

Welcome to the August edition of the Sussex Law Society Newsletter. We hope you are all managing to find some time to enjoy the Summer months. There is no President's report this month as Lucy is taking a well-earned break but the Committee met recently and, among other things, welcomed the news that there has been a great interest from younger members in reviving the JLD and that a new committee is being set up and events planned for the Autumn so watch this space!

LOCAL NEWS

- **DMH Stallard's** real estate team has welcomed the firm's latest partner appointment to the Gatwick office. **Jo Rovey** joins from Knights and is the fourth partner hire at DMH Stallard in 2022. Her experience is extensive having advised the broadest spectrum of clients on a range of commercial real estate and banking matters.
- **Family Law Partners** are delighted to welcome the latest member of their growing Brighton Team, Assistant Solicitor **Raj Patel**.
- We are delighted to welcome **Andrew Bishop**, who has been elected as the Law Society Council Member for Sussex, to the Sussex Law Society General Committee. Andrew is a very well respected criminal defence solicitor at **Bishop and Light Solicitors** and is a fantastic addition to our team.

LEASEHOLD REFORM (GROUND RENT) ACT 2022

A reminder that the government this year introduced the [Leasehold Reform \(Ground Rent\) Act 2022](#) which saw ground rent charges on most new residential leases in England and Wales banned from 30 June 2022. The Act, which will also apply to new retirement homes from 1 April 2023, was viewed by government as a key milestone in its work to fix the leasehold system and to level up home ownership, but how far its proposals will work in practice remains to be seen. [This article](#) posted on the property section of the Law Society website, looks at what is likely to change, and when.

JIMMY BLAKE-DYKE RIP

We were very sad to hear the news that Jimmy Blake-Dyke, a Past President of the Society, died in late June. A much loved and respected solicitor, he was a member and great supporter of the Sussex Law Society until his death.

He began his career articled to Peter Wilson, the senior partner of Wilson & Wilson in Kettering from 1950 to 1955. He remained with the firm until 1957, when he became an assistant solicitor with Burt Brill & Edwards in Brighton, specializing in litigation and becoming a partner there in 1960. The firm later amalgamated with Cardens and became Burt Brill & Cardens. He retired in 1992.

Jimmy was the first chairman of the Sussex Society of Young Solicitors, and was elected to the national committee, later becoming chairman of that committee. He joined the committee of the Sussex Law Society and was President from 1977 to 1978. He told us not long ago that his first memory of the Sussex Law Society was attending the Centenary Dinner in 1960. He remembered that the dinner had a lot of courses, with a break for sorbet and Russian cigarettes in the middle and that the speakers were so overawed by the occasion that they were not in the least amusing!

PROBLEMS WITH THE COURTS?

We have received many depressing examples of some of the problems members are having in their dealings with the local courts including delays, mistakes, communications, listing problems etc and how this is becoming increasingly difficult to explain to clients. One member wrote “none of the time spent dealing with the Court’s ineptitude or making unnecessary applications will be recoverable. I’m sure other members have similar tales and this is not unusual at all but it does highlight how very frustrating the current system is for us.”

We now have a local MP involved and are sending them your experiences so please continue to send any examples to [Jeanette Lacy Scott](#) and at the same time please encourage your clients to write to their MPs whenever you can.

WESTGATE CHAMBERS FAMILY TEAM HOST AN EXCLUSIVE PUBLIC LAW CHILDREN’S EVENT

In September, Join Westgate Chambers for champagne and canapes when they are hosting an exclusive event for lawyers who specialise in Public Law Children, at Brighton’s EnterGallery, in Bond Street. Several artists will have their work on show from, Damien Hirst, Pure Evil, Peter Blake, Mark Vessey, Lucie Bennett and many more. If you would like further information on this invite only event, please do not hesitate to contact Family@westgate-chambers.co.uk

REGULATION OR DELEGATION?

We must be doing something right! The most recent consumer satisfaction poll suggests that mandatory clarity and transparency on “go- compare” legal services advertising sites are beginning to generate positive feedback both as to value for money and quality. However, the legal press, analysts, commentators and special interest groups also observe that all is not well within the relationship between the overarching Legal Services Board and front-line Regulators, nor in turn these with their own representative bodies. CILEX is in dispute with its regulatory arm and in talks with the SRA to replace it. The LSB is seen as sitting on the fence. Whilst agreeing to co-operate, both the Bar Council and the Law Society are unhappy with the criteria upon which in the standards of competence are being delegated to them by the LSB. Notwithstanding the LSB last month declining to implement a statutory review of unreserved legal services, the SRA has somewhat surprisingly now seen fit to obtain a better understanding of this market by commissioning its own independent in-depth research.

The SRA has made the popular, albeit temporary, decision to a further “stay of execution” on the SIF closure by agreeing to underwrite the fund’s liabilities until end 2023. Whilst LeO’s performance remains under the microscope and in an effort to ease the backlog, the LSB has granted its request to amend the Rules by reducing the time limit for complaints from 6 to 1 years. This brings it in line with other similar schemes.

Patrick Richards, Compliance & Regulation Standing Committee

A NEW DEAL FOR RENTING – THE GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Read [here](#) the government response to their consultation ‘A New Deal for Renting’ on removing Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 and improving Section 8 eviction grounds. This includes details of the planned reforms to the tenancy system following the removal of Section 21 and a summary of the responses received to the consultation.

CRIMINAL BAR ASSOCIATION ACTION – HOW CAN CRIMINAL DEFENCE SOLICITORS SUPPORT THE ACTION AND DO YOU WANT TO?

Criminal barristers' 'days of action' have been escalating since the first walkout on Monday 27 June. There will be a five-day walkout starting today, 1 August 2022, followed by five-day walk out's every other week thereafter until a satisfactory response from the government is proposed.

The Criminal Law Solicitors Association (CLSA) held an open meeting on 15 July 2022, inviting criminal defence solicitors' feedback and views on how the action is affecting our practices, how the courts are dealing with our cases in the absence of counsel and what we would like to see happen next. In particular, focus was on the Government's proposed response to the CLAR report which falls well short of what was recommended and what is required, to make publicly funded criminal defence work financially viable.

The CLSA committee wanted to know whether criminal defence solicitors wish to support the CBA's Action and, if so, welcomed ideas as to how this could be achieved. The obvious but bold answer is to refuse to sign the October Legal Aid contract and there were, understandably, trepidations about that. If you would support that course of action, or have any ideas as to how we can support the CBA's action and put pressure on the Government, please contact the CLSA at admin@cls.co.uk

TRUST REGISTRATION SERVICE (TRS) & AML COMPLIANCE

Solicitors should be aware that due to the implementation of the [Fifth Money Laundering Directive](#), many express trusts without UK tax liabilities will:

- fall within the scope of registration on [HMRC Trust Registration Service](#) and
- therefore need to be registered by 1 September 2022

The Law Society have published two sets of useful anti-money laundering (AML) guidance to help members comply with the updated Trust Registration Service (TRS) regime. You can find them [here](#).

NEED HELP NAVIGATING YOUR WAY THROUGH THE PII RENEWAL PROCESS? HOWDEN SHARE THEIR LATEST MARKET UPDATE.

In their latest Market Report Howden examine the outcome of the April 2022 solicitors' PII renewal and provide insight into what your firm can expect if your policy is yet to renew in 2022. They also update you on issues currently on the radar for PII underwriters so you can review whether there is any action you need to take before renewal. In addition, there is guidance on discussing claims with your underwriter and provide some "dos and don'ts" to consider when it comes to your firm's website with your PII underwriter in mind.

Cyber security is a significant issue within the legal profession at the moment. Separate cyber insurance has become increasingly important, but some insurers are no longer prepared to provide separate cyber insurance cover to law firms. Howden's report updates you on security measures the remaining insurers will expect you to have.

On a broader note, consolidation of SRA-regulated practices is discussed, which is often the subject of discussion in the legal press. It is interesting to review some of the statistics published by the SRA and the Law Society to get a proper understanding of the extent to which the profession is changing and the number of firms that have opened and closed in the last two years against the backdrop of Covid and the introduction of the freelance model.

Read the full report [here](#).

CONVEYANCING LOCUMS

If you are a conveyancing locum and would be happy for us to advertise your services in this newsletter (or just hold them to give to those who enquire) please let [Jeanette Lacy Scott](#) know.

2022 HONORARY QC COMPETITION LAUNCH

The Ministry of Justice is inviting nominations for the award of Queen's Counsel Honoris Causa. The prestigious Honorary QC award is given to legal professionals who have made a significant impact on the law, on the legal profession, or through standout achievements or innovation.

To learn more and to get your nominations in by Monday 29 August Please click [here](#). If you have any questions or queries, can you please contact the MOJ directly at honoraryQC@justice.gov.uk

BOOKINGS NOW BEING TAKEN FOR SEPTEMBER QUIZ NIGHT

Book now by clicking [here](#) for the Sussex Law Society Quiz Night 2022 which will be held at 7pm on Thursday, 15th September in the Palm Court Restaurant on Brighton Pier.

Both members and non-members are welcome to enter a team. Your firm/organisation/friends & colleagues can enter a team of up to 6 people at a cost of £20 per person (including VAT) which includes a fish and chip supper (with a vegan fishless and chip supper alternative). There will be a cash bar available all night. This is a very popular event and so places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. There will be a raffle on the night in aid of the President's charities for the year - [The Brighton Yoga Foundation](#) and [The Starr Trust](#)

This event has been kindly sponsored by  DEVASSIST

LAWCARE INAUGURAL ONLINE CONFERENCE 'BUILDING A BETTER LIFE IN THE LAW'

Learn more about how to improve the culture in the law and how to make your legal organisation a happy and healthy place to work. Legal mental health charity [LawCare](#) is hosting its first conference this year to celebrate its 25th anniversary. The online conference 'Building a Better Life in the Law' takes place on Wednesday 28th September and features leaders across the profession who are pioneering new ways of working. They will share their experiences of improving the culture in law through an interactive programme of plenaries, panel discussions, workshops and breakout sessions. For more information and to book tickets, which cost £100, visit www.lawcare.org.uk/conference

BUILD A ROADMAP FOR YOUR LAW FIRM (An interactive series of workshops giving you bespoke tools to build the law firm you have always wanted)

As Managing Partner your job is to effectively manage compliance and finance, people and HR, marketing, and sales, not forgetting client care and delivery (and everything else in between!). With all these tasks, when do you ever have the time to plan for the future? Lou McArragher (HR and Leadership) and Claire Ellis (Legal Finance) are teaming up to share their knowledge, skills, and experience to put you in the driving seat of your legal firm. Join us for a series of workshops giving you the tools and the time to focus on your firm's future. These four workshops - will feed your mind and nourish your body (with lunch!) and you will come away brimming with strategies that are instantly actionable.

Sessions 1 & 2 will take place on 8th September from 12.00 - 2.00 and Sessions 3 & 4 will take place on 4th October from 12.00 - 2.00

Each 2 hour session is £150, however you will get the most value by attending the full series. If you buy both sessions together, you will save £50. Full programme details and to book your place click [here](#).

SUSSEX LAW SOCIETY GOLF SOCIETY (SLSGS)

We have played three matches this year. In May we played at East Brighton Golf Club. The overall winner was David Harris who was awarded the Necessity Bowl. In early June we played at Seaford Head Golf Club when the Captain's Prize was won by Paul Sagoo. On 29 June we played at West Hove Golf Club and the Cassel's Cup was won by Mick Barry.

If you wish to join our Society all you have to do is contact me (Paul Sagoo) by email or telephone. There is no joining fee. Email: rps.sagoo@googlemail.com

Paul Sagoo - Secretary, SLSGS

'THE SOLICITOR NEUTRAL MODEL' WEBINAR

Jo O'Sullivan of O'Sullivan Family Law is an early adopter of the Solicitor Neutral model; couples can now separate or divorce using just one solicitor. Jo will be joined by Canadian Jacinta Gallant on 21st September from 4pm – 5pm in a webinar to explain the model and to discuss how the use of Workbooks (Innovative Tools for Family Professionals) help the process be most effective.

Contact Jo's assistant on admin@osullivanfamilylaw.com to get joining instructions.

SUSSEX LAW SOCIETY WEBINARS

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

- **18th October, 2022** – ['CPR Update by Dominic Regan'](#). LIVE Webinar. 9.30am – 12.30pm. £100 + VAT (members), £120+ VAT (non-members)

OTHER WEBINARS/ARTICLES/RESOURCES

- **16th August 2pm – 3pm** – **'Ask The Experts - Community Care Law Q&As'** - Cate Searle, Head of Community Care Law and Paula Jones, Services for Professional Deputies Lead, are running free Community Care Law Q&As focusing on topical issues in community care law and mental capacity law. This virtual session will be of particular interest to private client law teams: "Deprivation of Assets". For more information and to book your place [click here](#).
- **1st September 2pm – 4pm** – **'The £86,000 Care Cap Promise in Practice'** – Cate Searle, Head of Community Care Law at Martin Searle Solicitors is running this live virtual workshop 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. Cate 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, including the recent announcement that people already in care homes will have to wait until 2025 to qualify for the cheaper care fee rate. The seminar will also run on **11th October, 2pm – 4pm**. For more information and to book your place, [click here](#).

- **5th September 1pm – 2pm - ‘An Introduction to Housing Disrepair’** Free webinar. For more details and to register click [here](#).
- **19th September 1pm – 2pm – ‘An Introduction to Judicial Review Proceedings’.** Free webinar. For more details and to register click [here](#).
- **26th September 1pm – 2pm – ‘The Threshold Criteria in Care Proceedings – The law and drafting tips for beginners’.** Free webinar. For more details and to register click [here](#).
- **10th October 1pm - 2pm – ‘Fundamental Dishonesty: A Brief overview of the current test & practical examples’** – Free webinar. For more details and to register click [here](#).
- **24th October 1pm – 2pm – ‘Compensation Recovery Claims: Impact of Universal Credit on claims & ways to navigate towards settlement’** – Free webinar. For more details and to register click [here](#).

SITUATIONS WANTED

Recent Law Graduate seeks employment as a paralegal or legal secretary. Full CV available by contacting lourdes.salt@googlemail.com

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](mailto:Jeanette.Lacy.Scott) to place an advert. More details about each vacancy and how to apply can be found by following the highlighted links.

- **4 Year PQE Solicitor/Legal Executive** - This is an excellent opportunity to become an integral part of the Commercial Property & Development team at Dean Wilson. You will be responsible for running your own case load and reporting to the partners in the team. The ideal candidate will either be a qualified Solicitor or Legal Executive with 4 years PQE in this area of work. More details can be found [here](#).
- **Commercial Property Expert** - ACUMEN BUSINESS LAW we looking for a commercial property expert, the nature of the role is flexible so can be junior or senior. Please email daniel.richards@acumenlaw.co.uk to express your interest.
- **Commercial Property Solicitor (1 year + PQE)** – Coole Bevis are seeking to recruit a talented commercial property lawyer to strengthen their existing established team with a strong local reputation based within the Worthing Office. Additionally, we are growing the team with a brand new **Paralegal position** within our Horsham Office with great opportunity to gain experience of a quality caseload from inception to completion. Opportunity provided to progress and develop your career in a friendly, open and supportive culture. Flexible working supported. For more information please visit <https://coolebevislaw.com/join-us/>
- **Commercial Property & Development** - A fantastic opportunity has arisen for a 7 year plus PQE Solicitor or a Legal Executive to join Dean Wilson in Hove. The ongoing training and support provided, together with the opportunity to work alongside leaders in their field will make this a good career move for the successful candidate. They will have the opportunity to expand their legal knowledge in this area and develop invaluable commercial property and development skills. More details can be found [here](#).

- **Commercial Property & Development** - This is an excellent opportunity for a 2-3 PQE Solicitor or a Legal Executive to become an integral part of the team at Dean Wilson in Hove . You will be responsible for running your own case load and reporting to the partners in the team. The ongoing training and support provided, together with the opportunity to work alongside leaders in their field will make this a good career move for the successful candidate. See [here](#) for more details.
- **Employment** – A fantastic opportunity has arisen for a Solicitor with up to 2 years PQE to join the Employment team at Dean Wilson. For more details and how to apply see [here](#).
- **Employment Lawyer.** Martin Searle Solicitors are looking to employ an experienced litigation Solicitor, In-House Counsel / Barrister, Legal Executive or Case Worker to join their Employment Law team. For a full job description and to apply, [click here](#).
- **Family Law Partners are looking for a Paralegal** to join both their Brighton and Horsham teams. To apply please click on the following links: Brighton Paralegal <https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/3160943410/> Horsham Paralegal <https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/3160937883/> or email miriam@familylawpartners.co.uk with your CV and covering letter.
- **Newly Qualified Solicitors, Paralegals & Trainees** - Helix Law are a specialist litigation firm based in Brighton & Eastbourne. Our core practice areas are commercial, construction & property litigation. We are one of the largest specialist litigation teams in the South East, outside London. We act in disputes nationally for clients based across the UK and internationally. We are a fully online business; some fee earners work remotely from other parts of the UK, and abroad. We are looking for newly qualified solicitors to work in commercial litigation, construction & property litigation. We typically offer a starting salary of £40,000 + performance related bonus. We are also offering an exciting opportunity to people who wish to train & qualify by equivalent means or who wish to work as a paralegal and qualify with us via a period of recognised training. We have a track record of quickly progressing good people with multiple trainees at any given time qualifying with us. Training entails working closely with clients, solicitors and partners in a broad range of matters. We typically offer a starting salary of £25,000 + performance related bonus. The above positions are suitable for confident individuals who want to work on challenging disputes & litigation, in a growing, close-knit and specialist team, and within an ambitious business. Applicants should send an email with a covering letter and CV attached to careers@helix-law.com
- **Paralegal, Enfranchisement** – Mayo Wynne Baxter have an exceptional opportunity for an accomplished Enfranchisement Paralegal. We are looking for someone with ambition and drive to join our team. It is envisaged that this will be a full-time role, but we are always willing to consider different working patterns. For full details and how to apply see [here](#).
- **Private Client Solicitor** – Mayo Wynne Baxter are seeking someone with particular court of protection experience to assist a senior legal advisor in the management of a busy caseload comprising of complex matters including: acquired brain injuries; mental health issues; learning difficulties and the elderly. The ideal person will have between 1 to 4 years' PQE. For more information/to apply see [here](#).

- **Residential Conveyancing Expert** - ACUMEN PEOPLE Solicitors are looking for a residential conveyancing expert who is able to run their own files with little supervision. Please email daniel.richards@acumenlaw.co.uk to express your interest.

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:

Mohamed Kamil ZEROUK last address: 35 Beeding Avenue, Hove Any
information please contact Susan Conway susan@gsc.co.uk

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.