

## Cuban exhibition

Branch member Larry Herman has an exhibition of photographs of the working lives of Cubans, from an archive of the *Confederación de Trabajadores de Cuba* in Havana. Go to the Brady Arts Centre, 192-196 Hanbury Street, London E1 5HU by **30 October** on Monday to Friday from 9am to 7pm or on Saturday, 10.30am to 5pm. On Thursday 25 October there's a Q&A with photo-historian Dr Noni Stacey and the artist at 7pm.



## The Gong

AN LFB member reminds us of the need to “keep on top of your admin.” They had put off invoicing a client, as a result of which they clocked up £1800 in money owed to them. Then the client went into administration and was eventually taken over by various owners, culminating in a takeover by Trinity Mirror. After many, many months, the freelance in question eventually recovered all of it, thanks to the help of the NUJ Freelance Officers John Toner (now Scotland Organiser) and Pamela Morton. The freelance in question reminds LFB members of the importance of invoicing promptly.  
Photo © **Dave Rotchelle**

# The Rate for the Job

THIS MONTH'S Rates for the Job include entries from the BBC's new rate card, with uplifts of around 2 per cent on last year's fees. There are more online, while the *Freelance Fees Guide* explains its terminology, such as “buyout” and “disco donut” at [www.londonfreelance.org/feesguide/glossary.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/feesguide/glossary.html)

Thinking about work for a company you've not dealt with before? Look at the Rate for the Job to find

out what companies in similar niches have paid. Then aim higher. You can submit rates online at [www.londonfreelance.org/rates](http://www.londonfreelance.org/rates) – please give not only the basic rate (e.g. for First British Serial rights) but extra payments negotiated for extra uses, like the Web. These are shown as (eg) £400+100. Rates marked **X** are, in the editor's fallible opinion, below par. Treat all rates as minima, even perhaps the happy ☺ few.

**Broadcasting:** Advertising agency, voiceover – *per hour* – £150 (+ agent's fee, if you have one). BBC Radio – recorded interview with guest(s), commentary or rant up to £128; press review £117; 8-minute World Service feature £659.

**Photography:** Construction company website, unauthorised use of photo, claimed £3k but accepted for a quick settlement £2000; US educational publisher, stock image – extensive rights, print run over 4m, worldwide, web, DVD etc. £1400; law firm, one-day location portrai-

ture, licensed for all media in perpetuity but “copyright retained” – travel paid, £500; UK tabloid newspaper, single image, print use, £500; UK tabloid newspaper, single image – online only £500; *Blackpool Gazette*, *Lancashire Post* day shift – mileage @ 25p per mile £120.00; *Lancashire Telegraph*, day shift – no mileage £110 **XXX**; *East Durham Life*, *Hartlepool Life*, half-day, mileage paid £60; Johnston Press papers in NE England, “half day” – no mileage, £50 **XXX**; Rex Features, unspecified use of image £0.06 **XXXX**.

**Shifts:** *Money Saving Expert*, editing or news reporting day £160.

**Words, per 1000:** *Nature Index*, 450 words @ £450 = £1000; *The Guitar Magazine*, member talked the rate up from £150 to £200; *The Establishment*, US\$125; *New African*, feature, all rights £120 **XXXX**; *Cycle Industry News* feature £80.

**Words, other:** *Reader's Digest*, feature £450.00; *Middle East Eye*, feature US\$350.

## Class 2 NI contributions to stay – for now

THE GOVERNMENT announced in early September that it was scrapping, or at least delaying, plans to abolish Class 2 national insurance contributions.

HMRC confirmed to the Society of Authors that the self-employed who earn less than £6205 per year in self-employment can continue with the current Class 2 regime in which they make voluntary payments of £2.95 a week, which count towards pension contributions.

The spectre of freelancers having to pay Class 3 contributions

instead – £14.65 a week, amounting to 12 per cent of the income of some of the lowest-paid self-employed people – has receded.

Freelancers still need to actively contact the HMRC to make these voluntary Class 2 payments, and to consider making backdated payments for any holes in their NI contribution history (there are limits on how far back these can go, so seek advice on this). Some reports suggest the abolition of Class 2s has only been postponed until April 2019, so fill those gaps in your Class

2 contributions history while you still can. The National Insurance system remains unreformed as a result of the announcement, which is probably bad news in the long term for millions of low-earning self-employed folk.

See our guide from March this year on keeping your Class 2s up to date for your pension contributions; you can ignore its April 2018 deadline in the light of Class 2s remaining for now. It's at [www.londonfreelance.org/fl/1803ni.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/fl/1803ni.html)

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## Training alert – let's get better deals; freedom of information

SADLY this *Freelance* is arriving later than we expected – probably after the LFB-initiated Introduction to Data Journalism course on on Friday 19 October. To see whether you'd like to request a repeat, see [www.londonfreelance.org/fl/1809tra.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/fl/1809tra.html)

There's a course in “Let's role play better deals!”, on how freelance journalists can get paid more for their work – how to always ask for more – with veteran LFB tutors Phil Sutcliffe and Hilary Evans. It's

on **Wednesday 28 November** at Headland House (see back page) and costs £5.98 for NUJ members. To book, see this notice online at [www.londonfreelance.org/fl/1810tra.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/fl/1810tra.html)

Do you want to learn how to use the Freedom of Information Act? Are you already using the Act, but want to know more about how key provisions are being interpreted? A Campaign for Freedom of Information (CFOI) course on **Wednesday 24 October** at the Free Word Centre,

60 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3GA explains the legislation, shows how to draft effective requests and describes how to challenge unjustified refusals. For more details and to book, see this notice online as above.

For NUJ Training Scotland courses (also open to NUJ members in the North of England) see [nujtrainingscotland.com](http://nujtrainingscotland.com) – and for NUJ Training Wales activities see [www.nujtrainingwales.org](http://www.nujtrainingwales.org) and for FEU Training courses see this notice online as well.

## LFB recruits among journalism students

AS PART of its recruitment campaign aimed at student members, LFB is holding a series of meetings early in the academic year at selected London journalism schools. The first of these will be at City, University of

London in Northampton Square, EC1V 0HB on **Saturday 3 December**.

The format will be similar to LFB's own New Members' Meetings (see back page). Hosted by City's own

Professor Richard Evans, it will include talks on setting rates, pursuing payments and tax admin. Other LFB events at other London journalism schools are expected to follow. Watch this space for more details.