

AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPER HISTORY GROUP  
**NEWSLETTER**

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**20.1 COPY DEADLINE AND WEBSITE ADDRESS**

Deadline for next *Newsletter*: 31 January 2003. Subscription details appear at end of  
Newsletter. [Number 1 appeared in October 1999.]

See enclosure for Australian Newspaper Press Bicentenary  
Symposium registration form

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/](http://www.sjc.uq.edu.au/)

Current Developments: Metro (20.2-27), and Provincial (20.28-38);  
Newspaper History (20.39-49);  
Recently Published Books and Articles (20.50-51); and Chronology, 1890-1899 (20.52).

**CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: METRO**

**20.2 CENTRAL COAST DAILY NEWSPAPER BATTLE**

It's Fairfax versus News in a daily newspaper battle on the Central Coast of New South Wales: Fairfax, through Newcastle Newspapers, has invaded traditional News turf, serviced by the Cumberland title, the *Express Advocate* (a merger of the old *Central Coast Express* and the *Wyong Advocate*). Fairfax had been working toward the daily for nearly two years and made its first move in July 2001, buying the *Sun*, a weekly Central Coast free founded in 1987. It launched the *Central Coast Sun Weekly* in August 2001.

Fairfax announced on 25 September that it would launch the daily *Central Coast Herald* on Saturday, 28 September. News Ltd countered with a hastily cobbled-together "Central Coast Extra" wraparound for the *Daily Telegraph* on Friday, 27 September. The wraparound now appears daily with issues of the *Telegraph* sold on the Central Coast. The *Telegraph* halved its cover price to 50c not only on the Central Coast but also in Newcastle and the Hunter, the home territory of the tabloid *Newcastle Herald*. The *Central Coast Herald* also cut its cover price to 50c on weekdays but remained at \$1.50 on Saturdays. News began issuing the former bi-weekly *Express Advocate* as a free daily (Monday to Friday) in two separate editions from Friday, 27 September. It was soon advertising for senior and junior reporters, sub-editors and a features editor (see *Australian*, Media liftout, 17 October 2002, pp.8-9).

Alan Oakley, the publisher and editor in chief of Newcastle Newspapers, said on the Fairfax corporate website that newspaper sales on the Central Coast had been well below the national average because of the lack of a local daily newspaper. Derek Taylor has been appointed manager of the *Central Coast Herald* and Dean Gould, former award-winning editor of the *Northern Star*, Lismore, is the editor. Nicole Cowan is the editor of the daily *Express Advocate*.

The Central Coast, comprising the shires of Gosford and Wyong, covers 1800 square kilometres along the Pacific Ocean from the Hawkesbury River in the south to Lake Macquarie in the north. About 300,000 people now live there and the population increased by 9.5 per cent between 1996 and 2001 – almost twice the NSW average (Sally Jackson, “Battle for the beaches”, *Australian*, Media liftout, 10 October 2002, pp.4-5; Cosima Marriner, “Wyong-Gosford a paper war zone”, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 3 October 2002, p.30; “Fairfax and News at war on Central Coast”, *PANPA Bulletin*, November 2002, pp.11-12; Fairfax corporate website: [www.fxj.com.au/announcements/sep02/newcastle.htm](http://www.fxj.com.au/announcements/sep02/newcastle.htm); accessed 26/9/02).

Comparing the battle on the Central Coast to the Melbourne commuter newspaper battle of 2001, ANHG member **Ken Sanz** observes (E-mail, 4 October): “This time Fairfax has the tender for the use of railway stations in the area, so that the *Express Advocate* will have to find a way to give out its papers to commuters using the rail system to get to work.”

Newcastle Newspapers general manager Brian Evans told the ANHG editor on 25 November that about 6,500 *Central Coast Herald*s had been given away daily at the stations in the first month. The “railway station rights” period had now ended. Evans said also he would not quote any circulation figures at this stage because so many promotional copies were being distributed; the *Newcastle Herald*’s daily circulation of about 1,200 had been unaffected by the newspaper war; he believed News was ploughing \$300,000 a week into the Central Coast battle; the *Herald* was in for the long term; the same world/national/State news reports were being run in the Newcastle and Central Coast *Heralds*; the *Central Coast Herald* employed about a dozen journalists, but copy was subbed at the *Newcastle Herald*.

The Central Coast last had a daily in the mid-1970s: the *Central Coast Express* appeared daily from 10 September 1974 to 17 December 1977 (Rod Kirkpatrick, *Country Conscience*, p.203t).

### **20.3 OTHER PAID DAILIES LAUNCHED SINCE 1964**

Sally Jackson’s article (quoted in 20.2) gave rise to three letters in succeeding weeks in the Media liftout with her statement that: “The last paid-for metropolitan daily to be started was News’s *The Australian* back in 1964.” Peter Bulcock, of Chifley, ACT, pointed out (Media, 17/10) that the *Daily Sun* had been launched in Brisbane in 1982. [He had fond recollections of it because it was the first paper to print his letters to the editor.] Rod Kirkpatrick (Media, 24/10) mentioned *Newsday*, Melbourne, launched in 1969 and the *Business Daily*, national, 1987, and wondered what he had missed. He had his answer in the letter that appeared below his, from Patrick Connelly, of Warrnambool, who had worked on the *Western Sun*, Perth, when it appeared daily in September 1973, for about a month.

### **20.4 SHOOTING AT THE MESSENGER – LITERALLY**

A gunman fired shots into the bedroom of Brisbane *Courier-Mail* reporter Hedley Thomas on Wednesday night, 23 October. Armed with a high-powered revolver, the man drove to the couple’s Brookfield home and fired four shots from where he stood up to 25 metres away in the front yard or driveway. One of the bullets narrowly missed Thomas’s wife, Ruth Mathewson, who was lying in bed. Thomas has worked for the *Courier-Mail* since 1988. He is an investigative reporter who has written extensively on property scams over the past year (*Courier-Mail*, 25 October 2002, p. 1; also see editorial, p. 16, and Paul Wilson’s comment, p.17; and Graham Lloyd, “Truth under the gun”, *Courier-Mail*, 26 October 2002, pp.29-30; *Australian*, Media liftout, 31 October 2002, p.3).

The *Courier-Mail* announced on 9 November (Page 1) that it was offering a reward of \$50,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person who shot at Hedley Thomas and his family. On the same day the *Courier-Mail* ran a round-up report (“Focus on

antique gun used in home attack”, Page 16) and newspaper editorialised on the issue (“Defending the value of good journalism”, Page 24) and news editor Tony Koch devoted his Saturday column to it and related issues (“Wanted: a callous coward”, Page 25). The *Courier-Mail* editorial said that if Thomas’s attacker had wanted a “cowed, intimidated press, that wish has not been granted”. It added: “This newspaper and its journalists will not be frightened into not publishing information we believe is important and relevant to our readers. Our resolve is strengthened because of what Mr Thomas and his family have endured.”

Thomas was absent from the office for some weeks and his byline did not re-appear in the *Courier-Mail* until 27 November.

## 20.5 CHRONOLOGY OF RECENT EVENTS

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>24 August 2002</b>   | Death: <b>Francis Keith Matthews</b> , in Melbourne aged 79; popular paymaster at Herald & Weekly Times, for which he worked for 49 years; became assistant to CEO ( <i>Herald Sun</i> , 9 September 2002).   |
| <b>3 September 2002</b> | <i>Torquay Times</i> (incorporating the <i>Anglesea Advocate</i> ) begins publication. Publisher is John Stoward (see 20.28).   |
| <b>October</b>          | <i>Golden Mail</i> , Kalgoorlie, celebrates fifth anniversary ( <i>Golden Mail</i> , 4 October 2002).   |
| <b>October 2002</b>     | <i>Melbourne</i> magazine begins publication. Steve Harris is managing director and editor in chief and John Allan is publisher. Cover price is \$8.95.   |
| <b>1 October 2002</b>   | The <i>Standard</i> , Warrnambool, celebrates its 130 <sup>th</sup> birthday. Later in October it issues a 40-page 130 <sup>th</sup> anniversary booklet. Launched as a bi-weekly by William Fairfax and Henry Laurie in 1872, the <i>Standard</i> has been published daily since 1 January 1884.   |
| <b>3 October 2002</b>   | Death: <b>Brian Woodley</b> , in Sydney aged 46; journalist with <i>Australian</i> for 16 years and became a leader writer and chief of staff; native of New Zealand; entered journalism on the <i>Southland Times</i> , Invercargill; final assignment was covering the Royal Commission into the collapse of HIH Insurance ( <i>Australian</i> , 4 October 2002, p.12).   |
| <b>12 October 2002</b>  | A car bomb is detonated near a Bali nightclub killing about 180 people, including more than 60 Australians. “Terror strikes home” was the common theme of early Australian newspaper coverage.  |
| <b>October 2002</b>     | Death: <b>Thomas Essington Breen</b> , aged 88; journalist and businessman; joined <i>Labour Daily</i> , Sydney, in 1932 at 18; later worked for <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> and <i>Sun</i> ; political roundsman, and music and theatre critic; became a partner in a company importing a brick-making press from the US; left journalism and founded Metropolitan Sand Company ( <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> , 13 November 2002, p.38). |

## 20.6 BALI BOMBING COVERAGE

Space devoted to coverage of the Bali bombing in newspapers on Monday, 14 October, was: *Australian*, seven broadsheet pages; *Financial Review*, eight tabloid pages; *Sydney Morning Herald*, seven broadsheet; *Daily Telegraph*, 11 tabloid; *Age*, five broadsheet; *Courier-Mail*, 12 broadsheet; *Herald Sun*, 21 tabloid; *Canberra Times*, seven broadsheet. On 15 October: the *Australian* published an eight-broadsheet-page front section; the *Courier-Mail*, 10 broadsheet pages; the *SMH*, six broadsheet pages; and the *Age*, seven (See 20.51.9). All the metropolitan dailies published obituaries of the Australians killed in Bali.

## 20.7 EDITORS ON THE MOVE

**Mitchell Murphy**, formerly editor of the *Chronicle*, Toowoomba, has become the editor of the *Illawarra Mercury*, Wollongong (*PANPA Bulletin*, October 2002, p.62), and his place has been taken by **Alan Stokes**, chief editorial writer on the *Australian*.

**Ian “Salty” Mackay** has been appointed editor of the *Whitsunday Times* after the paper had not really had a designated editor for some time. Mackay worked most recently for the *North-West Star*, Mount Isa (*PANPA Bulletin*, October 2002, p.63).

**Jane Nicholls** has been promoted from deputy editor to editor of *Who Weekly*, replacing **Bruce Guthrie** who has been appointed editorial director of Time Inc. South Pacific, publisher of *Who*, *InStyle* and *Time* (*Australian*, 26 September 2002, p.3, and Media liftout, 3 October 2002, p.3).

**Garry Linnell** replaces **Paul Bailey** as editor-in-chief of *The Bulletin*. Linnell has most recently been a senior writer on Fairfax’s *Good Weekend* and Bailey has gone to Nine Networks News (*Australian*, Media liftout, 7 November 2002, p.9).

## **20.8 THINKING GLOBALLY**

Every time you turn around you are told to think “global”. Even in newspapers, and so, during the recent Commonwealth Games in Manchester, the *Sydney Morning Herald* became the first Australian newspaper to print in Europe (*PANPA Bulletin*, October 2002, p.48); and the *Australian Financial Review* began printing in Auckland, New Zealand, on 21 October (*Australian*, Media liftout, 3 October 2002, p.9). Its cover price in Australia increased from \$2.20 to \$2.50 in mid-October. Weekday sales of the newspaper are now around 90,500 and Saturday sales around 84,500 (*PANPA Bulletin*, November 2002, p.13).

## **20.9 EDITOR, REPORTER CALLED BEFORE SENATE COMMITTEE**

The Senate privileges committee has called on the editor of the *Age*, Michael Gawenda, and its Canberra correspondent, Annabel Crabb, to appear before it to explain the publication of details from a parliamentary report leaked to the Melbourne newspaper (*Australian*, Media liftout, 3 October 2002, p.3).

## **20.10 EXECUTIVE SWAP**

Adelaide *Advertiser* managing director Peter Wylie has been appointed chief executive of New Zealand’s largest media company, INL, and his Adelaide role is now filled by Rick Neville, whom Wylie replaced in New Zealand (*Australian*, 27 September 2002, p.22).

## **20.11 WHEN A REPORTER IS ACCUSED OF GETTING IT BADLY WRONG**

Dean McMaster, Sergeant-in-charge at Wadeye Police Station, Northern Territory, accused reporter Barclay Crawford of getting it badly wrong in Crawford’s article in the “Inquirer” section of the *Weekend Australian* (see letter to editor, *Weekend Australian*, 21-22 September 2002, p.16, commenting on article in previous issue of *Weekend Australian*).

Wadeye, or Port Keats, is the Northern Territory’s largest Aboriginal township. It has been in the news since the above report: (1) Paul Toohey’s report (*Australian*, 28 October 2002, p.5), “Locals go bush after officer kills”; and (2) “Reporter escapes conviction” (*Australian*, 20 November 2002, p.6) – Paul Toohey escapes conviction on a charge of trespassing on Aboriginal land: in a court victory for freedom of the press”.

## **20.12 MAGAZINES**

Ian Meikle, chief executive of Pacific Publications, is examining acquisitions, new titles, licensing deals and joint ventures to try to grow the company’s magazine publishing business. Meikle is a former chief executive of the *Canberra Times* and former editor of the *Australian* (*Australian Financial Review*, 7 October 2002, p.40).

The Pacific Publications TV listings magazine, *What's On Weekly*, appeared on 2 December for the final time, four months after it was launched. Seven Network chairman announced the closure at the company's annual meeting on 29 November (*Weekend Australian*, 30 November-1 December 2002, p.3).

*New Scientist*, issued in Australia, has offered its readers the chance to win the possibility of another life via a \$US28,000 cryonics treatment. The prize comes into effect when the winner is declared legally dead: his or her body will be prepared and cooled to a temperature where decay stops. The body will then be suspended in liquid nitrogen at the Cryonics Institute in Michigan, USA, and revived "when and if medical technology allows" (*Australian*, 20 September 2002, p.5).

Magazine publisher PMP has cautioned that slow advertising conditions will damage its earnings in the first half of the financial year. The company reported an interim net profit of \$28.3 million for 2001-02 (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 18 October 2002, p.23). The share price of PMP plunged on 11 November and continued to fall on 12 November (*Australian*, 13 November 2002, p.39).

### **20.13 NSW GOVERNMENT SCALES DOWN NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING**

The New South Wales Government has already begun scaling down its \$16.6 million annual expenditure on employment and tender advertising in major metropolitan media, despite lobbying from the country's two major newspaper publishers, News Ltd and John Fairfax Holdings (*Australian Financial Review*, 7 October 2002, p.39).

### **20.14 CIRCULATION: PUBLISHERS' FIGURES**

Scattered coverage appeared in the major metropolitan dailies of the unaudited publishers' circulation figures issued through the Audit Bureau of Circulations for the six months to 30 September 2002. The main trends were an increase in Sunday sales and a decline in Saturday sales. For example, Perth's *Sunday Times* increased circulation by 1.13 per cent over the corresponding period in 2001, and the Saturday *Sydney Morning Herald* fell 1.08 per cent. The Media liftout of the *Australian* (24 October, p.12) published the full figures plus those for the top 10 regional dailies. Other articles included: *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Australian*, *Australian Financial Review*, 18 October 2002, pp.23, 26 and 13 respectively; and *Courier-Mail*, 19 October 2002, p.79.

### **20.15 READERSHIP: SOME FIGURES UP, SOME DOWN**

Newspaper readership in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland – and of national publications – has increased from last year (compare with 20.14), according to the Roy Morgan readership survey for the year to the end of September. But the figures are down for South Australia and Western Australia. Strong weekday gains were recorded by the Sydney and Melbourne broadsheets, the *Sydney Morning Herald* (10.0 per cent) and the *Age* (7.7 per cent). The *Herald* says its increase equates to 69,000 more readers. "Since the September 11 [terrorist] attacks readers have turned to the *Herald* for authoritative journalism in an uncertain and dangerous world," says the *SMH* (*Australian*, 22 November 2002, p.20; *Sydney Morning Herald*, 23-24 November 2002, p.1).

### **20.16 MELBOURNE COURIER LAUNCHED**

A new Christian newspaper, the *Melbourne Courier*, was launched in Melbourne on 3 November 2002. A network of volunteer truck and car drivers covered the suburbs, delivering piles of the new issues-based Christian newspaper – a bold publishing venture at any time, but particularly in a market flooded with reading options. David Nicol, 50, freely admits the

project preoccupied him to the extent that he worried his health was not up to it, or that his marriage would become a victim. He is motivated by memories of a previous publishing venture on the New South Wales central coast that was successful enough for him to be bought out so it could be closed down. Nicol hopes to begin publishing weekly from early next year. Nicol says the paper covers wider issues than religion. (*Age*, 2 November 2002, p.16).

**John Tidey**, an ANHG correspondent in Melbourne, writes: About 100,000 copies of the *Melbourne Courier*, an independent and non-denominational tabloid speaking on behalf of churches and para-church organisations were distributed in Victoria at the beginning of November. Church heads from 16 denominations published a statement of support for the new paper in its first 48-page edition that is serving as a “sampler” for a regular weekly publication from February 2003. Contributors to the first edition – edited and published by David Nicol – included journalists Frank Devine, Anthony Paul and Jane Fraser, as well as the former World Vision CEO Philip Hunt, Patrick Dodson and Tim Costello.

Publisher David Nicol says (*Melbourne Courier*, 3 November 2002, p.16) he recently counted 1,860 separate newspaper and magazine titles in one medium-sized Melbourne suburban newsagency. “Offering hope and salvation to searching souls were magazines with titles such as *Insight*, *Golden Age*, *Nexus*, *New dawn*, *Psychic Interactive*, *Nemesis*, *Your Destiny*, *Witchcraft*, *Horoscope*, *Astrological*. There were magazines on eastern religions and “evidence” for the existence of extra-terrestrial life. Many periodicals offered mystical meditation, incantations and fortune telling as answers to life’s struggles. In this newsagency, out of 1,860 publications, there wasn’t one that provided a Christian or godly view of life.” Nicol saw this as a good omen, in a way, for the *Courier*. “There is room in the marketplace for Christians to have their own good newspaper... The *Courier* has neither the resources nor the ambition to replace the big daily newspapers. It will simply offer a new voice, with a different accent. Its point of view, even when it does not directly address religious matters, will be resolutely Christian.”

## **20.17 POPE WINS CARTOONISTS’ AWARD**

*Canberra Times* cartoonist David Pope was named Editorial/Political Cartoonist of 2002 in the 18th Stanley Awards in Canberra on 26 October. The awards, for excellence in media art, are judged by members of the Australian Cartoonists’ Association. Pope’s work appears in literary and trade-union journals, and in the *Canberra Times* (*Canberra Times*, 27 October 2002).

## **20.18 FAIRFAX BOARD CHANGES**

Three new outside directors have been appointed to the board of John Fairfax Holdings, leaving the newspaper group still without any directors with direct media experience. Brian Powers has been replaced as chairman of the board by former Coca-Cola Amatil chairman Dean Wills. Deputy chairman Jonathon Pinshaw also retires. Melburnian Ron Walker, a former Liberal Party treasurer and current chairman of Melbourne’s 2006 Commonwealth Games Committee and the Grand Prix, is to become a new director. Joining him will be Qantas chair Margaret Jackson and Woolworths chief executive Roger Corbett. Mark Westfield reports that Walker’s “main experience with the media, particularly Fairfax’s *The Age*, has been to sue its journalists ... Will he drop the legal actions? As a person used to getting his way, will he interfere with the editorial process when it comes to coverage of the Commonwealth Games or the Grand Prix, which still remains unpopular among residents unlucky to live close enough to the Albert Park circuit?” (*Australian*, 7 November 2002, p.21; and Mark Westfield’s “Insider” column, *Australian*, 4 November 2002, pp.31-32, and *Weekend Australian*, 9-10 November 2002, pp.29-20).

## **20.19 CROSS-MEDIA OWNERSHIP**

The progress through Federal Parliament of the legislation to change cross-media ownership laws in Australia is being watched closely. The House of Representatives passed, by a vote of 74 votes to 60 on 15 October, the Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill. Opposition from the Democrats, and its new policy on cross-media ownership make it less likely the Bill will go to the Senate this year and be passed when it does go there – unless there is some compromise by the Government. The latest point of negotiation related to extra funding for the ABC and SBS (*Australian*, 7 and 11 November 2002, pp.2 and 29, respectively; *PANPA Bulletin*, November 2002, p.13; *Australian*, 18 November 2002, p.2).

## **20.20 NEWS DECIDES *OPEN ROAD* NOT THE WAY TO GO**

News Ltd has withdrawn from advanced negotiations to incorporate the NRMA's monthly magazine *Open Road* into the *Daily Telegraph* and *Sunday Telegraph* after it was questioned about the \$4 million deal by some NRMA directors (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 2-3 November 2002, p.4).

## **20.21 NEWS CORP REPORTS 51pc INCREASE**

The News Corporation Ltd reported a 51 per cent increase in first quarter earnings, hinting there is further growth to come. The most optimistic media analyst had forecast a 27 per cent increase (*Australian*, 7 November 2002, p.19).

## **20.22 NEWSPAPER GIVES DARWIN'S YOUTH A VOICE**

Darwin City Council has provided a means for its youth to be heard through a monthly youth newspaper called *GRIND*. The success of *GRIND* can be largely attributed to its focus on youth issues, and that it is written by and for youth. Council agreed to fund a youth newspaper in early 2000 with Council's Youth Services developing *GRIND* to involve as many different young people as possible so that the diversity of Darwin's youth population would be reflected. Council had initially advertised a series of skills writing workshops and it was from there that interested participants joined in forming *GRIND*. The team comprising 35 young people aged between 12 and 20, meets every third week to plan each edition and work on articles and stories for the newspaper. Production meetings are held every week. Found at: <http://www.loc-gov-focus.aus.net/2002/august/darwin.htm>

## **20.23 FAIRFAX HISTORY ON DISPLAY AT NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY**

A collection of portraits of the founders of John Fairfax Holdings will be permanently housed at the National Portrait Gallery in Canberra. Fairfax has donated 12 portraits, including a painting by Tom Roberts and a number of busts from the 19th Century. The works are expected to be displayed early next year (ABC, Canberra, 16 November 2002).

## **20.24 IAN THORPE AND A JOURNALIST'S LIBEL SUIT**

The world-renowned Australian swimmer Ian Thorpe gave evidence in a journalist's libel suit against the *Australian* on 20 November 2002. Freelance journalist Richard Sleeman was suing the *Australian* for defamation over an item in Amanda Meade's "Diary" column in the Media liftout that dubbed Sleeman's May 2000 profile of Thorpe in the Fairfax *Good Weekend* as "exploitative and inaccurate". Thorpe's evidence did not support Sleeman (*Australian*, 21 November 2002, p.3).

## **20.25 INDEPENDENT TITLE CELEBRATES 25<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY**

The free Perth suburban weekly, the *Post*, celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> birthday in September. The paper, which circulates in Perth's affluent western suburbs, is still owned and edited by its founder, Perth journalist Brett Christian. The average paging is 64 pages, with a much more generous allocation of space to news than is found in most free suburbans. Readership is certified at 83,000. "We've been praised, abused, sued – and the media giants have tried to put us out of business," Christian said in a Page 1 article marking the anniversary. The *Post* began in the front room of the Christian family's Subiaco terrace in September 1977 (see *PANPA Bulletin*, November 2002, p.17; Natalie O'Brien, "Christian values", *Australian*, Media liftout, 8 February 2002, p.13; and Lyndall Crisp, "Paper resists big buyers", *Times on Sunday*, 15 February 1987).

## **20.26 WALKLEY AWARDS: WATCHDOGS EXPOSE BULLDOGS**

*Sydney Morning Herald* journalists Anne Davies and Kate McClymont won the Gold Walkley at the annual Walkley Awards on 28 November 2002 for their investigative report exposing the Canterbury Bankstown Bulldogs rugby league salary cap scandal. The report also won them the all-media award for investigative journalism. Michael Southwell, of the *West Australian*, won the Walkley for the best print news report with his report on "Investigation: Alcoa pollution". Former *Sydney Morning Herald* editor Paul McGeough won the feature writing award with "Afghanistan and the war on terrorism". Paul Toohey, Darwin correspondent of the *Australian*, won the magazine feature-writing award with "Highly Inflammable", about the scourge of petrol-sniffing in Aboriginal communities. *Courier-Mail* sports editor Neil Breen won the all-media coverage of sport award with his report on the exposé of the Ben Tune drug-test result cover-up. The *Wimmera Mail-Times*, Horsham, Victoria, won the all-media award for coverage of suburban or regional affairs with its report, "North to Nowhere" (full details, *Courier-Mail*, 29 November 2002, p.2).

## **20.27 CANBERRA CHRONICLE – 'SECOND BIGGEST'**

From Canberra, **Victor Isaacs** writes: The *Canberra Chronicle* now appears with the following prominently on its masthead: "Australia's second largest free weekly newspaper – circulation 126,712". Therefore the obvious question is: what is Australia's largest free weekly paper? (The *Chronicle* is published by the *Canberra Times* and appears in five geographic editions). [See 15.21 for *Wentworth Courier*, Sydney, breaking world record for largest single issue of a suburban/community newspaper: 440 pages on 17 October 2001.].

## **CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: PROVINCIAL**

### **20.28 TORQUAY TIMES LAUNCHED**

From Queenscliff, Victoria, **Greg Wane** writes: A new weekly newspaper has been launched at Torquay (Vic.) last month. The *Torquay Times* is published by John Stoward (torquaytimes@bigpond.com) and circulates in coastal towns Torquay and Anglesea. Print run started at 6000 and I believe has grown to 10,000. Printed at Stewart Esh's Western District Newspapers, Camperdown. Publisher John Stoward began his career as a linotype operator on Melbourne newspapers and was editor of *Essendon Gazette*, *Broadmeadows Observer* and *Keilor Messenger*. John became editor of the *Regional News Gazette*, which was a combination of century old papers *Sunbury News*, *Lancefield Mercury*, *Gisborne Gazette* and *Woodend Star*.

In the first issue of the *Torquay Times*, Stoward writes ("A newspaper is born, p.5) of earlier newspaper titles: Torquay and Jan Juc have been served by the *Echo* and the *Independent* for many years. Anglesea and Aireys Inlet have had the bi-monthly community newsletter, *Newsangle*, first produced in August 1989. The Torquay-based *Springboard Community Newsletter* began in 1996 and has a bi-monthly circulation of 4,000. The weekly *Coastal*



*Independent* was produced from 1959 until June 1965. Another weekly was the *Coastal Telegraph*, published by Ian Hunter from the late 1970s until an unknown date. [And there's more.]

### **20.29 BRIAN REYNOLDS RETIRES FROM LONGREACH LEADER**

From Blackall, **Sally Cripps** provides this from the *Longreach Leader*, 27 September 2002, p.2: After 31 years at the *Longreach Leader*, managing director Brian Reynolds retires today. Mr Reynolds has written a farewell piece, which appears on page 6, but he remains a Director of the Longreach Printing Company Limited. The new managing editor is John Hughes, who officially takes over on Monday. Mr Hughes has moved to Longreach from Wagga Wagga in New South Wales, where he was a sub-editor at the *Daily Advertiser*.

Before joining the *Daily Advertiser*, he was the senior journalist on the *Parkes Champion-Post*, which he joined in mid-1996. Before taking up a full-time journalism career, Mr Hughes ran the Star Hotel in Parkes but had written sports reports for various newspapers around New South Wales over many years. "It's not the traditional career path for a journalist, running a hotel, but the business side of it has helped me at the newspapers in both Parkes and Wagga Wagga," Mr Hughes said.

On 20 September the *Leader* reported that, contrary to rumour, it had not been sold. The Longreach Printing Co Ltd still owned the paper and "it was expected the *Leader* would remain a locally owned newspaper for many years to come", according to board chairman Rowley Deane. The commercial printing section has been sold to the Record Printing Co, Rockhampton, because of "the difficulty in getting skilled staff to come over the Great Dividing Range". This had made it necessary some time ago to have the *Longreach Leader* printed in Mount Isa, a change that had brought an improvement in printing quality along with the benefit of colour.

On 27 September Brian Reynolds wrote a very brief farewell to his readers ("Today is the day when worries over meeting deadlines, crashed computers and machinery breakdowns come to an end ...") and on 11 October John Hughes introduced himself and thanked locals for the warm welcome.

### **20.30 APN NEWSPAPERS TO HELP NEEDY AT CHRISTMAS**

A project adopted eight years ago by Toowoomba Newspapers has grown into a major initiative across Australian Provincial Newspapers titles throughout Queensland and New South Wales. On 19 October, Toowoomba Newspapers launched, through the *Chronicle*, its ninth annual Adopt-A-Family Christmas Appeal to help needy families, particularly children, have a Christmas they can remember instead of one they'd rather forget. Toowoomba Newspapers managing director Paul McMahon said the appeal was in line with the company's mission to "make things happen". "Conservatively, across APN we are targeting to help 1500 families and with the history of giving this will amount to almost a \$400,000 contribution to rural and regional families at need at Christmas time," McMahon said (*Chronicle*, Toowoomba, 19 October 2002).

### **20.31 EDITORIALS RESUME AFTER BEING CANNED THREE DECADES AGO**

1. An addendum to the *Stanthorpe Border Post* of 29 October 2002, p.6: "Long-time readers of the *Stanthorpe Border Post* will be aware that editorials have not appeared in this paper since 1971, when the editor of the time departed suddenly after publishing a number of controversial editorials. The management of the *Border Post* hopes that the re-appearance of the editorials will promote discussion on local issues. They are not intended to represent the consensus of opinion in the community and they will not necessarily represent the opinion of

the management. The *Border Post* welcomes feedback through letters to the editor on any issues raised.”

2. An addendum to the editorial in the *Stanthorpe Border Post*, 5 November 2002, p.6: “In a letter to the editor on this page, G.H. Gilmour wonders about the departure of the previous editorial writer, as mentioned last week. Looking back 30 years later, mostly of the editorials written by Ward McNally in his six months as editor of the *Border Post* seem harmless – all with a local bias and many praising community endeavours. It was his coverage of the debate over a cannery for Stanthorpe, as well as comments on the Stanthorpe Shire Council decisions that put him off-side with civic leaders. Local legend has it that McNally used his skills as a former boxer, as well as his editorials, to defend his stance. He later became press secretary for the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs in the Whitlam government.”

3 (a). In a letter to the editor, in the *Stanthorpe Border Post*, 12 November 2002, p.6, Tom Edgar, of Glen Aplin, welcomed “the rebirth” of the editorial column. “We can’t expect the self-deprecating humour of Olaf Muurlink, nor the breadth and scope of a Bruce Shapiro. No commercial media offends their advertisers, but I trust you will give unbiased opinions not fearing influential people may take umbrage... if you reflect only the local attitudes you may as well leave the dissenting voices to letter writing sceptics and if politicians – local, state or federal – are upset, you’re a success. May your ink never run dry.”

3 (b). The editor responded (12 November 2002, p.6): “If editorials on subjects such as personal hygiene, and how the author smells (or rather, the condition of his nose) fall into the category of self-deprecating humour, the *Border Post* acknowledges that it is no match for the *Southern Free Times* on this point. Readers who expect the *Border Post* to even attempt to imitate Mr Muurlink’s style or subject matter will indeed be disappointed.”

4. In a letter to the editor, in the *Stanthorpe Border Post*, 19 November 2002, p.6, Michele Cozzi, who admitted to being “blonde (naturally) and over 45”, asked: “If having read the disclaimers of whose opinion the reviled *Border Post* editorial won’t be, then exactly whose opinion will it carry?”

### **20.32 BALLARAT (1): NEW PRESS FOR RURAL PRESS VICTORIA**

Rural Press Ltd will spend \$25 million on a press and printing hall to be built on a new Greenfield production site near Ballarat by April. The Uniset 75 MAN Roland press to be installed will be capable of running 56 pages at up to 75,000 copies an hour in straight mode. It will be able to print up to 96 pages back-to-back full colour in one pass. It will replace two presses: a Harris that is more than 20 years old, capable of printing 32 pages of back to back colour; and a Goss Suburban/Community capable of printing 16 pages of back to back colour. The project will allow printing to be shifted off-site to land the company has bought on the Walsh Estate at Wendouree.

Rural Press printing prints the *Courier* and more than 40 other newspapers, some of them owned by the company (such as *Stock & Land*, the *Ararat Advertiser* and the *Stawell-Times News*) and some papers not owned by the company (such as the *Hepburn Shire Advocate*, Daylesford, the *Eaglehawk Times* and the *Ballan News*, owned by Brian Robinson; the *Castlemaine Mail*, *Macedon Ranges Express*, Kyneton, and the *Midland Express*, owned by the Elliott Midlands Group; and the *Colac Herald*, owned by Frank Gannon and his wife). Victorian copies of the weekend edition of the *Australian Financial Review* are also printed at the Ballarat printery.

Rural Press Printing, Victoria, and the *Courier* are managed separately but operate, currently, under the one roof at 110 Creswick Road, Ballarat. *Courier* general manager Bruce Morgan reports to Lloyd Whish-Wilson, Rural Press’s general manager for Canberra and southern;

and Rural Press Printing, Victoria, manager Michael Condon reports to printing division general manager Bob Lockley (*PANPA Bulletin*, November 2002, p.50; *Courier*, Ballarat, 14 November 2002; *Courier* general manager Bruce Morgan, interview with Rod Kirkpatrick, Ballarat, 30 Sept. 2002).

The new Ballarat press was announced after the Rural Press board had met in Ballarat and the chairman, John B. Fairfax, had delivered the second annual Doug Cowles Memorial Lecture on 25 October. Fairfax said local newspapers had helped make Australia's regional communities what they were today (*Courier*, Ballarat, 26 October 2002, pp.3, 12-13).

### **20.33 BALLARAT (2): *COURIER* WINS PEACE AWARD**

The *Courier*, Ballarat, has won the best print section of the United Nations of Australia's Media Peace Awards for its "Peace call" edition of 28 September 2001. The paper assembled Ballarat's church leaders in a united call for peace following the 11 September terrorist attacks on the US (*Courier*, 22 October 2002).

### **20.34 STAWELL AND ARARAT NEWSPAPERS COMBINE**

From 5 November the *Ararat Advertiser* and the *Stawell Times-News* have been combined and appear each Tuesday and Friday. Previously the Ararat paper was tri-weekly and the Stawell paper bi-weekly. They retain their mastheads and carry strictly local news on their front page (Ararat news on the front of the *Ararat Advertiser* and Stawell news on the front of the *Stawell Times-News*) but the inside pages are common to the two newspapers (*Ararat Advertiser*, 5 November 2002, and ANHG editor's telephone interview with office staff member, 25 November 2002).

### **20.35 *MOREE CHAMPION* FOCUSES ON GOOD NEWS**

The *Moree Champion*, a twice-a-week paper in the north-west of New South Wales, is selling hundreds more copies each issue since new editor Emily Murphy has begun to focus on good-news stories (*Australian*, Media liftout, 17 October 2002, p.12). It is claimed the circulation is now around 3,600 whereas it was 3,003 for the six months to 30 June 2002 (3,048 for the same period in 2001).

### **20.36 RURAL PRESS EXPECTS PROFIT GROWTH**

Rural Press Ltd has forecast another year of improved profit but says it is no longer on the acquisition trail. It expects single-digit earning growth in 2002-03 (*Sydney Morning Herald* and *Weekend Australian*, 19-20 October 2002, pp. 75 and 33, respectively; and *Courier-Mail*, 19 October 2002, p.76).

### **20.37 TASMANIAN NEWSPAPER GROUP SEEKS CEO**

The Harris group, publishers of the *Advocate*, Burnie, Tasmania, is seeking a chief executive officer to lead the company "through its next stage of development". The *Advocate*, founded in 1890 as the *Wellington Times and Mining and Agricultural Gazette*, is still in the hands of its founding family. The group advertised for a general manager in June 2001 (*Weekend Australian*, 23-24 November 2002, p.27, advertisement; *PANPA Bulletin*, June 2001, p.16; Rod Kirkpatrick's research notes).

### **20.38 \$110 FOR A COPY OF THE *NORTHERN ARGUS*, CLARE, SA**

An American Packard enthusiast paid \$US62 (about \$110 Australian) for a copy of the *Northern Argus* which featured the Packard car club's visit to the Clare Valley on its front

page. The purchase was the result of a successful auction bid during what became an impromptu fundraiser for the Peterborough High School's solar car project. The car club arrived in Peterborough in October as part of rally activities and was hosted by the town's Rotary Club who catered for dinner and breakfast for the 121 visitors. The school's partially completed solar car was on display, which resulted in Packard members deciding to raise more than \$500 for the car (*Northern Argus*, 21 November 2002).

## NEWSPAPER HISTORY

### 20.39 SOUTHERN TABLELANDS (NSW) NEWSPAPER HOLDINGS

Southern Tablelands Regional Library (STRL) maintains a comprehensive collection of early Goulburn (NSW) and district newspapers. In most cases, these are held within the Regional History Room, located in Goulburn Branch Library. The library's online catalogue lists newspaper holdings of all STRL branch libraries as well as those of the Crookwell & District Historical Society. Internet access to the STRL catalogue is available through the website [www.strl.nsw.gov.au](http://www.strl.nsw.gov.au).

Also located within the Regional History Room of Goulburn Library is a selection of indexes to the *Goulburn Post* (and its predecessor titles) and the *Goulburn Herald*. Name indexes exist for a range of specific years, as well as the "Death, Funeral and Obituary Notices" and "Marriage Index" publications of ET Cross. These make it easier for readers to locate ancestors and their activities from newspaper reports.

Last year, Goulburn Branch Library was successful in obtaining a grant from the Library Council of NSW to commence development of an online subject index to the Goulburn newspapers, which could be continuously updated. With the Access database and search screens now constructed, data input is progressing well. This will be a long-term project, with retrospective data entered backwards from 2000, as well as current newspapers indexed as they are received. The first stage of the index should be available online around mid-2003.

Newspapers currently held by STRL in microfilm or hardcopy format, that relate to Goulburn and the surrounding districts include:

- *Argyle Liberal* (1903-07)
- *Braidwood Observer* (1860-62)
- *Braidwood News* (1862-64)
- *Braidwood and Araluen Express* (1899-1907)
- *Crookwell Gazette* (1885-1907)  
Crookwell & District Historical Society also holds a near complete collection of Crookwell Gazette issues (1885-present) in both hard copy and microfilm format, at the Crookwell Archives. Queries regarding access should be directed to: The Secretary, Crookwell & District Historical Society, PO Box 161 Crookwell 2583)
- *Dispatch* (Braidwood) (1969)
- *Goulburn Herald* (1848-1907, excluding 1897).  
1897 issues have never been microfilmed, however hard copies of these issues are held in St Clair Museum, Sloane Street, Goulburn. Queries regarding access should be directed to: The Secretary, Goulburn & District Historical Society, PO Box 396, Goulburn 2580.
- *Goulburn Evening Penny Post* (1870-1942, excluding 1877).  
1877 has never been microfilmed, as existence of original issues is unknown.  
The GEPP saw a name change in 1942, to become:
  - *Goulburn Evening Post* (1942-1982) which then became:
  - *Goulburn Post* (1982-present)
  - *Southern Argus* (1881-87)
  - *Yass Tribune* (1955?-present) at Yass Branch Library

For further information on STRL holdings and access conditions to the newspapers held, Regional History Coordinator, Lynn Bonomini can be contacted during normal business hours at: phone (02) 4823 4435. Email: [strl@goulburn.nsw.gov.au](mailto:strl@goulburn.nsw.gov.au)

#### 20.40 LOOK WHAT BOBS UP IN THE BACK OF SOME BOUND VOLUMES

**Rod Kirkpatrick** writes: At the rear of the 1858 volume of the Geelong *Daily News*, held at the Geelong Heritage Centre, I discovered two copies of the *Melbourne Daily News* – of 11 and 14 November 1851.

At the same venue, I discovered Vol. XLII, No. 2689 of the *Colonial Times with which is incorporated the Tasmanian* at the rear of the bound volume of the *Geelong Times*, 1857. The *Geelong Times* holdings cover from No. 2, 3 September 1857, to No. 43, 21 October 1857 (when it ceased publication). The paper appeared daily and began publication on 2 September 1857, issuing a prospectus with such wonderful and well-phrased ideals.

#### 20.41 ODDITIES

From Canberra, John Russell offers an item about curious newspapers from the *Australasian Typographical Journal*, vol. XXVI, No. 299, May, 1895, p. 2558 (extracted from *London Press News*), to kick off ANHG's oddities series:

- The largest newspaper ever published was or is, for the promoters have the presumptuous intention of bringing it out every century, the Illustrated Quadruple Constellation. The first number came out in 1858, consequently No. 2 is due in 1958. It measures 8ft. x 6ft, price two shillings. The first number did not contain a single advertisement.
- The smallest newspaper in the world is *El Telegramo*, published in Mexico, exactly four inches square. In Japan, the *Shi Gio Shue Dan Kwai Zassini* is printed with its sheets or leaves of different colours. The title is printed on white paper; the inside leaves are printed on various brightly coloured paper – green, orange and yellow. It is not printed on both sides, but each sheet is folded at the fore edge, not at the back, as in this country, and the printing is done on the first and fourth pages. It is about the size of a crown octavo.
- The *Austrian Fortnightly Review* is a unique literary publication, in that it has contributors in almost every land, and each article is printed in the native language of the writer.
- *Horo Focunda* is a useful monthly periodical for the blind, printed in Edinburgh, from the 'Brail' type, and all engaged in its production are blind.
- The credit of the smallest circulation in the world belongs to the *Imperial Gazette* of Berlin, of which two copies are printed daily. This exclusive publication is intended for the perusal of the Emperor alone.
- In Turin is a paper printed with ink that becomes luminous in the dark, so that the matter may be read without the assistance of artificial light.

#### 20.42 MEMORABLE SCENES/MOMENTS & FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER TITLES

This item follows an emailed invitation from the editor for contributions on the above:

**John Hamilton** (Melbourne): Most memorable scene: Lunchtime, Phoenix Hotel, Melbourne, 11 November 1975. Somebody banging on bar and shouting: "This is not a joke; repeat, this is not a joke. Whitlam has been sacked. Everybody back to the office." (This was when the Melbourne *Herald* was still in existence as an evening paper with two editions to go. It was

also the only time I've ever a journalists watering hole clear in 30 seconds flat. Some didn't even finish their beers!) Favourite newspaper title: *The Gleaner*, Kingston, Jamaica. Established 1834; oldest newspaper in the Caribbean.

**Fay Johnson** (Murrumbidgee, Vic.): My most memorable newspaper scene was when I was searching in a 19th century country Victoria newspaper for mention of an elusive family for a client and had a date regarding a mining incident – but no article was appearing. The switch on the film reader in the State Library was rather “delicate” and I accidentally moved it too much to the right. Suddenly, the film took off and when I finally got it to stop, it rested on a page that had a large headline mentioning the family I was seeking. This article appeared a few months later and had nothing to do with the mining incident, but it gave me details about their “foster child” who had just died, the child’s natural mother and the grandmother and her family and many other valuable snippets. As the child was bearing another surname, there was very little chance that I would have ever picked up the fact that they once had a “foster child”. I was both surprised and delighted, but having had numerous experiences of “weird” things that have happened to me over the years whilst researching, especially in England in 1982, I once again thought: there are things that happen on this earth that cannot be explained.

Favourite newspaper title: (Three, in fact): (1) *The Ovens & Murray Advertiser* (Beechworth, Vic) and (2) *The Constitution & Ovens Mining Intelligencer* (Beechworth, Vic), mainly because of our family connection, Nixon/Walter. (3) *The Tarrangower Times* (Maldon, Vic). Beechworth and Maldon are wonderful old-world gold-rush towns.

**Barry Blair** (Tamworth, NSW): My most memorable scene is the one I should have made when the *Sun-Herald's* “StateWide” supplement finally disappeared. The paper hasn't been the same since. Writing for “StateWide”, from out here at Tamworth, was a most satisfying and rewarding experience.” The newspaper title Barry likes best is: *The Wagin Argus & Arthur Dumbleyung Lake Grace Express*, WA.

**Sue Hughes** (Melbourne): The most memorable so far is coming face to face with a brown snake in the Avoca cemetery while looking for graves associated with the Paten [newspaper-owning] family.

From Adelaide, **Nigel Starck** writes: Some favourite titles (all US): *The Sumter Item* (South Carolina) – an intriguingly dull title for such a famous place; the attack on Fort Sumter precipitated the American Civil War. *The Las Vegas Optic* (New Mexico) – a town with a real frontier atmosphere, and not a casino in sight. *The Punxsutawney Spirit* (Pennsylvania) – where they celebrate Ground Hog Day. And my absolute favourite: *The Council Bluffs Nonpareil* (Iowa).

**Rod Kirkpatrick** is intrigued by the length of titles and says the *Mareeba Express, Port Douglas, Tinaroo, Hodgkinson, Watsonville, Irvinebank, Montalbion, Muldiva, and Tate Advocate* (established 1893, Queensland) was small compared with the *Mount Wycheproof Ensign, and Karyne, Maribed, Carpugna, Cooroojurerup, Wirmbirchip, Whirily, Towma, Jil Jil, Nullwaill, Narraport, Thalia, Corack, Teddywaddy, Bungeeluke, Towowinnie, Tittybong, Ninyeunook, Glenloth, Fort Cameron, Kalpienung, Quambatook, Jeruk, Budgerum, Shinglehut, and East Wimmera Advocate* (1883, Victoria).

## 20.43 AUSTRALIAN TRADE UNION ARCHIVES

**Peter T. Gill**, of Melbourne, draws our attention to the following: Australian Trade Union Archives (ATUA) is an online gateway for researchers and scholars of labour history. It has been designed to link together historical detail, archival resources, published material and current information about Australian industrial; organisations, particularly trade unions, from the late nineteenth century to today. Peter enclosed some fascinating printouts from his

searches of its website (www.atua.org.au) by words such as “argus” (two matches), “herald” (nine), “courier” (nine), and “printing” (120).

#### **20.44 THE SECRET HISTORY OF PRINTING IN AUSTRALIA**

From Sydney, **Jurgen Wegner** writes: Considering that there is such a long history of printing in Australia, and that the printing and allied trades are one of the most important contributors to Australian society, culture, and business, why is it that so little about the industry is ever kept – either in libraries or by the industry itself? The history of printing in Australia can really be called a “secret” history, so little has been kept or recorded.

I am working on a project aimed at studying the kinds of printed and other material produced by the printing and allied trades; to document the printing and allied trades in Australia through their printed and related records (recent and older); to collect as much as is available or has survived the passage of time; and to publish material on the industry and its printed matter as a source of historical information.

Can you help? Any material such as the bits and pieces produced about the life and work of the industry would be of value. Material need not be very old, important looking, or even published. Examples of the kind of material of interest are:

Odd issues of industry journals and newsletters (even of junk mail); machinery brochures, catalogues, and leaflets; paper sample swatches and kits; training videos and handbooks; type face specimen catalogues and brochures; paper merchants’ price lists; printers’ blank books for stationery, cards, etc.; older or dated printing text books; printing college course instruction material, notes, etc.; samples of good or unusual printing of any kind; PATEFA/PIAA or trade union literature; overseas material such as Heidelberg news, British printer, etc.; Linotype, Monotype, Intertype, and other machinery instruction and parts books; company histories; ledgers, invoice books, correspondence (in confidence).

In fact, *anything* that can help describe the day-to-day work of the printing and allied trades, today or in the past, and that can document the changes in the industry over time. Please contact Jurgen Wegner at 9 Holway Street, Eastwood, NSW, 2122, or at [j.wegner@library.usyd.edu.au](mailto:j.wegner@library.usyd.edu.au)

#### **20.45 LITERARY SUPPLEMENTS INQUIRY**

Dr David Carter, Director of the Australian Studies Centre at the University of Queensland ([david.carter@uq.edu.au](mailto:david.carter@uq.edu.au)) is trying to date when “literary supplements” – dedicated or designated books pages – began to appear regularly in Australian daily newspapers, especially the broadsheets. Contact him direct, but ANHG is also interested in publishing any responses.

#### **20.46 ON MY COLLECTION**

**Karl Korju**, of Melbourne, a new ANHG subscriber, is a collector. He writes: “I collect books, documents, maps, ephemera, engravings, lithographs, etc., relating to early Melbourne.” Among the newspapers he has collected are:

1. *Port Phillip Gazette*, Vol 1, No 6, Saturday, 1 Dec. 1838 (single copy).
2. *Port Patriot and Melbourne Advertiser*, 62 issues from 4 Jan. 1841 (Vol IV, No 169) to 2 Sept. 1841 (Vol IV, No 238). Missing from this run are numbers 170, 171, 173, 181, 213, 230, 231 and 235. The papers are bound in two volumes because of a change in format and size in March 1841. In early July Fawcner published a letterpress “Plan of the Town of Melbourne” and this was issued free as a supplement to the paper. Karl has a copy of this map, which was with the papers when he bought

- them in 1979. The map is now framed and glazed. James Harrison, of the *Geelong Advertiser*, actually printed the map using Fawkner's old press and type.
3. *Geelong Advertiser*, Vol 1, No 9, 16 Jan. 1841. (Single copy, bound in with the 1841 *Port Phillip Patriots*.)
  4. *Port Phillip Gazette*, eight issues from No 508 (29 Nov. 1843) to No 515 (23 Dec. 1843).
  5. *Port Phillip Herald*, 12 issues from No 413 (28 Nov. 1843) to No 420 (22 Dec. 1843). Included in this group are four Saturday single-page Extraordinaries.
  6. *Port Phillip Patriot and Melbourne Advertiser*, nine issues from No 525 (27 Nov. 1843) to No 533 (25 Dec. 1843). N.B. Items 4, 5 and 6 are bound together in one volume.
  7. *Port Phillip Patriot and Melbourne Advertiser*, Vol VII, No 551, Monday, 26 Feb. 1844 (very poor copy).
  8. *The Melbourne Argus*, Vol 1, No 55, Friday, 4 Dec. 1846.
  9. *The Melbourne Morning Herald and General Daily Advertiser*, Vol XI, No 1426, Saturday, 20 July 1850.
  10. *The Age*, Melbourne. Continuous run from 3 Sept. 1855 to end 1856, bound in four volumes, each of four months.
  11. *Melbourne Punch* (Vols I-X). Ten bound volumes covering the period from the publication's beginning, in mid-1855, to mid-1860. Also, Vol No XXII (Dec. 1865-June 1866).
  12. *Melbourne Punch*, five issues from October 1857, complete with front title and all advertisement pages. Nos 114-118 inclusive.
  13. *The Examiner and Melbourne Weekly Times*. Entire first year bound in one volume. Vol 1, No 1, Saturday, 4 July 1857 to Vol 1, No 52, Saturday, 26 June 1858.
  14. *The Herald*, Melbourne. Single issues: Thursday, 29 Apr. 1858; Wednesday, 16 May 1860; Wednesday, 5 Sept. 1860; and Saturday, 24 March 1860.
  15. Intercolonial (1): *Colonial Times*, Hobart Town. Entire year for 1831.
  16. Intercolonial (2): *Sydney Morning Herald*. Single issue, Saturday, 11 May 1844.
  17. Intercolonial (3): *The South Australian Register*, Adelaide. Single issues: Vol V, No 207, Saturday, 8 Jan. 1842. (Other copies dated 4 Feb. 1847, 6 Mar. 1847, 10 Mar. 1847 and 28 Oct. 1847.)
  18. Intercolonial (4): *Cornwall Chronicle, Commercial Agricultural and Naval Register*, Launceston. Vol 9, No 480, 23 Dec. 1843. (Also another copy, with different masthead, Wednesday, 25 Aug. 1847.)

This listing has detailed Karl's earlier Australian newspapers, but does not include everything. He has a number of later nineteenth century Australian newspapers, as well as English newspapers from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. He also has several modern volumes that are facsimiles of early Australian papers.

[Other ANHG members are invited to detail their collections of newspapers, highlights of those collections, or simply summaries of what they collect. Keep an eye out in future issues for the heading: Collectors' Corner]

#### **20.47 WELSH NEWSPAPERS IN VICTORIA, 1865-1876**

From Melbourne, **Sue Hughes** (s\_m\_hughes@optusnet.com.au) writes: While attempting to locate nineteenth century newspapers on the goldfields of Victoria, I came across a Welsh religious monthly. A search of Tom Darragh's 1997 *Printer and newspaper registration in Victoria: 1838-1924* (1) uncovered a single entry (387.01) for the *Yr Ymwelydd* [The Visitor], which was published at Smythesdale, about 15kms southwest of Ballarat. Another Welsh newspaper the *Yr Australydd* [The Australian], published in Melbourne received a brief mention in a study of the foreign language press in Australia (2). The absence of literature



about the frequency of these titles initiated a search, which led to the National Library of Wales (3) and to an article by A. F. Hughes (4) [no relation], unearthing a third title.

Australia's first Welsh periodical the *Yr Ymgeisydd* [The Endeavourer] appeared in Castlemaine in 1865. Antiquary and book-collector Bob Owen suggests only one issue was published but no copies have survived. Another attempt to found a Welsh publication in Victoria was made in May 1866 with the appearance of *Yr Australydd*, edited by William Meirion Evans (1826-1883), a native of Caernarfonshire and a minister, who also worked in the copper and gold mines of South Australia. Preaching in the Welsh language to his compatriots at Burra in 1849, Evans is believed to have been the first person to hold a Welsh language religious service on Australian soil. *Yr Australydd* ended in 1872.

In October 1874, *Yr Ymwelydd* was established and continued to appear until December 1876. Containing general news in Welsh, the paper circulated throughout communities in the Australia colonies and New Zealand. According to Hughes (1988), the paper promoted the cause of the Welsh language and culture in the colony of Victoria. Replete with detailed accounts of events in the Welsh religious calendar, especially the numerous Eisteddfodau (musical and literary festivals) and Cymanfaoedd Canu (hymn-singing assemblies), the periodicals provide invaluable insights into the cultural and social milieu of Welsh Australia in the second half of the nineteenth century.

Edited by William Meirion Evans, the short-lived religious monthly was published on the central goldfields by G. J. Rhys-Jones at a price of 6d. The 'committee' clearly stated their position in the first edition as:

...the fact that we are without any service in the medium of Welsh at our disposal in this country (Australia), is reason in itself why we should endeavour to fill the gap and redress the deficiency. We believe the fact that every Christian and lover of humanity amongst our Nation feels the lack of a Welsh publication is sufficient justification for this enterprise...*Yr Ymwelydd* is meant to be a truly religious publication of quality, and a concise, accurate, impartial and honest record of historical events – and if it is not possible to continue based on these principles, then the nation's preference/taste is lower than we presently believe.

Moving from Smythesdale around December 1875 the publication continued from 9 Mackillop Street, Melbourne. When it ceased publication in December 1876, the editor apologised to his readers.

We regret to inform you that the printer of *Yr Ymwelydd* has made up his mind to leave Melbourne for some time, thus it is impossible to bring out the next issue. If Mr. Jones returns within the next 3 months, we will continue the publication on the assumption that its recipients are still faithful to it. If he does not return, we regret to say that we will have to give up the venture. You will be notified promptly if we are able to continue in the future.

I am indebted to Gayner Eyre and Rheinallt LLwyd for translating Dr Huw Walter's notes into English and to Dr Ross Harvey for making this possible.

(1) Darragh, T. A. (1997), *Printer and newspaper registration in Victoria: 1838-1924*. Elibank Press, Wellington, NZ.

(2) Gilson, M., & Zubrzycki, J. (1967), *The foreign-language press in Australia 1848-1964*. Australian National University Press, Canberra.

(3) Articles appearing on the National Library of Wales website (<http://www.llgc.org.uk>) include *The Welsh Press Abroad* and *The Welsh in Australia: a bibliography* by Ceris Gruffudd. Dr Huw Walters, Senior Assistant Librarian, Department of Collections kindly provided notes from his forthcoming *Llyfryddiaeth Llenyddiaeth Gymreig / A Bibliography of Welsh Periodicals, 1851-1900*.

(4) Hughes, A. F. (1988), 'The Welsh in South Australia'. In *The Australian People: An Encyclopaedia of the Nation, Its People and Their Origins*. ed. James Jupp, Angus and Robertson, Sydney.

#### **20.48 AUSTRALIAN STUDIES IN JOURNALISM OUT SOON**

*Australian Studies in Journalism* returns to the publication list. Number 10/11, 2001-2002, will be available in early December 2002 for \$33 (make cheque payable to School of Journalism and Communication) from:

ASJ, School of Journalism & Communication, University of Queensland, Brisbane, 4072.

#### **20.49 OLD ADDIES FOUND**

At Geelong, Victoria, Daryl and Rhonda Taylor Daryl found a set of *Geelong Advertisers*, dated from 1850 to 1856, neatly folded at the top of Daryl's father's wardrobe. The papers are believed to have belonged to Mr Taylor's grandmother who died when she was 100. The Taylors planned to put the papers in the antique auction at Kerley's (*Geelong Advertiser*, 19 October 2002).

### **RECENTLY PUBLISHED**

#### **20.50 BOOKS**

20.50.1 IRISH GOLD: A TALE OF TWO PIONEER FAMILIES by Robert Lehane, 306pp., paperback, 2002, published by Ginninderra Press, PO Box 53 Charnwood, ACT, 2615, ISBN 1-74027-126-2, \$29.95. This book tells the story of Irish immigrants in the Yass area of NSW in the nineteenth century. It includes a Postscript on "James John Brown and the *Yass Courier*", which provides a fine history of this paper.

20.50.2 JOURNALISM: INVESTIGATION & RESEARCH edited by Stephen Tanner, 366pp., paperback, 2002, published by Longman, Sydney, distributed by Pearson Education Australia (see [www.pearsoned.com.au](http://www.pearsoned.com.au)), ISBN 0 7339 9931 X. Designed as a text for Australian students studying investigative journalism. The various case studies provide what is effectively a special insight into the history of investigative journalism in Australia. Among the chapters are one by the late Clem Lloyd, "The historical roots", and another by Rod Kirkpatrick, "The glory of the revelatory: historical documents as a resource".

#### **20.51 ARTICLES**

20.51.1 NEWSPAPER DYNASTY ADAPTS AND GROWS AS CITY INVADES COUNTRY by Rod Kirkpatrick, *PANPA Bulletin*, October 2002, pp.25-28. A portrait of the four-generation Thomas newspaper dynasty, based in the Pakenham-Berwick district south-west of Melbourne.

20.51.2 WHO'S MINDING THE BUSINESS? By Errol Simper, *Australian*, Media liftout, 19 September 2002, pp.4-5. Since Fairfax Business Media took over *BRW* four years ago, the magazine's circulation has tumbled (from 76,419 in 1998 to 54,808). Is management to blame?

20.51.3 LOCAL NEWS, BIG DEAL by Chris Johnson, *Walkley Magazine* (produced by the Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance), Issue 18, Spring 2002, pp.10-11. When the editor of the *Geraldton Guardian*, WA, told his readers about local MP Bob Bloffwitch having shares in a project he was pushing politically, a battle resulted – between journalistic ethics and maintaining the country newspaper's bottom line. Leslene Woodward writes a sidebar response to Linda Doherty's "Losing the city blinkers" (see 19.50.4). This issue of *Walkley Magazine* also has 10 articles on business journalism.

20.51.4 FIGURING ON A POLITICAL HANDOUT by Mark Day, *Australian*, media liftout, 3 October 2002, pp.4-5. Many ethnic publishers are allegedly exaggerating their circulation figures to get lucrative government advertising.

20.51.5 READING RUPERT by Cosima Marriner, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 12-13 October 2002, pp.43, 46. The risk-taker whom Australians – Rupert Murdoch – love to hate is looking weary but may just be showing the strains of an awful year.

20.51.6 MUST DASH by James Cockington, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 12-13 October 2002, Metropolitan section, p.7. In the age of SMS, Morse Code remains a passion for a determined few. Includes interesting information about early Australians telecommunications systems.

20.51.7 SEPARATING WHEAT FROM CHAFF by Jack Waterford, *Canberra Times*, 21 September 2002. The editor-in-chief reflects on which letters-to-the-editor to publish and which to reject. The newspaper receives about 300 letters a week, submitted for possible publication; 90 per cent of these are sent to the Your Say section of the paper's website.

20.51.8 FREE AND RESPONSIBLE? By Professor Ken McKinnon, *Australian Press Council Annual Report*, No. 26, 30 June 2002, pp.9-12. The chair of the Press Council discusses the level of responsibility of the Australian press and reflects on what the Council is doing to improve standards.

20.51.9 PARADISE LOST IN BALI BLAST by Sally Jackson and Stephen Brook, *Australian*, Media liftout, 17 October 2002, pp.4-5. Journalists on the front line after the Bali blast found trauma and chaos. (See also Errol Simper's column on Page 6 of the same issue of "Media".)

20.51.10 FIGHTING WORDS FUEL UNCIVIL WAR by Matthew Doman, *Australian*, Media liftout, 24 October 2002, pp.4-5. The "Media" editor reports on heated reaction to Lachlan Murdoch's Andrew Olle Media Lecture.

20.51.11 RESEARCH TELLS ITS OWN MEDIA STORY by Peter Gotting, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 17 October 2002, p.31. Ask the right questions about your media business and you can always get the right answers. Discussion of media research survey findings – radio, TV, magazines, newspapers.

20.51.12 EDITOR WITH GRAND VISIONS STARTS TWO BEECHWORTH NEWSPAPERS by Rod Kirkpatrick, *PANPA Bulletin*, November 2002, pp.35-38. A potted history of newspapers at Beechworth, Victoria, leading to an insight into its current owner, Provincial Press Group Pty Ltd, and especially the Higgins family, of Wangaratta.

20.51.13 FRED'S THEORY LESSON by Elisabeth Wynhausen, *Australian*, Media liftout, 7 November 2002, pp.4-5. Management academic and competition-policy architect Fred Hilmer has found it difficult to manage the John Fairfax newspapers by the book. The jury is still out on whether Hilmer, who spent 20 years at management consultancy McKinsey & Co, has been able to practise what he preaches on management theory (see also *Australian*, Media liftout, 19 September 2002, p.7). Other examples of Hilmer headlines lately: Hilmer kept his \$100,000 bonus last year despite Fairfax's reporting a 28.5 per cent fall in net profit. He cut his bonus from \$840,000 in 1999 to \$100,000 in 2000 (*Weekend Australian*, 5-6 October 2002, p.31). Hilmer received a package worth \$1.209 million in 2001-02 (*Courier-Mail*, 5 October 2002, p.75). Hilmer says Fairfax is interested in acquiring television stations in Sydney and Melbourne and may yet expand its print interests through a merger (*Courier-Mail* and *Australian*, 3 October 2002, p.24 and p.21 respectively).

20.51.14 DISTASTEFUL IMAGES by Jack Herman, *Australian Press Council News*, Vol. 14, No. 4, November 2002, pp.1-4, 16. The executive secretary of the Press Council examines questions arising from the publication of confronting images and how the Council has dealt with complaints about such images.

20.51.15 JUSTICE AND THE PUBLIC INTEREST by Jack Waterford, *Canberra Times*, 9 November 2002. The editor-in-chief of the *Canberra Times* reflects on the publication in his own newspaper of a picture showing clear images of two men Canberra detectives wanted to interview about a vicious assault on a Canberra taxi driver.

20.51.16 BOARD WITH NO NEWS by Geoff Elliott, *Weekend Australian*, 23-24 November 2002, p.26. With another business identity joining the Fairfax board, concerns are being raised about its direction. Has it sold out on integrity?

20.51.17 WATCH THIS SPACE AS ADS RECOVER, *Australian Financial Review*, 18 November 2002, pp.1, 60-61. After two years of shrinking revenue in the advertising and media industries, there are discernible signs that a recovery is under way in the \$8.4 billion domestic advertising sector. Media analyst Fusion Strategy expects advertising revenue to grow to \$7.75 billion in calendar 2003.

20.51.18 ABACUS by Elizabeth Knight, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 27 September 2002, p.21. Examination of recent media-company profits and what may lie ahead.

## 20.52 A Select Chronology of Australian Newspaper Events, 1890-1899

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>16 June 1890</b>    | <i>Newcastle Evening Star</i> begins.  |
| <b>3 August 1890</b>   | <i>Truth</i> begins publication in Sydney  |
| <b>19 October 1891</b> | The paper that eventually became the <i>Australian Worker</i> was established thus: <i>The Hummer</i> , Wagga Wagga, began; publishers, Arthur Rae and W.W. Head, of Wagga Wagga branch of AWU. Appeared to 24 Sept. 1892, as the <i>Hummer</i> ; then became the <i>Worker</i> (to 6 Nov. 1913). Published at Wagga Wagga to Apr. 1893; then to Sydney. Published daily for several weeks to help Labor in 1894 elections; lost £1000; took long time to recover. Became the <i>Australian Worker</i> in Nov. 1913. Suspended publication Feb.-Aug. 1897. Revived by Bourke branch (viz. R.B. Walker 1976, p.136). From Oct. 1897 incorporated the <i>Australian Workman</i> , which began 22 Sept. 1890 (NAL, p.44; RBW 1976, pp.128-136). |
| <b>May 1892</b>        | <i>Daily Telegraph</i> , Melbourne, ceases publication; it began on 8 Feb. 1869  |
| <b>22 July 1893</b>    | <i>The Echo</i> , Sydney, ceases publication   |
| <b>October 1894</b>    | <i>Evening Standard</i> , Melbourne, ceases publication  |
| <b>6 January 1895</b>  | <i>Sunday Times</i> , Sydney, begins publication   |
| <b>5 January 1899</b>  | <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> begins an evening edition   |

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