acpa



Australasian Catholic Press Association Awards for Excellence 2016

udnet

Best News Story

WINNER:

The Catholic Weekly, You Tedious Imbeciles, by Robert Hiini

This was a strong news story about a matter of public importance and the reporter demonstrated initiative, research, good writing, thought and a fresh approach. The story was cleverly developed and taken well beyond a bare report of what was said at a public forum. While the references to "vile bile" were made by a speaker at the conference the story contained broader contextual material and was greatly assisted by a lively presentation and layout. Most importantly the story, raising questions about media bias, was balanced and fair.

Highly Commended

The Catholic Leader, A Life on Hold, by Peter Bugden

The reporter demonstrated the ability to take a news story and develop it further by providing more detail and insight than previously reported. The story was well written with a sympathy which came through without overwhelming the facts. Indeed, it was the sympathy and pursuit of justice which gave the story its strength and lent itself to the accompanying strong editorial commentary. While sensitive the story was still balanced and demonstrated the required journalistic steps and judgment had been exercised.



2

Best Feature Story

WINNER

NZ Catholics, *NZ altar bread market heating up,* by Rowena Orejana

This story used a quirky angle - the market forces in the altar bread industry - to tell the tale of the Carmelite nuns' important work in helping disabled people. Casting the nuns' story as a business story was a clever approach, and the story was full of surprising, interesting information about the nuns' work and showed that even cloistered nuns are not immune from the harsh realities of commerce.

Highly Commended

Australian Catholics, *Mercy in the heart of Justice,* by Jemimah McMurray

A well-written piece profiling a chaplain at a women's prison. The story takes the reader inside the prison, and, through its writing and choice of imagery and quotes, evokes not only a sense of the hostile physical environment, but also the challenging work being done by the chaplain, to look past the prisoners' actions and into their hearts.



Best Editorial

WINNER

The Catholic Weekly – Editorial, How media try to make Pope in their own image.

A strong and well-presented editorial, which informs and challenges the reader. Perfectly timed, conceived and constructed, it provides an interesting and muchneeded perspective for Catholics to reflect upon - one which they would be hard pressed to find elsewhere. Considered, forthright and staunch in its views, exactly what you want in an editorial and The Catholic Weekly.

Highly Commended

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Media Blog, Interconnectedness a major principle of encyclical, by Bishop Michael Kennedy.

An informative and well written opinion piece that flows well from beginning to end. Bishop Kennedy has a nice turn of phrase, his choice of angle enlightening and which gives his audience the opportunity to pause and consider a disputed subject matter i.e. climate change from a different perspective. A view not necessarily shared by the judge but one which she enjoyed reading.



Z

Best Column or Blog

WINNER

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference On the Road Together Blog by Archbishop Mark Coleridge

A series of blog posts written by Archbishop Mark Coleridge gave readers around the world an insight into the October 2015 Synod on the Family in Rome. Australian readers who might have had little or no knowledge of the Synod process learnt about the importance limitations of the meetings.

Archbishop Coleridge uses self-depreciating humour to help draw audiences in. He is refreshingly willing to share his opinion about the challenges of developing doctrine and reforming the Church.

Highly Commended

My Family, My Faith, Columns by Cathy Drumore

Cathy Drumore uses her personal experiences as a mother, teacher and Christian to reflect on the challenges of contemporary life in an entertaining and thoughtful way. Readers will be able to easily identify with the anecdotes. Ms Drumore uses the stories of high school students she worked with as a welfare teacher to discuss the importance of gaining a real understanding of people. She writes about the struggle many parents face to find adequate time with their children. Ms Drumore also discusses the importance of Christians having the courage to share their views on contentious topics in a respectful way.



Best Headline

WINNER

The Majellan, Skating on Thin Ice

The headline in isolation can provide the most powerful element on a page or screen. When it works with the dominant image, it's irresistible - a powerful lure to draw the eye and keep the readers' minds engaged before their eyes finally settle on the story lead. The headline's role doesn't end there. It has to work in partnership with the first paragraph as those words add to the storyline but never repeat the same headline catchery. 'Skating on thin ice' fits this bill as it provides the simple, appropriate punch for the battle against crystal methamphetamine within the image of a syringe resting on an old cloth at the foreground of the blurred "user".

Highly Commended

CathNews,

'Moka to go: Coffee maestro departs in giant coffee pot'

Who said obituaries had to be boring? No-one. In fact, they should celebrate life when appropriate. The announcement of the end of 93-year-old Renato Bialetti's life is a point in case. If this doesn't catch the eye, nothing will: 'Moka to go: Coffee maestro departs in giant coffee pot'. Apart from the obvious play on words of a familiar morning call at cafes across the world, the Moka is the 1933 invention of Renato's father Alfonso - the distinctivelyshaped Moka coffee maker. And before you ask: yes, his ashes were placed in a giant aluminium coffee pot at his funeral. One question for the CathNews team - could the first "coffee" reference have been left on the shelf?



6

Best Mission Coverage

WINNER

Madonna Magazine, Founder of a place of healing, by Edmund Campion

Sport continues to remind us of how it can unify a community, a nation or the world. It is often one of the fastest ways to break down ignorance, misconceptions and mistrust between people who come from various cultural or religious backgrounds. It was with great pleasure that I read Dom Rosendo Salvado's article on 'Founder of a place of healing'. It reminds us of the creative ways that we can address Social Justice Issues in our society. As Henri Nouwen reminds us:

"we are not called to save the world...we are called... to be faithful to a small task, which is the most healing response to the illness of our time".

Congratulations on your Winning Article!

Highly Commended

Kimberley Community Profile, Balgo Jubliee: To Commemorate the 50th Anniversary of St Theresa's, Balgo

This story of Jubliee celebration reminds of a long history between Australia's first people and the Australian Catholic Church. The images used in the story remind us that together we are all Australians, serving the Catholic Church. The particular attention to the explanation of symbols and art work that are a gift from our first people to the church was wonderful to read. As we all know, it is the telling of our stories and explaining our symbols that assists us to grow in further understanding each other. As the article said 'it was an opportunity to give thanks and pray for God's blessing for the past and the future'. May your writing continue to be a blessing for all today, and into the future. Congratulations on being awarded the Highly Commended Award.



Best Social Justice Coverage

WINNER

Eureka Street, *The white male gaze that drives child sex tourism,* by Fatima Measham

atima presents a sophisticated analysis of an uncomfortable reality in a gentle way, gradually unfolding the layers of the issue. She shows us that child sex tourism is about more than depraved individuals who just happen to be white foreigners, including Australians. It is connected with poverty, the colonised mind, presumptions of cultural superiority and male entitlement. These are matters in which we all have some responsibility. The thread of her personal narrative gives voice to concerned Filipinos and helps to lead the reader into the issue and the difficulties faced by policy responses. She does not resile from naming the painful truth of the involvement, and even complicity, of Filipinos in the sexual exploitation of Filipino children. No simple solutions are offered. We are left with a deeper understanding of the complexity of the causes and enablers of child sex tourism, and of the soul searching needed on the part of members of all cultures involved.

Highly Commended

Aurora, A refugee's story – just being kept alive is not a life, by John Sandy

ohn engages the reader with a direct and emotionally U honest account of his own experience, giving flesh and bones to what can at times be reduced to an abstract and contentious policy debate. His personal story is highly relatable, furthermore it demonstrates and affirms how important Catholic agencies can be in assisting refugees and asylum seekers. By contrasting his own experience with that of asylum seekers detained in Nauru, John uncovers the split personality at play in Australian asylum and refugee policy. Our image of ourselves as a community often only correlates with one half of our policy response. His mixed feeling at the Australian community treating onshore asylum seekers so differently to the way that he was treated, poignantly raises the lack of coherence between Australia's onshore and offshore asylum seeker policies. John's commitment to helping other new arrivals, together with the helpful action suggestions that accompany the article, are a clarion call to compassionate action.



Best Education Coverage

WINNER

Australian Catholics, *Opening God's mercy to all children*

This moving and beautifully written this article about a reconciliation program for young students living with a disability tells of a living, concrete example of Catholic education in action. Supported by engaging photographs that mirror the connection between students, teacher and parish priest, this story showcases the community of faith in action where every child matters.

Highly Commended

kete korera, Making faith a part of people's lives

This article highlighted changes in teaching to integrate religious education to connect RE to the broader curriculum and to help students see their faith plays as a core part of learning in the Catholic education sector.



Best Article on Catechesis

WINNER

Australian Catholics, *The Gospel according to Star Wars,* by Michael McVeigh

A very powerful presentation strong connections between the Star Wars movies and the Gospels. As this article was published in the Easter edition 2016, there was a particular emphasis on Mercy. In four areas concerning lessons in interpersonal relationships the author provided thoughtful commentary as well as questions for reflection, both important parts of making the Word of God loved, received, understood and celebrated. It was accessible and relevant to people of all ages, and even to those who have not (yet) been drawn into the Skywalker family.

Highly Commended

Fiji Catholic Times, What is that Day Called 'Good Friday'? Fr Frank Hoare SSC

F Frank, a Missionary in Fiji, responds to one of the most profound catechetical questions of the Catholic Faith in a way which was faithful to the teaching of the Church while showing an understanding of the Hindu cultural background of the questioner. The presentation of the article with image of the bloodied head of Jesus suffering under the weight of the Crown of Thorns added to the depth of mystery in the topic.



Best Devotional Article Applying Faith to Life

WINNER

Madonna Magazine, *Cups of Tea with the Queen of Heaven,* by Peta Edmonds

Highly Commended

The Nathaniel Report, *Carrying the Weight of Ourselves: Compassion and the Divine Art of Kindness,* by Bernard Leuthart

Both articles fulfilled the criteria in the most excellent way - they were moving, and they showed Christian faith in practice in unique and highly interesting ways.

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Best Feature Multiple Authors

WINNER

Australian Catholics Magazine, Food Glorious Food

This bright, interesting and thought-provoking feature on food was served up at Christmas, a time when most of us are enjoying excess rather than thinking about inequality. The smartly and enticingly designed series of articles, which uses photography, illustrations and other graphic devices, cleverly takes the reader on a journey through many different interpretations of the theme. The underlying moral message is one of sharing our abundance with others, but the point is deftly made, with the series also including different ways of celebrating at Christmas and cooking tips. The text is engaging and attempting at something original, rather than being selfindulgent opinion pieces. Several articles end with action items giving the reader something they can apply to their own lives, which makes the feature useful as well.

Highly Commended

Catholic Communications, Sydney Archdiocese, Spotlight on Boston Child Sexual Abuse

This series of articles centres on the release of the Hollywood film Spotlight, which chronicles the investigation by Boston Globe reporters into the systemic sexual abuse of children within the Church in Boston. The release of the film could have been ignored on the grounds of geographic irrelevance and also because it can make uncomfortable viewing. This publication takes to its subject with enthusiasm, however, with considered reviews and opinions from several different sectors of the Church. Any readers who were unsure about the movie and its messages will have been reassured. This coverage ensures a sensitive but important issue has a greater awareness in the Catholic community and means that this publication is doing its job.



Best Original Photograph

WINNER

The Catholic Weekly

As I viewed the diverse entries for Best Original Photograph, I continued to be drawn into this photo by Giovanni Portelli for a number of reasons. From the concentration and seriousness on the Deacon to the joy emanating from the parents as well as the interaction between mother and child – it all made this cover image stand out from the rest. The lighting, reflections, stillness in time as the water is poured over the baby's head, drew the eye into the story of this photo which truly captures the Sacrament of Baptism in a sharp, crisp and inspiring way.

Highly Commended

Marist Messenger

There were a number of entries that could easily have been chosen as highly commended, however, I have chosen this image based on the award criteria. The use of this image on the cover reflected both the headlines of 'Lent' and 'Prayerful Churches'. The detail, colour, lighting, alignment and especially the attention to detail, make this photo exceptional. THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY



Best Original Artwork

WINNER

Australian Catholics, Artwork by Chris Johnston, accompanying the article *About a Boy*

Illustration to support a great first person perspective article. Really good content within the design that beautifully supports the written story, yet has an ability to be read in isolation as a standalone work. Execution and choice of colour stamp this with a mood and a relevance to its audience. The techniques employed resonate well, employing a great mix of traditional story book illustration with contemporary design tools. Most importantly the artwork has an editorial job to do and it does it very well. Excellent work.

Highly Commended

Eureka Street, illustration accompanying the article *Australian film industry boys' club needs redressing*

Well-conceived artwork that has the movement and colour to jump of the page. Great humour and narrative in the artwork helps make the page and positions the text in the article's opening pars.



Best Front Cover - Magazine

WINNER

Kimberley Community Profile

appiness is ... a boy and his pup! The arresting image on the cover of the Kimberley Profile exudes appeal and good cheer. It is a real eye-catcher and a heart-warmer and will resonate with readers, especially those who make up such a significant part of the Diocese of Broome. I don't know if the image is related to a story inside. If it does, all the better, if it doesn't, the editor has me hooked anyway. As Christians we are supposed to be joyful people. This worked for me.



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Highly Commended

About Catholic Schools

t helps to know and understand your market when selling a product. About Catholic Schools is a clear example that the editor is very aware of this. The front cover image talks to both students and parents, and tells the story of the importance of Catholic education from toddler to teen with an imaginative image that is uncluttered and eye-catching. Again, it entices the reader to pick it up and look for more, and that's what it's all about.

Best Front Cover – Newspaper

WINNER

The Catholic Leader

The Catholic Leader has produced a powerful and compelling page on its 22 November 2015 cover. The story of conflict and global terror is told in three images of suffering, with each painful photo forming one story of human distress. As a single, opening cover page, the editorial team has told a compelling narrative as a platform for a religious response. In terms of design, this outstanding cover page follows good use of the Gutenberg principles of reading attention and page gravity. From top to bottom, this a worthy winner for its excellence in visual and written story-telling.

Highly Commended

Catholic Voice

The balance of light and hard news in one front page shows *The Catholic Voice* (December 2015) is led by good journalists who know their readers well. The candid laughter of two leaders pictured prominently is a warm and typically human experience that compels readers to want to know more. This strong picture choice is complemented well by a headline that's just as Australian and human as the photo's warmth suggests. Balancing the lightness of the page with a topic of moral concern, the *Catholic Voice* shows its strong sense of news value and understanding for its readers.



Best Layout and Design – Online Publication

WINNER

The Catholic Leader

Design elements, such as the large and responsive "hero images", are thoughtfully incorporated throughout this easy to navigate website. Contrasting colours for the text and background make it easy to read on either a desktop or mobile device. The amount of white space also provides some "spatial peace" and enhances the overall visitor experience. Site content is easy to share and social media elements are well integrated. Branding is also consistent throughout the Catholic Leader website and forms a further connection between its various elements.

Highly Commended

Catholic Religious Australia

The design of this website has both unity and consistency. The choice of images, colours and style are all conceptually related and readily connect this organisation with its target audience. It has easy to use navigation and unobtrusive social media sliders. The home page slider also enables visitors to effortlessly access key areas of the website.



Best Layout and Design – Magazine

WINNER

Tui Motu Interislands

Our Catholic magazines have a deserved reputation for being quality products and this is no better demonstrated than in the category of layout and design. The winner stands out because of its verve, quality reproduction, ease to read. You don't have to jump through fancy hoops to follow the well-presented material. I believe readers are grateful for this. It didn't win by much!

Highly Commended

The Far East

The field becomes even more congested in the hunt for a runner-up. The successful entrant has been around for a long time, but it doesn't look like it! It, too, is clean, welcoming, consistent in presentation.



Best Layout and Design – Newspaper

WINNER

The Catholic Leader

A paper bursting with vibrancy and energy. Consistently strong design with excellent selection and display of pictures. The pages are busy and balanced without being overwhelming to the reader's eye. Some stand-out treatments of feature material and use of graphics cemented this paper's winning edge.

Highly commended

The Catholic Weekly

A high quality publication which aims high and delivers



Most Improved Publication

WINNER

My Family My Faith

as succeeded in transforming itself into a high quality magazine with a strong emphasis on graphics, photography and contemporary editorial that aims to strike a chord with families that are perhaps on the periphery of church life. In a relatively short time it has developed something all magazines covet – an authentic personality.

Highly commended

Catholic Voice

By broadening the geographic spread of its coverage, introducing new features and improving its design, the newspaper has succeeded in greatly strengthening its appeal.



Best Use of New Media

WINNER

Xt3

Xt3 continues to make waves in the digital world, successfully engaging their ever expanding audience with high calibre and inspirational multimedia content. The Xt3 team also consistently displays a sound understanding of the importance of the relational aspect of new media. They "listen", respectfully respond to questions and, in doing so, draw others to Christ.

Highly Commended

C-Mail

⁶ Marriage Equals' is a positive response by the Archdiocese of Sydney's Catholic Communications team to a gap in the youth market in explaining the Church's teaching on marriage. They have also provided a vital forum where young Catholics can discuss their concerns about the forthcoming plebiscite on the definition of marriage and contribute to the national debate.



Best Advertising Feature/ Supplement

WINNER

Catholic Communications, Archdiocese of Sydney, *St Mary's Cathedral*

At a time when 'relevancy' is fleeting, St Mary's Cathedral has recaptured the imagination and wonder of their community – the people of Sydney. This campaign obviously captured the reader's attention and promoted the service both creatively and with technical excellence.

Highly Commended

The Catholic Weekly, Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Weekly's 'Catholic Schools Week' is a well thought out and presented guide for families looking at Catholic Schools in Sydney. It blends advertisements and relevant articles which makes for an interesting read that is no doubt popular and welcomed by parents, eager for information about which school to send their child/children to or to be reassured that their choice was a good one.



22

Best Ecumenical/Interfaith Story

WINNERS

This category is awarded equally to: Tui Motu InterIslands – *Burying the Dead as a Work of Mercy* **and** The Far East – *With freedom comes responsibility*

The first prize is shared by vividly contrasted entries – one very short, one very long. But both share a keen sense of the questions alive in communities and an attractive and generous understanding of how to respond.

Highly Commended

This is awarded equally to: Aurora – *Two* Storey Love **and** My Family, My Faith – Differences no barrier to love

This prize is also shared, by two submissions that broached the important topic of interfaith marriages, in stories where the faith of both partners has remained a living faith in the life of the marriage. The cultural particularities of each marriage made the stories interestingly different in their sub-themes. I noted that both writers chose a similar 'magazine' writing style (though one was rather more inclined to 'romancing' interpolation than the other.) In each story there was just enough grit (perhaps any more would have been inappropriate) to make the story linger in this reader's mind, along with admiration and appreciation for each couple.





Best Online Publication

WINNER

Eureka Street

Eureka Street stands out as a leader online, as a valuable voice representing a broad range of views that support and challenge Catholic readers and non-Catholics alike. The site is easy to navigate and the articles are enticing on the page, with images that can be both confronting and quirky, not bland. Articles and authors tackle thorny issues with aplomb and the comments section reflects this - there is inclusion for readers, with the tone of articles reflecting an open approach to presenting local and international news and views and encouraging discussion within society from readers of all backgrounds.

Highly Commended

CathNews

CathNews covers it all, from facts to opinion, inspirational to issues of conflict for its Catholic audience, in a space that's superbly designed. Navigation is easy, with images generously sized and headlines that are concise and encourage the reader to click. Mass on Demand connects the audience with the wider Catholic community, a wonderful offering that would serve its readers well. There is also easy access to social media links that are well placed on the page. The aggregated content is broad. There is no shying away from tackling all issues. Providing readers with links to reflections could transform their day.



Best Print Magazine

WINNER

The Broken Bay News

The Broken Bay News is clearly a magazine for its community. It is energetic, interesting and pleasant to read. A reader can quickly get a feel for the diocese by reading Broken Bay News. In this Year of Mercy, Broken Bay News feels like it's walking with its readers. It aims to be one of them and connects well with them. Importantly, there is a consistency to Broken Bay News across its editions. The reader is taken along at a good pace and within a framework that feels familiar from edition to edition. This was a high-quality category and it was tough to choose a winner and highly commended entries. The three entries that were eventually settled upon had a common theme – they were clearly published with their communities at the forefront of their thinking.

Highly Commended

Kimberley Community Profile AND The Majellan



Best Newspaper

WINNER

The Southern Cross

The Southern Cross is a bright, friendly and well laid out newspaper with a modern look, great use of colour and photographs. The small editorial team produces a good mix of stories which reflect a vibrant Catholic community in South Australia. The paper also tackles some of the more difficult issues facing the Church, and provides a good mix of opinions from both Church leaders and regular parishioners. The Southern Cross is at times brave in its coverage, but not judgmental, and clearly makes a strong effort to be a voice for its readership as well as Church authorities. It is a very-readable publication with a strong editorial team that aims to serve its Catholic readership.

Highly Commended

NZ Catholic

This newspaper is very easy to read, with an excellent mix of local and world news on issues of interest and importance to the Catholic community in New Zealand. This paper provides plenty of news and interest to its readers, and makes a strong effort to reflect the Catholic community in NZ, while also featuring the voices, guidance and opinions of Church leaders. It provides interesting features and columns, it is well laid out and makes good use of colour and photographs, all from a small editorial team.



The Bishop Philip Kennedy Memorial Award for Overall Excellence

Winner

The Southern Cross

This is a difficult award to judge, given that it ranges across three formats – newspaper, magazine and online. The winner, Southern Cross, is well established in its local Adelaide community and knows and serves that community well. It has moved with the times and is now a bright, eye-catching publication which covers both the big issues - like marriage, refugees and asylum seekers and euthanasia - and the parish pump news which is so important to its readership. The articles and opinion pieces both inform and challenge in the best tradition of Catholic publishing and the journalism is of a consistently high standard. The Southern Cross is a local, Catholic newspaper, and it serves those functions with excellence, making it a worthy winner of the Bishop Philip Kennedy Memorial Award.

