

# A History Of The Tarrangower Times Newspaper



Compiled By: Derek Reid  
Published By: MM&AA

© Copyright Derek Reid and Maldon Museum & Archives Association

All rights reserved. Apart from fair dealing for the purpose of study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the Copyright Act, no part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior written permission of the publisher.

While every precaution and effort has been taken in the preparation of this book, the author assumes no responsibility for errors and omissions. Neither is any liability assumed for damages resulting from use of the information contained therein. Also note that this report is still in the research stage and the present draft is essentially a collection of incomplete research notes that have not been fully checked. It is therefore recommended that consultation be made with the author before information contained within this document is used.



Published & Distributed by: Maldon Museum & Archives Association  
Old Shire Hall, Shire Gardens  
93 High Street  
(P.O.Box 235)  
Maldon, 3463  
[www.maldonmuseum.com.au](http://www.maldonmuseum.com.au)  
[secretary@maldonmuseum.com.au](mailto:secretary@maldonmuseum.com.au)

# The Tarrangower Times.

AND MALDON DISTRICT ADVERTISER.

2ND YEAR.—No. 113.]

{ PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY  
AND FRIDAY. }

TARRANGOWER, TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 1859.

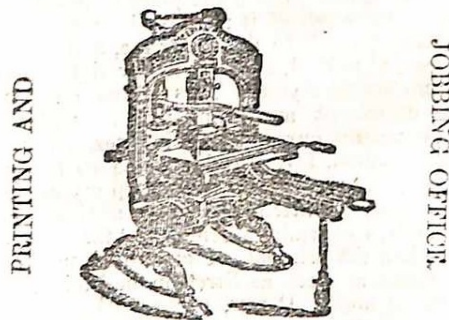
{ TERMS: 12s. 6d. PER QUARTER  
PAYABLE IN ADVANCE. }

[PRICE 6d.]

## A History

*The liberty of the Press is so like the air we breathe, that it may be called the oxygen of the atmosphere; it is the vital principle of free life, less dangerous in expression than when suppressed. The liberty of the Press will be for good or for evil; we say it must be for good if knowledge be power - James Amphlett, The Newspaper Press, c1860.*

### The Tarrangower Times AND MALDON DISTRICT ADVERTISER.



Posters, Reward Bills, Drapers, and other Hand Bills.

Bill Heads, Tradesmen's Cards, Circulars.  
And every other description of Printing executed at moderate prices.

OFFICE: High Street.

### 1. Introduction

Within approximately five years after the discovery of gold at Maldon in late 1853, the *Tarrangower Times* made an appearance hot off the press in March 1858. Since that time it has kept the locals informed about the good, the bad and the gossip of the district. Also during the years the 'Times' has changed owners, mast heads, shape, size, homes, printing methods, opposition newspapers, as well as surviving fire and flood to serve the community and act as a voice for the people. The following is a

brief, but hopefully informative history of the paper which is often called ‘the local rag’.

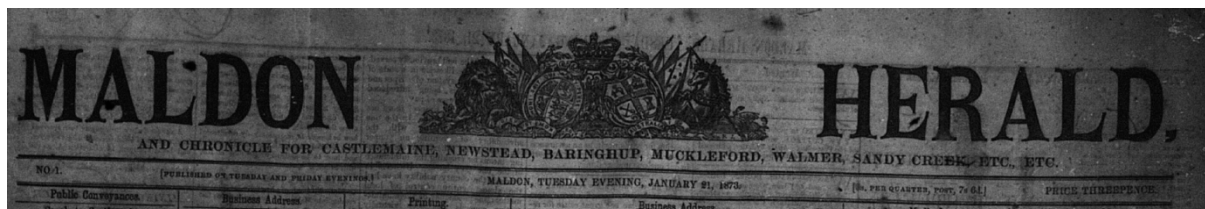
## 2. In the beginning

The *Tarrangower Times* has chronicled the thoughts and actions of this town and region for well over 150 years, providing the glue for the social cohesion of the district. It began printing on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 1858, as a single sheet broadsheet edition by Messrs Ralston & Wright with a cover price of 6d. As the economic climate changed so did the cover price of the Times, fluctuating from 6d to 2d and back up to 4d, making the paper more accessible to the buying public. At the time the Central Victorian goldfields were abundant with gold diggers and new residents to Australia, and as such the Times’ saw its duty to keep the residents informed on a wide variety of topics and happenings of importance. This included local business adverts, local events and news, national happenings of importance, new gold rushes, and news from the home land.

## 3. Spilt Ink – Troubling Times for the ‘Times’

It wasn’t always plain sailing for the *Tarrangower Times*; the paper has had to withstand floods, fires, competition from other newspapers, and heated debates with the shire council.

## The Competitors



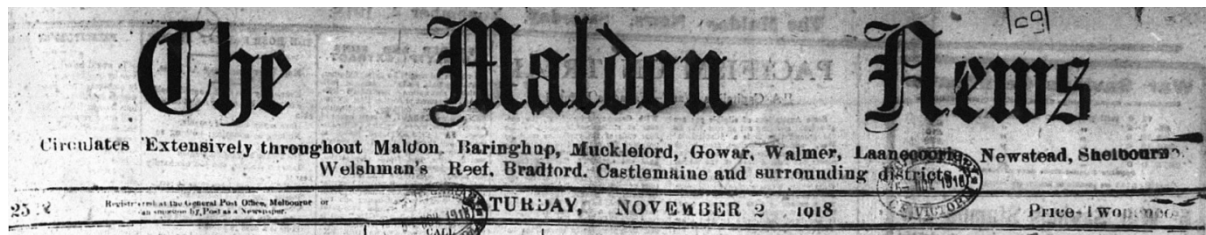
The beginning of 1873 saw the start of the *Maldon Herald*, with the following article from their first edition of 21<sup>st</sup> January 1873 –

Of Ourselves – In presenting the first number of the *Maldon Herald* to our supporters, readers, and critics, we have faith enough in ourselves and in their leniency to lend us to imagine that with all its faults and shortcomings it will meet with pretty general

appreciation, and, at all events, with universal toleration. Under the most favourable circumstances the issue of the first number of a local journal is attended with difficulties unknown to those who are engaged in other walks of life. When there is a clear field for the enterprise of a conscientious journalist his first sense is a darker *bite noire* to him than the maiden speech to the forensic aspirant; but when he comes into a previously-trodden path and places himself in competition with existing enterprise, his position is rendered more perplexing, and his faith in his intentions and their results is subjected to a ruder test. Public opinion is more severe in its judgement on an instance of journalistic competition, than it is when an effort is made to supply a want in some other direction. If it were thought necessary by an individual in the community to open a school, to erect a crushing machine, or to endeavour to run an oyster saloon, he would be justified in the fact, and there would be no call on him to explain why he should, in the face of the previous efforts of Brown or Smith to cater in his particular line, endeavour to force himself on the attention of those whose patronage had previously been confined to one channel. Why the enterprise of a journalist should be subjected to the check of having to explain his reasons for coming before the public we are unable to discover. Submitting, however, to the dictates of capricious custom, we have girded up our loins for the effort of accounting for our appearance. In all communities (and Maldon is no exception) when any question is under discussion, there is sure to be two sides to it and parties taking up each side; if the interest, inclination, or conviction of the conductors of the only newspaper is with one side, the other is left, at the best unrepresented. On the other hand, if there are two journals in existence, the neglect experienced from the one can be rectified by the attention of the other – the wronged by this can be championed by that. Personal invective will be eschewed, and the mere ejection of journalistic bile will not be so frequently, or so inconsiderately indulged in. A tone will, invariably, be given by the emulation which will naturally follow the existence of a second organ, which anything in the shape of the possession of an arbitrary monopoly is not conducive to, and care will be taken to weigh well in the balance of justice any editorial effusion before utterance that would not be called for under circumstances where there existed no means of refutation or of contradiction. With these reasons for making our

appearance, we fearlessly launch our first number, trusting in our desire to be of acknowledged usefulness and in our determination to neglect no occasion for realising it, as an assurance of meeting with sympathy and support in our onerous undertaking (*Maldon Herald*, 21<sup>st</sup> January 1873, page 2).

But the Maldon Herald was only a short lived thorn in the side of the *Tarrangower Times*, finishing publication on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1873.



The next to take on the *Tarrangower Times* was the *Maldon News and Tarrangower Advertiser*, being published by J L Williams who was a commercial and general printer with his office in High Street Maldon. Publication of the *Maldon News* began on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 1892, and was the longest lasting of the competitors ceasing publication on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 1918. It introduced itself with the following article – Ourselves – In making our debut to the ‘gentle reader’, we do not wish to pose as apologist for the appearance of The Maldon News – though diminutive in appearance it may seem; neither will we quote proverb, however apt and time-honoured, in justification and support thereof. We will not, moreover, use stereotyped expressions, and say that we are going to ‘supply a long-felt want’, &c., &c., but we calmly and unhesitatingly repeat the old truism, that ‘where there is room for one journal there is place for another’. And, as ‘one story is good before another is told;’, so we crave, in the interests of all concerned, to fill a niche in ‘Hear the other side’ principle, which is as necessary, and even more so in journalism, as in the Two Houses of Parliament at the head of Bourke Street. Nevertheless, it does not necessarily follow, that we intend to be antagonistic for the mere sake of being so. This is far from our desire, which is to benefit all classes of the community among which we move. Exception may be taken at the size of our sheet, but for the special behoof of our would-be cavillers, we will mention that our local contemporary started with a newspaper of a similar size to this. We intend however, shortly to have a bi-weekly issue (on Tuesdays and

Fridays), and who knows? If sufficient inducement and encouragement is afforded, to expand our wings and come out as fully-fledged 28-column broadsheet.

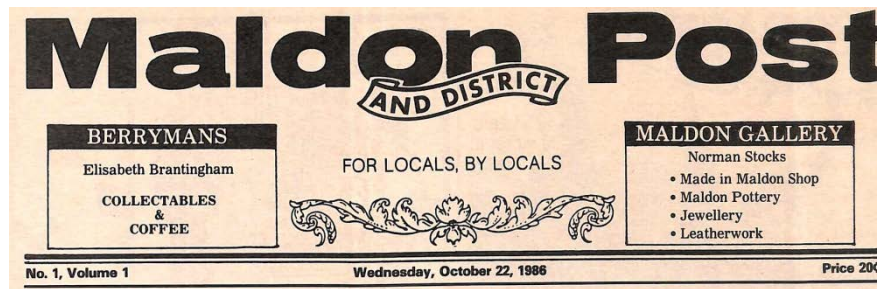
We have adopted as our motto the Latin proverb of '*Fidem servo*', and we shall try our utmost to adhere to it and keep faith with our readers.

Touching briefly on politics our views, we may (part unreadable) Protection, as, everyone knows that without our industries are fostered and protected a great many of them would die of inanition. But as the battle of Free-trade v Protection has been fought out long since, we shall, while endeavouring to avoid the Scylla of the former, take care not to fall into the Charybdis of the latter. As to the 'One man we vee' question, we are decidedly against the same, and boldly aver that a man who has a stake in the country is entitled to have more to say in the matter of governing the colony than the individual who simply pays sixpence for an electoral right. We also think the Stock tax about to be introduced to be a fair and equitable one, but as our space is somewhat limited we will not enter upon a subject, which is so worthy of being sly ventilated, at the present juncture.

In another column will be found prospectus setting forth the lines upon which we intend to run, to which we respectfully draw the attention of our readers (*Maldon News*, 29<sup>th</sup> March 1892, page 2).

The *Maldon News* concludes with the following notice on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 1918 – Notice – With the current issue of *The News* our readers, our advertisers, and the public generally, are notified that owing to the continued shortage of news paper this journal will not be published after today. Mr V Wilson, who has purchased the plant, etc., is incorporating *The News* and the *Newstead Echo*, and trusts that the public will continue to utilise our advertising columns, as the later paper circulates extensively throughout the surrounding districts. On or before November 16<sup>th</sup>, all accounts owing to September 14<sup>th</sup>, must be paid to Mrs Williams, and after that date to Mr Wilson (*Maldon News*, 6<sup>th</sup> November 1918, page 3).





As the *Tarrangower Times* approached what could be described as its darkest days, with the possible eviction from its premises and closure, which is elaborated on in the 'Times vs. The Shire Council' section. The *Maldon & District Post* established itself under the guidance of a small band of locals, some of whom had journalistic experience, to fill the hole of ominous fall of the *Tarrangower Times* which wasn't to eventuate. But the *Post* continued with their best laid plans of publishing a Maldon newspaper, which saw the first issue hit the newsstand on the 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1986, with the following editorial –

Editorial – Throughout its history Maldon has been well served by its newspapers, of which there have been many. For 25 years there were two...the *Tarrangower Times* and the *Maldon News*. It was not our original intention to repeat history. We had planned to publish so that Maldon would continue to have a newspaper after continual assurance that the *Times* could not continue if evicted from its present shire-owned premises. In the light of alternative accommodation being unexpectedly found for that paper we had to review our position. It has been decided to publish as planned to provide an alternative for the increasingly diverse interests of the people of Maldon township and the growing environs. This decision has been largely influenced by the quite enthusiastic public support we have received. Our policy is to produce a high quality weekly newspaper with objective, unbiased through critical journalism, Maldon & District Post therefore seeks contributions on all subjects; newstips, sport, paragraphs, articles, letters to the editor. Photographs and drawings will be considered. Contributed material will be published unedited, subject to the laws covering publishers, style and the fair sharing of available space. Thank you for buying this first edition of a new Maldon publishing venture whose future rests entirely with you, the readers and advertisers (*Maldon & District Post*, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1986, page 1).



The *Maldon & District Post* came to an end, just shy of four and a half years since it started publication on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 1991, and it was announced through an editorial –

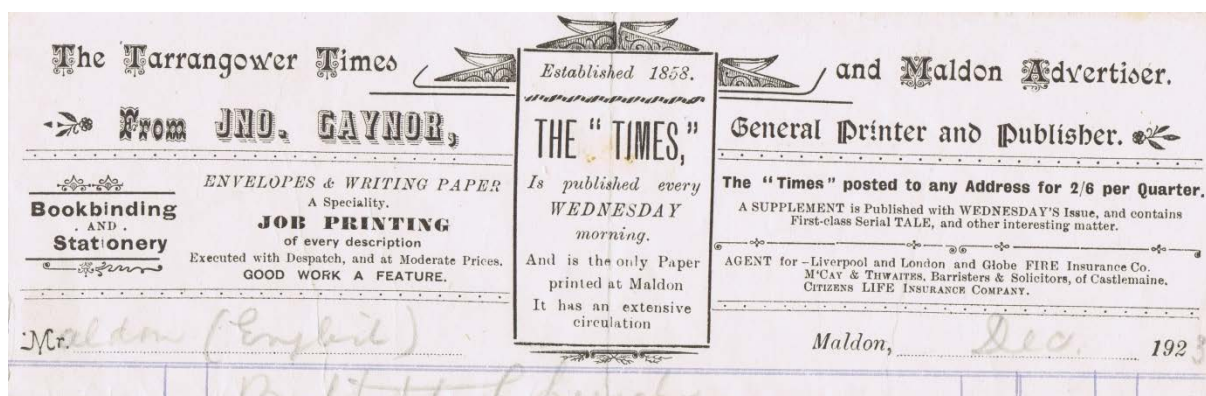
Editorial – The second era of the *Maldon & District Post* has now come to an end, and this issue will be the last of that era. The first and second eras blended in together, so that the transition was smooth. From being run by a handful of private citizens it became a community Co-operative. The Co-operative is still intact but, due to unexpected illness on the reporting side of the paper, we must temporarily cease publication. Already we have had tentative but interesting offers that could kick start the paper into publication once more. Any more offers or suggestions are always welcome. In the meantime, rather than lower our standards, we decided to cease publication for the time being. Thank you, loyal readers, writers and advertisers for your continued support, and we will keep you ‘posted’ (*Maldon & District Post*, 8<sup>th</sup> February 1991, page 1).

## **Fires & Floods**

Arch demon, flood, scored a notable victory on Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> March 1876. A cloudburst over Mount Tarrangower sent a torrent of water racing through the business district of Maldon causing major disruptions to many of the businesses. Like many communities, people banded together to help those in need and assist businesses to continue trading. The Times office met the full brunt of the flood with water almost filling the downstairs print room, with the type trays being overturned into a bed of mud that covered the floor. It took several days to restore order out of the chaos. The *Tarrangower Times* reported its misfortunes as follows – ‘We have to excuse ourselves to our subscribers and advertising friends for depriving them of the Wednesday’s issue. To those who know how we suffered from the great flood on Saturday last we are assured the excuse is needless. But to those who live at a distance and who we flatter ourselves would feel disappointed by not receiving their bi-weekly modicum of news; we feel that an explanation of the cause which led to the omission is what they have a right to expect. As will be seen by reference to our news columns, Maldon was visited by one of those sudden storms for which it has long

been celebrated and with which in common with all townships situated in close proximity to mountains she must always expect to be visited at uncertain intervals, and the result to the *Tarrangower Times*' printing office was that without any warning or the least opportunity being afforded to prepare for it, the water came down in a rushing torrent, and in a few moments printing office, types, and presses were under water. Had it been water alone the consequences would not have been so serious, but the flood brought with it a great quantity of earthy matter, and after the printing office had been pumped dry, cases of type and presses were covered with a thick coating of loamy matter which has kept all hands busy early and late for the last few days washing and cleaning, and getting things in order, to resume our avocations. We are still proceeding under considerable difficulties, and request the kind consideration and forbearance of our readers to excuse all short-comings which may be found in our present issue' (*Tarrangower Times*, 1<sup>st</sup> April 1876, page 2 column 2)

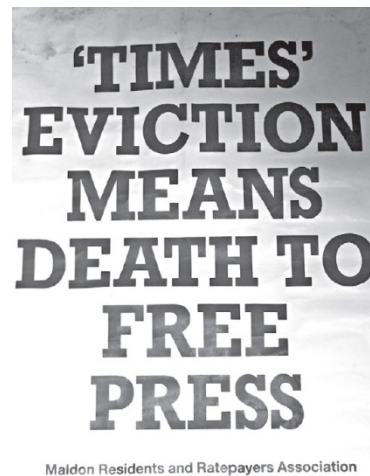
On the 11<sup>th</sup> May 1929, the home of the *Tarrangower Times* in High Street for the previous 71 years, adjoining the Theatre Royal, was gutted by fire. With the total loss of the premises and equipment, the proprietor, John Gaynor, wasn't deterred and was back printing the paper within four days (*Tarrangower Times*, 15<sup>th</sup> May 1929, p.1). This saw the move of the paper to new premises in Main Street, into the building opposite the Maldon Hotel.



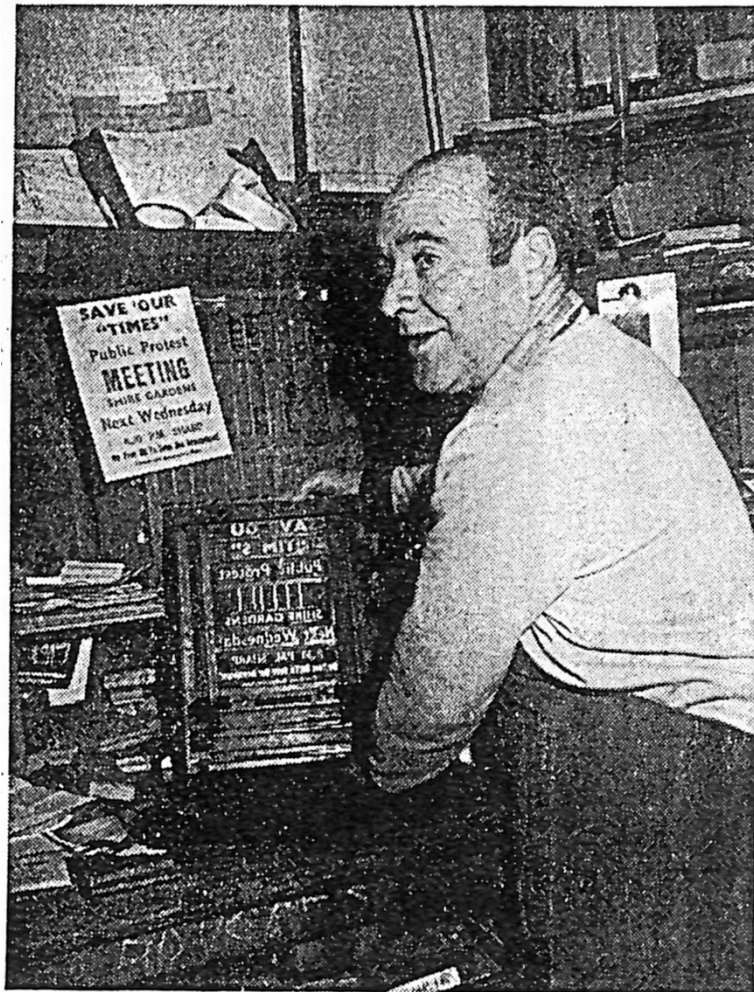
## **Gloomy Times Ahead**

1974 saw the retirement of Gordon and Mary Walter from the *Tarrangower Times*, this led to the need of a replacement operator for the Times. There were only a couple of short term operators taking charge of the Times, including Don Davies, Lewis Zillies and R D Symons, all of whom had had journalism experience and had retired to Maldon. But it became obvious to the residents that the paper couldn't keep going with short term and rapidly changing operators of the business. By mid-1975 there was a public meeting held at the Progress Hall because of the deep concerns expressed by the community due to the possible loss of the premises used by the Tarrangower Times along with the paper itself. At the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 1975, there was a push for a partnership between the community and the Shire Council to purchase the building, printing equipment and associated records to prevent the loss of the documented history of the town and district, along with the home of the *Tarrangower Times* in the form of the building. Prior to this meeting the then shire engineer, Bill Moore had been contacted by Felix Cappy, a Castlemaine based real estate agent who was also involved with the National Trust, to say that he had been instructed by the owners of the Tarrangower Times building to sell everything. This included the building and contents and basically everything associated with the publication of the Tarrangower Times, for a figure somewhere in the order of \$11,500 for the lot. This led to some hurried discussions between Bill Moore and Cr Jock Comini, who had a number of strong political connections, which brought about an offer from the government of a grant for two thirds of the purchase price. This then left the issue of the other third of the price to be found locally, with many ideas being raised at the public meeting. There wasn't anything concrete, and seemed to be going round in circles, until Jack Fitzpatrick, secretary of the Maldon Progress Association said that it would provide the local contribution on the proviso it was granted sole rights to the use of the building and its contents. After the purchase of the building and contents, which made the Maldon citizens happy to see it remain intact and within the community, a committee of management was set up to look after the building and contents. Even though the building stood idle for some time, it did get used for a film production of 'Break of Day' as a printing office. Then after a number of years there

was an approach by Victor Coppens who wanted to start printing the Tarrangower Times again, which was the start of a somewhat turbulent time for the paper.



Poster Regarding the Possible Demise of the Tarrangower Times c. August 1986



Ron Adams preparing an advertising leaflet 'Save Our Times' – Bendigo Advertiser Aug. 1986

## **Times vs. The Shire Council**

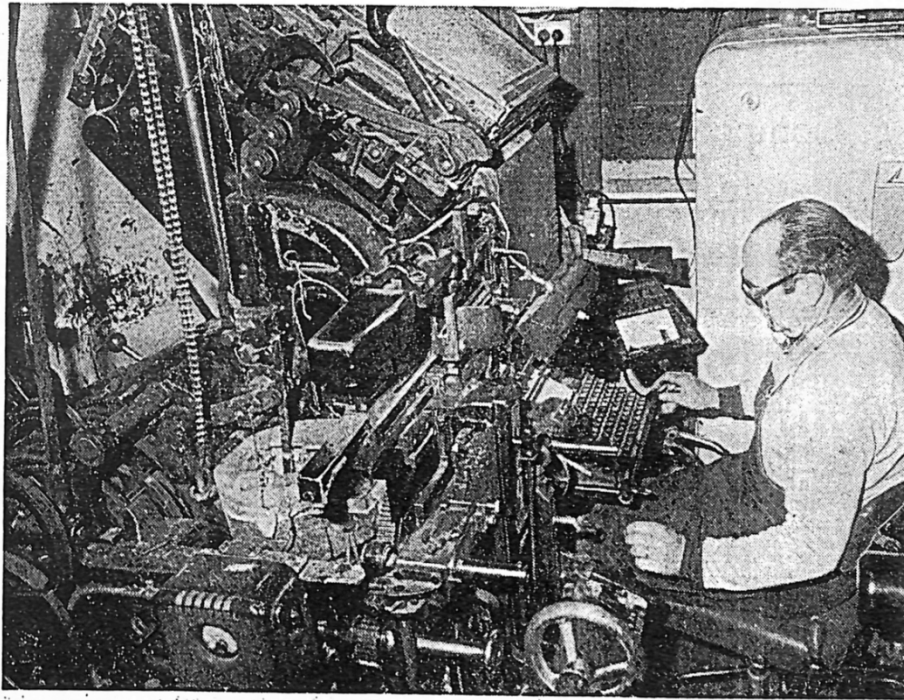
The Tarrangower Times is noted for having its fair share of trouble with the local shire council over the years. This took the form of articles which council or its officers did not agree with or the stopping of advertising and press releases from the shire council.

As early as 1858 the Editor of the *Tarrangower Times* was publicly horsewhipped by an irate Councillor, who was subsequently charged and fined, with the paper's stinging criticism caused the Council to withhold its local advertising for some time. The Times got their own back by copying the same from the medium used for the Council's advertising purpose and printed the advertisements for free. Ten years later in 1868 when there were Council elections, and the Councillor in question stood again for re-election, it induced the town's leading mining magnate, Robert Dent Oswald snr. to run in opposition. The Times was elated in publishing the following headline in bold type – **“Maldon Shire Election – Defeat of Stevenson. Triumph of Respectability. No more ‘Hot Whiskey’ influence. Crow, Oswald, Crow. Oswald Triumphant over Stevenson by One Hundred and Thirteen Votes!”** (*Tarrangower Times*, 1868).

Then during the late 1970s and the first half of the 1980s there was disagreement between the proprietor of the *Tarrangower Times* and the then Maldon Shire Council in connection to the way in which Council business was being reported. This was also at a time when there was uncertainty surrounding the tenancy of the building occupied by the *Tarrangower Times*. All of which lead to the Council pulling all advertising from the paper along with providing press releases, and the discussion regarding the Council publishing its own newsletter. This was only finally resolved when the proprietorship of the paper changed in 1989.

In the early part of 2012 saw a deal being struck between the senior management of Mount Alexander Shire and Elliott Midland Newspapers for one of their publications (the Midland Express) to receive all paid council advertisements exclusively. The deal had been done, not in a public council meeting, but behind closed doors without even the local councillor of the time standing up for the local businesses (*Tarrangower Times*, 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2012, page 1).

## **‘Knights of the Inky Way’ – The owners/publishers of the ‘Times’**



**Figure 1 Ron Adams at the printing press setting up the *Tarrangower Times***

Printed as the *Tarrangower Times*

1858 (March 6<sup>th</sup>) – Established by Messrs Wright and Ralston

1858 (September) – Mr John Wilson Wright, following a dissolution of partnership

1864 – Messrs Howliston, Tate & Company

1878 – Messrs Symons & Company

1880 – Messrs F Cox & Company

1885 (January) – Messrs Ward & Robinson

1885 (July) – Mr Francis W Prideaux

1899 – Mr John Gaynor

1934 – Mr Wilfred Elliott

1935 – Mr Victor Wilson

1936 – Messrs Wilson & J C Zenner

1940 – Mr Douglas L Bear

Printed as the *Maldon Times*

1951 (June) – Mr William McClure



1952 (February) – Mr Robert T Wilson  
1961 (19<sup>th</sup> April) – Mr Les Smith & Mrs Smith  
1963 (9<sup>th</sup> October) – Mr Les & M.L. Clohesy  
1965 (January) – G. D. & M. Walter  
1965 (February) – G. D. & M. Walter for L. G. & M. L. Clohesy

Printed as the *Tarrangower Times*

1972 – G. D. & M. Walter for L. G. & M. L. Clohesy  
1974 (January) D. R. Davies for L. G. & M. L. Clohesy  
1974 (February) Jeff Zilles for L. G. & M. L. Clohesy  
1974 (24<sup>th</sup> August) – Ceases publication

Printed as the *Maldon Times*

1975 (March) – R. D. (Don) Symons  
1975 (28<sup>th</sup> May) – Ceases publication

Printed as the *Tarrangower Times*

1976 – Purchased by Maldon Shire Council with funds from State Government and the Maldon Progress Association, run by a Committee of Management.  
Single ‘souvenir’ issue printed on the 17<sup>th</sup> April 1976.

Printed as the *Maldon Times*

1978 (December) – John Wallace on behalf of the Tarrangower Times Committee of Management.

Printed as the *Tarrangower Times*

1979 (January) – John Wallace on behalf of the Tarrangower Times Committee of Management.  
1979 (4<sup>th</sup> May) – Ceases publication  
1979 (July) – Victor Theodor Coppens  
1989 – Ron William & Margaret Adams



1994 (1<sup>st</sup> July) – Chris M. Oakes  
1996 – Chris M & Tracey Oakes  
2002 (May) – Geoff & Nancy Hammond  
2004 (January) – Wayne Gregson & Craig Wilson on behalf of Central Victorian Newspapers Pty Ltd  
2007 Ian Dawes editor on behalf of Craig Wilson & Wayne Gregson  
2008 (December) Viv Markham & Wendy French editors on behalf of Craig Wilson & Wayne Gregson  
c.2011 Wendy French resigns from editor's role  
2012 (7<sup>th</sup> September) Karen Sloan & Viv Markham purchase the paper, Viv Markham continues as editor  
2018 (13<sup>th</sup> April) – Viv Markham sells her share to Imelda Carthy who took on editors role  
2018 (15<sup>th</sup> June) – Karen Sloan took 100% ownership with Viv Markham as editor with Nancy Whittaker as a casual editor  
2018 (14<sup>th</sup> September) – Barry Robinson as editor on behalf of Karen Sloan  
2019 (26<sup>th</sup> April) – Jeff Jones as editor on behalf of Karen Sloan  
2021 (4<sup>th</sup> June) – Jade Jungwirth as editor on behalf of Karen Sloan

## **John Gaynor – Longest Serving Editor of the *Tarrangower Times* 1899-1934**



Death of Mr John Gaynor – After a long, serious illness, Mr John Gaynor passed away at his home in Fountain Street, on Friday morning. The late Mr Gaynor was the eldest of a family of four. Born at Maryborough in 1868, he spent his youth in the Victorian Railways at Ararat, and on his leaving the Railways he went into the printing trade which he followed until a few weeks prior to his death.

He was proprietor and publisher of the ‘Tarrangower Times’ for over 40 years, which is an achievement to be justly proud of, as is his record as a worker for charity and public institutions in this district. His record with the Fire Brigade is incomparable, and for forty-five years he was a member, and for forty-two years he acted as secretary.

His interest in all sporting affairs was great, and being a great all-round sportsman in his younger days his interest never flagged in the many branches of sport, being a member of the Band, Football Club, A.N.A and Masonic Lodges. Many the story has been told of ‘Gaynor and his great cycling feats’ and the tricky ball he bowled at cricket.

During his life he made many friends, and this was shown by the large crowd attending the funeral on Saturday, and no doubt, but for the awkward time, which unfortunately had to be, the funeral would have been more largely attended.

After a short service at the house, the funeral, headed by all members of the Maldon Fire Brigade, moved along Fountain Street, to the tolling of both the town and the north fire bells, the firemen marching to the Allen Gardens and then joining the cars to the Cemetery. Over 20 motor cars fully laden followed the remains to the Cemetery. The service at the graveside was read by the Rev Stirling Home, and afterwards a very impressive and beautiful service was read by Captain H Grigg, of the Fire Brigade.

The late Mr Gaynor leaves a wife and two sisters, Mrs Cam McLeod and Mrs Batty to mourn his loss.

Many magnificent wreaths were received from the Maldon Cricket Club, Football Club, Jas and J J Huish, Maldon Brass Band, Myer’s Dispatch, Fire Brigade, A.N.A. and many others. Mr W H Pearce had charge of the funeral arrangements (*Tarrangower Times*, 24<sup>th</sup> May 1933, p.3 c1).

### **Frederick James Cox – Proprietor of the *Tarrangower Times* 1880-1885**

With much regret we call the attention of our readers to the notice contained in our obituary columns this day. Mr Frederick James Cox, for so many years (upwards of twenty) associated with this paper in the respective capacities of reporter, editor, and proprietor, drew his last breath at 10 o'clock p.m. yesterday at his residence on Magazine Hill after a very short illness. Short as his illness was, however, it is comforting to know that he was surrounded by nearly all the members of his family, whose devoted attention served as far as was practicable, to alleviate his bodily sufferings and soothe his mind during his last hours. The deceased gentleman has for many years been somewhat delicate, and occasionally afflicted with severe attacks of indisposition, but was ever of a genial and cheerful temperament and always ready to evince an interest in all our local institutions and requirements. On Tuesday last a consultation was deemed necessary and Dr Bone of Castlemaine, having been sent for, agreed with Dr Farr that his recovery was almost beyond hope. The deceased was much respected for his quiet unassuming straightforwardness, and we feel assured that our own keen feeling of regret will be shared by his numerous friends throughout the Shire (*Tarrangower Times*, 8<sup>th</sup> November 1884, p.2 c.2).

### **Les Smith – Proprietor of the *Tarrangower Times* 1961-1963**

The death occurred at his home, Church Street, Maldon, early on Thursday morning, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, of Mr Les Smith, proprietor of the 'Maldon Times'. Born in Narrandera in New South Wales, Mr Smith was apprenticed at an early age to a firm which owned newspapers in the South West of the State. His father had interests in the establishment of time mines at Ardlethan, which are in the news at present. He began his career on the Ardlethan-Beckom Times where he served for a few years before transferring to the Temora Independent. There he completed his time and was Managing Editor at 21 years of age of the Arian Park News for a short period. He then returned to manage and edit the Ardlethan Times. For a time he worked on newspapers in the Tablelands of Queensland, including Cairns. During some of the years of the depression, he worked on a free press in Sydney. The Evening News at Wentworth then received the experience and advice of Mr Smith, before he transferred to Leongatha. Whilst at Leongatha he acted as bandmaster of the brass band. He was an accomplished musician and learned his banding qualifications at an early age, as a member of a band in Ardlethan. Mr Smith was well known when he worked at Warracknabeal, especially for his outspoken comments on the handling of various affairs by the Government of the day. During part of the 1939-45 war, Mr Smith was engaged by the Elliott Provincial Group, with the 'Castlemaine Mail', where for a time a daily newspaper was published with limited staff. A weekly newspaper with big circulation, The Albury Banner, was the next station for Mr Smith, who during his period there also edited the Saturday night paper, Sports Report. This newspaper, available in Albury early in the evening, contained sporting results from all over Victoria and New South Wales. He then transferred to Shepparton. Mr Smith then bought the newspaper at Cobram and was responsible for a revived interest in the affairs of the town. Before transferring to Maldon, Mr Smith worked for a period part time as a linotype operator in Melbourne, where his wife conducted a small business. His great love however, was the country and it was to Maldon that he next turned his journalistic experience. He owned the 'Maldon Times' for about 2 ½ years prior to his death. At the time of his death Mr Smith was 59 years of age. He is survived by his wife, a daughter, Mrs

Graham Pearson of Essendon and one son, Geoffrey, a Methodist Home Missioner at Tallangatta. Whenever Mr Smith was engaged in newspaper duties he always attempted to stimulate a genuine interest by citizens in the town and its affairs. And he gave a practical lead in that direction by becoming a member of various organisations. In his brief stay in Maldon, Mr Smith was an ardent worker on the committees of Maldon and Baringhup Agricultural Society, Maldon Progress Association, Maldon Easter Fair Committee and Maldon Hospital Committee (*Maldon Times*, 28<sup>th</sup> August 1963, p.1.).



**Williams Printer of the Maldon News, Located in High Street Maldon opposite Spring Street  
(Source: MM&AA VMLD-1010)**



# TARRANGOWER TIMES



## OFFICE HOURS:

OPEN Most Days About 9 or 10  
Occasionally as Early as 7, But SOMEDAYS  
As Late as 12 or 1.  
WE CLOSE About 5.30 or 6  
Occasionally About 4 or 5, But  
Sometimes as Late as 11 or 12.  
SOME DAYS OR Afternoons, We  
Aren't Here At All, and Lately  
I've Been Here Just About All The Time  
Except When I'm Someplace Else,  
But I Should Be Here Then, Too.

Office Hours - *Tarrangower Times* 13<sup>th</sup> June 1991

## THE 'TARRANGOWER TIMES' GENERAL PRINTING OFFICE, High-street, MALDON.

EVERY DESCRIPTION  
Of  
LETTER-PRESS and LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTING.  
CIRCULARS HANDBILLS POSTERS, CARDS, LABELS,  
PAMPHLETS, CATALOGUES.  
CHEQUE BOOKS, TRANSFER FORMS, PROXY FORMS,  
&c., &c.,  
PRINTED ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE AND AT MODERATE PRICES.

SYMONS & CO, Proprietors.

*Tarrangower Times* Printing Office Advert 1878