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NEWSLETTER

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Ten issues had appeared by December 2000 and the *Newsletter* has since appeared five times a year.

State Library of NSW commits to massive digitisation project—see 71.4.1 below

1 – CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: NATIONAL & METROPOLITAN

71.1.1 END OF WEEKDAY BROADSHEET ERA FOR *SMH* AND *AGE*



Two of Australia's oldest metropolitan dailies, the *Sydney Morning Herald* (estab. 1831) and the Melbourne *Age* (1854), farewelled the broadsheet format for their weekday editions on Friday, 1 March 2013. They appeared in tabloid—or what they insist on calling “compact”—format from Monday, 4 March (see images this page and next). Many of their sections had been produced in tabloid format for some years. The main section of the Saturday editions of the *SMH* and the *Age* will remain in broadsheet format until Fairfax closes its Chullora (Sydney) and Tullamarine (Melbourne) printing plants in mid 2014. Then, Fairfax says, these sections will also become tabloid.”

Following is what the ANHG (68.1.1) reported in July 2012.

18 June 2012: Fairfax Media announced it would shed 1900 jobs over the coming three years, begin charging for access to its main websites, close its Sydney (Chullora) and Melbourne (Tullamarine) printing plants and convert the *Sydney Morning Herald* and Melbourne *Age* from broadsheet to tabloid on 4 March 2013. One-fifth of the job cuts will be from editorial, CEO Greg Hywood

announced. About 150 editorial jobs will be lost at metropolitan mastheads—including the *Herald*, *Age* and *Canberra Times*—by about the end of September. Voluntary redundancies would be sought, but compulsory cuts were not ruled out. It therefore appears that about 250 jobs will be shed from the editorial departments of Fairfax's regional dailies (nine in NSW, three in Victoria, two in Tasmania, and one in Queensland) and country non-dailies.

And now March 2013 is already upon us. Max Prisk, the editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, 1988-1993, wrote (*SMH*, 25 February 2013) that at least in size the *Herald* had almost gone full circle. “The original *Herald* was 10½ inches by 16½ inches (27 centimetres by 42 centimetres, or about half a column shy of the current folded *Herald*)... It was not until October 1941—ahead of the change to news instead of classifieds on Page 1 on 15 April 1944—that the paper was reduced in size, in what an editorial described as “the greatest mechanical advance in the paper's 110 years' history”. Its width was cut by 25 per cent, but it was still a broadsheet. The change to true compact will bring the weekday *Herald* much closer to the declaration of 1941: “The smaller size conforms to modern standards, and will be more easily handled by those who must read the news in crowded trains, trams or buses.”

On Sunday, 3 March 2013, the *Weekend Australian* published a one-off Sunday edition. This was the first publication of the *Australian* on a Sunday since the *Sunday Australian* ceased in June 1972. The edition was the result of an advertising arrangement with BMW. This edition was delivered by newsagents to hard copy subscribers. It was not placed on sale, but it was available online to digital customers. The Sunday edition was 44 broadsheet pages, in the same arrangement as the usual Saturday edition of the *Weekend Australian*, but without the magazine supplements. The first section was news, the second section was “Inquirer”, containing longer articles and opinion pieces, the third section Business, and the fourth section Sport. A few articles were repeated from the Saturday edition, but most of the content was new – indeed with a strong, meaty content. Each page carried at the top “Brought to you by BMW 3 Series.” All advertisements were for BMW. The centre pages of each of the four sections was a double page advertisement for BMW. The back page of each section was a full page advertisement for BMW. So there were a total of twelve full pages of BMW advertisements. There were also smaller advertisements for BMW placed elsewhere.

It was certainly no coincidence that this promotion by the *Australian* occurred the day before the weekday *Age* and *Sydney Morning Herald* went tabloid. A promotion box on Page 2 proclaimed in big letters, “As Fairfax shrinks, we keep getting bigger and better.” And the *SMH* and *Age* bragged of their new size: “Easier to pick up, harder to put down.” Other changes Fairfax rolled out include a redesign for the papers’ mobile sites, new homepages at smh.com.au and theage.com.au, which were relaunched with a cleaner, more upmarket design last night, and an evening edition for the iPad app. A “soft” paywall is expected to be erected around the websites mid-year, and reports suggest readers would be able to access 20 to 30 stories for free before being asked to pay (*Australian*, Media section, 4 March 2013).



71.1.2 TRADITIONAL GIANTS FALL, NEW GIANTS EMERGE

The combined value of five traditional giants in the Australian media sector was \$2.6 billion less in mid-December than at the start of the year, reported **Nick Tabakoff**, *Australian*, 17 December 2012. The value of the five big media names – Network Ten, APN News & Media, Fairfax Media, Seven West Media and Southern Cross Austereo – had collectively dropped by more than a third in 2012. Three new media companies, employment group Seek, real estate advertiser REA Group and Carsales.com, shed their junior status in Australia in 2012 and passed the value of the five traditional media giants. In December, the three newcomers were worth a combined \$6.5bn: 44 per cent more than the five “old-media” companies and nearly 40 per cent more than their own collective value at the start of the year. This meant there had been a value swing of \$4.4bn from the old media companies to the new media stocks since 1 January, Tabakoff reported.

The comparison would have been even worse for the old media stocks had Nine Entertainment been a listed entity during the period. This is because private-equity group CVC Asia Pacific burned through virtually its entire \$1.8bn equity in Nine, with the company only narrowly avoiding administration, as the company’s accounts released on Friday clearly showed. Media analyst Greg Fraser of Fat Prophets – who conducted the analysis for the *Australian* – said it had been “a horror year for the likes of Network Ten, APN, Fairfax and Seven West”. The story is particularly dire for Ten shareholders, who have seen their shares drop 66 per cent in value this year.

Fairfax’s share-price dive of just under 28 per cent this year is even more galling given that the company’s former chief executive, Fred Hilmer, passed up the opportunity to take control of both Seek and Carsales.com when they were start-ups in the early part of last decade. “Fairfax had substantial stakes in both Seek and Carsales, but Fred Hilmer baulked at the price, and argued that he could organically grow the company’s own websites,” Fraser said. “He had unwittingly let go of the golden goose, and James Packer swooped on both companies soon after.”

Fairfax Media has been removed from the S&P/ASX 100 Index after its market value plunged last year. Fairfax’s shares price fell by more than 30 per cent last year as shareholders sold out of

the stock. Substantial Fairfax shareholders, such as Maple-Brown Abbott and National Australia Bank, have either sold down their exposure or sold out altogether. The additions and removals from the index are based on the market capitalisation of a company so that only Australia's most valuable groups are included. The changes come into effect on 15 March. The moves are significant because they restrict the universe of investors that are able to buy into a stock (Darren Davidson, *Australian*, 2 March 2013).

71.1.3 FAIRFAX SELLS TRADEME

Fairfax Media has dumped its stake in New Zealand auction and classifieds site Trade Me as it looks to restructure its struggling print operations at home, pocketing about \$616 million from the sale of its remaining 51 per cent stake. The UBS-conducted sale of 202 million shares over the weekend, at \$3.05 a share, or equal to a 5.3 per cent discount to Trade Me's Friday closing price of \$3.22, will pare back Fairfax's debt from \$815m to less than \$200m after other, smaller asset sales. In a statement to the Australian Securities Exchange today, Fairfax chief executive Greg Hywood said that Trade Me had been a great business for the media company to own, that had taught it much about the successful operation of digital businesses. "The proceeds from the sale will reduce Fairfax's net debt and will provide us with a very strong balance sheet and the financial flexibility to invest and to complete the company's structural transformation," he said (*Australian*, 17 December 2012).

71.1.4 FAIRFAX, RINEHART AND SINGLETON

Andrew Main writes (*Australian*, 31 December 2012): John Singleton's formal appearance as a collaborator with 14.9 per cent Fairfax shareholder Gina Rinehart brings closer the final showdown between the existing board and currently unrepresented shareholders, headed by Rinehart. Singleton, who controls Macquarie Radio, revealed on 28 December that he had teamed up with Macquarie colleague, investment banker Mark Carnegie, to form Gutenberg Investments Unit Trust, which had "agreed to consult" with Rinehart's Hancock Prospecting group.

71.1.5 FAIRFAX: OLD AND NEW SHAREHOLDINGS

Fairfax Media's share registry was the subject of more fervent activity after substantial shareholder Maple-Brown Abbott sold down its holding on 10 January. The investment manager reduced its holding from 8.95 per cent to 7.93 per cent after shares in Fairfax rallied following the decision by ad man John Singleton and investment banker Mark Carnegie to climb on to the publisher's share register in December and join forces with Gina Rinehart. Maple-Brown Abbott is not the first substantial Fairfax shareholder to sell out of Fairfax in recent months. National Australia Bank progressively sold down its stake in November. (*Australian*, 11 January 2013).

Gina Rinehart's Hancock Prospecting has welcomed the arrival of fund manager and long-time Kerry Stokes supporter Ausbil Dexia, headed by Paul Xiradis, as Fairfax Media's newest substantial shareholder. The boutique fund manager has been strategically building a stake in the media company and on 1 February breached the 5 per cent threshold that triggered a disclosure on the Australian Securities Exchange. Ausbil has emerged with a 5.3 per cent stake in Fairfax, becoming the company's seventh-largest shareholder with a stake worth about \$66 million at current prices. "We welcome them to the share register," Hancock chief development officer John Klepec told the *Weekend Australian*. Xiradis, Ausbil's chief executive, is known to be a big supporter of Seven Group executive chairman Kerry Stokes. He is Seven Group's second-largest shareholder with a 5.05 per cent stake, and the third-largest shareholder in Stokes's Seven West Media, owner of the top-placed free-to-air network, with a 3.48 per cent holding (*Weekend Australian*, 2-3 February 2013).

71.1.6 BUSWELL PAPERS HANDED OVER

Perth's *Sunday Times*, which reported allegations West Australian Treasurer Troy Buswell "dry humped" a businessman's leg has handed over documents to the Supreme Court as part of the Minister's defamation action against his former lover and independent MP Adele Carles. The *Sunday Times* had been considering whether to appeal against Judge John McKechnie's order to provide the information about comments between Carles and political reporter Joe Spagnolo by 4pm on 31 December. It complied with the order and produced the documents to the court. Buswell's lawyer, Martin Bennett, received the documents on 1 January. The protection of

confidential sources was not believed to have been an issue in the matter (*Australian*, 1 January 2013).

71.1.7 AUSTRALIAN JOURNALIST EXPELLED FROM CHINA

China has expelled an Australian journalist, Chris Buckley, after the *New York Times*, for which he works, exposed the substantial private wealth of the nation's outgoing leaders. Buckley, the *NY Times*' Beijing correspondent, has had his visa declined, for a year. The newspaper reported the Chinese Premier's exorbitant wealth. The decision comes as China's new leadership, headed by Xi Jinping, promises to keep China open to the rest of the world. Buckley, 45, and his family flew to Hong Kong on 31 December. Times executive editor Jill Abramson says the newspaper made repeated requests for the Chinese government to renew his journalist visa.

71.1.8 GONE ARE YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW

From Melbourne, **Kim Lockwood** writes (19 December 2012): *The Age* has abandoned traditional references to time in its news stories. "Yesterday", "today" and "tomorrow" have been replaced with the name of the day. For instance, a story in Monday's paper about something that happened the previous day will say it happened "on Sunday". In the same paper, if it's about something that will happen at, say, 3pm today, the story will say it will happen "at 3pm on Monday". Readers, inevitably, are scratching their heads. It happened "on Sunday"? Which Sunday? Last Sunday or yesterday? It will happen "at 3pm on Monday"? What, next Monday? Oh, today! The best effort was this back page lead intro on a Thursday: "The AFL was saved embarrassment at Thursday's national draft ..." That's "saved"—past tense—so it must mean last Thursday, but, no, it means today. The paper on the front lawn at 6am is telling readers something has happened today, compounding the "Thursday" problem. We assume the paper is doing this so stories can live longer on its website, where "yesterday" would be a wrong reference two days after it first appears. But in print it arrests the flow. Readers stop to work it out. We should not have to do that. If they still had subs they could publish appropriately on both platforms.

From Canberra, **Victor Isaacs** writes (on 20 December, after ANHG forwarded Kim Lockwood's observations): Yes, it is also in the *Canberra Times* and *Sydney Morning Herald*. I had not actually noticed this before, but it is definitely in the papers of today Thursday, 20 December. Examples: (1) In *Canberra Times*: There was a major grassfire on the outskirts of Canberra yesterday. The p. 1 article, para 1, refers to "threatening several homes just outside the ACT border on Wednesday." And in para. 6, "owners could not be reached for comment on Wednesday". (2) In *SMH*: e.g., Re funeral service for Kevin Quintal, child hit by a car, para. 2, "people....fell silent before his funeral service on Wednesday".

71.1.9 DAILY TELEGRAPH INCREASES COVER PRICE, AND SO DO SMH AND AFR

On Monday, 4 February, the *Sydney Daily Telegraph* increased its weekday price from \$1 to \$1.20. This is the first price increase for 11 years. The price of the Saturday edition remains at \$1.80. On the same date, the *Sydney Morning Herald* increased its weekday price from \$1.70 to \$2, and increased the price of its Saturday edition from \$2.80 to \$3. The cover price of the *Australian Financial Review* will rise to \$3.30 on 11 March.

71.1.10 RECENT CHRONOLOGY

71.10.1 EVENTS

3 March: *Weekend Australian* issues one-off Sunday edition.

4 March 2013: Weekday editions of *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Age* begin appearing in tabloid format.

5 March 2013: 210th anniversary of publication of first Australian newspaper (see 71.4.9).

71.1.10.2 DEATHS

Harris, Lloyd John: D. 24 July 2012 in Burnie, Tas., aged 90; science graduate; joined Harris and Co., publisher of the *Advocate* (Burnie and Devonport), officially in August 1947 as circulation manager; he had spent "six instructive months" at the Hobart *Mercury*, where he worked in various departments; replaced his uncle, Selby, as general manager of the *Advocate*, serving in that role from 1963-86; brought astuteness and energy to his managerial role and

helped the *Advocate* maintain its place at the forefront of newspaper technology when it became the first regional daily in Australia to install its own web offset press (*Advocate*, 26 July 2012; Lloyd Harris, interview with Rod Kirkpatrick, 2 April 2003).

Heyes, Ken: D. October 2012, aged 86; electrician who helped pioneer the early introduction of offset printing technology in Australia; joined Charlie Holloway and Charles Pearson in the *Progress Press* publishing business in 1957 in Melbourne's eastern suburbs; helped build it from a small progress association news-sheet into a giant of suburban newspaper publishing, printing and distribution; was managing director of Progress Press Distributors, a company he formed to deliver handbills for K mart and which, by the early 1980s, was delivering close to half a billion catalogues and publications a year; a founding member of ANZWONA (the Australian and New Zealand Web Offset Newspapers Association), the forerunner of PANPA (*GXpress*, November 2012, p.45).

Kelton, Greg: D. January 2013 in Adelaide, aged 65; respected elder statesman of the South Australian press gallery; had retired in September 2012 as the state political editor of the *Advertiser* after a 47-year newspaper career; mentored dozens of young political journalists, including high-profile national reporters Annabel Crabb, Philip Coorey and David Penberthy (*Australian*, 18 January 2013).

71.1.11 FLOODS AND THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

The *Australian* criticised the news judgment on the *Sydney Morning Herald* at the peak of the Queensland floods crisis late in January: "If it's over the Tweed it doesn't matter much appears to be the rule when covering natural disasters at the *Sydney Morning Herald*." The *SMH* had chosen to give only superficial coverage the serious Queensland floods. Instead it had devoted their front page to reports of flood risks in Western Sydney and how Sydney storms had ruined the end of the holidays. With a picture of saltwater foam on the Sunshine Coast the *SMH* backbench had managed to mention three dead in Queensland while devoting no fresh inside coverage to their poor friends in the north. Missing as well, noted the *Oz*, was any substantial coverage of the crisis closer to home in Grafton where floodwaters had created similar havoc. In fact you needed to get 15 paragraphs into their main wrap before reading just one par about the NSW north coast town. Meanwhile the *Age* had excellent coverage of the floods as a massive story and Queensland now in a state of emergency (*Australian*, 29 January 2013).

71.1.12 PEOPLE

Jane Fraser mentioned in her column in the *Weekend Australian* (5-6 January) that she had been writing her column for 30 years.

Fiona Harari, journalist and author, took part in a conversation with Richard Ackland on Thursday night, 21 February, at the State Library of NSW as the 2013 Walkley Media Talks program kicked off. They discussed Harari's book, *A Tragedy in Two Acts: Marcus Einfeld and Teresa Brennan*.

Jonathan Holmes, presenter of ABC-TV's *Media Watch*, will deliver the annual Henry Mayer Lecture on 16 May, 5.30pm-6.30pm, at the University of Queensland. His topic will be "Quis Custodiet...? Reflections on five years of Media Watching". The venue will be the Auditorium, Level 2, Sir Llew Edwards Building (No. 14), St Lucia Campus.

Megan Lloyd, editor, of the *Sunday Mail*, Adelaide, was dumped while on leave. She had been with News Limited for more than 20 years (*Australian*, Media section, 28 January 2013). See Penberthy item below.

Amanda Meade, who wrote "The Diary" in the Media section of the *Australian* for about 10 years, was featured in *Mediaweek*, 28 January 2013, p.13. Meade, who took a redundancy from News Limited last year after 18 years with the company, told Neil McMahon she did not have anything lined up. She wanted a job that was more family-friendly.

David Penberthy, a former editor of Sydney's *Daily Telegraph* and a recognised national affairs commentator, has been appointed editor of Adelaide's *Sunday Mail*. Penberthy already lived in Adelaide, his hometown and the city where he started his career as a cadet at the *Advertiser* in 1992. He launched The Punch website in 2008 and was appointed editor in chief of news.com.au

in 2011. Penberthy is engaged to federal Labor minister Kate Ellis, who represents the seat of Adelaide.

Greg Sheridan, 53, foreign editor for the *Australian*, writes about his heart bypass surgery (*Weekend Australian Magazine*, 23-24 February 2013, pp.22-26). For everyone who has been through heart problems of one kind or another, the article makes gripping reading.

Leonore Taylor, chief political correspondent for the *Sydney Morning Herald*, and Katharine Murphy, national affairs correspondent for the *Age*, have departed the Fairfax Media Canberra bureau. They have both been hired by the *Guardian* for its soon-to-be-launched Australian operation, wrote Nick Leys (*Australian*, Media section, 11 February 2013).

71.1.13 MORE FAIRFAX JOBS TO GO

Fairfax Media is in the process of outsourcing much of its internal call-centre work across the Tasman (*Australian*, Media section, 28 January 2013). Once it is completed, the bulk of the company's newspaper and magazine subscriptions and classified ad bookings will be handled by US company Teletech's call centres in Auckland and the Philippines. The move was announced to staff late last year and will involve redundancies, although how many jobs will be shed has not been confirmed. A source said Fairfax employed dozens of staff at its call centres in Sydney and Melbourne, although some of its subscriptions work had already been outsourced.

Fairfax had announced in mid January that another 13 editorial jobs would be lost in Australia when copy sub-editing for its Financial Review Group publications, including the *Australian Financial Review*, was relocated to its wholly owned New Zealand division, Fairfax Editorial Services. Nick Leys reports (*Australian*, Media section, 28 January 2013) that the *AFR* will now have just one deadline each day (7pm) and one edition.

71.1.14 NEWS LIMITED SUB HUBS DISMANTLED

News Limited is dismantling its centralised "sub hubs" four years after launching them, *Crikey* reports. Sub-editing is being returned in-house or outsourced to Pagemasters. The NewsCentral "sub hubs", launched in Queensland in 2009 before being rolled out across the country, were being dismantled in February 2013. Sixty-five jobs have been lost on top of the 500 editorial jobs the journalists' union estimates that News shed last year. Brisbane was hardest hit with around 30 jobs going. Sub-editing has traditionally been done in-house by newspapers; News Ltd tried establishing pools of subs which edited copy from different newspapers, but not any more.

The backflip, outlined in a letter of 6 December to the Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance, means that metro papers such as the *Daily Telegraph*, *Herald Sun* and *Courier-Mail* will again perform key sub-editing tasks in-house. A new role known as "news producer" has been created; it combines sub-editing and digital production tasks. Text subbing for regional papers, which had been performed by NewsCentral, is being shifted to the AAP-owned Pagemasters. Subbing for News' community titles was outsourced to Pagemasters last year. The dismantling of NewsCentral comes as News prepares to launch its new publishing system, Eidos Methode, in July. Paul Murphy, the head of the Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance media division told *Crikey*: "It is very disappointing to see News Limited going further down the path of outsourcing. The loss of editorial expertise and experience will be felt heavily."

71.1.15 A SNAPSHOT OF METRO MEDIA PUBLISHING

The following is extracted from an advertisement for "News Editor, Central Division" published in one of the *Weekly* titles (21 November 2012) published by Metro Media Publishing, Melbourne: "Metro Media Publishing is changing community publishing and we need an experienced news editor, and deputy, to lead the way in our central Melbourne region. MMP was founded in 2010 in partnership with more than 20 prestigious advertisers under the guidance of publisher and founder Antony Catalano. Since June, we have expanded to more than 36 publications and websites, including the *Weekly Review*, *Melbourne Times Weekly* and *reviewproperty.com.au*. The Central News Editor would work out of MMP's South Melbourne office and, with the deputy news editor, supervise a team of reporters gathering news from more than eight councils."

71.1.16 TWO JOURNALISTS AND THEIR SOURCES

Johan Lidberg wrote (5 February 2013) on The Conversation website (link below): Fairfax investigative journalists Nick McKenzie and Richard Baker had a small win in a Melbourne court yesterday. Their barrister told the court that a previous ruling agreeing that the magistrate had the right to order the disclosure of their confidential source has been appealed. The two award-winning reporters with the *Age* have been fighting a court order to reveal a confidential source since mid-December 2012. Magistrate Phillip Goldberg concluded that with the matter before the Court of Appeal, he could not ask McKenzie and Baker the crucial question: who was the source for your article published on December 8 last year? McKenzie and Baker have pursued the Note Printing Australia/Securrency story for years in which it is alleged, among other things, that executives used bribes to secure note-printing contracts in Asia. These are powerful allegations that go to the very top of the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA). RBA governor, Glenn Stevens, has denied any wrongdoing or cover up of corruption. Some of these executives have now been charged and in their December 8 story McKenzie and Baker claimed that an Indonesian businessman, who allegedly assisted in getting the contracts, has agreed to give evidence against the NPA/Securrency executives. The main source in the story was not disclosed.

<https://theconversation.edu.au/journalists-mckenzie-and-baker-go-unshielded-before-demands-to-reveal-sources-11914>

71.1.17 NEWS MERGES SA PUBLISHING ARMS

News Limited is merging its South Australian publishing arms, Advertiser Newspapers and Messenger Newspapers, to create a new combined publishing division, after forming similar regional groups last year in NSW, Victoria and Queensland. The company said on 6 February that former Advertiser Newspapers managing director Ish Davies would lead the merged business, reporting to group newspapers managing director Jerry Harris. The Messenger group publishes 12 free suburban titles in Adelaide and Advertiser Newspapers publishes metropolitan mastheads, the *Advertiser* and the *Sunday Mail* (*Australian*, 7 February 2013).

71.1.18 GRATTAN LEAVES AGE

The Melbourne *Age*'s long-serving political editor Michelle Grattan has severed all links with the newspaper. Grattan announced on 3 February that she had resigned to take up an academic role at the University of Canberra. Grattan, 68, will continue to write politics for commentary website The Conversation. The political editor's departure from the newspaper that hired her from academia 42 years ago, came not just in an election year but also as the *Age* prepares to lose its broadsheet status. Grattan is understood to have decided to leave because of pressure to step away from day-to-day reporting and focus on commentary and breaking stories (*Australian*, 5 February 2013).

Margo Kingston, ex-*Sydney Morning Herald* reporter, wrote highly of her on 9 February (aliensforhonestpolitics.wordpress.com/). Kingston's piece is worth reading. Errol Simper, too, wrote highly of Grattan in his column (*Australian*, Media section, 25 February 2013, p.24).

The *Age*'s national affairs editor Michael Gordon has been appointed as the new political editor of the paper (*Australian*, 21 February 2013).

71.1.19 CIRCULATIONS CONTINUE THEIR SLIDE, BUT DIGITAL SALES JUMP

Combined Monday-to-Sunday sales of all print versions of Australian national, metropolitan and regional newspapers fell by 7.1 per cent in the October-December quarter 2012 compared with the same quarter in 2011. The slide gathered pace throughout 2012, writes Sally Jackson (*Australian*, Media section, 18 February 2013). The *Australian* recorded a 27 per cent jump in its number of digital subscribers in the October-December quarter. By then it had 39,539 digital subscribers, an increase of 8298 over the July-September quarter. Combined average daily digital sales by the three major broadsheets, the *Australian*, the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Age*, rose by 13.4 per cent compared with the previous quarter.

The ANHG provides below not only the 2012 and 2011 newspaper circulation figures but also those for the most comparable period in 2002. Percentages declines for the 10 years have been

calculated and are provided. The biggest percentage decline is the 43 per cent experienced by the *Sun-Herald*.

	Oct-Dec 2012	Oct-Dec 2011	July-Dec 2002	% variation over 10 yrs
National				
<i>Australian</i> [M-F]	122,428	133,701	128,686	— 4.86
<i>Weekend Australian</i>	266,696	295,066	298,058	— 10.52
<i>Aust Financial Review</i> [M-F]	66,709	72,282	89,779	— 25.70
<i>Aust Financial Review</i> (Sat)	78,978	81,667	86,256	—8.44
New South Wales				
<i>Daily Telegraph</i> [M-F]	333,424	347,722	409,493	—18.58
<i>Daily Telegraph</i> (Sat)	320,505	327,209	341,224	—6.07
<i>Sunday Telegraph</i>	599,165	618,950	731,366	—18.08
<i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> [M-F]	157,931	184,613	222,000	—27.06
<i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> (Sat)	272,849	314,683	386,500	—29.41
<i>Sun-Herald</i>	313,477	406,470	550,000	—43.00
Victoria				
<i>Herald Sun</i> [M-F]	450,090	472,444	552,000	—18.46
<i>Herald Sun</i> (Sat)	444,250	469,574	510,000	—12.89
<i>Sunday Herald Sun</i>	514,671	545,577	574,500	—10.41
<i>Age</i> [M-F]	157,480	184,156	193,343	—18.55
<i>Saturday Age</i>	227,826	263,047	304,846	—25.27
<i>Sunday Age</i>	191,139	222,291	193,399	—1.17
Queensland				
<i>Courier-Mail</i> [M-F]	185,770	192,970	218,104	—14.83
<i>Courier-Mail</i> (Sat)	237,798	260,178	340,143	—30.09
<i>Sunday Mail</i>	438,994	463,011	613,626	—28.46
South Australia				
<i>Advertiser</i> [M-F]	166,178	175,987	204,320	—18.67
<i>Advertiser</i> (Sat)	218,669	231,258	277,235	—21.11
<i>Sunday Mail</i>	259,791	275,583	342,130	—24.07
Western Australia				
<i>West Australian</i> [M-F]	176,105	185,477	202,565	—13.06
<i>West Australian</i> (Sat)	306,479	302,412	380,081	—19.36
<i>Sunday Times</i>	267,279	282,585	348,000	—23.20
Tasmania				
<i>Mercury</i> [M-F]	40,033	41,894	49,778	—19.58
<i>Mercury</i> (Sat)	54,047	57,569	64,708	—16.48
<i>Sunday Tasmanian</i>	50,976	54,905	58,779	—13.28
<i>Sunday Examiner</i>	34,660	37,923	42,000	—17.48
Northern Territory				
<i>Northern Territory News</i> [M-F]	17,782	19,058	23,314	—23.83
<i>NT News</i> (Sat)	26,926	28,802	32,843	—18.02
<i>Sunday Territorian</i>	19,990	21,012	26,912	—25.72
ACT				
<i>Canberra Times</i> [M-F]	27,974	30,262	39,029	—28.33
<i>Canberra Times</i> (Sat)	43,641	48,759	70,064	—37.71
<i>Canberra Times</i> (Sun)	27,717	30,242	38,604	—28.20

Source: Audit Bureau of Circulations, with percentages calculated by ANHG.

71.1.20 JOB NUMBERS RISE DESPITE CUTS

Sally Jackson (*Australian*, Media section, 28 January 2013, p.26) reports: The number of jobs in the media increased last year despite massive layoffs at major publishers and TV networks. However, employment growth was almost entirely online, with traditional reporting roles dwindling, according to new research by consultancy Economic and Market Development

Advisors. At the end of November, the total number of journalists and writers in Australia was about 22,000, a record. This was an increase of 10 per cent on the previous year

71.1.21 NEWS AND APN DISCUSS POSSIBLE PARTNERSHIP

Newspaper rivals APN News & Media Ltd and News Ltd are examining a printing partnership in Queensland to cut costs, improve distribution and overcome some of the challenges facing the sector, report Sarah Thompson, James Chessell and **Anthony MacDonald** in the *Australian Financial Review*. It is understood executives at the two companies have discussed potential joint ventures in which they share printing presses and distribution runs in Queensland and other states (*Mediaweek* online, 11 February 2013).

71.1.22 WOMEN IN THE BLOKEY WORLD OF JOURNALISM

The largest-ever survey of female journalists in Australia finds many still work in low-paid, low-status positions, struggling to attain real influence in editorial decision-making roles across all media platforms, reports Paige Taylor. Dr Louise North writes in her paper that the most staggering finding was the percentage of female journalists who claim to have experienced sexual harassment has increased significantly over 16 years. In 1996, 51.6 per cent of respondents said they had been sexually harassed, while 57.3 per cent of 2012 respondents said they had been harassed (*Australian*, 28 January 2013).

71.1.23 SUNDAY TIMES: NO GO FOR SEVEN WEST MEDIA

Seven West Media chief executive Don Voelte said there were no current talks to buy News Ltd's *Sunday Times* newspaper in Perth, and ruled out any likelihood of acquisitions in the short term, reported Ben Holgate (*Australian Financial Review*, 21 February 2013). Voelte made the comments as SWM revealed that its newspaper and magazine publishing divisions had weighed on group earnings before interest, tax and depreciation (EBIT), which fell 16 per cent in the first half of the 2012-13 financial year. Voelte said mergers and acquisitions were not on SWM's immediate agenda.

2 – CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: ONLINE

71.2.1 AWARDED APP TRIED BY FAIRFAX REGIONALS

A serious road smash occurs and there is no newspaper photographer at hand. Instead a reader using Fairfax Regional's new iPhone app delivers an image within minutes. The crowd-sourcing approach is supported by emerging in-house technology being used at two Tasmanian publishing sites and now works with both Apple and Android smartphones. Launceston *Examiner* online editor Simon Tarrant told *GXpress* magazine (November 2012, p.4): "Currently stories and images from readers come in as emails, but that's changing, and we have their phone number if we want more details. "We can also send out a general alert to people who might be on the scene if something big happens." The rollout of the app follows introduction of a new content management system. It is the product of a Fairfax Regional Media Project team working with staff from the Tasmanian daily. The app has been downloaded by more than half of the *Examiner's* print circulation and a tenth of the residents. Established in 1842, the *Examiner* is the second oldest surviving Australian regional newspaper. Only the *Geelong Advertiser* (est. 1840) is older. *Examiner* editor Martin Gilmour says readers see their efforts in print or online. "The social pages of our Sunday edition have been pretty much totally made up from photos people have sent us via the app." Fairfax is rolling out iPhone and Android apps throughout its 220 regional titles and 160 websites.

71.2.2 FAIRFAX BUYS TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENT COMPANY

Fairfax Media has bought technology investment company Netus for an undisclosed sum from owners Daniel Petre and Alison Deans. Netus owns 27 per cent of The Video Network and 85 per cent of Allure Media. Fairfax said it had also bought the remaining 15 per cent of Allure from minority shareholders to move to full ownership of the company. Petre, a former vice-president of Microsoft, and Deans, previously managing director of eBay in Australia and New Zealand, will continue working with the company. Netus management bought out former joint venture partner News Limited in May this year (Sally Jackson, *Australian*, 22 December 2012).

3 – CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: COMMUNITY & PROVINCIAL

71.3.1 APN BOARD ROOM UPHEAVAL

18 February: APN News and Media is on the hunt for a new chief executive and chairman, and facing a break-up after five directors resigned on 18 February. This effectively placed control of the company in the hands of its major shareholder, Ireland's Independent News & Media. The company's chairman, Peter Hunt, chief executive and managing director Brett Chenoweth, and three other directors resigned after facing a block vote from INM and the second-biggest holder, Allan Gray, for a proposed capital raising and the prospect of an extraordinary general meeting. The resignations included independent directors Melinda Conrad, John Harvey and John Maasland. The five directors determined they were in an untenable position and tendered their resignations at the second board meeting in as many days. The departing directors said in a joint statement that they had a "different view on gearing levels to the major shareholders" and in light of their opposing position it was not tenable for them to continue. On 15 February, INM, APN's largest shareholder, said it had "lost confidence" in Chenoweth and would not support a capital raising to pay down about \$480 million of debt. INM, which owns about 29 per cent of APN, said that it was seeking the removal of Chenoweth as a director and the chief executive of APN, and that it planned to call an extraordinary general meeting (*Australian*, 19 February 2013).

19 February: APN has appointed long-time director Peter Cosgrove as chairman. reports Colin Kruger. The company is still without a CEO, but speculation has grown that APN director Vincent Crowley - currently chief executive of INM - will return to APN as chief executive after more than a decade's absence (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 20 February 2013). See also: Bryan Frith, "INM's coup leaves APN rudderless", *Australian*, 20 February 2013.

71.3.2 YASS: HEAD DOWN, BUM UP, AND KEEP THE COFFEE COMING

Rod Kirkpatrick writes: The *Yass Tribune*, serving a town an hour's drive north of Canberra, was established in 1879, 22 years after the first Yass paper, the *Courier*. In 1929 the two papers were amalgamated under the ownership of Albert Peter Mudge (1876-1954), who had bought the *Tribune* in 1927. Mudge and son, Bert Parmenas Mudge (1908-1992), forged a grand tradition of independent editors at the *Yass Tribune* (see my article, "Yass badge of courage", *GXpress*, June 2012, p.34). The Mudge family sold the paper in March 1973 to Roger Stewart and family. Stewart said editorials would "become a rarity". The Stewarts lacked a printing background and had no links with Yass. They sold nine months later to Colin Lord, a South Coast newspaper proprietor, who printed the paper in Bowral. "The local content nose-dived," I wrote. "The Mudge heritage had been trashed."

And so it was reassuring to see the segment on ABC-TV's *Landline* on 3 February about how the bi-weekly *Yass Tribune* is now connecting with its local community. During the bushfire crisis in the Yass district in late January, the *Tribune*, from its online experience to that point, was poised to play a role as a continually updated information hub. Last November managing editor Karan Gabriel had just departed on a holiday with her children when she received a call on her mobile to say Yass High School had "burned down" overnight. "Well," she told me, "it turned out it wasn't quite that bad but it was a very significant fire and meant that classes had to be suspended, etc, etc. I got on to two of my journos who leapt into action. One got out to the [fire] site and got photos and info; the other got onto our website and Facebook and started posting updates. This continued through most of that weekend. So you can see, we'd travelled this road already. The Cobbler Road fire [in January] just forced us to take this even further."

During the January bushfire crisis, the *Tribune* played a vital role in keeping its community informed, not so much in print but through its web page and Facebook site, according to ABC 7.30 Canberra reporter Adrienne Francis. [*Landline* picked up on 3 February the item from the 1 February ACT edition of 7.30.] *Tribune* managing editor Karan Gabriel told Francis that in the week or so during which even Yass township was under threat from the bushfires, the *Tribune* had constantly updated its website and kept answering Facebook questions.

The number of people being reached by the paper's Facebook site jumped from 3000 to 44,000 over a few days. Gabriel said, "A lot of people have said we saved them from a lot of uncertainty at a very scary time." The fire came within 60 to 90 minutes of "running through Yass", Gabriel said. Reporters worked through the night at the height of the bushfire crisis and the *Tribune's* print sales have benefited. Newsagent Roger Gregg told the ABC that he had "sold out last week and was having more papers delivered this week and I'm sure they'll sell out again". Gabriel said,



Karan Gabriel

"We never imagined we'd end up being The Place people go for fire information." On 4 February, about 8.33am (AEDT), I visited the *Yass Tribune* Facebook page and this was the message from three minutes earlier: "Good morning. Hope you're all getting your working week off to a good start. We're looking at a busy day in the *Trib* office with at least one member of the team out sick and lots to do. We'll get the latest figure on how much money was raised at the Fire Ball on Saturday night, follow up our fishing story from last week, check on the status of the Wargeila Road fire, get a police round up, and lots more. It's head down, bum up—and keep the coffee coming."

71.3.3 BUNDABERG: NEWSMAIL OFFICE FLOODED

During the floods in Bundaberg in early February, the *NewsMail* office was flooded (see right). The newspaper resulted from the amalgamation in 1925 of the second Bundaberg newspaper, the *Bundaberg and Mount Perry Mail* (estab. 1876), and the *Daily News* (1907). Of course, the amalgamated title began life with a hyphen, which has been ditched in recent years with online influences prevailing.



71.3.4 GEELONG AND BALLARAT: NEWSPAPER DISTRIBUTION

As at 26 November 2012, newspaper distribution in eastern Geelong and the Bellarine Peninsula was taken over from local newsagents by Greater Geelong Distribution. Newspaper distribution in Ballarat similarly was taken over by Ballarat Distribution Centre. These two new organisations, along with Titan Distribution, comprise the Allied Distribution Agents company. Titan was already established as the newspaper distributor in the western and south-western suburbs of Melbourne, having taken over newspaper distribution there from 2009.

71.3.5 GREAT EXPECTATIONS: A CADET JOURNALIST

What does a newspaper publisher expect from a cadet journalist today? Metro Media Publishing, founded in Melbourne in 2010 by Antony Catalano, advertised (*Hobsons Bay Weekly*, 21 November 2012, p.14) for a "cadet journalist/photographer". MMP expected applicants to be able to put a tick in every box for: news reporting; photojournalism; online reporting; strong news sense; excellent communication skills, respect for tight deadlines; understanding of local government and newsmakers. The cadetship advertised was "an 11-month contract position, beginning in February [2013]". The contract was to be performance based and "a successful cadet will be offered a full-time, graded position with MMP at the end of the term".

71.3.6 A NEWSPAPER NAMED AFTER A RAILWAY LINE

The Outer Circle railway was one of Australia's most spectacular railway failures. It was opened across Melbourne's, then, outer Eastern suburbs from Oakleigh via, inter alia, East Kew, to Fairfield in 1890-1891, just in time to coincide with the start of the 1890s depression. After just two years, it was closed. Portions of it, including north of East Kew were never re-opened, although the former right-of-way is still prominent in the urban landscape. In March 1953, 60 years after the railway closed, a local newspaper was established in East Kew called the *Outer Circle Mirror*. The publisher was Mirror Newspapers Pty. Ltd., a local company. From 15 November 1957 the company also published the nearby *Doncaster Mirror*. Both were free weeklies. These two papers were amalgamated from 27 April 1966 as the *Doncaster and Outer Circle Mirror*. This became the *Doncaster and Eastern Suburbs Mirror* from 30 July 1969 before reverting to the *Doncaster Mirror* from 3 August 1977. The newspaper ceased publication from 24 September 1986.

71.3.7 MAITLAND: MERCURY IS 170 YEARS OLD

The *Maitland Mercury*, now a Monday to Friday morning daily, has become the third Australian country newspaper to celebrate its 170th birthday. The *Mercury* started on 7 January 1843. It became a daily on 1 January 1894. The others to reach the 170-year mark are the *Geelong Advertiser* (estab. 21 November 1840) and the Launceston *Examiner* (12 March 1842). No other country paper established in the 1840s is still in print. The *Mercury* has made available on its website several galleries of pictures reflecting the life of the district and the newspaper over the years.

71.3.8 MACKAY: MEDIA LANDSCAPE TRANSFORMED

In the first issue of the *Mackay Telegraph* for 2013, editor Melissa Grant devoted 1½ pages to reflecting on 2012, the year "Mackay's media landscape was transformed". Previously, Mackay had its *Daily Mercury* (estab. 1866) and its free weekly sister publication, the *Mackay and Sarina Midweek*. The *Telegraph* began appearing as a free weekly on Saturday, 10 March 2012, even though the promotional edition had said the paper would appear twice weekly. It has not appeared twice in any week. The *Telegraph* soon absorbed the *Mackay Real Estate Plus*, a free advertising newspaper. Published by Queensland Media Holdings, the *Telegraph* now has sister weeklies in Rockhampton (the *Queensland Telegraph*) and Toowoomba (the *Toowoomba Telegraph*). All three *Telegraphs* compete with APN dailies.

In the issue of 8 February, editor Grant penned her farewell to Mackay and the *Telegraph*. She was packing up her house to "move down south to start a new chapter of my life". She had been in Mackay three years. The new editor is Cameron Leslie.

71.3.9 TOWNSVILLE: THE ESSENCE OF JOURNALISM

Tony Curran writes (*Australian*, Media section, 11 February 2013): So the "future journalist" will need "advanced digital and online skills" to perform their role (Professor John Potts, Media Commentary section, January 28). He or she must adapt "in a world where white is the new black, up is the new down". And, the professor maintains, the future journalist will need much more than "traditional research and storytelling" skills to deliver their material on a proliferation of platforms. Tosh. If a future Paul Kelly is unable to navigate his way around a Twitter feed, will he be disciplined for failing to master the digital landscape? I think not.

Before we focus too intently on technology, we should reflect more on the journalistic characteristics upon which the most celebrated practitioners of our profession thrive: news sense, hunger and passion; analysis, perspective and colour; stories compelling in content and rich in depth. We don't need to worry too much about delivery. We've embraced change ever since Caxton cranked up his, erm, prototype. But we should be worried about the essence of journalism—because the media's need for skilled wordsmiths has never been more acute. [Extract only.] Tony Curran is regional editor for News Queensland in Townsville and a former online editor for the *Australian*.

4 – NEWSPAPER HISTORY

71.4.1 STATE LIBRARY OF NSW AIMS TO DIGITISE ALL NSW NEWSPAPERS

Jerelynn Brown, Manager, Collection Services, State Library of New South Wales, writes: The State Library of New South Wales aims to acquire, preserve, provide access to and eventually, digitise all New South Wales newspapers. The Library holds in its collection 2,025 newspapers published in NSW, including 334 current titles. To date, 61 NSW newspaper titles have been digitised and are accessible through the National Library's Trove website. These include Australia's first newspaper, the *Sydney Gazette and NSW Advertiser* (published 1803-1842) and the *Sydney Morning Herald* (estab. 1831) up to 1954. At this stage we anticipate that more than 1.5 million pages representing an additional 80 newspaper titles will be accessible online by July 2013. NSW newspapers currently online can be accessed via Trove at www.trove.nla.gov.au and there is a listing of the titles already digitised.

How has this come about? The State Library of New South Wales has this year received funding of \$22.4 million from the NSW Government to support the Library's Digital Excellence Project including a major collection digitisation program. A key part of the program is the digitisation of NSW newspapers, starting with those whose publication period includes World War I. Six million pages of historic NSW newspapers will be digitised and delivered online through Trove in the first four years of the project through collaboration between the State Library and the National Library of Australia. To keep tabs on forthcoming titles check out the listing on the "New Titles Coming" page of the National Library's website. The digitisation of newspaper titles followed by the wording, *State Library of New South Wales Digital Excellence Project* is funded by the State Library and the NSW Government.

Next steps: As these newspapers are digitised, public libraries, historical societies and members of communities across the state will rejoice at the enhanced access and people will enjoy the opportunity to contribute through text-correction with their own local newspapers. State Library staff members have committed to create a "stub" entry on Wikipedia for each newly digitised title. This will provide opportunities for newspaper historians to use their references to flesh the entries out and give community members another way to access the valuable content.

The State Library will announce new titles through local public libraries and local members as they become available. This significant initiative will produce a rich chronicle of our shared cultural past that will be accessible to all from the city to the bush.

Stop press: The first of the titles funded with the Digital Excellence Program Funding has gone live on Trove: The *Cessnock Eagle and South Maitland Recorder*, from 6 January 1922 to 15 December 1923, has now been accepted by the National Library and is now available at <http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/page/10616464>. Other issues were due to begin appearing online from the final week in February.

71.4.2 PHOTOGRAPHIC TREASURE TROVE

Fairfax Media has given its historic collection of photographic glass plate negatives to the National Library of Australia (NLA), reports *GXpress* (November 2012, p.17). With the assistance of government funding, they are to be digitised and made publicly available. The 13,000 glass plates from the early 1900s to the 1930s provide a unique record of Australian photojournalism, a fascinating and moving record of Australian life and history. The collection documents the cultural, social and physical landscape during a period of significant change and growth in Australia. Images range from politics, people and social effects related to post-federation, World War I and the Great Depression, through to the building of the Sydney Harbour Bridge, the built environment, sporting and artistic events and personalities, aviation and exploration, as well as the social lives of ordinary Australians.

The collection was accepted by Ryan Stokes, chairman of the NLA Council, and Anne-Marie Schwirtlich, its director-general, at an event in Sydney hosted by Fairfax chief executive and managing director Greg Hywood. The NLA will catalogue and digitise the collection and make it available on via national and international services including the NLA's website, online catalogue, national discovery service *Trove*, and search engines.

71.4.3 TWENTY INDUCTED INTO THE VICTORIAN MEDIA HALL OF FAME

The first 20 inductees to the Victorian Media Hall of Fame were announced by the Melbourne Press Club at a special invite-only dinner on 6 December at the Monash Law Chambers in Melbourne. Those inducted, in alphabetical order, were (full details can be found at www.melbournepressclub.com/halloffame):

1. Stella Allan, 1871-1962: New Zealand-born, she was the first female parliamentary reporter in Australasia and one of the three women foundation members of the Australian Journalists' Association; became one of the most influential female journalists in Australia after she moved to Melbourne and edited the women's pages of the *Argus* for three decades until 1938.
2. Maurice Brodzky, 1847-1919: Victoria's first significant muckraker; started *Table Talk* magazine in 1885 with a racy mix of gossip, social notes, politics, the arts and literature.
3. Mary Grant Bruce, 1878-1958: was a journalist and children's author when fiction was an important component of newspapers; her stories of mateship, the Anzac spirit and bush hospitality helped frame attitudes towards the Australian identity.
4. Hugh Buggy, 1896-1974: was a reporter's reporter; covered the Melbourne police strike (1923), the fatal shoot-out between "Squizzy" Taylor and "Snowy" Cutmore (1927) and Kingsford-Smith's arrival in Brisbane after the first trans-Pacific flight (1928).
5. Edward Cunningham, 1859-1957: began career as office-boy on the *Bendigo Advertiser*, and ended it as a distinguished editor of the *Argus*, rewarded with a knighthood for in 1936; along the way he worked as a proof-reader, political journalist, court reporter and police roundsman
6. Alfred Deakin, 1856-1919: fine journalist with the *Age* before he became Australian Prime Minister three times.
7. William Dyson, 1880-1938: was the first in an impressive line of Australian political cartoonists to win international acclaim; the sharpest satirist of his day.
8. John Pascoe Fawkner, 1792-1869, first newspaper publisher in Victoria.
9. Alice Henry, 1857-1943: almost certainly the first woman journalist in Australia to be taken on to a newspaper staff and trained on the job when she joined the *Australasian* in the 1880s.
10. John Stanley James, 1843-1896: famous for his "Vagabond" byline; practiced immersion journalism more than a century before the term was coined.
11. William Lambie, 1860-1900: had the sad distinction of becoming the first Australian journalist to be killed while covering a war.
12. Donald Macdonald, 1859-1932: excelled as war correspondent, sports writer and commentator on natural history.
13. Joseph Melvin, 1852-1909: one of the most enterprising reporters of his time; at siege of a hotel in Glenrowan in 1880, helped move the wounded Ned Kelly indoors, then interviewed him, scooping other newspapers with his telegraphed report to the *Argus*.
14. Alan Moorehead, 1910-1983: renowned war correspondent and author.
15. George Morrison, 1862-1920: achieved international fame as Asia correspondent for London *Times*, not least for his coverage of siege of Peking during Boxer Rebellion.
16. Keith Murdoch, 1885-1952: from humble start as a district correspondent for the *Age* in 1903, Murdoch became one of the most significant characters in Australian newspaper history—as a journalist, correspondent, editor and publisher.
17. Damien Parer, 1912-1944: one of Australia's best-known combat cameramen.
18. Henry Seekamp, 1829-1864: the first Victorian journalist jailed over editorial principles and the only man to serve a prison term as a result of the Eureka Stockade.
19. David Syme, 1827-1908: the most powerful journalist in Victorian history; as publisher and editor of the *Age* for 48 years from 1860, he shaped Government policy on protection for Victorian industry which created the State's manufacturing base.
20. Chester Wilmot, 1911-1954: an outstanding broadcaster for the ABC during World War II, reporting first from both the Middle East and Papua New Guinea; pioneered front-line interviews, often punctuated by the sounds of battle, during the campaigns in North Africa, Greece and Syria in 1941.

See also: Mark Baker, "Honouring the newsmakers of a nation", *Saturday Age*, 8 December 2012, p.17.

71.4.4 WINDSOR REVIEW JOINS 'PAST LITERATURE OF THE COLONY'

Rod and Wendy Gow, newspaper indexers of Cundletown, supply the following from the *Freeman's Journal*, 28 November 1857: The *Windsor Review* is now to be ranked among the past literature of the colony [of NSW]. The editor's chief reason for discontinuing its publication is the great expense of having it sent to Sydney to be printed. The want of a printing press in this town is greatly felt by the inhabitants, and I am surprised that some spirited individual cannot be found to try the speculation; I have no doubt it would be found highly remunerative.

Rod Kirkpatrick writes: I had a note in my unpublished chronology of the NSW country press that reads: "1857, July: *Windsor Review* begins (a monthly magazine of literature, science and art (*Hawkesbury Gazette* centenary supplement, p.40); claimed to be "the first provincial magazine ever published in the colony". Lasted four issues." I wonder whether that should now be corrected to five issues: July, August, September, October and November.

The *Sydney Morning Herald* of 8 July 1857, p.3, remarked that it had received the first issue of the *Windsor Review*.

Australian Band of Hope Journal, 20 June 1857, p.3: The friends of colonial literature will again have opportunities of showing it encouragement in several new forms. It gives us great pleasure to see four or more new journals raising their heads at the same time and demanding attention. The *Month*, a literary journal, edited by Mr Frank Fowler; the *Sydney Magazine of Science and Art*, edited by Mr Joseph Dyer; the *Windsor Review*; and, lastly, the *Southern Spectator*, an interesting magazine, hearing a religious character, to be published in Melbourne, and edited by the Rev Richard Fletcher.

The *Windsor & Richmond Gazette* of 26 November 1892, p.11, said: We have been favoured, through the kindness of Mr. C. Lawson, of Richmond, with two copies of the *Windsor Review*—"a monthly magazine of literature, science, and art," published for the proprietor and printed at the *Empire* general steam printing office, Hunter-street, Sydney. They bear respectively the dates August 1 and October 5, 1857. The contents of the first mentioned, which is the second issue published, comprise a few words from the editor, which serve to show that in these far-away days there existed, as there do now, quite a host of people who knew much better how to run a journal than the editor himself. That worthy individual writes of the number of hints he received, "many of which bear advice from persons evidently anxious for the improvement of the magazine." The following summary will give their purport:

"You ought to give us something more theological." "Pray give us no sermons whatever you do." "Believe me, honoured Sir, no one will read such dry stuff." "Your articles should be short, racy, and pithy." "Unless your subjects be longer, one gets a mere mouthful without satisfying one's appetite." "What makes you so humble and plain, with that pen of yours?—SOAR ALOFT." "You forget, Reverend Sir, that you are writing for the working man; the rich can get books without | yours." 'Whatever you do, avoid politics.' "What's the use of you paper, if you don't give us something on protection and free trade?" "Ah, I see, you are a party man; you spelt my name wrong 'a purpose.'" "I admire your little work, because you go ahead without fear or favour—rich and poor, high and low are all alike, and I'll support it. Oh, yes, put my name down for a copy, and I'll pay when the quarter is up, when you send the man to collect."

71.4.5 GILGANDRA: EARLY NEWSPAPERS

Rod Kirkpatrick writes: The *Gilgandra Weekly* published a special edition on 28 June 2011 to mark what it believed was the centenary of the newspaper. It acknowledged, however in the second sentence of a full-page article ("Don't stop the press!", 28 June 2011, p.4), which sought to provide a history of the newspaper, that it was not really sure that the paper was 100 years old. The *Weekly* said: "The turbulent nature of the newspaper industry in the early part of the 20th century means one could argue that the paper now known as the *Gilgandra Weekly* began at one of several points of time: 1904, 1905, 1910, 1911 or 1915. You will appreciate the difficulty we had trying to solve this mystery when we tell you that every history book we



picked up and several actual issues of the *Gilgandra Weekly* told a different story about the newspaper's inception date."

What follows is an annotated chronology that I have developed from research on Trove after receiving the *Gilgandra* article and finding it vague and sometimes incorrect in its account of the first 30 years of newspapers in that district.

Date	Details
1905, 13 January	First issue of the <i>Castlereagh</i> , published by Porter and Crouch of the <i>Wellington Gazette</i> , who demonstrated "pluck in opening up in a district which suffered so severely in the great drought, and where the present harvest is a partial failure" (<i>Dubbo Liberal</i> , 18 January 1905, p.3).
1911, June	First issue of the <i>Castlereagh Liberal</i> , issued by The Castlereagh Electorate Newspaper Company Ltd, with a capital of £2500 in £1 shares; the directors were Messrs W. Barden, W.J. Donnelly, J.W. Lithgow, W.E. Linke, E. Murray and G.A. Semmler (<i>Dubbo Liberal</i> , 3 June 1911, p.4).
1915, April	The <i>Castlereagh Liberal</i> (both plant and business) was for sale because the Castlereagh Newspaper Company had gone into voluntary liquidation (<i>Dubbo Liberal</i> , 16 April 1915, p.4).
1915, 1 October	Final issue of the <i>Castlereagh Liberal</i> , a bi-weekly (<i>Dubbo Liberal</i> , 1 October 1915, p.2).
1915, 8 October	First issue of the <i>Gilgandra Weekly</i> , with which is incorporated the <i>Castlereagh Liberal</i> , a weekly newspaper published by the new company that had bought the <i>Castlereagh Liberal</i> ; the aim was to issue a 30-page paper "in the near future"; Alfred Ernest Perkins was the manager (<i>Dubbo Liberal</i> , 1 and 12 October 1915, p.2; <i>Australian & New Zealand Press Directory</i> , 1914, p.33).
1929, 28 Oct	Final issue of the <i>Castlereagh</i> before its merger with the <i>Gilgandra Weekly</i> to become the <i>Gilgandra Weekly and Castlereagh</i> (State Library of NSW catalogue).

71.4.6 FREDERICK HUMPHRIES, PERIPATETIC JOURNALIST

Sunday Times, Perth, 20 May 1928, p.11 (edited version): Frederick Humphries died eight days ago at his Claremont residence after a short illness, aged 80. Humphries was one of Australia's oldest journalists. In 1874 he was appointed sub-editor of the *Otago Daily Times* following Sir Julius Vogel. Later, Humphries left that journal to start as editor and general manager of the *Oamaru Evening Mail* (estab. 1876). Leaving New Zealand later on for Victoria, Humphries was associated with the *Melbourne Age*, on which he was leader of the staff under the late David Syme. He later became the editor of the *Tasmanian Daily News*.

Leaving journalism for a time, Humphries accepted a position with the Tasmanian Government as emigration officer, and spent two years in the Old Country. His next venture was in Western Australia, representing the *Morning Herald* in Albany, afterwards proceeding to Perth to accept the position of sub-editor and later editor of Perth's *Daily News*. In May 1903, Humphries started a paper of his own in Claremont called the *Guardian*, a suburban and municipal recorder, and later proceeded to Merredin and started the *Merredin Mercury*, and at Kellerberrin he started the *Eastern Recorder*. He started other country journals, all of which are now firmly established. Humphries was also associated as a contributor with several journals in Perth.

71.4.7 STORY OF A BANKRUPT: COMMERCE, JOURNALISM AND RACEHORSES

Western Argus, Kalgoorlie, 17 January 1922, p.10: Perth, Jan. 9.—In the Bankruptcy Court today Ernest John Atkinson Cook was examined before the Registrar by the Official Receiver. The bankrupt has 39 unsecured creditors, claiming £985, and his assets are £1070 worth of irrecoverable book debts. Insolvent said he arrived in the State in 1900. After having resided in Perth for two years he went to Kalgoorlie where for four years he was traveller for Burns, Philp

and Co. He then went to Ravensthorpe where he established himself as a general forwarding agent. Later he removed to Merredin. He left several undischarged debts at Kalgoorlie. He could not remember the amount of his liability, but it was somewhere between £500 and £1000. He had owned the *Merredin Mercury* in partnership with one Duff. Witness put in £300 capital, and Duff guaranteed a bank overdraft which totalled £700. When the concern went into liquidation he had had a partnership with a man named J.H. Hennessy, who had been a bank manager at Merredin. He did not know where Hennessy was now, but he owed witness £200. From 1913 to 1921 he kept racehorses... His horses won a good many races. Horseracing was in no way responsible for his position. Latterly he had been employed at the Great Boulder mine on surface work, but he was out of work now. The case was further adjourned until April 13.

71.4.8 A DEADLY SILENCE IN THE ORANGE *ADVOCATE* OFFICE

How would you like to be talking to your newspaper editor for a few minutes and, suddenly, find that he/she was dead? **Joe Glasson** told about such an incident in one of the articles (2 September 1953) he wrote for the *Central Western Daily*, Orange, reflecting on nearly 50 years of reporting in that provincial city (Elisabeth Edwards, *A Gentleman of the Inky Way: Orange through Joe Glasson's Looking Glass*, p.241):

It is just 30 years since I returned to the *Advocate* office—where I started in 1904—after spending 17 years at the *Leader*, to put in a final 12 months at the old office before crossing over to the present building, now the *Central Western Daily*. ... The old *Advocate* office was right next to the Foresters' Hall on the southern side, and the *Leader* alongside on the northern side. Before the Australian Hall was converted into a picture theatre, most of the big public dances were held there, but as there were no facilities for catering, the suppers were served across the way in the Foresters' Hall. ... It was in December 1924 when we shifted into this building, and it took us some time to acquaint ourselves with modern conditions, after the old set-up across the road, which was used as the first [Orange] printing office in 1861. Jim Torpy, editor, and I occupied the front room immediately below where I am now sitting, and George Thompson and the young lady bookkeeper had the room on the opposite side of the entrance.

Jim Bowers was foreman of the printing department, and I still think of his routine work each Friday morning. He would come into me with a list as long as his arm of all the local advertisers to be given free paragraphs. They would include Leaheys Pty Ltd, Murray and Crawford, Dalton Brothers, Lamrock and Lound, H. Hansen jeweler, White's shoe shop, Fox Martin chemist, J.M. Allman tailor, the Rose Marie, West and Fudey, J. Gillies mercer, Brown and Brown, F. Groundwater, Ormerod and Mace, Dunn Bros chemists, and a number of small houses. It meant writing a lot of different pars, with the result that page two on Saturday mornings contained about three columns of free paragraph advertisements. But Jim Bowers had the idea that such attention to customers paid, and I think it did, because if one was inadvertently omitted, we would hear about it. But in those days we were publishing only three times a week, and conditions were very different to what they are today.

One of the memorable experiences I had in the office below was to find myself talking to a man who had been dead for at least five minutes. It was the late James Walwayne Torpy, editor for many years, who died in his chair soon after his arrival at the office on a wet Thursday morning. I had been out in the back office talking to Jim Bowers and remarked to him that Mr Torpy had not yet arrived, but when I came into the front room he was sitting in his chair and leaning over, as I thought, to pick up his pipe, which was on the floor in front of him. I spoke to him a couple of times, but, receiving no reply, went over to discover he was dead. It was a big shock. Jim Torpy was a grand chap to work with, but for a year or so before his death we could easily see that he was not what he used to be. I have mentioned three of the leaders of other days, Jim Bowers, George Thompson and Jim Torpy, and it was my regrettable task to write their obituaries in this office.

[Jim Torpy, who had been connected with the *Orange Advocate* for 45 years, died on 27 May 1931, aged 68.—*Barrier Miner*, 29 May 1931, p.2.]

71.4.9 MAPPING AND NEWSPAPERING: ONE ENDS, ANOTHER STARTS

On the very day that the first Australian newspaper began publication—5 March 1803—something else very significant in Australian history ended. **David Hill** writes (*The Great Race: The Race between the English and the French to Complete the Map of Australia*, pp.252-253):

[Matthew] Flinders spent several weeks charting a group of islands in north-east Arnhem Land. He named one Pobassoo Island, after the leader of the Malay fishermen, and others the English Company Islands, after the English East India Company. He then abandoned further exploration. Saturday, 5 March 1803 was the last day of surveying Flinders, aged twenty-nine, ever did. On the remote north-west coast of Australia—more than 6000 kilometres from the only European settlement, in Sydney—he decided to cease his survey because of the deteriorating condition of the *Investigator* and the declining health of the crew.

David Hill again (pp.278-279), giving insights into how different the Sydney of 1803—and so the Sydney that greeted Australia's first newspaper—was from the convict colony of earlier years. Hill wrote:

In his journal, Flinders noted how much the now fifteen-year-old convict colony had advanced in the eight years since he had first arrived there with Captain John Hunter:

In 1803, it was progressively advancing towards a state of independence on the mother country for food and clothing; both the wild and tame cattle had augmented in a proportion to make it probable that they would, before many years, be very abundant; and manufactures of woollen, linen, cordage, and leather, with breweries and a pottery, were commenced. The number of inhabitants was increasing rapidly; and that energetic spirit of enterprise which characterizes Britain's children seemed to be throwing out vigorous shoots in this new world... All this, with the commerce carried on from Sydney to Parramatta and the villages at the head of the port ... made the fine harbor of Port Jackson a lively scene of business, highly interesting to the contemplator of the rise of nations.

[And so it was 210 years on 5 March 2013 since the *Sydney Gazette*, began publication.]

71.4.10 WHEN PAPER RUNS OUT FOR THE LOCAL RAG

Sunday Times, Perth, 19 May 1918, p.4:

The recent news as to a probable severe shortage, or possible stoppage altogether, of paper for dailies and weeklies recalls a gleeful yarn of early Coolgardie. Billy Clare was half the hero of the story, and tells the story himself, with embellishments. About the latter middle of 1894, owing to a series of big wrecks off the WA coast, in two ships on which were thousands of bales of newspaper, a shortage occurred in Perth and elsewhere, the pinch being more severely felt on the [gold] fields. The *Coolgardie Miner*, Billy Clare's sole property, was then at its zenith, and was eagerly looked for, not only in and around Bayley-street but at the paperless outlying districts—Hannans, Broad Arrow, Menzies, the 25-Mile, White Feather and other parts.

One day a wire came through from Perth to say that no paper could possibly arrive in Coolgardie for at least two weeks. Billy swore in several keys. Vosper vituperated. And he could vitupe to some fluent extent. Billy Clare recovered his breath and dashed around to the stores. There, he purchased all the white paper they could spare, some of the sheets having to be cut down by hand to suit the machine. These were printed on and posted up in prominent places in Bayley-street, a few going north, while to Hannans (now Kalgoorlie) went a copy on calico, this being an old discarded white linen petticoat owned by Mrs Clare. Instead of unpicking it the printer eased the roller springs and ran the linen petticoat through the type, setting a very fair front page impression. This was run out to Hannans and tacked to the butt of a big smooth salmon gum tree standing in front of Jack Grant's old pioneer pub, The Club. About a hundred dryblowers and shallow reefers had read the latest news printed on the petticoat—the mining, English cricket (an Australian Eleven was just concluding a last test match) and other items of interest to a pioneer camp. About midday old Nellie, a well known gin, a queen of the Lakeside tribe, ambled along, saw the petticoat, and while the mob were in Jack Grant's arguing points (and pints) over the cricket scores, etc., pulled the tacks out and eloped with the petticoat. In a deserted bough-shed she donned the weird garment, looking much as some of the aforetime Star Rink flappers looked when representing the various WA metropolitan papers.

Later on in the evening Corporal Tommy Bonner and Warden Finnerty were walking down the then primitive Hannan-street. “What are those men doing with that gin?” asked Finnerty hotly, he being a martinet where the rights of the natives were concerned. “I’ll see,” said Corporal Bonner. The Warden and the Corporal got into the group. “What are you doing holding that woman’s dress?” asked the Warden. “Reading the news,” answered Pigweed Harry, a well-known identity. “I see by the cables up ‘ere on ‘er ‘ip,” proceeded Pigweed, “that we’re giving the English blokes ‘ell. Vic Trumper is over a hundred not out.” [An extract.]

71.4.11 ENTRIES IN LATEST VOLUME OF *ADB*

Following is a list of the obvious newspaper-related entries in the latest edition of the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Volume 18. It was launched by Queensland Governor Penelope Wensley at Government House, Brisbane, on 6 December 2012. The ANHG editor attended the launch. Some of the entries below were written by ANHG subscribers.

- **Leonard**, Sir Reginald Byron (1907–1986) journalist and newspaper editor and manager
- **Letts**, Godfrey William (1898–1987) newspaper editor
- **Lloyd**, Patrick David (1926–1988) crime reporter
- **Masters**, Olga Meredith (1919–1986) author and journalist
- **Moorehead**, Alan McCrae (1910–1983) journalist, war correspondent and historian
- **Munster**, George John (1925–1984) journalist
- **Newton**, Maxwell (1929–1990) journalist, editor, publisher and brothel owner
- **Pearl**, Cyril Altson (1904–1987) journalist, social historian, biographer and wit
- **Pidgeon**, William Edwin (Wep) (1909–1981) portrait painter, cartoonist and illustrator
- **Rayner**, Henry Ross (1914–1989) journalist and public servant
- **Reid**, Alan Douglas (1914–1987) journalist
- **Robinson**, Raymond John (1905–1982) journalist and cricket historian
- **Rothwell**, Herbert Bruce (1923–1984) journalist
- **Russo**, Peter Anthony (1908–1985) journalist, commentator and educator
- **Sharland**, Michael Stanley Reid (1899–1987) naturalist, conservationist, journalist and photographer
- **Simpson**, Edwin Colin (1908–1983) author and journalist
- **Vike**, Harald (1906–1987) artist, illustrator and cartoonist
- **Warnecke**, Glen William (“George”) (1894–1981) journalist and editor
- **Waters**, John Carl Anthony (1900–1983) newspaper editor
- **White**, Sam (1913–1988) journalist
- **Wigmore**, Lionel Gage (1899–1989) journalist and historian
- **Willey**, Keith Grenville (1930–1984) journalist and author
- **Williams**, Sir John Francis (1901–1982) journalist and company director

71.4.12 A *SHORT HISTORY OF THE AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY PRESS*

The ANHG editor has sent to the printer the 13 chapters (including 35 tables) and six appendices for his next publication, *A Short History of the Australian Country Press*.

5 – RECENTLY PUBLISHED

71.5.1 BOOK

Goc, Nicola, *Women, Infanticide and the Press, 1822–1922: News Narratives in England and Australia*. University of Tasmania, Australia.

In her study of anonymous infanticide news stories that appeared from 1822 to 1922 in the heart of the British Empire, in regional Leicester, and in the penal colony of Australia, Nicola Goc uses Critical Discourse Analysis to reveal both the broader patterns and the particular rhetorical strategies journalists used to report on young women who killed their babies. Her study takes Foucault’s perspective that the production of knowledge, of “facts” and truth claims, and the exercise of power, are inextricably connected to discourse. Newspaper discourses provide a way to investigate the discursive practices that brought the nineteenth-century infanticidal woman—known as “the Infanticide”—into being.

71.5.2 ARTICLES

Barry, Paul, "A Question of Succession", *Good Weekend*, in *Sydney Morning Herald and Age*, pp.12-19. A brief biography of Elisabeth Murdoch and speculation about her future role in the News Ltd group of companies.

Day, Mark, "Regulatory spectre returns to haunt us", *Australian*, Media section, 25 February 2013, p.24. The Communications Minister may seize upon a schism in industry councils.

Juliano, John, "When disaster strikes", *GXpress*, November 2012, p.12. A modern-day newspaper's community role in the context of superstorm Sandy.

Kirkpatrick, Rod, "Obituary written too soon", *GXpress*, November 2012, pp.40-41. A potted history of the *York Peninsula Country Times*, Kadina, South Australia, and its many predecessors absorbed along the way, with a particular focus on the Ellis family.

Malone, Paul, "New twists on way in media fallout", *Sunday Canberra Times*, 30 December 2012, p.20. Sombre analysis of future of printed newspapers.

Money, Lawrence, "The many faces of Macman", *Age*, 29 January 2013, p.14. Garry Barker sat with Hemingway in a Havana bar and filed stories from Saigon during the Vietnam War. And at 80, he is still a man of the moment. [Barker's new media persona earned him the inaugural Pearcey Media Award in 2001 when, at 68, he was hailed as "one of Australia's most prolific generalist IT writers".]

Putnis, Peter, 'International News Agencies, New-flow and the USA-Australia Relationship from the 1920s Till the End of the Second World War', *Media History*, Vol. 18, Nos. 3-4, 2012, 423-441. The article tries to demonstrate the importance of news agencies and news-flow in the history on international relations.

Stewart, Cameron, "How I was drawn into toxic police politics", *Weekend Australian*, 15-16 December, 2012, p.19. What started as a simple police news story turned into a three-year nightmare. Police politics and journalistic ethics lie at the heart of this story

Warden, Ian, "And there's ink in his blood still", *Canberra Times*, Monday 10 December 2012, page 10, and "Man with printer's ink in his veins", *Canberra Times*, 17 December 2012, page 10. A two-part profile of Jim Woods, former publisher of the *Queanbeyan Age* and of other newspapers in southern NSW, and of his Queanbeyan Printing Museum. At age 99, Jim has been involved in newspapers, in one capacity or another for more than 90 years.

Waterford, Jack, "History of a paper anniversary", *Sunday Canberra Times*, 3 March 2013, page 19. A brief history of Thomas Shakespeare and the *Canberra Times*, related to Canberra's centenary.

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