



MEDIA RELEASE

DARREN GOODSIR APPOINTED EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF *THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD*

July 30, 2013: Fairfax Media today announced the appointment of Darren Goodsir as the new Editor-in-Chief of *The Sydney Morning Herald*.

Goodsir, currently the masthead's News Director, has been instrumental in the transformation of the SMH newsroom over the past 12 months.

A former editor of Australia's leading news website, smh.com.au, he takes over as Editor-in-Chief immediately.

He replaces Sean Aylmer, who became the company's Director, Business Media, last week.

Garry Linnell, Director of News Media at Fairfax, said: "Darren is an outstanding newsroom leader and was a clear choice for the role. He has an instinctive understanding of our audiences and what they expect from the *Herald* – across all of its publishing platforms.

"He is also an intuitive newsman who has earned an enormous amount of respect from his peers throughout the industry. Everyone knows Darren as the sort of editor who will fiercely defend the independence of the *Herald* and its journalists."

Goodsir said he was honoured to take the helm at the *Herald* at such a pivotal time in the masthead's history.

"I am honoured to be leading the best newsroom in the country," he said.

"The SMH has a proud tradition of being an independent source of news and I am committed to giving our readers the very best journalism in the nation."

Goodsir has been a journalist since 1985 when he left high school to become a copyboy at News Ltd. He served on all the major News mastheads – *The Daily Mirror*, *Daily Telegraph*, *Sunday Telegraph*, and *The Australian* – before becoming a police reporter on *The Daily Telegraph*, where he stayed until 1991.

He spent two years as a press and policy advisor for the NSW Police Commissioner before joining *The South China Morning Post* in Hong Kong, where he was a senior reporter in the lead up to the transfer of Hong Kong's sovereignty from British rule to China.

He joined Fairfax in 1997 on *The Sun-Herald*, and since then his roles at the *The Sydney Morning Herald* have included news editor, chief of staff, transport editor, urban affairs editor, and national security reporter, during which time he spent six months in Bali covering the terrorist bombings and their aftermath.

In 2007, he toured the United States and the United Kingdom on an editor's study tour to examine newsroom integration and the digital future for journalism.

He was also the launch editor of Fairfax's online opinion site, the [National Times](#).

He has spent much of his career in police and investigative rounds, and published two true-crime novels – one of which, *Line of Fire*, was used as the basis for the acclaimed ABC TV miniseries *Blue Murder*.

Darren Goodsir holds a Bachelor of Law from the University of Technology.

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About Fairfax Media

Fairfax Media is a leading multi-platform media company in Australia and New Zealand. The group comprises metropolitan, rural, regional and community mastheads that offer high-quality, independent journalism and dynamic venues for commerce and information. Fairfax operates five business divisions: Australian Publishing Media, Domain, Digital Ventures, Fairfax Radio and Fairfax New Zealand. Australian Publishing Media has four publishing units – News Media, Business Media, Life Media and Australian Community Media – that generate content across all media platforms for major mastheads *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Age*, *The Land*, *The Australian Financial Review*, *The Canberra Times*, [brisbanetimes.com.au](#), [WAtoday.com.au](#), among many others, as well niche websites such as [essentialbaby.com.au](#) and [thevine.com.au](#). The APM division also produces prestigious conferences and events that attract large-scale, highly-engaged audiences and community participation.

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