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29.1 COPY DEADLINE AND WEBSITE ADDRESS

Deadline for next *Newsletter*: 30 November 2004. Send copy to acting editor, Victor Isaacs at <abvi@webone.com.au> or post to 43 Lowanna St, Braddon, ACT, 2612.

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Barry Blair, of Tamworth, NSW, and Victor Isaacs, of Canberra, are major contributors to this Newsletter.

**Two books published this month by the
Australian Newspaper History Group**

- See Page 20

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: METROPOLITAN

29.2 THE AUSTRALIAN AT 40 (see also 28.2)

The *Weekend Australian* of 17-18 July 2004 followed up the editorial that appeared on the Australian's 40th birthday (15 July) with another about the newspaper ("For the nation's newspaper, life begins at 40"), probably largely because the readership of the weekend edition is much greater than that of the weekday issues. The editorial says, in part: "In an age where many so-called quality newspapers emphasise the fripperies of fashion – there is an endless obsession with lifestyle over substance in our rivals – the *Australian* remains true to its original mission. We will continue to report the news in politics, business, sport, the arts and the way we live now, with objectivity – while having a great deal of fun along the way. In all these things the paper will stay true to its name, standing for the great national characteristics of a fair go and can-do creativity that have made this country such a wonderful place to call home."

On 19 July, p.10, the *Australian* published a feature article by George Megalogenis about the sort of Australia that greeted the *Australian* in 1964.

Jack Waterford writes in the *Canberra Times* (24 July 2004, Panorama) about why the *Australian* failed to run the *Canberra Times* out of business. He quotes from one of Ken Inglis's commentaries on newspapers in *Nation* in 1964 (see 29.53).

The *Australian* issued a "40th Anniversary Special Celebration CD" featuring the paper's 13-part 40th anniversary magazine series, the 24-page first national edition of the paper and the 32-page reprint of the first Canberra edition. Cost: \$20 (see advert., 10 August 2004, p.4).

Part 1 of the 13-part anniversary magazine series carried an article by David Armstrong, “Start the presses”, pp.24-27. The summary said Armstrong – the *Australian’s* editor, 1989-92, and editor-in-chief, 1996-2002 – had “seen the paper survive adversity, grow and flourish”. The article included timelines at the foot of the pages:

1964, 15 July	First issue of the <i>Australian</i> , four days early, is a sell-out.
1964, 21 July	First computer articles appear in the <i>Australian</i> .
1967, 6 March	<i>Australian</i> moves its production from Canberra to Sydney.
1971, 28 February	<i>Sunday Australian</i> is nation’s first quality broadsheet Sunday paper.
1977, 2 July	<i>Weekend Australian</i> is launched with new and expanded sections.
1979	First Harris system computers are used in the newsroom.
1980, 13 February	First Higher Education Supplement is published.
1988, 3 September	First edition of the <i>Australian Magazine</i> is published.
1992, 7 March	Colour is introduced in the paper’s Review section.
1996, 1 May	<i>Australian</i> goes online for the first time.
2001, 6 August	Entire edition of the <i>Australian</i> is available to download online.

Part 4 of the magazine series carried an article by national affairs editor, Mike Steketee (formerly of the *Sydney Morning Herald*), revisiting the “greatest event of the past 40 years of political reporting: the dismissal of the Whitlam government” (p.11).

Part 7 focused on political cartooning: Petty, Colette, Zanetti, Pickering, Lynch, Lobbecke, Mitchell, Horacek, Kudelka, Nicholson, Leak, and Foyle.

Part 13 dealt with the “News in pictures” (for example, Bali bombing, 2002; Vietnam, 1967; Cyclone Tracy, 1974; Ash Wednesday, 1983; Uluru, during a storm, 2000).

The *Australian* published a number of letters with fascinating insights into its 40 years of publication. For example:

Murray Bragge, of Bulleen, Vic., wrote (24-25 July 2004, p.18): “On the front page of your paper on Saturday, December 16, 1967, there is a small item headed ‘PM advised to swim less’. The next day he disappeared in the surf at Portsea – headline news on Monday, December 18, 1967. Check it out. I have copies of both papers and I don’t think it has been remarked upon to this day – a dramatic premonition, don’t you think?”

Heather Kennedy, of Seaford, Vic., wrote (26 July 2004, p.8) about Jules Zanetti hiring her to work for the *Australian* three weeks before the paper began. “We were all so idealistic – the *Australian* was to be the best newspaper in the country and I still believe it was. Rupert Murdoch was everywhere, young and full of energy.” She told about losing her job and about being comforted by the war correspondent Pat Burgess who said, “You’re not a real journo until you’ve been sacked three times.”

Laurence P. Hoins-Romaov, of Berry, NSW, wrote (27 July 2004, p.12): “Many moons ago, I had the privilege of being spoken to by your proprietor. In 1967, I was an approach controller in the Canberra airport tower. Canberra airport was then, and still is a joint-user aerodrome which means that it’s an air force base which space leased to civil aviation but the tower was on the RAAF side.” The writer tells of the foggy night he refused to allow an aircraft to take off; this aircraft was carrying plates for the *Australian* to be printed in Sydney.

“Within five minutes Rupert Murdoch was on the blower and politely inquired why the aircraft could not take off. I explained and he rang off. Within another five minutes, at midnight, the director-general of civil aviation, Donald Anderson, rang from his Melbourne

home to *order* me to allow Rupert's aircraft to take off. I told him I would do so the instant his order was confirmed on the teleprinter. He hung up in my ear. I filed an incident report which was, of course, ignored. Some months later I made a formal complaint about air safety being compromised in Canberra, and within months I was forced to resign."

29.3 CHRONOLOGY OF RECENT EVENTS

26 June 2004	Death: Denis Temple Tilbrook , at Wallaroo, SA, aged 76; editor of the <i>Northern Argus</i> , Clare, SA, 1965-81; joint owner of the paper at the time with brother Ian and cousins Tudor and Terry; president of South Australian Country Press Association, 1966-68 (<i>Advertiser</i> , Adelaide, 7 August 2004, p.70).
28 July 2004	Death: Morgan Samuel Ogg , in Sydney aged 41; crusading journalist and political adviser; played significant role in the Wood Royal Commission into the NSW Police Service (<i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> , 16 August 2004).
31 July 2004	<i>Australian</i> begins publishing in its business section "The Financial Times International page" (<i>Australian</i> , 30 July 2004, p.21, advertisement).
4 August 2004	Death: Syd Crosland , at Mornington, Vic., aged 91; general secretary of Australian Journalists' Association, 1955-80; the Walkley Awards for journalism were introduced while he was in office; began career as cadet journalist on <i>Barrier Daily Truth</i> ; joined <i>Newcastle Morning Herald</i> after World War II; became secretary of the NSW provincial district of AJA (<i>Australian</i> , 19 August 2004, p.12; <i>Age</i> , 20 August 2004).
12 August 2004	Death: John Shaw , in Canberra aged 73; British-born; began career with <i>Geelong Advertiser</i> and shifted to Melbourne <i>Herald</i> ; foreign correspondent and war correspondent; joined <i>Time</i> in 1963 and was posted to Saigon, Hong Kong, Los Angeles, Rom and London (<i>Australian</i> , 27 August 2004, p.18).

29.4 MURDOCH SELLS QUEENSLAND PRESS STAKE TO NEWS

Non-executive directors have approved the New Corporation Limited's proposal to buy Rupert Murdoch's controlling stake in Queensland Press Ltd (QPL), publisher of the *Courier-Mail* and *Sunday Mail*. The acquisition, which values QPL at \$2.45 billion excluding debt, is part of News's plan to move its primary stock market listing from Australia to the US. It also enables the Murdoch family to hold its 29.87 per cent voting stake in News directly, rather than indirectly, through QPL. The Murdoch family is selling its 58 per cent stake in QPL, held by Cruden Investments. Cruden, in turn, owns 15.2 per cent of News's voting stock. The sale – in return for voting shares in the new US-listed group. He will also swap the 14.6 per cent of News he directly owns through his family trust, Cruden, for voting shares. Murdoch's voting stake in News will fall marginally to 29.48 per cent (Jane Schulze, "News to buy Murdoch's QPL stake", *Australian*, 12 August 2004, p.25; see also 29.62.22).

Murdoch's plan to move News Corp to the US moved a step closer on 15 September when the independent expert commissioned to analyse the deal for investors gave it the green light. The expert, Grant Samuel, said the proposal was in the best interests of shareholders (*Australian*, 16 September 2004, pp.25, 28).

29.5 CHANGE OF EDITORS AT THE AGE

Michael Gawenda, editor-in-chief, was farewelled from Melbourne's *Age* on 22 July and the same night his replacement, Andre Jaspan, the editor of the *Sunday Herald*, Glasgow, was announced. Jaspan will begin duties in October. Staff members of the *Age* had complained about the lack of consultation in the process, despite promises to the contrary (see *Australian*, 22 July 2004, Media & Marketing liftout, p.17, and 23 July 2004, p.6, *Weekend Australian*, 24-25 July 2004, p.8; *Mediaweek*, 26 July 2004, p.1; and see .2).

29.6 FAIRFAX APPOINTS NEW NZ GROUP EDITOR

Newspaper publisher Fairfax NZ has announced it has appointed New Zealand Press Association editor John Crowley as its group editor. The position has been created to develop ways the group's daily, Sunday and weekly newspapers, and magazines, can work together. Crowley will seek to improve journalism standards in the group and implement and manage a Fairfax journalism traineeship scheme. Crowley has been NZPA editor for the last eight years, having joined the national news agency in 1990 (SMH Online, 2 August 2004).

29.7 FAIRFAX AND WAN TALK, BUT DON'T ACT

West Australian Newspapers Holdings and John Fairfax Holdings confirmed on 28 July 2004 that they had been in merger talks but they had ended. In separate statements, the two groups declared that the discussions had ended without any agreement having been reached (*West Australian*, 29 July 2004, online; *PANPA Bulletin*, September 2004, p.10).

29.8 APN CHALLENGES FAIRFAX IN NZ

APN News & Media Ltd. will launch a Sunday edition of its flagship New Zealand publication, the *New Zealand Herald*, to try to challenge John Fairfax Holdings' dominance of the country's Sunday newspaper market (*Courier-Mail*, 31 July 2004, p.79). APN has set 3 October as the launch date for *Herald on Sunday*, which will be a "compact" publication (*Australian*, 2 September 2004, p.26).

29.9 PAPER KIDS LOSE JOBS

Newspaper delivery boys and girls were being sacked in July as new child labour laws came into force. Newsagents feared they would be fined by new child employment officers if they allowed children to work before sunrise (*Herald Sun*, 21 July 2004).

29.10 F2 NETWORK IS NOW FAIRFAX DIGITAL

Online advertising company F2 Network has changed its name to Fairfax Digital as it seeks to take on rivals Sensis and News Interactive (*Australian*, 3 August 2004, p.20).

29.11 MAYOR RUNS LOCAL NEWSPAPER

Ian Longbottom started a newspaper in Lane Cove about 10 years ago and now he's the mayor of that Sydney municipality. He has been in the headlines lately because of some vitriolic comment pieces he has published about his council opponents (*Daily Telegraph*, 5 August 2004; *Mediaweek*, 2 August 2004, p.6).

29.12 REFLECTIONS ON 150 YEARS

The *Age*, Melbourne, has launched a book looking back on the news events that have featured in its pages over 150 years. The paper will be 150 on 17 October. The 372-page book, *Reflections: 150 Years of History*, was edited by Steve Foley and includes an introduction by Geoffrey Blainey, "The cabbage patch that grew"; 10 commissioned essays by *Age* journalists, examining politics, sport, crime and social and cultural trends; and 700 photographs. Victoria's Premier Steve Bracks launched the book on 10 August (*Age*, 11 August 2004, online; see 29.60.3).

Mediaweek, 6 September 2004, p.7, ran a detailed piece about Foley's work related to the 150th anniversary. One of his interesting finds was some work from a photographer named

Steve Bull. "He started a dynasty of Australian photography. His sons became press photographers and so on for two more generations. Steven's son was Hugh Bull and one of his [Hugh's] sons was Dennis Bull." Foley has been working on a series of magazines to be published closer to the *Age's* actual anniversary, 17 October. The publications will be focused on the *Age* and its photographers and writers and will showcase their work and feature interviews with past and present staff members. Foley will also edit a 24-page commemorative issue that will be published on the weekend of 16-17 October.

29.13 "HOWARD WAS TOLD THE TRUTH"

The *Australian* published on 16 August 2004, p.8, a letter that contradicted Prime Minister John Howard's version of what he knew about the "children overboard" affair before the 2001 federal election. The letter was from Mike Scrafton, a career public servant who was seconded to the office of the then Defence Minister, Peter Reith. National security editor Patrick Walters wrote a Page 1 report, arising from the letter and from other research, that was headed "Howard was told the truth" (*Australian*, 16 August 2004, p.1). The letter led to the re-opening on 30 August of the Senate inquiry into the "children overboard" affair even though the previous day Prime Minister John Howard announced that a federal election would be held on 9 October.

29.14 SPANIARD'S PLANS FOR AUSTRALIA

Spanish publisher Javier Moll is positioning his company to launch eventually a daily newspaper in Australia, reports Sheena MacLean (*Australian*, 19 August 2004, Media & Marketing liftout, p.48). Moll's monthly magazine, the *Adelaide Review*, will become a fortnightly on 13 October and a weekly soon after that. Moll has long harboured ambitions of starting a chain of daily newspapers in Australia, beginning with Adelaide and Brisbane and possibly Perth, because they have only one daily each. But he has been prevented from doing so under Australia's foreign ownership rules. Moll owns 20 dailies in Spain and Portugal (*PANPA Bulletin*, August 2004, p.6).

29.15 "DECEIT AND OBFUSCATION" AND THE AUSTRALIAN

V.J. Carroll, former editor-in-chief of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, had a letter published in the *Australian* on 28 July 2004, p.12, arising from Paul Kelly's statement that the intelligence community had no responsibility whatever for Australia's involvement in the war in Iraq. Carroll said the Prime Minister knew why the US was going to war against Iraq: "to get Saddam Hussein". Carroll concluded his letter: "The *Australian* is fighting the good fight against bureaucratic deceit and obfuscation in its freedom of information action against the federal Treasurer. But it condones and supports the Government's deceit and obfuscation on matters of war and foreign affairs."

29.16 CIRCULATION: METROPOLITAN NEWSPAPERS

Newspapers continue to find interesting ways to downplay their circulation losses. For the latest figures, the *Adelaide Advertiser* compares dwindling circulations with diminishing television audiences and Brisbane *Courier-Mail* reports its declining circulation by putting it in the context of Queensland-wide circulation figures (*Courier-Mail*, 13 August 2004, online; and *Advertiser*, 14 August 2004, online). The *Advertiser's* weekday circulations dropped by 1.16 per cent in the six months to 30 June, compared with the corresponding six months of 2003. The *Courier-Mail's* weekday circulation dropped 2.11 per cent. Both papers also lost Saturday circulation: *Advertiser*, 0.97 per cent; and *Courier-Mail*, 1.21 per cent. Big losers in the six-month figures were the *Sydney Morning Herald*, weekday, down 4.06 per cent, and weekend, down 4.67 per cent; the *Sun-Herald*, down 3.31 per cent; and the *Sunday Territorian*, down 3.49 per cent. The *Sunday Herald Sun* gained 3.5 per cent (lifting to

603,000 sales) and the *Australian* lifted its weekday sales by 1 per cent to 133,791 and its weekend sales by 1.66 per cent to 300,531 (*Australian*, 13 August 2004, p.22, and 19 August 2004, Media & Marketing liftout, p.46; *Mediaweek*, 16 August 2004, pp.1, 6).

A week after the circulation figures were issued, The Roy Morgan Readership survey results were issued. The *Courier-Mail*, which lost 2.1 per cent in weekday circulation, gained 3.3 per cent in weekday readership. It is this sort of anomaly that has led newspaper executives from Fairfax and News to declare again their dissatisfaction with the readership survey (*Australian*, 20 August 2004, p.23; see *Mediaweek*, 23 August 2004, p.20, for full readership figures).

The Audit Bureau of Circulations figures for national and metropolitan dailies and Sundays follow:

Newspaper	Six months to 30/6/2004	Six months to 30/6/2003	Change %*
<i>Australian</i> (M-F)	133,791	132,461	+ 1.0
<i>Weekend Australian</i> (Sat.)	300,531	295,629	+ 1.7
<i>Australian Financial Review</i> (M-F)	85,746	85,864	- 0.1
<i>AFR Weekend Edition</i> (Sat.)	88,000	87,033	+ 1.1
<i>Daily Telegraph</i> , Sydney (M-F)	403,139	407,518	- 1.1
<i>Daily Telegraph</i> , Sydney (Sat.)	341,273	341,112	Steady
<i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> (M-F)	216,857	226,031	- 4.1
<i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> (Weekend)	373,825	392,143	- 4.7
<i>Sun-Herald</i>	524,785	542,735	- 3.3
<i>Sunday Telegraph</i>	726,238	734,152	- 1.1
<i>Herald Sun</i> (M-F)	551,100	550,032	+ 0.2
<i>Herald Sun</i> (Sat.)	521,000	517,650	+ 0.6
<i>Age</i> (M-F)	198,500	197,700	+ 0.4
<i>Age</i> (Sat.)	304,200	315,250	- 3.5
<i>Sunday Herald Sun</i>	603,000	582,630	+ 3.5
<i>Sunday Age</i>	194,500	194,500	Steady
<i>Courier-Mail</i> (M-F)	214,814	219,451	- 2.1
<i>Courier-Mail</i> (Sat.)	342,253	346,445	- 1.2
<i>Sunday Mail</i> (Qld)	615,328	611,298	+ 0.7
<i>Advertiser</i> , Adelaide (M-F)	202,135	204,502	- 1.2
<i>Advertiser</i> , Adelaide (Sat.)	278,385	281,117	- 1.0
<i>Sunday Mail</i> (SA)	334,872	340,667	- 1.7
<i>West Australian</i> , Perth (M-F)	205,362	205,266	Steady
<i>West Australian</i> , Perth (Sat.)	381,079	384,976	- 1.0
<i>Sunday Times</i> (WA)	354,000	352,000	+ 0.6
<i>Mercury</i> , Hobart (M-F)	50,382	50,368	Steady
<i>Mercury</i> , Hobart (Sat.)	64,905	65,194	- 0.4
<i>Sunday Tasmanian</i>	59,720	59,227	+ 0.8
<i>Sunday Examiner</i> (Tas.)	44,407	43,425	+ 2.3
<i>Canberra Times</i> (M-F)	38,155	38,813	- 1.7
<i>Canberra Times</i> (Sat.)	71,049	72,835	- 2.5
<i>Canberra Sunday Times</i>	38,877	39,161	- 0.7
<i>Northern Territory News</i> (M-F)	22,368	22,410	- 0.2
<i>Northern Territory News</i> (Sat.)	31,933	31,778	+ 0.5
<i>Sunday Territorian</i>	24,536	25,423	- 3.5

29.17 CIRCULATION: MAGAZINES

Magazine sales in Australia topped \$1 billion for the first time in a financial year during 2003-04. Magazines that soared and sagged in the six months to 30 June 2004 were (*Australian Financial Review*, 16 August 2004, p.50):

Soared			Sagged		
	Ad revenue	Circulation		Ad revenue	Circulation
<i>New Woman</i>	+ 51.3%	+ 26.4%	<i>Cleo</i> (ACP)	- 0.4%	- 6.4%
NW (ACP)	+ 22.0%	+ 15.8%	<i>marie claire</i> (Pacific)	Flat	+ 4.5%
<i>TV Week</i> (ACP)	+ 56.7%	+ 7.3%	<i>House & Garden</i> (ACP)	- 6.7%	+ 0.1%
<i>Delicious</i> (FPC)	+ 10.8%	+ 21.4%	<i>Cosmopolitan</i> (ACP)	- 10.4%	+ 0.2%
<i>InStyle</i> (Time)	+ 18.3%	+ 7.3%	<i>Time</i> (Time)	+ 3.7%	- 4.9%
<i>Girlfriend</i> (Pacific)	+ 23.8%	+ 7.6%	<i>Vogue Living</i> (FPC)	- 5.9%	+ 3.1%

The magazine market grew by 3.2 per cent in the year to 30 June, with total copies sold increasing from about 116 million to almost 120 million, according to the Audit Bureau of Circulations figures. Australian Consolidated Press, the nation's biggest magazine publisher, claimed a 47.5 per cent share of the market during the first six months of 2004, according to a survey analysis by NDD Distribution. Its 44 audited titles sold about 54.4 million copies (Sally Jackson, "Scandal and TV stars drive sales", *Australian*, 19 August 2004, Media & Marketing liftout, p.48).

29.18 PROFITS: NEWS, FAIRFAX, PBL AND WAN

News Corporation has recorded a 57 per cent increase in its net profit to 30 June, returning \$A2.3 billion. Rupert Murdoch expects this to be exceeded in the current financial year (*Australian*, 13 August 2004, p.19).

John Fairfax Holdings recorded a net profit of \$207.6 million for 2003-04, up 65.4 per cent on the previous year. It was the first result to include full-year figures for Fairfax's New Zealand newspapers (*Australian*, 27 August 2004, p.23).

PBL: Strong earnings growth in its magazines and television sectors and wins against big-spending casino gamblers have lifted Kerry Packer's Publishing & Broadcasting Ltd to another record profit (*Australian*, 27 August 2004, p.21).

WAN: West Australian Newspapers shrugged off the internet threat to its classified advertising base when it reported a 24.2 per cent increase in annual net profit to \$79.5 million. The company, whose main assets are the *West Australian* and a chain of regional newspapers, lifted revenue in the year to 30 June to \$352.8 million (*Australian Financial Review*, 6 August 2004, p.62; *Australian*, 6 August 2004, p.19).

Mediaweek, 13 September 2004, p.11, carries a four-year comparison of revenue and net profit for Australia media companies. The top 10 profitmakers in 2003/04 were: News Corp, PBL, Fairfax, Seven, Rural Press, WAN, APN, Southern Cross, Austereo, and PMP.

29.19 NEWSPAPERS IN ADELAIDE

Adelaide's new Sunday paper, the *Independent Weekly* (see 28.3), is to begin publication on 19 September. It will feature a 16-page broadsheet front section and a 24-page magazine. An issues-based publication, it will cover local, national and international news, and money and business. Editor Alex Kennedy says its focus will be on fresh news angles and more analysis. It will target readers seeking something different. Meanwhile, Adelaide's *City Messenger* was published on 16 September in a new format – as the city's first full-colour newspaper. It has

moved from Tuesday to Thursday publication to have more emphasis on weekend activities (*Australian*, 16 September 2004, Media & Marketing liftout, p.19).

29.20 FAIRFAX'S NZ GROUP EDITOR

Newspaper publisher Fairfax NZ has announced it has appointed New Zealand Press Association editor John Crowley as its group editor. The position had been created to develop ways the group's daily, Sunday and weekly newspapers, and magazines, worked together, Fairfax NZ chief operating officer and editor-in-chief, Peter O'Hara, said in a statement. Crowley would help to improve journalism standards in the group and implement and manage a Fairfax journalism traineeship scheme. He would also deputise for editors. Crowley has been NZPA editor for the last eight years, having joined the national news agency in 1990. (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 2 August 2004, online; *Rural Press News*, September 2004, p.)

29.21 MAINLY FOR COLOUR, NEWS WILL SPEND \$500m IN AUSTRALIA

News Limited has disclosed plans to spend \$500 million on its Australian newspaper operations over the next four years. The program will include a \$217 million upgrade of the company's Chullora printing plant on Sydney's outskirts. This will allow News to print full colour on every page of the publications printed at the plant, including the *Australian*.

Work has begun on the new \$60 million five-storey headquarters for Advertiser Newspapers in Adelaide. News is also spending \$32 million to double the colour capacity of the printing presses at Queensland Newspapers' plant at Murarrie in Brisbane. The major trigger for the spending is that demand for colour advertising exceeds News's capacity to supply it (*Australian*, 1 September 2004, p.26).

29.22 RURAL PRESS BUYS SENIOR POST

Rural Press Ltd has bought Western Australia's *Senior Post*, a free monthly publication, from founder Graham Madigan, who continues as editor (*Golden Mail*, Kalgoorlie, 27 August 2004, online).

29.23 SOME SNAPSHOTS FROM THE LEADER

From **Janette Pelosi**, of Oatley, Sydney, three clippings from the *St George and Sutherland Shire Leader*, a Fairfax community newspaper that appears weekly in two editions, one for St George and one for Sutherland Shire:

1 April 2004, p.15: Photograph of 12 former *Leader* administration staff who had met for lunch to discuss "the good old days" as the paper. Some of the women, who called themselves the "Leader Lovelies", had worked for the paper for 20 years.

25 May 2004, p.2: The *Leader* amalgamated its Hurstville and Rockdale offices to open one office at 633 Princes Highway, Rockdale. Editorial, sales, feature sales, creative, classified and administration staff moved to Rockdale.

20 July 2004, p.10: The Royal Blind Society was seeking volunteers to help produce the "Talking St George and Sutherland Shire Leader". The team produces audio versions of local newspapers for people who are blind, vision impaired or print handicapped.

29.24 PETER BLUNDEN AND ROBERT THOMSON

Peter Blunden, editor on the *Herald Sun* for eight and a half years and editor-in-chief of the Herald and Weekly Times stable of papers for three years, was the Person of the Week in

Mediaweek, 30 August 2004, pp.1, 7. Robert Thomson, the Australian-born editor of the *Times* of London was Person of the Week in *Mediaweek*, 13 September 2004, pp.2, 6.

29.25 NEW-LOOK SPECTRUM SECTION

The weekend *Sydney Morning Herald* has combined its tabloid “Spectrum” and broadsheet “48 Hours” sections into one broadsheet section, called “Spectrum”. It began doing this in the issue of 21-22 August 2004. The new section contains more book reviews, interviews and columns and a guide to the entertainment scene. Ruth Wajnryb’s “Words” column remains (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 21-22 August 2004, p.2).

29.26 ADVERTISING (1): PICKS UP

Strong economies in Australia and New Zealand and retail price wars have fuelled an advertising pick-up that should be filling the coffers of many Australian media companies (*Courier-Mail*, 17 July 2004, p.77; see ANHG .15).

29.27 ADVERTISING (2): NET GROWS FAST

The internet has finally emerged as a major advertising platform (reports Jane Schulze, *Australian*, 31 August 2004, p.27). The latest audited results reveal the internet market grew by 58 per cent to \$300 million in advertising revenue last financial year. The Audit Bureau of Verification Services said the greatest percentage growth came from general online advertising, which lifted revenue 70 per cent to \$104.7 million. This was followed by search and directories advertising (up 61 per cent to \$92.6 million), and classified advertising (up 45 per cent to \$102.6 million).

29.28 ADVERTISING (3): POLITICS WITH A PUNCH

The *Spectator*, a free newspaper in the Coogee area of Sydney, published some hard-hitting advertisements in the lead-up to the local government elections in March this year. An ANHG subscriber has sent a copy. Example: “Let’s kick Dominic and Labor out of Coogee. Dominic authorised his Labor Council to have private investigators taping my telephone conversations ... (etc.)” And it got stronger. The advertisement was written by Peta Athens, 40 Coogee Bay Road, Coogee (*Spectator*, 19 March 2004, p.11).

29.29 BEGGING TO SAVE THE WEST AUSTRALIAN

Seven Network boss David Aspinall has told the West Australian Supreme Court how he had to beg Bond Corporation executive Tony Oates for money to keep the *West Australian* afloat. At the same time, Oates was allegedly helping to siphon off millions of dollars to try to save the floundering Bond Corporation. Aspinall, the chief operating officer of Seven, was giving evidence in the trial of Oates, who is accused of playing a key role in Australia’s largest corporate fraud – the stripping of \$1.2 billion from Bond Corp subsidiary Bell Resources.

Aspinall took charge of Bond’s media interests in the late 1980s. He said that after being put in charge of the *West Australian* in 1988, cash flow problems almost immediately surfaced. These emanated from the newspaper’s parent company, The Bell Group, owned by Bond (*Courier-Mail*, 3 September 2004, p.35).

29.30 ‘SCARRED FOR LIFE BY THE SISTERS OF LITTLE MERCY’

When this heading appeared above a story about abuse of children in care, Ross Cusack, of City Beach, WA, wrote to the *Australian* (2 September 2004, p.12) thus: “I have been involved in writing and checking newspaper and magazine headlines since the 1960s and I

haven't seen many better than your "Scarred for life by the sisters of little mercy" (1/9). Congratulations to the sub-editor and commiserations to all those poor souls who were on the receiving end of such pitiless cruelty meted out by monsters posing as carers."

29.31 VILLAGE VOICE SUBURBANS SOLD

FPC Courier has bought the Village Voice suburban chain in Sydney from Rural Press Ltd. Rural Press had owned Village Voice since the takeover of Harris & Co., Burnie, Tasmania, last December. The main Harris title was the *Advocate*, the daily serving Burnie and Devonport and the north-west coast (*PANPA Bulletin*, September 2004, p.6).

29.32 COURIER-MAIL WINS NEWSPAPER-OF-YEAR AWARD

Brisbane's *Courier-Mail* newspaper has been named the 2004 Newspaper of the Year by publishers judging the Asia-Pacific region's major daily and Sunday newspapers. *Mediaweek* reported (online, 9 September) that the *Courier-Mail* pipped the *Sydney Morning Herald* for the award in the dailies and Sundays over 50,000 circulation category announced by the Pacific Area Newspaper Publishers Association (PANPA). More than 100 newspapers from Australia, New Zealand and South-East Asia contested the awards, announced at PANPA's annual conference on the Gold Coast. The *Gold Coast Bulletin* won the dailies and Sundays, 20,000-50,000 circulation, and the *Shepparton News*, up to 20,000.

29.33 CANBERRA TIMES CHANGES ITS LOOK

The *Canberra Times* introduced changes in its presentation from Monday 30 August 2004, describing them as "subtle but not insignificant". For full details, see *Canberra Times*, 28 August 2004, p.2.

29.34 RAGING BULL: TRIBUTE TO A CHAMPION

The words above were used to head the *Courier-Mail's* 16-page tabloid colour liftout tribute to retiring Bronco skipper Gorden Tallis on the day of his final National Rugby League match in Brisbane (*Courier-Mail*, 11 September 2004).

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: PROVINCIAL

29.35 GOLD COAST PLANT USES COMPUTER-TO-PLATE TECHNOLOGY

The *Gold Coast Bulletin's* new \$42 million print centre at Molendinar is the first News Ltd plant to use computer-to-plate technology. It provides higher quality reproduction and eliminates the need for negatives. Queensland Premier Peter Beattie opened the print centre on 26 July, with News Ltd chairman, Lachlan Murdoch watching. News Ltd will spend \$32 on upgrading its Brisbane presses (at Murarrie) by August 2004. The new Gold Coast press can print 144 pages of back-to-back colour. The new nine-tower press, supplied by German company KBA, is the first of its kind to be installed in Australia. The *Gold Coast Sun* and the *Tweed Sun* are being printed at the new plant. The *Gold Coast Sun* is said to be the largest circulating regional suburban paper in Australia, with a distribution of 140,370 copies. The *Tweed Sun* has a distribution of 33,700 (*Mediaweek*, 2 August 2004, p.6; *PANPA Bulletin*, August 2004, p.45; *Australian Printer*, September 2004, p.54).

29.36 SUNSHINE COAST PRINT UPGRADE

With APN newspapers in southern Queensland continuing to grow, the company has announced it will spend \$25 million upgrading printing facilities on the Sunshine Coast. It will develop a greenfields site at Yandina. A new press, due to be commissioned by February

2006, will have the capacity to print 80 pages of back-to-back colour and have online stitching capacity. APN said this was in addition to a \$14 million pre-press system upgrade that was being rolled out across APN's Australian regional centres (*PANPA Bulletin*, August 2004, p.43; *Mediaweek*, 23 August 2004, p.7).

29.37 APN AND THE QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT

Queensland taxpayers are paying out millions of dollars in business handouts to some of the nation's richest companies, including APN News & Media Ltd, which received \$150,000 for staff training in Queensland. In the past financial year, 42 companies received \$21.5 million in State Government investment and incentive grants (*Courier-Mail*, 17 July 2004, p.1).

29.38 NEW PAPERS FOR COLAC AND BENDIGO DISTRICTS

The Warrnambool daily, the *Standard*, has launched a free weekly, the *Colac and Corangamite Extra*, on 20 July 2004. The new paper is distributed through letterbox deliveries to households in Colac, Camperdown, Cobden, Terang and Timboon, cutting across territory covered by both Mary Gannon's *Colac Herald* and various newspapers, such as the *Camperdown Chronicle*, produced by Western District Newspapers Pty Ltd. at Camperdown.

The Bendigo daily, the *Advertiser*, launched on 1 July a full-colour magazine-style free weekly, *CV Week*, to help combat a real-estate newspaper.

29.39 COURT REPORTS CEASE

The *Border Watch*, Mount Gambier, South Australia, has ceased reporting court cases because their coverage has led to threats of violence from local people. In late July, the board of the *Border Watch*, which appears four days a week and has a circulation of 7500, told reporters to stop attending cases in the Mount Gambier Magistrates Court. It is not the first time the *Border Watch* has taken this step. Similar decisions were taken in the mid-1980s and in 1993 (*Advertiser*, Adelaide, 6 August 2004, online).

29.40 AINSWORTH RECOGNISED BY HUNTER COMMUNITY

Julie Ainsworth, general manager of Fairfax's Newcastle Newspapers Pty Ltd, has been named the Hunter Region's 2004 Woman of Enterprise. She has worked at Newcastle Newspapers for about 30 years (*Mediaweek*, 26 July 2004, p.4).

29.41 STOCK JOURNAL CELEBRATES CENTENARY

A gala ball was held at the Royal Adelaide Showgrounds on 13 August to celebrate the centenary of the *Stock Journal*. Rural Press chairman John B. Fairfax launched a hardback book, *Stock Journal: The First 100 Years* (*Land* daily news online, 12 August 2004; *Rural Press News*, September 2004, p.9).

29.42 CIRCULATION: REGIONAL DAILIES

The *Sunshine Coast Daily* recorded an increase of 1,000 sales a day in circulation during the six months to 30 June 2004, a 4.22 per cent increase over the corresponding six months in 2003. This was the highest percentage increase of any of Australia's regional dailies audited by the Audit Bureau of Circulations. Only one is not ABC-audited: the *Daily News*, Warwick. The *Fraser Coast Chronicle* increased circulation by 4.10 per cent. The *Burnie Advocate*, in its first six months under Rural Press control, increased by 1.47 per cent. Significant decreases were the *Barrier Daily Truth*, 5.38 per cent, and *Kalgoorlie Miner*, 2.29 per cent.

Newspaper (Mon-Sat unless otherwise stated)	Six months to 30/6/2004	Six months to 30/6/2003	Change %*
Border Mail, Albury-Wodonga (NSW)	27,663	27,937	- 0.98
<i>Western Advocate</i> , Bathurst (M-F)	4,553	4,610	- 1.24
<i>Barrier Daily Truth</i> , Broken Hill	5,853	6,186	- 5.38
<i>Daily Liberal</i> , Dubbo (M-F)	5,635	5,613	+ 0.39
<i>Daily Examiner</i> , Grafton (M-Sat)	5,894	5,822	+ 1.24
<i>Daily Examiner</i> , Grafton (Sat)	6,936	6,932	Steady
<i>Northern Star</i> , Lismore (M-Sat)	16,855	16,608	+ 1.49
<i>Northern Star</i> , Lismore (Sat)	25,424	25,296	+ 0.51
<i>Maitland Mercury</i> (M-F)	4,642	4,722	- 1.69
<i>Herald</i> , Newcastle and Central Coast (M-Sat)	55,000	54,006	+ 1.84
<i>Herald</i> , Newcastle and Central Coast (Sat)	85,000	83,943	+ 1.26
<i>Central Western Daily</i> , Orange	5,461	5,442	+ 0.35
<i>Northern Daily Leader</i> , Tamworth	8,764	8,770	Steady
<i>Daily News</i> , Tweed Heads	5,113	5,021	+ 1.83
<i>Daily Advertiser</i> , Wagga Wagga (M-Sat)	13,855	14,052	- 1.40
<i>Daily Advertiser</i> , Wagga Wagga (M-F)	13,249	13,488	- 1.77
<i>Daily Advertiser</i> , Wagga Wagga (Sat)	16,858	16,842	Steady
<i>Illawarra Mercury</i> , Wollongong	30,991	31,010	Steady
Ballarat Courier (Victoria)	20,392	20,414	- 0.11
<i>Bendigo Advertiser</i>	14,874	14,626	+ 1.70
<i>Geelong Advertiser</i>	30,322	29,625	+ 2.35
<i>Sunraysia Daily</i> , Mildura	7,510	7,619	- 1.43
<i>Shepparton News</i> (M-F)	11,034	11,143	- 0.98
<i>Warrnambool Standard</i>	13,093	12,983	+ 0.85
Bundaberg News-Mail (Qld)	11,708	11,556	+ 1.32
<i>Cairns Post</i> (M-Sat)	30,075	29,512	+ 1.91
<i>Cairns Post</i> (M-F)	27,150	26,600	+ 2.06
<i>Cairns Post</i> (Sat)	44,688	43,493	+ 2.75
<i>Gladstone Observer</i> (Tues-Sat)	8,011	7,791	+ 2.82
<i>Gold Coast Bulletin</i> (M-Sat)	48,026	47,964	+ 0.13
<i>Gold Coast Bulletin</i> (M-F)	41,344	41,053	+ 0.71
<i>Gold Coast Bulletin</i> (Sat)	79,635	80,661	- 1.27
<i>Gympie Times</i> (Tues-Sat)	5,717	5,532	+ 3.34
<i>Queensland Times</i> , Ipswich	13,288	13,081	+ 1.58
<i>Daily Mercury</i> , Mackay	15,422	15,577	- 1.00
<i>Sunshine Coast Daily</i> , Maroochydore	24,681	23,681	+ 4.22
<i>Fraser Coast Chronicle</i> , Maryborough-Hervey Bay	10,121	9,722	+ 4.10
<i>North-West Star</i> , Mount Isa	3,600	3,576	+ 0.67
<i>Morning Bulletin</i> , Rockhampton	18,637	18,863	- 1.20
<i>Toowoomba Chronicle</i> (M-Sat)	25,747	25,773	Steady
<i>Toowoomba Chronicle</i> (Sat)	32,996	32,286	+ 2.20
<i>Townsville Bulletin</i> (M-Sat)	29,055	29,123	- 0.23
<i>Townsville Bulletin</i> (M-F)	26,659	26,904	- 0.91
<i>Townsville Bulletin</i> (Sat)	40,934	40,122	+ 2.02
Kalgoorlie Miner (WA)	5,671	5,804	- 2.29
Advocate, Burnie (Tas.)	25,175	24,811	+ 1.47
<i>Examiner</i> , Launceston	36,243	35,883	+ 1.00

29.43 ILLAWARRA MERCURY MOVES TO NEW PREMISES

Wollongong's daily, the *Illawarra Mercury* has shifted from its Keira Street premises to Auburn Street after about 40 years. It made the move over the weekend of 25-27 June this year. Managing editor Peter Christopher writes about the move in *PANPA Bulletin*,

September 2004, p.17. The *Illawarra Mercury*, owned by John Fairfax Holdings, was established in 1855 but has been a daily only since 9 January 1950.

29.44 PROFITS: APN AND RURAL PRESS

APN News & Media Ltd has reported a 25 per cent jump in interim net profit, with double-digit earnings growth. Provided current market conditions continue, APN expects to better its forecast net profit of \$120 million for calendar-year 2004. APN owns newspaper and radio business in Australia and New Zealand and is a major player in Australia's outdoor advertising industry (*Australian*, 18 August 2004, p.29; *PANPA Bulletin*, September 2004, p.7). **Rural Press Ltd** booked another record full-year profit – this time of \$87.1 million, up 27 per cent (*Australian*, 27 August 2004, p.23).

29.45 IT'S GREAT TO BE AN AUSSIE

The *Gold Coast Bulletin* published in the week leading up to the beginning of the Olympic Games in Athens a series of seven booklets carrying the general title, "It's Great to be an Aussie: A Pictorial History of Us". The booklets appeared with the issues of the *Bulletin* from 7-8 August to 14-15 August 2004. Because of the growing size of the *Weekend Bulletin*, it now has to be home-delivered in two bundles. The issue of 7-8 August carried a 128-page real estate section.

29.46 FAIRFAX BUYS PORT STEPHENS EXAMINER

Fairfax's Newcastle Newspapers Pty Ltd has bought the *Port Stephens Examiner*, Raymond Terrace, from the Campbell family. The Campbells had owned it since 1967, although Newcastle Newspapers had held a 40 per cent interest for some time. The Brown family launched the paper in 1893 and sold it to Harold Campbell in 1967 (*PANPA Bulletin*, August 2004, p.8). **Rod Kirkpatrick** writes: The *Examiner* began on 24 November 1893 as the *Gloucester Examiner and Lower Hunter Advertiser*. William Brown and George S. Hill were the proprietors.

29.47 HEADLINES THROUGH HISTORY

The *Northern Daily Leader*, Tamworth, has published a glossy-covered 56-page tabloid magazine, "Headlines through History", Volume 1, 1859-1950 (26 August 2004). The *Leader* said: "We have scoured the archives of Tamworth's regional newspapers to produce a record of our life and times like no other – a snapshot of all our yesterdays, as reported by our journalistic forebears." Volume 2 will be published in October.

29.48 REGIONAL NEWSPAPERS AND THE FUTURE

Regional newspapers are better placed to withstand the threat of the Internet than their metropolitan cousins, the Pacific Area Newspaper Publishers Association conference was told in September. Former editor-in-chief of the Herald and Weekly Times, Eric Beecher, who singled out the Internet as a serious threat to capital city broadsheet newspapers, said regional papers were far less vulnerable. Delegates to the Pacific Area Newspaper Publishers' Association conference on the Gold Coast were given contrasting views on the health of their industry during the opening session of the three-day gathering. "Not all newspapers are the same and therefore not all newspapers are confronted with the same problems and the same prognosis," Beecher said. "In good shape are the regional and suburban newspapers, papers that serve a particular community. "I think they are far, far less vulnerable." He said the "very vulnerable" species were the capital city broadsheet with their heavy dependence on classified advertising. Their prosperity could soon take a turn for the worse as more and more classified advertising goes online, Beecher said. PANPA president Ken Steinke said it had been an

extraordinary year in Australia and New Zealand for newspapers, which he described as the most vibrant sector of the media industry. He credited a rising tide of advertising revenue for a surge in profits and fresh investment (*Geelong Advertiser*, 7 September 2004, online).

29.49 CONDOBOLIN ARGUS

Mediaweek featured the *Condobolin Argus* (circulation 1,218) in its issue of 6 September 2004, p.6. [It began publication on 2 May 2001, as reported in ANHG 22.29.] It circulates to towns such as Burcher, Eubalong, Lake Cargelligo, Mount Hope, Nymagee, Tottenham, Tullibigeal, Tipla and Ungarie. Manager Rodney Gwynn told *Mediaweek* its mixture of free and paid circulation pushed further west to Ivanhoe, towards Broken Hill, and north to little towns south of Cobar. It also has limited distribution in Forbes and is included on the mail runs from Parkes, to the east. The *Argus* competes against the venerable *Lachlander*, a hot-metal paper until last 14 November 2003 (see ANHG 26.52).

29.50 RURAL PRESS BUYS DAYLESFORD PAPER

Rural Press Ltd has increased its Victorian stable of country titles by buying the free weekly, the *Hepburn Shire Advocate*, Daylesford. In announcing the purchase, Rural Press managing director Brian McCarthy, committed the *Advocate* to being a “strong, independent and representative voice” for the people of the Hepburn Shire. “We intend to have a high-profile shop-front in the shire, based in Daylesford, and employ people to work in the shire.” Carmel Halsall, formerly classified manager of the Ballarat *Courier*, has been appointed the manager of the *Advocate* (*Courier*, Ballarat, 8 September 2004, online).

Rod Kirkpatrick notes: The *Advocate* is descended from the *Daylesford Mercury* (later the *Daylesford Mercury and Express*), which appeared daily from 21 February 1866 to 30 September 1869. On 18 May 1880, the *Daylesford Advocate* (Mark II) was established and incorporated the *Daylesford Mercury and Express*. The *Daylesford Advocate* and the *Creswick Advertiser* were amalgamated into the *Hepburn Shire Advocate* on 1 February 1995 after the creation of the Hepburn Shire. The most recent *Advocate* owner was Brian Robinson, who also owns the *Eaglehawk Times* and the *Ballan News*.

29.51 NEW EDITORIAL ROLES AT GLEN INNES AND BUNBURY

Samuel Bartlett, 25, is the new editor of the *Glen Innes Examiner*, one of Rural Press’s chain of New England, NSW, newspapers. Bartlett was formerly a news journalist, police reporter and acting chief reporter on the *Northern Daily Leader*, Tamworth (*Glen Innes Examiner*, 2 September 2004, online). After two years as the editor of the *Bunbury Mail*, **Doug Green** has been appointed the managing editor. He took over from Ron Goldpsink who has become special projects manager for Rural Press Ltd in Western Australia (*Rural Press News*, September 2004, p.11)

29.52 SINGLETON ARGUS TURNS 130

The *Singleton Argus* celebrated its 130th anniversary on 15 July by entertaining about 100 advertisers, contributors and community representatives at an informal evening gathering (*Rural Press News*, September 2004, p.10).

NEWSPAPER HISTORY

29.53 INGLIS’S JOURNALISM AND HIS WRITINGS ON NEWSPAPERS

In ANHG 26.50 your editor wrote about “Media columnists” and said that Ken Inglis wrote regularly on newspapers for the fortnightly political review, *Nation*, ca the 1960s/70s. In the

Canberra Times on 24 July 2004 Jack Waterford said in his “Addendum” column that he had acquired a complete set of the issues of *Nation*. So your editor asked Waterford about the Inglis writings. He emailed Inglis and forwarded his reply to me.

Inglis says he contributed a column about newspapers “in just about every issue [of *Nation*] from the first [26 September 1958] to 1961, then irregularly”. He cannot remember when the last was (Ken Inglis, E-mail message to Jack Waterford, 9 August 2004, forwarded to Rod Kirkpatrick). One of his *Nation* columns appeared as “The daily papers” in Peter Coleman (ed.), *Australian Civilisation*, Melbourne: Cheshire, 1961, pp.145-175 (of which more details below). Another was the column about the *Australian*, mentioned above in ANHG 29.2. It appeared as “Five months’ baby” in *Nation* on 12 December 1964. Other Inglis contributions to *Nation* included (so Henry Mayer recorded in his “Bibliographical Notes on the Press in Australia”): “Adelaide’s version of the press war – with a truce every Sunday”, *Nation*, 22 November 1958, pp.7-8; “The cross of Lorraine”, *Nation*, 16 July 1960, p.8 (treatment of swimmer Lorraine Crapp’s engagement); “Cancelling out”, *Nation*, 22 October 1960, pp.12-13 (press treatment of Menzies at UN); “Press – a year of dailies”, *Nation*, 14 January 1961, p.7; “In the press”, *Nation*, 22 April 1961, p.11 (a comparison of how newspapers in Australia were reporting a particular issue); “Judgment at Armidale”, *Nation*, 9 February 1963, pp.5-6 (Summary of Inglis’s lecture on the press at New England University seminar on mass communications, and comments on two press reports of the lecture).

Craig Wilcox writes (*Observing Australia, 1959-1999*, Melbourne: MUP, 1999, p.5): “[In 1958] Inglis had found liberal intellectual journal, somewhere ‘really comfortable’, in which he could write long, probing articles, regularly reaching the growing audience of university-educated, progressive-minded, professionally-employed Australians. In 1958 Tom Fitzgerald, idealistic financial editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, borrowed five thousand pounds and started his own paper, *Nation*. “For fourteen years the fortnightly magazine was to Australia what the *Bulletin* magazine had been in the 1890s,” judged historian Humphrey McQueen. Inglis began writing for *Nation* from Adelaide on such diverse subjects as South Australian provincialism and Labor health policy...”

Wilcox continues (p.6): “Inglis’s love of journalism combined with an ability to shrewdly assess its health, and he offered an influential prognosis in the 1962 symposium, *Australian Civilisation*, conceived by the libertarian Liberal Peter Coleman as “a sort of demolition job on the old order” and including contributions from Manning Clark, Vincent Buckley, Robert Hughes, James McAuley, Robin Boyd and Donald Horne – some of the most vigorous and critical Australian thinkers of the day, for the moment united in their assault on the old Australia. Inglis blamed monopoly, a small population and a tendency to treat readers as idiots for what he called The Law of Increasing Brightness: an unvarying tendency in daily newspapers toward shorter articles, louder headlines and more lurid photographs. Inglis’s Law remains unchallenged as our daily newspapers become increasingly indistinguishable from gossip magazines, but his prediction in the essay that an Australia-wide newspaper was unlikely was quickly proved wrong. In July 1964 he found himself reporting for *Nation* on the birth of Rupert Murdoch’s *Australian*.”

29.54 WARRNAMBOOL NEWSPAPERS

The Warrnambool and District Historical Society Newsletter (Vol. 38, No. 7, August 2004, p.4) reports that the society has acquired some battered copies of the *Warrnambool Examiner*, 1868-1872, and the 1871 copies of the *Warrnambool Advertiser*. The copies of the *Advertiser* are believed to be the only ones extant in Victoria. The paper was printed and published by Daniel Harrison and Daniel George in Timor Street, Warrnambool. The *Advertiser*’s sub-title is *Villiers, Heytesbury and Hampden General Reporter with which is incorporated the Warrnambool Sentinel*. The *Sentinel* was operated in the 1860s by John Davidson Burnie. The historical society is now planning to index the *Advertiser* issues.

29.55 AUDIT ADDENDUM (see also 27.39 and 28.50)

Ester, Helen (Central Queensland University): Political journalism, and the impact of digital technology on Australian Political Journalism; Indigenous issues and the media; On-line journalism; Pedagogical issues and journalism education; The impact of digital technology on Australian Political Journalism. E-mail: h.ester@cqu.edu.au

29.56 RICHMOND NEWSPAPERS, QUEENSLAND

ANHG member Cheryl Crighton, secretary of the Hughenden Family History Society, asked your editor whether anything was known about newspapers in Richmond, Queensland. This is what we sent her (any additional details welcomed):

The *Richmond Record* began publication in late July 1903 after the *Northern Miner* proprietary had bought the *Port Douglas Gazette* plant “for removal and re-erection at Richmond where a paper will be established in the pastoral interest” (*Croydon Mining Record*, Friday 27 Feb 1903, p.2, col. 8). The *Cairns Post*, 10 March 1903, reported: “The plant of the defunct *Port Douglas and Mossman Gazette* has been bought by a syndicate who intend to start a paper at Richmond.” On 2 August 1903, *Truth* (p.1) reported: “The *Richmond Record* (Qld) is the name of a new double demy weekly, four-page paper published at Richmond, the terminus of the north-western line. It is a neatly printed rag and contains plenty of news. The proprietor may be a sanguine kind of person who expects to make a fortune out of it. He may. We have heard that some newspaper proprietors have made fortunes, but they were not located in the wild and woolly north-west of Queensland. It is a significant fact that the *Hughenden Observer*, a neighboring rag, is up for sale, ‘lock, stock and barrel’.”

It appears that the *Record* had three lives: 1903-ca 1905; 1906-1907; and 1915-1922, when it was possibly absorbed by the *Richmond Times*. Registration papers held at Queensland State Archives show that the *Record* was registered on 15 September 1903 by Robert Villiers Smythe (who managed the *Hughenden Observer*, 1908-1910, and later ran newspapers in NSW, in the Blue Mountains and at Dubbo) as printer and publisher for the Richmond Printing & Publishing Company Limited. The life of only two years or so for the first *Record* seems likely because the *Croydon Mining News* reported on 5 July 1907 that the “Richmond paper has ceased publication after a run of 12 months” and on 7 August 1906, Andrew William Graham registered himself as printer and publisher of the *Richmond Record*. The third *Record* began probably in the first or second quarter of 1915. On 10 March 1915 Commalina Loftus Maxwell registered herself as “proprietress”, with husband Henry, as printer, for the Maxwell Printing Company. *Pugh’s Queensland Almanac* listed this final *Record* from 1916-1922, and it listed a *Richmond Times* from 1921-1924. The *Record* was appearing on Fridays and the *Times* on Mondays, according to the 1922 edition of the *Australian and New Zealand Press Directory*, p.135. It appears that the *Times* absorbed the *Record* in 1922.

29.57 PICTURE-PERFECT GIFT

The children of Fairfax newspaper descendant Caroline Simpson have given her collection of furniture, ceramics and artworks (including the biggest private collection of Conrad Martens works in Australia) to the people of New South Wales. It will go on display in properties of the Historic Houses Trust of NSW, among them the Mint in Macquarie Street, Sydney (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 20 August 2004, p.5).

29.58 RIPPING YARNS

Mark Day reports in his "On media" column (*Australian*, 26 August 2004, Media & Marketing liftout, p.48) that Brian Hansen, 71, has self-published a book he wrote on his life in Australian journalism, *The Awful Truth*, 650pp. Hansen was for two decades the sporting editor of *Truth*, which closed in 1994.

29.59 PRINTING MUSEUM FOR QUEANBEYAN

From Canberra, **Victor Isaacs** writes: A group of former employees of the *Queanbeyan Age*, led by former proprietor Jim Woods, is establishing a museum of printing in Farrer Place, Queanbeyan, NSW (a stone's throw from Canberra). The museum, to have restored working equipment formerly used by the *Queanbeyan Age*, is expected to open in early October.

RECENTLY PUBLISHED

29.60 BOOKS

29.60.1 "Historical Introduction to Northern Territory Newspapers" by Barbara James. This is a brief review of former - but not current - NT newspapers. It appears on the web site of the NT Library at www.dcdsca.nt.gov.au/dcdsca/intranet.nsf/pages/

29.60.2 "Northern Territory Newspapers: List of Northern Territory Newspapers and Select Magazines in the Northern Territory Collection of the Northern Territory Library". Although, strictly speaking, this is a list of the NT Library's collection, in practice, it provides a comprehensive gazetteer of all NT newspapers that have ever existed. It is also at www.dcdsca.nt.gov.au/dcdsca/intranet.nsf/pages/

29.60.3 REFLECTIONS: 150 YEARS OF HISTORY, published by Doubleday for the "Age", 2004, 372 pages, slipcase provided, over 700 illustrations, ISBN 1-86471-086-1, \$65 (\$52 for "Age" subscribers) plus \$6 postage/packing, available from the *Age*, www.150.theage.com.au, or GPO Box 354E Melbourne Vic 3001.

Victor Isaacs writes: This is a large, very lavishly produced book to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the first publication of the *Age*. The first principal item is an excellent essay by Geoffrey Blainey reviewing how people (with an emphasis naturally on Melbourne and Victoria) have lived over the last 150 years. Most of the book comprises photographs arranged in chapters entitled Politics, War, City, Witness (i.e. significant events), Life, Fashion, Music, Crime, Culture and Sport. Most photographs are from the last few decades. Each chapter is introduced with from one to four relevant reproductions of pages from the "Age/Sunday Age". [John Tidey's review of this book appeared in *PANPA Bulletin*, September 2004, p.21.]

29.61 THESIS

Ian Willis, "The Women's Voluntary Service: A Study of War and Volunteering in Camden, 1939-1945", PhD thesis, Department of History and Politics, University of Wollongong, 2004. The thesis is a local study of wartime Camden through an examination of a war-specific voluntary organisation, the Women's Voluntary Service. The aim of the thesis was to unravel the social processes and cultural traditions at work in the town's female philanthropy, and, by so doing, tease out the main threads of Camden's wartime experience. The thesis encompasses the involvement of Camden's press in these processes.

29.62 ARTICLES

29.62.1 POWER TO THE PEOPLE by Catherine Keenan, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 17-18 July 2004. Spectrum 3. A full-page profile of Margo Kingston, Sydney journalist and author of the recently published *Not Happy, John!* (Penguin).

29.62.2 TRIALS OF A NEW AGE MAN by Jonathan Este, *Australian*, 29 July 2004, Media & Marketing liftout, pp.15-16. Background information on and a snapshot of the next editor-in-chief of the Melbourne *Age*. Andrew Jaspán.

29.62.3 MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE by Roslyn Guy, *Age*, 22 July 2004, A3 pp.4-5. On the eve of the first of a series of forums on the work of *Age* photographers, Guy looks at the stories behind three unforgettable pictures.

29.62.4 HARD PRESSED by Jane Schulze, *Weekend Australian*, 31 July-1 August 2004, pp.31, 39. A profile of Fairfax boss Fred Hilmer who will step down next year.

29.62.5 THE WEST WAGERS ON BOLD, BRASH, RAUNCHY APPROACH by David King, *Australian*, 5 August 2004, Media & Marketing liftout, pp.15, 18. The new design and new direction of the Perth daily newspaper, the *West Australian*, is examined.

29.62.6 GUARD WAIVES INTERVIEW PAYMENT by Sheena MacLean, *Australian*, 5 August 2004, Media & Marketing liftout, pp.15-16. Chequebook journalism became an issue, again, when a security guard who shot dead an alleged robber was paid \$100,000 for a television interview aired on Seven's *Today Tonight*.

29.62.7 FROM TIT-BITS TO BIG BROTHER: A CENTURY OF AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION IN THE MEDIA by Bridget Griffen-Foley, *Media, Culture & Society*, Vol 26 (4), pp.533-548. By using a series of case studies from Britain, Australia and the US, this article surveys the history of participatory media from the late 19th century to the present day.

29.62.8 HOW A PORT PIRIE PAPER HELPED SEED THE GROWTH OF NEWS LTD by Rod Kirkpatrick, *PANPA Bulletin*, August 2004, pp.58-59. A brief history of provincial daily newspaper publication in South Australia, and how it contributed to the emergence of News Ltd.

29.62.9 MERCURY BUILDS CIRCULATION DESPITE SYDNEY PAPERS' PRESENCE by Murray White, *Mediaweek*, 9 August 2004, p.6. A discussion of the editorial and circulation performance of the *Illawarra Mercury*, Wollongong, over the past two years. There have been changes in design and the circulation on Saturdays is now around 50,000.

29.62.10 PEOPLE, PROFIT AND THE THINGS THAT MATTER by Jane Schulze, *Australian*, 12 August 2004, Media & Marketing liftout, p.17. A profile of Matt Handbury, who sold Murdoch Magazines for \$77 million in July to Seven Network's magazine arm, Pacific Publications. Handbury, 53, is a nephew of Rupert Murdoch.

29.62.11 DECLINE OF A MIGHTY NEWSPAPER by Jack Waterford, *Canberra Times*, 14 August 2004, Panorama 2. A dissection of the fortunes of Melbourne's *Age* as it nears its 150th birthday. Example: "The *Age* has seemed to fall on hard times in every sense of the phrase. Fairfax bought out the Syme shareholdings. Increasingly, Sydney managers have not only sought 'rationalisations' and economies of scale by combining services with the *Sydney Morning Herald* but have allowed suspicions to arise that the *Age* is managed – even conceived, in part – in Sydney, a fatal marketing perception in a Victoria that does not like to be thought of as a branch-office state."

29.62.12 SELF-REGULATION WOULD PROTECT FREE SPEECH by David Flint, *Australian*, 18 August 2004, p.13. A former chairman of the Australian Press Council and of the Australian Broadcasting Authority says what is wrong with Australia's defamation laws.

29.62.13 PAPERS HAVE A FUTURE, JUST ADD THE NEWS by Wendy Frew, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 19 August 2004. Discussion of Chris Anderson's views of circulation and audience trends in the news media. Anderson is a former editor-in-chief of the *Sydney Morning Herald* and a former chief executive of the telco, Optus.

29.62.14 ON PAPER, IT'S LOOKING GREAT by Geoff Elliott, *Australian*, 19 August 2004, Media & Marketing liftout, pp.45-46. News Corp is revisiting its roots, with plans to spend up big again on its newspapers. (See also: Terry McCrann, "Murdoch confident shareholders will approve corporate move to US", *Courier-Mail*, 19 August 2004, pp.25, 28; Geoff Elliott, "Murdoch warns of oil crunch on US", *Australian*, 19 August 2004, p.4; and John Durie, "Rupert Murdoch's media vision", *Australian Financial Review*, 21-22 August 2004, pp.17-18.)

29.62.15 THE BIG SPEND by Jane Schulze, *Weekend Australian*, 28-29 August 2004, pp.33, 36. Elections, the oil price, economic conditions and terrorism – all have the potential to shape the advertising market. The article examines the profits reported in late August by major media companies.

29.62.16 BAYING FOR BLOOD by Julia Baird, *Good Weekend*, 28 August 2004, pp.27-34. She was the darling of the Canberra press gallery, but revelations turned Cheryl Kernot from "wunderfrau to whore". Why did the media single her out when her badly behaved male colleagues got off scot-free? An insidious double standard is investigated.

29.62.17 DISCORD ON THE HOME FRONT REVEALS CRACKS IN THE AGE FAÇADE by Richard Yallop, *Australian*, 26 August 2004, pp.41, 43. The *Age's* property editor, a woman, sues the newspaper, alleging discrimination because she is paid much less than the former property editor, a man. The case before Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal is examined.

29.62.18 TRACING THE MATERIAL CULTURE OF THE GOLDFIELDS' PRESS IN COLONIAL VICTORIA by Sue Hughes, Dirk H.R. Spennemann and Ross Harvey, *Media History*, Vol. 10, No. 2, 2004, pp.89-102. This article draws attention to the importance of maintaining cultural material for the purposes of public access, research and the reconstruction of colonial culture.

29.62.19 PAPERS THAT PAD THEIR CIRCULATION by Jack Waterford, *Canberra Times*, 28 August 2004, Panorama, p.2. A discussion of Australian implications of recent reports in the US of newspapers admitting they have padded their circulation figures.

29.62.20 FREEDOM FROM INFORMATION? By Jack R. Herman, *Australian Press Council News*, Vol. 16, No. 3, August 2004, pp.1-2. A newspaper's appeal against the federal Treasurer's attempts to stop the release of potentially embarrassing material under Freedom of Information highlights flaws in the FoI law.

29.62.21 MURDOCH HELPED A COUNTRY PAPER SURVIVE AND PROSPER by Rod Kirkpatrick, *PANPA Bulletin*, September 2004, pp.58-59. How the tiny *West Wimmera Mail*, Natimuk, challenged and defeated the *Horsham Times* on its home turf, with a little help from a powerful friend.

29.62.22 GRAND DESIGNS by Paul Syvret, *Courier-Mail*, 4 September 2004, pp.75-76. The business editor of the *Courier-Mail* talks to Lachlan Murdoch about the sale of his family's stake in Queensland Press Ltd. See 29.4.

29.62.23 FINDING ROOM TO COVERTWO ELECTIONS AT ONCE by Jack Waterford, *Canberra Times*, 4 September 2004, Panorama 2. The editor-in-chief discusses the problems of covering the Federal election and an ACT Assembly election simultaneously.

29.62.24 MEDIA by Bridget Griffen-Foley, *Australian Book Review*, No. 264, September 2004, p.8. This media column discusses how the *Sydney Daily Telegraph* has been inviting readers to present their views and news on a wide range of issues, so that the readers create "a feeling of community and a personal bond with the newspaper".

29.62.25 WHAT 'RIDING INSTRUCTIONS' DO EDITORS AND JOURNALISTS GET DURING ELECTION CAMPAIGNS? By Max Suich, *Age*, 10 September 2004. A former editorial manager of the *Sydney Morning Herald* and independent publisher examines issues of partisanship in reporting during election campaigns.

29.62.26 TALES FROM THE TABLOID by Rod Kirkpatrick, *Australian Printer*, September 2004, p.55. The magazine begins a monthly newspaper history column.

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