Welcoming our 125th year

We are commemorating the City of Belmont's 125 year anniversary as a local government.

Our journey to becoming a local government started on 2 December 1898 when the Belmont Roads Board was proclaimed in the Government Gazette. Elections were held and the first meeting of the Roads Board was held on 12 April 1899.

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS

John Handran Smith, First Chairman of the Belmont Roads Board, c1890s

11 April 1899
Election of the first Belmont Road Board

The first election for the Belmont Roads board was held. Those elected were: Harry Valentine, John Handran Smith, Samuel Moore, Alfred Shaw, Hugh George Duncan, Robert D. Hardey and Stephen Craig.

The returning officer was J.J. Desmond. John Handran Smith was elected as the first Chairman.

Belmont Roads Board Hall, c1926

15 August 1902
Road Board Hall opened

A new public hall was officially opened opposite the Belmont Primary School on the corner of La Page Street and Guildford Road. It was occupied by the Belmont Roads Board the following month.

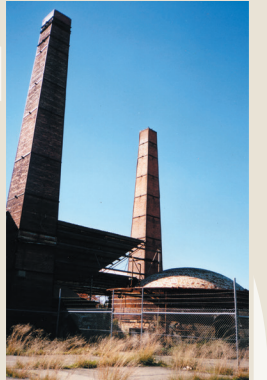---

Opening of the Riversdale Hall, 22 February 1919

22 February 1919
Opening of the Riversdale Hall

The Riversdale Hall was opened by the Hon R.T. Robinson MLA on 22 February, 1919. The hall was situated on the corner of Guildford and Norwood Roads. The opening ceremony commenced at 3pm with a concert at 8pm. At the time the area was called Burswood, but the locals wanted the name changed to Riversdale due to the name's association with the local sewerage works.

Bristile kiln stacks on Grandstand Road, Ascot, 1999

1929
J H Brisbane purchased the Ascot kiln site

In 1904, Belmont Councillor Richard Kirton opened the first industrial potteryworks in Perth. It went bankrupt in 1906. While unsuccessful, the business was very influential in Belmont's development. The Grandstand Road factory was purchased by Pitman & Piercy's before being taken over by H. L. Brisbane in 1929. In 1939, Brisbane & Co merged with Wunderlich Ltd to form one of WA's most famous companies. The remains of the factory's kilns and chimneys opposite Ascot Racecourse is an iconic landmark in the City of Belmont.

Opening of the Belmont City Council Office officiated by the first Mayor Cr Fred Rae, 1979

17 February 1979
Shire proclaimed "City of Belmont"

The shire was proclaimed the "City of Belmont" by his excellency the Governor of Western Australia, Air Chief Marshall Sir Wallace Kyle. The council became known as the "Belmont City Council."

The Civic Centre was opened by the minister for transport, the Hon E.C. (Cyril) Rushton, MLA.

Margaret Kelly and Margaret Healy, hostesses at the opening of the Bart Clayden Aquatic Centre, 1971

13 November 1971
Bart Clayden Aquatic Centre opens

Increased pollution in the Swan River led to a push for a public pool for Belmont residents.

Following an inspection of the Northam Olympic Pool by Councillors Clayden and P. J. Faulkner, a local Committee known as the Belmont Park Swimming Pool Project Committee was formed in 1960. Construction of the pools finally started in July 1971 at a cost of $287,776.

Shire of Belmont Council Offices, c1960s

22 July 1966
New shire administration offices open

With a lot of opposition from local residents who wanted the shire to move to a more central location, the offices of the Shire of Belmont were built alongside the Old Belmont Hall at 209 Great Eastern Highway, Belmont. The offices were officially opened by the Hon Les Logan MLC, Minister for Local Government.

Belmont Park Road Board, 1937

18 January 1937
Meeting of the Belmont Park Road Board in the Belmont Hall

Meeting of the Belmont Park Road Board in the Belmont Hall. The photo shows members of the Belmont Park Road Board sitting at the boardroom table in the council chambers. From left to right: Geo, H. Duncan, J.J. Mann, F.H. Wagstaff, C.M. Forster, P.S.Stanton.(Secretary), A.E. Rowe (Chairman), D. Mclachlan (Vice Chairman), T.L. Garvey, P.J. Faulkner, J.C. Gerring. The boardroom table is on display in the Peg Parkin Local History Room in the Belmont Museum.

Opening of Redcliffe Bridge, 1988

16 April 1988
Opening of the Redcliffe Bridge

The Redcliffe Bridge is built on the site of Sugars Brickworks. A part of the Tonkin Highway, the bridge was first proposed in 1955 as part of a network of arterial roads under a metropolitan-wide state government plan. The road reservation was formally gazetted in the 1963 Metropolitan Region Scheme. It was first named "Beechboro-Gosnells Highway," named after the two suburbs it originally planned to link.

Unveiling of Centenary Public Art Project by Andrew Kay, 1999

11 December 1999
Centenary of the City of Belmont

The Belmont Road Board was gazetted on 2 December 1898 and the first election was held on 11 April 1899.

A statue was created by artist Andrew Kay to celebrate the City of Belmont's centenary.

Belmont Hub official opening, 2020.

12 October 2020
The opening of the Belmont Hub

Opening on 12 October 2020, the visually striking Belmont Hub became a landmark in the civic heart of the Faulkner Park Civic Precinct.

Belmont Hub is a multi-purpose centre including Ruth Faulkner Library and Belmont Museum, providing a wide range of services and activities.

Turning of the Sod, Belmont Hub construction project, 2018

Redcliffe Station, 2023

9 October 2022
Opening of the Airport Link

The opening of the new High Wycombe Airport link saw the establishment of two new train stations, with one located in Redcliffe. It is the first train station to be based in the City of Belmont in 135 years.