



# FORUM

VIR GEMEENSKAPJSOERNALISTE / OF COMMUNITY JOURNALISTS

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26 February 2021

## **FINALISTS AND WINNERS OF THE FCJ EXCELLENCE AWARDS FOR 2019**

After a year like no other, with challenges like no other, the FCJ is proud to announce the finalists and winners of the FCJ Excellence Awards for 2019.

A huge word of thanks goes to each and every one who entered and many congratulations to the finalists and winners. You are truly the cream of the crop in our industry, even more so because of the record number of entries received.

The competition would however not be possible without the excellent team of judges who are all experts in their field. A huge thanks goes to them.

**Hugo Redelinghuys**  
**Executive Director: FCJ**

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### **THE JUDGING PANEL**

#### **Writing**

André Gouws (North West University - NWU)  
Dr Cornia Pretorius (NWU)  
Dr Thalytha Swanepoel (NWU)  
Christopher Motabogi (NWU)  
Hanlie Gouws (Vryeweekblad)  
Willem Kempen (Vryeweekblad)  
Colin Hoffmann (retired/ex Rapport/Die Burger)  
Johan Maarman (Media24)  
Hennie Stander (retired/former editor Potch Herald)  
Dr Lizette Odendaal (Tswane University of Technology)

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#### **Directors:**

Hugo Redelinghuys – **Executive Director**, Ben Burger – **Deputy Executive Director**,  
Tobie van den Bergh, Pieter Delpport, Lerato Serrero, Marietta Lombard, Lientjie Mentz (co-opted)

#### **About the FCJ:**

The FCJ (Forum of Community Journalists) is an independent, voluntary non-profit company striving to promote and express the interests of all journalists employed on a permanent or freelance basis at regional community newspapers, magazines and online community publications in

South Africa.

**Best newspapers and best front pages**

Dr. George Claassen (ex Media24/University of Stellenbosch)

Dr. Johan de Jager (retired)

Joe Thlolo (former Press Ombudsman)

**Photography**

Felix Dlangamandla (Gallo)

Alet Pretorius (former Beeld; lecturer: Boston Media House)

Phil Magakoe (Agence France Presse)

**The finalists and winners: FCJ Excellence Awards for 2019**

**GENERAL PHOTOS**

Finalists (in no particular order):

Cry no more

**Thia Botha - Streeknuus**

Sad clown

**Taylum Meyer – The Village News**

Die roos vertrap

**Jaco Human – Krugersdorp News**

4 x 4 fun

**Elsje Vermeulen – Vaalweekblad**

Peekaboo

**Roelof de Jonge – Far North Bulletin**

Nou gaan ons wals

**Michelle Pienaar – George Herald**

Manoeuvres in the sky

**Zita Goldswain – Witbank News**

Kleurdoop

**Ettienne van Rensburg – Vaalweekblad**

Exhausting being Santa's helper

**Samantha Trail – Witbank News**

Peekawoof

**Blake Linder – Knysna & Plett Herald**

Moertoe

**Hugo Redelinghuys – George Herald**

**3<sup>rd</sup> - General photos**

Digging up the truth

**René Joubert – Highvelder**

**2<sup>nd</sup> - General photos**

The weather outside is frightful

**Wayne van der Walt – Highvelder**

**1<sup>st</sup> - General Photography**

Men in the mist

**Joe Dreyer – Far North Bulletin**

**NEWS PHOTOS**

Finalists (in no particular order):

In the eyes of death

**Thia Botha – Streeknuus**

Verstaan jy nie?

**Michelle Pienaar – George Herald**

Maxfire

**Heleen Rossouw – Kempton Express**

Blanket of smoke

**René Joubert – Highelder**

Home of the forgotten

**Joe Dreyer – Far North Bulletin**

Worcester explosion

**JP Myburg – Worcester Standard**

This one needs help now

**Samantha Trail – Witbank News**

Extinguishing the flames

**Jaco Human – Krugersdorp News**

**3<sup>rd</sup> - News Photos –**

Agony

**Kristy Kolberg – George Herald**

**2<sup>nd</sup> - News Photos –**

Hartverskeurend

**Ettienne van Rensburg – Vaalweekblad**

**1<sup>st</sup> - News Photos –**

Beautifully destructed

**Wayne van der Walt - Highvelder**

**SPORT PHOTOS**

Finalists (in no particular order):

Waar is pa met kamera?

**Zita Goldswain – Witbank News**

Nou moet jy hol

**René Joubert – Highvelder**

Lift-off

**Hugo Redelinghuys – George Herald**

Pot shot

**Ettienne van Rensburg – Vaalweekblad**

Verloor is nie lekker nie

**Wayne van der Walt – Highvelder**

Knox landing

**Joe Dreyer – Far North Bulletin**

Use the force, Stuart

**Blake Linder – Knysna & Plett Herald**

Punching their way to victory

**Siso Naile – Roodepoort Northsider**

King of the waves

**Hugo Redelinghuys – George Herald**

**3<sup>rd</sup> - Sport photos**

Beskerm jou gesig

**Elsje Vermeulen – Vaalweekblad**

2<sup>nd</sup> - Sport photos

Toewyding

**Ettienne van Rensburg – Vaalweekblad**

**1<sup>st</sup> - Sport photos**

Don't blink

**Wayne van der Walt - Highvelder**

## **WRITING CATEGORIES**

### **Digital reporting**

Finalists:

Zani Barrish - Lowvelder  
 Kristy Kolberg – George Herald  
 Samantha Lee-Jacobs - People's Post  
 Blake Linder – Knysna Plett Herald  
 Michelle Pienaar – George Herald  
 Danell Watts - Lowvelder  
 Rivelle Govindsamy – Benoni City Times

**3. Blake Linder – Knysna Plett Herald – 3<sup>rd</sup> – Digital Reporting**

**2. Zani Barrish - Lowvelder – 2<sup>nd</sup> – Digital Reporting**

**1. Rivelle Govindsamy – Benoni City Times – 1<sup>st</sup> – Digital Reporting**

### **Headlines**

Finalists

Pieter Delpport – Bloemfontein Courant  
 Zita Goldswain – Witbank News  
 Kristy Kolberg – George Herald  
 Samantha Lee-Jacobs – People's Post / TygerBurger / City Vision  
 Madre Marais – Bloemnuus / Kroonnuus / Noord-Kaap  
 Daleen Naude – Middelburg Observer  
 Wouter Pienaar – Potchefstroom Herald  
 Hilda Pretorius – Polokwane Review / Bonus Review / Bosveld Review  
 Mariëtte Strydom – Boland Media  
 Elsje Vermeulen – Vaalweekblad

The judges would like to point out their best individual headlines:

Geen water om woede te blus – Elsje Vermeulen (Vaalweekblad)  
 Potchoorstroom – Wouter Pienaar (Potch Herald)  
 Goeie gene in Valie se bene – Ettienne van Rensburg (Vaalweekblad)  
 Ssslangee by Sssassa en verkeer – Daleen Naude (Middelburg Observer)  
 Police hold summit as crime peaks and Illegal dumping a load of rubbish – both Kristy Kolberg of (George Herald)

**3. Daleen Naude – Middelburg Observer 3<sup>rd</sup> – Headlines Writing**

**2. Hilda Pretorius - Polokwane Review / Bonus Review / Bosveld Review – 2<sup>nd</sup> – Headlines Writing**

**1. Pieter Delpport – Bloemfontein Courant – 1<sup>st</sup> – Headlines Writing**

**Editorial Comment**

Finalists

Tobie van der Bergh – Middelburg Observer

Lise Beyers – Paarl Post

Tasmin Cupido -DistriksPos

Jamey Lakin Gordon – District Mail

Zaid Khumalo – Kathorus Mail

Joline van der Merwe - Weslander

Luvuyo Mjekula – The Representative

Gerhard Rheeder – Middelburg Observer

Mariëtte Strydom – Boland Media

Dustin Wetdewich – Potchefstroom Herald

**3. Dustin Wetdewich – Potchefstroom Herald – 3<sup>rd</sup> – Editorial Comment****2. Tobie van den Bergh – Middelburg Observer– 2<sup>nd</sup> – Editorial Comment****1. Luvuyo Mjekula – The Representative – 1<sup>st</sup> – Editorial Comment****Columns**

Finalists

Lise Beyers – Paarl Post

Sjani Campher – Middelburg Observer

Zita Goldswain – Witbank News

Johann Hamman – Northern KZN Courier

Samantha Lee-Jacobs – People's Post / TygerBurger

Norman McFarlane – Bolander

Yaël Malgas – Weslander

Murray Stewart – The Village News

Brumilda Swartbooi – Worcester Standard

Terry Worley – Northern KZN Courier

**3. Samantha Lee-Jacobs - People's Post / TygerBurger and Lise Beyers – Paarl Post joint 3<sup>rd</sup> – Columns Writing****2. Murray Stewart, The Village News – 2<sup>nd</sup> – Columns Writing****1. Johann Hamman – Northern KZN Courier 1<sup>st</sup> – Columns Writing****Sport**

We have two new-comers who nearly ended amongst the top 10 finalists. They are Nadine Sibanda (Rosebank and Killarney Gazette and Ntsikelelo Qoyo (The Representative).

Finalists

Wouter Pienaar – Potch Herald

Racine Edwardes – People's Post

Andries van Zyl – Zoutpansberger

Christiaan Cloete – Noordkaap Bulletin

Jaco Human – Krugersdorp News  
 Thabisile Mgwali – Roodepoort Northsider  
 Blake Linder – Knysna & Plett Herald  
 David Rush – South Coast Herald  
 Ettienne van Rensburg – Vaalweekblad  
 Hugo Redelinghuys – George Herald  
 Lientjie Mentz - Bloemnuus  
 Stefan de Villiers - Laevelder  
 Jarryd Westerdale – Roodepoort Record

**3<sup>rd</sup>: Sport writing:**

**Jarryd Westerdale – Roodepoort record**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Sport writing – Hugo Redelinghuys – George Herald**

**1<sup>st</sup>: Sport writing – Racine Edwardes – People’s Post**

**Human Interest**

Finalists

Christian Cloete - Vaalweekblad  
 Bianca Du Plessis – Hermanus Times  
 Carolyn Frost - Bolander  
 Zita Goldswain – Witbank News  
 Jamey Lakin Gordon – District Mail  
 Shiraz Habbib – Northglen News  
 Daleen Naude – Middelburg Observer  
 Michelle Pienaar – George Herald  
 Kristy Kolberg – George Herald  
 Wouter Pienaar- Potchefstroom Herald  
 Desirée Rourke - TygerBurger  
 Andries Van Zyl - Zoutpansberger

**3. Daleen Naude- Middelburg Observer – 3<sup>rd</sup> Human Interest Writing**

**2. Desirée Rourke – 2<sup>nd</sup> Human Interest Writing**

**1. Andries Van Zyl – 1<sup>st</sup> – Human Interest Writing**

**Investigative Reporting**

Only top three selected:

**3. Daleen Naude – 3<sup>rd</sup> – Investigative Reporting**

**2. Dustin Wetdewich – 2<sup>nd</sup> – Investigative Reporting**

**1. Anton van Zyl, Zoutpansberger, - 1<sup>st</sup> – Investigative Reporting**

**Hard News**

Finalists

Andisa Bonani – The Representative  
 Elaine Davie – The Village News  
 Zita Goldswain – Witbank News  
 Trish Goosen - Weslander  
 Tshifhiwa Mukwevoho – Limpopo Mirror  
 Michelle Pienaar – George Herald  
 Ntsikelelo Qoyo - The Representative  
 Desirée Rourke - TygerBurger  
 Abongile Solundwana - The Representative  
 Andries van Zyl - Zoutpansberger  
 Kristy Kolberg – George Herald

**3<sup>rd</sup> - Hard News****Andisa Bonani– The Representative****2<sup>nd</sup> - Hard News****Desirée Rourke - TygerBurger****1<sup>st</sup> - Hard News****Elaine Davie – The Village News****BEST FRONT PAGES****Small independent commercial newspapers**

- 3. The Village News– 3<sup>rd</sup> - Independent commercial newspapers**
- 2. Globe Post– 2<sup>nd</sup> - Independent commercial newspapers**
- 1. Zoutpansberger 1<sup>st</sup> - Independent commercial newspapers**

**Corporate-owned free newspapers**

Finalists

Southlands Sun  
 Sandton Chronicle  
 Roodepoort Record  
 Rosebank Killarney Gazette  
 South Coast Sun

**3. Roodepoort Record- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Corporate-owned free newspapers****2. Rosebank Killarney Gazette– 2<sup>nd</sup> - Corporate-owned free newspapers****1. South Coast Sun– 1<sup>st</sup> - Corporate-owned free newspapers****Corporate-owned paid newspapers**

Finalists

Lowvelder  
 Northern KwaZulu-Natal Courier  
 Paarl Post  
 George Herald



Potchefstroom Herald

- 3. Paarl Post – 3<sup>rd</sup> - Corporate-owned paid newspapers**
- 2. Northern KwaZulu-Natal Courier– 2<sup>nd</sup> - Corporate-owned paid newspapers**
- 1. Lowvelder– 1<sup>st</sup> - Corporate-owned paid newspapers**

### **NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR**

#### **Independent commercial newspapers finalists**

Finalists

Far North Bulletin  
The Village News  
Zoutpansberger  
Limpopo Mirror

- 3. Limpopo Mirror – 3<sup>rd</sup> - Independent commercial newspapers**
- 2. The Village News– 2<sup>nd</sup> - Independent commercial newspapers**
- 1. Zoutpansberger – 1<sup>st</sup> - Independent commercial newspapers**

#### **Corporate-owned free newspapers (pagination less than 24)**

Finalists

South Coast Sun  
TygerBurger Kraaifontein  
TygerBurger Bellville  
Southlands Sun  
Swartland Gazette

- 3. TygerBurger Bellville – 3<sup>rd</sup> - Corporate-owned free newspapers – (pagination less than 24)**
- 2. TygerBurger Kraaifontein – 2<sup>nd</sup> - Corporate-owned free newspapers (pagination less than 24)**
- 1. South Coast Sun – 1<sup>st</sup> - Corporate-owned free newspapers – (pagination less than 24)**

#### **Corporate-owned free newspapers (pagination more than 24)**

Finalists

Randburg Sun  
TygerBurger Brackenfell  
Sandton Chronicle  
TygerBurger Durbanville  
Bedfordview and Edenvale News

- 3. Sandton Chronicle – 3<sup>rd</sup> - Corporate-owned free newspapers – (pagination more than 24)**
- 2. TygerBurger Brackenfell – 2<sup>nd</sup> - Corporate-owned free newspapers (pagination more than 24)**
- 1. Randburg Sun – 1<sup>st</sup> - Corporate-owned free newspapers – (pagination more than 24)**

**Corporate-owned paid newspapers, circulation more than 5 000**

Finalists

DistriksPos

Lowvelder

Paarl Post

George Herald

Worcester Standard

**3. Paarl Post– 3<sup>rd</sup> – Corporate-owned paid newspapers, circulation more than 5 000****2. Lowvelder – 2<sup>nd</sup> - Corporate-owned paid newspapers, circulation more than 5 000****1. DistriksPos – 1<sup>st</sup> - Corporate-owned paid newspapers, circulation more than 5 000****Corporate-owned paid newspapers, circulation less than 5 000**

Finalists

Bonus Review

Capricorn Voice

Hermanus Times

Polokwane Review

**3. Hermanus Times – 3<sup>rd</sup> - Corporate-owned paid newspapers, circulation less than 5 000****2. Capricorn Voice – 2<sup>nd</sup> - Corporate-owned paid newspapers, circulation less than 5 000****1. Bonus Review – 1<sup>st</sup> - Corporate-owned paid newspapers, circulation less than 5 000****ALET ROUX AWARD**

Winner – Ntsikelelo Qoyo – The Representative

**PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR**

Finalists

Samantha Trail – Witbank News

Wayne van der Walt – Highvelder

Carina Roux – TygerBurger

Elsje Vermeulen - Vaalweekblad

Blake Linder – Knysna &amp; Plett Herald

Joe Dreyer – Far North Bulletin

JP Myburg – Worcester Standard

Kristy Kolberg – George Herald.

Ettienne van Rensburg - Vaalweekblad

**3<sup>rd</sup> - Photographer of the year****Ettienne van Rensburg – Vaalweekblad****2<sup>nd</sup> - Photographer of the year****Wayne van der Walt – Highvelder**

1<sup>st</sup> - Photographer of the year

**Joe Dreyer – Far North Bulletin**

**JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR**

Finalists

Daleen Naude – Middelburg Observer

Bianca Du Plessis – Hermanus Times

Dustin Wetdewich – Potch Herald

Ntsikelelo Qoyo - The Representative

Desirée Rourke – TygerBurger

Kristy Kolberg – George Herald

Carina Roux - TygerBurger

Abongile Solundwana – The Representative

Elaine Davie –The Village News

Zita Goldswain – Witbank News

Elmarine Anthony – EikestadNuus

**3. Dustin Wetdewich – Potch Herald 3<sup>rd</sup> – Journalist of the Year**

**2. Abongile Solundwana – The Representative 2<sup>nd</sup> – Journalist of the Year**

**1. Elaine Davie –The Village News 1<sup>st</sup> – Journalist of the Year**

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**Ends**

For more information, send an email to [myfciinfo@gmail.com](mailto:myfciinfo@gmail.com) or call 082 440 6331.