



## When everyone wants to read *yesterday's news*

Newspapers, not surprisingly, have become the most popular avenue of public historical research. Not only are they crammed with contemporary information, much of it nicely packaged and easy to use, but they allow researchers to get the flavour of life as previous generations knew it.

**T**HE HOCKEN LIBRARY has one of the best collections of newspapers in New Zealand, naturally strong in southern titles, but also including a good range from other areas of New Zealand and overseas.

But be warned! Newspapers cannot magically solve all research problems. Many small newspapers have not survived at all. Worse, the chemicals used in early woodpulp newsprint of the 1880–1940 period have left the surviving newspapers so brittle that, until they can be microfilmed, their use must be limited — in some cases restricted altogether. This can be a frustrating handicap for researchers.

Before tackling the Hocken newspaper files, talk to the reference librarians. They may be able to suggest quicker and simpler ways of finding the information you want.

### The 'Union List of Newspapers'

Overleaf are tabulated summaries of newspapers held by the Hocken. For a full list of surviving newspapers held throughout New Zealand, consult Ross Harvey's comprehensive *Union List of Newspapers preserved in libraries, newspaper offices, local authority offices and museums*. First published in 1987, it superseded the earlier *Union Catalogue of Newspapers*, compiled by G.H. Scholefield in 1938, and later revised in 1961 and 1985. It lists exactly which issues survive, and where you can find them.

### How best to use newspapers

1. Newspapers are published, shelved and filed by date. When you know specific dates, newspapers can usually offer good, quick results. But to search without dates can be as time-consuming and ineffective as searching haystacks for the proverbial needle. Always try other avenues first to narrow your search area.

2. Indexes to newspapers are patchy. The monthly publication *Newzindex* lists business and commercial articles in the *Dominion*, *N.Z. Herald* and *Auckland Star* after 1979. From 1988, the National Library database INNZ has listed major feature articles in the *ODT*, *Press*, *N.Z. Herald*, *Evening Post*, *Dominion*, *Sunday Times* and *NBR*. Card indexes to the *ODT* exist at the Dunedin Public Library and the Daily Times library, while the Hocken Library is working on a computerised index to

*ODT* headlines from 1946 to 1980. Useful, though incomplete, indexes exist for the goldfields newspapers and the *Otago Witness*. Consult the reference librarians about what indexes are available.

3. When following special lines of research, you can save much time by learning each newspaper's 'rhythm'. Daily and weekly features, sports or business columns, regular local body meetings and advertisements all develop a pattern. In the *Otago Witness*, in particular, note the section which presents news from country centres in alphabetical order.

### Genealogists and newspapers

The main lines of family research, through birth, death and marriage certificates, should be carried out before any thought is given to newspapers. But once a family's shape is known, and those crucial dates are available, newspapers can assist in many ways.

Birth notices and obituaries are self-evident. Children can often be traced for several years through school prize-lists. Sports pages, cricket scoreboards in particular, help track men who might otherwise have little prominence: and women, too, in more recent times. Societies and clubs report their office-bearers and activities. Lists of voters, subscription lists and competition results cover many names.

Don't overlook the advertisements when researching those in trades and businesses; and remember that specific buildings, including private houses, can often be traced through the advertisements calling for tenders. Shipping notices can include passenger lists, and also the cargoes indented by individual businesses. Court reports and inquests not only help with specific inquiries but often give a sharp picture of social realities.

### Microfilms and bound volumes

Requests for newspapers may be made at the Reference Desk on the 5th floor. Some newspapers are available on microfilm. Microfilm readers are easy to use, but if you are not familiar with them, Hocken staff will be pleased to help.

Bound newspapers need proper handling. Please ensure they are opened flat on a firm surface; and that pages are turned carefully and unhurriedly. Do not mark, cut or tear newspapers in any way.

# THE NEWSPAPERS OF OTAGO-SOUTHLAND

*Hocken Library holdings are **printed in bold***

## Dunedin

	<i>Dates of publication</i>	<i>Dates held by Hocken</i>
<i>Beacon</i> , see <i>Otago Workman</i>		
<i>Budget</i>	1887	
<b><i>Christchurch Star</i></b> ( <i>Dunedin edition</i> )	1980	1980
<i>Daily Advertiser</i>	1871	
<i>Daily News</i>	1886	
<b><i>Daily Telegraph</i></b>	1856–1864	1856–1864
<i>Dunedin Advertiser</i>	1862	
<b><i>Dunedin and Districts Mirror</i></b>	1978	1978
<b><i>Dunedin Gazette</i></b>	1973	1973
<b><i>Dunedin Leader</i></b>	1863–1867	1863–1864
<b><i>Dunedin Photo Review</i></b>	1962–1967	1962–1967
<b><i>Echo</i></b>	1869–73, 1880–1883	1869, 1880
<i>Evening Independent</i>		
<b><i>Evening Mail</i></b>	1866–1867	very incomplete
<b><i>Evening News</i></b>	1862–1864	very incomplete
<b><i>Evening Star</i></b>	1863–1979	1872–75, 1905–10, 1914–22
<b><i>Evening Tribune</i></b>	1876–1879	very incomplete
<b><i>Illustrated N.Z. News</i></b>	1868–1887	1868–1887
<b><i>Illustrated New Zealander</i></b>	1866–1867	1866–1867
<b><i>Magnet</i></b>	1893	very incomplete
<b><i>Midweek / Weekender</i></b>	1979–today	1979–today
<b><i>Morning Herald / Globe</i></b>	1877–1893	1877–1886
<i>Morning Star</i>	1872–1873	
<b><i>New Zealand Forward</i></b>	1935–1936	1935–36
<b><i>New Zealand Life</i></b>	1992	very incomplete
<b><i>New Zealand Sun</i></b>	1868–1869	very incomplete
<i>Otago Colonist</i> , see <i>Daily Telegraph</i>	1864	
<b><i>Otago Daily Times</i></b>	1861–today	1861–today
<b><i>Otago Guardian</i></b>	1873–1877	1873–1877
<b><i>Otago Mail</i></b>	1864–1868	1864
<b><i>Otago News</i></b>	1848–1850	1848–1850
<i>Otago News Letter</i>	1864–1867	
<b><i>Otago Witness</i></b>	1851–1932	1851–66, 1883–1932
<b><i>Otago Workman / Beacon</i></b>	1884–1907	1904–1907
<b><i>Penny Post</i></b>	1879	microfilm only, very incomplete
<b><i>People's Journal</i></b>	1893–1894	1893–1894, microfilm only
<i>Pictorial New Zealander</i>	1888	
<b><i>Sandfly</i></b>	1875–1876	very incomplete
<b><i>Saturday Advertiser</i></b>	1875–1893	1875–1880
<b><i>Saturday Review</i></b>	1864–1871	1864–1871
<i>Sketch</i>	1896–1898	
<b><i>Southern Mercury</i></b>	1874–1877	1874–1877
<b><i>Star Sports Special</i></b>	1909–41, 1946–1979	very incomplete
<b><i>Weekly Budget</i></b>	1893–1909	very incomplete

## Dunedin Suburban

Green Island	<b><i>Greater Green Island News</i></b>	1959–1973	1959–62, 1969–1973
	<b><i>Green Island Gazette</i></b>	1975–1985	1975–1985
N.E. Valley	<i>North-east Valley Weekly Advertiser</i>	1881–1882	
Pine Hill	<i>Pine Hill News</i>	1958–66, 1968–1976	
Port Chalmers	<b><i>Port Chalmers Independent</i></b>	1882–1884	very incomplete
	<b><i>Port Chalmers Pilot</i></b>	1964–1966	very incomplete
South Dunedin	<b><i>Southern News</i></b>	1955–1956	1955–1956
Wakari	<b><i>Wakari News</i></b>	1947–1972	1947–1972, about 75% complete
	[ <i>Rothesay News</i> and <i>Coastal Observer</i> have been produced as newsletters]		

## Otago-Southland

Alexandra	<i>Alexandra Herald</i>	1899–1948	1903–1939, microfilm
	<i>Central Otago News</i>	1948–today	1967–today
	<i>Central Sun</i>	1982	
	<i>Otago Central Leader</i>	1881–1882	very incomplete
Arrowtown	<i>Lake County Press</i>	1871–1928	1880–1928, microfilm
Balclutha	<i>Clutha County Gazette</i>	1881–1887	very incomplete
	<i>Clutha Leader</i>	1874–today	1967–today; earlier very incomplete
	<i>Clutha Times</i>	1878–1879	very incomplete
	<i>Free Press</i>	1891–1926	very incomplete
Bluff	<i>Bluff Press</i>	1908–1931	very incomplete
Clinton	<i>Popotunoa Chronicle</i>	1881–1888	very incomplete
Clyde	<i>Dunstan Times</i>	1864–1948	1866–1948, microfilm
Cromwell	<i>Cromwell Argus</i>	1869–1948	1869–1939, microfilm
Gore	<i>Gore Standard</i>	1887–1910	very incomplete
	<i>[Mataura] Ensign</i>	1878–today	1883–1939, microfilm; 1967–today
Invercargill	<i>Bulletin</i>	1864	1864
	<i>News Sports Special</i>	1952–1966	
	<i>Southern Cross</i>	1893–1946	
	<i>Southland Daily News</i>	1861–1968	1863–69, 1873–80, microfilm
	<i>Southland Herald</i>	1971	
	<i>Southland Times</i>	1862–today	1869–1945, about 75%; 1967–today
	<i>Southland Times (afternoon)</i>	1968–1976	
	<i>Southlander</i>	1862–1930	very incomplete
	<i>Table Talk</i>	1933–1935	
	<i>Weekly Times</i>	1866–1933	very incomplete
Kurow	<i>Waitaki Beacon</i>	1970–1971	1970–1971
Lawrence	<i>Tuapeka Press I</i>	1866–1869	
	<i>Tuapeka Press II</i>	1883	
	<i>Tuapeka Recorder I</i>	1865–1867	1865
	<i>Tuapeka Recorder II</i>	1896–1900	
	<i>Tuapeka Times</i>	1868–1941	
Manapouri	<i>Manapouri Messenger</i>	1967–1969	1967–1969, about 75%
Milton	<i>Bruce Herald</i>	1864–1971	1864–1971
	<i>Bruce Standard</i>	1869–1882	very incomplete
	<i>Milton Gazette</i>	1971–today	1971–today
	<i>Milton Mirror</i>	1905–1910	
Mosgiel	<i>Plainsman</i>	1960–1964	1960–1964
	<i>Taieri Advocate</i>	1881–1916	1881–1900, 1904–1912
	<i>Taieri Herald</i>	1962–today	1962–today
Naseby	<i>Mt Ida Chronicle</i>	1869–1926	1869–1926, in microfilm
Nenthorn	<i>Nenthorn Recorder</i>	1889–1890	1889
Nokomai	<i>Nokomai Herald</i>	1871–1872	very incomplete
Oamaru	<i>North Otago Standard</i>	1876–1913	
	<i>North Otago Times</i>	1864–1932	1876–1887
	<i>Oamaru Mail</i>	1876–today	1967–today
Oban	<i>Stewart Island Chronicle</i>	1920	
Orepuki	<i>Orepuki Advocate</i>	1901–1928	1904–1905
Otautau	<i>Otautau Farmer</i>	1909–1939	
	<i>Otautau Standard</i>	1905–1946	1910–1911
Otematata	<i>Otematata Chronicle</i>	1960–1968	1960–1966
Owaka	<i>Owaka News</i>	1932–1936	very incomplete
Palmerston	<i>East Otago Review</i>	1968–today	1968–today
	<i>Palmerston-Waikouaiti Times</i>	1875–1917	1877, 1879–82, 1888
Queenstown	<i>Lake County Mail</i>	1947–1948	
	<i>Lake Wakatip Mail</i>	1863–1948	1863–76, 75%; 1880–1939, microfilm
	<i>Mountain Scene</i>	1972–today	1972–today
	<i>Wakatipu Advertiser</i>	1984–1989	
Riversdale	<i>Waimea Plains Review</i>	1892–1896	
Riverton	<i>Riverton Times I</i>	1864–1868	
	<i>Riverton Times II</i>	1899	
	<i>Western Star</i>	1873–1942	1873–1939, microfilm
Roxburgh	<i>Mt Benger Mail</i>	1880–1941	1912–1940, earlier very incomplete

	<b><i>Mt Benger News</i></b>	1960–1995	1960–1995
	<b><i>Teviot Herald</i></b>	1896	very incomplete
Tapanui	<b><i>Tapanui Courier</i></b>	1876–today	1876–today
Tuatapere	<i>Tuatapere Guardian</i>	1914–1928	
Waikouaiti	<b><i>Waikouaiti Herald</i></b>	1864–1876	1864–1865
Waikaia	<b><i>Waikaia Herald</i></b>	1882–1883	very incomplete
Waimate	<b><i>Waimate Advertiser</i></b>	1898–today	very incomplete
	<b><i>Waimate Times</i></b>	1875–1922	very incomplete
Winton	<i>Winton Record I</i>	1897–1951	
	<b><i>Winton Record II</i></b>	?1974–today	1976–today
Wyndham	<b><i>Wyndham Farmer</i></b>	1895–1955	1922–1950; earlier very incomplete
	<b><i>Wyndham Herald</i></b>	1895–1940	1938; otherwise very incomplete

#### OTHER NEWSPAPERS HELD BY THE HOCKEN LIBRARY

Ashburton	<b><i>Ashburton Guardian</i></b>	1976–today
Auckland	<b><i>Auckland Star</i></b>	1977–1992
	<b><i>New Zealand Herald</i></b>	1863–1966 on microfilm; 1967–today
	<b><i>New Zealand Weekly News</i></b>	1861–1971, about 75%
Blenheim	<b><i>Marlborough Express</i></b>	1976–today
Christchurch	<b><i>Christchurch Star</i></b>	1973–today
	<b><i>The Press</i></b>	1861–1966 on microfilm; 1967–today
Greymouth	<b><i>Evening Star</i></b>	1976–today
Nelson	<b><i>Daily Examiner</i></b>	1842–1872, about 75%
	<b><i>Evening Mail</i></b>	1967–today
Timaru	<b><i>Timaru Herald</i></b>	1977–today
	<b><i>Timaru Post</i></b>	1900–1939
Wellington	<b><i>Dominion</i></b>	1931–1959, microfilm; 1967–today
	<b><i>Evening Post</i></b>	1972–today
	<b><i>New Zealand Free Lance</i></b>	1900–1960, about 75%
	<b><i>New Zealand Spectator</i></b>	1844–1865
	<b><i>New Zealand Truth</i></b>	1906–1966 on microfilm
Westport	<b><i>Westport News</i></b>	1982–1991

(And inquire about scattered early holdings of some other provincial papers)

#### Overseas

Australia	<b><i>The Australian</i></b>	1967–today
	<b><i>Sydney Morning Herald</i></b>	1851–1903
	(And various minor holdings of other early Sydney and Tasmanian papers)	
Britain	<b><i>Illustrated London News</i></b>	1842–1968, about 75%
Cook Islands	<b><i>Cook Island News</i></b>	1865–today
Fiji	<b><i>Fiji Times</i></b>	1965–today
Samoa	<b><i>Samoa Times</i></b>	1967–today

#### Researching the newspaper industry

This bulletin is mainly devoted to the use of newspapers for various kinds of research; but the Hocken Library also holds much material essential to any study of the newspaper industry itself.

The basic reference is Scholefield's *Newspapers in New Zealand* (Reed, 1958). More recently Patrick Day's thesis on early newspapers has been published as *The Making of the N.Z. Press 1840–1880* (VUP, 1990). For the southern region, consult Barbara Clapperton's MA thesis, *Early Otago Newspapers* (OU, 1949) and J.T. Paul, *The Newspaper Press of Otago and Southland* (Dunedin, 1924).

No systematic bibliography of the New Zealand newspaper industry yet exists, but subject headings in the Hocken Library's catalogues will quickly produce the

relevant titles. Most newspapers have published historical supplements to mark their centenaries; and the Christchurch *Press*, for instance, commissioned a full-scale book.

There is no shortage of journalistic autobiography: Pat Lawlor, *Confessions of a Journalist* (1935); W.H. Thomas, *The Inky Way* (1960); and F.W.G. Miller's *Ink on My Fingers* (1967) come to mind. Formal biographies are less common, but Raewyn Dalziel's *Julius Vogel* (1986) set a high standard, and the *Dictionary of N.Z. Biography* contains quite a number of essays on newspaper proprietors, editors and journalists.

*Compiled for the Friends of the Hocken Collections by George Griffiths and David McDonald. Designed by Gary Blackman. First issued, March 1992; fully revised, April 1997.*