



Local Studies Fact Sheet 9

[9] NEWSPAPERS

Newspapers are an excellent source of information for both local and family history. Details about shipping arrivals, land records, court information, advertisements and most importantly local news as well as providing births, marriages & death details. Obituaries are revealing and often provide information that is not located elsewhere. Browsing through the local newspaper can provide details of background information, social activities and images of a particular place and time. Information located from newspapers is often unique & not found in other sources. The Local Studies Collection holds Hawkesbury newspapers that have survived & remain in existence today, as well as some general newspapers. Overall check the online catalogues of the National Library of Australia www.nla.gov.au and the State Library of NSW www.sl.nsw.gov.au for holdings that have survived and where they are held.

GENERAL NEWSPAPERS

Australian 1824 – 1848

Australian Town & Country Journal 8 January 1870 - 25 December 1886

Sydney Gazette 1803 -1842 (Facsimiles for 1803-1811 shelved at RL079.944 SYD)

Sydney Morning Herald 1831 - 1954, 1991 + (*SMH & Sun-Herald Archives* 1955-95 searchable online from library)

Sydney Monitor 1838 - 1841

Sydney Chronicle (Australasian Chronicle) 1846 – 1848

Historic Australian Newspapers 1803-1954

Hosted by the National Library of Australia you can search online newspapers and access the original digitised copy and transcript. This is an excellent resource and although no specific Hawkesbury papers are yet included, the *Sydney Gazette*, *Sydney Morning Herald* and other papers are. Is being updated and added to regularly <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper>

LOCAL NEWSPAPERS

Although a number of newspapers have been published in the Hawkesbury district throughout the 19th & 20th centuries, not all have survived. Prior to this most news appeared in the *Sydney Gazette* newspaper and the *Sydney Morning Herald*. The first newspaper established (name unknown) was about 1840, followed by the *Windsor Express* in 1843-1844. The *Hawkesbury Courier* appeared during 1844-1846, then the *Windsor Review* in 1857 and followed by the *Windsor Telegraph* in 1850. There was no newspaper for nearly a decade and then the *Windsor Advertiser* was established in 1860 for a short period. Only incomplete copies of the *Windsor Express* & *Hawkesbury Courier* have survived.



During the 1870s-1880s there were a number of significant newspapers produced including the *Hawkesbury Times* 1870s-1874 (*the offices were burnt down during the Great Fire in Windsor in 1874, so no copies seem to have survived*); *The Australian : Windsor & Richmond Advertiser* 1873-1899; the *Hawkesbury Chronicle* 1881-1888 & the *Windsor & Richmond Gazette* 1888 (*produced today as the Hawkesbury Gazette*) The *Hawkesbury Advocate* was short-lived appearing from 1899-1900. The other substantial newspaper was the *Hawkesbury Herald* which appeared between 1902-1944 when it was incorporated with the Gazette. The *Hawkesbury Courier* (a free paper) commenced in 1932 and taken over by the Gazette in 1934. Some 20th century newspapers include the *Hawkesbury Nepean Review* 1972-1976 which became *Macquarie Towns Review* 1977-1982 and the *Hawkesbury Independent* magazine 1995-2007. The following are available on microfilm and held in the Microfilm Cabinet on open access. Except for the *Hawkesbury Gazette* (previously called *Windsor & Richmond Gazette*) all other newspaper titles are incomplete.

Australian : Windsor, Richmond & Hawkesbury Advertiser 1873 - 1896 (Incomplete)

Hawkesbury Advocate 1899 - 1900 (Incomplete)

Hawkesbury Chronicle 1881 - 1888 (Incomplete)

Hawkesbury Courier 1844 -1846; 1981 + (Incomplete)

Hawkesbury Gazette (previously *Windsor & Richmond Gazette*) 1888+

Hawkesbury Herald 1902 - 1904, 1923-24 & 1937 - 1945 (Incomplete)

Hawkesbury Independent 1995 -2007

Hawkesbury Nepean Review 1972 – 1976 and **Macquarie Towns Review** 1977 - 1982

Northern News 2003 +

Windsor & Richmond Gazette (now *Hawkesbury Gazette*) 1888 +

Windsor Express 1843 - 1844 (Incomplete)

The following newspapers cover adjoining areas in the Hawkesbury but also have useful information about this district. The *Cumberland Mercury* covered Parramatta and Hills district, *Maitland Mercury* covered Maitland and the Hunter & the *Nepean Times*, concentrated on the Penrith area.

Cumberland Argus 1888 - 1904
Maitland Mercury 1843-1849

Cumberland Mercury 1875 - 1895
Nepean Times 1882 - 1921

CURRENT NEWSPAPERS

Current newspapers that are published today and kept by the Library are as follows :

The Australian (current & previous month)
Daily Telegraph (current & previous month)
Financial Review (current & previous month)
Hawkesbury Courier (kept indefinitely on microfilm)
Hawkesbury Gazette (kept indefinitely on microfilm)
Hawkesbury Weekender 2009+

Northern News (kept on microfilm)
Sun Herald (kept indefinitely on microfilm)
Sunday Telegraph (current & previous month)
Sydney Morning Herald (kept indefinitely on microfilm)
The Land (6 months)
Penrith Press (6 months)

NEWSPAPER INDEXES

Local newspapers are often examined for articles of interest by library staff. These articles are clipped from the paper and then filed in subject order in the Pamphlet file. This has been done intermittently over the years but on a more regular basis in recent years. Some newspapers have been indexed which is beneficial for all sorts of research. Rod & Wendy Gow have produced a number of indexes to local papers and these cover topics such as court cases, births, deaths, marriages, inquests, obituaries, funerals & probates. Some indexes that have been produced are listed below:

TITLE	SHELVED AT
Australian town & country journal index, 1870 - 1914 [microform] / BAYLEY	RL FICHE AUS
Australian Windsor Richmond & Hawkesbury Advertiser newspaper index 1873-83 / GOW	RL079.9441 GOW #
Cumberland mercury newspaper index, 1875 to 1878, 1879	RL079.9441 GOW #
Hawkesbury advocate newspaper index 1899 to 1900 / GOW	RL079.9441 GOW #
Hawkesbury Courier 1844 - 1846 / GOW	RL079.9441 HAW #
Hawkesbury Chronicle 1881 - 1888 / GOW	RL079.9441 GOW #
Maitland Mercury newspaper index, 1845 / GOW	RL FICHE MAI
References to the Hawkesbury district from the Maitland Mercury & Hunter Gazette , 1841-1845	RL079.9441 GOW
Sydney Gazette 1803 - 1811 Vols. 1 - 9 [Each volume indexed]	RL079.944 SYD
Sydney Gazette 1803-1829 Index (Microfilm)	RL FILM A45-A52
SMH Index to birth, marriage, death & funeral notices in the Sydney Morning Herald [v1 1831-42; v2 1842-; v3 1848-51 & v4 1851-53 / SAINTY & JOHNSON	RL929.3 SAI
SMH index to birth, marriage, death and funeral notices, 1831-1853 (Microfilm)	RL FILM A37
SMH NSW Parliament : index to Parliamentary Debates (SMH) 22.5.1856 to 9.11.1880	RL FICHE NEW
Sydney Morning Herald index 1979 - 1987 / State Library of NSW	RL FICHE SYD
SMH "Let us break their bonds asunder"-an index to the "In Divorce" ... Sydney Morning Herald, 1918-1920	RL FICHE DIV
Windsor & Richmond Gazette : newspaper index July - August 1890 / ENGLISH	RL079.9441 WIN
Windsor & Richmond Gazette newspaper index: births, deaths, marriages, inquests vols (1888-1920)	RL929.3 GOW
Bowd index to Windsor & Richmond Gazette / Bowd (miscellaneous dates)	RLP BOW
WW1 Hawkesbury heroes : Windsor & Richmond Gazette extracts from the front / GOW 1 (1914-16) & 2 (1917-19)	RL940.41294 GOW
Windsor Express index 1843 to 1844 / GOW	RL079.9441 GOW #

available on the Local Studies PC in PDF format

→ MORE INFORMATION

- **State Library of NSW** - good coverage of NSW & other papers. Macquarie Street Sydney www.sl.nsw.gov.au 02 9273 1414.
- **Australian Periodical Publications 1840-1845** - Australian journals online at www.nla.gov.au/ferg/datebrws.html
- **Penrith Newspaper Index** (current & historical) some local <http://opac.penrithcity.nsw.gov.au/ipaclocalindex/searchNewspaper>
- **Newspaper Indexes ...** (Rod & Wendy Gow's site, includes indexes online) <http://www.gownewspaperindexes.com.au/>
- **Ryerson Index.** An on-going index of death notices, obituary & genealogical queries indexed by the Dead Persons Society (Sydney) <http://www.rootsweb.com/~nswsdps/dpsindex.htm>

For additional information and confirm titles and holdings, check our **Library's online catalogue** at <http://catalogue.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/amlibweb/>

The Local Studies Librarian is looking for missing local newspapers, e.g *Hawkesbury Herald*, *The Australian* and the *Hawkesbury Chronicle*. If you know where copies are available, please advise.

Prepared by Michelle Nichols / Local Studies Librarian & Updated 1 March 2010

ADDRESS	HOURS	LOCAL STUDIES CONTACTS
Hawkesbury City Council Library Service	Monday to Friday 9am - 7pm	PH (02) 4560 4466 or 4560 4460 FAX (02) 4560 4472
Hawkesbury Central Library	Saturday 9am - 1pm	EMAIL history@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au
300 George Street	Sunday 2pm - 5pm	WEB www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/library
WINDSOR 2756 NSW	Closed Public Holidays	CATALOGUE http://catalogue.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/amlibweb/