

# newspaper

[www.nujppr.org.uk](http://www.nujppr.org.uk)

## Women's TUC Conference

■ PR and Communications branch members Debbie Cavaldoro and Carmel McHenry attended the recent Women's TUC conference in London on behalf of the union.

The NUJ submitted motions on safety for female journalists, both in the UK and abroad. Equality officer Lena Calvert told the officer about reports of abuse suffered by members working in areas including sports and politics, some of which had included death and violent sexual

threats online and in person.

The union has worked with the End Violence Against Women Group to produce guidelines on reporting violent crimes against women and girls and also has guidelines covering online abuse and safety for women journalists, both of which are available on the union's website [www.nuj.org.uk](http://www.nuj.org.uk)

Debbie proposed the union's other motion on women in sport, explaining that when working as a press officer at a football club she had come into contact

with the negative views held by many about women in sport. She added that one way to overcome this was to 'normalise' women's involvement in sport, through participation, employment in the industry and even by becoming spectators.

'Don't be afraid to go to a football or rugby game and shout your head off with everyone else, or jiggle your bits getting sweaty at the gym, or even sitting down with the boys to watch sports on TV,' she told the conference. 'The more women become

involved in sport, the more it will become normal.

'Women don't have to aspire to be athletes just to get involved, we need women physios, women journalists and women business managers in sport so that it begins to reflect the wider community.'



## Glass ceiling in PR and broadcasting

■ Women are still struggling to achieve equality in both PR and broadcasting. A survey carried out by PR Week ahead of International Women's Day on 8 March showed that despite the PR industry workforce being two-thirds female only 13 per cent of women surveyed held a board or director position in comparison to 29 per cent of men. The poll also found that one in four women are reluctant

to ask for a promotion. In February, the CIPR published a report showing that men working in PR are on average paid £8,483 more than their female counterparts, revealing a persistent and shocking pay gap. A recent survey carried out by the NUJ among broadcasting members also found that women doing the same job as men are being paid less.

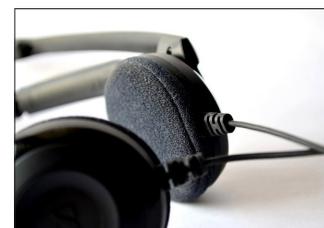
This survey evidence featured in a Lords committee report

on broadcasting and current affairs published in January this year which found a worrying absence of women in top roles. The Lords Communications Committee said it was concerned about evidence to its inquiry into women in broadcasting, "suggesting that discrimination against women, particularly older women, still exists in the industry".

The report recommends the use of positive action in recruitment and promotion opportunities for women, in particular in public broadcasting. NUJ welcomed the report, with NUJ general secretary Michelle Stanistreet saying the report "clearly sets out the problems women journalists face because of discrimination, bullying, recruitment practices and insufficient checks on employment practices" and that it "recognised the problems

women have in juggling a career in broadcasting and their childcare and family duties".

The union continues to campaign against sexism in the workplace and works on a range of women's issues. More than 40 per cent of the NUJ's membership are women. Every year the union celebrates the life and work of pioneering radical journalist and NUJ member, Claudia Jones with a memorial lecture in her honour. For more information see the 'Women in the NUJ' section of the website.



**Next branch meeting 5 May**

## Branch officers

NUJ head office  
Headland House  
308 Gray's Inn Road  
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*Chair:* Sian Jones /  
Anita Halpin

*Vice-Chair:* Monica Foot /  
Mick Holder

*Branch Secretary:*  
Mark Whitehead

*Assistant Secretary:*  
Sean Fleming

*Equality Officer*  
Carmel McHenry

*Treasurer*  
Carmel McHenry

*Welfare Officer:*  
Debbie Cavaldoro

*Newsletter Editor:*  
Lisa Browne

*DM convener:* Debbie  
Cavaldoro

E-Mail  
Please help build branch  
database by sending your  
e-mail address to:  
nujppr@googlemail.com

## Branch meetings 2015

All meetings start at  
6.30pm (refreshments  
available) and are held  
at NUJ, 308 Gray's Inn Rd  
London WC1

May 5  
June 2  
July 7  
(No meeting in August)  
Sept 1  
Oct 6  
Nov 3  
Dec 1



## PRCA Discounted Joining Offer

Running again in 2015,  
NUJ members will qualify  
for 50 per cent member-  
ship discount with the  
Public Relations Consult-  
ants Association - the  
PRCA. It is the largest PR  
association in Europe and  
it promotes all aspects  
of public relations and  
internal communications  
work. Look out for details  
in the Journalist..

# Workers' Memorial Day 28 April Remember the dead - fight for the living

Report by branch member Mick Holder

Workers' Memorial Day (WMD) is commemorated around the globe on 28 April. It is the day to remember those people killed, disabled, injured and made unwell by work and the devastation suffered by their families



and friends - and for a rallying cry to say we have to commit to acting collectively to prevent injury in the future.

The NUJ will be remembering those journalists murdered and killed at work, from the victims of the Charlie Hebdo attack to the 135 people whom the International Federation of Journalists say were killed around the world in 2014.

The UK the biggest issue on WMD is the burden of stress borne by journalists everywhere in our insecure media

and the bullying they endure from employers and managers inflicting cuts, redundancies, re-organisation and ever increasing workloads. The union will be calling for members to get organised around health and safety, elect health and safety representatives and use them to do as the WMD slogan says - fight for the living!

The PR and Commu- delegates to Waltham Forest Trades Council, a local TUC body, and they will be giving support to local activities

agreed by unions in the area. In particular they will be helping the family of Raymond Holmes who was killed on a Thames Water site in Walthamstow and the local authority Unison branch who have helped to expose the Waltham Forest council's failure to manage asbestos safely and for which they are set to receive a large fine in the courts. For more information go to [www.tuc.org.uk/workersmemorialday](http://www.tuc.org.uk/workersmemorialday) [www.hazards.org/wmd/](http://www.hazards.org/wmd/)

## London councils told to publish their newspapers every quarter

Three London councils have been told by the Communities Secretary to reduce the number of editions of newspapers they publish.

Communities and Local Government Minister Kris Hopkins announced the conclusions of a review carried out into newspapers produced by councils in the London Boroughs of Hackney, Newham and Waltham Forest.

The Government had told Greenwich Council not to commission or publish any more than four issues of 'Greenwich Time', or any equivalent newsletter or similar communication. However the council has decided not to comply with the direction, and the Secretary of State has initiated proceedings in the High Court against the council to enforce that direction.

In a written ministerial statement, Mr. Hopkins said the Communities Secretary Eric Pickles has

told the three other London boroughs they have until the 30 April 2015 to comply with the provision in the March 2011 Code of Recommended Practice on Local Authority Publicity which says local authorities should not issue newsletters or news sheets more than four times a year.

Mr Pickles, has been critical of councils that publish their own publicity sheets presented as newspapers. He has said in the past that newspapers should not face unfair tax payer-funded competition.

Waltham Forest, Newham and Hackney Labour councils were given some time to make further representations before a final decision is made.

Kris Hopkins said: "Following this, the Secretary of State will take his final decision in each case about whether or not to issue the council with a direction. Each decision will be taken on its own merits."



## Free speaker event

Join us on 5 May when we'll have UK head of media at Medecins Sans Frontieres Sophie-Jane Madden to talk about her challenging role at this international charity.

Medecins Sans Frontieres /Doctors Without Borders delivers emergency medical aid to people affected by conflict, epidemics, disasters or exclusion from healthcare and has been at the sharp end of working in countries affected by the Ebola virus.

Interviewed by the Guardian newspaper recently on her opinion of working with journalists, Sophie was candid about the challenges she faces in getting interest for stories. When it came to Ebola, she found that journalists were only really interested once a UK national caught the disease.

Come along to hear more from Sophie and put questions to her about her role at MSF and what it's like working for an international healthcare charity. Meeting open to all members and potential members 6:30pm (for 7pm start) Tuesday 5 May, NUJ HQ 308-312 Gray's Inn Road, WC1X 8DP. Nearest train/tube Kings Cross. Refreshments provided.

To register your interest, send a question to Sophie or for more information email Sian on [jonesbsian@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jonesbsian@yahoo.co.uk)