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## Tamara Oudyn and Mary Gearin to helm 7pm NEWS Victoria

Top journalists Tamara Oudyn and Mary Gearin are the new faces of ABC NEWS in Victoria.

Starting next Friday 12 October, Mary will be in the chair on Fridays and Saturdays and Tamara from Sunday to Thursday. Both will also continue to add their reporting skills and experience to the newsroom and in the field.

The announcement of the new line-up follows the retirement of ABC NEWS great Ian Henderson this month after more than 25 years bringing viewers the nightly news. His farewell bulletin will be on Thursday 11 October.

Tamara Oudyn is already well known to Victorians after working for the ABC in Melbourne for 15 years as a journalist, anchor, podcaster and voice trainer.

Says Tamara: "It's such a privilege to be entrusted to the role of ABC Victoria's main anchor, and I step into it with a great deal of pride. It's also an honour to follow in the footsteps of Ian Henderson. Hendo has been a mentor and friend for many years and I have enormous respect for him.

"I've been presenting at the ABC for a long time - I know our audience and they know me. They rightfully have high expectations and I can't wait to bring them the news through the week."

Mary Gearin is a leading journalist and former ABC Europe Correspondent who led the national broadcaster's coverage of events such as the 2015 Paris terrorist attacks and the birth of Prince George.

"I am thrilled with this new role and the opportunity to be a face of ABC NEWS Victoria, a place of great energy, talent and commitment," she says. "It's a marvellous opportunity to deepen my commitment to the newsroom and connect with the Victorian community around me.

"I'm excited about being able to combine the buzz of being in the studio with still being able to get into the field doing news stories and special projects across all platforms."

Says Director ABC NEWS, Analysis and Investigations Gaven Morris: "As well as national and international coverage, local audiences want in-depth, high quality local news and information. Tam and Mary are highly experienced reporters, skilled presenters and gifted communicators who know how to explore the issues and tell the stories that matter to Victorians."



## **Tamara Oudyn**

Tamara Oudyn is a journalist, anchor, podcaster and voice trainer. Tamara has worked in television, both behind-the-scenes and in front of the camera, for almost 25 years. She has worked at the ABC in Melbourne for 15 years as a reporter and presenter for ABC NEWS, ABC News Breakfast, The Midday Report and Stateline. She started her career in television in 1995 at Channel 10, on the long-running children's show, *Totally Wild*.

She continued to work as a researcher and producer for factual programs in Australia and the UK while completing a Bachelor of Journalism at QUT in Brisbane.

After graduating, she moved to Melbourne in 2003 and joined the ABC newsroom. She's been presenting weekend news bulletins there for the past 12 years and coaches journalists across the network in broadcast voice. She produces and co-hosts a weekly podcast about Australian television dramas and the people who make them.

## **Mary Gearin**

An experienced TV presenter, senior journalist and former Europe Correspondent, Mary Gearin is known for her versatility, on-air presentation and storytelling skills.

In the London bureau, Mary led the ABC's coverage of major breaking world news events such as the 2015 Paris terrorist attacks, the Germanwings disaster, Greece's 2015 elections and financial crisis, and Europe's migrant crisis. She's covered four Olympics - three Summer, one Winter - three Commonwealth Games, a Rugby World Cup, the election of a new Pope and the birth of Prince George.

Mary is regularly called in as co-host of ABC News Breakfast, *The World*, and her content has appeared across all ABC platforms — TV, radio and online — to a wide range of programs including the ABC's flagship current affairs program 7.30.

## **ENDS**

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