

## 2009 Sanlam Community Press winners

Women dominated last week's annual Sanlam Awards for Community Press, with journalists such as Desireé Rorke of *Lowvelder*, Pam Fourie of *Tabletalk*, Kate Henry of *Rosebank Killarney Gazette* and Claudine Senekal of *Ladysmith Herald* taking top honours in various categories.

This year some 145 community newspapers took part, with 945 individual entries judged in the various sections for typography, writing and photography from 262 journalists and photographers. More than 1000 photographs were judged individually. Though there were fewer entries this year, the general quality of entries were as high as previous years, according to the organisers.

The awards were presented for the 19th time on Friday evening, 18 September 2009, at an awards dinner at the Indaba Hotel, Fourways, Johannesburg, attended by more than 200 editors, journalists, photographers and their bosses.

### Journalist of the Year

In the Journalist of the Year section, the Cape Town stronghold of the past three successive years was broken by Desireé Rorke of *Lowvelder*, Nelspruit. Impressive investigative work pulled her through and it was not a surprise when she was also credited with the first prize in the section Investigative Journalism.

Last year's Journalist of the Year, Pam Fourie of Cape Community Newspapers' *Tabletalk*, confirmed her class, when she captured top honours in Hard News, the second prize in Investigative, third prize in Local Government and sharing fourth place in Editorial Comment.

The Alet Roux Medal of Honour for the best newcomer in the Writing category went to Kate Henry of Caxton's *Rosebank Killarney Gazette*.

An exceptional portfolio earned Claudine Senekal of the *Ladysmith Herald* the Photographer of the Year prize, including a camera sponsored by Canon. She also won the section Portraits and had five photos in the News section's top 10, including the runner-up picture.

### Newspaper category

The competition was as fierce as ever in the newspaper category, where the *Lowvelder* and *Polokwane Observer* walked away with the Sanlam Cronwright and the Sanlam Hultzer trophies respectively for newspapers with circulation of more and less than 15 000. *Zoutpansberger* won the Sanlam Award as best independent community newspaper in the country for the second year running.

In the Front Pages category *Vaal Weekly* (paid papers), *Springs Advertiser* (free sheets) and *Witzenberg Herald*, Ceres (small town papers) chalked up the first prizes.

In the Writing category two of the best achievers were a couple, Des and Anneli Erasmus representing the Namibian weekly *Erongo*, who clinched the sections Editorial Comment and Columns respectively.

Other Writing section winners were Liezl van Rooyen of *Springs Advertiser* (Local Government), Evan Naudé of *Weslander*, Western Cape (Human Interest), Izolde Pistorius, *Vaal Weekly* (Personal Finance & Business News) and Yusuf Omar, *Muslim Views* (Sport).

On the Photography side Sieb Sieberhagen (*Paarl Post*, Feature photos), Jacques Steenkamp (*Vaal Weekly*, three in the top 4 News photos) and Herman Steyn (*Die Pos*, Bela-Bela), the winner Sport photos, with four shots in the top 10, shared the main prizes with Claudine Senekal.

## Largest press competition

According to Hugo Redelinghuys, manager: media relations at Sanlam Group Communication, the competition is the largest of the 32 press competitions held in South Africa annually.

“The awards are highly regarded as a benchmark for excellence in journalism and related fields in the community papers,” he said.

## All the winners

Newspapers	Cronwright	Hultzer	Sanlam Award for independent town newspapers
1	Lowvelder	Polokwane Observer	Zoutpansberger
2	Springs Advertiser	The Representative	Die Pos
3	Bolander	Worcester Standard	Witzenberg Herald
4	Paarl Post	Eikestadnuus	Die Hoom
5	District Mail	Weslander	
6		Breederivier Gazette	
7		East Griqualand Fever	
8		Carletonville Herald	
9		Limpopo Informant	
10		Limpopo Mirror	

Newspapers: front pages	Free sheets	Paid newspapers	Small town newspapers
1	Springs Advertiser	Vaal Weekly	Witzenberg Herald
2	Go! Express	Vaalweekblad	Zoutpansberger
3	Rosebank Killarney Gazette	Paarl Post	Die Pos
4			Die Hoom

Writing	Journalist of the Year	
1	Desireé Rorke	Lowvelder
2	Kate Henry	Rosebank Killarney Gazette
3	Maryke Roberts	District Mail
4	Clifford Roberts	District Mail
5	Maggie Follett	Bolander
6	Zita Goldswain	Witbank News
7	Andries van Zyl	Zoutpansberger
8	Susan Botha	Swartlander
9	Donald Green	Echo Ridge Times
10	Susan Maré	Vrystaat

Writing	Best Newcomer: Alet Roux medal
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1	Kate Henry	Rosebank Killarney Gazette
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Writing	Investigative reporting	
1	Desireé Rorke	Lowvelder
2	Pam Fourie	Tabletalk
3	Shannon Penny	Springs Advertiser

Writing	Editorial comment	
1	Des Erasmus	Erongo
2	Molly Green	Forum
3	Lise Beyers	Paarl Post
4	Cal Seton-Smiths Pam Fourie	Algoa Sun Tabletalk
5	Cathy Grosvenor	Steven Lang
6	Keina Swart	Die Pos
7	Retha Fitchat	Vaalweekblad
8	Mark Kinnear	Lowvelder/td>
9	Kennedy Mudzuli	Rosebank Killarney Gazette
10	Steven Lang	Grocott's Mail

Writing	Local government	
1	Liez van Rooyen	Springs Advertiser
2	Shannon Penny	Springs Advertiser
3	Pam Fourie	Tabletalk
4	Natasha Crous	Springs Advertiser
5	Marietjie Gericke	Ons Stad
6	Kate Henry	Rosebank Killarney Gazette
7	Zita Goldswain	Witbank News
8	Karen Pretorius	Tyger talk
9	Mpho Morereone	Springs African Reporter
10	Inga Strydom	Constantiaberg Bulletin

Writing	Hard news	
1	Pam Fourie	Tabletalk
2	Marli van Wyngaard	Eikestadnuus
3	Clifford Roberts	District Mail
4	Louise Labuschagne	Die Pos
5	Shannon Penny	Springs Advertiser
6	Andries van Zyl	Zoutpansberger
7	Jacques Steenkamp	Vaalweekblad
8	Nicolene Smalman	Lowvelder
9	Des Erasmus	Erongo
10	Zita Goldswain	Witbank News

Writing	Human interest	
1	Evan Naudé	Weslander
2	Barbara Ngobeni	Springs African Reporter
3	Zita Goldswain	Witbank News
4	Pam Fourie	Tabletalk
5	Kate Henry	Rosebank Killarney Gazette
6	Liez van Rooyen	Springs Advertiser
7	Des Erasmus	Erongo
8	Daleen Naudé	Middelburg Observer
9	Christelle Wessels	Stellalander
10	Susan Samuel	Breederivier Gazette

Writing	Columns	
1	Anneli Erasmus	Erongo

2	Des Erasmus	Erongo
3	Thulani Gqirana	Ilizwi
4	Susan Maré	Vrystaat
5	Fred Boshoff	Rekord
6	Susan Botha	Swartlander
7	Bheki Mashile	Umjindi Guardian
8	Emsie Martin	Suid-Kaap Forum
9	Johan Pretorius	South Coast Fever
10	Johnny Masilela	Limpopo Beat

Writing		Personal finance & business news
1	Izolde Pistorius	Vaalweekblad
2	Norman McFarlane	Bolander
3	Shannon Penny	Springs Advertiser
4	Andries van Zyl	Zoutpansberger
5	Clifford Roberts	District Mail
6	Betsie van der Merwe	Eastern Times
7	Louise Labuschagne	Die Pos
8	Des Erasmus	Erongo
9	Marietjie Gericke	Ons Stad
10	Marli van Wyngaard	Eikestadnuus

Writing		Sport
1	Yusuf Omar	Muslim Views
2	Brian Gaffney	People's Post
3	David Rush	South Coast Herald
4	Marli van Wyngaard	Eikestadnuus
5	Des Erasmus Lise Beyers	Erongo Paarl Post
6	Elsje Vermeulen	Vaalweekblad
7	Zaheera Walker	Fourways Review
8	Louise Labuschagne	Die Pos
9	Barbara Ngobeni	Springs Advertiser
10	Griet Swanepoel	Die Pos

Photography		Press Photographer of the Year
1	Claudine Senekal	Ladysmith Herald
2	Sieb Sieberhagen	Paarl Post
3	Adele Louw	Carletonville Herald
4	Lise Beyers	Paarl Post
5	Leon Schnell	Knysna & Plett Herald
6	Esté Pretorius	Potchefstroom Herald
7	Carina Roux	Tygerburger
8	Herman Steyn	Die Pos
9	Zita Goldswain	Witbank News
10	Joanne Garner	Witbank News

Photography		Feature
1	Sieb Sieberhagen	Paarl Post
2	Mariana Balt	White River Post
3	Esté Pretorius	Potchefstroom Herald
4	Landé Cawood	Lowvelder
5	Sieb Sieberhagen	Paarl Post
6	Fuad Esack	Southern Mail
7	Fuad Esack	Southern Mail
8	Elsje Vermeulen	Vaalweekblad
9	Elsje Vermeulen	Vaalweekblad
10	Mariana Balt	White River Post

Photography	Portraits	
1	Claudine Senekal	Ladysmith Herald
2	Cheryl Botha	Potchefstroom Herald
3	Carina Roux	Tygerburger
4	Esté Pretorius	Potchefstroom Herald
5	Lise Beyers	Paarl Post
6	Carina Roux	Tygerburger
7	Garnett Wicomb	Die Hoom
8	Jaco van Wyk	Paarl Post
9	Fuad Esack	Southern Mail
10	Herman Eloff	Potchefstroom Herald

Photography	News	
1	Jacques Steenkamp	Vaalweekblad
2	Claudine Senekal	Ladysmith Herald
3	Jacques Steenkamp	Vaalweekblad
4	Jacques Steenkamp	Vaalweekblad
5	Claudine Senekal	Ladysmith Herald
6	Claudine Senekal	Ladysmith Herald
7	Jacques Steenkamp	Tygerburger
8	Claudine Senekal	Ladysmith Herald
9	Jacques Steenkamp	Springs Advertiser
10	Claudine Senekal	Ladysmith Herald

Photography	Sport	
1	Herman Steyn	Die Pos
2	Herman Steyn	Die Pos
3	Jaco van Wyk	Paarl Post
4	Herman Steyn	Die Pos
5	Carina Roux	Tygerburger
6	Esté Pretorius	Potchefstroom Herald
7	Sieb Sieberhagen	Paarl Post
8	Carina Roux	Tygerburger
9	Herman Steyn	Die Pos
10	Claudine Senekal	Ladysmith Herald

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