

Nudge Nudge

NUJ Daily Express, Sunday Express, Daily Star and Daily Star Sunday chapel newsletter

13 April 2004

Jobs under threat DON'T LET YOUR COLLEAGUES DOWN

Please ensure that you attend the meeting on Thursday when the chapel must decide its response to the management's policy of cutting jobs.

Remember that your colleagues' jobs and livelihoods are at stake. You owe it to them to attend.

If your job is not affected this time, don't forget that you may well be next in line for the axe. If few people attend, the management will draw the obvious inference that you are not bothered about jobs being cut.

It is not the chapel's intention to disrupt production and the papers will of course be produced speedily and efficiently after the meeting. Your head of department should not stand in your way if you want to attend.

All staff are legally entitled to attend the meeting. Following a voluntary agreement with Northern & Shell in 2001, the NUJ chapel is the official representative for all journalists working for Express Newspapers.

Casuals should also attend. NUJ negotiators spend a good deal of their time dealing with casual concerns. Your support is important now. The management knows that

more than 90% of staff supported the NUJ in its campaign to be recognised for collective bargaining. Since then, many people have assumed they can rely on chapel negotiators to put their case – without bothering to attend meetings.

But too few people turned up at the recent meeting to decide on the latest pay offer.

Your decision to stay at your desk when a chapel meeting is under way is a very definite statement of your position. It will be taken by the management as support for their policy.

The management will take much more notice if the editorial floor is empty. Make sure they get the right message. Everyone is entitled to attend the chapel meeting but only NUJ members are entitled to vote.

How to join:

If you would like to join the NUJ, you can ring the NUJ membership department on 020 7843 3732.

Alternatively you can download a membership application form from the NUJ head office website at www.nuj.org.uk

MANDATORY CHAPEL MEETING
THURSDAY 15 APRIL 3PM IN THE CANTEEN
ALL MEMBERS MUST ATTEND. NON-MEMBERS WELCOME.