

## LONDON FREELANCE BRANCH MEETINGS

## Choose Branch officers, tell us what to do next

THIS newsletter will reach you in the last dying days of 2009. We hope that you are enjoying the seasonal holiday, and that you actually remembered to take some time off.

The Branch meeting on **Monday 11 January 2010** is its Annual General Meeting (AGM), which includes the election of new Branch officers and for members of the Branch committee.

We still need people to stand for committee posts. See below for what the Branch offers by way of support to its members considering standing for the committee, including (optional) NUJ Training courses for freelance activists. Feel free to contact a committee member via [www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/contact.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/contact.html) to discuss standing

for committee and what it entails.

The January meeting will also feature a short session on "Priorities – what now for London Freelance Branch?" This will invite members to put forward suggestions for topics for Branch meetings for the coming year, and ideas for possible LFB training courses or other Branch initiatives. You can read about a similar consultation LFB held previously at [www.londonfreelance.org/fl/0604want.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/fl/0604want.html).

Details of the Branch meeting on **Monday 8 February** will be online shortly at [www.londonfreelance.org](http://www.londonfreelance.org)

This issue went to press on **9 December 2009**. Deadline for the (online only) February 2010 issue is **20 January 2010**

[.org/lfb/meetings.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/meetings.html) Volunteer minute-takers are needed for LFB meetings throughout 2010.

● To make sure you get email alerts of meetings and the electronic *Freelance* – just one message a month – visit [www.londonfreelance.org/linkup](http://www.londonfreelance.org/linkup)

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 at [www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/meetings.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/meetings.html) – and for details of the inaugural meeting of the London Photographers' Branch, see page 1.

Branch contacts: [www.londonfreelance.org/lfb](http://www.londonfreelance.org/lfb)  
Phone numbers are due to appear again soon

**FREELANCE**

## Your Branch needs you!

Elections for members of the London Freelance Branch committee happen at our Annual General Meeting on **Monday 11 January**. We need people to stand for the committee: [www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/jobs.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/jobs.html) for details.

The Branch committee members are all working journalists who volunteer to support fellow-members – assisted by John Toner and Pamela Morton, the NUJ's full-time Freelance Organisers, and their assistant Andrew Dixon. Improving other journalists' conditions of work, of course, does raise the bar for the

way you are treated by clients.

The Branch is offering a free one-day course in minute-taking at the National Centre for Voluntary Organisations, for members who are considering standing for Secretary (including as a job share), or who feel they might want to support the Secretary with occasional minute-taking during Branch meetings.

We expect that there will be a free two-day NUJ Training course for freelance activists and officers during 2010: watch this space. For other support available to prospective committee candidates, see

## CONTACTS

## Freelance office

John Toner / Pamela Morton .....020 7843 3735  
email .....[freelanceoffice@nuj.org.uk](mailto:freelanceoffice@nuj.org.uk)  
✉ .....308 Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8DP

## Legal emergency only:

office hours .....0800 587 7528  
at other times .....0800 587 7530

## Freelance Editors

Mike Holderness, Matt Salusbury  
email:.....[editor@londonfreelance.org](mailto:editor@londonfreelance.org)

© 2009 NUJ & authors; moral rights asserted.

[www.londonfreelance.org/fl/0810ctte.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/fl/0810ctte.html). If you're very new to LFB, you may prefer to come to a few meetings and see how it works before approaching the committee about standing.

## And on page 5...

Page 5 is online, and includes:

- Expanding Freelance Directory
- New look Fees Guide
- Kit for Zimbabwe union, please
- Money for multiplatforming
- Tax deadline 31 January
- Falselances and philosophical belief – law update
- **LATE NEWS:** Musicians sue for up to \$6 billion in Canada

[www.londonfreelance.org/fl](http://www.londonfreelance.org/fl)

## Breaking the back of the book?

THE WORLD of book publishing is about to be turned upside down, with most of the developments involving a famous web search engine.

An amended Settlement Agreement in the Google Books case got preliminary approval by the court in New York on 19 November. All deadlines are put back.

- Details: [www.londonfreelance.org/fl/1001goog.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/fl/1001goog.html)

Google plans to launch an online store to deliver electronic books to any device with a Web browser, competing with Amazon's Kindle. The emergence of e-books in general is challenging the whole idea that your work is licensed for use in one territory and that you get more money for further licences.

- Details: [www.londonfreelance.org/fl/1001kind.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/fl/1001kind.html)

## 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](mailto:unclassified@londonfreelance.org)

**DESK AVAILABLE** in friendly office share with journalists on Farringdon Road, Clerkenwell EC1. £200 a month (inclusive bills etc). One desk share also available £100 pcm. Contact Rogan: email [rogan@roganmacdonald.co.uk](mailto:rogan@roganmacdonald.co.uk)

**OFFICE SPACE TO RENT** Desk available in Kingston, South London (minutes from

BR) sharing with 2 others. £250/month (+vat) including broadband, phone at cost. Meeting/interview room available from January. Contact Stephen Pritchard: email [stephen.pritchard@ensmedia.co.uk](mailto:stephen.pritchard@ensmedia.co.uk) or 020 8549 8937 (office) or 07970 098484 (mobile).

**DESK IN FRIENDLY QUIET OFFICE** for sublet, Jan 25-May 31. Share w/ 3 others. Tons of natural light. Clapham N. Art Centre, SW4 6DH; next to Clapham High St station, nr. Clapham N. tube. £200/mo all in, excl. VAT. Dates/rent negot. Ros 07932 119915.

**WINTER SUNSHINE ANYONE?** I have a villa in Fuerteventura, the most idyllic of the Canary Islands. It's just outside the main

town of Corralejo, in an area called Tamaragua. Three bedrooms, two bathrooms, kitchen, large lounge/dining room, dip pool in back garden. Fully furnished direct flights from many UK airports. Email: [jeannequigley@gmail.com](mailto:jeannequigley@gmail.com)

**WANT TO TRY YOUR HAND** at writing fiction? The Complete Creative Writing Course at the Groucho Club offers courses for beginners, intermediate and advanced students and also in screenwriting. Courses start in mid January. Cost: £275-£295 including VAT for six three-hour sessions. For full details go to [www.writingcourses.org.uk](http://www.writingcourses.org.uk) or ring Maggie on 0207 503 6285.

## ADM report

There's a (partial) report from one of LFB's delegation at the NUJ's Annual Delegate Meeting (ADM, its policy conference) in Southport in November, at [www.londonfreelance.org](http://www.londonfreelance.org). This conference will henceforth become an 18-monthly delegate meeting, which we think would abbreviate to 18MDM, although we welcome other suggestions. See also the write-up of the ADM by NUJ student members – some sponsored by LFB to attend the conference – at [www.nujadm.org.uk](http://www.nujadm.org.uk)