First notable event was on October 31, 2008:

* The date of the original Bitcoin white paper where an academic paper pseudo named as the white paper. The system allows peer-to-peer payments without an intermediary such as a bank. This is where the Bitcoin network came to life characterized.
* Basically, the blockchain was used as a tool of monetary transactions to store data between peers

December 2013

* Vitalik Buterin published a white paper of his own. He proposed that there are many more use cases for the Bitcoin blockchain. These use cases include gambling, copyright management, property of ownership transfer etc.
* He then went on to describe the possible use of smart contracts: A code that lives on the Ethereum blockchain network, code is instructed to do certain things.
* July 30th, 2015: The Ethereum system went online