

A MOMENT TO REFLECT Looking back on 2022

CELEBRATING AND SUPPORTING GREAT AUSTRALIAN JOURNALISM

All the 2022 winners and finalists inside

Yearbook 2022



Thank you to our partners

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 that come together collaboratively to support the Walkley Foundation.



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About us

In a time when journalism is being challenged on all sides, the Walkley Foundation offers strength, stability and continuity. The Foundation supports a strong, fair and diverse media that can fulfil its vital role in strengthening and sustaining our democracy.

We are the custodians of excellence in reporting in Australia, working independently and collaboratively with all media organisations to encourage ethical, best-practice journalism.

Encouraging excellence

- The Walkley Awards
- John B Fairfax Family Young Australian Journalist of the Year Awards
- June Andrews Awards

Professional development

- Mentoring
- Scholarships and fellowships
- Training and
- masterclasses
- Leadership

Supporting and valuing journalism

- Communications and campaigns
- Partnered grants to
- support journalismWalkley digital archive

Our impact

The impact of the Walkley Foundation is felt in every corner of the media industry and the wider community.

We champion the role of journalism in society by promoting awareness of the craft, raising the profiles of journalists and their work, and publicly recognising the achievements of our peers. We work with industry partners to support professional development and increase opportunities for training and networking. These efforts are aimed at safeguarding the role of journalism in the present and sustaining this vital work into the future.



Community



5k community newsletter subscribers



6.6k FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS



24.3k TWITTER FOLLOWERS



2.1k INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS



2.2k LINKEDIN FOLLOWERS



Pathways to employment



of scholarships (2018–2022) resulted in full-time employment in the media industry within four months



have participated in our mentoring program



PHOTO: ADAM HOLLINGWORTH



Our quest for excellence goes on

The

Walkley Foundation

We aim to be more visionary and to better reflect the diversity and changing nature of the world, writes Shona Martyn, Walkleys CEO.

It was my privilege to become the chief executive of the Walkley Foundation this year after a career that has been bookended by journalism. In between, I spent 20 years as a publishing executive at HarperCollins and Random House, where I published scores of books by Australia's top journalists, many of them Walkley winners. Without doubt, this has been the perfect apprenticeship for my new role, spearheading the Walkley Foundation with its key mission of rewarding excellence in journalism. Despite the disruptions of the COVID-19 period, the Walkley Foundation has ended the 2021-22 financial year in a strong position, with a surplus of more than \$873,000. This is due primarily to growth in the service income which helps fund our work, and to the disciplined containment of costs.

The pandemic caused a delay in the gala dinner for 2022's 66th Walkley Awards. But when the event moved from Tamworth to Sydney on a rainy February night, face masks were off and sequins were on at one of the first major events back at the ICC in Darling Harbour. Celebration was well and truly in the air as colleagues briefly put aside competition after two trying years of working from home. Samantha Maiden of news.com.au received the Gold Walkley for her Brittany Higgins coverage, appropriately clad in a metallic gown. Now we see the next chapter with the 67th Walkley Awards.

At the Mid-Year Celebration of Journalism, where there is a focus on the rising stars of the industry, Emily Baker of ABC Tasmania (also wearing metallic) was named the John B Fairfax Family Young Journalist of the Year for a portfolio of public service journalism. The generous support of the John B Fairfax family through the JIBB Foundation will allow Baker to spend two weeks visiting international newsrooms at the start of 2023. The JIBB Foundation's ongoing generosity is hugely appreciated, as is the support of the Walkley Foundation's many other sponsors, partners and donors, who make it possible for us to execute our mission. A hearty thank you to you all.

I would also like to thank the Walkley Foundation board of directors, chaired by Adele Ferguson, for their tireless support. In 2022 Erin Delahunty, Victoria Laurie and Leigh Tonkin joined Michael Brissenden and Karen Percy as directors. The indefatigable team at the Walkley Foundation have dazzled every day with their goodwill and attention to detail even in the face of seemingly insurmountable workloads. There would be no Walkley Awards without them!

As a new chief executive, I have been reminded many times of the importance of the Walkley Awards to Australian journalism. I have also been exposed to passionate views about how we could do better. This is exciting, highlighting our responsibility to ensure that the Walkley Awards are fit for purpose in the modern age.

My arrival coincided with a five-yearly review of the awards. Rather than review ourselves from within, we appointed journalist Simon Crerar to lead the project and map out what change could look like. The chair of the Judging Board, Michael Brissenden, and I have joined Crerar in meetings around the country to canvass the key concerns about the categories (should they be tweaked?) and the procedures (could they be improved?). Next, we will launch a general call-out for feedback.

As a foundation steeped in the craft of journalism, we have a crucial responsibility to be consultative and ask the right questions. Crerar will present his recommendations to the Judging Board in March so that any agreed changes can be incorporated in the 2023 awards cycle. Not everyone will agree with the decisions the Judging Board makes as the result of this intensive review, but everyone will have the opportunity to contribute.

We have also been reviewing our role in professional development, advocacy for journalism and the protection of Australia's journalistic heritage. The Walkley Foundation directors are committed to considering strategies that will make our work more relevant and reflective of today's Australia.

Take February's regional summit, moved online due to the pandemic, which highlighted the importance of thinking beyond the big city borders and expanding debate about the broader issues facing us all. Our aim is to be more visionary and to better reflect the diversity and changing nature of our society and the world.

The Walkley Foundation's Public Fund has Deductible Gift Recipient status and it is our responsibility to develop initiatives that can channel philanthropic donations to areas of greatest need. Ideas are welcome (as are donations, big or small).

The Walkley Awards were first presented in 1956, the year that television came to Australia. Our methods of reporting and consuming the news have changed radically since then. Our benefactor, Ampol founder Sir William Gaston Walkley, believed there was oil off Carnarvon in Western Australia. But would he have believed that TikTok and Twitter news stories could be submitted for the journalism awards he initiated?

In 2022 our history has come full circle as Ampol joins us as a sponsor of the Walkley Awards. Once again, our heritages are intertwined.

It is a great honour to work for the Walkley Foundation. At a time when journalism is under threat on so many fronts, our team is committed to ensuring we make a difference in our ongoing quest for journalistic excellence. •



Constant vigilance for 'fragile' press freedom



The law needs to keep up with the real world if journalism is to hold power to account, writes Walkley Foundation chair Adele Ferguson. The Walkley Awards are a highlight of our year, where we come together as an industry to honour the best of our profession.

As the new chair of the Walkley Foundation, it gives me great pleasure to carry on the institution's long tradition of celebrating and supporting great Australian journalism.

The stories we tell play a pivotal role in the functioning of our democratic system – a system that earlier generations sacrificed so much for.

I can't think of a more rewarding and fulfilling job. Done well, journalism can change lives for the better, hold wrongdoers to account, and speak truth to power.

In a year when Russia invaded Ukraine, Queen Elizabeth II died, floods devastated New South Wales and Queensland, we elected a new government, and the economy felt the impact of rising inflation and interest rates, journalists were there to cover it all.

Openness and transparency are vital for a free press, and legislation for a National Anti-Corruption Commission is welcome news. The federal attorney general, Mark Dreyfus, said it will "restore trust and integrity in politics". AJ Brown, a board member of Transparency International Australia, hailed it as "the biggest reform to public integrity at a Commonwealth government level in Australia for probably half a century".

Yet the proposed body fails to deliver for whistleblowers. We need a national office for whistleblowers, covering both the private and public sectors, that would offer support and protection for those who make the brave decision to speak out, sometimes at great personal cost. If we had such a body, we wouldn't be persecuting the likes of Richard Boyle and David McBride, who are both facing long prison terms for calling out wrongdoing if they are found guilty. Whistleblowers are the nation's unsung heroes, not its villains.

It should come as little surprise that our ranking in the Reporters Without Borders World Press Freedom Index plummeted sharply in 2022, particularly in relation to the treatment of whistleblowers, and the way the rich and powerful game our legal system. The report said press freedom in Australia was "fragile" and that a concentration of media ownership was a threat to public interest journalism. (The index looked at 180 countries; Australia fell 14 places, from 25 to 39.)

As Kerry O'Brien observed in his 2019 Walkley Awards address: "Freedom is usually eroded gradually... Its loss is not necessarily felt day by day, but we will certainly know when it's gone."

Kerry's speech struck a chord with me at the time. Early this year, there was a legal attempt to force journalists to show a draft of their story before publication to the opposing party. This would have been a death knock for investigative journalism. It was overturned, but only after considerable legal costs – and a great deal of anxiety. It quite easily could have gone the other way. We must be constantly vigilant.

A perennial problem is the prohibitive cost of litigation. Many publishers are faced with big decisions about whether or not to publish controversial stories or fight to lift suppression orders. As we all know, the rivers of gold from advertising that once flowed through media outlets have well and truly dried up.

Onerous defamation laws, the misuse of injunctions, suppression orders, weak whistleblower laws, physical threats, frivolous litigation and abuse of the legal system by the wealthy and well connected have stopped stories that should have been published. They also take away resources that would have been better spent on more journalists.

These challenges demand a united response so all media outlets can operate within standards that offer legal protection.

We need to completely change defamation laws. There are countless examples of cases or decisions that simply don't make sense. The law has failed to keep up with the real world, making it harder to fulfil our role in making democracy stronger, society fairer and lives richer. •



Help us continue to sustain and advance outstanding Australian journalism

The Walkley Foundation relies 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
- Training
- Mentoring
- Walkley Digital Archive



Celebrating and supporting great Australian journalism

Please scan the QR code to donate today



The Walkley Foundation Ltd fund is a tax-deductible fund listed on the Australian Government's Register of Cultural Organisations maintained under Subdivision 30-B of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

Encouraging excellence

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



Alex Coppel celebrates winning 2021 Nikon-Walkley Press Photographer of the Year. PHOTO: ADAM HOLLINGWORTH

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 Australia's only national journalism awards program. Amid industry-wide challenges and a disrupted year, the work of journalists has never been more important. We received 1304 entries for the 67th Walkley Awards. The winners were announced in Sydney on November 17, 2022. See all the winners from page 38.



Winners at the 2022 Mid-Year Celebration of Journalism. From left: Joey Watson, Fraser Williams, Amelia Hirst, Lucy Murray, Emily Baker, Amber Schultz, Andrew Quilty, Sherry Huang, Sally Sara, Chip Le Grand. PHOTO: ADAM HOLLINGWORTH

Mid-Year Celebration of Journalism

The 2022 Mid-Year Celebration of Journalism was held in Sydney on June 15, honouring winners of the John B Fairfax Family 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, Humanitarian Storytelling Award, June Andrews Award for Arts Journalism and the Pascall Prize for Arts Criticism.

Emily Baker from the ABC was named the 2022 John B Fairfax Family Young Australian Journalist of the Year for her stories about former Tasmanian politician Adam Brooks. These stories also won the Public Service category. The Walkley Judging Board, represented by Jane Doyle, Narelda Jacobs and Michael Brissenden, found Emily's entry stood out among a strong field.

Chip Le Grand, winner of the June Andrews Award for Arts Journalism, and Sarah Krasnostein, who took out the Pascall Prize for Arts Criticism, each received \$5000 thanks to the generosity of the Copyright Agency's Cultural Fund and the Hantomeli Foundation. The judges said: "Emily Baker's extraordinary series of stories unearthed shocking revelations of harassment, deception and denial at the highest levels of Tasmanian politics. Her persistence in the face of attempts by political leaders to belittle her publicly and to block her investigations with threats of defamation showed determination and dedication. These stories may never have come to light otherwise. The stories were powerful and impactful, and encouraged public debate about the conduct expected of our political representatives. Importantly, they forced resignations and changed Tasmanian politics for the better."



Emily Baker won big at the 2022 Mid-Year Celebration. PHOTO: ADAM HOLLINGWORTH.

Other awards

Support from Media Diversity Australia enables 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. Patrick Abboud and Simon Cunich won for their audio series for Lockdown Productions and Audible, "The Greatest Menace: Inside the Gay Prison Experiment".

We continued our relationship with Our Watch and administered the Our Watch Award for reporting to end violence against women. The 2022 winner was Bethany Atkinson-Quinton and Madison Griffiths' Broadwave podcast "Tender: Roia Atmar".

In its second year, the International Committee of the Red Cross's Humanitarian Storytelling Award again went to Andrew Quilty. He won for his report "When the Raids Came" in *Harper's Magazine*.



1304 WALKLEY AWARD ENTRIES 2022



545 MID-YEAR CELEBRATION AWARD ENTRIES 2022

Ella Rubeli and Kylie Bolton, winners at the 66th Walkley Awards in February 2022, in Sydney. PHOTO: ADAM HOLLINGWORTH.

Reviewing the Walkley Awards

The Walkley Foundation regularly reviews the categories and processes of the Walkley Awards. An independent consultant, Simon Crerar, has been undertaking a five-yearly review since June, canvassing representatives of news organisations, winners, judges, entrants and other interested parties. A final report will be handed to the Judging Board in March 2023 ahead of the launch of the 2023 Walkley Awards.



Amelia Hirst with Anita Jacoby. PHOTO: ADAM HOLLINGWORTH

Professional development

Scholarships and fellowships

The Walkley Foundation works to ensure the brightest new talents from a diverse range of backgrounds are 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.

Jacoby-Walkley Scholarship

2022 Jacoby-Walkley Scholarship winner, Amelia Hirst from RMIT, spent 10 weeks with Nine in Sydney and four weeks with the Walkley Foundation. Amelia has been offered a producing role with Nine's *A Current Affair* in her native Melbourne.

The 2021 Jacoby-Walkley Scholarship winner, Ella McCrindle from the University of Sydney, was offered a job at Nine after completing her internship.

WIN News Scholarship

Fraser Williams from Curtin University was named the 2022 winner of the WIN News Scholarship.

Inaugural winner Scout Wallen, from the University of Queensland, was offered a job with WIN after completing her placement.



Stella Lauri from WIN News presents Fraser Williams with the 2022 WIN News Scholarship.

WALKLEY MENTORSHIP PROGRAM





JACOBY-WALKLEY SCHOLARSHIP







WALKLEY YOUNG INDIGENOUS SCHOLARSHIP



WILLIAM BUCKLAND FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP WITH THE AGE

WILLIAM BUCKLAND FOUNDATION W3F

THE AGE AGE



Kearyn Cox, 2022 Walkley Young Indigenous Scholarship winner.

Walkley Young Indigenous Scholarship

2022 winner Kearyn Cox is a Noongar Yamatji man born on Whadjuk Noongar country in Boorloo (Perth). Kearyn undertook his placements at Junkee Media and *10 News First* in Sydney in October and November.

"I am so grateful for this new opportunity. This will change my life. I am grabbing it with both hands and giving it 110 per cent."

2021 Walkley Young Indigenous Scholarship winner Tahnee Jash, a proud Yuin/Kamilaroi woman, is now a digital reporter for ABC Everyday.

William Buckland Fellowship with *The Age*

Jackson Graham is now employed full-time at *The Age* after completing his placement there as the inaugural William Buckland Fellow. Another regional Victorian journalist will be selected by the end of 2022 to undertake a fellowship with *The Age* in 2023.



Google News Initiative training

The Walkley Foundation's partnership with Google News Labs continued in 2022. In-person workshops resumed in May, when the first of a national series of Digital Verification workshops was held in Sydney. The Digital Verification workshop series toured Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, Canberra and Perth.

This year's Google Fellow is Mridula Amin, an ABC reporter and photojournalist who was named the John B Fairfax Family Young Australian Journalist of the Year in 2022. Her ebullient presence and digital native talents proved popular with reporters from digital, print, radio and television news organisations.

We received positive feedback from attendees, who enjoyed learning how using Google and other online tools to analyse images, videos and social media posts could allow them to distinguish fact from fabricated information. Advanced Google search techniques, including Fact Check Explorer and Google Earth, were also well received.

In October, a data journalism workshop debuted in Melbourne where Mridula teamed with guest speaker Craig Butt, national data editor at *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age*. In



this workshop, the instructors introduced data journalism as an increasingly important subset of news reporting, and provided guidance on exploring the 2022 Census data to build data visualisations using Google Sheets and Flourish.

The Google News Initiative workshop series will continue in 2023 with both the Digital Verification and Data Journalism modules being offered. A rotating line-up of guest speakers who specialise in data journalism will complement Mridula's instruction.

Our Watch Fellowship

The Walkley Foundation has been working with Our Watch since 2013 on awards for excellence in reporting and, since 2019, through hands-on in-depth residential retreats. These stem from our shared fundamental belief that journalism has great power in changing the attitudes and behaviours that drive gendered violence.

Since July, 16 2022 Our Watch Fellows have participated in three in-depth residential retreats focused on the media's role in the prevention and reporting of gendered and family violence. At the end of a program that was challenging, confronting, information-packed and inspiring, the fellows - journalists from around Australia - were able to relax over a drink at the Manly Sebel before heading back to their newsrooms charged with making a difference.

Walkley Foundation chief executive Shona Martyn, who sat in on the sessions facilitated by the Our Watch organisation, said: "I was hugely impressed by the calibre and commitment of journalists who took part and the generosity of speakers who shared practical experience of working with survivors, their own reporting practice, legal issues, mistakes and bringing change to their newsrooms. I learnt a lot from the fellows and the raft of specialist speakers who gave their perspectives over the three sessions. I know there will be a tangible impact in Australia's newsrooms from these fellowships."



2022 Our Watch fellows relax after their third retreat in Manly.

Webinars

In partnership with the Scanlon Foundation, the Walkley Foundation presented a series of webinars to train Australian journalists in diversity and inclusion topics relevant to the 2022 election. Sessions explored interpreting polls, with Emeritus Professor Andrew Markus AO interviewed by the ABC's Sabra Lane, and cross-cultural political participation, with speakers including ABC political reporter Nour Haydar, community panellist Naureen Choudhry and Scanlon Research Institute's Trish Prentice. An impressive 150 journalists tuned in for these free sessions.

We hosted a webinar on The Business of Freelancing in August in partnership with Media Super. Showcasing the work of 2022 Freelance Journalist of the Year Dale Webster, past winner Andrew Quilty and Walkley Grantfunded journalist Bob Burton, and moderated by multi-platform journalist Aarti Betigeri, this free online talk attracted more than 120 registrations across Australia.

Leadership

The Walkley Foundation and UNSW AGSM are helping to cultivate the next generation of newsroom leaders by jointly designing and developing a unique learning experience for those aspiring to step into senior roles. Ten successful applicants from 2021 completed their micro-credential in early 2022, with positive feedback.

In 2022, we were able to expand the program to 24 places, including an additional seven funded by the Walkley Public Fund, 15 funded by the Google News Initiative, and two places specifically for journalists from regional Victoria funded by the William Buckland Foundation.

The Walkley Foundation Leadership Program is a three-week course designed to equip journalists with practical leadership skills and introduce them to pathways to further study, conveniently delivered online through a blend of live, interactive sessions and self-paced learning. Successful applicants learn how to navigate the complex, demanding nature of journalism at a senior level, get the best out of their teams, realise strategic goals, and more.

The winner of each of the six Young Journalist of the Year categories received a complimentary place in an AGSM short course at UNSW Business School. All courses earn credit towards the AGSM Certificate of Executive Management and Development which, in turn, carries course credit for the AGSM MBA and Graduate Certificates.

Mentoring

The Walkley Foundation mentorship program provides an opportunity for journalists to develop their skills, build their networks and learn from those who have walked the path before them.

Mentorship is built into a number of our programs, including the Australian Young Journalist of the Year Awards. Journalists of all ages and levels of experience can also apply for the dedicated 12-month Walkley Mentorship program. A record 83 applicants applied for the 2021 program, with 10 mentorships available.

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

SUPPORTERS OF TRAINING, MASTERCLASSES AND LEADERSHIP

Google News Initiative







UNSW Business School

Supporting and valuing journalism



The 2021 Nikon-Walkley Press Photography Exhibition on show at the 66th Walkley Awards in Sydney, February 2022.

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, and steadily assembling a rich archive that offers a unique insight into history as it unfolded. In 2018, the Walkley Foundation began collating, digitising and designing an online platform to showcase this impressive catalogue of work. With support from our media partners, the Walkley Foundation continues the work of adding award-winning reporting and behindthe-scenes content to the online platform. In 2023, funding from our new partner Ampol will assist with this project.

Regional Journalism Summit

The Walkley Regional Journalism Summit was held online on February 10, 2022. The event painted a comprehensive picture of regional media in Australia at this time, bringing together voices from the industry, the latest research from across the nation, and case studies from independent and innovative regional news outlets. We partnered with The Northern Daily Leader in Tamworth and the ABC and its regional network to amplify the summit, and The Drum broadcast a tie-in special on regional journalism on February 9. Open to the public and streamed live, the summit brought communities together around their journalists and highlighted regional journalism and its impact.



The Northern Daily Leader deputy editor Madeline Link led student reporters from the University of New England including Lucy Eddy and Jacob Johnston. PHOTO: PETER HARDIN

Meta Australian News Fund

The Meta Australian News Fund has enabled scores of smaller, independent and regionally focused publishers to strengthen their operations and continue providing vital reporting for their communities. The Walkley Foundation manages the \$15m program, which is spread across three years and divided, this year, between the Digital Innovation Fund and the Public Interest Journalism Fund.

The first round in October 2021 attracted 168 applications, and two six-member judging panels awarded up to \$250,000 each to 54 recipients. Projects include news apps, content management systems, website upgrades, subscription services, reader polling initiatives, podcasts, documentaries and long-form investigative reporting. Meta Australian News Fund 2021 recipients

Through their innovation and journalism projects, recipients will nurture neglected audiences in regional Australia and Indigenous communities, bring rainfall to news deserts and bring their newsrooms into the 21st century with broadcast-quality equipment and IT systems to enable remote reporting.



The Gold Coast's Blank Street Press launched *Nevertheless Journal* and switched to a digital-first strategy for its other content with support from Meta funding.

"Receiving funding support through the Meta Australian News Fund this year has allowed us to expand our audience reach nationally."

- CHLOE PAPA, BLANK STREET PRESS

In line with the program's objectives to foster sustainability in underserved areas of the Australian media, two-thirds of the first round recipients are located outside state capital cities, and several are Indigenousowned and managed organisations. Non-English language publishing and broadcasting received a boost with the National Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasters' Council's plans for a national multicultural news service, which is complemented by Brisbane's Radio 4EB newsroom community journalist training project.

Veteran journalist John van Tiggelen was named a finalist for a Walkley Award for Feature Writing Long (over 4000 words) for *The Wash-up*, a harrowing account of the aftermath of the 2022 Lismore flood emergency and the politics of rebuilding that he produced with the support of the Public Interest Journalism Fund.

Independent, women-led publications also received support for their digital expansion plans, including Gold Coast culture bible Blank Street Press, which used funding from the Public Interest Journalism Fund to overhaul its print-first publishing platform into a digital-first strategy. Editor Chloe Papa oversaw a website platform upgrade, introduced new digital content streams, engaged a social media specialist, and launched a sister publication, *Nevertheless Journal*, to share the stories of inspirational women and address contemporary issues affecting women. "As a female-owned and led media business, sharing the stories of women and elevating under-represented voices is something we are very passionate about and we've been doing this locally on the Gold Coast for almost 10 years," Chloe says. "Receiving funding support through the Meta Australian News Fund this year has allowed us to expand our audience reach nationally through the launch of new masthead *Nevertheless Journal*, sharing the remarkable achievements of Australian women from all walks [of life]."

The \$5 million 2022 funding round focuses on the twin themes of digital innovation and media diversity, and 157 publishers had applied when applications closed on October 9. Two judging panels composed of experienced editors and publishers will select the most outstanding projects for the Digital Innovation Fund and the Public Interest Journalism Fund.

The second round recipients will be announced in early 2023.

Photojournalism

The 2022 Nikon-Walkley Press Photography Exhibition was displayed at NSW Parliament House from November 1 to December 16, 2022. In 2023 it will tour major centres, including Geelong and Fremantle.



Tess Newton Cain presents Lucy Murray with the 2022 Sean Dorney Grant for Pacific Journalism.

SBS journalist Lucy Murray won the 2022 grant with a pitch to report on deep-sea mining in the Pacific

Grants

Now in its fourth year, the Sean Dorney Grant for Pacific Journalism provides \$10,000 to help an Australian journalist produce a significant work of journalism that will give voice to Pacific Island perspectives on an under-reported issue or development of importance to Australia and the region. SBS journalist Lucy Murray won the 2022 grant with a pitch to report on deep-sea mining in the Pacific.

The 2021 recipient, ABC Papua New Guinea correspondent journalist Natalie Whiting, used her grant to fund in-depth reporting on tribal violence in PNG's highlands.

COVID and its associated travel restrictions had an impact on many of the projects funded through the 2020 Walkley grant programs and on the timelines they had proposed, but these will be wrapped up by the end of 2022. Stories from a number of recipients were published in early 2022, including Bob Burton's reporting on political donations transparency reform in Tasmania, and Kim Nguyen's film *Conversations with Coal Miners about Climate Change* which was named a finalist in the Rory Peck Awards.

Patrick Abboud and Simon Cunich's project, "The Greatest Menace: Inside the Gay Prison Experiment" (Lockdown Productions and Audible), won the 2022 Media Diversity Australia Award. The project was also nominated for Walkley Awards in Radio/Audio Feature and Production categories.



Mariam Veiszadeh from Media Diversity Australia with Patrick Abboud, winner of the 2022 Media Diversity Australia Award. Patrick's winning podcast was supported by a 2020 Walkley Grant for Freelance Regional Journalism.

SEAN DORNEY GRANT SUPPORTERS



SUPPORTED BY: STEPHEN HOWES AND CLARE HOLBERTON, BOB AND HELEN LYON, IAN AND DENISE MACINTOSH, PACIFIC ISLAND LIVING MAGAZINE, TNC PACIFIC CONSULTING AND ANONYMOUS

Independence and good governance

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.

This financial year marked some changes in leadership for the Walkley Foundation. Adele Ferguson was unanimously appointed by the Walkley directors to become the Foundation's chair. Karen Percy became deputy chair, and newly elected MEAA officials Erin Delahunty and Leigh Tonkin replaced Michael Janda and Marcus Strom as directors. Michael Brissenden became chair of the Walkley Judging Board, and nine incoming members joined the board. Shona Martyn became CEO in January 2022 after the departure of Louisa Graham. A former New Zealand Journalist of the Year, Shona has edited *Good Weekend* and *The Sydney Morning Herald*'s "Spectrum" section and was the founding editor of *HQ magazine*. She has also worked in book publishing as the publishing director of both HarperCollins and Random House.

A five-yearly review of the Walkley Awards and a review of professional development and training in the Australian media are underway. Philanthropic initiatives for 2023 are being assessed.

Walkley directors

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



Chair: Adele Ferguson, *The Age*, *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Australian Financial Review*



Deputy chair: Karen Percy, National Media Section, MEAA



Michael Brissenden, independent senior journalist and author



Erin Delahunty, freelance journalist and National Media Section, MEAA



Victoria Laurie, The Australian



Leigh Tonkin, ABC News and National Media Section, MEAA

Walkley Judging Board

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



Chair: Michael Brissenden, independent senior journalist and author



Deputy chair: Cameron Stewart, The Australian



Sarah Abo, 60 Minutes, Nine



Neil Breen, 4BC Breakfast



Ben Butler. Guardian Australia



Jane Doyle, Seven News Adelaide



Anton Enus, SBS World News



Michelle Gunn, The Weekend Australian



Stephen Hutcheon, ABC



Narelda Jacobs, Network Ten



Dean Lewins, AAP



Hamish Macdonald, The Project,



Karen Middleton, The Saturday Paper



Donna Page, The Newcastle Herald



Sarah-Jane Tasker, The West Australian



Kathryn Wicks, The Sydney Morning Herald

Network Ten

Public Fund Committee

The committee is the custodian 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



Jim Nolan, former barrister



Alan Sunderland, journalist and author



Pamela Williams, journalist

Walkley team

- Shona Martyn, chief
 executive
- Barbara Blackman, executive officer
- Kate Burgess, professional development
- Clare Fletcher, communications and editorial
- James Gorman, communications manager
- Julie Johnson, development
 manager
- Kym Middleton, senior manager



Shona Martyn

Time for action

Journalists' safety and security is the top priority for Australia's media union, writes Karen Percy, Walkley Foundation deputy chair and federal president of MEAA Media.

ALLIANCE

Just when we thought it was safe to emerge from our homes, after two years of a global pandemic when Australians relied heavily on the media, press freedom is taking another lashing.

Russia. Afghanistan. PNG. Myanmar. Across the four corners of the globe, journalists have become targets for reporting the truth, for calling out wrongdoing or exposing double standards. The assaults take the form of censorship, oppression of journalists – even murder.

The misinformation, disinformation and outright lies have continued around the invasion of Ukraine, the upheaval in US and British politics and, of course, in our federal election campaign. Dirty, desperate tactics have been on full display from Kyiv to Kansas to Kooyong.

Indeed, the threats are at our door.

In May, MEAA released its 2022 press freedom report, *Truth versus Disinformation – the Challenge for Public Interest Journalism*, which noted a surge in mistrust of the Australian media during the pandemic because of deliberate disinformation campaigns. There was also a clear increase in attacks and threats against journalists and media workers.

Sometimes the threats come from our own governments, which so often pay lip service to press freedom. Day in, day out, journalists meet resistance to the most basic of questions. Detailed emails to ministers, departments and government agencies at all levels are sent back – eventually – with at times nonsensical responses and the ubiquitous "background" used to peddle propaganda.

It is alarming to watch Australia's continued slide down the global Press Freedom rankings and the Corruption Perceptions Index. According to Transparency International, in 2021 Australia fell four places to rank 18th globally, continuing a decade of decline.

A constrained media and rising corruption are two sides of the same coin. When governments clamp down on information, corruption can flourish.



Karen Percy, Walkley Foundation deputy chair and federal president of MEAA Media.

Research from Deakin University has revealed that whistleblowers and sources are increasingly reluctant to work with journalists because of Australia's stifling national security laws. The research looked at key legislation, including the 2015 Data Retention Act. What they found was troubling: journalists themselves have "very little confidence" that they can ward off surveillance threats. And they also feel unsupported in dealing with cyber-security issues. Media outlets must address this in their workplaces and must pressure governments to stop misusing these laws.

There are some positive signs. After years of lobbying by MEAA members, the Queensland government finally enacted a shield law to protect journalists and whistleblowers and make sure that stories that need to be told are available for the public. A unified national shield law regime is now needed to remove inconsistencies across jurisdictions.

The pandemic had a critical impact on regional media, which was already in dire trouble. MEAA's survey of 200 regional journalists, *Rescuing Regional Journalism*, painted a bleak picture of the state of regional journalism and journalists' conditions. Low pay and a lack of career options were common concerns. Eighty-two per cent of rural and regional journalists reported earning less than \$75,000 a year, well below Australia's average wage. Fifty-four per cent did not see themselves still working in journalism in five years. They rejected any change to media ownership laws that would lead to greater concentration of ownership and the axing of local media jobs.

In light of this crisis, it's clear that continued government support is needed for regional media businesses through an expansion of the Public Interest News Gathering program, more money for public broadcasters to increase their presence in regional Australia, and improvements to the News Media Bargaining Code.

Job insecurity is prevalent across our industry. We need to end the "churn and burn" hiring models that are so common, where journalists cut short their careers because of rising workloads, stagnant wages and dead-end career paths.

Freelancers are producing ever more content for Australian print, digital and broadcast media outlets. We need to value the growing freelance community by adopting minimum pay and conditions.

MEAA has devised a Freelance Journalists' Charter of Rights which will form the foundation for collective agreement negotiations with media outlets. It was endorsed in February when journalists, photographers, writers, editors, producers, cartoonists and illustrators stood together at a landmark meeting.

We continue to advocate for ethical public interest journalism by pushing for the MEAA Journalist Code of Ethics to become part of Enterprise Agreements and by ensuring it We need to value the growing community of freelancers, who increasingly produce content for print, digital and broadcast media outlets, by adopting minimum pay and conditions.

is promoted in workplaces. Ethical journalism is crucial to rebuilding trust with audiences.

MEAA's Media Safety and Solidarity Fund has provided critical financial and other support to journalists in need across the globe, including assistance for journalists from Afghanistan, Ukraine and in Papua New Guinea. It is crucial that we show solidarity with our neighbours who face violence, hostile governments, restrictive laws and even outright censorship.

And through our campaigning, MEAA members have shown solidarity for global causes, including opposing the case against Wikileaks publisher Julian Assange, seeking the release of Chinese-Australian journalist Cheng Lei after a secretive trial, and condemning the death of Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh at the hands of Israeli armed forces.

We have much to be proud of as a union and an industry. But the pandemic has highlighted the need to protect public interest journalism and media workers who have suffered through industry disruption, disinformation and neglect. •



Diversity, rigour and respect mark judging process

The Walkleys are responding nimbly to an evolving industry and a volatile world, writes Walkley Judging Board chair Michael Brissenden.

What an unusual honour it is to be writing about the Walkley Awards for the second time in one year. It's a sign of both the unpredictability of our era and the Walkley Foundation's ability to adapt and stay the course.

When we gathered in Sydney for the Walkley Awards Gala Dinner in February, it was impossible to imagine what 2022 would present to us. We had just come through a gruelling period of COVID restrictions and isolation, Australia was about to head into

> an election campaign, Vladimir Putin had just that day launched a full-scale invasion

of Ukraine that many analysts predicted would be over within a week – and, of course, it was still raining across Australia's East Coast.

What has unfolded since has been extraordinary, challenging, often confronting – and sometimes inspiring. News keeps happening, and this has been another cracker of a year for Australian journalism. It's our mission at the Walkley Foundation to celebrate and support great Australian journalism, and 2022 hasn't disappointed.

We have seen powerful and significant reporting on the fallout from the COVID pandemic, extraordinary abuses of trust and power in sport and in government, Indigenous issues and the environment. There has also been reporting on the floods and on Ukraine. All this has been achieved alongside standout investigative reporting, photography, cartoons and production, as well as important analysis and commentary.

It's not surprising that the war in Ukraine has dominated a number of categories this year and there really has been some extraordinary work done in the field. Judging the best of all this isn't easy.

> The Walkley directors take great pains to ensure that the first round judges come from every
corner of our industry. The first round is exhaustive and exhausting. This year we had just over 1300 entries across all categories, which is slightly up on last year. A thank you to all of you who gave your time and energy to this process.

The second round by the Walkley Judging Board is also a collaborative, cross-cultural affair. The board is a diverse and inclusive group and the process is thorough, rigorous and, importantly, respected by all of us.

In a sign of how the journalism sector is changing, one of the standout categories this year was the audio feature category. It's an indication, no doubt, of the increasing investment that media organisations are making, particularly in podcasting. The first round judging of this category is proving quite challenging, given that many of the entries are 90 minutes long. Sixty entries of 90 minutes each is a lot of listening.

This constant evolution is one of the reasons for the review of all the categories now under way. This is something the Walkleys do every five years or so to ensure we are reflecting the changes in industry practice.

The changes have accelerated considerably in the digital age. We are now into what

some have dubbed the TikTok era. In fact, TikTok has had such an influence that, while the Vietnam war was dubbed the first TV war, the Ukraine war is being called the first TikTok war. That's not to say that there will be a specific TikTok category, but everything is up for review.

Unlike previous reviews, this review has involved extensive consultation with stakeholders. We have already met with most of the country's media organisations and, in the next few months, we'll be conducting an online survey of past Walkley winners, first round judges, judging board members, MEAA members and the wider journalism community.

One thing this review process has shown us – if there was ever any doubt – is that the Walkleys continue to be the gold standard for excellence in our industry. They are our longest standing and most acclaimed national journalism awards, and the industry as a whole has some pretty strong opinions about how the place should be run. That is as it should be.

So let's enjoy celebrating the best of what we do in the knowledge that our contribution is more important than ever. •

The Walkleys are our longest standing national journalism awards. The industry as a whole has some pretty strong opinions about how the place should be run. That is as it should be.

2022 GOLD WALKLEY

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PUBLIC SERVICE JOURNALISM

Award Partner Sydney Airport



Anne Connolly, Ali Russell and Stephanie Zillman

ABC, Four Corners, "State Control"



"State Control" exposed the workings of Australia's public guardians and trustees, and broadcast the stories of some of the 50,000 Australians under state control. This had never been done, because gag laws made it a criminal offence. *Four Corners* won challenges in two Supreme Courts to interview those under guardianship and financial administration, revealing how they had been virtually kept prisoner in hospitals and nursing homes, stripped of their assets and charged exorbitant fees for unknown services.

The investigation led to a public apology from Queensland's attorney general and two inquiries into the practices of the state's public trustee. In August 2022, Queensland's public advocate cited the *Four Corners* program in a report recommending the repeal of section 114A of the Guardianship and Administration Act, a move that would lift the gag laws and allow people to speak to the media.

Anne Connolly is a reporter with the ABC's Investigations unit and has worked at 7.30, Media Watch and Four Corners. This year brings her collection of Walkleys to seven, including two Golds – she also won the 1999 Gold Walkley for "Cash for Comment".

Ali Russell is an investigative producer for the ABC's *Four Corners*. With a career spanning observational documentary, factual, narrative audio and long-form current affairs television, she has spent 17 years producing award-winning stories.

Stephanie Zillman is a journalist at ABC's *Four Corners*. She has worked in the ABC's Darwin, Melbourne and Brisbane newsrooms, filing for the nightly 7pm bulletin, as well as programs including *7:30*, *AM*, *PM* and *The World Today*.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

This was enlightening and determined reporting, giving power to voiceless people and allowing them to tell a story of complete powerlessness. Prompting debate about law reform in various states, it has the potential to effect large-scale public policy reform.



Peter Ristic (top left) and Chris Pearson (top and bottom right) featured in "State Control"

Thank you for your service

Congratulations to the winners and finalists of the 2022 Walkley Award for Public Service Journalism

Anne Connolly, Ali Russell and Stephanie Zillman ABC, Four Corners, "State Control"



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NIKON-WALKLEY PRESS PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

Award Partner Nikon



Brendan Esposito

ABC



Brendan Esposito's work ranges from the impact of war on civilians in Ukraine to social issues closer to home including opioids, incarceration, DIY erotica and life after a double mastectomy. The common thread is arresting visual composition that centres the human experience.

He started his photographic career in 1988 at his local newspaper, the Liverpool Champion. He has worked for The Sydney Morning Herald, The Daily Telegraph, the NRL and AAP. In 2019, he joined the ABC as a photographer in the Special Reporting team

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Brendan Esposito earns the trust of vulnerable people and conveys a sense of intimacy in his work. His use of light and composition is fantastic, and his diversity of coverage demonstrates his ability to frame stunning portraits. Each portrait is tailored to its subject and gives us a different feeling. "Ukraine Mona Lisa", shot through the condensation on the glass, looks like a classical painting.

- 1. Pluto, 5 billion kilometres from Earth: NASA scientists and astronomers gather on the outskirts of Katherine, nearly 300km south of Darwin, as they prepare for a rare event that these professional and amateur scientists hope will reveal secrets of the mysterious dwarf planet.
- 2. Waiting for Borden Lazar: Ukrainian village women wait patiently in their church of Verhnya Bilka for the funeral of family man Borden Lazar, who was killed during an attack on a military base in Yavoriv. Hundreds of people turned up to show their respects when Borden Lazar was laid to rest in the village cemetery.
- 3. A priest cries for Ukraine: A priest weeps during the funeral for Ukraine soldier Volodymyr Datsenko. His body is carried outside and loaded into a van to begin the journey to his home town of Vinnytsia, about 400km east of the Garrison Church in Lviv. For those watching, there is fear their family will be next.
- Cut up and cut off: Deciding on what your chest will look like after a mastectomy is a deeply personal choice. For some women, it is taken out of their hands. When Heidi Arntzen was diagnosed with breast cancer, she was told an immediate breast reconstruction couldn't be done. After finding out it was indeed possible, she was left angry and devastated. Now she feels mutilated and so traumatised she's given up the idea of having reconstruction surgery. "Cancer is a big enough thing without having to deal with this," she says.









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NIKON-WALKLEY PRESS PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR (continued)



- Franny Loco: Franny Loco, 30, a former member of the Outcast gang, is seen at home in Mount Druitt in Sydney's western suburbs.
- 6 Trapped: Peter Ristic, whose life has been turned upside down by the Public Trustee system, looks out from the front door of his one-bedroom granny flat at the back of his deceased parents' Canberra property.
- 7. Ukraine Mona Lisa: A refugee gazes through a train window, her vacant stare echoing the despair of hundreds of thousands of refugees arriving at Lviv train station in the early hours of a winter morning. They travelled overnight in complete darkness on so-called "ghost trains" from ravaged villages, towns and cities during the Russian invasion of Ukraine.
- 8. Methadone and the long road home: Leah McLeod was working four jobs, three months behind in rent, and pregnant. She was also addicted to heroin. Then her doctor said: "If you don't go on methadone today, the chances of you leaving the hospital with your baby are slim." She has now been taking the prescription medication for 20 years.
- 9. Jenna LOVE: Jenna Love photographs herself for her OnlyFans internet page at her home in Blaxland, NSW.









PRINT/TEXT NEWS REPORT

Award Partner Media Super



Aisha Dow, Nick McKenzie and Joel Tozer

The Age, "Triple-zero crisis"





Triple-0 calls ignored as a life ticked away

EXCLUSIVE Nick McKenzie One. Two. Three. Four. Five. Five seconds is how long Victoria's triple-zero service is meant to take to answer a call in 90 per cent of emergency cases. B Nick Panagiotopoulos isn't counti as he vunches three zeros into his





Most calls to triple-zero are meant to be answered within a few seconds. In a series of investigative reports, *The Age* revealed that some calls had taken more than 30 minutes to be answered. Tens of thousands of calls were affected by the delays. At the time *The Age* team submitted its entry, at least 18 Victorians had died from critical injuries or illness after desperate calls made to triple-zero were never answered or were picked up too late.

Aisha Dow is the health editor of The Age newspaper in Melbourne.

Nick McKenzie is an Australian investigative journalist.

Joel Tozer is an award-winning journalist and TV producer whose work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *60 Minutes, Four Corners, Dateline, The Sydney Morning Herald* and more. He is currently the executive producer of ABC *7.30*.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

The Age's investigation into Victoria's triple-zero system exposed the shocking fact that life-and-death emergency calls were going unanswered or waiting more than 30 minutes for someone to pick up the phone.

Through persistent investigation, hard-hitting writing and harrowing stories of Victorians who died while waiting for an ambulance, this entry showcased the best of print news reporting. It conveyed the rising panic and was a clear standout, with real personal outcomes and impact. It ticked the boxes for all the criteria, was well constructed, powerful and in the national public interest – everyone relies on triple-zero.

Thank you for working tirelessly to seek out the truth

Congratulations to **Aisha Dow, Nick McKenzie and Joel Tozer**, *The Age* for taking out the 2022 Walkley Award for Print/Text News Report.

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INNOVATION







Mark Doman, Michael Slezak and the Digital Story Innovation Team

ABC, "Using 3D techniques to tell immersive stories"



Four stories by the ABC used 3D visualising technology to tell investigative stories immersively. The technology has opened the way for a novel reader experience that is accessible in a standard web browser and effective on a desktop computer or a phone.

In "Lawless Loggers", a model of the terrain guides the audience through the most egregious examples of possible illegal logging on steep slopes, complementing data and documents obtained under Freedom of Information as well as leaked reports and in-depth investigations. "Culture in the Crosshairs" follows the efforts of volunteers and human rights workers to document the destruction of treasured Ukrainian buildings.

The "Syria Playbook" uses building footprint data to show the devastation of the Russian attack on Mariupol. "How a Tongan Volcano Shocked the World" uses seafloor elevation data to create a model of the underwater caldera that produced the volcanic eruption.

Mark Doman is a reporter with the ABC's Digital Story Innovation team, producing datadriven, visual journalism. He specialises in using geospatial data to tell stories. This is his second Walkley Award.

Michael Slezak is the ABC's national science, technology and environment reporter, filing for all the ABC's platforms. He has done extensive work on logging in Victoria.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

The visualisation technology brings stories to life and explains them in an engaging and informative fashion. It is also used to break and prosecute hard news. This is innovation in its true form, with impact and exceptional presentation. The technology gives the reader/ viewer the power to freeze the frame and explore where they want to know more.

HEADLINE, CAPTION OR HOOK

Award Partner Twitter Australia





Simon Firth

The Australian, "Hits & Mrs: It's an Oscars like no other"; "Packer's Act 3: Easy lies the head that no longer wears Crown"; "Pharma wants a knife: cashed up Mayne keen to cut some deals"



When Will Smith struck Chris Rock at the Oscars for a jibe about his wife, the moment would inevitably be slapped across the world's front pages, but Simon Firth's "Hits and Mrs" was an original take. For an exclusive story on James Packer finally selling his troubled Crown casino business to begin what Packer called his new "Act 3", Simon kept the headline in a theatrical vein.

His craft extends beyond front pages, with a cheeky nod to *Farmer Wants a Wife* cutting through in the business pages with the news that ASX-listed pharmaceutical giant Mayne Pharma was cashed up and looking to buy companies.

Simon Firth started out in London as *Reader's Digest* jokes editor before being recruited by Kelvin MacKenzie at *The Sun* in 1985. He has since edited for *The Times, Sunday Times* and *Observer* in London, and *The Australian, Daily Telegraph, SMH* and *AFR* in Sydney. In his "blue period", Simon was Harry Hard-On for *The Picture*, and he founded *Australian Hustler* in 1995.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

This entry showed wit and originality. Simon Firth jumped out from the pack with a trio of great traditional headlines that were engaging, punchy and nuanced. These aren't just a pun for pun's sake. Clever and attention grabbing, the headlines are not only funny but also accurately reflect the stories. It can be a tough ask, in particular to make a business headline sexy, but his skilful use of language really hit the brief.







After the 2022 federal election it was revealed that former prime minister Scott Morrison had secretly been sworn in to six more ministries – health, finance, industry, home affairs and treasury.

Mark Knight started his career as a cadet with *The Sydney Morning Herald* in 1980. He was appointed *The Australian Financial Review's* political cartoonist in 1984 before moving to Melbourne to join the *Herald Sun* in 1987, where he draws the paper's political cartoon seven days a week. This is his fifth Walkley Award for best cartoon.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Cartoons should make us feel uncomfortable, should challenge us, but it's really good when they make us laugh, too. Mark Knight's cartoon is a classic, old-style political cartoon that makes you laugh out loud. Creative, it has wit and style and strong artistic technique. Instantly recognisable, humorous and maybe even a little endearing, the ScoMo caricature is on point. But it's that sharp witty tagline that brings it all home: "Not everyone has to be Scott Morrison."





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Mark Knight

Herald Sun, "Not everyone has to be Scott Morrison"



FEATURE WRITING LONG (OVER 4000 WORDS)

Chloe Hooper

The Monthly, "Goddamn bloody adult: Jacqui Lambie"



MARCH 2022 ESSAYS Goddamn bloody adult: Jacqui Lambie

By Chloe Hooper



Photographs by Phebe Schmidt

The Senator Lambie reality show

A scar runs down Jacqui Lambie's forehead from the night she deliberately walked in front of a car. Botox makes it less noticeable. Otherwise, the federal senator is not in the business of hiding her battle wounds. What you see on November 22, 2021, is a 50-year-old woman in hot pink taking the Senate floor. What you get is politics as a strete fight.

Lambie's comfort with her own feral streak only shows up the bland inertia of her poll-driven colleagues, how unsure they seem of *how* to fight. They sit around her in the chamber and peer, as if from behind lace curtains, as she lines up Pauline Hanson for a bitch slap.

All month, Senator Hanson's been broadcasting claims that multitudes are dying from COVID vaccines. When a Sky News journalist shot this down live on air. Hanson aloogised and claimed she'd check her facts. "But the next day," Lambie no spits, "the very next day, she went back to saying the same crap anyway, like that's acceptable behaviour in this country!" Hanson is hustling, and, with every mistruth, donations from "freedom fighters" stream into her far-right party's coffers. And so, before the Senate is One Nation's vaccine discrimination bill, protesting vaccine mandates, which, Lambie contests, is nothing more than "a fundraising exercise ... a grab for cash"

Hanson, being beamed into parliament remotely, appears enlarged on a screen overhead. This politician, to whom Lambie was commonly compared early in her career, maintains a Delphic smile, as Lambie stares down the television camera lens at the Australian public, her eyes moist with tears.

Over almost a decade in Australian political life, Senator Jacqui Lambie has been transformed from a divisive character into a politician with a communitarian agenda. She is a figure of fascination for everyday Australians who are sceptical of mainstream politicians, and known for her larrikin spirit and love of a headline. She comes from a background that is radically different from those of most Australian politicians in terms of opportunity and education.

Chloe Hooper set out to paint an unflinching portrait of Senator Lambie, who opened her home and life to the writer in a level of access we rarely see from the political establishment. This is a tonally complex portrait of someone at once haunted by her past and ambitious for her own and her country's future.

Chloe Hooper is the author of two novels and three works of nonfiction, including The Tall Man and The Arsonist. Her article "The Tall Man" won a Walkley for feature writing in 2006, and she was also part of the team that won the Walkley Documentary Award for The Tall Man in 2011. Her most recent book is Bedtime Story.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

This is a superb example of fine profile writing, particularly in the political sphere. Engaging, lyrical, moving across multiple landscapes while never losing sight of the subject, it offers insights into Jacqui Lambie's character through snapshots of her life as a politician on the road, in action in the Senate, and in the privacy of her own home. A brilliant piece of work done with a novelist's steely eye and heightened sense of observation.

FEATURE WRITING SHORT (UNDER 4000 WORDS)

Award Partner The Sydney Morning Herald and The Age

Will Swanton

The Australian, "The Babushka Smuggle"





"Babushka" is the Ukraine term of affection for grandmother, and Will Swanton's cover story for the Weekend Australian Magazine follows Karina, an Australian woman orchestrating the rescue of her babushka, Anya, from the war in Ukraine. Anya is stranded in her Kyiv apartment, frail, alone and running out of food and medical supplies. Will did more than 20 interviews with Karina, Anya and other players in the story, which unfolds like a cinematic thriller.

The story landed the journalist on Putin's list of Australians banned from Russia, and Karina was contacted by people from all over the world who needed to rescue their own loved ones. Meticulously researched and painstakingly assembled, this exclusive was a true life-and-death story that gave an Australian angle to a foreign war.

Will Swanton is an award-winning sport reporter for The Australian. He has won the Melbourne Press Club's Harry Gordon Award for Australian Sports Journalist of the Year and is a seven-time winner of Sport Australia's Media Awards. This is his first Walkley.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

"The Babushka Smuggle" is a gripping tale. Will Swanton weaves the contemporary events into a real page-turner, and makes us fall a little bit in love with all the characters. It is powerful and moving, a ripping read with a brilliant narrative arc. His creativity and technique take the reader right there, in real time, with emotion, vulnerability, tension, wonderful characters and heart-racing pace.

THE AGE The Sydney Morning Herald

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COVERAGE OF INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS

Award Partner PwC's Indigenous Consulting



Brooke Fryer, Claire Aird, Sissy Reyes and Patrick Forrest

SBS, *The Feed*, "Vanished: The unsolved cases of First Nations women"



Brooke Fryer, a Dharawal woman, had heard from First Nations women for some time that their mothers, sisters and aunties had been going missing at disproportionate rates. "Vanished" distils a three-month investigation into two missing women, Joanne Anderson and Rebecca Hayward, into an impactful half-hour of television.

Brooke navigated cultural considerations and worked to build trust with families for months before filming, then elicited candid and emotional on-camera interviews. The team pieced together missing information using witness reports and community and government sources.

Brooke Fryer is an Indigenous Affairs reporter with the ABC's specialist reporting team. She started her career at NITV in 2018, has worked as a features producer with SBS's *The Feed*, and recently took on a secondment with the ABC's *Four Corners*.

Claire Aird is a freelance reporter and producer. She has reported and presented for ABC News, and has been an executive producer for triple j's *Hack* and a supervising producer at *The Feed*.

Pat Forrest is a designer, animator and writer. He has worked across various programs at SBS and the ABC covering news, documentaries, celebrity interviews and comedy.

Sissy Reyes is a Mexican-Australian cinematographer and editor. She is currently a cinematographer and editor for SBS's flagship current affairs program *Dateline*.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

This is a heartbreaking journey into the critical coverage of missing First Nations women. It's an important story, gripping and beautifully told. Sensitively filmed with a compassionate voice, "Vanished" was powerful because of its elegant simplicity. There was a subtlety in it that brought judges to tears.

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PwC Australia and PwC's Indigenous Consulting are proud to sponsor the 2022 Walkley Award for **Coverage of Indigenous Affairs** Congratulations Brooke Fryer, Claire Aird, Sissy Reyes and Patrick Forrest SBS, The Feed



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PwC's Indigenous Consulting

COVERAGE OF COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Award Partner BHP



ABC North Coast Team

ABC North Coast, "Northern Rivers flood catastrophe"



In February, ABC North Coast was in the eye of the storm when a rain bomb swamped the Wilsons, Richmond, Brunswick and Tweed catchments. The ABC team began rolling coverage at 3am. The presenters' local knowledge was paramount in warning communities downstream of the threat before the SES issued warnings, and their wireless service provided critical updates for people trapped on roofs.

ABC North Coast's coverage prompted an admission from the SES that civilian boats would be helpful, triggering locals to spring into action with their own boats to form a "tinny army".

JUDGES' COMMENTS

In the most terrifying of situations came the most powerful reporting, much of it broadcast live and sometimes from almost unbelievable locations. Yet never was there a skerrick of sensationalism or hysteria, only considered, thoughtful coverage by a team clearly entrenched in its community. Radio is the platform that people turn to in flood zones and ABC North Coast provided public service coverage par excellence. Joanne Shoebridge delivered what her community needed with calm presentation in the midst of a terrible crisis. A benchmark in quality journalism, regional or otherwise.

BHP

Congratulations to the 2022 Walkley Awards finalists and winners.

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

SPORTS JOURNALISM

Award Partner University of Queensland



Lorna Knowles, Nikki Tugwell and Clare Blumer

ABC, "Painful Past: the John Wright series"



The suicide of Olympian Shane Lewis shocked the swimming world in 2021. He had alleged he had been sexually abused by an elite swimming coach when he was a boy at the Chandler pool in Brisbane. Lorna Knowles and Nikki Tugwell found other boys also alleged to have been sexually abused by John Wright.

The stories gave voice to alleged victims around the world and highlighted systemic issues for swimming authorities. John Wright was charged but died in custody. Swimming Australia has changed its policies so that serious allegations are now referred to the independent government body Sport Integrity Australia.

Lorna Knowles is a senior reporter for the ABC Investigations team in Sydney. After nearly 30 years at News Ltd and the Seven Network, she joined the ABC in 2006 and has worked on programs including *Four Corners* and *7.30*. She has won two Walkleys and this year adds another two to her tally.

Nikki Tugwell is a senior producer with 7.30. She began her 25-year career as a reporter and columnist with News Ltd, before working in documentaries and going on to lead the ABC's multi-platform investigative unit.

Clare Blumer is the executive producer of triple j *Hack*. At the ABC she has worked as a digital, radio and television producer across news and investigations teams, winning Quill, Kennedy and Walkley awards.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

This confronting series had a profound effect at an international level, spurring government bodies to make reforms. Following this series, John Wright was arrested and charged with criminal offences but died in custody.

Congratulations 2022 Walkley Award winners and finalists

The University of Queensland proudly supports journalism that **creates change**.

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SPORT PHOTOGRAPHY







Cameron Spencer

Getty Images, "Sport is Back!"



From tennis and Ironman competitions to ski-jumping and AFL, these are fleeting moments from the past year's sporting calendar in Australia and abroad. Cameron Spencer describes his work as "embracing unexpected elements, peak action and defining moments using light to create imagery that is graphic and dynamic".

He started at Getty Images' Sydney picture desk as an editor before working his way into a staff photographer role. Over the past two decades, he has covered major events including eight Olympic Games, four Commonwealth Games, four Rugby World Cups, three FIFA World Cups and all major sporting events in Australia. His work is regularly published in newspapers, magazines and online around the world. This is his third Walkley win for sport photography.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

This well curated series demonstrates Cameron Spencer's impressive range. His strong use of natural light, shadows and silhouettes shows his great technical skills. His ability to see something different and find interesting, unusual viewpoints on a variety of sports is a testament to his creative eye. There are artistic shots and solid news coverage in the iconic image of Buddy Franklin's big moment. It might look simple but it's perfectly framed.

- 1. Splash: Competitors enter the water for the swim leg during Ironman Cairns June 12, 2022.
- Buddy's 1000th: Lance 'Buddy' Franklin of the Swans celebrates kicking his 1000th AFL goal during the round two match between the Sydney Swans and the Geelong Cats at Sydney Cricket Ground – March 25, 2022.
- Ace: Canadian Denis Shapovalov serves in his second round singles match against Soonwoo Kwon of South Korea during day three of the 2022 Australian Open at Melbourne Park – January 19, 2022.
- On approach: Julian Schmid of Team Germany competes during the Ski Jumping First Round as part of Biathlon Team Gundersen Large Hill/4x5km event at the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics. Zhangjiakou, China – February 17, 2022.
- Midfield traffic: Tom Papley of the Swans kicks during the round 20 AFL match between the Sydney Swans and the Greater Western Sydney Giants at Sydney Cricket Ground – July 30, 2022.





RADIO/AUDIO NEWS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS

Award Partner ABC

The world was shocked by Russian atrocities in Bucha. The ABC found new horrors in Berestyanka



Sean Rubinsztein-Dunlop

ABC, "Ukraine War Crimes"



Sean Rubinsztein-Dunlop was deployed in Ukraine as a correspondent for ABC's radio, TV and digital news platforms. His three reports for the ABC's *AM*, gathered and produced at high risk and under extreme deadline pressure, delivered first-hand accounts of the atrocities endured by Ukrainians.

He gathered accounts of potential war crimes in the village of Berestyanka following the withdrawal of Russian forces. He followed a Ukrainian woman looking for the remains of her husband at a mass grave in the town of Bucha, near Kyiv. In one story, he followed a local Red Cross team on an urgent mission to deliver aid, coming under attack as Russian forces escalated their assault on the city.

Sean Rubinsztein-Dunlop is a reporter for the ABC's Investigations team. Between February and May 2022, he was deployed to cover the war in Ukraine for ABC News. He has reported for *Four Corners*, *7.30* and ABC News, and has received a Kennedy Award for excellence in journalism. This is his first Walkley.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

The reporting by Sean Rubinsztein-Dunlop in Ukraine was engaging, informative and at times harrowing. Under constant security, travel and time pressures, he produced stories of great significance that transported the listener to Ukraine through a mixture of his interviews on the ground and use of natural sound. Despite the urgency and the emotional burden, these stories are beautifully crafted.



RADIO/AUDIO FEATURE

Award Partner Telum Media



Patrick Abboud and Simon Cunich

Audible / Amazon, "The Greatest Menace: Inside the Gay Prison Experiment"



The product of more than three years of investigation into Australia's homosexual prison in the town of Cooma, "The Greatest Menace" podcast series exposed a NSW government experiment to eradicate homosexuality, using prisoners as research subjects. Patrick Abboud and Simon Cunich tracked down and interviewed sources with first-hand accounts, many of whom had never shared their stories, and interrogated how historical injustices around the criminalisation of homosexuality continue to reverberate in contemporary Australia.

Patrick and Simon deliberately chose podcast as the form to explore the multiple layers and tendrils of the story. Through its episodic structure and evocative sound design, they were able to investigate rigorously while connecting with listeners on an intimate level.

Patrick Abboud is an award-winning journalist, interviewer, documentary maker and host, and the founder of production company Only Human. He was recently voted one of Australia's 50 most influential LGBTQI+ voices. He researched, co-wrote, co-produced and hosted "The Greatest Menace".

Simon Cunich is a documentary maker working across film, television and podcasting. His work has screened on the ABC, SBS and has won awards at film festivals around the world. He worked as a producer/shooter/editor for The Feed at SBS. He researched, co-wrote and co-produced "The Greatest Menace".

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Enthralling, atmospheric storytelling, "The Greatest Menace" is phenomenally researched with gorgeous production quality. A compelling, wonderfully well told and gobsmackingly good story. Most powerfully, it is interwoven with presenter Patrick Abboud's own fraught story of coming out in a Middle Eastern community.

Today, we celebrate your achievements in Australian media.

Tomorrow, you'll be **Telum** famous.

Congratulations to the finalists and similar to the finalists and the second se



PRODUCTION

Partner Google News Initiative



The Journey through Ukraine team

The Age and The Sydney Morning Herald, "6000km journey"



"A 6000km journey through the war piercing Ukraine's soul" combines photojournalism, reporting, video and dynamic maps to tell the story of a conflict on the other side of the world, showcasing the journey of photographer Kate Geraghty and reporter Anthony Galloway.

The production aimed to showcase the team's photos, videos and stories in an engaging and visually rich way, allowing the reader to connect with the content at their own pace and doing justice to the stories of individuals who shared their personal experiences. The team used changing layouts to keep readers scrolling through a feature-length story with a plethora of different media. Fullscreen videos highlight the reality and scope of the devastation; media walls containing photos and videos provide a visual overview of the regions.

Nathanael Scott is a senior developer with the Visual Stories team. Michelle Griffin was the national world editor at the time of the production. Mags King is the managing photo editor for *The Sydney Morning Herald*. Mark Stehle heads the Visual Stories team at *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age*.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

This is wartime photojournalism at its best. A daring mission into uncharted territory to bring us the stories of real people. Excellent images – Galyna by the radiator – complemented by video and a map that acts as punctuation. Long-form digital is the perfect format; this is a scrollable feast. Visually it is very powerful, offering readers and viewers an opportunity to reflect on the devastating impact of war.



Google News Initiative Training Session, Melbourne October 2022

Congratulations!

to the 2022 Walkley Award winners and finalists

Thank you to every journalist who has contributed to covering the important events of 2022. Your grit, eagerness to learn and dedication to news has put critical facts into the hands of Australians.

Google News Initiative

NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY



Peter takes a moment's rest from moving his ruined belongings outside his flooded Wardell home.

Natalie Grono

The Saturday Paper and Surfing World Magazine, "Peter Takes a Moment"



In late February 2022, floodwaters inundated the Northern Rivers of NSW, devastating livestock, livelihoods, homes and lives. Natalie Grono was first assigned to photograph Ballina and surrounding communities as they prepared for the waters to move down from Lismore. With roads, power and communications cut off, she waded into flooded streets, speaking with residents and making their portraits.

Natalie met Peter outside his Wardell home. He'd spent the day discarding his life belongings, and during a pause in their conversation he sat on his old lounge chair to recuperate. She recognised the moment as a symbol not only of Peter's fatigue and overwhelm, but that of the wider community.

Natalie Grono is a freelance photojournalist based in Byron Bay. With a BA in communications, she began her news career at *The Newcastle Herald*. Her works have been recognised in many of Australia's top photography awards. This is her first Walkley Award.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Peter is a quintessential Aussie. Exhausted and covered in mud, yet stoic and somehow hopeful, he pauses before tackling the mammoth task of resurrecting his life. Natalie Grono encapsulates the aftermath of the floods, with the contradiction of palm trees against sunny skies while Peter is still knee-deep in water. This image sums up one bloke, and in that one bloke a whole community's response to a ghastly situation. You look at that photo and you know the entire story.

SCOOP OF THE YEAR

Award Partner Nine News



Kirsty Needham

Reuters, "China's Push for Pacific Security Deals"



Using documents from a confidential source, Kirsty Needham reported exclusively that China was pushing 10 Pacific Island nations to sign a sweeping security and trade deal, and that at least one leader saw it as a threat to regional peace. Australia's new foreign minister, Penny Wong, responded swiftly. The White House, New Zealand, and Pacific Islands aligned to Taiwan expressed alarm.

Pacific Island leaders pushed Beijing's communique off the agenda shortly before they met with China's foreign minister, citing the need for Pacific unity on security. At the press conference afterwards, the concerns raised in the "Reuters story" were cited and confirmed by Chinese officials.

Kirsty also reported exclusively that a security pact with China would go to the Solomon Islands cabinet after interviewing a Solomons security official involved. It was the first confirmation that a draft security pact leaked to social media hours earlier was genuine.

Kirsty Needham is Australia and Pacific politics correspondent for Reuters. She was China correspondent for *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age*, and worked in reporting and editing roles for Fairfax newspapers. She is a contributor to *Through Her Eyes: Australia's Women Correspondents from Hiroshima to Ukraine.*

JUDGES' COMMENTS

An important, timely and significant piece founded on good research and dedicated follow-up. This story made for compelling reading with revelatory facts and massive public impact across the whole region. Kirsty Needham found the documentation and did the legwork quietly and methodically. Her authoritative follow-ups focused on threats to regional peace and cooperation, emboldening Pacific leaders to push back.



COVERAGE OF A MAJOR NEWS EVENT OR ISSUE

Award Partner Sky News Australia



7 News Ukraine team

Channel Seven, "Ukraine War"



7 News dispatched its first television crew to Kyiv before the Russian tanks rolled across Ukraine's borders, and their unrivalled commitment to the conflict ran uninterrupted for 111 days. The team took significant risks to take Australian viewers into the heart of this war, all while enduring the daily difficulties of finding shelter, food and fuel, frequently in sub-zero conditions.

Seven's London correspondent Sarah Greenhalgh and senior cameraman James Cannon arrived on January 19, entering Ukraine as warnings for foreigners to leave ramped up. Veteran journalist Geof Parry and senior cameraman Paul Walker were positioned in the country days before the invasion, joined by chief reporter Chris Reason and senior cameraman Simon Hydzik on invasion day, February 24.

London bureau chief Hugh Whitfeld and James Cannon arrived just as the Russians began their retreat from Kyiv. Geof and Simon returned for the next rotation, pushing into under-siege Kharkiv. The final rotation saw Sarah and Simon covering Ukrainian citizens cautiously returning to their bombed-out towns. The team paid special tribute to the extraordinary commitment and bravery of their local crew – fixer Anzor Domuzashvili and driver Mykyta Shumakov.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Channel Seven displayed extraordinary commitment to the war in Ukraine, having teams on the ground for 111 days. The team filed compelling stories and displayed considerable bravery, providing comprehensive coverage, excellent camerawork and production and calm under pressure, all anchored by Chris Reason's knowledge, interviewing skill and authority.



Sky News congratulates the winners and finalists of the 2022 Walkley Awards





FEATURE/PHOTOGRAPHIC ESSAY

Award Partner Canva



Kate Geraghty

The Sydney Morning Herald and *The Age*, "Invasion of Ukraine – Civilian Impact"



- Lysychansk: As one of four incoming missiles whistles overhead, eight-year-old Timosha stands with his bicycle in front of the still burning Palace of Culture in Lysychansk. A week later, the city was under Russian occupation – June 17, 2022.
- 2. Frontline aftermath: On a frontline position hundreds of metres from Russian forces, a Ukrainian soldier with the 72nd Brigade stands guard over the bodies of two Russian soldiers. The bodies are two of six that will be handed over to the Red Cross in an exchange for two Ukrainian prisoners of war. Not long after this photo was taken, Russian Grad missiles hit this position March 18, 2022.
- 3. Living on the front line: Zoya Shaposhnik, 67, looks up at the hole in her ceiling from a missile strike. Her disabled husband narrowly escaped injury or death in their home in Krasnohorivka June 16, 2022.
- Bakhmut: Aleksandr, 51, cleans up debris from the balcony of his apartment, destroyed when the College of Trade building next door was hit by a Russian missile – June 14, 2022.
- 5. Battered by missiles: Maria Kruglova, 83 (left), is bedridden with injuries from Russian artillery strikes which destroyed her neighbour Viktor's home, killing him. Maria's son Sergei Kruglova, 57, has been caring for her and cleaning away debris from her almost-destroyed home in Lozova – June 19, 2022.

Four days after Russia invaded Ukraine, Kate Geraghty and reporter Anthony Galloway walked over the Polish border on assignment for *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age*. Amid breaking news, the photographer focused on showing the emotions of the civilians who entrusted her with their stories.

Kate was already accredited, allowing visits to Ukrainian forces on the front lines. She travelled across the country under constant threat of air raids, reporting within curfew hours and photographing the aftermath of airstrikes on homes and people who had narrowly escaped injury or death. Some towns, like Lysychansk, were so dangerous she and Anthony were granted access for only a few hours, under police escort during four missile strikes, to photograph the life of civilians under bombardment.

Kate Geraghty has worked with *The Sydney Morning Herald* since 2002. Her career focus has been on the aftermath of conflicts around the world. She has won eight Walkley awards, including the 2017 Gold Walkley Award with Michael Bachelard.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

The series shows Kate Geraghty's empathy and compassion for her subjects, and their willingness to trust her when they are at their most vulnerable. She maintains a respectful distance from their grief, using a variety of angles and viewpoints to create an immersive experience that places you inside their lives. Her composition under pressure and her use of light are particularly impressive: You have to have a special eye to spot that framing.



Canva

Congratulations to all the Walkley Awards' winners and finalists.

Canva is proud to support visual storytelling and quality journalism. Thank you for your positive impact in the world.



TELEVISION/VIDEO: CAMERAWORK



Ryan Sheridan

ABC, *Four Corners*, "Despair and Defiance" and "Feral"



Two very different *Four Corners* documentaries showcase Ryan Sheridan's skills as a cinematographer. "Feral" contrasts the galloping herds of wild brumbies appearing out of dawn mists in the remote high country of Kosciuszko National Park, with the stark reality of the environmental damage the horses have done to barren plains revealed in the harsh light of day. Ryan cut drone photography with ground footage, and shot interviews with local people outdoors, visually underscoring a beautiful yet fragile natural environment.

In "Despair and Defiance", he captures the raw devastation of war as a singleperson crew under intense time and logistical pressures. From the eerie glow of phone screens lighting soldiers on a blacked-out train to emotional farewells at Kyiv station at dawn, he documents the fear and horror of war. In a fragile situation and with often-distressed interviewees, sensitivity and technical accuracy were essential – there would be no opportunity for a second take.

Ryan Sheridan has worked as a camera operator for 25 years and has been with *Four Corners* since 2019. He covered the 2018 Christchurch massacre for *7.30* and worked for *Foreign Correspondent*. He has had assignments throughout the Middle East and was based in Lebanon for CNN. He covered the war in Afghanistan and the Arab Spring in Libya and Egypt for SBS.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Ryan Sheridan produced visually captivating camerawork under immense pressure, taking care to frame things beautifully even on tough assignments. His portrayal of the Ukraine conflict tellingly records the desperation of refugees. His footage of Australia's high country and the wild horses that threaten the magnificent environment is stunning.

TELEVISION/VIDEO NEWS REPORTING

Award Partner Seven







Chris Reason

Channel Seven, "Frontline in Ukraine"



7 News chief reporter Chris Reason and his crew entered Ukraine on the first day of the war. His reporting captivated Australian viewers: from the horrors endured by residents of an apartment block shattered by a Russian cruise missile, to the harrowing evacuation of northern Kyiv's residents ahead of the Russian advance, and a live-to-camera report captured in one take as Irpin was evacuated ahead of its collapse.

Camera operator Simon Hydzik's powerful imagery includes a near-cinematic piece to camera from a rooftop, using a drone to capture the extraordinary scale of destruction. Chris's interview with Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko, whose "bullshit" soundbite captured Ukrainians' anger and frustration, would ricochet around the world. Chris paid special tribute to his team – Simon, fixer Anzor Domizashvili, driver Mykyta Shumakov and security coordinator Anders Linderson.

Chris Reason is chief reporter for *7 News*. In three decades, he has covered some of the most important historical events of our times; reported from war zones and disasters; covered 11 Olympic Games and anchored every one of Seven's public affairs programs – from *Sunrise* to the *6PM News*. His coverage of the Lindt Cafe siege earned him the Walkley, Logie, Kennedy and Perkin awards.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

The 7 News team in Ukraine demonstrated high-quality storytelling, technical excellence and skilled live reporting that took audiences to the scene as the crisis unfolded. Chris Reason was there through it all, condensing this massive story into a daily round-up that gave us everything we needed to know. This was an Australian journalist, reporting for Australia, on a conflict with global implications.



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

Award Partner SBS



Lorna Knowles and Nikki Tugwell

ABC, 7.30, "Painful Past: the John Wright series"



John Wright was a world-renowned swimming coach who trained many of Australia's Olympic stars. Lorna Knowles and Nikki Tugwell unearthed allegations that Wright sexually abused young swimmers in Australia, South Africa and the UK. They followed up with the story of the suicide of another swimmer, Paul Shearer, who had alleged abuse a decade earlier, and similar allegations by South African swimmer Anthony Rocchi.

The reporting prompted multiple former swimmers from around the world to come forward. There was a police investigation and John Wright was arrested in Western Australia. He later died in custody. Swimming Australia has now changed its policies so that serious allegations are now referred to the independent government body Sport Integrity Australia.

Lorna Knowles is a senior reporter for the ABC Investigations team. She began her three-decade career at News Ltd before moving to the Seven Network in 2004. In 2006, she joined the ABC, where she has worked on programs including *Four Corners* and *7.30*.

Nikki Tugwell is a senior producer with *7.30*. After starting her career with News Ltd, she worked in documentaries in New York, then joined the ABC where she led the multi-platform investigation unit. She was the executive producer of the multi award-winning podcast series "The Eleventh" about the dismissal of the Whitlam government.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

An uncomfortable series alleging child sexual abuse within Australia's elite swimming community. Powerful interviews demonstrate trust in the reporter and her team. Outstanding for its impact and outcome, "Painful Past" is important reporting.



TELEVISION/VIDEO CURRENT AFFAIRS LONG

(MORE THAN 20 MINUTES)

Award Partner TEN News First and The Project



Adele Ferguson, Klaus Toft and Lauren Day

The Sydney Morning Herald, The Age and Four Corners, "Cosmetic Cowboys: The unregulated world of cosmetic surgery"



This investigation into Australia's \$1.4 billion cosmetic surgery industry spent almost a year finding whistleblowers, combing through court records and Freedom of Information requests, and convincing patients to speak publicly.

Adele Ferguson, Klaus Toft and Lauren Day investigated celebrity cosmetic surgeon Dr Daniel Lanzer. Lanzer filed an urgent interlocutory injunction prior to publication, but this was unsuccessful and the investigation was broadcast in full.

Adele Ferguson is a Gold Walkley-winning journalist with *The Age* and *The Sydney Morning Herald* and a regular guest reporter for 60 Minutes and the ABC's 7.30 and *Four Corners*.

Klaus Toft has been making documentaries and current affairs for more than 30 years for the ABC, SBS, Channel 9, National Geographic, Discovery, ARTE, Channel 4, Super RTL and PBS.

Lauren Day has worked at the ABC for more than a decade in newsrooms across the country and on a range of programs including *Four Corners*, 7.30 and *Foreign Correspondent*.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

"Cosmetic Cowboys" was visually shocking, exceptional journalism that had a huge impact. After this piece, those who had cosmetic surgeries gone wrong, came forward to tell their stories. Calm, methodical reporting that opened a door into a world that had been hidden, this was powerful, riveting TV.





THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A GOOD YARN.

And nowhere better to enjoy one than at the Walkley Awards, celebrating the best of Aussie journalism.

BUSINESS JOURNALISM

Award Partner ING



Nick McKenzie, Joel Tozer and Amelia Ballinger

Nine, *60 Minutes*, "Star and the gambling industry's reckoning"



These three investigative reports into the business of gambling have had an ongoing impact on Australian casinos and their regulation. "Failing Star" exposed Star Entertainment for enabling suspected money laundering, organised crime and foreign interference. The reporting triggered public inquiries in New South Wales and Queensland, and the resignation of Star's CEO, chair, and multiple directors and executives.

"Dirty Money" investigated the business of pokies, revealing how the gaming industry was exposed to organised crime and was using its lobbying muscle to avoid accountability. "Out of Luck" revealed how smaller casinos were profiting from the reform of their larger cousins.

Nick McKenzie is an Australian investigative journalist.

Joel Tozer is an award-winning journalist and TV producer. His work has been published in *The New Yorker*, 60 *Minutes, Four Corners, Dateline, The Sydney Morning Herald* and many more. He is currently the executive producer of the ABC's 7.30 program.

Amelia Ballinger is a producer at *60 Minutes*. She started her career at *A Current Affair* in Brisbane and worked in Nine's Sydney newsroom before moving to London as the network's Europe correspondent, then worked in New York and Washington, DC.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

McKenzie, Tozer and Ballinger accused Star Entertainment of allowing suspected money-laundering and organised crime in its Australian casinos. The Bell Inquiry, one of several which followed, ultimately found Star Entertainment was not suitable to be concerned in or associated with the management and operation of a casino in NSW. The stories, delivered amid intense scrutiny, changed the gaming industry for good.

ING

Well said.

Congratulations to all 2022 Walkley Awards winners from ING.





INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

Award Partner Guardian Australia



Hedley Thomas, David Murray, Isaac Irons and Slade Gibson

The Australian, "Shandee's Story"



"Shandee's Story" started life as an investigation into the 2013 unsolved stabbing of 23-year-old Shandee Blackburn in Mackay, Queensland.

Acting on a hunch, Hedley Thomas went to a highly experienced DNA specialist, Dr Kirsty Wright, and the investigation uncovered extraordinary defects in the criminal justice system, prompting a Royal Commission inquiry into the Queensland government's DNA laboratory, which tests all crime scene samples and provides crucial evidence to police and courts.

Hedley was assisted in the "Shandee's Story" podcast by journalism student Isaac Irons and political reporter Lydia Lynch. National crime correspondent David Murray was responsible for coverage of the case in the print and online editions of *The Australian*. Audio engineer Slade Gibson contributed original music and audio production.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Truly excellent journalism takes you places you didn't expect to go. Starting as an investigation into a brutal killing, "Shandee's Story" became an investigation into the forensic laboratory, with massive ramifications for victims of crime and miscarriages of justice. The series was detailed and meticulously researched, with outstanding production quality.

Guardian

Trusted, independent journalism is essential in the fight for progress.

Guardian Australia is proud to partner with the Walkley Awards. Congratulations to all the 2022 Walkley Award winners and finalists.

JUDGES

Working together

We are the custodians of excellence in reporting in Australia, working independently with all media organisations to encourage journalism of the highest ethical standard. Each year, hundreds of reporters, editors and producers give their time to judge our

awards. Thank you to all those who judged this year.

Gemma Acton, Seven
Daniel Adams, Australian Financial Review
Christine Ahern, Nine Melbourne
Lorena Allam, Guardian Australia
Mike Amor, 7 News
Paul Bailey, Australian Financial Review
Rebecca Baillie, <i>Insight</i> , SBS
Clare Blumer, ABC, <i>triple j</i>
Stephanie Borys, ABC Radio
Alice Brennan, ABC Audio Studios
Peter Broelman, <i>The Advertiser</i>
Jane Cadzow, Good Weekend
Anna Caldwell, The Daily Telegraph
Mark Chapman, SBS
Harriet Tarbuck, Photo Collective
Blanche Clark
Caleb Cluff, Ballarat Courier, ACM
Amanda Collinge, <i>Compass</i> , ABC
Matthew Condon, The Weekend Australian Magazine
Kate Cox, ACM
Mary Cunnane
Omar Dehen, SBS World News
Kate Doak, 10 News First
Tom Dusevic, The Australian
Nicholas Eagar, News Corp
Patrick Effeney, <i>Wide World of Sports</i> , Nine
Richard Ferguson, The Australian
Kate Ferguson, ABC
Fanou Filali, ABC Investigations
John Farmer, The Courier Mail
Peter Fray, Private Media
Melissa Fyfe, Good Weekend Magazine
Ashleigh Gillon, Sky News

Janine Graham, Illawarra Mercury Ewin Hannan, The Australian Kerri-Lee Harding, NITV Radio Elise Holman, Sky News Gabrielle Jackson, Guardian Australia Eric Johnston, The Australian Lindy Jones, Abbeys Krystal Keller, The Project Matthew Kelly, Newcastle Herald Nassim Khadem, ABC Melbourne Sashka Koloff, ABC Ray Kuka, 7News Perth Bernard Lagan, The Times Justin Lees, The Daily Telegraph Caro Llewellyn, The Wheeler Centre Katherine Loughnan, Fox Sports Alicia Loxley, Nine News Josie MacRae, Nine Bonnie Malkin, Guardian Australia Kathy Marks Matthew Martin, freelance Illustrator/ cartoonist Olivia McGrath, Getty Margie McLew, Nine Nel Minchin, In Films Bridget Munro, SBS World News Catherine Naylor, The Sydney Morning Herald Alex Needs, Nine Holly Nott, AAP Thomas O'Brien, Sky News Jeremy Piper, Oculi Petra Rees, The Australian Celina Ribeiro, Guardian Australia Stephen Rice, The Australian

Tory Shepherd, Guardian Australia

Susan Skelly, freelance specialist writer/editor Stephanie Skenderis, freelance Amruta Slee, ABC Radio National Camden Smith, NT Times Michelle Stephenson, Nova Entertainment Jake Sturmer, ABC Edmund Tadros, Australian Financial Review Steve Tervet, The Border Mail Geoff Thompson, Background Briefing, ABC Radio National Greg Thomson, The Daily Telegraph Brian Thomson, SBS Nakari Thorpe, ABC Lee Tulloch, Traveller Sharnelle Vella, 7 News Melbourne Calla Wahlguist, Guardian Australia Giselle Wakatama, ABC Newcastle Jim Waley Danny Wheeler, Sky News Australia Martin White, 10 News First Mandi Wicks, SBS Sally Young, 7News Queensland

COMMENTARY, ANALYSIS, OPINION AND CRITIQUE

Award Partner Thomson Geer Lawyers





Nikki Gemmell has been writing her "Front" column for *The Weekend Australian Magazine* for the past 11 years, asking uncomfortable questions and preaching to the unconverted in a conservative environment, and nevertheless ending up stuck on fridge doors (a columnist's greatest accolade).

In these three columns, she takes a snapshot of the nation as the Albanese government is sworn in; meditates on parenthood and male friendship around her son's near-fatal accident; and weighs women's rage against the Morrison government's "woman problem".

Nikki Gemmell has written her popular and controversial column for more than a decade. She is also the bestselling author of some 20 books. She was born in Wollongong and was a journalist for both the ABC and BBC before turning to writing full time. Her books have been translated into 22 languages.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Nikki Gemmell describes herself as an "outlier" at *The Australian*, indicating how difficult it can be to go against the grain. Her writing is thought-provoking, moving, incisive – picking up the mood of a country or extrapolating wider insight from a personal story. She tackles a broad range of topics with different writing styles, engaging even when the reader doesn't necessarily share her opinion. To write with such relevance and flair every single week is no small feat.



Congratulations to the finalists and winners of the 67th Walkley Awards 2022.

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Nikki Gemmell

News Corp, *The Weekend Australian,* "Australia Now"



WALKLEY DOCUMENTARY AWARD









Karl Malakunas

Delikado, Thoughtful Robot Productions



In 2011, Karl Malakunas, the Manila bureau chief for AFP, set out to write an article about ecotourism on the seemingly idyllic island of Palawan in the Philippines. When his contact for the story, an environmental campaigner, was shot dead shortly before he arrived, Karl ended up investigating his murder instead.

His investigation uncovered a wider network of people fighting to stop the illegal destruction of the island's natural resources, setting him on a decade-long mission to document the heroic feats of environmental defenders in a nation where they are often killed with impunity.

Karl Malakunas is the director, producer and writer of *Delikado*. He began his career as a 17-year-old copyboy at the *Herald Sun* and has been an international correspondent and editor for Agence France-Presse since 2001. He is currently AFP's Asia-Pacific deputy editor-in-chief, based in Hong Kong.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

This is a rigorous documentary alleging corruption throughout the Philippines government. The filmmakers showed great fortitude in following dedicated environmentalists, even as one is killed and another is threatened by former President Duterte.

WALKLEY BOOK AWARD

Award Partner Banki Haddock Fiora

Bronwyn Adcock

Currowan, Black Inc. Books



The Currowan fire, ignited by a lightning strike in a remote forest and growing to engulf the NSW South Coast in Australia's Black Summer, burnt for 74 days. It consumed nearly 5000 sq km of land, destroyed more than 500 homes and left whole communities shattered. Bronwyn Adcock fled the inferno with her children while her husband, fighting at the front, rang with a plea for help before his phone went dead.

Currowan is a powerful glimpse into a new, more dangerous world and how we build resilience. Uniquely placed to tell this story, as both eyewitness and journalist, Bronwyn weaves together memoir, reportage and analysis. A meticulous portrait of one fire, it is a story relevant to every Australian – and indeed any human inhabiting this world of rapidly changing weather.

Bronwyn Adcock has been a working journalist for more than 25 years. She has reported for the ABC and SBS *Dateline* and worked as a freelance writer for *The Monthly* and *The Guardian*. *Currowan* is her first book.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Bronwyn Adcock brings a finely calibrated mix of narrative reporting and personal experience to this account of 2019's megafires. She tells you what happened, how it happened, why it happened and, terrifyingly, why it will happen again. This is a vivid, timely, gripping book. A VIVID AND TERRIFYING GLIMPSE OF NOT JUST OUR FUTURE BUT ALSO OUR PRESENT, EVERY AUSTRALIAN SHOULD READ THIS BOOK. —SOPHIE CUNNINGHAM

CURROWAN

THE STORY OF A FIRE AND A COMMUNITY DURING AUSTRALIA'S WORST SUMMER

BRONWYN ADCOCK



Banki Haddock Fiora is a proud supporter of The Walkley Foundation and the work it does promoting excellence in journalism.



OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO JOURNALISM

Award Partner News Corp Australia

Sally Neighbour



As a reporter winning three Walkley Awards, and as executive producer of the ABC's two flagship current affairs programs, *Four Corners* and *7.30*, Sally Neighbour has made a contribution to Australian journalism that is nothing short of extraordinary.

Her fearless investigations into Islamic terrorism were groundbreaking. She was shooting for *Four Corners* on the rise of Jemaah Islamiyah in 2002 when Bali was bombed; she and her crew immediately jumped on a plane to Denpasar.

Covering terrorism inspired her to write two books: *The Mother of Mohammed* was shortlisted for the 2009 Walkley Book Award, and *Shadow of Swords* won the 2005 NSW Premier's History Award. She also wrote the essay "Operation Pendennis in Australia" in The Evolution of the Global Terrorist Threat.

Neighbour's television career began in 1986 at GLV8 in the Latrobe Valley, where she did everything from police reporting to the weather. She worked at Channel 10 before embarking in 1988 on a long career at the ABC, reporting for ABC TV News Melbourne and the *7.30 Report*, where she later spent three years as executive producer of *7.30*. She was the ABC's foreign correspondent in Hong Kong and China (1993-1995) and presenter of *Lateline* in 2000. She was also a senior writer with *The Australian* newspaper (2005-2010). Probably her greatest impact was felt at *Four Corners*, where she was a reporter (1996-2009) and executive producer from 2015 until she retired from the ABC this year.

Neighbour won her first Walkley in 1996 at *Four Corners* for a report on the Victorian government's casino tendering process. A year later, the then state Premier, Jeff Kennett, described another of her *Four Corners* investigations into his family's share dealings as "an hour of slime".

In Neighbour's seven years as *Four Corners*' executive producer, the program won 18 Walkleys, including two Gold Walkleys. *Four Corners* stories she commissioned led to four royal commissions – into youth justice, banking, aged care and Murray-Darling water theft.

John Lyons, ABC News Global Affairs Editor and former head of investigative and in-depth journalism, ABC News, says: "Sally's view is that the public has a right to know what's going on in their society, even in its darkest and most intimidating corners." Nick McKenzie, Walkley-winning investigative journalist for *The Age/SMH* and *60 Minutes*, who worked for Neighbour on a number of award-winning programs at *Four Corners*, says: "Her contribution to the last 30 years of journalism – especially investigative journalism – in Australia as a reporter and then as an EP is without peer. Not many can do both: report and edit/EP. Sally has done both to an extraordinary level, making Australian journalism, and democracy, stronger."

Adele Ferguson, Gold Walkley-winning investigative journalist, who also worked on a series of *Four Corners* programs under Neighbour, says: "She takes on entrenched power head on and doesn't flinch. It has been my privilege to work with Sally, who has been a great source of support when taking on big powerful organisations. I am confident [my stories] would not have got the traction they did without her support."

Neighbour has shaped a new generation of investigative journalists. Morag Ramsay, executive producer, *Foreign Correspondent*, and former commissioning editor, *Four Corners*, says: "During her time as EP of *Four Corners* she has sought to give opportunities to people at all levels of the program. From young editing assistants given their first shot at cutting whole episodes to inexperienced reporters entrusted to deliver on screen, she has sought to renew and promote people with talent. In doing so she has guided them and shaped their work, imbuing them with the standards she has worked by for decades." Former *Four Corners* producer Sashka Koloff says: "Uncompromising in her standards, Sally Neighbour raises her team up. One of Sally's common refrains is to 'hold your nerve'. At times of high pressure when pushback is coming hard and fast, her position is strong and certain. Sally is a great leader who backs her team, often shielding us from the noise. This allows us to get on with the job of holding power to account."

Louise Milligan, *Four Corners* reporter, says: "She has been a great champion of women in leadership roles – but she doesn't make a fuss about this. She does it only because she recognises that the women she hires and chooses for positions are the best for the job. She also champions women's subjects and women's stories. Through her journalistic example and work ethic, she has been an incredible mentor to me and to many other younger women currently working on our program."

Sarah Curnow, producer at the ABC TV National Investigations Team, and previously at *Four Corners* and *7.30*, says: "We know women need to outshine the pack in order to be respected at the highest levels of journalism – that is simply a historical fact. The quality of her brain power and sheer ability has blown away the gender impediments that so often prevent the promotion of women of merit. She has set a standard for journalism at the ABC as good as or better than any of the significant news figures who've come before her." •



67тн WALKLEY AWARD FINALISTS

PRINT/TEXT NEWS REPORT

Award Partner Media Super

- Melissa Cunningham, *The Age*, "The Melbourne ICU where the unvaccinated die in disbelief"
- Aisha Dow, Nick McKenzie and Joel Tozer, The Age, "Triple-zero crisis"
- Samantha Maiden, news.com.au, "Captain's Pick"

PUBLIC SERVICE JOURNALISM

Award Partner Sydney Airport

- Anne Connolly, Ali Russell and Stephanie Zillman, ABC, Four Corners, "State Control"
- Ruby Jones, Georgia Cranko, Erik Jensen and Elle Marsh, Schwartz Media, *7am*, "The killing of Ann Marie Smith"
- Katri Uibu, ABC News, "Bad parent: Life at the hands of Australia's child protection system"

INNOVATION

- ABC News Story Lab team, ABC News, "The Australian election map has been lying to you"
- Ben English, Anna Caldwell and The Daily Telegraph documentary team, The Daily Telegraph, "The War"
- Mark Doman, Michael Slezak and the Digital Story Innovation Team, ABC, "Using 3D techniques to tell immersive stories"

HEADLINE, CAPTION OR HOOK

Award Partner Twitter Australia

- Anna Caldwell, *The Daily Telegraph*, "Need a rapid test? Play the Poms", "Thor-assic Park", "Return Serb"
- Simon Firth, *The Australian*, "Hits & Mrs: It's an Oscars like no other"; "Packer's Act 3: Easy lies the head that no longer wears Crown"; "Pharma wants a knife: cashed up Mayne keen to cut some deals"
- Patrick Lenton and Esmé Louise James, *The Conversation*, "The explosive history of the 2,000-year-old Pompeii 'masturbating' man", "Cardboardeaux, bag-in-box, and goon: why Australia's love affair with boxed wine endures", "Did everyone in Bridgerton have syphilis? Just how sexy would it really have been in Regency era London?"

FEATURE WRITING LONG (OVER 4000 WORDS)

- Chloe Hooper, *The Monthly*, "Goddamn bloody adult: Jacqui Lambie"
- Anna Krien, *The Monthly*, "A Shooting in Yuendumu"
- John van Tiggelen, The Monthly, "The Wash-up"

FEATURE WRITING SHORT (UNDER 4000 WORDS)

Award Partner The Sydney Morning Herald and The Age

- Greg Bearup, The Weekend Australian Magazine, "The Parish Uprising"
- Peter Hartcher, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, "Radioactive: Inside the topsecret AUKUS subs deal"
- Will Swanton, *The Australian*, "The Babushka Smuggle"

COVERAGE OF INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS

Award Partner PwC's Indigenous Consulting

- Brooke Fryer, Claire Aird, Sissy Reyes and Patrick Forrest, SBS, *The Feed*, "Vanished: The unsolved cases of First Nations women"
- Louise Milligan, Naomi Selvaratnam and Lauren Day, ABC TV, Four Corners, "Heart Failure"
- Carly Williams and Charlotte King, ABC, Background Briefing, "The Fight for Control Over Black Births"

COVERAGE OF COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Award Partner BHP

- ABC North Coast Team, ABC North Coast, "Northern Rivers flood catastrophe"
- Sam Carmody, Anthony Pancia, Wayne Webb and Zac Webb, ABC, Background Briefing, ABC South West and Undalup Association, "The Ghosts Are Not Silent"
- Samantha Jonscher and Alex Barwick, ABC Alice Springs, "Gendered violence in Central Australia"

CARTOON

Award Partner Epson

- Matt Golding, The Sunday Age, "Voice to Parliament"
- Fiona Katauskas, Australian Community Media, *The Echidna* and *The Canberra Times*, "Propertied"
- Mark Knight, Herald Sun, "Not everyone has to be Scott Morrison"

SPORTS JOURNALISM

Award Partner University of Queensland

- Craig Butt and Concussion Project Team, The Age and The Sydney Morning Herald, "Concussion in sport"
- Lorna Knowles, Nikki Tugwell and Clare Blumer, ABC, "Painful Past: the John Wright series"
- Jeremy Story Carter, ABC National Regional Reporting Team, "Death of a footy club"

SPORT PHOTOGRAPHY

- **Robert Cianflone**, Getty Images, "A Glamorous Job"
- Quinn Rooney, Getty Images, "Swimming World"
- Cameron Spencer, Getty Images, "Sport is Back!"

RADIO/AUDIO NEWS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS

Award Partner ABC

- Andrew Probyn and Matthew Doran, ABC AM, "The Macron-Morrison Spat"
- Sean Rubinsztein-Dunlop, ABC, "Ukraine war crimes"
- David Sparkes, ABC, "Northern NSW floods"

RADIO/AUDIO FEATURE

Award Partner Telum Media

- Patrick Abboud and Simon Cunich, Audible / Amazon, "The Greatest Menace: Inside the Gay Prison Experiment"
- Rachael Brown, Mahmood Fazal and the Background Briefing team, ABC Background Briefing, "What happened to the Saudi sisters?"
- The Sydney Morning Herald and 60 Minutes team, Nine, "Liar Liar: Melissa Caddick and the Missing Millions"

PRODUCTION

Award Partner Google News Initiative

- Patrick Abboud and Simon Cunich, Audible/ Amazon, "The Greatest Menace: Inside the Gay Prison Experiment"
- The Journey through Ukraine team, The Age and The Sydney Morning Herald, "6000km journey"
- Mark Willacy, Stephanie March, Josh Robertson and Kyle Taylor, ABC Four Corners, "Ghosts of Timor"

SCOOP OF THE YEAR

Award Partner Nine News

- Simon Benson, Geoff Chambers and Samantha Maiden, The Australian and news.com.au, "Ministry of Secrets"
- Kirsty Needham, Reuters, "China's push for Pacific security deals"
- Bevan Shields, The Sydney Morning Herald, "'I don't think, I know'"

COVERAGE OF A MAJOR NEWS EVENT OR ISSUE

Award Partner Sky News Australia

- Anthony Galloway and Kate Geraghty, The Sydney Morning Herald and The Age, "The invasion of Ukraine"
- The Hell on High Water Team, The Sydney Morning Herald, "Hell on High Water"
- Seven News Ukraine Team, Channel Seven, "Ukraine War"

NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY

- Stephen Dupont, Stephen Dupont Instagram and Facebook, "War in Ukraine"
- Natalie Grono, The Saturday Paper and Surfing World Magazine, "Peter takes a moment"
- Christopher Hopkins, *The Age*, "Day 1: Anti Lockdown"

BUSINESS JOURNALISM

Award Partner ING

- Sarah Danckert, The Age and The Sydney Morning Herald, "Secrets at Stake.com"
- Nick Evans and John Stensholt, The Australian, "Twiggy's Green Dream"
- Nick McKenzie, Joel Tozer and Amelia Ballinger, Nine, 60 Minutes, "Star and the gambling industry's reckoning"

FEATURE/PHOTOGRAPHIC ESSAY

Award Partner Canva

- Matthew Abbott, National Geographic Magazine, "Saving forests with fire"
- Kate Geraghty, *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age*, "Invasion of Ukraine – Civilian Impact"
- Andrew Quilty, *Rolling Stone*, "Return of the Taliban"

TELEVISION/VIDEO: CAMERAWORK

- Matthew Davis, ABC Foreign Correspondent, "Myanmar's Forgotten War" and "Keep Hawaii Hawaiian"
- Ryan Grimshaw, NBN News and Nine Today Show/Nine News, "Ryan Grimshaw floods"
- Ryan Sheridan, ABC Four Corners, "Despair and Defiance" and "Feral"

TELEVISION/VIDEO NEWS REPORTING Award Partner Seven

- Carrie-Anne Greenbank, Nine Network, "The War in Ukraine"
- Chris Reason, Channel Seven, "Front line in Ukraine"
- Sean Rubinsztein-Dunlop and Phil Hemingway, ABC, "Ukraine war coverage"

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

Award Partner SBS

- Christine Ahern and Thea Dikeos, Nine Network, 60 Minutes, "Dying for Help"
- Lorna Knowles and Nikki Tugwell, ABC, 7.30, "Painful Past: the John Wright series"
- Josh Robertson, Mark Willacy, Kyle Taylor and Echo Hui, ABC, 7.30, "Fallen Star"

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

Award Partner TEN News First and The Project

- Anne Connolly, Ali Russell and Stephanie Zillman, ABC, Four Corners, "State Control"
- Adele Ferguson, Klaus Toft and Lauren Day, The Sydney Morning Herald, The Age, Four Corners, "Cosmetic Cowboys: The unregulated world of cosmetic surgery"
- Belinda Hawkins, Kristine Taylor and Roger Carter, ABC, Australian Story, "No Place Like Home"

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

Award Partner Guardian Australia

- Adele Ferguson, Joel Tozer, Klaus Toft and Lauren Day, The Sydney Morning Herald, The Age, 60 Minutes, and Four Corners, "Cosmetic Surgery in Crisis"
- Nick McKenzie, Joel Tozer and Amelia Ballinger, Nine, "The downfall of the gaming industry"
- Hedley Thomas, David Murray, Isaac Irons, and Slade Gibson, The Australian, "Shandee's Story"

COMMENTARY, ANALYSIS, OPINION AND CRITIQUE

Award Partner Thomson Geer Lawyers

- Nikki Gemmell, News Corp, The Weekend Australian, "Australia Now"
- Erik Jensen, The Saturday Paper, "The Morrison editorials"
- Jacqueline Maley, The Sydney Morning Herald and The Age, "When Power Shifts"

WALKLEY DOCUMENTARY AWARD

- Ben Lawrence and Gabriel Shipton, *Ithaka*, Shipton House and ABC
- Karl Malakunas, *Delikado*, Thoughtful Robot Productions
- Rock Island Bend Productions team, Franklin

WALKLEY BOOK AWARD

Award Partner Banki Haddock Fiora

- Bronwyn Adcock, Currowan, Black Inc. Books
- Sean Kelly, The Game: A Portrait of Scott Morrison, Black Inc. Books
- Louisa Lim, Indelible City, Text Publishing

NIKON-WALKLEY PRESS PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

Award Partner Nikon

- Brendan Esposito, ABC
- Christopher Hopkins, The Age and The Guardian
- Brook Mitchell, The Sydney Morning Herald

NIKON PHOTO OF THE YEAR



Natalie Grono

The Saturday Paper and Surfing World Magazine, "Peter Takes a Moment"



The floods in New South Wales' Northern Rivers were one of the biggest stories in the nation in the past year, and the judges thought Natalie Grono's image captured the story, and Australia, in a standout way.

"Peter is a quintessential Aussie – exhausted and covered in mud, yet stoic and somehow hopeful, he pauses before tackling the mammoth task of resurrecting his life. Natalie Grono encapsulates the aftermath of the floods with the contradiction of palm trees against sunny skies while Peter is still knee-deep in water."

In late February 2022, floodwaters inundated the Northern Rivers region of NSW, devastating livestock, livelihoods, homes and lives. Natalie was first assigned to photograph Ballina and surrounding communities as they prepared for the waters to move down from Lismore. With roads, power and communications cut off, She waded into flooded streets, speaking with residents and taking their portraits.

She says: "On March 6, a Sunday afternoon, I met Peter, a larger-than-life and robust character, outside his Wardell home after he had spent the entire day discarding his life belongings. During a quiet pause in our conversation and a break in his resilience, he sat on his old lounge chair to recuperate. I was immediately struck by his exhaustion, heightened by his intimidating stack of redundant, broken belongings. At that brief moment, I took this photograph, and then he jumped up and got back into it. The portrait symbolised not only Peter's fatigue and overwhelm but that of the wider community."

Image: Peter takes a moment's rest from moving his ruined belongings outside his flooded Wardell home.

NIKON PORTRAIT PRIZE



Justin McManus

The Sunday Age and The Age, "Johnny and his Dogs"



Image: Chairman of Nurrdalinji Aboriginal Corporation, Kuranjini man Johnny Wilson, on Country with his dogs. Johnny, along with other traditional owners, is fighting to stop fracking on their Country in the Beetaloo Basin, Northern Territory. Indigenous communities and traditional owners from the Beetaloo Basin in the Northern Territory are battling fracking for natural gas by large energy companies on their traditional lands. They fear the fracking, which works by fracturing bedrock formations, will desecrate their land and contaminate the water of the Beetaloo aquifer, rendering large parts of their Country uninhabitable. Kuranjini man Johnny Wilson is chair of Nurrdalinji Aboriginal Corporation, a group of traditional owners he has organised to fight for their Country. Johnny gets emotional when he speaks about his battle to preserve his Country for his family. "We live in great fear of what will happen to our Country, our future and our next generation."

Justin McManus has been covering this issue since 2019. He says: "Aboriginal elders, along with environmentalists and cattle station owners, have huge misgivings about the process by which energy companies with limited environmental credentials have benefited from heavily subsidised explorations.

"Johnny already has exploratory wells on his Country, and has concerns about how they are affecting the environment. He says heat generated from the burning of methane from the well stacks has affected animal numbers and the ability of animals to live in the vicinity of the well pads. But he is more concerned by what is happening underground, and fears that the wells will eventually fail and the aquifer will become contaminated, with disastrous consequences for all forms of life."

JUDGES' COMMENTS

The judges commended McManus's commitment to the story: "One man at home in a landscape under threat tells a story that could go unnoticed if it were not for Justin McManus's dedication. That's a portrait of Australia right there."

'Relief for distressed Australasian journalists'

Walkley-winning journalist Helen Pitt shares the impact the Journalists Benevolent Fund has had in her life and beyond.

Two days after my husband William died, the Journalists Benevolent Fund (JBF) of NSW got in touch to see if I needed assistance. I was living on the other side of the world in San Francisco, California, where we had gone to live for Will's treatment for a brain tumour.

I was moved to tears by this gesture. Even though I didn't take up the offer until I returned to Australia to live and recommence life as a journalist, it was practical help in my hour of need, and I will never forget it.

When I returned to Sydney to care for my elderly parents, I could only work part-time and my journalist's salary barely covered my astronomical Sydney rent. The money the fund gave me helped set me up again in the city of my birth, and pay for optional extras for my then primary school-aged son Liam's education: music classes, excursions and after-school care.

Many NSW journalists don't know about the fund and how it can help get them through difficult circumstances.

We offer a \$3000 funeral benefit for all current and former members of the NSW Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance.

The fund provides assistance to any journalist, artist or photographer, or their families, in distressed circumstances, whether they are MEAA members or not. For those with children under 18, scholarships are available for school and university. We offer loans and grants for causes deemed worthy – especially when bad things happen to good people, which inevitably they do.

We have helped deaf journalists hear again, contributed to life-saving operations and long-term treatment, and helped those in rental stress or any form of distress.

The JBF was set up by the AJA, thanks to a bequest from Jules Francois Archibald, the founding editor of *The Bulletin*.

The terms of his will divided his estate of £89,000 into shares for his family and a fund to provide "relief for distressed Australasian journalists". He also left money for the Archibald Prize, which has become the nation's best-known portrait prize, and for the Archibald Fountain in Hyde Park.

I once worked for *The Bulletin*, the magazine he founded, and am honoured now to be part of his lovely legacy as a volunteer trustee of his fund.

I work along with my former colleague, *Bulletin* cartoonist Lindsay Foyle, and other names you may know: ABC 702 Drive



Helen Pitt with Liam and William before his death. SUPPLIED.

"We've helped deaf journalists hear again, contributed to life-saving operations... and helped those in rental stress or any form of distress."

presenter Richard Glover, ABC senior business correspondent Peter Ryan, former *Australian Financial Review* and *Sun-Herald* journalist Catriona Wilson and NSW MEAA media organiser Tyron Butson. We are ably assisted by our admin supremo, Kerrie Rogers, whose compassionate telephone calls are usually our first point of contact with those we help.

Kerrie cries a lot in her job, as the people we help are usually overwhelmed with gratitude and tears when we offer financial assistance.

My son Liam is now backpacking around Europe supporting himself by busking, thanks to the money we received for his guitar lessons. While the neighbours may not have been so grateful for the drum lessons the fund helped pay for, we are eternally indebted to it for his musical education.

Being a trustee is one of the most rewarding elements of my work life. Many of us went into journalism to help others, which is indeed what we do at the JBF. We are always willing to help in the strictest confidence. Please contact any of us, or email us at: journalistbenevolent@nswjbf.org

You can find out more, or apply to the fund, at www.nswjbf.org Or call 1300 65 65 13 (toll free).



Over 40 years of Gold Walkley winners

The Gold Walkley has been awarded since 1978 and is recognised as the pinnacle of journalistic achievement

1978	Catherine Martin, <i>The West Australian</i>
1979	Ron Tandberg, <i>The Age</i>
1980	Leslie Grant Heading, ABC TV Hobart
1981	John Lewis, The Newcastle Herald
1982	Kerry O'Brien, ATN Channel 7
1983	Mary Delahunty & Alan Hall, <i>Four Corners</i> , ABC TV
1984	Jan Mayman, freelance
1985	Chris Masters & Bruce Belsham, <i>Four Corners</i> , ABC TV
1986	Ron Tandberg, <i>The Age</i>
1987	Phil Dickie, The Courier Mail
1988	Norman Swan, ABC TV
1989	Alan Tate & Paul Bailey, <i>The Sydney</i> Morning Herald
1990	Janet Hawley, Good Weekend
1991	Monica Attard, ABC Radio
1992	Jenny Brockie, ABC TV
1993	Phillip Chubb & Sue Spencer, ABC TV
1994	Peter McEvoy, ABC Radio National
1995	David Bentley, The Courier-Mail
1996	Peter Hartcher, <i>The Australian</i> <i>Financial Review</i>
1997	Mary-Louise O'Callaghan, <i>The Australian</i>
1998	Pamela Williams, <i>The Australian</i> <i>Financial Review</i>
1999	Richard Ackland, Deborah Richards & Anne Connolly, <i>Media Watch,</i> ABC TV
2000	Mark Davis, <i>Dateline</i> , SBS TV
2001	Andrew Rule, The Age

2002	Anne Davies & Kate McClymont, The Sydney Morning Herald
2003	Richard Moran, National Nine News
2004	Neil Chenoweth, Shraga Elam, Colleen Ryan, Andrew Main & Rosemarie Graffagnini, <i>The Australian</i> <i>Financial Review</i>
2005	Tim Palmer, ABC TV
2006	Liz Jackson, Lin Buckfield & Peter Cronau, <i>Four Corners</i> , ABC TV
2007	Hedley Thomas, The Australian
2008	Ross Coulthart & Nick Farrow, Sunday
2009	Gary Hughes, The Australian
2010	Laurie Oakes, Nine Network
2011	Sarah Ferguson, Michael Doyle & Anne Worthington, <i>Four Corners</i> , ABC TV
2012	Steve Pennells, The West Australian
2013	Joanne McCarthy, <i>The Newcastle</i> <i>Herald</i>
2014	Adele Ferguson, Deb Masters & Mario Christodoulou, <i>Four Corners</i> & Fairfax Media
2015	Caro Meldrum-Hanna, Sam Clark & Max Murch, <i>Four Corners</i> , ABC TV
2016	Andrew Quilty, freelance / Foreign Policy
2017	Michael Bachelard & Kate Geraghty, Fairfax Media
2018	Hedley Thomas & Slade Gibson, <i>The Australian</i>
2019	Anthony Dowsley & Patrick Carlyon, <i>Herald Sun</i>
2020	Mark Willacy & the ABC TV Investigations- <i>Four Corners</i> Team,
2021	Samantha Maiden, news.com.au
2022	Anne Connolly, Ali Russell and Stephanie Zillman, ABC <i>Four Corners</i>



Powering great Australian journalism

Ampol is a proud partner of The Walkley Foundation and the 2022 Walkley Awards. We recognise and celebrate the ability for quality journalism to inform and inspire. Our partnership also honours our founder, Sir William Gaston Walkley, and his contribution to Australian history.

Ampol has proudly been keeping Australians moving for over 100 years, and we are evolving to deliver lower emissions energy solutions customers need for the future.



