

# HISTORY OF JOURNALISM

The owners of the early newspapers were a combination of printer, publisher, and polemicist. News gathering was a matter of listening to what business people, politicians, and travelers newly returned from an event had to say and printing it. Comment and opinion was simply the view of the owner. But as newspapers became an industry, they created a new profession of journalism and particularly of reporting. The word "journalist" first appears in 1665, when it was applied to someone who wrote a journal that was made public. The term "editor" in relation to a newspaper started to be used in 1712.

By the mid-1700s many writers tried to make a living from books, magazines, and newspapers. A number of them lived on London's Grub Street (now called Milton Street). Grub Street became associated with the idea of hack writers who would do any sort of literary work for money. The Grub Street Journal, which started in 1730, was a popular weekly devoted to satirical attacks on the new profession of journalism.

Early high-profile newspapermen such as John Wilkes, who ran the radical North Briton in the 1760s, or John Walter, who founded The Times in 1785, would have been described as publishers or