# SAS460_Logo_Horizontal_Grey

# FOR RELEASE NOVEMBER 2015

# Contact: Anabel Pandiella

Tel: 02 9983 6654

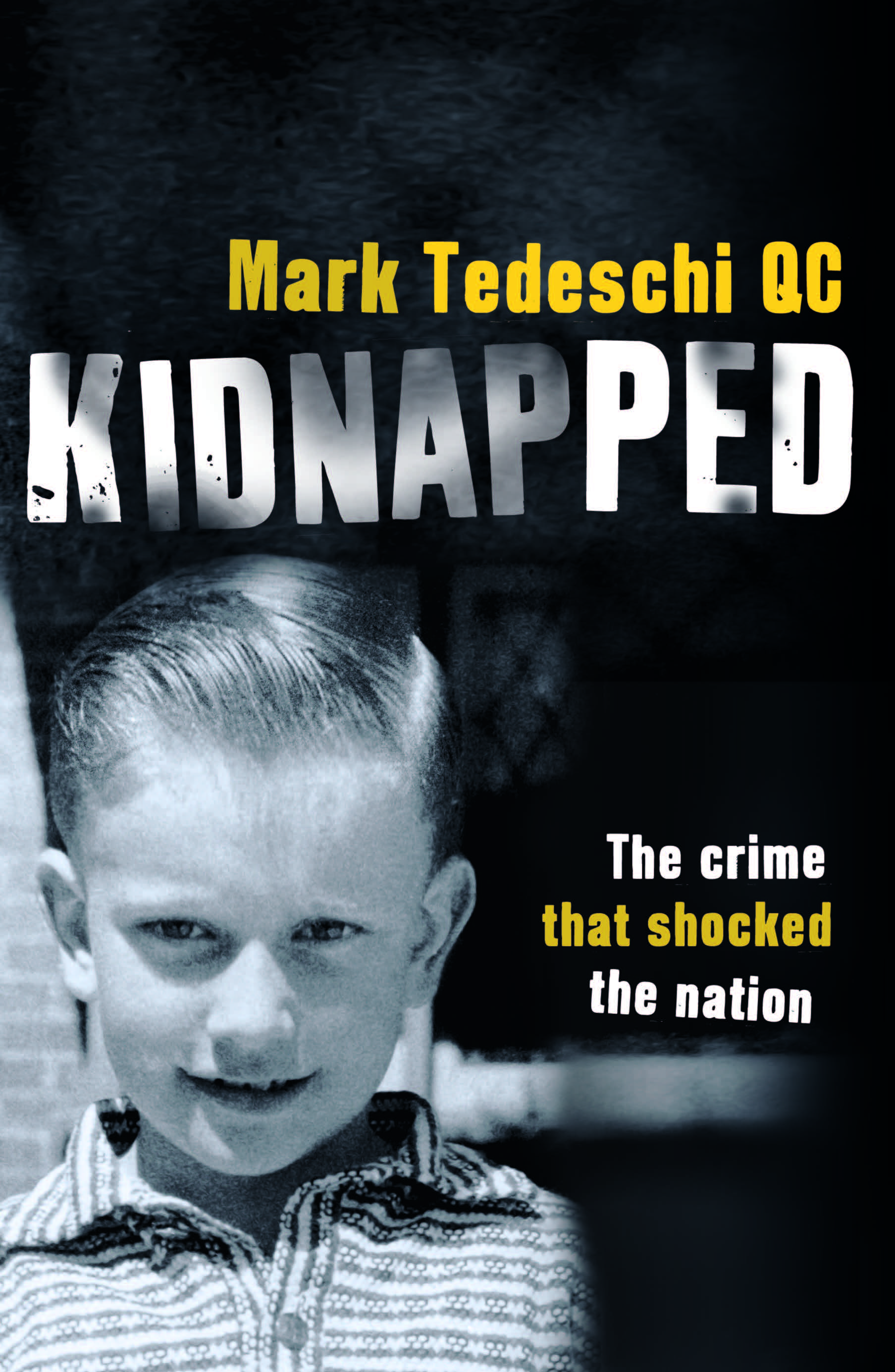
E: anabel.pandiella@simonandschuster.com.au

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**KIDNAPPED**

**MARK TEDESCHI**

**There has only ever been one case in Australia of a child being kidnapped for ransom. Fifty-five years since the crime that shocked a nation, Mark Tedeschi QC tells the story of Graeme Thorne, the little boy whose face became recognisable for the saddest of reasons.**



**When eight-year-old Graeme Thorne was kidnapped on his way to school in July 1960, the whole of Australia was gripped with fear and loathing for a person who could try to take financial advantage of the most treasured bond of love – between parent and child. This is the story of Australia’s only known kidnapping of a child for ransom. Just weeks earlier, Graeme’s parents had won £100,000 in the Opera House lottery. It was this that attracted the attention of kidnapper, Stephen Bradley. Bradley was a most unlikely kidnapper, having a wife, Magda, and three children of his own. However, his greed for the windfall that had benefitted Graeme’s parents, Bazil and Freda Thorne, caused him to put aside any feelings of sympathy for his victim or his victim’s family. His zeal for the ransom plot made Bradley blind to the likelihood of eventual detection, and also led him to take some brazen risks with the life of his young captive.**

**This book tells the astounding, true story of how this crime was planned and committed, and describes the extraordinary police investigation that was mounted to track down the perpetrator. This book is both a *who-done-it* and a psychological thriller. It explores the mind of the intriguing and seriously flawed Stephen Bradley. The author tells the story from multiple points of view: the offender, the young victim and his family, as well as the police investigators. In this case, the police utilised many techniques of forensic and medical science that had never been used before, but have since become commonplace, so it marked the beginning of modern-day forensic science in Australia. Stephen Bradley’s 1961 trial can justifiably be described as *the trial of the 20th century*.**

**\*\*\***

**Mark Tedeschi AM QC is the Senior Crown Prosecutor for New South Wales. He has practised at the coalface of the criminal courts for 38 years, both for the prosecution and the defence. Mark Tedeschi’s first true crime book, *Eugenia*, published in 2012, was shortlisted for an Australian Book Industry Award and the Ned Kelly Award. It was also in the *Sydney Morning Herald* ‘*Readers Picks* – *top ten’* for 8 months and was Carpe Librum’s *Top Book Read in 2014*. In ‘*Kidnapped’* he has used his research and story-telling skills to bring to the public one of Australia’s greatest true crime dramas.**

**For more information**

***Kidnapped* by Mark Tedeschi**

**TPB 9781925310221 | Ebook 9781925310238**

**Price: $32.99AUD | $34.99NZD | E$14.99**

**FOR RELEASE NOVEMBER 2015**

**contact Anabel Pandiella**

**Tel: 02 9983 6654**

**Mob: 0412 699 556**

**E:** [**anabel.pandiella@simonandschuster.com.au**](mailto:anabel.pandiella@simonandschuster.com.au)