

HampshireLegal

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE HAMPSHIRE LAW SOCIETY | **SEPTEMBER 2021**



The importance of digital connectivity

Plus

- Happenings in Hampshire
- Life after lockdown
- Solicitors Indemnity Fund update



Shaping your law firm's digital future

With a dedication to customer-focused development and an unrivalled commitment to innovation LEAP provides forward-thinking practice management software perfectly attuned to the needs of law firms.

Invest in the best.

Strategic Partner



The Law Society

Supporting Law Society members to become fully digital.
Discover more at leap.co.uk/the-law-society



PUBLISHER

Benham Publishing
Aintree Building, Aintree Way,
Aintree Business Park, Liverpool L9 5AQ
Tel: 0151 236 4141
Fax: 0151 236 0440
Email: admin@benhampublishing.com
Web: www.benhampublishing.com

ACCOUNTS DIRECTOR

Joanne Casey

SALES DIRECTOR

Karen Hall

STUDIO MANAGER

Lee Finney

MEDIA No.

1783

PUBLISHED

September 2021 © Benham Publishing Ltd.

LEGAL NOTICE

© Benham Publishing.

None of the editorial or photographs may be reproduced without prior written permission from the publishers. Benham Publishing would like to point out that all editorial comment and articles are the responsibility of the originators and may or may not reflect the opinions of Benham Media. No responsibility can be accepted for any inaccuracies that may occur, correct at time of going to press. Benham Publishing cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies in web or email links supplied to us.

DISCLAIMER

The Hampshire Incorporated Law Society welcomes all persons eligible for membership regardless of sex, race, religion, age or sexual orientation.

All views expressed in this publication are the views of the individual writers and not the society unless specifically stated to be otherwise. All statements as to the law are for discussion between members and should not be relied upon as an accurate statement of the law, are of a general nature and do not constitute advice in any particular case or circumstance.

Members of the public should not seek to rely on anything published in this magazine in court but seek qualified Legal Advice.

COVER INFORMATION

Photo by Windows on Unsplash.

Copy Deadlines

3rd December 2021
For the December 2021 edition

Advertising

Anyone wishing to advertise in Hampshire Legal please contact **Catherine McCarthy** before the copy deadline. **0151 236 4141**
catherine@benhampublishing.com

Editorial

Anyone wishing to submit editorial for publication in Hampshire Legal please contact **Nicola Jennings** before the copy deadline.
administration@hampshirelawsociety.co.uk

Contents

16



05 President's Review

07 CPD Update

08 HLS Contacts

09 Charity

17



10 Happenings in Hampshire

16 Back to life: returning to normality after lockdown

25



17 How important is digital connectivity? VERY!

25 Hampshire law firm Phillips Solicitors launches pioneering fertility policy

27



27 Update to Members on Solicitors Indemnity Fund (SIF)

29 "Lawyers and Experts": Facing the Future Together

30 Book Review

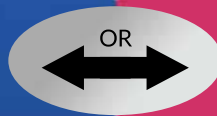
Follow us on social media

@hampshirelawsoc

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/hampshire-incorporated-law-society/>

LEAVE MANAGEMENT MADE EASY

- ✓ I manage staff leave
- ✓ Our staff work the same days or hours each week
- ✓ I may use a spreadsheet to manage my staff leave
- ✓ Our staff have mobile phones
- ✓ Our staff have the same leave holiday year
- ✓ We may offer overtime



EASY EMPLOYEE SCHEDULING

- ✓ I manage staff leave & work
- ✓ We have shift/rota based workers
- ✓ I need a system to help track who's working from home
- ✓ Join brands from around the world
- ✓ Our staff may have different holiday years
- ✓ We may even have staff in different time zones/countries
- ✓ HR and document storage



START YOUR **FREE TRIAL** TODAY FOR INSTANT BENEFITS

WhosOff allows you to reduce the time spent on paper chasing leave requests around the office by making important information available to the required staff in your company.

WHOSOFF.COM

HELLO@WHOSOFF.COM



SCHEDULE YOUR **FREE, CUSTOM WHOSOFTWARE DEMO** TODAY

Join brands from around the world who have discovered the power of WhosOffice. Let our dedicated onboarding team help optimize your workforce with our employee scheduling software.

WHOSOFTWARE.COM

HELLO@WHOSOFTWARE.COM



globalpayments



Crown
Commercial
Service
Supplier



President's Review

SEPTEMBER 2021

Well life appears on the surface at least to be returning to some sense of normality – ‘Freedom Day’ took place on 19 July 2021 as planned by the UK Government and we are now operating within the framework of our new norm. For many business this has been a tumultuous time, not least trying to combine the new demands and needs of the business against the new requirements and needs of their employees. Working from home has not become a thing only of lockdown and it appears that many sectors will continue with remote working and many workers want the flexibility that remote working appears to afford. How this will affect business long term is yet to be seen and we would appreciate any feedback from our members and readers as to what plans your workplaces have implemented and any long-term strategies which can be shared.

The end of the first stage of the SDLT ‘holiday’ on 30 June 2021 has now come and gone and as the second stage end approaches (30 September 2021) all conveyancers breath a huge sigh of relief. There has been a noticeable decline in properties on the market and prices do appear to be stabilising and it seems likely that they may fall back to pre-SDLT holiday levels which will hopefully return some balance to the conveyancing scene.

HILS has continued to try and adapt to the ever-shifting sands of the last 18 months and it has continued to be a challenging time for everyone. Trying to provide our services and offerings within a purely virtual environment has meant a lot of changes and variations to our established ways of working, but I am extremely proud of what has been achieved and the courses and resources we have so

far been able to offer. HILS want to go even further now that restrictions are being eased and whilst we wish to keep our virtual platform we also want to get back to ‘in-person’ meetings and courses as there are so many facets of physical meetings which just cannot be replicated online.

We want to support you and nurture our up and coming lawyers and legal staff. We need your engagement and continued assistance to provide us with feedback and information on what you need, what you will gain the most use out of, where your weaknesses are and what we as a committee can do to help. We would also appreciate examples of areas where businesses have felt that they or their staff have positively handled a situation and if you can share this with the Hampshire legal community that would be fantastic. We have made it this far through caring for each other and offering support and assistance and it would be good to continue this theme. ■

James Gleisner
President
Hampshire Law Society



index if

PROPERTY INFORMATION

A different kind of search provider

Our clients tell us that we truly understand their challenges and needs, that's because we have local offices run by local people using local knowledge and expertise to provide the level of service that other providers simply cannot.

Our approach is practical and straight forward, we roll up our sleeves and provide you with the help to get the deal done.

Index South Coast

Unit 2, Upton Park Farm
Old Alresford
Hampshire
SO24 9EB

jeremy.warren@indexpi.co.uk

T: 01962 73 55 99

www.indexpi.co.uk

Hampshire Law Society – CPD Update

Over the past 12 months we have successfully moved our CPD programme online and offered access to other free CPD from our providers, clients and local chambers etc. This has proved popular with many of you and is something we plan to continue to offer certainly in the short term.

There are a number of other things in the pipeline including some more general legal updates and one day conferences (which will be face to face).

If you can help in any way with speakers, topic suggestions or venue space, this all keeps out costs down and provides the opportunity to reduce our delegate rates.

We are currently organising CPD year 2021- 2022 which will include all your excellent speakers. A complete CPD Program will be sent to you shortly however dates which we have confirmed are:

SDLT

Date: 9 November 2021
Time: 3.00pm-4.30pm
Venue: via ZOOM
Speakers: Paul Clark

Paul Clark has been a commercial property solicitor for over 40 years. He is an expert on many aspects of commercial property law and is a popular and engaging speaker.

REPORTS ON TITLE IN RESIDENTIAL CONVEYANCING – INFORMATION, EXPLANATION AND ADVICE

Date: 23 November 2021
Time: 3.00pm-4.30pm
Venue: via ZOOM
Speakers: Ian Quayle

Ian Quayle, lecturer for 16 years for CLT amongst others. This webinar will look at best practice, ensuring clients are provided with what they need to know as effectively as possible including:

- Dealing with due diligence – gaps and weaknesses
- How to advise on adverse search entries
- Dealing with client inspection
- What do clients need to know about title
- Surveys and valuations
- Limiting the scope of the retainer and the scope of the report

Extensive notes will be provided and there will be an opportunity for delegate questions.

RESIDENTIAL LEASEHOLD UPDATE

Date: 18 January 2022
Time: 3.00pm-4.30pm
Venue: via ZOOM
Speakers: Ian Quayle

Ian Quayle, lecturer for 16 years for CLT amongst others. This webinar will review current issues concerning conveyancers including:

- Developments with land registration generally and restrictions in particular
- Problem clauses in residential leases – ground rent, repair, service charge and forfeiture
- Dealing with difficult landlords
- Service Charge management – tips and traps
- Ideas for dealing with defective leases
- An examination of recent relevant case law

Extensive notes will be provided and there will be an opportunity for delegate questions.

CONVEYANCING UPDATE

Date: 1 March 2022
Time: 3.00pm-4.30pm
Venue: via ZOOM
Speakers: Richard Snape

Richard Snape is a consultant with Davitt Jones Bould. He is a renowned speaker on all aspects of Real Estate Law. As a specialist speaker to property lawyers and property professionals, Richard has a reputation for delivering practical advice in an entertaining and engaging way.

SDLT PART 2

Date: 5 April 2022
Time: 3.00pm-4.30pm
Venue: via ZOOM
Speakers: Paul Clark

CONVEYANCING – TOPIC TBA

Date: 10 May 2022
Time: 3.00pm-4.30pm
Venue: via ZOOM
Speakers: Richard Snape

FEES & BOOKING

Fee: Members £35.00 / Non members £50.00.

Register with Nicola at administration@hampshirelawsociety.co.uk for more information, book **online** or download the booking form from our website. ■

Hampshire Law Society Contacts



The following is an up-to-date list of committee members' names and addresses and the sub committees to which they belong:



President

James Gleisner

Email: administration@hampshirelawsociety.co.uk

Deputy President

Mo Aldridge

Jasper Vincent

44 Queensway, Southampton SO14 3GT

Tel: 023 8063 3225

Email: maldridge@jaspervincent.com

Deputy Vice President

Tom Mitchell

Trethowans

Botleigh Grange Business Park,

Hedge End, Southampton SO30 2AF

DX 154120 Southampton 48

Tel: 02380 820465

Email: tom.mitchell@trethowans.com

Honorary Secretary

Ian Robinson

Churchers Solicitors

13-18 Kings Terrace, Portsmouth PO5 3AL

DX 2205 Portsmouth

Tel: 0239 288 2001

Fax: 0239 286 2831

Email: irobinson@churchers.co.uk

Honorary Treasurer

Tom Mitchell

Trethowans

Botleigh Grange Business Park,

Hedge End, Southampton SO30 2AF

DX 154120 Southampton 48

Tel: 02380 820465

Email: tom.mitchell@trethowans.com

Immediate Past President

Joe Robertson

Email: jrobertson2006@hotmail.co.uk

Law Society Council Members

Nick Gurney-Champion

(Hampshire & Isle of Wight)

Biscoes

67 Union Street, Ryde,

Isle of Wight PO33 2LN

Tel: 01983 615615

Email: ngc@biscoes-law.co.uk

Razi Shah (North Hampshire)

Appleby Shaw

Trinity House, 15a Trinity Place,

Windsor SL4 3AS

DX 3830 Windsor

Tel: 01753 860606

Fax: 01753 860620

Email: rshah@applebyshaw.com

Administrator

Nicola Jennings

Tel: 023 8044 7022

Fax: 023 8044 7022

Email: administration@hampshirelawsociety.co.uk

Complaints

Mo Aldridge

maldridge@jaspervincent.com

Education & Training

Anthony Harris (Chair)

ajharris@clara.co.uk

Tom Mitchell

Membership

Sarah Coates

James Gleisner

Sarah Huck

Contentious

Russell Evans

russell.david@yahoo.co.uk

Kevin Richardson

Non Contentious

Matthew Robbins

Nick Gurney-Champion

Alex O'Sullivan

PR (inc Social)

Mo Aldridge (Chair)

maldridge@jaspervincent.com

Jonathan Rees

Sarah Hallett

Regulatory

Adrienne Edgerley Harris (Chair)

Adrienneedgerleyharris@gmail.com

Ian Robinson



Follow us on Twitter

[@hampshirelawsoc](https://twitter.com/hampshirelawsoc)



Follow us on LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/hampshire-incorporated-law-society/>



Solicitors can help charities continue their life-changing work by taking part in Will Aid this year

The national will-writing campaign, which has raised over £21 million for its nine partner charities since launching, returns in November.

Since 1988, participating solicitors have been helping change lives by volunteering their time and expertise. The premise is simple, you waive your fees for writing basic wills and instead ask clients to make a voluntary upfront donation to Will Aid. These donations then support the vital work of the nine Will Aid charities.

The campaign highlights the importance of having a professionally written will and can help raise the profile of firms, all while raising money for Will Aid's partner charities: Age UK, ActionAid, British Red Cross, Christian Aid, NSPCC, Save the Children, SCIAF, Sightsavers and Trocaire.

As well as supporting nine great causes, Will Aid's enthusiastic PR team can help promote law firms' involvement with the local and national press and drive new clients to firms, many of whom will need additional services over and above their basic wills. Thomas Simpson Solicitors, based in Winchester, has taken part in

Will Aid for seven years and raised a magnificent total of £19,215.

Rob Simpson, from the firm, said: "We are incredibly proud to have raised this much for the nine amazing charities, especially with the effect Covid-19 has had on us all.

"Not only have we been able to support a magnificent cause, but the campaign has also allowed us to reach people in our community who do not have a will."

Will Aid is currently recruiting in the Hampshire area where there has already been lots of demand – to raise the profile of your business, meet new clients and help charities bounce back from the impact of the pandemic, sign up today.

Those who are interested can register for Will Aid 2021 on the campaign's website or contact the Will Aid team directly who will be happy to answer any questions.

www.willaid.org.uk/solicitors ■

Striding in Southampton and baking for success!

Members of the local legal community raised nearly £85,000 for local frontline free legal advice charities in the South-East of England at Legal Walks over the summer. This amazing amount includes £12,000 raised in the Hampshire area at the Southampton Legal Walk on Monday 5th July.

This incredible amount has boosted morale for charities that support people facing increasing hardships on a daily basis, such as unemployment, homelessness, and domestic violence. The Legal Walks were organised by London Legal Support Trust (LLST), which raises funds for frontline free legal advice charities in London and the South-East. The Southampton Legal Walk raised funds for services including Citizens Advice in Southampton, Winchester District, Test Valley and the New Forest, to name but a few.

London Legal Walk – Monday 18th October
The London Legal Walk is LLST's pinnacle event of the year and brings thousands of people together from across the legal profession to walk a sponsored 10km route in London. Taking place on Monday 18th

October, over 450 teams have already signed up. For those continuing to work from home, or unable to join in central London, you are invited to take on 10k locally to where you are. This could be as a solo challenge, or you can ask family, friends and colleagues to join you on your own 10k route.

Calling all star bakers!

The sweetest fundraiser of the year, The Great Legal Bake, returns from 1 – 5 November 2021. Choose your preferred date, or you can bake all week! Can you raise some dough to help fund frontline free legal advice charities? If you are still working from home, or back to work in the office, share your baking creations with friends, family and colleagues, while raising much needed funds! If you enjoy baking sweet, savoury, or a little bit of both, you can find out more on the [link here](#).

How you can help

Sign up to one (or more) of our events and join a fantastic community of fundraisers! More information on our events pages [HERE](#), or email the events team at signups@llst.org.uk. ■



Trethowans celebrates partner promotion and new appointment



Jennifer Bowes



Harriet Olway

Trethowans has celebrated a partner level promotion in its litigation team and welcomed another new member to its banking and finance team.

Jennifer Bowes, who joined the firm as a trainee solicitor in 2008, was promoted to partner this year after spending over 12 years developing her expertise in commercial litigation.

Jennifer handles a wide range of disputes, acting for both claimants and defendants including contractual litigation, debt recovery, professional negligence claims, construction disputes, intellectual property matters, breach of confidence, defamation and insolvency.

Trethowans' litigation team has a national reputation and is recognised as a 'strong' team appreciated for its 'great commercial awareness and good value for money' according to Chambers & Partners.

Harriet Olway, who qualified as a solicitor in March 2020, joins Trethowans' banking and finance team as part of its continued growth. After spending the last five years working her way up from paralegal level at a well-known national firm, Harriet has expertise in a range of financial transactions including commercial, asset and property finance, as well as those with multiple jurisdictions.

She joins new head of team Steve Cole, whose appointment was announced in April; a major statement by the firm, reflecting its continued commitment to the provision of dedicated banking and finance services to the surrounding regions.

Mike Watson, Managing Partner at Trethowans, added: *"Jennifer's promotion to partner is a special one for us as she has been with us since the very beginning of her legal career.*

"We're extremely proud of the progress we have made with recruitment this year. Harriet is one of 26 new joiners in 2021 and we're thrilled to have her on board. We wish both Jennifer and Harriet all the success for the future." ■



Churchers team challenge

Some more news from Churchers Solicitors! Check out some of team Churchers as they scaled Scafell Pike. Tebo Sebitlo, Rachel Pluszcz and Atti Nazari spent a few sunny days climbing to the top of the highest mountain in England! What a brilliant achievement guys! ■



Leesa Clemow

Churchers divorce and domestic abuse enquiries

Leading south coast law firm reports post pandemic increase in divorce and domestic abuse enquiries.

Portsmouth based law firm has reported an increase in divorce and injunction enquiries since the COVID-19 pandemic. This increase has led to a flexible approach in the way that advice is delivered with Partner Leesa Clemow having relocated to the firm's Cosham office to meet the demands.

Churchers Solicitors has seven offices across the Solent and offers a full range of legal services to individuals and businesses.

Partner Leesa Clemow, is now offering out of hours telephone consultations to meet the growing demand.

Leesa Clemow, Partner at Churchers Solicitors, said: *"The rise in separation enquiries is sad to see however not unexpected due to the impact upon relationships during COVID. We are doing all we can to provide clear legal advice to those who need us at a time which is convenient to them. My out of hours appointments allow clients who perhaps work shifts in hospitals or other organisations to arrange a time to speak to me when they are available".*

"The flexible consultation times available over the phone are proving popular with individuals who may need to seek legal advice without their partner knowing in order to protect themselves from potential domestic abuse. We know that having access to the right legal advice early on in the court process can make the experience a lot smoother – while also protecting the interests of all parties involved." ■



Rachel Coombes

Shentons supports Staff Article

We are delighted to announce that Rachel Coombes has become our Trainee Solicitor.

Rachel joined us as a Legal Secretary in 2018. She quickly demonstrated her commitment, passing her Legal Practice Course exams through study in her own time- despite pandemic challenges.

Rachel will apply for admission in 2023. Meanwhile, feeling the loss of exams, she's about to train as a police station representative. Rachel follows in the footsteps of Tamsin Stevenson, who was admitted in as a Solicitor in September 2020.

Shentons is a firm built on investing in our staff, over 60% of our lawyers qualified here, including half of our partners: fostering talent builds a fantastic working environment and mutual support in all of our departments.

We have also been joined recently by some excellent new starters, Felicity Joslin has joined us as a Criminal Law Solicitor, and we have recruited secretaries, Lisa McKellar, Holly Gillard, Olivia Cameron, Lucy Blue and Amelia Cox.

We love their commitment. It mirrors Chloe Jay, Partner, who won The Law Society Solicitor of the Year Award 2020. This year, Shentons is shortlisted for the Society's Award for Excellence in Practice Management. Pending the result, we continue to enjoy our staff successes. ■

Paris Smith has launched The Paris Smith Career Development

Paris Smith has launched The Paris Smith Career Development & Leadership Academy, which offers learning and development opportunities for all staff.

A range of programmes and qualifications are accessible across the whole firm, from senior leaders, legal, planning and other non-lawyer professionals to managerial and business support teams. The Academy will be supported by the firm's existing mentoring scheme, which ensures clear and supported career progression.



Paris Smith

Sessions on offer include business development and marketing, commercial acumen courses as well as a range of interactive workshops to develop personal skills. Leadership sessions will focus on providing managers and leaders with the skills and confidence to manage high performing teams.

HR Director Paula Al-Yousif: *"At the core of our purpose as a firm, is a belief in building an inspiring environment in which everyone can be the best version of themselves. I and other senior leaders in the firm want to ensure everyone has the opportunity and support in place to develop and to make their working lives as rewarding and fulfilling as possible."*

Managing Partner Peter Taylor: *"The establishment of the academy is an important step for us. The development of Paris Smith is a team effort across the business with a shared purpose, vision and commitment to each other, our clients and our communities. All of us have a role to play, if the firm is to be the best version it can be."* ■

Sousa Law



Giuseppe Pingerna

Sousa Law are delighted to announce the appointment of Giuseppe Pingerna as Director of the Firm from 1st July 2021.

Giuseppe brings a great energy and enthusiasm to the Sousa Law team, which has been invaluable as we all start to adjust to hybrid working. He is full of passion for his clients and is always focused on helping separating parents and couples with practical, clear and empathetic advice. Giuseppe is an excellent advocate and enjoys representing his clients throughout any court proceedings personally, as well as finding practical ways to resolve issues outside of court where possible. His clients have given him some amazing reviews which is a testament to his dedication to them and his commitment to genuine client care, which is at the heart of the Sousa Law ethos.

All of the Sousa Law team have enjoyed working with him and have benefited greatly from his experience and guidance. Giuseppe is proud of his Italian heritage and is bilingual in English and Italian so has a personal understanding of other cultures. Catherine Sousa could not be more pleased to congratulate him on his promotion and welcomes him into partnership at such an exciting time for the Firm. ■

South Hampshire Junior Lawyers Division Ball
 Friday 17th September 2021 | 7:00pm

A Mardi Gras Masquerade
 Dress Code: Black tie and Mardi Gras Masque.

Sparkling wine reception drink on arrival, a three course meal and a DJ for evening entertainment.

There will also be a photo booth, mock casino tables and a raffle in support of Naomi House & Jackyplace.

Tickets are £35 for SJLD 2020/2021 Members or £45 for non-members

Southampton Harbour Hotel
 5 Maritime Walk
 Ocean Way
 SO13 3QT

Sponsored by:

Churchers Solicitors Criminal Defence Team expands



Jason Halsey



Holly Barton

To meet local demand south coast based Churchers Solicitors has welcomed two new criminal defence solicitors to the team.

Jason Halsey qualified as a solicitor in 1998 and has been a higher court advocate for over ten years. He is a police station and court duty solicitor and has worked throughout London and the south east. Jason's experience encompasses the whole spectrum of criminal defence work from minor motoring matters to representing our clients as the advocate in trials at the Crown Court. He has also worked for the Innocence Project in New York.

Jason says "Having worked in Sussex and Hampshire for a number of years I am very pleased to have joined a firm where I already know so many of the team. I am particularly looking forward to working with the Crown Court Department and the other higher court advocates to increase our presence in our local crown courts".

Holly Barton who qualified as a solicitor in 2016, is Police Station Accredited and also became a Duty Solicitor in 2017. Holly enjoys dealing with all aspects of criminal law including representation at the Police Station and advocacy at the Magistrates Court. Holly is passionate about ensuring that everyone has access to legal advice when times are tough.

Holly says "I am delighted to join the team in Portsmouth and look forward to contributing to the team's ongoing success".

Hannah Jones, Partner with our criminal defence team, says "We are delighted Jason and Holly have joined our busy team. Their expertise in Magistrates and Crown Court Advocacy along with representation at the police stations ensures we are able to represent clients right through from their arrest at the police station to a trial in the Magistrates or Crown Court if necessary. We feel the experience they bring with them will compliment our team even further." ■

Trethowans solicitor passes intellectual property diploma with merit



Andrew Jerrard

Andrew Jerrard, a solicitor in the commercial contracts team at Southampton law firm Trethowans, has achieved a merit in the Oxford University Postgraduate Diploma in Intellectual Property Law and Practice.

Andrew qualified as a solicitor in 2018 and gained the diploma after completing a rigorous year-long programme consisting of a two-week residential programme followed by a series of weekend workshops delivered by leading academics and practitioners.

The course assesses knowledge and application of the full range of intellectual property rights, including patents, trade marks,

passing off, confidentiality, trade secrets, designs, copyright and moral rights, as well as key aspects of litigious and non-litigious intellectual property practice and procedure.

Julian Hamblin, partner and technology law specialist at Trethowans, commented: *“Intellectual property law is becoming increasingly complex due to the fast-changing commercial and technological environment in which it operates. Andrew’s qualification cements his knowledge in this area and reinforces our client offering.*

“Andrew should be extremely proud of the results that he has achieved. Congratulations Andrew!” ■



Hampshire Resolution

On Thursday 12th August, some 46 members of Hampshire Resolution (formerly The Solicitors Family Law Association) came together for an evening of feathery fun at the Hawk Conservancy, near Andover.

Due to the pandemic and the requirement to work from home wherever possible, most hadn’t seen each other for at least eighteen months, so the prospect of a falconry display followed by a barbecue and live music (courtesy of Southampton covers band Alive and Kicking) was a welcome treat. Chair Simon Burge (Blake Morgan LLP) said that he was ‘delighted’ with the response and that feedback from the event had been ‘overwhelmingly positive’. As dusk fell, the assorted legal eagles

were joined by other well-trained birds of prey, including vultures and owls flying just overhead and obeying a variety commands. The highlight of the display featured the aptly named secretary bird, an African fowl with very long legs which specialises in stamping on the heads of any snakes appearing in the vicinity. As luck would have it, a very realistic looking rubber cobra reared its ugly head and was duly despatched, accompanied by much laughter from the crowd.

Hampshire Resolution is always on the look-out for new members who are encouraged to contact Simon on (02380) 857088 or by email at simon.burge@blakemorgan.co.uk. ■

Jasper Vincent Blackfield office

Jasper Vincent are delighted to announce that they have opened a new office in Blackfield that will serve the surrounding area of the New Forest and Waterside.



This office will cover all the same key aspects of law that the wider firm offers but specifically Residential Conveyancing and Wills, Probate and Trust work and we can also offer a Notary service.

Jasper Vincent welcomed Edward Kennard to the practice in January 2021 and he is based at the Blackfield office. Edward is a Solicitor and has a particular interest in Will disputes in addition to his more traditional Private Client work. Edward can be contacted at ekennard@jaspervincent.com.



Jasper Vincent also welcomed Aggie Rudy who is a lawyer with over 22 years' experience, specialising in all aspects of Family Law. She is based at our Segensworth office but is happy to travel to appointments and covers all the firm's offices. Aggie can be contacted at arudy@jaspervincent.com.

John Stephens, has also recently joined Jasper Vincent as a Senior Residential Conveyancer, he is based in the Southampton office but also assists in covering the Blackfield office. John can be contacted at jstephens@jaspervincent.com.

Our new Blackfield office contact details are:

Jasper Vincent
Marston House
Blackfield Road
Blackfield
Southampton
Hampshire SO45 1WD
Telephone: 023 8089 0919

'We are excited to be expanding and taking on new staff, particularly after what has been a very stressful and difficult 18 months for the legal scene, it is wonderful to be positively proactive and engage with a wider client base and therefore larger employee base as well' – Mo Aldridge (Solicitor and Partner). ■

Biscoes welcomes trio of Trainees

Biscoes Legal Services knows just how important Trainee Solicitors are and have helped many solicitors qualify throughout the years.

This year they have 3 new Trainees joining them on the journey.

Troy Atkins, Jack Courtney, and Alex Strickland have all begun their Training contracts with the Hampshire law firm to gain invaluable experience and knowledge to help them succeed in qualifying as future solicitors.



Troy Atkins, who attended the University of Law, Guildford, is currently completing his first seat in the Commercial team based in Portsmouth and says *"I chose Biscoes as it has a brilliant reputation for being a firm that prioritises its people. Obtaining a Training Contract meant everything to me, which was why it was vital I chose the right environment to train in. At*

Biscoes, I am supported and guided by my colleagues, but I am also trusted to be independent and encouraged to be the best professional I can be each day."



Jack Courtney, who joined Biscoes as a temporary work placement, is also completing his first seat in the Commercial team. Jack says *"I was born and raised in Portsmouth and have always admired the city with its unique features and its amount of small independent businesses and companies. Being able to encourage, advise and support local businesses*

has always been a dream of mine and when looking at potential firms in which to undergo my training contract, I realised that Biscoes was the place to do that."



Alex Strickland joined Biscoes as a paralegal and will be based in the Care and Vulnerable client team in Waterlooville for his first seat. Alex says *"Biscoes has been an incredible firm to work for. To be offered a training contract after just two and a half months is phenomenal and assures me that I am valued in this firm. The training contract means the world to me because the firm*

is helping me to invest in my career which is such a rarity in the business world these days."

Alison Lee, Managing Director of Biscoes said *"We are so delighted to welcome these bright and personable young men to our team here at Biscoes, all have excellent legal careers ahead of them and we are pleased to be part of their journey."* ■

Back to life: returning to normality after lockdown

For many of us the last few weeks have meant a return to a 'normal' of sorts, for some of us a return to the office has already happened, or if not it's likely to be on the horizon. Despite restrictions lifting the reality is that we simply will not bounce back to our normal pre COVID-19 selves right away after spending so much time at home. We may have largely forgotten the social norms, behaviours and routines that were once familiar to us and we will have to relearn and remember how to be around people again, how to commute, how to behave in an office, even simple things like how to operate the lift at work or have a conversation may be a challenge to start with. We will no doubt face many challenges on a practical and emotional level.

Feel the feelings

After over a year of being in survival mode with a low level (and for some a high level) of stress in the background all the time we have a lot of feelings to process as things get back to normal. Whilst some of these feelings will be positive such as excitement and relief, we are also likely to be fearful, nervous, and anxious of the changes coming and how we will deal with them. We may have residual feelings of grief, sadness and anger for everything and everyone we lost during lockdown. Focus on what you ARE feeling rather than what you SHOULD be feeling – suppressing your feelings and emotions won't help.

Expect to feel tired

It's best to take things slowly and to leave some clear space in your calendar, as once you are back in the office you will initially be very tired and need time to process the change, rest and reflect. On the plus side, our brain thrives on physical activity and novelty, so after a few weeks hopefully you will feel energised as the fog of the last 18 months begins to lift.

Be prepared for setbacks

It's likely that there will be some bumps on the road back to normality. Recognise that best laid plans often have setbacks, so keep an eye on how you are feeling, how you are coping and be kind to yourself.

Don't rush into any decisions about work

Don't make any decisions about committing to a return to the office full time straight away if you can help it. You need to really think about what's best for you and your situation, everyone is different. Be confident to share your feelings about returning with your line manager or HR. You may not want to work the same hours as before or you might permanently want to request to work at home. Make the new normal work for you rather than defaulting to what used to be.

Look after yourself

Many of us have got into good habits in lockdown and are managing to sleep better, eating right and getting exercise. Try not to let these healthy habits slide once you're back in your usual routine, as they help to keep us mentally and physically well.

Share how you are feeling

Just talking to someone about your worries, a colleague, a friend, LawCare, can help you process your emotions and feel calmer and less stressed. We can all take comfort from feeling similar things as those around us in the coming weeks and months.

LawCare provides emotional support to all legal professionals, support staff and their concerned family members. You can call our confidential helpline on **0800 279 6888**, email us at **support@lawcare.org.uk** or access online chat and other resources at **www.lawcare.org.uk**.

Excellent resources on going back to work are available on the ACAS website: **www.acas.org.uk/working-safely-coronavirus/returning-to-the-workplace**. ■





How important is digital connectivity? VERY!

The lockdowns have certainly highlighted the utter reliance our profession now places on the internet, computers and smart devices – remote working being on the up and connectivity being key. Not only for staff being able to work from home and keep clients up to date and maintain caseloads but also for inter-business relationships i.e. with search providers, with the courts, with the councils. It is clear that the legal field is a diverse ecosystem of multiple professions all of whom operate independently but with a large co-dependence on a variety of other systems. Unlike in some arenas many areas of the legal profession are not connected by a universal digital network.

In conveyancing the lack of digital connectivity in property transactions can create challenges and administrative work for the conveyancers that hinders efficiency and productivity. Conversely it is possible to 'over-do' the digital updates such that lawyers feel that they spend over half their time just updating case management systems or online portals instead of actually being able to get on with the work at hand.

The importance of digital connectivity has never been more emphasised than over the last 18 months with hybrid working environments becoming common place and firms, clients and other professionals becoming more physically disconnected than ever before. This accentuates the need for effective collaboration, communication and digital connection.

There are of course a variety of factors that need to be considered as hundreds of pieces of data do not give you a single source of truth unless the data collated is real time which requires secure connectivity and a two-way street. It matters who sees the data at the source and en-route to its destination, the data must be safe and unalterable.

Things to think about:

Efficiency – streamlining operations and creating efficiency is a goal of every law firm. A practice management system that operates in real time and without creating a string of administrative tasks for everyone is vital.

Connectivity, Visibility & Accuracy – connecting platforms so that all data can be collated in one location and visible to those within the transaction that need to see it. This does not mean making all data available to everyone. Synchronising data with other parties and ensuring that the information is accurate is key.

Communication & Satisfaction – digital services are what is anticipated by the majority of a law firm client base in this day and age, regular communication, understanding of where a transaction is and what comes next and the likely timescales and in particular costs that may be involved. The ability for the client to feedback to you on their experience.

Case / Practice Management Software is expensive and should be regarded as a 'living' expense within a law firm, ongoing upgrading, maintenance and continual review should be undertaken to survive within this new digital age. ■



Mo Aldridge
Solicitor
Jasper Vincent Solicitors

Source material taken from *Inside Conveyancing*



MEONCROSS
SCHOOL

MEONCROSS THE BEST SCHOOL FOR ME

Leading Independent day school
for boys and girls aged 2.5–16

At Meoncross School, we ensure each and every pupil has the individual attention they need to thrive and succeed both in and out of the classroom. Academic achievement is high, but so is our focus on wellbeing, as we know that happy children are achieving children. We nurture our pupils, and develop the characteristics and qualities we know they will need to build bright futures.

We believe that at Meoncross, it should be all about ME – each individual child – YOUR child, what makes them unique and how we inspire, enthuse and guide them to be their best throughout their educational journey, and beyond...

Please contact our Admissions team on **01329 666 017** or **admissions@meoncross.co.uk** to arrange a visit.

meoncross.co.uk
Fareham | Hampshire | England

#MEONCROSSFAMILY



All through excellence at Meoncross

Meoncross School is very proud to be a through-school, enabling children to start their educational journey at 2.5 years, and continuing through until Year 11. It really is the only school you will ever need.

Meoncross is a school that consistently achieves high academic results. This success is linked not only to small class sizes and highly trained and talented staff, but is also the result of the school's strong focus on personalised learning, which allows every student to realise their full potential. Whilst academic excellence is a top priority, they also passionately believe that emotional wellbeing and happiness are crucial to educational success.

Meoncross students constantly achieve GCSE results significantly above national averages. Students from Meoncross School received excellent GCSE results in 2021, with just a few of the many highlights being:

- 100% of students achieved a grade 4 or above in both English (Language and Literature) and Maths
- 58% of grades were at the very top grades 7 – 9
- In Biology, Chemistry & Physics, 80% of students achieved a grade 7 – 9 (A/A*/A**)
- In Design Technology, 100% of students achieved a grade 7 – 9 (A/A*/A**)
- In Latin, 33% achieved grade 9
- In Spanish 33% also achieved the best possible grade – 9
- In Statistics, 100% of students achieved grade 7 or above.

The vast majority of students leaving Meoncross at the end of Year 11, go on to study A Levels at some of the region's most respected further education colleges. Many continue on to top UK universities including those in the Russell Group.

Not only does the school place a great deal of emphasis on providing students with a robust and rigorous pastoral system, but there is also a strong values-led approach to education with seven core values – Family, Adventure, Integrity, Resilience, Optimism, Achievement and Kindness. These values not

only form the bedrock for school culture but also provide the framework for the V2V (Values to Virtues) Character Education programme. The aim at Meoncross School is that these seven core values become so deeply rooted within a child's character, that the corresponding virtues become an intrinsic part of each student's personality.

Meoncross School know wellbeing is vital to children's happiness and health. Evidence suggests that even a small improvement in wellbeing can help children and young people flourish emotionally, socially, physically and academically. It can even help decrease some mental health problems. This is why, at Meoncross, the wellbeing of students is at the heart of school life. It underpins the primary aim to deliver academic excellence and helps create happy, independent learners.

Whilst the Meoncross School curriculum is based on the national framework for England, as an independent school they have the flexibility to their adapt programmes of study. Meoncross strives to ensure learning and teaching includes best international educational practice to enable pupils to develop a global perspective. Through a focus on nurturing specific skills including creativity, critical thinking, problem solving and collaboration their aim is to prepare pupils for the future global workplace with the attitudes and aptitudes that will be highly valued anywhere in the world.

Meoncross School is part of the Cognita Schools Group, which currently has over 85 UK independent and 30 international schools in South America, South East Asia and mainland Europe. The benefits of belonging to a highly successful international organisation cannot be underestimated in terms of the development of best global education practice, enhanced student opportunities, financial stability and the incredible level of educational expertise within the group. Whilst all Cognita schools operate with a high degree of autonomy, they all adopt the group's core vision of academic excellence, character education and the development of global mindedness from around the world. ■



Fun and learning at West Downs Day Nursery

At the award-winning West Downs Day Nursery in Winchester, children's days are filled with exciting activities, planned around their personal interests and designed in line with Early Years Foundation Stage principles to ensure they are prepared with the knowledge and skills needed for their next steps in education.

At the setting on Romsey Road, budding artists are born in messy creative play where paint and recycled materials are transformed into impressive works of art, and fledgling scientists, armed with magnifying glasses, study inhabitants in garden bug hotels and monitor the growth in planting beds, learning simple maths, science and the importance of good nutrition and exercise to healthy lifestyles. It is for these practices that pre-schoolers have gained a prestigious 'Green Flag' award as part of the international Eco-Schools scheme, the highest accolade in the programme which is given for exceptional environmental conservation and awareness efforts. From babies using recycled paper from the shredder for sensory activities, to older children creating animal habitats and growing vegetables in the garden which are then used in meals by talented Nursery Chefs, children of all ages are able to immerse themselves in a curriculum of eco-activities the whole year round. From nurturing early skills to supporting the transition to school, the team are dedicated to working in partnership with parents to ensure families get the most out of their nursery experience, and this includes providing bespoke resources which can be further used at home. Having



recently published a series of four books which tackle areas from self-care to building vocabulary, practitioners at the setting are keen to guarantee that parents feel confident in these key areas of development. West Downs also pride themselves on having strong relationships with local schools and annually invite teachers in to talk to prospective pupils about their individual settings, providing re-assurance and information on what is to come. This duty of care remains even after pre-schoolers have left the nursery, with devoted practitioners following up with both schools and families to make sure the settling in process is a smooth one and offering their expert advice wherever possible. The nursery is also accredited with the sought-after 'Food for Life Served Here' award, which acknowledges the use of ethically sourced ingredients and has recently gone 'climate positive' after saving more greenhouse gas emissions than it generates. West Downs opened in 1997 and is part of the employee-owned Childbase Partnership.

Please contact the nursery for further information on **01962 827393** or email west.downs@childbase.com. ■

Now taking registrations

FOR CHILDREN AGED 6 WEEKS TO 5 YEARS

OPEN 7.30AM TO 6.30PM



Fun is an essential ingredient in all our nurseries where the care and education opportunities for each and every child are as extraordinary as our colleagues who provide them.

www.childbasepartnership.com



T: 01962 870977
E: maples.nursery@childbase.com
Maples Day Nursery and Preschool,
39 Hatherley Rd, Winchester,
Hampshire, SO22 6RT



T: 01962 827393
E: west.downs@childbase.com
West Downs Day Nursery and Preschool,
West Downs Student Village, Romsey Rd,
Winchester, Hampshire, SO22 5HT

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU



Outstanding GCSE and A Level results for students at King Edward's

King Edward VI School, Southampton, reported that over 80% of GCSE entries were awarded A*/A grade, or the numerical equivalent, with 95% being awarded a B grade of above! A Level results were equally as impressive, with nearly 70% of students achieving an A* or A grade at A Level, and almost 99% of King Edward's results being a C grade or above.

The Head, Mr Parker, noted that the school's examinations cohort had faced unprecedented challenges and difficulties throughout the year. He commended pupils for such excellent results as a reflection of their focus, resilience and determination.

The outstanding results reflect King Edward's well-established reputation for academic excellence. However, academic outcomes are only one part of this school's story. Pupils are encouraged to be kind, caring young people, committed to helping others as well as developing their own unique personality, strengths and character.

At King Edward's, the belief is that children develop critical life skills through participation and engagement in school life beyond the classroom. Pupils are given unrivalled opportunities to try out new activities and hobbies; to represent the school in sporting, artistic and intellectual clubs and societies; and to explore the wider world through trips and visits.

Co-curricular activities sit at the core of this school. Over 50 clubs operate each term offering a wide variety including; language clubs, book groups, history and performing arts. These are often led by the Sixth Form students, and were successfully delivered remotely through lockdown.

It is through the co-curricular that candidates can showcase the depth of their academic passions to universities and potential employers, and, at KES, opportunity is at the heart of the school.

To find out more about King Edward VI School and enquire about 2022 admissions for 11+, 13+ or Sixth Form, please email Mrs Sheppard: registrar@kes.hants.sch.uk. ■



KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL
SOUTHAMPTON



kes.hants.sch.uk
023 8079 9216



Kingscourt School

ADVENTURES AWAIT...

**Join us for a
personal tour**

Contact us to book your place:
02392 593 251
07920 751 394
admissions@kingscourt.org.uk

kingscourt.org.uk

182 Five Heads Road, Catherington,
PO8 9NJ



It is never too early to invest in your child's education...

At Kingscourt School, they inspire young minds from the age of 2 years and 9 months, to 11. In amazing spaces, they combine outstanding teaching, with a love of the outdoors in an idyllic 25 acre countryside setting. At Kingscourt, they cherish childhood, and provide an excellent education for the whole child, as that is the whole point.

A commitment to small class sizes means no child gets lost, and their incredible teaching team enables each child to flourish. Pupils consistently achieve significantly above the national average in well recognised National Progress tests. Whilst academic success is of course of great importance, it is their focus on inspiring children that really makes Kingscourt the leading school they are. Kingscourt children are happy, confident, resilient and prepared for the future challenges that lie ahead.

Kingscourt School benefits from being part of the Cognita Schools Group which currently has 85 schools across the UK and worldwide. Belonging to a highly successful international organisation cannot be underestimated in terms of the development of best global education practice, enhanced student opportunities, financial stability and the incredible level of educational expertise within the group.

At Kingscourt, their curriculum is based on combining hard work with fun – just as childhood should be. In a stimulating atmosphere with plenty of opportunities to try new things, this ignites the youngest pupils' passion for learning, love of the outdoors and desire to be physically active. A strong work ethic is maintained, along with academic rigour which is borne out of a tradition of children then moving onto their first choice of local senior school, often with academic or sports scholarships.

However, Kingscourt know that education isn't just about great academic results. This Prep-School works together with parents and the community to develop the potential of each and every child. This character education means every child develops a sense of wellbeing and self-belief. The enjoyment of a fulfilling



curriculum and exciting extracurricular activities helps build resilience, self-motivation, team work skills and a positive sense of achievement. These are essential building blocks for an enjoyable and rewarding primary education.

The extra-curricular provision at Kingscourt is one of their many strengths, with opportunities for children to take part in a range of exciting and varied activities, from horse riding, sailing, dancing, instrumental tuition, cricket, tennis, netball, football, fencing, Lego club, nature and craft clubs. There really is something for everyone within this dynamic programme, and children benefit from being able to experience brand new activities, as well as the chance to further develop skills in particular areas of strength.

Staff believe that every day is an Open Day at Kingscourt, so to see for yourself what a Kingscourt education could do for your child, simply email admissions@kingscourt.org.uk or call **023 92 593 251** to make an appointment for a personal tour, at a time to suit you. ■



Auction update

Online auction sales had been with us for quite some time prior to the arrival of COVID in the spring of 2019, bringing with it the subsequent lockdowns and our sudden inability to hold traditional ballroom sales.

Prior to that, online had been seen as something of a niche product, for use for properties outside of our core geographical area, or perhaps when a client had just missed a catalogue deadline and didn't want to wait six weeks for the next one.

While we already had our online "invention", it could be said that necessity was certainly the mother of our turning to that invention, with no option other than to move everything online.

There were, of course, concerns as to whether potential buyers would take to the new way of working and if of course the technology would work at scale. It quickly became clear that we needn't have been concerned on either of those fronts. The technology, which continues to evolve, has proved to be very robust and in most cases, buyers seem to have taken to the new way of working like ducks to water.

Many buyers have commented on how much more convenient it has been to be able to bid and buy online and not have to make a journey to a venue and to have to sit through the Lots they have no interest in, while waiting for their Lot to come up.

My prime concern as an auctioneer, used to standing on the rostrum and seeing bidding develop and on occasion get very heated, was whether the same patterns would develop online. My fear was that while sitting at a desk or perhaps at the kitchen table with a cup of tea, bidders would be in an altogether more considered and reflective mood when it came to commit to a bid, let alone, hopefully, plenty of bids.

Again, I needn't have been concerned. The bidding patterns have been as strong as ever and in many cases I think that bidders/ buyers, unable to see who they are bidding against have perhaps bid on long after they may perhaps have dropped out in an auction room.

The result of all of this has been a success rate of around 85%, which compares very similarly with pre-March 2020 and strong prices continue to be the order of the day for sellers.

Ultimately, there will come a point where ballroom auctions are again an option and hopefully something that will return, but it is very certain that online sales are also here to stay and will remain a very active sector of the property market in the future. ■

Rob Marchant FNAVA
Auctioneer, Clive Emson Auctioneers

The Leading Independent
Regional Land & Property Auctioneers
Covering Southern England

Clive Emson 
LAND AND PROPERTY AUCTIONEERS

Auction sales are safe in our hands

Our upcoming land and property auctions will be held online on:-

- > **September 2021** - Catalogue available online : 3rd September.
Bidding live from 20th September
- > **November 2021** - Catalogue available online : 15th October.
Closing for entries 12th October
- > **December 2021** - Catalogue available online : 26th November.
Closing for entries 23rd November



ENTRIES CONTINUALLY INVITED FOR OUR UPCOMING SALES

SUITABLE LOTS INCLUDE: Vacant Residential for Improvement; Residential and Commercial Investments; Vacant Commercial; All Types of Land; Development Sites & Conversion Projects; Garages (lock-up & compounds); Freehold Ground Rents and the Unique and Unusual.

Clive Emson Auctioneers was founded in 1989 to supply a high profile auctioneering facility.
Selling by auction is often the BEST method of sale.

Telephone: 01489 564606

Website: cliveemson.co.uk Email: hampshire@cliveemson.co.uk

Join us on:   



Jack Gardener

Hampshire law firm Phillips Solicitors launches pioneering fertility policy

Basingstoke-based law firm Phillips Solicitors continues to lead the way by launching a pioneering policy that provides financial and emotional support for employees struggling to conceive.

The new policy will support staff that have struggled to conceive through a number of ways, including five additional days of leave for hospital visits and for post treatment recovery and an interest-free loan of up to £5,000 to cover the costs of fertility treatment.

This loan and the additional annual leave is available regardless of whether the recipient is a staff member or their partner.

Recent NHS estimates put the cost of one single cycle of treatment at £5,000 and the estimated success rate amongst women aged 38 to 39 at 15%¹.

Specific professional emotional support and counselling is also to be provided for those receiving treatment.

The firm believes the combined package of time-off, financial support and psychological assistance marks the firm out as one of the most forward-thinking companies and, certainly law firms, in the country.

Jack Gardener, father and Director of the firm with over 70 employees explains the reasons for introducing the policy:

"I have witnessed the emotional and financial stress that can impact couples trying to conceive. At Phillips, we strive to support staff wellbeing beyond the workplace and through some of life's major milestones.

Our new policy not only raises awareness and starts a conversation about fertility, but it also recognises the importance of being able to take time away from the office, to recuperate and gives what can be a stressful process the highest chance of success possible.

It is baffling that many large businesses support employees to purchase annual travel tickets, bicycles or cars but may not have considered helping their employees through significant periods in their lives. I hope we will set an example for the law industry and beyond to think innovatively about the range of support they can provide their staff beyond the workplace".

The fertility policy is just one part of Phillip's wellbeing and family friendly policies which have included a significantly enhanced maternity, miscarriage and menopause policies. ■

1. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/ivf/>

Work Experience

I am Emily Gittings and I am in my second year of studying Law and Criminology at the University of Portsmouth. I have a fond interest in property dispute law and family and child law. I am an enthusiastic, motivated and kind individual who is looking for work experience in these areas of the law. Please contact: administration@hampshirelawsociety.co.uk.

Missing Wills

Terence Hayes
32 Spear Road, SO14 2UH.
DOB: ?. DOD 19/06/2021.

Pauline Frances Trott
30 albert Road, New Milton BH25 6JG
DOB: 07/04/1935. DOD: 15/02/2021.

Time to look at the “big picture”



Steven Vallery

DISCOVERING THE EMOTIONAL BENEFITS OF FINANCIAL ADVICE

No two individuals share the same goals or ambitions. Each person is unique, with their own needs, targets and budgets. So when it comes to managing your money, building wealth, securing your future and, above all else, drawing up an effective plan for fulfilling your investment objectives, professional financial advice should be tailored to your unique specific needs.

FEELING LESS ANXIOUS

Having access to financial advice is strongly linked to feeling more secure and less anxious about money. According to the survey, around 3 in 5 people who have received financial advice report that they feel financially more secure and stable, compared with under half of those who have not received any advice.

Only 1 in 3 people who have received financial advice report feeling anxious about their household finances, compared with over 40% of those who haven't.

FEELING MORE CONFIDENT

One of the key practical benefits of financial advice is that it gives you access to expertise on topics that are complex. This provides you with more confidence and increased peace of mind. People who have received financial advice report feeling three times more confident about their understanding of financial matters and products than those who haven't.

For example, areas that some people find confusing concern retirement planning and understanding their life insurance and critical illness options. Among those who have not received advice, around 1 in 4 people say they would not know where to start when it comes to the different options available to them. Among those who received advice, that number is fewer than 1 in 12.

FEELING ABLE TO COPE IN A CRISIS

The COVID-19 pandemic has left many people feeling less stable in their financial situation. 35% of those who have not received financial advice report feeling anxious about their finances, while 65% see the value in being more prepared for unpredictable events in life.

Financial advice helps you prepare, plan and navigate any future shocks or crisis. And while you can experience the benefits of advice after just one meeting, it's essential to receive ongoing advice over the long term as your situation and life goals change. This means your adviser gets to know you and

your background, and can help you adjust to whatever life has in store. Those people who have an ongoing relationship and receive regular financial advice are twice as likely to report feeling in control of their finances as people who do not. ■

Steven Vallery
Managing Director
S4 Financial Limited
hello@s4financial.co.uk

Looking for independent financial advice you can trust?

We'll help you create, increase and protect your wealth. Our personal service is designed to build a shared understanding of your wealth objectives and to translate these ambitions into reality.

To find out more, please call
01276 34932



☎ 01276 34932 🌐 www.s4financial.co.uk

Family Wealth Preservation | Wealth Management | Tax Planning
 Protection Planning | Retirement Planning | Mortgages

The value of investment can fall as well as rise. You may not get back what you invest. Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage. There is normally a fee for advising on and/or arranging a mortgage, the precise amount will depend on your circumstances but we estimate that it will be £495.



Update to Members on Solicitors Indemnity Fund (SIF)

As a result of a request by the Law Society, on 15 June 2021 the SRA announced that they had decided to extend the closure of SIF by a further year, to 30 September 2022. In addition, they made it clear that they now regarded post six year run-off cover (PSYROC) as a regulatory issue for them and that they would launch a public consultation on next steps including:

- whether there is a regulatory place for PSYROC.
- evidence of other comparable run off cover arrangements.
- finding the right regulatory balance between consumer protection and issues of proportionality, affordability and the wider public interest,
- the viability of possible options including looking at discretionary uses of the SIF surplus, including the possibility of a hardship fund.

Since this announcement the Law Society has been engaged in several meetings with retired members, various local and regional law society groups and city solicitor groups, in order to fully consult on the objectives and concerns of all sections of the membership and to explore the direction and hoped for outcome of the proposed consultation.

As a result of these meetings a detailed letter has been written by the Law Society to the SRA setting out the key themes and issues which emerged and pointing out the importance of dealing adequately and effectively with the issue of PSYROC, not only for the profession but also for the benefit of the consumer and to the confidence of the public in the profession.

The formal consultation is due to launch immediately after the October PII renewal. With a second more targeted consultation in early 2022, with detailed proposals forthcoming in late spring, with a view to implementation by late summer.

The results of the upcoming consultation are likely to influence the PSYROC debate for the foreseeable future. It is essential that all those that have an interest in PSYROC (which in my view should include every solicitor) should respond to the consultation. ■

Nicholas Gurney-Champion
Immediate past chair of the Law Society, Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII) Committee



HAMPSHIRE
LAW SOCIETY

MENTAL HEALTH WEBINAR

Building emotional resilience using positive psychology

13 October 2021 | 2.00pm til 2.45pm | Via Zoom

£5.00 per member

Please contact Nicola Jennings at
administration@hampshirelawsociety.co.uk

What will the webinar cover?

- Emotional resilience – what it is and why we need it
- How positive psychology works
- The 5 transforming practical steps we can take to develop a more balanced mindset



Make great client experiences your differentiator – introducing Clio Grow



What is your firm doing to find – and retain – clients? Client expectations have evolved, and now more than ever before, clients expect a high level of service from their lawyer. If you're not meeting those expectations, you could be missing out on vital opportunities for your firm.

Client experience counts for a lot when it comes to choosing a law firm. With more than 180,000 practising lawyers in the UK today, your competition is stiff, which means that every contact with a potential client counts. How clients interact with lawyers has changed too. In the modern legal landscape, clients are no longer willing to play phone tag with a solicitor or to spend time chasing a firm that's hard to reach.

In an industry so dependent on referrals and reputation management, building better client relationships is the differentiator that will earn you lifelong clients and continue to help your business grow. Adopting the right legal client intake and relationship management software is key to this aim.

The data* backs this up: In 2019, firms using legal client intake and relationship management solutions saw 16% more casework

and over 20% more cases every month from February onward in 2020. Firms also saw a large revenue increase, too. In 2019, firms who used client relationship software saw 9% more revenue, per lawyer, with revenue continuing to increase in 2020, reaching a high of 26% more revenue in August.

The right client intake and client relationship management solution could transform the way your firm does business. Take Clio Grow, Clio's legal client intake and relationship management software, as an example. It's designed to make it easier for lawyers to connect with clients. With it, you can:

- Use quick intake forms, scheduling, and e-signature tools to engage and retain new clients in moments, not days.
- Nurture relationships by keeping clients updated with automated follow-up emails and reminders.
- Get a bird's eye view of your client pipeline using analytics and reporting tools so you never miss a single opportunity to connect.

Available as part of Clio Suite, the legal industry's only end-to-end legal software solution, with Clio Grow, you can watch your client base, billable hours, and reputation thrive.

See for yourself how Clio can revolutionise the way you connect with your clients at clio.com/uk. ■

*All figures taken from Clio's 2020 *Legal Trends Report*.



HAMPSHIRE
LAW SOCIETY

AGM & CHRISTMAS DINNER

Save the date!

Date: **Thursday 2 December 2021**
Venue: TBA
Cost: AGM only – free for members
Dinner: TBA

Want to feature in Hampshire Legal?



To advertise in Hampshire Legal, please call **Catherine McCarthy** our Business Features Editor on **0151 236 4141** or email catherine@benhampublishing.com.

EXPERT WITNESS INSTITUTE ONLINE CONFERENCE 2021 | FRIDAY 28TH MAY

“Lawyers and Experts”: Facing the Future Together

We missed you all – but see you next year in person!

Lord Hodge, Deputy President of the Supreme Court, and the new EWI President from October 2020, gave an absorbing keynote speech at this year’s online EWI Conference, chaired throughout by Saba Naqshbandi, whom we welcome to the role.

To state the obvious (for some), it was a somewhat surreal experience this time round without the face-to-face chats and the nattering and meeting up with old colleagues: coronavirus was the unfortunate theme throughout, too. However, two speeches stood out for the 2021 Conference this year: those of Lord Hodge and Sir Martin Spencer.

Lord Hodge: The Keynote Speech

Lord Hodge spoke of what the court expects of a competent expert witness reflecting on his own experience of expert witnesses, both as a judge and advocate. He described the critical role of the expert witness in the administration of justice, together with judicial expectation. His lordship also shared thoughts on the impact of the pandemic on the courts saying that the title of the conference, ‘Lawyers and Experts: Facing the Future together’, “felt particularly apt”.

Hodge set out what he felt the court expects of a competent expert witness, and we have highlighted some of these points:

- Independence and Impartiality. While this might seem obvious, he felt it was concerning that in a 2019 survey 25% of expert witnesses had felt pressurized to change their report in a way that damaged their impartiality, and 41% indicated that they had come across other expert witnesses they considered to be a ‘hired gun’
- Expert evidence must be ‘expert’,
- In addition, an expert witness had to undertake the task of ‘being an expert’, being aware and competent in their duties to the court,
- Continual critical examination of their own work or opinion.
- Ownership, or, as expressed by McFarlane LJ in a 2018 speech in one word: ‘Clarity’. Both clarity of thought and clarity of expression or presentation of the evidence will assist the judge greatly. Hodge stressed that it was “imperative that expert witnesses take full responsibility throughout the process of preparation and presentation for his or her opinion evidence”.

“Judges, lawyers and experts have to face the future together”, said his lordship, reflecting on this theme and the dramatic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the courts. “I am very much aware that life had not been easy for expert witnesses during the pandemic both in terms of carrying out physical site visits or examinations and in financial impact, be that through postponed trials, or delays in payment”. Sentiments felt by all of us!

Although some may not agree, Hodge observed that “not all consequences of the pandemic were bad”. The court’s operations during the pandemic were, from the words of the Lord Burnett, that it is “the biggest pilot project the justice system has ever seen.” It was important to take time to reflect on what had worked well and how this could be harnessed more broadly to improve the overall function of our system of justice, concluded Lord Hodge.

“The task of transforming our justice system”, he continued, “required the input of all actors in the court system”. He repeated that we “have to face the future together”, so this conference presented an opportunity “to enhance the contribution of expert witnesses and those lawyers who work with them in support of that aim”.

Sir Martin Spencer

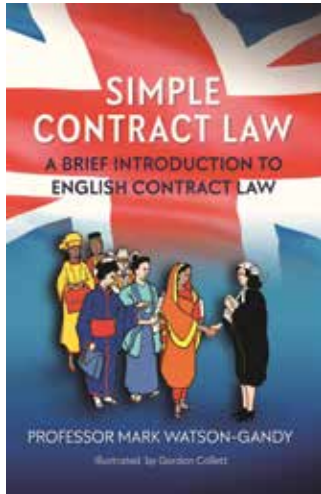
It is always a pleasure to hear from the EWI Chair, Martin Spencer. Sage advice as always, and he offered these words concluding the conference:

“Since our last conference, we have worked through two further periods of lockdown from the Covid19 pandemic, and we have all continued to adapt to new working practices”. “But”, he continued, “as social distancing measures ease, even the Lord Chief Justice has said that ‘remote and hybrid hearings will still play their part in managing footfall in courtrooms and public areas.’ We suppose so, but some return to normality is to be yearned for in 2022.

So, this year’s conference theme is, says Martin, “very relevant in considering how both Lawyers and Experts can learn from each other and embrace many of the changes as we move forward”. Speaking of the panel discussions and breakout sessions, he said that “this year we have brought together a formidable team of speakers, knowledgeable and influential in their fields, with a huge breadth of experience”. It should not go unsaid that every recent annual conference we have attended broadens the mind!

A virtual “au revoir” until 2022 and let us hope we can all meet up together in person once more to enhance the panel and breakout sessions! ■

Simple Contract Law Stripping English Law of Complexity



In his new book, Watson-Gandy has bravely done a complete about-turn on traditional dusty textbooks, writing an illustrated guide to English contract law that is fun to read, entertaining and succinct.

Synopsis of **Simple Contract Law: A brief introduction to English Contract Law:**

This book provides an essential introduction to English contract law. Written by practising barrister and law professor, Mark Watson-

Gandy, whose infectious enthusiasm for the subject permeates the text, the book simply explains all the core concepts and leading cases and what the most common terms and conditions actually do. Whether you are a law student, businessman or an international lawyer, you will find "Simple Contract Law" to be an easy-to-read, concise, and informative first guide into the subject. Enlivened by the colourful back stories to the case law and with witty illustrations by Gordon Collett, this book is a welcome antidote to stale traditional contract law textbooks.

"People don't realise quite how important English contract law is for us all. English contract law has long been the preferred choice of law for international contracts – often even where the parties or transaction has no connection to the UK. The UK legal services industry is worth £60 billion to the UK economy; the UK legal services market is the largest in Europe and second only globally to the USA. Three quarters of those using London's commercial courts during litigation come from outside of the UK" explains the author. "I wanted to write something which would cut through the complexity, to give an accessible overview of the law. A quick and easy-to-read guide like this is long overdue."

Simple Contract Law: A brief introduction to English Contract Law is available now for £9.95 on Amazon: <https://amzn.to/3kbb6Q4>. ■

Professor Mark Watson-Gandy K.S.G is a practising barrister at Three Stone Chambers in Lincoln's Inn and has appeared in high-profile cases in the UK and abroad. He is a Visiting Professor at the University of Westminster and at the University of Lorraine in France. He was made a Knight of the Order of St Gregory the Great in recognition of his work as a barrister and law professor in 2007. In 2020, he was appointed as one of the UK Ministry of Justice's "Legal Services are Great Champions" to promote English legal services internationally.

Articles of Association Guidance and Precedents

As the author, Richard Bishop, says in his introduction, "the development of modern company law and the ability for ordinary people to incorporate a company was driven by the industrial revolution" from the 1840s. Practitioners have all come a long way since then, care of massive statutory provisions. Today, nearly four million companies incorporated in the UK allow their constitution or company rule book to be dictated by the standard **Articles of Association**.



This new book from Bloomsbury Professional Law has been constructed "to aid professional advisers, directors and shareholders make better decisions about any company's constitution." We were most impressed with the way in which the book is structured to follow the articles logically with useful examples in a blocked format to make the points stand out.

Depending on what you might be looking for, the author reviews the following areas: the background to the articles of association, the Company Law Act 2006, business structures and their needs; reviews of the case law (without too many cases cited) and the implications for amending the articles of association; a detailed analysis of the default articles of association proscribed in The Companies (Model Articles) Regulations 2008 Table A; and a practical guide to drafting articles of association, real life examples and discussions on why companies should adapt Table A to suit specific company requirements.

One splendid innovation which is becoming commonplace now is the facility to download precedents with instructions set out at the beginning of the work. There is also a licence agreement which is relatively straightforward to follow. The facility dispenses with the CD which has become obsolete for many new laptops by using the website to download what you may need for your practice. In the book, the precedents start from page 261 onwards which is approximately half-way through the book.

We are confident that solicitors and accountants are presented here with the tools they need to offer sound advice to their clients on how articles may impact on the company. The key remains with what the author calls "clever drafting" on how the constitution of a company can be amended to provide clear provisions to suit its strategic position. It will always depend on the specific needs of the client, and these needs are well catered for in this book.

And for those clients who may wish to consider changing the constitution of their own company, Richard Bishop's book is full of practical examples. He covers the do's and don'ts of drafting very pragmatically, and offers illustrations and full procedures for trustees, family investment and property companies providing guidelines for minority shareholders, investors, and directors. Indeed, it is a superior work which gets the right balance between detail and the practical requirements of the client. ■



Wherever you
roam, client
onboarding
with **eCOS** is
pitch-perfect

Technology that connects you, wherever that happens to be

Are you trudging through the process of gathering client information to start a transaction? Onboarding your clients shouldn't peg you in. eCOS, our electronic client onboarding solution, brings together everything you need to achieve remote onboarding. Access to client care packs, verification of identity and source of funds solutions, onboarding questionnaires and Law Society TA forms, all integrated into your CMS. eCOS gives you visibility over your onboarding process within a single platform.

Embark on a new adventure.
Start onboarding digitally with eCOS from InfoTrack.

Visit www.infotrack.co.uk/ecos or call us
on 0207 186 8090 to say no to paper and
onboard clients electronically.

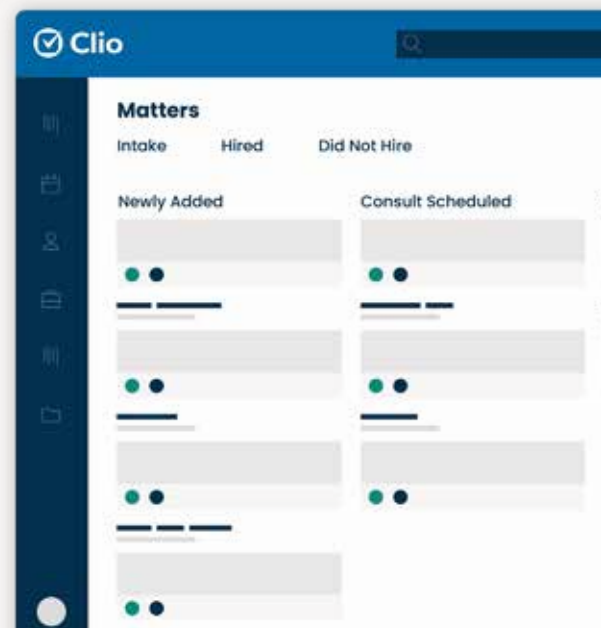
InfoTrack 

No more missed client opportunities

INTRODUCING CLIO GROW

Firms who used client relationship software in 2020 saw:

- 20% more clients monthly*
- 26% more revenue*
- Better client relationships



Clio Grow, Clio's legal client intake and client relationship management solution, could transform your law firm.

Discover Clio Grow today at clio.com/uk/grow or call **+44-800-433-2546**.



*Statistics taken from Clio's *Legal Trends Report 2020*. 26% revenue increase observed in August 2020

LEGALEX

WHERE THE LEGAL COMMUNITY MEETS

**FREE
TICKETS**

legalex.co.uk



**EXPERT LEGAL
INSIGHT**



**CPD ACCREDITED
SEMINARS**



**NETWORKING
OPPORTUNITIES**



**INNOVATIVE
SUPPLIERS**



**CYBER SECURITY
SOLUTIONS**

**10-11
NOVEMBER**

EXCEL, LONDON



#LEGALEX

@LEGALEXSHOW