



Colac, Victoria, celebrated 150 years of newspaper publication this year. Four newspapers had been started there by 1902 when its first and only daily appeared. With the financial backing of a local medical practitioner, Joseph Gillis Wynne, the *Colac Daily News* was launched on 24 March 1902, with journalist James Cleary Roach as printer and publisher (see colophon below). The paper ceased publication on 20 October 1903, after the plant and machinery had been seized by the bailiffs. The only available files of the paper are in hard copy in six packages (see above) held at the Ballarat stores depot of the State Library of Victoria. Each issue is folded and so fragile it threatens to disintegrate with even the gentlest handling, making it extremely difficult to study them in detail. Your editor viewed them in the Heritage Collection Room of SLV, Melbourne. The *Colac Herald*, the town's second paper, was launched on 22 October 1869 and is still published.

Printed and published by James
Cleary Roach, for the proprietors, at
the office of the "Daily News," Gelli-
brand-street, Colac.

AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPER HISTORY GROUP

NEWSLETTER

ISSN 1443-4962

No. 90

December 2016

Publication details

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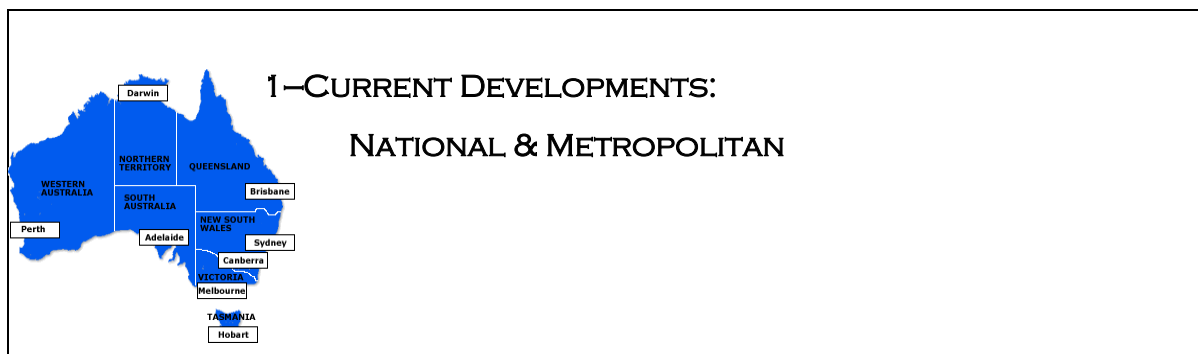
Back copies of the *Newsletter* and some ANHG publications can be viewed online at:

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

Deadline for the next *Newsletter*: 25 February 2017.

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

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



Editor’s note: I have probably lost about one-third of the electronic subscribers to this newsletter since the last issue simply because I bought a new laptop. The computer wizards and data recovery people have been unable to copy my emails and email addresses from the previous laptop to the new one. [Fortunately, I had a hard copy list of subscribers that was a couple of years old. There were a number of additions and deletions to that list before the recent “disaster”.] So, if you know somebody who was a subscriber, ask them whether they have received Issue 90. If they have not, then suggest they email me if they wish to continue receiving the newsletter.

90.1.1 *Sunday Times*, Perth (1): New era

On 20 November 2016, the *Sunday Times*, Perth, published the following statement: “Today, the *Sunday Times* is brought to you by Seven West Media. The change of ownership heralds a new dawn for this newspaper, which turns 120 next year. We are the fifth owner of the masthead, which from its launch in 1897 has sought to serve its readership by giving them a product to reflect their aspirations and champion their causes. It has informed them — its journalists down the decades risking sanction and jail to do so — without ever talking down to them. The *Sunday Times* has long been a paper to absorb and enjoy, not carry under the arm. And long may that continue. While a new era begins, the newspaper’s purpose and promise remains unchanged. Our readers will stay front and centre of every decision we make. A story won’t be published unless we think it will resonate with you or tell you something we feel you really ought to know. We cherish this newspaper’s history and seek to write important new chapters. Seven West Media’s investment in the *Sunday Times* and its journalists, artists and photographers is a massive vote of confidence in the future of newspapers. Of course, the world has changed a lot since 1897, the year Amelia Earhart was born and Bram Stoker wrote *Dracula*. We believe newspapers are as important today as they were then. Some would argue newspapers are even more vital in this confusing age of often poorly researched news. WA is also a very different place in 2016, but some things remain the same. Just as our very first readers were able to rely on the *Sunday Times*, the same can be said for readers today and in the future. Thank you for your loyalty.”

Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by the editor, Michael Beach, 50 Hasler Road, Osborne Park, WA 6017. Postal address: GPO D162 Perth WA 6840.

90.1.2 *Sunday Times*, Perth (2): New editor, new newsroom

Darren Davidson writes (*Australian*, 21 November 2016): Michael Beach, the *Sunday Times* editor, is clearly enjoying his first full week leading the paper inside its smart new headquarters at Australia’s first fully integrated print and television newsroom. He enthuses, naturally enough, about cross-platform publishing opportunities and further collaboration between reporting teams at the *West Australian* and Seven Network because the expanded operation now includes the *Sunday Times* and website Perth Now. “We switch a lot of stuff on these days, but we never switch anything off,” the former deputy editor of the *West Australian* jokes. Instead of the traditional hierarchical, command-and-control newsroom layout, a 24-person superdesk has been built to sit senior production and editorial staff from newspaper, online and TV properties. “We deliberately sprinkled reporters among each other so there’s no dedicated areas for each title,” he says.

All up the Perth-based newsroom produces the *West Australian* newspaper six days a week, the *Sunday Times* once a week, 18 regional newspapers, two live top-rating news bulletins for 7 News Perth, the *Today Tonight* current affairs show, and a series of websites including Perth Now. “The TV people gave them training and over time they’ve taken to it quite naturally,” Beach says, noting how modern technology has opened up new avenues between newspapers and the audience, changing the way news is delivered. We now have newspaper reporters appearing on TV, doing digital reports and shooting video on their iPhones. We’ve had TV reporters writing for the paper.”

At its heart, though, Beach says the craft is still about gripping news stories, riveting features and compelling opinion pieces. “The key way we look at it is to ask ourselves: ‘what’s the best journalism we can do across TV, newspapers or online?’” It’s a big contrast to when Beach began his career as a cadet at the *Australian* in the 1980s, receiving early mentoring from future editor-in-chief Chris Mitchell, and future managing director of the Herald and Weekly Times Peter Blunden, when they worked on the paper’s backbench. He also cut his teeth working as a sub-editor at the *Daily* and *Sunday Express*, two of Britain’s liveliest newspapers over the last 116 years.

Before moving to the *West Australian*, Beach was editor of the Saturday *Daily Telegraph* during a period of sustained circulation growth. His move to Perth coincided with billionaire Kerry Stokes’ reverse takeover of West Australian Newspapers Holdings in a \$4.1 billion deal that more than trebled the size of the publisher at the time. He now finds himself at the *Sunday Times*, one of the first newspapers acquired by a young Rupert Murdoch, founded in 1897 and sold to Stokes earlier this year. It’s understood that Seven, cognisant of becoming new proprietors of a paper owned by the Murdoch family for many decades, is determined to secure the newspaper’s future, ensuring it prospers for many more decades to come. The actual sale was only finalised on Wednesday [16 November], with the Perth Now site going live from the newsroom at 5pm. On Monday and Tuesday of last week [14 and 15 November], staff at the *Sunday Times* packed up their belongings to make the 11-minute journey from their Stirling Street premises, in downtown Perth, to Osborne Park, 7km away.

90.1.3 China (1): Supplement to *SMH* and *Age*

On 23 September both the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Age* carried an eight-page supplement entitled *China Watch*, which contained China news and views. The supplement clearly indicated that it had been prepared by the *China Daily* and that there had been no editorial involvement by the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Age*. This follows a precedent where in recent years the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Age* have regularly carried similar sponsored supplements containing news and views of Russia.

90.1.4 China (2): Australian media

Yan Xia, the editor of *Vision China Times*, a Chinese-language newspaper published in Australia, says a Beijing-based immigration agency was forced to pull an advertisement from his paper because it was regarded as an “anti-China” paper (*Australian*, 10 October 2016). The Ministry of State Security, the agency in charge of counter-intelligence and political security, had allegedly harassed the agent.

Yan Xia said, “Our lost client illustrates but one of the mounting pressures faced by independent Chinese media in Australia. Tensions have heightened over recent months, with Australia’s Chinese media under pressure to support President Xi Jinping and Beijing’s foreign policy. That pressure is part of China’s exercise in ‘soft power’. Broadly speaking, there are three types of Chinese-language media in Australia.

“The first consists of those that rely on the Chinese government and Chinese commercial ties for revenue. These outlets tend to echo and take their cues from state-run mouthpieces. The second group consists of media directed by religious groups aiming to expose China’s political, educational and socio-economic situation while promoting human rights and religious freedom. And the third is independent of political and religious influence. Its reporting is largely in line with the ideals of Western mainstream media and generally gives holistic views of Canberra’s policies and sentiments.

“Our outfit fits this last category. While independent media outlets are standard in the West, a one-party state cannot accept that media outlets “do not follow directives” and, by its reckoning, do damage to ‘national interests’. In China, national interests are synonyms for ‘the party’s interests’.

“In recent months it appears the Chinese government’s influence in Australia has become more open and, thus, more easily observed. For Chinese media platforms whose goal is to serve as the bridge between the Chinese community and the Australian mainstream, the challenge lies in reporting fairly and accurately on matters of conflict between the two countries. We choose to remain unyielding in our approach, reporting according to Western journalistic ideals. This has been tested during recent times, which have seen a deluge of articles examining issues that Beijing considers unpalatable.”

90.1.5 Bill Leak and that cartoon

Cartoonists rallied behind Bill Leak against the Human Rights Commission’s investigation into his cartoon about indigenous parental neglect (*Australian*, 19 October 2016). Brett McCarthy, editor of the *West Australian*, offered strong support to the *Australian’s* cartoonist, criticising the newspaper industry for silence while media freedom is at stake. He believed the federal government should repeal sections 18C and 18D of the Racial Discrimination Act. “There can be no more fundamental and important issue than freedom of speech and any media organisation should be able to clearly recognise that and quite frankly the silence of others on this is astounding,” he said. “I think that journalists who tweeted against (the cartoon) and said they were offended should think more deeply about the issue of free speech.

Leak’s cartoon, published on 4 August in the wake of a *Four Corners* report on the tear gassing of boys in the Northern Territory youth detention centre, showed an indigenous police officer handing an indigenous youth to his father, saying: “You’ll have to sit down and talk to your son about personal responsibility.” The father replies, “Yeah righto, what’s his name then?” The Human Rights Commission has notified *The Australian* it would investigate a complaint that Leak’s cartoon had breached section 18C of the Racial Discrimination Act.

Cartoonist John Spooner, who left the *Age* in July after a 42-year career, said the Human Rights’ Commission investigation was an “appalling intervention by government”. “People will say, let this go through, (Bill will) fight the case and they are happy to have that position because they don’t agree with his political point,” he said. “But the principle is getting compromised. The principle is this dangerous idea of government intervening in free speech. If it wasn’t so serious, it would be ludicrous.” Spooner said the federal government should repeal section 18C to remove the words “offend and insult”.

The complaint against Leak was later withdrawn; see “Section 18C ‘racial hatred’ complaint against Bill Leak withdrawn”, *Australian*, 23 November 2016; Chris Mitchell, “Legal rights industry risks entrenching disadvantage”, *Australian*, Media section, 21 November 2016, pp.27-28; “Remaining 18C Leak cartoon complainants say they want to drop case” [Aboriginal cousins Kevin Till and Bruce Till], *Australian*, 15 November 2016, pp.1, 4; “Complaint dropped over Leak cartoon” [Melissa Dinnison], and “Plight unmask the injustice of 18C”, *Weekend Australian*, 12-13 November 2016, both, pp.1, 4.

90.1.6 People

Judith Whelan, editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, has left Fairfax Media to become head of spoken content at the ABC. She is responsible for ABC Radio’s flagship programs within the capital-city radio network, *Grandstand* (sport) and Radio National (Telum Media Alert, 14 October 2016). Whelan worked for the *Herald* for 32 years. She worked as a health and transport reporter, editor of *Good Weekend* for eight years, the *Herald’s* Saturday editor and Fairfax’s news director. Whelan was appointed editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald* in March amid an editorial restructure in which Paul Bailey was appointed editor of the *Australian Financial Review* and Mark Forbes replaced Andrew Holden as editor-in-chief of the *Age*.

Stephen Hutcheon, digital editor for the *Sydney Morning Herald*, has been appointed acting editor of the paper after editor Judith Whelan departed. The *Australian* sees this as a “clear sign”

that Fairfax is closer to shutting the Monday-to-Friday print editions of metro mastheads. This leaves *SMH* editor-in-chief Darren Goodsir able to focus more on the weekend product.

Bob Cronin, group editor-in-chief for West Australian Newspapers (WAN) since 2008, retired on 28 October. He was responsible for the editorial content of the *West Australian*, the *Weekend West* and the WAN regional newspapers (Telum Media Alert, 19 October 2016).

Scott Thompson, executive editor of News Corp Australia's Queensland regional and community titles, has been appointed editor of the *Gold Coast Bulletin*. He replaces Cath Webber, who has moved to Sydney to take up a senior editorial role with News Corp (Telum Media Alert, 21 October 2016).

Michael Beach became editor of the *Sunday Times*, Perth, after Seven West Media completed its acquisition of the paper. The first issue under the new ownership arrangements appeared on 20 November. Beach was formerly the deputy editor of the *West Australian* and head of digital content for Seven West Media WA (Telum Media Alert, 2 October 2016).

90.1.7 Storm, blackout prevent printing of Adelaide's daily

As the result of a very severe storm in South Australia on Wednesday 28 September, the entire state lost power in the late afternoon. Among the consequences of the major outage was that the Adelaide daily, the *Advertiser*, was unable to print. As many copies as possible were printed by the *Herald Sun* in Melbourne and trucked to Adelaide. The *Advertiser* could not supply country customers because of the extra time required or home deliveries because of the inability to flat wrap the newspaper.

90.1.8 News Corp to cut local costs by \$40 million

News Corp will cut costs at its Australian business by \$40 million as the company confronts challenges in print advertising and continues its digital transformation (NewsMediaWorks, 9 November 2016). Cost-cutting will take place across all aspects of News Corp Australia before the end of June 2017. Non-critical positions that are vacant will be closed and new rules relating to travel and entertainment costs will be introduced. A redundancy program will be considered and resources are to be moved to areas that deliver the most value. The announcement follows a global drop of 2 per cent in revenues to \$1.97 billion published in News Corp's 2017 Q1 results.

News Corp's results for the three months ending September revealed an 18 per cent increase in revenue for the company's Digital Real Estate Services segment. Advertising revenues decreased 11 per cent in the News and Information segment as the share of revenue that is digital grew from 20 to 24 per cent compared with the previous year. The News segment's total revenues fell 5 per cent. News Corp CEO Robert Thomson said the company had made "real progress as it continued to drive higher digital revenues and position the company for long-term growth".

90.1.9 News Corp launches freemium model

News Corp Australia is launching a freemium subscription model for digital content across six of its metro and regional newspapers. The *NT News* would be the first title to introduce the freemium model followed by the *Townsville Bulletin*, *Geelong Advertiser*, *Gold Coast Bulletin*, *Cairns Post* and the *Hobart Mercury*, the company announced in November (*Hobart Mercury*, 15 November 2016). News Corp Australia managing director metro and regional publishing Damian Eales said: "Customer behaviour and news consumption are evolving and while print remains vitally important, people use multiple platforms to stay informed throughout the day. We are committed to providing regional communities with quality local and national journalism and we believe our outstanding content is worth paying for online as well as offline."

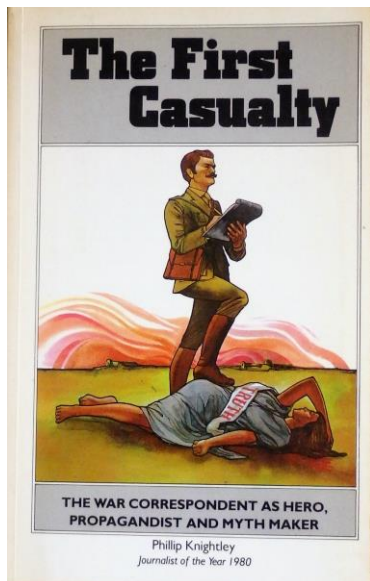
The introduction of the freemium model – a mixture of free and premium content – gives regional digital subscribers access to premium content and exclusive stories from News Corp Australia's regional and metro publications, all in one place. The new subscription packages give digital subscribers:

- Unrestricted digital access to their regional publication as well as premium content from the *Daily Telegraph*, *Courier-Mail*, *Herald Sun*, and Adelaide *Advertiser* on all devices.

- Digital print editions – an exact replica of the paper as it's printed each day, available on all devices online or in the App.
- +Rewards – an exclusive member-only rewards program with a range of benefits including monthly offers, giveaways, unique experiences and competitions.
- Fox Sports digital subscription – access to live streams, on-demand replays and extended highlights of selected matches and events, as well as weekly entertainment shows like AFL360 and NRL360.
- SuperCoach Gold – get ahead of the competition with detailed statistics, advanced data and projections on player scores.
- Weekend papers home-delivered at no extra cost.

90.1.10 Recent chronology

90.1.10.1 Deaths



Knightley, Phillip: D. 7 December 2016 in London, aged 87; born in Sydney; became a newspaperman because his grades were too poor to get him into university; started as a copy boy on Sydney's *Daily Telegraph* before joining the Melbourne *Herald*; then to Sydney's *Daily Mirror*; tried vending Machines, operated a restaurant and even began to sail around the world; worked for an Indian version of *Reader's Digest*; arrived in London in 1963 aged 34; joined the *Sunday Times* and became one of the leaders of its "Insight" investigative team; steered the paper's campaign to force the Distillers Company to compensate the children born with deformities as a result of their mothers having been prescribed its thalidomide drug; scored a number of other investigative coups; won Journalist of the Year at the British Press Awards in 1980; author of the highly regarded *The First Casualty: The War Correspondent as Hero, Propagandist and Mythmaker* (1975) (*Australian*, 9 December 2016, p.12).

Wilson, Rebecca: D. 7 October 2016 in Sydney, aged 54; highly regarded sports reporter and columnist, for Sydney's *Daily Telegraph*, and broadcaster; began career as a cadet journalist at Ten News, Brisbane; for next 30 years covered events such as the Olympic Games as well as the biggest stories on sport's biggest issues; notable reporting of Cronulla rugby league club's illicit peptide scandal; wife of John Hartigan, former News Corp CEO (*Herald Sun*, 8 October 2016, p.35; *Sunday Herald Sun*, 9 October 2016, p.36). Also see 90.1.16 below.

90.1.11 Fairfax cover prices rise

On Monday, 3 October, the prices of the main Fairfax Media newspapers were increased. The weekday cover price of the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Age* was increased from \$2.50 to \$2.80, on Saturdays from \$3.50 to \$3.80. The *Sun Herald* and *Sunday Age* were increased from \$3 to \$3.30. This means that the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Age* are not only significantly more expensive than the *Daily Telegraph* and *Herald Sun* (M-F \$1.50, Sat \$2.40) but are now also more expensive than the *Australian* (\$2.70) and the *Weekend Australian* (\$3.50). The *Sun Herald* and *Sunday Age* are also significantly more expensive than the *Sunday Telegraph* and *Sunday Herald Sun* (which sell for \$2.70).

90.1.12 Fairfax and NZME

Fairfax Media will receive \$NZ55 million (\$A53.4 million) for its New Zealand media interests, plus a 41 per cent share in the expanded NZME business. Details have been released with the signing of the merger implementation agreement which is subject to New Zealand's regulatory approval. The expanded business will have an audience reach of approximately 3.7 million across channels including print, digital and radio (*gpress*, September 2016, p.16).

But: Fairfax Media has received an offer from an anonymous suitor for its New Zealand business in an opportunistic attempt to seize the assets before they are potentially merged with NZME (*Australian*, 9 December 2016). A combination of Fairfax NZ and NZME, was slated to be sealed by the end of this year but the competition regulator has flagged significant concerns with the deal. Some sources point to Apollo Global Management as the mystery Fairfax NZ suitor, but the US hedge fund could not be reached for comment. Apollo was one of two key funds that drove Nine Entertainment's \$3 billion debt-for-equity restructure in 2012. Other sources suggest a consortium of New Zealanders could be behind the curious approach. "Following media speculation, Fairfax confirms it recently received a letter from a third party claiming it has a client that would be interested in considering the acquisition of the Fairfax New Zealand business," the company said in a statement to the ASX on 8 December.

90.1.13 *Dolly* closes print edition

Bauer Media has axed teen magazine *Dolly* due to intense and growing competition from social media, smartphones and gossip websites (*Australian*, 1 December 2016). The final issue of the bimonthly magazine was published on 5 December. The brand has been retained as a digital-only product. "I don't believe *Dolly's* closure is anybody's fault," former *Dolly* editor and Bauer executive Marina Go said. "It's a teenage magazine and teenage girls check their phones 130 times a day. How could a print magazine compete with that? There's nobody sadder than me. When I was 16 years old that was my dream (to edit *Dolly*)."



Other former *Dolly* editors include Nine Network presenter Lisa Wilkinson, former *Cosmopolitan* editor Bronwyn McCahon, and digital entrepreneur Lucy Cousins. Launched in 1970, the magazine was best known for its Dolly Doctor column, which answered questions about health and sex readers may have been too embarrassed to ask their family. But the magazine succumbed under the pressure of a burgeoning list of digital competitors, with its circulation plunging by 26 per cent to just 30,000 for January to June 2016, according to the latest Audit Bureau of Circulation figures. Over the same period in 2012, *Dolly's* circulation was 90,000. More than 90 per cent of *Dolly's* target audience, girls aged 14-17, access the brand via smartphones, while November is on track to be its biggest ever month for online traffic. Bauer shut revolutionary women's magazine *Cleo* in January.

90.1.14 Peter Blunden's 40 years

Herald Sun editorial chief Peter Blunden's 40-year career in journalism has been celebrated (*Herald Sun*, 1 December 2016). Family, friends and colleagues paid tribute to the veteran on reaching the milestone on 30 November. "Of all the titles he has held in his 40-year career, a news man and editor is what he truly is, through and through," News Corp Australia executive chairman Michael Miller said. "A man with an instinctive feel for what people want to read. A man with a great respect for his readers — and a healthy disrespect for fools and frauds."

Blunden joined News Ltd on November 30, 1976, working in reporting roles in Sydney, Adelaide and Canberra before becoming the founding editor of the *Australian's* colour magazine. Blunden was then appointed editor of the *Advertiser*, Adelaide. In 1996, he became editor of the *Herald Sun*, where he forged a reputation as a leader who transformed the coverage of sport and displayed an intuitive news sense over more than a decade.

90.1.15 Media reform: one small step

Long-awaited reform of Australian media law is a step closer after a reform package passed the House of Representatives on 30 November (NewsMediaWorks, 1 December 2016). Successful passage through the Senate remains in doubt with the Labor Party and Greens previously expressing opposition to scrapping the “two-out-of-three” rule, a key element of the reforms. This rule prevents any media owner from owning more than two mainstream media channels – newspapers, TV and radio – in one city. Federal Communications Minister, Mitch Fifield, described the reforms as “vital measures that will unshackle Australia’s media industry from redundant laws and allow it to respond to increasing international competition”.

90.1.16 Photographer Quilty wins Gold Walkley

Freelance photographer **Andrew Quilty** has won the Gold Walkley Award for his body of work, “The Man on the Operating Table”. As a freelance photojournalist based in Kabul, Quilty has relentlessly pursued complex and important stories in a country that — after some 14 years of war — may have receded from the world’s front pages, but is no less dangerous or critical to understand. Since moving to Afghanistan in 2013, Quilty has won six Walkley Awards, including this year’s Nikon-Walkley Photo of the Year and the News Photography category. After an errant US airstrike destroyed the Médecins Sans Frontières hospital and killed 42 people in Kunduz, Afghanistan, in Oct. 2015, Quilty was the first journalist to reach the scene. He found bodies still in the rubble; with fighting still going on in the vicinity, it had been too dangerous to remove them. He discovered one man lying on an operating table who was later identified as Baynazar Mohammad Nazar, a 43-year-old Afghan civilian. Quilty’s image of “The Man on the Operating Table” is shocking and powerful, while his series of the same name introduces Baynazar the man, who rode a bicycle to work and shared a small house with his family (see also Kylar Loussikian, “Road to a Gold Walkley passed through Kunduz”, *Australian*, Media section, 12 December 2016, p.25).

Bruce Petty was awarded the Walkley for Outstanding Contribution to Journalism, recognising a 55-year career of drawing political cartoons as well as a career in animation and film directing that has also won him an Oscar. The Nikon-Walkley Press Photographer of the Year Award went to News Corp Australia’s **Alex Coppel** for a body of work that showcased his technical skill and storytelling ability. **Rebecca Wilson** was posthumously awarded the Walkley Award for Journalistic Leadership for her constant drive to challenge conventions and to pave the way for younger female reporters. The award was accepted by her son Tom Sacre.

The 61st Walkley Awards for Excellence in Journalism were presented in 34 categories. More than 600 journalists and media identities gathered in the Plaza Ballroom of Brisbane’s Convention and Exhibition Centre for the gala event hosted by *Sky News*’s David Speers.

Full details of award winners can be obtained from the Walkley Foundation’s website: <http://www.walkleys.com/photojournalist-andrew-quilty-wins-gold-at-61st-walkley-awards-for-excellence-in-journalism/>

90.1.17 News Corp takes over Sky News

News channel Sky News has been added to News Corp Australia’s assets with the news publisher taking full ownership of Australian News Channel (NewsMediaWorks, 1 December 2016). Australian News Channel operates several channels including dedicated news, business and weather channels; Sky News New Zealand and an Australian channel catering for international audiences. It was previously owned equally by Seven West Media, Nine Entertainment Co. and British-based satellite TV company SKY plc.



Some News Corp’s writers were already regularly featured on Sky, including:

- **Andrew Bolt**, columnist for the *Herald Sun* and host of the *Bolt Report*
- **Chris Kenny**, associate editor of the *Australian* and anchor of *Viewpoint* and
- **Peter van Onselen**, contributing editor of the *Australian* and anchor of *PVO Newsday*
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Sky News Australia began its 24-hour news service in 1996. It currently broadcasts to 2.5 million homes and locations across Australia and New Zealand via cable networks including Foxtel, which is co-owned by News Corp and Telstra.

90.1.18 Fairfax editor is suspended and later resigns

Suspended: The editor-in-chief of the *Age*, Mark Forbes, was stood down after a sexual harassment allegation (*Weekend Australian*, 3-4 December 2016). Fairfax Media said: “Mark Forbes has been stood down pending the outcome of an investigation that is under way. Fairfax is committed to a safe workplace and has zero tolerance for any behaviour that does not meet the highest standards. Alex Lavelle, editor of the *Age*, will oversee the newsroom.” The action followed an alleged incident at an event linked to the recent the *Age* Music Victoria Awards.

Resigns: A few days later Forbes resigned (*Australian*, 6 December 2016), In an email to staff, Forbes admitted responsibility for events leading to his departure. He faced claims of having groped a female journalist on the bottom. Forbes said in his email to staff: “As EIC of the *Age*, I must uphold all the standards which we would expect in others. I acknowledge and accept that I have not done so. Whatever the circumstance, even a single lapse of judgment in upholding these standards should have serious consequences. I again apologise to the person concerned, and I apologise to all of you as, ultimately, I have let you down.” [Darren Davidson said this was one of the darkest days in the 157-year history of the *Age*. In fact, the *Age* is 162 years old, having started in October 1854. Editor, ANHG]



90.2.1 Facebook and the news

Mark Zuckerberg has outlined several steps Facebook is testing to fight misinformation, an acknowledgment that the social network could be doing more to avoid its proliferation (*Australian*, 22 November 2016). Facebook is looking to label certain stories as false, build tools to classify misinformation and work with fact-checking groups, Zuckerberg, Facebook’s chief executive and co-founder, said in a post. “We take misinformation seriously. We know people want accurate information.”

Zuckerberg’s comments go significantly beyond his previous statements in recognising the seriousness of the issue, and seek to quell steady criticism. In the previous week, Zuckerberg had defended Facebook against claims that fake news on the site distorted public discourse about the US presidential election. Two days after the election, he said that the notion that Facebook helped tip the election in favour of Donald Trump was “a pretty crazy idea”. In a long post Zuckerberg played down the prevalence of fake news on the site — accounting for less than 1 per cent of global content — and said that Facebook’s role wasn’t to be “arbiters of truth”.

He reiterated that misinformation was a small part of Facebook content, but that it took this problem seriously. He said the disclosure about the steps was unusual for Facebook because it didn’t share specifics about works in progress. The first and most important step was to rely on technology to better classify misinformation and “detect what people will flag as false before they do it themselves”, Zuckerberg said. Another step was to make it easier for users to report fake stories, he said. Facebook has long relied on users to flag objectionable content, including fake news. Facebook was turning to outside groups for help in fact-checking, he wrote. It is also exploring a product that would label stories as false if they had been flagged as such.

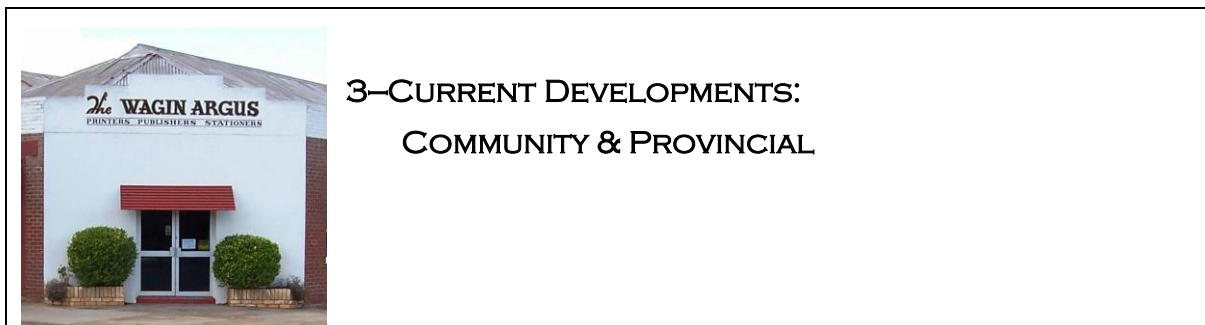
See also the Mark Day article listed in 90.5.2. One quote: “Bringing veracity to social media remains a work in progress.”

90.2.2 *HuffPost Australia’s* new editor

Chris Paine is the new editor of *HuffPost Australia*. Aimie Rigas has become the head of audience development. Both Chris and Aimie report to editor-in-chief Tory Maguire (Telum Media Alert, 25 November 2016).

90.2.3 Mason heads Quest digital

Jamie-Leigh Mason has been appointed head of digital at Quest Newspapers, News Corp Australia’s chain of Brisbane suburban papers. Mason has been with the company since starting as a cadet journalist with the *Pine Rivers Press* in 2011. She spent the past two years as news editor of that paper and the *North Lakes Times* (Telum Media Alert, 23 November 2016).



90.3.1 News Corp takeover of APN’s newspapers approved

News Corp’s buyout of APN’s regional Queensland newspapers won’t hurt market diversity as readers are turning to online news regardless, according to the competition watchdog (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 9 December 2016). The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission gave, on 8 December, the all-clear for Rupert Murdoch’s media giant to buy APN’s Australian Regional Media, which includes 12 daily newspapers, 60 smaller publications and more than 30 news websites. The dailies are based at Grafton and Lismore in NSW and Mackay, Rockhampton, Gladstone, Bundaberg, Maryborough-Hervey Bay, Gympie, Sunshine Coast, Toowoomba, Warwick and Ipswich in Queensland.

The ACCC had raised concerns the \$36.6 million acquisition could lessen competition in the supply of news, particularly in areas where News Corp’s state-wide masthead *The Courier Mail* and ARM’s paid regional newspapers overlap. But after consulting readers and some 600 advertisers, it found there would be little impact. “Feedback from readers raised very few concerns and suggested that there is not close competition between the paid daily Queensland papers published by News and ARM,” ACCC chairman Rod Sims said in a statement.

“ARM’s paid daily regional newspapers focus mostly on regional and local news and there is limited overlap with the *Courier Mail* which focuses on greater- Brisbane, state, and national news.” Falling newspaper readership played a part in the ACCC’s decision, as people indicated they are getting more news online. Advertisers and readers are increasingly turning to other sources of news and advertising opportunities, particularly digital, which is having a significant impact on the print industry,” Sims said. Most advertisers acknowledged print advertising was in decline and that they would look elsewhere if News Corp increased rates, he added.

News Corp Australasia executive chairman Michael Miller gave a commitment that regional newspapers would not lose their community focus. “We both share a heritage of investing ourselves in local communities, providing leadership and connection to the issues that matter,” he said. APN chief executive Ciaran Davis said the ACCC decision brought the company closer to its objective of exiting traditional publishing. “Once complete, the sale will allow APN to pursue its strategy of focusing on the growth media sectors of radio and outdoor with a clear path forward,” Mr Davis said.

90.3.2 Scottsdale: New editor

Neil Grose has left the editorship of the *North Eastern Advertiser*, Scottsdale, Tasmania. The new editor is Taylor Clyne.

90.3.3 Camden: Launch of a new regional newspaper

Ian Willis, of Camden, writes (19 November): This week a new masthead appeared in the Camden Local Government Area called the *Independent South-West* published by King Media Regional based in Bowral, NSW. It was launched at Camden's annual Light Up Festival. Editor Jane King and other staff handed out copies of the free monthly to families and friends who had come to see Santa, watch the fireworks and see the Christmas lights on the town's Christmas tree.

The 20-page tabloid is printed in colour on glossy paper and is sure to give the other three free Camden weeklies, the *Macarthur Chronicle*, the *Camden Narellan Advertiser* and the *District Reporter*, a run for their money. King says in Issue 1 that it "is an exciting new title...family owned and managed business". She says that the paper will serve the local community and employ local people.

The first issue certainly lives up to these promises by reporting the proceedings of the Moss Vale Local Court. Two matters dealt with involved Camden identities. Local court matters are now heard in Moss Vale since the closure of Camden and Picton court houses. The robust reporting of local court proceedings has largely disappeared from the other three Camden weeklies.

A feature page, "Ark" Up, is written by journalist Juliet Arkwright who in another life was a councillor on Wollondilly Shire Council. This edition profiles the Acting President of the Camden Chamber of Commerce Maryann Strickling. The chamber states 'we look forward to working with a truly independent newspaper'.

The first edition also has copy provided by the local federal member, a photo feature of a fashion launch at Campbelltown, and content shared from the newspaper's stablemate *LatteLife Wingecarribee*, which claims to be the "Heartbeat of the Southern Highlands".

King Media also publishes *City Circular* which, according to Miranda Ward at Mumbrella, replaced a void left by the closure of News Corps *mX* in 2015 and is distributed at railway stations. The first newspaper published by King Media group was the masthead *LatteLife Sydney* which started life in the Eastern Suburbs in 2010. King Media then expanded to publishing the Southern Highlands edition in 2014.

The *Independent's* print run of 10,000 will be distributed across localities from Cawdor to Leppington through local retailers, surgeries, real estate officers and other outlets. The print run is modest by comparison to its competitors in the Camden LGA and the publisher's promises seem ambitious. King Media will support the print edition by managing a Facebook page.

The conservative reporting of local matters by the *Independent's* three Camden competitors certainly leaves a niche in the market place if controversies surrounding Camden Council continue as they have done in recent months. King has promised to "hold the Council to task" and take it up to other local papers. If she sticks to her promises the *Independent South-West* will fit in well with Camden's fierce parochialism and localism.

90.3.4 Suburban Adelaide: Two papers born, another dies

Two newspapers have been launched and a third closed in an overhaul of South Australian local mastheads owned by News Corp Australia. Local managing director Ish Davies, said the company had made a "significant investment" in the Messenger chain of local newspapers that operate alongside the metro daily, the *Advertiser*.

The key changes:

- *CoastCity Weekly* replaces the *Guardian Messenger* to cover Adelaide's southwest suburbs.
- *Westside Weekly* will cover the city's inner-west to Henley Beach and stretch east to Bowden and north to Woodville Gardens, instead of *Weekly Times Messenger*.

- Monthly magazine *Adelaide Matters* becomes a 12-page lifestyle section inserted in the two new papers, plus gloss title the *Eastern Courier*.

Mitcham & Hills Messenger, which had a readership of 26,000, was closed on 5 October with the eastern segment of its distribution area now covered by the *Eastern Courier* and the western segment by the *CoastCity Weekly*.

90.3.5 Walcha and Armidale: Downsizing

How things are changing in country newspapers: In New South Wales, the *Walcha News* has a local person who answers a mobile phone and works from home. The remainder of the paper's function is handled by the *Armidale Express*.

The free weekly *Armidale Express Extra* has ceased to be delivered to street addresses in Armidale and surrounding towns. It has now been relegated to drop off/pickup points at these locations. The major reason is that their *Domain* supplement has practically disappeared, dropping to 2-3 pp. An independently published fortnightly glossy *New England Real Estate Press* publication usually has 28 pp. Meanwhile, at Tamworth the *Domain* supplement in Saturday's edition of the *Northern Daily Leader* often runs to 56pp.

90.3.6 Regional newspapers 'unsung heroes'

Peter Coleman writes (*gpress*, September 2016, p.14): Regional newspapers are the unsung heroes of Australia's newsmedia industry, and delegates at NewsMediaWorks' Future Forum [in September] were told exactly what they could do with them. It's as if predominantly profitable titles within the country's major groups were almost an embarrassment to publishers, some of which are more focussed on digital publishing or non-newsmedia activities. Fairfax Media chief executive Greg Hywood admitted at the event that regionals were "most profitable" and tended to be hit later by internet-based competition than metro titles, and claimed both had a "long, long life" in the print group. But despite his claim that big publishers "take their regional responsibilities very seriously", his opposite number at APN News & Media—a business built on regional newspapers but now more focussed on radio and outdoor—was missing from the debate. Under chief executive Ciaran Davies, APN is currently in the process of selling its Australian regional media to News Corp—for a bargain price which is about two times earnings—if the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission will let it. APN's New Zealand media business, NZME, has already been spun off and will be merged with Fairfax NZ if regulators allow it.

90.3.7 Suburban Melbourne: Leader uses satin finish

Progress Leader, 6 September 2016, p.4: *Leader* is proud this week to roll out one of the biggest ever investments in our local community newspapers. If you live in the cities and shires of Monash, Moonee Valley, Frankston, Moreland, Hume, Whittlesea, Maroondah, Maribyrnong, Darebin, Greater Dandenong, Kingston, Yarra Ranges or Knox, your *Leader* is now printed on premium satin-finish paper with a refreshed design and a new compact size. Ten of our newspapers have also added new lifestyle and leisure reading to back up the engaging local news.

We are making this investment because we believe passionately in the vital role and endurance of newspapers that cover the important issues and news at the local level. In a changing world, local communities are stronger if they are informed, connected and cohesive. *Leader* also pursues campaigns to achieve outcomes such as better schools, roads and local amenities. Our 26 local newspapers now look a little different, but what won't change is our commitment to serving and improving your community. [Thanks to Peter Gill for contributing this item.]

90.3.8 Geelong: We're for the Cats, but the Dogs ended up ruling

The *Geelong Advertiser* of Saturday, 10 September 2016, carried a "We're for the Cats" line as part of its masthead. It was finals time in the AFL [Australian Football League] and the Geelong team was a finalist. The Cats defeated Hawthorn 12.13.85 to 12.11.83 in the second qualifying final, but lost to the Sydney Swans 8.12.60 to 15.7.97 in the second preliminary final. The Western Bulldogs won the grand final, defeating the Swans 13.11.89 to 10.7.67. It was their first premiership since 1954 (when the club won as Footscray in what was then the VFL, or Victorian Football League).

90.3.9 Mudgee: New editor for *Guardian*

Honor Elliott has been appointed the editor of the *Mudgee Guardian*. She was most recently working with Mudgee Region Tourism after leaving FOX FM radio where she the breakfast newsreader for *Fifi and Dave*. The *Guardian's* previous editor was Robyn Murray, who has returned to her home state of Queensland (Telum Media Alert, 7 December 2016).



4—NEWSPAPER HISTORY

90.4.1 How much the *Daily Telegraph* paid stringers in 1964

Rod Kirkpatrick writes: When I started a series of career reminiscences for this newsletter in 2013 (see ANHG 73.4.2), I mentioned that in the mid-sixties I was a country stringer for the Sydney *Daily Telegraph* while working full-time for the *Maitland Mercury*. I was also writing for a magazine. I was fascinated recently to discover a letter I wrote, as a 21-year-old, to my father on 31 March 1965 that gives precise details of the payments made for this “outside” work. The *Daily Telegraph* paid me £1 (\$2) a week as a retainer plus fourpence (slightly more than 3c) a single-column line of copy for each of my reports that it published. The paper also paid me £2 (\$4) a week to telephone the results of the weekly Maitland trotting meetings and £1 (\$2) for similarly reporting the weekly Maitland greyhounds meetings. In winter, I was paid £3 (\$6) a week to cover a weekend Rugby League match on the coalfields—at Maitland, Kurri Kurri or Cessnock. The report appeared in the northern edition of the *Sunday Telegraph*. The student magazine, *Forum*, paid me £8 8s. (\$16.80) for a monthly sports column for several years from May 1965. *Hoofs & Horns* magazine published a profile that I wrote of a Gresford rodeo rider, Gerald Capararo.

I recall one month where my *Daily Telegraph* earnings exceeded one week’s wages as a C-grade journalist for the *Mercury*. It was a month where I contributed a series of reports from the trial of a husband and wife, surnamed Kennett, charged with maltreatment of their daughter, leading to her death. Local graffiti urged authorities to “Hang Kennett”. [My father, a mathematician who died nearly three years ago, kept all my letters and late in life returned them to me.]

90.4.2 Print cultures of the Coral Sea

Ryan Schram wrote to the Australian Media History list on 5 October 2016: “I am an anthropologist currently starting a new research project on print cultures of the Coral Sea, and right now that’s the development of indigenous news media in the Territory of Papua and New Guinea after World War II. I’ve been reading a ‘native newspaper’ (as they were known then) called *Papuan Times*, published in English by graduates of the Kwato Extension Association school from 1948-1955. Working with a translator, I’m also slowly building up a database of articles from a Motu-language newspaper of the same period called *Hari Dina* (Today), published by the Hanuabada Social Club.

“My interest is in examining these publications as artefacts of a particular cultural and linguistic contact zone, and the different kinds of mediated publics created through their discourse. Increasingly I find I need to place them in the context of the history of newspapers generally, and specifically what I’ve been calling ‘community newspapers’. Both *Papuan Times* and *Hari Dina* resemble something I know as a church or neighbourhood bulletin, but probably are better seen in

a more general category. The *Papuan Times* and *Hari Dina* were produced on mimeograph machines and had over their lives a circulation only in the low hundreds. They have sections devoted to ‘social news’ with short items on individuals’ activities during the week, announcements of community events, and (in the case of *Papuan Times*) boat movements. Besides news stories, they also frequently publish letters from readers containing personal news (e.g. what we did for Christmas in our village, as opposed to commentary on past articles). The first (1950s) editions of *Torres News*, a local paper published on Thursday Island, is comparable to *Papuan Times* in this regard. I was hoping to get suggestions about past research on *Papuan Times*, *Hari Dina*, or community publications in Australia or elsewhere of this type. Are there other publications like this elsewhere? How do we account for these sorts of very small, very local endeavours in the history of newspapers?

These two publications were not the only media aimed at indigenous readers in the Territory of PNG. In Rabaul, Lae, Buka and Kavieng, staff of local branches of the Territory Department of Education also produced Pidgin English (Tok Pisin) language newsletters. Generally these consisted of announcements or instructions from government officers (kiaps) to luluais (appointed village headmen). Over time, they also expanded to include reporting of events in and around the station, advice on agriculture, employment announcements (in the public service), “police news” (police blotter items of arrests and criminal court cases), letters from readers, again with mainly personal news from their local area or a general comment but not commentary on past articles, “social news,” and boat movements. Here too I would like to put these publications in a historical context. They seem to be an extension of kiaps’ instructions to colonial subjects, but were intended to help people become more literate, and editors also wrote of them as “newspapers” that served the public interest. Can anyone suggest comparative cases in Australia or elsewhere, or suggest work that’s been done on official or semi-official news publications?

“I also have some specific questions that I’m hoping historians of Australian media will be able to help me with:

“In the case of the *Papuan Times*, many of the stories about the Territory were summaries of news heard on 9PA, a government station in Port Moresby that broadcast programming from the ABC and some local programming, including the “Native People’s Session,” which appears to be mostly interviews with government officials on “native affairs” (or just a radio version of the Pidgin newsletters--law and order, latrines, cash crops, hospitals, etc.). Does anyone know if programming produced for 9PA is archived, and if so how a researcher would gain access to it?

“Also, the manager of 9PA, Mr. R. Wood, placed an announcement in *Papuan Times* (1951). It took the form of a square box mid-page, like a display advertisement (which the paper also published and occasionally emulated for effect). It consisted of a drawing of a photograph of an apparently Papuan woman in a Western house dress and apron leaning out of a window. The text in all-caps runs along the right margin and bottom of the drawing and reads:

Have you a camera? Join the photographic club. Send your good prints to
Mr. Wood, c/o Mr. Wood 9 PA. Port Moresby.

It’s a bit of a shot in the dark, but assuming Mr. Wood got some submissions, is it possible that these photographs were collected anywhere?

90.4.3 Small-town publisher and Pulitzer winner dies

Stanford Lipsey, a publisher who persuaded Warren E. Buffett to invest in newspapers and whose chain of Nebraska weeklies won a Pulitzer Prize for exposing fund-raising excesses by Boys Town, the charity for orphaned children, died on 2 November at his home in Rancho Mirage, California. He was 89. Under Lipsey, the *Sun Newspapers*, in the Omaha area, won the Pulitzer Prize for local investigative specialised reporting (a category since discontinued) in 1973 for disclosing that Boys Town was still soliciting contributions even though it had accrued hundreds of millions of dollars in assets and its caseload of abandoned and handicapped youngsters had shrunk. The *Sun* estimated that the net worth of Boys Town, which was founded in 1921 by the Rev. Edward J. Flanagan, was growing by as much as \$18 million a year — four times as much as it needed to maintain its programs. “Boys Town, America’s richest city: 700 boys with \$209 million,” the

headline proclaimed in the Sun papers, owned by Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway conglomerate. The Pulitzer, rare for a weekly news organisation, prompted fund-raising reforms: Boys Town hired consultants and abandoned its alarmist appeals for contributions (*New York Times*, 2 November 2016).

90.4.4 Mercury publishes more pictures from Tasmania's past

The *Sunday Tasmanian* and the Hobart *Mercury* have published a second series of 10 magazine inserts entitled "Pictures of our Past". This series covers 1935-1939 and appeared from 11 to 20 September. The first series, published last year, covered 1920-1935 because of the "scarcity of images from the early days of newspaper photography" in Hobart. Photographs from the second series are grouped under the following headings: School Days, Sport & Recreation, Preparing for War, Country Shows & Regattas, In the Army, Tasmanians at Work, People, Streetscapes, On the Road, and On the Water. Series editor Damian Bester invited readers to add names and details to the unidentified images in the publications. On 2 October, the *Sunday Tasmanian* reported that the "hearts of many Tasmanians had been touched" by the series ("Moments in time stir readers"). Many readers had contacted the newspapers to tell of their personal connections with the images.

90.4.5 Dunkirk, Narrandera and the New York Times

Narandera Argus & Riverina Advertiser, 20 September 1940, p.2: Many fine tributes have been paid to the British evacuation of Dunkirk, but few have been more inspiring than the following, taken from the *New York Times*: "So long as the English tongue survives, the word Dunkirk will be spoken with reverence. For in that harbour, in such a hell as never blazed on earth before, at the end of a lost battle, the rage and blemishes that have hidden the soul of democracy fell away. Time, beaten but unconquered, in shining splendour, she faced the enemy. They sent away the injured first. Men died so that others could escape. It was not so simple a thing as courage, which the Nazis had in plenty. It was not so simple as discipline, which can be hammered into men by a drill sergeant. It was not the result of careful planning, for there could have been little. It was the common man of the free countries, rising in all his glory out of mill, office, factory, mine, farm and ship, applying to war the lessons learned when he went down the shaft to bring out trapped comrades, when he hurled the lifeboat through the surf, when he endured poverty and hard work for his children's sake. This shining thing is the souls of free men. Hitler cannot command, or attain, or conquer. He has crushed it, where he could, from German hearts. It is the great tradition of democracy. It is the future. It is victory!" [The Narrandera newspaper still retained the old spelling of the town, Narandera, in its title in 1940.]

90.4.6 Editor resigns (1): Ipswich

Daily Mercury, Mackay, 14 February 1945, p.6: Mr E. J. Hatton, who has been editor of the *Queensland Times* for the past 15 years, has tendered his resignation of that position. For nearly 35 years Mr. Hatton has been associated with Queensland journalism. After being on the reporting staff of the *Wide Bay and Burnett News*, then published in Maryborough, he became district representative of the *Brisbane Courier*, and subsequently was appointed editor of the *Maryborough Chronicle*. Later he owned and controlled newspapers in Toogoolawah and Esk, and in 1930 was appointed editor of the *Queensland Times*.

90.4.7: Editor resigns (2): Darwin

Northern Standard, Darwin, 5 December 1952, p.1: The editor of the *Northern Standard*, Mr. R. Gooding, has resigned. Mr. Gooding, who is a member of the Australian Journalists Association, tendered a letter of resignation giving reasons for his decision to the Secretary and Executive of the NAWU, the owners of the paper, this week. The Executive has accepted his resignation. The resignation will take effect early in January. Mr. Gooding took over the editorship of the Standard in January of last year.

90.4.8 Editor resigns (3): Broken Hill

Renmark Pioneer, 12 April 1907, p.4: The way of the editor of a labor paper is apt to be a hard and thorny one. Some time ago the editor of *Barrier Truth*, the Broken Hill Labor "organ" had to resign because he believed in Neo-Malthusianism, and said so. Now his successor, Tom Lauder has

resigned on the implied ground that he is too 'straight and sober for the clique at present dominating the labor party in the Hill. *Barrier Truth* started, the writer believes, with Geo. Black as first editor. and has been, an eminently interesting and readable sheet. Lauder did some excellent work during his term; but seems to have found disfavor latterly by reason of the fact that he was bold enough, and true enough to labor principles, to declare that liquor and labor had no-interests in common, and that labor leaders ought to be eminently sober men—which strikes an outsider as very sound gospel.

Also Lauder said that the men who make the most noise shouting for "Socialism in our time," &c., are not very often the men who do the real solid work for the labor cause, and that, anyway, the Australian Labor movement had not yet declared in recognition of "class consciousness", which is the basis of Marxian Socialism. Lauder has an honorable record as unionist and journalist in Victoria, California and South Africa, and has undoubted literary ability. As he leaves the editorial chair he is firing a few Parthian shots such as the following which are worthy the attention of men in the labor movement, who value the good name of their cause, anywhere : "As long as the labour movement permits itself to be compromised by men who believe in booze and bets, and who ridicule the religious sentiments of the community, it will inevitably court disaster. And, under those conditions, it will merit it."

90.4.9 Editor resigns (4): Melbourne

Canberra Times, 22 March 1989, p.7: MELBOURNE: Eric Beecher resigned yesterday as editor-in-chief of the Herald and Weekly Times and as editor of the Melbourne Herald, Melbourne's afternoon newspaper. *Herald* staff said Mr Beecher had told them of his decision at a meeting yesterday morning. He would be replaced as *Herald* editor by Bruce Baskett, 45, who has been the day editor of the sister morning newspaper, the *Sun*. Mr Beecher, 37, was appointed editor of the *Herald* and editor-in-chief of The Herald and Weekly Times [Ltd] on February 25, 1987. He has been at the broadsheet newspaper's helm during a series of design and content changes to what has been described as a quality image. *Herald* staff said Mr Beecher had said he was unable to continue working with management at the Flinders Street headquarters of the *Herald*. But he had been happy working with News Corp chief Rupert Murdoch, they said. In a formal statement issued early yesterday afternoon parent company News Corp Ltd confirmed Mr Beecher's resignation and Mr Baskett's appointment.

90.4.10 Hobart's News (1): Beginning

World, Hobart, 29 May 1924, p.4: The *News*, Hobart's new evening paper, will make its first appearance tomorrow afternoon. The new journal has no connection with the *World*; it promises in fact to be a keen competitor in the news market. The new paper will be sold at [a penny half-penny] and promises to be on up-to-date news machinery. [E. Selby Walker printed and published it for the proprietors, News Ltd.]

90.4.11 Hobart's News (2): End

Daily Mercury, Mackay, 31 December 1925, p.7: The Hobart *News* announced the cessation of publication altogether in its issue of December 26. It was stated that the working loss for 13 months to June 30 of the present year was £15,000, and since then the loss had continued. Under the circumstances the directors felt it their duty to close the paper down in the interests of "the shareholders and give the company's mainland papers less of a burden to carry. It was mentioned that the, publication of the *News* meant an annual disbursement of £3S,000 in the State, and the employment of a staff of 70 [and also] that 63 per cent, of the expenditure was in wages.

90.4.12 New daily planned, 1902

Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Parramatta, 22 March 1902, p.4: At a big meeting at the Australia Hotel on Tuesday, at which there were several wealthy men, including at least two millionaires, it was decided to establish another daily morning paper in Sydney. Mr. Barton, Prime Minister, was in the chair. — *Catholic Press*

90.4.13 New daily planned, 1946

Jerilderie Herald and Urana Advertiser, 7 February 1946, p.4: *Smith's Weekly* has determined on a new daily paper which it says will be issued just as soon as the Federal authorities give the "All Clear". Everything is ready—the men, the plant and the office. The only thing missing is a quota for the essential news print.

90.4.14 *Tung Wah News/Times* index

Tim Sherratt writes (to the Australian Media History List, 8 December 2016): You may have already discovered the English-language index to the *Tung Wah News / Times* published in Sydney between 1898 and 1936. Most of these papers have now been digitised and added to Trove, so over the weekend I added links between the index and the digitised papers. You can now jump from the index entry direct to the relevant digitised page.

See: <http://resources.chineseaustralia.org/tungwah/>



5-RECENTLY PUBLISHED

90.5.1 Books

Baker, Mark, *Phillip Schuler: The Remarkable Life of One of Australia's Greatest War Correspondents*, Allen & Unwin, 352pp., \$32.99 (see review, *Age*, 8 October 2016, "Spectrum", p.19). Schuler's father Frederick Schuler, was the editor of the *Age* for 26 years from 1 January 1900. Phillip Schuler died as a soldier, aged 27, on Flanders Fields on 23 June 1917.

Carney, Shaun, *Press Escape*, Melbourne University Press, 2016, pp. \$29.99. Memoir of a Melbourne journalist (see reviews: *Age*, "Spectrum", 5 November 2016; and *Herald Sun*, 29 October 2016).

Fernandes, Cyprian, *Yesterday in Paradise*, Balboa Press 2016. Deals with his childhood in Kenya and his newspaper career there until the mid-1970s. It is an absorbing story in a time of political and community turbulence, murder and prejudice.

McMahon, Barrie, *Copyboy*, Vivid Publishing, 2016. RRP \$29.95. 382pp. A novel. Author lives in Perth, WA.

90.5.2 Articles

Akiki, Leanne, "Journo's role never really dying, just adapting to change", *Australian*, 28 November 2016, p.23. The author is a graduate of the journalism course at the University of Technology Sydney. The article was linked with the Fray article below.

Attard, Monica, "Open-minded youth offer hope to journalism", *Australian*, 5 December 2016, p.25. This article is a follow-up to the Akiki article (above) and Fray article (below). Attard is a former ABC journalist and foreign correspondent and now heads journalism at Macleay College.

Clarke, Patricia, "Melbourne Journalist Reports on the 'Storm Centre of Asia'. 1931-32 Janet Mitchell: Journalist, Internationalist, Educationalist", *Victorian Historical Journal*, Vol. 87, No 2, December 2016, Royal Historical Society of Victoria, pp.217-236.

Day, Mark, "Lies, damned lies and the social media", *Australian*, 12 December 2016, p.24. Discussion of the impact of social media during 2016, the year during which the author suggests social media "became the loudest and most influential force in our lives".

Fray, Peter, “Bad press no bar to next gen’s ambitions”, *Australian*, Media section, 28 November 2016, pp.23, 26. Discussing how journalism students see the changing face of journalism. The author is professor of journalism practice at the University of Technology Sydney and a former deputy editor of the *Australian* and former editor-in-chief of the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

Gemmell, Nikki, “It’s called a paper, kids”, *Weekend Australian Magazine*, 3-4 December 2016, p.14. Author and columnist discusses hard-copy newspapers and where journalism is heading. Reflects on her days working in Fleet Street.

Greste, Peter, “Chipping away at freedom of speech harms democracy”, *Australian*, 17 November 2016, p.12. The forum to tackle disagreeable views should be public debate, not the courts, argues the author.

Jones, Alan, “Doyenne Bec told it fairly, fearlessly”, *Australian*, 10 October 2016, pp.39-40.

Magnay, Jacquelin, “Fearless bulwark against NRL bile”, *Australian*, 10 October 2016, p.23. Reflections on the death of Rebecca Wilson.

Mitchell, Chris, “Poor reporting slips through the net”, *Australian*, Media section, 31 October 2016, p.24. Discussion of “poor reporting” of three recent issues, including the resignation of the federal Solicitor-General.

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