

MEDIA RELEASE

August 13TH, 2016

ADELE FERGUSON WINS COCA-COLA KENNEDY JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

ADELE Ferguson has won the inaugural Coca-Cola Kennedy Journalist of the Year at the 5th Annual NRMA Kennedy Awards for Excellence in Journalism.

The Fairfax/Four Corners investigative journalist won the award for her historic investigations of slave labor in the 7/11 chain of convenience stores, and the failure of the Commonwealth Bank to pay insurance to sick and dying policy holders.

In collecting Australia's richest prize in journalism, Ms Ferguson thanked her producers Mario Christodoulou, Sarah Danckert and Klaus Toft, who also collected the coveted Spirax trophy in the finance and investigative categories.

The \$25,000 prize was presented by special guest of honour, veteran New York Post and Daily Telegraph editor Mr Col Allan.

Mr Allan was joined in the presentation by 2015 Kennedy Journalist of the Year Caro Meldrum-Hanna, and Ms Liz McNamara, representing Coca-Cola Amatil.

Earlier, Sydney Morning Herald education writer Eryk Bagshaw was named as the winner of the \$5000 Powerade Young Journalist of the Year.

More than 600 guests attended the awards in the grand ballroom at Royal Randwick for the presentation of 34 Spirax trophies.

The Gold Spirax for Lifetime Achievement was awarded to veteran pictorial editor of The Daily Telegraph, Mr John Smith.

2016 NRMA KENNEDY AWARDS FULL LIST OF WINNERS

Les Kennedy Award for Outstanding Crime Reporting – Dan Box (The Australian)

Paul Lockyer Award for Outstanding Regional Broadcast Reporting Joanna Woodburn (ABC TV)

Chris Watson Award for Outstanding Regional Newspaper Reporting – Andrew Pearson (Illawarra Mercury)

Rod Allen Award for Racing Writer of the Year – Ray Thomas (Daily Telegraph)

Outstanding Turf Reporting – Andrew Webster (Sydney Morning Herald)

Sean Flannery Award for Outstanding Radio Reporting – Giselle Wakatama (ABC)

Outstanding Radio Current Affairs Reporting and Audio Blog – Dan Box Eric George (The Australian)

Outstanding News Photo Rohan Kelly (Sunday Telegraph)

Outstanding Portrait Alex Ellinghausen (The Sydney Morning Herald)

Outstanding Sport Photo – Brett Costello (The Daily Telegraph)

Outstanding Online Video – Bill Code (BBC Online)

People's Choice Photo - Gordon McKomiskie, (The Daily Telegraph)

Cliff Neville Award - Outstanding Team Player - Phil Kwok

Peter Frilingos Award for Outstanding Sports Reporting – Nick Tabakoff (The Daily Telegraph)

Outstanding Travel Writing –Joe Aston (The Australian Financial Review)

2016 Young Journalist of the Year Eryk Bagshaw (The Sydney Morning Herald)

John Newfong Award for Outstanding Indigenous Affairs Reporting –Ben Hills (SBS)

Lifetime Achievement Award - John Smith (The Daily Telegraph)

Gary Ticehurst Award Outstanding TV News Camera Coverage Cameron Wallis (7 News)

Harry Potter Award for Outstanding Television News Reporting – Robert Ovadia and Chris Maher (7 News)

Outstanding Television Current Affairs Reporting (long form, over 30 minutes) – Caro Meldrum-Hanna, Clay Hichens, Mario Christodoulou (Four Corners ABC TV)

Outstanding Television Current Affairs Reporting (short form) Rebecca Le Tourneau, Allison Langdon (60 Minutes)

Outstanding Finance Reporting - Adele Ferguson, Mario Christodoulou, Klaus Toft Fairfax/Four Corners;

Outstanding Court Reporting – Candace Sutton (Daily Mail)

Outstanding Consumer Affairs Reporting Sarah Dingle, Joel Tozer, Jaya Balendra (Four Corners ABC TV)

Peter Ruehl Award for Outstanding Columnist – Jacqueline Maley (The Sydney Morning Herald)

Outstanding Online News Breaking Ava Benny Morrison, Lisa Visentin, Nick Ralston (The Sydney Morning Herald)

Outstanding Reporting on the Environment - Peter Hannam (The Sydney Morning Herald)

2016 Scoop of the Year Dan Nolan (A Current Affair)

2016 Vince O'Farrell Award: *Outstanding Illustration* - John Shakespeare (The Sydney Morning Herald)

Outstanding Investigative Reporting – Adele Ferguson, Klaus Toft, Sarah Danckert (Fairfax/ABC TV)

2016 Jim Oram Award: *Outstanding Feature Writing* – Trent Dalton (The Australian)

Outstanding Political Reporting David Speers (SKY News)

2016 Coca-Cola Journalist of the Year - Adele Ferguson (Fairfax/Four Corners)