

# 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 [Chinese state-owned semiconductor company based in Glasgow](#), which had sold microchips that had ended up in Russian tanks. Following the article, the government used the National Security Act to force China to divest its stake - only the third time the act has been used in that manner in its history.
- That article, along with two property-based articles - regarding [Russian investment in the UK](#) and [local council debt](#) - led me to win **MHP's 30 under 30 Gold Award for business journalism** last year, the highest award available in the category. I also [interviewed the CEO of Raspberry Pi](#) about how the company has fought the flow of its products to Russia.
- Most recently, I led [The Times's submission to "Shadow Fleet Secrets"](#), 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 [investigation into the FCA](#), 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 [how a "dudeist" priest was behind 800 rogue fillings on Companies House](#) - initially [suspected by senior executives](#) 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 [Channel Tragedy](#). I also developed data-driven investigations, such as my work on [Russian misinformation](#).

### 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

<b>Financial Journalism MA (Merit)</b>	City University	September 2020 – July 2021
<b>History BA (First Class Honours)</b>	Durham University	September 2017 – 2020
<b>A Level: History (A*), Maths (A*), Economics (A), Further Maths (A)</b>		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.