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The Human Headline – Derryn Hinch inducted into Radio Hall of Fame

Derryn Hinch, one of Australia's most renowned broadcasters, who earlier this year celebrated fifty years in journalism, was tonight inducted into the Commercial Radio Hall of Fame at the 2010 Australian Commercial Radio Awards (ACRAs).

Hinch, currently host of 3AW's drivetime radio show, was honoured with the accolade at a gala ceremony attended by 1200 of his industry peers at Crown in Melbourne. The award recognises outstanding lifetime achievement and contribution to the radio broadcasting industry.

Derryn began his journalist career in 1959 and has spent much of his time on radio with Melbourne's 3AW. He has also had a well-known career in television, including time as host of his own show, Hinch, and also for newspapers, both as an editor and foreign correspondent.

Derryn has worked in radio in Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide. In 1996, he was on-air at 2GB and also broadcast daily editorials for Melbourne's Gold FM and 4KQ Queensland in 1997. In 1998 he presented the 5DN breakfast program before launching HinchWebRadio on the internet. In 2000, he presented Nightline on 3AW, and then joined 3AK in 2001 before returning to 3AW in 2003.

One of the highlights of Derryn's career and possibly the earliest recording in existence of his time on radio is from 1969, when man first went to the moon. Derryn was foreign correspondent for Fairfax and was sent to cover the event. Derryn's live description from Cape Kennedy of the Apollo 11 launch on Sydney's 2GB and Macquarie Broadcasting Service took people there via the airwaves. In the early 1980s, Derryn was one of the first people to broadcast live to the west from China (the Great Wall) and received the Grand Prize at the International Radio Festival Awards in New York in 1984 for his efforts.

He has attracted much controversy during his career and in 1985 he was sentenced to jail for contempt of court after publicly identifying a known paedophile. He is also well-known for being at the forefront in covering Melbourne's gangland wars.

Derryn has written three autobiographies: That's life; The Rise and Fall of Derryn Hinch – how I hit the wall and didn't bleed and a third to be released in October called, Human Headlines.

Joan Warner, chief executive of Commercial Radio Australia, said Derryn Hinch was extremely passionate about radio, and in particular news and current affairs. "Derryn is a man of strong opinions and often pushes the boundaries of broadcasting but his extensive contribution to the industry over the past few decades is undeniable. He is a broadcaster of great conviction - .and has entertained and informed millions of Australians for many years."

The Hall of Fame recipients are nominated by industry peers and are selected by a high level judging committee. Previous inductees include John Laws, Bob Rogers, Gary O'Callaghan, Paul Thompson, Bob Francis, Rod Muir and the late Frank Hyde.

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