grant of the "Lady Nelson" explored Jervis Bay and met with local Aborigines. These were more robust than the Sydney Aborigines and "all wished to have their beards cut off".
- 1      1805      Lt. Bartholomew Kent of HMS "Buffalo" returned to Sydney after examining the district overland (walked to Shoalhaven River, found a previously lost boat and explored the river system).
- 19      1956      First meeting of the Ulladulla Fisherman's Co-Operative. The Chairman was Guiseppe (Joe) Greco.

1        1972        Laying of the foundation stone for the ambulance station at the corner of the Princes Highway and Bunberra Street, Bomaderry.

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**MARCH 11**

20       1801        Conflicting Report (Refer March 10). Lt James Grant of the "Lady Nelson" (an armed brig especially designed for survey work with a centre-board or sliding keel which could

be hauled u

1987       The Mayor of Shoalhaven City, Alderman Harry Sawkins, died whilst still Mayor. Harry Sawkins was elected Mayor by popular vote in September 1983. Harry Sawkins Park, Nowra, was named in his honour

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**MARCH 12**

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**MARCH 13**

20       1801        James Grant, in charge of the vessel "Lady Nelson" departed Jervis Bay.

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**MARCH 14**

1        1959        The inaugural dinner of the Berry Apex Club was held at the Presbyterian Hall, Berry. Bruce MacIntosh was its first President.

5        1974        A male streaker ran down Junction Street, Nowra, during Thursday night shopping, sparking a rash of similar occurrences during the week.

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**MARCH 15**

10       1901        Acetylene gas lighting was installed throughout the Albion Hotel (now the site of the Commonwealth Bank, Nowra) and was first used on this day for a Municipal dinner. Mr Mark Morton was the Mayor. The publican was Jonathon Lambert (who may well of been the first person in Nowra to be convicted on a pollution charge, when he was fined £2/-/- for allowing soap suds to flow from his premises to the street in the November prior).

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**MARCH 16**

1        1873        Congretional Sunday School at Milton commenced with 17 scholars.

31       1995        Premier of NSW, John Fahey, launched stage one of the

NSW Jervis Bay National Park. 1000 ha were gazetted of what will eventually be a 6000 ha park.

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**MARCH 17**

- 1 1897 Foundation stone of the local Union Church was laid by Miss Apperley at Worragee (Worrigege).
- 7 1917 An elephant named Jessie, attached to Wirth's Circus which was visiting Nowra, decided that she had gone far enough and sat down - in the middle of the Nowra bridge. All traffic was stopped as the horses refused to go near the animal. All attempts to move her failed, including one which was to bring the steam ship "Bermagui" alongside the bridge and hoist her by means of the ship's crane. Unfortunately, this attempt came to nought as the ship stuck on a sand bank. Eventually somebody decided to bring another elephant and Jessie, seeing her mate, quietly got up and continued her journey to the station.
- 1 1957 The opening of the Ulladulla bowling clubhouse and greens was performed by the President of the Royal Bowling Association of NSW, Hilton Richardson, in the presence of 300 people.

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**MARCH 18**

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**MARCH 19**

- 5 1957 A naval pilot and a midshipman were killed when a Firefly aircraft from HMAS Albatross crashed at Foxground.

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**MARCH 20**

- 13 1884 A small corrugated iron and timber church behind the unfinished manse in Berry was opened and dedicated as the Presbyterian Church.
- 1 1961 The Budd diesel air conditioned train - the only one in New South Wales at the time - was introduced to the south coast run.
- 1 1967 Formation of the Shoalhaven District Historical Society. R A Bishop was President and P J Schofield was Secretary/ Treasurer.
- 11 1967 The Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd opened it's single storey, brick premises at 46 Kinghorn Street, Nowra.

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**MARCH 21**



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**MARCH 22**

- 1      1943      The Ulladulla boat building works at Ulladulla Harbour launched its first small ship, which was part of an order of 4 tugboats for the United States of America. Regretfully, it stuck on the sand at the launching and the harbour had to be dredged as a result. The works employed a staff of 20 and 100 employees. From 1943 to 1947 thirty small ships were built. This tugboat was the first launched on the New South Wales coast as part of the program and the thirty ships launched was a record for coastal yards of the war and post war era.
- 7      1974      A cyclone uncovered the wreck of the "Coolangatta" and dumped it high on the beach north of the Tweed River. Souvenir hunters quickly removed what the Government and the sea had not been able to destroy in 127 years.

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**MARCH 23**

- 1      1962      The airstrip on R Carter's property on Berry Mountain Road was opened by the "unofficial Mayor of Kangaroo Valley", H O Cox. This strip was developed by working bees of farmers to further aerial top dressing of pastures with superphosphate.
- 1      1968      The sculpture erected as an addition to the memorial gates to the Nowra Showground was unveiled by the Governor of NSW, Sir Roden Cutler, VC.
- 13     1969      The first extensions to the Berry Bowling Club were officially opened.

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**MARCH 24**

- 4      1818      Captain Throsby wrote of entering "a large plain of flat forest called by the natives Tallawa, from whence we saw the deep ravines running to Shoals Haven".
- 26     1903      The Kangaroo Valley Times reported that John Irvine of Wattamolla had been charged with possessing a still. This was for the manufacture of the famous Kangaroo Valley "Moonshine" or "Mountain Dew". Over 490 lbs of sugar had been used over a 3 week period. Irvine was fined £100/-/-. This was supposed to act as a deterrent but "moonshiners" were still being caught as late as 1930 in Kangaroo Valley.
- 9      1931      The Shoalhaven District Ambulance Committee was formed (initiated by the Nowra Country Women's Association) for the purpose of raising funds to purchase a vehicle to replace the horse-drawn ambulance which had been in service since 1912.
- 9      1979      Osborne House, accommodation for the aged, was opened by Federal Health Minister, Mr Ralph Hunt.

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**MARCH 25**

16      1942      A meeting was held to appoint new trustees for the Greenwell Point Union Church.

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**MARCH 26**

23      1889      Ulladulla School was closed because of the teacher's (Mr W Evans) illness, first diagnosed as rheumatism then later as typhoid fever. He died on 6 May 1889.

1      1962      Councillor F P Ryan, the Shire President of the first council elected since the term of office of the Administrator, K G H Hawskaw, was forced to step down as Shire President, due to ill health. Councillor R A Bishop was elected to succeed him. Clr. Ryan died on 20th May, 1962 whilst still in office.

16      1966      The Greenwell Point Swimming Pool was officially opened.

2      1984      Public ceremony on the Gold Coast, Queensland to "Decree and Seal" an agreement between Shoalhaven City Council and Gold Coast City Council that the town of Coolangatta, New South Wales and the town of Coolangatta Queensland "..... be recognised as towns with an especial historical link and bond of friendship"

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**MARCH 27**

1      1812      Surveyor George William Evans reached Jervis Bay aboard "Lady Nelson".

24      1928      The S.S. Merimbula grounded on Whale Point (Currarong) at 1.00am. All fourteen passengers and thirty five crew survived. The Merimbula was a high class passenger vessel built in 1909 at Troon in Scotland. It had 96 saloons and ten second class cabins and plied between Sydney and Eden with charter sailings between Melbourne and Tasmania. Her loss marked the end of steam passenger services on the NSW South Coast.

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**MARCH 28**

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**MARCH 29**

26      1818      Dr. Charles Throsby (Explorer) stayed at Yarranghaa (this is now known as Yarrunga), Kangaroo Valley.

1      1864      The first show of the Shoalhaven Estate Agricultural Association. President was David Berry.

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**MARCH 30**

- 1 1818 Dr. Charles Throsby and party reached the spot "Parronrah", now Kangaroo Valley, and noted the fertile plains.
- 14 1890 Patrick Caffery died aged 86. On the 3rd March, 1832, in Ireland, he had been convicted of "stealing a gun" and was sentenced to hang. Receiving a reprieve he was sentenced to seven years "across the seas". On 1st July, 1832 he sailed from Dublin leaving behind his wife Anne and infant son John. Caffery arrived in Shoalhaven in November 1832 and worked for Berry as a convict shepherd. In 1836 he received his ticket to leave and was able to bring his wife and son out from Rosconnor, Ireland. He continued working in the Shoalhaven and over a long, and often lonely, life his wife Anne bore him three daughters and five sons. Anne died on 12th August, 1875. Patrick and Anne Caffery were a true pioneering family of the Shoalhaven district. Their many descendants (to the 6th generation) still live in the Shoalhaven.
- 1 1892 First sale of town lots, Bomaderry.
- 11 1893 The City Bank of Sydney opened a branch at Nowra.

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**MARCH 31**

- 26 1818 Dr. Charles Throsby climbed out of Kangaroo Valley over the Bugong Gap.
- 16 1892 The Numbaa area of between 5,000 and 6,000 acres was auctioned off from the Berry Estate. Preference to secure the land that they had been farming for many years was in all cases given to the tenant farmers.

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**APRIL 1**

- 26 1871 The first public school at Kangaroo Valley was opened. The teacher was Mr Thomas Hird. The cost of the land was £6/6/8 (after some argument) plus the 10/- for the original conveyance. The building cost £212/-/-. On opening day there were 8 pupils, three weeks later 27 and by February 1872 there were 55. (For comparison purposes the annual wage of the Kangaroo Valley Post Master was £12/-/- in 1870).

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**APRIL 2**

- 1 1905 The convent school of The Good Samaritan Sisters was opened on the corner of Junction and Shoalhaven Streets, Nowra, by Cardinal Moran.
- 1 1965 The Berry Methodists' new brick hall was opened by the Sunday School Superintendent, Athol Agar.

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**APRIL 3**

- 26      1818      Dr. Charles Throsby reached Jervis Bay.
- 1 & 13    1886      First edition of the "Broughton Creek Register, Kangaroo Valley and South Coast Farmer" by John MacLean. This paper took the unusual step of carrying news on the front page instead of advertisements. This was the second of Berry's newspapers, the first being the Broughton Creek Mail (see 6th May). The two papers were later amalgamated.
- 15      1983      The Lady Denman was firmly anchored in what was thought to be her final resting place, within sight of the Dent Slipway, Huskisson, where she had been built 71 years before. The Lady Denman Committee later moved her to one side of the museum.

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**APRIL 4**

- 1      1914      The final issue of the newspaper the "Nowra Colonist" before it was incorporated in the Shoalhaven News.
- 1      1918      The first closure of the public school at Yalwal. It re-opened from November, 1924 to August, 1925 and again from March, 1926 to December, 1928 when it closed for the last time.

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**APRIL 5**

- 7      1812      Thought to be the first white man to cross the Shoalhaven River, the explorer George Evans claimed this honour about 1½ miles west of the present location of Nowra. Evans was on his way north from Jervis Bay. The crossing by Evans and his party took 6 hours.
- However, he was not the first. Survivors of the "Sydney Cove", wrecked on Preservation Island, walked to Port Jackson in 1797 (see May 15th). They must have crossed the Shoalhaven River about April 26th/27th of that year.
- And survivors of the cutter "Nancy", shipwrecked south of Jervis Bay walked to Port Jackson in 1805 (see April 20th).
- So George Evans wasn't the first, despite his claim.

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**APRIL 6**

- 24      1864      The steamship Mynora ran ashore at Wreck Bay (so giving the name) while on a voyage from Moruya to Sydney.
- 2      1992      At 11.30am declaration of the Jervis Bay National Park by the Australian Environment Minister, the Hon. Ros Kelly, MP at

Greenpatch. The declaration was witnessed by hundreds of guests including school children from Jervis Bay Public School, Huskisson Public School and Illaroo Road Public School. The day was a beautiful sunny autumn day of about 25 and a 15 knot nor-easterly breeze.

On the same occasion Mrs Kelly, in her role as Minister of the Crown, confirmed the pronunciation of Jervis Bay as being as it is spelt (not Jahvis).

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**APRIL 7**

26 1812 Surveyor George Evans climbed Good Dog Mountain (Mt. Cambewarra) to the point just north of the present lookout. He spent the night (7th/8th) on top of Mount Tapitalle. From there he had a view that (he said) "no painter could beautify".

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**APRIL 8**

1 1897 Formation of the Berry Brass Band. F W Tidd of Nowra was Bandmaster.

1 1972 A new wing of the Shoalhaven Hospital at Nowra was opened by the Minister for Health, Hon. A H Jago, MLA. It cost \$1.3 million.

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**APRIL 9**

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**APRIL 10**

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**APRIL 11**

1 1845 Mrs Berry, sister of Edward Wollstonecraft, died childless.

5 1901 The Prince of Wales Hotel in Junction Street, Nowra, was destroyed by fire with the loss of two lives.

1 1951 The Berry branch of the Country Womens Association was formed with 80 ladies present. Mrs E A Clarkson was the first President.

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**APRIL 12**

16 1878 Formal application was made for the conversion of the Greenwell Point provisional school to a public school. Average attendance was 25.5.

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**APRIL 13**

1            1884            Opening of the Wesleyan Church, North Street, Broughton Creek  
(later re-named Berry) by Rev. John Walken Brown.

**APRIL 14**

19           1874            Proclamation of the Municipality of Ulladulla. It first met on 24 June  
1874 at the Milton School of Arts and administered the Ulladulla area  
for seventy four years when it was amalgamated into the Shire of  
Shoalhaven (on 1st July, 1948? - see 29th June).

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**APRIL 15**

- 4 1892 Sailor's Grave Beach, Huskisson was named after Robert Johnson of the HMS "Orlando" who drowned on this day at the age of 19 years.
- 4 1972 Danjera Dam was named after a creek at Yalwal and was opened on this day by Shire President, Clr. John Hatton.

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**APRIL 16**

- 20 1797 Eight survivors of a party of seventeen entered the Shoalhaven on or about this day. They were from the wreck of the "Sydney Cove" and were attempting to reach Port Jackson from Point Hicks by foot. By April 20th they had reached Jervis Bay. On May 15th the three surviving members of the party were rescued by a fishing boat 14 miles south of Botany Bay.

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**APRIL 17**

- 13 1958 Official opening of the Berry Womens Bowling Club.

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**APRIL 18**

- 1 1839 Henry Kendall, destined to be one of Australia's most famous poets, was born in a slab hut at Milton. Henry was one of twin boys, the other was Basil.
- 1 1900 Opening of St. Johns Anglican Church, Plunkett Street, Nowra by the Archbishop of Sydney.
- 9 1945 A public meeting was held to form a committee to press for the building of a Shoalhaven District Hospital at Nowra. Walter Watson was elected President.
- 1 1948 Dedication of an electronic carillon at the Methodist Church, Berry to the memory of Rev. F and Mrs Dixon.
- 18 1962 The Crown purchased, from the Wandandian Progress Association, a residence for the school. The price was £1,978/18/9.
- 1 1969 Illaroo Road Public School, North Nowra was opened. It had 170 pupils.
- 1 1972 Birthdate of poet Henry Kendall. At Kirmington, the site of his birth, the Deputy President of Shoalhaven Shire Council, Clr. S R Robinson unveiled an inscribed sandstone block.

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**APRIL 19**

- 1 1963 Opening of additional classrooms at the Berry Public School by C M Clayton, Director of Education, Southern Area.
- 1 1972 The "Shoalhaven and Nowra News" was issued at 5¢ per copy weekly.

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**APRIL 20**

- 1 1805 Eleven sailors from the cutter "Nancy", shipwrecked south of Jervis Bay, reached the Bay on this day. They then continued and walked overland to Sydney.
- 1 1925 Formation of the Nowra Girl Guides. The leaders were Nora Hammick and Emmie Glanville.

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**APRIL 21**

- 5 & 19 1770 Captain James Cook first sighted the Shoalhaven District and named Pigeon House Mountain because it resembled a dove-house with a dome on top. (This conflicts with the report in William A Bayley's "Shoalhaven" who states this was recorded on 22nd April, 1770).
- 24 The Beaglehole edition of Captain Cooks Journal states that "at noon (on 21st April, 1770) we were by observation in the latitude 35 23' and long de 209 23'. Cape Dromedary bore S28 west dist 19 leag. A remarkable peaked hill laying inland the top of which looked like a Pigeon house and occassioned me giving it that name bore NW dist 2 or 3 leagues."
- 1 1855 First house in Nowra was built on the edge of the swamp at the "bottom of Junction Street".
- 1 1918 A new convent and parish hall were opened at the Nowra Roman Catholic Church by Archbishop Kelly.
- 30 1994 NSW Minister for the environment, Mr Chris Hartcher, announced a decision to declare the NSW Jervis Bay National Park.

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**APRIL 22**

- 1 1770 William A Bayley in his book "Shoalhaven" reports that Captain James Cook in the HMS Endeavour named a prominent land mark "Pigeon House Mountain". First recording of Shoalhaven in white man's history. (Ref 20 - Aboriginal name - "Dithol" p49). This conflicts with numerous other reports which put it as 21st April, 1770.



- 37      1770      "Living Echoes" uses the date Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1770 as the date Captain James Cook sighted and fixed Pigeon House Mountain. This conflicts with numerous other accounts
- 1        1913      Official opening of the Broughton Mill Creek bridge by M F Morton, MLA. This replaced an earlier bridge.
- 1        1972      The opening of Voyager Park, Huskisson as a memorial to the Voyager disaster (10th February, 1964) by C J Hines, RSL State President.

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**APRIL 23**

- 1        1770      After noon on this day Captain James Cook in the HMS Endeavour named "Cape George", now known as "Cape St George" (April 23<sup>rd</sup> is St. Georges Day) and further north noted the entrance of a bay of which he named the inner North Head "Longnose Point".
- 37      1770      "Living Echoes" uses this date as the date Captain James Cook named Cape St George.
- 7        1870      Start of the rains that fell for the next several days - causing one of the biggest floods in the Shoalhaven River experienced to that time. It flooded Terara, washed many buildings away and was virtually the last straw - forcing the populace to Nowra to re-settle. In all 5 people, 387 cattle, 53 houses, 279 pigs, 5 sheep and between 4,000 & 5,000 poultry were lost. The flood was followed by a plague of caterpillars which cleared the land of grass, crops, vegetables and fruit.
- 2 & 13   1885      The Anglican Church, St. Luke, Broughton Creek (later re-named Berry) was officially opened. Cost was £800/-/-.
- 13      1913      The NSW Government and Berry Municipal Council together purchased the 16 acres of the Hazelberry Parklands for £2,500 and the land was dedicated on this date as a public park. The main section of the Hazelberry Parklands is known as the Berry Showgrounds.
- 9        1935      The first sod was turned of Nowra's first sewerage scheme by Dr. Francis Ryan, Mayor. The cost to Council was £13,000 the balance of £45,000 to be met by the State and Federal Governments.

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**APRIL 24**

- 37      1770      "Living Echoes" quotes this day as the day that Captain James Cook named Long Nose, the northern point in Jervis Bay.
- 37      1770      "Living Echoes" surmises that Captain James Cook in the HMS Endeavour passed by the entrance to the Shoalhaven River around 10 or 11 o'clock (in the evening)

- 1 1871 "Broughton Vale" Municipality was gazetted remaining until eventually amalgamated with Shoalhaven Shire in 1948.
- 16 1879 The Legislative Assembly passed the sum of £1,000/-/- for the construction of a public wharf at Greenwell Point.
- 1 1937 The Methodist Parsonage, Berry, was dedicated by Rev. Wallace Deane, MA BD, President of the Methodist Conference of NSW.

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**APRIL 25**

- 1 1879 Laying of the foundation stone for the Cambewarra School of Arts. It was erected at a cost of £380/-/- and opened on 2nd September, 1879.

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**APRIL 26**

- 20 1797 Eight survivors of the wreck of the "Sydney Cove" came across "a very deep bay" (Jervis Bay?). They were all that remained of a party of 17 that had attempted to walk from Point Hicks. By May 15th, only three survived.
- 1 & 7 1842 First recording of a flood in Shoalhaven River. More floods were recorded in 1852. The most damaging were recorded in February 1860, May 1860, August 1860 and finally one more for that year started people thinking of moving from Terara and Numbaa to Nowra. The floods of June 1864, April 1867 and June 1867 caused more crop and livestock loss. Another flood was recorded in March 1870 and yet another in April of the same year which on this day reached its peak. This one swept away the Terara Post Office, Telegraph Office, the steam company's store and the wharf. The paddle steamer "The Coolangatta" (affectionately known as the wheelbarrow), of the Illawarra Steam Navigation Company, was washed from its moorings at Terara by this 1870 flood. It was carried 200 yards and was left stranded 75 yards inland. It demolished at least one home in its path. These disasters and the loss of life (see April 24th) finally convinced the people to start building in Nowra.
- 1 1866 Milton Agricultural Society was formed at a meeting at the Star Hotel. Mr T Hobbs was elected to the Chair. Fees were set at 10 shillings per year.
- 1 & 7 1870 The Walter Hood, a 937 ton clipper, bound from London to Sydney was wrecked in Wreck Bay north of Red Head (now Bendalong), 10 miles south of Cape St. George. 1 was washed overboard the day before, 11 died from drowning, exhaustion, injury or exposure and 1 died 3 months later from the ordeal, 23 survived.
- 4 1893 Sandridge, general cemetery for Milton-Ulladulla, was dedicated.

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**APRIL 27**

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**APRIL 28**

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**APRIL 29**

16      1989      Mr S Laws, the manager of the Jindyandy Butter Factory, purchased equipment for the company and experimented in pasteurisation with skim milk and cream. He found that pasteurised cream produced superior butter.

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**APRIL 30**

10      1911      David Boyd a teetotaler and licencee of the Bridge Hotel, Nowra died on this day. The day before, he had "broken down" 17 gallons of rum and, on finishing the task, had closed the bar and all doors leading to it. Following his Sunday lunch the next day he left the table and adjourned to the bar to smoke his pipe. The fumes ignited which in turn caused a cask of rum to explode, killing him almost instantly. (There were no complaints that the rum was underproof).

19      1914      John Booth, one time sole proprietor of the private township of Milton died after a rich and successful life, aged 83 years. Among his descendants is John Malcolm Fraser, former Prime Minister of Australia.

3      1945      Leo "Mervyn" Bourne, of Nowra, served with the 2/3 Australian Infantry Battalion in World War II. Killed in action on this day at Wewak, Papua New Guinea, aged 23. Buried at Lae. Bourne Avenue, East Nowra was named after him.

1      1968      Formation of the Milton Historical Society. Kevin Ryan was elected president, Mrs Majorie Kendall as secretary and R Westgarth as treasurer.

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**MAY 1**

1      1866      The Government Ferry began operating across the Shoalhaven River from Nowra to Bomaderry. The approaches were washed away by tides and sometimes vehicles had to await the tide before they could cross. Each flood threw it out of action.

16      1869      Opening of the first Post Office in Pyree.

1      1899      Opening of the lighthouse on Point Perpendicular. Kerosene operated, the light was in a 44 foot tower. The original lighthouse on

Cape St. George (built in 1860) was closed. It was later demolished by the Navy, using it for gunnery practice.

**MAY 2**

The Hon. H. F. Jensen, MP, Minister for Local Government and Roads officially opened the City Administrative Offices in Bridge Road, Nowra.

**MAY 3**

9 1932 The Shoalhaven took delivery of its first motorised ambulance in a ceremony at the Country Women's Association grounds. The ambulance was accepted by Dr. Francis P Ryan in his dual role as Chairman of the Ambulance Committee and as Mayor. The G.M.C. ambulance cost £500/-/- replacing its horse drawn predecessor which had been in service since 1912 (and originally cost £56/-/-).

The ambulance soon saw extensive use. Ambulance Superintendent Dalton, in 1934/35, travelled 10,026 miles, attending 585 cases.

9 1980 The privately owned, Nowra Community Hospital, in Weerona Place was opened by the State Minister for Health, Kevin Stewart. It cost about \$2 Million. Isabel Elliott was Matron.

**MAY 4**

26 1908 Cambewarra Shire Council (based in Kangaroo Valley) resolved that "the speed of motor cars within town boundaries and on the mountain passes be not more than 4 mph and that all motors be compelled to stop until any horse or vehicle meeting them has passed".

**MAY 5**

1 1902 The Nowra Co-Operative Dairy Company began operations as a butter factory on the western side of the Shoalhaven River bridge on the southern side of the river. The building originally cost £550/-/-.

1 1963 The Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Bunberra Street, Bomaderry, was opened by Bishop T McCabe of Wollongong.

1 1967 The Opening of the Shoalhaven Shire Library in Berry Street, Nowra, was conducted by the president of the Shires Association, Councillor E K Vickery, MLC. The Chief Librarian was Miss J Geake.

**MAY 6**

16 1878 Greenwell Point provisional school was granted Public School status. The official report included "that Greenwell Point is a small village

supporting a population of some 13 or 14 householders who represent a school population of 38 children - these children are now enrolled at the existing school".

1 1880 First edition of the Broughton Creek Mail - published by C I Watson, it sold for 6 pence a copy.

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**MAY 7**

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**MAY 8**

1 1899 Opening of the Meroo Meadow Dairy Company on land owned by D Fletcher on the creek beside the Nowra-Berry Road. It was the fourth separating station within a two mile radius and supplied Berry Central Factory with cream.

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**MAY 9**

1 1879 Direct communication between Broughton Creek (now Berry) with Sydney was established by the steamer "Our Own".

1 1934 The foundation stone for the Berry Presbyterian Church, on the corner of Alexandra and Victoria Streets, Berry, was laid by Moderator, Reverend D F Brandt. It was completed and opened on August 29th of the same year.

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**MAY 10**

2 1994 The Governor of NSW Rear Admiral Peter Sinclair AO, launched the Shoalhaven Aussiehost Program at the Naval Aviation Museum at 12 noon. The Aussiehost Program is a Training Course designed to lift the skills of people in the Tourism and Hospitality Industry.

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**MAY 11**

7 1888 A meeting at Dent's Hotel, Nowra, saw the formation of the Nowra Football Club. It played under the Rugby rules. The first President was Mr J J Scotchmer.

16 1915 The telephone was installed in the Pyree Post Office (the third post office for Pyree and part of the Pyree School and Residence).

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**MAY 12**

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**MAY 13**

1 1828 Surveyor Thomas Florance surveyed from Burrill to Narrawallee which he called Nurrahwherree.

1 1895 Opening of the first temporary David Berry Hospital at Broughton Creek (later Berry).

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**MAY 14**

1 1938 Bomaderry water and electricity were officially turned on by H J Bate, MLA. Water was secured from a dam on Bomaderry Creek whilst electricity, extended to Berry and later to Bomaderry in 1927 and was distributed to the rural areas of Bolong, Back Forest, Coolangatta, Jerry Bailey, Meroo, Jasper's Brush and Broughton Village, ten years later.

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**MAY 15**

20 1797 Three survivors of the wreck of the "Sydney Cove" were picked up by a fishing boat 14 miles south of Botany Bay. They were a Mr Clark, a European sailor and a lascar. These were all that remained of a party of 17 who had attempted to walk from Point Hicks to Port Jackson. The "Sydney Cove" had been beached on an island in the Furneaux group, north-west of an Dieman's Land. Some of the survivors attempted to make Sydney by longboat but in turn were wrecked at Point Hicks.

The three were the first white men to traverse the Shoalhaven by land.

1 1828 Surveyor Thomas Florance went up Narrawallee Creek to within half a mile of the location of the present bridge on the Princes Highway.

1 1926 Opening of the Country Women's Association rest rooms in Central Park, Berry Street, Nowra.

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**MAY 16**

1 1890 Establishment of a receiving Post Office at Bellawongarah.

1 1936 The Minister for Local Government officially opened the Back Forest Bridge over the mouth of Broughton Creek replacing the punt service which had operated for many years. It was a timber beam bridge of ten spans, 300 feet long and 16 feet wide between kerbs.

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**MAY 17**

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**MAY 18**

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**MAY 19**

- 4 & 26 1898 Opening of the suspension bridge over the Kangaroo River at Kangaroo Valley and named after the NSW Governor of the day, Lord Hampden. It cost £8,382/-/-.
- 1 & 9 1951 A new temporary hospital of 20 beds overlooking Greys Beach, Nowra, on the Shoalhaven River, was opened by J G Beale, MLA. The Nowra private hospital called Bridge Road Hospital had closed late in 1950 leaving Nowra with only a maternity hospital, Edman Hospital, for several months. Dr. J Rodway then unlocked the door and threw the key to the crowd, remarking that the doors of the hospital would remain open to the people.
- 1 1957 The foundation stone for the new St. Michael's Roman Catholic School, Nowra, was laid by the Most Rev Dr. T McCabe, Bishop of Wollongong, using the same trowel that was used to lay the foundation stone of the original St. Michael's school, 80 years before in 1877.

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**MAY 20**

- 15 1960 The Lady Denman, still in active service as a Sydney Ferry, collided with the Royal Navy submarine HMS Anchorite. No one was hurt but the Lady Denman took a week to be repaired.

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**MAY 21**

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**MAY 22**

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**MAY 23**

- 11 1982 The Illawarra Credit Union Ltd opened a branch in the south side of Junction Street, Nowra. It has since moved across the street.

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**MAY 24**

- 1 1884 This day, being Queen Victoria's birthday, F T Humphrey, MLA for Shoalhaven laid the foundation stone for the Anglican Church of St. Luke, Broughton Creek (later re-named Berry).
- 1 1888 Bridge on the main road over Broughton Mill Creek was opened. Cost was £1,856/-/-.
- 26 1898 The old bridge across Kangaroo River was washed away by flood. This was five days after the new Hampden Bridge was opened.

- 1 & 13 1905 Empire Day. Laying of the foundation stone for the Berry School of Arts by Alexander Hay.
- 1 1927 Empire Day. The Port Kembla, Kiama, Nowra electric light scheme reached Berry and was switched on.
- 1 1935 Charles A Branch took over the printing and publishing of "The South Coast Register" for the proprietor, Sidney Ford.

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**MAY 25**

- 16 1897 A special meeting of the directors of the Berry Central Butter Factory decided to build toilets for the two workers cottages. Material for each was to cost £1/- (the rent on the cottage for the engineer was 6 shillings and 6 pence per week).

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**MAY 26**

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**MAY 27**

- 31 1994 NSW Cabinet meet in Nowra at the City Administrative Centre (Council Chambers)
- 35 1994 The first of the new Endeavour trains arrived at Bomaderry Station. The Minister for Roads and Transport, Mr Bruce Baird arrived on board the train.
- 31 1994 The Premier of NSW, Mr John Fahey and the Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr Ian Causley announced plans for a Marine Reserve in Jervis Bay.

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**MAY 28**

- 1 1934 Nowra Municipal Council adopted as its crest the male lyre bird design subsequently used by the Shoalhaven Shire Council. It was presented by M F Morton, MLA for Wollondilly, having been designed by Hon. John Lane Mullins, MA, Member of the Legislative Council of NSW. It carried the motto "Uber Et Saluber" meaning fruitful and healthful (or fruitful and bountiful).
- 1 1958 Opening of the Berry Juniors Farmers Club Hall at the Berry Showground.

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**MAY 29**

- 1 1920 A memorial vesting of stone, matching the existing church architecture, was opened at the Nowra Methodist Church.
- 1 1924 Opening of the last of four cottages at the Bomaderry Aboriginal Childrens Home. Originally established in 1908 to receive seven



native children, six orphans and one baby, it had up to 47 children resident at one time.

1            1972            Opening of the second stage of the Aged Peoples Home, Osborne Street, Nowra, by the Governor of NSW, Sir Roden Cutler V.C.

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**MAY 30**

- 9 1949 A public meeting was held in the Nowra School of Arts to protest the delays in starting the construction of a Shoalhaven district hospital.
- 1 1970 Bomaderry High School was opened by the Premier of NSW, Hon. R W Ashin.

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**MAY 31**

- 19 1828 Surveyor Thomas Florance reached Murramarang. The area now known as Murramarang Island he mentioned as Mit Island.
- 1 1936 The Roman Catholic Church of St. Patrick, Berry, was blessed and opened by Monsignor King. It was built of red brick and had gothic windows and doors, the former being of amber glass.

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**JUNE 1**

- 7 1870 The Paddle Steamer "The Coolangatta" was refloated in the Shoalhaven River after it had been washed 75 yards inland by the floods of April 23rd-26th of the same year. She was released into the river at 9pm. The scene was lit by bonfires and tar barrels and was witnessed by a large crowd including scores of small boys.
- The Coolangatta was recorded as the first tourist vessel to operate on the Shoalhaven River taking holiday excursions over the Christmas/New Year period of the same year. Fares for the day trip were 2 shillings for adults, children half price.
- 1 1951 The New South Wales Hospital Commission took a lease of Edman Hospital as a maternity annexe.
- 15 1981 2.00am and the Lady Denman starts her second attempt to leave Sydney Harbour under tow from the M.V. Hollandia. The departure was "most clandestine" in nature as no official approval had been given for the Lady Denman to leave. All went well at first but then the weather turned nasty. The wind rose to 25 knots and the swell to 3 metres. There were times when "the Lady" and her tow were in two different troughs and out of sight of each other. By 9.00pm the Navy was asked to help. HMAS Tobruk took up station to windward to give protection from the wind and a helicopter hovered overhead. They finally made it to the naval dock at HMAS Creswell.

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**JUNE 2**

- 1 1893 The opening of the railway from north Kiama (now Bombo) to Shoalhaven by the Governor, Sir Robert Duff, who travelled on the first train as it drew into Bomaderry. One of the enterage, Railway

Commissioner Lyne said "He was afraid they would have to wait a little longer before it was extended.....". (We're still waiting!)

(There is some confusion as to this date as other reports place the event as 3 June 1893).

### **JUNE 3**

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|--------|------|--|
| 7 & 13 | 1893 | Opening of the railway between Kiama and Bomaderry. The cost was £359,692/-/-.   |
| 15     | 1981 | The M.V. Tasman Sea, the last wooden vessel to be built at Huskisson, towed the Lady Denman the last part of the way into Currumbene Creek to tie up to the Rotary Wharf at Huskisson. |

### **JUNE 4**

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| 1  | 1958 | A trial run of the South Coast Daylight Express was made by a diesel electric locomotive. This was successful and afterwards the train service from Sydney to Bomaderry was regularly hauled by diesel. |
| 1  | 1972 | Official opening of Radio 2ST by Shoalhaven Shire President, Clr. John Hatton.  |
| 22 | 1993 | Lunar Eclipse. Moon Rise 16:36. Moon set 06:23. Magnitude 1.57. Partial Phase began 21:15. Total Phase began 22:15. Time of maximum eclipse 23:03. Total Phase ended 23:51. Partial Phase ended 0:52.   |

Extensive cloud cover in the evening. Over most of the Shoalhaven the cloud cover disapated around 21:00 hours which gave a good viewing through to the start of the total phase, when the cloud then closed in and obscured all future viewing for the night.

### **JUNE 5**

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| 26 | 1888 | The last Aborigine of the Wodi Wodi tribe of Kangaroo Valley, Mrs Mary Maria Lindsay, died. With her death the 23,000 years (maybe 40,000 years) of Aborigine life in Kangaroo Valley came to an end. There is no grave for Mrs Lindsay in the Valley Cemetery. |
| 16 | 1921 | Patrick Caffery III and Miss Celia Watts were killed in an automobile accident on the way home from church on Greenwell Point Road at the bend known locally as Apperley's Hill. This was possibly Shoalhaven's first car fatality.                             |
| 13 | 1958 | Opening of the Rural Youth (Junior Farmers) Hall next to the Agricultural Hall, Berry, by Mr McTackett, past president of the State Council of Junior Farmers.  |

18      1970      The Wandandian Public School was closed after being open for 59 years (since 1911). It had replaced an earlier school which had been opened on 14 August 1886, which in turn replaced an earlier school of split slabs and a bark roof. This itself replaced another "school" which had been conducted in Charles Loadsmans old residence.

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**JUNE 6**

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**JUNE 7**

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**JUNE 8**

19      1900      The schooner "Gleaner" of 115 tons was lost off the Ulladulla Coast. She was carrying timber.

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**JUNE 9**

5      1888      The first game of football was played in Nowra, between the local side and Broughton Creek (Berry) on the ground adjacent to the Imperial (Empire) Hotel.

7      The entrance fee was 2/6 and the colours worn by Nowra were yellow and purple with a black cap. Broughton Creek were red, white and blue. Nowra won 2-Nil (the following week Broughton Creek defeated Nowra 5-4).

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**JUNE 10**

1      1877      Opening of the Kangaroo Valley Church of England Sunday School by Mrs Elkin, wife of the local Minister.

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**JUNE 11**

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**JUNE 12**

19      1878      The placid life of Ulladulla was rudely disturbed on this Saturday afternoon when a great meteorite was seen to flash across the sky and pass away to the mountains to the south and the west. Eye-witnesses described it as being "like a fire ball with a trail to it and as large as the sun and so brilliant it was painful to look at". Following its disappearance an explosion was heard all over the district.

36      1930      As the "The Depression" worsened The Navy Budget was much reduced and the decision was taken on this day to move the Royal Australian Naval College from Jervis bay to the Flinders Naval Depot

before the commencement of the following term, due on August 11, 1930. The College didn't return to Jervis Bay until the 20<sup>th</sup> January 1958.

In the intervening years the College was leased out to the private sector for use as a Tourist Resort. However the site continued to have links with the military and was used by convalescent airmen during the Second World War.

19      1984      Air Marshall Sir James Rowland, Governor of NSW opened the Sarah Claydon Retirement Village at Milton.

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**JUNE 13**

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**JUNE 14**

1      1969      Councillor John Hatton, Shoalhaven Shire President, opened the (then) Milton Ulladulla Civic Centre at Ulladulla. It had been built at a cost of \$72,000.

15      1979      At 7.30pm The Lady Denman commenced her last run as a Sydney Ferry from Circular Quay to Victoria Street, Hunters Hill.

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**JUNE 15**

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**JUNE 16**

1      1962      The Bangalee Scout Camp was opened on this day. It had been developed as a service project by the Nowra Rotary Club.

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**JUNE 17**

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**JUNE 18**

1      1958      Formation of the Berry Rotary Club. J. Priddle was the first president.

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**JUNE 19**

36      1911      The title Royal Australian Navy was conferred by King George V on this day and the Australian Navy came into existence as a force autonomous from the Royal Navy. The enabling legislation was the Commonwealth Naval Defence Act of 1910.

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**JUNE 20**

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**JUNE 21**

- 5      1822      Scotsman Alexander Berry arrived at Coolangatta to become first white settler in the Shoalhaven District. His vessel was the 15 ton cutter "Blanche".
- 1      1822      Two of the crew of Berry's settlement party (Davidson and one other) were drowned trying to enter the Shoalhaven River.

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**JUNE 22**

- 2      1994      The Italian rugby team played Country NSW at the Shoalhaven Rugby Park, Rugby Road, Nowra. Italy won.

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**JUNE 23**

- 1      1822      Alexander Berry noted in his diary "Shoalhaven Hill, Cullingatty" which was later to be known as "Mount Coolangatta" - meaning splendid view, fine view or good lookout.
- 13      1972      (Conflicting report of the re-opening of Coolangatta Historic Village - see June 24).

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**JUNE 24**

- 19      1948      Last meeting of the Ulladulla Municipal Council prior to its amalgamation into Shoalhaven Shire.
- 1      1972      Coolangatta Historic Village Motel was opened by the Hon. T. L. Lewis, MLA. The restoration of the village had been undertaken by Mr and Mrs Colin Bishop. This was the sesquicentenary of the settlement of Coolangatta.

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**JUNE 25**

- 1      1822      Hamilton Hume and three men were left by Alexander Berry on an isthmus to build a hut and cut a passage (across the sandspit).
- 1      1865      The S.S. Coolangatta (second vessel of that name), a flat bottom boat built for the Illawarra Steam Navigation Company, was launched at Darling Harbour. She was used to receive dairy produce from Broughton Creek (Berry), the back districts and Kangaroo Valley.
- 1      1877      Opening of the original Telegraph Office, Broughton Creek (now Berry).
- 1      1888      Opening of the Anglican Church at "The Falls" now known as Falls Creek.

- 1 1891 Floods in the area covered many roads and bridges. The coach trip from Nowra to Milton, usually taking a quick 8 hours, took 53 hours.
- 5 1913 The first of 17 Nowra deaths in the pneumonic influenza epidemic occurred.
- 1 1948 The gazettal of Shoalhaven Shire which was formed by the amalgamation of Broughton Vale Municipal Council, Berry Municipal Council, Nowra Municipal Council, Ulladulla Municipal Council, Cambewarra Shire Council and Clyde Shire Council.
- 19 1948 Last meeting of the Clyde Shire Council prior to amalgamation into Shoalhaven Shire.

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**JUNE 26**

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**JUNE 27**

- 13 1955 Inaugural meeting of the Womens Bowling Club, Berry.

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**JUNE 28**

- 23 1920 The first teacher, Mr V. McCarthy, was appointed at the school at Red Head (now Bendalong). His salary was £4/10/- per week.
- 1 1974 Max Vost was appointed Charter President of the newly formed Huskisson Rotary Club.

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**JUNE 29**

- 1 1948 First meeting of the provisional Shoalhaven Shire Council. This took place at the Nowra School of Arts.

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**JUNE 30**

- 1 1828 Surveyor Thomas Florance recorded Termeil Lagoon and Tabourie Lake and explored Burrill Lake to the tidal water near Woodstock.
- 9 1919 The first sufferers in Nowra, of the pneumonic influenza epidemic of 1919, were Mrs C Watson and her daughter from Numbaa. They were admitted to a temporary hospital at the Nowra Public School.
- 17 people in the Nowra district died from the epidemic. (The first on June 25) During the peak of the epidemic the horse drawn ambulance would bring patients to the front door. The horse drawn hearse called at the back.
- 1 1932 The foundation stone for the Methodist Church, Berry, was laid by Rev. W. Green.

11 1985 The NSW Building Society, with a Branch in Junction Street, Nowra, became the Advance Bank Australia Ltd.

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**JULY 1**

1 1822 Alexander Berry first walked to the top of Mount Coolangatta.

4 & 17 1822 Broughton Creek was officially named by Alexander Berry and Hamilton Hume after Broughton, the aboriginal stockman who served as a guide to Charles Throsby.

1 1903 The Ulladulla and Milton Times was taken over by Herbert Bishop and continued under his ownership until 1921.

18 1952 The Wandandian Progress Association was formed when a public meeting was called to discuss the possibility of obtaining a school residence and thus prevent school closure.

11 1968 The ANZ bank opened its first branch in Nowra.

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**JULY 2**

4 1863 Racecourse Beach at Ulladulla was named after a racecourse which was laid out on a nearby public recreation reserve, that was proclaimed on this day. Not to be confused with Racecourse Beach at Bawley Point where a three-quarter mile track and large grandstand was located near the beach.

11 1866 The Commercial Banking Company of Sydney opened its second attempt at establishing a branch in the Shoalhaven (the first building had been washed away in the 1860 flood) in premises in the north eastern corner of South Street and Southern Road, Terara.

1 1874 First meeting of the Municipality of Ulladulla at the Milton School of Arts.

10 1902 The Imperial Hotel had its name changed to the Empire Hotel by Licencee Joseph Hill. The Imperial Hotel was built in July 1886 and replaced the Greenhills Hotel (on the same site) which had operated since the 1860's. The Empire Hotel has had various periods of reconstruction since then.

1 1967 The Technical College was opened in Berry Street, Nowra by the Minister for Education, Hon. C. B. Butler, MLA.

1 1969 The first issue of the Nowra News.

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**JULY 3**



19      1849      The Schooner "Susan" of 23 tons and carrying tallow and hides struck Ulladulla reef. She went down in 10 minutes.

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**JULY 4**

1      1822      Alexander Berry decided that his station would be built on the south-eastern foot of Mount Coolangatta.

9      1959      The Shoalhaven Branch of the Red Cross opened its offices in Stewart Place. Shire Administrator, Keith Hawkshaw performed the duties.

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**JULY 5**

7      1879      Work began on the construction of the iron bridge over the Shoalhaven River at Nowra.

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**JULY 6**

1      1873      A Wesleyan Sunday School was opened in "The Old School House", Broughton Creek (now Berry).

1      1935      the Nowra aerodrome was opened at Nowra Hill with an air pageant but no permanent air service developed on a commercial scale.

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**JULY 7**

1      1822      Completion of Berry's canal. It took Hamilton Hume and three men twelve days to complete the 209 yard long canal. It was Australia's first canal. No Environmental Impact Study was required. The river itself cut the canal wider and deeper and dredging many years later opened up the Shoalhaven River for steamships and the coastal trade.

1      1951      The timber built, Methodist Church Hall, Bomaderry was opened by Rev. Claude Connor.

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**JULY 8**

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**JULY 9**

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**JULY 10**

1      1864      Bamarang Presbyterian School-Church was opened by Rev. Mitchell.

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**JULY 11**

1      1900      Opening of the new Union Church, Cambewarra.

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**JULY 12**

1 1876 Opening of the Loyal Orange Lodge at Wood Hill.

**JULY 13**

The Governor of NSW, Sir Arthur Roden Cutler, by proclamation declared that Shoalhaven Shire would become a Municipality on the 1st August 1979 and would be the City of Shoalhaven.

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**JULY 14**

1 1969 The first call of the Nowra Meals on Wheels was made on this day. The meals were prepared by voluntary labour at the Nowra School of Arts building 3 days a week.

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**JULY 15**

1 1947 A gale on the night of July 15 and early morning of July 16 blew off the roof and a portion of the end wall of the Milton Congregational Church.

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**JULY 16**

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**JULY 17**

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**JULY 18**

10 1883 Anton Wolf of Nowra was granted a publican's license to operate a house (hotel) on the corner of Junction & Kinghorn Streets. This was to become the Prince of Wales Hotel which opened in December 1883. Despite being partially burnt down in 1901 (and subsequently rebuilt) the Prince of Wales lasted 97 years when it was demolished to make way for a Best & Less store.

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**JULY 19**

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**JULY 20**

13 1888 The Salvation Army began its work in Broughton Creek and held services in an estate building in Prince Alfred Street.

1 1962 W C Batt, Shire Clerk, authorised to call a Conference of representatives of all tourist organisations to form a tourist association.

**JULY 21**

**JULY 22**

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|---|------|--|
| 1 | 1939 | The Church of England on Broger's Creek at Wattamolla was re-opened by Rev Dr H W K Mowll, Archbishop of Sydney. It was a timber building erected, as was then said, sixty or seventy years ago, and which had seen no services for some time. |
| 1 | 1961 | The Worrigea - Wreck Bay branch of the Country Womens Association was established. It included ladies of mixed blood.  |

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**JULY 23**

- 13 1934 Laying of the foundation stone for the Church of England Church hall, Berry by Archbishop Mowl.
- 11 1981 The NSW Building Society opened a branch in Junction Street, Nowra. It became the Advance Bank of Australia Ltd on 30 June 1985.

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**JULY 24**

- 26 1888 Registration of the first separator and butter factory at Kangaroo Valley, known as the Kangaroo Dairy Company.
- 1 1895 Second recorded fall of snow at Kangaroo Mountain, Woodhill.

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**JULY 25**

- 1 1958 The Scots Church Hall in Alexandra Street Berry was opened by Rt Rev W Kinmount, Moderator.

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**JULY 26**

- 1 1856 Opening of the first Church of England at Terara. It cost £700, was built on land presented by Mrs de Mestre and Mrs de Mestre was the major contributor.
- 1 1895 Severest frost ever seen and ice floated down Broughton Creek.
- 23 1926 The public school at Red Head (now Bendalong) closed for the last time after being open (on and off) for six years.

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**JULY 27**

- 1 1788 Captain Weatherhead in the transport "Matilda" discovered a bay which he named Matilda Bay. The name was not retained. The bay was independently named "Port Jervis" by Lt Bowen on 18 August 1788.
- 26 1831 Surveyor Robert Hoddle entered Kangaroo Valley via Meryla Pass.
- 1 1866 The first ploughing match was held at Whopindilly by the Milton Agricultural Society. A rifle match followed after lunch.

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**JULY 28**

1 1879 Amalgamation of the Post and Telegraph Offices Broughton Creek (now Berry).

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**JULY 29**

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**JULY 30**

1 1935 The memorial gates and wall of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Kangaroo Valley were dedicated as the "Kings Jubilee Memorial of Peace". This was carried out by the Archbishop of Sydney in the presence of the Lieutenant-Governor of New South Wales, Sir Philip Street.

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**JULY 31**

26 1977 The Premier of NSW The Hon Neville Wran and Mrs Wran visited Kangaroo Valley to open at "The Settlement", the old Walker Suspension Bridge.

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**AUGUST 1**

1 1842 First Post Office was established at Ulladulla. Postage to Sydney was 10 pence and mail was carried by ship. The postmaster received no salary but only a commission on the postage collected.

16 1879 The first Post Office was established at Greenwell Point. The postmaster was Archibald McNab McLean who received ten pounds per annum for his postal duties. McLean was also the telegraph station master for which he received twenty six pounds per annum.

1 1881 The bridge over the Shoalhaven River at Nowra was opened by Hon John Lackey MLA, Minister for Works, in the presence of 7,000 people. The bridge was constructed by the Edgemoor Iron Co of Delaware, USA and was the largest in NSW at the time. The whipple truss bridge has seven spans each 124 feet plus one 181 feet 6 inches, total length including approaches is 1103 feet. It is 20 feet wide. The clearance above the roadway is 22 feet and was intended to also carry rail traffic. The bridge was originally built high to allow for navigation and to be flood free. It has never been covered by water. Its official name is the "Nowra Bridge". It cost a total of £42,500.

23 1897 The Bawley Point public school was totally destroyed by fire. As it happened in the evening no one was hurt.

1 1954 Opening and blessing of St Patrick's Roman Catholic School, Berry. It had 3 timber rooms land cost £8,000.

- 17      1979      Dissolution of Shoalhaven Shire Council and Proclamation by the Governor of NSW, Sir Arthur Roden Cutler, of the Municipality of Shoalhaven as the City of Shoalhaven. Councillor, (then Alderman) Gregory H Watson was appointed provisional Mayor until September 1980, when he was elected as Shoalhaven's first Mayor by popular vote.

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**AUGUST 2**

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**AUGUST 3**

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**AUGUST 4**

- 1      1909      A new Baptist Church was opened on the corner of Berry and Worrigeer Streets, Nowra.
- 1      1914      Men of the Shoalhaven District began enlisting for active service with the declaration of what was to become known as the First World War.

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**AUGUST 5**

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**AUGUST 6**

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**AUGUST 7**

- 1      1878      First meeting of the Ulladulla Volunteers. The Ulladulla Volunteer Rifle Corps was sworn in during September of the same year with 58 in the muster of 75 on the roll.
- 1      1935      Formation of the Berry Junior Farmers Club.
- 1      1947      The Nowra District Fishermen's Co-operative was incorporated with J L Dibbs as Chairman.

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**AUGUST 8**

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**AUGUST 9**

- 1      1840      Sir John Hay LLD of Coolangatta was born. It was under Sir John's auspices that the bequest of the late David Berry of £100,000 for a hospital for Berry was fulfilled.

- 2      1994      Alexander Downer, Leader of the Opposition in the Australian Government, visited the Shoalhaven, met with the Shoalhaven Tourism Board and addressed Representatives of the Tourist Industry.

**AUGUST 10**

- 6      1992      Official opening of the new 80 kph bridge over the Endrick River by the Deputy Premier and Minister for Public Works and Roads, Mr Wal Murray.
- 6      1992      Official opening of the St Georges Basin Sewerage Scheme by the Deputy Premier and Minister for Public Works and Roads, Mr Wal Murray. The final cost of the scheme was \$28.4 million and was jointly funded by the NSW State Government and Shoalhaven City Council.

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**AUGUST 11**

- 1      1870      Opening of the Wesleyan Chapel at Wood Hill by the Rev Adin Parsons of Ulladulla.
- 1      1939      The opening of the new milk and butter factory for the Nowra Co-operative in the railyards beside the Bomaderry railway station. It had every modern facility.

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**AUGUST 12**

- 1      1918      The Far South Coast March to Freedom, which was part of a state wide rcruiting campaign for men to join the armed forces, reached Milton.

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**AUGUST 13**

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**AUGUST 14**

- 1 & 26    1879      The original timber bridge across the river at Kangaroo Valley was opened. At the time it was the highest bridge above water in NSW. It cost £3,000/-/-. It was washed away by flood on 24th May 1898, five days after the Hampden Bridge was opened.
- 18      1886      The "new" school at Wandandian was opened. Students came from the Walsh, Loadsman, McLean, Condie, Mathie, Clark, Windley, McTaggett, Parnell, Higgins, Doolans, Oliver, Hancock, Ryan, Johnston, Glanville and Suffolk families.
- 9      1914      The Shoalhaven Branch of the Red Cross League was formed. Sixty ladies were present at the meeting. Mrs Rodway was the first president, Miss Emma Bice, secretary and Mrs Hayles was treasurer. Membership was 1/-. The next morning a street collection raised £17/7/9 and before the week was out a concert by Mrs Oliver raised £30/18/-. Mrs Rodway was branch president for 51 of the next 53 years and was awarded the O.B.E. for her services.
- 1      1918      The far South Coast march to freedom, which was part of a state wide recruiting campaign for men to join the armed forces, reached Nowra. They were met by the Mayor of Nowra, Alderman J C Bennett, the Mayor of South Shoalhaven, Alderman W Watts and others. The marchers were informed that nine waratahs from the 1915 recruiting march (a party of 50 men left Nowra on 30 November 1915), remained in the firing line. (Front Line).

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**AUGUST 15**

- 7      1888      A special prayer service for rain to break the drought was held by the Protestant Clergymen in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Nowra.



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### **AUGUST 16**

- 4      1893      Bomaderry was officially named with the re-opening of the Post Office (previously known as Bundbaderra - aboriginal for fighting ground, and previously spelt Bomadary).
- 1      1912      The foundation stone for the new Berry Council Chambers was laid by the Minister for Lands, Hon. G S Beeby, MLA, in Hazelberry Park.

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### **AUGUST 17**

- 1      1934      Formation of the Kangaroo Valley Junior Farmers Club.

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### **AUGUST 18**

- 1      1788      Lt. Richard Bowen in the vessel "Atlantic" entered a bay which he named "Port Jervis" in honour of Sir John Jervis.
- 1 & 7      1846      The brigantine "The Coolangatta", named by Alexander Berry after his station which in turn was named after Mount Coolangatta, was wrecked in a storm. The place was between Point Danger, where the boundary between NSW and Queensland was made in 1859, and Cut Hill. The place was called Coolangatta after the wreck of the ship.
- In 1925 it was exposed by another storm. The old wreck was located by rutile miners, 30 feet below sand level, in 1954. In 1973 the Queensland Government tried to blow it up as it was proving a hazard to shipping and surfers - unsuccessfully. On 22 March 1974, another cyclone dumped it high on the beach and souvenir hunters quickly removed what the sea and the Government had been unable to destroy in 127 years.
- 1      1872      The congregational Church at Milton was opened by the Rev. John Graham. The Church was built by contractors Poole and Moore for £557/-/-.
- 2      1995      The Prime Minister of Australia, Mr Paul Keating visited Bundanon, on the Shoalhaven river and presented Arthur Boyd, Shoalhaven's and Australia's most famous artist, his award as Australian of the year for 1995.

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### **AUGUST 19**

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### **AUGUST 20**

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### **AUGUST 21**

- 1      1859      Laying of the foundation stone for the Anglican Church, Milton, by John Kendall. Completed in 1880 it was known as St. Paul's Church and later St. Peter's and Paul's.

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### **AUGUST 22**

- 1      1975      Official opening of the Tourist Information Centre and Food Sales Complex on the Princes Highway, Bomaderry.

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### **AUGUST 23**

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### **AUGUST 24**

- 1      1872      The "Shoalhaven News" announced the discovery of gold at Yalwal. This led to the boom of Yalwal where by 1889 there were 7 mines working, a Post office, a Public School with an average attendance of 40 children and 30 families in residence. Growth continued. In 1890 a sports event drew a crowd of 200. In 1891, 3 stores, a bank and an hotel were added. However, gradually the gold petered out and with it, the population of Yalwal. A bush fire spelt its end on 14 January 1939.
- 1      1918      The Returned Soldiers Convalescent Home was established at Bomaderry and officially opened by the Governor General of Australia, Sir Ronald Munro-Ferguson on this day. It catered for the district between Thirroul and Bega and served until September 1920.
- 1      1944      Formation of the First Bomaderry Boy Scouts Troop.
- 2      2003      Severe wind storm with gusts up to 160km/hour buffeted the Shoalhaven causing Millions of dollars damage. In addition many trees came down across power lines causing blackouts lasting days in some instances. Emergency Services were stretched to the limit. Emergency power had to be supplied to hospitals and then to dairies so that the cows could be milked.

Damage to Council's property alone included

- Six shops at 37-43 Kinghorne Street, Nowra – Roof blown off
- Nowra School of Arts – Section of roof blown off and remaining roof damaged
- Ken Furness Building (at rear of Nowra School of Arts) – Western end wall and roof damaged by large tree
- Nowra Showground Grandstand – Section of roof blown off
- Berry Showground Poultry Pavilion – Demolished by wind
- Sporting amenities Lyrebird Park, Nowra – Majority of roof blown off

- Sporting amenities Bomaderry Oval – Large section of roof blown off and brick walls demolished
- Toilet block at Jacob Drive, Sussex Inlet – Roof blown off and brickwork damaged
- Berry School of Arts – Roof damage
- Milton Showground – First aid room blown over and various other building damaged
- Bomaderry Basketball Stadium – Sheeting blown from western wall
- Five bus shelters – Demolished or severely damaged
- Bomaderry Depot – Damage to roof, roller door, fencing and lighting
- Berry Museum – Roof tiles blown off
- Nowra swimming pool – Shade awnings destroyed
- Bomaderry swimming pool – Roof tiles, shade awning and fencing destroyed
- Cambewarra Lookout – Electrical supply lines, fencing and car park damaged by large trees
- Family Day Care, Ulladulla – Building damaged by fallen tree

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#### **AUGUST 25**

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| 36 | 1981 | The Royal Australian Naval College, Jervis Bay was placed on the Register of the National Estate by the Australian Heritage Commission. This represented a recognition of the historical significance of the RANC and its special value for the present community and future generations. |
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#### **AUGUST 26**

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#### **AUGUST 27**

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#### **AUGUST 28**

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|----|------|--|
| 13 | 1934 | The windows taken from the old Scots Church in Margaret and York Streets, Sydney, were gifted to the Scots Church, Berry (Presbyterian). |
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#### **AUGUST 29**

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|--------|------|--|
| 1 & 13 | 1934 | The Moderator General of Australia opened the Berry Presbyterian Church on the corner of Alexandra and Victoria Streets, Berry. The Church included four stained glass windows from Scots Church, Sydney, demolished for the Sydney Harbour Bridge approaches, and said to be 100 years old. The cost was £1,356/11/-. |
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**AUGUST 30**

- 1 1831 Surveyor Mitchell wrote to the Colonial Secretary, Alexander Macleay noting that "The Kangaroo Ground" (now Kangaroo Valley) enclosed much valuable land.
- 1 1952 The Anglican Church at Lake Burrill was opened by Most Reverend H W K Mowl, Archbishop of Sydney.
- 1 1969 The Seventh Day Adventist Church building was opened in McKay Street, Nowra.
- 16 1974 The Greenwell Point Bowling and Sports Club finally received its licence after two court appearances.

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**AUGUST 31**

- 13 1889 David Berry gave an acre of land to the NSW Government for a court house in Broughton Creek (Berry).
- 17 1948 The Royal Australian navy commissioned H.M.A.S. Albatross as the Naval Air Station.
- 1 1948 The White Ensign Club was established for Navy personnel from H.M.A.S. Albatross.
- 1 1963 The Ulladulla-Milton Lions Club, with Sylvester Robinson as president, received its charter.
- 1995 The Premier of NSW, the Hon Bob Carr, MP, presented Shoalhaven City Council, as joint winner with Belligen Shire Council, with the prestigious Dorothy Helmrich Award in recognition of Council's significant cultural developments with particular reference to town design / townscape improvements, visual/public arts, crafts, design, literature, performing arts, festivals, capital works and youth arts.

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**SEPTEMBER 1**

- 1 1855 Rev. Proctor (Church of England) became the first Minister of the Parish with services being conducted at the home of Mrs de Mestre, (Numbaa).
- 16 1870 The Council of Education granted aid for the establishment of a provisional school at Greenwell Point.
- 11 1872 The Government Savings Bank opened a branch at Terara.
- 1 1894 News items report that Police were searching the mountains around Kangaroo Valley for illicit whisky stills.
- 1 1924 Formation of the Nowra Branch of the Country Womens Association with Mrs M P Morton as its first President.

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**SEPTEMBER 2**

- 1 1879 Opening of the Cambewarra School of Arts by John Roseby, M.L.A. It cost £380/-/-.
- 1 1903 Laying of the foundation stone of the Presbyterian Church School Hall, Kinghorn Street, Nowra, by the Rev. John Ferguson.
- 1 1908 Formation of the Illawarra Cow Testing Association with its headquarters at Berry. President was H D Morton. The formation was accompanied by a donation of £100/-/- from Alexander Hay of Coolangatta. Drought at the time caused the experiment to be short lived.

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**SEPTEMBER 3**

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**SEPTEMBER 4**

- 1 1920 A granite memorial column was unveiled in Kangaroo Valley to commemorate Kangaroo Valley soldiers of the First World War.
- 1 1948 Opening of the Hotel Marlin, Ulladulla, by J G Beal, M.L.A.

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**SEPTEMBER 5**

- 1 1873 The Wesleyan Church, built of slabs, was opened at Barrengarry.

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**SEPTEMBER 6**

- 19 1877 The Ulladulla Municipal Council fixed the following licence fees for vehicles operating within Municipal boundaries:- 2 wheel carts 20/-, drays 40/-, timber carriages 40/-, passenger vehicles - two wheels 20/-, four wheels 40/- per annum.
- 1 1918 The far South Coast march to freedom, which was part of a state wide recruiting campaign for men to join the armed forces, reached Martin Place, Sydney.

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**SEPTEMBER 7**

- 1 1864 First meeting of the Shoalhaven Estate Agricultural Association at Wheatley's Royal Hotel, Numbaa.
- 1 & 13 1895 John Hay opened the Berry Central Butter Factory. It was built nearly opposite the railway station and was the largest butter factory in NSW. It was built of weatherboard with a galvanized iron roof, 100 feet x 40 feet and had 3 churns and the largest butter worker in

Australia. In 1898 Dr. Hay expressed concern about the inroads margarine was making into the butter industry. At that time 1,075 tons of butter were produced annually in the Berry District from 12,800 estate cows.

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### **SEPTEMBER 8**

- 1      1962      The Berry Baby Health Centre, sponsored by the Country Womens Association, was opened by Dr. Maureen Gratton-Smith, Deputy Director of Maternal and Baby Welfare of the Department of Public Health. It cost £4,500.

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### **SEPTEMBER 9**

- 1      1961      Opening of the Shoalhaven Shire Council Chambers in Junction Street, Nowra, by the Minister for Local Government, Hon. P D Hills, M.L.A. The original estimate for costs had been £104,165 but costs of land, resumptions and furnishings brought the total to £188,000.

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### **SEPTEMBER 10**

- 1      1888      A meeting of farmers decided to form "The Broughton Valley Dairy Co Ltd". The factory opened in 1889.

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### **SEPTEMBER 11**

- 1      1876      The steamer "Dandenong" was wrecked north of Bendalong with a loss of 40 lives, only 5 being saved.
- 11     1893      The Commercial Banking Company of Sydney closed its Terara Branch and transferred all its business to Nowra.

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### **SEPTEMBER 12**

- 1      1927      Electricity for the town of Bomaderry was switched on by Mrs McGuire, wife of Alderman A F McGuire of Bomaderry with a golden key.
- (This conflicts with another report which says electricity was turned on by H J Bate, M.L.A. on 14 May 1938).
- 31     1998      Shoalhaven's Lori Munz as a member of the Australian Womens 4 x 200 m freestyle relay team wins Gold at the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The team was Lori Munz, Julia Greville, Susie O'Neill and Anna Windsor. Lori swam the third leg. They set a new Commonwealth Games and Australian record of 8.03.73

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**SEPTEMBER 13**

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**SEPTEMBER 14**

- 1        1964        Southern Sea Foods Pty Ltd took over the former butter factory at Milton and commenced canning and freezing fish. These were mainly blue fin tuna for export to America.
- 31       1998        Shoalhaven's Lori Munz as a member of the Australian Womens 4 x 100 m freestyle relay team wins her second Gold (see October 12<sup>th</sup>) at the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The team was Lori Munz, Rebecca Creedy, Susie O'Neill and Sarah Ryan. Lori swam the third leg and grabbed the lead.

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**SEPTEMBER 15**

- 1        1830        William Huskisson (after whom Huskisson was named) , whilst talking to the Duke of Wellington stepped back into the path of a train and was run over. He later died.
- 5        1856        Government Surveyor George Legge was drowned while crossing the Shoalhaven River on horseback. Nearby island was named Legge's Island in his honour.

However some locals claim it was called "Leg Over Island" because of some of the antics of people who attended annual picnics on the shore, just opposite.

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**SEPTEMBER 16**

- 11       1859        The first bank in Shoalhaven, the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney, opened its doors in Terara. It is believed that this was on the corner of Southern Road and West Berry Street, Terara. It didn't last long, being washed away in the 1860 flood.

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**SEPTEMBER 17**

11      1873      Alexander Berry died at his Crows Nest house, aged 92. He was Shoalhaven's first and most influential settler.

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**SEPTEMBER 18**

5      1887      The first Mayor of Nowra died in Nowra, aged 56. He had served seven terms in this position.

1      1894      Opening of the Pyree School of Arts by John Monaghan. It was followed by a social night.

9      1909      Opening of the David Berry Hospital by the NSW Premier Charles Wade (later Sir Charles). The total cost was £7,900/-/. (This left a fair bit of change from the £100, 000/-/- of the original bequest. See 26 Feb. Who got to keep the £92,100/-/-?).

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**SEPTEMBER 19**

11      1972      The United Permanent Building Society opened a branch in Junction Street, Nowra. It later became the National Mutual Royal Savings Bank and then later still was taken over by ANZ Bank.

7      1980      The new concrete bridge crossing the Shoalhaven River at Nowra was officially opened by the Hon. Harry Jensen, MP, Minister for Local Government and Minister for Roads. The Shoalhaven Mayor, Alderman Greg Watson, was present as were the State Parliamentarians, Messrs John Hatton and Bill Knott and the Federal Member Mr Michael Baume. The bridge is 360 metres long, 12.4 metres wide and provides a 9.2 metre dual lane carriageway plus a 1.7 metre footpath. It cost \$2.9 million.

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**SEPTEMBER 20**

1      1877      Opening of the Union Church, Tomerong, by Rev. W Grant. It was built of weatherboard with a shingle roof.

13      1976      The General Store, Berry, was taken over and became the Berry Supermarket.

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**SEPTEMBER 21**

19      1871      The National Australia Bank Ltd opened its doors in Milton. This was the first financial institution to set up business in the southern part of the Shoalhaven. At that time it operated as the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney. Mr W W Bodenham was its first manager.



- 1        1972        Officers and ratings of H.M.A.S. Albatross and H.M.A.S. Creswell were granted freedom of Entry to the Shire of Shoalhaven. This was conferred by Clr. J E Hatton, Shire President.

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**SEPTEMBER 22**

- 1        1859        Proclamation of the Municipality of Shoalhaven. This followed an Act of Parliament in October 1858 and a petition of 103 "locals". This proclamation was strongly opposed by Alexander Berry (who would have been the principal ratepayer). Much legal wrangling took place with the proclamation eventually being thrown out by the Privy Council due to weaknesses in the original Act of Parliament. The Mayor and Aldermen had to pay costs which were met by public subscription in August 1865.
- 11       1879        The Government Savings Bank established an agency in the Nowra Post Office. Jeremiah Green was postmaster.
- 17       1951        The foundation stone of the school and church of St. Michael and all Angels at Burrill Lake was laid by the Most Rev. H W K Mowll.

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**SEPTEMBER 23**

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**SEPTEMBER 24**

- 1        1970        The Tourist Association changed its title to the Kiama/Shoalhaven Regional Tourist Association.

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**SEPTEMBER 25**

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**SEPTEMBER 26**

- 1        1947        The Milton branch of the Country Womens Association was inaugurated on this day. The meeting was attended by 50 ladies. Mrs A L Kendall was elected president, Mrs K W Kendall, secretary and Mrs M Thistleton, treasurer.

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**SEPTEMBER 27**

- 13       1873        (Conflicting report - refer September 17 - Alexander Berry died, aged 91. He left the whole of his estate to his younger brother David (then aged 77)).
- 7        1878        The Department of Public Works inserted an advertisement in the Government Gazette calling for tenders for the construction of an iron bridge over the Shoalhaven River at Nowra.

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**SEPTEMBER 28**

1      1836      James Backhouse and party discovered the northern end of Seven Mile Beach.

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**SEPTEMBER 29**

1      1877      Opening of the Roman Catholic Church, Nowra, by Archbishop Vaughan. It was built by A McArthur and estimated to cost £1,200/-/-.

16     1978      Rosbery Spray Pty Ltd decentralised to Greenwell Point. Work commenced 4 days later with 10 new local employees plus 4 who transferred from Sydney.

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**SEPTEMBER 30**

1      1955      Opening of the Public Hall at Shoalhaven Heads by Councillor P S West, President of Shoalhaven Shire Council.

11     1982      The Bank of New South Wales merged with the Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd to become the Westpac Banking Corporation. This left the Westpac Bank with two offices in Nowra until it moved to its new premises in Junction Street in November 1987.

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**OCTOBER 1**

1      1861      Opening of the original post office in Broughton Creek (now Berry).

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**OCTOBER 2**

23     1913      The first fleet of the Royal Australian Navy comprising the flagship H.M.A.S. Australia and her sister ships Sydney, Melbourne, Encounter, Psyche, Cambrian, Parramatta, Yarra and Warrego arrived in Jervis Bay to clean up and prepare for an official arrival at Port Jackson on October 4.

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**OCTOBER 3**

1      1891      Laying of the foundation stone for the Mechanics Institute and School of Arts building in Berry Street, Nowra. The stone was laid by the Minister for works Hon. J H Young, MLA, even though the stone is engraved "laid by Sir Henry Parkes". The later was prevented from completing the task through the illness of an aged sister. School children sang the new song "Advance Australia Fair".

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**OCTOBER 4**

- 1      1972      Shoalhaven District Hospital took over the preparation of the meals for the Nowra Meals on Wheels (started in 1969). The distribution remained the work of voluntary helpers.

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**OCTOBER 5**

- 16      1883      A two acre site was resumed from David Berry's property for the purpose of building a vested school at Greenwell Point. It lay idle for 10 years while increasing pressure was brought on the Department of Public Instruction to build the school.
- 17      1911      The Royal Australian Navy officially came into existence. The Navy and the Shoalhaven have had a long history together with HMAS Creswell being opened as the RAN college in 1913 and HMAS Albatross being the Naval Air Station since 31 August 1948.

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**OCTOBER 6**

- 1      1937      The newspaper "The Shoalhaven News" incorporated "The Shoalhaven Telegraph" with Cecil and Ray Rauch as proprietors.

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**OCTOBER 7**

- 1      1826      John Harper, Wesleyan Missionary to the Aborigines, visited the Aborigines at Bowen Island at the entrance to Jervis Bay.
- 1      1955(?)      The Nowra High School, built at a cost of £200,000 was officially opened with an enrolment of 550 girls and boys.
- 1      1961      The bush fire station was opened in Illaroo Road, North Nowra (then known as Bomaderry).

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**OCTOBER 8**

- 1      1967      Opening of the Aged People's Home, Osborne Street, Nowra, by the Governor of NSW, Sir Roden Cutler VC.

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**OCTOBER 9**

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**OCTOBER 10**

- 24      1870      The barque "Summer Cloud" was forced ashore and gave her name to Summercloud Bay.
- 9      1959      The Shoalhaven Ambulance Serviced received a boost when a two-way radio system was introduced. It was officially switched on by Shire Administrator, Keith Hawkshaw.

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### **OCTOBER 11**

- 18      1934      First recorded entry in its passbook account with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia was made by the Wandandian P & C Association. It was a deposit of £4/19/2.
- 1        1935      Re-opening of the Berry Experiment Farm as a branch of the Child Welfare Development by Hon. D H Drummond, the Minister for Education. It had originally been the Berry Experiment Farm since 1899.

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### **OCTOBER 12**

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### **OCTOBER 13**

- 1        1925      First meeting of the Nowra Girl Guides. Miss Emmie Glanville was captain.

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### **OCTOBER 14**

- 16      1898      The Berry Central Butter Factory was asked if Jindyandy supplied pasteurised cream would they pay top market price for the pasteurised butter. In January the next year the offer was accepted at half a penny over the best creamery price.
- 1        1967      The new brick Milton Ulladulla Hospital building was opened by the Governor, Sir Roden Cutler VC. It cost \$500,000.

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### **OCTOBER 15**

- 1        1885      Laying of the foundation stone for the Salvation Army Hall, Nowra, by W Hanigan.
- 17      1908      The Governor of NSW, Sir Henry Rawson, visited the Tomerong School.
- 1        1926      The School of Arts was opened at Tomerong.

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### **OCTOBER 16**

- 1        1897      Jasper's Brush Public School opened in its new building.
- 19      1947      The Country Womens Association of NSW formed the Milton District Branch and held its first meeting. Foundation President was Mrs D Kendall, Secretary was Mrs M Kendall. This report conflicts with another report for September 26 of the same year.

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**OCTOBER 17**

- 19      1871      The foundation stone for the School of Arts, Ulladulla, was laid. It was an occasion of great celebration and a picnic sports was held.
- 1        1952      The Minister for Agriculture, Hon. E H Graham, MLA, opened the artificial stock Breeding Station at Berry, serving the whole of the Shoalhaven district. The original station cost £10,000/-/-. It was seen obvious that a larger station was needed (see Feb 10).
- 1        1955      A majority resolution was passed on this date by Shoalhaven Shire Council for Council to be dissolved and an administrator be appointed. This took place 10 days later.

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**OCTOBER 18**

- 11      1905      The Bank of Australasia opened a branch at Nowra on the eastern side of Walsh's store (Junction Street?). This made 4 banks in Nowra, the others being the Commercial Banking Co of Sydney, the Government Savings Bank of NSW and the Australian Joint Stock Bank. In these times each bank in Australia issued its own bank notes, a practice which continued until 1911 when the Commonwealth Treasury took over the function and standardised Australian notes.
- 1        1956      The water supply for Kangaroo Valley was officially turned on by J F McGrath, MLA.

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**OCTOBER 19**

- 17      1904      Laying of the foundation stone for the Nowra Showground pavilion. It was constructed by Sydney builder, A Schuler at a cost of £1,108/-/-.
- 1        1920      The main road from Sydney to Melbourne via the South Coast was named the Princes Highway at a ceremony at

Bulli Lookout by the Hon. T D Mutch, MLA. The Princes Highway completed - traverses the Shoalhaven from north to south.

- 5        1973        Prince Phillip visited HMAS Creswell on the occasion of the diamond jubilee of the establishment of the Royal Australian Naval College.
- 9        1979        The Federal Minister for Health, Mr Ralph Hunt, opened the Shoalhaven Nursing Home at Bomaderry. This 80 bed home was built at a cost of \$980,000.

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**OCTOBER 20**

- 1        1881        The newspaper "Telegraph & Shoalhaven Advertiser" changed its name to the "Shoalhaven Telegraph".

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**OCTOBER 21**

- 16       1823        Mr Justice Field, on viewing Berry's land from Mt. Coolangatta stated "I'm afraid Mr Berry's lands will hardly repay him for his outlay on them".
- 1 & 13   1932        The opening of the Methodist Church, Berry, by the President of the Methodist Conference, the Rev. H C Foreman, MA.
- 19       1967        The water supply from Porters Creek Dam, west of Milton, was turned on by the Hon. P H Morton, MLA. This water supplied both Milton and Ulladulla and freed these towns from the constant worry of empty rain water tanks.

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**OCTOBER 22**

- 17       1979        The City of Shoalhaven granted in perpetuity freedom of entry to the Commanding Officer, Officers and Men of Her Majesty's Australian Ships Albatross and Creswell. This means that they can enter on ceremonial occasions with swords drawn, bayonets fixed, drums beating, bands playing and colours flying.

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**OCTOBER 23**

- |    |      |  |
|----|------|--|
| 1  | 1878 | Formation of the Masonic Lodge, Milton, with Thomas Hobbs as Worshipful Master.  |
| 23 | 1891 | An urgent petition from the citizens of the Milton area reached the Minister for Public Instruction in Sydney urging the closure of the Milton and Croobyar public schools due to "prevalence of so contagious and dangerous an epidemic as influenza.....". |
| 1  | 1965 | Huskisson Swimming Pool officially opened by Hon. Davis Hughes, Minister for Public Works.   |

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**OCTOBER 24**

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**OCTOBER 25**

- |   |      |  |
|---|------|--|
| 2 | 1996 | The Commonwealth Bank Cycle Classic came to Nowra for the first time. Sponsored by the Shoalhaven Tourism Board and the Nowra Central Business District Committee the Classic arrived in Nowra at 12.16pm after a gruelling 93 kilometre ride from Wollongong, up Macquarie Pass, through the Highlands, down Barrengarry Mountain, through Kangaroo Valley, up Cambewarra Mountain, down Cambewarra Mountain and on into Nowra. |
|---|------|--|

One Rider was timed by Police as doing 110 kilometres per hour down Cambewarra Mountain, in a 60 kph zone.

After the 70 riders arrived in Nowra there was a "trishaw" race which was followed by the 70 riders competing in a 32 lap criterium around Kinghorne Street, Smiths Lane, O'keefe Avenue and North Street.

The addition of the Nowra leg gave the race more mountainous stages to test the endurance of the riders.

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**OCTOBER 26**

- |   |      |   |
|---|------|---|
| 1 | 1868 | Proclamation of the Municipality of "Broughton Creek and Bomaderry".  |
| 1 | 1868 | Proclamation of the Municipality of Numbaa.   |
| 7 | 1886 | The steel screw steamer "Coomonderry", especially built for David Berry in Scotland and sailed out under its own steam, first arrived at Bomaderry wharf. It was a 147 ton steamer and travelled weekly between Sydney and Bomaderry. The steamer (under various owners and plying various routes) saw an active life of 83 years, finally coming to grief on a reef, 500 miles south of Fiji, on 7 October 1969. |

- 1      1942      Ken Mcleod, formerly in charge of the silica industry in Ulladulla, obtained a permit to build workshops and sheds so that small ships could be built at Ulladulla Harbour. The first order received was to build four tug boats for the United States of America. The works had a staff of 20 and had 100 employees. It operated from 1943 to 1947.
- 2      1996      The 70 riders taking part in the first Commonwealth Bank Cycle Classic to come to Nowra, left to continue their race. Next stop is Goulburn followed the next day with the final stage to Canberra.

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**OCTOBER 27**

- 3      1942      James Edward Burr was killed in action at Finsch Lafer, Papua New Guinea at the age of 38. Prior to the War he managed a bakery at Bomaderry. Burr Avenue, Nowra, was named after him.
- 1      1955      The Governor of NSW, on the advice of the Executive Council (at the request of Shoalhaven Shire Council) dissolved Shoalhaven Shire Council and appointed Local Government Inspector K G H Hawkshaw as administrator.

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**OCTOBER 28**

- 16     1870      Inspector Haff, of the Department of Public Instruction, visited the Greenwell Point Provisional School. 20 children were present. He found that (1) the material condition is satisfactory (2) the discipline is healthy (3) the ordinary subjects are taught with diligence and care and (4) the proficiency is fair.
- 19     1910      The vessel "Wyoming" of 258 feet was lost off the Ulladulla coast. There was no loss of life.
- 1      1959      The inaugural dinner was held at the Bridge Hotel, Nowra, to form the Nowra "Junior Chamber". Brian Robertson was the first President.

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**OCTOBER 29**

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**OCTOBER 30**

- 1      1937      Laying of the foundation stone for the Nowra Ambulance station at the corner of Plunkett and Kinghorn Streets.

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**OCTOBER 31**

- 34     1867      Thursday October 31st 1867 and the horse Tim Whiffler wins the Melbourne Cup. This was the third win for a Shoalhaven horse and three out of three for trainer Etienne De Mestre.



Tim Whiffler (known as Sidney Tim) won from Queen of Hearts and Exile in a new record time for the 2 miles of 3 minutes 39 seconds.

There was a crowd of 16,000. First prize was £1,130 There were 27 starters.

Tim Whiffler started as a 5/2 favourite and carried 8 stone 11 lbs.

- 1 1934 The Inaugural Meeting of the Nowra Rotary Club was held at the Hotel Nowra with W G Lachersteen, elected as first President and Frank Moorhouse as Secretary.

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### **NOVEMBER 1**

- 1 1889 The Jindiandy Butter Factory, known as the "South Shoalhaven Co-operative Butter Factory" was opened in buildings originally used by Berry as dairy premises.  
P W Hall, who had originated the Back Forest Butter Factory was the chief promoter. The factory grew into one of the largest separating stations in NSW until 1905 when it went into voluntary liquidation.
- 11 1981 The Rural Bank, with its branch in Junction Street, Nowra, changed its name to the State Bank of New South Wales.
- 2 1992 The Naval Aviation Museum (HMAS Albatross, Nowra) Stage 1 and Stage 2 (the aircraft hangar and the restaurant facility) was officially opened by the Governor of NSW, Vice Admiral Peter Sinclair. Despite the weather about 4,000 people witnessed the event and the air show of past and present military aircraft, that followed.

### **NOVEMBER 2**

- 7 1880 Work on the construction of the iron bridge over the Shoalhaven River at Nowra was completed. However, it wasn't officially opened until 1 August 1881.
- 1 1958 The Bomaderry bowling green was officially opened by the president of the Royal Bowling Club of New South Wales, T K Shakespear.
- 1 1963 Opening of the Berry public swimming pool at the Berry Showground by J Cameron, Chief Engineer, Department of Public Works. It cost £12,000 of which the Berry Pool Committee raised £1,500.

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### **NOVEMBER 3**

- 1 1969 The Nowra Leader & Nowra News organisations were amalgamated to make the News Leader, the first edition appearing on this day.

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### **NOVEMBER 4**

- 11      1912      The Government Savings Bank of NSW shifted from its agency in the Nowra Post office to a new site in Junction Street.

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**NOVEMBER 5**

- 34      1878      Tuesday 5th November. Calamia of Nowra, trained by  
32      Etienne De Mestre wins the Melbourne Cup.  
33      This was the fourth horse and fifth win for the Shoalhaven. Calamia won an easy victory (2 lengths) from Tom Kirk and Wasay (a further length behind). First prize was £1,790, the crowd was 80,000 and there were 30 starters. Calamia started at 10/1 and carried 8 stone 2 lbs. The winning time was 3 minutes 35¾ seconds.

- 36      1940      In heavy seas Captain Fegen, in His Majest's Armed Merchant Cruiser JERVIS BAY, was escorting thirty one merchantmen in an eastbound convoy across the Atlantic. At about 1700 hours the convoy was attacked by the German pocket battleship ADMIRAL SCHEER.

In an endeavour to protect the convoy, which had been ordered to scatter, The JERVIS BAY went into action. Totally out gunned her steering gear was hit early on and in an hour all guns were out of action. The ship was on fire. About two hours after the engagement had ended she sank, still with her colours flying.

Through her action, and that of the BEAVERFORD, the German raider was only able to sink six of the thirty one ships.

Of the JERVIS BAY'S complement 180 were lost, while the 65 survivors owed their lives to the gallant action of a Swedish cargo ship, the BROSTROM owned STUREHOLM, which turned back after dark to look for them.

His action in, once sighting the powerful German warship, drawing clear of the convoy and making straight for the enemy, and in so doing bringing his ship between the raider and her prey allowed them to scatter and escape. Crippled, in flames, unable to reply fire for nearly an hour the JERVIS BAY held the German's fire.

For this Captain Fogarty Fegen was awarded the Victoria Cross "for valour in challenging hopeless odds and giving his life to save the many ships it was his duty to protect."

- 4      1951      Clarkson Oval, HMAS Albatross, was named after Lieutenant Keith E Clarkson, DFM, RAN, who died on this day when his aircraft was shot down over the Han River, Korea.

- 36      1990      Captain D.J. Ramsay officially opened the Royal Australian Naval College Historical Collection at HMAS CRESWELL to coincide with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the sinking of the JERVIS BAY.

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## **NOVEMBER 6**

- 34 1877 Tuesday 6th November and Chester of Nowra, trained by  
32 Etienne De Mestre wins the Melbourne Cup. This was the  
33 third horse and fourth win for the Shoalhaven. Chester beat  
Savanaka by half a head with a new Cup record of 3 minutes 33½  
seconds. First prize was £1,870, the crowd was 76,000 and there  
were 33 starters. Chester started at 5/1 equal favourite with  
Savanaka and carried 6 stone 12 lbs.
- 1 1891 Laying of the foundation stone for the Rectory for St. Luke's Church  
of England, Berry.
- 1 1948 Inaugural charter dinner of the Nowra Apex Club.  
Gordon Cook was President, Stanley Duncan, Secretary  
and Douglass Phipps, Treasurer.

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## **NOVEMBER 7**

- 7 1861 Thursday, the 7th November, 1861, and Archer wins  
32 the first Melbourne Cup! After leading by three lengths  
33 into the final straight Archer sprinted away to win by six  
34 lengths from Mormon amid cheering from 4,000 spectators. The five  
year-old bay carried 9st 7lb and covered the two mile journey in 3  
mintues 52 seconds (the slowest Melbourne Cup on record). Archer  
had not been heavilly supported but after his owner Etienne De  
Mestre of Terara, had made his wager Archer started as second  
favourite at 6/1. First prize was 930 sovereigns. Other place  
getters went unrewarded. There were 17 starters. Other reports  
give the prize money as £710 and a hand beaten gold watch.

Archer was bred in 1856 at Exeter Farm, Braidwood, and trained at Terara near Nowra. It is generally accepted that Archer walked from Terara to Melbourne, a distance of 550 miles (this was at a rate of about 25 miles per day, mainly over bush tracks). It was even confirmed by Beryl De Mestre, the daughter of Etienne De Mestre, in a letter of congratulations to Bart Cummings when he broke her fathers record in 1977.

However, two newspapers of the day do claim that Archer (and other horses) travelled by ship.

- 10 1868 First recorded advertisement for a hotel in Nowra. George Tory, proprietor of the Nowra Hotel (on the site now occupied by Coles Supermarket) advertised the services of his hotel in the Shoalhaven news.
- 12 1978 Tuesday 7th November, and Arwon (from Nowra) wins the 117th Melbourne Cup.

Arwon, originally from New Zealand, originally called Flash Guy but now with a Nowra connection in part owner Jack Watson, wins the Melbourne Cup. Arwon is Nowra spelt backwards. This was the fifth horse and sixth Melbourne Cup win for the Shoalhaven. The 1978 Cup was the first to be televised live to the people of Melbourne. The crowd of 80,903 was below expectations. Arwon won by half a neck from Dandaleith and a further neck from Karu.

Prize money was \$130,000 and trophies of \$10,000. There were 22 starters. Arwon started at 5/1 and carried 50.5 kg. The winning time was 3 minutes 24.3 seconds. (The record was set at 3 minutes 19.1 seconds in 1968). (The Melbourne Cup went metric in 1972 and changed from 2 miles to 3,200 metres).

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### **NOVEMBER 8**

- |   |      |   |
|---|------|---|
| 1 | 1878 | Proclamation of the Municipality of Central Shoalhaven. It covered the area between Nowra and Numbaa Municipalities and took Terara as its meeting place. |
| 1 | 1879 | Opening of the Presbyterian Church in Kangaroo Valley by Rev. Kinross. The building cost £453/-/-.  |

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### **NOVEMBER 9**

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### **NOVEMBER 10**

- |    |      |  |
|----|------|--|
| 1  | 1886 | Official opening of the Broughton Creek (later Berry) Post Office on the corner of Queen and Prince Streets.               |
| 16 | 1977 | The Crookhaven Lions Club was formed. It held its first Charter night on 21st April at the Shoalhaven Ex-Servicemens Club. |

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### **NOVEMBER 11**

- |    |      |   |
|----|------|---|
| 13 | 1886 | Opening of the Berry Post Office by the Postmaster General, the Hon. F B Suttor. He was considerably late for the occasion as the steamer on which he had travelled from Sydney ran aground in Broughton Creek. The building cost £1,650. |
| 1  | 1936 | The timber built Church of England was opened on the corner of Green Street and the Princes Highway, Ulladulla.   |

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### **NOVEMBER 12**

- |    |      |  |
|----|------|--|
| 13 | 1870 | Renovation of the first house around the corner into Pulman Street, Berry, for the Church of England. Known locally as Curate's Cottage. |
| 1  | 1895 | Conjola Butter Factory was opened by Mrs James Murray.   |
| 1  | 1936 | The laying of the foundation stone for the Methodist Parsonage, Berry, was carried out by the Mayoress, Mrs T A Strong.                  |

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### **NOVEMBER 13**

- |          |      |  |
|----------|------|--|
| 34<br>32 | 1862 | Thursday 13th November and Archer from Nowra, carrying 10 stone 2 lbs (nine pounds more than in 1861) started in the Melbourne Cup as clear favourite at 2/1. The extra weight did not bother him for he cut five seconds from his previous time, (new record 3 minutes 47 seconds) and finished eight lengths clear of Mormon, again in second place. A crowd of 7,000 watched this race which carried a first prize of 810 sovereigns. |
|----------|------|--|

Another report gives the prize as £810. The crowd 7,000. There were 20 starters.

Archer's feat of 2 wins in a row was unique until Rain Lover won in 1968 and 1969 and later Think Big in 1974 and 1975. In carrying 10 stone 2 lb to victory in 1962 Archer was the first of only three horses to win with 10 stone. The others have been Carbine (10 stone 5 lbs in 1890) and Poitrel (10 stone even) in 1920.

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### **NOVEMBER 14**

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### **NOVEMBER 15**

- |    |      |  |
|----|------|--|
| 13 | 1915 | A meeting was held in Berry to form the Berry Bowling Club. As a result an area of land was bought from the Berry estate in Victoria Street, behind the Presbyterian Church.   |
| 1  | 1958 | The "Inasmuch" Children's Home, established by Major Myrtle Townsend (Salvation Army) opposite the falls at Falls Creek was opened by Captain Smith of HMAS Albatross. It was located in the former Selwood Grange home of James Monaghan. |
| 16 | 1975 | The Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol officially opened its base at Greenwell Point.  |

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### **NOVEMBER 16**

- 36      1911      Jervis Bay was chosen as the site for the Royal Australian Naval College. The college was seen as vital for the development of the RAN and the site was selected after many government enquires and reports. The main reasons were
- Jervis Bay was part of Federal Territory and developing this Commonwealth land was a major Government policy.
  - The advantages of the Bay for visiting Fleet ships.
  - The land immediately surrounding the site was, because of its isolation, very cheap.

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### **NOVEMBER 17**

- 1      1944      Establishment of the Berry Butter Farming League to encourage greater milk production. It was sponsored by A N Binks, MLC and had N K Stewart as President. Its first activity was a pasture improvement competition and it urged the establishment of an artificial stock breeding centre from its earliest times.
- 1      1956      The new Nowra Methodist Sunday School Hall was opened on the site of the former hall in Junction Street by Rev. D F Almond.
- 1 & 9      1973      The opening ceremony of the Ambulance station on the corner of the Princes Highway and Bunberra Street, Bomaderry, was performed by the Governor of NSW, Sir Roden Cutler VC. The building cost \$250,000 however, other estimates put it at over \$300,000.

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### **NOVEMBER 18**

- 1      1896      The Central Milton Butter Factory was opened by Mrs D Kennedy. The factory was built by the Ulladulla Refrigerating Butter Company. 2,000 people were present at the opening ceremony. The factory obtained a copious supply of water from Whatman's paddock and, after its first few weeks of operation, won a prize at the Berry Show.
- 11      1948      The Rural Bank of NSW (now the State Bank) opened a branch on a property it had bought in Junction Street, Nowra, in 1939.

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### **NOVEMBER 19**

- 1      1870      The centre for a village at Kangaroo Valley was fixed with the laying of the foundation stone of the Good Shepherd Church of England.
- 1      1949      Commencement of the Burrier water scheme for the northern Shoalhaven. It was to serve Nowra, Bomaderry, Numbaa, Greenwell Point and Huskisson. In 1957 it was extended to Berry.

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### **NOVEMBER 20**

- 3      1942      Gordon Leaney was killed in action at Sopotu, New Guinea. He was posthumously awarded the Military Cross. Leaney Avenue, Nowra, was named after him.
- 1      1960      An all diesel, air conditioned train was introduced to replace the diesel electric South Coast Daylight Express.
- 18     1965      St. Andrews Church of England, Falls Creek, was moved in one piece to Wandandian. Some difficulty was experienced in getting the church under the power lines so it was left on the side of the road for some weeks. Eventually all problems were solved, it was placed on new foundations, repainted and repaired. It was eventually re-opened on this day in 1965 in brilliant sunshine with 113 residents congregated for the service. All denominations were present.
- 1      1966      Councillor B F McIntosh laid the foundation stone for the Aged People's Home in Osborne Street, Nowra.

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### **NOVEMBER 21**

- 1      1947      Electricity was switched on for the first time in Kangaroo Valley. This honor went to Howard Fowles, MLA. The supply was made possible by an agreement between Nowra and Cambewarra Councils.
- 16     1986      The "George Bass" opened at the Greenwell Point Wharf as an outlet for sales of fresh fish and prawns. Government Authorities felt it contravened regulations so the Lands Department gazetted a by-law, eventually forcing the George Bass to move.
- The Shoalhaven lost a tourist attraction that was popular with locals and visitors alike.

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### **NOVEMBER 22**

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### **NOVEMBER 23**

- 7      1888      Premier and Colonial Secretary, Sir Henry Parkes and entourage including Secretary for Mines Francis Abigail CMG, local member W Fraser Martin MLA and MP's Nicholas Hawker, Richard Stevenson and Patrick L C Shepherd, visited Nowra. Sir Henry, in his address, mooted of the railway for Shoalhaven and beyond and mentioned the possibility of giving women the vote and even allowing them to stand for parliament.
- 1      1956      Formation of the Bomaderry Bowling Club.

- On This Day -

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|----|------|---|
| 1  | 1957 | Even though the Nowra Olympic Pool had been in use since 9 March 1957, this day saw its official opening conducted by the Minister for Public Works, Hon. J F McGrath, MLA. |
| 1  | 1968 | The Kangaroo Valley Apex Club was granted its charter. Keith Nelson was the first president.  |
| 11 | 1987 | The Westpac Bank moved to its new premises in Junction Street, Nowra, adjacent to the Commonwealth Bank.  |

**NOVEMBER 24**

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|--------|------|---|
| 1 & 13 | 1935 | The foundation stone for the Roman Catholic Church, St. Patricks, Berry, was laid by the Most Reverend, M Sheehan DD. It was completed at a cost of £4,000. |
| 1      | 1951 | The Bomaderry RSL Sub Branch was officially opened by Group Captain John Waddy, DSO, DFC and Bar, deputising for the Minister for the Navy.                 |



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### **NOVEMBER 25**

- 1 1915 Men from Nowra and places south began entering camp at the Nowra Showground. They were to take part in the Waratahs "Cooee" recruiting march to Sydney.
- 19 1919 Opening of the Convent at Conjola. This took place at 2.30pm despite the fact that a raging bushfire had reached alarming proportions and the whole mountain to the west of the township was in flames.

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### **NOVEMBER 26**

- 1 & 13 1959 The new Presbyterian Manse, Berry, was opened.

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### **NOVEMBER 27**

- 1 1901 The Nowra Co-Operative Dairy Company was formed and registered. It built a factory of timber on the southern side of the Shoalhaven River to the west of Bridge Road. It was the dairy company that revolutionised the Shoalhaven dairy industry by consigning milk to the Sydney trade.
- 1 1907 The first Parents and Citizens Association for Nowra Public School was formed. Henry Rauch was the first President.
- 1 1969 The inaugural meeting of the Nowra Rotaract Club was sponsored by the Nowra Rotary Club.

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### **NOVEMBER 28**

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### **NOVEMBER 29**

- 1 1827 Surveyor Thomas Florance traced a coastal survey from Jervis Bay to Conjola. From April to June 1828 he named St. Georges Basin, noted the native name of Bherwherree. His plan showed the narrow inlet as Sussex Haven, Cudmirrah or Swan Lake and Red Head.
- 26 1881 Proclamation of the "Argyle, Camden and King Goldfield" which included Kangaroo Valley even though not much gold was found in the Valley.
- 1 1890 The paper "The Broughton Creek Register, Kangaroo Valley and South Coast Farmer" became the "Berry Register".
- 9 1946 The formation of a Ladies Auxiliary to help with the fund raising for the building of a Shoalhaven district hospital at Nowra. Mrs A G Fraser was the first president. The Nowra Dramatic Society became

involved and contributed all its proceeds from its production of "And Pastures New". Tickets were 4 shillings and 3 shillings each and the Society raised sixty one pounds, fifteen shillings and tuppence! The target was £80,000.

- 1 1958 The Minister for Health, Hon W F Sheahan MLA, officially opened the maternity wing of Nowra Hospital - Watson House. The wing and the nurses home had cost £175,000.

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### **NOVEMBER 30**

- 1 1781 Alexander Berry was born at Cupar, Fifeshire, Scotland. Berry was to become the Shoalhaven's first settler.
- 1 1875 Laying of the foundation stone for the Roman Catholic Church, Nowra, by Archbishop Vaughan.
- 1 1915 The Waratahs "Cooee" recruiting march set off from the Nowra Post Office. The party of 50 men was cheered off by thousands of people including 3 soldiers returned wounded from Gallipoli at the Dardanelles. The party set off to march 10 miles per day to Sydney whilst the band played "Advance Australia Fair".
- 1 1956 Currarong had electricity switched on for the first time on this day.

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### **DECEMBER 1**

- 18 1860 The first Post Office in Wandandian was opened and conducted by Mr Thomas Walsh (Snr). The mail was carried by "post boys" who came by horseback from Terara dropping mail at the various settlements of Falls Creek, Jervis Bay, Erowal, Tomerong, Wandandian, Conjola and Ulladulla (Milton).
- 1 1962 Councillor Bruce McIntosh of Berry topped the poll and was elected Shire President unopposed becoming the youngest person to have held office as Shire President in Shoalhaven.

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### **DECEMBER 2**

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### **DECEMBER 3**

- 1 1840 Governor, Sir George Gipps, approved the design of the "township of Huskisson". (William Huskisson, the British Colonial Secretary, received reports from the then Captain Gipps on slavery and emancipation in the West Indies. Huskisson distinguished himself by being run over by a train whilst talking to the Duke of Wellington. He died from his injuries).

1 1890 Foundation stone for the Union Church at Greenwell Point was laid by Mrs H G Morton, on a knoll in Jervis Street.

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**DECEMBER 4**

1 1890 Comerong Dairy Company began operations on Comerong Island. H Smith was the butter maker and manager. Produce was sometimes irregular as transport depended on the punt. A new one was needed but not supplied until 1903. It sank in May 1907 but another was not installed until January 1908.

4 & 17 1890 Berry officially named by Act of Parliament in honour of the Berry family. Formally known as Broughton Creek, the name change was agreed to by members of the public.

1 1966 Culburra Surf Club officially opened by the Minister for Lands, Hon T L Lewis, MLA.

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**DECEMBER 5**

1 1858 Opening of the Numbaa Sabbath School.

19 1877 Eight Masons met at the Commercial Hotel, Milton, with the object of forming a Masonic Lodge at Milton. It was later consecrated on 23 October 1878.

15 1911 The vessel, the Lady Denman, was launched at Currambene Creek, Huskisson, by Mrs Bessie Lane. She was 33.5 metres long, 7.6 metre beam and was designed to carry 500 passengers. She served as a Sydney ferry from 1912 to June 1979 - an active service of 67 years! She had only been designed to last 15 years.

1 1914 Henry Rauch purchased the newspaper "The Shoalhaven News" from the Watson family.

1 1959 Election of a new, seven member Shoalhaven Shire Council ending the 4 year term of K G H Hawkshaw as Administrator.

1 & 19 1964 The Ulladulla Methodist Church was opened by Rev. E T Walker, president of the Methodist Church in NSW. It had been a long time coming as the land was originally granted in 1868.

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**DECEMBER 6**

1 1827 Rev. Thomas Kendall received a promise of 1,280 acres at Ulladulla. He arrived in 1828.

1 1878 Laying of the foundation stone for the Presbyterian Church in Kangaroo Valley. It was opened on 8 November the following year.

24 1886 The SS Corangamite was badly holed when she went ashore in dense fog just to the west of St. Georges Head. Capable of carrying 230 passengers she was lavishly appointed. No one died but on 22 December heavy seas caused the vessel to break up. Ceramic tiles from the ship have since been salvaged. She was sailing from Melbourne to Sydney.

1 1969 Mollymook Golf Club House was built.

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**DECEMBER 7**

1 1797 George Bass, in a whaleboat with a crew of six seamen, discovered the mouth of a river which he wrote ".....deserves no better name than Shoals Haven". This was in fact the Crookhaven River.

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**DECEMBER 8**

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**DECEMBER 9**

4 1882 Plutus Creek, Currarong, named after the steamer Plutus which was wrecked in this vicinity on this day.

19 1882 The vessel "Alfred Edward" was wrecked off South Ulladulla.

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**DECEMBER 10**

1 1797 George Bass entered Jervis Bay. (Conflicts with a report in 20 - says he entered on 9 December).

1 1866 The Henry Russell private school was established on the site where Nowra Hill School is today. It was opened in 1867, the buildings erected in 1877, it was sometimes operating and sometimes closed due to lack of pupils and the buildings were removed in 1929. A school was approved in 1954, the name changed from RAN to Nowra Hill in 1955 and was re-opened in 1956 with W Fraser as principal.

26 1888 The second of the Kangaroo Valley Separation and Butter Factories was registered. It was located just up the hill from the Barrengarry Post Office.

1 1972 The Anglican Bishop of Wollongong, Rt Rev G R Delbridge, laid the foundation stone for the Woonona Chesalon Home for the aged in West Street, Nowra. The building cost \$417,000 and was opened by Cr. John Hatton, MLA in 1974.

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**DECEMBER 11**

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### **DECEMBER 12**

- 1 1878 Opening of the Rectory for St. John's Anglican Church in Plunkett Street, Nowra. The church itself took 12 years after this date to complete.
- 36 1916 The first Passing Out Parade and Prize Giving Ceremony at The Royal Australian Naval College, Jervis Bay, was conducted in the presence of the Governor General Sir Ronald Munro Ferguson. Two officers of the first Passing Out Class, J.A. Collins and H.B. Farncombe, were the first Australians to reach Flag Rank in the RAN, both being promoted Rear Admiral in 1947. Two of the midshipmen's accommodation blocks are named in their honour.
- 1 1948 The Milton Congregational Church, after suffering extensive damage when a gale blew off the roof and a portion off the end wall on 15 & 16 July 1948, was restored and then re-opened on this day.
- 19 1973 The first meeting of the Mollymook Country Womens Association was held. Foundation President was Mrs P Fraser.

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### **DECEMBER 13**

- 20 1797 George Bass spent this night and the following day in Durras Bay erroneously thinking it was Batemans Bay (named by Capt. Cook 1770).
- 19 1876 Sarah Claydon died aged 47. Sarah Claydon was loved by many in the Milton Ulladulla area for her untiring work as a midwife and the work she did in caring for the sick.

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### **DECEMBER 14**

- 1 1895 Amalgamation of the Numbaa and Central Shoalhaven Municipalities to form Southern Shoalhaven Municipality. First headquarters were at Terara.
- 16 1914 The bombora at the entrance to the Crookhaven River claimed the vessel "The Brooklyn" owned by the Nowra & Jervis Bay Steamship Company Ltd. Captain Archibald Bavistock was found guilty of negligence and lost his Masters Certificate.
- 1 & 13 1963 Opening of the new bowling club house at Berry by W F A Caines, president of the NSW Bowling Association. It cost £20,000.

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### **DECEMBER 15**

- 16 1893 The building of the Public School at Greenwell Point was completed. It had cost £1,088/-/-. The school contained two classrooms and a front verandah, and the teachers residence contained five rooms and a kitchen. The school was a brick structure.

11      1931      The Commonwealth Bank of Australia took over the troubled Government Savings Bank of NSW. The Nowra branch was situated in the former Savings Bank premises.

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**DECEMBER 16**

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**DECEMBER 17**

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**DECEMBER 18**

1      1915      The South Coast Waratahs concluded their cooee march from Nowra to Sydney. The party, originally 50 but now 116 strong made their triumphal entry in rain and mud. They were welcomed by the Premier, Hon. W A Holman MLA and then left for the Liverpool Camp for training and overseas service.

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**DECEMBER 19**

1      1889      Establishment of the Cambewarra and Meroo Dairy Co. It was located on the lane east of the road from Bomaderry to Kangaroo Valley but only operated until 1906.

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**DECEMBER 20**

1      1871      Gazettal of the Municipality of Nowra.

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**DECEMBER 21**

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**DECEMBER 22**

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**DECEMBER 23**

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**DECEMBER 24**

- 1        1868        Great bushfires swept through the Milton District with tradespeople going out to assist farmers to fight the fires.
- 19       1968        The breaking of the drought which saw Porters Creek Dam (west of Milton) filled for the first time. Ironically the Dam was the source of water for both Ulladulla and Milton, the supply of which had been "turned on" 14 months earlier.

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**DECEMBER 25**

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**DECEMBER 26**

- 7        1870        The paddle steamer "The Coolangatta" ran its first tourist excursion on the Shoalhaven River. Fares were 2/- for adults and 1/- for children. The Coolangatta left Terara at 7.30am, calling at all wharfs along the way before reaching Greenwell point at 10.00am. The first leg of the excursion was to Picnic Bay, Crookhaven Heads where the picnickers enjoyed themselves until 6.00pm. The return journey featured singing and dancing before Terara came into view at 8.30pm.
- 7        1888        The Bowral cricket team visited Nowra for a game of cricket. Nowra scored 343. The visitors from the Highlands were bundled out for 20.

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**DECEMBER 27**

- 19       1828        Surveyor Hoddle commenced a survey from his camp at Croobyar and moved down Narrawallee Creek until he joined Surveyor Florance's survey a little more than half a mile (800m) below the present bridge on the main Nowra Road.
- 7        1870        The paddle steamer "The Coolangatta", took tourists on a day excursion to Broughton Creek.

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**DECEMBER 28**

- 9 & 13   1906        Enactment of the David Berry Hospital Act. Under this Act, the hospital land and other large areas at North Sydney owned by the Estate of David Berry were given to the Government in exchange for the building and maintenance of the David Berry Hospital.

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**DECEMBER 29**

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**DECEMBER 30**

**DECEMBER 31**

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| 16 | 1871 | The Municipality of Nowra, excluding rural areas, was gazetted.                                |
| 13 | 1978 | The Uniting Church's Berry Parish ceased to exist and was absorbed into the Shoalhaven Parish. |



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