



REFLECTING ON 2020
INFORMING THE PUBLIC IN A TIME OF CRISIS

**CELEBRATING AND SUPPORTING
GREAT AUSTRALIAN JOURNALISM**
ALL THE WINNERS AND THE FINALISTS INSIDE

Yearbook 2020



The Walkley Foundation sets the industry standard for excellence and best practice journalism. We work independently with all media organisations to support Australian journalists in telling the stories of our nation, thus strengthening our democracy. We also aim to engage both the media and the public to value journalism.

The Walkley Foundation is independently funded and registered with the Register of Cultural Organisations and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) so that donations made to the foundation are tax-deductible. Our funding comes from media companies, corporate Australia, government, philanthropists and individual donors. We draw on the expertise of senior journalists and editors who are chosen from a diverse cross-section of media organisations, formats and backgrounds. They guide our activities and share their experience and insights through judging, projects and public talks.

The Walkley Awards for Excellence in Journalism were established by Ampol Petroleum founder Sir William Gaston Walkley in 1956. The awards have since grown to celebrate excellence in journalism in all its forms, including radio, television, film, video, literature, photography and documentary. The role of the Walkley leadership team is, above all, to uphold the integrity and credibility of the Walkley Award processes.



None of what we do would be possible without the tremendous support from our many partners who believe in the value of journalism. Underpinning this is the contribution from media organisations who come together collaboratively to support the Walkley Foundation.



*Partners current as of October 2020

SUPPORTERS AND BEQUESTORS: Jim Andrews; Tom Blackburn; Bruce Conn; Helen Delley; Anne Davis; Quentin Dempster; Demnosh subud; a sub-fund of the Australian Communities Foundation; Kym Drutt; Dr Kathy Egan in memory of Emeritus Professor Alan Knight; David Epstein; Julie Flynn; Angelos Frangopoulos; Marina Go and Graeme Pringle; Oliver Gordon; David Heald; Stephen Howes and Clare Holbrook; HUNGRY Beast in memory of Kieran Ricketts; Anita Jacoby; Kate Julius; Bob and Helen Lyon; Ian and Denise Macintosh; Jill Margot; Richard Moran; Margot O'Neill; OPR; John O'Sullivan; Pacific Island Living Magazine; Martin Saxor; Warren Scott; Hedley Thomas; TNC Pacific Consulting; Catherine Wilcox; Sally Young. Anonymous (4).

All donations \$250 or more are publicly acknowledged. Every donation over \$2 is tax-deductible and appreciated.

EDITORS: LOUISA GRAHAM, MARGOT SAVILLE, LAUREN DIXON DESIGNER: SHIREEN NOLAN SUBEDITOR: KATHRYN BICE
EDITORIAL ASSISTANCE: BARBARA BLACKMAN, HELEN JOHNSTONE LEGAL ADVICE: MINTER ELLISON PRINTING: VICTORIA HORDERN

COVER PHOTO: BRAD FLEET, THE ADVERTISER, "AUSTRALIA BURNING" A large male koala rests in the charred remains of a tree on the morning after fire ripped across the southern side of Kangaroo Island. After somehow surviving the furious blaze, he was on the move looking for unburnt vegetation.

In a year marked by incessant threat, fact-based journalism to inform and guide us has been more important than ever, writes Walkley Foundation chair **Marina Go.**



REPORTING
WITHOUT FEAR
OR FAVOUR IS
A PILLAR OF A
FUNCTIONING
DEMOCRACY

One of the media's crucial roles is to inform the public in times of crisis. In 2020, the crises came thick and fast – lethal bushfires, a global pandemic, economic collapse, alleged war crimes – while perennial issues such as corruption, maladministration, cover-ups, racism, gender violence and sexual harassment continued to eat away at our social fabric. When confronting these challenges, Australians relied on accurate, up-to-the-minute reporting.

Many of these stories are represented in this year's Walkley Awards for Excellence in Journalism. As Australia's only national awards scheme, the Walkleys are the gold standard for best-practice journalism. The breadth of entries in the 2020 awards highlights how the Walkley Foundation works with all media organisations to celebrate journalism and strengthen our democracy.

The Foundation's key objectives are to recognise great Australian journalism, to support the elevation of the craft through the professional development of journalists and to ensure the highest standards of governance of the awards and the organisation. We also aim to engage both the media and the public in the cause of supporting ethical journalism in myriad ways.

Reporting “without fear or favour” on issues of public importance is a pillar of a functioning democracy. This year, there has been critical health reporting, including vital data journalism, on the COVID-19 pandemic, including Liam Mannix’s “The Perfect Virus”, the ABC’s *Coronacast* and *The Curve*, and Juliette O’Brien’s Covid19.data.com.

In the midst of such achievements, the Walkley Foundation has been greatly saddened by the closure of a large number of regional newsrooms. For those communities, this means there may be no-one to hold local government to account, cover courts, scrutinise business deals and celebrate sporting and other community successes. Local publications are also important in generating community spirit, and the loss of Walkley-nominated stories such as the *Newcastle Herald's* "Right to Know" campaign and the *Mandurah Mail's* Annette Deverell investigation would leave gaping holes in the social fabric in the future.

As a former journalist who has worked with a variety of proprietors, I am proud of the Foundation's clear purpose. The Walkley Awards are not of interest to the media industry alone; they

represent speaking truth to power and demonstrate the importance of journalism to our community and its enormous public impact, from the local to the national level.

I would like to thank my fellow directors, Karen Percy, Lenore Taylor, Marcus Strom, Michael Janda and Adele Ferguson, for their commitment. I would also like to thank chief executive Louisa Graham and the Walkley team for delivering an impressive year-long schedule of awards, events and programs.

The Walkleys have told the stories of our nation over the past year. Just as we champion excellence in journalism, we also are committed to good governance. The Walkley Foundation is an organisation of which the whole media industry can be proud.

Our impact

COMMUNITY

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS

9438

TWITTER FOLLOWERS

23.3K

FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS

6159

INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS

1678

LINKEDIN FOLLOWERS

1369

MEDIUM FOLLOWERS

769

PATHWAYS TO EMPLOYMENT

100%

of scholarships
(2018-2020)
resulted in full
time employment
within the media
industry within
4 months

JOURNALISTS TRAINED 2018 - 2020



DIGITAL SKILLS/
REPORTING 5348



FREEDOM OF
INFORMATION 143



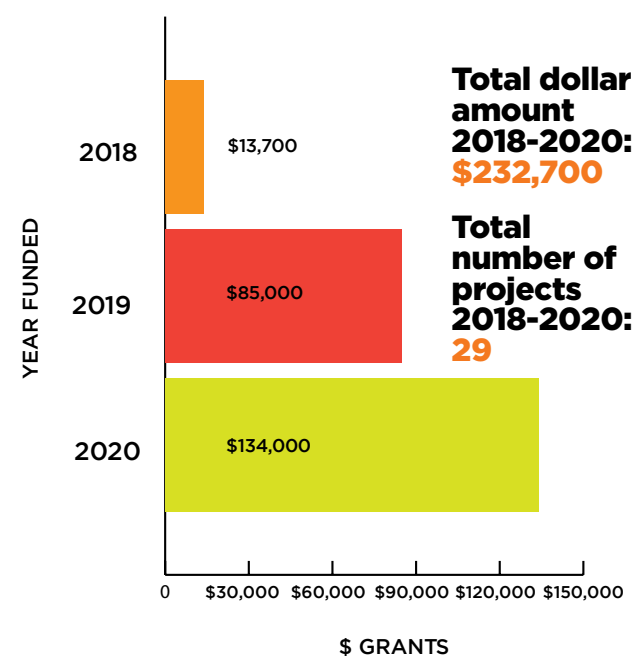
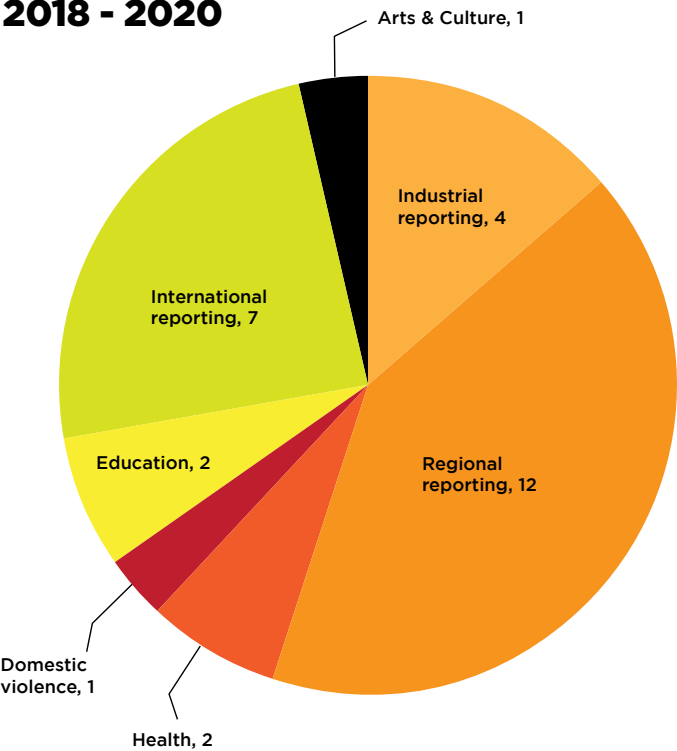
WRITING 133



PODCASTING 76



GRANTS FOR JOURNALISM 2018 - 2020



A YEAR FOR FOCUS

We remain strong and stable, delivering on our mission to support and celebrate great journalism, writes chief executive **Louisa Graham**.



I have been most proud of our digital photojournalism exhibition, *The Summer Australia Burned*, which showcases the exceptional work produced by Australian photojournalists during the bushfire season. The exhibition, curated by industry photo editors to represent a diversity of photographers, documents the tragedy and its impact on communities. It also captures the communal spirit and resolve that came out of the worst fires in recent Australian history.

Photojournalism is critical in the evolving world of journalism, where reporting facts is paramount. This year we celebrate 21 years of a partnership with Nikon to support the Nikon-Walkley Photojournalism Awards. To mark this anniversary, we worked with Nikon and the team at *The Sydney Morning Herald* to create a multimedia gallery that showcased all the past winners of the Nikon-Walkley Press Photographer of the Year award. We are also delighted that NSW Parliament House will host our 2020 finalists and winners from November 2020 to mid-January 2021.

In 2020, we have all faced unprecedented challenges. Over Australia's Black Summer, bushfires destroyed nearly 20 million hectares of land. By the time the fires were brought under control, 34 lives had been lost. As always, we relied on timely, factual reporting to inform us and save lives.

Just as the fires were subsiding, there came reports of a deadly new virus. Countries around the world rushed to close their borders, while governments in Australia shut down workplaces and sent employees home. As with the fires, it was journalists who travelled to the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic to send back accurate, life-saving reports.

The Walkley Foundation has a great deal to be proud of in 2020. We have adapted, putting the safety and health of our staff, journalists and stakeholders first and delivering award ceremonies and events virtually. The challenges of the past year have shown that journalism is critical to keeping Australians accurately informed; this year's list of finalists and winners is a testament to the outstanding journalism that is so critical to our democratic process. The Foundation remains strong and stable, equipping us to deliver on our mission of celebrating and supporting great Australian journalism.

Our intended focus for the year had been to showcase community regional journalism, culminating in an awards ceremony in Tamworth. Our plans have been delayed by the pandemic. This year we will join the many organisations that are delivering virtual events and then host the 2021 Awards ceremony in this regional powerhouse, thanks to the support of the NSW Government.

An essential part of our work is building a sustainable funding base to support the awards and the many programs we offer. Philanthropic contributions, ranging from small recurring monthly donations to major bequests, play a key role in sustaining the Foundation and our work. Bequests, such as those made by one of our significant benefactors, June Andrews, are a powerful and enduring gift to the Foundation.

Our philanthropic program has grown over the past year and we are thrilled to have partnered again with the Jibb Foundation and the Copyright Agency's Cultural Fund. We also receive support from the Judith Neilson Institute for Journalism and Ideas, the William Buckland Foundation, the Harold Mitchell Foundation, the Sidney Myer Foundation and the Dennoch sub-fund of the Australian Communities Foundation.

Many media organisations, together with corporate and community partners, share our commitment to quality journalism. Their support for our work is greatly appreciated.

In previous generations, young journalists received their training in the newsroom. Today, with shrinking staff numbers and fewer resources, many organisations cannot take on cadets or allow senior journalists time away from their desks for mentoring. This is where we step up. We have expanded our Walkley mentorship program, which aims to support journalists by providing opportunities to develop skills, build networks and learn from those who have gone before them. This was a particular passion of our past Chair, Kerry O'Brien. The program is open to journalists across the industry and of all ages and experience levels. Scholarships and fellowships continue to be a priority, and this year we have expanded the program to offer Indigenous and regionally focused opportunities in a variety of news organisations.

One of the Foundation's biggest assets is the trove of Walkley-winning stories. With support from Google, Deakin University and a number of our media partners, the Foundation has been digitising and collating these award-winning pieces since 2019 for presentation in a dynamic online platform. COVID-19 has slowed down the process, but we are grateful for our partners' continuing support under challenging circumstances.

Thanks to the generosity of our corporate, philanthropic and university partners, the funding for our freelance grants program rose to \$134,000. The grants supported 11 projects exploring overlooked stories in regional Australia, the Pacific and Asia, and helped meet the need for journalism that serves the public's right to know.

I have been honoured this year to be part of three vital initiatives: Media Diversity Australia, the Alliance for Journalists' Freedom and the Federal Government's Regional Grant Opportunity program to fund local journalism. All are doing very important work to ensure that journalism thrives and continues to underpin democracy.

The Walkley Foundation is at the heart of the Australian media. We work independently and collaboratively with journalists of every type. Each year, scores of journalists donate their valuable time to judge the Walkley awards, sit on grant selection panels, interview potential scholarship recipients, mentor the next generation of stellar journalists, appear on the panels of our Walkley Talks series and serve as directors or members of the advisory committees. We thank them very much for their time; this significant contribution is the basis of the Foundation's credibility and integrity.

In particular, I would like to thank Marina Go, who has chaired the Foundation in 2020 with great distinction. I also wish to acknowledge the Walkley team – the staff members who go above and beyond their job duties to deliver the mission of this vital organisation.

Finally, I congratulate all the 2020 winners, whose outstanding work is featured in the coming pages. I commend this report to you.

Our values: Recognising great Australian journalism

The Walkley Foundation is a custodian of excellence in reporting, working independently with all media organisations to encourage journalism of the highest standard.

THE WALKLEY AWARDS

The Walkley Awards have recognised the best Australian journalism for more than 60 years and will carry this mission into the future. The Walkleys are the only national journalism awards program. Despite industry-wide challenges and a year like no other, journalism is thriving; this year, entries rose to a record 1408. This is a testament to journalism's important role in reporting the facts in times of crisis.

In 2020 we strengthened some of the category descriptions to clarify what the judges were looking for from entrants. We also kept the entry fee at the reduced rate of \$150 to continue encouraging work from a diverse range of journalists.

The 2020 Walkley Award winners were announced via a live broadcast on Sky News Extra on November 20. Read our tributes to the winners from page 20.

MID-YEAR CELEBRATION OF JOURNALISM

The Mid-Year Celebration was established to recognise the work of young journalists and specialist writers not included in the Walkley Awards. In 2020 we took the opportunity to honour one of our significant benefactors, June Andrews, by rebranding a number of these awards in her name.

The announcement this year was run as a virtual event with the winners of the following awards being honoured: Young Australian Journalist of the Year Awards, June Andrews Award for Industrial Relations Reporting, June Andrews Award for Freelance Journalist of the Year, June Andrews Award for Women's Leadership in Media, Our Watch Award, Media Diversity Australia Award, June Andrews Award for Arts Journalism and The Pascall Prize for Arts Criticism.

Annabel Hennessy from *The West Australian* was named the 2020 Young Australian Journalist of the Year for her powerful investigation "Kill or Be Killed?: The First Chapter: The incarceration of Jody Gore".

Steve Dow, winner of the June Andrew Arts Award, and Mireille Juchau, who took out The Pascall Prize for Arts Criticism, won \$5000 cash each thanks to the generosity of the Copyright Agency's Cultural Fund.



Journalism is thriving, despite industry-wide challenges, a testament to its role reporting the facts in times of crisis.

OTHER AWARDS

Support from Media Diversity Australia enabled us to offer an award for journalism that raises awareness of culturally and linguistically diverse communities and people with disability. It recognises the significance of media coverage in providing nuanced reporting that can alter perceptions and attitudes, challenge stereotypes and fight misinformation. Mahmood Fazal and Rebecca Metcalf won in 2020 for "No Gangsters in Paradise".

We continued our relationship with Our Watch and administered the Our Watch Award for reporting to end violence against women. The 2020 winner was Nina Funnell for her "Let Her Speak" campaign.

Trophies at the ready above and 2019 winners celebrate, right.



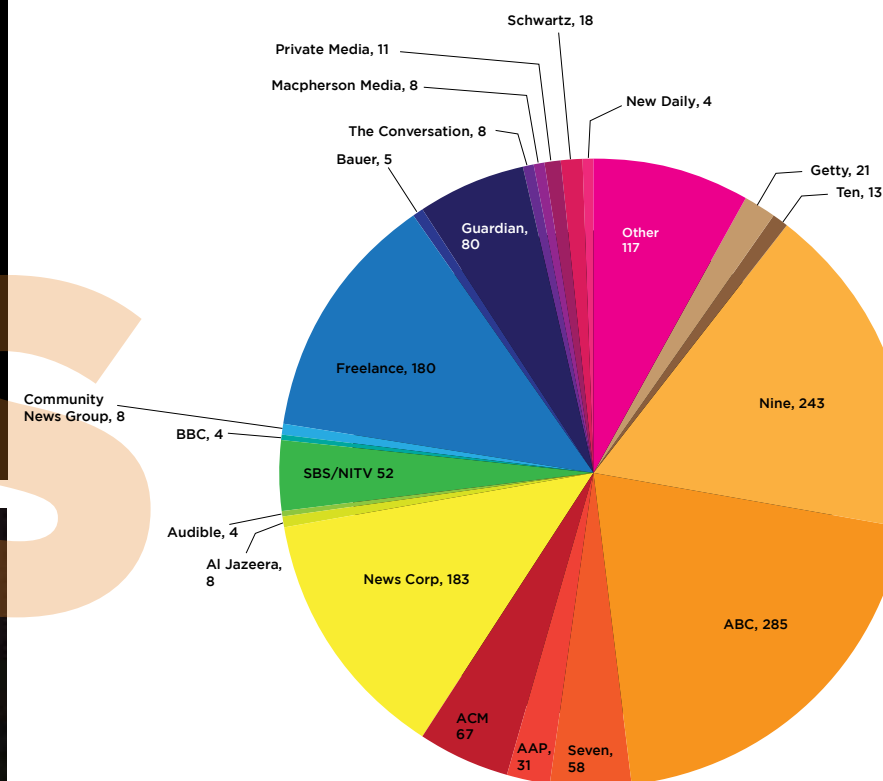
**WALKLEY
AWARD
ENTRIES 2020**

1408

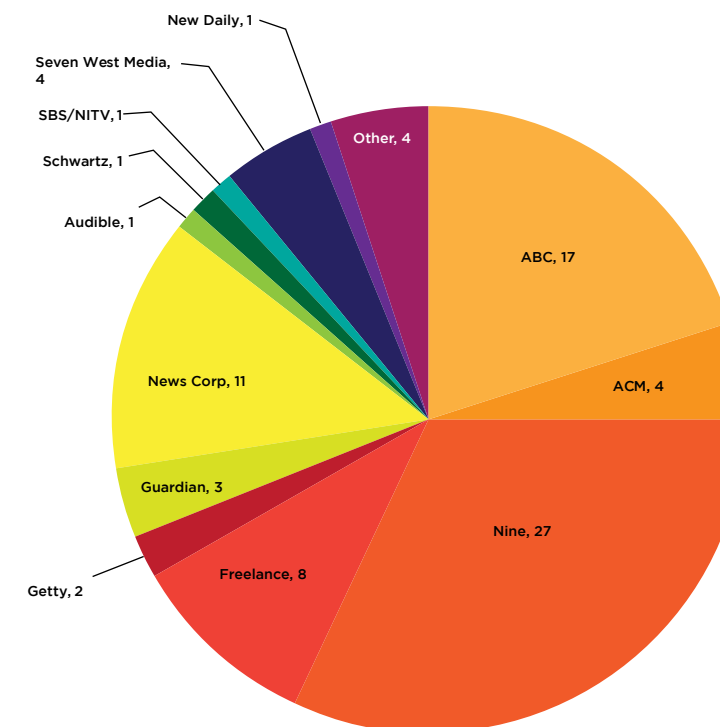
**MID-YEAR
CELEBRATION
AWARD ENTRIES
2020**

611

2020 WALKLEY ENTRIES NEWS ORGANISATION BREAKDOWN



2020 WALKLEY FINALIST NOMINATIONS BY NEWS ORGANISATION



Our values: Elevating the craft through professional development

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The Walkley Foundation works to ensure the brightest new talent from a diverse range of backgrounds is recognised, developed and connected with the industry.

In previous generations, young journalists received their training in the newsroom. Today, with shrinking staff numbers and fewer resources, many organisations cannot take on cadets or grant senior journalists time away from their desks for mentoring. This is where we step up.

Walkley Young Indigenous Scholarship

In March we announced two recipients for the inaugural Walkley Young Indigenous Scholarship with Junkee Media and 10 News First, supported by BHP. The recipients are:

Molly Hunt, a proud Balangarra/Yolngu woman from Wyndham in northern Western Australia, who has most recently worked in radio for the Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association in Darwin.

Jennetta Quinn-Bates, a proud Baakindji and Yorta Yorta woman from Muswellbrook in New South Wales, who has most recently worked as a trainee news reporter at ABC Alice Springs.

The placement was meant to start on March 30 but, due to COVID-19, Hunt and Quinn-Bates will commence their 12-week scholarships in February 2021.

The William Buckland Fellowship with *The Age*

Now in its second year, the William Buckland Foundation Fellowship provides an opportunity for a regional Victorian journalist to develop their skills and learn from award-winning journalists inside one the country's leading newsrooms. This year's recipient is Jackson Graham from *The Warrnambool Standard*, who will spend 12 weeks on secondment at *The Age* working across all platforms and playing a hands-on role in researching, developing and writing stories. The placement commences in March 2021.

The William Buckland Foundation Scholarship with *Sunraysia Daily*

This inaugural scholarship, also supported by the William Buckland Foundation, places an emerging journalist inside a regional Victorian newsroom. *Sunraysia Daily* in Mildura, one of regional Victoria's longest serving publications, recently celebrated its centenary and is the primary source of local news in the Sunraysia region. The 12-week placement will provide Grace Aicken, a recent graduate of the University of Melbourne, with hands-on experience to sharpen her reporting skills and develop her understanding of the importance of accurate and ethical reporting when serving a local community. The placement commences in March 2021.

MENTORING

The Jibb Foundation continues to support the Young Australian Journalist of the Year Awards. Its funding goes toward a mentoring program for all winners, supporting a fully paid work-experience placement with leading US media organisations for the overall winner and subsidising entry fees to the awards. All these initiatives have had a positive impact on the number of entries and the career development of these talented young journalists.

Zoe Osborne, 2019 Mentee and Young Journalist Award winner, said: "I've gained contacts (and got new work from them), I've learned a lot about producing great content in a safe way, I've developed new techniques for hunting down leads, I've received support in difficult situations and I've gained a good friend and contact. I've developed new ideas this year and have produced work that I am really proud of. I feel that I've definitely moved forwards."

This year we expanded our mentorship program to invite applications from Australian journalists of all ages and experience levels. Entries came from all over the country. With funding from the Dennoch sub-fund

Mentoring, fellowships, scholarships and training programs are filling a need created by pressure in newsrooms.



of the Australian Communities Foundation, the Sidney Myer Foundation and supporters within the Walkley community, we were able to select eight journalists for the 12-month program, pairing them with leading journalists within the industry.

Our mentorship program would not be possible without the support of the many senior journalists who take the time to share their expertise with our mentees. The Walkley Foundation would like to acknowledge and thank all the mentors for their significant contributions.

PARTNERED TRAINING

Google News Initiative Training

Since COVID-19 restrictions were established, the Google News Initiative Training Network has continued to provide, with the support of the Walkley Foundation, free online training to newsrooms, with more than 1,000 journalists and students receiving access to free tools, training and mentorship via live-streaming and webinars.

The Walkley Foundation has also created the "Verification Challenge" – a web-based competition that pitted journalists and students against a weekly open-source investigative puzzle. Using only information available in the public domain, contestants were tasked with solving questions that taught them best practices in fact-checking, verifying sources and identifying misinformation and disinformation.

The Walkley Foundation also helped to coordinate a number of other initiatives, including specialised training for publishers with some of the latest data tools available in Google Analytics. The project highlighted the help on offer from Google's Journalism Emergency Relief Fund to regional and rural media, and connected editors with Google's Digital Growth Program.

Its specialised training newsletter, delivered weekly and offering the latest learning resources, online tutorials and invitations to workshops, has grown to more than 1000 subscribers.

Jackson Graham, William Buckland Fellow at *The Age*, top left. Samara Gardner, WIN News journalist and 2018 mentee, top right. *Sunraysia Daily* will host the William Buckland Scholar, Grace Aicken.



Masterclasses and Webinars

Thanks to the support of the Copyright Agency Cultural Fund, we ran a series of free online webinars and masterclasses with some of Australia's best journalists. These included how to use Freedom of Information (FOI) requests to underpin investigations, with award-winning journalist and Seven News FOI editor Alison Sandy. Walkley Book Award-winning journalist Helen Pitt, author of *The House*, took participants through the process of writing a book from planning and research to writing, editing and publication. Walkley-winner Baz McAlister demonstrated how to approach headline writing in a range of ways.

Through our relationship with Media Diversity Australia, we co-hosted an online discussion "Who Gets To Tell Australian Stories?", looking at the lack of diversity in television news and current affairs. This fascinating panel examined the under-representation of cultural and linguistic diversity in Australian television news and current affairs, and asked why that matters and what strategies could be put in place to address the problems.

Twitter Tools workshops

In partnership with Twitter, we continued to present a series of masterclasses on modern storytelling. These include hands-on workshops that help provide journalists with the tools that can help source, create and break the best stories.

Our values: Valuing journalism

Great journalism is worth valuing and supporting. We must lead a conversation which highlights the significance of quality reporting, not only for the media industry but for all Australians.

TELLING OUR STORY

We profile our Walkley Winners through a series of spotlight interviews that appear weekly in our newsletter, on our website and on social media. The interviews showcase not only our winners' amazing work, but also the impact that journalism has on the wider community.

WALKLEY ARCHIVE

The Walkley Awards have been recognising the best in Australian journalism since 1956, steadily assembling a rich archive that offers a unique insight into history as it unfolded. The Walkley Foundation began collating, digitising the winning entries and designing an online platform to showcase this impressive catalogue of work in 2018. With funding from Google and support from Deakin University, a pilot platform was launched in 2019. Now, with support from our media partners, the Foundation is continuing with our work to present more than 1300 examples of award-winning reporting and behind-the-scenes content that will shed further light on the determination of Australia's journalists and the impact of their work.

21 YEARS OF NIKON-WALKLEY AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN PHOTOJOURNALISM

The Nikon-Walkley Awards have celebrated excellence in Australian photojournalism for more than two decades, recognising work in genres that range from news and sport to portraiture and photographic essays. Some images are the work of a split second, while others took months of preparation. Yet all the winning stills reveal how intimately photographers interact with their subjects, capturing moments that move us in a single frame. Such is the power of photojournalism.

To celebrate 21 years of exceptional photojournalism, Nikon, the Walkley Foundation and the team at *The Sydney Morning Herald* created an online multimedia gallery that showcased all the past winners of the Nikon-Walkley Press Photographer of the Year Award.

As well, the 2020 Nikon-Walkley Press Photography Exhibition is on display at NSW Parliament House from November 2020 to mid-January 2021.

SHOWCASING PHOTOJOURNALISM

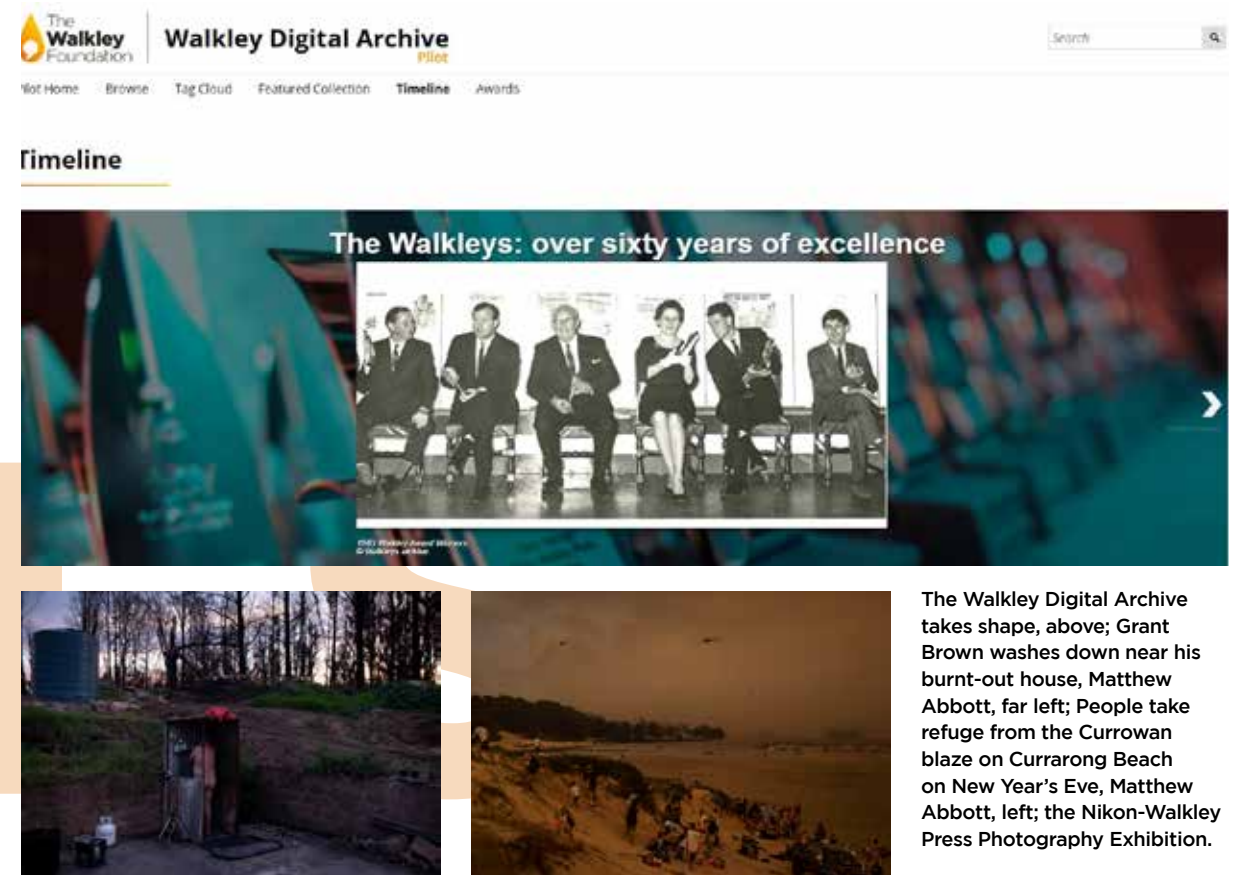
The Summer Australia Burned exhibition showcases the exceptional work produced by Australian photojournalists during the 2019-2020 bushfire season. The online exhibition, an initiative of the Walkley Foundation, was curated by industry photographic editors to represent a diversity of photographers. It documents the scale of the tragedy and its impact on communities, capturing the communal spirit and steely resolve that came to the fore during the worst fires in recent Australian history.

The curators and contributors were Mags King, SMH; Jeff Darmanin, *The Daily Telegraph*; Cassie Trotter, Getty Images; Moshe Rosenveig, Head On Photo Festival; and Jessica Hromas, *The Guardian*.

WALKLEY DOCUMENTARY SCREENINGS

Although most public events were cancelled due to COVID-19, we were able to showcase the extraordinary work of our six Walkley Documentary longlist finalists at a special full-day screening at the State Library of NSW. Free and open to the public, this event allowed the filmmakers to introduce their work and gave the audience a chance to view the best Australian documentaries of this year.

The Summer Australia Burned exhibition documents the scale of the bushfire tragedy.



The Walkley Digital Archive takes shape, above; Grant Brown washes down near his burnt-out house, Matthew Abbott, far left; People take refuge from the Currowan blaze on Currawong Beach on New Year's Eve, Matthew Abbott, left; the Nikon-Walkley Press Photography Exhibition.



OUR VALUES

Our values: Valuing journalism

GRANTS

The Walkley Foundation was delighted to support 11 projects that were the recipients of the 2020 grants for public interest journalism. This year, thanks to the generosity of our corporate, philanthropic and university partners, the funding available rose to \$134,000. The grants supported projects exploring overlooked stories in regional Australia, the Pacific and Asia, and helped meet the growing need for journalism that serves the public's right to know.

Walkley Grants for Freelance Journalism on Regional Australia

These Walkley Grants are devoted to helping Australian freelance journalists to produce significant works of journalism in any medium on the theme "Reporting Regional Australia". The judges looked for stories that had not been told before, from and about regional communities, industries, environments, economies, justice and politics. The projects funded in 2020 were:

- **Patrick Abboud** and **Simon Cunich**, "The Greatest Menace"
- **Bob Burton**, "Who pays the piper?"
- **Nina Funnell**, "Shadow Pandemic: Sexual assault and domestic violence in regional Australia during COVID-19"
- **Jessica Malcolm**, "Bee brokerage"
- **Emma Masters**, "Listen and Learn: A report card from the bush"
- **Kim Nguyen**, "Conversations with coal miners about climate change"
- **Dale Webster**, "Sitting Ducks: Post offices left carrying cash can after banks pull out of regional Australia"

The Judith Neilson Institute Freelance Grant for Asian Journalism

A new annual grant program, funded by the Judith Neilson Institute for Journalism and Ideas, was established to encourage more and better reporting on Asia by Australian media professionals and news outlets. Grants worth a total of \$25,000 were awarded to three freelance journalists.

- **Aarti Betigeri**, "Lucky You: A podcast exploring the perils of intercountry adoption"
- **Mell Chun**, "Podcast: Tasmania's Chinese history"
- **Nicole Curby**, "The Wait"

Sean Dorney Grant for Pacific Journalism

Established in 2019, the Sean Dorney Grant for Pacific Journalism was set up to help an Australian journalist produce a significant work of journalism in any medium that gives voice to Pacific Island perspectives on an under-reported issue or development of importance to Australia and the region. In 2020 the judges were so impressed with the quality of the applications they decided to award grants of \$10,000 each to two deserving recipients.

- **Jo Chandler**, "Degrees of Change: The fight for climate justice in the Pacific"
- **Nic Maclellan**, "France and Pacific self-determination during the COVID crisis"



Grants for Nicole Curby's "The Wait" podcast, above. Nic Maclellan's "France and Pacific self-determination during the COVID crisis," below left.



Richard Gillham on his property, by David Gray, above. Illawarra surfer Oceanna Rogers, 15, by Sylvia Liber

Sean Dorney with his wife Pauline Nare at the Walkley Awards in 2018, accepting his Walkley Award for Most Outstanding Contribution to Journalism



"I am delighted that, through the generosity of donors who obviously share my passion for greater and high quality news coverage of the Pacific region, we are able to make two Walkley Foundation Grants this year to enable gifted journalists to get out there and report on significant issues affecting this region, which is so important to Australia."

- Sean Dorney

Our values: Organisational health

VALUE

The Walkley Foundation is an independently funded company limited by guarantee and registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission. The Walkley Awards belong to journalists and the industry and we work independently and collaboratively with all media. Support from media organisations, in the form of financial support or in-kind contributions, is critical to our success. In 2020, we were very pleased to welcome Gold Walkley-winner Adele Ferguson as a director of the Foundation. Distinguished non-executive director and existing Walkley Board director Marina Go stepped up to take over as Chair from Kerry O'Brien.

PUBLIC FUND COMMITTEE

The Walkley Public Fund Committee members are the custodians of the Walkley Public Fund. Comprising senior journalists and industry leaders, the committee ensures that appropriate governance and processes are in place for administering fund monies.



Kate Haddock
Banki Haddock Fiora



Kate Julius
PwC



Alan Sunderland
journalist



Jim Nolan
barrister



Pamela Williams
journalist

WALKLEY DIRECTORS

The company directors, also known as the Walkley Foundation trustees.



Chair: Marina Go
non-executive director



Adele Ferguson
senior business writer, The Age



Michael Janda
senior business reporter, ABC



Karen Percy
senior journalist



Marcus Strom
media advisor and science communicator, University of Sydney



Lenore Taylor
editor, Guardian Australia

WALKLEY JUDGING BOARD

The Board of Directors appoints the Walkley Judging Board. This is an advisory committee composed of senior media industry members who judge the Walkley Awards, advise the directors on matters relating to the awards, and act as ambassadors for the Walkley Foundation.



Chair
Lenore Taylor
editor, Guardian Australia



Deputy Chair
Claire Harvey
editorial director, The Australian



Natalie Ahmat
presenter/producer, NITV News



Michael Bachelard
investigations editor, The Age



Michael Brissenden
reporter, Four Corners, ABC



Patricia Karvelas
presenter, ABC Radio National Drive



Mags King
managing photo editor, SMH, The Age and AFR



Deborah Knight
presenter, 2GB



Stella Lauri
network news director, WIN Television



John Lehmann
commercial director and managing editor, The Australian



Mark Mallabone
deputy editor, The West Australian



Hamish Macdonald
presenter, ABC Radio and ABC TV



Heidi Murphy
senior producer, Mornings with Neil Mitchell, 3AW693



Bhakthi Puvanenthiran
ABC Life



Tory Shepherd
columnist, The Advertiser

WALKLEY TEAM

Louisa Graham
chief executive

John Bergin
project manager, Google News Initiative Training Program

Barbara Blackman
executive officer

Gemma Courtney
state media awards, event organiser

Lauren Dixon
senior manager, awards and partnerships

Clare Fletcher
communications and editorial manager

Nick Jarvis
digital content producer

Helen Johnstone
development manager

Marcus Raue
events and programs coordinator

MEAA members have been doing outstanding work, writes MEAA Media federal president Marcus Strom



Left: Marcus Strom
Below: Members of the MEAA National Media Section Committee campaign for press freedom.
Opposite: The Canberra Press Gallery shows its support for AAP in March this year.



WHILE IT HAS BEEN A DIFFICULT YEAR ... ENGAGEMENT WITH THE MEDIA IS HIGHER THAN EVER

it also suffered more job losses, with another round of redundancies resulting from the government's funding freeze that cuts \$84 million over three years. The cumulative impact of the cuts on the national broadcaster since 2014 is now close to \$800 million.

There are hopes that the federal government's proposed mandatory code on digital platforms requiring them to pay for news content will help to stabilise the commercial media industry. MEAA welcomes the code, but wants legal assurances that any monies accruing from the measure



will be spent on journalism. We have also advocated for the funds to be used to support sustainable public interest journalism and benefit freelancers, and that they be made accessible to small media outlets and start-ups. There is no reason to exclude the public broadcasters, ABC and SBS, from receiving money raised via the mandatory code.

On the press freedom front, it has been another challenging year. No prosecutions have resulted from the infamous Australian Federal Police raids of the home of News Corp's Annika Smethurst and the offices of the ABC in July 2019. However, laws that criminalise journalism remain unchanged.

MEAA and other media organisations have campaigned for the public's right to know. The desired reforms include the right to contest the application for warrants for journalists and media organisations; exemptions for journalists from laws that put them in jail for doing their job; genuine protections for public sector whistleblowers; a new regime that would limit which documents can be classified as secret; and a properly functioning freedom of information regime.

We remain concerned for our members Julian Assange and Dr Yang Hengjun, who are currently in detention in Britain and China respectively. As the year draws to a close, Assange's extradition hearing nears its crunch point in a case that has major implications for press freedom globally.

If the US extradition application is successful, Assange faces 175 years in prison for exposing US war crimes, an act of journalism that was clearly in the public interest.

During the Black Lives Matter protests in the middle of this year, we raised the welfare of Australian news crews with the US Ambassador after attacks on journalists covering the protests. And we have lobbied

the Philippines government regarding its continued assault on press freedom, particularly on the work of Maria Ressa and her Rappler publication.

In other developments, MEAA's advocacy resulted in journalists employed by digital publications winning an entitlement to penalty rates, overtime and other key conditions after the Fair Work Commission agreed that digital media workers should have full access to the Journalists Published Media Award.

In the wake of the 2019 Christchurch shootings, MEAA worked with Media Diversity Australia and others to produce guidelines on reporting hate speech and extremism. The guidelines are an editorial tool that functions alongside MEAA's Journalist Code of Ethics.

We also funded the Media Diversity Australia report *Who Gets To Tell Australian Stories?* This revealed just 6 per cent of onscreen journalists are from an Indigenous or non-European background, while 75 per cent are from an Anglo-Celtic background. This simply does not reflect the reality of modern Australia.

The constant and unacceptable abuse of women journalists on social media prompted MEAA to partner with Gender Equity Victoria to launch recommendations for employers to treat the online gender-based abuse as a health and safety issue.

MEAA supported the launch of the National Aboriginal Press Club in Canberra, where Senator Patrick Dodson was the keynote speaker, and in Melbourne with Victorian Treaty Advancement Commissioner Jill Gallagher. We acknowledge there is still much work to do before Australian journalism can be truly representative of our diverse, multicultural society.

MEAA continues to value its longstanding partnership with the Walkley Foundation as we work together to promote excellence in Australian journalism.

Laws that criminalise journalism remain unchanged.

MARK PHILLIPS



The NSW Government congratulates this year's **Walkley Award winners and finalists.**

In a year of disruption and devastation for many in our communities, the ability of quality journalism to inform, inspire and challenge has never been more important.

The NSW Government is a proud partner of the **2020 Walkley Awards** in NSW.

TRUTH IS KEY TO TRUST IN THE NEWS

This shocker of a year has both challenged us and proven, more starkly than ever, the importance of what we do, writes Walkley Judging Board chair Lenore Taylor.

During last summer's fires factual information at times made the difference between life and death. Likewise, facts have been the most important tool for limiting the spread of the coronavirus, and our audiences have had a seemingly insatiable thirst for information – the case numbers, the hospital capacities and the lockdown rules, plus everything known about the virus and everything epidemiologists could tell us about how it is transmitted. They wanted maps and graphs and detailed explainers. They wanted instructions about how to make masks and how to home-school and how to cope emotionally. They clung to the best available knowledge when everything else was dissolving into uncertainty. As journalists, we all worked hard to deliver.

Because facts are what we do.

We also know that facts, and fact-based debate, are under threat, from politicians all the way up to the president of the United States, who dismiss any facts they don't like as "fake news". In some cases, they wage deliberate campaigns to crush this very foundation of our job, the



once immutable idea that facts and truth should form the guardrails of civic debate and discussion.

This may be part of the reason that the public, our audience, has had their trust in us shaken over recent years, along with trust in many other institutions.

If we are to convince our audience of our essential role, I think we need to exercise a little self-reflection about whether we always check enough and contextualise enough, whether in our day-to-day reporting we always call out what is exaggerated or simply untrue, what is old news dressed up as new and what doesn't make sense, rather than just putting it in quotation marks and filing the story because the news of the day is crowding in.

But that said, I am always heartened, if slightly overwhelmed, when I see the array of excellent reporting and writing in contention for a Walkley award – and the evident journalistic skill and determination behind every entry.

Judging more than 1400 entries is no easy feat. We put a great deal of time and energy into ensuring that the first round judges come from all media organisations. This year they were again supported by senior journalists Helen Dalley and Simon Crerar, who helped advise on questions of eligibility and the checking of claims made in applications. Their role was to provide factual advice, not to participate in the selection of finalists, and the first-round judges once again reported that this was extremely helpful.

In the second round, members of the Walkley Judging Board, also drawn from diverse media outlets, meet for a full day to choose the winners. The discussion focuses solely on the merits of the entries, with workplace allegiances left at the door. After much robust discussion, we leave happy with our decisions.

We are always careful to avoid perceived and actual conflicts of interest. Judges in both rounds recuse themselves in the case of any professional or personal conflict of interest.

I would like to thank all the judges involved in the 2020 Walkleys for their time and effort. They made time in their busy lives because they believe the Walkleys are important. I'd also like to thank the deputy chair of the Walkleys Judging Board Claire Harvey, Walkley Foundation chief executive Louisa Graham and the whole team from the Foundation for managing this enormous task.

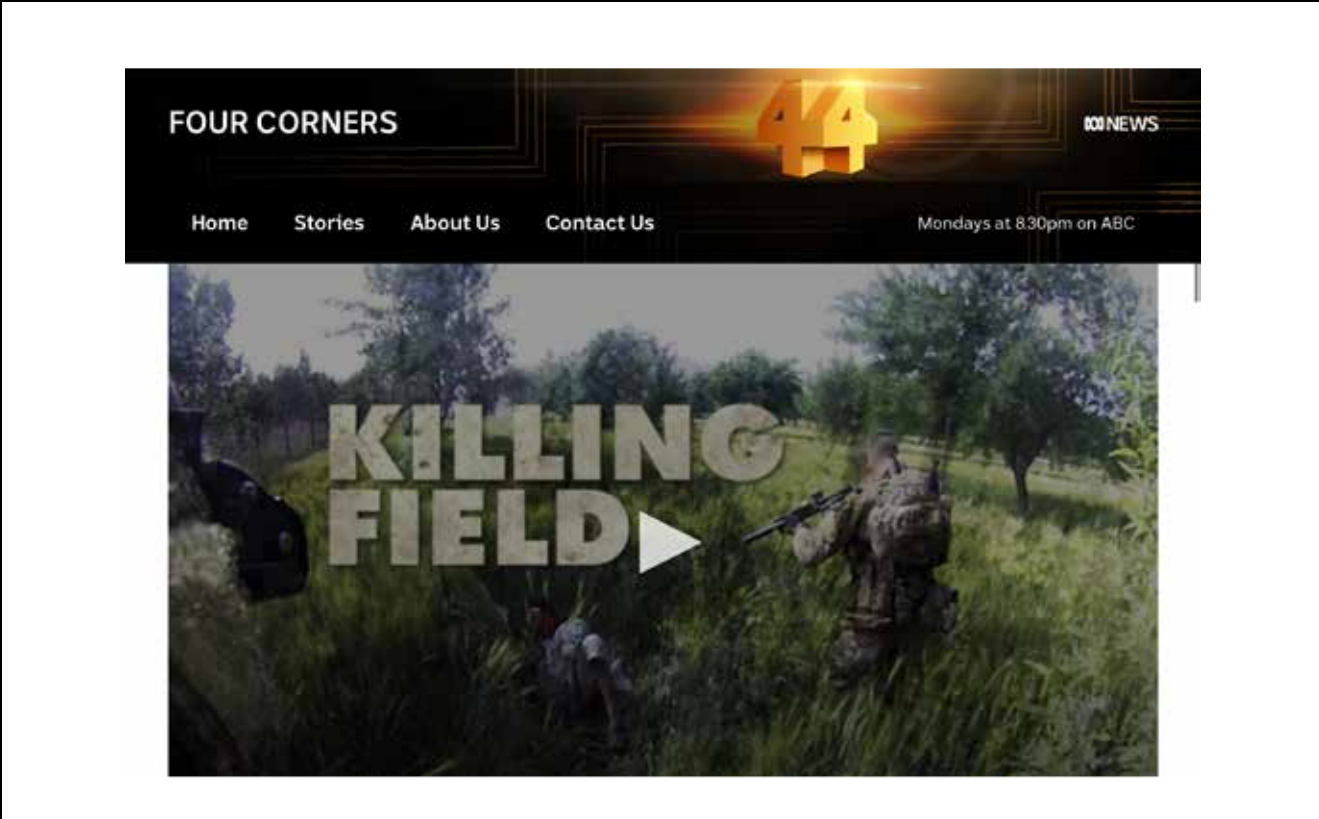
Given the challenges I mentioned earlier, it is more important than ever to promote and celebrate the very best of what we do. We all know that a Walkley Award is the measure of Australian journalistic excellence.

FACTS AND FACT-BASED DEBATE ARE UNDER THREAT FROM CLAIMS OF FAKE NEWS



2020 GOLD WALKLEY

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM



KILLING FIELD

Mark Willacy and the ABC Investigations-Four Corners Team

Four Corners, ABC



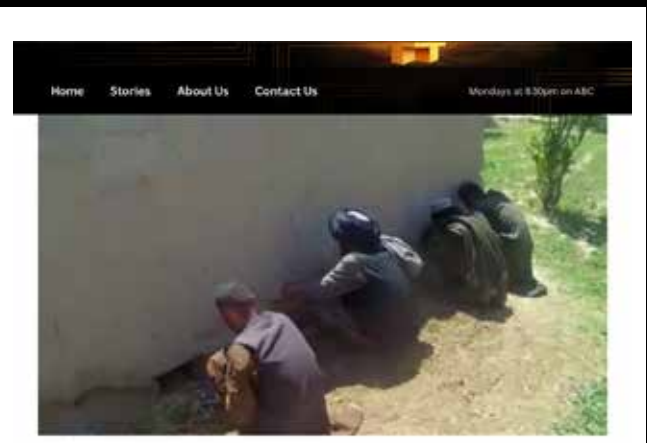
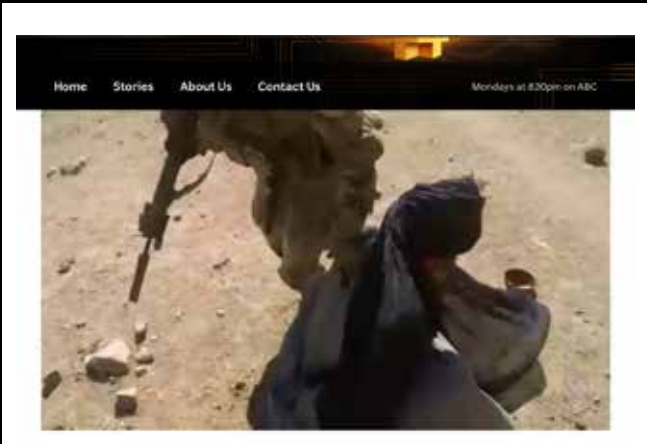
Attempts to report on allegations of war crimes encounter extreme obstacles, yet Mark Willacy’s unflinching investigations continue to expose alleged war crimes, suspected cover-ups and deep cultural problems within Australia’s special forces. He worked tirelessly to find sources within the secretive ranks of the Special Air Service Regiment, the SAS, and spent weeks verifying allegations with family members of alleged murder victims on the ground in war zones, producing gut-wrenching reports too powerful for the public and the defence hierarchy to ignore.

“Killing Field”, the result of a six-month investigation, included chilling helmet-camera footage of the killing of an unarmed Afghan civilian at the hands of an SAS soldier code-named “Soldier C”. The impact was immediate. The day after the broadcast, the Prime Minister said the images and allegations in the program were “shocking” and “alarming”. The revelations triggered an investigation by the Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force.

Mark Willacy is a reporter for ABC Investigations. He was an ABC correspondent in Jerusalem, Baghdad and Tokyo for a decade and has reported from more than 30 countries. He covered the 2003 Iraq War, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the 2011 Japan tsunami and nuclear meltdowns, and the 2018 Thai cave rescue. Brisbane-based Willacy has won five Walkley Awards and a Logie, and has twice been named Queensland Journalist of the Year.

JUDGES’ COMMENTS

With shocking helmet-camera footage and Mark Willacy’s sharp scripting and probing interviews, “Killing Field” is a compelling investigation of how the rules of engagement were manipulated by one rogue SAS soldier to allegedly commit war crimes in Afghanistan.



NIKON-WALKLEY PRESS PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

Nikon is a proud supporter of the
Nikon-Walkley Press Photographer of the Year
Award and congratulates this year's winner



Matthew Abbott

The New York Times & Oculi

Matthew Abbott said: “The last year has been a career highlight for me as a photojournalist. I feel honoured that I was able to work on one of the biggest international stories ever to come to Australia – the summer of bushfires – and that I was able to contribute to such an important news story driven by images. Having the work seen and shared by so many people gave me faith in how important what we do as photojournalists is.”

Matthew Abbott is a Sydney-based documentary photographer who is widely recognised for documenting social, cultural and environmental stories in contemporary suburban and regional Australia. He is a regular contributor to *The New York Times* and other international media. His work has been recognised through a number of prestigious awards, including the 2020 Deadline Club Award for Spot News, second place in the Spot News category of the 2020 World Press Photo Contest and third place in the Daily Life category at the US-based Pictures of the Year awards. He won the inaugural Rust Belt Biennial, supported by Wilkes University in Pennsylvania, in 2019 and the Nikon-Walkley Contemporary Prize for Australian Daily Life in 2018 and 2019. Abbott is a member of the Oculi collective, Australia's leading co-operative of visual storytellers.

JUDGES' COMMENTS
With a body of work that highlights his light-footed approach to photography, Matthew Abbott's portfolio is breathtaking. A remarkable selection of shots that tell a compelling story.



Zoey Salucci McDermott and Mike Harrington lost their house and are currently living in a donated Winnebago near Cobargo. The couple gave birth to their child Phoenix in the van after the fires.

Opposite, top: A destroyed car on a street corner in Conjola Park. The fire was so hot that the aluminium in several cars melted.



Dr Kanan Shah, a member of the Emergency COVID Anaesthesia Response Team at Westmead Hospital, is directly involved in managing the airways of patients in respiratory distress.

Top: Cameron Whalebone (left) and Nathaniel Corbett (right), play at Marble Bar Pool in Australia's hottest town.



Family, friends and neighbours attend the funeral service of Valisa Talosaga, two years old, who died after contracting measles in Samoa. The service was held inside the family's home. It is common for funerals to be live-streamed on Facebook and for photos of the dead to be recorded on phone cameras.

PRINT/TEXT NEWS REPORT



‘DIRTY DYSON’:
A HARASSER ON
THE HIGH COURT

Jacqueline Maley and
Kate McClymont

The Sydney Morning Herald and The Age

Putting pen to paper for an explosive report that tears at the reputation of an Australian legal titan requires courage and meticulous research, especially when the target is eminent judicial figure and former High Court judge Dyson Heydon.

Jacqueline Maley and Kate McClymont spent two years investigating claims that the judge had sexually harassed a number of young female associates. They conducted more than 100 interviews to reveal the truth about the dark side of one of Australia’s pre-eminent jurists and the institutions that enabled his conduct.

Jacqueline Maley is a senior journalist and columnist with *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age*. She was formerly the Canberra press gallery sketch writer for the SMH. She won the Peter Ruehl Award for Outstanding Columnist at the Kennedy Awards in 2017.

Kate McClymont is an investigative journalist with *The Sydney Morning Herald*. She has won seven Walkleys, including the Gold Walkley for her coverage of the Bulldogs salary cap rorts. She has received numerous other honours, including six Kennedy Awards. McClymont was inducted into the Australian Media Hall of Fame in 2017.

JUDGES’ COMMENTS

For two years, Jacqueline Maley and Kate McClymont investigated claims that former High Court judge Dyson Heydon had sexually harassed six young female associates during his tenure. Their three-part presentation left no stone unturned in its masterly prosecution of the facts, which unmasked a man who abused the power of his position and grossly affected the lives of others. This is journalism at its finest.



PUBLIC SERVICE JOURNALISM



#LETUSSPEAK: VICTORIA
BLOCKS SEXUAL ASSAULT
VICTIMS FROM USING REAL
NAMES; GIVE RAPE SURVIVORS
A VOICE; GANG RAPE VICTIM
BECOMES FIRST TASMANIAN TO
SPEAK OUT FOLLOWING GAG
LAW REFORM

Nina Funnell, Kerry Warren
and Lori Youmshajekian

news.com.au, The Herald Sun, NT News and
The Mercury

The #LetUsSpeak campaign highlighted the devastating effects of paternalistic gag laws that prohibit victims of rape and sexual assault from identifying themselves in the media. The campaign led to gag-law reform in Tasmania and the Northern Territory, while the Victorian Attorney-General has committed to reforming the state’s law by the end of 2020. Funnell worked tirelessly to coordinate the reporting of 10 major survivor case studies, exposing the effects of the oppressive laws, while pursuing the central goal of restoring voice to those denied it.

Nina Funnell is a freelance journalist, author and creator of the #LetHerSpeak and #LetUsSpeak campaigns. She has received two Walkley Foundation grants and a Judith Neilson Institute grant. She was awarded Our Watch Awards in 2017 and 2020, and a UN Media Australia Award in 2017. In 2019, Funnell was named Journalist of the Year at the B&T Women in Media awards.

Kerry Warren is news.com.au’s afternoon news editor. She began her career at *The Sydney Morning Herald* before moving to London, then returned as digital managing editor of *The Australian Women’s Weekly*. She joined news.com.au in 2019.

Lori Youmshajekian is a video producer in News Corp Australia’s national video team. Her work in the campaigns put survivors in front of the camera to tell their stories in their own words.

JUDGES’ COMMENTS

The investigative work of Nina Funnell and the team held governments to account and drove legislative change. Their work included compelling case studies that showed the trauma caused by silencing victims through the law.



Congratulations to those
taking Australian journalism
to new heights

Sydney Airport – proudly supporting the 2020 Walkley Awards

CLOXXXXXX

Thank you for leaving
no stone unturned

Congratulations to **Jacqueline Maley** and **Kate McClymont** for looking where others didn’t to win the 2020 Walkley Award for Print/Text News Report.

WE’RE PROUD TO SUPPORT SUCH OUTSTANDING WORK
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INNOVATION



ANATOMY OF A SUICIDE BOMBING

Dylan Welch, Alexander Palmer, Clare Blumer and Suzanne Dredge

ABC



“Anatomy of a Suicide Bombing” mixed written, audio and video content in a way never seen before. Working with helmet-cam video by a US national guardsman, the team created a first-person experience of a suicide bomb attack in Afghanistan, revealing the dirty underbelly of an often censored war in an immersive manner.

Dylan Welch is a reporter for ABC Investigations. He has been a reporter for ABC 7.30 and an Afghanistan correspondent for Reuters. In 2019, Welch and colleagues won a Walkley Award for a *Four Corners* episode, “Orphans of ISIS”, about an Australian grandmother trying to rescue her family from Islamic State.

Alex Palmer is a designer, visual journalist and illustrator for the Digital Story Innovations team at ABC News. Since joining the ABC in 2016, Palmer has won several international data and design awards. In 2019, he was part of the ABC News team who won the Walkley Innovation Award.

Clare Blumer is a digital journalist with ABC Investigations, specialising in crowdsourcing. While at *The Global Mail*, Blumer received a commendation in the 2012 Walkleys. Since joining the ABC, she has won Quill and Kennedy awards.

Suzanne Dredge, a Wiradjuri woman, is a multi-platform producer with the ABC’s Investigations unit. At Koori Radio in Sydney, Dredge produced and presented *Black Chat*. In 2019, she produced “Orphans of ISIS”.

JUDGES’ COMMENTS

“Anatomy of a Suicide Bombing” used novel techniques to make gripping material even more riveting. The interactivity gave the reader control over the pace of the story-telling, while maintaining the humanity of those involved.

HEADLINE, CAPTION OR HOOK

THE ROYAL FORMERLY KNOWN AS PRINCE; BRIDGET OVER TROUBLED RORTERS; YOU HAD ONE JOBKEEPER

Anthony De Ceglie

The West Australian



You know you have a good headline when the UK press picks it up and showcases it as the best in the world. And you know it must be really good when it does that with a story on the Royals – and not just any Royals story, but the story of Prince Harry stepping down from his royal role. “The Royal formerly known as Prince” captured the moment while expressing the essentially showbiz flavour of both the British Royal Family and Harry and Meghan’s new life.

With “Bridget over trouble rorters”, De Ceglie tweaked a famous pop song to sum up the final stage of the Sports Rorts scandal. In “You had one JobKeeper”, he put a simple twist on a phrase that is part of the Aussie vernacular, so creating the ultimate criticism of a government bungle.

Anthony De Ceglie is the editor-in-chief of West Australian Newspapers. He has been in the role for nearly two years and is responsible for *The West Australian*, *The Sunday Times*, *PerthNow* and the company’s 19 regional and 12 community newspapers. Before editing The West, he was the deputy editor of *The Daily Telegraph* in Sydney. His first job was at a small regional paper, *The Collie Mail*, in rural WA. He has won two Walkleys and been a finalist on two other occasions.

JUDGES’ COMMENTS

Anthony De Ceglie’s body of work showed his ability to grab attention and capture the story in one perfect headline. “You had one JobKeeper” was one of the best of the year, knitting together readers’ astonishment at the government’s \$60 billion JobKeeper mistake, while “The Royal formerly known as Prince” was picked up around the world.



Picture by David Gray - Winner of the Contemporary Australian Daily Life category of the 2020 Nikon-Walkley Awards





PRINT/TEXT: FEATURE WRITING LONG

(OVER 4000 WORDS)



Russell Jackson's captivating feature on Robert Muir turned history on its head and recast the public view of a man who had become a caricature in football folklore. Exclusive, beautifully written and undeniably newsworthy, the piece exposed a racist underbelly to Australian football and told a very human story.



A composite image featuring a woman's face with a crown of leaves and berries, overlaid with a geometric, low-poly pattern. The image is set against a dark background with a purple wave at the bottom.

COVERAGE OF INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS



RIO TINTO EXPLODES JUUKAN GORGE, AND BHP’S 24-HOUR BACKDOWN

**Calla Wahlquist and
Lorena Allam**

Guardian Australia

On May 24, 2020, Rio Tinto destroyed a 46,000-year-old rock shelter that was sacred to the Puutu Kunti Kurrama and Pinikura people, against their express wishes. Calla Wahlquist’s first story on the explosion reached a global audience. The destruction of the Juukan Gorge rock shelters became an international scandal, and *Guardian Australia* drove coverage of the issue both in Australia and in London, where Rio Tinto’s chairman and key investors were located.

Wahlquist and Indigenous affairs editor Lorena Allam went on to reveal that BHP had applied to destroy at least 40 registered Aboriginal sites. That application was approved three days after Juukan Gorge was destroyed. Within eight hours of publication, BHP backed down. At BHP’s annual general meeting in August, shareholders approved a resolution pledging not to destroy the sites without further “deep consultation” with the Banjima people.

Calla Wahlquist is a Melbourne-based reporter and feature writer with *Guardian Australia* covering regional affairs, social justice issues and Indigenous affairs.

Lorena Allam is a Gamilaraay and Yuwalaraay woman whose country spans the border between far west NSW and south-west Queensland. She has been a journalist and broadcaster for 30 years, working for ABC News, Triple j, Radio National, ABC TV and online. Allam is the Indigenous affairs editor for *Guardian Australia*.

JUDGES’ COMMENTS
The destruction of the Juukan Gorge rock shelters was an international scandal. Calla Wahlquist and Lorena Allam’s extensive coverage sparked public protest and investor outrage, helping to prompt a parliamentary inquiry.



COVERAGE OF COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS



YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

**Matthew Kelly, Helen Gregory,
Anita Beaumont and Donna Page**

Newcastle Herald

The *Newcastle Herald* tackled a broad range of issues, from the number of medications lost or stolen from hospitals to toxic pollution leaching from an abandoned waste processing facility. The reporting highlighted just how much the government had been keeping from taxpayers, in violation of their right to know, and delivered tangible change to the community.

Matthew Kelly has worked as a journalist for more than 25 years and as a general reporter at the *Newcastle Herald* since 2018, reporting on subjects including environment, energy, water security, manufacturing and higher education.

Helen Gregory joined the *Newcastle Herald* in 2010 and is passionate about telling the personal stories behind the news. She was part of a team that won the UN World Environment Day Media Award for Environmental Reporting in 2015.

Anita Beaumont has worked at the *Newcastle Herald* for more than 15 years. She is the paper’s health reporter, covering breaking news and public interest pieces, as well as writing longform news features for both news and the *Weekender* magazine.

Donna Page is an investigative reporter for the *Newcastle Herald*, where she has also worked as chief-of-staff and day editor. She won Walkleys in this category in 2016 and 2019 and was a finalist in 2013. She teaches at the University of Newcastle.



JUDGES’ COMMENTS
The *Newcastle Herald*’s “Your right to know” campaign came at a critical moment for journalism and the quest for transparency and accountability. Determined to shine a light into some of the darkest corners of the community, the Herald exposed a broad range of injustices and prompted much-needed change.

More than just words.

Together, let’s make meaningful change.

PwC’s Indigenous Consulting
proud sponsor of the 2020
Walkley Award for
Coverage of Indigenous Affairs

Congratulations
Calla Wahlquist and Lorena Allam,
Guardian Australia,
“Rio Tinto explodes Juukan Gorge,
and BHP’s 24-hour backdown”



**PwC’s Indigenous
Consulting**

BHP

Congratulations to all the finalists and winners of the 2020 Walkley Awards.

**BHP is proud sponsor of the All Media:
Coverage of Community and Regional Affairs award.**

Imagine what we can all achieve, if we continue to think big.

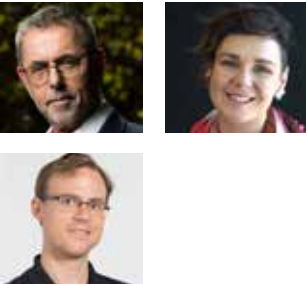
RADIO/AUDIO:
NEWS &
CURRENT
AFFAIRS



CORONACAST

Dr Norman Swan, Tegan Taylor and Will Ockenden

ABC



2020 started in a way no-one could have expected: with a global pandemic. Enter *Coronacast*, a daily, 10-minute podcast providing the latest evidence on the pandemic in response to audience questions. *Coronacast* became an invaluable font of reliable, professional information that has helped people live their lives safely. Swan worked tirelessly for months on end to cover the story with unparalleled knowledge and accuracy, and remained steadfast in the face of political criticism and pressure.

Dr Norman Swan is a physician and journalist who hosts Radio National's *Health Report*, appearing also on the ABC's *7.30*, *Midday*, *News Breakfast* and *Four Corners* and *RN Breakfast*. He created *Invisible Enemies* on pandemics and civilisation for Channel 4 UK. A past winner of the Gold Walkley, he was awarded the medal of the Australian Academy of Science and has an honorary MD from the University of Sydney.

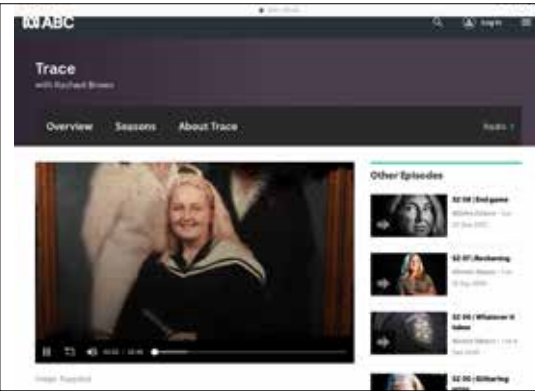
Tegan Taylor is a health and science journalist in the ABC Science Unit. She appears periodically on ABC Radio National's *Health Report* and *Life Matters*, on Triple J and in *The Best of Australian Science Writing*.

Will Ockenden produces podcasts for ABC News, including *Coronacast*, *The Party Room* and *Russia, If You're Listening*. He has worked in radio, filing stories for *AM/PM/The World Today*, and in the ABC's rural department as a national reporter.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Dr Norman Swan has become the most trusted voice for Australians seeking honest, authoritative advice on COVID-19. Providing reliable, timely information, *Coronacast's* reach and impact are significant in a year like no other in living memory.

RADIO/AUDIO
FEATURE



TRACE: THE INFORMER

Rachael Brown, Josie Taylor, Tim Roxburgh, Marty Peralta and Trace Team

ABC



Rachael Brown and Josie Taylor spent 18 months collecting stories from those in Nicola Gobbo's orbit. Brown gathered case studies of aggrieved former clients, covert police recordings and secret documents, while Taylor interviewed gangland players and lawyers. Brown flew to a secret location overseas to interview Gobbo, and supporting interviews were gathered via an encrypted messaging app.

Rachael Brown is the creator and host of *Trace*. She has held several ABC postings, including Europe Correspondent from 2010 to 2013. She won the Walkley for Best Radio Current Affairs Report in 2008. The first season of *Trace* won the 2017 Walkley for Innovation.

Josie Taylor has reported on crime and politics since 2003, covering Melbourne's gangland war and becoming state political reporter in 2009. She hosted *7.30 Victoria* from 2011 to 2014 and was on the national reporting team until 2016.

Tim Roxburgh is supervising producer of popular podcasts including *Trace*, *The Eleventh* and four seasons of *Unravel*. He is also supervising producer of the ABC's investigative audio program, *Background Briefing*.

Martin Peralta is an audio engineer, digital producer and sound designer, working across RN programs and ABC podcasts. He worked on SBS's *My Grandmother's Lingo*, which won a Webby Award and the Walkley for Multimedia Storytelling.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Rachael Brown got the interview everyone wanted – Nicola Gobbo. *Trace: The Informer* allowed the story of Lawyer X to click into place by letting Australians hear from the woman at its very heart. An impressive piece of exclusive journalism.

THE YEAR THAT CHANGED OUR WORLD

Congratulations to all the 2020 Walkley winners and finalists

The Walkley Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation relying on support from media, corporate organisations, foundations and individuals to develop a wide range of programs that underpin quality journalism including:

- Awards
- Scholarships, fellowships and leadership programs
- Grants
- Mentoring
- Walkley Digital Archive: Safeguarding a legacy of reporting

If you would like to join us in building a trusted, far-reaching news ecosystem that will benefit Australians now and in the future, please donate today.

All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible and every dollar is appreciated.

Show your support with a donation at www.walkleys.com/donate or use the QR code below.

SPORT PHOTOGRAPHY

UFC 243

Sam Ruttyn

The Daily Telegraph and The Sunday Telegraph



Clockwise from top: Australian fighter Megan Anderson celebrates after choking out her opponent; Australian fighter Jamie Mullarkey catches his breath at the end of his fight with Brad Riddell; Australian fighter Robert Whittaker (right) narrowly misses being kicked in the head by New Zealander Israel Adesanya. A mouthguard goes flying during a brutal exchange between fighters Brad Riddell and Jamie Mullarkey.

Opposite: Australian fighter Tai Tuivasa recovers after being defeated in the second round.



Nikon is a proud supporter of the Walkley Award for Sport Photography and congratulates this year's winner.

UFC 243: Whittaker vs. Adesanya, took place in Melbourne on October 6, 2019, and drew a crowd of more than 57,000, setting a new world record for the sport. Sam Ruttyn's action-packed body of work captures the elation of victory as well as the dejection that follows defeat. The mouthguard shot is a standout image.

Sam Ruttyn started his career as a photojournalist in 2000 and has worked for News Corp Australia since 2001 covering news, features and sports across all Sydney mastheads. He currently works as a senior photographer at *The Sunday Telegraph*. Ruttyn has won numerous regional and international photographic awards including Walkley Awards in 2012 and 2017, the Amnesty International Photographic Award, the Istanbul Photo Prize and the Sony International Photography Awards.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

From the splattering blood to the displays of strength, Sam Ruttyn portrayed the drama, emotion and brutality of the UFC, producing an exceptionally detailed collection of images that speak to his knowledge of the sport.



SPORTS JOURNALISM

ON THIN ICE: KATIA'S STORY

Jessica Halloran and Julian Linden

The Australian and The Daily Telegraph



A sports story that breaks the heart. Broadly researched and uncovering a dark world unknown outside figure skating, this powerful series followed the tragic suicide of a young athlete to its root cause. Jessica Halloran and Julian Linden's revelations resulted in major reform proposals to better safeguard child athletes from being "traded" between countries, subjected to abuse and inadequate concussion management, and reduced to a life of poverty when their funding levels are slashed.

Australia's peak sporting bodies, including the Australian Olympic Committee, announced they would develop an independent framework on member protection issues, effectively taking the reporting and investigations of abuse away from individual sports. The skating world's governing body said it would consider raising the minimum age of Olympic figure skaters from 15 to 17.

Jessica Halloran is the chief sports writer at *The Australian*. She began her journalism career as a cadet at *The Sydney Morning Herald*, became a sports columnist at *The Sunday Telegraph* and joined *The Australian* earlier this year. For more than 18 years she has reported from some of the largest sporting events, including the Olympics. She wrote tennis player Jelena Dokic's best-selling biography, *Unbreakable*.

Julian Linden began his journalism career in 1990 at the *Imlay Magnet* on the New South Wales far south coast. He worked for four years with United Press International in London, then spent two decades covering international sport for various news agencies, taking postings in New York and Singapore. He joined *The Daily Telegraph* in 2018, reporting on rugby, cricket and Olympic sports.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Displaying dogged tenacity, Jessica Halloran and Julian Linden pursued a compelling investigation into uncomfortable aspects of figure skating. Sparked by the tragic death of a young star, the expose forced officials to reconsider long-standing selection policies and concussion treatment. This is great journalism.

PRODUCTION



BLACK SUMMER
Four Corners Team

Four Corners, ABC

“Black Summer” is an innovation in storytelling, created almost entirely from User Generated Content that was pieced together from sources including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube in just a week and three days.

Millions had watched the videos from the frontlines, but “Black Summer” tells what happened afterwards, including never-before-heard insights shared by the survivors. The team set out to find the people behind the social media footage. This posed a massive logistical challenge – team members had to travel thousands of kilometres across Australia to reach people as the fires continued to rage.

From small towns to big cities, many survivors were still reeling from the fires but were willing to share their stories. The result is a story told by the people who lived it, without the intrusion of a reporter. The film made a complex experience accessible and interactive for a broad audience.

The team also produced a bespoke digital feature. The online story included custom-made design and specifically developed technical elements including auto play video with sound and scrolling automated audio mixing. Within 12 hours the package had 850,000 views. It was one of the website’s most highly subscribed multimedia packages, accessed by online audiences as far afield as the Middle East.

JUDGES’ COMMENTS

With “Black Summer”, the *Four Corners* team powerfully integrated user-generated footage with interviews from those at the frontline to create a succinct but sweeping overview of the bushfire disaster. A first-class production.

NEWS
PHOTOGRAPHY



A KANGAROO RUSHES
PAST A BURNING HOUSE
IN LAKE CONJOLA

Matthew Abbott

The New York Times and Oculi

Matthew Abbott captured the standout image of the 2019-2020 Australian bushfires.

Abbott said: “I’d been photographing bushfires for nearly two months, but when I approached Conjola, I saw unmatched mayhem: crowds trying to evacuate down a country road as thick smoke rose above them. I photographed home-owners hosing down what they could, holding shirts against their faces to breathe. A little after 1pm, I saw kangaroos coming up the middle of the road. One ran between me and the burning house. I was able to make several frames of the frightened animal as it dashed past and then hopped away, safe – at least for the moment.”

Matthew Abbott is a documentary photographer widely recognised for photographing social, cultural and environmental stories in suburban and regional Australia. He is a regular contributor to *The New York Times* and other international media.

Abbott has been recognised through awards including the 2020 Deadline Club Award for Spot News, second in the 2020 World Press Photo Contest, Spot News category and third in the Daily Life category at the Pictures of the Year awards. He won the inaugural Rust Belt Biennial in 2019 and the Nikon-Walkley Prize for Australian Contemporary Daily Life in 2018 and 2019.

JUDGES’ COMMENTS

For millions of people around the world, Matthew Abbott’s photo became the emblem of the Australian summer bushfires. An exceptional shot that you couldn’t stage even if you tried. A standout image.

A kangaroo bounds past a burning house in Lake Conjola, where thousands of tourists were stranded after a bushfire tore through the seaside town on New Year’s Eve.



Congratulations to the 2020 Walkley Award winners and nominees.

The Judith Neilson Institute supports quality journalism and storytelling. Its grants provide journalists with the resources they need to produce outstanding stories. Its education initiatives give journalists the skills they need to tell stories in compelling ways. Its events promote well-informed, evidence-based discussion of the issues shaping the world.


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#AMPTOO -
SEXUAL HARASSMENT
AT AMP

Michael Roddan

The Australian Financial Review

Michael Roddan’s exclusive investigation into the culture of the 170-year-old wealth management company AMP resulted in the resignations of some of the most powerful men in corporate Australia and brought the #MeToo movement into the boardroom. Roddan’s series of investigations into sexual harassment at AMP included 17 front-page stories between July 1 and August 24, 2020. He revealed the internal backlash surrounding Boe Pahari’s promotion, including highly detailed arguments between executive-level women in closed-door meetings. This relentless reporting meant the board could not ignore pressure from employees, shareholders and clients amid sustained coverage of the culture of harassment and cover-up at the company. Michael Roddan is a senior companies reporter with *The Australian Financial Review*. He was previously a journalist with *The Australian*, covering economics, politics, regulation, public policy and financial services from Parliament House in Canberra, and from Sydney and Melbourne covering the financial system, and with the now-defunct *Business Spectator*. He was named the Citi Young Business Journalist of the Year in 2020. His book *The People vs The Banks*, published by Melbourne University Publishing in 2019, was nominated for a Kennedy Award for Excellence in Journalism.



JUDGES’ COMMENTS
Michael Roddan’s investigation of AMP’s promotion of Boe Pahari, two years after he settled a sexual harassment claim by a female subordinate, was outstanding. Roddan’s thorough research not only exposed the culture at AMP but also threw the spotlight on the board and its role, resulting in the resignations of some of the country’s most powerful business figures.

SCOOP OF THE YEAR



HAWAII TWO-O:
SCOTT MORRISON’S
BUSHFIRE HOLIDAY

Samantha Maiden

The New Daily

Scott Morrison’s decision to holiday in Hawaii while Australia burned is a moment even he admits was one of his biggest mistakes as Prime Minister. But his bushfire holiday would have remained a secret to voters if Samantha Maiden had not broken the story. Having briefed some senior reporters on a mystery trip, the PM’s office asked for privacy and made no mention of him leaving the country. Not part of the select group, Maiden started asking questions as rumours began to swirl. Within 24 hours, she had confirmed that the PM had flown to Hawaii, sparking follow-up stories by every major media outlet in the country. Shortly after the scoop on his Hawaii holiday, Maiden was also the first to publish the images of the PM with Aussie tourists enjoying a beer on the island. After a storm of controversy, Morrison returned home and apologised for his adventure. The failure of judgment dominated the headlines for weeks and had a huge impact on his standing as the PM. Samantha Maiden is the political editor for news.com.au. She began her career in South Australia, was posted to Canberra after the 1998 federal election and has covered every federal budget since 1999. She worked for *The Australian* for seven years and was appointed political editor of News Corp Sunday newspapers in 2011.



JUDGES’ COMMENTS
Calling into question the Prime Minister’s judgment and dominating headlines for weeks, Sam Maiden showed grit and determination in the pursuit of her “bushfire holiday” scoop, which not only resulted in a public apology but also helped shape the PM’s hands-on response to the COVID-19 crisis.



Well said.

Congratulations to all 2020 Walkley Awards winners from ING.

ing.com.au



CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL
2020 WALKLEY AWARD WINNERS



PHOTOGRAPHIC ESSAY



FIRESTORM Nick Moir

The Sydney Morning Herald



Clockwise from above: Firefighters from Menai Fire and Rescue run from intense heat amid air filled with embers as the Green Wattle Creek fire explodes out of the forest at Orangeville, NSW; The Grose Valley fire lets loose its raw fury as it tears into Bilpin a few days before Christmas; Holidaymakers and locals wait on Currarong Beach as the plumes of the mammoth Currowan blaze hide the sky; The Rural Fire Service VLAT (Very Large Air Tanker) dumps a load of pink fire retardant over homes in Werombi. The Green Wattle Creek fire had jumped Lake Burragorang the day before and pushed into the far south-west suburbs of Sydney; Geoff Gardiner watches the ominous spread of the Green Wattle Creek fire as it pushes into Orangeville in Sydney's far south-west; Kundle/Moto Rural Fire Service deputy Captain Floyd Goodwin deploys hoses before being forced to retreat behind the truck during the Hillville fire.

Nick Moir's series "Firestorm" is a standout photographic essay on the devastation that swept through south-east Australia over the summer of 2019-2020, with every shot a hero image.

Nick Moir said: "I have been studying the meteorology of fire weather and its behaviour for 20 years and this knowledge allowed me to target the day, time, fire and community that would be threatened. On the fire days, I watched the Bureau of Meteorology radar for the intense smoke plumes a strong fire would make to confirm my positioning.

"Throughout the season, I was able to capture images of events and moments that nobody else had. In particular, the events of the 'area ignition' in Orangeville on December 5, 2019, where I captured a fire tornado and millions of embers, something that has rarely been photographed before."

Nick Moir, chief photographer at *The Sydney Morning Herald*, has specialised in environmental and meteorological events such as storms and bushfires for 20 years, covering major events such as the 2001 Black Christmas, the 2003 Canberra fires, the 2004 Asian Tsunami and the 2009 Black Saturday, as well as each storm season and several USA tornado seasons. When not reporting on such natural disasters, he works day to day covering news in Sydney for the SMH, where he has worked since 1993.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

This was a masterly series, displaying the full range of Nick Moir's impressive technical skill and 20 years' experience. Every image is breath-taking, capturing the Armageddon-like atmosphere of the firegrounds.



Nikon is a proud supporter of the Walkley Award for Photographic Essay and congratulates this year's winner



TV/VIDEO: CAMERAWORK



GEORGE FLOYD PROTESTS

Adam Bovino

Today and Nine News, Nine

When looting and rioting started in Minneapolis, Adam Bovino and journalist Tim Arvier took the first flight from Los Angeles. Shortly after arriving, Bovino was broadcasting live into the *Today* show when a confrontation erupted between police and protesters. Moments earlier, a civilian had been stabbed and police had arrived to take him to hospital.

For 16 minutes Bovino maintained uninterrupted coverage, while around him heavily armed police clashed with protesters. Bottles were thrown at officers and gas canisters were shot back, as he stood exposed in the middle, holding his ground to get the story out.

Adam Bovino has worked as a camera operator for Nine News for more than 15 years. His work has taken him around the world; in 2017 he covered the assault on Mosul in Iraq and was honoured with a Kennedy Award for his coverage. Most recently, he spent three-and-a-half years in the US bureau, covering the Las Vegas massacre, Donald Trump's presidency, the COVID-19 outbreak and the George Floyd protests. Bovino was first on the ground in Minneapolis on the night the riots began and spent more than a week covering the civil unrest in violent and challenging circumstances.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Adam Bovino took us with him into the chaos and rioting on the streets of Minneapolis, capturing the attackers, the victims and the police. Panning to each scene as all hell broke loose around him, Bovino produced exceptional breaking-news camerawork.



TV/VIDEO: NEWS REPORTING



BEAT THE PRESS: JOURNALISM UNDER ATTACK

Amelia Brace and Tim Myers

Sunrise, Seven News and The Latest, Seven Network

Amelia Brace and Tim Myers' coverage of police breaking up peaceful protests outside the White House in June had a profound impact around the world. The far-reaching nature of their reporting, their storytelling ability and their gripping pictures provided a raw insight into the civil unrest that was engulfing the US.

When riot police moved in, Myers was struck in the stomach by a shield and punched in the face. Brace was struck in the back with a truncheon and gassed with a chemical irritant. Both were hit with non-lethal rounds from automatic weapons. They continued to broadcast live as they made their way to safety.

Amelia Brace has been a reporter for *Seven News* for more than a decade. Her coverage of the protest and her assault by police drew global attention. She was called to testify before the US Congress, where she made a stand on the importance of a free media.

Timothy Myers ACS is an award-winning camera-journalist. He has filmed special investigations, human interest stories and breaking news in hostile environments for the BBC, CNN and the UN. Myers' images of the police were hailed as depicting a violation of constitutional rights and an infringement on press freedoms.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Brave and composed, Amelia Brace and Tim Myers were a standout. When they were both physically attacked during a live cross, Brace stayed on the air for several minutes amid the chaos, continuing to provide nuanced and incisive commentary. They showed courage and strong news judgement, maintaining clarity of message while under fire.



Congratulations
to this year's
Camerawork
category winner

Adam Bovino
Today and Nine News
for
George Floyd Protests



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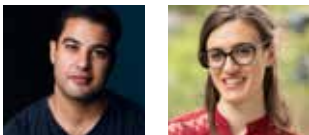
TV/VIDEO:
CURRENT
AFFAIRS SHORT
(LESS THAN 20 MINUTES)



STUFFED: INSIDE AUSTRALIA’S
BIGGEST MUSEUM HEIST

**Marc Fennell, Ninah Kopel
and Joel Stillone**

The Feed, SBS



“Bug man accused of \$1m museum thefts” screamed the headlines in the early 2000s, then the story was left for dead – until *The Feed* followed up with “Stuffed”, balancing a historical event on the knife-edge of conflicting perspectives.

Marc Fennell is a journalist, interviewer, author and documentary maker. He is the host of *The Feed* for SBS and *Download This Show* for ABC and creator of the chart-topping Audible podcasts *It Burns* and *Nut Jobs*. He has been honoured by The Webby Awards and nominated for Europe’s Rose d’Or. He has won two New York Festival Awards and America’s James Beard Award.

Ninah Kopel is a creative storyteller, audio producer and researcher, who is currently with *The Feed* at SBS. She was a producer at ABC Audio Studios, working on *The Eleventh*. Her audio documentary, *Finding Freedom In Prison*, about a rugby programme in a provincial Argentine jail, won a New York Radio Award in 2019.

Joel Stillone is a lighting camera operator who has shot documentaries for *National Geographic*, ABC, SBS, CNN and IMG Media. He received an Australian Cinematographers Society Award in Current Affairs for *The Sound Below* and was part of *The Feed* team that won an Amnesty International Media Award for the documentary “Forced to Marry”.

JUDGES’ COMMENTS

The Feed team told a beautiful story in a captivating manner, thanks to great characters, engaging music, outstanding camerawork, witty editing and excellent narration. This tale of a man with a dream of creating his own museum also raises questions about who owns Australia’s natural history and who has the right to create cultural spaces and institutions of knowledge.



TV/VIDEO:
CURRENT
AFFAIRS LONG
(MORE THAN 20 MINUTES)



THE FACELESS MAN

**Nick McKenzie, Joel Tozer and
Sumeyya Ilanbey**

60 Minutes, Nine



“The Faceless Man” prompted the removal of three cabinet ministers and sparked investigations by Victoria’s Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC) and the Ombudsman. The Australian Labor Party national executive took over the Victorian branch, while Labor heavyweights Steve Bracks and Jenny Macklin launched an inquiry into rampant branch stacking.

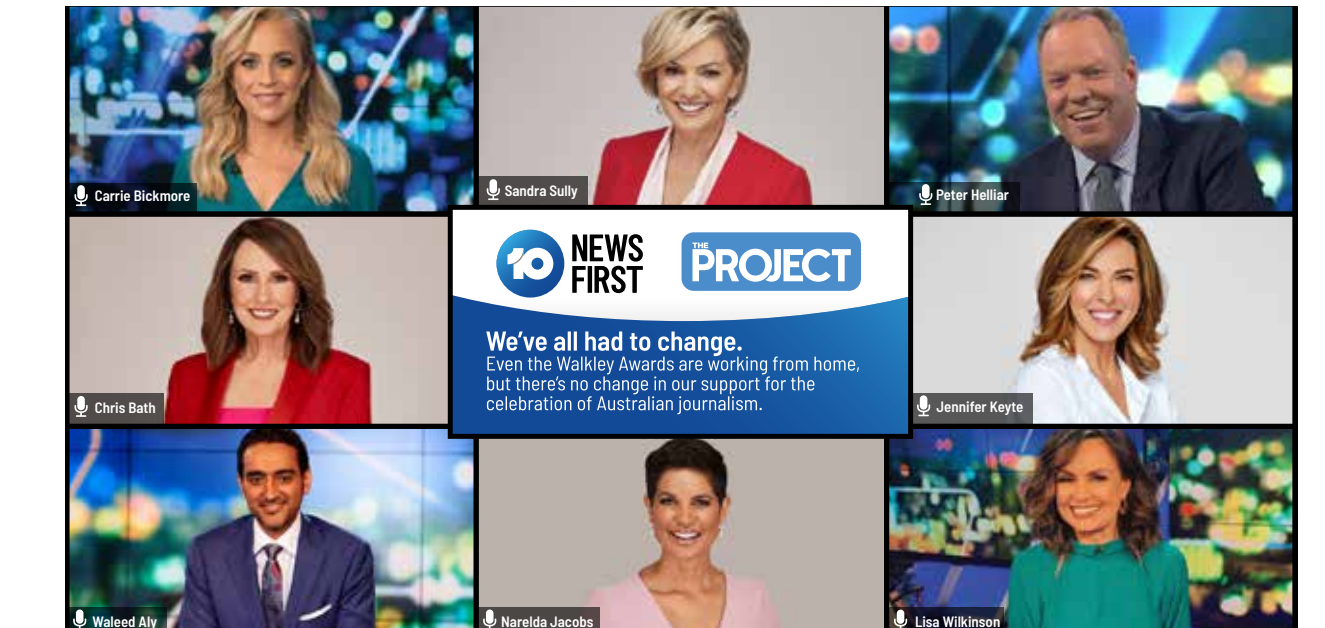
Nick McKenzie is an eight-time Walkley-winning investigative journalist with *The Age* and *The Sydney Morning Herald*. He occasionally works with *Sixty Minutes* and has previously worked with the ABC’s *Four Corners* and *7.30*.

Joel Tozer is a producer at *60 Minutes*. He has covered stories from the Christchurch terror attacks and Brexit to corruption, illicit drugs and money laundering. In 2014, Tozer was named Walkley Young Journalist of the Year for Television and the Kennedy NSW Young Journalist of the Year.

Sumeyya Ilanbey is a reporter at *The Age*. While at the *Melton and Moorabool Star Weekly*, she won an award following a year-long investigation into police resources in Melbourne’s western suburbs. In 2019, Ilanbey, Chris Vedelago and Cameron Houston of *The Age* won a Quill award for an investigation into toxic waste dumping across Victoria.

JUDGES’ COMMENTS

“The Faceless Man” lifted the lid on the Victorian ALP, including the exploitation of unsuspecting members of the public in the pursuit of power, and the use of influence to play puppet master behind the scenes. The stunning evidence of alleged corruption and branch stacking forced the Premier to sack ministers and the Federal Labor Executive to seize control of the state party. Gripping television.



COMMENTARY,
ANALYSIS,
OPINION AND
CRITIQUE



YOU LEARN A BIT WORKING ON A LOCAL PAPER. IT’S ALL ABOUT THE PEOPLE; THE TRAGEDY OF MARY AND WILLIAM, AND A FEDERATION IN CHAOS AGAIN; THE VACCINES THAT SAVED THE ROCK ‘N’ ROLL GENERATION, AND MANY MORE

Tony Wright

The Age



A simple story, done properly, isn’t so simple. It requires craft. Fifty years of writing columns has persuaded Tony Wright that a simple story can beat a path to readers’ hearts and minds. It effectively conveys opinion and analysis without hitting anyone over the head.

Wright said: “One of my methods is to incorporate history to convey a message. If something has happened before, it most likely will happen again. History is often so surprising that it will capture the reader. A reader captured is a reader looking for meaning. At that point, my job as an opinion writer’s work is done. The reader is left to take whatever they wish from what is being made of the subject being analysed.”

Tony Wright is associate editor and special writer for *The Age* and *The Sydney Morning Herald*. Raised and educated in far south-west Victoria, he started as a cadet at tri-weekly *The Portland Observer* in 1970. He has reported from the Canberra Press Gallery and filed from throughout the world for *The Canberra Times*, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Age* and *The Bulletin*. He has written plays and two best-selling books.

JUDGES’ COMMENTS

Tony Wright’s columns were superbly crafted, clearly demonstrating the power of history used well. The pieces provided an incisive perspective, as Wright gently critiqued the issues in evocative prose. Filled with humanity, they were also thoroughly enjoyable.

COVERAGE OF A
MAJOR NEWS
EVENT OR ISSUE



ABC BUSHFIRE COVERAGE
ABC News and ABC Regional
and Local Team

ABC

Australia’s bushfires were so fierce they captured the world’s attention. It was to the ABC that Australians turned for life-saving information and the stories of those affected. From the very beginning, the ABC had reporters across every fire zone, sharing stories on TV, radio and digital media. By the time the season reached its peak, in the week of New Year’s Eve, the ABC had established its reputation as the most reliable source of news and information. The ABC’s commitment continued well after the fires were out: ABC News formed a Bushfire Recovery team which visited every affected fire region and the “Road to Recovery” series followed communities during the immediate aftermath of the blazes.

This team entry for ABC News and ABC Regional and Local reflects the scores of reporters, producers, camera operators, presenters, photographers, editors and production staff who devoted countless hours to covering the bushfire crisis and delivering emergency broadcasting.

ABC News provides Australians with comprehensive coverage on radio, digital and television, from reporters in their local neighbourhood and around the world. ABC Regional and Local teams connect local communities across the country through news, storytelling, events and conversations on the issues that matter to them.

JUDGES’ COMMENTS

The breadth and depth of the ABC’s exceptional multi-platform coverage showed the strength of the national broadcaster during a crisis. Comprehensive, reliable and at times life-saving, it was a brilliant job well done.



The Walkley Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation relying on support from media, corporate organisations, foundations and individuals to develop a wide range of programs that underpin quality journalism including:

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- Scholarships, fellowships and leadership programs
- Grants
- Mentoring
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finalists and winners of
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CARTOON



THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS
David Rowe

The Australian Financial Review

David Rowe said: “I drew this cartoon on the way back from visiting family in Queensland. We got caught up in the fires on the road south to Sydney and ended up in Coffs Harbour trying to avoid the smoke. The backdrop politically was the climate debate, the lack of fire preparedness and a distinct dissatisfaction with the government response.

“The best cartoons, for me, are when you’re hesitant to actually submit because they’re on the edge and they’re a gut response. The Thoughts and Prayers cartoon was pretty damning early on but, following the Hawaii escapade and what transpired later, it only grew in power.”

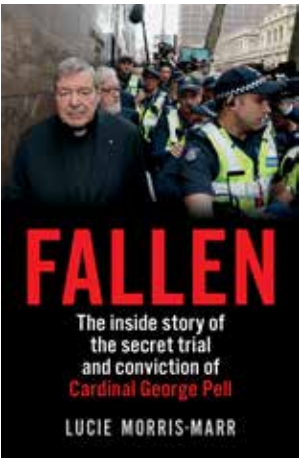
David Rowe had an early interest in drawing and a thirst for comics, with his inspiration coming from Ronald Searle, Ralph Steadman, Geoff Pryor and Bruce Petty. He spent a year studying Political Science at ANU, and another in Graphic Investigation at Canberra Art School. He worked at *The Canberra Times* before freelancing briefly in London for *The Independent* and *The Times Literary Supplement*. Rowe has been *The Australian Financial Review’s* political cartoonist for the past 27 years. He has won three Walkleys.

JUDGES’ COMMENTS

In a dramatic and cleverly realised cartoon, David Rowe encapsulated the Prime Minister’s futile attempts to redress his earlier absence from the bushfire crisis, while ridiculing his platitudes as he faced the inferno with buckets of unhelpful “Thoughts and Prayers”.



WALKLEY
BOOK AWARD



FALLEN
Lucie Morris-Marr

Allen & Unwin

Fallen reveals the full story of the brutal battle waged by Cardinal George Pell as he fought to clear his name, including a ferocious bid to be freed from jail. Author Lucie Morris-Marr also shares the compelling personal journey she undertook as she investigated the biggest story of her career and the frequent attacks she endured from powerful Pell supporters.

British-born investigative journalist, writer and broadcaster Lucie Morris-Marr was twice highly commended as Young Journalist of the Year at the British Press Awards while working on domestic and international assignments for the *Daily Mail* in London. In 2006 she moved to Sydney as associate editor of *Marie Claire*, where she focused on longform investigative journalism. Morris-Marr went on to work as a senior writer for the *Herald Sun* in Melbourne where she became the first reporter in the world to uncover a secret police investigation into Cardinal George Pell regarding child sexual abuse allegations. The author covered the subsequent legal case for *The New Daily* and CNN.

JUDGES’ COMMENTS

This compelling analysis of the trial of George Pell stood out for the sheer quality of the writing, the momentum of the story and new insights into how power operates in Australia. Morris-Marr adeptly builds context around a complex trial that grabbed global attention with a clear dissection of the legal process, media machinations and the legacy for a besieged Catholic Church, while weaving in her personal and often harrowing experience. Her tenacity and insight have produced a brilliant and eye-opening book.



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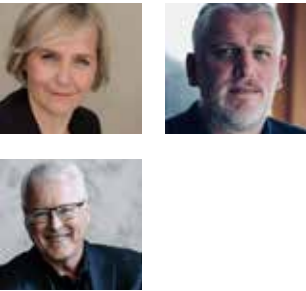
**BANKI
HADDCK
FIORA**

DOCUMENTARY



REVELATION
Sarah Ferguson, Nial Fulton
and Tony Jones

ABC and In Films



In the scandal of clerical abuse in Australia, there was one voice that hadn’t been heard: the perpetrators. The *Revelation* team set out to achieve a series of television firsts — to interview Catholic priest sex offenders and to film the criminal trials of priests and brothers accused of sex crimes against children.

Sarah Ferguson is one of Australia’s most respected and successful investigative journalists and film-makers. Her work has secured her reputation, along with an increasing global profile, built on hard-hitting interviews with international figures. Ferguson has received multiple journalistic and film-making awards, including the Gold Walkley, six Logies and AACTA awards for Best Documentary.

Nial Fulton is an award-winning producer of internationally recognised films. He puts cameras where access has never before been granted, as seen in the US series *Borderland* and the *Hitting Home* series on domestic violence. Fulton has received many awards, including AACTA and Walkley awards for documentary.

Tony Jones has covered news events from the fall of communism in Eastern Europe to the collapse of apartheid in South Africa and the rise of the Taliban. He co-created and presented *Q&A*, Australia’s leading news panel program. He has received multiple awards for his work, including six Walkleys.

JUDGES’ COMMENTS
This haunting documentary broke new ground on an issue already well covered by the media and investigated by police and the Royal Commission alike. The extraordinary access, as well as the insight it gave viewers into court proceedings, showed just how powerful journalistic documentary-making can be.

CONGRATULATIONS

to this year’s Walkley Award winners and finalists.

From the NSW Government, proud partner of the **2020 Walkley Awards** in NSW.



NIKON PHOTO
OF THE YEAR



I WANT TO HOLD HER HAND
Christopher Hopkins

The Age



May 2020: Robyn Becker was in the final stages of breast and gastric cancer at home with her daughter Alex in a Melbourne under lockdown. Having been advised that Robyn did not have much time left, her sister Jennifer travelled from California to be with her, but was required to spend two weeks in hotel isolation.

Jennifer was given special leave to visit Robyn, but only for an hour at a time. “I want to be with her, I want to talk to her, I want to hold her hand, comfort her and hug her,” Jennifer said.

Robyn would pass away several weeks later. Christopher Hopkins is a freelance photojournalist based in Melbourne. Since 2012, he has covered humanitarian issues globally and nationally with the intent of bringing human rights issues to the forefront of public awareness.

His work is featured in publications including *The Age*, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Guardian*, *Al Jazeera* and *The New York Times*. In 2018 Hopkins was awarded the Walkley Award for Feature/Photographic Essay for his SBS-commissioned series “My Name is Yunus”.

JUDGES’ COMMENTS
Christopher Hopkins’ image of Robyn Becker and her family powerfully captured the emotion of 2020. The warmth and sense of connection while we are all still in this moment of borders and barriers is just so powerful. Beautifully composed with great emotion, this is tenderness.

NIKON
PORTRAIT PRIZE



ADAM GOODES
James Brickwood

The Australian Financial Review Magazine

Every year, *The Australian Financial Review Magazine* publishes a Power issue that profiles citizens who wield influence in Australian society. As well as the usual political and industry heavyweights, the magazine publishes a list of cultural leaders. In 2019, this included Adam Goodes.

This was the first time Brickwood had photographed Goodes outside of his role as a footballer.

“The pressure he’d faced during his last few seasons was not there. Instead, the pride and optimism he had for his foundation and energy to be giving back to the community were ever-present,” Brickwood said.

“My goal was to take a photo that celebrated his strength and leadership, as well as acknowledging the recent past and the pain inflicted on him whilst playing the game he once loved.”

James Brickwood is a staff photographer at *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Australian Financial Review*. Based in Sydney, he has specialised in portraiture and documentary work for the past 13 years.

JUDGES’ COMMENTS
James Brickwood’s portrait of Adam Goodes has a contemplative and dignified quality, making this a photo that will be remembered in years to come. There have been a lot of portraits of Adam Goodes in his time, but this is a standout.



MOST OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO JOURNALISM

Ross Gittins



ROSS GITTINS is the guru of explanatory journalism. Arguably, in the field of economics, he is also the father of the genre in Australia. For more than 40 years, Gittins has made economics and public policy a must-read by making it accessible.

He has an unparalleled ability to demystify complex and technical topics to help his readers understand economics and decide whether they agree with particular policies.

This has made him the doyen of Australian economic commentators, connecting often esoteric theories with everyday life and reminding a financially-obsessed nation about ethics and doing the right thing.

In the time of the global pandemic, which has triggered a global recession, his razor-sharp analysis has never been more important.

In the words of former Treasury secretary Dr Ken Henry: “Forty years of beating up on economists has only endeared him to this most precious of professions. There are two reasons. First, we have been in awe of his powers of exposition; he outclasses all of us. Second, Ross has spoken to us as a conscience ...”

Gittins started his career in 1974 after completing a degree at Newcastle University and studying chartered accounting. On his 40th anniversary as a journalist at the SMH, he recalled “washing up at *The Sydney Morning Herald* to offer my services as an over-aged graduate cadet, at a much lower wage”.

His editor suggested he try his hand at economic journalism. “Accountant, economist – pretty much the same thing, surely? I bit my tongue and took his advice. Smartest move in my working life.”

He covered the Whitlam Government’s budget in his first year of journalism. It was the first of 43 budgets he has reported on so far.

Four years into the job he became economics editor of *The Sydney Morning Herald*, which included writing three columns a week – something he continues to this day.

He provides unique insights into people and circumstances that many other writers might miss, and takes his readers along for the ride.

Besides analysis, Gittins has written 10 books, including *Gittinomics*, *Gittins’ Gospel: The Economics of Just About Everything* and *The Happy Economist*.

In the newsroom, Gittins’ presence is felt with his signature white sneakers and generosity as a mentor to many generations of journalists. Anyone who has been taken under his wing is snapped up by newsrooms around the country, as they know anyone he mentors is well trained.

ROSS ANTHONY WILLIS



June 1984, SMH investment summit. Opposite: Interviewing NSW premier Nick Greiner, 1984 from left, Peter Bowers, Mike Steketee and Ross Gittins.

His many proteges include Sean Aylmer, Peter Martin, Jessica Irvine, John Garnaut, Clancy Yeates, Jacob Saulwick, Karen Maley, Gareth Hutchens, Peter Cai, Jennifer Duke, Eryk Bagshaw and Josh Dye.

Dye says: “Ross meticulously combs through my copy, explaining what I did well and how to get better. Our hour-long sessions are priceless for a young reporter. His dedication to mentoring the next generation of journalists will power newsrooms for years to come.”

Gittins also is a regular lecturer to students, teachers and academics in libraries and classrooms around Australia.

But it is the public education he conducts through his columns and books – and, more recently, videos and podcasts – that is his biggest contribution to journalism and the nation.

The quantity and quality of Australia’s economic policy discourse is world-leading, thanks in no small part to both his own writing and the work of the dozens of journalists he has mentored.

For his service to journalism, Gittins has been awarded the Centenary Medal and has been made a Member of the Order of Australia. He holds honorary doctorates from Macquarie University, the University of Sydney, the Australian National University and the University of Newcastle. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of NSW and, in 2017, was elected as a fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences.

And he shows no signs of slowing down.

“My enthusiasm for my topic – for my 43rd federal budget, for instance – is undiminished. Why? Because I keep learning more economics and because the economy, and economic fashions, keep changing.”

While Ross Gittins’s dress sense has remained unfashionably constant, his ability to absorb, adapt to and explain new economic thinking has ensured his continued relevance over a long and stellar career.



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OF THE 2020 WALKLEY AWARDS

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NIKON CONTEMPORARY AUSTRALIAN DAILY LIFE PRIZE



DEALING WITH DROUGHT

David Gray

Getty Images



May McKeown drives her truck to hand-feed the remaining cattle in a paddock on her drought-affected property, Long View, in October, 2019, above. May McKeown is covered in flies as she leans on the door of her truck after feeding her remaining cattle.



The Australian Bureau of Meteorology recently declared the drought across New South Wales to be the worst on record, with conditions exceeding the Federation Drought (1895-1903), the World War II Drought (1937-1947) and the Millennium Drought (1997-2009).

David Gray said: “I have been photographing 80-year-old May McKeown for over a decade, documenting the impact of the drought on her and the family property, Long View, near the town of Come By Chance. May has lived all her life on the 6000 acre (2400 hectare) property, located around 700 km from Sydney. The McKeown family has been farming in the north-west corner of New South Wales since the late 19th century.”

Nikon-Walkley winner David Gray began his career as a cadet photographer at *The Australian* newspaper in 1989, spending two years based in the Press Gallery at Parliament House in Canberra. In 2003 he was appointed chief photographer Australia/New Zealand/Pacific for Reuters and in 2007 he moved to Beijing as a specialist photographer. In 2013, he returned to Australia and again became Reuters chief photographer for ANZ/Pacific. In 2019, he went freelance, working for AFP, Getty Images, Bloomberg News, AAP and *The New York Times*.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

David Gray's striking and detailed body of work captures the effects, both physical and mental, of the drought on farmers. The photos are like paintings.

NIKON COMMUNITY/ REGIONAL PRIZE



STRENGTH AND RESILIENCE

Sylvia Liber

Illawarra Mercury



A Tapitallee resident can only look to the sky to see whether his home will survive the Currowan fire. A southerly change arrived soon afterwards, pushing the fire towards Kangaroo Valley and sparing his home, above. Vickie Roach is a proud Aboriginal woman who has not cut her hair in decades – in defiance of the strict foster mother who used to chop it off as punishment, and the men who later used her long mane to inflict pain on her. In 2007, Roach gained national prominence for her role in a ground-breaking legal challenge in the High Court that restored the right to vote to prisoners serving less than three years.



Sylvia Liber said: “From a dramatic weather occurrence to the extremes of the human emotions, to shooting with compassion and care as well as courage and no fear – it’s capturing these moments that inspires and excites me every day.”

Sylvia Liber has been a passionate visual storyteller at *Illawarra Mercury* for more than 20 years. As a regional photojournalist, she spends her workdays covering a variety of assignments from a simple weather photo to the extremes of human emotions. In recent years, Liber has been shooting underwater portraits and is now addicted. It’s capturing these raw and diverse moments that inspires her every day. Her accolades include four other Nikon-Walkley Prizes.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Sylvia Liber's body of work highlights the diversity of her range. Covering major events as well as personal stories, her work demonstrates the intimacy and trust a regional photographer can build with their community.

2020 WALKLEY AWARD FINALISTS

PRINT/TEXT NEWS REPORT

Award Partner Media Super

Luke Henriques-Gomes, *Guardian Australia*, “Robodebt failure exposed by leaked documents”

Jacqueline Maley and Kate McClymont, *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age*, “‘Dirty Dyson’: a harasser on the High Court”

Sharri Markson and Kylar Loussikian, *The Australian* and *The Weekend Australian*, “The Thousand Talents Plan”

PUBLIC SERVICE JOURNALISM

Award Partner Sydney Airport

Nina Funnell, Kerry Warren and Lori

Youmshajekian, *news.com.au*, *The Herald Sun*, *NT News* and *The Mercury*, “#LetUsSpeak: Victoria blocks sexual assault victims from using real names”, “Give Rape Survivors a Voice” and “Gang rape victim becomes first Tasmanian to speak out following gag law reform”

Chris Vedelago, Sumeyya Ilanbey and Cameron Houston, *The Age*, “The man who made a toxic waste disaster,” “What happened to us in West Footscray? Firefighters call for answers after toxic fire” and “Don’t fight’: CFA told to stay home if chemical stash explodes”

Elise Worthington, Lesley Robinson and John Stewart, *Four Corners*, ABC, “Please Don’t Judge”

INNOVATION

Award Partner Google News Initiative

Juliette O’Brien, *covid19data.com.au*, “Covid-19 Data”

Visual Stories Team, *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age*, “Invisible Crime - Are we failing victims of sexual violence”

Dylan Welch, Alexander Palmer, Clare Blumer and Suzanne Dredge, ABC, “Anatomy of a Suicide Bombing”

HEADLINE, CAPTION OR HOOK

Award Partner Qantas

Anthony De Ceglie, *The West Australian*, “The Royal formerly known as Prince”, “Bridget over Troubled Rorters”, and “You had one JobKeeper”

Baz McAlister, *The Courier-Mail*, “Apocalypse Now,” “The Windsor of Our Discontent” and “You Shook ‘Em All Night, Elon”

Duska Sulicich, *The Age*, “There’s a square in there, and a glare as well,” “Bat hit crazy” and “The laud’s prayer”

FEATURE WRITING LONG (OVER 4000 WORDS)

Award Partner UQ

Annabel Crabb, *Quarterly Essay*, “Men at Work: Australia’s Parenthood Trap”

Trent Dalton, *The Weekend Australian Magazine*, “Back From The Black”

Russell Jackson, ABC, “The Persecution of Robert Muir”

FEATURE WRITING SHORT (UNDER 4000 WORDS)

Award Partner The Sydney Morning Herald and The Age

Harriet Alexander, Nick Moir, Mark Stehle and Richard Lama, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, “The Monster: A short history of Australia’s biggest forest fire”

Liam Mannix, *The Age*, “The Perfect Virus: Two gene tweaks that turned COVID-19 into a killer”

Sarah Walker, *Australian Book Review*, “Contested Breath: The ethics of assembly in an age of absurdity”

COVERAGE OF INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS

Award Partner PwC Indigenous Consulting

Stan Grant and the Four Corners Team, *Four Corners*, ABC, “I Can’t Breathe”

Annabel Hennessy, *The West Australian*, “Kill or Be Killed? The incarceration of Jody Gore”

Calla Wahlquist and Lorena Allam, *Guardian Australia*, “Rio Tinto explodes Juukan Gorge, and BHP’s 24-hour backdown”

COVERAGE OF COMMUNITY OR REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Award Partner BHP

Carla Hildebrandt, *Mandurah Mail*, “Annette Deverell investigation”

Matthew Kelly, Helen Gregory, Anita Beaumont and Donna Page, *Newcastle Herald*, “Your Right to Know”

Charlotte King, Andy Burns and the Background Briefing Team, *Background Briefing*, ABC, “Regional stillbirths: No-one told these country mums why their babies died”

CARTOON

Glen Le Lievre, *Patreon*, “Peace at last”

Jim Pavlidis, *The Age*, “Back in Black, Highway to Hell”

David Rowe, *The Australian Financial Review*, “Thoughts and Prayers”

SPORTS JOURNALISM

Peter Badel, Travis Meyn, Robert

Craddock and Kate Kyriacou, *The Courier-Mail*, “Fall of the Brisbane Broncos”

Jessica Halloran and Julian Linden, *The Australian* and *The Daily Telegraph*, “On Thin Ice: Katia’s story”

Caro Meldrum-Hanna, Amy Donaldson, Fred Shaw and Justin Stevens, 7.30, ABC, “The Final Race”

SPORT PHOTOGRAPHY

Award Partner Nikon

Matthew Abbott, *The New York Times* and Oculi, “Football’s Longest Drive: 2000kms across Central Australia”

Robert Cianflone, Getty Images, “Sporting Arenas”

Sam Ruttyn, *The Daily Telegraph* and *The Sunday Telegraph*, “UFC 243”

RADIO/AUDIO NEWS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS

Award Partner ABC

Avani Dias, *Hack*, triple j, ABC, “The colleague, the girl, the police: Student framed and imprisoned over terror offences tells whole story for the first time”

Dr Norman Swan, Tegan Taylor and Will Ockenden, ABC, “Coronacast”

Mark Willacy, Alexandra Blucher and Rory Callinan, AM, ABC, “The Village Idiot Killing”

RADIO/AUDIO FEATURE

Rachael Brown, Josie Taylor, Tim

Roxburgh, Marty Peralta and Trace Team, ABC, “Trace: The Informer”

Nicola Harvey, Nakkiah Lui and Miranda Tapsell, *Audible*, “Debutante”

Hedley Thomas, Slade Gibson and Peter Murphy, *The Australian*, “The Night Driver”

PRODUCTION

Award Partner Judith Neilson Institute

Casey Briggs, Andrew George, Ryan

Kerlin and Peter Matejcek, ABC, “The Curve: COVID-19 data journalism”

Four Corners Team, *Four Corners*, ABC, “Black Summer”

Visual Stories Team, *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age*, “Invisible Crime - Are we failing victims of sexual violence”

SCOOP OF THE YEAR

Award Partner Nine News

Samantha Maiden, *The New Daily*, “Hawaii Two-O: Scott Morrison’s bushfire holiday”

Nick McKenzie, Joel Tozer and Sumeyya Ilanbey, 60 Minutes, Nine, “The Faceless Man”

Paul Sakkal and Chloe Booker, *The Age*, “Hotel quarantine”

COVERAGE OF A MAJOR NEWS EVENT OR ISSUE

Award Partner Facebook

ABC News and ABC Regional and Local Team, ABC, “ABC Bushfire Coverage”

Richard Baker and The Age hotel quarantine news team, *The Age*, “Hotel quarantine”

Stan Gorton, *The Islander*, “Kangaroo Island bushfire coverage”

NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY

Award Partner Nikon

Matthew Abbott, *The New York Times* and Oculi, “A kangaroo rushes past a burning house in Lake Conjola”

Brad Fleet, *The Advertiser*, “One billion deaths”

Jake Nowakowski, *Herald Sun*, “Extinction Rebellion”

BUSINESS JOURNALISM

Award Partner ING

Adele Ferguson, Lesley Robinson and Lauren Day, *Four Corners*, ABC TV and *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age*, “Immoral and unethical”

Jared Lynch and Nick Evans, *The Australian*, “Ending business payment rorts”

Michael Roddan, *The Australian Financial Review*, “#AMPToo - sexual harassment at AMP”



FEATURE/PHOTOGRAPHIC ESSAY

Award Partner Nikon

Matthew Abbott, *The New York Times* and Oculi, “Black Summer”

David Caird, *Sunday Herald Sun*, “Behind the COVID Door”

Nick Moir, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, “Firestorm”

TELEVISION/VIDEO: CAMERAWORK

Award Partner Australian Super

Adam Bovino, *Today* and *Nine News*, Nine, “George Floyd Protests”

Scott Morelli, 60 Minutes, Nine, “Permafrost”

Aaron Smith, ABC TV and ABC iView, “Revelation Episodes 2 & 3”

TELEVISION/VIDEO NEWS REPORTING

Award Partner Seven

Amelia Brace and Tim Myers, *Sunrise*, *Seven News* and *The Latest*, Seven Network, “Beat the Press: Journalism Under Attack”

Alex Hart, *Seven News Sydney*, Seven Network, “New South Wales Fires”

Chris O’Keefe, *Nine News*, “The Ruby Princess Emails”

TELEVISION/VIDEO CURRENT AFFAIRS SHORT (LESS THAN 20 MINUTES)

Award Partner SBS

Marc Fennell, Ninah Kopel and Joel Stillone, *The Feed*, SBS, “Stuffed: Inside Australia’s Biggest Museum Heist”

Adele Ferguson and Chris Gillett, 7.30, ABC, “Alinta Exposed: Power, lies and privacy breaches”

Dylan Welch, Suzanne Dredge and David Maguire, 7.30, ABC, “Battlescars”

TELEVISION/VIDEO CURRENT AFFAIRS LONG (MORE THAN 20 MINUTES)

Award Partner TEN

Nick McKenzie, Joel Tozer and Sumeyya Ilanbey, 60 Minutes, Nine, “The Faceless Man”

Louise Milligan, Mary Fallon and Lauren Day, *Four Corners*, ABC, “Boys Club”

Mark Willacy and the ABC Investigations-Four Corners Team, *Four Corners*, ABC, “Killing Field”

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

Jacqueline Maley and Kate McClymont, *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age*, “‘Dirty Dyson’: A harasser on the High Court”

Nick McKenzie and Chris Masters, 60 Minutes, Nine, “Secrets of War”

Mark Willacy and the ABC Investigations-Four Corners Team, *Four Corners*, ABC, “Killing Field”

COMMENTARY, ANALYSIS, OPINION AND CRITIQUE

Nigel McNay, *The Border Mail*, “Ineptitude at heart of shutdown,” “Go into the dark to see the light” and “Someone knows what happened”

Ranjana Srivastava, *Guardian Australia*, “I am a frontline doctor: here’s how you can help me,” “No Zoom meeting ever replaces the solace of grieving with relatives,” and “How did we miss our colleague’s grief?”

Tony Wright, *The Age*, “You learn a bit working on a local paper. It’s all about the people,” “The tragedy of Mary and William, and a federation in chaos again” and “The vaccines that saved the rock ‘n’ roll generation, and many more”

WALKLEY DOCUMENTARY AWARD

Against Our Oath, Heather Kirkpatrick, Waratah Films

Revelation, Sarah Ferguson, Nial Fulton and Tony Jones, ABC and In Films

Storm in a Teacup, Nia Pericles and Celia Tait, Artemis Media and ABC

WALKLEY BOOK AWARD

Sophie McNeill, *We Can’t Say We Didn’t Know*, ABC Books

Lucie Morris-Marr, *Fallen*, Allen & Unwin

Suzanne Smith, *The Altar Boys*, ABC Books

NIKON-WALKLEY PRESS PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

Award Partner Nikon

Matthew Abbott, *The New York Times* and Oculi

Kate Geraghty, *The Sydney Morning Herald*

Nick Moir, *The Sydney Morning Herald*

THE JUDGING PROCESS

Every year, more than 1,400 entries are judged for the Walkley Awards. It’s an enormous peer-judging process that requires the rigorous efforts of more than 100 media professionals chosen from across all areas of journalism, across Australia. Without this generous contribution by judges, the awards would simply not be possible.

The current two-tier judging process is in line with the Walkley Foundation’s ethos of encouraging excellence in the media industry.

Judges for this first round are selected by the Walkley Judging Board. You can find information about the Walkley Awards judging process, and the Terms and Conditions of the Awards here.

The Walkley Foundation has a mechanism for dealing with any conflict of interest, actual or perceived, that may arise during the judging process. The guidelines are based on the principle that all actual conflicts of interest are to be avoided and that even a perceived conflict may be damaging to all parties.

THANK YOU TO JUDGES

Sarah Abo, 60 Minutes, Nine

Gay Alcorn, The Age

Ghada Ali, The Drum, ABC

Paul Bailey, The Australian Financial Review

Bob Barker, Photographer

Katie Bice, Herald Sun

Kylie Boltin, SBS

Brooke Boney, Today, Nine

Bridget Brennan, ABC

Alice Brennan, Background Briefing, ABC

Stephen Brook, The Age

Nicky Catley, The Sydney Morning Herald

James Chessell, Nine Australian Metro Publishing

Ros Childs, ABC

Kelly Clappis, WIN TV

Andrew Clennell, Sky News Live

Rhanna Collins, NITV

Jenny Coopes, illustrator and cartoonist

Judith Crispin, Oculi

Caitlin Crowley, WIN QLD

Ross Dagan, Network 10

Helen Dalley, Chair, Walkley Documentary Award

Ian Darling, Shark Island Productions

Matthew Doran, ABC

Melissa Doyle, senior journalist and presenter

Julian Drape, Guardian Australia

Margie Easterbrook, The Age

Christine El-Khoury, Q&A, ABC

Cherine Fahd, UTS

Fiona Ferguson, The Northern Daily Leader

Janet Fife-Yeomans, The Daily Telegraph

Sophie Foster, News Corp Australia

Catherine Fox, business writer

Mary Gearin, ABC TV News Victoria

Kieran Gilbert, Sky News

Tony Gillies, AAP

Peter Gotting, ABC

Vanessa Graham, The Daily Telegraph

Scott Hamaford, The Canberra Times

Adam Harvey, Four Corners, ABC

Lachlan Heywood, The Daily Mail

Sandra Jackson, The West Australian

Narelda Jacobs, Network 10

Anita Jacoby, senior TV producer

Rae Johnston, NITV

Aparna Khopkar, The Sydney Morning Herald

Ray Kuka, 7 News Perth

Antoinette Lattouf, Network 10

Chip Le Grand, The Age

Geoff Lemon, writer and broadcaster

Julie Lewis, The Sydney Morning Herald

Catherine Liddle, First Nations Media

Tim Love, Sky News

Xavier Mardling, Newcastle Herald

Philippa McDonald, ABC

Phillipa McGuinness, non-fiction publisher and author

Shane McInnes, 3AW/Nine

Leila McKinnon, Nine

Brett McLeod, Nine News Melbourne

Rick McPhee, CJZ

Christine Middap, The Weekend Australian Magazine

Karen Middleton, The Saturday Paper

Wes Mountain, The Conversation

Oliver Murray, news.com.au

Alex Needs, Nine

Sally Neighbour, Four Corners, ABC

Peter Norden, Deakin University

Margot O’Neill, senior journalist

Jamie Pandaram, News Corp Australia

Gareth Parker, 6PR

Janice Petersen, SBS

Helen Pitt, The Sydney Morning Herald

Isabella Pittaway, ABC Rural South

Australia Country Hour

Hugh Riminton, Network 10

Louise Roberts, The Daily Telegraph

Fiona Stager, Avid Reader Bookshop

Edmund Tadros, The Australian Financial Review

Cameron Tandy, Herald Sun

Sarah-Jane Tasker, WestBusiness

Kirsty Thomson, 60 Minutes, Nine

Brian Thomson, SBS

Helen Tzarimas, ABC

Jim Waley, senior journalist

Ellen Whinnett, News360

Evie White, News Corp Australia

Kathryn Wicks, The Sydney Morning Herald

Pamela Williams, The Australian

Financial Review

Lucy Zelic, SBS World News

ALL THAT GLITTERS

MORE THAN FOUR DECADES OF GOLD WALKLEY WINNERS



- 1978 **Catherine Martin**, *The West Australian*
1979 **Ron Tandberg**, *The Age*
1980 **Leslie Grant Heading**, *ABC Hobart*
1981 **John Lewis**, *The Newcastle Herald*
1982 **Kerry O’Brien**, *ATN Channel 7*
1983 **Mary Delahunty and Alan Hall**, *Four Corners, ABC TV*
1984 **Jan Mayman**, *freelance*
1985 **Chris Masters and Bruce Belsham**, *Four Corners, ABC TV*
1986 **Ron Tandberg**, *The Age*
1987 **Phil Dickie**, *The Courier Mail*
1988 **Norman Swan**, *ABC*
1989 **Alan Tate and Paul Bailey**, *The Sydney Morning Herald*
1990 **Janet Hawley**, *Good Weekend*
1991 **Monica Attard**, *ABC Radio*
1992 **Jenny Brockie**, *ABC TV*
1993 **Philip Chubb and Sue Spencer**, *ABC TV*
1994 **Peter McEvoy**, *ABC Radio National*
1995 **David Bentley**, *The Courier-Mail*
1996 **Peter Hartcher**, *The Australian Financial Review*
1997 **Mary-Louise O’Callaghan**, *The Australian*
1998 **Pamela Williams**, *The Australian Financial Review*
1999 **Richard Ackland, Deborah Richards and Anne Connolly**, *Media Watch, ABC TV*
2000 **Mark Davis**, *Dateline, SBS TV*
2001 **Andrew Rule**, *The Age*
2002 **Anne Davies and Kate McClymont**, *The Sydney Morning Herald*
2003 **Richard Moran**, *National Nine News*
2004 **Neil Chenoweth, Shraga Elam, Colleen Ryan, Andrew Main and Rosemarie Graffagnini**, *The Australian Financial Review*
2005 **Tim Palmer**, *ABC*
2006 **Liz Jackson, Lin Buckfield and Peter Cronau**, *Four Corners, ABC TV*
2007 **Hedley Thomas**, *The Australian*
2008 **Ross Coulthart and Nick Farrow**, *Sunday*
2009 **Gary Hughes**, *The Australian*
2010 **Laurie Oakes**, *Nine Network*
2011 **Sarah Ferguson, Michael Doyle and Anne Worthington**, *Four Corners, ABC TV*
2012 **Steve Pennells**, *The West Australian*
2013 **Joanne McCarthy**, *The Newcastle Herald*
2014 **Adele Ferguson, Deb Masters and Mario Christodoulou**, *Four Corners and Fairfax Media*
2015 **Caro Meldrum-Hanna, Sam Clark and Max Murch**, *Four Corners, ABC TV*
2016 **Andrew Quilty**, *freelance / Foreign Policy*
2017 **Michael Bachelard and Kate Geraghty**, *Fairfax Media*
2018 **Hedley Thomas and Slade Gibson**, *The Australian*
2019 **Anthony Dowsley and Patrick Carlyon**, *Herald Sun*
2020 **Mark Willacy and the ABC Investigations-Four Corners Team**, *Four Corners, ABC*



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