

Dear Member,

Welcome to the March edition of the Sussex Law Society Newsletter. We are all looking forward to our Annual Charity Ball on Friday, 6th May at the Grand Hotel in Brighton and excited to see old friends and colleagues in person after all this time. If you or your firm haven't booked tickets yet it is not too late and booking information is below. It really is a fun event so don't miss out!

OUR SPONSOR FOR MARCH



AN INTRODUCTION TO INDEX PROPERTY INFORMATION – SOUTH EAST

We at Index pride ourselves on being a different type of search provider. We offer regional expertise on a national scale. As owners of our business, we understand and believe passionately in providing the sort of support and service that you as busy conveyancers deserve but are so often denied. It is true that we do offer market leading technology solutions, such as:

- Electronic client onboarding (integrated with your choice of CMS)
- Remote ID verification / KYC and Source of Funds
- Electronic signatures
- Index Insure
- Integration with many of the leading CMS providers
- Digital AP1 submissions through full integration with Land Registry
- SDLT submission through integration with HMRC
- Integrated and free Legal Conveyancing Forms
- Free mapping with integrated Land Registry titles

.....however, at no point do we seek to hide behind these solutions as being the answer to everything! You will find our friendly team of experienced searchers available by phone or email, 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday, and you will be able to speak with someone knowledgeable and capable of dealing with your query, without being placed in a queue or dealt with by a call centre. If the above sounds interesting and you would like to discuss further (perhaps over a working lunch), please do contact myself and my team:

Director: Jerry Catmull

Tel: 0203 457 6910

Email: jerry.catmull@indexpi.co.uk and southeast@indexpi.co.uk

NEWS

- Launch of the Family Law Menopause Project - Farhana Shahzady, Director at **Family Law Partners**, has launched [The Family Law Menopause Project](#) to consider the impact menopause has on family law clients. Family lawyers are being invited to take part in a short survey to help uncover trends and insight as to the prevalence of menopause (and perimenopause) in family law cases – helping to raise greater awareness about the impact this has upon divorce and separation. The survey can be completed [here](#).

- **DMH Stallard** are absolutely delighted to announce that we have been shortlisted for Corporate Law Firm of the Year at the upcoming Southeast Dealmakers Awards 2022. Our very own Corporate Partner, Helen Mead, has also been shortlisted for Corporate Lawyer of the Year. We're also very proud to have been involved in two Private Equity / Venture Capital Deals of the Year that have been shortlisted: for the Sale and investment in Skerritt Consultants by Sovereign Capital Partners and Investment in Whyte Bikes by Cairngorm Capital. Congratulations to our fellow nominees and we look forward to the awards ceremony on 7 April!
- **Tisshaws** are delighted to announce that they have been shortlisted for the prestigious LexisNexis Business Continuity Award 2022. The award recognises continued outstanding levels of service to clients, staff, and community in the face of the global pandemic.
- Aislinn Burton has joined **Taylor Rose** in their Eastbourne office. Aislinn acts primarily for parents, specialising in care proceedings/Meetings Before Proceedings covering Brighton, Eastbourne and Hastings. Her direct dial is: 07721 219128 and her email address: Aislinn.burton@taylor-rose.co.uk
- **Family Law Partners** are pleased to announce the arrival of Family Solicitor Ellie Pollard at their Brighton office to join the growing team.

FLBA TRAINING COMING UP IN MARCH

Kent & Sussex FLBA and Sussex Family Justice Board have collaborated to provide training on the most current issues for family lawyers in Sussex. A Zoom session is being held on 10th March 2020 at 4:45 pm presented by HHJ Bedford (DFJ for Sussex) and Darren Howe QC (FLBA Tech committee) looking at:

- Effective Case management- timely filing of pre- hearing documents – “is there an alternative to wasted costs” ?
- The new requirements for bundles
- The Family Portal (FLP)
- List assist’- the new listing system.

The event is open to all family lawyers. Join by Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82517881770?pwd=WWhlc0g4TGJmZzUcVBIvEdxS053dz09>

TRS: GETTING TO GRIPS WITH THE DIFFICULT ISSUES AHEAD OF THE 1ST SEPTEMBER 2022 DEADLINE

With less than 6 months to register existing express trusts, many questions remain about the scope of TRS. The rules can seem random or unfair, so getting to grips with them is challenging, and the latest updates of HMRC’s TRS Manual are vital.

John Bunker, a regular speaker to our Society and one of the TRS Sub-group advising HMRC on the guidance in their new TRS Manual, is delivering a live webinar for us from 2pm – 4pm on Wednesday, 4th May where he aims to make sense of all this including understanding which express trusts and joint ownerships are excluded, or must register, how it works and the latest HMRC

guidance. The webinar will allow about 30 minutes for questions which participants will be encouraged to submit in advance. Full details and application form can be found [here](#).

The webinar is aimed at all practitioners who do any form of private client work, with property, wills, estates, tax and trust planning or compliance; and anyone with responsibility for complying with anti-money laundering regulations, as these 5 MLD provisions have a largely AML purpose.

VIDEO HEARING SERVICE IS COMING TO HASTINGS FROM 14TH MARCH 2022

SSCS, RPT and IAC Tribunals in the Southeast and the HMCTS Video Hearings service - The Video Hearings service is starting to be used and from 14 March 2022 some hearings will move across to the service. If a hearing you are involved with is affected, it's important that you are ready. If you've not taken action already, please follow the guidance [here](#) and check with your IT support that the firewall settings on your network will not block access as this can happen as it is a web based service.

TICKETS SELLING FAST FOR OUR ANNUAL CHARITY BALL ON 6TH MAY

Don't leave it to the last minute to get your application in for tickets to this year's Annual Charity Ball on Friday, 6th May at the Grand Hotel in Brighton as they are selling fast this year. The Ball is open to both members and non-members and is the perfect opportunity to entertain partners, colleagues, staff, clients and business connections all in one evening and raise funds for the President's charities – [The Starr Trust](#) and the [Brighton Yoga Foundation](#). The Ball is the only local event of its kind for members of the profession and all those who make up and are associated with the local legal community.

More details and the application form can be downloaded from the website [here](#).

REGULATORY MATTERS

Tediously bewildering but necessary. As current topics become increasingly relevant, so they generate controversy. If only to become better informed or to contribute views and any experiences in Consultations or pure dialogue, and unless already done so, one very useful pathway might be to [subscribe to the now digital "Gazette"](#) and register as a commentator on its leading articles. This can be done anonymously (invariably the most explicit and stimulating contributions!).

At the moment there is no shortage of constructive debate amongst what is, after all, such a very diverse profession as our own. A perfect example is the ongoing response to the SRA's planned closure of SIF...different interest groups, proportionality of cost to benefit, the destiny of those funds and potential replacement levies. There is also now a mere six weeks or so left to respond to the SRA proposal to absorb and thereby prosecute a broader range of disciplinary matters and to raise its fining threshold to £25,000. Illuminating but more frenzied are the exchanges regarding the future of LeO now that its Rules are having to be re-addressed after an unhappy ten years. The serious backlog of cases which has accumulated is causing a reputational crisis. Last but by no means least the networking amongst diligent Compliance Officers as they face the increasingly sophisticated and opportunist money launderer and fraudster. Well worth checking out.

Pat Richards, Member, Compliance & Regulation Committee

MANAGING PARTNERS' NETWORKING FORUM

It has never been more important to be represented by experts who not only have a proven track record of working with law firms, but who also have access to, and influence with, insurers. Find the broker that is right for you, one you trust to navigate your firm through the process; one that gives you the personal attention you deserve. This is a time for specialist market professionals.

Make sure you select a broker who has experience of working with law firms. Your broker will be representing you and your business so it is imperative you choose a broker you trust and who gives you confidence that they will present you strongly to insurers. A good broker will steer your firm through the current challenges affecting the PII renewal process. But a great broker won't stop there. They will continue to keep you updated on important factors and regulatory changes affecting the market throughout the year to ensure you are well informed during, after and right on until your next renewal.

We have arranged for Colin Taylor, Director, Howden Insurance Brokers Ltd – the Society's main sponsor - to present a workshop to this group on Tuesday, 26th April from 9am-11am at Malmaison, Brighton Marina. We have asked Colin to share his knowledge and experience around the increasingly complex subject of preparing for your PII renewal. For those of you who have not heard Colin speak he has a wealth of knowledge and a rare ability to make training on PII fun!

All Managing Partners are invited to attend this free event so please let [Jeanette Lacy Scott](#) know if you would like her to put your name down for this and she will send you further details nearer the time.

HOW TO TRACE PAST SOLICITORS AND LAW FIRMS

Did you know that the Law Society Library can help if you need to trace old solicitors and find out what happened to law firms? For example, you might need help if a family member wrote their will decades ago using a local solicitor, but all trace of them has now gone. [This guide](#) covers the resources held by the library and other organisations that can help. The library also offer a research service which is free for members (at least the first 30 minutes and after that it is £20 + VAT per 30 minutes - they said most firms found within an hour). For non-members the cost is £20 plus VAT per 30 minutes.

If you'd like to discuss this further email library@lawsociety.org.uk and give the name of the firm, full address and when you think they were last active (you might not know this but you could give the date of the will so they don't waste time researching before that date).

STUDENT SEEKING WORK EXPERIENCE

Seeking shadowing/work experience (1- 14 days) in July: Enthusiastic student of A level Law embarking on Law LLB degree. Please contact duncan.edell@outlook.com if your firm can help.

NEWS FROM CHANCERY LANE

Russia/Ukraine

- [How lawyers can show support for people in Ukraine | The Law Society](#) - The Law Society stands in solidarity with people in Ukraine following the Russian Federation's illegal invasion of the country. [Read our full statement](#) and make sure you're compliant with recent sanctions.
- [What you need to know about new sanctions on Russia | The Law Society](#) - The government has imposed a tranche of sanctions on Russia in response to the situation in Ukraine. Check our guidance on the UK sanctions regime to find out what steps you and your firm must take to comply with the regime and safeguard the reputation of the profession.
- [My client is a possible sanctions match. What should I do?](#) - I've been instructed to act in a transaction where the client comes up as a possible sanctions match. How should I proceed?

Courts

- [Changes to court working hours | The Law Society](#) - HM Courts and Tribunals Service (HMCTS) has been piloting extended operating hours both as part of the court recovery plans in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, and as part of the court reform programme.
- [Crown Court backlogs: how would case increases impact practitioners? | The Law Society](#) - Senior solicitors have told us they're concerned about workload and finding advocates if criminal cases increase, as the pandemic backlog stretches a justice system already in crisis.
- [Remote hearings | The Law Society](#) - The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has brought about a fast and widespread transition to remote hearings while participants cannot attend court or tribunal buildings.

Other News

- [Westminster update: Law Society bill referenced in Lords | The Law Society](#) - Your weekly update from our public affairs team on all the latest developments and debates in Parliament and across Whitehall. Topics covered include: 1. Judicial Review and Courts Bill: Law Society views referenced in the Lords; 2. Legal aid: MPs debate provision in the North West; 3. Scrutiny continues of Nationality and Borders Bill; 4. Legal aid for early advice: MPs approve pilots; 5. Trade with India: MPs debate UK-India trade priorities
- [Criminal duty solicitors: a looming crisis | The Law Society](#) - Criminal duty solicitors are being squeezed from multiple directions. This could leave many individuals unable to access their right to a solicitor and free advice.
- [SQE myth buster: six misconceptions about qualifying work experience | The Law Society](#) - As employers and candidates navigate the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE) and qualifying work experience (QWE), Nicole Poole provides guidance on common QWE misconceptions.
- [Diversity Access Scheme](#) - Applications to the Diversity Access Scheme (DAS) 2022 are now open. Please read the [application guidance and eligibility criteria](#) before completing the application form. Applications will close at midnight on 20 April. [Apply to the Diversity Access Scheme \(DAS\) 2022](#).

Events

- Wed 9 March: [International Women's Day Webinar](#)
- Thu 10 March : [JLD Webinar - How to sell yourself as a candidate](#)
- Tue 15 March : [JLD Webinar - Alternative routes to the profession](#)
- Thu 17 March: [How to succeed in a new era of business by investing in your staff](#)
- Fri 25 March: [IN PERSON: Risk and Compliance annual conference 2022 - last few tickets remaining](#)
- Fri 25 March: [LIVE STREAM: Risk and Compliance annual conference 2022](#)
- Tue 29 March: [Looking ahead: The decline of the high street - how to succeed in a new era of business. Marketing and sales tactics to grow your client base](#)
- Thu 21 April: [CQS Core Practice Management Standards Update](#)
- Wed 27 April: [How to progress your in-house career](#)
- Thu 5 May: [Law Society Property Section Convention 2022](#)
- Wed 11 May: [In-house Division Annual Conference 2022](#)
- Thu 19 May: [Law Management Section annual conference 2022](#)

Resources

Guide - [England and Wales as an open jurisdiction to European and foreign lawyers after Brexit | The Law Society](#)

Guide - [Personal data flows from the UK | The Law Society](#)

Tool - [Transaction \(TA\) forms | The Law Society](#)

SUSSEX LAW SOCIETY WEBINARS

Click on the links below for full details of each course and application forms:

- **14th March, 2022** – [‘The LTA 1954: Grounds of Opposition, Renewal Terms & Interim Rents’](#). LIVE Webinar. 11am-12pm. Speaker: Richard Snape. £30 + VAT (members), £40 + VAT (non members)
- **22nd March, 2022** – [‘CQS Compliance & the New Assessment Regime’](#). LIVE Webinar. 9.30am-1pm. Speaker: Tracy Thompson. £100 + VAT (members), £120 + VAT (non members)
- **5th April, 2022** – [‘Restrictive & Positive Covenants in Freehold Land’](#). LIVE Webinar. 2pm – 5pm. Speaker: Richard Snape. £100 + VAT (members), £120 + VAT (non members)
- **6th April, 2022** – [‘Civil Litigation Update Spring, 2022’](#). LIVE Webinar. 9.30am-12.30pm. Speaker: Professor Dominic Regan. £100 + VAT (members), £120 + VAT (non members)
- **4th May, 2022** – [‘TRS: Getting to grips with the difficult issues ahead of 1st September deadline’](#). LIVE Webinar. Speaker: John Bunker. £80 + VAT (members), £100 + VAT (non members)

OTHER WEBINARS/ARTICLES/RESOURCES

- **The University of Sussex** are holding an interesting programme of public lectures on a range of subjects (some legal topics). You can find out what’s on offer up to June 2022 [here](#).
- **Sherrards Employment Law Solicitors** and a highly experienced immigration lawyer are running a webinar on **Thursday 31st March at 10am** to discuss the **latest updates in business immigration**. The cost of joining the session is £50 + VAT. Please contact laura@sherrardslaw.com for further information.
- Join **Sherrards Employment Law Solicitors** for the next cohort of their CPD accredited, **UK Employment Law Course. Commencing on 8th March 2022 and running for 4 weeks**, the LIVE bite-sized webinars alongside the invaluable resources will provide delegates with a deeper understanding of the key aspects of UK employment law in a practical and interactive way. Click [here](#) to find out more and book your place or email academy@sherrardslaw.com
- We know that some staff are still facing mental health challenges as we move into the post Covid restriction era and with retaining staff high on all our agendas looking after and training staff is important. **Loch Associates Group** is therefore running a **certified training course on 27 April, 2022 which would enable you to help support your team’s mental health and wellbeing** but also show you care about them too. Places can be booked [here](#).
- **The £86,000 Care Cap Promise in Practice** – Extra dates have been added to this live virtual workshop with Cate Searle, Head of Community Care Law at Martin Searle Solicitors, in partnership with MBL Seminars. This interactive session is designed for people who are already advising clients about the current paying for care rules and social care means testing, and will work through case studies and calculations to analyse how the changes will impact

your clients and what advice you need to be giving now. This interactive workshop will run from **2pm – 4pm on Wednesday 6 April, Thursday 21 April and Tuesday 11 October**. For more information and to book your place, [click here](#).

- **Throughout March 2022, Martin Searle Solicitors** are running their campaign, **Diversity Matters** to stamp out sex discrimination in the workplace. They are offering a free 30-minute telephone advice line for employers and employees concerned about sex equality at work and their employers duties. They are running a free virtual seminar on ‘**Sex Equality – Best Practice for Employers**’ at 1pm on Thursday 24 March 2022. They are also running a free virtual workshop for employee advisers and trade union representatives - ‘**Sex Equality Rights in the Workplace – A Guide for Advisers**’ at 1pm on Thursday 31 March 2022. For more details [click here](#).

SITUATIONS VACANT

Listing job vacancies in the Newsletter & putting more detailed vacancies on the [website](#) is **FREE** for Sussex Law Society member firms and individual members and £50 + VAT for other contributors. Contact [Jeanette Lacy Scott](#) to place an advert. More details about each vacancy and how to apply can be found by following the highlighted links.

- **Civil Litigation Lawyer** – We are seeking to recruit an enthusiastic solicitor at our Eastbourne office with drive and determination who will be able to deal with a wide range of litigation matters including landlord and tenant. For more details and/or to apply see [here](#).
- **Corporate Solicitor** – SO Legal is looking for a corporate solicitor with at least 3 years of PQE to join our team. More details and to apply see [here](#).
- **Experienced Employment Lawyer, Brighton**. Martin Searle Solicitors are looking to employ an experienced litigation Solicitor, Legal Executive or Case Worker to join their Employment Law team. For a full job description and to apply, please visit www.ms-solicitors.co.uk/careers. The closing date is **Friday 25 March**.
- **Experienced Wills & Probate Solicitor/Legal Executive** wanted for our Hove office. This is a full-time office-based role and secretarial support will be provided. For more information or to apply please send your CV to Elise Mason elise.mason@gwca.co.uk www.gwca.co.uk.
- **Legal Assistant** – Hennings Solicitors are looking for a proactive individual to assist the team with wills, probate and conveyancing work. See [here](#) for more details and how to apply.
- **Legal Secretary/Assistant** - We are looking for a confident assistant to provide legal and administrative support within a small established family law firm based in the centre of Brighton. The ideal candidate will be part of a successful and close-knit team specialising in family law both private and legal aid. For more details and how to apply see [here](#).
- **NQ Solicitor/Legal Executive** – A fantastic opportunity has arisen for someone to join the Commercial Property & Development department in our leading law firm located in Brighton and Hove. For more details and how to apply see [here](#).
- **Office Manager/Practice Manager** - SO Legal in Eastbourne is looking for someone for this role who is an excellent all-rounder with an understanding of general office management,

compliance, HR, IT and management reporting. More details and how to apply can be found [here](#).

- **Paralegal/Legal Executive** – A fantastic opportunity has arisen to join our leading law firm located in Brighton and Hove to provide comprehensive support to senior fee earners within the PI team. For more details and to apply see [here](#).
- **Private Client Assistant/Secretary** - E J Moyle has a vacancy for a full or part-time Private Client Assistant to work alongside our Team and provide secretarial and admin support at our Rustington Office. Please send your CV and covering letter to Linda Robinson at lrobinson@moyle.co.uk
- **Property Assistant/Paralegal** - E J Moyle LLP has a vacancy for a full or part-time Property Assistant/Paralegal to work alongside our Team based at our Littlehampton Office. Competitive salary and benefits. Please send your CV and covering letter to Linda Robinson at lrobinson@moyle.co.uk
- **Property & Commercial Litigator** – SO Legal have an exciting opportunity for an experienced solicitor to join our busy litigation team in Brighton. You must have at least 2 years PQE. More details and how to apply can be found [here](#).
- **Property Lawyer** - E J Moyle LLP have a vacancy for a full or part-time Property Lawyer who has some knowledge of commercial transactions to work alongside our Team based at our Littlehampton office. Competitive salary and benefits. Please send your CV and covering letter to Linda Robinson at lrobinson@moyle.co.uk
- **Property Solicitors** – Adams and Remers in Lewes are looking for 2 qualified solicitors (or equivalent) for their residential and property departments. Full details and how to apply can be found [here](#).
- **Receptionist** – An opportunity has arisen for a receptionist to join a small, friendly law firm in Tunbridge Wells on a full-time basis. For more details and how to apply see [here](#).
- **Receptionist (full-time)** – We are looking for an energetic and enthusiastic receptionist to join our friendly team at our Peacehaven office. For more details and/or to apply see [here](#).
- **Residential Property Solicitor/Conveyancer** – SO Legal are seeking a dynamic, motivated and self-reliant person with good attention to detail and a commercial manner who is also comfortable using modern legal technology. The role is based in Brighton and more details and how to apply can be found [here](#).
- **Residential & Commercial Property Lawyer (solicitor/legal exec/licenced conveyancer)**- minimum 3 years PQE with an ability to run residential conveyancing transactions independently plus some experience to support commercial matters. This is a full-time role. For more information please contact laura.oflynn@corelaw.co.uk
- **Senior Associate Commercial Property** – SO Legal have an excellent opportunity for an experienced solicitor with at least 6 years PQE to join our dynamic and innovative law firm with a strong commercial property background. More details and how to apply can be found [here](#).

- **Solicitor/Legal Executive** – A fantastic opportunity has arisen for someone with 1-3 years PQE to join the Commercial Property & Development department in our leading law firm located in Brighton and Hove. For more details and to apply see [here](#).
- **Solicitor/Legal Executive** - A fantastic opportunity has arisen for someone with 2-3 years PQE to join the Commercial Property & Development department in our leading law firm located in Brighton and Hove. For more details and to apply see [here](#).

LOCUMS

If you would like to be added to the list of locums published monthly in this Newsletter, please email your details to [Jeanette Lacy Scott](#). Listing your details here is free of charge for members:

- Margaret Dowdles - commercial/residential property. Happy to discuss how firms can practically work together so she can innovate on pricing and still deliver real value at this challenging time and going forwards -Contact mgtdles@gmail.com 07947-771593. Charges realistic rates.
- Robin Bates - family and civil dispute resolution. contact mob 07710 202422 ; e-mail robin-bates@sky.com
- Elin Dukes - private client/court of protection - contact: elindukeslaw@gmail.com / 07585800258.
- Patrick Richards- Un-Notarised legal translations, office and Court interpreter services offered by fluent French and Italian speaking local Solicitor. Contact patrichards27@hotmail.com 07715928563.

LOST & MISSING WILLS

Can you please check if your firm holds the following will(s):

Peter MURPHY (RIP 25/1/22) DOB: 2/6/58 last address: 79 South Street,
Lewes Any information please contact Laura Holmwood lauraholmwood@hotmail.com

All wills previously held by Howlett Clarke are now safely held with the Right Legal Group, Wyvern Business Park, 16 Stanier Way, Derby, DE21 6BF. Telephone number 01332 424511.

Please contact [Jeanette Lacy Scott](#) if you are looking for a will or if you want to be part of our lost/missing wills scheme (free of charge)

LAW SOCIETY DIVISIONS/NETWORKS

The Law Society has some really useful divisions/networks full of information and resources which are worth exploring. The links are here: [Ethnic Minority Lawyers](#); [In-house Lawyers](#); [Junior Lawyers](#); [Lawyers with Disabilities](#); [LGBT+ Lawyers](#); [Small Firms](#); [Solicitor Judges](#); [Women Lawyers](#)

SUBSCRIBE/UNSUBSCRIBE

Following the introduction of the new GDPR laws on 25th May 2018, if you are not an individual or corporate member of the Sussex Law Society and wish to continue to receive this monthly newsletter you will need to [opt in here](#). If you are unsure about whether you are/are not a member please contact [Jeanette Lacy Scott](#)

If you would like to receive information about courses and events in any of the following areas of law, please sign up to one of the following lists:

[Litigators List](#)

[Private Client Practitioners List](#)

[Property Practitioners List](#)

[Family Practitioners List](#)

[Criminal Law Practitioners List](#)

Contact [Jeanette Lacy Scott](#) if you no longer wish to receive the monthly Newsletter and put **UNSUBSCRIBE** in the subject heading.