

Newsletter

May 2008



DEVON & SOMERSET
LAW SOCIETY
1808 - 2008



“Law at a Time of Great Change”

DASLS Bicentenary Lecture
with Joshua Rozenberg

Saturday 7th June 2008
University of Exeter

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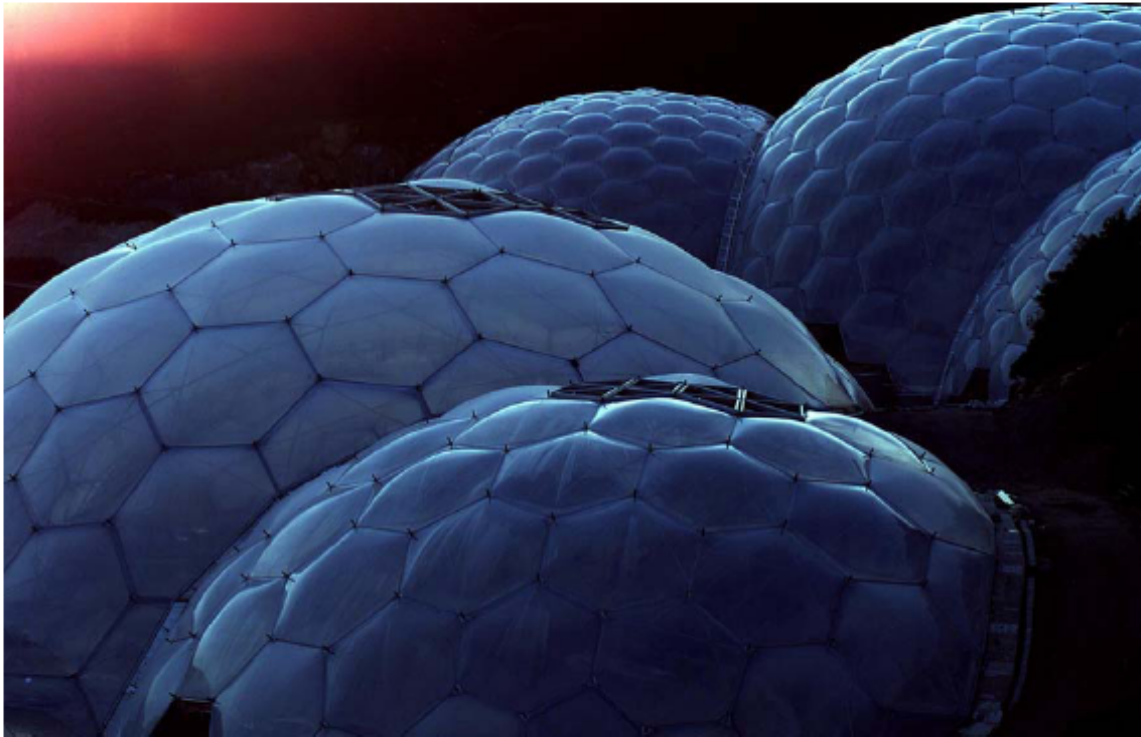
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President's Diary

By Alec McNeill, President

One of my first tasks as your new President is to write a diary page for the Newsletter! Every new President has his own style but a common theme is that all have felt as I do now; both honoured and privileged to have been elected to serve as President of a Society which is, without doubt, the best of its kind.



As you all know by now it is 200 years since the inaugural meeting of the Society on 1st November 1808 and there are several events to be held over the next few months to celebrate the Bicentenary. A lot of hard work has been involved in organising these and I hope as many members as possible will participate and take the opportunity to meet with old and new friends.

The Presidential Calendar for the coming weeks looks fairly full and, with the indulgence of my Partners, I shall be representing the Society at the Annual Dinner of the Dorset Law Society on 16th May followed, the next week, by attendance at the FBE Convention in Istanbul where I will join Rod Mole and Michael Cosgrave in promoting the attractions of Torquay to our European colleagues in order to maximise attendance at the FBE Convention to be hosted by the Society in October.

DASLS now has a membership in excess of 1000 and this year I want to see that number increase. I would especially like to see more Somerset Members as that County is currently underrepresented within the Society. I have written directly to a number of Somerset Solicitors and I hope to follow this initiative through during the year. I ask all Members to consider whether there is anyone they know who is not yet a member, but might respond to an invitation, to apply; the more members we have the stronger we shall be.

The future of the profession and our Society is with the younger members and the Society has sought to encourage them to become more involved. We have had good results and I am keen to build on these over the coming months. With that in mind we will be hosting "extension" lunches around the Region for some of the newer members of the Society. The message will be that the

Society is not a remote organisation for a few old Solicitors but a Society for all Solicitors regardless of age or status who want to join in.

It is customary for each new President to nominate a charity to support during his year of office. As a Trustee of the North Devon Hospice based in Barnstaple I have decided to

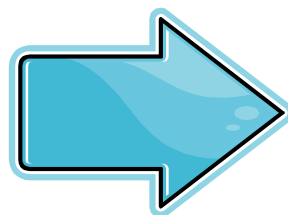
nominate it as my chosen charity. There are several Hospices within Devon and Somerset and all do excellent work and are worthy of our support but for me to nominate all would have spread support too thin and I make no apology for the fact that I am using my position as President to favour my own! However, I would ask you all to support your own local Hospices whenever the opportunity arises.

I look forward to the coming year with excitement [and trepidation] and I thank you all for giving me this opportunity to represent you and our Society. Together with our two Vice-Presidents, James Cross and Rebecca Parkman, and the other members of the Executive I will confront what the year brings and seek to represent your interests to the best of my ability.

Finally, it is usual to say "thank you" after the event but I think it appropriate to express my appreciation now for all the hard work done by the team at Renslade House, without them the Society would not be where it is today and it is reassuring to know that they are going to be there to support and guide [if not "organise"] me in the coming months.

Want to know more about your new President?

Turn to page 7 to read an interview with Alec McNeill



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
★ **Congratulations!** ★
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
★ Chris Hart (DASLS President 2006-★
★ 2007) has recently been elected to the ★
★ Executive Committee of the Law ★
★ Society's Law Management Section. ★
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

News from the Office

By Tony Steiner,
Membership Services Manager

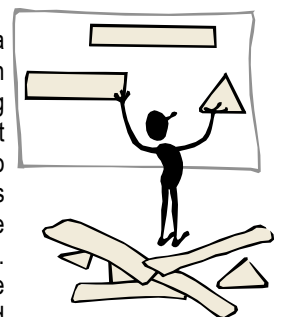
Doubtless you will have read in the Society's AGM papers distributed with the last Newsletter about the continuing success of the services provided to DASLS members.

2007 saw an increase in the number of training courses and of the delegates attending them. The recruitment arm provided many quality recruits for firms across Devon. The 'out of court' mediation service recorded a 100% settlement rate and we hosted a number of very enjoyable social events. Demand for other services including the Complaints Conciliation continued to grow.

In 2008 we have been building on that success and hope that our new Somerset members will begin to sample the benefits that those in Devon have enjoyed for so long. We have increased our training provision and added events to our programme in Taunton and Yeovil.

So what next? DASLS is one of the strongest local law societies in the country. I want to hear what members think of their Society. Do we provide everything you expect? What else would you like? How can we help in a changing landscape?

I hope to visit a number of firms in the coming months to find out the answers to these questions and talk about the services we offer. If you would like me to call and see you then let me know by calling 01392 494110 or e-mailing tony@dasls.com



Speaker's Corner

Planning Law Update by David Forbes

Town and Country Planning is always in the news but, at the moment, it seems to be more so than ever.

Apart from the Planning Reform Bill, which is wending its way through the House of Lords, the Government has now introduced the Heritage Protection Bill on the 2nd April 2008. Looking first of all at the Planning Reform Bill, this gives effect to many of the proposals in the Barker Review of 2006.

It introduces the concept of an Independent Planning Commission to determine applications for major infrastructure developments such as new airports and major energy projects. It is aimed at reducing the huge length of time which (for example) projects such as Terminal 5 at Heathrow took to be approved (five and a half years.) Some may now question whether that was worth it!! The idea is that there should no longer be lengthy cross-examination and presentation of cases, but simply written representations from applicants and objectors. It is intended that the whole process should take 9 months from start to finish. Friends of the Earth have already indicated that they will challenge this proposal in the Courts, as they consider that it breaches the Human Rights of objectors to such proposals.

In addition, the Bill proposes the concept of

Local Members Review Boards. The idea is that many planning applications should be delegated to officers of the Local Planning Authority for decisions. If they refuse an application, it is proposed that there should no longer be a right of appeal to the Planning Inspectorate, but only a right to have the decision reviewed by a panel consisting of elected members of the same Local Authority. Again, this seems totally contrary to Human Rights law as there is no independent right of appeal.

The Bill also proposes that in future, the manner in which an appeal to the Inspectorate is conducted (by written representations, Hearing or Public Inquiry) should be decided by the Inspectorate, rather than by the appellant or the Local Authority. Again, an apparent abrogation of the Human Rights of both the Appellant and the Local Authority. In addition, a fee may be required from the appellant before the appeal is accepted. Whether this fee will be repayable in the event of the appeal being successful is not yet clear.

The Heritage Protection Bill introduces an entirely new concept of Heritage Assets. In future, all listed buildings, registered parks, gardens, battlefields, scheduled monuments, and marine heritage assets will simply be known as Heritage Assets.

The main changes to the existing law will be that there will be consultation before an asset is registered, and a right of appeal against subsequent registration. There will also be a greater level of detail in the description of the Heritage Asset and probably a map accompanying it to show the extent of the cartilage of the asset. There are many other changes proposed to both listed buildings and Conservation Areas but we need to see how the Bill will progress through Parliament.

Apart from the above 2 Bills, there are 4 Private Members Bills in relation to planning matters at present before Parliament (which may or may not see the light of day!) As from April 2008 we also have the new Standard Planning Application Forms which will give rise to a lot of discussions between Applicants and Local Authorities as to what constitutes a valid Planning Application. All in all, plenty of work for lawyers still in the planning field for many years to come!!

David Forbes will be presenting two seminars at Exeter Racecourse on Thursday June 12th: Planning Law for Residential Conveyancers and Planning Law for Commercial Property Lawyers

Further details can be obtained from Charlotte at the DASLS office or from www.dasls.com

Solicitors' guidance service goes 9 to 5

The profession ethics helpline that offers guidance to solicitors is being extended to run from 9am – 5pm on weekdays.

The service, which handles about 4,000 calls a month, is being expanded by the Solicitors Regulation Authority in response to demand from solicitors.

Antony Townsend, Chief Executive of the Solicitors Regulation Authority said "We have listened and responded to those who wanted the service to run longer hours. Our ethics advisers will now be able to advise people before and after court hours, as well as help solicitors at the start of their day.

"A key part of our role as a regulator is to offer support to those who are trying to act

ethically within the rules but may need help with interpretation. We would much rather help solicitors to get it right than have to deal with the consequences of a rule breach after the event. We hope this improvement to this much-valued service will help solicitors comply with their professional obligations".

Previously the service ran from 11.00 am until 1.00 pm and 2.00 to 4.00pm. Liz McNulty, SRA Director of Standards said:

"Only being open for four hours a day was not an adequate level of service and this was causing frustration all round. By revising the working pattern of advisers we've been able to expand the opening hours. When we have recruited and trained staff to fill our current vacancies we plan to provide an excellent level of service.

"Although we introduced the 9 – 5 service in late February, we did not advertise it until now as we wished to pilot the new arrangement and thereby avoid any Terminal 5 type meltdown".

The most common queries to the helpline are about conflicts of interest and confidentiality and disclosure matters. Other topics in the top five are accounts rules, referral arrangements and retainer and relationship with client issues. The guidance service is confidential but solicitors are urged to consult the Code of Conduct before phoning in.

The phone number for the professional ethics guidance service is
0870 606 2577

Meeting Young People's Advice Needs – Clients With a Difference

By James McNally

It is easy to be complacent as a lawyer. To sit in your office and think that you will be the first person to be called when someone needs legal advice. Attending a meeting of the Youth Parliament for the South West last month was therefore something of a wake up call with solicitors featuring way down the bottom of the list of potential legal advisors after teachers, parents, Google and the priesthood.

The Youth Parliament were sitting at the offices of Learning South West in Taunton and this was the first meeting of all the new members of Parliament following recent elections. I had been invited by Law Society Regional Manager Mary Jackson.

The Law Society and Legal Services Commission had become involved with the Parliament when Mary had met the LSC Commissioner for Wales and the South West, Tom Jones last year. They had a shared aim of helping young people (aged 14 to 18) obtain legal advice with Tom particularly passionate about finding out exactly what young people needed in terms of advice. Over time, Pamela Judge the Regional Communications Manager from the LSC, Helen Scadding from the CAB and Sharon Adams from Learning South West had also joined forces and had worked together to create a suitable programme for a very specific and different audience.

On arrival at the Youth Parliament, it was clear that this was a very different audience. Less dinner at Granita and more lunch on the set of "Skins" as hooded youths, ignoring the risk of thrombosis in their skin tight jeans, attacked the buffet. One MP, no doubt taking inspiration from Teresa May's leopard print shoes, was wearing cat ears. This was the youth of today and the parliamentary future of tomorrow. Scary stuff but their table manners were far better than those you would see on display at the Bullingdon club.

As part of the programme the Youth Parliament had been divided into groups and asked the following:

1. What situations can you think of when young people might need legal advice?
2. If you had one of these problems where would you go for help?
3. Have you been for help with one of these problems and how was it?

Their answers made it clear that what was wanted was someone they could trust and someone they could connect with. Someone who would listen and advise in confidence. Solicitors did not even register on their radar. Nine times out of ten they didn't identify that they had a legal problem and that there was a legal solution. In a discussion regarding domestic violence their solution was to leave home or live with friends. Rather distressingly



there was no thought that they were the victims and that the law might offer them protection.

Equally worrying was that there was a lack of knowledge in respect of the duty solicitors scheme, the CAB or legal aid and there was a distinct prejudice against solicitors passed on from media to parent to child. To them, we remain aloof and expensive. We are suit wearing toffs to be seen as a last resort before prison.

Law firms always like to promote themselves as been "approachable and accessible." What was apparent from the discussions we sat in on was that these words need to be more than just a strapline in the Yellow Pages. It really is a case where you have to practise what you preach and make some very definite

changes to create a modern law firm.

The Youth MP's suggested more publicity aimed directly at their age group or even visits to schools and youth centres explaining what services are available. They also want to know that if they visit a solicitor they will be entering an environment which they feel comfortable in. They want to be able to speak to someone they can relate to and they suggested Saturday and after school surgeries. It may be that many practices already offer these services but if they do, the people who matter know nothing about them.

Pamela Judge at the LSC had funded memory sticks for all those who attended giving full details of where to go for help and

advice with links to Law Society websites and other organisations, like Shelter and the NUS, so about 50 people left with more knowledge about legal services than they had arrived with. But it is just a drop in a very large ocean. The Youth MP's were intelligent and well educated and had an interest in the very issues we were talking about but they knew little about solicitors and what the law can do. If they reflect the rest of the country then there remains a lot of work for the Law Society, LSC and individual firms to do. It is easy to dismiss the legal problems of potential clients

aged under 18. Sometimes dealing with them isn't cost effective but the problems are genuine and we are often in a position to offer solutions. Firms are more than happy to send lawyers into schools to talk about careers but perhaps they should also consider talking about what the law can actually offer them in terms of services. If the child in the class room remembers that they can turn to a solicitor at the first instance rather than the internet or a priest it can only be of benefit.

The above picture shows James McNally and Tom Jones meeting the Youth Parliament for the South West



DASLS Challenge Cup



River Dart Boat Trip

Friday 4th July 2008
@ 7.00 from Totnes

Champagne reception
(sponsored by Quay West Wines)

Luxury buffet

Jazz Music from Robin Reece

Tickets £25.00 + VAT (£29.38)
per person

Flyer herewith

Places strictly limited so book
early to avoid disappointment!

This event is generously
sponsored by Stewart Title

The DASLS Challenge Cup got off to a flying start in April with an evening of skittles in Starcross.

Challenge Cup events will now take place every month until February 2009. The current league table is shown below. Each firm will move up the league by entering as many different events as they choose over the year and gaining points. Points, of course, mean prizes and the "DASLS Challenge Cup" will be awarded to the league leaders at the dinner in February 2009 after the final event has been completed.

A wide range of events are being considered and suggestions are more than welcome. Please email charlotte@dasls.com with any ideas of sports or games that could be included, along with any possible venues.

May's event will be **tag rugby** and further details will be available soon.

If you missed the first event, then don't worry. Firms can enter teams at any point during the year.



DASLS CHALLENGE CUP LEAGUE TABLE

| Position | Team | Points |
|----------|----------------------|--------|
| 1 | Ford Simey | 5 |
| 2 | Veitch Penny | 3 |
| 3 | Hooper & Wollen | 1 |
| 4 | Charlesworth Nicholl | 0 |
| 5 | Everyys | 0 |
| 6 | Over Taylor Biggs | 0 |
| 7 | Trowers and Hamllins | 0 |

Torquay Charity Business Quiz

DASLS will be holding a fun quiz evening on May 22nd 2008 at the Boots & Laces, Marnham Road, Torquay at 7.00 for 7.30pm.

Places are available for teams of up to 6 people at a cost of £5 per person. This includes a light buffet on the evening.

All profits shall be split equally between Farms for City Children and Macmillan Cancer Support.

Bookings should be sent to the DASLS office and cheques made payable to "Farms for City Children".

Don't Forget!

Bicentenary Lecture with
Joshua Rozenberg

Saturday 7th June 2008

Streatham Court
Exeter University

To make a booking simply
contact the DASLS office

DASLS Golf Day 2008

By Adam Bradford

The Devon & Somerset Law Society Golf Day took place at Saunton Golf Club in North Devon on 19th March 2008. We were very lucky with the weather and the course was in excellent condition. 15 DASLS members took part including Cyril Slocombe of Slee Blackwell (best individual score) and Michael Chittock, Justin Wallace and Adam Bradford of Brewer Harding & Rowe (winners of the team event). Lloyd Hale of Kitson Hutchings took the prize for nearest the pin (5th Hole) and Andrew Laugharne of Chanter Ferguson had the longest drive (18th). There is now a DASLS Trophy and hopefully this is an

annual event that will continue with an increasing numbers participating. Please contact Adam Bradford (adambradford@bhrlaw.co.uk) with suggestions for a similar event in 2009.



Solicitors Support Network

For confidential help ring

0800 328 4203

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**ARE YOU EXPERIENCING
PERSONAL OR PROFESSIONAL
PROBLEMS?**

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Support groups exist to assist you.**

Interview of the Month

Alec McNeill, President

Why did you join Devon & Somerset Law Society?

I have to confess that when I first joined the Society I did so simply because as a Devon Solicitor I felt I should and for a number of years I had little involvement other than to attend training events. I rather felt that the Society was for more "important" people but two years



ago I was asked to involve myself in an active capacity and I soon realised what I had been missing. The Society offers a great deal to Solicitors, young and old, and to trainees, not least the opportunity to meet and form friendships with colleagues around the area who might otherwise be just names on paper or occasional adversaries.

What is your dream job?

I think that it is often thought that the "grass is greener" but after a long career in North Devon I am quite content with what I have achieved.

What has been the most embarrassing moment during your professional career?

Over the years I have been embarrassed by the actions of others and by my own *faux pas* most of which I would prefer to forget. However one occasion I recall was when as a rather green young solicitor I appeared in the local Court for the putative father in a paternity case, my client had reluctantly accepted that as the result of a brief

indiscretion he was responsible but he was too embarrassed to face the lady in Court and sent me on my own to admit his paternity and agree the payment of maintenance; the Court Clerk was not impressed and made great play of pretending that my "admissions" were mine rather than on behalf

of my absent client!

Which sort of work gives you the most job satisfaction?

It is not so much the nature of the work as the result achieved which gives the most satisfaction. To know that a job has been well done is good but the most satisfaction comes from having a client who genuinely appreciates what has been achieved for them and does not take it all for granted. Those occasional "thank you" letters make the job worthwhile.

What do you do in your spare time?

I have avoided the temptation of golf and I enjoy reading, travel, DIY, gardening and most especially spending time with my family.

What book are you reading at the moment?

I tend to read anything and everything. I was a keen Harry Potter fan but my current

choice is the latest John Grisham novel; I enjoy the way his lawyer heroes practice!

What is the most recent film you have seen?

On a flight back from Australia a couple of weeks ago I watched so many films but the only one where I recall the name was a Disney Cartoon – "Ratatouille" which did entertain.

What is your favourite food?

I have always been willing to try new foods and probably Asian foods are amongst my favourite.

Which is your favourite restaurant?

We have two excellent Chinese restaurants in North Devon, Han Court in Fremington and The Fullam in Barnstaple and I should be pleased to accept invitations to either!

Where is your favourite holiday destination?

With two of our children now living and working in Sydney this has to be Australia.

What is your favourite pet?

Without doubt a dog, I have had one almost continuously since I was 8 years old and my wife always says that when she married me she married my dog as well. Currently the family dog is my daughter's aged and slightly daft Springer Spaniel.

Challenging Discrimination and Creating Opportunities

By Daniel Park, Group for Solicitors with Disabilities

Since it was established in 1989, the Group for Solicitors with Disabilities (GSD) has sought to bring to the fore the abilities and aspirations of disabled solicitors and those wishing to enter the profession, who are disabled.

As both the Law Society and the solicitors' profession continue to grow and to change, GSD feels that it is as vital as ever that due account is taken of the access needs those who are disabled. It is the GSD's intention to continue their work, developing and safeguarding the interests of all disabled people, whether solicitors, trainees, students or clients, and others who may be denied access to justice as a result of disability.

Our Aims

The GSD aims to achieve equality of opportunity for people with disabilities whether they are solicitors, would-be-solicitors, clients or members of the general public. Its particular objectives are:

- To provide a forum and to arrange meetings and conferences at which members of the Group may study and discuss matters relating to the objects of the Group of common interest and concern on a national or regional basis.
- To provide a forum which will enable solicitors with disabilities to put forward their concerns to The Law Society, government departments and the profession, and to others who have the power to affect the way that they are trained and the way that they work.
- To enable consultation between the Group and the Council of The Law Society, its committees, groups or recognised associations or any local law society upon matters of professional interest.
- To enable members to arrange activities, both business and social, which will further their mutual interests including the promotion and cultivation of contacts and the exchange of information and views with other groups.

- To promote and develop recognition for the issues facing solicitors with disabilities, and generally to promote the interests of people with disabilities, in particular in relation to their use of and access to legal services and facilities and to legislation affecting them. To collect appropriate information and to disseminate and publish the same for the benefit of members of the Group and for that purpose to produce and circulate publications, both electronic and hard copy.



Tanni Grey-Thompson at February's GSD Conference

Membership benefits

Membership to the Group for Solicitors with Disabilities (GSD) is open to Solicitors, Trainee Solicitors, Law Students, Inactive Solicitors and Retired Solicitors who consider themselves disabled under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended 2005). As a member of GSD you will benefit from a range of services and information including those listed below:

- Access to advice and assistance from a wide reaching network of Solicitors and legal professionals through the groups mentoring scheme. (See Projects section of the site for further information).
- Receipt of no fewer than three copies of The Bridge magazine per year, with the option to contribute articles of interest to the editor.
- Networking Opportunities with other GSD members and legal professionals at Committee meetings, AGM's and Conferences.
- Monthly e-mail updates of any new information added to the website. And much more.....

In February 2008, The GSD held its inaugural conference entitled "Doing your duty" in London which concentrated on the benefits of carrying out the Disability Equality Duty for public sector legal bodies. Many GSD members attended, both to input their feedback to the attending bodies, such as the CPS, LSC, SRA and the Law Society itself, and to gain important insights into the Disability Equality Duty in terms of continuing professional development. Speeches made at

the conference were widely reported in the headline article "Wake-up" call for firms on disability written by Jonathan Rayner in the Law Society Gazette (28th February) and the gala dinner was headed by guest speaker Dame Tanni Grey Thompson DBE, Britain's most successful Paralympic athlete ever.

To read more about the Group for Solicitors with Disabilities and how to join our group, subject to membership criteria, please go to our website: www.gsdnet.org.uk.



North Devon Young Professionals' Group is Launched

The launch party of the North Devon Young Professionals Group was held on Thursday 10 April 2008 at The Fountain on Trinity Street, Barnstaple.

30 young professionals from the fields of law, accountancy, banking and dentistry, gathered for food, drink and a prize draw, hosted by The Fountain owner, Kelvin Reay.

The event was sponsored by Slee Blackwell Solicitors and Cowling Commercial. Slee Blackwell partner with responsibility for trainee solicitors, Nick Arthur, said, "When some of our trainee solicitors approached me with the idea, I thought it was a fantastic way for them to begin developing business links and making new friends as they embark on their careers in North Devon."

The aim of the Group is to help people at the start of their careers make business contacts.

Heard it on the Grapevine

By Andrew Ford, Quay West Wines



and get to know one another on a professional and social level in an informal setting. Founding member, Iain Robinson, said, "We came up with the idea when discussing how difficult it can be returning to the area after university, or coming to North Devon for the first time, to meet people in a similar position to build networks and support one another."

The Group is open to any young professional in North Devon. There will be informal gatherings every Thursday, alternating between Barnstaple and Bideford, and social outings, such as paintballing and quad biking.

Visit the website www.ndyp.co.uk for further details.



The above picture shows the founding members of the North Devon Young Professionals' Group (from l to r) Emily Hockin, Iain Robinson, Russell Dowling (all Slee Blackwell), Charlotte Lockett (Cowling Commercial)

Corsica is one of the oldest wine regions in the world. Wild grapes were growing here six thousand years ago.

The collapse of the Roman Empire led to unsettled times in Corsica, and the vineyards fell into disuse. The island was controlled firstly by Pisa and later at the end of the thirteenth century by Genoa. The commercially minded Genoans secured a monopoly on Corsican wines and the industry became the most important on the island. The Corsican population repeatedly revolted against the occupation and forced the island to be sold to France in 1768.

This did not change anything in the wine trade. Napoleon Bonaparte, a native of Ajaccio, granted the islanders the right to sell their wine free of excise duty.

There are nine wine regions in Corsica, these are Patrimonio, Ajaccio, Vin de Corse, Vin de Corse Calvi, Vin de Corse Coteaux du Cap Corse, Vin de Corse Figari, Vin de Corse Porto Vecchio, Vin de Corse Sartene and finally Muscat de Cap Corse.

In 1850, or thereabouts, Corsica had 20,000 hectares planted with vineyards and three quarters of its population made a living from the wine trade. Less than 50 years later phylloxera, (a parasite which destroys vines), ravaged the vineyards. The First World War also played its part as a large proportion of the male population was killed.

However, a new enthusiasm occurred in the 1960's brought about by French Algerians. They extended the cultivated areas and this was followed by a new generation of wine growers interested in quality and traditional grape varieties. However, EU regulations launched a programme of digging up vineyards at this time and between 1978 and 1998 the output fell by 80%.

The industry is strictly controlled and irrigation of the vineyards and chaptalization (addition of sugar) are banned for these wines. Red wine production makes up 50%, white wines 10% and Rose 40%. There are some 20 grape varieties planted on the island, but the interest of the growers focuses on 3 varieties, namely, the white *vermentino*, the red *nielluccio* and the red *sciacarello*.

WINE OFFER

Devon & Somerset Law Society in association with Quay West Wines are pleased to offer Society members 12 bottle mixed cases of Corsican White and Rose Domaine Fiumicicoli (the Rose gained a silver medal at the Paris tastings last year), at the reduced price of £8.99 per bottle including vat.

Delivery is free throughout Devon and there are no other hidden costs

If there is ever a particular wine you are looking for we will do our best to source it for you.

Telephone: 01392 - 841833

Fax: 01392 - 841996

E-mail:

sales@quaywestwines.co.uk

Associate Membership

Associate Membership of DASLS is available for all trainee solicitors in the area.

Associate membership is free and forms can be found at www.dasls.com

DASLS is now on Facebook!

With thanks to the technical know-how of Charlotte and Rebecca in the DASLS office, Devon & Somerset Law Society now have a Facebook group. Information about the Society's services and events will be posted on there, and we hope to get some photos up soon.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY FOR 2008/2009

The Officers were elected as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| President | Alec McNeill (North Devon), Peter Peter & Wright, Barnstaple. |
| Vice President | James Cross (South Devon), Kitson Hutchings, Torquay. |
| Junior Vice President | Rebecca Parkman (Somerset), Wards, Weston-super-Mare. |
| Honorary Secretary | Anthony Spiers MBE, Exeter. |
| Honorary Treasurer | Richard Adams, Crosse & Crosse, Exeter. |
| Immediate Past President | Erik Salomonsen (Exeter & East Devon), Bond Pearce, Exeter. |
| The Law Society Council Member | Rod Mole, Chanter Ferguson, Bideford. |

Apart from the Officers above, the Committee Members (including co-options) are as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Chair: Education & Training Sub-Committee | Martin Justice, Symes Robinson & Lee, CREDITON. |
| Chair: International Relations Sub-Committee | Rod Mole, Chanter Ferguson, Bideford. |
| Chair: Contentious Business Sub-Committee | David Turner, Foot Anstey, Exeter. |
| Chair: Mediation Sub-Committee | Angus McNicol, Foot Anstey, Exeter. |
| Chair: Non Contentious Business Sub-Committee | Patricia Durham-Hall, Taunton. |
| Chair: Practice Management Sub-Committee | Hugh Winterbotham, Stones, Exeter. |
| Chair: Social Sub-Committee | Marie Macfarlane, Veitch Penny, Exeter. |
| Local Government Representative | Roger Gash, Devon County Council, Exeter. |
| Crown Prosecution Service Representative | David Bowen, Exeter. |
| Solicitors Benevolent Association Representative | Jeremy Lee, Symes Robinson & Lee, CREDITON. |

Darren White, Ashfords, Exeter.

Crispin Hayllar, Alletsons, Bridgwater.

Kevin Shearn, Stones, Taunton.

Chris Hart, Hooper & Wollen, Torquay.

Stephen Lawson, Foot Anstey, Exeter.

Peter Cox, Boyce Hatton, Torquay.

Tom Penny, Notary Public, Willand.

Alastair Teague, University of Plymouth.

Zoë Sims, Peter Peter & Wright, Barnstaple.

Michael Cosgrave, Harold Michelmores & Co., Newton Abbot.

If you would like to find out more about the work of the Sub-Committees and get involved in the Society's activities, please contact the Administrator, Miss Monique Bertoni, at DASLS office: Renslade House, Bonhay Road, Exeter, Devon, EX4 3AY. Tel. 01392 411585 or monique@dasls.com

Why should you choose DASLS seminars?

We offer a local, cost-effective way for practitioners to gain CPD hours and to keep up to date with current developments in the law. We are responsive to requests for seminars on particular subject matters. Meetings are held with solicitors throughout the year to discuss potential topics and all suggestions are considered. We endeavour to secure high-quality speakers for our seminars, and we welcome suggestions of specialists we can invite.

You can now sign up for the monthly training e-bulletin containing details of all our courses and links to online flyers. Simply e-mail charlotte@dasls.com to subscribe.



Don't forget ...

All DASLS members receive a discount when booking courses.

Commercial Agents – Would You Know One if You Saw One?

Tuesday 3rd June 2008:
6.00 – 7.00 pm: 1 hour CPD
Andrew Marsden, *St John's Chambers, Bristol*

Pitfalls of Conveying an Insolvent Property

Wednesday 4th June 2008:
4.00 – 6.15 pm: 2 hours CPD
Stephen Lawson, *Consultant at Foot Anstey, Exeter*

Options, Pre-emptions and Conditional Contracts & Mixed Use Developments – the Problems with Residential Tenants

Thursday 5th June 2008
10.15am – 1.30pm: 3 hours CPD
Peta Dollar

Commercial Leases

Thursday 5th June 2008
2.00pm – 5.15pm: 3 hours CPD
Peta Dollar

Restrictive Covenants and Overage (Tiverton)

Wednesday 11th June 2008
9.45am – 1.00pm: 3 hours CPD
Richard Snape

Planning Update for Residential Conveyancers

Thursday 12th June 2008
9.45am – 1.00pm: 3 hours CPD
David Forbes

Planning Update for Commercial Property Lawyers

Thursday 12th June 2008
2.00pm – 5.15pm: 3 hours CPD
David Forbes

Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act 1975 (Yeovil)

Thursday 12th June 2008:
9.45am – 1.00pm 3 hours CPD
John Thurston

Wills Probate and Administration of Estates Update (Yeovil)

Thursday 12th June 2008:
2.00pm – 5.15pm 3 hours CPD
John Thurston

Boundary Disputes and Adverse Possession

Wednesday 18th June 2008:
2.00pm – 5.15pm 3 hours CPD
Gary Webber

Civil Litigation for Paralegals and Support Staff

Wednesday 18th June 2008:
9.45am – 4.30pm
Maggie Hemsworth, *University of Plymouth*

Conveyancing for Paralegals and Support Staff (Tiverton)

Thursday 19th June 2008:
9.45am – 5.00pm
Alastair Teague, *University of Plymouth*

Conveyancing and Family Homes

Tuesday 24th June 2008
9.45am – 1.00pm: 3 hours CPD
Richard Snape

Mortgages and CML Handbook

Tuesday 24th June 2008
2.00pm – 5.15pm: 3 hours CPD
Richard Snape

Solicitors' Accounts Rules (Tiverton)

Wednesday 25th June 2008:
9.30am – 4.45pm
Linda Lambert, *Institute of Legal Cashiers & Administrators*

Company Law

Thursday 26th June 2008
10.00am – 5.15 pm: 6 hours CPD
Stephen Broomhall

Receptionist Training (Tiverton)

Thursday 3rd July 2008:
10.00am – 4.00pm
Andrew Dines

Mental Capacity Update

Friday 4th July 2008
2.00pm – 4.15pm: 2 hours CPD
Denzil Lush

Advising the Suspect at the Police Station (Tiverton)

Tuesday 8th July 2008
9.45am – 5.00 pm: 6 hours CPD
Colin Beaumont

Agricultural Law Update (Tiverton)

Wednesday 9th July 2008
2.00pm – 5.15pm: 3 hours CPD
Nigel Davis

For full course details and prices, simply download flyers from our website:
www.dasls.com

Book via the website or phone Charlotte on 01392 411585

All courses are held in the Exeter area unless otherwise indicated