

AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPER HISTORY GROUP
NEWSLETTER

ISSN 1443-4962

No. 40

December 2006

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40.1 COPY DEADLINE AND WEBSITE ADDRESS

Deadline for next *Newsletter*: 22 February 2007. Subscription details appear at end of *Newsletter*. [Number 1 appeared October 1999.]

The *Newsletter* is online through the "Publications" link of the University of Queensland's School of Journalism & Communication Website at www.uq.edu.au/sjc/ and through the ePrint Archives at the University of Queensland at <http://eprint.uq.edu.au/>

40.2 EDITOR'S NOTE

A happy Christmas to all in the newspaper business – and to all who observe it with interest. And a happy 40th to this newsletter—well it is our 40th issue and all this within seven years. In the 40 issues, we have published 687 pages, or about 360,000 words. And we have published seven books (see 40.49), the latest of which is *Press Timeline* (see advertisement at end of this issue of the Newsletter).

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: METROPOLITAN

40.3 NEW MEDIA LAWS PASSED AND THE DEALS BEGIN

Federal Parliament has passed the Coonan media ownership laws, triggering a spate of media deals although the laws will not come into effect until possibly the middle of 2007, or even later. The passage of the laws was delayed a few days while the Nationals negotiated last-minute changes with their coalition partners, the Liberals. The new laws, replacing the 1987 laws that led to what was called "The Great Media Shakeup" and spawned books such as Paul Chadwick's *Media Mates*, will remove foreign-ownership restrictions and significantly relax cross-media ownership restrictions. They will limit one company to two formats, such as a newspaper and television, or radio and a newspaper, in any one market. The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission warned that it would block any anti-competitive merger, regardless of the new laws (*Herald Sun*, 13 Oct., 2006, pp.6, 12; *Weekend Australian*, 14-15 Oct. 2006, p.8; *AFR*, 23 Oct. 2006, p.11). Following is a chronology of significant events related to the new laws and their effect:

12 October: The new media laws pass through the Senate.

17 October: Publishing & Broadcasting sells a half-share in its media assets for \$4.5bn to PBL Media, which is half-owned by private equity firm, CVC Asia Pacific. [PBL's media assets include the Nine Network and ACP Magazines.] (See Terry McCrann, "Birth of a revolution: PBL deal is bigger than a mover on Fairfax", *Daily Telegraph*, 19 Oct. 2006, p.59).

18 October: The successful passage of the new media laws through Federal Parliament is completed with the House of Representative passing them (*Australian*, 19 October 2006, pp.1, 6).

18 October: Seven Network completes the purchase of a 14.9 per cent strategic stake in West Australian Newspapers after taking an 8.4 per cent stake the previous evening. [WAN publishes the Perth daily, the *West Australian*, and a chain of regional newspapers in WA.] (*Australian*, 18 and 19 Oct. 2006, and see Media section, 19 Oct.).

19 October: News Corp pays \$385m for a 7.5pc strategic stake in Fairfax Media.

20 November: Seven Network secures \$3.2 billion to build itself into one of Australia's largest media companies after selling its TV, magazines and online businesses into a new group (Seven Media) jointly owned with private-equity firm KKR – Kohlberg Kravis Roberts (*Australian*, 21 November 2006, p.17).

4 December: Kerry Stokes's Seven Network buys a small stake (less than 2 per cent) in Fairfax Media (*Australian*, 5 December 2006, p.19).

6 December: Fairfax Media and Rural Press Limited announce a proposal to merge and create Australasia's largest integrated metropolitan, regional and rural print and digital media business (Fairfax Media and Rural Press Ltd press statement, 6 December 2006).

Two former newspaper executives will be key people in the new company, PBL Media: John Alexander, a former editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, becomes chairman of PBL Media and Ian Law, a former Rural Press agricultural-publications executive, former WAN CEO, will be CEO. Law left WAN in May to head ACP Magazines for PBL (*Mediaweek*, 23 Oct. 2006, p.1; see also two articles, *AFR*, 6 November 2006, p.5)).

Rural Press Ltd has expressed interest in buying any radio stations that Macquarie Regional Radio wants to sell and has its eyes on some of the Fairfax Media assets, such as its regional dailies (Newcastle, Wollongong, Albury and Warrnambool), the *Australian Financial Review* and the Fairfax New Zealand newspapers (*Weekend Australian*, 14-15 Oct. 2006, p.33; *Australian*, 16 Oct. 2006, p.29).

Jane Schulze reports (*Australian*, Media section, 26 Oct. 2006, p.13) that the new media laws might not come into effect until at least mid-2007. Numerous regulatory issues and questions on what new services could be offered remained unresolved. Communications Minister Helen Coonan has repeatedly said she will not proclaim bills removing existing cross-media and foreign ownership restrictions until there is evidence of new services emerging on the two spare digital television channels available (see also: Jane Schulze, "Media told to hasten slowly", *Australian*, 8 November 2006, p.17).

Jane Schulze reports (*Australian*, Media section, 23 November 2006, p.13) that Fairfax shares had risen to a year high of \$5.15 in the wake of the Seven Network deal with KKR (see 20 November chronology entry above). And James Packer said on 23 November that he was prepared to buy the Fairfax media group but "only if the price is right" (*Australian*, 24 November 2006, p.23).

Jane Schulze reports (*Australian*, Media section, 30 November 2006, p.13) that the Australian Communications and Media Authority will issue an advisory to industry before Christmas to clarify issues surrounding media takeovers.

Fairfax Media and Rural Press Limited announced on 6 December a proposal to merge the two companies, a merger that some analysts see as effectively a takeover by Fairfax of Rural Press (joint companies' press statement, 6 December 2006). The announcement received vast coverage the next day in such papers as the *Australian*, the *Sydney Morning Herald*, the *Melbourne Age* and the *Australian Financial Review*. The proposal effectively values Rural Press at \$3 billion and the merged companies at \$9 billion. Rural Press will have two members on the reconstituted Fairfax board: John B. Fairfax and probably Timothy Fairfax. It

will be the first involvement of a member of the Fairfax family since December 1990 when the 149-year involvement of the Fairfax family in the ownership of the *Sydney Morning Herald* ceased. From a regional press viewpoint, it will be interesting to observe rationalisations that may take place over the coming 12-24 months. The new group will have regional dailies in NSW at Tamworth, Maitland, Newcastle, Wollongong, Bathurst, Orange, Dubbo and Albury and in Victoria at Warrnambool, Bendigo and Ballarat.

Some of the articles reporting different aspects of the impending Fairfax/Rural Press merger: *Australian*, 7 December 2006: Jane Schulze and Ean Higgins, "9bn Fairfax deal a family affair", pp.1-2; Glenda Korporaal, "How the Fairfax deal was done", Media section, p.13, and Mark Day, "Farm comes back into the family fold", Media section, pp.13-14; Jane Schulze, "Rural goes to town on Fairfax", Business section, p.21. *SMH*, 7 December 2006: Stuart Washington and Lisa Murray, "Fairfax to buy back the farm", Business section, pp.23-24; Ian Verrender, "John B., the aristocrat who restored his family's fortunes", Business section, pp.23-24; Matthew Ricketson and Simon Mann, "Fairfax welcomes its \$1bn man", Business section, p.24. *AFR*, 7 December 2006: Neil Shoebridge, "Fairfax in \$7bn media play," pp.1, 21; Pamela Williams, "John B. home after 19 years", pp.1, 61; other reports, pp.18-21 and 64. *Weekend Australian*, 9-10 December 2006: Glenda Korporaal and Jane Schulze, "Fairfax deal stacks up brilliantly for John B.", pp.33, 36. *SMH*, 9-10 December 2006: Stuart Washington and Lisa Murray, "Prince of print", Weekend Business section, pp.43, 48.

40.4 HANNAN SELLS MAGAZINES TO NEWS AND MAY SELL NEWSPAPERS

News Limited has re-emerged as a major player in Australia's magazine market. It agreed on 10 November to buy the Hannan family's Federal Publishing Co. magazine group for between \$170 million and \$180 million. The FPC titles include *Vogue*, *Australian Good Taste* and *Delicious*. News Ltd is also believed to be one of a number of bidders for FPC's community newspaper arm, which has titles such as Sydney's *Wentworth Courier*, but FPC has yet to decide whether that group will be sold (*Weekend Australian*, 11-12 November 2006, p.33, and *Australian*, 17 November 2006, p.20; see also *Australian*, 13 November 2006, p.32, re food publishing on internet for FPC; and "Magazine pool stirred, not shaken, by News move", *AFR*, 20 November 2006, p.48).

Sally Jackson reports (*Australian*, Media section, 16 November 2006, p.14): If the sale of the FPC Courier newspapers proceeds, it may leave Michael Hannan with just a distribution and printing business, a sizeable concern but a fraction of the company to which he has devoted the past four decades to creating. The Hannan dynasty began with Irish immigrant Francis Hannan who opened his first butcher's shop in the eastern Sydney suburb of Randwick in 1887 and over several decades built it into a chain. In 1934 his son, Norman, led the clan into the world of publishing with the *Randwick District News*. Michael Hannan, who is Francis's great-grandson, joined the business when he was 16. According to company lore, his first job was sweeping the composing room floor. During the next 40 years he amassed a stable of magazine and suburban newspaper titles, established a distribution company to deliver them and snapped up a string of printing firms.

The company, FPC, became one of Australia's largest privately owned media businesses, valued at about \$450 million and employing 2,700 people. Yet it remained a family fiefdom, headed by Michael Hannan as executive chairman and his uncle John as chairman. Others in the fourth generation of Hannans working there are Kim O'Connor (Michael's sister), who is chief reporter for the *Wentworth Courier*, Lindsay Hannan and Stephen Hannan, who work in the printing business, and David Hannan, who is on the property side. From the fifth generation are James Hannan in the interactive business, Cassie Hannan and Adrian

O'Connor in consumer magazines, and Richard O'Connor in the marketing department. Despite all that history, the close-knit clan was able to put synergies before sentiment.

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has signalled that there may be "issues" with the proposed News acquisition of FPC. It may breach competition rules in the northern and inner-western Sydney markets. The ACCC is seeking industry views and is expected to make a decision by 17 January (*SMH*, 9-10 December 2006, p.44).

40.5 FAIRFAX TIPS HIGHER GROWTH

Fairfax Media (John Fairfax Holdings Ltd) expects to overcome languid conditions to produce significantly higher profit growth in 2006-07, CEO David Kirk told the company's annual meeting on 10 November. Kirk said News and Fairfax have been discussing the possibility of sharing back-office facilities, such as deliveries, to cut costs. These discussions predated the purchase by News of a 7.5 per cent stake in Fairfax (*Weekend Australian*, 11-12 November 2006, p.35).

40.6 FAIRFAX MEDIA: IT'S OFFICIAL

John Fairfax Holdings Ltd officially changed its name to Fairfax Media at the annual meeting in Melbourne on 10 November of the company (*Age*, 10 November 2006, online).

40.7 JASPAN'S TWO YEARS AT THE AGE

Mediaweek interviewed Andrew Jaspán shortly before he completed his second year as the editor-in-chief of the *Age*. James Manning's article (*Mediaweek*, 9 October 2006, pp.1, 8) contains a range of interesting insights into Jaspán's thinking, the changes he has made and the impact of the Fairfax executive changes above him.

40.8 FAIRFAX TO PAY \$162,173 LIBEL DAMAGES

Former NSW fisheries minister Eddie Obeid was awarded \$162,173 damages in a defamation case in the NSW Supreme Court on 12 October. Judge Clifton Hoeben made the award against the *Sydney Morning Herald*. The offending report was written by Kate McClymont and Anne Davies and was part of series of reports about breaches by the Bulldogs rugby league club of salary cap rules (*Australian*, 13 October 2006, p.6).

40.9 RECENT CHRONOLOGY

40.9.1 NEWSPAPER EVENTS

18 October 2006: The House of Representatives passes historic changes to Australia's media ownership laws (see other significant dates related to this event in item 40.3).

40.9.2 DEATHS

Coleman, John: D. 4 October 2006, aged 93 on the Sunshine Coast; founding printer of the *Northern Territory News*; formerly a printer on the *Courier-Mail*, Brisbane, and the *Northern Standard*, Darwin; helped Eric White and Don Whittington start the *NT News* in 1952 (*Northern Territory News*, 5 October 2006, online).

Curtain, Peter ("Smokey"): D. 19 October 2006, aged 68 in Melbourne: larger-than-life journalist who worked for many newspapers and in many cities including Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Hong Kong and London; badly disadvantaged by a broken hip in childhood, asthma

and diabetes, which cost him a leg; remembered as “puffing on a Marlboro in one hand and an asthma pump in the other”, and “like a sub-editor out of Central Casting ..hunched over his blotter, holding his pen in a sort of crab-like grip and (speaking) in his brusque , curt fashion ... he expected people to write accurately and get to the nub of the story in a couple of pars”; inspirational sports editor (*Age*, 28 October 2006, p.9).

Hobson, Phillip Oliver: D. aged 84 at Tathra, NSW; war photographer, especially the Korean War; worked briefly as bank teller before enlisting in army in 1942 and serving in Papua New Guinea with 55th and 53rd infantry battalions; later became 67th Infantry Battalion’s official photographer; joined Army Public Relations in 1949; sent in September 1950 as official photographer with first Australian ground forces to Korean War; Australian War Memorial holds extensive collection of his Korean War images, two of which have been permanently etched into a wall in new Korean war memorial in Canberra (*SMH*, 7 November 2006, online).

Lowenstein (née Robertson), Katherin Wendy: D. 16 October 2006, aged 79 in Melbourne; historian and author; worked as journalist for *Radio Times*, edited the Eureka Youth League national newspaper *Youth Voice*; as a member of the Communist Party, she proof-read communist publications and enrolled in a part-time journalism course at the University of Melbourne; initiated, and edited for 15 years, the Victorian Folk Lore Society’s journal, *Australian Tradition*; her best-known book is *Weevils in the Flour* (*Australian*, 27 October 2006, p.14).

Mark, Ross Folkard: D. 14 July 2006, aged 80 in Washington; born in Sydney and raised on family dairy farm at Dorrigo; trained on Sydney Sun before sailing for London in 1928; first of a generation of Australian journalists who helped shape mid-20th century Fleet Street; one of the last foreign correspondents to spend his entire career abroad; hired by Reuters and in 1950 covered Korean War; in 1952 joined Reuters-Australian Associated Press bureau in New York; two years later transferred to Washington office; in 1957 he became the London *Daily Express*’s Washington correspondent and served that also in Moscow and Africa; from Washington, 1963-1993, reported US politics for the *Express* under 15 different editors (*Age*, 2 October 2006, p.12).

Marsh, David: D. 9 December 2006, aged 57 in Perth; sports writer for the *West Australian* since March 1984 after working on WA regional papers at Port Hedland, Esperance, Wongan Hills, Northam and Kalgoorlie for 10 years; in 1993, began part-time tertiary studies at Edith Cowan University, graduated with honours in 1998 and enrolled in a PhD; gained his PhD last year with a thesis, “Seven decades of sports writing at the *West Australian*, 1901-1971” (see ANHG 37.60); tutored in journalism at Edith Cowan University; ANHG member and contributor (based on emails between David Marsh and Rod Kirkpatrick, 1998-2006).

Mason, Anne (née Annetta Viola Chiverton Farrow): D. 15 October 2006, aged 95 in Devon; first Australian woman to be accredited as a war correspondent (but did not fill that role because pregnancy intervened only days before she was to have left for New Guinea to report the war against the Japanese in 1943); worked as journalist for *Age* and Leader Group, Melbourne, for 25 years; married John Mason, chief crime reporter on the *Age*; they moved to Britain in 1958 and never returned to Australia; she worked for *Kent Messenger* and she and husband became one of Britain’s best-known travel-writing duos (*Age*, 20 November 2006).

Rigby, Paul: D. 15 November 2006, aged 82 at Busselton, Western Australia; renowned cartoonist and illustrator who worked for newspapers in Perth, Sydney, London and New York and won five Walkley Awards in the 1960s; born in Melbourne but grew up in Perth, establishing himself with Perth’s *Daily News*; spent time in London where he worked with the *Sun* and the *News of the World*; moved to the US in 1977 where he worked for the *New York Post* and the *New York Daily News* and won many awards; appointed a Member of the Order

of Australia in 1999 for service to the newspaper industry as an editorial cartoonist (*Australian*, 17 November 2006, p.5; news.com.au, 16 November 2006; *Age*, 20 November 2006).

Shaw, Frank: D. 13 October 2006, aged 85 in Sydney; longest continuously serving employee of News Ltd; began work at the Adelaide *News* in October 1950; became chief of staff of the *Australian* when it began in 1964; ran the *Asia Magazine* in Hong Kong; was general manager of publications for Mirror Newspapers; became News's company secretary and a member of its board before stepping down in 1981; in recent years, worked as the News archivist; retired November 2005 (*Weekend Australian*, 14-15 October 2006, p.6; obituary, *Australian*, 19 October 2006, p.11).

Yallop, Richard: D. 23 October 2006, aged 58 in Melbourne; born Farnham, England; entered journalism with Reuters news agency; joined the *Guardian*; married Australian in 1977 and moved to Australia 1979; worked for *Age*, Melbourne, 1979-95; joined the *Australian*, working as a social justice reporter, tennis writer, wine buff and European correspondent; consummate, old-style journalist who was dogged, meticulous and disarmingly polite; wrote six books on tennis and several other books (*Australian*, 25 Oct. 2006, p.12; *Walkley Magazine*, Issue 42, December 2006/January 2007, p.30).

40.10 RUPERT'S POISON PILL EXTENDED

Rupert Murdoch has tightened his grip on News Corporation. He has gained shareholder approval for a three-year extension of the company's poison-pill protection. Shareholders at the annual News Corp meeting in New York voted in favour of keeping the poison-pill shareholder rights plan, introduced two years ago to thwart John Malone's Liberty Media. Liberty, which owns 19 per cent of News Corp, is negotiating to swap its stake for some News Corp assets (*AFR*, 23 October 2006, p.11).

40.11 NON-UNION JOURNALISTS BARRED FROM ALP CONFERENCE

At least three senior journalists, including AAP's correspondent, were refused entry to the South Australian ALP conference in the Adelaide Festival Centre and were asked to leave the building. They were offered the opportunity to join the union on the spot, to gain access to the conference (AAP, 15 October 2006).

40.12 TEN TIMELY QUESTIONS FOR RUPERT MURDOCH

Time (16 October 2006, p.16) featured Rupert Murdoch in its interview section, "10 Questions for".

40.13 THE PINK PAPER

The *Sydney Morning Herald* was published on pink paper on Monday, 23 October, to mark Pink Ribbon Day during Breast Cancer Month. Ten cents from every *Herald* sold that day was to be donated to the National Breast Cancer Foundation. The total donation was expected to be about \$25,000.

40.14 NEWSPAPER MEDICO RETIRES

Popular medico, Dr Edwin Knight, has retired (age unspecified) after treating the aches, pains and sundry maladies of tens of thousands of newspaper people at Melbourne's HWT and *Age* offices. A former St Kilda GP, Dr Knight accepted a part-time post with HWT in 1972. Soon afterwards, he took up a similar position at The *Age* and acted as consultant to both

companies in tandem until 1996. He retired from HWT at the end of September after 34 years with the company. Dr Knight also acted as medical consultant to the Nissan car company for ten years. He was a senior specialist at the Alfred Hospital among other high level medical appointments and wrote extensively for newspapers and magazines. He appeared on the Good Morning Australia program on Channel 10 and wrote nine books (*InHouse*, HWT, October 2006).

40.15 A VISION FOR THE NATION'S FUTURE: 2026

The *Weekend Australian* and *Australian* published a 13-part magazine series, "2026: A Vision for the Nation's Future", from Saturday 21 October until Saturday, 4 November.

40.16 HARVEY AND McMANUS AND THAT COURT CASE

For reference: the article that led to the court case in the Victorian Supreme Court over whether journalists have a legal right to protect sources (see 39.17) appeared as follows: "Cabinet's \$500m rebuff revealed" by Michael Harvey and Gerard McManus, *Herald Sun*, 20 February 2004, p.3.

40.17 COL ALLAN AND NEW YORK GLORY

In the six months to September, the New York Post recorded a 5.1 per cent increase in circulation to 704,011 daily, while 22 of the top 25 papers in the US lost circulation – as did most of the 770 audited publications. In the editorial chair at the *Post* is Col Allan, a former long-serving editor of Sydney's *Daily Telegraph*. Overall, daily circulation of US newspapers slumped 2.8 per cent during the six months, and Sunday circulation fell 3.4 per cent. Rupert Murdoch bought the *Post* in 1976, was forced to sell in 1988 to comply with US cross-media ownership regulations and then obtained an exemption to repurchase in 1993 when its owners looked like shutting it. Allan attacks editors who feel that they have been "chosen", that their view of the news and their opinions are what the readers should have. "My approach is completely different. I try to listen to the readers and hear what they want from us. Then I work hard to give it to them." (*Australian*, Media section, 2 November 2006, p.17.)

40.18 ADVERTISER'S NEW BUILDING WINS ARCHITECTURAL AWARD

The architect who oversaw the design of Keith Murdoch House, the Adelaide *Advertiser's* state-of-the-art Waymouth Street home, has won a prestigious award for the building. On behalf of EGO Fender Katsalidis, Karl Fender accepted a Royal Australian Institute of Architects SA merit award, among 14 merit awards presented by the institute's SA chapter (*Advertiser*, 9 November 2006).

40.19 OVERINGTON WINS KEITH MURDOCH AWARD

Caroline Overington, a senior writer on the *Australian*, has won the second Sir Keith Murdoch Award for the News Limited journalist of the year. She was honoured for her investigation into the AWB Iraqi kickbacks scandal in the face of stinging criticism from the Federal Government and the disgraced wheat exporter. Other awards: see the *Weekend Australian*, 18-19 November 2006, p.2; and *Mediaweek*, 27 November 2006, p.6, but see espec. p.9 ("How Fairfax lost award-winner Overington").

40.20 AUDIT BUREAU APPOINTS INSPECTOR

The Audit Bureau of Circulations has appointed Gordon Dickie to the combined role of audit inspector and director of audit services. The appointment marks the final step in the implementation of the new ABC rules, which became effective on 3 July. The rules involve a

new audit-inspection role to strengthen the compliance regime and increase the transparency of the audit process (Audit Bureau of Circulations, media release, 9 October 2006).

40.21 NEW CIRCULATION RULES OPERATE IN THREE-MONTH AUDIT

No comparison data are available for the Audit Bureau of Circulations' first 13-week audit (to 30 September 2006) under the new rules introduced after the first comprehensive review of the ABC rules in 75 years. Here are the figures:

Metropolitan			
Monday to Friday		Saturday	
<i>Australian</i>	135,000	<i>Weekend Australian</i>	299,150
<i>Australian Financial Review</i>	86,310	<i>AFR Weekend Edition</i>	78,292
<i>Sydney Morning Herald</i>	211,990	<i>Sydney Morning Herald</i>	355,750
<i>Daily Telegraph, Sydney</i>	393,874	<i>Daily Telegraph</i>	335,452
<i>Age, Melbourne</i>	200,000	<i>Age</i>	295,500
<i>Herald Sun, Melbourne</i>	540,000	<i>Herald Sun</i>	505,000
<i>Courier-Mail, Brisbane</i>	224,690	<i>Courier-Mail</i>	326,767
<i>Advertiser, Adelaide</i>	190,824	<i>Advertiser</i>	262,730
<i>West Australian, Perth</i>	201,047	<i>West Australian</i>	362,277
<i>Mercury, Hobart</i>	46,140	<i>Mercury</i>	61,023
<i>Canberra Times</i>	35,715	<i>Canberra Times</i>	64,464
<i>Northern Territory News, Darwin</i>	21,255	<i>Northern Territory News</i>	32,570
TOTAL	2,286,845	TOTAL	2,978,975
Sunday			
<i>Sun-Herald</i>	507,245		
<i>Sunday Telegraph</i>	694,528		
<i>Sunday Age</i>	207,000		
<i>Sunday Herald Sun</i>	615,000		
<i>Sunday Mail (Qld)</i>	608,657		
<i>Sunday Mail (SA)</i>	321,529		
<i>Sunday Times (WA)</i>	348,500		
<i>Sunday Tasmanian</i>	59,858		
<i>Sunday Examiner (Tas.)</i>	42,585		
<i>Canberra Sunday Times</i>	36,398		
<i>Sunday Territorian (NT)</i>	22,989		
TOTAL	3,464,289		
Regional		Regional (cont.)	
<i>Border Mail, Albury-Wodonga</i>	25,749	<i>Gympie Times</i>	6,087
<i>Daily Examiner, Grafton</i>	5,754	<i>Queensland Times, Ipswich</i>	10,894
<i>Northern Star, Lismore</i>	15,490	<i>Daily Mercury, Mackay</i>	16,240
<i>Herald, Newcastle and Central Coast</i>	51,000	<i>Sunshine Coast Daily</i>	22,685
<i>Daily News, Tweed Heads</i>	4,794	<i>Fraser Coast Chronicle</i>	9,781
<i>Illawarra Mercury, Wollongong</i>	28,491	<i>North-West Star, Mount Isa</i>	3,601
<i>Geelong Advertiser</i>	28,925	<i>Morning Bulletin, Rockhampton</i>	18,474
<i>News-Mail, Bundaberg</i>	11,695	<i>Chronicle, Toowoomba</i>	23,628
<i>Cairns Post</i>	31,433	<i>Townsville Bulletin</i>	29,624
<i>Gladstone Observer</i>	7,466	<i>Daily News, Warwick</i>	3,248
<i>Gold Coast Bulletin</i>	47,861	<i>Advocate, Burnie</i>	24,032
		<i>Examiner, Launceston</i>	33,942

40.22 STUTCHBURY NO LONGER EDITOR OF AUSTRALIAN

Jack Beverley reports in the November-December issue of *PANPA Bulletin*: Michael Stutchbury has been replaced as editor of the *Australian*, after five-and-a-half years in the role. He has been appointed deputy to the editor-in-chief (business). The editorship is now being shared by Nick Cater, who has been deputy editor (weekend) and Paul Whittaker, previously deputy editor (news). The changes were announced in an e-mail sent to staff by editor-in-chief Chris Mitchell saying Stutchbury would oversee and develop the *Australian's* business content and strategy and lift the paper's online business credentials. Stutchbury joined the *Australian* in September 1998 as deputy editor (business), when he was given the task of improving the business section by the then editor-in-chief, David Armstrong. Previously, Stutchbury had spent 15 years at the *Australian Financial Review*, where he had been a deputy editor. He was the main editorial writer of Fairfax's business daily, responsible for the opinion page. Before that he had been Washington correspondent and economics editor. The only indication of the major change in editorial direction given to readers of the *Australian* was made through its Page 2 panel box, listing the editorial hierarchy. That listing, formerly headed by Mitchell and Stutchbury, and deputy editor Graham Erbacher, executive editor Deborah Jones and managing editor Martin Beesley in the third, fourth and fifth spots, has been trimmed back from 12 to nine names. In the shorter listing, immediately after Mitchell, now follow the names of Deborah Jones, Nick Cater and Paul Whittaker. Stutchbury's name appears in the number seven spot. Names which have disappeared from the list include those of the managing editor, Martin Beesley and the deputy editor (business), Matthew Stevens. See also *Mediaweek*, 4 December 2006, p.5.

40.23 WALKLEY AWARDS

The print winners at the Walkley Awards on 30 November were:

Australian Press Photographer of Year: Kate Geraghty (*SMH*); journalism leadership: Michelle Grattan (*Age*); most outstanding contribution to journalism: Colleen Egan (*Sunday Times*, Perth); print news report: Michael Beach and Viva Goldner (*Daily Telegraph*); investigative journalism: Caroline Overington (*Australian*); business journalism: Morgan Mellish (*AFR*); news photography: Craig Greenhill (*Daily Telegraph*); social equity journalism: Steve Pennells (*West Australian*); best use of the medium: Matthew Absalom-Wong, Darren Connell, Paul McGeough and Kimberley Porteous (*SMH*); daily life photograph: Angela Wylie (*Age* and *SMH*); three headings: Warwick McFadyen (*Age*); coverage of indigenous affairs: Nicolas Rothwell and Ashleigh Wilson (*Australian*); sport feature journalism: Ben Cheshire, Jessica Daly and Kristine Taylor (*Australian*); sports photography: Phil Hillyard (News Limited); coverage of suburban or regional affairs: Anthony Radford (*Bendigo Weekly*); artwork: Karl Hilzinger (*AFR*); newspaper feature writing: Jack Marx (Fairfax); cartoon: Alan Moir (*SMH*); commentary, analysis, opinion and critique: Paul McGeough (*SMH*); best non-fiction book: Neil Chenoweth (*AFR*), with *Packer's Lunch* (Allen & Unwin).

Glenn Milne (News Limited) stole the show when he pushed Stephen Mayne (founder of *crikey.com.au*) off the Walkleys stage and called him a "disgrace" to journalism (see *Australian*, 1 December 2006, "Strewth" column, p.11).

40.24 BILINGUAL MAGAZINE

The *Northside Courier* (Sydney) reports (6 December 2006, p.15): Wollstonecraft resident Mani Veiszadeh has just launched Australia's first bilingual magazine. Written in English and Farsi, *Oziran* is directed at the Iranian community in Sydney, including the large Australian-Iranian population in Willoughby and Chatswood. ANHG member **Bob Petersen** (of Lane

Cove) writes: “This guy’s claim cannot be sustained! I recall at least one Italian bilingual magazine in the 1960s and at least two Greek ones in the 1980s. They did not last, appealing neither to the young immigrants nor the old ones.” **Rod Kirkpatrick** writes: There were also bilingual German-English publications in Australia’s early history of print publications and there was a Chinese-English publication at Ballarat.

40.25 EXAMINER HELPS OUT MERCURY

A major press breakdown delayed publication of Tasmania’s *Mercury* newspaper in the early hours of 30 October 2006. Deliveries to newsagents were up to four hours late after a main drive shaft on the ageing Goss press snapped at about 1am. Most of the first edition (for country areas, such as Launceston) had been printed but the bulk of the print run (for Hobart, etc.) was transferred to the *Examiner* in Launceston. *Mercury* managing director Rex Gardner paid a public tribute to the northern newspaper in the *Mercury* on 31 October: “The *Examiner* press crew were magnificent in our hour of need and we thank them very much for their efforts. We also apologise to our many readers who were inconvenienced.”

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: COMMUNITY & PROVINCIAL

40.26 TONY O’REILLY, APN AND THE HAND OF PROVIDENCE

Tony O’Reilly’s Independent News & Media (INM) has put forward a proposal to buy out minorities in APN News & Media Ltd, the country’s third-biggest media player, reports Andrew White (*Australian*, 26 October 2006, p.19). INM has teamed up with a private equity firm to bid for the outstanding shares in APN in a deal worth \$3.8 billion. It is understood INM presented directors with a bid of about \$6 a share, a sharp premium to the \$5.49-a-share closing price on 25 October. Independent already controls 41 per cent of APN but does not have access to the cash flows of the business, which spans regional publications, metropolitan radio stations and outdoor advertising in Australia and New Zealand. A successful bid would allow Independent to consolidate APN and deal Tony O’Reilly into the media consolidation game sparked by the removal of restrictions on cross-media and foreign ownership.

APN shares jumped 10 per cent to \$6.05 on 26 October when INM confirmed that it was holding talks with private equity firm, Providence Equity Partners (*Australian*, 27 October 2006, p.23).

Providence Equity Partners has walked away from an Australian media deal for the second time, this time ending talks for a \$3.8 billion takeover of APN News & Media Ltd. In October, Providence pulled out of the bidding for a half-share of James Packer’s Publishing & Broadcasting Ltd (*Weekend Australian*, 25-26 November 2006, p.35).

40.27 EDITORS

The *Queensland Times*, Ipswich, has advertised (*Weekend Australian*, 7-8, 14-15 and 21-22 October 2006) for an editor after losing Daniel Sankey to Fairfax Media (Peter Owen, APN, email to Rod Kirkpatrick, 9 October 2006). *Mediaweek* (6 November 2006, p.2) reports that Sankey is working in Fairfax’s Brisbane office on a secret project. It speculates that the company may launch a suburban paper in the Brisbane market, and not a daily. Also see *Mediaweek*, 16 October 2006, pp.7-8 for the *QT*’s battle against the compact *Courier-Mail*.

The *Northern Daily Leader*, Tamworth, has appointed David Ellery, of the *Courier*, Ballarat, as its new editor. Both are Rural Press newspapers. Ellery begins duties in Tamworth on 11 December.

Shane Rodgers, editor-in-chief of Quest Community Newspapers, Brisbane, has been appointed deputy general manager of the News Ltd subsidiary. Scott Thompson, editor of the *Cairns Post*, has been appointed the new Quest editor-in-chief. Mark Alexander, chief of staff of the *Sunday Mail*, Brisbane, has been appointed the new editor of the *Cairns Post* (*Mediaweek*, 4 December 2006, p.5).

40.28 RURAL PRESS BUYS MOUNT ISA PAPER

Rural Press Ltd has bought the *North-West Star*, Mount Isa. John B. Fairfax announced the purchase when addressing the RPL annual meeting on 20 October. A journalist at the *North-West Star* informed your editor on 16 October that “today all the staff were told the paper had been sold to Rural Press after 40 years of Joel family ownership” (Rural Press Limited Chairman’s Address, 20 October 2006; Jenny O’Reilly, email to Rod Kirkpatrick, 16 Oct. 2006).

40.29 BARRIER MINER NOW ONLINE

From Tamworth, **Barry Blair** writes: The free weekly Broken Hill newspaper published on Fridays, the *Barrier Miner*, is now available online on Thursdays by visiting www.barrierminer.com.au The first edition of the *Barrier Miner* was published on 16 December 2005.

40.30 RURAL PRESS UPGRADES ITS ONLINE PRESENCE

Barry Blair at Tamworth writes that Rural Press Ltd have modernised their provincial online websites with a number of welcome changes on Monday 23 October 2006. Changes include reintroduced mastheads, replacing the hitherto bland sans-serif titles; a direct link to their metropolitan/national title The Canberra Times; and thumbs associated with headline teasers along with a front page thumb. Other changes include a link to recent editorials, and breaking news provided by Rural Press Interactive.

40.31 GOLD COAST BULLETIN MEANS BUSINESS ON FRIDAYS

“Business Friday” began appearing on the back page of the *Gold Coast Bulletin* from 13 October 2006.

40.32 WEBSTER FOR CUMBERLAND

John Webster has left the Herald & Weekly Times Ltd, where he worked for 28 years, to become general manager of Cumberland Newspapers, Sydney. After holding senior editorial positions at the *Herald* and the *Sun*, Webster became editorial business manager and, for the past five years, general manager (*InHouse*, HWT, October 2006).

40.33 SUNSHINE COAST PAPERS CHANGE HANDS

The APN-owned Sunshine Coast Newspaper Company (publisher of the *Sunshine Coast Daily*) has bought the 10-year-old *Buderim Chronicle*, a weekly owned by Ken O’Flaherty, and the *Island and Mainland News*, a Bribie Island weekly owned by Bob Bottom (*Mediaweek*, 6 November 2006, p.2; and Rod Kirkpatrick’s notes).

News Limited has bought the *Noosa Journal* (established 1999) from Noosa local Lindsay Bock. Bock had previously owned another Noosa newspaper, the *Noosa Citizen*, which he sold to Rural Press Ltd before launching the *Journal*. Bock says he set out to publish Australia’s best regional newspaper “and I reckon we’re up there”. The *Journal* will be run by

the Brisbane-based Quest Community Newspapers arm of News Ltd (*Noosa News*, 29 September 2006; *Mediaweek*, 9 October 2006, p.9).

40.34 COOMA POSTSCRIPT

Kay Hynes, of the State Library of NSW, writes: The first issue of the *Monaro Post* (see ANHG 39.43) was published on 13 September 2006. It's a weekly that circulates around Cooma. Contact details: Gail Eastaway 0408 930 180.

40.35 QUEENSLAND COUNTRY LIFE GOES ON THE ATTACK

Queensland Country Life has become more aggressive in its reporting and is much readier to be an advocate for its readers, according to editor Mark Phelps. *QCL*, which began publishing in 1935 and is owned by Rural Press Ltd, has an audited circulation of 35,661. The Quadrant agricultural readership survey found the paper reaches 90 per cent of Queensland's broadacre farm owners/managers (*Mediaweek*, 6 November 2006, p.6, and 13 November, p.4).

40.36 HOW THIS PAPER SELLS

Barney Nichols, proprietor, publisher, editor, crossword compiler and sole staff member of the *Signal*, Lord Howe Island, sells his paper for \$3 a copy. The circulation of 230 represents 40 per cent of the island's population. For a Sydney or Melbourne daily, as David Salter notes, this percentage would equate to sales of 1.6 million. The paper has experienced nearly 50 year of "intermittent publication". The *Signal's* one-room office and printing plant is a dilapidated paint shed abandoned by the Department of Civil Aviation when Ansett closed the flying-boat service between Sydney and Lord Howe in the early 1970s (*Australian*, Media section, 9 November 2006, p.19).

40.37 COOGEE'S NEW PAPER

Kay Hynes, of the State Library of New South Wales, writes: Another title has been launched within the *Spectator* which now makes it a "4-in-1" newspaper (a cataloguer's and acquisitions nightmare, etc.). This paper has within it four mastheads and it is circulated in the area the masthead depicts. The new title is *Coogee chronicle Maroubra messenger* (Vol. 1, no. 1 Nov. 10, 2006) it is a free paper. The website which is not really up to date is www.thespectator.com.au.

40.38 BACCHUS MARSH'S NEW PAPER

The *Bacchus Marsh News* is a new free weekly paper, home delivered to 8700 addresses in the Victorian townships each Tuesday. The paper, edited by Helen Tatchell, is published by the *Ballan News*. Competitors are the *Express-Telegraph* (Fairfax) and the *Moorabool Leader* (*Melbourne Observer*, 29 November 2006).

40.39 HOW TO BE 'COOL' AT WARRNAMBOOL

Warrnambool's *Standard* has announced (17 November 2006) that it is introducing a new way for readers to have their say about local issues. TXT Talk will allow readers to comment on any issue or topic they desire. The messages will be published in TXT style but the *Standard* asks that they be submitted in a form that will be readily accessible to all readers. Content of the messages will be subject to usual editorial scrutiny and must be short. Sender must include name and address for publication. The SMS number is 0427 842 029.

40.40 HOW TO BE 'COOL' AT BROKEN HILL

Colour comes to the *Barrier Daily Truth* (33 employees) at Broken Hill, and the editor noted it thus on 14 November 2006: "It's just the first step, and a fairly tentative one at that, but this colour front page marks a big day for *Barrier Daily Truth*, and for the city itself. It took longer than expected and exposed a myriad of hurdles along the way, but that hasn't dulled the excitement of bringing colour printing on this scale to the city for the first time. Readers can look forward to more colour over more pages this week as the capacity of our new Goss four-high press is extended, the first stage of a transformation that will be on-going. It's a particularly exciting time for our printing staff, who have been placed at the "coalface" of the new technology. Graphic designers have been wrestling with the latest computer programs and our three press operators have perhaps had the greatest transformation to implement. The Goss Community press has virtually had its capacity doubled with the addition of towering new machinery that literally raised the roof on *BDT*."

NEWSPAPER HISTORY

40.41 ONLINE PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE FOR KIAMA

The Cocks Photographic Collection Online, a valuable photographic archive of the Kiama and surrounding Illawarra region, was launched at the University of Wollongong on 10 November. Samuel Cocks operated a commercial photographic studio in Manning Street, Kiama, from the late 1800s to the 1920s. His photographs were used in numerous tourist publications and postcards, as well as in subsequent local history books, and depict the physical landscape, architecture and people of Kiama and the surrounding Illawarra region of the time. University of Wollongong Archivist, Susan Jones, said the scenic photographs in particular help to illustrate many of the changes that have occurred in the region's physical landscape since the early 1900s, as well as highlighting features that remain relatively unchanged. The Cocks Collection, which has been on long term loan to the University Archives from the Weston family of Kiama (the founders and long-time owners of the *Kiama Independent*), consists of over 800 glass plate negatives, and complements historic local photographs held in other libraries. Many of these fragile plates remain in good condition while others unfortunately show varying degrees of deterioration. Jones said that a project by the University Library to digitise a large part of the collection was nearing completion. In collaboration with the Wollongong City Library, over 400 of the images are now available for viewing via the Illawarra Images website, making this invaluable local history resource far more accessible to students and researchers in the University and the wider community. Ms Jones said that the project would not have been possible without the support of the Weston family, the IMB Community Foundation, Michael Cole, Pillar Administration, the University of Wollongong and the Wollongong City Library (*Illawarra Mercury*, 9 and 11 November 2006).

40.42 REWRITING HISTORY

Rod Kirkpatrick writes: John Hay-McKenzie's obituary in the *Age* (13 October 2006, p.13) for Judith Johnson, publicist, carried the following: "... in 1964 ... she became personal assistant at the *Canberra Times* just as Rupert Murdoch took it over." Murdoch, of course, has not owned the *Canberra Times*. Fairfax bought the paper in 1964 from the founding family, the Shakespeares, to help combat Murdoch's impending launch in Canberra of the *Australian*. It has since been owned by Kerry Packer, Kerry Stokes and Rural Press Ltd. The *Age* has "ensured that a notation is made in our library files of the obituary that the mention is incorrect so that anyone using the obituary as a guide/reference to the Murdoch empire is not misled". That is, anyone going to the *Age* library. This does not, of course, prevent the

misleading of those members of the public who might have been assisted by a published correction.

40.43 MURRAY VALLEY FLOODS RECALLED

The *Murray Valley Standard*, Murray Bridge, South Australia, has published a 40-page historical feature on the floods that hit the Murraylands in 1956. Harold McLaren researched and wrote most of the articles. McLaren, a Murray Bridge resident, is the expert on the history of the newspapers in Murray Bridge and district and is a long-time member of the ANHG.

The *Standard* also published a 20-page booklet, "Another step forward", to mark the opening of Rural Press Ltd's new Murray Bridge print centre on a Greenfield site. The new computer-to-plate press, which can run at speeds of up to 35,000 copies per hour and produce 48 pages in full colour, replaces a 30-year-old press that was at the forefront of technology when installed.

40.44 CENTURY AND A HALF OF PRINTING ON THE BORDER

The *Border Mail*, Albury-Wodonga, published a four-page supplement on 4 October 2006 to mark 150 years of printing in the district. George Henry Mott launched the first Albury newspaper on 4 October 1856.

40.45 TRYING TO KEEP THE PRESSES ROLLING

The Village Printery at the Caboolture Historical Museum, just north of Brisbane, has publicised its need for a retired Linotype/Intertype mechanic prepared to volunteer his services a few times a year to service the typesetting machines in the printery. Contact Bob Read on (07) 3888 4998 or at happy_wanderers@bigpond.com (Senior, NSW/ACT, November 2006, p.45).

40.46 SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXTS FOR JOURNALISTS

University of Newcastle PhD student Janet Fulton is conducting research into the social and cultural contexts in which journalists operate to produce their output. She is looking for print journalists to participate in interviews, either face to face, by telephone or by email. Interested journalists can email Fulton's supervisor for an information sheet: phillip.mcintyre@newcastle.edu.au

40.47 NAMBOUR CHRONICLE DIGITISED

Peter Richardson, editor of the *Nambour Chronicle*, 1957-1980, has long been a columnist in the *Sunshine Coast Daily*. On 2 December 2006, p.36, he reports that the files of the *Nambour Chronicle* have been digitised from 1903 (when the paper began) until 1955. He writes: "When I came to Nambour, the paper was owned by the McFadden brothers, Cecil, Victor and Bert, whose father, a Gympie printer, had briefly joined its founder, Luke Wilkinson, in 1905. Although Wilkinson's motives for setting up the *Chronicle* were widely thought to be largely political (his father was then the federal member for Moreton) he stoutly denied this in the first edition: "The *Chronicle* is not being started as the mouthpiece for any party, but as a purely business venture from which the proprietor hopes mutual benefit may accrue to those he caters for and himself." The digitization project cost about \$25,000 was part of a program run by Maroochy and Caloundra councils and the State Library of Queensland (*Mediaweek*, 4 December 2006, p.2).

Rod Kirkpatrick's *Sworn to No Master*, says (pp.297-298): The McFadden family held interests in the *Chronicle* from 1905-1964 when the Dunn family bought it. Cecil McFadden

edited the paper for 34 years; Victor managed it for 41 years; and Bert was, at times, editor, advertising manager, Linotype operator, chief cook and bottle washer for nigh on 50 years. The *Chronicle* was the springboard for the launch by PNQ of the *Sunshine Coast Daily*.

40.48 AUSTRALIAN MEDIA TRADITIONS CONFERENCE 2007

Margaret Van Heekeren, of Charles Sturt University, Bathurst writes: The Australian Media Traditions 2007 conference will be held over two days at Charles Sturt University in Bathurst on 22 and 23 November 2007. The theme of the conference is "Distance and Diversity: reaching New Audiences". The concept being explored is that in recent times the term New Audiences has been equated with digital delivery. But the media has historically been searching for and acquiring New Audiences, from the first text off the Gutenberg Press to the introduction of wireless and later television. The conference theme explores the notion of the New Audience as an historical continuum and the role of the media and communicators in overcoming geographical distance and diversity of populations to reach new readers, listeners and viewers. Papers submitted to the refereed stream will be double blind peer reviewed and published in an online conference publication in 2007 in accordance with DEST requirements. A website containing details of submission dates and accommodation etc will be up in January.

40.49 THE SEVEN ANHG BOOKS

The Australian Newspaper History Group has published seven books. In chronological order they are:

Isaacs, Victor, and Kirkpatrick, Rod (2003), *Two Hundred Years of Sydney Newspapers: A Short History*. Sydney: with assistance of Rural Press Limited.

Isaacs, Victor, and Kirkpatrick, Rod, eds. (2003), *The Australian Press: A Bicentennial Retrospect*. Brisbane: Australian Newspaper History Group. ISBN 0-9751552-0-2.

Isaacs, Victor, Kirkpatrick, Rod, and Russell, John (2004), *Australian Newspaper History: A Bibliography*. Brisbane. ISBN 0-9751552-1-0.

Gillen, Karen, comp., and Kirkpatrick, Rod, ed. (2004), *The ANHG Index: Australian Newspaper History Group Newsletter Numbers 1 to 25 (1999-2003)*. Brisbane. ISBN 0-9751552-2-9.

Russell, John C., transcr. (2005), *Bibliographical Notes for Henry Mayer's The Press in Australia*. Brisbane: Australian Newspaper History Group. ISBN 0-9751552-3-7.

Russell, John C., comp. (2005), *Early Printers of Melbourne: An Index*. Brisbane: Australian Newspaper History Group. ISBN 0-9751552-4-5.

Kirkpatrick, Rod, comp. (2006), *Press Timeline: Select chronology of significant Australian press events 1802-2005*. Brisbane: Australian Newspaper History Group. ISBN 0-9803128-0-9.

40.50 OLD NEWS TODAY

Chris Wild, of Wodonga, and Denise McMahon, of Brisbane, have combined efforts and produced a small book, *Old News Today, Tales of the Upper Murray*. It is aimed at family researchers, historical or family groups, local historians and readers of general history books of the north-east area of Victoria, Australia. The book contains newspaper snippets (samples below) from random years of 1876-1900, with news, gossip, business and family matters in areas such as Tallangatta Valley, Mitta, Eskdale, Upper Murray, Khancoban, Tumbarumba, etc. as reported in the *Ovens & Murray Advertiser* and the *Corryong Courier* during those 25 years. This softcover book (144 pages) is indexed with more than 950 surnames. It retails at AUS \$22 (plus ppb). Contact the authors by e-mail (denisem@powerup.com.au or wildmob@dodo.com.au). Only a limited number still available (*RootsWeb Review*, 18 October 2006, Vol. 9, No. 42).

2 January 1886: Wild Boar Zulu Creek Dec 21. Tributers cleaned up on Saturday last a crushing of 29 tons taken out of a winze sunk in the upper tunnel for 94oz 16dct smelted gold. Mining reports for 27th December 1885, showed Prince Neopold Zulu, have crushed 50 tons this week, 87oz of amalgam from the plates only. (O&MA)

10 January 1895: Ada Hocking was charged in Tallangatta Police court with abandonment of her infant child. Mary Matthews of Bullwah found the child on the verandah of her home as the accused was walking down the road. Willie Matthews saw Ada leave the child on the verandah. John Shelley who lived at Mrs. Matthews had also seen the child on the verandah. The Bench did not consider that the charge of abandonment was proved and dismissed the case but warned Ada not to indulge in a repetition of her conduct. (O&MA)

30 January 1896: The Department of Education was not prepared to establish a school at Mount Elliott, but was prepared to pay a conveyance allowance. The allowance was for school children between the ages of 6 and 13 years who had not obtained their certificate, three miles or over, of 4d for each day's attendance of each child. (CC)

1 February 1881: A post office opened at Thougla Creek near Corryong. (OMA). Mail contracts to and from Corryong and Thougla twice a week were granted to William Carkeek from 20th January to 30th June 1881 at the rate of £30 per annum. (O&MA)

1900: Mr. C. T. Davis, of Corryong and Mr. D. Garing of Mount Elliott submitted their names as volunteers for the "Bushmen's Corps." They both succeeded in passing the examination and left for camp at Langwarrin. (CC)

RECENTLY PUBLISHED

40.51 BOOKS

Australian Press Council: State of the News Print Media in Australia, Sydney: Australian Press Council, October 2006. A 103 A4 page report with contributors from academe, industry and the Australian Press Council.

Lack, John, "David Syme and the three stooges? The bust premiers: James Munro, William Shiels and JB Patterson" in Strangio, Paul and Costar, Brian (editors), *The Victorian Premiers 1856-2006*, Federation Press, 2006. John Lack argues (espec. pp.95-96) that the conventional view of David Syme of the *Age* as the king-maker of Victorian politics in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries is exaggerated.

40.52 ARTICLES

Fordham, Helen, "Our man in China", *West Australian*, Weekend Extra, 28 October 2006, p.14. China is expected to become WA's biggest trading partner next year. More than 40 years ago a group of West Australians forecast that China would become a dominant force in the world economy. The author examines one of the group's members, the journalist Colin Malcolm McDonald, whose writings helped shape the Western world's view of South-East Asia.

Gripper, Ali, "Robert Thomson: Newspaper Editor", *Country Style*, May 2006, pp.80-83. The first Australian editor of the *Times*, London, is featured in the "Country Childhood" section of *Country Style*.

Higgins, David, et al: Series of articles in section labelled "The Media Revolution", *Walkley Magazine*, October-November 2006.

- **Higgins, David**, “Netting the news”, p.9. Forget the doom and gloom, news websites might bring about better, more innovative journalism.
- **Kennedy, Alan**, “Paper tigers”, pp.10-11. A survival strategy for newspapers in the digital age is discussed.
- **Simons, Margaret**, “Marked with a brand”, pp.12-14. With frustrated advertisers now commissioning their own programs, magazines and blogs to influence cynical audiences, will editorial independence survive?
- **Beecher, Eric**, “The media gods must be crazy”, p.15. The author presents “10 sane reasons for not changing the cross-media rules”.

Jewel Brown, Jen, “Subbing the daily news”, *Mediaweek*, 4 December 2006, p.9. Demanding sub-editing roles at daily newspapers are often shared, *Mediaweek* finds when it talks to two major metro subs, Ken Burrowes, assistant night editor of the *Herald Sun*, Melbourne, and Jane Richards, co-chief sub-editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

Kirkpatrick, Rod, “Dynasties end with a whimper, not a bang”, *PANPA Bulletin*, September 2006, pp.43-44. The final part of a three-part article on the birth and death of PNQ – Provincial Newspapers (Qld.) Ltd., established on 1 April 1968 by the combining of the interests of six Queensland newspaper families.

Kirkpatrick, Rod, ‘Famous five of Gippsland’, *PANPA Bulletin*, October 2006, pp.43-44. A potted history of the newspapers of Warragul and district, Victoria.

Kuise, Peter, “Good prospects for print”, *Australian Printer*, October 2006, pp.18-19. Where are the print media heading in the 21st century? Will the media revolution put paid to the printed word or will print continue to exist successfully?

Nugent, Ann, “The Birds’ Nest Magazine”, *National Library of Australia News*, November 2006, pp.3-6. An insight into a charming 19th century publication.

Overington, Caroline, “The Forum: On mother’s helpers”, *Weekend Australian*, Weekend Review liftout, 28-29 October 2006, p.2. A senior journalist on the *Australian* writes of the difficulties of trying to be a foreign correspondent and to research and write a book while she has twin toddlers.

Pearson, Mark, “Reporters without borders”, *PANPA Bulletin*, September 2006, p.25. Freedom of the press is something Australia takes for granted but not so the rest of the world.

Robinson, Wayne, “Newspapers in state of flux”, *Australian Printer*, December 2006, pp.32-34. Newspapers are currently the printing industry’s hotspot, with takeovers, mergers and buyouts in the air, the internet to deal with and new technologies to consider.

Shoebridge, Neil, “Death-denying PR presses papers’ case”, *AFR*, 20 November 2006, p.49. Interview with Tony Hale of The Newspaper Works organisation.

Stephens, Tony, “The killing time”, *Age*, 30 October 2006, p.11. A young nation’s ultimate sacrifice on the Western Front brought author and journalist Les Carlyon back to a different theatre of war. A feature article on the latest book by Carlyon, the former editor of the *Age*. It is a sequel to his highly acclaimed *Gallipoli*.

Thomas, George, “Why news is still the same old story”, *Australian*, 19 October 2006, p.12. The author argues that the media should re-evaluate the principles of newsworthiness.

Van Niekerk, Mike, "Break news gets caught in web", *PANPA Bulletin*, October 2006, p.18
Journalists are now generating their own leads and getting the news to audiences as soon as its happens, thanks to the interactive news desk.

Waterford, Jack, "Fairness exposes naked truth", *Canberra Times*, 18 October 2006. The editor at large discusses issues surrounding a perception of the *Canberra Times* as "the ABC in print".

Amended version of entry in 39.56

Noone, Val, "Proofreaders at the Age", *Recorder*, Newsletter of the Melbourne Branch of the Australian Society for the Study of Labour History, No. 251, August 2006, pp.1-3. An interesting article about a usually overlooked area of newspaper production. A longer version of the article is to appear in *Labour History* journal.

Press Timeline:

New ANHG book for sale

The latest book published by the Australian Newspaper History Group recently went on sale and is selling fast. There is only a limited print run.

The book is: ***Press Timeline: Select Chronology of Significant Australian Press Events, 1802-2005***. ISBN 0-9803128-0-9. 41 pp.

Cost including postage and packing is \$14 (or \$25 for two copies).
Make cheques payable to R. Kirkpatrick (ANHG) and send to:
Rod Kirkpatrick, 13 Sumac Street, Middle Park, Qld, 4074.

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