



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **FAIRFAX MEDIA WINS AT 2013 WALKLEY AWARDS**

**November 29, 2013:** Fairfax Media dominated the 58th Walkley Awards for Excellence in Journalism held in Brisbane on Thursday night. Fairfax journalists received 13 of the prestigious awards – more wins than any other media outlet – from a strong position of 27 nominations.

*Newcastle Herald* journalist Joanne McCarthy won the coveted Gold Walkley for the investigation into child sex abuse in the Catholic clergy in the Hunter Valley. The reporting led to a Royal Commission into child sex abuse.

Fairfax Media CEO Greg Hywood said: “Joanne gave a voice to so many victims that were otherwise silenced. She told their stories with sensitivity and respect and relentlessly pursued the truth in ways only a naturally gifted journalist can.”

The awards received spanned print, online, radio, photography and illustrations across Fairfax’s metro and regional divisions.

*The Sydney Morning Herald* photographer Kate Geraghty was named Nikon-Walkley Press Photographer of the Year; and 3AW’s Neil Mitchell won the Radio News and Current Affairs Journalism award for his scoop on Ford closing its local manufacturing operations.

“We have the highest calibre of storytellers working at Fairfax, delivering quality independent news and information across all platforms to our audiences of more than nine million Australians each month,” Mr Hywood said.

“Our newsrooms have seen some big changes this year, yet these awards showed once again that our collective news-breaking ability and agenda-setting is stronger than ever. Our journalism has never been better.”

Fairfax Media journalists earned awards in the following categories:

**Gold Walkley** – Joanne McCarthy, *The Newcastle Herald*.

**Radio News and Current Affairs Journalism** – Neil Mitchell, 3AW, for “The Ford scoop”.

**Print/Text News Report** – Nick McKenzie and Richard Baker, *The Age*, for their reports: “Airport in grip of drug trade”, “Smuggled guns/When good guys go bad” and “Bikies infiltrate police/With friends like these”.

**All Media Social Equity Journalism** – Sarah Whyte and Ben Doherty, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, for their articles: “Don’t abandon us: Bangladeshis”, “Right now we have nothing” and “Kmart is ready to unpick veil of secrecy that shrouds its network of garment factories”.

**All Media Coverage of Community and Regional Affairs** – Joanne McCarthy, Ian Kirkwood, Jason Gordon and Chad Watson, *The Newcastle Herald*, for their “Shine the light” coverage.

**Nikon-Walkley Sport Photography** – Wolter Peeters, Fairfax Media, for his photo titled “2013 Sydney International Rowing Regatta”.

**All Media Cartoon** – Cathy Wilcox, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, for her cartoon “Kevin cleans up”.

**All Media Artwork** – Pat Campbell, *The Canberra Times*, for “Glimmer of hope”.

**All Media Coverage of a Major News Event or Issue** – Richard Baker, Nick McKenzie, Caroline Wilson, John Silvester, Jake Niall and *The Age* team for their coverage on the “Essendon drug scandal”.

**All Media Business Journalism** – Adele Ferguson and Chris Vedralago, *The Age* and *The Sydney Morning Herald*, for their reports: “Profit above all else: How CBA lost savings and hid its tracks”, “Targets, bonuses, trips: Inside the CBA boiler room” and “Senate to launch inquiry into ASIC”.

**All Media Commentary, Analysis, Opinion & Critique** – Caroline Wilson, *The Age*, for her opinion pieces: “Would you want your son playing in the AFL?”, “Right thing for Hird to do is step down” and “Blind pride drove coach’s denial and the bodies piled up”.

**Walkley Book Award** – Pamela Williams, *Killing Fairfax*, Harper Collins.

**Nikon-Walkley Press Photographer of the Year** – Kate Geraghty, Fairfax Media.

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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](http://brisbanetimes.com.au), [WAtoday.com.au](http://WAtoday.com.au), among many others, as well niche websites such as [essentialbaby.com.au](http://essentialbaby.com.au) and [thevine.com.au](http://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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