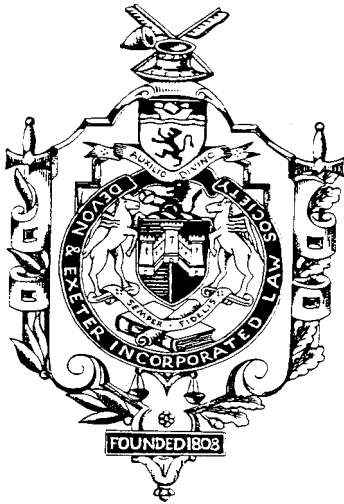


# *Devon & Exeter Law Society*

## **NEWSLETTER ONLINE EDITION**



**MAY 2003**

**Honorary Secretary**  
Anthony Spiers

**Administrative Office**  
Miss Monique Bertoni, *Administrator*  
Tony Steiner, *Membership Services Manager*  
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Renslade House  
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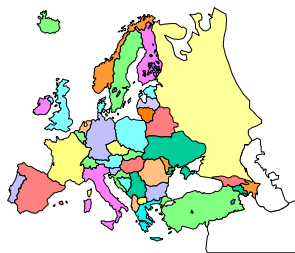
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# REMEMBER

DELS can provide  
Personal Introductions  
to Lawyers in Mainland  
Europe

Ring Monique on  
01392 411585



## PRESIDENT'S DIARY



Jeremy Howell (left) receives the  
President's Jewel from outgoing  
President Jeremy Ferguson

At the AGM of DELS on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April I was elected President. The first momentous task in hand was to change the name of the Society. We agreed to drop the word "incorporated"

from our title but retained "Exeter" to distinguish us from Plymouth. It did not seem a very dramatic change to me, but we have been so called since the Society was founded 195 years ago. DELS thrives. We now have over 800 members and a turnover last year of some £217,000. I want to keep it thriving. I have a good platform to work from. Jeremy Ferguson as last year's President was wholly committed to his task and raised the profile of the Society not only in the County but nationwide. We are seen as a force to be taken note of. The society is supported and well served by our administrator Monique Bertoni and by Tony Steiner, who both work very hard to ensure the Society runs as smoothly as it does.

Legal Aid still forms a significant part of most of our practices, although I doubt a significant income. The Government seems to want us to become like dentists, so that shortly we will find very few firms offering publicly funded work. I believe that is regrettable. Great wrongs have been put right over the years by dedicated lawyers whose clients have been legally aided. The Lord Chancellor's Department intend to issue a consultation on the future of public funding. DELS will certainly want to have a big input into that.

Another topic which I would like to address is what I see as the absurd situation concerning lost wills. I do not deal with trust and probate matters, but I do know that those who do often have to spend considerable time in trying to locate lost wills. There are provisions to deposit wills with the Probate Registry but there is no commonly used national wills register. I would like to see the national Law Society promote such.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of May a party of us go to Rennes in Brittany to present a paper to the French Bar on how an employment tribunal in England would treat certain aspects of dismissal and redundancy in a fictitious case. Some of the members of our delegation speak much better French than I do, but it should be very interesting to hear how the jurisdictions in France, Belgium and Germany (whose delegates will also be present) approach an employment tribunal.

On the weekend of the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of June we entertain French, Italian, German, Belgian and now Irish lawyers, culminating with the Legal Sunday Service in the Cathedral, which is always a rather splendid event. We are also having drinks with members of the Bar at the Deanery in Exeter on the evening of the 13<sup>th</sup>. A flyer with details of the weekend's activities is enclosed with this newsletter.

This, then, is a bit of flavour of what is on the menu. The Society will continue to thrive, I feel sure, but will do so better if you tell us what you would like us to be doing. The Society is here to serve its members. Please do let any members of the Committee or myself know what your thoughts are.

### Jeremy Howell

Email: [Jeremy.howell@khlaw.uk](mailto:Jeremy.howell@khlaw.uk)



Need someone to listen to *your* problems for a change?

Professional worries or Personal problems  
the Solicitors' Assistance Scheme is there to help solicitors

The Solicitors' Assistance Scheme –the SAS – offers a lifeline to solicitors with problems by providing a fellow practitioner who will listen and help.

Don't delay – an early call could make all the difference

**If you would like to contact a scheme member call Susannah Lewis at The Law Society in confidence on  
Tel. 020 7320 5795**

## **COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT**

**There is a lot that goes on at the Law Society (much of it behind the scenes) in the areas of Law Reform and Policy / Rule making. Below I have tried to give a brief insight into some of the positive things that go on at Chancery Lane.**

### **LAW REFORM**

This is both pro-active (where the Society instigates or suggests reform) and reactive (when the Society has to react to Government proposals and draft bills). I am not be able to go into these issues in any depth and I deal with them in no particular order of importance.

### **The Future of Publicly Funded Legal Services**

Some of you will have seen and maybe read the consultation paper issued by the Law Society in February. This comes into the pro-active category. At the heart of the discussion is the question whether, in the context of a cash limited budget there are better ways of providing low cost legal services to the public. Should we go on as we are, or do we have to think radically? There have been a number of seminars/road shows including one in Taunton which I know some of you attended. An extra one is due to be arranged in Plymouth (*see Noticeboard for details*). The seminars so far have attracted practitioners in large numbers. Whilst it is too early to draw any firm conclusions, the consultation exercise has underlined that criminal and civil practitioners have very different sets of problems. It is the criminal practitioners who feel most threatened. The public defender service has been widely criticised as being neither a cheaper nor a more efficient service than that provided by private practice. Other concerns have centred on the perceived lack of a level playing field between the PDS and private practice. Another is that the PDS is not providing any service not already provided by criminal legal aid firms. It is clear that many firms are seriously considering giving up criminal legal aid work. The seminars seem to be suggesting viability is difficult to achieve without a high volume/high specialisation approach. Participants in the seminars have stressed the importance of emphasising what private practice can offer: namely independence, specialist skills and experience. The next stage of the consultation process is to consider all the responses and then a draft policy paper will be brought before the Council.

**Current Issues in Remuneration** In the civil field there are many areas of remuneration that are causing problems. These problem areas fall into main categories. In many ways they are all linked. First, Conditional Fee Agreements. The cases concerning the technical challenges to the enforceability of Conditional Fee Agreements have now been heard in the Court of Appeal. The Society had intervened in these cases which concerned allegations that CFAs were unenforceable for a variety of reasons. It was argued that if the agreement were unenforceable between a solicitor and his own client, the paying party in an action escaped his liability to pay any costs at all due to the continuing operation of the indemnity principle. The judgment is not expected until the autumn.

Secondly, fixed costs. A scheme for fixed costs for RTA cases (settled prior to the issue of proceedings and valued at less than £10,000.00) has now been agreed. Whilst this may be a very narrow class of case it is numerically very significant. The scheme provides for a payment of £800.00 and then a second payment based on a percentage of the damages. A solicitor who believes fixed costs fail to provide reasonable remuneration in a given case may opt for an assessment of those costs. If the costs exceed the fixed costs by 20% he will receive those costs and the costs of assessment. However, if the assessed costs fail to meet this threshold he will be at risk of the costs of assessment and receive only the fixed costs or possibly less. Negotiations continue about regional variations. There have been reports of the insurance industry's campaign to extend fixed costs to a wider class of work and also issued cases. These have been resisted so far as the existing scheme is to be evaluated for a period of two years.

Thirdly, the indemnity principle. As I have said the continuing operation of the indemnity principle is behind the current difficulties with conditional fee agreements. The indemnity principle may also frustrate some aspects of the fixed costs scheme. The Society has renewed its calls for the abolition of the indemnity principle.

Fourthly, legal expenses insurance. The current practice, as you know, is for insurers to maintain their own panels of solicitors who, they say, must be used in conjunction with their product until the issue of proceedings. This is of course increasingly relevant post-Woolf where many claims are settled without issue. Where they are, clients may not at that stage wish to instruct a second solicitor even if the instruction of the first

is highly inconvenient. The Society is concerned that many insurers restricted freedom of choice and does continue to receive many complaints in this area.

**Family Law Protocol** This is a "best practice" guide for family lawyers, launched in March 2002. The Protocol is supported by the Government and other groups, such as the SFLA. The LCD has purchased about 700 copies and distributed them to Family Courts. Members of the drafting group have met with a view to revising the first edition.

The Law Society also has a very active Parliamentary Unit. This monitors the Government's proposed legislation and makes representations in a number of areas. Let me just mention a few. First the Courts Bill. These proposed reforms mainly affect the criminal courts as it will unify the administrative structures of the Crown and Magistrates' Courts as recommended by Lord Justice Auld. The bill will bring the Crown and Magistrates' Courts under one administration system. It will re-arrange the criminal court boundaries to align with Police and other agency boundaries and, interestingly, it will establish a Fines Officer to be responsible for collecting unpaid fines, costs and compensation orders. They will have the power to increase fines where there is a default on payment. The Law Society broadly supports these proposals. The Bill has reached the Committee Stage in the House of Lords where the Society drafted a number of amendments which were tabled and moved by peers.

**The Criminal Justice Bill** The Society supports a number of the Bill's proposals including rehabilitative sentencing provisions and reforming the pool of those eligible for jury service. However, the Society does have serious concerns about others. In particular, proposals for the routine disclosure of previous convictions. The Society opposes the removal of juries on allegedly complex cases such as where evidence is related to financial matters or where the estimated length of trial is deemed too burdensome for some jury members. The Society has somewhat relaxed its traditional opposition to the relaxation of the double jeopardy rule. It is accepted that the safeguards proposed may overcome some objections but it is still thought that the proposals go too far in that the Government has exceeded the boundaries of previous debate and published a schedule of no less than 29 offences being "very serious cases" to which the reform relates. The Bill has completed its Committee stage in the

House of Commons. A number of the Society's suggested amendments were tabled for the Commons Committee stage covering issues such as defence disclosure, retrial, previous convictions and hearsay.

**The Draft Housing Bill** This Bill will introduce the concept of Sellers Packs in home buying. This was a proposal contained originally in the Homes Bill introduced during the 1999/2000 Parliamentary Session. That Bill fell through lack of time and because of opposition in the Lords. The Government believes that Sellers Packs will reduce delay. The Society supports, in principle the use of Sellers Packs. However, there are number of concerns about the Government's proposals. Sellers Packs should not be compulsory which would mean there would be no need for sanctions, criminal or otherwise. Such sanctions are not acceptable as a means of forcing those who are trying to sell their homes to use the Sellers Pack. It should be sufficient for sellers to make it clear if they are not using a Sellers Pack. If Sellers Packs were to be made compulsory then the Home Condition Report should not be included. The requirement for a Home Condition Report is inappropriate for several reasons. It may be too costly to obtain, particularly in low cost housing areas; it is not likely to be a highly quality product; the report may not be underwritten by professional negligence cover and it may be duplicated by Mortgagee's requirements.

## **POLICY AND RULE MAKING.**

**Referral fees** In December the Council decide to retain the ban on solicitors paying referral fees. At the last Council Meeting, we considered a paper which set out options for an enforceable rule that would preserve the ban. The existing referral code states that solicitors must not "reward introducers by the payment of commission or otherwise." This wording is unsatisfactory because it is difficult to interpret and, therefore, to enforce. It has been interpreted in a number of different ways. For example:

**As prohibiting any payment to an introducer**

**As allowing payments for services provided by the introducer e.g. marketing, administration or case management**

**As prohibiting only those payments which are calculated by reference to the number of clients referred or where a payment is made in respect of each client referred.**

As a result many solicitors are making payments to introducers in respect of various types of referral schemes: either in disregard of the code or believing that their arrangements comply with the code.

The power of the Council to make rules governing the professional practice, conduct and discipline of solicitors derives from the Solicitors Act. This power has to be exercised in the public interest rather than the interests of the profession. The public interest consideration, expressed in the referral code is that of ensuring solicitors independence is not affected by the interests of an introducer. It is likely that any amended rule would have to be agreed with the Lord Chancellor and/or The Master of the Rolls. Each are likely to consult and take into account the views of the Director General of Fair Trading. The Director General has already expressed the view that the current ban on referral fees is anti-competitive. It is clear, therefore, that any ban which may be interpreted as anti-competitive needs to be proportionate to the mischief at which it is aimed. The OFT has indicated that in their view the current ban is unlikely to be "considered necessary in order to achieve the identified objective of avoiding interference with the independence and integrity of solicitors."

There are really two options. First, a rule which maintains an enforceable prohibition. If that is the way forward then the current rule needs rewording as the current wording is virtually unenforceable in all but the most obvious circumstances. Such a rule to be clear would have to ban any payment by a solicitor to a third party who introduces clients to the solicitor. Such a rule might be:

"A solicitor must not, direct or indirectly, make any payment or provide any other inducement, financial or otherwise, to a third party in connection with or directly or indirectly linked to the referral of business to the solicitor"

This would be both clear and enforceable. Solicitors would simply not be permitted to make any payment to a person or organisation which referred clients to the solicitor. Where it could be shown that such a payment had been made the appropriate disciplinary action could be taken. The solicitor would not be able to argue that the payment was something other than the referral of clients.

The risk, if Council were to make such a rule, is that the OFT would be likely to object. It is unlikely that the Lord Chancellor would ignore

that advice especially as it would be difficult for the Society to show that the rule had not gone further than necessary to protect the public interest.

The alternative is to consider what has been called a more "targeted approach". The OFT has indicated that it would be more likely to consider a prohibition to be justified where it is clearly aimed at the mischief i.e. preserving the independence of the solicitor but does not also prohibit arrangements which do not involve that mischief and maybe of positive benefit to the public.

The Council was asked to choose between a total ban or to agree that the key mischiefs which justify restrictions on the payment of referral fees are the risk of constraining the independence of solicitors' advice to their clients and the risk of bringing the profession into disrepute through arrangements with introducers who, themselves, operate improperly. The Council has now agreed the latter and has accepted that a total ban on referral fees is unjustifiable in regulatory terms and probably unachievable. The next step is that the Standards Board is to bring forward a draft rule which disapplies the prohibition from schemes in which the introducer has no potentially conflicting interest in the conduct of the client's matter and retains the prohibition in respect of arrangements with introducers who obtain business in a way which is forbidden to solicitors or who otherwise act improperly.

**Fee sharing** In March 2002, the Council decided to retain the ban on fee sharing. At its last meeting we were asked to reconsider that decision. It may be worth defining the scope of what is meant by "fee sharing". This is most easily done by identifying what it is not. Fee sharing does not involve the co-ownership of solicitors' practices by third parties. The issue of co-ownership forms part of the much broader debate on multi-disciplinary partnerships. Nor does it involve the issue of employed solicitors providing services to customers of their employers. What is proposed is a partial liberalisation of the rule which currently bans fee sharing. This would allow solicitors who may wish to do so, to enter into a fee sharing relationship with third parties as a means of funding, or providing some form of investment into, their practices in return for which the funder might receive a share of the profits of the practice. In this way, the solicitor would be able to share with the funder some of the risks of running the practice. A change in the rule might permit a funder (not necessarily the bank) to

provide capital or equipment in exchange for a share of the profits, instead of simply being repaid the capital plus interest in the way a bank overdraft currently operates. The funder might be a private individual, organisation or lending institution. What might happen is best given by way of example. The President's firm needs to raise capital to fund its proposed expansion. However, the partners are unenthusiastic to increase borrowing from their bank on the normal repayment terms. In the light of the recent relaxation of the rule against fee sharing, the firm reach an agreement with the bank that in return for advancing a substantial sum to fund new offices and equipment, the bank would be repaid by a percentage of the firm's profits over a certain agreed period, instead of by repayment of the capital sum plus interest. This arrangement suits the partners, since it removes a large element of risk. It also suits the bank because, as it turns out, the expanded practice proves to be highly profitable and provides the bank with a healthy return on its investment.

The Council has decided and agreed in principle that there should be a limited relaxation of the ban on fee sharing in order to facilitate new ways of financing a practice. The Standards Board is to present a revised draft rule for further consideration.

### **CONCLUSION**

I have only scraped the surface. There remain many key issues for consideration by the Council in the immediate future. These include the future of publicly funded legal services, development of electronic communication within the profession, policy on judicial appointments and future arrangements for indemnity insurance. There are many others as well.

**Christopher Palmer**

## **FROM THE SUB COMMITTEES**

### **Practice Management**

The Sub Committee met on 18 March 2003.

Included on its agenda were a number of matters raised by members and included within the DELS Business Plan. Below is an extract of the minute in this respect:

*"The DELS Business Plan had been published to the membership towards the end of 2002. It had been developed by a team of officers together*

*with invited members and DELS staff and was based on the results of a membership survey. The suggestions made by the members had included matters relating to Practice Management:*

#### **◆ Develop the Fixed Fee for Counsel Scheme**

*The Sub-Committee established this scheme in January 2000. It allows members to obtain a Barrister's opinion for a fixed fee of £50.00 + VAT. Mr Steiner said that the Chambers reported a response of around 3/4 enquiries a year each. The scheme was regularly promoted in the Newsletter and had been a part of the Practice Management awareness survey. Every opportunity to promote the scheme would be pursued. The Chambers that participate are:*

*Walnut House - Tel. 01392 279751  
Southernhay Chambers - Tel. 01392 255777  
Rougemont Chambers - Tel. 01392 208484  
Colleton Chambers - Tel. 01382 274898  
One Garden Court – Tel. 01392 209032*

*The Sub-Committee considered the extension of the scheme to other professionals such as Accountants and Medics but felt that most practices would have their own arrangements in this respect.*

#### **◆ Introduce a confidential introduction service for members seeking to review the benefits of acquisitions or mergers**

*The Chairman said that he could see DELS acting as an introducer for those wishing to sell, merge or acquire practices. Mr Steiner had already had some success doing this as an extension of the DELS recruitment service. He said that he was happy to offer this introductory service but could not foresee DELS acting as a business transfer agent. Those present thought it a useful additional service that is worthy of publicity. Mr Steiner said he would consider the terms of reference upon which DELS could be instructed.*

#### **◆ Develop in conjunction with Business Link, a Practice Management Performance review programme**

*The Business Plan working party had thought about a Management health check service available to those who were not immediately considering Lexcel or Investors in People for which a raft of support is already offered. This*

would most likely be relevant only to those practices without a Legal Aid Franchise as their management systems would be subject to LSC Audit. The Sub-Committee agreed that there may be some practices that could benefit from this type of service and that might be a stepping stone to a recognised quality accreditation. Jan Samuel agreed to speak to his contacts at Business Link to find out what could be offered to DELS members.

◆ **Introduce a new workshop on Case Management software as a methodology for increasing the effectiveness of case handling**

The Sub-Committee discussed this issue at length and whilst agreeing the idea in principle felt that there was already lots of information available to members considering Case Management Systems. Suppliers of systems are always keen to visit practices to discuss individual requirements. It was felt that members who were keen to know more should attend their local Managing Partner / Practice Manager forum where IT and Case Management systems are regularly discussed and experience shared."

If you would like to know more about the work of the Practice Management Sub-Committee and in particular the **FIXED FEE SCHEME FOR COUNSEL** and **LOCAL MANAGEMENT FORUMS** contact Tony Steiner at DELS office.

## **DELS SOCIETY CRICKET**

The fixture list has now been settled for this summer's fixtures which, as usual, will be against the Devon & Exeter Accountants and the Cornwall Law Society.

The accountants' game is an afternoon match (40 overs a side) which will take place at the County Ground in Exeter. This year's Cornwall game is an away fixture, and will be an all day game down at Falmouth Cricket Club. The accountants' game is due to take place on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June whereas the Cornwall game will start at 11.30 am on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July.

Please could any new members or lawyers to the area contact Keith Biggs at Foot Anstey Sargent

4-6 Barnfield Crescent Exeter Devon EX1 1RF  
Telephone Number: 01392- 411221

E-mail Address: [kmb@foot-ansteys.co.uk](mailto:kmb@foot-ansteys.co.uk)

to confirm their availability for selection.

We are always looking for new blood (particularly in the role of fixtures secretary!) and so please mention it to colleagues in the office who may not receive the newsletter.

## **DELS OFFICE**

Some members may have missed the news that Monique Bertoni and Tony Steiner no longer work from the Law Library at The Castle, Exeter.



In August 2002, the Society's administrative office took up residence at Renslade House, Bonhay Road, Exeter.

The Society's is now better equipped to meet the increasing demands of its Committees and successful commercial activities. Monique and Tony have been joined by Jacqui Asher to give them some much needed back up. The team are pictured here hard at work.



On 24 March 03 Senior Partners were invited to a small reception to formally open the office. Then President Jeremy Ferguson was assisted by Denise Gammack, Chair of Exeter & District Trainee Solicitors Group in the 'cake cutting' ceremony.



# N

## **THE LAW SOCIETY SOUTH WEST REGIONAL OFFICE**

### **has moved to:**

Newminster House, 27-29 Baldwin Street, Bristol.  
DX 78110 Bristol

Tel. 0117 929 5170 / Fax 0117 929 5184



# O

## **THE FUTURE OF PUBLICLY FUNDED LEGAL SERVICES** **LAW SOCIETY ROADSHOW**

Following demand for places, additional roadshows have been organised by The Law Society to discuss the future of public funding for legal services. A full consultation document can be accessed on the Law Society's Website [www.lawsociety.org.uk](http://www.lawsociety.org.uk)

Those who were unable to attend the meeting in Taunton in February will have a chance to join the debate in Plymouth on Thursday 26 June 2003. Commences 5 pm.

To reserve your place contact The Law Society's SW Regional Office. Tel 0117 929 5170

# T

## **BOUNDARY ISSUES – NEW RULES FOR LAND ROADSHOW**

*BY Nigel Atkinson FRICS*

2003 is an exciting year for new legislation concerning the land. The changes which these embody will affect the work of all concerned in the management of land, and will create opportunities for professionals such as surveyors and solicitors.

The Land Registration Act 2002 will come into force on the 13<sup>th</sup> October 2003, the subject of High Hedges is once again topical and The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 is a radical new approach to access to the land.

The RICS is running a Boundary Issues – New Rules for Land Roadshow across the country between March and June. The Roadshow is coming to Tiverton on June 25<sup>th</sup>.

It is open to all with an interest in the land; one of the main aims is to bring together the different professions to discuss their common problems and challenges. More details can be obtained from Nigel Atkinson on 01743 719008 or email [nigel@mortonatkinson.com](mailto:nigel@mortonatkinson.com).

# /

# C

## **www.carsharedevon.com**

Devon County Council in Partnership with Plymouth City and Torbay Councils have launched a new scheme to encourage car sharing. Accessed at [www.carsharedevon.com](http://www.carsharedevon.com) or by telephoning 08700 11 11 99 it is an automated service that links drivers and passengers to share car journeys.

# E

## **MISSING LINK**

**THE BARNFIELD GREEN COMPANY LIMITED** (a non-profit making company) who own the site used and leased by **THE CITY OF EXETER BOWLING CLUB** at **THE PAVILION, ATHELSTAN ROAD, BARNFIELD, EXETER. EX1 1SB** are having problems tracing the Solicitors who they have used in the past years. Any Files/Documents etc., held by, or known of by anyone who has been involved, or knows of someone retired who was involved with either THE COMPANY or THE CLUB please contact...

# S

Tony Hockney Tel. 01395 568664  
Fax. 01395 568623  
e-mail [tonyhockney@compuserve.com](mailto:tonyhockney@compuserve.com)

## OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY FOR 2003/2004

At the AGM on 15 April 2003 the Officers were elected as follows:

**President** .....J W Howell (South Devon), Kitson Hutchings, Torquay.  
**Vice President** ..... P A Derbyshire (Exeter & East Devon), Ford Simey, Exeter.  
**Junior Vice President** ..... P R Mole (North Devon), Chanter Ferguson, Bideford.  
**Honorary Secretary** .....J A Spiers, Exeter.  
**Honorary Treasurer** ..... R A Adams, Crosse & Crosse, Exeter.  
**Immediate Past President** ..... J J Ferguson (North Devon), Chanter Ferguson, Bideford.

**The Law Society Council Member** ..... C J C Palmer, Bevan Ashford, Tiverton.

Three persons were elected to the Committee for three years.

Apart from the Officers above, the Committee Members are as follows:

**Chairman: Education & Training Sub-Committee including Advocacy** ..... G G N Bond, Tozers, Exeter.  
**Chairman: International Relations Sub-Committee** ..... Miss F C Wood, Bevan Ashford, Tiverton.  
**Chairman: Litigation & Costs Liaison Sub-Committee** .....P D Kelly, Tozers, Exeter.  
**Chairman: Mediation Sub-Committee** ..... J J Ferguson, Chanter Ferguson, Bideford.  
**Chairman: Non Contentious Business Sub-Committee** ..... J A G Pearn, Slee Blackwell, South Molton.  
**Chairman: Practice Management Sub-Committee** ..... S Sanger-Anderson, Tozers, Exeter.  
**Local Government Representative** ..... G Rowe, South Hams District Council, Totnes.  
**Crown Prosecution Service Representative** .....R D Bowen, Exeter.  
**Solicitors Benevolent Association Representative** ..... J C R B Lee, Symes Robinson & Lee, Crediton.

S A Lawson, Foot Anstey Sargent, Exeter.

J K Hyde, Samuels, Barnstaple.

T G Penny, General Notary, Tiverton.

J Griffin, Everys, Honiton.

M B G Cosgrave, Harold Michelmore & Co., Newton Abbot.

R J G Blair, Woollcombe Beer Watts, Newton Abbot.

Miss P J Ayles, Woollcombe Beer Watts, Torquay.

D P White, Bevan Ashford, Tiverton.

C H S Murray, Tozers, Exeter.

Mrs C S Reynolds, Hooper & Wollen, Torquay.

Members of the Devon & Exeter Law Society  
and Members of the Judiciary and local Bar

are warmly invited to a



JOINT RECEPTION



To be held on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2003  
from 6.00 p.m. at The Deanery Great Hall, Exeter.

Solicitors in the DELS area and members of the local Judiciary and the Bar have enjoyed a joint dinner in the autumn for the last three years. However this year, we are looking to have a more informal gathering with a Wine and light Buffet Reception in the Deanery Great Hall, an ancient and historic room used as a court by William III when Prince of Orange, and visited by George III. The maximum number of people permitted to be in this room at one time is limited by the fire inspector to 100.

Members are warmly invited to attend in such august surroundings and it is hoped that as many of you as possible will be able to do so. Tickets to include half a bottle of wine are available at **£14.75** per head (inclusive of VAT).

Dress is Lounge suits. Please complete and return the form below to the Administrator, Miss Monique Bertoni, with your payment. Places will only be allocated when **accompanied with full payment** and strictly on a first-come, first-served basis.

✂-----

JOINT FUNCTION DELS/BAR/JUDICIARY, FRIDAY 13 JUNE 2003, THE DEANERY

Name in full .....

Firm / Chambers .....

Address (DX Preferred) .....

.....

..... Tel. No. ....

I wish to attend the joint function on 13 June at the Deanery and enclose my cheque for £14.75 in favour of the "Devon & Exeter Law Society".

PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ALL BOOKINGS.

Please return this form to:- Miss Monique Bertoni, Administrator, Devon & Exeter Law Society, Suite 5, Renslade House, Bonhay Road, Exeter EX4 3AY.  
DX 8361 Exeter 1 - Tel. 01392 411585 - Fax 01392 431511  
e.mail mail@devonlawsociety.org.uk

## DEVON & EXETER LAW SOCIETY

### Programme for the weekend of the 2003 Legal Sunday Service

**Friday 13 – Sunday 15 June 2003**

<u>Friday 13 June</u>		COST Per Person [children]	Number of Places Required
Late afternoon/ Early evening 18.00 – 20.00 hours	European Lawyers arrive – to be met/collected  Joint Function with the local Judiciary and the Bar Drinks and Buffet Reception at the Deanery, Great Hall, Exeter	<i>See separate booking form overleaf</i>	.....
Evening	Accommodation with host families**		
<u>Saturday 14 June</u>	River Dart Round Robin Circular Tour – Paignton ● Dartmouth ● Totnes ● Paignton	£12.00	.....
Depart 10.30 hours	Hosts and their guests depart for day trip Meet at Paignton Steam Railway station		
11.00 hours	Arrive Kingswear to take ferry to Dartmouth		
11.30 hours	Arrive Dartmouth		
12.15 hours	Lunch at the Dart Marina Hotel, Sandquay	£16.00 <i>Food &amp; Drinks</i> [£7.00]	.....
14.15 hours	Leave Dartmouth boat for Totnes		.....
15.30 hours	Arrive Totnes		
17.30 hours	Take bus from Totnes		
18.00 hours	Arrive Paignton		
19.30 for 20.00 hours	Dinner parties organised by host families		
<u>Sunday 15 June</u>			
10.45/11.00 hours	Meet St George's Hall, if processing*, or at Exeter Cathedral, if not processing		
11.30 hours	Legal Sunday Service * <i>Dress – Full robes and uniforms</i>		
12.30 hours	Reception at St George's Hall		
13.30 hours	Buffet Lunch at <b>ASK</b> Restaurant in Cathedral Close European lawyers return with host families or start their journeys home	£17.00 <i>Food &amp; Drinks</i> [£8.00]	.....  .....

FROM

FIRM

TOWN

**\*\* IF YOU ARE ABLE TO OFFER ACCOMMODATION TO OUR EUROPEAN COLLEAGUES, PLEASE TICK**

**Please complete and return this form with your payment (payable to DELS) to**

Miss Monique Bertoni, Administrator, Devon & Exeter Law Society,  
Suite 5, Renslade House, Bonhay Road, Exeter EX4 3AY - DX 8361 Exeter 1