# Autocrat of the mines

Ros White

Mining magnates are nothing new. Names that come to mind are Lang Hancock, and more recently, Andrew Forrest. But closer to home on the Copper Coast, in the 1900s, Henry Richard Hancock, or Cap'n'Ancock, was king of the great Moonta Mine, the autocrat of his domain, becoming a legend in his own lifetime.

Like many who worked on the mines of South Australia, Henry Richard Hancock had experience of mining in the south of England. Born in Devon, he worked as an assayer and surveyor for a time in local mines before migrating to South Australia to manage the Wheal Ellen mine at Strathalbyn.

When that mine closed, he applied to manage the new Moonta Mine. He was not appointed, but was offered the job of assayer at the company's smaller Yelta Mine. In 1864, when he was appointed superintendent of the Moonta Mining Company's mines, he was just 28 years old.

This 12-month appointment extended to 34 years, before he was succeeded by his son Henry Lipson Hancock until falling prices forced the mines to close in 1923 — a 59-year management dynasty unparalleled in Australia.

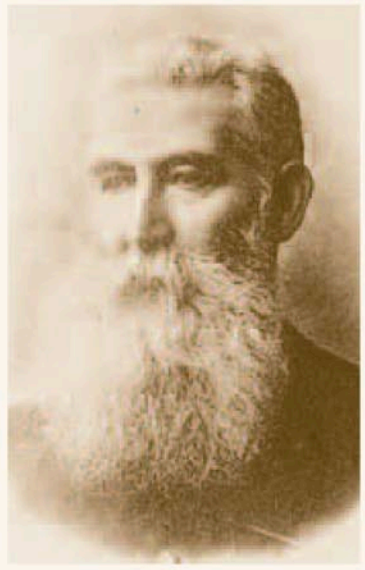
The king died in January 1919, four years before his kingdom met the same fate.

**Hancock's modus operandi**

Henry impressed everyone with his professional skills and experience.

While other mines closed because of exploitation for a quick return with little outlay, Hancock persuaded the company's directors to invest in a major program of expansion and development.

He set about developing the mine in a systematic fashion. On the one hand, he instituted detailed studies of the mine ores and introduced steam power as the motive force and replacement for hand power in the major mine operations. On the other hand, he set about recruiting experienced miners to increase the scale and efficiency of production. Miners came from Victoria and Cornwall, the latter forming the basis of a 'little Cornwall' where many lived on the mine leases.



*Henry Richard Hancock, or Cap'n'Ancock*

Hancock introduced a number of innovations into technical aspects of mining. He designed and patented a compressed air drill that gave great efficiencies over hammer and tap drilling. In 1870 he applied for a patent on a hydraulic jig, the use of which enabled the company to treat lower grade ores profitably. This jig eventually found its way into mineral processing around the world and in the mid-1890s the sophisticated concentrating processes and jig Hancock had helped develop at Wallaroo and Moonta formed part of the initial success Broken Hill companies achieved in dealing with lower grade, sulphide ores.

Hancock established a sick leave provision and a medical fund into which workers compulsorily contributed. On his advice, directors set a guaranteed minimum wage in 1873 (which he defended against their plans to reduce when copper prices fell in 1874). He was known for his fairness in dealing with workers and for his recognition of their right to strike.

When the Wallaroo and Moonta companies amalgamated in 1889 they became Australia's largest mining company. Indeed, in the late 19th century, it was one of the largest copper producing areas in the world.

Henry Richard Hancock is generally regarded as one of the most competent mine managers in Australian history. The mine was the first in Australia to pay A31 million pounds in dividends, of which A3,840,000 pounds had been paid in the period 1864 to 1873.

The directors of the new company appointed Hancock as general manager, a position he held until he retired in 1898, to lead the life of the landed gentry with his second wife, Loveday, on their country properties in South Australia and Henry's native Devon.

*Australian Dictionary of Biography, vol.4 (Melbourne, 1972); Jonathon Selby (ed.), South Australia's Mining Heritage (Adelaide, 1987).*

# The copper catalyst

Ros White

A quiet walk through Wallaroo and Moonta Mines heritage sites today can still cause excitement and wonder when, ambling across the red skimps a green rock flashes up, its unmistakable hue giving evidence of copper ore.

But nothing like the excitement it caused in the late 19th century, when two shepherds stumbled across green rocks, heralding the genesis of what would be a great mining dynasty on Yorke Peninsula.

The Copper Triangle and Copper Coast derive their nomenclatures from the mining towns of Moonta, Kadina and Wallaroo, and its famous history is still preserved through organisations such as the National Trust branches and its world famous biennial Kernewek Lowender.

## So how did it all begin?

### Wallaroo Mines

Copper was first discovered six miles south-west of "Wallaroo" sheep run station on December 17, 1859, by shepherd James Boor on the pastoral lease of Walter Watson Hughes and his brother-in-law John Duncan.

Boor discovered green-coloured stones unearthed by what was likely a wombat. He pocketed the stones, forgetting them for a few days before informing Duncan of what he had found.

Hughes then secured mineral leases, which he named the Wallaroo Mine after his sheep station.

Four Burra miners — Walter Phillips, William Pascoe, Richard Walter and Samuel Truran — were hired by Hughes and started mining at Home Shaft in February 1860. By the middle of the year, 150 miners were employed. And in conjunction with Elder, Stirling & Co, Hughes formed the Wallaroo Mining Company.

By the mid-1860s the mine was producing 26,000 tons of ore, and at its zenith between 1870 and 1875, it employed 1000 men and boys.

### Moonta Mines

Perhaps it was the luck of the Irish, because in May 1861, Patrick "Paddy" Ryan discovered traces of copper on a pastoral lease of W. W. Hughes and confided his find to a Port Wakefield publican named Johnston, and together they tried to secure a mineral lease, but were unable to provide enough information about the exact location.

A syndicate was formed and members travelled with Ryan to Moonta to see the precise site, after Ryan had been given a signed agreement in which he was to receive a fifth share in the mine.

When Hughes heard of the discovery he lodged a claim in the name of a dummy, which was rejected, so he returned to Moonta with a surveyor and met Ryan, who showed him where he had found the copper. Ryan entered into a contract with Hughes for a 10th share of the mine and six pounds a week, pending payment of the first dividend, despite having already signed with the other syndicate.

The survey information was taken to Adelaide to John Taylor (who worked for Hughes's agent) by William Horn. Taylor and the rival syndicate were both present when the Lands Department opened, but Taylor received first attention and secured the leases.

A legal battle which went to the Privy Council followed and Hughes settled out of court. He then formed the Tipara Mining Association (later the Moonta Mining Co.) and began operations in late 1861, with almost 5000 tons of ore produced in the first year.

Under the management of mine captain H. R. Hancock it developed rapidly, and by 1865, about 1200 men and boys were employed. By 1870, more than 5000 people were dependent on the mine, which was producing 20,000 tons of dressed ore, averaging 20 per cent copper.

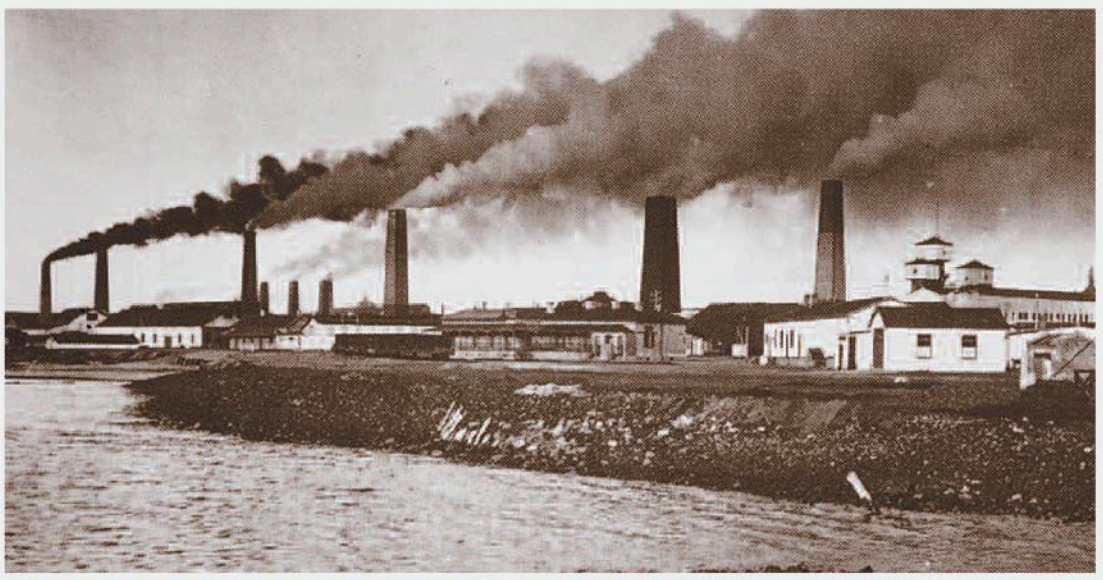
By 1876, Moonta was the first mining company in Australia to pay one million pounds in dividends, and employed 1,700 people.

When Moonta and Wallaroo companies amalgamated in 1890, ore worth 5.6 million pounds had been mined. The new company employed an average of 1,900 people during its 33 years of operation with employment reaching 2700 in 1906.

### Smelting

Of course, the ore needed to be smelted, and in 1860 the township of Wallaroo was surveyed and the foreshore sold as water allotments to the Wallaroo Mining Company for the establishment of a smelting works.

The smelters operated until 1923, and this was at one time the largest smelting works in the world apart from Swansea in Wales.



The copper ore came to Wallaroo from Moonta and Wallaroo Mines by rail, and in 1861 a jetty was built, which was superseded by a larger jetty in 1880.

Patrick Ryan never became rich from his fortuitous find, drinking himself to death before the company began to pay dividends. His weekly pension of six pounds a week was paid to his wife until her death.

James Boor received, firstly a job as a clerk, and an annual gratuity of three thousand pounds. Boor was deemed an intelligent person — his father was a lawyer, so he may well have had the benefit of a good education before coming to Australia. He used his money to return to England with his wife and retired, dying in 1887.

Mining continued until 1923, a total of 9.6 million tons of ore mined from which 350,000 tons of copper (grade 3.7 per cent) and 3.6 tonnes of gold (grade 0.4 g/t) were recovered.

But was there more copper waiting to be discovered? From 1988 to 1993, the Poona and Wheal Hughes lodes were mined by open-cut and underground decline to produce 17,500 tonnes of copper (grade 3.7 per cent) and 423 kg of gold (grade 0.9 g/t) from 476,000 tonnes of ore.

Poona is now filled with water pumped from Wheal Hughes, the latter now a well known tourist attraction, taking visitors on an underground experience as they travel, first down the winding face of the open cut to enter the dark and damp world of a miner.

## The search continues

The search for copper is still alive on Yorke Peninsula today after exploration company Rex Minerals' discovery near Pine Point in 2008.

Rex has held the rights to its Pine Point project since 2007 and is working near the original Hillside mine which operated from two shafts in the early 1900s and was restored in 1974.

Rex's YP success has led to it opening an office in Ardrossan and expanding its on-site rigs from one to four, with plans for more to arrive in the near future.

It has also led to exploration resurgence throughout the peninsula, including on the Copper Coast, as other companies seek similar finds.

Adelaide Resources has a tenement covering the historic Copper Coast mining district, Kadina, Willamulka, Paskeville and Cunliffe. The company drilled the first holes of its Moonta Project, at Willamulka, in June and hopes to return to the district once harvest is completed in early 2011.

Marmota and Monax Mining jointly launched their maiden drilling operation at Melton in March and found copper with their first hole. They too will return at the next available opportunity for further exploration.

Southern Uranium drilled for copper just south of Bute in September.

Phoenix Copper has two tenements on YP, one stretching from Kilkerran to Urania and across to Point Pearce, and the other from Koolywurtie, through Minlaton, and down to the west of Yorketown. Phoenix has not started drilling yet but plans to in February.

It is a similar story for Red Metal and Minotaur, which have partnered to survey the ground about 20 kilometres south of Moonta.

The search for copper is definitely still alive and has the potential to again impact the local and state economy as it did 150 years ago.

*Nick Perry*

## Acknowledgement

"History is a symphony of echoes heard and unheard. It is a poem with events as verses"

**– Charles Angoff**

The Yorke Peninsula Country Times thanks local historians Keith Bailey (Kadina), Liz Coole (Moonta), Colin Boase and Nick Woods (Wallaroo) for the information they have contributed to the verses of this sesquicentenary poem. Their time spent and knowledge imparted has been invaluable.

# Kadina

**1859** After shepherd James Boor's significant discovery of copper ore on December 17, 1859.
The ensuing six months were spent sinking the first shaft (Home Shaft) and establishing the necessities for human survival in a harsh environment. Amazingly, in only a few short weeks, there were 500 people living on the mine.

**1860** Communication between Adelaide and NYP was established, with a daily horse-drawn coach service operating from the suburb of Salisbury, and a steamship service between Adelaide and Wallaroo.

**1861** Surveys had been completed for a nearby town (Kadina) to supply the mines and its inhabitants, and as early as February 1861 several stores had been constructed along what was to become a principal street, Taylor Street; therewere also a Catholic Church, Bank of South Australia (long since demolished), and three hotels — the White Lion (where the BP Service Station is), Kadina Hotel (now a block owned by Gunnings) and the Exchange Hotel (now Morchelli's) in the town.

**1865** Establishment of a newspaper (Wallaroo Times and Mining Journal) at Wallaroo in 1865 has given a lasting record of the early days of the district.
Its pages carry detailed reports of the construction of many important buildings, which unfortunately have long since vanished.
They include a large hall built at the rear of the Wombat Hotel, intended as a meeting place for lodges and other organisations; a Primitive Methodist Church in Digby Street (now Kennetts of Kadina); the first private school (now the site of the Lutheran Church); a police station and courthouse (the first government building in the town); a Congregational Church in Ewing Street (now Wontama/RSL Homes); and the first National Bank in Graves Street.
Of all of these structures built in this decade only the Catholic Church in Hallett Street remains.

**1870** The first report of progress at the site came from an "Observer" reporter, who travelled to the area from Adelaide by horse and dray in late 1870, taking four days for the journey.
Boor's employer, Walter Watson Hughes, had established a still, capable of condensing 4000 gallons (18,000 litres) a day, and several buildings including an engine house, office and residence, and an assay office. A store and dwelling were already in operation to supply the miners with their needs.

# Wallaroo

**1861** In February 1861 it was announced the name Wallaroo had been given to the marine township on Wallaroo Bay. The government town of Wallaroo was surveyed in 1861 and the Hundred of Wallaroo was proclaimed on June 12, 1862.

**1861** In March 1861 Captain Leyshon Jones, of Kapunda, travelled to Wallaroo to erect and superintend a smelter works for Captain Hughes, bringing with him castings, et cetera, for seven furnaces. The 120 foot Hughes chimneystack commenced construction in August 1861.

**1861** Copper smelting operations began on November 11, 1861, with the lighting of the first furnace and smoke billowing from Hughes Stack. The furnaces were lit by Mrs Hughes, Mrs J. Taylor and Mrs Jamieson.

**1861** The first jetty (now Swimming Pool Jetty) was built in 1861.

**1861** Various shops and businesses were built in Owen Tce in 1861. The Cornucopia Hotel opened in 1862, The Globe Inn (now the Weeroona Hotel) opened in 1861 as did the Wallaroo Inn in Elizabeth Street, the Smelters Home Hotel in Emu Street in 1862, Ship Inn (now the Wallaroo Hotel) in 1862 and the Prince of Wales (now the Prince Edward Hotel) in 1864.

**1861** Various places of worship operated from 1861 — Methodist Church built in 1863; Church of England St Mary's, Congregational (Independent) Church, and Presbyterian Churches in 1864; Welsh Church (later Lloyd Memorial Congregational Church) in 1866, and Catholic Church in 1867.

**1862** The reclaimed land was now a fully functional copper smelter with ore brought from Wallaroo Mines (near Kadina) and Moonta Mines. By 1862, 12 furnaces were in operation with a further 10 under construction.

**1862** The first shipment of 30 tons of fine copper was taken by SS Marion in February 1862.

**1865** By 1865 Wallaroo's population was 3000 increasing to 4000 in 1909 and reaching its peak in the early 1920s with 5000 residents.

**1865** The post office on the corner of Emu Street and Owen Tce — now the museum — opened in 1865; police station in 1862 and courthouse in 1865; In early 1865 a journal appeared at Port Wallaroo named the Wallaroo Times & Mining Journal. (In 1888 the Wallaroo Times moved to Kadina and was renamed Kadina & Wallaroo Times after Kadina traders threatened to start their own paper unless it shifted. A classic case of inter-town blackmail!)

**1866** Mr W. C. Eland's new two-storey bonded store was built in 1866 at a cost of 3000 pounds.

# Moonta

**1861** In May 1861 copper was discovered by Patrick Ryan, a shepherd working for W.W Hughes at Tiparra (Moonta). Surveyor General (Goyder) certified the accuracy of W. W. Hughes' mineral claim.

**1863** In 1863 the township of Moonta was surveyed and all stores trading on the mines were removed. Peter Pascoe, the first miner killed at Moonta Mines, was taken to Kadina for burial as there was no cemetery in Moonta. There was a diphtheria outbreak in the area.

**1864** Miners strike for higher wages and mistreatment by mine captains in 1864, and Captain Henry Richard Hancock was appointed captain of Moonta Mines.

**1865** In 1865 water sold for sixpence a bucket because of a severe shortage; Dr Henry Horton was the first doctor appointed to the Moonta Mines; the site of a new Telegraph and Post Office was chosen; Moonta had seven general stores, six boot makers, five carpenters, four butchers, three wine and spirit stores, two watchmakers, two hotels, two bakers, one druggist, one hairdresser, a number of hawkers and a town crier.

**1865** The Lightship Alexandra was permanently placed on Tipara Reef in 1865; the building of the Moonta police station was completed; Dr Horton was appointed Surgeon to the Lodge of Oddfellows; the 60-inch Cornish pumping engine started at Hughes Engine House (this worked continuously until the closure of the mines in 1923); Moonta Mines shares sold for 170 pounds.

**1866** Employment in 1866 reached 1,000 at the mines; the Moonta Cemetery Trust was formed and the first recorded burial was Edward, infant son of William Square of the Globe Hotel. Twenty nine bodies buried outside the cemetery walls were now reinterred inside.

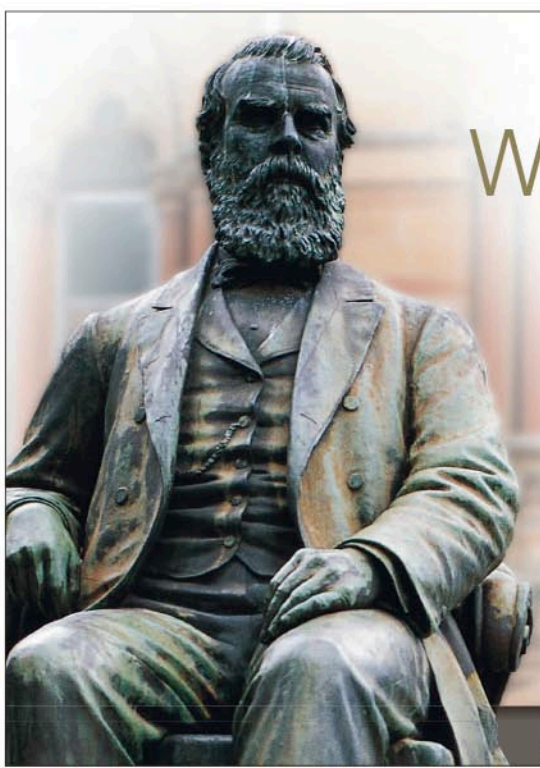
**1868** The Wallaroo to Moonta tramline opened in 1868; miners arrive from Burra and Victoria looking for work.

**1869** In 1869, 19 Aborigines are employed for surface work at Moonta Mines; Drs Herbert and Geyer are elected surgeons for the Moonta Mines; Richman's Engine House was built.

**1869** Churches in Moonta and the mines are Baptist, Catholic, Church of England, Wesleyan Methodist, Primitive Methodist and Bible Christian.

**1870** In 1870, the Moonta Institute opened in George Street and Governor Ferguson visited; deaths from typhoid fever rose to 144, of which 76 per cent were children 10 years and under. The wives of Captains Henry R. Hancock and Thomas Cowling died as a result of the fever.

Since the first recorded burial in May 1866 to the end of 1870, 405 deaths occurred at Moonta, with 313 of these children 10 years old and under.



# Kadina

**1871** A large flour mill three storeys high was constructed on the Taylor Street block, now occupied by Gunnings, to handle an input of grain from a small but rapidly expanding agricultural industry in the district. Working 24 hours a day the mill turned out 60 tons of flour a week.

**1871** A newly-formed YP Agricultural Society held its first show in a paddock midway between Kadina and Wallaroo on September 13, 1871.

**1872** Perhaps the most important project of this decade was the formation of a council. Unmade roads, stagnant pools of water, unhygienic conditions, wandering stock, and a total lack of by-laws, gave rise to claims the town was a "pig hole". The Corporation of the Town of Kadina was formed on May 21, 1872, with local businessman Thomas Heme Hall elected as mayor, and Julius Ey as town clerk. Mine manager W. W. Hughes offered stone from the mines for use in road making.

**1873** Work on another prominent building, the Royal Exchange Hotel, started on April 1, 1873. The building was to provide a total of 33 rooms for guests and landlord Thomas Mitchell, and it opened for business in January 1874. The cost amounted to 3500 pounds.

**1874** In 1874 famed cricketer W. G. Grace and his England cricket team arranged to play a team of local men for 800 pounds, but raised the ire of locals when he ignored the terms of his contract (which stated the Yorke Peninsula match was to be his only match in South Australia) by playing a match in Adelaide the next day. The YP game, played on the Kadina-Wallaroo racecourse, was a disaster for the 22 locals who made only 42 runs.

**1878** Sorely needed railway communications between Port Wakefield and Kadina started in mid-1874. It took four years before the lines from either end met, and SA Governor, Sir William Jervois, declared it open on October 9, 1878.

**1880** A project which was to take more than 50 years to complete began in early 1880 when Kadina schoolteacher and agent John Gaskell submitted plans to the government for an institute. The foundation stone was laid on April 28, 1880, by Kurilla Mine manager Captain Thomas Anthony. It was intended solely as a reading room for institute subscribers. An opening ceremony was held on June 25, 1883. State Governor Sir William Robinson declared the building open, after an embarrassing moment when the key to the door could not be found and he had to enter through a side door. In the succeeding 127 years, a second storey, clock tower, auditorium and supper room have been added.

# Wallaroo

**1870** Sir Walter Watson Hughes returned to Wallaroo in 1870 and then travelled to England in 1873, spending his remaining years at Fancourt in Surrey.

**1872** In 1872 it was reported there were only bush tracks between the townships of Wallaroo, Kadina and Moonta. Five months later the road between Wallaroo and Kadina was constructed, the new road costing 3000 pounds.

**1873** In 1873 Mr Hughes, who was knighted in 1880, donated 20,000 pounds towards the founding of the University of Adelaide.

**1874** In August 1874 a government grant of 500 pounds was made to the newly formed Wallaroo Corporation for the construction of a main street in the town.

**1874** In 1874 Caroline Carleton author of the words of Song of Australia, died at South Terrace, Wallaroo, (not at Matta House Wallaroo Mines) and was buried in the Wallaroo Cemetery.

**1877** The Wallaroo Institute was erected in 1877 in John Terrace containing a main hall, library and council meeting room and offices. The main hall seated 500 people.

**1878** The Wallaroo Public School opened on January 31, 1878, with 500 pupils.

**1879** In 1879 the first steam train to appear in Wallaroo travelled from Kadina to Wallaroo in 10 minutes. Although the bus driver started 17 minutes before the locomotive, the latter travelled at such a rate the driver had some difficulty keeping sufficiently ahead to prevent his horse becoming alarmed at the noise behind it. The long-talked about event had taken place without any intimation being given by the authorities, and the sight of the iron horse had spectators in awe.

**1880** In 1880 Alexander Cook was charged on the information of Ellen Rees with having, on July 20, at Wallaroo, stolen her purse containing a one pound note and some silver. The prisoner was found guilty and sentenced to six months imprisonment with hard labour, the first and last fortnight of the time to be spent in solitary confinement.

**1880** Mr Phil Warrior from the indigenous Narungga tribe gave exhibitions of boomerang throwing at the Labour Day celebrations on the Wallaroo oval.

**1880** The Kadina and Wallaroo Railway and Pier Company was active in carrying goods via horse tram between Wallaroo, Kadina and Moonta between 1863 and 1880.

# Moonta

**1871** A steam engine was started at the Yelta Mine in 1871; the first triplets were born on Yorke Peninsula to Elizabeth and Thomas Chappell, all three babies and Elizabeth died.

**1872** The Moonta Agricultural Horticultural and Floricultural Society began in 1872 with H. R. Hancock as president; the Moonta Bay jetty was completed, a length of 450 feet; there was a boiler explosion at the Paramatta Mine; a public auction was held to sell blocks of land at Port Moonta; the population on the peninsula reached 20,000; a new engine and machinery arrived for Hancock's Engine House; the first Jewish funeral was held for Alfred, the son of jeweller Marcus Mannheim; the first edition of The Yorke's Peninsula Advertiser was printed on October 4; the Corporation of Moonta was formed and Charles Drew was the first mayor; galleries and a choir stall were erected in the Moonta Mines Wesleyan Church.

**1873** More skilled miners arrived from Ballarat and other parts of Victoria in 1873; there was another outbreak of diphtheria; five new churches were constructed; Elizabeth Woolcock, the only woman hanged in Adelaide Gaol, was found guilty of poisoning her husband Thomas at Moonta Mines.

**1874** Miners went on strike in 1874 over the reduction of wages, and 5000 attended a mass meeting at Bald Hill. Directors resolved to continue the former rate of 47 shillings a week.

**1875** In 1875, gas supply lit up Moonta, and this continued until electricity was supplied in 1917.

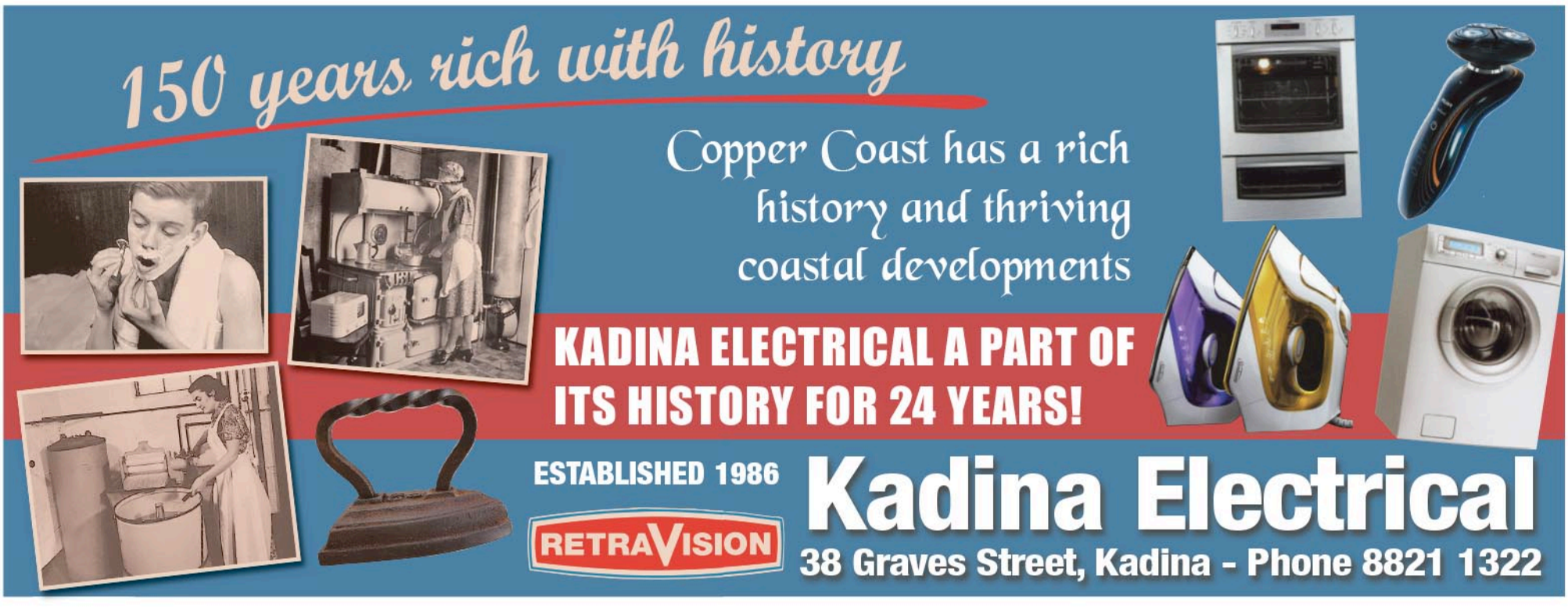
**1877** The Tipara Lighthouse was completed in 1877.

**1878** Government schools opened at Moonta and Moonta Mines in 1878 — before this there were licensed schools to educate children; as a result of good rains the dams at Bald Hill and East Moonta neared capacity; three miners were killed in Hogg's shaft through blasting.

**1879** In 1879 the Moonta Corporation informed owners of wooden buildings in the township to remove them according to by-law 51.

**1880** In 1880, Sir William Milne was appointed a director of the Moonta Mining Company.

Deaths registered 1870–79 were 1835, of which 1417 were children 10 years and under.



# Kadina

**1881** Kadina was honoured by a visit from Princes Albert Victor and George (the Sailor Princes) on June 14, 1881. On arrival of their train they were conveyed to Moonta Mines for an underground visit and then returned to Kadina for lunch at the Royal Exchange Hotel. Their brief stay ended with departure for Adelaide at 4pm the same day.

**1881** Another John Gaskell-designed building, which also still stands, had its beginnings in late 1881 with the laying of a foundation stone for a Masonic Hall on Saturday, November 5, by District Governor H. E. Downer MP. Mr Downer was presented with an inscribed silver trowel to mark the occasion. As was the custom of the day, a current coin and copies of local newspapers were placed under the stone with an inscribed copper plate.

**1882** At the mines an unlucky young boy, sorting ore at the "picky" tables one day in August 1882, was horrified to discover a human skull on the conveyor belt. Police were called and investigations concluded it was the head of a miner, Josiah Prout, who had fallen 800 feet (240 metres) down a mine shaft a few weeks before.

**1888** Responding to requests from several Kadina traders in mid-1888, the proprietors of the "Wallaroo Times" newspaper, David and Andrew Taylor, moved their news and job printing departments to a small office in Taylor Street, Kadina, where the paper was to continue for the next 120 years until moving to its current expansive site recently.

**1890** Amalgamation of the independent Wallaroo and Moonta Mining Companies was the main topic of conversation in the district at the start of 1890. The two companies then became one, known as the Wallaroo and Moonta Mining and Smelting Company, under the legendary Captain Henry Richard Hancock.

**1890** A new Catholic School at Kadina (now St Vincent de Paul charity shop) was opened by Archbishop Reynolds on Sunday, July 20, 1890. Australia's recently beatified Saint, Mother Mary MacKillop, was a teacher at this school for a short while.

**1890** Seventeen years after it was built the two-storey White Lion Hotel began to show signs of serious structural problems was so its demolition and replacement was recommended. A new single-storey hotel of 15 rooms was constructed on the same convenient site, opposite the railway station. It opened for business on December 1, 1890, and operated as a licensed hotel until a Local Option poll in 1912 revoked its liquor licence. It then became a boarding house (Kadina Coffee Palace) until its declaration as unsafe in the 1950s.

# Wallaroo

◆ *Wallaroo's Prices Jetty.*

**1881** Mr William Henry May moved to Wallaroo and became a partner with Heath Brothers in the Wallaroo Iron Works which was later to become WH May Engineer & Founder (May's Foundry) in 1881.

**1881** Work began on a new jetty in Wallaroo in April 1880 and was completed in 1881. It later came to be known as Prices Jetty because of Price's Café located at foot of jetty, it was demolished in 1974. It operated as the main shipping jetty between 1881 and 1927 and was extended several times.

**1881** A new sea wall near the jetty was completed on January 29, 1881.

**1883** Wallaroo had the distinction of being one of the earliest towns to have a branch of the Salvation Army. The Wallaroo branch opened on May 2, 1883, at a meeting hall and former bond store in Owen Terrace. Colonel H. Booth, son of the founder of the Salvation Army, General William Booth, visited on November 4, 1884.

**1886** In May 1886 St Mary's Catholic School was moved to its present building, formerly the Primitive Methodist Chapel. The school had moved from a small nearby cottage. Sister Mary MacKillop was involved in establishing the school in 1869 and visited in 1886.

**1888** The new National Bank premises was opened on Friday, December 14, 1888. The building had a frontage of 43 feet to Owen Terrace and a depth of 70 feet. A strong room was built of 14 inch brick work in cement. The front was ornamented and protected by a substantial verandah, iron columns, cast iron palisading and had a floor of Mintaro slate. The premises was thoroughly ventilated with patent iron ventilators. The contractor was T. R. Heath and the cost of the building was more than 1700 pounds.

**1880** The 3' 6" gauge railway line from Adelaide reached Wallaroo in December 1880. The Wallaroo to Moonta section of the line was not completed until 1891.

**1890** A reticulated water scheme arrived in Wallaroo in 1890.

# Moonta

**1881** In 1881 Princes Albert and George were taken underground in Green's shaft by H. R. Hancock; the goats in the area were a nuisance eating trees, shrubs and gardens; there was much sickness in Moonta, and a chemist dispensed 2637 prescriptions in one month.

**1882** A new lamp visible for six miles was lit at the end of the Moonta Bay jetty in 1882; the post and telegraph master of Moonta was arrested in London for embezzling money from depositors' accounts; another water shortage was experienced and shipments of water were brought by the steamer Lubra; Moore's Soap and Candle factory at Moonta Bay was destroyed by fire and rebuilt the same year; letter carrier (postman) William F. T. Ford was appointed in the township and he continued for 24 years.

**1883** A flour mill was built in Moonta in 1883; the first Salvation Army meeting was held; W. H.Wilkinson purchased the Yorke's Peninsula Advertiser.

**1884** In a boiler explosion at Beddomes in 1884 Frederick Atkinson was killed.

**1885** Wages are reduced in 1885 due to a fall in the price of copper; the Moonta Institute on the corner of George and Henry Streets was built; many miners left for Western Australia, Queensland, Victoria and Silverton, NSW; 18 miners returned from Silverton, disgusted with the place; things were dull at Moonta due to the low price of copper and fears emerged that if a large number of miners left many storekeepers would follow; there were 106 places of business, not including five hotels, a flour mill and gas works.

**1887** Moonta celebrateds Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1887 with the planting of 430 trees in Victoria Park; the Moonta Cemetery Trust decided to erect a shelter house near the entrance.

**1888** In 1888 a pipe organ was placed in the Moonta Mines Wesleyan Church; the opening of a skating rink was successful with 200 people attending.

**1889** Another fall in the price of copper caused wages to be reduced again in 1889; a Moonta band represented the town at a band contest in Adelaide; the Globe Hotel (now Cornwall) was almost destroyed by fire; the Moonta A. H. & F. Society enlarged the showgrounds.

**1890** A reticulated water supply from the Beetaloo Reservoir arrived in 1890, 29 years after the discovery of copper; a boiler explosion at Beddomes caused the death of George Jose; a School of Mines was established in Moonta and the subjects taught included mechanical drawing, assaying and mining.

Deaths registered 1880–89 were 1144 of which 712 were children 10 years old and under.

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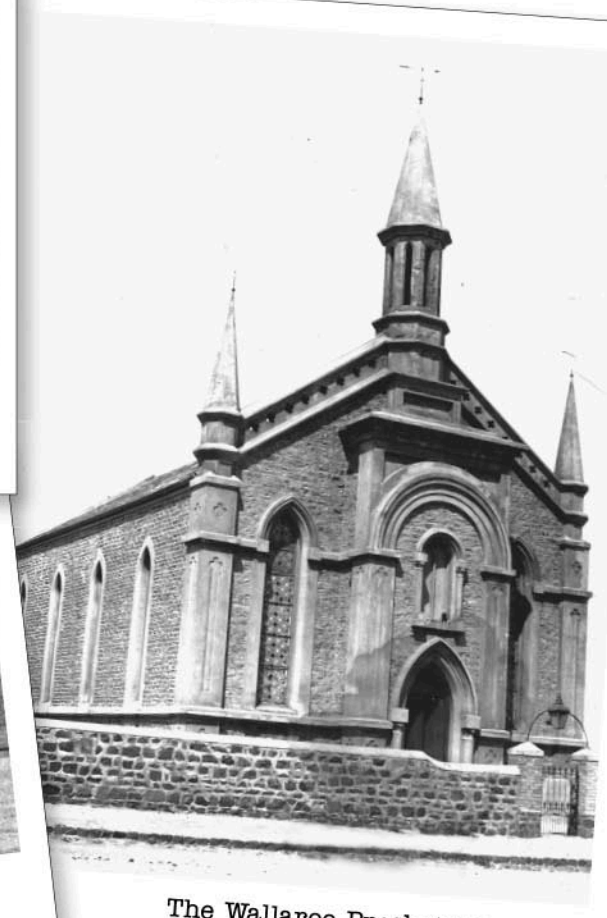
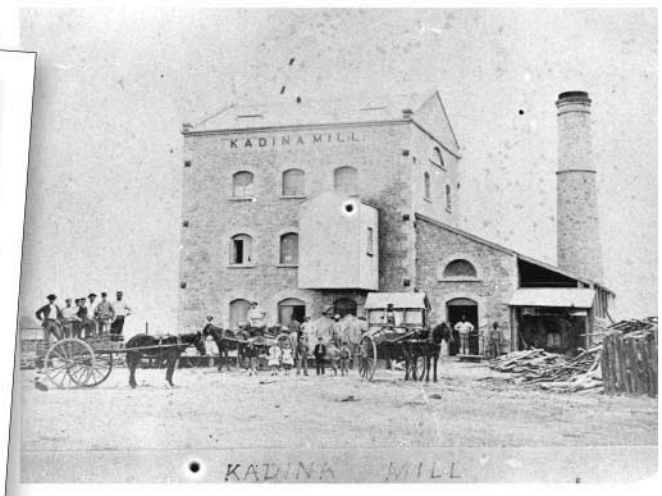
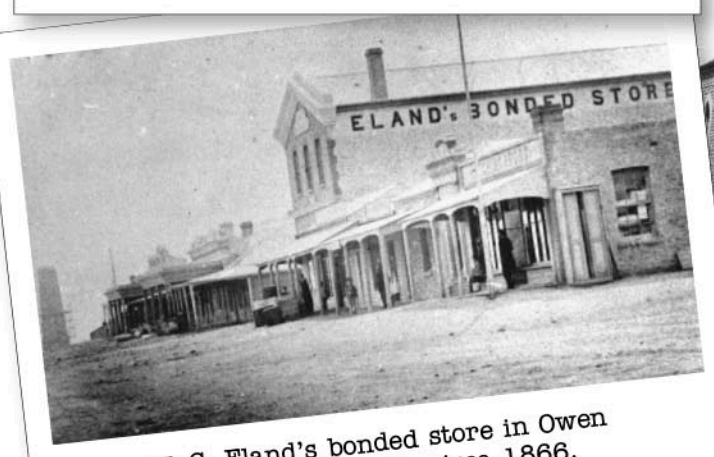
The Royal Exchange Hotel, with Kadina-Adelaide coach loading passengers out front.



The Wallaroo Presbyterian Church was built in 1865 at a cost of 1300 pounds.




Kadina Flour Mill, now Gunnings, in Taylor Street.



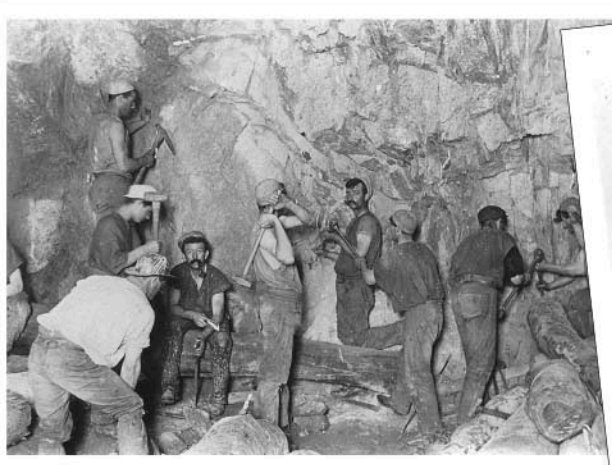

W. C. Eland's bonded store in Owen Terrace, Wallaroo, circa 1866.

The new National Bank premises in Wallaroo was opened on December 14, 1888.

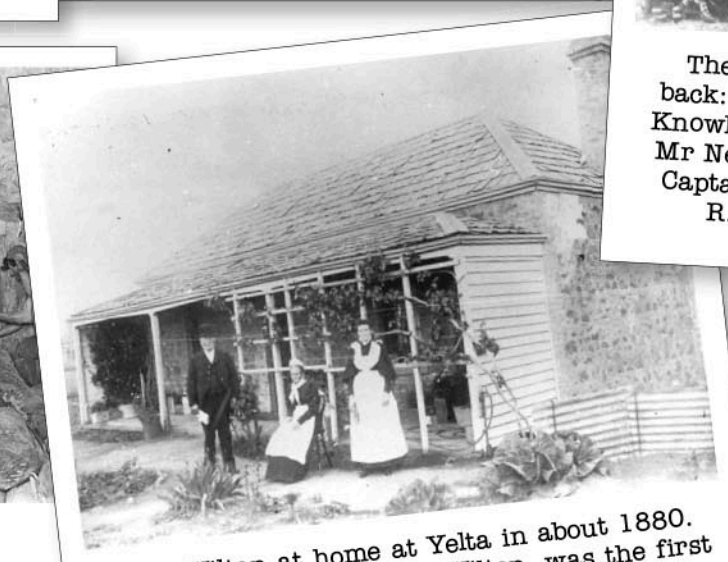
Taking a hard-earned break at the Wild Dog Mine, Moonta.

Picky boys working at the ore sorting plant, Wallaroo Mines.

The mine office superintendant and staff in 1865, back: Captain Rapoon, Mr Davies, Mr France, Captain Knowles, Captain Barkla, Captain Laynter, Mr Phillips, Mr Neales, Mr Jolly, unknown; front: Captain Datson, Captain Osbourne, Captain Deeble, Superintendant H. R. Hancock, Mr Wyatt, Mr Bennett, unknown.



Hard at work underground opening out a stope.



Fred Wilton at home at Yelta in about 1880. Fred's mother, Mary Ann Wilton, was the first white woman to come to Moonta.

The Yelta Mine was discovered in 1872 adjacent to the northern boundary of the Moonta Mines leases. The mine was taken over by a French company in 1899 and worked in conjunction with Paramatta Mine until it closed in 1907.

The Moonta Bay jetty circa 1890.

The Moonta Institute foundation stone was laid on 25-3-1885 by Mrs J. R. Corfe, wife of president and niece of Sir W. W. Hughes. It first cost $7000, the block tower was added in 1907.

# Kadina

**1892** Access to Wallaroo Mines before this decade was via Port Road and Walter Road to Stirling Terrace. When a new rail siding and weighbridge were constructed at the mines station, before 1890, entrance to Stirling Terrace was cut off. Public agitation in 1892 for a new road to the mines prompted council to commandeer privately-owned land to provide this, and a long court case evolved, with the land owner claiming compensation. The new road was named Lipson Avenue, after the then general manager of the WMMSC, Lipson Hancock.

**1894** The dangers associated with underground mining became apparent when the story surfaced of a near disaster at Taylor's Shaft on Friday, August 17, 1894. A wire rope attached to a manskip containing six miners being conveyed underground parted company with the skip when a wheel came off and jammed the skip 120 feet down the shaft. Safety catches activated and held it precariously above a 300 fathom (1800 feet) drop until a shaftsman could secure it.

**1898** Towards the end of this decade a permanent water supply for the town was provided with the laying of pipes from the Mid-North's Beetaloo Reservoir in 1898. This enabled the establishment of a town fire brigade. A hand-drawn fire reel was supplied and a fire station built opposite the Wombat Hotel.

**1898** It was also at this time more progress was made with the construction of the institute, when a second storey was added to house a council chambers, Mmayor's parlour and library.

**1900** At the turn of the century the township had begun to take on an attractive appearance. The principal streets had all been macadamized (layers of stone laid and rolled), which was spoilt only by the droppings of the hundreds of horses which used them daily. Well-manicured trees grew along the Graves Street footpath, providing an element of shade to shops and shoppers.

**1900** However, in the midst of the hot summer of 1900, grocer Tom Rendell decided a verandah over his shop fronts would be a better proposition so, having obtained permission from council, removed all the trees from the front of his two shops and constructed a timber and bow-fronted galvanised iron verandah in their place. Over the next few years his move was adopted by many of his fellow shop owners, beginning a heritage trend which is now promoted in the district as a tourist attraction.

# Wallaroo

**1891** In 1891 the United Ancient Order of Druids Wallaroo Lodge Number 51 was formed with 21 members initiated.

**1891** In 1891 the smelting works capacity was further expanded to treat bluestone (copper sulphate) and low grade silver ores.

**1894** In 1894 a banquet was held to celebrate the opening of the Blyth, Gladstone and Snowtown railway.

**1894** The Wallaroo Chess and Draught Club was formed in 1894, with 26 gentlemen giving their names to be members. The meeting to ascertain interest was held in the office of J. S. Croft, and those present voted to meet on Wednesdays and Fridays.

**1896** In 1896 a Grand Continental was held on the jetty. At night, special trains came from Kadina and Moonta with more than 700 in attendance.

**1898** In 1898 Reverend John Lloyd the Welsh Minister of Wallaroo became President of the Congregational Union of South Australia.

**1898** The first Wallaroo Town Band was formed in 1898.

**1899** Tasmanian ores were assayed at Wallaroo in 1899. A new Lead Smelting Plant opened in 1899.

**1899** A telephone office opened in the Emu Street Post Office (now museum) in 1899 when the trunk line from Adelaide was completed.

**1899** In 1899 the Wallaroo Phosphate Works began operations manufacturing fertiliser using excess sulphur from the nearby smelting works. Phosphate rock shipped from Nauru was processed with sulphur to make sulphur phosphate. A large acid plant was also built nearby.

**1900** On May 25, 1900 the Governor Lord Tennyson and Lady Tennyson arrived in Wallaroo on board the Protector.

◆ *At the corner of Charles Terrace and Irwine Street, Wallaroo, are Mrs Di Davis, Mrs Stephens and daughter Annie (Mrs Fred Lower), c 1895.*

# Moonta

**1891** The first railway station was built and the first steam locomotive arrived; the last tram from Moonta to Wallaroo ran in November; a fire brigade was established in George Street; another boiler explosion occurred at Beddomes, and only one man was injured.

**1892** The directors of the Moonta Mining Company in 1892 were Sir William Milne, J. L. Stirling, R. Barr Smith, W. H. Duncan, R. Stuckey, and W. Harvey; the Moonta Jockey Club formed; there were only two foot police at Moonta and one at Moonta Mines.

**1893** Moonta's first Mayor Charles Drew donated a fountain in Queen Square to celebrate the arrival of reticulated water; a ladies' dressing shed was built at Moonta Bay at a cost of 10 pounds nine shillings.

**1895** The tramline from East Moonta was extended to George Street then Moonta Bay in 1895; many miners left for Western Australia under engagement of eight pounds 10 shillings a week; H. R. Hancock travelled to England for health reasons and his son H. Lipson Hancock took over as superintendant of the mines.

**1896** A bell made of local copper was placed at the Moonta cemetery, costing 75 pounds; the tram line was extended to Hamley Flat; a new sample room was built for the Royal Hotel.

**1897** The Moonta Corporation celebrated its 25th anniversary in 1897.

**1898** The Moonta Fire Brigade replaced the hand reel with a horse drawn wheel in 1898; Henry Richard Hancock retired as superintendant of the Wallaroo and Moonta Mining Company and his son Henry Lipson Hancock succeeded him; on Boxing Day more than 6000 people travelled by tram to Moonta Bay — several cars were so crowded at times passengers had to get out and push. Poor horses!

**1899** The Moonta Mines Glee Club made its first appearance in 1899; Beetaloo water was turned off due to a shortage; the gates at the cemetery were altered to stop people from creeping through the bars.

**1900** In January 1900 the two town Methodist churches, Wesleyan and Bible Christian amalgamated, the first to do so on the peninsula; the Moonta Methodist Church re-opened after extensive restorations; the first soldiers arrived home from the Boer War.

Deaths registered 1890–99 were 292, of which 116 were children 10 years and under.

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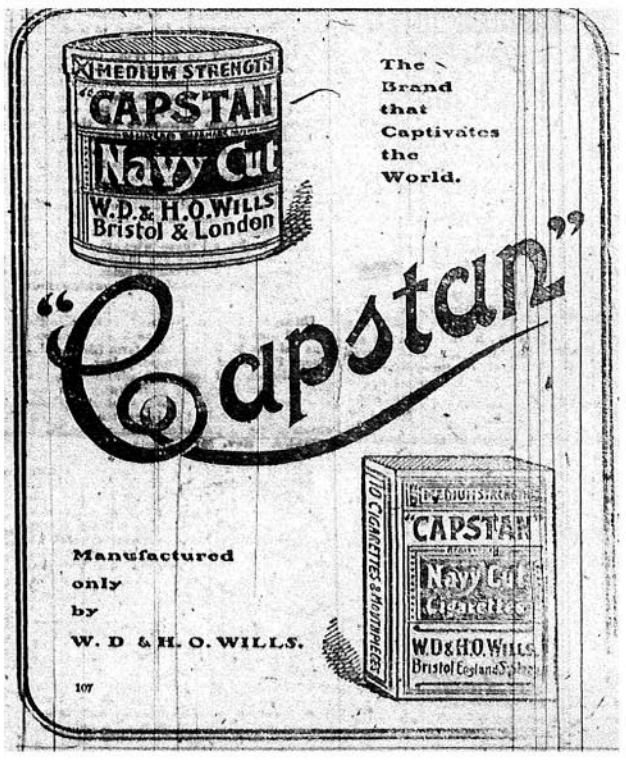

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# Kadina

**1901** The dim light from shop interiors was the only street light until council introduced kerosene street lamps on selected corners, then acetylene gas lights in 1901 and finally in 1907, electric lighting. Kadina became the first municipality in South Australia to consume power supplied by its own lighting plant.

**1904** The Miners Arms Hotel in Taylor Street was demolished in March 1904 and replaced by the two-storey Central Hotel, now the Kadina Hotel. Kadina Post Office moved from its office next to the police station and courthouse into a new building at its present site in September 1906 and construction began on a new Savings Bank opposite the town hall.

**1904** The mining company experienced a bad year in 1904. An explosion at the mines store killed storeman Edward Mellen; and a large fire broke out underground at Taylors Shaft, putting the entire mine out of commission for seven weeks before the fire was extinguished. Engine driver James Conlon was dragged into cogs of a winding engine at Home Shaft, suffering extensive injuries resulting in his death. Twenty-three other miners were killed in this decade, a frightening condemnation of work conditions.

**1907** Draper Charles Moore began a 90-year association with Kadina in the late 1880s. In 1900 he purchased a block on the corner of Graves and Hallett Streets and constructed two adjoining department stores, costing 3000 pounds ($6000), these still stand as Enfield Furnishers and Kadina Newsagency. The massive building by Kadina's standards soon proved inadequate and Moore added a second storey on the Hallett Street side in 1907 for a tailoring and dressmaking workshop, which was removed in 1912 when the ground floor building was extended to the rear lane.

**1910** Many people referred to Victoria Square as "Church Square" because of the churches surrounding it — Methodist, Congregational, Primitive Methodist and Anglican all facing it. The original Anglican Church in Hay Street had been in use for 45 years when it was replaced by the present structure in 1910.

◆ *The intersection of Graves Street and Goyder Street in 1906.*

# Wallaroo

**1901** In 1901 John Verran was elected MP for the District of Wallaroo; he later became Premier of South Australia in 1910.

**1901** On December 18, 1901, the foundation stone of the first Wallaroo Cottage Home was laid, built by the Wallaroo Benevolent Society which raised funds to assist destitute townspeople.

**1902** About the turn of the century the townspeople were divided when the building of a new town hall was first mooted. A strong group led by Mayor W. Richardson was successful, and the foundation stone was laid by him on March 26, 1902. The town hall was built at a cost of 3612 pounds. The original dimensions were 124 feet in length, 50 feet wide, topped by a 66 foot tower. It seated 800 including 250 in the dress circle. The stage scenery included an act drop, Windsor Castle, a palace scene, three landscape scenes, a forest, street, drawing room and kitchen scenes. The hall at the time was considered to be one of the largest outside Adelaide.

**1902** Council moved its office and activities from the John Terrace Institute to the new town hall. Silent movies were screened by the proprietor of Olympic Pictures, George Hollands. Many concerts, operas, musicals and plays were also performed in the large hall. Gilbert and Sullivan operettas were particularly popular. The grand opening concert was held on Wednesday, November 19, 1902.

**1902** The Wallaroo Public School had 551 pupils, with Mr A. E. Mueller as headmaster.

**1904** Special trains provided transport from inland towns to the Wallaroo Regatta. The top attraction was the 'Jetty to Jetty Swim'.

**1909** The new Wallaroo Post Office, reported to be an architectural ornament to the town, was opened in 1909, and was one of the most up-to-date post offices built outside the metropolitan area. Staff comprised a post master, telegraphist, two assistants and three messengers.

**1909** Members felt if ratepayers showed a little more interest in the affairs of council and attend some of the meetings, they would give council credit for doing more than some appeared to consider they were doing. Wallaroo was lacking many things because ratepayers did not manifest sufficient interest in public matters.

**1910** SS Investigator was stranded in a storm off Cape Elizabeth in 1910.

# Moonta

**1901** John Verran was elected as Member of Parliament for the District of Wallaroo in 1901; the Salvation Army built new barracks in Ellen Street; water from the Beetaloo Reservoir was turned back on after 22 months; a new exhibition building was erected for the A. H. & F. Society; Queen Victoria died, memorial services were held and flags flew at half mast; it was the golden anniversary of Mr and Mrs John Wood, brickmaker, of Moonta Mines; the Moonta Mines rotunda was built.

**1902** The first motor car to visit Moonta was owned by a city tobacco firm.

**1903** Mumps and typhoid fever were prevalent in the mines area in 1903; "No Spitting on Footpath" signs were placed in appropriate places in the township.

**1904** Electric lights were installed at the Moonta Mines Church; Governor Le Hunte visited Moonta and the streets were decorated with flags and bunting.

**1905** Telephones were connected at Moonta in 1905 and calls were one shilling and six pence for three minutes.

**1906** Alfred Williams, who was born in Moonta in 1866, was appointed Director of Education in 1906; the Hamley Mine closed and Ryan's Crusher and Engine House, Hoggs and Greens poppet heads were removed; the side wall of the Moonta court house collapsed and renovations were carried out.

**1907** The tower and clock were added in 1907 to the Moonta Institute, which was built in 1884; the Moonta Golf Club opened; A. Harris, employed by James Jeffery, milked 16 cows in one hour and 25 minutes; the Paramatta and Yelta Mines closed.

**1908** A cottage hospital and maternity home were opened on the corner of Ryan and Gardiner Streets by Nurse Coles; cadets at the Moonta school were issued with Francotte rifles; the fire brigade moved from George Street to the corner of Caroline and Henry Streets.

**1909** A new railway station was built and the old one sent to Booleroo Centre.

**1910** A troop of Baden Powell Boy Scouts was formed at Moonta Mines in 1910, and the Moonta District Trained Nursing Society branch was formed; a Methodist Church was built at Moonta Bay; the back wall of the Moonta cemetery and the side walls were extended to allow more burial places; the Moonta Mines Post Office and Institute were demolished and the site transformed into a park.

The death rate over the past decade fell dramatically, 183 deaths recorded with 48 of these being children.

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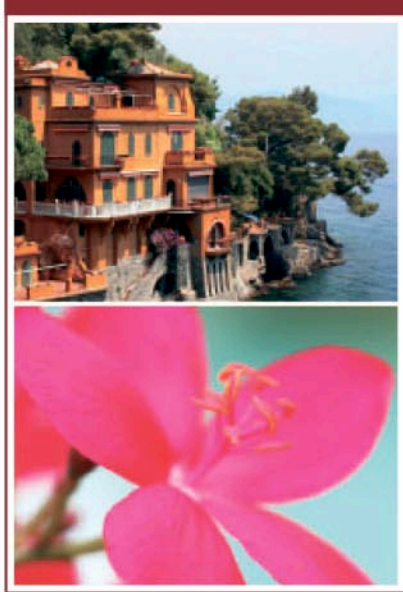

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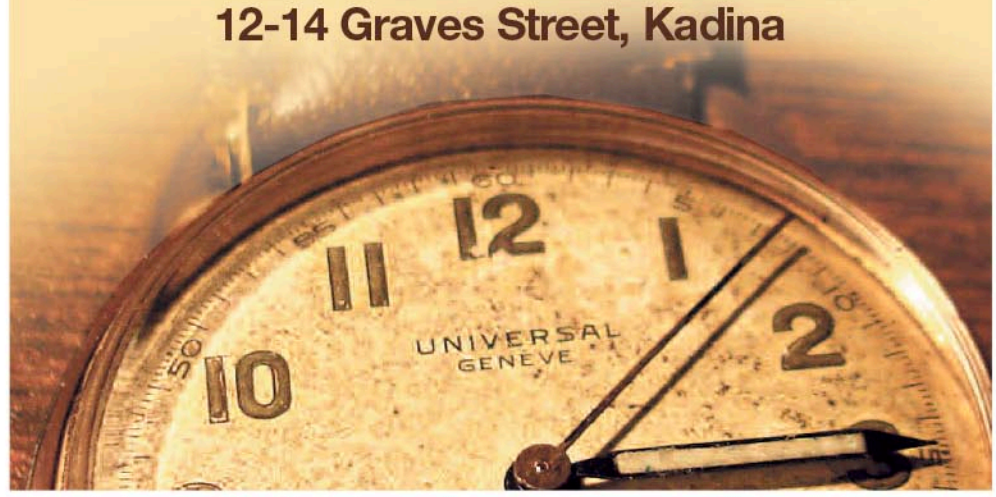
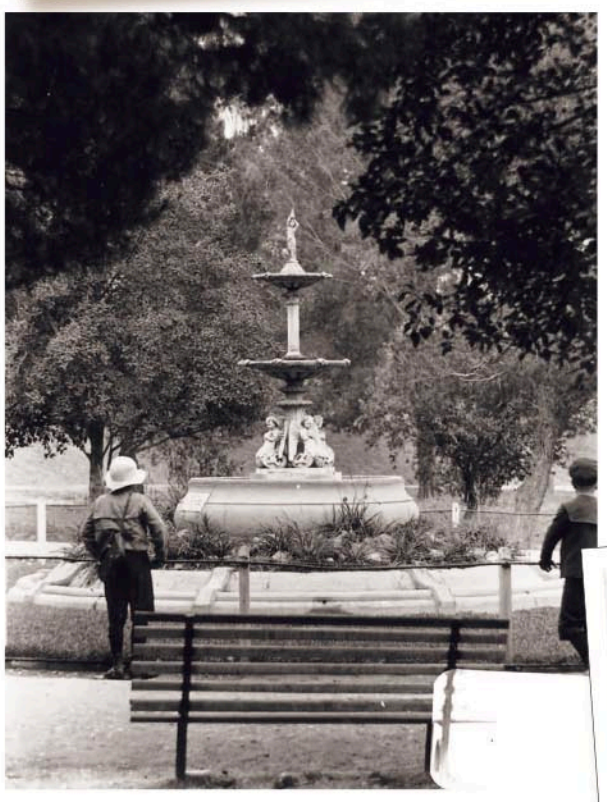
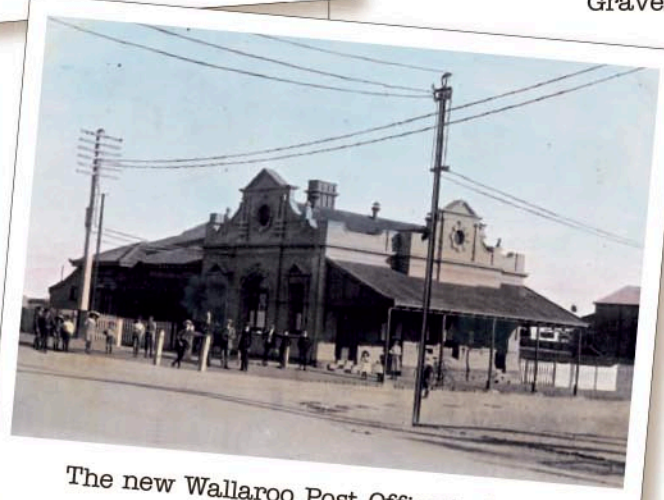


An early sketch of Graves Street, Kadina. Rendell's store at left is now the Enfield Furnishers bedding store.

Charles Moore's store on the corner of Graves and Hallett Streets, Kadina.



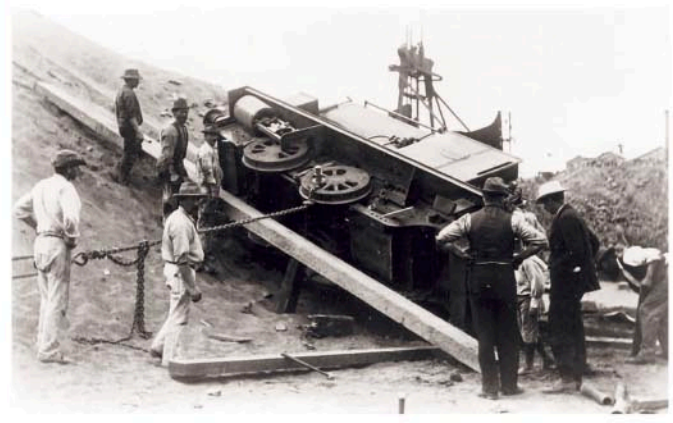
The Queen Square fountain, Moonta, was presented to the town in 1893.



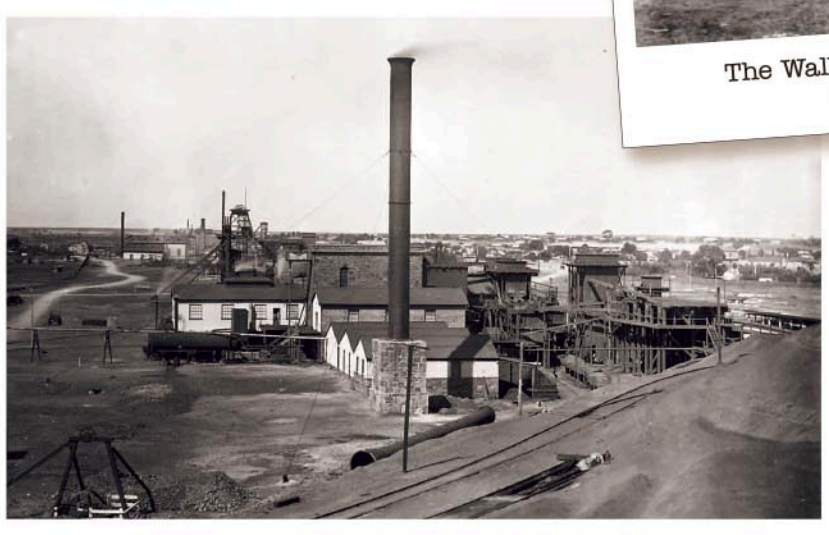
The new Wallaroo Post Office in 1909.

The Moonta Methodist Church in the 1890s. The foundation stone service was held on 5-6-1873 with the opening of the church on 2-8-1874. The cost of the building was $8000.

The Wallaroo Chess and Draughts Club was formed in 1894.



Hancocks Tailings at Moonta in 1901.



Looking south from Richard's Tailing Heap in about 1908-11.

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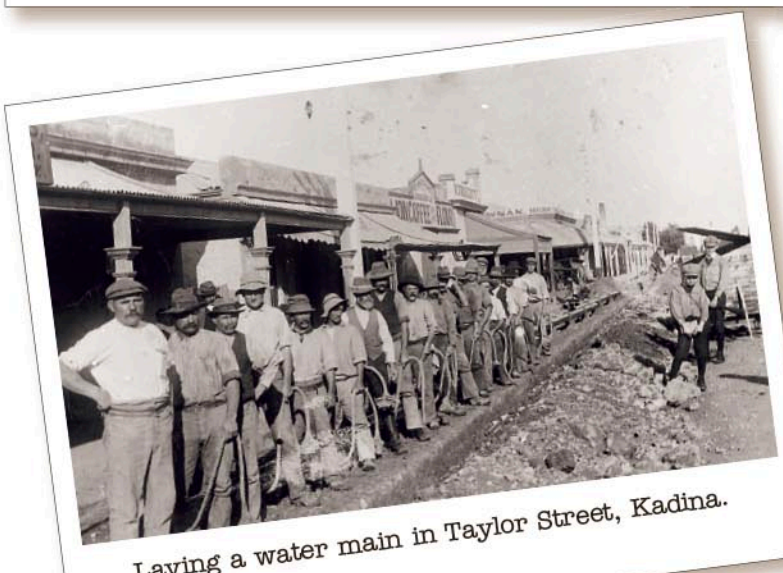
Ellen Street, Moonta, in the 1890-1900s. Note there are no street lights, Letcher Chemist and the two-storey shop on the Ryan Street corner.



Laying a water main in Taylor Street, Kadina.

Kadina Coffee Palace (formerly White Lion Hotel) opposite the railway station.

# Kadina

**1913** The advent of motor cars and bikes (the first car in Kadina was a 1905 Oldsmobile owned by Graves Street draper C. A. E. Hall) attracted the interest of young men, and one, mechanic George Ramsey, set out on January 20, 1913, on his 3½ horsepower LMC motorcycle in an attempt to break a new Australian 24-hour distance record set not long before. Ramsey chose the rough track between Kadina and Ardrossan for his attempt and at the end of 24 hours of riding had substantially beaten the record of 532 miles by covering 710 miles in the same period.

**1913** The advent of war stopped record attempts and many other pursuits in the town. Encouraged by a spirit of adventure, about 260 young men enlisted for overseas duty; more than 50 never returned. Prominent among the enlistments was local doctor, Arthur Powell, who was promoted to Major and later mentioned in dispatches for his work with the wounded at Gallipoli and again in Egypt. Another Kadina man, Major Ross Jacobs (son of Royal Exchange Hotel proprietor W. Jacobs) finished the war as officer-in-charge of the famed 10th Battalion. He was later chosen as the Australian military representative at the opening of the Australian War Cemetery at Villers Bretonneux, France.

**1913** Local war effort included making high explosive shells at the Wallaroo Mines workshops. However, defective steel supplied to the company caused many warheads to be faulty and the project was abandoned.

**1919** With the horror of the Great War still fresh in people's minds, a barnstorming visit by famed Minlaton pilot, Captain Harry Butler, was a huge thrill for 9000 excited people who gathered at the Kadina-Wallaroo racecourse to see a display of aerobatics by Butler in his Bristol aircraft. The only other aeroplane many had ever seen had been an abortive visit in 1914 by an Adelaide aviator and his Caudron aircraft, who called off his demonstration because of strong winds. Part of the money raised on Butler's visit (more than 900 pounds) was earmarked for a memorial to Kadina's war dead.

**1920** Plans for a new picture theatre had been mooted since 1914 but shelved because of the war. Retired farmers Arthur Ayles and Hedley Koch proposed it again in 1920 and work started in August on the Ideal Theatre (now Ascot Theatre) in Graves Street. It was a full house of 1045 people on opening night on July 20, 1921, viewing four silent movies. The 18,000 pound ($36,000) building was financed in part with ten shilling ($1) shares.

# Wallaroo

**1911** In April 1911 there were 11 vessels waiting to load wheat in Wallaroo Harbour.

**1914** During World War One from 1914–1918, 237 Wallaroo citizens including four nurses answered the call for King and Country. Of these, 50 paid the supreme sacrifice while 11 were decorated for bravery. There were nine patriotic bodies raising funds in the town during this time.

**1917** During the early hours of December 26, 1917, a disastrous fire almost destroyed the Wallaroo Town Hall and only the charred walls were left standing, a lack of suitable firefighting equipment contributing to the loss.

**1917** At the height of the fire the Mayor and Town Clerk rushed into the burning building to save early town records. Unfortunately, the large tower crashed into the foyer and the two men had to escape through the windows. Many early records were destroyed in the blaze, with only a few salvaged.

**1917** An inquest was held into the mysterious cause of the fire and the coroner concluded that 'as Australia was at war with Germany it was the policy of enemy agents to destroy public buildings and 'sabotage could not be ruled out'. The corporation wasted no time in planning to rebuild, borrowing 3,000 pounds to do so.

**1917** Except for the main walls, the building was completely remodeled. The main hall was longer and the new stage was double the depth. There were more private dressing rooms, an orchestra pit, a fireproof projection room, firefighting appliances, septic tank system, kitchen, a sliding roof for ventilation during hot nights, seating accommodation for 581 chairs, 233 fixed seats in the dress circle and an ornate ceiling and stage proscenium. A new piano was donated by the Ladies Rowing Club.

**1918** Crowds gathered at the institute to await the announcement by the mayor the armistice has been signed on November 11, 1918. Hundreds waited until after midnight for the message to come, and then they gave vent to their feelings by singing the national anthem and there were deafening cheers for the soldiers.

**1918** When troops returned from World War I many 'Welcome Home' celebrations were held in the magnificent town hall building.

**1919** The re-established town hall was opened by the Mayor T. E. Ashton on February 19, 1919, the final cost 10,000 pounds. There was an addition of a clock tower when rebuilding, with a fine clock presented by councillor and businessman Richard Tonkin JP. Another foundation stone commemorating the rebuilding was unveiled.

**1919** In 1919 the Wallaroo Entertainment Company was granted the rights to show films in the town hall, this continued til 1969.

# Moonta

**1911** The Prince of Wales, Miner's Arms and Pier Hotels ceased to be licensed hotels in 1911; construction of the Port Hughes road started, width 18 feet; the first pile of the Port Hughes jetty was driven; Prime Minister, the Honorable H. A. Fisher, visited Moonta; Paramatta and Yelta Mines were purchased by the government.

**1912** In 1912 a letterbox was erected on the corner of Caroline and Gardiner Streets; a three-ton crane was installed at the Moonta railway station.

**1913** The Port Hughes jetty was opened in 1913 and the Moonta Bay jetty closed to shipping; the Honorable John Verran resigned as leader of the Labor Party; renovations and alterations were completed at the Moonta Post Office.

**1914** World War I erupted in 1914 and boys who reached 14 years of age were required to register for military training; Private Lee Nankivell was the first Moonta soldier killed in World War I; a billiard room and Temperance Hotel opened at the former Prince of Wales Hotel; Mary Ann Wilton, the first white woman to settle after the discovery of copper, died.

**1915** Some machinery was removed from the Yelta Mine, purchased by the Mount Bonnie Mining Company, 100 miles from Darwin; a post office was opened at Tossell's shop at Moonta Bay.

**1917** During a mouse plague in 1917 a farmer took 150 mice from his car seat; an electric light plant was installed at Moonta; Mrs Mary Ann Quintrell of Moonta Mines was informed the war had taken the lives of her three sons.

**1918** The Moonta Brass Band formed; World War I ended.

**1919** Henry Richard Hancock, former superintendant of the Wallaroo and Moonta Mining Company, died in 1919.

**1920** Cartoonist, mine captain and organist, Oswald Pryor, left Moonta in 1920; Karkarilla Engine House and other buildings on the mining lease were demolished and the Hamley stack blown up with dynamite; Tipara lighthouse was converted into automatic lighting; Moonta received a war trophy (memorial gun); the soldiers' memorial in Military Park was unveiled; the fire brigade received a motor vehicle.

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# Kadina

**1921** Encouraged by the local RSL sub-branch, Kadina Corporation made a bid for a "trophy" from the recent war. Its arrival in July 1921 created much interest. A field gun captured from the Germans in Palestine, it was complete except for a breech block and other essential parts of its firing mechanism.

**1922** The opening of the Memorial Arch in Victoria Square was another triumph for Kadina Diggers. Their efforts in raising 500 pounds ($1000) towards its construction were rewarded on Anzac Day 1922, when it was officially opened by Mayor Paul Roach. The ceremony was preceded by a march of returned men, relatives of men killed in the war, army cadets and scouts along Taylor Street to the arch.

**1922** Record breaker George Ramsey's pre-war success had established Kadina as the centre of motorcycle racing in South Australia. An Easter Speed Carnival in April 1922 attracted thousands of spectators to a three-event meeting run by the Motorcycle Club of SA. The highlight was a 100-mile race between Kadina-Moonta-Agery-Kadina. Adelaide competitor Lawrie Brooks won on an AJS in a time of two hours and 10 minutes.

**1923** Two more buildings still in use were constructed the two-storey office block on the corner of Taylor and Hallett Streets, commissioned by the AMP Society and opened on September 20, 1923. Kadina builder Russell Hawke was injured when he fell 30 feet to the ground when scaffolding collapsed during the work.

**1923** Probably the most significant event of this decade was the closure of the mines at Kadina and Moonta in November 1923. Huge amounts of money had been lost in 1921 and 1922 and they were shut down and men laid off for various periods. The company went into voluntary liquidation at the end of 1923 and an important part of local history ended.

**1924** The second was the completion of Kadina Memorial High School, opened on June 26, 1924, by the Minister of Education. The building cost 7283 pounds ($14,566) and contained 13 rooms and two offices.

**1926** Towards the end of the war the government sanctioned the erection of a pedestrian bridge over the five sets of rails in the Kadina rail yard. Residents of Kadina South complained their "suburb" was isolated from the rest of the town by the railway. Controversy raged over the siting of the 55 foot (16 metres) bridge. In 1926 it was moved further east and extended to 87 ft (27 metres), but by the 1970s, with few people using it, it was dismantled.

# Wallaroo

**1923** It was the end of a golden era in 1923. A sharp drop in prices coupled with industrial strife among employees made it uneconomical to continue copper mining. The smelters closed, although a skeleton staff remained until the demolition was completed in 1926. During its existence 332,600 tons of fine copper was produced, valued at 20,365,000 pounds.

**1923** Hundreds of families left Wallaroo after the smelters closed. The Wallaroo and Mount Lyell Fertiliser Works continued, as did new company Cresco Fertilisers, and employment on the wharf continued catering for many ships coming to load grain.

**1925** In 1925 the tall chimneystack at the smelting works was demolished. It was 150 feet high, contained 200,000 bricks and weighed an estimated 400 tons. Carefully prepared plans made the fall of the stack in a direct north-south line to clear adjacent buildings. Fuses were lit at 11.20am and two minutes later it was a ruin. Among the spectators were women who had left their housework to see the end of the chimney. It was hoped the old stack which bears the initials WWH would remain. It still does today, a silent sentinel of Wallaroo's important industrial heritage.

**1926** On October 11, 1926, Elliott Egan, who had been committed from Snowtown as an idle and disorderly person, escaped from the Wallaroo Gaol. Warder Frederick Ross gave chase and eventually caught him, but a struggle ensued and Egan managed to get free. Ross went after him and told him he must come back, which he did without trouble.

**1927** The coming of broad gauge railway in 1927 resulted in a third jetty being built. It was opened for shipping on August 1, 1927, with the first vessel to birth SS Unden. Major alterations since its construction have been the addition of a bulk grain loading plant in 1958 and a fisherman's wharf in 1971. It was during the depression years that a shark proof enclosure was erected alongside the 1927 jetty and the first 1861 jetty.

**1929** In July 1929 a deputation was presented to council about the matter of establishing a bowling club. It was stated it would be a great spot and was a long felt want in the town. It was noted Moonta and Kadina had fine greens and the motion was carried that council support the request for any site for a green, pay for half the water usage for the first two years and that a 21-year lease be granted the club at a rental of one pound, one shilling a year.

# Moonta

**1921** A Caterpillar tractor to plough the mining company's slimes was commissioned to replace horses; the foundering of the ketch Lily May in June resulted in the loss of five lives — Captain Anderson, his wife and six-year-old son and two deckhands. Early in August the bodies of the wife and son were found and buried in the Moonta cemetery, but the captain and two deckhands were never found; a memorial window in memory of the parents of Mrs H. Lipson Hancock was placed in the Moonta Methodist Church; more than 100,000 bags of wheat were delivered to the rail yards, and 774 bags were stacked by two men in two hours.

**1922** By 1922 the Moonta Cemetery had more than 6000 buried there; Henry Lipson Hancock, superintendant of the Wallaroo and Moonta Mining and Smelting Company retires; memorial windows and a brass tablet with the names of the fallen in WWI are installed at All Saints Church.

**1923** The Moonta Memorial Park Bowling Club was opened in 1923; cases of smallpox and measles were reported; a new flour mill was built; there was a clearing sale by the mining company of horses, tractors, cars, wagons, drays, ploughs, et cetera.

**1924** Pier House at Moonta Bay was destroyed by fire; William Henry Breaker, the last surviving male who came to the colony of SA on the Buffalo in 1836, died.

**1925** There was a measles outbreak in 1925.

**1926** A new picture theatre in Unity Hall was opened; a new organ was purchased for the Moonta Methodist Church.

**1927** The first broad gauge train arrived in 1927; many hundreds returned for Back to Moonta celebrations.

**1928** Electric lights were switched on at Moonta Bay in 1928; Moonta Bay improvements included swings, slippery dip, and ladies' and gents' dressing sheds.

**1929** There was an auction at the office yards at Moonta Mines in 1929; a new Hornsby engine was ordered for the power house.

**1930** Ten new instruments were purchased for the Moonta Municipal Band in 1930; the Governor visited and the town was decorated with flags and bunting for the occasion; at a meeting it was decided to purchase Mr Grummet's residence in Robert Street for the Moonta Jubilee Hospital; the Moonta Cemetery Trust asked the Moonta Corporation to take over control of the cemetery.

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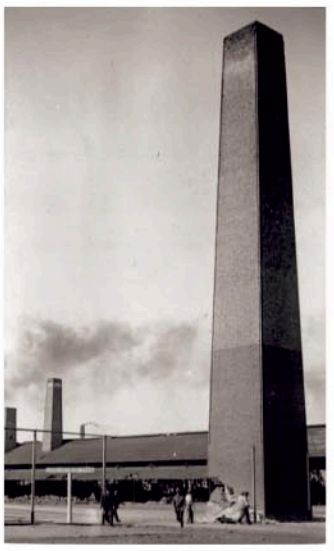
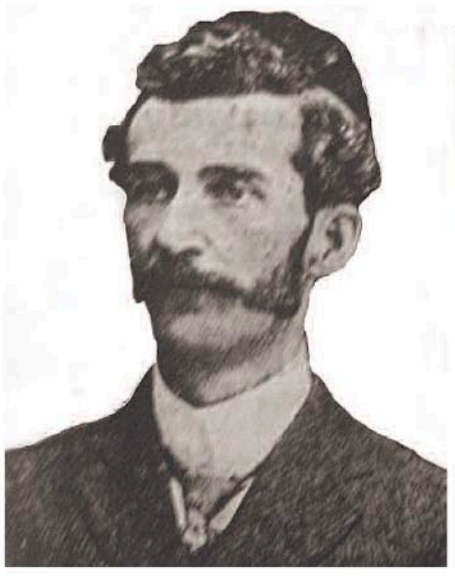


The highest chimney at the Wallaroo smelters was demolished in 1925.

The unveiling of the Moonta Memorial Park and Returned and Services League memorial in November 1920.



Mr R. Tonkin J. P. generously donated the Wallaroo Town Hall clock in 1919.

Hundreds of people gathered on November 11, 1918, at the Wallaroo Institute to hear the official announcement the armistice had been signed to end WWI.

The pedestrian bridge which once straddled five sets of lines in the Kadina rail yard.

Motorcyclist George Ramsey with officials from his 24-hour record run in 1913. From left: Alf Sampson, Lewis Robertson, Fred Payze, Rev. Alf Finch, Bill Courtney, C.A.E. Hall, Ted Rowe.

Constructing the Ideal Theatre, Kadina, circa 1920 (now the Ascot).

Back to Moonta in 1927, the Moonta Railway Station.

Moonta Mines residents between 1910 and 1920. Back: T. Elford, W. H. Hayes, T. S. Archibald, F. Hancock, T. Campoon, W. Elford; middle: W. M. Hollands, H. Hancock, H. Simmons, W. H. Harvey; front: H. Hollands, W. J. Carter.

A game on the Moonta oval in 1921 – plenty of spectators!

Wallaroo Gaol Warder Frederick Ross who recaptured escapee Elliott Egan in 1926.

# Kadina

**1931** When talkies came on the scene in 1931, Kadina's Ideal Theatre was the first in South Australia to install a "Raycophone" sound system.

**1931** Ten years after the mines closure, two former miners Bill Barratt and Bert Harvey discovered a lode of 60 per cent ore at a depth of 40 feet and were awaiting transport to NSW smelters for three tons of the material.

**1933** Kadina Town Hall was finally completed in May 1933 with a 20-foot extension of the auditorium and a supper room. It had taken 53 years to reach this final stage. Finance came from a profitable electric light fund and employment preference was given to those out of work from the mine closure.

**1934** An Adelaide to Kadina stage was a highlight of a three-day bicycle race in September 1934, with Wallaroo Mines-born rider Dean Toseland winning in a time of 10 hours 37 minutes. Toseland went on to win the marathon event, which included Adelaide-Victor Harbor and Adelaide-Kapunda legs, in 25 hours 43 minutes. Another Kadina cyclist, Alby Smith, finished eighth.

**1936** Tennis player Kath Barnden was the 1936 winner of the Country Tennis Carnival Singles Championship, her third title in a row. With partner Miss J. McKay she also took out the Doubles Championship. Success again came Barnden's way in 1937, then, after WWII, she dominated the carnival with wins in 1947 and 1949, and was runner-up in 1948.

**1939** In 1939 Don Bradman and members of the State Cricket Team played a Yorke Peninsula Association Eleven. Accompanying Bradman were Victor Richardson and Clarrie Grimmett, but neither played. Bradman hit a quick-fire 60 before being caught by YP keeper K. Behrndt off the bowling of V. C. Baillie.

**1937** When SANFL teams Norwood and Port Adelaide played at Kadina in May 1937 the game was interrupted by an aeroplane crash near the showgrounds oval. Spectators quickly rushed to the scene, where four men were disentangling themselves from the wreckage. They were Port supporters who'd chartered the DH9. Hitching a ride home, their car collided with a motor lorry. Topping off their eventful day their team lost by one point, 13.9 to 13.8.

**1939** The declaration of war in September 1939 cast a gloom over the town as compulsory registration for military training was introduced and men enlisted for service. The depression deepened as news of the first casualty of the war arrived - not a soldier killed in action but the death of a trainee on his way home from camp, hit by a stanchion at Virginia railway station when he leaned too far out from a train window.

# Wallaroo

**1931** A Japanese carpenter,Kichimatsu Osugi, on SS Reiyo Maru, which was berthed at the Wallaroo jetty, was killed instantly on the vessel. The crew was preparing the derricks for loading when the gear slipped and a huge derrick crashed on Osugi's neck and shoulders and almost decapitated him. A funeral was held at the Wallaroo cemetery.

**1932** In 1932 the ketch Broughton, with a cargo of 900 bags of wheat, came to anchor at the northern side of the new jetty to wait until the heavy swell and rain squalls of a fierce storm abated. However, the big anchor chain parted and the vessel drifted towards the shore and sank, its beam broken. There was no hope of salvaging the cargo.

**1935** In January 1935 three Aero Club Moths made a successful cross country flight from Parafield to Wallaroo. Aided by a fresh southerly breeze they completed the 80 or so miles in 50 minutes and returned in 55 minutes, just before sundown. The planes aroused considerable interest as they passed over Kadina and the racecourse. The flying party was driven to the Cornucopia Hotel for lunch, went to a local race meeting in Kadina in the afternoon and was entertained for afternoon tea by Colonel Ross Jacob of the Returned Soldiers' League.

**1936** A public meeting was held on August 18, 1936, to form bowling and croquet clubs to take over greens being laid down in Centenary Park. A scheme was devised whereby citizens could have their names perpetuated in the centenary. Flowering shrubs were available for a donation of two shillings and sixpence and a citizen could have their name inscribed on a metal plate indicating the donor of the shrub. An expert groundsman from Adelaide would sow the seed for both greens. It was expected the electric light cricket would gain some enthusiasts, particularly among older citizens.

**1938** The steamer Mabriton berthed at Wallaroo on March 21, 1938, to load 9500 tons of wheat. On her voyage from Aden a dhow (native vessel) in distress was sighted in the Indian Ocean and a timely rescue effected of 29 crew and passengers, including four women and seven children. It appeared they had been sailing from Colombo to the Maldive Islands. The chief officer, cautious they may have been pirates, went prepared to the vessel with a loaded revolver should the crew have become hostile. A Customs Department officer transferred the shipwrecked people to Port Adelaide to be returned to Ceylon at the first opportunity.

# Moonta

**1931** Moonta talkies opened at the theatre with the installation of a Western electric sound system; the withdrawal of the Moonta trams took place on April 30 and the tram sheds were demolished; the Moonta Jubilee Hospital opened, 70 years after the discovery of copper; two of Moonta's trams, No. 5 and No. 6, went to Victor Harbor's tourist tramway. After years of service there No. 5 was pushed into the sea and No. 6 was sold to a private museum in the USA.; MV Moonta makes its maiden voyage.

**1932** Sleepers and rails were taken up from the tram line in 1932; the Salvation Army celebrated its 50th Jubilee; a shelter shed was erected at the cemetery over the underground tank which had been in-filled; Minnie Simms, a well-known Moonta cutter, was wrecked; All Saints church celebrated its 60th Jubilee.

**1934** The Moonta Mines School fete and unveiling of the William Daw Honour Board happened in 1934; a storm pounded the Moonta Bay jetty out of alignment.

**1935** In 1935, Henry Lipson Hancock (1867-1935) died.

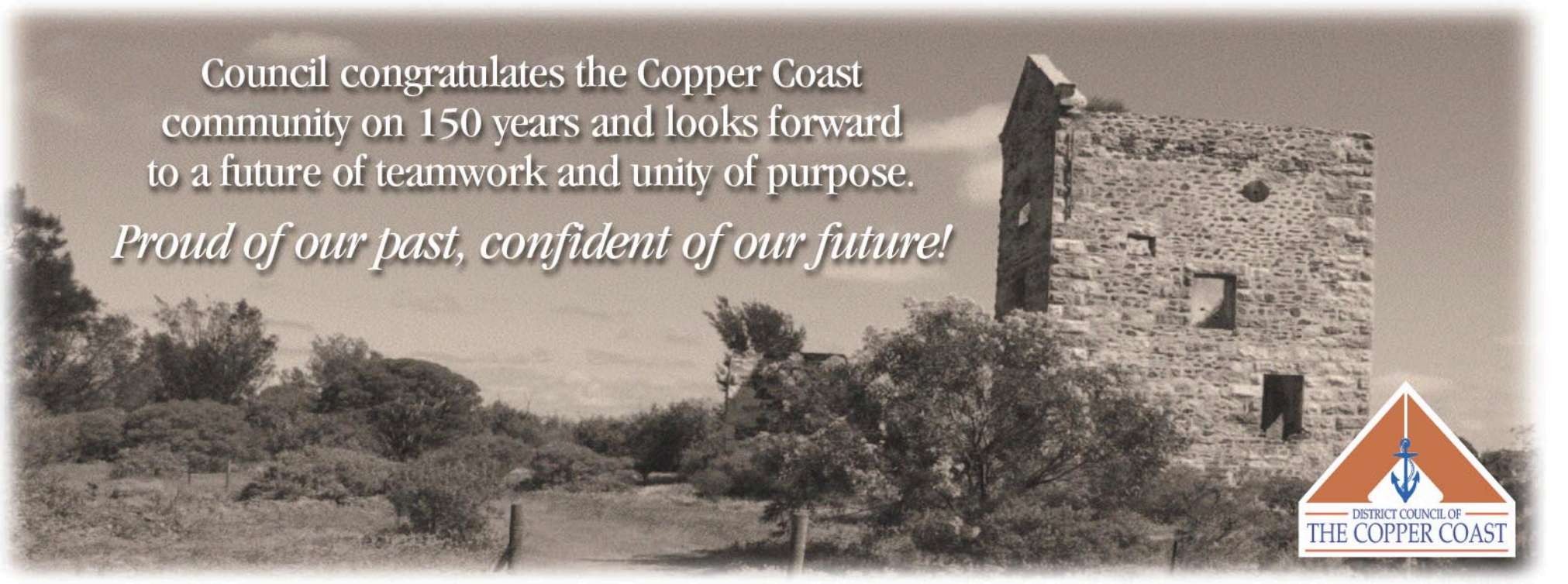
**1936** Moonta Bay Church's 25th Jubilee was celebrated in 1936; South Australia held its centenary celebrations.

**1937** Public conveniences were built in Queen Square in 1937; the Wild Dog Mine re-opened.

**1938** There was a delay of the start of the first school term until March in 1938 due to an infantile paralysis epidemic; the Moonta Corporation received a grant for 150 pounds to reconstruct a portion of the sea wall at Moonta Bay; the Fire Brigade Board offered council a good secondhand vehicle for 160 pounds; a rail car for the Moonta to Adelaide line was propelled by a Gardiner diesel engine; Mr Nayram Colmer presented a case of valuable mineral specimens to the Moonta Corporation.

**1939** Trustees of the Moonta Methodist Church decided to purchase a Hammond organ; a Red Cross unit formed; the Moonta Mines Primitive Methodist Church was demolished; World War II started.

**1940** The Moonta wheat yard was recognised as the largest grain receiving centre in the state in 1940, and in the 1939-40 season 300,000 bags were delivered; the Moonta Methodist Church celebrated its 75th anniversary.



# Kadina

**1941** By early 1941, Kadina men were already in action. Flight Lieutenant Robert Bungey was C.O. of an Australian Spitfire squadron fighting in the Battle of Britain. Captain H. R. Hancock's grandson, Private Norman Hancock, was reported missing in action in June, and Captain Lewis McCarter, a former teacher at Kadina Memorial High School, received a Military Cross for bravery. McCarter commanded an assault on a German concrete post.

**1942** The first Japanese air raid on Darwin in February 1942 resulted in the deaths of a former Kadina man, postmaster Hurtle Bald, and his wife and daughter. A direct hit on the Darwin Post Office killed all three. Prospects of an air raid on Kadina raised concern, and on one weekend 200 men turned out to dig air raid shelters near each school.

**1943** A veteran Lancaster of Bomber Command flew over Kadina as part of a recruiting drive on August 30, 1943, dropping war loan leaflets as it passed over.

**1945** With the end of the war in August 1945, soldiers began to return. Notable amongst these were Lewis McCarter, a German prisoner of war since his capture in August 1942; and Sister Jean Christopher, a Methodist Mission nurse captured by the Japanese in New Guinea and imprisoned in Japan for three and a half years.

**1946** Kadina was visited by royalty for the second time in September 1946, when the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester attended a reception in Victoria Square. Shortly before, the Right Honourable Bob Menzies, Leader of the Opposition, and Federal Minister Dr Clive Evatt, both paid visits.

**1948** Port Adelaide football great, Bob Quinn, bought the Central Hotel in Taylor Street in April 1948, and was immediately recruited to play for Kadina. Besides his impressive football career, Quinn was also a Military Cross winner for bravery during the siege of Tobruk in 1941.

**1948** Kadina bank manager C. Kitchin and his wife were passengers on the Finnish barque Passat when it left Port Victoria in May 1948 with a cargo of wheat for England. Kitchin took six months long-service leave to make the voyage, which took four and a half months.

**1950** In August 1950 a former miner's body was located in Taylor's Shaft a month after he went missing. Search parties, an Aboriginal tracker and an aircraft had scoured the district, while former miners Reg White, Bill Mildren and J. Symons examined as many shafts as were considered safe. The body was found beneath an old boiler dumped in the shaft.

# Wallaroo

**1942** Mr and Mrs W. Lanyon of Wallaroo were advised by the Air Board their son Pilot Officer Ray Lanyon had been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for gallant service while serving in a Halifax bomber squadron in England. His citation read: 'Pilot Lanyon has shown himself to be an outstanding bomber, whose cool courage, vigilance and skill have set an excellent example to all. His devotion to duty at all times has been most commendable.' Lanyon, who was 24 years of age, was born at Moonta, and educated at Wallaroo and Kadina high schools. He enlisted in January 1942 and left for England in May 1943.

**1943** Saturday, February 6, 1943, was a red letter day for Wallaroo when the new government hospital was officially opened by the Chief Secretary A. McEwin MLC, who described it as the best country hospital in the state. The project was first thought of in 1936 but it was not until 1941 the new building was started. War had intervened and prolonged the project. Mr McEwin believed the building would serve the community's need for many years to come. He referred to the splendid site which had been made possible by the generosity of the Corporation of Wallaroo in presenting the 13-acre block. The old building which had given more than 70 years of valued service had provided for the care and treatment of 733 patients.

**1945** In September 1945, H. M. submarine Trump visited the deep sea port of Wallaroo. The Corporations of Moonta and Kadina and the District Council of Kadina cooperated with Wallaroo to make the visit of the seamen as interesting and impressive as possible. Never before had a British war vessel been at the port. Special trains from Kadina and Moonta were packed with spectators. Many cars came from surrounding districts and the town had the appearance of a New Year's Day. School children with a band and hundreds of flags voiced their welcome with the national anthem and Song of Australia.

**1950** In September 1950 the Wallaroo golf committee completed building a long-needed, up-to-date clubrooms. The work had started just 16 weeks before and the club was fortunate to have men of all trades to complete the building which was thought to equal anything on the peninsula. It comprised a main hall, kitchen with servery, and secretary's office.

# Moonta

**1941** One hundred and forty two Moonta boys enlisted to fight in World War II; a Home Guard was formed.

**1942** A local Air Raid Precaution (A.R.P.) was formed in 1942; a unit of St John Ambulance was set up; brown-outs and black-outs were a war time necessity; local air raid precautions were in place and trenches prepared for the protection of local school children; the Baby Train which had made regular trips to Moonta was discontinued due to its carriages being required for war purposes; tea, sugar and clothing were rationed and ration books were issued; the People's Weekly newspaper was reduced in size due to war time shortage of newsprint.

**1943** Butter rationing came into force.

**1944** The family of Moonta nurse Annie Merle Trenerry received notification in 1944 that presumably she lost her life when the Japanese sank the Vyner Brooke on February 14, 1942.

**1945** The fence around Queen Square was removed as it was in a dilapidated state; in August 1945 World War II ended.

**1946** In 1946 Air Marshal Richard (Dickie) Williams, who was born on August 3, 1890, in Moonta Mines, holds a No.1 Air Licence; the Moonta Rifle Club was revived.

**1947** The Adelaide Milling Company, Moonta, received 60,000 bags of wheat in 1947 and total grain deliveries for the season were 300,000 bags; it was the official opening of the RSL memorial building in George Street, and the new St John casualty room at Moonta Bay.

**1948** Demolition of the Salvation Army hall at Moonta Mines took place in 1948 — half was transported to Woodville and half to Kilburn; a gale wrecked many boats damaged the jetty at Moonta Bay; celebrations were held at All Saints Church for its 75th anniversary.

**1949** The official opening at Moonta Bay of the YP Fishermans Co-op took place in 1949, the building and plant costing 8000 pounds; the Moonta War Memorial was flood lit; a 600 pound shark was caught near the Tipara lighthouse by the Simms family.

**1950** In 1950 the belfry at the Moonta Primary School was dismantled; a spur line was built for the wheat yard to provide further stacking facilities; a sale was held by the government at Smith's shaft in Moonta Mines of second-hand mining machinery and plant; tenders were sought for the erection of public conveniences at Moonta Bay, which were completed in 1951.

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Established in 1906 – Henry Pell opened "Pell Studios" at Graves Street, Kadina, a photographic studio that serviced the region.
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The new Wallaroo Golf Club clubrooms in 1950.

The new Wallaroo Hospital was opened in 1943.

Pilot Officer Ray Lanyon of Wallaroo was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross in 1945.

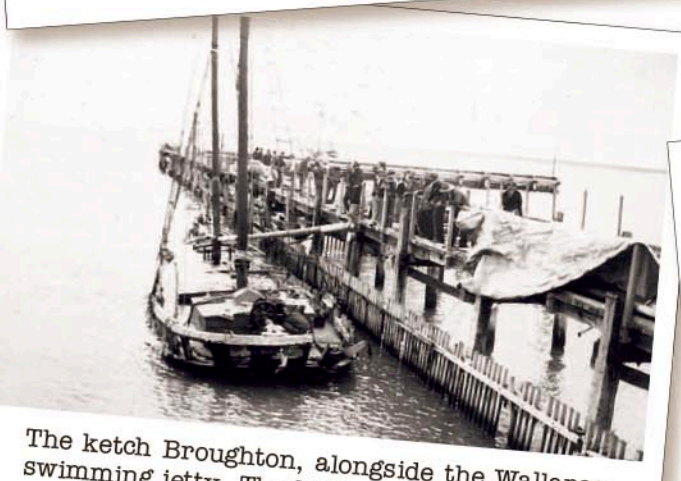
Wreckage of the chartered DH9 which crashed-landed at Kadina, May 1937.

The Victoria Park rotunda, Moonta, in the 1930s.

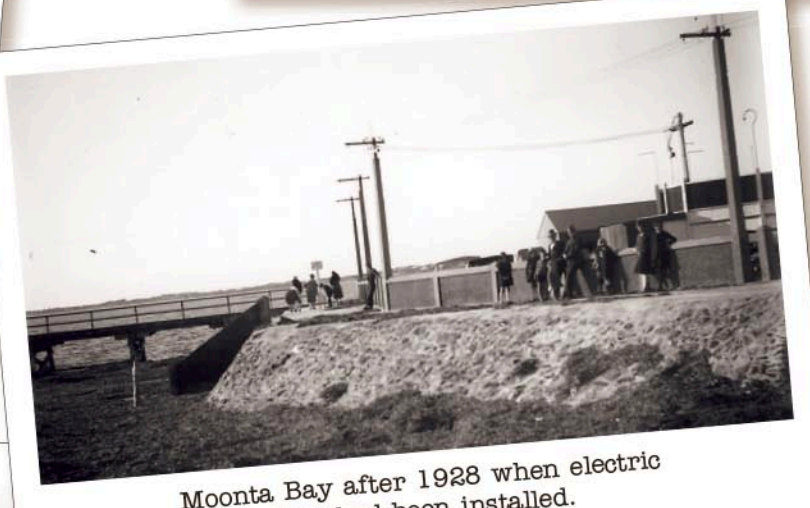
The Aero Club Moths which flew into Wallaroo in 1935.

The Adelaide Semaphore Largs bus at Moonta in the 1930s.

Captain Lewis McCarter, teacher at Kadina Memorial High School before and after WWII. A member of the 2/43rd Battalion, he was awarded a Military Cross for bravery.

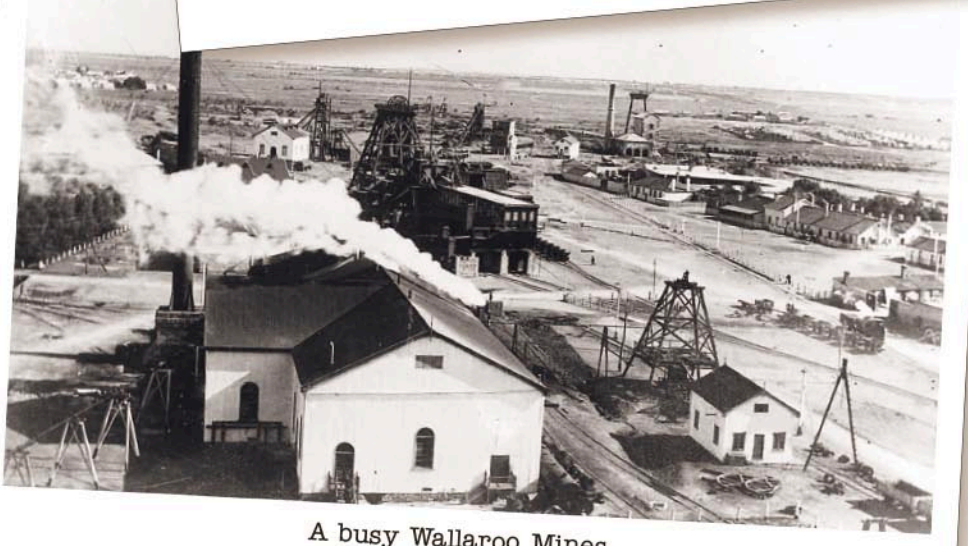


The ketch Broughton, alongside the Wallaroo swimming jetty. The boat sank after a fierce storm in 1932.



Moonta Bay after 1928 when electric light had been installed.

Crew and passengers of an Indian dhow who were rescued in the Indian Ocean by the steamer Mabriton and brought to Wallaroo in 1938.



A busy Wallaroo Mines.

# Kadina

**1953** Efforts to secure a large meat works capable of employing up to 300 people were announced in 1953. A site was selected two miles south of Kadina, to be connected by rail, and 20 homes were to be built for administrative staff. The proposal was abandoned when the government failed to initiate legislation permitting the efficient operation of an export meat works.

**1953** Farmer's son, Robert Brokenshire, was appointed in 1953 as ADC to Australia's Governor General, Sir William Slim. A Lieutenant in the Royal Australian Navy, Brokenshire had served in WWII. After 13 months as ADC he was appointed as Flag Lieutenant Commander and Fleet Communication Officer of the Australian Fleet in HMAS Sydney.

**1954** Mel Rilstone, son of Joe Rilstone, a prominent Wallaroo Mines identity, was living in Canada and conducting research into jet aircraft in England, France and Germany. A keen cricketer, like his father, Mel was selected in the Canadian Cricket Team to play a test match against England in 1954. In one innings he took two hat-tricks, a feat recognised by Wisden's as a world record in first class cricket.

**1957** Popular Kadina MP, Les (Larry) Heath, was killed in an accident near Port Wakefield in July 1957 on his way home after a Parliamentary night sitting. Larry was a prominent trotting and horse-racing identity, councillor, and businessman before entering Parliament. His funeral was attended by more than 1000 people, including Premier Tom Playford and other Parliamentarians. A semi-trailer carried 150 floral wreaths to the cemetery.

**1957** Young Kadina cyclists Malcolm Hicks and Ray Owen won a number of state championships late in this decade. Hicks secured the State 50 Mile championship in August 1957 and the 125 Mile Championship. Owen won the State Junior 1 Mile Track Championship, State Junior title, and the SA Five Mile Junior Championship, all in the space of a few weeks.

**1958** The body of former miner, 74-year-old Ben Clarke was found in a mine shaft in 1958. Tracks were found leading to Stirling's Shaft and two officers from the Cliff Rescue Squad entered the shaft and found Clarke's body caught in timber at the first level, 12 feet below water level.

**1960** The death occurred in 1960 of Frederick Albert Bottrill, a Kadina gardener and Salvation Army officer. Under the pen-name of "Philo", Bottrill contributed a weekly social column to the Kadina and Wallaroo Times for 35 years. Ill-health forced him to relinquish his jottings just before the 1960 Centenary of Copper celebrations and the 77th anniversary of the Salvation Army in Kadina, events he was eagerly anticipating.

# Wallaroo

**1952** In 1952 local businessman Ken Reed successfully purchased a valuable portrait which resulted in world-wide publicity for Wallaroo. Mr Reed learned 145 paintings by Dr Stephen Ward were being offered at a London art gallery, and his bid was successful for one painting. The paintings were sold to pay legal costs as Dr Ward was in the Old Bailey Central Criminal Court on five vice charges. Mr Reed added the painting to his collection which included paintings of the mines, and Australian scenes by the late Albert Namatjira and Sir Hans Heysen.

**1952** Head teacher Mr Sylvester Smith left Wallaroo in 1952 to take up a position at Lockleys after teaching the longest of any head teacher in the school's 75-year history.

**1957** On December 3, 1957, the SA Cooperative Bulk Handling Limited bulk grain silo of 1.5 million bushels capacity at Wallaroo was opened by Premier Sir Thomas Playford. The time to load a ship with 9000 tons of grain would now take two to three days instead of two weeks to load the same boat with bagged wheat.

**1958** Due to a lack of interest at the annual meeting of the Wallaroo Rowing Club in October 1958 the premises was closed for the coming season and the club placed in the hands of trustees. For more than 80 years one of the town's traditions had been the rowing club. One Olympic and several interstate rowers had graduated from its ranks, and members of local families had been represented by three generations. It was a grave reflection on the youth of Wallaroo that this had come to pass.

**1959** In 1959, 56 holiday home sites were offered for sale at North Beach estate with prices ranging from 95 pounds to 195 pounds.

**1960** In 1960, Wallaroo made history in the state by being the first town to have its own municipal flag, which was possibly a first also in Australia.

◆ *Wallaroo's town flag.*

# Moonta

**1951** The Moonta Mines Rechabite Hall (former Bible Christian Church) was demolished in 1951; the Moonta Corporation agreed to the takeover by ETSA of electric power supply for 12,500 pounds; celebrations were held for the Commonwealth Jubilee; the Moonta Jubilee Hospital re-opened after closing for some months due to a lack of staff; a water tank was erected on the corner of Hughes Avenue and Bowden Street, Moonta Bay; Oswald Pryor became a Bard of Cornwall.

**1952** The 80th Moonta Show was held in 1952; Moonta Bay was lashed by a 70 mile per hour gale during which the jetty was totally destroyed and ladies' changing shed disappeared.

**1953** Moonta celebrated the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953; the Drill Hall, which had closed in 1921, re-opened; the newly constructed ladies bowling green was opened.

**1954** The Maitland to Moonta road was bituminised in 1954; a new jarrah floor was installed in the Moonta Institute; a Commonwealth census was held — Moonta's population, 1221.

**1955** Moonta's power house was vacated in 1955, with a change from DC to AC current; the Cross Roads church celebrated its 81st anniversary.

**1956** There was a record barley intake for the 1956 season of 351,543 bags; reconstruction of George Street started; Moonta school crossing lights began operating.

**1957** The last 10-horse team in the district ceased work in 1957. Owned by J. Loveridge of Agery, it had been used for rolling scrub; wheat silos were erected at the Milling Company; the Australian Skin Diving Championships were held at Cape Elizabeth.

**1958** The Moonta Croquet Club honour board was unveiled; lights were installed on the Moonta Bay and Port Hughes jetties; construction started on the new Moonta Bay jetty.

**1960** In 1960, the family of mine captain Sidney Rowe presented the Moonta Corporation with the clock used at the Paramatta mine engine house. The clock was the timepiece used for starting and ending shifts; William (Bill) Giesecke, formerly of Moonta, had an oil painting exhibited in the Elder Park open air exhibition. Many years ago he had painted a line of ships on the Ellen Street wall of Bennett's grocery shop. It was the Centenary of Discovery of Copper at Wallaroo Mines. The Moonta Company during its separate existence produced copper to the value of 5,396,146 pounds and distributed 1,168,000 pounds in dividends among shareholders, becoming the first mining company in Australia to pay more than 1,000,000 pounds in dividends; the old Moonta railway bell, used for about 60 years, was presented to the Loxton North Primary School.

# Kadina

**1962** Two new churches, Methodist (now Uniting) in Taylor Street and Lutheran in Hay Street, were constructed in the early 1960s.
The Lutheran Church was declared open on December 10, 1961, with the Rev. J.C. Pfitzner officiating. An opening ceremony for the Methodist Church took place on March 23, 1962, conducted by the Rev. G.C. Hutchinson. Large crowds were present at both ceremonies.

**1963** The Kadina and Wallaroo Band achieved much success at this time under the leadership of talented musician Jack Altman.
A win in the State Championships at Tanunda in November 1963 was followed in 1969 by a B Grade championship.

**1965** A special centenary issue of the Kadina and Wallaroo Times was published on September 30, 1965.
Within a few months the Moonta newspaper, People's Weekly, merged with the Times to become the Kadina, Wallaroo and Moonta Times, and then the other Kadina-based newspaper, the SA Farmer, joined forces to become the Yorke Peninsula Country Times.
Other peninsula newspapers had already been acquired by the Times.

**1966** The Rotary Club of Kadina had installed a small collection of historical photographs and artefacts in the vacant Wallaroo Mines Institute and, in 1966, with the aid of the NYP Agricultural Bureau, purchased one of the old mining company houses, Matta House, with the intention of starting a branch of the National Trust at Kadina to run it as a museum.
It was opened by Hon. C. R. Kelly on March 25,1967, and an adjoining agricultural museum on July 1 by local MP Lloyd Hughes. Kadina Rotary later received a Significant Achievement Award from Rotary International, Chicago, for their part in the project.

**1968** Kadina soldier, Sapper Allan Pattison's death in Vietnam shocked the town in February 1968.
Allan and six other soldiers from the 1st Field Squadron came under mortar and rocket fire while on patrol in Bien Hoa Province.
Allan was 19 years of age. His funeral was a sad day for Kadina. Shops closed and a huge crowd lined the streets to pay tribute.
A military band and squad of soldiers accompanied the coffin on its gun carriage to the cemetery.

# Wallaroo

**1961** In 1961 the deeds of the Wallaroo Town Hall were presented to council by acting clerk, Mrs H. Rhodes, after receiving them from the State Bank, which had loaned money to rebuild the town hall after it burned down 44 years before on December 26, 1917. It was foresight on the part of Mayor Ashton and his council to rebuild in 1918 and make repayments through at least three generations. The amount borrowed was 3000 pounds and the first repayment was made on April 1, 1919, and paid back in 83 equal half-yearly instalments of 85 pounds 15 shillings and seven pence for 41 years and six months.

**1961** The Wallaroo Clothing factory closed in 1961. Reasons cited for the closure were the depressed trading conditions in the textile and manufacturing trade throughout Australia brought about by the federal government's financial and import policies.

**1963** At a meeting in the Wallaroo Council Chambers on July1, 1963, the mayor was appointed as president of a committee comprising representatives from the various service clubs and organizations to establish a Senior Citizens' Recreation Centre; membership reached 15 in both the Wallaroo Scouts and Cubs and a most successful tree planting venture was undertaken.

**1964** Twenty-four sailing enthusiasts met in the harbour master's office at Wallaroo in February 1964 to form the Yorke Peninsula Sailing Club. The new club meant 'white wings' and sailing races would reappear at the annual regatta, and bring the northern YP town in line with those in the south, which had a sailing club.

**1968** In 1968 three boats which had previously fished for tuna from Port Lincoln had been trawling for prawns in Spencer Gulf and unloading their catches at Port Hughes and Wallaroo. The boats were the Kolega, Litera and Mary-Ann Simms. It was rumoured some night catches per boat were more than 1000 pounds of the king variety which can grow to nine or 10 inches. After unloading at local ports the prawns were trucked to Adelaide; lights were installed on two courts of the Wallaroo Tennis Club enabling night tennis to be played.

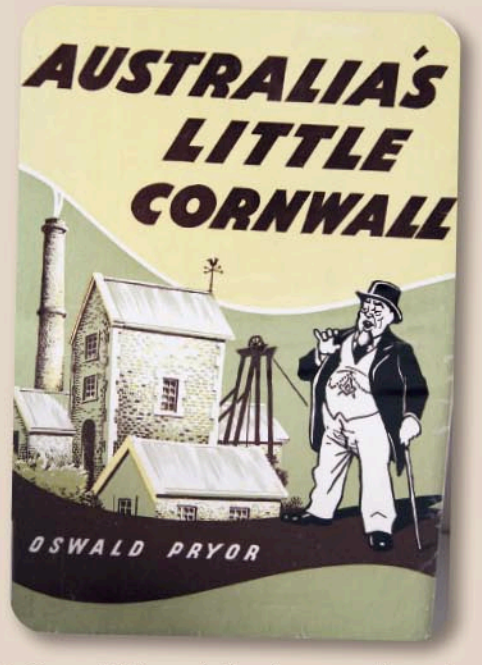
**1969** A new Mothers and Babies Health Association building was completed and opened in 1967 in John Terrace, and the old clinic was demolished in 1969.

# Moonta

**1961** Hundreds of former Moonta residents returned in cars and buses for the opening of the new Moonta Bay jetty; Kay Hatcher rode her pushbike to Adelaide in searing heat, bettering her father's record by more than two hours. She left Moonta at 4.15am and arrived in Allenby Gardens at 12.40pm.

**1961** Bronte Giesecke visited a shooting gallery at Moonta Bay and got 44 bulls eyes from 44 shots in 1961; during the Moonta Copper Centenary celebrations, more than 300 people signed a visitors book.

**1962** The Moonta Police Station and residence were demolished; in the same year, Oswald Pryor's book, Australia's Little Cornwall was released.




◆ *Oswald Pryor's book was released in 1962.*

**1963** Thirteen acres of seafront land was purchased by Lester Ford in 1963; Tossell's old shop at Moonta Bay was demolished.

**1964** National Trust officials visited Moonta in 1964 with a view of establishing a branch; more than 300 fish were caught off the Port Hughes jetty in 12 months.

**1966** The Moonta Branch of the National Trust opened a museum at the town hall; after 78 years the Moonta People's Weekly published its last edition on March 31.

**1967** The Miner's Cottage was officially opened in 1967.

**1969** The Moonta branch of the National Trust opened the museum in the Moonta Mines School building.

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# Kadina

**1971** Preliminary plans for a $250,000 effluent drainage scheme were presented to ratepayers by the Kadina Corporation in January 1971; voluntary labour and team effort enabled the Kadina Dart Club to start pouring the foundation for new clubrooms in May; Jack the Price Slasher Store was transformed to Tom the Cheap Grocer in September, with Don Oakley as store manager; in November the first installation of new automatic telephones for Kadina was made at the home of the Mayor and Mayoress, Mr and Mrs L. G. Davies.

**1972** In May 1972 the Kadina Cricket Club won its first A grade premiership in 37 years; a $2.25 million fully-automatic telephone exchange was opened in June; the Kadina Printing Museum at Matta House was opened in August; 500 people attended the opening of the Kadina Corporation Centenary Celebrations at a ball in the town hall.

**1973** In April 1973, Dr. F. L. Thyer retired from the Kadina Medical Clinic after 45 years; in August, Solomit (SA) Limited announced the construction of a factory at Kadina to manufacture straw ceilings and insulation; a contract has been let to A. V. Jennings Industries to build a post office at Kadina at a cost of $293,909.

**1974** Sir Edward Hayward officially opened the new St John Centre in April 1974; John Olsen, 29, was Kadina's new mayor; in August, more than 300 people attended the KMHS Old Scholars' Association Jubilee Dinner in the Kadina Town Hall.

**1976** In January 1976, federal and state government grants totalling $434,000 were allocated to the Kadina Leisure Centre; well-known Kadina identity Ernie Plumb was out on his beat with The News for the last time; gale force wind damaged the Kadina and District Youth Centre in August; the Corporation of Kadina and the District Council of Kadina were to amalgamate.

**1978** In February 1978, the new complex at Kadina Memorial High School was officially opened; in March, a joint project of the SA Government, the District Council of Kadina, and the Kadina Apex, Lions and Rotary Clubs enabled the new YP Regional Tourist Office in the Town Square to be officially opened; Sam Trenwith received SA Band Association life membership.

**1980** In 1980, after trading for almost 100 years, Moore's closed for business; the historic Wallaroo Mines Wesleyan Church was demolished, despite efforts to save it; in November, YP dart player, Malcolm Bridges of Cunliffe, was captain-manager of the Australian Dart team which won the Pacific Area Cup.

# Wallaroo

**1971** In January 1971, Mr George Coventry was sworn in as a special constable for the Corporation of Wallaroo; Wallaroo Fisheries planned to obtain land to build a $20,000 fish processing plant; Adelaide and Wallaroo Fertilisers purchased Cresco Fertilisers in November.

**1972** In November 1972, Wallaroo Corporation and NYP Chamber of Commerce requested reinstatement of all police facilities at Wallaroo; there was a deputation from NYP towns to Premier Don Dunstan, to help get wheat bagging at Wallaroo for overseas countries.

**1973** In May 1973, Wallaroo Corporation hoped to commence building a two-storey addition to the town hall at a cost of $50,000; a $15million development, including a casino, was submitted to Premier Don Dunstan by A. V. Jennings Industries and Federal Hotels which could make Wallaroo the tourist centre of SA.

**1974** Divers found two copper ingots from the once famous mines in 30 feet of water near Wallaroo jetty in February 1974; the Wallaroo Kindergarten which had full enrolment of 39, was closed due to lack of parental support; in August, for the first time in 20 years, motor vehicles were unloaded at Wallaroo.

**1976** Charlick Limited were to recommenced bagging wheat at Wallaroo in March 1976, after a closure of nearly two years; in April, the Coast Protection Board helped finance a safe swimming enclosure next to Wallaroo's commercial jetty and the old fishing jetty; golfer Kevin Taylor realized a 22-year dream when he had his first hole-in-one on no. 7 and scored a very low 64 o.s.; former Wallaroo girl June Ladner will be South Australia's first woman district cricket umpire.

**1977** At 12.03am on New Year's Day, 1977, Rossalynd Mottram was the first baby born in SA at the Wallaroo Hospital; the port of Wallaroo might be a major port for the export of live sheep to Iran. In October, Minister of Marine Des Corcoran said it was highly improbable pilot error was involved when Chinese vessel Wuzhau smashed into the Wallaroo jetty.

**1978** The live sheep dispute spread to Wallaroo in April 1978 when huge truckloads of sheep arrived from Cavan.

**1979** In September 1979, Transport Minister Geoff Virgo advised the Australian National Railways Commission planned to cut freight services between Wallaroo and Moonta.

**1980** A fight began in March 1980 for the inclusion of the Wallaroo-Snowtown railway line in the proposed standard gauge rail link.

# Moonta

**1971** In February 1971 the second storey walls of the 100-year-old Matthews Emporium building were removed and Matthews was climaxing the first decade of trading with large scale rebuilding; on June 13, Moonta's historian, cartoonist and organist Oswald Pryor died; townspeople and parent bodies presented a solid case to the Minister of Education and Director of Secondary Education for the retention of a high school.

**1972** In September 1972, shoppers from most areas of YP flocked to Moonta for Oates' one-stop Foodland opening; Premier Donald Dunstan was tendered a civic reception and held discussions with council and the Moonta National Trust on future tourist plans for Moonta Mines.

**1973** Houses were unroofed, sheds and fences blown down and hundreds of trees uprooted when a cyclone (100mph gale) hit in March 1973; the SA Pony Club championships were held at Moonta.

**1973** The new nurses' quarters of the Moonta Jubilee Hospital were opened; Moonta Football Club's new clubrooms, costing $47,000, were officially opened by Mayor H. A. Dowling.

**1976** The $48,000 Moonta Kindergarten was opened in February 1976; in June, the Norman McCauley Homes for the Aged were opened; in November, Police Constable Gary Burns, 25, received first and second degree burns to his back and face while dragging an unconscious Linda Phillips from a burning cottage in Ellen Street.

**1977** In July 1977, the 306 hectare farm of M. Pedler sold at auction for $165,000 by Southern Farmers; in November amalgamation of Moonta Primary and High Schools into an Area School from the beginning of 1978 was approved.

**1978** In 1978, Minister of Health, Don Banfield opened Elanora Holiday Camp at Port Hughes; the new Apex Club of Moonta received its charter; in July, Australia Post postman Doug Mutton retired after 32 years pushing a bike for 84,000 miles and riding a motor scooter for 60,000.

**1979** Moonta branch of the National Trust installed a Bell and Howell Micro Film Reader at the Moonta Museum in June 1979; in October, Member for Goyder E. K. Russack officially commissioned the YP Country Times' new Goss Web Offset Press by pressing the start button.

**1980** Gusts in excess of 100km/h ripped the roof off Colin Stevens's Port Hughes General Store in May 1980, dumping it in the adjacent Port Hughes Caravan Park; Harold Andrews had eight grandsons playing football, spread over three clubs in the YV association; Moonta shares the title of South Australia's Tidiest Town with Mount Gambier.

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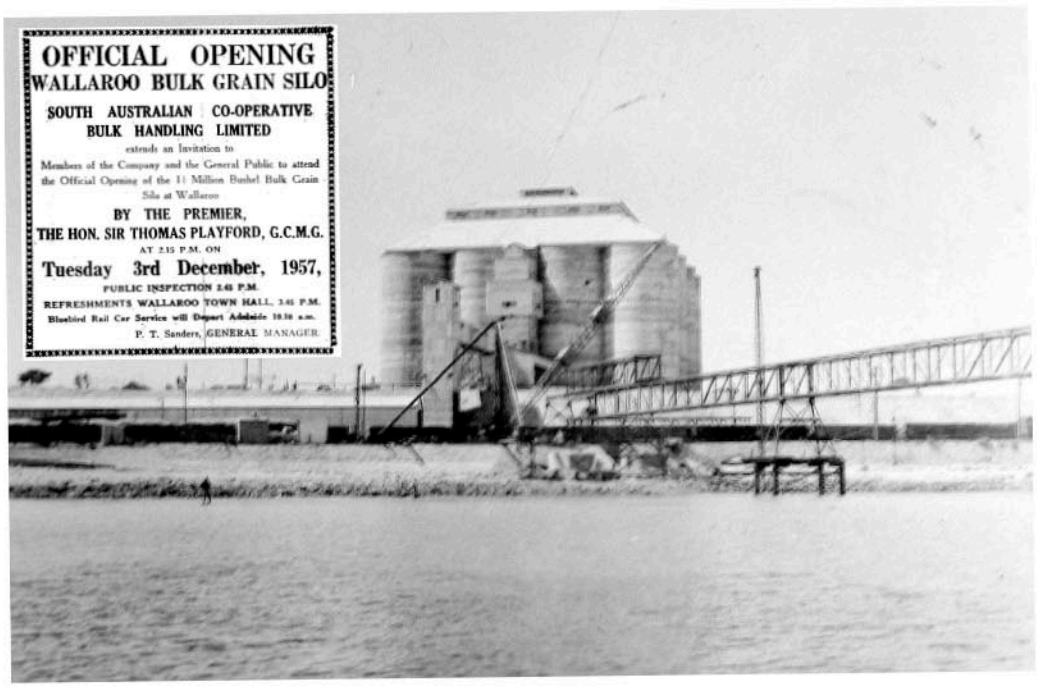
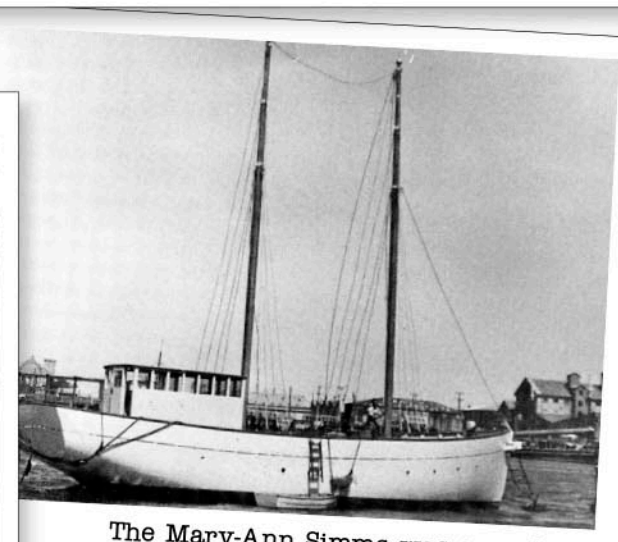



SA Co-operative Bulk Handling's new silos were opened by Sir Thomas Playford on December 3, 1957.

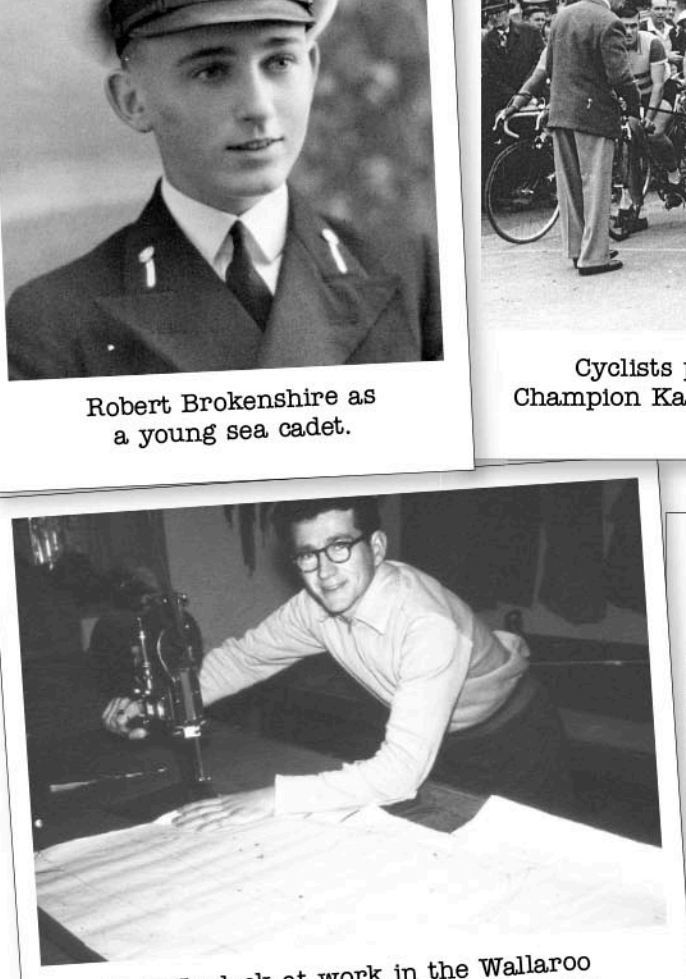
Members of the Moonta Council 1971-72. Back: W. B. Penfold, L. B. Cross, J. Lambert, J. P. Chapman, W. I. Oates, G. H. Cave; front: L. G. Ford, Mrs I. A. Dowling (mayoress), H. A. Dowling (Mayor), B. G. Wallbridge. Absent: N. W. Symons.

Robert Brokenshire as a young sea cadet.

Cyclists prepare for the start of a race at Kadina. Champion Kadina cyclist Ray Owen is at the extreme right.



The Mary-Ann Simms was one of the first three boats to start prawn fishing in Spencer Gulf in 1968.



Ron Haylock at work in the Wallaroo Clothing Factory, which closed in 1961.

The opening of Matta House Museum, Kadina, March 25, 1967.

The Savings Bank at the Wallaroo Town Hall in the 1960s.

In 1966, the printing workshop at the Kadina Moonta Wallaroo Times with operators Wayne Rivers, Dennis Gill, John Phillips and Jeff Smith.

The Kadina Municipal Band with conductor Jack Altman seated at the centre of the front row.

# Kadina

**1981** A white tail tornado struck a part of Newtown in July 1981 damaging the Kadina Village Motel and nearby properties; the Ascot Theatre, in Graves Street, will be developed into a Cultural Centre by the District Council of Kadina.

**1982** In February 1982 Kadina Telecom had the best safety record of the 87 Australian Telecom districts; J. H. Rosewarne Pty Ltd, the Rosewarne family and hundreds of well-wishers attended the firm's centenary celebrations in May; well-known business Redding's Engineering was sold to Robert and Richard Venning in July; the District Council of Kadina and the Corporation of Moonta are to amalgamate, and the new combined council will be known as the District Council of Northern Yorke Peninsula.

**1984** Tricia Hicks of Kadina competed in the Australasian Country Music Awards in Tamworth in January 1984; 500 people attended the inaugural Miners' Ball on Saturday and Sunday, February 4 and 5; construction started on the Kadina Gateway Motel.

**1985** Barrie Johnson retired as Johnson's Meat Store proprietor in March 1985 after 27 years in business. In April petrol was delivered to Kadina and Minlaton by a tanker unit known as a "Canadian B Train" carrying 55,500 litres of petrol. Owned by the Shell Company, it is the only one of its type in Australia. Kadina full forward, Richard Champion, has been selected to represent SA in the Teal Cup in Perth.

**1986** Kadina Metropolitan Fire Service crew were state champions in July 1986.

**1987** Kadina Telecom staff featured on the front cover of the new 088 telephone directory in 1987; in April, a full-furnished, fully-functional brick-veneer Jehovah Witnesses Kingdom Hall valued at $300,000 was built from a foundation slab Thursday afternoon to culminate in a thanksgiving meeting late Sunday afternoon; a 4.56m (15ft) Cornish pasty baked at Price's Bakery was claimed as a world record; former Kadina man Trevor Bailey won a national competition for a berth during 1987-88 on one of the sailing ships taking part in the re-enactment of the First Fleet Voyage from England to Australia.

**1988** Kadina policeman Tom Adams, who raised nine children after his wife died 12 years ago, was named Lions SA Father of the Year in September 1988; Woolworths' new liquor store was officially opened in October by mayor of the District Council of NYP Ashley Schilling.

**1989** Three linked Bluebird rail cars carrying nearly 100 poker machine enthusiasts pulled into the Kadina station taking part in the first Pokies By Rail tour in January 1989.

**1990** Hi-Fert officially opened its plant in Kennett Street in February 1990.

# Wallaroo

**1981** A new government hospital to be built on NYP to replace the one at Wallaroo sparked much controversy and debate in January 1981; standardisation of the railway line between Wallaroo and Snowtown began in February.

**1982** Several thousand people attended a New Year's Day regatta at Wallaroo in January 1982.

**1983** For the first time, three diesel locomotives were used to pull a train loaded with 1873 tonnes of malting barley 30 wagons out of Wallaroo in March 1983; ETSA Utilities examined a site between Point Riley and Myponie Point as a possible location for a power plant.

**1984** A major supermarket and shopping development was proposed by well-known NYP business people Ivan and Winsome Oates, who operate a Foodland supermarket in Moonta; the 212.86-metre long ship Yue Hai, from the People's Republic of China, was the longest ship ever to berth at Wallaroo

**1986** In April 1986 Minister of Health, Dr John Cornwall, announced the letting of an $8 million contract for the redevelopment of the Wallaroo and District Hospital.

**1987** A fully-surveyed patrol/duty boat for search and rescue was commissioned for the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard at Wallaroo in January 1987; in February, 87 year-old Jacob 'Shake' Bradley had a memorable day as guest of honour at the 71st Henley to Grange Swim on January 25 highlighting a life-time interest in swimming; District Council of NYP had no objection to a proposal from residents and owners of property in the Township of North Beach to change the name from North Beach to Riley Cove; Jamie McLean, aged 15, won nine meals at the fourth National Junior Wheelchair Games.

**1988** The old Ascot Theatre, closed to patrons for many years, came back to life as the Kadina Cinema in June 1988.

**1989** In February 1989 grain bagging facility Charlicks was facing possible closure, with 45 casual jobs at risk; the 10-bed Wallaroo Star of the Sea Nursing Home was under threat of progressive closure from the Department of Community and Health; an old World War II mortar shell was discovered in the room of one of the residents of the Star of the Sea Hostel.

**1990** In January 1990 former Wallaroo resident Dr David Haylock discovered a technique known as peripheral bloom stem cell transplant; a 50-kilometre buried undersea cable is to be laid from Point Riley to north of Cowell; plans for a $17 million, 150 berth marina were lodged with the Wallaroo Corporation by Queensland company Adelford.

# Moonta

**1982** In January 1982 the Moonta branch of the National Trust placed in service a small train purchased from Western Australia; mining company North Broken Hill Ltd announced it was closing its Moonta office and laboratories.

**1983** Temperatures soared in January 1983 in the Moonta Town Hall as debate raged whether Moonta Council should merge with the District Council of Kadina; a Gorseth proclamation ceremony — the first to take place outside of Cornwall in its 55 year history — will be staged in Moonta's Queen Square on Saturday, May 14; former Moonta girl, Ayleen Hughes (nee Hicks) competed in the finals of New Faces on September 25.

**1984** Moonta Mines Narrow Gauge Railway Committee received a grant of $155,040 in 1984 to construct a narrow gauge line from the National Trust Museum at Wheal Munta to the old Moonta Railway Station; Moonta Jubilee Hospital Board prepared plans for the construction of a new hospital on the corner of William and Caroline Streets.

**1985** At the home of Dr and Mrs F. L. Thyer, 150 people attended a public meeting in January 1985 to form a committee to fight a Port Hughes marina development proposal; Mr and Mrs Milton Butler presented plans to the District Council of NYP to build a hotel south of Port Hughes; the removal of 10 miles of railway track between Wallaroo and Moonta brought to a close a chapter of local transport history spanning 120 years.

**1986** In 1986, Premier of SA John Bannon officially declared the Jubilee 150 project to upgrade the Moonta Mines Museum and Moonta Mines State Heritage Area completed.

**1987** The site of the former Yelta Smelters at Moonta was placed on the State Heritage List in February 1987; in September a copper lode was discovered three kilometres northeast of Moonta on the former Poona Mine site of the early 1900s by North Broken Hill Holdings and Western Mining Corporation.

**1988** In June 1988 a consortium and the District Council of NYP proposed a marina and associated residential development between Harry's Point and Simms Cove.

**1989** In September 1989 the Moonta Jubilee Hospital board announced the building of a $2.1 million health and aged care facility.

**1990** Work started in February 1990 on the new aged care facility adjacent Parkview Aged Hostel; a 120-year-old two storey building, Tamara House, in Blanche Terrace was destroyed by fire on February 28.

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# Kadina

**1991** In July 1991 Police Commissioner David Hunt paid a visit to divisional headquarters at Kadina; Kadina Community Hospital faced a financial crisis.

**1992** In 1992 a proposal was before council for a new main road through Kadina along the unused railway line; in June, employees at the Telecom Business Office received notice it was to close on February 1, 1993.

**1993** In April 1993 the NYP new all-weather airstrip, four kilometres southwest of Kadina, was officially opened by John Olsen; the new Kadina Civic Centre was officially opened by Her Excellency the Governor of South Australia, Dame Roma Mitchell in October; 18-year-old Travis Peter is now the no. 2 javelin thrower in his class in Australia which now qualifies him for the world junior championships in England.

**1994** The District Council of NYP approved Woolworths Kadina store extensions in September 1994; the Kadina-based Dryland Agricultural Diversification Project was officially opened by Senator Dominic Foreman.

**1995** The Kadina Community Hospital closed on Thursday, August 31st; NYP Country Fire Service and Kadina Brigade situated on Port Road was officially opened; in October, the Kadina Primary School had its new school crossing serviced with lights.

**1996** John Olsen was sworn in as Premier of South Australia on November 28, 1996; Fosseys planned consolidation and re-siting of its two stores in Taylor and Digby Streets to a new site on the corner of Frances Terrace and Goyder Street; a committee was formed to establish a Copper Triangle Christian school at Kadina.

**1999** At the Country Press Association of SA — Australia Post 'Best Newspaper Awards' dinner in Adelaide in March 1999, Trevor Ellis was presented with life membership; on November 17, 20 employees at the Telstra Kadina Sales Centre in Taylor Street were informed their office would close on March 10, 2000; in December, Kadina and district remained shocked at the deaths of Tony and Gaye Jackson, and Gaye's 14-year-old son, Matt Johnson, who died of smoke inhalation when their house burned.

**2000** In January 2000 Harvest Christian School opened with 40 enrolled students; Premier of South Australia, John Olsen, officially opened Kadina TAFE campus; the closure of Price's Kadina Bakehouse in July severed a 124-year tradition of the Price family baking on YP; Richard Champion, after 10 years and 183 games with the Brisbane Bears/Lions, retired; in December the YP Harness Racing Club announced all meetings at Kadina for the 2000-2001 season had been cancelled by Harness Racing SA due to safety concerns.

# Wallaroo

**1991** In March 1991 it was proposed two Gulf Link ferries would be running between Wallaroo and Franklin Harbour from December 1992; planning was underway by SACBH for a new $40 million belt loading system upgrade; Spencer Gulf Tourist Resort Pty Ltd applied to Wallaroo Corporation to develop a motel and holiday resort at North Beach.

**1992** In February 1992, the Wallaroo Post Office was on the drawing board to become a postal agency; in December, the Wallaroo Golf Club received a government grant of $102,367 for the installation of an irrigation watering system on the club's fairways.

**1993** In 1993, the arrival of the first of three rail carriages for the YP Rail Preservation Society created much interest; the Star of the Sea Nursing Home, through a $650,000 expansion project, would provide 12 extra beds.

**1994** The Wallaroo Pizza Bar, and two shops in the adjoining Wallaroo supermarket in Owen Terrace were gutted with fire in the early hours of New Year's Eve, 1994; the Wallaroo to Snowtown railway line may be re-opened, according to the state Minister for Transport, Diana Laidlaw.

**1995** The Corporation of Wallaroo recorded new heights in February 1995 with 29 houses and units valued at $2.4 million completed and a new subdivision of 44 allotments costing $420,000 started; Wallaroo gets a dry area in Centenary Square and a section of Owen Terrace between Emu and Irwin Streets; in September, Wallaroo branch of Meals on Wheels delivered its 150,000th meal to 99-year-old Sara Smith.

**1996** One of the largest shipments of grain (31,061 tonnes) to leave Wallaroo on one ship sailed from the port on January 10, 1996; Ports Corporation SA transferred the harbormaster/pilot at Wallaroo, Capt Hartmut Pasche, to Port Pirie, leaving Wallaroo without a resident pilot.

**1997** In March 1997, the Esquire Motel adjacent the South Australian Co-operative Bulk Handling terminal was acquired by SACBH; with five ships at anchor and one at the jetty, the flooding of shipping into Wallaroo continued, making it probably the busiest port since the days of sail.

**1998** Machinery was scheduled to be on site in January 1998 and earthworks commenced for the planned Wallaroo Copper Cove Marina; In March 2000 the first boat entered the Copper Cove Marina; the Maltese bulk grain ship Amarantos struck the Wallaroo jetty in April causing $2.6 million damage; Premier John Olsen officially opened stage one of the multi-million dollar Copper Cove Marina and the inaugural Copper Coast Prawnfest.

# Moonta

**1991** In February 1991, at the open cut Poona Mine, operations moved underground to recover a further extensive lode of copper ore; in May the Moonta Health and Aged Care Centre was officially opened by the Hon. Don Hopgood, Minister of Health; 48 historic graves were damaged at the Moonta Cemetery in October causing $30,000 damage.

**1992** Moonta Area School had a record enrolment of 440 students in February 1992; two adjoining shops in George Street, Moonta, were destroyed by fire in November causing $500,000 damage, and Kadina CIB arrested and charged with arson two 16-year-old youths and a 29- year-old man, all of Moonta.

**1993** Well-known Moonta historian Jim Harbison was awarded honorary life membership of the National Trust of South Australia in April 1993; the 85-year-old Moonta Railway Station gained a new lease of life as an interpretive centre for tourism after its takeover by the District Council of NYP.

**1994** The old lighthouse at Tipara Reef, off Port Hughes, was replaced with a new solar powered light in November 1994.

**1995** In January 1995 an old navigation beacon, which was a feature of Port Hughes jetty for generations, now lights South Beach car park; the first stage of a major conservation plan for the Moonta Mines National Trust (formerly the Moonta Mines Public School) was completed in October, with the underpinning of the building's northern wall.

**1996** Minister for Infrastructure, John Olsen, advised in January 1996 that powerlines are to go underground.

**1997** In March 1997 the Papps family proposed a $2 million holiday resort for Port Hughes; Wheal Hughes Tourist Mine opened for business in December; after eight years transforming land at Moonta Bay, Trevor and Julie Keast opened a new tourist attraction, Moonta Wildlife Park.

**1998** A Supreme Court decision in January 1998 which blocked the planned development of a $2.5 million resort complex at Port Hughes was upheld by the Full Court; a Moonta farmer unearthed the former Yelta Cricket Club concrete cricket pitch.

**1999** On January 12, 1999, when bowler Ian Hatcher rolled his first bowl at the SA v Victoria Loy Carroll Shield match at Moonta greens on January 12, he commenced his 95th state game.

**2000** In February 2000 the NYP Aged Hostel "Parkview" received its accreditation certificate; Moonta A grade cricketers won their fifth premiership in six years; Moonta shooter, Brian Trenwith, comes first and creates an Australian record at the national titles in Queensland; the historic Moonta Mines Uniting Church celebrated with a special Centenary Service in October.

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# Kadina

**2001** In June 2001 Kadina golfer, Audrey Kennett, celebrated 50 years of active membership with Kadina Ladies Golf Club; in October, Kadina-born John Olsen's resignation as Premier of South Australia ended a premiership reign two months short of five years.

**2002** Telstra Kadina closed its call centre in July 2002, resulting in the loss of 15 local jobs; an international 500cc speedway attracted more than 2000 people to the Kadina Showgrounds in January for the Young Australia v Young England test series; recently retired publisher and editor of the YP Country Times, Trevor Ellis, was named Australia Day Citizen of the Year by the District Council of the Copper Coast; the Ascot Theatre complex at Kadina was transformed into a Community Arts Centre.

**2003** Price's Bakery and Cowley's Bakery trading was terminated in 2003, with creditors voting to place the company into liquidation; in July, State Cabinet Ministers made the trek from Adelaide to hold a Community Cabinet meeting in Kadina; Tatiana Grigorieva, Olympic silver and Commonwealth gold medallist in the pole vault, visited Kadina.

**2004** The Australian Electoral Commission's Division of Wakefield's office in Digby Street, Kadina, office was officially closed in February 2004; in March a crowd of 9000 fans packed the Kadina oval to see AFL teams the Adelaide Crows and Port Power do battle in the Wizard Regional Challenge; in October, stage one began of a massive relocation of the YP Country Times Moonta office to 31 Goyder Street, Kadina (formerly Price's Bakery).

**2005** In February 2005, well-known Kadina historian, Keith Bailey, made history when he was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia.

**2008** Jake von Bertouch was selected as a member of the 2008 AIS-AFL Academy squad in September 2008; Target store officially opened its doors on Thursday, October 2.

**2009** Plans were released in June 2009 for a state-of-the-art medical centre to be built on the corner of Taylor and Goyder Streets in Kadina; in July, Andrew Leibie, formerly of Kadina, became embroiled in Jakarta terror bombings while in Indonesia for work commitments.

**2010** In January 2010 a funding application was submitted to the federal government for the Copper Coast Sport and Leisure Centre's proposed $2.8 million sporting stadium; Mayor Paul Thomas reached a milestone 20 years in local government; McDonald's Australia representatives met with the DCCC to resolve issues standing in the way of a development application for a restaurant on the corner of Forster and Ewing Streets, Kadina.

# Wallaroo

**2001** In May 2001 Tipara Reef Lighthouse was relocated to the Wallaroo Heritage and Nautical Museum; Ports Corporation SA was sold to Flinders Ports in October.

**2002** A check under floorboards for termites at the Wallaroo Museum in July 2002 led to the discovery of 100-year-old mail; unable to secure public liability insurance, YP Rail Preservation Society announced it would cease operations.

**2003** After being crippled for nine months, in April 2003 YP's tourist train was back on the rails; a $10 million mussel farm was proposed which could create 70 full-time jobs; the old boat ramp closed, and boaties now had to use the new marina facilities.

**2004** In February 2004 frames went up on three homes, approved for stage 1 of a 450 home village adjacent the Wallaroo Hospital; in June two 26-year-old men from Kadina and Moonta were arrested and charged with the murder of a 31-year-old Mount Gambier man outside the Weeroona Hotel.

**2005** DCCC granted Provisional Development Plan consent in February 2005 for 'North Shores'; in March a proposal was lodged with the DCCC to establish a ferry service from Wallaroo to Lucky Bay; Copper Cove Marina tavern was approved at a DCCC meeting in September.

**2006** Fire gutted the 127-year-old Wallaroo Primary School in January 2006 resulting in a $2 million damage bill; Sea SA's ferry service got off to a triumphant start with a dawn run to Lucky Bay.

**2007** Australian Racing Hall of Fame trainer (and three times Melbourne Cup winner) George Hanlon returned to his birth town of Wallaroo in October 2007.

**2008** In May 2008 it was announced Wallaroo's bowling and croquet greens on Owen Terrace would be replaced with a Woolworths' supermarket as part of a $30 million town centre development; in September, 500 people gathered in the town hall concerned about council's decision to accept the Leasecorp proposal with its tenant Woolworths.

**2009** Robert "Herbie" Miller, of Wallaroo, was honoured with an Australia Day Ambulance Service Medal in January 2009; DCCC received a new design for the proposed Wallaroo Community Sports Club in August.

**2010** In February 2010, Sea SA's managing director Stuart Ballantyne announced its new ferry Aurora would begin operating in November; in October there was a practical completion of the structural steel work at the Wallaroo Community Sports Club; on September 6 residents within an 800-metre radius of Viterra's silos were evacuated after a front end loader caught fire in a grain shed; in November DCCC conducted three public consultation meetings to obtain feedback from ratepayers on its Urban Design Guidelines for the Wallaroo Town Centre Revitalisation project.

# Moonta

**2001** It was "Black Thursday" in January 2001 for residents and business owners when the district sweltered in 38 degree heat with no power for seven to 12 hours; in February exploring the deep in search of copper, gold, uranium and silver commenced 20km west and offshore from Moonta; a new restaurant/motel complex will be built at Moonta Bay.

**2002** The Moonta Football Club's A grade team booted its way into history, kicking 51 goals against CY Cougars; In July 2002 NYP Aged Hostel and Moonta Health and Aged Care Service amalgamated; in December DCCC granted development approval for a multi-million dollar beachfront development between Port Hughes and Simms Cove.

**2003** An $11 million Copper Coast Lifestyle Village was proposed for Moonta in 2003.

**2004** A record price for beachfront land on YP was achieved when an 8512sqm property at Simms Cove sold at auction for $2.03 million in January 2004; in April, demolition of two shops in George Street had locals concerned over the lack of protection for Moonta's heritage streetscape.

**2005** In February 2005 a $200 million residential development incorporating more than 1250 housing allotments, resort hotel and international golf course is planned for Port Hughes.

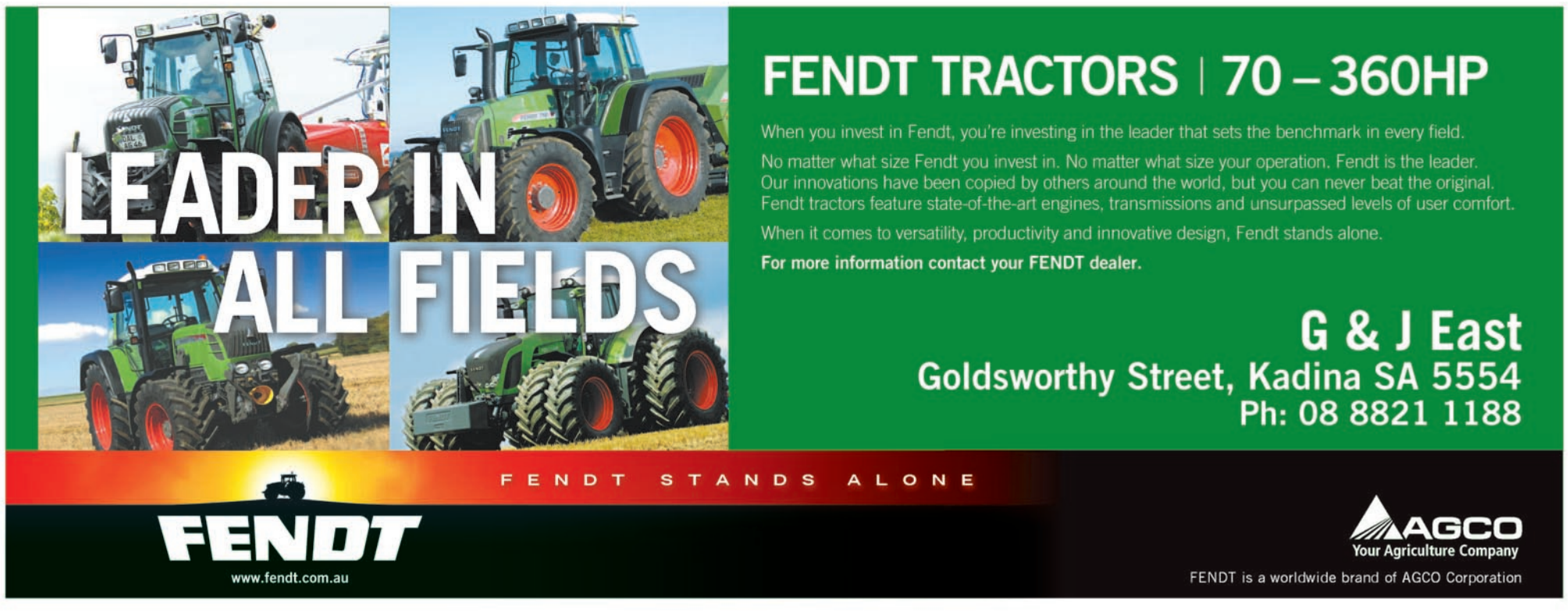
**2006** It was announced in June 2006 Australia's 'Great White Shark', golfer Greg Norman, will design an international championship golf course as part of The Dunes development at Port Hughes.

**2007** In June 2007 Greg Norman, with girlfriend Chris Evert, flew in to tour the golf course site and launch The Dunes; Moonta Area School will receive $3.9 million for new construction work and refurbishment.

**2008** Approximately 250 people crammed into the Moonta Town Hall in May 2008 to discuss a proposed desalination plant at Port Hughes.

**2009** In April 2009 police confirmed remains found wrapped in carpet at the disused Poona mine near Moonta are human; DCCC voted not to accept the $41 million Community Wastewater Management Scheme for Moonta, Moonta Bay and Port Hughes.

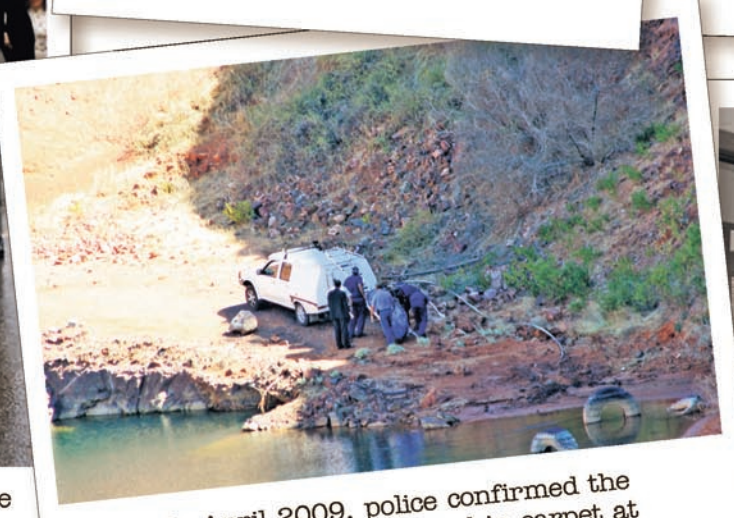
**2010** In February 2010 the Moonta Memorial Park Bowling Club presented several concept designs to council for the extension of its clubrooms — both eastern and western ends were built later in the year; the federal government's insulation bungle hit one Moonta business forcing it to lay off 20 employees; on June 1 Greg Norman flew in to inspect the golf course he is designing at The Dunes; in October the Moonta community began its fight to save its hospital after government funding cuts.



Julie and John Olsen in the Furry Dance during the Cornish Festival in 1985.

Telstra Kadina sales centre in Taylor Street closed in March 2000.

One of the longest grain shipments to leave Wallaroo (31,061 tonnes) sailed on January 10, 1996.



In April 2009, police confirmed the remains found wrapped in carpet at Poona Mine were human.

Woolworths new $7 million store was opened on December 8, 1997. Helen Burnell and Reg Petherick, longest serving present day staff, with manager Bruce Huxtable (centre).

Premier John Bannon and Angela Bannon with Dr. Tim Wood at the Cornish Festival in 1989.

Sea SA's ferry service got off to a triumphant dawn start in December 2006.

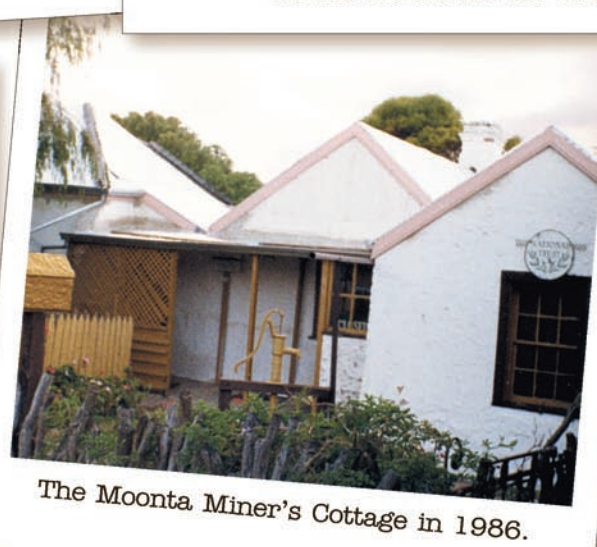
Target opened its new store on October 2, 2008.

Olympic silver and Commonwealth Games gold medalist, Tatiana Grigorieva, visited Kadina in November 2003.

Golf legend Greg Norman and Chris Evert at The Dunes launch in June 2007.

The Telecom balloon getting 'gassed' up ready to take to the air at the YP Field Days in 1987.

The opening of the Moonta Mines railway in 1982.



The Moonta Miner's Cottage in 1986.

Fire gutted the 127-year-old Wallaroo Primary School in January 2006.

Drilling at Hillside as the sun rises.

# Plenty of Copper to still be found

South Australia owes much of its history to copper. One hundred and fifty years ago the earliest prospectors found native copper metal lying on the surface on Yorke Peninsula. Current copper exploration on YP is adding a whole new chapter to South Australia's copper heritage.

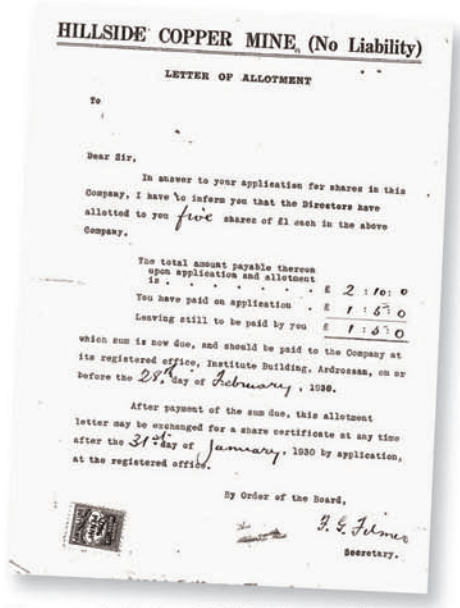
Most historians talk about the wealth of copper that was extracted from the northwest of YP – around Moonta, Wallaroo and Kadina. There are fewer accounts of the copper found to the east. According to the booklet, Back to Ardrossan 1873-1955, John Brown took the first load of copper from the Hillside Copper Mine, south of the town, and hauled it by dray 40 miles to Wallaroo. For that mighty effort he received 80 pounds – a huge sum back then. At that time there were members of the community who also took an investment interest in the copper mine.

Hillside was first discovered by a Mr Hill in 1895 reportedly while pulling out a tree stump. According to Ardrossan's Early Days: John R. Brown's Life Story written in 1965, Mr Hill took some copper from the mine but didn't work it for many years. It was eventually taken over by Mr Murphy, licensee of the Ardrossan Hotel. Full credit has to be given to those early miners who dug through 20 feet (about seven metres) of ironstone to get to the copper lode.

Eventually the mine changed hands and the subsequent owners missed the lode, despite Mr Brown's assurances there was still plenty of copper there.

Fast forward to the present and Rex Minerals Ltd is proving his prediction correct using 21st century techniques.

Ardrossan's Early Days also records the Parara Copper Mine, much closer to Ardrossan. Parara is now also being re-examined by Rex and is showing some promising results.



HILLSIDE COPPER MINE, (No Liability)

LETTER OF ALLOTMENT

To

Dear Sir,

In answer to your application for shares in this Company, I have to inform you that the Directors have allotted to you five shares of £1 each in the above Company.

The total amount payable thereon upon application and allotment is . . . . . £ 2 : 10 : 0

You have paid on application . £ 1 : 5 : 0

Leaving still to be paid by you £ 1 : 5 : 0

which sum is now due, and should be paid to the Company at its registered office, Institute Building, Ardrossan, on or before the 28th day of February, 1930.

After payment of the sum due, this allotment letter may be exchanged for a share certificate at any time after the 31st day of January, 1930 by application, at the registered office.

By Order of the Board,

J. E. Tolmer

Secretary.

Share scrip for the Hillside Copper Mine, issued in 1930.

Rex considers most of the copper along the Pine Point Copper Belt was not discovered by early prospectors as it lies underneath 10 to 50 metres of cover sediments and therefore was effectively "hidden" from the earlier explorers.

Rex has been undertaking a number of geophysical surveys that enable geologists to "see through" the shallow cover sediments to identify areas of mineralisation. It has an Inferred Mineral Resource estimate of 100Mt @ 0.7 per cent copper and 0.2g/t gold with the confidence to predict a potential target size of 250-350 Mt containing between 1.5Mt and 2.8Mt of copper.

An exciting time for copper discoveries on the Yorke Peninsula – and a far cry from the pick and shovel days of the early Hillside history.

Remnants of the Hillside Copper Mine today, showing an old winch.

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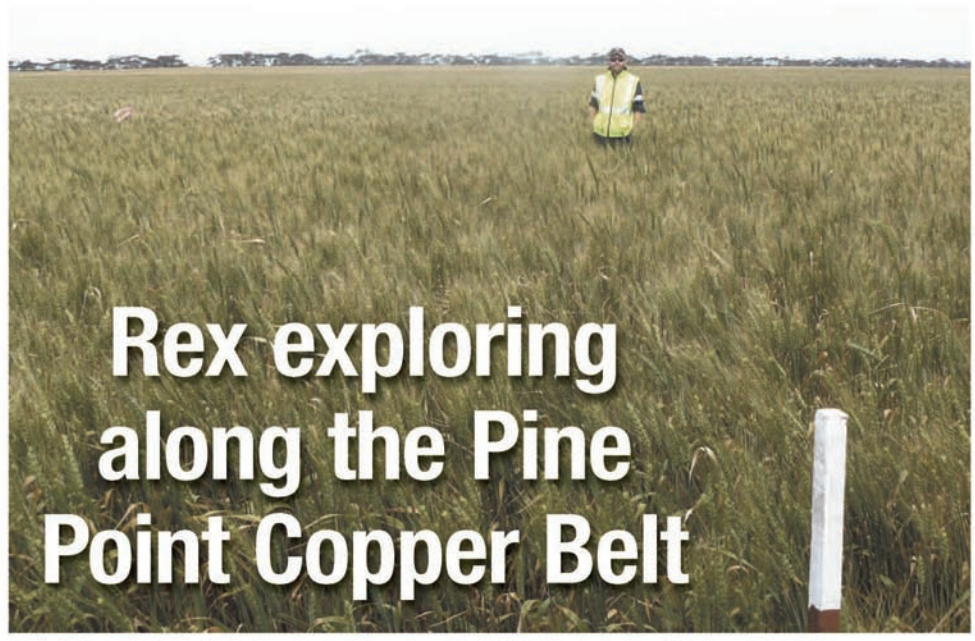

# Rex exploring along the Pine Point Copper Belt

Rehabilitated 2009 drill site, planted to wheat in 2010. Photo taken October 30, 2010.

Historic evidence of mining and the issuing of exploration licences by state governments allow companies such as Rex Minerals Ltd to explore the historic mining regions of Yorke Peninsula. In 2009, Rex made a significant copper discovery at the Hillside Project. The Hillside Project is one of several targets that exist along the Pine Point Copper Belt

At Hillside, Rex has discovered copper mineralisation on three separate, closely–spaced parallel structures, the Zanoni, Parsee and Songvaar (named after historic shipwrecks). Using drilling data and modern mineral exploration methods, a computer generated model of these structures has been constructed.

The Hillside discovery, coupled with the identification of other mineral rich areas, shows Rex is looking to gain economies of scale. Therefore, the exploration effort in South Australia over the next two years is dedicated to defining additional copper mineralisation that can ultimately support a large-scale and long-life copper project on Yorke Peninsula. Coupled with the obvious competitive advantage of being located close to existing port facilities and a workforce, there is the potential for a valuable copper resource to be developed in conjunction with the productive and economically significant agricultural industry on the peninsula.

Over the next two years, the company will continue its drilling program at Hillside with a view to converting the current inferred resource to an indicated resource. It will also continue its regional exploration and drilling program and will complete a conceptual mine planning study and start a feasibility study.

There are many parts of Australia where mining and farming, heritage and people co-exist to the benefit of both the local community and the state. Mineral exploration on the productive Yorke Peninsula should be no exception.

Rex has a clear policy and commitment as a mineral explorer to work closely with the community on the peninsula. Rex recognises and respects there are multiple interests in and uses of the land. The company understands landholders (those with an interest in the land) have the right to derive benefit from the land as a farmer, community member or traditional owner. Through a collaborative process, landholders and Rex are learning from each other and are developing ways to achieve outcomes that minimise the impact of exploration and maximise the benefits and potential of the peninsula's mineral wealth.

The 21st century heralds a new era in the copper story of Yorke Peninsula.

Drill core and drilling at Hillside.