

LONDON FREELANCE BRANCH MEETINGS

Worth investigating!

INVESTIGATIVE journalism is – provisionally – the theme of the LFB meeting on **Monday 9 July**. We expect to have as our speakers some eminent working investigative journalists.

The very provisional list of speakers includes LFB's own Mark Watts, editor-in-chief of investigative website Exaro – www.exaronews.com – which also commissions (and pays) freelancers. Additional speakers could, depending on their diary details, include members of either the *Panorama* team or the *Sunday Times*

Insight team. Watch the LFB website (see below) and the LFB Twitter feed at www.twitter.com/NUJ_LFB for the names of speakers as they are confirmed.

There is no LFB meeting in August, a month in which LFB traditionally takes the nearest freelance equivalent to a holiday.

This issue went to press on **Wednesday 6 June**.

Your deadline for the (online-only) July issue is **Sunday 1 July**.

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. Volunteer minute-takers are needed for LFB meetings for the rest of the year. For details of the NUJ London Photographers' Branch meetings, see londonphotographers.org

Make Journalism Pay – diarize 17 November!

LONDON FREELANCE Branch is hosting a conference on New Ways to Make Journalism Pay – Part Two later this year. The date is now confirmed – it's **Saturday 17 November 2012** and we also have a confirmed venue – it's the London Welsh Centre/*Canolfan Cymry Llundain*, 157-163 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8UE. (Nearest Tube is King's Cross, and it's just down the road from the NUJ headquarters.) And media columnist Professor Roy Greenslade has apparently already given the event a plug in his blog.

The programme is still being put together: possible themes for sessions include panels on pursuing freelancing through social media, smartphone apps, collective endeavours, working in slow times, diversifying outside the sort of journalism

we would usually do, going into consultancy, PR work for local "SMEs" (small and medium-sized enterprises) and working for overseas clients, especially in those lucrative emerging markets such as Indian and Brazil.

The November conference is inspired by the well-received event held by LFB in January 2010 – which was so successful that we had a full house and had to turn people away. See www.londonfreelance.org/fl/1002ways.html for a full report.

Since then, journalism has continued to change and evolve – and things have remained very difficult.

We hope soon also to run a report on the NUJ Brussels Branch version of New Ways to Make Journalism Pay, held in that city in June, which featured speakers with suc-

cessful online media start-ups in the Continent of Europe, and we've heard that a similar event is being planned by NUJ activists for Paris.

See also the <http://newmodel-journalism.com> blog which is run by two NUJ freelancers prominent in the original NWTMJP 2010 gig. The blog now actually makes some money from advertising.



Participants in the 2010 New Ways to Make Journalism Pay event
Photo © Tony Rizzo

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ROOM TO LET IN E17 (Victoria line and overland to city close). Either as workspace or Mon-Fri let as bedsit/ workspace, share bathroom, tea-coffee making facilities in room. Preferably a woman. £350 per month. Contact jenny@jennypvaughan.co.uk

IRISH COUNTRY COTTAGE for rent, 1 hour from Cork. Remote, rustic cottage, well equipped, recently renovated, sleeps nine. Breathtaking views. Near Macroom and Killarney. Rates €350 June–August, €300 Sept and €250 any other time. Email jkhowe@eircom.net

FEATURE WRITER looking for office/ shared office not too far from N8 (Hornsey/Crouch End). House-trained. Please contact vince.graff@myself.com

FRANCE PROFONDE: stay in the heart of medieval St Benoit. The perfect place to write, paint or escape from the irritations of modern life. Cheap rates out of high season: www.stbenoit-dusault.com

SHARE OFFICE, groovy Shoreditch, 5 mins Old Street tube. £200 pcm covers heat, light, receptionist, cleaner, mini-kitchen/loo, phone/internet connection. Only extra is phone-calls. Contact: lswaffield1@gmail.com

LONDON B&B Wimbledon / Putney area in photojournalist's home. Details: www.southfieldsstudio.co.uk or email southfields.bed@btconnect.com

WANT TO TRY your hand at writing fiction? The Complete Creative Writing Course at the Groucho Club offers courses in creative writing and also in screenwriting. Courses start in April/May. Cost: £295–£315 including VAT for six three-hour sessions. Also intermediate and advanced levels at other venues. For full details go to www.writingcourses.org.uk.

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