

LIVERPOOL LAW



**Interview with
Christina Blacklaws,
President of the Law Society**

A Crisis in Crime

**Liverpool Law Clinic celebrates
10 years of pro bono**

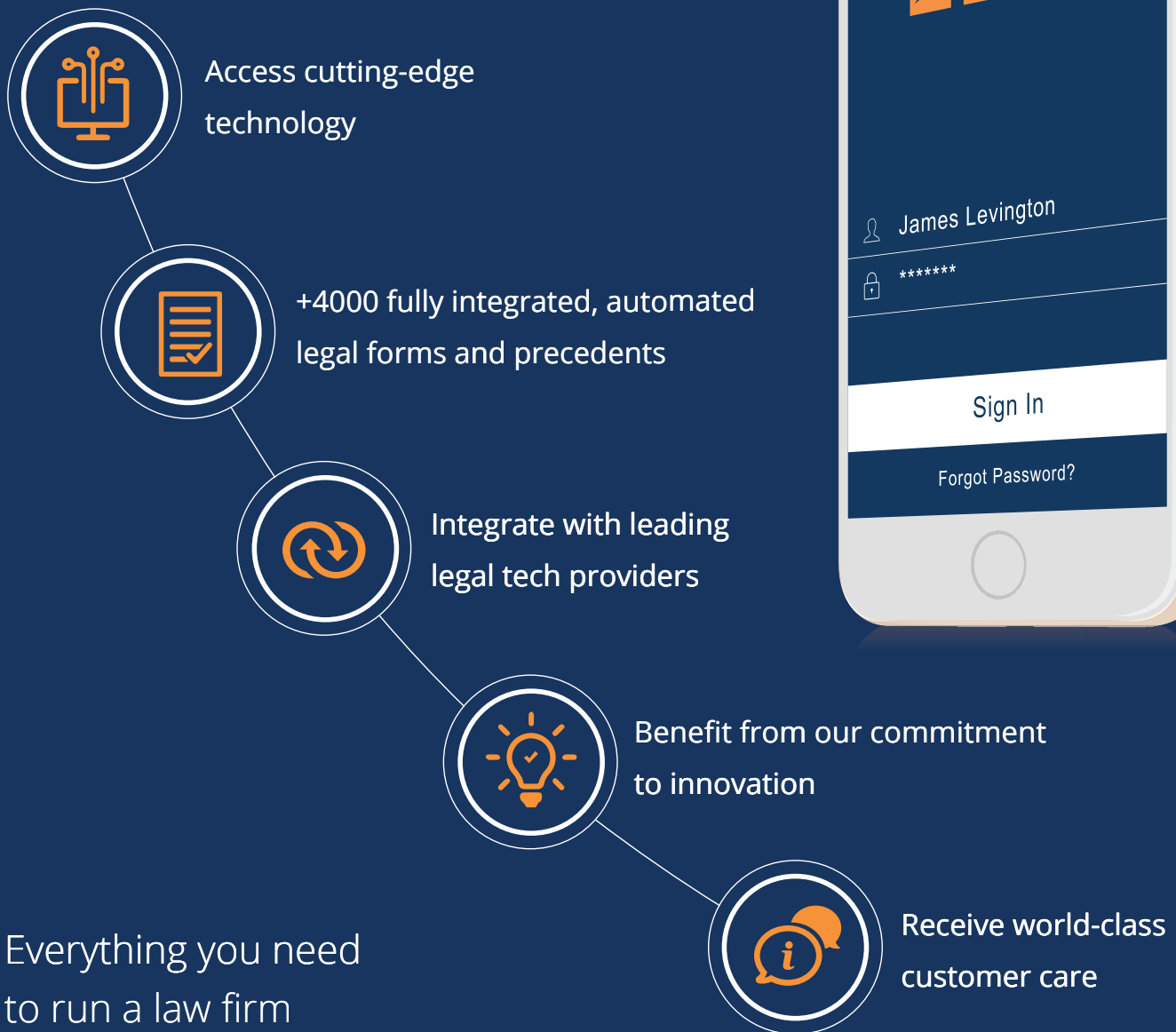
Whiplash Reforms delayed

A Walk in Wales

**Report and photos from the social
walk with Chester and North Wales
Law Society**



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August 2018

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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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Hello all!

The Heatwave seems to have broken, but we are promised that summer isn't over. So make the most of the respite and the rain for now, and let's hope that there will be more glorious sunshine to come in the next month or so. If you're at a loose end when it's raining, then why not spend your time reading another packed edition of Liverpool Law?

There's a lot going on, both inside and outside of Liverpool Law Society. Why not check out Sarah's Helix Highlights column for some exciting news about the annual dinner, and read our interview with new national Law Society President, Christina Blacklaws? I have had the pleasure of meeting Christina on several occasions and am looking forward to finding out the feedback from her project around Women in the Law – but that's not all she's about by any means. I wish her luck in what is likely to be a very challenging year – although aren't they all these days?

We have the first of what is going to be a regular column by Julie Johnson, Chair of the Commercial District BID (Business Development District) on page 23. Before you all start shouting at me I am of course aware that not all our members are based in Liverpool City Centre, however a significant proportion of you are, and many more will spend a lot of their time here, so hopefully you will be interested in what is going on in the Commercial District. I know there are BIDs in other parts of our region too. If you are involved in them, why not let us know what is going on – or put us in touch with those who can?

There's plenty more to read in this edition, and I hope we have a balance of something for everyone. Please do keep those submissions coming – and don't forget that if you review a book, play, restaurant, event etc. you could be in line for a prize!

Happy reading.....

Alison

Alison Lobb
editor@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk

Welcome to the August 2018 edition of Liverpool Law

Editorial Committee Dates

Monday 13th August
Monday 10th September
Monday 8th October
Monday 12th November
Monday 10th December

All meetings start at 1pm

Diary Dates

Wed 12 September
Wed 26 September
Tue 9 October
Tue 16 October

Wed 17 October
Thu 1 November
Wed 14 November
Mon 26 November

Residential Property Conference
Family Finance Law Conference
Liverpool Legal Walk in aid of NWLST
Joint Social with University of Liverpool
Employment Law Conference
Annual Dinner
Clinical Negligence Conference
AGM

Content Deadlines 2018

23RD AUG
24TH SEP
26TH OCT
23RD NOV

President's Mentions

The latest news from the President, Nina Ferris

I am acutely aware that it is August, everyone is on the beach and so maybe no one is reading this, but we are fully digital and so you can now easily take Liverpool Law with you wherever you go!

The last month has been a whirl with social and business events aplenty. The walk with Cheshire and North Wales Law Society was fantastic. A beautiful day spent climbing mountain and enjoying views over Anglesey all washed down with some ice cream. It also gave us the chance to talk to our colleagues in Chester and North Wales about what we have been doing in Liverpool and getting some insight from them on issues faced by their members and pick their brains about what works for them.

I have also been to London to meet with the new President of the National Law Society together with the heads of several teams at Chancery Lane. In particular it was good to meet with Richard Miller, the head of justice to hear about the campaigns that TLS needs our help with to get as many members as possible working with them. There are several campaigns which we could and should highlight including the proliferation of advice deserts in some parts of the country, particularly in relation to housing and welfare advice and the campaign for the restoration of legal aid for early advice particularly on housing and family matters where the resulting saving to the public purse far outweighs the cost of funding that advice.

Finally he spoke to us about TLS part on the LASPO review. Few pieces of legislation have changed the face justice as much as the Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012. A review of LASPO has been slow to proceed, but the government is now starting to take evidence as to whether LASPO has worked and what effect it has had on real people looking to access justice. The collection of evidence is happening through a number of committees, some of which the Law Society has been invited to participate in. In order to give as clear a picture as possible, the Law Society is gathering its own evidence from practitioners in civil family and crime over the summer to submit to the Ministry of Justice.

Liverpool Law Society will be hosting the LASPO review focus group meeting on 20 August at Helix. Our members were vocal before the implementation of LASPO and continue to highlight the effects that legislation has had on clients including the most vulnerable in society. If you have any case studies, evidence or opinions on how LASPO is (or isn't) working, please consider participating in either the civil and family group or criminal group session and make your voices and those of your clients heard.

Places are available but are limited - For info and to book see <http://www.liverpoollawsociety.org.uk/society-news/latest/invitation-to-the-law-society-laspo-review-focus-groups>

I would encourage as many of our members who can to attend – there is a reason that Liverpool has been chosen to be one of the venues for the TLS road show, because our members are outspoken and willing to give evidence, but also because our clients are some of those most disproportionately affected by the changes, so please contribute what you can.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer, I'll be back with more news when we are all back at school.

Nina Ferris
President



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Helix Highlights

I would like to use this month's column to introduce another one of the Society's members of staff to you, Kimberley Docherty. Kimberley is the Accounts Assistant at Liverpool Law Society (LLS). In her own words...:



"I have been at Liverpool Law Society for a little over 2 years. My role at the Society is Accounts Assistant, as part of this role I assist the Deputy CEO, Liz Weeks, with the day-to-day running of the accounts including the control of the purchase and sales ledgers together with membership updates. I also assist in arranging social events, a part of the role which I really enjoy and recently helped to organise 'It's A Knockout' which was a really fun event in aid of charity. I have now also taken on an extra role within the education department assisting our Director of Education, Jo Downey, with administrating the seminar and conference bookings amongst other things.

I completed my degree in Accounting & Finance at the University of Chester which provided a basis for working in accounting, an area I have always enjoyed...looking after other people's finances! Whilst studying I worked part time at B&Q, which taught me that duct tape fixes almost everything and if duct tape

doesn't work it's probably best to buy a new one.

In my free time I enjoy travelling with my husband Robert, since we married in 2016 we have travelled to 12 different countries and hope to visit many more."

As I mentioned in this column last month, the Baseline Report & Strategic Priorities for the Professional & Business Services in Liverpool City Region by the Liverpool LEP has now been published. There is a full press release and link to the report on page 16 of this edition.

In August there are a couple of meetings hosted at Liverpool Law Society and organised by The Law Society. One meeting is aimed at discussing matters around membership with the Law Society's newly-formed Membership and Communications Committee. Lubna Shuja, Chair, and her Committee wish to meet with solicitors in the area to discuss the aims of the Committee, and to learn more about member views on how the Law Society and this Committee can support them.

The other Law Society meeting hosted at Liverpool Law Society is a roundtable event headed by Richard Miller, Head of Justice at The Law Society on evidence for the LASPO review. Further details can be found in the President's column in this edition.

Looking ahead, tickets have gone on sale for the members' 191st Annual Dinner which is taking place on Thursday, 1st November 2018. We are delighted to announce the Rt Hon. Chancellor of the High Court, Sir Geoffrey Vos will be a guest speaker at the Dinner. Sir Geoffrey holds responsibility for the conduct of business in the Business and Property Courts and

he was in Liverpool in February this year at the launch of the local Business and Property Court here. Prior to this role, he was appointed a Lord Justice of Appeal in 2013 and acted as President of the European Network of Councils for the Judiciary from June 2014 to June 2016. He was appointed a Justice of the High Court in October 2009. He sat as a judge internationally, in the Courts of Appeal of Jersey and Guernsey between 2005 and 2009, and in the Court of Appeal of the Cayman Islands between 2008 and 2009, having begun his judicial career as a deputy High Court Judge in 1999.

The Dinner is sure to be a magnificent occasion, held in Cunard House at the Cunard building so do book your table soon. Further details appear on page 25 of this edition. We hope to see you there.

Until next month, Sarah

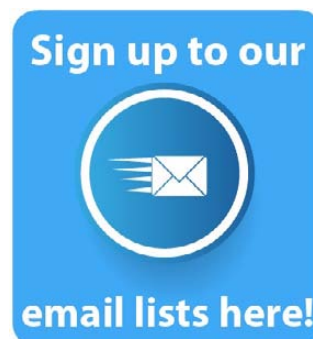
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CEO

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Whiplash Reforms delayed

The major news to hit the personal injury sector is that the proposed reforms to increase the small claims limit, and introduce a tariff for damages in RTA claims, will not be taking place until April 2020. The changes introduced through the Civil Liability Bill by the Ministry of Justice were due to be implemented in April 2019.

The further delay will be welcomed by those who may represent clients likely to be affected by the reforms. In a previous article, I discussed the Justice Select Committee's report on the bill and the potential implications of the reforms. Since then, the government has released its response in July 2018 - [click here](#)

Paragraph 36 sets out the position as:

"...We agree with the Committee and our stakeholders that it is crucial that these reforms and the implementation of the online platform is done right rather than quickly. This is why the Government is now proposing for the platform to be ready for large-scale testing by October 2019 with the view to implementing the whiplash measures, including the rise in the small claims limit to £5,000, fully in April 2020."

There was always a concern that operating an electronic platform for litigants in person may prove difficult and whether it would even work in practice ie. would litigants be deterred from using the system and consider it too difficult, complicated, or not user-friendly. This is why there will be testing in place, dubbed as "large-scale", it will remain to be seen how effective this is.

Along with other concerns, Part 2 of the LASPO act has not been fully reviewed and its impact. This was always putting the cart before the horse, and the most sensible way forward was to assess its impact before pressing on with industry changing reforms and the whiplash reforms.

Whilst the news is welcomed by PI practitioners and allows firms and organisations more time to prepare for the reforms, the Government has signalled its intent not to water them down.

It is astonishing that the MOJ states that they are committed to controlling the reduction of whiplash claims and costs. Costs have already been reduced in the industry and RTA claims, as an example, are falling according to the empirical evidence and insurance industry's own statistics.

Instead of kicking up a proverbial fuss, the Insurance industry and the ABI supported the delay to the implementation of the reforms. Obviously they are content that the government will still proceed with increasing the small claims limit to £2000 for injuries sustained in EL/PL type cases, and £5000 for injuries sustained in an RTA. No need to rock the boat.

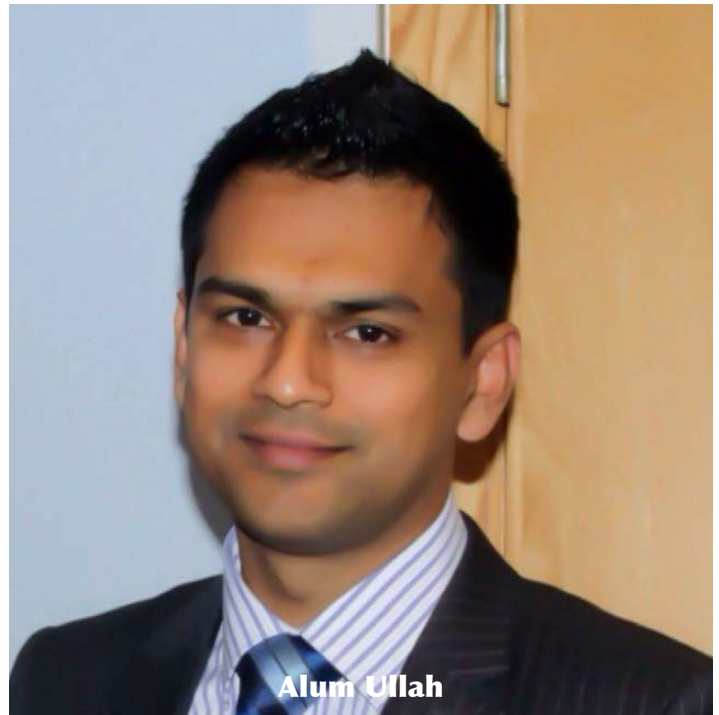
Neil Rose, from Legal Futures Magazine (article dated 18th July 2018) commented on the following reactions:

James Dalton, Director of general insurance policy, commenting: *"Getting the implementation of these reforms right is absolutely critical..."*

Deborah Newberry, head of corporate and public affairs at defendant firm Kennedys, said: *"...It is absolutely right that the implementation is done properly – and as part of a package of reforms – rather than quickly and on a piecemeal basis..."*

It is clear that all sides want the matters dealt with properly and welcome the delay.

In my view, this is an opportunity to examine the data from part 2 of



Alum Ullah

LASPO and further assess the impact the reforms would have on litigants who may be left unrepresented. The other danger is (if the reforms proceed as planned) that they would be represented, but by unregulated CMCs and those who saw an opportunity in the market.

For now, the Civil Liability Bill has been parked due to Parliament's summer break and will be considered again in September 2018. Further scrutiny on the Bill will take place during the second reading.

There is no indication that the delay will affect the discount rate reforms or the progression of the Bill generally.

What is clear is that the government's pre-occupation with other issues has probably resulted in the Bill not receiving the attention it deserves. It remains to be seen how this will all eventually turn out, but given the twists and turns so far, I would not be willing to commit to any predictions.

Alum Ullah
Chair
Civil Litigation Committee

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News from the Sub-Committees

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

Non Contentious Committee

These are minutes of the NCB Meeting on the 21st June 2018, I hope you find them interesting and please let me know if you would be interested in joining us.

1. Our guest speaker was Phil Jacob, BSC (Hons) MRICS, RICS Registered Valuer

Phil works extensively with solicitors in relation to providing valuations for probate and matrimonial purposes. Phil provided an analysis of how the leasehold interest is valued in relation to the purchase of the leasehold title and the extension of leasehold interests. This topic is newsworthy at the present time because of the number of long leaseholds and the higher proportion of new builds being sold as leaseholds instead of freeholds. In 1995 only 7% of new builds were leasehold and this has risen to 15% in 2016. In the north west, this figure is even higher at 32%.

The ground rent has become an asset within its own right and is traded as such. Purchasers don't always appreciate the ramifications of the clauses in the lease allowing the ground rent to be increased. This in turn affects the saleability of the property. It was discussed that this situation could result in claims made against the conveyancers and there is already moves in this direction.

The method of calculating the value of the leasehold is extremely complicated and is highly contentious and is the subject of litigation and the Law Commission was invited to undertake a full review on the 29th May.

The Government's statement that the leasehold system would be investigated does not appear to have made any real progress. In comparison to these issues, Phil's bread and butter valuations are straightforward and based largely on comparables. There was a good discussion and Phil was thanked for his time in preparing the talk and meeting with our committee, his contribution was valued and appreciated.

2. The minutes of the meeting on 19th April were approved.

3. Hot Topics- included GDPR which appears to be progressing smoothly without the world falling in; the new lay out of the Oath for executors was brought to the committee's attention; the Mishcon case was discussed regarding the liability for ensuring that the vendor has a sound title to sell; electronic checks of a vendor's ID are carried out in all cases; the costs of the extra work should be passed on, market forces can make this a challenge; there is an SRA proposal to ensure that prices of some services are placed on a provider's website by December 2018; banks as executors and the attendant costs; probate work being diverted from private client solicitors and the lack of estate agent and solicitor ABS structures were discussed.

4. The residential property conference on 12th September and the relevant courses were tabled; there were no additional ideas for other training.

5. The minutes will be produced for Liverpool Law.

6. No AOB.

7. Next meeting 18th October.

Naomi Pinder
Chair



Contracts & Commercial Update

with Chris Beanland on Friday 21st September, 1.30 - 4.45pm

This course provides busy practitioners with a practical update on contract and commercial developments over the last year. The course is aimed at both contentious and non-contentious lawyers and will give attendees practical pointers to use in their practice areas.

The course will cover:

- How effective is an anti-oral variation clause
- No reliance clauses
- Entire agreement clauses
- Offer and acceptance and negotiations subject to contract
- Equitable jurisdiction to rectify mistakes in deeds
- Mutual mistake
- Implied obligations of good faith
- Wide ranging exclusion clauses and reasonableness
- Meaning of consent 'not to be unreasonably withheld'
- Construction of contracts and implied terms
- Application of Marks & Spencer v BNP on implied terms
- 'Wrotham Park' damages

Competencies covered: A2, A3, A4, A5, B3, B4, B6, B7 & D3

For further information or to book, [click here](#)

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



Avoiding Negligence Claims and Complaints in Residential Conveyancing

with Ian Quayle

on Tuesday 25th September, 9.30am - 12.45pm

The course involves an examination of what can go wrong in a conveyancing transaction and how problems and claims can be avoided.

The topics covered include:

- How property fraud can lead to negligence claims and what is the best approach to avoid problems
- Setting realistic client expectations
- Dealing with replies to TA forms when acting for the seller
- Dealing with searches and replies to TA forms when acting for the buyer
- The issue of informed consent – what does this really mean?
- Transactional issues – title problems and land registration issues
- What causes problems in leasehold transactions
- What actually causes claims
- Recent relevant case law

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

For more information or to book, [click here](#)



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* The Law Society, The Future of Legal Services, January 2016

Crisis in Duty Solicitor Scheme

Data published by the Law Society reveals declining numbers of criminal defence solicitors and predicts a crisis over the coming decade...

New data revealed by the Law Society has warned that criminal defence lawyers in England and Wales could become extinct in the coming decade if the issue isn't addressed. Those working in criminal defence are on average older than those in the rest of the profession and few young solicitors are opting for a career in criminal law.

The police station advice or duty solicitor scheme was set up in the 1980s following a series of scandals which saw numerous convictions overturned because of misconduct by the police. When arrested everyone has the right to request a duty solicitor who are on call 24 hours a day.

The data shows that in some areas of the UK, the percentage of duty solicitors over 50 is even higher and in Norfolk, Suffolk, Cornwall and Worcestershire there are no criminal law solicitors aged under thirty five, with only one each in West Wales and Mid Wales, and only two in Devon.

Currently in Merseyside there are 135 duty solicitors. Of these, 66 are over the age of 50 and make up 49% of the duty solicitor rota solicitors, yet in the profession as a whole just 27% are over 50.

A major factor in this is the lack of law students opting to study advanced criminal law as an option during the LPC. Understandably they opt for areas of the law where there are more opportunities and a better chance of gaining a training contract. Many criminal law practices just don't have the finances or resources to offer training contracts.

Jared Ficklin, Director, Liverpool Law Clinic, School of Law and Social Justice, University of Liverpool says: "At the Liverpool Law Clinic we work with students who aspire to be legal aid lawyers and work for the public interest. Many of our students want to become criminal lawyers but are deterred because of unsustainable fees and poor conditions. With the high costs of university fees and training on the LPC or BPTC, most students can't afford to work for years on low pay. Years of legal aid cuts have made some areas of law like crime unviable for most young lawyers."

Esther Leach is the Managing Director and Head of Crime and Prison Law at Broudie Jackson & Canter. She says, "Morale in crime is at an all time low, and other areas of the law which are dependant on legal aid. There have been no rises in rates since 1998, only cuts. It really is doom and gloom in criminal law."

Esther says that the police are in a similar situation, lacking in funding, so much so they are not charging people who have been arrested. She adds "Last week we had ten clients who had been arrested and of these only one was charged. The police just don't have the finances to put cases together and are releasing without charge."

Broudie Jackson & Canter do take on Trainee Solicitors, but Esther says it is many years since their has been a trainee in the Crime Department. She says "We are one of the fortunate firms who offer a broad range of legal services, but there are small traditional-style crime firms in Merseyside, which tend to be run by middle aged men who run on such narrow profit margins, they really can't afford to take on trainee solicitors."

Esther concludes "I don't know what the answer to this is, aside from a change in Government. Very soon some rural areas are going to have no criminal defence lawyers at all and what happens then?"

Past President of Liverpool Law Society, John Ballam has been a solicitor for over four decades, and has specialised for the most part in criminal law. He commented "I thought the percentage of oldies would be greater- certainly many youngsters are moving to the CPS. Indeed there are still some on the current rota who have already moved so I would expect there to be over 50 % over 50 years of age !"

"It means that in 5/10 years' time there will be very few to cover many Police stations and Courts. The public will not be served and the Courts will grind to a halt.

"Criminal Law is no longer attractive to youngsters due to low pay and social inconvenience. Young families cannot obtain child care and can no doubt earn a lot more in more comfortable positions, working 9/5.

"Further, firms cannot afford to pay at acceptable level and cannot take on trainees or apprentices to mould them into the job as we did in the good old days. The Duty scheme does not help Solicitors – speed and compromise outweigh accuracy and dedication – Judges and District Judges are tested on outcomes and completed cases, not on legal decisions or even Justice.

"So once again the government (MoJ) will let the fruits wither on the vine such that there will be no fine mature Advocates as there are now – we are a dying breed.

"I am carrying on because I cannot retrain into any other department and I must admit I still enjoy the cut & thrust of the trials in the Crown Court!"

Joe Egan, when President of the Law Society said: "The justice system is facing a cliff edge scenario; criminal duty solicitors are part of an increasingly ageing profession, and government cuts mean there are not enough young lawyers entering the field of criminal defence work."

"If this trend continues, in five to ten years' time there could be insufficient criminal defence solicitors in many regions, leaving people in need of legal advice unable to access their rights."

The Law Society believe that the main reason for these shortages is because criminal defence solicitors have received no fee increase since 1998. This with other cuts to the legal aid system it appears many lawyers no longer see a viable career doing this work, and it is difficult to attract and retain new members of the profession.

Liverpool Law contacted the office of David Gauke, the Justice Secretary and posed the question whether the MoJ was addressing the issue of the declining number of criminal law solicitors. The response from a 'Ministry of Justice spokesperson' was: "Solicitors play a vital role in our criminal justice system and we greatly appreciate the valuable work they do. We have enough solicitors to fulfil criminal cases and will make sure we continue to do so.

"We routinely meet with legal



Esther Leach



John Ballam

professionals and will continue to engage with them on how best to ensure a sustainable justice system."

That 'may' be the case now, but what about in five or ten years time? If students, trainees and young solicitors are not going into criminal law, who will replace the current criminal lawyers? As Christina Blacklaws, the new President of the Law Society commented "It's a doomsday scenario".

The Law Society have called on the Government to conduct an economic review of the long-term viability of the criminal legal aid system and to guarantee that criminal legal aid fees will rise with inflation. The Society suggests that practitioners contact their local MP, and have a template on their website. Click here.

Julia Baskerville

Meeting the Councillors

Two newcomers to the 12 July liaison meeting were Cllr Malcolm Kennedy (Liverpool), former Lord Mayor, and Paul McCourt, Wirral MBC's Director of Law. They were joined by regular attendees Cllr Jane Corbett (Liverpool), Paulette Lappin (Sefton), Emily Spurrell (Liverpool – as well as Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner), and John Stockton (Halton).

I referred the visitors to recently enacted Statutes which relate to Local Government and those who the Councillors represent. These included the Telecommunications Infrastructure (Relief from Non-Domestic Rates) Act 2018, the Secure Tenancies (Victims of Abuse Act) 2018.

Also mentioned was a Private Member's Bill introduced by Justin Madders, MP for Ellesmere Port and Neston, a Solicitor and frequent visitor to LLS. The Leasehold reform Bill 2017, is to have its Second Reading on 26 October. It relates to leasehold enfranchisement, Costs in Tribunal cases of enfranchisement, and compensation about misleading particulars.

Access to Justice remains an ongoing concern in these straitened times. Malcom Kennedy referred to his established links with Vauxhall Law Centre and offered to provide details to LLS about co-ordination. Shortly after the meeting, Alan Kelly of Vauxhall Law Centre sent an e-mail to LLS to set out the Centre's current position. This contact should help LLS to build on the link and to see how members might be able to assist the Centre.

Charlie Jones, on this subject, referred to the Law Society's national investigation about access to advice. Charlie appealed to practitioners to provide evidence of specific instances in which they find individuals who had been unable to access early advice, so please could members contact Charlie to feed in to this worthwhile investigation.

Outline plans were discussed with Emily Spurrell for a liaison meeting which she might be able to hold with LLS's Criminal Practice Committee. This was another instance of how these meetings can deepen LLS's community links.



L to R: Phil McCourt (Wirral), Cllr Jane Corbett (Liverpool), Charlie Jones (The Law Society Council Member), Nina Ferris (President), Cllr Malcolm Kennedy (Liverpool), Cllr Emily Spurrell (Deputy PCC), Cllr John Stockton (Halton), Jeremy Myers (Parliamentary Liaison Officer) and Cllr Paulette Lappin (Sefton).

These meetings continue to develop an important link between the Councils covering the areas in which the bulk of our members live and work. Members who would like to utilise this connection should contact the LLS office with any ideas ahead of our next meeting, fixed for 17 January 2019.

Jeremy Myers
Parliamentary Liaison Officer



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and Social Justice

 Liverpool Law Society

Liverpool Law Society and the School of Law and Social Justice

Invite you to join us for an evening drinks reception at the University of Liverpool on

Tuesday 16th October 6pm – 8pm

to celebrate the start of the new academic and legal year

Venue: School of the Arts Library room 115, 23 Abercromby Square L69 7ZG

This event is open to all University of Liverpool Law Staff and Students, Members of Liverpool Law Society, Merseyside Junior Circuit

The event is free of charge: RSVP by [registering your attendance here](https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/law-society/register-attendance).

For further information please email: slsimret@liverpool.ac.uk

Meet Christina Blacklaws President of the Law Society

Christina Blacklaws became President of the Law Society of England and Wales on 5th July. She spoke to Julia Baskerville about her career and the priorities for her Presidential year

Christina Blacklaws became the President of the Law Society on 5th July. She is the Law Society's 174th President and the fifth woman to hold the position.

After studying Jurisprudence at Oxford Christina joined JB Wheatley, a community law firm in London where she qualified as a solicitor in 1991. Christina specialised in family and childcare work and in 2006 set up the family law practice Blacklaws Davis LLP.

Blacklaws Davis LLP was a hybrid law firm with nine high street offices, but also had 50 self employed or freelance lawyers and became one of the largest specialist family law firms in the country. The firm merged with London-firm TV Edwards LLP in 2011 and Christina was a senior member partner and responsible for the firm's business development before joining the Co-operative Legal Services (CLS).

Christina was engaged by CLS to launch their family law division. Christina, with her colleagues, set up a nationwide law department, which included a full range of fixed costs and a consistent quality service. They also developed a number of self-help tools for clients including web chats, YouTube presentations and Twitter feeds. Once the family law division was established and operating successfully, Christina was appointed Director of Policy for CLS and was responsible for business development and strategy.

Christina moved to top 100 firm, Cripps LLP as chief operating officer and became their Director of Innovation. Christina left Cripps to focus her energies on her work for the Law Society and the profession.

Christina joined the Council of the Law Society in 2002 and is the representative for the Women Lawyer's Division. She has been a member of the Regulatory Affairs Board and chaired the Legal Affairs and Policy Board.

Just days into her new role, Christina says "It's very much business as usual, clearly Brexit is a huge focus at the moment and we are continuing to engage with the ministerial teams on Brexit as we have done over the past two years and it is both vital and essential that we continue to do this."

Christina has three main areas of focus for her Presidential year. The first is Women in Leadership. The Law Society wants to develop recommendations and guidance to address key matters in relation to women's rights and gender in the legal profession.

The Law Society, supported by the IBA and Lexis Nexis, undertook the largest ever international survey on gender and the law. Christina says, "The report provided a lot of insight and



Christina Blacklaws, President of the Law Society of England and Wales

highlighted a number of issues. 52% of respondents said that they thought the main barrier for women in the law was unconscious bias. Views on this have shifted; only five years ago one of the main reasons cited for this gender disparity was the lack of flexible and agile working. This has improved over the past few years, but there are still firms which don't offer this option to their staff."

Another barrier to women who wanted to progress their careers was that business and networking opportunities are seen as male-orientated. Christina adds: "Many firms are still offering the traditional networks on the golf course and football or rugby matches and this can be excluding."

Christina has already started a series of Round Table events with women from across the whole profession, from private practice, in-house and firms of all sizes and all specialisms. A further 100 round tables will be held around the country during the summer and she says that the aim is to "empower women in the workplace." The Law Society has published a "Toolkit" with the resources to help women solicitors to lead their own round table discussions, to challenge unconscious bias in the profession and address the gender pay gap. Christina adds: "I want to see women in the profession commit to be activists. We want to give profile to role models and showcase best practice in achieving gender equality."

In the autumn, men will be invited to round table events. Christina adds "We want to engage our male colleagues in this debate and for them to become champions for gender equality."

Within the Women in the Law theme, the First 100 Years is a ground-breaking history project, supported by the Law Society and the Bar Council, charting the journey of women in law since 1919. Next year, the project will mark the centenary of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act 1919 which paved the way for



Christina Blacklaws with Nina Ferris and Liverpool Law Society Members at the Liverpool 'Women in Leadership' round table event

women to become lawyers. The project is compiling an archive which will eventually be hosted by the British Museum.

Christina's second theme is technology. She says, "Technology provides risks and opportunities for solicitors. But I firmly believe that those who are able to harness the new technological solutions will thrive." The Law Society will be providing information and advice for law firms and is planning a series of legal tech roadshows throughout the country. "We will be offering support and advice to law firms so they can make well-informed business decisions. We aim to de-mystify legal technology."

However, Christina acknowledges that although many law firms have embraced the opportunities presented by technology, the courts in many areas are falling behind, with some not even having yet functioning Wi-Fi, but adds that the Online court reforms are starting to address this disparity.

Within this Technology theme, The Law Society has launched a public policy commission, which will investigate the impact of technology, and in particular the use of big data

and algorithms on human rights and justice. Christina is the Chair of the Technology and Law Policy Commission, which will lead this year-long investigation into AI and algorithms.

The Law Society has also partnered with Barclays to develop accelerators for legal technology start-ups. The aim is to encourage and incubate the next generation of legal tech businesses. A new legal tech hub is due to open in Notting Hill, which will provide a base for collaboration between new technological innovators and law firms.

Christina's final theme is Access to Justice. She says "This is an issue very close to my heart. I spent many years as a family lawyer and fully understand how the changes to legal aid have impacted both the profession and our clients."

In 2017 the Law Society launched a campaign calling for the reinstatement of legal aid for early advice particularly in the areas of family and housing law. A MORI survey found that 1 in 4 people who receive early professional legal advice had resolved their problem within 3-4 months. For those who did not receive early legal advice, it was not until 9 months after

the issue had first occurred that 1 in 4 had resolved their issue.

At the time of writing the Law Society is preparing for a Judicial Review to be heard that challenges the government's decision to implement changes to the Litigators Graduated Fee Scheme (LGFS). Christina says that criminal legal aid is in a critical state. This is compounded by the declining number of criminal practitioners and an ageing profession. Christina says, "One of the pillars of our society is that if you are accused of a crime you are entitled to legal representation. Yet very few young solicitors are going into criminal law because of the cuts to legal aid and this crisis in criminal law will just get worse and worse over the coming decade. This really is a doomsday scenario."

So a challenging year ahead for Christina Blacklaws. She concludes "So far it has really been full-on, but it is a great opportunity and honour to be President of the Law Society and I never cease to be proud of the amazing work that is done by the legal profession."

'Choose Life' – Choose the Environmental Protection Act

My name is George McLoughlin and I am a specialist housing lawyer. I am passionate and committed about trying to help my clients.

I want to begin by sharing with you my affection for the film 'Trainspotting'. This was directed by Danny Boyle back in 1996 and which is based on the book by Irvine Welsh. The story is set in an economically deprived area of Edinburgh and is unashamedly dark in nature. It could so easily have been set in Liverpool or indeed any other UK city.

I believe that it was the film soundtrack that I enjoyed the most rather than the bleak subject matter. If you have seen the film you will undoubtedly recall the film's opening scene in which Ewan McGregor's character, Renton, is being chased for shoplifting, with a security card in hot pursuit, to this amazing wall of noise, with spoken, scathing lyrics, which urged us all to 'Choose Life'.

Lots of the issues that this film raised in 1996, still resonate with us today.

The sequel film 'T2' came out last year – and, of course, as much as I was looking forward to being reacquainted with all the characters, I managed to miss it at the cinema; and, although, I have it safely recorded, it still remains unwatched.

I was aware that the 'Choose Life' lyrics in the new film had been updated to be more relevant. So I thought I would take this opportunity to compare the two sets of lyrics: something which I found to be somewhat amusing.

Gone are the references to:

'..Compact disc players,
Electrical tin openers
Fixed interest mortgage repayments.'
Which are replaced with references to:
'.. Facebook,
Twitter,
Instagram
Reality TV
Revenge Porn..'

You will be glad to know that I do not intend to delve too deeply into either lyrics or launch into some sociological debate as to what the lyrics may have meant back then, or what perhaps they reveal about how we have evolved over the past 21 years.

My impression though, for what it is worth, is that, on balance, the 2017 lyrics seem to be slightly more optimistic than those penned 2 decades earlier.

I welcome that optimism because that is how I foresee the future for my ability to be able to help my housing disrepair clients with their problems.

One of my favourite reasons for optimism, if you read last month's article, has been the proposed change in the law to ensure that future properties will have to be let 'fit for human habitation'.

This proposed piece of legislation passed the latest stage in its passage to law on the 20th June when it went through unscathed [with only some very slight 'technical' amendments]. The next stage is the Report stage and then it's off to the Lords. When this change in the law comes into force in early 2019, it will only apply in the first instance to 'new' tenancies. However, disappointingly, I will have to wait an additional 12 months, so not until 2020, before I will be able to rely upon this provision on behalf of my clients with existing tenancies.

I suppose this will give both Social and Private landlords an extended period of grace to begin a programme of improvements before either deadline is reached; but, we will just have to wait and see what happens.

Those responsible landlords I am sure will respond accordingly; however, unfortunately, it is not those landlords that I am worried about.

It is those 'rogue' landlords, invariably, in the private sector, which cause me the greatest of concerns.

In my view, one obvious solution to tackle, these 'rogue' landlords may be a greater use of the provisions of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 ('EPA') through the local magistrate's courts.

This remains available if the defects or disrepair to the property amount to a 'statutory nuisance' that is prejudicial to health.

From the client's perspective I can see a number of advantages and very few disadvantages. The most obvious advantage is one of speed. Landlords, particularly Social Landlords tend to respond with an almost 'Dresden' type approach to a letter sent under the EPA, by committing a 'team' of workers and resources to ensuring that the alleged statutory nuisance is abated within the strict 21 day deadline.

The reason for this reaction is that they do not want – for obvious reasons – a criminal conviction and the associated reputational damage.

But how will those 'rogue' private landlords react? Obviously, the very worst type of landlords will react in the very worst of ways – by threats and intimidation, and retaliatory eviction.

From a practical point of view all that you can do is to ensure a written complaint is sent to the landlord and provide the client with lots of reassurance that you are going to be there to support them.

However, even then, this advice to the client has inevitably to be qualified by telling them that ultimately the private landlord may still legitimately be able to ask them to leave, some 6 months after the repairs are completed, by way of a valid section 21 notice. Understandably lots of clients when you have this discussion with them, are hesitant about risking the roof over their head and that of their family – even if the same roof is literally allowing rainwater to leak upon their heads.



George McLoughlin

It was with some excitement therefore that I read the Government's July White Paper called 'Overcoming the Barriers to Longer Tenancies in the Private Rented Sector'.

Although there is a lot more to the White Paper, the press headlines concentrated on a proposed minimum term of 3 years for private tenants. In his foreword to the consultation, the Housing Minister, James Brokenshire MP notes:

'The majority of tenants are on short term contracts-unsure if they can afford the next rent rise, or whether they might be asked to leave if they make a complaint.'

It gets my support. Not surprisingly those groups representing landlords have greeted this with less enthusiasm. The Guardian headline reported that 'Landlords react with fury..'

But, as always things move very slowly, and the deadline for responses is set for the 26th August.

Moreover, Solicitors seem resistance to utilising the EPA simply because if the landlord does manage to fix the problems, and indeed abate the nuisance within the strict 21 day time limit – they run the risk of not getting paid.

I have just sent a letter of claim to a major City Council. The rented

property in question was subject to a fire caused by an electrical fault. Although not a bad fire (thankfully) in the sense of the damage to the structure of the house, or to my client's belongings; nevertheless, the entire property was saturated with dark plumes of smoke and residual soot.

The Landlord Authority came in about a week after the fire to ostensibly 'clean' the property. It is an understatement to state that they did not do a very good job. The effort expended appeared proportionate to that of my teenage daughter being asked to 'tidy' her room i.e. negligible

I visited the house, this week, some 3 months later and witnessed first-hand the residual soot on every floor ceiling and wall. The Landlord Authority to their credit had managed to plaster the lounge; they had condemned the cooker which had been removed from the kitchen – but unfortunately – have not sought to replace it – at least, not yet.

The other significant problem was the residual 'burnt' smell. The day of my visit, even though the weather had been sunny for a number of days, which provided an opportunity for the widows to be open over a prolonged period, the 'burnt' smell was still pervasive.

It seems obvious to say- and, I made the very point to the Landlord Authority, in my letter, that until they properly remove the soot, the residual smell will prevail.

To compound matters, my client suffers with a number of chronic medical conditions, amongst them anxiety and rhinitis – so you could imagine the impact upon her as being acute.

Notwithstanding regular and vocal complaints, which even included her local MP, the Landlord Authority so far remains adamant that there risible attempts to date are all that they are prepared or required to do.

It was abundantly clear to me from the onset that this case could never be a 'disrepair' claim under the provisions of the Landlord & Tenant Act 1985 because there was no obvious disrepair. The ceiling and wall

plasterwork had not been impacted

Let's see what happens when they receive my letter claiming that the residual soot and related smell constitute a 'statutory nuisance' that is prejudicing the health of my client.

My client's expectations are understandably low because of her own dealings that the Landlord Authority. My view is that, unless the Landlord Authority either completely ignore or misinterpret my letter, then I expect them to send in a 'team' of professional cleaners to sanitise the property – which should have been their response some 3 months ago.

I will know the answer in the next 21 days. Watch this space. I would welcome anybody's own experiences (hopefully triumphs) of using this procedure. What are the potential 'pitfalls' to look out for and avoid?

I concede that my opening reference to 'Trainspotting' was extremely tenuous; and really only carried a veneer of substance to justify what I thought was quite a memorable title to this article.

So if only for the sake of consistency and which has entirely nothing to do with the law, I believe, I might be justified in ending with the words of the older and, perhaps wiser Renton in 'T2':

'Choose the one you love

Choose your future. Choose Life'

I suppose I'd better go and make the time to watch the film! Again watch this space.

George McLoughlin is Head of Housing Disrepair at Curtis Law Solicitors LLP and a member of Liverpool Law Society Civil Litigation Committee.

He can be contacted on George.mcloughlin@curtislaw.co.uk
The above views represent my own and do not necessarily represent the views of Curtis Law Solicitors LLP or Liverpool Law Society



The Essential Practical Guide for the Money Laundering Reporting Officer

with Jo Morris on Tuesday 4th September, 10am - 1pm

Under the MLR2017 and legislation it is a requirement by law to have a nominated money laundering reporting officer (MLRO) in the

all policies, procedures and internal controls have been updated to incorporate the changes and training has been provided for the staff.

The course will cover:

- The appointment of the MLRO
- Job description - what does the role cover
- The Money Laundering Regulations 2017:
- Risk assessment requirements and the role of the MLCO
- Changes made to due diligence
- Capturing of client information
- Identifying the source of funds and wealth
- The extended definition of a PEP
- Beneficial owners
- Record keeping
- MLR2017 and Data Protection
- Training - who, what, when and how
- Reporting to the NCA - what to report and how to complete a SAR
- Penalties for getting it wrong
- Template documents - what records should you be keeping
- The future - 5MLD and 6MLD

For more information or to book, [click here](#)

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



Residential Property Conference

Wednesday 12th September 2018 9.30am - 3.40pm

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

Welcome and introduction
Angela Hesketh

**Conveyancing 2030:
what next?**
Eddie Goldsmith

**Overage - avoiding the
elephant traps**
Peta Dollar

**Easements and covenants -
where are we now, an update**
Peta Dollar

**Title Insurance - Crack
Cocaine for Conveyancers?**
Robert Kelly

**An update from HM Land
Registry**
Jamie Winch

**Current Leasehold Issues,
including Ground Rents**
Richard Snape

Summary and thanks
Angela Hesketh

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New Business Review shows the way forward

A new business review recently endorsed by the Liverpool City Region LEP and private sector stakeholders has highlighted growth across Liverpool City Region's Professional and Business Services (PBS) Sector, while showing where we need to focus our efforts to improve productivity and future proof growth.

It shows the sector plays a crucial role as an enabler in the local economy – providing 107,000 jobs across 12,000 companies and contributing £8bn annually in GVA. The report also showed strong growth in the sector – up by 41% between 2010 and 2017, compared to 23.5% across other sectors.

Additionally, around 20,000 jobs are forecast to be created in the PBS sector across the region over the next 20 years – helped by the significant labour pool from the universities. The challenge is to promote growth in sectors that have higher levels of productivity to ensure we are creating jobs for the large number of graduates – 20,000 every year in PBS related subjects.

The review has been produced by Pegasus Group on behalf of the Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and it's PBS board, and is a call to arms to the wider city region. It also focuses on the priorities designed to support the sector's future growth. These include - promoting the sector, supporting schools to prepare young people for the world of work, targeting inward investment activity, providing easy access to finance for high growth businesses and boosting the supply of Grade A office space available in the city region.

Other recommendations include supporting skills development in the PBS workforce, more co-ordination around school and business engagement, and working to improve five-year survival rates for local businesses. It also suggests there must be a strong focus on co-ordinating and supporting efforts to scale up local technology companies and secure a vibrant digital and creative community.

Asif Hamid MBE, Chair of the LEP, commented: "The city region is at an exciting stage in its regeneration, and despite the uncertainty surrounding Brexit, business confidence has remained, and this review clearly sets out the potential for further growth.

"Professional and Business Services in the Liverpool City Region accounts for approximately a quarter of all firms - it is a crucial sector at the heart of making this region more prosperous and needs the right support. This review is the first step towards guiding the

"The city region is at an exciting stage in its regeneration, and despite the uncertainty surrounding Brexit, business confidence has remained, and this review clearly sets out the potential for further growth."

way and working collectively to achieve this goal."

Steve Stuart, Chair of the PBS Board, said: "This baseline review provides us with a clear picture of the sector as well as an analysis of the critical matters that need to be faced to keep the sector moving forward. There is much to be positive about and some of the statistics mentioned in this report really are impressive."

Steve added: "We have benefitted from the involvement of the PBS community in compiling this review and hope we can continue to expand our stakeholders so we can ensure we maximise our joint efforts in growing the sector."

Richard Cook, Economics Associate at Pegasus Group remarked: "The priorities identified by the research have been shaped by stakeholders who work in the PBS sector on a daily basis, which will provide the city region with a strong foundation on which to grow the sector in the long-term.

"It's important that the public and private sector now work closely together to achieve the strategic priorities identified by the research to raise the sector's profile on a national and international basis."

For a full copy of the report please [click here](#)



Asif Hamid MBE



Steve Stuart

Robins returns 'home' to Morecrofts



Helen Robins

Private client specialist Helen Robins has returned to Morecrofts Solicitors.

Robins left Morecrofts last year following a ten-year spell to join Hodge Halsall Solicitors, but has now returned to the firm she calls 'home' to lead its Court of Protection team.

Based primarily at the firm's Crosby office, Robins specialises in representing clients who no longer have the capacity to handle their own affairs and require support with financial planning, benefits arrangements, care services or housing provision.

Her return is a further boost to the private client team at Morecrofts following the recent promotion of Maureen Holloway to associate solicitor and the appointment of three new trainee solicitors.

Robins said: "To work and succeed in this area of law, you need genuine passion and compassion and we are regularly called upon to help with all manner of issues affecting a client's life, from reorganising their finances to finding a new home for their cat.

"I don't know of any firm that has those qualities more in abundance than Morecrofts and I'm thrilled to be coming home. The team has grown and evolved even in the short time I've been away due to our burgeoning reputation as one of the best private client practices around.

"I'm looking forward to further enhancing that position and ensuring the best possible outcomes for every one of our clients."

Alison Lobb, managing partner at Morecrofts Solicitors, added: "Helen is one of the most skilled Court of Protection lawyers in the region, so when we saw there was an opportunity for her to come back, we didn't hesitate.

"Our private client team has won many awards and accolades for its personal, caring approach when clients are at their most vulnerable and Helen's return will only make that service even stronger."

Law firm Bermans announce highest turnover in firms history

North West law firm Bermans has announced record financial results for the fourth consecutive year with the firm reporting an increase in turnover by 12% from £5.3M to £5.95M for the financial year ending 30th June 2018.

Bermans success has been demonstrated through a number of achievements such as its dispute resolution product, Escalate, winning 'Innovation of the Year' at The British Accountancy Awards as well as 'Best Collaboration Initiative' at The Lawyer Awards. The invoice finance team also picked up an award for 'Best Receivables Finance Lawyer' at The Business Money Receivables Awards earlier this year.

Other developments in line with the firm's growth include the relocation of its Manchester office to One King Street, Manchester. In addition, the firm welcomed senior recruits Stephen Jarman to the corporate team and Gareth Farrelly to the newly formed sports law team this year.

To allow the firm to continue to deliver high standards of client care, Bermans is set to implement a new practice management system in 2019. This will ensure the client is at the centre of every task and process, therefore enabling the best possible client experience.

Nick Harvey, partner and head of litigation and dispute resolution commented: "12% increase in turnover in the year, three leading industry awards, the creation of a burgeoning new sports law department, – it is fair to say we have had another pretty decent year!

"The firm really is flying at present through its full commercial offering out of both Liverpool and Manchester offices.

"The innovative SME funding solutions programme has given the firm a real cutting edge as well as providing SMEs with much improved cash flow. It's great to see what we do make a real and immediate impact .

Bermans offers a full service offering to the SME sector and has niche specialisms in asset and invoice finance law. The firm is set to see continued growth and predicts turnover of £6.3M in its next financial year.



Nick Harvey

MSB Solicitors sets its sights on growth in family law as it joins forces with specialist family firm

MSB Solicitors is joining forces with Cheesman & Company to create one of the most formidable family law teams in the North West.

Cheesman & Company specialises in family law and its team has more than 40 years' experience servicing clients nationally. The firm brings a strong portfolio of clients and will bolster MSB's growing family and property law teams, based across offices in Allerton and the city centre.

The deal comes as part of managing partner Emma Carey's strategy to drive financial growth across key areas of the firm and follows the acquisition of debt recovery firm Matrix in January.

Last year, MSB reported its strongest financial results to date, topping £5m for the first time in the firm's history. Turnover increased by 16% on the same period last year and net profit leapt by more than 50%.

Ms Carey, who assumed the managing partner role in March this year, says she is keen to continue to build on that growth through a series of planned mergers, appointments and promotions within the firm.

She says: "MSB has experienced steady and organic growth throughout its near 30 years' trading. We now employ more than 100 people across three offices and have become a key player in Liverpool's legal sector."



L-R: Clare Matson, Andrea Cheesman, Leslie Cheesman, Emma Carey, Christian Cheesman.

"I am delighted to welcome Cheesman & Company to the fold. Leslie and his son Christian Cheesman have long been recognised for their expertise in family law, and Andrea Cheesman in property law. They are an excellent fit for us and this move will allow us to further strengthen our family law offering."

"MSB's 30-strong family team have developed an excellent reputation for leading the way in complex and niche areas of family law and I am certain that the experience of the team from Cheesman & Company will further power our advancement into those emerging areas of the law."

Leslie Cheesman, senior partner at Cheesman & Company adds: "MSB has an excellent reputation in the field of family and property law and the joining of our two firms made absolute sense. The experience of our team, combined with that of MSB and the increased resource internally can only see both our firms continue to go from strength to strength."



Anti Bribery Act 2010 - Make Sure You Are Protected

with Amy Bell

on Friday 7th September, 9.30am - 11.30am

Whilst it has been 7 years since the implementation of the Act, recent case law has highlighted the importance of ensuring your policies and procedures are regularly reviewed

This course, suitable for COLP, COFA, partners and lawyers will:

- Review of the main offences in The Bribery Act 2010
- Who is an associated person?
- When is hospitality lavish?
- What procedures should we have in place
- How to test if they are "adequate"
- Practical examples of how your business might encounter issues
- Review of the government and Law Society guidance

To see more information or to book, [click here](#)

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

Training Seat Exchange

Liverpool Law Society has a Trainee Seat Exchange service. The purpose is to assist member firms and member in-house legal departments interchange trainees. The aim is to provide more training contracts on Merseyside and beyond by facilitating an exchange between firms and in-house departments who may otherwise find it difficult to offer their trainees the requisite number of seats in both contentious and non-contentious work.

The Training Seat Exchange, which is open only to members of Liverpool Law Society, is a free, online service. Details of what seat a member firm can offer and what seat they are seeking appears. The exchange must be discussed and agreed between each member firm on an individual basis.

If you would like to appear on the list, please complete our online form at www.liverpoollawsociety.org.uk/training-seat-exchange-form and the Society will be in touch with you.



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A Walk in Wales

Saturday 14 July saw the annual joint walk of members of LLS with Chester and North Wales Law Society. It was a particularly hot day and the small group of keen walkers assembled at Graig Fawr, near Dyserth, in Denbighshire, even though England was about to play Belgium in the World Cup Third Place Play-Off that afternoon.

This regular event began under the leadership of Alistair Fletcher when he was President of LLS. This year, Ruth Fletcher was our leader, on behalf of LLS, as we alternate that role with CNWLS. Having munched our sandwiches, and including our President, Nina Ferris, we set out on a trip of just about six miles.

Ruth had prepared a carefully-chosen circular route. The significant ascent was early in the walk when we were at our most energetic, and the views across the Irish Sea and Colwyn Bay were very rewarding. The mixture of open spaces and woodland provided both sunshine and much-needed shade. I can assure readers that conversation was not just "shop", especially with non-lawyers joining in as family members.

We worked our way downhill and on to Prestatyn. In a café, disappointed England supporters were watching the match with England already behind. On the Promenade, we saw the sculpture which marks the northern end of Offa's Dyke, and stopped for ice cream before turning around to walk southwards.

The return journey was mostly flat, and took in a stretch along a disused railway line prepared for walking and cycling, following the route of the Dyke. Afterwards, we adjourned to the local pub for well-deserved refreshments.

It is a little disappointing that numbers have fallen in recent years. It is always a very "do-able" walk, enjoyable for both seasoned walkers and newcomers. This year, the two pre-teen sons of Amy Norman, CNWLS President, coped admirably and relished the trip. I hope members will feel inspired to join in next year.

Jeremy Myers





Celebrating 10th Anniversary of the Liverpool Law Clinic

On 4 July 2018, the Liverpool Law Clinic celebrated 10 years of providing legal services in Liverpool and giving law students opportunities to experience legal practice at the Victoria Gallery and Museum at the University of Liverpool.

The event was attended by Liverpool lawyers and judges, contributors and friends of the Law Clinic, staff from the University and a large number of current and former Clinic students. Attendees enjoyed drinks and canapés in the beautiful Victoria Gallery (the original 'red brick') before heading upstairs to the Leggate Theatre for the speakers.

Lord David Neuberger, former president of the Supreme Court, gave the keynote address of the evening. Lord Neuberger spoke about his experience as a senior judge, the effects of legal aid retrenchment on the legal system and his own path to qualification as a barrister. Lord Neuberger candidly answered questions about some of the awkward political and legal challenges for the senior judiciary, and also very kindly posed for selfies with many of the students present.

Alice Stephens of Broudie Jackson Canter, the Liverpool Law Society Junior Lawyer of the Year 2017, gave an inspirational talk about her experience in the Clinic working on the Hillsborough project and how that led to her career as a solicitor. Alice told the assembled students and aspiring lawyers that despite the challenges of finding a job in legal aid practice, if it was what they wanted they should pursue it with



Family Courts was also nominated.

The report for the two-year Statelessness Litigation Project was published just in time for the event, and Lord Neuberger was very complimentary about the report. Jared highlighted that despite the successes and outstanding provision of opportunities for law students, the lesson of the Clinic wasn't that dedication and passion can achieve life-changing results for clients, or that experience working on real cases can be the key for law students to succeed in getting legal jobs, training contracts or pupillage. The real lesson for the students was to experience first-hand the hardship and disadvantages that the withdrawal of legal aid inflicts on people in our adversarial system. By working on cases, students are able to see exactly how the lack of advice and representation leads to unfairness and injustice for vulnerable people, many of whom have a complex set of problems. By working in partnership with firms and organisations in Liverpool and further afield, the students learn about the limits of pro bono services provision and see for themselves how advice and representation is crucial to access to justice.

The Liverpool Law Clinic looks forward to the next ten years of providing crucial legal services in our community and training legal aid lawyers who understand the importance of access to justice and a properly funded legal aid system.



"white hot passion" and not be dissuaded. She also related some very funny and unusual experiences from her practice.

Jared Ficklin, the current director of the Clinic, gave a short history of the Clinic's origins in the garret of the Student Union and the progression from a small extra-curricular activity to a functioning legal practice with six lawyers and hundreds of student places per year. The Clinic now has partnerships with large and small organisations and firms in the region and across the UK, provides award-winning legal services on a large scale and contributes to best practice and research in specialist areas like statelessness. Jared noted that the Clinic has gone from being an extra service that had to seek out clients for cases to work on, to being a mainstream provider of legal services in Liverpool in child arrangements, international protection and community care. The Clinic's community care project at Alder Hey Hospital was runner-up in the 2018 Attorney General's Awards for Best New Pro Bono Project, and the FHDRA advice project in the Liverpool



Liverpool BID Company

Julie Johnson, the Chair of the Commercial District BID will be keeping members up-to-date with news from the Liverpool BID Company in a new regular column...

I look forward to my new role as Chair and hope to continue to develop the Commercial District BID together with our active board members and dedicated BID team, led by our chief executive Bill Addy.

We have seen some significant changes to the Commercial District over the last 7 years whilst I have been on the BID Board. After delivering some significant public realm works over the last couple of years, we are working with Liverpool City Council as well as introducing our own BID Street Rangers cleansing team to ensure that our streets are cleaner and greener.

Following the introduction of the two BID Police officers who are specifically tasked with looking after the BID areas, we also have an aim to further reduce anti-social behaviour and security issues. This has now been extended into the evenings from Thursday to Saturday with the use of the Radio Link network.

We continue to promote the district in partnership with strategic partners in the City Region to enhance the place making of the Commercial District as a destination to live, work and invest.

We will facilitate support for businesses within the district, with an emphasis on business growth and an enhanced offering of employee wellbeing initiatives and training.

I hope that you will join your colleagues at the different BID forums and work with us to make a difference to the Commercial District BID area. We are further developing the board representation and ask for all interested parties to contact us at the BID team.

E-mail : info@liverpoolbidcompany.com

Julie Johnson
Chair of Commercial District BID



BID Street Rangers with Ian Strettle, chair, Retail & Leisure BID, and Julie Johnson, Chair of Commercial District Bid



Liverpool BID Company dedicated police team

Embedding sustainability into your firm – where to start?

Being “sustainable” – that is, being profitable whilst also adding social value and minimising environmental harm – is something more and more law firms are aiming for. But, with limited resources and many other pressures – particularly on smaller practices – it is often difficult to decide what to do in response and when to do it.

It may seem obvious, but organisations often feel that “being sustainable” is something they ought to strive for without a clear understanding of exactly why, what do they need to do to get there and how will they know when they have arrived? There are many overlapping reasons for embedding sustainability into your firm:

- Increasing pressure from existing clients to demonstrate your commitment to sustainability and credentials to back this up;
- Accessing new markets and meeting the expectations of new clients who are looking for a high level of sustainable practice from their external legal advisors;
- Cutting overhead costs which often result from being more sustainable (for example, by reducing energy, minimising waste, using less material resources, etc.);
- Responding to the concerns of existing (and potential future) employees for the environment and related issues (e.g. such as a concern over single use plastic - the so-called “Blue Planet II effect”);
- Maintaining your unofficial “licence to operate” by demonstrably being a good neighbour, citizen, employer;
- Compliance with legislation (although beware – legal compliance should be regarded as a *de minimis* obligation of any responsible business and does not of itself equate to being a sustainable organisation).

Consider which of these reasons apply to your firm and agree which are the most important to you – it is very likely that this will be a combination and depend on the size and nature of your firm, the services you offer and your client base. In deciding what’s important it is particularly useful to listen to what your clients are telling you (if you don’t already know you may need to go out and ask them!). Recent LSA research into client-side drivers for sustainability found that “clients are looking not only for the expertise, but also for someone who shares their values”.

Whatever you decide to do to address the priority issues will have some associated cost – whether in time, resource or cash. What you do must stack up from a business perspective. Estimating the possible bottom line “return on investment” associated with actions to address sustainability is often difficult if you only look at the short term (for example, what is the value of being a more attractive employer as a result of having a proactive attitude toward caring for the environment?). Setting your sights 3-5 years ahead is often useful – many of the actions which stick and generate real returns for the business are often “slow burn” and require a degree of patience, faith and commitment.

Being sustainable is not just about managing risks and avoiding problems. In fact, some of the most sustainable businesses (think Unilever) are often those who manage the risks but also consider and



act on the opportunities associated with sustainability. Consider the risks and opportunities. Think about what might affect your clients, markets and geographies in which you operate (e.g. political change) and try to get ahead of the game. Consider what might influence client choices (e.g. pressure from their own more environmentally conscious consumers and customers) and ensure you are in a position to help them meet these pressures. Be aware of the likely increases and scarcity of your utilities (e.g. electricity, gas, water) and find ways to cut your energy and water use. Investigate employment trends which affect your ability to attract and retain good staff (e.g. a more socially and environmentally aware “Generation Z”), and make sure your firm is an attractive choice – and so on.

Once you have decided just why you want your firm to be more sustainable, put a plan together. Be ambitious but realistic – there is no shame in starting really simple if you are at the early stages. Gather more information if you need to (for example, client feedback on your current performance and their expectations; staff attitudes to sustainability, etc.). Ensure you have the resources to do what you say you will do, decide what “success” might look like for each action (so you know when you have got there), set a target time and allocate responsibility for completing it and – importantly – communicate and involve your staff in your plans (however small your business). “Becoming sustainable” is a journey with many different size steps along the way – like all journeys, they have to start somewhere and today is the best time to start!

(The LSA exists to support law firms of all sizes on their sustainability journey – see more at www.legalsustainabilityalliance.com)



Join the LSA here
www.legalsustainabilityalliance.com
 or contact the team on
info@legalsustainabilityalliance.com



Annual Dinner *2018*

We are delighted to announce the guest speaker is
The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Vos
Chancellor of the High Court

Calling all members of Liverpool Law Society...
Celebrate being part of a strong, proud and vibrant legal profession at
the Society's 191st Dinner.

Thursday 1st November 2018, 6.45pm for 7.30pm
Cunard House, Cunard Building, The Strand, Liverpool, L3 1DS

A table of 10 is £800 + VAT (£960 inc vat) Individual reservations £80 + VAT (£96 inc vat)
Limited tickets available for Merseyside Junior Lawyers Division members for
£45 + VAT (£54 inc. vat) per person

Includes a welcome drink on arrival followed by a three course meal, and speeches.

Dress code: Black Tie
For more information & to book [click here](#)

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THE LIVERPOOL LEGAL WALK
is BACK and more fun than ever before!

COULD YOU BE THE BEST LIVERPOOL-THEMED TEAM?

BE CREATIVE! CUSTOMISE YOUR OUTFITS, T-SHIRTS, USE PROPS,
WIGS, FLOATS AND BANNERS!

WIN PRIZES

LOTS OF PRIZES TO BE WON FOR:

BEST LIVERPOOL-THEMED TEAM
PHOTOGRAPH WITH THE BEATLES STATUE
PHOTOGRAPH WITH THE CILLA BLACK STATUE
PHOTOGRAPH BY A FAMOUS LIVERPOOL LANDMARK (E.G. ST
GEORGE'S HALL, LIVER BUILDING, MERSEY FERRY)
PHOTOGRAPH WITH A POLICE OFFICER

Tuesday 9th October 2018 - 5:30 pm



More information: <http://www.nwlst.org.uk/liverpool-legal-walk.html>
Sign up to walk at <http://www.lsteventregistration.org.uk/liverpool-legal-walk.html>

Outsourcing your cashiership? Why choose Quill?

By Julian Bryan, Managing Director, Quill

Once you've decided to outsource your legal cashiership, any supplier will do, right? After all, the way these outsourcing providers manage your accounts and support your business is the same, isn't it? Surely the only difference will be the price you pay for the service, won't it?

The answer to these conundrums is a resounding 'no'. There are an increasing number of outsourced cashiership suppliers – legal software companies are forming partnerships with outsourcing bureaus to expand their offerings; new bureaus are being established; freelancers are setting up as virtual cashiers to work from home – so you've certainly got plenty of choice when it comes to outsourcing your back office accounts function.

While there are some familiar threads running between these various suppliers, in comparison to Quill, they're poles apart. We're going to show you why...

Commonality: Shared use of Interactive

Have a quick browse through the ILFM's Software Guide and you'll see the long list of legal accounts systems available in the market. This isn't an exhaustive list either. These competitive systems contain effective tools to help legal cashiers maintain accounts in a compliant, secure, due diligent manner. But the way you perform an accounting task on one, let's say posting your daily transactions, will vary on another.

Also, not all systems will contain warnings and notifications for actual and potential breaches of legal accounts rules. The range of functionality makes one system a very different beast to another.

As well as being the toolkit for in-house cashiers, these same systems are operated by outsourcing providers too. And, as any workman knows, his work is only as good as his tools. In other words, the ensuing service you receive will fluctuate pretty drastically from one supplier to the next, depending upon the legal accounts system opted for. The inconsistencies between them can be fairly extreme.

In terms of our software, Interactive is backed by a dedicated software development team based

in our Brighton office so new and enhanced functionality is constantly being rolled out, benefiting end users whose daily work is made easier, more efficient and categorically compliant as a result. Interactive's also a recognised market leader, having been around for 40+ years and boasting two ILFM software awards.

Not only is our software high quality, which enables us to work better than other outsourcing providers, it's used universally by Quill cashiers. It's a common platform, facilitating common procedures, maintaining common standards, empowering a common experience for all users of our Pinpoint outsourcing service. No deviations. No inconsistencies.

Overseers: Monitoring by senior staff

As an additional guarantee of quality service provision, our cashiership operation is closely monitored by experienced, knowledgeable team members who cast a trained eye over completed tasks, checking for accuracy, speed, volume and consistency, reinforced by metrics from our powerful quality and performance management Interactive system, interpreting data processed by all the cashiers. Our cashiers work in teams of six with a supervisor heading up each group. Any anomalies or discrepancies, including items highlighted by Interactive, are spotted and resolved straightaway, giving you confidence in error-free bookkeeping. No other cashiership bureau can boast access to such management information intelligence drawn from one central software platform.

Where speed's concerned, any law firm knows about the strictly enforced deadlines for filing month and year-end accounts, including those all-important VAT returns. Our system also holds key compliance dates specified by each firm's designated regulator (SRA, CLC or Law Society of Scotland) to generate management alerts of overdue tasks. For example, we can identify sites not being closed quickly enough at month end which is set as the 7th of each month by the CLC and track that VAT submissions are lodged in time for the relevant quarter. Close monitoring, and intervention if needed, ensures accounts are

submitted on time, every time.

On the volume side of things, this behind-the-scenes management information also tells us how many e-chits are being processed by each cashier. This helps us to allocate the right mix of sites to our cashiers so everyone's got a similar balanced workload and no one's being overworked. For end users, you can be reassured that your assigned cashier's got the capacity to give your accounts their proper attention. By not being stretched too thinly, we've got your back.

There are a plethora of reports within Interactive, accessed by the Pinpoint management team, supporting the delivery of consistency across hundreds of clients. This starkly contrasts with other bureaus which lack the same control mechanisms thereby compromising consistent standards, and allowing opportunities for mistakes and bad habits to creep in.

Collaboration: It's a team effort

Pinpoint is a close alliance between you and us. We're connected together by Interactive. You enter daily e-chits into Interactive – which is essentially a daily record of monies in and out to your client and office accounts – and we pick up from there. We literally do everything else – billing, reporting, VAT returns, ledger and bank account management.

It's likely you'll interact with your named cashier every working day. As such, you build a strong relationship. Pinpoint clients repeatedly tell us how their cashier feels like another employee, just someone not based in the same office. We rely on you to log all transactions. You rely on us to keep your accounts in order. By each fulfilling our side of the bargain, it's a successful partnership.

There's a point to be made about team working within Pinpoint as well. You see, our cashiers don't operate in isolation. If your assigned cashier doesn't know how to rectify any accounts-related problem, he/she will simply call upon the help of his/her colleagues and supervisor. As the largest outsourced cashiership bureau in the UK employing some 50 legal cashiers, they possess a combined total of approximately 300 years' experience. And that's a conservative guess. We've seen it

all before. No issue is novel. You can bet your bottom dollar that we know the solution.

Automatic absence cover is provided with the service too. If your cashier is off work on holiday, sickness, maternity, paternity or other leave, as everyone is from time to time, his/her designated deputy will manage your accounts instead. Obviously you don't get these advantages with a one-man-band type bureau.

Next step: Find out more

If we've sharpened your appetite for more, read our earlier articles on the subject of outsourced cashiership, published on the Internet Newsletter for Lawyers website. There's 'Outsourced cashiership and your bottom line', 'Ten reasons to outsource your cashiership' and 'How outsourced cashiership works' for beginners.

To find out more on our Pinpoint outsourced legal cashiership service, please visit www.quill.co.uk/Outsourced-Legal-Cashiership, email info@quill.co.uk or call 0161 236 2910.



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 cashiership provider with 40 years' experience supplying outsourcing services and software to the legal profession.

QUILL
PINPOINT

Council Member's Report

Update from Charlie Jones

Since my last report, I have been to Chancery Lane on 2 occasions:

A Council Meeting on 4 and 5 July, and for a Membership and Communications Committee meeting on 18 July.

However, perhaps the most important development since my last report is that we now have a new President: Christina Blacklaws, who on 5 July 2018 became the 174th President of the Law Society of England and Wales. She is the fifth woman to hold office as President. She has made the promotion and empowering of women in the legal profession as one of her major priorities for the year. Coincidentally, this year, as I have explained previously, and for the first time, women solicitors outnumber male solicitors. She has committed to holding 100 round tables which will focus on ways to achieve gender equality and further women's representation in leadership roles in the profession. She will also be promoting the use of emerging technology.

Her other aim for the year will be her commitment to continue the Law Society's campaign for proper funding of the Justice System, with a reintroduction of legal aid for early advice a priority. We must all wish Christina well in her task. I have no doubt that she will work hard. She will, however, need luck. She will also need support and she should have it.

I want to say goodbye to the outgoing President, Joe Egan. I think that you have done a great job. To name but a few things, you have overseen the new Governance structure, chaired Council with tact, humour, skill and an understanding of the profession, published the Local Law Society Handbook, and Welcome Pack, prompted us to look at the culture within Chancery Lane, led campaigns re government initiatives (EG: postponement of Civil Liability Bill), and represented our profession with dignity, poise and aplomb. Perhaps your greatest achievement is dealing with the witterings of the same old culprits at Council who can never say in 10 words what they actually say in 100. You have shown great patience. Well done Joe. Thanks.

At the Council meeting I attended

there were various matters under discussion including the good news that the PC fee for 2018/19 will not increase from the previous year. We had an interesting and informative debate centred around Access to Justice. Depending upon what sort of work you do, you might not be affected much by Access to Justice but if you deal with actual clients, i.e. individual people, as opposed to institutions and corporations, you will know that Government cuts over many years have made it harder and harder for many people to afford legal advice, and therefore there is a direct issue with being unable to get Access to Justice. You will have heard me harp on about this over many articles, but Access to Justice is one of the bedrocks of our legal system and the rule of law. It is a shame that it is being continuously eroded, and hopefully this year's President will be able to help with that aim.

You will all have noticed that the Civil Liability Act has been put on hold. The Government say it is because they need to test systems. In my experience, that is the first time the Government have ever decided to hold something up because systems need to be tested. Usually, and I am reminded in particular of the RTA portal, when the Government say an initiative will start, it will, whether or not systems are ready or not. Accordingly, it is more likely that there are so many other things going on in the Government that they have little time to see through at this time the Civil Liability Act. Also, perhaps they have LISTENED to lawyers and in particular, the Law Society, in reaching their decision. We are told it is on the back burner until 2020. We will see!

There is a very interesting bit of work going on at Chancery Lane involving culture, and engagement between staff and Council. People have volunteered to be culture advocates, of which I am one. The aim is to try and achieve a greater harmony between volunteers, such as Council members and committee members, and the professionals at Chancery Lane, i.e. those who work there either full or part time. Over the years, there has been distrust between the two. The aim is to harmonise relationships. Mutual respect of course is key. Early meetings have

been fruitful. There has been extra curricular mixing between Council members and staff. Relationships are being formed which will hopefully have a positive effect going forward. The greater harmony between the two, the greater the achievements will be.

At the MCC meeting we were treated to an interesting report from Clive Black, the Relationship Manager for the city firms. Of course, city firms are a different animal to many other firms in the country. For starters, many of them have a PEP of well in excess of £1M. Accordingly, their expectations, values, requirements, and view of the profession as a whole must be rather different to firms in other parts of the country who are not so well positioned (or lucky) financially. Their concerns, and it will come as no surprise, include the following:-

- Women in the law.
- Social Mobility.
- Diversity and inclusion.
- Strategic workforce planning.
- Training for tomorrow/SQE.
- Apprenticeships, apprenticeships levy.
- AI and technology.
- Offshoring/North-shoring.
- GDPR.
- AML.
- Lead professional privilege.
- Brexit.
- Making a profit.

The presentation was interesting, but the thing I noted was that despite the considerable concern there were no 'big city blue sky thinking' ideas to address the concerns. A pity, and surprising you might think. I did suggest that the large London firms might want to get involved in assisting provincial firms, either by teaching, or by sponsorship, or by mentoring. I hope that some form of response will be made in due course. I put the question that of course non city firms will have a view of the city firms. I asked what the city firm's view might be of the non city firms and in reply did not get an entirely clear picture. It is an ongoing discussion.

On the MCC group we discussed Accreditations. I would be interested to know your view of the accreditations. Are they worth it? Are they good value? Do they



help your firms? We also discussed The Excellence Awards. Have you entered? If not, why not? What would encourage you to enter in the future?

As I have also mentioned in my previous report, there is a MCC away day meeting in Liverpool on 14 August, and there is a reception on Monday 13 August at Liverpool Law Society to which you are all invited, if you would like to come. It would be excellent to see you there. I would urge you to do so, meet the members of the MCC (that is the Membership and Communications Committee not the Marylebone Cricket Club), and the full time professionals who are working on our behalf at Chancery Lane. It promises to be an interesting evening and your attendance would make it even better.

As ever, if I can help at all please do not hesitate to get in touch. My details are below. In the meantime, I hope you have had an opportunity to enjoy the fantastic weather this summer, and have had a good holiday.

All work and no play make Jack and Jacqueline very dull. Holidays are key. They are just as important as working hard. Please do not shirk your holidays. You owe it to yourself, and your family. I hope you all have a fab holiday.

**Charlie Jones, Partner,
Weightmans LLP
Co Council Member Merseyside
and District
01512427919.
charlie.jones@weightmans.com**

Showing our Colours and Supporting Pride

Liverpool Pride Festival took place in the city centre last month. Into its 9th year, the annual festival was set up in 2010 in memory of Michael Causer, a young gay man who lived in Liverpool who was viciously beaten and left for dead in a horrific homophobic attack.

The Jackson Lees Group is in its third year supporting Pride and had strong presence at the Community Expo on Saturday 28th July. Offering specialised advice to the LGBT community across multiple areas of law, a group of expert lawyers joined in the celebration of diversity and equality over the weekend.

Executive Chairman, Andrew Holroyd, has spoken of his support for the festival, saying: "We are delighted to support this event and to join in the celebration of human diversity which the Pride event represents. As a law firm that believes in making a positive difference, we will continue to support the Pride festival and oppose discriminatory behaviour through Human Rights legislation whenever and wherever it is appropriate; and we will also celebrate respect for fellow human beings whatever their sexuality."



L-R: Eve Humphries (Family Paralegal), Gemma Ellison (Family Solicitor), Haley Farrell (Director and Head of Family Law Department), Brian Cullen (Group Chief Executive Officer), Angela Meecham (Senior Wills and Probate Paralegal), Hetal Hathiwala (Family Paralegal), Joanna Kingston-Davies (Group Chief Operating Officer), Andrew Holroyd (Executive Chairman), Jane MacGregor (Managing Director at Jackson Lees) and Esther Leach (Managing Director at Broudie Jackson Canter)

Family Finance Conference

Wednesday 26th September 2018, 9.30am - 4pm

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

This year's must-attend training event for solicitors, barristers and other practitioners involved with family law. The conference will round-up key developments in law & practice, providing an opportunity to hear directly from some first class speakers.

Chaired by

HHJ Andrew Greensmith

Registration & Refreshments

Protecting your client from the impact of a bankrupt spouse: the legal framework


Abigail Bennett,
St John's Buildings Chambers

Examining Kerman and Akhmedova

Matthew Brundson-Tully,
1 Hare Court

Refreshments

 www.facebook.com/LiverpoolLawSociety

 www.linkedin.com/company/liverpool-law-society

 @LpoolLawSociety

Post Buehrlen v Buehrlen [2017] EWHC 364 when can you use an expert for evidence on earning capacity?

Lynsey Cade Davies,
29 Bedford Row

Interim Sale of the Family Home

Joe Switaliski,
29 Bedford Row

Lunch break

Costs in financial remedy proceedings, and the demise of the Calderbank: good or bad?

Martyn Bennett,
Oriol Chambers

Schedule 1 Children Act 1989: A practical guide

Sam Hillas,
St John's Buildings Chambers

FREE to 2018/19 Training Season Ticket Holders

OR

Only 2 Corporate Member Training Offers

Costs & Funding 2018

with Professor Dominic Regan

on Friday 28th September, 12.30pm - 3.45pm

The decisions keep on coming as do proposed reforms.

This talk will cover all of the big, recent developments.

Issues include:

More Part 36 developments

When are costs proportionate?

The impact of conduct on costs

Common budgeting errors

The expansion of fixed costs

Legal aid v CFA

For more information or to book, click [here](#)

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



Charity Spotlight

Liverpool's First Cancer Hospital will become the first LEGO brick Hospital

The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre is one of the UK's leading treatment centres, looking after over 28,000 individual patients every year, offering pioneering chemotherapy, radiotherapy, immunotherapy and proton therapy treatments.

We are building a brand new specialist hospital in Liverpool city centre to take our expert care closer to the population we serve, a once in a lifetime opportunity to transform cancer care for 2.3million people in the region. A £162m (non PFI) investment.

The Clatterbridge Cancer Charity is the only charity dedicated to making this happen. If we raise £15m in the next few years, we can make sure we build the best hospital we possibly can, that people in our area need and deserve.

The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre in Wirral celebrated its 60th birthday in March, marking six decades of providing outstanding cancer care to people in Merseyside, Cheshire and beyond.

Treatment will continue in Wirral but the new Liverpool hospital is a once in a lifetime opportunity to expand our vital work. It is estimated it will save an additional 600 lives a year due to improved access, research opportunities and state of the art treatment facilities.

The new Clatterbridge Cancer Centre will become an integral part of the city's emerging Knowledge Quarter, bringing together our outstanding cancer care with Liverpool's best scientific minds in an exciting and innovative new city development.

On the outside it will be an iconic 11-storey building, on the inside it will provide cutting-edge treatments delivered with compassion and expertise to our patients.

As the building work forges ahead, The Clatterbridge Cancer Charity has set a unique fundraising challenge, with THE BIG LEGO® BRICK HOSPITAL.

There have been millions of LEGO brick models produced over the years but for the first time, a replica of an NHS hospital will be produced in the iconic toy bricks. When complete, it will be one of the biggest LEGO brick structures in the UK and the first ever hospital of its kind to be made from LEGO bricks in the world!

BUY A BRICK

This amazing structure will help The Clatterbridge Cancer Charity to raise half a million pounds with half a million bricks. The ask is simple; People can Buy A Brick for just £1. Buy a Brick will also be supported through some fun and innovative fundraising ideas for companies and the local community.

With your support and the people of Merseyside and Cheshire, we hope to raise more than £500,000 for the New Cancer Hospital Appeal.

HOW TO BUILD THE BIG LEGO BRICK HOSPITAL

An army of volunteer builders have been recruited to place the bricks and help build THE BIG LEGO BRICK HOSPITAL.

As part of the public Buy A Brick appeal, we will also work closely with local schools, companies and groups along with our patients and staff,



who will all be invited to be get involved; whether it's to fundraise and build a section or to volunteer their time.

Special events and exclusive limited edition merchandise will also bring a unique twist to the appeal. This a project with the community we serve at its heart, under the watchful eye of the experts at Bright Bricks and our specially trained expert builders.

WHO WILL WIN THE BATTLE OF THE BUILD?

As the new Clatterbridge Cancer Centre takes shape in Liverpool, our army of model builders will be racing to build our LEGO hospital. It will start underground, replicating the actual build.

Bunkers to house radiotherapy machines will come first, just like the real thing. Then, as more bricks are sold, floors will be added but will we beat the real thing, due to complete in 2020?

How will we raise £500,000?

Our LEGO model will be housed in a portable transport showcase which, with gull-wing features, will allow security and the freedom for the public to interact with the model.

Day to day, the public can buy a brick for £1 using contactless charity donation terminals around the showcase or online via a dedicated website and then sharing their experience via social media.

These bricks will be placed on the model by our trained Master Builders.

We also envisage a number of days within the life of the project when people can physically place their own brick. We plan to promote these days with visits from high profile supporters, LEGO experts, as well as staff and patients from the hospital, providing several media opportunities.

There will also be unique LEGO merchandising on offer, including figures based on real members of our much-loved staff at The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre

For further information please contact: 0151 556 5566
Katrina.bury@nhs.net

THE BIG LEGO® BRICK HOSPITAL

There have been millions of LEGO brick models produced over the years but for the **first** time, a replica of an NHS hospital will be produced in the iconic toy bricks. When complete, it will be one of the biggest LEGO brick structures in the UK and the first ever hospital of its kind to be made

This innovative project is being run in conjunction with Bright Bricks – the UK's only LEGO Certified Professional Building Company - and is will contain around 500,000 bricks. In a unique twist this huge LEGO brick model is being built at the same time as the new 11 storey cancer hospital in Liverpool is being constructed – it's a race to see which will be finished first!



This amazing structure will help The Clatterbridge Cancer Charity to raise £500,000 towards its New Cancer Hospital Appeal and will be stored in a portable glass case for the duration of the build so as many people as possible can see it taking shape. The ask is simple; People can Buy A Brick for just £1 or for a bit more money, one of the bespoke structures such as an individual bedroom, limited edition minifigs or trees and flowers in the landscaping.



To buy your bricks or get more information

biglegobrickhospital.org.uk

For bespoke projects within the build and sponsorship opportunities: 0151 556 5566

fundraising@clatterbridgecc.nhs.uk



THE CLATTERBRIDGE
CANCER CHARITY

Reg Charity 1051727



The Essential Practical Guide for Data Protection Officers

with Jo Morris

on Tuesday 4th September, 1.30pm - 4.45pm

This practical course is for anyone already in the DPO role looking to update and refresh their knowledge or for people taking up or thinking about taking up this important role.

The course will include:

- The Information Commissioners Office (ICO)
- The appointment of the Data Protection Officer (DPO)
- What are the responsibilities of the DPO
- Policies, registers and procedures – what do you have already and what will you need
- The DPO will have many hats to wear – what professional qualities should you have
- Dealing with data subjects rights including subject access requests
- Involvement in the Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA)
- Auditing – what is involved
- Training for all staff
- The recording and reporting of breaches
- The costs of getting it wrong!

For more information or to book, [click here](#)

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



Advanced Road Traffic Accidents Update

With Nicky Carter

On Thursday 13th September, 12pm —3.15pm

This seminar will get you up to date on the latest liability arguments in more complex RTA cases. Ensure that you are familiar with the new MIB Uninsured and Untraced agreements.

Covering:

- Liability update
- Res ipsa? Kennedy v Mackenzie [2017] CSH 118
- EU law relevance see Lewington v Motor Insurers' Bureau [2017] EWHC 2848
- New RTA Process - latest
- Criminal acts
- Animals Act Liability –Clear at last? Williams v Hawkes [2017] EWCA Civ 1846
- RTA? Wastell v Woodward (Deceased) QBD 2017
- Contributory Negligence Pedestrians Bruma (A Protected Party) v Hassan [2017] EWHC 3209 (QB)
- LVI –update Judgment for damages against unknown driver Cameron v Hussain 2017, [2017] EWCA Civ 366)
- MIB - Uninsured 2015 Agreement
- Whyatt & others v Powell [2017] EWHC 484 - Untraced 2017 Agreement

Key Competencies Covered: A2c & d, A4c & d

For more information or to book, [click here](#)

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



Training Room



Meeting Room



Both Rooms



Venue Hire

Liverpool Law Society's premises are **fully equipped** with modern technology. **Complimentary WiFi** access is included. The Society is situated in the heart of Liverpool's commercial business district, and is well-connected to the train and road network. The Society is a two minute walk from Moorfields train station (Old Hall Street exit) and there are several NCP car parks nearby.

At Liverpool Law Society we can offer:

Professional working environment
Refreshments

Lunch ordering service
Audio Visual equipment

*Room capacity and daily hire rates:	Classroom Style	Boardroom Style	Theatre Style
Training Room Members £150+VAT Non-Members £175+VAT	32	20	60
Meeting Room Members £100+VAT Non-Members £125+VAT	12	12	20
Both Rooms Members £250+VAT Non-Members £275+VAT	44	32	60

*Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm. Additional charges apply for evening events.

Enquiries: roomhire@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk Tel: 0151 236 6998 Ext 33
Liverpool Law Society, Second Floor, Helix, Edmund Street, Liverpool, L3 9NY



Relationship Management



Update from the North Team

Spotlight feature on Tom Fothergill, Executive Director of Delivery and Performance

This month we shine the spotlight on Tom Fothergill, the Executive Director of Delivery and Performance, not a job title which rolls off the tongue he says.

Tom has been with the society for two and a half years and prior to this he worked for the NHS Litigation Authority.

Tom has responsibility for the society's corporate functions namely Finance, HR, IT and Facilities. He also leads on the massive change programme taking place at the society.

I asked him where he saw the Law Society over the next five years. He told me that over this period, he sees us delivering services to members which are considered relevant and meet the needs of this diverse profession. He also told me that he hoped to see feedback from our members which supports the evolution of those services and ensures that they can remain relevant and sustainable for the future.

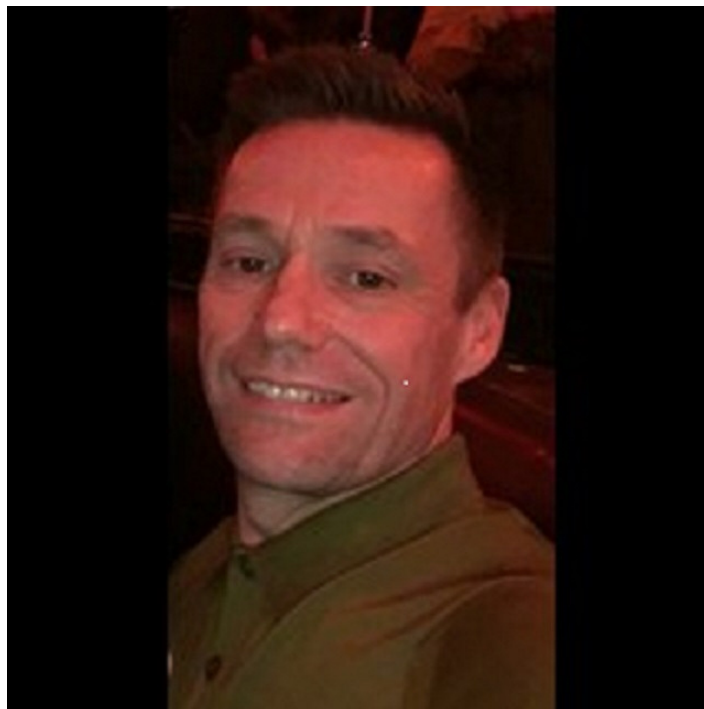
I asked Tom what he felt he could do in his role to help Local Law Societies?

He thinks that we can share ideas and insight regarding the needs of the wider membership. This will help local societies focus their efforts more effectively and help us work closer together to ensure that our 'shared' members see combined value in the efforts of the national body and the local societies.

Lastly on a lighter note, I asked him if you were a character from history, who would you be and why?

A sports personality every time he told me, although there isn't just one. As a child at school he was really into long distance running so he would have picked Seb Coe as he was his hero. In his twenties, as an adopted Evertonian (Manchester in the late 80's for his degree) it would probably be one of the stars of that team (Sheedy, Bracewell, Reid would be his picks albeit he tells me honestly, his style was more Pat van den Hauwe.

Now as an ageing Mamil (middle age man in lycra - I had to google it) he would probably pick Sir Bradley Wiggins who he describes as a cool guy and a great cyclist...



Charity and CSR Matters



Hi everyone,

I hope you've all been enjoying this sun- I've certainly picked the best summer to be on maternity leave.

This month you will see that Carpenters are putting us all to shame- as well as their continued foodbank challenge, their annual dragon boat race was another success and they have also had time for a raffle and SIX runs... I'm tired just reading about it! Well done to all involved.

As always please send your submissions to us to be published, the deadline for the next issue is 24 August 2018.

Many thanks

Jennifer Powell
Solicitor
Weightmans

Carpenters raise thousands for different charities

After competing six Race For Life events Carpenters have raised an amazing £4,424.69 (including gift aid) so far, with offline donations still coming in! A brilliant achievement for the ladies who took part, including director Donna Scully.

Their charity raffle also proved to be successful and raised £375 for Fans Supporting Foodbanks. From the raffle, one their team members won a Liverpool Football Club programme, signed by Mo Salah!



Wirral Dragon Boat race



On Saturday 7th July a number of businesses took part in this year's Wirral Dragon Boat Race. It was a great day of competitive racing and brilliant weather, but sadly organisers Carpenters came in fourth place. The winners on the day were West Kirby Sailing Club, with Merseyside Police Liverpool coming second, and Merseyside Police Wirral taking third place. All teams were brilliant and overall raised an amazing £7,558.14 with offline donations still coming in for Headway Wirral. You can find Carpenters fundraising page here:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/wirraldragonboatrace2018

Carpenters Group and Headway Wirral would like to thank everyone for taking part, donating, fundraising, and to all the volunteers on the day.

1st West Kirby Sailing Club
2nd Merseyside Police Liverpool
3rd Merseyside Police Wirral
4th Carpenters Group,
5th Exchange Chambers
6th Auger, The Vikings Pub, The Rehab Physio Group, Birchall
Blackburn Solicitors, BLM Law, Plexus Law, CL Warren, Lairds,
Headway Wirral, Greasby Ukes, Fans Supporting Foodbanks

**Send your Charity and CSR
news for the September edition
of Liverpool Law to**

editor@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk

The deadline is 23rd August.

Maxwell Hodge Solicitors raise funds in aid of Wirral Hospice St John's

Maxwell Hodge participated in "Make a Will Month" in April, and are pleased to announce that they raised £2,070 in aid of Wirral Hospice St John's. Solicitors, Marie Granby and Andrea Ashton attended at Wirral Hospice St John's on the 3rd July to present them with their cheque.

Julia Evans, Fundraising Development Manager said "We are extremely grateful to everyone at Maxwell Hodge for supporting our Wirral Hospice St John's Make a Will Month. All donations received from this campaign enable us to continue to provide specialist care to both our patients and their families. Thank you so much!"



L-R: Marie Granby (Solicitor), Andrea Ashton (Solicitor), Julia Evans (Fundraising Development Manager)

Merseyside Women of the Year Awards 2018

I was pleased to see that Katie Walker has gone on to win the Brabners Entrepreneur award at the Merseyside Women of the Year Awards 2018.

You may have seen the heroic story of Katie on Pride of Britain where she was presented with her award by Rod Stewart for her work to improve the confidence of those who have suffered at the hands of domestic abuse.

Katie moved from Liverpool to live abroad with her boyfriend when she was 18, he tragically passed away and her world fell apart. Feeling unable to cope, she began taking drugs and drinking heavily.

With the help of the Princes Trust, she found the strength to get through the dark time in her life and went on to open her own beauty salon Bella Mode in Liverpool.

Running her own business has helped to grow her confidence. Being so open and sharing her story, women who were suffering abuse started to come into the salon and ask her advice.

Katie subsequently went on to become a young ambassador for the Princes Trust, has won Liverpool's best beauty professional, and in 2017 won a Pride of Britain Award for her work.

Well done Katie, many congratulations.



The Liverpool Law Clinic celebrates 10 years of pro bono legal services



On 4 July 2018 The Liverpool Law Clinic celebrated 10 years of pro bono legal services and clinical legal education at the Victoria Gallery and Museum.

Run by the University of Liverpool, the clinic provides free and confidential legal advice to members of the public.

The assistance they offer is intended to complement other legal provision and support services in the community to help with particular problem areas.

Under the supervision of their in-house legal team of qualified lawyers, final year Law students can attain direct, practical experience of advising or representing real clients with genuine cases. Applying legal knowledge and considered legal advice to volunteer projects, their students have a practical and in-depth experience and enhance their employability skills in a wide range of practice areas.





Clipper Race: Final Report

It was a fine sight in the Mersey on the 28 July. A brisk southerly wind and all the remaining Clippers in the race beating up the Mersey, with the tide, to the finish. It was inspiring to see them heeling over and moving at great speed. Each boat was cheered by the considerable crowd who had arisen from their beds early to welcome back the crews and boats, that in the last eleven months, and over 40,000 miles, have circumnavigated the Globe. Well done to them all. A truly wonderful achievement.

And well done to Liverpool. They saved their best for last, and finished second in the final leg, Quindao being the winner and Garmin third. Liverpool Clipper looked resplendent, in her purple/pink livery, as she crossed the finishing line to the biggest cheer of all. We should be proud of all aboard that fine yacht.

Particular congratulations to Wendy Tuck and Nikki Henderson, Skippers respectively of Sanya Serenity Coast and Visit Seattle, the first and second placed in the overall race. Well done to both those ladies. It has been well known for many years that girls are just as good if not better than boys at sailing. They have just never been given the chances. Now that they are, the actual results surprise no one in sailing. So when Christina Blacklaws pushes for greater involvement in our firms of women solicitors, we must support her. They are as good if not better than men, but must be given greater chances in the future to shine in the Boardroom. If they get that chance to lead, they will lead to win, and will win.

And a particular congratulations to Nikki Henderson, at 25 the youngest ever Skipper in the race. A phenomenal achievement, leading a crew of 16 – 20 people, on a 70 foot yacht, all the way around the world. Many crew members are already very successful in 'civvy street'. They have been leaders in their own right. The ability to gel them into a crew, and a crew challenging at the top of the fleet, is a fantastic achievement. I am in awe. Well done.

And let's hear from a competitor, Dave West, from Garmin, who wrote in the crew blog on 24 July, 4 days before finishing.....To me this sums up the adventure.

'There have been some very special moments that I will never forget; e.g. the first phosphorescent dolphin; the first breaching whale; the terror of the first serious squall with spinnaker up; the sheer adrenalin rushes when the wind and sea are up and urgent sail changes are needed. However, I can easily say that it is the people I have met that have made the race so special. Sharing those moments of terror, the times of delight and those days of absolute tedium make them all a little bit more special. I wonder how difficult

it must be for single-handed yachtsman to have no-one to share these memories with.'

Just like working in a solicitor's firm?

So the race is over, and the yachts will leave Liverpool for the South Coast where many will be refitted, and preparations will begin for the 2019 edition of the race. It may well start in Liverpool and I am sure that you will all join me in hoping that our great city is again the starting and finishing port. It is an ideal place for the race to finish, not least because few other places offer such great party potential. And it is great for Liverpool, as it keeps the name of our great city in the news.

Until next year, I hope.....

Charlie Jones
Partner
Weightmans LLP.

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, event, 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.

Send your entries to editor@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk

Theatre Review

Dr James Organ, Lecturer in Law at the School of Law and Justice at the University of Liverpool reviews Oddsocks Theatre Company's performance of The Tempest at St Luke's Bombed Out Church

The Tempest, Oddsocks and Citizens Advice Liverpool

With savage cuts across the legal advice sector in recent years, 3rd sector organisations have made major structural changes, and are taking a new approach to raising funds to meet ever increasing demand. One of the highlights of the revamped funding strategy for newly formed Citizens Advice Liverpool is the annual visit of the quirky theatre company Oddsocks. This year Citizens Advice Liverpool teamed up with St Luke's Bombed Out Church to bring you another brilliant Oddsocks interpretation of Shakespeare.

This year Oddsocks brought us a hilarious, musical space-age adaptation of The Tempest. They bring Shakespeare's original text vividly to life, supplemented by live music and some extra pop culture one-liners, such as "live long and Prospero"! One of the younger members of the audience said she preferred the Oddsocks version of The Tempest to the 'serious' one she saw two weeks before because "I can understand what they say in this one, and it makes me laugh". St Luke's Bombed Out Church was a fantastic location for a memorable night of outdoor theatre. Fans are already looking forward to next year's Midsummer Night's Dream.

Citizens Advice Liverpool have radically overhauled their approach to fundraising in recent years. Demand for legal advice is as high as ever, but funding for the sector has dropped significantly; not least the decimation of legal aid contracts for civil law. Now CAL is looking to develop its fundraising profile through direct contacts with the legal and wider community. Events like this month's Oddsock's show are part of a new way of raising funds and the profile of CAL, and to publicise the value of early and free legal advice.



We are planning to extend next year's event to a whole weekend of theatre and music. We will develop links between St Luke's Bombed Out Church, Citizens Advice Liverpool and other community organisations. This will greatly increase the numbers who will hear about their valuable work in Liverpool, the volunteering opportunities available, and raise more vital funds. We are looking for support and sponsorship to help grow the event and to strengthen the work of Citizens Advice Liverpool. Thank you to Liverpool Law Society for help publicising this year's event. Hopefully we can develop the links between Liverpool Law Society, its members and the 3rd sector through next year's event.

We look forward to seeing many of you at Midsummer Night's Dream in St Luke's Bombed Out Church next July. Any queries about working in partnership with Citizens Advice Liverpool please contact heather@caliverpool.org.uk.



Festival Round-Up

I love nothing more than a good Festival and so far this year I have been lucky enough to go to four, so far.

Here's my guide to the Festivals I have attended, with a breakdown of costs, food, music and of course, the all-important weather.

New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival

Held every year over two weekends, the last in April and first weekend in May. The title "Jazz" is a little misleading, as there is every type and genre of music available. There are stages for blues, jazz, gospel, cajun, zydeco, country, folk and two main stages for the bigger acts.

Jazz Fest is held at the Fairgrounds, just outside New Orleans and visitors travel in each day as there is no camping and attracts up to 450,000 people over the two weekends. In the states I would prefer to see US bands, so was a little disappointed that Sting and Rod Stewart were the headliners. Unlike a lot of UK festivals, the age group is very mixed and the music reflects this diversity. Over the two days we saw some fabulous Cajun bands, such as the Pine Leaf Boys, Beausoleil, Chubby Carrier and the Bayou Swamp Band. On the folk/country stage (known as the Lagniappe) The Mulligan Brothers were captivating. On the Congo Stage we saw Big Freedia, who is a New Orleans based-artist and one of the biggest names in 'Bounce', a derivative of hip hop. Not particularly my kind of music, but it was an entertaining, if not outlandish and flamboyant performance (Look her up on YouTube!). Finally we opted to see Sting, who was fabulous, despite my initial reservations. I think it helps when you know all of the songs and he performed a lot from his Police repertoire. Deciding against Rod Stewart, we went to see Jack Johnson, who again was a great live act and I was surprised to know so many of his songs. Who doesn't love "Banana Pancakes"?

Jazz Fest is addictive and I can't wait to go back. Like New Orleans it is a melting pot of people and cultures, all of whom are there for the music. The food is also wonderful - all the food vendors have to be Louisiana-based and the quality for a festival is the best and includes delights such as Crawfish Monica, red beans and rice, cuban sandwich, jambalaya, mac n'cheese, po boys, soft-shell crab and alligator bites (no intention of trying). Even the world-famous Cafe du Monde has a stall selling iced coffee and beignets.

My opinion: You have to go!

Cost: \$60 per day (approx £45-50 depending on exchange rate)

Food: The best and around \$5-8 per meal, but not a huge choice for vegetarians or vegans

Distance: A long way - 4493 miles, but worth it

Music: Huge variety, something for everyone

Weather: A baking 90-100 degrees



Bearded Theory

My third visit to Bearded Theory, which is held at the end of May at Catton Hall in Derbyshire. The music at Bearded Theory is a little more niche - a combination of rock/punk/reggae/folk and a few mainstream acts. Held over three days, the headliners were Blossoms, Robert Plant and Jimmy Cliff. The weekend ticket costs £95 which is excellent value. There is one main music stage, the Woodland stage, which as the name suggests is in a wood, and a cabaret stage.

Bearded Theory is a small festival of around 15,000 and has a really friendly atmosphere. There is lots for children to do and they run a festival school so parents can take children out of school for a couple of days. The highlights this year were of course Robert Plant and The Sensational Space Shifters who are now joined by Seth Lakeman. It was a fantastic gig. Robert Plant, now 70 is still an incredible performer and is backed by an incredibly talented band and performed some of Robert's solo songs, along with some Led Zeppelin classics. Likewise Jimmy Cliff, also 70, was very engaging, backed by an equally talented Jamaican band who churned out all of his hits including; "The Harder the Come", "Many Rivers to Cross" and finally the masterpiece "Beautiful World, Beautiful People". Other bands worth a mention are The Fun Lovin' Criminals, Jake Bugg, October Drift and Show of Hands.

There is a good selection of food, plenty of variety for vegans and vegetarians and you can also take in your own food and drink.

My opinion: A small family friendly festival

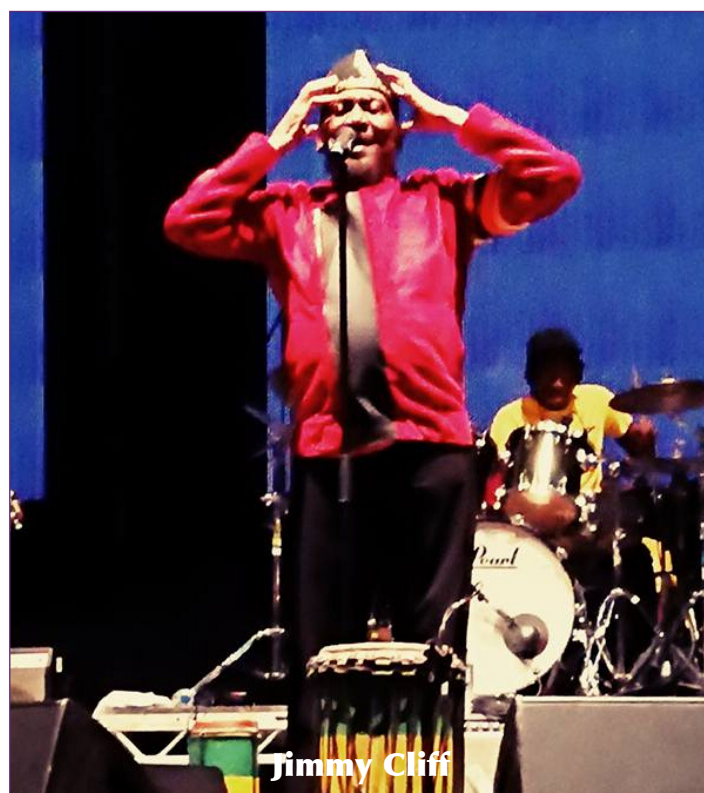
Cost: £95 for the weekend including camping

Food: Generally good, with plenty of variety

Distance: A couple of hours from Liverpool

Music: Fairly niche, with some excellent headliners

Weather: Typical British weather: sunshine and lots of showers and occasional thunderstorm



Black Deer

This is a brand new festival, with an Americana, Country and roots music theme, set in the Grounds of Eridge Park in Tunbridge Wells.

Attracted by some of the bands, we thought we would give this new festival a try and weren't disappointed. The camping and caravan areas were spacious and the arena itself had a 'wild west' feel with authentic-looking cowboys showing how to rope and build campfires, and a mechanical rodeo horse. Some of the music was on outside stages, but others were in custom built wooden buildings, such as the 'Roadhouse' and Haley's bar" which complemented the Americana feel.

Lots of the musicians and bands were from the USA, and included Iron and Wine, Keifer Sutherland (yes the actor, who is now a country singer) Eric Bibb who is a fabulous blues artist and Texas-born Jarrod Dickenson, an excellent musician and songwriter. The CC Smugglers are a UK band, who used to be buskers and put on the most incredible show and I would defy anyone not to dance along, or at the very least tap their feet! My find of the weekend were "The Sheepdogs" from Saskatoon, Canada. A five piece band, they almost appear to be in the wrong time zone, with a sound reminiscent of the Deep South during the 1970s, think Lynyrd Skynyrd or the Allman Brothers.

This was the first year for Black Deer and in my view was a great success and have already booked for next year. It didn't appear busy and you could easily get to the front of the stage. The food was good, generally BBQ, Po Boys, Burgers & Pizza. They also had BBQ and food demonstrations and cook outs. The only downside is that you are not allowed to bring in food or drink which can make it a more costly experience. For would-be Jesse James or Calamity Janes there was plenty of merchandise such as cowboy shirts and hats. There was also big children's area which included a woodworking section and over the course of the weekend, they built a small town out of wood. Incredible!

My opinion: Nice laid-back festival, great music

Cost: £130 for the weekend including camping (early bird ticket for 2019 is currently £95)

Food: Mainly meat, not much for vegetarians: average meal £6-£10

Distance: A long hike to Kent, with inevitable delays on M25

Music: Niche: Americana, Country and roots

Weather: Beautiful, but during the June heatwave.



The Sheepdogs

Latitude

This was my seventh time at Latitude, and probably the last. Set in the beautiful grounds of Henham Park in Southwold, Suffolk, Latitude has hosted some wonderful music in the past. Greats such as Bobby Womack, Elbow, Bon Iver, Paul Weller, Fleet Foxes, War on Drugs, Rufus Wainwright, First Aid Kit, Alabama Shakes, Kraftwerk, Patti Smith, The National, Noel Gallagher, John Grant, The Black Keys, Femi Kuti, Arcade Fire, Squeeze & Mavis Staples have all graced the various stages over the past decade.

We originally chose Latitude all those years ago because of the music. If you looked at my playlist it was as though Latitude had found a copy and put the festival on just for me. The hardest part was deciding who to see, because there was so much choice. No longer. Over the past couple of years I feel they have started to introduce more pop music, rap and hip hop and this year the line-up was really very poor - or am I just getting old? The headliners were The Killers - great, Alt-J - not so great and Solange - Who? I hear you ask? She is Beyonce's sister, never had a hit in the UK, so why? I looked her up on YouTube and she was just average. Needless to say I didn't go and see her.

Latitude is a fairly big festival, with a capacity of around 30,000 and is set in a huge arena with numerous stages, some over the other side of the river, so there can be a lot of walking. There are also lots of other attractions such as the Poetry, Comedy, Dance and Literature stages, a silent disco and Solas, a well-being area which offers yoga and various massages. There is also a fairground and children's area with daily activities for children of all ages and teenagers.

This year I felt that too many tickets had been sold for the Saturday, with The Killers being the big draw, and it was just too, too busy. The queue for the toilets were well over an hour, and it was difficult to find space just to sit down. In fact, it was so busy we missed The Killers and retired to the comfort of our caravan and listened from there!

On the plus side there were some great acts; Belle & Sebastian, The Charlatans, Gang of Youths and Rag N'Bone Man. The highlight was The Breeders, it's great to see a bunch of middle aged woman rocking out! My new finds were Deap Vally, a female rock duo from California and Durand Jones and the Indications, a soul/R & B band hailing from one of my favourite parts of the world, Louisiana.

My opinion: Used to be great, now overpriced and average.

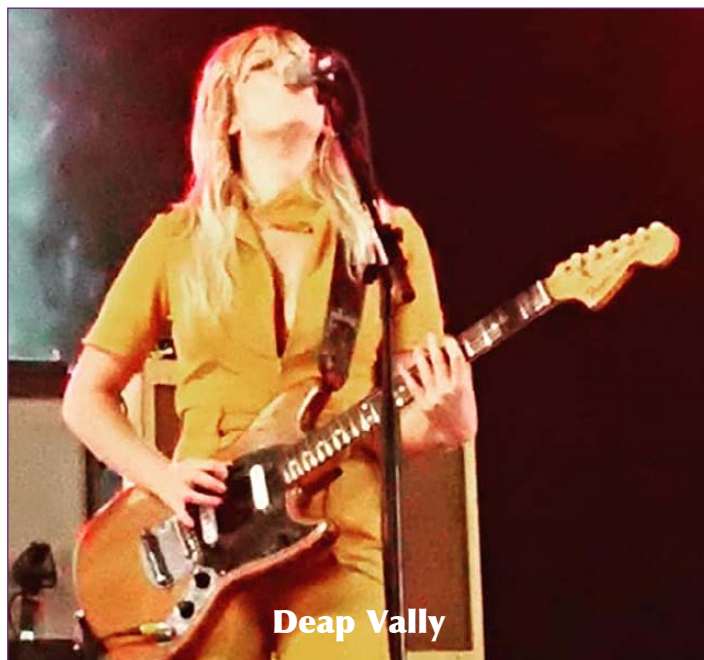
Cost: £180 for the weekend including camping

Food: Lot of variety, £6-£10

Distance: A fair hike to Suffolk, but at least you don't have to go on the M25 or the M6

Music: Fairly indie, but some pop and electronica

Weather: Very hot!



Deap Vally

Raising awareness of the SBA

The President, Treasurer, CEO and Past President Richard McCullagh met with the interim CEO D'Arcy Myers and Trustee Karen Matthews of SBA (formerly Solicitors Benevolent Association) on 20 July at the Society's offices.

The purpose of the meeting was to exchange information about the activities of the respective bodies and in particular to raise awareness of the SBA. The Pritt fund under the auspices of LLS continues to be a long term major contributor to the SBA to reflect the assistance the SBA gives to persons in our area.

SBA - the Solicitors' Charity is an independent charity working for solicitors both past and present and their families and persons who are (or have been) financially dependent on a current or former solicitor.

Every year the SBA help hundreds of people of all ages who are in serious financial need as a result of illness, accident, redundancy or other adversity. The SBA provide grants and interest-free loans (secured), support with career transition and access to advice on welfare benefits and managing personal debt.

The SBA also facilitates the important work of Lawcare - a charity that supports and promotes good mental health and well-being in the legal community.

The SBA are very keen to make solicitors and their families more aware of the help that is available. This is particularly difficult if a widow/widower and/or children need help but may not know that the SBA can help.

Our members can assist by talking to friends and family who might benefit from assistance from the SBA and alerting them to the help available.

David Tournafond
Hon. Treasurer and Education & Charities Committee Chair
Liverpool Law Society



LinkedIn



Evidence – res gestae – expert evidence – unfairly obtained evidence with Colin Beaumont on Wednesday 19 September, 1.30pm- 4.45pm

The following 12 items are merely a selection of that which will be covered during this half-day afternoon course:

- An analysis of Section 115 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and a working definition of what is and what is not 'hearsay evidence'
- Some recent developments in the area of bad character and the important Supreme Court judgement in Mitchell
- An application to exclude evidence under Sections 76 or 78 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984
- Competence and compellability in relation to spouses/civil partners/co-defendants
- The half-time submission of 'no case to answer' and the response to it
- The importance of Section 139 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 – relevant recent case-law
- Res Gestae – an examination of this principle and its application in recent case-law
- Sections 119 and 120 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 – extremely useful provisions if you are prosecuting!!
- The defendant adopting his police station interview and not testifying at trial – Section 35 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994
- A dozen useful things to mention in your closing speech
- The entitlement to 'evidence' and the entitlement to 'unused material which meets the test'
- Relevance and admissibility issues
- Expert evidence and the Criminal Procedure Rules 2015 as amended

Core Competencies: A1a, A1d, A2 a and d, A4 a and b, B1a, B2a, C2 a, b, d and h

For further details or to book, [click here](#)

Venue: Liverpool Law Society, Second Floor, Helix, Edmund Street,



Professional Negligence Update with Helen Swaffield

on Wednesday 19 September, 10am - 4.30pm

This is the essential round up of latest cases for professional negligence practitioners whether claimants or defendants. It will assist in fine tuning advice on duty, causation and loss together with tricky issues and common defences.

Covering:

- Duty- gratuitous services (Lejonvarn)
- Sharing the duty of care with barristers (Dunhill)
- Continuing duties (Worthing)
- Retainer v duty (Greenhalg)
- Duty v Regulatory backdrop (CGL Group)
- Information v advice (Hughes Holland)
- Duty to warn (Baxendale)
- Loss calculated at the date of trial (LSREF)
- Loss of a chance – new threshold test
- Advice reasonably incidental (Seery)
- Conveyancing fraud (Dreamvar)
- Mitigation



Core competencies: D3, C1, B2, B3, B6, B7, A2, A4 and A5

For more information or to book, [click here](#)

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

News from the



Welcome Event

The WLD's Welcome Event was held on 12th July 2018 at Harringtons. The Committee would like to thank everyone who attended the Event which gave an opportunity for people to join the WLD or for existing members to renew their membership. The guests enjoyed glasses of prosecco accompanied by pizza, garlic bread, burgers, potato wedges and finished off with Nutella pizza. The WLD would like to thank Harringtons for being a brilliant venue. Membership can still be sought for those who were unable to attend by emailing wldmembership@gmail.com.



What's Coming Up?!

We have a number of events taking us up to the New Year including our Yoga Event, Women in Law Round Table Discussion, Financial Seminar, the Legal Walk and our Annual Beauty Event.

Keep an eye out on our website and social media for further details about our events. The WLD are continuing to update their website with various content including a "5 minutes with..." every Wednesday. In July 2018 we had 5 minutes with Hayley Morgan, Chartered Trade Mark Attorney with Brabners LLP and there is more to come.

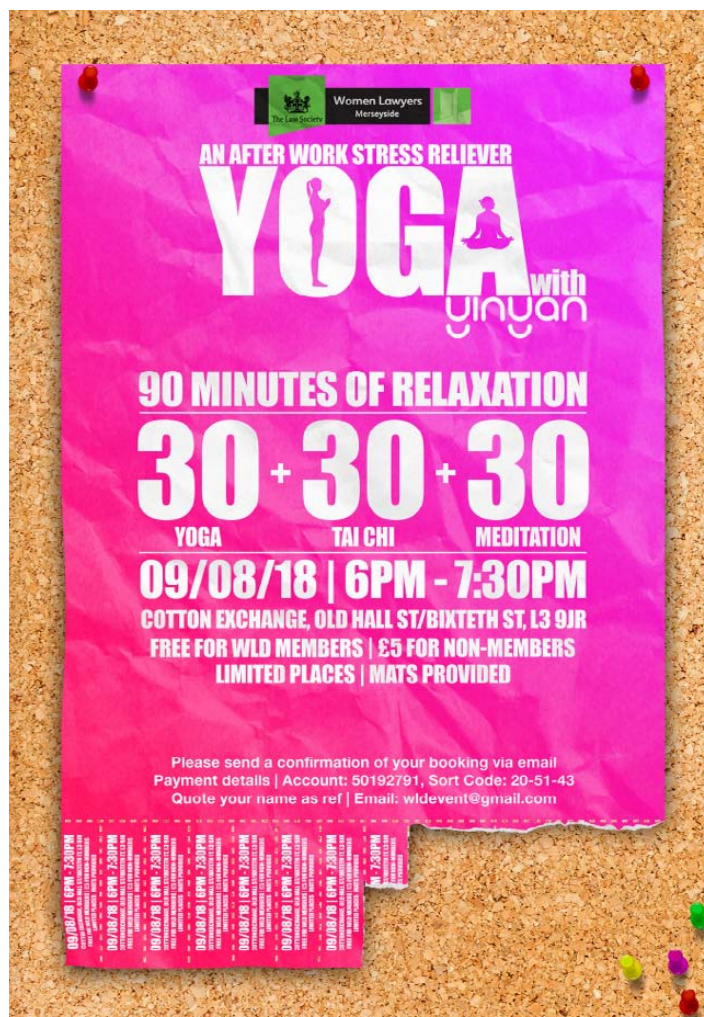
Our next event is "An After Work Stress Reliever Yoga with YinYan" which will take place on 9th August 2018 at Cotton Exchange.

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merseysidewld@gmail.com
wldevent@gmail.com
wldmembership@gmail.com

Charity of the Year

The WLD will be supporting Help for Heroes this year. There will be opportunities to give donations to the Charity at all of our events.



Regulation Update

The latest regulation news from Michelle Garlick of Weightmans LLP



So the World Cup is over (well done England and Gareth Southgate for bringing some well needed "feel-good factor" (and stress during the penalty shoot-out!) to the country and holiday season is now in full flow. By the time this edition is published, I will be in Tuscany eating delicious pasta and drinking a nice glass (or two) of Chianti. I hope you all have a relaxing summer wherever it is spent. And don't worry, the football season will have started again by the time I next write this column!

It never ceases to amaze me how much can happen in the regulatory arena over the period of just one month and this month is no exception so here is my update for you. As always, if you have any questions on compliance or regulation, please get in touch.

New waiver approach launched by SRA

The SRA published its new approach on how it grants and publishes its decisions on waivers to their rules on 26th June. It is tied in with its Innovation Space, designed to encourage innovation in the legal marketplace. The focus will be on waivers which deliver benefits to the public and the new approach features simplified criteria and an application process which the SRA says should be easier to understand. Paul Phillip, SRA Chief Executive, said: "Our new approach will not only help encourage innovation, but will also ensure that there is real transparency about the waivers we grant."

CILEx to become ABS regulator no.6

The Chartered Institute of Legal Executives (CILEx) application to be allowed to license ABSs has recently been approved by the Lord Chancellor., enabling members to set up their own businesses with non-lawyer ownership/investment. It is the 6th regulator approved to grant ABS licences.

The Lord Chancellor has also appointed Dr Helen Phillips as Chair of the Legal Services Board. Her interim appointment, which she took on in May 17 when Sir Michael Pitt's 3 year term came to an end and he decided not to re-stand, has now turned into a permanent role for a five year term.

ABS and business structure news:

The last of the Big Four accountancy firms, Deloitte, has been awarded its ABS license, 5 months after announcing it wished to offer reserved legal activities. Deloitte is to extend its existing legal services in tax litigation, immigration, and employment law.

Also, DWF has announced that they are looking at the possibility of listing on the London Stock Exchange with a value estimated of between and eye-watering £600m-£1bn. DWF would join firms such as Gateley and Rosenblatt who have already listed.

SDT consults on adopting civil standard of proof

The SDT has published its consultation on whether to ditch the current criminal standard of proof for solicitors subject to disciplinary proceedings. This would be in alignment with most other professional regulators, including barristers, when the Bar Standards Board switches to the civil standard next April and the SRA has been crying out for a change for some time. The SDT has commented that if it doesn't lower the burden of proof from the criminal standard to the

civil standard, solicitors could be seen as being given preferential treatment. However, a counter argument runs that there are serious consequences of a SDT finding for a solicitor and the current high prosecution success rate are good reasons for facts to be established 'beyond a reasonable doubt' in the SDT.

The SDT has given the profession a lot longer than the SRA generally does to respond to consultations – the deadline for responses being 8 October. I am involved in submitting a response on behalf of Manchester Law Society members and no doubt Liverpool Law Society will be also submitting a response.

In other disciplinary news:

Slater & Gordon has been rebuked and handed a record fine of £80,000 for an ABS. This followed the inspection of 7,087 files of confidential client data during the due diligence process that led to its acquisition of Quindell Legal Services in 2014/2015 and disclosure of confidential information without client consent to two other unnamed firms. They were found to have breached SRA principles 3,4 and 6 and have been ordered to also pay the SRA's costs of £26,000. This is a salutary lesson for any firm looking to acquire/sell their business and compliance advice should be taken before embarking on such a transaction to ensure that you properly fulfil your regulatory obligations.

A solicitor, Mr Whittaker, principal of DW Law in Stevenage (now closed by the SRA in 2014) who sent over £64,500 from a client account to his personal account, along with £5000 to a girlfriend in Romania which he referred to as 'counsel' has been struck off by the SDT.

In another case, an event executive in a large law firm, Bircham Dyson Bell, who kept raffle prizes for herself has been rebuked, fined £2000 and £600 costs and made subject to a s43 order preventing her from working in a law firm without the SRA's permission.

The SDT has also issued its judgement on failed Bolton law firm, Asons. Mr Akram was suspended for 18 months and given a £115,000 fine after the SDT found that the firm had sent out inflated bills and made false claims.

A perhaps unexpected decision was that of Kate Helen Adamson, associate solicitor and director at Powell Davies in Aberystwyth, who fabricated a letter in "panic" and has been suspended after admitting dishonesty. Whilst the usual sanction for dishonesty is strike-off, mitigating circumstances including a pre-existing medical condition causing a psychiatrist to conclude it was a "momentary lapse caused by panic" persuaded the SDT only to impose an 18 month suspension instead.

Michelle Garlick
Weightmans LLP

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S Code	Date	Time	September 2018	Speaker
S4062	4th	10-1	The essential practical guide for the Money Laundering Reporting Officer	Jo Morris
S4063	4th	1.30-4.30	The essential practical guide for Data Protection Officers	Jo Morris
S4214	7th	9.30-11.30	Bribery Act 2010—what you need to know	Amy Bell
S3997	12th	9.30-3.40	Residential Property Conference	Various
S4099	13th	12-3.15	Advanced Road Traffic Accidents Update	Nicky Carter
S4139	14th	10-4.30	Probate, Administration and Court of Protection: A Practical Guide	Safda Mahmood
N/A	18th	9.30-12.30	Vulnerable Witness Training (Hosting only, all bookings to be made directly with The Law Society)	The Law Society
S4051	19th	9.30-12.45	Appeals – Crown Court – Court of Appeal	Colin Beaumont
S4052	19th	1.30-4.45	Evidence – res gestae – expert evidence – unfairly obtain evidence – etc	Colin Beaumont
S4162	19th	10-4.30	Professional Negligence Update	Helen Swaffield
S4114	21st	1.30-4.45	Contract and Commercial Update	Chris Beanland
S4224	25th	9.30-12.45	Avoiding Negligence Claims and Complaints in Residential Conveyancing	Ian Quayle
S3998	26th	9.30-4	Family Finance Conference	Various
S4192	28th	12.30-3.45	Costs and Funding 2018	Professor Dominic Regan

S Code	Date	Time	October 2018	Speaker
S4066	2nd	10-4.15	An introduction to the General Data Protection Regulations	Jo Morris
S4092	3rd	10-12.45	Private Child Law Update	Safda Mahmood
S4093	3rd	1.30-4.15	Public Child Law Update	Safda Mahmood
S4036	5th	9.30-12.45	Commercial Property Update	Richard Snape
S4037	5th	1.30-4.45	Conveyancing Update	Richard Snape

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

Experience is what your firm needs

Following its 2018 salary survey, Clayton Legal reports that law firms are facing serious challenges thanks to a lack of experienced solicitors. The survey, conducted in February and March of this year, is the most comprehensive of its kind in the UK and reveals a snapshot of the legal profession: challenges, remuneration, use of support staff, and how firms plan to hold onto talent.

"The salary survey has captured what firms and partners have been telling us for some time: the lack of experienced candidates poses a genuine challenge. Our clients tell us that they are not simply looking for law graduates – they need solicitors with skills developed in real-world situations. Qualifications are impressive, but commercial know-how and the ability to think outside of the box is far more valuable to firms," commented Jamie Miller, Recruitment Manager at Clayton Legal.

The shortage of conveyancers was a common theme among survey respondents and this fed into larger concerns about the property market, including the word on everyone's lips: Brexit. Jamie explained: "Law firms are really in a difficult position. On the one hand, the demand for property experts exceeds supply,

which inevitably pushes up salaries as candidates who specialise in that area can ask for more. On the other hand, partners and leaders in the sector are acutely aware that an economic downturn after Brexit would mean that residential and commercial property work would grind to a halt."

While the survey highlights some key areas of concern, there was also good news. 78% of survey participants felt that attrition rates had decreased, up from just 51% in 2016. Many of the firms surveyed employ individuals with qualifications such as CILEX, FILEX and CLC, and the majority (70%) of firms employ paralegals. It appears that law firms are becoming more adept at retaining star talent and that the make of law firms is growing more diverse.

"Pay is always going to be an issue for solicitors, as it is for anyone in employment. What the survey does reveal is that non-monetary benefits are of increasing importance to solicitors – and the firms that want to retain them. 66% of firms offer flexible working, second only to pension contributions as the most popular benefit offered. This shows that an enjoyable work culture is key to holding onto the top legal talent as well as more traditional rewards."

Balancing the demand for quality professionals with fair rewards is no

easy task. Add to that the challenges posed by Brexit, the shortage of skills and law firms are facing an interesting and difficult time. Jamie offered his advice: "We've seen an increase in flexibility and a change in approach from law firms over the last two years. If firms can maintain that attitude, listen to what their staff are telling them and be proactive in the face of difficulties then they stand a fighting chance of holding onto talent and thriving in the future."

For access to the full 2018 salary survey, including detailed information on pay and reward structures across the board, contact Clayton Legal using the details below:

Phone: 01772 259 121
Email: enquiries@clayton-legal.co.uk
Salary Survey:
<https://www.clayton-legal.co.uk/clients-salary-survey>



Lynn Sedgwick,
Managing Director at
Clayton Legal
ls@clayton-legal.co.uk
01772 259121



Clayton Legal

Recruiting talent, building the future

Liverpool Law Society

Appeals – Crown Court – Court of Appeal with Colin Beaumont

on Wednesday 19th September, 9.30am - 12.45pm

The course will be a consideration of criminal evidence. Appeals to the Crown Court on the facts against conviction or sentence (or both) together with appeals by the Crown against Terminating Rulings and appeals by the Attorney General against unduly lenient sentences will all feature as will appeals by way of case stated or asking the High Court to consider the matter by way of Judicial Review. I take the view that all criminal lawyers should at least have a working knowledge of how the appellate system works, including appeals to both the High Court and the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) and the Supreme Court as well.

You may never go there, but why not take this opportunity to increase your legal knowledge of how the whole appellate system works. You are not going to be an expert after a course but at least you will have an insight into it all.



Core Competencies:

A1a, A1d, A2 a and d, A4 a and b, B1a, B2a, C2 a, b, d and h

For more information or to book, [click here](#)

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

Liverpool Law Society

Probate, Administration and Court of Protection: A Practical Guide

with Safda Mahmood

on Friday 14th September, 10am - 4.30pm (lunch included)

This course will assist you in becoming more confident in this area of law and practice

Covering the following:

Benefits in Wills
Administrative Clauses
Intestate Succession and Family Provision
Inheritance Tax Issues and Residence Nil Rate Allowance
Grants and Inland Revenue Accounts
Obtaining Probate
Lasting Powers of Attorney and Procedure
Advance Decisions
Deputyship and Deprivation Cases

Competencies: B and C

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

RECRUITING TALENT, BUILDING THE FUTURE



COMMERCIAL PROPERTY SOLICITOR LIVERPOOL

Commercial Property Solicitor wanted for small but successful Firm based in North Liverpool. Ideally you will have 3-5 years PQE and the hands-on experience of managing a Commercial Property caseload.

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

FAMILY SOLICITOR LIVERPOOL

Our client, a well-established multi-service law firm based in Liverpool City Centre are seeking to appoint a Family Solicitor (all levels of PQE considered). You will deal with a varied and challenging caseload of Family matters and be comfortable picking up a pre-existing caseload.

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

SOLICITOR LIVERPOOL

My Client based in Liverpool are looking to recruit experienced Personal Injury Solicitors who are well-versed in RTA. As the position consists of dealing with cases whereby court proceedings have been issued, it is essential that you have litigation experience.

Contact Leanne Taylor: l.taylor@clayton-legal.co.uk

LEGAL CASHIER LIVERPOOL

My client, is seeking an experienced legal cashier with a minimum of 2 year previous legal cashier experience. You will be dealing with tasks from completing day to day bank functions to purchase and sales ledger. £20,000-£25,000.

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

LAW COSTS DRAFTSMAN LIVERPOOL

I am currently recruiting for a Law Costs Draftsman based in Liverpool. You will have previous experience in a similar role and be experienced in drafting bills, budgets, conducting negotiations, attending CCMCs, considering points of dispute and drafting points of replies. The salary on offer is between £20,000 - £30,000.

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

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY SOLICITOR LIVERPOOL

Our client, a well regarded Legal 500 Firm, is currently searching for a Qualified Property Solicitor to join the team at their Liverpool office. To be considered you will have hands on experience of running a full spectrum of conveyancing matters from inception to completion and will be able to work unassisted and manage junior members of the team.

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

CREDIT HIRE FEE EARNER LIVERPOOL

A Personal Injury firm require a Credit Hire Fee Earner to handle a volume caseload of Credit Hire matters from Instruction to Settlement. You will be able to demonstrate experience of dealing with Credit Hire matters and work well under pressure.

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

LITIGATION EXECUTIVE SOUTHPORT

I am recruiting for a Litigation Executive to join a firm for their Clinical Negligence department based in Southport.

You will play a key role by working on allocated cases, corresponding with customers & experts to ensure their cases are conducted in a proactive & commercially-focused manner.

Contact Leanne Taylor: l.taylor@clayton-legal.co.uk

SR PROPERTY LITIGATION SOLICITOR LIVERPOOL

I am recruiting for a Senior Property Litigation Solicitor for a firm in Liverpool. They provide innovative property litigation services to their corporate clients nationwide. They take great pride in the work they deliver for their clients providing the best workplace they can, for a great team of people.

Contact Leanne Taylor: l.taylor@clayton-legal.co.uk

FAMILY SOLICITOR LIVERPOOL

A Legal 500 Family law firm based in Liverpool are seeking to appoint an experienced Family Solicitor to handle a varied caseload of Privately funded Family matters. You will possess excellent technical ability and a high standard of client care.

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PERSONAL INJURY FEE EARNER LIVERPOOL

My Client is a Law Firm based in Liverpool. They are looking to recruit an experienced Personal Injury fee earner. The post will consist of solely litigated files arising out of Personal Injury, such files including claim for credit hire. As the position consists of dealing with cases whereby court proceedings have been issued, you must have litigation experience.

Contact Leanne Taylor: l.taylor@clayton-legal.co.uk

