# Ron Boland Newspaper Reading Area Exhibition



# A life in print Primary School









The Ronald Boland Newspaper Reading Area exhibition and website can be studied and used to support many aspects of the curriculum, particularly in the learning areas of Society and Environment, English, Media and Design and Technology.

#### **Themes and Topics**

Technological change Social change Hand scribes and illumination Development of printing Making of a newspaper Careers in journalism Key stories of the 20th century Communication
Critical literacy
Media in context
Students develop a sense of identity and connectedness with others
Analysing points of view in text
Researching to extract information
Advertising
Personal viewpoints

There is a series of pre and post visit activities for primary school classes visiting the exhibition, an exhibition worksheet and library activity.

The exhibition comprises two sections:

- 1. A life in print celebrates Ron Boland's career in the newspaper industry.
- 2. The news in print focuses on the making of a newspaper and events recounted by newspapers.



### A life in print exhibition/website

#### **Fast Facts**

#### **Ronald Raymond Boland**

- Ron Boland was born 13 September 1911.
- His father was EJ (Ted) Boland, early sporting editor of *The Register*, later *The Mail*, who wrote under the pseudonym "Trafalgar".
- 1917 Attends Unley Central School.
- 1924 Enrols at Pulteney Grammar School.
- 1926 Leaves school.
- 1927 Starts career as a cadet reporter at *The News*.
- 1939 Marries Thelma Jean Warren; later has two children Richard and Warren.
- 1951 Appointed Editor of The Mail.
- 1960 Managing Editor of The News.
- 1968 Managing Director of The News.
- 1977 Retires.
- 1980 Awarded Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to journalism.
- 16 April 2000 Dies in hospital after a brief illness, aged 88.

The portable typewriter revolutionise journalist work.

• The Remington portable typewriter, revolutionised the way you could type. Back in 1922 an advertisement in Austin Seven instruction book says:

"On your travels wherever you go, wherever you stay, take with you a Remington portable typewriter."

"Easily stowed in the smallest available space."

The cash price of the Remington portable in 1922 was £12/10/-.

Beeching, Wilfrid. A Century of the typewriter. London: Heinemann, 1974.

Ron Boland's career in journalism made the progression from cadet reporter to Managing Director.



#### Journalism terms used in the exhibition

#### Cadet reporter

Cadetship is basically a three-year apprenticeship in journalism. Until a decade ago it was the main method of becoming a journalist; now there are university courses.

#### Reporter

The reporter's job is to research and write the news. Sometimes this involves making telephone calls and visits to regular sources of news. The job also involves responding to late breaking news stories as they happen.

#### Sports reporter

Reporters can specialise in a particular section of news. Some of the other areas include special features or different kinds of reporting such as crime, social and politics.

#### News Editor

News editor, or sub editor, takes completed stories through to the stage of finished page ready for production.

#### Editor

Editors are the head of the journalistic team. The editor determines the direction of the newspaper, its look, style, flavour and content. They have to decide if the newspaper will take a stand on an important community issue.

#### Managing Editor

Larger newspapers have managing editors, which is the next step up from editor. They determine the direction of the newspaper, undertake the recruitment of staff and represent the newspaper in the community.

#### Managing Director

Newspapers are operated and owned by companies, and the most senior job is to be the "boss" of the company that owns the newspaper.

Pearson, Mark and Johnston, Jan. *Breaking into Journalism: a guide to a career in Journalism in Australia and New Zealand*. Sydney: Allen and Unwin, 1998.



#### **Back in the classroom**

## Activity 1 For class discussion

- What is a journalist?
- What training do journalists need?
- What types of journalists are there? (Newspaper, television, radio, photojournalist)
- How has journalism changed in the media in Australia in the last 100 years?

#### **Fast Facts**

#### More Journalistic terms used in the exhibition

Scoop

Being the first media outlet to break news on a particular story.

Late breaking news

The ability to respond to stories later in the day, by having reporters available to gather information about the news story. There is a morning newspaper in South Australia called *The Advertiser* but before 1992 there was also an afternoon newspaper called *The News*, which provided the opportunity to cover late breaking stories.

Human interest stories

Stories which cover the lives of the "ordinary" people from their life struggles to their happy events. Human interest stories usually appeal to human emotions.

#### Newspaper terms used in the exhibition

Tabloid

The smaller format of the newspaper, twice the page size of an A4 sheet.

Broadsheet

The larger format newspaper, twice the page size of a tabloid.

Byline

The credit given to a journalist for having reported the story.

Captions

Text explaining a photograph, usually presented beneath it.

Editorial column

Also known as a "leader". Usually written by the editor or news editor, it comments on one of the major news stories of the day.

Feature

An in-depth, educational or entertaining piece of writing used in magazines and newspapers, usually longer than a news story, on a variety of subjects.



#### Lead

The main story appearing in the front page of a newspaper. A "lead" can also refer to the first sentence of a news story.

## Activity 2 For class discussion

As a class study a newspaper of your choice and decide if the newspaper is broadsheet or tabloid.

Look through the newspaper and locate:

- Lead
- Byline
- Caption
- · Editorial column
- Feature

#### **Activity 3**

Design your own class newspaper with headlines, photographs, written text, bylines and captions.

Make your own classroom newspaper lesson plan. http://pd.l2l.org/success/lessons/field/mla18 1.htm

#### **Activity 4**

Ron Boland identified the following events as some of the outstanding stories of his career:

- Earthquake in Adelaide (Monday 1 March 1954 headline)
- Assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy (Saturday 23 November 1963 headline)
- The Moon landing (Monday 1 July 1969 headline)
- Cyclone Tracy (Friday 27 December 1974 headline)

Find out more about these events from information on this website or by researching the events in the library.



### Learning activities in the exhibition

#### **Worksheet**

Start at A life in print exhibition

Imagine you are a journalist. Your task is to find out:

- What year was Ron Boland born?
- Where was he born?
- What school(s) did he attend?
- What was his occupation?
- Name a country he visited.

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List two other jobs h	reporter and e had.	reached the position of Managing Director.
Move to The News in	<i>n print</i> exhibit	tion
	Find the fron	lowing events as the most outstanding news t pages of these events in the exhibition and giv e appeared.
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Assassination of Pre	sident John F Date	itzgerald Kennedy Year
The Moon landing Day	Date	Year
Cyclone Tracy Day	Date	Year
Which news story ab	oove did you f	ind most interesting?
Look at the exhibition Australian events.	n. News head	llines or "leads" are divided into World and
Name one World eve	ent headline.	
Name one Australian	n event headli	ne.



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ist some similarities and differences					
1					
2					
3					



#### **Worksheet answers**

Start at A life in print exhibition

Imagine you are a journalist. Your task is to	find out:
• What year was Ron Boland born?	1911
<ul> <li>Where was he born?</li> </ul>	Adelaide
<ul> <li>What school(s) did he attend?</li> </ul>	Unley and Pulteney Grammar
<ul> <li>What was his occupation?</li> </ul>	Journalist

What school(s) did he attend?What was his occupation?Name a country he visited. China

Ron Boland had a long career. He started as a cadet reporter and reached the position of Managing Director. List two other jobs he had. 1. 2. reporter, sports reporter, news editor, editor, managing editor

Move to *The News in print* exhibition

Ron Boland identified that the following events as the most outstanding news stories of his career. Find the front pages of these events in the exhibition and give the day, date and year the headline appeared.

Earthquake in Adelaide Day _Monday Date _1 March_ Year _1954_  Assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy Day_ Saturday_ Date _23 November_ Year _1963_  The Moon landing Day _Monday _ Date _21 July_ Year _1969_  Cyclone Tracy Day _Friday_ Date _27 December_ Year _1974_					
					Which news story above did you find most interesting?
					Look at the exhibition. News headlines or "leads" are divided into World and Australian events.
					Name one World event headline.
Name one Australian event headline.					



Name the printing press on display I T_ E INTERTYPE	
When was this type of printing press invented? 1911	
Have a close look at the newspaper front pages timeline for the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century - how has the newspaper changed?  List some similarities and differences	_ N
1.         2.         3.	
Hint: Photojournalism - black and white to colour photography Modern newspapers attract their audience by a large photograph and an attention grabbing headline. Early newspapers generally had large amounts of small text, and often didn't have a photograph.	

Newspapers before the Second World War didn't have a lead or headline.