For Distribution to CPs

PCC publishes two new adjudications

The first follows a complaint from former actress Connie Booth that the Camden New Journal obtained an interview with her through misrepresentation. She said that she had been led to believe that the article would relate to her career as a psychotherapist and not include pictures from her time as an actress. She complained when information and photographs relating to her acting career were subsequently included in the piece. Rejecting the complaint, the Commission ruled that the dispute was essentially one about copy approval, and not something that raised a breach of Clause 11 (Misrepresentation) of the previous Code. To read the full adjudication click here

The PCC has rejected a complaint against the Wood & Vale that an article, covering the death of a local man, was inaccurate and intrusive at a time of grief. The complainant, a friend of the deceased (a journalist), complained that the newspaper had failed to report an inquest into his death with appropriate sensitivity. The Commission, emphasising that a judgement on this issue was necessarily subjective, did not consider that the report was so insensitive as to breach Clause 5 (Intrusion into grief or shock) of the Code, especially in light of the fact that Clause 5 specifically protects the rights of newspapers to report such proceedings. The Commission also found no breach of Clause 1 (Accuracy), Clause 3 (Privacy) or Clause 11 (Misrepresentation) in regard to this complaint. To read the full adjudication click here

ENDS

24 June 2004