

NEW HOST, NEW SOUND FOR AM IN ITS 50TH YEAR

As it marks its 50th year of broadcasting, ABC radio current affairs flagship *AM* continues to set the agenda in 2017.

Sabra Lane, one of Australia's most experienced and respected political journalists, takes over the host's chair on Monday, January 30. She replaces Michael Brissenden, who is moving to *Four Corners* after two years with *AM*.

Also new this year is the theme music for radio current affairs programs *AM*, *The World Today* and *PM*, which from Monday will all have a fresh, contemporary sound, in line with the updated identity rolled out this year for the ABC Radio network.

AM's 50th anniversary is on September 4. It first went to air on that date in 1967 with presenter Robert Peach in the chair.

Director of News Gaven Morris said: "To reach a half-century of broadcasting is an incredible achievement. *AM* is an institution of Australian journalism and after 50 years it's as relevant and important to audiences as ever as a starting point for the nation's news day."

AM can be heard from Monday to Saturday at 8.00am-8.30am on ABC Radio and at 7.10am on ABC Radio National.

Sabra Lane

Sabra Lane is regarded as one of the best political interviewers and most astute journalists in the country. She has been covering federal politics in Canberra since 2008 and has been Chief Political Correspondent on nightly TV current affairs flagship *7.30* since September 2013, when she replaced Chris Uhlmann in the role.

Prior to that she was Chief Political Correspondent for Radio Current Affairs from July 2011, leading federal politics coverage for *AM*, *The World Today* and *PM*.

Before going to Canberra Sabra was a reporter for ABC Radio Current Affairs in Sydney, as well as regular fill-in Executive Producer on *AM*, *The World Today* and *PM*.

Prior to joining the ABC she was EP of the Seven Network's weekly national news and public affairs program *Sunday Sunrise* for more than four years. She also helped produce Seven News's coverage

of the Sydney Olympics. Sabra began her journalism career in 1989 in Adelaide as a reporter/producer for the Ten Network.

For further information, please contact:

Sally Jackson | Media Manager | ABC News & Current Affairs
02 8333 2961 / 0405 115 158 / jackson.sally@abc.net.au
@Sally_Jackson