FREELANCE CONTACTS

Dublin office / Liberty Hall

Seamus Dooley	+353 087 2236364
email:	

Branch officers: Contacts available to NUJ members only.

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LONDON FREELANCE BRANCH MEETINGS

Somalia story – then self-publishing

SOMALIA is one of the world's most dangerous countries for journalists to work in. There's an update on the conditions Somali journalists face there at the meeting on **Monday 13 October**.

Forces on both sides in a conflict between the occupying Ethiopian army and the ousted Union of Islamic Courts are regularly threatening, driving into exile and even killing journalists there. Somali TV and radio journalist Abdi Salam is our speaker. The meeting will look at what we can do by way of practical solidarity to assist Somali journalists.

A meeting on self-publishing is planned for **Monday 10 November**. Speakers will be photographer Dewi Lewis, founder of Namesake publishers, who has published books of his own photographs. We hope also to have a speaker to tell us about self-publishing for authors.

There's a seasonal London Freelance Branch networking party on **Monday 15 December**, provisionally at the the NUJ's headquarters at Headland House.

Volunteer minute-takers are still needed for the October and November meetings. Please contact a committee member if you are interested. A guide to submitting motions to Branch meetings is at www.londonfreelance.org/fl/business.html

 To make sure you get email alerts of meetings and the electronic Freelance – just one message a month – visit www.londonfreelance.org/linkup

This went to press on **20 August** and arrived after the September Branch meeting. Deadline for November 2008 issue: **26 September**.

LFB meetings are 7pm to 9pm at Friends' House, Euston Road, which is accessible to people who use wheelchairs. If you need the Branch to pay for care for a child or dependent so you can attend a meeting, call a Branch officer. For updates on meetings see the Branch calendar web page www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/meetings

A ShadyBauer for you

BAUER, the magazine publisher, is issuing a rights-grab contract to its freelance contributors. In addition to assignment of copyright and a moral rights waiver, the contract included warranties and an indemnity clause – see last issue.

The Freelance Office has been in dialogue

with the company, and it has dropped the indemnity clause. It says it is not prepared to amend the assignment or waiver. A new email network has been set up for those freelances who wish to resist: go to www.londonfreelance.org/ShadyBauer to sign up. The name is a pun, Your Honour.

Brief video training

DO YOU want to expand your skills base? The Frontline Club, the "media club that uniquely combines eating, drinking and thinking," organises 5-day courses on video shooting and on editing with Final Cut Pro (foundation, and intermediate), an 8-day course on solo video journalism and a one-day course on lighting for video. The pros may do six-month courses, but these will get you started. The Club has agreed

with London Freelance Branch that if we make a sufficiently large block booking they will halve the price – making the I, 5 and 8 day courses £113, £375 and £600 respectively. For dates in the near future see www .frontlineclub.com/club_training.php and if you're interested in joining an LFB contingent email video@londonfreelance.org – not forgetting to say which courses you are interested in attending.

UNCLASSIFIED ADS

FREELANCE UNCLASSIFIEDS are FREE to members for non-commercial purposes. To non-members and for commercial purposes, £10 for this much text, roughly. Acceptance is at the editors' whim; appearance does not imply endorsement. If you have any comments on an advertiser, tell us. Submit your ads by email to unclassified@londonfreelance.org

GROUCHO SOUTH-EAST is a networking night for media freelances around the Weald. Every fortnight at The Bull in Benenden, Kent, from 6.15pm: Thursday September 25. See http://grouchosoutheast.blogspot.com or email crabapple@btinternet.com

WANT TO TRY your hand at fiction? Try The Complete Creative Writing Course at The Groucho Club - a range of beginners' to advanced courses starting in October. Also a NEW screenwriting course available. For details and dates contact Maggie Hamand on 020 7249 3711 or go to our website at www.writingcourses.org.uk

COUNSELLING for Hacks! Deadlines getting you down? Life getting in the way? Trauma from the zone. If you need to talk, there is a safe space. Relationships, Stress, Loss. Central London. Special rates for NUJ members. www.billbakercounselling.co.uk Or call for no-obligation initial appointment: 0870 405 1960.

Develop your freelance capabilities

You have quite some experience of freelancing as a writer, reporter or editor, perhaps several years, and you realise that it would be useful to spend a day thinking about what your next steps might be and talking with other freelances about bringing them about. That's what the NUJ's one-day course "Develop Your Freelance Capabilities" offers.

You might come up with ways of making more money from the freelancing you're doing, or a whole new strand to add to your freelance existence. We are keeping the group small: maximum eight. Your tutor is Humphrey Evans, who has taught on the well-regarded "Getting Started as a Freelance" from its inception. The date to note is **Tuesday 28 October**, at NUJ head office near London's King's Cross. The cost is £195, but only £145 for NUJ members. Find out more and book for the day at **www.nujtraining.org.uk** or phone 020 7843 3717.