

# New Zealand Herald: Behind the Scenes

By Deva Courtney, Erika Serenado, Izzy Faber, Daniel Su, Jake Nicholson

Ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes of the New Zealand Herald newspaper articles? Probably not, but we're gonna tell you anyway!

The Super Tuesday Journalism class had the chance to visit their printing press, as well as the NZME (New Zealand Media Enterprises) Central Office in Auckland recently. Today we'll tell you exactly what happens behind the scenes to make all our newspapers.

News is constantly changing and journalists are working non-stop to deliver the latest news to us. The NZ Herald is one of those companies that provides us with accurate news stories and interesting articles, writing about 200 stories a day on different topics like business, sports, entertainment and more.

Lily was our tour guide and guided us through the company. We toured through different studios for broadcasting radio and live stream updates. We couldn't go into the actual recording rooms for obvious reasons, but it was still fun to see.

The NZ Herald reporters and journalists are on the second floor of the NZME building in downtown Auckland. There are around 200-300 staff, which is a much lesser number compared to before as their numbers have been cut down due to covid. A lot of these employees work from home, however.

Work hours range from 5AM to 11PM and sometimes can go even later. Journalists have four meetings everyday at 7:30, 9:30, 13:30, and 17:30, where they discuss what they're going to write. Each journalist writes differently depending on what media platform they're putting their articles on, as they have different audiences on different platforms like Facebook, their website, and the newspaper.

Some employees have journalism degrees, while others don't. They told us there are two reporter positions available right now, so it's certainly worth a shot trying to get a job there.

Our tour guide around the NZME building came to an end and we left to tour the NZME printing press. They print the newspapers of all major newspapers in the North Island and use over 12,000 rolls of paper each year, with each roll weighing at around 1.6 tonnes so it's a big job to handle.

We found the printing process to be an interesting thing to watch, as a new pressing plate is created for each colour and page of a newspaper. We had the chance to see all of the paper running around cylinders and each colour being pressed. We also took a look at all the different methods they used to make sure each newspaper was identical to the last.

We were surprised to see how much the company relied on machines to do the work for them. There were machines running the press and even self-driving robots moving the rolls of paper around so it made sense that there weren't many human workers.

Overall it was an incredibly informative experience that has given us a new understanding on the workings behind the NZ Herald. We hope you learned something after reading this, because we sure learned a lot.

