



## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Kennedy Awards again supported by Nine News**

*Tuesday, 12 June 2018*

The Kennedy Foundation again welcomes the generous support of Nine News in 2018 as sponsor of two prestigious television awards at the 7<sup>th</sup> NRMA Kennedy Awards for Excellence in Journalism - the *Outstanding Television News Camera Coverage Award* and the *Outstanding Television Current Affairs Reporting category* recognising excellence in nightly reports.

Nine News is sponsoring the *Gary Ticehurst Award for Outstanding Television News Camera Coverage* for the fifth consecutive year and the Outstanding Television Current Affairs Reporting in a nightly program following the network's inaugural sponsorship of this new category last year.

The winners of the two coveted awards will be announced at the glittering August 10 Kennedy Awards gala at the Australian Turf Club's Royal Randwick Ballroom.

Announcing Nine News' sponsorship, Kennedy Foundation Chairman Mr Simon Dulhunty welcomed Nine's continued support in the seventh year of the NRMA Kennedy Awards.

"In 2014 Nine News became the first sponsor of the Gary Ticehurst Award for Outstanding Television News Camera Coverage and last year took up sponsorship of the new award for Outstanding Television Current Affairs Reporting recognising excellence in nightly reports," Mr Dulhunty said.

"Two years ago Nine also supported a prestigious Kennedy television current affairs award before supporting the new category was introduced last year.

"Nine News has been a loyal supporter of the Kennedy Awards since the inaugural event in 2012 and its sponsorship of two major categories this year is a significant contribution and boosts the awards' commitment to recognising excellence in journalism."

Mr Dulhunty said the Gary Ticehurst Award this year would again acknowledge excellence in television news camera coverage and recognise a quality entry that stands out in a highly competitive field.

“Our television news cameramen and crews continue to do a super job every day, often in extremely unwelcome and intimidating situations,” Mr Dulhunty said.

The Gary Ticehurst Award honours the late veteran ABC helicopter pilot Gary Ticehurst, killed in a helicopter crash at Lake Eyre in 2011. Nine News’ sponsorship in 2014 meant that for the first time the Outstanding Television News Camera Coverage category had attracted a major sponsor.

Simon Hobbs, Nine’s Director of News, Sydney, praised the work done by news cameramen.

“Tireless and dedicated, day in, day-out out cameramen put themselves on the line, bringing journalism to life.” Mr Hobbs said.

“In the high-pressure 24/7 news environment the quality of what our cameraman deliver is simply outstanding. We’re incredibly proud to again sponsor these awards and I can’t wait to see who is shortlisted.”

The NRMA Kennedy Awards for Excellence in Journalism, named in honour of Sydney crime reporter Les Kennedy who died aged 53 years in 2011, continue to recognise our finest media professionals and those who have put so much back into the industry.

The awards are supported by the Kennedy Foundation, a registered charity supporting media professionals in hardship as well as other charitable organisations.

The 34 presentations this year will culminate with the announcement of the \$25,000 ***Kennedy Prize winner for Australian Journalist of the Year.***

**NB:** Entries are still open for the 2018 NRMA Kennedy Awards, including the \$25,000 prize for the *Journalist of the Year*. Entries for work in the current financial year must be submitted to [kennedyawardsjudging@gmail.com](mailto:kennedyawardsjudging@gmail.com) by close of business July 1.

Entry is \$40 for every ***unrelated*** item of work and \$40 for a series of ***related*** stories (maximum five). The finalists in all 33 competitive categories will be announced on Wednesday, July 25. Gala ticket purchases for the August 10 awards can be completed via our home page at [www.kennedyawards.com.au](http://www.kennedyawards.com.au)

**Media contact: Steve Warnock (0428 968 499)**