LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA:
A HISTORY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIAN COUNCILS to 1936

SUSAN MARSDEN
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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA: A HISTORY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIAN COUNCILS TO 1936
Susan Marsden

Cover illustration: Council chambers of the District Council of Alexandrina in Goolwa. The foundation stone (set in the front wall) was laid by Premier Tom Price on 6 July 1907 (Photo: Susan Marsden, 2012).

Introduction
In April 2010, the General Meeting of the Local Government Association of South Australia resolved to develop a history of South Australian councils, to ensure that their existence and their contribution to the development of the State would continue to be recognised. As the histories of many councils are documented in *The Civic Record* of 1921-1923, *The Centenary Civic Record of 1936* and *The Jubilee Civic Record of 1986*, the Association decided to produce a history of councils which were formed in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries but ceased to exist before 1921 or 1936, and were not included (or not as councils in their own right) in those Civic Records.

In 2011-2012 the Local Government Association commissioned historian Dr Susan Marsden to identify those councils, and to research and write summary histories of them. These council histories are set out as Part One and Part Two below. They are South Australian councils that ceased to exist before publication of the first *Civic record...1921-1923* (Part One) and others that ceased before publication in the State’s centenary year of the second *Civic record...1936* (Part Two). Councils that continued after 1936 (some of them still in existence today) are not included, although there are many references to them as many grew by absorbing their neighbours. Councils that changed over time from district councils to municipality or city, but continued in existence under the same name (eg Burnside) are not included in these tables, but councils that were renamed before 1936 are included (eg Broughton to Red Hill). This means that the numbers of councils that ceased to exist are slightly inflated as some simply continued under another name (including those with German-derived names that were changed during the First World War, such as Petersburg to Peterborough, and Blumberg to Birdwood).

In Part One and Part Two, councils are listed alphabetically in table form, with the dates they existed, and with brief histories. These ‘Historical notes’ (in the third column) record from which prior council area (if any) a particular council was formed, and when it ceased, which other council it joined (both dates are given in the second column). Where possible, details of council areas and characteristics, significant councillors and district or town clerks, council meeting places and offices, and important activities or events are also included.

All of the councils in existence in 1936 – as published in the *Civic record* – are listed in Part Three. Many of those councils have in their turn been divided and annexed to adjoining councils, or amalgamated with several councils, and renamed. A list of councils no longer in existence in the State’s Jubilee 150 year
This Civic record 1936-1986 includes an ‘Appendix, A genealogy of South Australian Local Government’ (pp 674-695) that lists all expired council names, and shows in graphic form the origins and date/name changes of 126 local government bodies in existence in 1986.

All sources of information are footnoted with full bibliographical references so that online searches can be made readily. References (including online) are also listed in Part Four: Bibliography which includes other useful reading. The major sources of historical information were: E. Jane Robbins and John R. Robbins, A glossary of local government areas in South Australia 1840-1985, 1987 (summary information on all councils formed in South Australia); State Records of South Australia (online descriptions, searched by ID numbers and by name across records, series and agencies); contemporary newspapers (searched online on Trove); published local history books and other sources in print and online; and the three Civic record books of 1924, 1936 and 1986 (they also provide information on discontinued councils under their successor council names).

Overview history

When the Province of South Australia was established in 1834 by an Act of British Parliament, provision was made for local government when the colony’s population passed 50,000. That figure was reached in 1849, but the first attempt to establish local government (outside Adelaide) was made in the form of District Boards of Roads, based on the surveyed Hundreds. These boards ‘represented the forerunner of the District Council system’, and local government over its first 100 years remained closely associated with the provision and maintenance of roads and streets.

On 25 November 1852, ‘An Act to appoint District Councils’ was passed which permitted general purpose councils to form with boundaries determined by their petitioners. As the historian Ian Auhl writes, ‘It is perhaps forgotten that local government was South Australia’s earliest form of self-government, free from the dictates of the British Parliament. Indeed, South Australia originated the principle of an elected local government and was the first of the [Australian] colonies to institute it’. Apart from Adelaide City Council (1840-1843, and revived in 1852), all other councils in South Australia were formed after the 1852 Act. The first District Council was Mitcham, followed by East Torrens, Onkaparinga and Hindmarsh, all proclaimed in May 1853.
As rural settlers took up new land south along the coast near Adelaide, and further out to the north, east and west of the capital, their social and physical needs stimulated the growth of many new settlements, soon followed by the formation of councils. The earliest rural councils of the 1850s were formed in an arc around Adelaide, in nearby hills districts in the Mount Lofty Ranges and the Barossa, and along the south coast. They included in 1853, Brighton, Clarendon, Echunga, Morphett Vale, Mount Barker, and Onkaparinga. As farmers moved north of Gawler and the Barossa Valley into the Central Hill country, many new towns enjoyed a period of peak population and prosperity in the 1860s. A new group of District Councils was established, including Freeling (1867), Gilbert (1866), Kapunda (1866), Mudla Wirra North and South (1867). Port Gawler (1856), Rhynie (1866), Saddleworth (1868), Carrington (1865), Stanley (1865) and Waterloo (1868), together with Corporations at Clare (1868), Gawler (1857) and Kapunda (1865). The copper town of Burra had a more complicated civic history. As the 1986 Civic record explains, there was a twenty-year struggle for self-government, mainly because of the lack of freehold in Kooringa (the main town area, controlled by the South Australian Mining Association) brought a proliferation of ‘outside’ towns. As a result, four District Councils were established in the region in 1872-1874, before the Corporation of Burra was formed in 1876. (See below: Hanson, Booborowie, Mount Bryan, Burra).

The District Councils Act gave districts the power to tax themselves to make and maintain roads, bridges and public buildings, grant licences, and establish pounds to hold stray cattle, sheep and horses. Road-making and maintenance remained the most important and most costly role of councils, although from 1854 the government paid some money to them in proportion to rates collected in each council. At first, voters and councillors were men only, but under the 1861 Municipal Corporations Act women became the first in Australia eligible to vote in local government elections, well before they could vote in parliamentary elections. Many years were to pass before any woman was elected to council – the first to succeed in South Australia (and in Australia) was Grace Benny, to Brighton Council in 1919. The first female district clerks were appointed soon afterwards, although as the Mail reported some years later:

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In contrast to Great Britain, where the election of ‘Her Worship the Mayor’ is a commonplace of administration in large towns, South Australia has hitherto been oldfashioned in local government practice. Until 1926 it was not strictly legal for a woman to be appointed as district clerk. Port Lincoln District Council waived formalities in 1922 by appointing... Miss E.H Beck with, who carried out her duties with distinction for several years. She left to be married to Mr Muir McFarlane. In 1926, to make the Port Lincoln appointment legal, the District Councils Act was amended to allow the appointment of ‘a person’ instead of ‘a male person’ as district clerk. There is nothing now to prevent the appointment of qualified women as town clerks or district clerks, provided they pass the local government examination.\(^{11}\)

From the 1850s until the 1930s, as a general rule, every settled Hundred gained and retained its own District Council. By 1858 there were 45 councils in South Australia, and by 1874 there were 90.\(^{12}\) After the first rush of incorporations in the 1850s and 1860s further councils came into existence, as Robbins and Robbins note, ‘not only by extension of the frontier of settlement but by further subdivision of existing areas, either by the creation of municipalities in the urban cores or by partition into smaller districts’.\(^{13}\) This development is evident in the histories of councils set out in Parts One and Two below. Many new councils were hived off from the original large districts. A total of eight separate councils (including what was left of East Torrens) or part-councils were created from the original 1853 East Torrens area.\(^{14}\) The breaking up of large councils often reflected urban-rural differences. For example, the Town of Gawler was soon separated from the District Council of Barossa West. Warburton’s history of Payneham describes how the region’s first council of East Torrens, created in 1853, ‘outlined a district twelve miles square and stretching from the [Adelaide] city parklands far into the hills... It was far too big for management from horse and cart, and the needs of the inhabitants were too disparate – timber workers and market gardeners scattered sparsely in the hills, village settlements at Payneham, Magill and Glen Osmond, and nearer the city, the embryonic suburbs of Stepney, Kent Town and parts of Hackney’. Arguments over rates and road-works broke up this arrangement after only two years, and separate councils were formed.\(^{15}\)

Other councils were also short-lived, such as Lefevre’s Peninsula which enjoyed an independent existence of only 12 years before being absorbed by Birkenhead, that was soon amalgamated in turn. Port Adelaide Corporation went against the trend of fracturing into smaller councils by annexing its neighbours: Portland Estate (in 1884), Birkenhead (1886), Queenstown and Alberton (1896), Rosewater (1899) and Semaphore (1900).\(^{16}\)

In South Australia, incorporation was voluntary, indicating the willingness of citizens to take responsibility for directing local affairs. The District Councils Act (Act 419) of 1887 breached the practice of voluntarism by forcibly incorporating 20 new areas and amalgamating eight local governments.\(^{17}\) The district

\(^{11}\) ‘Women Fill War Gaps For District Councils’, *The Mail*, 31 July 1943. Note, this disproves Lameroo Council’s claim to have appointed the first District Clerk in South Australia, who was Miss Marion Davidson, who was appointed Acting District Clerk in 1935, and District Clerk in 1944 (1986 *Civic record*, p 272). The DC of Port Augusta West seems to have appointed the second female District Clerk in 1926 (see Port Augusta West DC).


\(^{14}\) *The official civic record of South Australia... 1936*, Universal Publicity Company, Adelaide, 1936, p 552 (DC of Central Yorke Peninsula).


population of central Yorke Peninsula was one that had ‘firmly resisted any form of Local Government until the proclamation of the new District Councils Act ... whereby all purchased land in South Australia was assessed and rated, thus forcing farmers and others who had previously escaped rating to contribute to the State’s revenue’. Associations of councils tended to form in response to legislative change, and indeed the first Association of District Councils met as early as 1853. A Municipal Association was established in 1875 and a new District Councils’ Association was formed in 1886 as part of the debate leading up to the 1887 Act. The two organisations formed a Local Government Association in 1896, and merged in 1900 to become a single, unified association.

Most of South Australia’s councils were formed by the time of the State’s centenary in 1936. Council numbers continued to rise into the 1920s as settlement spread along the River Murray and into marginal agricultural areas such as the Murray Mallee. However, there is a surprising contrast between the line-up of councils in the Civic record of 1921-1923 and the centenary edition of 1936. The change reflected boundary and name changes and the creation of new councils as rural districts were opened up; then there was further government action to reduce council numbers by combining them to form bigger districts. In a dawning motor age, council workers could cover larger areas by car or truck than when they had travelled in slower horse-drawn vehicles.

*Local Government Areas Re-arrangement Act* of 1929 sought to increase the efficiency of councils by amalgamating them, and appointed a Local Government Commission (1930–1933), and this was followed in 1934 by a comprehensively revised *Local Government Act* which combined separate Acts controlling District Councils and Municipalities, and ran to more than 900 clauses. In January 1935 the Local Government Areas Commission made recommendations for alterations to 145 local government areas in South Australia, including the abolition of several small councils and their annexation by neighbouring councils. This brought an end to many small councils, including those such as DC Macclesfield, formed in local government’s founding period. The District Council of Mount Barker was expanded to an area four times its previous size in 1935, including parts of Macclesfield and Echunga.

Ian Auhl writes,

> Two main factors contributed to the decision of the Local Government Commission to recommend the reduction of the number of district councils ... from 196 to 145. The main factor was economic. The “black depression” of the 1930s had left councils struggling for funds... Amalgamation, claimed the Local Government Commission, would prevent needless duplication of road plant, council offices, and staff. Certainly many council districts were too small to be viable. Council areas in South Australia ranged in size from an immense 1,534,400 acres to an absurd 470 acres,

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19 As reported in the *South Australian Register* 16 December 1853, and through the 1850s.
and in district population from 25,583 to a handful of 215 people. Numbered among the fifty-three councils with an annual revenue of less than £2,000 was the District Council of Highercombe.

Another factor was making it difficult for councils faced with a diminishing revenue to survive. The increasing use of expensive motorised machinery made amalgamation not only possible but necessary. Small councils could not hope to survive the new motor age, with its new demands for better roads and mechanised means of making them.23

The Civic record of 1921-1923 listed 177 councils (including Renmark Trust); while the Civic record...1936 listed a total of 134 (including Renmark Irrigation Trust as well as Colonel Light Gardens, and some of the previously-listed councils under new names).24 Robbins and Robins give a larger total of 142 in 1936, and they also show that the reduced number in 1936 followed a substantial increase with council numbers reaching their peak of 195 in the period 1925-1931. The number dropped to 171 in 1932, to 141 in 1936, and then levelled out for many years, not dropping below 142 (138) until 1969.25

The Jubilee Civic Record of 1986 recorded a total of 126 local government bodies, but a further round of annexations and amalgamations in the 25 years following drastically reduced their numbers, as can be seen in the list published online by the Local Government Association of South Australia.26 Small councils were annexed by their neighbours or were combined, once again forming large local government areas. Some amalgamations, such as Onkaparinga, restored the original nineteenth century names. By 2011, in South Australia’s 175th year, there were only 45 civic bodies, fewer than existed in their first decade in the 1850s. The Jubilee Civic Record of 1986 recorded a total of 126 local government bodies, but a further round of annexations and amalgamations in the 25 years following drastically reduced their numbers, as can be seen in the list published online by the Local Government Association of South Australia.27 Small councils were annexed by their neighbours or were combined, once again forming large local government areas. Some amalgamations, such as Onkaparinga, restored the original nineteenth century names. The most intense focus on amalgamations in that period, 1996-97, the Local Government Association believes to be the greatest voluntary reduction in council numbers in Australia’s history. By 2011, in South Australia’s 175th year, there were only 68 councils, fewer than existed in 1870.28

23 Auhl, I, From settlement to city: a history of the district of Tea Tree Gully, 1836-1976, Lynton Publications, Blackwood SA, 1976, pp 177-178; the number of councils after the reductions is given as 142 by Robbins and Robbins, [p 1].
26 Local Government Association of South Australia, Councils (alphabetical list), www.lga.sa.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=210, accessed February 2012. Note: this list includes remote Aboriginal communities and outback areas.
27 Local Government Association of South Australia, Councils (alphabetical list), www.lga.sa.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=210, accessed February 2012. Note: this list includes remote Aboriginal communities and outback areas.
28 Information from Chris Russell, Local Government Association, June 2012. There were in addition 5 Aboriginal civic organisations and the Outback Communities Authority.
**Abbreviations:**
DC: District Council, as in District Council of Alexandrina
GA: Government Agency, a part of the State Records of South Australia Archival Control System
M: Municipality
MRG: Municipal Record Group, a part of the State Records of South Australia Archival Control System
p, pp: page, pages

*Note: council start and finish dates and major changes during their existence are usually given as published in the Government Gazette, which were sometimes different to the dates they came into effect.*
## Part One: Councils that ceased to exist before publication of *Civic record 1921-1923*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council</th>
<th>Dates formed, ceased/amalgamated</th>
<th>Historical notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandrina (DC)</td>
<td>1856-1888</td>
<td>Created on 22 May 1856 when severed from DC of Bremer, following petitions and counter-petitions between Hundred of Alexandrina settlers requesting their own council and memorialists in DC of Bremer. William Crawford, one of the petitioners, was elected as first chairman. Council met in the post office at Point Sturt. Council discontinued when re-merged with DC of Bremer (Act 419 of 1887, gazetted 5 January 1888).[^29] Two longstanding Alexandrina councillors featured in the <em>Civic record</em> of 1921-23 were Alexander Mann and Albert Pavy. Mann emigrated with his parents from Scotland in 1852, and lived at Point Sturt. ‘He represented Alexandrina District as Councillor for 15 years, during which period he was Chairman for six years.’ Pavy, who lived at Milang, was also Councillor for several years. ‘Mr. Pavy has the honour of being one of the six elected to escort His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh at Glenelg on the occasion of the Royal visit to South Australia in the sixties.’[^30] A memoir published in 1938 described the Duke’s passage through Milang on 11 November 1867, driving himself in a coach, with the local troop of No. 2 Cavalry leading the way from Strathalbyn. ‘On arrival at Milang Captain Rankine lined up his troops and many private horsemen, and called for cheers... Mr. W. M. Crawford, chairman of the District Council of Alexandrina, read an address of welcome from the district (including the Bremer District Council).’[^31] DC of Bremer was absorbed in turn into DC of Strathalbyn (<em>see Part Two</em>). The historic council name was revived when Alexandrina Council was formed in 1997 by the amalgamation of the DCs of Strathalbyn, Port Elliot and Goolwa, and part of DC of Willunga.[^32]</td>
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[^31]: *The Advertiser* 10 May 1938.

| **Barossa East (DC)** | **1854-1888** | Created on 8 June 1854. Council discontinued when amalgamated with DC of Barossa West to form DC of Barossa (Act 419 of 1887, gazetted 5 January 1888).  

Pioneer vigneron Johann Gramp ‘in the 1860s served on the Barossa East District Council, took his turn as chairman and among other achievements helped to provide Rowland Flat with a public school’.  


The name of this Council was maintained when the DCs of Angaston, Barossa and Tanunda were amalgamated to form the present Barossa Council on 1 July 1996. |
|---|---|---|
| **Barossa West (DC)** | **1854-1888** | Created on 19 January 1854. Council discontinued when amalgamated with DC of Barossa East to form DC of Barossa (Act 419 of 1887, gazetted 5 January 1888).  

Local government was introduced in this region in 1853-54 with the formation of Munno Para East, Mudla Wirra, Barossa West and Munno Para West District Councils. When DC Barossa was formed in 1854 the district included the town of Gawler, but the council offices were located in Lyndoch, and because of dissatisfaction with services rendered to their own town, Gawler’s ratepayers made representations to the Government to gain separate incorporation. The town was detached from the district council and the Municipality of the Town of Gawler was proclaimed on 9 July 1857. |

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35 *South Australian Register*, 27 March 1876.

36 State Records of South Australia, GA1342 Barossa Council.
| **Birkenhead (DC)** | **1877-1886** | Created on 22 February 1877 when the Birkenhead community was well-established and the district was severed from DC of Lefevre’s Peninsula, which DC Birkenhead later absorbed (7 August 1884). On 7 December 1886, less than ten years after it was formed, DC Birkenhead ceased to exist when merged with the Corporate Town of Port Adelaide. 39 From *South Australian Register* 23 February 1877: ‘Proclamation directing that a portion of the District of Lefevre’s Peninsula be constituted the District of Birkenhead; also appointing Messrs. Richard Honey, Charles Heath, James Irvine, George Playfair, and Charles Burton the first Councillors of the District.’ 40 Port Adelaide Council, established in 1855, was the richest municipality in the port region. As Couper-Smartt and Courtney write, ‘Unfortunately, all of these town councils struggled financially, a situation that was not helped by the squabbles between them...The Lefevre Peninsula Council formed in 1872 but lost much of its income base when Birkenhead set up its own council five years later – only to join with Port Adelaide to become Birkenhead Ward in 1886.’ 41 |
| **Black Springs (DC)** | **1868-1888** | This was part of the DC of Upper Wakefield (at Auburn), formed in 1854, and then on 7 May 1868 separate DCs of Black Springs, Waterloo, Saddleworth and Auburn were all inaugurated. Council met in the (former) |

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40 *South Australian Register*, 23 February 1877.

township of Black Springs. Further re-divisions and amalgamations soon followed: part of Upper Wakefield was taken to form DC of Stanley, also in 1868.  

On 5 January 1888 DC of Black Springs ceased to exist when added to DC of Stanley. Another re-division added the old Black Springs District to DC of Waterloo in 1890. This was misrepresented in Civic record as an amalgamation of the Black Springs and Waterloo councils, when ‘the number of councillors increased to eight’. Waterloo was later absorbed in turn by DC Saddleworth, and under that entry in Civic record 1936, the foundation members of each council are listed. Founding Black Springs Councillors were R Roberts, J Williams, TS Porter, J Pascoe, and RT Glasson. 

The present (2012) enlarged Council in this region has restored the original name of DC of Upper Wakefield.

| Blanchetown (DC) | 1887-1920 | Created under Act 419 of 1887, gazetted on 5 January 1888, with the first council meeting held on 16 February 1888. On 9 December 1920 DC of Blanchetown was renamed DC of Swan Reach.  

Featured under the entry for DC of Keyneton in the Civic record 1921-1923 was Heinrich Adolph Zadow, a ‘highly-respected resident of Sedan’, who had served two councils as Clerk: for 13½ years at Blanchetown District Council, and then for 21 years at North Rhine (Keyneton). ‘He was an advocate for the installation of local telephone service and water supply.’

| Brighton (DC) | 1853-1886 | Following a memorial from rateable inhabitants to proclaim a District Council, the DC of Brighton was proclaimed on 2 November 1853. Thomas O’Halloran was first Chairman and Francis Pearce first Clerk and Collector. Early council meetings were held at Brown’s Tavern. Part of DC of Mitcham was added to Brighton on 19 December 1854, and part of DC of Brighton was detached on 23 August 1855 and, with a portion of DC of West Torrens, became the Corporation of the Town of Glenelg.  


The official civic record of South Australia... 1936, Universal Publicity Company, Adelaide, 1936, pp 852-853.  


The new Corporation of the Town of Brighton was established on 25 November 1858 when it was detached from the DC of Brighton. To avoid confusion over the similarity of names of DC of Brighton and the Corporation of the Town of Brighton, a petition by ratepayers resulted in the change of name from DC of Brighton to DC of Marion on 31 August 1886.\(^48\)

Hon John Crozier, who owned the Oaklands Estate, was elected first Chairman, and was also elected to South Australia’s Legislative Council. His obituary noted in 1887, ‘Mr. Crozier has almost uninterruptedly since 1867 held the position of Chairman of the Brighton District Council’.\(^49\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Broughton (DC)</th>
<th>1888-1912</th>
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<tr>
<td>Formed under Act 419 of 1887, gazetted 5 January 1888. The eight founding councillors were named in the <em>South Australian Register</em> at the end of 1887:</td>
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<tr>
<td>REDHILL, December 29. At a well-attended meeting held this afternoon, Mr. Peter Rowland, J.P., presiding, the following gentlemen were nominated as the first Councillors for the new District Council of Broughton: Messrs. Rowland, Wake, Darling, Wall, Whittaker, Blake, Button, and Shipway; Auditors, Messrs Gregory and Robertson.(^50)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broughton Council incorporated the Hundreds of Redhill, Koolunga, Mundoora and Wokurna. On 9 June 1892 DC of Mundoora was separated, and the remaining wards (Broughton extension, Koolunga and Redhill) continued as the much smaller DC of Broughton, and the number of councillors dropped from 8 to 5. On 30 May 1912, the Broughton Council name was changed to Red Hill (later contracted to Redhill) but there were no further changes in council boundaries.(^51)</td>
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\(^{49}\) *South Australian Register* 2 May 1887.

\(^{50}\) *South Australian Register* 30 December 1887.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Details</th>
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| Davenport (DC) | 1888-1893 | *District Councils Act, 1887 created DCs of Port Germein, Wilmington and Davenport which came into being on 5 January 1888. Davenport’s name was changed to Woolundunga on 8 June 1893.*[^52]  

The following is a list of the new districts proposed to be formed by the Local Government Bill which was introduced into the House of Assembly on Tuesday ...  

Davenport—Comprising the hundreds of Crozier and Winninowie; that portion of the hundred of Davenport not included in the corporate town of Port Augusta; that portion of the hundred of Woolundunga west of the district of Wilmington; those portions of the hundreds of Pichirichi, Yarrah, and Wyacca west of the district of Kanyaka; and that portion of the county of Newcastle not included in any hundred.[^53]  

The *South Australian Register* reported early in 1888 that the new district councils in the Port Augusta region ‘are getting to work. Mr. J. G. Moseley, J.P., has been elected Chairman of the Davenport Council, which has applied for a grant of £1,000 for the maintenance of the Horrocks Pass and other main roads... The Davenport Town Council has begun the work of clearing the sand drifts from Stirling-road’.[^54] The newspaper reported later that an ‘important meeting of ratepayers in the District Council of Davenport’ was held at Stirling North on 15 February 1893, chaired by Mr WG Pryor. ‘It was resolved that the district should be divided into four wards with eight Councillors instead of two wards as at present. A committee consisting of Messrs. Pryor, Smoker, Partridge, Fawcett, Adamson, and Aldenhoven was formed to arrange the boundary. Great interest was taken in the meeting, which was a lively one.’[^55] |
| Encounter Bay (DC) (1) | 1853-1856 | There were two DCs of Encounter Bay. First was the original council, proclaimed on 16 August 1853 to administer the Hundreds of Encounter Bay, Goolwa, Nangkita, and part of Waitpinga. In 1855 ratepayers petitioned the Governor to split the administration into two new councils: DC of Inman was formed on 20 |


[^53]: *South Australian Advertiser* 27 July 1887.  

[^54]: *South Australian Register* 4 February 1888.  

[^55]: *South Australian Register* 16 February 1893.
March 1856 (see also Inman) and Encounter Bay (1) was changed to DC of Port Elliot and Goolwa on 5 June 1856. Inman then became second DC of Encounter Bay when renamed on 19 June 1856.56

When the first DC of Encounter Bay was formed in 1853 it was instructed by the South Australian Government to build a foreshore road about the base of the Bluff (Rosetta Head) to connect with the jetty at Yilki. This was the council’s first substantial project, starting in 1854. This was on land owned by the family of South Australia’s first Governor, Hindmarsh. Page writes, in Victor Harbor - from pioneer port to seaside resort:

‘Unfortunately everyone had forgotten that Governor Hindmarsh’s son John had already refused assent to a road around the Bluff, and this forgetfulness was to prove a time bomb for the second District Council of Encounter Bay.’ Before the end of its first year in 1856, the new Council was sued for a huge sum of 48,140 pounds. In an attempt to avoid liability, the Government dissolved the Council, but later settled with Hindmarsh for 2,000 pounds and re-established the Council.57

Reverend Ridgway William Newland was Council Chairman for many years, a combination that drew criticism in a letter to the South Australian Register in 1855:

Sir – A letter appeared recently in your columns from Mr. Newland of Encounter Bay, complaining of the gift by Government of a quarter-acre of land for the site of a church at the Goolwa, and asserting that State aid to religion in every shape ought to be abandoned. But, while Mr. Newland is thus writing, what is he himself doing? As Chairman of a District Council he sanctions the expenditure of public funds in erecting a school-room to be used on Sundays as a place of worship by the denomination to which he belongs. Is this, I venture to ask, or is it not, State aid to religion?58

The idea of separating the town of Victor Harbor from DC of Encounter Bay, first raised in 1908, in Page’s words, ‘came to the boil’ in 1913, when Oliver Baaner told a public meeting that ‘For adequate measures in regard to lighting, sanitation, water supply, and necessary improvements in keeping such an ideal resort as Victor Harbor, no local government other than a Corporation can meet its needs’. On 14 June 1914 Encounter Bay Council’s Port Victor Ward was proclaimed a separate municipality, and Baaner was elected Mayor.59

58 South Australian Register 9 October 1855.
### Eurelia (DC)

**Years:** 1888-1894  
Proclaimed by Act 419 of 1887, gazetted 5 January 1888. First councillors (from 1888) were P McNamara (Chairman), WH Byerlee, N Travers, T Reid, JB Kerr, D Fyfe, and J O’Driscoll, and W Hall was appointed first Clerk. Council was divided into seven wards on 24 May 1888. The name Eurelia was changed to Carrieton on 31 May 1894, and when the Council was divided into six wards in 1896, one of them was Eurelia Ward covering the Hundred of Eurelia. In 1920 a fire broke out in the Carrieton Council offices and all records, including minutes of all previous meetings, were destroyed and the Clerk, J Ormiston, suffered serious burns from which he subsequently died.  

### Flaxman’s Valley (DC)

**Years:** 1866-1888  
Created 15 March 1866; the earliest Register report on membership appears to be in 1868:


Portion of the Council was added from DC of Angaston on 4 February 1869. Under Act 419 of 1887, gazetted 5 January 1888, Flaxman’s Valley was discontinued when added to DC of South Rhine.  

### George Town (DC)

**Years:** 1876-1888  
Upon the petition of residents of the Hundred of Bundaleer, George Town was constituted as a District by proclamation on 2 March 1876. Under Act 419 of 1887, gazetted 5 January 1888, George Town absorbed DC of Narridy (see also Narridy) and the Hundred of Yackamoorundie, Council’s name was changed to Georgetown, and the district was divided into three wards.

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61 *South Australian Register* 5 March 1868.  
| **Glanville (DC)** | 1864-1888 | Established on 14 July 1864, cancelled, then re-proclaimed on 11 August 1864. The Register reported the following membership in 1868:


> On 20 December 1883 part of Glanville was detached to form Corporate Town of Semaphore. Under Act 419 of 1887, gazetted 5 January 1888, remainder of Glanville area added to DC of Woodville as Davenport Ward.65 |

| **Green’s Plain (DC)** | 1871-1888 | Green’s Plain was the first local government authority on Yorke Peninsula, created on 20 July 1871 (named after the sheep station ‘Green’s Plains’ established by 1854). The Government Gazette of 28 July 1871 records that ‘Messrs. Richard Renfrey, John Reid, James Hosking, Daniel Skipworth and John Scoble... shall be the first District Councillors for the District Council of Green’s Plains’. In 1882 - 1883, the following were councillors: Richard Renfrey, John Reid, James Hosking, Daniel Skipworth, John Scoble, Andrew Goodall, George Harrop, Francis Schofield Smith and Thomas Tait. William Wyatt also served as Chairman for several years. James Willshire was District Clerk, and Joseph Spink was also Clerk and Overseer of Works for some time. Under Act 419 of 1887, gazetted on 5 January 1888, the Council area was absorbed into the newly-formed DC of Kadina.66 |

| **Hamley (DC)** | 1904-1912 | The upper Murray town of Renmark was first constituted as the DC of Hamley on 5 May 1904, comprising the main residential and commercial area of Renmark, but not the Irrigation Area (already part of Renmark Irrigation Trust). On 6 May 1904, the first Council meeting was held in the ‘old clubrooms’, attended by Edwin Pitt, DW Price, W Tonkin, A Gibbons and A Hale. Price was elected as the first Chairman, and FW Needham was the first Clerk. His salary was ten pounds per year. Tonkin’s premises at the corner of Sixteenth Street and Para Street was used as council chambers, then space was rented from the Renmark Irrigation Trust, and the |

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64 *South Australian Register* 5 March 1868.


Council later occupied space in the Institute building.

The Council’s name was changed to Renmark Town on 9 September 1912. EB Chapman, who was Chairman in 1907 and 1913, was the father of Mrs Ella James, who was Mayoress from 1935 to 1938, when SA James was Mayor. The Corporation of the Town of Renmark was declared in 1936.  

Local government was actually introduced in 1900 when the Renmark Irrigation Trust gained the rights and powers of a district council. As recorded in *Red gum to green oasis*, for nearly 60 years the Renmark district ‘had a divided councils system, with two local governing bodies. Renmark Irrigation Trust was the local government authority for the irrigation area while the town was constituted separately in 1904. ‘Both councils were efficient, but at times there was evidence of lack of co-operation, and even antagonism’. As early as 1906, the Hamley Council Chairman, DW Price gave notice of a motion, ‘That it is in the interest of Renmark as a whole that the Hamley district be amalgamated with the Irrigation Trust’, but this was not done for nearly 54 years.

### Hindmarsh (DC)

| 1853-1875 | Proclaimed on 2 June 1853 as the third local government area established outside the City of Adelaide, and named after South Australia’s founding Governor, Captain John Hindmarsh. The District included the villages of Hindmarsh, Bowden and Brompton, and those further along the Port Road towards Queenstown, and the outlying country between the Port Road and River Torrens to the coast, an area of 34 square kilometres, with a population of about 3,500. The first Council meeting was held on 11 June 1853, and Robert Richard Torrens (an author of the Real Property Act) was first District Chairman. Following complaints from residents, on 1 October, 1874 the town area of Hindmarsh was split from the DC and became the separate Corporation of the Town of Hindmarsh. On 30 December, 1875 the remainder of DC of Hindmarsh changed its name to DC of Woodville. |

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Inman (DC) 1856

Created and discontinued in the same year: established on 20 March 1856 when severed from DCs of Encounter Bay, Yankalilla and Myponga, then name changed to Encounter Bay on 19 June 1856.70

**DISTRICT COUNCILS**
**INMAN SATURDAY April 12.**
The first meeting of the Council of this newly-proclaimed district was held on Saturday, the 12th instant, in the Fountain Inn, Encounter Bay, at which Messrs. R.W. Newland, Thomas Mayfield, William W.R. Whitridge, Richard Dennis, and Edward Harvey were present. Mr. Newland having been called to the chair, it was resolved— That Mr. Newland be requested to accept the office of Chairman. Mr. Newland having intimated his willingness to accept the office, it was further resolved— That the salary of the Clerk for the first year be £35, and that on these terms Mr. John Higgins, who has applied, be appointed to the office. That Mr. Whitridge be requested to obtain for the Council a copy of the Acts of Council, ordinarily supplied to District Councils; of the map of the district, on canvas and rollers; and the requisite books. That an advertisement be inserted in the Observer twice, calling for tenders for the valuation of the district, such tenders to be forwarded, sealed, to the Chairman. That the Council meet for business at 12 o’clock on each alternate Thursday, commencing on Thursday, the 1st day of May next. That Messrs. Mayfield and Dennis be requested to inspect the Back Valley Bridge and its approaches, and to take such measures as may be necessary to make it useful during the winter.71

Lefevre’s Peninsula (DC) 1872-1884

Lefevre’s Peninsula enjoyed an independent existence of only 12 years before being absorbed by DC of Birkenhead, and that was soon amalgamated in turn with Port Adelaide Corporation.72

Light (DC) (1) 1867-1892

There have been three separate districts called Light - see also Light (DC) (2). The original DC of Light was proclaimed on 28 March 1867. On 2 August 1892 part of the District was severed and annexed to DC of Nuriootpa (formed in 1867), and the rest of Light was absorbed into the DC of Kapunda (formed in 1866).73

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71 South Australian Register 15 Apr 1856.
The Register reported the following membership of Light Council in 1868:


| Mayura (DC) | 1888-1903 | The development of South Australia’s South East was greatly helped by drainage schemes. Elsewhere in South Australia the Local Board of Main Roads was the precursor to local government, but in the South East it was district drainage boards. Portions of the original South-East Drainage District (formed 20 April 1876) were taken to form part of the first Mount Muirhead Drainage District (1876, 1879). In 1882, the remainder of the South-East District was absorbed into the new drainage districts of Mayurra, Mount Muirhead (the second) and Tantanoola. Mayurra Drainage District was proclaimed on 27 April 1882 and like the others in the region, it became a DC on 5 January 1888, under Act 419 of 1887. On 16 April 1903 the name was changed to DC of Millicent.  

| Mount Muirhead (DC) | 1888-1914 | Portions of the original South-East Drainage District (formed 20 April 1876) were combined with part of the Tantanoola Drainage District to form the first Mount Muirhead Drainage District in 1876. A further section of the South-East District was added in 1879, and the remainder of that district was absorbed in 1882 into the new drainage districts of Mayurra, Mount Muirhead (the second) and Tantanoola. Like others in the South East, the Mount Muirhead Drainage District was designated a DC and extended on 5 January 1888, under Act 419 of 1887. Millicent absorbed the Mount Muirhead district on 4 June 1914. Five wards were established for the new District: Central, Mayurra, Mount Muirhead, Nangula, and Rendlesham.  

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74 South Australian Register 5 March 1868.


| **Mundoora (DC)**   | 1892-1917 | This was originally part of the DC Port Broughton, formed on 5 January 1888. On 9 June 1892 the District of Broughton was divided and the Hundreds of Mundoora and Wokurna became DC of Mundoora. On 31 May 1917 the Council was renamed Broughton.  
|-------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Myponga (DC)**  | 1856-1888 | The original DC of Yankalilla and Myponga (see *Yankalilla and Myponga*) was separated into two separate DCs of Yankalilla and Myponga on 23 October 1856. Myponga Council held its first meeting in Langley's Hotel, east of the township of Myponga. Under Act 419 of 1887, the Council was absorbed into the DC of Yankalilla, gazetted on 5 January 1888.  
| Narridy (DC) | 1876-1888 | Established 2 March 1876. Under Act 419 of 1887, gazetted 5 January 1888, Narridy was absorbed by DC of Georgetown. (See also Georgetown).<sup>79</sup>  

As reported in the press later in 1888:  
_A public meeting was held at the Narridy Hotel on the 11th instant to consider the separation of the Narridy District Council from that of Georgetown, and also re extension of Blyth Railway northwards. Mr H. Nicholls presided. Messrs. J. Porter and J. Hamlyn, who with Mr. Howe, M.P., interviewed the Treasurer, reported that Mr. Playford said it was contrary to the Shires Council Bill for the two districts to separate, and that he would oppose any separation this year. If this district wished to be joined to any other district he would see to it after the next election. Mr. Howe advised the deputation to return and again confer with the ratepayers as to whether he should present the memorial from the ratepayers to the House of Assembly. Mr. Playford stated that if the petition of the memorial presented were granted he should be inundated with similar memorials. Mr. J. Hamlyn thought the country should try to adjust its own boundaries...<sup>80</sup> |

| North Rhine (DC) | 1873-1918 | Created 27 November 1873. On 30 May 1918, to remove the association with Germany (during the war), the District was renamed DC of Keyneton.<sup>81</sup>  

The town and district of Keyneton was named after the pastoralist Joseph Keynes, who held land in the Barossa Ranges, the Wakefield Survey and at Mount Remarkable, and enjoyed a good reputation as a merino sheep-bred. Keynes was a member of the North Rhine District Council from its formation in 1873 to 1883, the year he died.<sup>82</sup> |

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<sup>80</sup> *South Australian Register* 14 August 1888.


From the *Civic record* of 1921-1923:

*The Council here first met in December, 1873, the members being Messrs. J. Keynes, R. Graetz, C. Dansic, W. Heath, and T. Leeder; Mr. H.A. Fiebiger was Clerk. The area of this district is 200 square miles. In 1890 it was divided into three wards, viz., Keyneton, Towitta, and Sedan Wards.*

A son of Joseph Keynes was Chairman in 1921-1923: Richard Robinson Keynes ’is a Justice of the Peace, and has served the District Council for 36 years. He was elected Chairman of the Council in 1894, and has held that position since that date.\(^{83}\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nuriootpa (DC)</th>
<th>1867-1918</th>
<th>Created when proclaimed on 28 November 1867. On 2 August 1892 a portion of Light DC (the first) was added to Nuriootpa. On 13 October 1910 a large portion (21,432 hectares) was severed and annexed to DC of Angaston (as Nuriootpa Ward). On 15 August 1918 Nuriootpa District was renamed DC of Freeling and New Mecklenberg Ward was changed to Gomersal in line with the change of the town’s name under the Nomenclature Act, 1917 designed to remove German place names from South Australia. The Nomenclature Committee had not altered the name of Nuriootpa, as it was of Aboriginal, not German origin.(^{84})</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Palmerston (DC)</td>
<td>1874-1910</td>
<td>In the Northern Territory (annexed to South Australia in 1863; taken over by Commonwealth under 1910 Act).(^{85})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payneham (DC) (1)</td>
<td>1856-1868</td>
<td>Payneham was named after Samuel Payne, one of the original subscribers for land in the colony of South Australia, who surveyed the village of Payneham on his land in 1838. The first local government in this area was the large DC of East Torrens (1853), from which the new DCs of Payneham and Burnside were detached on 14 August 1856. On 25 July 1867 the DC of Stepney was detached from Payneham, and in the following year,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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on 27 February 1868, Payneham was renamed DC of Campbelltown. (The second DC of Payneham was formed when Stepney Council was renamed on 30 August 1883.)

The *South Australian Register* recorded Payneham Council’s first meeting, held at the Glynde Hotel on 22 August 1856, when Henry Mildred became Chairman.

**Petersburg (M)** 1886-1918

Corporate Town formed 7 October 1886 when severed from DC of Yongala, the original council in the area, formed in 1883 (*see also* Yongala). William Threadgold was appointed as first Mayor. On 30 August 1888 part of DC of Yongala was added to Petersburg, and another portion was annexed on 25 November 1897. The Council took over the institute (built in 1884) as a town hall in 1889, and added a two-storeyed front in 1894. (A new town hall was built in 1927.) The Council supplied the town with electricity from a powerhouse built in 1913.

During the war against Germany (First World War, 1914-1918), The *Petersburg Times* reported on 11 February 1916, ‘A weighty and representative deputation waited on the Council on Monday to request that the name of the town be changed and that all streets bearing German names be renamed with British titles. The Corporation promised to enquire fully into the matter.’ The Council renamed the town’s streets, most of them in memory of local soldiers killed in the war. New nameplates were erected in 1917. On 10 January 1918 the Corporate Town of Petersburg was renamed Peterborough (one of several towns renamed in South Australia, under the Nomenclature Act 1917).

Samuel Daniel Jones was either a Councillor or the Corporation’s Auditor through most of that period, initially as a Petersburg Councillor, 1900-1912. He was Mayor twice, 1917-1920, and again 1927-1940 (during both the First and the Second World Wars).

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87 *South Australian Register* 28 August 1856.


Peterborough District Council was formed on 21 March 1935, by the amalgamation of Coglin and Yongala Districts and part of the Corporate Town of Peterborough (which continued under that name).  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pinnaroo (DC) (1)</th>
<th>1908-1920</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|                    | Petitions and counter-petitions were presented in Parliament for and against forming a very large council district covering all of the newly-opened wheatlands of Lameroo-Pinnaroo, and State Cabinet decided in 1908 to grant the petition to form it. The first DC of Pinnaroo was proclaimed on 29 October 1908 and included the Hundreds of Price, Cotton, Bews, Parilla, Pinnaroo, and a portion of the Hundred of Van Doussa (now Allenby) – an area of 2,820.7 square kilometres. The first Pinnaroo Council consisted of the Wards of Pinnaroo North, Pinnaroo South, Parilla North and Parilla South.  

The first council meeting was held at Lameroo on 31 October 1908. As the 1986 *Civic record* notes, ‘Meetings were held at Lameroo, Pinnaroo, and Parrakie, the time and place being greatly influenced by the timetable of the trains that conveyed most members to meetings’. Alfred Townsend was appointed as the first (part-time) Clerk, and the Council used his office in Lameroo where he ran a business as a contractor and general agent. He remained Clerk until 1918.  

Pinnaroo Council’s original very large area was difficult to work given the simple equipment and poor roads, and it was soon clear that two councils would better serve those early settlements. ‘The wisdom of such a decision for that time was demonstrated by the subsequent record of the two councils over a long period, both in economy and efficiency, considering the difficult task involved with primitive equipment.’  

DC of Pinnaroo East was severed from the original Pinnaroo Council and proclaimed in 1913 (*see Pinnaroo East*). On 8 June 1916 a portion was added to Pinnaroo Council from DC of Peake. DC of Pinnaroo lost its name for a few months in 1920. On 15 January 1920 the original Pinnaroo Council was renamed DC of Lameroo, and the Pinnaroo East Council name was changed back to DC of Pinnaroo on 13 May 1920. The Council continued for more than 70 years, when the entire District was restored to one council. As observed in *Pinnaroo – hub of*... |

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the Mallee, ‘With the amalgamation of the District Councils of Pinnaroo and Lameroo on 1st July 1997, to form the Southern Mallee District Council, local government has done a full circle’.  

| Pinnaroo East (DC) | 1913-1920 | Proclaimed on 5 June 1913, when severed from the DC of Pinnaroo (see Pinnaroo). Having petitioned against the formation of one large Pinnaroo Council (established in 1908), in 1912 residents from Parilla and Pinnaroo had again sought a separate Council to be based at Pinnaroo, and this was granted. The first meeting of the new Council was held in Pinnaroo on 2 July 1913. On 15 January 1920 the original Pinnaroo Council was renamed DC of Lameroo, and the Pinnaroo East Council name was changed back to DC of Pinnaroo on 13 May 1920.  
First DC Pinnaroo East members were: WH Kelly (Chairman), LG Neville, J Scales, J Docking, PM Shannon, J Gray, J Roachock and J Tee. Women were not allowed to be present at Council meetings. The Clerk was LM Hannaford, Overseer of Works was PJ Davies, and the Ranger was H Klinger.  

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Portland Estate (DC) | 1859-1884 | Established on 15 September 1859. The Register reported the following council membership in 1868:


Henry Weman was one of Port Adelaide’s early sailmakers, who arrived in South Australia in 1854, and opened a sailmaking and ships’ chandler business in Lipson Street ten years later. The sailmaker’s shop and chandlery, built during the 1870s-1880s is heritage-listed as a unique early shop building virtually unchanged from 1887 when Weman was photographed on the front step. Henry Weman & Co. traded from this site as sailmakers, ships’ chandlers, riggers, grocers and general storekeepers until 1906. Weman’s buildings are now part of the South Australian Maritime Museum’s Lipson Street complex.

The Council was added to the Corporate Town of Port Adelaide on 4 December 1884.

Port Germein (M) | 1887-1888 | Established on 15 September 1887, the new municipality was absorbed by new DC of Port Germein under Act 419 of 1887, gazetted on 5 January 1888.

Queenstown and Alberton (DC) | 1864-1898 | In 1864 residents of the two suburban towns Queenstown (Queens Town) and Alberton (Albert Town) petitioned the Governor to establish a district council, proclaimed on 20 October. The District was divided into two wards named for each of the towns. On 22 March 1877 some land was lost to the new DC of Rosewater.

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On 2 June 1898 the DC became part of the Corporate Town of Port Adelaide.\textsuperscript{102}

*The following is a list of the new districts proposed to be formed by the Local Government Bill which was introduced into the House of Assembly on Tuesday...*

**DISTRICTS ADDED TO...**

- Queenstown and Alberton — Comprising Queenstown and Alberton, and that portion of the hundred of Yatala between said district and the town of Port Adelaide.\textsuperscript{103}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rosewater (DC)</td>
<td>1877-1899</td>
<td>Parts of DCs of Queenstown and Alberton, Yatala North and Yatala South were severed and DC of Rosewater was proclaimed on 22 March 1877. Added to the Municipality of Port Adelaide on 26 January 1889, becoming Rosatala Ward.\textsuperscript{104} From the <em>South Australian Register</em> in 1877: <em>Proclamation constituting the District of Rosewater, and appointing Messrs. Hugo Carl Emil Muecke, Edward Formby, William Johnson, David Donaldson, and Hansford Ward the first Councillors.</em>\textsuperscript{105}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semaphore (M)</td>
<td>1883-1900</td>
<td>Formed on 20 December 1883 (re-gazetted 17 January 1884) when severed from DC of Glanville and Le Fevre’s Peninsula; on 11 November 1900 amalgamated into Corporate Town of Port Adelaide.\textsuperscript{106} The <em>South Australian Register</em> reported in detail on a ‘fracas at the Semaphore Corporation meeting’ in 1884, and its consequence in the Police Court: <em>George Feltham Hopkins, clerk, of the Semaphore was charged by George Willimott, a member of the Semaphore Town Council, with unlawfully assaulting him in the Council Chamber at the Semaphore on Monday evening, August 18. Mr. Webb prosecuted. Defendant pleaded ‘guilty under great provocation.’ Mr. Webb said Mr. Willimott was a gentleman well known for twenty - five years past, and during the greater part of that time he had been connected with District Council matters, for some years being</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\textsuperscript{103} *South Australian Advertiser* 27 July 1887.


\textsuperscript{105} *South Australian Register* 23 March 1877.

Chairman of the Glanville Council. On the formation of the Semaphore Corporation Mr. Willimott was nominated one of the first Councillors... He had had difficulties occasionally as to matters unpalatable to the ratepayers, and had received criticisms of various sorts, but of course had a perfect right to hold his own. Although there had been some ‘lively scenes’ connected with municipal duties the prosecutor had never before been subjected to assault, and there had been no quarrel on matters outside the district. The only reason he could understand for the assault was a difference of opinion in regard to the division of the district...

He [Hopkins] said — ‘I will have you out of this Corporation whatever it costs me. I’ll work myself to the toenails and I’ll have you out. You’ll see the monster deputation I’ll get up to the Chief Secretary...

Replied [Willimott]— ‘Hopkins, what’s the good of a thing like you. You know you have not got a shilling’s interest in the district. You are only the tool of other people, whichever party pays the best.’ He said— ‘You call me a tool. I am a better man than you. Put up your dukes, and I’ll wring your neck in two minutes...

Defendant struck him in the chest, and he fell on his knee... Then walked down the room, and defendant followed. Defendant then seized him by the throat, and jammed him against the wall, until Captain Gibbon came in and assisted him... 107

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>South Rhine (DC) also called Jutland</th>
<th>1865-1918</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| This was the first local government established in Springton and Eden Valley region, gazetted on 9 November 1865 as DC of South Rhine (also referred to as DC of Jutland). At the first meeting on 20 November 1885, John Bennet was elected Chairman. On 2 October 1884, after a petition signed by 2/5th of the ratepayers in the Mount Pleasant Ward of the adjoining DC of Talunga, this became part of DC of South Rhine. In 1887 the entire DC of Flaxman’s Valley was added to South Rhine. During World War One, the Council’s name South Rhine was officially changed to DC of Springton on 27 June 1918 in accordance with the Enemy Names Act and the Nomenclature Act. 108

‘Mount Pleasant District Council came into being... as a consequence of a series of re-arrangements carried out on the recommendation of the Local Government Areas Commission.’ Mt Pleasant DC records (MRG61) held at

107 South Australian Register 23 August 1884.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stepney (DC)</th>
<th>1867-1883</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| This area was part of the first large DC of East Torrens (1853), and was in the portion severed in 1856 to form DC of Payneham (see Payneham). The separate DC of Stepney was formed when detached from Payneham on 25 July 1867. On 2 August 1883 the Corporate Town of St Peters was severed from Stepney. The council’s name was changed back from Stepney to Payneham on 30 August 1883.  
Warburton describes how the first Payneham Council tried to stretch a small rate income to meet the needs of a population ‘growing lopsidedly with the greatest numbers in the two western wards of Hackney and Stepney. Once again discontent was leading to division, until in 1868 the rural District of Campbelltown was severed from the more urban ... District of Stepney’.  
A ‘flagrant democrat’, tea merchant James Zimri Sellar, was elected to the first Stepney DC. In the words of his biographer, Sellar was voluble at public meetings on local government and held fervent socialist beliefs, founding the Adelaide Reform Club and the Homestead League of South Australia, proposing new taxes, the eight-hour day, ‘and everything else on the evolving United Labor Party platform’. He was elected to the Adelaide Council in 1891, and in 1905 to the House of Assembly for Labor. |

109 State Records of South Australia, MRG61 Mount Pleasant District Council - includes South Rhine’s Ledgers Assessment books, 1866-1915 (MRG61/1).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District (DC)</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Wirrega (DC) | 1884-1888 | Formed when proclaimed on 31 July 1884. Under Act 419 of 1887, gazetted on 5 January 1888, the Wirrega District was added to DC of Tatiara (established in 1876).\(^{113}\)  

The following is a list of the new districts proposed to be formed by the Local Government Bill which was introduced into the House of Assembly on Tuesday...  
DISTRICTS ADDED TO... Tatiara—Comprising Tatiara and Wirrega, the hundreds of Parsons and Stirling, those portions of the hundred of Tatiara not included in the heretofore existing district of Tatiara, that portion of the county of MacDonnell north of the hundreds of Binnum and Hynam, and those portions of the county of Buckingham west of the hundred of Wirrega and between the north boundaries of the hundreds of Tatiara and Wirrega and a line being the production east of the north boundary of the hundred of Stirling.\(^{114}\) |
| Yangya (DC) | 1876-1879 | Local government began in the town of Gladstone in 1876 when 21 owners and occupiers of land in the Hundred of Yangya presented a memorial to the Governor, asking that the area be constituted a District Council. DC of Yangya was proclaimed on 10 August 1876. After a further memorial from ratepayers, Yangya was renamed DC of Gladstone on 14 August 1879. The Government appointed the following men as the first councillors: Washington Moorhouse, Michael Slattery Owen, Thomas Joseph Ford, David Thomson, and John Leak.  
On 14 August 1879, following a further memorial from ratepayers, Yangya was renamed DC of Gladstone.\(^{115}\) |
| Yankalilla and Myponga (DC) | 1854-1856 | Local Government was formed in the western part of Fleurieu Peninsula by proclamation constituting the DC of Yankalilla and Myponga on 6 April 1854. Inaugural Councillors were William Randall, Septimane Herbert, GF Day, Thomas Sclanders, and Charles Thomas Hewett, who was elected Chairman at the first meeting of the... |

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\(^{114}\) South Australian Advertiser, 27 July 1887.  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yatala (DC)</th>
<th>1853-1868</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Council (held in Normanville Hotel on 11 April 1854). Jonathon Phillips was appointed as first District Clerk with an annual salary of £45.  

In 1856 areas were severed to form parts of the new DCs of Inman and Rapid Bay (20 March), and the remainder was divided later that year into two separate DCs of Yankalilla and Myponga (23 October).

Yatala (DC) is one of the first five of South Australia’s District Councils, and the first on the Para Plains, proclaimed on 16 June 1853. The original council covered an area of 130 square kilometres, and encompassed what became Walkerville, Klemzig, Prospect, Enfield, Dry Creek and Salisbury. Ratepayers living at the northern and southern ends were dissatisfied and petitioned for division into smaller Districts. North of the Little Para River a new DC was created in 1854 (see Munno Para West). In April 1855, Walkerville ratepayers petitioned to allow a very large part of Yatala to be created as a separate District of Walkerville; the size of the division was opposed by other ratepayers, and on 5 July 1855 a much smaller DC of Walkerville was proclaimed, although it gained additional portions of Yatala District on 1 November 1855 and on 21 April 1859. The difficulty of administering such a large area required Yatala Council’s final division on 18 June 1868 into DCs of Yatala North and Yatala South (the area south of Dry Creek).

The Register reported, in Yatala Council’s last year in 1868:


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119 *South Australian Register* 5 March 1868.
## Part Two: Councils that ceased to exist before publication of the centenary *Civic record 1936*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council</th>
<th>Dates formed, ceased/amalgamated</th>
<th>Historical notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Aldinga (DC)     | 1857-1932                        | Aldinga formed part of the original Council in this area, DC of Willunga (1853), and the first Council meeting was held in the Aldinga area. The name Aldinga was probably a corruption of Dingabledinga, an Aboriginal word meaning plentiful water. Willunga Council’s large area created tensions over the allocation of funds for maintaining roads and jetties. In 1856 residents of the Aldinga area addressed a petition to the Governor alleging that the Council was obstructing their development, and on 21 January 1857 the new District of Aldinga was proclaimed. The township of Aldinga was laid out later that year. On 22 August 1867 five wards were proclaimed. During the economic depression of the 1930s two Local Government Commissions recommended rationalisations of council areas, and as a result, on 12 May 1932, Aldinga again became part of DC of Willunga.\(^{120}\)  

From the *Civic record* of 1921-1923:  
The first Council consisted of Mr. J. Norman (Chairman) and Councillors J. Butterworth, S. White, and P. Ward... The district has an area of 34 square miles and is divided into five Wards, viz., Loud’s Hill, Mill, North, Port, and Sellick’s Hill. The main roads total 13 miles, and district roads 53 miles. Aldinga has a population of 529 persons, and the number of dwelling houses amount to 118.\(^{121}\)  

| Alma Plains (DC) | 1870-1932                        | Severed from DC of Rhynie and DC of Stockport and proclaimed on 8 December 1870. Members of the first Alma Plains Council were J Lawrie (Chairman), D Smyth, J Day, J Connell, G Freebairn and W. Cope (Clerk). On the recommendation of the Local Government Commission concerning small councils, Alma was united with DC of Dalkey to create the new DC of Owen on 12 May 1932.\(^{122}\)  

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### Angas (DC)

**1885-1935**

Formed on 17 September 1885. Following the Local Government Commission’s recommendation to reduce the numbers of small district councils in South Australia, Angas combined with DC of Caurnamount on 21 March 1935 to form DC of Marne.¹²⁴

The *Civic record* (1921-1923) noted that Angas DC ‘has an area of 84,480 acres, 132 square miles...The first section was surveyed about the year 1866, and the Hundred of Angas was named after the late George Fife Angas. The town of Cambrai (formerly Rhine Valley) was surveyed about 40 years ago by the late Captain Abel Skinner. There are 20 dwelling houses, the Implement Factory, large Institute Buildings, and tennis courts - the Council Chambers being part of the Institute Buildings - the Government School and Dwelling, and the Butter Factory.’ The record listed the first and current councillors and clerks. The first Council was: FW Dragmuller, Chairman, and Councillors GA Payne, James Chinner, NV Ferguson, H Pietsch, and the Clerk, J Jackman.¹²⁵

### Apoinga (DC)

**1873-1932**

Formed 6 November 1873, Council held its first meeting on 6 December, and from September 1876 operated from its Council Chambers at Logan Gap. The Hundreds of Bright and Bundey, gazetted in 1875 and 1878, were added to the District in December 1887. On 5 May 1932 Council combined with DC of English (see English) to create the new DC of Robertstown.¹²⁶

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¹²⁸ *The official civic record of South Australia... 1936*, Universal Publicity Company, Adelaide, 1936, p 848.
The State Library of South Australia holds a photograph of the last councillors of the DC of Apoinga.127 Graham Harry Dow, who was Apoinga’s District Clerk, continued in that position for Robertstown after 1932. Johannes Alwin Heinrich, the last Chairman of Apoinga, was elected first Chairman of Robertstown, and is depicted in the 1936 Civic Record.128 Walter Lewis Noske was a fellow Apoinga Councillor and Chairman for three years. He also continued on Council after the amalgamation in 1932, and was Robertstown Chairman for 21 years (1933-1954). As recorded in a later Civic Record, ‘The Council Minute Book of the period pays special tribute to his memory, and the story of the District Council of Robertstown through these years is also the story of Walter Lewis Noske’.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Belalie (DC)</th>
<th>1875-1935</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local government started in this region with the creation of the DC of Belalie on 11 November 1875, comprising the whole of the Hundred of Belalie including the township of Jamestown. The Corporate Town of Jamestown was detached 25 July 1878. Part of the DC of Gladstone was added 16 July 1925. Following the Local Government Commission’s recommendation to reduce the numbers of small district councils in South Australia, on 21 March 1935 DC Belalie was combined with part of DC of Yongala and DC of Caltowie as DC of Jamestown (a small portion of the former Belalie council was annexed to DC of Hallett).129 The Civic record 1921-1923 entry on Belalie Council noted that ‘Belalie was laid out in 1871, but the then Governor...caused this name to give way to Jamestown, although it was retained as regards an appellation of a District Council.’ This entry includes a photograph of Belalie Council Chamber with the date ‘1900’ on the facade (the year of construction).130 Thomas Mitchell, a Canowie Plains farmer who served a term on Belalie DC, was a founder (in 1888) and managing director of the South Australian Farmers’ (later Co-operative) Union Ltd.131 The Civic record depicted Richard Rowe, a resident and former Mayor of Jamestown, who ‘for 22 years has held the office of Clerk of the District Council of Belalie’.132 Michael James Cronin, a farmer of Bundaleer, was a Belalie Councillor from 1927,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


and a councillor on the succeeding Jamestown Council until 1949 (and Chairman 1937-1947, as well as President of the Northern District Councils and Corporations Association and executive member of the Local Government Association).\(^\text{133}\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Belvidere (DC)</th>
<th>1866-1932</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Created on 13 December 1866, and absorbed into DC of Kapunda on 12 May 1932.(^\text{134})</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The entry on DC Belvidere in the *Civic record* 1921-1923 observed that ‘the greater part of the marble stone used in the erection of Parliament House, Adelaide, was obtained from Belvidere, where there are still large quantities of the stone, but unfortunately it is being put to no better use than road metal at the present time’; that there were no townships within the district, and that the District was proclaimed in 1866 and the first Council meeting held on 17 of December of that year, ‘Councillors present being Messrs. Flavey (Chairman), McNamara, Kerr, Fyfe, and Keikebrisch’. Council business was conducted at Dimchurch until 1875, when the Chamber (depicted in the *Civic record*) was built at Koonunga. JP O’Shea had held the position of Clerk of the District Council for 21 years, ‘having succeeded his father to that office’.\(^\text{135}\)

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\(^{134}\) *The civic record of South Australia: 1921-1923*, Associated Publishing Service (Aust.), Adelaide, 1924, pp 703, 705.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Benara (DC)</strong></th>
<th>1885-1932</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Gazetted on 19 November 1885 (comprising the Hundred of Benara). The name derived from Pen -ay-era, a local Bung-an-ditj Aboriginal term meaning twigs or leaves of trees. The first Council’s meeting and temporary office was at Mr Kennedy’s residence, Coola station. Other meetings were held in the Mount Gambier Hotel.**

On 12 May 1932 part of DC Benara was annexed to the DC of Tantanoola, and the rest was absorbed into DC of Port MacDonnell (formed in 1869), and became Benara Ward. At the first meeting of the new Council, held on 23 May 1932, Cr Keith Macrow, Chairman of the old Port MacDonnell Council, was elected to head the newly amalgamated body and welcomed Councillors from the former DC of Benara.

John Livingston, a prominent stock-dealer and politician, was an early member of DC of Benara. In 1899 he was Mayor at Mount Gambier before being elected in that year to the House of Assembly, and was later was active in getting a railway extension from Mount Gambier to Glencoe. William Edkins, stud manager at Coola Station, was a member of Benara Council from 1917, through the amalgamation with Port MacDonnell, and was Chairman of that Council 1936-1945. Known as ‘Leggings Edkins’ because he habitually wore jodhpurs and leggings, he was described as one of the best chairmen to lead a council.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Booborowie (DC)</strong></th>
<th>1875-1935</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Created on 6 May 1875, two years before the Township of Booborowie was proclaimed (1877). The notice of formation included the names of the first councillors: R Giles, S Pearce, J Spencer, T Hastie, and J Finch. Following the Local Government Commission’s recommendation to reduce the numbers of small DCs in South Australia, on 21 March 1935 (to take effect 1 May 1935) the Council was discontinued and parts were added to DCs of Terowie and Hallett and the remainder joined with DCs of Burra, Hanson and Mount Bryan to form new**

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140 *South Australian Register* 7 May 1875.
| **Booyoolie (DC)** | **1876-1932** | Booyoolie was the government town of a dual settlement with the private township of Gladstone (this was adopted as the name of the combined towns in 1939). DC of Booyoolie was formed on 2 March 1876, comprising the whole of the Hundred of Booyoolie, that included the townships of Stone Hut, Laura, North Gladstone and Booyoolie. As was customary, the Government appointed the first councillors, and at the first meeting, held at the Laura Hotel on 13 March 1876, John Cook became Chairman. In 1879 portion of the Council was severed to the DC of Yangya. In 1880 ratepayers in the southern part of Booyoolie presented a memorial to the Governor asking for their area to be added to DC of Gladstone, and this was granted on 12 August 1880. On 22 June 1882 the Corporate Town of Laura was detached.

In 1893 (期间 a severe depression), the Council made representations to the Government for purchase of land for Working Men’s Blocks, and Section 456 was bought and divided into blocks of 4 to 4.8 hectares, which came to be known as the Laura Blocks.

In 1931 the Local Government Commission proposed the merger of the two Gladstone Councils, Booyoolie, |

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| Bremer (DC) | 1854-1935 | In 1854 the Governor received a petition from landowners in the Hundreds of Bremer and Alexandrina for the formation of a council under the District Councils Act, 1852. The DC of Bremer (at Milang) was duly proclaimed on 14 December 1854. William Bowman, Alexander Stark, Isaac Coad, John Cheriton and William Parker were the first councillors. On 22 May 1856 the DC of Alexandrina was severed, and on 31 May 1894 the DC of Brinkley was severed. On 21 March 1935 the remaining DC of Bremer was absorbed into the DC of Strathalbyn, along with the DC of Onaung and portions of the DCs of Brinkley and Kondoparinga.  
DC Strathalbyn was established in 1854, became a municipality in 1868, and in 1935 absorbed the neighbouring DCs. James Richardson continued as Strathalbyn’s Mayor, while EE Newell, Bremer Council’s Clerk, was appointed as District Overseer, retaining that role for 20 years until his retirement in 1955.

| Brinkley (DC) | 1894-1935 | Formed on 31 May 1894 when severed from DC of Bremer (formed in 1854). Centred on the town of Langhorne Creek. In 1924 the DC was divided into wards. On 21 March 1935, on the recommendation of the Local Government Areas Commission, Brinkley disappeared when divided and added to other councils. Part of Brinkley Council area was added to DC of Onaung and the rest was absorbed by DC of Mobilong.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Burra (DC)</strong></td>
<td>1872-1935</td>
<td>Created on 28 November 1872. On 29 October 1874 the DC of Mount Bryan was detached, and on 29 June 1876 the Corporate Town of Burra was detached. On 21 March 1835 Burra DC combined with DCs of Booboorowie, Hanson and Mount Bryan to form the new DC of Burra Burra. There was a single entry under ‘Corporation and District Council of Burra’ in the Civic record of 1921-1923, and individual councillors depicted included Norman Hiles Pearse, ‘a member of King Ward of the Burra District Council for eight years, and for the past two years has occupied the Chair of that Council. He is also a member of the Apoinga District Council’. Arthur Albert Davey had been District Clerk for the past 12 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Caltowie (DC)</strong></td>
<td>1878-1935</td>
<td>Commenced on 28 February 1878. The Register’s notice of formation included the names of the first appointed councillors: Thomas Williams, James H Craig, George Robinson, Alexander McAllum, and John Williams. Caltowie amalgamated with DC of Belalie to create new DC of Jamestown on 1 May 1935.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Caurnamont (DC)</strong></td>
<td>1885-1935</td>
<td>Formed on 25 June 1885. ‘Caurnamont’ was derived from an Aboriginal term signifying the ‘high cliffs’ for which this part of the River Murray River is noted. Following the Local Government Commission’s recommendation to reduce the numbers of small councils in South Australia, on 21 March 1935 the DC of Caurnamont was abolished; part of its territory (the southern part of the Hundred of Bowhill), was added to DC of Karoonda (formed in 1922), and the remainder was combined with DC of Angas to create the new DC of Marne. The first Caurnamont Council meeting was held on 10 July 1885, and G Gilmour was elected Chairman, with Councillors W Day, CA Preiss, J Bottroff, C Putland and H Putland (Clerk). Council meetings were held at Robert Thomson’s house at Caurnamont, until a Council Chamber was built in 1896 at Walker’s Flat.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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| **Clarendon (DC)** | 1853-1935 | Established on 10 November 1853. Following the Local Government Commission’s recommendation to reduce the numbers of small district councils, parts were annexed to DCs of Noarlunga, Willunga and Stirling, and the remainder amalgamated with the DCs of Kondoparinga, Echunga and Macclesfield to form new DC of Meadows.  
156
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| **Coglin (DC)** | 1887-1935 | Gazetted 5 January 1888 (under Act 419 of 1887). The first Council meeting was held on 2 March in the hotel in the township of Lancelot. Meetings were then held alternately in the townships of Lancelot and Dawson until 1899, and then at Penn (later called Oodla Wirra). Following the Local Government Commission’s recommendation to reduce the numbers of small district councils, Coglin combined in March 1935 (to take effect 1 May 1935) with DC of Yongala to form DC of Peterborough.  
157
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| **Crafers (DC)** | 1858-1935 | Formed on 25 February 1858 - severed from south-eastern portion of original DC of East Torrens (formed in 1853). On 21 March 1935 parts were annexed by the DCs of East Torrens and Onkaparinga, and the southern part was absorbed by DC of Stirling.  
159
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158 State Records of South Australia, GA1808 Coglin District Council. Records are also held in the group, MRG675 for the successor Peterborough Council, including Coglin Council minutes, Assessment books, 1887 - 1939 (MRG75/21), and Dawson cemetery leases receipt book 1909 - 1953 (MRG75/32).
transferring to Stirling when it absorbed Crafers Council in 1935. A new Crafers Ward was formed, and he represented his ward in 1935-1938 and 1946-1954, and was Chairman 1951-1954.  

| Dalkey (DC) | 1875-1932 | Proclaimed on 25 March 1875. The first councillors were R Spotswood (Chairman), Traeger, J Fisher, G Gibbs and Mr Hill. J Spotswood was requested to take the clerkship until after elections in July. A Council Chamber was built in 1882. On 12 May 1932 Dalkey was united with DC of Alma Plains to form the new DC of Owen. In 1879, Richard Wood senior, Chairman of Dalkey Council, was instrumental in having a railway station erected by the Government in the District. |
| Dalrymple (DC) | 1877-1932 | Formed 18 October 1877 (consisting of the Hundred of Dalrymple). On 12 May 1932 Dalrymple was united with the Corporation of Yorketown and DC of Melville to create the new DC of Yorketown. The following letter was published in the Register in 1885: **THE RABBIT PLAGUE**
**TO THE EDITOR**
Sir— In your paper of recent date there appeared a letter with the above heading, signed ‘A Stansburyite.’ One of the statements contained in his letter was that he had applied to the District Council (to clear the rabbits, I suppose), and they would not interfere. I have been Chairman of the Dalrymple District Council from its formation, with the exception of last year, and I beg to state that the Council have only received one application to destroy rabbits... There has been no application from any... |

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one living at Stansbury to destroy rabbits, as the minutes of Council will show. I can say any one applying to the Council has always received due consideration, and for the future I would advise ‘A Stansburyite’ to make statements more in accordance with facts ...
In justice to the Dalrymple District Council I would ask you to insert this.
I am, Sir, &c,
GEO. SHERRIFF, Chairman of the Dalrymple District Council.\(^{164}\)

| **Davenport (M)** | 1888-1932 | Created 25 August 1887, gazetted 1888. This was one of three corporations at Port Augusta in the late nineteenth century: Corporations of Port Augusta, Port Augusta West and Davenport. Davenport municipality ceased to exist on 28 April 1932 when united with Corporate Town of Port Augusta West and part of DC of Woolundunga, and added to Corporate Town of Port Augusta.\(^{165}\) |
| **Dublin (DC)** | 1873-1935 | Formed 7 November 1873. The *Government Gazette* notice of Dublin Council’s formation named Noble Johnson, Weatherall Lindsay, William Wilson, John Lines, Richard J Loveday, and George Arnold as the first councillors.\(^{166}\) Following the Local Government Commission’s recommendation to reduce the numbers of small district councils, on 21 March 1935 Dublin Council combined with DCs of Port Gawler and Grace to form the second DC of Light (the first was formed in 1867).\(^{167}\) |
| **Echunga (DC)** | 1853-1935 | Gold was discovered at Echunga in 1852 and mining led to an increase in population. The DC was proclaimed on 22 October 1853. On 25 October 1883 a portion of the District was detached and joined to part of the neighbouring DC of Mitcham to form the new DC of Stirling. On 21 March 1935, on the recommendation of the Local Government Areas Commission, parts of Echunga and Macclesfield were amalgamated to form DC of |

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\(^{164}\) *South Australian Register* 14 September 1885.


\(^{166}\) Reported in *South Australian Advertiser* 29 November 1873.

Mount Barker (which was expanded to an area four times its previous size). The rest of Echunga combined with Kondoparinga, Macclesfield and part of Clarendon to form the new DC of Meadows.\(^{168}\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English (DC)</th>
<th>1878-1932</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Created 31 October 1878, and comprised the Hundred of English (gazetted 1866). Although Robertstown was the largest town in the area the Council built its office at Point Pass in 1887. The District was one of many overrun by feral rabbits as they moved eastwards across the country, and in 1879 a newspaper report on proceedings in Parliament noted that, ‘A petition was presented by Mr. Moody from the District Council of English, praying that the clause in the Rabbit Bill compelling owners to destroy rabbit burrows might not be struck out’.\(^{169}\)

The neighbouring DCs of English and Apoinga (see Apoinga) ‘existed side by side in varying degrees of harmony for over fifty years, and saw the disruptions of the first World War, the erection of the Peace Hall at Robertstown in 1923, and the extension of a reticulated water supply into the District from 1919 through to 1930.’ Then on 5 May 1932 English united with Apoinga to form DC of Robertstown.\(^{170}\).  

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</table>
| Gawler South (DC)| 1899-1933| Formed 14 September 1899, when severed from DC of Munno Para West (formed in 1854). Combined with part of that DC and added to Corporate Town of Gawler on 22 June 1933.  
From the *Advertiser* in 1929:  

**THE SONG OF AUSTRALIA**  
*At the last meeting of the Gawler South District Council replies were received to a motion ‘that the members for the district, both Federal and State be requested to use their best endeavor to have “The Song of Australia” proclaimed the national song of Australia.’ Mr. WL Parsons, MHR, wrote promising to support the motion. Senators McLachlan, Chapman, Daly, Hoare, and O’Halloran also promised support... A similar motion was carried by the Gawler council some time ago...*  

172 The *Advertiser* 4 May 1929.  

| Gilbert (DC)      | 1866-1932| Created 5 July 1866. On 12 May 1932 part was added to DC of Kapunda and the rest was united with the DCs of Rhynie and Stockport to form the new DC of Riverton.  
John McInerney, a farmer at Olive Farm, Riverton, was the Chairman (1927-1938) who guided the 1932 amalgamation of the three councils, and was awarded Coronation Honours for his service in 1937.  

The three neighbouring DCs of Gilbert (Riverton), Stockport and Rhynie were gazetted within a year of each other (1865-66), each with five councillors and a clerk. The districts were later divided into wards to allow for better representation. As explained in the *Civic record 1986*,  

*For sixty six years these three Councils toiled independently with the tasks of road-building, issuing licences, maintaining cemeteries and bridges, appointing constables and schoolteachers. The rates barely stretched to cover the expenses. On 12 May 1932, following the trend towards amalgamations for more economical and effective functioning, they united as the District Council of Riverton, with*
headquarters at Riverton. Seven Wards were declared: Stockport, Tarlee, Navan, Peters Hill, Rhynie, Wakefield and Riverton, each represented by one councillor. The same division and representation have applied ever since. Council meetings were first held at the Riverton Hotel, and then, on the completion of the Riverton Institute in 1874, the Council used the front room as its office. This situation continued for eighty years until 1954, when the Council Chambers were built and the Council moved to a permanent home.  

| Gladstone (DC) | 1879-1933 | Formed on 14 August 1879 when name was changed from DC of Yangya (see Yangya). Corporate Town of Gladstone was severed from this DC on 8 March 1883. On 16 July portion of DC of Gladstone was added to DC of Belalie. DC of Gladstone was abolished when reunited with Corporate Town of Gladstone on 5 January 1933 (effective on 15 May 1933).  

| Goolwa (M) | 1872-1932 | Township was originally part of District of Encounter Bay, proclaimed on 16 August 1853, and when the District was divided on 20 March 1856, the Hundreds of Goolwa and Nangkita were proclaimed on 5 June as DC of Port Elliot and Goolwa. Following a successful petition by ratepayers Goolwa was severed from that Council and proclaimed a Corporation on 19 December 1872. On 12 May 1932 the Corporate Towns of Goolwa and Port Elliot were reunited with the DC of Port Elliot.  

Herbert Alexander Armfield, shipwright and slipway owner, served several terms on the Corporation of Goolwa between 1914 and 1932, and was Mayor 1914-1920. He then represented Goolwa Ward on the DC of Port Elliot for two periods between 1932 and 1953, when he retired, and was also Chairman 1935-1938.  

| Grace (DC) | 1874-1935 | Formed on 2 April 1874. On 21 March 1935 united with Port Gawler and Dublin councils to form second DC of Light.  

Richard Butler, who was in 1887-91 a Councillor and sometime Chairman of the DC of Grace, was elected to the House of Assembly in 1890, and was soon a minister, Treasurer, and in 1905, Premier of South Australia. He was knighted in 1913.  

Hall (DC)  
1878-1935  
Formed when proclaimed on 14 November 1878. At the first Council meeting on 23 November, William Lane was elected first Chairman, and at the next meeting E Semmens was appointed Clerk for thirty pounds per year. Meetings were held in the Hoyleton Hotel until Council Chambers were built by H Wenzel in Halbury, and the first meeting was held there on 2 March 1889.

In November 1911 the Council was advised that a portion of the Hundred of Hall had been annexed to DC of Balaklava. In the 1930s, the Royal Commission on Local Government areas made several recommendations on amalgamation, all of them opposed by the Hall, but in 1934 the Commission decided that a portion of the District of Hall would go to Blyth and the remainder to Balaklava. DC of Hall ceased to exist when the amalgamations took place on 21 March 1935, and became effective on 1 May.  

Hamilton (DC)  
1868-1932  
The earliest DC in this region was Upper Wakefield (at Auburn) formed in 1855 and later enlarged. On 7 May 1868 the separate DCs of Waterloo, Saddleworth, Black Springs, and Hamilton were all inaugurated. On 12 May 1932, part of Hamilton was annexed to DC of Kapunda, and the rest of the District was united with DCs

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Waterloo, Saddleworth and part of Stanley, and absorbed into DC of Saddleworth (also formed in 1868).

Harold Shephard Rowett was a Councillor for 25 years. He was Chairman of Hamilton Council 1923-1932, and later served on the DC of Saddleworth (1952-1968), including as Chairman (1953-1964). He was a rodeo judge in four states, a life member of the Rough Riders’ association, and a founder of Marrabel Rodeo.

The present (2012) enlarged Council in this region has restored the original name of DC of Upper Wakefield.

| Hammond (DC) | 1893-1933 | The District Councils Act, 1887, created the District Councils of Port Germein, Wilmington and Davenport which came into being on 5 January 1888. On 25 May 1893 the first DC of Wilmington changed its name to Hammond. On 16 February 1933 Hammond united with DC of Woolundunga and part of DC of Port Germein to form the second DC of Wilmington.

| Hanson (DC) | 1872-1935 | Formed on 8 August 1872. United on 21 March 1935 with other DCs to form DC of Burra Burra.

*Burra and district – a pictorial memoir* includes an undated photograph of the seven members of Hanson DC, including James Flower, T Goodridge, John Peake Jr, and Tom Rogers.

Records of DC Hanson are held by State Records of South Australia in the group MRG62 District Council of Burra Burra. DC Burra Burra was created by the amalgamation of the Districts of Burra, Booboorowie, Hanson and Mount Bryan.

| Highercombe (DC) | 1853-1935 | DC of Highercombe was the original local government area, established on 14 July 1853. The DC of Tea Tree Gully was detached on 7 October 1858, and Highercombe was absorbed into DC of Tea Tree Gully on 21 March 1935, returning the council to the 1853 boundaries.

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188 State Records of South Australia, MRG62 District Council of Burra Burra. Includes records of predecessors: Burra DC, 1872-1935; Booboorowie DC, 1875-1935; Hanson DC, 1872-1935; and Mount Bryan DC, 1874-1935. The records include DC Hanson’s Assessment books, 1901-1935 (MRG62/14) and Letters sent, 1901-1923 (MRG62/13).
On 2 August 1853, five Highercombe councillors held their first meeting in the assembly room of the Bremen Hotel. They were: Joseph Ind, Robert Milne, George McEwin, John Gollop and Henry Klopper. Ind (of Little Paradise) and McEwin (of Glen Ewin) were the two men mainly responsible for establishing the Council, but Milne was elected as the first Chairman (1853-56). Edward Prowse was appointed as District Clerk (1853-54). Councillor WH Ind was chairman just prior to the Council’s amalgamation with Tea Tree Gully in 1935. William Haynes, who was later the District’s first resident member of Parliament, was appointed as first keeper of the public pound erected by the new council, which also built council chambers at Steventon (Tea Tree Gully) in 1855 – the first District Council in South Australia to do so. Like all councils then and now, Highercombe Council received its share of ratepayer complaints, protesting the expense of erecting council chambers, against assessments, about road priorities, and that rates were all being spent on the northern side of the district. That protest soon brought a division of the District that was to last for 77 years until reunion with Tea Tree Gully in 1935.

In Auhl’s words, ‘No summary of the work of the District Council of Highercombe would be complete without mention of its best-known clerk, John (to locals, “Johnny”) Gollop.’ Gollop was Clerk from the age of 25 in 1872 until his death at 78 in 1925, a record 52 years in office ‘probably unique in the history of local government in South Australia’. He missed only one council meeting in all of those years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hutt and Hill Rivers (DC)</th>
<th>1885-1935</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Created on 30 July 1885. On 8 April 1909, 16 square miles were severed and added to DC of Snowtown. On 21 March 1935 the council was discontinued by its division between three neighbouring districts: parts were annexed to DCs of Spalding and Clare, and the rest was annexed to DC of Blyth.</td>
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The DC of Clare was the first council formed (1853) in South Australia’s northern districts, and became a corporation 15 years later, and the town of Clare was the commercial centre for much of the north.\(^{193}\) Amalgamation with part of the DC of Stanley (1932) and with Hutt and Hill Rivers (1935) increased the area of Clare District from 23.32 square kilometres to 64 square kilometres.\(^{194}\)

| **Julia (DC)** | 1874-1932 | Formed when proclaimed on 3 September 1874. On 12 May 1932 united with DC of Neales to form DC of Eudunda.\(^{195}\) From *The Register* in 1925: ‘A COWARDLY SPORT.’ Mr. McLachlan referred the House of Assembly on Wednesday to a letter from the District Council of Julia regarding the dangerous practice of motor parties shooting on the public roads at night time by the aid of spot lights. He asked if the Government would take steps to prevent the cowardly sport, which was becoming all too prevalent. The Premier (Hon. J. Gunn) said he would certainty take the matter into consideration.\(^{196}\) |
| **Kennion (DC)** | 1886-1932 | Proclaimed on 23 December 1886. On 12 May 1932, As recommended by the Local Government Commission, portion of the District was transferred to DC of Lucindale and the rest was absorbed into DC of Beachport.\(^{197}\) Beachport Council then consisted of two wards, Beachport Ward, and Kennion Ward, which comprised the |

\(^{196}\) *The Register* 13 August 1925.
\(^{197}\) State Records of South Australia, MRG16 District Council of Kennion (see also MRG20 District Council of Beachport); Robbins, EJ, and Robbins, JR, *A glossary of local government areas in South Australia 1840-1985*, Historical Society of South Australia, Adelaide, 1987 [p 18].
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Kennion’s District Clerk was Donald Campbell, who was also an engineer, a politician, and owner of the *Millicent Times*, although his attacks in that newspaper on local landed proprietors brought him disfavour.  
199

Keyneton (DC) | 1918-1933 | Originally the DC of North Rhine (created on 27 November 1873), renamed DC of Keyneton on 30 May 1918 (as recorded in Council minutes, 22 June 1918). Keyneton annexed the Hundred of Fisher and the Hundred of Nildottie from DC of Swan Reach on 7 September 1933, and then on 18 September 1933, amalgamated with Swan Reach to become DC of Keyneton and Swan Reach. DC of Keyneton had its last meeting on 23 September 1933.  
200

Arthur Henry Evans who joined Keyneton Council in 1924 (or possibly earlier), remained Chairman from 1924 through the amalgamation until 1937.  
201

Kondoparinga (DC) | 1853-1935 | In the earliest group of DCs established in South Australia, proclaimed on 22 October 1853. The published notice of the new Council included its boundaries and the names if the first councillors: George Vickery, John Thomas Scown, Duncan Cameron, Thomas Jones, and James Stone.  
202

Part of DC of Willunga was added on 25 July 1878. Kondoparinga eased to exist on 21 March 1935 (taking effect on 1 May) when amalgamated with three other DCs, Echunga, Clarendon and Macclesfield, to form the new DC of Meadows.  
203

Kulpara (DC) | 1878-1932 | At a meeting held in the Travellers Rest hotel in 1878, 40 residents signed a petition opposing any part of the Hundred of Kulpara being included in the proposed DC of Port Wakefield. Despite a counter-petition arguing

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202 *South Australian Register* 24 October 1853.

that Port Wakefield was the natural outlet for Kulpara produce, separate councils were established, and the DCs of Kulpara, Port Wakefield and Clinton all commenced on 28 November 1878. Kadina Council’s Paskeville Ward was annexed to Kulpara on 1 July 1890, which brought the whole of the Hundred of Kulpara under control of that Council, which was then divided into three wards (18 September 1890). On 12 May 1932, as part of the rationalisation of local government areas in South Australia, Kulpara Council ceased to exist when its Paskeville ward was returned to DC of Kadina and the rest was absorbed into DC of Ninnes (see also Ninnes).  

The name Kulpara was derived from an Aboriginal term for ‘Water in the Head’. The first Kulpara councillors appointed in 1878 were Paul Daniel, J Durdin (the elder), Robert Hamdorf, JP Spry, and James Hall (replaced by WA Young), and at a meeting on 23 December 1878, Spry was elected Chairman, and James Willshire, Clerk and Overseer. Council meetings were held at the Travellers rest hotel; in 1902, the council built Kulpara Hall as its own meeting place. Robert Cowan, who was the third Kulpara District Clerk (1888-1914), was also District Clerk of Ninnes (1886-1913), and was followed as Kulpara District Clerk by his son, Roy Cowan. J Millard, who was a Councillor for Kulpara 1921-1932, and then Kulpara Ward representative on the DC of Bute, 1932-1944, did not miss a council meeting for 23 consecutive years. The longest-serving Chairman was FT Angel (1891-1916), and WH Daniel was the last Kulpara Chairman (1928-1932).

As Paterson and Price write in their history, most district council income was spent on roads, as scrub land was being turned over to wheat-growing and farmers demanded roads to help shift their harvests. Struggling farmers and labourers from all over the district became the first roadmakers, paid by council to cut tracks, grub stumps and erect fences and guard posts on bridges. The DCs of Kulpara and later, Ninnes, worked hard to establish local roads, setting aside reserves for stone and gravel pits, and buying a stone roller. ‘The District Council of Kulpara stopped all their road works in September 1891, until their overdraft was paid off, and the Clerk was instructed to... watch for the illegal removal of stone and sand from the roadsides.’

205 RM (Ros) Paterson, email to Susan Marsden, 1 May 2012.
| Laura (M) | 1882-1932 | Formed 22 June 1882 when severed from DC of Booyoolie; officers of the new corporation were sworn in at the institute on 24 June: Mayor — N Walter, Councillors—Forsaith, Adamson; Westward, Gilddon, Wilson, Farrar and Whittell; Anditors—Shepley and Bastard; and Mr Bastard was acting town clerk. On 28 April 1932 amalgamated with Booyoolie to form DC of Laura. |
| Light (DC) (2) | 1935-1937 | There have been three separate districts called Light. The span of the original DC of Light was 1867-1892; see also Light (DC) (1). The second DC of Light was created on 21 March 1935 by the amalgamation of the DCs of Port Gawler, Grace and Dublin, but the Council was renamed DC of Mallala on 15 April 1937. The third DC of Light was not formed until 1977 when the DCs of Freeing and Mudla Wirra amalgamated. The second DC of Light began operations on 1 May 1935. At the first meeting of the amalgamated Council on 8 May 1935 all 15 of the councillors of the previous Port Gawler, Dublin and Grace Councils attended, and at the next meeting Edmund Brooks, a former Port Gawler Councillor, was elected Chairman. |
| Macclesfield (DC) | 1853-1935 | In the earliest group of DCs established in South Australia, proclaimed on 22 October 1853 after a memorial of ratepayers was published in the Government Gazette wishing to avail themselves of the new District Councils Act of 1853. On 1 May 1935, on the recommendation of the Local Government Areas Commission, Macclesfield was amalgamated with DCs of Clarendon, Echunga and Kondoparinga to form the new DC of Meadows, and part of Macclesfield’s Battunga Ward was annexed to the DC of Mount Barker. DC Macclesfield met for the last time on 30 May 1935, and its Chairman, Gilbert Penna, was elected as the Councillor for the Macclesfield Ward. |

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208 *The South Australian Advertiser* 26 June 1882.
First Macclesfield council members in 1853 were Robert Davenport (Chairman), JT Scown, H Linn, and F Krichauff, and meetings were first held at the Davenport Arms Hotel.\footnote{Both, RS, ‘The local council town, 1853-1935’, in J Faull, ed., \textit{Macclesfield – reflections along the Angas}, Macclesfield Historical Book Committee, Adelaide, 1980, pp 97-103, 112-118; Robbins, EJ, and Robbins, JR, \textit{A glossary of local government areas in South Australia 1840-1985}, Historical Society of South Australia, Adelaide, 1987 [p 13]; Marsden, S, ‘Wonderful histories: the City of Onkaparinga’, in \textit{McLaren Vale: Trott’s View}, Wakefield Press, Adelaide, 2007, pp 11, 24.} Road-making was the Council’s main function, the route of roads was determined by council vote, unswayed by individual owners. Even the Chairman, Davenport, on several occasions had his objections over-ruled when Council voted to put roads through land he owned (his family was the major land-holder in the district).\footnote{Both, RS, ‘The local council town, 1853-1935’, in J Faull, ed., \textit{Macclesfield – reflections along the Angas}, Macclesfield Historical Book Committee, Adelaide, 1980, pp 97-99.}

Friedrich Eduard Heinrich Wulf Krichauff, who was elected to the first DC of Macclesfield in 1854 and of Strathalbyn in 1856, was chairman of both councils for several years, and was also elected to Parliament in 1857. After re-election in 1870 he became Commissioner of Public Works. He was also a farmer, a botanist – who promoted reafforestation - a land agent and a writer. A mountain range in Central Australia is named after him.\footnote{O’Neill, S, ‘Krichauff, Friedrich Eduard Heinrich Wulf (1824–1904)’, \textit{Australian Dictionary of Biography}, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/krichauff-friedrich-eduard-heinrich-wulf-3973/text6273, viewed April 2012.}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Melville (DC)</th>
<th>1875-1932</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Formed on 2 December 1875, the council area comprised Hundred of Melville and part of Hundred of Moorowie. On 6 February 1879, Corporate Town of Yorketown separated, and on 12 January 1882 Corporate Town of Edithburgh separated. On 12 May 1932 Melville ceased to exist when parts were added to Warooka and the rest was united with DC of Dalrymple and Municipality of Yorketown to form DC of Yorketown.\footnote{Robbins, EJ, and Robbins, JR, \textit{A glossary of local government areas in South Australia 1840-1985}, Historical Society of South Australia, Adelaide, 1987 [p 21]; State Records of South Australia, GA1721 District Council of Melville (see also GA1721 District Council of Dalrymple).}</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As described in the \textit{Civic Record} 1986, ‘The era of large pastoral runs on Yorke Peninsula came to an end when the country was opened up for farming in the 1870s’. With closer settlement townships were formed, and the ‘first effective move to establish Local Government in the area came in 1875’, when, after petition and counter-petition, the DC of Melville was gazetted. Council minutes (19 August 1876) record a petition from residents in the Hundred of Dalrymple praying for annexation to Melville, but a new DC of Dalrymple was formed instead in 1877 (see Dalrymple). Yorketown followed (1879), and then in ‘a period of intense rivalry...
between growing communities and conflict between town and country interests, it was only natural that Edithburgh should follow suit.’ (1882) The District Councils Act brought further changes to Council boundaries, and Melville gained the north-east portion of the Hundred of Moorowie. The Royal Commission into Local Government Areas met in Yorketown in January 1931, and ‘appeared to have predetermined that the four existing Councils should become one body’. This was strongly opposed by Yorketown and Edithburgh Councils and the Government finally approved a new District Council of Yorketown comprising the DCs of Dalrymple and Melville and the Yorketown Corporation.  

Ernest Edwin Lloyd was the longest-serving District Clerk in the area, and was employed by three councils over 39 years. He was Town Clerk of Yorketown (1914-1932), and District Clerk of Melville (1929-1932), and then of Yorketown (1932-1953, the year of his death).

**Minnenpa (DC)**

| 1925-1932 | Formally constituted on 28 May 1925 and the first meeting was held at Wudinna in June 1925. In 1925 part of DC of Streaky Bay was added. In September 1926 the District was divided into seven Wards: Warrambo, Kyancutta, Wudinna, Pygery, Minnipa, Yaninee, and Carina. On 20 October 1932 there was a change of name to DC of Le Hunte, after Sir George Ruthven Le Hunte, Governor of South Australia, who had proclaimed the County of Le Hunte in 1908. In March 1925 minutes of a meeting recorded that ‘delegates from Minnipa, Yaninee, Pygery, Wudinna, Warrambo and the District comprising the Hundreds of Condada, Carina and Travers are in favour of forming a District Council comprising the County of Le Hunte, excepting Pinbong and other unsurveyed Hundreds and including Condada, Carina and Travers, outside of Le Hunte.’ The council was formally constituted on 28 May 1925, and the first elected Councillors were EJ Turley (Chairman), T Knight, W Mitchell, AW Christian, CJ Rowen, EJD Oswald and EB Smith. LW Vawser was appointed Clerk Overseer. As elsewhere, members of the Council also constituted the Local Board of Health and – apart from the usual

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council duties - administered various government Acts, including drought relief, erecting vermin proof fencing, controlling sand drift. As the authors of *Grain amid granite* write, ‘The early years of Council proved difficult. Newly settled areas grants were received, but considered totally inadequate because of the general drought conditions and the difficulty of collecting rates... it appeared certain sections would be abandoned as drought and depression took its toll’.  

Monarto (DC) 1882-1935 Proclaimed on 5 October 1882 when Monarto District was severed from Nairne District. On 21 March 1935, on the recommendation of the Local Government Areas Commission, part of Onaunga Council was severed and added to DC of Monarto, which was then absorbed by DC of Mobilong.

Morphett Vale (DC) 1853-1932 In the earliest group of District Councils established in South Australia, proclaimed on 10 November 1853; part detached to form DC of Noarlunga on 20 August 1856; remainder absorbed on 12 May 1932 into DC of Noarlunga (together with part of DC of Clarendon).

In September 1853 a petition signed by 105 residents requested the formation of their first Council, the District of Morphett Vale, and the appointment of the first council members: John Warnock, John Reynell, Thomas Bell Kelly, William Sheriff, and Edward Bradley. The Council was formed in November and met within a fortnight. Reynell was appointed Chairman, Bradley was authorised to act as Clerk, and Kelly was appointed Treasurer. A government grant of £200 (200 pounds) covered preliminary expenses. In the early years of local government in South Australia, rates were declared by a general meeting of ratepayers. The first was held in 1854 when Morphett Vale residents, unimpressed by taxing themselves, voted for a rate of ¼ penny in the pound instead of the alternative one shilling (12 pennies) in the pound, which yielded the council below £4, less than the cost of collection.
Council meetings were held in the Morphett Vale Court House and at the Emu Hotel, then at the Morphett Vale Institute, until Council Chambers were built at Morphett Vale in 1924. A photograph of the chambers is held in the Onkaparinga Local History Collection.

Dissatisfaction with Council boundaries in 1856 brought a petition from Horseshoe (Noarlunga) residents to form a new council, and despite objection from Morphett Vale that the district was already too small, and from Willunga protesting the loss of part of that district, portions of both councils were detached to form the new DC of Noarlunga on 20 August 1856 (gazetted on the following day). The two Councils operated side by side until 12 May 1932 when DC of Morphett Vale was absorbed into DC of Noarlunga, along with part of DC of Clarendon.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mount Bryan (DC)</th>
<th>1874-1935</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District was part of original DC of Burra (formed in 1872), and Mount Bryan Council was created when detached from Burra on 29 October 1874. On 21 March 1935 Mount Bryan amalgamated with three other DCs, Booboorowie, Burra, and Hanson, to form new DC of Burra Burra.</td>
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From the entry on the DC of Mount Bryan in the *Civic record* of 1921-1923:


> Isaac James Warnes, J.P ...has, during his residence of Mount Bryan, taken an active part in the public life of the district and for 26 years has been associated with the District Council, the latter 15 years as Chairman.

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| **Mount Crawford (DC)** | 1854-1935 | Created 8 June 1854. On 21 March 1935 most of the Council was absorbed into DC of Barossa and the remainder was added to DC of Gumeracha.\(^{230}\)

William Benjamin Rounsevell, who owned the pastoral property Corryton Park and also South Australia’s chief coaching service, sat on both the Adelaide and Mount Crawford councils, was elected to the House of Assembly, and was Treasurer as well as Commissioner of Public Works.\(^{231}\) |
<table>
<thead>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mount Gambier East (DC)</strong></td>
<td>1864-1932</td>
<td>This was originally part of the first DC of Mount Gambier, covering the Hundreds of Blanche and Gambier, gazetted on 4 June 1863. The District was divided into separate East and West councils on 22 December 1864. Mount Gambier East was re-united with an altered Mount Gambier West, to form a single DC of Mount Gambier again, on 23 May 1932.(^{232})</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Mount Gambier West (DC)

| 1864-1932 | This was originally part of the first DC of Mount Gambier, covering the Hundreds of Blanche and Gambier, gazetted on 4 June 1863. The District was divided into separate East and West councils on 22 December 1864. Mount Gambier West was also the Town Council until 25 May 1876 when the Corporate Town of Mount Gambier was detached. WW Watson was Clerk of both Councils. The three Mount Gambier councils operated side by side until boundary changes were again made in 1932. An altered Mount Gambier West was re-united with Mount Gambier East, to form a single DC of Mount Gambier again, on 23 May 1932. The new DC area surrounded the Corporation.  

Anthony Francis Sutton, a grazier, enjoyed a fifty-year record in local government. While on the DC of Mount Gambier West he was twice Chairman (1910-1927 and 1929-1932), and was then Chairman of the re-formed DC of Mount Gambier (1932-1936, 1938-1945, and 1947-1953). Sutton was also founder and Chairman of the South Eastern Local Government Association and State President of the Stockowners Association. |

### Mudla Wirra North (DC)

| 1867-1933 | The Aboriginal derivation of the name Mudla Wirra has been given as either ‘muddy waters’, or ‘a forest where implements are obtained’. The original Mudla Wirra District Council was proclaimed on 19 January 1854, and in 1867 the District was divided in two, as DCs Mudla Wirra North and Mudla Wirra South. On 22 June |

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236 State Records of South Australia, MRG24 Mudla Wirra District Council (1) and successors; Robbins, EJ, and Robbins, JR, *A glossary of local government areas in South Australia 1840-1985*, Historical Society of South Australia, Adelaide, 1987 [p 23].
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Mudla Wirra South (DC)</strong></th>
<th>1867-1933</th>
<th>The original Mudla Wirra District Council was proclaimed on 19 January 1854, and in 1867 the District was divided into two, as DCs of Mudla Wirra North and Mudla Wirra South. On 22 June 1933 the two councils were recombined to form the second DC of Mudla Wirra.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Munno Para West (DC)</strong></td>
<td>1854-1933</td>
<td>Originally part of the first Council on the Para Plains, DC of Yatala proclaimed in 1853 (see Yatala). The original Council covered an area of 130 square kilometres, and ratepayers living at the northern and southern ends were dissatisfied and petitioned for division into smaller Districts. North of the Little Para River the new DC Munno Para West was separated from Yatala and proclaimed on 27 April 1854. On 14 September 1899 portion was taken to form DC of Gawler South (see Gawler South). Council ceased to exist, along with many others in South Australia during the 1930s, when on 22 June 1933 parts were severed and added to DC of Munno Para East and Municipality of Gawler, and the rest combined with Yatala North to form the new DC of Salisbury. The entry in the <em>Civic record... 1921-1923</em> notes the Council’s formation in 1854 and its inclusion of the townships of Virginia, Smithfield, Penfield, Angle Vale, Salisbury North, Gawler Blocks, and St Kilda. The St Kilda and Virginia West Wards were added to the District in 1886. The entry continues, ‘The present Council Chambers was built in 1855, and was originally intended for a chapel. However, it was purchased by the District Council in 1861. Prior to this the meetings were held in the Penfield Hotel (which was then known as the Plow and Harrow, but which has long since been defunct)’. This entry also records that the first Council...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
meeting was held in the year 1857, and the first Chairman was W Wingate, but in the 1986 *Civic record* the date of the first Council meeting is given as 8 May 1854, and James Sparshott was appointed Chairman. Other Councillors were T Long, H Bryant, S Crittenden and W Raymond, and JJ O'Sullivan was Clerk. In 1855, the *South Australian Register* reported on the election of Councillors Patterson, Jaffrey, and Harvey, at the Plough and Harrow, Peachey Belt.\(^{241}\)

The *Civic record... 1921-1923* includes a biography and photograph of George Thomas Bywater, a dairy farmer on the Gawler Blocks, who had represented Lawler Ward as Councillor in Munno Para West DC for 25 years, having also been one of the first Councillors of Gawler South.\(^{242}\)

| Nairne (DC) | 1853-1935 | In the earliest group of DCs established in South Australia, proclaimed on 1 September 1853. On 5 October 1882, DC of Monarto was detached. On 21 March 1935, Nairne was absorbed into DC of Mount Barker (also formed in 1853). In the new Council the Harrowgate Ward united the former Districts of Mount Barker and Nairne. Alec Mills, a farmer and grazier, who was elected to Nairne Council in 1933, continued in the new amalgamated Mount Barker Council in 1935, and was later Chairman.\(^{243}\)

From the entry on DC of Nairne in the *Civic record* of 1921-1923:

> The district was proclaimed a Council in the year 1853, but owing to a fire which occurred in the Council offices in the early eighties, a number of the old records were lost, however, it is known that in 1858, Mr. J.T. Bee was elected Chairman of the Council, and in the same year the district was divided into five Wards.

> The present Council consists of Messrs. T. Hawthorne (Chairman), J. Day, Brice, A. F. Gehrike, J. E. Wooley, and the present Clerk is Mr. J. I. Robinson, who has filled that office for the past 20 years.\(^{244}\)

| Neales (DC) | 1878-1932 | Before the formation of a council, roadworks were carried out in this region by the Midland Road Board, based |

\(^{241}\) *South Australian Register* 12 March 1855.


\(^{244}\) *The civic record of South Australia: 1921-1923*, Associated Publishing Service (Aust.), Adelaide, 1924, p 676.
at Riverton. The first DC (Neales) was formed on 15 August 1878, and included the Hundreds of Neales and English. On 29 August 1878 the first Council meeting was held in a room at the Eudunda Hotel to elect John Hunter as Chairman. The other four Councillors were August Kluske, Christian Frederick Feuerhardt, William Luhr and Ernest Carl Pfitzner, who was elected as the second Chairman at the very next meeting, as Hunter resigned, having decided that he lived too far from Eudunda to give adequate attention to his council duties. The first rate was declared on 21 December 1878 at one shilling in the pound, and the Clerk, Mr Hopkins, was asked to advertise the rate once in English and three times in German.

On 12 May, 1932 Neales was amalgamated with DC of Julia and part of the DC of Morgan to create the new DC of Eudunda. AFP Severin, who had been District Clerk of Neales since 1893, was appointed as Eudunda’s Clerk.245

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ninnes (DC)</th>
<th>1885-1933</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Formed on 16 July 1885, comprising the Hundred of Ninnes. Meetings were held initially at the home of George Francis Ormsby, who along with William Henry Paterson, Henry Duncan O’Halloran, George France Mills, and William Agincourt Stevens, formed the first Council.246</td>
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<tr>
<td>In 1888 the District was enlarged with the additions of the Hundreds of Wiltunga and Tickera, which included the towns of Alford, Bute and Tickera. On 12 May 1932, as part of the general rationalisation of local government areas in South Australia, DC of Kadina absorbed portions of Ninnes and Kulpara councils, and Ninnes absorbed Kulpara. Ninnes Council’s name was changed to Bute on 5 January 1933.247</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Civic record of 1936 observed that: <em>The Council from its inception has jealously guarded the natural timber growing along the roads and takes immediate action against anybody cutting same. The result is that the district is noted for the amount of timber growing along the roads right throughout. Some of the old residents attribute the</em></td>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Para Wirra (DC)</strong></th>
<th>1854-1935</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Formed when proclaimed on 8 June 1854, comprising Hundred of Para Wirra. The main towns in this district were Kersbrook, Chain of Ponds and Millbrook. The Council built chambers at Kersbrook (formerly known as Maidstone) in 1868. On 21 March 1935 Para Wirra council ceased to exist when divided and absorbed into neighbouring councils. Parts of the council district were added to the DCs of Tea Tree Gully and Barossa, and the rest was joined with DC of Talunga and part of DC of Mount Crawford to form new DC of Gumeracha. **250**

From the *Civic record of 1921-1923:*

*The first Council consisted of Messrs. James McGilton (Chairman), J. Trestrail, J. Hooper, F. Symonds, T. Scott, and W. Vercoe (Clerk)... The Council Chamber at Maidstone (Kersbrook) was built in 1868, and meetings are held therein on the first Monday in each month. The present Council consists of Messrs. G.J. [George John] Fullston (Chairman), J.T. Osborn, T.W. Scott, E. Nobes, E.E. Chapman, and M.H. Mills (Clerk).* **251**

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**fertility of the district to the fact that the natural timber has been left wherever possible, and which in their estimation helps to make the rainfall more reliable.** **248**

**Onaunga (DC)** 1861-1935

Proclaimed on 23 May 1861, formed by altering boundaries of DCs of Strathalbyn, Mount Barker, Macclesfield, Kondoparinga, Bremer and Alexandrina. DC was centred on the town of Woodchester. The name ‘Onaunga’ was of Aboriginal derivation, and understood to mean ‘big water hole’. First Councillors were William Richardson, Francis Edwards, David Harvey, Samuel Stanton and Alexander McDonald.

In 1923 there was a population of 386, of whom 128 were ratepayers. On 21 March 1935 part of the Council was severed and added to DC of Monarto (which was then amalgamated into DC of Mobilong), part of DC of Brinkley was added to Onaunga, and two DCs – the altered Onaunga Council and DC of Bremer – were absorbed into DC of Strathalbyn. **249**

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### Port Augusta West (M)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| 1887-1932 | Formed 6 October 1887. On 28 April 1932 amalgamated with Corporate Town of Davenport and portion of DC of Woolundunga and added to Corporate Town of Port Augusta.  
The *Advertiser* reported on 11 February 1926, soon after women were permitted to become town or district clerks in South Australia, ‘Miss Selma Zanker has been appointed town clerk at Port Augusta West. A woman occupies the position of clerk of the District Council of Port Lincoln, but the officials of the Local Government Department know of no other woman town clerk than Miss Zanker. She has a business in Port Augusta, and has done clerical work for local business people. She was once a compositor at Orroroo.’ Selma Zanker was the second female District Clerk in South Australia, the first having been appointed at Port Lincoln.  
James Michael Beerworth, who was the first Mayor of Port Augusta, following the amalgamation of the councils in 1932, had been a councillor of Port Augusta West since 1926 and Mayor since 1927. He also represented the district in both the House of Assembly (elected in 1933) and the Legislative Council (elected in 1939). |

### Port Gawler (DC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</table>
| 1856-1935 | District was originally part of DC of Mudla Wirra (formed in 1854), and Port Gawler was proclaimed on 11 September 1856, when severed from Mudla Wirra. Two Wells, then the only significant town in the District, was the site of the Council office. Two further DCs were formed in the region in 1873 (Dublin) and 1874 (Grace), and the three councils operated independently until 21 March 1935 when they amalgamated to form the second DC of Light.  
Edmund Albert Charles Brooks, a grazier, was elected to the DC of Port Gawler in 1920, retaining the position until 1935, when, following the amalgamation of his Council with Dublin and Grace, he was elected Chairman of the newly-formed DC of Light (later named Mallala). The Chairman’s allowance was five pounds per annum. |

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253 *The Advertiser*, 11 February 1926.

254 *The Mail*, 31 July 1943 (female district clerks).


Brooks was Chairman for 16 years until he retired in 1951, having ‘steered the Council through the difficult years that follow an amalgamation’.  

| Rapid Bay (DC) | 1856-1932 | Originally forming part of the DC of Yankalilla and Myponga (see Yankalilla and Myponga), in 1855, residents of the Rapid Bay area petitioned the Governor that the most westerly part of Fleurieu Peninsula be proclaimed a separate district. The new DC of Rapid Bay was proclaimed on 20 March 1856. There were three wards: Second Valley, Bullaparinga and Cape Jervois. The District’s main township was Second Valley, but the council chambers were situated at Bullaparinga. The other township in the district was Stockyards (name later changed to Delamere). Rapid Bay Council was absorbed into the DC of Yankalilla on 12 May 1932. |

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| Rhynie (DC) | 1866-1932 | Proclaimed 25 October 1865; on 8 December 1870 DC of Alma Plains detached from DCs of Rhynie and Stockport. On 12 May 1932 Council amalgamated with DCs of Gilbert and Stockport to form DC of Riverton.259  
John McInerney, a farmer at Riverton, was the Chairman (1927-1938) who guided the 1932 amalgamation of the three councils.260  
The three neighbouring DCs of Gilbert (Riverton), Stockport and Rhynie were gazetted within a year of each other (1865-66), each with five councillors and a clerk. The districts were later divided into wards to allow for better representation. As explained in the Civic record 1986,  
*For sixty six years these three Councils toiled independently with the tasks of road-building, issuing licences, maintaining cemeteries and bridges, appointing constables and schoolteachers. The rates barely stretched to cover the expenses. On 12 May 1932, following the trend towards amalgamations for more economical and effective functioning, they united as the District Council of Riverton, with headquarters at Riverton. Seven Wards were declared: Stockport, Tarlee, Navan, Peters Hill, Rhynie, Wakefield and Riverton, each represented by one councillor. The same division and representation have applied ever since.*  
*Council meetings were first held at the Riverton Hotel, and then, on the completion of the Riverton Institute in 1874, the Council used the front room as its office. This situation continued for eighty years until 1954, when the Council Chambers were built and the Council moved to a permanent home.*261 |
| Springton (DC) | 1918-1935 | The DC was originally named South Rhine, formed in 1865 (see also South Rhine). The name DCounc of South Rhine (also referred to as DC of Jutland) was officially changed on 27 June 1918 to DC of Springton, in accordance with the Enemy Names Act and the Nomenclature Act. The name was retained until 1935 when |

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the DCs of Springton and Tungkillo combined with parts of the DCs of Mannum and Mobilong to form the new DC of Mount Pleasant. Mount Pleasant District Council came into being... as a consequence of a series of re-arrangements carried out on the recommendation of the Local Government Areas Commission.

From the entry on DC of Springton in the Civic record of 1921-1923:


Harvey Angle Rogers, described as a Councillor for the past 20 years, was a son of Henry Rogers, who had been Springton’s District Clerk for 25 years.

Stanley (DC) 1868-1932

Proclaimed 30 April 1868, extended when DC of Black Springs was added by Act 419 of 1887 (gazetted 5 January 1888). On 12 May 1932 portion was added to DC of Saddleworth and the rest was absorbed (together with part of the DC of Hutt and Hill Rivers) into DC of Clare.

The earliest DC in this region was Upper Wakefield (at Auburn) formed in 1855 and later enlarged. In 1868 the separate DCs of Stanley, Black Springs, Waterloo, Saddleworth and Auburn were all inaugurated (part of Upper Wakefield Council was taken to form the DC of Stanley). Further re-divisions and amalgamations soon followed: in 1888 DC of Black Springs was added to Stanley. Another re-division instead added the old Black Springs District to DC of Waterloo in 1890.

The present (2012) enlarged Council in this region has restored the original name of Upper Wakefield.

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263 State Records of South Australia, MRG61 Mount Pleasant District Council. Includes records of the following District Councils: South Rhine, later Springton (1918-1935), Flaxman’s Valley, Monarto and Tungkillo. These include Springton’s Assessment books, 1920-1940 (MRG61/5), and a 1922 Map of the District of Springton (MRG61/45).


| **Stockport (DC)** | 1865-1932 | Proclaimed 23 November 1865; on 8 December 1870 DC of Alma Plains detached from DCs of Rhynie and Stockport. On 12 May 1932 Council amalgamated with DCs of Gilbert and Rhynie to form DC of Riverton. John McInerney was the Chairman (1927-1938) who guided the amalgamation.

The three neighbouring DCs of Gilbert (Riverton), Stockport and Rhynie were gazetted within a year of each other (1865-66), each with five councillors and a clerk. The districts were later divided into wards to allow for better representation. As explained in the *Civic record 1986*,

> For sixty six years these three Councils toiled independently with the tasks of road-building, issuing licences, maintaining cemeteries and bridges, appointing constables and schoolteachers. The rates barely stretched to cover the expenses. On 12 May 1932, following the trend towards amalgamations for more economical and effective functioning, they united as the District Council of Riverton, with headquarters at Riverton. Seven Wards were declared: Stockport, Tarlee, Navan, Peters Hill, Rhynie, Wakefield and Riverton, each represented by one councillor. The same division and representation have applied ever since.

> Council meetings were first held at the Riverton Hotel, and then, on the completion of the Riverton Institute in 1874, the Council used the front room as its office. This situation continued for eighty years until 1954, when the Council Chambers were built and the Council moved to a permanent home.

| **Swan Reach (DC)** | 1920-1933 | On 9 December 1920 the Council’s name was changed from Blanchetown; in 1932 a portion of Swan Reach was ceded to Kapunda DC. On 7 September 1933 a proclamation in the *Government Gazette* showed the severing of some Hundreds from DC of Swan Reach. Hundred of Paisley was annexed to DC of Waikerie, and Hundred of Skurray was annexed to the DC of Truro. The balance of this, Hundred of Fisher and Hundred of Nildottie went to DC of Keyneton. On 16 September 1933, DC of Swan Reach and DC of Keyneton amalgamated to form DC of Keyneton and Swan Reach.

From the entry on DC of Swan Reach in the *Civic record* of 1921-1923:

> In the following list are the names of present and ex-Councillors of Swan Reach: Messrs. E.W. Rogers, F.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Talunga (DC)</th>
<th>1853-1935</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One of South Australia’s earliest councils, formed on 1 September 1853, comprising the whole of the Hundred of Talunga, and was divided into five wards - Mount Pleasant, Blumberg, Mount Torrens and North and South Gumeracha. The four main towns in the District were established in 1853-1854, and were named Gumeracha, Mount Torrens, Mount Pleasant and Blumberg (later changed to Birdwood). The Traveller’s Inn near the centre of the District was the Council’s meeting place until 1863, when the first of many moves was made, to the Napoleon Bonaparte in Blumberg, then between 1885 and 1889 at the Kenton Inn in Gumeracha, and from 1889 in the Gumeracha Institute. In 1884, the Mount Pleasant ward seceded from Talunga and joined D C of South Rhine. On 31 March 1935 Talunga amalgamated with Para Wirra (except for parts of that council added to Tea Tree Gully and Barossa) and part of the DC of Mount Crawford to form the new DC of Gumeracha. Notable members of the DC of Talunga included Ernest Hayler Hannaford, who was also chairman for seven years, and the brothers Friedrich Jacob Theodor (Fritz) and Heinrich Pflaum. Hannaford ran a large bee-farm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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271 *The civic record of South Australia: 1921-1923*, Associated Publishing Service (Aust.), Adelaide, 1924, pp 611 (includes a photograph of Council Chamber at Swan Reach), 613.


and an orchard, and was responsible for planting pine forests around Millbrook reservoir. He was a later Mayor of St Peters Council, and in 1927-30 was a member of the House of Assembly.\textsuperscript{275} The Pflaum brothers owned Blumberg’s flour-mill (now the National Motor Museum at Birdwood). In 1889-1908 the brothers alternated as councillors on Talunga DC, and ‘Fritz’ was chairman in 1890-91 and 1894-97. He was elected to the House of Assembly in 1902.\textsuperscript{276}

From the entry on DC of Talunga in the Civic record of 1921-1923:


Edsel Thomas Day Lloyd was recorded as the current Chairman, and former chairmen who were also depicted individually included Heinrich Adam Theodor Pflaum, George Herbert Bennett, and Dawson Hanna.\textsuperscript{277}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Terowie (DC)</th>
<th>1887-1935</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Created under Act 419 of 1887, gazetted 5 January 1888, comprising the Hundreds of Terowie, Wonna and Ketchowla. On the recommendation of the Local Government Commission, on 21 March 1935 (to take effect 1 May 1935) Terowie Council was discontinued and the District was absorbed into DC of Hallett.\textsuperscript{278}</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| From the Civic record of 1921-1923:  
\textit{When the railway was extended to Terowie in the early eighties, the town became a depot for all goods from Broken Hill, and consequently settlement increased and the need for local government became apparent, and in 1888, a district Council was constituted...} |
| William Dunstan Roach was recorded in the Civic record as Chairman for the past 12 years, and as one of the original Councillors of Terowie. Frank Ernest Sharley was Clerk.\textsuperscript{279} |

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textsuperscript{277} The civic record of South Australia: 1921-1923, Associated Publishing Service (Aust.), Adelaide, 1924, pp 579-582.
  \item \textsuperscript{279} The civic record of South Australia: 1921-1923, Associated Publishing Service (Aust.), Adelaide, 1924, pp 271-272, 274.
\end{itemize}
John Newland, a railwayman, was elected to Terowie DC in 1899, and was chairman in 1903-04, but was compelled to resign in 1905 following the government’s decision that railworkers were ineligible to serve on local government bodies. He was elected to the House of Assembly in 1906, lost his seat in 1912, and was elected to the Commonwealth Parliament and was a Senator for South Australia from 1913 until his death in 1932. He was knighted in 1927.  

| Tungkillo (DC) | 1855-1935 | The area south of Mount Pleasant was gazetted on 14 June 1855 as DC of Tungkillo. As most Tungkillo people looked towards Mount Pleasant as their commercial centre Springton and Tungkillo Councils and parts of Mannum and Mobilong councils were amalgamated to form DC of Mount Pleasant on 21 March 1935. Arthur Lewis Starkey, Chairman of DC of Tungkillo at the time of amalgamation, became inaugural Chairman of Mount Pleasant, 1935-1939, and again 1948-1953. Willie Ross Smith was District Clerk of a series of Councils in succession: Tungkillo from 1920; Monarto from 1921, and was first Clerk of Mount Pleasant, 1935-1943. 

‘Mount Pleasant District Council came into being... as a consequence of a series of re-arrangements carried out on the recommendation of the Local Government Areas Commission.’ Mt Pleasant DC records held at State Records of South Australia include records of the following DCs: South Rhine, later Springton, Flaxman’s Valley, Monarto and Tungkillo.  

| Waterloo (DC) | 1868-1932 | Formed on 7 May 1868 at the same time as neighbouring councils (Black Springs, Stanley, Hamilton, Saddleworth and Auburn) with which Waterloo combined in a sequence of amalgamations. The name, Waterloo, may have due to the early British settlers thinking the country resembled the site of the Battle of Waterloo in France. Council held its first meeting on May 19, 1868, and foundation councillors were Samuel Dawson (Chairman), GT Parish, GC Gooch, F Durwald, and R Davison, junior. In 1888 DC of Black Springs was added to DC of Stanley. Another re-division added the old Black Springs District to DC of Waterloo in 1890. |

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282 State Records of South Australia, MRG61 Mount Pleasant District Council. These include Tungkillo’s Ledgers (1857-1874) and Assessment books, from 1858.

This was misrepresented in the Civic record (1921-1923) as an amalgamation of Black Springs and Waterloo, when ‘the number of councillors increased to eight’.  

The Advertiser reported on a judgement in 1909 by Australia’s new High Court which upheld a decision in favour of Waterloo Council:

‘In the High Court to-day Mr Kelynack... applied on behalf of Alexander John McLachlan, defendant ..., for special leave to appeal from a judgment of the Full Court of South Australia ... McLachlan had been proceeded against at the instance of the district council of Waterloo, South Australia, under section 2 of the Thistle and Burr Act, 1862, for failure to destroy noxious weeds known as the star thistle growing upon his land. The defendant was convicted by the justices and fined 40/ and costs. On an appeal the Full Court of South Australia held that the conviction was right, and must stand.

‘The Chief Justice (Sir Samuel Griffith)…said the court did not see any substantial reason for doubting the decision appealed from. The leave asked for was accordingly refused.’

Waterloo Council ceased to exist on 12 May 1932 when it was absorbed into DC of Saddleworth, together with most of DC of Hamilton. The township of Waterloo had been the location of the council chambers. According to Bellman, although the new council had its office at Saddleworth, ‘despite many arguments meetings continued to be held at Waterloo for nearly 25 years’. Horace Dunn, served both councils for a record 50 years as Chairman – 29 with Waterloo and 21 with Saddleworth. Henry C Parken, Waterloo’s Clerk from 1909, became Saddleworth Council’s Overseer of Roads following the amalgamation, until 1946.

The present enlarged Council in this region has restored the name of the original (1854) council in this region, DC of Upper Wakefield.

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285 The Advertiser, 17 August 1909.


| **Woolundunga (DC)** | 1893-1933 | The District Councils Act, 1887, created the DCs of Port Germein, Wilmington and Davenport which came into being on 5 January 1888. The name of DC of Davenport was changed to Woolundunga on 8 June 1893. On 28 April 1932 part of the DC of Woolundunga was amalgamated with the Corporations of the Towns of Port Augusta, Port Augusta West, and Davenport to form the Corporate Town of Port Augusta. On 16 February 1933, part of the remaining DC of Woolundunga was added to DC of Kanyaka and the rest was united with DC of Hammond and part of DC of Port Germein to form the second DC of Wilmington.  
From the *Civic record* of 1921-1923, for the DC of Woolundunga:  
Frederick Herman Lehmann was recorded as the current Chairman, as well as an earlier Chairman of Hammond District Council. |
| **Yatala North (DC)** | 1868-1933 | Formed on 18 June 1868 when the original Yatala Council (see Yatala) was divided into DCs of Yatala North and Yatala South. On 22 March 1877 portion separated and included in DC of Rosewater (see Rosewater). On 22 June 1933 combined with Munno Para West to form new DC of Salisbury. |
| **Yatala South (DC)** | 1868-1935 | Formed on 18 June 1868 when the original Yatala Council (see Yatala) was divided into DCs of Yatala North and Yatala South. The division still did not satisfy everyone as the Council had trouble collecting rates from the rural north-western areas, and Prospect ratepayers who did pay, believed they were not getting their fair share of roadworks, and that the Council office was too far away at Gepps Cross. Led by Council member  |

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James Harrington, Prospect Village residents petitioned for separation, and 1 August 1872 part was severed to form the new DC of Prospect. On 22 June 1933 Yatala South was renamed DC of Enfield.\(^{291}\)

**Yongala (DC)**  
1883-1935

This was the first local government in the region, formed 8 March 1883. On 7 October 1886, the Corporate Town of Petersburg was detached, and in February 1888 the Hundred of Mannanarie was added to Yongala. On 21 March 1935 part of Yongala (Hundred of Mannanarie) was added to new DC of Jamestown and the rest united with DC of Coglin (see also Coglin) as DC of Peterborough.\(^{292}\)

Herbert Frederick Jones, a farmer, was Councillor for Mannanarie Ward in DC Yongala from 1920-1935, and Chairman from 1926 until formation of DC of Jamestown in 1935, when he was unanimously elected as the new Council’s Chairman, and continued in that role until his death in 1937.\(^{293}\)

**Yorketown (M)**  
1879-1932

The municipality was formed when severed from DC of Melville in 1879 (see also Melville). The description in the *Civic Record* 1986 reads, ‘In 1875 civic pride began to swell in Yorketown, and in November of that year residents sent a petition to the Governor praying for Corporate status. As a result the Corporation of the Town of Yorketown was proclaimed in the Government Gazette on 6 February 1879’.\(^{294}\) On 12 January 1882 the Corporate Town of Edithburgh was separated, and on 7 June 1888 DC of Warooka was severed.

From the *Civic record* of 1921-1923:


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Yorketown strongly protested against the proposed amalgamation of the four councils in the region in 1931, and instead, on 12 May 1932 portions were added to DC of Warooka and the rest of the Town of Yorketown was reunited with Melville and combined with DC of Dalrymple to form the new DC of Yorketown. Ernests Edwin, who was Clerk for three councils in the area over 39 years, was both Town Clerk of Yorketown (1914-1932), and District Clerk of Yorketown (1932-1953).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adelaide City Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Port Adelaide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation of the City of Prospect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The City of Unley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Corporation of Brighton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation of Burra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipality of Burnside</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation and District Council of Clare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonel Light Gardens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation of Edithburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation of Gawler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation of the Town of Glenelg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation of Henley and Grange</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Corporation of Hindmarsh
Corporation of Jamestown
Corporation and District Council of Kadina
Corporation and District Council of Kapunda
The Town of Kensington and Norwood
Corporation of the Town of Maitland
Corporation of Moonta
Corporation of Mt Gambier
Corporation of Murray Bridge
Corporation of Naracoorte
Corporation of Peterborough
Corporation of Port Augusta
Corporation of Port Lincoln
Corporation of Port Pirie
Corporation of Quorn
Corporation of the Town of Renmark
Corporation of St Peters
Corporation and District Council of Strathalbyn
Corporation of Thebarton
Corporation of Victor Harbour
Corporation of Wallaroo
Corporation of Woodville
District Council of Angaston
District Council of Balaklava
District Council of Barossa
District Council of Beachport
District Council of Berri
District Council of Blyth
District Council of Brown’s Well
District Council of Burra Burra
District Council of Bute
District Council of Campbelltown
District Council of Carrieton
DC of Cobdogla was discontinued within the year. Formed 17 January 1924, disbanded when the succeeding DC of Barmera was proclaimed on 17 June 1937, ‘amid great local controversy’. Matthews, P, ed., South Australia, the Civic Record, 1836-1986, Wakefield Press, Netley, 1986, p 45.
District Council of Lucindale
District Council of Mannum
District Council of Marion
District Council of Marne
District Council of Meadows
District Council of Meningie
District Council of Millicent
District Council of Minlaton
District Council of Mitcham
District Council of Mobilong
District Council of Morgan
District Council of Mount Barker
District Council of Mount Pleasant
District Council of Mudla Wirra
District Council of Munno Para East
District Council of Murat Bay
District Council of Noarlunga
District Council of Onkaparinga
District Council of Orroroo
District Council of Owen
District Council of Paringa
District Council of Payneham
District Council of Peake
District Council of Penola
District Council of Pinnaroo
District Council of Pirie
District Council of Port Broughton
District Council of Port Elliot
District Council of Port Germein
District Council of Port MacDonnell
District Council of Port Wakefield
District Council of Redhill
Renmark Irrigation Trust, No. 1
District Council of Riverton
District Council of Robe
District Council of Robertson
District Council of Saddleworth
District Council of Salisbury
District Council of Snowtown
District Council of Spalding
District Council of Stirling
District Council of Streaky Bay
District Council of Tantanoola
District Council of Tanunda
District Council of Tatiara
District Council of Teatree Gully
District Council of Truro
District Council of Tumby Bay
District Council of Upper Wakefield
District Council of Waikerie
District Council of Walkerville
District Council of Warooka
District Council of West Torrens
District Council of Willunga
District Council of Wilmington
District Council of Yankalilla
District Council of Yorke Peninsula
District Council of Yorke Peninsula
Part Four: Bibliography

Note: these books, papers and online publications include sources for this history as well as useful further reading.


Auhl, I, Burra and district – a pictorial memoir, Lynton Publications, Blackwood SA, 1975


State Library of South Australia,


State Records of South Australia:
‘Alphabetical list of Municipal Record Groups [MRGs]’, nd (typed list, supplied by K Gargett, SRSA, 2012). Note: the GRG and MRG system was replaced by the GRS and GA system in 1982, but MRGs allocated before that date have been retained.

*ArchivesSearch,* [http://143.216.32.39/archivessrsa/t1tbmain.asp?MainURL=t1tbdui.asp&FunctionName=$SASABKWDSCH](http://143.216.32.39/archivessrsa/t1tbmain.asp?MainURL=t1tbdui.asp&FunctionName=$SASABKWDSCH), accessed March-May 2012: Brief agency histories (Agency details) and an Inventory of series are provided by searching by MRG and GA numbers and/or by name, as indicated in footnotes (eg MRG38 District Council of Highercombe; District Council of Aldinga GRS/1181 Assessment Books).


*Wikipedia* articles:

‘Local government areas of South Australia’, viewed August 2011, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Local_government_areas_of_South_Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Local_government_areas_of_South_Australia), accessed September 2011;
