The Australian Songwriter

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In This Edition:

- **On the Cover of The ASA**: **Tamsin Cantwell** at the 2016 National Songwriting Awards
- Chairman's Message
- Editor's Message
- 2017 Australian Songwriting Contest Announcement
- Tamsin Cantwell: 2016 Winner of the Folk/Acoustic Category
- Wax Lyrical Roundup
- Sponsors Profiles
- David King & Jessica Allen: 2016 Joint Winners of the Ballad Category
- Members News and Information
- The Load Out
- Official Sponsors of the Australian Songwriting Contest
- About Us:
    - Aims of the ASA
    - History of the Association
    - Contact Us
    - Patron
    - Life Members
    - Directors
    - Regional Co-Ordinators
    - APRA/ASA Songwriters of the Year 2016
    - Rudy Brandsma Award Winner 2016
    - PPCA Live Performance Award Winners 2016
    - Australian Songwriters Hall of Fame 2004 to 2016
    - Australian Songwriting Contest Winners 2016
    - Australian Songwriters of The Year and Rudy Brandsma Award Winners 1979 to 2016

Chairman's Message

Happy Easter Members,

Time flies when you're having fun. The 2017 Australian Songwriting Contest is well and truly underway, so don't forget to get those entries in. This year promises to be a cracker for songwriters of all genres, with exceptional prizes on offer. A big thank you must go to all our sponsors. They just keep on turning up year in, year out. One of our backers recently revealed to me that they consider their involvement with the ASA invaluable, because of our Association's reputation in the music industry, and the quality of the Songwriters we represent. I must say, it is most gratifying to hear words like that.

It will be hard to top last year's Awards Night in 2017, but your Board has once again been in high level discussions with quality Venues and Performers, as well as arranging this year's excellent music industry Judges. Things are moving apace, as we look to bring the National Songwriting Awards Evening forward. Watch out for more information on this as it comes to hand.

In the meantime, settle back and take in the April e-Newsletter, edited once again by that man of many talents, Vice Chairman Alan Gilmour. It is packed full of interviews, stories and information.

Remember, if you are a Songwriter, even if you are in a Band, you should belong to the ASA.

Denny Burgess
Chairman

Editor's Message

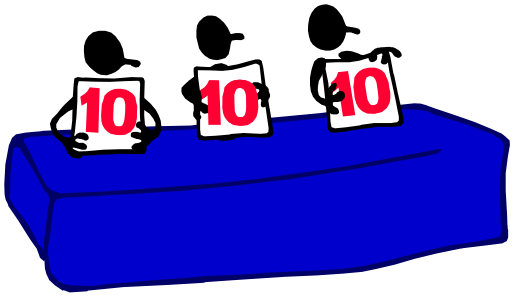
Well, as Denny has just mentioned, the 2017 Australian Songwriting Contest is now underway. We look forward to listening to the many great songs which are sure will come in over the next couple of months.

In the meantime, we will keep you informed about the great songwriters who took out awards in 2016. In this edition, we'll feature interviews with Folk/Acoustic Category winner, Tamsin Cantwell, and Ballad Category Joint Winners, Jessica Allen and David King.

The Australian Songwriter welcomes written contributions from ASA members and readers of the magazine. If you have anything that you would like to say about yourself, other songwriters/musicians/artists/new releases or upcoming events, simply send your contribution via email to the Editor at alang@asai.org.au.

Alan Gilmour
Editor and Vice Chairman

2017 Australian Songwriting Contest Announcement



The 2017 Australian Songwriting Contest is now open. To enter, simply go to the ASA website at www.asai.org.au and follow the prompts. The contest offers great prizes and is open to both ASA members and non-members. The 2017 contest contains 13 individual songwriting categories:

- Australia
- Contemporary Pop/Dance
- Folk/Acoustic
- International
- Open
- Songs for Children
- Youth
- Ballad
- Country
- Instrumental
- Lyrics
- Rock/Indie
- Spiritual

Prizes and trophies will be awarded to the winners of each category, as well performance opportunities at the 2017 National Songwriting Awards.

The **2017 Australian Songwriter of the Year** will be chosen by the ASA Board of Directors from the category winners. The 2017 winner will receive a beautiful trophy plus a cheque for $3,000, courtesy of sponsors, APRA.

The ASA Board will also choose the winner of the **2017 Rudy Brandsma Award For Songwriting Excellence** from among all of the ASA members, present at The National Songwriting Awards, who have submitted songs into the contest and who have exhibited songwriting excellence in their song entries. The winner will receiv a beautiful Maton acoustic guitar, courtesy of sponsors, Maton Guitars.

Entries can be submitted on the following contest platforms by clicking on the links on the ASA website home page.

TrakVan **www.trakvan.com/asacontest/**

SONG CENTRAL **www.songcentral.biz/asa**

Tamsin Cantwell: 2016 Winner Of The Folk/Acoustic Category

Photo: The Folk/Acoustic Top 10 finalists, with winner, Tamsin Cantwell, 3rd from right.

Melbourne VIC singer/ songwriter, **Tamsin Cantwell** was the 2016 winner of the Folk/Acoustic Category, with her song, Not OK. We had a chat with Tamsin prior to the National Songwriting Awards.

ASA: Now, your song is called Not OK. So, can you tell us what is not OK?

Tamsin: The song is about a relationship not working out the way you expected it to, and everything turning into a mess. I wrote this song at the start of this year (2016), and I recorded it with Josh Needham, a demo, along with a series of demos that I've been recording throughout the year, and I'm hoping to release an EP midway next year (2017).

ASA: And what other songs are going to be on the EP?

Tamsin: There's five songs that I'm hoping to put on the EP, and they're all in demo stage, so I'll probably work a bit more on those, and release them all together.

ASA: So, where do you get your ideas for your songs? Are these personal experiences, or experiences of friends or what exactly?

Tamsin: Definitely personal experiences. I always write about my experiences and convey that through songs. The five songs that I've chosen for my EP next year,

including Not OK, are all a really good display of what's been happening in my life in the past year or so.

ASA: And, is the folk/acoustic genre the genre that you prefer writing in, or do you prefer co-writing and recording with a band?

Tamsin: I usually perform with a guitarist and our style is mostly indie/acoustic, but we play a wide variety of genres, which I guess is cool.

ASA: And whereabouts do you perform?

Tamsin: I perform at lots of bars and restaurants within the CBD of Melbourne, and hopefully that will keep expanding. I'm playing down on the Mornington Peninsula across the summer, which is exciting. The venues that I've played at are The Glasshouse in Melbourne, Etihad, and lots of weddings.

ASA: Your career progression now, where do you see yourself in say ten years' time?

Tamsin: I'd like to be writing with other people, and networking, meeting more people and hopefully getting my stuff out there. And hopefully in ten years' time, I've got a few albums.

ASA: And if you had an artist that you'd like to record one of your songs, and obviously you've had inspirations in your songs, who would that person be?

Tamsin: I think my biggest inspiration, as an artist, would be Lianne La Havas, who is a UK artist, and she recently came to Melbourne last week actually, and I went to her concert. Her songwriting is magnificent and I'd love to be able to record something with her in the future, because she's incredible.

ASA: Did you get to meet her?

Tamsin: I did get to meet her! I had a photo with her out the back. I waited about an hour in the alley way to meet her and that was great.

ASA: Did you give her your business card?

Tamsin: I should have! (laughs). No, she just told me to keep following my dreams and do what I love.

ASA: Well, that's pretty good advice. What would be your biggest dream, having an artist record one of your songs, having a hit song yourself, being on the TV, singing on a show?

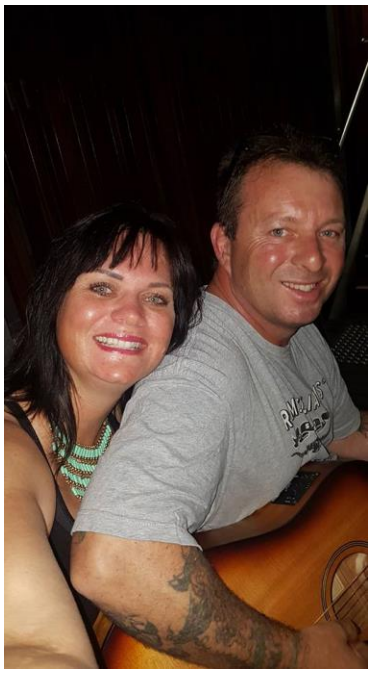
Tamsin: I'd say at this stage, any of those things sound amazing to me, but mostly just working on my craft and getting my songs produced by a label and working towards something bigger, maybe going overseas or something in a few years' time, once I'm a little bit older.

We'll see.

ASA: Thank you, Tamsin.

Wax Lyrical Roundup

Regional QLD 29, March 2017, Mary's Commercial Hotel Dalby QLD



Central Coast NSW, 13 March 2017, Tall Timbers Hotel

Adelaide SA, 5 April 2017, Mint 2

Yarra Ranges VIC, 6 April 2017, The Who Club Warburton VIC

Sponsors Profiles:

1. Major Sponsor: Wests Ashfield Leagues Club

Thanks to major sponsor, the **Wests Ashfield Club**.

A premier entertainment and dining venue, and home of Wests Tigers and Wests Magpies Rugby League teams, Wests Ashfield is an excellent place to visit in Sydney's inner west.

Not only supporting a host of local sporting and youth-related activities, the Club lifts itself above the rest by also being a "Patron of the Arts", as demonstrated by its incredible ongoing sponsorship of the ASA. All music lovers are encouraged to return the favour by becoming members of Wests Ashfield, and at very least, indulging themselves in some of the culinary delights the Club has on offer.

Wests Ashfield has $67,500 cash plus 3 trips to Las Vegas to be won!

Draws will be held every Tuesday and Thursday until 27 April 2017. Swipe your membership card from 6.00 pm. Draws will commence from 7.00 pm.

Fifty winners each week will share in $7,500 cash and will win entries into the major draw.

The major draw will take place on 28 April 2017 from 4.00 pm. Swipe from 3.00 pm.

2. Major Sponsor: APRA AMCOS

Thanks also to major sponsor, **APRA/AMCOS**, for sponsoring, and presenting, the APRA ASA Songwriter of the Year Award at the 2016 National Songwriting Awards. APRA AMCOS generously provides prize money of $3,000 to the winner/s, which this year, were **Donna Dyson** and **Damien Leith**.

If you write music, you should become a member of APRA AMCOS. It's free to join, and once you do, APRA AMCOS can help you make money from your music. Become part of a collective community of 87,000 songwriters!

3. **TrakVan.com and SongCentral.biz:** 2017 Australian Songwriting Contest Entry Platform Providers.

Many thanks to **Trakvan.com** and **SongCentral.biz** for their ongoing support for The Australian Songwriting Contest. These organisations provide the entry platforms that enable our entrants to participate in the contests.

TrakVan.com is an Australian platform that provides web tools for musicians. TrakVan.com is a hosted ecommerce solution, that allows artists to set up and run their own online music player, with "buy now" capability.

Artists can select from our range of embeddable players, Facebook share and page options, and their own album/single website - all with just a few clicks of the mouse.

With TrakVan.com it's easy to sell your music online and there's no software to download or maintain.

Coming soon: TrakVan Internet Radio. All songs entered into TrakVan.com, either for sale on artists' websites, or as contest entries, will be eligible for rotation on TrakVan Internet Radio, 24 hours a day, 365 days per year.

SongCentral.biz is a keen supporter of independent original Australian music.

SongCentral.biz is Australian owned and provides song contest platforms to help showcase the works of original creators, including songwriters, poets, lyricists, artists, illustrators, photographers, and film producers.

Organisations currently using the SongCentral.biz facilities include The Australian Songwriters Association (ASA), The Tamworth Songwriters Association (TSA), The Songwriters, Composers and Lyricists Association (SCALA), SongsAlive! and MusicACT.

David King & Jessica Allen: 2016 Co-Winners of the Ballad Category

David King and **Jessica Allen** were the 2016 Joint Winners of the Ballad Category, with their song, Memories From My Mind.

We spoke to David and Jessica prior to the 2016 National Songwriting Awards.

ASA: Can you tell us a bit about your winning song, Memories from my mind?

Jessica: It's about someone reminiscing about a past relationship.

ASA: Is this a personal experience on your part?

Jessica: Yes. (laughs).

ASA: So, can you tell us a bit about it (without going into the gory details)?

Jessica: It's a past friendship that was very close to me and it kind of came out in that song.

ASA: And do you write the lyrics, Jessica, or David?

David: It tends to be a combination of the two, and I think you'll find the music and the lyrics together, are a conglomeration of all these different stories of not wanting to have to face something from the past, and it jelled together on the day we did it. It was perfect.

ASA: So you both put melody and words in?

Jessica and David: Yes.

ASA: And how long have you been writing together?

David: A good three years, on and off. I haven't seen her recently (laughs). We've worked on four or five songs.

ASA: And what sort of themes tend to run through these songs? Are they emotional themes?

Jessica: No themes really, just what we feel like on the day.

David: There's very little revision in the lyrics. We just let it flow.

ASA: Just let it flow?

David: Yes, turn up on the day, write it down

ASA: So you have the lyrics down and then you have to work on the melody? Are you both instrumentalists?

Jessica: Yes.

David: Absolutely.

ASA: What do you play, David?

David: I'm a keyboard and guitar player.

ASA: And Jess?

Jessica: Piano and guitar.

ASA: So, between the two of you, if I throw you a lyrics sheet, you can work that into a song for me?

Jessica and **David**: Yes, absolutely.

David: One of our favourite games used to be, when we were younger, give us three different words and we would work it into a song, and you've got five minutes, go for it.

A great trick to do at parties!

ASA: And do you guys perform together, are you performing songwriters?

Jessica: I'm a performing songwriter. I perform full time with my duo, Roses In Hand.

ASA: Whereabouts are you based?

Jessica: Kiama, near Wollongong.

ASA: And what sort of gigs to you get?

Jessica: Everything, from bars to pubs to events and weddings and shows.

ASA: And who is the other party in the duo?

Jessica: Samuel Burrell.

ASA: Going forward, what do you guys planning to do? Are you happy to keep writing together?

David: This is a kind of reunion for us, because we haven't seen each other for so long, so who knows, it could be awesome.

Jessica: This went well, so we'll see what happens in the future.

ASA: Thanks guys, and we really look forward to hearing you tonight.

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Members News and Information

1. Songwriters Meeting Point

Perth WA lyricist, **Patrick McMurray**, is looking to pursue musical collaboration with like-minded composers. Patrick can be contacted at Patrick@patrickmcmurray.com.

ASA member, **Henry Hamad**, is a lyricist who is looking for someone who would like to add music to his lyrics. If you can help Henry, please contact him on henry.hamad@gmail.com.

ASA member, **Donna Hotz**, is a lyricist who is seeking a composer to help create songs from her lyrics. If you can help, please contact Donna on donna_hotz@hotmail.com.

Sydney songwriter, **Bob Brown** is looking for a co-writer. His musical likes are "ballads/ country/ country rock/ guitar instrumental, but I'm open to whatever project." "I've been in the Top 30 of ASA but never cracked it further in." Bob has sent us some recordings which we are happy to pass on to anyone who is interested. Bob can be contacted on hbmarvin@gmail.com.

ASA member, **Tony Bogan** is a lyricist, who is looking to team up with a musician/composer, to put music to his words.

Tony writes: "I have a collection of around 40 song lyrics I have written of varying ideas or themes (not boring love songs either) and I really want to team up with some good musos/composers ASAP."

"Two in particular I would like to get written with a view to getting someone to sing one of them on a talent show - e.g. The Voice or Who's Got Talent in the UK given their global themes." Tony can be contacted on 0488 443 155 and tonydb71@gmail.com.

ASA Member, **Liz Connolly**, is a vocalist, lyricist and songwriter, looking for a Gold Coast or Northern NSW based songwriting partner who can help write/co-write guitar/piano accompaniments to her songs. Liz has a half a dozen songs in a variety of styles (pop, rock, folk, ballads), that she has completed or semi-completed using electronic songwriting tools. In 2014, her song "Don't be Afraid" was short listed for the ASA song writing competition Contemporary Pop/Dance Category but didn't progress any further. Liz has co-written with Jennifer Matthews and Paul Harris from Bignote Productions and sometimes her cover band performs her rock/pop song "Hanging with the Boys" at local functions. Liz can be contacted at lizconnollymusic@gmail.com or 0409345133

Looking for somebody? Contact us on alang@asai.org.au.

2. APRA Professional Development Awards 2017

GAME-CHANGING OPPORTUNITY FOR SONGWRITERS + COMPOSERS

APRA AMCOS is proud to announce the return of the biennial **APRA Professional Development Awards**, a career boosting initiative which has helped further the musical success stories of Gotye, Abbe May, screen composer Caitlin Yeo, Husky Gawenda, Georgi Kay, Jack Carty, Ngaiire, Morgan Evans and many more.

This year, a new Dance/Electronic category has been added to the APRA Professional Development Awards, bringing the total number of awards to nine. Each recipient will receive a $15,000 cash prize to support their development.

Applications are now open to emerging songwriters and composers across the following categories:

- **Popular Contemporary** (three awards are given in this category which covers pop, rock, blues, folk, hip hop and R&B)
- **Country**
- **Jazz**
- **Classical**
- **Dance/Electronic**
- **Film and Television**
- **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander**

APRA AMCOS is also pleased to announce that the Smugglers of Light initiative will return in 2017 with the Music and Media Award providing a promising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander music or media practitioner with a grant of $12,000. The Smugglers of Light Foundation has been set up in memory of Eli Westlake aged 21, who was tragically killed in Sydney in 2008.

Applications for the awards close on Thursday 27 April, 2017.

For more information and to apply, visit apraamcos.com.au/awards/2017-awards/pda/.

3. **Paul Vella: New ASA Regional Co-Ordinator for the NSW Central Coast**

Paul Vella has been appointed the new ASA Regional Co-Ordinator for the NSW Central Coast, following the departure of **Kerrie Garside** to the QLD Sunshine Coast.

Paul has been a regular performer at Wax Lyricals on the NSW Central Coast for a number of years.

Welcome, Paul.

4. **Support Act Limited: Music In The House Fundraiser 2017**

SUPPORTACT

The heart & hand of Australian music

The 2017 **Support Act** Music In The House fundraiser will be held on 17 May 2017, 12.00 pm to 3.00 pm, at The Ivy Ballroom In Sydney. This year, Support Act will honour beloved musician and humanitarian **Jenny Morris OAM** at the fundraiser**.**

The event will be hosted by **Rachel Ward**, and artists **Neil Finn, Jimmy Barnes, Diesel, Montaigne** and **Shanley Del** will perform tributes to Jenny over a delightful lunch at the fabulous Ivy Ballroom in Sydney.

Support Act is the music industry charity which provides support to artists and music workers in crisis.

The ASA has booked a table of 10 at the event, and has a number of places available FREE to ASA members, who would like to attend.

If you would like to attend, please contact the ASA on asanationaloffice@asai.org.au. Tickets will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

Can't attend but still want to help the cause? Buy a ticket in the limited edition luxury raffle!

Only 500 tickets are available giving great odds of winning our incredible first prize: a 5-night holiday plus Qantas flights to the stunning Lord Howe Island!

5. ASA History: We Need Your Help!

The ASA's history stretches back to 1979, when a group of songwriters met in Melbourne, to create our organization. From a small group of initial members, the ASA has grown to be Australia's pre-eminent organisation for unsigned songwriters.

Where are we going with this? Well, the ASA has a few gaps in its records, which we'd like you to help fill in.

You'll notice at the end of this magazine, we have acknowledged the annual winners of the Songwriter Of The Year award (1980 to 2016), or the Song of the Year Award, as it was known in the early days.

We've also put together a list of the winners of The Rudy Brandsma Award, from its inception in 1983, through to 2016.

You'll notice a few gaps from the early days that we would love to fill in. If you have any knowledge of who these songwriters from 1998, 1993, 1992, 1991, 1989, 1987, 1984, 1982, 1981 and 1980 may be, please contact us on alang@asai.org.au.

6. Bob Dylan Finally Accepts His Nobel Prize For Literature

American singer/songwriter, **Bob Dylan**, finally has his hands on his Nobel Literature diploma and medal. The 75 year-old received his award during a private event in Stockholm, before a scheduled concert in the city.

American songwriter and singer, **Bob Dylan**, finally has his hands on his Nobel Literature diploma and medal.

Klas Ostergren, a member of the Swedish Academy, said the ceremony was a small, intimate event in line with Dylan's wishes, with just academy members and a member of Dylan's staff attending.

"It went very well indeed," he said, describing Dylan as a "a very nice, kind man". Other members of the academy told Swedish media that Dylan seemed pleased by the award.

During his show hours later, Dylan made no reference to the Nobel award, simply performing a set blending old classics with tunes from his more recent albums.

Dylan had declined the invitation to attend the traditional Nobel Prize banquet and ceremony on 10 December 2016, the anniversary of Nobel's death, pleading other

commitments. But in order to receive the award worth $1.17m, Dylan must give a lecture within 6 months from 10 December 2016.

Dylan said that he would not give his Nobel lecture on 10 December 2016, but a recorded version of it would be sent later. Pre-recorded Nobel lectures have occasionally been presented, most recently in 2013, by Canadian Nobel literature laureate, Alice Munro.

The 2016 Nobel Prize in Literature was awarded to Dylan "for having created new poetic expressions within the great American song tradition".

He had expressed awe at receiving the Nobel Prize and thanked the Swedish Academy for including him among the "giants" of writing.

Courtesy abc.net.au

7. Archie Roach Receives The Ted Albert Award

Archie Roach, is the recipient of the 2017 Ted Albert Award for Outstanding Services to Australian Music.

The prestigious award was presented to Archie by journalist Stan Grant at the 2017 APRA Music Awards on Monday 3 April at the International Convention Centre Grand Ballroom in Sydney. A.B. Original, Paul Kelly and Dan Sultan performed a rousing tribute to Archie with a version of *Took the Children Away*.

Archie Roach writes songs from his soul, in the true sense of the word. One of Australia's most respected, beloved and admired artists, Archie first came to national attention with the release of his debut album *Charcoal Lane* in 1990. The album launched his career, with the award winning song *Took The Children Away* telling the heartbreaking story of the Stolen Generations and his own experience of being forcibly removed from his family.

Since then, Archie has released 10 albums, including several with life partner Ruby Hunter. His work has been recognised locally and internationally, and he's won five ARIA Awards, seven Deadlys, three National Indigenous Music Awards (NIMA) and was inducted into the NIMA Hall of Fame in 2013.

Archie was also the first songwriter to receive a Human Rights Achievement Award (for Took The Children Away in 1992), and has toured with some of the world's most iconic artists, including Bob Dylan, Billy Bragg, Paul Simon, Joan Armatrading, Suzanne Vega, Patti Smith and the late Leonard Cohen.

Despite the loss of his musical soulmate Ruby Hunter in 2010 and major health problems, Archie Roach continues to record and perform, taking strength and inspiration from his music. He tells the stories of his people – and all people - through powerful music that inspires, uplifts and unites.

Previous recipients of the Ted Albert Award for Outstanding Services to Australian Music include Paul Kelly, Jimmy Little, Slim Dusty, The Seekers, Fifa Riccobono, Lindy Morrison and 2016 recipients, Cold Chisel.

Courtesy: www.apraamcos.com.au

8. Create NSW Launches Major Funding Program

Create NSW invites artists and arts and cultural organisations across NSW to apply for funding under the 2017/2018 Arts and Cultural Development Program.

The program supports visual arts, museums, literature, dance, music, regional touring, capital works and professional development for artists across the state.

Create NSW CEO Michael Brealey said the Arts and Cultural Development Program is the bedrock funding program for NSW arts and culture. It is a critical component of the NSW Government's bold vision for arts and culture as reflected in *Create in NSW*, the Government's 10-year policy framework.

"I'm proud to launch the application guidelines for our Arts and Cultural Development Program, which will play a major role in expanding access, building a robust and sustainable cultural sector, and extending the reputation of NSW as the leading state for arts and culture," Mr Brealey said.

"The variety of funding opportunities available through this program will help strengthen our small to medium arts and cultural organisations and unlock the full potential of artists and cultural practitioners. It is central to the continued success of our state's dynamic arts and culture."

Mr Brealey said that the program will support projects that focus on excellence, engagement and participation within priority areas including Aboriginal arts and culture, people living and/or working in Western Sydney and regional NSW, people living with disability, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and young people.

"By seeking out and supporting these qualities we will foster and grow an ambitious, contemporary, and progressive sector that is inspired locally, but has national and international appeal," he said.

Mr Brealey said that the launch of the guidelines comes as the NSW Government works towards better empowering and supporting the arts, cultural and screen

sectors in NSW. The recently integrated arts and cultural agency – Create NSW –will provide a strong platform to foster a connected and inclusive cultural environment.

Representatives from Create NSW will conduct a Regional Roadshow across the state throughout April and May to promote the program and provide further detail around the funding opportunities available.

Applications will run progressively until February 2018. To view and download a copy of the guidelines and for details on the Regional Roadshow, visit www.create.nsw.gov.au

MEDIA CONTACT: Emma Blong / emma.blong@arts.nsw.gov.au **/ 0438 473 719**

The Load Out

"My husband will be home at any moment—quick, take the accordion!"

Official Sponsors of the Australian Songwriting Contest

About Us

The Australian Songwriters Association Inc. is a national, not-for-profit, member organization, dedicated to the support of songwriters and their art, by providing avenues for encouragement and education of developing Australian songwriters, and recognition and promotion of our accomplished members.

Aims of the Association

- To celebrate the art of songwriting;
- To assist and encourage developing Australian songwriters;
- To provide information and general advice to members;
- To create performance opportunities for members;
- To aid the professional development of members;
- To enable members to meet and/or exchange ideas and information
- To facilitate member transition into the established music industry;
- To facilitate delivery of member services at a National, State and Regional level;
- To salute our best songwriters at major industry events such as our National Songwriting Awards Night.

History of the ASA

The Association was founded in Melbourne VIC in August 1979 by the late Tom Louch (1932-2009) and the late Rudy Brandsma (1944-1983), who saw the need for an organisation that would bring Australian songwriters together.

Today the Association has a vibrant membership Australia-wide and enjoys an established and respected role within the music industry.

The ASA's membership is diverse and embraces and explores all genres of music.

Contact Us

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Youtube:	www.youtube.com/austsongwriters
Patron:	Glenn A Baker

Life Members:

Tom Louch, Rudy Brandsma, Russell Zimmer, Dominic Crea, Marie Murphy, Colleen Zulian, Alex Bialocki, Brian Henderson Ward and Kieran Roberts.

Directors:

Denny Burgess	Chairman
Alan Gilmour	Vice Chairman, Public Officer, Financial Officer, Online Content Manager and Editor of The Australian Songwriter Magazine
Clare Burgess	Director and Secretary
Gary Luck	Director and Manager of Regional Co-Ordinators

Regional Co-Ordinators

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APRA/ASA Australian Songwriters of the Year 2016:

Donna Dyson (QLD) and Damien Leith (NSW)

Rudy Brandsma Award Winner 2016:

Alex Tobin (NSW)

PPCA Live Performance Award Winners 2016:

Kristie James (NSW) and The Bounty Hunters (NSW)

Australian Songwriters Hall of Fame:

2016: Andrew Farris and Michael Hutchence (INXS)
2015: Johnny Young
2014: Kate Ceberano
2013: Garth Porter (Sherbet)
2012: Don Walker (Cold Chisel)
2011: Steve Kilbey (The Church)
2010: Richard Clapton
2009: Ross Wilson (Daddy Cool, Mondo Rock)
2008: Doc Neeson, John Brewster & Rick Brewster (The Angels)
2007: Brian Cadd
2006: Glenn Shorrock, Beeb Birtles & Graeham Goble (LRB)
2005: Russell Morris
2004: Harry Vanda, George Young & Stevie Wright (The Easybeats)

Australian Songwriting Contest Award Winners 2016:

Donna Dyson & Damien Leith (QLD & NSW) (Australia Category)
Karen Guymer (VIC) (Ballad Category - Joint)
David King & Jessica Allen (NSW) (Ballad Category - Joint)
John Bok (VIC) (Contemporary Pop/Dance Category)
Kristy James (NSW) (Country Category)
Tamsin Cantwell (VIC) (Folk/Acoustic Category)
Terry Bennetts (WA) (Instrumental Category - Joint)
Ray Saunders (VIC) (Instrumental Category – Joint)
Michael McGee & Jeff Oxford (USA) (International Category)
Glen Naylor (VIC) (Lyrics Category)
Kelly Cork (QLD) (Open Category)
Tony Murphy, Jennifer Matthews & Paul Harris (Rock/Indie – Joint)
David Hinds & Lyn Hinds (NSW) (Rock/Indie Category - Joint)
Jacques Gentil (VIC) (Spiritual Category)
Anna Van Riel (NSW/NZ) (Songs For Children Category)
Sophia Chesworth (NSW) (Youth Category)

Australian Songwriters Of The Year & Rudy Brandsma Award Winners

The title of **Songwriter/ Song of the Year** was first awarded in 1980, following the establishment of the ASA in late 1979.

The Rudy Brandsma Award was first awarded in 1983, following the passing of Rudy Brandsma that year (*).

	Songwriter/s Of The Year	Rudy Brandsma Award Winners
2016	Donna Dyson & Damien Leith	Alex Tobin
2015	Karen Guymer	George Begbie
2014	Rick Hart	Robert McIntosh
2013	Jacques Gentil	Dani Karis
2012	Andrew Winton	Melia & Nerida Naughton
2011	Brian Chapman	Katie Hardyman
2010	Kate Rowe	Karen Guymer
2009	Tony King	Kate Lush
2008	Jason Campbell-Smith	Jo-Kelly Stephenson
2007	Simon Shapiro	Brenda-Lee Heathcote
2006	Emma Joleen	Daniel Arvidson
2005	Michael Maher	K'Crasher
2003/4	Trish Delaney-Brown	Callee Mann
2002	Kyles Burtland	Sara Downs
2001	Helen Mottee	Keith Armitage
2000	Andrew Horabin	Tomino Speciale
1999	Alf Tuohy	Mike Kidd
1998	Kyles Burtland	Not Known
1997	Xanthe Littlemore	Michael Waugh
1996	Mark Crocker	Felicity Hunt
1995	Rob Pippan	Sharon Bothe
1994	Danny Hooper & Steve Cole	Nigel Foote
1993	Not Known	Billy Dettmer
1992	Not Known	John Cooney
1991	Not Known	Not Known
1990	Ian Paulin	Jane Robertson
1989	Steve Wade	Not Known
1988	Steve Wade	Steve Wade
1987	Not Known	Not Known
1986	Rob Stambulic	Stu Storm
1985	Ross Nicholson & John Coco	Steve Wade
1984	Not Known	Debbie Bignell & Tony Stark
1983	Chris Lamech & Debbie Bignell	Chris Lamech & Debbie Bignell
1982	Not Known	N/a Commenced in 1983
1981	Not Known	N/a Commenced in 1983
1980	Not Known	N/a Commenced in 1983
1979	Not Awarded in 1979	N/a Commenced in 1983

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