AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPER HISTORY GROUP
NEWSLETTER

No. 48   **July 2008**

COPY DEADLINE AND WEBSITE ADDRESS

Deadline for the next *Newsletter*: 30 September 2008. 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/)

New ANHG book available 12 August – see Page 20

1 – CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: NATIONAL & METROPOLITAN

48.1.1 NEWSPAPER RAID IN THE WEST

Major media organisations unanimously condemned the government-initiated police raid on the *Sunday Times* in Perth (see ANHG 47.1.26). Sixteen police from the Major Fraud Squad shut down the offices of the *Sunday Times* for four hours on 30 April while they tried to find a confidential document allegedly leaked to journalist Paul Lampathakis for a story about election funding. Western Australian Premier Alan Carpenter and his deputy Eric Ripper have denied any involvement in the raid in which the armed fraud squad officers entered the newsroom of the News Ltd newspaper, blocked the building's exits and searched staff. Acting on a complaint from the Department of Premier and Cabinet, police were trying to find who leaked information about a government decision to spend $16 million of taxpayers' money on an advertising campaign, allegedly intended to help Labor's bid for re-election. The exclusive political story, published in February, quoted "government sources'' as saying the $16 million was to be spent on strategic advertising campaigns ahead of an upcoming election (*Australian*, 2 May 2008, p.5, and **www.Perthnow.com.au**, 8 May 2008). The raid led Tony Barrass to write in a "Comment" piece (*Australian*, 2 May 2008, p.5): "Believe it or not, Perth has become the toughest environment in the country in which to practise the public service of journalism." (See also editorial, *Weekend Australian*, 3-4 May 2008, p.16.)

A Parliamentary committee kept evidence from the Department of Premier and Cabinet secret in a hearing investigating the police raid on the *Sunday Times* in April (*West Australian*, 9 June 2008). The Upper House committee, formed in May, was questioning DPC, Department of Treasury and Finance and Corruption and Crime Commission staff as well as police officers about their roles in the raid.

The Corruption and Crime Commission has criticised a police decision to raid the offices of the *Sunday Times*. The CCC told the parliamentary inquiry into the April 30 newspaper raid that the commission would be reviewing the police investigation (*Australian*, 1 July 2008).

On 7 July the parliamentary committee threatened Paul Lampathakis with jail after he had reportedly refused to reveal the source of the leaked cabinet document. Committee chairman George Cash said Parliament could not order him to answer and if he again refused, he would be in contempt (*Australian*, 8 July 2008, p.3). The next day, Premier Alan Carpenter called on

the parliamentary committee to back down from its threat. Carpenter, a former television reporter, said the situation was ridiculous and no journalist should have to reveal a source. And he warned that Lampathakis would become a martyr if the committee persisted. (*Australian*, 9 July 2008).

48.1.2 FIJI MEDIA SHUTDOWN THREATENED
Fijian military dictator Frank Bainimarama threatened to "shut down" the country's media if coverage of his government does not improve, in a dramatic escalation of his war with independent media outlets. In an extraordinary meeting with Fijian media executives in Suva, the self-appointed prime minister claimed that local journalists "hate" him. He insisted that deported Australian newspapermen Evan Hannah and Russell Hunter would not be allowed to return to Fiji. The comments by Commodore Bainimarama threaten to damage relations between Fiji and Australia even further. The Rudd Government had described Hannah's deportation as a "reprehensible attack on human rights". Hannah, managing director of the *Fiji Times*, was arrested and deported at the beginning of May for an alleged breach of his work permit. Hunter, the editor of the rival *Fiji Sun*, was deported two months earlier.

Hannah arrived in Sydney on 3 May after being removed from the country on 2 May. He said Fijian immigration officials had defied High Court orders rescinding his deportation. He said he was held overnight after his arrest in Suva, had his phone removed and was denied consular assistance, before being placed on a Korean Air flight to Seoul. Other airlines refused to carry him. Hannah, who was forced to leave behind his Fijian wife and one-year-old son, had been called in to face government officials twice this year (*Australian*, 6 and 7 May 2008). Hannah writes about the deportation in "How Fiji threw rule book out window to deport me", *Australian*, Media section, 8 May 2008, pp.31, 34. Hannah has since been appointed general manager of the *Northern Territory News*. He takes over from Don Kennedy who retires after 32 years with News Ltd (*Australian*, 6 June 2008, p.10).

48.1.3 McGINTY LIFTS BAN
West Australian Attorney-General Jim McGinty has lifted his controversial ban on reporters at the *West Australian*, saying he has made his point to the editor, Paul Armstrong, about "journalistic integrity and accuracy" (*Australian*, 5 May 2008). McGinty, who is also the state's health minister, stopped inviting the newspaper's journalists to his press conferences in February – 10 months after blaming Armstrong for driving what he called the nation's most inaccurate and dishonest newspaper. McGinty's feud with Armstrong reached a low point in January last year when the newspaper published a front-page photograph of a woman lying on chairs at a Perth hospital under the headline: "How would you feel if this was your grandmother, Jim?"

48.1.4 PANPA APPOINTS NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE
The Pacific Area Newspaper Publishers' Association (PANPA) has appointed Mark Hollands as chief executive. Hollands joins the association after roles at Dow Jones Inc as Asia-Pacific sales director and at IT research company, Gartner, as regional vice-president of research development. PANPA president Robert Whitehead said the company was delighted to have a chief executive of Hollands' calibre, one who has a track record of senior editorial and circulation appointments with News Ltd. PANPA said it would continue to focus on its core constituencies of newspaper publishing, production, marketing and editorial (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 14 May 2008; see also 48.1.25 re NZ NPA).

48.1.5 ADVERTISING (1): BOOMING AUSSIE REVENUES
News Corporation chairman Rupert Murdoch has revealed that "booming" advertising revenues from the company's Australian arm have helped to drive a significant rise in its international operating profit. News Corp has reported a 16 per cent growth in operating earnings to $US1.44 billion for the three months to March 31. The company's bottom line net

profit trebled to $US2.7 billion for the period, following a $US1.7 billion one-off gain on the company's stock and asset swap with Liberty Media. In February, Liberty gave up its 16 per cent stake in News Corp, in exchange for News Corp's stake in DirecTV and other assets (*Australian*, 9 May 2008).

48.1.6 ADVERTISING (2): SQUEEZE ON SPENDING EXPECTED
Media companies were bracing in May for a slump in advertising revenues, according to the *Australian*, 5 May 2008, p.29. The Australian Association of National Advertisers said evidence was increasingly pointing to companies lowering their ad spending.

48.1.7 RIGHT-TO-KNOW REPORT
The media industry's Right to Know coalition has issued a mixed report card on the efforts of state and federal governments to protect freedom of speech. The coalition says its report last year listing dozens of restrictions on the media was followed by a series of positive initiatives by state and federal governments. While these moves deserved ticks, it said other developments deserved crosses. The report card has been issued on the first anniversary of the coalition, which consists of 12 leading media organisations (Chris Merritt, Legal affairs editor, *Australian*, 15 May 2008).

48.1.8 RECENT CHRONOLOGY

48.1.8.1 EVENTS
8 May 2008: Official opening by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd of Fairfax Media's new Sydney headquarters in the inner-city suburb of Pyrmont.
10 June 2008: Fairfax Media launches Perth's first online-only news publication: **WAtoday.com.au** (see 48.2.1).

48.1.8.2 DEATHS
Andrusiak, Kevin James: D. 7 July 2008 in Sydney, aged 33; highly regarded mining and business reporter for the *Australian*; formerly of the *Narrogin Observer*, the *South-Western Times*, Bunbury, and the daily *Kalgoorlie Miner* (*Australian*, 8 July 2008, p.20, and Media section, 10 July 2008, pp.31-32).
Burrell, Jim: D. June 2008 in Sydney, aged 69; started as copy boy on *Daily Telegraph*; gained cadetship at Australian United Press; became general rounds reporter on *Sun* and then a sub-editor; was chief sub-editor when the paper closed in March 1988; then worked as chief sub at Fairfax Community Newspapers and production editor; became editor of *St George and Sutherland Shire Leader* in 1977 and held post until illness forced his retirement in 2005 (*St George & Sutherland Shire Leader*, 4 June 2008).
Harrison, Arthur Leslie (Red): D. 20 June 2008 at Campbelltown, NSW, aged 75; newspaper and broadcast journalist; born at South Shields, England; began media career with cadetship at ABC in Sydney; joined *Gympie Times*; worked as jackaroo on sheep station near Cloncurry before returning to journalism in Townsville; moved to newspaper in Tasmania; joined Frank Packer's Sydney suburban newspaper group; poached by News Ltd and sent to Perth to edit the *Sunday Times*; transferred to Sydney and worked on subs' table at the *Australian* and wrote leaders for the *Daily Mirror*, flying to Melbourne at weekends to moonlight on one of Max Newton's sheets; edited *Sunday Telegraph*; joined ABC's flagship current affairs program in 1981 and BBC five years later; achieved global recognition with BBC World Service in last phase of his career (Piers Akerman, *Australian*, 30 June 2008, p.15).
Ives, David: D. 9 May 2008. Edited information technology section of the *Canberra Times*, 1987-1997; amazingly varied career (to which a short obituary cannot do justice; see Jack Waterford's obit., *Canberra Times*, 15 May 2008).
Terry, Roy Edward: D. 20 April 2008 at Mornington, Vic., aged 94; career spanning 55 years with Herald & Weekly Times Ltd included long terms as pictorial editor and chief librarian; left school at 15 to work as copy boy at the *Herald*, where he won cadetship in

1934; transferred to *Sun News-Pictorial* after wartime AIF service; later became pictorial editor for 10 years; moved to books division, producing several landmark publications; appointed chief HWT librarian in 1970 and developed a new microfilm system. Son Tony was an award winning photographer for *Herald* (*Herald Sun*, 9 May 2008).

48.1.9 SLIMMER BROADSHEETS STILL BEING PLANNED
Fairfax Media chief executive David Kirk says the company is still planning to narrow the size of its flagship broadsheets, *The Age* and *The Sydney Morning Herald*, but has admitted the original timeline was unrealistic (writes Matthew Ricketson, *Age*, 20 May 2008). He would not specify a new date. And, one year after Fairfax completed its merger with Rural Press, Kirk said the businesses were continuing to develop, improve and "learn from each other" but acknowledged that the lagging Fairfax share price was "not good for morale". The two companies became the largest print and online company in Australasia on May 9, 2007 — two weeks after Kirk had unveiled plans to narrow the size of the two metropolitan daily newspapers by the end of the first half of 2008. That timeline has since been dropped, and Mr Kirk said it would not be sensible to give a new time frame. He said the project was "grinding" along, but there were a number of complexities involved, including how *The Canberra Times* fitted into the plans. "There's a lot of evidence around the world that readers prefer it, but you have got to do it properly," he said.

News Ltd CEO John Hartigan has confirmed that the company is examining the possibility of reducing the size of its national broadsheet, the *Australian* (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 5 June 2008).

48.1.10 PEOPLE
   Gay Alcorn, new editor of the *Sunday Age*, is interviewed in *Mediaweek*, 5 May 2008, p.8.
   Sean Aylmer, the new editor of *BRW*, is interviewed by *Mediaweek*, 26 May 2008, p.7.
   Creighton Burns, editor of the *Age* from 1981-1989: His funeral was held at Melbourne University's Ormond College on 25 January 2008. Among those who addressed the mourners were John Tidey, a former senior *Age* journalist and executive; John Hamilton, a former senior *Age* journalist and long-time *Herald Sun* journalist; and Ranald Macdonald, former managing director of David Syme & Co, which published the *Age*. Extracts from their speeches were published in the *Age's* house magazine, *Agenda*, in May 2008, pp.20-21.
   Dean Gould, the new editor of the *Gold Coast Bulletin*, is interviewed in *Mediaweek*, 2 June 2008, p.7.
   Steve Howard has been appointed to replace Roy "Rocky" Miller as general manager of the *Gold Coast Bulletin*. Howard joined News Ltd 30 years ago as a copy boy with Cumberland Newspapers. He is a previous editor of the *Daily Telegraph* and the Adelaide *Advertiser* (*Australian*, 16 June 2008, p.34).
   Rex Jory wrote (Adelaide *Advertiser*, 5 July 2008): **"**That's it. I handed in my resignation yesterday. After working in journalism for a few calendar pages under five decades I will shut down computer ITO101221 for the last time early in August. The rejected portable Remington typewriter at the back of the wardrobe might shed an inky tear. Maybe I will, too. But my time is up. I'm comfortable with that. It is an opportunity now for a new generation of journalists, savvy young people who are multi-skilled and technologically literate. They will take this industry into the maturing age of on-line journalism. In the business they are known as VJs – video journalists. They can work cameras and audio equipment and craft newspaper stories. Their work appears on computer screens and page. Ten years from now, I am quite confident the hard copy *'Tiser* still will be speared in on my herb garden in the pre-dawn and I will be just as excited to liberate it from its plastic cocoon. I have other challenges, other interests to pursue. I can look back over nearly half a century with quiet satisfaction and a large dash of amazement (see also *Australian*, Media section, 10 July 2008, p.32).
   Patricia Karvelas, political correspondent for the *Australian*, has won the first Wallace Brown Young Achiever Award for Press Gallery Journalism. The award honours Brown, who

died in 2006 aged 76 and who spent 34 years reporting federal politics for the *Courier-Mail* (*Australian*, 6 June 2008, p.2).

Ubaldo Larobina, 77, one of the founders in Australia of *Il Globo*, an Italian-language newspaper, was made an Officer in the general division of the Order of Australia (AO) in the Queen's Birthday honours. *Il Globo* has shifted from publishing three times a week to daily and has a national circulation of 30,000 (*Age*, 9 June 2008).

Scot Palmer, 70, retired from the Herald and Weekly Times on 1 April after a record 54 years' service. Starting as a cadet at the *Sun News-Pictorial* in 1954, he embraced all walks of journalism but flourished mostly in sport. His appointments included those of sports editor of the *Sunday Sun* and the *Sunday Press*. On his 50th anniversary with HWT, he was given a grand dinner and presented with a gold plated boxing glove. Scot will continue to contribute his "Punchlines" column from his home at Sorrento (*In House*, HWT magazine, April, 2008).

Andrew Rule and **John Silvester**, co-authors of the *Chopper* series and *Underbelly: the Gangland War* and journalists with the *Age*, are interviewed by Jen Jewel Brown in *Mediaweek's* series, "The Reporters" (26 May 2008, pp.8-9).

Robert Thomson, Australian journalist, has been appointed managing editor of the *Wall Street Journal* after previously having been the publisher. He replaces Marcus Brauchli (*Australian*, Media section, 22 May 2008, p.2008, p.31.

Jos Valdman, the Adelaide *Advertiser*'s newly appointed cartoonist, realises he has some big shoes to fill in his new role. He replaces nationally renowned cartoonist Michael Atchison, who retired recently after 40 years of entertaining South Australians with his witty and incisive work (*Advertiser*, 2 June 2008)..

Geoff Wilkinson, *Herald Sun* journalist, has been awarded an Order of Australia (OAM) for his services to crime prevention, particularly through the establishment of the Crime Stoppers program. The program began in Victoria in 1987 - when Wilkinson was media director for Victoria Police – and was later adopted by all Australian states and territories (*Herald Sun*, 9 June 2008).

Alan Wood, the *Australian's* economics editor, has retired after 45 years in journalism. He announced at the end of his column on 2 July that after more than 40 federal budgets and 50 state budgets "enough is enough". He said: "The last straw was when Wayne Swan put a coloured cover on this year's Budget Paper No. 1. What next, his photograph?" (*Australian*, Media section, 3 July 2008, pp.31-32).

48.1.11 FREE TITLES SEND NUMBERS
Newspaper circulations and advertising revenues climbed worldwide last year as the rapid growth of free titles and online publications extended their reach. The World Association of Newspapers said global newspaper sales were up 2.57 per cent over the year, and had increased 9.39 per cent in the past five years. WAN said that when free dailies were added to paid newspaper circulation, global circulation had increased 3.65 per cent last year and by 14.3 per cent over the five years (*Australian*, Media section, 5 June 2008, p.34).

48.1.12 GREAT EXPECTATIONS FOR EDITORIAL TRAINEES
Under the above heading, Lucy Battersby writes about the current batch of editorial trainees working at Melbourne's *Age*: "This year there are three trainees, Marika Dobbin, Tom Arup and Lucy Battersby, and one cadet trainee, Adrian Lowe. We will be rotating around four sections until February 2009. Those sections are Business, Online, News and Sport. You can find us there, in the Newsbreak Café or at the pub. One thing we all have in common is that we want to be journalists, and have made it through an intensive selection process to be part of the best editorial training program in the country. But that is pretty much where the commonalities end." She continues by providing an insight into their differing interests (*Agenda* [Age house magazine], May 2008, p.10).

48.1.13 SALES OF THE *WEST* GO SOUTH
In the latest Audit Bureau of Circulations figures, the *West Australian* has again lost sales. Weekday sales of the paper fell below 200,000, dropping 4.6 per cent to 196,490. The paper's

Saturday edition fared even worse, with sales declining 5.4 per cent to 348,153. The circulation figures in the table below are from the Audit Bureau of Circulations and the readership figures are from Roy Morgan Research. One oddity: the *Financial Review's* Saturday edition: up 11.6 per cent in circulation, down 11.2 per cent in readership. Another: the *Northern Territory News* (Mon-Fri), up 1.9pc in sales and down 10.6pc in readership.

	Circulation			Readership	
	Jan-March 2008	**Jan-March 2007**	**% variation**	**12 months to March 2008**	**% variation**
National					
Australian	134,000+	129,000+	3.9	472,000	8.0
Weekend Australian	305,000+	299,000+	2.0	847,000	4.1
Aust Financial Review	88,488	86,5292	2.3	254,000	− 2.3
Aust Financial Review (Sat)	102,114	91,528	11.6	150,000	− 10.2
NSW					
Daily Telegraph	366,000+	372,000	− 1.6	1,151,000	Static
Daily Telegraph (Sat)	333,000	346,000	− 3.8	948,000	Static
Sunday Telegraph	670,000+	685,000+	− 2.2	1,742,000	− 1.7
Sydney Morning Herald	212,500+	212,500+	Static	955,000	8.3
Sydney Morning Herald (Sat)	360,000+	370,000+	− 2.7	1,188,000	1.0
Sun-Herald	500,000+	525,000+	− 4.8	1,350,000	0.9
Victoria					
Herald Sun	516,500+	525,000+	− 1.6	1,480,000	0.8
Herald Sun (Sat)	512,500+	512,000+	0.1	1,430,000	2.1
Sunday Herald Sun	624,500+	618,000+	1.1	1,547,000	2.0
Age	201,500	202,500	− 0.5	765,000	3.2
Age (Sat)	299,800+	300,500+	− 0.2	957,000	0.6
Sunday Age	220,900+	220,300+	0.3	735,000	1.9
Queensland					
Courier-Mail	217,781	214,451	1.6	632,000	1.3
Courier-Mail (Sat)	314,535	324,797	− 3.2	867,000	− 3.0
Sunday Mail	575,567	600,093	− 4.1	1,445,000	− 3.6
South Australia					
Advertiser	189,293	191,250+	− 1.0	510,000	− 7.3
Advertiser (Sat)	263,482	263,500+	Static	664,000	− 5.9
Sunday Mail	318,981	320,917	− 0.6	748,000	0.1
Western Australia					
West Australian	196,490	206,025	− 4.6	579,000	− 0.3
West Australian (Sat)	348,153	367,899	− 5.4	899,000	− 5.5
Sunday Times	334,200+	341,000+	− 2.0	804,000	− 5.2
Tasmania					
Mercury	46,894	47,947	− 2.2	114,000	− 10.2
Mercury (Sat)	62,529	63,720	− 1.9	144,000	− 5.9
Sunday Tasmanian	60,422	61,045	− 1.0	133,000	− 5.7
Sunday Examiner	42,065	43,345	− 3.0	106,000	3.9
Northern Territory					
Northern Territory News	20,431	20,048	1.9	42,000	− 10.6
NT News (Sat)	30,801	30,704	0.3	56,000	− 11.1
Sunday Territorian	21,573	21,605	− 0.1	43,000	− 10.4
ACT					
Canberra Times	35,060	34,575	1.4	107,000	0.9
Canberra Times (Sat)	61,963	64,747	− 4.3	160,000	0.6
Canberra Times (Sun)	36,035	35,871	0.5	102,000	12.1

48.1.14 FAIRFAX PAY DISPUTE

Deputy Prime Minister and Workplace Relations Minister Julia Gillard has declined to be drawn into a pay battle at Fairfax Media, after the company claimed it had adopted one of the Government's "underlying principles" to deny pay rises to staff on more than $100,000. Gillard said she did not want to "buy into the disputes of individual employers", despite Fairfax's having invoked Labor's election policy to justify excluding union-negotiated pay rises to 350 employees. Gillard confirmed Labor's policy would require employers to bargain collectively when the majority of a workplace wanted it. Fairfax, employing 1200 journalists on newspapers including the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Age*, is set for a bitter union conflict in its drive to cut costs by limiting wage increases. The company is willing to pay 850 employees increases of 11 to 12 per cent over the next three years, but it is denying the same deal to a further 350 staff who earn more than $100,000 a year, saying Labor's election policy allows these people to be treated individually on "merit". Media Alliance acting federal secretary Mark Ryan complained to Gillard that Fairfax was trying to impose a wage freeze on staff earning more than $100,000 (*Australian*, 27 May 2008, and Media section, 29 May 2008, pp.31, 34; see also *Australian*, Media section, 3 July 2008, p.33).

48.1.15 MURDOCH (1): US PAPERS

Rupert Murdoch, the chief executive of News Corporation and publisher of *The Wall Street Journal*, has warned that financial pressures on US newspapers would see them "deteriorate tremendously". Speaking at a "D: All Things Digital" conference in California, he said newspapers would have to lower their profit margins from 30 per cent to 10 per cent, and publish stories people "want to read" rather than articles designed to win Pulitzer Prizes. He said the *Wall Street Journal* would begin taking market share from the *New York Times*, within months by increasing its coverage of general news (*SMH*, 2 June 2008).

48.1.16 MURDOCH (2): TO DELIVER BOYER LECTURES

Rupert Murdoch will deliver the 2008 Boyer Lectures on ABC's Radio National. The lectures, which began in 1959, will be broadcast over six weeks beginning in November. They honour Sir Richard Boyer, a former chair of the ABC (*Australian*, Media section, 29 May 2008, p.33).

48.1.17 NEWSPAPERS AND THE AGENDA-SETTING MANTLE

Australia's newspaper industry will position itself as the most trusted news medium and the one with the greatest attention of its users. This follows the findings of ground-breaking research, reports Jane Schulze (*Australian*, 2 June 2008, p.31). The Newspaper Works, the industry body created last year by Australia's major newspaper publishers, has released the first major report to define clearly the role, relevance and impact of newspapers in the changing mediascape. The study, conducted by Celsius Research and The Leading Edge late last year, shows that Australians are most likely to engage with newspapers as they are "absorbing, dynamic and reputable". Jane Schulze interview Fairfax Media CEO David Kirk about the study's findings (*Australian*, Media section, 5 June 2008, p.34).

48.1.18 KIRK SAYS NO TO NZ POLITICS

Fairfax Media CEO David Kirk has said he has no interest in standing for political office in New Zealand. He made this statement after weighing into debate on the construction of a wind farm in Central Otago by personally paying for a full-page advertisement in one of Fairfax's NZ papers, the *Sunday Star-Times* (*Australian*, media section, 5 June 2008, p.34).

48.1.19 *HERALD SUN* GOES 'MAGAZINEY'

The *Herald Sun* introduced a more "magaziney" feel from Tuesday, 10 June. Each weekday the paper now carries a magazine labelled *extra*: Monday focuses on health (*extrahealth*), Tuesday, food (*extrafood*), Wednesday, the wired world (*extratech*), Thursday, popular movies and music (*extrahit*), and Friday, how to travel (*extrago*) (*Australian*, Media section, 5 June 2008, p.34, and advertisement, p.37; *Mediaweek*, 16 June 2008, pp. 3, 11).

48.1.20 *BULLETIN* REVIVAL UNLIKELY

Fund manager Peter Hall says he has so far been unable to make a business case for his plans to resuscitate the *Bulletin* as an up-market magazine, revealing that initial research he has conducted on a possible rescue has been discouraging (*Australian*, 12 June 2008). Hall said: "I'm keeping my lines of retreat well and truly open. I'm not yet convinced we can do something with it. The initial research is disappointing." The fund manager said from London he had tested the mood extensively among the Australian public towards a new version of the *Bulletin* as a cross between the *New Yorker* and the *Spectator*. Hall's researchers trialled a mock-up of a redesigned *Bulletin* with a sample audience. "What we have found is that in a country of 21 million people, there are possibly only 10,000-15,000 people who actively embrace an intellectually challenging magazine. That's not enough for me." PBL Media's ACP Magazines closed the *Bulletin* in January.

48.1.21 NEWS AND FAIRFAX TOP JOBS

In Mark Day's first column back after "seven weeks of indolence" (*Australian*, Media section, 12 June 2008, p.36), he speculates about possible changes in chief executive at both News Limited (where John Hartigan is chairman and chief executive) and Fairfax Media (where David Kirk is chief executive). It's worth reading Day's second column back, too, about the need for newspapers to get serious (for existing audiences) while serving the young generation online (*Australian*, 19 June 2008, p.36).

48.1.22 BLIGH NEEDS WISDOM OF SOLOMON

Only days after becoming Premier of Queensland in September last year, Anna Bligh commissioned a review of the state's freedom of information laws, with a three-member panel headed by respected journalist and constitutional expert David Solomon. In mid-June, Solomon handed down his 400-plus page report, with 141 recommendations including reducing the duration of secrecy before cabinet documents are released from 30 years to 10 and changing the name of the act to right to information. Solomon's bold document has ramifications way beyond the Queensland border. How Bligh responds to it may well become a blueprint for other state and federal governments serious about reversing entrenched patterns of secrecy and obfuscation (*Weekend Australian*, 21-22 June 2008).

48.1.23 FAIRFAX MEDIA AND JOHN B. FAIRFAX

The Fairfax Media director John B. Fairfax has unwound a margin loan over 159 million of the publisher's shares, which was believed to have prompted short-sellers to target the stock over recent weeks (*SMH*, 28 June 2008). Marinya Media, a private company controlled by John B. Fairfax, repaid the loan of about $170 million in the final week of June, meaning there is no longer a charge against its Fairfax shares, documents filed with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission on 26 June show. Marinya Media owns 14 per cent of Fairfax, the publisher of the *Herald*. Fairfax's son Nick, who is also a Fairfax director and the managing director of Marinya Media, confirmed the unravelling of the margin loan. "It was our initiative; we have been putting this into place for a while now," he said, dismissing suggestions that the move may have been on the urging of Fairfax's board this week. "Obviously these things take a long time to plan for; it's not a small thing you can do in 24 hours or in a week." The margin loan had been taken out in March as short-term financing to reorganise the family's holdings in Marinya and had been refinanced, Nick Fairfax said. He would not comment on how Marinya had raised the funds to repay its lender, the Commonwealth Bank. Fairfax shares closed 1c lower at $2.90 on 27 June, having lost 38 per cent this year. Asked whether the share price slump had prompted the unwinding of the loan, Nick Fairfax said that "obviously" impacted on the environment, but "we were planning to do it anyway". Marinya Media entered the original margin loan in February to buy back the shares of John B. Fairfax's brother, Timothy, and sisters, Sally and Ruth, giving John B. Fairfax's side of the family full control of the private company and its stake in Fairfax. The loan was secured against 159 million of its 211 million Fairfax shares. With the shares trading

around $4.05 at the time of the deal, John B. Fairfax is believed to have suffered a book loss of about $150 million from taking on his siblings' holdings.

48.1.24 RUDD 'LOSES GALLERY'S GOODWILL'
It is extraordinary how quickly the Government of Kevin Rudd has lost the goodwill of the Canberra press gallery, writes John Lyons (*Weekend Australian*, 21-22 June 2008). Women in the gallery, in particular, seem upset with the approach of the PM's media office. Much of the alienation appears to be a consequence of the style of Rudd's senior media adviser Lachlan Harris. One political correspondent said: "There's a whole layer of suspicion which is bred from the aggression of Lachlan; it influences all the other press secretaries." The aggression has been experienced by many. One journalist said she felt highly intimidated by a conversation with Harris. He was unhappy with a story she'd written that was based on a leak from a Labor frontbencher. Harris wanted a meeting; they met in Aussie's cafe in Parliament House. She says he rarely made eye contact but what threw her off balance was that he almost whispered as he made it clear she would pay a price for writing the story. "You know it's over for you," she says he told her. "Nobody's going to deal with you. We're not going to forget this." After regaining her composure, she told him: "Don't bully me. You're trying to bully me and I'm not going to take it." The woman, a senior reporter, went to Rudd's office and made a complaint. It was agreed she would henceforth deal with others in the press office, not Harris. [Lyons' article was linked with a major investigation of how the Rudd Government operates. See "Inner circle", *Weekend Australian*, 21-22 June 2008, pp.19, 27. Lyons asks: "Is Kevin Rudd becoming Captain Chaos?" There was an editorial, too, on Page 18.)

48.1.25 GOULD DEPARTS NZ NPA
Gavin Ellis writes from Auckland: Lincoln Gould, the chief executive of the New Zealand Newspaper Publishers Association is stepping down. A former journalist and manager, he joined the NPA in January 2002. His role also has encompassed the New Zealand Press Association (NZPA) and the Newspaper Advertising Bureau (NAB), both of which are owned by the newspaper publishers. In 2005-2006 Gould managed the conversion of NZPA from a cooperative, in which New Zealand's daily newspapers exchanged content, to a commercial model under which the agency was responsible for producing its own material. The current model mirrors in many respects the operation of Australian Associated Press. During his tenure the NAB underwent major restructuring. He also was closely involved in the recent review of the New Zealand Press Council. In a statement announcing that he would leave the organisation in September, Gould said "The last six years have been a fascinating experience on a broad front of change for both journalism and advertising." (See 48.1.4 re PANPA.)

48.1.26 'DOB IN THIS MONSTER', URGES NEWSPAPER
Civil libertarian Terry O'Gorman is calling for revised laws to stop "media-inspired vigilantism" after a convicted pedophile was driven from a house in Queensland's southwest (*Weekend Australian*, 5-6 July 2008). Dennis Ferguson had been living on a rural property near Miles, about 120km northwest of Dalby, since his release from custody the previous Tuesday night. But residents angry at his presence in the small community gathered outside the property and successfully called for him to leave town. Ferguson asked police to spirit him off the property and they were trying to arrange another place for him to live. O'Gorman, Australian Council for Civil Liberties president, said there was an urgent need for a change to the law "in the light of a media-inspired mob" driving Ferguson out of his temporary home. O'Gorman has said he will write to the Queensland police commissioner asking him to investigate whether charges should be laid against the *Gold Coast Bulletin*. The paper published a front page article headlined "Dob in this monster", asking for readers to help get Ferguson "locked away and to keep our children safe". O'Gorman said he would also lodge a complaint with the Australian Press Council over the *Gold Coast Bulletin* story.

48.2.1 FAIRFAX ENTERS PERTH MARKET
From 10 June 2008, Western Australians have had access to **WAtoday.com.au**, the State's first dedicated online only newspaper. The site was officially launched in Perth that day by WA Premier Alan Carpenter and Fairfax Media's Chairman Ronald Walker and CEO David Kirk. WA identities such as former Australian of the Year, Dr Fiona Stanley, lawyer Patti Chong and social commentator Howard Sattler will write exclusively for the new site. Roy Fleming has been appointed managing editor of **WAtoday.com.au**, leading a team of nine multimedia journalists. Fairfax Media now has almost 300 staff in Western Australia, mainly in country newspapers. The Perth venture is the continuation of a Fairfax strategy, starting with **brisbanetimes.com.au**, in launching sites in cities where it does not have a newspaper. (See *Mediaweek*, 16 June 2008, pp.3, 10.)

48.2.2 FIRMS FAIL JOURNALISTS, SAYS EDITOR
Media companies around the world have failed to give journalists the support to make the transition from the predictability of the deadline-driven analogue era to the freewheeling pace of the digital age, *Time* magazine's international editor, Michael Elliott, has warned during a visit to Sydney. He was speaking at the "Future of Journalism" conference (*Australian*, 5 May 2008, p.34; see also *Mediaweek*, 12 May 2008, pp.8-9, and Matthew Ricketson, "Reports of news' death are greatly exaggerated", *Age*, 10 May 2008, BusinessDay, p.4).

48.2.3 CHANGE OF FOCUS NEEDED IN MULTI-MEDIA LANDSCAPE
Newspapers around the world need to change focus from their product to their audience if they are to survive the digital media age, according to a report that analyses the global outlook. The International Newspaper Marketing Association in its annual forecast reported that newspaper executives were accustomed to making their product central to their business strategy, but this was not sustainable any longer as the business model for newspapers was undergoing historic change. The report's author, Earl Wilkinson, said: "Identifying a niche audience with high commercial value — and matching that audience with a product with as few marginal readers as possible — will become the driving principle in product development. "That is a fundamental shift from the past 3.5 centuries of newspaper publishing when the product came first, an anonymous audience gathered around the product, and advertising was sold based on how big the audience was." According to *Newspaper Outlook 2008: Creating value in a multi-media landscape*, newspapers needed to invest in new products to reach new audiences in new ways through whichever media form readers preferred (*Age*, 16 May 2008).

48.2.4 FAIRFAX TAKES ON TV HEAD-ON
Fairfax Digital is the latest online publisher to signal its aim to steal dollars from the television networks. The publisher of **smh.com.au** and **theage.com.au** said that in the next financial year it would concentrate on persuading media buyers to move some of the $800 million a year they spend on advertising around TV news bulletins into online. The chief executive of Fairfax Digital, Jack Matthews, said: "It [Fairfax's audience] is clearly sufficiently large that we have broad reach but it's also large enough so that we can segment the audience into more demographical behavioural targeting. We have a way to go … but we are well down the path and that's the direction we are going." He said Australians were going to the internet – and the videos that accompanied text-based stories – for breaking news stories. Four million videos are streamed each month from Fairfax's network. "It's logical to suggest that we can build an advertising model around that user consumption and the capability that we have," Matthews said (*SMH*, 8 May 2008).

48.2.5 EDITORS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS

Newspaper editors across the world are generally optimistic about their business and have accepted the need for radical change in the face of online competition, but they seem worried about whether their employers are devoting enough editorial resources to do the job properly (reports Peter Wilson, *Australian*, Media section, 8 May 2008, p.34). A survey of 704 editors has found the percentage of editors who believe the quality of journalism will improve over the next decades has fallen from 50 two years ago to 45 per cent this year.

48.2.6 FIVE LEAVE NINEMSN

Australia's biggest internet publisher, Ninemsn, has lost its chief executive, Tony Faure, and mobile head, Chris Noone, after losing three other executives within three months (*Australian*, 4 June 2008, p.31). Ninemsn is expected to fall short of its revenue targets for the year by between 20 and 25 per cent (see *Australian*, Media section, 5 June 2008, pp.33-34).

3 – CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: COMMUNITY & PROVINCIAL

48.3.1 APN (1): GAVIN O'REILLY IS NEW CHAIR

The heir apparent to Tony O'Reilly's Independent News & Media empire, Gavin O'Reilly, has taken over the chairmanship of APN News & Media Ltd, as part of broader board changes that strengthen the O'Reilly family's long-term grip on the group (*Australian*, 7 May 2008, pp.35-36). O'Reilly replaced James Parkinson as the company's chairman. Parkinson has retired from the APN board, along with Wilson Whineray, as part of a board reshuffle that will cut the APN board from 13 to 11 members. Remaining board members include O'Reilly's brother, Cameron, and a number of the family's close business associates. Gavin O'Reilly, IN&M's chief operating officer, indicated that his elevation to the APN helm was a statement of intent about IN&M's intentions for the group. He said: "I think my ascension to the chairmanship – with the blessing of the board and the blessing of the shareholders – is proof positive of our commitment (to APN). We are, most assuredly, long-term holders."

48.3.2 APN (2): O'REILLY FAMILY STAYS IN CHARGE

Independent News and Media's 40 per cent holding in Australian group APN News and Media will stay in the Irish media giant's hands for the foreseeable future after its chief executive and largest shareholder, Tony O'Reilly, saw off a hostile challenge by another Irish businessman, Denis O'Brien, at the company's annual meeting in London (*Australian*, 13 June 2008). O'Brien had made very public calls for changes at INM in recent months as he has built up a 25 per cent stake. O'Brien did not attend the three-hour INM meeting but three of his representatives accused INM of poor corporate governance, and agitated for several directors to be removed. O'Brien's bid failed to dislodge any directors. His representatives at the meeting raised questions about the governance and unwieldy size of INM's 20-member board, and its financial performance, but the largest protest votes recorded were the 37 per cent of shareholders who opposed the re-election of INM board members Liam Healy, Ivor Kenny and Joseph Davy after proxy adviser ISS recommended against the three. The vote for the status quo came as Mr O'Reilly's son and heir apparent, Gavin O'Reilly – INM's chief operating officer and APN's recently appointed chairman – was reported by the *Guardian* as saying that O'Brien was a "gnat" who he would like to "swat".

48.3.3 EDITORS

  Bendigo: Anthony Radford has been appointed editor of the *Bendigo Weekly*, replacing founding editor Daryl McClure, who has retired from the paper's parent company, Bendigo Publishing. Radford won a Walkley Award in 2006 and a Quill Award last year (*Bendigo Weekly*, 29 May 2008, online; see also *Australian*, Media section, 12 June 2008, p.35).
  Kalgoorlie: The new editor of the *Kalgoorlie Miner* is John Horner, who has held many senior roles in WA newspapers, the most recent as a senior sub-editor at Community Newspaper Group in Perth. He was a senior journalist-sub editor on the *Daily News*. He has

also owned and edited newspapers in Bunbury, Mandurah and Busselton. He entered journalism as a cadet reporter with the *South Western Times*, Bunbury.

Leader Group: Toni Hetherington, sports editor of the *Herald Sun*, has been appointed editor-in-chief of Leader Newspapers, which publishes 33 titles in Melbourne. She replaces Mark Gardy (see 48.3.4; News Limited media release, 12 June 2008).

Launceston: Fiona Reynolds has been appointed the new editor of the *Examiner* (*Mediaweek*, 15 May 2008, online).

Queanbeyan: An advertisement appeared in the *Canberra Times* on 14 May 2008 for an editor for both the *Chronicle* and the *Queanbeyan Age*. The *Chronicle*, a free newspaper in the Canberra area, is published in five editions: Belconnen, Northside, Southside, Tuggeranong, and Queanbeyan. The *Queanbeyan Age* is a paid-circulation weekly newspaper in nearby Queanbeyan (a town closer to Canberra's CBD than many Canberra suburbs are). The appointed editor will therefore be responsible for two publications that compete in the Queanbeyan market.

Townsville: Peter Gleeson, chief reporter at the *Gold Coast Bulletin* since 2002, has been appointed the editor of the *Townsville Bulletin*. He replaces Michael Carroll who has become a joint deputy editor of the *Daily Telegraph*, Sydney (News Limited media release, 20 June 2008; *Mediaweek,* 23 June 2008, p.5).

48.3.4 MANAGERS

Geelong: Mark Gardy, former editor-in-chief of the Leader Community Newspaper Group, became general manager of the *Geelong Advertiser* on 19 May. He began his career as a reporter on the *News*, Adelaide, in 1988 and moved to the *Herald Sun* the following year. There, he rose to become managing editor, features, in 1997. He became the editor of the fledgling *mX* in 2001 (News Limited media release, 19 May 2008).

Maitland: Dwight Hodgetts has been appointed manager from 14 July of Fairfax Media's Lower Hunter Group which includes the *Maitland Mercury, Lower Hunter Star, Lower Hunter Weekend Star, Cessnock Advertiser, Town & Country* and also Hunter Distribution Network. He was formerly the manager of Hawkesbury Newspapers which publishes the *Hawkesbury Gazette* and *Hawkesbury Courier* (*Maitland Mercury*, 23 June 2008). He replaces Gary Olson who has been appointed manager of the Riverina Media Group, Wagga Wagga. Olson replaced Wayne Geal, who has retired after seven years as CEO of the group and 45 years in the printing and newspaper industries (*Daily Advertiser*, 4 July 2008).

48.3.5 RURAL JOURNALISM SCHOLARSHIP

The J.B. Fairfax Scholarship for Rural Journalism was launched in May by the NSW Royal Agricultural Society (RAS) Foundation. Funding for the annual scholarship was donated by John B. Fairfax, a senior vice-president of the NSW RAS, organisers of the Sydney Show, and a director of Fairfax Media. The scholarship of $10,000 will be awarded to a student who is undertaking studies in journalism or a field related to agriculture at either an undergraduate or post-graduate level at university, foundation manager Maria Chilcott said. "The successful student will need to demonstrate an active interest in rural affairs and a commitment to pursuing a career in rural journalism on graduation. "In future years as the program grows, and more individual donors contribute a minimum $50,000, a number of these scholarships will be offered," she said (*Stock & Land*, Victoria, 8 May 2008).

48.3.6 GRAFTON AND WARRNAMBOOL: NEWSPAPERS MOVE OFFICES

Grafton's *Daily Examiner* shifted from 81-82 Victoria Street to new offices at 55 Fitzroy Street on 28 April (*Coffs Coast Advocate*, 21 April 2008, p.9).

The Warrnambool *Standard* moved at the end of May from its Koroit Street building –into a purpose-built modern office building in Raglan Parade. The *Standard* had been produced from Koroit Street since it began publication in 1872 (*Standard*, Warrnambool, 20 May 2008).

48.3.7 CUNNAMULLA: PAPER FOR SALE

The following advertisement appeared in *Australian Printer* magazine, April 2008, p.93: "Country Newspaper for sale: In small friendly country town – Cunnamulla, 800k west Brisbane Qld. Established 120 plus years, in same family since 1936. Newspaper printed on premises using Pagemaker cold type and Web Polygraph. Plates made on premises. Easily run and improved by couple with printing experience. $160,000 includes equipment and premises on one acre in town centre. Owner seeking to relocate after 47 years on the job. Phone 07 4655 1617. PO Box 49, Cunnamulla 4490."

48.3.8 FRASER COAST: LET'S LEARN BUTCHULLA

Fraser Coast Chronicle editor Nancy Bates (who has been in the job for 20 years) introduced on 14 April a weekly "Let's Learn Butchulla" double-page spread in her paper. [Butchulla or Batjala or Badtjala is a dialect that was used by indigenous people, especially on Fraser Island and other areas between the Fraser Coast and Moreton Bay.] The newspaper section had been many months in preparation and private funding was obtained from a local property group. Government funding is also being sought to allow the project to continue longer (*APN Password* , May 2008, p.16).

48.3.9 A NEW *FARMER*

The Giles family, owners of the *Great Southern Star*, Leongatha, and the *Yarram Standard News*, have introduced a quarterly tabloid, the *South Coast Farmer*. It is linked with the other *Farmer* titles in Victoria, initiated in the 1980s by Hartley Higgins (*Wangaratta Chronicle*, etc.) and Richard Beks (*Hamilton Spectator*, etc.). [*Melbourne Observer*, 4 June 2008, p.35.]

48.3.10 FREE PAPERS: DISTRIBUTION FIGURES

Mediaweek publishes the distribution figures for the top 80 free community newspapers in its 23 June 2008 issue (p.7). Topping the list is the *Gold Coast Sun* with 164,733 and second is Sydney's *St George and Sutherland Shire Leader*, 150,673. Also in the top five are the *Canberra Chronicle* (129,627), the *Brisbane News* (119,982) and the *Star Newcastle & Lake Macquarie* (114,643).

48.3.11 PARKES: BRENDA STARS

Brenda Davies, an all-rounder, has celebrated her retirement from the *Parkes Champion-Post* after 32 years with a dinner at the Coachman Hotel (*Champion-Post*, 27 June 2008).

<div align="center">

4 – NEWSPAPER HISTORY

</div>

48.4.1 ADELAIDE: *ADVERTISER* AT 150

The Newspapers in Education section of the Adelaide *Advertiser* marked the paper's 150th anniversary (on 12 July) by devoting three of the four pages of its tabloid liftout on 24 June to the newspaper's history. The liftout featured a front-page story by Rex Jory on the major stories the paper has covered. Inside were sections devoted to: Early History; The First Edition; The technology then and now; Milestones (a chronology); and Editors (including pictures). In the week of 7-12 July, the *Advertiser* ran each day special features related to the anniversary.

48.4.2 CORRECTING YEARS OF CONFUSION: THE APPA PRESIDENTS

Rod Kirkpatrick writes: One of the things the Country Press has not excelled at over the years is compiling and maintaining an accurate list of the presidents of its national organisation, now known as Country Press Australia but known by various titles over the years and originally as the Australasian Press Association. The errors creep in early in the piece, as will be shown. The combination in 1901 of the six Australian colonies into a federated nation of six States inspired national and even international thinking at the newspaper level. At the 1906 annual conference of the New South Wales Country Press Association – on 17 and 18 October – 163 press representatives, including some from both

Queensland and Victoria, "unanimously affirmed the desirability of establishing a Commonwealth Country Press Association". Two days after the NSW conference, the NSW executive met with the Queensland and Victorian visitors and decided to call the new body, the Australasian Press Association (because it was expected that it would embrace New Zealand) and fixed its objects: "to promote the general interests of the members in relation to advertising rates, cable and telegraphic services, the laws relating to newspapers, and any other matters of mutual concern to the newspapers of Australasia".

The first president (1906-08) was Thomas Temperley, of the *Richmond River Times*, Ballina, NSW, and the two vice-presidents were John Kiley Mehan (*Townsville Daily Bulletin*) and Alexander Asher (*Guardian*, Richmond, Victoria). Thomas Mitchell Shakespeare, secretary of the NSWCPA, was the first national secretary and he fulfilled the dual roles until 1929 (when he was elected president of the NSWCPA). Shakespeare resumed the national role from 1931 to 1938. New Zealand did join the APA, which changed its name at the 1909 annual conference, held in Brisbane, to the Australasian Provincial Press Association to avoid being confused with the metropolitan cable syndicate that had taken the name of "Australian Press Association" (it became the Australian Provincial Press Association in 1925 when New Zealand was clearly no longer a member). The second conference was held in Melbourne and the second president (1908-09) of the national body was Robert Stanton Overend, owner of the *Gippsland Times*, Sale, Victoria.

A convention had begun that would survive until World War II: the president would come from the "state" in whose capital-city the conference was held. This is the key to detecting the early errors that occurred in annually published lists of the presidents (these lists appear to have begun in the 1920s). The post-1930 lists that I have seen (such as 1933 and 1996) – and A.T. Shakespeare's *A Brief History of the Australian Provincial Press Association* (published in 1956) – have four errors for the period 1909-1916: they have Thomas Lewis Mills (New Zealand), being elected president at the Brisbane conference in 1909, Henry Alfred Luke (Victoria) at the Auckland conference in 1912, Samuel Woods Brooks (Queensland) at the Adelaide conference in 1913, and Robert Henry Barnet (South Australia) at the Melbourne conference in 1915. The correct listings, checked against contemporary issues of *Press Progress* (which included proceedings of the national conferences) and newspaper reports, appear in the table below (I provide full given names, whereas initials only are used in the official reports): the Queenslander (Samuel Woods Brooks) was elected in Brisbane in 1909, the New Zealander (Thomas Lewis Mills) was elected in Auckland in 1912, the South Australian (Robert Henry Barnet) was elected in Adelaide in 1913, and the Victorian (Henry Alfred Luke) was elected in Melbourne in 1915. The Country Press lists return to accuracy from the Sydney conference in 1916 when James Ryan (NSW) was elected. [Please note: the Official Report of the 15th Conference, held in Canberra in 1929, has an accurate list of the APPA presidents to that time. It is the only official accurate list I have seen.]

Another period where confusion can arise when you study the APPA reports relates to 1939-46. The listings do not disclose the wealth of detail in the following few sentences. At the 19th APPA conference, held in Adelaide on 20-21 March 1939, Reginald Henry Tilbrook (South Australia) was elected president, but he became ill in 1941, and Gordon Rolph (Tasmania) was made acting president from 20 May 1941. No conferences were held until 1946 because of World War II. Tilbrook died in November 1944. Rolph continued to act as president until formally appointed president by the executive committee on 13 May 1946. The conference re-elected him in November 1946 and he served until 1952, having been re-elected in Sydney in 1947 and 1951. The old presidential convention of a state providing a president when conference was held there had been well and truly broken. All the presidents, by the way, have been men.

Presidents of the Australian Provincial Press Association, 1906-1986

Years	President	State
1906-08	Thomas Temperley	New South Wales
1908-09	Robert Stanton Overend	Victoria
1909-12	Samuel Woods Brooks	Queensland
1912-13	Thomas Lewis Mills	New Zealand
1913-15	Robert Henry Barnet	South Australia
1915-16	Henry Alfred Luke	Victoria
1916-17	James Ryan	New South Wales
1917-18	Henry Littleton Groom	Queensland
1918-21	Charles Morris Russell Dumas	South Australia
1921-22	Alexander Asher	Victoria
1922-23	Standish Richard Musgrave	New South Wales
1923-25	William Joseph Mann	Western Australia
1925-27	John Henry Kessell	Queensland
1927-29	Charles Morris Russell Dumas	South Australia
1929-31	Thomas Mitchell Shakespeare	ACT
1931-33	William Fenton Roulston	Victoria
1933-36	John William Parker	New South Wales
1936-39	Henry John (Jack) Manning	Queensland
1939-41	Reginald Henry Tilbrook (ill 1941; died 1944)	South Australia
1941-46	Gordon Burns Rolph (acting president)	Tasmania
1946-52	Gordon Burns Rolph (knighted in 1948)	Tasmania
1952-54	Roy Leslie Blake	New South Wales
1954-56	Leonard Burnie Harris	Tasmania
1956-59	Arthur Thomas Shakespeare	ACT
1959-62	Geoffrey Coker Arding Adams	Victoria
1962-65	Henry James (Harry) Peake	South Australia
1965-68	John Jeffery (Jack) Bradley	New South Wales
1968-71	Keith Stanisforth Hopkins	Victoria
1971-74	Benjamin Albert Kaesehagen	South Australia
1974-77	Henry Joseph (Harry) Sullivan	New South Wales
1977-79	Donald Roy McPherson	Victoria
1979-81	John Anthony Jones	Queensland
1981-83	Maxwell Grevell Day	New South Wales
1983-85	Richard John Cumming Willson	South Australia
1985-86	Donald McEwan Yeates	Victoria

Presidents of Country Press Australia, 1986-2008

Years	President	State
1986-87	Donald McEwan Yeates	Victoria
1987-88	David John Ross Sommerlad	New South Wales
1988-90	Christopher Mark Hodgson	Queensland
1990-92	Peter John Marston	South Australia
1992-94	Brian Malcolm Lloyd Jenkins	Victoria
1995-96	John Fletcher McLellan Dunnet	New South Wales
1997	Simon Kirke Irwin	Queensland
1998-99	Brian Francis George Hopkins	Victoria
1999-2002	Gregory Roy Wilkie Watson	New South Wales
2002-04	Paul Taylor	South Australia
2004-06	Malcolm Smith	Western Australia
2006-08	Christopher Roy McPherson	Victoria

Venues and dates of APPA conferences, 1906-1956

Year	Date	Venue
1906	20 October	Sydney
1908	2 November	Melbourne
1909	9 August	Brisbane
1912	18 March	Auckland
1913	7 November	Adelaide
1915	19 May	Melbourne
1916	16 October	Sydney
1917	13 August	Brisbane
1918	29 October	Adelaide
1921	10 May	Melbourne
1922	30 October	Sydney
1923	29 October	Perth
1925	6 June	Brisbane
1927	1 March	Adelaide
1929	15-19 March	Canberra
1931	18-19 November	Melbourne
1933	25 October	Sydney
1936	6-7 July	Brisbane
1939	20-21 March	Adelaide
1946	25-26 November	Melbourne
1947	October	Sydney
1951	26 October 1951	Sydney
1954	23-24 August	Adelaide
1956	18 October	Sydney

* *The Advertisers' and Publishers' Guide of Australia and New Zealand* (1935 edition) contains *Who's Who*-style biographical sketches of Australian and New Zealand newspaper identities. It has useful background on some of the early presidents listed above.

48.4.3 MISSING QUEENSLAND NEWSPAPERS
The official list of "Missing Queensland newspapers" can be accessed through www.slq.qld.gov.au/services/pres/news/missing

48.4.4 A PRIMARY SOURCE: RUPERT MURDOCH ON 'THE SPEECH'
Mark Day, who writes mainly for the Media section of the *Australian*, had the following letter in the *Australian Literary Review*, 7 May 2008, p.27: "In the interests of accuracy, I should point out that Bruce Dover in *Rupert's Adventures in China: How Murdoch Lost a Fortune and Found a Wife*, which I reviewed in the April issue, got it wrong in his account of what became known as The Speech: the 1993 London address given by Rupert Murdoch where he said satellite television was an unambiguous threat to totalitarian regimes everywhere. Dover writes that Murdoch told him the speech was written by the American economist and confidant Irwin Stelzer, and I repeated this in my review. In fact, according to an email Rupert Murdoch sent me after the review was published, the author was Andrew Knight, the former executive chairman of News International."

48.4.5 PICTURES OF REPORTERS, 1908-2008
The *Age's* house magazine, *Agenda*, carried in May (pp.12-13) five fascinating pictures of the reporters' room/newsroom at the newspaper, ca 1908, ca 1960s, ca 1971, 1999 and 2008.

48.4.6 LINOTYPES ACROSS THE NATION

An E-mail message from George Finn (see 47.4.9) to the National Library about linotypes and the newspaper chronology on the ANPlan website was forwarded to your editor. This led to a little research and the discovery of the following from J. Hagan, *Printers and Politics: A History of the Australian Printing Unions 1890-1950* (Canberra: Australian National University Press, 1966), pp.103-104:

> The Linotype was a godsend to Australian newspaper proprietors trying to cut costs in the depression of the nineties, and in less than five years they were at work in every capital city daily except, perhaps, two. The Sydney *Daily Telegraph* had machines at work by April 1894; within a few months, the Sydney *Evening News* had installed its first two. Linotypes were in Melbourne at Massina's office by December, and early in 1895 the Melbourne *Herald* installed a battery of eleven. By this time machines were in use at the *Brisbane Courier* and the *Launceston Examiner*, and in the next year the *Argus* and the *Age* changed over to machine composition. In 1897 the Perth *Morning Herald* installed them, and in 1898 so did both the Adelaide dailies. By 1899 the machines had crossed the desert to Kalgoorlie.
>
> The march of the machines suddenly intensified the severe unemployment in an industry heavily based on newspapers. Dismissals seemed to have ranged between half and two-thirds of the composing staff. At the Sydney *Daily Telegraph*, the manager announced that he would be dismissing 50 men out of a staff of 74. The old Age companionship was reduced from 120 to 44, from whom the final selection as Linotype operators was made. At the *Argus*, a slightly smaller staff was reduced to 20.

George Finn commented: "Of course, history proved that the Linotype resulted in larger composing room staff, as the cost of producing advertisements dropped and newspapers grew in size, putting more power in the hands of print unions. One hundred years later PC networks connected to pagination devices have brought to fruition the threat that compositors feared with the invention of the Linotype

Claude Marquet, Union Christmas card, 1904, reproduced from Joan Kerr, *Artists and Cartoonists in Black and White: The Most Public Art***, figure 2.21**
Courtesy of the Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales

"One of Claude Marquet's images (above) needs special mention here. In late 1904 he drew and printed a union Christmas card for the skilled compositors employed by the *Argus* and *Australasian* newspapers, a collective greeting which they could send to printers working in other establishments. It carried an image clearly intended to be humorous, though in the words of the historian of the Australian printing unions, "a large number of unemployed

compositors would not have been able to see much humour" in it. The image showed a diminutive and somewhat cowed compositor turning from his type frame to shake hands with a powerfully anthropomorphic Linotype press, the machine whose introduction had put four out of five newspaper "comps" in Melbourne out of work. Perhaps the compositors who were still employed could see the joke. Whatever the politics of the image, its force comes largely from the contrast between the muscular bulk of the machine and the diminished manliness of the hand compositor."

48.4.7 THE ORIGINS OF THE BUDGET LOCKUP
Christian Kerr has written about the Federal Budget lockup (*Australian*, Media section, 15 May 2008, pp.35-36). He reports that 550 members of the media and 60 Treasury officers filled 12 committee rooms at Parliament House on 13 May for the lockup for the first Wayne Swan Budget. It was the journalists who first forced treasurers to give them a preview of the budget papers back in the mid-1940s, according to Rob Chalmers, editor of the *Inside Canberra* newsletter, who has now covered 56 Budgets. "Chifley used to get to his feet and give his speech at 8pm while the journos wrote like hell to get it in the next day's paper," Chalmers said. "Eventually, some went to him and said, 'Jeez, Chif, give us a go'." So the lock-up was born. "The Budget would be kept under strict wraps to prevent any journalist from profiteering, so the lock-up lasted until the Australian stock exchanges closed." The main lock-up was held in Canberra, in the Treasury, as there was no room in Old Parliament House. Subsidiary lock-ups were also held in the state capital cities supervised by Treasury officials. (Also see: Christian Kerr, "Rudd sets stage for budget spin", *Australian*, Media section, 8 May 2008, p.33; and Alan Wood in 48.1.10 "People" above).

48.4.8 ORANGE: NEWSPAPER FILES GIVEN TO LIBRARY
A much fuller historical record of the City of Orange, NSW, seems likely now that the Orange City Library has embarked on a program to preserve hundreds of historic copies of the *Central Western Daily* and its predecessors for future generations (*Central Western Daily*, 23 June 2008). The library took possession of the newspapers which had been stored at the *CWD* offices in Kite Street to help complete a catalogue of news clippings already running into the thousands. The filed copies are used by residents to research the social, political and historical development of the city. Peter Douglas, of Orange City Library, said the original newspapers would be kept in an environment "more conducive to storing paper artefacts". The papers would be stored in an internal room at the library that is permanently cooled to 13 degrees with a 7 per cent moisture level. The library holds copies of newspapers ranging in date from 1879 to 2008, giving a readily available printed history of the city, Douglas said. "Even the most recent clippings are kept in upright files and stored on microfiche."

48.4.9 WA MEDIA HISTORIES WORKSHOP
Rod Kirkpatrick writes: The ARC Cultural Research Network held a workshop on WA Media Histories at the State Library of Western Australia, Perth, on 13 June. The papers with a newspaper focus were: Bob Reece (**b.reece@murdoch.edu.au**), "Fremantle's first voice: the *Herald* (1867-1886)"; Geoffrey Bolton (**g.bolton@murdoch.edu.au**), "Paul Hasluck at the *West Australian* 1923-1940"; Richard Nile (**r.nile@curtin.edu.au**), "The civic personality of the *West Australian*"; and my own paper, "The governors and the *Gazettes:* Prior restraint and prior influence". Bolton's paper was a fascinating insight into Hasluck's period at the *West Australian*. Bolton is writing a biography of Hasluck. Nile examined the relationship over time of the *West Australian* and its offshoot publications to its community if readers. My paper dealt with the *Gazettes* of Perth, Adelaide, Hobart and Sydney and I strongly disputed the genealogical claims by the *West Australian* that it is 175 years old.

5 – RECENTLY PUBLISHED

48.5.1 BOOKS

Economou, Nick, and Tanner, Stephen, *Media: Power and Politics in Australia*, 290 pages, Pearson Education Australia.

Fitzgerald, Julian, *Inside the Parliamentary Press Gallery: Seeing Beyond the Spin*, includes a Directory of the Media Bureaus in the Federal Parliamentary Press Gallery, 424 pages, Clareville Press, $39.95

Kirkpatrick, Rod, *Purposely Parochial: 100 Years of the Country Press in Queensland.* Brisbane: Queensland Country Press Association, 2008. Includes bibliography, index, and a chronology of the Queensland country press from the beginning. 195pp. Available in hard cover ($40) and soft cover ($30) from QCPA, email secretary Neal McLary at: **ncmlary@printnet.com.au**

Usher, Jim (ed.), *The Argus: Life & Death of a Newspaper,* Australian Scholarly Publishing, Melbourne, 2008 (2nd ed.).

Journalists who worked on the former Melbourne morning daily, the *Argus,* believe the paper would have been a dominating force in Australian journalism today if its managing director, Sir Erroll Knox, had not died suddenly and the London *Daily Mirror* had not got its hands on the *Argus* in 1949. The claim is made in the second edition of the book, which has just been released. The paper's Page 1 columnist Peter Golding and reporters Bob Murray and Jim Usher say that if Knox had been at the helm during the heady years of the paper producing full colour on a daily basis, it could have built up a large circulation or become the basis for a national daily. It was Knox who, in 1947, ordered the machinery which enabled the *Argus* to produce the world's first daily run-of-the-press full colour newspaper on 5 November, 1952. Knox didn't see his dream fulfilled. He died in October 1949, three months after the London *Daily Mirror* had bought a controlling interest. The book*,* first published in 2007, is a collection of memories of more than 65 journalists, photographers, printers and office staff who worked on the paper between 1923 and 1957.

48.5.2 ARTICLES

Aarons, Mark, 'Cut to size by the force of history', *Australian Literary Review*, 4 June 2008, pp.10-11. The truth is undeniable: much of Wilfred Burchett's journalism is explicable only as unalloyed communist propaganda, says Aarons as he reviews Tibor Meray's *On Burchett* (Callistemon Publications, 273pp, $24.95).

Dunn, James, "Investors go online to get instant news", Educated Investor supplement, *Australian*, 25 June 2008. Summary of business news by the newspapers on the web.

Errington, Wayne, and Miragliotta, Narelle, "From journalist to politician: measuring career crossover in the Federal Parliament, 1901-2007", proceedings from the Politics/Media Conference held at the University of Melbourne, 12-13 February 2008, accessible at **soapbox.unimelb.edu.au/pages/proceedings.html**

Foley, Steve, "'Hold the home page – I've got a perishable scoop!'", *Agenda* (*Age* house magazine), May 2008, pp.12-13.

Griffen-Foley, Bridget, "So long *Bulletin*", *Australian Book Review*, March 2008, p.26. The end of the *Bulletin* magazine is discussed in an historical perspective.

Holland, Mark, "Read All About It!", *History Today*, May 2008, pp.70-71. The author provides examples of the millions of British newspaper pages now available online.

Laird, Lindy, "The things I write often surprise me", *Best* (APN Readers First newspaper), June 2008, pp.6-7. The author has been a farmer, mother, furniture manufacturer and dishwasher (amongst other things), but writing feature stories is what she does best. APN's feature writer of the year, a New Zealand journalist, tells how she does it.

McGann, Paul, "My writing secret? Buggered if I know", *Best* (APN Readers First newspaper), June 2008, p.5. Paul McGann, of the *Observer*, Gladstone, reckons he's no writer and that he's an ordinary bloke who sits down each week to write his column and the words simply come. He is the APN columnist of the year.

McKenzie, Nick & Bartley, Patrick, "Nags to Riches: how to make a fast buck", *Sunday Age*, 11 May 2008, pp. 1 and 10. Details the recent sale of *Best Bets* and *Winning Post* magazines.

Nolan, David, "A genealogy of infotainment: Journalism as a shifting political technology", proceedings from the Politics/Media Conference held at the University of Melbourne, 12-13 February 2008: **soapbox.unimelb.edu.au/pages/proceedings.html**

Phelan, Philip, "News on paper needs a rethink", *Australian*, Media section, 22 May 2008, p.32. Quote: "Newspapers like to think of themselves as providing a social good that floats above and comments on a changing society. The reality is that papers are in the thick of it just like the rest of us and, just like other media, they are subject to the shift in social structure from mass to individual."

Simons, Margaret, "Facing the future of journalism", *AustralianPolicyOnline*, 14 May 1008. The Australian media largely ignored a major conference looking at its own future.

Surtees, Clarissa, "Government's Relationship with the Media", *Australasian Parliamentary Review: Journal of the Australasian Study of Parliament Group,* Autumn 2008, Vol 23, No. 1, pages 203-211. This article examines the Federal Parliamentary Press Gallery and how it is regulated by the Parliament.

Tapsell, Ross, "Australian Reporting of the Indonesian Killings of 1965-66: The Media as the 'First Rough Draft of History'", *Australian Journal of Politics & History* 54 (2), pp.211–224. This article examines Australian press coverage of the Indonesian killings of 1965–66, and considers its legacy for the historical consciousness of events in Indonesia. The Indonesian killings of 1965–66 occurred on Australia's doorstep, at a time when the Cold War dominated the front pages of Australian newspapers.

Warden, Ian, 'Empire Day to Cracker Night revels', *National Library of Australia News,* May 2008, pp.14-17. A Canberra-based writer uses the National Library's Newspaper Collection to trace Empire Day's fall from uplifting displays of imperial loyalty to larrikin "Cracker Nights".

A d v e r t i s e m e n t