



Queensland Media Awards announced

The *Townsville Bulletin*'s John Andersen tonight received Queensland media's highest honour; the Most Outstanding Contribution to Queensland Journalism Award for his "mentor qualities, commitment to the Code of Ethics and contribution not only to journalism but to his community."

John has worked for *Queensland Country Life*, *The North Queensland Register* and has served as regional editor of the *Townsville Bulletin* for more than a decade. John is also the author of widely-acclaimed book *Bagmen Millionaires: Life And People In Outback Queensland*.

"John has contributed to - and supported - the careers of many journalists and always makes himself available to requests of assistance from journalists. It is these traits that make John an excellent choice for the award," judges said.

At tonight's gala presentation dinner *The Australian's* Tony Koch was also singled out for a special mention, taking home the coveted Journalist of the Year Award. Tony's exclusive story "Desperate Hours of Island Rape Victim" revealed "a shocking crime, an appalling response from Queensland health and a sickening attitude from senior bureaucrats."

"Not only were Tony's efforts stand-out in a journalistic sense, the series prompted a change in government attitude and improved accommodation for many remote government employees," judges said.

The Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance received more than 320 entries for this year's awards. Judges said the standard of entries was "as high as ever. Queensland continues to be the source of the some of this country's most outstanding journalism."

The Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance thanks the following sponsors of the 2008 Queensland Media Awards:

- QUT
- James Cook University
- The Courier-Mail
- Seven Network (Brisbane)
- Network Ten (Brisbane)
- Griffith University
- Rural Press Club
- The University of Queensland
- MEDIA Super
- Queensland Parliamentary Media Gallery
- ABC
- Three Plus
- Qld Council of Social Service
- Australia Post
- Kingfisher Bay Resort
- Virgin Blue
- 4BC
- Local Government Association of Queensland
- Queensland Gas Company
- Union Shopper
- Jimbour Wines
- Fosters Group Ltd
- John Deere & Company
- Nikon
- John Deere



Full List of winners follows

For more information please contact Michelle Rae on 0411 757 669

Most Outstanding Contribution to Journalism, sponsored by Queensland Gas Company
John Andersen, *The Townsville Bulletin*

Journalist of the Year, sponsored by Virgin Blue
Tony Koch, *The Australian*, "Desperate Hours of Island Rape Victim"

Most Outstanding Journalism Student, sponsored by Queensland Parliamentary Media Gallery

Regional Winner: Tom Haynes, University of the Sunshine Coast, *The Sunshine Coast Daily*, *Seven News*

Metropolitan Winner: Kelly Hussey-Smith, Griffith University, *UNiverse Magazine*, *Phnom Penh Post*, *Australian PhotoJournalist*

Young Journalist of the Year, sponsored by ABC
Meg Palmer, *Network Ten*

Excellence in Rural Journalism, sponsored by Rural Press Club
Pip Courtney, *ABC TV Landline*

Social Justice/Indigenous Reporting, sponsored by Queensland Council of Social Service
Tony Koch, *The Australian*, "Desperate Hours of Island Rape Victim"

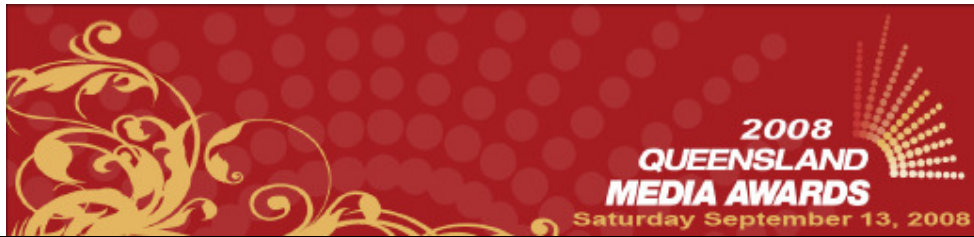
Best Business or Property Report, sponsored by Media Super
Patrick Lion, *The Courier-Mail*, "Tanks for Nothing"

Regional and Community Award for Best Broadcast, sponsored by John Deere & Company
Stacey Katter, *ABC North West Queensland*, "Is Mt Isa Mine Poisoning the Children?"

Regional and Community Award for Best News Photograph, sponsored by Nikon
Bryan Lynch, *The Townsville Bulletin*, "Heartbreak"

Regional and Community Award for Best Feature Article or Opinion Piece, sponsored by James Cook University
Rae Wilson, *The Sunshine Coast Daily* "Dirty Cops"

Regional and Community Award for Best Print News Report, sponsored by Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance
Tahnee Watson, *The North West Star*, "Dajarra Water"



Best TV News Camera Work, sponsored by The Courier-Mail
Michael Lloyd, *Seven News*, "City Night Chaplains"

Best Radio Production Work, sponsored by Griffith University
Ian Townsend, *ABC Radio National*, "Lost planes, lost men"

Best Radio Current Affairs or Feature, sponsored by 4BC
Heather Stewart, *ABC Radio National's Law Report*, "Coronial Inquests"

Best Online Content Award, sponsored by Walkley Foundation
Jodie Munro O'Brien, *The Courier-Mail*, "Iraq and Various stories"

Best Comment, Analysis, Opinion & Critique, sponsored by Three Plus
Tony Koch, *The Australian*, "Arrant Nonsense - Justice Fails"

Best Three Newspaper Headlines, sponsored by Australia Post
Geoff Shearer, *The Courier-Mail*, "Tar Very Much"

Best Cartoon, Illustration or Graphics, sponsored by Media Super
Brett Lethbridge, *The Courier-Mail*, "Political Idol"

Best News Photograph, sponsored by Seven Network
Brian Cassey, *Sydney Morning Herald*, "Aurukun Truants"

Best Photographic Essay, sponsored by Nikon
Brian Cassey, *The Courier-Mail & Good Weekend Magazine*, "Who's Sorry Now?"

Best Sports Report, sponsored by Network Ten
Sean Parnell, *The Australian*, "A Level Playing Field"

Best Broadcast Interview, sponsored by Jimbour Wines
Stacey Katter, *ABC North West Queensland*, "Is Mt Isa Mine Poisoning the Children?"

Best TV Current Affairs, Documentary or Feature, sponsored by Foster's Group Ltd
Joint winners
Ten News Team, *Ten News*, "Flooding Rains"
Mark Willacy, *ABC TV 7:30 Report*, "Toxic Town"

Best TV News Report, sponsored by Queensland University of Technology



Michael Best, *Seven News*, "Ocean Rescue"

Best Feature Article, sponsored by Local Government Association of Queensland
Trent Dalton, *The Courier-Mail*, "City of Broken Dreams"

Best Print News Report, sponsored by The University of Queensland
Tony Koch and Padraic Murphy, *The Australian*, "No Jail for Rape of Girl, 10"
