

Section 5: Shareholder data

This data has been made available to purchasers of *A History of Regional Commercial Television in Australia* (Palgrave Macmillan 2022) as well as a service to other researchers with an interest in regional commercial television history. Please contact Michael Thurlow at michael@channel35.au if you have any questions, queries, or comments.

Contents

[Appendix 5.1. Principal shareholders, 1966](#)

[Appendix 5.2. Principal shareholders, 1971](#)

[Appendix 5.3. Principal shareholders, 1976](#)

[Appendix 5.4. Principal shareholders, 1981](#)

[Appendix 5.5. Principal shareholders, 1986](#)

[Appendix 5.6. Principal shareholders, 1992](#)

[Appendix 5.7. Principal shareholders, 1999](#)

[Appendix 5.8. Principal shareholders, 2009](#)

[Appendix 5.9. Principal shareholders, 2019](#)

[Shareholder data update, 30 June 2022](#)

Definition

A principal shareholder refers to the single largest shareholder in a regional commercial television licensee company. The extent of this shareholding could range from 5 to 100 per cent.

Data sources

The data in this section was derived from the following sources unless otherwise indicated:

- ABCB annual reports, 1961-76
- ABCB licence grant inquiry reports, 1960-76
- Regional television company annual reports, 1960-2019
- ABT annual reports, 1976-1992
- ABA annual reports, 1992-2003
- ACMA annual reports, 2003-2019

Appendix 5.1. Principal shareholders, 1966

The following table lists principal shareholders, 30 June 1966.¹

Licence	Principal shareholder
Regional radio broadcasting interests	
CBN	Country Broadcasting and Television Services Ltd
GLV	Victorian Broadcasting Network Ltd
GMV	Associated Broadcasting Services Ltd
TNQ	Ayr Broadcasters P/L
Regional newspaper interests	
RTQ	Provincial Newspapers (Qld) P/L through its Rockhampton Newspaper Co. P/L subsidiary
Regional cross-media interests	
BTV	Ballarat Courier P/L, including its Ballarat Broadcasters P/L subsidiary
RTN	Northern Star Ltd, including its Richmond River Broadcasters P/L subsidiary
TNT	W.R. Rolph & Sons Ltd, through its The Examiner Newspaper Co. P/L and 7EX P/L subsidiaries
Metropolitan newspaper interests	
CTC	John Fairfax & Sons Ltd, through its Federal Capital Press of Australia P/L subsidiary
NBN	Consolidated Press Holdings Ltd (Packer) News Ltd (Murdoch)
WIN	Consolidated Press Holdings Ltd (Packer) News Ltd (Murdoch)
Other interests	
BCV	Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) Ltd
DDQ	Greater Union Organisation (through subsidiaries)

Appendix 5.2. Principal shareholders, 1971

The following table lists principal shareholders, 30 June 1971.²

Licence	Principal shareholder
Regional radio broadcasting interests	
BCV/GLV	Victorian Broadcasting Network Ltd
BTV/GMV	Associated Broadcasting Services Ltd
NEN	Broadcast Amalgamated Ltd including Balerf P/L subsidiary (Higginbotham family)
TNQ/FNQ	Ayr Broadcasters P/L (Gleeson family) ³
WBQ	Bundaberg Broadcasters P/L
Regional newspaper interests	
RTQ	Provincial Newspapers (Qld) P/L through its Rockhampton Newspaper Co. P/L
STV	Elliott Newspaper Group P/L including Sunraysia Broadcasters P/L subsidiary (Lanyon family)
Regional television interests	
FNQ	Telecasters North Queensland Ltd
Regional cross-media interests	
BTV	Ballarat Courier P/L
NRN/RTN	Northern Star Holdings Ltd directly and through subsidiary companies
TNT	Examiner-Northern TV Ltd through its Northern Television (TNT9) Ltd subsidiary
Metropolitan radio broadcasting interests	
DDQ/SDQ	Commonwealth Broadcasting Corp. (Qld) Ltd (Albert family)
Metropolitan newspaper interests	
CTC	John Fairfax and Sons Ltd ⁴
WIN	News Ltd through Media Securities Ltd (Murdoch family) ⁵
Motion picture theatre interests	
DDQ/SDQ	Greater Union Organisation and subsidiaries
MVQ	Mackay Theatres (Estate Late John Taylor)
Non-media/other business interests	
BTW/GSW	Swan Brewing Co. Ltd
CBN/CWN	Email Ltd
GTS/SES	Electronic Industries Ltd
MTN	Henry Jones & Co. (Sydney) P/L
NBN	Telecommunications Securities Ltd ⁶
Private and family investment interests	
BKN	J.M. Sturrock P/L (Sturrock family)
ECN	Eric Dare
RVN/AMV	Henderson family (Elwood, etc.)
VEW	Group Television Services P/L (Lilburn family)

AWA held minor direct and indirect interests in 10 regional stations as well as a 10.1 per cent interest in TEN Sydney.⁷

Appendix 5.3. Principal shareholders, 1976

The following table lists principal shareholders, 30 June 1976.⁸

Licence	Principal shareholder
Regional radio broadcasting interests	
BTV/GMV	Associated Broadcasting Services Ltd
NEN/ECN	Broadcast Amalgamated Ltd (Higginbotham family) including Balerf P/L subsidiary
TNQ/FNQ	Ayr Broadcasters P/L ⁹ (Gleeson family)
WBQ	Bundaberg Broadcasters P/L
Regional newspaper interests	
STV	Elliott Newspaper Group P/L including Sunraysia Broadcasters P/L (Lanyon family)
Regional television interests	
RTQ	Mackay Television Ltd (MVQ) ¹⁰
Regional cross-media interests	
NRN/RTN	Northern Star Ltd, directly and through subsidiary companies
TNT	Examiner-Northern TV Ltd, through its Northern Television (TNT9) P/L subsidiary
Motion picture theatre interests	
MVQ	Mackay Theatres (Estate Late John Taylor)
Metropolitan newspaper interests	
CTC	John Fairfax and Sons Ltd, through The Federal Capital Press of Australia P/L and related companies ¹¹
WIN	News Ltd, through Media Securities Ltd ¹²
Metropolitan radio broadcasting interests	
DDQ/SDQ	Commonwealth Broadcasting Corp. (Qld) Ltd (Albert family)
NBN	Radio 2UE Sydney P/L (Lamb family)
Non-media/other business interests	
CBN/CWN	Email Ltd
MTN	Henry Jones & Co. (Sydney) P/L (and associated company)

Private/family investment interests	
BCV/GLV	Messrs. Hutchinson, Hutchins, and Petley ATF Estate H.M. Schutt
BTW/GSW	Colbern Nominees P/L
GTS/BKN	J.M. Sturrock P/L (Sturrock family)
ITQ	Fotheringham Investments P/L (Joel family)
NTD	G.J. Lewis (company secretary)
RVN/AMV	Elwood P/L (Henderson family)
SES	Scott's Agencies P/L (Scott family)
VEW	Group Television Services P/L (Lilburn family)

Appendix 5.4. Principal shareholders, 1981

The following table lists principal shareholders, 30 June 1981.¹³

Licence	Principal shareholder
Regional radio broadcasting interests	
BTV/GMV	Associated Broadcasting Services Ltd
NEN/ECN	Broadcast Amalgamated Ltd (Higginbotham family) including Balerf P/L subsidiary
STV	Sunraysia Broadcasters P/L (Lanyon family)
Regional newspaper interests	
GTW	Geraldton Newspapers Ltd
TNQ	The North Queensland Newspaper Co. Ltd
Regional television interests	
BKN	Spencer Gulf Telecasters Ltd (GTS)
FNQ	Telecasters North Queensland Ltd (TNQ)
RTN	Northern Rivers Television Ltd (NRN)
RTQ	Mackay Television Ltd (MVQ)
RTS	South East Telecasters Ltd (SES)
Regional cross-media interests	
NRN	Northern Star Ltd (and associated entities)
TNT	Examiner-Northern TV Ltd through W.R. Rolph and Sons P/L.
Motion picture theatre interests	
MVQ	Mackay Theatres (Estate Late John Taylor)
Non-media/other business interests	
MTN	Henry Jones (IXL) Ltd
MVQ	The Maryborough Sugar Factory Ltd
NTD	Suttons Motors (Darwin) P/L
Private/family investment interests	
BCV/GLV	Team Media Investments P/L
BTW/GSW	Retford P/L (Bendat family)
CBN/CWN	Bisley Investment Corporation Ltd (Rivkin et al)
CTC	K.M. Stokes Investments P/L (Stokes family)
DDQ/SDQ	Dare and Co. Ltd (Eric Dare)
GTS	J.M. Sturrock P/L (Sturrock family)
ITQ	Fotheringham Investments P/L (Joel family)
NBN	Tanate P/L
RVN/AMV	Elwood P/L (Henderson family)
SES	Scott's Agencies P/L (Scott family)
VEW	Group Television Services P/L (Lilburn family)
WIN	Oberon Broadcasters P/L (Gordon family)

Appendix 5.5. Principal shareholders, 1986

The following table lists principal shareholders, 30 June 1986.

Licence	Principal shareholder
Regional radio broadcasting interests	
BTV/GMV	Associated Broadcasting Services Ltd
NEN/ECN	Broadcast Amalgamated Ltd (Higginbotham family) including Balerf P/L subsidiary
Regional television interests	
BKN	Spencer Gulf Telecasters Ltd (GTS)
FNQ	Telecasters North Queensland Ltd (TNQ)
RTN	Northern Rivers Television Ltd (NRN)
RTQ	TWT Ltd (WIN) through its Capricornia Television Corporation P/L subsidiary. ¹⁴
RTS	South East Telecasters Ltd (SES) through its Murray River Telecasters P/L subsidiary.
Regional cross-media interests	
NRN	Northern Star Holdings Ltd (and associated entities)
TNT	ENT Ltd, through its W.R. Rolph and Sons P/L subsidiary.
Metropolitan media interests	
BCV/GLV	Southern Cross Communications Ltd (Techcom/Tricom)
SEQ	Universal Telecasters Ltd (Christopher Skase)
Non-media/other business interests	
MTN	Broadcast and Communications Ltd ¹⁵
NTD	Suttons Motors (Darwin) P/L
Private/family investment interests	
BTW/GSW	Retford P/L (Bendat family)
CBN/CWN	Roslyndale Securities P/L (Sam Gazal)
CTC	Australian Capital Equity P/L (Stokes family)
DDQ/SDQ	Aspermont Ltd ¹⁶ (David Haynes)
GTS	J.M. Sturrock P/L (Sturrock family)
GTW	F.A.L. Connell
ITQ	Fotheringham Investments P/L (Joel family)
NBN	Hadjoin P/L (Kevin Parry) ¹⁷
MVQ	Wilabin P/L
RVN/AMV	Paul Ramsay Communications P/L (Paul Ramsay)
SES	Scott's Agencies P/L (Scott family)
STV	Sabtel P/L (Eva Presser)
TNQ	Allard Services P/L (Gleeson family) ¹⁸
VEW	135 Nominees P/L
WIN	Oberon Broadcasters P/L (Gordon family)

Appendix 5.6. Principal shareholders, 1992

The following table lists principal shareholders, 30 June 1992.¹⁹

Licence	Principal shareholder
Regional television interests	
BKN	Spencer Gulf Telecasters Ltd (GTS) (87 per cent)
GTW, VEW	Golden West Network P/L (SSW, WAW), through 135 Nominees P/L (100 per cent)
ITQ	Telecasters North Queensland Ltd (TNQ/QQQ) (100 per cent)
RTS	South East Telecasters Ltd (SES), through its Murray River Telecasters P/L subsidiary (56 per cent)
STV	Television Victoria Ltd (VTV) (100 per cent)
TNT	Southern Cross Communications Ltd (BCV, GLV), through Tricom Television (Tasmania) P/L (100 per cent)
Metropolitan media interests	
NTD	Consolidated Press Holdings Ltd (Kerry Packer) through Television Holdings (Darwin) P/L and Nine Television P/L
Other media interests	
IMP	ATSIC, Central Australia Aboriginal Media Association
Non-media/other business interests	
BCV, GLV	Various institutional investors; diverse shareholding
NBN	W H Soul Pattinson and Company Ltd
SEQ, MVQ	Various companies associated with businessmen Sam Gazal, Reg Grundy and Trevor Kennedy ²⁰
TNQ, QQQ	Suspirium P/L (Fulcrum Media, Freedman family)
Private/family investment interests	
CBN, NEN, AMV	Paul Ramsay Holdings P/L and associated companies (Paul Ramsay) ²¹
CTC	Chagrin P/L (Charles Curran)
GTS	J.M. Sturrock P/L, Estate of the late J.M. Sturrock ²²
MTN	Broadcast Media Group P/L, through Votrait No. 620 P/L (William (Ray) Gamble and John Gerahty)
NRN	Aspermont Ltd (David Haynes), ²³ through Meridian Holdings Ltd
SES	Scott's Agencies P/L (Scott family) ²⁴
SSW, WAW	Australian Capital Equity P/L (Kerry Stokes/Andrew Cohen)
VTV, TVT	ENT Ltd (Edmund Rouse and family) ²⁵
WIN, RTQ	Oberon Broadcasters P/L (Bruce Gordon)

Appendix 5.7. Principal shareholders, 1999

The following table lists principal shareholders, 30 June 1999.

Licence	Principal shareholder
Metropolitan media interests	
STQ	K.M. Stokes and associated companies through Seven Network Ltd (Kerry Stokes)
NTD	Publishing and Broadcasting Ltd and associated companies (Kerry Packer)
Private/family company interests	
WIN, RTQ, VTV, MTN, AMN, STV, TVT, SES, RTS, WOW	Oberon Broadcasters P/L and associated companies (Bruce Gordon)
CBN, NEN, AMV, PTV, SSW, VEW, GTW, WAW	Paul Ramsay Holdings P/L and associated companies (Paul Ramsay) ²⁶
GTS, BKN	J.M. Sturrock P/L and associated companies (Sturrock family)
Other interests	
TNQ, ITQ, QQQ, TND, NRN	Chase Manhattan Nominees Ltd
BCV, GLV, TNT, CTC	Chase Manhattan Nominees Ltd
NBN	Washington H. Soul Pattinson and Company Ltd
IMP	Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA)

Appendix 5.8. Principal shareholders, 2009

The following table lists principal shareholders, 30 June 2009.

Licence	Principal shareholder
Metropolitan media interests	
Seven STQ	K.M. Stokes and associated companies through Seven Network Ltd (Kerry Stokes)
Nine NBN, NTD + DTD (Southern Cross JV)	CVC Capital Partners (Nine Network)
Private/family company interests	
WIN Television WIN, RTQ, VTV, MTN, AMN, STV, TVT, SES, MGS, RTS, LRS, WOW + TDT (Southern Cross JV) and MDV (Prime JV)	Oberon Broadcasters P/L and associated companies (Bruce Gordon)
Prime CBN, NEN, AMV, PTV, SSW, VEW, GTW, WAW, + MDV (WIN JV)	Paul Ramsay Holdings P/L and associated companies (Paul Ramsay)
Other interests	
Southern Cross TNQ, ITQ, QQQ, TND, NRN, BCV, GLV, TNT, CTC, BKN, SCN, GTS, SGS + TDT (WIN JV) and DTD (Nine JV)	Chase Manhattan Nominees Ltd
Imparja IMP	Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA)

Appendix 5.9. Principal shareholders, 2019

The following table lists principal regional commercial television shareholders, 30 June 2019.

Licence	Principal shareholder
Metropolitan media interests	
Seven STQ	Kerry Matthew Stokes and associated companies through Seven Group Holdings Ltd ²⁷
Nine NBN, NTD + DTD (Southern Cross JV)	HSBC Custody Nominees (Australia) Ltd ²⁸
Southern Cross Austereo TNQ, CTC, BCV, GLV, TNT, ITQ, QQQ, TND, BKN, SCN, BDN, GTS, SGS, GDS + TDT (WIN JV), DTD (Nine JV) and CDT, IDQ, VAN, VAS (Imparja JV's)	HSBC Custody Nominees (Australia) Ltd, through Southern Cross Media Group Ltd
Private/family company interests	
WIN Television WIN, RTQ, NRN, VTV, MTN, AMN, MDN, STV, TVT, SES, MGS, SDS, RTS, LRS, RDS, WOW + TDT (Southern Cross JV) and MDV, SDW, GDW, VDW, WDW, SVW (Prime JV's)	Bruce Gordon through Oberon Broadcasters P/L and associated companies
Prime CBN, NEN, AMV, PTV, SSW, VEW, GTW, WAW + MDV, SDW, GDW, VDW, WDW, SVW (WIN JV's)	HSBC Custody Nominees (Australia) Ltd ²⁹
Other interests	
Imparja IMP + CDT, IDQ, VAN, VAS (Southern Cross JV's)	Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA)

Shareholder data update, 30 June 2022

Seven West Media's acquisition of Prime Media Groups television assets in December 2021 resulted in a significant change to shareholder data.

Licence	Principal shareholder
Metropolitan media interests	
Seven STQ CBN, NEN, AMV, PTV, SSW, VEW, GTW, WAW + MDV, SDW, GDW, VDW, WDW, SVW (WIN JV's)	Kerry Matthew Stokes and associated companies through Seven Group Holdings Ltd ³⁰
Nine NBN, NTD + DTD (Southern Cross JV)	HSBC Custody Nominees (Australia) Ltd ³¹
Southern Cross Austereo TNQ, CTC, BCV, GLV, TNT, ITQ, QQQ, TND, BKN, SCN, BDN, GTS, SGS, GDS + TDT (WIN JV), DTD (Nine JV) and CDT, IDQ, VAN, VAS (Imparja JV's)	HSBC Custody Nominees (Australia) Ltd, through Southern Cross Media Group Ltd
Private/family company interests	
WIN Television WIN, RTQ, NRN, VTV, MTN, AMN, MDN, STV, TVT, SES, MGS, SDS, RTS, LRS, RDS, WOW + TDT (Southern Cross JV) and MDV, SDW, GDW, VDW, WDW, SVW (Prime JV's)	Bruce Gordon through Oberon Broadcasters P/L and associated companies
Other interests	
Imparja IMP + CDT, IDQ, VAN, VAS (Southern Cross JV's)	Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA)

Notes

- ¹ ABCB, *Annual Report*, 1966, pp. 78-83. Stage 3 stations only.
- ² ABCB, *Annual Report*, 1971, pp. 167-190. Stage 3 and 4 stations only.
- ³ Ayr Broadcasters P/L was ultimately controlled by Gleeson family.
- ⁴ NAA Canberra: MP1839/2, CTC/4 PT 2: ABCB, CTC LRR, 1971 (13849407). The Fairfax-controlled Federal Capital Press of Australia P/L held a prescribed interest in CTC. A further 9.9 per cent interest was held by Vident P/L on behalf of the trustees of the Sydney Morning Herald Centenary Fund and John Fairfax and Sons Staff Pension Fund
- ⁵ News Ltd subsidiary, Southern Television Corporation Ltd (NWS) also held minor interests in SES and BTW/GSW.
- ⁶ Company ultimately controlled by Alec Forsythe, who was a director (and later chairman) of Newcastle Broadcasting and Television Corp. Ltd, licensee of NBN.
- ⁷ ABCB, *Annual Report*, 1971, p. 167-190.
- ⁸ ABCB, *Twenty-Eighth Annual Report*, 1976, pp. 165-172. Stage 3, 4 and 6 stations.
- ⁹ Ayr Broadcasters P/L was ultimately controlled by Gleeson family.
- ¹⁰ MTL was equal largest shareholder along with Capricornia Newspapers P/L.
- ¹¹ NAA Melbourne: MP1839/2, CTC/4 PT 2: ABCB, CTC LRR, 1976 (13849407). The Fairfax-controlled Federal Capital Press of Australia P/L held a prescribed interest in CTC. A further 9.9 per cent interest was held by Vident P/L on behalf of the trustees of the Sydney Morning Herald Centenary Fund and John Fairfax and Sons Staff Pension Fund
- ¹² News Ltd subsidiary, Southern Television Corporation Ltd (NWS) also held minor interests in SES and BTW/GSW.
- ¹³ ABT, *Annual Report*, 1981, pp. 136-143.
- ¹⁴ Capricornia Television Corporation P/L was ultimately controlled by TWL, licensee of WIN.
- ¹⁵ Broadcasting and Communications Ltd was ultimately controlled by Linter Group Ltd.
- ¹⁶ Dare and Company Ltd was renamed as Aspermont Ltd from 10 January 1985.
- ¹⁷ Hadjoin P/L was ultimately controlled by Parry Corporation Ltd.
- ¹⁸ Allard Services P/L was a wholly owned subsidiary of Gleeson Properties P/L, which was controlled by the Gleeson family.
- ¹⁹ ABT, *Ownership of Australia's Broadcast Media*, 1992.
- ²⁰ "Gosford TV granted approval to expand," *Canberra Times*, 17 April 1992, p. 9.
- ²¹ ABT, *RVN/CBN Licence Renewals IL/89/34 and IL/90/95*, pp. 37-39.
- ²² SGL (GTS), *Annual Report*, 1989, p. 6.
- ²³ DTL (DDQ/SDQ), *Annual Report*, 1989, p. 47.
- ²⁴ SEL (SES), *Annual Report*, 1989, p. 22.
- ²⁵ Stephen Tanner, "The rise and fall of Edmund Rouse," *Australian Studies in Journalism*, pp. 53-70.
- ²⁶ CBL, *RVN/CBN Licence Renewals IL/89/34 and IL/90/95*, 1989, pp. 37-39.
- ²⁷ Seven West Media, *Annual Report*, 2019, p. 145.
- ²⁸ Nine Entertainment Co Ltd, *Annual Report*, 2018, p. 113. It should be noted that the next largest shareholder was Bruce Gordon/Birketu P/L, with just under 15 per cent.
- ²⁹ Prime Media Group Ltd, *Annual Report*, 2018, p. 66. It should be noted that the next largest shareholder was Bruce Gordon's Birketu P/L, with just under 15 per cent.
- ³⁰ Seven West Media, *Annual Report*, 2019, p. 145.
- ³¹ Nine Entertainment Co Ltd, *Annual Report*, 2018, p. 113. It should be noted that the next largest shareholder was Bruce Gordon/Birketu P/L, with just under 15 per cent.