

Sunshine & Surrounding District

Railway Stations

Albion Station (1889 - 1919)

Location: St. Albans Rd, Sunshine North.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 15.13km (9.4 miles). This places the station approximately where the Western Ring Rd crosses St. Albans Rd.

Key Dates:

1889 – Railways Commissioners received a request from the St. Albans Line Travellers League asking for a new station between Braybrook Junction and St. Albans. Previously the former Albion – Darlington Railway Station existed at Ballarat Rd but this was closed in 1861.

1890 – Station Master's house and platforms are completed.

1891 – Albion Railway Station opens.

1892 – A red flag was placed in a box on the train for passengers to use if they wanted to stop at this station.

1898 – The old station buildings were sold to Mr O'Connor.

1913 – Shelter sheds were erected as platform buildings.

1919 – The Albion Railway Station closed.

Ref: Fifteen Railway Stations of the West (Footscray to Sunbury) by Tom Rigg
January 2009.

Photo: S&DHS.

Albion Station (1919 - Current)

Location: Sydney St, Albion.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 14.08km (8 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles).

Key Dates:

1919 – New Albion Railway Station opens at the former Albion – Darlington Railway Station site.

1928 – Ballarat Rd and Signal Box opens.

1929 – The goods lines between Albion and Broadmeadows opens.

1961 – The Albion Signal Box closes. The Ballarat Rd overpass is completed and the Ballarat Rd railway gates are removed.

1962 – The new island platform opens.

Ref: Fifteen Railway Stations of the West (Footscray to Sunbury) by Tom Rigg January 2009.

Photo: S&DHS.

Albion – Darlington Station (1859 – 1861)

Location: Sydney St, Albion.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 14.08 km (8 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles)

Key Dates:

1859 – The Station Master's house is completed and he commenced his duties.

1860 – Station opens as Albion - Darlington. Station Master & Gatekeeper duties combined.

1861 – Albion – Darlington Station closes.

Ref: Fifteen Railway Stations of the West (Footscray to Sunbury) by Tom Rigg January 2009.

Photo: S&DHS.

Ardeer Station (1929 – 1956)

Location: Forrest St west side of Fitzgerald Rd, Ardeer.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 15.90km (9.88 miles).

Key Dates:

1929 – The Ardeer Station opens.

1934 – The station was renamed to Ardeer Siding.

1956 – The station is closed and the passenger platforms are removed.

Ref: Wikipedia.

Photos: S&DHS.

Ardeer Station (1977 – Current)

Location: Forrest St west of Fitzgerald Rd, Ardeer.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 15.05km (9.35 miles).

1976 – Railway line was duplicated between Sunshine and Deer Park.

1977 – The new Ardeer passenger station is opened. It is located approximately 800 metres east of the previous Ardeer Station.

Station Masters:

Unmanned station.

Ref: Wikipedia.

Photos: S&DHS.

Braybrook Junction Station

Location: Hampshire Rd, Braybrook Junction.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 12.26km (7.62 miles).

Key Dates:

1884 – Line from Braybrook Junction to Melton opened.

1885 - Braybrook Junction Station opened for passage traffic but no booking office or other accommodation is provided.

1886 – Portable booking office and waiting room are provided.

1888 – Suburban train services commence running between Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station) and Braybrook Junction. Suburban rail line extended to St. Albans.

1896 – New signal box and station building installed.

1905 – Station opened for the receipt of light goods.

1907 – Hugh Victor McKay requests for a footbridge to be over the line at Devonshire Rd from his factory to McKay Gardens and workers homes. Harvester works moved from Ballarat to Braybrook Junction. Braybrook Junction Station renamed to Sunshine.

See Sunshine Station for more info.

Station Masters:

1890 – Thomas Cahir.

1890 – Donald Campbell.

1898 – Patrick Albert Delahenty.

1905 – John Wignall.

1907 – George Michael Daniell.

1907 – Thomas Buck

1907 – John Gregory Skinner.

1907 – Frederick George Kendall.

See Sunshine Station for more station masters.

Ref: Fifteen Railway Stations of the West (Footscray to Sunbury) by Tom Rigg
January 2009.

Photo: S&DHS.

Deer Park Station (b1899 – Current)

Location: Railway Parade, Deer Park.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): - 17.83km
(11.07 miles).

Key Dates:

1899 – The Kororoit Station was renamed to Deer Park.

1913 – The signal box was closed.

1943 – The signal box was reopened when the Ravenall siding was opened.

1974 – The new island platform opens and the signal box closed.

2009 – Upgrades to the station is completed including new lighting and car parking.

Station Masters:

Unmanned station.

Ref: Wikipedia.

Photos: S&DHS.

Ginifer Station (1982 – 2016)

Location: St. Albans Rd, St. Albans.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 16.215km (10.7 miles). This station was located opposite Mulhall Drive.

Key Dates:

1966 – The need for a station between Albion and St. Albans is raised in the Victorian Parliament by Jack Ginifer (MLA). Flashing lights and bells are provided at the Furlong Rd crossing.

1973 – Sunshine Council suggests that the station being proposed at Furlong Rd should be named “Sheperd” after the former Labour Member for Footscray.

1979 – The St. Albans South Progress Association presents a petition with 1200 signatures that a railway station should be built near Furlong Rd.

1982 – The Ginifer Station opens.

1985 – Traffic lights installed at Furlong Rd and St. Albans Rd.

1989 – New offices (portables) and gardens are completed.

2016 – The Station is closed and platform is removed. A new station is built closer to Furlong Rd as part of the Level Crossing Removal Project.

Station Masters:

Unmanned station.

Ref: Fifteen Railway Stations of the West (Footscray to Sunbury) by Tom Rigg
January 2009.

Photo: S&DHS

Ginifer Station (2016 – Current)

Location: St. Albans Rd, St. Albans.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 16.215km
(10.07 miles).

Key Dates:

2016 – A new underground station is built as part of the Level Crossing Removal Project. The location of the new station is at the Furlong Rd intersection.

Ref: Wikipedia.

Photos: S&DHS.

Keilor Plains Station (2002 – Current)

Location: East Esplanade, St. Albans.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 18.177km (11.29 miles).

Key Dates:

2002 – The Keilor Plains Station opens for passengers.

2008 – The Taylors Rd level crossing is abolished with the road placed under the railway line.

Station Masters:

Unmanned station.

Ref: Fifteen Railway Stations of the West (Footscray to Sunbury) by Tom Rigg January 2009.

Photo: S&DHS.

Keilor Road Station (1859 – 1887)

Location: Keilor – Melton Rd, Sydenham.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 23.966km (14.88 miles).

Key Dates:

1859 – Station opens at Keilor Rd.

1887 – A Telegraph office is opened at the station. The station is renamed to Sydenham.

See Sydenham Station for further details.

Station Masters:

1859 - John Stead.

1859 – Matthew Johnson.

1866 – Burton Grave.

1877 – Charles Nantes.

1879 – Harry James Juckers.

1884 – Henry Rockett.

See Sydenham Station for more station masters.

Ref: Fifteen Railway Stations of the West (Footscray to Sunbury) by Tom Rigg
January 2009.

Photo: S&DHS.

Kororoit Station (1884 – 1899)

Location: Station Rd, Deer Park.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): - 17.83km
(11.07 miles).

Key Dates:

1884 – The Kororoit Station opens.

1899 – The Kororoit Station was renamed to Deer Park.

See Deer Park Station for further details.

Ref: Wikipedia.

Photos: S&DHS.

Maidstone Station (1861 – 1865)

Location: Sunbury Rd (Sunshine Rd), Braybrook (Tottenham).

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 11.26 km (approx.) (7 miles). The exact location of this is unknown but the distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station) places the station near where the Newport to Sunshine rail link crosses Sunshine Rd, Tottenham.

Key Dates:

1861 – The Maidstone Station opened for passage traffic.

1862 – A request by the local MLA wrote to the Secretary for the Railways requesting that the station be renamed to Braybrook. This request was denied.

1865 – The Station is closed and at some later date the platform and all signs of the station are removed.

Ref: Fifteen Railway Stations of the West (Footscray to Sunbury) by Tom Rigg January 2009.

Photo: S&DHS.

Sunshine Station (1907 – Current)

Location: Hampshire Rd, Braybrook Junction.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 12.26km (7.62 miles).

Key Dates:

1907 – Braybrook Junction Station is renamed to Sunshine Station.

1908 – Easter Monday 20th April 1908, Sunshine Rail Disaster where 44 people were killed and approximately 500 people injured.

1911 – Erection of Stationmaster's Residence in Station St.

1913 – Footbridge at Devonshire Rd is completed.

1914 – Some station buildings destroyed by fire.

1924 – Staff at Sunshine Station increases to 32.

1961 – First train over standard gauge. Road overpass at Hampshire Rd is completed and railway gates are removed.

2014 - As part of the Region Rail Project, the station is rebuilt and platforms added including upgrades to the bus interchange.

Station Masters:

1908 – David Harrison.

1909 – Jeremiah James Kirby.

1914 – George Brown.

1918 – William Tolliday.

1920 – James Boyd.

1922 – John Christie Gibson.

1932 – Michael Lorenz.

1943 – Albert George Brown.

1949 – Michael Stanley Frawley.

1961 – Frederick John Scott.

1964 – Dennis Brendan.

1967 – Thomas McMahon.

1971 – Robert Harrison.

1976 – Allan Galbraith.

1979 – Robert Philip.

1988 – Daryl Myers.

1988 – Joseph Grech.

1991 – Frank Barberi.

1998 – Cane Trajkovski.

Ref: Fifteen Railway Stations of the West (Footscray to Sunbury) by Tom Rigg
January 2009.

Photo: S&DHS.

St. Albans Station (1887 -1959)

Location: Main Rd West, St. Albans.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 18.12km (11.25 miles). This station was located on the north side of Main Rd West approximately 313 metres from the existing station.

Key Dates:

1886 – The Cosmopolitan Land and Banking Company wrote to the Railway Commissioners requesting that a railway station be built in the area.

1887 – The St. Albans Railway Station opens for passengers. The station is located on the north side of Main Rd West.

1888 – A post office at the railway station opens and the station master is placed in charge. Suburban trains operate between Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross) and St. Albans.

1889 – The station's booking office is completed. A portable house is provided for the porter.

1907 – An anonymous letter was sent to the Railways Commissioners suggesting the station to be moved 1 mile further north.

1908 – The post office is moved from the station to a local store in Main Rd West.

1921 – The line is electrified from Footscray to St. Albans.

1926 – The station master's position is withdrawn and replaced by a caretaker and three porters. James Robinson is the last station master.

1954 – The station master's position is restored.

Station Masters:

1888 – George Newstead.

1888 – Cornelius William O'Brien.

1891 – William McCallum.

1893 – William Thomas Smith.

1894 – Robert Surridge.

1897 – James Robinson.

Ref: Fifteen Railway Stations of the West (Footscray to Sunbury) by Tom Rigg
January 2009.

Photo: S&DHS.

St. Albans Station (1959 - Current)

Location: Main Rd West, St. Albans.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 17.81km
(11.06 miles).

1959 – The station location is moved to the south side of Main Rd West with a new island platform and station buildings. The original platform, signal bay and booking office are demolished.

1977 - The local MLA Jack Ginifer calls a conference to discuss the abolition of the level crossing.

2016 – A new underground station is built as part of the Level Crossing Removal Project.

Station Masters:

1954 – Harry Johnson.

1968 – Herbert Duncan “Duke” Carlton.

1971 – Thomas Alan Rigg.

1974 – Thomas White (Assisting).

1990 – Rodney Parsons.

Ref: Fifteen Railway Stations of the West (Footscray to Sunbury) by Tom Rigg
January 2009.

Photo: S&DHS.

Sydenham Station (1887 – 2002)

Location: Keilor – Melton Rd, Sydenham.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 23.966km
(14.88 miles).

Key Dates:

1887 – The Keilor Rd Station is renamed to Sydenham. A Telegraph office is opened at the station.

1901 – A signal box and booking office are completed.

1912 – New station building is built.

1930 – The station master's position is abolished and replaced with porters.

1984 – Discussions took place between V-Line, M.M.B.W, the Bond Corporation and Keilor Council regarding the relocation of the station.

2002 – A new station is built 750 metres toward St. Albans and is called "Watergardens". The original station is closed. Traffic lights are installed at the Melton Rd crossing.

Station Masters:

1901 – Timothy Gleeson.

1904 – William John Sullivan.

1906 – Francis James Ryan (acting).

1907 – Thomas Edward Heaney.

1911 – David King O'Gorman.

1912 – James Austin Hanrahan.

1921 – Dennis Greelish.

1923 – Thomas Bowden.

Ref: Fifteen Railway Stations of the West (Footscray to Sunbury) by Tom Rigg
January 2009.

Photo: S&DHS.

Tottenham Station (1891 – Current)

Location: Sunshine Rd, West Footscray.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 9.1km (5 ³/₄ miles).

Key Dates:

1891 – The Tottenham Station opened for passage traffic.

1977 – Road traffic lights are installed at the Ashley St level crossing.

1981 – As part of a Rail – Road Grade separation project the station rebuilt as an island platform in an elevated position and the level crossing at Ashley St is removed.

1982 – Signal Box abolished.

2014 – As part of the Region Rail Project the station's façade and Rupert St car park is upgraded. A new traction substation is built in Sunshine Rd at the eastern end of the station.

Station Masters:

1940 – Albert George Brown (Yard).

1943 – Leslie Robert Dawson (Yard).

1958 – Albert Joseph Capper (Yard).

1960 - Alfred Henry (Yard).

1962 – John Loughlin (Yard).

Ref: Fifteen Railway Stations of the West (Footscray to Sunbury) by Tom Rigg
January 2009.

Photo: S&DHS.

Watergardens Station (2002 – Current)

Location: Keilor – Melton Rd, Sydenham.

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 23.966km (14.88 miles).

Key Dates:

2002 – A new station is built 750 metres toward St. Albans and is called “Watergardens”. The original Sydenham Station is closed. Traffic lights are installed at the Melton Rd crossing.

2018 – The Melton Hwy level crossing is removed as part of the Level Crossing Removal Project.

Ref: Wikipedia.

Photos: S&DHS.

White City Station (1927 – 1981)

Location: Sunshine Rd, Tottenham

Distance from Spencer Street Station (Southern Cross Station): – 9.65km (6 miles).

Key Dates:

1927 – The White City Station opens and is used for the first dog racing meeting at the White City Dog Track.

1955 – The White City Dog Track was closed.

1981 – The station was closed and the platform removed.

Station Masters:

The station operated under “No one in charge” conditions.

Ref: Fifteen Railway Stations of the West (Footscray to Sunbury) by Tom Rigg
January 2009.

Photos: S&DHS.

Summary prepared by: John Alchin, S&DHS