

# Popular Features Award

## **Winner: Blood, Sweat and Takeaways**

Vivid, human, informative and entertaining – the judges praised this documentary for successfully bringing home the reality of working on a low wage in Indonesia's tuna industry.

Part reality show, part documentary, the film-makers achieved a clever balance of facts, humour and entertainment without detracting from the seriousness of the subject.

The judges felt the use of a group of uninitiated non-journalists – six young Britons – to work, live and sleep alongside Indonesian food factory workers was an original and effective way of allowing a British audience to relate to a subject apparently remote to their lives. Through the eyes of the six, we got to know and care about the Indonesians they worked alongside whilst learning about the economics of the global food industry.

We learnt about a barely living wage, mothers having to live apart from their children, long working hours, harsh working conditions (90 degree heat and no talking) and that the price we pay for a tin of canned tuna impacts on the lives of others. None of this felt crow-barred into the script, it arose organically and was all the better for it.

When one of the six, a 19-year-old British Bengali, starts heaving at the sight of his host family's toilet we were given a graphic lesson in both the state of the toilet and how to cause offence.

This was a memorable film that the judges felt told the audience far more about the lives of people in a developing country than many conventional documentaries.

## **Runners Up:**

### **The Women Who Became Athletes to Escape Forced Marriage**

The judges praised Dan McDougall for coming up with an original and imaginative way of covering women's rights in Ethiopia, that would appeal to readers of LOOK magazine. Sport for those with talent is a known route out of economic hardship but this was a new story to us – that girls and young women are using their skill as athletes to escape social restrictions at home. Persuading the women to tell their stories, despite the cultural pressures, was an impressive feat of journalism and made for an engaging article about the positive side of sport.

### **They're Dying to Get to Britain**

Nadene Ghouri and Chris Rogers took a familiar story and through deft storytelling, extensive research and an imaginative approach to the layout, took it to a new level. This was a powerful account of how determined so many Afghans are to get to Britain. The judges were impressed by the level of detail, the range of voices we heard from and the accompanying photography by James Vellacott and Kate Holt, which added depth and impact to the article.

## **Jury panel:**

CHAIR: Mary Wilkinson, Commissioning Editor, BBC World News  
Fiona Campbell, Executive Producer, Current Affairs Independents BBC  
Chris Shaw, Controller, FIVE

