



# Objection 272

Archbishop John Hepworth

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## ARCHBISHOP JOHN HEPWORTH

Australian Electoral Commission,  
GPO Box 344 Adelaide SA 5001  
10 May 2018

I am a retired Archbishop, prior to which I lectured in Politics at the University of Adelaide, the Northern Territory University and the University of South Australia. I also have a substantial record over many years of political commentary on both radio and television.

I have lived in the same home in Glenalta for 35 years. My son and grandchildren have also made their home in Glenalta.

During that time, I have been deeply involved in this community.

In the light of the federal boundaries proposed for South Australia, I make the following points:

- The suburb of Hawthorndene is correctly identified as being semi-rural Adelaide Hills, and therefore is properly incorporated into Mayo.
- However, the suburb of Glenalta (left in Boothby) forms a single community with Hawthorndene, sharing shopping, churches, schools, community sporting and other clubs, and significantly, both form the boundary of Belair National Park and families make heavy use of the facilities of the Park (many having annual entry passes).
- That part of the suburb of Belair to the south of the railway also has a much stronger affinity with Glenalta and Hawthorndene for all the reasons outlined above, particularly since the Rail Authority has recently erected a fence to the standard of the Berlin Wall along the entire length of the Hills railway, abolishing many pedestrian crossings both formal and informal.
- The residents of these suburbs use the major Hills route Upper Sturt Road to access shopping and professional services in Stirling, which is a more substantial shopping and dining district than Blackwood.
- I strongly urge abandoning Hawthorndene Drive as the proposed boundary. This road is a result of a colonial decision involving a flat sheet of paper without first discovering that the area had hills; indeed part of the road involving cliffs and a creek has never been built. In spite of what might be inferred by gazing at the said flat sheet, it is at best a minor suburban road that no-one here regards as significant, let alone a boundary between communities.
- These suburbs have been a single, cohesive community since 1882, when the Adelaide – Melbourne railway was built, and allowed easy access and development in this part of the Adelaide Hills.
- These suburbs are part of the Adelaide Hills and have little natural affinity with the plains and beachside suburbs of Boothby.

I therefore object to the proposed separation of Hawthorndene and Glenalta, and propose the inclusion of both suburbs in Mayo, together with that part of ~~Belair~~ Belair on the same side of the Hills railway as ~~these~~ these two suburbs.