

# RURAL PRESS CLUB

*of Victoria*

PROMOTING JOURNALISM ACROSS REGIONAL VICTORIA

## THE 2009 RURAL AND REGIONAL JOURNALISM SEMINAR

**DATE:** Friday August 28

**TIME:** 9.00am TO 4.00 pm

**VENUE:** Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Corner Sturt Street and Southbank Boulevard

**COST:** Free to Rural Press Club members and their staff

Non-members can join on the day for only \$50 (country membership) or \$90 (city member)  
Includes guided tours of the ABC and Herald and Weekly Times

### FORUM PROGRAM

0900	Check In	Coffee And Introductions At The ABC
0915	Welcome	Introduction By Tim Lee, 'Landline' ABC Television
0930	Group Tour	Group Tour Of ABC Radio And Television Including Seeing The Morning Program Going To Air, The Television And Radio Newsroom, And The Australian Television Network
1000	Panel Discussion	<b>Facing Disaster: Reporting Disaster Events Such As Bushfires</b> Panel: Mark Smith: Editor Whittlesea Leader Tom Steinfort: Reporter Channel Nine News Raphael Epstein: Reporter 'Lateline' ABC Television
1130	Guest Speaker	Keith Moor, Investigative Journalist Herald Sun
1200	Lunch	
1230	Panel Discussion	<b>Access All Areas: Cutting Through The 'Spin'</b> Corporate And Government Media Managers Discuss How They Deal With The Media Panel: Matt Trewin, Timbercorp George Svigos: Head Of Premier's Media Unit Lachlan Quick: Media Manager, Country Fire Authority
1400	Panel Discussion	<b>Feature Creatures: A Guide To Feature Writing</b> Panel: Claire Sutherland, Features Editor, Herald Sun John Van Tiggelen, Feature Writer, The Age, 'Good Weekend'
1500	Networking	Afternoon Tea
1515	Herald Sun Tour	
1600	Wrap Up	

To register or for more information contact Samantha Marnell on [samantha.marnell@rwav.com.au](mailto:samantha.marnell@rwav.com.au) or 0439 551 720.



**RURAL FINANCE**  
Let's talk



## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

### **MARK SMITH, WHITTLESEA LEADER**

Mark Smith is a journalist with the Whittlesea Leader—a weekly community newspaper produced by News Limited. He has previously worked as a reporter and sub-editor for the Bendigo Advertiser. He was one of a handful of Leader newspaper reporters on the frontline during the Black Saturday bushfires.

### **TOM STEINFORT, CHANNEL NINE**

After growing up in Melbourne, Tom Steinfort's break came in 2005 when he was offered a position at WIN Television in Ballarat. He spent two years in the newsroom there gaining experience as a reporter, while he completed his Journalism degree at RMIT University. Steinfort was WIN's state political reporter during the 2006 election campaign, and also had several stints as a news and sports presenter. The 23-year-old joined Nine News in February 2007, and has already covered a number of major stories including the Victorian bushfires, the Kerang train disaster, Melbourne's gangland war and the resignation of Steve Bracks.

### **RAPHAEL EPSTEIN ABC TV 'LATELINE'**

Rafael Epstein is one of the ABC's best-credentialed journalists. He was appointed Europe correspondent in early 2005, returning home in late 2008. He has been an ABC reporter for more than 10 years, reporting for TV news and Radio Current Affairs in Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne. A skilled investigative reporter, his ground-breaking coverage of intelligence issues and police corruption in Victoria won him a Walkley Award in 2004. Rafael spent several months reporting in Darwin and East Timor in 1999 during the independence vote and he was assigned to Jakarta to augment the ABC's comprehensive coverage of the Asian tsunami.

### **KEITH MOOR, HERALD SUN**

Keith Moor is the head of the Herald-Sun's investigative unit, having been appointed Insight Editor in November 1996. He has won Australia's top journalism award, the Walkley Award and has Quill and New Awards for news breaking and specialist writing. He is the author of four true crime books.

### **MATT TREWIN, TIMBERCORP**

Matt Trewin has worked for more than 12 years in corporate affairs and public policy roles, largely within the agribusiness sector. He is currently the Manager for Communications at Timbercorp (in liquidation). Matt has a Bachelor of Arts and comes from a farm at Devenish (outside of Benalla) in north east Victoria, where he carries on the family farm and the family's Clydesdale stud, which is the oldest stud in Australia still in operation.

### **CLAIRE SUTHERLAND, HERALD SUN**

Claire began her career at The Western Times in Footscray in 1992. She came to the Herald Sun 13 years ago, joining features where she has edited various sections, including health, the weekend magazine and entertainment. Claire was the Herald Sun's film writer for 10 years and books editor for three years. Until mid this year she was managing editor of the paper's features department. Her new role involves co-ordinating national feature sections across the News Limited Group.

### **JOHN VAN TIGGELEN, THE AGE, 'GOOD WEEKEND'**

John van Tiggelen was born in Holland, grew up in country Victoria, graduated in science and worked as a tour guide in the Daintree rainforest before turning to journalism. His book *Mango Country: A Journey Beyond the Brochures of Tropical Queensland* (Pan Macmillan) was short listed for the Colin Roderick Award. He has been published in *Best Australian Essays* (2001), is a past winner of the Commonwealth Media Award (the prize was a Press Fellowship in Cambridge) and was short listed for the Graham Perkin Journalist of the Year Award in 1997. His fields of interest include Aboriginal affairs, small-town Australia, medicine, the environment and Indonesia. John has been writing for *Good Weekend* since 2004.

### **GEORGE SVIGOS, PREMIER'S OFFICE**

George Svigos is the Head of Communications in the Premier's Office and was previously the Principal Media Adviser to the Premier of Victoria, John Brumby. He has also been Media Adviser to then Federal Opposition leader Kim Beazley after starting his career as a journalist in suburban newspapers in Adelaide and Melbourne.



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