SPRING 2019 ISSUE 188

# Bournemouth & District Lawyer

Bournemouth & District Law Society Magazine

**BDLS ANNUAL LUNCH 2019** 400 MEMBERS AND GUESTS GATHER AT THE PAVILION



Autumn Golf Meeting

Theatre Group - Swan Lake

The President's Final Column





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## Spring 2019

### SPRING 2019 ISSUE 188

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#### **BOURNEMOUTH & DISTRICT LAWYER –** Bournemouth & District Law Society Magazine

You will receive this magazine by post and also by email which will also include various enclosures ie details for events, lecture details etc.

These will be sent out quarterly as follows: **Summer June 2019 / Autumn September 2019 Winter December 2019 / Spring March 2020** 

The copy deadline for receipt at the BDLS office for the next edition – the Summer issue – will be the 23 April 2019.

We welcome your firms' news and any advertisements. Please send to **office@bournemouthlaw.com** 

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### **COVER INFORMATION**

Cover photo of Clive Coleman, Edward Holmes BDLS President & Louise Holmes

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### THE **PRESIDENT'S COLUMN** Edward Holmes



### Well for me time is flying and I cannot believe I am now on the homeward straight of my presidential year.

The Annual lunch was a great success with Clive Coleman being very funny and the lunch attracting the best attendance for over 10 years. I cannot thank Mandy and Julie enough for all their hard work in that respect.

Since my last report I have attended the Bournemouth University Legal Ball and for their sins I was their guest speaker. I was very impressed with the students I met who all seemed very determined and driven.

We had a Christmas meal for the committee and their spouses which was a very relaxed and enjoyable event. I further attended the Institute of Securities and Investments dinner which was very good.

This year I am now looking forward to the ABBA Tribute night on the 15 March at the Hermitage Hotel and thereafter to the Annual Dinner at the Highcliff Hotel on 26 April 2019.

I have also decided that I am going to endeavour to revive my attempts to organise some tennis matches for BDLS which I temporarily put on hold following an injury and my presidential duties.



Skye Partridge President of the University Law Society and Edward Holmes

This is my last column and I would like to say I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as President. I have met some interesting people, made new friends and eaten some fantastic food. I have had many highlights throughout the year and I was particularly privileged to celebrate 125 years of the society with the past presidents. I am also pleased that future lecture fees are being reduced by 25% to provide an added benefit to members. I am very grateful for all the support I have received and wish every success to Mark Kiteley in his Presidential year.



Edward & Louise Holmes at Bournemoth University Legal Ball

On New Years' Day I arranged a charity dip in the sea at Highcliffe for the charity Bloodwise. I invited many to join me yet strangely enough on the day it was only me, Louise and Neil White who took the plunge!



Edward and Louise Holmes with Neil White

Edward Holmes BDLS President

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### BDLS MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION RATES 2019

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP	
Standard membership	£90.00
Associate membership	£64.00
Member qualified for less than 5 years	£55.00
Member employed but not in private practice	£55.00
Member employed in a judical or quasi-judical position	£53.00
Fully retired member	£42.50
Member not in employment	£15.00

Thank you to those members who have renewed their subscriptions for this year. Just to remind you that this was due in January for the period 1.1.19 - 31.12.19

For firms with between 10 and 15 paying members a 12.5% discount applies and for 16 or more the discount is 17.5%.

If you have not yet made payment could you please do so now. You can renew online at:

www.bournemouthlaw.com/ annualsubscription.html



### BDLS ANNUAL LUNCH

Almost 400 local solicitors and their guests enjoyed a superb lunch at The Pavilion, Bournemouth on Wednesday 6 February – the largest attendance for over ten years!



Edward Holmes, BDLS President, Mark Kiteley and Mayor of Bournemouth Councillor Borthwick

Our President, Edward Holmes, welcomed the top table guests including speaker, Clive Coleman, and the Mayor of Bournemouth, Councillor Derek Borthwick. Also represented on the top table were Presidents of local professional organisations including the South Wessex Local Association of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, South Coast Branch of the Chartered Institute of Securities and Investments, ICAEW Southern and Bournemouth Chamber of Trade and Commerce.

The sponsors this year were Paragon, ITEC, PKF Francis Clark, Finders and Search Acumen. A huge thank you to them for, once again, supporting this event.

In his address to the guests, Edward Holmes talked about the recent celebration of 125 years of the Society and how BDLS

is a very active local law society and continues to go from strength to strength.We have a vibrant Bournemouth & District Junior Lawyers Division and our activities include; attendance at Careers Fairs, an annual European Law Conference, a large lecture programme - to name but a few.

BBC Legal Correspondent and comedy writer Clive, well known from his work on Dead Ringers, Spitting Image and Smith and Jones, treated local lawyers to a range of hilarious stories. Clive, as a former barrister, had brilliant anecdotes for his legal audience, telling stories about quick witted exchanges between Lawyers and Judges. He also shared his favourite unintentionally funny newspapers headlines from his time working in radio.

Clive has contributed to radio and television news and presented Law in Action and Panorama. He has also been a columnist for The Times, The Guardian and The Independent. He has won awards for legal broadcasting and outstanding comedy writing.

Our thanks, once again, to The Pavilion for their excellent organisation, food and service.

### To view photos please visit: https://www.flickr.com/photos/151920544@ N02/albums/72157706715685994

We are already working on the booking for the Annual Lunch 2020 and details will be announced as soon as possible!

Mandy Heath BDLS Office Manager





Alan Turle, Christine Baehr, Katie Cox and Eric Baehr



Daniel Gardner & Samantha Hookings



Paul Turner, Helen Stewart, Ben Ryan, Robert Littlewood, Jocelyn Lewis, Paul Moores, Adam Sanford



Neil Scott, Martin Proctor, Chris Clifford & Kay Donalson



Philip Day, Nicola Highland, Patsy Whitford and Louise Sims



David Meany, Martin Varley, Peter May & Adam Scott



Nick Lawrence, Martin MacHale and Carol Maunder



Mandy Heath, Martin Aldridge, Martin Cavey and David Bright



Phil Ford, Nigel Smith, Julie Reeves & Abby Johnson



Sandra Graham & Keith Lomas



Piers Cockey, Richard Smith, Geoff Billington & Edward Chapell



Clive Coleman, Edward Holmes BDLS President & Louise Holmes

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Professional Indemnity (PI) insurance remains one of the three largest overheads for any law firm. In line with the open and prevailing Minimum Terms and Conditions of the SRA wording, law firms have continued to remain exposed to a potentially high level of claims. 2018 saw continued impending change ripple under the surface of the PI insurance market, stimulated by the uncertainty of Brexit and a wider nervousness towards the economy. Furthermore, the ongoing consultation from the SRA seeking to change the minimum level of indemnity required by firms has led to insurers questioning their commitment to solicitors PI, particularly in the excess layers market. The need for law firms to understand the insurance market is more important than ever. An engaged approach, regardless of your practise size, must be adopted.

Uncertainty became a reality when CBL Insurance Europe went into administration last February, while several 'established' insurers have reduced their capacity or withdrawn entirely from the solicitors PI market. Insurers have continued to redistribute capacity to classes they deem more profitable and with a lower exposure to latent claims. The significance of having your insurance placed with a financially stable and committed insurer versus obtaining a cheap premium should never be underestimated. The bitterness of poor quality remains long after the sweetness of a low price is forgotten.

Paragon has exclusive access to a number of insurance solutions backed by 'A' rated insurers who specialise in supporting law firms. Our clients benefit from direct insurer relationships, tailored claims management, and an insurer-funded risk management and business consultancy service. Whether you are looking for a new insurer or simply conducting a market exercise, Paragon can advise you.

For further information, to arrange a visit to your offices or for a no obligation quote Email: mmachale@paragonbrokers.com or phone +44 (0)20 7280 8209.



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For further information please visit www.findersinternational.co.uk Telephone: freephone 0800 085 8796 (UK only) Email: contact@findersinternational.co.uk

### PKF FRANCISCLARK

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Our dedicated Legal Sector Team already provides specialist services to a wide range of law firms alongside the mainstream taxation and compliance services including areas such as advice on:



- Trading structures, risk and tax planning
- Profit improvement & benchmarking
- Valuation of Goodwill and profit sharing methodologies
- Succession planning
- Mergers, acquisitions and new start ventures
- Capital funding, external finance and joint ventures.

In conjunction with Taylor Mowbray LLP we are now pleased to be able to bring a wider range of development and consultancy services to the legal sector.

We can provide additional services to help you manage your firm more efficiently and profitably. Key areas we have extensive experience advising on and supporting law firms with include:

- Capturing, billing and recovering more of your chargeable time
- Establishing better billing and cash collection procedures, helping to reduce partner capital in the business
- Improving your and your fee earners productivity
- Attracting, retaining and motivating your key assets
- Promoting pricing confidence in your fee earners, and providing pricing choices for your clients
- Advice, ideas and independent support on remuneration and profit sharing arrangements
- Easing the burden of safeguarding client money

If you would like to know more about our new service areas, in the first instance please contact Janet Taylor in our Poole office: T: 01202 663600

E: janet.taylor@pkf-francisclark.co.uk

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- Nathan Hayes, IT Director Osborne Clark

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I realise after all these years of organising the Autumn meetings that they actually take place in the summer. Last Autumn's meeting, however, as opposed to being early missed Autumn entirely and ended up in Winter but nevertheless the weather was kind to us.

After we finished, I got thinking about presents and what each of us should receive as result of our play. I couldn't putt to save my life so I needed a new putter. Chris Sugden needed polish as he won the bone salver and won the day. Now Paul Turner one of the nicest people I know, had a minor disagreement with a dog walker, who decided that "how dare he hit his ball down the fairway". I couldn't decide whether he needed a book on how to deal with difficult people or a book on self defence. Then I thought "no" he can have the former while Bob Boyce can have the latter to provide protection to his playing partner, but then again I thought Bob should have binoculars as he hit the longest drive. As for Simon Nightingale he hit the ball very crisply, or should I say he hit many balls crisply, normally into bushes never to be seen again so new balls for Simon. Paul was nearest the pin while I won the Tolhurst Cup for the best combined scores of the two meetings. At the meetings the golfers kindly agreed to forgo the prize money which I will be donating to Bloodwise my charity for the year. My new year's resolution was "set the date for the next meeting" which will be on the 15 May at Moors Valley Golf Club. I am also endeavouring to arrange a match against a team organised by the mayor of Bournemouth.



Paul Turner, Edward Holmes, Chris Sugden, Simon Nightingale, Bob Boyce

### THEATRE GROUP – **SWAN LAKE AT THE LIGHTHOUSE THEATRE IN POOLE**

On Thursday 10th of January our Theatre Group attended The Lighthouse Theatre in Poole to see the Saint Petersburg Classic Ballet company perform the much-loved Russian ballet 'Swan Lake'.

The Saint Petersburg Classic Ballet company were billed as 'the real Russian deal'. They did not disappoint. The star of the show was naturally the prima ballerina Natalia Romanova who played the swan queen. Her dancing appeared so effortless and poised. Also of note was an excellent, funny and very athletic jester.

Swan Lake is considered to be Tchaikovsky's masterpiece, a tragic tale of love and betrayal with an instantly recognisable score. It was a gorgeous spectacle with beautiful traditional costumes, stirring, dramatic music and of course wonderful ballet dancers. A few comments from our theatre goers "It was our first ballet, we really enjoyed the evening and were pleased we tried something different. The jester was very funny and the ballet dancers excellent", "I was a bit distracted at the start by the sight of men in white tights!", "I thought the swan queen and

the jester were exceptional", "the swan queen was everything I expected a prima ballerina to be, just entrancing". A good time was had by all.

Our next Theatre Group trip will be to see 'Kinky Boots', a musical inspired by a true story, at the Mayflower theatre in Southampton on 12.9.19.

Carol Maunder



### BDLS DIARY 2019

15 March	Abba Tribute evening at The Hermitage Hotel	
26 April	Annual Dinner at Highcliff Hotel	
29 April	AGM at Marsham Court Hotel, Bournemouth	
12 September	BDLS Theatre Club - Kinky Boots Mayflower Theatre, Southampton	
26 September	BDLS Quiz Night	
3 - 6 October	Overseas Conference to Budapest	

Further information, including flyers, for most forthcoming events can be found on the BDLS website: www.bournemouthlaw.com/events You can also make bookings on line and then would need to send payment by cheque or BACS.

All forms and lecture booking forms will be emailed to you - if you prefer, you can print the form and return your booking by post.



THE COUNCIL **MEMBER'S REPORT** Tim O'Sullivan

- The Council in committee considered policy issues around a University College London review of reserved. activities understood to have support from the Ministry of Justice. This could present as an opportunity to press for inclusion of willwriting and preparation of powers of attorney for vulnerable clients into reserved activity, although this would require primary legislation. In measuring reserved services compliance with statutory objectives the Legal Services Board was paying disproportionate attention to its objective to promote competition in the provision of legal services which it seemed to view mainly through the prism of price.
- A paper recommending the suspension of Council members facing investigation and proceedings for contravention of the code of conduct, SRA regulatory investigation and proceedings or police investigation and prosecution was referred back for further work. The right balance needed to be found between respect for the presumption of innocence and the need to preserve public confidence in the Law Society as an approved regulator.
- The Council received the annual report of the Equality Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Arriving from a meeting in 10 Downing Street, President, Christina Blacklaws, presented her mid-term update against the Presidential Year Plan.
- Complaints processes. The Council reviewed papers establishing revised processes to investigate complaints against elected Council members and appointed Law Society committee members, complaints against members of staff and staff complaints against volunteers, and complaints against appointed members of the SRA Board.
- Brexit. In the event of a no-deal withdrawal from the EU it was confirmed that after exit-day European lawyers intending to practice in the UK would as third country nationals need to requalify as Solicitors of the Supreme Court of England and Wales in order to undertake reserved activities. Solicitors intending to practice in Europe after exit-day would need to comply with the host nation regulatory requirements for third country lawyers, some of which were protectionist. City competition solicitors are becoming members of the Law Society of the Republic of Ireland in order to continue to exercise practice rights before the Court of Justice of the European Union. The European representative organisation for EU member state law societies and bar associations, the CCBE, has offered the Law Society of England and Wales, the Law Society of Scotland and the Law Society of Northern Ireland continued full membership after March 2019 regardless of the outcome of Brexit.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### **ABBA TRIBUTE NIGHT**

#### Friday 15 March 2019 – The Hermitage Hotel, Bournemouth

Come and join us for our Abba Tribute Night featuring Abba's Angels who will be performing the best-loved hits of the original act – Mamma Mia, Take a Chance, Waterloo – to name a few. The ticket price of £25 includes a two course meal.

Please book early to avoid disappointment by completing and returning the flyer attached to the email version of this Magazine or booking online at **www.bournemouthlaw.com/events** 

### BDLS ANNUAL DINNER

### Friday 26 April 2019 – Highcliff Hotel, Bournemouth

Do reserve the date in your diary for this function so that you can come and join your President for what will be a very enjoyable evening. The price for the function will remain at £42 pp again this year and attendees will enjoy a choice of welcome drink, a 3 course meal with coffee and chocolates, and a bottle of red, white wine and champagne on each table.

Overnight accommodation is available at the hotel. Full details and booking form will be emailed to you shortly.

Our sponsors for this Dinner will be long term sponsors **College Chambers, Paragon** and **Quantuma** and new sponsors **Eco Law** – a legal recruitment firm and **Index Property Search** – a search provider and much more – see advert below.



### **DESIGNATED TABLE AT FUNCTIONS**

For our Annual Lunches and Dinners there will be a designated table available for Past BDLS Presidents, Honorary Badge Holders and spouses/partners. So if you are attending the Annual Lunch or Dinner and would like to be seated on this table you will just need to indicate this on the flyer booking form. Sarah Richards, our former Overseas Conference Organiser, will be overseeing arrangements and will circulate all who opt to sit at this table to let them know arrangements just before each event.

### **Forthcoming Events**

### **QUIZ NIGHT**

#### Thursday 26 September 2019 – Marsham Court Hotel, Bournemouth

Our Quiz Night will take place in September once again. This event is always a sell out, so do start thinking about your team and be ready to make a booking once the flyer for this very popular function is available!

### EUROPEAN LAW CONFERENCE - BUDAPEST

### Thursday 3 – Sunday 6 October 2019

Whilst plans for this year's Conference - originally to Jersey - were going great guns to start with and we had a great response from the dignitaries, unfortunately, the costs that came in from the hotel, the airline and the guide and were just too prohibitive.

After a lot of research we are now planning to go to BUDAPEST. Budapest is well known for being a beautiful and historic city with many places of interest including thermal spas, six bridges, markets and a funicular. For those over 60 all public transport, eg, trams and buses, is free on production of ID!

A revised flyer is attached with details of the trip, as they are so far known. There will be the usual welcome drinks and meal, organised trips and excursions, together with plenty of free time to explore the city's attractions and surroundings at your own pace. Following the success of last year, it is expected that this will be a great trip and members are encouraged to book as soon as possible for what is now likely to be an over-subscribed tour.

#### Sian Smith, Conference Organiser

### PKF FRANCIS CLARK



PKF Francis Clark are hosting a series of legal seminars on the 2019 SRA Accounts Rules. One of the events will be on 7 May in Bournemouth.

Below is a summary of content. Presenters will be **Janet Taylor** and **Andrew Allen.** 

#### SRA Accounts Rules 2019 – the future is here

#### These seminars explore the opportunities and challenges for your firm

Following recent approval by the Legal Services Board of the SRA's proposals in relation to the future regulation of the legal sector PKF Francis Clark will deliver a series of one day seminars during April 2019 aimed at helping law firm businesses with the opportunities and challenges arising.

The seminars will focus, in particular, on the new SRA Accounts Rules and the commercial impact from a structural and taxation viewpoint that these changes could have on law firms over the coming years.

#### Why attend?

- Identify tax and commercial planning opportunities for your business
- Meet your obligations as a COFA or Manager in the business
- Ensure your business is ready for the impact of changes from April 2019
- Help to reduce the risk of a qualified Accountants' Report
- Identify efficiencies and possible cost savings under the new Accounts Rules
- Help you be prepared for future SRA compliance visits and investigations

#### Who should attend?

- ✓ COFAs
- ✓ Managing partners
- ✓ Finance Partners / directors
- Practice managers
- Senior finance team members
- ✓ Compliance partners

It is a full day programme, however delegates can attend for a half or full day. The morning session focuses on the Accounts Rules, while the afternoon has a more strategic focus.

#### Seminar cost is as follows:

- Half day £150 plus VAT
- Full day £225 plus VAT (full day bookings include a buffet lunch)

#### Timing:

- Morning Session 9:30 13:00 (registration from 9:00)
- Afternoon 14:00 17:30 (registration from 13.30)

### PKF FRANCISCLARK

Chartered accountants & business advisers

Please note places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. To book or for more information please contact **devon.hawkes@pkf-francisclark.co.uk** 

LEC	<b>TURE</b> I	PROGRAMME 2019
6.3.2019	14.00 - 17.00	Land Registration 2019 – What do transactional property lawyers need to know? Aimed at both residential and commercial conveyancers Ian Quayle, Village Hotel
13.3.2019	14.00 - 17.00	Managing and Motivating People Keith Harper, Hallmark Carlton Hotel
4.4.2019	9.00 - 16.45	Private Client Conference Various, Village Hotel
23.4.2019	14.00 - 17.15	Residential Conveyancing Update Richard Snape, Village Hotel
2.5.2019	14.00 – 17.15	Transactional Practicalities in Negotiating the Share Purchase and Asset Purchase Agreement Stephen Broomhall, Hallmark Carlton Hotel
8.5.2019	14.00 - 17.15	Civil Litigation – Procedure and Practice 2019 Andrew McLoughlin, Hallmark Carlton Hotel
9.5.2019	14.00 - 17.15	Understanding SDLT Paul Clark, Village Hotel
14.5.2019	13.30 - 16.45	Dealing with Conveyancing Clients – For Support Staff Ian Quayle, Hallmark Carlton Hotel
25.6.2019	10.00 - 13.15	Commercial Leases in 2019 Natasha Dunn, Village Hotel
27.6.2019	14.00 - 17.15	Wills and Variations: Drafting Mitigating IHT and avoiding DOTAS John Bunker, Hallmark Carlton Hotel

For further details and booking forms please visit Bournemouth and District Law Society website **www.bournemouthlaw.com/lectures** or contact the BDLS office at Borough Chambers, Fir Vale Road, Bournemouth, BH1 2JJ, Tel **01202 587551** Email office@bournemouthlaw.com

#### **Payment for lectures**

Please be aware that with online bookings, payment should be received at the office **before** the lecture takes place. Occasionally the level of bookings only just makes it possible to run a lecture and we therefore do need to be reassured that everyone will attend and pay.

### **BDLS LECTURE FEE REDUCTION**

We are pleased to announce that as from 1 April 2019, the fees for members to attend our lectures will be reduced from £100 to £75 for a three hour lecture and from £135 to £100 for our all day conferences. The fees for non-members will remain the same ie £125 and £160 respectively. We believe our courses are excellent value for money, using high calibre lecturers and run locally for the convenience of our members. Please visit: www.bournemouthlaw.com/lectures click here to view our lecture programme for the coming year. If any non-members would like to take advantage of this new benefit then we would welcome new membership applications and they would then be eligible for the lecture reduction. Please contact BDLS office for the relevant form to complete.Tel 01202 587551 Email office@bournemouthlaw.com

### **OFFER FOR FIRMS BOOKING MULTIPLE PLACES ON THE SAME COURSE**

When a firm books 5 places on one course, we are able to offer a 6th place free of charge.

### SUMMARY OF UPCOMING LECTURES Local News / Lecture Programme





### SUMMARY OF UPCOMING LECTURES...CONTINUED



- Estate rentcharge issues in particular when reporting to lender
- Houses in multiple occupation including changes which came into force on 1 October 2018

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### **Junior Lawye**rs Division

The new JLD Committee for 2018-2019 have already been hard at work organising events, starting with our ever popular Christmas Quiz in December at Revolution – kindly sponsored by 3PB. The event was a sell out and we raised (280 for our

Charity Spring. Thank you to everyone w 3PB for sponsoring the event for us! It er monies raised directly to the Charity. came and also te ed us to donate al





In January, we partnered with Brewin Dolphin to host our 'Winter Ball', which involved Cocktail making at The Slug and Lettuce in Bournemouth. We had a great turn out and it was a wonderful way to see out the ever long month of January. Thank you to everyone for joining us and to Brewin Dolphin for sponsoring the event!



We have a lot of exciting events coming up, including a charity bowling tournament and a netball tournament in Spring time! Please keep your eyes peeled for our regular emails updating you on events. As always, if you have any suggestions for events that you would like to see the JLD hold over the next year – the us know!

We are very happy to announce that the Bournemouth and District JLD have teamed up with the South Hampshire JLD to organise a free one-day career development and skills event in Southampton on 2 March 2019. This event is aimed at trainees, newly qualified solicitors and solicitors up to five years' PQE. The aim is to equip those who are at the start of their careers with skills and advice necessary to progress, diversify and develop within the legal profession.

We would like to extend a special thank you to the BDLS for their support over the past year which has resulted in the Forum coming to us in the South. The event is being held at School of Business Law and Communications, Southampton Solent University. Please join us for presentations, discussion and activities that will be of value and assistance to both those who are approaching qualification and those who have begun to acquire PQE, with speakers who are highly regarded and experienced in their field.

If you would like to sign up, or find more information, please visit this webpage:

#### http://communities.lawsociety.org.uk/juniorlawyers/events/jld-forum-junior-lawyer-skillsday-southampton-2-march/5066448.article

We look forward to joining the South Hampshire JLD for what we hope will be a successful and enjoyable day for all!

We have chosen a new Charity for the year 2018-2019 and will be fundraising for Dorset Community Foundation (DCF). DCF are a charity that holds a unique position within Dorset as the primary organisation for raising and distributing funding and grants making to good causes in the county. We are looking forward to fundraising for DCF over the next year and supporting their inspiring mission.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for the JLD over the coming year, please feel free to email me at: rachelmurphy@steeleraymond.co.uk

> Rachel Murphy President



### ARTICLES

### **DEATH CERTIFICATE** FEES

We have been informed by the Bournemouth Registration Service that as from 16 February 2019 the price of all certificates for births, marriages and deaths will be going up to  $\pounds 11$ . This includes current certificate as well a historical ones.

The rate for a death certificate at the time of registration is  $\pounds 4$  currently. It is then  $\pounds 7$  until the register is closed and then  $\pounds 10$  after the register is closed. The new  $\pounds 11$ fee will simplify this as it will now be the same price for a current register certificate or an archived one.

### LESTER ALDRIDGE PARTNER SLAMS NEW "STEALTH TAX" ON ESTATES.

Kurt Lee, Partner and Head of Private Client at Dorset law firm, Lester Aldridge, slammed the Government's announcement of changes to probate fees as a new "stealth tax" on estates.

At the moment, the probate fee is fixed at  $\pounds155$  where solicitors apply and  $\pounds215$  for personal applications. This is the same fee for all estates no matter what the value. The work done by the Probate Registry to issue a grant is also largely the same for every estate. Under the new proposals, the current threshold for fee exemption of £5,000 will be raised to £50,000. For higher value estates, the fees paid will be banded according to the value of the estate and will range from £250 to £6,000 for estate over £2m. These fees are, however, a reduction from fee proposals announced last year, when they suggested fees of up to £20,000.

These fees have to be paid before the grant is issued which could cause difficulty for the family and the deceased's personal representatives who will need to find the money to pay the probate fee as well as funding initial funeral costs and inheritance tax.

Kurt Lee said: "These increases are nothing but an additional tax on death designed to plug the huge funding gap now facing the Court system caused by previous Government cuts. It is unacceptable for a Government to impose a new tax, dressed up as a Court fee, without proper scrutiny from Parliament.

"These fees will present further difficulties for people trying to deal with the estate of their loved one at what is always a difficult time. It could mean paying more in fees out of their own pocket before they have the ability to access the deceased's funds for reimbursement, unless the bank agrees to make payment directly".



Kurt Lee



### Firms' News



### HUMPHRIES KIRK welcomes DARREN FRANCIS to the Poole office's family department

### HK Humphries Kirk

Darren qualified as a family law solicitor in 2016 and specialises in matters including divorce, guidance on legal separation, financial disputes and issues involving children. As a member of Resolution, the national organisation of family lawyers, Darren takes a pro-active and non-confrontational approach to resolving issues.

#### Solicitor appointed as Cub Scout Leader

Sean Reeves, a solicitor in the Land Law department at Humphries Kirk, has volunteered as a Cub Scout Leader for the 15th Milford and Keyhaven Scouts.

Joining Humphries Kirk earlier this year, Sean works in the firm's Bournemouth office. With more than five years' experience as a solicitor, Sean has particular experience in the field of residential conveyancing, acting for a wide range of clients from first time buyers to landlords and builders. Sean was named one of the UK's leading solicitors by The Sunday Times and The Guardian, winning 'Junior Solicitor of the Year Award' at the 2015 Hampshire Legal Awards.

Cub Scouts are a section of The Scout Association for young boys and girls aged 8 to 10 and a half. Cub Scouts are introduced to exciting outdoor skills and take part in adventurous activities, as well as camps and residential experiences. Leaders are entrusted to teach skills for teamwork, leadership and resilience, aiming to prepare young people with skills for life. Sean commented: "My new role as a Cub Scout Leader is both challenging and rewarding. I'm currently working with the Cub Scouts on earning a variety of badges such as their Personal Safety Activity Badge. Each Cub Scout has different abilities, so it's important to adapt badges and challenges based on their requirements and abilities."

In December 2018, Sean guided the 15th Milford and Keyhaven Cub Scouts on a beach clean of Milford Beach. The Cub Scouts were encouraged to pick up all the litter and learn the importance of keeping the beach waste free.



Sean is the scout leader on the right!

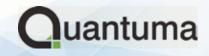
#### Humphries Kirk scoops first place at Quantuma's Bournemouth Charity Quiz Night



Martin Varley, Roger Cole, Rebecca Brown, Stephanie Bellamy, Darrell Stuart-Smith, David Meany and Howard Yarnold

This event was held at AFC Bournemouth's Vitality Stadium in November. The law firm won first place at this Quiz Night and drew joint second place nationally out of more than 100 teams.

HK were able to donate £1412.50 to Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance – one of its nominated charities which it supports via fundraising activities.





### STEELE RAYMOND continues expansion in Southbourne with appointment of contentious wills, trusts and probate lawyer

### SteeleRaymond<sup>LLF</sup> Because your business is personal



Solicitor Jesamine Somerville joins the Tax, Trusts, Wills & Probate team and follows a number of key appointments at Steele Raymond over the last two years.

Northampton-born Jesamine moved to Hampshire and Dorset 12 years ago and prior to joining Steele Raymond trained with The Waring Partnership LLP. She will be assisting in matters relating to contentious wills and estates (including claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants Act 1975), trust disputes and applications in the Court of Protection as well as personal injury and clinical negligence claims and matters relating to Education. Jesamine will be working closely with John Andrews, a specialist in all these areas.

#### **Appointment of Operations Director**

Natasha Boyland joins Steele Raymond to manage and develop the administration of the business. With a career of over 12 years working within senior operations teams, Natasha has substantial experience in providing operational management and support to a number of large law firms throughout the UK and will be responsible for managing all operational activities for the organisation and report directly to the firm's Management Board.



Managing Partner of Steele Raymond Peter Rolph welcomes new Operations Director Natasha Boyland

#### **Two Commercial Property Solicitors Appointed**

Associate solicitors Chris Elliott and Luke Mowbray are the latest senior additions to the firm's commercial property team.

Bournemouth-born Chris Elliott, has over five years' experience in both commercial and residential development work as well as dealing with property investment for both developers and landowners.

Luke Mowbray joins the firm having trained and qualified in 2014 at a large Wiltshire based law firm. Luke advises clients on all aspects of their commercial property requirements including complex disposals, acquisitions, expansions, relocations and lease renewal work. Luke also has a particular specialism in charity property law.

These appointments boost an already 17-strong commercial property team at Steele Raymond.

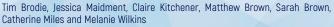


Luke Mowbray, Chris Twaites (Head of Commercal Property) and Chris Elliott

### **LESTER ALDRIDGE – Associate Promotions**

Lester Aldridge is pleased to announce eight new associates from I November across the Bournemouth and Southampton offices.

Promotions to associate include Tim Brodie and Catherine Miles in the Litigation & Recoveries team, Sarah Brown, Jessica Maidment and Claire Kitchener in the Real Estate team, Melanie Wilkins in the Private Client team, all based in Bournemouth, and Jennie Harris in the LA Marine team and Sian Rowland in the Real Estate team, both based in Southampton.









dc Dutton Gregory

### **DUTTON GREGORY - Internal Promotions**

Dutton Gregory has recently awarded promotions to six of its lawyers at Associate and Senior Associate level from across Hampshire and Dorset in various areas of law including property, family, tax, wills and probate.

The promotions are as follows:

- William Warnock, Commercial Property, Poole Associate CILEx
- Sarah Sams, Residential Property, Chandler's Ford Associate Solicitor
- Jonathan Whettingsteel, Family, Winchester Associate Solicitor
- Helen Phillips, Residential Property, Bournemouth Associate CILEx
- Julia Davies, Commercial Property, Chandler's Ford Associate Solicitor
- Jeremy Tucker, Tax, Wills and Probate, Bournemouth Senior Associate Solicitor

#### **TRETHOWANS – New Partners**

### TRETHOWANS

Trethowans have announced 3 new partners – two existing employees have been promoted and a new member of staff has joined Trethowans in a partner role.

Kimberley Davies – previously a senior associate within the family team based in the Poole and Bournemouth offices. She specialises in family law, is also a qualified family mediator with experience in private law adoptions.

Kimberley Davies and Mihiri Gajraj

Mihiri Gajraj – also promoted from senior associate, she joined Trethowans in June 2015 based in the firm's Southampton and Salisbury private client teams. Mihiri is a member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners.

Emma Earp - has recently joined Trethowans. She trained and practised in London, specialising in banking. She is based at the firm's Bournemouth office.

### **SCOTT BAILEY – Continues to Grow**



Last year, Scott Bailey acquired much needed additional office space, so that they are now able to expand their team of lawyers and support staff. Shona Cox has joined the Tax, Trusts, Wills and Probate team - she is a certified Accountant. Shona brings with her a wealth of knowledge having had over twenty years' experience in industry and accountancy practice. She has a particular expertise in tax matters. She will be working closely with Parisa Jones and Richard Wadsworth who jointly head up the Private Client team.

Jason Grimster, formerly a law lecturer at Brockenhurst College has now qualified as a FILEX. He is working alongside Senior Partner Nick Jutton as part of the expanding litigation team. Whilst undertaking the full range of litigation work, Jason has a particular focus on possession cases and debt collection.









### LACEYS MEDIATION celebrate reaching 20,000 Cases

### LACEYS SOLICITORS

Laceys Mediation have a spring in their step having recently reached the significant milestone of 20,000 cases, highlighting the wealth of experience the team have gained over the years working with families to find the best solution for everyone moving forward.

The Mediation department was set up in 1999 and has been headed up by Gemma Burden for the last 8 years. Gemma who has equal experience as a family solicitor and mediator over the last 20 years, works alongside Kenneth Clarke, a lawyer mediator with over 40 years' experience in family law, who heads up the Southampton office. The Mediation team sits within Laceys large Family department, enabling us to offer our clients a full range of services, from mediation through to other dispute resolution options, allowing them to decide how this emotionally challenging time in their life is handled.



Alex Edwards, Gemma Burden, Becca Cornwell, Kenneth Clarke



### SITUATIONS VACANT SPECIALIST LEASEHOLD PROPERTY LAWYER

### TRETHOWANS

### **TRETHOWANS LLP**

Trethowans is the UK's fastest growing independent law firm (The Lawyer, 2017) offering a comprehensive range of services for businesses and individual clients. It has more than 200 members of staff, including over 80 lawyers and 40 partners, who act for many international and national household brand names and a variety of individual clients throughout the UK.

Trethowans now operates out of six locations, with permanent offices in Salisbury, Southampton, Poole, Bournemouth and Winchester, as well as a serviced office in London.

#### Due to our continued growth, we are looking to recruit in the following areas:

#### **Residential Property - Solicitor/Legal Executive - Bournemouth**

We are looking for an experienced lawyer to join the Residential Property Team based in our Bournemouth office. The successful candidate will have 3+ years' experience and will be able to demonstrate detailed knowledge and technical expertise in dealing with complex residential property conveyancing caseloads. The role involves working closely with colleagues from across the Firm as well as a variety of professionals in other organisations. The ideal candidate will therefore have the ability to adopt a creative, pragmatic and commercial approach.

The ideal candidate will have a following and the more developed it is the better. Candidates will be required to take an active role in marketing and business development and should be able to demonstrate success in generating, growing and retaining work.

#### **Corporate - Associate - Bournemouth**

We are looking for an experienced lawyer to join the Corporate Team based in our Bournemouth office.

The Firm's existing Corporate Team is a large and established Team based in our Southampton office but there is an exciting opportunity for an experienced lawyer looking for their next challenge to help build a Corporate Team in this location.

Our existing team offers extensive expertise in all areas of corporate work, advising clients on a local, regional and national basis, including several household brand names.

The ideal candidate will have gained experience in corporate work at either a local leading regional practice or from a city firm looking for a new challenge on the South Coast. The successful candidate should have a following or have the ability to generate work and take an active role in marketing and business development in order to expand and develop this area of work in the Bournemouth office.

### TRETHOWANS

### TRETHOWANS LLP...Continued

#### **Commercial - Associate/Partner - Bournemouth**

We are looking for an experienced lawyer to join our successful Commercial Team based in our Bournemouth office.

The Firm's existing team is a large and established team based in our Southampton office but there is an exciting opportunity for an experienced lawyer looking for their next challenge to help build a team in this location.

Our existing team offers strength across all areas of commercial work and advise clients on a local, regional and national basis, including several household brand names.

The ideal candidate will have gained experience in commercial contracts work at either a city or leading regional practice. Candidates should have a following or be able to demonstrate the ability to generate work and take an active role in marketing and business development in order to expand and develop this area of work in the Bournemouth office.

#### **Employment & Immigration - Associate/Partner - Bournemouth**

As part of our plans for growth, we are looking for an experienced employment lawyer to join our successful Employment Team based in our Bournemouth office.

The Firm's existing Employment and Immigration Team is an established team working in our Southampton and Salisbury offices. Now there is an exciting opportunity for an experienced lawyer looking for their next challenge to help build a team in this location.

Our existing team offers extensive expertise in employment and immigration work, acting for national and regional employers, including a number of household names. We also act for senior executives and other workers.

The right candidate will help to support the existing team, in offering a high quality client focused service to our extensive client base. The successful candidate should have a following and experience in taking an active role in marketing and business development in order to expand and develop this area of work in the Bournemouth office.

If you are looking for a new challenge and you think you have the necessary skills and experience, then please visit https://bit.ly/2FIEByu to apply.

### LACEYS

### LACEYS SOLICITORS

LACEYS are looking for an experienced Commercial Solicitor to work within their progressive award winning Corporate Commercial department.

The role will involve working with existing clients on Commercial and Consumer Contracts, some prior experience of Intellectual Property would be desirable but is not essential.

The position would suit someone of at least 5 years PQE working as a Commercial Solicitor, or similar experience, however, all experience will be considered. We are looking for someone who is personable, and has the self-motivation for business development and networking.

If this opportunity could be of interest, please apply with a CV and covering email in confidence to Sam Freeman at s.freeman@laceyssolicitors.co.uk.

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