Kate McClymont

Kate McClymont is a multi-award winning investigative journalist, who is particularly well-known for her coverage of matters before (or soon to go to) the New South Wales (NSW) Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), the Canterbury Bulldogs salary cap rorts, the administration of the Health Services Union and the commercial activities of former NSW government ministers.

Kate currently works as a Senior Reporter for The Sydney Morning Herald and co-authored the book He Who Must be Obeid, described by Professor Ross Fitzgerald as “one of the most compelling works of investigative journalism that I have read for years.” The Honourable Morris Iemma, former Premier of NSW, said it was “a very valuable and important and groundbreaking contribution to this sad, dark, evil saga that has unfolded at ICAC.”

Kate has won five Walkley awards, including the Gold Walkley with her colleague Anne Davies in 2002. In 2013, she won the inaugural Fairfax Women of Influence Award. She has won six Kennedy awards, including the P&O Cruises NSW Journalist of the Year in 2012. In addition, she has won an Australian Shareholders’ Association award, a New South Wales Law Society award, and Australian Racing Writer of the Year. Kate was awarded the 2012 George Munster Award for Independent Journalism, jointly with Linton Besser.

Kate has been an exceptionally strong proponent of press freedom. She has said: “For democracy to function it is essential that we have a free and fearless press. But…that doesn't mean the members of the press will be liked for it.”

Kate has received death threats, had her phone tapped, required police security and has been sued for defamation. She has said: “No journalist wants to put themselves or their family at risk. But if press freedom is going to flourish, journalists often have to make the difficult decision that puts the interests of the public’s right to know before their own personal safety. Shaken yes, but shut down – no.”

She started her career as a graduate cadet at The Sydney Morning Herald in 1985, then spent time at the National Times and as a researcher at Four Corners. In 1990, she returned to The Sydney Morning Herald.

Greg Hywood, Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director of Fairfax Media Limited, has said she is “a genuine giant of journalism in Australia” and that “she is deeply feared by both society’s underbelly crooks and even the crims who walk the corridors of power.”

Chris Mitchell, former Editor-in-Chief of the The Australian, has said: “It was an eye-opener for me that at the time I needed to sharpen up the reporting skills at the Oz. Because we really couldn’t make a dent against Kate.”

Kate holds a BA (Hons) in English Literature from the University of Sydney. She is the Chair of the Walkley Advisory Board and a Fellow of The University of Sydney Senate.
Paul Maley

Paul Maley is the National Security Editor at *The Australian* and the recipient of many prestigious awards. He is perhaps best known for his compelling and in-depth coverage of Islamic State.

Paul Maley has been reporting on national security issues for a decade. He started his newspaper career at The Canberra Times before joining The Australian in 2007. Paul worked in the Parliamentary Press Gallery where he covered immigration and border security. In 2010 he was appointed the paper's National Security Correspondent, anchoring the paper's security coverage.

Since then Paul's national security reporting has won multiple awards including a NSW Kennedy Award, a News Award and in 2015 News Corporation’s top journalism prize, the Sir Keith Murdoch Award. In 2010 Paul won a Walkley Award after he uncovered the now-infamous picture of Khaled Sharrouf's young son brandishing the severed head of a Syrian official. The following year he won the Lowy Institute Media Award for his coverage of Australians fighting in Syria.

Paul's work has been described as "diligent, balanced and insightful analysis of the issue of Australian foreign fighters in Iraq and Syria. He provided an Australian lens on a global story and helped us to understand what has motivated these young men and women to join jihadist groups in the Middle East."

Paul has been praised for his agenda-setting abilities. Dr Michael Fullilove, the Executive Director of the Lowy Institute for International Policy has noted that: “Paul Maley's diligent and industrious reporting helped to shape the domestic debate on foreign fighters.”

In 2014, Paul and Greg Bearup won the Walkley Award for Print/Text News Report. The judges commented that "this set of powerful, well-researched stories and pictures graphically demonstrated how Australian jihadis were using social media to promote their cause, and detailed how they had joined the bloody fight on the battlefields in Syria and Iraq. Outstanding journalism."

Paul has been the subject of death threats from Islamic State, who, Paul has said "tried to crowd source my murder."

Paul holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) from the University of Sydney where he majored in history and international relations.