



March 21, 2014

SEVEN NEWS MELBOURNE DOMINATES QUILL AWARDS

Seven News has scooped the pool at this year's annual Quill Awards, taking home three top honours at the Melbourne Press Club's premier media awards celebrating excellence in Victorian journalism.

State political reporter **Brendan Donohoe** won for Best Breaking News Coverage following his live reports of the dramatic resignation of then Premier Ted Baillieu last March. This is Brendan's fourth Quill in a decorated career which includes the 2006 Gold Quill.

Seven News cameraman **Rohan Wastell** was awarded the Quill for Best Camerawork for his compelling pictures of the Heyfield bushfires in Gippsland. Rohan's work highlighted the unpredictable and explosive power of bushfire, and how, in seconds, conditions can change.

Seven News reporter **Christie Cooper** won for the Best Use of Digital or Social Media. Christie live tweeted the rescue of French solo yachtsman Alain Delord, while also instructing a passenger aboard the cruise ship involved in the rescue how to film the events and arranging video interviews with key participants using the social networking app FaceTime.

Seven News Director Simon Pristel congratulated the winners and said the awards reflected the hard work and expertise of the entire news team.

"These outstanding results recognise the efforts a team that is committed to delivering Melbourne's best news coverage every day and every night of the week," Mr Pristel said. "We are very proud of their work."

Also honoured tonight:

Brendan Roberts was highly commended in the Best TV or Video News Report category for his story "Puneet Puneet". Brendan was in India for the first court appearance of killer driver Puneet Puneet, and judges said the story needed investigative skill to track down the man in a remote, difficult environment.

Matthew Burchett was highly commended in the Best Camerawork category for his "Road Rage Arrest" pictures. Judges said Mathew's pictures were an example of getting the right shot at the right time under intense deadline pressure.

Brendan Donohoe was also highly commended for the RACV Transport Quill for his story on the "East-West Tunnel Scoop". Brendan revealed the Victorian budget's centre piece: the green light for the East-West Tunnel, with a total estimated cost of \$14 billion.

Seven News airs nightly at 6pm on Channel 7.

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