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NS highlights importance of Independent local news networks

THE NS met with the BBC Trust last month as part of its ongoing dialogue with Ofcom, the Trust, the BBC, ministers and senior civil servants on the BBC's plans to strengthen its local news sites across 60 areas of the UK. NS director David Newell has highlighted the importance of maintaining independent, non-government subsidised local news networks and asked the Trust for clarification over how its review of bbc.co.uk and Ofcom's public service broadcasting review will relate to the BBC Local review process.

"We do hope that the BBC Trust and Ofcom will recognise the public value and importance in ensuring that independent, non-government subsidised local news and information networks are maintained. Our member companies employ the journalists which are the foundation of the news gathering process in all nations and regions of the UK. The BBC, along with other media organisations, are reliant on that process and much of their local and regional news output is derivative of it and is "lifted" from it free of any charge from our members," said Newell.

He pointed out that the research and submissions made by the BBC to support their local news online plans "do not provide within them evidence which demonstrates genuine regional and local distinctiveness, but do point to potential impacts on regional and local media's ability to deliver local news and information - particularly given the BBC's unique ability to cross-promote its services and the current evolution in regional and local media businesses".

Telegraph moves to Broxbourne

THE move of Telegraph Media Group titles to be printed at Newsprinters' huge Broxbourne plant beside the M25 in Hertfordshire has been announced - the *Daily Telegraph* commences printing on 18 August.

By the beginning of September the full print run will have transferred from West Ferry Printers to Broxbourne of both the *Daily* and *Sunday Telegraph* titles.

This follows the start of the move of northern printed *Telegraph* titles out of Trafford Park Printers in Manchester into the Newsprinters plants at Knowsley at Liverpool and Eurocentral near Motherwell, in Scotland. TPP is owned jointly by TMG and Guardian Media Group.

The latest move leaves a question mark over the future of West Ferry Printers in London's Docklands, a plant jointly owned by Telegraph Media Group and Express Newspapers. Despite press speculation, there has been no official announcement as to its future.

A Telegraph Media Group spokesman said: "TMG's decision earlier this year to move existing print operations from sites at Trafford Park, Oxford and West Ferry followed a detailed exploration of all the options. It was concluded that the brand new Newsprinters' presses, which will provide the



● PJ complete the four-year story of Newsprinters with a visit to Broxbourne (pictured) and an interview with managing director Brian McGee - see pages 7 & 9

opportunity to print the *Telegraph* titles with high quality full colour on every page and up to six different sections in the live news product, offered the best and most competitive option to ensure the future prosperity of TMG's newspaper titles and to deliver a high quality product to *Telegraph* customers".

A News International spokesman added: "News Printers Group welcomes Telegraph Media Group to our new printworks at Broxbourne. With this

final stage of the transition from TMG's existing sites now underway, the print migration process will soon be complete.

"Our print plant at Eurocentral is already producing the Scottish editions of the *Telegraph* titles, and Knowsley will produce Northern editions from August 4. We will continue to deliver a high quality product for TMG and look forward to seeing the first full edition of *The Daily Telegraph* roll off the NPG presses at Broxbourne".

Dumfriesshire firsts



● Bill Laidlaw with his Krause Smart'n'Easy ctp line

NOT only has the Dumfriesshire Newspaper Group (DNG Media) become the first in the UK to install Krause's Smart'n'Easy ctp line with its integrated workflow, platesetter, processor and in-line plate punch/bending system but it is also the first in the UK to adopt Fujifilm's new Brillia LP-NNW violet digital plate. As is explained by Bill Laidlaw, managing director of DNG Media which publishes and prints over 36,000 newspapers a week: "We have been using Fujifilm conventional plates and film for some time now. We were very happy with the quality of our titles when we initially moved to Fujifilm and so it was a natural progression to

move to the LP-NNW ctp plate when we decided to move to a ctp workflow with the Krause Smart'n'Easy solution".

The plate uses Fujifilm's MultiGrain technology and is capable of run lengths of up to 200,000. It is claimed to offer a sharp dot from highlight to shadow areas, have simple operating conditions under yellow safelight and long processor developer life with reduced cleaning and overall maintenance costs.

DNG Media publishes and prints the paid-for Annandale series of titles and the *Moffat News*, plus the *Dumfries Courier*, a free newspaper.

Pelosi becomes NS president

MICHAEL Pelosi, managing director of Northcliffe Media, has succeeded as president of the Newspaper Society (NS) taking over from Russell Whitehair, chairman of NWN Media. On his appointment, Pelosi said: "This is a challenging time for local media. It is a pleasure to represent the NS as its president at a time when so many innovations in the delivery of local news and content are being conceived and developed by the sector".



Pelosi has worked in the media industry for the past 20 years starting out at Northcliffe Newspapers in 1988 as group finance director before being appointed deputy managing director in 1995. He was made managing director in 2004.

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