

AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPER HISTORY GROUP
NEWSLETTER

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18.1 COPY DEADLINE AND WEBSITE ADDRESS

**Deadline for next *Newsletter*: 15 September 2002. Subscription details appear at end of
Newsletter. [Number 1 appeared in October 1999.]**

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/

**Current Developments: Metro (18.2-27), and Provincial (18.28-36);
Items related to Newspaper History (18.37-58); Recently Published Books and Articles
(18.59-60); and Chronology, 1910-1919 (18.61).**

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: METRO

18.2 NEWS LTD SHIFTS EDITORS

Chris Mitchell, editor-in-chief of Brisbane's *Courier-Mail*, has been appointed editor-in-chief of the *Australian*. Mitchell was editor of the *Australian* from 1992-95 when he was appointed editor of the *Courier-Mail*. David Fagan, deputy editor (weekend) of the *Australian*, becomes editor of the *Courier-Mail*. Fagan joined the *Warwick Daily News* as a cadet after graduating in 1979 from the journalism program at the Darling Downs Institute of Advanced Education, Toowoomba. He joined the *Courier-Mail* in 1983 and he became the Queensland bureau chief of the *Australian* in 1993. Mitchell replaces David Armstrong as editor-in-chief of the *Australian*. Armstrong, who had become the *Australian's* longest-serving editor-in-chief, is to undertake a significant national initiative for News Ltd (*Australian* and *Courier-Mail*, 26 June 2002, p.2).

18.3 NEWS CORP'S \$7.7bn LOSS FOR THREE MONTHS

The News Corporation Ltd reported on 14 May 2002 (Federal Budget night) a \$7.7 billion quarterly loss, the largest in Australian corporate history. The company had written down the value of its stake in its US-based Gemstar TV Guide. The huge loss was triggered by the company's \$8.2 billion asset writedown on the 42.6 per cent owned Gemstar, an interactive home TV guide business, and took the total value of writedowns by News to \$9.8 billion three-quarters of the way through its financial year (*Australian*, 15 May 2002, pp1, 27).

18.4 NEWSPRINT RECYCLING

Australia recycled 72.4 per cent of all newsprint used to print newspapers in 2001, making it a world leader in newspaper recycling, a study has found. The study, by the Publishers National Environment Bureau, reveals that almost half a million tonnes of old newspapers and printers' waste were recovered for recycling in 2001. Of this, almost 96,000 tonnes went back into producing Australian newsprint (*Canberra Times*, 23 April 2002; *PANPA Bulletin*, May 2002, pp.19-23).

18.5 CHRONOLOGY OF RECENT EVENTS

7 April 2002	Death: Peter McFarlane , aged 57, Melbourne sportswriter (already mentioned in 17.5); extensive obituary by cricket writer Mike Coward appeared <i>Australian</i> , 16 April 2002, p.13.
10 April 2002	Death: Douglas Wilkie , in Melbourne, aged 93; joined Hobart Mercury as a copy boy; Keith Murdoch gave him job at Melbourne <i>Herald</i> and sent him to Geelong as correspondent; made name as war correspondent for <i>Herald</i> , but became one of nation's most respected commentators in the <i>Sun News-Pictorial</i> , 1946-86; the only journalist in the past century to be summoned to the Bar of the Victorian State Parliament to answer charges of breaching parliamentary privilege (obits., <i>Herald Sun</i> , 11 April 2002, and <i>Age</i> , 18 April 2002, The Culture section, p.11).
3 May 2002	Death: Melbourne Leander Mott , in Melbourne aged 86; chairman, Border Morning Mail Pty Ltd, Albury, New South Wales, 1963-96; last remaining child of one of the <i>Mail's</i> founders, H.C. Mott (<i>Border Mail</i> online edition, 6 May 2002; <i>Age</i> , Melbourne, 11 May 2002).
25 May 2002	In Perth, after more than 13 years as a broadsheet, the <i>Big Weekend</i> converted to a broadsheet and changed its title to <i>Weekend Extra</i> . It began on 24 December 1988. An insert in the West Australian each Saturday, it carries features, travel articles, lifestyle hints and various columns.
3 June 2002	Death: Morag Johnstone , in Sydney aged 41; features editor of <i>Illawarra Mercury</i> ; joined <i>Mercury</i> in 1979 (<i>Illawarra Mercury</i> , 6 June 2002).
7 June 2002	Death: Neil O'Reilly , of Moruya, NSW, aged 74; journalist for Melbourne <i>Herald</i> , and political correspondent for Sydney <i>Sun</i> and <i>Sun-Herald</i> ; probably the first journalist to learn that Governor-General Sir John Kerr had sacked Prime Minister Gough Whitlam on 11 November 1975 (<i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> , obit., 19 June 2002, p.36, and death notice, 11 June 2002, p.17).
26 June 2002	News Ltd announces new editor-in-chief for the <i>Australian</i> and new editor for the <i>Courier-Mail</i> (Page 2 in both those papers). See 18.2.
30 June 2002	Death: Antony Whitlock , aged 84; joined <i>New Zealand Herald</i> in 1935 at 16; served five years as a signals sergeant during war; accredited as correspondent for <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> to Pacific Fleet late in war; became <i>SMH</i> chief of staff; headed Fairfax's London bureau; returned to NZ for three years in late 1950s to edit the <i>Hawkes Bay Herald</i> ; foundation member of staff of the <i>Australian</i> ; became general manager of Peter Isaacson's Melbourne printing business; helped established the Australian and New Zealand Web Offset Newspaper Association which became the Pacific Area Newspaper Production Association (PANPA), with "Publishers" replacing "Production" in the title later; he was executive director till 1983 (<i>Age</i> , 3 July 2002, The Culture section, p.11; <i>Australian</i> , 5 July 2002, p.8).

18.6 ADVERTISING SLUMP A RECORD

Advertising spending in Australia fell 6.2 per cent in 2001, the worst on record. The Commercial Economic Advisory Service of Australia said total advertising expenditure for 2001 was \$8.39 billion, and the 6.2 per cent decline was worse than the decrease (6 per cent) during the 1991 recession. Radio was the only medium to increase its share. The decline was the greatest in business publications followed by television, cinema and newspapers (*Australian*, 17 April 2002, p.20).

18.7 WAN PROFIT DOWN

West Australian Newspapers Ltd has reported a 15.8 per cent decline in net profit to \$39.1 million for the nine months to March as lower costs failed to offset an even larger downturn in advertising. Ian Law has been chief executive for only two of those nine months; he took up the position on 28 February. Inaugural chairman Trevor Eastwood is to leave the position after 10 years. New chairman is to be Bank West managing director Warwick Kent (*Australian*, 3 May 2002, p.21).

18.8 CIRCULATION FIGURES

The publishers' statements of circulation for the six months to 31 March 2002 showed some modest gains for some metropolitan daily and weekend papers compared with the same period a year earlier (see *Australian*, Media liftout, 25 April 2002, p.11).

18.9 SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS

- The *Sunday Mail* and *Courier-Mail* published a series of 12 historical magazine inserts entitled "Our Queensland" from Sunday-Friday, 12-17 May, and Sunday-Friday, 19-24 May 2002.
- The *Australian* published on 17 May a "special tribute edition", "Farewell to the Anzacs" to mark the death of the last Gallipoli veteran, Alec Campbell, at 103.
- The *Sydney Morning Herald's* Monday media publication, "The Guide", has marked its 20th birthday by publishing John Casimir's reflection on the 20 years, "The way we were" (The Guide, 6 May 2002, pp.4-8).
- The *Sydney Morning Herald* published on 18 June 2002 the 20th anniversary edition of its liftout section for foodies, "Good Living". Page 7 carries an article by Jenny Tabakoff in which the section's first editor looks back at the section's early days.
- John Fairfax has closed *e)mag*, one of the special-interest magazines inserted weekly into the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Age*. The magazine was launched in June 1999 and appeared finally on 4 and 5 July 2002 in the *SMH* and *Age* respectively. Greg Hywood, who has responsibility for Fairfax magazines, blamed the closure on the dot.com crash and the accompanying cut in discretionary advertising by many customers during the worst advertising downturn for many years (*PANPA Bulletin*, July 2002, p.25).

18.10 MEDIA LIFTOUT REDESIGNED; MEADE BACK

Lots of adverse feedback followed when the *Australian* redesigned its Media liftout section (inserted in Thursday's edition), especially the television programs. The newly designed Media section, with Amanda Meade returning to "The Diary", first appeared on 2 May. The TV programs are now labelled "The View" and are at least a little complex to study (*Australian*, Media liftout, 9 May 2002, p.12).

18.11 MAGAZINES (1): OLD IDEA

From 13 May *New Idea* fell into line with *Woman's Day* by increasing its page size. Last November *Woman's Day* launched its new A4 format with a \$5 million promotional campaign. Now *New Idea* has increased its page size to be slightly taller and slightly narrower than its competitor. Editor Jennifer Gilbert says the change was planned 12 months ago but corporate obstacles got in her way (*Australian*, Media liftout, 9 May 2002, p.2, "The Diary").

18.12 MAGAZINES (2): NINE, SEVEN AND TV WEEK AND TV+

Kerry Packer's Publishing & Broadcasting Limited has bought for \$60 million the 50 per cent interest the Kerry Stokes-controlled Pacific Magazines held in *TV Week*. PBL is now a 100 per cent owner of the magazine. Packer, of course controls the Nine Network (*Australian*, 5 July 2002, p.3). Stokes, who controls the Seven Network, acquired in June 100 per cent of Pacific Magazines in a two-step deal valued at \$130 million. Less than a week after the above deal, Pacific Magazines announced that it would launch a new magazine *TV+*. It began touting mock-ups of the new product to media buyers (*Australian*, 12 July 2002, p.19).

18.13 MAGAZINES (3): FREE GUIDE

Newsagents have begun issuing complimentary copies of a magazine called *Nmag*, which contains information about other magazines available from that same newsagency. A similar concept, *The Magazine Guide*, has been successful in Britain, reportedly lifting the sales of some niche titles by up to 80 per cent. *Nmag*, published by Jim Clarke, a Walkley-Award-winning journalist formerly with the *Age*, will appear four times a year (*Australian*, Media liftout, 30 May 2002, p.3).

18.14 PICTORIAL ETHICS: PIM FORTUYN

The Page 1 caption in the *Australian* on 8 May 2002 read: “**Assassination:** The body of Fortuyn in a carpark after being shot outside a radio station and, below, the provocative politician.” The top picture was a close-up of the body of the far-Right Dutch political leader who had been shot dead. The presentation of the picture unleashed a storm of protest from readers. Editor Michael Stutchbury said in part (9 May, p.2): “The *Australian* understands that such depictions may cause distress for some. But our decision to print this image – also taken by Dutch newspapers and by British publications such as *The Independent* – was not driven by any gratuitous desire to sensationalise. To the contrary, it was part of a genuine attempt to accurately portray the reality of the human experience, from the joyous to the horrific. The judgment on where to draw the line in such matters depends on the importance of the story and the information in the image.”

A reader, Jane Leigh, of Innisfail, Queensland, wrote (14 May 2002, p.10): “Why do people buy newspapers when they don’t want the news (Letters 11-12/5)? Yes, a corpse for breakfast is distressing (Letters, 9/5), and I have no doubt that the photographers themselves found it distressing, but their story is news and must be told. I’m sorry, but a photo is needed to accompany the story, however well written it is. We would live in a very dull world if news photographs were censored.”

18.15 OPPOSITION MOOTED FOR *COURIER-MAIL*

Fairfax CEO Fred Hilmer told a Senate committee that his company might consider opening a paper in Brisbane in opposition to the long-established *Courier-Mail* if it were allowed to join forces with a television network (*Australian*, Media liftout, 30 May 2002, p.7).

18.16 THE *SMH* AND THAT *OTHER PAPER*

A coincidence that editors would probably want to forget: The main front page headlines of the two Sydney newspapers on Wednesday 5 June 2002 reporting the Budget of New South Wales Premier Bob Carr (at least in the first editions obtainable in Canberra) were:

Daily Telegraph:

Bob the builder

Sydney Morning Herald:

Bob the builder rides boom

18.17 OVERSEAS: MEDIA OWNERSHIP AND NEWSPAPER READERSHIP

If you are interested in United States media ownership, **Belinda Weaver** recommends you try www.mediachannel.org/news/indepth/fcc/index.shtml

Belinda Weaver reports: People in the United Kingdom read newspapers ahead of every other type of publication, a new survey of British couples has found. Details from the BBC’s story, “Newspapers top reading survey” are at http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/english/uk/newsid_2009000/2009746.stm

18.18 HOBART BLUNTNESS

The Hobart *Mercury* advertised for a G3-G5 sub-editor (*Australian*, Media liftout, 30 May 2002, p.8). Qualifications sought? The advert. said: "If you don't know what we're looking for, don't bother applying." Garry Bailey is editor.

18.19 JUDGE AWARDS MAGISTRATE \$246,500 AGAINST HERALD SUN

Victoria's Deputy Chief Magistrate Jelena Popovic has won libel damages of \$246,500 and costs. Ms Popovic sued the *Herald Sun*, Melbourne, over an article written by Andrew Bolt and published on 13 December 2000. Bolt claimed she had hugged two drug traffickers and bullied a police prosecutor. A jury had found the article was untrue, unfair and inaccurate and had defamed the magistrate. In making the damages award in the Victorian Supreme Court, Judge Bernard Bongiorno criticised Bolt and the *Herald Sun* for attempting to put a favourable "spin" on the damages claim before it was decided and for comments Bolt made outside the court following the jury's verdict. The *Herald Sun* will appeal the Supreme Court's decision (*Australian*, 7 June 2002, p.3).

18.20 MICHELLE GRATTAN RETURNS TO AGE

Michelle Grattan, the *Sydney Morning Herald's* chief political correspondent, has returned to the *Age*, Melbourne, for which she held a similar position in the 1980s. She arranged the transfer between the two Fairfax newspapers in protest against proposals to share Canberra political copy between the two newspapers and because she objected to plans, abandoned for now, to merge the *Herald* and *Age* Canberra bureaux (*Daily Telegraph*, Sydney, 1 June 2002).

18.21 ERIC BEECHER SCALES BACK

Text Media founder Eric Beecher has further scaled back his involvement in the group and becomes a non-executive director in July 2002 (*Australian*, 14 June 2002, p.25). Beecher is a former editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the Melbourne *Herald*.

18.22 JACK LUNN RETIRES

Jack Lunn, deputy chair of Queensland Press Ltd since 1991, retired on 11 July, aged 63. He retired also as director of corporate affairs for Queensland Newspapers Pty Ltd and as a director of the Brisbane Broncos Limited. Lunn joined the *Courier-Mail* as a cadet in 1958. He is a former editor-in-chief of Queensland Newspapers and a former general manager (*Courier-Mail*, 22 June 2002, p.2).

18.23 THE LAST NEW ZEALAND METRO AFTERNOON DAILY CLOSES

Independent Newspapers Limited merged on 8 July 2002 the two Wellington daily newspapers, the *Dominion* (morning) and the *Evening Post*, into a new morning newspaper, the *Dominion Post*. INL Chief Executive Tom Mockridge said the new paper would be much larger and stronger, offering readers more news and features. The papers had suffered an advertising downturn that had coincided with a steady decline in the *Evening Post's* circulation and a recent increase in the price of newsprint. The company believed two daily newspapers were no longer sustainable in the Wellington market (the city has a population of about 400,000). The papers were published by INL subsidiary, Wellington Newspapers Limited, and had separate editorial staffs but shared advertising, production and printing facilities under a single management.

The company consulted with staff and unions over a few days before confirming its plans to close the evening paper. From a high of 99,704 in 1974, the *Post's* circulation had fallen to

54,000. The *Dominion's* most recent audited circulation figure of 70,565 was an increase of 1,994 on the previous audit, but down from a high of 77,268 in 1968. INL is 46 per cent owned by News Ltd. The *Evening Post*, published since 1865, had been the final metropolitan paid-circulation evening paper in New Zealand or Australia (*Dominion Post*, 24 June 2002; *Australian*, 4 July 2002, Media liftout, p.7; *PANPA Bulletin*, July 2002, pp.11-12).

18.24 MATT PRICE WINS FIRST LYNEHAM PRIZE

Matt Price, a senior writer in the *Australian's* Canberra bureau, has won the inaugural Paul Lyneham Award for Excellence in Press Gallery Journalism, and a \$5,000 prize. His work – which included hard news, satire, profiles and columns – was described by the judges as “versatile”, “wonderfully written” and “an editor’s dream” (*Australian*, 27 June 2002, p.2).

18.25 LACHLAN MURDOCH TO DELIVER OLLE LECTURE

News Ltd chair Lachlan Murdoch will deliver the Andrew Olle Lecture in October. The Olle lectures, introduced in 1996 to honour ABC broadcaster Andrew Olle who died in 1995, focus on the role and future of the news media (*Australian*, 27 June 2002, p.2).

18.26 A NEW TYRANNY

“... the elimination of the time interval in communication has become a tyranny of its own. The real tyranny is not distance as measured by an interval of space, but the lack of it measured as an interval of time,” writes Vic Carroll in arguing that modern communication has robbed our leaders of the time they need to deal properly with issues (“Crisis of our time”, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 29-30 June 2002, Spectrum liftout, pp.8-9).

18.27 PRICE RISE FOR AUSTRALIAN

The cover price of the *Australian* rose 10c to \$1.20 on 1 July 2002 (and the home-delivery deal from \$4.40 a week to \$4.95). In Tasmania, with freight costs, the price rose to \$1.40 (*Australian*, 1 July 2002, p.2).

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: PROVINCIAL

18.28 APN GEARS FOR ACQUISITIONS

At its annual general meeting on 2 May, APN News and Media Ltd readied itself for more acquisitions by doubling its directors’ fees to \$500,000. APN, with major interests in radio and in regional newspapers, is counting on an upturn in advertising to meet its forecast \$92.5 million net profit. The 2002 calendar result will be the first full year since APN’s \$1.2 billion merger with New Zealand’s Wilson & Horton.

APN, which is 45 per cent owned by Sir Anthony O’Reilly’s (Irish) Independent News & Media plc, is undergoing a number of senior executive changes. Liam Healy has resigned as chairman of the board and a director, James Parkinson, replaces him. Vincent Crowley is being replaced as chief executive by John Sanders (see 17.41). (*Courier-Mail*, 3 May 2002, p.33; see also *APN Password*, April-May 2002, pp.2-6; *PANPA Bulletin*, May 2002, p.10.)

18.29 RURAL PRESS (1): AFTER LAW

Rural Press Ltd has restructured its senior management after the departure in January this year of Ian Law, who had been general manager and editor-in-chief of the company’s regional publishing division. From 1 July, Lloyd Whish-Wilson, chief executive of *The Examiner*, Launceston, Tasmania, will oversee Rural Press’s Canberra, Victorian and Tasmania

operations. He will be the general manager, regional, Canberra and southern. The general manager Hunter/Tamworth/New England, Allan Browne, has been appointed general manager New South Wales regional (*Canberra Times*, 25 April 2002, p.13).

18.30 RURAL PRESS (2): O'MEARA TO LAUNCESTON EXAMINER

Tom O'Meara, a former Launceston journalist who has most recently been the general manager of the Federal Capital Press (publisher of the *Canberra Times*), has taken up an appointment as chief executive officer of the *Examiner*, Launceston. The appointment was one of the early decisions of Rural Press Ltd's new general manager of Canberra and southern region, Lloyd Whish-Wilson (see 18.31). O'Meara had been general manager of the *Canberra Times* and associated publications since late 1999 and was formerly the general manager of the *Courier*, Ballarat (*Canberra Times*, 25 May 2002). No replacement for O'Meara in Canberra was announced.

18.31 RURAL PRESS (3): BENDIGO AND HORSHAM

Rural Press Ltd has expanded its limited group of Victorian provincial newspapers by buying the *Bendigo Advertiser* (a daily since April 1856) and the *Wimmera Mail-Times*, Horsham (a tri-weekly) from New Zealand's largest media company, INL. Rural Press already owned the *Courier*, Ballarat (a daily), and the *Stawell Times-News* (a bi-weekly) and the *Ararat Advertiser* (a tri-weekly) [ABC, Melbourne, 19 June 2002; *Australian Financial Review*, 20 June 2002, p.15; *Bendigo Advertiser*, 20 June 2002, p.3]. ANHG editor: It will be interesting to see whether Ballarat or Bendigo becomes the print centre. The odds seem to favour Ballarat.

18.32 FAIRFAX REGIONALS (1): NEW UNIT ESTABLISHED

A single unit is being set up to run Fairfax's 40-strong stable of regional and community newspapers in New South Wales and Victoria. The regionals include three dailies – the *Newcastle Herald* and Wollongong's *Illawarra Mercury* in NSW and Warrnambool's *Standard*, Victoria. The task of welding all the publications into an operation that costs less has been given to Brian Evans, general manager of the *Newcastle Herald*. Evans will continue to operate from Newcastle (*PANPA Bulletin*, May 2002, p.5).

18.33 FAIRFAX REGIONALS (2): WALK-OFF AT NEWCASTLE HERALD

The union representing journalists at the *Newcastle Herald* said in early June that additional full-time employees were needed to ease working conditions (see 18.32). The Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance discussed the issue with Fairfax executives after more than 100 staff walked off the job in the final week of May over health and safety concerns, including claims some staff are forced to work 50 hours a week. Industrial organiser Richard Harris said the issue was an ongoing concern for staff, and it was crucial an immediate resolution is reached. "The house committee of the *Newcastle Herald* has done quite an intensive study of shifts being worked on the paper...[and] they've established that they're at least four full-time equivalent positions down on where they should be – that's what we're looking for is four extra staff to make the place run safely and effectively," he said (ABC, Newcastle, 4 June 2002).

18.34 WRITING ON WALL

Country newspapers, television and radio stations faced severe job losses and cuts to local content unless the Government reformed media ownership laws, three of the nation's largest regional media companies told a Senate inquiry on 21 May 2002. WIN Television, RG Capital Radio and Rural Press Ltd told the inquiry that the writing was on the wall for several services and publications unless they were allowed to combine forces, a course which is prohibited under current cross-media ownership regulations. Rural Press managing director Brian McCarthy said the community would benefit from cross-media ownership in regional areas because it would mean comprehensive coverage of news and local issues. It would also make many marginal businesses more viable. "There is no doubt that some of our smaller papers are at the point where their viability and sustainability are threatened. If there are other ways of spreading the cost base over other opportunities, it becomes more attractive [to maintain those services]," McCarthy said (*Canberra Times*, 22 May 2002, p.4).

18.35 GOLD COAST BULLETIN GOES HIGH-TECH

A state-of-the-art \$40 million print centre will be built at the *Gold Coast Bulletin's* Molendinar headquarters over the next two years. The proposed new press will allow the newspaper to print a full-colour edition of more than 400 pages (*Gold Coast Bulletin*, 3 May 2002).

18.36 NEW EDITORS AT CAIRNS AND WAGGA WAGGA

Scott Thompson has been appointed editor of the *Cairns Post*, replacing Don Iedema, who is staying with News Ltd "in a senior editorial position". Thompson had been managing editor of the *Redcliffe and Bayside Herald*, Brisbane.

Paul McLoughlin has been appointed editor of the *Daily Advertiser*, Wagga Wagga, replacing the editor of 11 years, Michael McCormack, who was asked to step down in February (see 16.37). Deputy editor Peter Mahoney had been acting as editor in the interim. McLoughlin has been editor of the *Highlands News*, Bowral, in the NSW Southern Highlands. He was earlier senior journalist, chief of staff and deputy editor of the *Courier*, Ballarat, for six years.

ITEMS RELATED TO NEWSPAPER HISTORY

18.37 THE ARGUS ON FILM IN 1911: FROM COPY TO BOOKSTALL

Item 17.44, about "newspaper marches", inspired Peter T. Gill, of Melbourne, to suggest an item on films about Australian newspapers. He says he has made "some modest attempts" to locate any existing copy of a film made about the *Argus*, shown in 1911 during the Empire Exhibition held at White City, London, during the Coronation year. He is aware that the chance of any film from 1911 surviving until now is slender. ScreenSound Australia (the National Film and Sound Archive) has no record of the film about the *Argus* (described in the extract below). It does have some material about films made about the *Sydney Morning Herald* in 1909, 1910 and 1920. The British Film Institute's National Film and TV Archive also has no copy of the *Argus* film. In a letter to Gill, dated 29 May 2002, the BFI acknowledge that "a great deal of material from that time has not survived".

"My own *Argus* interest," writes Gill, "had a brief moment of pleasure in viewing a video of the 1955 film *Geordie* (about a boy from Scotland who became strong enough to succeed in the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne). Somehow, at one stage, a photograph taken by a Melbourne *Sun* photographer appears to be used on an *Argus* front page. Perhaps ownership of the *Argus* by the English Mirror Group helped to influence use of the *Argus* front page." [If any reader knows anything about the 1911 *Argus* film, please contact Peter Gill at 2 Mernda Ave, Ashburton, Vic, 3147.]

From the Exhibition in London, the *Argus*' correspondent reported on 18 July 1911: "Among the more solid attractions is a display of the newspapers of the empire. The great hall which housed the wonderful collection of machinery at the Franco-British Exhibition has been refurbished. In place of turbines and dynamos, the vast building is now stocked with exhibits illustrating the multitudinous energies which go to the making of a modern newspaper... The halfpenny picture papers show with what celerity process blocks can be made for a morning newspaper. The illustrated weeklies, such as the *Graphic*, display hundreds of original drawings ... There is a Koenig rotary press built in London over 130 years ago, offering a quaint contrast to the double octuple press which can be seen working in the cinematographic theatre elsewhere. The [modern] press delivers 50,000 complete copies per hour, folded, cut, and counted... The Australian newspapers are shown in a special Empire Press Union stand, which has a prominent position in the court. Here are files of all the leading newspapers of the empire, from Montreal to Wellington, from Melbourne to Brisbane or Perth, from Cape Town to Cairo. Hundreds of Australian visitors are flocking daily to the White City. Few pass the Empire Press Union's exhibit without dipping into the Australian 'files'.

"But for readers of the *Argus* and the *Australasian* the most attractive corner of the newspaper court is the electric theatre fitted up by the *Daily Chronicle*, to which reference has already been made. Here are being shown the remarkable series of cinematographic films picturing the process of printing and distributing the *Argus*, which have already been exhibited throughout Australia. Nothing better has been seen in a London electric theatre for years. When I visited the newspaper court at the White City this week, I found the *Daily Chronicle* theatre packed. Yet it was only 5 o'clock, some time before the exhibition grounds begin to fill with the crowds who flock to the Shepherd's Bush every night after office hours. An audience of 500 gazed on the *Argus* films as if they were watching the very operations that were actually in progress at that moment 13,000 miles away for 5.00pm in London is 3.30am in Melbourne. The scenes cannot have been familiar to more than a small minority of people in the theatre, but the remarks passed showed that they followed every step in the process, from 'copy to bookstall'. [They saw the] electric saw cut the plate. The reel of paper was inserted in the machine. The signal to go ahead was given. When the *Argus* began to pour out at the rate of 24,000 copies an hour, the audience accepted the miracle as an expected thing... The *Argus* films are shown every hour, and will be seen by hundreds of thousands of Coronation visitors before the Shepherd's Bush exhibition closes in October."

From Wagga Wagga, **Ross Harvey** writes: I have a group of students who work with film at ScreenSound Australia (SSA) and National Archives of Australia, so I posted a request onto the online subject forum. Julie responded: I did not have any luck finding [the title about the *Argus*, but] it appears that the *Argus* (and other newspapers) was often involved in the production of early newsreels about Melbourne, ca 1910-ca 1920. I suspect this might be with Pathe, but I would have to check. Other titles that may be of use that SSA holds are:

Timber Makes News (1947): The story of newsprint production at Boyer, Tasmania, from tree felling to printing to selling.

Today It's News (1955): Documentary on newspaper production to satisfy the news hungry public.

There is also a scene of the *Argus* building, Melbourne, ca 1920

From Press to Print (1949): amateur documentary showing newspaper delivery in south west NSW.

Daily Miracle (1949): shows the production of the *West Australian*; SSA has no holdings of title.

18.38 WA PARLIAMENT JAILS JOHN DRAYTON

Biographical information is sought on: John Drayton, editor of the *Coolgardie miner*, *Kalgoorlie sun*, *Truth* (Perth) and *Morning herald* (Perth and Fremantle) was jailed for

contempt by the Western Australian Parliament in late 1904. He later worked for *Smith's Weekly* in the 1920s.

Contact: Peter Bridge of Hesperian Press, PO Box 317, Victoria Park, WA, 6979; tel. (08) 9362 5955; fax (08) 9361 2333 (no email). Bridge has been given details on the 1904 case from the *Western Australian Law Review*, volume 25 (July 1995)

18.39 MELBOURNE NEWSPAPER EXHIBITION

An exhibition of historic Melbourne newspapers was held in Melbourne from 20 to 25 May 2002, being officially opened by the Governor, John Landy, on 19 May. The exhibition was sponsored by Roy Morgan Research to commemorate the opening of their new premises and exhibits were provided by Paper World, purveyors of old original newspapers.

Over the period nearly 2000 people visited. They viewed exhibits providing an overview of the development of newspapers in Melbourne, and of significant events from Federation to 11 September. Folders of extracts of the main Melbourne titles were available for viewing. Especially popular was the provision of complete editions of old newspapers, which enabled people to get a feel for what papers were like in the past.

All visitors were provided with a pamphlet summarising the history of Melbourne newspapers. In addition, talks were given to the general public and to journalism students from RMIT University. (Copies of the pamphlet are available at no cost from the author, Victor Isaacs, at ahdb@compuserve.com or 43 Lowanna Street, Braddon ACT 2612, or 02-6257 1742).

18.40 THE DIARIES (1): NEIL BEDFORD'S STORY

When Neil Bedford turned up for duty on June 1, 1942, her newspaper editor told her that Japanese submarines had attacked Sydney and 19 sailors were dead. "I broke out in a cold sweat. I had covered lots of exciting stories in my time, I knew we were at war, but that was unbelievable," she says. "Some of us in the newspaper world knew the Japs had bombed Darwin, although even that was hushed up through censorship. But to think they were in Sydney ...' Bedford (now Mrs Whitlock) lives in Melbourne, was the first woman appointed a cadet reporter on the *Sydney Morning Herald*. Of that day in 1942, she says that "all hell broke loose" as reporters rushed out to get the story. "But some people were so excited they mistook whale spouts for more Japanese submarines." (*Weekend Australian*, 27-28 April 2002, p.24, "War on Our Doorstep: The Diaries".) In 1945 Neil married fellow-journalist Antony Whitlock (see reference to his obituary in 18.5).

18.41 THE DIARIES (2): GEORGE JOHNSTON'S STORY

George Johnston, journalist and author, was reporting on the war in the Pacific for the *Argus*, Melbourne, when the Battle of the Coral Sea began in May 1942. From 4-8 May, US and Australian ships held off a Japanese invasion of Port Moresby. The Japanese had planned to capture the Allies' important airbase to stop Allied attacks against Japanese movements in New Guinea and as a logical point from which to push down over northern Queensland. The *Weekend Australian*, 4-5 May 2002, p.10, ran extracts from his diary for 4 May 1942 in its "War on Our Doorstep: The Diaries". The *Australian*, 2 April 2002, p.3, ran extracts from his diary of 2 April 1942 and on 26 June 2002, p.2, ran extracts from his diary of 26 June 1942. Johnston's diaries are held at the National Library of Australia.

18.42 THE DIARIES (3): DAME MARY GILMORE'S STORY

Dame Mary Gilmore, a poet and journalist, was 77 and living in an inner-city flat in Sydney in 1942 and continued her writing during the war. She continued to get around town, talking with the US sailors and commenting the changes in her extensive diaries. On 8 June 1942 she recorded the shelling of Sydney harbourside suburbs, which coincided with a similar attack on Newcastle. Dame Mary Gilmore's diaries are now held at the Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales. A typed transcript is also held at the National Library (*Weekend Australian*, "War on Our Doorstep": The Diaries", 8-9 June 2002, p.8).

18.43 THE DIARIES (4): JOSEPH ALEXANDER'S STORY

Joseph Alexander, journalist and later bureaucrat, was a close confidante of John Curtin, Prime Minister, 1942-45. He and his wife saw the Curtins regularly. Alexander wrote daily in his diary, giving his views on the war both in the Pacific and Europe and occasionally attaching stories he had written or found. His diary is held at the National Library (*Weekend Australian*, "War on Our Doorstep": The Diaries", 22-23 June 2002, p.4).

18.44 PUBLISHED IN GERMAN, 1856 AND 1867

From Canberra, **John Russell** writes: I saw an interesting column in the *Bendigo Advertiser*. Germans were numerous immigrants to SA, and I have references to at least one provincial SA newspaper (not just from Gilson & Zubrzycki). But, there were obviously enough Germans on the Melbourne diggings (in Victoria the German-born population rose from 3,955 in 1854 to 10,418 in 1861) for *Der Kasmopolit*, a German-language paper published in Melbourne (1856-1857) to be advertised in the *Bendigo Advertiser* for several issues in 1857 (extract below).

Also I have noticed adverts in German from time to time. But I was surprised to see (the only time so far) half a column in the *Mount Alexander Mail*, Friday, 1 February 1856, with reports in German about the main diggings. The heading: DIE DIGGINGS.

DER KOSMOPOLIT

The only German newspaper published in the Colony, has now been established for one year. It is published in Melbourne, twice a week, on Tuesday and Friday; enjoys an extensive circulation on Bendigo and throughout the Colony... – Advert., *Bendigo Advertiser*, Sandhurst, Friday, 21 August 1857, p.1.

Rod Kirkpatrick provides the following: "In consequence of the great and increasing proportion of Germans in the Albury district, owing to the arrivals from South Australia, a portion of the *Albury Banner* has been printed in German, for the information of those who are unable to read English." – *Argus*, Melbourne, 10 July 1867, p.5e.

18.45 MOTT AND WILKIE MEMORIES

ANHG member and former Melbourne *Herald* journalist **Robert Coleman** sent the ANHG a copy of the *Age's* obituary of Melbourne Mott and reflected a little also on the late Douglas Wilkie (see 18.7): "Herewith obit of Melbourne Mott. I think he would be the last of the sons of H.C. Mott ("the old man", as we called him), founder of the *Border Morning Mail*. I was a small boy at Albury Grammar School in Mel Mott's last year, 1933. (The obit is wrong in saying he started full-time work in 1932.) I remember him winning the mile race – one of the few recollections I have of him. I think he may have been in the Middle East when I went to work there in Feb. 1940."

Of Wilkie, Coleman wrote: "I knew him casually for 30 years but he never said anything about his wartime exploits. In the vast open 3rd floor at the HWT building, the *Sun* journalists occupied one end and the *Herald* the other. Wilkie, when writing his column, had a daily

routine of walking around chatting to everybody. He would try out his ideas on anybody he encountered and would always end up with Noel Hawken.

“He was, of course, one of the last (if not the last) of the great Australian WWII correspondents. He had an elegant turn of phrase. I recall in one column at Christmas time, when there was a rash of stealing of garden plants, that he wrote “we must watch our phlox by night” (or something like that). He was also one of a small band of genuine intelligentsia. The others included Noel Hawken, Geoffrey Tebbutt, Stuart Brown, Keith Connolly, and E.W. (Bill) Tipping, with whom I once shared a room.”

18.46 A TASMANIAN NEWSPAPER CHRONICLE

Moore-Robinson, J. *Chronological list of Tasmanian newspapers from 1810 to 1933*. Hobart : Reprinted from “The Voice”, 1933. [9] p.

This scarce pamphlet provides a chronological list of 109 Tasmanian newspapers commencing with *The Derwent star and Van Diemen’s Land intelligencer*. Note that the following information is taken from this list and may not necessarily still be completely accurate. However, it may be a useful starting point for your own research into the subject. The *Derwent star* is listed as the first Tasmanian newspaper (from 8 Jan. 1810). It was produced on a wooden hand or common press.

“In the early part of 1810 the first newspaper printed in the colony made its appearance under the aspiring title of the *Derwent Star and Van Diemen’s Land Intelligencer*. It contained half a sheet of foolscap printed both sides. It was issued fortnightly, at *two shillings* a copy. In the V.D. Land Almanac, 1829, Bent says:- “Governor Collins brought out the press and the type, his orders having been printed for some time, both at Port Phillip and Van Diemen’s Land, under a tree in the woods”. The editor was G.P. Harris, deputy-surveyor-general, and it was printed by J. Barnes and T. Clark “at the Government Press, Hobart Town”, all being under the supervision of the Governor. The paper did not pay even at two shillings: it expired after a brief existence of a few months”. (Fenton, James, *A history of Tasmania from its discovery in 1642 to the present time*, Melanie Productions, Hobart, 1978 (Facsimile reprint of the original ed.: J. Walsh and Sons, Hobart, 1884), p. 35).

Item 109, the last item, is for *The Tasmanian tourist*, first produced 1909. And there is much, much more in between, including some of these stirring titles ...

- *Bell’s life in Tasmania, sporting chronicle, agricultural gazette and country journal*. By Charles W. Hall, Hobart; from 12 July, 1859;
- *The clipper*. Hobart; 1893-1909;
- *The Emu Bay times*. From 1 January 1898;
- *The Horton herald*. Published by “Caleb Comical”; from January 1835; contains literary material, not news;
- *The Irish exile and freedom advocate*. Printed by John Moore, Hobart; from 26 January 1850;
- *The leader and the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth*. Published by William Norton and Edward George Webberly in the interests of the Orange Movement; from 1 April [sic], 1868;
- *The monotone sporting record*. Printed and published by C.D. Stevens, Hobart; from May 1914;
- *The news* [sic]. Hobart; 1924-1925;
- *The omnibus*. A gratis advertising sheet from the Hobart Courier Office; from 1 December 1848;

- *The people's horn boy*. Published by Gilbert Robertson, Hobart; from 22 August 1834;
- *The sporting news and axemen's journal*. Published by W.A. Whittaker, Launceston; for three years from July 1901;
- *Sunbeams: a monthly journal for the home*. Published by W.J. McWilliams, Hobart; from April 1896;
- *The Tasmanian bandsman*. Hobart; from 1914;
- *The Tasmanian Catholic standard*. Hobart; from 1 November 1876;
- *Tasmanian weekly dictator* [sic]. Printed and published by John Morgan, Hobart; from 4 October 1839;
- *The Tassie digger*. Official organ of the RSSILA, Hobart; from 1921;
- *The teetotal advocate*. Proprietor John Knight, Launceston; from 3 April 1843;
- *The trumpeter*. Issued by J.C. Stacey; printed by Henry Melville, Hobart; from 7 May 1833;

And lastly:

- *Zeehan and Dundas herald*. From 14 Oct. 1890.

18.47 KATE WEBB MENTIONED IN DISPATCHES

On the jhistory net on 12 June 2002, Tracy Wood (Tracy023@aol.com) an American, responded to an inquiry by Bridget Griffen-Foley, an Australian (and ANHG member): "... one of the finest combat correspondents, male or female, is the Australian Kate Webb. Kate began her career with UPI covering combat in Vietnam. She was the UPI bureau chief in Cambodia, was captured by the North Vietnamese, held for three weeks and nearly died of malaria before being released. She wrote a book about her capture that was published in about 1972 or 1973. I don't have the title with me. Kate later worked for AFP and just recently retired after serving as the AFP bureau chief in Indonesia. She has a chapter in a new book coming out in August called *War Torn*, stories of war from the women reporters who covered Vietnam. The publisher is Random House."

18.48 PRESS GALLERY (1): MELBOURNE, 1856

The *Argus*, Melbourne, reported on 23 July 1856, p.5: "THE REPORTERS' GALLERIES IN THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT. – Yesterday, in compliance with a request from the Commissioner of Public Works, a gentleman from each of the Melbourne journals waited on Mr Knight at Evelyn House, Nicholson-street, in order to make any suggestions that might seem requisite as to the accommodation to be provided for reporters in the New Houses of Legislature. It was decided to adopt the plan followed by Mr Barry in the erection of the New Houses of Parliament in London. It is due to the gentlemen engaged in the works to state that a very anxious desire to provide all the requirements of the press has been evinced by them."

18.49 PRESS GALLERY (2): SYDNEY

Alex Mitchell, president of the New South Wales Parliamentary Press Gallery, is gathering material to write a history of that gallery (source: his phone call to ANHG editor).

18.50 CIRCULATION: BALLARAT, 1864, AND MELBOURNE, 1894

The Ballarat *Evening Post* on 1 January 1864 proclaimed it had the "largest local circulation ever obtained by a provincial newspaper in Victoria". It said it was issuing "an average of eighteen hundred copies nightly ... and circulates in places where no other paper is seen".

On 22 March 1894 the *Age*, Melbourne, asserted in display type, presented in the style of an advertisement but immediately above its leading article: "The Circulation of THE AGE Is Now FOUR TIMES LARGER Than that of any other Melbourne morning paper."

18.51 NEWSPAPER MUSIC: A FEARLESS PRESS

From Canberra, **John Russell** reports that the *Australasian Typographical Journal* (Melbourne), April 1890, p.2022, included the following in its "Our South Australian Letter", datelined Adelaide, 31 March:

The *Advertiser* Wayzgoose

Saturday last [29 March] was the day chosen for the annual wayzgoose in connection with the *Advertiser* printing departments, and the spot selected for the outing was Teatree Gully... The dinner was held at the Teatree Hotel...

There were many other toasts ... and the programme was interspersed with songs and choruses (two of which were original) by the Advertiser Glee Club and orchestra ... The principal song, entitled "Our Press" was written by Mr J. B. Mather and set to music by Mr E. Best, both employés of the *Advertiser*. It evoked the utmost enthusiasm. The words were as follows:

Companions met for social glee,
We sing the praises of our art –
The art preservative, with power
To feed the mind and cheer the heart.
Then let each cry whose lot it is
To labour in a noble cause –
Long live the Press, the true defence
Of all our liberties and laws.

Chorus:

Raise we our voices all --
Our theme, 'A Fearless Press,'
To guard our liberties and laws,
To win us just redress.

Time was when knowledge was confined
To learned men – a noble few –
From whose reserves the student world
Its oral lessons slowly drew;
Till Printing, like another sense,
Evoked a grateful world's applause.
Long live the Press, the true defence
Of all our liberties and laws.

Through our great art the author tells
His thoughts to an approving world;
While commerce night and morning sees
Her news-sheets everywhere unfurled;
In print comes thought from every land –
A stream that knows not any pause,
Long live the Press, the true defence
Of all our liberties and laws.

As long as there are wrongs to right,
So long may wisdom guide the Press;
Of right our craft the bulwarks be,
Our aim to make all evil less.
Then shall we win from men the cry
(Mid lusty, well-deserved huzzahs) –
Long live the Press, the true defence
Of all our liberties and laws.

18.52 BILL TULLY REFLECTS ON HIS YEARS AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

ANHG member **Bill Tully** will retire from the National Library of Australia in early September. Your editor first met him more than 20 years ago when Bill was the Senior Librarian in the NLA's Newspaper Microcopy Room. At the editor's request, Bill reflects below on his years at the NLA, particularly in the newspaper microcopy room:

In 1980 I was put in the Newspaper Microcopy area of the National Library. I went with a measure of reluctance. I hadn't used micromaterial much. I blanched at the thought of those rows and rows of heavy bound volumes. The thought of getting newsprint on my fingers did not decrease this pessimism. The pre-1985 room was small. The staff was an unknown entity. Would they feel resentful? I had got the job by fiat of a senior manager who chose me over the selection panel's original choice. He was a young man who had been in the area for over five years and loved it. All this worried me.

I need not have worried. The clientele was fascinating. It varied from family history buffs to scholars like Manning Clark's research assistant (Ros Russell) working on the final volumes of *A History of Australia*, Amirah Inglis looking at Australia's responses to the Spanish Civil War, and Rod Kirkpatrick putting his microscope over Queensland provincial newspapers. Manning Clark came in once looking for a *Canberra Times* citation. I gave him the *Australian* by mistake, but the Professor was more apologetic than me! Murray Farquhar (of Fine Cotton fame) rushed in quickly looking for a vital paragraph to do with his involvement in the case – and was just as quickly satisfied by the efficient Luis Codina and Bob Small. Ken Begg, one of Canberra's parliamentary journalists, brought in a TV crew to film a microfilmed newspaper image on a microfilm machine, while he declaimed alongside.

We moved to a new room in late 1985 – larger and with a view of shrubs and greenery, more tables and a bigger and better display area. The move was done by the staff during the annual Library Christmas party – the way we wanted it to be – before senior staff (not generally part of our working routine) could wreak too many unsuitable changes. I chose a range of wall photographic images from the *Canberra Times* and other Australian and international papers for the *CT* 60th birthday in September 1986. We got newer and better micro reader/copiers and Grahame (the man from the suppliers) came in regularly and kept them in trim. Helen Tsogas was our administrator and keeper of the records in a splendid team of workers who put up with my whims and extravagances with patience and goodwill. We got a 1988 gift of microfilmed Irish convict data from the Irish Government, lots of family history microfiche, rolls and rolls of Australian, US and British history from cartoons to CIA transcripts, British Labour Party data, left-wing and right wing pamphlets from the French Revolution to the Vietnam War. Before she left in 1989 Beth Stone compiled a meticulous descriptive list of these and many more items.

In 1991-92 it was, with much more reluctance than 12 years earlier, that I moved back to the ground floor main reference area, from where I will retire at three score years and five this September. I have loved every minute of this part of my life at the National Library, met many people, helped them where possible, made lifelong friends and became aware of the oceans of experiences in newspapers going back to the Armada and covering every country of the globe. The era of Internet and digitisation will not entirely dispose of the reels, fiche pages, volumes and sheafs of print and images – and the people making them accessible.

18.53 WORLD'S 'FIRST' PHOTOGRAPH

From the *Sydney Morning Herald*, 23-24 March 2002, p.15: “The world’s first photograph has emerged after 50 years in a private home to fetch 450,000 euros (\$749,000) at an auction in Paris – and force experts to rewrite photographic history.”

18.54 EARLY QUEENSLAND PHOTOGRAPHER

Alan North (anorth@webone.com.au) expands on a research inquiry that he made to the ANHG: My interest in the *Boomerang*, Brisbane, arises from research which I am doing about an early Queensland photographer (also my grandfather), Thomas Mathewson, 1842-1934. Besides being regarded as the “Father of Photography in Queensland” in the days of wet-plate photography, before the days of the film, he also wrote numerous articles to the newspapers of his day about early Queensland history. He had arrived in Brisbane aged 10 years in 1853. Through the John Oxley Library and other sources, I have been able to find articles from early newspapers, including the *Moreton Bay Courier*, the *Queenslander*, *Brisbane Courier*, the *Queensland Times*, the *Daily Mail*, the *Logan Witness*, the *Port Denison Times*, the *Nashville Times* (and *Gympie Times*), the *Dalby Herald* and various journals. Mathewson seemed to be a great newspaper contributor in Brisbane from about 1903 till 1926.

The John Oxley have told me that the *Courier-Mail* came into being on 28 August 1933, upon the merger of the *Daily Mail* and the *Brisbane Courier*. The *Courier-Mail* tells me that there is no index of these papers before that date, so I can expect no help from that source. Without an index, it is just too big a task to look across fifty years or so. My question is: Is there any other avenue which I can pursue to try and locate further articles which I feel sure are still hidden from view? Without any more leads, my research is beginning to dry up and I am looking towards formatting my book.

18.55 BURKE AND WILLS AND THE ARGUS

Melbourne’s *Argus* reported on 15 November 1861, p.5, col. 7: “The despatch recently received from Mr Howitt, accompanying the narrative of King and the diaries of Burke and Wills, have been reprinted from the *Argus*, in pamphlet form. The publication is convenient for reference, and it is interesting, as containing all the information we are ever likely to receive respecting the extraordinary journey of the unfortunate explorers across the continent of Australia, and from which the main portion of the history of the expedition, yet to be written, will have to be prepared.”

Definite news of the deaths of Burke and Wills during the Victorian Exploration Expedition had been telegraphed from Bendigo to Melbourne late on 2 November 1861. It sparked international interest with articles appearing in Britain, Ireland, Holland, Germany and America. For several days Melbourne’s newspapers printed special editions, and plans were under way for commemorative portraits and maps (Sarah Murgatroyd, *The Dig Tree*, pp.295-297).

18.56 V.F. KILGALLON: BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

In the first issue of the *Innisfail Star* on 5 November 1975, the owner, Vincent Ferrer Kilgallon introduced his staff – Stuart King, editor; John Jones, manager; and Barry Simpson, advertising manager – and ran head-and-shoulders shots of them. He then gave details on himself at the foot of the page, minus a picture, in what at first looked like an extensive publisher’s imprint. It is worth placing on record:

“Publisher of the *Star*, V.F. Kilgallon, is a Scot and second generation journalist. Edited first paper at 17 in 1941 before joining H.M. Minesweepers. Four years later joined mass-circulation *Daily Express*, spent almost 15 years in Fleet Street and was night editor of London *Evening Standard* before joining *Sydney Morning Herald* in 1964. Proposed paper’s

first Diary column. Left to buy local weekly *Moruya Examiner*. Won Somerlad (sic) Award for Journalism first year there; was taken over by Maxwell Newton at end of second. Next started Australia's first metropolitan free daily, *Postscript* (circulation on 120,000) for Melbourne millionaire. Later restyled it as successful paid Statewide, and later National weekly *Weekender*. Put up blueprint for first area magazine to circulate in all local papers in NSW wheatbelt. Took over *Tablelands Advertiser* in late 1969 and recently re-equipped plant for second time. Now plant includes IBM setting and double-unit Cotterill Vanguard printing press, the first web-offset machine north of Bundaberg, capable of producing 16,000 16-page papers an hour."

18.57 AUSTRALIAN PRESS BICENTENARY SYMPOSIUM: AN UPDATE

A one-day event, 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 10am to 4pm, with advice from a small group of ANHG members. The following have accepted invitations to speak: Professor Elizabeth Webby, Dr Grace Karskens, Dr Sandy Blair, and Mr V.J. Carroll. Others are being invited. A display of early Australian newspapers and journals and other printing records is being organised in conjunction with the symposium.

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 later issues of this Newsletter.

18.58 AUDIT OF MEMBERS' RESEARCH INTERESTS (see 12.46 and 13.39)

(Hard-copy subscribers are invited to submit their research interests in the following format, with, if appropriate, postal address in place of email address. Deadline: 1 September.)

BURGOYNE, Sandy (Melbourne): Researching the 30-year history of the *Warrandyte Diary* community newspaper for her MA by research. Email: leanburn@bigpond.com.au

EDMONDS, Leigh (Ballarat, Vic.): Historian with a major interest in technology, particularly the technologies of transport and communication including newspapers. E-mail: hhandc@bigpond.com

EMERY, Victoria (Melbourne): Research interests include late 19th-early 20th century sectional particularly Catholic) periodicals and amateur journalism. Email: vemery@deakin.edu.au

HUGHES, Sue (Melbourne, Vic): researching what remains of 19th century newspaper offices in the Central Victorian Goldfields to write an Honours thesis. Email: sueh1@hotmail.net.au

KIRKPATRICK, Rod (Brisbane): Researching the history of daily-newspaper publication in provincial centres throughout Australia for a book; currently putting finishing touches to a biography of Thadeus O'Kane, owner/editor, *Northern Miner*, Charters Towers, 1873-1890. E-mail: r.kirkpatrick@uq.edu.au

PARES, Philip (Brisbane): Researching the emergence of the idea of the photographic image as evidence; particularly the change from illustration to photographic image use in Australian newspapers and periodicals 1870 - 1915. E-mail: p.pares@mailbox.gu.edu.au

QUINN, Stephen (Dubai, United Arab Emirates): Knowledge and information management in the newsroom at all forms of media organisations. Technology and its relationship to journalism and the media. Computer-assisted reporting. Email: Stephen.Quinn@zu.ac.ae

REES JONES Margaret (RMIT, Melbourne): Researching selected 19thC. NZ newspapers for a PhD. Thesis title: Printers' ink in their veins. The thread is briefly Wellington, with James Muir - printer on the *NZ Gazette and Britannia Spectator* (1840) and part proprietor *The Independent* - and the early newspapers of the Poverty Bay district from 1872-1914 - with particular emphasis on the *Poverty Bay Herald*, owned by one or more members of the Muir family from 1884 to this day. Email: margaret_jones@smartchat.net.au

RUSSELL, John (Canberra): Compiling a bibliographical and biographical database on printing and publishing within colonial Australia (people and products) and related activities (e.g. booksellers, photographers, print artists, etc.). E-mail: karinrussell@optusnet.com.au

18.59 RECENTLY PUBLISHED (1): BOOKS

18.59.1. GALE FORCE: JOHN GALE AND THE SITING OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL, by Susan Mary Woolcock Withycombe, published by the Queanbeyan and District Centenary of Federation Committee, PO Box 131 Queanbeyan NSW 2620, 2001, ISBN 0-9579662-0-2, 144 pages, illustrated, paperback, \$27.50. The story of John Gale and his family, the *Queanbeyan Age* and other newspapers in the region he was associated with. Also covers Gale's influence on the Federal Parliament's choice of Canberra as the site for the national capital.

18.59.2 OFF THE RECORD: THE WESTERN HERALD STORY by Brian F. Smith, who is also the publisher. Order through: western21@bigpond.com or Off the Record, PO Box 297, Rosebery, Tas, 7470. \$10 (incl. p&p). A well written account of the first 10 years of a newspaper that serves many western coastal areas of Tasmania.

18.60 RECENTLY PUBLISHED (2): ARTICLES

18.60.1 'THE CRUMBS ARE BETTER THAN A FEAST ELSEWHERE': AUSTRALIAN JOURNALISTS ON FLEET STREET by Bridget Griffen-Foley, *Journalism History*, 28:1 (Spring 2002), pp.26-37. An exploration of the experiences of Australian journalists who worked on Fleet Street between 1900 and 1939. Concentrating on a number of individual journalists, the article considers the powerful lure of Fleet Street, why journalists left Australia, their first impressions of London, the opportunities provided by being abroad, experiences of success and failure, working and social life, and the particular challenges and opportunities that faced women journalists.

18.60.2 A SCRAMBLE OF BRUISED EGOS WITH EGG ON FACES by Alan Ramsey, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 27-28 April 2002, p.31. How journalists in the Press Gallery misread the last Federal election. Quotes from a 46-page analysis by Scott Bennett, of the Australian Parliamentary Library's politics research group.

18.60.3 PILLORY TO POST by Mark Day, *Australian*, Media liftout, 18 April 2002, pp.4-5. A profile of *New York Post* editor Col Allan, the Australian who started his career in Dubbo, New South Wales. He has boosted the *Post's* circulation by 75,000 in his first year as editor.

18.60.4 TAYLORS REAP HARVEST OF EDITOR'S HARD WORK AT PIONEER by Rod Kirkpatrick, *PANPA Bulletin*, May 2002, pp.37-39. A brief history of the *Murray Pioneer*, Renmark, South Australia, and the Taylor family's involvement as owners since 1905.

18.60.5 BILL, KERRY AND OTHER NEWS by Robert Gottliebsen, *Weekend Australian*, 20-21 April 2002, p.46. Microsoft's chief has convinced the big players, such as Kerry Packer, that the tech revolution, not newspapers, is the future.

18.60.6 THE CLASSIE CATASTROPHE by George Megalogenis, *Australian*, Media liftout, 30 May 2002, pp.4-5. The newspaper ad slump grinds on as publishers struggle to adjust to a new media environment. Includes line graphs showing total advertising as a share of GDP; total advertising revenue for print, TV, radio, other; annual advertising spending in \$m since 1992.

18.60.7 QUARTERLY FIGURES GO FOR A SPIN by Andrew Dodd, *Australian*, Media liftout, 30 May 2002, p.12. An analysis of the latest quarterly reading figures for newspapers and magazines and how they are being interpreted differently. See also Andrew Dodd, "News tabloids defy falling readership", *Australian*, 24 May 2002, p.23.

18.60.8 The papers from the June 2001 Australian Media Traditions conference at Yeppoon, Qld, are now available online at www.ejournalism.au.com/ejournalist/v1n2.html The issue has been dedicated to a participant, Clem Lloyd, who died on 31 December 2001 at Gympie.

18.60.9 CROSS-MEDIA RULES, *Australian Press Council News*, Vol. 14, No. 2, May 2002, pp.1-4. Details of the Press Council's submission in April to the Senate committee inquiring into proposed amendments to the Broadcasting Services Act regulating cross-media ownership rules.

18.60.10 A CENTURY OF SERVICE TO THE COUNTRY PRESS by E.Lloyd Sommerlad, *History* (published by the Royal Australian Historical Society), June 2002, pp.4-5. The author of *Serving the Country Press* gives a potted account of how the New South Wales Country Press Association emerged.

18.60.11 *L'ITALO-AUSTRALIAN: AUSTRALIA'S FIRST ITALIAN LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER* by Francesca A. Musico, *History*, June 2002, p.6 (see also back cover). How the first Italian-language newspaper emerged in Sydney in 1885.

18.60.12 HISTORY RESEARCH IN NEWSPAPERS by Cynthia Hunter, *History*, June 2002, p.7 and OLD NEWSPAPERS AND THE FAMILY HISTORIAN by Rod and Wendy Gow, *History*, June 2002, pp.8-9. The benefits of using newspapers extensively in historical research are expounded.

18.60.13 THE EDITOR WHO MISSED OUT ON A NED KELLY SCOOP by Rod Kirkpatrick, *PANPA Bulletin*, June 2002, pp.29-31. An investigation of a little-publicised episode in provincial journalism history: the editor who missed out on publishing Ned Kelly's so-called Jerilderie Letter 120 years before it was finally published. The article also examines how the illustrated press covered the Kelly Gang and provides a potted history of Jerilderie's newspapers.

18.60.14 GALLERY'S OLD MASTERS GIVEN NEW ORDERS by Errol Simper, *Australian*, Media liftout 13 June 2002, pp.4-5. Editors are demanding a different style of political coverage from their journalists: an exploration of market research and its impact on what is expected from reports in the Canberra press gallery.

18.60.15 COME IN, SPINNERS by Paola Totaro, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 15-16 June 2002, pp.25, 32. NSW Premier Bob Carr's Cabinet boasts 19 ministers – and 29 press secretaries – as Labor's slick juggernaut gears up for the election, expected in March 2003.

18.60.16 JACK-OF-ALL-TRADES EDITOR REFLECTS ON THE ENDLESS WORK by Rod Kirkpatrick, *PANPA Bulletin*, July 2002, pp.36-38. Charles Barclay Chappel, nomadic editor-printer tells his story of half a lifetime of starting and/or running country newspapers throughout New South Wales and Queensland.

18.60.17 FAIRFAX BROTHERS' EYES ON THE PAPER by Brian Robins, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 6-7 July 2002, pp. 45, 49. An exploration of what the sons of Sir Vincent Fairfax (John B. and Tim) have done with their return from the ill-fated 1987 privatisation of the John Fairfax newspaper group and the possibility that they could yet bid for a controlling interest in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Age*, et al.

18.60.18 NEWS CORP GETS THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS by Brian Robins, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 6-7 July 2002, p.47. Global accounting helps smooth the profit for Rupert Murdoch's international media organisation, and why the group continues to call Australia home when its principal decided years ago to call the USA home.

18.60.19 LAUGHING WITH KNIVES by Patti Miller, *Good Weekend*, 13 July 2002, pp.14-18. Death threats. Letter bombs. Hate mail. If cartoons are supposed to be funny, why do they anger so many people (and make editors nervous)? Leading political cartoonists discuss why a few squiggly lines prickle the national conscience.

18.60.20 FROM CANDLES TO GAS: THE POVERTY BAY HERALD AND NEWSPAPER PRODUCTION IN GISBORNE, 1874-1884 by Margaret Rees Jones, *Bibliographic Society of Australia and New Zealand Bulletin*, 26:1, 2002, pp.2-28. A richly-detailed New Zealand article that will fascinate Australian press historians.

18.60.21 The midyear issue of *Australian Journalism Review* carries the following articles of interest to the ANHG: "Clem Lloyd 1939-2001 – Profession: Journalism educator, " by Jolyon Sykes, pp.7-17; "Political opinion polling and the professionalisation of public relations: Keith Murdoch, Robert Menzies, and the Liberal Party of Australia" by Bridget Griffen-Foley, pp.41-59; "Shooting folly as it flies: Greatness and country editors" by Rod Kirkpatrick, pp.99-114.

18.61 A Select Chronology of Australian Newspaper Events, 1910-1919

1 July 1910	The <i>Sun</i> , Sydney, launched by Hugh Denison; replaces the <i>Australian Star</i> .
10 June 1910	The North Queensland Newspaper Co. Limited is formed by the amalgamation of The Townsville Newspaper Co. Limited and The Northern Mining Printing and Publishing Co. Limited. Capital £48,000.
11 October 1916	<i>Northern Times</i> , Newcastle, begins; forerunner of <i>Newcastle Sun</i>
23 March 1918	<i>Newcastle Sun</i> begins; new all over Page 1
12 October 1918	<i>Labor News</i> , Sydney, begins
December 1918	Charles Brunson Fletcher appointed editor of <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i>
1 March 1919	<i>Smith's Weekly</i> , Sydney, begins publication

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