



## **Regional radio stations & personalities win big at the national commercial radio & audio awards**

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.00PM AEDT (10.00PM QLD, 8.00PM WA) 14 October 2023**

More than 200 regional and provincial radio winners from across Australia have been announced tonight at the 34<sup>th</sup> annual Australian Commercial Radio & Audio (ACRA) Awards, held at the International Convention Centre in Sydney.

Popular radio duo Jimmy Smith and Nath Roye (100.9 Hobart, SCA) have been named the Best On Air Team in the provincial category. The duo, who were the Number One breakfast show in Hobart, moved to the national Hit Network in August 2022.

The winners of the national awards were revealed at a gala event attended by 1,000 radio personalities and executives from across the country. The ACRA Awards celebrate excellence in commercial radio broadcasting and audio across entertainment, news, talk, podcasting and sport. This year the awards also celebrated a century of radio in Australia.

Ford Ennals, Chief Executive Officer of Commercial Radio & Audio, organisers of the Awards, has congratulated all finalists and winners on their achievements.

“The ACRA Awards recognise the talent, commitment and passion that goes into making radio the enduring and influential medium that it is, and I thank our winners and finalists for their outstanding work,” said Mr Ennals.

“Tonight’s ACRA Awards saw 1,000 people celebrating 100 years of radio in Australia, while also showcasing Australian performers. The commercial radio industry is growing and evolving in a very exciting way – with new audio forms and new digital platforms.”

Two legends of Queensland radio were inducted into the Hall of Fame at tonight’s ceremony: Laurel Edwards (4BC, Brisbane, Nine Radio) and Steve ‘Pricey’ Price (Triple M Townsville SCA).

Laurel has been Brisbane’s ‘Queen of Breakfast Radio’ for more than 30 years. At 4KQ she became the longest serving female announcer of the same program in Australian history, before moving to breakfast at 4BC with Gary Clare and Mark Hine in 2022. Pricey has been on-air in Townsville for more than five decades, including 32 years on breakfast radio at 102.3 Triple M Townsville (originally 4TO). In May this year he announced his retirement from breakfast radio and will leave his beloved studio for the final time on Christmas Day.

It was a huge night for Katie Woolf from Darwin (Mix 104.9, ARN), who received the Best Talk Presenter (non-Metro) Award and the Brian White Award for Excellence in Journalism (non-Metro). It was the second time in a row that Woolf has won both ACRA awards, against finalists from across Australia.

The night was hosted by some of Australia’s most popular radio stars from across the networks and featured live performances from Australian artists. First nations world music star and proud Gamilaraay

man Mitch Tambo opened the Awards, with performances by 21-year-old proud Coodjinburra man Budjerah and singer-songwriter Mia Wray. The legendary Ian Moss from Cold Chisel closed the Awards.

Winners on the night included:

- Best On-Air Team (Metro) – Jonesy & Amanda (Brendan Jones, Amanda Keller, WSFM, Sydney, ARN)
- Best On Air Team (Provincial) – Jimmy & Nath (Jimmy Smith, Nath Roye, HIT 100.9 Hobart, Tas, SCA)
- Best on Air Team (Country) – Mixx Brekky with Jimmy & Lippy (Matt Lipiarski, James Thwaites, Mixx FM, Colac, Vic, ACE Radio Broadcasters)
- Station of the Year (Metro) - KIIS 1065 (Sydney, ARN)
- Station of the Year (non-Metro) Mix 106.3; Canberra, ACT, ARN/SCA
- Best Networked Show – Kyle & Jackie O Hour of Power (Kyle Sandilands, Jackie Henderson, KIIS Network, ARN)
- Best Talk Presenter (Metro) – Neil Mitchell (3AW, Melbourne, Nine Radio)
- Best Talk Presenter (non-Metro) – Katie Woolf (Mix 104.9, Darwin, ARN)
- Best Current Affairs Presenter – Ben Fordham (2GB, Sydney, Nine Radio)
- Individual Talent of the Year (Metro) - Kyle Sandilands (KIIS Network ARN)
- Best New Talent On Air 'The Brenno' (Provincial) – Gina Jeffreys (Star 104.5, Central Coast, NSW, NOVA Entertainment)
- Best New Talent On Air 'The Brenno' (Country) - Isabella Roldan (Chilli FM, Launceston, Tas, ARN)

“The 34<sup>th</sup> annual ACRA Awards highlighted Australia’s vibrant radio and audio industry, celebrating outstanding talent in 80 awards across eight categories, including talk, news and sport, entertainment and talent and podcasting,” Mr Ennals said.

“This year there were 372 finalists with entries received from 260 metropolitan and regional radio stations across Australia. Commercial radio is thriving across Australia and stations outside the metropolitan areas were well represented at the ACRA Awards with more than 200 finalists from country and provincial stations.”

### **A complete list of the 2023 ACRA Award winners follows.**

#### **2023 ACRA Awards media collateral**

Red (pink) carpet photos: Pink carpet images available: [here](#)

Winners' photos: Award wall images available: [here](#)

Highlights vision: A show-reel from the night will be available by 6:00 am 15 Oct: [here](#)

#ACRAS

#### **Media contacts:**

**Wendy Searle** – 0413 297 638 [wendy.searle@commercialradio.com.au](mailto:wendy.searle@commercialradio.com.au)

**Bessie Hassan** – 0402 567 568 or [bessie.hassan@commercialradio.com.au](mailto:bessie.hassan@commercialradio.com.au)

#### **About Commercial Radio & Audio**

CRA is the peak industry body representing the interests of commercial radio broadcasters throughout Australia. CRA promotes the effectiveness of radio and audio to advertisers, manages audio research and insights, metropolitan and regional audience measurement surveys, revenue reporting, industry innovation including Radio 360 the Australian Podcast Ranker, industry codes and standards and regulatory and legislative matters. CRA also hosts the Australian Commercial Radio Awards and the Siren Creative Awards.

Follow us: [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

More info: [commercialradio.com.au](http://commercialradio.com.au) | [radioapp.com.au](http://radioapp.com.au) | [digitalradioplus.com.au](http://digitalradioplus.com.au)



## 2023 AUSTRALIAN COMMERCIAL RADIO & AUDIO AWARD WINNERS

### WINNERS FOR 2023 AUSTRALIAN COMMERCIAL RADIO AWARDS (ACRAs)

#### ENTERTAINMENT & TALENT

##### BEST ON AIR TEAM (METRO)

**Jonesy & Amanda;** Brendan Jones, Amanda Keller, WSFM, Sydney NSW, ARN

##### BEST ON AIR TEAM (PROVINCIAL)

**Jimmy & Nath;** Jimmy Smith, Nath Roye, Hit100.9, Hobart, SCA

##### BEST ON AIR TEAM (COUNTRY)

**Mixx Brekky with Jimmy & Lippi;** Matt Lipiarski, James Thwaites; Mixx FM, Colac, VIC, ACE Radio Broadcasters

##### INDIVIDUAL TALENT OF THE YEAR (METRO)

**Kyle Sandilands;** KIIS 1065, Sydney, NSW, ARN

##### INDIVIDUAL TALENT OF THE YEAR (PROVINCIAL)

**Ellie Angel-Mobbs;** Hit 104.7, Canberra, ACT, ARN/SCA

##### INDIVIDUAL TALENT OF THE YEAR (COUNTRY)

**Michael Moffett;** Triple M, Coffs Harbour, NSW, SCA

##### BEST PROGRAM/CONTENT DIRECTOR (METRO)

**Tony Aldridge;** KIIS 1065, Sydney, NSW, ARN

##### BEST PROGRAM/CONTENT DIRECTOR (PROVINCIAL)

**Rod Cuddihy;** Mix 106.3/Hit 1047, Canberra, ACT, ARN/SCA

##### BEST PROGRAM/CONTENT DIRECTOR (COUNTRY)

**Matt Lipiarski;** 3CS & Mixx FM, Colac, VIC, ACE Radio Broadcasters

##### BEST NETWORKED SHOW

**Kyle & Jackie O Hour of Power;** Kyle Sandilands & Jackie Henderson; KIIS Network, ARN

##### BEST MUSIC HOST (METRO)

**Ellie Angel-Mobbs;** B105, Brisbane, QLD, SCA

##### BEST MUSIC HOST (PROVINCIAL)

**Sean Brown;** Hit 106.9, Newcastle, NSW, SCA

##### BEST MUSIC HOST (METRO, PROVINCIAL, COUNTRY)

**Gemma Sweeney;** 93.5 EAGLE FM, Goulburn, NSW, Capital Radio Network

##### THE BRENNO / BEST NEW TALENT ON AIR – RADIO (METRO)

**Laura O'Callaghan;** Triple M, Adelaide SA SCA

##### THE BRENNO / BEST NEW TALENT ON AIR – RADIO (PROVINCIAL)

**Gina Jeffreys;** Star 104.5, Central Coast, NSW, NOVA Entertainment

##### THE BRENNO / BEST NEW TALENT ON AIR – RADIO (COUNTRY)

**Isabella Roldan;** Chilli FM, Launceston, TAS, ARN

##### BEST NEW TALENT OFF AIR – RADIO (METRO)

**Stephanie Clarkson;** B105, Brisbane, QLD, SCA

##### BEST NEW TALENT OFF AIR – RADIO (PROVINCIAL)

**Chloe Burgess-Jones;** 107.7 Triple M / Hit 101.3, Central Coast, NSW, SCA

##### BEST NEW TALENT OFF AIR – RADIO (COUNTRY)

**Hannah Rapley;** Real FM, Mudgee, NSW, Super Radio Network

##### STATION OF THE YEAR (METRO)

**KIIS 1065;** Sydney, NSW, ARN

##### STATION OF THE YEAR (NON-METRO)

**Mix 106.3;** Canberra, ACT, ARN/SCA

## BEST COMEDY SEGMENT

**Ben, Liam & Belle, “Andy Lee & Belle’s Room”;** Nova 100, Melbourne, VIC, NOVA Entertainment

## SALES & MARKETING

### SALES TEAM OF THE YEAR (METRO)

**Nova 93.7 Commercial Team;** Perth, WA, NOVA Entertainment

### SALES TEAM OF THE YEAR (NON-METRO)

**GOLD FM98.3 & AM1071 Sales Team;** Central Victoria, VIC, ARN

### BEST REGIONAL SALESPERSON (REGIONAL)

**Ronnie Young;** River 949, North Ipswich, QLD, ARN

### BEST DIRECT SALESPERSON

**Clare Douch;** Nova 93.7, Perth, WA, NOVA Entertainment

### BEST AGENCY SALESPERSON

**Megan Beard;** Nova 93.7, Perth, WA, NOVA Entertainment

### MOST CREATIVE SALES SOLUTION - NATIONAL

**Fitbit - Breaking Ground;** Nova Entertainment; Sydney, NSW, NOVA Entertainment

### PROMOTIONS DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR (METRO)

**Annette George;** 101.7 WSFM, Sydney, NSW, ARN

### PROMOTIONS DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR (NON-METRO)

**Zak Davies;** Mix 106.3 / Hit 104.7, Canberra, ACT, ARN/SCA

### MOST CREATIVE STATION PROMOTION (METRO)

**“Win A Billboard”;** The Christian O’ Connell Show, ARN Marketing, Melbourne, VIC, ARN

### MOST CREATIVE STATION PROMOTION (PROVINCIAL)

**Jimmy & Nath’ s Wild Goose Chase;** Jimmy Smith, Nath Roye; Hit100.9, Hobart, SCA

### MOST CREATIVE STATION PROMOTION (COUNTRY)

**Locals Sing Christmas;** Jenny Burrow, Mal Rock, 2MG & Real FM, Mudgee, NSW, Super Radio Network

### MARKETING TEAM OF THE YEAR

**SCA Marketing Team;** SCA, Melbourne, VIC, SCA

### BEST MARKETING CAMPAIGN

**The Christian O’Connell Show, “Win a Billboard”;** ARN Marketing & GOLD Content, GOLD104.3, Melbourne, VIC, ARN

## PODCASTS & DIGITAL

### PODCAST HOST/S OF THE YEAR

**It’s A Lot;** Abbie Chatfield, LiSTNR, Sydney, NSW, SCA

### BEST PODCAST BY A RADIO SHOW

**Bianca, Ben & Lakey, Lift the Lid Podcast;** 90.9 Sea FM, Gold Coast, QLD, SCA

### PODCAST OF THE YEAR

**The Children in The Pictures Podcast;** Akhim Dev, Emma Lancaster, Belinda Lopez, Jennifer Goggin, Simon Nasht, Romy Sher, Darcy Thomson, Bonnie Lavelle; LiSTNR, Sydney/Melbourne, SCA

### MOST INNOVATIVE DAB OR PODCAST FORMAT

**TikTok Trending on iHeartRadio;** TikTok Trending Team, iHeart, National, NSW, ARN

### BEST NEW TALENT – PODCAST

**Matty Mills “Not So PG”;** Nova Podcasts, Sydney, NSW, NOVA Entertainment

## PRODUCTION

### BEST RADIO SHOW PRODUCER (METRO)

**James Willis;** 2GB, Sydney, NSW, Nine Radio

#### **BEST RADIO SHOW PRODUCER (NON-METRO)**

**Haylee Potts**; Mix 106.3, Canberra, ACT, ARN/SCA

#### **BEST PODCAST PRODUCER (SHOW)**

**Matt White, Stories of Origin, 9Podcasts**; Sydney, NSW, Nine Radio

#### **BEST PODCAST PRODUCER (AUDIO)**

**Darcy Thomson, The Children in The Pictures**; LiSTNR, Melbourne, VIC, SCA

#### **BEST IMAGING PRODUCER (METRO)**

**Natasha Thorniley**; 92.9 Triple M, Perth, WA, SCA

#### **BEST IMAGING PRODUCER (PROVINCIAL)**

**Matt Innes**; 92.5 Triple M, Gold Coast, QLD, SCA

#### **BEST IMAGING PRODUCER (COUNTRY)**

**Sophie Jackson**; 3WM & Mixx FM, Horsham, VIC, ACE Radio Broadcasters

#### **DIGITAL TEAM OF THE YEAR**

**Joshua Fox, Ella Kanna**; KIIS 1065, Sydney, NSW, ARN

#### **BEST DIGITAL CONTENT CREATOR**

**Scott Couchman**; KIIS97.3, Brisbane, QLD, ARN

#### **BEST INNOVATION IN ENGINEERING**

**Gino Canzano**; SCA Engineering Team, Melbourne, VIC, SCA

#### **BEST STATION PRODUCED COMMERCIAL – SINGLE (METRO)**

**David Getting Decked**; Joshua Robins, Tim Whittington, Mix 94.5, Perth, WA, SCA

#### **BEST STATION PRODUCED COMMERCIAL – SINGLE (PROVINCIAL)**

**North East Bin Hire**; Mark Stevens, Cassie Aldridge; 2AY, Albury, NSW, ACE Radio Broadcasters

#### **BEST STATION PRODUCED COMMERCIAL – SINGLE (COUNTRY)**

**Home Harmony**; Tamara Heinjus, Nat Marshall; 783 Triple M, Albany, WA, SCA

#### **BEST STATION PRODUCED COMMERCIAL – CAMPAIGN (METRO)**

**Vinnies**; Darren Russell & Eddie Bye, NOVA Entertainment CREATE, NOVA Entertainment

#### **BEST STATION PRODUCED COMMERCIAL – CAMPAIGN (PROVINCIAL)**

**Be Safe | Be Alive**; Chris Tankey, Cath Bell & Adam Jansen; Mix 106.3 / Hit 104.7, Canberra, ACT, ARN/SCA

#### **BEST STATION PRODUCED COMMERCIAL – CAMPAIGN (COUNTRY)**

**Mowers and More**; Cameron Horn; SCA Coffs Harbour, NSW, SCA

## **TALK, NEWS & SPORT**

#### **BRIAN WHITE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM (METRO)**

**Clinton Maynard**; 2GB, Sydney, NSW, Nine Radio

#### **BRIAN WHITE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM (NON-METRO)**

**Katie Woolf**; Mix 1049, Darwin, NT, ARN

#### **THE GLENN DANIEL AWARD - BEST NEWS PRESENTER FM**

**Patrina Jones**; GOLD104.3, Melbourne, VIC, ARN

#### **BEST NEWS PRESENTER AM**

**Amie Meehan**; 2GB, Sydney, NSW, Nine Radio

#### **BEST NEWS EVENT COVERAGE**

**Victorian Floods**; Neil Mitchell; 3AW Melbourne, VIC, Nine Radio

#### **BEST LOCAL NEWS TEAM**

**David Dollin, Hamish Finlay, Isabel Everett, Dan Flegg, Madeline Larsen**; Triple M, Newcastle, NSW, SCA

#### **BEST CURRENT AFFAIRS PRESENTER**

**Ben Fordham**; 2GB, Sydney, NSW, Nine Radio

#### **BEST SPORTS PRESENTER (METRO)**

**Gerard Whateley**; SEN 1116am, Melbourne, VIC, Sports Entertainment Network

#### **BEST SPORTS PRESENTER (NON-METRO)**

**Gus MacLeod**; 2AY, Albury, NSW, ACE Radio Broadcasters

#### **BEST SPORTS EVENT COVERAGE (METRO & NON-METRO)**

**2022 State of Origin Decider; The Continuous Call Team**; 2GB, Sydney, NSW, Nine Radio

#### **BEST SPORTS EVENT COVERAGE (NON-METRO)**

**2022 AFL Grand Final**; K rock Football Commentary Team, K rock 95.5, Geelong, VIC, Grant Broadcasters

#### **BEST DOCUMENTARY – RADIO**

**Bali Bombing 20 Years On**; Chris Davis/Ben Ryan; KIIS Network, Sydney, NSW, ARN

#### **BEST COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN (METRO)**

**Mel Dzelde Rescue: The Spirit of Christmas**; The Ali Clarke Breakfast Show; Mix-102.3, Adelaide, SA, ARN

#### **BEST COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN (PROVINCIAL)**

**Pack the Bus**; Mix 106.3 Product Team, Canberra, ACT, ARN/SCA

#### **BEST COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN (COUNTRY)**

**Thank A First Responder Day**; Dana Hamilton; 98.1 Power FM, Muswellbrook, Hunter Valley, NSW, ARN

#### **BEST TALK PRESENTER (METRO)**

**Neil Mitchell**; 3AW, Melbourne, Nine Radio

#### **BEST TALK PRESENTER (NON-METRO)**

**Katie Woolf**; Mix 104.9, Darwin, NT, ARN

## **MUSIC**

#### **BEST MUSIC FEATURE**

**Behind The Hits – Remembering Taylor Hawkins**; Triple M LiSTNR Music Team, Sydney, NSW, SCA

#### **THE GUDINSKI – AUSTRALIAN MUSIC CHAMPION**

**Triple M's Homegrown with Matty O**; Matthew O' Gorman, Julia Di Gregorio, Chris Holland, Kalun Townsend, Triple M Network, Melbourne, VIC, SCA

#### **MUSIC DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR**

**Jake Powell**; CADA, Katoomba / Western Sydney, NSW, ARN

#### **MOST PLAYED NEW AUSTRALIAN SONG ON COMMERCIAL RADIO**

**Peking Duck – I Want You (feat. Darren Hayes)**, Sony Music Australia

#### **MOST PLAYED NEW SONG ON COMMERCIAL RADIO**

**Miley Cyrus – Flowers**, Sony Music

## **SPECIAL**

#### **HALL OF FAME**

**Laurel Edwards**, 4BC Nine Radio

**Steve "Pricey" Price**, Triple M Townsville, SCA

#### **DIVERSITY & INCLUSION AWARD**

**People Experience**; Nova Entertainment, National, NSW, NOVA Entertainment