

The Trireme Award

This month's Trireme Award for "the worst terms since I was last chained to the oars" goes to the Inland Waterways Association, whose six-month PR and journalism internship for two to five days a week pays expenses only "where appropriate." See also the Journalism Screwed blog (<http://journalismiscrewed.tumblr.com>) for numerous worse examples, such as the (regrettably anonymous) "2p per word" ad.



The Rate for the Job

THIS MONTH'S Rate for the Job includes a fee for a *Daily Mail* health feature on what causes or cures cancer this week. And we appeal for photography rates, of which we are experiencing a dearth currently.

You can submit rates online, in confidence, at any time, at www.londonfreelance.org/rates – please give not only the basic rate (e.g. for FBS, First British Serial rights) but extra payments negotiated for extra uses, like the Vweb. These are shown as (eg) £400 + 100.

We now record rates paid in Euro as well. Rates marked **X** are, in the editor's fallible opinion, below par. Treat all rates as minima, even perhaps the happy ☺ few.

Broadcasting: Al Jazeera TV Reporter day shift on contract (so includes time off element) £337.50; ABC radio (USA) 29-minute documentary (10 interviews) – no travel exes £1000; BBC World Service programme, 8-minute item including 4 interviewees, no exes, all rights £290; *Inside Story* Punditry – 25 mins including car pick up 1.5 hours £250; DW-Radio (Germany), 6-minute radio feature Euros 227; BBC World Service 30-minute simultaneous recording £180; BBC Radio day (features) exes paid £150, half day £75 **X**; Radio France International 4-minute feature Euros 124; *Nursing Standard* podcast £100; Channel 4 News expert interview £60 **X**.

Shifts: *The Architect's Journal* subbing day £150; *ENDS Report* subbing day, unchanged from 2000, £140; Haymarket titles subbing day £150;

Planning news reporting shift £150.

Words, per 1000: *Mail on Sunday* column – if you're Piers Morgan – £350,000 a year for 1300 words a week (by our count) according to *Private Eye* – 'exaggerated' says the *Mail* £5325; *Guardian* obituary – if you're Stephen Fry – according to *Private Eye* £3000; *Right Start* magazine (Avid), all rights £250 **X**; *Daily Mail* health feature £600; *Daily Mail* £556; *Cycling Mobility* (Verlags Modern) £375; *Accounting Technician* (Think Publishing) £350; *Guardian* news story £301.63; *Guardian* 550 words web-only £165 = £300; *Independent* £200 **XXX**; *The Ecologist* £150; *The Word* feature £133 **X**; AOR feature £106 **XX**; *Home Farmer* 600 words plus photos £80 **XX**.

Words, other: Al Jazeera English online 3000 words £212; *Guardian* Education page, extra online material £500; *Guardian* feature £285; *Guardian* Learn Direct online, flat rate since 2007 £200; Media Wales review, 350 words £50; AOR album review, 225 words £35 **X**.

iBastard?

The End User License Agreement (EULA) for Apple's new iBooks Author free new software seems not only to restrict what users can legally do with it but, according to ZDNet (znetibooks.notlong.com), would appear also to restrict its output – the e-books that the user produces using the software. ZDNet described it as being a bit like Microsoft deciding what images you can project at your presentation using PowerPoint, or determining what views you can

express in a Word document.

The EULA states that if the work you produce using iBooks Author is for commercial purposes, "(a) you will be required to enter into a separate written agreement with Apple (or an Apple affiliate or subsidiary) before any commercial distribution of your Work may take place; and (b) Apple may determine for any reason and in its sole discretion not to select your Work for distribution."

There's also what, on ZDNet's

first inspection, appears to be a liability clause absolving Apple of any legal action resulting from the e-book you publish with their software, and dumping that liability on you. This includes any claims arising from Apple deciding not to distribute your work.

ZDNet suspect "sloppy lawyering" rather than deliberate greed. One author told the *Freelance* that they thought no serious professional writer would be using any free software to publish e-books anyway.

Strike alert

NUJ members at Trinity Mirror, the *Guardian* and the *Financial Times* have authorised the union to call ballots on possible strike action. Members at Thomson Reuters were due to have struck on 9 and 10 February, and at Newsquest on 13 February. Watch nuj.org.uk for further strike dates, on which you may find yourself unavailable. Freelancers who suffer hardship as a result of being unavailable should contact the striking chapel. Meanwhile national papers have announced cut-backs on casuals' shifts. News International is offering an "exit payment" and the *Independent* a choice between an exit payment and continuing to do fewer shifts. The *Guardian* is reported to be cutting half its shifts. The Freelance Office is doing its best to support members with claims for "exit payments".

It's for charidee?

A NEW development could lead to a more optimistic landscape for local news start-ups. A campaign by Lord Phillips of Sudbury seems to have persuaded the Charities Commission to allow local news start-ups to register as charities.

Third Sector reported that the Charities Commission had "referred the matter to its board for a deci-

sion" and that "It is the commission's view that the production of a community newspaper may be capable of being recognised as a charitable purpose", which would make local news start-ups eligible to apply for grant funding and "in kind" benefits – charities get many services at reduced rates, and a lot of local councils have a stock of buildings that

they make available at below market rents, but only to organisations with charitable status.

Watch this space for updates on developments at the Charities Commission. See our report on journalism as a social enterprise at www.londonfreelance.org/fl/1003coop.html and the story of *Magnet* on page 1.

Working Tax Credit puzzle

We have heard from a freelance who receives Working Tax Credit and who was contacted by the WTC compliance office requesting proof they'd been working the current required minimum of 30 hours a week. Another freelance also investigated by the compliance office was told by them they'd carried out 16,000 compliance checks of late, with more to

come. Meanwhile, the Department for Work and Pensions has proposed a new "Universal Credit" to replace Jobseeker's Allowance, Income Support, Working Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, Housing Benefit, Disability benefits and more.

The *Freelance* is still struggling to get its heads round the implications for the many freelance journal-

ists on Tax Credits. Freelancers on Tax Credit are advised to ensure they have documentary evidence of working at least 30 hours a week.

See the online version at www.londonfreelance.org/fl/1202tax.html for resources and advice on Working Tax Credit. LFB expects to start campaigning around this issues in the near future: watch this space.