



This QR code shall cause your internet-enabled smartphone to convey you forthwith to the Rate for the Job page online at www.londonfreelance.org/rates

The Rate for the Job

ONCE AGAIN an appeal to those filling in the Rate for the Job form circulated at Branch meetings to write *legibly*, please!

Thinking about work for a company you've not dealt with before? Simply look at the Rate for the Job to find out what companies in similar niches have paid. Then aim higher.

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 Web – or for print if it's a Rate for the Online Job. These are shown as (eg) £400 + 100. We now record rates paid in € 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: BBC R4 expert interviews/punditry £120; BBC News GNS, 2 hours of 2-ways with local stations via Skype, terms "BBC all in" £150; RT news, 2-way 10 mins Skype interview, journalist says FBS £50; BBC Scotland Kay Adams ISDN punditry 10 to 30 mins terms "BBC all in" £50; RTE Six-One News (TV) live two-way €60 **XXX**; unnamed broadcaster, punditry – talked up to travel + £200.

Photography: Corporate video, shoot/production £300; *NOISEY* (Vice) music festival shoot, unlimited worldwide £150; Queen Mary University of London, shoot student union events, extra hour for editing,

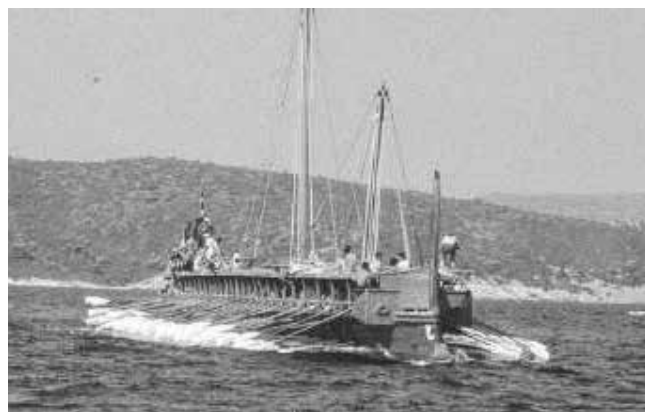
no exes, £9.28 per hour **XX**.

Shifts: *International Business Times* news day £150; *i* paper editing day – 8 hours £150; *NME* reporting 8 hours (evenings) £90 **XXX**; BBC News website subbing/reporting (10 hours) £204 **X**; BBC News website reporting day £192 **X**; Red Bulletin 7 hours £150.

Translation: PR dept, newspaper articles, 500 words @ €40.

Words, per 1000: Marketing case studies £600; *Private Eye* report 300 words @ £150 = £500; *Fair Plan-et* report, 350 words @ £85 = £243; *Refinery* 29 £200; *The Tablet* £200 **X**; *Positive News* £200, *THE* 500-word advertorial @ £90 = £180 **XX**; *PlanetSki* travel feature £0 **XXX**; *Alban-Digital* Advertising, blog post ghost-writing £100 – rejected.

Words, other: Vice UK research for feature £200; "content agency" search engine optimisation / writing / pic research etc, £60 – rejected; unnamed digital magazine 4-6 thousand-word pieces per month £1500 per month plus travel exes.



The Trireme

This month's Trireme Award, for the "worst terms since I was last chained to the oars", goes to PlanetSki website. While this boasts some major industry sponsors and advertising, and some BBC Sports correspondents write for it, it nonetheless offered one freelance the grand sum of £0.00 (zero pounds zero pence) for a travel feature.

Photo © a member of the Trireme Trust

Note to self – do tax by 31 January 2017!

IT'S THAT time of year again. Already? Yes, already! You have already missed the deadline to do your tax return on paper.

If you're doing your tax return online for the first time (if – for example – you became self-employed and got a brand new Unique Tax Reference number between April 2016 and April 2017), register online and request a password for Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) online self-assessment thing. (www.gov.uk/topic/personal-tax/self-assessment). It's actually a lot more user-friendly than the words "Government IT project" suggest.

For reasons of security, your HMRC online password has to arrive *by post*. HMRC recommend you

allow up to a month after requesting such a password.

In the run up to the **31 January 2017** deadline for sending your tax return, callers to HMRC with enquiries can expect to wait on the phone for about 45 minutes, so request a password now, please. If you've used HMRC online to do your tax return before, your password will still work this tax year – if you can still find it. Check now, please.

You have until **31 January** to submit your completed tax return online or face automatic fines for late filing – these start at £100. Don't say we didn't warn you.

If you've already submitted your self-assessment return a few days ahead of **31 January**, you'll have

avoided time-consuming discussions with HMRC that inevitably follow HMRC's website crashing under the volume of all those last-minute submitted self-assessment tax returns.

The online version of this article (at www.londonfreelance.org/fi/1611tax.html) links to apps, services and helplines – some free – that claim to simplify the process for you or offer free advice on it. Their inclusion in the *Freelance* should not be considered an endorsement. Also linked from this article online, if you are also a member of the Society of Authors, is their very reasonably-priced insurance policy against the costs of being investigated by the people from HMRC.

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Animator sought

The Institute of Employment Rights is looking for an animator to help translate its Manifesto for Labour Law into a short animated clip to help popularise the ideas. Explaining the concept of Sectoral Collective Bargaining is high on the agenda. Money is short but the IER is happy to discuss possible terms and all offers of help. Contact Carolyn Jones at cad@ier.org.uk

Training alert – Pitch & Deal, Getting Started and others

THE EVER-POPULAR Getting Started as a Freelance (GSAF) course, devised by London Freelance Branch, returns on **Saturday 21 January**, back at the NUJ's newly re-opened HQ at Headland House. Moved to freelancing from a staff post or from something else entirely? It's for you.

The following week sees another longstanding training course with its origins firmly in London Freelance Branch – Pitch and Deal (P&D, negotiating for freelancers). It's at the same venue on **Saturday 28 January**.

Tutors for both courses will in-

clude Freelance Industrial Council's own Louise Bolotin. Both courses cost £70 for NUJ members, with discounts for student members and unemployed members.

Details should soon be on the NUJ events calendar at www.nuj.org.uk/events

Please note that Headland House in its new configuration has a new entrance which has moved round the corner from the old one, to 72 Acton Road, London WC1X 9NB.

There are a couple of three-day NUJ courses in shooting and editing

footage scheduled for the first half of 2017 – starting on **Thursday 2 February** and **Monday 15 May** at the same venue. These are priced at £550 for members and booking for them has already opened. See the link above for details.

As ever, there are free workshops held across the UK on dealing with "the business side" of working as a self-employed person, provided by the Federation of Entertainment Unions (FEU), of which the NUJ is a member. See www.feutraining.org for details.