

Wednesday, 25 March 2026

Seven further strengthens news leadership team

- **Rahni Sadler appointed Executive Producer, 7NEWS Spotlight**
- **Gemma Williams takes on expanded role as Managing Editor, 7NEWS**

The Seven Network today announced the appointment of Rahni Sadler as Executive Producer of flagship news and current affairs program, **7NEWS Spotlight**.

Ms Sadler will lead the award-winning **7NEWS Spotlight** team as the program continues to deliver agenda-setting investigations, compelling storytelling and exclusive interviews that resonate with audiences nationally.

One of the country's most respected journalists and long-form producers, Ms Sadler returns "home" to Seven having spent almost two decades at the network across two stints. She spent a decade from 2009 as a correspondent for Seven's *Sunday Night*, where she presented some of the program's most memorable interviews and cemented her reputation as a gifted storyteller.

Her body of work ranged from traversing international waters to expose illegal fishing operations, tracing one of Australia's greatest maritime mysteries, the *Blythe Star* and, alongside Gerry and Kate McCann in Portugal, uncovering new leads in the disappearance of Madeleine McCann. Renowned for her empathetic interviewing style, she consistently secured rare exclusives and revealing interviews with some of the world's most elusive celebrities including ABBA's Agnetha Fältskog.

Prior to *Sunday Night*, Ms Sadler served as a **7NEWS** US Correspondent. While in the US she covered major world events including Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath, the election and inauguration of Barack Obama, the protracted Michael Jackson trial, and she travelled to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba to report on the trial of Australian David Hicks. Before that, she covered federal politics in Seven's Canberra bureau.

Ms Sadler rejoins the network from the ABC's *7.30*, where as a senior producer she oversaw high-profile investigations and coverage of major national stories, last year earning a Clarion Award for her joint investigation into the toxicity of high levels of B6. Her return to Seven and **7NEWS Spotlight** reflects her deep passion for long-form public affairs – and a sense of unfinished business with the format.

Ms Sadler picks up the reins from Gemma Williams, who has led the **7NEWS Spotlight** team for the past two years, rebuilding the program through some of its most talked-about reporting.

Ms Williams has chosen to take up a new position within the news leadership team as Managing Editor, **7NEWS**. She will play a key role in setting Sydney's editorial direction and driving strong broadcast-digital integration, as well as working alongside the National News Desk on major events, having recently held critical roles in Seven's federal election coverage and the Bondi terror attack.

During her tenure, **7NEWS Spotlight**'s average total TV audience grew 13% year-on-year with streaming on 7plus up 61%, further cementing Seven as the home of Australia's most compelling long-form, public-interest journalism.

The success of **7NEWS Spotlight** reaches far beyond the television screen, with a combined five million followers across Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, X and YouTube. Videos across these platforms have generated over one billion views in the past year, with 22% viewer growth year-on-year. **7NEWS Spotlight** has become a major destination on YouTube for high-quality long-form journalism, accruing over 13 million watch time hours since March 2025.

Gemma Williams said: "It has been an absolute privilege to lead the **7NEWS Spotlight** team over the past two years – a group whose dedication and craft are unmatched.

"I'm incredibly proud of how far the program has come, together we've grown audience reach significantly across both broadcast and 7plus. But what matters most is the calibre of journalism and the real-world impact of the investigations we've brought to light.

"I'm excited to take on this new role and to help shape what's ahead for **7NEWS**, working closely with our outstanding teams nationally."

Rahni Sadler said: "I've spent so much of my career at this network that it honestly feels like I'm coming home. I'm so fired up to be heading up such an amazing Seven show. Thank you to the powerhouse that is Gemma Williams for passing on a brilliant beacon.

"**7NEWS Spotlight**'s ratings prove audiences like it. They trust it. And why wouldn't they? It's crafted by some of the best, the most experienced, in the business. These are seasoned professionals who live to dig out and deliver incredible and awe-inspiring stories for viewers hungry to know not just what is happening, but why," she said.

"I've spent enough years on the road, all over the world, working on **7NEWS**, and Seven's *Sunday Night*, to identify stories Australian viewers want chased and brought to them. That's what we're going to do. All that and more. Just you watch."

Seven's Director of News and Current Affairs, Ray Kuka, said: "**7NEWS Spotlight** aired some of the most compelling and most discussed stories on Australian television last season, driven by a team that holds itself to the highest standard.

“The Executive Producer role is one of the toughest and most demanding in journalism, and as Gemma pivots into a new leadership role in our day-to-day news operation, she hands the baton to Rahni with passion, care and an exemplary track record.”

“Rahni brings a rare depth of experience and instinct for long-form reporting and producing. I have no doubt she will lead **7NEWS Spotlight** into a bold and ambitious new chapter as we continue to invest in the program and build on its success and reach across all platforms – with some incredible journalism already commissioned and set to debut when the program returns on Sunday, 19 April.”

Ms Sadler will commence in the role in April, with a comprehensive handover period underway before Ms Williams transitions into her new position from June.

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About the Seven Network

The Seven Network is part of Southern Cross Media Group (ASX: SXL), one of Australia’s most prominent media companies, with a market-leading presence across broadcast television, audio, publishing and digital. The Seven Network alone reaches more than 17.5 million people a month.

Southern Cross Media Group owns some of Australia’s most renowned media businesses and platforms, including the Seven Network and its channels 7two, 7mate, 7flix and 7Bravo; [7plus](#); [7NEWS.com.au](#); [LiSTNR](#); the Hit and Triple M radio networks; [The Nightly](#); [The West Australian](#); [The Sunday Times](#); and [PerthNow](#).

Seven is home to Australia’s most loved news, sport and entertainment programming, including **7NEWS**, **7NEWS Spotlight**, **Sunrise**, **The Morning Show**, **The Voice**, **Home and Away**, **Australian Idol**, **My Kitchen Rules**, **Farmer Wants A Wife**, **The Chase Australia**, **Better Homes and Gardens**, **The 1% Club**, **The Front Bar** and the **TV WEEK Logie Awards**.

The Seven Network is also the broadcast partner of the AFL, Cricket Australia, Supercars, the **2026 Rugby League World Cup** and the **Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games**.