

Category Award Winners

News Journalism



Student – Scarlett Wrench

Scarlett studied for her NCTJ qualification at Brighton Journalist Works. Before signing up for the course, she was working as a singer with her band The Malchicks. They released an album in 2007 and had been recording a second album, while gigging around Europe. Scarlett started writing for a couple of local papers late last year, which she loved and which helped her make the decision to study for an NCTJ qualification. After finishing the course she did a month's internship at *Esquire* magazine and then applied for a job at *Men's Health* where she is now a junior sub-editor.



Trainee – Rachel Butler

Rachel started her journalism career at the *Derby Telegraph* in May 2010 after impressing following a stint of work experience. She graduated from Staffordshire University with a first class degree in journalism in July 2010. In March this year, Rachel won Newcomer of the Year at the Midlands Media Awards. Since being at the *Telegraph*, some of Rachel's off-diary stories have been splashed on national front pages. One of her career goals is to work for a national newspaper.

Sports Journalism



Student – Tim Groves

Tim recently completed his NCTJ qualification at Kingston University and is currently living in Horsham, working for Planet Rugby and freelancing. He graduated from the University of Manchester with a first degree in French and German before gaining experience at local newspapers. Tim then travelled and worked for two years to fund his course. Having spent time working at *FourFourTwo* magazine, *Rugby League Express* and other sports publications, he now has attachments organised with various national newspaper sports desks in the coming months. A keen sportsman and frustrated Nottingham Forest supporter, he also hopes to complete a rugby coaching qualification next year. Follow Tim @t_s_groves or e-mail t_groves@hotmail.co.uk



Trainee – Rob Setchell

Rob works for two Archant weekly titles in Cambridgeshire - the *Cambridgeshire Times* and the *Wisbech Standard*. He graduated from the University of Sheffield in 2010 with a first class degree in journalism and his NCTJ qualification. His interest lies in both sport and news journalism and his portfolio of work includes everything from court and council to sport and features. Rob was trained as a multimedia journalist and won the Guardian's Student Broadcast Journalist of the Year in 2010. He hopes to enjoy a long career in both print and broadcast journalism. Rob has reported on a wide range of sports but has a personal passion for cricket (Northamptonshire Steelbacks) and football (Aston Villa).

Top Scoop



Student – Larisa Brown

Larisa studied politics and history at Newcastle University during which time she was life and style editor of the student newspaper *The Courier*. She undertook a variety of work placements including at the *Daily Telegraph* where one of her stories was published on the front page.

Larisa completed the Press Association's 17-week course in Newcastle, where she wrote the exclusive Raoul Moat story which made a splash in the *Sunday Sun*. She then spent two weeks at *The Independent on Sunday* where she wrote a news piece for the front page of the world news section.

Larisa worked in Kenya for six months for African Laughter news agency as an intern. She wrote pieces for Kenya's national business paper, several websites, and an international development magazine. This placement brought home to Larisa the true power of journalism.

Larisa is now on the *Daily Mail* graduate training scheme and is working at the paper's office in Scotland. Just two weeks into her placement Larisa was writing front-page news stories.



Trainee – Andrew Dickens

Andrew reports for the *Cambridge News*. After graduating from Cardiff University with a degree in English Literature in 2009, he went on to complete the NCTJ-accredited MA in Journalism at Brunel University.

He was offered a job at the *Cambridge News* in November 2010 and has since pulled in a series of off-diary stories for the paper. Andrew is the fifth generation of his family to become a journalist and one day hopes to work in sports or showbiz journalism.

Features of the Year



Student – Jessica Baldwin

Jessica is a London-based freelance features writer. In 2006 she graduated from the University of Sussex with a degree in media and cultural studies. During her time there she helped launch the university magazine, *Pulse*, where she was entertainment editor. She then became a restaurant and spa reviewer for *West London Living*, where she helped launch the website's travel section. As well as travel writing, Jessica specialises in reviewing luxury spas worldwide. Her unique portfolio features everything from celebrity interviews and foreign city guides to her infamous 'Spa Trekking' feature which saw her journey from Soho to the Sahara experiencing the world's strangest spa treatments. Since passing the NCTJ Diploma in Journalism at News Associates earlier this year she has had features published in *Time Out* magazine, *Time Out* guides, *West London Living*, *Eastern Daily Press*, *easyJet Traveller* magazine and *Apres*.



Trainee – Kate Proctor

Kate Proctor grew up in Penrith, Cumbria and works for the *Westmorland Gazette* in Kendal where she is a senior reporter and chief writer for the newspaper's lifestyle magazine *Limited Edition*. Kate's career in journalism started when she was 15 when she started submitting stories to her local paper in Penrith. After a year in India teaching English and working for an English language newspaper, she went to the University of Sheffield and gained a first class degree in politics. She stayed on at Sheffield to do an NCTJ-accredited postgraduate course in journalism. Work experience at the *Yorkshire Evening Post*, *Sheffield Star* and magazine *Society Today* followed but it was during her summers spent interning on *The Independent's* features desk that she decided feature writing was the direction she wanted to go in. Kate joined the *Westmorland Gazette* as a trainee reporter in 2009 and passed her NCE in July this year.

She was the only reporter to be shortlisted in two categories of the NCTJ Awards of Excellence - news reporter and features of the year.

Performance Award Winners

NCTJ Student Journalist of the Year

Awarded to the best-performing NCTJ student based on preliminary exam results



Rosie Taylor

Rosie has just finished a postgraduate course in journalism at the University of Sheffield. She was supported through the course by a Scott Trust Bursary.

She is a trainee reporter with the *Daily Mail* and is currently working for six months on secondment at the *Manchester Evening News* as part of her training.

Rosie won Student Journalist of the Year 2010 at the NUJ Regional Press Awards and was runner-up for Student Journalist of the Year at the NUS Awards in 2010.

While studying her degree in English and French at the University of Sheffield, Rosie wrote for student newspaper *Forge Press* and was a news editor in her final year. She is a self-confessed student media geek and is the founding editor of the site Ones to Watch (<http://onestowatchmedia.com>), which showcases the best of the UK's student media.

NCTJ Photographer of the Year

Awarded to the best-performing photographer in the National Certificate Examination



Matthew Harrison

In 2008, after a brief experience at the *Derby Evening Telegraph* three years earlier, Matthew finally enrolled on the NCTJ press photography and photojournalism course under Paul Delmar at Sheffield's Norton College.

At the end of the course, Matthew was offered a job at the *Derby Telegraph* and began work as a trainee photographer in May 2009.

He successfully sat his NCE 18 months later and was praised for his high standard of work, which featured an ex-RAF Spitfire pilot named George Thompson.

Matthew is now working as a freelance photographer, combining his love of photography with travelling to places such as Australia, SE Asia and Denmark.

NCTJ Reporter of the Year

Awarded to the best-performing reporter in the National Certificate Examination



Robert Alderson

After studying the postgraduate diploma in newspaper journalism at Cardiff University, Rob joined the *Hastings and St. Leonards Observer* as a trainee in July 2009. He passed the NCE in March and left Hastings in the summer to take up his current position as online editor for arts and culture website *It's Nice That*.