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43.1 COPY DEADLINE AND WEBSITE ADDRESS

Deadline for the next *Newsletter*: 15 September 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://espace.uq.edu.au/>

43.2 ANHG NEWSLETTER This issue was edited by Victor Isaacs with assistance from Larry Noye and major assistance from Barry Blair. Effective now, editing of the *ANHG Newsletter* returns to Rod Kirkpatrick, re-invigorated by his overseas trip. Please send your contributions to him at rodthejourno@hotmail.com or PO Box 675 Mount Ommaney Qld 4074. Thanks!

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: METROPOLITAN

43.3 MURDOCH SETS CARBON-NEUTRAL DEADLINE

On 9 May 2007 News Corporation chairman, Rupert Murdoch, announced a strategy to make all the company's operations carbon neutral by 2010 and foreshadowed plans to "weave" green messages into the company's film, print and online content. The company was found to leave a carbon footprint of 641,150 tons per annum. He said News would reduce energy use as much as possible, then switch to renewable sources of power.

News Corp's third-quarter results showed increased contributions from its Australian newspapers, offsetting lower earning from British titles.

43.4 FAIRFAX (1): MURDOCH SELLS STAKE

News Corporation has sold its 7.5% stake in Fairfax Media. Rupert Murdoch stated that the share was acquired as a defensive move when the future of Fairfax was uncertain and that following the Fairfax/Rural Press merger it was no longer necessary for News to retain it. The sale netted News a tidy profit.

Staff members at the *Good Weekend* (which appears in the *Age* and *SMH* on Saturdays) are reportedly unhappy that a commissioned story on Wendi Deng, Rupert Murdoch's wife, was spiked. The story was later published in the *Monthly*, June (see item 43.41 [Ellis article]).

43.5 FAIRFAX (2): MERGER

The merger of Rural Press into Fairfax was consummated on 8 May. (Although legally this was a takeover by Fairfax, in practical terms it was more like a merger). On that date, John B. Fairfax and his son Nicholas Fairfax, formerly of Rural Press, joined the board of Fairfax Media – the family coming home to its old company. John B. Fairfax has now also become the largest shareholder in Fairfax Media after acquiring 216 million shares – 14.6 per cent, the maximum allowed under the terms of the takeover. On 13 May Fairfax Chief

Executive David Kirk told Sky News that synergies from the merger may be worth more than the previously estimated \$35 million, but “it was too early in the integration process to give any sort of updated forecast or budget”.

New appointments were announced on 22 June. Don Churchill, formerly managing director of Fairfax Media in Victoria has been appointed chief executive and publisher Victorian metropolitan and community publishing. James Hooke, Churchill’s NSW counterpart has left Fairfax and is replaced by Lloyd Whish-Wilson as chief executive and publisher NSW and ACT metropolitan publishing. Whish-Wilson had been with Rural Press until August 2006. Grant Cochrane become chief executive, Australasian agricultural publishing, Allan Browne chief executive of regional publishing, southern and western, and Bob Lockley, chief executive, web printing.

Robert Savage, chairman of investment manager Perpetual, a 7.5% shareholder in Fairfax – was appointed a director on 26 June. Allen Williams, formerly head of US agricultural publications at Rural Press, was appointed CEO and publisher of Fairfax community newspapers in NSW and Hunter and Illawarra regional newspapers on 29 June. Bob Mackie, also formerly of Rural Press, took a similar position for other Fairfax NSW regional newspapers. Lisa Hudson was promoted from Fairfax magazines publisher to magazines CEO and publisher.

43.6 FAIRFAX (3): RETURN TO RADIO

It was reported on 3 July that Fairfax Media and Macquarie Media (owned by Macquarie Bank) are to make a joint bid for Southern Cross Broadcasting. This is now possible because of the recent relaxation by the Federal Government of cross-media ownership laws. It is expected that Macquarie will take SX’s television and regional radio interests and Fairfax will take over the major Sydney (2UE) and Melbourne (3AW) talk/news radio stations as well as Brisbane 4BC, Perth 6PR and a television production company. The demographics of 2UE and 3AW are seen as similar to those of the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Age*, providing synergies in advertising revenue and promotion. If the takeover succeeds Fairfax will return to radio for the first time since it was forced to sell many of its assets in 1990 after the failed privatisation attempt by Warwick Fairfax.

43.7 FAIRFAX (4): JOURNALISTS STRIKE

In early May, Fairfax Media announced plans to make 35 staff redundant by merging the production of content of the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Sun-Herald*. In response, Sydney Fairfax journalists struck on 9 May. Papers appeared as normal next day, although perhaps a bit abbreviated.

43.8 DAILY TELEGRAPH AND THE LAW

On 5 May the *Daily Telegraph* in a front page article published the names of 84 referees supporting Dr Patrick Power, former NSW senior prosecutor, following his conviction for possession of child sexual images. The NSW Bar Association subsequently brought charges against News alleging contempt of proceedings. On 7 July the *Daily Telegraph* published a full apology to the referees.

43.9 NEWCASTLE HERALD AND THE FLOODS

The Newcastle *Herald* played a major role in reporting the major Queen’s Birthday Weekend storms and consequent floods in the Hunter Valley and NSW Central Coast. For example on 13 June, a few days after the worst was over, the first 16 pages of the 88-page *Herald* were devoted to flood news and related items. On 14 June it included “Storm Front”, a 12 page pictorial review.



43.10 FREE SPEECH (1): THE MEDIA

Fairfax, Media, News Ltd, FreeTV, ABC and SBS launched a coalition named Australia's Right to Know on 10 May to fund a national study outlining current restrictions on expression. This will be used as a basis for a public campaign lobbying government and opposition political parties and the judiciary. The major media organisations believe that some restrictions interfere with journalists' abilities to report issues and events accurately. According to Reporters without Borders press freedom index Australia is equal 35th on the list behind countries such as Bosnia, Lithuania and Ghana. Equal first are Finland, Iceland, Ireland and the Netherlands.

Kevin, Rudd, Federal Leader of the Opposition, said on 16 May that federal restrictions on Freedom of Information laws had gone too far and protection for public service whistleblowers needed boosting (*Australian*, "Labor backs media in secrecy war", p.1, 17 May).

Irene Moss, former NSW Anti-corruption Commissioner, was appointed Chairman of the coalition on 24 May and will investigate the erosion of free speech in Australia (*Australian, Media section, Daily Telegraph* 24 May).

On 24 May Federal Attorney-General, Phillip Ruddock introduced into Parliament the *Evidence Amendment (Journalists' Privilege) Bill*. This proposes a privilege protecting confidential communications between journalists and their sources. The privilege will not be absolute. In deciding whether to exclude evidence, a court will take into account:

- the nature of the proceedings
- the importance of the evidence
- the likely harm to the journalist's source
- other means of obtaining the evidence, and
- the means available to limit the impact of disclosure.

Privilege will not apply when the communications involve misconduct such as furtherance of fraud or another offence. Ruddock said the legislation "will assist the courts to balance the interests of justice in needing to make evidence available with the public interest in ensuring a free press..."

On 25 June *Herald Sun* journalists Gerard McManus and Michael Harvey were convicted and fined \$7000 for contempt of court for refusing to name a source during pre-trial hearing of a public servant accused of leaking. County Court Chief Judge Rozenes, however, also criticised the Commonwealth government for prosecuting the journalists while professing support for the protection of journalists' sources. The Federal Attorney-General, Philip Ruddock, urged the Victorian Government to pardon the pair. Premier Bracks described this as hypocritical as Ruddock had supported the prosecution, but said he would consider it.

On 14 June, in the case of *Coco Rocco v. Fairfax*, the High Court held that restaurant reviews can be defamatory.

On 5 July *Daily Telegraph* reporter Justin Vallejo and photographer Toby Zerna were charged with trespass in relation to their article last month about lax security at airports.

(*House of Representatives Hansard*, 24 May, *Australian*, 25 May, *Age*, 25 May, *Australian*, 27 June, *Australian, Media section*, 28 June; see also item 43.41 [Hernan, Murdoch and Stewart articles]).

43.11 FREE SPEECH (2): THE WEST AUSTRALIAN

WA's Attorney-General, Jim McGinty, has refused to introduce laws to protect journalists sources and linked this to the attitude of the state's only significant daily newspaper, the *West Australian*. McGinty said the *West* was the nation's most dishonest newspaper and until it lifted its standards it did not deserve shield laws. He said, "The board of West Australian

Newspapers need to sack the editor. It is personally driven by a particular individual. I think it is in the interests of a healthy democracy that we have competition. The public would then have a choice not to buy a crap newspaper. With the shield goes responsibilities. And when you get a newspaper that is bigoted, lies, cheats and deceives, my view is you don't get a shield." He said that standards were so low that if a competitor emerged the state government would consider redirecting its advertising.

The editor, Paul Armstrong, said he "could not give a fat rat's arse" about what McGinty said. "Do I care? Not in the slightest. If he hates us it tells me we are doing our job and doing it very well, as I know we are." McGinty, in his other capacity of Health Minister, lodged a complaint with the Press Council about the *West Australian* of 24 January. It devoted one third of its front page to a photograph of what it said was a frail, elderly grandmother with a neurological condition who had been forced to spend three hours lying across three chairs in a state hospital because of a shortage of trolleys, with a headline reading "How would feel if this was your grandmother, Jim?" The woman subsequently contacted the *West Australian* to say that she was aged 46, was not a grandmother, was not suffering a neurological illness, was not frail, had been on the chairs for 10 to 15 minutes, had not been forced to lie on the chairs, and was happy with her care at the hospital.

The Premier, Alan Carpenter, said in State Parliament that the problem started with Armstrong's predecessor as editor, Paul Murray who was "a shockingly bad editor and he started the trend which has ended up at the bottom of the pile with Paul Armstrong". Carpenter urged people to cancel their subscriptions, saying the *West* was so full of negativity he did not want it in his house, adding "I saw what happened to Geoff [Gallop]."

WAN chief executive, Ken Steinke, vowed they would not be intimidated, saying, "We do not intend to be brow-beaten." Armstrong said McGinty was using taxpayer funds to blackmail, threaten and intimidate. He compared McGinty to Stalin. Federal Attorney-General, Philip Ruddock, expressed disappointment with McGinty's views. On 17 May the Opposition unsuccessfully sought to condemn the government for its views. The Premier and McGinty vigorously defended their views. However, a week later Dr Carpenter made a more conciliatory statement that "We won't be making any broad based policy decision based on the performance of any individual person or media outlet. We will make our decisions based on what is right for the entire profession and making sure that we respect the requirements of the profession and changing needs." (*Australian*, Media section, 17, 24 and 31 May; *WA Legislative Assembly Hansard*, 17 May; *Australian* 18 and 19 May; also see item 43.41 [Mark Day article]).

43.12 WEST AUSTRALIAN'S PROFIT LEAPS

West Australian Newspapers Holdings Ltd has delivered a profit of \$81.65 million for the year ended 31 March 2007 compared to \$43.19 million for the equivalent period a year before. The strong profit was attributed to the strong economic position of Western Australia and WAN's pre-eminence in that market. Meanwhile, WAN's chief executive Ken Steinke said the company was not desperate to become involved in the current round of media takeovers. He said, "We've made a couple of small acquisitions in the state. Our position has always been that we're alert to any opportunities that may come along, but we're not desperate to be involved in the buy and sell at the moment. If there were possibilities that were at the right price in the right industry, in the right geography, then probably yes, but it has to fulfill the conditions we'd be looking at for future growth. They are few and far between now." (Business sections, most newspapers, 4 May 2007)

43.13 CIRCULATION AUDIT JANUARY-MARCH 2007 by Victor Isaacs

Circulation figures for the first quarter of 2007 are the third since introduction of new rules by the Audit Bureau of Circulations. There are no figures for the comparable period last year under the new rules, but figures for the preceding quarter are indicative. Some regional dailies were not subject to audit in this period.

Monday-Friday	Jan-Mar 07	Oct-Dec 06	% change	Saturday	Jan-Mar 07	Oct-Dec 06	% change
<i>Australian</i>	129,000	134,610	-4.2%	<i>Weekend Australian</i>	299,000	298,107	0.3%
<i>Australian Financial Review</i>	86,529	86,287	0.3%	<i>AFR Weekend Edition</i>	91,528	92,781	-1.4%
<i>Daily Telegraph, Sydney</i>	372,000	391,832	-5.1%	<i>Daily Telegraph</i>	346,000	341,917	1.2%
<i>Sydney Morning Herald</i>	212,500	212,300	0.1%	<i>SMH</i>	370,000	360,000	2.8%
<i>Herald Sun, Melbourne</i>	525,000	535,000	-1.9%	<i>Herald Sun</i>	512,000	509,000	0.6%
<i>Age, Melbourne</i>	202,500	202,000	0.2%	<i>Age</i>	300,050	298,000	0.7%
<i>Courier-Mail, Brisbane</i>	214,451	218,648	-1.9%	<i>Courier-Mail</i>	324,797	322,188	0.8%
<i>Advertiser, Adelaide</i>	191,250	191,100	0.1%	<i>Advertiser</i>	263,500	262,843	0.2%
<i>West Australian, Perth</i>	206,025	200,687	2.7%	<i>West Australian</i>	367,899	357,030	3.0%
<i>Mercury, Hobart</i>	47,947	46,603	2.9%	<i>Mercury</i>	63,720	61,451	3.7%
<i>Canberra Times</i>	34,575	35,193	-1.8%	<i>Canberra Times</i>	64,747	63,644	1.7%
<i>Northern Territory News</i>	20,048	20,431	-1.9%	<i>NT News</i>	30,704	30,605	0.3%

Monday-Saturday	Jan-Mar 07	Oct-Dec 06	% change
<i>Border Mail, Albury-Wodonga</i>	26,617	26,579	0.14%
<i>Herald, Newcastle/ Central Coast</i>	51,000	50,000	2.00%
<i>Illawarra Mercury, Wollongong</i>	28,500	28,553	-0.19%
<i>Daily Examiner, Grafton</i>	5,694	5,754	-1.04%
<i>Northern Star, Lismore</i>	15,633	15,490	0.92%
<i>Daily News, Tweed Heads</i>	4,790	4,794	-0.08%
<i>Geelong Advertiser</i>	30,601	28,925	5.79%

Monday-Saturday	Jan-Mar 07	Oct-Dec 06	% change
<i>News-Mail, Bundaberg</i>	11,657	11,695	-0.32%
<i>Cairns Post</i>	31,120	31,433	-1.00%
<i>Gladstone Observer</i>	7,346	7,466	-1.61%
<i>Gold Coast Bulletin</i>	48,192	47,861	0.69%
<i>Daily Mercury, Mackay</i>	16,557	16,240	1.95%
<i>Sunshine Coast Daily</i>	22,743	22,685	0.26%
<i>Fraser Coast Chronicle</i>	9,989	9,781	2.13%
<i>Morning Bulletin, Rockhampton</i>	18,452	18,474	-0.12%
<i>Chronicle, Toowoomba</i>	23,676	23,628	0.20%
<i>Townsville Bulletin</i>	29,671	29,624	0.16%
<i>Daily News, Warwick</i>	3,150	3,248	-3.02%
<i>Advocate, Burnie</i>	24,811	24,032	3.24%
<i>Examiner, Launceston</i>	34,558	33,942	1.81%

Sunday	Jan-Mar 07	Oct-Dec 06	% change	Sunday (cont.)	Jan-Mar 07	Oct-Dec 06	% change
<i>Sunday Telegraph</i>	685,000	684,072	0.1%	<i>Sunday Times</i>	341,000	341,000	0.0%
<i>Sun-Herald</i>	510,000	510,000	0.0%	<i>Sunday Tasmanian</i>	61,045	60,471	0.9%
<i>Sunday Herald Sun</i>	618,000	615,000	0.5%	<i>Canberra Sunday Times</i>	35,871	34,720	3.3%
<i>Sunday Age</i>	220,300	214,000	2.9%	<i>Sunday Examiner Launceston</i>	43,345	42,388	2.3%
<i>Sunday Mail, Qld</i>	600,093	601,357	-0.2%	<i>Sunday Territorian</i>	21,505	21,773	-1.2%
<i>Sunday Mail, SA</i>	320,917	321,590	-0.2%				

The following places newspapers in circulation order (using weekday figures). *Herald Sun*, then a big drop to the *Daily Telegraph*, another big drop to the *Courier-Mail*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, *West Australian*, *Age*, *Advertiser*, *Australian*, *Financial Review*, [Newcastle] *Herald*, *Gold Coast Bulletin*, *Mercury*, *Geelong Advertiser*, *Canberra Times*, *Examiner*, *Cairns Post*, *Townsville Bulletin*, *Illawarra Mercury*, *Border Mail*, [Burnie] *Advocate*, [Toowoomba] *Chronicle*, *Sunshine Coast Daily*, *NT News*.

The circulation order of Sunday newspapers is:
Sunday Telegraph, *Sunday Herald Sun*, [Qld] *Sunday Mail*, *Sun-Herald*, *Sunday Times*, [SA] *Sunday Mail*, *Sunday Age*, *Sunday Tasmanian*, *Sunday Examiner*, *Canberra Sunday Times*, *Sunday Territorian*.

How do weekend circulations compare with weekdays? If we give weekday circulations index figures of 100, the comparisons are:

Title	Monday-Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<i>Australian</i>	100	232	
<i>Financial Review</i>	100	106	
<i>Daily Telegraph & Sunday Telegraph</i>	100	93	184
<i>SMH & Sun-Herald</i>	100	174	240
<i>Herald Sun & Sunday H-S</i>	100	98	118
<i>Age & Sunday Age</i>	100	148	109
<i>Courier-Mail & Sunday Mail (Qld)</i>	100	151	280
<i>Advertiser & Sunday Mail (SA)</i>	100	138	168
<i>West Australian & Sunday Times (different publishers)</i>	100 (WAN)	179 (WAN)	166 (News)
<i>Mercury & Sunday Tasmanian</i>	100	133	127
<i>Canberra Times & Canberra Sunday Times</i>	100	187	104
<i>NT News & Sunday Territorian</i>	100	153	107

The increasing popularity of weekend vis-à-vis weekday papers is apparent. The *Herald Sun* and *Daily Telegraph* are the only exceptions to this rule.

How successful are the capital city newspapers? The following table shows their circulation as a proportion of the population of their respective state or territory. Newspaper circulations, of course, do not stop exactly at State borders. The *Herald Sun* and the *Age* have significant circulation in southern NSW, the *Canberra Times* significant circulation in SE NSW, the *Advertiser* has some circulation in Broken Hill, as has the *Courier-Mail* in northern NSW. It is not possible to define these areas or influence exactly, and therefore only the most blatant example is taken account of below, by adding Queanbeyan NSW to the ACT population figure.

Title	State/Territory Population Sept 2006	Mon-Fri penetration	Saturday penetration	Sunday penetration
<i>Daily Telegraph & Sunday Telegraph</i>	6,844,200	5%	5%	10%
<i>Sydney Morning Herald & Sun-Herald</i>	6,844,200	3%	5%	7%
<i>Herald Sun & Sunday Herald Sun</i>	5,110,500	10%	10%	12%
<i>Age & Sunday Age</i>	5,110,500	4%	6%	4%
<i>Courier-Mai & Sunday Mail (Qld)</i>	4,070,400	5%	8%	15%
<i>Advertiser & Sunday Mail, (SA)</i>	1,558,200	12%	17%	21%
<i>West Australian & Sunday Times (different publishers)</i>	2,061,500	10%	18%	17%
<i>Mercury & Sunday Tasmanian</i>	489,600	10%	13%	12%
<i>Canberra Times & Canberra Sunday Times</i>	370,880	9%	17%	10%
<i>Northern Territory News & Sunday Territorian</i>	207,700	10%	15%	10%

Some conclusions:

- The best performing newspaper on the sales per capita measure Mondays-Fridays is the *Advertiser*.
- The best performing newspapers on Saturdays on this measure are the *West Australian* closely followed by the *Canberra Times* and the *Advertiser*.
- The best performing on Sundays is the *Advertiser's* sibling, the *Sunday Mail*.
- Capital city newspapers in States with strong regional newspaper markets, NSW and Queensland, perform less well than in other States.
- Despite having a much smaller circulation in absolute terms, on a sales per capita basis, the *Age* performs better than the *Sydney Morning Herald*.
- Melbourne titles appear to have a higher penetration than other capital city titles on Monday to Fridays.

Based on the January-March 2007 figures, the comparative market position of newspapers in competitive markets are:

	Monday-Friday	Saturday	Sunday

National			
<i>Australian</i> (News Ltd)	60%	77%	
<i>Financial Review</i> (Fairfax)	40%	23%	
Sydney			
<i>Daily Telegraph & Sunday Telegraph</i> (News Ltd)	64%	48%	57%
<i>SMH & Sun-Herald</i> (Fairfax)	36%	52%	43%
Melbourne			
<i>Herald Sun & Sunday Herald Sun</i> (News Ltd)	72%	63%	74%
<i>Age & Sunday Age</i> (Fairfax)	28%	37%	26%

On this measure, News Ltd beats Fairfax in every market, except Sydney on Saturdays.

43.14 WHAT IS THE NAME OF THE SUNDAY NEWSPAPER IN CANBERRA?

On 3 June the name of the *Canberra Sunday Times* was subtly changed to *Sunday Canberra Times* – or perhaps not. The change was completely unannounced in the paper; the front page masthead was changed; however, the running titles at the bottom of each page, the title of the magazine and the title above the editorial were not changed. On 10 June the running titles at the foot of each page and the magazine were changed. Finally, on 24 June, the title above the editorial was also changed. Cataloguers will wail and curse. The paper had earlier had another change of name on 7 May 2000 from the *Sunday Times*. The earlier change coincided with a change from broadsheet to tabloid and removed any possible confusion with the Perth paper.

43.15 NEWSAGENTS AT WAR

Newsagents state bodies in Queensland and NSW/ACT have broken with the Australian Newsagents Federation (ANF) and established a new organisation called Newsagents Australia. Queensland Newsagents' Federation chief executive Ken Murphy claimed the ANF "doesn't want to change and is not cognisant of newsagents' needs". The ANF claimed that the industry needed a united front to withstand competitive pressures and that the new body was "doing enormous damage" (*Australian*, Media section, 10 May 2007, p. 18).

43.16 PEOPLE

Peter Fray, editor of the *Sunday Age*, was "Person of the Week" in *Mediaweek*, 25 June 2007, pp.4, 2.

Michelle Grattan, political editor of the *Age* and veteran Canberra correspondent, will deliver the 2007 Kenneth Myer Lecture at the National Library of Australia on 9 August at 6pm. Her topic: "Is politics still a vocation?" Free admission, but bookings via friends@nla.gov.au or phone (02) 6262 1698.

43.17 THE NEWSAGENTS' VIEW

For a current view of the Australian newspaper industry from the newsagents' point of view, the website www.towersystems.com.au/fhn_blog/ is highly recommended. In particular, the sub-section www.towersystems.com.au/fhn_blog/archives/newspapers/ provides a very rich source of material about newspaper current developments and views. Many topics are raised. A recent theme was unhappiness with Fairfax's advertising post-it notes on the front pages of newspapers obscuring titles and text. The site also leads to a large number of relevant links.

43.18 PACIFIC MAGAZINES EXPANDS

The Seven Network's magazine arm, Pacific Magazines, agreed to pay about \$90 million for US group Time Inc's Australian titles, including *Who Weekly*, it was announced on 1 July. The move, which will take Seven's share of the magazine market to about 35%, also includes *Brides to Be* and *Practical Parenting* as well as a licensing agreement with Pacific Magazines for the monthly *In Style*. Seven is believed to have outbid private equity group CVC Asia Pacific's Australian Consolidated Press magazines and News Ltd, which earlier this year paid about \$300 million for the FPC titles, including *Vogue*. The purchase improves Pacific Magazines' presence in the celebrity magazine market where it already has titles such as *New Idea*. ACP is facing some issues, with the competition regulator investigating the markets for celebrity and parenting magazines. *Time* is expected to retain a distribution business in Australia. That will be responsible for distributing titles such as *Time* and the English *Women's Weekly* (*Australian Business* section, 2 July).

43.19 WEB ITEMS

43.19.1 NEWS LTD OPENS LAB ON WEBSITE

News Ltd has opened a "lab" on their website which is an area for development of ideas and receiving users' reaction prior to placement on their main site. For an idea of what ideas they have go too <http://lab.news.com.au/>

43.19.2 FAIRFAX & GOOGLE

Fairfax Digital and Google have agreed to collaborate on advertising and content. Fairfax sites will run Google ads, with revenue generated shared. Google will broadcast Fairfax's content and Google Maps will be integrated into Fairfax's real estate site, domain.com.au.

43.19.3 NEWSPAPERS CHARGING ONLINE

Phil Gallagher, Fairfax Business Media commercial director, has challenged a statement by Rupert Murdoch, who was quoted as saying that he thought the *Wall Street Journal* and the *Financial Times* were the only two newspapers in the world that charged for their online editions. Gallagher pointed out that the *Australian Financial Review* had charged for its online edition since June 2006 (*Mediaweek*, 14 May 2007, pp.1, 7).

43.20 RECENT CHRONOLOGY

43.20.1 EVENTS

25 May: Bid by O'Reilly family to buy out other shareholders of APN fails despite overwhelming support by small shareholders.

29 May: Rick Bayne leaves Editorship of Warrnambool *Standard*.

31 May: Brett McCarthy leaves Editorship of Perth *Sunday Times*.

1 June: Warren Beeby, Group Editorial Manager, and Malcolm Colless, Director, Corporate Development, retire from News Ltd

1 June: James Packer sells an additional 25% of Publishing and Broadcasting Ltd to Adrian MacKenzie of CVC Ltd, reducing his share to 25%, and thus no longer controlling the company. PBL owns the Nine TV network and a range of magazines. James' grandfather, Sir Frank Packer, sold his newspaper interests, the *Daily Telegraph* and *Sunday Telegraph*, to Rupert Murdoch in 1972

9 June: TheNewspaperWorks [sic], the newspaper marketing body established in 2006, advertises for an independent consultant to review the current Australian newspaper readership system and to define world's best newspaper readership measurement.

16 June: Paul Starick appointed Deputy Editor of the Adelaide *Advertiser* in succession to Sam Weir (next item).

18 June: Sam Weir, formerly deputy editor of the *Advertiser*, commences as editor of the Perth *Sunday Times*.

20 June: Celebrations for the 125th anniversary of the Boys' Brigade in Sydney. The organisation was founded in 1882 under the auspices of Sir James Fairfax of the *Sydney*

Morning Herald and Samuel Bennett of the *Evening News* who were worried that newsboys would fall into “coarse and cunning habits”.

29 June: *Australian* expands Business section.

1 July: Steve Gibbons appointed deputy editor of the *Courier-Mail*. Before joining the *Courier-Mail*, Gibbons was with the *Advertiser*, the *Age* and APN regional titles.

5 July: Kerry Stokes’ Seven Network increases its shareholding in West Australian Newspapers to 16 pc.

6 July: National newsagency Australian associated Press acquired the Media Monitoring Group, a media analysis, monitoring and related services company.

15 July: Brisbane *Sunday Mail* underwent a change of masthead and format; editor Liz Deegan described the changes as being its “most dramatic” (see 15/7/07, p.2) since its changed from broadsheet to tabloid (29 March 1992).

43.20.2 DEATHS

Charlton, Peter: D 18 May, aged 61: One of Australia’s best-known and respected journalists and war historian, senior writer for 35 years with the Brisbane *Telegraph* and *Courier-Mail* (Obituaries: *Courier-Mail* 14 May, *Australian* 1 June).

Hancock, Hedley: D. early June, aged 86; formerly with the *Border Watch*, *Advertiser* and ABC in SA.

James, Murray, CBE: D. 19 June, aged 94; career included the Broken Hill *Barrier Miner*, chief of staff on the Adelaide *News* and managing director of the Perth *Sunday Times*.

Martyn, Norman Leslie: D. 16 May, aged 86; owned and edited the *Mirboo North Times*, [Vic] for 28 years from 1957; before that associated with the *Great Southern Star*, Leongatha, *Mercury*, St Arnaud and *Pastoral Times*, Deniliquin (see *PANPA Bulletin*, March 2000, pp.63-65).

Stewart, Fiona: D. early July; a long-serving journalist on the *Western Advocate* and *Western Times*, Bathurst.

Webb, Kate: D. 13 May, aged 64; war correspondent who covered key events in Asia over the past four decades. She was one of only a handful of women to cover the Vietnam war full-time. (Obituaries: *Age*, 15 May, *Sydney Morning Herald* 18 May, *Australian* 18 May).

Weightman, John Alan: D. 9 July aged 69 at Bathurst, NSW; former editor in Fairfax Community Newspapers, *Gold Coast Mail* and Queensland Newspapers Pty Ltd.

Younger, Ronald Michael: D. 28 June, aged 89 in Canberra; author of *Keith Murdoch: Founder of a Media Empire* and of a history of the Herald & Weekly Times Ltd; magazine and newspaper journalist in Melbourne before working for the Australian Government’s information arm in Canberra and New York; lived in recent years in Canberra with niece Michelle Grattan, *Age* political correspondent (*Age*, 10 July 2007, p.12).

43.21 “FESTIVAL OF FITZGERALD”

The *Courier-Mail*, Brisbane, ran a week of articles (12-19 May) that harked back to the Fitzgerald Inquiry of 20 years ago and the reporting that led to it. *Mediaweek* wrote about the series (21 May 2007, p.2) and reported that some at the *Courier-Mail* called the week’s coverage this year a “Festival of Fitzgerald”.

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: COMMUNITY & PROVINCIAL

43.22 RIVERINA MEDIA GROUP

The Riverina Media Group was sold to Rural Press Ltd on 2 May 2007 – just one week before Rural Press’s takeover by Fairfax. RMG published five paid newspapers, two free newspapers and monthly publications targeted at the seniors/over-55 market.

RMG’s flagship publications were the *Daily Advertiser*, based in Wagga Wagga, NSW, and the *Seniors* mastheads in five states. The *Daily Advertiser*, has a daily week day circulation of 12,655 and a Saturday circulation of 17,047, has been published since October 1868.

Daily Advertiser

.com.au

The *Senior* is a full colour newspaper with a monthly free distribution of 364,000 throughout New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia. Other RMG titles were:

- The *Rural*, a weekly insert into many newspapers in southern NSW,
- The *Area News*, a tri-weekly in Griffith,
- The *Riverina Leader*, a Wagga Wagga free weekly,
- The *Irrigator*, a Leeton bi-weekly,
- The *Southern Cross*, a Junee weekly and
- The *Colypoint Observer*, a weekly for Coleambally and Darlington Point.

Managing director of Rural Press, Brian McCarthy, said he was delighted with the purchase of this significant regional media group which will enhance the stable of Rural Press publications in New South Wales. In addition, the *Seniors* mastheads will provide a strong point of entry into this growing market segment.

The chairman of Riverina Media Group, Greg Miller, said “while our departure is in many ways a sad occasion, we remain proud of and hold full confidence in the future of the publications and communities we have served over our sixty year involvement in the 138 year history of this group”. (Business sections, most newspapers, 4 May 2007).

Rod Kirkpatrick adds: The takeover of RMG leaves only three daily newspapers in Australia which are not part of groups: Broken Hill *Barrier Daily Truth*, owned by the unions, Shepparton *News*, owned by the McPherson family and the *Sunraysia Daily* of Mildura, owned by the Lanyon family.

Rural press groups from 9 May are:

Rural Press/Fairfax Media with 15 regional dailies: Mount Isa (Qld); Newcastle, Wollongong, Albury, Wagga Wagga, Tamworth, Maitland, Dubbo, Orange, Bathurst (NSW); Ballarat, Bendigo, Warrnambool (Vic.); Launceston, Burnie (Tasmania).

APN has 14: Mackay, Rockhampton, Gladstone, Bundaberg, Fraser Coast, Gympie, Sunshine Coast, Ipswich, Toowoomba, Warwick (Qld); and Tweed, Lismore, Coffs Harbour, Grafton (NSW).

News Ltd has four: Cairns, Townsville, Gold Coast (Qld); and Geelong (Vic.).

WAN has one: Kalgoorlie (WA).

RAG Henderson (1896-1986), the general manager of John Fairfax & Sons Ltd, 1938-49, and managing director, 1949-64, found time to create a small newspaper empire for his family while guiding his employer through an era of unprecedented expansion. His first paper was the *Daily Advertiser*, Wagga Wagga, left by Stephen Sullivan in 1933 to his two daughters, Alice and Forbie Sullivan. In 1945 Forbie Sullivan travelled to Sydney to see whether she could interest Warwick Fairfax in taking over the paper. Instead she met Henderson – described by Gavin Souter as “an earthy little live wire” – and he and Warwick’s second wife, Hanne, formed a partnership to operate the business of A. & F. Sullivan from 1946, paying an annual licence fee to the Sullivans for the rest of the sisters’ lives. This arrangement was strongly opposed by E.C. Sommerlad and some members of the NSW Country Press Association on the grounds that it was “against country press interests and policy for metropolitan newspapers to intrude in country areas”. Henderson was wrongly assumed to be a nominee for the Fairfax company. When Warwick and Hanne Fairfax divorced in 1959, Henderson bought Hanne’s half-share in the Wagga Wagga partnership, which then became A. and F. Sullivan Pty Ltd, owned by Rupert Henderson, his son R.W.G. Henderson and their families.

In 1962 ... Henderson acquired shares in the *Area News*, Griffith, in 1972, and had a half-interest in the *Murrumbidgee Irrigator*, Leeton. At the end of 1983 Fairfax, through its subsidiary, the Federal Capital Press, added to its already substantial list of regional mastheads by purchasing two companies owned by Rupert Henderson – Daniel Bros and Yass Newspapers, publishers of three *Posts* – in Goulburn, Yass and the Berrima district. Henderson was then in his eighty-ninth year, virtually blind, but still a formidable negotiator. In the selling of his country newspapers, Henderson suspended negotiations just when Fairfax thought the deal was about to be clinched for \$863,000, then resumed negotiations and finally sold for \$1,080,000. This was his last newspaper deal...Rupert Henderson died on 9 September 1986. His descendants still owned in 1996 the *Daily Advertiser* and associated newspapers, including the *Area News*, Griffith, the *Murrumbidgee Irrigator*, Leeton, the *ColyPoint Observer*, Coleambally. (Extracted from Kirkpatrick, Rod, *Country Conscience: a history of the New South Wales provincial press 1841-1995*, Canberra: Infinite Harvest Publishing, 2000).

43.23 LEADER COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

Larry Noye and Tom Darragh report that Leader Community Newspapers, an arm of News Ltd, relaunched three titles in Western Melbourne in late May. The *Werribee Times* became the *Wyndham Leader*, the *Hobsons Bay Times* became the *Hobsons Bay Leader* (first issue 29 May) and the *Western Times* is now the *Maribyrnong Leader*. The Leader titles were started 25 years ago by Julie Upson and Ron Coleman, now retired.



43.24 TAMWORTH CITY NEWS DEBUTS

Barry Blair writes: The 48pp *Tamworth City News* Vol. 1, Issue 1, was published on Friday 4 May 2007 by the Tamworth and District Independent Pty Ltd. Available for \$1.00 at local newsagencies, the paper is delivered free to homes throughout Tamworth, Werris Creek, Quirindi, Manilla, Barraba and Kootingal. It is the second attempt Tamworth and District Independent has made to publish a second free weekly newspaper in Tamworth in competition with *The Tamworth Times*, a Rural Press Ltd publication. Their first attempt was about April-May 2000, when a few editions were published, but then ceased. *The Tamworth Times* interestingly enough add the words to their masthead: “Incorporating *The Tamworth Independent*”. The *Tamworth City News* is located in the office building of Evans Printing in Marius Street, Tamworth. Evans Printing also operates in Armidale where for a number of years it has successfully published the *Armidale Independent*, in direct competition with the *Armidale Express*, a Rural Press publication. Following the introduction of the first edition of the *Tamworth City News* on Friday 4 May, *The Tamworth Times* the following Wednesday 9 May, introduced full-colour to its (hitherto B/W) 52pp (sometimes up to 60pp) Property Guide, published in full-colour the previous Saturday in *The Northern Daily Leader*. The *Tamworth City News* has published a 16pp full-colour Real Estate Guide in each of its three editions.

The *Tamworth City News* is certainly on the ball, for mention of it already appears on http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tamworth,_New_South_Wales

43.25 A REAL PAGE TURNER

Barry Blair reports that the *Bendigo Weekly*, a freebie, has celebrated its tenth anniversary. It is published by Bendigo Publishing, in opposition to Fairfax Media's daily *Bendigo Advertiser*. The *Bendigo Weekly* boasts colour on every page and does well in the real estate

advertising market. The eye-opener is to go to its web site www.bendigoweekly.com.au and see the ability there to “turn” every page as if it was a hard copy newspaper.



43.26 MACARTHUR NEWSPAPERS

Ian Willis writes: The *Macarthur Chronicle*, which is part of the Cumberland Newspaper Group, has launched a new website for its local Macarthur newspapers. These are *Macarthur Chronicle (Campbelltown Edition)*, *Macarthur Chronicle (Camden Edition)*, *Macarthur Chronicle (Wollondilly Edition)*. The three newspapers are on the front page of the website then linked to local stories for each edition. The site is located at <http://www.macarthurchronicle.com.au/>.

43.27 MONARO MEDIA

ANHG Newsletter has sighted another community newsletter. *Nimitybelle News* is a 12 page duplicated A4 monthly, full of local news and events of the small town of Nimmitabel in south-east NSW. (P O Box 15, Nimmitabel 2631).

In this district, another new newspaper is the *Monaro Post*. This has been published weekly in Cooma since 13 September 2006 by Monaro Media Group (P O Box 1227, Cooma 2630). The masthead includes the slogan “The independent paper of the Monaro and surrounding regions”. The issue sighted (9 May) was 52 tabloid printed pages, with a very healthy ratio of advertising.

43.28 WARWICK DAILY NEWS TO REMAIN AS A DAILY

Rumours have been circulating that the Warwick, Qld *Daily News* will decrease its frequency of publication due to a drought-induced downturn in the local economy. *Daily News* General Manager, Peter Read, said on 26 June that the large amount of encouraging support by readers had convinced management to retain six day a week publication. Predictions of better seasonal conditions and the recent appointment of a new sales manager had also influenced the decision. The Warwick *Daily News* is Australia’s smallest circulating daily newspaper - it sold an average of 3347 copies during the Oct-Dec 2006 audit period.

THE STANDARD

43.29 DEAKIN UNIVERSITY & WARRNAMBOOL STANDARD

Deakin University and the Warrnambool *Standard* have formed a partnership to educate future journalists. Journalism students will gain important on-the-job experience as part of the university’s new degree, setting the course apart from other journalism courses. The *Standard* will produce a new monthly education liftout to recognise the achievements of primary and secondary schools across south-west Victoria. This will provide an opportunity for Deakin’s journalism students to gain regular writing and news-sourcing experience at a regional daily newspaper.

NEWSPAPER HISTORY

43.30 NEWSPAPER DIGITISATION: AUSTRALIA

The National Library is digitising Australian newspapers printed before 1954. The project is expected to be available from the beginning of next year. The library’s Director-General, Jan

Fullerton, told a parliamentary committee on 21 May that the entire project will take around five years to complete at a cost of \$8 million. She said, "Within this project, we are planning to digitise one newspaper from each of the capital cities and the territories from the beginning of their time until 1954 which is the copyright cut off. We will begin to have things available by early next year for searching on-line. It will be available free for anyone to search the content of those newspapers." Fifty thousand pages are expected to be digitised by August and 500,000 by mid-2008 comprising *Sydney Gazette* (1803-1842), *Maitland Mercury* (1843-1893), *Melbourne Argus* (1846-1899), *Brisbane Courier* 1846-1899), *Hobart Town Gazette* (1816-1859), *Adelaide Advertiser* (1858-1889), *West Australian* (1833-1879), *NT Times* (1873-1899). [*Canberra Times* 28 May]

43.31 NEWSPAPER DIGITISATION: UNITED STATES

Bridget Griffen-Foley writes: Approximately 310,000 digitized newspaper pages, dating from 1900 to 1910, are now accessible through the Chronicling America Web site at www.loc.gov/chroniclingamerica/. The site is a project of the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP), a partnership between the Library of Congress and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

43.32 MEDIA HISTORY E-MAIL DISCUSSION LIST

Liz Gould and **Bridget Griffen-Foley** write: In November 2006 the Australian Research Council's Cultural Research Network resolved that media histories should become a full "node" in order to expand the infrastructure for, and further conceptual understandings of, histories of advertising, newspapers, magazines, radio, television, publishing, film and the new media. Following Professor Liz Jacka's retirement, Dr Bridget Griffen-Foley became convenor of the node.

The Media Histories Node has now decided to create an email discussion list for researchers, and others interested, in the field of Australian media history. The listserv will provide:

- a mechanism for disseminating information about events, new publications and higher education programs in Australian media history;
- an outlet to share information about resources for Australian media history;
- a means for posting queries about research and gaps in the field; and
- a place for discussing broader research and epistemological issues pertaining to Australian media history.

The listserv will initially focus on histories of Australian advertising, newspapers, magazines, radio, television and the new media, although if there is sufficient interest it could be broadened to include film. If you would like to participate in the listserv, please email Liz Gould at liz.gould@canberra.edu.au with your name and email address in the text of your email, and "AMH listserv" in the subject heading. In due course, you will be contacted with instructions on how to subscribe to the listserv.

It has also been decided to build on the Australian Media History database

<http://www.amhd.org.au>, which was established in 2005 and now lists over 80 researchers working in the field. The database will be expanded to include guides to resources in the field, links to relevant associations in Australia and overseas, and so on. Announcements about new content on the website will be made via the listserv.

43.33 SYDNEY MORNING HERALD 1843 TO 1880 ON INTERNET

Before the inauguration of the New South Welsh Hansard, reports of Parliamentary proceedings in the *Sydney Morning Herald* were accepted as the authoritative record. Extracts from the *SMH* of these reports, have now been scanned and placed on the NSW Parliamentary website www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/common.nsf/key/pre1991Hansard

43.34 WENTWORTH COURIER HISTORY

Belinda Bonham writes: I am compiling the 60th anniversary issue of the *Wentworth Courier*, (Sydney eastern suburbs). I would be grateful for any information relating to the launch of the *Double Bay-Rose Bay Courier* (in 1947) and the *Wentworth News* (1955), which were the precursor papers that merged to form the *Wentworth Courier*. I have interviewed the daughter of the *Double Bay-Rose Bay Courier*'s long-time owner and was disturbed to find he wasn't the founding editor (as everyone believed). I would also be grateful for any records of award-winning stories and photographs that have been run in the *Courier*, or its precursors over the past 60 years. Any responses should go directly to Belinda Bonham at cntemp2@fpc.com.au, or 02-9353 0551 or 02-9353 6666 ext. 251.

43.35 NEWSPAPER DAY BILLS MENTIONING ABORIGINES

Julie Gough of the School of Creative Arts, James Cook University, writes: I am seeking "day bills" (daily advertising posters for newspapers) or images/photos of day bills for teaching, visual art, and research purposes. The ones I hope to find are those about Aboriginal people, eg: the recent day bill "ABORIGINES MUST LEARN ENGLISH" - The *Australian*. However any images of, or actual day bills, from over past decades with "Aboriginal", "Aborigines" or "Blacks" in the title from any Australian newspaper would be incredibly useful for ongoing projects re: race and representation purposes. My telephone is 0409 518 865 and website is <http://homes.jcu.edu.au/~jc156215/>

43.36 FAST NEWS TO THE VICTORIAN COUNTRY

Victor Isaacs writes: On 22 August 1904 the Victorian Railways introduced fast, early-morning freight trains from Melbourne to Geelong and Ballarat, and from Melbourne to Castlemaine and Bendigo, mainly to facilitate early delivery of the *Argus* and the *Age* to country districts. Country newspapers, however, complained that this was undercutting them, and complaints were raised in State Parliament. Subsequently the service was extended to all mainlines out of Melbourne. (See *Victorian Parliamentary Papers*, 1904, volume 1, page 651, *Tonnage of Goods Carried by Newspaper and Other Trains*; and *Victorian Hansard*, Legislative Assembly, 8 November 1904, pages 2801-2 and 2812).

43.37 MCGILLS NEWSAGENCY, MELBOURNE

Victor Isaacs writes: McGills Newsagency in Elizabeth St, Melbourne, opposite the former GPO, has conducted business at the same location for 147 years since 1860. Does anyone know of any other newsagency which has occupied the same position for a similar or longer period, or even conducted business for a similar length of time? (Birchalls Bookshop, Launceston, Australia's oldest bookshop, has operated at the same location since 1844 – 163 years). McGills was sold by the McGill family to George McKinnon in 1925. It stayed in that family until 2003 when George McKinnon's granddaughter Robin and husband Bob Peasley sold it. McGills stocks one of the largest ranges of newspapers in Australia, with country, interstate and even overseas titles.

43.38 LOOKING GOOD - FRONT PAGE ADVERTISEMENTS

Victor Isaacs writes: The following is an addendum to my recent publication *Looking Good: The Changing Appearance of Australian Newspapers*. I stated (on pages 10 and 14) that as of late 2005 there was at least one weekly newspaper in England still adhering to the traditional layout of devoting the front page entirely to advertisements, not news. I have now ascertained that there are two newspapers in Britain which retain this layout. They are the *Cornish & Devon Post* published in Launceston, Cornwall and the *Craven Herald & Pioneer* published in Skipton, Yorkshire. Other than the old-style front pages, they are normal looking broadsheets including colour printing.

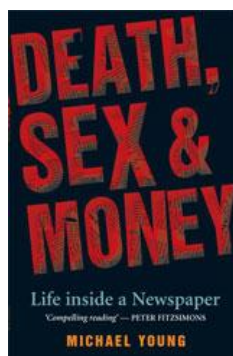
(Is this a record: mentions of Launceston, Tasmania and Launceston, Cornwall in successive paragraphs?)

(*Looking Good: The Changing Appearance of Australian Newspapers* is published by the Australian Newspaper History Group and is available for \$28 from PO Box 675, Mt Ommaney Qld 4074. An order form appears at the end of this Newsletter).

RECENTLY PUBLISHED

43.39 REVIEW by Victor Isaacs

Death, Sex and Money: Life inside a Newspaper, by Michael Young, Melbourne University Press, 2007, 264pp, rrp \$34.95, ISBN 0-522-85344-7.



Michael Young, a journalist with experience on the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Times*, provides a valuable insight into Australian newspapers today. He commences with a prologue and introduction raising questions of press freedom and ownership diversity. His first substantive chapter is a vivid description of events in the *Sydney Morning Herald* newsroom on the night of 11 September 2001. He then describes the roles of the principal people in a newspaper, how the content of newspapers is developed each day including descriptions of editorial conferences, how big stories are covered, the motivations driving newspaper editors, the history of newspapers, newspapers vis-à-vis new media, the change to tabloid (in both content and size sense), the role of PR people and finally a discussion of newspaper ethics. Many of his descriptions are drawn from personal experience, especially on the *SMH*. The title of the book comes from what he says readers want to read about.

For this book, Young interviewed most editors of national, Sydney and Melbourne papers (with the notable exception of the *Herald Sun*, although the *Sunday Herald Sun* is covered). The book is really a description of newspapers in these cities. At many points, Young draws distinctions between the approach of broadsheet and tabloid newspapers. Perhaps, in this respect, he draws too much on his Sydney experience, for the difference between the *SMH* and *Daily Telegraph* is starker than that between the *Age* and *Herald Sun*.

Sadly, the book suffers from a number of errors, for example: News Ltd owns the Perth Sunday paper (p.4), the *Age* was founded in 1854 not 1875 (p.61), Bognor is in Sussex not Essex (p.151). An index would have been helpful.

Young makes many valuable points about the future of newspapers as they struggle to retain their market in a world in which news is increasingly available for free and continuously. His main conclusion is that increasingly tabloid newspapers are finding a role with attention to celebrity/personality news, and broadsheet newspapers with analysis and background - although these roles cross over the lines between the two types of paper. Despite minor flaws, this book is recommended as providing very valuable insights into newspapers, especially those in Sydney/Melbourne; and in raising and discussing many important issues about the future of the industry.

43.40 NEW WEBSITES OF INTEREST

www.sirgeoffreysyme.com.au contains information about Sir Geoffrey Syme, David Syme and the *Age* in the twentieth century.

www.abc.net.au/mediawatch/transcripts/s1974062.htm contains a good summary of recent changes in media ownership.

43.41 RECENT ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Abjorensen, Norman, “Bald facts paint finer image of Alexander”, *Australian, Media* section, 17 May, p. 16. Provides a lighter image of John Alexander, former editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, than often portrayed.

Adams, Phillip, “Digitally reduced obscurity”, *Australian* opinion page, 3 July. Discusses the impact of new technology on media audiences.

Beecher, Eric: “War of words: The Future of Journalism as a Public Trust”. *Monthly*, June, p. 22. A pessimistic view of the future of serious journalism and of newspapers.

Blair, Tony, “Thirst for impact spoils political coverage: UK media is a ‘feral beast’”, *Australian, Media* section, 14 June, p. 38. The recently retired UK Prime Minister comments on the standard (or lack of it) of political reporting. He believes the British media regularly demolishes the reputation of public figures for commercial advantage.

Box, Dan, O’Brien, Natalie & Hart, Cath: “Strain that drove police chief over the edge”, *Weekend Australian*, 9 June, p.1. Examines the pressures that led to the suicide of the ACT Chief Police Officer, Audrey Fagan, especially the role of the *Canberra Times* and its editor-at-large, Jack Waterford.

Canning, Simon, “Fairfax’s AFR could be threatened”, *Australian, Media* section, 3 May. Raises the possible loss of *Wall Street Journal* content for the AFR if Murdoch’s bid for Dow Jones is successful.

Cadzow, Jane, “The Tipping Point”, *Good Weekend* in *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Age*, 30 June. Another article examining the pressures that led to the suicide of the ACT Chief Police Officer, Audrey Fagan, including the role of the *Canberra Times* and its editor-at-large, Jack Waterford.

Cryle, Denis, “A Wild Idea: Rupert Murdoch, Maxwell Newton and the foundation of the *Australian* newspaper”, *Media International Australia*, no 123 May 2007, pp.49-60. This article outlines the particular difficulties faced by the *Australian* in its critical start-up period and documents the competitive forces and dominant personalities which shaped its dramatic birth.

Day, Mark, “McCarthy shares narrow view as Fairfax goes frugal”, *Australian, Media* section, 3 May. Discusses possible cost-cutting at Fairfax following the merger with Rural Press and the appointment of Brian McCarthy to head its newspaper operations.

Day, Mark, “No one’s right in WA Government v editor stoush”, *Australian, Media* section, 24 May. Discusses the rights and wrongs of the *West Australian*’s editor’s stances.

Deveny, Catherine, “Pornography, oral sex, drug scandal. There, made you read it!”, *Age*, 6 June. The author argues that newspapers and their websites are dumbing down to attract readers.

Ellis, Eric: “Wendi Deng Murdoch”, *Monthly*, June, p. 28. Profile of Rupert Murdoch’s wife.

Hernan, Jack, “A fight for freedom”, *Herald Sun*, p. 21, 14 May 2007. Article supports the current campaign by media organisations to remove restrictions on reporting (see item 43,)

Jackson, Sally, “Growth no giveaway for the Sundays”, *Australian, Media* section, 14 June, p.35. Comments on the circulation of Sunday newspapers and the futility of attempting to boost circulation by giveaways. Includes useful graphs showing the last ten year’s circulation of the principal Sunday titles.

Johnston, Liz, “Breaking the gender ranks”, *Walkley Magazine*, Issue 45, June-July 2007, pp.34-35. The author busted out of the women’s ghetto in 1970s newspapers, but says pipe-smoking was a mistake. She started as a cadet at the Sydney *Sun* at age 16.

Kirkpatrick, Rod, “The day Max Newton sold a newspaper for \$10”, *PANPA Bulletin*, April 2007, pp.38-39. Part 2 of a two-part article on the Bradleys’ NSW newspaper dynasty.

Kirkpatrick, Rod, “The Vincents – printers with a passion for words”, *PANPA Bulletin*, May 2007, pp.38-39. Part 1 of a two-part article on the Vincent newspaper dynasty in England, New Zealand and Australia.

Murdoch, Scott, “Price you pay for ethics, say defiant pair”, *Australian, Media* section 28 June. The consequences for Michael Harvey and Gerard McManus of their convictions for contempt of court.

Noone, Val, “Printers and New Technology around 1980: An Age Proof Reader’s View” in *Time of Their Lives: The Eight Hour Day and Working Life*, Australian Society for the Study of Labour History – Melbourne Branch, 2007, ISBN 978-0-9803883-0-5. A view from the grass roots of trade union responses to major technological change in the newspaper industry around 1980, the article sketches the changing actions of a group of proof readers at the *Age*.

Perkin, Corrie, “Guthrie’s back, but not for revenge”, *Australian, Media* section, 28 June. A valuable sketch of Bruce Guthrie, recently appointed editor of the *Herald Sun* and former editor of the *Age*. Includes an interesting comparison of the two Melbourne papers.

Pooley, Eric, “The Last Tycoon: Inside Murdoch’s quest for the *Wall Street Journal*”, *Time*, 9 July. A review of Rupert Murdoch’s current activities – but without mention of his Australian newspapers.

Ricketson, Matthew, “Rural Press’ quiet achiever mastering the mastheads”, *Age*, 5 May. A profile of Brian McCarthy, managing director of Rural Press (and since May responsible for the newly-merged Fairfax Media’s newspaper interests). He states his optimism about the future of the newspaper business.

Siklos, Richard, “Trust resolution brings unity to the Murdoch clan”, *Age Business* section 22 May. Resolution of business affairs brings stability to the Murdoch family.

Stewart, Cameron, “Silencing our basic freedom”, *Australian*, 27 June. Argues that the recent conviction of public servants and journalists is undermining our rights to free speech and accountability.

Tabakoff, Nick, “‘Smage’ journos must adapt”, *Australian, Media* section, 3 May. Discusses moves by Fairfax CEO, David Kirk, to require journalists to adapt to converging media. Claims that in view of increasing sharing of content, some Fairfax staffers now refer to the Sydney and Melbourne papers as the Smage.

Tabakoff, Nick, “‘Big Red’ at the wheel”, *Australian, Media* section, 12 July. A brief analysis of the influence Ron Walker uses in his role as Chairman of Fairfax Media.

Waterford, Jack, “New tricks for a new media era”, *Canberra Times*, 19 May. Discusses the role of journalists as media interests and internet outlets converge.

Waterford, Jack, “Messy marsh of information”, *Canberra Times*, 21 June. Discusses newspaper libraries, especially those of the *Canberra Times* and the *New York Times*.

Waterford, Jack, "The shifting media landscape", *Canberra Times*, 4 July. The author argues that the market has become more difficult, audiences are pickier, and many have less time to spare, so the struggle to gain attention is harder.

43.42 RECENT THESIS OF INTEREST

Ellis, Gavin: "Word War: the demutualising of the New Zealand Press Association", lodged in the University of Auckland general library. The causes and early effects of a decision to end more than 125 years of cooperative news exchange between New Zealand's daily newspapers. The author is former editor-in-chief of the *New Zealand Herald*, now undertaking doctoral research relating to a comparative study of the impact of types of ownership on news-gathering and news presentation.

A new ANHG book:

Looking Good:

The Changing Appearance of Australian Newspapers

By Victor Isaacs

In this book, Victor Isaacs examines the changing format of Australian newspapers since their beginnings in 1803. There are chapters on the changing front page, the changes from broadsheet to tabloid, the use of the British Coat of Arms in Australian mastheads, the use of illustrations in newspapers, and the coming of colour (this chapter by Kenneth Sanz). The book is A4-sized, is illustrated and comprises 44 pages. ISBN 978-0-9803128-1-2. Copies can be obtained (at \$28 including postage and packing; or \$50 for two copies) by making out a cheque/money order to R. Kirkpatrick (ANHG) and posting it to:

R. Kirkpatrick, PO Box 675, Mount Ommaney, Qld, 4074.

Please send --- copies of *Looking Good: The Changing Appearance of Australian Newspapers* to:

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My cheque, made out to R.Kirkpatrick (ANHG), is enclosed.

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