



Tuesday, 20 July 2021

Vale David Leckie

The Board, executives and staff of Seven West Media are greatly saddened by the passing of David Leckie and extend their deepest condolences to his wife Skye and his sons Tim, Harry and Ben.

Mr Leckie held several senior roles with the Seven group, including Chief Executive Officer of Seven Network, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Seven Media Group and Seven West Media, and a Director of Seven Network Limited, Seven West Media and Seven Group Holdings.

Mr Leckie made an invaluable and enduring contribution to the Australian media sector.

As Chief Executive Officer of Nine Network from 1990 to 2001, he cemented its leading position in the television industry. He joined Seven Network in 2003 and led it to the #1 position in ratings and revenue with a powerful line-up of news, sport and entertainment content.

In addition to his remarkable expertise in sales, Mr Leckie had a strong understanding of what Australians wanted to watch on television, a long track record of mentoring media executives, and a lifetime passion for Rugby.

Seven West Media Chairman, Kerry Stokes AC, said: "I had a close association and friendship with David for more than 20 years and finally enticed him to Seven in 2003, when he started the difficult process in turning around the network's fortunes.

"David achieved the turnaround quickly and effectively, building a winning team, financial and programming model, which delivered us leadership of the TV industry for many years.

"He had a magnificent grasp of television and what people wanted to enjoy, whether it be news and current affairs or light entertainment programming, and he achieved success in every aspect of his leadership of Seven. He leaves a great legacy and I pass on my sympathies to Skye, Harry, Ben and Tim and the rest of his family, who he loved very much.

"Vale my friend David."

Seven West Media Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, James Warburton, said: "David was a true legend of the Australian media industry and a loved part of the Seven family. Everyone at Seven will miss him enormously.

"Inspiring, engaging, loud, passionate and famously difficult at times, he was an extraordinary sales person and an intuitive TV programmer. Without a doubt he was the best TV executive this country has ever seen and an important influence and mentor for so many people and careers. He was once labelled the last of the rock star CEOs and I'd say that was a pretty good description.

“David was the reason I got into television and was a great friend. My heartfelt sympathies go to Skye and their boys. There will only ever be one David Leckie. It was a great privilege to have known and worked with him.”

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About Seven West Media

Seven West Media (ASX: SWM) is one of Australia's most prominent media companies, with a market-leading presence in content production across broadcast television, publishing and digital.

The company is home to some of Australia's most renowned media businesses, including the Seven Network and its affiliate channels 7two, 7mate, 7flix; broadcast video on demand platform 7plus; 7NEWS.com.au; The West Australian; and The Sunday Times. With iconic brands such as Australia's leading news and breakfast programs **7NEWS** and **Sunrise**, **Big Brother**, **SAS Australia**, **Farmer Wants A Wife**, **The Voice**, **Dancing With The Stars: All Stars**, **Home and Away** and **Better Homes and Gardens**, Seven West Media is also the broadcast partner of the AFL, Cricket Australia, Supercars and the Olympics.