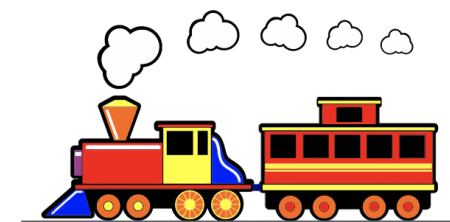
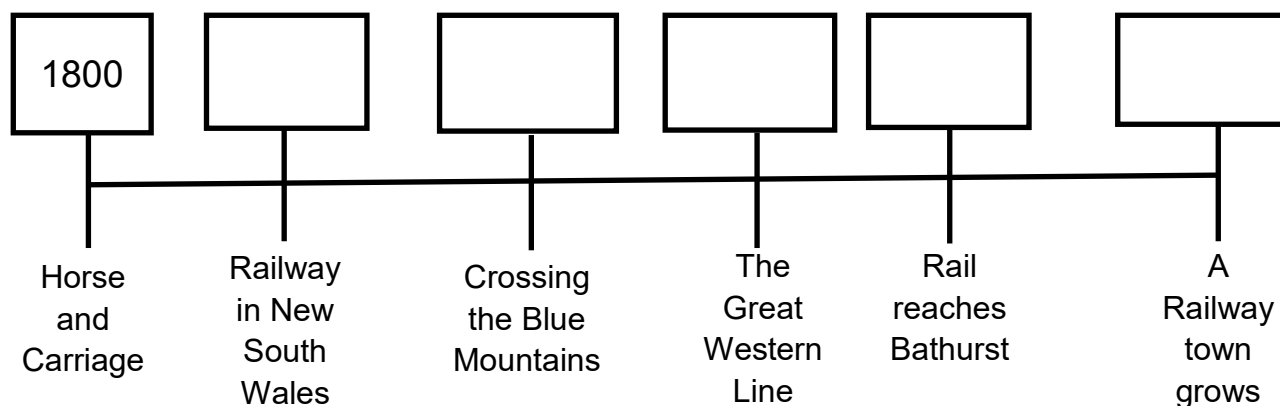


When did the Rail reach Bathurst?

Railway Timeline



Using the information on the next page, fill in the year dates for each stage on the timeline. The first one has been completed for you.



Bathurst Railway Timeline

1800: Horse and Carriage

From the very start of European settlement in Australia, the rugged landscape of New South Wales made the transport of people and goods quite difficult.

Horse drawn coaches provided mail services, and passenger and freight lines. Because of difficult road conditions, coaches could only travel 10 to 15 kilometres per hour.

The dangerous mountains between Sydney and Bathurst could be covered in two days with an overnight stop.

1849: Railway in NSW

Sydney Railway Company aimed to build railways to connect Sydney with Bathurst and Goulburn.

In 1849, the Sydney Railway Company began to work on the first railway track in NSW, connecting Sydney to 'Parramatta Junction'.

1867: Crossing the Blue Mountains

The Blue Mountains was a huge barrier to the development of western New South Wales. The solution to this problem was to construct two zig zags up and down the imposing cliffs.

It took nearly 700 men nearly 2 and a half years to complete it. The workers lived in tents in extremely cold weather.

1870: The Great Western Line

Chief Engineer John Whitton had a plan for the Great Western Line from Bowenfels, it was completed in 7 stages.

1876: Rail reaches Bathurst

The Great Western Line finally reached Bathurst on 4 April 1876. This now meant that the people of the west were at last provided with a safer, faster, cheaper method of transport of both passengers and goods.

1895: A Railway town grows

The Railway expanded and now had a stores office, a new coal stage and a blacksmith shop.

