

TOP INTERNATIONAL JOURNALIST JOINS TEN NEWS

27 April 2009

Network Ten today announced the appointment of Hugh Riminton as senior political correspondent in its Canberra bureau.

Mr Riminton will join the TEN bureau in August.

Mr Riminton is returning to Australia after spending the past five years with CNN in Hong Kong as a news anchor and correspondent.

During that time he covered all the major stories in the region, reporting from the scene of the 2004 tsunami and the 2008 Sichuan earthquake, as well as reporting extensively from Pakistan and Iraq.

Mr Riminton also has a formidable reputation as an interviewer with CNN TODAY, the global news program he co-anchored and was twice named best news program in Asia.

Prior to joining CNN, Mr Riminton spent 16 years at the Nine Network where he anchored Nightline, reported from more than 30 countries and led coverage of major domestic events including the Port Arthur massacre and the Thredbo disaster. His work has been honoured with numerous awards including a Walkley and a Logie.

Network Ten's Head of News, Jim Carroll, said he was delighted that a journalist of Mr Riminton's outstanding international pedigree had decided to join TEN.

"Having known Hugh for 15 years and working with him for a good part of that period, I hold him in the highest regard," Mr Carroll said.

"Whether it be reporting from the scene of a big international story or trying to extract answers from the most reluctant interviewee, Hugh has proven himself to be one of the best in the business.

"I have no doubt that Hugh has the professional skills and personal tenacity to make a significant mark on the federal political scene."

Mr Carroll said that Mr Riminton would be working alongside TEN's veteran Canberra bureau chief, Paul Bongiorno.

"There is no-one better to show Hugh the ropes in Canberra," Mr Carroll said. "Paul is an iconic figure at TEN and has the respect of politicians of all persuasions and his colleagues in the Press Gallery."

Mr Riminton said he was excited about joining the TEN News team.

"TEN is establishing itself as a news service of the highest quality with significantly improved resources and expanded coverage of the stories that matter," Mr Riminton said.

"I have the greatest admiration for Paul. I'm looking forward to being part of TEN's Canberra team and giving it a red hot go.

"Australia faces huge issues. The great thing about TEN's hour-long news formats is that we can get into them with a bit more depth."

Mr Carroll said this key appointment was a further sign of Network Ten's increased commitment to news.

In the past three years TEN has secured news content agreements with CBS and ITN, re-opened its London bureau, established an environment reporting unit, expanded coverage of finance news, introduced improved news gathering and delivery technology and is producing an extra 90 minutes of news daily with the addition of the Early News and an extended 11 am bulletin.

Mr Carroll said those efforts had been recognised by viewers, with ratings for TEN News at Five already 13% higher in 2009 than for the same period last year¹.

Hugh Riminton – Career Overview:

2004-2009 CNN Anchor/Correspondent

2001-2004 Nine Network (Sydney) Presenter Nightline

1995-2001 Nine Network (Sydney) National Affairs Reporter

1991-1995 Nine Network (London) European correspondent

1989-1991 Nine Network (Melbourne) General reporter

Mr Riminton holds a Masters Degree in Arts from Macquarie University

¹ Source: OzTAM Weeks 7-16 (Mon - Fri), 2008 v 2009, excl. Easter

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