

Liverpool Law

The Magazine for the legal sector
in Merseyside and the North West



Joe Egan

Interview with the
President of the
Law Society



Liverpool Law

The Annual Dinner
2017



Liverpool Law is
going digital



Annual Dinner

Jackson Lees
sleepout for
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Community



Jackson Lees Sleepout

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Welcome

to the December edition of Liverpool Law

This month's edition is more notable than usual for two reasons. Firstly, it's the last edition of 2017 – can you believe that, another year has gone by and the Christmas holidays are almost upon us and secondly, this is the last ever edition of Liverpool Law that will go to print. From January 2018, the magazine is "going digital"; there will be no hard copies. I appreciate that this may not be greeted with festive joy by everyone immediately, but in terms of the future of the magazine we felt it was the way forward. The digital edition will be more cost effective and by using the additional options and opportunities it gives us, it will be far more interactive and means we are not limited to a set number of pages each month. That gives us the opportunity to publish more of the articles we receive as currently we might not be able to run an article due to space or formatting issues. It also means that that the magazine can be produced a lot closer to the deadline date than is currently the case (by way of example I'm typing this in mid- November!).

We sincerely hope that you will continue to enjoy the magazine and to take advantage of the additional opportunities it gives us (links to pages/websites etc.). Ultimately this is your magazine, we rely almost entirely on the articles submitted, so please keep them coming and from hereon, please bear in mind the opportunities digitalisation gives us and feel free to use them within any articles presented.

This month we have a varied selection of articles including a report and photographs from the annual Liverpool Law Society Dinner. Thanks as always to our regular contributors whose efforts really are appreciated and a special mention again this month to Carol Maginn who wins this month's prize of a bottle of wine from our sponsors R&H Fine Wines for her review of Bladerunner 2049. Well done to Carol and please keep those reviews coming!



On the sporting front, following some improvements at Fortress Prenton, Tranmere appear to have taken a slight step backwards, not helped it has to be said by a number of injuries and suspensions to key players, but that's football as they say. They currently sit 15th in The National League, but only 5 points of the play offs and 10 points off top – and there's a long way to go. Keep the faith!

On the baseball front (and I know this is catching as people are asking about it – well one person anyway!), the Houston Astros (the ones who beat Boston) went on to win the World Series 4 games to 3 over the Los Angeles Dodgers. It can only be described as an absolute classic, probably one of the best World Series ever, going the full distance and with the sides winning alternate games throughout. If you get the chance to watch Game 5 of that series, or highlights thereof as it went on for almost 5 hours, you should do so. Its probably one of the best baseball games ever and if that doesn't grab you then it's not for you! But that's it, the baseball is all over for another year until we start again on 29th March. I know you can't wait!

I'm still struggling to accept that it's December all ready, but with that in mind it just leaves me to say a big thank you to Julia and the team behind the publication of Liverpool Law – thank you again for your efforts for another year and to wish everyone a fantastic Christmas and all the very best to you and your families for 2018.

All the best and stay safe

Peter Holland
Editor
editor@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk

Liverpool Law Needs YOU!

Liverpool Law Society Magazine is produced by and for Liverpool Law Society Members. This is our opportunity to share our news, events and celebrations with our friends in the legal community.

All members' contributions to Liverpool Law are warmly welcomed. Please send your article (and photo captions where possible) or request for further information, or assistance to the editor at
editor@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk

Photographs should be provided in the highest resolution possible to ensure a good reproduction.

The views and opinions expressed in Liverpool Law are those of the individual contributed and not those of the Liverpool Law Society.

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Charity spotlight...

The Mark McQueen Foundation

The Mark McQueen Foundation was set up by the McQueen family in loving memory of their son Mark, who tragically took his own life in June 2007. The Foundation offers support to young men who are struggling with emotional and mental health issues via the delivery of community projects and referral to specialist charities. The Foundation ultimately wishes to help young men find their place in the world.

Mark, from Merseyside, was easy-going, often shy yet infectiously humorous and, above all, a talented young man. The youngest son of a loving and caring family, Mark was passionate about music and became an exceptional guitarist and insightful songwriter.

Sadly, Mark was plagued by mental illness and suffered bouts of difficult depression throughout his youth. As Mark passed into adulthood, the stress and pressure of modern life combined with his ever-present condition became too much and on 30th June 2007, at just 27 years of age, he took his life.

The Foundation, bearing Mark's name, was created by his loving family to embody his spirit and passion. Its aim is to assist doctors, nurses, therapists, scientists, friends, family and the rest of society with focussing greater attention on mental health issues in our younger population.

In 2008, the McQueen family appointed the Community Foundation for Merseyside as their Foundation's administrators and managers to provide support with due diligence and monitoring as well as reporting on the achievements of grants awarded and offering important advice given the sensitive nature of the Foundation's work.

The Mark McQueen Foundation awards grants of up to £3000 to voluntary and community groups working on projects that aim to improve mental wellbeing, with a particular focus on young men's mental health. Recent awards have included the following:

- Mental health training programmes for young men
- Counselling sessions
- Film making projects to explore mental health issues
- Structured fitness, health and well-being sessions for young people who have been referred via CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services)

The Foundation grows from strength to strength each year; taking calculated risks, challenging practice and providing vital support for innovation and what continues to work for young men. The Foundation holds an endowment of £100,000, which grows year on year, providing a yield to be spent on grant-making annually.

For more information or if you wish to support the Mark McQueen Foundation, please contact the Rae Brooke, CEX, Community Foundation for Merseyside on 0330 440 4900 or email
rae.brooke@cflm.email

markmcqueen
foundation

President's Mentions

November has not been as busy as October, however we did have the Annual Dinner which was a tremendous success and most enjoyable. Can I firstly thank all who attended. I trust you enjoyed as much as I and my family and of course thanks to my team from Helix - Sarah, Liz, Ann, Jo & Kim for their hard work in all arrangements - it was truly magnificent and all their hard work worthwhile, thank you.

All the feedback I have is very good given the new venue and I hope you like the photographs included later in this edition. I would still welcome further comments and I have no doubt Nina who will already be

planning next year's would welcome your input.

We have now concluded the consultation of all members with regard to the future constitution of the Society and we have a clear mandate to implement some substantial changes. The consensus appears to be that we progress the Society into 21st Century by allowing membership to those who are involved in the Law but may not be Solicitors. We received very positive feedback and I am grateful to all who engaged and thank you. The Directors will now consider the position and report back to you when we have concluded our investigations.

I had a delightful time at the Bristol Annual Dinner which was combined with their awards celebration and I thank and congratulate our partners in Bristol for the invitation and a most enjoyable celebration, regrettably I had to leave early morning to make my way back to Court in Liverpool and found myself tied up in the motorway congestion. A little irritating and thoughts that really we need to improve communication with North of England - what is happening with Northern Powerhouse and why are we spending trillions to get to Birmingham when the real work takes place in the North! However I was able to empathise with Bristol practitioners who seem to have similar problems to ourselves.

I also attended the Birmingham Dinner at the Birmingham Town Hall in the centre of a very busy evening- German Markets, Award ceremonies and other black tie occasions and again traffic congestion - I successfully negotiated all obstacles and found my way to the correct venue and had a most enjoyable time, once again meeting up with by now my old friends from the Joint V.

Thanks to Birmingham who will next year be celebrating their bi-centennial - with events throughout the year, best of luck and good wishes to Birmingham Law Society.

I notice we have many recent consultation papers to respond to and I would like everyone to consider the impact of all upon the community. I notice that the Brexit talks seem to take up a lot of Government and media time. I also notice that the fairly new Lord Chancellor/Minister for



Justice is still proceeding to effectively cut the fees in Crime by reducing the paper count - surely by now the Government will have saved enough with earlier cuts. I must congratulate Zoe Gascoyne on her award from the Law Society - well deserved and well done Zoe.

On that positive note I wish you all a very enjoyable festive season - Happy Christmas to you all.

I am nearing the end of my term and would like to take this opportunity to thank all the officers of the Society who have helped me throughout the year. It has been most enjoyable and I thank you all for giving me the chance to be your President, I hope you have enjoyed my ramblings and look forward to the New Year.

John Ballam
President



Zoe Gascoyne at the Law Society Excellence Awards

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Diary Dates

Wed 13 Dec	Commercial Litigation Conference
Tue 16 Jan	In House Committee Launch
Thu 25 Jan	Newly Qualified Solicitor & Pupil Barrister Celebratory Reception
Thu 1 Feb	Joint V in Liverpool
Wed 7 Feb	Pathways to the Legal Profession aimed at Year 12 students
Wed 28 Feb	Management Conference

'Liverpool Law' is going digital

New year, new era for the members' magazine

From January 2018, 'Liverpool Law' will be published online only, in a new, easy to browse, e-reader magazine format. This change brings LLS up to date with the majority of similar publications and will enable us to deliver more to our members and supporters efficiently and at lower cost. It will mean no limit on pages, you will be able to click on the links contained within the magazine and the content will be fresher and more up-to-date with the deadline now being much closer to the publication date.

We know there are members who currently choose to receive 'Liverpool Law' via hard copy who may be disappointed by this, but we hope that you will continue to enjoy an improved, bigger and more modern magazine keeping you up-to-date with the latest news and events from Liverpool Law Society members in and around Merseyside and the wider North West region. It will also continue to be accessible on our website.

The magazine has a circulation of 2300 and is distributed to 2200 members, as well as local MPs, the national Law Society, and other professional membership organisations.

The deadlines for the next editions are close of business on:

Friday 15th December for the January 2018 edition

Friday 26th January for the February 2018 edition

Friday 23rd February for the March 2018 edition

We would welcome your contributions, news, views and up-dates regarding your firm and any activities. Send in to the usual email address editor@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk New and repeat contributors warmly welcomed!

And remember – if you submit a review (can be of a movie, festival, book, concert, play etc.) you are in with a chance to win a bottle of wine or prosecco which is kindly provided by R&H Fine Wines of Queen Avenue, Liverpool every month.



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Access to Justice Forum

7th November 2017

National Pro Bono Week once again gives focus to the struggle that exists around Access to Justice in an age of austerity. Anyone who reads Liverpool Law on a regular basis knows that Access to Justice is one of the Liverpool Law Society's key themes and so in Pro Bono Week to be able to hold the latest meeting of the Forum seemed fitting.

We were delighted to have Richard Miller from The Law Society speak to us and fill us in on the many issues which are currently on his agenda as Head of Justice. Laura Cassidy from The Access to Justice Foundation was also in attendance to update us on their work and to follow up on their Webinar, which was hosted by LLS the day before, on Pro Bono Costs Orders.

The Forum was once again attended by Councillors from Halton, Sefton and Liverpool, private practitioners, the university law clinics and those from the Not For Profit Sector. There is great synergy being established to enable students to gain expertise in representing clients at the Merseyside Law Centre. The University of Liverpool were linked up with Jane Corbett of Liverpool City Council and may be able to provide her with access to research into the effects of austerity which will assist her and other councillors in their work to combat the effects of the cuts.

The Forum is a truly great example of how the Law Society can facilitate discussions and working together within our city and thereby enable those who are struggling to obtain access to justice opportunities that they may otherwise not have.

Our next forum will be in May 2018.

Chris Topping
Chair, Access to Justice Committee

<p align="center">  Commercial Litigation Conference Wednesday 13th December 2017, 9.30am - 4.30pm Liverpool Law Society, 2nd Floor Helix, Edmund Street, Liverpool, L2 9NY </p>	
<p>Welcome address HHJ Graham Wood QC</p> <p>New Proposals/Developments Paul Brant</p> <p>Expert Evidence Stephanie Cumming</p> <p>Remedies for Breach of Tenant's Covenants in Commercial Leases Simon Booth</p> <p>The Business and Property Court: What is it? HHJ David Hodge QC</p>	<p>The County Court Money Claims Centre and Commercial Litigation: An Update Martin Huddleston & Richard Seddon, CCMCC</p> <p>Instructing Counsel Alexander Williams</p> <p>On-line Dispute Resolution Stewart McCulloch & Gareth Cutts</p> <p>CCMCC - Q&A</p> <p>Closing address HHJ Graham Wood QC</p>
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News from the Sub-Committees

Email: committees@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk for further information

Employment Sub Committee

Report from Employment sub-committee meeting 24.10.17

The Liverpool Law Society Employment Law sub-committee met on the 24th October 2017 at Liverpool Law Society.

The main topic of the meeting was the annual employment law conference which had taken place the previous week on the 18th October 2017.

The overall feedback from the full-day event was good, with each speaker receiving positive individual feedback, in particular Thomas Linden QC who gave an interesting talk on employment status and the Gig economy.

The committee was particularly grateful for the attendance of Regional Judge Jonathan Parkin who talked us through the implications of Employment Tribunal fee remission, and gave us an indication of what we can expect moving forward.

The committee considered this again at the meeting, and each member present gave their view on how and if they had noticed any changes following the Judgment in late July 2017, the general consensus being that we will have to wait a bit longer to see how things progress. The first phase of the Employment Tribunal refund scheme was briefly discussed, and we await further confirmation as to the next stage in the process.

Consideration was given as to future events and the planning of next years' annual employment law conference is already underway. The committee hopes to be able to announce some upcoming events (both social and training) in the New Year.

Nicky Benson announced that as of the 24th October 2017 she steps down as Chair of the employment sub-committee and moving forward the new Chair will be Lindsey Knowles. The committee would like to thank Nicky for all her hard work and the valuable time she has contributed to the committee during her time as Chair. The next employment sub-committee meeting will take place on Tuesday, 23rd January at 1pm.

Shereen Murphy
Associate
DWF LLP

Legacy Liverpool leaflets and bookmarks and pens for placing in the reception to raise awareness of charitable legacies.

Training issues were discussed, Jo Downey reported that the Residential Property Conference in September was full with 43 delegates and 7 speakers. Special thanks to Mrs Angela Hesketh for chairing and speaking. The Private Client Conference in conjunction with STEP is on 15th May 18.

The Law Commission Consultation Paper on wills number 231 was discussed. The Chair had drafted a response for discussion and feedback welcomed so Chair can finalise the response on behalf of the LLS.

Doubts were expressed about electronic wills were shared eg hacking, obsolete systems, loss of power and data, security, witnessing and storage.

The reasons why people don't make wills were discussed and the Chair's comments in draft response were approved. There was agreement that it is a good idea to make wills because the intestacy rules change therefore uncertainty, ignorance about the intestacy rules and the non-standard family structures in society which are not reflected in the rules.

There was a general feeling that DMC should be abolished because the concept contradicts wills.

The Chair's views on ademption were supported, there was a discussion about statutory wills procedures which are generally complex, expensive and unpredictable.



Next meeting 14th December, any practitioner with an interest in this area is welcome to join us. Please email committees@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk

Naomi Pinder
Chair

Criminal Practice Sub Committee

The Criminal Practice Sub-Committee met on 28th September to consider the following items on the agenda:-

Listing Review in the Magistrates' Court

The Cheshire and Merseyside Judicial Business Group (JBG) is responsible for making strategic decisions relating to listing across the Magistrates' Courts in Merseyside. On 1 April 2017 Merseyside became one Local Justice Area. The Judicial Business Group therefore decided to review the listing policy within Merseyside. Earlier this year the JBG commissioned work to be done to look at options for listing of the Court work. A number of problem solving meetings were held. These involved a number of representatives from Court Users and other stakeholders. Participants included the Police, CPS, Defence Advocates, Probation, Geo Amey, Pecs, Witness Service, Magistrates and District Judges and others. Following these meetings a series of recommendations were put before the JBG who approved a consultation. Various proposals for listing the work across the LJA were made and the views of the stakeholders were sought via a consultation paper issued on behalf of the Cheshire & Merseyside Judicial Business Group. The paper outlined a number of options in respect of listing the Magistrates' Courts criminal work in Merseyside with responses to be submitted

Non Contentious Sub Committee

The Non Contentious Sub Committee met on the 19th October. Our guest speaker was Alexis Fairclough for Legacy Liverpool. Alexis explained that Legacy Liverpool was formed by 26 charities to raise awareness of the importance of making a will and to prompt people to leave a legacy to charity. There are now 19 charities who share networks and work together. They sign up for one year. The charities range from large national charities eg. Cancer UK to local ones eg. Zoe's Place. Legacy giving provides a very important source of income eg. Cancer UK had received £180M from 6 gifts, comprising 1/3 of the annual income.

Solicitors can use prompt words to encourage giving eg by suggesting that many clients like to leave a gift to charity in their Will and it has been shown that by normalising gifting in this way can result in an increase the incidence of charitable legacies. No undue pressure can be brought to bear on testators. There are

by 22nd September 2017. The JBG were meeting at the end of this September to consider the responses to the listing review. Further communications will be issued in due course regarding what if any proposals they intend to take forward.

Centralisation of Youth Business

The formal consultation process in respect of the proposal to combine the three individual youth courts and centralise all youth business at the QEII Law Courts took place between 6th March 2015 and 13th April 2015. It was decided at that time to form one combined Youth Panel for the Cluster and the decision to centralise all youth business in one location was deferred. Recently the decision was taken to revisit the matter, it was decided that the centralisation of youth work should be considered again. Despite the concerns raised by both magistrates and other stakeholders, it has been decided to go ahead with the centralisation of youth business in Liverpool effective from the week commencing the 15th January 2018. According to HMCTS the number of youth courts required to sit at Liverpool each week has yet to be determined and is still open for discussion but it is envisaged that there will be no more than 4 full days each week and probably 3. The LAA has issued a consultation paper in response to HMCT's announcement which comprises two sections:

Section 1 outlines the changes and Duty Solicitor Schemes affected.

Section 2 outlines the options identified to change the Duty Solicitor Schemes affected within your local region.

The LAA are consulting on these proposals for 2 weeks, from 6th November 2017 to 20th November 2017. It is important that all members of the Liverpool/Knowsley, St Helens, Sefton & Wirral Duty Court Duty Solicitor Scheme respond promptly. Responses should be sent by email to liam.courtenaywilliams@legalaid.gsi.gov.uk

Transforming Summary Justice

In relation to Transforming Summary Justice (TSJ) performance is being scrutinised nationally. HMCTS is currently engaging in weekly dial-ins with the Crown Prosecution Service to discuss TSJ performances and any blockages in the system. Any feedback or suggestions from the defence community can be communicated directly to sarah.pemberton@justice.gov.uk



Finally, Liverpool Law Society Criminal Practice Sub-Committee always welcome new members. If you are interesting in joining us please e mail me eileenchisnall@msbsolicitors.co.uk.

Eileen Chisnall
Chair, Criminal Practice Sub-Committee

Our next meeting is on Thursday 25th January 2018 at 4.00pm

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Pro Bono Costs Orders What's in it for me?

The Access to Justice Foundation (ATJF) is a grant making national charity which raises funds and distributes them to support the provision of free legal advice and representation to vulnerable people who could not otherwise afford access to justice.

Pro Bono Costs Orders have been around for ten years, but awareness of them is sadly still very low. Hence why the ATJF held a free webinar on Monday 6th November, kindly supported by the Liverpool Law Society and Weightmans to explain the process for applying for Pro Bono Cost Orders and why they are important.

The webinar was introduced by Chris Topping, chair of the Access to Justice Committee at the Liverpool Law Society and presented by Toby Brown of South Square Chambers and Ed John, Partner at Shoosmiths. Our distinguished panel of guests gave anecdotes and information about their experiences of pro bono cost orders.

What are pro bono cost orders?

- Pro bono costs orders are essentially just like normal costs orders.
- Available where the winning party has been helped by a lawyer providing pro bono representation. That can be representation at court, or during the litigation. The Court orders the losing party to pay the equivalent sum of costs had the pro bono lawyer instead been charging their client

- Instead of the winning party or the pro bono lawyer getting the money, s194 Legal Services Act 2007 requires that the costs be paid to the Access to Justice Foundation.

Please look at the guide on pro bono cost orders on our website
<http://www.atjf.org.uk/advice-sector-pro-bono-costs-project.html>
or Laura Cassidy on lauracassidy@atjf.org.uk



Meet the President of the Law Society

President of the Law Society, Joe Egan has been in office for four months. He talks to Julia Baskerville about the highlights so far and the challenges facing the profession...

Bolton-born Joe studied Sociology and Economic History at Kent University and on graduation had little ambition, other than to see the world. Which he did. Having worked on a Kibbutz in Israel for a year, as a waiter in Germany and as a bus driver in Bolton, in 1975 Joe set off on a trip which took him through Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India and Burma as he headed towards Australia where he spent 15 months. He then moved to New Zealand where he honed his skills as a waiter for another 3 months. Next stop on his itinerary was Chile and he travelled extensively through South and Central America, before finally hitchhiking his way through the USA to New York.

Joe then decided he should get a "proper job" and opted for a career in the law and enrolled at Nottingham Trent University for two years where he completed the CPE and Law Society Finals. He did his articles with Bolton firm Cyril Morris Arkwright where he stayed for 18 months and then moved to Betesh Fox in Manchester to complete his training, qualifying as a solicitor in 1982.

Joe worked for a short while at Aspinalls, a conveyancing practice, before joining crime-specialists Burns Bowman in Manchester. He then returned to Bolton where he spent a year with Stephenson's. In 1986 he opened the doors of Joe Egan Solicitors. Having been a sole practitioner with salaried partners, last year the firm became a company with five directors. The firm also has four assistant solicitors, two trainees as well as several trainee legal executives. Joe became the first solicitor in Bolton to achieve the right to appear in the Crown Courts when he was granted Higher Rights of Audience in 1995.

Joe has been active with Bolton Law Society since 1987 and gradually became more involved in the committee, becoming President in 2010. He joined the Council of the Law Society in 2006 when Ed Nally, the Council Member for Central Lancashire stepped down.

Four months into the job and Joe says he is enjoying representing the profession. The last few months have seen him visit Sydney for the International Bar Association Conference. The highlight of this trip was a dinner which was hosted in the Consul General's office, which had the iconic view of the harbour and Sydney Opera House. He has also visited Canada for the Union de International Advocats Conference and the LawAsia Conference was held recently in Tokyo. These overseas trips are important – the jurisdiction of England of Wales and our legal services are a vital export for the UK.

Closer to home Joe has hosted a delegation from China, which included the Vice Minister of Justice. Joe also recently hosted the annual Law Society Excellence Awards, of which he says "The Excellence Awards highlight the professionalism, dedication and excellence in the legal profession and it was a great honour to be able to meet these firms and individuals who are outstanding in their fields of the law."

Another great pleasure is admitting newly qualified solicitors onto the roll at the Admission Ceremonies and last month he was delighted to admit his nephew Thomas Egan, a solicitor in his own firm, to the legal profession.

Joe says that there are many challenges for the profession, and in particular High Street practices. The cuts in criminal law fees and the reduction in the number of pages that law firms can claim for down to 6000 instead of 10000 will mean that many firms will be working for nothing and could essentially remove all profitability. In addition, the proposals to raise the small claims limit to £5000 will have a huge impact on PI firms and the Law Society's concern is that this will decimate the High Street practices.

Another major concern are the proposals by the SRA to make radical changes to the Solicitors Handbook. Joe states that the Law Society has major concerns about some of the proposals which could see solicitors subject to entirely different regulations depending on where they practise. This could create a new tier of solicitors, working in unregulated businesses, who wouldn't have to have the same insurance or pay into the solicitors' compensation fund.



The proposals also included allowing newly qualified solicitors to set up their own firms immediately after qualification. Joe says "The removal of the rules which prevent solicitors establishing their own firms immediately after they qualify could put vulnerable clients with complex legal problems in the hands of inexperienced, unsupervised lawyers. This cannot be a good thing."

Joe is a great advocate for local law societies and hopes to publish a Local Law Society Handbook later in the year, which will provide practical advice on best practice and how to attract new members. With 30 years experience of local law societies he has seen many grow and flourish, whilst others have become moribund and this is often an indication of the people involved. He is pleased to see that a new local law society has recently been established in South Cheshire.

So far Joe says that he loves being President of the Law Society and thought that he was prepared for his year of office but adds that he hadn't realised just how intense the role was, often with meetings starting at 8am and continuing late into the evening. Joe is due to host a dinner for Baroness Hale and the Lord Chief Justice and says that he is honoured to be representing the profession at this level.

Joe now lives mainly in Carey Street, round the corner from the Law Society, but some weekends finds the time to return home to Bolton. He occasionally gets to watch Bolton Wanderers or Manchester City as an experience he characterized as like going from watching a play at Bolton Octagon to the Royal Shakespeare Company. He is married to Clare and they have three children. Their eldest daughter, Kate, is a solicitor in Bristol and their younger daughter, Helen, is the firm's assistant practice manager. Son, Ben is in his final year at UCL where he is studying Biology.

Joe's other passion in life, apart from football, is music. He describes his musical tastes as "eclectic", taking in folk, rock and classical, but adds that he has yet to understand the appeal of jazz. He has been a regular attendee at both the Cropredy and Wychwood Festivals, although this year music has had to take a back seat!

The changing nature of the legal professional

There's little doubt that the nature of work is shifting at an unprecedented rate, and the legal profession is no exception. With artificial intelligence arriving on the scene offering firms the ability to automate many process driven roles, coupled with intense competition for jobs, legal professionals can no longer rely on academic achievements alone. They need to be able to demonstrate that they have the abilities to achieve long term success in an ever evolving workplace and help increase the profitability of their firm. So what are Manchester employers looking for in 2018?

Outstanding interpersonal skills: Strong communication skills have always been required to support professionals' legal knowledge, however having exceptional interpersonal skills is crucial for those looking to further their career. In an increasingly competitive employment market, individuals need to be able to demonstrate that

they have the ability to cultivate and maintain strong professional relationships with peers, and establish a strong sense of rapport with clients.

Negotiation and management skills: As in house teams continue to strengthen their legal departments, private practitioners will increasingly find themselves working with clients who are legal professionals themselves, who will expect their external counsel to not only show effective management skills but also a willingness to negotiate on alternative fee arrangements. Management and leadership qualities are vital for professionals who are looking to progress up the ladder as corporate counsel need to be able to manage a panel of external legal service providers.

The ability to work collaboratively: Workplaces are being ever more collaborative, and the legal profession is adopting increasingly

co-operative working practices. As cases become progressively more complex, legal professionals will find themselves working in more interdisciplinary teams, and having to collaborate with a wider range of external specialists, so the ability to work effectively with a diverse team is perhaps more crucial than ever. Collaboration is a skill rarely taught in legal degrees and while the ability to work autonomously and act as a sole advisor is still incredibly important, candidates need to be able to show that they can also work well in complex teams.

The ability to be both generalist and specialist: Recent shifts within the profession have led to a somewhat paradoxical expectation of legal professionals. Increasingly employers are looking for individuals to have both specialist knowledge and a wide generalist skillset. In order to differentiate themselves in an increasingly crowded market place, professionals need to adopt this dual role. Firms are now looking for individuals with both experience working in incredibly specialist practice areas, as well as having a broad sense of commercial awareness. Law firms are placing a greater value on



commercial acumen tests during the recruitment process, so professionals need to ensure that they are able to demonstrate a thorough understanding of the 'business of law' and can combine a sense of commercial awareness with sound legal reasoning.

Lynn Sedgwick is Managing Director of specialist recruiter, Clayton Legal. For more information visit www.clayton-legal.co.uk or call 01772 259 121





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Annual Dinner 2017

I had a most enjoyable time at this year's Annual Dinner which took place at the Hilton Hotel in Thomas Steers Way, Liverpool One.

The road is appropriately named, as Sir Thomas was the architect of the first wet dock at that spot which was formally the "Pool", from which presumably the City was named. It is in fact the oldest part of Liverpool when it was just a fishing village many centuries ago.

It was certainly the usual prestigious event in the Calendar and all the great and the good were there including yours truly.

We were treated to some excellent speeches from Sir Brian Leveson, President of Queen's Bench Division and Head of Criminal Justice, who told us of his experiences with his famous battle with a certain comedian of the city as well as emphasizing the difficulties we face in administering justice for the vulnerable and deprived.

Max Steinberg Chief Executive of Liverpool Vision also gave a very up-beat speech highlighting the advance the City has made since the dark days of the 80's & 90's. He was able to provide considerable optimism for the future and urged us all to engage with and become involved in the International Business Festival taking place in the City for 3 weeks in June 2018.

I was able to entertain the VIPs in the Ballam Suite and with 301 guests in total I have to say it was a resounding success.

We welcomed our friends from the Joint V and Belfast & Ireland and the feedback so far has been excellent. Many thanks once again to Sarah & her team at Helix, also to our sponsors; Kingsley, TitleSolv, VFS Legal & Thomson Reuters.

John Ballam
President



Front row left to right Max Steinberg CBE, Sir Brian Leveson, John Ballam, the Lord-Lieutenant, HHJ Graham Wood QC.

Second row: HHJ Clement Goldstone QC, HHJ Margaret de Haas QC, The Lord Mayor of Liverpool.

Back row: Michael Hayton QC, The Hon. Mr Justice Neil Garnham, Sir Henry Globe.



Guests enjoying the evening



Steven Zdolyny, Nina Ferris and John Ballam



The speakers- Sir Brian Leveson, John Ballam, Nina Ferris and Max Steinberg CBE



Bermans

190th Dinner



Weightmans



Atlantic Chambers



Kingsley



Hill Dickinson



Guests from the MJLD



MSB



St John's Buildings



Ballam family, Chris Murphy and
past Presidents



Gavin Allen (Thomson Reuters), John Ballam, Norman Kenyyn
(VFS Legal), and Chris Goodwin (TitleSolv)



Sir Henry Globe, Sir Brian Leveson,
John Ballam & HHJ Clement Goldstone QC

Conkerton Memorial Lecture

The Master of the Rolls, The Right Honourable Sir Terence Etherton



will present the 11th Conkerton Memorial Lecture on Thursday,
15th March 2018 at 5.30 for 6.15pm at Liverpool Town Hall, L2 3SW

The Master of the Rolls is the Head of Civil Justice and the second most senior judge in England and Wales.

In January 2001 Sir Terence Etherton was appointed a High Court Judge, becoming Lord Justice of Appeal in 2008 and Chancellor of the High Court in 2013. Shortly after being appointed Master of the Rolls in October 2016, Sir Terence was one of the three judges forming the divisional court of the High Court in proceedings concerning the use of the royal prerogative for the issue of notification in accordance with Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union (the Lisbon Treaty) (*Santos and Miller, Applicants -v- Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, Respondent*).

Prior to becoming a judge, he had competed on the British sabre fencing team and qualified for the 1980 Moscow Olympics. He boycotted the Games in response to the USSR's invasion of Afghanistan.

This event is free to attend and open to all members of the legal profession and students of law, be it undergraduates or those on LPC or GDL courses.

For enquiries or to book please email: socialevents@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk

Please note all bookings are subject to the Society's terms and conditions, visit www.liverpoollawsociety.org.uk/general-terms-and-conditions for details. Liverpool Law Society is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, Company Number 00004302.
Registered Office: Second Floor, Helix, Edmund Street, Liverpool, L3 9NY | DX 14100 Liverpool 1

Newly Qualified Solicitor & Barrister Celebration



**The White Star Grand Hall,
30 James Street, Liverpool, L2 7PQ**

on **Thursday 25th January 2018** at 6.00pm for 6.30pm

Liverpool Law Society would like to invite Newly Qualified Solicitors and Barristers from the Liverpool City Region and surrounding area who qualified during 2017 to celebrate the launch of their career in the legal profession.

There will be a complimentary drink on arrival and a selection of canapes with the opportunity to meet more experienced, local practitioners.

The Newly Qualifieds will be presented with a certificate of congratulations from

Mr Stephen Burrows Esq DL, The High Sheriff of Merseyside

Members of the Merseyside JLD are also invited to come along to meet and network with senior solicitors, partners and members of Liverpool Law Society.

This event is free to attend.

To book, or for further information please visit
www.liverpoollawsociety.org.uk/social-events/forthcoming

The legal profession: committed...caring...accomplished...

Hires and APIL accreditation at Your Legal Friend

Birkenhead-based Your Legal Friend has hired Joanne Candlish as Solicitor and Department Manager to head up the firm's dedicated Asbestos Team in response to a significant increase in cases related to the hazardous material.

Joanne has over 25 years' experience and is a senior litigator member of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers. She specialises in mesothelioma and asbestos related lung cancer claims and has represented clients in several high-profile cases.

This includes representing one of the lead families in the landmark Supreme Court case known as the 'Employers' Liability Trigger Litigation', which ruled that employers' liability insurance was 'triggered' at the time of exposure to asbestos and not development of the disease. This protected the right to compensation for thousands of mesothelioma, asbestos and other long tail occupational health disease victims.

Joanne also worked alongside HM Coroner for Liverpool, on behalf of the family of a deceased asbestos victim, in the Judicial Review which challenged the HMRC's policy decision not to disclose employment records to coroners and families in fatal disease cases. This successful challenge eventually led to the policy being overturned.

Joanne will oversee a team of specialist asbestos lawyers that represent clients with mesothelioma, asbestos-related lung cancer, asbestosis and pleural thickening.

Colin Gibson, Chief Executive Officer at Your Legal Friend, said: "We have seen a surge in asbestos related enquiries over the past twelve months and have moved to bolster our team further to support our expanding case load.

"Joanne is a hugely experienced senior solicitor who has a proven track record of

successfully supporting the victims of asbestos related diseases and their loved ones. We're delighted to welcome her to the team."

Joanne Candlish, Solicitor and Department Manager for Asbestos at Your Legal Friend said: "Approximately 5,000 workers including tradespeople and teachers die each year through exposure to asbestos in the workplace and employers must be held accountable for their actions if they are responsible.

"My focus is on bringing justice to those affected and holding negligent organisations to account."

A solicitor at a Birkenhead-headquartered law firm has become part of a small elite group of industry professionals on Merseyside to secure one of the highest rankings in his specialist field.

Nick Banks, who works in the growing medical negligence department at Your Legal Friend has been awarded APIL's (Association of Personal Injury Lawyers) Senior Litigator status.

With over eight years' experience, Nick specialises in misdiagnosis for serious medical conditions, inappropriately performed surgical procedures and delays in the diagnosis of terminal illnesses. He is one of five APIL Senior Litigators at the law firm.

The status demonstrates an individual's high levels of competency and expertise in medical negligence, a complex area of law.

Completing his Legal Practice Course at Liverpool John Moores University in 2009, Nick now manages a team of four within the medical negligence department which is headed up by Laura Morgan.

Laura Morgan Director of Medical Negligence said: "Nick has been a consistently strong performer in the department during his time here. He always puts the client at the heart of

everything he does and has built a strong track record for securing the compensation they deserve.

"Being awarded Senior Litigator status is a fantastic achievement. The fact that Your Legal Friend is home to a quarter of all APIL Senior Litigators on Merseyside is testament to the calibre of talent we attract and nurture in-house."

Nick Banks, Medical Negligence Solicitor, added: "It's an honour to achieve this status. It's taken a lot of hard work but I couldn't have done it without my fantastic colleagues who have been extremely supportive throughout.

"I'm passionate about this important area of law and will continue putting every effort into helping those who have been harmed as a result of medical negligence to gain some kind of justice."

Your Legal Friend's Medical Negligence department is also celebrating being recently listed in the Legal 500 as having an 'experienced team'. It lists Laura Morgan, who has considerable expertise in birth and brain injury cases, amputations and fatal cases as an 'excellent clinical negligence practitioner'.

Sara Stanger, Solicitor and Head of Medical Negligence, is also recommended for her work on cases arising from a delay in diagnosis from cancer and orthopedic matters including brachial plexus and Erbs palsy injuries.

Founded in 1983, Birkenhead-based Your Legal Friend employs over 200 people and has supported around 200,000 clients over the last 30 years.



Joanne Candlish



Nick Banks

Attention to detail.

In these unpredictable times, 'good enough' isn't good enough.

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Brabners strengthens Family Team with Rigg hire

Commercial law firm Brabners has boosted its family team with the appointment of Richard Rigg from DWF.

Rigg, who joins as an associate in the Liverpool office, has five years' experience in family law, with particular expertise in divorce and complex financial settlements arising from relationship breakdown. In addition, Richard will strengthen the team's well-established wealth protection offering for its high net worth and business clients.

Brabners' family team is headed by partner Helen Marriott and is split between offices in Manchester, Liverpool and Preston. The team is ranked as top tier in Legal 500 and also by Chambers and Partners, which describes the practice as "very professional with a depth of knowledge and friendly manner".

Rigg's appointment is indicative of the growth of Brabners' family team in recent years and its dedication to achieving the

best possible results for its clients.

Helen Marriott said: "Richard's track record, considered advice and broad expertise make him an ideal fit as the team grows revenues across the North West. Looking ahead, we are confident of building on a successful 2017 and will continue to invest in the team to ensure we meet client expectations in offering a first-class service in complex areas of family law."

Richard Rigg added: "Brabners is widely recognised as one of the leading family law firms in the region as well as an outstanding employer. I'm looking forward to using my experience and skillset to support our diverse mix of clients."

Brabners has made a raft of senior appointments so far in 2017. These include partner Steven Appleton as head of the firm's private client practice and partner Ian Mylrea as head of the firm's pensions team.



Mark Brandwood, Richard Rigg and Helen Marriott

Liverpool based mediation provider Mediatelegal has become a Civil Mediation Council Registered Mediation Provider

There are only 55 Civil Mediation Council Registered Mediation Providers in the UK. Mediatelegal is the only Registered Mediation Provider based in Liverpool.

Founder member Joseph Mulrooney is thrilled with this latest accreditation, "Becoming Liverpool's only Registered Mediation Provider is another first for Mediatelegal. This accreditation isn't widely available, and no other Mediation Provider in Liverpool is approved by the Civil Mediation Council as Mediatelegal is."

"We are already accredited by the Professional Mediators Association. This latest accreditation demonstrates the excellent standards we maintain, as well as the passion we have for mediation."

"We have carefully chosen our mediators to ensure they meet our extremely high standards. As part of our fee we will also take care of all of the administrative work necessary to arrange a mediation. This leaves solicitors free to spend their time on more productive tasks."

Based in Exchange Flags, Liverpool City Centre, Mediatelegal offer a nationwide mediation service for commercial disputes, workplace disputes, legal costs disputes, construction disputes, and civil law disputes.

If you have a query you can contact Mediatelegal on 0151 363 3972, by email at help@mediatelegal.co.uk, or by visiting their website www.mediatelegal.co.uk



Social Media for Lawyers

with Steve Cornforth

on Friday 26th January, 9.30am—1pm



Social Media is changing the world at a staggering pace. Apparently 85% of us own a smart phone. It is also changing the face of legal practice from marketing/networking to how we communicate with clients and each other.

In this course we will be looking at the most useful platforms for lawyers and how they can be used most effectively. Together we will learn to boldly go

- Introduction to Social Media
- Twitter – knowing you @s from your #s!
- LinkedIn – growing and using your connections, marketing
- Facebook – only for holiday photos? How to set up and use pages
- Google+ - Google what?
- Referencing across platforms
- Additional tools
- Think before you tweet and other important lessons

Venue:
Liverpool Law Society, 2nd Floor, Helix, Edmund Street, Liverpool, L3 9NY

Legal Costs Update

Paul Fulcher of The Legal Costs Experts offers advice on some frequently asked costs questions...

Am I entitled to an interim costs payment?

From April 2013 there was an amendment to the old interim payment rule, which changed the emphasis from a discretionary 'may order' to a qualified mandatory 'will order unless'.

Do I have to serve a costs schedule before a detailed bill?

No, a bill can and should be served even on non litigated matters, the costs of a schedule are not recoverable from the opponent and there is no deadline, the reasonable costs of a bill are recoverable from the opponent.

Am I entitled to interest on my costs?

Yes. On litigated matters Interest on costs runs at 8% from the date of the order for costs.

Is there a time limit for serving my bill?

Assessment proceedings should be commenced within 3 months of the final order/judgment.

When do Replies have to be served to Points of Dispute?

They are optional but the receiving party may do so within 21 days after being served with the points of dispute to which the reply relates.

Is there an automatic entitlement to indemnity costs if an opponent accepts a Part 36 out of time?

No, there are many factors to look at and the court will have regard to the parties' conduct when exercising the general costs discretion under CPR 44.2 irrespective of whether or not CPR 36 is engaged.

Brabners' Trainee Programme named friendliest in the UK

Brabners' trainee programme has been ranked as one of the highest performing in the country, according to a nationwide survey from student legal careers advisor Lex100.

According to this year's report, Brabners is the highest scoring firm for friendliness and placed in the top 20 for stress level and work-life balance.

The annual rankings take into account more than 3,000 anonymous responses from trainees at 165 legal practices from across the UK. The survey asks respondents to score their firm in a variety of areas, including job satisfaction and company culture.

Dr Tony Harvey, director of training at Brabners, said: "Our trainee programme is a fundamental part of the firm's long-term plan for sustainable growth. We're a business built on finding and nurturing talent, so this recognition from Lex100 means a huge amount to us.

"Our trainees are a vitally important and valued part of the team here so we are very focussed on continuing to invest



Dr Tony Harvey

in their development and enabling them to fulfil their potential."

In 2017, the firm has taken on more than two thirds of its recently graduated trainees as newly qualified lawyers.

Lex100 interviewed several of Brabners' current trainees as part of its assessment, with many commending "the variety and quality of work", "the impressive client base", and the "genuine emphasis on trainees maintaining a good work/life balance."



The Legal Costs Experts

COSTS DRAFTSMEN - COSTS NEGOTIATORS - ADVOCATES

The Legal Costs Experts have over 25 years of experience in providing a comprehensive service in the fields of Costs Drafting, Costs Negotiation and Costs Advocacy. Whilst we specialise in Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence claims we can deal with ANY costs related matter.

We provide a comprehensive range of services, including:

- **Cost budgets**
- **Bills of costs**
- **Points of dispute/replies**
- **Advocacy**
- **Retainer advice**
- **Documentation pertaining to legal costs**
- **Part 8 proceedings**

Costs Budgets, Retainer Advice, Immigration, Advocacy work for both Claimant and Defendant, particularly in Industrial Disease, Holiday Sickness, Housing disrepair, Cavity Wall Cases, Clinical and Dental Negligence, Public Liability and Employers Liability, Product Liability, Child Abuse, Probate and Commercial cases.

Contact:

Paul Fulcher

07580 439977

<http://www.thelegalcostsexperts.uk/>

paul@thelegalcostsexperts.uk

Outsourced cashiering and your bottom line

By Julian Bryan, Managing Director, Quill

Success in business

The ultimate marker of a successful business is the strength of its bottom line. Profitability is everything if you want to survive and thrive. The route to healthy profits is maximising income and minimising costs.

You don't necessarily need us to tell you about the former of these – maximising income. Revenue generation is your forte, achieved by good marketing to create new business opportunities in the first place, and even better legal service provision and client care thereafter to secure a stream of repeat and referral business.

Your legal software provider can assist in this area by offering solutions containing features such as automation to reduce your workload, application availability for greater uptime, intuitive time recording to capture more chargeable activity and advanced analytics to monitor performance, to name a few. But that's not the main focus here. We're concentrating on the latter – minimising costs.

Where cost cutting's concerned, we're going to show you how outsourcing services, specifically outsourced legal cashiering, can help you to drastically decrease your overheads.

In-house vs outsourced costs

To begin, consider the standard costs associated with employing an in-house cashiering staff member. Outgoings encompass recruitment and selection; induction, mentoring, training and development; annual bonus; overtime; pension contributions; temporary cover for long-term sickness, maternity and paternity; 10 metres of office space necessitating rent, rates and service charges; IT hardware equipment and office furniture; 1 user licence for legal accounts software; telecommunications; tea, coffee, sugar, milk, water and fresh fruit provision; social events including Christmas parties; other financial rewards such as referral, length of service and staff introduction awards; and miscellaneous schemes including car parking, healthcare and gym membership.

This extensive list can easily run into tens of thousands of pounds. And it's by no means the biggest expense which is, of course, salary. Average cashier earnings range from £19,000 in the regions to £32,500 in London.

In comparison, outsourcing's charged at a set affordable, monthly, transaction-based fee all-in which scales up or down according to your own level of busy-ness. Clearly, then, outsourced cashiering is by far the most economical way to manage this highly skilled, time intensive and heavily regulated business process. In real terms, outsourcing means doing the same job (better, we would argue, as your supplier is a specialist in its field), namely all the normal cashier duties, for substantially less cost.

Other cost factors

It's also nigh-on impossible to plan for unexpected, sudden costs not originally factored into your annual allocation of monies. The possibilities are depressingly endless and could be anything from a staff member deciding to retire early to market-driven hike in office rent. Conversely, with a pay-as-you-go pricing plan, you know from the outset what your monthly outbound spends will be, with no hidden extras on top, which can easily be absorbed into your overheads.

The other cost-related factor to take into account is how outsourcing immediately converts fixed costs into variable costs. Scalability affords you much more flexibility and control of your budget. When you expand, you scale up and pay more. When you contract, you scale down and pay less. As a business, you become more agile and responsive to the changing demands upon you as a result.

It's glaringly obvious that your bottom line will be much healthier by moving from a traditional in-house set up to outsourcing agreement, but this isn't the only financial aspect to take into account.

It'd be an oversight to write regarding the costs associated with outsourced cashiering services without covering cash flow management generally. A steady flow of monies in and out are essential to keep your business running. This is about establishing good billing and payment practices, distinguishing between your client and office accounts, reviewing your key financial indicators regularly, and staying compliant with the SRA Accounts Rules and CLC Accounts Code.

Your cashier will manage your books in their entirety from your bank accounts and ledgers to reports and VAT returns. They're up-to-date in cashiering best practice so, with their input, you'll identify any red flags immediately in order to keep your finances in the black and have actionable financial intelligence from which to grow your business.

Security precautions

There's also the matter of security. As a law firm, you handle enormous sums of client monies. Conveyancers are an obvious target and scams relating to rogue house owners and buyer deposit redirection have made headline news over recent months. But it's not only conveyancers who hold and pay monies from client account. Every law firm does. With fraudsters and cybercriminals trying their hardest to purloin your financial assets, you have to tighten your defences in order to keep them at bay and your finances intact. You're reliant upon your cashier and accounts software to do so.

It thus follows that you're placing an inordinate amount of trust in your in-house cashier who's required to fulfil an important role in the management of your finances. Amongst their many responsibilities are bank reconciliations, online banking, inter-account transfers and paying invoices. Your internal controls must be watertight in order to monitor your cashier's actions and transactions so that if anything's amiss, it'll be noticed straightaway. In-house cashier fraud isn't completely unheard of. While we don't want to engender suspicion of your employees, it'd be naïve to assume it'll never happen to you. It's rare, admittedly, but not outside the realms of all possibility.

With your accounts software, you can reduce the risk of fraud with anti-money laundering checks, credit screens, conflict of interest searches, proof of identity document capture and breach warnings to preserve your matters and their associated finances. There's also data security in the form of ISO-accredited data centres, password access, SSL encryption, firewalls, penetration testing, system monitoring, replication, physical security measures and more industrial-strength security protocols. The significance of your software is not to be overlooked.

With outsourcing, stringent measures are in place to supervise each cashier who'll be subject to team, section and senior leadership controls. Regular reports showing potential or actual breaches, anomalies and late arrival of monies keep your finances in check. There's simply no room for error or deliberate deception in an outsourced set-up.

Find out more

While we appreciate outsourced cashiering may not be right for every law firm, if it does fit your business's needs, just imagine the cost savings to be made.

For further reading on this subject, access our 'Essential questions to ask your outsourced cashiering provider' article at www.quill.co.uk/essential-questions and 'Ten reasons to outsource your cashiering' article at www.quill.co.uk/10-reasons.



QUILL

Julian Bryan joined Quill as Managing Director in 2012 and is also the Chair of the Legal Software Suppliers Association. Quill is the UK's largest outsourced legal cashiering provider with 40 years' experience supplying outsourced services and software to the legal profession.

Bermans dispute resolution platform wins prestigious industry award

Escalate, Bermans ground-breaking commercial dispute resolution process for SMEs, has been named 'Innovation of the Year' at this year's British Accountancy Awards.

Escalate helps SMEs to achieve a prompt settlement to a wide range of commercial disputes, with fixed fees payable only on a successful outcome and no upfront costs.

Chris Clay, one of the architects of the Escalate process, said: "Winning one of the most hotly contested categories in our industry's most prestigious awards is a major achievement.

"Escalate was developed to be a game-changer that will transform how commercial disputes are resolved; this award demonstrates that the wider market has taken notice and also realised its potential."

Nick Harvey, partner and head of litigation and dispute resolution at Bermans, said: "We're extremely proud of what Escalate has achieved since its launch at the start of the year.

"Not only have our peers recognised Escalate's potential to disrupt the commercial

dispute resolution market, but we're also seeing considerable demand for the process from SMEs - which is hardly surprising given that the traditional dispute resolution model is broken and heavily stacked against claimants. Pursuing a commercial dispute has tended to be a costly, lengthy and risky undertaking. Escalate has changed that by providing a smarter way for businesses to resolve commercial disputes."

Recent research from the Federation of Small Businesses suggests there were at least 3.4 million commercial disputes involving SMEs between 2010 and 2015. This represents a significant cost and cash flow constraint to the SME sector and can sometimes be the reason why businesses fail.

Nick added: "By removing financial risk, providing transparency on process and pricing, and ensuring that the claimant remains the main beneficiary on settlement, Escalate gives SMEs an opportunity to resolve their disputes in a way that helps rather than hinders their cash flow. That's why we're seeing so much interest from our client base, and that's why we're winning awards."



Nick Harvey

Outsource your cashiering...

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Liverpool Law Society member firms recognised in Legal 500

Legal 500 success for boutique family law firm

PMC Family Law have achieved Legal 500 status within a year of the commencement of the brand in July 2016. PMC Family is a niche boutique family law firm led by, Head of Practice, Pauline McNamara.

Pauline has over 30 years' experience specialising in complex cases to include high net worth financial relief and issues relating to children. She is a member of the Family Law Specialist Panel and an accredited member of the Law Society. She is mentioned in the Legal 500 as a Recommended Lawyer and praised for her no-nonsense approach. She is described as a strong, concise and precise advocate. Associate solicitors, Caroline Hamilton and John Owens, are also commended as Recommended Lawyers, credited for "establishing themselves in the market place". The department is best known for their proactive approach in all areas of Family Law but with particular expertise in high net worth financial cases, private children law proceedings, cohabitation and injunctive relief cases. The firm is described in the Legal 500 as an "exciting new start-up that is already a well-respected firm". The team provide comprehensive legal advice with the highest level of analytical consideration. They have a great professional relationship with leading industry experts. The PMC Family team provide their international clientele with 24/7 customer service and always strive to ensure that their client's obtain market leading representation.

Moving forward PMC Family are committed to growing the brand and increasing their ever-expanding clientele whilst ensuring that client care is at the forefront of expansion.



MSB recognised for its work in crime and family law in The Legal 500

In the same month it was announced she will succeed Paul Bibby as managing partner of the firm, MSB Solicitors' Emma Carey has been listed in the elite "leading lawyers" list by The Legal 500 – Britain's top guide to the legal profession.

The guide states: "Emma Carey is an excellent leader; she has superb knowledge of the law and is also very sensitive and insightful, which is of huge importance for her vulnerable clients." Founding partner and head of crime, Sean Sexton, also makes the list, noted for his 'precise and thorough preparation' and 'extensive knowledge of and experience in serious and complex financial crime' and MSB has been recommended as a top tier firm for crime and fraud for the second year running.

In 2016, MSB was ranked in the top tier in the North West for its work on financial crime – the only Liverpool firm to make it into the top bracket. In 2015, Sean Sexton was described as a 'powerhouse' for his work in complex fraud cases.

The guide has once again recommended MSB for general crime and private client work and singles, in total, six of its solicitors out for praise.

In crime, Andrew Pearson is referred to as 'outstanding' and is singled out for his specialism in representing defendants who are autistic or suffer from Asperger's syndrome.

The guide also marks the successes of partner Emma Palmer and solicitors Kirsty Leather and Sarah Achilles from MSB's "extremely strong" family team.

The 2017 Legal 500 rankings come further to a string of accolades this year for MSB. The firm is currently shortlisted for Best Family Firm for the North at the National Family Law Awards.



Sean Sexton, Sarah Achilles, Emma Carey, Emma Palmer & Andrew Pearson

DWF Liverpool described as providing "exceptional levels of service" in 2017 Legal 500 UK

International legal business DWF secured 20 rankings within its Liverpool office in this year's Legal 500 UK, with clients commenting that the business was a "major national player with expertise at every level."

The business also achieved 108 overall rankings with 22 new tier 1 rankings this year. DWF's North West team achieved the strongest regional performance, with the Liverpool office securing a tier 1 ranking for commercial litigation and being described as being a "highly responsive and supporting team which goes above and beyond".

A further eight tier 1 rankings were secured across the region in a number of practice areas including EU and competition and commercial litigation. The business was also ranked in a number of its core commercial sectors which reflects the breadth and depth of the business's offering and is a result of continued strategic



Andy Nichol

investment and growth.

Alongside practice and sector rankings, DWF's individuals were also recognised for their expertise, with 38 leading lawyers and 14 next generation lawyers ranked in this year's guide.

In Liverpool, six partners and senior associates were identified as leading individuals and one as a next generation lawyer. These included Paul Berry (CEO of Insurance Services), Paul Rimmer (Head of Corporate in Liverpool), Andrew Whalley (Head of Liverpool Commercial Litigation), James Szerdy (partner - banking), Chris King (director – commercial litigation, James Cashman (senior associate - tax) and Lyndsay Crowder- Barton (senior associate – commercial litigation).

Andy Nichol, Executive Partner at DWF in Liverpool, said: "We're really pleased with the Legal 500 results as they reflect the hard work and dedication put in by the Liverpool office. We continue to grow the office in-line with our sector-focused strategy."



**Wishing all our readers
and contributors a
Merry Christmas and
Peaceful New Year...**



Corporate Member Training Offer

Helping your staff to remain competent

Save up to 30% on training costs with the Corporate Member Training Offer

*****offer includes conferences as well as seminars*****

Purchase 10 course credits in advance for only £800 + vat*.

Purchase 25 course credits for only £1,800 + vat*. Then simply book **ANY** of your staff, including all support staff, on a wide range of LLS events, assigning credits as required - easy!

Our Christmas gift you to you!

Any training event up to 3 hours in duration is 1 credit, anything over 3 hours up to one day is 2 credits, including our full day conferences.

Offer valid from 1st June 2017 to 31st May 2018 for LLS events that take place between these dates.

For an application form, please contact: cpdevents@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk

Terms:

- The credits may be used by the Liverpool Law Society corporate member firm for any of their staff
- The Credit bundle is non-refundable. Offer excludes the Children Panel Qualification 3 day course & limited events when specified. Any supporting materials will only be issued to those who have booked on courses which they have unavoidably been unable to attend.
- The Society retains the right to cancel or alter the date of courses
- Subject to our usual [terms & conditions](#).

Those who book events but do not attend and don't provide notice of cancellation will have the appropriate credit allocation applied.



Developments in Domestic Abuse with Safda Mahmood

on Tuesday 23rd January, 10am—4.30pm
(lunch included)

The topics covered will include amongst others, the following:

- Domestic Abuse - What protection is available?
- Family Law Act 1996 - Nuts and bolts
- Drafting Orders and Without Notice Orders - What has changed?
- Enforcement - What has changed?
- Changes brought about through the Domestic Violence, Crimes and Victims Act 2004
- Law and practice surrounding Forced Marriage Cases
- Changes to Protection from Harassment Cases

Venue: Liverpool Law Society, 2nd Floor Helix, Edmund Street, Liverpool, L3 9NY

To see more information or to book,
visit: www.liverpoollawsociety.org.uk

Council Member's Report

The latest news from Charlie Jones, Council Member for Merseyside

Congratulations to the President John Ballam and the Vice President Nina Ferris for hosting an excellent Liverpool Law Society dinner at the Hilton on 9 November. It was a thoroughly successful affair, with great speeches. The success of such an event, in my view, is always measured as to the chat that goes on during the speeches, and this year there was little chat. It was good to hear from some of Liverpool's leading legal lights what went on in Liverpool legal circles in 1066! It was also good to see so many members of the Senior Judiciary who have helped this Society in years gone by.

I also attended a session put on by the Law Society in relation to the Regulatory changes which are proposed by the SRA, not least the change to the handbook, and other important issues which will affect us all, such as who can do what sort of work, and will they be insured to do it. It was, I am very sad to say, disappointing to see that there was such a small turn out. Many thanks to Stewart McCulloch for chairing it at the last minute, but this is an extremely important aspect of our day to day life as solicitors. There is a real danger that the quality of those in our profession will be substantially lowered, and that the consumer will get a very raw deal, potentially instructing 'Lawyers' to do the sort of work we do, but with no guarantee that if it all goes wrong there will be insurance to bail out the perpetrator of the bad work. What will happen if those giving advice are not insured in the future due to the SRA changes? Who will pick up the mess and deal with it and clear it up? No guesses for guessing who. But this will affect you. You must be aware of it and you must show an interest in it, otherwise we will be in a Clementi/Legal Services Act situation all over again where the changes will be presented as a 'fait accompli'. The professional will say 'What

did our Society do about it?', and the Society will say 'we tried to warn you but nobody listened because you were too focused on doing your work.' That would be another great shame for our great profession.

I have also attended two Access to Justice/pro bono style events. One was a seminar showing us how we can get pro bono costs orders, and the other was the Liverpool Access to Justice meeting where the issue of the lack of access to justice was discussed. It was heartening to see such a large turn out for both these events. In the Unison judgment recently, handed down by the Supreme Court, it was heartening to hear one of the most senior Judges in the country say in his judgement that Access to Justice is 'a concrete right'. This should be so. The Government, of whatever shade, or political preference, should accept this. It is fundamental as to how the Rule of Law is applied. I have heard it said that even the Conservative Party believe the cuts have gone too far, but that is a little rich. Cuts were started long before the coalition Government came in followed by the Conservative Government. Cuts started when the Labour Governments were in office under well-known names such as Blair and Brown.

Automation – the loss of 67,000 jobs. That should be a concern to us, as should the issue of stress in the work place and if anything is guaranteed to cause stress in the workplace it will be loss of jobs. How will we deal with this going forward? What is your view?

In Council we have had a recent interesting debate about the size of Council, and this is a subject which is going to focus attention in the coming months. We had a debate in Council and it is remarkable how many people had a view. Ultimately, the size of Council should be decided upon, in my view, by you, the profession,

not the current or any Council. Of course, there are concerns about representation of minority groups, and all groups. It is very difficult to please everybody (or indeed sometimes anybody). Everybody has their view. We are all Lawyers, and we all want to have our say. We want to be heard. So do the following groups: Women Lawyers, LBGT, BAME, In-House, very large firms, medium size firms, small firms, one-man bands, junior lawyers, lawyers in business, General Counsel, local government lawyers, Welsh lawyers, Welsh speaking lawyers, lawyers with disabilities, lawyers in rural areas, lawyers in different work types.

The list is endless, and my examples are not intended to be exhaustive. If we have a geographical representation to make the size of Council smaller, how can we ensure that all these interests are represented. I have a view, but it is not necessarily right. The only way we get to the right answer is by having everybody's view and therefore I need your view. If you think Council should be reduced from its current size of approximately 95 members, how would you go about it, and how would you decide who should be on council, and represent the 180,000 approx solicitors from England and Wales? Please can you let me have your view? This is almost a plea. It is your Council.

I am keen to find out views about the Law Society Gazette. What do you want to see in it? What do you not want to see in it? How can it be improved? As I have mentioned before, I sit on the Law Society Gazette Editorial Advisory Board. You may think, and I might agree with you, that some of the articles are a bit shock horror and really do not focus upon what we, the profession, and the readers, want. Again, please let me have your views.

The holiday season is



approaching. I hope that you will have a very happy time over the holiday period, and celebrate it in whatever way you like to do so.

I wish you all the very best for a healthy and prosperous 2018, as we enter another year where the challenges and pressures to our profession will be considerable.

Opposite is the summary from the last Council meeting in October. You should have this issue of Liverpool Law by the time I go the next Council meeting on 7 December, and if you have any views that you want expressed, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Charlie Jones
Weightmans LLP.
Co Council Member for
Merseyside and District.
 Charlie.jones@weightmans.com
 01512427919

Law Society Council Summary

Council met for the second meeting of the new 2017-18 'season', with another full agenda.

Changes to governance for 2018

Council was updated on the progress still under way to implement the Law Society Board and its two main supporting committees (Policy and Regulation Committee, and Membership and Operations Committee) in early 2018. Council was informed that the advertisement for the role of Board Chair had closed on 15 October with a strong field of interested candidates; with final interviews planned for late November it is hoped to appoint the successful candidate at the December Council meeting. Other external recruitment is getting under way, and planning is also in hand for the election process among Council member for some places on the Board and committees. Council is also turning its mind to issues about the composition and representativeness of Council itself though proposals in those areas are still at a very early stage.

Political party conferences 2017

Council heard reports of the extensive activity undertaken by the Society to engage with key political stakeholders during the party conference season. The Society hosted a number of events on Brexit and access to justice, sharing platforms with leading figures including the Lord Chancellor, the Justice Minister, and the Solicitor General as well as a number of shadow spokespeople. This provided a platform for the Justice Ministerial team to make important announcements on justice and Brexit. In setting out his priorities at our event held at the Conservative Party conference, the Lord Chancellor emphasises continued market access and civil justice co-operation post-Brexit, together with the ongoing programme of criminal justice and court and tribunal reform. We had supportive interventions from opposition

parties also, including praise for our legal aid deserts campaign from the Shadow Lord Chancellor.

International engagement

Council noted a wide range of events as part of the Society's ongoing programme of international engagement. This included a round-table discussion on legal regulation followed by a formal dinner for bar leaders and guests from the CIS region attending the Opening of the Legal Year, to strengthen our relationships and explore areas for future collaboration. The Society also finalised the Kazakh judicial training programme, organised a panel discussion on doing legal business with China that was attended by English, Welsh and Chinese lawyers, and signed a memorandum of understanding with the Law Society of Hong Kong. At the Opening of the Legal Year we also signed memoranda of understanding with Iran and Kyrgyzstan.

Support to the profession

Following extensive lobbying by the Law Society and others, HMCTS announced that the flexible operating hours pilot would be put on hold until February 2018 to allow further engagement with court users and to carry out another tender exercise to choose an independent evaluator. The Society also responded to the SRA's consultation on its draft corporate strategy, making points that included the need to demonstrate a clear case for change before introducing regulatory changes and the importance of focusing not only a speed but also quality of decision making. Council noted that the Society had published guidance for the profession on the new 2017 Money Laundering Regulations and on compliance with Part 3 of the Criminal Finances Act 2017, as well as a note prepared jointly with HM Land Registry on property registration fraud.

You are warmly invited to the
Annual Lawyers' Carol Service
at 6.00pm

on **Monday 18th December 2017**

**Liverpool Parish Church,
Old Churchyard, Chapel Street,
Liverpool, L2 8TZ**

Led by: Sir Mark Hedley

Preacher: Maurice McCracken, minister
at Christ Church Liverpool

Music from: Formby Brass Band

together with lessons and carols

All those connected with the practice, administration
or study of the law (and their friends and families)
are most welcome

Drinks and mince pies in the foyer afterwards:



“SAN CARLO HAS THE INGREDIENTS
OTHERS CAN ONLY DREAM OF”

The Observer

San
CARLO



*Aldo Zilli now part of
the San Carlo team*

What Is A Notary and Why Might I Need One?

Most people know that the two main branches of the legal profession in England and Wales are solicitors and barristers, but notaries public get much less publicity and attention. Even legal professionals often don't know what notaries are or what they do – perhaps because there are only about 800 practising notaries throughout England & Wales – so hopefully you will know more after reading this article!

Potential clients often ask whether I am a 'notary solicitor'. Although this question is understandable, there is actually no such thing for whilst most notaries are also solicitors, it is perfectly possible to qualify and practise as a notary without being a solicitor or barrister.

History

Notaries trace their origins back to the scribes of ancient Rome. Over time, the scribes developed into a profession which recorded public proceedings, transcribed state papers, registered magistrates' decrees/judgments, and drafted deeds, wills and conveyances, etc.

Notaries subsequently established a central position in civil law jurisdictions, which remains the case today. This didn't happen in common law jurisdictions and although English notaries are entitled to carry out non-contentious work such as conveyancing and probate, most focus on their principal role of providing a link between the respective institutions of the common law and the civil law. Businesses and individuals with interests abroad can therefore deal with documentation in England, without having to travel abroad.

The Notary's Role

An English notary's main function is to prepare and 'authenticate' documents for use abroad, usually as a result of a foreign legal or administrative requirement. I often see clients who have had documents rejected because they were initially dealt with by a solicitor, so unless you are told otherwise, always assume that a notary should deal with foreign documents!

As part of his role, a notary will usually certify something to be true. Unlike solicitors, whose principal duty is to their client, a notary's overriding duty is to the transaction in which he is involved. Accordingly, the notary owes a duty to everyone relying on his certification. As such, he is completely independent and must be completely satisfied with all relevant information before finalising his certification. This can sometimes result in the notary being perceived as rather fussy, but this is part of his job!

Notaries deal with a huge range of transactions for both businesses and individuals. Common examples include:-

- Setting up subsidiary companies;
- Appointing agents to act overseas;
- Sale and purchase transactions – e.g. ships, shares or property;
- Tender submissions;
- Applying to work or getting married abroad;
- Sponsoring a friend or relative to visit the UK;
- Making a foreign will or administering a relative's estate;
- Pursuing or defending foreign Court proceedings; and
- Preparing consents for children to travel abroad.

In all these cases, the notary will be doing one or more of the following:-

- Attesting (or witnessing) the signing of documents such as powers of attorney, application forms, statements, letters or wills;
- Verifying and certifying company documents;
- Verifying and certifying individuals' documents, including qualifications, criminal records checks, passports, etc;
- Administering oaths and declarations;
- Preparing certificates of English law; and
- Taking depositions.

Legalisation

After the notary issues his certification, a further process known as 'legalisation' might be required before the document will be accepted in the foreign jurisdiction. Legalisation can be confusing to the uninitiated, but it is simply official confirmation that a signature, seal or stamp on a document is genuine and is required so that the foreign authorities can satisfy themselves of this fact.

Legalisation requirements vary, but there are essentially three main categories:-

- Legalisation is not usually necessary in most Commonwealth countries where an English notary's signature will be accepted at face value.
- Apostille. Signatory countries to the "Hague Convention Abolishing the Requirement of Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents" simply require an 'apostille' to be attached to a document by the UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office.
- Consular legalisation. Countries that have not signed the Hague Convention often require documents to be stamped by their embassy or consulate in addition to, or instead of, an apostille.

Legalisation can sometimes be expensive and time-consuming but there is usually no option other than to comply. Once this process is complete, the documentation is ready for use in the foreign jurisdiction and the transaction can proceed full steam ahead!

Steven Wignall is a Senior Associate & Notary Public at Hill Dickinson LLP. He qualified as a Notary Public in 2011 and acts on behalf of wide range of clients ranging from private individuals to multinational companies.

Charity and CSR Matters

Hi everyone, Christmas is officially upon us! Christmas can be a very lonely time for some and extremely hard for those living on the streets. You can see in this edition that we are all doing our bit to help those in need. Jackson Lees took part in the Goodison sleepout recently which featured on National television. I'm also organising a Christmas wrapping event on 13 December, you can find the details below. I hope as many of you as possible can truly get in the Christmas spirit and get involved.

Please keep your entries coming to me at Jennifer.powell@weightmans.com. The monthly deadline is around the 24th of every month. Articles should aim to be 400 words with a logo and photographs where possible. Any queries please just ask.

Finally, have a lovely Christmas break.

Many thanks
Jennifer Powell
Weightmans



Jackson Lees Group raises over £3,500 for Everton in the Community

On Friday 10 November, a team from the Jackson Lees Group slept-out at the home of Everton Football Club, Goodison Park, raising over £3,500 for Everton in the Community.

A team of 17, including Brian Cullen (Chief Executive), Joanna Kingston-Davies (Chief Operating Officer), Lance Flor (Chief Financial Officer) and fellow board member Chris Topping (Law Society Human Rights Lawyer of the Year 2016), spent the whole night out in the Park End stand.

Established in 1988, Everton in the Community is the official charity of Everton Football Club. The charity delivers a wide range of programmes to promote health, education, social inclusion and equality of opportunity to over 30,000 participants every year across Merseyside and North Wales. Everton in the Community is widely regarded as one of the leading football club community programmes in the country.

Over 200 people braved the cold weather on the evening, including Everton Manager David Unsworth and the club's Under-23s. After the sleep-out, David Unsworth said "It's been another terrific yet eye-opening sleep-out here at Goodison Park. Last year's sleep-out culminated in the launch of our "Home Is Where the Heart Is" campaign and less than 12 months later, we have raised more than £250,000 and have secured a property to house vulnerable young adults on the cusp of homelessness."

Brian Cullen, Chief Executive at Jackson Lees Group, said "I am proud of our team for taking part and for the generous support we have received. For one night we had a small glimpse into the reality of being homeless – it makes you realise just how fortunate you are to have security and somewhere to call home. The number of people who find themselves sleeping rough in the North West is increasing, it is not an issue we can ignore. Everton in the Community are doing some fantastic work and we know that the efforts of everyone on Friday will make a difference."

Very well done to everyone involved!



Darren Carter from Jackson Lees being interviewed by BBC North West Tonight



James Comer from Jackson Lees with Everton Manager David Unsworth



Shot of the Jackson Lees Group team

Woodlands Hospice Charitable Trust

Woodlands Hospice Charitable Trust is an independent charity committed to delivering the best possible practice and development of Specialist Palliative Care for people with cancer and other life-limiting illnesses with complex needs. It honours people's right to dignity and respect at whatever stage of their illness by its aim to improve the quality of life for patients and their families. The hospice is located in the grounds of Aintree Hospital in Longmoor Lane, Fazakerley.

The costs of the service provided at the Hospice total almost £4,000,000 p.a. and in common with many charities the Hospice is finding it very difficult in the current economic climate to raise funds. Each and every day the hospice has to raise £2,000 through fundraising and donations to maintain the current level of services.

One of the fundraising initiatives they undertake is a "Charity Will Month" and they are seeking additional solicitors to support the campaign. Solicitors agree to write a simple single or mirror will without the usual fee in return for a donation to the Woodlands Hospice. They are seeking to work with solicitors in the Liverpool, Sefton and Knowsley areas and are particularly interested in working with solicitors in the Maghull, Kirkby, Aintree, Crosby and Fazakerley areas. The "Charity Will Month" is well publicised in the local free press and normally receives good coverage on BBC Radio Merseyside. If you are interested in supporting the Woodlands Hospice "Charity Will Month" please contact Alan Kelly on 0151 529 8152 or email alan.kelly@aintree.nhs.uk for further details.



Woodland Hospice also have a vacancy on their Board for a solicitor, for an informal discussion please contact Rose Milnes, Chief Executive, Woodlands Hospice on 0151 529 8648

Former Chair of MJLD takes on 'Hell of a Hill' challenge to raise money for Wirral Hospice St John's

Rivington Pike, Bolton stands at 363 meters high. This is higher than the Eiffel Tower, and just under 20 metres shorter than the Empire State Building. As part of the 'Hell of a Hill' series of marathons, Richard Burrows climbed Rivington Pike five times per day for five days between 8 and 12 November 2017. The combined climb was higher than Mount Everest.

Richard took part in the event to raise money for Wirral Hospice St John's, which is located near Clatterbridge hospital. Each day he ran a marathon which included five ascents and five descents of Rivington Pike – individually one of these marathons alone is known as the toughest marathon in the UK, and collectively the series is known as the toughest five marathons in five days in the

World. Less than four miles of each marathon took place on a road, with the remainder taking place on rocky and leafy terrain. Each marathon also included a climb up over 500 steps – therefore over 2,500 steps over the five days.

28 people completed the 'five in five days', with additional people attending on individual days to take part. Out of those who completed the entire series, Richard came sixth. To date he has raised over £1,000 for Wirral Hospice St John's, which provides free care and support to patients with life-limiting illnesses, as well as to the patients' families.

Richard ran with his friend, Chris Redmond from the Underground Training Station in Raby, who was raising money for The UTS Foundation, a charity which seeks

to provide free structured coaching, health and well-being sessions to vulnerable groups across the Wirral.

Of his challenge, Richard said "Hell of a Hill was something I signed up for in November 2016. It has been something I have been training for throughout the year, but it was still very scary how quickly it came around! I picked a charity that was personal to me, but I also received a lot of messages from friends and colleagues who had also benefitted from the great work which the hospice does. At the back of my mind throughout the five days, I kept thinking back to the great work done by Wirral Hospice St John's and that pushed me through the pain barrier of the blisters, tiredness and general fatigue! I'm really grateful to everyone who has sponsored me – everyone has been very generous, including Weightmans who helped me with funding my entry fee and accommodation – and also for the



messages of support which people sent me throughout the challenge."

**Richard Burrows
Solicitor
Weightmans**

Vauxhall Law Centre vacancy

Vauxhall Community Law and Information Centre is an independent charity providing Welfare and Debt Advice and support mainly to disadvantaged and vulnerable people living in North Liverpool. Almost without exception the people they advise are suffering from poverty, ill-health/disability and/or old age. The Law Centre provides face to face advice and is open for 4 days per week. The Centre opened in 1973 following meetings between the local community, Liverpool Law Society, Liverpool City Council and the John Moores Foundation all of whom have continued to offer various levels of support over the years.

The Centre is based in the Kirkdale Ward of Liverpool. The area is a former dockland area and suffers from exceptionally high levels of economic and social disadvantage and fuel poverty. Kirkdale shows a high level of overall deprivation with 90.8% of the ward falling into the most disadvantaged 10% nationally. This is significantly higher than the city wide average (49.6%). Kirkdale has high levels of ill health and life expectancy is 7.4 years below the Liverpool average (73.8 years). Mortality rates are the highest in Liverpool, with the number of deaths from cancer, cardio-vascular disease and respiratory disease all high.

The Law Centre is based at the heart of this community and as well as providing advice they represent regularly at Tribunal.

Can you help?

The Centre brings in over £1,500,000 into the local community p.a. In 2011 100% of the Centres core funding came from 2 sources, Legal Aid and Liverpool City Council. This year that has dropped to 0%. If you are currently considering your office charity or looking to raise money for a worthwhile cause, the Centre asks you consider them.

Currently their board has representatives from the local community, Liverpool City Council, a local solicitor and the Law Centre solicitor. They are looking for additional support on the board which meets bi-monthly and the meetings last for less than an hour normally.

If you would like to apply to be a member of the board or for further information please contact Alan Kelly on alan.kelly@lawcentre.vnc.org.uk or 07733223440.



Christmas Wrapping

I've previously written about my involvement in Yummy's Scouse Christmas and how through the project we managed to feed and entertain 1,000 people last Christmas Day. The event was amazing and helped those who are alone, on the streets or simply can't afford Christmas. We provided some much needed company, a 3 course Christmas dinner, entertainment and a small gift. Carpenters also kindly donated 1,000 selection boxes for everyone who attended.

Father Christmas has given me the gift of a baby this year (well, January- but close enough!), so I won't be able to get as involved this year, however, I am organising a Christmas gift donation and wrapping event to make sure I still do my bit. I ran this event last year in our Liverpool office at Weightmans. Weightmans provided over £1,000 worth of gifts and, as you can see from the photograph, the response from staff and volunteers donating and wrapping gifts was unbelievable. You can get involved by donating gifts worth approximately £5, which will be provided to everyone on Christmas Day. This can be a smelly set, hats/scarves/gloves or some chocolates. Once collected, the donations will then be beautifully gift wrapped at an event on 13 December 2017 and then distributed to each of the centres taking part in time for the big day.

If you would like to make any donations please get in touch with me by email Jennifer.powell@weightmans.com

**Thank you in advance.
Jennifer Powell
Weightmans**



Do you have clients with connections with Spain. Can they apply for a Spanish Passport so they can keep their European status in the event of a potential hard-Brexit?

Now that Brexit has been implemented, some British citizens with connections with other European countries are considering applying for dual citizenship (nationality) in those countries to which they have a close connection (whether is by blood or marriage), so they can keep a European passport.

We will briefly explain in this article how British citizens with connections with Spain can apply for a Spanish passport. You will note that not everyone with links in Spain qualifies automatically for a Spanish passport. However, there are numerous cases where a Spanish passport can be obtained.

See below a summary of the most common questions that our clients have been asking to us after Brexit in this regard that we hope can be of help if yours have the same doubts or concerns:

I have a property in Spain, and I spend my holidays there with my family. Can I apply for Spanish Passport?

NO. Owning property and spending holidays in Spain, even if you have been doing so for a long time, will not allow you to apply for Spanish citizenship.

My partner is Spanish. Can I apply for a Spanish Passport?

NO/YES. Being married to a Spanish citizen, even if you have children together, does not entitle you to become a Spanish national immediately. However, if you are resident in Spain, have been living in Spain, legally and continually, for the last twelve months, and you are married with a Spanish citizen, then you are entitled to apply for Spanish citizenship.

I am currently living in Spain. I am retired and moved to Spain some years ago.

NO/YES. The residence is one way to be able to apply for Spanish passport. However, there is a limitation period of 10 years. If you have been living in Spain, legally and continually, for the last ten years, then you are entitled to apply for Spanish citizenship.

There are some exceptions that may allow you to apply before the end of the 10 years period. A Spanish lawyer, or ourselves if you do not have one, should be able to advise whether some of the exceptions to the rule will apply to your case.

My parents are/were Spanish but I am British and I don't have Spanish Passport. Can I apply for it?

YES. If your father or mother are/were Spanish but you do not have a Spanish passport because you were born in the UK and they did not register your birth in Spain, you can still apply for a Spanish passport.

You will be considered a Spanish national "by origin" as you are already considered Spanish by Spain. However, there are some formalities that you should follow to obtain a Spanish passport. First of all, you will need to register your birth at the Spanish Civil Registry and once you have your Spanish Birth certificate, you will be able to apply for Spanish passport. Once again, a Spanish lawyer should be able to help with the paperwork if you prefer to get some assistance.

Can I be sure that I will not lose my British nationality?

Although the United Kingdom and Spain have not signed any dual citizenship agreement, at present there is no reason to think that you cannot hold both passports.

At present, current laws in the UK allow British citizens to be British and to have a passport of certain countries. Dual citizenship is therefore allowed in the UK in certain cases, such as with Spain.

You can therefore apply for a Spanish passport and keep your British citizenship.

Spanish law only accepts dual citizenship or nationality with some countries (the UK is not one of them). However, as the UK accepts dual citizenship, to avoid losing the Spanish citizenship, a formal statement needs to be made if you want to keep your Spanish citizenship, within three years from having obtained the Spanish citizenship. With that statement before the Spanish Authorities, you will not lose your Spanish citizenship.

How should I proceed if I have a client entitled to apply for Spanish citizenship?

You can see the legal requirements to apply for Spanish nationality on the Spanish Government website (www.mjusticia.gob.es) or contact the Spanish Embassy or Consulates in the UK (www.exteriores.gob.es). Doing the process yourself is free so your clients only will need to pay some taxes and stamp duty.

You can also contact a Spanish lawyer to assist you on behalf of your clients with the procedure. The Spanish desk of Gunnercooke www.gunnercooke.com provides a tailored service for this type of matters.



Claudia Font & Antonio Guillén
Spanish Desk
gunnercooke llp
claudia.font@gunnercooke.com
D: 07788585115 T: 03330 143 401

Insolvency Update
with Chris Beanland

on Friday 12th January, 1.30pm - 4.45pm

Covering:

- The Insolvency Rules 2016 and any cases interpreting the new rules
- Undrawn pensions and income payments orders: *Horton v Henry* [2016] EWCA Civ 989
- Power under s.375 to review a bankruptcy order: *Sands v Layne* [2016] EWCA Civ 1159
- Effect of lack of mental capacity on a IVA: *Fehily v Atkinson* [2016] EWHC 3069
- Suspension of discharge of bankruptcy: *Harris v Official Receiver* [2016] EWHC 3433
- Does the benefit of a car finance agreement vest in a trustee in bankruptcy? *Mikki v Duncan* [2016] EWCA Civ 1312
- The new SIP 15 on creditors' committees
- s.216 Insolvency Act and insolvent partnerships: *Re Newton's Coaches Ltd* [2016] EWHC 3068
- Challenging a winding up petition out of time: *Preston v Green* [2016] EWHC 2322
- Appointment of administrators: *Randhawa v Turpin* [2016] EWHC 2156
- Application by former administrator to appoint administrator in capacity as creditor: *Stares v Elgin Legal Ltd* [2016] EWHC 2523

Venue: Liverpool Law Society, 2nd Floor, Helix,
Edmund Street, Liverpool, L3 9NY

Blade Runner 2049

Review by Carol Maginn, The Live Law Project

By now, you will either have seen *Blade Runner 2049* - or not. It apparently hasn't done as well as expected at the box office, despite the presence of both Ryan Gosling and Harrison Ford and the iconic title.

Amongst people I know who've seen it, opinions run from 'overwhelming and glorious' to 'Ryan Gosling showing all the acting ability of a baked potato for three long hours.'

I'm a fan of the original *Blade Runner*, and I'm a fan of this one too, though it isn't perfect. It is, as almost everyone agrees, way too long. There are gaping holes in the plot. It's unrelentingly bleak. But it sweeps through the devastated post-nuclear world with stunning photography and awesome sound, and we find ourselves feeling sympathy for not only humans, and replicants, but even a hologram. Ryan Gosling, I think, nails the not-quite-but-almost human role of replicant Joe, and Harrison Ford is great as the older but still tough original *Blade Runner*.

There's been criticism of the fairly puny female roles, and the sexualisation of women. But...this is a dystopia, in which sex has been completely commodified, and the film quietly and bleakly reflects this. And although we don't see a lot of her, one of the women characters turns out to be hugely significant.

So, overall, I'd recommend it. You need a bit of stamina (it's nearly three hours long) and ideally a very big screen, for all those vast land- and city-scapes, but I think it's worth it.

What does it have to offer lawyers? Well, a bit of perspective – at least you're not living on boiled 'protein' worms – and a moody take on the world that might make us value our own, however hectic, a little more...



Don't forget to submit your reviews
 You could win a bottle of wine or prosecco

All you need to do is write a review of a movie, gig, festival, book, concert, play, album or favourite box set and each month one will be rewarded with their choice of a bottle of prosecco, red or white wine, very kindly supplied by R&H Fine Wines of 12 Queen Ave (just off Castle Street) Liverpool.

Here is Julia Baskerville collecting her wine for her review of "Hurray for the Riff Raff."



Send your entries to editor@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk

Liverpool Law Society

Employment Law Update


with Professor Dominic Regan

on Tuesday 16th January 2018
1.30pm - 4.45pm

Tribunal claims have rocketed due to the Supreme Court decision declaring that the fees regime was unlawful.

Time for an update on key developments including:

- When is dismissal effective?
- Constructive dismissal
- Status and the gig economy
- Will TUPE survive Brexit?
- A V B and dismissal for knowing a sex offender—when someone can be fired for passive behaviour



Venue: Liverpool Law Society, 2nd Floor, Helix, Edmund Street, Liverpool, L3 9NY



Seminars with Richard Snape

**on Wednesday 21st
February 2018**

Here at :
Liverpool Law Society,
2nd Floor Helix,
Edmund Street,
Liverpool, L3 9NY

Restrictive Covenants, Overage & Conditional Contracts

9.30am - 12.45pm

Topics include:

- Enforceability of restrictive covenants against third parties
- Remedies for breach of restrictive covenants
- Enforceability of overage clauses
- The trigger event
- Case law on interpretation
- Enforceability of conditional contracts
- Recent case law on conditional contracts
- Lock-out agreements

Conveyancer's Guide to Easements, Access & Services

1.30pm - 4.45pm

Topics covered include:

- Vehicle access rights
- Access across open space
- Intensification of use
- Public rights of way and adoption of highways
- Services and wayleaves
- Maintenance of rights and private roads
- Adoption of Sewers: Implications and Section 104 Water Industry Act 1991 and changes in late 2012/2013
- Insurance implications



Seminars with Richard Snape

**On Wednesday
24th January 2018**

Here at:
Liverpool Law Society, 2nd Floor
Helix, Edmund Street,
Liverpool, L3 9NY

Leasehold Dwellings, Ground Rent, Service Charge, Management & Extensions Issues

9.30am - 12.45pm

Topics covered include:

- Escalating Ground Rents and other Ground Rent issues
- CML Guidance on Ground Rents
- Service Charge Liability
- Administration Charges
- Building Regulations and Risk Assessments in the light of Grenfell
- Leasehold Extension and Enfranchisement issues
- Changes to Houses in Multiple Occupation

Commercial Property Update

1.30pm—4.45pm

Topics covered include:

- Recent commercial lease case law including break clauses, dilapidations and the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954
- The effect of the case of Riverside Park v NHS
- Legionnaires Disease Reports
- Flood Risk Insurance changes in 2016
- Recent Village Green case law
- Changes to Planning Permission
- Community Infrastructure Levy – the latest
- Leasehold minimum energy performance standard as of 2018
- Housing & Planning Act 2016 and its effect on development land
- The Electronic Communications Code 2017



Qualification as a Solicitor: Present and Future

with Keith Harper

on Tuesday 30th January,
9.30am - 12.45pm

Key areas covered:

- The existing process – academic and vocational education and training requirements.
- The various routes to qualification, from Qualifying Law Degree route to Apprenticeships.
- The current vocational stage of training – PSC and Period of Recognised Training.
- Future changes – overview and timetable
- The SQE – purpose and role in Continuing Competence
- The examination process – skills and knowledge assessed in stages 1 and 2
- Transitional arrangements

Training Contracts: all you need to know

with Keith Harper

on Tuesday 30th January,
1.30pm - 4.45pm

Key areas covered:

- The purpose and nature of training contract as Periods of Recognised Training.
- The application process – how and when to apply, which type of firm?
- What to expect from a training contract – the requirements of the firm and the trainee, training requirements (seats and Practice Skills Standards), supervision and review.
- Qualification – the Practice Skills Course, and forthcoming changes – introduction of the Solicitor Qualifying Examination.

Venue for both courses:

Liverpool Law Society,
2nd Floor Helix, Edmund Street,
Liverpool, L3 9NY

S Code	Date	Time	December 2017	Speaker
S3881	1st	9.30-12.45	The essential practical guide for the Money Laundering Regulatory Officer	Jo Morris
S4118	1st	1.30-4.45	The essential practical guide for the Data Protection Officer	Jo Morris
S4110	5th	10-12.45	Family Investment Companies & Update on CRS in conjunction with STEP Liverpool	Deborah Clark & Robin McGhee
S4006	6th	9.30-3.30	Occupational Disease Conference *Accredited by APIL Training*	Various
S4112	7th	1.45-4.45	Ensuring added value in estate administration and planning	John Bunker
S3989	13th	9.30 - 4.15	Commercial Litigation Conference	Various

This office will close at 12.30pm on Friday 22nd December 2017 and re-open at 9am on Tuesday 2nd January 2018.

The staff & officers of Liverpool Law Society would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful & prosperous New Year.

S Code	Date	Time	January 2018	Speaker
S3853	12th	1.30-4.45	Insolvency Update	Chris Beanland
S4131	16th	1.30-4.45	Employment Law Update	Professor Dominic Regan
S4083	23rd	10-4.30	Developments in Domestic Abuse	Safda Mahmood
S4022	24th	9.30-12.45	Leasehold Dwellings, Ground Rent, Service Charge, Management and Extensions Issues	Richard Snape
S4023	24th	1.30-4.45	Commercial Property Update	Richard Snape
S4119	26th	9.30-1	Social Media for Lawyers	Steve Cornforth
S4126	30th	9.30-12.45	Qualification as a Solicitor: Present and Future	Keith Harper
S4127	30th	1.30-4.45	Training Contracts – all you need to know	Keith Harper

For full details & to book, visit: www.liverpoollawsociety.org.uk

News from the MJLD



On the 26th October, the MJLD got into the competitive spirit by hosting a Games Night at the popular new Gino's restaurant, kindly sponsored by Sacco Mann.



Congratulations go to our pool and table football tournament winners! On the night, thanks to the kind generosity of our MJLD members, we also raised a fantastic £354 towards our chosen charity of the year Clatterbridge, which put the MJLD in the top 1% of JustGiving donors in October, a remarkable achievement!

The MJLD also greatly enjoyed the Liverpool Law Society Annual Ball on the 9 November at the Hilton.



We are now in for an even busier month with no less than 3 further events planned! Starting with Ghetto Golf on 16 November (kindly sponsored by ThinkLegal Recruitment), followed by the inaugural Inter-Professionals networking event hosted and sponsored by Tilney on 30 November (kindly co-sponsored by Hayes) and culminating in our Charity Open Mic Night on 7 December at The Attic on Parr Street with all the proceeds raised from the night's events going towards Clatterbridge's Let's Build project.

If you would like to contact us, please drop us an email:
merseysidejld@hotmail.co.uk

Join our Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/merseyjld

Follow us on Twitter:
www.twitter.com/MerseysideJLD

LinkedIn:
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/merseyside-junior-lawyers-division-47777338>

Instagram:
[Merseyside_jld](https://www.instagram.com/Merseyside_jld)

Clipper Round The World Race 2017 – 2018

You may have noticed in August that the Clippers were back in the Mersey. For the first time for some editions of the race Liverpool was the start port for The Clipper Round The World Yacht Race. Liverpool welcomed to The Albert Dock 12 beautiful 70 foot sailing yachts. In August I was involved in entertaining all 12 Skippers + one other crew member at Liverpool Yacht Club, with support from Royal Dee Yacht Club (founded 1815). It was an excellent event, and just a few days later the 12 yachts set off on this epic voyage. This race involves sailors that are real amateurs and relatively new to the sport (with the exception of Skippers and Mates). They pay for themselves, and give up much to do so. It is a truly amateur event, and is advisedly described by the organisers and the competitors as 'the adventure of a lifetime'.

Liverpool have a yacht in the race: 'Liverpool 2018'. She is a beautiful-looking vessel, purple in colour, and quite an eyecatcher. She is skippered by Lance Shepherd who first sailed on Lake Windemere at the age of 14. After spending 11 years as a commando in the Marines, he took up full time sailing and has been a professional sailor for many years. He says 'I believe a team is made by the complete engagement of every member which is achieved through building mutual respect, encouragement and collaboration'. Can we solicitors learn anything from that? The race started in August on route for Punta Del Este in Uruguay. The skippers said that racing out of the river was a real test, which I hasten to add they enjoyed. The massive tides made manoeuvring a 70 foot yacht, in race conditions, out into the open sea a real test. It just shows you the skills those that race in the River Mersey need! From Uruguay they raced to Cape Town, and they are now on their way to Fremantle, WA, before racing to Sydney for Christmas.

And Liverpool 2018? Getting better. They placed 8 out of 12 on the first leg, 5 on the second leg into Cape Town, and are currently placed 4 in the race across the awesome Southern Ocean to Fremantle. COME ON LIVERPOOL!



They will be back in the Mersey to finish next July (make a note), via (after Sydney), Hobart, Sanya and Quindao in China, Seattle, New York via the Panama Canal, Derry- Londonderry, Holyhead, and then into the river, heroes all after a more than epic adventure.

Follow these pages and I will endeavour to keep you informed before the final denouement.

AND GOOD LUCK LIVERPOOL 2018

Charlie Jones, Weightmans LLP.

Steve Cornforth is raising funds for NWLST with wildlife photography

Local solicitor, and a trustee of North West Legal Support Trust, Steve Cornforth, has set himself the unusual challenge to take and post 1000 wildlife photographs in 12 months to raise funds for the Trust.

Inspired by a TV programme on the National Geographic Channel, each photograph will be new and of a different species – no repetition. The challenge will be helped by a trip to Costa Rica and Panama in 2018.

Through beautiful pictures Steve is seeking sponsorship for his challenge and is hoping a penny a picture will raise a tenner and so on. Or, some might want to sponsor the entire project. Every penny raised will go to the Trust. In November 2018, Steve is also planning to put 12 of the best photographs onto a calendar to sell and raise further funds.

Steve will be posting the photographs on Flickr, across Social Media and his blog, which can be found at www.stevicornforth.com. Here is one of his existing shots which we will continue to feature throughout the year in support of Steve's cause.



Liverpool Law Society

Elderly Client Update

with Helen Clarke

on Tuesday 20th February, 10am—1pm

After this session, delegates should have increased their knowledge and understanding, including potential problems and pitfalls and where appropriate practical solutions in the following areas:

- Elderly client case law including assessment of testamentary capacity, undue influence and statutory wills
- Consideration of the pitfalls and problems of taking instructions remotely including the regulatory obligations for solicitors
- Financial Abuse case study – can you “protect” your elderly client?
- The new Law Society/STEP/SRA guidance about releasing copies of Wills to attorneys
- Awareness of recent guidance and news from OPG
- Increased their knowledge of deprivation of assets under the Care Act 2014
- Awareness of relative's occupational rights /carer's equitable interest in family home when care is being delivered at home

Venue: Liverpool Law Society, 2nd Floor, Helix,
Edmund Street, Liverpool, L3 9NY

Regulation Update

The latest regulation news from Michelle Garlick of Weightmans LLP



The clocks have now gone back and the dark nights have set in. Winter awaits! One firm which got the (freezing) cold treatment from the SRA this month was city firm Locke Lord who has been ordered to pay the biggest fine in SDT history. The SRA's annual COLP and COFA conference also took place at the end of October which I attended along with over a thousand others! The SRA has undoubtedly improved its communication/ engagement with the profession since it came into being 10 years ago but there is much more for it to do in my opinion to gain the trust and confidence of the profession that its approach and handling of regulatory matters is on the right track.

COLP and COFA Annual Conference

This was held on 31st October. Topics covered included the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE), getting ready for GDPR, cybercrime, better information (including the important consultation on pricing), Looking to the Future (part 2), and managing financial risks specifically in relation to money laundering. The keynote address came from Paul Philip, the SRA Chief Executive, who was confident that significant operational improvements have been made (he was proud for example that the SRAs operating budget had reduced year on year for the past 4 years), that they are making quicker and better decisions, that it is now moving to a "professional regulator" model instead of a "compliance regulator" and that it is regulating in the wider public interest in what is a vibrant, strong, dynamic legal services market. He talked about getting the balance right between protecting the public and the costs of regulation and felt that a disproportionate level of consumer protection will increase costs and lead to issues of access to justice. What really struck me was his comment that the SRA will "have a go" at proportionate regulation which seemed to imply that if it didn't work, then they would have to look at it all afresh! It could have just been an unfortunate turn of phrase but I'm not convinced it was.

Government and National Crime Agency Highlight Money Laundering Risk

Both the Government and the National Crime Agency (NCA) have identified the legal profession as a target for money launderers and continues to be at high risk from such criminals.

The legal services section within the National risk assessment of money laundering and terrorist financing 2017, produced by the Treasury and the Home Office, said: "Legal services remain attractive to criminals due to the credibility and respectability they can convey, helping to distance funds from their illicit source and integrate them into the legitimate economy."

The report went on to identify company formation, setting up of trusts

and conveyancing to be the most at risk transactions and warned that criminals are likely to use a combination of legal services in order to blur transparency and interfere with due diligence.

Following on from the government report, Donald Toon, director of prosperity (economic crime and cybercrime) at the NCA, speaking at the SRA COLP and COFA conference highlighted that solicitors are "absolutely at the front line of the detection mechanism for money laundering" but "something is not working effectively".

Mr Toon drew reference to the Criminal Finance Act 2017 and the greater responsibility which now lies with the profession and the increased powers of the authorities to deal with money laundering.

The Compli team at Weightmans can assist firms with their AML and Criminal Finance Act policies and procedures so please do not hesitate to contact us should you require further help.

SRA Publish Research on Diversity within the Profession

The SRA has published research obtained by University of Leeds and Newcastle University Business School who analysed data for more than 194,000 solicitors admitted between 1970 and 2006.

The research shows progression from a diversity perspective highlighting an increase in females and Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) solicitors entering the profession. That said, the data shows partnership is still male dominant with only a third of partners being female, despite making up nearly a half of all solicitors.

Paul Philip, SRA Chief Executive, said: "This independent research shows that although progress has been made, the sector still has some way to go."

The SRA has also provided the following examples of good practice in an attempt to combat equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) issues:

- reviewing all policies from an EDI perspective to strip out any diversity bias
- encouraging partners to take paternity leave, sending positive signals to both male and female employees
- making sure EDI issues are prioritised at the top, for instance by senior management or their CEO chairing its diversity committee

Consultations – Looking to the Future

The Looking to the Future (part 2) consultations are ongoing. By the time this goes to press, the COLP and COFA forum will have hosted a discussion with the Law Society to share views on these consultations and I will feed back in the next update. Anyone with any experiences or comments on what is proposed, please get in touch with myself, Fran Eccles-Bech or any other member of Council.

Biggest fine at SDT ever!!

The SDT has approved an agreed outcome between Locke Lord and the SRA with the firm agreeing to pay a record £500,000 fine. The fine relates to a failure to supervise a solicitor from involving himself and using the client account in transactions that bore the hallmarks of dubious financial arrangements or investment schemes.

Locke Lord admitted failing to have effective systems and controls in place to spot potential conflicts of interest, and failing to prevent a solicitor from directing or requesting payments in and out of the client account which were not related to an underlying legal service.

The SRA has been warning firms for a while about the risks of being involved in investment schemes and using client account as a banking facility and it now seems that the SDT is willing to impose significant fines to support the SRA's message.

And on that cheery note, I will sign off . Until next month!

Michelle Garlick
Weightmans LLP

RECRUITING TALENT, BUILDING THE FUTURE



PERSONAL INJURY SUPERVISOR

LIVERPOOL

A large defendant practice is looking for a PI Fee Earner to supervise a small team within their Motor Division.

Contact Lauren Connors: l.connors@clayton-legal.co.uk

CONVEYANCING SOLICITOR

ORMSKIRK

A reputable firm based in the centre of Ormskirk, is seeking a Conveyancing Solicitor to join the team. You must have at least 3 years PQE in conveyancing. Our prestigious Firm has a relatively large Conveyancing Department and the opportunity for progression.

Contact Dannie Moore: d.moore@clayton-legal.co.uk

CRIMINAL DEFENCE DUTY SOLICITOR

LIVERPOOL

To manage a personal caseload of various criminal matters as well as assisting either a partner or director when required whilst also acting as a Duty Solicitor and attend police station on a rota basis (both in and out of hours)

Contact Simon Scott: s.scott@clayton-legal.co.uk

EL PL TECHNICAL FEE EARNER

LIVERPOOL

Working for a National Law Firm, dealing with a mixture of EL PL matters, multi track experience is essential, great progression opportunities.

Contact Lauren Connors: l.connors@clayton-legal.co.uk

LAW COSTS DRAFTSMAN

PRESCOT

A legal firm is looking for a Law Costs Draftsman You will have previous experience in a similar role and be experienced in drafting bills, budgets, conducting negotiations, attending OCMCs, considering points of dispute and drafting points of replies.

Contact Matt Walwyn: m.walwyn@clayton-legal.co.uk

COMMERCIAL CONVEYANCER

LIVERPOOL

My client is a reputable and established Law Firm based just outside of Liverpool city Centre. The firm offers an excellent modern, friendly working environment. They are further expanding their team of conveyancers and they now seek to appoint an experienced Commercial Conveyancer to manage a caseload of Commercial files from start to finish. You will have at least 5 years experience in a similar role.

Contact Dannie Moore: d.moore@clayton-legal.co.uk

FAMILY SOLICITOR

ORMSKIRK

A village practice is looking to expand their Family team with an additional Solicitor to run Private funded cases.

Contact Lauren Connors: l.connors@clayton-legal.co.uk

CONSTRUCTION SOLICITOR

LIVERPOOL

The post involves principally non-contentious work with some contentious work for employers and contractors, construction professionals and funders. Reviewing and reporting on all forms of construction, engineering, oil & gas and infrastructure contracts

Contact Simon Scott: s.scott@clayton-legal.co.uk

INDUSTRIAL DISEASE SOLICITOR

WIRRAL

You will be conducting a variety of Asbestos cases; you will be responsible for successfully running cases through to issue of proceedings, using the RCJ specialist Asbestos lists, through to trial and/or settlement. Salary up to £40,000

Contact Simon Scott: s.scott@clayton-legal.co.uk

SENIOR PROPERTY SOLICITOR

LIVERPOOL

A accredited firm is seeking a Qualified Solicitor with a minimum of 3 Years PQE within Property and ideally possess previous experience of handling a mixed caseload.

Contact Dannie Moore: d.moore@clayton-legal.co.uk

PROCLAIM DEVELOPER

LIVERPOOL

An award winning firm based in the heart of Liverpool is seeking experienced Proclaim Developers to join their team. Due to expansion, they are looking to grow their IT team and recruit developers to be responsible for the development and maintenance of their Proclaim Case Management System.

Contact Grace Bolton: g.bolton@clayton-legal.co.uk

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

LIVERPOOL

Our client, a Legal 500 firm are seeking to appoint a Commercial Property Solicitor with 1-5 years PQE to join their Housing & Regeneration Department in Liverpool City Centre. The role will involve handling your own varied caseload of Commercial Property, consisting of Acquisitions & Disposals, Property Development and New Build. You will have experience of Housing & Regeneration matters.

Contact Dannie Moore: d.moore@clayton-legal.co.uk



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