

## LONDON FREELANCE BRANCH MEETINGS

## Reporting religion, Xmas party, AGM 2020

REPORTING religion is the theme of the LFB meeting on **Monday 11 November**. Our speakers will include Ruth Peacock, Launch Director and Trustee of the Religion Media Centre, together with some of her colleagues.

Ruth is a former BBC reporter, producer and editor specialising in religious affairs. The Religion Media Centre ([www.religionmedia-centre.org.uk](http://www.religionmedia-centre.org.uk)) has a mission to help “journalists and other media professionals to cover religion”.

We also expect in this meeting to vote on some proposed motions from the Branch to go before the NUJ's Delegate Meeting (DM, its conference every two years). The next one's in April in Southport. Please see the “meetings” page (link below) for details.

The LFB gathering on **Monday 9 December** is a festive end-of-year party for freelancers whose existence is often overlooked at such corporate Xmas gatherings for staffers.

It starts at the usual time (below) but it's a different venue – it's at St Anne's, 55 Dean St, W1D 6AF: nearest Tube Piccadilly Circus. There will be free food and some free drink.

On **Monday 13 January** LFB has its Annual General Meeting (AGM) during which it elects new members of its Committee. See [www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/jobs.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/jobs.html) for Committee posts (some are paid) and what each of them entails.

This went to press on **30 September**. Your deadline for the November online-only issue is **30 October**

LFB meetings (except for new members' meetings) are always on the second Monday of the month, from 6.45pm to 8.45pm in the basement of the NUJ's HQ at **Headland House, 72 Acton Street, London WC1X 9NB**, accessible to people who use wheelchairs. The nearest Tube is King's Cross

or Chancery Lane. If you need the Branch to pay for care for a child or dependent so you can attend a meeting, contact a Branch officer.

For updates on meetings and for confirmation of themes and speakers for forthcoming meetings, see the Branch calendar web page [www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/meetings.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/meetings.html) and LFB's Twitter feed [www.twitter.com/NUJ\\_LFB](https://twitter.com/NUJ_LFB)

Can members who have difficulty reading the agenda on paper please contact us to get the agenda in electronic form ahead of the meeting?

We draw members' attention to the microphone that will be passed to you if you indicate you wish to speak at a meeting. This is so that our members with hearing problems can hear you via the induction loop.

For updated guidance on etiquette on recording or live-tweeting from LFB meetings, see our policy at [www.londonfreelance.org/fl/1507film.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/fl/1507film.html)

FREELANCE

Branch contacts: [www.londonfreelance.org/lfb](http://www.londonfreelance.org/lfb)  
Online Freelance contents: [www.londonfreelance.org/fl](http://www.londonfreelance.org/fl)

## NEW MEMBERS MEET

EVEN IN the event of a no-deal Brexit, LFB's new members meeting will go ahead on **Thursday 31 October**.

Yes, for added excitement, the next new members meeting will be a few hours before the UK is (or was – maybe – at the time of writing) scheduled to leave the EU.

As usual, this free event is a chance to meet other members new to LFB. On hand will be also some veteran journalists who've been with LFB

for absolutely ages, who can share their experience of freelancing and give advice. Halloween masks and costumes are strictly optional.

New members' meetings are always on the last Thursday of every *third* month (regardless of whether or not it's an “Exiting the EU” day).

The October event is, as ever, at The Camera Museum, Museum Street, London WC1A 1LY on **Thursday 27 July 2017** from 6pm. The nearest Tube is Holborn.



A successful LFB new members' meeting in July: image © Francesca Marchese

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## THE BRANCH COMMITTEE

## Your Branch needs you

THERE IS a vacancy for a Welfare Officer for London Freelance Branch, to support members in trouble. Some of the work of the Branch Welfare Officers involves making applications to the NUJ charity, NUJ Extra, on behalf of members in need. There are some problems members get into that no amount of money can solve, so other tasks include listening to members, advising them and counselling them. This may include home visits or meeting up with members to discuss their issues.

LFB has two Welfare Officers – where possible one male and one female. Currently Tim Dawson is our male Welfare Officer – see his guide to what a

Welfare Officer does at [www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/welfare.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/welfare.html) – and we have a vacancy for a female Welfare Officer. If you are interested in standing, come to a Branch meeting or contact a member of the Branch Committee: [www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/contact.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/contact.html)

The Branch Annual General Meeting (AGM) on **13 January 2020** will elect a new Committee and also the delegation to the Union's Delegate Meeting (conference) in Southport on 24-26 April. For the Committee posts and what they entail, see [www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/jobs.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/lfb/jobs.html) and for more on standing as a delegate see our advice ahead of the previous DM at [www.londonfreelance.org/fl/1711dm.html](http://www.londonfreelance.org/fl/1711dm.html)

## CONTACTS

## Freelance office

Pamela Morton, David Ayrton ..... 020 7843 3706  
Membership via switchboard ..... 020 7278 7916  
email ..... [freelanceoffice@nuj.org.uk](mailto:freelanceoffice@nuj.org.uk)  
post ..... 72 Acton Street, London WC1X 9NB  
**Legal helpline for NUJ members in emergency only:**  
England, Wales and Northern Ireland ..... 0114 241 9700  
Scotland ..... 0800 801 299  
Republic of Ireland ..... +353(0)1817 0340

## Freelance editors

Mike Holderness .....  
Matt Salusbury .....  
email: ..... [editor@londonfreelance.org](mailto:editor@londonfreelance.org)  
Follow us on Twitter . . . [www.twitter.com/NUJ\\_LFB](https://twitter.com/NUJ_LFB)

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