



NEW SECURITIES ISSUED AND DESPATCH OF HOLDING STATEMENTS

SYDNEY, 9 May, 2007: - On 19 April 2007, Fairfax Media Limited [ASX: FXJ] lodged an Appendix 3B in relation to the shares to be issued under the schemes of arrangement between Rural Press Limited [ASX: RUP] and its shareholders.

That Appendix 3B disclosed the maximum number of shares which may be issued, assuming all Rural Press shareholders elected to receive \$1.80 in cash and 2.3 new Fairfax shares, as described in section 10.4(1) of Rural Press' Scheme Booklet dated 26 February 2007.

Based on the consideration election forms lodged by Rural Press shareholders as at the deadline for lodgement, the actual number of Fairfax shares to be issued under the schemes is 452,951,943.

Fairfax advises that it has today allotted these shares to Rural Press shareholders (and in the case of shares which would otherwise be required to be issued to ineligible overseas shareholders, to a nominee appointed by Fairfax and Rural Press) pursuant to the terms of the Schemes and the Deeds Poll by Fairfax in favour of each Rural Press shareholder.

The issued capital of Fairfax following allotment is:

Ordinary shares	1,479,640,401
Stapled Preference Securities [FXJPB]	3,000,000
Convertible Notes	281

Holding statements for the new Fairfax shares, together with cheques for the cash component of the scheme consideration (other than the Rural Press dividend), have been dispatched today.

Fairfax also confirms the appointment today of John B. Fairfax and Nicholas Fairfax to the Fairfax Board.

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Contacts:

Gail Hambly
Group General Counsel & Company Secretary
+61 2 9282 1674

Bruce Wolpe
Director Corporate Affairs
+61 2 9282 3640