SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Through our eyes

by

KYM TILBROOK
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

There are a number of people to thank for their support and for providing information.

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MY THANKS go to the Country Press SA Inc. executive committee for asking me to write and edit this book commemorating the 100th anniversary of Country Press SA Inc., originally known as the Provincial Press Association of South Australia.

My family is very proud of its association with country newspapers – the Tilbrook family owned The Northern Argus at Clare for 127 years, from 1869 to 1996.

The paper was co-founded by my great, great grandfather, Henry Hammond Tilbrook, who had earlier worked on The Register as a printer’s devil at the age of 12 and then edited a paper at Greymouth on New Zealand’s South Island.

My father, Denis, was president of the Provincial Press Association of SA from 1966 to 1968 and made a life member for his service.

Through Our Eyes traces and outlines the history of country newspapers in SA – from 1839 when the Port Lincoln Herald and South Australian Commercial Advertiser was published – to today’s modern papers.

More than 1000 hours of work, including extensive research and the reading of more than 2200 pages of Provincial Press Association of South Australia, Country Press Association of S.A. Inc. and Country Press SA Inc. minutes and notes of annual general meetings, has allowed the history to be written and key extracts highlighted.

The task of pulling the history together was enormous. Firstly, the archives had to be found. There was very little at the Country Press SA Inc. head office on Greenhill Rd. There were some who thought the archives had been dumped many years ago.

Fortunately, they were wrong – there were archives, but they were incomplete. They were found in a dusty loft in Mount Barker and delivered to the office of Country Press SA Inc. by president, Trevor Channon.

The first job was to dust off all the material that had remained untouched in cardboard boxes and wooden and plastic crates for many years.

What Trevor had delivered was a goldmine but, unfortunately, some of the minutes have gone missing over the years. The minutes from 1924 to 1928 could not be found, leaving a gap in the history.

The good news is that the available material has allowed some amazing information to be unearthed and it is revealed in the chapter The First Year March 25, 1912 – April 22, 1913.

Records of annual general meetings from 1912 to 1923 were excellent. Minutes were recorded by the secretary and later printed in booklets which provide great detail to chronicle those formative years as the Provincial Press Association of South Australia went from strength to strength.

In later years, minutes were typed up and then pasted into minute books. The minutes in recent years have not been as colourful and detailed as those up until the 1990s.

The meetings setting up the association and its first annual general meeting are outlined in detail in the book. I thought it was important to show the processes behind the birth of the association because it set the groundwork for what we have today.

But space requirements meant it was not possible to continue providing the same level of detail over the next 99 years. Because of this, the book provides extracts of key issues and points of discussion. I hope you find them of interest – I certainly kept flicking the pages of the minute books to learn more.

The archives supplied absorbing material to help write the story of country newspapers in SA. No history of the Provincial Press Association of SA, the Country Press Association of S.A. Inc. and Country Press SA Inc. is complete without tracing the life and times of the newspapers.

Through Our Eyes also records the history of the 33 current members of Country Press SA Inc. – 31 in SA plus the Katherine Times in the Northern Territory and the Barrier Daily Truth just across the border at Broken Hill in New South Wales. Life in the country towns and surrounding areas is captured by photographers and journalists from the newspapers.

More than 500 pictures, news articles, old-style ads and modern advertisements will bring memories flooding back. The member papers are featured alphabetically by town.

In addition, the book reveals the thoughts and experiences of life members Harry Peake OBE, (The Naracoorte Herald), Denis Hann (The Loxton News) and Richard Willson (Whyalla News and SA Regional Media).

An interview with Mary King (formerly Townsend) tells how she brought a feminine touch to a “man’s world.”

Mary was executive director of the Country Press Association of S.A. Inc., from 1975 to 1998, succeeding the legendary Jack Power. She was made a life member for her great service.

Ian Osterman, editor of The Courier at Mount Barker, was assigned an extremely difficult task – to gaze into his crystal ball to predict the future of country newspapers.

As well as being interviewed for the book, Mary King also provided information on a wide range of areas and issues. Her knowledge was invaluable.

Others deserving special mention are Anthony Laube of the State Library of SA, Richard Willson and Denis Hann for their help on the history of papers, and the president of Country Press Australia and managing editor of the Yorke Peninsula Country Times, Michael Ellis, for his advice and knowledge of the history of newspapers.

The regional manager of Fairfax Media (formerly Rural Press), Trevor McAuliffe, also provided great assistance as did the administration officer of Country Press SA Inc., Marilyn McAuliffe.

David Wright, of The Northern Argus, did an amazing job co-ordinating material from the Fairfax Media papers. Ben Taylor, of the Taylor Group of Newspapers, also provided valuable assistance. I hope you enjoy reading about the history of your industry. May it continue to serve the community for the next 100 years.

Kym Tilbrook has been a journalist for 42 years and held several senior positions during a 37 year career at The Advertiser. Positions included state political reporter, chief-of-staff, features editor, day editor, associate editor (features and news) and group manager (editorial) for The Advertiser and Sunday Mail. Through Our Eyes is his fourth book – he has previously written three best-selling books on bushwalking in SA. Kym has judged Country Press Inc. Awards every year since the 2000 Mount Gambier conference.
COUNTRY NEWSPAPERS have led the way in showcasing the strong community spirit of the men, women and children who live and work in our regional towns and cities.

Stories of struggle and resilience, hope, achievement and sometimes tragedy have been told through images and words reported during more than 100 years of service to our South Australian community. Local newspapers have captured the life and times of generations of country families over the years.

Our rural and regional newspapers have kept communities in touch during seasons of good times and hard times. Everything from the local agricultural show to news and achievements by sporting, social and community groups, schools and local business is brought to life by our country newspapers.

Country newspapers are fierce advocates for their communities and take the lead in playing a vital role of informing and entertaining people on the land and in regional towns and cities with local news and views.

It is a tribute to the people of Country Press SA, past and present, that these newspapers have long kept hundreds of thousands of South Australians in touch every week.

While the media landscape is undergoing rapid change in a digital economy, country newspapers remain the lifeblood of towns and regions across our State, from Angaston to Whyalla, Port Lincoln to Naracoorte. I applaud their role in reflecting the world of their communities and share their confidence in the strengths of our South Australian rural regions.

Congratulations to Country Press SA on achieving this centenary milestone. I wish each newspaper and their readers every success in the future.

Jay Weatherill

PREMIER OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

THE GREAT expanses of South Australia and the tyranny of distance that it presents can isolate many South Australian communities. For 100 years it has been the country newspaper that has filled the void of that distance.

Country newspapers bring news and photos of neighbours, exposing issues, identifying common interests and giving voice to people’s ideas. This is what has underpinned the formation of our strong and vibrant country communities.

Whether it be the light thud of the local paper dropping into the dust or being slotted neatly into the country post office mail box or even the trip into town to buy the paper each week, its arrival unites a community and eases the sense of remoteness.

As the troubles and successes of locals jump off the page from the story of local students excelling in the city to the results of Saturday’s nail biting footy match, the sense of community grows.

In tough times through drought, flood and fire or personal tragedy the local paper unites and supports people. It gives them their own voice.

The country press has performed a great service to country and city dwellers alike. It highlights stories that are often picked up by metropolitan media outlets, educates city folk about regional industries that form the very framework of our economy.

Local country newspapers are the lifeblood of our regional communities and a time capsule of history. I congratulate all involved in producing and supporting their country paper. May the spirit, quality and vibrancy of the country press continue to flourish for another 100 years.

Isobel Redmond

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION
COUNTRY PRESS AUSTRALIA is the national body with which all state bodies are associated.

This national body started life as the Australian Provincial Press Association in 1906 and it changed to Country Press Australia in 1986. It is unclear when Country Press SA Inc. (or, as it was known then, the Provincial Press Association of South Australia) joined the national body.

The SA association was formed in 1912, hosted a national conference the next year in 1913 and Mr R. H. Barnet of Gawler became the national president from 1915 – 16, only three years later. Therefore, it would be fair to assume SA joined the national association soon after forming.

Since being a member of the national body, SA has supplied nine national presidents, over 10 terms (including myself). Mr C. M. R. Dumas of Mount Barker held the position on two separate occasions. (As a side note, Mr Dumas’ son, Sir Lloyd Dumas, went on to be the managing editor of The Adelaide Advertiser.)

THE NATIONAL PRESIDENTS FROM SA HAVE BEEN:

RH Barnet 1915 – 1916
CMR Dumas 1918 – 1921
CMR Dumas 1925 – 1929
RH Tilbrook 1939 – 1941
HJ Peake 1962 – 1965
BA Kaeshagen 1971 – 1974
RJ Willson 1983 – 1985
PJ Marston 1990 – 1992
P Taylor 2002 – 2004
M Ellis 2010 –

SA has hosted 11 national conferences – in 1913, 19, 27, 39, 54, 62, 77, 83, 94, 98, and the last in 2002. Accompanying this article for your interest is the Programme of Events from the 1939 National Conference hosted in South Australia.

As a third generation newspaperman, it fills me with great pride to fill the role of Country Press Australia president, especially in my home state’s centenary year. South Australia can hold its head high as a vibrant association, extremely well respected across Australia.

Country Press Australia’s role is to take on jobs with a national perspective for all members across the country – wage and award negotiations, lobbying the Federal Government and to ensure all states are kept abreast of any national developments.

As I travel to the different states and attend their annual conferences, I meet a wide range of people in the ever-changing newspaper industry.

It is always interesting to hear how they are tackling local issues. Sometimes the issues are similar and sometimes they are very different.

The friendships I have made and the lessons I have learned, from all over the country, make it a very rewarding role indeed.

Country Press Australia congratulates Country Press SA Inc. on attaining its centenary and truly hopes it continues to serve its members well for many years to come.

Michael Ellis
Managing editor, Yorke Peninsula Country Times, Kadina
Country Press Australia president July 2010 – June 2012
I AM VERY PROUD to serve as president of Country Press SA Inc. in what is our centenary year.

Our long history dates back to 1912 when the Provincial Press Association of South Australia was formed by a group of visionary newspapermen.

Since their first meeting on March 25, 1912, in a café in Rundle Street, Adelaide, the association has given great service to its member newspapers.

Over the 100 years it has had three names – the Provincial Press Association of South Australia; the Country Press Association of S.A. Inc. and today’s title of Country Press SA Inc. which now serves 31 newspapers in South Australia, one at Katherine in the Northern Territory and one at Broken Hill in New South Wales from our Greenhill Road, Eastwood, head office.

I give special thanks to all the presidents who have served before me. With their executive committees they have ensured that South Australian country newspapers have prospered and fought their way through a myriad of problems.

These include newsprint and manpower shortages, threats from bootleg printers, industrial issues and gaining valuable advertising dollars from State and Federal governments.

While our association is celebrating its 100th birthday, country newspapers have chronicled the history of the State for 173 years – a truly remarkable record.

Our first country newspaper was the Port Lincoln Herald which published its first edition in 1839. Although short-lived, it laid the groundwork for the industry that grew strongly through the 1860s, 1870s and 1890s.

The growth accelerated in the early 1900s, with 61 papers servicing a vast area between 1911 and 1915.

Country newspapers have always been a valued part of the community and editors have always backed their communities to the hilt – they have not stood back from a fight with governments or councils. The papers are the voice of the country.

My thanks go to members of my executive committee and administration officer Marilyn McAuliffe for her work in planning our centenary celebrations.

My thanks also to all our member newspapers for their support and to Kym Tilbrook, whose family has a proud heritage in country newspapers, for researching and editing this book which details the history of country newspapers and the association.

Predicting the future of country newspapers is no easy task. I doubt whether a crystal ball will give a clear picture.

But one thing is sure – our papers will continue to move with the times and be at the forefront of emerging technology and social media.

I wish members all the best for the next 100 years in our journey of informing, enlightening and entertaining our loyal readers.

Trevor Channon
President Country Press SA Inc.
Harry Peake Remembers

CELEBRATION of the centenary of Country Press in South Australia is not only significant for the South Australian Association but a tribute to the people who have participated in publication of the many newspapers which have been published in that time.

The development and progress of the editorial and printing sections of local country newspapers in 100 years is worthy of high commendation. Use of the unique machine known as the linotype with its hot metal and the flat bed presses or streamfed units was mind boggling.

The transition to computers and offset presses together with the revolutionary use of illustrations both in news and advertising has given a new meaning to publishing.

Promulgation of the news and general activities in the community has been the strong point of the local paper.

Melding the papers into a State Association was a vital step as was its membership of the Australian Provincial Press Association. The late Jack Power played a pivotal role in SA Provincial Press Association when he introduced the Clearing House system for advertisers. His scheme was eventually adopted by all States.

Jack was also responsible for SA and WA being given equal voting rights in Australian Provincial Press matters. His service to the Association as secretary was outstanding and he was followed by another staunch employee Mary Townsend-King.

My life in Country Press started when I was discharged from the Royal Australian Navy in 1946. I had joined in 1943 from being a telegraph messenger at the GPO Adelaide. I was 17 and needed parental permission to volunteer.

On discharge at 20, I returned to the PMG’s Department but found I was not to be promoted, so I resigned and was accepted in a rehabilitation course to study journalism.

Two ex-RAAF men from Victoria had purchased the Mount Barker Courier so I asked them if I could work for them. They did not have to pay me.

I studied journalism as a correspondence course which included shorthand and typing at the local High School (in an all girls’ class).

I worked in general reporting for the Courier during the day and wrote my assignments at night. I later included the accounting work for the Courier at main weekends.

Meanwhile I married and had three children under two-and-a-half years (also three jobs for the bread and butter).

The Courier changed hands again and over time I did not see eye to eye with the new proprietor. In 1955 I offered to pay him to stay away and I leased the Courier for three years as editor and proprietor.

It was in 1955 when I became a member of SA Provincial Press and joined the executive committee. I remained a committee member until 1979 when my son Richard took my place and also bought The Naracoorte Herald with which I had been associated since 1958.

I was president of SA Provincial Press from 1959 to 1962 and president of Australian Provincial Press from 1962 to 1965. In 1977 I became a life member of both bodies.

My journeys to Melbourne as a South Australian delegate to executive meetings of Australian Provincial Press Association were always an adventure. My wife Margaret would pack our three small children in the car and drive me 80 kilometres to Bordertown. I had to stop the Melbourne Express which was fine except that it passed through Bordertown at 11pm and was not scheduled to stop.

Jack Power would be on board and he would arrange with the train driver and the carriage porter to slow down sufficiently at the platform to allow me to jump aboard. I would return on the Express the next night but would reach Bordertown at 3am.

Again we had to arrange for the train to slow and I had to throw my bags off and jump.

Margaret would be waiting for me and we would drive home to Naracoorte. I would then have a rest before going to the office at 6am and turning the power on for the linotypes so the metal would be melted when the staff began work at 8am.

In 1968, I became the first Country Press member to be honoured by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11 in her Honours List. I received the OBE (Officer of the British Empire).

The citation which was presented by the then Deputy Governor of SA, Sir Mellis Napier, stated the award was “for service to the Country Press of Australia and to the community.” I also take pride in the manner in which we handled the perceived infiltration of Adelaide’s free press into the country. When I heard the rumours, I immediately called a meeting of all South-East proprietors to deal with any problem and we registered The South East Free Press and established a fund.

In addition, because the problem appeared it might go State-wide, we held a meeting of all proprietors at Murray Bridge. As a result, Venturi was established and I was the first chairman. It served the purpose.

At the same time I was chairman of S.A. Country Newspapers Limited for 17 years.

During my period of president of Australian Provincial Press Association I was invited to become a member of the Immigration Publicity Council. The Minister of Immigration at the time was Sir Alec Downer from South Australia.

I served for six years and had input into the establishment of a newspaper for the migrants most of whom worked on the Snowy Mountain Scheme.

The future of country newspapers is assured because country people are interested in their community, the deliberation of their local government and the activities of their neighbours.
MARY KING was one of the key trailblazers for women in country newspapers. She joined the Provincial Press Association of South Australia in 1970 as an assistant to the legendary secretary John F. Power who was known throughout the industry as Jack. He was a tough man and Mary was a willing learner in an industry which was dominated by men. Some newspaper proprietors didn’t think she was up to the job but over the five years until Jack retired in 1975 she set about proving them wrong.

Her tenacity and ethic of hard work acquired when she nursed injured soldiers from Normandy and Dunkirk during World War II began to win people over and she succeeded Mr Power to the senior management role.

The title of the position was changed and Mary (then known as Mary Townsend) became the first executive director of the Provincial Press Association of South Australia and secretary/manager of S.A. Country Newspapers Ltd, set up as an advertising agency and Central Clearing house.

Before joining the Provincial Press Association of South Australia (later changed to the Country Press Association of S.A. Inc. and then Country Press SA Inc.), Mary worked as a secretary to the manager of Haussen Radiators.

When she saw an advertisement calling for an assistant to Mr Power she applied but thought she wouldn’t have a chance of success because there were 30 applicants, “some of them from university.”

“The rest is history, as they say,” she says. Mary went on to be executive director for 22 years, retiring in 1998 and being made a life member in January, 1998. She was the first woman to hold the honor – the only other woman life member is Margaret Manuel from The Plains Producer.

In 1997, she became the first and only woman to be made a life member of the national body, Country Press Australia.

Reflecting on her career in an interview for this book, Mary said she really enjoyed her work with country press. “I always got up in the morning looking forward to going to work. There was always a challenge, always something to do, something to work out. It was really very interesting,” she recalls.

“The country people I worked with were tremendous people. I did have a few problems in the beginning because I was a woman in a man’s world.”

“I soon overcame them. They said I did have the same initials as former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. (Mrs Thatcher was known as the Iron Lady.)

“I was a person who believed in the law, rules and regulations and I ran it like that.” Mary loved the “interesting and diverse work” and really relished working in the industrial relations area for the association and S.A. Country Newspapers Ltd.

“We had a lot of unfair dismissal issues. It took some of the proprietors a long time to do the right thing by employees,” she said. “They said a lot of what was in the award was crazy and they didn’t want to abide by it. Eventually they did.”

Mary’s industrial work also involved dealing with wage cases under two Federal Awards – the journalists’ Award with the Australian journalists’ Association and the Federal Country Printing Award.

She also remembers being locked in battle over getting a fair share of Federal and State Government advertising for association members. “That was an issue that came up time and time again, even from when the association was formed in 1912,” she said.

“The main thing all members were interested in was how much advertising they were going to get. Getting advertising was always first and foremost but it was very, very difficult.”

As executive director it was also Mary’s job to organise the annual conferences, a task she loved. Conferences are held in the country every second year and provide an opportunity for plenty of socialising.

“After the hard work in the conferences there was always plenty of partying. They played hard and I can remember drinking to all hours of the night,” she says.

At her life membership presentation in 1998, the citation noted that Mary had brought “a female touch to what was then very much a man’s world.”

It said her appointment thrust her into the throes of country newspapers. “Mary revelled in the demands of the position meeting each challenge with the determination and strength of character that was to give her the respect of all involved in regional newspapers.

“She was also an ambassador within the Adelaide community keeping in touch with suppliers, clients and government departments always upholding the position of country newspapers and protecting the interests of members.

“Throughout the 70s and 80s in the fast changing world of industrial relations, Mary developed a keen interest in pay rates, hours of work, tea breaks, annual leave, sick leave, maternity leave, in fact anything that may or may not be covered in an industrial award.” The citation said her dedication to the interest of country newspaper proprietors was never more evident than when providing industrial advice supporting a proprietor when a problem arose.

It also noted Mary was “the hub, the connection,” in contact with members from Katherine to Kangaroo Island, Ceduna to Mount Gambier and all points in between.

Asked in 2011 what the honors meant to her, Mary said: “They meant everything to me. I felt as though I had been accepted by the country press organisations – not so much by our boys but by those nationally.”

Interview by Kym Tilbrook
FOR MORE than 30 years I had the privilege of editing *The Loxton News*. I was always aware of the responsibility to provide readers with a newspaper they could trust to contain a truthful, accurate record of local news across the spectrum of life in our district.

It is worth noting that country newspapers, in general, continue to report on what has happened in their circulation areas, in contrast to the gradual changes that have been evident in city dailies where news reporting has, to a large extent, been replaced by comment and opinion.

Not only is the local newspaper the principal, and often the only, source of news and information about community activities, but it is also an historical record of its district.

As editor I placed a strong emphasis on reporting local council news, from the major decisions made right down to minor items. I attended council meetings and recorded debates on large and small topics, with the subsequent published reports containing councillors’ comments made during the debates. That kept readers informed about councillors’ views on the variety of issues discussed and decided by the local council. Whenever possible the reports also included voting details.

In addition to council news, space was always made available for reports submitted by local clubs such as the RSL, Red Cross, CWA, Senior Citizens, Garden Club and others. These seemingly mundane reports of meetings were important to the respective members and I quickly learned that plenty of people other than members read them. In fact I soon realised that most *Loxton News* readers read virtually everything published in each issue. I also quickly became aware that an essential aspect of editing a country newspaper was ensuring that people’s names are spelled correctly.

Country journalists live among their readers who can be forthright in pointing out factual errors in their local newspaper, including mistakes such as mis-spelling names. On the other hand, many readers had positive comments about their local paper.

A comprehensive coverage of sport was always provided because of the wide community participation and interest in local and regional sports, while wide coverage was given to local school activities, social events and primary industry topics.

For the first 15 years I was editor of *The Loxton News*, I wrote all the editorial copy, took most of the photographs – which meant attending all the events covered by the paper, frequently at weekends – sold the advertising (and wrote the copy) and looked after the business affairs of the company. As the financial situation of the business improved I was able to employ a cadet journalist, the first of many young women and men who took their initial steps along the path to a career in journalism at *The Loxton News*. Having the opportunity to be a mentor for these enthusiastic and (mostly) very capable budding young journalists was a great pleasure – and sometimes an interesting challenge.

The technological changes which occurred in the 40 years that I was actively involved with *The Loxton News* brought enormous benefits, particularly for journalists. Fax machines made life much easier as a variety of information could be obtained through that facility in place of the often lengthy telephone calls that had previously been necessary. The major change however saw the phasing out of hot metal typesetting with those marvellous clanking linotype/interotype machines replaced initially by photo typesetters and eventually by computers, as newspapers switched to the offset printing process. Computers, with their speed of operation and enormous capabilities, have opened up new horizons for journalists.

Much of the content of a country newspaper can be mundane, but it is important to the community within its circulation area. There have been occasions when the major local news was far from mundane. Among those were the explosion and fire which erupted when a fuel tanker overturned in the town; a robbery attempt at the Loxton Hotel when thieves blew the door off a massive safe; a police raid on the first major drug crop found in an isolated Mallee setting; and a dramatic story of a local man who claimed he was kidnapped. Other major news items involved noisy political meetings, in the days when such events were held – and well attended; major local council decisions, some of which were not always well received by the community; and natural disasters within the district (thankfully rare events).

Some country newspapers do not have an editorial but I believe it is important that a local paper should be offering comment, particularly, but not exclusively, on local issues. An editorial can lead, or encourage, public debate which may prompt readers to become involved by, for example, writing letters to the editor expressing their views. In this way the local paper is providing a forum for local issues to be discussed. While local and regional topics should be the main subject of editorials, state and national issues can also be addressed, particularly if they impact on country communities.

A country newspaper is an asset to the community it serves. Whenever a local paper ceases publication its absence leaves a gap in the fabric of that community. Ultimately, the continued existence of any newspaper depends upon the advertising revenue it receives. A local newspaper needs advertising support from its local businesses and if that diminishes, for whatever reason, the newspaper’s future is under threat. In SA, many local newspapers have been forced to close down and in some instances that masthead has been absorbed into a larger, regional newspaper. While the number of newspapers has fallen in South Australia since I became actively involved, there is still a strong network across the state, although ownership now mainly comprises companies instead of the individual families which owned and produced the papers throughout the long and proud history of country newspapers in South Australia.
IF THERE is an over-riding impression from a long involvement with country newspapers in this state and others, it is the deeply-seated commitment of the people who managed and produced those publications.

They were fiercely proud of the newspapers they published, intensely involved in the communities they served and acutely aware of their responsibilities to those communities.

That commitment was especially evident among family-owned newspapers, most of which had talented and equally enthusiastic employees working side-by-side with the owners.

As with many families, the broader country press family generally was united, but not infrequently challenged by self-interest, personality conflict, commercial competition or interstate rivalry.

My introduction to Country Press was as an observer at the annual conference at Castle Motor Inn, Edwardstown, in 1966, followed by attending as a delegate in 1968 at Victor Harbor and almost annually thereafter.

Election to the committee at the 1972 Whyalla conference, serving as vice-president to Peter Marston between 1977 and 1979, then president from 1979 to 1981, brought exposure to the workings of Provincial Press associations nationally. The complexities of industrial negotiations, government lobbying, personalities, internal politics and interstate rivalry were all part of the package.

The opportunities this provided to gather ideas, accumulate an extensive list of contacts and become involved in broader industry matters were invaluable to our family’s newspapers.

Further exposure to the important role of country press at a national level came from periods on the Australian Provincial Press Association committee of management and terms as vice-president then president between 1983 and 1985. This brought with it meetings of the Media Council of Australia and Advertising Standards Bureau, appearances at the Federal Industrial Relations Court, negotiations with printing and journalist unions, connections with the Australian Press Council, journalism training and much more.

Factions, mainly state-based, were to the fore. Quite out-of-the-blue during a lunch break at APPA’s 1979 conference in Maroochydore on the Sunshine Coast, senior Victorian delegates pressured me strongly to stand for election that afternoon as federal vice-president— for no other reason than the Victorians wanted to block election of the NSW candidate.

Memorable Country Press experiences included the expulsion by president Ray Edwards (The Transcontinental) of Hector Hentridge (Balaklava Producer) from a conference session. Hector had refused to remove a “long neck” bottle of beer he’d brought in to help him through the meeting.

As often happened on the first night of a three-day conference program, spirits were high after dinner at American River, Kangaroo Island in 1974. There had been a heavy afternoon business session, described by president Denis Hann as a “baptism of fire”. Advertising catalogues were viewed as a threat to our advertising volumes; some members didn’t want to accept them as inserts into their newspapers and those who did could not agree on a suggested method of charging. The “Tilbrook proposal” accepted by conference next day was thrashed out late into the night in a crowded motel room.

That gathering continued into the small hours, with stories, singing and the recital of The Man From Snowy River, in its entirety, by Ampol boss Ivor Poland (Ampol sponsored our “best newspaper” awards).

The Willson story in South Australia began when W.J.C. (Jock) Willson arrived by ship from Great Britain on April 1, 1936, aged 21. He had completed his printing apprenticeship in Selkirk, Scotland, and came to join his mother, who’d migrated years earlier and lived in Renmark. He was employed by Gilmore Taylor of The Murray Pioneer and worked for a time at the Pioneer’s Barmera office. That began friendships between the Taylor and Willson families which continue today into a third generation.

From Renmark, Jock Willson moved to Whyalla after forming a partnership with J.E. (Jack) Edwards, a writer with The News in Adelaide and part-owner of The Transcontinental, Port Augusta. He began business as sole employee in a humble tin shed in Patterson Street, Whyalla, on Australia Day, January 26, 1940, doing job printing and acting as Whyalla correspondent for The Transcontinental.

The Whyalla News was launched on April 5, 1940, and printed in Port Augusta. A new Whyalla building was occupied in July, 1941, and the newspaper was printed there. Jack Edwards was editor until his death in the mid-1950s when Don Winton, a sub-editor at the recently-acquired The Recorder, Port Pirie, transferred to Whyalla. Don was editor for 23 years. In more than 35 years the newspaper had just two editors.

At its height as a tri-weekly, the Whyalla News had nine editorial staff plus two photographers. Always keen to embrace progress, Jock Willson was recognised as a leader in adopting new technology in country South Australia.

Nothing but the best was acceptable in catering for readers of the Whyalla News and it was a consistent winner of the association’s annual awards. An example: Recognising the huge interest in British soccer among Whyalla’s large migrant population, Jock wanted the weekend UK soccer results in Monday’s Whyalla News – without the aid of today’s electronic communications. He had the News of the World air-mailed to arrive from London on Fridays so the weekend soccer draw could be typed out. On Sunday night the editorial staff tuned to the BBC on short-wave radio to take down the scores as they were read on air.
MANY NEWSPAPER publishers across the globe are facing reduced classified advertising revenue while at the same time struggling to maintain circulation levels.

When coupled with the meteoric growth in electronic communication alternatives and the savings in printing and distribution costs with on-line publishing, it is little wonder the predicted demise of newspapers in their current form is gaining momentum.

Major newspaper players are spending millions to develop electronic models in what could be viewed as a precursor to abandoning their mastheads in their present form. Indeed there are predictions that newspapers as we know them will cease to exist within 20 years.

With almost every Australian home having an internet connection and the plethora of smart phones and electronic tablets, major publishers are clearly repositioning their businesses.

And caught up in this galloping whirlwind of change are small country newspapers.

It is both a confusing and daunting position.

Country publishers have, in comparison with their city counterparts, limited time, staff and other resources to educate themselves, develop strategies or implement wholesale changes to be at the cutting edge of what is predicted to be a vastly different news makeup.

They are largely on their own and many are taking a wait and see attitude ... a position regarded by some as putting their heads in the sand.

So, the big question is: Are country newspapers doing enough to plan for the future or are they asleep at the wheel?

Time to learn

Due to the unique position enjoyed by country papers, which are often held in high regard by their loyal readers, their publishers have time to become better educated to the challenges.

Now is not time to panic. It is a time to learn.

It is definitely not the time to abandon more than a century of hard work and brand development in a blind rush to simply move with the times.

The current financial and circulation pressures felt by some larger publishers are not as strong among SA country papers and a number have recorded increases since the Global Financial Crisis.

This is because they are giving readers what they want.

Newspapers have ridden out threats in the past. Once feared competitors such as radio and television have earned a respected place in the media mix and this current electronic trend will, in all likelihood, take its position in the general makeup as well.

There is little doubt country newspaper publishers will have to embrace new technology on some level – just as they have done in the past with production-based innovations such as full colour press lines as well as computer to plate and digital technology.

Connecting with communities using Twitter and Facebook prior to publication is an effective form engagement, but a total shift to a digital format is a far more complicated question.

Will digital win?

In times of uncertainty it is wise to stick to the basics, and newspaper proprietors should remember their core business is selling advertising wrapped in a tantalising mix of news and information. People will continue to seek quality news from a source they trust. Publishers must remain steadfast in their commitment to the basics of good journalism. Balanced reporting and accurate information will always attract readers, which, in turn attracts advertisers. Country papers are a brilliant vehicle through which to sell a huge variety of products.

The penetration rates in local areas are astounding and no other electronic alternative available today can sell advertising to a local audience as successfully.

Country newspaper will survive and continue to remain relevant because almost every story published is an exclusive.

Each edition is filled with stories about local people and local issues not found anywhere else on the planet ... or in cyberspace!

Simply transferring newspapers onto the internet won't replace the printed version.

Putting a double page spread onto a relatively small computer screen is unlikely to succeed for the simple reason that advertisers become lost. The ads are simply not seen unless the reader’s interest in an adjacent headline or photo is great enough to double click and home in on that specific part of the page. Such a scenario does not put the advertiser’s interests first – which is bad for everyone’s business.

This electronic form may suit large branding-style ads for major companies such as banks and insurance companies ... but not the local butcher or menswear store – the bread and butter clients for country papers. Smart phones are likely to emerge as people’s personal computers which may place pressure on the tablet – the electronic replacement for newspapers. But phones have a disadvantage in that they are too small to deliver a visual mix of news and advertising.

Most country papers publish only once or twice a week which adds further complexity to those watching what the dailies are doing.

Placing too much news on websites before publication is a self-defeating purpose for paid papers.

The negative implications of such actions are being felt by major players who are now demanding readers pay for access to an online version which has nowhere near the level of credibility of the printed product.

And in the rush for instant news gratification, significant mistakes are sometimes made with fact checking and research being sidelined in the haste.

Instant news is not always better for the consumer and the subsequent lack of trust which develops is a disaster for the provider.

Newspaper business secure

Country newspapers are likely to evolve into multi-pronged media businesses ... but their paper future seems secure for some time.

Unless a far superior model is developed that can deliver dozens of messages from advertisers in a way that does not dominate the delivery of the news, then the change to a total electronic base will struggle.

The most likely scenario is the printed version will work hand-in-hand with an electronic arm.

Newspapers must service readers better by providing electronic links on their websites for those who want more information on a story, copies of speeches, full transcripts of interviews, related videos and images or to access archives.

But for a snapshot of what is happening in a local community for the past week, the local paper is well ahead of any currently available alternative. And I can’t see that changing in the short term.

A quick perusal of newspaper websites (and some newspapers themselves) reveals an alarming trend away from news and into celebrity, gossip and titillation. Such a move is unlikely to maintain a readership or advertising base in the long term.

The public’s initial interest in this new medium may well lose its current appeal and be replaced by a desire for something more substantial. Let’s hope so, for all our sakes.
SA Country Newspapers
1839 – 2012

1962 Committee at 50th anniversary celebrations.
Back, from left: J. Luddy, V. Starr, R. Watson, R. Warne, R. Edwards, H. Hentridge
Front, from left: secretary J. Power, president H. Peake, E. Sprigg, B. Kieshagen

173 years of our regional newspapers
pages 14-34
SOUTH AUSTRALIA has a long and rich history of country newspapers serving the community.

Variously described as the “local rag,” "the egg timer," “the country bible,” “penny journal” and “my local,” country newspapers have always had a spot in the heart of their loyal country readers.

The service and commitment by the papers to their communities over the 173 years since the first country paper – the Port Lincoln Herald and South Australian Commercial Advertiser – was published in 1839, cannot be questioned.

Over those years there have been about 150 SA country papers published. In the heyday of country papers, 61 were published between 1911 and 1915. After that, papers declined for a number of factors, including changing population demographics which saw people drift from the country to the city and the amalgamation of mastheads.

The papers, which are also the recorders of the history of regional SA, have reported issues without fear or favour, always seeking the best for their towns, residents and surrounding areas. When necessary, editors have not been scared to pen stinging barbs against local Members of Parliament or their local council.

They have been there for the good times and the bad times – throughout boom and bust, two World Wars, drought and flooding rain.

They have stood with communities as they have counted the cost of the Depression, and they have supported communities as they were forced to rebuild after devastating fires.

The publishing of a paper gave a town incredible status and part of the social fabric as well as the culture of a town. It informs, enlightens, entertains; it often acts as a social conscience; it is always an integral part of a rural community,” he said.

“You know better than I that newspapers in rural areas are read as closely and eagerly as a letter from a friend. Their columns touch the personal lives of their readers much more than a large city or national paper could ever hope.”

Former Labor Premier, John Bannon, writing in the 1985 Country Press Week paper said: “...the country newspapers in South Australia do a very important job in disseminating news, and in keeping local communities aware of events and happenings in their immediate circulation areas.

“They are very much the voice of the people and usually play a major role in promoting local issues. As such they are an important part of the communities they serve, and those communities would be much the poorer if their papers operated in any other way.”

In 1987, Country Press Association of S.A. Inc. president, Ken Jeffreys, wrote in the Country Press Week paper that country newspapers had one thing in common: “…that is to give readers the news that blankets the total community. From the local councils to the beetles club, all organisations are given a fair go by their ‘local’.

“The local newspaper considers itself very much part of the community as it should be – and wants the community and organisations to do well.

“After all, if the community prospers, the paper will prosper.”

In 1996, Country Press Association of S.A. Inc. president, Paul Taylor, echoed similar thoughts on why country papers were popular: “News coverage from the biggest story to the footy midgets ensures that readers know everything that happens in their district.”

Family dynasties

Over the long history, family dynasties played a major role in the expansion of country papers. Names such as Osborne, Dumas, Tilbrook, Taylor, Barnet, Ellis, Bennett, Robinson, Judell, Peake, Hill, Willson, Marston, Milnes, Elliott, Jones, Poulton, Watson and Laurie have had long associations with papers, some dating back to the 1860s.

In 1861 in Mount Gambier, Janet Laurie, who was a pioneer for women in newspapers, started The Border Watch, the oldest SA country paper still in circulation. The Laurie family went into partnership with John Watson in 1863 and Watson became editor, serving in that position for 62 years. The Laurie and Watson family association continued until 1958 when Clarrie Laurie died. The Watson family continued with the paper until 1977 when it was sold to the South East Telecasters company. It is now owned by the Scott Group of Companies.

The Bunyip, started by the Barnet family in Gawler in 1863 is still published. They ran the paper until 2003 when it was sold to the Renmark-based Taylor Group of Newspapers.
In 1866, Ebenezer Ward published The Southern Argus and River Murray Advertiser, and in late 1871 William Fisher and Joseph Elliott became the new owners. Mr Fisher did not stay long, but the Elliott family continued with the paper until it formed a partnership with the Jones family in 1940. That partnership continued until 1969 when the Jones family took over on the death of Cecil Elliott. The Southern Argus is still published at Strathalbyn by the Jones family.

The Tilbrook family, of Clare, ran The Northern Argus for 127 years from 1869 to 1996 when it was taken over by Rural Press, now known as Fairfax Media. Co-founded by Henry Hammond Tilbrook, it is still published weekly under the editorship of David Wright.

A new era
A significant milestone in the history of SA country newspapers was the formation of the Provincial Press Association of South Australia in March and April, 1912. Forty years later it changed to the Provincial Press Association of South Australia Inc. In 1979, it changed its name to the Country Press Association of S.A. Inc. and in 2007 to Country Press SA Inc. with its now familiar logo of a border collie carrying a newspaper. The dog features in the special gold logo created for the centenary. Today, Country Press SA Inc. has 33 member papers – 31 in SA, plus the Katherine Times in the Northern Territory and the Barrier Daily Truth at Broken Hill.

With Mr R. H. Barnet of The Bunyip as its first president and Mr J.B. Cant of the Barossa News as its first secretary, the association’s main object was “to watch over and protect the interests, rights and privileges, and to assist in promoting the greater efficiency and influence of the Provincial Press of South Australia.”

Another key object was “to place the Metropolitan and general advertising business of country newspapers on a reliable and satisfactory basis.”

Advertising – the lifeblood of the papers - was to be an issue that dominated many general, executive and annual general meetings over the next 100 years.

In November, 1921, Provincial Press Association of South Australia president, Mr C.M.R. Dumas (Mt Barker Courier), and secretary, Mr C.B. O’Reilly (Maitland Watch), sent a confidential memo to members under the heading: “Proposed Co-operative Trading Company.”

It said the plan was to form a company and to raise a capital of at least 1500 pounds in one pound shares to purchase one of the oldest established advertising agencies in South Australia as a going concern.

In late January, 1922, a prospectus was issued for the Provincial Press Co-operative Company of South Australia Limited. The capital to be raised was 5000 pounds in 5000 shares of one pound each. One thousand five hundred shares were offered for subscription and 3500 shares were held in reserve for future issue.

Under the heading “Objects,” the prospectus said the company was being formed “for the purpose of acquiring and working a General Advertising Agency Business and of establishing a Co-operative Newspaper Trading Office in Adelaide on the lines of similar companies established by Provincial Newspaper Proprietors in the other States of Australia.”

It said the intention was to purchase the “well-known and old established general Advertising Agency Business carried on at Davenport Chambers Currie Street Adelaide by Henry Hampson.”

It noted that the chance to buy the company should not be allowed to pass.

The company continued operations until January, 1957, when it became known as S.A. Country Newspapers Limited. In 1964, S.A. Country Newspapers Ltd “pioneered” in Australia what was known as Central Clearing, a system whereby advertisers, particularly national advertising agencies, could place their order in one clearing house, instead of sending individual orders to every newspaper in SA. One of the driving forces behind Central Clearing was long-serving secretary, Jack Power, a man known for his strong negotiating skills and powers of persuasion.

The new system ran for more than 27 years and went through many highs and lows. Minutes of a general committee meeting on August 11, 1967, reveal major problems early in its life. Under the heading of “Whyalla News,” the chairman of directors of S.A. Country Newspapers Ltd, Harry Peake, reported that the directors were very concerned about an alleged letter sent to advertising agents by an executive of the Whyalla News criticising S.A. Country Newspapers Ltd and Central Clearing and inviting the agents to deal direct with the newspaper.
Mr Peake reported that the Whyalla News had been invited to attend a meeting, but for various reasons they had declined. He also warned there appeared to be a possibility that the results of the action by the Whyalla News could affect neighbouring newspapers and “possibly all member newspapers.”

Difficulties continued throughout the 1970s and 1980s with minutes of general committee meetings detailing problems. Eventually the industry became fragmented with some papers opting to use the sales group of the Wilson family’s SA Regional Media company which included the Whyalla News.

Late in 1990 there was a plan for a proposed merger between S.A. Country Newspapers Ltd and SA Regional Media “with the view to providing a full and complete advertising sales, central distribution and accounting service for the Country Newspapers in this State.”

The merger did not eventuate and with members leaving Central Clearing it became unviable. In December, 1991, the board of directors of S.A. Country Newspapers Ltd decided to sell the agency to Charterhouse and the final winding up of the company took about 12 months.

Long-serving executive director of the Country Press Association of S.A. Inc and manager of S.A. Country Newspapers Ltd, Mrs Mary King (formerly Townsend), said in an interview for this book that she was “absolutely stunned” when the Clearing House collapsed.

“I was very upset. It was a very good operation. The agencies liked it and most of the newspapermen did but they didn’t like having to pay the commission which helped in its downfall,” she said.

In his 1992 annual report president John Pick, of The River News, Waikerie, said that the Country Press Association of S.A. Inc. had undergone a very difficult year. The biggest change had been the closure of the Clearing House, which had been run for the benefit of members for as long as he could remember “and was the major booking service for many of us.”

Mr Pick said that through negotiations with Tom Raggatt of Hastwell Williamson Representation, those who relied on the Clearing House had been able to get the representation they needed “and seem happy with the arrangement.” His report drew the curtain on an advertising venture that had started with the Co-operative Trading Company and had lasted 70 years.

Other major issues which have reared their head since 1912 include industrial matters such as pay rates, hours of work and overtime; sales tax; newsprint supply; manpower, especially in the war years; gaining enough state and federal advertising; bootleg printing; and loyalty of members, with several presidents warning that newspapers had to work together for the benefit of all.

**Tracing our country newspapers**

The history of SA’s country newspapers is absorbing. Earlier research by Professor G.J. Hugo (who was assisted by the Provincial Press Association of South Australia), of the School of Social Sciences at Flinders University, reveals that between 1911 and 1915, there were 61 papers being published. Following the First World War, increased motor travel and increasing mechanisation on farms saw rural populations become more mobile and there was a drift of people away from the country, resulting in papers amalgamating or closing.

In Professor Hugo’s research paper – *South Australian Country Newspapers 1839-1971 A Preliminary List and Survey* – it shows that from 1916 to 1920 the number of papers published dropped to 51 and between 1966 and 1970 that number had reduced to 42. The following year – 1971 – saw a very steep drop to 32 papers. Since that time the number of papers has been relatively unchanged.

Most of SA was unexplored when the *Port Lincoln Herald and South Australian Commercial Advertiser* began publishing in 1839 – only three years after the State was Proclaimed at a ceremony at the Old Gum Tree at Glenelg. Famous explorer Edward John Eyre was still planning his 1840 Overland Expedition, to become the first man to cross southern Australia from east to west across the vast and unforgiving Nullarbor Plain, and Burke and Wills were still 21 years off starting their ill-fated expedition to cross Australia from south to north and return.

John Ainsworth Horrocks’ ill-fated expedition to search for new agricultural lands near Lake Torrens in the north was still seven years off, and one of Australia’s greatest explorers, Scotsman John McDouall Stuart, who arrived in SA in January, 1839, did not forge his way into the centre of Australia until the 1860s.

The *Port Lincoln Herald and South Australian Commercial Advertiser* was the eighth provincial paper to begin publishing in Australia and the first on the mainland. Interestingly, the first seven provincial papers were published in Tasmania, the first being *The Tasmanian* which was published in Launceston on January 5, 1825, with its final issue on May 18, 1825.

After that, Launceston had two papers in 1829, one in 1831, one in 1835, and two short-lived papers in 1839.

The first provincial paper on the mainland outside SA was the *Geelong Advertiser*, published on November 21, 1840. It is still published today and is a member of the Murdoch family’s stable of News Ltd papers. New South Wales’ first country paper was the *Hunter River Gazette* published by Thomas Strode at Maitland from December 11, 1841, to June 25, 1842.
First printed on April 10, 1839, the Port Lincoln Herald and South Australian CommercialAdvertiser announced its new venture: “The establishment of the Commercial Emporium of South Australia at Port Lincoln renders the immediate publication of a newspaper imperative.

“The object of the proprietors…is to promulgate just accounts of the capabilities of the only safe and commodious yet known within the territories of South Australia, and which from its position must become not merely the principal station for the rich fisheries of our shores, but the centre of all the great important commercial, agricultural, and pastoral operations of our rising province.”

Owned by Robert Thomas of the South Australian Gazette and Colonial Register, its first edition was printed in Adelaide and second in a hut at Port Lincoln. The paper was short-lived, with only six editions believed to have been published, the last on May 19, 1840. A co-owner, George Dehane, then took charge to publish his own title, The Adelaide General Advertiser and Port Lincoln Herald. The last edition held by the State Library is Vol 1 No 13 (October 29, 1840) – it is believed the paper closed about this time.

The next two country papers in SA came from Tanunda in the Barossa Valley. Both catered to the German population in the region with Deutsche Post published in January, 1848, and the Suétd Staatszeitung in late 1849. At least seven German papers were published at various times at Tanunda until up 1929.

The 1860s was a time of growth for country newspapers with at least 12 starting up. Research by Anthony Laube, newspaper librarian with the State Library, shows that The Northern Star, published in 1860, was the first SA country newspaper – published in English – to last more than a handful of issues. Printed at Kapunda by George Massey Allen, it certainly made its mark on the mining town.

Mr Allen had a wonderfully colourful turn of phrase which often got him into terrible trouble. In the first weeks of publication he was taken to the Supreme Court for libel over an article in which he described a visiting Italian Opera as “a superlative humbug… (who) should at once amalgamate…with the crocodiles and the singing duck.”

His criticism was not restricted to the Italian Opera. He described the Kapunda Institute Committee as having not one “educated man” on it, and later lampooned the local Magistrate in his reports on local court cases. At one stage he dubbed the Magistrate ‘Chief Baron Ball-o-Wax.’

Anthony Laube has recorded on the State Library’s SA Memory website: “Clearly Allen’s newspaper had a diminishing support from the townspeople of Kapunda. Local news coverage was sparse. After weeks of advertisements requesting outstanding subscription payments – ‘many’ of them three years overdue - the newspaper apparently closed down without warning in 1863 when Allen was jailed as a result of the libel case against him by the Italian Opera.”

The Border Watch was established at Mount Gambier in 1861 by Janet Laurie and her two teenage sons, Andrew and James. They arrived in Mount Gambier from Portland (Victoria) following the death of Janet’s husband, the Reverend Alexander Laurie, who had started the Portland Herald in 1850.

The Border Watch was named after a newspaper – The Border Watchman – from near their birthplace in Scotland. In 1863, they formed a partnership with a fellow Scot, John Watson, who had a colourful career, serving as editor for 62 years until his death at 91 in 1925.

For a time he held the world record as the longest-serving newspaper editor. In 1925, John R. Watson took over as editor and continued until 1941. By that time two members of the Watson family had held the editorship for an extraordinary 78 years.

Today, the paper is owned by the Scott Group of Companies which also publishes The Penant at Penola and The South Eastern Times at Millicent.

The year 1863 saw two new papers – the Tanunda Deutsche Zeitung and The Bunyip at Gawler. The Bunyip was first produced as a monthly, then a bi-monthly, but in January, 1866, it became Gawler’s weekly newspaper. It started when a group of local men formed the Gawler Humbug Society and members, Dr George Nott and William Barnet, published a newsletter named The Bunyip.

The publication’s aim was to lampoon and deflate perceived forms of humbug, in particular the ‘humbug’ produced in the South Australian Parliament.

After its first edition on Saturday, September 5, 1863, a Dr Popham sued for libel and sought 500 pounds. On March 16, 1864, the case was heard, with Dr Popham being awarded only one shilling, without costs.

The Barnet family published The Bunyip for almost 140 years before selling to the Taylor Group of Newspapers in April, 2003. Kapunda’s second paper – the Kapunda Herald – began in 1864 under founder Charles Barton of the Tanunda Deutsche Zeitung.

It was published for nearly 90 years, and until 1918, when The Leader at Angaston began, the Herald was the only English language newspaper covering the Barossa Valley and Murray Flats.

It had several owners, including Mr C. B. O’Reilly, the secretary of the Provincial Press Association of South Australia for more than 30 years. In September, 1923, Leslie Tilbrook, of Clare, took over the paper after working as editor for six years. (Leslie was a nephew of Henry Hammond Tilbrook, co-founder of The Northern Argus at Clare.) In 1951, he sold the Herald and it was combined with the Barossa News to become the Barossa and Light Herald.

Yorke Peninsula’s first paper

The first of several papers to call the Yorke Peninsula home was established in 1865. The Wallaroo Times and Mining Journal was set up as a result of the discovery of copper in Moonta in 1861. Twin brothers David and Andrew Taylor and George Thompson Clarkson launched the twice weekly paper at the bustling Wallaroo port.

Their message to readers was: “When other far less important districts in the colony, such as Tanunda and Kapunda, can support their local newspapers, it would be a disgrace to Yorke’s Peninsula and to South Australia if in this great mining district…a newspaper could not be kept up.”

The paper moved to Kadina in 1888 as The Kadina & Wallaroo Times and mostly reported on issues in Kadina and Wallaroo. Matters dear to the hearts of the Taylor brothers (Clarkson left the paper in 1868) were the future of mining, free trade and Australian independence from Britain.
The paper was a strong supporter of the infant Liberal Union which upset local Labor MP John Verran, the member for Wallaroo from 1901 to 1918. He was also Premier of SA for one year and 259 days, from June 3, 1910 to February 17, 1912. In a speech to Parliament, Mr Verran described the paper as a "rag" and called its editor, the Reverend R.J. Rose, a "broken-down parson."

The Times had several owners and in 1963 it was sold to C.J.G. (Cecil) and T.F. (Trevor) Ellis of the Moonta-based The People's Weekly (established 1890) which was merged with the Kadina-based Times by the Ellis family in 1966. The Times was merged with another Kadina-based paper, The South Australian Farmer (owned by the Tossell family and edited by Ben Kaechagen), to form the Yorke Peninsula Country Times in 1968. The Times is still run by the Ellis family today. Trevor Ellis and his son, Michael, have both served as president of Country Press SA Inc. and in the centenary year, Michael is also president of Country Press Australia.

Mount Gambier had its second paper in 1866 when Theo Carey published The Mount Gambier Standard. Aimed at the farming community of the region, the paper continued until 1874 when Mr Carey answered the "call" to edit the new Methodist Journal.

Ebenezer Ward founded The Southern Argus and River Murray Advertiser at Port Elliot in 1866. Mr Ward, an imposing and colourful character, believed that the growing southern port was going to become a major outlet for River Murray trade. Born in London, he came to Australia in 1859 and first worked as the theatre critic for the Melbourne Herald. As well as founding The Southern Argus, he also founded two short-lived papers – the Northern Guardian and City & Country. He ran City & Country while he was MP for Burra District and Minister of Agriculture and Education.

The Southern Argus did not last long in the port and in mid-1868 it shifted to Strathalbyn where it is still published. In 1871, it was published by the Elliott family which continued its association until 1969. Since then it has been run by the Jones family which was in partnership with the Elliott family from 1940 to 1969.

The future of the River Murray, railway services, the controversial Hindmarsh Island Bridge announced in 1990, conditions at local Aboriginal communities and tourism have been issues close to the paper.

The long-running Hindmarsh Island Bridge saga continued for many years and seven years after it began the Argus editorialised on February 13, 1997: "...this farce will continue and more taxpayers’ money will be wasted on yet another inquiry...All South Australians are heartily sick of this seemingly never-ending saga."

A paper for Clare

In 1869, two newspapers were established – one short-lived, and one still publishing today. The Northern Argus at Clare was published by Henry Hammond Tilbrook on February 19, 1869, in partnership with his brother-in-law, Alfred Clode. Alfred Tilbrook, brother of Henry, joined the paper as a partner in July, 1870, and a month later Mr Clode left for Japan where he reportedly worked as an interpreter for the Emperor. At that time local JP, Mr William Kelly, joined the paper as associate editor, a position he held for 10 years. Mr Kelly was also prominent in local government and held the position of Mayor 14 times.

Henry had begun his newspaper life as a printer’s devil on The Register at the age of 12. He later edited a paper at Greymouth on New Zealand’s South Island before returning to SA to start The Northern Argus when he was 21.

His first editorial was beautifully crafted, a sheer delight to read. In part it said: “We come forward with no flourish of trumpets, we put forth no high-sounding policy; our aim will be ‘to be just and fear not,’ and our convictions we shall maintain with independence of spirit and outspoken candour.”

When Henry retired to Adelaide in 1889, he became the official photographer to the SA Government and South Australian Railways.

The Tilbrook family also published two other papers – the Port Broughton Echo (1887-1888) and the Blyth Agriculturist (1908-1969). Four editors of The Northern Argus – Reg, Eric, Denis and Ian – served as president of the Provincial Press Association of South Australia (now Country Press SA Inc.), with Denis made a life member for his service. Reg also served as national president.

Tudor Tilbrook sold the paper to Fairfax Media in January, 1996, ending 127 years of Tilbrook ownership.
A major gold strike in the Barossa Valley in 1868 was the catalyst for the founding of *The Gawler Times and Goldfields Reporter* in 1869. Up against *The Bunyip*, it wrote: “…we are not activated by a spirit of rivalry, but by a desire to provide the intelligent inhabitants of the second town in the colony with a better class of local periodical literature than they have hitherto possessed.”

The gold rush at Spike Gully and Victoria Hill petered out in 1872 and by June, 1873, the paper reported it had been sold to William Barnet of *The Bunyip* and it ceased to exist.

**The 1870s**

The Adelaide Hills had its first paper in 1870 when the *Northern Guardian* was established to serve the Gumeracha area. Founded by Ebenezer Ward, its first two issues were printed in Adelaide but later the operation was transferred to Gumeracha when Mr Ward became a State MP. The district soon proved unable to support a newspaper and, in 1871, it was transferred to Clare where *The Northern Argus* had been established in 1869.

*The Northern Guardian* was short-lived in Clare and transferred to Kapunda in 1872. In 1874, it became the *Farmers’ Weekly Messenger and Graziers’ Gazette*. It was the first newspaper in SA to include a column for children. Called ‘Column for the Young,’ it re-printed short stories from American children’s magazines. Ward closed the paper in 1878.

In 1872, *The Yorke Peninsula Advertiser and Miners’ and Farmers’ Journal* appeared on the streets of Moonta, publishing twice weekly, with reporting concentrated on the Wallaroo and Moonta copper mines. State Library research reveals that early in its history the paper printed a broad attack on all South Australian politicians. There was uproar in State Parliament with the local MP labelling the newspaper “utter and pointless rubbish.” On one occasion the paper referred to two MPs – one as “a sucking land shark” and the other as a “slimey pig salesman.” Under an early editor, William Wilkinson, the paper supported the formation of the Labor Party. In 1893, Mr Wilkinson commented on the behaviour of some MPs: “One thing that we are much pleased at is that none of the labor representatives have disgraced their party or their constituents by appearing in the House in a state of intoxication, as some other members have done, nor have they been obliged to remain away from their duties for a fortnight at a time while on the booze.”

The paper stopped publication without any warning with its July 28 issue, 1922. Its competitor, *The People’s Weekly*, printed on August 5: “We regret to learn that our contemporary, the “Y.P.Advertiser” was unable to appear this week due to unforeseen circumstances.”

Gawler had its third paper in 1875 with the publication of *The Gawler Mercury, Farmers Advocate and Mining Journal* on November 27. In early July, 1876, it closed. Eighteen months later, on January 11, 1878, *The Gawler Standard* made an appearance. It was taken over by *The Bunyip* in February, 1885.

In 1875, the rural community of Naracoorte in the South-East had its own paper, *The Naracoorte Herald*, a subsidiary of the Mount Gambier-based *Border Watch*. It was briefly put out of business in the late 1800s when it lost a lawsuit which cost it 250 pounds plus expensive legal bills. It was then bought by Archibald Caldwell who continued as proprietor - in partnership with his brother Dugald - until his death in 1942. Jim Thomson, who became manager on the death of Archibald, bought the paper in 1948.

In 1958, Harry Peake bought the paper after editing *The Courier* in Mount Barker. In 1979, his son, Richard, was the new owner. Both Richard and Harry Peake served as president of Country Press SA Inc. and Harry served also as president of the national body. He was also chairman of S.A. Country Newspapers Limited. *The Naracoorte Herald* was sold to Fairfax Media in 2010.

Mount Gambier had another paper in 1875 with the establishment of the *South Eastern Ensign* on December 10. It lasted seven months, closing on June 30, 1876.
Port Pirie’s first newspaper, the *Port Pirie Gazette and Area News*, hit the streets in 1876. Established by Tom Anthony and Thomas O’Brien, who were partners in a printing business, the editor noted in the first edition: “The rapid occupation and development of the Northern Areas during the past three or four years have given this new country such a position that its prosperity is important to the whole colony, and its failure would be an immense disaster.”

The paper devoted much of its news to the town’s main livelihood of shipping. From March, 1881, Tom Anthony was the sole publisher and on Christmas Day, 1884, the last issue was published.

Mr Anthony was angry about what he saw as a lack of support from Port Pirie and he did not hold back from criticism in his last editorial, writing: “The businessmen of Port Pirie have not acted in any way approaching as they should have in supporting our endeavours. The only wonder to ourselves is how, looking back on the past, we have contrived to drag out such a miserable existence so long. We have had no encouragement to progress; on the contrary, when any dirty linen had to be washed we were expected to perform the nauseating operation, as it is tautologically put, free gratis for nothing.”

The year 1876 also saw the establishment of *The Northern Mail* in the mining and pastoral centre of Burra. Founded by Frank Jarman and Henry Pether, the title changed to *Burra News and Northern Mail* from 1877. In June, 1878, former school teacher Frederick Holder bought the paper and changed it to *The Record* and later to *The Burra Record*.

Mr Holder went on to become a prominent Statesman and was knighted in 1902. He was twice Premier of SA for brief periods in the 1890s and was the first Speaker of the House of Representatives. He held the position until 1909 and died after collapsing in the 1890s and was the first Speaker of the House of Representatives.

In 1878, there were new proprietors – brothers David and Andrew Taylor and their brother-in-law David Bews of the *Wallaroo Times*. Ownership changed twice over the next 10 years and, in 1888, William Hancock took control. From 1910 he entered into partnership with the legendary Stan Osborne of the *Port Pirie Advertiser and Woorena Producer* who had 65 years in journalism in the United Kingdom and SA. Mr Hancock sold to Lester Judell in 1928 and in August, 1945, Mr Judell retired to the city leaving his paper in the hands of the Angel family. The Burra School Community Newsletter filled the void for some years until the *Burra Broadcaster* was published by Michael Bradshaw. In July, 1993, the new publishers were Terry and Jill Wilson. Today, “the local” is known as The Mid North Broadcaster, circulating in Burra, Eudunda, Peterborough and districts. It has been owned by the Taylor Group of Newspapers since late 2005.

The *South Eastern Star* at Mount Gambier was founded in October, 1877, and for 53 years it created fierce rivalry with *The Border Watch*. It closed on October 13, 1930, a victim of the Depression. The first editor was Mr J. F. Jones and later the *Star* was owned and edited by Mr J. T. Morris who was an MP for six years and Mayor of Mount Gambier for two years.

The town clerk of Port Augusta, Thomas Burgoyne, headed a company which founded the *Port Augusta Dispatch* in 1877. Mr Burgoyne was editor and manager for a short while and was followed by Mr H.J. White. In 1893, Mr J. W. Kirwan took the role. In 1880, the printer of the *Dispatch*, Mr David Drysdale, who had learnt his trade on newspapers in Melbourne and Castlemaine in country Victoria, became sole owner until 1910 when he sold to Mr R. L. Abbott. In October, 1915, Mr Drysdale purchased the paper again following Mr Abbott’s death.

His ownership was again short-lived when he sold to Mr Emrys Rhys-Jones and Mr Sydney Drew three months later. A few weeks later, in February, 1915, the *Dispatch* folded.

*The Areas’ Express and Farmers Journal*, founded by Mr J.S.J. Pengelly and Mr W.J. Trembath, began publishing at Gladstone in 1877, arguing for the extension of the railway to the districts it served. State Library research reveals that from the start the paper had an outspoken editorial policy regarding political matters. It threw its support behind the formation and activities of the Liberal Union – a conservative political organisation for women. The *Express* was a weekly for most of its life, but it was successful enough from February, 1878, to July, 1886, to be published twice-weekly.

In 1878, there were new proprietors – brothers David and Andrew Taylor and their brother-in-law David Bews of the *Wallaroo Times*. Ownership changed twice over the next 10 years and, in 1888, William Hancock took control. From 1910 he entered into partnership with the legendary Stan Osborne of the *Port Pirie Advertiser and Woorena Producer* who had 65 years in journalism in the United Kingdom and SA. Mr Hancock sold to Lester Judell in 1928 and in August, 1945, Mr Judell retired to the city leaving his three papers – the *Express*, *The Agriculturist and Review* (founded in 1878 as the *Jamestown Review* by Port Pirie builder John Burrough Collins who reportedly wrote with a ‘sarcastic and vitriolic pen’) and the *Laura Standard* (founded 1889) in the care of managers. Three years later, in 1948, Mr Judell amalgamated the three papers into the *Northern Review* at Jamestown.

**New papers for the 1880s**

Several new papers started in the 1880s, including *The Mount Barker Courier and Onkaparinga and Gumeracha Advertiser* at Mount Barker in the Adelaide Hills. The paper, later renamed *The Courier*, has won numerous newspaper awards under the guidance of the Marston family. It was founded in 1880 by Charles Dumas, a dominant figure in the formation of the Provincial Press Association of South Australia in 1912. He also played a prominent role in the Australian Provincial Press Association.

The Dumas family ran the paper for 58 years, with Charles holding the position of editor for more than 50 years until his death in 1935. His daughter, Una, ran the paper until 1938, when it was bought by the Monger family who sold it in 1946 to Harry Edmondson and Eric Perry. The Marston family began its long association in 1952 when Frank Teare Marston, who owned papers at Burra and Eudunda, bought Mr Edmondson’s shares.
In 1954, the Marston family became sole proprietors after purchasing Mr Perry’s shares.

On August 28, 1880, Bordertown was the centre for the publication of the Tatiara Mail and West Wimmera Advertiser. In 1888, the owner announced that he was relocating to Nihill, just across the border, where there had been considerable agricultural expansion.

In 1884, James O’Loghlin and George Dawson purchased equipment from the defunct North Eastern Times and Terowie News (founded January 1, 1881 and closed December 29, 1882) to open The Terowie Enterprise and North Eastern Advertiser.

Mr O’Loghlin, who became a significant figure in South Australia, had an interesting career, first as a farmer, then as a branch manager of the South Australian Carrying Co, a railway goods carrier. Later he was a wheat buyer and then managed Adelaide Milling & Mercantile Co before moving to Terowie as co-founder of the paper. He was its managing editor and later sole proprietor until he sold it in 1887 to Joseph Pengelley.

In 1889, he was co-founder of the Catholic Weekly newspaper, the Southern Cross, and its editor until 1896. Mr O’Loghlin was also a Member of the Legislative Council for the Northern District and later the Member for Flinders in the House of Assembly. He was elected to the Senate three times, the first in 1913.

The Terowie Enterprise and North Eastern Advertiser unashamedly pushed for the proposed railway link to Broken Hill to pass through Terowie rather than nearby Peterborough.

The paper didn’t win the battle and the crippling drought of the 1890s stopped any further plans for the extension of the northern line. The then owner, Joseph Pengelley, who had bought the paper in 1887, moved to Orroroo where he founded The Orroro Enterprise in 1892. He editorialised: “The prosperous and thriving look of other places has at last induced us to hazard a change.”

Terowie also had another paper begin publishing in 1884 – The British Australian Federal Standard and the North Eastern Times which was edited by Frederick Wigney. It had a very short life – its first edition was on April 18 and its last on June 13.

Port Pirie had a new paper in 1885. Following the closure of the Port Pirie Gazette, Walter South set up the Port Pirie Advocate and Areas News and was joined by his brother, Alfred, a month later. The paper was outspoken on political issues, reflecting the strong socialist views of the owners.

One of the more interesting stories was the fear of Russian invasion in 1885. As a busy shipping and manufacturing town, Port Pirie felt vulnerable and formed a local defence force. On April 29, 1885, the paper stated: “At such a time as the present, when war seems to be inevitable, it is the duty of every citizen to qualify himself….in the event of a Russian fleet coming round to Wallaroo for coaling purposes, a cruiser would probably run into Port Pirie.”

In April, 1898, Alfred South became sole proprietor and formed a partnership with Charles Meyrick of the Port Pirie Standard. The newspaper closed three months later when the two mastheads were combined to become the Port Pirie Recorder which is still published today under the ownership of Fairfax Media.

Gold rush paper
A gold rush was underway at Teetulpa in the north-east of the State in 1886 with reportedly up to 2000 diggers living in the makeshift town. They got their news from the Teetulpa News and Golden Age, printed by Robert Osborne who had worked previously at the Port Augusta Dispatch. The News closed in mid-1887 and Mr Osborne headed for the city, only to be persuaded to return to the north to found the Petersburg Times.

The goal of the Times was to counter attempts to have the Great Northern Railway diverted away from Petersburg (Peterborough) and Port Pirie, through Terowie. In 1895, Mr Osborne expanded his empire with the founding of the Quorn Mercury and in 1903 he started the Jamestown Star and Farmers Journal.

His three papers were sold in 1908 to his Peterborough printer, Bill Bennett. In 1922, the Mercury was sold to Frank Pitman who had been working on The Areas’ Express and Farmers Journal at Gladstone. Pitman sold to his nephew, C.J. Stephems, in 1941 and in 1945 it was bought by The Transcontinental at Port Augusta and ceased publication in 1956.

At the end of the First World War the Government ruled that German-sounding Petersburg had to undergo a name change to Peterborough, and in 1919, the Petersburg Times became known as The Times and Northern Advertiser.

Mr Bennett was an ambitious man and expanded his business, establishing the Booleroo Magnet at Booleroo Centre in 1914 and taking over The Orroro Enterprise in 1928. The Magnet had a short life, closing in 1915 when the manager absconded with the funds. After Mr Bennett died in 1939, his sons ran the Times until 1970. The Orroro Enterprise was incorporated into The Review-Times at Jamestown in 1970, as was the Times.
At that time Northern Review proprietors, R.K. & E. Warnest, announced: "NO FOOLING! As from April 1, 1970 ...one newspaper to cover all the area north of Clare & Burra and east of the Flinders Ranges in S.A. – The Review-Times – is being created by amalgamating Northern Review (Jamestown), Peterborough Times, Orroroo Enterprise."

Elliston, on the State’s Far West Coast, was very briefly served by the West Coaster in 1888. The one and only edition was published on April 23.

In April, 1889, Charles Hussey, MP for Encounter Bay, began publishing The Southern Freeman, a monthly devoted largely as a platform for his political aims including a single chamber of Parliament, supporting Federation and abolishing all pre-nominal titles including Reverend. His paper, which was printed at Port Elliot, ran until March, 1890, when he failed in his bid to be re-elected. Mr Hussey continued running his general store at Port Elliot until his death in 1899.

The Port Pirie Advocate had some competition in 1889 when James Cowan and Fred Grey set up the Port Pirie Standard. The Standard was right behind workers agitating for better conditions, reporting sympathetically, according to State Library research, on the strike by 250 Port Pirie stevedores in November, 1889.

When a local Trades and Labor Council was established, the paper said it marked an "epoch in the history of the town."

When women received the right to vote, editor Berkley Dunn was dead set against the move. He editorialised on Page 2, July 12, 1894: "Who are the females, who in many respects, have practically unsexed themselves, that are now clamouring for this change?.... We cannot believe the majority of women have anything to gain by securing a franchise."

In July, 1898, then owner Charles Meyrick amalgamated the Standard with the Advocate and both were incorporated in The Port Pirie Recorder.

Another Mid-North paper – the Laura Standard and Beatalloo, Wirrabara, Melrose, Booleroo Centre, and Yarrawoodle Advertiser – was published on April 11, 1889. The Standard said: "For some years past the inhabitants of Laura and surrounding districts have felt the need of a paper which should be devoted to the ventilating of local wants and aspirations."

In December, 1948, three months before its 60th birthday the paper was incorporated into the Northern Review.

In May, 1890, The People's Weekly began publishing at Moonta on Yorke Peninsula, an area it served for nearly 80 years. A year later, it claimed its circulation of 1000 subscribers in Moonta alone was the largest on the peninsula.

The paper gave heavy coverage to the copper mining industry and gave its support to workers in the 1891 miners' strike which lasted for 18 weeks. Agriculture, mining and religion also featured heavily in the paper’s news pages.

The Weekly was founded by Thomas Walter Franklin Stratton who sold it to two employees – John Thomas Hicks and R.J. Hughes – in 1890. In 1943, it was owned by Hugh Hughes and C.J.G. (Cecil) Ellis. In 1957, Mr Ellis and his son, T.F. (Trevor) Ellis, ran the paper which, in 1968, became known as the Yorke Peninsula Country Times. Trevor’s son, Michael, now runs the Times at Kadina.

Tar and feather

The Millicent Times at Millicent published its first edition on July 11, 1891. Grocer Roland Campbell was the first owner, printing the paper using a hand-operated, second-hand press bought in a back street of Adelaide.

Roland Campbell was a remarkable man. Originally from Robe, his schooling finished when he was 10, and at 11 he was managing the family farm. He then became a farm labourer around Millicent before becoming a builder, news correspondent for The Border Watch and store keeper.

Running his own store, Mr Campbell purchased and repaired an old printing press and his first newspaper was bedded down on July 10, 1891, and a single broadsheet, The Millicent Times, was on the streets the following day.

In 1894, his brother, Donald, who eventually became an MP, took over the paper. His left of centre editorials were not appreciated in the rural community and there was a threat to tar and feather him.

In 1906, a group of SE businessmen became the new owners, and changed the name to The South Eastern Times. Editor/manager Ruben Mowbray ran the paper until 1952 when he sold it to his staff which created a partnership which included Sidney McRostie and Robert Chewings.

In May, 1899, the Times also published the South East Farming News. The Times is now published by the Mount Gambier-based Scott Group of Companies.

Serving the Riverland

The first edition of The Renmark Pioneer on April 9, 1892, was a chromograph production printed from a hand-written original. (A chromograph is an apparatus for copying documents by the use of a gelatin plate that receives an impression of the master copy). The chromograph was housed in a small tent where co-founders Mr A.P. Gorrie and the Rev. J. G. Jenkins printed the paper weekly, just five years after the Renmark irrigation colony was founded.

Mr H.S. Taylor, who had worked on the Mildura Cultivator, became editor and proprietor in 1905 and following the establishment of towns at Waikerie, Loxton and Berri the newspaper’s name was changed in 1913 to The Murray Pioneer to reflect the regional coverage of the paper.

Since 1905 the Taylor family has been a driving force in newspapers and Country Press SA Inc., and the Taylor Group of Newspapers now owns six newspapers with Ben Taylor as chairman and managing director. Other papers owned are The River News at Waikerie, The Loxton News, The Bursip at Gawler, The Border Times at Pinnaroo and The Mid-North Broadcast at Burra.

Four members of the Taylor family have served as president of Country Press SA Inc. – W. Gilmore, Darnley, Paul and Ben. W. Gilmore’s son-in-law, Denis Hann, of The Loxton News, also served as president. Paul Taylor also served as national president.

The northern areas had a new paper in 1892. Joseph Pengelley who had owned the Tenure Enterprise moved to the more centrally located town of Orroroo and the paper became known as The Orroroo Enterprise.
Much of the focus of the paper was on agricultural matters with State Library research revealing that during the drought years of 1896-1902, the paper recorded the loss of stock through starvation, the work of the South Australian Farmers’ Union in distributing seed wheat and the long years of lobbying for a water scheme for the district.

In 1893, Thomas Hancock bought the paper and in 1917 he sold it to Mr E. F. Marsden. In 1919, Mr B.A. Clarke became editor and proprietor and in 1930, Keith W. Clarke was listed as proprietor. From March, 1931, John Bennett owned the paper which continued under the Bennett family until its closure in 1970 and incorporation in The Review-Times at Jamestown.

The Plain Dealer, a small but outspoken competitor to the Yorke Peninsula’s Kadina and Wallaroo Times was founded in 1894 by John Albert Southwood and George Spring. It had a strong political voice, with Mr Southwood a staunch supporter of the Labor movement.

Mr Southwood was elected to Parliament in 1912 and initially copies of his major speeches were printed as supplements to the paper. In 1917, Mr Southwood’s and Mr Spring’s partnership was dissolved and Mr Spring continued publishing until January 26, when the paper closed without warning.

For a short time – 1906-1908 – Mr Southwood and Mr Spring published a supplementary paper, The Copper Age, to cover news in the middle of the week. Its masthead revealed that it served Kadina, Wallaroo and Moonta and was “The Tuesday Evening Paper of the Populous Places on Yorkes Peninsula.” The paper’s name was the result of a competition run by the Plain Dealer. The name was suggested by Miss Lily Jolly, of Kadina.

The Quorn Mercury was started by Robert Osborne in 1895 as an adjunct to his Petersburg Times. Initially a four-page spread with local advertisements on the front page and local news on the back, the Mercury concentrated on reporting news from larger centres in the region. In 1945, the paper was bought by The Transcontinental at Port Augusta, and in 1956 it was incorporated into The Transcontinental.

The Barrier Daily Truth, the local newspaper for the remote NSW mining town of Broken Hill, started in 1897 as a weekly news sheet. In 1899, the news sheet format was abandoned in favour of a proper newspaper, and in July of that year the new owners were the Australian Labour Federation.

In 1909, it started a Saturday night sporting special paper called Sport. Covering six pages, it was started to blunt the Barrier having things all its own way with its special Saturday sports edition. The Truth is now owned by the Barrier Industrial Council and is a member of Country Press SA Inc.

Port Pirie had its fourth newspaper with the founding of The Port Pirie Advertiser in April, 1898. (The Gazette had closed in 1884 but the Standard and Advocate were still being published. They were incorporated into The Port Pirie Recorder from mid-1898.) Publisher of the Advertiser was Robert Osborne who ran the paper with his printer, William Hancock, and later also his brother, Stan Osborne. State Library research reveals that “when the newspaper expressed a political opinion, it was in support of conservatism and the Liberal Party – unlike the socialist views expressed by the other Port Pirie newspapers.” The last edition of the paper was June 28, 1924.

On July 9, 1898, the first edition of The Port Pirie Recorder was published by Alfred South and Charles Meyrick. At first, they published on Wednesdays and Saturdays, but by April 6, 1914, Port Pirie had grown to be a major industrial town and the paper became a daily.
Widely-experienced journalist Mr J.E. Davidson purchased the paper in 1919 and changed its name to The Recorder, the masthead it still has today. In 1923, Mr Davidson shifted to Adelaide to found The News and The Recorder was acquired by the company he started, News Ltd. Eight years later he sold it to Mr Horace Yelland. Over its life it has had a number of other owners including R.M. and D. G. Edwards and the Willson family. In 1991, it was bought from the Willson family by Fairfax Media.

Yorketown, on Yorke Peninsula, was the home of the Southern Yorke Peninsula Pioneer from January 21, 1898, until 1969. An eight-page tabloid, it was originally owned by Ben L. Wilkinson. It was later owned by F.V. and V. W. Starr. Verne Starr served as president of the Provincial Press Association of South Australia from 1968 to 1970. In 1969, the Pioneer and the Maitland Watch amalgamated to form the Yorke Peninsula News Pictorial and in 1970 the Pictorial was incorporated into the Yorke Peninsula Country Times at Kadina.

Turn of century
The Port Augusta & Stirling Illustrated News was founded as an illustrated monthly in February, 1901, by Scotsman James Taylor. With his sons, Donald and Frank, and Peter Moran, the paper concentrated on reports of social events, sports, concerts and clubs. Each issue contained several collotypes depicting prominent residents, sporting teams, visiting ships and local works including the building of the smelters. The News closed after seven editions, in August, 1901.

Mount Gambier's Star and The Border Watch had a competitor in November, 1902, when the town’s first free newspaper – The Exchange – was published. It contained little news – its four quarto pages were mainly advertisements. It closed in 1940.

Yorketown had a new paper in 1902, with the formation of the Southern Yorke Peninsula Clarion, which served the farming area until 1931.

The Western Weekly News began publishing at Port Lincoln in 1902. Founded by local printer, Thomas Borthwick, it covered the whole of the Eyre Peninsula. State Library research reveals that despite the paper’s title, the numbering suggests it appeared irregularly and possibly at three-week intervals. The paper closed on March 23, 1904.

In July, 1902, the Snowtown Star was published by the Snowtown Literary and Debating Society and printed by A. and R.H. Tilbrook of The Northern Argus at Clare. State Library records show only two editions – July 3 and 12. Snowtown had another paper a year later when Mr E.J. Walker published the Snowtown Sentinel. Issues held by the State Library are from October 16 to 30.

The rural community of Balaklava had its own paper in 1903 with the founding of The Central Advocate by James Taylor. In 1910, it was named The Wooroora Producer, and in 1940 its name again changed, this time to The Producer. In 1983, it became known as The Plains Producer when Roger Manuel bought the paper from the Milnes family of the Times at Victor Harbor. Roger Manuel died in 1995 and his wife, Margaret, became managing editor.

Today, it is published by Andrew and Merridy Manuel and edited by Terry Williams, a former administration officer of Country Press SA Inc. Andrew Manuel also publishes the Two Wells & District Echo, a free monthly tabloid. Margaret Manuel has given great service to Country Press SA Inc., serving as president and administration officer.

The Jamestown Star and Farmers’ Journal was first published by Robert Osborne on July 23, 1903, and circulated over a wide area including Belalie, Caltowie, Georgetown and Spalding. Mr Osborne sold it to Bill Bennett in 1909 and in June, 1946, it was absorbed by The Times and Northern Advertiser at Peterborough.

In 1904, Mr David Drysdale, owner of the Port Augusta Dispatch, started the Port Lincoln, Tumby and West Coast Recorder. State Library research reveals the paper’s first edition acknowledged the prior existence of the Western Weekly News, to which it offered “the right hand of fellowship.”
In April, 1912, Mr Drysdale established a small subsidiary newspaper, the *Streaky Bay Standard and West Coast Advertiser*, but it lasted only two editions before being absorbed into the *Recorder*.

The *Recorder* was bought by Mrs R.L. McGregor and her two sons in 1921, when Mr Drysdale died. Mrs McGregor had worked under Mr Drysdale at the *Dispatch* and it was said she suggested he start the Port Lincoln paper. In 1925, a former *Dispatch* employee, Maurice Hill, approached her to sell the *Recorder* but she refused. Mr Hill, with Ken Robertson, then went on to publish the *Port Lincoln Times* in 1927.

Mr Hill took over the *Recorder* in February, 1939, and shortly before Christmas, 1942, the paper announced it was suspending publication “owing to circumstances associated with the war.” Its readers were informed that their subscriptions would be transferred to the *Port Lincoln Times*.

The Adelaide Hills saw a new paper in 1905, when the *Southern* was published at Woodside to serve the Murray electorate, which included the towns of Woodside, Lobethal, Murray Bridge, Mannum, Gumeracha and Mount Pleasant.

The paper closed in 1906 with the editor saying he had made the mistake initially “…in supposing there was sufficient community interests of which Woodside is the geographical, if not the business centre, to foster the feeling that the “Southern” was in every sense a local journal for all of them, while the existence of petty inter-town jealousies influenced the measure of support afforded it.”

**An island paper**

Kingscote on Kangaroo Island was the birthplace of the *Kangaroo Island Courier* in 1907. In Professor Hugo’s research he says: “With the expansion of wheat growing on Kangaroo Island its population increased and as a result the “Kangaroo Island Courier” began publication at Kingscote.”

The paper continued to serve the island’s large rural community until 1951 when it was incorporated with the *Glennel Guardian* until 1968. In 1967, a new paper, *The Islander*, was established by Neville Cordes, with its first edition on January 19. Printed in Adelaide, it cost 5c and sold 185 copies. Mr Cordes, who was working out of a small section of the local coffee lounge, soon realised he needed to be printing on the island and stopped the paper briefly to buy equipment. In April, 1967, the paper was re-born and published on a Rotaprint Duplicator. *The Islander* was bought by Fairfax Media in 1995.

*The Barossa News* was founded by John Birdsye Cant on October 24, 1908, and circulated through towns including Angaston, Tanunda, Truro, Nuriootpa and Greenock. Its aim was to be “the all-seeing eye of the district.” Mr Cant was a driving force behind the setting up of the Provincial Press Association of South Australia in 1912 and was its first secretary.

The paper’s last edition was May 3, 1951, when it was incorporated, along with the *Kapunda Herald*, into *The Barossa and Light Herald*.

The South-East town of Bordertown and the Mallee town of Lameroo both established papers in 1908. Bordertown, the birthplace of former Prime Minister, Bob Hawke, saw the *Border Chronicle* and the *Tatiara & Lawloit News* both begin publishing.
In 1909, the Stanley Herald began publication at Snowtown under the ownership of James Barclay who also had The Broughton Star (1909-1912) at Port Broughton. In 1912, he sold the Herald to Leslie Henstridge who enlisted in the Army three years later. His wife, Amy, became “editress” and Leslie never returned to the paper. After the war he moved to Melbourne and Amy continued editing the Herald.

Mrs Henstridge, who was a committee member of the Provincial Press Association of South Australia in the 1920s, relinquished the Herald – which closed in 1948 – to become the first female owner of The Woomera Producer in July, 1926. The Henstridge family association with the paper continued until 1975.

In December, 1909, The Maitland Mail and Central Yorke Peninsula Advocate began publishing. Little is known about the paper and no copies are held by the State Library. In the history of Maitland – Governor Ferguson’s legacy – by Rhonda Heinrich, it says the paper was founded by J. Wilson and contained “biting sarcasm.” Its masthead stated that it aimed to “serve as a Chronicle of all important events concerning the Peninsula generally.”

The Crystal Brook Times, also founded by James Barclay, began publication in January, 1910, providing news for the farming towns of Crystal Brook, Merriton, Narridy and Wandearah.

Other owners over its seven-year life were Mr T.H. Wilkinson and Mr P.J. Critchley. It closed in April, 1917.

The Eyre Peninsula Tribune is the longest established newspaper still operating on Eyre Peninsula. Founded in 1910 and first published in Cowell, it was originally known as Eyre’s Peninsula Tribune. Its first numbers were type-written and contained an historical account of the development of the district. Regular printed publications began in March, 1911. It was transferred to Cleve in 1960 and the Areas Express, which was published from September, 1959, to September, 1960, was incorporated with it.

The Tribune was founded by Charles Wallace who died two years later. His son, George, took over and, in 1920, sold it to Mr E.R. Main.

Mr Main died in 1959 and W.J.C. (Jock) Wilson and Fred Ogg, who had just established the Cleve Areas Express, tried to buy the Tribune but were unsuccessful. The Tribune was bought by the Port Lincoln Times but only a few months later it was bought by Mr Wilson and Mr Ogg. The Areas Express and Tribune merged under the masthead Eyre Peninsula Tribune.

The Tribune was then sold to Whyalla News employee Bob Braund (who had joined the Whyalla News from The Murray Pioneer) in 1963 but the Willson family bought it back in 1971. It was sold to Fairfax Media in 1991.

Port Wakefield had two papers in the early 1900s. The Wakefield Sun was published from July 17, 1910 until May, 1912. In January, 1915, The Port Wakefield Monitor was founded. It was associated with The Stanley Herald at Snowtown and continued until June, 1941.

The town’s first paper – The Port Wakefield Times and Balaklava, Hoyletton, Blyth and Lochiel Advertiser had lasted only one edition in August, 1876.

The year 1911 saw at least four papers established – The Ardbrook News, Maitland Watch, Pininaroo Border Times and the Wallaroo Wheatshof. The News, first published in February, contained mostly Port Wakefield news. However, it did not last long, closing in July, 1911.

The Wallaroo Wheatshof, published “to preach and teach the two principles of co-operation and social improvement,” continued until mid-June, 1921.

The Maitland Watch, which served a large rural community on Yorke Peninsula, was published by Chas O’Reilly, a stalwart of the Provincial Press Association of South Australia. The paper continued until 1969 when it was combined with the Southern Yorke Peninsula Pioneer at Yorketown to form the Yorke Peninsula News Pictorial. A year later the News Pictorial was incorporated into the Yorke Peninsula Country Times.

The Pininaroo Border Times was first published on March 17, 1911, by John Letheby whose stories were always “directed towards the good of the district.” In its 101 years of publishing the paper has only been in the hands of four families – Letheby, Wilson, Marshall and Taylor.

The paper’s name was changed to The Border Times by Robert and Beth Marshall who took over in 1985 from the Wilson brothers – Rob, Alan and Reg – who had bought the paper from Mrs Emily Letheby in February, 1953. The Taylor Group of Newspapers took over in late 2005 and began publishing the paper from January, 2006.

New Fleurieu paper

The Victor Harbor Times and Encounter Bay and Lower Murray Pilot began as an off-shoot of the Strathalbyn Southern Argus in 1912. The founder was Joseph Elliot, with his son, Cecil, appointed first editor. In its early years the paper was handset at Strathalbyn and the pages were sent to Victor Harbor by train for printing on the Dawson flat-bed Wharfdale press.

Herbert (Peter) Milnes, a printer from the Argus at Strathalbyn, moved to Victor Harbor to work with the paper in 1917 and became the owner in 1922. His son, Colin, joined the staff in the 1930s and his sons, Paul, Ian and Michael, continued in the business until 1986. Peter Milnes retired in 1978 at the age of 80.
The Willson family, through its company name of SA Regional Media, bought the paper in 1986 and a year later it became known as The Times. It changed hands again in 1991 when Fairfax Media took it over. The paper also publishes the free monthly, On the Coast, which serves the former Willunga council district and includes the wine-growing area of McLaren Vale, McLaren Flat, Blewitt Springs and Willunga.

The Times also published a free weekly, The Great Southern Star, from November 21, 1995 to June, 1999. The move was made to make sure Fairfax Media did not leave a gap in the market when The Times changed from publication twice-weekly to weekly.

In 1912, The West Coast Sentinel was founded at Streaky Bay on the Far West Coast. The editor wrote in his first editorial that he trusted that the advent of the “latest literary youngster” in South Australia would meet with the approval of the people. Obviously it did get the tick of approval, with publication continuing at Streaky Bay until 1977 when it moved farther west to Ceduna. The Thompson family took over the paper in 1932 and continued publication until 1968 when the Hill family, owners of the Port Lincoln Times, took it over. The Sentinel and the Times were added to the Fairfax Media stable in 1990.

The Transcontinental has had a rich history and early on it claimed to be: “The Only Federal Newspaper in Australia.” It is published today by Fairfax Media who bought it from the Willson family’s Northern Newspapers Pty Ltd in 1991.

Another northern newspaper, The Booleroo Times, began publishing at Booleroo Centre in February, 1912. By mid-1913 it had closed.

Two newspapers began life in the north-eastern town of Peterborough in 1913. Frith’s Bulletin, published by boot maker Frederick Frith, only lasted its first issue of eight pages on April 15, 1913. Printed by Bill Bennett, of the Petersburg Times, the first and only editorial stated: “Now-a-days every man – and paper – is supposed to have a mission in life….we don’t mind whispering in your ear that our ambition is to sell boots and shoes, and we ask ourselves could we have a more worthy object? We think not!”
Pritchard Hall started *The Sporting Telegraph* in May, 1913, to give the sporting results at Petersburg (Peterborough) during the 1913 football season. Printed by Bill Bennett, it was published on Saturday nights. It also included film reviews and advertisements. Its footty season reporting was short – the final issue was on July 26, 1913.

*The Saturday Times* was published in Port Pirie on December 6, 1913, by Roy Harold Butler. National Library of Australia records show it was a weekly paper and published “news of all sorts from all parts.” However, it was mostly a sporting newspaper and its last issue was on August 15, 1914.

A new Penny Journal
*The Leader*, established in Angaston in 1918, was referred to as the “new Penny Journal for the Barossa District” by owner Kirby Robinson. In its first edition on July 24, Mr Robinson wrote: “Once the stranger has seen Angaston he is charmed with the magnificent landscape, and when we found in addition to this that it possessed not a printing office, we decided to establish a new enterprise.”

Mr Robinson chose the name *The Leader* because he wanted it to lead all other newspapers. *The Leader* is the only surviving family-owned newspaper in SA started under the same family name. The paper has had only three editors in its history, starting with Kirby (1918-1978), his son, Rae (1978-1990) and Rae’s son, Tony, appointed in 1990.

The Robinson family was also involved with *The Murray Plains Recorder* which was produced at Angaston for Mannum and district residents. With rising costs and a shortage of skilled staff, the weekly was closed down and incorporated with *The Leader*. The last edition of the *Recorder* was on September 24, 1964. The *Recorder* was originally known as *The Mannum District Recorder* and was published by Mr C.L. Milnes from 1955 to 1960. From April 4, 1957, it incorporated the *Sedan and Cambrai Advocate*.

In 1925, *The Loxton Clarion and Murray Lands Advocate* was published by Jack Irving who aimed to produce a paper reflecting the concerns of small communities around the cereal farming centre of Loxton.

Throughout its life the paper faced financial difficulties, and in June, 1926, the Loxton Clarion Ltd was formed, with Harry Taylor of *The Murray Pioneer* purchasing a half share and Ben Watson a one-quarter share. Mr Watson was also given the role of business manager to try and help the paper out of its financial problems.

A short time later, Mr Irving disposed of his share to the *Pioneer* and Mr Watson replaced him as editor. The financial situation did not improve, and in October, 1928, it was announced that *The Murray Pioneer*, which circulated in the region, was closing the Clarion.

On the West Coast, the *Port Lincoln Times* was formed in 1927 in a partnership between Maurice Hill and Ken Robertson who was the first editor, holding the position for 10 years. Since 1927 it has had 11 editors, with Chris Coote the current editor under Fairfax Media ownership.

Maurice Hill started his career in newspapers as an apprentice to Mr David Drysdale who owned the *Port Augusta Dispatch*. In 1904, Mr Drysdale formed the *Port Lincoln, Tumby and West Coast Recorder* which was printed with plant and type from Port Augusta.

When Mr Drysdale decided to print the paper at Port Lincoln he sent Mr Hill by ketch with the plant equipment. In 1914, Mr Hill, with Mr J.E. Edwards, bought *The Transcontinental* (which was only two editions old) at Port Augusta and in the 1920s bought shares in the *Recorder*, then owned by Mrs R.L. McGregor.

Mr Hill’s love of Port Lincoln saw him establish the *Times*. The paper became a Hill family affair, with nine members working at the *Times* in 1955.

In September, 1927, Eyre Peninsula was home to another paper, *The Kimba Dispatch and Northern Eyre Peninsula Advocate* which was incorporated into the *Eyre Peninsula Tribune* in mid-1941.
Willsons to the fore

The steel making town of Whyalla had its first paper in 1940 when Mr W.J.C. (Jock) Willson founded the Whyalla News in partnership with Mr J.E. Edwards. Mr Willson continued with the paper until the late 1960s when he shifted to Adelaide.

The first issue was printed at The Transcontinental, with the stories and advertisements provided by Mr Willson from a small tin shed in Patterson Street, Whyalla. From July 18, 1941, the paper was printed at Whyalla.

Mr Edwards and Mr Willson bought The Recorder at Port Pirie in 1954, followed soon after by the Northern Review at Jamestown. Five years later the Edwards-Willson partnership split and the Edwards family (brothers, Ray, Port Augusta and David, Port Pirie) took ownership of The Recorder and Northern Review, while Mr Willson retained the Whyalla News.

The West Coast became a focal point for the Willsons in 1959 when Mr Willson and Mr Fred Ogg founded the Areas Express at Cleve. They tried to buy the Eyre Peninsula Tribune at Cowell but were unsuccessful at their first attempt.

They eventually won out and except for a short period between 1963 and 1971 the family owned the paper until it was sold to Fairfax Media in 1991. Between 1963 and 1971 it was owned by a former Whyalla News employee, Bob Braund.

The Willsons’ growth path continued to surge and, in October, 1971, they bought The Recorder (Port Pirie) from Ray Edwards. (In the interim David Edwards had sold to his brother and shifted to Perth.)

The Northern Review was bought from the Edwards family by Ray Naulty of the Automatic Printing Company at Port Pirie which also had The Flinders News. When the Willsons bought Mr Naulty’s business in March, 1982, they took over the Review-Times-Record – an amalgamation of the mastheads of the Northern Review (Jamestown), Peterbough Times and Burna Record.

In July, 1974, the Willson family bought The Transcontinental at Port Augusta from Ray Edwards who stayed on for a number of years as managing editor.

Mr Willson’s sons – Richard, Donald and Craig – were heavily involved in the newspaper industry and through two companies, Northern Newspapers Pty Ltd, and later, SA Regional Media, they ran an extensive media empire.

SA Regional Media, formed in 1985, was a public company with a six-member board – businessman W.A. (Bill) Dawson, the Willson brothers, Paul Clancy, who was managing editor of The Transcontinental, and general manager, Fred Ogg.

As well as the papers already mentioned, they also owned The Times at Victor Harbor (bought March, 1986), The Barossa and Light Herald (bought January, 1988) and the Northern Sun which they launched in 1988 to service the Roxby Downs area. The family sold its empire to Rural Press in 1991. In 2001, Fairfax Media changed the masthead of the Northern Sun to the Roxby Downs Sun. The Sun has a journalist based in Roxby Downs, but the paper is produced by The Transcontinental team at Port Augusta. The Sun has competition from The Monitor, a free, weekly, community-owned newspaper edited by Waikerie-based John Pick, one of the most experienced country newspaper editors in SA.

In August, 1945, Blackwood, in the Adelaide Hills, saw the founding of The Coromandel owned and edited by Donald N. Flower. Published weekly on Wednesdays, it circulated through areas including Blackwood, Belair, Cherry Gardens, Clarendon, Kangarilla and Meadows.

The Coromandel, later known as The Coromandel Times, published its last edition on March 18, 1976.

The now saintly town of Penola in the South-East has been home to The Pennant since 1946. Owner Erwin Thiele published his first edition on July 5, 1946 and, in 1950, New Zealander Kenneth Dohnt purchased the paper, which he ran until his death in 1971. The paper was then bought by long-time employee of The Pennant, Lyle Shurdington, who sold it to South East Telecasters in October, 1978. A major shareholder in South East Telecasters was businessman Allan Scott, AO. Today, the paper is owned by the Scott Group of Companies.

The Kingston Traders’ Association made a foray in the newspaper publishing business in March, 1946, establishing The Kingston Weekly. The association’s aim was to “record faithfully the growing needs of the district in business as well as pleasure.”
The paper grew quickly to more than 400 subscribers and in a Page 1 article on July 5, 1946, it said: “The Kingston Weekly has passed three months of existence as a newspaper, and the effort has been very well received by its supporters amongst the public.”

However, bad times were ahead and, in 1947, the association sold it to a group of local businessmen under the management of Mr D. Wade. It continued for another four years until “lack of support and continually rising costs” forced its closure in March, 1951.

The small farming community of Riverton had its second paper in March, 1949, when local accountant, Harold Du Rieu, published The County Light Times. It lasted only two years, closing on February 22, 1951.

Gift of the gab
A paper with an intriguing name was first published in the Outback rocket range town of Woomera in 1950 by the Woomera Board. Known as the Gibber Gabber, it is still published today. From 1950 to 1962 it was issued as a foolscap roneoed newsletter. In September, 1962, it became a tabloid newspaper, and in 2003 it changed its format to an A4 publication.

The Barossa & Light Herald incorporating The Barossa News and The Kapunda Herald was started by John Liddy in May, 1951.

In a Page 1 editorial the paper said: “The publishers are confident that ‘The Barossa and Light Herald’ will prove a worthy successor to its predecessors. The country newspaper has the important task of keeping its readers fully informed of district happenings, and the management will spare no effort to ensure that this journal does not fail in this task.”

In April, 1981, the paper announced on Page 1 that it had bought the Eudunda Courier which would be amalgamated with the Herald. The Courier was first published by Mr H.J. Weckert in February, 1922, providing news coverage of Eudunda and the Murray Flats area. In its Page 1 story, the Herald said: “The amalgamation should not be looked as ‘losing’ the Eudunda Courier, but as gaining a larger paper, offering more news and coverage of a wider area.”

In the early 1980s the Herald also published The Barossa Explorer, a tourism paper designed “to be of interest to our thousands of Barossa visitors.”

The Herald was bought in January, 1988, by the Willson family, with Donald Willson managing the paper which was taken over by Fairfax Media in 1991.

South Australian Countrywoman, incorporating The Rural Review, began on March 6, 1953, and was the official organ of the South Australian Countrywomen’s Association (Inc.). In a page 1 editorial under the heading “Our First Issue,” the proprietors wrote that it was their primary aim “to express the policy, and ideals and record the activities of the Countrywomen’s Association of SA (Inc.).”

It noted: “Its columns will, however, be open to general news of vital interest to the man-on-the-land as well as his wife.”

“The proprietors have been associated with the C.W.A. through the ‘Rural Review’ since 1936, and their decision to publish the ‘S.A. Countrywoman’ is evidence of an unshakable faith in the Association.”

SA C.W.A. president, Dorothy Hunt, in a page one article said: “It is my firm belief that no member can get the most out of our great organisation, or give her best to it, without that full knowledge and close touch with our affairs, which can only be gained from our official organ, this weekly publication.

“The ideal then, would be for every member to be a subscriber. Let us see how close we can get to that ideal. Will you all help?”

The paper continued until September, 1971, when it changed its format to a monthly magazine, with some of the previous coverage being taken on by The Farmer and Grazier.

The Riverland fruit and farming centre of Berri was home to Berri Community News from October, 1951, to April, 1962. From May, 1962, until January, 1963, the local was known as Berri News. Waikerie, nestled on the banks of the River Murray, had its first newspaper on July 19, 1956, when The River News was published by Colin and Meg Hetzel who had bought the Waikerie Printing House from Harry Alchin and his family in late 1955. The Hetzel family sold the paper to the Taylor family’s The Murray Pioneer in 1962.
A former editor, John Pick, was president of the Country Press Association of S.A. Inc. from 1989 to 1992 and was made a life member for his service. In late 1997 and early 1998, The River News and The Murray Valley Standard (owned by Rural Press) were involved in a dispute over circulation after a change in Mid-Murray Council boundaries. The River News moved into the Mannum area and competed against the Standard, which circulated in the area, for customers and advertising. After pressure from Rural Press The River News withdrew from the Mannum region.

The ACCC took action under sections of the Trade Practices Act in relation to misuse of market power and entering into an anti-competitive arrangement with a competitor and the eventual outcome after a Federal Court hearing, an appeal to the Full Federal Court and then the High Court was that Rural Press and Waikerie Printing House (River News) had significant penalties imposed – $600,000 on Rural Press and $60,000 on Waikerie Printing House. Two Rural Press group executives were also fined plus a director of Waikerie Printing House.

**A winning paper**

Another River Murray newspaper, The Loxton News, had its origins in a monthly newsletter – The Loxton Community Newsletter, published by the Loxton District War Memorial Community Centre Committee. The newsletter’s last edition was in February, 1960.

On April 28, 1960, the first edition of The Loxton News was published by J.C. (Jack) Irving, who owned a printing business at Berri. Denis Hann, son-in-law of W. Gilmore Taylor of The Murray Pioneer, edited the paper for nearly 35 years, placing strong emphasis on reporting local council news. He also provided comprehensive coverage of local club and sport news.

In its more than 50 year history, the paper, owned by the Taylor family since 1964, has received 24 awards, most for the best newspaper in its circulation category.

Whyalla had its second paper in January, 1960, when local businessman and long-time resident, Lindsay McBride, published the Whyalla Times. The quarter-fold paper was a monthly and printed its last edition in October of that year. State Library records reveal that the paper was “wholly set up and published by E.J. McAllister & Co., 21 Blythe St, Adelaide, for the proprietors of the Whyalla Times.”

The Willson family, publisher of the Whyalla News, did not see the Times as a significant threat.

The South East Kingston Leader was launched on September 19, 1962, by Richard McRostie and his wife, Rhonda. In November, 1978, Noel and Dorothy McRostie took over and, in late 1979, their son, Geoff, began managing the paper.

In February, 1987, its title was changed to the SE Kingston Leader. Richard Peake and Judy Barton of The Naracoorte Herald bought the paper in April, 2001, and seven months later it became known as the Coastal Leader. In October, 2010, it was sold to Fairfax Media.

In 1965, Riverton had its third newspaper, The Gilbert Valley News, financed by 12 local businessmen. In 1967, it was amalgamated with the Hamley Bridge newspaper to form The Function and Gilbert Valley News. Two years later the News was taken over by The Bunyip at Gawler.

May, 1965, saw a challenge to Barossa valley newspapers by The Salisbury, Elizabeth and Gawler News-Review, a Messenger newspaper. On Page 1 of May 19, the paper announced it would be distributed to homes in towns throughout the Barossa Valley. It also stated that the paper would “provide an unequalled service to all local organisations and business houses.”

In his annual report on March 4, 1966, Provincial Press Association of SA Inc. secretary, Jack Power, reported that the move by Messenger was “a surprising development, because Mr Roger Baines, of the Messenger papers, had repeatedly denied any interest in country circulation.”

He also reported that the issue had been sorted out with an agreement on July 2, 1965. A meeting with directors of The Advertiser guaranteed the withdrawal of Messenger papers from the Barossa Valley, “with a further assurance of no future circulation of Messenger papers in country or suburban districts other than those as at 1st May, 1965.”

In June, 1965, the bi-monthly South Coast News began publication at Victor Harbor and was printed by Ambrose Press. It claimed a circulation of 2500 to Goolwa, Myponga, Port Elliot, Yankalilla and Victor Harbor. Copies held by the State Library are from Vol 1. No 2 to Vol 1. No 4. on June 25. South Coast Sports News, incorporating South Coast News, was also printed by Ambrose Press, with the first edition published on June 20, 1969. The State Library holds three issues, the last on July 4, 1969.

Free papers relying solely on advertising for revenue were to the fore in 1968 and 1970. The Flinders News Pictorial, founded by the small printing firm of Automatic Print in Port Pirie, was first published in September, 1968, saying its aim was to “supplement rather than oppose the function of other news media.”

The paper was bought by the Willson family in March, 1982, and sold to Fairfax Media in 1991.

In July, 1971, The Transcontinental, which had bought the Port Pirie Recorder made a bold move that spectacularly backfired. It decided to amalgamate both papers to form one paper, The Northern Observer. It was to appear three times a week but local reaction was overwhelmingly against the new paper and at the end of August it went back to the two papers – The Transcontinental and The Recorder. People power had been a valuable lesson.

A free community newspaper, The Bridge Observer, was published at Murray Bridge, in 1971, in competition with the established Murray Valley Standard. The paper announced on Page 1 on August 19, that it aimed “to promote the district, foster local business and support local organisations.”

Published by a group of local businessmen in an association named Bridge Investments, it also said it “intended to bring housewives full details of shopping bargains.” It ceased publication in September, 1976, due to “steeply increased production costs.”

In 1983, businessman John Potts, who had been involved in the original venture, reissued the paper under its old title which was combined with the old Mannum Mercury title in 1984 to become, for a brief time, The Bridge Mercury.
A bi-monthly tabloid, the Desert Sun, was published in Port Pirie by Flinders Travel Service in December, 1973/January, 1974. The paper was produced in conjunction with the Commonwealth Railways for travellers aboard the Indian-Pacific, the Trans-Australian and The Ghan. It mostly contained articles promoting tourism and it also chronicled the restoration and re-opening of the historic Pichi Richi Railway. The last edition held by the State Library is Vol. 1 No. 4 (June/July 1974).

**Nothing ventured, nothing gained**

On May 30, 1973, a new venture began for 17 South Australian country newspapers. Venture announced in its first edition that it was “a new publication for country people which is wholly-owned and produced by country people.”

It said that as part of their local paper, more than 51,000 homes would receive Venture every week at no extra cost. The editor and owner of The Naracoorte Herald, Harry Peake, was chairman of directors. The other five directors were Peter Marston (Mount Barker), Darnley Taylor (Renmark), Ray Naulty (Port Pirie), Paul Milnes (Victor Harbor) and Michael Hambidge (Murray Bridge).

Brian Nelson, who had served a two year stint as editor of the SA Journal of Industry for Stock Journal Publishers Pty Ltd, was appointed general manager. He said Venture had four aims:

- To provide an additional service for the readers of country newspapers by producing a publication, which by virtue of its larger circulation, could provide more expensive in-depth features
- To provide an effective forum where the views of all country people could be heard
- To provide a medium which would attract advertising support to ensure money spent in this direction would find its way back to the country and help the districts concerned
- To strongly support any action which was in the common interests of country people


Venture proved to be a great success and continued publishing until October, 1992. Its last issue was Vol. 19, No. 382.

The 1970s also saw the publishing of Scope magazine which was an insert in the Port Lincoln Times, West Coast Sentinel, Eyre Peninsula Tribune, Whyalla News, The Transcontinental, The Recorder and The Northern Argus. The monthly magazine, first published in May, 1973, was printed at Whyalla and was very successful over a number of years. Its last edition was in December, 1982.

A community paper – The Lakelander – was first published at Meningie, on the edge of Lake Albert, on June 25, 1976. The paper is published about 48 weeks a year and covers a large area including Salt Creek, Tailem Bend, Narrung, Coonalpyn and Tintinara.

The Coober Pedy Regional Times, a free newspaper established in 1982 by the dedicated volunteer work of local residents in the Far North opal mining town, is published fortnightly, and distributes 4500 copies. Prior to 1982, Coober Pedy was served by a newspaper known as Opal Chips which later became the Coober Pedy Times before being incorporated into the Coober Pedy Regional Times Association Inc.

The Mount Lofty Star, published at Stirling in the Adelaide Hills, hit the streets in February, 1983. It was owned and published by Quatre Nominees Pty Ltd., incorporated in Western Australia, for the first 15 editions. In the edition of June 3, it was announced on Page 3 that the new owner was Regional Press Pty Ltd, a new company formed by Star staff members. No records of the paper are kept by the State Library or Country Press SA Inc. and it is not known when it closed.

**Promoting country papers**

In 1984, the Country Press Association of S.A. Inc. published its first edition of Country Press Week as part of SA Country Newspaper Week. The once a year paper to promote SA’s Country Press has been a great success and is still published today, but under the title of Showcase.
In the 1984 edition, the chairman of the Country Press Association of S.A. Inc. promotions sub-committee, Ian Tilbrook, of The Northern Argus, at Clare, said that throughout SA 28 local papers, who were members of the association, would distribute more than 120,000 copies per issue – “from Ceduna to Pinnaroo, from Port Lincoln to Penola.”

Association president, Richard Peake, of The Naracoorte Herald, said: “Just as local government often says it’s the tier of government closest to the people, country newspapers believe they’re the closest news and advertising medium to the people in their communities.”

Cleve newsagent Phil Hughes joined the ranks of newspaper owners when he published the Rural News on a printing press in his back shed in November, 1984. The stories covering farming news on the Eyre Peninsula were written by David Furniss, the regional sales representative for Boral Cyclone.

The News was a free monthly, A4 glossy, sent to every farmer on the peninsula. Mr Furniss, in an interview for the book, said he and Mr Hughes had “seen a gap in the reporting of agricultural news and went for it.”

Mr Furniss and his wife, Janette, took over the Rural News in early 1986, and changed its name to Eyre Peninsula and Kangaroo Island Rural News. Its masthead later changed back to the Rural News when Mr Furniss sold 50 per cent to the Willson family who owned the Whyalla News.

Its coverage expanded to Yorke Peninsula, the Mid-North and Adelaide Plains, with circulation growing to 8500. The Willsons eventually took control, and when Fairfax Media bought the Willson media empire in 1991, it also took control of the Rural News which later closed.

The fishing and rural centre of Port Lincoln had another paper in November, 1987, when the Eyre Peninsula Rural Chronicle was published as a monthly by Peninsula Publishers Pty Ltd. It became a bi-monthly in 1988, and ceased publication in November, 1990. Brian Barnett, a former manager with the Port Lincoln Times, says the move to publish the Chronicle forced the Times to hire specialist farm writer, Brenton Rehn, to do stories for Peninsula Farmer, a supplement of the Times. He says the hiring of Mr Rehn resulted in the Peninsula Farmer becoming a much stronger supplement.

The Weekender Herald has been serving the Adelaide Hills and Mt Barker council areas since 1992. Formerly known as The Adelaide Hills Weekender, the Crafers-based, free community newspaper has heavy emphasis on lifestyle stories.

In November, 1992, the first issue of South Australian Country Magazine was inserted into 24 country newspapers. It said the magazine would be published quarterly and would be a “country co-operative effort.”

The magazine added: “Country newspapers rarely have the time or space to cover events outside their immediate circulation zones and, generally, the metropolitan press doesn’t bother.”

“This gap in coverage means that many stories of interest and relevance remain unpublished in regions other than their area of origin.

“South Australian Country Magazine will fill this gap – it will be dedicated to covering the ‘best of the country.’”

A significant event in the history of Country Press SA Inc. occurred in 1996 when Beryl Price, of The Murray Valley Standard, became the first woman to be elected president. She held the position until 1998. In 2002, Margaret Manuel, of The Plains Producer, became the second woman elected president, holding the position until 2003.
Rural Press buy-up begins
The year 1988 was a landmark in the history of SA country newspapers. It was the year Rural Press (Fairfax Media since May, 2007) began its buy-up of papers across the State. Since then its growth path has been spectacular with 16 papers now in its SA stable. Fairfax Media is by far and away the dominant force in country newspapers in SA. The next biggest player is the Taylor Group of Newspapers which owns six titles.

The first title purchased by Fairfax Media was The Murray Valley Standard at Murray Bridge in 1988 followed by the Port Lincoln Times and West Coast Sentinel in 1990.

In 1991, the company bought the Willson family papers. Until then, the Willson family, through its companies, Northern Newspapers Pty Ltd and the publicly-listed SA Regional Media, had been the most significant player in the history of country press in SA.

In the mid-1990s, the Fairfax Media buy-up continued with The Islander on Kangaroo Island in 1995 and the Tilbrook family-owned Northern Argus at Clare in 1996.

Its next foray into country newspapers in SA was not until 2010, when it purchased three South-east papers from The Peake Group – The Naracoorte Herald, The Border Chronicle and The Coastal Leader.

Announcing the purchase of the papers, the CEO and Publisher of Australian Regional Publishing – Fairfax Media, Allan Browne, said the company was very pleased that the three “quality newspapers” would join “our existing family” of more than 250 regional papers Australia-wide.

In its review of the purchase the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (ACCC) said it was not opposed. It said it had considered the competitive effects of the acquisition in the context of local markets for the supply of print advertising.

In reaching its conclusion not to oppose the acquisition, the ACCC said: “…the ACCC considered amongst other factors that there was limited overlap between existing Fairfax publications and the acquired publications in relation to print advertising. Therefore there was unlikely to be any substantial lessening of competition for print advertising in the local markets of the acquired newspapers.”

A new newspaper began in the Adelaide Hills in 1997 and is still publishing. The Lobethal-based, Along the Grapevine, is published fortnightly and covers news and events from the Torrens and Onkaparinga Valleys.

In 2003, a monthly paper, Morgan Matters, began in the historic river port and is still published today.

The newest member of Country Press SA Inc. is the Riverland Weekly, published at Berri. The free paper is owned by local businesses including real estate agents, car dealers, beauty salons and dress shops who each hold shares.

Ownership by advertisers is a different business model to other country newspapers in the State and is seen as another evolution in the ever-changing face of community newspapers.

First published on December 6, 2007, the Riverland Weekly is delivered to houses covering the broader Riverland and Mallee region. In its first edition it said: “As well as news and sport, entertainment and information, the Riverland Weekly’s big real estate and motoring sections will have saturation coverage of the region.” The Riverland Weekly was accepted into Country Press SA Inc. by a committee meeting on July 3, 2009.

Over the last 173 years, country newspapers have constantly evolved in the face of a myriad of challenges.

These challenges will continue into the future, but what is in store for the papers is hard to determine as changes in the media come at an ever-increasing pace.

Social media is the new frontier and country newspapers will have to continue to embrace it as they move forward.

However, there will always be one constant with country newspapers – they will always be the voice of the people.
History of Country Press SA Inc.
1912 – 2012

The association’s first year in detail, plus extracts from more than 2200 pages of minutes – pages 36-64
A SMALL café in Adelaide’s Rundle Street was the setting on Monday, March 25, 1912, to usher in a new era in country newspapers in South Australia.

The meeting in Bricknell’s Café at 49 Rundle St was “called by circular emanating from a meeting” of four newspapermen – Messrs, R. H. Barnet (Gawler Bunyip), C.M.R. Dumas (Mount Barker Courier), C. B. O’Reilly (Kapunda Herald) and J. B. Cant (Barossa News) – who believed a Provincial Press Association should be set up in South Australia.

In the café run by Balfour, Bricknell & Co Ltd, and advertising that it was “Unequalled for Convenience & Comfort,” were nine men, including Messrs Barnet, Dumas, O’Reilly and Cant, representing 14 papers.

Others present were W. H. Bennett (Petersburg Times, Quorn Mercury, Jamestown Star), S. R. Hanley for H. S. Taylor (Renmark Pioneer), L. S. Duncan (Border Chronicle and Lawloit Times), W. Hancock (Wooroora Producer, Area Express, Port Pirie Advertiser), J. W. Elliott (Southern Argus).

Letters endorsing the formation of an association were received from Messrs. A. South (Port Pirie Recorder), A. and R.H. Tilbrook (Northern Argus, Blyth Agriculturist), A. Caldwell (Naracoorte Herald), C.C. Neale (Maitland Watch), E.J. Farrell (Laura Standard), Leslie Henstridge (Stanley Herald), D. Drysdale (West Coast Recorder), Ben L. Wilkinson (Southern Yorke’s Peninsula Pioneer), R.L. Abbott (Port Augusta Dispatch), C. Wilkinson (Crystal Brook Times), (Booroopa Times), and “a verbal communication” was received from Mr R.M. Watson (Border Watch).

Mr Cant said it was generally felt that such an association was necessary, and that the earlier meeting and the correspondence which he had received, and the opinion.

The meeting wasted little time getting down to business, with Mr Dumas proposing and Mr O’Reilly seconding that Mr Barnet be chairman. Mr Barnet thanked the meeting, and “hoped that the association would be formed and have a successful career.”

The next order of business was to elect an acting secretary. Mr Elliott moved, and Mr Bennett seconded, that Mr Cant be appointed. Minutes of the meeting record: “Mr Cant consented to act.”

Mr Cant then read correspondence from various proprietors endorsing the formation of the association and also letters expressing “pleasure at the possibility of the formation of the association” from Mr T.M. Shakespeare (secretary NSW Country Press Association) and Mr W. H. Waddell (secretary Victorian Provincial Press Association).

It didn’t take long for the possibility to turn to reality. The next order of business was “Formation of Association.”

Mr Elliott, in moving that a Provincial Press Association of South Australia be formed, said that he felt such an association would be of very great value to the country press of the State.

There were, he said, a number of matters affecting them which it was impossible for them to deal with individually; but collectively they would be able to take a firm stand. He would do all in his power to forward the movement.

Mr Dumas seconded the proposition, and was pleased that steps had been taken to bring the country newspaper proprietors into touch. He was sure such an association would result in their mutual benefit.
The minutes show: “Messrs. W. H. Hancock, O’Reilly, Bennett, Duncan and others supported. The motion was carried unanimously.”

And so the Provincial Press Association of South Australia was born to protect the interests of SA country newspapers.

Before the meeting adjourned, Mr Dumas moved that the subscription be one pound one shilling, payable annually in advance. Mr Bennett seconded and the motion was agreed to.

But there was still one last thing to discuss – Constitution and Rules. Mr Bennett moved that Messrs Barnet, O’Reilly and Cant be a committee to draft a Constitution and Rules for presentation to the next meeting; Mr Hanley (for H. S. Taylor) seconded and it was carried.

At the adjournment it was resolved that “endeavours be made to secure the attendance of all country newspaper proprietors for another meeting on April 23 at Bricknell’s Café.”

At the April 23 meeting orders of business included the Constitution and Rules and election of officers. Also for discussion were “Scales of Rates, Job Printing Prices, Recognizing Agents, Rates of Commission, Government Advertising, Advertisement Writers, and Limiting Alterations.” (Research of minutes reveals some of these were issues that dominated meetings year after year.)

The Constitution, Objects and Rules were presented by the committee appointed to draft them, “and were taken clause by clause, and after a few minor amendments were adopted.”

Key points were:

- The membership shall be limited to proprietors, managers and publishers of newspapers outside a radius of ten miles from the General Post Office, Adelaide.
- As a mark of appreciation for services rendered or other sufficient cause the Annual Conference of members shall be empowered to create life and honorary members of the Association, also to accept donations therefrom.
- The association shall be supported by bequests, donations and subscriptions. The subscription shall be one pound one shilling per annum for each newspaper.

Clause 5 covered eight main objects of the Association.

These were:

- To watch over and protect the interests, rights and privileges, and to assist in promoting the greater efficiency and influence of the Provincial Press of South Australia.
- To watch legislation and administration of laws affecting the rights and liberties of the Provincial Press.
- To promote and safeguard newspaper interests in regard to the operation of the Law of Libel, to initiate such reforms therein as may from time to time appear necessary, and to provide mutual help, legal opinions and advice to members seeking same.
- To obtain information upon all topics having a practical interest for newspaper proprietors, and to furnish the same to its members.
- To promote co-operation amongst members of the Association in all matters affecting their common interests, and to afford opportunities of personal intercourse by means of occasional meetings, Annual Conferences, and reunions.
- To promote the speedy collation and transmission of news and literary matter.
- To co-operate with Australian Press Associations and kindred bodies in every endeavour advanced to further the interests of the press, where concerted action might prove beneficial or effectual.
- To place the Metropolitan and general advertising business of country newspapers on a reliable and satisfactory basis.

The meeting then moved on to the election of officers and Mr Barnet, who was elected chairman of the March 25 meeting, was “declared elected” to the position of president. He thanked the association for the honor it had conferred upon him.
The minutes recorded: “It was a great pleasure to him to know that they now had a Provincial Press Association in South Australia. He was sure it would prove of very great benefit, not only from a financial standpoint, but it would be the means of bringing country newspaper proprietors into touch with each other, and be the means of creating a good fellowship amongst them that could not be obtained in any other way. “His endeavour would be to make the Association a real live concern.”

Advertising rates were on the agenda and Mr H. S. Taylor (Renmark Pioneer) moved: “That this meeting suggests to the committee that it should prepare model scales of rates, according to circulation, as minimum prices to be charged for advertising, and that they be submitted to members for approval.”

Mr W. Hancock (Area Express, Wooroora Producer, Port Pirie Advertiser) seconded, and thought that this was one of the first questions they should take into consideration, “for if some uniformity in price were adopted by members it would be of great value to everyone.” The motion was carried.

The only other issue raised was in relation to job printing and a uniformity of prices. The committee undertook to take the matter into consideration and report.

The first annual meeting of the PPASA was held at Bricknell’s Café – obviously living up to its reputation for convenience and comfort – on Tuesday, April 22, 1913, with proceedings starting at 10.30am.

The published Report of Proceedings showed that even back in 1913 newspaper proprietors were on the lookout for any chances of advertisements. The proceedings contained several full page advertisements including a double-page spread on the Linotype Model No. 10 which it was said had been specially designed to meet the needs of country newspapers.

Secretary Cant read president Barnet’s report which commented on the membership: “You will be pleased to note that out of a total of 44 newspapers this Association has as its members 41 of them. Those standing out being The Burra Record, Clarion (Yorketown), and the North Western Star, published at Wilmington.”

Mr Barnet then addressed the meeting and said he would like all members to be loyal. The minutes recorded: “They knew that loyalty meant responsibility. Without the loyalty which should characterise members no Association could be a success, neither could a nation be built up without loyalty. “Such loyalty could only be gained by every member realising his responsibility to his fellow pressmen united with him for the general good. If each individual was sincere in his membership then only could their Association be the help and power to them that they intended it should be. “A number of instances had been brought under his notice where members had acted not in accordance with the intentions of the Association. It could hardly be expected that in the first year they could make their regulations to suit every newspaper, but it was hoped the members would stick together and help to bring things into line so that all would work fairly and that matters affecting papers situated differently to others would not be cramped, nor would the proprietors of smaller papers be placed at a disadvantage to others in the matter of advertising.”

Messages of a similar theme were delivered many times over the ensuing years.

Following Mr Barnet’s address the first order of business was “Election of officers.” The minutes record Mr Barnet was “unanimously re-elected to this position and his good work during the year was remarked upon.”

Mr J. W. Elliott (Southern Argus) was unanimously re-elected vice-president and “the following gentlemen were elected to the Executive” – Messrs. C.M.R. Dumas, C.B. O’Reilly, W. Hancock, W.H. Bennett and J.R. Watson. Mr G. Auricht was appointed auditor.

The meeting discussed a “New scale of rates” and it was pointed out that papers having smaller circulations than many old established periodicals had not the same chance of gaining advertisements, and it was considered advisable that more equitable rates should be formulated.

Mr L. R. Thomson (Mannum Mercury) moved and Mr R.H. Tilbrook (The Northern Argus) seconded “that the executive be asked to consider the matter of a new scale rate.”
Another advertising issue raised was the question of District Council balance sheets. Mr Barnet said there was a great diversity of opinion as to what should be charged for the publication of the balance sheets. Some papers had only charged one pound and sent a paper to every ratepayer in the district whilst others had charged a fair casual advertising rate.

A resolution was carried “that a minimum price for District Council Balance Sheets be 2s. 6d. per inch set in Brevier.”

The first Annual General Meeting wound up with invitations from Messrs. B. Seppelt and Sons, Ltd, for members to visit the winery at Seppeltsfield. There were also invitations to attend the Tivoli Theatre and to see Tokio Town at the Exhibition Building.

Members who attended the annual general meeting were listed as:
Gawler Bunyip, R.H. Barnet
Mount Barker Courier, C.M.R. Dumas
Kapunda Herald, C.B. O’Reilly, Kapunda
Barossa News, J.B. Cant, Angaston
Petersburg Times, Quorn Mercury and Jamestown Star, W.H. Bennett
Southern Argus, J.W. Elliott
Areas Express, Mr W. Hancock
West Coast Recorder, Mr D. Drysdale
Northern Argus, Mr R.H. Tilbrook
Port Augusta Dispatch, Mr R.L. Abbott
Jamestown Review, Mr A.W. Gage
Southern Yorke’s Peninsula Pioneer, Mr R. Wilkinson
The Kirchen and Missions Zeitung, Mr G. Auricht
Mannum Mercury, Mr L.R. Thomson

Apologies were received from The Port Pirie Advertiser, Wooroora Producer, Pinnaroo & Border Times and The Stanley Herald.
HISTORY OF COUNTRY PRESS SA INC

An insight into the workings of country press

This is the first of five sections which provide extracts from
the minutes of meetings of the Provincial Press Association of South Australia which later
became the Country Press Association of S.A. Inc. and then Country Press SA Inc.
The verbatim extracts, which appear under the headings given in the minutes,
provide an insight through the eyes of the proprietors into the workings of the
association and the issues facing country newspapers until 2012.
Unfortunately, minutes for the years 1924 to 1928 are missing.

1914 – 1923

1914

Government advertising
Mr Barnet (President) introduced the question of
“Decentralization of Government advertising.” He said the
Government made it a practice to advertise everything, whether it
was a matter of wide interest to the public or something that only
applied to a section which was served by a local paper, in the city
dailies and seldom recognized the country papers. He thought it
was time the Association took some steps in the matter.

Mr H.S Taylor (Murray Pioneer) thought that they received
shabby treatment. No other State treated its country papers as the
South Australian Government did.

General
Mr Osborne (Port Pirie Advertiser) said the President had referred
to the matter of loyalty. He wished to mention a personal matter
– he did so with diffidence. For years he had been doing a sports
book for a certain price and now another member of
the Association had tried to secure the work by undercutting.
This he thought was unfair.

In addition to this another member had gone into his district
and started a paper, undoubtedly for the purpose of securing a
large amount of printing that was obtainable in the district. In his
opinion such actions as these should be disowned by the
Association.

Mr L.S. Duncan (Barossa News) called the attention of the
meeting to the publication called the Municipal Journal and
suggested it should be taboo. It appeared to be an attempt
to draw legitimate business away from country newspapers.

Reports of proceedings of second annual meeting,
April 27, 1914

1915

District Council Printing
An appeal was made to the District Councils of the State asking
that full support in regard to job printing should be given by
the Councils to the country newspapers which circulate in their
respective districts, and we believe the appeal will have beneficial
results.

Unauthorized Advertisements
Since the formation of the Association the number of
unauthorized advertisements appearing in some of the country
newspapers has been considerably diminished, but there have
been cases during the past year where advertisements have been
allowed to remain in longer than the period for which they were
ordered. This practice depreciates the true value of the country
newspaper as an advertising medium, and has also a serious
effect upon those offices which adhere strictly to the terms of all
contracts.

Reports of proceedings of third annual meeting, April 26, 1915
1916
Annual report
The President (Mr C.M.R. Dumas, Mount Barker Courier) read the annual report as follows:

Our fourth year closes with the world still at war. The titanic struggle to uphold the case of justice and honour is now much more favourable to the British Empire and its courageous Allies than when we met together twelve months ago. We pray fervently that before our annual gathering in 1917 the blessings of peace may be vouchsafed to us again.

Patriotic Resolution
Following the lead of the New South Wales and Victorian Associations we adopted a patriotic resolution as under: “That the members of this Association pledge themselves to assist the State War Council to the full extent of their resources (a) by promoting recruiting and (b) by helping the proposed local committees to find employment for and promote the settlement of returned soldiers.”

Reports of proceedings of fourth annual meeting, May 15, 1916

1917
Paper supplies
Among the serious problems which have faced members during the year has been the one relating to the shortage of paper. The question of supplies was discussed at the Australasian Conference in Sydney, and the delegates thereto conferred with the Board of Directors of the New South Wales Country Press Co-operative Company on a proposal put forward for the formation of State co-operative concerns acting conjointly as one unit in the matter of paper purchase.

Association canvasser
Mr R.H. Barnet (Gawler Bunyip) moved – “That in the best interests of the Association a canvasser be engaged to wait upon the business people of Adelaide and Port Adelaide, mainly with the view of ventilating the possibilities of trade extension through the medium of the Provincial Press, and that it be a recommendation to the Executive to prepare literature in support of this appeal.” He said his experience had proved that the advantages of advertising in the Provincial Press should be brought before the business people of the city, and it was bound to do good to the country newspapers if a smart man were engaged for a few weeks to put before the advertisers the merits of each district, especially if he had statistics and other literature to help him.

The motion was amended by the insertion after “engaged” of the words “to work in co-operation with recognized advertising agents and.” With this amendment the motion was carried.

Reports of proceedings of fifth annual meeting, April 27, 1917

1918
Death
With deep regret we report the death of Mr R. H. Barnet, one of the foundation members of the Association. From the first, the deceased gentleman recognized the value of combined action among country newspapers, and he never ceased to show the keenest interest and personal devotion to the promotion of the cause. He was our first President, and afterwards he was chosen President of the Australasian P.P. Association.

Paper supplies
The Australasian Executive waited on the federal Government and put the case for the provincial Press. The outcome has been that the Federal Government has promised to bring 1,000 tons of Canadian paper to Australia for the Provincial Press. This will relieve the position somewhat, but we urge members in their own interests to exercise the strictest economy in the use of paper.

Association canvasser
In accordance with the resolution of the last annual meeting, the question of appointing a special canvasser for the city was discussed by the Committee. Leading advertising agencies were approached, and the suggestion put before them. Their negative attitude resulted in the matter being left in abeyance.

Reports of proceedings of sixth annual meeting, April 26, 1918
1919
The war
The note of joy and thanksgiving at the cessation of hostilities in the great war conflict sounds above everything else, and we join in the universal prayer that the stoppage of slaughter and suffering may be followed by a peace that will bring prosperity and contentment to the nations of the earth.

To Lieut. Edwards (Edward & Hill, "The Transcontinental," Port Augusta) we extend congratulations on his safe return to Australia after a period of trial as a prisoner of war.

Paper administration and supplies
There is every reason for believing that the acute shortage of the paper supply has passed but the year just closed was an anxious one. At one period the position was so serious as to induce the Federal Government to appoint a Paper Administrator to regulate the supplies for the Commonwealth and to enforce a rigid economy in the use of paper.

Free advertising paragraphs
Your Committee regrets that cases have been noted where members have published as paragraphs, without charge and without any accompanying advertisement, items that should be treated solely as advertising matter. This is unfair to the Association which is striving to establish, among other things, the principle that those who desire to use the Provincial Press for their own advantage shall pay the proper rates. Just so long as papers can be found willing to accept anything sent along to fill up will the aim of the Association in this respect be delayed in accomplishment.

Medical advertisements
The President, according to notice, moved: “That the minimum charge for medical advertisements be 1/- an inch.” He said he had come to the conclusion a long time ago that they were not getting a payable price for their medical advertisements, and that the minimum price should be 1/- an inch.

1920
Australian Dried Fruits’ Association
A new departure in the operations of the Association has been the handling of an advertising campaign among the country papers of South Australia on behalf of the Dried Fruits’ Association. This is the first advertising contract actually carried through by us, and it is satisfactory to know that the flat rate of 1/- an inch was obtained for the 34 participating papers. The benefits thus derived are accentuated by the fact that members at the time the contract was made are being charged only 10 per cent commission – a saving of 10 per cent on the ordinary charge by agents.
1922
Co-operative Trading Company
The annual meeting of our Association in April, 1921, carried the following motion: "That the incoming Committee take into consideration the possibility of establishing an Association office in Adelaide. Steps were taken almost immediately to prepare a scheme which would appeal to members, and the Committee was able to submit for their consideration and adoption the purchase of Mr H. Hampson’s well-known advertising agency on exceptionally favourable terms. A prospectus was drawn up for the formation of a Company, and many excellent responses were received. A small proportion of members have shown an apathy and lack of interest which have resulted in a delay in bringing the scheme to a head, but finality must be reached within the next few weeks to enable the tentative agreement for taking over the business to be carried into effect.

We appeal to those who have not yet applied for shares to act without further delay, so that they may become shareholders and co-partners in a trading concern, the profits of which will be distributed to members”.

Conclusion
Consideration for a few moments will enable members to realize what the Association has meant to them. Ten years ago the country newspapers of the State were practically at the mercy of advertisers. Farming out of space was not unknown, and in very many cases printers took really starvation prices from people who thought they were conferring a benefit on the country newspaper in using its columns at all.

1923
Co-operative company
The most important event of the year was the formation of the Provincial Press Co-operative Company… On Monday, October 23, 1922, a meeting of persons who had agreed to become shareholders in the proposed Provincial Press Co-operative Company of South Australia, Limited, was held at Mr Hampson’s office, and the company was formed at that meeting. Arrangements were made for the transfer of Mr Hampson’s business to the company on January 1, 1923.

Membership and changes
During the year Mr F. Pitman acquired the Quorn Mercury from Mr W. H. Bennett, and Mr H. Milnes took over the Victor Harbour Times from Mr J. W. Elliott. We regret to record the death of Mr W. M. McFarlane, proprietor of the Pinnaroo Country News, Lameroo, one of the foundation members of the Association. In consequence of Mr McFarlane’s death the paper ceased publication. We note with regret also that the old-established paper, The Yorke Peninsula Advertiser, ceased publication in July last. The membership of the Association is now 41.

Reports of proceedings of eleventh annual meeting, May 4, 1923
1929

Congratulations to President

Congratulations were extended to the President (Mr C.M.R. Dumas) and to his son Mr Lloyd Dumas on the latter’s appointment as managing Editor of The Advertiser with good wishes for his continued success. The President acknowledged the congratulations and said his son also would appreciate the kind words of the Provincial Press.

Minutes of meeting of executive committee, June 24, 1929

Cost of living figures

Notification from W.H. Waddell, Secretary Victorian PP Association, 25.7.29, that under the adjustment clauses of the Federal award the wages for adult male employees in the printing industry were to be increased by 4/- a week and for female employees by 2/- a week for the next six months.

Minutes of meeting of executive committee, August 19, 1929

1930

New Postal Rates and Sales Tax

Mr T.M. Shakespeare, President A.P.P.A., sent lettergram on July 24 stating that at the Association’s urgent request, the Prime Minister had decided to recommend to Cabinet to drop the proposed increased bulk postage rates; also advising that newspapers using newsprint were exempt from the sales tax. Position of newspapers printed on other than newsprint & also of job printing was being considered & he would advise later.

Minutes of meeting of executive committee, July 28, 1930

Publication of Broadcast News

Secretary reported that at the request of the Border Watch proprietary he had written to the New South Wales Association Secretary (Mr E.W. Brander) for information on the question of publication in newspapers of news received over the wireless. Mr Brander had replied that as a result of a deputation to the Director General of the Postal Department the whole matter of publishing broadcast news was being investigated. At present any newspaper which published items received by wireless was liable to prosecution. A few months ago the Bathurst Times had been fined for publishing race results received by wireless.

Minutes of general committee meeting, September 22, 1930

1931

Country Show Printing

Copy of circular letter to the Presidents of all Agricultural Show Societies in South Australia, signed by the President and Secretary, asking that local printers should receive special consideration during the period of financial stress, laid on the table.

10 per cent wage reduction

W.H. Waddell (11.6.31) advised that the Full Arbitration Court had granted the application by the Associations working under the Federal Award for a 10 per cent reduction in wages, the reduction to take effect from midnight of Thursday, June 18. A complete list of wages under the amended award was being prepared.

Reports from minutes of executive committee meeting, July 27, 1931

1932

Women’s Letter

Miss J.V. Crawford, 2 Higinbotham St Middle Brighton, Victoria, submitted (21.1.32) sample of a syndicated letter for women for publication in South Australian country newspapers. Reply to be sent that the Association could not see its way to take up the matter, but that the writer might communicate with individual newspapers.

Minutes of meeting of executive committee, February 22, 1932

The Premier & Govt. News

Secretary reported that the Premier (Hon. L.L. Hill) through his Publicity Officer had asked for the co-operation of country newspapers in publishing items of information relating to Government activities. He had promised to write to members in accordance with the Premier’s wish.

Minutes of meeting of executive committee, April 11, 1932

1933

Association Anniversary

The Secretary reported that the Association was now 21 years of age. The meeting at which the Association was formed was held on Monday March 25, 1912. The President said that members had gained many benefits through the work of the Association.

Annual meeting of members, March 27, 1933

Empire Press Union

Resolved – That the Association withdraw its Associate membership from the Empire Press Union and that the representation through the A.P.P.A. is sufficient.

Minutes of meeting of executive committee, November 27, 1933
1934

Report and Financial Statement
The Secretary read his annual report and the financial statement duly audited. The latter shows that the balance in the Savings Bank at December, 31, 1933, was one pound 7/5. The President moved the adoption of the report and financial statement. The disastrous times were lasting longer than he had expected, but he hoped members would enjoy more prosperity in the near future. He was pleased to welcome those who had come to the meeting, as it indicated that they were interested in the Association work.

Block Service
Mr Robinson (Leader, Angaston) suggested that the Association should give consideration to a scheme for supplying members with a pictorial block service which would brighten the appearance of their papers. His own experience had proved very satisfactory & the cost was only small. Resolved – That Mr Robinson confer with the Executive Committee and submit particulars to the next meeting.

Annual meeting of members, March 19, 1934

1935

Death of the President
Mr Tillbrook reported the death of the President (Mr C.M.R. Dumas) which had taken place at Mount Barker on Tuesday, February 19. He said that Mr Dumas' whole heart and soul had been in the work of the Association.

Resolved – That the Association places on record its high appreciation of the services of the late Mr Dumas as a foundation member and particularly as President from April, 1915, to the time of his death, and that this resolution be conveyed to Mrs Dumas together with copies of all letters and telegrams received by the Association.

Minutes of meeting of executive committee, February 25, 1935

A.J.A. Award Inspector
Mr W. H. Waddell forwarded copy of resolution passed by the Executive of the Victoria Provincial Press Association protesting against the appointment of an inspector to police the A.J.A. & other Federal Arbitration Court Awards.

Resolved – That the executive enters a strong protest against the appointment...on the grounds that the appointment imposes unwarranted public expense on the taxpayer & is quite unnecessary as the unions concerned have adequately guarded the operations of the Awards.

Minutes of meeting of executive committee, May 20, 1935

1936

Canvasser
Secretary reported that the Directors of the Provincial Press Co-operative Company have referred to the members of the Association a proposal to appoint a canvasser to secure advertising for the country papers, the members to provide a retainer of two pounds a week and to authorize the company to deduct their proportions from their advertising accounts. Mr W. F. Taylor moved – That it be recommended to the Directors of the Provincial Press Co-operative Company to make the appointment of Mr B. A. Clarke as the canvasser on the terms laid down.

State Centenary
Mr Robinson moved – That this Association views with regret the attitude of the State Centenary Publicity Committee in sending out free publicity matter to the Country newspapers and ignoring the facilities of the Provincial Press office for handling newspaper advertising. Mr Barnet seconded & suggested that a copy of the motion be sent direct to the Minister Controlling the State Centenary Celebrations. Carried.

Reports from annual meeting of members, March 31, 1936

1937

Price of Paper
Mr Parish (Murray Valley Standard) called attention to the recent inflation of prices for paper. In some lines there had been an increase of 60 per cent. He wondered whether the Association could do something in the matter. The President said that some years ago the New South Wales Association tried a scheme for the States Associations to combine & import their own papers, but it was a failure.

Minutes of annual meeting of members, March 16, 1937

Free publicity
Mr Taylor (Vice-President, Kadina and Wallaroo Times) reported that railway station masters were being required by the Railways Department to interview newspaper editors to ascertain if they were prepared to publish free paragraphs giving information on railway matters.

The Telegraph Department also sent along paragraphs for their special greetings forms for Mother’s Day & other occasions. Resolved – That the Secretary make enquiries on both these matters and write letters to the Railways Commissioner and to the Postmaster General.

Minutes of meeting of executive committee, May 25, 1937

Extract from 1934 minutes
1938

A.J.A. Award Increases
W.H. Waddell, Advocate for the Employers, notified that under the cost of living clause of the A.J.A. Award there would be a rise of 2/- a week in all salaries except those of cadets from October 18 next. Secretary reported that all members concerned had been notified.

Minutes of general committee meeting, September 28, 1938

Recruiting campaign
Secretary read and laid on the table telegrams from Hon. E.C. Sommerlad manager Country Press Sydney urging immediate action to secure the placing of Federal recruiting campaign advertising through the Country Press States organizations. Also copies of telegrams he had sent to the Postmaster-General (Mr A.G. Cameron), Senator A.J. McLachlan, and Representative J.L.Price, asking for their support on behalf of the South Australian Provincial Press. Telegram from Senator McLachlan in reply stating that he had done what he could & thought all would be well.

Minutes of meeting of general committee, December 9, 1938

1939

Military Censorship
Secretary reported that while in Melbourne the representatives of the States Associations had a conference with an officer of the Commonwealth Military Forces on the question of censorship in war times & the appointment of a liaison officer to act between the Chief Censor & the Press. If the occasion warranted, a set of instructions would be issued for the guidance of editors.

Minutes of meeting of executive committee, July 25, 1939

Block of Premier
Secretary reported that the Liberal and Country League had agreed to the suggestion that all country newspaper offices should be supplied with a photo block of the Premier. The blocks had been received and forwarded to various offices.

Minutes of meeting of general committee, December 13, 1939

1940

Defence Department Advertising
The following correspondence was read:
From Border Watch, Mt Gambier, January 11, advising that the Defence Department had passed over the Border Watch & had given The Exchange an advertisement in “Universal Military Training” for which a charge of 2/6 an inch had been made instead of the proper casual rate of 4/-
From Secretary 17th January to Miss Clark (The Exchange) pointing out that the defence department advertising was not local and therefore the 4/- should have been charged.

Minutes of meeting of executive committee, February 20, 1940

Membership and Finance
Secretary reported that two new papers were being established – The Junction News, at Hamley Bridge, by Mr B. Oakey, and The Whyalla News, for Whyalla by Messrs. Edwards & Willson. The Junction News started on February 15 and The Whyalla News was expected in the first week of April.

Annual meeting of members, March 12, 1940

War Pictures for Country Papers
Secretary reported having discussed with the Deputy Director of the Department of Information (Mr J. Sincock) the question of distributing war pictures to country newspapers to a larger number than had availed themselves of the service. He had written to the Department on August 8 suggesting that the distribution be taken over by the Association & copies of blocks be made available according to the number of circuits arranged.

Minutes of general committee meeting, August 13, 1940

1941

State Censor & Newspapers
Secretary reported that on request, he had supplied the State Publicity Censor with a full list of S.A. country papers. Under the National Security regulations all papers published had to be sent regularly to the Censor, whose office had reported all papers were being received.

Security of War Information
Request from Major P.H. Auld, General Staff 4th Military District, that country papers should publish “scatters” warning readers against talking on war information regarding movements of troops, transport etc. Secretary reported having sent copies of the “scatters” to all papers & they were being used regularly.

Reports from minutes of general committee meeting, January 21, 1941

1942

Man Power & War Requirements
Secretary reported that following on letters from the Border Watch, Mount Gambier, he had interviewed the Man Power authorities on questions of exemptions for the newspaper and printing staff of country offices. In reply to a request from the Association, Lieut. Col. Darley, District Man Power Officer, had supplied a list of reserved occupations in the printing industry. On the motion of Mr Parish, seconded by Mr Monger the following motion was carried: That we assure the Minister for War Organization of Industry (Mr Derman) of our utmost co-operation in the war effort, but urge that no action be taken under the Man Power
regulations which would jeopardize the existence of country newspapers, as the country newspaper industry is a vital element in the life of the rural communities and has rendered out great service to the Government.

Minutes of general committee meeting, February 24, 1942

Military Advertisements
Mr Watson drew attention to the Defence Department advertisement in the metropolitan papers relating to the call up of rifles, revolvers, etc. Secretary said he had made enquiries at the time, but was unable to get an order for country papers.
Mr Robinson said he had written direct to Defence Headquarters. He tabled the reply in which it was stated – “The extremely high charges for advertisements charged by the Provincial Press has discouraged these Headquarters from inserting advertisements in country newspapers. The city papers are very moderate in their charges and publicity over the air is given free. Under these circumstances it must be realized that the remedy lies in your hands.”

Minutes of general committee meeting, February 24, 1942

1943

Membership and Finance
Membership reduced by 2, owing to the closing of the Mid-North Courier, Riverton, and West Coast Recorder, Port Lincoln. The total membership was 40 – 38 papers and 2 jobbing offices.

Newsprint
Report from Mr Gordon Ralph (representative of the A.P.P.A. on the Newsprint Pool) read indicating that efforts were being made to have newsprint imported from America. Mr Duncan said the merchants in Adelaide knew nothing of the importation of paper. He had written to Newspaper Supplies Ltd, representatives of the Pool, but had had no acknowledgment.

Minutes of annual meeting of members, March 30, 1943

1944

Newsprint
Secretary read correspondence from Customs Department advising that all newspapers could purchase newsprint sufficient to cover their needs to December, 1944, but that the quarterly allocation purchases were suspended.

Northern Argus 75th Anniversary
Secretary reported having written to Mr R. H. Tilbrook congratulating him on the 75th anniversary of the establishment of The Northern Argus, Clare, on February 19 & also on the fact that on that day Mr Ian T. Tilbrook, eldest son of Mr and Mrs E.H. Tilbrook, had joined the staff, he representing the fourth generation of the family associated with the paper.

Minutes of annual meeting of members, March 28, 1944

1945

Probate Notices
F.T. Marston (Burra Record) forwarded copy of advertisement taken from a Victorian country paper notifying application for probate. He asked if something could be done to secure such ads for South Australian papers. Mr Marston to be thanked and to be advised that an Act of Parliament would be needed to make the insertion of such advertisements compulsory.

Border Watch and A.J.A.
Secretary reported that as the result of the conference with the A.J.A. a claim for 60 pounds for salary short paid to a young woman journalist had been settled by the payment of 15 pounds by Messrs. Laurie & Watson, Border Watch.

Minutes of general committee meeting, December 3, 1945

1946

Newsprint
Mr Oakley said that newsprint was available for purchase by butchers and other tradesmen, but the newspaper man was not allowed to use more than a set quota. He had been threatened from Canberra with action because he had used 2lb more than his quota although there was apparently plenty of newsprint in Australia.
Sir Lloyd Dumas
President reported that on behalf of the Association he had written
to Sir Lloyd Dumas, managing Director of The Advertiser, Adelaide,
on the knighthood conferred by the King. Sir Lloyd, in his reply,
referred to his father’s early membership of the Provincial Press
Association of South Australia and his pride in the fact that his
father had done so much in building up the dignity of the country
newspapers of this State.

Minutes of annual meeting of members, March 26, 1946

1947
Late Delivery of Papers
Mr Sprigg referred to the delay in the Postal Department in the
delivery of the papers posted to subscribers. His papers were
posted on Thursday nights and he had had many complaints
that they were not delivered until the following Tuesday. Other
members reported having had similar experiences.
Resolved – That a letter be written to the deputy P.M.G. asking
that deliveries should be expedited.

Minutes of general committee meeting, February 25, 1947

Levy
Mr W.G. Taylor said that in view of the financial position of the
Association they needed more money. He moved – That the
Committee be empowered to make a levy on members if deemed
necessary.
Mr Sprigg seconded.
Secretary pointed out that in addition to the industrial
conferences the A.P.P.A. at the Melbourne Conference had
doubled the contributions from the States Associations. That
meant an increase from 15 pounds to 30 pounds for South
Australia. The motion was carried.

Minutes of annual meeting of members, March 29, 1947

1948
Opening by Premier
The President welcomed the Premier (Hon. T. Playford) and
invited him to declare the conference open. The Premier, in
a short address, referred to the efforts by his Government for
decentralizing the industries of the State and the long range
programme to provide water, electricity, and other amenities for
country residents. He assured the meeting of the goodwill of the
Government toward the country newspapers and their Association
and wished them all success in their deliberations.

Minutes of annual meeting of members, April 9, 1948

Unions Visit to Offices
Mr Watson reported that the secretary to the P.I.E.U. (Mr Frost)
had called at the Border Watch on a publication day & had kept
his foreman occupied for an hour and a half. This had seriously
delayed the work of the office and was most unreasonable.
Mr Robinson undertook to discuss with Mr Frost at an early
opportunity the question of arranging his interviews at a more
favourable time.

Minutes of general committee meeting, July 27, 1948

1949
Life Membership of Mr C.B. O’Reilly
Mr R.J. Watson, Border Watch, Mt Gambier, had pleasure in moving
that Mr C.B. O’Reilly be elected Life Member of the Provincial
Press Association of South Australia in recognition of the 35 years
conscientious and devoted service as Secretary of the Association.
Mr O’Reilly had served under six Presidents, he was held in high
esteem by all members in South Australia and by members of
kindred bodies in all other States.

S.A. Farmer
A discussion ensued on the methods adopted by the proprietor of
the S.A. Farmer to develop circulation in areas thought to be well
covered by other country newspapers. The personal allusions made
in this paper to other newspapers were thought to be undesirable
from the point of view of ethics and good relations between
country newspaper proprietors.

Reports from minutes of annual meeting of members, April 1, 1949

1950
Course for Apprentices
Mr K. Frost, secretary, Printing Industry Union, wrote suggesting
combined action by the union and the Association with a view
to have established a correspondence course at the Adelaide
Technical College for apprentices. He suggested approach to the
Superintendent of Technical Education on the subject.
Mr Robinson moved and Mr Judell seconded that the
Association support the proposed plan. Letter to be written to the
Education Department asking that a correspondence course for
junior printers be established.

Minutes of annual meeting of members, March 24, 1950

Job Price Cutting
Mr Tilbrook (Northern Argus, Clare) reported that the Southern
Argus by quoting low prices had secured the printing for the Clare
Trotting Club and others including the Gawler Club tote tickets
and race books. Mr Parish said his office had lost the Murray
Bridge and Tailem Bend race work in the same way. The Southern
Argus prices were substantially below his.
Mr Judell supported Mr Tilbrook’s statement. It was definitely
a case of price cutting, but whether the Association could
do anything was another matter. After further discussion it
was resolved to recommend to the next Committee meeting
consideration of appointing a Prices Panel to adjudicate in respect
of disputes on printing prices.

Minutes of general committee meeting, July 14, 1950
1951

**Opening by Minister for Lands**
The President (Mr W. Gilmore Taylor) invited the Minister of Lands (Hon. C.S. Hincks) to declare the Conference open. Mr Hincks said he was pleased to comply with the invitation. He congratulated the Association on its splendid record of achievement over the years. That spoke well for the work and activities of the Executive who had guided its affairs. One tribute to country newspapers was that many people who came and settled in the metropolitan area continued to take the papers that kept them in touch with their old districts.

**Minutes of annual meeting of members, March 30, 1951**

**Commonwealth Advertising Rates**
The A.P.P.A. Committee decided to approach the Government for an increase in Commonwealth Govt advertising rates. E. Lloyd Sommerlad, 10.8.51, advised that the proposed discussion would probably be held sometime in September. He asked for particulars of any rises in advertising rates for South Australian papers in the past two years.

**Minutes of general committee meeting, August 24, 1951**

1952

**Printing for Sports Associations**
Mr Starr reported that the Football League Umpires' Association was supplying printing done in Adelaide to the football clubs in Yorketown district. Local printing offices were losing much job printing. He asked if the Association could do something to stop the practice. Mr Robinson said the publicity given by the local papers to the football matches contributed largely to the popularity of the game. He moved that a letter be written to the Umpires' Association pointing out that fact and that when printing was wanted it should be given to the local office. If that was not done, the newspaper man could curtail his reports of the matches.

**Minutes of annual meeting of members, March 28, 1952**

**Company Office and Secretaryship**
The President reported that the Directors of the Provincial Press Co-operative Co. had decided to offer the use of the Company’s offices and facilities to the Association for 75 pounds a year. Mr J.F. Power was willing to take the Secretaryship. Mr Liddy moved – That the offer of the Company be accepted and that Mr Power’s offer to take over the Secretaryship be accepted at a remuneration of 50 pounds per annum, the term to begin on October 1st.

**Minutes of general committee meeting, September 5, 1952**

1953

**Pressmen Pass On**
Mortality took heavy toll of provincial Pressmen during 1952. In our own State we suffered the loss of Mr L.S. Duncan, MP, and foundation member of this Association; Mr R.J. Hughes of the *Peoples Weekly*, Moonta; Mr W.A. Thompson, *West Coast Sentinel*; and Mr L.N. Tilbrook, Mayor of Kapunda and former editor-proprietor of *The Kapunda Herald*. In the wider field of prominent Provincial Press personalities Mr W.H. Waddell (universally known as The Grand Old Man of the Victorian Country Press) and Mr E.C. Sommerlad, M.L.A. of New South Wales, also crossed the Great Divide since our last annual meeting.

**Newsprint Supplies and Price**
Towards the end of 1952 there was an improvement in the newsprint supply position and a timely fall in the price of this vital commodity. There are signs that the position is rapidly changing from a seller’s to a buyer’s market. Even now merchants are quoting sheet newsprint at less than half the price some of our members were called on to pay just over twelve months ago, when it topped 200 pounds a ton – a staggering figure when one recalls that it was down as low as 17 pounds 10 shillings a ton in the early 1930's.

Extracts from president E.G. Sprigg’s report, annual meeting, March 20, 1953

1954

**Penal Clauses Incorporated in Constitution**
As outcome of a letter of complaint from the Australian Association of Advertising Agencies, that members of our Association were committing a breach of the Accreditation Bureau Agreement by allowing commission to unaccredited agents, a special general meeting of members was held on July 31, 1953, when the incorporation into our Constitution of additional conditions of membership, with penal clauses, was approved. This action was taken on the strong recommendation of the A.P.P.A., and now brings our Association into line with N.S.W. and Victoria in regard to penal clauses for specific breaches of conditions of membership.

**Code of Ethics**
This record of stewardship of your Committee is not without its sin of omission. I refer to the assignment given it at last annual Conference, that a Code of Ethics be drafted for submission to the next annual meeting.

This has not yet been done, but it has not been overlooked, rather it has been considered by the Committee as of lesser priority than a number of other matters and events which, by reason of urgency, have consumed the time of our meetings.

Extracts from president E.G. Sprigg’s report, annual meeting, April 2, 1954
1955

Public Relations – Free Publicity
The time has definitely arrived for a showdown in regard to free public relations publicity. The growth in recent months of consultants is becoming a real problem and a resolution should be enacted today that all country papers agree to throwing the material and free stereos in the waste paper basket.

Report of president E.H. Tilbrook to annual meeting, March 25, 1955

Decline in Comm. Govt. Advertising
The Secretary reported that the decline in Commonwealth Advertising was serious. The volume of Advertising for the six months ended June 30th, 1955 was 10,715 inches, compared with 16,829 for the same period 1954. The 1955 figure is the lowest for the first six months on record.

Minutes of executive meeting, July 8, 1955

1956

P.M.G. Dept
Further complaints were listed regarding the long delays in deliveries of country newspapers. Instances were given of newspapers posted from Murray Bridge to Hartley and Woodchester taking 7 and in one instance 8 days to reach the destination. Posted from Tanunda to Truro – 6 days. Posted from Mt. Barker to Nairne, Birdwood – 6 days. Members were very concerned over the long delays, especially considering that publishing times etc. had been arranged to work in with dispatch of mails etc.

Complimentary dinner
Mr V. Starr moved Mr E.G. Sprigg seconded, in consideration of the many years of outstanding service given to the association a complimentary dinner be given to Mr W.K. Robinson.

Reports from minutes of general committee meeting, May 18, 1956

1957

Publicity
For some time past your Committee has been cognisant of the need to sell the Provincial Press as an advertising medium. Such projects will, of course, cost money. But if they succeed in countering the vigorous campaigns being carried out by the metropolitan press then the money will have been well spent. It is a rather strange thing that we who preach the values of advertising have as yet done nothing in the way of advertising our own wares.

Extract from president J. Liddy’s report, annual conference, March 29, 1957

Christmas Xmas
On the motion Mr J. Liddy and Mr H. Henstridge the Secretary was instructed to write to members suggesting that they endeavour to adhere to the word “Christmas” and to avoid the abbreviation “Xmas” in Advertising and press matter. Carried.

Minutes of general committee meeting, November 1, 1957

1958

President’s report
Mr R. Chewings asked for enlightenment on the necessity of Country Newspaper Members attending Civil Defence School in Victoria. Mr Gilmore Taylor explained that the Defence Authorities considered it very important that country newspaper proprietors should be briefed on the responsibilities that would be placed on them in the case of an atomic attack. Mr Peake gave further details of the instructions received at the defence school. An attack on the city would almost certainly mean that all public utilities would be put out of commission, with no newspapers or reliable media. It would be easy for enemy agents to cause panic and confusion by issuing misleading news etc.

Report of minutes of annual conference, March 28, 1958

Law of Libel
Mr F.W. Hambidge reported that with Mr J. R. Watson’s assistance he had gone fully into the matter of bringing out a book dealing with libel laws. Several years ago a book dealing with this matter was produced for the Association by Mr W.K. Robinson. No material legal alterations or amendments had been made since, and the production of a new book was not warranted.

Minutes of general committee meeting, November 14, 1958

1959

President’s Report
Perhaps we can say for those country newspapers making the necessary investments in time and money it has been a challenging but progressive year. For those relying on old methods and beliefs, the current changes hold disturbing possibilities even if they have not already cut profit margins substantially.

Television, with its inroads into press advertising, is right in the offing for South Australia. The national advertisers are becoming more selective in their allocations. City newspapers and weeklies are making a bold bid to convince the big advertisers that they do not need country media.

Extract from president F.W. Hambidge’s report, annual conference, March 20, 1959

Central Clearing Office
Mr E.G. Sprigg moved, Mr R. Edwards seconded that a sub-committee be appointed to meet the committee of the A.A.A.A. to discuss the matter of a central clearing office.

Report from minutes of general committee meeting, November 27, 1959
1960

Agency Service
Mr F. Hambidge moved, Mr E.G. Sprigg seconded, This Association accepts the principle of the Central Clearing House for the Association on the understanding that the Newspapers will be called upon to meet part of the cost. Mr R. Wilson supporting the motion, said it was difficult for the average member to be conversant with the problems associated with the placing of advertisements etc. He expressed full confidence on the recommendations of the Committee, who undoubtedly spent a lot of time on the problems. The motion was CARRIED.

Bulk Postage
Mr B. Kaeschagen moved. Mr J. Bennett seconded. The A.P.P.A. committee of management be asked to again protest about the excessive bulk postage rates. CARRIED.

HISTORY OF COUNTRY PRESS SA INC

1961

President’s Report
We have survived the initial impact of metropolitan television together with the extraordinary increase in the activities of interstate advertising agencies. There does not appear to be the large scale “slashing” of provincial press allocations by national advertisers which I confess to having believed was a possibility. Good accounts seem to have consolidated. We must not be complacent about the TV question.

Secretary’s Report
Unfortunately, in every organisation there are members who do not pull their weight; they are prepared to sit tight and let others do the thinking and the work – Our Association is no exception. It seems strange that the members who really do need the Association most, do little to assist. Some have never attended a meeting. Time and time again, in the history of the State Associations and the Australian Provincial Press Association, the future of smaller newspapers has been threatened by the loss of Commonwealth Advertising and important National Advertising Accounts. Some proprietors give the impression that they “couldn’t care less.”

Extract from secretary J.F. Power’s report, annual conference, March 24, 1961

1962

President’s Report (50th anniversary of P.P.A.S.A)
There can be no doubt that the Association has proved a worthy organisation over the years and it is impossible to imagine how country newspapers could operate without it today. I feel we owe a debt of gratitude to a number of thinking men who laid the foundations of our organisation so many years ago. Their foresight in moulding the country press of South Australia into a body which could speak as one voice for the outposts of this State on any matters affecting the newspaper world is something of which we can be justly proud.

General
I congratulate The Border Watch, Mount Gambier, on the celebration of its Centenary last April. This is one of our leading newspapers and with the growth of that district it will undoubtedly make great strides forward in the next century.

Extracts from president H.J. Peake’s report to the Jubilee conference, April 7, 1962

1963

Industrial
The Secretary reported that representatives of the A.P.P.A. had met the A.J.A. delegates in Melbourne on August 15th, 1963. The A.J.A. had been offered marginal increases ranging from 18/- to one pound 11/6 per week. The A.J.A. claimed amounts from three pounds 17/6 to two pounds. No agreement was reached. Later the A.J.A. had informed the A.P.P.A. that it intended to appeal to the Arbitration Court for higher amounts and additional leave. The A.P.P.A. committee again assembled in Melbourne on Friday, September 6th and agreed to contest the A.J.A. claim.

Minutes of general committee meeting, September 19, 1963

Commonwealth Advertising
The committee discussed several aspects of Commonwealth Advertising, the recent cut in space and the protests made to the Director and the Treasury Dept. Mr J. Liddy moved, Mr M Hambidge seconded. This committee has every confidence in the Secretary, and fully supports his action in lodging protests to the Director and the Treasury Department. Carried unanimously.

Minutes of general committee meeting, November 28, 1963
1964

Venue for 1965 Conference
Very keen interest was shown by members in suggesting where the Conference should be held. Mr B. Hill nominated Port Lincoln; Mr H. Milnes, Victor Harbour; Mr D. Tilbrook, Clare; Mr R. Chewings, Millicent; Mr F. Hambidge, Adelaide. The nominees addressed conference pointing out the advantages of the localities nominated. A ballot was held, the results being strongly in favour of Port Lincoln.

Minutes of 52nd conference, February 28, 1964

Apprentices
Mr D. Tilbrook moved, Mr H. Peake seconded, that our A.P.P.A. delegates make every endeavour to obtain the benefits of additional apprentices under the subsidized scheme now operating under other awards, and outlined by the Department of Labour and National Service. Carried.

Minutes of general committee meeting, May 14-15, 1964

1965

Central Clearing
A look at the Association’s financial position will show that the affairs are in a most satisfactory position. This, in no uncertain manner, is attributed to the introduction of Central Clearing. This all important matter has been debated for hours by your committee and the result is that today there is a recommendation that central Clearing be continued after the trial period of 12 months, which is scheduled to end on June 30.

Extract from president Mr R. Edwards’ report to the 53rd conference, March 5, 1965

Decimal Currency
Following the report received from the A.P.P.A. and the Decimal Currency Board, Mr J. Liddy moved, Mr M. Hambidge seconded, members be advised not to insert any further free publicity on decimal currency. CARRIED.

Mr H. Peake moved, Mr H. Henstridge seconded that the Decimal Currency Board be advised that in the view of the fact member newspapers of the Provincial Press Association of S.A. have been asked to lecture on the rudiments of Decimal Currency and have also been asked to include in their editorial columns press material issued by the Board, consideration be given to the use of member newspapers as an advertising medium. CARRIED.

Suppression of Evidence Act
Mr H. Peake moved, Mr H. Henstridge seconded, this Association advises the Attorney-General that it deprecates the proposed action of permitting the suppression of evidence in matters before S.A. courts. It is considered that this is an attempt to take away the freedom of the press, which is an integral part of our democracy. CARRIED.

Minutes of general committee meeting, November 4-5, 1965

1966

Newspaper Boundaries
On May 19th (1965) Messenger Newspapers extended their area of circulation to Gawler and the Barossa Valley. They advised agents and clients of the coverage of these country areas. It was widely accepted the free papers would extend to other country districts. This was a surprising development, because Mr Roger Baines, of the Messenger papers, had repeatedly denied any interest in country circulation.

Secretary’s report to 54th annual conference, March 4, 1966

State Government Depts Job Printing
Members reported several cases of State Government Departments undertaking printing jobs for private firms. One particular job was quoted in the South-East. On the motion of Mr R. Edwards and Mr H. Henstridge, the Secretary was asked to approach the Government Departments or the Minister with the view of overcoming the practice. Carried.

Minutes of general committee meeting, November 18, 1966

1967

President’s Report
During the year we had occasion to have before us a disagreement between two members over printing prices. This was favourably resolved, but indicated to the committee, that all members should pay more attention to costing, and be very sure that they are getting a reasonable return for material and labour expended. It is highly dangerous to the Industry, and to each and every member, if the correct prices, running in conjunction with the present-day economic trend, are not charged. White-anting of hard-won profits could in some cases lead to the failure of a business, and at the same time make it very difficult for other members of the Association.

Extract from president Denis Tilbrook’s report, annual conference, March 10, 1967
Whyalla News
Mr H. Peake (Chairman of Directors of S.A. Country Newspapers Ltd) reported to the meeting that the directors were very concerned about an alleged letter sent to advertising agents by an executive of the Whyalla News criticizing S.A. Country Newspapers Ltd. and Central Clearing, and inviting the agents to deal direct with the newspaper. Agents had contacted the office expressing concern that they had been quoted as being dissatisfied with Central Clearing and S.A. Country Newspapers Ltd.

The Whyalla News had been invited to attend a meeting, but for various reasons they had declined. There appeared to be a possibility that the results of the above action could affect neighbouring newspapers and possibly all member newspapers.

Minutes of general committee meeting, August 11, 1967

1968
President’s Report
Serious inroads have been made into our advertising revenue, by the S.A. Government not placing in Provincial Press - two campaigns were the Legislative Council Rolls and the ETSA Loan. Your committee and individual members protested bitterly to Members of Parliament, and as you are aware we received some advertising. At our Annual Social the Premier Mr Don Dunstan attended; he did not try to dodge the issue, and promised to support us in the future.

Extract from president Denis Tilbrook’s report, annual conference, March 8, 1968

Mr Tilbrook
Mr Tilbrook, who had just returned from South Vietnam with three other Australian provincial press men, described conditions. He said the authorities were concerned with the standard of many reports appearing in the world press, much of it was inaccurate. Troops welcomed the provincial representatives and every facility was given to them to see conditions first hand. Mr Tilbrook said the press releases issued were very good, but far too often reporters cut them to suit their particular newspaper. Mr Tilbrook said he would be very happy to make copy available to all or any member who would use it. Mr Starr thanked Mr Tilbrook for the information and offer.

Minutes of general committee meeting, July 5, 1968

1969
President’s Report
Some of the events of the year bring problems which we must face today, in relation to finance, arising from a reduction in membership subscriptions coupled with a continuing high level of industrial representation and other costs.

Through mergers of newspapers and for other reasons our subscription income for the coming year (if based on our present arrangements) will be reduced by $287, from $5,059 for last year to $4,772 this year. Alice Springs, now owned by News Ltd. and linked with Darwin, is no longer a member and subscriptions because of mergers will no longer be forthcoming from newspapers at Kadina, Hamley Bridge and Riverton.

Extract from president Verne Starr’s report, annual conference, March 13, 1970

Monsanto Chemicals
Mr B. Hill moved, Mr D. Tilbrook seconded, in the next bulletin to members, member newspapers be warned that Monsanto Chemicals have approached a member newspaper, threatening that if Press Releases are not used the company would withdraw its advertising; and members be urged to resist this threat and not use any Press Release material from the company concerned.

Minutes of committee meeting, October 30, 1969

1970
Private Printers
The committee discussed the activities of job printers, one employed by the Public Service Department who it was believed was using equipment owned by the Government for private commercial printing. Resolved the Secretary be asked to make enquiries and to take any necessary action to overcome this problem.

Minutes of general committee meeting, February 12, 1970

President’s Report
Although the trend towards merging of newspapers in our State will not occur at the same tempo as has been evident in some areas of the eastern States, because of South Australia’s lower country population and greater distance between newspapers, it is reasonable to assume that economic conditions in the country, and possible technological changes, could lead in future to some further lessening of the number of members. On the subject of technological progress I feel that it is not too early to take at least a mild interest in the advances being made overseas in facsimile transmission methods and equipment. Web Offset equipment is at present being installed in two country papers, Whyalla and Port Pirie.

Extract from president Verne Starr’s report, annual conference, March 13, 1970
1971

Free Newspapers
I believe that we must, today, decide a firm policy on Free Newspapers. If we are going to fight them as a threat to our livelihood, then let us say so – and let us decide policies which will make it harder for them to prosper in our field. It is very easy to set up a newspaper these days; it is a bit harder to make it pay. If we decide we can accommodate free papers, let us now decide upon what terms. In fairness to everyone we must get this matter settled.

The big challenge
Country newspapers throughout Australia are surely in their biggest state of crisis ever. More and more media competing for less and less advertising money affects us “tail end Charlies” to a marked extent.

In the face of increased competition, those of us who have not done so already must realize that a country newspaper is no longer a rock-solid “institution” in any town or district. It is not enough, any more, just to “get the paper on the streets on time” every week. What appears on the street these days must be worth reading, must be worth buying, if we are to maintain circulation and thus maintain advertising support.

Extracts from president Michael Hambidge’s report, annual conference, March 12, 1971

1972

President’s Report
No South Australian country newspaper has cause for complacency over the future. Advancing technology and an increasingly bitter fight for every advertising dollar means that we will face more and more competition. As an Association, as well as individuals, we must be geared to compete.

Extract from president Michael Hambidge’s report, annual conference, March 10, 1972

Mrs Mary Townsend
Mr H. Peake informed the committee that S.A. Country Newspapers Limited had, the previous day, appointed Mrs Townsend as Assistant Manager. He believed this was the first occasion that a woman has been appointed to an executive position in the newspaper industry and suggested the Association Committee should now make the important step by appointing her Assistant-Secretary to the Association. This suggestion was immediately accepted by the Committee.

Minutes of general committee meeting, November 17, 1972

1973

President’s Report
In today’s very competitive world it is only natural that one of the most important aspects of running a business, whether it be a country newspaper or the humble corner shop, is to keep a very careful eye on costs. Main costs nowadays of course are in the field of wages and I have heard from several members – and in this category is my own particular newspaper – that if an employee resigns or retires the attitude is one of doing without another – and, frankly, it is an attitude which I endorse to the hilt. Whether or not it is good for the industry I know not, but in a rapidly changing technological world it could well be that printers, as we know them today will not be required in another decade or two.

Extract from president R.M. Edwards’ report, annual conference, March 16, 1973

Press Releases – Government Departments
A letter to the Minister of Education, the Hon. Hugh Hudson M.P. from Mr N. Cordes of The Islander, Kangaroo Island, was tabled. The contents of the letter were to the effect that the country papers were asked to publish free press releases, whilst city media were getting paid adverts. The recent learn to swim campaign was an example. Some government press releases received were back dated and were of no use anyway.

Minutes of general committee meeting, November 16, 1973

1974

President’s Report
Despite drops in national advertising, cost increases and other myriad problems that have been encountered, it was pleasing during the year to note that in some areas at least, member newspapers were setting new records. More than one paper announced further circulation gains while the “Mt Barker Courier” produced its biggest issue in its 93 year history.

Extract from president Denis Hann’s report, annual conference, March 9, 1974

Northern Newspaper Group
A letter had been received from the Northern Newspaper Group comprising of Whyalla News, Port Pirie Recorder, The Transcontinental, Port Augusta and the Eyre Peninsula Tribune, Cleve of their decision to withdraw from Central Clearing as from November 1, 1974.... Disappointment was expressed that arrangements had not been made to discuss any problems or difficulties being experienced in association with Central Clearing.

Minutes of general committee meeting, August 23, 1974
1975
Parliamentary Salaries
Mr Peake moved that telegrams be sent to the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the Country Party advising them that this conference deplores the decision to increase Parliamentary salaries in view of the present economic climate. Seconded Mr Watson. Carried.

Minutes of annual conference, March 7, 1975

‘Breach of Ethics’
It was moved by Mr Peake, seconded Mr Watson that this Association write to the South East Local Government Association condemning the action of one of its delegates in releasing news from its October Conference at Naracoorte when professional Journalists had been barred from attendance. Carried.

Minutes of general meeting, November 7, 1975

1976
Retirement of Secretary
What could be termed the passing of an era occurred half way through the year with the retirement of our secretary, Mr Jack Power. Mr Power was secretary for the long term of 28 years, having been appointed to the position in 1947, and during that period gave great service to the association. Not a man to pull his punches, he made his mark not only within our borders but also on the Australian country newspaper scene. Mr Power is continuing to serve the association on a part time basis as our industrial officer and assistant secretary and has again given very valuable service in this sphere during the year.

Mrs Mary Townsend has taken over as secretary of the association and manager of S.A. Country Newspapers Limited and has created history by becoming the first woman to hold the position of secretary of a state press association in Australia. She has proved her capabilities as Mr Power’s right hand “man” for the past few years and we look forward to her having a long association with us.

Extract from president Darnley Taylor’s report, annual conference, March 19, 1976

1977
Advertising Rates
To keep up with the cost increases, advertising rates were increased during the year by an overall average of 14.3 per cent. Further increases will have to be made this year to cover wage indexation, paper and other cost increases. The percentage discount from our casual rates to the rates for our biggest contracts is much too great and members, as they make rate increases, should make a big effort to lessen the disparity.

Bootleg Printing
Further concern was expressed during the year about the incidence of printing operations being carried out by Government Departments, principally the Education Department, which were in competition with the general printing or newspaper operations of our members. It was decided to arrange a deputation to meet the Premier (Mr Dunstan) and the Minister of Education (Dr Hopgood) on the matter. A circular was subsequently sent out to all Education Department principals and key personnel in other Government Departments directing them not to take part in any operation which might compete with commercial enterprises.

Extracts from president Darnley Taylor’s report, annual conference, March 22, 1977

1978
Offset
Two more papers have installed offset printing plants and orders for presses have been placed by a further two newspapers. Currently in the Association’s membership of 29, there are ten offset installations which print 17 papers. When the two further offset installations are completed it will mean that two out of every three newspapers serving the rural areas of South Australia utilise the offset method of production. When you consider that it was only eight years ago when the first country newspaper made the change in technology, the advance has indeed been rapid.

Extract from president Peter Marston’s report, annual conference, March 10, 1978

Future of Central Clearing
The Chairman explained that following the joint discussions of the Company and the Association in recent months on the subject of Central Clearing, it had become obvious that there was some dissatisfaction among members and that something needed to be done regarding the situation and that it appeared a possibility that the whole of the Association and Company operations may have to be restructured. He also reported that Messrs. Marston, Hambidge, Peake, Power and the Secretary had met and had off the record discussions on the subject with the object of preparing some guidelines as a starting point for discussions with members.

Minutes of general committee meeting, August 17, 1978

1979
Industrial
Mr J. Power, Industrial Officer, expressed his concern at the lack of a future industrial officer and, although he anticipated remaining industrial officer for the Association for many years to come, and as it took approximately 7 years to train someone in industrial matters, he strongly recommended that the Association appoint someone as an assistant as a matter of urgency. The Committee agreed with Mr Power’s sentiments.

Minutes of committee meeting, February 16, 1979
Newspaper competitions
During the year your committee decided to re-structure the annual newspaper competitions. It has been in operation for 18 years and has been most successful in stimulating more interest in each other’s newspapers, the exchange of ideas and techniques and improving the general standard of the papers. In the restructuring the committee has endeavoured to involve and show more recognition to the various skills of newspaper production and the role newspapers play in the community. The Ampol Petroleum Company which has always been most generous in the support of our competition since the outset has agreed to be our major sponsor.

Extract from president Peter Marston’s report, annual conference, March 23, 1979

1980
Local Government Week
It was moved Mr Willson, seconded Mr L. Poulton that we write to the Local Government Association expressing concern at the lack of press releases prior to and after their Local Government Week and suggest that they included country newspapers in their advertising campaign to accompany the press releases. CARRIED.

Minutes of annual conference, March 21, 1980

Correspondence
Letters from the Victor Harbor Times and the Strathalbyn Southern Argus in answer to the Committee’s letter regarding the two newspapers encroaching into each other’s territorial boundaries were tabled at the meeting. Following discussions it was moved Mr Hambidge, seconded Mr Hann that we write a letter to both newspapers advising that the Committee feel that it would be a good practice if both newspapers desisted in selling their newspapers in each other’s territories.

Minutes of general committee meeting, September 25, 1980

1981
Press Releases – Commonwealth Employment Service
Mr D. Tilbrook reported that following a request by the C.E.S. to country newspapers to publish press releases during the recent “Break Out of the Vicious Circle” campaign, with the knowledge that the metropolitan press had received paid advertising, he had contacted the Secretary. The Secretary had taken the matter up with the Director of the C.E.S. and had received a negative reply. Following discussion that the Director’s reply was the usual attitude taken towards country newspapers by Government and semi-Government Departments, Mr Tilbrook moved that we write to the relevant Federal Government Ministers and point out the position and our concern that they see fit to realise the value of Country Newspapers for Press Releases, but not for advertising. Seconded Mr Peake. CARRIED.

Minutes of general committee meeting, February 27, 1981

President’s Report
Experts are constantly talking of renewed business confidence and firm evidence of a strong growth in consumer spending. There is a stake for us in this, if we are geared to take advantage of the opportunities as they arise. This applied particularly to our newspaper members. But while there might be growth in advertising spending, this will be accompanied by increased pressure from our competitors – the electronic media and the catalogue style of advertising now proving popular with major retailers.

Extract from president Richard Willson’s report, annual conference, March 20, 1981

1982
Membership
Members of the Committee have become aware of the number of printing offices in country areas which are not members of our Association, but which are bound by the Country Printing Award. This same trend is very evident in NSW and Vic. In fact, one A.P.P.A. Executive member is very concerned about the situation and the weakening effect on the various State Country Press Associations and eventually A.P.P.A. Your Committee is endeavouring to come up with a subscription for printers only, and then intends to approach the more than 50 possibles in an endeavour to persuade them to join us and make a stronger Association.

Extract from president Trevor Ellis’ report, annual conference, March 19, 1982
Agency Commission
The President advised that the Executive of the Association had attended a joint meeting with the Directors of S.A. Country Newspapers Limited the previous evening. Discussion took place on the effect on S.A. Country Newspapers Limited of the recommendation passed at Annual Conference to reduce Agency Commission. This action would affect the Company’s operations to a marked degree. A proposal had been put forward to assist the situation, which, in effect, would complete the restructure of the operations at 130 Franklin Street.

Minutes of general committee meeting, June 4, 1982

Industrial
I must also draw member’s attention to a new NSW law which requires any firm employing 15 or more staff to advise the respective Union and a State Government office in the event of planned retrenchments. I read a magazine article recently which suggested that similar legislation could come with the S.A. Labor Government in the future. Pretty soon small business owners will merely be conduits to be used by Unions and Governments for employment — with owners and managers taking tremendous responsibility and risks. Our Industrial Sub-Committee is becoming more important than ever and all members should make their views known on those matters so that our delegates know they are firmly backed.

Extract from president Trevor Ellis’ report, annual conference, March 10, 1983

President’s Report
Our newspapers continue to show signs of being in the vanguard of embracing new technology and making changes to meet the challenges of the modern marketplace...these improvements and promotions are vital to the progress of the country press, and I believe we should all be trying to show our readers and advertisers that we are versatile and imaginative and publish a product with unique appeal and advantages that no other medium can copy.

Extract from president Richard Peake’s report to half-yearly meeting, September 30, 1983

1984
Standardisation of Rate Card
A request has been received from the Australian Provincial Press Association that South Australia conform with other States, in an endeavour to standardise all Association rate cards. Mr D. Hann was given the brief to investigate this matter and to report to the Conference. Following discussion, Mr C. Willson moved that South Australia adopt a similar size rate card to that of the eastern States, and that this made available with additional information to agencies and other advertisers as a separate rate card. Seconded Mr R. Robinson. CARRIED.

Minutes of annual conference, March 9, 1984

Commonwealth Government advertising
This subject was introduced by Mr Ian Tilbrook, who expressed concern at the decline in Commonwealth Government Advertising to country newspapers, and felt that the Committee should make every endeavour to get some of this advertising back. It was moved Mr I. Tilbrook that we prepare a case to present to the Special Minister of State, Mr Mick Young. Seconded Mr P. Marston. CARRIED.

Minutes of general committee meeting, June 22, 1984

President’s Report
Members should feel very pleased with the promotional and financial success of the 28-page Country Press insert. Working against a deadline that even we would find demanding, the association’s staff, the marketing sub-committee and Bridge Print produced a very readable newspaper that not only promoted the virtues of Country Press but also made money for future promotions. The newspaper itself and the co-operation of all members — in inserting it free — were envied by interstate associations.

Extract from president Richard Peake’s report, annual conference, September 28, 1984

State Government Advertising
The Secretary advised that the State Government through the State Promotion Adviser was seeking a State Government contract, based on total government usage for all country newspapers. He had advised the Secretary that it had been clear for a while that the media had ‘screwed’ the government for many years now and this was about to cease. He had advised that all other media, apart from the country media, had given special discount rates to the State Government. Mr George Klein, State Promotion Adviser to the Premier, appeared extremely interested in an arrangement on similar lines as the County Press agreement with the Commonwealth Government. It was moved Mr Tilbrook, seconded Mr Hambidge, that it be a recommendation to the Conference that they offer the Commonwealth rate to the State Government.

Minutes of general committee meeting, February 15, 1985
APPA
Richard Willson has won the confidence and respect of newspaper members throughout Australia during his term of office, which will end in May. South Australia can be proud of his fair, bold and imaginative leadership of the Federal body and his recognition that something had to be done to end negative comments about APPA and to marshall some new ideas to make it more dynamic and more in tune with members’ wishes.

Extract from president Richard Peake’s report, annual conference, March 7, 1985

1986
Correspondence
A copy of a letter written by Mr R. Peake to his local M.P. in regard to the lack of advertising information from the State Electoral Department in the recent state election. It was moved Mr R. Peake and seconded Mr Ellis that he write to the Premier expressing our concern at the total absence of advertising in country newspapers from the electoral department.

Minutes of general committee meeting, February 7, 1986

Image of Country Press
The committee discussed various ways in which Country Press could improve its image. Use of the Chamber of Commerce & Industry Association was mooted the cost of joining was currently $1000.00 a year. It was moved Mr Peake seconded Mr Poulton that the President and Secretary approach the Chamber of Commerce & Industry to discuss membership and to seek a possible meeting with the Premier.

Minutes of general committee meeting, May 16, 1986

Marketing and Promotions Report
The Chairman of the Marketing Sub-Committee tabled his report. Mr Ellis outlined an idea of promoting the country newspapers by means of a “Great Country Press Air Race.” It was moved Mr P. Clancy, seconded D. Taylor that this Conference agrees with the concept of the Air Race, and that the Marketing Sub-Committee investigate and present a submission to the Committee for consideration. CARRIED.

Minutes of annual conference, March 5, 1987

1987
Introduction
During the past 12 months the downturn in economic conditions has caused marked advertising loss, particularly in the agricultural machinery and motor vehicle sectors. Most papers however, have maintained a reasonable level of advertising. Increasing use of inserts has seen some firms turn away from direct advertising. Nevertheless, some papers have gained income from insertion fees. Competition from Australia Post in this field is very strong.

Extract from president Ian Tilbrook’s report, annual conference, March 5, 1987

1988
General
Competition for the advertising dollar continued to increase. As each year passes country newspapers are finding it more difficult to gain national advertising and local advertising content is also a struggle. Salespeople in all forms of advertising, whether it be direct marketing, catalogues or other forms of media became more professional in their approach to clients in 1987. We must bear this in mind and we, too, must continue on a course of more professionalism in our approach to clients, both nationally and locally.

Extract from president Ken Jeffery’s report, annual conference, March 10, 1988

Marketing Report
Mr Peake introduced Mr Peter Hoy, Managing Partner of Ball Direct Marketing to the members who outlined a promotional concept. The theme of the promotion is ‘Country Press Explores’ incorporating explorers, Burke & Wills. Peter Hoy presented draft copies using the above theme for a feature/fax sheet, State map, brochure (for local distribution), house advertisements, press advertisements and a four-page supplement as also suggested. For ongoing promotion the agency suggested a radio serial and Country Press post cards using the Burke & Wills exploring Country Press theme.

Minutes of annual conference, March 10, 1988
1989

General
Last year I mentioned that the national advertising dollar was likely to decline. I believe this has been the case with many papers. Catalogues or “Junk Mail” have developed into strong opposition to our newspapers. We must take up the challenge. If we remain complacent “Junk Mail” will simply get a stronger hold.

Extract from president Ken Jeffery’s report, annual conference, March 9, 1989

Marketing Report
Mr Richard Peake, Chairman of the Marketing Sub-Committee, reported that Country Press Week had been very successful. The Country Press newspapers had generated gross advertising of $35,772 and after expenses the profit was $13,000, this being the best result ever.

Minutes of executive committee, September 15, 1989

1990

Ideas Bank
Mr Kym Marston introduced the subject of an idea’s bank and outlined in detail ideas which emanated from sales people and which often were not acted upon or which were filed away and forgotten. It was moved Mr R. Peake, seconded Mr A. Robinson that Conference seeks the co-operation of the Marketing Sub-Committee to establish a newspaper ideas bank along the lines which Mr Kym Marston had suggested. CARRIED.

Minutes of annual conference, March 16, 1990

Central Clearing
The Executive Committee was advised that two newspapers had decided to withdraw from the Clearing House operation and that should too many newspapers make the same decision there was a grave danger that the Clearing House operation will be unable to function due to lack of income.

Minutes of executive committee meeting, November 23, 1990
Correspondence
A letter was tabled from the Board of Directors of S.A. Country Newspapers Limited. The letter advised that negotiations for a proposed merger between S.A. Country Newspapers Limited and S.A. Regional Media Ltd. had broken down and that due to the large number of newspapers withdrawing from the Clearing House operations S.A. Country Newspapers Ltd. is no longer able to provide the service. It was also suggested that the forthcoming Annual Conference of the Association may provide the vehicle and the opportunity for the remaining Clearing House members to discuss the matter.

Minutes of executive committee meeting, March 21, 1991

S.A. Country Newspapers Ltd
The President reported on the demise of the Advertising Agency following the collapse of the Clearing House operations due to the withdrawal of many of the newspaper members. The Agency has been sold to Charterhouse Pty. Ltd. who takes over operations from December 2, 1991.

Minutes of executive committee meeting, November 29, 1991

Marketing
The Readership Survey had been carried out by Quadrant Research Service Pty Ltd. Results were favourable to Country Press newspapers. Highlights of the main results were:
* Local newspapers are read by many more people within the Country Press circulation areas than any other newspaper.
* 78% of adults read an average issue of the local newspaper.
* 85% of adults read at least one issue of the local newspaper in a five day period Monday to Friday.
* 85% of adults read at least one issue of the local newspaper in a week (that is a six day period Monday to Saturday).
* Corresponding figures for The Advertiser were 34%, 47% and 6% respectively, and for The Australian 2%, 3% and 3% respectively.

Minutes of executive committee meeting, July 30, 1993

Marketing Report
The President (Mr A. Browne) reported that everyone had expressed the opinion that this year’s Country Press Week newspaper was the best ever and was indeed a quality product. Advertisers were pleased with the results.

Minutes of annual general meeting, September 24, 1993

Committee Members
It is disappointing to me that several members have not yet served on the committee and it seems it will be a struggle to attract nominations. The Association has served its members well in the past, but it can only be as effective as its committee and it behoves all of us to take our turn and do our bit towards the continued success of our operations.

Extracts from president John Pick’s report to the 80th annual conference, March 21, 1992
1995

Business Arising – Training
Disappointment at the lack of training provided by the Associations had been expressed at the Glenelg Conference, and was referred back to the Executive. In discussing the subject of training, the Executive took issue at the fact that training seminars in the area of photography and sales had been arranged, but the support by the membership was dismal. Encouragement had been given by the Committee for independent members to tap into the Rural Press training scheme.

Minutes of annual conference, March 24, 1995

Country Press Week
Again a very successful Country Press Week newspaper was produced, and although one or two newspapers unfortunately “jumped the gun” by inserting it a week early, the general feedback we have on this state-wide promotion is always encouraging and not only from a money raising perspective.

Extract from president Paul Taylor’s report, annual general meeting, September 29, 1995

Education Department Schools
In the matter of Education Department Schools canvassing and producing advertisements for School Magazines, the Executive Director, together with the Divisional Secretary of the Australian Manufacturing Workers Union, eventually managed an audience with the Minister for Education and Children’s Services, Hon. Robert Lucas, MLC. We received a cordial reception, the Minister pointed out the Government’s policy contained in a National Code of Practice (self-sufficiency). He encouraged members of the Country Press Association to talk with School Headmasters about the problem. He would not give a directive to schools. He did however indicate that should the practice increase excessively, he asked that the representative of the Association and the Union go back to him.

Minutes of the annual general meeting, September 27, 1996

Advertising
Advertising in our just published Country Press Week newspaper was considerably down on the previous year, but despite that, it was still a good looking publication with good editorial support from member papers.

Extract from president Paul Taylor’s report, annual general meeting, September 27, 1996

1996

In Memoriam
The untimely death of Mr Peter John Marston, Managing Director of the Mount Barker Courier on the 22nd December 1996 deeply shocked all Country Press personnel in South Australia and Interstate. From the time Cancer was diagnosed to his death it was a mere two months. Peter Marston was extremely dedicated to the Country Press Association of SA Inc, as he was to Country Press Australia, and to other State Associations, many of whom sought his wise counsel on a variety of subjects which affected the newspaper industry from Industrial Relations, Advertising, Printing etc.

Extract from president Beryl Price’s report, annual conference, March 14, 1997

General Business
The Country Press Week newspaper was voted an excellent production, however there had been problems and some confusion experienced as to which week the newspaper should have been inserted in member newspapers. Following discussions it was Moved by Mr A. Hill, seconded Mr K. Marston that future editions of the Country Press Week newspaper display a week commencing date on the front and the membership to be directed to insert into their newspapers that week. CARRIED.

Minutes of executive committee meeting, September 18, 1997

1998

The New-Look Country Press Association of SA
Administration Officer Terry Williams addressed the meeting and gave a report on his experiences in his first six months as administration officer. (Terry replaced Executive Director, Mary Townsend, who retired on January 31, 1998, after 28 years of service). He called for unification from member newspapers in attempts to attract advertising and the need for standardisation in printing. There was a clear need for more training, particularly in newspaper editorial and advertising design, perhaps by taking the trainer to the office. He called for more interaction between papers by pursuing particular issues and possibly a “generic” reporter or similar to tackle big issues affecting everyone in the bush.

Government Advertising
Trevor Ellis of the Yorke Peninsula Country Times, presented a well-researched report on Commonwealth and State Government advertising and how (the lack of it) was affecting member newspapers. Trevor was concerned about the number of press releases flooding into papers and the consequent reduction in advertising. He undertook the in-depth study and generally found country newspapers were treated with absolute disrespect by Government agencies.

Extracts from president Beryl Price’s report, annual general meeting, October 2, 1998

1999

Plagiarism
Topic raised by committee member Trevor McAuliffe who cited examples of blatant plagiarism by reporters contracted to supply information to metro papers, particularly the Sunday Mail. Often reports were lifted from member newspapers without much change to original. Resolved the committee should seek examples of this. If it was prevalent, then administration officer to contact metro newspapers and seek talks.

Minutes of executive committee meeting, May 14, 1999
SA ShowCase

It was disappointing to note how many newspapers failed to adequately promote SA ShowCase (that was the name of the CPW – Country Press Week – insert) in the weeks prior and during its appearance. We must be willing to be part of a concentrated effort; to co-ordinate our promotions...to show we are a strong media presence.

Extracts from report of administration officer Terry Williams, annual general meeting, September 24, 1999

2000

Community Chest

This year, all members received a “rate holiday” for one quarter of subscriptions (meaning a small deficit in our books) and now, through funding from the SA ShowCase newspaper advertising, the committee is able to set the wheels in motion for a sponsored Country Press SA “Community Chest” to benefit the very people who support us – our readers and advertisers. Government involvement in this has been sought, but I must report that at this stage progress in dealing with the bureaucrats has been slow. It may be necessary to proceed on our own.

Extracts from report of administration officer Terry Williams, annual general meeting, October 13, 2000

PANPA Award

The Barossa and Light Herald, at Tanunda, also deserves our congratulations for its award-winning brilliance in the PANPA Awards held in Sydney in July. The Barossa and Light Herald won the “Non Daily Free” category from a star-studded field, with entries from five Australian states and New Zealand….the Herald took the title with the comment that it “appears to be the glue that holds together a diverse community based at Tanunda.”

Extracts from report of administration officer Terry Williams, annual general meeting, October 13, 2000

2001

Field Days Promotion

This year for the first time SA Country Press will have a presence at the Yorke Peninsula Field Days from September 25-27. The Yorke Peninsula Country Times has secured a stand which will give all country newspapers the opportunity to have their newspapers on show. Newspapers have been invited to send copies of their paper to be given away over the three days.

Extract from president Margaret Manuel’s report, annual general meeting, September 21, 2001

Circulation

A recent committee meeting raised the possibility of a special offer for readership subscriptions. This would be one rate set for all member newspapers which would reward a subscriber for loyalty with a cheaper purchase price. It has also been suggested member newspapers should consider offering a newspaper purchase voucher for people who book to visit SA regional and rural areas through SA Tourism offices or the RAA. These ideas have merit and should be considered by members.

Extract from report of administration officer Terry Williams, annual general meeting, September 21, 2000

2002

Community Newspapers – Report John Pick

John Pick reported on concerns over community newspapers and “telecentres” and how these could impact on country newspapers. Morgan community had received a grant of $120,000 from the Federal Government for a telecentre. From this, they had produced a quarterfold newspaper which carried paid display ads and classifieds. Circulation for the 12-page paper was about 480. John had contacted local federal MP, Neil Andrew, suggesting this was not the way funds were meant to be used for telecentres. Should be aligned more to the Internet.

Minutes of executive committee Meeting, July 12, 2002

Community Chest

Funding has been set aside for newspapers to allow them to help promote various good causes in their communities. Once again, I have been underwhelmed by the interest from members. We have money to donate to good causes, money to help promote your newspaper...yet none seem to want to be bothered. So far, only one newspaper in two years has accessed funding. Two others remain in the pipeline.

Extract from report of administration officer Terry Williams, annual general meeting, October 18, 2002

2003

Whinger Campaign

I am concerned that, collectively, we seemed to have relaxed on the brilliant Whinger campaign set up by Trevor and Michael Ellis of Kadina some years back. The campaign was to monitor ‘other’ newspapers (mainly metropolitan and national papers), identify advertisements that should be but are not appearing in our papers and ask the advertiser ‘why not’ in country papers. The campaign brought national recognition (and extra dollars to our papers), and in particular the efforts of the Ellis duo were championed, but it seems without their drive, the campaign is perilously at risk of wasting away unless we stand up and make a concerted effort to regain and maintain the ‘Ellis rage.’

Extract from president Kym Marston’s report, annual general meeting, November 7, 2003

K. Marston
Circulation Builder
Newspapers ran several different forms of competitions with prizes ranging from petrol to groceries. Most seemed to think the competition was a good public relations exercise and not so much a circulation builder.

Extract from report of administration officer Margaret Manuel, annual general meeting, November 7, 2003

2004
Whinger Campaign
Denis Hann from Loxton to be approached about watching for adverts in state and national newspapers initially for a three month period by AO (Administration Officer). Offer of $2,500 each year to be made with the Association to pay for newspapers. To be called an Awareness Campaign rather than Whinger campaign.

Minutes of executive committee meeting, February 7, 2004

Business Arising
Award for Excellence in Journalism. Judge Kym Tilbrook suggested article should not be just a straight report or an interview with someone. Journalist needs to have shown some investigative journalism – be a major news story or breaking news. Some of Kym’s comments from last year’s judgment to be used in conditions of entry.

Minutes from meeting October 21, 2004

2005
General Business
Don Jones from Southern Argus, Strathalbyn, reported he had been approached by a newsagent asking for payment for his newspaper to be displayed in a prominent position on his shelves. Committee all agreed this was not a good practice to have happen – tell him “bloke’s dreaming”!

Minutes from meeting, February 4, 2005

Government Departments
Letter from Chris Coote suggested some Government departments were hard to get information from and they tended not to respect deadlines. Transport SA and PIRSA some of the worst. Suggested AO send note to editors to ask them to monitor responses from Government departments and which ones they have most trouble with.

Minutes from meeting, June 24, 2005

2006
Ownership Changes
The Border Chronicle at Bordertown was purchased by Richard Peake from Naracoorte in September. The Taylor family purchased the Border Times at Pinnaroo in December 2005 and also the Burra Broadcaster in January 2006.

Extract from president Trevor McAuliffe’s report, annual general meeting, March 2, 2006

Newspaper Swap
An innovative way for each newspaper to see each other’s newspapers was mooted by Vice-president Michael Ellis. Each newspaper is now put on a roster to post one copy of their newspaper to every other newspaper in the state. This is deemed a good way to find new ideas and to see what other newspapers are doing.

Extract from report of administration officer Margaret Manuel, annual general meeting, March 2, 2006

2007
Special Resolution
Notice is hereby given that at the Annual General Meeting of the Country Press Association of SA Incorporated to be held on Friday, February 23, 2007. Members will be asked to consider, and if thought fit, pass the resolution which is proposed as a special resolution: “That the Constitution of the Association be amended as follows: That the name of the Association be changed to Country Press SA Incorporated.”

Notice of annual general meeting, February 23, 2007

Other business
It was resolved that the Country Press SA logo and a death notice should appear in The Advertiser when a life member dies.

Minutes of committee meeting, August 3, 2007

2008
Press Releases
Administration Officer made contact with the Manager of Government and Public Relations, Katherine Lediaev, at the SA branch of the Australian Hotels Association…and has been assured that the Country Press SA members will be included in all future press releases coming from her office.

Minutes of committee meeting, August 8, 2008

Showcase profit and loss
All agreed that the result achieved for this year’s publication is excellent. Distribution of dividend to members to be made in January, 2009.

Minutes of committee meeting, August 8, 2008
2009

Riverland Weekly – Membership application
Ben Taylor and John Pick declared their competitive interest in this matter as the Riverland Weekly runs in opposition to The Taylor Group’s Riverland newspapers. Trevor Channon also declared his interest as the Riverland Weekly’s printer. John Pick asked for it to be noted that as an association it should be considered that if we let them gain membership, we would be representing Real Estate Agents and Car Yards. AO to write to the Riverland Weekly requesting proof of Defamation Insurance Policy for the past 12 months and noting that they hadn’t addressed point 5.3.5 on our membership criteria regarding financial viability. Moved – M. Ellis; Second – C. Coote; Passed.

Minutes of committee meeting, March 27, 2009

Investment strategy proposal
Trevor McAuliffe circulated a proposal for Country Press SA Inc. to invest in the share market by purchasing some media shares. It was agreed that $20,000 seemed to be a reasonable amount to invest. Ben Taylor agreed to seek some professional advice on what the best options would be before the next meeting. Moved – M. Ellis; Second – C. Coote; Passed.

Minutes of committee meeting, October 23, 2009

2010

100 year celebrations – February 2012
Some ideas we workedshopped included:
* Inviting advertising agency representatives to the dinner; dinner to be held at Entertainment Centre – Friday, February 24, 2012; book to be launched at the dinner; invitations for special guests to go out now (Rupert Murdoch, Prime Minister, J.B. Fairfax, John Olsen, Premier of SA, Leader of the Opposition). M. Ellis to organise

Minutes of committee meeting, September 10, 2010

2011

Centenary Celebrations – Book update and sub-committee

Business Arising
Tom Raggatt’s interest in selling future Showcase publication editions. AO to write to Tom Raggatt and Rural Press Sales seeking for both parties to submit a proposal offering their best deal on commission fees and debt collection in order to sell advertising in future editions of the publication. Moved – B. Taylor; Second – A. Manuel; Passed.

Extracts from committee meeting, March 26, 2011

2012

Centenary Dinner
100th anniversary of the formation of the Provincial Press Association of South Australia celebrated at a gala dinner at the Entertainment Centre, Hindmarsh, Friday, February 24.
Members of the Executive Committee

2011 – 2012

**President**
Mr T.M. Channon  
*Murray Valley Standard, Murray Bridge*

**Vice president**
Mr T. Lewis  
*Border Watch, Mount Gambier*

**Immediate past president**
Mr B.G.D. Taylor  
*Murray Pioneer, Renmark*

**Administration officer**
Mrs M. McAuliffe  

**Member**
Mr T.J. McAuliffe  
*Fairfax Media Limited*

**Member**
Mr B.N. Marston  
*The Courier, Mount Barker*

**Member**
Mr M.C. Ellis  
*Yorke Peninsula Country Times, Kadina*

**Member**
Mr A.C. Manuel  
*Plains Producer, Balaklava*

**Member**
Mr D.W. Wright  
*Northern Argus, Clare*

**Member**
Ms M.A. Betts  
*The Bunyip, Gawler*

*Honor Rolls*

Rear (standing from left) Bruce Marston, Marilyn McAuliffe, Trevor McAuliffe, Margaret Betts.

Middle row (sitting from left) Ben Taylor, Tim Lewis, Trevor Channon, Michael Ellis.

Sitting front (from left) David Wright, Andrew Manuel.
THE HISTORY of the presidency of Country Press SA Inc. has been dominated by a handful of families whose role in country newspapers dates back as far as the 1860s.

In the colourful 100-year history of Country Press SA Inc. (formerly the Provincial Press Association of South Australia) there have been 38 presidents.

R. H. (Reg) Tilbrook, son of the legendary H. H. (Henry Hammond) Tilbrook who co-founded The Northern Argus at Clare in 1869, was the fourth president, serving from 1935 to 1939. One of four Tilbrooks to hold the presidency, Reg was also president of the national body, known at that time as the Australian Provincial Press Association.

His son, E.H. (Eric) Tilbrook, who helped compile the history of Clare, served in 1954-55. Eric’s two sons, D. T. (Denis) and I.T. (Ian) also held the role of president – Denis from 1966 to 1968 and Ian from 1985 to 1987. Denis was made a life member of Country Press SA Inc. – the 11th person to receive the honor. Only 21 people have been made life members over the 100 years.

The Renmark-based Taylor family, which owns six country SA newspapers through the Taylor Group of Newspapers, has also provided four presidents. W. Gilmore Taylor was the ninth president when he was appointed in 1950, serving until 1952. Gilmore was made a life member.

Gilmore’s sons, D.H.G. (Darnley) and P.H.G. (Paul) followed in their father’s footsteps to also hold the presidency. Darnley served from 1975 to 1977 and Paul from 1994 to 1996. Paul was also president of the national body from 2002 to 2004. Gilmore’s son-in-law, Denis Hann, of The Loxton News, also served as president and was made a life member.

Both Darnley and Paul were made life members – the only brothers to hold the honor.

In 2009, B.G.D. (Ben) Taylor, son of Darnley and managing director of the Taylor Group of Newspapers, was appointed president until 2011.

Other families to figure prominently in the presidential role have been the Hambidge family, who owned The Murray Valley Standard at Murray Bridge, the Peake family, of Naracoorte, the Marston family, of The Courier at Mount Barker, and the Ellis family of Kadina.

F. W. (Frank) Hambidge took over the reins of the Country Press Association of S.A. Inc. from 1957 to 1959 and his son, M. G. (Michael), held office from 1970 to 1972. Both were awarded life membership for their service.

The Peake family, of The Naracoorte Herald, provided two presidents – H.J. (Harry) Peake, OBE, from 1959 to 1962 and his son, R.J. (Richard) from 1983 until 1985. Harry is a life member of Country Press SA Inc. He was president of the national body from 1962 until 1965 and recognised for his service in 1974 when he was made a life member.

Two members of the Marston family also served as president – P. J. (Peter) from 1977 to 1979 and K. W. (Kym), a nephew of Peter – from 2002 to 2003. Peter, who also was national president from 1990 to 1992, was made a life member for his work.

T. F. (Trevor) Ellis, of the Yorke Peninsula Country Times, was president from 1981 to 1983 and his son, M.C. (Michael), held office from 2007 to 2009. Trevor was made a life member for his service. Michael also holds the honor of being appointed president of Country Press Australia for a two-year term from 2010.
## Presidents

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<tr>
<th>* R.H. Barnet</th>
<th>* J.Liddy</th>
<th>* D.H.G. Taylor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gawler Bunyip, Gawler</td>
<td>Barossa &amp; Light Herald, Tanunda</td>
<td>The Murray Pioneer, Renmark</td>
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<td>* J.W. Elliot</td>
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<td>Southern Argus, Strathalbyn</td>
<td>Murray Valley Standard, Murray Bridge</td>
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<td>* C.M.R. Dumas</td>
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<td>The Courier, Mount Barker</td>
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<td>* R.H. Tilbrook</td>
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<td>Northern Argus, Clare</td>
<td>S.A. Farmer, Kadina</td>
<td>Naracoorte Country Times, Kadina</td>
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<td>* W.F. Taylor</td>
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<td>* R.J.R. Watson</td>
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<td>Border Watch, Mount Gambier</td>
<td>Northern Argus, Clare</td>
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<td>* W.K. Robinson</td>
<td>* V.W. Starr</td>
<td>J.K. Jeffrey</td>
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<td>The Leader, Angaston</td>
<td>The Pioneer, Yorke town</td>
<td>The Recorder, Port Pirie</td>
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<td>* L.Judell</td>
<td>* M.G. Hambidge</td>
<td>J.D. Pick</td>
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<td>Gladstone, Jamestown &amp; Laura Paper</td>
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<td>* M.S. Manuel</td>
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<td>The Plains Producer, Balaklava</td>
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<td>* K.W. Marston</td>
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<td>The Courier, Mount Barker</td>
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<td>2002-2003</td>
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<td>* T.J. McAuliffe</td>
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<td>Rural Press Limited</td>
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<td>2003-2007</td>
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<td>* B.G.D. Taylor</td>
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<td>The Murray Pioneer, Renmark</td>
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<td>2009-2011</td>
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<td>Murray Valley Standard, Murray Bridge</td>
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**(Honor Rolls)**
SINCE ITS inception in 1912, Country Press SA Inc. (formerly the Provincial Press Association of South Australia) has had only a handful of management officers.

The first was J.B. Cant of the Barossa News who agreed to be acting secretary when nominated at the first general meeting held on March 25, 1912. By the first annual meeting on April 22, 1913, he was recorded as secretary for which he received an honorarium of 10 pounds and ten shillings plus an additional five pounds and five shillings “on account of the work entailed by the Australian Prov. Press conferences.”

In mid-1914, Chas B. O’Reilly of the Kapunda Herald, who was a member of the Provincial Press Association committee, was appointed acting secretary following the resignation of Mr Cant. He was confirmed as secretary in mid-1915.

By 1917 he had moved from the Kapunda Herald to the Maitland Watch on Yorke Peninsula, still retaining his position as secretary. In 1919, the committee voted an honorarium of 17 guineas for Mr O’Reilly.

He gave outstanding service to the association and held the position of secretary until 1948. He was awarded life membership in recognition of his valuable work.

John F. Power, known throughout the industry as Jack, succeeded Mr O’Reilly. Jack was a larger-than-life character who served as secretary from 1948 to 1975. He was regarded as a tough negotiator and played major roles in industrial relations and in obtaining both Federal and State Government advertising which was a constant problem for country newspapers. His service also saw him awarded life membership.

Mary Townsend (now King), who joined the association in 1970 as an assistant to Jack Power, took over the reins in 1975 and held the position of executive director for just over 22 years when she retired in January, 1998. She was made a life member of Country Press SA Inc. in 1998 for her great service to Country Press and her trailblazing for women in newspapers.

Mary, who continues to be a popular figure at annual awards dinners, was also honored in 1997 when she was made a life member of the national body, Country Press Australia (from 1906 to 1986 it was known as the Australian Provincial Press Association. In 1986, the name changed to Country Press Australia).

In 1997, the management title changed from executive director to administration officer and T. A. (Terry) Williams, now editor of the Plains Producer at Balaklava in the State’s Mid-North, served in the position until 2002 when Margaret Manuel took over for four years until 2006.

Margaret is a life member of Country Press SA Inc. and held the presidency from 2000 until 2002.

Her son, Andrew, who owns the Plains Producer, is a member of the CPSA Inc. executive committee.

Marilyn McAuliffe, who has previously managed The Recorder and Flinders News at Port Pirie, was appointed administration officer in 2006 and still holds the office in the Centenary year.
Life members make their mark

TWENTY-ONE people have been awarded life membership of the Provincial Press Association of South Australia / Country Press SA Inc.

The honor has gone to 19 men and two women for their remarkable service to the association and the newspaper industry.

The first was C.M.R. Dumas of The Courier at Mount Barker who was one of the driving forces behind setting up the association in 1912. He was the third president, holding the position for 20 years.

A remarkable aspect has been the awarding of life membership to three members of the Taylor family – W. Gilmore Taylor and his two sons, D.H.G. (Darnley) and P.H.G. (Paul) from Renmark's The Murray Pioneer. Gilmore’s son-in-law, Denis Hann, of The Loxton News, was also made a life member.

The two women to receive life membership are Mary King (formerly Townsend) who was executive director from 1975 to 1998 and Margaret Manuel of the Plains Producer. Margaret served as president from 2000 to 2002 and administration officer from 2002 to 2006.

LIFE MEMBERS

* C.M.R. Dumas The Courier, Mount Barker
* W.K. Robinson The Leader, Angaston
* L.M. Judell Gladstone, Jamestown, Laura paper
* E.G. Sprigg Naracoorte Herald & Border Chronicle, Bordertown
* C.B. O’Reilly Country Press Association of SA Inc
* W. Gilmore Taylor The Murray Pioneer, Renmark
* J. Liddy Barossa & Light Herald, Tanunda
* F.W. Hambidge Murray Valley Standard, Murray Bridge
* H.J. Peake, OBE. Naracoorte Herald, Naracoorte
* J.F. Power Country Press Association of SA Inc
* D.T. Tillbrook Northern Argus, Clare

M.G. Hambidge Murray Valley Standard, Murray Bridge

D.B. Hann The Loxton News, Loxton

* D.H.G Taylor The Murray Pioneer, Renmark
* R.J.C. Willson Whyalla News, Whyalla

* P.J. Marston The Courier, Mount Barker

M.R. Townsend Country Press Association of SA Inc

T.F. Ellis Yorke Peninsula Country Times, Kadina

J.D. Pick The River News, Waikerie

P.H.G. Taylor The Murray Pioneer, Renmark

M.S. Manuel Plains Producer, Balaklava

(*Deceased)
Conferences

1912
Inaugural meeting held at Bricknell’s Café, Rundle St, Adelaide

1913–62
Conferences were all held in Adelaide

1963
Renmark

1964
Adelaide

1965
Port Lincoln

1966
Adelaide

1967
Naracoorte

1968
Victor Harbor

1969
Adelaide

1970
Murray Bridge

1971
Christies Beach

1972
Whyalla

1973
Christies Beach

1974
Kangaroo Island

1975
Christies Beach

1976
Broken Hill

1977
Adelaide

1978
Lyndoch

1979
Mount Gambier

1980
Loxton

1981
Kadina, Wallaroo

1982
Port Augusta

1983
Port Lincoln

1984
Naracoorte

1985
Clare

1986
Kangaroo Island

1987
Renmark

1988
Broken Hill

1989
Port Pirie

1990
Wirrina

1991
Millicent

1992
Mount Barker, Hahndorf

1993
Victor Harbor

1994
Glenelg

1995
Tanunda

1996
Alice Springs

1997
Whyalla

1998
Adelaide

1999
Awards Dinner – Adelaide

2000
Mount Gambier

2001
Awards Dinner – Adelaide

2002
Clare

2003
Awards Dinner – Adelaide

2004
Victor Harbor

2005
Awards Dinner – Adelaide

2006
Kangaroo Island

2007
Awards Dinner - Adelaide

2008
Yorke Peninsula

2009
Awards Dinner – Adelaide

2010
Renmark

2011
Awards Dinner – Adelaide

2012
Centenary Dinner – Adelaide

Conference 1968 Victor Harbor
From left: Federal Minister Dr Jim Forbes, president Denis Tilbrook and Vere Starr
History of Country Press SA Inc
Members, 2012

Pages 72-252: The history of 33 member newspapers including photographs and major news events
ANGASTON-BASED The Leader is the only surviving family-owned newspaper in South Australia started under the same family name. William Kirkby Robinson and his wife, Agnes, started what they termed “The New Penny Journal for the Barossa District” on July 24, 1918. Kirkby Robinson, as he preferred to be known, called his new publication The Leader because he wanted his newspaper to lead all others.

Introducing his paper to readers, Mr Robinson wrote on Page 1: “Reader, you now have in your hand No 1 of “The Leader”. What about No 2? Will you receive it as a subscriber, or will you never see it? It will only cost you 4/6 (advance) per annum to have it posted each week. Will you be one of our sought-for 5000 subscribers? “Once the stranger has seen Angaston he is charmed with the magnificent landscape, and when we found in addition to this that it possessed not a printing office, we decided to establish a new enterprise. That such a progressive town, and such a prolific district as this can adequately support a journal we have not the slightest doubt and, had we had any misgivings, they would have been completely dispelled ere this by the enthusiastic support already accorded our office.”

Mr Robinson said that by honestly endeavouring to give good service, “we hope to prosper....”

His introduction ended: “We are here to push forward the claims of Angaston and district, we want to give a journal that will get right into the hearts of the people in this big district and be regarded as the real home paper, and we want to merit all the support we receive. Reader, see that your name reaches us before our next issue.”

Starting out with the clothes he wore and little in his pocket, Kirkby and Agnes worked long hours, often seven days a week to establish their newspaper and general printing operation.

During his time as editor and owner/manager, Kirkby established a number of firsts in the newspaper industry. Under his control The Leader was the first newspaper to introduce a Scannagraver electronic printing block making machine, a get well present from his wife and son after Kirkby suffered a major heart attack.

He also installed the first Intertype linecasting machine in SA and was amongst the early newspaper proprietors to introduce web printing. In the 1980’s The Leader was believed to be the first known newspaper in Australia to adopt Apple Macintosh computers as a P.C. based typesetting system.

Three generations of Robinsons have served as editor of The Leader, starting with Kirkby who was followed by his son, Rae, and currently the founder’s grandson, Tony. All three Robinsons have served on Country Press SA Inc. committees with Kirkby being awarded life membership.

The business has moved into the fourth generation involvement with Peter, Darren and Adam Robinson working on the paper. Wives of the editors have all played a key role in the business, with Agnes, Molly and Angela all being actively involved in helping wherever possible.

Today, The Leader is printed at the Angaston print centre on a modern Goss Community press. Platemaking is via the latest computer to plate technology.

Current circulation stands at 8100 weekly with an average 84 pages per issue.

The newspaper has been honored on several occasions in the Country Press SA Inc. awards, winning best advertising feature in 1994, 1997 and 2005; community involvement in 2004 and best advertisement in 2007.
1960s – Ken Wernest and Les Schulz beside The Leader Duplex machine

1925 – The Leader office, Angaston

1979 – The seven beautiful finalists for the Barossa Valley Vintage Festival Queen

2002 – The Queen visits the Barossa Valley

January 5, 2002 – Councillor John Angas, president of Angas Recreation Park, Angaston, and Mrs Judith Jones, the Barossa Council CEO, in front of the Angaston Oval grandstand which was destroyed by fire
November 7, 1960 – Fire in Vaughan’s Cafe, Murray Street, Angaston

February 29, 1992 – Television star Shane Bourne with Tanunda Band president, Malcolm Wyatt, celebrate the rebirth of Chateau Tanunda

September 4, 2010 – Second semi-final at Angaston. In a mud-bath and heavy fog, Tanunda 1-5 defeated Barossa District 0.5

1979 – Anthony Schubert operates a Compugraphic computer which replaced Intertypes at The Leader
Rae Robinson, editor of "The Leader" from 1976 until his passing in 1990 with his wife, Molly.

Kirkby Robinson’s Model T Tourer which was used to deliver “The Leader” in the 1920’s.

Working at “The Leader” are Tony and Angela with sons, Darren, Adam and Peter.

November 22, 1979

Barossa family escapes Port Arthur massacre

May 8, 1996

Damage Estimated in Millions

BAROSSA HIT BY STORM!

Govt. Disaster Relief Committee Established

November 22, 1979

May 8, 1996
2010 – Flood at Sedan

February 22, 2008 – Truck rollover near Freeling

March 9, 1983

September, 1980 – Don and Geoff Mosey, of Anlaby, Kapunda, with an East Bungaree ram bought for $8000 at the Adelaide Ram Sales

December, 1998 – Jessica and Natasha Schiller enjoyed Christmas music at the official opening of The Barossa Regional Shopping Centre

March 9, 1983
Marvellous milestone for Angaston's Matthew Doecke

300 A-Grade games

Angaston's Matthew Doecke reached a significant milestone last weekend when he played his 300th game for Angaston. Doecke, who began his footballing career at the age of 16, has been a stalwart of the club for over a decade, playing in numerous premierships and becoming an integral part of the team's success.

Doecke's record-breaking achievement was celebrated with a special tribute match, attended by past coaches and players. The match was a testament to Doecke's dedication and commitment to the game, and it was fitting that his efforts were acknowledged in such a manner.

Doecke's milestone came after a series of up-and-down seasons for Angaston, with the club facing challenges both on and off the field. Despite these difficulties, Doecke's consistency and resilience have been a shining light for the team, and his achievement is a source of pride for all involved.

Doecke's 300th game was a historic moment for Angaston, and it served as a reminder of the club's rich history and the important role it plays in the local community. His dedication to the game and to his teammates has been an inspiration to many, and he continues to be a valuable member of the team as they look to the future.
SEPTEMBER 25, 1903 was an auspicious day for the Lower Mid North District. It was the birth of the newspaper, *The Central Advocate*, now known as the Plains Producer.

Circulating in the towns of Port Wakefield, Balaklava, Owen, Hoyleton, Whitwarta, Mount Templeton, Nantawarra and surrounding districts, the paper boasted that “its columns would be open for the discussion of matters affecting the welfare of the community”.

It said: “Our object in chief will be, through the columns of *The Central Advocate*, to give publicity to all local matters of interest, also those of other towns.

“It is our intention to keep before our readers the leading questions of the day, both political and social.”

With a front page full of advertisements, news was wedged between more advertisements on pages two, three and four.

The paper has had few owners in its 108-year history. Founded by Mr James Walker, it was purchased in 1910 by Mr W. Hancock who went into partnership with Mr S.W. Osborne. In 1923, Mr Osborne became sole proprietor.

Mrs Amy Henstridge became proprietress in July, 1926, after relinquishing the Snowtown paper *The Stanley Herald*.

From September, 1932, the Henstridge family took ownership and publication was suspended during World War II. After the war the Henstridge family continued publishing the paper until 1975 when it had new owners, Mrs Dorothy Braunack and Mr Jeff War the Henstridge family continued publishing the paper until 1983, incorporating and with it news finally made it to the front page of the 1909, and publication was suspended during World War II. After the newspapers, *The Yorke Peninsula Country Times* and a weekly, eight-page paper.

This was when Roger Manuel was given the chance to buy the newspaper and, full of faith, set about turning the “egg-timer” paper into a viable business, reflecting the ideas and opinions of the district. A new name was created, *The Plains Producer*, a perfect way to give the paper a new image.

Roger improved the content of the paper and knowing the importance of sport in the district, expanded the coverage of sporting events.

When Roger died in 1995, his wife, Margaret, took on the role of managing editor until she sold the business to one of her sons, Andrew Manuel and his wife, Merridy, in 2008. The couple has continued to expand and improve the newspaper to its current format of 32 pages.

The Plains Producer is available weekly on Wednesdays after being printed by *The Yorke Peninsula Country Times* at Kadina on Tuesday evenings.

It is available in towns throughout the Adelaide Plains from Virginia in the South to Snowtown in the north and towns in between. It also is circulated at Mallala, Hamley Bridge and the Gilbert Valley to Clare. Andrew Manuel also publishes the *Two Wells and Districts Echo*, a color tabloid newspaper.

1997 – Mr Ira Parker (vice chairman) handing silver key to Sir Lyell McEwin at the opening of the hospital maternity wing.

Hector Henstridge DSC (third from left) taking part in Lighthorse training between WWI and WWII. Hector was a Commando in WWII and ran The Plains Producer for many years.

June 5, 1930 – Three men were rescued after being entombed in a rock fall while digging a well.

Premier John Olsen unveiling plaque at the Devils’ Garden.
October 17, 1987 – Mini Grand Prix Day

1961 – Watchman Football Club wins premiership

August 31, 2011 – A record crowd of 15,000 people saw Magical Pearl, ridden by Damian Oliver, win the 2011 Balaklava Cup

Rare bottle-nose whale washed ashore near Port Wakefield

September 29, 1976
**AUSTRALIA**

Clarrie and Doris earn Balaklava's respect

Dorothy's medal

Mr Hammat said the committee member Ron Hammat said he received significant help from other committee members and volunteers preparing a barbecue lunch in the institute kitchen.

He added: "The committee made the day run smoothly for all.

"We always enjoyed travelling to the various shows – but it is getting a bit beyond us now," Clarrie said.

"And we volunteered because we badly need more volunteers," Clarrie said.

About 150 people saw Mayor James Maitland present the Wakefield Regional Council award to the well-known pair, who have been stalwarts of the Balaklava show.

Clarrie, 81, and Doris, 80, were unable to find housing in England after moving to Australia with her husband John following in his father's footsteps.

"He had come to Australia 47 years before," she said.

"I still love it," Mrs Riley said.

Mrs Riley turned to Australia because her husband's last wish before he passed away was to be an Australian citizen.

Although they only planned to stay two years ago, and as Mrs Riley says, "I'm still English," she said.

She considered it for quite a long time considering it for quite a long time.

Shaun, Steven and Sharon.

They became our 'fab four'"
Bank robbery

Meltom tells of his ordeal inside

Bank robbery

They locked the doors, watched and waited

Bank robbery

Members of the CFS and police of -
1997 – Best local news photography awarded to Andrew Manuel (second from left) and accepted from Mary Townsend by Margaret Manuel

1990 – Plains Producer staff l-r Margaret Manuel, Kay Wray, Roger Manuel, Jude Blatt, Leah Manuel, Shirley Baum, Rodric Penna

Plains Producer staff celebrate Best Small Newspaper in 1996. Back l-r Andrew Manuel, Terry Williams. Front l-r Sue Lasslet, Joy Woodroofe, Margaret Manuel, Shirley Brown, Kelly Stone

Margaret Manuel hailed Queen Madge at one of the many staff parties in 1998

Advertising manager David Newsome – has held the position since 2003
THE RIVERLAND WEEKLY is a relatively fresh face on South Australia’s rural newspaper scene, having started operations in November, 2007.

The free newspaper, which published its first edition on Thursday, December 6, 2007, operates out of the key Riverland town of Berri, nestled on the banks of the River Murray.

It has a strong Riverland and Mallee readership that extends from the eastern South Australian border incorporating Renmark to Blanchetown and then across to Loxeto, Pinnaroo and Karoonda.

A range of local businesspeople, including real estate agents, car dealers, beauty salons and dress shops, hold shares in the Riverland Weekly.

In its first edition, the paper said on page one: “Welcome to the Riverland Weekly, your new full-colour newspaper circulating free of charge to households throughout the region every Thursday.”

“The Riverland Weekly will bring you all the usual newspaper features in a bright, easy-to-read format.

“As well as news and sport, entertainment and information, the Riverland Weekly’s big real estate and motoring sections will have saturation coverage of the region.”

Its first page one carried a major news story on a 10 per cent lift to water allocations for irrigators.

The paper said the lift had provided “a ray of hope for many local growers who can now look forward to at least getting through this harvest.”

Since its inception, the Riverland Weekly has been welcomed by the local community, with readers offered a fresh approach to delivering news and views to the region.

The Riverland Weekly was accepted as a member of Country Press SA Inc. at a meeting of the committee on July 3, 2009.

Riverland Weekly Editor Brad Perry says people enjoy the fact that the Riverland Weekly is free and is easily accessible.

It is full colour and features a bright and vibrant layout, which Mr Perry says has proved pleasing to the eye.

Many of the major issues covered during the Riverland Weekly’s short history feature water, including the controversial decision to block Lake Bonney, and continual irrigation allocation restrictions.

The newspaper has continued to report hard hitting news stories that effect the community, such as the National Foods closure, while also writing about the people who make the Riverland what it is.

In 2010, the Riverland Weekly was successful in forcing South Australian Premier, Mike Rann, to visit the Riverland, after a significant time between visits.

Many in the community felt that Mr Rann and his government had ignored the region during what was one of its toughest periods.

The newspaper has also played a major part in informing local people about mental health issues and where to go if they need help dealing with the effects of drought, the global economic crisis, the grape surplus and water allocations.

In 2011, the Riverland Weekly was, for the first time, eligible to enter the Country Press SA Inc. awards and was proud to take home an award at its first attempt.

The Riverland Weekly received the best front page award for an edition that featured the break of the locust plague in the region with strong design, photography and journalism.

The paper says it is proud of what it has achieved in its short time in the marketplace and looks forward to a long future in its bustling and growing region.
September 16, 2010 – Bev ruckman Jason Sutherland celebrates winning the 2010 Riverland Football League premiership.

August 24, 2009 – Ranneck Station conservation and wetlands manager Kate Thoru on the dry wetlands which desperately needed a refill to ensure the future of the trees and ground covers.

November 25, 2010 – With the Murray Darling Basin a massive political agenda item, two of the nation’s more outspoken politicians, Bob Katter and Nick Xenophon, visited the region.

October 30, 2008 – It was a sad day for the region when the Big Orange failed to find a buyer. Auctioneer Peter Coltman raises his hands in disbelief as the Riverland icon was passed in.

Caudo Vineyard Estate
Hogwash Bend

The perfect setting for the wedding of your dreams.
Unique, romantic and unforgettable not only for the two of you but for your family and friends gathered to celebrate your special day with you.

Phone for an appointment to view
Zac Caudo: 0427 351 911 • Christine Caudo: 0418 923 184
February 7, 2009 – Bredl’s Wonderworld of Wildlife owner Rob Bredl tickles an alligator on the chin. Before closing this year, the park was a great asset for the Riverland community.

December 9, 2010 – Neighbours on Third Street in Loxton help each other out following a flash flood in the town.

October 4, 2010 – Suggestions of a 40 per cent cut in irrigation allocations was a huge blow to the region and growers like Terry Petersen.

November 7, 2008 – Locals were involved in a mass clean up of dead fish that washed up on Lake Bonney’s shore. An official diagnosis on the cause of the fish deaths was not released.

February 26, 2009 – Visiting the grave of much loved uncle Derek Gerrard proved an emotional moment for British woman Margaret Caufield. Gerrard was a popular figure in the Riverland.
Better Homes and Gardens star Johanna Griggs touched base in the Riverland filming for a show to be released later this month highlighting unique areas of Australia.

South Australian Premier Mike Rann, with Berri Bridge in the background, visited the Riverland following a lengthy appeal from the Riverland Weekly, named the Rennaplain, encouraging him to return to the region to hear firsthand the concerns of local struggling under the burden of irrigation allocation restrictions. August 26, 2010
February 14, 2008 – The Australian Government apologised to the indigenous community and Mark Reynolds, of Barmera, said the government must look at other indigenous issues

July 2, 2009 – Wild weather hit locals hard and in a very eerie photo, Jedda Morgan, of Loxton, braved the atrocious conditions and experienced first hand the ravages of the storm near the Berri Bridge

January 14, 2010 – After having its grant applications knocked back by both State and Federal Governments, passionate locals pledged to continue their ongoing efforts to rejuvenate Barmera and Lake Bonney

Editor Brad Perry
State Government backs down on decision to restrict quarantine at Yamba

The quarantine roadblock at Yamba will remain open 24 hours a day following a backdown on an earlier decision by the State Government.

State Agriculture Minister Michael O’Brien made the shock announcement on Adelaide radio station 5AA yesterday morning, ending a year long debate over the future of nightshifts at the crucial Riverland facility, along with one at Ceduna on the state’s west coast.

The decision comes just days after a critical industry report on biosecurity and plant health was presented to the minister.

It also follows a series of fruit fly outbreaks in the eastern states, suggested to be as high as 180, and the decision to remove from sale two major insecticides used to combat the pest.

“The original decision to consider closing the nightshift was based on advice that risks had been significantly reduced through the success of various measures,” Minister O’Brien said.

“However, recent fruit fly outbreaks in the eastern states suggest South Australia needs to increase its vigilance.”

The original decision, made as part of last year’s controversial state budget, was deferred until June this year to enable industry to consult on potential cost sharing options.

Citrus Board of South Australia chief executive Andrew Green was surprised and delighted by the minister’s decision.
THE BORDER CHRONICLE was first published in broadsheet format on Saturday morning, June 13, 1908.

It was printed and published by Mr Leslie Samual Duncan in premises at the rear of Bordertown’s first Institute building in Woolshed Street.

The first issue announced that the paper aimed to report the news of the district, various markets, state, interstate and world news. In politics, the paper would take a moderate tone, it was stated.

Mr Duncan produced the paper until December 1, 1913, when, because of ill-health, he sold the business to Mr Benjamin Lodwick Wilkinson.

Ownership changed again on May 28, 1917, with Mr H. B. Whitham becoming the new proprietor. He had previously worked for The Mailland Watch.

In 1919, Mr and Mrs Donald Campbell became the proprietors. Mr Campbell took Mr Eric Sprigg into partnership in January, 1924. Mr Sprigg became sole proprietor in January, 1932 and took Mr Harold Howell into partnership from July, 1946, until October, 1949.

In January, 1950, Mr Sprigg sold the business to Messrs Roy Poulton and Ross Warne. Mr Poulton purchased Mr Warne’s share in September, 1963, and operated the business in partnership with his wife, Joy, until a company called Border Chronicle Pty Ltd was formed in January, 1972. Mr and Mrs Poulton with sons, Neil and Lindsay, then became the directors. With the passing of Mr Poulton in 1977, business continued with the Poulton family.

In 1996, Lindsay lost his life through an unfortunate accident. Neil carried on working the family business, purchasing it outright in 1998. Neil and wife Christine, along with daughter Tracey (now managing the Chronicle) kept producing the paper until October, 2005. The paper was then sold to Richard Peake and Judith Barton of The Naracoorte Herald, who ran the paper for five years before selling to Fairfax Media in October, 2010.

Until 1967, the paper was printed on various presses which used sheet newsprint being hand-fed. These printed four pages at a time and folding was then carried out manually.

During the latter part of 1966 and early 1967, a new section was built on to the DeCourcey Street premises, which trebled the floor space available.

One of the main reasons for this building was to allow for the installation of a Duplex web-perfecting flat-bed press, which printed and folded up to 16 pages in one operation, using newsprint from a reel.

The size of the paper at that stage was reduced, with the number of columns per page being six instead of seven and length of the page reduced from 18” to 15½”.

In February, 1979, came the most dramatic change in the paper’s history. After more than 70 years’ production with the familiar “Letterpress” method, new “Offset” equipment was purchased.

In October, 2005, the paper was set up in Bordertown and e-mailed off to be printed on a web offset press, also incorporating pages with full colour.

One name that stands out in the history of the Border Chronicle is that of Eric Sprigg. Eric joined the Chronicle staff as an apprentice in 1911, under the papers founder Mr Leslie Samuel Duncan. In 1924, he was taken into partnership by the then proprietor, Mr Donald Campbell, who became the sole proprietor in 1931.

Mr Sprigg then took on a wider interest in country newspaper affairs. He was soon appointed to the general committees of the Provincial Press Association of South Australia, now Country Press SA Inc.

He served as president of Country Press SA Inc. in 1952 and 1953. He was also awarded life membership.
February 17, 1933

November 2, 1967

August 13, 1981

1930 advertisement for Mundalla Shopping Centre
November 16, 1972

Willalooka’s World Champion

Years of planning and preparation have paid off to win the golden Shears World Championship for the first time.

2003 – Local boys and Rhodes Scholars. Mr Killicoat was awarded his scholarship in 2003 and Mr Hawke in 1953

February 1, 1973

Willalooka shearer Shannon Warnest wins Golden Shears World Championship

2005 – Willalooka shearer Shannon Warnest wins Golden Shears World Championship
Andy Caldecott, Keith's motorcycle hero

OBITUARY

January 19, 2011

2006 – Local motorcycle champion Andy Caldecott killed in the Dakar Rally

Manager/editor of the Border Chronicle Tracey Poulton

1919 advertisement for Woolshed Inn

1919 advertisement for Woolshed Inn

Bordertown streets flood

January 19, 2011
THE MID NORTH BROADCASTER encompasses a readership area from the Barossa Valley to the NSW border and the council districts of Goyder, Northern Areas and Peterborough.

The paper, based in the historic copper mining town of Burra, is a relatively new masthead, established in November, 2005. It includes three mastheads, The Burra Broadcaster, The Eudunda Observer and The Peterborough Times.

The first paper to service Burra and surrounds was The Northern Mail which printed its first edition on June 30, 1876. It was later known as the Burra Record and was owned and edited by William Frederick Holder who became a prominent Statesman and was knighted for his services. When The Record closed in March, 1977, it was owned by the Angel family.

Some of the major local issues reported in The Mid North Broadcaster relate to council matters and include controversial matters such as land rates, water allocation and waste management. Other key issues with a strong focus include farming and tourism.

Journalist Michelle Osborn says the local communities served by the paper are passionate about their significance in colonial South Australia, with many having played a major role in the growth of the State from industries including mining, transport and farming.

“When any councils or any other large body – government or otherwise – cast any manner of threat over the livelihood of these centres, whether it be through mining exploration, wind farm development or industrial zoning, the public voice is heard through the columns of The Mid North Broadcaster,” she says.

“There are also individuals and groups who are excited by the prospect of their little towns moving forward and not being solely dependent on tourism or farming.

“Conflicting opinions have arisen in the shared council districts where there is one town that pays higher rates than the others, also where one town might be receiving more funding attention than the other.

“The transparency of council sits at the forefront of most community concerns and a number of public meetings have been facilitated to address hear and address these concerns.”

Other issues covered by The Mid North Broadcaster have included maintenance of heritage buildings, the threat of closure to hospitals and, on a lighter note, the prospering merino industry, which has given the area notable international status for growing a premium product.

As with many smaller communities, sport is also a major point of interest in the region which supports a number of sporting codes, each with its own claim to fame. Significant events in sporting history are given strong coverage and, are at times, considered to be ‘front page’ news. This is most evident when a local team wins the association grand final or championships such as the Burra Booborowie Hallett (BBH) A-grade football team who won their inaugural premiership flag in 2009.

Students and young athletes who have earned selection in elite teams are also featured in news pages. The Mid North Broadcaster has reported many such athletes from all corners of the readership including Robertstown, Booborowie, Burra and Eudunda.

The Mid North Broadcaster currently consists of one part-time journalist for Burra and surrounding district along with correspondents located in Eudunda, Peterborough and Yunta.

Mr Craig Treloar edits the paper from The River News in Waikerie. The Mid North Broadcaster is owned by the Renmark-based Taylor Group of Newspapers with Mr Ben Taylor as managing director.
December 18, 2009 – Burra and Community Christmas Fair

May 24, 2010 – Burra Field Days

October 14, 2009 – Daryl Andriske from Blyth took out the AGL Mid North Merino Open Shearing Championship at the Burra Show

Taylor Group of Newspapers managing director Ben Taylor
October 7, 2009 – Catherine Johns’ bright gypsy wagon made its way through the area after travelling north in a bid to raise awareness for animals.

October 21, 2009 – Alan Arthur’s P40 in action at the Jamestown Air Spectacular.

May 13, 2009 – Firefighter finally returns home.

May 16, 2005 – Miss Popularity winner Jessie Gurunathan of NZ with Burra hosts Maria and Chris Reed.

13 April, 2005 – Asbestos to be Removed.
Next week’s ANZAC Day Service could be Burra’s last. It was revealed at a recent AGM that Burra RSL sub-branch will be forced to close by next March if more members are not found. Without sufficient members, the local organisation will be unable to fill the quorum required for official meetings and to continue officiating local ANZAC and Remembrance Day services.

RSL Country Vice President Trevor McKerley was present at the AGM, which saw just five members from a board of eight in attendance. Burra sub-branch president John Trigg said the local RSL is fearful of closing “because it potentially spells the end of traditional ceremonies being held in the town.”

“There have been a lot of RSL’s in small towns that have been forced to close because there are not enough members,” he said. “Places like Booleroo Centre, Melrose, Jamestown and Orroroo no longer have RSL’s so they have to travel to other towns to attend ANZAC and Remembrance Day services.”

Sub-branch secretary Mike Thomas said membership inevitably decreases due to a number of factors including age, mobility and members leaving the district. “We actually have eight on the board, but they can’t all make it to the meetings,” he said. “And because we don’t have service organisations like Rotary, Lions or Apex to take over the running of official RSL activities, we are looking at having to close for good.”

Current members encourage any persons living in the district that are returned soldiers, Vietnam vets or National Service members to join the Burra sub-branch and keep the organisation from closing.

“We welcome those people that we see each year at the services to come along and join the RSL,” Mr Thomas said. “We only need a few more numbers to keep our RSL from closing.”

The community is invited to attend the ANZAC Day Dawn Service on Easter Monday, April 25, commencing at 6.30am at the Fallen Soldiers War Memorial in Market Square, Burra. Enjoy tea, coffee and biscuits, catered by the Burra Indoor Bowling Ladies or a tot of rum kindly donated by the Burra Hotel following the service at the Goyder Council Chambers, Burra.
LIKE COUNTRY PRESS SA INC., the West Coast Sentinel is also celebrating its centenary this year.

Established in the West Coast farming and fishing town of Streaky Bay on June 28, 1912, by C.J. Wallace, the paper’s first editorial set a political agenda and outlined a vision for the future. It noted: “...the Sentinel has now arrived, and hopes with confidence to become a fixture on the coast.”

The editorial also stated: “Given a strong policy of railway development and water conservation, it does not require a duly qualified prophet to predict that, in comparatively few years’ time, where today there are hundreds of people thousands will be distributed throughout the Promised Land of the Central State.

“And we believe that, in the present Government, the West Coast possesses staunch advocates and several men of strong individuality, who will do their best to push forward the interests of those dwelling many miles westwards of Parliament House, and in numbers of instances, working hard day and night, to carve out homes and farms in scrubland.”

The first edition of the paper was printed on saaten (cotton fabric woven like satin with a glossy surface). It was sold at auction for three pounds seven shillings and sixpence to Streaky Bay District Council chairman, Jack Speed, and the proceeds donated to the Streaky Bay Hospital.

The Sentinel office was originally situated in the W.H. Betts General Store, near the jetty at Streaky Bay. The office and printing facilities were later moved to bigger premises in Alfred Terrace where the Sentinel stayed until 1977. It was then transferred farther west to Ceduna.

A major setback to the paper occurred shortly after the launch when its founder, Mr Wallace, died suddenly. Subsequently, the business was taken over by local MP, G.J. Moseley, and Tom Monger was managing editor until 1917 when he and printer Lew Fosdike enlisted for service in the First World War.

Chas Neale became managing editor and, in 1921, he bought the business. In 1928, Neale launched the Western Mail at Ceduna, but the Depression struck and in 1930 the paper amalgamated with the Sentinel. He remained managing editor until 1934 when he transferred to Adelaide and eventually the Times at Millicent.

In 1932, the paper was bought by pioneer pastoralist and part-owner of Chandada Station, Mr W.A. Thompson, who retained it until his death in 1952. He lived in Adelaide throughout his ownership and was never actively associated with the enterprise.

Thompson’s son, Bill, who had joined the staff in 1932, bought the business in 1952 in partnership with his wife, Jean, and continued as managing editor until it was sold to the Hill family of the Port Lincoln Times in 1968.

In 1982, Bill Thompson acknowledged changing times when he reflected on the sale to the Port Lincoln Times. “If the Sentinel was to progress with the times, it could only do so by joining in the mainstream of technological change that has taken place in the newspaper and printing industry,” he said.

In a message for the paper’s 80th anniversary Governor-General Bill Hayden said: “...country newspapers are vital in maintaining our notions of an open, liberal society.

“The West Coast Sentinel, circulating to the people of Eyre Peninsula and the West Coast of South Australia, has played a significant role in that tradition.”

The Sentinel was bought by Fairfax Media in 1990 and is one of 16 SA papers owned by the company.
June, 1992 – The special 80th anniversary issue

Sentinel's first editorial looks toward the future

The editorial comments on a newspaper called the editor's view on how we should proceed in the future. It highlights the need to preserve our traditions and culture. It also mentions the importance of the people living in the region and the need to ensure their voices are heard.

There is a strong message about preserving our heritage and values, not just in writing, but also in the way we live our lives. The editor calls for a sense of community and responsibility.

Governor-General Bill Hayden's message on the occasion of the paper's 80th birthday in June, 1992

It is my great pleasure to send this message of congratulations and goodwill for the 80th anniversary of the West Coast Sentinel newspaper.

Both as Governor-General visiting many parts of this vast country of ours, and before that as a Member of Parliament, I well know the importance of a vigorous, well-established local press to keep people fully informed of ideas and events in their local communities.

In this, country newspapers are vital in maintaining our notions of an open, liberal society.

The West Coast Sentinel, circulating to the people of the Eyre Peninsula and the West Coast of South Australia, has played a significant role in that tradition.

On this important occasion, therefore, I extend my very best wishes to the management, the staff, the correspondents and most particularly to the readers whom it serves.

From the paper's first editorial in 1912 – reprinted for the 80th birthday celebrations
DROPPING the speed limit on opens roads to 100 kilometres an hour will cause a “conga line” of cars from Ceduna to Adelaide, according to Ceduna District Council.

The State Government is currently considering changing the speed limit from 110km/h to 100km/h on 49 rural roads, within 100km of Adelaide and on Yorke Peninsula.

Road Safety Minister Jennifer Rankine said no decision had been made about any 110km/h roads outside of that area, including those on the West Coast and Eyre Peninsula.

“Any future decisions on rural road speed limits will be based on crash history and traffic volumes,” Ms Rankine said.

But at the Ceduna District Council meeting last month, council moved to make a submission to the state government to advocate retaining current speed limits for the region.

Council mayor Allan Suter said under current conditions it took seven hours excluding break stops to travel to Adelaide.

Mr Suter said if the speed limit reduction was imposed on the West Coast, it would add an extra 80 minutes of driving time from Ceduna to Adelaide. “You will effectively end up with a conga line of vehicles stranded behind road trains,” Mr Suter said.

“We see it as a very dangerous move.”

Mr Suter said there was a lot of concern about the speed limit reduction right through the local government association (LGA).

“And I haven’t heard of a local person in favour of reducing the speed limit.

“It’s an example of city based people who don’t have any understanding of the issues that country people face.”

Council deputy mayor Lynton Brown said the speed limit reduction would force drivers to stay on the road for a longer period of time.

“And this will increase driver fatigue,” Mr Brown said.

Mr Brown said modern cars had so many safety features, that a decrease from 110 to 100km/hr would not make much of a difference.

“You’re never going to stop human error, but this will expose drivers to a longer period of time on the road.”

The council is encouraging local people concerned about the issue to make a submission to the state government.

Chas Neale, a former managing editor and owner of the Sentinel in the 1920s.
The local cricket team in the early 1900s.

W.A. Thompson – owner of the Sentinel for 20 years
THE NORTHERN ARGUS made news with its first edition on February 19, 1869, and co-founder Henry Hammond Tilbrook wrote in his first editorial: “We come forward with no flourish of trumpets, we put forth no high-sounding policy; our aim will be to ‘be just and fear not’ and our convictions we shall maintain with independence of spirit and outspoken candour.”

The development of The Northern Argus was slow but sure, from the early days of hand-set type until today with the use of state-of-the-art of computer technology. From the foundation of the paper, type was set by hand into “sticks”, which were handled again after use and “dissed” back into cases for storage until the next time.

Frock-coated gentlemen painstakingly went about their work in silence, by the light of flickering candles and carbide lamps, making sure the important news of the day could be transformed into print and sold to the community.

From its original site in a shed in Clare’s Victoria Road, the Argus moved to 245 Main North Road in the centre of the town, on the corner of Ness Street, where it stayed for 135 years. A site was also occupied in the Eudunda Farmers building (now IGA supermarket) from 1927 to 1932 where the linotype was set and carried across the street.

Meanwhile, Henry continued to make his mark as a newspaperman, reporting on issues of the day, including news from Europe. Following his retirement a succession of his descendants took over the reins.

As the district grew, so too did The Northern Argus. The paper, originally printed on a hand-press, was now being produced on an old sheet-fed Wharfdale printing press, driven by a gasoline engine.

In 1927, a mechanical revolution took place. A wonder machine – a Model 5 Mergenthaler Linotype – was installed for mechanical composition of body type, which meant a great saving in time and labour. In 1953, it was joined by a Model 48 Linotype, capable of setting eight individual type faces and various body sizes and lengths of line, without the operator getting up from the machine. With this new development the “job” printing department grew from two, foot operated, hand-fed platens (rollers), to an automatic platen known as a Heidelberg, which was capable of turning out 5000 sheets of printed paper per hour, as well as having the capability of producing colour work.

During these years, the circulation of the paper grew and there came a time when the printing of four pages at a time on a sheet fed press, followed by hand folding, became far too slow. A monster machine, weighing 22 tons, capable of printing 16 pages at a time was purchased from The Murray Pioneer in 1961.

After a time the printing was outsourced and for several years, but local printing recurred early in the 1990s when the paper was purchased from the Tilbrook family.

In 1996, the newspaper was purchased from the Tilbrook family by Rural Press Ltd, and on April 1, 2005, made its first physical move for 135 years, to new, purpose-built premises about 250 metres south from its old offices.

The paper has won several awards including the best newspaper (under 5000 circulation) at the Country Press Association of SA Inc. awards in 2003.
Maurice (L), Ian and Tudor Tilbrook in the printing room in the 1950s

Editor Eric Tilbrook in the Press Room

Henry Hammond Tilbrook, co-founder of The Northern Argus

An early drawing of The Northern Argus building in Main Street
Tourist plans to go public

Clare and Gilbert Valleys councillors concerned about proposed design

The Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council publicly debated a new tourism development last Wednesday. Councillors were concerned about a new tourist attraction to be built in the Clare and Gilbert Valleys region. The project, a $10 million tourism development, would be located on the north-west side of the city.

Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council general manager rural banking Darriel Johnnie Red said the council was concerned about the proposal. Mr Red said the council was concerned about the project's impact on the local community and environment.

"We need to make sure that any development in the area is sustainable and doesn't have a negative impact on the local community," he said.

Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council mayor Johnnie Red said the council was concerned about the proposal. Mr Red said the council was concerned about the project's impact on the local community and environment.

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INXS of 8000

Watervale hosts its biggest A Day on the Green

INXS of 8000.

the famous harmonica intro of
Farriss brothers before sliding into
sion set from the three black-suited
expections, starting with a percus-
son Saturday afternoon.

Annies Lane for A Day on the Green
who flocked to Watervale winery
dampen the spirits of the 8000 people
sic INXS with songs including
hands.

tattoos on his neck and the back of his
a diamond-encrusted skull ring, with
wearing sunglasses, a black suit and

Pengilly joined Andrew and Jon
along to every word.

Thieves

08 8842 2652 Wednesday, February 9, 2011 $1.50

Perca

February 6, 2011

INXS

It was standing room only when headline act INXS took to the stage at A Day on the Green on Saturday night.

Headline act INXS lived up to

The threat of rain did little to

What followed was a night of clas-

Don't Change

and

Mystify

with the crowd singing

Whole place was pumping."

and the way the show went, the

can handle that number of people

by a couple of thousand people"

biggest show hosted by Annies Lane

the 2011 A Day on the Green the

attendance of 8000 people made

Roundhouse Entertainment, said

offered some entertaining blasts

Models and The Baby Animals

from the past.

inspiring, with Train from San

Francisco starting its act by "driving"

back wall of the stage.

play on five screens mounted on the

by a dazzling light and picture dis-

Girl.

"We were happy with the result

"It was good to see that the venue

"It was made easy by the weather

He said the Annies Lane show was

nate to have a facility like Annies

this year, because the ground was

moved in to pick up the rest of the lit-

picking up about 5000 wine bottles

we've got an organized approach to

'where are we going to start' but

1968 - ‘Keeping cool’ was the theme of the commercial float presented by the electrical

firm of J. F. Clewer

February 3, 1899

Brown & Polson’s

CORN FLOUR

THE RECOGNISED BEST

Has 40 years’ World-Wide Reputation.

February 24, 1965

February 9, 2011

February 6, 2011

February 6, 2011

1968 - ‘Keeping cool’ was the theme of the commercial float presented by the electrical

firm of J. F. Clewer

1968 - ‘Keeping cool’ was the theme of the commercial float presented by the electrical

firm of J. F. Clewer

February 3, 1899

February 24, 1965

February 6, 2011

February 6, 2011

February 6, 2011

February 6, 2011
First edition published when Henry 21

Plans for the venture were kept under wraps by the new editor and his wife, Caroline Schaefer, so a whole year passed before the Northern Argus was launched on January 18, 1869. At 8 am on the date of publication, a mob lined the streets of Clare to buy the first copies of the newspaper, which sold out within an hour. Henry had worked on the Paratoo run in the early 1860s, which led to him getting involved in the local newspaper industry.

Early Names

Many newspapers have had an impact on the community, and the Northern Argus is no exception. It has been a significant part of the history of Clare and the surrounding area since its inception in 1869.

Henry Tilbrook

Henry Tilbrook was born in 1844 in Llandudno, Wales, and arrived in South Australia in 1865 on the SS Llandudno. He worked at the Grey River Argus as a staff writer and editor before establishing the Northern Argus in 1869. He was the first editor of the newspaper.

Caroline Schaefer

Caroline Schaefer was born in 1841 in London, England. She worked as a nurse before moving to South Australia in 1863. She married Henry Tilbrook in 1864 and became the first female editor of the Northern Argus in 1869.

David Wright

David Wright is the editor of The Northern Argus and has been with the newspaper since 2005. He is passionate about the history of Clare and the surrounding area.

1968 – Mrs P. Burt, the first customer to the new Foodland supermarket

May 22, 1968 Datsun ad for L.R. Hore & Son

July, 1968 – Mrs Barbara Long will be town’s first woman councillor
July 14, 2010 – Both A grade teams will wear special 50th anniversary guernseys for the North Clare-South Clare derby.

From Geoff Brock is calling for a school bus inquiry at the Allan Border Medal presentation.

Women’s International Cricketer Award

Shelley Nitschke has been named the Australian Cricketer of the Year.

BY CHELSEA ASHMEADE

Shelley Nitschke was going, but I couldn’t say anything,” she said.

“...it’s more of a lifestyle thing for me,” said Nitschke.

October 13, 2010 – Former Clare girl Shelley Nitschke hits the headlines.

November 17, 2010 – Clare and Burra SES volunteers search the Clare dump in relation to a triple murder at Kapunda.
THE EYRE PENINSULA TRIBUNE started as the Eyre’s Peninsula Tribune in Cowell on Friday, December 2, 1910. The first-ever edition was typewritten, carbon copied, and delivered by post on request at a cost of two pence, or eight shillings for a yearly subscription.

In a page 1 editorial of the first edition, the editor stated: “The Franklin Harbor district has progressed by leaps and bounds during the past three years and, in accordance with the usual trend of events, it is only natural that the district should have a journal to represent and throw a searchlight over a tract of country the existence of which is only now beginning to be recognised by the people across the gulf.”

He also added that “the journal will be directed to the gleaning of general news and a strong effort will be made in the direction of urging on the rapid development of this great tract of country.”

By 1911, the Tribune had its own press and a team of printers who “worshipped at the stone” until the early hours every week. These were the ‘hot metal’ days when printers banged together lead letters into huge frameworks on a stone bench, creating each tiny piece of text letter by letter.

Throughout the war years the Tribune was the be all and end all of local communications. Whether people were discussing the war abroad or the wool prices at home, or who was travelling, who was visiting or who was unwell – it all showed up in the Tribune’s broadsheet pages.

It wasn’t until the 1950s, as towns across the region began to grow and develop distinct identities and regular services, that the Tribune encountered competition in the form of The Kimba Dispatch. Then, around the time The Kimba Dispatch was incorporated into the Tribune, along came Cleve’s own Areas Express.

By the 1970s, the Eyre’s Peninsula Tribune had been renamed the Eyre Peninsula Tribune, incorporating The Kimba Dispatch and Areas Express.

Proud of its wide-reaching and varied readership, the Tribune boasted a print run of 1950 copies and was now published on Thursdays – and has been ever since. It was in the 1970s that printing of the Tribune moved to Whyalla and information and photographs were transported back and forth between the Cleve-based offices and a compositing team at the Whyalla News.

These were the days of black and white film, ‘bromides’ and late nights cutting and pasting adverts and stories onto master photographs were transported back and forth between the Cleve- Whyalla designers, but create the paper at Cleve before it is sent and the local team of the paper now work closely with a team of Whyalla News, but the final layout was still in the hands of the compositors at Whyalla.

In 1991, when the paper became part of the growing Rural Press (now Fairfax Media), new technology was introduced. Suddenly, computers appeared at all desks, not just the editor’s. Advertisements were designed in their entirety at the Cleve office by local staff for the first time and appeared on screen as they would appear in the newspaper.

In the early 2000s technology again caught up with newspapers and the local team of the paper now work closely with a team of Whyalla designers, but create the paper at Cleve before it is sent electronically to Murray Bridge for printing.

March 10, 1911 – With the heat of the past week, one of the few pleasant places to be is the swimming pool. Cleve students made the most of the local pool.

December 2, 1910 - Vol 1 No 1 Eyre's Peninsula Tribune

Bushfire threatens farmers near Cleve

A potentially disastrous fire threatened a large area near Mannum on Eyre Peninsula on Tuesday.
September 3, 1964 – New service plane calls at Cleve. Becoming a familiar caller at Cowell, Cleve and Kimba airports is this Airlines of SA nine-seater Piaggio Portofino.

February 27, 1964 – Birthday for three – three young men celebrate a triple 21st birthday celebration at Cleve. From left are Barry Elson, Lloyd Elson and Bronte Plane.

December 18, 1980 – Warrant Officer Bruce Henderson inspects an undetonated practice bomb at Shoal Point, near Cowell.

January 15, 1976 – Inspecting the burnt out shell of a vehicle are Senior Constable Pallant and car owner Gary MacPhie.
BIG ENTRANCE...The Port Neill Primary School hosted its end-of-term wind-up this month where students Alex Prime, Triton, Max Butler, Maddox Scheisser, Chloe Little, Dani Johnson, Amelia Millard, Lenny McDonough and Sam Prime made a grand entrance in the back of an old Holden ute.

FAREWELL...Students Willow Starr and Chloe Little present teacher Amanda Prime with her farewell gift.

THANKYOU...Volunteer groundsman Ted Scrase receives gift from Port Neill Primary School principal Peta Butler.

Free breast cancer screening services will be available in Cleve from January 6 to 19, and in Wudinna from January 21 to February 1, 2011. The new BreastScreen SA's mobile unit is primarily recommended for all women aged 50 to 69 without breast symptoms. It is estimated that for individual women in this age group, having a screening mammogram every two years reduces the chance of dying from breast cancer by about 40 per cent. Women aged 40 to 49 and over 70 are also eligible for screening. Call BreastScreen SA on 13 20 50 for appointments and further information.

The Rotary Club of Port Lincoln has completed a program of sign writing and placing memorial plaques onto seven emergency fire water tanks around the peninsula. The club paid for the tanks to be installed at airstrips at Cummins, Lock, Wudinna, Buckleboo, Kimba, Cowell and Cleve. Funding for the infrastructure was made available through the $500,000 raised by the Rotary Club of Port Lincoln. It was considered top priority to provide these tanks and other infrastructure as an emergency source of water mainly for feeding water bomber aircraft in the event of a fire but also for fire tenders. The club members combined this work with an inspection tour by regional operations commander of the Country Fire Service John Probert.

The SA Government has proposed amendments to the Aquaculture Act 2001 in an effort to reduce red tape within the aquaculture industry. The proposed amendments in the bill specifically aim to: rationalise the class of aquaculture leases, promote improved management of the aquaculture industry, promote improved commercial value in aquaculture leases; and provide provisions for the smooth transition of interests and processes as a result of the amendments. People can provide comment on the proposed bill, which is available on the PIRSA website.

Port Neill school winds up for summer

❑

by Janet Shepherd

Port Neill Primary School held its annual end of year Celebration on Wednesday December 15, on the school lawns with 70 people in attendance. An old Holden ute and painted kelpie greeted parents, grandparents and community members. The school children sang two Aussie Christmas carols led by Rachel Telfer, school Christian pastoral worker, who teaches the students music. Principal Peta Butler gave a short report of the school year and gave thank you gifts to groundsman Ted Scrase and cleaners Yvonne Clark and Ian Burner. Thanks also to Des and Cheryl Burner who filled in as cleaners while Yvonne and Ian were traveling. Farewells were made to Peta Butler and teacher Amanda Prime, who are both teaching at Tumby Bay Area School in 2011, and welcome made to Lou McDonough who will be teaching next year at Port Neill. A principal is yet to be appointed. Kym Butler and Chris Prime cooked a barbeque tea, salads were provided by parents and everyone joined in the shared tea.
IronClad announces $4.7M housing plan

IronClad Mining has announced a $4.7 million contract for the construction of a mine village at Kimba to accommodate the workforce for the Wilcherry Hill iron ore mine, approximately 40km north of the township.

Kimba mayor John Schaefer said the proposed village is good news for Kimba. The full plans for the village will be put before the next council meeting and will initially cater for 40 people with a future capacity for 80.

"We hope that some of these people will eventually settle in Kimba and bring their families to live here," said John.

"Kimba has the facilities and services and we hope the mine project will attract a new population to the community, in turn benefiting our local organizations and sporting teams, as well as putting more kids in to school."

IronClad Mining has given assurances that local businesses will be given first opportunity to supply goods and services to the project and provided they are competitive the flow on effects to the town will be positive with increased turnover in the town.

"The mine offers Kimba a possible second economic base and our challenge is to offer an attractive place where families decide to stay and settle in the community," said John.

Council is working closely in cooperation with IronClad Mining to ensure the best possible outcome for the project and the community.

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Bigger than Santa's Workshop

Brumfield Electronics Cleve 8628 2472

Kylieanne and Joanne have been to the toy expo and have more goodies than ever!

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Cleve Hardware & Rural

Ph 8628 2477

WEBER Q200

• Piezo ignition
• 2 thermostat swing out work surfaces with tool holder
• Easy to clean drip tray systems
• Cooks for up to 10 people
• Also available – stationary cart

WEBER CHARCOAL KETTLE BBQ

• One-Touch™ 57cm kettle
• Includes pack of foil trays
• 10 year warranty

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February 28, 1980 – Collecting leaves for a class project at Lock Area School: from left, Peter Lawrie, Damien Feuster, Paula Modra and Joanna Fuss

Local lad Shaun Rehn wins 1994 medal
September 15, 2005 – Cleve A grade took its second successive premiership at Port Neill. Retiring footballer Paul Jenner holds the cup.

March 29, 2001 – Giving the 60s signal of peace at the Cleve Area School Come Out opening are Georgina Young, Tayla Noble, Aisea Raikiwasa, Alex Sampson and Hannah Weiss.

September 3, 2009 – Cleve A grader Deb Taheny keeps her eye on the ball as defender Meagan Lienert moves up on the play.
THE ORIGIN of The Bunyip newspaper was born out of a group that lampooned local Friendly and Provident societies, such as Freemasons, Oddfellows, Rechabites and Foresters.

After several years of existence, the Gawler Humbug Society was determined to ‘make a strenuous effort to establish a propaganda for its glorious creed’ and The Bunyip was created, with William Barnet, who had established a printing business in Gawler six years earlier, the founder. The first editor of The Bunyip was Dr. George Nott, who was also Gawler Town Mayor in 1865.

In the very first edition of The Bunyip, or Gawler Humbug Society’s Chronicle, (Saturday, September 5, 1863), a clear explanation of its intention, which included 12 ‘rules’ and 12 ‘bye-the-bye laws’, was made, which was witty and satirical, through The Arch Flam, The Bouncible Bam and The Surprising Sham.

And after that first edition, Dr. Popham sued The Bunyip for libel, which went to court with the plaintiff seeking £500. On March 16, 1864, the case was heard, with Dr. Popham awarded only one shilling, without costs.

The Bunyip was originally issued as a monthly until January, 1865, when it became a bi-monthly broadsheet. One year later it became a weekly, with less satire and more orthodox reporting of community matters.

Over the first 22 years of the paper, in the Gawler region, three other newspapers challenged The Bunyip for readers – The Gawler Times (March 5, 1869 to June 27, 1873), The Mercury (November 27, 1875 to July 1876) and The Gawler Standard (January 11, 1878 to February 27, 1885), with the first and latter brought out by William Barnet, the last after The Bunyip premises were destroyed by fire.

Local news was regularly reported through the 19th century, including community groups activities, the political arena, sports, and unusual occurrences, but predominantly advertising paved the way for the viability of The Bunyip.

Of major significance, three editors of The Bunyip were responsible for the preservation of the history of the town of Gawler, with first, Dr. Nott writing ‘A short sketch of the rise and progress of Gawler,’ in 1861, followed by George Loyau’s ‘The Gawler Handbook’ in 1880, and finally E.H. Coombe’s ‘History of Gawler’ in 1908.

Many of Australia’s major historical events, which also touched Gawler such as the two World Wars and the depression, gained prominent news coverage in The Bunyip, while local sport, major development – especially the recent growth in the area over the past 30 years – and local people and what affects them, made up a major part of the Bunyip’s content.

The Barnet family played a significant role in the formation of the Provincial Press Association of South Australia, with Mr R.H. Barnet appointed the first president in 1912. In 1915-16 he was president of the national body.

After almost 140 years of Barnet family ownership, The Bunyip was sold to the Taylor Group of Newspapers. John Barnet along with brothers, Craig and Paul, handed over the reins to a new editor, Terry Williams, and managing director, Ben Taylor, in April 2003. The annual Gawler Show has always played a prominent part in The Bunyip, with lifetouts, coverage and results, while any political or Royal visitor is headline news, as is any major sporting event, such as the Gawler Three Day Equestrian event, the Tour Down Under, and even the Sydney Olympic Torch relay, which went through the town, while history has also proved popular subject matter, and letters to the editor offers the community a voice.
The Bunyip office, Murray Street, Gawler, late 1800s. Photo: Courtesy Town of Gawler: Gawler Heritage Collection.

January 1, 1897

Hearne's Bronchitis Cure

William Barnet (1834 - 1865)
Founder of The Bunyip 1890s
THROUGH OUR EYES > 100 years of Country Press SA Inc., 1912 – 2012

March, 2010 – Member for Light, Tony Piccolo, celebrates his re-election

1973 – Gawler motorcycle trial enthusiast Con Twist took a dive in the Gawler Road Knights gymkhana held at Willaston

An early view of Murray Street. Photo: Courtesy Town of Gawler. Gawler Heritage Collection

Recalling those halcyon days of 1880, and... Gawler’s ‘Test’

Recalling a great match
Right royal welcome

Statesman recognised

March 6, 2002

August 23, 2006 – Bruce Eastick honoured

May, 1986 – Special issue for the Three Day Event
Retailers are concerned new national employment standards will make it too costly to operate and result in more shop closures in Gawler.

There are 122 ‘Modern Awards’ which now apply to employers and employees across Australia, streamlining thousands of federal and state-based awards.

While many traders are yet to learn how the sweeping changes will affect them, some are expressing confusion and others are struggling to budget for wage increases.

Milton Vadoulis of Vadoulis Garden Centre said changes to the retail award would cost him an extra $30,000 in increased wages.

“Staff deserve a decent rate of pay, but what this award introduces is a 250 per cent loading for what is typically a normal trading day for us (public holiday),” he said.

“That’s $55 per hour. It will come to a point where you won’t be able to buy a cup of coffee on a public holiday.

“They’ve created a national award, and that might be okay if you’re in Sydney, but it’s cheaper to live in Adelaide than in Sydney. People don’t spend money in Adelaide like they do in Sydney.

“A lot of retail shops in Murray street are going to close as a result.”

For most awards there is a transitional period for employers to reach the new pay rates. The amended rates, including loadings and penalties, commenced on July 1, 2010 and must apply in full by July 1, 2014.

Fair Work Australia is also currently considering submissions on the national minimum wage, which as of July 1 was $543.78.

Northern Adelaide Business Enterprise Centre (NABEC) general manager Larry Cavallaro said small businesses will suffer if they do not become educated on the new regime.

“Under the new Fair Work Act, the businesses that are perceived to be more at a disadvantage is the retail sector, healthcare and hospitality, because the majority of their work times is not 9am to 5pm, and they do carry penalties in terms of the pay rate and more importantly due to the engagement conditions,” Mr. Cavallaro said.

Small business strain

Long-serving Gawler Council employee Michael Wohlstadt (pictured) has been dismissed following what is believed to have been a near-two-month investigation.

The Bunyip first learned of the internal investigation in March, and until now the name of the staff member has been suppressed.

Mr. Wohlstadt had been suspended from work pending the investigation.

Council’s chief executive officer Stephen Kerrigan yesterday confirmed the investigation was complete, and that Mr. Wohlstadt was dismissed as of 5pm Monday.

No detail on the investigation has been released.

Mr. Wohlstadt was the council’s director of development and strategic planning, and worked for the Gawler Council for more than 10 years.

Member for Light Tony Piccolo with Premier Mike Rann and cast members of McLeod’s Daughters
September 18, 2002 – Successful opening for Woolworths store

January 29, 2009 – Gawler swimmer Lyns Lillecrapp inducted into the Swimming SA Hall of Fame

August 20, 2008

1961 Gawler Cup. Photo: Courtesy Town of Gawler. Gawler Heritage Collection
THE STORY and development of the *Yorke Peninsula Country Times* over the last 156 years follows a web of newspapers spanning together since the first Yorke Peninsula paper appeared as the *Wallaroo Times and Mining Journal* in 1865.

This newspaper was the product of Andrew and David Taylor who came to Australia from Invercargill in New Zealand that same year. Copper had been discovered near Kadina in 1859 and in Moonta in 1861, and in the mid-1870s both mines employed more than 1000 men. Smelting operations began in Wallaroo in 1861.

The paper flourished at Elizabeth Street, Wallaroo, until 1888, when due to pressure from Kadina traders, the business was moved to Taylor Street, Kadina, and became *The Kadina and Wallaroo Times*.

In 1891, Andrew died and David continued until his death when Mrs Clara Furner-Taylor headed the business.

In 1910, Andrew’s son, William F. Taylor and James Harry Pengelley, both of Kadina, entered into a partnership which lasted 25 years until 1935 when Mr Pengelley died. His son, Fred, then became a partner.

Also in 1910, John Verran became Premier of South Australia, and the famous Moonta Mining Co. closed in November, 1923, and an important part of local history ended.

When William Taylor died in 1945, Fred Pengelley took control, with Mrs Agnes Taylor maintaining a financial interest until 1962 when the family finally relinquished a 92-year connection with the *Times*.

Fred Pengelley’s association with paper ended in 1963 when Moonta Newspaper proprietors Cecil. J.G. Ellis and Trevor. F. Ellis, who ran *The People’s Weekly*, purchased the Kadina business. The Ellis family continued to print both papers, one in each town, until 1966, when the Moonta paper was incorporated into the *Times* to become the *Kadina, Wallaroo and Moonta Times*.

Two years later another change occurred when *The South Australian Farmer*, another Kadina-based paper, owned by Mr and Mrs H. W. Tossell, of Adelaide, merged with the *Times*, resulting in a new newspaper, the *Yorke Peninsula Country Times*, its first edition printed on September 4, 1968.

In 1970, the publishers purchased the rights to the *YP News Pictorial*, published in Yorketown, which was an amalgamation of the *Maitland Watch* and the *YP Pioneer*.

In 1979, the paper’s new Goss Web Offset Press was officially commissioned by Member for Goyder, Mr E.K.(Keith) Russack.

The *Yorke Peninsula Country Times* has enjoyed a long and proud history through three generations of the Ellis family, with Trevor’s son, Michael, now the managing editor/owner, after having joined the firm in March, 1982.

From 1888, the old Taylor Street office in Kadina, served as the headquarters of the *Times*, while the newspaper was printed in the firm’s pressroom in George Street, Moonta. The printing press was moved to 31 Goyder Street, Kadina, in 2004.

YPCT’s production, editorial and administration staff moved to the paper’s new Goyder Street building in 2008, and the building was officially opened on November 6, 2008, by Senator Alan Ferguson. The *Yorke Peninsula Country Times* has been a regular winner of prestigious Country Press SA Inc. awards. Awards in recent years include 2003 excellence in journalism; 2004 best advertising feature, best advertisement, best front page; 2005 best front page, excellence in journalism; 2006 best advertising feature; 2010 best advertisement (priced product), best sports photo.

The paper circulates throughout the Yorke Peninsula, a rich agricultural area renowned for its quality grain production. Tourism is also a major industry for the peninsula.
Wallaroo Times office around 1900

1913 – Motorcyclist George Ramsey with officials from his 24-hour record run

1923 – Central Yorke Peninsula Show held at Minlaton

November 11, 1918 – Hundreds of people gathered at the Wallaroo Institute to hear the official announcement the Armistice had been signed to end World War I

1957 advertisement for opening of silo
1970 – The Jeannie is docked at Port Giles, the State’s newest and deepest seaport, to load 8000 tons of barley.


November 4, 1908 – A page 1 advertisement for J. H. Rosewarne.
Like a phoenix rising from the ashes, the spirit of the Wallaroo Primary School community is on the rise after a devastating, deliberately lit fire gutted the school's 127-year-old stone building — containing the school's library, classrooms, computer room and special education room — in the early hours of Saturday morning, resulting in a $2 million damage bill.

On Monday, Principal Brenton Lamshed stood in front of the burned-out shell, surrounded by teachers, parents and students, vowing the new school year would commence on time and every child would have a desk and chair and necessary materials.

The outlook for the restoration of the fire-damaged building is relatively optimistic after an early structural assessment. According to Education Minister, Jane Lomax-Smith, “The roof of the building has collapsed, but it is believed there is a good chance we can save the stone walls of this magnificent building.”

The fire was reported by a passer-by at 4.50 am on Saturday and it took just eight minutes for the Wallaroo MFS to arrive. In addition, Kadina MFS and CFS, and Moonta MFS attended but, according to Jeff Steele, MFS Regional Station Officer, the blaze spread swiftly through the ceiling.

Despite the valiant efforts of nearly 38 firefighters, the blaze took an hour to extinguish. Two units from Port Pirie MFS also responded and SES volunteers from Maitland and Port Broughton were called in to help secure the building’s damaged roof.

Continued pages 10 & 11
Sally Sara wins US Human Rights Fellowship

... won the United States Elizabeth Neufler Human Rights Fellowship from 96 applicants, on the award which gives a woman journalist working in the United States Elizabeth Neufler Human Rights Fellowship from 96 applicants, on the award which gives a woman journalist working in...
November 23, 2010

**Sesquicentenary**

**Copper 150**

Yorke Peninsula Country Times

November 23, 2010

**Autocrat of the mines**

Henry Richard Hancock, or Cap'n'Ancock, was the autocrat of his domain, Hancock, or Cap'n'Ancock, was appointed, but was offered the job of assayer at the company's mines, he was just 33 years old. When that mine closed, he worked as an assayer and superintendent of innovations into technical services at the Moonta Mining Company's mines, he was just 33 years old.

November 23, 2010

**Rezoning Port Vincent**

The council's Maitland, Minlaton, and development, including a new office and a copy of the council's minutes, are now available online. The council is responsible for any costs associated with infrastructure and services within the development, including industrial development. The decision will be made to allow for more residential land, the development will be held at the Minlaton council area have always provided the infrastructure necessary to service the development.

April 19, 2011

**From Point Pearce to education professor**

Professor Lester/Ridgway, PhD, MA, is a professor of education at Flinders University.

February 15, 2011
THE ISLANDER is only middle-aged, a newcomer in newspaper terms. 

Founder Neville Cordes wrote in his memoirs of the struggle to start the paper in 1967. “In 1966 while on honeymoon in Lorne I noticed a little newspaper called The Lorne News in the shops there. It was only 12 to 16 pages of folded foolscap but a light bulb popped. I could do that on Kangaroo Island,” he writes.

“For three or four months I operated out of a small section of the coffee lounge. The news copy was sent to a printer in Adelaide.”

The Islander cost 5c and sold 185 copies of its first edition on January 19, 1967.

Its competition was the Kangaroo Island Courier, which had been sold to Glenelg interests in 1957 and was printed in Glenelg.

Mr Cordes soon realised he needed to be printing on the island and stopped printing while he secured the equipment. The Islander was re-born in April, 1967, and printed on a Rotaprint Duplicator.

The business grew to also be a commercial printer and stationer and had several premises around Kingscote.

In 1995, the paper was being edited by Ian Turner when it was sold to Rural Press (now Fairfax Media) and journalist Rob Ellson was named managing editor. He recalls the rapid expansion of the paper in the late 1990s under the guidance of Rural Press which invested money in the paper.

When Mr Ellson resigned in October, 2005, Shauna Black from The Advertiser in Adelaide became the paper’s fourth managing editor and remains there today.

Under her stewardship, the paper has increased circulation and won many awards including at the Country Press SA Inc. awards, SA Media awards and an Adelaide Archbishop’s Citation. In 2003, it won best community newspaper in the Country Press SA Inc. awards.

“I tried not to cut out anything the locals loved but just to add to the paper’s news coverage and features. Updated layouts and a commitment to quality photography and journalism has also helped to make The Islander a classy little paper serving a population that relies on us for its sole source of news and information,” Ms Black said.

All editors ranked transport as the biggest ongoing issue for Kangaroo Island, from the days of government-provided sea transport to the advent of privately owned ferries in the 1990s. The costs of transport for farmers, maintenance of the island’s roads and the dozen or more airlines that have come and gone in the paper’s history have also been major issues.

The environment and tourism have ranked more highly in the past couple of decades as the island’s tourist numbers doubled over a decade and now number close to 200,000 a year. More recently, marine parks have become a topic of great debate as the island struggles with government plans to create sanctuary zones which may threaten fishing industries.

In recent years, the wine, food and art industries have grown their contribution to island life.

Bushfires feature prominently in the island’s newspaper history. The great fire of 1975 cut a swathe through the middle of the island from north to south, destroying everything in its path and killing one resident.

The death of Sapper Jamie Larcombe, of Parndana, while on active service in Afghanistan in February, 2011, created possibly Kangaroo Island’s most significant national event, a full military funeral in Kingscote with more than 2000 attending.

Julia Gillard became the first sitting Prime Minister to visit Kangaroo Island as top military brass mingled with KI locals to honour the young soldier.
December 10, 1975 – The leased De Havilland Drover aircraft being loaded with lambs at the Penneshaw Airport

Neville Cordes, founder of The Islander

October 12, 1977 – Local hobby apiarist, Mr Tom Florance, of Cygnet River, examines a frame of pure Ligurian bees

January 18, 2001 – KI hosted a unique visitor last weekend when the tall ship Bark Endeavour, pulled into Kingscote for two days.

November 7, 2002 – Kangaroo Island’s cat man Barry Green has trapped and skinned hundreds of feral cats around and in American River

March 10, 2005 – A $450,000 Kangaroo Island SeaLink coach was destroyed after it burst into flames near Prospect Hill
March 17, 2007 – MacGillivray’s Tony Nolan makes a lung for the crease as Western Districts’ Steven Childs attempts a run out

November 28, 1971

May 12, 1976
August 26, 2010 – Fire child – Zahlia Cindo helped light a burn of dried weeds.

November 18, 2010 – Kate Stanton was awarded Champion exhibit in the fruit, vegetable and dairy section of the Parndana Show.

Local boy Brendan Lade, a Port Power hero and premiership player.

March 10, 2011 – Parndana soldier, Sapper Jamie Larcombe, 21, was buried with full military honours in Kingscote after he was killed on active duty in Afghanistan.
FIRE CRISIS
The week-long bushfire crisis continues on Kangaroo Island. Pictures and reports PAGES 2-15.

December 13, 2007

May 1, 2008 – Declan Carberry, 4, wears the medals his great-great-grandfather Charles James Guider earned in World War I
April 3, 2008 – The $250,000 fishing boat Willie B ran aground at Vivonne Bay. The crew climbed the cliff to safety.

May 8, 2003


January 8, 2009 – Daniel Hawes, of Cygnet River, burns up the road in Kingscote in training for the World Downhill Speed Skating titles.
THE COASTAL LEADER serves a vast area of the rich farming lands of the South-East – from Kingston to Robe to Cape Jaffa and the world-renowned Coorong.

The first edition of the paper, then called The South East Kingston Leader, was launched on September 19, 1962, by Richard (Dick) McRostie and his wife, Rhonda. Its masthead revealed: “For Robe, Lacepede & Lucindale Local Government Areas.” Published on Wednesdays, it sold for 6d a copy.

With the launch of the Mr McRostie’s paper it was the first time the town had had a local paper since March, 1951.

In November, 1978, ownership of The South East Kingston Leader changed hands with Noel and Dorothy McRostie taking the reins. They had shifted to Kingston from Pyramid Hill in Victoria in 1966.

On Christmas Eve, 1979, illness suddenly struck Noel McRostie and his son, Geoff, took over managing the newspaper.

The paper underwent a name change on February 25, 1987, to the SE Kingston Leader, with the masthead featuring a bull, sheep and crayfish – the main produce of the flourishing region.

In April, 2001, Richard Peake, owner of The Naracoorte Herald and president of the Country Press Association of S.A. Inc. from 1983 to 1985, bought the paper. Seven months later he changed the name of the paper to the Coastal Leader. The paper then circulated in the Kingston, Robe and Coorong areas and cost 80c a copy.

In October, 2010, a new era at the Coastal Leader began under new owners, SA Regional Media Pty Ltd, part of Fairfax Media.

The sale of the Leader by Richard Peake and Judy Barton ended the Peake family’s 52-year association with SE newspapers which began when Harry and Margaret Peake arrived at Naracoorte in 1958. (Mr Harry Peake, OBE, served as president of the then Provincial Press Association of South Australia and president of the Provincial Press Association of Australia.)

Operations of the Coastal Leader are overseen from Naracoorte with the editor of The Naracoorte Herald, Lee Curnow, also editing the Leader. An updated masthead was unveiled by the paper in June, 2011.

The town’s first paper was The Kingston Weekly which stated on its masthead: “Circulating throughout Kingston, Robe and Lucindale Districts”. Its first edition on March 22, 1946, was published by the Kingston Traders’ Association at the price 2d a copy or 5/- a year. The association’s aim was to “record faithfully the growing needs of the district in business as well as pleasure.”

Within three months it had more than 400 subscribers. In a Page 1 article on July 5, 1946, the paper’s editor said: “The Kingston Weekly has passed three months of existence as a newspaper, and the effort has been very well received by its supporters amongst the public.”

In 1947, the association sold the paper to a group of local businessmen under the management of Mr D. Wade. At that time the price had risen to 3d a copy and the annual cost had doubled to 10/-.

The Weekly continued for another four years until “lack of support and continually rising costs” forced its closure in March, 1951.
Top Lib Isobel plots strategy

What a Show!
Gate takings up by $2000

Deep sea discovery
The Robe Hotel encourages the responsible consumption of alcohol. Please Gamble responsibly.

Contact Kirsty 0406 115 034 or John 0417 802 227

COME AND TEST DRIVE THE ALL

It has been an encouraging start for the Robe Professional Fishermen's Association as the local rock lobster season got underway, with the best start the industry has seen in years.

“Lobsters have been a bit smaller than it has been in the last two years,” said Processor Steve Hyland and fisherman Shayne Dening.

“It has been a really good start to the season with the fishers being able to fish with good weather, high prices and catches around 800g. The season at the Cape, but catches were slowing further down the coast. The season goes on. We have the lowest catch rate down here for this season so far.”

“We have the lowest catch rate down overseas market but it is still early to the season with high prices and catches to the season with $70/kg or better yet...the average for us so far has been that it has been in the last two years,”

Th e review estimates that the major challenge for the Robe population aged 70 and above was just one quarter of the number of the Commonwealth yardstick, lagging behind in terms of standards for aged care places.

The Robe population aged 70 and above was just 358.5 that same year, Wattle Lacepede, compared to 1000 population aged 70 and above was just 30 more places which was 30 more places for 2010.

But the notional places for aged care for the next 10 years, using ABS data for an ageing population, shows that Robe is already lagging behind in terms of one quarter of the number of an ageing population.

According to the current Commonwealth yardstick, which was 30 more places, which was 30 more places for 2010, using ABS data for an ageing population, shows that Robe is already lagging behind in terms of one quarter of the number of an ageing population.

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Jenni Ling, manager, Coastal Leader
LOXTON’S FIRST newspaper was *The Loxton Clarion*. It was first published in July, 1925, but ceased publication after just three years – a victim of the depression.

A monthly newsletter, published by the Loxton District War Memorial Community Centre Committee, was started in the 1950s. Issues usually comprised 12 pages and each contained a variety of local news and information. The final copy of the newsletter on file was published in February, 1960.

Soon after, on April 28, 1960, the first edition of *The Loxton News* was published, proclaiming on the masthead that it incorporated *The Loxton Community Newsletter*.

Published by J.C. (Jack) Irving, who owned a printing business in Berri, *The Loxton News* was distributed in Loxton and surrounding areas, south of the River Murray. Late in 1964 the newspaper was sold to *The Murray Pioneer* and relocated from Berri to the East Terrace premises it still occupies in Loxton.

At that time Denis Hann joined the family company and took over as editor when ‘Johnny’ Gurr became the ABC regional journalist with 5MV. He retired as editor in 2002, after nearly 35 years in that role, with Paul Mitchell succeeding him. Tess Fisher took over the post in September, 2006, and she was followed by Pat Koopman in March, 2008. Emma Walter has been the editor since June, 2010.

From late 1964 until the early 1980s the newspaper was printed at its East Terrace premises. Technological change saw newspapers adopt electronic typesetting and make-up in place of the hot metal process and while *The Loxton News* is still compiled at its Loxton premises it is now printed at *The Murray Pioneer* in Renmark.

*The Loxton News* building has undergone some external changes since it was built in the 1920s, but substantial alterations have been made to modernise the interior.

Published weekly, on Wednesdays, *The Loxton News* has a circulation of 2400 copies, with that figure increasing steadily in line with the gradual growth of the town’s population.

*The Loxton News* has won 24 awards in the annual Country Press SA Inc. competition, with 15 of those for the best newspaper in its circulation category (the first in 1963 and the latest in 2010) and the remainder for excellence in journalism, graphic design, advertising features and outstanding community involvement. The spread of those awards throughout its 50 year history indicates a continuing high standard by staff members.

*The Loxton News* has always been a strong and vocal advocate for the community it serves, with one example being its support for the Loxton Hospital board’s determined efforts to fight a State Government move to reduce the services provided by the hospital. The newspaper’s campaign, supporting the hospital board and the community, played a major role in achieving a satisfactory outcome.

*The Loxton News* circulates through the southern Riverland and northern Mallee where cereal growing, livestock and irrigated horticulture are the major primary industries.

Establishment of a major war service irrigation development in 1948 brought new families to Loxton, beginning another phase in the district’s history.

Sport plays an important role in community life at Loxton and *The Loxton News* has recorded the achievements of local stars, including Olympians Sophie Edington (swimming) and Grant Schubert (hockey), Magarey Medallists Russell Ebert and Grantley Fielke, and Crows star Tony Modra who are among the champions to emerge from junior sports ranks at Loxton.
January 14, 1965 – The River Murray at a low level

November 2, 1967 – Bert Eustice and son Ross inspect a wheat crop after receiving only 219 points of rain

January 9, 1969 – Alison Marie, the first baby of Mr and Mrs Barry Bott, was Loxton’s first baby for 1969

September 22, 1976 – Mascot Tony Folke leads Mick Fitzgerald on to the field for the team’s grand final winning match against Barmera-Monash

1960 advertisement for Holden
February 29, 1984 – Paula Wright crowned Charity Queen and Donna Hammerstein Mardi Gras Queen

July 9, 1970 – The tugboat Nalta Yuki towing a replacement ferry to Morgan past the Loxton riverfront

Nippy’s Juice Company, led by Jeff Knipsel, has been a key business in the region

March, 1967 – A joint celebration at the annual Country Press SA Inc. newspaper awards for brothers-in-law Denis Hanco, left, of The Loxton News and Darnley Taylor, of The Murray Pioneer

September 19, 1973 – Children stood knee deep in water by a sign near the Loxton Caravan Park
Loxton's Grant Schubert was part of Australian sporting history on Saturday morning when the national men's hockey team won its first Olympic Games gold medal.

Schubert, who shot into the side with a string of stunning performances late last year, was attending his first Olympic Games and was South Australia's only representative in the men's hockey squad.

Australia won the gold medal match by defeating the Netherlands 2-1 in extra time.

Schubert, who turned 24 just prior to the games, said the feeling of winning an Olympic Games gold is "just indescribable".

"I've had it for a couple of days and I still can't believe I'm an Olympic gold medalist," Schubert told The Loxton News.

"I can't believe it's all over and we've come here and done what we came here to do."

It is the first time an Olympic medal, of any sort, has been won by a Riverland sportsperson. Basketballer Pat Mickan and rower Robert Lang are the only other athletes from the Riverland to have competed at the Olympics.

Schubert, who is now based in Perth, said he was especially glad that his family had been there for the big game.

Continued page 2…
In a landslide result, the National Party’s Karlene Maywald retained the seat of Chaffey with an increased margin in last Saturday’s state election.

Mrs Maywald, who won a third term in office, dominated the voting, boosting her primary vote from 49.2 per cent at the 2002 election, to over 53 per cent this year.

With around 80 per cent of the votes counted, Mrs Maywald had received approximately 67 per cent of the two candidate preferred vote, against Liberal Party candidate Anna Baric (33 per cent).

Mrs Maywald said she was “overwhelmed” with the result, which comes after a mid-term decision to accept a ministerial position in Mike Rann’s Labor Government. Mrs Maywald believes having the River Murray on her ministerial portfolio swayed Chaffey voters in her favour.

Continued page 7…

It’s Maywald by a mile

Our golden girl

Former Loxton swimmer Sophie Edington displays her second Commonwealth Games gold medal, won in the 50 metre backstroke on Monday night. Edington won her first ever Commonwealth Games gold medal on Saturday night, in the 100 metre backstroke.

by Paul Mitchell

Loxton born and bred swimmer Sophie Edington won her second individual gold medal at the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne on Monday night.

After setting a new Games and Australian record to win the 100 metre backstroke final on Saturday night, Edington made it a golden double in the 50 metre backstroke on Monday, beating fellow Australian and pre-race favourite Giaan Rooney by one hundredth of a second.

“Saturday night was just unbelievable,” Edington told The Loxton News yesterday. “I knew I could do it, but it was a matter of putting it together on the night.”

Edington, 21, described her victory in the 50 metre final as “a bonus”.

“Me and (team-mate) Tayliah Zimmer just went out there to have fun, but I knew anything could happen, because 50s are just crazy events,” she said. “If you stuff one thing up, you’re gone…”

Edington, who grew up in Loxton and began her career at the Loxton Swimming Club, has been inundated with phone calls and messages from Riverlanders since Saturday night.

Continued page 5…

March 22, 2006
Fuel tanker explodes

In a dramatic and unexpected incident, a fuel tanker exploded yesterday morning on a rural road north of Loxton, causing widespread panic and damage to the surrounding area.

The fuel tanker was carrying a load of diesel and had been traveling on the road for several hours when it suddenly caught fire, sending black smoke billowing into the sky. Eyewitnesses described the scene as "horrendous," with flames engulfing the vehicle and spreading rapidly to nearby vegetation.

Local Emergency Services were quick to respond, and a large team of firefighters worked tirelessly to contain the blaze. The driver of the tanker, who was inside the vehicle at the time of the explosion, was able to escape without injury.

The road was closed for several hours while the incident was dealt with, and traffic was diverted to alternative routes. Local residents were advised to stay indoors and to avoid the area.

The cause of the explosion is still under investigation, and authorities are urging anyone with information to come forward. 

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Unassuming Ebert let

By Mark Shute

To the casual observer, Russell Ebert may appear unassuming, but to those who knew him well, he was the epitome of a dedicated and humble athlete.

Ebert's career began in the Riverland at the age of 16, where he quickly established himself as a key player for his local team. His talent was recognized by the Australian Football League, and he was drafted by Port Adelaide in 1980.

Over the next 17 seasons, Ebert played 392 games for Port Adelaide and became one of the club's most celebrated players, winning the Magarey Medal in 1971, 1974, 1977 and 1981.

Ebert was known for his work ethic and his ability to improve himself throughout his career. In 1986, he moved to the West Coast Eagles, and in 1987, he was traded to the Brisbane Lions.

Ebert was inducted into the AFL Hall of Fame in 1999, and his contributions to the game were recognized with the naming of the Russell Ebert Medal, which is awarded to the player of the year in the SANFL.

Ebert's legacy goes beyond his football career. He was a devoted family man, and he was a respected figure in the community, known for his generosity and his support of local charities.

Ebert passed away on December 27, 2006, leaving behind a legacy that will be remembered for generations to come. His spirit of determination and his passion for the game will continue to inspire future generations of athletes.
THOUSANDS of names and events have poured through the pages of *The Flinders News* in the past 43 years. In this time the communities of Port Pirie, Port Augusta and the Mid-North have flourished - and they are still proud to pick up the paper every Wednesday.

Covering a vast agricultural area, a large number of the readers have a keen interest in farming.

Between all the farming highlights, residents in the Mid-North have witnessed some sad events in their community.

One of the most notorious crimes in Australia’s history, the “bodies in the barrel” left Snowtown residents shaken in May, 1999 when dead bodies were stored in an old bank building in the town. Then in 2006, an explosion killed three people at a Gladstone explosives factory.

But in all the tales of glory and sadness, *The Flinders News* has proudly supported the region.

Today, the publication is circulated by Fairfax Media, the biggest Australian-owned media company. But it began on September 18, 1968, in the hands of an enterprising team at the small printing firm of Automatic Print in Port Pirie. Ray Naulty, Eric May and John Doney decided to print the newspaper in the “downtime” that resulted after the yearly rush to print school text books on their presses.

Mr Naulty’s son Peter, now of Adelaide, was aged about 12 at the time and recalls the ground-breaking idea of having a free newspaper. “Free newspapers were a relatively new concept in Australia. I think they originated in England,” he said.

“It was done with flat-bed printing and the blokes worked around the clock to get it out.

“The grocery store Jack the Slasher had expanded to Port Pirie and we had four and eight-page inserts in spot color and then yellow paper. “The newspaper circulated in Port Pirie and Port Augusta and across to Orroroo, Peterborough and Gladstone and, in recent years, Clare.

“The Clare council once wrote to us saying we were littering the streets with newspapers so Dad and I went down and delivered the newspapers personally in the ute.

“We used to have different front-page stories for Port Augusta, Port Pirie and Clare and over the ranges. The circulation was about 20,000.

“We were one of the first newspapers that started running four-color and we had a color picture on the front page.” He recalled then mayor, the late Bill Jones, who also wore “hats” at the ABC and the smelters, was the editor of the newspaper and wrote many reports. Other material was supplied by contributors.

Mr Jones also contributed to the country pages of *The Advertiser* for many years and the Radio 5AD news service where he gave regular voice reports on issues in the Mid North.

*The Flinders News* was sold to the Willson family, owner of *The Recorder*, in March, 1982, and in 1991 it was bought by Fairfax Media.

The cadet reporter involved in the newspaper war, Greg Mayfield, is now manager of *The Flinders News*.

“As a family we will always be reasonably proud of *The Flinders News*,” Peter Naulty said. “I guess it has a different strategic place because it fits in a pool of papers.

In those days it was head-to-head with the competition.”
January 22, 1969

Bill Jones, Mayor and editor

May, 1995 – Doll doctor, Kath Dunstan, of Port Broughton

1985 – Dirt bike action at the Crystal Brook Moto Cross
How the drama unfolded in sleepy Snowtown

A diary of events surrounding the bodies-in-the-drums case.

**Thursday** - Major crime task force detectives investigating missing persons files find six acid-filled plastic drums containing human remains in a disused bank vault in Snowtown.

Friday - Media representatives descend on the Mid North town as news of the discovery spreads around the nation. Police seize property from a house about 200m from the former bank building and escort an unidentified woman from the premises. She helped police with inquiries. Detective Superintendent Paul Schramm conducts a media conference in Adelaide. Detective Superintendent Denis Edmonds briefs Wakefield Regional Council chief executive officer Philip Barry and local residents on the investigation to dispel unfounded rumors.

Saturday - Detectives visit properties in the area as part of their investigations.

**Sunday** - Another body, wrapped in plastic bags, is dug up in a Salisbury North yard after police use ground-penetrating radar to pinpoint the location of the grave.

**Monday** - Police say they are looking for two more bodies which would bring the total of victims to 11 - the worst serial killing in Australian history. Task Force chart is formed to continue the investigation.

**Yesterday** - Unconfirmed report that police went to a farm near Port Broughton as part of their investigations.

1995 – The Laura Folk Fair, started by Dick Biles (pictured), was named Best Festival in the tourism awards.

November, 1994 – Zeshi Fisher, from Laura, took out the top prize in the Young Composers Awards.

Unwanted fame for Snowtown – May, 1999

May 25, 2011

It’s ‘cuppa’ time in Laura

November, 1994 – Zeshi Fisher, from Laura, took out the top prize in the Young Composers Awards.

May 25, 2011
September, 2006 – Astronaut Andy Thomas (right) at Balaklava Races with Phil Harris, of Port Broughton

September, 2006 – Southern Flinders Netball Club’s Debbie Palmer notched up 42 years with the club in August

May, 2006 – Mid-North residents were devastated when a blast at an explosion factory near Gladstone killed three people

September, 2008 – One-armed shearer Josh Talbot at Brulkie Farm, near Jamestown
December, 2009 – Luke Tapscott, of Orroroo, joins the AFL.

November, 2010 – Ruth Whittle re-elected to the District Council. She has served for the past 21 years.

February, 2009 – Konnor Hughes was one of many Quorn residents to dig deep to help the Victorian Bushfire Appeal.

May, 2006 – Peterborough soldier Private Sam Williams in East Timor.

November, 2010 – Koolunga farmers Shane and Craig Weckert getting ready for harvest.
September, 2010 – Southern Flinders players celebrate their grand final win against BMW

March, 2011 – Centenary of the Biodora Centre Hospital

Greg Mayfield – editor/manager of The Flinders News

October, 2008 – All the fun of the Melrose Show

April, 2011 – Laura Folk Fair feature
IN A DIMLY lit cellar beneath The Central Cash Stores of Millicent in June, 1891, Roland Campbell worked on producing the town’s first newspaper.

Originally from Robe, Roland’s schooling ended by the age of 10 when his father went bankrupt then had a serious accident.

At just 11, Roland began managing the family farm at Robe, then continued as a farm labourer around Millicent before becoming a builder, news correspondent for The Border Watch and store keeper.

Running his own store, in 1886 Mr Campbell purchased and began repairing an old broken printing press. His first newspaper was bedded down by July 10, 1891, and a single broadsheet began selling the next day.

Called The Millicent Times, Mr Campbell wrote in his news column: “OURSSELVES – It has often been expressed that Millicent ought to have a paper. An attempt is now made though in a very small way to carry this expression into effect, and it now remains with the residents of our town and district to say whether it shall be continued.”

With less than two news columns, most of the first edition was dedicated to advertising, particularly from his own store.

A scathing report soon appeared in The Border Watch, referring to the new newspaper as “Campbell’s Price List”.

One year on Mr Campbell wrote: “OURSSELVES – With this issue we commence the second year of our existence. During the past year we have endeavoured to do our best for the welfare of the community as a whole, leaving individuals to take care of themselves. We have not pleased everybody, and never expect to. Have had some little abuse heaped on us because we have not chosen to allow our pages to be the vehicle for venting personal spleen.”

Mr Campbell had a passion for agriculture and belonged to the Millicent Agricultural Bureau where he once produced jam made from a noxious weed, deadly nightshade.

He was considered an astute businessman, aware of the importance of primary industries and value adding for the wealth creation of his community.

In June 1894, Mr Campbell sold The Millicent Times to his brother, Donald, to focus on his farming enterprises. Donald changed the paper’s focus to include more politics, national and international news, but its primary content was information and events of Millicent and its outlying districts.

He was elected to State Parliament after selling the paper in 1905 to a local consortium called The South Eastern Producers, who employed a Victorian managing editor, Mr J.C. Harper. The Millicent Times was renamed The South Eastern Times in January, 1906, continuing its coverage of local and regional news as well as politics and national affairs, recording a circulation of 2500.

In April, 1906, Mr R.C. Mowbray was employed as managing editor, and acquired the paper in March, 1907.

An emphasis on reporting local news continued, correspondents were employed in most regional areas, and everything was considered news.

The SE Times celebrated 50 years under Mr Mowbray’s ownership before the reins were passed over to the late Mr R.L. (Bob) and Joan Chewings.

Under the ownership of managing editor Michael McRostie and his family, the SE Times celebrated 100 years in 1991.

Ironically, The Border Watch, which criticised the first publication, purchased the SE Times on October 31, 2006, under the guidance of its owner, the late Allan Scott AO, who also owned the Penna Pennant.

The paper circulates through a wide area including Tantanoola, Kalangadoo, Beachport, Southernport and Robe.
Beachport Miss Regatta competition in 1967

January 8, 1963

The South Eastern Times

District’s New Hospital Due June ‘64

The new Millicent & District Hospital is due to be completed in 12 months, according to the contract which is likely to be signed in the next few days.
1987 – John McAuliffe springs into action

January 4, 1955

Editor Janet Pool

A 1963 advertisement for the Ford Falcon

February 21, 1983

1977 – Extensions to the National Trust Museum opened.
Best club in State

BY SARAH DUFFIELD

MILLICENT Rotary Club had an extra 11 pairs of helping hands second place overall.

Students help out

BY SARAH DUFFIELD

The first day saw level one and two girls compete Andrews, provinces, communities. The club's centennial project has come a long way since the club commenced their task of building

Students receive road safety tuition

Opening Wattle Range Council meeting on July 4
July 31, 1966

Sounds of Music

Keep fish

Mobilgas Special

The South Eastern Times

Sad time for area as Ren passes away

2007 – Tribute to Ren DeGaris who passed away on February 5

Through Our Eyes > 100 years of Country Press SA Inc., 1912 – 2012

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THE COURIER in Mt Barker was first published as The Mount Barker Courier and Onkaparinga and Gumeracha Advertiser in 1880 by Charles Dumas.

Mr Dumas was nicknamed “the wily Frenchman” and, after beginning the paper at the age of 30, went on to become a prominent citizen of SA.

In his first editorial he wrote: “In Politics, we shall be liberal; - but while advocating to the best of our ability every measure likely to be of benefit to the District, we shall carefully avoid making our Paper the organ or any particular party of clique, and shall always endeavour to discuss questions coming under our notice, in an unbiased and strictly impartial manner, striving for the greatest good to the greatest number possible.”

He edited the paper for 50 years, was heavily involved in the local community and became a Member of Parliament in 1898.

One of his sons was Sir Lloyd Dumas who followed his father into journalism and was knighted for his lifetime of service to the newspaper industry after many prominent roles including being the managing editor of The Advertiser and later its chairman. Curiously, he never worked at The Courier.

The Courier changed hands twice after the death of Mr Dumas in 1935 and was sold to the Marston family, its current owner, in 1952.

Since that time a member of the Marston family has been at the helm of The Courier and the paper’s adherence to the philosophy espoused in that first editorial of 1880 has not changed. The paper is currently managed by Norman Marston.

The Courier prides itself on reporting the happenings of the district in an even handed manner but at the same time is prepared to fight tooth and nail for the betterment of its community.

The circulation area of the Adelaide Hills has changed dramatically over the years and the paper has had to keep pace in order to reflect its new readership.

The region was once widely regarded as the ‘food bowl of Adelaide’ with much of the district heavily involved in dairying, fruit and vegetable production or general farming.

There was also a solid manufacturing base with a woolen mill at Lobethal, a tannery in Mt Barker, abattoirs at Mt Barker and Nairne and cheese factories dotted about many of the surrounding towns. All are gone today.

The region was thrust, along with many areas of SA, into the international spotlight in 1983 when the Ash Wednesday bushfires tore through the district. A total of 75 lives were lost (47 in Victoria, 28 in SA) and hundreds of homes and businesses were destroyed.

The Courier has continued to grow with its community. In 2011, the paper completed the installation of a new press line capable of delivering full colour to every 24-page run.

It employs 30 full and part-time staff and has become an integral part of the Hills community - much as it was in the 1880s.


November 18, 1964 – Debutantes at Mylor Ball

January 26, 1966 – A diving exhibition at the Mount Barker pool

1880 advertisement

Frank Tisse Marston, purchased paper in 1952
Students given a fire safety spray

TOWN FOR TOMORROW

Schools, health and power head list of priority projects

Students given a fire safety spray

By Lisa Pahl

New school facilities, extra power stations and a hospital upgrade are being planned as the State Government and service providers prepare for more growth in Mt Barker and Nairne.

The proposed projects have been flagged with the Mt Barker Council by Government departments and other authorities as it prepares a plan to manage the region’s growth on the back of a boom in new residents, increased development and an influx of tourists.

They include a $3.3m new preschool at the Nairne Primary School due to open in February 2012, and a $2m redevelopment of the school itself, scheduled for June 2012.

A new $1m disability unit is also planned for the Mt Barker Primary School for January 2012.

The Department for Planning and Local Government (DPLG) highlighted the projects at a forum held by the council for Government agencies and developers in April, with details of the infrastructure needs posted on the council’s website recently. According to the DPLG, planning is also underway for the upgrading of the Mt Barker hospital.

Adelaide Hills Health Service director Nino Di Sisto confirmed works were being planned for the hospital.

“A $3.5m upgrade to maternity services is planned to start at the Mt Barker hospital in the financial year 2012/13,” he said. “Plans are also in development to expand the chemotherapy services at the hospital.”

Planning is also continuing for a GP Plus centre next to the hospital.

ETSA Utilities has revealed it will need two new substations built in the area – one at Mt Barker and another at Nairne.

June 1, 2011

June 10, 1998 – John Wamsley at Warrawong Sanctuary with rare red-necked pademelons

February, 1983 – CFS volunteers battle Ash Wednesday blaze

July 31, 1996
Planning Minister launches scathing attack on Mt Barker Council

The Mt Barker Council is "antagonistic" and "trying to frustrate good planning" by objecting to the State Government’s rezoning of 1300ha, according to the man responsible for the growth plan.

Planning Minister Paul Holloway hit out at the council, saying its objections to the plan at a Parliamentary hearing last week were "disappointing but not entirely unexpected".

The council was putting "its head in the sand" and that growth in the region was inevitable, he said.

The attack provoked an angry response from council chief executive Andrew Stuart and Mayor Ann Ferguson yesterday. Mr Stuart said he was "mystified" at Mr Holloway’s criticism.

"Any suggestion that the council is sticking its head in the sand or is not prepared to work with his determination (to rezone the land) is incorrect," Mr Stuart said. "What we are asking for is eminently reasonable."

Mrs Ferguson said Mr Holloway’s remarks "completely misrepresent" the council’s position on the expansion.

"The Minister knows very well that our council has from the start accepted that growth in Mt Barker and Nairne," she said in a written statement.

The war of words follows the council’s appearance at the Environment, Resources and Development Committee (ERDC) hearing at Parliament House last Thursday.

The council told the committee, which is the final body to consider the plan, that major changes were needed to the plan and, if they were not made, it should be scuttled.

Mr Holloway said the council’s arguments at the hearing were "yet another attempt ... to avoid planning for the future".

"If they had spent as much time working toward a positive outcome for the majority of their residents as they have trying to frustrate good planning, Mt Barker would be a far better place," he said in a statement.

He accused the council of "seeking to placate the noisy minority" and had "ignored the long-term interests of the thousands of people who have already moved into the district".

Continued page 4

Council calls for plan to be changed ... page 4

The Mt Barker Council is proposing to amend its "giving notice" section of its local planning framework to allow more time to be given to residents to respond to changes in the rezoning plan.

The council’s chief executive Andrew Stuart said a "no notice" or "minimal notice" section of the plan was "unworkable" and the council would not support any rezoning that was not "adequately consulted on in all the circumstances".

The council’s changes would ensure that rezoning was not "unduly delayed" and that residents were "fully engaged in the decision-making process".

The council’s changes would also ensure that rezoning was not "unduly delayed" and that residents were "fully engaged in the decision-making process".

February, 2011 – Oakbank action in the Great Eastern Steeplechase

April 27, 2011 – Oakbank action in the Great Eastern Steeplechase

Pool cool beats street heat

Beating the heat was the No.1 priority for everyone on Sunday and Monday as the temperatures soared into the 40s. Some, like Django Scott-Cowling of Nairne, sought respite at the Mt Barker pool while others, including this koala in Bridgewater, relied on the goodwill of locals to give them some relief from the heat.

By Lisa Pahl

Newspaper of the Adelaide Hills since 1880

January, 2010 – The Tour Down Under flashes by in the Hills

February, 1983 – Aftermath of Ash Wednesday fire near Bridgewater

February, 2011

THROUGH OUR EYES > 100 years of Country Press SA Inc., 1912 – 2012
The Courier manager, Norm Marston (left) and editor Ian Osterman

August 31, 2005 – Local and Australian cricket hero Shaun Tait

September 13, 2000
November 7, 2001 – Australian Democrats Leader John Coulter announces his resignation

January 24, 2001 – An Aldgate CFS volunteers puts all his weight into trying to open a fire hydrant point. A survey found 25 per cent could not be opened in the district

February, 1983 – A CFS volunteer rescues a goat during the Ash Wednesday blaze
THE BORDER WATCH was first published April 26, 1861. Its first owner, manager and editor was Janet Laurie who left Portland some months earlier with her two sons, Andrew 17, and James 15, to establish the new Mount Gambier newspaper. They had left Portland by bullock train, carrying a Columbian Press, handset type cases and a will to succeed.

The Laurie family hailed from the Scottish counties of Selkirk, Roxburgh and Northumberland, near the Scottish-English border. Because of the similarities between the Mount Gambier region and their former homeland and the fact it was also near a border they decided to call their newspaper The Border Watch.

A Scottish newspaper near Janet’s home town was called The Border Watchman and this was shortened to provide the name of The Border Watch.

In 1863, John Watson, who also came from Scotland, was working as a school teacher in Naracoorte and was approached by Janet Laurie to become a partner in the paper and its new editor.

For the next 116 years the newspaper had the prefix of Laurie and Watson on its masthead.

After a short time, Janet returned to live at Bridgewater and her elder son, Andrew, and John Watson became owners. Watson had a colourful and coveted career, serving as editor for 62 years until his death at 91 in 1925.

For a time he held the world record, in the Guinness Book of Records, as the longest-serving newspaper editor. He was also Mount Gambier’s first mayor in 1876 when it became a municipality. He also served a second term in 1900.

In 1925, John R Watson took over as editor, a position he held until 1941, meaning the two members of the Watson family had held the editorship position for 78 years.

Andrew Laurie’s son, Clarrie, took over as editor in 1941 and held that post until Stewart Kieselbach was appointed in 1955. When Clarrie died in 1958 he ended the 97-year association the Laurie family had with The Border Watch.

Reg Watson took over ownership and ran the newspaper until 1977 when he sold it to South East Telecasters, whose major shareholder was Allan Scott. Interestingly the Watson and Laurie families held numerous positions with various organisations in Mount Gambier, including the Chamber of Commerce.

Allan Scott took over as sole owner when he sold the television arm of the company to WIN TV in 1999. Following Allan’s death in 2008 the newspaper is now owned by daughter, Zena Winser, and son, Ray Scott.

The Border Watch has twice been judged South Australia’s newspaper of the year with a circulation of more than 6000 – the first in 2004 and the second in 2010.

As SA’s largest regional newspaper it is the only newspaper to be published four times a week.

For 150 years the newspaper can proudly claim it has remained under local ownership throughout that period.

Throughout its history The Border Watch has regarded itself as the “community watchdog” and has covered every organisation in Mount Gambier at some point during the last 150 years.

Today, under manager Tim Lewis, it remains possibly the fourth oldest business still running under its original name in Mount Gambier. It is understood the Mount Gambier Hotel is the oldest business still running under its original name in Mount Gambier. It is understood the Mount Gambier Hotel is the oldest such business (1847), second is the Federal Hotel, formerly the Farmer’s Inn (1856) and third is the South Australian Hotel (1860).
August 18, 1945

John Watson – editor for 62 years

July 9, 1887

Janet Laurie – founded The Border Watch with her two teenage sons
THROUGH OUR EYES > 100 years of Country Press SA Inc., 1912 – 2012

September 2, 1939

May 30, 1961

July 1, 1972
1 June, 1968 – Valerie Taylor dives in Pecaninna Ponds

March 13, 1937 – A car is hauled from the depths of the Blue Lake

August 16, 1960 – John Tremelling aims for the Olympics

It started in the army

Allan Scott, pioneer, truckie, self-made man

Allan Scott was a typist in the army during World War Two.

He was a risk-taker, but an ordinary bloke. In those early days Allan Scott was a typist in the army, where he met his wife, Margaret. His driving efforts won praise and he gained promotion, making the tough decisions. He was a good listener, an influential person, and one who always put his family first.

As an ‘ordinary bloke’, Allan Scott was always known as a ‘truckie’. He worked for K&S Corporation Limited, a large transport company, and was based in Mount Gambier. He was a risk-taker, but an ordinary bloke.

He continued to work for the company for the rest of his life, becoming a director and eventually passing on his business to his son, Ray. 

In the early 1950s, Allan Scott and his wife moved from Mount Gambier to Milang, where he started his transport business. He ran two transport businesses, and also had a fuel business when he took over Heggie’s Bulkhaul Ltd (now Scott Corporation). These companies formed the Scott Group of Companies and K&S Corporation was among the top 100 in Australia.

For many years the Scott family lived at Mount Gambier. Allan Scott built a trucking empire there, and also to Mount Gambier, where he built his empire, where the corporation called Allan Scott. It was his home, it was where he brought up his family and also to Mount Gambier.

Allan Scott was a legend in the trucking world because of his multi-million dollar business interests. Some say he was one of a kind. He was a risk-taker, but an ordinary bloke.

He resisted attempts to move his headquarters to capital cities, often saying, “with today’s technology, I can manage it from anywhere.”

He was a risk-taker, but an ordinary bloke. In those early days Allan Scott was a typist in the army, where he met his wife, Margaret. His driving efforts won praise and he gained promotion, making the tough decisions. He was a good listener, an influential person, and one who always put his family first.

In the early 1950s, Allan Scott and his wife moved from Mount Gambier to Milang, where he started his transport business. He ran two transport businesses, and also had a fuel business when he took over Heggie’s Bulkhaul Ltd (now Scott Corporation). These companies formed the Scott Group of Companies and K&S Corporation was among the top 100 in Australia.

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Allan Scott was a legend in the trucking world because of his multi-million dollar business interests. Some say he was one of a kind. He was a risk-taker, but an ordinary bloke.
KEEPING THE SOUTH EAST INFORMED SINCE 1861

Thursday, April 1, 2010

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NEWS

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A ‘DISGRACE’

for tomorrow’s Wrattonbully Cup

– Page 3
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INSIDE
TOMORROW

O’Connor hits turbulence after 34 years ﬂying high

528816

Glenys Heyward murder trial jury nds son and farmhand

GUILTY
MATTHEW Heyward was found
guilty of murdering his mother
as he stood before the Mount
Gambier Supreme Court jury for
the last time yesterday.
His co-accused, former farmhand Jeremy Minter, was also
convicted of murder as the jury
voted unanimously to ﬁnd both
accused men guilty as the seven
week trial came to an end.
Family and friends of the victim,
Glenys Heyward, linked hands
for support and some gasped and
sobbed as the jury forewoman
delivered the guilty verdicts.
Matthew Heyward looked at
the jury in disbelief, holding in
his emotion, while the pale-faced
Jeremy Minter stared straight
ahead with a muscle twitching in
his jaw. Minter’s distraught mother
broke down a few metres away.
Several jurors also became
emotional after the decisions were
heard.

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the beneﬁt of creditors and assess
whether the airline can viably
continue its current operations”.
“Hopefully that is good news
for passengers and we have the
support of CASA, and other suppliers to the O’Connor group, to
do so,” Mr Davies said, however,
he was unable to answer how long
O’Connor ﬂights would continue.
Continued page 2

500

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Augusta, as well as Mildura and
Mount Gambier services, which
have recently faced competition
from Rex airlines.
“The directors have formed the
view companies operating the airline are either insolvent or about
to become so,” Mr Davies told The
Border Watch yesterday.
He said his immediate priority
was to “identify and secure all
assets of O’Connor Airlines for

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TV GUIDE

Mount Gambier Today - Fine. High cloud. 22o – full report page 33

would continue and staff would be
retained in the short-term.
Colin Nicol and Mr Davies
- a partner of the Adelaide ofﬁce
of McGrathNicol - have been
appointed voluntary administrators to O’Connor Air Services and
other companies that operate as the
Mount Gambier-based airline.
The airline has provided regional
ﬂights for 34 years, with an exclusive licence from Adelaide to Port

BW458296

WEATHER

Email: jason@tbw.com.au
Email:
jason@tbw.com.au

A MOUNT Gambier institution
that provided commercial ﬂights for
more than three decades is facing
collapse.
O’Connor Airlines entered voluntary administration yesterday after
competition from larger carriers led

pJeremy Minter.

to a downturn for the business.
The airline has hit ﬁnancial ruin
after competition on key routes led
to price discounting, according to
administrator Sam Davies.
He said one-off maintenance costs
had also contributed to cash losses
and a buyer for the airline was now
urgently being sought.
“They have got behind and struggled ever since,” Mr Davies said.
However, Mr Davies said ﬂights

BW458734

•Full details inside.

Picture: ELLIE
TURNER.

BY JASON WALLACE

526726

pConvicted
murderer
Matthew
Heyward.

Airline collapse
pO'Connor Airlines entered voluntary administration yesterday after facing increasing competition from other carriers, including Regional Express (Rex), which stepped up Mount Gambier
to Adelaide services in July.

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April 1, 2010

November 22, 2007

April 16, 1984 – Hometown legend, Sir Robert Helpmann, returns to
Mount Gambier Civic Theatre

The Border watch editor, Jason Wallace (left) and manager, Tim Lewis

165
T HROU G H OU R E Y E S > 100 y e a r s o f C ou n t r y P r e s s SA I n c . , 1912 – 2012

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IN 1934, Maurice Parish purchased a one-man print shop, Bridge Printing Office, in Bridge Street, Murray Bridge, and established *The Murray Valley Standard*. Mr Parish was a former Member for Murray in State Parliament and served as the first Mayor of the Corporation of Murray Bridge. On November 23, 1934, *The Murray Valley Standard* first hit the street, giving the region its own voice.

The paper was printed using a flatbed hand-fed Wharfside press, which printed four tabloid pages at a time. The first print run of 400 copies was snapped up by readers, and by the end of the first year circulation had risen to 1000.

Mr Parish remained the proprietor until the unexpected sale of the business to the then current editor, Frank Hambidge, in 1950. Mr Hambidge had been the paper’s first editor from 1934 to 1941 before joining the Armed Forces and then the *Burnie Advocate* in Tasmania.

A cylinder Heidelberg press was purchased and installed in 1955, allowing the capability to print 4000 impressions per hour. By 1965, Mr Hambidge realised the business needed larger premises and relocated the newspaper and press to a property on Seventh Street.

A couple of years later, following 17 years at the helm, Mr Hambidge handed the reins to his son, Michael, in 1967. Frank and Michael both served as president of Country Press SA Inc. and were also made life members for their work.

In 1972, the paper’s popularity and demand grew, leading to *The Murray Valley Standard* becoming a bi-weekly, printed on a Tuesday and Thursday morning. This lasted only one year because of the threat of a possible shortage of newsprint. The following year, Bridge Printing Office purchased a two-unit Goss Community web offset press that was capable of printing 16 pages at a rate of more than 16,000 copies an hour. About three tonnes of paper was used a week, printing the *Standard* and two other newspapers. In 1981, *The Murray Valley Standard* went to a bi-weekly for a second time. As the number of printed publications at Bridge Printing Office increased, the press outgrew the Seventh Street factory, forcing a move to larger premises on Mannum Road in 1984.

Then, in 1988, Mike Hambidge and his wife, Dorothy, sold the business, with *The Murray Valley Standard* becoming the first regional newspaper in country South Australia, other than the *Stock Journal*, to be owned by Rural Press Limited. As more newspapers requested the printing services of Bridge Printing Office, additional web offset units were added to the original press until the company ran out of room again. After much planning, the current Adelaide Road site was opened in 2006 and now, under manager Trevor Channon, who is also president of Country Press SA Inc., prints 90 different mastheads including the *Australian Financial Review*, five bi-weekly papers, 21 weekly papers and a range of fortnightly and monthly publications.

The site is now highly regarded in the print industry for its size, technology and capabilities. In 2006, *The Murray Valley Standard* also became the first newspaper in the State to print full colour on every page.

*The Murray Valley Standard* has won numerous Country Press SA Inc. awards, including the best newspaper (circulation 2500-6000) seven times since 2004.

Over the years *The Murray Valley Standard* may have undergone literary and cosmetic changes, but in no way has it changed its obligation to the community.

It has survived because of the strength of the people and districts it serves.
March 5, 1937

July, 1965 – Public Health department X-ray trailer at Murray Bridge

May 18, 1962 – Telephone monitor Pam Armfield operates a demonstration model of an automatic exchange

July, 1988 – Glenys Davis, of Murray Bridge, with quadruplets Mark, Caitlin, James and Thomas

March 5, 1937

July, 1965 – Public Health department X-ray trailer at Murray Bridge

May 18, 1962 – Telephone monitor Pam Armfield operates a demonstration model of an automatic exchange

July, 1988 – Glenys Davis, of Murray Bridge, with quadruplets Mark, Caitlin, James and Thomas
September 12, 1968 – Freight train derailment at Westbrook Crossing, near Murray Bridge

1956 floods – E&W workers help local farmers sandbag at Jervois

October 12, 1972 – Dawn Andrae, Barbara Smelt and Sue Schubert enjoy snooker style golf during the Ladies' Fun Day
March, 1972 – Special free issue

March 6, 1974

1956 floods – Waters rise toward second-storey balcony of the Pretoria Hotel, Mannum

April 4, 2006 – Imperial footballer Matthew Floyd keeps his eye on the ball
A MAN FROM IRELAND was hospitalised after being stung by a jellyfish. The man, who was holidaying in the area, was treated by local doctors.

A girl was said to have been stung by a scorpion in a car park near the beach. She was taken to hospital for treatment.

A man was taken to hospital after being bitten by a snake while walking his dog in the area.

A woman was treated for a leg injury after falling down a flight of stairs. She was taken to hospital for treatment.

A child was taken to hospital after being stung by a bee while playing in the garden. She was treated for the sting and released.

A man was taken to hospital after being hit by a car while cycling on the road. He was treated for injuries and released.

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A woman was trat...
Ben is going ahead in leaps and bounds

By 

Ben has jumped and flipped his way from a bouncing baby boy to one of the best gymnasts in the world. Now he’s planning to join the circus.

In the past I’d just travelled with the gymnastics team but now there are divers and archers and world famous people wearing the same uniform,” he said. ""The lights, the crowd and the noise were like nothing he had experienced before. Struck with a bad case of nerves during his first routine."

""I think I was just trying to do my best routine I’ve ever done going to do the best routine I’ve ever done and I failed completely. I lost my balance, I fell off the trampoline and landed on the safety mats."

""I was really, really, really disappointed with myself,"" he said. ""I knew there were going to be kinks in the process."

""The commute isn’t too bad, he said, but after years of training, successful campaign at the Olympics. His parents diligently ferried the young man back and forth from Adelaide to keep him on track."

""Being a gymnast is in the blood,"" Ben said. ""We have a gym at home and I grew up in a trampoline and my parents used to take me to the gym when I was little."

""My Mum and Dad were brilliant,"" Ben said. ""They had a trampoline at home and I used to do all the basic tricks in the backyard."

""The first time I jumped was the first time I felt I could do something interesting,"" Ben said. ""I was able to make a name for myself and do something that I was passionate about."

""I’m a trampoline enthusiast and I want to share that enthusiasm with as many people as possible,"" Ben said. ""I love the thrill of competition and the feeling of accomplishment that comes with it."

""I’ve been working really hard on my technique and I want to make sure that I’m doing everything I can to get to the highest level,"" Ben said. ""I’m excited to see what the future holds for me.""
Mr Peake had a distinguished career in newspapers, being made an OBE in 1968 for his “service to the Country Press of Australia and the community.” He received his OBE from the Deputy Governor, Sir Mells Napier.

In an article for Through Our Eyes, Mr Peake says the future of country newspapers is assured because country people are interested in their community, the deliberations of their local government and the activities of their neighbours.

In 1979, his son Richard Peake bought the business, and many more major changes happened rapidly in the ensuing years as computers and other technology became more commonplace.

Changes included a large-scale renovation of the Smith St premises, the introduction and constant upgrading of computer systems and equipment, out-sourcing of printing operations to Murray Bridge and Mount Gambier, and finally the sale of the Herald – as well as the Kingston-based Coastal Leader and Bordertown-based Border Chronicle, which Richard Peake had also acquired in the years after buying the Herald – to Fairfax Media in September, 2010.

Mr Peake spent 31 years as editor and managing director after his father had held the roles for 21 years. Continuing something of a family tradition, Richard Peake’s nephew, Lee Curnow, took the role of Herald editor when Fairfax took ownership of the paper on October 1, 2010.

The Naracoorte Herald’s primary circulation area includes Naracoorte town and district, the farming areas of Lucindale and district, the major wine areas of Penola and Coonawarra, Padthaway and surrounds. It also circulates in the Victorian Border districts.

THE NARACOORTE HERALD was first published in 1875, but had only been up and running for a relatively short time before it was put out of business.

The Herald was initially a subsidiary of the Mount Gambier-based Border Watch, and was put together in a former National Bank building facing Ormerod St by Border Watch staff Messrs Mather and Caldwell.

Before long, Mather went into partnership with George Ash, who was a fearless reporter and became an outspoken editor. His writings were not always appreciated by their subjects – his readers, and in 1889 a sustained editorial attack on Mr Hutchison of Morambo, who remained a JP despite being found guilty of “dummying”, and who erected a fence and gate across the main road to Bordertown which infuriated Ash – resulted in a lawsuit against the newspaper.

The case, which created an enormous amount of interest in Adelaide and the local press, was decided against the newspaper and damages of 250 pounds plus costs were awarded, which, combined with expensive legal bills, forced the firm to close down.

Archibald Caldwell then bought the paper and continued as proprietor, in partnership with his brother Dugald, until his death in 1942.

In 1907, new premises were built for the paper on the Smith St site where the paper continues to be produced today.

Jim Thomson had been manager since Mr Caldwell’s death, and he bought the Herald in 1948. In 1955 photographs first started to appear in the paper.

In 1958, Harry Peake, who had been running the Mount Barker Courier, bought the business and installed machinery which at the time made the Herald the most up-to-date provincial newspaper of the time. He expanded the premises to include a sales department in 1965.

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September 12, 1955

Queen’s Scout
For Jamboree

June 5, 1967

February 17, 1983

1962 advertisement for Heard Bros
Padthaway farmer Tony Mackereth in one of his bean crops as the torrential rain halted for a moment yesterday morning.

The Naracoorte rain is also frustrating for farmers who have had over the past week - but farmers are rejoicing in the increased water supply. The region has experienced significant rainfall due to the wet May that allowed them to complete their post-emergent spraying program and the last few months to get the seeding season completed and that hard work has paid off.

Tony's season so far has been very successful due to the amount of rain the region had over the past month (May) allowed him time to get his timetable. Fortunately, the unusual weather allowed him to complete his post-emergent spraying program and the last few months to get the seeding season completed and that hard work has paid off.

We just didn't get our usual opportunities to control them in a land. "We just didn't get our usual opportunities to control them in a land. "We just didn't get our usual opportunities to control them in a land. "We just didn't get our usual opportunities to control them in a land.

"May was really dry but because of spraying crops for weeds. "We had to burn stubbles in May allowing us to control them in a land. "We just didn't get our usual opportunities to control them in a land. "We just didn't get our usual opportunities to control them in a land.

"The constant rain makes it hard to get out and do things," he said. "The constant rain makes it hard to get out and do things," he said. "The constant rain makes it hard to get out and do things," he said. "The constant rain makes it hard to get out and do things," he said.

"I hate to think how much has been spent on snail bait as well." The best solution for Tony was the use of mice bait for the first time ever this year.

"We had a few establishing problems but we had to use mice bait for the first time ever this year. We had a few establishing problems but we had to use mice bait for the first time ever this year. We had a few establishing problems but we had to use mice bait for the first time ever this year. We had a few establishing problems but we had to use mice bait for the first time ever this year.

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January 5, 1967

March 6, 1986

1986 – Harry (left) and Richard Peake promote Country Press Week at the Royal Adelaide Show

May 19, 1955

THROUGH OUR EYES > 100 years of Country Press SA Inc., 1912 – 2012
Bricey’s the man

December 2, 2010 – 670 people turned out for a fundraising event for motorcycle accident victim Charles Brice

1984 advertisement for Ford

2011 advertisement for Beeline

Naracoorte Herald editor Lee Curnow and manager Sue Waite
THE STORY of The Pennant began with publication of the first edition of Penola’s newspaper on July 25, 1946.

After lack of communication from Mount Gambier and Naracoorte was evident, Mr W. Erwin Thiele saw the opening to start a newspaper to service the town and local areas. The first edition carried a lead on plans to upgrade Penola’s Memorial Hospital, with the heading "Proposed New Building To Be Modern and Well Appointed."

Unlike a lot of papers which carried a Page 1 editorial or message for readers in their first edition, The Pennant delivered a low-key message on Page 4 under the heading: “Our First Issue.”

The message said: “This copy of ‘The Pennant’ comes to you with the compliments of the Editor. You will notice the spread of district news – all the matters in which you are naturally interested.

“The subscription is only 12/- a year, posted to any address in Australia...And you feel you have the news, the markets and all announcements of importance when ‘The Pennant’ is coming to you each week.

“It is people like you we want on our list, and apart from the regular news, there are many items that mean big savings – the bargain obtained through the columns of little Cash Advertisements; or the fine avoided by your being reminded that some licence is due for renewal.

“You receive more than a news service with your ‘Pennant.’”

Mr Thiele’s message to readers continued with a strong push for locals to subscribe. “Assure yourself that this journal will reach you regularly, by ordering your copy now – direct from this office or through your local newsagent,” it said.

“Every endeavour has been made to ensure a copy entering every home in Penola and district but if, inadvertently someone has been omitted, we would be glad to supply a copy on their advice.”

Mr Thiele’s message concluded: “We regret the delayed appearance of this issue but thank those who assisted us in helping to overcome some of the unexpected troubles which are probably incidental to a debut of this description.”

It was as important then as it is now that newspaper editors have the freedom and courage to write about local matters. New Zealander Kenneth Victor Dohnt, who took over the paper in 1950 and ran it until his death in 1971, was one such editor.

Mr Dohnt played an important role as owner and editor - being critical when necessary, as well as giving praise, to the district council. He was known locally as a man who worked tirelessly for the Penola Golf Club and generally was a person who became involved in community affairs.

Long-time employee and local Lyle Shurdington took over the paper in 1971, ahead of selling it to South East Telecasters, publishers of Mount Gambier’s The Border Watch, in October, 1978. Local businessman, Allan Scott AO, was a major shareholder in South East Telecasters.

Today, under manager, Tim Lewis, and editor, Jason Wallace, staff of The Border Watch deliver The Pennant to the Penola and district community and an advertising and editorial office is maintained in the town. The paper, owned by the Scott Group of Companies, circulates though the Penola district, Kalangadoo, Naracoorte, Nangwarry, Goonawarra, Comaum, Monbulla and Maaoupe.

Over recent years, Penola and the neighbouring wine region of Goonawarra has continued to generate significant stories, from the celebrations of the canonisation of Mary MacKillop just weeks after a tornado ripped through the town, through to ongoing successes for the wine industry as the area’s reputation grows internationally as a prime producer of cabernet sauvignon and other varieties.
September 20, 1973 – Prominent citizen Alf Dowelly says farewell

January 12, 1994

January 12, 2000 – Penola Lions Club president John Zwar shows Malaysian visitor Tan Lek Keong an Australian icon, the tractor

February 16, 2000

New arrival in Penola

THE PENNANT

Prominent Citizen Council Leaves Penola

Should Be Record Horses Entries

SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR BASKETBALL

Llama’s trek into S.E.

ABOVE: Pictured is Liz Carney with one of the llamas.

Casterton, Liz Carney, said the llama made an ideal trail companion. She said they walked east corner of Victoria, close to the tourist centres of Casterton, Portland, the Grampians and Hamilton.

It is also close to the South East of South Australia, to Penola and Mount Gambier.
May 5, 2004 – SA Police Commissioner Mal Hyde and Wattle Range Mayor Don Ferguson unveil a plaque in memory of Aboriginal tracker Alfred Ryan

January 28, 2009 – Corey Tomlins in action at last year’s Penola Show

February 7, 2007

June 6, 1973 – Sue Gupske plays one of the belles of San Domingo

June 7, 2000

June 7, 2000
LAST MEETING OF COUNCIL MEMORABLE

November 1, 1962 – Local girl Tricia Reschke is crowned Miss Australia

DEATH OF A PENNANT LEGEND

June 12, 1986

O.A.M. for former Mayor

May 24, 1990

A RIGHT ROYAL HONOUR

AN EMOTIONAL CLIMAX TO FRUITFUL WEEKEND

JUNE 25, 1997

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THE PENNANT

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THROUGH OUR EYES > 100 years of Country Press SA Inc., 1912 – 2012

THE PENNANT
Destruction

State Government pledges assistance

Teen charged with unlicenced driving

Saint delivers tourism blessing

Journey complete
THE BORDER TIMES – known as the ‘Voice of the Mallee’ – has been in the hands of only four families since it was founded 101 years ago.

Based in Pinnaroo for most of its existence, the paper serves the heart of the Mallee broadacre farming and grazing district. Located 243km east of Adelaide, Pinnaroo is a rural service town to many surrounding areas and is located close to the Victorian border. Industries include wheat, sheep for wool and fat lambs, potato growing, manufacturing and construction.

Advances in agriculture, both in farming methods and cereal varieties, and the never ending battle with soil erosion and dust storms, mouse and rabbit plagues, fires, drought, flooding and destructive storms have all been major issues covered in minute detail by the paper.

Some key developments covered in the paper’s early history were the first sheep sale at Pinnaroo on January 30, 1914, the first telephone service in Pinnaroo in October, 1916, and the official opening of the Pinnaroo-Murrayville railway on July 30, 1915.

The first owner was John Letheby, who died in 1922, just 11 years after founding what was then known as the Pinnaroo & Border Times. In the first edition on March 17, 1911, he wrote “To Settlers of Pinnaroo and the Victorian Border Districts.”

His editorial said: “The need of a local paper to give prominence to the interests of these great Wheat growing districts has long been felt and the proprietor of the “Times” trusts that the settlers and townspeople will give the new paper their united support and help in the work undertaken.”

The editorial promised: “The policy of the ‘Times’ will be fearless and outspoken when the occasion requires it.”

Mr Letheby appointed Mr W. O’Neill as manager from 1917 to 1921 and he was followed by Mr J. O’Dea until 1927. From 1927 until 1941 Mr Colin Letheby was manager. During World War II, Mr Eric Nilson managed the paper which was changed to a tabloid. It also underwent a subtle name change to the Pinnaroo Border Times.

After the death of John Letheby, his wife, Emily, continued to run the paper, covering the growth and expansion of the town and surrounding areas as land was opened up for farming.

In February, 1953, Mr Rob Wilson bought the paper which had not been published for eight months. His first edition was published on March 12.

The Wilson family involvement with the paper grew in 1959 when Rob’s brothers, Alan and Reg, became business partners.

Rob Wilson was a great advocate of buying locally and through the paper kept the issue in the public eye. In 1973 and 1974 the paper was awarded the Conqueror Trophy for the best newspaper under a circulation of 2500.

Robert and Beth Marshall became the third owners in October, 1985, when they bought out the Wilson family. However, Mr Reg Wilson continued to work at the paper which underwent another name change to The Border Times. In 1991, the paper received a commendation in the annual Country Press SA Inc. awards for the best example of effective journalism.

At the end of 2005, the Marshalls sold the weekly paper, published every Wednesday, to the Taylor Group of Newspapers which began publishing it from January, 2006. The office in Pinnaroo closed at the end of 2006 and operations continued from the office of the Taylor family’s Murray Pioneer newspaper in Renmark.

In 2009, The Border Times journalist, Deirdre Graham, won the Country Press SA Inc. award for best community profile.
THROUGH OUR EYES > 100 years of Country Press SA Inc., 1912 – 2012

April 7, 1911

October, 1923 – Buick cars leaving on a tour of the district

April 25, 1924 – Pinnaroo cricket team, premiers 1923-24

September 1, 1938 – Mr F.H. Edwards, Pinnaroo's first storekeeper in 1905

April 22, 1976 – Back to Murrayville celebrations

The paper's founders John Letheby and Mrs Letheby
December 7, 1975 – Border Musical Society Choir presents The Messiah

June 29, 1978 – Lameroo District Ambulance Service’s new Ford 100 multi-berth ambulance

April 20, 1978 – Wilkawatt tennis team, premiers Lameroo and District Tennis Association

June 20, 1963 – Flooded road and school grounds

June 30, 1993 – Mouse plague on Mark Fischer’s Parilla property

February 3, 1988 – Storm damage being repaired in Murraysville district
October 26, 1978 – Ngallo football team, premiers Lameroo and District Football League

October 25, 1951 – Mr P.J. Edwards opens the Pinnaroo Jubilee Show

October 24, 1989 – Chain-line scalder in processing shed at Kingdon Chickens

September 21, 2005 – Cowangie (pop. 5) pays tribute to hometown boy Larry Perkins

November 22, 1989 – Locals joined a rally on steps of Parliament House in Adelaide to protest against cuts to rural services

One of the first planes to land in the Murrayville district in the 1920s
Rarely will you find a home with this charm and character. Set on a large elevated allotment and ideally located, this beautiful home boasts 3 spacious bedrooms (master bedroom with ensuite), formal dining room, plus an extensive outdoor entertaining area with paved pergola. Wood combustion heating, ducted airconditioning and ceiling fans, large shedding with ample undercover parking, plus perfectly manicured lawns and a beautifully maintained garden (with automatic watering system) completes this appealing package.

Price: $245,000
Contact Julianne Chinner, Landmark Lameroo 0428 827 948

A Karoonda farmer's business venture has successfully taken on the 'big guns' to help farmers nation-wide, despite aggressive opposition from competitors. Leighton Huxtable's company, Direct Farm Inputs, has halved the cost of fertiliser since it began late last year – from $1600 a tonne to $800. Since announcing Direct Farm Inputs' entry into the fertiliser market, Mr Huxtable received a death threat which he suspects came from a rival company.

He says one such company's shares plummeted 30 per cent in one day. Mr Huxtable says the company, which he runs with Western Australian businessman John Hurley, is keeping farmers in business rather than lining corporate pockets. "It has turned non-viable farmers to viable farmers overnight," he said. "That's the sort of effect (the cheaper prices) have had. "We have put competition in the market...."We are buying on the world price, the same as everyone else, but we haven't got overheads like everyone else has. We're keeping it lean."

The first of three shipments is yet to arrive, but the company has sold approximately 90,000 tonnes of fertiliser to farmers across South Australia, New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia.

Mr Huxtable said he was "delighted" with the response from farmers.

(Continued page 2)
August 5, 2009 – 150th anniversary of signing of Kow Plains lease

June 8, 1989 – Murrayville locals, Andy Auricht and Chris Peers, win off-road racing championship at Murrumburrah

Former editor, Mrs Beth Marshall, who bought the paper with her husband, Robert, in 1985

July 18, 2007 – Work underway on the Mindarie Zircon Mine
THE TRANSCONTINENTAL owed its beginning to Mr and Mrs Reg Barclay who printed and published the North Western Star and Frome Journal at Wilmington from 1912 until late October 1914.

With Port Augusta growing rapidly, they decided to transfer their operations to the town and produced two weekly editions of their new paper, which they called The Transcontinental, before they sold the business to Messrs, J.E. Edwards and M.H. Hill, both of whom lived in Port Augusta.

The first two editions were never sent to the Archives in Adelaide and copies have never been obtained. The first edition recorded by the State Library is November 6, 1914.

The Transcontinental carried an endorsement that it was the only Federal newspaper in Australia. This probably alluded to the fact that at that time the Commonwealth Government was purchasing large areas of land, and homes, in Port Augusta in preparation for the advent of the Trans Australian railway.

Mr Edwards and Mr Hill were employees of the Port Augusta Dispatch (1877-1916) when they decided to leave to run The Transcontinental. Maurice Hill Jnr, who recorded the history of the paper wrote: “Because of his key position (as printer) Maurice Hill was allowed a ‘dispensation’ for a few weeks to work on both papers but Jack Edwards’ services were dispensed with by the ‘Dispatch’ and he was therefore able to devote his full time energies to the new venture.”

Until August, 1917, the North Western Star banner heading was used for the issues sent to Wilmington with The Transcontinental heading used on Page 3. The two headings were exchanged for the Port Augusta issue.

In June, 1927, M. H. Hill transferred to Port Lincoln to found the Port Lincoln Times. In the June 24 issue of The Transcontinental it was announced that the paper would be printed and published by Lindsay Gordon Riches.

From March, 1935, the reference on the front page title to the North Western Star disappeared. The new title appeared as the name printed across a map of Australia.

Mr Riches was elected to State Parliament in 1935 and the imprint changed to advise that the paper was printed and published by K.E. Miller and F.N. Higginson for Mr Riches. From September 23, 1938, a single sheet, printed both sides, appeared in the paper with the heading “Whyalla News.” The insert discontinued from April 26, 1940 when Jock Willson set up the Whyalla News. In April, 1951, it was announced the paper would be printed by Edwards (one of the early owners) and Riches – but Mr Riches took no active part because he was still an MP.

In 1956, The Transcontinental absorbed The Quorn Mercury – elements of which were still seen until the late 1980s with the “country” spread in the paper. For about two years in the early 1960s the newspaper was printed bi-weekly on Tuesday and Friday. However according to Maurice Hill Jnr, this was discontinued due to a nationwide credit tightening for advertisers.

Because businesses wanted to access bulk advertising throughout the region, there was a brief amount of time when The Transcontinental and the Port Pirie Recordermerged.

The two papers were discarded and replaced with The Northern Observer in July, 1971. This move was extremely unpopular with advertisers and readers and both papers went back to their former production schedules in September of that year.

Following this, in March, 1980, The Transcontinental office itself made the news, when a 51-year-old pensioner was charged with maliciously setting fire to the building. The attack caused between $12,000 and $15,000 of damage to the front office area.

In 1991, Fairfax Media took control of The Transcontinental when it purchased the interests of the Willson family’s Northern Newspapers Pty. Ltd.
March 15, 1940

The last coach to leave Port August West in 1914

August 27, 1934

On account of disposing of butchering business on the East-West line Mr Budge desires to notify his numerous friends that he has taken over the management of the Hannahville Hotel himself.


Port Augusta Experiences Its Worst Tidal Flood.

Fifth Test!

Our Winter Sale

Last Week

1912 – 2012
Local girl Rachel High heading for London

October 24, 2003 – Old and the new edge their way into Port Augusta

December 1, 2011 – Renovations of The Transcontinental opened by Mayor Joy Baluch, left, with Trevor McAuliffe, regional manager Fairfax Media and Transcontinental manager Jo McGrath

October 13, 1995 - New editor Michelle Piggott

January, 2004 – Christine Morgan with some of the original communications equipment still in use at the RFDS base.

February 4, 2004 – The first Ghan to Darwin rolls into Port Augusta.

January, 2004 – Celebrating 50 years of the SA section, RFDS.


Minister firm on water charges.
January 22, 2003 – Star Maker finalist Jake Nicholas

Local Kevin Freeman appointed to top judo job

February 16, 2009 – Local landmark, the Exchange Hotel, is demolished

Beer ad 2011
May 26, 2010 – Tribute to local sports star Kevin McSporran

A former managing editor, Mr Ray Edwards, who also served two terms as president of Country Press SA Inc.

Editor Seema Sharma

A 2010 profile of Mayor Joy Baluch

Gone but not forgotten

Kevin 'Mapsy' McSporran
1949 - 2010

A Joy to see someone tell it like it is
EUROPEANS settled Port Lincoln in 1839, the same year the State’s first country paper – the Port Lincoln Herald and South Australian Commercial Advertiser – was published.

The Herald’s first edition was printed in Adelaide and the second in a hut at Port Lincoln. The paper was short-lived, and in 1840 a co-owner, George Dehane, started a new title, The Adelaide General Advertiser and Port Lincoln Herald, which is believed to have closed in late October, 1840.

In 1904, the first substantial newspaper began when Captain David Drysdale, the proprietor of the Port Augusta Dispatch, formed the West Coast Recorder which was printed with plant and type from Port Augusta.

Maurice Henry Hill, who began the Port Lincoln Times, was an apprentice to Captain Drysdale in Port Augusta. Mr Hill travelled to Port Lincoln with the plant equipment for the Recorder, sailing by ketch.

During the journey, some of the type cases were roughly handled and the type was pied (the letters for printing became a jumbled mess).

The young Maurice Hill, then only 16 years of age, spent a few days at the bar of the Northern Hotel sorting out the type into its correct cases.

Mr Hill, together with J.E. Edwards, took over The Transcontinental at Port Augusta in November, 1914 and in the 1920s bought shares in the Recorder, then owned by Mrs Rebecca McGregor.

On August 5, 1927, with W.K. (Ken) Robertson, Mr Hill founded the Port Lincoln Times, and in 1939 they bought the West Coast Recorder. The Port Lincoln Times’ first premises were situated on Washington Street, near the current site of TAFE.

The original editor of the Port Lincoln Times was Mr Robertson, popularly referred to as Robby.

There have been only 11 editors of the Port Lincoln Times in its 75 year history.


War-time paper rationing and a labour shortage caused the Recorder to close in 1942. By 1955, the Port Lincoln Times had well and truly transformed into a family-run business with nine members of the Hill family working on site.

Brian Barnett, former Port Lincoln Times manager and editor, completed an apprenticeship as a machine compositor at the paper, beginning in 1968. He said the early newspapers used handset letters, which meant each individual letter in each word was painstakingly put onto the page.

“The process was automated when Linotypes were introduced,” he said. The Port Lincoln Times used Linotype systems up until 1976, when a Mergenthaler VIP typesetter was introduced.

Today, the Port Lincoln Times uses desktop publishing programs, which allow it to produce full pages complete with advertisements, news stories and photographs. In the halcyon days there were 28 full-time staff working on the paper. Now there are 10 full-time and seven casuals.

In May, 2009, the paper’s production department closed and all advertisement building was shifted to a production hub in Whyalla.

The Times, which was bought by Fairfax Media in 1990, has won numerous Country Press SA Inc. awards. It has covered many major local issues, in particular relating to the substantial farming and fishing industries and several major bushfires in which both property and lives were lost.
January 27, 1933

September 7, 1928 – Mr T. Raw drove his baby Austin from Brisbane to Adelaide in the record time of 5 days, 1 hour 43 minutes.

May 16, 1974 – Miss Australia, Randy Baker, plays the drums at an official luncheon.

September 5, 1946
September 7, 1961 – Johnny O’Keefe is mobbed outside the Civic Hall in Port Lincoln

December 13, 1990 – Local police get the speeding message across with their new radar guns

January 30, 1964 – SAFCOL staff measure and weigh the heaviest tuna (190lb) ever caught by a professional fisherman in Australia

Port Lincoln celebrates Makybe Diva’s third Melbourne Cup win in 2005

January 15, 1959 – The first house of its type erected in Australia, this 5 roomed timber home at Port Lincoln was built without nails and frames under the Totem system technique

Port Lincoln celebrates Makybe Diva’s third Melbourne Cup win in 2005
July 31, 1986

February 2, 1993 – The SAFCOL World Championship Tuna Tossing champions Lyn Reynolds, left, and Michael Proude

December 22, 1988

February 1, 2000 – Prime Minister John Howard and SA Primary Industries Minister Rob Kerin on a tuna farm inspection
No cancer cluster

By Bonnie Puckridge

An investigation into Port Lincoln High School staff concerns about a possible cancer cluster has recommended that the school’s indoor air level of biological spores found at the school could have contributed to a cancer cluster. According to the report, “It appears very unlikely that Port Lincoln High School staff members, or their staff members,” the report said.

The report said it appeared highly unlikely that Port Lincoln High School staff members, or their staff members, were in any way related to occupational exposures while working at the school. The report also holds for the school students, “Dr Tim Driscoll said in his report.”

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October 8, 2010 – The 225m grain ship Grand Rodosi hit and subsequently sank the Port Lincoln tuna boat Apollo S at the Port Lincoln wharf.
THROUGH OUR EYES > 100 years of Country Press SA Inc., 1912 – 2012
THE RECORDER has shared the community’s joys and trials during more than a century of proud service to the people of Port Pirie; and despite fire and flood, it has unfailingly carried news to its readers.

On July 9, 1898, the first edition of The Port Pirie Recorder was published by A.E. South and Charles Meyrick from an office opposite the Family Hotel on Ellen Street.

At first, they published on Wednesdays and Saturdays, but by April 6, 1914, Port Pirie had grown to a great industrial centre and the town was deemed right to produce a daily.

Linotype displaced the old hand compositor, and as the town expanded in size and importance, its paper grew in influence.

In 1923, Mr. Davidson departed for Adelaide to found The News, and The Recorder was acquired by the company he started: News Limited.

Change continued when The Recorder shifted to 52 Alexander Street in December, 1927, and its staff worked around the clock to make sure they did not miss an issue.

Horace Yelland and his company, Recorder Proprietary Limited, purchased the newspaper on December 1, 1931. Disaster struck again less than three years later when, on August 14, 1934, Port Pirie suffered the worst flood in its history.

Water swept through The Recorder’s office, and despite a lack of electric power, dauntless staff members still managed to bring out a makeshift news sheet the next day. By the following Monday, four days later, regular production had resumed. A second fire ravaged the premises, destroying a storeroom full of newsprint, shortly after widely-respected journalist C.P. “Cec” Murn became editor in 1941. But his guidance – and his columns “Busy Street, Quiet Corner” and “Mirror of the Years” – helped The Recorder during the following period in which it dropped back to three issues per week.

In the 1950s, The Recorder was sold at the gate to most of the smelter’s 2000 workers prior to clocking on every morning.

A succession of ownership changes ensued in the following decades. It was taken over by a partnership of R.M. and D.G. Edwards, W.J.C. (Jock) Willson and F.G. Ogg in 1954; the Edwards brothers bought out their partners in 1959; and Ray Edwards gained sole control in 1966.

In 1971, it was briefly combined with Port Augusta’s Transcontinental as The Northern Observer, then divided again and sold in 1974 to the Willson family company, Northern Newspapers Pty Ltd, which published the Whyalla News. The Recorder joined Australia’s largest rural media group in 1991 when all three Spencer Gulf newspapers were sold to Rural Press, now a subsidiary of Fairfax Media. At that time, it moved again to the premises it now occupies, along with The Flinders News: the old St Mark’s Primary School building at 103 Gerard Street.


In addition to gathering news, The Recorder has always endeavoured to react to the issues and fight for the causes of the community, recently led by managing editor and third-generation Piriean Greg Mayfield.

As the paper’s motto says: “You can’t beat a local.”
August 15, 1934 – Locals watch the floodwaters rise

August 15, 1934

1960 – Lead wheel workers at the smelters

1948 – Horses and carts were still used at the wharf to load ore bound for overseas

Mr A.E. South, co-founder of The Port Pirie Recorder
1964 – Brian and John Conden at Moyle’s ice factory

1968 – In November the last of the Goldtop Bakeries horse-drawn baker’s carts disappeared from the streets

1967 – A large crowd watches the last steam train to carry passengers down Ellen St

1950 – Prests’ Ltd with some of their merchandise presented on cars at the front of their store

1969 – BHAS workers loading lead onto ships
October 28, 1970 – A famous cricket match was played at Memorial Oval between an SA Country team that contained Six Pipers and the English side that won the Ashes.

1970 – Beach carnival at Solomontown Beach.

February 16, 1953

Mr Rob Kerin signs on as Premier in October, 2001

Our Premier
Former local boy makes it to South Australia’s top job

Don’t get caught with your pants down.

Through Our Eyes > 100 years of Country Press SA Inc., 1912 – 2012
July 9, 1998 – The Recorder celebrates its 100th birthday.

October 9, 1997 – Local boy Mark Bickley returns home with the AFL Premiership Cup.

1990 – Actor Keith Michell, originally from Warnertown, returned to Port Pirie to launch Port Pirie Proud, a promotional video.

Local identity Ken Madigan ... civic leader and sports champion.
$33m for smelter

International ‘heavyweights’ put us on track for future

The international Nyrstar says people’s expectations are raised but the site must operate safely.

‘Now what’s up, Docs?...University of Adelaide medicine students Hamish Eske, left, Katie Hondow and Michael Cilento are spending time in rural placements with local doctors. Have you met them yet? To read all about the new faces of medicine, simply turn to page 2.

GK RAMSAY BUILDING CO - LOCAL QUALITY BUILDER

Over 90 plans to choose from

Specializing in custom or owner designs

GK Ramsay Building Co - Local Quality Builder

JULY 13, 2008 – Port Pirie’s new skate park opens with Mike Pauley performing a backflip

2010 – The annual Blessing of the Fleet
THE MURRAY PIONEER, first known as The Renmark Pioneer, was established in 1892, and located in Thirteenth Street.

The first copy of The Renmark Pioneer rolled off the machine on April 9, 1892. It was a chromograph production printed from a hand-written original. From that date it was published weekly.

The paper was the brainchild of the co-founders A.P. Corrie and the Rev. J.G. Jenkin whose office was a tent in Thirteenth St where they housed their “press.”

It was a weekly newspaper until 1982, when it changed to a bi-weekly, printed on Tuesdays and Fridays. Its current circulation is about 6400 copies.

For several years the paper was printed in a new premise in Fifteenth Street and then at a site near the Renmark Hotel. In 1910, it was relocated to Rail Rail Avenue and is still published from there today. Its named changed to The Murray Pioneer in 1913, reflecting the regional coverage of the publication.

Greatly accelerated development of the irrigation area following World War I led to an expansion of the paper with the formation of the present company, The Murray Pioneer Pty. Ltd. in 1921, with Mr. H.S. Taylor as governing director and editor – a position he held until his death in 1932.

The Taylor family has been prominent in Country Press SA Inc., with four generations serving on the executive and four family members serving as president – W. Gilmore, Darnley, Paul and Ben. Mr Ben Taylor currently holds the position of chairman and managing director of the Taylor Group of Newspapers.

The well-equipped offices and outer walls of the present building were built in 1960 and several alterations and additions have been made since that time.

In 1978, the Cossar press, which had printed the paper for about 18 years, was replaced by a three-unit Goss Community web-offset press, capable of printing 24 pages in one run, at a speed of 14,000 copies an hour. The paper became fully paginated with colour and mono pages sent direct to an imagesetter.

In 2006, a further expansion of the press took place with the purchase of a Tensor ‘4 High’ unit from Chicago, USA. This required a larger pressroom and a substantial renovation and enlargement of the premises took place.

At the same time a computer to plate (CTP) unit was purchased which replaced the imagesetter. An identical unit was purchased at the same time by sister company JC Irving & Co enabling valuable back up for both businesses in times of breakdowns.

This further simplified the printing process enabling pages to be built on computer and sent in fours to the CTP unit to produce a press ready plate.

A year later another Tensor ‘4 High’ unit was purchased which is today combined with the first Tensor unit and two Goss mono units.

With the introduction of the world-wide web and internet service provider (ISP) ‘Riverland Internet’ was established late in 1995. It became the first ISP in the Riverland and The Murray Pioneer became the first paper in South Australia to have an online presence.

All six of the Taylor Group of Newspapers are printed on the presses at Renmark along with several other contract print jobs.


It has also won best supplement twice, best sports picture and best editorial writing.
September 10, 1892

The Renmark Pioneers’s first office was a tent

March 24, 1966 – Glossop High School prefects

Early advertisements in The Renmark Pioneer

Mr H.S. Taylor – bought The Renmark Pioneer in 1905

Mutual Improvement Society

The usual monthly meeting of the above society was held in the Wesleyan Chapel on Thursday evening Sept 14.

In the absence of the President Rev. J. Jenkins, Mr. Brown was voted to the Chair, and Mr. Brown was appointed Secretary for the evening. The new Secretary being also about the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. Subject for the evening, Introduction of Coloured Labor to Australia, by Mr. Story, was read in a clear manner, and evoked a deal of criticism. The following took part in the criticism: Messrs. Storey, Star, Pledge, Barrell, Mr. Isher, John’s, Barry, and Mr. Wilson assisted present.

The Story then replied to some length after which the meeting was pronounced and the meeting closed.

THROUGH OUR EYES > 100 years of Country Press SA Inc., 1912 – 2012
May 4, 1967 – Miss Industry entrants

January 16, 2010 – N’Hanced dance party near Barmera. Shaun Holmes, of Berri, makes a spectacular sparkler display

June, 1960 – Miss Australia, Joan Stanbury, visited Renmark

The Murray Pioneer

Introducing the New MORRIS “World” Models

NOW we can say definitely that we have a British Car absolutely suitable for Australian conditions. To the well-known reliability of the Morris has been added greater strength, greater cooling capacity, better suspension and every other feature necessary to meet our climate and road conditions.

Roadster
£215
Tourer
£220

A Service Organisation is being built up throughout the State and well backed by the great Cheesey Motors Organisation.

Local Dealer:
Chambers & Frank Prior,
RENMARK AVE., PHONE 249.
Weighed down with debts exceeding $22 million, Fletchers closed its doors for the final time in Berri at 5pm yesterday.
The company's remaining staff of approximately 100 people were informed of their fate on Wednesday, when creditors voted to liquidate the iconic Riverland transport business.
The scores of unsecured Fletchers creditors are unlikely to recover any of their money, while employees will need to rely on a Federal Government scheme to recover some of their entitlements.
Fletchers' assets are likely to be auctioned.
This week's outcome follows unsuccessful attempts to sell or restructure the Riverland-based Fletchers Group business, which included Fletchers Freighters, Fletchers Equipment and Fletchers Property.
Last week Fletchers' three interstate depots were shut down and 45 jobs lost, while managing director Barry Fletcher and his three children were made redundant last Friday.
The swift end to one of the Riverland's most well established businesses came after administrators were voluntarily appointed on March 28.
The unsuccessful attempt to sell the business as a going concern ultimately spelt its doom, according to administrator Sam Davies, of McGrathNicol.
"(It) leaves us with little alternative other than to close the businesses down," Mr Davies said.
Administrators concluded that a combination of factors had led to Fletchers' dire financial state, including the Riverland economy – in particular the downturn in the winegrape industry – and National Foods' decision to terminate its Berri operations.
The 51 creditors and observers at the Chaffey Theatre on Wednesday afternoon heard Mr Davies explain that administrators believed Fletchers had been trading insolvent from January this year through to March 28, when McGrathNicol was appointed.
(Continued page 2)
Hundreds celebrate Oz Day spirit in Renmark

By JUNDIEA ROLLAND

Hundreds of people gathered for a varied and colorful program to celebrate Australia Day in Renmark on Thursday.

The day began with a free breakfast delivered to Renmark Paringa Council workers in the council’s car park. Councilor Ray Robson, who is also a Rotarian, served the breakfast.

Dancing, music, and speeches were performed throughout the community, including Riverview School, the Renmark Club, and the Riverland Farmers’ Market.

Tommy Schubert, a former winner of the Australia Day award, gave the opening speech, highlighting the importance of celebrating this day.

“The speeches were well-presented and I think the award recipients felt honored and appreciative of the recognition,” said Mrs. Angove.

Winery to close after 90 years

Schubert’s Olympic wish granted

Former Renmark boy wins Academy Award

Local recall a ‘real gentleman’
Election.

Maywald returned.

‘Overwhelmed’ by victory

Mrs Maywald celebrated her win after Tuesday night’s storm.

Before the election Mrs Maywald held the seat of Chaffey with a 21 per cent margin, but now that she has won with a 16 per cent majority, she said her constituents were going to have to get used to the idea of a female MP.

‘I feel quite overwhelmed at the support I’ve had. I’m looking forward to getting on with the end of the week. Late yesterday, with a brain, Business, Consumer Affairs and Science and Information Economy portfolios. Mrs Maywald said she was confident of retaining the River Murray portfolio.

Grapes going to waste

More than 40 hours without power

Aussie Predator makes a mad of five cars during practice for the Monster Truck Ensemble

Blackout

Blackout

Margaret enjoying the easy life

December 21, 2007 – life out of the fast lane for former Mayor Margaret Evans.
THE ROXBY DOWNS SUN is a free paper covering Roxby Downs, the opal mining town of Andamooka, the rocket launching town of Woomera and the remote Far Northern Outback areas of South Australia.

The paper was founded as the Northern Sun by the Willson family in 1988 and was purchased by Fairfax Media in 1991. At one stage the Willson family, which started out in 1940 with the Whyalla News, owned nine newspapers across the state.

From its beginning right through to today, the newspaper has been produced by The Transcontinental team in the Port Augusta office. It began as an eight to 12 page paper and today has grown to 20 pages a week.

On January 24, 2003, the Northern Sun had a change of identity, with the first edition of the year launching its new name of the Roxby Downs Sun. Readers were informed through a front page notice about the changes to their local paper.

The statement assured readers that the newspaper would still “provide a strong and consistent community record of the events, the names, faces and achievers in the Roxby Downs region.”

For about a decade preceding the relaunch, the paper had been a smaller magazine size. The Roxby Downs Sun returned to the Northern Sun’s original size, which has remained unchanged in the years since.

In November of that year, the masthead changed from simple black newsprint to the striking blue and red title with the eye-catching yellow sun behind it. The masthead is still in use today.

The paper has a full-time journalist based in Roxby Downs and a full-time sales representative in Rural Press’s Adelaide office on Greenhill Road.

Unlike many country regional South Australian newspapers, the Sun is not the sole newspaper in its region. Since 2003, the Roxby Downs Sun has run in opposition with the council’s newspaper The Monitor.

Despite now both being free to the community, the Sun still thrives with a solid reputation for tackling the big issues facing the expanding region.

As the livelihoods of the main readership almost always are connected with mining – Olympic Dam and BHP Billiton have been intensively covered by the paper.

As the population in the region is very transient, there has been a constant flow of interesting characters sweeping through the mining town, providing an array of personalities and interesting characters to profile each week.

The Roxby Downs Sun has a strong future. With the expansion of Olympic Dam appearing certain to go ahead, the population of Roxby Downs and Andamooka are expected to double. BHP Billiton’s plans to expand the mine will generate thousands of new jobs for the region.

The company says up to 6000 new jobs will be created during construction, a further 4000 full-time positions will be created at the expanded open pit mine, and an estimated 15,000 new indirect jobs across the State will be created.

The jobs will be in a broad range of professions from construction and engineering to hospitality, transport, small business and more.

The Roxby Downs Sun will continue with its strong coverage of the area, providing hard-hitting, in-depth reporting as Olympic Dam expands to become one of the world’s greatest mines and a major economic driver for the State.
October 11, 1988

October 11, 1988

November 11, 1988

October 22, 1993 – Strike action moves into its seventh day at Olympic Dam mine

October 14, 1993 – General manager of Olympic Dam operations, Mr Ian Duncan, in front of the Whenan headframe

October 17, 1997 – New houses springing up at a rapid rate in Roxby Downs

June, 1992 – WMC’s Ian Lawrence, RDRC president David McNamara and John Brazel at Roxby Downs Racecourse opening ceremony

October 22, 1993 – Strike action moves into its seventh day at Olympic Dam mine

Testing transmissions of Roxby Downs’ new country radio station 105.1FM

Testing transmissions of Roxby Downs’ new country radio station 105.1FM
A top win at the State Tourism Awards

May 16, 2003 – The Olympic Dam mine site
Roxby Districts have broken their Olympic Dam hoodoo on the biggest stage of all, smashing the Devils 13.7 (85) to 2.6 (18) in Saturday's grand final. Following six straight years of elimination at the hands of Olympic Dam including five grand final losses, Roxby Districts finally seized their day, running all over the Devils' midfield on their way to the 67-point victory. For all the grand final coverage, see pages 19-20.
THE SOUTHERN ARGUS and River Murray Advertiser first hit the streets 146 years ago, in March, 1866.

Launched by Ebenezer Ward, it was published from The Globe Hotel in Freeling Street, Port Elliot, on SA’s South Coast.

The paper continued to be produced at Port Elliot for just over two years before its headquarters moved to Strathalbyn. It was first printed at Strathalbyn on April 18, 1868, and it is still published there today by the Jones family.

Being one of the first non-metropolitan newspapers in the state, the paper demanded quite a large circulation area in those early days, with reports of the paper being distributed to towns along the length of the Murray River as far east as Albury. This would probably justify early claims of it being the ‘River Murray Advertiser’.

The river in those days was the life-line of commerce for the areas it ran through and was competitively serviced by a large fleet of wood-fired, steam driven paddle boats and barges, some restored and in use today.

*The Southern Argus* has always been independently owned. Mr Joseph Elliott bought the paper in partnership with William Fisher in 1871. Mr Fisher did not stay long and when Mr Elliott died in 1883 the paper was run by his son, Joseph W. Elliott, who was a driving force in the formation of the Provincial Press Association of South Australian in 1912. He was president of the association in 1914-1915.

Mr Joseph W. Elliott, with his son, Cecil, was also responsible for starting the *Victor Harbor Times* in 1912. The *Times* is now published by Fairfax Media which bought it from the Wilson family’s S.A. Regional Media company in March, 1991.

*The Southern Argus* became a partnership when Cecil and Mr George Jones joined forces in September, 1940. Their partnership continued until 1969 when Cecil died. Since that time the paper has been published by the Jones family who have been involved with printing and the newspaper for four generations.

The family members have also been involved in the extensive revolution that has occurred in newspaper production, right through from the handset letterpress days to the present era of digital imaging and high speed offset printing.

Early editions of *The Southern Argus* were only four pages – about half of the paper was advertising, including most of the front page.

By mid-June, 1868, the date line of *The Southern Argus* read ‘Strathalbyn’, indicating that the headquarters of the Southern Argus Printing Works had been relocated to Commercial Road, Strathalbyn, where this beautiful building still stands today as commercial and domestic premises.

*The Southern Argus* carried both local and news from much farther a-field in June, 1868, and interesting news headings of this era included reports from the District Councils of Macclesfield, Yankalilla and Strathalbyn.

Correspondence was received from various people on a wide range of subjects, much like today’s ‘Letters to the Editor’ with Murray River trade and the proposed incorporation of Strathalbyn being issues of those days in mid-1868.

The 20th June issue of 1868 included articles titled ‘The Charms of the Trapeze’ and ‘The Transfusion of Blood’, the latter coming from *The New York Nation*, with a whole column of the issue devoted to the subject, the last paragraph reading: “There are 76 recorded cases of transfusion, notwithstanding the thousands of instances where it might have been serviceable; for wherever death threatens through loss of blood there is a possibility of saving life by this mode of treatment.”
Southern Argus Printing Works in the late 1800s

An intertype machine used for forming type slugs (lines of type) in the hot metal process

The Globe Hotel – site where first Southern Argus was printed

This advertisement is from mid-1868
Advertisements from The Southern Argus in 1868
'Rain Shadow' on their parched landscape.

Australia have been experiencing of late and 'Rain Shadow' at Callington, the southern areas of South Valley, 'Rain Shadow' is plains a short distance though now lives in Jilly (Victoria Thaime) the young assistant vet and Gus Howard producer of 'Rain Shadow' on the farming community Thaime) comes to work in having mostly brown no green anywhere.

Rain Shadows are pretty much all Callington, the farming district which is present suffering drought conditions and currently suffering. A number of local properties and people including Dalveen at Stroke have been used in the scenes, perfect for the scenes, having mostly brown drought conditions and present suffering. A number of local properties and people including Dalveen at Stroke have been used in the scenes, perfect for the scenes, having mostly brown drought conditions and present suffering.
Floods bring good with the bad

Some text about floods and their effects.

Rotary work with volunteers at Strathalbyn Museum

Text about Rotary work and volunteers.

War efforts remembered at Strath

Text about war efforts and remembrance.

September 16, 2010

Alexandrina Mayor Kym McHugh welcoming Sydney 2000 Gold Archer Simon Fairweather home to Strathalbyn

February 24, 2011

April 15, 2010
Hockey shocked at Goolwa’s water levels

While a recently announced regulator at Chapman is expected to bring water usage back under control, Goolwa rates are still being sought.

The Southern Argus, Thursday, July 2nd, 2009

Standing room only at Water Meeting

Around one thousand people attended the afternoon’s Water Meeting in the Strathalbyn Town Hall. Many sitting outside and those who did not have a seat were turned away.

The Southern Argus, Thursday, July 2nd, 2009

Unfinished business - job done!

Strathalbyn has unshocked business with Villages having given way to them in the Southern League and a strong vision for a future when they are part of the Derris project. The State Government is closely monitoring the impacts on the Lower Lakes and ensuring that the proposed licence will provide for all Victorian/South Australian and interstate water supplies.

The Southern Argus, Thursday, September 23rd, 2010

The current Southern Argus office

With producers not in mind, whether or not a temporary weir below Wellington is required will be decided in the near future. The State Government analyses seasonal water supplies and will ensure that the proposed licence will provide for all Victorian/South Australian and interstate water supplies.

The Southern Argus, Thursday, September 23rd, 2010

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THROUGH OUR EYES > 100 years of Country Press SA Inc., 1912 – 2012
THE BAROSSA AND LIGHT HERALD has a long history in regional South Australia.

It was born out of two papers – The Barossa News (established in 1908) and The Kapunda Herald (established in 1864) – which merged in May, 1951, to form The Barossa and Light Herald.

The Barossa News and The Kapunda Herald were quality country newspapers, printing news reports from settlements stretching across the region.

The Barossa News was founded by Mr J.B. Cant who hailed from Western Australia, where for many years he had been engaged in the newspaper and general printing business. The paper circulated in Angaston, Nuriootpa, Greenock, Lyndoch, Eden Valley and Murray Flat districts.

Mr Cant was a driving force in setting up the Provincial Press Association of South Australia in1912. He was the association’s first secretary.

Leslie Tilbrook, the nephew of Henry Hammond Tilbrook, one of the founding owners of The Northern Argus at Clare, took over The Kapunda Herald in September, 1923. He joined The Kapunda Herald staff in 1911, working his way up to become manager and editor in 1917. Under his guidance, the newspaper continued its strong focus on reporting news from Kapunda and neighboring towns. Restrictions on the availability of paper and labour during World War II saw the newspaper decrease in size and following the War it remained at just four pages.

During this period the increasing efficiencies of communication and greater mobility, coupled with the rural communities’ moves towards larger landholdings and decreasing populations, all contributed to the demise of many country newspapers – including the Herald. In 1951, Mr Tilbrook sold the newspaper; and it was combined with The Barossa News. The Barossa and Light Herald was then founded by John Liddy, of The Barossa News.

Early issues contained interesting local advertisements as well as many references to post-war issues such as security loans and national service. Obituaries of local identities, church news and weddings received detailed coverage in this period.

Like many country newspapers, sport was also given prominence in its columns. Today, the Herald, which is managed by Tony Swan and printed at Murray Bridge, continues to be a community voice for residents of the Barossa Valley, Gawler and surrounding areas.

Based in Tanunda, it boasts South Australia’s largest circulation figure for a country newspaper, with 21,400 free copies printed weekly.

Each edition is compiled by local employees, making sure the newspaper is available every Wednesday morning. The Herald has covered all major events in the area, including the 2005 North and South Para River floods, the 1994 Nuriootpa siege and the 2010 Kapunda triple murder.

It has also documented the many success stories of the region, including homegrown cycling world champion Jack Bobridge.

The paper is a strong supporter of the community averaging $20,000 each year in sponsorships, prizes and donations to local charities.

It is also one of only a few regional Australian newspapers that can be viewed in its entirety on-line.

Through the Real View program, readers are able to keep up-to-date with all that is happening in the Barossa, Gawler and surrounding areas even when outside of the circulation area.

The Herald is an award-winning newspaper – it won the Country Press Inc. award for best sports photograph in 2008 and 2009 and excellence in journalism in 2009. It also won the Older People Speak Out National Award in 2009. One of the Herald’s strengths is being part of the national Fairfax Media group, but make no mistake, the Herald is a local newspaper.
1908 – Advertisement for a universal liniment

September 30, 1939 – Local cricketer wins top cricket trophy. The record set in the 1938-39 season against Port Adelaide still stands.

1939 advertisement for Gold Medal Port
Editor Graham Fischer and Manager Tony Swan

Local sporting identity Brian Hurn at practice in 1967.
He played Sheffield Shield for SA
THROUGH OUR EYES > 100 years of Country Press SA Inc., 1912 – 2012

CRASH: Nuriootpa harness trainer-driver Marcus Hearl was counting his good fortune after a spectacular fall at Sunday’s Kapunda harness meeting. Hearl, 66, suffered bruising to a hip and his chest after crashing Fletcher’s Running Image in the Peter Lehmann Trot.

“This has been a long time coming and after all we’ve been through, when the wheels came apart my left wheel collapsed tipping me to the track. It was the first fall I’ve had in quite a while and I’m not in a hurry for another,” Hearl said.

The Kapunda club reported a capacity crowd for the eight-race meeting. The Holdings for both the on-course tote and two bookmakers were up on recent returns. The club’s main Cup meeting will be held on Sunday, March 8.

Bowls

Several surprise results as teams battle to secure a spot in the finals through all divisions plus some club championship results. See pages 28 and 29.

Tennis

Following heat and school holidays, everyone was back on the tennis courts last week. See all the scores and Barossa tables on page 31.

Cricket

The A grade one day final was played on Sunday with a comprehensive win. All the scores and tables from the regular rounds are on page 30.

Local sport

Starts page 28

• Bowls - 28
• Golf - 29
• Baseball - 30
• Cricket - 30
• Tennis - 31

Inside Sport

CITY DISCOUNT TYRES

8252 0899
23 Elizabeth Way, Elizabeth
www.citydiscounttyres.com.au

CRASH: Nuriootpa harness trainer-driver Marcus Hearl was counting his good fortune after a spectacular fall at Sunday’s Kapunda harness meeting. Hearl, 66, suffered bruising to a hip and his chest after crashing Fletcher’s Running Image in the Peter Lehmann Trot.

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May 4, 1994

August 17, 1988

July 7, 1982 – Catherine Schultz, the 1981 Barossa Valley Vintage Queen, flew to NZ as part of her prize.
The Advertiser. In one case, her bank given her $7000.

Police about Shirley Kennedy - the woman who tried to scam her community out of thousands of dollars. Mrs Kennedy's cause and interviewed her at her home on May 7.

Kennedy's call for sympathy. lent her own wigs to Mrs Kennedy out of cancer patient herself, said she even her actions. One Kapunda woman, a cancer patient, at a maximum of $250.

Cancer Council SA is unable to fund patients," Ms Miller said. "We are only seeking to validate the information from anyone in the medical facilities. Money raised on her behalf is now with her. She was arrested last Wednesday as she attempted to return to Shirley Kennedy.

Money raised on her behalf is now with cancer patient herself, said she even her actions. One Kapunda woman, a cancer patient, at a maximum of $250. Police said Mrs Kennedy claimed to have breast cancer.

Both have been bailed to appear in the Kapunda and Nuriootpa police now allege Mrs Kennedy claimed to have breast cancer. She willingly supplied new details, including the names of three doctors who provided records of information to Shirley Kennedy.

Mrs Kennedy's claim for treatment described was "misleading" to confirm they had not donated money to Shirley Kennedy. Two Sydney hospitals pointed out the Cancer Council had not had any suspects. "Cancer Council SA is unable to fund patients," Ms Miller said. "We are only seeking to validate the information from anyone in the medical facilities. Money raised on her behalf is now with her. She was arrested last Wednesday as she attempted to return to Shirley Kennedy. The paper then alerted police about Shirley Kennedy - the woman who tried to scam her community out of thousands of dollars.

Mrs Kennedy said the bill for her medical treatment at a Sydney hospital would be $7000. At the time she was being supported by her home on May 7.

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Ivan irate
No decision on his future

IVAN Venning, the member for Skilabert and state Liberal parliamentary Whip is not happy.

"I object to being called a time-waster," Mr Venning said.

"And I will not be bullied or cajoled by journalists in deciding my future in politics."

Mr Venning was responding to two recent articles in metropolitan newspapers which hinted he and several of his colleagues of "time-wasting backbenchers."

The articles suggested senior Liberals were privately urging opposition leader Jay Weatherill to engineer the swift retirements of long-serving MPs.

Mr Venning said he had not spoken with anyone within the Liberal Party about his future.

"I have recognised my experience within the party and the parliament by asking me to be the Whip in the current term," he said.

"It was not a position I sought but I was honoured to be asked."

"I have been a member of parliament for 16 years and currently have as much passion as I have ever had to represent my party and the electorate of Skilabert."

"I have been able convince my Liberal parliamentary colleagues to come to the Barossa Valley for three days later this month. They will be able to see first-hand our issues."

Mr Venning said he had made no decision on his future.

"The new boundaries will be released in a few weeks and maybe they could help decide my future."

"But at this stage I'm as keen as ever to work for my party and my electorates."

Ivan Venning

"At this stage I have no intention to retire but that may change over the next six to 12 months."

"There are many issues to be addressed within the Skilabert electorate and I intend to be in the front line fighting for improvements."

"I have the energy and desire to do the job and as long as I retain that, with the support of my family and the Liberal party, I will continue to work hard."

Mr Venning urged Skilabert electorates to approach him with any issues.

May 4, 2011

January 10, 2007 – Local MP Ivan Venning speaks out

January 19, 2011 – The Tour Down Under sweeps into Tanunda
THE TIMES was founded in 1911 and the first edition of The Victor Harbor Times hit the streets in August, 1912, after being printed at a Port Elliot printing office.

Victor Harbor’s new newspaper was sited in Railway Terrace, later moving to its existing Coral Street site. It was owned by Mr Joseph W Elliott, who was also the owner of The Southern Argus at Strathalbyn.

The first editor of The Victor Harbor Times was Mr Cecil C Elliott, son of Mr J.W. Elliott. In Strathalbyn in 1881, Mr Joseph Milnes started what was to be a 50-year career with the Argus and his son, Mr Herbert (Peter) Milnes, joined the business in 1911. Peter Milnes was transferred to Victor Harbor in 1917 and took over the business in 1922.

In the early days of the paper’s history, the newspaper was hand-set at Strathalbyn and the pages were sent to Victor Harbor by train for printing on the Dawson flat-bed Wharfside press.

But, during the days of World War I, the setting up and printing of the newspaper was started in Victor Harbor.

Hand-setting continued through the 1920s, although some copy was being machine set on linotype machines in Adelaide. In the early 1930s, the business acquired and operated a linotype machine and it was during this decade that hand-setting began to be phased out.

One of the early staff members of the newspaper was Arch Grosvenor, who joined in 1925, became editor at the age of 18 and left in 1938 to join The Murray Pioneer. He later joined The Advertiser in Adelaide where he worked as country editor. In his later years at The Advertiser he became well-known as its Bowls Writer.

Mr Peter Milnes’ son, Colin, joined the staff in the 1930s. During the paper’s 90th anniversary year in 2002, he recalled how, for many years, The Victor Harbor Times was a four-page broadsheet with few pictures as blocks had to be made in Adelaide and they were expensive.

In 1973, the paper made the transition from letter-press to offset production providing broader scope for the production of a brighter newspaper. From that time the paper ceased to be printed at Victor Harbor and was then produced to printing plate stage locally and printed firstly in Adelaide and later in Murray Bridge.

Today, it is produced to paper stage and sent electronically to Murray Bridge where it is printed as a negative.

Peter Milnes retired in 1978 at the age of 80 and Colin Milnes stood down in August, 1979, after more than 45 years with The Times.

His sons, Paul, Ian and Michael Milnes, fourth generation members of the family in the newspaper and printing trade, continued in the business until March 1, 1986, when the paper was purchased by Country Publishers Pty Ltd.

In 1986, the Willson family purchased The Times, under the company name of SA Regional Media.


Today, the paper ranges from 80-120 pages in full colour. The Times has seen strong circulation growth over the years, growing from about 3500 in May, 1996, to more than 7500 now.

In 1982, the paper won the Country Press SA Inc. award for the best newspaper (circulation under 5000) and repeated the feat in 1993. In 2007, it won best SA country newspaper over 6000 circulation.
February 2, 1983 – This 300kg sea turtle was found on Surfer’s Beach, Middleton

July 2, 1991 – Whale Watch co-ordinator Ian Milne completes installation of the whale siren

December 10, 1998 – Goolwa once again named SA’s Tidiest Town by KESAB

April 25, 1990 – the 75th anniversary of the Anzacs’ landing at Gallipoli

October 6, 1967
March 26, 1993 – Goorabbin Adventure Park marks its 10th anniversary with a stunt show.

February 5, 1988 – An agile Princess Diana springs from the steam locomotive at Victor Harbor Railway Station.

November 30, 2000 – Iris Wu, winning artist in the City of Victor Harbor’s logo competition. She is pictured with city manager Graeme Maxwell.

September 16, 1988 – Local boy, Greg Whittlesea, winner of the 1988 Magarey Medal in the SANFL.

Spring sale advertisement 1991.
April, 1973 – the first tabloid edition

March 8, 2002 – The Hindmarsh Island Bridge is opened by Dean Brown, MP

December 14, 1993 – Local MP Dean Brown is elected Premier

July 16, 1998 – Encounter Bay's Andrew Merret tries to get the ball in front of Victor Harbor's Jim Lihou

April, 1973 – the first tabloid edition

March 8, 2002 – The Hindmarsh Island Bridge is opened by Dean Brown, MP

December 14, 1993 – Local MP Dean Brown is elected Premier

July 16, 1998 – Encounter Bay's Andrew Merret tries to get the ball in front of Victor Harbor's Jim Lihou
Win tickets
• El Caballo Blanco
• Shirley Valentine

‘GOODBYE MAYO’
Downer stands down

October 15, 2009 – Owners of the Avondale Deli, Chris and Judy Sims and employee Karen Lester, with the SA Lotteries division one prize won on Saturday night

Local hope Alcopop with jockey Dom Toumaou prepares for the 2009 Melbourne Cup with a run on Goolwa Beach

Thursday, July 17, 2008

‘We want water’ - Goolwa

The candidates
• El Caballo Blanco
• Shirley Valentine
• Inside Fleurieu Life -

THE RACE BEGINS
FOR MAYO:
• The candidates
• Downer speaks

Classified:
Recognition for three local historic boats

WIN TICKETS:
• Downer stands down
• Shirley Valentine
• Inside Fleurieu Life -

Need a reliable Local people talk to their local legal experts.

Commercial law & business leases
• Wills and Estates
• Family/Defacto Disputes
• Medical Negligence
• For Work/Personal Injury
• Injury Suffered in Motor Vehicle Accident - Passenger or Driver

July 17, 2008

The government now needs to move into about the successful rally and saying the Murray Karlene Maywald, telling her pre pared a letter for Minister for the River Alexandrina Mayor Kym McHugh. Clark, who helped organise the rally said by Senator Nick Xenophon, State Member for Finniss Michael Pengelley, to crowed members as they were addressed

Hundreds of signs stating “Goolwa needs water now!” were waved amongst the government was listening. Let’s hope waving banners and chanting for more water is a hard sight to ignore. Let’s hope
Why was Ryan back in Goolwa?

Turn to page one of Sports Life for more

July 23, 2005 – Former local footy star Ryan Griffin returned home to present a NAR award package to the Saints Football Club

Night of violence

February 24, 2011

Two Courses

$25 per person

Lemon Thyme Chicken Breast - stuffed with roast capsicum & fetta cheese on scallop potato, finished with lime hollandaise

300gm Sirloin - cooked to your liking on scallop potato with garlic & parsley mushroom and shiraz glaze

Trio of Golden North Ice cream with chocolate dipped strawberries

2011 Valentine’s Day advertisement

Times editor Clair Thornites and former manager Carolyn Jeffery
THE RIVER NEWS was born from a “flood” of ideas.

Heavy rains and smaller floods in the years preceding 1956 contributed to the size of the historic “once in a lifetime” flood. Along with the flood came the necessity for communities like Waikerie to work closely to save life and infrastructure.

The River News became the local voice of widespread communication at a time when everyone needed to know what was happening and what to expect as the flood was about to peak in the weeks and months ahead.

The newspaper was established by Colin and Meg Hetzel, who had purchased the Waikerie Printing House from Harry Alchin and his family in late 1955.

They originally carried on the traditional printing of work ordered by local business with basic equipment comprising old hand-set type, a hand-fed platen and old ex-News Ltd, Warradale press used for larger work, and hand-operated guillotine.

Recalling his start at Waikerie, Colin Hetzel said he updated some of the equipment soon after arriving, adding an electric guillotine and a modern Heidelberg platen press.

“All went well until there was the 1956 flood – and we could see that this was our opportunity to publish a local newspaper, as the only local paper was The Murray Pioneer (based at Renmark),” Mr Hetzel said.

Having got the go-ahead from the Waikerie District Council to produce a newspaper, the first edition hit the streets on July 19, 1956.

Mr Hetzel was editor and printer and his wife attended meetings, took shorthand and reported on local events as well as proof-reading and office management.

“These were busy times, as we were raising a family of four children,” he said. “I had to get help, so I contacted Jack Pick who was a friend and linotype operator with News Ltd. in Adelaide.

“When Jack contributed his talents we enlarged the paper to a 12 pager and sometimes 16 pages and increased the size of the sheet.

“All went well, but after seven years I had to return to Adelaide for family reasons and Jack carried on. We sold out (business shares) to The Murray Pioneer in 1962.”

Remarkably, The River News has only had four editors in its history – Colin Hetzel, Jack Pick, John Pick and current editor Craig Treloar.

For John Pick serving as managing editor for more than 30 years was a rewarding experience, working with many people from all walks of life. During that time he has also served as a committee member of the Country Press Association of S.A. Inc. for 28 years. He served as president and was made a life member in 2003.

He was also a past chairman of directors of S.A. Country Newspapers Ltd. and served as an executive member of Country Press Australia. Despite his long and ongoing involvement at State industry level, he said his greatest pride was his local community.

One of the standout campaigns in his term was working with the community to retain the Cadell Training Centre.

There have been many issues over the years, the growth then roller-coaster ride of the citrus industry, the vine pull in the 1980s, the great years of the Waikerie Co-operative Packing Shed and then its demise, the prospect of a straight-line racing industry and its ultimate demise, development of the inland aquaculture industry, floods in 1956 and 1973 and the elongated drought of the early 2000s.

The paper won the best country newspaper (circulation under 2000) in 1971; the Conqueror Trophy for the best newspaper (under 5000 circulation) in 1975; the Ampol Award for best country newspaper (under 5000 circulation) in 1983; and the Country Press SA Inc. best newspaper (circulation under 2500) in 2007.

“Control of mice is a career crusher,” said Mr Caiica said. The government has sourced 200 tonnes of clean seed-quality grain as a cheaper alternative to sterilised grain for bait production, he made no promise that manufacturers will pass the savings on to farmers.

Mr Caiica said the government is in no position to provide direct support or encourage cheaper bait by giving more support to Natural Commercial Manufacturers, “The bait supplies are provided by commercial manufacturers,” he said. “While Mr Caica said the control of mice is a career crusher, the government last week refused to subsidise mouse bait.

BY VANESSA ILICIC
April 5, 1963

1963 – Construction is nearing an end on the Blanchetown Bridge which will cut travel time between river communities.

April 30, 1981

1956 floods – Two levee banks were needed to save the Waikerie Pumping Station

1956 floods – A house engulfed by floodwaters

1956 floods – A boat tied up outside the DeVito home

1974 advertisement for Waikerie Foodland

John Pick – third editor

Craig Tedd – current editor

Jack Pick – second editor


2011 – Waikerie boy Brad Helbig makes the big time playing for Richmond.


Mini cyclone leaves trail of destruction in town.

An electrical storm, accompanied by strong winds and rain, swept through the Waikerie district on Monday night, leaving a trail of destruction.

Continued on page 11.

TOP AWARD FOR RIVER NEWS

THROUGH OUR EYES > 100 years of Country Press SA Inc., 1912 – 2012
March 14, 1990

1969 Waikerie High School Class 1A

March 2006 – Member for Chaffey, Karlene Maywald, celebrates her re-election with husband, Dean

July 19, 2006 – Waikerie’s “favorite son” joins an elite club
1956 floods – The distillery surrounded by floodwaters
WHYALLA’S OWN newspaper was born after several months of a special Whyalla section being included in the Port Augusta weekly newspaper, The Transcontinental.

The first edition of the Whyalla News was printed on April 5, 1940. Volume 1 Number 1 was a four-page broadsheet publication costing two pence and with a circulation of 400.

The newspaper was published by the partnership of Edwards and Willson from a small tin shed in Patterson Street, Whyalla, and printed by The Transcontinental.

On July 18, 1941 came the first issue of the Whyalla News, printed in Whyalla.

With the decision to print the paper in Whyalla, came the first big expansion in staff and facilities. From 18 months of being a one-man business in a tin shed, Mr W. J. C. (Jock) Willson was joined by his partner Mr J. E. Edwards at the new Randall Street address.

Developments came quickly with the growth of Whyalla, but the newspaper’s expansion was handicapped by severe war-time restrictions on newsprint.

In the mid-1950s, the Whyalla News partnership bought the Port Pirie Recorder. By 1957, the Randall Street premises were no longer able to handle the growth of staff and machines so the business acquired the Forsyth Street property, with the move taking place in March, 1958.

In the 1970s and 1980s the Whyalla News expanded its media empire, taking over newspapers in Cleve and Port Augusta and was instrumental in launching the monthly regional magazine, Scope.

In the late 1970s and early 1980s, the Whyalla News expanded its stationery department and launched into the field of office furniture and equipment. The company, Northern Newspapers Pty Ltd, was created in 1979.

In 1981, between the five separate papers, nine issues were printed a week, and combined they had a circulation within the region of 61,500 a week.

The company grew to employ more than 90 people and was the largest family-owned provincial organisation in South Australia. Jock Willson’s sons, Craig, Donald and Richard, were key players in the media empire. Don Winton was the longest-serving editor, starting in 1956 and finishing at the newspaper in 1979.

In 1991, Rural Press bought Northern Newspapers Pty Ltd, as part of its takeover of SA Regional Media Limited.

In 2009, the press at Whyalla was shut down and all printing was moved to Murray Bridge.

Instead of a printing hub, the Whyalla News became a design hub with the introduction of Think Design and Print in 2009. The production hub in Whyalla looks after all the pre-press needs for nine newspapers in South Australia.

Over its seven-decade history, the Whyalla News has covered many major issues in the city including the launch of the first ship from the Whyalla shipyards in 1941 to the construction of the steelworks between 1958 and 1965.

A Royal visit guide was produced and inserted into the Whyalla News for the Queen’s first visit to the city in 1954.

The Whyalla News also covered the tragic Whyalla Airlines Crash in 2000 which resulted in the death of all eight people on board.

March 14, 1958

On the campaign trail in 1968 – Premier Don Dunstan and local MP, Mr Loveday, with pilot Mr Vic Crouch at Whyalla Airport

March 1968 – Premier Don Dunstan opens Westland Shopping Centre at Whyalla Norrie

Craig Willson

Jack Willson – founder of Whyalla News

About 2000 people turned out to watch a race between two circus elephants at West Oval
An historic day for Whyalla – Mrs Ekblom served as Mayor from 1975 to 1991

March, 1986 – The Queen and Prince Phillip welcomed to Whyalla by Mayor Aileen Ekblom

March 26, 1954

Australian anti-submarine and mine sweeping vessel, HMAS Whyalla, launched on May 12, 1941

Mrs K.T. Gardner with daughter Janet
Mr Fred Ogg, a driving force in the expansion of the Willson media empire

February 20, 1968 – Carol Irons, one of six female taxi drivers to start duties in Whyalla

Advertisement April 5, 1940

April 20, 1970

Richard Willson
Editor Sara Garcia with Think Design & Print manager, Michael Hansford

Barrie Robran says …. ABILITY AND PACE WON FOR WEST

Pace and the ability to look for players ahead were the major factors in West's victory, a defeated Newts Robran told me after yesterday's grand final when narrow favorites North were well and truly beaten.

Robran, twice winner of the State's top football award, the Magarey Medal, watched the Dongara-Magpie's clash at Bennett Oval, with a special eye for his, young brother Rodney, this year's winner of the Whyalla News Medal.

Barrie a former North player, said for too long young players were under-valued. "They should be encouraged to have this mindset, that hard work will ultimately pay off," Robran said. "But a young player must be smart to know when he is ready to make the jump into first grade." He also reminded us that the Dongara-Magpies had won six in a row, and the WPI Magpies only one, in the second division, 1919. They could, he said, play this division with pride and pride.

June 2, 2000

1970 – Magarey Medal winner Barrie Robran returned to Whyalla to watch his old team in the grand final

June 9, 2000
July 24, 2008 – Tribute to long-serving editor Don Winton who held the position from 1956 to 1979

Youth stabbed

March 3, 2011

Stolen fishing gear rules teen out of snapper competition

September 21, 2010

‘Rare’ opportunity

Whyalla chosen for billion dollar rare earth processing plant
Welcome to the wild, wild wet
Bumper rains bring joy as Katherine gets October tail swing in on the week

Women on Wheels
A Workshop for Motoring Women.

Jalyn Ford, Lot 2398 Victoria Highway, Friday 21st October, 5.45pm for a 6pm start. 8.30pm finish.

THE FIRST ISSUE of the Katherine Times was 16 pages and 5000 copies were circulated free-of-charge throughout the Northern Territory Outback town of Katherine on June 16, 1983.

The operation consisted of four staff, a cutting board and typesetter as the tools of trade. From those small beginnings, the Katherine Times has developed into a 32-page publication occasionally increasing to 40 pages during the busy time – the Dry season in the middle of the year.

Today, 4000 copies of the Katherine Times are printed weekly at the NT News in Darwin and make their way across the Territory from the regional hub of Alice Springs in the south to Darwin in the Top End, Timber Creek, Pine Creek, Tennant Creek and Kununurra in Western Australia and stops in between. On the masthead it says that it is “available throughout most other centres in our great Northern Territory.”

The Katherine Times was the brainchild of Vince Fardone who felt there was a need to give Katherine and surrounding districts a newspaper which would present local news and views in a matter which would both inform and entertain.

“A large factor in the decision was the support and expression of confidence from people in the town and immediate district,” Mr Fardone said.

The Katherine Times was started in a partnership of Vince Fardone and John McDonald and the office was located in the centre of Katherine Terrace, opposite the now 5 Star Supermarket.

They moved to the current location at Shop 3, South Gate Shopping, Katherine Terrace, in 1987.

Vince Fardone and his wife, Jill, were the sole owners of the paper for 23 years when they sold the paper to Fairfax Media on October 21, 2008.

The staff employed by Mr Fardone have been kept on under Fairfax Media, with Duana Job as manager and James Howe as journalist. Two new staff were employed – Sheena Drennan in advertising and Michelle Carpenter as receptionist. The paper also has a new editor, Mark Wilton.

The Katherine Times focuses on many local issues including policing, all levels of government from local council to federal, rural matters, community events and much more. The Katherine Times also has many contributors to the paper with a strong following in the sport section.

The town of Katherine, nestled on the banks of the Katherine River which turns into a raging torrent in the Wet season, is a major centre for the cattle industry and it also one of the Territory’s key tourism areas, featuring Katherine Gorge and Edith Falls which form part of the vast Nitmiluk National Park. The gorge area of the park attracts tens of thousands of visitors every year during the Dry season.

The biggest event to ever hit the Katherine Times was the 1998 flood which happened on Australia Day. More than two metres of water went through the office of the Katherine Times, destroying the computers, papers, records, photos, negatives – you name it, it was lost. There were even reports of huge crocodiles swimming in the main street.

Tell us how to honour Cadel

Duty and 6 months NT registration.

3.0lL Turbo Diesel Engine • 4x4 shift on the fly
• Electronic Stability Control (ESC) • 6 Airbags including side curtain airbags • Cruise Control • USB and iPOD compatible

Another UFO

Pussycat Flats

National Parks under new management - page 2

TERRITORY DIESEL

Damsels in no distress: Morag Bitossi, Kim Fountain, Jocelyn Moir, Shannon Wooldridge, Tilly Todhunter, Vicki Higgins, Jenny Duggan and Sharon Ephgrave weren't too worried that no horses showed up for the annual Pine Creek race day.

Full leather plus $$$$$ more in extras!

Hell of a night for Katherine region teachers

400 jobs if old gold mine opens

Suspect death on Gorge Road - page 5

400 jobs if old gold mine opens

Stunning turnaround in live ex debate

400 jobs if old gold mine opens

400 jobs if old gold mine opens

Library

400 jobs if old gold mine opens

400 jobs if old gold mine opens

400 jobs if old gold mine opens

400 jobs if old gold mine opens

400 jobs if old gold mine opens
THE BARRIER DAILY TRUTH has been serving the remote New South Wales mining town of Broken Hill – just across the SA border – for 114 years.

The paper, which is a member of Country Press SA Inc, is unique in that it is the only daily Labor Party and trade union movement newspaper in the world.

Owned by the powerful Barrier Industrial Council, the Barrier Truth started as a weekly news sheet on January 8, 1898. Ten years later, on November 2, 1908, it became a daily and its masthead changed to the Barrier Daily Truth.

Over its remarkable history it has recorded the highs and lows of the mining industry which has been Broken Hill’s lifeblood.

When it was first published as a weekly, the paper proclaimed itself “the official organ of the Barrier District Assembly of the PLL” (Political Labor League). In July, 1899, it was labelled the “official organ of the Barrier District Assembly of the ALF” (Australian Labor Federation) because most unions were supporting the paper.

At the start of World War I, the Amalgamated Miners’ Association (AMA), which had earlier subsidised Truth, took it over from the Barrier Labor Federation and its local unions, because it was the only organisation that had the funds to sustain the newspaper.

In May, 1962, the Barrier Industrial Council (representing all unions) took the Truth over from the Workers’ Industrial Union of Australia (WIU of A), which was derived from the original AMA.

When the Barrier Industrial Council took control on May 14, it set up the BDT Board of Control as the managing body of the paper on its behalf. Alan Green, an experienced city journalist, was appointed managing editor and in his first edition he made a strong declaration on behalf of the unionists of Broken Hill.

“Every unionist in Broken Hill today becomes a shareholder of the Barrier Daily Truth,” he wrote.

“That is because this issue marks the launching of a carefully-planned enterprise, which the Barrier Industrial Council has undertaken in partnership with the members of its constituent unions.”

Mr Green continued: “In the past, the Barrier Daily Truth has fought the good fight, and has achieved many notable victories for this city and its residents.

“In the future, the Barrier Daily Truth, under community ownership, will become an increasingly powerful bulwark against injustice of any description. The paper will strive always to defend and advance the interests of Broken Hill and of the paper’s owners – you, the chap next door, and the man you meet in the street. With its enlarged circulation, the Barrier Daily Truth is an exceedingly valuable asset to the businessmen of this city. Its circulation penetration cannot be matched, so, as an advertising medium, it stands supreme. “The Barrier Daily Truth is truly a paper of the people, produced by the people, for the people.”

The May 14 edition also carried a message from the BDT Board of Control and the Barrier Industrial Council executive. They said they wanted to convey to all affiliated unions “their express desire that the acquisition of BDT as an all-union newspaper will prove a medium for the protection and advancement of the unionists and citizens of Broken Hill.”

The Barrier Industrial Council’s message remains the same today.
Barrier Truth opening 1905. It became the Barrier Daily Truth in 1908.
little over 12 months.

will opens its doors in a new, state of the art chartered with news that guarantee the future of multidisciplinary, team-clinics) provide integrated health services for locals”.

“deliver better access to the GP Super Clinic would Nicola Roxon, who said for Health and Ageing echoed by Federal Minister Menzies continued.

“deserve it,” Dr Menzies of Broken Hill and they Triumph picture, this clinic is a triumph for the people of Broken Hill and they have a positive impact on the residents of BH will be the big winners.

the residents of BH will be been chosen, but believe that their organisation has standably “very excited” Rosalind Menzies and Dr (OFP) co-owners Dr Outback Family Practice ing a facility in South BH. With OFP submission BIG PLANS:

Outback Family Practice c-owners Ros Menzies and and Funmi Komolafe. As forecast in the BDT

A key platform to help

importantly, both clinic-äreals,” Dr Menzies said.

We envisage that a location and we will need to develop that opposite the hospital. Dr Menzies said.

up by the end of the year," and the building should be under construction by next March.

We have already knocked down two build-ings at the Thomas Street

location and we will need to develop that opposite the hospital.

Dr Menzies explained the super plan to be a “hub and spoke” model with its headquarters in Thomas Street located at Outback Family Practice in Thomas Street square metres.

We expect to start construction by next March.

CT scan and ultrasound

include plans for a radiol-ogy rhymes and stories.

recital poetry, nurs-

Eisteddfod youngsters And the kids ran away with the show

Yesterday at the

TODAY: 22°

BROKEN HILL

TODAY: 17°