

Updates from the Centre for Journalism

University of  
**Kent**



**CfJ**  
*news*

**nctj**  
National Council for the  
Training of Journalists

**kmtv**  
TV MADE FOR KENT

Summer 2020

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KMTV sofa-surfs to stay  
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# EYES ON THE PRIZE

Kenneth scoops top internet  
journalism award and makes  
prestigious Amnesty shortlist





# Adam flying high with top marks in NCTJ exam



The sky's the limit for aerobatics fan Adam Landau after he scored the highest marks in the country in a professional journalism exam.

Adam, a final year journalism undergraduate at the Cfj, earned the highest mark of 85 per cent in the NCTJ's Essential Journalism exam in 2019.

It's no mean feat. The exam, which tests how well young journalists write news stories accurately and at speed, is regarded as one of the hardest in the NCTJ's Diploma in Journalism.

Last year the exam had a pass rate of 54 per cent. Only three per cent of candidates scored an A grade, of 70 per cent or higher.

Adam is already putting his journalism skills to good use, producing promotional videos for the Aerosparx and GliderFX display teams and editing the specialist air display website thisisflight.net



**Soaring:** Adam puts his journalism skills to use around the world to cover air display events. Picture: Facebook

Amnesty and Shorthand praise Cfj graduate in prestigious annual award lists

# Kenneth nets award for refugee crisis report

Scoping a major international award for investigative reporting is the dream of every young journalist.

Cfj graduate Kenneth Sanchez has done it quicker than most.

Kenneth's final year project won a 2019 Shorthand Award, which is given to journalists who use the online platform Shorthand to produce and publish multimedia stories.

Winners announced in February included Sky News, The Daily Mirror, Thomson Reuters and our very own Kenneth Sanchez.

He has also been shortlisted in the Amnesty Media Awards, run by Amnesty International, alongside a host of star names from publications including The Guardian, The Daily Telegraph and The Sunday Times.

Kenneth used Shorthand to produce his final year journalism project, which took a deep dive into how the Venezuela refugee crisis affected his home country of Peru.

Kenneth found some of the thousands of people who travelled across a continent to seek shelter and safety from civil unrest at home.

Kenneth - who graduated with first class honours - told the story through videos, maps and written interviews.

Judges praised his versatility and creativity with the platform.

Freelance journalist and author Chris Stokel-Walker said: "This is a powerful story on an evocative subject, told smartly in various media — impressively so."

"The narrative arc of the story is strong, and the whole piece hangs together nicely. I'm particularly keen on the way the individual stories are told."

In June 2019, a UN report suggested that four million people had left Venezuela to escape inflation, job

**"This is a powerful story on an evocative subject, told smartly in various media — impressively so."**

**Chris Stokel-Walker**  
Author and journalist

losses and food shortages.

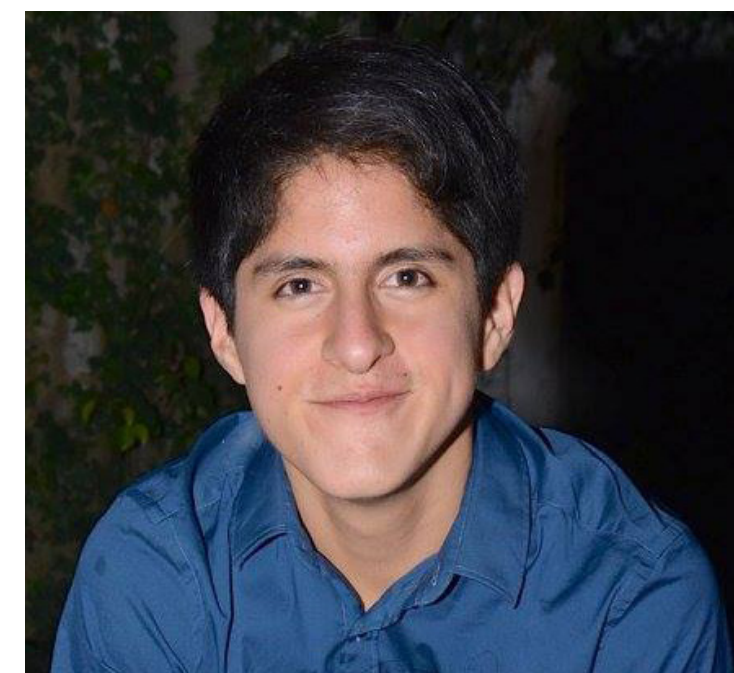
Among the refugees Kenneth spoke to was a doctor who made the difficult decision to leave with his wife and three-year-old son. With trips to poorly-stocked supermarkets limited to one a week, he feared he would no longer be able to provide for his family. They fled by bus - a five-day journey.

Judge Ravin Sampat, head of storytelling at Tortoise Media, said: "The story of Venezuela is one often forgotten about in the news. Many reporters have found it hard to report from the country and what is a dire situation for many within."

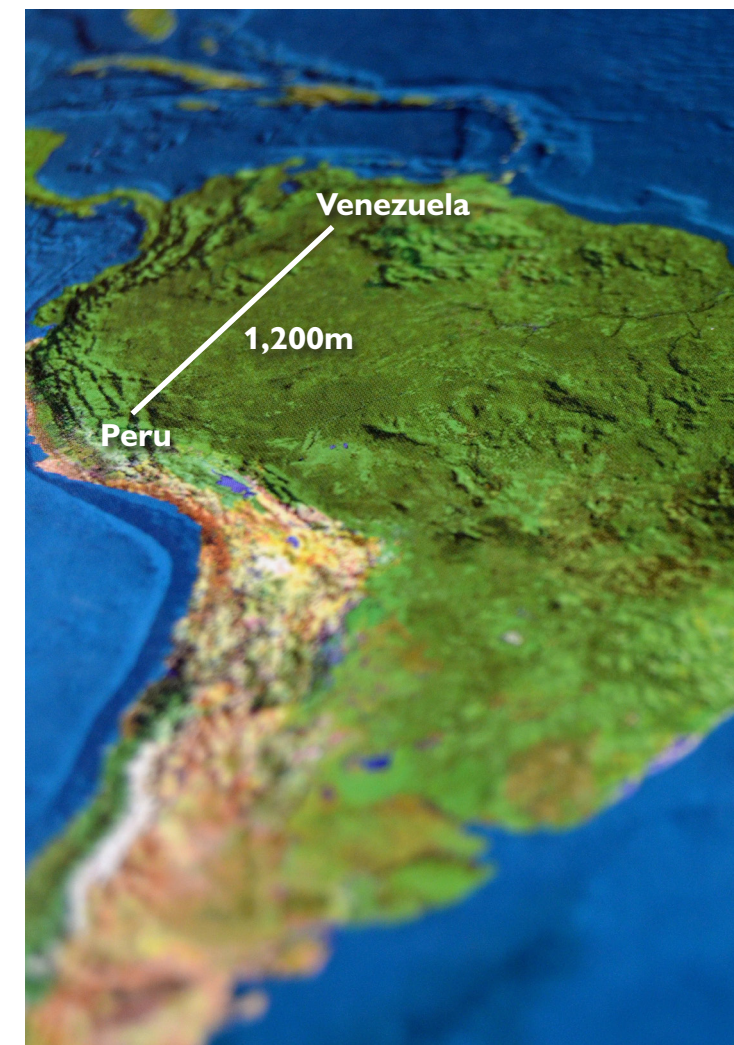
"This Shorthand story stood out for me — it told the story of one of the largest migrations in modern history in a part of the world where you wouldn't necessarily expect it. The use of the maps and pictures in part two particularly stood out. It's a strong storytelling method that really tells you the scale of the Venezuelan journey to safer pastures."

Kenneth was one of four people shortlisted in the Student Journalism category of the Amnesty Media Awards. The winners will be announced in September.

See Kenneth's project and other student work in the showcase at [www.centreforjournalism.co.uk](http://www.centreforjournalism.co.uk)



**Winner:** Kenneth Sanchez won a Shorthand award for his multimedia project



**Impact:** Kenneth revealed how refugees travelled across the continent



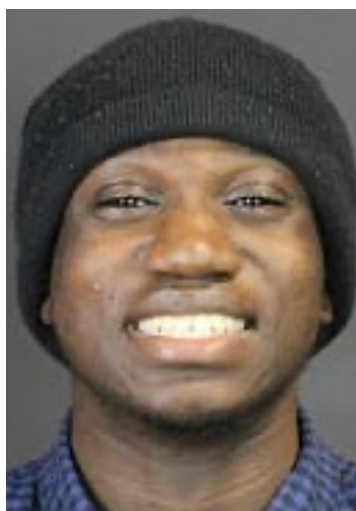
## Take a virtual tour

Watch students talk about life at the Cfj, take part in a virtual open day and see examples of our students' work on our YouTube channel

[youtube.com/centreforjournalism](https://www.youtube.com/centreforjournalism)



**Spreading the word:** Amber Sunner, Alfie Tobutt and Ayo Adekaiyero



## PressPad calls for the A-team

If you need marketing, if no one else can help, and if you can find them... maybe you can hire the Cfj's A-team.

Amber, Alfie and Ayo have been snapped up by PressPad, a social enterprise project which helps young reporters at the start of their career.

Amber Sunner, currently in her second year at the Centre, has been offered a paid internship to write for its newsletter and website.

Ayo Adekaiyero, also in his second

year, produces social media content. And Cfj graduate Alfie Tobutt makes graphics for its website. PressPad links young people with newsroom work placements in Lon-



don with experienced journalists who can offer an affordable room and mentoring.

It overcomes one of the main barriers of entry to journalism for many young people: the cost of accommodation during placements, which are often unpaid.

The project was co-founded by former Cfj lecturer Laura Garcia. For more information about its work go to [www.presspad.co.uk](http://www.presspad.co.uk)

**NSS 2018/19**

Centre for Journalism satisfaction ratings in the National Student Survey.

**94%**

Learning resources

**91%**

Teaching

**90%**

Learning opportunities

**81%**

Academic support

**86%**

Overall satisfaction



# Ben set for travel book launch

A book examining the impact of digital publishing platforms on travel journalism, written by Cjf director of research Dr Ben Cocking, will be released this summer.

*Travel Journalism and Travel Media: Identities, Places and Imaginings* will be published by Palgrave MacMillan in June.

Ben teaches the Centre's travel journalism module as an option for final year undergraduate and postgraduate students.

He said: "Travel journalism tells us a lot about different parts of the world, different cultures and different forms of travel and tourism."

The book focuses on how travel journalism has changed in recent years – from its origins in print based journalism to the emergence of new forms of content such as blogs and social media.

"It considers how this transformation has led to not only different kinds of travel journalism but different kinds of travel journalists," Ben said.

"The professional travel journalist is now challenged online by user generated content, content that is often produced for free."

The book also explores the changing conventions of travel journalism and its sometimes controversial position between truth and fiction.

**"The professional travel journalist is now challenged online by user generated content, content that is often produced for free."**

**Dr Ben Cocking**  
Director of research

In the context of the expansion of global tourism, Ben's book considers how travel journalism from across the world represents cultural differences in its depictions of destinations, regions, and tourist practices.

The final section of the book focuses on what might be thought of as the political potential of travel journalism and its capacity to raise awareness about important issues such as the environment.

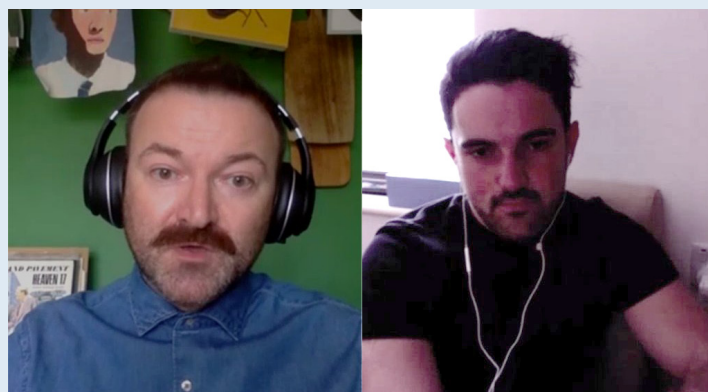
Ben's module explores many of the theories and concepts covered in the book. Students who choose to take the module also learn about the practice of travel journalism – one of the assessments involves students producing their own piece of travel journalism.



**New horizons:** Dr Ben Cocking's book looks at how travel journalism is changing



**Social distancing:** Joe Coshan takes precautions while recording interviews for KMTV, and has converted his mum's living room into a studio (right)



## News in the time of corona

Social media posts by Cjf graduate and KMTV reporter Joe Coshan show how journalists are working during lockdown.

KMTV, the only local television station based on a UK university campus, has stayed on air since rules on social distancing were imposed.

And reporters like Joe have risen to the challenge of producing daily updates without setting foot in a studio.

That includes presenting from a makeshift studio at his parent's home.

Not that everyone is happy with the new arrangements.

"Mum's been turfed out of the armchair and Becks isn't cooperating," he tweeted after setting up the cameras on March 30.

We're sure his cat will be first with the mews.

