

FOREIGN CORESPONDENTS AT LARGE

For Byron Bay Writers Festival Director Jeni Caffin, putting together the newly released program for the Festival has been both a joy and a challenge. "The joy has been selecting some of Australia's most significant thinkers and writers and seeing them accept invitations to participate in the program. The challenge lies in knowing what to do when inevitably one or two of the high fliers must fly elsewhere."

Foreign correspondents Eric Campbell and Paul McGeough have sorrowfully sent their regrets for 2007, finding themselves with sudden and essential postings in far corners of the globe. Happily, audiences will be delighted with the new additions to the line-up. Stepping into the popular Fins Literary Lunch will be Kerry O'Brien, one of Australia's most respected journalists and presenter of the ABC's flagship current affairs program, The 7.30 Report. Joining Kerry over Conversation and superb cuisine will be colleague and multi Walkley Award winner Chris Masters. With six decades of journalistic experience between them, expect compelling and revealing food for thought.

Hitting the headlines recently has been Leigh Sales, author of *Detainee 002: The Case of David Hicks*. Leigh is the ABC's National Security Correspondent and also a Walkley winner. She has covered the Wood Royal Commission, worked assignment in Turkey for Foreign Correspondent and reported for Lateline and The 7.30 Report. Her book on David Hicks is a result of five years of rigorous investigation and interviewing and makes her an irresistible Festival guest.

And the Byron Bay Writers Festival is thrilled to present Ross Gittins, Sydney Morning Herald economics guru and writer of best selling *Gittinomics*. Jeni Caffin: "I loved this book! He makes the fundamentals of daily life entertaining and accessible. Festival audiences will warm to Ross in person in exactly the same way hundreds of thousands of readers have lapped up his plain speaking advice for decades. What a prize!"

All Festival tickets are now available at www.byronbaywritersfestival.com or Jetset Byron Bay, 02 6685 6262.