Tom Saunders

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Work

The Times - Business Reporter [All Articles]

October 2024 - Present

I am a reporter on the business desk at The Times, specialising in trade. I have written a series of agenda-setting exclusives while covering the beat:

- I published an investigation into a <u>Chinese state-owned semiconductor company based in Glasgow</u>, which
 had sold microchips that had ended up in Russian tanks. Following the article, the government used the
 National Security Act to <u>force China to divest its stake</u> only the third time the act has been used in that
 manner in its history.
- That article, along with two property-based articles regarding <u>Russian investment in the UK</u> and <u>local council debt</u> led me to win <u>MHP's 30 under 30 Gold Award for business journalism</u> last year, the highest award available in the category. I also <u>interviewed the CEO of Raspberry Pi</u> about how the company has fought the flow of its products to Russia.
- Most recently, I led <u>The Times's submission to "Shadow Fleet Secrets"</u>, a pan-Europe project which involved newsrooms across 13 countries identifying European shipping companies which had sold oil tankers that later ended up in Russia's shadow fleet.

The Times - Graduate Scheme (Business)

October 2022 - October 2024

During my two years on the graduate scheme, which mainly involved writing for the business desk as well as rotations in other departments around The Times, I reported from the Migrant camps in Calais, the Sycamore Gap and elsewhere. I also published a number of important stories, including:

- An <u>investigation into the FCA</u>, which had approved individuals for regulated work who had been banned from acting as company directors for offences ranging from pension fraud to tax evasion.
- An article revealing <u>how a "dudeist" priest was behind 800 rogue fillings on Companies House</u> initially <u>suspected by senior executives</u> to be the product of a sophisticated hack or fraud.

The I - Datajournalist [All Articles]

June 2021 - October 2022

I was the first datajournalist employed by the I. In my time at the paper, I was featured on the front page five times and was nominated for a **Drum award for best investigation** along with other members of the newspaper for our investigation into the <u>Channel Tragedy</u>. I also developed data-driven investigations, such as my work on <u>Russian misinformation</u>.

City AM [All Articles] February 2021

I completed a month-long internship with City AM, where I covered finance for their website. At one point, my story on gender representation among executives was the second most-read article on City AM's website.

MoneyWeek Magazine December 2020

I spent two weeks at MoneyWeek magazine, where I designed their annual Christmas quiz. I also wrote profiles on the entrepreneurs Anne Boden and Trinny London, and I contributed to the magazine's *Money Talks* segment.

Awards and nominations

- MHP's 30 under 30 Gold Award Business Journalism (2024) I won a national award for journalists under the age of 30 for my work on local council debt and UK business links with Russia.
- **Drum Award for Best Investigation Nomination (2022)** I was nominated for a national award for best investigation as part of my work unpicking traffic in the English Channel during the Channel tragedy
- SPA Regionals: Best Development | SPA Nationals: Best Newcomer Publication, Best Overall Digital Media and Best Science/Technology article Nominations (2019) I founded an online-only student newspaper at university, which won one regional student media award and was nominated for two national awards. I was also nominated for best article in the science and technology category.

Education and skills

Financial Journalism MA (Merit) City University September 2020 – July 2021

History BA (First Class Honours) Durham University September 2017 – 2020

A Level: History (A*), Maths (A*), Economics (A), Further Maths (A) September 2014 – June 2016

I am a skilled, self-taught programmer with comprehensive knowledge of Python, R and Javascript and expertise in geospatial and data analysis. While at university, I founded The Monocle newspaper. It won one award at the Student Publication Awards and was nominated for two others.