

AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPER HISTORY GROUP
NEWSLETTER

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Compiled for the ANHG by Rod Kirkpatrick, 13 Sumac Street, Middle Park, Qld, 4074,
07-3279 2279, r.kirkpatrick@mailbox.uq.edu.au

16.1 COPY DEADLINE AND WEBSITE ADDRESS

Deadline for next *Newsletter*: 15 April 2002. Subscription details at end of *Newsletter*.

The *Newsletter* is online through the "Publications" link from the University of Queensland's School of Journalism & Communication Website at www.sjc.uq.edu.au/

Snapshot of Contents: *Current Developments: Metro* (see 16.2-33);
Current Developments: Provincial (see 16.34-47); *Items related to Newspaper History* (see 16.48-61).

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: METRO

16.2 The Australian newspaper press bicentenary

A one-day event, tentatively titled "The Australian Newspaper Press Bicentenary Symposium", will be held at the State Library of New South Wales on Saturday, 1 March 2003. The event will mark the bicentenary, on 5 March 2003, of the first issue of the first Australian newspaper, the *Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* (1803-1842). The ANHG editor is organising the event, to run from 10.30am to 4pm, with advice from a small group of ANHG members. So far the following have accepted invitations to speak: Professor Elizabeth Webby, Dr Grace Karskens, Dr Sandy Blair, and Mr V.J. Carroll. It is hoped that the State Library will agree to arrange a display of early Australian newspapers and journals in conjunction with the seminar and bicentenary.

Professor Webby, the Professor of Australian Literature at Sydney University, will speak on a topic related to the literary content of early Australian newspapers. Dr Karskens, a lecturer in history at the University of New South Wales, will speak about the social context of early Sydney and about how the *Sydney Gazette* is a useful source for building up such a social context. Dr Blair, who manages the heritage unit for the ACT Government, will speak about the *Sydney Gazette* and its readers.

Mr Carroll, a retired newspaper executive, will speak on the emergence of the national dailies, the *Australian Financial Review* and the *Australian*. Victor Joseph Carroll went to school at All Souls, Charters Towers, Qld, and graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Queensland. He joined the *Courier-Mail*, Brisbane, in 1951, and later joined the Fairfax group. He rose to hold such positions as editor of the *Australian Financial Review*, 1964; managing editor of the *Financial Review* and *National Times*, 1970-75; chief executive of Sungravure Ltd, 1975-79; and editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, 1980-82 and editor-in-chief, 1982-84.

If you are likely to want to attend the symposium, please indicate by email or letter to the ANHG editor at the address at the head of this newsletter. The symposium registration fee will be kept to a minimum. Sponsorship will be sought from the Fairfax and Murdoch newspaper groups. Updated information on the symposium will be provided in this *Newsletter*.

16.3 CHRONOLOGY OF RECENT EVENTS

9 June 2001	Death: Anthony John Hitchin , aged 64; born England; worked on provincial papers in England before migrating to Australia 1964, joined <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> ; joined <i>Melbourne Sun News-Pictorial</i> 1966; became editor of <i>Home Beautiful</i> magazine and later <i>Epicurean</i> before editing all Herald & Weekly Times magazines (<i>Herald Sun</i> , 11 June 01).
24 October 2001	Death: Keith Cairns , aged 89; illustrious career in journalism and television management; worked in railways for five years before turning 20; became expert typist and shorthand writer and won cadetship at Herald & Weekly Times; first Brisbane representative of HWT, 1936; headed <i>Herald's</i> Canberra reporting team; deputy chief of staff, 1945; chief of staff, 1948; when <i>Herald</i> won one of first two Melbourne TV licences in 1955, he was appointed manager of its channel, HSV-7; became a director in 1963; retired 1972 and became chairman of HSV board (<i>Herald Sun</i> , 4 December 01, p.71).
16 November 2001	Death: Eric Ernest Joliffe , at Bateau Bay, NSW, aged 94; cartoonist who drew for <i>Smith's Weekly</i> , <i>Bulletin</i> and <i>Pix</i> ; famous for his Saltbush Bill and Witchetty's Tribe cartoons; awarded Order of Australian in 1998 for services to art as a cartoonist and illustrator (<i>Australian</i> , 19 November 01, p.10; <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> , 24-25 November 01, p.44).
21 November 2001	First tabloid issue of <i>Geelong Advertiser</i> – on its 161 st birthday. The 144-page issue was loaded with historical articles.
12 December 2001	Death: Robert Rawdon "Buzz" Kennedy , in Townsville, Qld, aged 78; long and distinguished career in journalism – newspapers, radio and television; former press secretary to Queen Mother; editor of <i>Sunday Telegraph</i> when Packer sold it to Murdoch in 1972 (<i>Australian</i> , 14 December 01, pp.3, 12; see 16.13).
17 Dec 2001	Frank Devine's final column appears in <i>Australian</i> (p.11; see 16.6).
21 December 2001	The <i>Herald Sun</i> , Melbourne, a 24-hour paper since 8 October 1990, publishes its final afternoon edition (see 16.11).
28 December 2001	Death: Laurie Kerr , aged 73; journalist, public relations practitioner, star footballer and professional sprinter; became first-rate reporter for Melbourne <i>Argus</i> and was deputy chief of staff when it closed in 1957; joined Eric White Associates in public relations and founded his own very successful company, International Public Relations in 1965 (obits., <i>Herald Sun</i> , Melbourne, 2 January 02, p.14, and <i>Age</i> , Melbourne, 5 January 02, <i>Life & Times</i> , p.8).
December 2001	Death: Benedetto Haneman , in Sydney, aged 78; physician, writer, reviewer, columnist, bibliophile; in retirement contributed to wide range of journals including <i>Jewish News</i> , <i>Australian Doctor</i> , <i>medical observer</i> and the <i>Australian Book Collector</i> (<i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> , 25 January 02, p.26).
31 December 2002	Death: Clement John Lloyd , in Gympie at 62; heart attack; journalist, historian, academic; wrote histories of the Australian Journalists' Association and the Canberra press gallery; foundation professor in Graduate School of Journalism, University of Wollongong, 1989-2000; recently appointed Professor of Journalism (Research) at University of Canberra (<i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> , 2 January 02, p.6, and obit., 5-6 January 02, p.24; <i>Australian</i> , 10 January 02, p.13, obit.; <i>Canberra Times</i> , 3 January 02, obit.).
January 2002	Death: Judy Johnson , in Sydney aged 67; copy girl at the <i>Age</i> , Melbourne; later a cadet at the <i>Sun</i> , Sydney; fashion editor at <i>Daily Mirror</i> ; married Archie Bayvel, journalist, 1963; women's editor of <i>Australian</i> , 1969, and rejoined <i>Daily Mirror</i> in early 1970s; created new women's section at <i>Sun-Herald</i> in late 70s (<i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> , 25 January 02, p.26).
25 January 2002	Australia's final metropolitan afternoon newspaper edition is produced: the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> , Sydney, a 24-hour paper since 8 October 1990, publishes final afternoon edition (<i>SMH</i> , 26-27 January 02, p.3; also see 16.11).

2 February 2002	The <i>Aussie Post</i> magazine closes; began on 1 October 1864 as the <i>Australasian</i> ; many changes of title and format over the years (<i>SMH</i> , 31 January 02).
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16.4 JACK WATERFORD NOW EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Jack Waterford, who joined the *Canberra Times* as a copy boy in 1972 and became deputy editor in 1987 and editor in 1995, has been appointed editor-in-chief. Michael Stevens, editor of the *Canberra Sunday Times*, is the new editor of the *Canberra Times* (*Canberra Times*, 5 December 01, pp.1-2). He is a former chief of staff at the *Examiner*, Launceston. Stevens' appointment was announced by the general manager of the Rural Press-owned *Canberra Times*, Tom O'Meara, who worked at the Launceston paper before managing the Ballarat *Courier*. For Waterford's comments, see his "Addendum" column, *Canberra Times*, 8 December 01, Panorama, p.20. For Andrew Dodd's report, see *Australian*, Media liftout, 13 December 01, p.5. (See also 16.10 and 16.60.7-9.)

16.5 CITY HUB BACK IN THE BUSINESS OF RAISING HELL

After 10 months the Alternative Media Group has resurrected the *Sydney City Hub*, but as a monthly, and not as a weekly as expected. The first new *Hub* – Vol 7, No 1 – appeared in December 2001. The *Hub* sets out (amongst other things):

- To print the news and raise hell. To offer an independent alternative to Australia's media conglomerates. To be unique, vital and indispensable.
- To fight for progressive social change. To see that everyone gets a fair go. To look out for the underdog.
- To champion local Australian arts and culture. To counter the cultural cringe. To define what is next. To seek what is new.
- To serve the interests of young urban readers.

16.6 FRANK DEVINE RETIRES

Frank Devine, who has edited the *New York Post*, the *Chicago Sun-Times*, the *Australian* and the Australasian edition of *Reader's Digest*, has retired after 51 years in journalism. He said his farewells in his final column in the *Australian* on 17 December ("And so hello, I must be going", p.11). Claire Harvey writes about Devine's departure, *Australian*, Media liftout, 20 December 01, p.7. Sir James Killen farewells Devine eloquently on the letters page (p.10) in the same issue, saying, in part: "Frank Devine's writings mustered unique gifts. Here was the gentle but charitable rebuke; here was the homework but devoid of tedium; here was craftsmanship but never pomposity; here was humour but never beyond personal indictment."

Devine's final advice to journalists:

- Read *Claude Emerson, Reporter* by John O'Hara, the best short story about our vocation.
- Never quit a job until you have something better in view. Don't necessarily go quietly when fired. Indignant caterwauling may yield rewards.
- Cherish objectivity. Its practice is likely to make enemies and sometimes lose you a job. But it represents a journalist's sole path to high status. Judges, constitutional monarchs and the nicer military dictators are the only others who get a regular go at it.

16.7 TOP NEWS STORIES OF 100 YEARS

The two world wars, the dropping of the first atomic bomb, the moon landing and the attacks on the World Trade Centre have been rated in a poll as the biggest five news stories of the past 100 years. The poll was conducted to mark the centenary of when Marconi sent the first radio signal (*Herald Sun*, Melbourne, 12 December 01, p.25).

16.8 IAN LAW TO HEAD WAN

Ian Law, general manager and editor-in-chief of Rural Press Ltd's regional publishing division, has been appointed the new chief executive of West Australian Newspapers Holdings (*Australian*, 3 January 02, p.17). Mark Day analyses the appointment: "Razor could be Law of the West", *Australian*, Media liftout, 10 January 02, p.4.

16.9 TWO DEPUTY EDITORS MARRY AND PRODUCE NEWSPAPER

When David Fagan, a deputy editor of the *Australian*, married Madonna King, a deputy editor of the *Daily Telegraph* in Sydney on 3 November 2001, their 140 guests were given, during the reception, a copy of a special newspaper, *Qld Link*, produced to mark the occasion. Fagan and King are former Brisbane-ites (*allnews*, November 2001, p.20).

16.10 QUOTE UNQUOTE

In explaining why the *Canberra Times* devotes so much space to book reviews, editor-in-chief Jack Waterford said: "... there is, or ought to be, a particular relationship between those who read books and those who read newspapers. They are engaged in the market of ideas." (See 16.60.4)

Graham Freudenberg on how he became a speech writer: "I always say I developed the speechwriting role with Arthur [Calwell, Leader of the Federal Opposition] to justify my existence as a press secretary. I mean, in those days, there was none of this bloody nonsense of spin doctors. Could you imagine, for instance, some callow, snotty-nosed youth trying to sell a political line to old press gallery hands like Alan Reid or Ian Fitchett? I mean, how absurd." (Alan Ramsey, "A timeless grandeur amid all the bloody nonsense", *SMH*, 13 February 02, p.13)

16.11 DECLINING AFTERNOON SALES

News Ltd has discontinued publication of the afternoon editions of its Sydney and Melbourne dailies, the *Daily Telegraph* and the *Herald Sun* because circulation figures show that fewer people are buying the editions. A News executive said afternoon editions accounted for only 15 per cent of the *Telegraph's* 420,000 daily sales. The final afternoon editions appeared on 21 December 2001 (*Herald Sun*) and 25 January 2002 (*Daily Telegraph*). The 24-hour papers resulted from Rupert Murdoch's decision to close his Sydney and Melbourne afternooners in October 1990: the *Daily Mirror* and the *Herald*, respectively. The titles were incorporated in the morning mastheads, initially the *Daily Telegraph-Mirror* and the *Herald-Sun* (*Australian*, 22-23 December 01, p.6, and Media liftout, 3 January 02, p.6).

16.12 MURDOCH AND CITIZENSHIP

Rupert Murdoch became a United States citizen because he felt the US was where he belonged. "The timing was business reasons, but I had been talking about it a number of

years, and then there was the chance to buy a TV station, so I thought I had better hurry up,” he said in a TV interview on the *Charlie Rose* program on the US Public Broadcasting Service (*Australian*, 13 December 01, p.3).

16.13 HOW JUDI COX BEGAN TO GET A BUZZ

The death of Buzz Kennedy inspired prolific writer of pithy letters to the editor, Judi Cox, of Kenmore, Brisbane, to explain how she began writing to the newspapers. She said that Kennedy had written in November 1989: “I seek out the double standards, the ridiculous, the phoney, the bigoted, the comic and the simplistic banalities of the human condition ...” And this inspired her to have a go at writing letters to the editor (*Australian*, 20 December, p.10).

16.14 CHRISTMAS-DAY PUBLICATIONS

Sydney’s *Daily Telegraph* and Melbourne’s *Age* and *Herald Sun* appeared on Christmas Day 2001. Victor Isaacs says the *Canberra Times* was not published on Christmas Day for the first time since he can remember.

16.15 WALKLEY AWARDS

Andrew Rule, of the *Age*, Melbourne, won the Gold Walkley Award in 2001 for his investigative report on “Geoff Clark: Power and rape”. Full Walkley details, *Australian*, 30 November 2001, p.2, and *Walkley Magazine*, Issue 15, Summer 2002, pp.35-69.

16.16 VALLEY VIEW CLOSES

Valley View, which was a free weekly distributed to homes in the Tuggeranong Valley south of Canberra, ceased publication on Tuesday, 20 November 2001. It was incorporated in the *Tuggeranong Chronicle* (published by the daily *Canberra Times*). Ten years ago *Valley View* was owned by the *Daily Advertiser*, Wagga Wagga.

16.17 IN PURSUIT OF PRIVACY

From 21 December 2001 Australians have been able to demand access to their medical records, tell direct marketing companies to stop sending them junk mail and check the accuracy of information used to approve a home loan. The new freedoms are part of sweeping changes to laws affecting how private businesses handle personal information, from someone’s name and address to their medical history of sexuality (see five reports, plus two summaries, “What it means” and “How the new régime will work”, *Australian*, 21 December 01, p.4). The new privacy laws will make it even harder for journalist to do their job, says Stephen Brook (see 16.60.6).

16.18 FIRST MAP OF AUSTRALIA

The *Weekend Australian* of 26-27 January 2002 carried a 55cm x 78cm glossy reproduction of the first map of Australia, drawn by Matthew Flinders, who circumnavigated the continent in the *Investigator*, 1801-03. Flinders said: “I call the whole island Australia or Terra Australis.” The map is held by the State Library of New South Wales and is included in *Matthew Flinders: The Ultimate Voyage*, the Library’s national touring exhibition.

The four-page wraparound of the *Weekend Australian* carried a colour picture of Flinders on the front and the heading: “Our Greatest Voyage”. Inside were articles by history writer Jonathan King and librarian Paul Brunton and a map detailing a chronological summary of the voyage. [The voyage apparently concluded on the day that Australia’s first newspaper, the *Sydney Gazette*, was launched, 5 March 1803.] King dissects the mind of the navigator and

Brunton, the curator of the above-mentioned touring exhibition, explains why the map is so important.

The Weekend *Sydney Morning Herald's* Australia Day wraparound featured a colour cover with art work by Brisbane-based artist Joe Furlonger, depicting "Harbour View From The Rocks", and, inside, a double-page article by Tony Stephens who interviewed 22 prominent Australians about what makes them glad and, sometimes, sad, to be Australians.

16.19 CATHOLIC LEADER CENSORED

Factions of the Catholic Church on Queensland's Sunshine Coast had a disagreement after a priest removed a letter to the editor from all copies of the *Catholic Leader* sold in his parish. Father Joe Duffy, who serves the Maroochydore, Coolum and Buderim parishes, had the letter – by Allan Choveaux, of Flaxton – cut from about 100 copies of the 13 January edition of the *Leader*. The editor of the *Leader*, Marcus Kuczynski, has been with the paper five years (*Courier-Mail*, 21 January 02, p.6, and 23 January 02, p.11).

16.20 WEEKEND CIRCULATION DEAL

Sydney people can obtain a six-month subscription to both the Weekend *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Weekend Financial Review* for \$77, a saving of \$32 over the cover price (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 10 December 01, p.30).

16.21 COUNTRY LIVING IS A BATTLEGROUND

Under the heading of "Bush Mosaic", the *Sydney Morning Herald* ran – from 14-18 January 2002 – a five-part series of feature articles on how inland country towns in New South Wales are being affected by the magnetic attraction of living on the coast. The five articles dealt with: Dubbo, Wellington, Yeoval; Tingha; Junee; Broken Hill; and Albury-Wodonga.

16.22 PRINT CENTRE A DISTINCTIVE FEATURE OF MELBOURNE SKYLINE

The *Age's* new \$220 million print centre, at Tullamarine, will be opened this year. The building, looking like a rolled up newspaper rising from the ground, is an eye-catching feature of the Melbourne skyline for motorists driving along the freeway to or from Tullamarine Airport. Joe Rollo, who writes an architecture column for the *Sunday Age*, described it (11 November 01) as a: "building of curves, counter curves, warps and leans". He adds: "It is a steel shed, pushed over and leaning towards the freeway. Its roof, a massive expanse of counter-curving ribbed steel, covers 19,900 square metres, the same size as the playing surface of the Melbourne Cricket ground. Its sides, clad in overlapping trapezoidal galvanised steel panels, resemble a snake's skin." The press hall will be 100 metres long and five storeys high. It will house a high-speed colour MAN Roland German press, 80 metres long and four storeys high. There will be an area for newsprint and materials storage, a post-press hall, distribution hall, offices and a staff canteen.

16.23 LABOR SHIFTS ON MEDIA

The Federal Opposition's spokesman on communications, Lindsay Tanner, has signalled a shift on Labor's opposition to changes to Australia's media ownership laws. Tanner says restrictions on foreign ownership of Australia's media companies could be removed (*Australian*, 31 January 02, p.1).

16.24 SHOCK, HORROR: MOST CIRCULATIONS RISE

Newspapers around the nation attribute their improved weekday circulation figures 〰 going against the trend of recent years (see 11.21) 〰 to high reader interest in the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001 and the subsequent war against terrorism. The *Australian Financial Review* and the *Northern Territory News* were the only capital-city or national dailies to lose sales of their weekday editions during the six months to 31 December 2001. Adelaide's *Advertiser* recorded the highest percentage increase of the weekday performers, as is shown below in the Audit Bureau of Circulations figures for the six months (*Australian*, 8 February 02, p.22; *Courier-Mail*, 8 February 02, p.30). The *Border Mail*, Albury-Wodonga, increased its sales by 3.7 per cent, or 944, to 26,505. Fifteen other regional dailies also lifted sales (*Border Mail*, 8 February 02). The *Sydney Morning Herald* noted that during the same six months the audience for smh.com.au "grew by 97 per cent to 1,375,404 average monthly unique visitors, as measured by Red Sheriff" (*SMH*, 9-10 February 02, p.1).

Newspaper	Six months to 31/12/2001	Six months to 31/12/2000	Change %*
<i>Australian</i> (M-F)	133,875	132,959	+ 0.7
<i>Australian</i> (Sat.)	303,919	301,381	+ 0.8
<i>Australian Financial Review</i> (M-F)	90,974	93,450	〰2.6
<i>AFR Weekend Edition</i> (Sat.)	91,425	90,918	+ 0.6
<i>Daily Telegraph</i> (M-F)	418,909	412,190	+ 1.6
<i>Daily Telegraph</i> (Sat.)	338,706	339,469	〰0.2
<i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> (M-F)	224,000	223,484	+ 0.2
<i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> (Weekend)	386,500	379,317	+ 1.9
<i>Sun-Herald</i>	559,125	568,202	〰1.6
<i>Sunday Telegraph</i>	722,220	721,092	+ 0.2
<i>Herald Sun</i> (M-F)	549,500	544,951	+ 0.8
<i>Herald Sun</i> (Sat.)	508,500	504,150	+ 0.9
<i>Age</i> (M-F)	191,500	190,864	+ 0.3
<i>Age</i> (Sat.)	313,500	309,478	+ 1.3
<i>Sunday Herald Sun</i>	554,500	533,000	+ 4.0
<i>Sunday Age</i>	196,500	190,121	+ 3.4
<i>Courier-Mail</i> (M-F)	214,775	212,356	+ 1.1
<i>Courier-Mail</i> (Sat.)	337,720	329,637	+ 2.5
<i>Sunday Mail</i> (Qld)	600,392	587,004	+ 2.3
<i>Advertiser</i> (M-F)	205,846	200,383	+ 2.7
<i>Advertiser</i> (Sat.)	279,043	270,932	+ 3.0
<i>Sunday Mail</i> (SA)	346,120	342,376	+ 1.1
<i>West Australian</i> (M-F)	206,810	205,669	+ 0.6
<i>West Australian</i> (Sat.)	380,733	374,239	+ 1.7
<i>Sunday Times</i> (WA)	345,472	342,278	+ 0.8
<i>Mercury</i> (M-F)	49,071	48,722	+ 0.7
<i>Mercury</i> (Sat.)	64,199	63,617	+ 0.9
<i>Sunday Tasmanian</i>	57,748	57,540	+ 0.5
<i>Sunday Examiner</i>	41,043	40,702	+ 0.8
<i>Canberra Times</i> (M-F)	39,388	39,189	+ 0.5
<i>Canberra Times</i> (Sat.)	70,684	70,000	+ 1.0
<i>Canberra Times</i> (Sun.)	39,329	38,938	+ 1.0
<i>Northern Territory News</i> (M-F)	23,182	23,209	〰0.1
<i>Northern Territory News</i> (Sat.)	32,261	31,969	+ 0.9
<i>Sunday Territorian</i>	27,296	25,759	+ 6.0
Total	8,944,765	8,839,545	+ 1.2

16.25 COURIER-MAIL AND THE CORONER'S COURT

For a case study on how to do many things wrong in reporting an inquest conducted before a Coroner's Court and express criticism of a newspaper made by the Coroner you need go no further than Brisbane's *Courier-Mail* as in the following articles: "Family to tell inquest of hospital delay", 10 January 02, p.6; "Son's pleas for dying pregnant mother ignored", 11 Jan., p.3; "Midwife cleared of blame in patient's death", 12 Jan., p.3; "Apology to Ms Barbara Soong", 15 Jan., p.3; "Apology to Mater Hospital", 19 Jan., p.3.

16.26 REG CORDINA RETIRES

Reg Cordina, who rose through the ranks of News Corp. over 48 years to be general manager of The Herald & Weekly Times, retired on 30 November 2001 (*PANPA Bulletin*, December 01, p.79).

16.27 NEW AGE FEATURE

The *Sunday Age* relaunched its magazine, *Sunday Life*, on 18 November 2001 with a 60-page issue edited by Shelley Gare, an experienced magazine editor, snared from the *Australian*.

16.28 REDESIGN (1): THE AGE

The *Age*, Melbourne, has been given a "smart and contemporary" redesign, junking from 4 February 2002 the distinctive blue faceplate for a huge black single deck traditional-but-modernised masthead, a new typeface, as few as three stories on Page 1 and a puff box down the left-hand side of the front of each new section. There are also pointers between double rules above the masthead. The *Age* devoted two pages to explaining the redesign, including articles by the publisher and editor-in-chief, Greg Hywood, the designer, James de Vries, and Ray Cassin (with research by Lucy Beaumont), who chronicles the many changes to the *Age* since it was established on 17 October 1854 (*Australian*, Media liftout, 7 February 02, p.5; *Age*, 4 February, pp.1, 9-10). The major changes have been:

17 October 1854-31 December 1855: For the first 14 months the *Age* used the crest of the Colony of Victoria which included the royal crest.

1 January 1856-1 June 1861: In the aftermath of the Eureka stockade and during the early years of self-government in Victoria there was no crest on the masthead.

3 June 1861-11 August 1967: The royal crest was introduced between the words *The* and *Age*. This remained much the same for more than 100 years. Over this period the text and crest were very slightly redesigned and the full stop after *Age* was dropped.

12 August 1967-23 March 1987: The masthead was redesigned by Edwin W. Shaar, art director of the Intertype group of companies in New York, one of the leading type designers then. The crest was also updated.

8 March 1998: A complete redesign of the masthead with the crest becoming more streamlined.

4 February 2002: The latest redesign.

16.29 REDESIGN (2): THE AUSTRALIAN

A week after the *Age*'s redesign, the *Australian*'s editor-in-chief, David Armstrong, and editor, Michael Stutchbury, wrote: "Changes to the design of the *Australian* are always evolutionary. We are confident this is fundamentally a well-designed newspaper which is not in need of radical change... [but] we want to ensure that the design of the newspaper moves with the times ... Today we have taken the next step in the design evolution of the *Australian* with the introduction of a new main headline type for news and features, called Riccione. This is a modern type with sharper, cleaner lines than the Century Schoolbook it is replacing. We

have also introduced a new subsidiary type, called Formata, used in picture captions, graphics and some information panels (*Australian*, 11 February 02, p.2).

16.30 LEUNIG ON NEWSPAPER CHANGES

The changing format and design of newspapers caught the attention of cartoonist Michael Leunig in early February. On the third day that Melbourne's *Age* appeared in new garb, Leunig depicted 一个 in the *Age* 一个 Aussie husband saying to Aussie wife, "... gee, it's good to read about the end of the world in a nicely designed newspaper" (*Age*, 6 February 02, p.14). In the Spectrum section in the *Sydney Morning Herald* a few days later, Leunig showed Aussie male excited about his newspaper: "Hey! Six great new lift-out sections!" One by one he discards the sections, named: "Whoosh", "Phhht", "Ding", "Oi!", "Yeh", and "Clik". (Know the feeling?)

16.31 ALAN RAMSEY AND THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

When (arguably) the nation's best political columnist, Alan Ramsey, returned to the Weekend *Sydney Morning Herald* after his end-of-year break, he appeared on the page adjacent to the editorial page, rather than on it. The letters had been shifted to the editorial page. Ramsey's return was worth waiting for: his first column, "Hollingworth has nowhere to hide", demonstrated again the value of a political writer standing back from the fray and probing deeply. His concluding paragraph: "The Anglican Church and its servants grossly mishandled the repercussions of one predatory teacher's rampant pedophilia 11 years ago. Yet they have only just begun to reap the whirlwind. It is inconceivable that Hollingworth can survive, however long it may be before he inevitably resigns as Governor-General." (*SMH*, 9-10 February 02, p.33)

16.32 THE DIGITAL AUSTRALIAN

From Brisbane, **Belinda Weaver** writes: Until now, if readers wanted to read a newspaper impossible to get in print format, they had to make do with the online version, which might not be a wholly satisfactory experience. Then came 8 August 2001, and the launch of the digital version of the *Australian*. As Mark Day, the *Australian's* Media-section columnist, put it: "Suddenly, the Holy Grail. This is what we've dreamed of for decades – an electronic form of distribution of newspapers. Not reworked, rejigged website information centres under a familiar masthead, but the real thing, page by page, stories and pictures laid out on screen in exactly the same form as the printed version" And that's what the paper was – a perfect facsimile of the day's paper, in Portable Document Format, and the print didn't come off in your hands.

Why did they do it? As Day says, "... even with satellite printing in Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth, *The Australian* still can't make it everywhere for breakfast. Darwin readers, for instance, must wait until early afternoon, and pay an airfreight surcharge. And international readers must wait days, and pay very dearly, to stay in touch with the *Oz*. A single copy in New York costs \$US8 (\$15.50) and annual subscriptions in Japan represent a daily cost of more than \$10. The price at Changi airport, Singapore, is \$12. That a demand exists at all at these prices shows that online newspaper websites have not replicated the content or user experience of the printed version.

Oddly enough, when the paper was launched digitally in 2001, there was no Australian dollar price quoted. The daily price was US\$2 (US\$3 for the *Weekend Australian*, which includes the full colour magazine). All prices were quoted in American dollars, as if the Australian publishers did not believe there would be an Australian audience for their product. This seemed at variance with Day's assertion that "digital distribution may become an option for

everyone, anywhere, but it's more likely to be taken up in regions where physical distribution is difficult" Surely that would include parts of Australia as well.

To use the digital *Australian*, its users must register and subscribe online, and then download to their own computers the (free) NewsStand Reader program that installs itself. If they do not have the latest version of the (also free) Adobe Acrobat Reader software (currently version 5), then they must download that as well.

When it launched, the original NewsStand Reader program was large, making download times quite slow for those not on cable or direct connections. For those who needed to download and install Adobe Acrobat as well, the set-up times would have been lengthy. The publisher, News Limited, was aware that users might have problems and sought feedback from users on their experiences with NewsStand and the digital product. Many of the suggestions from users during this initial period were heeded, and many issues have since been resolved. The NewsStand Reader software has been streamlined and the download and installation process now proceed much faster. The price has come down since the launch. It now costs US\$0.90 per issue, with the *Weekend Australian* remaining at US\$3. Subscriptions are flexible, and can be customised by the subscriber for anything from a week to a year. Single issues can be purchased. Users can stop and start subscriptions at will, and can be billed via credit card for a full year's subscription. If they decide to cancel, the unused balance will be credited back to their credit card account.

Each daily paper is around 8-9MB in size, with the *Weekend Australian* about three to four times that. Download times are minimal on a fast connection, but would be lengthier over a modem, especially for the weekend edition. Downloading that over a modem could take half an hour or more. NewsStand can be configured for automatic download of the paper. It is possible to set up specific download times, such as 4am, when network traffic is low.

16.33 BUSHFIRE VOLUNTEERS AND SMH

The *Sydney Morning Herald* on 7 February 2002 published a 20-page tabloid liftout tribute to the 26,000 volunteers who helped fight more than 100 bushfires in and around Sydney during the Christmas-New Year period. The paper named all the volunteers.

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: PROVINCIAL

16.34 SUNRAYZIA DAILY GENERAL MANAGER RETIRES

Desmond Frank Morris, general manager of the *Sunraysia Daily*, Mildura, and the northern division of the Elliott Newspaper Group Pty Ltd, retired at the end of 2001. He had held the positions since January 1985 after having been general manager of the Elliott group's Swan Hill paper for 20 years. He worked for the company for 44 years (*PANPA Bulletin*, December 01, p.78). Glenn Robinson is the new general manager of the *Sunraysia Daily* and Ross Lanyon is the general manager of the northern division of the Elliott group. Morris is continuing as a part-time consultant for the Elliott group (interview with ANHG editor, Warragul, 8 February 2002).

16.35 SOUTH COAST CHANGES

The South Coast of New South Wales has lost three newspapers and gained three others. The AIM Newspaper Group Pty Ltd closed the *Shoalhaven City Advertiser*, Nowra, the *Eurobodalla Advertiser* and the *Milton-Ulladulla Advertiser* on 25 October. Vol 1, No 1 of the *Sun* for each of those districts emerged on 1 November 2001. The *Shoalhaven City Advertiser* had incorporated the *Shoalhaven Independent*, which began publication on 21 May 1997. The publisher of the *Independent* went into receivership in November 1999 with debts

of \$460,000 (see ANHG 9.17). The principal of the business was Trevor Kilner, three times deputy mayor of Nowra, and a nephew of former country newspaper publisher, Colin Lord. Kilner is believed to be associated with the new *Suns*.

16.36 NEWSPAPER PRODUCES TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

At Tamworth, NSW, another edition of the Local Telephone Directory 2002 has been delivered to every mailbox in the city and surrounding areas. Published by the *Northern Daily Leader* as a Special Publication, the directory features: 240 white pages, a 16-page advertising supplement and 160 pink pages. The pages measure approximately 272mm by 194mm.

16.37 WAGGA WAGGA EDITOR REMOVED

Michael McCormack, editor of the *Daily Advertiser*, Wagga Wagga, NSW, for 10 years, has been removed from office. Wayne Geale, group manager of the Riverina Media Group, says McCormack has not been sacked and a place will be found for him in the company (ABC Radio News, Wagga Wagga, 11 February 02).

16.38 O'REILLY SUCCESSION

Gavin O'Reilly, son of APN News & Media founder Sir Anthony O'Reilly, has jumped ahead of older brother Cameron in expectations of who will succeed the father as head of APN's parent company, Independent News & Media, of Ireland. Gavin has been appointed chief operating officer of Independent. Cameron was chief executive of APN until last year (*Australian*, 19 December 01, p.30).

16.39 WINCHELSEA, RAVENSHOE AND BUNGENDORE

ANHG has obtained copies of two other quarterfolds:

- (1) The *Winchelsea Star*, Vic., Vol. 24, No. 47, dated 6 December 2001. Established in 1977. Cover price: 50c. Weekly. Circulation: 450. Your editor bought it in Winchelsea on a windy, wintry Monday in December. In the same newsagency were copies of the *Geelong Advertiser* (daily), *Warrnambool Standard* (daily), *Colac Herald* (tri-weekly) and *Camperdown Chronicle* (bi-weekly).
- (2) The *Ravenshoe Weekly*, Qld, Vol. 17, No. 30, dated 7 November 2001. Eight pages.

ANHG has also received a copy of the *Bungendore Bulletin*, a tabloid, Vol. XII, No 11. Published on the first Thursday of the month and delivered free to 4,000 homes in Bungendore, NSW, between Canberra and the coast. The opinions expressed in the *Bulletin* are "not necessarily those of the Editor, Publisher, Printer or Distributor". This issue of the *Bulletin*, sub-titled "Your Local Rag", contained 20 pages.

16.40 COMPLAINANT SETTLES WITH NEWSPAPER

Maitland councillor Tony Keating has welcomed an apology from the *Newcastle Herald* over an article which named him in relation to claims he had sexually harassed a female school student. The article was published in 1999 at the time Cr Keating was running as the ALP candidate for Maitland mayor. The *Herald* had been reporting on allegations made in state Parliament by Liberal Party MP Charlie Lynn but he had only referred to "a teacher at a Lower Hunter school". The newspaper named Tony Keating, who denied the allegations. A Department of Education inquiry later found the allegations were without substance. He sued the paper for defamation and the action was settled on 28 November 2001 just before it was

due to go to hearing in the Supreme Court. Counsel for the *Newcastle Herald* read out in court an apology and retraction but details of the settlement between Tony Keating and the *Newcastle Herald* will not be released (ABC Newcastle, 29 November 01).

16.41 DUBBO PRINT CENTRE CLOSES

Hannanprint has closed its Dubbo print centre with the loss of 200 jobs. On 5 December 2001, the chief executive of Independent Print Media Group flew into Dubbo with Hannanprint's general manager Tony Dedda to make an announcement workers and the community were dreading. Not even a petition, containing the signatures of 4,000 local residents, could alter what was essentially a decision "beyond the control of the business". The Dubbo plant, established 19 years ago by John Armati's Macquarie Publications company, closed before Christmas. Printing presses and equipment will either be moved to Sydney or sold. The factory buildings will be placed on the open market. The employees of Hannanprint would receive appropriate redundancy payments and full statutory entitlements, the company said in a prepared statement.

The loss of *Sunday Life* and the *Sun-Herald* TV Guide, printed at Dubbo, and *Woman's Day* (Sydney) had forced management to look at drastic changes. The closure ends one of the State's great decentralisation success stories. That story started in 1978 when John Armati, then the owner of Macquarie Publications, ventured into the magazine printing business. At that time the business was dominated by offshore printers. The development of the Wheeler's Lane operations, together with plants in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide, enabled Macquarie Publications to become one of the top three printing houses in Australia. It was printing national publications such as *People*, *Dolly*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Good Weekend*, and *Sunday Life*. (*Daily Liberal*, 16 November and 6 December 01)

16.42 ELLEM TO GRAFTON

Award-winning Lismore journalist Peter Ellem, 38, has been appointed editor of the *Daily Examiner*, Grafton. Ellem won a Walkley Award in 1982 and won several Sir Harry Budd Awards for NSW provincial journalism. He was planning a major relaunch of the *Examiner*, the paper reported on 11 December 10, p.3. (The *Examiner* was established in 1859 and has been a daily since 1915.)

16.43 WAGGA WAGGA DAILY PUBLISHES SUNDAY ELECTION PAPER

The *Daily Advertiser*, Wagga Wagga, issued a 24-page Sunday paper on 11 November 2001 to report the result of the Federal election the previous day. It was only the sixth time in its 133-year history that the *Advertiser* has published on Sunday (*PANPA Bulletin*, December 01, p.31).

16.44 CAIRNS POST AND ITS ORIGINS

The *Cairns Post*, a daily published in far north Queensland, reported on 23 November 2001 (p.5) that it was "gearing up for huge celebrations to mark its 120th birthday". The report also said: "What is now the *Cairns Post* first began publishing from a ramshackle timber building in Lake Street in May 1882. For the first year, it was named the *Morning Star* and was an eight-page broadsheet published weekly."

Rod Kirkpatrick presents some facts:

1. No newspaper was launched in Cairns in May 1882 (in fact, none was published there at that time).
2. The only newspaper established in Cairns in 1882 was the *Cairns Telegraph*, launched on 27 September 1882.

3. A newspaper called the *Cairns Post* was established on 17 May 1883. (It was never called the *Morning Star* and it had no links with the 1882 publication, the *Telegraph*, which had closed a few months earlier.)
4. The first *Cairns Post* ceased publication in 1893 (about September).
5. The title of the first *Cairns Post* was incorporated in the masthead of the *Cairns Argus* (established November 1889) from 6 February 1895. This incorporation continued at least until the close of 1896.
6. On 6 June 1895, the *Morning Post* was established. It changed its name, on 5 July 1909, to the *Cairns Post*, the name that lives on today.
7. Thus, the title of today's *Cairns Post* can be traced back to 1895, to the *Morning Post* which was launched during the publication of an opposition paper that incorporated the title of the first *Cairns Post*.

This year (2002) is the 125th anniversary of the publication of the first Cairns newspaper, the *Cairns Advertiser and Smithfield Observer*, launched on 21 April 1877 by Hill, Byrne and Rhode. It ceased publication on 24 September 1881 and Cairns lacked a newspaper until the *Telegraph* appeared on 27 September 1882. (See Rod Kirkpatrick's letter to the editor, *Cairns Post*, 16 August 1986, p.16; and his articles in the *Cairns Historical Society Bulletin*, nos. 282 and 283, June and July 1983; and Chapter 7 of his *Sworn to No Master*.)

16.45 RURAL PRESS LTD AND COMMUNICATIONS

Rural Press Ltd, keen to improve internal communications, ceased publishing its quarterfold *Bush Telegraph* in March 2001 and introduced a tabloid *Rural Press News* in December. The first issue was stapled and 20 pages with extensive use of process colour. Managing director Brian McCarthy said the new publication was designed to be more newsworthy and a better source of company information. "The former *Bush Telegraph* was really a social update ('hatches, matches and dispatches' [sic], etc.) mixed with some company news. Going forward, the social news should be covered at a local site level." The *Bush Telegraph*, first issued in May 1980, was initially published quarterly but later appeared twice a year.

16.46 ROBERT DARBY RETIRES

Robert Darby, general manager of the *Northern Daily Leader*, Tamworth, NSW, has retired after 10 years in the position. He began his career as an apprentice printer at the Daily Examiner, Grafton, on 5 February 1955 when he was 15 (*Rural Press News*, December 01, p.5; and *Northern Daily Leader*, 19 January 02, pp.28-29.)

16.47 GAZETTE BECOMES THE LONGEST BLUE MOUNTAINS SURVIVOR

The Blue Mountains (New South Wales) has been described as "the graveyard of newspapers" because of the number of papers that have been born only to die in their infancy. And so it is notable when a story of comparative longevity can be told. Local historian Jim Smith says the *Blue Mountains Gazette*, established in 1963, became, on 21 November 2001, the longest-surviving Blue Mountains newspaper. The previous record was held by the *Blue Mountains Advertiser*, which was published from August 1939 to May 1978, a period of 38 years and nine months. The *Gazette* began life as the *Mountain Gazette* and was produced in contrasting red and black typefaces (*Blue Mountains Gazette*, 30 January 02). It became the *Blue Mountains Gazette* on 15 August 1979 (John Low, *Newspapers of the Blue Mountains: A Guide to the Holdings of the Blue Mountains City Library*", p.12).

ITEMS RELATED TO NEWSPAPER HISTORY

16.48 PROTECTING SOURCES – IN 1874

The *Port Denison Times*, Bowen, Qld, reported on 31 October 1874: “A case of great importance to newspaper proprietors was decided by Vice-Chancellor Little at Liverpool on Wednesday. Mr John Vaughan, editor of the Liverpool *Leader*, had been summoned before the Registrar to answer questions as to the sources from which he obtained information appearing in the *Leader* on the Civil Service Association. Mr Vaughan refused steadily to disclose his informant’s name, taking the responsibility of the article upon himself; and after many adjournments, the Vice-Chancellor has decided that he was not bound to answer the questions.”

16.49 BURNOUT NEWSPAPERCREATURES

The Burnt Out Newspapercreatures Guild’s Bong Bulletin asks a colleague of the editor’s: “Do you know of any weird newspaper names from Oz?” And adds:

The readers of Internet columnist Eric Shackles send funny names of newspapers; for example, the (Brownsville, Ky.) *Edmonson News* brags about its over-the-mast slogan, “The Gimlet – It Bores In.” It has been the paper’s slogan since 1927, when the biting editorials of its editor Perry Meloan inspired it. Not for nothing is the *Chagrin Falls Commercial Scimitar’s* absentee publisher Gimlet Peen named after the small boring tool and the lumpy end of a hammer. Other contributions: The *Anniston* (Ala.) *Star* once was called the *Star and Hot Blast*, in recognition of the steelmaking town. The *South Fork* (Colo.) *Tines* enjoys a nice play on words. The Waterford, Mich., *Spinal Column* was what happens when you throw the naming of your paper open to a drawing and a chiropractor wins.

16.50 MAYER’S MYSTERIOUS MAJOR MERGERS

“Between 1946 and 1959, there were four major newspaper mergers ...” – Thus wrote Henry Mayer of the Australian metropolitan press (*The Press in Australia*, p.31). But he did not specify which papers merged. Perhaps he simply meant companies. Does any ANHG member have suggestions about the mergers to which Mayer could have been referring? For example, would he have counted the purchase of the Brisbane *Telegraph* by the company owning the *Courier-Mail*? One merger, certainly, was that of the Sydney papers, the *Sunday Sun* and the *Sunday Herald* (launched on 21 January 1949), resulting in the *Sun-Herald* (11 October 1953). This occurred two months after John Fairfax, publishers of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, had acquired an interest in Associated Newspapers, publishers of the evening *Sun*. In 1958, Fairfax, through another company, acquired control of the *Daily Mirror*. Surely Mayer would not have regarded this as a merger? And remember that Rupert Murdoch bought the *Daily Mirror* in May 1960, with Fairfax’s managing director Rupert Henderson doing the deal while chairman Warwick Fairfax was overseas and was known to be opposed to it (Gavin Souter, *Company of Heralds*, pp.344-346). – **Editor.**

16.51 CHILLAGOE UPS AND DOWNS

In the “Chillagoe Herald”, a special centenary-of-Federation publication by the *Tablelands Advertiser*, August 2001, p.13, **Ruth Kerr** writes: When the Chillagoe (Queensland) railway and smelters were being built in 1898 to 1901, O’Donnell and Martin had been publishing the *Mareeba Herald*, *Hodgkinson and Chillagoe Observer* in Mareeba since December 1898. They moved the paper to Chillagoe as the *Chillagoe and District Advocate* in July 1901 immediately after the smelters were opened. After the smelters closed, they quickly moved the paper to Mt Garnet in December 1902 as the *Mount Garnet and Chillagoe Miner*. It was

only a six months trial, moving back to Chillagoe in July 1903, after the Mt Garnet company's prospects dimmed. The paper continued until 1912. The *Walsh and Tinaroo Miner*, started in 1907, was a deliberate attempt at a conservative newspaper, to compete with the Herberton press. [Mining entrepreneur] John Moffat had always thought the Herberton papers were too "bullish" about northern mining prospects. [So] Moffat and co-directors formed a company. Moffat held 500 shares and together with Henry Brownlee, company agent of Herberton, controlled 52 per cent of the 2,500 £1 shares [in the newspaper]. Other large shareholders were John Newell and Harry Wade. However, the operation was badly run and ceased publication at the end of 1914. (The *Tablelands Advertiser* published the 16-page "Chillagoe Herald"; it's available for \$2.50. 226 Byrnes Street, Mareeba, Qld, 4880.)

16.52 MANAGERS AND EDITORS

Country editors come in for more than their fair share of criticism. A.T. Shakespeare was the editor of the *Canberra Times* when it was regarded as a country paper. Here's what the esteemed David Bowman, later the editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, said of A.T. in *The Captive Press* (Ringwood, Vic.: Penguin Books, 1988), p. 157:

Having studied Holmes a Court, Murdoch, Fairfax and others, I am astonished now to look back at Arthur Shakespeare of *The Canberra Times*. Nearly forty years before I joined him, he had helped his father and brothers found the paper, after which they had had to carry it through the Depression and World War II, with Arthur himself editing. In my eighteen months as editor before he sold out to Fairfax, (p. 158) he never questioned me or gave me an instruction or framed a suggestion. We worked in adjoining offices, he as a proprietor, and he might as well have been on the moon.

Lest anyone should think Arthur Shakespeare lacked the guts to pull his inexperienced young editor into line, I should make clear that he was a bantam rooster of a man who feared no one. His patience snapped just once, when in an emergency I dropped the weekly church notes that he provided as a community service. He was living proof that a newspaper proprietor can, if he is strong-minded enough, leave an editor alone. But Arthur Shakespeare knew what it was to edit.

16.53 HARD COPIES OR MICROFILMS

The University of NSW is confronting the problem of whether to keep its bulky collection of original *Sydney Morning Herald*s, which occupy valuable storage space, when it also holds microfilm copies. Dr Grace Karskens, of the School of History surveyed researchers and reported in November 2001 that they strongly support the retention of hard copies as an asset for teaching, a unique research resource and a heritage item. She therefore recommended retention as a valuable and prestigious asset worth investing in, as well as the enhancement of the collection's accessibility and user-friendliness. The study revealed only three other complete *SMH* hard collections: State Library of NSW (two – "under no circumstances available to researchers" other than for reproducing photographs) and Fairfax (strictly for journalists), and partial collections at the State Parliamentary Library (only for Parliamentarians), Sydney University and V&F Pascoe (microfilmed newspapers). Other options included disposal to a dealer, and/or retaining only some volumes to show how early newspapers looked, felt (and smelt!), or those covering key historical events. However, researchers emphasised the importance of the context of news reports, the usefulness of browsing, and the intrinsic value of the artefact. The report mentions the cost of microfilms as \$69.30 each, giving a total collection cost of \$103,950.

[Copies of the report: contact Grace Karskens, g.karskens@unsw.edu.au, 02 93851673 .]

16.54 MAITLAND AND TAREE NEWSPAPER INDEXES

ANHG members and Manning Valley newspaper archivists Rod & Wendy Gow have released two new indexes for newspaper historians.

1. Maitland Mercury, 1846 (July to December).

The sixth in the series, this index follows the release of the indexes to the *Hunter River Gazette* 1841-42 and to the *Maitland Mercury* of 1843, 1844, 1845 and 1846 (January to June). These indexes enable researchers to easily locate a particular article, and, eliminate countless hours of non-productive research. This latest index with more than 22,000 entries on more than 840 pages is available on a set of seven microfiche at \$35 including postage within Australia.

Microfilm rolls of these two newspapers are available for viewing at many libraries, societies and universities, and are now also available in digitised form, available for down loading via Acrobat Reader on the internet, at the following web sites:

The <i>Maitland Mercury</i>	www.nla.gov.au/ferg/issn/14403676
The <i>Hunter River Gazette</i>	www.nla.gov.au/ferg/issn/13299611

2. Manning River Times, 1898-1907

Index to Births, Deaths, Marriages, Inquests, Obituaries, Probates, etc. This index, available in book form only, is of A4 size, on 157 pages, with over 6,000 entries, and retails at \$28 including postage within Australia.

For a flyer on these indexes, email Rod and Wendy at rgow@turboweb.net.au or write to R & W Gow, 50 Ferry Lane, Cundletown, NSW, 2430, stating your postal (snail mail) address. The Gows are also indexing two other newspapers in a similar format to the *Manning River Times*: the *Wingham Chronicle*, 1886 to 1920, in two volumes, the first cutting off around 1908; and the *Macleay Chronicle*, Kempsey, 1899 to 1908. If you would like to be advised of the actual launch dates for these three indexes, contact the Gows.

16.55 FREEBY

Victor Isaacs (ahdb@compuserve.com, 02-6257 1742) is disposing of a duplicate item: a few reproductions of the *Geelong Advertiser* from its first year, 1840-41, recently reprinted.

16.56 DEAD BIRD HALF TONES

From **Bob Peterson** in Sydney: Now that Bill Tully has mentioned the content of the very early halftone picture in the *Dead Bird* of 20 July 1889, readers may appreciate some further information. This was the first issue of the *Dead Bird*, the editor of which was Charles Mark Curtis. "Dead bird" means (or once meant) a sure thing, a certainty. The illustration was a three-quarters rear view of Peter Jackson the black boxer, totally nude. Jackson (1861-1901), born in the Danish West Indies,) became the Australian boxing champion in 1886 then went in April 1888 to try his fortunes in America and Europe. For most of the next 13 years he was based in San Francisco. The photograph is reproduced on page 74 of *Sporting Image* (1989) by Max and Reet Howells. They claimed that it was common then for boxers to be photographed nude; but I suspect that, if it was so, then such photographs were intended for a very specialised clientele.

This picture was taken in San Francisco by Isaac Taber (1830-1912), the society photographer, who had a studio and shop on Montgomery Street for many years. Jackson patronised Taber, who sold copies of Jackson's photographs to his fans. According to R.W. Andrews, *Picture Gallery Pioneers 1850 To 1875* (1964), in the earthquake and fire of 1906 Taber lost 100 tons of glass negatives, of which 80 tons were portraits.

Jackson's picture must have been taken between May 1888 and May 1889. I suspect that it was taken soon after Jackson had defeated George Godfrey, winning the title of "Colored

Champion of the World”, in San Francisco on 23 August 1888. Copies had probably circulated in Sydney before Curtis reproduced it. In its second issue the following week, the *Dead Bird* published a cartoon captioned “Little Miss Inquisitive”, which showed a young woman, coded by her stays and her unbound hair as a prostitute, holding a copy of Jackson’s picture up to a mirror in a vain effort (one understands) to see the man from the front. She is portrayed as not merely lascivious but very dumb.

The half-tone nude (captioned for some reason “The Daddy of Them All”) was reprinted in the *Dead Bird* of 16 September 1890 (when Peter was back in Australia for a triumphal visit), but without any letterpress. At the end of 1890 the *Dead Bird* was condemned for obscenity and died in January 1891. It returned the next week with issue No. 80 (24 January), though more circumspect and now named *Bird o’ Freedom*. In 1896 it rose again as the *Arrow*.

16.57 BROADSHEETS

Few broadsheets remain on the Australian newspaper scene. They include the *Courier-Mail*, Brisbane, the *Sydney Morning Herald*, the *Australian*, the *Canberra Times*, the *Age* (including the *Sunday Age*), and the *Sunraysia Daily*, Mildura. Paul Livingston, of the National Library of Australia, adds the following to our list:

Korean

- Hoju Tong-A = The Hoju Dong-A Ilbo (apparently that is the translation).

Chinese (English title if available).

- *The Chinese Australian* (Melbourne)
- *United Chinese Times*: Chinese & English weekly (Sydney)
- *Aozhou fo jiao* (Forestville, NSW Kuan Yin Buddhist Temple Inc)
- *The Tide Chinese Newspaper* (Springvale Vic)
- *Chinese Community Times* (Brunswick Vic; Sydney South NSW)
- *21st Century Chinese Newspaper* (Melbourne)
- *The Daily Chinese Herald* (Sydney)
- *Australian Chinese Daily* (Sydney)
- *The Chinese World’s News* (Sydney)
- *The Australian Chinese Age* (Abbotsford, Vic)
- *The Epoch Times* (Sydney)
- *Pacific Times* (Melbourne)
- *Chinese Post* (Sydney)
- *AFA Weekly* (Ultimo NSW)
- *A.C. Weekly* (Ultimo NSW)
- *United Morning Post*: Weekly message (Surry Hills NSW)
- *United Morning Post*: The Chinese community news (Surry Hills NSW)
- *Chinese times* (Haymarket, NSW)
- *Sing tao jih pao* (Sydney)
- *The Independence Daily* (Ultimo, NSW)
- *The Chinese Melbourne Daily* (Collingwood, Vic.)
- *Chinese Melbourne Times* (Collingwood, Vic.)
- *Asian Sunday* (Marrickville, NSW).

Turkish

- *Zaman* (Auburn, NSW)

16.58 A TOUCH OF QUEENSLAND IN WINTRY WARRNAMBOOL

In windy Warrnambool on an icy Monday in early December 2001 your editor visited the offices of *The Standard*, published since 1 October 1872, a daily since 1 January 1884 and a tabloid since 1 October 1949. There he was warmed and amazed to discover amongst the superbly stored files of the *Standard* a touch of Queensland: the files of Brisbane's *Queensland Guardian* for 1860 and 1861. W.C. Belbridge launched the paper on 31 March 1860, less than four months after the separation of Queensland from New South Wales and three months after the closure of the *Moreton Bay Free Press*, established 1850. The *Moreton Bay Courier*, established 1846, was a tri-weekly at the time. The *Queensland Guardian* became a bi-weekly on 3 January 1861, a tri-weekly on 26 March 1862 and a daily on 4 April 1863. It ceased publication on 27 June 1868. [Your editor has since notified the State Library of Queensland of the discovery. The library did not have the 1860 volume.]

16.59 RECENTLY PUBLISHED (1): BOOK

AN INDEX TO THE NORTHERN STAR, VOLUME 3: PEOPLE AND EVENTS OF THE RICHMOND 1889-1892 compiled and indexed by Jean McNaught and published by the Richmond-Tweed Regional Library with the assistance of a Heritage Grant. ISBN 0 949459 16 X. Valuable reference for local and family historians concerned with the far north coast of New South Wales. Copies available from Richmond-Tweed Library, PO Box 4031, Goonellabah, NSW, 2480.

16.60 RECENTLY PUBLISHED (2): ARTICLES

16.60.1 DID YOU GET IT? By Humphrey McQueen, *Good Weekend*, 24 November 01, pp.34-38. The wit and wisdom of cartoonist Emile Mercier. He was the Michael Leunig of his time, taking a whimsical, occasionally irreverent, swipe at the foibles of middle Australia. (Also, see two letters to the editor on Mercier, *Good Weekend*, 15 December 01, p.8.)

16.60.2 FROM 'MAGGIE MATILDA' TO EDITOR, FIXER, FACILITATOR AND DOER by Rod Kirkpatrick, *PANPA Bulletin*, December 01, pp.32-35. A History of the St Arnaud and Charlton papers in Victoria, complete with a biographical sketch of Ella Ebery, the award-winning editor (who turned 86 on 23 December).

16.60.3 RIVERS RUN DRY by George Megalogenis, *Australian*, Media liftout, 13 December 01, pp.6-7. Newspaper advertising is in the doldrums, but the overall economy is doing well. (See also: "Fairfax's moves to cut costs paying off", *Courier-Mail*, 14 December 01, p.33; and "Ad lag a drag, warns Fairfax", *Australian*, 19 December 01, p.31.)

16.60.4 SHORT AND CURLY by Joyce Morgan, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 29-20 December 01, Metropolitan, 5. Michael Leunig's cartooning philosophy is explored. (The *Sydney Morning Herald* inserted a Leunig Calendar for 2002 with its issue of 10 December 2001.)

16.60.5 FREEDOM & FEDERATION by Helen Irving, *Walkley Magazine*, Issue 15, Summer 2002, pp.26-27. Free and democratic newspapers contributed greatly to the advent of Federation.

16.60.6 THE PRIVACY BAR by Stephen Brook, *Australian*, Media liftout, 20 December 2001, pp.2-3. New privacy laws make it even harder for journalist to do their job.

16.60.6 BLEAK TIMES by Jane Schulze, *Australian*, Media liftout, 27 December 2001, pp.2-3. A round-up of the year's events in the media in Australia (see p.3 for the newspapers and magazines sections).

16.60.7 MAKING ROOM FOR READERS by Jack Waterford, *Canberra Times*, 22 December 01, Panorama, p.16. Why a newspaper should devote ample space to book reviews (see 16.23).

16.60.8 SURE-FIRE WAYS FOR MOVING NEWS by Jack Waterford, *Canberra Times*, 29 December 01, Panorama, p.16. Discussion of news values, especially in relation to the Governor-General, sex scandals at church schools and bushfires.

16.60.9 BILLY'S LEAKS SPOILT THE PARTY by Jack Waterford, *Canberra Times*, 5 January 02, Panorama. Apart from some reflections on former Prime Minister Sir William McMahon, Waterford tells how he himself progressed from copyboy and student activist (with warrant hanging over his head) to cadet journalist at the beginning of the 1970s (see 16.3).

16.60.10 DON'T HOLD THE FRONT PAGE! By Amanda Hooton and Garry Linnell, *Good Weekend*, 5 January 02, pp.18-19. From terrorism to the refugee crisis, 2001 was a bumper year for news. And then there were the truly galvanizing items you may have missed – unless you scraped the bottom of the obscure news barrel.

16.60.11 NEWSPAPERS AND THE TERRORISM WAR by Peter Willcox, *Australian Journalism Review*, 23 (2), December 2001, pp.7-20. September 11, 2001, has changed many perceptions in the world, including that of newspapers and their role. This article uses documentary research, interviews with editors, and a case study of the *Gold Coast Bulletin* to gauge the impact that the terrorist attacks had upon newspapers.

16.60.12 ATTENTION PLEASE! THIS POLITICAL CAMPAIGN IS FOR YOU by Sandra Haswell, *Australian Journalism Review*, 23 (2), December 2001, pp.129-147. Australians pay little attention to the news media's reporting of politics during federal election campaigns, various studies show.

16.60.13 SCIENCE AND JOURNALISM: A MEXICAN STAND-OFF? By Stephen McIlwaine, *Australian Journalism Review*, 23 (2), December 2001, pp.167-188. The modern history of science reporting is traced. The author concludes that journalism may now be entering a new phase in that relationship, one which won't necessarily make scientists any happier.

16.60.14 REPORTING PORT ARTHUR: A PERSONAL ACCOUNT by Lindsay Simpson, *Australian Journalism Review*, 23 (2), December 2001, pp.191-199. Thirty-five people died in the Port Arthur massacre in Tasmania. A journalist turned journalism educator reflects on covering "tragedy" and the ethics of covering such an event when you know people involved.

16.60.15 THE HOLY GRAIL GOES DIGITAL by Belinda Weaver, *Online Currents* (in press). A librarian and part-time journalism lecturer discusses the latest steps in online newspapers, especially the PDF (Portable Document Format) of the *Australian*, introduced on 8 August 2001.

16.60.16 GOVERNMENT POWER IS THE BIG MEDIA THREAT by V.J. Carroll, *Weekend Sydney Morning Herald*, 2-3 February 02, p.28. A former *SMH* editor analyses the resurgent push for changes in the cross-media ownership laws in Australia.

16.60.17 REGULATORS FAIL REGIONS by Crispin Hull, *Northern Daily Leader*, Tamworth, NSW, 4 January 02, p.4. The *Canberra Times*' deputy editor discusses the closure of some television services in some Australian regions, an issue with great relevance to regional daily newspapers.

16.60.18 FANNING EMBERS OF A FASCINATION WITH COUNTRY PRESS HISTORY by Rod Kirkpatrick, *PANPA Bulletin*, February 02, pp.33-35. Reflections on how the author's interest in country press history began 25 years ago. Insights into the emergence of the Dunn newspaper dynasty and the end of Provincial Newspapers (Qld) Ltd.

16.60.19 FORGET GOSSIP, IT'S REAL LIFE OVER REEL LIFE by Andrew Hornery, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 8 February 02, p.11. In serious times, people need serious news. An assessment of what tragedy and devastation have done to our appetite for entertainment.

16.61 A select chronology of Australian newspaper events, 1930-1939

27 March 1930	Death of G.E. Fairfax, a Fairfax director, 1916-20; Warwick Fairfax appointed managing director of John Fairfax and Sons Ltd. Holds this position, then chairmanship (with two-month break in 1961) for 47 years.
1930	The owners of the <i>Adelaide News</i> need the <i>Herald & Weekly Times</i> to save them during the Depression and Keith Murdoch extracts as the price control of the <i>News</i> .
1930	Associated Newspapers Ltd acquires the <i>Daily</i> and <i>Sunday Guardians</i> , Sydney.
11 March 1931	Birth of Rupert Keith Murdoch, only son of Keith Murdoch.
20 February 1931	Final issue of <i>Young Daily Witness</i> , New South Wales; <i>Young Witness</i> continues.
1933	Keith Murdoch knighted on recommendation of Lyons Government.
10 June 1933	Frank Packer launches <i>Australian Women's Weekly</i> .
28 August 1933	Merger of <i>Brisbane Courier</i> and <i>Daily Mail</i> to form the <i>Courier-Mail</i> .
12 April 1934	Death of Robert Clyde Packer, father of Frank Packer.
1 July 1935	Australian Associated Press established.
March 1936	Frank Packer buys and rejuvenates <i>Daily Telegraph</i> .
April 1936	Melbourne <i>Star</i> closes, again leaving the city with no direct afternoon competitor to the <i>Herald</i> .
30 September 1937	<i>Illawarra Star</i> , Port Kembla, NSW, begins; bi-weekly (Mon./Thurs. afternoons). Later became a daily.
1938	Australian Newsprint Mills established by eight major newspaper publishers; biggest interests held by <i>Herald & Weekly Times</i> and <i>Fairfax</i> . First paper produced February 1941.
19 November 1939	<i>Sunday Telegraph</i> launched.

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