



THE KENNEDY AWARDS

MEDIA RELEASE

2014 NRMA KENNEDY FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

Nominees from a record field of 430 entries have been announced for 33 categories in the 2014 NRMA Kennedy Awards for Excellence in NSW Journalism.

The finalists have emerged from all major metropolitan newspapers and television and radio networks - and those in regional NSW, including the Hunter, New England, Illawarra, Riverina and Northern Rivers.

Kennedy Foundation Chairman Peter Ryan and senior judge Tom Krause revealed the nominees at the Australian Turf Club's Longines Owners and Trainers Pavilion, overlooking the stunning Theatre of the Horse, Royal Randwick.

NOMINEES

1. LES KENNEDY AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CRIME REPORTING

Caro Meldrum-Hanna, Deb Masters and Mary Fallon, Four Corners, ABC **Linton Besser, Janine Cohen and Mario Christodoulou**, Four Corners, ABC **Jodie Duffy**, The Illawarra Mercury

2. PAUL LOCKYER AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING REGIONAL BROADCAST REPORTING

Catherine Clifford, ABC Tamworth **Amy Phillips**, Prime7 News, Lismore **Sally Block**, ABC 7.30 Report

3. CHRIS WATSON AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING REGIONAL NEWSPAPER REPORTING

Robert Dillon, The Newcastle Herald **Nigel McNay**, The Border Mail

Jodie Duffy, The Illawarra Mercury

4. OUTSTANDING TURF REPORTING

Greg Bearup, The Australian **Patrick Galloway**, ABC TV **Andrew Bensley**, SKY Racing

5. ROD ALLEN AWARD FOR NSW RACING WRITER OF THE YEAR (To be announced August 8th)

6. SEAN FLANNERY AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING RADIO REPORTING

Catherine Clifford, ABC, Tamworth **Natalie Peters**, 2GB **Cherie McDonald**, ABC

7. OUTSTANDING RADIO CURRENT AFFAIRS REPORTING

Sarah Dingle, ABC Radio National **John Stanley** and **Garry Linnell**, 2UE **Catherine Clifford**, ABC

8. OUTSTANDING RADIO COMMENTATOR

Ray Hadley, 2GB **John Stanley**, 2UE **Garry Linnell**, 2UE

9. OUTSTANDING NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY

Sam Ruttyn, The Sunday Telegraph **Craig Greenhill**, The Daily Telegraph **Dallas Kilponen**, The Sydney Morning Herald

10. OUTSTANDING PORTRAIT

Jane Dyson, St George & Sutherland Shire Leader **Addison Hamilton**, The Daily Advertiser, Wagga Wagga **Kirk Gilmour**, Illawarra Mercury

11. OUTSTANDING ONLINE PHOTOGRAPHIC ESSAY

Janie Barrett, The Sydney Morning Herald **Mike Bowers**, The Global Mail **Alex Ellinghausen**, and **Andrew Meares**, Fairfax

12. OUTSTANDING ONLINE VIDEO

Illawarra Mercury Photographic Team Tony Walters, The Sydney Morning Herald **Amanda Hoh**, Fairfax Media

13. OUTSTANDING SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY

Brett Costello, The Daily Telegraph **Dylan Robinson**, The Border Mail **Philip Hillyard**, The Daily Telegraph

14. CLIFF NEVILLE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING TEAM PLAYER AND MENTOR

Alison Piotrowski, A Current Affair, Nine Network **Michael Thompson**, The Ray Hadley Show, 2GB **Wes Hardman**, Nine News

15. OUTSTANDING SPORTS REPORTING

Robert Dillon, Newcastle Herald **James Phelps**, The Daily Telegraph **Chris Barrett**, The Sydney Morning Herald

16. OUTSTANDING TRAVEL WRITING Sue Wallace, The Border Mail

Lee Tulloch, Mr & Mrs Amos

17. NSW YOUNG JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Sarah Whyte, The Sydney Morning Herald **Joel Tozer**, SBS **Taylor Auerbach**, The Daily Telegraph

18. JOHN NEWFONG AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS REPORTING

Jessica Grewal, APN News Desk **Paul Daley**, The Guardian **Catherine Clifford**, ABC Tamworth

19. GARY TICEHURST AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING NEWS CAMERA COVERAGE

Paul Walker, 7News **Ilankovan Frank**, Nine News **Paul Bousfield/Paul Walker** – Nine News, 7News

20. HARRY POTTER AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING TELEVISION NEWS REPORTING

Antoinette Lattouf, TEN News **Robert Ovadia**, **Tony Fox**, **Duncan Farr**, & **Paula Doneman**, 7News **Gabrielle Boyle**, Nine News

21. OUTSTANDING TELEVISION CURRENT AFFAIRS REPORTING

Adele Ferguson, Deb Masters, and **Mario Christodoulou**, Four Corners, ABC **Ross Coulthart**, and **Steve Pennells**, Sunday Night, Channel Seven **Caro Meldrum-Hanna**, **Deb Masters**, and **Mary Fallon**, Four Corners, ABC

22. PETER RUEHL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING COLUMNIST

Paul Daley, The Guardian **Tim Burrowes**, Mumbrella **Van Badham**, The Guardian

23. OUTSTANDING FINANCE REPORTING Adele Ferguson, Deb Masters, and Mario Christodoulou, Four Corners,

Fairfax **Nabila Ahmed**, **Sue Mitchell**, and **James Chessell**, Australian Financial Review **Linton Besser**, **Janine Cohen** and **Mario Christodoulou**, Four Corners, Fairfax

24. OUTSTANDING CONSUMER AFFAIRS REPORTING

Ben Doherty and **Sarah Whyte**, Fairfax Media **Linton Besser**, **Janine Cohen**, and **Mario Christodoulou**, Four Corners, ABC **Quentin McDermott**, **Peter Cronau** and **team**, Four Corners, ABC

25. OUTSTANDING ONLINE NEWS BREAKING

Oliver Laughland, The Guardian **Michaela Whitbourn** and **Kate McClymont**, The Sydney Morning Herald **Andrew Clennell**, The Daily Telegraph

26. OUTSTANDING COURT REPORTING

Paul Bibby, The Sydney Morning Herald **Janet Fife-Yeomans**, The Daily Telegraph **Dan Box**, The Australian

27. OUTSTANDING REPORTING ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Natalie O'Brien, The Sun-Herald **Philippa McDonald**, ABC **Bernard Lagan**, The Global Mail

28. SCOOP OF THE YEAR

Natalie O'Brien, The Sun Herald **Mark Morri & Miranda Devine**, The Daily Telegraph **Samantha Maiden**, The Sunday Telegraph

29. OUTSTANDING ILLUSTRATION OR CARTOON

Rocco Fazzari, The Sydney Morning Herald **Eric Lobbecke**, The Australian **Simon Bosch**, The Sydney Morning Herald

30. OUTSTANDING INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

Ross Coulthart, Sunday Night **Adele Ferguson**, Four Corners **7News Team**

31. JIM ORAM AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING FEATURE WRITING

Trent Dalton, The Australian **Mark Whittaker**, The Good Weekend **Greg Bearup**, The Weekend Australian

32. OUTSTANDING POLITICAL REPORTING

Brigid Glanville, ABC News **Andrew Clennell**, The Daily Telegraph

Lee Jeloscek, 7News

33. KENNEDY AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

(to be announced at the August 8th gala.)

34. NEW SOUTH WALES JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Natalie O'Brien, The Sun Herald **Adele Ferguson**, Fairfax, ABC **Andrew Clennell**, The Daily Telegraph

Kennedy Foundation trustee and senior judge John Choueifate said the judges were highly impressed with the caliber of entries from metropolitan

and regional newspaper, radio, television and online journalists.

“In a big news year the standard of submissions is exceptional,” Mr Chouefate said.

“From investigative journalism to news breaking and superb feature writing a Group 1 field has emerged to contest the coveted Spirax Trophies.

“In a challenging and diversifying media environment quality journalism will always prevail and that has certainly been proven beyond any doubt in the last 12 months.”

The hosts for the finalists’ announcement function were foundation sponsors Racing NSW and the Australian Turf Club, which is also hosting the gala presentation ceremony at **Royal Randwick’s Grand Ballroom on August 8.**

The Kennedy Awards and Kennedy Foundation acknowledged the very generous support of its major partner - NRMA Motoring + Services - and its other loyal sponsors: Pelikan Artline - makers of the wonderful Spirax trophy - Racing NSW, the Australian Turf Club, the Nine, Seven and TEN networks, the ABC, Coles, Sky News Australia, Sita Australia, Echo Entertainment, The Sydney Morning Herald, Sky Sports Radio, Destination NSW, Stockade Brewery, Kennedys Lawyers, Sky Sports Radio, the Association of Tennis Professionals ATP Tour, the Australian Hotels Association, ANZ Stadium, Hillbrick Bicycles, One Big Switch, NRMA Insurance and NSW Health.

Tickets for the August 8 ceremony/black-tie ball are just \$190, and include a tax-deductible donation to the recently established *Kennedy Foundation* – an officially registered charity to support news media professionals in hardship, with compassion, in confidence.

The ticket covers all drinks between 7.00pm and 1am, and a superb three-course meal prepared by the ATC’s world-class chefs – a feast which received rave reviews after the 2013 event, the first to be staged in the brand new ballroom.

This year’s Kennedy’s “winter ball” will also feature the superb talents of the *Mitchell Anderson Band*, and *The Relics*.

The event begins with drinks at 7.00pm, and from 7.30pm Ellen Fanning

and Warren Brown will host the presentation of 34 Spirax Trophies to the cream of the state's media talent, including the *P&O Cruises NSW Journalist of the Year*.

Guest presenters at the awards will include the king of Australian political reporting, the Nine Network's Laurie Oakes, NSW Premier Mike Baird, Sandra Sully, Mark Ferguson, Hugh Riminton, Mercedes Ruehl, Police Commissioner Andrew Scipione and NSW Treasurer Andrew Constance.

Formalities should finish by 9.45pm and then it will be a case of "*let's get the party started*" with the Mitchell Anderson Band to rock the dance floor until The Relics take over until stumps at 1am.

Individual tickets and tables for 10 can be booked via <http://kennedyawards.com.au> or via eventarc <https://register.eventarc.com/21055/2014-nrma-kennedy-awards-for-excellence-in-nsw-journalism>

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