

# MOLLY RUTH FINLAY

JOURNALIST

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## ABOUT

I have recently graduated from Edinburgh Napier University with a Master's degree in journalism. My background in History and Social Policy has reinforced my natural interest in news and politics, as well as trained me to produce balanced and accurate copy. I have a developed interest in current affairs, particularly issues related to women, reproductive healthcare and rights.

## NOTABLE EXPERIENCE

### BBC Young Reporter, 2021

As part of BBC Scotland's coverage of COP26, I produced a short film titled '**What can we do about the problem of soft plastics?**'.

To create this report, I carried out independent research, liaising with waste disposal companies and scientists at MEDU protection. In developing this short film, I have shown that I am able to execute original story ideas, produce accurate and topical pieces of media and work effectively with senior figures.

### Current Affairs Editor at Empoword Journalism, 2023

In Autumn 2023 I joined Empoword Journalism as a current affairs editor. In this role I review stories pitched to us by contributors, advise on how to approach ideas and sub-edit stories as they are submitted. I regularly create content requests to encourage contributors to submit copy, as well as write my own original and breaking stories for the current affairs section. In this role I have greatly developed my writing, time keeping and editing skills as well as my ability to manage online copy via WordPress.

### Deprived and Denied: The Scottish Abortion Divide, 2023

As part of my Masters degree I produced a feature length television documentary titled '**Deprived and Denied: The Scottish Abortion Divide**'. In this documentary I investigate the link between deprivation and termination rates in Scotland, as well as the organisations that appear to offer support to pregnant women while the government continue to neglect the link between deprivation and abortion. This project has greatly enhanced my skills in camera operation, script writing, presenting and video editing.

### Feature writer and Section Head of Business and Politics, Surge 2023

Produced as part of my Masters degree, classmates and I wrote, curated and designed a student magazine, Surge 2023. In producing Surge 2023, I worked as section head of Business and Politics, guiding and sub-editing contributions to the section as well as writing my own articles, including 'Scotland: Backing Away from Buffer Zones'.

## WEBSITE

View my wider portfolio of **written, television and radio** skills on my website [mollyfinlay.co.uk](http://mollyfinlay.co.uk)

## KEY SKILLS

- Ability to seek and investigate original stories.
- Accomplished communication skills, both written and verbal.
- **Proficient in video and audio industry software Avid.**
- Excellent presentation, public and live speaking skills.
- **Competency in media law, gained through my MA in journalism as well as National Union of Journalists course 'Real Law for Journalists'.**
- Ability to take initiative and to work under time constraint.
- Practical experience working with earpiece communication and **visual auto-cue.**

## EDUCATION

**University of Glasgow: 2018-22**  
Economic and Social History & Social and Public Policy (1<sup>st</sup> class Hons).

**Edinburgh Napier University: Sept 2022 - Oct 2023**  
MA Journalism (Distinction).

## AWARDS

David Kerr Thom Memorial Prize, University of Glasgow, 2020  
Edinburgh Napier University Medal, 2023

## INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

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### HOLYROOD MAGAZINE, JULY 2023

During my week as an intern with Holyrood Communications I had the opportunity to write for Holyrood Magazine as well as work on their upcoming annual publication of the Scottish Political Guide. In advance of the Rutherglen and Hamilton West by-election I enjoyed writing a short constituency profile explaining its election history and the way in which the seat changed hands over the years. This article, as well as a short piece for the sister magazine, Holyrood Connect, can be found on my website or online at Holyrood.com.

### DEADLINE NEWS, AUGUST 2023

In the two weeks I spent as an intern with Deadline News I was lucky to develop both my editing and writing skills. During my first week I was able to digest, edit and publish press releases shared with Deadline News by various companies and media agencies across Scotland. This greatly improved my ability to edit and produce tight and simple copy from a Scottish angle for readers of the general public. In my second week with Deadline News I was lucky to visit the Edinburgh news room where I pitched and wrote stories aimed at Scottish national papers. Under excellent guidance, I was pleased to gain multiple by-lines in the Sun, The Record, The Mirror, Edinburgh Live and the Daily Express. These articles can be found [online](#), or on the Deadline News website.

## PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

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- **Jeanie Deans Tryste (Public House):** Barmaid. (June 2018-2020).
- **Community Integrated Care:** Support worker. (April 2020-June 2021).
- **Eidyncare:** Home Care Assistant. (June 2021- April 2022).
- **Heart of Midlothian Football club:** Hospitality team/ waitressing. (September 2016-present).
- **Off To Work Hospitality Agency:** Hospitality staff. (September 2022-present).

## HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

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- During my Master's I was a member of Napier University's Dance Team, attending weekly classes in the lead up to our annual show. I was also a committed member of Napier University Dance' competition team, competing in classical ballet and jazz.
  - In 2021 I was elected Welfare Officer for University of Glasgow's Economic and Social History Society. In this role I supported fellow students using training provided by the student representative council. I have completed and have been awarded a certificate for participation in the University of Glasgow's 'Mind Your Mate' scheme which aims to raise awareness of suicide prevention. I have also completed 'microaggression' training which aims to educate students on the way they perceive and interact with racial issues.
  - I am a part time pet sitter and dog boarder. Since 2020, I have been using shared economy-based apps such as Borrow My Doggy as well as Pawshake to meet, exercise and care for pets.
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