

NZ news media in a state of flux



Colin Peacock
Mediawatch

Introduction:

The screenshot shows the RNZ website interface. At the top left is the RNZ logo. The main navigation menu includes 'Home', 'News', 'Radio', 'Series & Podcasts', 'Topics', and 'Pacific'. On the right side, there are links for 'Search', 'Listen Live', and 'Playlist'. Below the main navigation, there is a sub-menu for 'National:' with options for 'Programmes', 'Schedules', and 'Presenters'. The 'Radio' section is highlighted with a red underline. The main content area features the title 'Mediawatch' in large red font. Below the title, a paragraph states: 'Mediawatch looks critically at the New Zealand media - television, radio, newspapers and magazines as well as the 'new' electronic media.' The broadcast schedule is listed as 'Sundays at 9:05am and 10:12pm'. There is a 'Follow Mediawatch' section with icons for email and Twitter. At the bottom, there are links for 'Search' and 'Subscribe to podcast'.

RNZ Home News **Radio** Series & Podcasts Topics Pacific

Search Listen Live Playlist

National: Programmes Schedules Presenters

Mediawatch

Mediawatch looks critically at the New Zealand media - television, radio, newspapers and magazines as well as the 'new' electronic media.

Sundays at 9:05am and 10:12pm

Follow Mediawatch

✉ 🐦

Search Subscribe to podcast

What's the point of Mediawatch?

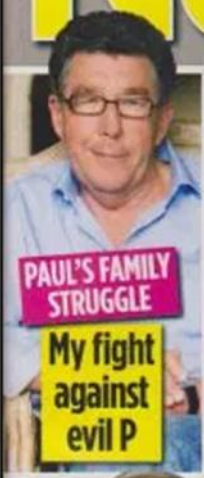
Keeping an eye on news media and journalism in New Zealand

Best weekly
mag ideas

Quick hair fixes, holiday savers & perfect spag bol

July 18, 2009

New Idea



PAUL'S FAMILY STRUGGLE

My fight against evil P



EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

David Bain's hopes for the future



ANGE & BRAD'S

LAST-DITCH ULTIMATUM



DOC HORROR!

I want a happy ending

WIN A TRIP TO RARO



What's the point of Mediawatch?

Keeping an eye on news media and journalism in New Zealand

How stories / issues are covered in NZ media . . . or *not* covered

What's happening behind the scenes in the media

**How taxpayer' money is spent and how publicly-funded organisations
perform**

Are news media powerful and influential in NZ?

Yes, because. . . .

Established NZ media outlets have big and loyal audiences

Smaller and local media outlets dominate their markets

. . . but they threatened by financial and commercial decline and changing consumer behaviour

Factors that threaten NZ news media power



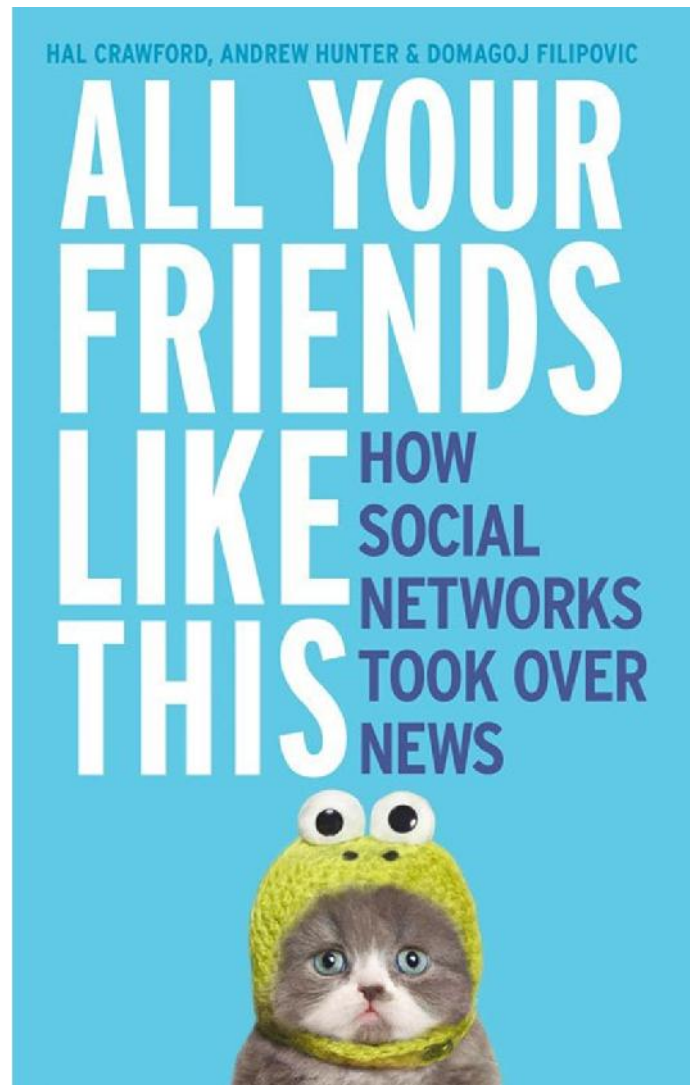
Hal Crawford



"We are forever dependent on (public taste) and we always were, but we didn't realise it.

Even in the days of hot lead, newspaper editors wanted stuff the audience valued, but they were working in an information vacuum.

As you see what the audience is doing (online), everything changes".



"If something is worth being on a front page, it is possible to make it interesting.

If it's not possible to make it interesting, get rid of it and get something that is interesting and important".

TRENDING



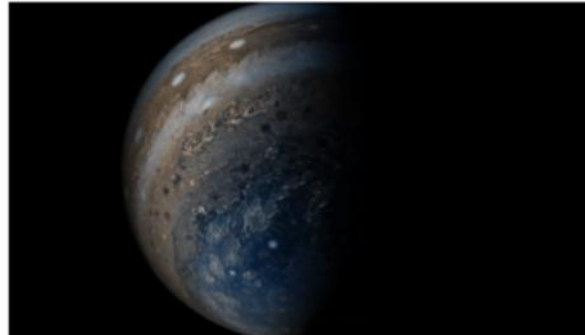
Miranda Kerr and Evan Spiegel wed



Harambe: Still the internet's favourite gorilla



Elvis jet auction fails to hit high notes



Jupiter as you've never seen it before

LATEST

07:27 PM Give ANZ Premiership Netball a chance, it's sure to fire up

07:10 PM Warring Shadowclad faces class action from homeowners

06:58 PM Sporting moments of the week

06:55 PM The last time the British and Irish Lions toured New Zealand

06:40 PM Bedwetting a genetic problem - research

06:30 PM British Airways flight disruption could last days

06:10 PM Team NZ looks promising, can only get better - former grinder

[More Latest News Headlines...](#)

Factors that threaten NZ news media power

Technology; mobile devices

Digital platforms take income - but not accountability

Public indifference / ambivalence

Post-truth politics?

Rob Hosking; NBR

"Politicians being able to knowingly misleading people – and they and everyone else not caring very much – and for there to be no consequences of those lies".

TVNZ's Andrea Vance:

“Our MPs are running around the Beehive with their pants on fire,” she said. “Reporting on politics now feels like dispatches from an alternate universe”.

eg:

“Govt insists there is no evidence that inequality in New Zealand is rising, despite actual evidence on the widening wealth gap from Statistics New Zealand.

Bill English vetoing parental leave legislation with bogus figures;

Treasury report saying 90-day trial period employment had created no jobs, John Key responded with anecdotes, saying never policy's goal anyway.

Who has power over the media?

Corporate owners and governors:

Government

New Zealand On Air

Google, Facebook etc.

Public relations industry

Prominent pundits

Sponsors and advertisers

US

Australia: Public Interest Journalism Committee

(a) the current state of public interest journalism in Australia and around the world, including the role of government

(b) the adequacy of current competition and consumer laws to deal with the market power and practices of search engines, social media aggregators and content aggregators.

(c) the impact on public interest journalism of search engines and social media internet service providers circulating fake news

(d) the future of public and community broadcasters in delivering public interest journalism, particularly in regional Australia and diverse communities;

(e) examination of 'fake news', propaganda, and public disinformation.

Canada: 'The Shattered Mirror'

**The Shattered
Mirror:
News, Democracy and
Trust in the Digital Age**



Paul Thompson; RNZ CEO

- 1. Journalism matters -**
- 2. An issue of national sovereignty.**
- 3. A more informed and vigorous debate**
- 4. Not just about the usual suspects**
- 5. The question of trust**
- 6. Strong, independent and accountable public media institutions**
- 7. Build the future, don't shore up the past**