

# AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPER HISTORY GROUP NEWSLETTER

ISSN 1443-4962

No. 11

March 2001

Compiled for the ANHG by Rod Kirkpatrick, 13 Sumac Street, Middle Park, Qld, 4074,  
07-3279 2279, r.kirkpatrick@mailbox.uq.edu.au

## 11.1 COPY DEADLINE, SUBSCRIPTION NOTICE AND WEBSITE ADDRESS

Deadline for copy for the next *Newsletter* is 30 April 2001.

The Newsletter is online through the "publications" link from the University of Queensland's  
Journalism Website at [www.uq.edu.au/jrn/](http://www.uq.edu.au/jrn/)

## CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS

### 11.2 NEW PAPERS HIT MELBOURNE TRACKS

News Ltd announced its first, but John Fairfax published its first: a commuter newspaper for Melbourne. Fairfax launched their *Melbourne Express* on the morning of 5 February, and News Ltd their *MX* on the afternoon of the same day. Both companies distributed about 60,000 copies of the 32-page tabloid papers. News Ltd's *MX*, a full-colour production, is aimed at the 18 to 39 year old audience; Fairfax's *Express* is aimed at a slightly older audience. News has secured exclusive distribution rights at rail platforms and will eventually provide the papers to commuters in bins; Fairfax said it would continue to employ people to hand out the *Express* outside train stations and elsewhere. According to *MX*'s rate card, a full page ad costs \$4,500; in the *Express* it costs \$4,256.

On 26 January the *Age* had reported the impending News Ltd commuter paper. John Fairfax Holdings had planned a similar paper called *Express* in Melbourne and Sydney in May 2000, but abandoned the idea once News threatened to launch a rival publication. On 25 January Julian Clarke, managing director of the Herald and Weekly Times, confirmed the company's plan to launch a commuter newspaper. In the *Sydney Morning Herald*, Elizabeth Knight commented that the last thing John Fairfax and News Ltd needed was a newspaper war. She argued against Fairfax entering the fray if News Ltd did start a commuter paper.

Fairfax CEO Fred Hilmer said the decision to launch the morning giveaway was to avoid a head-to-head battle, not to hurt the *Herald Sun*. "There are two goals here: one is to build a new market and the second is to do it in a way that complements the position we have with *The Age*," he said. "There's no goal of damaging the *Herald Sun*. That's fruitless. We are in a position of building markets." Text Media boss Eric Beecher said the issue was not about what any paid-for newspaper might lose in the short term. The war on the freebie front could signal a much more fundamental shift for regular newspapers. "The issue is not individual titles," Beecher said. "To me, the issue is, are they creating a new currency, and if that currency catches on, will that new currency in a generic sense start to replace the old currency?"

(References to note: *Age*, 26 January, 2, 5, 7 and 10 February; "Extra, extra, read all about it!" *SMH*, 27 January 01, p.29; "Blood on the tracks" by Mark Day, *Australian*, Media liftout, 1 February 01, pp.6-7; *Herald Sun*, 5 February, p.2; "Extra, extra, read all about the paper war", *Australian*, 6 February 2001, p.5; *Australian Financial Review*, 6 February, p.43; and "Commuters in the firing line in tabloid war", *Age* 'News Extra', 10 February, p.3.)

### 11.3 CHRONOLOGY OF RECENT EVENTS

<b>2 October 2000</b>	Death: <b>Wilfred Henry McClung</b> in Newcastle, aged 92; began as reader on <i>Newcastle Sun</i> in 1924; represented Newcastle and Sydney <i>Suns</i> in Maitland and later Cessnock; Newcastle representative of <i>Daily Telegraph</i> 1944-74 ( <i>Newcastle Herald</i> , 12 October 00).
<b>6 December 2000</b>	Death: <b>James Robert North</b> , in Sydney, aged 68; began 53-year media career in 1947 as copy boy on Sydney <i>Sun</i> ; also worked for <i>Daily Mirror</i> and <i>Daily Telegraph</i> before joining ABC for 11 years as industrial and political roundsman; president, NSW branch of Australian Journalists' Association, 1966-73 and full-time secretary, 1972-79 ( <i>Australian</i> , 20 Dec 00, p.12; <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> , 22 December 00, p.26).
<b>8 December 2000</b>	Death: <b>Kevin Sattler</b> , in Adelaide, aged 72; superb racing writer and TV commentator in South Australia; started career on Sydney <i>Sun</i> ( <i>Alliance</i> , February/March 2001, pp.8-9).
<b>13 December 2000</b>	Death: <b>John Michael Robson</b> , at Karori, NZ, aged 61; rose from cadet journalist to managing director of Independent Newspapers Ltd., New Zealand's biggest media group ( <i>Australian</i> , 8 January 01, p.10).
<b>28 December 2000</b>	Death: <b>Peter Cullen</b> , in Wollongong, aged 61; editor, <i>Illawarra Mercury</i> , Wollongong, NSW, 1985-98; achieved national prominence with crusade against paedophilia in Illawarra district; his tabloid journalism much targeted by ABC-TV's <i>Media Watch</i> ( <i>Australian</i> , 29 December 00, p.4, 9 January 01, p.19, obit.; <i>SMH</i> , <i>Canberra Times</i> , <i>Daily Telegraph</i> , <i>Illawarra Mercury</i> , 29 December 00) [see 11.46.10].
<b>28 December 2000</b>	Death: <b>Edward Charles (Ted) Bennett</b> , at Wyong, aged 76; distinguished career as trade union leader of printing workers and then as Australian Industrial Relations Commissioner; began war-interrupted apprenticeship in 1940 as hand compositor with Associated Newspapers; joined John Fairfax and in 1956 became foundation father of the <i>Herald-Sun</i> chapel ( <i>Australian</i> , 16 January 01, p.13).
<b>31 December 2000</b>	Death: <b>John Irvine Moorhead</b> , died in Grafton, aged 78; joined <i>Daily Examiner</i> , Grafton, as cadet, 1941; became editor, 1960-77, and then chairman of directors; mayor of Grafton at age 30 ( <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> , 18 January 01, p.31).
<b>1 January 2001</b>	Obituary: <b>Lindsay Carroll</b> , in Melbourne, aged 83; journalist, poet, pilot; worked mainly for Commonwealth News and Information Bureau; helped organise media centre for Melbourne Olympics, 1956; public affairs officer for Australian High Commissions in Pakistan and Singapore ( <i>SMH</i> , p.12).
<b>13 January 2001</b>	Death: <b>James William Murcott</b> , aged 57; journalist who contributed significantly to concept and practice of defensive driving; joined Australian United Press as cadet in Melbourne at age 16 ( <i>Age</i> , 16 January 01, "Today", p.9).
<b>30 January 2001</b>	Obituary: <b>Noel Charles Capel Bennett</b> , died in Sydney aged 72; architect nearly 30 years ago of weekly computer pages in <i>Australian</i> , now big contributor to the paper's revenues ( <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> , 30 January 01, p.31)
<b>30 January 2001</b>	Death: <b>Harold Alexander Richardson</b> , in Canberra, aged 84; distinguished reporter, war correspondent and editor; began career on <i>Daily Advertiser</i> , Wagga Wagga; worked for Sydney's <i>Sun</i> , Melbourne's <i>Herald</i> and <i>Argus</i> , and edited the <i>Maitland Mercury</i> ( <i>Age</i> , 27 February 01, "Today", p.7).
<b>5 February 2001</b>	Fairfax and News Ltd launch commuter papers in Melbourne (see 11.2).
<b>10 February 2001</b>	<i>Weekend Australian</i> introduces design changes (see 11.11).

#### **11.4 FAIRFAX (1): ITS EDITORS IN CHIEF**

The John Fairfax publishing group wanted to swap its editors-in-chief/publishers: Steve Harris to Sydney and Greg Hywood to Melbourne. Harris refused to move and resigned. Hywood shifted to Melbourne. Alan Revell replaced Hywood in Sydney. Fairfax chief executive Fred Hilmer said it had been decided in April 2000 to swap Harris and Hywood. Why? “The *Age*, with its printing capacity to be expanded next year by the new \$220 million plant at Tullamarine is about to enter a new era. Greg [Hywood] can bring all the experience from the *Herald’s* recent [production and printing] expansion and design to the *Age’s* readers and advertisers.” Errol Simper reported that some insiders had speculated that Fairfax had wanted Harris to oversee a merger of the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Sun-Herald* into much the same format as the *Age* and the *Sunday Age*, which form effectively a seven-day newspaper. (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 9 January 01, p.2; *Australian*, 9 January 01, p.2, and Media liftout, 11 January 01, p.4.)

#### **11.5 FAIRFAX (2): THE GAMES**

Who were the worst losers at the Sydney Olympics? Possibly John Fairfax Holdings Ltd, with a \$25 million loss. News Ltd lost \$5 million. Their losses were part of a disappointing overall result for Australia newspapers, not only financially but also in circulation terms (‘Olympic-sized losses on Games coverage’, *PANPA Bulletin*, December 2000, p.5; see also “‘Here is the news – and it’s not all that flash’, *Australian*, 2 January 01, p.17).

Fairfax posted a net profit of \$77.4 million for the 31 December half-year, 36 per cent down on the \$121 million result the previous year. It blamed the Olympics, the slowing economy and industrial action at its Melbourne plant. (*Courier-Mail*, 17 February 01, p.65; *Weekend Australian*, 17-18 February 01, p.31)

#### **11.6 SMH (1): EDITORIAL INDEPENDENCE**

Spiros Zavos, recently retired leader write for the *Sydney Morning Herald*: “I remember in the days of James Fairfax going for lunch with him one day, and he said we were giving the monorail proposal too hard a time, and he thought the monorail might be a good idea. I went back down after lunch, and just to assert editorial independence I wrote a tough anti-monorail editorial. You could do that at the *Herald*. That was the culture of the place.” (*Australian*, Media liftout, 28 December 00, p.3; see also 11.46.4).

#### **11.7 SMH (2): LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

*Sydney Morning Herald* letters editor Jeni Harvie summarised the issues that captured the imagination of writers of letters to the editor in 2000 (30 December 00, p.27). They ranged from doom for the GST to the death of Johnno (which turned the spotlight on the Northern Territory’s mandatory sentencing laws), from the Olympics to genetically modified food, from Peter Reith’s Telecard to the redesign of the *Herald* (which attracted much negative comment); there was even space for a discussion on why people write letters to the editor [see 6.17 in Newsletter No. 6].

#### **11.8 SMH (3): GRANNY DISAPPEARS**

Granny has disappeared. She was last seen on 6 January 2001. Foul play has not been ruled out. Yes, the sketch of Granny that regained pride of place at the head of Column 8 when this well-read feature of the *Sydney Morning Herald* shifted from Page 1 to the back of the front section on 31 July 2000 has gone. She slipped away during the night and no trace has been found. The editor of Column 8 noted on 29 July 2000: “The Granny you will see at the top of

the column may have a masculine look. It is, in fact, a caricature of Sid Deamer, originator of the column and its author for 14 years.”

### **11.9 SMH (4): \$2 A WEEK**

“For just \$2 a week, students can have their own copy of the *Sydney Morning Herald* delivered directly to school each day, Monday through Friday.” – *SMH* advertisement, 20 January 01, p.44.

### **11.10 SMH (5): ITALIAN NEWSPAPER WAR IN AUSTRALIA**

**Victor Isaacs** writes: A circulation battle between two of Italy's leading newspapers is being waged partially in Australia. Since last year, Sydney's *La Fiamma* and Melbourne's *Il Globo* have carried daily copies of Rome's *La Repubblica*. To achieve this both *La Fiamma* and *Il Globo* moved to daily publication, and so should be added to the list of non-English language daily newspapers in Australia recorded in item 8.23 of Newsletter no.8. *Il Globo* also changed to tabloid form at to accommodate *La Repubblica*. Now the *Sydney Morning Herald* is carrying *La Repubblica*'s competitor, the prestigious *Corriere Della Sera* of Milan. This, too, is now transmitted to Australia for local distribution. It is inserted into some copies of the *SMH* on sale in selected areas of Sydney; they sell for \$1.50, 40c more than normal. To attempt to sew up this market, these copies of the *SMH* also include copies of *La Gazzetta dello Sport*, claimed to be Italy's most widely read sports paper. The *Corriere Della Sera* and *La Gazzetta dello Sport* are also expected to be included in selected copies of the *Age*, *Melbourne*, by the end of the year. This Italian newspaper war is also being played out in Buenos Aires, Toronto and New York. (Source: “Fairfax learns Italian”, *Australian*, Media liftout, 8 February 01, p.11; see 11.46.19.)

### **11.11 DESIGN CHANGES FOR WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN**

In the issue of 10-11 February the *Weekend Australian* introduced “some significant changes”. Editor-in-chief David Armstrong and editor Campbell Reid said: “The changes today include a new column by pre-eminent commentator Paul Kelly, illustrated by the nation's most biting cartoonist, Bill Leak. They appear in ‘Inquirer’, a section devoted to commentary and investigative journalism. ‘Weekend Money’ is our new business and personal investment section and ‘Review’ introduces new columns, regular features and a new look.” Reader comment was invited on the changes. Email to [special@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:special@theaustralian.com.au)

### **11.12 ADVERTISING OUTLOOK**

A survey of national advertisers suggests that advertising expenditure will increase by 8.7 per cent in 2001. The AIS Media Futures report, based on a survey of 80 national advertisers and 29 media executives, has found that despite a projected slowdown in the economy, advertisers are set to inject an extra \$361.1 million into the market. The survey has been conducted annually since 1985 and last year was accurate (*Australian*, 8 December 00, p.21).

### **11.13 RETIREMENT (1): DAVID LONSDALE (Qld)**

David Lonsdale, group editorial manager of Australian Provincial Newspapers, retired in October after 40 years in regional newspapers. He is a former editor of the *Illawarra Mercury*, the *Sunshine Coast Daily* and the *Manning River Times*, Taree. He has also been general manager of the *Daily Mercury*, Mackay, and of the *Daily News*, Tweed Heads, as well as being the regional manager for APN newspapers in northern Queensland and northern New South Wales (‘Lonsdale closes 40-year career’, *PANPA Bulletin*, December 00, pp.78-79).

#### **11.14 RETIREMENT (2): DENIS THOMPSON (WA)**

Denis Thompson, managing director of West Australian Newspaper Holdings, retired in February after 10 years at the helm of the group that runs the highly profitable *West Australian* (*PANPA Bulletin*, December 00, p.79).

#### **11.15 ASK A JOURNALIST**

**Belinda Weaver** reports: (1) The UK *Daily Telegraph* has introduced a section called "Ask a Journalist". See it at: [www.telegraph.co.uk/](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/)

(2) OFFSTATS aims to be the most comprehensive source of links to official statistics from different countries. It's at [www.auckland.a.c.nz/lbr/stats/offstats/OFFSTATSmain.htm](http://www.auckland.a.c.nz/lbr/stats/offstats/OFFSTATSmain.htm)

#### **11.16 FEDERATION (1): KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY**

Watching the Federation parade on Monday, 1 January 2001, Roy Pugh, of Terrigal, New South Wales, was able to check what he was seeing against what happened 100 years before. He had spread out on the table the *Sydney Morning Herald* of 2 January 1901 and of 1 January 2001. The 1901 paper had been kept in his family – and the 2 January 2001 issue of the *Herald* has joined it in the archives for some descendant to use in another 100 years. (Source: Column 8, *SMH*, 5 January 01, p.16.)

#### **11.17 FEDERATION (2): THE PAPERS**

The *Canberra Times* published a 60-page magazine, 'Australia – 100 years a nation', on 1 January and the *Daily Telegraph* reproduced its 1 January 1901 edition. On 30-31 December, the *Weekend Australian* produced an eight-page broadsheet supplement, "100 not out" and the *Sydney Morning Herald* a 20-page tabloid supplement, "Australia's century", which featured a full page of cartoons from Moir that began and ended with a white Prime Minister sitting on the back of an indigenous man who mouths: "One day they'll apologise." On 29 December, the *Illawarra Mercury* published a 32-page magazine, "Celebrating Our Nation: All People One Destiny". The *Courier*, Ballarat, published an editorial, "Ballarat at the forefront of Federation" (1 January 01, p.8), noting that 97 per cent of Ballarat voters had supported Federation at the 1898 referendum, and even more supported it a year later. Melbourne's *Herald Sun* published an eight-page centenary-of-federation wraparound. On 1 January, the *Australian* reproduced on Page 1 the key document that turned the colonies into the Australian nation – Queen Victoria's formal letter establishing the office of governor-general. This was part of a four-page wraparound which included an article by novelist David Malouf and a series of historical black-and-white photographs.

The *Sydney Morning Herald*, on 1 January, produced a four-page wraparound with a centre spread of photographs dominated by one of Centennial Park, Sydney, on 1 January 1901. Brisbane's *Courier-Mail* had an eight-page wraparound, "Birth of our nation", that included two major articles – one of which dealt with the Prime Ministers since 1901. Many provincial and suburban papers focused on Federation in one way or another. For example, Melbourne's *Lilydale and Yarra Valley Express* carried a front-page colour photograph of a baby lying on the national flag, headed "Centenary of Federation, 1901-2001". The *South Coast Register*, a tri-weekly serving the Nowra and Shoalhaven district on the New South Wales south coast, ran a front-page story, "New era dawns". On the back page of the *Yass Tribune*, NSW, Betty Howard discussed the National Gallery's "Federation" exhibition. Howard is a member of the Mudge family that owned the *Tribune* for 46 years. The *Manning River Times*, Taree, NSW, ran a front-page story about a female descendant of Australia's first Prime Minister: she gave birth on 1 January 2001 at the Manning Base Hospital.

### **11.18 FEDERATION (3): 100 MOST INFLUENTIAL AUSTRALIANS**

From 22-26 January the *Sydney Morning Herald* published a five-part series of potted biographies of “The 100 most influential Australians” of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Tony Stephens compiled the series, drawing on the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, the *Monash Biographical Dictionary of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Australia*, Ann Atkinson’s *Dictionary of Famous Australians*, the opinions of *Herald* colleagues and the work of Barry Jones. Stephens acknowledged the list was subjective and could not be definitive. Faith Bandler (b. 1918), daughter of a slave, and Edmund Barton, the nation’s first Prime Minister, headed the alphabetical list and Jim Wolfensohn (b. 1933), World Bank president, and poet Judith Wright (1915-2000) were the final two on it.

### **11.19 FEDERATION (4): THE 25 PRIME MINISTERS**

On Australia Day, as part of a four-page wraparound, the *Sydney Morning Herald* provided potted biographies of Australia’s 25 Prime Ministers in the first century since Federation.

### **11.20 PARLIAMENT JAILS A NEWSPAPER EDITOR AND AN OWNER**

The only two people (a newspaper owner and his editor) tried and jailed by Federal Parliament were refused legal representation and told they were witnesses when they gave evidence that was later used to imprison them. This has been revealed in documents made available by the National Archives 45 years after the event. In June 1955, newspaper proprietor and contractor Raymond Fitzpatrick and journalist Frank Browne were jailed for three months, and no one knew exactly why. The committee hearing was held behind closed doors. Three days later they were jailed after being found guilty of a breach of privilege for “publishing articles intended to intimidate and influence” an MP. The articles, which appeared in the *Bankstown Observer*, were about the then member for the Sydney seat Reid, Charles Morgan, and his alleged involvement in an immigration racket. The House voted 55 to 12 to jail Fitzpatrick and 55 to 11 to jail Browne, without seeing their evidence in full and relying only on the privileges committee’s extracts.

So why did the evidence remain secret so long? Probably largely because it included allegations that a chief judge of the NSW Arbitration Court leaked secret wartime security files and attempted to blackmail an MP, Charles Morgan. (*Age* and *Sydney Morning Herald*, 1 January 01; and *Canberra Times*, 2 January 01.)

### **11.21 SELECTIVE REPORTING OF CIRCULATION DATA**

Newspapers are becoming increasingly selective in how they report the figures provided by the Audit Bureau of Circulations. When the figures for the six months to 31 December 2000 were issued in February, the *Sydney Morning Herald* presented only the figures for the two national papers, and the Sydney and Melbourne papers (daily and Sunday); the *Australian Financial Review* reported the figures for the dailies only, but excluded Hobart, Canberra and Darwin; the *Australian* presented all the figures but compared apples with oranges by comparing the second half of the year with the first half of the year whereas it is traditional now to compare with the corresponding period the previous year. Brisbane’s *Courier-Mail*, which has recently been presenting the best coverage of circulation data, presented no report on 9 or 10 February. The *Courier-Mail*’s circulation slipped 2.81 per cent (to 212,356) on weekdays in the six months and 1.6 per cent (to 329,637) on Saturdays.

In the table below, the biggest percentage increase for weekend papers was the *Financial Review*’s 5.11 (with the *Sunday Herald Sun* following closely with 5.09); for weekday issues, the best was the *Australian*, with 1.44. The only other weekday performer with an increase was the *Financial Review*, 1.03. Seven weekend papers recorded an increase, one as small as

10 copies – the *Mercury*, Hobart. Despite this, the *Mercury* boasts that it was one of only four major Saturday papers around Australia to increase its circulation, but it fails to detail what happened to its Monday-Friday circulation (which fell by 263). The weekday and weekend papers listed in the table recorded a total loss of 142,845 sales, or 1.6 per cent.

Only nine of the 35 audited regional dailies recorded increases and two of those were negligible. Best performer was the *Daily Advertiser*, Wagga Wagga, which jumped 5.33 per cent. The *Newcastle Herald* gained 2.79 per cent. Significant losers were the *Daily Liberal*, Dubbo (8.86pc), the *Daily Mercury*, Mackay (7.99pc), the *Northern Star*, Lismore (6.29pc), the *Morning Bulletin*, Rockhampton (4.73pc) and the *Chronicle*, Toowoomba (3.06pc).

In the magazine sphere, a number of titles had significant circulation losses in the December half. The *Australian Women's Weekly* lost 39,000 (down to 704,000); *Woman's Day* 34,000 (571,000); *New Idea* 34,000 (401,000); *Family Circle* 31,000 (120,000); and *That's Life* 25,000 (405,000). [See *SMH*, 13 and 15 February 01, p.16 and p.29, respectively.]

Newspaper	Six months to 31/12/2000	Six months to 31/12/1999	Change %*
<i>Australian</i> (M-F)	132,959	131,069	+ 1.44
<i>Australian</i> (Sat.)	301,381	310,196	– 2.84
<i>Australian Financial Review</i> (M-F)	93,450	92,500	+ 1.03
<i>AFR Weekend Edition</i> (Sat.)	90,918	86,500	+ 5.11
<i>Daily Telegraph</i> (M-F)	412,190	427,000	– 3.47
<i>Daily Telegraph</i> (Sat.)	339,469	348,181	– 2.50
<i>SMH</i> (M-F)	223,484	226,500	– 1.33
<i>SMH</i> (Sat.)	379,317	386,500	– 1.86
<i>Sun-Herald</i>	568,202	584,000	– 2.71
<i>Sunday Telegraph</i>	721,092	711,009	+ 1.42
<i>Herald Sun</i> (M-F)	544,951	594,100	– 0.76
<i>Herald Sun</i> (Sat.)	504,150	502,000	+ 0.43
<i>Age</i> (M-F)	190,864	191,217	– 0.18
<i>Age</i> (Sat.)	309,478	324,075	– 4.50
<i>Sunday Herald Sun</i>	533,000	526,200	+ 5.09
<i>Sunday Age</i>	190,121	193,824	– 1.91
<i>Courier-Mail</i> (M-F)	212,356	218,498	– 2.81
<i>Courier-Mail</i> (Sat.)	329,637	335,000	– 1.61
<i>Sunday Mail</i> (Qld)	587,004	590,400	– 0.58
<i>Advertiser</i> (M-F)	200,383	205,259	– 2.38
<i>Advertiser</i> (Sat.)	270,932	272,081	– 0.42
<i>Sunday Mail</i> (SA)	342,376	345,100	– 0.79
<i>West Australian</i> (M-F)	205,669	214,415	– 4.08
<i>West Australian</i> (Sat.)	374,239	381,418	– 1.88
<i>Sunday Times</i> (WA)	342,278	344,240	– 0.57
<i>Mercury</i> (M-F)	48,722	48,985	– 0.54
<i>Mercury</i> (Sat.)	63,617	63,607	Negligible
<i>Sunday Tasmanian</i>	57,540	56,137	+ 2.50
<i>Sunday Examiner</i>	40,702	41,758	– 2.53
<i>Canberra Times</i> (M-F)	39,189	39,841	– 1.63
<i>Canberra Times</i> (Sat.)	70,000	70,125	– 0.18
<i>Canberra Times</i> (Sun.)	38,938	38,114	+ 2.16
<i>Northern Territory News</i> (M-F)	23,209	23,799	– 2.48
<i>Northern Territory News</i> (Sat.)	31,969	32,186	– 0.67
<i>Sunday Territorian</i>	25,759	26,556	– 3.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,839,545</b>	<b>8,982,390</b>	<b>– 1.6</b>

## 11.22 My Favourite Masthead

The editor asked electronic subscribers to this Newsletter what their most fascinating masthead was. Here are some responses:

**Brian O'Connor** likes the masthead of the quarterfold *Glasshouse Country News*, Beerwah, Queensland. The type has changed over the years, but it is superimposed on a photo of the Glasshouse Mountains, indicating the paper's circulation area. He likes, also, the *Queenscliffe Herald*, Victoria, began in November 1999. Designed by editor Greg Wane, its masthead reflects the *olde worlde* charm of the town.

[Brian O'Connor also believed that the *Ovens and Murray Advertiser*, Beechworth, still appeared under the masthead it used when established on 6 January 1855. But it ain't so. The original masthead had been dropped by the time the paper became a daily on 1 January 1857 (see Page 9). Doreen Blake says the paper has clung to one masthead more than 100 years – and the evidence is on the next page. Ken and Doreen Blake owned the paper from 1960-80. Ken had worked on papers at Tumbarumba, Inverell, Albury and Narrandera before buying the one at Beechworth. The weekly *Ovens and Murray Advertiser* is now typeset in Myrtleford and printed at Wangaratta by North East Newspapers Pty. Ltd. – Editor.)

**Bill Tully** writes: Without a doubt my favourite masthead was and is that of London's satirical magazine, *Punch*; it was still used in the late 1940s when I was a 12-year-old. Done by Richard Doyle, a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century illustrator, it is a delightful amalgam of gnomes and fairies surrounding Mr Punch, bestride either a donkey or a horse, carrying a phallic rod. It was on a wraparound yellow cover – also with advertisements; usually taken off for binding in libraries and therefore only on preserved single copies! *Private Eye*, the 1960+ successor to *Punch* (ambiguously sub-titling itself *Punch's prick*) used part of the Doyle motif. Doyle's mix of gothic complexity and childlike exuberance grabbed me as much in 1949 as it dies in 2001.

**David McKnight** writes: The one I like is the old Sydney *Sun*, which featured Apollo on his chariot with the sun's rays shining forth. I think it was replaced in the sixties some time. [Editor's note: Above Apollo and his chariot were the words: "Above All"; and below: "For Australia". These words had disappeared by the 1960s but Apollo and his chariot were still there at the beginning of the seventies.]

**Ken Sanz** says there are two mastheads that have fascinated him: Colourfulness and ease of identification: *The Times and Northern Advertiser*, Peterborough, South Australia had a large black South Australian narrow-gauge railway locomotive (emitting plumes of smoke and steam) in it where other more sedate newspapers such as the Melbourne broadsheets had royalty crests. (The final issue under this title appeared on 26 March 1970. It was amalgamated with the *Northern Review*, Jamestown [final issue, 25 March 1970] to become the *Review-Times* from 2 April 1970. The first issue of the *Review-Times* contained a history of the newspapers it had replaced.)

I still think that the most unusual masthead belongs to a free weekly produced at Wentworthville in Sydney when I was a teenager – *Man Friday*. Presumably the publisher was a fan of Daniel Defoe's Robinson Crusoe who had Man Friday do all the odd jobs and be of general assistance to him. It was a typical suburban newspaper of the time and had a vast circulation claim from Penrith to Parramatta and competed with Cumberland Newspapers titles at Parramatta and Penrith. It was printed at the *Mosman Daily*, but it was not owned by them.





LOCAL, COLONIAL, HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS;  
 Mining, Commercial, and General Information;  
 LITERATURE, POLITICS, AND USEFUL AND ENTERTAINING MISCELLANIES.

*"This is true liberty, when free-born men, having to advise the public, may speak free."*—Milt, trans. Eury.

No. 3. ]

BEECHWORTH, JANUARY 20, 1855.

[ PRICE TWO SHILLINGS.



165th year of continuous publication since 1854



No. 13,977

Wednesday, October 18, 1989

Recommended Retail Price 50¢.



Registered at G.P.O. Adelaide for transmission by post as a newspaper.

Thurs. Mar. 26th, 1970.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY — PRICE 3 Cents.

Victor Isaacs finds some mastheads pretentious, or inappropriate. In the pretentious category, Australia has some whoppers among major newspapers. The *Age* has arrogantly appropriated the British Coat of Arms even though it was never an official publication. Even if the Coat of Arms was once relevant to Australia, it is no longer. The *Sunday Age* also adopted the British Coat of Arms, despite being founded only in 1989. While the *Age* is a giant, the minnow *Kalgoorlie Miner* also bears this Coat of Arms, as though an official document.

The *Canberra Times* is peculiar for having on its masthead the slogan "To Serve the National City and Through it the Nation". This has appeared since the paper's foundation in 1926, but

the *Canberra Times* has never had anything like a national circulation, or – except in its early years (when interstate papers would have had a late arrival in Canberra) – readership among interstate Parliamentarians. The *Canberra Times*' masthead has a second pretentious feature: a map of Australia surrounded by the slogan "Proudly Australian Owned". This was introduced after Murdoch took out American citizenship and Fairfax was controlled by the Canadian Conrad Black.

But possibly, the most pretentious of all is a newspaper that appropriates as its title ownership of the whole country – the *Australian*. Some titles are now so inappropriate as to be silly – for example, the *Daily Telegraph*. Young people might ask, "What is a telegraph? And what has it to do with a newspaper?" Then there are compound titles which reflect newspaper history, but which are mouthfuls – *Herald Sun*, *Courier-Mail* and *News-Mail* (of Bundaberg). [The *Courier-Mail* has beneath its title: "For readers who expect more from life."] Perhaps the most inappropriate title is one whose meaning has changed – the *Daily Liberal* of Dubbo. Once this title might have attracted a broad spectrum of readers, but since 1949 use of the word "Liberal" has had such a specific meaning that perhaps 50 per cent of readers would think twice about buying the publication.

The title *Advertiser* reflects a very outdated view of what is the most important function of a newspaper. Among magazines, the *Australian Women's Weekly* is a monthly, *Woman's Day* a weekly, and the oldest women's magazine is called *New Idea*.

[Greg Wane draws attention to the confusion about what the "masthead" really is. The John Fairfax Education Unit issues a News Poster Kit that features a page with common newspaper terms; "masthead" points to the title of the paper at the top of Page 1. Yet a definition of "masthead" from Melvin Mencher's *News Reporting and Writing* reads: "Formal statement of a newspaper's name, officers, place of publication and other descriptive information, usually on the editorial page. Sometimes confused with flag or nameplate." And Richard M. Harnett, in *Wirespeak*, p.169, says: "Masthead – The place in the paper where its owners, address, chief editors are listed." – Editor]

### 11.23 OUR NEWSPAPERS: ODD, UNUSAL, ENIGMATIC, CURRENT

From Sydney, **Jurgen Wegner** writes: In what could well be seen to have taken a leaf out of our next higher education policy document Keith Dunstan in his *The perfect cup: the story of coffee* (Castle Hill, NSW: David Ell Press for Andronicus, 1989) wrote: "Eighteenth century coffee houses were a godsend to poor young intellectuals who came to London ... [In the eighteenth century] there were over 2000 coffee houses in London. They were on every street corner. Here news and gossip was disseminated. They were called 'penny universities'. Great men congregated there ... For a penny you could while away two or three hours (you paid one penny to enter and after that you could stay as long as you liked). *You were not expected to get to your feet when a great man entered, and it was possible to enter freely into any conversation.* [p. 21]

With unintentional foresight he goes on to quote from a 1672 broadsheet:

*So great a universitie  
I think there ne'er was any  
In which you may a scholar be  
For spending of a penny.*

It shows that good quotations, like wine, mellow with age.

Now then, what could be more appropriate than a newspaper issuing forth from a modern coffee house? Newly in print (the copy to hand is undated but picked up on a recent expedition to Melbourne) is Australia's own *Gosh gazette* published by Gosh Coffee, 36-48 Ashford Ave, Milperra, 2214. Issue 1 (also called the "launch issue") is an illustrated 8-pager with news and information about the Gosh Coffee chain of coffee shops, and on coffee culture in general. Part humorous, part informative, this first issue includes:

- *The new Gosh concept* (about this chain of coffee shops);
- The leader *Gosh, Mr Barista ...* (coffee facts);
- *A little coffee culture from the old dart* (coffee and coffee history chiefly of English origin);
- Recipes;
- *What constitutes a good cup of coffee*;
- What are the best coffee beans;
- *The history of coffee*;
- *Gosh language of coffee* (a coffee glossary).

A must for all those newspaper collectors out there. An available free from a shopping mall near you.

#### **11.24 DEATH AND THE PRINT RUN**

On the Saturday five young men from Wagga Wagga died in a level crossing collision with the Sydney-Melbourne XPT (train). On the Sunday night the editor of the city's *Daily Advertiser* lifted the Monday print run by 500. By midday Monday all 17,500 copies of the paper, with three pages on the accident, had sold out. ("United by grief, a town farewells five of its finest", *Australian*, 2 February 01, p.1.)

#### **11.25 SUBURBAN NEWSPAPERS (1): CONDELL PARK CLOSES**

Fairfax Community Newspapers is closing its Condell Park printing plant. Head office will shift to Liverpool. Nine of its 10 suburban newspapers will be printed at Fairfax's Chullora plant and at Fairfax Regional Printers at Beresfield, near Newcastle. The tenth title will be printed by Torch Publishing at Bankstown. The Condell Park press has also been printing the Saturday edition of Fairfax's *Illawarra Mercury*, Wollongong, with the "Weekender" supplement printed separately by Torch Publishing. (*PANPA Bulletin*, February 01, p.28.)

#### **11.26 SUBURBAN NEWSPAPERS (2): APN SELLS MELBOURNE TITLES**

APN News & Media has sold its Melbourne suburban titles – the *Melbourne Times*, *City Weekly*, *Emerald Hill Times* and *Bayside Southern Cross* – to Metropolis Media for an undisclosed sum. Shane Higgs, a former owner of *Melbourne Times*, runs Metropolis Media, which publishes *Metropolitan News*, another inner-city title. Higgs rescued *Metro News* last September when it was incurring losses of \$10,000 a week. (*PANPA Bulletin*, February 01, p.9.)

#### **11.27 RURAL PRESS SHIFTS HQ**

Rural Press Ltd. has shifted its head office operation out of the city and back to the bush – well, from Kensington in inner Sydney back to its rural site at North Richmond. The executives vacated the North Richmond site in May 1992. The move was made over the Christmas break. (*PANPA Bulletin*, February 01, p7.)

### **11.28 PETER ISAACSON BACK IN PRINT**

Peter Isaacson, at the age of 80, has returned to newspaper ownership. The man who sold the Peter Isaacson Publications group to APN News & Media in 1993 has bought back from APN the *This Week* group of six titles. Colin Ritchie is a partner in the buy. The titles, distributed to hotels, feature tourist information on attractions and local happenings. It is planned to expand the publications into the Adelaide and Perth markets (*SMH*, 13 February 01, p.27).

### **11.29 COFFS HARBOUR ADVOCATE CHARGES – THREE DAYS A WEEK**

The free daily, the *Coffs Harbour Advocate*, on the New South Wales north coast, began charging for its Tuesday, Thursday and Friday issue from 30 January. Its Wednesday and Saturday issues, targeted at a wider region, continue to be issued free..

### **11.30 ELLA EBERY, ROLE MODEL**

Ella Ebery, 85, editor of the *North Central News*, St Arnaud, Victoria, was featured in a recent *Good Weekend* article (see 11.46.9). The article led to several letters from readers. Here's an extract from one from Wynne Higgins, of Mornington, Vic. (10 February, p.9).

'I first met Ella in 1986 when I was also a journalist reporting local news and writing a column on the arts for a Mornington Peninsula paper. Since then I've followed her career through her regular explosions in newspaper letters columns. She's certainly an inspiring role model; at 76 I've started to slow down following heart surgery and a minor but still annoying lymphoma, but if Ella can keep going (and so effectively!), I'm determined I will, too.'

### **11.31 GOODBYE SURRY SCENE; HULLO SURRY**

At Surry Hills in inner Sydney, *Surry Scene*, a monthly community newspaper since 1996, ceased publication in August 1996 and took on a new life principally through a Web site. In December 2000 a quarto-sized newssheet, published by the Surry Hills Neighbourhood Centre and called *Surry*, replaced it. It claims a distribution of about 6,000 to households, cafes, shops and businesses in the area bounded by South Dowling, Oxford, Wentworth, Elizabeth and Cleveland Streets. Bryan Dickeson and Adrian Black handle editorial duties. [Ken Sanz supplied the ANHG with the final issue of *Surry Scene* and the first issue of *Surry*.]

### **11.32 SUB HUB AT LISMORE**

Sub-editor positions at three of the New South Wales north coast region's newspapers will be abolished under an outsourcing plan which the journalists' union says threatens to reduce staff. the Tweed *Daily News*, *Coffs Harbour Advocate* and Grafton *Daily Examiner* plan to outsource sub-editing work to a "sub-hub" at the Lismore-based *Northern Star*. The Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance (MEAA) says the move is expected to cut overall editorial staff numbers at the three papers by between 20 and 25 per cent. Under the plan, reporters will be required to write stories to fit pre-assigned spaces and add headlines. Stories will be assigned to a particular space each morning, before they are written. MEAA has filed notices of a dispute with the Australian Industrial Relations Commission. (Source: ABC Radio, 16 February 01; see also "What goes around, comes around", *APN Password*, February 01, p.9; and "Go Live: A new(s) approach by Observer editorial", *APN Password*, August 00, p.7.)

### **11.33 WHAT IS A NEWSPAPER?**

One thing overlooked when this *Newsletter* started was defining “newspapers”. To start a debate, Victor Isaacs proposes a definition: A newspaper is a periodical, published at least weekly, containing news of general interest to the community, and printed on newsprint.

### 11.34 WHAT IS A JOURNALIST?

Rural Press Ltd has advertised for a replacement for the retiring sports editor at its Bathurst (NSW) daily, the *Western Advocate*, thus: “While a background in journalism is not essential, sub-editing and layout skills would be well regarded.” This has upset the *Advocate*’s journalists, but management disregarded a request for the advertisement to reflect the “journalistic responsibilities” of the position (*Alliance*, February/March 2001, p.4).

Editor’s note: I recall the *Canberra Times* and the Toowoomba *Chronicle* have appointed sporting editors whose first trade/profession was not journalism. Both had good knowledge of sports.

### 11.35 THE DON’S DEATH

The death on 25 February 2001 of Sir Donald Bradman, an Australian sporting icon, led newspapers around the country to produce tribute editions on 27 February and *Time* (Australian edition), 5 March, and the *Bulletin*, 6 March, to make his life and death their cover story.

## ITEMS RELATED TO NEWSPAPER HISTORY

### 11.36 HERITAGE GRANTS

The New South Wales Heritage Office has granted: \$1,000 to Janet McNaught for ‘People & Events on the Richmond, 1889-1905, Volume 3’, the complete documentation in index form of history from 1889-1905 as reported by the *Northern Star*, Lismore. It will be a sequel to Vols 1 and 2; and \$2,000 to Rodney and Wendy Gow for the ‘Maitland Mercury indexing program’, entailing the production of a microfiche index to the *Maitland Mercury*, 1846.

### 11.37 PRINTING

From **Tom Darragh**: I have come across another description with illustrations of a printing firm, this time in Adelaide. The reference is *Frearson’s Weekly* (published in Adelaide), 14 August 1880, p. 355, description of an illustration on page 356 entitled Offices of *Frearson’s Weekly and Monthly Illustrated Adelaide News*. The illustration has vignettes of each of the departments of the firm and the description gives some details of each. They claimed a circulation of 100,000 copies for that year.

### 11.38 FROM A COMPOSITOR

**Tom Darragh** again: A letter to the editor appeared in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 24 August 1850 signed “A Compositor”; it carried details relating to wages and arrangements for payment of staff.

### 11.39 PRINTING ON TAPA CLOTH

**Brian Hubber** writes: In a recent Kay Craddock Antiquarian Bookseller *Catalogue* (November 2000) there was offered a copy of the *Fiji Times* (8 January 1898) printed on tapa, an unwoven cloth made from the bark of the paper mulberry tree. My query is, why? There is no evidence that the printing marks a ceremony, anniversary or event. Could it be that paper

was simply in short supply? While this is a Pacific Island example, there must be plenty of similar Australian examples, of printings on strange materials such as cotton, silk, satin, etc. I would like to gather together a file of such occasions, so if your readers know of any they might like to share their experiences with me. In particular I would like to know: the title of the publication, the date of issue, the materials on which printed, the reasons for the printing (if known or can be reasonably guessed at), and the location of the item. I will publish the results in a future issue of the *ANHG Newsletter*. (bhubber@slv.vic.gov.au)

**Victor Isaacs** offers this: *Pens and Ems* by Alan Finch (Rigby, 1965) records many quirks of Australian newspaper history, including printing on unusual materials when paper was unavailable, usually because of floods. In April 1890 the *Central Australian and Bourke Telegraph* (Bourke, New South Wales) was forced to print successive issues on silk, satin and two on calico. Finch says the first issue of the *Cooktown Independent*, Qld, was published on white satin with a red border, and in 1886 the *Normanton Chronicle*, Qld, appeared for one issue on white satin with a blue edge. In the 1870s the *Etheridge Courier*, Qld, published on large calico handkerchiefs. During floods the *Braidwood Dispatch*, NSW, still appeared – using brown paper, then sugar bags, then calico. Then the problem was solved – the calico was called in after each issue, washed and used for the next issue. [Finch is not strong on sourcing his statements. – Editor.]

#### **11.40 BOOK REVIEW by Victor Isaacs**

**COUNTRY CONSCIENCE: A HISTORY OF THE NEW SOUTH WALES PROVINCIAL PRESS 1841-1995** by Rod Kirkpatrick, published by Infinite Harvest Publishing, GPO Box 240, Canberra ACT 2600, ISBN 0-646-402706, 496 pages, 30 x 20 cm, hardback, illustrated, \$55 (inc postage & packing).

At the outset, it should be stated that the editor did not seek a review of his latest book. But it is of great importance in recording Australian newspaper history, and so should be noted in this Newsletter. Rod Kirkpatrick has produced what is obviously a labour of love which demonstrates great breadth of knowledge of Australian newspaper history. *Country Conscience* provides an astonishing amount of information, all rigorously backed by an enormous range of references. Any serious student of the subject will be constantly referring to this as a mine of information.

The book's first chapters take a decade-by-decade view of the development of the New South Welsh provincial press, most chapters also including a more detailed description of events in particular towns. Following are thematic chapters, on such topics as economics of the industry in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, journalism, the press and politics, postal charges, the Federation debate, parochialism, libel laws, the NSW Country Press Association, daily publication, editors, dynasties of proprietors, amalgamations, takeovers by companies, Rural Press Ltd, the *Newcastle Herald* and *Illawarra Mercury*, and newspaper production technology.

There are comprehensive indexes and a bibliography. An especially valuable feature is an appendix recording, at ten-year intervals, all NSW provincial newspaper titles with their year of foundation and frequency of publication.

I particularly enjoyed the story of the *Grafton Argus* proving its rival, the *Clarence and Richmond Examiner*, was stealing its news by deliberately printing the wrong placings in a horse race result; and the recounting of sons establishing newspapers in opposition to their fathers' papers in Tumut and Cootamundra. I also liked the story that in the 1930s the *Newcastle Morning Herald* could not break into the Maitland market, partially because Newcastle was still regarded as "convict" and Maitland as "free"; and how in the 1930s the

Linotype operators at the *Newcastle Morning Herald* regarded the arrival of the paper's first typewriter with suspicion.

The scope of the book is slightly wider than its title indicates, because there are a number of comparative glances elsewhere, especially to Victoria and Queensland, but extending to newspapers on the American western frontier. The author also occasionally takes his overview beyond 1995 to 2000 and even ventures some predictions of future directions. I note that Table 2 (p.16) refers to Bendigo and Sandhurst separately but the author assures me two separate papers were being published.

*Country Conscience*, which complements books written about the Sydney press (histories of the Fairfaxes by Gavin Souter and the Packers by Bridget Griffin-Foley), combines a huge amount of information with a very readable style. It is good value for money and highly recommended.

#### **11.41 PRESERVING AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPERS**

If you want details on what is being done to preserve Australian newspapers, you'll find it on the Web at <http://www.nla.gov.au/preserve/nplan.html>

Alan Ventress, Mitchell Librarian at the State Library of New South Wales, says: "At the SLNSW, Bicentennial funding helped give us a very good start on retrospective newspaper microfilming in 1988. My first job at the Library, as deputy acquisitions and collection development librarian, involved oversight of this project. At that time, Janine Schmidt (now the University Librarian at the University of Queensland) decided that a concerted effort should be made to microfilm all NSW newspapers held in SLNSW by 2000. The microfilming of all "back sets" of NSW newspapers will be completed in 2001. It has been a long and arduous process which will be worth celebrating when we get there soon – all the single issues and very small runs are now being filmed. Among them have been the *Pictorial News*, Sutherland, 1980-June 1987 and the *Narromine News & Trangie Advocate*, January 1898-April 1924.

#### **11.42 THE RAW STORE OF HISTORY**

*QUOTE*: [Nicholas Baker, 44, novelist,] took delivery last year of 7,500 "brick-thick" volumes of unwanted newspapers, flogged off as surplus to requirements by the British Library. The consignment – which cost \$180,000 to buy and ship – is now stacked on 90-odd pallets in Baker's American Newspaper Repository, a non-profit organisation he founded in a mad race against the clock in 1999. He reckons his haul of more than 100 US periodical and newspaper titles, including runs dating back to the 1860s, features some of the "most important historical documents that exist", speaking of them in the same breath as the Magna Carta and the Declaration of Independence. "These volumes are physical objects that represent history, the raw store of history that we have – the chief, the main, the principal urban record of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, rare than most of the stuff that libraries keep in their rare book collections," says Baker, his words tumbling over themselves. In the age of microfilm and the Internet, his beloved papers are also ... regarded by most librarians as "junk". – *UNQUOTE*.

Extract from Susannah Herbert, "Hold the front page", *Good Weekend*, 20 January 01, pp.33-34.

#### **11.43 NEW YORK TIMES VASTLY EXPANDING ARCHIVES**

The *New York Times* archives will be expanded to include digital images of every page from 1851 to the end of 1998 (about 3,500,000 pages.) This will result from a licensing deal between Bell & Howell and the *New York Times*. This conversion will take about 15 months and the pages will be released in batches that cover a decade each. The archive will be

available only to libraries and schools. The news release about this deal is available at [http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/010112/ny\\_the\\_new.html](http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/010112/ny_the_new.html).

This announcement comes on the heels of Bell & Howell's announcement of the ProQuest Historical Newspapers project, which will cover the digitisation of many newspapers back to the 19th century. While the press release doesn't name any specific papers, it does mention "hundreds" of newspapers, starting with US newspapers and then expanding to cover newspapers all over the world. You can get the press release for this announcement at [http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/010112/dc\\_bell\\_ho.html](http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/010112/dc_bell_ho.html)

#### **11.44 PRINTING PLANT THAT AMAZED THOMAS EDISON**

From Gordon Woolf [worsley@worsleypress.com]: Following is one of the best brief explanations of a newspaper's history I've read. The claim that this paper published the first halftone engraving (even possibly in the US) could cause some dispute. The information comes from Paul Jagnow, managing editor, of the *Youngstown Vindicator* (107 Vindicator Square, Youngstown, Ohio, 44503, USA).

[*The Vindicator*] was founded in 1869 by a printer-publisher who had been run out of Beaver Falls, Pa., for printing Democratic dogma. In the postbellum era, the North was solidly Republican. He presumably called the paper *The Vindicator* in the belief that his Democratic views and principles had been vindicated, even though Youngstown was solidly Republican in those days as well. Perhaps he felt that way because he wasn't tarred and feathered or something. In those days, papers hewed editorially to one party or another – Democrat, Republican, Whig, etc. He was a better politician than businessman, though, and the paper failed. It devolved on a succession of would-be publishers who couldn't make a go of it.

The patriarch of the present family ownership, who published a German-language paper, bought *The Vindicator* in 1887 by accident at a sheriff's sale. Downtown on business, he stopped to see what the crowd was all about. For the hell of it he entered a bid. It turned out to be the only bid. For his trouble and money, he got the name and what was left of the typecases. The printing plant no longer existed; it had burned. He brought the paper back in about a year, built a new plant, duked it out with the entrenched Republican daily and eventually made a success of it, turning it into one of the most modern and innovative papers in the country. The paper published the first halftone engraving, an invention of its pressroom foreman, who also built the first automobile in Ohio. Thomas Edison thought the printing plant was amazing. It was a rough frontier town in those early days. The owner had to go to work armed with a revolver. The rest of us should have his vision and courage. His son bought the competing paper from Scripps-Howard in 1936, 13 years after his death.

#### **11.45 RECENTLY PUBLISHED (1): BOOK, MONOGRAPH**

11.45.1 COMMUNITY JOURNALISM edited by John Hurst and Michael Provis. Melbourne: Country Press Australia, 2000 (ISBN 0 9578018 0 7; 264pp). Excellent how-to-do-it book for country and suburban journalists.

11.45.2 COVERING EVERY DOGFIGHT: A CENTURY AND A HALF OF LOCAL NEWS IN THE PROVINCIAL PRESS by Rod Kirkpatrick, *Australian Journalism Monographs*, 5 & 6, May-November 2000 (ISSN 1440 7922; 68pp). Changing trends in the coverage of news, especially local, in the provincial press of NSW and Queensland during the years since the first title was published in 1841. Available from School of Journalism and Communication, University of Queensland, Brisbane, 4072, for \$15 (incl p&p).

#### **11.46 RECENTLY PUBLISHED (2): ARTICLES**



11.46.1 RAG TO GLITCHES – THE BITTER TRUTH by Andrew Dodd, *Australian*, Media liftout, 14 December 00, pp.8-9. A bold plan to relaunch the *Truth* as a clean racing newspaper has failed spectacularly.

11.46.2 NOW FOR THE GOOD NEWS by Mark Day, *Australian*, Media liftout, 14 December 00, p.9. Day reviews the Walkley Awards and suggests they show that the ABC's *Media Watch* should focus on some of the positives of Australian journalism, not merely the negatives.

11.46.3 THE EDITOR'S CALL by Matt Price, *Australian*, Media liftout, 21 December 00, pp.4-5. Brian Rogers, the new editor of the *West Australian* has made some idiosyncratic decisions, according to Price.

11.46.4 IN WHOSE OPINION? by Margaret Simons, *Australian*, Media liftout, 28 December 00, pp.2-3. The invisible men who write the editorials in Australian newspapers [see 11.3].

11.46.5 MAG WHEELS 7 DEALS by Natasha Bitá, *Australian*, Media liftout, 4 January 01, pp.2-3. Circulation wars are causing casualties in the volatile magazine market.

11.46.6 TEST OF A CHAMPION by Mark Day, *Australian*, Media liftout, 4 January 01, p.4. Day's column focuses on the activities of the editor of the *Moree Champion*, John Ball, who has been kicking up dust in a country town where 25 per cent of the population is indigenous. [Ball advertised on 1 February for a journalist who was a "good, fast, accurate sub", as well as a feature writer, for a hard-hitting, old established and independent bi-weekly.]

11.46.7 BALANCING ACT by Patricia Karvelas, *Australian*, Media liftout, 4 January 01, p.6. Online activists at Australian independent media centers have "a better world in mind". They don't hate the mainstream; they simply want to be the media.

11.46.8 ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO SAVE by Jesse Oxfeld, *Australian*, Media liftout, 4 January 01, p.7. An interview with the rescuer of the last great archive of 20<sup>th</sup> century American newspapers. [See also HOLD THE FRONT PAGE by Susannah Herbert, *Good Weekend*, 20 January 01, pp.33-34, and 11.25 above for extract.]

11.46.9 FAIRFAX FOXTROT by Mark Day, *Australian*, Media liftout, 11 January 01, p.4. Background to the changes in publisher at John Fairfax in Sydney and Melbourne [see 11.2].

11.46.10 LATE EDITION by Jane Cadzow, *Good Weekend*, 13 January 01, pp.22-25. Profile of 85-year-old Ella Ebery, editor of the *North Central News*, Victoria, for the past 21 years.

11.46.11 THE MERCURY'S BLUNT INSTRUMENT by Neryl East, *Australian*, Media liftout, 11 January 01, p.7. Former *Illawarra Mercury* editor Peter Cullen, who died in December, was an old-style crusader who sometimes got it wrong [see 11.7].

11.46.12 PRESS RETHINKS INTERNET APPROACH by Felicity Barringer, *Age*, 23 January 01. The first era of newspaper experiments on the Internet, fuelled in part by the fear that the Web would devour profits, is over, writes Barringer in article that first appeared in the *New York Times*.

11.46.13 LESSONS IN FLEET STREET by John Coleman, *Northern Daily Leader*, Tamworth, 6 January 01, p.17. An Australian journalist reflects on his days working for the *Sunday Express* when the Fleet Street press barons still ruled the British press.

11.46.14 PROTECTING BULGER'S KILLERS FROM CERTAIN DEATH by Elizabeth Butler-Sloss, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 10 January 01, p.10. The lives of the boys who

murdered a toddler are more important than the public's right to know their new identities, a judge rules. An edited version of the judgment by Justice Dame Elizabeth Butler-Sloss in Britain on the application from Venables and Thompson for continued anonymity.

11.46.15 A MATTER OF ORGANISATION by Beate Josephi, *Australian Studies in Journalism*, 9, 2000, pp.106-125. The importance of the organisational sphere for media content is becoming increasingly recognised. This article explores its past and present with regard to print journalism, with a special focus on the *West Australian*.

11.46.16 CHRONIC CIRCULATION DECLINE; REGIONAL DAILIES SUCCUMB TO METROPOLITAN VIRUS by Rod Kirkpatrick, *Australian Studies in Journalism*, 9, 2000, pp.75-105. The author analyses statistics to find that the regionals have joined the metros in the general downward circulation slump despite attempting various strategies.

11.46.17 RUNNING HOT ... AND COLD by Colin Gibson, *Australian*, Media liftout 1 February 01, pp.8-9. An award-winning journalist reflects on the state of Australian sports writing before returning to London.

11.46.18 OLD AGE FALTERS IN NEW WORLD and BLUEPRINT FOR A NEW AGE by Mark Day, *Australian*, Media liftout, 8 February 01, pp.6-8, and 15 February 01, p.3. Two special reports examining the impact of changes during the past decade at *The Age*, Melbourne.

11.46.19 FAIRFAX LEARNS ITALIAN by James Panichi, *Australian*, Media liftout, 8 February 01, p.11. The *Sydney Morning Herald* is taking sides in Italy's fiercest postwar circulation battle.

11.46.20 CHRISTIAN VALUES by Natalie O'Brien, *Australian*, Media liftout, 8 February 01, p.13. Unorthodox Perth suburban newspaper proprietor Bret Christian – anything but your average media mogul. He started the *Post* at Subiaco in 1977 and maintains high journalistic standards. The paper now appears in four editions across Perth's so-called "golden triangle". (See also "Paper resists big buyers", *Times on Sunday*, 15 February 1987.)

11.46.21 WALKLEY AWARD WINNERS 2000 – for a complete list of winners, visit the following Website: <http://www.walkleywards.aust.com/2000/index.htm>

11.46.22 HISTORY UNRAVELS MILLENNIUM DEBATE by Rod Kirkpatrick, *PANPA Bulletin*, February 01, pp.25-27. The author deals with how newspapers reported the millennium and, more than 100 years ago, how provincial papers reported the federation debates.

11.46.23 EYE ON THE PRIZE by Mark Westfield, *Australian*, Media liftout, 15 February 01, pp.6-7. John Hartigan, News Ltd's new chief, brings a fighting spirit to the job – he's taken up boxing, works out five days a week and runs five mornings a week.

11.46.24 UP CLOSE AND PROFITABLE by Bruce Montgomery, *Australian*, Media liftout, 15 February 01, pp.14-15. Discusses the ethos that governs the news values of country papers, with a special focus on Shepparton's *News*.

## **CRPTIONSNEWSSUBSCRIPTIONSNEWSSUBSCRIPTIONSNEWS**

Requests for new subscriptions to the Australian Newspaper History Group Newsletter:

- (1) E-mail to [r.kirkpatrick@mailbox.uq.edu.au](mailto:r.kirkpatrick@mailbox.uq.edu.au) (no fee for electronic version); or
- (2) snail-mail to Rod Kirkpatrick, 13 Sumac Street, Middle Park, Qld, 4074 (hard copy, \$12, incl GST).

Hard-copy version: please send to

(Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Address) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

**I enclose \$12 (cheque payable to R. Kirkpatrick) for the next TEN hard-copy issues.**

## 11.47 Select chronology of Australian newspaper events, 1980-2000

<b>16 April 1980</b>	<i>Young Guardian</i> (NSW) begins publication.
<b>6 June 1980</b>	<i>Newcastle Clarion</i> begins; issued during national journalists' strike.
<b>4 July 1980</b>	Final issue of afternoon daily, <i>Newcastle Sun</i> (established 11 October 1916 as <i>Northern Times</i> ; became <i>Newcastle Sun</i> 23 March 1918).
<b>7 July 1980</b>	First issue of <i>Sunshine Coast Daily</i> , Maroochydore, Qld.
<b>November 1980</b>	<i>Western Mail</i> , Perth, begins publication.
<b>1 January 1981</b>	<i>Times Regional Newspaper</i> , Deniliquin, NSW, begins.
<b>24 February 1981</b>	<i>Tamworth Times</i> begins publication; weekly.
<b>September 1981</b>	<i>Newcastle Post</i> launched after the <i>Newcastle Herald</i> acquired a 49pc interest in the <i>Lake Macquarie Post</i> , a free weekly.
<b>6 October 1980</b>	The 104-year-old title, the <i>Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate</i> , is shortened to <i>The Newcastle Herald</i>
<b>January 1982</b>	The <i>Maryborough Chronicle</i> , Maryborough, becomes the <i>Maryborough-Hervey Bay Chronicle</i> .
<b>2 August 1982</b>	Rupert Murdoch begins publishing a new morning daily in Brisbane, the <i>Daily Sun</i> .
<b>27 January 1984</b>	News Ltd. takes over the North Queensland Newspaper Co. Ltd (flagship: <i>Townsville Bulletin</i> ).
<b>9 May 1984</b>	First issue of <i>The Northern Leader</i> , Bowen. Tri-weekly. Founder: Asher Joel Media group.
<b>24 September 1984</b>	<i>Daily Liberal</i> , Dubbo, shifts from evening to morning publication.
<b>31 May 1985</b>	Final issue of <i>Northern Leader</i> , Bowen. Survived a week less than 13 months.
<b>1 January 1986</b>	News Ltd., via North Queensland Newspaper Co., takes over <i>Bowen Independent</i> from Darwen family.
<b>30 September 1986</b>	<i>Lithgow Mercury</i> ceases daily issue and becomes a tri-weekly from the following week ( <i>Lithgow Mercury</i> , 30/9/1986, p.1).
<b>3 December 1986</b>	Rupert Murdoch launches takeover bid for the Herald & Weekly Times Ltd.
<b>20 December 1986</b>	<i>The Herald</i> , Melbourne, publishes its final Saturday issue (it was Australia's last Saturday evening paper).
<b>14 January 1987</b>	Sir Warwick Fairfax dies.
<b>6 February 1987</b>	Rupert Murdoch wins the battle to take over the Herald & Weekly Times Ltd.
<b>6 July 1987</b>	<i>Business Daily</i> launched.
<b>7 August 1987</b>	Northern Star Holdings says it will sell the titles of the Brisbane <i>Daily Sun</i> and <i>Sunday Sun</i> and the Adelaide <i>News</i> to the managements in each city, who will buy with help from Westfield, Northern Star's parent; News Corporation will still print and distribute its 'competitor'.
<b>18 August 1987</b>	<i>Business Daily</i> closes.
<b>31 August 1987</b>	Warwick Fairfax, 26-year-old son of Sir Warwick and Lady Mary, launches takeover bid for Fairfax media empire.
<b>12 October 1987</b>	<i>Goulburn Evening Post</i> shifts from evening to morning publication and drops <i>Evening</i> from title.
<b>1 November 1987</b>	APN buys <i>Chinchilla News</i> , Qld, from David and Dorothy Fuller.
<b>7 December 1987</b>	Warwick Fairfax jun. formally takes over as proprietor of Fairfax.

	Chairman James Fairfax, deputy chairman John B. Fairfax and rest of board resign.
<b>2 January 1988</b>	Final issue of Perth's <i>Western Mail</i> . Losses over seven years estimated at \$50 million.
<b>5 February 1988</b>	Final issue of the Brisbane <i>Telegraph</i> (established 1872).
<b>15 February 1988</b>	Brisbane <i>Daily Sun</i> shifts to afternoon slot vacated by <i>Telegraph</i> on 5 February.
<b>13 March 1988</b>	Final issue of the <i>Times on Sunday</i> (formerly the <i>National Times</i> , established 7 February 1971).
<b>14 March 1988</b>	Final issue of Sydney's <i>Sun</i> (established 1910).
<b>26 July 1988</b>	O'Reilly family trust takes over Provincial Newspapers (Qld) Ltd (PNQ).
<b>13 August 1988</b>	Haswell Pty Ltd's takeover offer for PNQ expires.
<b>8 September 1988</b>	<i>Mornington Mail</i> , Vic., established.
<b>2 November 1988</b>	PNQ becomes APN (Australian Provincial Newspapers Ltd).
<b>3 March 1989</b>	Haswell sacks senior PNQ staff from pre-takeover days; the Irish are firmly in control of APN.
<b>5 June 1989</b>	<i>Maitland Mercury</i> , NSW, shifts from afternoon to morning daily publication.
<b>13 August 1989</b>	Final edition of Melbourne <i>Sunday Press</i> (joint publication of Herald & Weekly Times and David Syme & Co).
<b>20 August 1989</b>	First editions of Melbourne <i>Sunday Herald</i> , <i>Sunday Sun News-Pictorial</i> and <i>Sunday Age</i> .
<b>6 August 1990</b>	The Shepparton <i>News</i> switches to morning issue after publishing as an afternoon daily since 3 July 1972. This was the last of Australia's provincial afternoon dailies.
<b>11 September 1990</b>	Final issue of the Perth <i>Daily News</i> (established 1882).
<b>5 October 1990</b>	Final editions of the Sydney <i>Daily Telegraph</i> (established 1879), Sydney <i>Daily Mirror</i> (1941), Melbourne <i>Sun News-Pictorial</i> (1922) and Melbourne <i>Herald</i> (1840).
<b>8 October 1990</b>	Birth of "24-hour" newspapers to replace the above: Sydney <i>Daily Telegraph-Mirror</i> and Melbourne <i>Herald-Sun</i> .
<b>1991</b>	Protracted battle throughout the year for the John Fairfax newspaper empire, which was in receivership.
<b>31 March 1991</b>	Closure of the Melbourne <i>Sunday Herald</i> (established 20 August 1989).
<b>10 December 1991</b>	Closure of the Brisbane <i>Sun</i> (afternoon since February 1988, morning 1982-1988).
<b>15 December 1991</b>	Conrad Black's Tourang wins control of Fairfax empire.
<b>25 March 1992</b>	Release of <i>News &amp; Fair Facts</i> , report of the House of Representatives Select Committee on the Print Media.
<b>27 March 1992</b>	Closure of <i>The News</i> , Adelaide (established 1923) – last afternoon newspaper in Australia.
<b>29 March 1992</b>	Brisbane <i>Sunday Mail</i> goes tabloid.
<b>14 April 1992</b>	Closure of Brisbane <i>Sunday Sun</i> announced. <i>Sunday Telegraph</i> and <i>Sun-Herald</i> commence publishing south-east Queensland editions.
<b>9 October 1993</b>	First edition of Brisbane <i>Weekend Times</i> (80c). Proprietor Michael Hawke sold the (free) <i>City News</i> to Rupert Murdoch reportedly for \$1.5 million.
<b>20 November 1993</b>	Closure of Brisbane <i>Weekend Times</i> .
<b>22 December 1993</b>	APN takes over Peter Isaacson Publications, Melbourne, publisher of more than 40 titles including the <i>Daily Commercial News</i> .
<b>8 May 1994</b>	Final south-east Queensland edition of <i>Sunday Telegraph</i> .
<b>July 1995</b>	Closure of <i>Sydney News</i> and <i>Gold Coast News</i> , both weekly lifestyle and

	real-estate colour magazines.
<b>15 May 1994</b>	Final south-east Queensland edition of <i>Sun-Herald</i> .
<b>11 December 1995</b>	Rural Press pays \$68.9 million to acquire the Bathurst <i>Western Advocate</i> , Orange <i>Central Western Daily</i> , Dubbo <i>Liberal</i> , Goulburn <i>Post</i> and other Macquarie Publications newspaper properties.
<b>2 January 1996</b>	Sydney <i>Daily Telegraph-Mirror</i> reverts to title of <i>Daily Telegraph</i> .
<b>4 November 1996</b>	<i>Goulburn Post</i> , a daily since 1927, reverts to tri-weekly issue.
<b>14 March 1997</b>	First issue of new national weekly, the <i>Republican</i> .
<b>29 June 1997</b>	Sunday <i>Canberra Times</i> renamed <i>Sunday Times</i> .
<b>16 August 1997</b>	First issue of the <i>Good Weekend</i> (Saturday <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> and <i>Age</i> insert) in enlarged format.
<b>29 August 1997</b>	Final issue of the <i>Republican</i> .
<b>6 September 1997</b>	<i>Australian Financial Review</i> inaugurates Saturday edition.
<b>14 September 1997</b>	Introduction of <i>Sunday</i> magazine into <i>Sunday Telegraph</i> and <i>Sunday Herald-Sun</i> and <i>Sunday Life!</i> Magazine into <i>Sun-Herald</i> and <i>Sunday Age</i> .
<b>27 October 1997</b>	<i>Townsville Bulletin</i> new printing plant inaugurated and changes from broadsheet to tabloid.
<b>3 November 1997</b>	Adelaide <i>Advertiser</i> changes from broadsheet to tabloid.
<b>9 March 1998</b>	Redesign of Melbourne <i>Age</i> .
<b>27 April 1998</b>	Redesign of <i>Australian</i> ; price reduction in Victoria to 40c and price increase elsewhere by 10c to \$1; introduction of page of local news in Melbourne edition.
<b>29 June 1998</b>	<i>Bendigo Advertiser</i> changes from broadsheet to tabloid.
<b>27 July 1998</b>	<i>Newcastle Herald</i> changes from broadsheet to tabloid. (The only remaining Australian broadsheet dailies/Sundays now are the <i>Australian</i> , <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> , <i>Age/Sunday Age</i> , <i>Courier-Mail</i> , <i>Canberra Times/Canberra Sunday Times</i> , <i>Geelong Advertiser</i> and <i>Mildura Sunraysia Daily</i> .)
<b>2 September 1998</b>	<i>Barossa &amp; Light Herald</i> , Tanunda, South Australia, becomes a free paper.
<b>23 September 1998</b>	Rural Press acquires <i>Canberra Times</i> from Kerry Stokes for \$160 million.
<b>1 November 1998</b>	<i>Newcastle Herald's</i> new printing plant at Beresfield is inaugurated.
<b>25 March 1999</b>	Inaugural weekly "Media" liftout section appears in the <i>Australian</i>
<b>21 June 1999</b>	<i>Border Mail</i> , formerly based at Albury, NSW, opens for business at Wodonga, Vic., operating from new printing, editorial and business premises.
<b>28 June 1999</b>	Fairfax announces \$220 million new printing plant for <i>Age</i> and <i>Financial Review</i> to be built at Tullamarine, northwest Melbourne to come on line in 2001.
<b>30 June 1999</b>	The 111-year Johnston dynasty ends at the <i>Riverine Grazier</i> , Hay, NSW, with the sale by the widowed Isabel Johnston before her second marriage.
<b>July 1999</b>	News Ltd's new Perth printing plant inaugurated, completing replacement of News' printing plants in all State capitals; inauguration of full colour of Perth <i>Sunday Times</i> (25 July); inauguration of full colour of Perth edition of the <i>Australian</i> (completing colour printing in all editions) and page of local news in Perth edition.
<b>5 August 1999</b>	Printing of Wollongong <i>Illawarra Mercury</i> transferred to Fairfax plant at Chullora, Sydney.
<b>6 August 1999</b>	APN News & Media Ltd acquires <i>Gympie Times</i> from Rural Press Ltd.
<b>11 September 1999</b>	Redesign of <i>Sunday Age</i> and national edition inaugurated, printed at

	Fairfax plant at Chullora, Sydney.
<b>1 November 1999</b>	Commencement of separate rural and national editions of the <i>Age</i> , with marketing of the national edition in Adelaide (sale at Victorian price of \$1, and home delivery).
<b>4 December 1999</b>	Death: John Douglas Pringle, editor of the <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> 1953-57 and 1965-70 and <i>Canberra Times</i> 1964-65.
<b>8 December 1999</b>	David Syme & Co announce company name change to The Age Co.
<b>12 December 1999</b>	The longest-serving editor of an Australian metropolitan daily, Paul Murray of the <i>West Australian</i> , announces his resignation after ten years.
<b>16 January 2000</b>	Death: Adrian Deamer, Editor of the <i>Australian</i> 1966-1971.
<b>24 January 2000</b>	<i>Sydney Daily Telegraph</i> introduces layout changes.
<b>31 January 2000</b>	Perth <i>West Australian</i> placed on internet (www.thewest.com.au), the last major metropolitan paper to do so.
<b>22 February 2000</b>	Formal commencement of work on Fairfax's new printing plant in Melbourne.
<b>24 March 2000</b>	Fairfax announces \$70 million expansion for its Chullora printing plant in Sydney's south-west.
<b>4 April 2000</b>	Wilkie Watson family completes 100 years as owners of the <i>Tumut &amp; Adelong Times</i> , New South Wales.
<b>7 April 2000</b>	Brian Rogers, news director of Channel Nine, Perth, is appointed editor of the <i>West Australian</i> , replacing Paul Murray who joined Radio 6PR in March.
<b>17 April 2000</b>	<i>Australian</i> announces Rupert Murdoch has prostate cancer.
<b>20 April 2000</b>	<i>The Eye</i> ceases publication (Vol 2, No. 7). It had appeared fortnightly since October 1999.
<b>26 April 2000</b>	Death: Ronald Raymond Boland, editor and managing director, <i>Sunday Times</i> , Perth, 1956-60; managing editor, <i>The News</i> , Adelaide, 1960-77; age 88.
<b>7 May 2000</b>	The <i>Canberra Times</i> 's Sunday edition, the <i>Sunday Times</i> , becomes the <i>Canberra</i> (small print) <i>Sunday Times</i> (big print) and converts from broadsheet to tabloid.
<b>7 June 2000</b>	Eightieth birthday edition of the <i>Bankstown-Canterbury Torch</i> .
<b>30 June 2000</b>	Cameron O'Reilly quits as chief executive of APN News & Media Ltd to pursue private investment interests in Europe.
<b>1 July 2000</b>	GST (Goods and Services Tax) implemented throughout Australia, lifting prices of newspapers.
<b>1 July 2000</b>	Redesign of Saturday edition of Brisbane's <i>Courier-Mail</i> . Now delivered in two parts, the second being labelled "BAM" (Books, Arts, Music).
<b>2 July 2000</b>	First issue of the <i>Southeast Asian Times</i> , a broadsheet, in Darwin.
<b>7 July 2000</b>	Twentieth anniversary of the establishment of the <i>Sunshine Coast Daily</i> , Maroochydore, Qld. Special supplement issued.
<b>10 August 2000</b>	Death: <b>Sir Theodor Bray</b> , editor of Brisbane's <i>Courier-Mail</i> for 26 years; Chancellor of Griffith University, 1975-85; aged 95.
<b>24 October 2000</b>	<b>Robert Whitehead</b> is named as the new editor of the <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> , replacing Paul McGeough.
<b>3 November 2000</b>	Death: <b>David Ramsay McNicoll</b> , editor-in-chief of Australian Consolidated Press (including the <i>Daily Telegraph</i> ), 1953-72; aged 85.
<b>27 November 2000</b>	<i>Truth</i> , Melbourne, placed in receivership.
<b>10 December 2000</b>	Sydney <i>Sun-Herald</i> introduces a subscribers-only magazine.
<b>Christmas 2000</b>	Rural Press Ltd. shifts its executives out of Kensington, in inner-Sydney, and back to North Richmond, NSW.