

Ever wonder what happened to the
Argus pictorial negatives? See 88.4.1



The *Inverell Times* (NSW) building, photographed in March 2012 by Barry Blair, of Uralla. The newspaper began publication on 12 June 1875 and is still published. Earlier titles in Inverell were the *Inverell Courier* (estab. 1871) and the *Inverell Dispatch* (1873).

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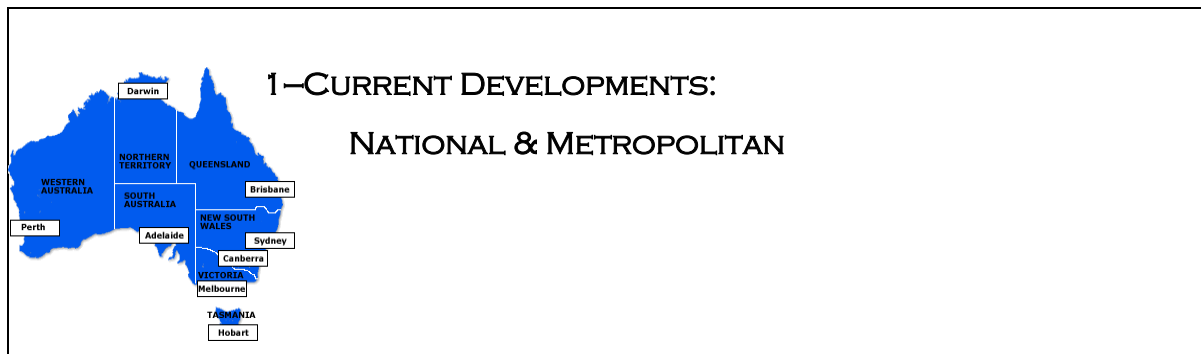
Back copies of the *Newsletter* and some ANHG publications can be viewed online at:

<http://www.amhd.info/anhg/index.php>

Deadline for the next *Newsletter*: 30 September 2016.

Subscription details appear at end of *Newsletter*. [Number 1 appeared October 1999.]

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



More housekeeping: ANHG editor Rod Kirkpatrick has moved from Mackay to Brisbane. His new (temporary) postal address appears on Page 1. His email address and Mobile phone number (see Page 1) remain unchanged.

88.1.1 *Canberra Times* to lose fewer staff and converts to tabloid

Fairfax Media's restructure of its ACT publishing operations, including the *Canberra Times*, will result in three fewer job losses than originally proposed, the company has told staff (*Canberra Times*, 28 April 2016). Fairfax announced in March that the national capital's daily newspaper would make the historic switch to a compact print format seven days a week as part of the transformation of the company's regional, rural and suburban publishing division, Australian Community Media (ACM). Employees in Canberra were briefed on Thursday on the finalised plan for *The Canberra Times* after a period of consultation with staff and the community. The company expects voluntary redundancies of about nine full-time equivalent positions from across the company's ACT and NSW Southern Inland operating group, mostly from editorial.

The *Canberra Times* converted from broadsheet format to tabloid on Saturday, 16 July 2016. On 15 July, the final day of broadsheet publication, the *Canberra Times* carried an eight-page broadsheet commemorative wraparound.

There was a very bad-tempered hearing by the Estimates Committee in the ACT Parliament on 21 June. After allegations in the *Canberra Times* were mentioned, the ACT Chief Minister, Andrew Barr, described the *Canberra Times* as "A tired old journalism outfit...a decaying forum in terms of readership and interest". Source: *The Canberra Times*, which to its credit, reported these comments.

88.1.2 News from the first Anzac Day on its centenary

On the centenary of the first Anzac Day, the *Courier-Mail*, Brisbane, published a page of news reproduced from the *Brisbane Courier* of 25 April 1916. The *Courier* on the first Anzac Day carried broadsheet pages and declared that the regular circulation of the morning edition of the *Courier* exceeded "the combined circulation of any two Queensland dailies". It sold for one penny.

88.1.3 Plans for former Cumberland Newspapers HQ

Sydney developer Dyldam has unveiled its vision for the former Cumberland Newspapers headquarters at 142 Macquarie Street, Parramatta, with the site to be transformed into a landmark \$500 million mixed-use project (*Australian*, 5 May 2016). The building was best known as a hub for local news, with publications with a history stretching back to 1887. The 1.25ha site, fronting 142-154 Macquarie Street, was acquired by Landmark East, a company associated with the prolific Dyldam, in an off-market deal in 2014. Sources estimated the deal for the site, purchased from News Corp, was worth about \$45 million at the time. International firm PTW Architects won the design excellence competition, which attracted nine top architectural firms.

The winning collaboration comprised of PTW Architects, best known for One Central Park and Beijing's Watercube National Swimming Centre, Collins and Turner architects and the Sydney unit of landscape architect McGregor Coxall.

Dyldam is working on a mixed use development that recognises the site's colonial heritage and includes a major public square, laneways and restaurants near its trio of luxury apartment towers.

The project is anchored by a striking 60-storey residential tower, with 35-level and 25-level buildings sitting beside this tower. They will house 964 apartments and 21,000sq m of commercial and retail space.

88.1.4 UK: *New Day* is old hat

British newspaper publisher Trinity Mirror has closed the *New Day* after nine weeks. The title was its first national newspaper launch in three decades (*Australian*, 5 May 2016). Having hit the market with almost no promotional activity before the first edition on 29 February, the title was beset by problems from day 1. Free on its first day, it was slated to retail for 25p (AUD48c) for two weeks before settling at 50p as the publisher looked to build a readership base of 200,000 by the end of the year. Two million free copies of the *New Day* hit the streets at launch. With a staff of 25 journalists, the paper was edited by Alison Phillips, previously editor of the *Sunday Mirror* and the *People*. The closure of the *New Day* came after the owners of the *Independent* ended the print edition to “embrace an exclusively digital future” for the title after selling the *i* newspaper to Johnston Press in March.

88.1.5 News Corp loses in third quarter

News Corp has swung to a loss in its third-quarter after it reached a one-time settlement charge of \$US250 million at its News America Marketing unit (*Australian*, 6 May 2016). The company's third-quarter loss from continuing operations was \$128 million, compared to income from continuing operations of \$56 million in the corresponding period last year. Revenue declined by 7 per cent to \$1.9 billion, compared with the previous year's third quarter revenue of \$2 billion, including a negative impact from foreign currency fluctuations of \$72 million. Stripping out the effects of foreign currency movements and acquisitions, revenue fell by 5 per cent, as growth in the Digital Real Estate Services segment partially offset lower advertising revenues at the News and Information Services segment.

88.1.6 Recent chronology

88.1.6.1 Events

5 May 2016: Final issues of both the *Cooma-Monaro Express* and Jindabyne's *Summit Sun*. See 88.3.3.

3 June 2016: Final issue of the *Macedon Ranges Guardian*, formerly the *Kyneton Guardian* (estab. 1862). See 88.3.4.

27 June to 1 July 2016: Closure of seven *Leader* titles in Melbourne (88.3.5).

2 July 2016: Federal election after double dissolution.

88.1.6.2 Deaths

Conley, David Payne: D. 29 April 2016 at Pawhuska, Oklahoma (his birthplace), aged 64; journalist, journalism teacher and author; worked as journalist on various Australian newspapers (Cairns, Brisbane and the Gold Coast) and American newspapers (Oklahoma and Montana); lectured in journalism at the University of Queensland, Brisbane, 1993-2006; wrote highly successful journalism text, *The Daily Miracle: An Introduction to Journalism*, in 1997 when teaching the introductory journalism course at UQ; gained his PhD in 2003 with a thesis on literary journalism (*Courier-Mail*, 11 June 2016, p.83).

Davies, Judy-Joy: D. 27 March 2016 in Melbourne, aged 87; sportswriter and Olympic backstroke swimmer; won bronze medal at Olympics, 1948, and three gold medals at 1950 Empire Games; sportswriter for 34 years, initially for the Melbourne *Argus*, for which she covered the 1954 Empire Games in Vancouver and the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne, and (after the *Argus* closed in January 1957); for the *Sun News-Pictorial* she covered local and international sport for three decades; initially covered swimming but progressed to athletics and a wide range of summer and winter

sports; won the National Press Club Award for Sports Journalism in 1982; inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 2011 (*Courier-Mail*, 3 May 2016).

Eltham, Peter: D. 9 April 2016 at Clayton, Vic., aged 73; graduated in economics from Monash University; journalist with Australian Associated Press and the *Australian Financial Review* in Melbourne and Adelaide and at *New Zealand Herald* in Auckland; returned to Melbourne to work in financial public relations; became one of Melbourne's leading writers of speeches, documents, submissions and booklets for business; senior writer in NAB communications department; later ran own business as "Corporate Wordsmith", writing for various sections of the NAB group as well as other companies and organisations, big and smaller (R.A. Murray).

Farquharson, John Mayo: D. 29 June 2016, aged 86; born in Wollongong, NSW; attended Wollongong public school and The King's School, Parramatta; joined *Goulburn Evening Post* as a cadet journalist (see ANHG 8.4, August 2000); joined Australian United Press in Sydney in 1951, covering state politics and industrial rounds; to Canberra with AUP in 1953 where he later headed the Canberra bureau; in 1964 he broke the story of the collision between the destroyer Voyager and the aircraft carrier Melbourne off Jervis Bay (see ANHG 27.46, May 2004) to Port Moresby in 1965 to edit the *South Pacific Post*; joined *Canberra Times* in 1966 and became news editor, 1969-75, deputy editor, 1975-85, and editorial manager, 1985-88; also wrote on politics for the *Sun-Herald*; left newspapers in 1988 to become a research officer with Wal Fife, a Liberal MHR; from 1992 he conducted interviews for the National Library of Australia's oral history program, including several with Dame Elisabeth Murdoch, and wrote entries for the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* and obituaries for the *Canberra Times* and the *Sydney Morning Herald* (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 8 July 2016). [Rod Kirkpatrick writes: John, who was a long-time ANHG subscriber, contributed at various times to the ANHG; two items are mentioned above; the ANHG index also records his name in relation to the following: ANHG 8.3; 27.47; 62.4.1; 62.4.10; and 65.4.12.]

Hughes, John: D. 10 May 2016 at Tully, Qld, aged 60; owner-editor of *Tully Times*; after completing an Arts degree, mixed an early career in wine retailing and as a hotel licensee with his love of journalism as a regular contributor; became a full-time journalist at Parkes and Wagga Wagga before moving to Longreach as managing editor of the *Longreach Leader* in 2002; in September 2005 moved to Tully and edited the *Tully Times* for two months before becoming owner-editor on 1 December; championed his community's achievements and its needs and ensured *Tully Times* was the town's heartbeat in times of major cyclone disaster; had been a keen member of Queensland Country Press Association since 2002; elected to the Association's executive committee in 2011-13; and served as president, 2013-15; was the vice-president at the time of his death (Greg Watson, secretary, Queensland Country Press Association).

88.1.7 Measuring the media

Australia's newspaper publishers announced a world-first partnership with Standard Media Index (SMI) on 10 May to enhance commercial transparency for advertisers and investors, and rebranded its industry body to become NewsMediaWorks. Its chairman, Michael Miller, said the partnership and name change reasserted the leadership of the news media sector with its breadth of audience and unique, influential content. The sector is the first in the world to partner with SMI to deliver "the most robust data" to report industry advertising revenue. The new quarterly *News Media Index* (NMI) for advertising revenue – powered by SMI—reveals all print and digital revenue, as well as whole-of-industry revenue.

In its first release, the *News Media Index* states Australia's news media sector accounted for \$2.4 billion in advertising revenue in 2015. The revenue data are taken from NewsMediaWorks' foundation members, News Corp Australia, Fairfax Media, West Australian Newspapers and APN News & Media, which represent approximately 90 per cent of the news media sector. SMI extracts the information directly from publisher financial systems.

88.1.8 Fairfax and APN seek merger approval, also action in the West

NZME, owned by APN News & Media, and Fairfax NZ have sought approval for their proposed merger from the New Zealand Commerce Commission. They are seeking authorisation to proceed (NewsMediaWorks, 30 May 2016). It was the second major regulatory listing on 27 May, with the

appearance earlier of the proposed purchase of News Corp Australia's the Perth *Sunday Times* by Seven West Media [see ANHG 88.1.18] on the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission register (*Age*, Melbourne, 28 May 2016, p.35). The intention of NZME to merge its New Zealand assets with those of Fairfax was disclosed at APN's annual general meeting in May, as was the proposal to demerge NZME to list it as a separate company on the NZX and ASX. Fairfax operates the largest print media network in New Zealand, featuring nine daily and three weekly newspapers, 61 community publications, 10 magazine titles and six websites, including stuff.co.nz. It also has a minority shareholding in social media site Neighbourly.

NZME owns eight daily and two weekly newspapers, 24 community publications, six magazine titles, 10 radio stations and 38 websites, including nzherald.co.nz. As well as websites related to its print and radio offerings, NZME owns a number of individual websites such as Grabone, Shop Green and Adhub. The Commerce Commission said the ownership structure for the proposed merged entity had not yet been established because the NZME demerger was yet to occur. "In the event shareholder approval is gained, it is currently proposed that NZME will acquire Fairfax assets or shares from parent company Fairfax Media Limited, for a mix of new shares in NZME and cash," the regulator said. "Fairfax Media's shareholding in the merged entity is expected to be less than 50 per cent."

The release of preliminary issues could indicate the commission already has concerns over ownership concentration or competition issues. APN chief executive Ciaran Davis believed the commission should back the merger. The combination of the two businesses would provide "the necessary capability to continue investing in high-quality, local news, sport and entertainment at a time when advertiser commercial investment continues to fragment across international media platforms that do not invest in local content". Both companies would like to complete the merger by the end of the year.

88.1.9 Ricketson remains on Press Council

The journalists' union has retained Matthew Ricketson as its representative on the Australian Press Council (*Australian*, 25 May 2016). On 24 May, members of the Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance's national media section subcommittee voted to do this even though Professor Ricketson refused to disavow what the *Australian* describes as "controversial views". After Professor Ricketson defended his position on a proposal to create a watchdog to oversee the press, the decision was put to the vote. A statement issued by MEAA said Professor Ricketson, of the University of Canberra, had agreed to represent the union's position on press regulation even though it was at odds with his own views.

"Today the NMS (subcommittee) has received a report about the complaints received from a number of members about that appointment," the statement said. "We have carefully considered the complaints and understand the concerns raised. "We oppose any government media regulator. As stated in our submissions to the Convergence Review, and many times since, there should be a single independent industry funded complaints body. This should be on the existing model of the Press Council and take over the complaints function currently performed by ACMA (Australian Communications and Media Authority). As a precondition to his appointment, Matthew Ricketson agreed he would represent that position and all other MEAA policy positions on the Press Council."

Four years ago, Ricketson helped former judge Ray Finkelstein produce a report calling for a government-funded statutory regulator of newspaper content with extraordinary powers to enforce decisions through court orders that would result in journalists receiving huge fines and prison sentences. Ricketson repeatedly cited the Finkelstein report in a personal submission to a recent Senate inquiry.

88.1.10 Circulation continues to fall

The latest Audit Bureau circulation figures for printed newspapers (for January-March 2016) reveal the following results for the weekday editions of Australia's national and metropolitan dailies (see the *Australian*, 13 May 2016, for more):

National	<i>Australian</i> (fell 2.1%)	101,980	<i>Australian Financial Review</i> (fell 10.5%)	50,288
Sydney	<i>Daily Telegraph</i> (fell 5.3%)	241,372	<i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> (fell 8.7%)	102,512
Melbourne	<i>Herald Sun</i> (fell 3.1%)	331,715	<i>Age</i> (fell 7.9%)	96,120
Brisbane	<i>Courier-Mail</i> (fell 9.3%)	139,403		
Perth	<i>West Australian</i> (fell 8.6%)	140,611		
Adelaide	<i>Advertiser</i> (fell 6.0%)	125,258		
Hobart	<i>Mercury</i> (fell 4.2%)	31,522		
Canberra	<i>Canberra Times</i> (fell 9.5%)	18,326		
Darwin	<i>Northern Territory News</i> (fell 8.4%)	12,415		

88.1.11 Wise general manager appointment

Damon Wise became general manager of the *Mercury* and *Sunday Tasmanian* on 4 July (*Mercury*, 24 May 2016). Wise, who is now general manager Tasmania for News Corp Australia, was most recently general manager Hobart for Southern Cross Austereo. Wise's appointment was announced by News Corp Australia's executive general manager, regional publishing, Nick Trompf.

88.1.12 China and the Australian media

Mainstream Australian media failed to report a significant development in relations between Chinese and Australian media outlets in late May, asserts John Fitzgerald, director, CSI Swinburne Program for Asia-Pacific Social Investment and Philanthropy at Swinburne University, and professor of media and communication studies at the University of Technology Sydney. He wrote on 31 May for the website of the Lowy Institute for International Policy (what follows is an extract):

"On 26 May, six agreements were signed between Chinese and Australian media outlets in Sydney. Liu Qibao, head of the Central Propaganda Bureau of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), flew in to attend the signing. Gary Quinlan, acting secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, joined him. Liu's visit was noteworthy. A party official with no government title, Liu is one of the most powerful Party cadres outside the seven-strong Politburo Standing Committee. The scale and significance of the media agreements was newsworthy as well. And yet mainstream Australian media failed to report his visit or any of the deals associated with it.

"Fortunately, we can learn what happened by reading China's party and state media, which reported widely on Liu's visit and the associated media tie-ups. *China Daily* reported on 27 May that six agreements were signed involving Xinhua News Agency, *China Daily*, China Radio International, People's Daily Website, and Qingdao Publishing Group on the Chinese side, and Fairfax Media, Sky News Australia, Global China-Australia Media Group, Weldon International, and Bob Carr's Australia-China Relations Institute at the University of Technology, Sydney, on the Australian side.

"On 28 May, the Central Propaganda Bureau's flagship journal, *People's Daily*, pointed to the significance of the event. China-Australia ties will be further intensified as their media cooperation increases following the signing of a series of agreements in Sydney on Friday. Xinhua, China's official news agency, reported that as a result of its memorandum with Bob Carr's UTS centre, 'myths will be dispelled and cross-cultural understanding is set to grow as China-Australia media cooperation increases following the signing of these six agreements.'

“Each of these deals may not amount to much in isolation. But taken together, the visit by propaganda chief Liu Qibao suggests a landmark victory for the Chinese Communist Party. Since the 2008 Beijing Olympics, China has implemented a ‘going global’ strategy, including a hefty push for Chinese state media to go abroad. Taking to heart Joseph Nye’s argument that soft power is ‘about whose story wins (not whose army wins)’, the Party has tasked the external branch of the Propaganda Bureau with the mission to ‘tell the world China’s story.’

“At home the Propaganda Bureau’s primary task is to tell China’s media what can’t be published. Every day it issues a list of forbidden current affairs topics to guide all media operations. The Panama Papers was recently among them. It polices some topics to ensure they never receive favourable mention, including freedom of the press, universal values, civil society, civil liberties, and so on. These prohibitions apply to its overseas publications placed in prestige media outlets such as the Fairfax press. Overseas, the Propaganda Bureau plays an additional role in ensuring that whatever is published burnishes a glowing image of China and its rightful place in the world. As far as the Chinese side is concerned, deals such as this are not about commercial opportunity. They are about using propaganda to advance national strategy. China’s media experts have done their homework on the Australian media and found opportunities to exploit the financial vulnerability of the mainstream private media market.

“The failure of mainstream media to report on the Propaganda Bureau’s arrival in Australia contrasts curiously with its perpetual vigilance in reporting on government censorship and deprivation of civil liberties in China. Why the silence? There is a remarkable lack of sensitivity to the possible implications of these deals for Australian standards of journalism.”

88.1.13 Rogerson jailed

On Thursday 16 June there was extensive coverage in the *Daily Telegraph*, *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Australian* of the conviction for murder of former NSW detectives Roger Rogerson and Glen McNamara. The *Daily Telegraph*, in particular, really took hold of the story. Its coverage included a 16 page wraparound.

88.1.14 Slogans

Melbourne’s *Herald Sun* is “for” lots of things, it seems. The slogan above its masthead on 20 May 2016 was: “We’re for dairy farmers”. On 23 May it was: “We’re for Victoria”. On 3 June: “We’re for the CFA”. On 10 June: it wasn’t for anything. On 15 June: “We’re for Victoria”. On 14 July, the *Sydney Daily Telegraph*’s slogan was: “We’re for State of Origin 2017”. The previous night, New South Wales had defeated Queensland 18-14 in the third Origin match for 2016. Queensland retained the trophy, having won the first two matches.

88.1.15 Press Council at 40

The Australian Press Council has made available video recordings of each session of its 40th anniversary international conference on press freedom, held 3-5 May in Sydney. The council encourages journalists, editors, academics, students and media researchers to use these videos. The speakers and panellists at the conference included Anna Nemtsova (Russia), David Barstow (*New York Times*), Kate McClymont (Fairfax Media) and Peter Greste. Key themes of the conference included:

- The influences of technological, social and commercial change on journalism quality;
- The need for reform of secrecy, censorship and defamation laws and the risks of over-regulation by governments; and
- The role of independent press councils in enhancing press freedom by setting high standards and maintaining public confidence.

88.1.16 Weekend magazine expands

The *Weekend Australian Magazine* has relaunched with more lifestyle content and more pages. Its first “new” issue, which appeared on 21-22 May, was 68 pages, up from a minimum size of 40. Its new minimum size is 60 pages (*Australian*, 16 May 2016; *Weekend Australian*, 21-22 May 2016).

88.1.17 Hancock appointed deputy editor of *Courier-Mail*

Rachel Hancock, editor of the *Northern Territory News*, has been appointed joint deputy editor of the *Courier-Mail* and the *Sunday Mail*, Brisbane. She reports to *Courier-Mail* editor Lachlan Heywood and *Sunday Mail* editor Peter Gleeson (*Courier-Mail*, 11 June 2016, p.2).

88.1.18 Redundancies at the *West*

Perth's daily, the *West Australian*, has announced a wave of redundancies, as its parent company Seven West Media prepares to purchase the state's *Sunday Times* from News Corp Australia (ABC News online, 29 June 2016; also see 88.1.8). It is unclear how many positions will go. In an email to staff, chief executive Chris Wharton said the newspaper was working on "a new organisational structure" which required staffing cuts "to assist in building a strong foundation for the future of our business".

Seven West confirmed in May that it was negotiating to buy the Sunday paper and its Perth Now website from News Corp. As part of the deal, the two media organisations would share certain content and advertising space. The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission will review what impact the purchase would have on the quality and diversity of content, and newspaper and advertising prices.



88.2.1 Lessons from the digital revolution

There was a time when editing news was based on gut feel and past experience, writes Mark Day (*Australian*, Media section, 4 July 2016). An extract from Day's column follows: "You instinctively knew what stories would sell, what would be talked about in pubs and homes and how to tweak headlines and layouts for maximum effect. Those days are now passed. At any given moment the folk running the online offerings of the major publishers can tell precisely how many people are reading an item, what is being most discussed and commented on, and how long people are lingering over any particular story. For news editors, this is the digital dividend. Real-time figures trump gut feel. During the eight-week long [federal] election campaign two clearly identifiable trends emerged from the real-time statistics. First, audiences are not interested in stage-managed political campaign set pieces — the obligatory walk through a supermarket where the leaders pretend to enjoy meeting people for a high-speed exchange of banalities; where they don hi-vis workers' vests and hard hats and pretend to be Bill the Builder or Mal the Munificent or when they get down and canoodle their way through kindergartens with the nation's rug rats. Increasingly, younger audiences are rejecting these charades as irrelevant. But they are still engaging with analysis and commentary that provides them with a daily guide through the election process.

"Second, there has been a clear move towards news consumption on mobile devices. Newspapers are still largely setting the agenda with radio interviews adding occasional interest, the desktop screen is still a big source of news and information, but mobile phones are now the dominant - delivery device for news through publishers' sites and social media outlets such as Facebook. There is no surprise in this. The move towards mobile consumption was apparent in the 2013 election, but it is now the norm. The future has become a fact."

88.2.2 *Brisbane Times* expands citizen journalism platform

Brisbane Times has expanded its citizen journalism platform, MyBT, to the Gold Coast as part of plan to form a suite of grassroots news sites (NewsMediaWorks, 7 July 2016). MyBT Gold Coast joins MyBT Toowoomba and allows readers to write stories, submit photos or sports results, share

thoughts, respond to “weekly assignments” and promote community events through a calendar. Content is moderated by journalists. Opinion pieces are sourced from community groups, individuals and experts commissioned to provide insight and perspective on local issues.

88.2.3 Building digital subscriptions

Readers will pay for “value” in online news, says Victoria Turner, News Corp Australia’s customer relationship general manager (*GXpress*, June 2016, p.15). She says News Corp has two pay walls, one for print and one for digital. Understanding how they work together has led the company to make “really strong progress”, rewarding it with growing consumer revenue that includes a 100 per cent increase in digital subscriptions over two years. Turner says print consumer sales are driven through retail promotions, content marketing and product development. In the digital paywall “we encourage customers to take weekend bundles, and digital packages which include both paywalls. Awards programs for premium subscribers are worth “hundreds of dollars”. In the past 12 months the more stories that News Corp Australia has blocked, the more subscriptions have increased.

88.2.4 Freemium digital subs to be introduced at other News Corp papers

News Corp Australia will introduce the freemium digital subscription model to all its daily regional paid titles in October and launch new digital subscription packages (NewsMediaWorks, 14 July 2016). The move will be informed by News’s experience with various content-gating models tested at its metro mastheads and will affect the *NT News*, *Geelong Advertiser*, *Townsville Bulletin*, *Cairns Post*, *Gold Coast Bulletin* and Hobart’s *Mercury*. Head of metro and regional publishing Damian Eales said the freemium model had proven more successful than the metered model, with freemium papers generating twice the number of premium content subscriptions than titles with a metered model.

The freemium rollout was pre-empted by the systematic launch of new digital print replica editions across the regionals. The new digital subscription packages will offer a variety of bundling options across print, digital and News’ metro titles – packages similar to those pioneered in the regions by APN’s Australian Regional Media newspapers last year.

88.2.5 Sweetener for digital subscription package

The *Australian* has sweetened subscription packages by offering free access to the *Wall Street Journal* at no extra cost (*Australian*, 12 July 2016). Monday to Friday circulation of the *Australian* has surpassed 170,000 total paid sales for the first time in the newspaper’s history, powered by a 14.5 per cent year-on-year rise in digital subscribers. The spectacle of the race for the White House has provided an opportune moment to combine with the *Wall Street Journal*, according to editor-in-chief of the *Australian*, Paul Whittaker. From 12 July all of the *Australian*’s new and existing digital subscribers received digital access to the *Wall Street Journal* on wsj.com, on iOS and Android, and via an ePaper.



88.3.1 News Corp acquires 12 regional dailies

News Corp Australia has acquired the APN News & Media regional papers, including 12 dailies, in a \$36.6 million deal that is subject to regulatory approval. Ten of the 12 dailies are based in Queensland, serving the cities and districts of Mackay, Rockhampton, Gladstone, Bundaberg, Hervey Bay-Maryborough, Gympie, the Sunshine Coast, Ipswich, Toowoomba and Warwick. The

oldest three of the papers involved date from the beginning of the 1860s. News Corp already held a stake of just under 15 per cent in the APN papers, which come under the control of Australian Regional Media (ARM) (*Australian*, 22 June 2016).

If the acquisition of the ARM papers is approved, News Corp will dominate both metropolitan and regional daily newspapers in each state except Western Australia. News Corp already owns the *Cairns Post*, *Townsville Bulletin*, *Gold Coast Bulletin* and *Geelong Advertiser*. [See also, Mark Day, “News acquisition to give ARM a leg-up”, *Australian*, Media section, 27 June 2016, p.24.]

88.3.2 Gold Coast: Bob Gordon appointed to Games board

Former *Gold Coast Bulletin* editor-in-chief Bob Gordon has been appointed to the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games Corporation Board. Former Queensland Premier Peter Beattie has been appointed chairman of the board (*Australian*, 18 May 2016).

88.3.3 Newspaper closures (1): Cooma and Jindabyne

The final issue of the *Cooma-Monaro Express* and Jindabyne’s *Summit Sun* appeared on Thursday, 5 May 2016. Your ANHG editor was interviewed on three NSW ABC radio stations in relation to the closure.

88.3.4 Newspaper closures (2); Kyneton

Kyneton’s *Guardian* closed on 3 June. It began on 6 September 1862 as the bi-weekly *Kyneton Guardian & Woodend & Malmsbury Chronicle*. It finished as the *Macedon Ranges Guardian*.

88.3.5 Newspaper closures (3): Suburban Melbourne

News Corp closed seven Melbourne suburban newspapers in its local Leader Community Newspapers groups in the week of 27 June-1 July, with the loss of at least five jobs and possibly eight. The *Melbourne Leader*, *Berwick Leader*, *Brimbank Leader*, *Free Press Leader*, *Hobsons Bay Leader*, *Melton Leader* and *Wyndham Leader* were closed in the week ended 1 July. News Corp still has 26 *Leaders* in Melbourne.

88.3.6 Election advertising in Tasmania

On 1 July the Launceston *Examiner* had a four-page Liberal Party wraparound and the Burnie *Advocate* had a Labor Party “sticky note” on the front. On 2 July (election day), the *Advocate* had a four-page Liberal Party wraparound

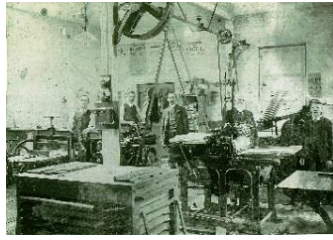
88.3.7 Competing newspapers, Yea!

Victor Isaacs writes: Yea, population 1090, 100km north of Melbourne, now has two weekly newspapers, both published on Wednesday but one is paid and one is free. The *Yea Chronicle*, established April 1890, is published by Alexandra Newspapers, which also publishes the *Alexandra-Eildon-Marysville Standard*. The *Yea Chronicle* incorporates the *Yea Telegraph*, the *Yea Telephone* and the *Upper Goulburn Advocate*. Its cover price is \$1.20. The *Local Paper* began publication on 17 February 2016. A free paper, it is published by Ash Long who has published the *Melbourne Observer* since 1969. Long is the former owner and editor of the *Yea Chronicle*. The *Local Paper*’s masthead carries the following slogans:

Largest readership of any local newspaper in Murrindindi Shire.

Local and Independent. Not associated with any other publication in this area.

Sample copies of both newspapers dated 18 May have been sighted. The *Local Paper* was 32 tabloid pages with colour on the first four and last four pages. The *Yea Chronicle* was 24 tabloid pages on high quality paper with colour on every page. A superficial impression is that the *Local Paper* has more substantial content, but looks scrappy in page layout (reminiscent of the *Melbourne Observer*). The *Yea Chronicle* is printed in Wangaratta by North East Newspapers, and the *Local Paper* in Fitzroy by Streamline Press.



4-NEWSPAPER HISTORY

88.4.1 Whatever happened to the *Argus* pictorial negatives?

By Ian Scales [Ian has a PhD in anthropology and is extending his research into vernacular rural transport technology in colonial and early twentieth century Australia]

Anyone delving into the National Library of Australia's Trove Digitised Newspapers section knows how profoundly it has changed the game of Australian history. When it comes to newspaper photographs, though, Trove throws up the captions, but the images themselves are disappointing. The already-coarse newsprint half-tones have been further heavily degraded by extreme contrast from microfilming. So, then, do the originals of those newspaper photographs still exist? If so, where are they? On my part, I've been trying, with only marginal success, to find 1920s and 1930s images from the *Argus* and other Melbourne newspapers. Here are a few "work-in-progress" notes for others on the hunt.

The *Argus* [for the first two years it was the *Melbourne Argus*] was published in Melbourne from 1846 to 1957. [It was a daily from 18 June 1849.] From the 1920s onward it was strong on publishing general interest photographs of life in and around Melbourne. If these could be found, they would be a tremendous resource. There are indeed some *Argus* photographic collections. The only public collection is held by the State Library of Victoria. The library's blog from December 2015 notes its collection contains "over sixty thousand" *Argus* photographs, "15,000 of which have now been digitised". The blog characterises the collection as "mostly WW1 and WW2 material relating to Australia". A catalogue search finds 13,331 images attributed to the *Argus*. Of these, 9442 are categorised as the World War II series, 235 as pre-WWII, 765 as Korean War, and 804 as "Post World War II". According to SLV pictures librarian Madeleine Say, the remaining uncatalogued images are of non-Australian subjects. She says that if any Melbourne scenes had been present, they would have been catalogued. Fairfax donated the collection, a fragment of the *Argus* photographic print library, to SLV in 1976. It consists entirely of silver-gelatin prints, and no negatives.

Although it was the Herald and Weekly Times group that bought the wound-up *Argus* assets in 1957, it seems that the *Age* had previously acquired photographic print files from the *Argus*. Hence the donation by Fairfax of the wartime collection to the SLV. I made further inquiries with Michelle Stillman, librarian at the *Age*. She says the *Age* print photographs are filed by subject, and mostly date from the 1940s to 1996, the year that the *Age* went digital. However, some earlier photos occasionally turn up in the files. Also mixed in with the *Age* print photos are occasional *Argus* images. Happily for me, two excellent *Argus* photos from the 1930s turned up in the files on my topic of interest. The *Age* print photo collection contains around 3.5 million images held in about 300,000 files. The *Age* negative collection begins in 1950, and contains around 2.5 million images. Nobody knows what happened to the majority of the pre-1950 *Age* negatives. It is plausible that they could have been lost during the move by the *Age* from the old Collins street offices to Spencer Street in 1969. A few film negatives have been found dated before 1950, but no glass-plate negatives.

Because of the immense size of the *Age* pictorial archive, cataloguing is not feasible. Anyone who wants something specific access has to use the Fairfax Syndication website to make an inquiry. This inquiry is forwarded to the librarians, who use a combination of old card indexes and poking into picture files to see what might be held, whether of *Age* or *Argus* origin. It is clear that the *Age* does not have the *Argus* glass plate negative collection, which would be the holy grail of early newspaper photography, as far as Melbourne is concerned. The *Argus* negatives were more likely

to have been transferred to the Herald and Weekly Times in 1957, but I can't find anyone to confirm that.

There are other photographic archives held by Fairfax, in Sydney. The *Sydney Morning Herald* reported in December 2012 the donation to the National Library of Australia of the Fairfax Glass Plate Negative collection, dating from 1908 to the mid-1930s. The NLA ran a three-part series on the subsequent digitisation project, in its blog during 2013. The collection turned out to be over 17,000 glass plate negatives, mostly in 4"x5" format. The collection is now catalogued and viewable online via the NLA website. The catalogue indicates that about 5,600 of the images date from the 1920s and about 12,000 date from the 1930s. After the 1930s, glass-plate negatives were discontinued as photographic film was adopted. Little or none of the collection is from the Melbourne papers. So the *Age* glass-plate negatives aren't there, let alone the *Argus* negatives.

Cataloguing and digitising the newspaper image archives would no doubt help uncover more material hidden among the millions of uncatalogued images. Fairfax made a bold attempt in this direction when, in 2013, it entered into a deal with Rogers Photo Archive in the United States to digitise further parts of both the Sydney and Melbourne photographic archives. Rogers had been digitising photographic print collections from many American newspapers. In part, their business model was to scan the prints, deliver the digitised images back to the client and on-sell the original prints. This was a way to lower the extremely high costs of mass-digitising the millions of images held in a typical major metropolitan newspaper archive. Fairfax sent two collections to Rogers: the 10-million-image Fairfax Sydney-based print collection (but not their negatives); and the *Age*'s negative collection (but not their print collection). As the *Age* reported in June 2015, Rogers unfortunately went into receivership in 2014, but Fairfax regained their collections [see ANHG 83.1.1, July 2015]. The *Age* negatives were repatriated in March 2015. There are no further plans for mass digitisation at this stage.

So what about the *Argus* negatives, especially glass-plate negatives that, like the Fairfax Sydney glass-plate collection, would probably span the 1920s and 1930s? I have heard rumours that they may be lying forgotten in a News Corp warehouse in Melbourne, while other stories suggest they were destroyed. There is even a story that they have ended up in a suburban garage. Certainly the *Herald Sun* holds at least some *Argus* prints, because in June 2014 they published online a "photo essay" series on Melbourne life decade-by-decade. For their 1940s and 1950s pictorial in the series, quite a few of the images are credited "*Herald Sun* Image Library/ARGUS". However, looking at their 1930s pictorial, only one of their images is credited to the *Argus*, the rest being credited "*Herald Sun* Image Library". It seems that whatever the *Herald Sun* knows that they have from the *Argus* dates mostly from the 1940s onwards.

I tried to contact the *Herald Sun*'s picture library, hoping to speak to someone who would know more. It was a battle to speak to anyone at all. Eventually I got someone in photo sales (the picture library won't take calls from the public) who said that they held *Argus* prints, but no negatives. They have an archive database, and there are *Argus* photos on it. If someone orders a photo, they retrieve the print and scan it. That's all I discovered, before, under some pressure, the call was concluded. I didn't get very far and I'm not at all convinced that I got to speak to the right person. I just have to surmise: given that the Herald and Weekly Times picture archive could easily be on the same scale as the *Age* archive (millions of prints and negatives), and the costs of cataloguing far outweigh the benefits, it is almost certain that whatever they have catalogued in their database is just a fraction of what they may hold. So it is still quite possible that the *Argus* glass-plate negatives, as well as more *Argus* prints, film negatives and who knows what else, still survive in News Corp possession. Does anyone there know? The question has now been put through an insider network, so we may get an answer. If anyone knows more about what happened to the *Argus* photographic collection, or other pre-war Melbourne newspaper photo archives, please do get in touch. I am at ianscales@aapt.net.au

88.4.2 Linotype: a 'formidable, complex, delicate monster'

Ottmar Mergenthaler's linotype machine, patented in 1884, was first used successfully 130 years ago—on 3 July 1886 at the *New York Tribune*. In *The Last Linotype: The Story of Georgia and Its Newspapers since World War II* (1985), Millard B. Grimes tells of the beginnings of the linotype and reflects on alternatives that emerged (pp.36-37):

QUOTE: A linotype machine was at once a formidable, complex and delicate monster requiring the attention of skilled and patient operators who spent years learning its intricacies, and entire careers becoming its master. In hot-type days, the linotype operator was one of the most skilled positions on a newspaper and was usually paid more than any of the news personnel, and sometimes more than the editor. In fact the editors and publishers of many weeklies [non-dailies] got their start as linotype operators.

Because the machine's durability was as legendary as its contrariness, a publisher figured he could invest the time and money to train an operator since the linotype was the only foreseeable means of composing the newspaper. Obsolescence seemed no danger.

But actually there were a number of better and easier ways to compose type, and these had been around for many years. They were used in commercial printing, magazines, and in various other types of publications. They were not unknown to newspapers, and some small newspapers had used other printing methods; however, most publishers seemed to think they had too much of an investment in hot type machinery to consider a shift to other ways of printing and composition. Employees themselves, especially those in unions, naturally were reluctant to see new methods introduced which might make not only their machines obsolete, but also their skills.

To those entering the newspaper business after 1960, the use of linotypes and hot metal for so long by newspapers must seem shortsighted and irresponsible, and conclusive evidence that newspapers always resisted change in every aspect of their operations. But the linotype and its compatriots definitely had their good points. In fact, there are still newspaper people who believe the linotype provided a sharper, easier-to-read text than any cold type composer yet developed, and that metal type assured a neater, more professional makeup because the lines were almost invariably straight, the spacing even and consistent, the hyphenation less erratic.

Linotype's body or text type has been the most difficult part of printing for cold type to duplicate, and even the Mergenthaler Company, which manufactured linotypes, was unable to provide the same precise spacing or escapements between letters in cold type machines as it had in hot type.

The keyboard on a linotype had 90 keys, and skilled fingers were needed to make sure that each key performed its function. When the operator touched a key, a mold or matrix would be released from a metal case, or magazine, at the top of the linotype. A moving belt carried the matrix to its proper place in the line, with spaces between words formed by wedge-shaped slugs released by other keys. The line of matrixes was then transferred to the metal-casting mechanism on the machine where they were automatically spaced; next, molten metal was forced into the faces of the matrixes, forming the lines of metal letters. These lines then moved into a tray, called a galley, which usually held enough lines of type to fill a regular newspaper column. The linotype machines would automatically return the matrixes to the magazines so they could be used again and again.

UNQUOTE

88.4.3 Editor who was a pilot and a 'Bunny'

An email came from the United States. Daphne Fairbanks wrote—"I recently came upon your publication, *Australian Newspaper History* [Group Newsletter] and thought you might be able to point me in a direction for my research. I am in the USA and seeking the name of a man who was an editor for a newspaper in Sydney, I believe in the last 1960s-1970s. I have very little to go on and am hitting walls without a name. He was a WWII veteran, I believe in the RAAF, or RAF. He spent time in the USA at the end of the war in a USA military hospital (Percy Jones Hospital, Battle Creek, Michigan). The only other piece of information I have is that he had a nickname of 'Bunny', as it was engraved on a lighter that he gave to my mother. My mother, Martha Fell, is deceased, but our family would like to learn the name of this man."

Your ANHG editor circulated the email to the bulk email lists for the group. Subscriber Don Baker responded in two emails with the following details:

"A quick check with Sydney journos reveals his name is Bunny Brittain (Lionel Digby Brittain). Apparently he was quite famous for his WWII exploits. Bunny crash-landed in a glider in France and broke both legs. He was captured by the Germans and put in a POW camp, from which he

escaped so often his captors confiscated his crutches. He also served in the Korean War then was a sub-editor on the *Mirror*. Bunny died from cancer in the 1980s.”

Daphne Fairbanks is not convinced, however, that Brittain is the man who met her mother in the situation described. Her latest email: “I recently was reviewing some archives of my mother’s college (Sarah Lawrence College, outside NYC) and came upon an article in 1944 that mentioned her being escorted in New York City by an RAF Sergeant. I am not sure if this could have been the man with ‘the lighter’.” She does know he lived in Australia in the late 1960s but is not certain that he wasn’t British and moved later. [Please email Rod Kirkpatrick at rkhistory3@bigpond.com with any further information or suggestions.]

88.4.4 Mount Isa: *North West Star* at 50

The *North West Star*, Mount Isa, turned 50 on 12 May. That day it published an extract from the unpublished memoirs of the late Sir Asher Joel, its founder. What follows is an edited extract from what the newspaper published.

In the mid 1960s I recognised that Mount Isa was a city of great opportunity and decided it should be the location of my first media venture. Mount Isa became an extension of my life to the stage where it became a second home with all of my family becoming involved. There already was a newspaper in the city, the Rupert Murdoch owned *Mount Isa Mail*, a bi-weekly evening publication that had a fairly checkered career. I realised I would strike opposition in taking on the *Mail*. However, the editorial quality of this newspaper was so poor I felt that if I could get a foothold I could swamp the opposition. The *Mail* was produced on a clapped-out press in a ramshackle building in the heart of town and the employees sweated in un-air-conditioned premises made of concrete blocks which had to be propped up to stop them falling over. There were great gaps between the galvanised iron roof and the wall where the gritty dust would blow in. It was manned by a staff whose reputation for toughness and even looseness was the talk of the town.

It was to be my first venture into editorial proprietorship and marked a new challenge, although in some respects a natural progression from my beginnings as a newspaper copy boy at the age of 14. I set about employing staff and went into consultations with unions who drove a hard bargain. Bert Milner, secretary of the printers’ union the PKIU, really ground me down to get the deal he wanted because of conditions in Mount Isa, which did not apply to any other area in Australia. At every turn I seemed to experience frustration. I began to suspect this was part of an organised campaign to defeat me before I had even got to the production stage.

The *Mail* changed from a bi-weekly evening paper to a morning daily. The fight was on. I appointed Kelvin Fairbairn, who had been looking after my accounts in our Sydney office, as manager of the new operation based in Mount Isa. I knew in Fairbairn I had a dogged, loyal worker.

I managed to purchase a fairly recently constructed building of concrete blocks and iron roof on the outskirts of the city centre to house the printing press and editorial and advertising staff. With a few additions it was far more impressive than the *Mail’s* office. I chose the name *North West Star* because Mount Isa is generally recognised as the capital of the north west of Queensland and there was a significance about the word “star”. The original mining lode had been called the Black Star and so a black star was well known as a symbol identifying Mount Isa and had been stamped on the consignments of copper which were sent to the coast in the early days of the mine’s history.

Competition between the *Mail’s* and our journalists was fierce as we approached publication day. I had to counter all sorts of obstacles which were used against me, such as with the provision of paper and services. I was eating with Fairbairn in the main dining room of the Barclay Hotel one evening when I heard a voice raised in exaltation speaking to a group of people sitting in a semi-private part of the dining area. It was Rupert Murdoch. He had flown in with some of his top executives. His words were clear and his message was delivered in vivid terms. Basically it was a promise to drive me out of town, to close me down.

The pattern of opposition began to fall into place. I realised that Murdoch, whose capacity I had always admired but whom I had never actually met, was not going to be an easy man to knock over. Our workers threw themselves into production of the first edition. But there were major teething problems. On the day of publication we seemed to be as far off as ever. We were scheduled to come out in the morning but it was quite obvious we would not meet the deadline. Members of our staff laboured tirelessly without sleep. In

my own case, I had less than four hours sleep in 72 hours. Barry Pringle and Alan Schumacher and two leading hands on the compositing staff worked day and night sweating in the humid atmosphere. It was traumatic.

Dogged and weary, exhausted and mentally fatigued, I could see the people around me suffering intensely but still carrying on. I have never seen workers so determined to win against the odds, and the odds were tough. Murdoch had done everything he could to improve his paper and frustrate us. Hard cells within the town had been organised against us and yet those I had employed showed the utmost loyalty and devotion and were backed up by the tremendous assistance of Bill Moloney, the editor, and Douglas Macdonald, the top sub-editor who had worked on the *Daily Telegraph*.

We struggled on, yet somehow the organisation defied co-ordination. Problem after problem arose. Finally, looking at the exhausted staff, I gulped out to Pringle and Schumacher, the key men on the machine staff: "I'm going to cancel it all and make an announcement over the radio that we are deferring publication for a week". "Like bloody hell you will," said Schumacher. "We have worked this hard to get the bloody thing where we have and we are going to get it out today if it's the last thing we do."

Pringle supported him wholeheartedly. Pringle had been carrying around bundles of metal and doing a multitude of jobs and had suffered terribly through being on his feet for so long. The veins in his legs had started to stand out and he had them bandaged. He refused to sit down. With a team like this I felt we just had to go on.

The reaction among the residents in Mount Isa was now one of tremendous interest. In a small, very integrated and concentrated community there is not much that goes unnoticed. Our struggles to get the *North West Star* out suddenly became a topic of great interest. It had been reported around Australia there was a fight going on between Murdoch and myself.

It was quite obvious that we weren't going to get the paper out in the morning, so it was a question of which hour we would get it out. Late in the afternoon on 12 May 1966, we managed to hit the streets and the first issue of the *North West Star* was published.

88.4.5 Lismore: *Northern Star* at 140

The Lismore daily, the *Northern Star*, celebrated its 140th birthday on 13 May 2016. It was one of a profusion of papers started in the northern rivers area of New South Wales. **Rod Kirkpatrick** wrote in *Country Conscience* (2000) about the early years of the paper:

When the *Northern Star and Richmond and Tweed Rivers Advocate* was established at Lismore on 13 May 1876, the town was so small it was referred to as 'Sleepy Hollow'. It grew up overnight because of the timber trade and the opening of the Big Scrub, winning municipal status on 4 March 1879 and having a population of 500 in 1881. The columns of the *Northern Star*, during the thirteen years it was run by its founder, William Kelleway, a former editor of the *Clarence & Richmond Examiner*, Grafton, provide an insight into the struggles of the nineteenth-century colonial newspaper proprietor-editor and present unusual detail about costs and debts.

In 1878 Kelleway wrote that for more than two years he had 'stuck steadily to business, writing, clipping, setting-up type, making-up the paper, and printing it off, besides keeping down our labour expenses to the lowest limit consistent with a fair day's wages for a fair day's work, and yet we find that we have sunk £400 in hard cash and have spent over £1000 in wages, rent, &c.' The cost of each issue of the *Star* could be estimated as follows: '18 columns composition (setting up the type), at 10s [per column], £9; paper, &c., £1 10s; telegrams, &c., £1; total, £11 10s, exclusive of the cost of supplement, rent, &c.' (This weekly cost was remarkably similar to the total projected running costs in 1861 for the *Singleton Times*.) In two years he had not taken more than £5 in job printing.

And now he had the irksome presence of a second newspaper in Casino, *The Representative and Advocate* – the first, the *Richmond River Express*, had begun on 23 December 1870 when the town's population was fewer than 300. The *Express* had been sold at auction by its founder, Robert Gordon Balmer, on 30 March 1878 to John Craigie, son of Walter Craigie, joint proprietor of the *Armidale Express*, for £337. The price indicated the low level of profits expected. As Kelleway observed:

The drawbacks to newspaper enterprise here are the newness of the district, the shortness of cash, and consequent bad debts, and the very low prices charged for advertisements. In some places a printer looks to jobbing printing to recoup his wages, but our profits in that direction have not amounted to £5 – while we have to withstand the competition who has imported an American Self-printing Press, and fills up his spare time in printing for his friends.

Kelleway could not understand why the proprietors of *The Representative* had not bought the *Express* or the *Star* ‘when offered them, at a low rate’, instead of trying to ‘undo what little good had been done, and reduce hard-working, steady journalists to the position of walking the streets, with shabby clothes, and toes out of their boots, singing “Happy Land”’.

In early 1879 Kelleway faced direct competition with the *Lismore Chronicle*, established by Balmer, the former owner of the *Express*. By then *The Representative* had failed, as Kelleway had forecast, following in the wake of the *Grazier and Yeoman*, which had ‘only lived a few months’. The population of the Richmond River district in 1881 was 8,504. On 21 July 1882 Kelleway began producing the *Star* twice a week and by late 1883 it was costing him nearly £1,000 a year to produce it. His book debts totalled £1,111, ranging from £80 down to two shillings. Early in the year had had offered for sale a half share in the *Star*. Kelleway survived largely because he worked in the agricultural field as well, experimenting with pasture grasses and tropical fruits.

Here’s Rod Kirkpatrick’s chronology of events related to the *Northern Star* until it became a daily in 1907.

13 May 1876	<i>Northern Star and Richmond and Tweed Rivers Advocate</i> , Lismore, established by William Kelleway, former editor of the <i>Clarence & Richmond Examiner</i> , Grafton. Four pages. Saturdays.
13 Jan. 1877.	<i>Northern Star</i> changes from small size to double-demy.
Jan. 1879	<i>Lismore Chronicle</i> established by Robert Gordon Balmer, ex- <i>Richmond River Express</i> , Casino. [“We should scarcely have thought that there was room for a fourth paper on the Richmond,” observed the <i>Clarence & Richmond Examiner</i> , Grafton.]
10 Sept. 1881	New equipment added, enabling <i>Northern Star</i> to be printed by machine.
21 July 1882	<i>Northern Star</i> begins bi-weekly issue (Wed. / Sat.).
6 Jan. 1883	Kelleway advertises for sale a half share in the <i>Northern Star</i> newspaper
1885	The first year in which the <i>Northern Star</i> has made a profit, according to the son of William Kelleway.
Late 1885	The <i>Standard</i> established by J.P.F. Walker. Short lived.
13 Nov. 1886	Kelleway advertises for sale a share in the <i>Northern Star</i> “it being intended to enlarge the <i>Star</i> at an early date”.
25 July 1889	Kelleway sells plant and goodwill of <i>Northern Star</i> to T.G. Hewitt, also a former editor of the <i>Clarence & Richmond Examiner</i> , Grafton.
1898	<i>Northern Star</i> buys power-driven Wharfedale press. Gas engine.
9 Jan. 1905	<i>Northern Star</i> begins tri-weekly issue (Mon. / Wed. / Sat.).
1 July 1907	<i>Northern Star</i> becomes a daily, with a cover price of one penny.

88.4.6 *Courier-Mail* at 170

The *Courier-Mail*, Brisbane, published a 12-page wraparound to mark its 170th birthday on 20 June. The paper began as the weekly *Moreton Bay Courier* on 20 June 1846 and has appeared daily since May 1861. It amalgamated with the *Daily Mail* (estab. 1903) on 28 August 1933 to become the *Courier-Mail*.

88.4.7 NLA's magazine appears in print for final time

The final print edition of the *National Library of Australia Magazine* appeared in June. Ssubscribers received a letter from the Director-General of the NLA, Anne-Marie Schwirtlich, that said: "The magazine began in 1990 to raise awareness of the diversity and strength of the Library's collections. It has established an enviable reputation for providing accessible and beautifully illustrated articles focused on the Library's astounding collections." NLA hopes to create an online e magazine presence soon. You can access the Library's blog site at nla.gov.au/blogs/

88.4.8 *Australian Dictionary of Biography* online and in print

Nineteen volumes of the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* have been published since 1966. The volumes (which include a supplementary volume) contain more than 13,500 concise biographies of prominent and representative Australians. Melanie Nolan and Christine Fernon wrote about the *ADB* in the *National Library of Australia Magazine* (June 2016, pp.23-25). As well as prime ministers, governors, pastoralists, military leaders, captains of industry and people involved in the arts, science, academia and medicine, you'll find a wide array of interesting Australians including bushrangers, a "wild white man", street characters, a rabbitier, cricket barracker and landlady.

The authors write: "Compiling the *ADB* is a major undertaking. The project is the largest and longest-running cooperative research enterprise in the humanities and social sciences in Australia. The editorial team is based at the Australian National University in Canberra. Editors fact-check and prepare entries for publication. State and specialist working parties, consisting of academics and other professionals, meet regularly to choose who will have entries and to nominate authors. Both working party members and the 4,500 authors who have written entries for the *ADB* give their time free of charge for the project."

In 2006, *ADB* entries were placed online (adb.anu.edu.au) where they can be accessed for free. Since 2013, new articles are being published directly online rather than first in hard copy. Entries for subjects who died in 1992 were published on 18 March this year. They include many familiar faces, such as Torres Strait Islander leader Eddie Koiki Mabo (1936-1992), Australia's first air hostess Hazel Holyman (1899-1992), mining magnate Lang Hancock (1909-1992), singer and songwriter Peter Allen (1944-1992) and artist Brett Whiteley (1939-1992). [Melanie Nolan is the general editor of the *ADB* and Christine Fernon is the *ADB*'s online manager.]



5—RECENTLY PUBLISHED

88.5.1 Books

Bolt, Andrew, *Bolt: Worth Fighting For: Insights and Reflections 2*, paperback, \$25. A collection of writing by News Corp's right wing columnist.

88.5.2 Articles

Bodey, Michael, "A friend not so likeable", *Australian*, 19 May 2016, p.11. Facebook has been exposed as influencing its trending news. This article includes a table that indicates that Facebook had 15 million unique Australian visitors in January 2016; YouTube, 14 million; WordPress.com, 5,650,000 (Source: Venture Consulting).

- Bramston, Troy**, “‘Independent’ Herald’s Green Glow was Blue for Most of its History”, *Australian* 26 April 2016, p. 12. Refers to the *Sydney Morning Herald*’s current 185th anniversary commemoration. Argues that its current slogan of “Independent. Always” is at odds with its political history, especially its long history of supporting conservative politics and causes.
- Day, Mark**, “Fairfax proves its own worst enemy”, *Australian*, 23 May 2016, p.24.
- Day, Mark**, “Journalism under fire but will endure”, *Australian*, Media section, 20 June 2016, p.24. Includes a review of the arguments presented on ABC-TV’s *Media Watch* on 13 June about the future of journalism, especially in printed and online newspapers.
- Doherty, Megan**, “Editors’ notes on the stories of a city”, *Canberra Times*, 12 July 2016, p.6. Recollections of *Canberra Times* editors from Ian Matthews (1972) to the present editor Grant Newton (2016). (Published in the run-up to the newspaper’s conversion to tabloid on 16 July. See 88.1.1).
- Giles, Rebekah**, “No equity when guilty verdicts are delivered through the papers”, *Australian*, Media section, 16 May 2016, p.28. A lawyer discusses “fairness” in media reporting of “scandals”. Quote: “The case of my clients the Ahsani family, owners of Unaoil, damned unequivocally in a Fairfax multimedia exposé self-described as the “biggest bribery scandal ever”, is a warning, and one the business and media community should heed.”
- Howe, Alan**, “Plotting a paper with Col Allan”, *Australian*, 6 May 2016. The writer recalls working with Col Allan to produce the first 1986 issue of the *Australian*.
- Knott, Matthew**, “None so blind as those in the bubble”, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 7 July 2016, p.7. Examines the media’s failure to pick the federal election result.
- Kohler, Alan**, “Never mind the content: deity of distribution is where the media money lies”, *Weekend Australian*, 14 May 2016, p.33. Insightful discussion of the impact of technology (especially the internet) on newspapers and on media cartels. See also Day’s and Mitchell’s articles of 23 May in this list.
- Marszalek, Jessica, and Meers, Daniel**, “Long and winding road to the polls”, *Daily Telegraph*, 14 May 2016, p.37. Describes life for journalists on the Federal election campaign.
- Mitchell, Chris**, “Paywalls can help save news model”, *Australian*, 23 May 2016, p.24. See also 88.2.3.
- Simper, Errol**, “Strange business has come to an end”, *Australia*, Media section, 16 May 2016, p.27. The author explains, in his final media column in the *Australian*, how he came to begin writing the column. Simper joined the *Australian* in 1978 and was the newspaper’s chief of staff three times. He had also worked for the *Canberra Times*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Northern Territory News* and *Queensland Country Life*. A column by the *Australian*’s former editor-in-chief, Chris Mitchell, replaced Simper’s “A Certain Scribe” column.

ANHG SUBSCRIPTIONS

Electronic: No fee. Email your request to Rod Kirkpatrick at rkhistory3@bigpond.com/

Hard copy: For ten issues (two years)—\$75 for individuals; and \$100 for institutions. Postal address details are provided at head of newsletter. Pay by cheque made out to R. Kirkpatrick, or by internet transfer: A/c name: R. Kirkpatrick. BSB: 484 799. A/c no. 160 080 705. Contact Rod first.

DAILIES IN THE COLONIAL CAPITALS: OUT SOON

Pre-publication orders have started coming in for copies of a book soon to be published: *Dailies in the Colonial Capitals: A Short History* by Rod Kirkpatrick. Details: 72,000 words; 14 chapters; biographical register; bibliography; index; 19 illustrations; 12 tables. Soft cover. ISBN 978-0-9751552-7-1. Small print run. Price \$65 plus \$15 post and packing. Contact: Rod Kirkpatrick, email: rkhistory3@bigpond.com; or Mobile 0400 031 614. The book is expected to be available by early September.