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DO NOT PUBLISH BEFORE 11:30PM FRIDAY 6 MARCH 2020

MPC NATIONAL AWARDS

THE 2019 GRAHAM PERKIN AUSTRALIAN JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Winner: Anne Connolly, ABC

Judges' citation: Anne Connolly's reporting was critical in triggering the Royal Commission into the aged care sector, and she has continued to expose the industry to unwanted scrutiny. In a series of reports across TV, radio and online, Connolly has revealed further cases of nursing home residents being sexually assaulted, chemically and physically restrained, and generally neglected in a shameful way. Such is her reputation and credibility, Connolly has been deluged with emails and letters from families of aged care residents wanting her to tell their stories of mistreatment. Anne Connolly has stayed with this story when many others have moved on. She has become the leading reporter in an area that will become increasingly important in Australian life. Her tenacity and fearlessness are in the true Graham Perkin tradition.

Other finalists:

Peter Charley, Al Jazeera

Nick McKenzie, The Age

Royce Millar & Ben Schneiders, The Age

THE 2019 HARRY GORDON AUSTRALIAN SPORTS JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Winner: Konrad Marshall, Good Weekend magazine

Judges' citation: Konrad Marshall's extraordinary and varied storytelling in 2019 was news breaking, memorable and beautifully crafted. He revealed why Rod Laver has returned to public life after overcoming tragedy and near death. His profile of Ellyse Perry explored how one of the world's best female cricketers remains balanced, and he expertly unravelled the inside story behind Richmond player Marlion Pickett and one of the greatest ever AFL grand final debuts.

Other finalists:

Jake Niall, The Age

Mark Robinson, Herald Sun

Leo Schlink, Herald Sun

Articles about the winners will be available on [our website](#) after 11pm.

For general info about our awards, visit: <https://www.melbournepressclub.com/awards>

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