

## Goulburn Evening Post Staff 1935



Back Row: F. Mott, S. Grant, R. Beaumont, W. Kuschert, W. Roper, F. Leach, L. Cornock, L. Kennedy, R. Martin.  
Middle Row: A. Edgar, L. Harvey, N. Wilson, O. Knopp, T. Roche, A. Newman, L. Dart, M. Collier.  
Front Row: L. Pauley, M. Dart, J. Daniel, R. Lemon, T. Daniel, K. Howell, B. Purschouse.

*Goulburn Evening Penny Post* staff in 1935.—Image supplied by Paul Titheradge.

This photo appeared in the 18 December 1935 edition of the *Goulburn Evening Penny Post* that celebrated the opening of the new office building. The edition was 36pp with most of the editorial space taken over by recounting the history of the Goulburn township and area. At the time the *Post* was a daily, Monday to Friday. It had been a triweekly before it incorporated the *Goulburn Daily Herald*, formerly the *Southern Morning Herald*, on 1 July 1927. It then became a daily. The *Herald* began publication on 1 July 1848 and the *Post* in January 1870. See 118.4.12 below.

AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPER HISTORY GROUP

# NEWSLETTER

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

**Deadline for next *Newsletter*:** 30 September 2022.

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

Ten issues had appeared by December 2000; the *Newsletter* has appeared five times a year since 2001.



### 118.1.1 Election editorials, 20 May 2022

Almost every News Corporation newspaper advocated the re-election of the Coalition at the 21 May poll (reported Nell Geraets, *Age* and *Sydney Morning Herald*, 20 May 2022). Despite News Corp Australasia executive chairman Michael Miller reportedly issuing an all-staff memo that said there was no one News Corp view and that editors were free to decide which party to endorse, the only exception on 20 May was the *NT News*, which endorsed Labor. “Territorians deserve better than being looked at sideways by the incumbent federal Coalition government,” the *NT News* editorial stated.

Traditionally, endorsements by Australian newspapers are made on the eve of an election to give readers a view of the masthead. “Election editorials have little influence on the outcome, but it’s important that we have a view, as we do on other issues,” *Age* editor Gay Alcorn commented on election editorials in her newsletter in April. “The *Age* is not partisan, and we attempt to think through the issues independently to come to a position on which party would best serve the public interest.”

Nine mastheads, including the *Age*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Canberra Times* and *Guardian*, called for a change in government. The *Age* editorial said, “While we despair at the lack of truth-telling in this campaign, *The Age* believes a change of government is needed to begin restoring integrity to federal politics and to finally face up to the challenge of climate change. The *Sydney Morning Herald* said, “Labor must not waste the opportunity to lead and shape Australia. It should, at least, be given a chance to make the attempt. On balance, the nation needs a change.”

*The Australian Financial Review*, owned by Nine Publishing, backed the Coalition. “The Morrison government has failed to construct a credible program to ensure Australia’s post-pandemic prosperity. But a re-elected Coalition with the authority to govern would still be Australia’s best bet,” it said.

The *Australian* and the *Courier Mail* argued that Scott Morrison’s leadership through a global pandemic and its consequent economic challenges was strong, and therefore deserving of a chance to lead the nation’s recovery.

**RESULT:** Anthony Albanese’s Labor team won an outright majority, with 77 of the 151 seats.

### 118.1.2 SMH and readership

*The Sydney Morning Herald* has extended its lead as the country’s biggest masthead, with more than 8.4 million readers across digital and print over the past year (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 23 May 2022). Roy Morgan figures released on 23 May show the *Herald* was the go-to destination for newsreaders as they dealt with rising coronavirus cases and other key events affecting NSW in the 12 months to March 2022.

The average print readership was two million readers across an average four-week period, while *The Herald*’s digital audience averaged 7.5 million. The total audience fell 1.8 per cent to 8.4 million.

The combined figure makes the *Herald* the largest publication in the country, ahead of the *Australian* (with an average readership of 5.1 million) and Rupert Murdoch’s *Daily Telegraph*, which has an average readership of 4.6 million—a 5.3 per cent fall on a yearly basis.

The Saturday edition of the *Herald* is the most widely read, with an average of 474,000 readers. The Monday to Friday print edition has an average of 357,000 and the *Sun Herald's* average audience has grown to 452,000.

The *Herald* is also the most popular newspaper in NSW, with an average 4.4 million readers. More than a third of all online readers choose the *Herald* for their news.

The *Age* is the second most read masthead in the country with 6.1 million readers. The *Australian Financial Review* grew 6.7 per cent in the latest report to 3.5 million readers.

The fastest growing newspaper, according to the most recent data, is Kerry Stokes-owned publication the *West Australian*, which grew its audience 19.4 per cent to 4.6 million.

This is the fourth round of figures to be released under new measurement provider Roy Morgan. The data covers all news brands and digital news websites and audiences on Apple News and Google News.

### 118.1.3 Shield laws consistency sought

Queensland has become the final Australian jurisdiction to pass “shield laws” that give journalists legal professional privilege from revealing their sources in court (*Australian*, 30 May 2022). The Queensland legislation was passed on 26 May. The level of protection offered to journalists varies across states and territories. And now the new Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese is being asked to introduce consistent shield laws nationally.

### 118.1.4 Rupert Murdoch set for fourth divorce

Australian media mogul Rupert Murdoch is reportedly set to divorce his wife Jerry Hall after five years of marriage (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 June 2022). On 22 June, the *New York Times* reported the two were seeking a divorce, but representatives for the couple were yet to officially confirm the move. No reason was cited for why the couple were separating after five years. The Texas-born Hall, 65, gained fame as a model in the late 1970s before transitioning into acting. Murdoch, 90, was married and divorced three times before his marriage to Hall.

Murdoch's three previous marriages were to: Patricia Booker, 1956-67; Anna Torv, 1967-99; and Wendi Deng, 1999-2013.

Murdoch's marriage to Patricia Booker produced one daughter. His next marriage was to Scottish-born journalist Anna Torv. The couple have three children: Elisabeth, James and Lachlan, who is now the CEO of Fox News.

A little more than two weeks after divorcing Torv, Murdoch announced that he would be marrying China-born Wendi Deng, whom he met as an employee at a media outlet he owned in Hong Kong in 1997.

### 118.1.5 Investigative journalism and Nine

*Sydney Morning Herald* editor **Bevan Shields** began his email letter to readers on 10 June: “A few weeks ago I promised to keep you updated on a legal fight we became embroiled in while trying to bring you some jaw-dropping investigate journalism.” In May the NSW Supreme Court issued an extraordinary order requiring the *Herald*, *Age* and *60 Minutes* to hand over copies of an upcoming television program and newspaper investigation to an interested party before the content had been published or even completed. The order, sought by Double Bay cosmetic surgeon Joseph Ajaka, compelled Nine Entertainment to hand over draft copies of an investigation into the cosmetic surgery industry by journalist Adele Ferguson and producer Joel Tozer, so Nine launched an appeal. On 8 June, Nine won and the decision was overturned.

Within minutes, Ajaka and his Cosmoc Clinic returned to court to launch another attempt to get their hands on the episode and articles. Shields said: “We fought this application and on Thursday afternoon [9 June] won again. Ajaka must now pay the substantial legal costs we incurred in fighting to publish the story.” On Friday night [10 June] Nine made the unusual decision to broadcast the *60 Minutes* episode immediately, instead of its usual Sunday slot, and publish Adele and Joel's articles online and on the front page of today's [11 June] *Herald* print edition. Shields said: “Anyone who watches the episode or reads the articles will quickly realise why it was so

important for this story to be told. There is a dark underbelly in the business of making people beautiful. As Adele and Joel wrote: ‘Patients are left unprotected by a system that allows risks to be downplayed, profit to be put before patient safety and laws that allow doctors with minimal surgical training to call themselves cosmetic surgeons—some after undertaking courses in facelifts and tummy tucks over a weekend.’

**13 June 2022 Age, p.8):** Media executives have called on the Albanese government to urgently reform defamation laws, warning that expensive legal battles are crippling the industry and investment in public-interest journalism.



### 118.1.6 PEOPLE

**Colin Brinsden**, a journalist for 30 years, has finished as economics and business correspondent for AAP. His experience covers reporting on the Australian economy for AAP and Reuters and working as a freelance journalist. With Reuters, he also covered the London financial markets (*Telum Media Alert*, 29 June 2022).

**Billy Cantwell** has been promoted to deputy opinion editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald*. He joined the paper in 2019 as a desk editor and most recently worked as the locum opinion editor/letters editor (*Telum Media Alert*, 6 July 2022).

**Caitlan Charles** is the new head of content at the *Townsville Bulletin* where she was formerly a political reporter (*Telum Media Alert*, 4 July 2022).

**Jacinta Dickins**, formerly a senior journalist with the *Inverell Times*, *Northern Daily Leader*, Tamworth, and the *Area News*, Griffith, is now a features and special publications journalist with Australian Community Media (*Telum Media Alert*, 1 July 2022).

**Liam Durkin** has been appointed editor of the *Latrobe Valley Express*, Morwell, and the *Gippsland Times*, Sale. He replaces Gregor McTaggart, who has become editor of the *Riverine Herald*, Echuca (*Telum Media Alert*, 4 July 2022).

**Noa Hoffman**, an Australian, was on only her fourth day as a political reporter at the London *Sun* when she broke a story that would play a significant part in ending Boris Johnson’s reign as British Prime Minister. Hoffman scooped the entire British press pack with her revelations that Tory deputy chief whip Chris Pincher had allegedly groped two men after a boozy session at the Carlton Club in London’s Piccadilly. The story ran on the front of the *Sun* on 1 July and resulted in the instant resignation of Pincher and contributed to the resignation of Johnson as Prime Minister seven days later (*Australian*, 11 July 2022).

**Amber Lilley** is the new deputy editor of the *Kalgoorlie Miner*, WA. She joined the paper in late 202 after studying journalism and public relations at Curtin University (*Telum Media Alert*, 6 July 2022).

**Lydia Lynch**, formerly of the *Brisbane Times*, is the new Queensland political reporter for the *Australian*. She has reported news in Mount Isa, Queensland, and Katherine, Northern Territory. She replaces Sarah Elks who, on returning from maternity leave, has become a senior reporter (*Weekend Australian*, 25-26 June 2022, p.2).

**Stephen Miles** will become the Victorian commercial property editor at the Melbourne *Age* later this year. He has been investment editor for the *Age* and *Sydney Morning Herald* for the Money section during a tumultuous period for investment markets and people’s finances (*Telum Media Alert*, 13 July 2022).

**Tom Minear**, currently the *Herald Sun*’s national political editor, will become News Corp Australia’s US correspondent, based in New York, in mid-August. He will file stories for News Corp Australia’s daily mastheads, such as the *Daily Telegraph*, *Courier-Mail*, *Advertiser* and *Herald Sun* (*Telum Media Alert*, 11 July 2022).

**Charlie Peel**, a journalist for 10 years, has been appointed rural reporter for the *Australian*. He now covers agriculture, politics and issues affecting life outside of Australia’s capital cities. Peel



has worked across Queensland, from the north to the Lockyer Valley near Brisbane (*Weekend Australian*, 25-26 June 2022, p.2).

**Liam Phelan**, formerly the locum editor at the *Sydney Morning Herald*, became the deputy editor of the paper on 11 July. He is a former editor of the *Sun-Herald* (*Telum Media Alert*, 11 July 2022).

**Dominic Powell** will soon become investment editor at the *Age* and *Sydney Morning Herald*. He has been a business journalist for both papers since 2019 (*Telum Media Alert*, 13 July 2022).

### 118.1.7 Rebel Wilson and the SMH

The *Sydney Morning Herald* was forced into damage control after it was claimed an SMH journalist pressured the Australian actress Rebel Wilson to come out in her new relationship with a woman. Wilson, 42, shocked everyone on 9 June when she used social media to reveal she was in a relationship with the fashion designer and founder of the label LEMON VE LIMON, Ramona Agruma. The Instagram post read: “I thought I was searching for a Disney Prince ... but maybe what I really needed was a Disney Princess.” The couple had apparently been dating for some time and Agruma was photographed accompanying Wilson to the Oscars in March.

However, in the *Herald* of 11 June, its *Private Sydney* editor and former *B&T* scribe, Andrew Hornery, wrote that he had known about the relationship for some time and had apparently pressured Wilson and her management by giving them two days to respond to his questions about the relationship. Wilson, in turn, went public with the details, apparently so it wouldn’t be broken in Hornery’s column.” See Albrechtsen in 118.5.2 below. Hornery’s apology appeared as “I made mistakes in handling of Rebel article, and I will learn”, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 14 June 2022, p.2. Editor Bevan Shields apologised in “Note to Readers: What we got wrong with the Rebel Wilson story”, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 15 June 2022, p.2.

### 118.1.8 Print journalists receive Queen’s Birthday honours

Member (AM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia:

**Catherine Fox** NSW: For significant service to journalism, and to gender equality and diversity.

**Alison Jean Andrews** Longford Tas: For significant service to the print media, and to the community.

**Joanne Maree McCarthy** NSW: For significant service to the print media as a journalist.

Member (OAM) in the General Division:

**Emma Siobhan MacDonald** Ainslie ACT: For service to journalism, and to women.

**Michael Joseph Sheahan** Albert Park Vic: For service to sports journalism (see also *Australian*, Media section, 13 June 2022).

### 118.1.9 A return visit: Plural subjects, singular verbs

Remember ANHG 113.1.20 with the above heading? It began: “In this era of diminishing emphasis on proof-reading and sub-editing, Australian newspaper reports (especially sports reports) containing sentences with more than one subject but a singular verb seem to be proliferating.”

Now, there has even been one in the main headline in the sporting pages of the *Weekend Australian* (28-29 May 2022, p.41): “Trust and loyalty was the fabric of a great generation”.

### 118.1.10 Independence and the Judith Neilson Institute

Four independent directors of the biggest philanthropic journalism institute in the country resigned after its billionaire founder overhauled the way it operates and allocates funding (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 20 June 2022). Australian billionaire and philanthropist Judith Neilson, who founded the Judith Neilson Institute in 2018, plans to take charge of her creation as it “changes direction”, a decision that appears to contradict original plans to establish the not-for-profit as independent. Neilson’s move, announced on 14 June via email with the Institute’s directors – former NSW chief Justice James Spigelman, Paul Kelly, Bridget Fair and Kate Torney – prompted

them to resign *en masse*, according to people familiar with the exchange. The Institute was unavailable for comment.

Media sources, who requested anonymity to speak freely about the matter, said Neilson's new vision for the organisation was not yet finalised, but her involvement raises concerns about its independence. Documents filed with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission on 15 June confirm the removal of the four independent directors including Spigelman, who was serving as chair. There are still three directors on the board, including secretary Simon Freeman (who is the chief financial officer of Neilson's family office) and Edward Jewell-Tait. The change casts doubt on the position of executive director Mark Ryan, who is on the board and still with the company for the time being. The independent directors of the board were supportive of Ryan.

See also: Zoe Samios, "Turmoil at the Neilson Institute", *Age*, 27 June 2022, p.27, In just eight weeks, Australia's largest philanthropic journalism project has unravelled.

In the *Age* on 11 July, Samios wrote: Two high-profile international advisers at the Neilson institute have quit their positions as the embattled organisation commences a strategic review of its operations. The institute has also paused part of its Asia fellowship program and other future projects as it works out how it wants to support public interest journalism financially in future. The strategic review – and the widespread departures caused by a shift in vision by the institute's billionaire founder – has now led to high-profile former US journalist Steve Coll and Lowy Institute fellow Richard McGregor severing ties with the organisation.

Coll and McGregor, also a former journalist, held positions on the institute's 12-person international advisory council. The advisers provide advice on its vision and activities. The positions are not paid. Coll, a Pulitzer prize winner and dean of the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, confirmed he departed as a result of events over the past two months. "I decided to resign from the advisory board because based on what I've read and been told about changes to the governance of the institute, I lost confidence that it would remain independent and devoted to the advancement of journalism in the ways originally conceived," he told *The Age* and *The Sydney Morning Herald*.

### 118.1.11 Deaths

**Reed, Ronald William:** D. 3 June 2022 in Melbourne, aged 74; a gun reporter, sports editor and columnist who covered cricket and football and was a veteran of many Olympic and Commonwealth Games, Tours de France, tennis grand slams and Melbourne Cups; twice sports editor of Melbourne's evening newspaper, the *Herald*, and for 26 years wrote with authority and insight across sport for the *Herald Sun*, until his retirement in 2016; through more than half a century in journalism, he was known for his extensive knowledge of sport and its people, and respected for his commentary, which was forthright but never sensational; won the Australian Sports Commission's lifetime achievement award in 2014 and was Sportswriter of the Year in 1998; was in Colombo for the 1996 Cricket World Cup when suicide bombers set off a deadly explosion near his hotel, prompting him to call the Australian Cricket Board and advise them not to travel there; worked at the Herald and Weekly Times for 45 of his 52 years in newspaper journalism (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 3 June 2022).

**Swinstead, Gene:** D. 30 June 2022 in Melbourne, aged 78. Started in journalism at the *Advertiser*, Adelaide; stellar career took him to senior posts throughout News Limited; his brothers Dallas and Julian were also newspaper executives and so there was sometimes industry confusion over which Swinstead was which; Gene was a former general manager of the Herald & Weekly Times in Melbourne, managing director of the *Fiji Times* and managing director of News Limited's suburban newspapers around Australia; he was also chief of pay TV giant Star, in Hong Kong and India.

**Vella, Lino:** D. 15 January 2022 at Blacktown, NSW, aged 85; born at Rahal il-Gdid, Malta; migrated to Australia at age 18, expecting to stay only a few years; married an English woman in Sydney in 1957; worked as a labourer, played top-grade soccer for Melita Eagles; helped produce a short-lived magazine called *Soccer Light*; assisted as sports editor of *Malta News*, a pioneering postwar migrant magazine; became sports editor and columnist with a new publication, the *Maltese Herald*, launched on 28 July 1961 by Lawrence Dimech, Nick Bonello and Vince Pisani; became editor in 1971 and held position for 42 years, with paper changing from eight-page monthly

to 20-page weekly; the paper fought for the rights of Maltese on issues such as dual citizenship; Lino was a strong supporter of historical research and the paper did much to uncover the history of the Maltese in modern Australia, a story that dates back to convict times; he remained editor until the paper closed on 30 April 2013; appointed to Order of Australia (AM) in 1999 (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 19 April 2022, p.30; also independent research).

### 118.1.12 Cartoonist still drawing by hand

Here's an extract from the Sarah Maguire profile of newspaper cartoonist Fiona Katauskas (see ANHG 118.5.2 below):

David Rowe of the *Australian Financial Review* and Katauskas are the only remaining Australian cartoonists still drawing by hand, "the last non-digital people". "I draw my cartoon as a pencil sketch on paper, then I draw in ink with an old-fashioned nib pen that I dip in a pot of ink—it is really, really old school," Katauskas explains. She then dries the ink with her hair dryer before painting the cartoon in water colours, and deploying the hair dryer once again. "I never dry my hair with it, but it is one of my most well-used appliances. It is incredibly laborious and messy and time-consuming doing it like I do, but the feeling of the grip of the nib on some nice watercolour paper, I just love it. I like the humanness of ink and paper."



Fiona Katauskas

### 118.1.13 Media sector hit by sharemarket plunge

Nearly \$8 billion had been wiped off the market value of Australia's largest media companies in the period from 1 January to 5 June 2022. Companies such as Nine Entertainment Co., Seven West Media and Southern Cross Austereo had benefited from a buoyant advertising market for the past 18 months, even during the Covid pandemic. But media analysts have warned that the honeymoon could be over as runaway inflation fuels concerns of sharply higher interest rates (*Age*, 6 June 2022, p.28).



### 118.2.1 Google funds publishers

Publications such as the *Greek Herald*, *Australian Jewish News*, *Australian Chinese Daily* and *Time Out* will receive funding from search giant Google after negotiating a commercial deal with Andrew Forrest's Minderoo Foundation (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 30 May 2022). Minderoo, with approval from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, was negotiating on behalf of 24 Australian independent publishers to obtain funding for use of their news content in search. The amount of money was not disclosed, but the not-for-profit said it will be used for a range of "content" and "digital transformation" initiatives. Emma McDonald, senior policy advisor at Minderoo's frontier technology initiative, said the deals would protect local journalism. "This deal has been negotiated in good faith over the past six months, culminating in a landmark agreement for independent journalism," McDonald said. "These publishers are working hard to produce important public interest journalism, including in rural and outer urban areas, and with multicultural and LGBTQI+ communities."

Publications to receive the funding in addition to *Time Out* and the *Greek Herald* including the *Naracoorte Community News*, *Star Observer*, *Primer Magazine*, *Australian Property Journal* and *City Hub*. The new deal brings Google's total local commercial deals to more than 60, which it says accounts for more than 180 local media outlets. Google's deals were struck after the introduction of landmark news media bargaining laws which, if implemented, would force Google and Facebook to pay eligible large and small news publishers to display articles in the search engine and

“newsfeed”. The new laws don’t actually apply to either Google or Meta because they are not “designated”. Treasury is currently assessing the effectiveness of these laws and working out whether more needs to be done to ensure news outlets are remunerated for their journalism.

Google – which has struck deals with Nine Entertainment Co (owner of this masthead), News Corp Australia, publisher of *The Australian*, *The Herald Sun* and *The Daily Telegraph* as well as smaller outlets – has not faced the same scrutiny as Meta.

Former ACCC boss Rod Sims, who oversaw the creation of the bargaining laws, said last week Facebook (a subsidiary of Meta) should be redesignated for failing to strike deals with outlets such as *The Conversation* and multicultural broadcaster SBS. Facebook has not struck a long-term commercial deal with the publishers represented by Minderoo or negotiated with the organisation, but five publications did receive grants from the Australian News Fund.

### 118.2.2 News Corp’s prediction tool is queried

Using data to make news stories more interesting to readers isn’t a new thing (Zoe Samios, *Age*, 20 June 2022). Publications such as the *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Age* and *Australian* have long used tools that help editors understand which stories are most important to readers and what is likely to attract new subscribers. Journalists usually have access to the analytics behind their stories to understand what works and what doesn’t.

But just how far is a publication willing to go? That’s the question journalists at News Corp Australia have been asking as the newest version of their measurement tool, Verity 2.0, rolls out. News Corp Australia, which publishes the *Australian*, *Herald Sun*, *Courier-Mail* and *Daily Telegraph*, caused a stir among staff in mid-June with an email about the newly updated technology, which it wants journalists to use daily.

The updated version, according to multiple employees, has more data and claims to break down audiences based on age, location and household income. It also profiles the audience into cohorts such as what it calls “first class life”, a group of typically older middle-aged families with significant assets and income (News Corp says this is 6.9 per cent of the population). Journalists are told how many readers of their masthead fit within these categories.

But there’s one other feature that has some journalists worried. Documents obtained by the *Age* show the updated version has a feature that can predict the “likelihood” of a person paying for a subscription based on factors such as headlines, angles, and story ideas. The tool, known as “Predictions View”, is designed to let the journalist workshop headlines, angles and even whole story ideas, and give them an indication of the likely subscriber return. Workshopping ideas has traditionally been the domain of editors who rely on instinct and gut feel to make editorial decisions.

If an increased focus on data in the newsroom wasn’t enough, the internal note also requests journalists complete an assessment on how to use the technology or face a mark against their name at their next performance review.

A News Corp Australia spokesman said the tool was valuable. “Verity has been an important tool for our newsrooms for the past three years, and we continue to improve the value it provides our journalists to enable them to get closer to our readers and the stories they value most,” the spokesperson said. Multiple journalists, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to protect their positions, said it was interpreted internally as a threat that could impact remuneration and performance reviews. The sources also said staff were told the company would be tracking how frequently people logged into their analytics tool and used it to inform their stories.

Staff can receive what are called “C-Scores” for successfully acquiring subscriptions. The C-Scores gamify the process by allowing staff to collect achievement badges a person can receive on an Xbox or Apple Watch as they reach milestones.

Measurement tools are software that collect and present data. News Corp isn’t the only publisher using this software to gain insight into what stories work better than others. *Guardian Australia* has a tool called Ophan that is used to boost audiences while the *Age* uses a platform called My Story. But these don’t go as far as Verity 2.0. The original Verity, was launched in 2018 and was considered a way to increase the number of people consuming and subscribing to content.



### 118.2.3 *Daily Aus* to hire more journalists

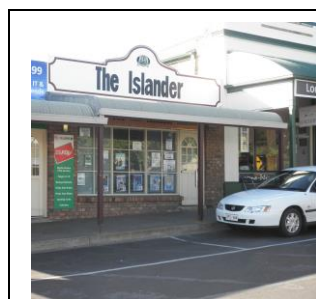
The *Daily Aus* co-founders Zara Seidler and Sam Koslowski are planning to hire more journalists and expand their Instagram-focused news service into the UK after raising \$1.2 million from former Nine boss David Gyngell and executives from tech unicorn Canva (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 27 June 2022). Following their second capital raise, the pair will also launch a research and polling team that will aim to give insights to advertisers into the audience they speak to. "The money will really allow us to level up pretty much everything we're doing, and our big focus will be on this play in the research and polling space," Koslowski said.

The *Daily Aus* has grown its Instagram following from 50,000 to 372,000 in 18 months. Its team of nine – which includes two full-time journalists and an editor – run two podcasts, a newsletter and more recently started polling its audience. It is edited by Billi FitzSimons. Gyngell, a long-time boss of Nine, Canva's chief marketing officer Zach Kitsche and head of product Rob Kawalsky are among the group of investors that will mentor Koslowski and Seidler as they try to scale the business. Untitled, a Melbourne-based music festival events group that runs Beyond The Valley, has also poured money into the start-up. The *Daily Aus* aggregates the biggest news of the day into digestible content for its readers. It makes its money from advertising on its various platforms and through brands coming to the publication to understand young people.



### 118.2.4 Women in Media revives mentoring project

Women in Media Australia has teamed up with the Google News Initiative to revive its Relaunch Project for 2023. The program is designed to equip and upskill women returning to work on the media industry. Successful candidates will receive 10 specialised workshops over six months, one-on-one mentoring with an industry professional, and more. Applications close on 3 August. (*Telum Media Alert*, 4 July 2022).



### 3—CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: COMMUNITY & PROVINCIAL

#### 118.3.1 Launceston: Press breakdown

The print edition of the Launceston *Examiner* did not appear on Wednesday 6 July because of a breakdown at ACM's Rocherlea print centre (*Examiner* online edition, 6 July 2022). The breakdown occurred at 12:30am on 6 July and affected a key piece of equipment, which could not be repaired. The digital edition of that day's *Examiner* was made available free. ACM editorial director Rod Quinn said the breakdown was a situation beyond anyone's control. "It is extremely unusual for us to miss printing a newspaper," he said. "Our crew made every effort to get the press running but unfortunately it could not be fixed.

On 7 July, the *Examiner* returned to print. It reported there had been a compressor breakdown at 12.30am on 6 July that could not be repaired. Rocherlea site manager Shane Brooks said all the equipment ran on air and so no air meant no power. The machine had an issue with the belt that runs the fan. It had been replaced not long ago, but appeared to have been replaced with a belt too narrow for the machine.

### 118.3.2 New editor for four coastal weeklies

Sue Stephenson is the new editor for four of ACM's NSW coastal papers, the *Port Macquarie News*, *Macleay Argus* (Kempsey), *Camden Haven Courier* (Laurieton) and *MidCoast Observer*. Each is a weekly printed newspaper with digital editions, too.

### 118.3.3 Mount Isa: Weekly to be launched

The *North West Weekly* will be launched in Mount Isa on 28 July. It will be a free paper focusing on the news, events and communities of the Mount Isa region. The paper is to be launched by Matthew Nicholls, editor and publisher of the *Cape York Weekly* (*Telum Media Alert*, 6 July 2022).

Mount Isa had a daily, the *North West Star*, which is still available in digital format.

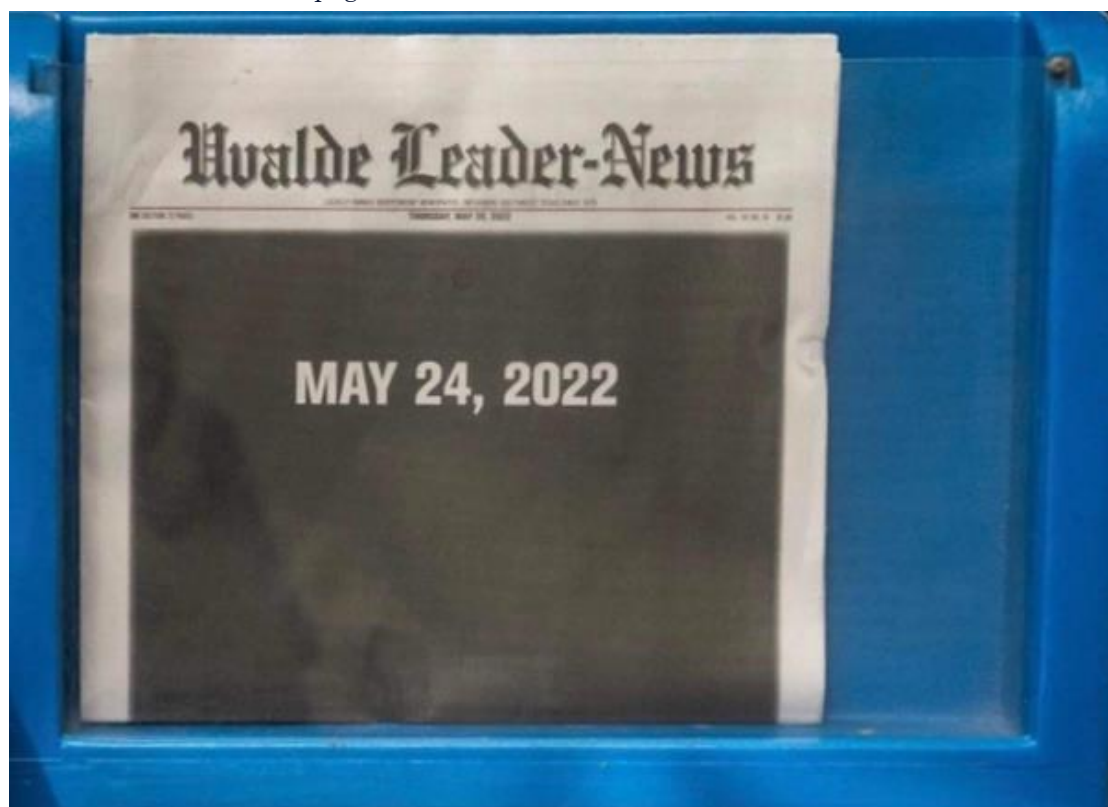
### 118.3.4 Koondrook and Barham: *Bridge* is on the market

Lloyd Polkinghorne, a farmer who bought a country newspaper after he was injured on his farm, has put the paper up for sale (*Age*, 2 June 2022, p.9). The paper serves the border towns of Barham (NSW) and Koondrook (Victoria) and was one of a handful of hot-metal newspapers remaining in Australia at the run of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. About 1500 people live in Barham and 800 in Koondrook. The *Koondrook and Barham Bridge*—known by its short version, the *Bridge*—is expected to sell for a six-figure sum. Its final hot metal/letterpress issue appeared on 12 March 2004.

### 118.3.5 When a local newspaper covers the worst day of its life

On 24 May 2022 the United States had yet another mass shooting at a school. On 28 May, the *New Yorker* told its version of the story under the heading, “The staff of Uvaldes’ local paper cover the worst day of their lives”. The employees of the *Uvalde Leader-News* lost neighbours, acquaintances and the daughter of one of their reporters. Then they had to report the story.

The general manager of the paper, Pete Luna, who doubles as the photographer, arrived at Robb Elementary School when the gunman was still alive inside. Later, the staff decided against publishing a photo of the gunman, who was shot dead by police. They decided against publishing any story or photo on the front page. Below the masthead, it featured the date “May 24, 2022” reversed into an all-black page.





## 4-NEWSPAPER HISTORY

### 118.4.1 Gold-mining town that had a short-lived daily

**Rod Kirkpatrick** writes: The arrival of some hand-written notes on one of Clunes' early newspapers has sparked some memories. On Sunday 29 September 2002, I visited the old gold-rush town of Clunes on the first day of a week-long research trip to Victorian country towns and their newspapers. Clunes is half an hour's drive north of Ballarat. I was there principally because a daily newspaper was published there in 1869. Kidgell, Martin and Co. launched the *Clunes Guardian and Mining and Agricultural Reporter* on 30 April 1869 as a penny daily. It was published daily until 14 October that year and dropped back to tri-weekly, but in an enlarged form "the size of the Ballarat Journals" from 18 October after shifting to new premises to allow for "the erecting of more powerful machinery and new printing material". Nearly three years later the *Guardian* bought the town's first newspaper, the *Clunes Gazette and Mining, Commercial and Agricultural Newspaper*, launched on 7 July 1863. Initially it carried a 16-word title, which was soon abbreviated to the *Clunes Guardian and Gazette*. It is this newspaper about which **Peter Gill**, of Melbourne, sent me some notes recently.



Section of main street of Clunes in 2002.

The notes told me that when the *Clunes Guardian and Gazette* had been published 76 years, it announced on Saturday, 26 September 1936, at Page 2: "The *Guardian* will not be published after this issue. (No doubt should the long-expected mining revival take place, publication would then be resumed.) The proprietor takes this opportunity to sincerely thank advertisers and subscribers for their support in the past. The public are asked to note that this office WILL NOT BE CLOSED, as the PRINTING part of the business will be CARRIED ON AS USUAL." [Imprint on page 1: Printed and published at the *Guardian* office, Fraser Street, Clunes, by A.J. Giddings.]

*Clunes Guardian and Gazette*, Friday 18 December 1936, p.2: "The new proprietor of the *Guardian* is Mr L.H. Glasson (formerly proprietor of the *Rupanyup Spectator*). Mr Glasson will take over as from January 1<sup>st</sup>. The *Guardian* will not be published on Christmas Day. The next issue of the *Guardian* will be on January 1<sup>st</sup>, and subsequently weekly on Fridays."

The *Clunes Guardian and Gazette* merged with the *Talbot Leader* on 27 May 1948 to form the *Clunes-Talbot Guardian* which was published at least until 28 January 1966.

### 118.4.2 Thursday Island and the *Torres Straits Pilot*

In the June issue of the *Bulletin* of The Royal Historical Society of Queensland, **Kay Cohen** wrote in her “Library and Research Report”: [The RHSQ has] two issues of the weekly broadsheet newspaper, the *Torres Straits Pilot and New Guinea Gazette*, published between 1888 and 1942. The [RHSQ] Library holds the first issue, 2 January 1888, and the last issue, 27 January 1942, donated by well-known Thursday Island identity Jack McNulty, together with two issues of the four-page, A4-size *Papuan Village*. They are all printed on silk and are badly in need of conservation. The *Papuan Village* was issued as a single-sided daily from 1914 on, and became renowned as “the world’s smallest daily newspaper”.

The *Pilot* was first owned by a private company. Frederick Charles Hodel purchased it in 1893 and sold it in June 1896 to Mary Ann Coran. Her husband, Alexander Coran, was the publisher until his death in 1940 (National Library of Australia). The first issue carried a lengthy editorial setting out the philosophy and aims of the paper.

... it is not our intention to indulge in the time-honoured platitudes customary amongst journalists when heralding the first issue of an infant newspaper. Our objects, duties and intentions are easily explained. Indeed, to the residents of Thursday Island, such explanations are scarcely necessary. The paper itself is the very outcome of the desire of the local people to take that rank in the world as represented by modern journalism to which the importance of the place entitles it.

The editor went on to emphasise Thursday Island’s importance in the development of Australia’s east coast, as recognised by Queensland Premier, Sir Thomas McIlwraith, in the face of considerable opposition from his southern counterparts. The editorial also expounded on residents’ concerns, particularly the excessively high telegraphic rates and the lack of a local hospital. The *Pilot* ceased publication in January 1942 when all Thursday Island civilians were evacuated as the threat of invasion intensified.

### 118.4.3 Quest for Eden-Monaro: Allan Fraser’s side of the story

**John Myrtle**, of Canberra, writes: Over the years, the seat of Eden-Monaro in the federal parliament has attracted attention at election time, both for its proximity to Canberra and also its close electoral contests. Physically it is a narrow coastal seat in NSW with varied landforms and geographical features, extending from Yass in the north to the border with Victoria. Historically it was one of the original divisions, having been contested in the first federal election in 1901. For many years at election time it was regarded as a “bellwether” seat, i.e. from 1972 the victorious candidate in Eden-Monaro represented the party that had won government. However, this bellwether status has changed in recent years, so much so that in the recent federal election, Labor’s candidate Kristy McBain retained the seat with a winning margin of 7 per cent over her Liberal opponent.

Dr Eleanor Robin, a historian with wide experience working in Canberra news media and the parliamentary press gallery, has written a detailed history of the Eden-Monaro electorate, *The Quest for Eden-Monaro: A Core Sample of Australian Democracy* (Scholarly Publishing), with much of the history focusing on the careers of the two prominent parliamentarians, who held the seat for 25 years or more—the protectionist Sir Austin Chapman (1864-1926) and Labor’s Allan Fraser (1902-1977). Allan Fraser was an experienced newspaper journalist and the story of his career in this book is a valuable source of information for those researching the history of 20<sup>th</sup> century journalism in Australia.

According to *The Quest for Eden Monaro* (p. 159), “before the age of eight Allan Fraser had set his sights on being a newspaper reporter, then a member of parliament.” He left school at the age of 17 and joined the Hobart *Mercury* as a copy boy. He moved to Melbourne and between 1923 and 1927 he worked as a sub-editor, reporting on the federal parliament for the *Argus*. Later, when parliament moved to Canberra, Fraser also moved north and continued to be part of the parliamentary press gallery, working for Sydney’s *Sun* newspaper. By now he had joined the Labor Party and was an active member of the Australian Journalists’ Association; between 1926 and 1929 serving as secretary, treasurer and president of the union’s Victorian district.

In 1943, at the age of 40, Allan Fraser won pre-selection as Labor’s candidate for the seat of Eden-Monaro in the general election. It was a strong year for Labor and Fraser won the seat with his



support in excess of 55 per cent of the overall vote count. There were closer results in Eden-Monaro in subsequent elections but he was regularly re-elected, being a hard worker who utilised his experience as a journalist to publicise the policies of the ALP and his work for the electorate. For instance, he established a Sunday evening radio current affairs program, *Your Member Speaks*, on station 2CA (Robin, pp.194-195). It is testament to Fraser's skill as a communicator that he held the seat of Eden-Monaro from 1943 to 1966. Defeated in that year, he regained the seat in 1969 before retiring from federal politics in 1972.

In spite of this, Eleanor Robin suggests that "Fraser never had a period of retirement". He remained active in Canberra politics, also as a commentator on a variety of political issues. In 1974 he nominated as an independent candidate for the new ACT Legislative Assembly and for his troubles he was expelled from the Labor Party. They had maintained that he was too old for the job, but he was still elected to the Assembly.

Overall, Allan Fraser was an unconventional politician; in the words of Clem Lloyd, "an attractive politician" who brought a "luminous intellect and a passionate disposition" to the practice of politics. His effectiveness, however, was tempered by the assertion of an unqualified independence which kept him at odds with party discipline and cost him the sustained support of his colleagues. (Robin, pp. 255-256)

#### 118.4.4 *Canberra Times*: From family-owned to corporate enterprise

From the ACM website: For almost 100 years, the *Canberra Times* has been serving the national city as the source Canberrans trust when it comes to the news that matters. Since starting as a small family-run newspaper, it has grown with the city, telling the stories of the capital, its people and their interests. The close-knit family of Shakespeares, originally from Penrith, ran the *Canberra Times* as a family business for 38 years before selling it to the Fairfax family. It is now owned by Australian Community Media.

Thomas Shakespeare was an advocate of developing a national capital while others were wary. He attended the first sale of Canberra leases in 1924, when he bought the block at the corner of Mort and Cooyong Streets. Federal Capital Press of Australia was registered on the Sydney stock exchange the next year. The newspaper was a family affair, as Thomas's sons took key roles. Clarence became a reporter, Bill became the company secretary, Arthur was the managing editor and Jack managed plant and machinery. Another family member, Alf, also joined the reporting staff.

The first issue, on 3 September 1926, sold 1800 papers at threepence a copy. It was a 16-page weekly but, in May 1927, plans were made for a daily paper. Canberra had a population of only 5000 and many people doubted the wisdom of starting a newspaper at all. However, the future was full of promise for Thomas Shakespeare. The first daily issue appeared on 28 February 1928.

Thomas Shakespeare wanted his newspaper to be the newspaper of Canberra, the champion of Canberra and its people, and the newspaper anyone coming to Canberra would have to read to understand what was happening in the city. But he understood also the city was the nation's capital, and great matters of legislation, policy and administration would be determined here, and such matters would be the business of the people of Canberra—the sort of thing they knew about, talked about, and needed information about.

Because politics, statecraft and administration—and the development of Australia as a nation—were the fundamental business of Canberra, it had to be the business of the *Canberra Times* and its reporters. In this sense it was to be expected national and federal politics—and international news—would be more extensively covered than in some other newspapers, but it was never intended that this would be achieved by failing to thoroughly report all aspects of the life of the city.

In 1987, the newspaper's staff moved to Fyshwick, where the printing press had relocated many years earlier. After the breakup of Fairfax the same year, the *Canberra Times* passed briefly to Kerry Packer, who sold it to Kerry Stokes in 1989. Stokes sold to Rural Press in 1998, and, through a 2007 merger, it later rejoined Fairfax. Fairfax Media and Nine Entertainment Company merged in 2018, to become Nine. The company's Australian Community Media division, including the

*Canberra Times*, was bought in 2019 by Antony Catalano and Alex Waislitz. The paper's editors have included Jack Waterford and Michelle Grattan, named the first female editor of a metropolitan daily newspaper in Australia in 1993. John-Paul Moloney is managing editor.

Found at: <https://www.canberratimes.com.au/about-us/> 16 June 2022

#### **118.4.5 *Newcastle Sun* comes under wing of *Newcastle Morning Herald***

*Sun*, Sydney, Monday 31 December 1934, p.9: The acting chairman of Sun Newspapers Limited, Sir John Butters, has made the following statement: "During the past year the Directors of Sun Newspapers Limited have been giving close attention to the *Newcastle Sun*, a publication which ranks as probably the finest afternoon newspaper published outside the capital cities in Australia; Its high standard of journalism, the service which it renders to the Newcastle district, combined with the prevailing economic and industrial conditions, have together involved the Company in a trading loss since 1930, and the Board of the Company has had to determine how best it could continue to provide a reliable, up-to-the-minute afternoon newspaper and all that this means, for the Newcastle district, without further drawing upon the financial resources of the Company.

"The publication of an afternoon newspaper involves extremely heavy costs, how heavy can only be realised by those who have had actual experience. A careful study of the economics of the position has convinced the Board that, without cutting down quality and service — which it could not contemplate— the only way to produce the desired result was by a reduction in the costs of production and management, and action has been taken to secure this. Fortunately, too, during the last year, a steady improvement in circulation and advertising has been evidenced which gave encouragement to the Board in the forward move it contemplated. I am now happy to be able to announce that arrangements have been concluded by which the desired result can be obtained. The *Newcastle Sun* will be printed, published and distributed on behalf of the proprietors by The Newcastle Morning Herald Company as soon as the necessary adaptation of the *Herald* building and the consolidation of plant can be effected.

"In the meantime, and whilst arrangements are being made for the transfer of the public offices of the *Newcastle Sun* to Bolton-street, the business and production of the *Sun* will continue as at present, and a further announcement for public information will be made as to the date when the transfer is completed. The Board of Sun Newspapers Limited has further decided, in line with its past policy to conserve and promote the interests of the Newcastle and Hunter River district, to place the complete control of the *Newcastle Sun* under a Newcastle Board of Directors, on which it will be represented by one member, who will be able to ensure to the Newcastle Management all the many benefits and facilities available as a result of the association with the parent organisation hi Sydney.

"The new arrangements will come into force on January 1 next. In order that the rationalisation of this important Newcastle industry may be most effective, it has been arranged that the Board of Directors of the *Newcastle Sun* will have as its General Manager Mr Lingard — who will combine his new duties with those of General Manager of The Newcastle Morning Herald Company; Mr Lingard will thus be in executive charge of the consolidated business of the two newspapers, The present Managing Editor of the *Newcastle Sun*, Mr Armati, has received a well-merited promotion to an important appointment on the Sydney *Sun*.

"I desire, on behalf of the Board of the Company, to express publicly its great appreciation of the work of Mr Armati, and the services he has rendered during most difficult times; he will assist in the early arrangements for consolidation, and take up his new duties in Sydney at an early date. The Board of Management of the *Newcastle Sun* will select the new Editor early in January, and will spare no effort to ensure the continuance of an afternoon newspaper of metropolitan standard with a forward policy for the benefit of the Newcastle and Hunter River district."

#### **118.4.6 Best editor in the west**

*Yass Tribune-Courier*, 30 June 1952, p.2:

"Granny" writes in Column 8 of the *Sydney Morning Herald*: This cutting arrived—unfortunately with no indication of the country paper it was torn from: "I have been criticised quite a little by some of the town's smart alecks for using poor, grammar. Now I have three good reasons for this.

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In the first place I don't know any better. Second, half of you. wouldn't understand it if I did. Thirdly, if I did speak and write correctly I might be editing some big Sydney daily at a large salary, and you farmers would lose the best damned editor in the west of NSW."

#### **118.4.7 The best editor is 'the best propagandist'**

*Telegraph*, Brisbane, 25 July 1938, p.12:

Press unity in Germany is a system which places not only 3,097 newspapers and more than 217 weeklies but also about 5,400 members of the editorial staffs under the rule of a few men. Pre-eminent is the "Little Doctor", as the Germans call Joseph Goebbels, Minister of Propaganda and Public Enlightenment. His Ministry issues instructions to all newspapers. OUCH instructions embrace the selection of articles and news. Max Amann, general manager of the Franz Eher Verlag, biggest Nazi publishing company, is president of the Chamber of the German Press, while Wilhelm Weiss, chief editor of the *Völkischer Beobachter*, the leading party paper, is chairman of the Association of the German Press (the union every editor must belong to). In other words: Goebbels, the brewer of "public opinion", Amann, the controller of all newspaper business, and Weiss, the leader of the journalists, form the trinity of modern press-dictatorship in Germany. In consequence of the nazification of all papers and printed sheets more than 1,500 newspapers and 130 weeklies have disappeared; among them Marxist and Communist publications. The number of those employed in the editorial staff and in the printing trade in consequence have decreased enormously. The circulation of an average provincial paper has dropped from 75,000 to 27,000 copies; while a well-known Berlin paper with a sale of 559,960 in 1932 had only a circulation of 337,750 a year after the Nazis came to power.

Goebbels is the declared enemy of the "general advertisers" — which are non-political papers, largely made up with stories and entertaining features. The aim being to get as many advertisements as possible, such papers are primarily business enterprises. But Goebbels argues that, first of all, the Press must be an instrument to direct public opinion and to strengthen the position of the government. Therefore non-Aryan owned papers had to come under party controlled ownership. Also every editor as well as his wife must be Aryan. To satisfy the Chamber of the German Press he has to give evidence proving his pure Aryan blood and descent back to the year 1800. Therefore, the foundation of new papers is strictly forbidden. Nazi leaders thought that Germany had too many papers. To bring about "sound conditions" in newspaper business, many papers were compelled either to suspend publication or to sell their shares to Nazi publishing firms which incorporated the newspapers.

#### **118.4.8 ANHG editor honoured**

The ANHG editor, Rod Kirkpatrick, was honoured on Queensland Day, 6 June, when The Royal Historical Society of Queensland announced that he was a joint winner of this year's John and Ruth Kerr Medal for Distinction (in historiography, historical research and writing Australian history). The other winner was Dr Ian Howie-Wilson. The medal may be awarded each year by the RHSQ and the Professional Historians Association (Queensland) to an historian of national eminence.

#### **118.4.9 Flashback 100 (8): Mitchell becomes editor-in-chief**

- This is the eighth in a series of flashbacks to items in the *ANHG Newsletter* 100 issues ago (20 years ago). This was 18.2, July 2002.

Chris Mitchell, editor-in-chief of Brisbane's *Courier-Mail*, has been appointed editor-in-chief of the *Australian*. Mitchell was editor of the *Australian* from 1992-95 when he was appointed editor of the *Courier-Mail*. David Fagan, deputy editor (weekend) of the *Australian*, becomes editor of the *Courier-Mail*. Fagan joined the *Warwick Daily News* as a cadet after graduating in 1979 from the journalism program at the Darling Downs Institute of Advanced Education, Toowoomba. He joined the *Courier-Mail* in 1983 and he became the Queensland bureau chief of the *Australian* in 1993. Mitchell replaces David Armstrong as editor-in-chief of the *Australian*. Armstrong, who had become the *Australian's* longest-serving editor-in-chief, is to undertake a significant national initiative for News Ltd (*Australian* and *Courier-Mail*, 26 June 2002, p.2).

### 118.4.10 A timeline of South Australian newspapers

This is a timeline of South Australian newspapers, as provided on the website of the State Library of South Australia (accessed 5 July 2022).

#### Timeline

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- 1836 First issue of the *South Australian Gazette and Colonial Register* is published in London
- 1837 Second issue of the *South Australian Gazette and Colonial Register* is published in Adelaide
- 1837 Margaret Stevenson the first woman to write for the South Australian press, as “A Colonist” in the *Register* July 1837
- 1839 First country newspaper, the *Port Lincoln Herald* (short-lived) begins
- 1841 First illustrated newspaper, the *Adelaide Independent*, is published with loose cartoon-style illustration supplements
- 1841 First lady's column (“Jane's letters”) is published in the *South Australian Magazine* December
- 1843 *Adelaide Observer* is founded for country readers
- 1844 Andrew Murray takes over the *South Australian* and begins printing the writings of his sister-in-law, Catherine Helen Spence
- 1844 The *Register* is published as first daily for just eight weeks from December 1844 to February 1845
- 1845 First religious newspaper, *Australiana*, published
- 1848 First non-English newspaper in Australia, *Die Deutsche Post*, is published in Adelaide
- 1849 First sporting newspaper published, the *Mercury and South Australian Sporting Chronicle*
- 1850 The *Register* published daily (six days per week) from this time until its closure in 1931
- 1850 First in-text illustrations appear in the *Mercury and South Australian Sporting Chronicle*
- 1850 First free newspaper, the *Adelaide Commercial Advertiser*
- 1853 First commercial newspaper company formed to found the short-lived *Examiner*, closed after a few weeks and company took over the *Register*
- 1855 Steam printing introduced at the *Register*
- 1858 Australia's first inter-city telegraph line completed, linking Adelaide with Melbourne
- 1858 The *South Australian Advertiser* founded
- 1860 First successful country newspaper, the *Northern Star*, published at Kapunda
- 1861 South Australia's oldest country newspaper still in operation, the *Border Watch*, founded at Mount Gambier by Janet Laurie with her two sons
- 1862 First evening newspaper, the *Telegraph*, published
- 1864 “Housewife's Corner” in *Kapunda Herald* is first women's column in a country newspaper
- 1865 *Adelaide Punch* first published - no copies have survived
- 1867 The South Australian Catholic community begins publishing the *Southern Cross* newspaper
- 1867 First locally published fully illustrated newspaper, the *Illustrated Adelaide Post*, is founded
- 1867 Catherine Helen Spence's fourth novel (*Hugh Lindsay's Guest*) serialised in the *Observer*, May to November



1868 The *Observer* publishes its first regular "Ladies column" and the rival *Chronicle* publishes a similar column titled "The House"

1870 War correspondent dispatched to the Franco-Prussian War (William Ramage Lawson) by the *Register*

1872 Overland Telegraph Line completed, linking Adelaide directly with London

1874 First known children's column appears in the *Farmers' Weekly Messenger* (Kapunda) in May

1876 First published female cartoonist, Margaret Little, illustrates the single-issue *Ephemera*

1876 First illustrations in a country newspaper are published in the *Farmers' Weekly Messenger*

1878 Catherine Helen Spence becomes a paid contributor to *Register* and *Observer*

1885 First suburban newspaper, the *Free Press*, at Norwood -- no copies have survived

1887 "Half-tone" photographs printed in *Observer* in March

1887 "Sun pictures" or outdoor photographs first published in an Adelaide newspaper, *Pictorial Australian*, in May/June issue

1890 Comic strip consisting of a crude two frames only and without speech bubbles, drawn by C. Wall for *Pictorial Australian* from August

1890 Local edition of *Truth* first published

1893 The *Pictorial Australian* moved completely to photographs rather than lithograph illustrations

1894 The *Weekly Herald* founded to support the Labour movement

1895 *Observer* and *Chronicle* begin producing occasional photographic supplements

1896 Winifred Scott, possibly our first full-time woman reporter, appointed to *Observer*

1899 "A lady reporter" first acknowledged in the *Register*

1900 Mrs Edith Dickensen "special correspondent" for the *Advertiser* during the South African ("Boer") War

1902 The *Observer* and the *Chronicle* both began publishing weekly photographic supplements

1905 *Register* and *Advertiser* first began publishing weather maps

1912 First issue of *Mail*, later titled *Sunday Mail*

1914 Australia's first Greek language newspaper, *Okeanis*, published in Adelaide by George Nikolaidis

1916 The *Australische Deutsche Zeitung* is closed due to anti-German feeling during World War I

1921 Possum's Pages begin in *Mail* in July

1921 Rebecca McGregor (nee Toseland) printer at the *Port Augusta Dispatch* takes over the *West Coast Recorder* early and very politically outspoken female country newspaper owner/editor

1923 First issue of the *News*

1925 Crosswords first published in *Register* on 18 April as "The Puzzle"

1929 The *Register* and the *Advertiser* are taken over by Keith Murdoch of the Melbourne *Herald*

1929 Ginger Meggs cartoon strip first appears in the *Register* on 14 September

1931 The *Register* ceases

1942 The *Advertiser* begins putting news (rather than advertisements) on the front page from February

1948 The *News* changes from broadsheet to tabloid size

1951 Messenger Press is founded at Port Adelaide

1972 The *Sunday Mail* first printed on a Sunday (rather than Saturday night) on 5 November

1975 The *Chronicle*, a weekly rural newspaper, ceases

1976 The last Saturday issue of the *News* is published on 28 August

1984 *Adelaide Review* is founded

1992 The *News* ceases, Adelaide's last evening newspaper

1992 The *Advertiser* introduces colour printing for photographs

1997 The *Advertiser* changes from broadsheet to tabloid size

2004 The *Independent Weekly* is founded

2008 Launch of Trove web-site, containing digitised historic Australian newspapers

2011 The *Independent Weekly* becomes an on-line version only, as *Indaily*

#### 118.4.11 Getting the *SMH* from press to public: A 1909 film

The National Screen and Sound Archive, Canberra, has a documentary film, produced in 1909, titled *The Sydney Morning Herald* [fragment]. Title no. 109983. The details provided on the website are:

Summary: Fragment of the documentary *The Sydney Morning Herald*. Some of the footage is duplicated in the NFSA's holding and some of its extra footage. Details of what is included:

"Mechanical hoist taking papers to the publishing room": An employee loads a hoist with bundles of newspapers.

"Taking delivery in the publishing room": Men upstairs unload the hoist.

"Dispatching the papers to all parts of the state. An early morning scene": A shot taken from inside a loading bay shows men loading bundles of newspapers onto the back of a horse-drawn wagon. The wagon leaves the loading bay. Another shot taken from outside the building shows the horse-drawn cart leaving the building.

"Departure of the paper trains": A close-up of a railway carriage at a station is followed by a pan shot of the country train. A horse-drawn wagon loaded with newspapers is driven along the platform of the station and men load bundles of newspapers into a carriage of the train.

"Paper Sir?": A horse-drawn wagon loaded with papers is driven along a city street. The driver throws a bundle of newspapers to a paper boy standing on the kerb. Trams go past in the background. A man jumps off a tram and buys a newspaper from the paper boy. A good close-up of the tram is shown.

#### 118.4.12 *Goulburn Evening Penny Post* in 1870: Start, stop, start

**Rod Kirkpatrick** writes: When I began researching in 1995 to write a history of the country press of NSW, Goulburn historians accepted that the *Goulburn Post* had started in October 1870 as the *Goulburn Evening Penny Post*. I was quickly able to show the alleged starting date was wrong, but it was fairly clear that the paper had started earlier that year. Trove's digitised newspapers now make it much easier to check such information. In ANHG 72.4.5, I said it could now be accepted that the *Goulburn Evening Penny Post* began publication in January 1870. I didn't provide reference details then, but this month (July 2022) I located the following in the *Evening News*, Sydney, Thursday 27 January 1870, p.3:

The Cheap Press.— The benefits of the penny press have been extended to Goulburn. We received yesterday a copy of the *Goulburn Evening Penny Post and Southern, Counties General Advertiser*, which has

been issued regularly for the past week or two. It is at present small in size; but it has a fair selection of matter, and appears to have an equivalent amount of patronage in the advertising line.

And then there was a closure before the earlier accepted establishment date of October 1870. The *Goulburn Herald and Chronicle*, Wednesday 24 August 1870, p.2, reported:

JOURNALISM..-The *Goulburn Evening Post* did not make its appearance on Saturday last (20/8/1870). This paper was established by Mr Harris, the former printer and subsequent proprietor of the *Southern Observer*, when that journal was discontinued. Mr Harris is understood to be an economical manager; and that the *Post* has ceased to exist is not attributable to any fault of his, but to the fact that three printing offices are beyond the requirements of the district.

It was also highly probable that the (temporary) closure was closely linked to a libel case against the *Post's* editor, John Henniker Heaton. The *Post* was re-established in October 1870 under new ownership. See *Gundagai Times, and Tumut, Adelong and Murrumbidgee District Advertiser*, Saturday 10 September 1870:

Plant of the late *Goulburn Evening Penny Post* has been bought by Messrs. Daniels (sic) and Gray, lately employees in the *Goulburn Herald* office, for £350 (\$700) and the *Penny Post* is to be revived and again issued in Goulburn.

It was the beginning of the Daniel (repeat Daniel) family's 92-year ownership of the *Post*.



## 5-RECENTLY PUBLISHED

### 118.5.1 Book

**Barker, Phillip**, *Axed: Who Killed Australian Magazines*. Simon & Schuster, Australia. 288 pp.

### 118.5.2 Articles

**Albrechtsen, Janet**, "Sex lives of celebrities laid bare for our pleasure", *Weekend Australian*, 18-19 June 2022, p.39. When is it legitimate for media to expose the private lives of public figures?

**Albrechtsen, Janet**, "Wilkinson puts media vigilantes in the dock", *Australian*, 27 June 2022, p.11. The author argues that television journalist and presenter Lisa Wilkinson should be charged with contempt of court over her speech at the Logies presentation mentioning the Brittany Higgins issue..

**Australian**, "Social media culture a risk to courts and journalism", *Australian*, 24 June 2022, p.10 (editorial). Discusses the delay of the trial of a man for allegedly having sex with consent with Brittany Higgins.

**Carr, Bob**, "To free Assange, just ask Biden", *Sydney Morning Herald*, 20 June 2022, p.24. If Anthony Albanese requested the release of the Wikileaks founder, America's leader would have every reason to agree.

**Haigh, Gideon**, "Neglected heritage", *Weekend Australian*, 18-19 June 2022, p.38. Governments appear to have no regard for our once world-class collections, such as the National Archives of Australia.

**Harari, Fiona**, "Following the leaders", *Weekend Australian Magazine*, 14-15 May 2022, pp.12-16. It's the minders leading the blind. The author joins the multi-media caravan as Scott Morrison and Anthony Albanese pose for campaign photos—and mostly avoid meeting the voters.

**McLachlan, Hamish**, “The Interview: One on one with Neil Mitchell”, *Sunday Herald Sun*, 22 May 2022, pp. 32, 41. Mitchell is a former editor of the Melbourne *Herald* and now a radio talkback commentator and interview.

**Maguire, Sarah**, “Ready. Aim. Draw: The joy and fury of being a political cartoonist”, *Canberra Times*, 30 April 2022, Panorama, pp.6-7. Political cartoonist Fiona Katauskas describes herself as a cheery person, but her job relies on maintaining the rage. Her cartoons appear mainly in the ACM publication, the *Canberra Times*. See 118.1.12 above.

**Simons, Margaret**, “News Corp’s biased reporting ultimately backfires”, *Sydney Morning Herald*

**Waterford, Jack**, “Scared of the shadow of a paper tiger”, *Canberra Times*, 9 April 2022, pp.28-29. Labor should know better than to expend its energy getting matey with Murdoch’s editors, or trying to anticipate the whims and needs off the corporation behind them.

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