

LFB DRAFT ACTIVITY PLAN FOR 2017

This is a to-do list of the activities the branch routinely does and others which are either newer proposals or possibilities. This draft is a response to the 2016 plan's 15th point, which reads: "scheduling a review by LFB Committee of the 1-year plan - including whether it's fundamentally worthwhile - in November 2016 with a view, if approved, to putting a draft to LFB AGM in January 2017 for discussion/amendment and approval or not (such draft to be on the website in advance)"

Actions to include:

- 1.** Eleven branch meetings with either speakers or other main topics or seasonal party fun, these meetings to be planned no less than three months in advance on a rolling programme; agenda to include work matters discussions among the other regular features.
- 2.** One or more further LFB Salons, topics and speakers to be decided including via input from branch meetings, possibly in co-operation with Freelance Industrial Council. (Financing of one further Salon, underwritten to a cost of £2,050, agreed by branch in July 2016 and carried over from November to 2017 after failure to find suitable venue.)
- 3.** Four New Members Meetings to take place on the last Thursday of the month in January, April, July and October (all new members from previous 12 months invited, support by committee members and any other experienced freelance volunteers).
- 4.** One-off events (including the conference on Precarious Work in March, 2017 - already agreed by branch in October with underwriting for £2,000 and working group volunteered to organise it, tho more volunteers welcome).
- 5.** Continuing to support Richenda Power's work on analysing the branch's membership, particularly in the context of equality issues.

- 6.** Following up the 2016 equality officers Magda Ibrahim and Safiullah Tazib's branch survey by pursuing possible actions arising. (The survey results are published in full on LFB website.)
- 7.** Supporting liaison with Francesca Marchese's group of Italian journalists in London, possibly by the development of a Facebook page.
- 8.** Pursuing ways to support NUJ members from other countries who have concerns about being expelled from the UK (whether they are from the EU or other countries).
- 9.** Working within the branch and the union to improve training and the pricing of training needed by freelances and provided by the NUJ and/or the Federation Of Entertainment Unions. (Branch passed a motion to use £1,000 from the training fund, which is separate from the branch admin fund, to cover 20 per cent of the cost of NUJ courses for branch members who apply; because of the hiatus in NUJ training this has not been called on as yet but the training programme is expected to relaunch in January, 2017.)
- 10.** Developing more branch activity, work, events, meetings specifically providing for LFB's hundreds of photographer members.
- 11.** Developing a publicity plan, via branch and committee, to improve links with LFB's almost 4000 members and encourage co-operative activity of whatever kind individuals and groups may want to organise and take part in with branch support as needed. (That is, in terms of both using the existing Freelance newsletter, branch website and branch Twitter account)
- 12.** Working on:
 - a)** recruiting freelances to the union with a view to increasing branch numbers to 4,000 – for instance, by devising and promoting a branch Recruitment Day on which every member would be urged to ask at least one non-union freelance to please consider joining.
 - b)** Ensuring the branch has a consistent means of following up lapsed (leavers) to try to bring them back into the union – this could be either via the paid

national lapsings chaser agreed at DM 2016 or a continuation of the branch scheme using a paid freelance lapsings chaser (cost £750 for 5 days work) trialled in November/December 2016, after approval by branch in October .

13. Helping to develop a “national plan for freelances” and pressing the NUJ nationally to work on it and implement it. [This replaces the “Five-year plan” proposal for the branch on which committee decided no progress could be made.]

14. Developing and extending all elements of this plan for 2017 with further suggestions from members via encouraging members to take part in and/or initiate their own freelance journo-related activities.

15. Scheduling a review of this 1-year plan by LFB committee – including whether it’s worthwhile – in November 2017 with a view, if approved, to putting a draft to LFB AGM in January 2018 for discussion/amendment and approval or not (such draft to be displayed on the website in advance).