



2008 LIFE AWARDS

IN RECOGNITION OF THOSE WHO HAVE MADE AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO SUICIDE PREVENTION WITHIN AUSTRALIA

Marnie receives this award for the second consecutive year, reflecting a long-standing commitment to responsible and accurate reporting of suicide and suicide prevention.

Marnie is Senior Writer for *Health and Medicine*, the weekly supplement on health issues of *The West Australian*.

She has been employed at the newspaper for over twenty years, and has been reporting on health issues for much of this time.

She has garnered national awards for her writing on various subjects, including obesity, breast cancer and the issue of young children acting as carers.

Suicide prevention, mental health issues and self-harm have been featured steadily in her writing for the paper.

A great example is her cover story on *Suicide* in *The West Australian* in March this year.

Marnie's work challenges the taboos around suicide, promoting greater community awareness of the subject.

She demonstrates a deep understanding of, and familiarity with, ongoing research and service provision in the field, and demonstrates a collaborative and constructive approach through her close ties with professionals working in this area.

Ultimately, her sensitivity to those who are at risk of, or who have attempted suicide, and those bereaved by it; her approach to suicide as a 'treatable' social problem; and her focus on successful endeavours offers a positive and progressive contribution to the development of suicide prevention. [END]