# **Media Release**



# Macquarie Dictionary Announces Word of the Year 2015

Macquarie Dictionary has announced **CAPTAIN'S CALL** as the Committee's Choice for Word of the Year 2015.

**Captain's call** perfectly encapsulates what happened in Australia over the past year. There has been an interesting change in usage; an infrequent item of the jargon of cricket makes the leap into politics and is now being used generally with an ironic tinge to it that is very Australian. – THE COMMITTEE

## captain's call

**COMMITTEE'S CHOICE** 

*noun* a decision made by a political or business leader without consultation with colleagues.



Artwork by: Yeesum Lo www.yeesum.com

### **VOTE NOW FOR THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE WORD OF THE YEAR 2015!**

listicle, snackable, ecocriticism, bae, merman hair, hoverboard, open kimono, manspread, fitspiration ... what's YOUR pick for 2015 #MACQWOTY?

It's time to cast your vote for the word you think was the most striking contribution to Australian English in 2015. Voting for the People's Choice winning word is now open on the Macquarie Dictionary website until 31 January (<a href="www.macquariedictionary.com.au">www.macquariedictionary.com.au</a>).

The People's Choice Word of the Year 2015 will be announced on Tuesday 2 February.

Both the Committee's Choice and People's Choice winning words are chosen from the list of new entries that are included in the annual update of the <u>Macquarie Dictionary Online</u>. As we count down to the People's Choice for 2015, make sure to join us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

SUSAN BUTLER, EDITOR OF MACQUARIE DICTIONARY, AND OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW/COMMENT EX SYDNEY

For media enquiries please contact:

Alexandra Christie; Publicist (02) 9285 9178; alex.christie@macmillan.com.au

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### Honourable mentions

#### deso

noun Colloquial a designated driver. Also, deso driver.

The idea of **deso** is very topical. It combines a drinking culture with that of a law-abiding society. The word structure itself is typically Australian – a shortened form with an -o ending. It is astonishing how quickly and smoothly the deso became part of our lives. – THE COMMITTEE

#### **lumbersexual**

*noun* an urban male who wishes to associate himself by his appearance with a rugged outdoors way of life, as by wearing outdoor clothes such as check shirts, jeans and large boots combined with a beard, as typical of a lumberjack.

It used to be all about women's fashions, but the words are now being dominated more and more by those related to men's fashion. **Lumbersexual** is an organic phenomenon that someone has identified and named. It is a neat coinage and perfectly describes this style that peaked in Australia over the past year. – THE COMMITTEE



The Committee members this year are (left to right):

Anne Bell, Director of University Libraries at the University of Sydney.

Stephen Garton, Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney.

Joe Hildebrand, opinion editor and columnist, *The Daily Telegraph*; co-host Studio 10.

Susan Butler, The Editor of the Macquarie Dictionary.

Mark Di Stefano, political editor for BuzzFeed News.

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Nick Enfield, Professor of Linguistics and Chair of Department at the University of Sydney.







