



A photograph taken by Russell McPhedran of the Granville train disaster, Sydney, on 18 January 1977. Eighty-three people died and 213 were injured when a crowded Sydney-bound, eight-carriage commuter train, which had left Mount Victoria in the Blue Mountains at 6.09am, left the rails at about 8.10am, careened along for 46 metres before striking the supports of the overhead Bold Street bridge, which was constructed of steel and concrete. See ANHG 98.1.4 below.

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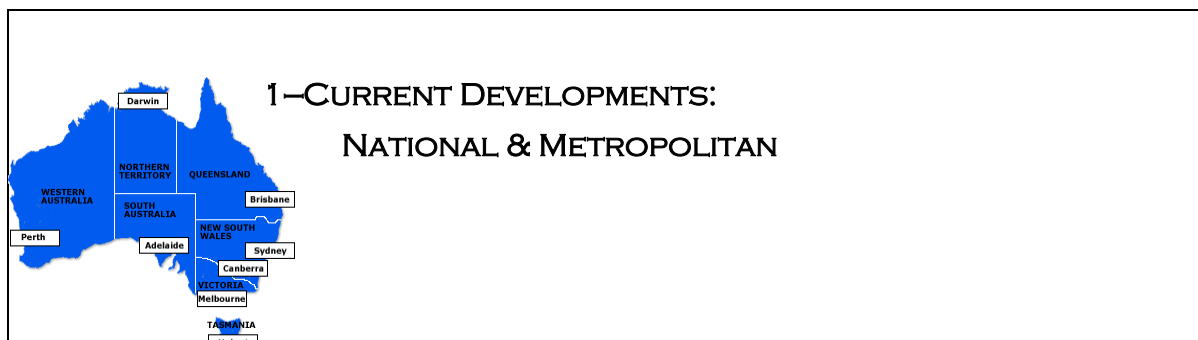
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Ten issues had appeared by December 2000 and the *Newsletter* has since appeared five times a year.



EDITOR'S NOTE ON ANHG 100: There's something magical about attaining a century, whether it's by a batsman in cricket, people in their lifespan or a company in its business life. Newspapers mark centenaries (and, more recently, sesqui-centenaries) with celebrations and speeches, and sometimes even get their date of establishment correct. The first newspaper-history article I wrote, 41 years ago, was about a newspaper that got its date of birth wrong and celebrated its centenary on the wrong date. Some newspapers still find it much more comfortable to believe in a wrong D.O.B. It's a little like the family secrets that are never explored too fully for fear of stumbling on the unthinkable. The *ANHG Newsletter* is not 100 years old, or even anywhere near it, but it is approaching its 100th issue. And the question exercising your editor's mind has been: How should we mark the occasion (which will arrive in December this year)? I think one way would be to invite readers to contribute anything up to 300 words or so on the newspaper-history topic of their choice. It may be the most fascinating discovery you've made during years of research or of working for newspapers. It may be to recount a humorous incident from your newspaper experience. Or you may like to make suggestions about what direction the *ANHG Newsletter* should take after issue 100. Over to you. I'll need submissions by 31 October, but the earlier the better. Email me at rod99anhg@gmail.com/

Rod Kirkpatrick

98.1.1 Pros and cons of print combining with TV

Mark Day has written (*Australian*, Media section, 28 May 2018) about the pros and cons of a newspaper working with ABC-TV to improve and enlarge the coverage of a major story. Some edited extracts follow:

A combined team from Fairfax Media and the ABC carried off the Melbourne Press Club's Gold Quill in April for its multi-platform reporting on the growing influence of China in Australian politics. Sharing the award were Nick McKenzie, Richard Baker and Daniel Flitton of the *Age*, James Massola and Philip Dorling of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, and Chris Uhlmann (now with Nine) and Sashka Koloff of the ABC. Their entry came under three sections: a *Four Corners* program exposing Chinese manipulation of Western democracies that ultimately captured the scalp of powerful Labor senator Sam Dastyari, a parallel report published by the *Age* online and an *SMH* story highlighting illegal donations to the ALP by Chinese cigarette importers. After the announcement, Peter Blunden, the managing director (editorial) of News Corp's Victoria-based *Herald and Weekly Times*, criticised the decision, saying he thought it "totally inappropriate". He said, "My issue is with a commercial enterprise (Fairfax Media) being subsidised by taxpayers. The ABC, owned by the people, is propping up a commercial business, then standing together on a podium collecting awards and proclaiming 'we're the best'. It's not sour grapes, it's a bad joke."

Blunden said, "Our journalists have every right to feel that they don't have to beat one other competitor — they have to beat two. I think it sends the wrong cultural signals ... I want our journalists to be focused on producing the very best work they can for Australia's top-selling newspaper, not worrying about what they can do for the ABC. That's not a good culture; it's not the culture I want."

Blunden's criticisms imply what he sees as an unholy relationship between Fairfax and the ABC at a corporate level, but in fact the co-productions are universally the result of personal relationships way below management levels. Nor are they limited to Fairfax. In 2014 the *Australian's* John Lyons combined with *Four Corners*, hosted by Sarah Ferguson, to reveal the mistreatment of Palestine children at the hands of the Israeli army. Their report won a Walkley Award. The *Australian's* US correspondent Cameron Stewart has also teamed up with 7.30 for special reports, along with Paul Farrell, formerly of the *Guardian* and the BuzzFeed website. Lyons, the *Australian's* Middle East correspondent at the time, suggested a co-production to his editor-in-chief, Chris Mitchell, who readily agreed. Lyons saw the exercise as valuable promotion for the *Australian* and an opportunity to amplify his audience and reach and bring benefits to his brand. Mitchell says he was amenable to co-productions with the ABC when he was editing Brisbane's *Courier-Mail* and when he took over the *Australian* his attitude was "if Fairfax is doing it, I want to compete". Mitchell says, "I couldn't stop Fairfax from getting into bed with the ABC but I could compete with them. That's still my advice today — get a piece of the action."

Lyons, now employed by the ABC, did a second *Four Corners* co-production on the demise of the Abbott government — again, approved by Mitchell. In each case, the ground rules were that each party had full editorial control over what they published or put to air. While reporters need to get approval from their editors, Nick McKenzie says stories are assessed on a case-by-case basis. "My first was in 2008 for *Four Corners*, dealing with the effects of post-traumatic stress disorders on soldiers who fought in Afghanistan," McKenzie says. "I had a couple of cracks at it in print but it was so human and so tremendously powerful, I took it to *Four Corners* where I had worked as a researcher and producer, so I had built up relationships there. They liked it, assigned a producer and a couple of extra staff, and we started doing it as a TV story. I saw this as adding power to the story and that is the point of public interest journalism. You want it to reach as many people as possible. The *Age* is well read in Melbourne but it's not widely read in outback WA, for example, and that's where many of those who suffer PTSD live. They're not reading the *Age* but they are watching the ABC.

"Working with the ABC can be very bureaucratic but it is also very thorough. They can and do demand extra digging, and they propose things that don't necessarily add to the journalism but they do add to the impact of TV. The *SMH* or *Age* would never send you to London to knock on a door, only to be abused and told to go away, but that can deliver a golden TV moment. It doesn't work in newspapers, but it's central to TV."

98.1.2 Robert Gottliebson honoured

Robert Gottliebson has been made a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to the media as a journalist, editor and business analyst, and to education through school governance roles. His award came in the Queen's Birthday honours (*Australian*, 11 June 2018). Gottliebson writes for the *Australian*. He joined the Melbourne *Herald* in 1959, then the *Sydney Morning Herald*, and was the *Australian Financial Review's* founding Chanticleer columnist, until Fairfax's Max Suich asked him to start *Business Review Weekly*. "We would be up against Kerry Packer's *Australian Business* so it was a huge leap of faith," Gottliebson said. "That lasted 20 years, until I joined the *Australian*. Finally, Alan Kohler coaxed me out of retirement to help start *Business Spectator*, and before too long I found myself back at the *Australian* writing a daily print and online column."

98.1.3 Rebel Wilson's defamation payment reduced to \$600,000

Rebel Wilson's record \$4.5 million defamation payment has been slashed to \$600,000 after Bauer Media appealed against the amount of the damages award (*Australian*, 14 June 2018). The company had appealed against a Supreme Court of Victoria order that the Pitch Perfect star be compensated a record \$650,000 in general damages and \$3,917,472 in special damages. It came after the company was found to have defamed the 38-year-old actor in a series of articles published in 2015 that painted her as a serial liar about her age, real name and childhood in order to make it in Hollywood. The Court of Appeal handed down its judgment in Melbourne on 14 June. Wilson was not present in court for the ruling. She has since said she will appeal the decision.

98.1.4 Recent chronology

98.1.4 Deaths

Cameron, Deborah: D. 9 June 2018 in Sydney, aged 60; mainly known as a broadcast journalist, but entered journalism through newspapers: the *Standard*, Warrnambool; *Canberra Times*; and *Sydney Morning Herald*; became first woman to be appointed Tokyo correspondent for Fairfax, and also worked in New York and Jakarta (*Age*, 12 June 2018, p.9).

Hamilton, Jillian (nee Robertson): D. 22 April 2018 in Oxford, England, aged 78; born in Sydney, grew up in Townsville; trained as a journalist under Donald Horne in 1961; joined the Murdoch press and was sent to London in 1964; assignments took her to America, India, Russia, Tahiti, Vietnam and Afghanistan; in November 1963 in Miami she attended a dinner for President John F. Kennedy four days before he was assassinated; motherhood and her subsequent first marriage, to journalist Martin Page, cut short her journalism career; divorce, a second marriage (to Edward Hulton, member of a British newspaper dynasty), and a second divorce, followed; her third and final husband was a Scot, Angus, the 15th Duke of Hamilton; they divorced after seven years; she then became a much published non-fiction author, with books such as *Marengo*, *The Myth of Napoleon's Horse* (2000) and *God, Guns and Israel* (2009); she wrote regularly for the *Catholic Herald*, during annual stays of several months in Jerusalem (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 25 April 2018).

Hargrave, Kenneth: D. ca 1 June 2018 at Bowral, aged 84; born 1933 at Kensington, Sydney; completed cadetship at *Daily Telegraph* and went to work at *South Coast Times* in Nowra and Wollongong before joining the *St George & Sutherland Shire Leader*; editor and editor-in-chief of the *Leader* from early 1960s to mid-1980s; edited the NRMA paper, the *Open Road*, at one stage (*St George & Sutherland Shire Leader*, 13 June 2018, p.37).

Heeney, John Francis Michael: D. 23 May 2018 in Toowoomba, aged 80; began journalism cadetship at *Toowoomba Chronicle* on 27 December 1953; worked there for 10 years before joining *Sydney Morning Herald*; stayed briefly before joining *Western Star*, Roma; in April 1965 joined ABC to become senior journalist in charge of its regional newsroom in Toowoomba; stayed many years (*Chronicle*, Toowoomba, 2 July 2018, p.19).

Hills, James Benjamin (Ben): D. 10 June 2018 in Sydney, aged 76; born in Grassington, Yorkshire, in 1942; landed as teenager in Queensland in 1959 when his family emigrated; entered journalism as cadet on *Border Post*, Stanthorpe, before working at Brisbane *Telegraph*, *Forbes Advocate*, *Goulburn Evening Post*, Hobart *Mercury* and , in 1968, the *Age*, Melbourne; made his name at that paper and the *Sydney Morning Herald* as an investigative reporter; he led the *Age's* Insight investigative team during the Loans Affair expose, which contributed to the sacking of the Whitlam Labor Government in 1975; won Walkley Award for investigative reporting in 1991 for "The Big Steal", a three-continent investigation of a \$70 million sting on the Swiss Banking Corporation; was a line producer for the Nine Network's *60 Minutes* current affairs program for four years; reported from more than 60 countries as a Fairfax newspaper foreign correspondent; was Japan correspondent for the *SMH* and *Age*, 1992-95, also covering issues in China, Siberia and North and South Korea; briefly served as assistant editor of the *Age*, but returned to reporting; wrote a number of books, including *Blue Murder* (documenting the fight for justice by victims of the Wittenoom asbestos mine in Western Australia) and *Breaking News: The Golden Age of Graham Perkin*, a biography of his first *Age* editor (various sources including Ian Verrinder's obituary of Hills, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 15 June 2018).

McPhedran, Russell: D. 7 May 2018, aged 82; press photographer; born in Glasgow; arrived in Sydney with his parents in 1950; became copy boy at the *Sun*, Sydney, in 1952; left to work on Hong Kong *Standard* in 1961 and from 1962-67 worked on London *Daily Express*; returned to Australia and worked as photographer for Fairfax newspapers until 1986 when he was appointed to open the photo bureau in Australia for AAP where he remained until his retirement in 2004; the most famous photo of his career came during a scheduled rest day for him at the track and field events at the Munich Olympics; he was tipped off that something was happening at the athletes' village; on 5 September 1972 members of the Palestinian "Black September" group attacked Israelis at the Games, killing an athlete and a coach and taking nine others hostage; the nine died

later during a botched rescue attempt; McPhedran used a long lens (normally used in his cricket photography) to capture what became a global image of one of the hooded, masker terrorists (Fay Anderson and Sally Young, *Shooting the Picture: Press photography in Australia*, pp.78-79; *New York Times*, 8 May 2018).

O'Loughlin, Peter: D. 13 May 2018 in Sydney, aged 78; born in Wollongong, grew up in Adelaide and Sydney's Bondi Beach; enrolled in Point Cook Naval College at age 11; decided against a naval career; after a stint as a tabloid journalist in London, ventured to Asia where he worked for the Associated Press bureau in Manila; graduated to Bangkok bureau chief in mid-1960s as the Vietnam war was cranking up; brief stint in Singapore; on April 1, 1975, as South Vietnam's Da Nang was falling to the North Vietnamese, he was aboard a chartered merchant ship off the coast and reported and photographed the desperate scenes as 6,000 refugees boarded in eight hours; returned to Australia in 1975 as Sydney bureau chief for AP, a position he would hold through to the Sydney Olympics in 2000 and his retirement at the end of that year; had become an expert reporter on the island colonies of the South Pacific; worked closely with photographer Russell McPhedran (see above); founding president of the Foreign Correspondents' Association of Australia (Carl Robinson, long-time AP and Newsweek correspondent's reflections, as cited in *Washington Post*, 15 May 2018).

98.1.5 Readership increases at weekend

Readers are flocking to print editions of the *Weekend Australian* and the *Saturday Paper*, according to the latest official statistics, providing evidence that print readership is not only resilient but still relevant in the digital world (*Australian*, 4 June 2018). Readership of the *Weekend Australian* grew by 8.9 per cent to 610,000 people, adding 50,000 in March compared with the same period a year ago, according to Enhanced Media Metric Australia figures. The *Saturday Paper*, published by property developer Morry Schwartz, pushed readership 26.7 per cent higher to 242,000 after recently celebrating a four-year anniversary. Growth at the *Saturday Paper* appears to be putting the squeeze on Fairfax Media's metropolitan mastheads, which also cater to a liberal audience, with only the *Age* in the black — up 1.1 per cent to 556,000 at the weekend. The Saturday edition of the *Sydney Morning Herald* fell 8.8 per cent to 643,000. The *Australian Financial Review* weekend edition is down 9.6 per cent to 113,000.

Following 2½ years of sustained growth, the Monday-to-Friday edition of the *Australian* recorded a stable audience, down slightly at 0.2 per cent to 479,000. The Monday-to-Friday edition of the *Australian Financial Review* fell 7.9 per cent to 303,000. See also 98.2.2.

98.1.6 Editors: *Sun-Herald*, *Saturday Paper* and *Sunday Mail Qld*

- ✓ Cosima Marriner has been appointed the editor of the *Sun-Herald*, one of Sydney's two Sunday papers. Marriner joined Fairfax Media in 2000. The former editor of the *Sun-Herald*, Liam Phelan, has taken on a new role as locum editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald* (*Telum Media Alert*, 18 May 2018).
- ✓ Maddison Connaughton has been appointed editor of the *Saturday Paper* and began duties on 22 June 2018. She is the former features editor at *VICE (Australia)* and co-host of FBi Radio's *Backchat* program. She was a finalist in this year's Walkley Young Australian Journalist of the Year for her reporting from the Syrian border. Connaughton replaces Erik Jensen, who was the first editor of the paper (*Telum Media Alert*, 15 June 2018).
- ✓ Peter Gleeson, editor of the *Sunday Mail*, Queensland, has been appointed to a five-day on-air role with Sky News Australia. (*Mediaweek*, 26 June 2018). He will be the voice and face of northern Australia across a number of Sky News programs. Along with this, he will also take over the hosting duties from Janine Perrett on the channel's late night national affairs program *Heads Up* from Friday to Sunday. The show airs at 11pm on Sky News Live. With this change, Gleeson will step down as editor of *The Sunday Mail* — a role he has held since 2013. However, he will continue to pen a weekly column for the News Corp paper in Brisbane. The deputy editor of the *Courier-Mail*, Kelvin Healey, has been appointed the new editor of the *Sunday Mail*. Healey has been the deputy editor of the *Courier Mail* for the last two years and served in the same capacity at Sydney's *Daily Telegraph* for two years before that. The changes will come into effect on 23 July.

98.1.7 Mass shooting at US newspaper office

A man has been charged with five counts of first degree murder after a gunman carried out a rampage with a shotgun through a newspaper office in the US, in one of the deadliest attacks on a media outlet in US history (ABC online news, 29 June 2018). Jarrod Ramos, 38, from Laurel, about 40 kilometres west of Annapolis, has been charged with five counts of first degree murder, the *Capital Gazette* newspaper group reported. Ramos is accused of entering the *Capital Gazette* newspaper offices in Annapolis, Maryland, on 28 June and opening fire through a glass door, then spraying the newsroom with gunfire, according to police and a witness. Acting police chief of the Anne Arundel County Police Department, William Krampf, said assistant editor Rob Hiaasen, 59, was among the victims. Wendi Winters, 65, Rebecca Smith, 34, Gerald Fischman, 61, and John McNamara were also killed. Smith was a sales assistant and the others were journalists.

98.1.8 Murdoch says a partial ‘goodbye’

Sarah Ellison writes (*Washington Post*, 2 July 2018): It all started with a few glasses of wine and two media titans talking about how hard life is. Rupert Murdoch, the 87-year-old founder and co-executive chairman of 21st Century Fox and News Corp., and Bob Iger, the 67-year-old chief executive of the Walt Disney Co., met last August at Murdoch’s Moraga vineyard in the Bel Air hills of Los Angeles and discussed the myriad challenges their multibillion-dollar corporations faced, according to two people familiar with the discussion. Facebook, Amazon, Netflix and Google were dwarfing their old-media conglomerates. As much as Murdoch liked positioning himself as the underdog and outsider, these new digital competitors were turning out to be too much. Not long after Iger drove away from that conversation (and after other meetings Murdoch and his sons held with Verizon and Comcast), the two men sketched out a deal that involves Murdoch selling the bulk of the company to Disney, but retaining a large stake in the combined entity. The proposed \$70 billion agreement requires Iger to remain as CEO.

Aside from the big payday, it is a seminal moment for Murdoch, who is turning over the power to run the company he has spent his career building. The media mogul is saying goodbye to his life’s work. Murdoch’s decision to sell part of his empire is the end of an era. It could be viewed as a surrender, a sign that he’s given up trying to match the might of digital companies that are able to pay top dollar to churn out television series, movies and comedy specials like candy. But it might turn out to be Rupert Murdoch’s most deft move yet, the one where he saves his company and fortifies his family fortune.

“Rupert is in the best of all possible worlds here,” media and telecom billionaire John Malone, a long-time rival and confidant of Murdoch’s, said in an interview. The value of 21st Century Fox has risen by roughly \$40 billion, to \$91 billion, since CNBC first broke the story of Disney’s interest. To those who know Murdoch, the sale represents a point of personal evolution — a shift from building voraciously to cementing his legacy.

98.1.9 To remember Clare Atkinson, journalist

Amazon’s content editor Shannon Molloy has launched a journalism scholarship in memory of his friend and former journalist Clare Atkinson that will provide work experience opportunities in Sydney media companies (Mumbrella, 14 December 2017). The Clare Atkinson Memorial Scholarship seeks to support journalism students facing financial and other hardships, to provide them with experience in broadcast, print and radio news. Based out of the University of Queensland – Atkinson’s former university – the scholarship was created to honour Atkinson’s legacy, after she died from terminal secondary liver cancer. In mid-2016. Atkinson was a journalist who had worked across television, radio and online in both Australia and Germany, across titles including ABC, SBS, the *Guardian* and Huffington Post. According to the UQ website, the goal of the fund is to allow any future students to have a career as successful as Atkinson’s. “Clare’s loss had a profound impact on many people and I wanted to honour her memory with something that spoke to her passion for giving back to the next generation of journalists,” Molloy said. “Her life-long love of storytelling will live on through this scholarship. I’m proud to help make that a reality. Any support from the industry to bring the scholarship to life would be hugely appreciated.”

The first Clare Atkinson Memorial Scholarship was awarded in April 2018 to UQ journalism and arts student, Chantelle Bringas, who is majoring in international relations and peace and conflict

studies. She is also an active member of the club for UQ Journalism and Communication Students (JACS), a group that Atkinson and Molloy founded (“Journalist’s memory lives on”, *UQ Contact*, University of Queensland, Winter 2018, p.34).

98.1.10 Green Guide undergoes change

The Green Guide, the Melbourne *Age*’s popular television guide, has had a makeover. Late in 2017 the Guide people undertook an extensive survey of long-time *Age* readers to obtain feedback on the Guide. The editors wanted to look at how to update the Guide to reflect the rapidly evolving TV and radio landscape. Several changes have been made. As well as introducing a: fresh modern design and reader friendly font”, the editors have organised the preview section to emphasise the offerings of free TV, which remains the primary source of the readers’ TV diet. “We have introduced a weekly page dedicated to the vast and rapid-fire offerings of streaming services such as Stan, Netflix and Amazon, as well as iView, SBS on Demand and network catchup sites. Detach the page and keep it as a catalogue for rainy weekends.” (*Age*, Green Guide, 31 May 2018) [This followed a similar revamp about a month earlier of the TV guides in the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Canberra Times*.]

98.1.11 Tonagh and Bean head review of ABC and SBS

Former News Corp executive Peter Tonagh and former Australian Communications and Media chairman Richard Bean will head a Turnbull government review of ABC and SBS efficiencies (*Weekend Australian*, 7-8 July 2018).

98.1.12 Cover prices rise for News Corp papers

As from 2 July the weekday prices of News Corp dailies increased 10c to \$1.70 in the capitals and major regional cities, although some regionals are now \$1.80. On Saturdays the *Daily Telegraph* and Hobart *Mercury* increased 20c to \$2.50 to match most other metropolitan papers. And the *Gold Coast Bulletin* increased 20c to \$2.40. On Sunday, 1 July, prices of the biggest titles went up more: the *Sunday Telegraph*, *Sunday Herald Sun*, *Sunday Mail* (Brisbane) and *Sunday Mail* (Adelaide) from \$2.70 to \$3.0. Unusually, some of the papers carried no notice or explanation of their increased price.

98.1.13 Opening for newspaper revival

Global advertising heavyweight Jerry Buhlmann has urged newspaper publishers to seize the moment as heightened interest in quality journalism drives readership bumps and digital - subscriber growth (*Australian*, 9 July 2018). Buhlmann, who runs the international arm of Japanese advertising giant Dentsu Aegis Network, said the spread of fake news on social media and people’s growing distrust of the big digital platforms had breathed new life into newspapers. “I think there is a real opportunity with the right marketing to rebuild an audience across print and digital platforms,” Buhlmann, chief executive of DAN, told the *Australian* during the recent Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity in France. “I need a proper journalist to tell me what’s going on. High-quality journalism is a real opportunity to restate that value. There is a big opportunity for a renaissance, whether it’s the print or digital version. Newspaper owners need to lean into that.” The *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Financial Times* and the *Australian* have all received increases in subscriptions and audiences online, and even the long-suffering stocks of publishers are rallying.



98.2.1 *Canberra Times* launches new website

The *Canberra Times* reaches more than 730,000 people a month and more than 600,000 of them use the paper's website, writes editor Grant Newton in the paper (1 May 2018). "That's the highest proportion of digital readers of any major news publication in the country." He was writing after the launch of the paper's new website.

98.2.2 Tech giants under scrutiny

Competition regulator Rod Sims has promised to scrutinise the tech giants' competitive impact to protect quality journalism, as an ACCC inquiry examining the market power of Google and Facebook gathers steam (*Australian*, 4 July 2018). Sims told a forum in Sydney on 3 July the digital platforms were "clear competitors to media companies" in the advertising marketplace, while raising complex questions about defamation law, copyright and journalistic codes of conduct. The remarks by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission chairman were his first detailed public comments on the probe, which has attracted attention from global regulators. Sims vowed to get to the bottom of allegations the platforms enjoyed "an unfair competitive advantage" due to their unequal treatment under regulations affecting media companies. "It is important that governments examine the role digital platforms are playing in society and, as with other companies, determine if policies are needed to curb their pursuit of profit, given the problems such pursuit will cause," Sims said in a speech delivered at the International Institute of Communications' Telecommunications and Media Forum in Sydney.

98.2.3 Facebook described itself as a 'publisher' in 2013

Facebook described itself as a "publisher" as far back as 2013, leaked documents obtained by the *Australian* reveal. This contradicts the message that chief executive Mark Zuckerberg gave to US Congress, in interviews and in speeches (*Australian*, 9 July 2018). A 71-page PowerPoint presentation prepared by the then managing director of Facebook, Stephen Scheeler, outlines how the tech giant was the "second-highest reaching publisher in Australia" when compared with traditional media companies such as Nine and Seven. The internal sales document is partly based on data gathered by measurement firm Nielsen as well as confidential internal figures including quarterly revenue targets. There is no mention of Facebook being a publisher in Nielsen's original report; it categorises Facebook as a "brand" in its Online Landscape Review published in May 2013. A slide in the presentation produced by Scheeler, the most senior executive at Facebook's Australia and New Zealand business at the time, changed Nielsen's description of Facebook from a brand to a "publisher", showing that the social media giant views itself as such.

This is significant because Facebook has long argued it is a tech platform, not a publisher or a media company, when questioned about how it has generated vast profits by siphoning off billions of dollars from the news industry. The admission in the document contrasts with Facebook's recent public contribution to a high-powered Australian inquiry into the local digital media market. The company repeatedly calls itself a "platform" in a 56-page written submission to the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission.

Zuckerberg has persistently rejected the suggestion that Facebook is a publisher, presenting the company as a neutral platform that does not have traditional journalistic responsibilities. In April, Zuckerberg was asked by US senators investigating the Cambridge Analytica data scandal to explain whether his company was a tech company or publisher. Dan Sullivan, a Republican Senator for Alaska, said: "That goes to an important question about what regulation or action, if any, we would take." Asked by Senator Sullivan if Facebook was a "tech company or the world's

largest publisher” during his second day of testimony on Capitol Hill, the Facebook co-founder responded: “I view us as a tech company because the primary thing that we do is build technology and products.” Senator Sullivan pressed further: “You said you’re responsible for your content, which makes you kind of a publisher, right?” Zuckerberg did not admit Facebook was a media company or publisher, but did say it was responsible for what is posted on its platforms after it emerged that the company allowed Russia to spread disinformation in the US presidential election.

“I agree that we’re responsible for the content. But we don’t produce the content. I think that when people ask us if we’re a media company or a publisher, my understanding of what the heart of what they’re really getting at is: do we feel responsible for the content on our platform? The answer to that I think is clearly yes. But I don’t think that that’s incompatible with fundamentally at our core being a technology company where the main thing that we do is have engineers and build products.”



3—CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: COMMUNITY & PROVINCIAL

98.3.1 Benalla: Former MP wins libel case and damages

A small article in the *Benalla Ensign* defamed former Liberal MP Sophie Mirabella when it said she “very publicly pushed” her political rival Cathy McGowan out of a photo opportunity, a jury has found (*Australian*, 3 May 2018). The Wangaratta jury of five men and one woman deliberated for 40 minutes over the imputations of the *Benalla Ensign*’s five-paragraph article, “Awkward encounter”, before finding for Mirabella. Lawyers for Mirabella claimed the newspaper defamed her with the April 2016 report which said she pushed Ms McGowan out of a photo opportunity with Federal Ageing Minister Ken Wyatt. The defendants argued the article was “substantially true” and called Mr Wyatt to testify his former colleague had laid her hands on him.

The article reported on the opening of a new wing at an aged care facility which was attended by Indi MP McGowan, Wyatt and Mirabella who was seeking to regain her federal seat after losing to McGowan in 2013. Mirabella told the County Court she opposed a photo featuring McGowan and her former federal colleague but denied pushing either politician. “I would have touched (Mr Wyatt), he’s a colleague,” she said during the five-day hearing. “I didn’t touch him to push him, I did not touch him to stop him going anywhere.” Wyatt gave evidence that Mirabella placed her hands on his chest for “about a minute” during the event.

On 16 May in Melbourne in Victoria’s County Court, Judge Michael Macnamara awarded Mirabella \$175,000 over the April 2016 article. Mirabella’s barrister, Georgina Schoff, had earlier told the court her client deserved up to \$400,000 for the harm and distress the report had caused. On 29 May Justice Macnamara awarded Mirabella all her legal costs. This means the case will have cost the Benalla paper almost \$300,000.

98.3.2 Melbourne suburbs: Preston paper rebranded

At Preston, Victoria, the *Hume Leader* has been rebranded the *Northern Leader* (*Telum Media Alert*, 1 June 2018).

98.3.3 Sydney suburbs: Colman to edit *Wentworth Courier*

Liz Colman, who grew up in Sydney’s eastern suburbs and calls Paddington home, is the new editor of the *Wentworth Courier*. She replaces Kim Doherty, the former editor-in-chief of the *Australian Women’s Weekly*, who was hired last year on a six-month contract. Colman most recently was the *Daily Telegraph*’s associate editor of partnerships. “I was the point of contact for people in sales

and marketing. I would meet commercial partners and mine them for stories,” Colman said (*Australian*, 18 June 2018).

98.3.4 Dubbo: New editor for *Liberal*

Lynn Rayner is the new editor of the *Daily Liberal*, Dubbo. She was formerly group digital journalist for Fairfax Regional Media in NSW and news director across a number of Fairfax regional NSW titles before that (*Telum Media Alert*, 15 June 2018).

98.3.5 Sunshine Coast: *Sunday* far away

The *Sunshine Coast Sunday* ceased publication on 2 October 2016 [repeat 2016]. Its first issue appeared on 14 June 1992. This has left the *Sunday Examiner*, Launceston, as the only regional Sunday paper in Australia.



4—NEWSPAPER HISTORY

98.4.1 Changes to newspaper and family history area at SLV

Meredith Tucker-Evans, of State Library Victoria (SLV), writes: From spring 2018, the Swanston Street entrance to the library will be temporarily closed, along with the current Newspaper and Family History area. There will be a new entrance opening from Russell Street on the same day that Swanston Street closes, with an accessible entrance just around the corner on La Trobe Street. There will also be a new Newspaper and Family History Room opening off the Redmond Barry Reading Room.

We don't have exact dates yet for this change over. We are expecting at this stage that these will be unavailable for approximately a week during the changeover and are developing an online Family History resource that people can use during this time. (Meredith is at mtucker-evans@slv.vic.gov.au)

The above work is part of the Vision 2020 redevelopment project, designed to transform State Library Victoria, Australia's oldest and busiest public library. At the heart of Vision 2020 is the refurbishment of SLV's heritage spaces, the creation of innovative new spaces for children and teenagers, and the reinvention of SLV's services. The design is being led by an international, award-winning team combining the talents of Australasian design firm Architectus with Scandinavia's Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects, and is due for completion in 2020. Vision 2020 is an \$88.1 million project funded by \$60.4 million from the Victorian Government, with the remainder raised through philanthropic support.

98.4.2 More on the *Cumberland Argus*

This item builds on ANHG 97.4.2 about the *Cumberland Argus*. It is largely prompted by Ken Sanz, a newspaper historian whom your editor has known for nearly 40 years. Ken has sent me various emails about the *Cumberland Argus* since ANHG No 97. I have also done some more digging in Trove's digitised newspaper as a result of Ken's emails. Ken said: "I have long been interested the history of the *Cumberland Argus* and *Fruitgrowers Advocate*. At first I could not believe that a paper known as *The Cumberland Argus* had a change of name to *Cumberland Argus*. I have a copy of the Parramatta and District Historical Society's reprint of volume three of the Journal and Proceedings. This has an article by T. D. Little, one of the founders of the *Argus*, titled "The early history of the press in Parramatta". The masthead you printed got my attention."

One thing is clear: the mid-1890s was a period of great change in the press of Parramatta and district. From Saturday, 4 May 1895, the *Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers' Advocate* incorporated the *Cumberland Mercury*, the *River Times* and the *Weekly Advance*. A public notice in the *Sydney Morning Herald* (6 May 1895, p.1) said: "The proprietors of the *Cumberland Argus*, Parramatta, desire to inform the public that they have purchased the *Cumberland Mercury*, the *River Times* and the *Weekly Advance*, and incorporated them with the *Argus*. They have also purchased Fuller's Lightning Printing Works, which will be carried on as usual." The change of ownership occurred on 1 May.

The subscription to the *Argus* continued to be two shillings (20c) in advance and two shillings and sixpence (25c) booked. In the first issue after incorporation of the businesses, the *Argus*, on 4 May, reflected on its eight years of publication and even said some kind words about the *Mercury* (it "cordially recognises the good journalistic work done in the past by the *Mercury*, before it swerved aside from what had once been its standard of action and conduct").

Three employees of the *Mercury*, John Black, George B. Davey and William Henry Hillis, launched the *Cumberland Free Press* on 22 June 1895. T.D. Little suggested in his paper to the Parramatta & District Historical Society, "A year or so sufficed and this journal was absorbed by the *Argus* for a consideration." But the *Cumberland Free Press* was still being published in March 1898. It incorporated the *Ryde Electorate Press* from the issue of Saturday, 5 June 1897. The *Ryde Electorate Press* had only been in operation since November 1896.

On 25 March 1898, the *Argus* acquired the *Cumberland Free Press* (along with the *Ryde Electorate Press*). The *Argus* retained Black, Davey and other staff from the *Free Press*. The acquisition provided the *Argus* with more districts to cover and to sell their paper in. So, the owners made the *Argus* a bi-weekly, introducing a Wednesday edition, to "faithfully and fully report the district's proceedings". The *Cumberland Free Press* was officially incorporated into the *Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers' Advocate* from the issue dated Saturday, 2 April 1898.

More from Ken Sanz: The *River Times* was "the first newspaper Ryde could really call its own". First issued on 1 April 1889, it was printed at Fuller's Lightning Printing Works, Parramatta. The Ryde manager was J. J. Goulding." (Source: *Wallumatta: A history of Ryde and its district 1792-1945* by M. C. Levy, p.360.)

The *Weekly Advance* was first issued on Friday, 4 February 1892. It was an eight-page broadsheet printed at Fuller's Parramatta works, and published by W. H. Windsor at the office, Colonade, Granville.

Ken Sanz says: "Other material on the *Cumberland Argus*: James Jervis writing in the book, *Parramatta Cradle City*, states: 'The *Argus* acquired the *Mercury* when Cyrus Fuller (owner of the *Mercury*) went into bankruptcy.' I think that the *Argus* moved into the *Mercury*'s premises but I cannot prove this yet."

The *Press Directory* for 1914, printed by the *Cumberland Argus* has the *Argus* entry with four pages Monday and 12 Pages Friday and the proprietor Cumberland Argus Ltd., editor R. S. Richardson. The *Press Directory* of 1935 has the *Argus* priced at one penny on Monday and a penny halfpenny for Friday run by I. S. Philips at 188 Church Street Parramatta. This issue has the first entry for the *Advertiser*: Established in 1933, published Thursday, gratis, proprietor E. White, 53 George Street, Parramatta.



Above: From *Beautiful Sydney* (1895-96?). A photocopy of this is in the Parramatta Council archives. Note that the advert is for the *Argus*, but the name on the tower is *Mercury*. This is evidence that the *Argus* took over both the Church Street office and the factory in Macquarie Street. (Supplied by Ken Sanz.)

According to the directory of 1942, the *Argus* office had moved to Argus Lane. By 1947 it was owned by Cumberland Newspapers (Earl White) whose address was Argus Lane. This was the later site of Cumberland Newspapers in Macquarie Street. The company's advert in this issue revealed the price for the *Argus* printed on Wednesday as twopence and the circulation was 14,000 paid. The Tuesday *Advertiser* was 16,000 and the Thursday *Advertiser* was 25,000 copies.

The 1951 Directory listed both the *Cumberland Argus* (Wednesday, free) and the *Advertiser* (Tuesday and Thursday, free) as being owned by Cumberland Newspapers. The *Argus* became a free newspaper from 22 March 1950 (see the issues of 15 and 22 March 1950). Its distribution was guaranteed at 22,500.

By the 1958 edition of the *Press Directory* the Wednesday *Argus* printed 18,100 copies, Tuesday's *Advertiser* 28,000 copies and Thursday's *Advertiser*, 45,100. There was a later revival of the *Cumberland Argus* called the *Parramatta Argus* on Saturdays and then on Sunday as a wrap-around to the *Sunday Telegraph* sold in the Western suburbs from 12 July 1977 to 3 September 1978.

More notes from Sanz: The *Cumberland Argus* was purchased in 1919 by L. S. Phillips who was the editor. Phillips sold the *Argus* to Cumberland Newspapers Ltd in 1938. This company was formed by Earl White and others to produce both the free *Parramatta Advertiser* and the *Cumberland Argus* from the *Argus* office in Argus Lane off Macquarie Street.

Earl White had been put off from the *Sun*, Sydney, during the depression. At 17 he had joined the *Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate* at Parramatta, covering the area from the Hills to Penrith. He moved from the *Sun* to start the *Advertiser* at 53 George Street, Parramatta, in 1933 and never looked back. He sold Cumberland Newspapers to Rupert Murdoch in February 1960. His obituary in the *Advertiser* said "His interests later moved out of Sydney with the *Manning River Times* (Taree) and other country titles. He died in August 1996.

It was under Rupert Murdoch's ownership that the *Argus* was turned into a second weekly edition of the *Advertiser*. The Cossar press would have been set up at the Argus Lane factory of the *Argus*.

There were four very interesting broadsheet paid-circulation suburban newspapers the *Cumberland Argus*, Parramatta; *Nepean Times*, Penrith; *Propeller*, Hurstville; and the *Biz*, Fairfield. The *Argus* and *Biz* were wrecked by Cumberland Newspapers takeover and the *Nepean Times* by the free newspapers and the *Propeller* by Suburban Publications.

98.4.3 Murray Pioneer: origins

Cowans, October 1927, Vol. XII, No. 48, p.44: To the *News*, Adelaide, of 8th August, we are indebted for the following interesting item: Mr A.P. Corrie, of Wynnum, Queensland, writes:

A character sketch by Rev. J.G. Jenkin, of Pirie Street Methodist Church, Adelaide, which appeared in the *News* recently, stated that Mr A.P. Corrie started the *Murray Pioneer* in Renmark. I left the *Illawarra Mercury* (New South Wales) and started the *Renmark Pioneer* early in 1892 (9 April 1892). It was for 10 months a manuscript weekly. Chromograph (gelatine and copying ink) printed the reading matter, also admirable "skit" cartoons by Mr Jenkin, whose first caricature in print appeared not in the first but in the second or third issue of the paper. It ridiculed a long-promised loan which never came to light.

Those topical "skits" were a great "draw". Advertisements in the paper were reproduced each week by a cyclostyle which used waxed paper and printer's ink. When the fonts of type and [the] archaic Albion press from Cowan's, Adelaide, arrived in Renmark early in 1893 Mr S. Browne saw me making "pye". He came to the rescue and taught me "comping".

Mr Corrie left Renmark in those dismal days when Chaffey Bros. went into liquidation. Mr Browne continued with the *Renmark Pioneer* until 1906 [actually, 1905], when it was sold to Mr H.S. Taylor (present editor and part-proprietor), who to increase the scope changed the name of the paper to the *Murray Pioneer*. [He did this on 11 July 1913: new title was *Murray Pioneer and Australian River Record*. In 2018 the Taylor family still owns the paper.]

An Adelaide woman wrote to the *Murray Pioneer* in January 1964 to say: Recently, while looking through some books, papers, etc., belonging to my parents (pioneers of Renmark), I came across a

very early copy of the *Renmark Pioneer*, dated April 23rd, 1892. This particular edition is handwritten—and in various colours (due to lack of printing ink). THE PIONEER. Pro Bono Publico. Renmark, Saturday, April 16, 1892. This is heading of first (front) page and under it are advertisements for B. Fuller & Co. Renmark House, J.W. Clarke.

The next page heading is (on back of 1st page): The *Renmark Pioneer*, April 23, 1892, and then follows (sic) general news items. Paper consists of 3 pages—all hand written, both sides of the sheets. The Archives record shows that 1892 was the year in which the first paper was printed at Renmark, but not actual date. The Public Library are very interested in this early paper, and would like to have it for their collection.

However, knowing from my parents that the *Pioneer* is a Taylor production, I felt I should let you know of my discovery, as no doubt, if you have not a similar edition, you would be interested in procuring same for your records. I promised the Library that they could photograph this paper, if anyone else kept the original. I can arrange to let you see this paper if you are interested.

98.4.4 Remember when: Sydney tabloids did battle

Daily Telegraph, 2 May 2018, p.53: **Garth Clarke** wrote: Sydney has never seen a newspaper war like it: the battle of the [afternoon] tabloids, the *Daily Mirror* and the *Sun*, which lasted three decades from the 1960s to the late '80s. Both papers were loud and brash with a combined circulation of almost 700,000. Each had up to seven editions a day, often six days a week. In 1963, the *Daily Mirror* broke the news of the Kennedy assassination. I bought my copy as I left a George St cinema on a Saturday afternoon.

It was also the tabloids that broke the news of the Whitlam dismissal in 1975. According to insiders at the *Sun*, it was the fastest turnaround ever. From the time the Canberra reporter phoned in the story to when the vans dropped off a bundle of the new edition at the Town Hall, it was just under 30 minutes. Each bundle sold out as fast as it arrived.

In the '60s the *Daily Mirror* was edited by the great Zell Rabin who had honed his tabloid skills in London and New York. He was ruthless in pursuit of a good story as when he dispatched a reporter and a cameraman to a Sydney hospital to photograph an arrested man, allegedly the victim of a police bashing. They got their pictures, but in their haste to elude a police guard, the cameraman fell and broke his ankle. When the reporter phoned with news of the photographer lying injured in the hospital's stairwell, Rabin's response was quick and to the point: "Get in there with his cameras ASAP." Rabin got his pictures, the paper its headline and the readers another great story.

I have especially fond memories of the Saturday afternoon editions, with the "Stop Press" panel on the back page. During the week this panel carried late-breaking news, often in red ink, but on Saturday it was invariably devoted to progress scores in the football and racing results. Coming home from a football match, sports followers could catch up with what was happening around the grounds or at the racetrack.

98.4.5 Bylines (1): So who was 'H.G.'?

Rod Kirkpatrick writes: As editor of this newsletter since the April 2000 issue (No. 5), I have received some fascinating inquiries. Some have been redirected by the newspaper section of the National Library of Australia when staff members there had been unable to provide an answer. Some inquiries stump me and I thought I might have been stumped by one that came at the end of May this year. Who was "H.G.", the author of an article, "Journalists and Journalism", that appeared in the *Daily Telegraph*, Sydney, on 10 March 1906, p.9? The question arose not so much because of that article but because of an obituary that "H.G." had written in the late 1880s.

With a little bit of Googling and some searching in Trove's digitised newspapers, I became convinced that "H.G." was Henry Gullett, who died in 1914. [The person who had made the inquiry was convinced, too.] He had held the positions of editor of the Melbourne weekly, the *Australasian* (13 years), associate editor of the Sydney *Daily Telegraph*, associate editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, and then editor of that paper. Gullett is mentioned in Tom Roberts' biography of Keith Murdoch, *Before Rupert*, for instance on p.151: as "Leader and Special Writer" at the Melbourne *Herald* in 1923. Also, on p.171 (when Keith Murdoch was beginning his courtship with Elisabeth Greene. He took her on motoring trips to the Mornington Peninsula in his open-topped Itala sports

car. 'To placate the Greenes' concern about the age gap [she was 18, he 43], the couple were often chaperoned by Keith's colleague Henry Gullett and his wife, who by this stage "were awfully keen for him to be married".'

Here's a little of what "H.G." wrote about "Journalists and Journalism" after the death in 1906 of Frederick William Haddon, editor of the *Argus*, 1867-1898.

It was never the desire of F. W. Haddon to diminish in the least degree the concealing, isolating influence of the anonymity of journalism. He accepted it as an essential part of the great system which has made the English newspaper press out of all comparison the best and most powerful in the world. He sank his official position altogether in his intercourse with the world. As he went about in private society, he did not wear a phylactery upon his forehead, or "on the left arm near the region of the heart," inscribed "The Editor of the *Argus*". The only recognition he wanted from the public for the careful, sagacious, statesmanlike work which he put into his paper was the recognition awarded to the paper, the benefit it was able to render to the community, and the increased influence it secured as a result... He asked nothing for himself. The man who asks nothing from the public usually receives precisely what he asks. No public rewards or distinctions come to him. They are the proper rewards and recompenses of those who have so far sacrificed themselves for their country as to become politicians or millionaires. To the system of self-advertising, big-drum beating, picnic und banquet oratory, by which these honorific distinctions are usually earned, they are the fitting crown and consecration.

For the man who quietly, unobtrusively, put his life in his work, and whose disposition concurred in that demand of impersonality which he held that the work imposed, such personal recognition as he valued could only come in another way and from another quarter. It could only come from those fellow-workers who were in a position to appreciate the spirit, in which the work was done, its elevating influence on journalism, both directly and indirectly by setting up a standard by which all similar work would have to be tried, and its value to the community at large. This appreciation Haddon always received from those competent to judge his work, and it was all that he desired. The period during which he presided over the *Argus* was one of storm and stress in the political world, during which the skill and care of the pilot were severely tested.

Two great questions entered the political field, and required years of struggle for their determination. One was raised by the movement for protection, the other by the growing tendency for a different distribution of the constitutional elements, so as to accord a greater share of the powers of government to the forces of democracy. In the fiscal struggle, the cause of freedom of trade was ably represented by the *Argus*" till the time came when its conductors found that many of its supporters among the importers of Melbourne had themselves become manufacturers, and had obtained new light on the beneficial effects of a protective tariff. The protective tariff in due time came, and brought with it its own Nemesis. Several of the neighboring colonies, to whom the managers of the protectionist stage had assigned the humble parts of the consumers of the products of the factories of Melbourne, actually had the audacity to set up protective factories of their own.

Then came the movement for Federation, by which Victorians hope to throw down the fences by which their own policy had cut them off commercially from a great part of Australia. Haddon was throughout the struggle a cordial Federalist, not on fiscal but on genuinely Australian and national considerations, and under his guidance his paper lent weighty support to the cause of Union. That when the time came for the distribution of decorations and distinctions amongst the heroes of the light, many of them somewhat belated participators in it, none of these came in his direction was only what was to be expected, and so far as he was concerned, desired. He knew too well that the influence of the press and the public confidence in its inaccessibility, is best secured by the maintenance of that strict impersonality which precludes the acceptance of honors or reward from any authority outside itself. ...

There is so much of compromise, so much of concession to circumstances, in any man's share in the great political game of expediency, so much that, after all, must remain a matter of opinion, upon which no two men would precisely agree, that the real question to keep in mind is not what did the man do in this or that perhaps imperfectly understood exigency, which wears a very different aspect now from that it wore then. The real question is — What was the man throughout? And for the purposes of this paper — What, was his part and place in the journalism of Australia? No one

now, whether political friend or foe, would wish to deny that his place was a high and distinguished one. In his period of editorial service of 31 years he contributed the influence of an honorable career to Australian journalism.

It is by the effect of such lifeworks as his and others of his press contemporaries and predecessors, such men as George Higinbotham, Ebenezer Syme, and Windsor of Melbourne, J. Howard Clark of Adelaide, Garrahan and Curnow of Sydney, Simpson of Hobart, and Lukin of Brisbane and Wellington (N.Z.), that the character of the Australian press for ability, statesmanship, and, above all, spotless incorruptibility, has been built up. And while that press can continue to enlist in its service such men to carry on its noble traditions we have no fear of its future, nor of that of the country to which it will stand as a competent, sagacious, not in fallible, but always honest and patriotic counsellor,

98.4.6 Bylines (2): ‘Bowie’ dies

Bowen Independent, 21 February 1947, p.5: North Queensland’s leading freelance journalist and writer, Alfred Vindex Vennard, passed away suddenly on Sunday, at the age of 61 years. His name would convey little to his thousands of readers, who knew him only under the pen names of “Bill Bowyang”, “Frank Reid”, “Maurice Deane” and others which he used in various publications.

In Bowen, where he had spent most of his life, he was known to all as “Bowie”, and in his passing the world of newspapers loses a man who knew every phase of the Inky Way, having climbed in the profession from a humble “printer’s devil” with North Queensland’s earliest publication, apprentice in all branches of the trade, reporter on metropolitan dailies, prolific freelance, and finally to success as an author. It was as editor of the “On the Track”, under the name of Bill Bowyang, that his writings to the *North Queensland Register* brought him widest renown.

He loved to write of the bushman and his doings, and was naturally fitted for the task. He was born “on the track” at Vindex Station in the Winton district, where his parents had made camp during a droving trip. He spent his boyhood days at Blackbull, between Normanton, and Croydon, and the transition from the bush to the press came early in the century, when he was apprenticed to the late Ray Field on the staff of the *Port Denison Times*. This paper, inaugurated in 1864, was the first to be printed north of Rockhampton. “Bowyang” was a mischief loving apprentice, and on one occasion got into hot water by going back to the office at night and printing a private edition of the paper, which was not at all complimentary to some of the town’s citizens. But he was made for the life, with his inquiring mind and flair for news, and was probably forgiven for his peccadilloes.

He printed an early paper at Proserpine for the late Mrs. Field and closed his career with the *Port Denison Times* by being the last editor of the historic old paper before it closed down about 1910. Giving up the inky way for a while he tried his hand at all kinds of toil, including sawmilling at Bootooloo, but was soon back at his trade in Sydney, as a reporter on the *Sydney Morning Herald*. He had married prior to leaving the North, to a daughter of Mr. James Nicol, of Bowen, but marriage had not cured the urge to be on the move, and 1912-13 found him carrying the swag along the Castlereagh, studying bush types. He had commenced to “scribble” contributions to the *Sydney Bulletin* and the *London Daily Mail* and *Star*, and his success in these encouraged him to continue freelance work. However, the first World War came along, and “Bowyang” dropped his swag and took up pack and rifle at Coonamble. He was at Gallipoli, and the fellowship he found there, combined with the variety of types, soon moved him to write again. After the evacuation he went to Egypt, where he wrote for the *Egyptian Mail* and the *Alexandria Gazette*, the while continuing his contributions to Australian and Fleet Street journals. Mostly he depicted his impressions of Australian soldiers and their inimitable brand of humour. He had a style of his own, and never forgot an incident worth a “par”. After Gallipoli he transferred from the infantry to the Imperial Camel Corps in Egypt, and served in the Libyan Desert, and from the Canal to Gaza, where three companies were practically wiped out, and he was so badly wounded that his soldiering was over. He later wrote a history of the campaign entitled *The Fighting Cameliers*, published about 1935. It enjoyed a wide sale. While in hospital awaiting return to Australia, he was approached by David Barker, who was mainly responsible for *The Anzac Book*, which was published in London after the evacuation, and which brought to light much latent literary talent amongst the Australian forces.

At Mr. Barker's suggestion he agreed to edit a magazine for the A.I.F. in Egypt and Palestine, and "The Kia-Ora Coo-ee", the most ambitious regimental paper controlled by the A.I.F., came into being. It started with a circulation of 3000 a month, and at the finish the circulation was 15,000. Up to the time of his death, inquiries were still being received for copies of it, from all over Australia. Returning to Australia, "Bowyang" had a spell in Randwick Military Hospital. During that six months, largely through the late J.F. Archibald, founder and first editor of the *Bulletin* he accepted an appointment with *Smith's Weekly*, then about to be produced. He remained with that paper for two years, doing short stories and general literary work, and then returned north. He had been offered editorship of the Sydney *Bulletin's* "Aboriginalities" page, but the north called him.

Soon afterwards the first "On the Track" article appeared in the *Townsville Bulletin* and the *North Queensland Register* and was an instant success. From that day he did not miss an issue until he became seriously ill a few months ago. As soon as he was convalescent, "Bowyang" was back at his typewriter. For some time he had compiled the weekly Bowen Notes to these papers, and in collecting general news his keen journalistic instinct was evident. He firmly believed in the future of Bowen, and lost no opportunity of publicising any progressive move. With the revival of rodeos in the past few years, the writings of this chronicler of the bushman, made an even greater appeal. All his life he had been associated with horsemen of prowess and could name the mighty ones from his early childhood. He adopted the movement with impounded enthusiasm and travelled far and wide to assist local associations in organisation and as judge. Afterwards his comment and sidelights would keep the "Track" columns boiling for weeks.

As an author, the deceased was gaining increasing success in his later years. The success of *The Fighting Cameliers* encouraged him to write a historical romance of the Barrier Beef entitled *Romance of the Barrier Reef*. It had recently been accepted for Australian and overseas publication. On the day of his passing he had the last set of photographs, to be included in it, ready for mailing. ^[1]_{SEP} He had also been commissioned to write a children's book on the Barrier Beef and a further historical work dealing with the Reef. Only the day before his death he had typed the first few pages of manuscript for one of these books. It is fitting that his name will live on as an author. "Bowie" was particularly keen on having the history of Bowen collated and written, and in a recent conversation with the writer regretted that he could not undertake the task. It would be a 10 years job, he said, to gather the wealth of historical facts associated with Bowen, and a younger man was needed to attempt it.

In the 'thirties he had collected and published five sets of *Bush Recitations*, performing a valuable service in preserving for posterity the ballads of the bush which dated back to the earliest pioneering years. Inquiries for these were still coming in at the time of his decease, but all editions had long since sold out. Throughout his life "Bill Bowyang" was the friend and champion of bushman and Digger, and he would have been the richer in material wealth but for his unceasing generosity. For all of his surface cynicism, no hard luck story failed to move him, and his hand was ever in his pocket to help some lame dog over a stile. He was always ready to help a fellow-journalist, and it was no uncommon thing to hear his familiar voice on the 'phone relating some incident of news value. He made a host of friends, and it will be many years before his name ceases to be recalled in affectionate memory. At 61, his end seems early, but he died as he would have wished it, in harness, and with no regrets.

Deep sympathy is extended to his widow, two sons, Jim (of Sydney) and Keith (Cardwell), and two daughters, Mrs. C. Harding and Mrs. Y. Medland (both of Bowen). Unfortunately, his sons were both prevented by disorganised transport services from returning home for the funeral. There was a large attendance at the funeral service conducted by Rev. T.R. Hall at the Presbyterian Church on Monday afternoon, and fellow Diggers formed a guard of honour at the cemetery gates as the cortege passed. After the reading of the burial service, Mr. J. O'Keefe rendered "The Last Post".

98.4.7 Hunt for the missing Mimag

Trove has digitised the Mount Isa Mines (MIM) journal *Mimag* – all that is, except the very first issue from 1947. Described as the "Facebook" of its time, *Mimag* was originally written and produced by employees of MIM and contained a wealth of local news from the Mount Isa region. Although the first issue was produced in a smaller run than subsequent magazines, it's possible

there's still a copy out there, waiting to be discovered and added to the Library's online collection. Read more in Trove's blog post: <https://www.nla.gov.au/blogs/trove/2018/04/24/hunt-for-the-missing-mimag/> Browse current issues of *Mimag*: <https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-302106893>

98.4.8 TV and the press (1): *Home Delivery* and the *Federal Standard*

Rod Kirkpatrick writes: Television journalist Barrie Cassidy, who began his career as a newspaper journalist, was the guest on Julia Zemiro's *Home Delivery* program on ABC-TV on 6 June 2018. Cassidy's home town is Chiltern, in north-eastern Victoria, and that's where Julia met Barrie for the segments filmed for the program—the home where he had lived, the school he had attended, the local football ground cared for by members of his family. [Cassidy, a long-time political journalist, is the presenter for *Insiders* on ABC-TV. He is the author of several books.]

But a feature (well, for me) of the *Home Delivery* program was the *Federal Standard* printing works where the newspaper of that name had been printed from 1859-1970. As a schoolboy, Cassidy wrote about Australian rules football for that paper for five years and that led to his cadetship on what was then the *Border Morning Mail*, Albury. The program showed the Linotypes chattering away and the printing press in operation.



FEDERAL STANDARD PRINTING OFFICE, CHILTERN, 1999. THIS BUILDING WAS FEATURED IN THE *HOME DELIVERY* PROGRAM ON ABC-TV ON 6 JUNE 2018.



AT THE FEDERAL STANDARD PRINTING OFFICE, OCTOBER 1999, MERV DEATH SETS HOT-METAL TYPE ON A LINOTYPE. DEATH BEGAN A PRINTING APPRENTICESHIP AT THE GOONDIWINDI ARGUS, QUEENSLAND, DURING WORLD WAR II. HE WAS STILL HAND SETTING TYPE IN 1999 FOR HIS HOME-BASED JOB-PRINTING BUSINESS.

It was all quite nostalgic for the editor of this newsletter because Chiltern was really the birthplace of the Australian Newspaper History Group. Victor Isaacs and I, later editors of this newsletter, attended. The ANHG grew out of a three-day conference on local newspapers at Chiltern on the holiday weekend of 1-3 October 1999. About 60 participants enjoyed papers on the following topics (and many others):

- ❖ The history of the Chiltern *Federal Standard* (Ross Harvey)
- ❖ Dynasties in the NSW provincial press (Rod Kirkpatrick)
- ❖ The Shepparton *News*' recent history (John Tidey)
- ❖ Newspaper preservation (Wendy Smith)

Extract from ANHG, 1.2:

Discussions were held on a Newspaper Dictionary project and the future direction of Australian newspaper history. The premises of the Chiltern *Federal Standard* were open, providing an opportunity to view its still operable Linotype and Letterpress. The *Federal Standard* was revived with a special edition dated 2 October 1999. The conference was excellently organised by

Ross Harvey and Elizabeth Morrison and was supported by the History of the Book in Australia and by the Albury-Wodonga *Border Mail*.

Extract from ANHG 12.32: On 1 April 2001 a special issue of the *Federal Standard*, defunct for 31 years, appeared to mark heritage events in the Victorian town. The four-page issue – with a print run of 500 – included an article by ABC journalist Barrie Cassidy, who began his career on the *Standard* when Ben Hicks was the owner-editor; a reminiscence by a former *Standard* printer, Alan Lea; and lots of advertisements. The *Standard* began publication on 24 August 1859 as the *Chiltern Standard*, became the *Federal Standard* on 23 June 1860, and appeared daily for 10 weeks at the beginning of 1863. It ceased publication on 5 March 1970. A special issue appeared on 15 May 1974, to mark the Chiltern Shire’s centenary and another on 2 October 1999 for the “Local Newspapers, Local Identities” conference.

98.4.9 TV and the press (2): *Who Do You Think You Are?* and Smith Hall

The confrontation between Governor Darling and *Sydney Monitor* editor Edward Smith Hall over freedom of the press was featured in a segment of *Who Do You Think You Are?* on SBS TV. It was the segment featuring former tennis champion John Newcombe, on 12 June 2018, but first screened two years earlier. Here’s a summary of the relevant part:

On his father’s side, the first Newcombe to arrive in Australia was his great-great-grandfather, free settler George William Newcombe and his wife Harriet in 1826. George was a clerk in the Colonial Secretary’s Office. Established in 1821 the Colonial Secretary was the powerhouse of the government, and working as a clerk in the office was a prestigious position with George receiving a good salary and a chance to improve his social status by becoming a landowner. During his time working at the office he was called as a witness in the Supreme Court trial of a newspaper editor who was an outspoken critic of the autocratic Governor of the day and who had been charged with seditious libel. George’s scrupulously honest evidence played a part in the jury finding in favour of the editor, with the case being regarded as a landmark in establishing democracy and freedom of the press in New South Wales (NSW).

<https://archives.sa.gov.au/blog/who-do-you-think-you-are-season-8-episode-8-recap>

98.4.11 TV and the press (3): *Back Roads* and the Lockwoods

Back Roads (ABC-TV, Monday nights—when *Australian Story* is in recess) visited Natimuk, about half an hour’s drive west of Horsham in Victoria’s Wimmera district on the 25 June program. One of those interviewed during the program was Keith Lockwood, who had been a journalist for 45 years until his retirement in 2014. At the end he was chief sub-editor of the *Wimmera Mail-Times*, Horsham, where he worked for 35 years. His father, Allan, had been founding editor when the *West Wimmera Mail*, Natimuk, swallowed the much bigger *Horsham Times* in 1959 to become the *Wimmera Mail-Times*. And his uncle, Frank, had been the manager. Allan and Frank were two of six sons of Alf Lockwood, an early owner-editor of the Natimuk paper. Another was Rupert Lockwood, famous for his connections with Communism in an era when that was deemed a huge negative.

Keith Lockwood, a rock climber for 50 years, was featured on *Back Roads* because the focus was Mt Arapiles and rock climbing. Keith was rescued from an Arapiles rock face in 2007 after being stung by more than 50 bees. After climbing down about 25 metres he collapsed and only the quick-thinking efforts of locals from Arapiles Rescue Group saved his life. The group “immediately” mobilised “breaking all records”. This included internationally qualified guide of 30 years, Steve Monks, who soloed up the cliff and administered adrenaline before lowering Lockwood to the ground. “I was in the hands of the ambulance officers from Horsham within 20 minutes of being stung,” Lockwood said.

98.4.7 Sawtell Guardian: A true community newspaper

A recent addition to Trove’s newspapers is the *Sawtell Guardian* (NSW: 1971-75), digitised with the support of the Coffs Harbour City Council, the Sawtell Historical Society, and the Sawtell Chamber of Commerce. Created by the Chamber of Commerce, out of a desire to provide a free local newspaper, the *Sawtell Guardian* had a particular focus on community and social news.

Everything from the “tick menace” of 1970, to engagement and holiday notices by local families can be found within its pages. Explore the *Sawtell Guardian* at:

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/title/1346>



5—RECENTLY PUBLISHED

98.5.1 Book

Harte, David, Howells, Rachel, and Williams, Andy, *Hyperlocal Journalism: The decline of local newspapers and the rise of online community news*, Routledge. In the wake of the withdrawal of commercial journalism from local communities at the beginning of the 21st century, this book critically explores the development of citizen-led community news operations. The book draws together a wide range of original research by way of case studies, interviews, and industry and policy analysis, to give a complete view of what is happening to communities as their local newspapers close or go into decline to be replaced by emerging forms of digital news provision. This study takes the United Kingdom as its focus but its findings speak to common issues found in local media systems in other Western democracies. The authors investigate who is producing hyperlocal news and why, as well as production practices, models of community and participatory journalism, and the economics of hyperlocal operations.

Hinton, Les, *The Bootle Boy: An Untidy Life in News*, Scribe Publications, \$49.99. Previewed by Mark Day, *Weekend Australian*, 26-27 May 2018, p.17, in “Read all about it: The Bootle Boy who made good in the golden age of News”. And reviewed by Day, *Weekend Australian*, Review section, 16-17 June 2018, p.18.

Lewis, Helen, *The Dead Still Cry Out: The Story of a Combat Cameraman*. Text, 321pp. \$32.99. An extraordinary true story about the author's father, Mike Lewis, a British paratrooper and combat cameraman who filmed the liberation of Bergen-Belsen. Helen Lewis was just a child when she found an old suitcase hidden in a cupboard at home. Inside it were the most horrifying photographs she'd ever seen—a record of the atrocities committed at Bergen-Belsen. They belonged to her father, Mike, a British paratrooper and combat cameraman who had filmed the camp's liberation. The child of Jewish refugees, Mike had grown up in London's East End and experienced antisemitism firsthand in the England of the 1930s. Those first images of the Nazis' crimes, shot by Mike Lewis and others like him, shocked the world. In this book, daughter Helen uses photographs and film stills to reconstruct Mike's early life and experience of the war, while exploring broader questions too: what it means to belong; how history and memory are shaped—and how anyone can deny the Holocaust in the face of such powerful evidence. [Tony Maniaty reviewed this book in the Review section of the *Weekend Australian*, 7-8 July 2018. Maniaty's doctoral thesis focused on the psychology and personal impacts of conflict reporting.]

Stelzer, Irwin, *The Murdoch Method: Notes on Running a Media Empire*, Atlantic Books London, paperback, 320 pp., \$30.

98.5.2 Articles

Barlass, Tim, “Master who captured history leaves trail of tales in his wake”, *Sydney Morning Herald*, Wednesday 9 May 2018, page 2. The life of former *Sydney Sun*, *Hong Kong Standard*, *London Daily Express* and *Sydney Morning Herald* photographer Russell McPhedran, 1936 – 7 May 2018.

Clarke, Patricia, “Political Journalist Joe Alexander: Establishing Canberra’s heritage, parliament, diplomacy and life in suburbia”, *Honest History*, February 2018, <http://honesthistory.net.au/wp/clarke-patricia-political-journalist-joe-alexander-establishing-canberras-heritage-parliament-diplomacy-and-life-in-suburbia/>

Cooke, Richard, “The Old Fox”, *Monthly*, July 2018, pp.24-38. A very bitter critique of Rupert Murdoch.

Day, Mark, “Signs of growth show that reports of print’s death are premature”, *Australian*, 7 May 2018, Media section, p.24.

Dunstan, David, “Twists and Turns: The Origins and Transformation of Melbourne’s Metropolitan Press in the Nineteenth Century”, *Victorian Historical Journal*, vol. 89, no. 1, June 2018, pp.5-26.

Hess, Kristy, and Pinto, Sarah, “Forever in our hearts: The births, deaths and marriages column in the Sydney Morning Herald, 1831-1860”, *Media History*, published online 14 June 2018, <https://doi.org/10.1080/13688804.2018.1482205>

This article charts the emergence of the births, deaths and marriages column in the colonial Australian press. Using Australia’s oldest continuing newspaper, the *Sydney Morning Herald*, as a case study, this article examines the evolution of the notices over a 25-year period from the newspaper’s first publication (as the *Sydney Herald*) in 1831. The authors argue that the births, deaths and marriages notices in the *Herald* were part of early attempts by colonists to reinforce their respectability before becoming a practice with widespread appeal that both announced key life events and marked people’s connection to place. Drawing on the scholarship of Pierre Bourdieu, the authors’ analysis pinpoints the moment these notices were “legitimised” by the journalistic field and marked the birth of a media ritual in colonial Australian society. The authors provide historical insight into the ways in which the news media establish legitimacy in the social spaces they serve.

Mitchell, Chris, “Koch cut through cops’ cover-up to bring the truth”, *Australian*, 7 May 2018, Media section, p.25. The “Koch” in question is Tony Koch, whom Mitchell describes as “the best general reporter to work for me in 24 years as an editor”. The article was prompted in part by the Queensland Government’s decision to pay the Palm Island community \$30 million as a result of the Palm Island riots in 2004.

Wallace, Chris, “Murdoch and Trump, sons of oligarchy”, *Saturday Paper*, 16 June, p.7.

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