

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome everyone to September's newsletter. As well as thinking how on earth can it be September already, I am loving the back to school vibe at the moment. Perhaps it comes from years of studying but the new school year still makes me feel upbeat, especially after a lovely sunny Summer.

It's been relatively quiet this Summer, hopefully because everyone has been taking advantage of the return to going on holiday, but I can already see that things are hotting up again. Next week we have our infamous Sussex Law Society Quiz, kindly sponsored by Dev Assist, which has been a sell out with around 140 attending! Before I leave you to enjoy the newsletter, a small plea that if you haven't paid your Membership Fee yet, please can you do so?!

Thanks so much! and have a great September.

*Lucy Tarrant*

## LOCAL NEWS

**Bate & Albon Solicitors** are delighted to announce that Serena Elliott, an experienced Private Client solicitor, will be joining the firm as a consultant at the firm's Chichester Office from 1st September 2022.

**Coole Bevis LLP** is delighted to announce that Georgina Holton has been promoted to HR Director with effect 1st September. The practice welcomes 8 new starters in September due in large part to the efforts of Georgina in HR, supported by staff and partners, to create a caring and supportive working environment and culture at the firm.

**Bate & Albon Solicitors** are delighted to announce that Alina de Heer, Residential Landlord and Tenant solicitor specialising in possession claims and property litigation, will be joining the firm's landlord & tenant team at the Brighton Office on 6th September.

**DMH Stallard** is delighted to announce a new partner hire, Lucy Rudd, in the firm's well respected property development team.

19 promotions have been announced across **DMH Stallard**, the largest single round of promotions in the history of the firm, including new associates, senior associates and partners, and with Helen Mead, Mark Rennie and Emily Wood becoming senior members.

## CAN YOU HELP PROMOTE THE WORK OF SUSSEX PRISONERS' FAMILIES?

At Sussex Prisoners' Families our role is to build a bridge and facilitate communication between the criminal justice system and families who are experiencing a loved one being in prison. When an individual receives a custodial sentence, their families are plunged into facing a plethora of emotions, which is often made harder if they receive no information from the court and prison services. Consequently, children and adult family members receive a 'hidden sentence' as a result of being the invisible group not systematically identified to be offered support when a loved one receives a prison sentence.

Not only do we support families after a loved one receives a custodial sentence, but we also work in courts, prisons and communities, helping families navigate the criminal justice system by offering advice, advocacy, information and emotional support through all stages of the process. We aid by

offering families one-to-one support from a friendly outreach team, peer support groups and family day outings. During the year of 2020-2021, staff at Sussex Prisoners' Families provided direct information and assistance to 47 families and 23 professionals within courts. Furthermore, during this time our team worked with 94 new families affected, with 47% saying they felt isolated prior to our help and 32% had difficulty contacting the prison. Thus, our work is vital for supporting families where there is no statutory support in place.

We are asking if, when legally representing your clients, you would refer their family members to our service by giving them our leaflets to ensure they are supported and given sufficient information throughout the processes relevant to those being faced by your client. We are requesting your help to ensure a reduction in the number of families that are forgotten in the process. You can help us do that by having our leaflets in your office ready for families in need. Additionally, we understand that your time is vital and by using our service we could reduce your workload by ensuring you can focus on your client's needs and their families can ask our outreach team to provide them with information and support.

Moreover, we ask you to consider us if you have an interest and are keen in sponsoring a charity who works closely with institutions within the criminal justice system. For more information, please visit [our website](#) to locate our leaflet.

### BATTLE OF THE LEGAL BRAINS QUIZ

On 28<sup>th</sup> September at the Marriot Hotel in Grosvenor Square, this event is being held in aid of [The Change Foundation](#) and includes:

- A sparkling reception and a 3-course meal.
- A general quiz, not law-based, to see who is the smartest for bragging rights.

A table of 10 (2 teams) is £1,000 and half a table (1 team) is £500 . Contact [Alex Bassan](#) for more information/to register.

### PRO BONO STUDENT CONSULTANCY SUPPORT OFFER

The University of Greenwich are looking for clients for their BA Business Management students who have opted to work on a Student Consulting Project instead of a traditional dissertation. As a client, you would develop a brief that the student would work to over the year, researching primary and secondary data and providing recommendations and an action plan for you. The bespoke project outputs could benefit you and your clients and could be on issues such as marketing, strategy development, technology, people management and development or sustainability. Tishhaws Solicitors have already engaged – would you like to join us too? If so, please contact Julia Tybura, Senior Teaching Fellow at [j.h.tybura@gre.ac.uk](mailto:j.h.tybura@gre.ac.uk) for further details.

### UPDATE FROM OUR CRIMINAL LAW STANDING COMMITTEE

Members of the Criminal Bar Association (“CBA”) voted in favour of an ‘all out’ strike which began on 5<sup>th</sup> September. This means that, as of today, not only are the vast majority of criminal barristers not accepting any new instructions or returns in legal aid cases, but they will also refuse to attend court in ongoing cases in which they are already instructed (unless an exception applies e.g. a party to the proceedings is particularly vulnerable). There is a strong level of support for the CBA among criminal defence solicitors, but there are practical implications for us which include:

Impact on cash flow. We cannot bill cases until they conclude and cases cannot conclude while barristers are on strike. Cash flow has already been affected as a result and continues to be so.

Legal aid contract. Although the same is not so for barristers, it is a requirement of firms' contracts with the Legal Aid Agency that we secure representation at every court hearing for every client in relation to whose case we hold a legal aid order. This means that, although the barristers are on strike, we are still expected to organise representation for our clients in court. In reality, this has been increasingly unachievable as the vast majority of the criminal bar is not working. The SRA has issued new guidance which suggests that we should consider using in house advocates with higher rights of audience, calling around barristers' chambers to try to find someone who will accept instructions, or instructing a lawyer from the Public Defender Service. It is an administrative burden.

It is hoped that, once the new PM appoints her cabinet, the new Justice Minister will prioritise coming to an agreement with the CBA as a matter of urgency.

*Camilla Rents*

#### **REGULATOR'S SIF CLOSURE PROPOSALS ANALYSED.**

A discretionary compensation fund model, maintain the current SIF or set up a new indemnity scheme administered by the SRA ? ..those are the questions upon which after three consecutive years' stay of execution, have been further Consulted upon by our Regulatory body. Whilst The Law Society and special interest groups have broadly welcomed the progress of the discussion paper, their guarded responses insist on a "like for like" pure indemnity replacement fund rather than a (questionably unlawful) compensatory and discretionary arrangement. The SRA Board meets next week to make its decision.

*Pat Richards, Compliance & Regulation Standing Committee*

#### **WESTGATE CHAMBERS FAMILY TEAM ART GALLERY EVENT**

On 14 September, Westgate Chambers will host an exclusive invite only event, for lawyers who specialise in Public Law Children cases, at Brighton's EnterGallery. Several artist will have their work on show from, Damien Hirst, Pure Evil, Peter Blake, Mark Vessey, Lucie Bennett and many more. If you have not yet received your invite or for more information, please contact [staylor@westgate-chambers.co.uk](mailto:staylor@westgate-chambers.co.uk)

#### **AGM & COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS**

This year the Sussex Law Society AGM will be held at 6pm on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November. Venue TBA. Members only can attend. We will have one vacancy on the General Committee so if you are interested in standing for election please contact [Jeanette Lacy Scott](mailto:Jeanette.Lacy.Scott).

#### **DOMINIC REGAN'S AUTUMN CPR UPDATE WEBINAR**

Dominic Regan presents this 'not to be missed' webinar to keep you right up to date. Topics covered will include: Problems with witness statements; Ejecting experts who are compromised; BELSNER at last to be heard by the Court of Appeal; Fixed costs certain for April 2023; The latest reform agenda

looking at budgeting, guideline hourly rates, protocols and more fixed costs; Lessons from the VARDY fiasco.

The webinar is from 9.30am – 12.30pm on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> October. You can download an application form [here](#).

### SUSSEX LAW SOCIETY WEBINARS

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

- **22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2022** – [‘Leasehold Dwellings Update in the light of recent statutory changes’](#). Speaker: Richard Snape. LIVE Webinar. 11am – 12pm. £35 + VAT (members), £45 + VAT (non members)
- **18<sup>th</sup> October, 2022** – [‘CPR Update by Dominic Regan’](#). LIVE Webinar. 9.30am – 12.30pm. £100 + VAT (members), £120+ VAT (non-members)
- **25<sup>th</sup> October, 2022** – [‘Commercial Leases Update’](#). Speaker: Richard Snape. LIVE Webinar. 9.30am – 12.30pm. £100 + VAT (members), £120+ VAT (non-members)
- **25<sup>th</sup> October, 2022** – [‘Conveyancing & the Family Home’](#). Speaker: Richard Snape. LIVE Webinar. 2pm – 5pm. £100 + VAT (members), £120+ VAT (non-members)

### OTHER WEBINARS/ARTICLES/RESOURCES

- **7<sup>th</sup> September 12.30 – 13.00** – **‘A Law Firm’s Guide to going Fully Paperless’**. Join LEAP’s free informative webinar which looks at why going paperless is no longer wishful thinking and why law firms need to take the idea very seriously. Receive hints and tips on how this can be achieved and join a conversation with Neil Quantick, CEO of Quantick Daly Solicitors, as he shares his experiences and lessons learnt since going fully digital in 2008. Register [here](#).
- **19<sup>th</sup> September 1pm – 2pm** – **‘An Introduction to Judicial Review Proceedings’**. Free webinar. For more details and to register click [here](#).
- **26<sup>th</sup> 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](#).
- **10<sup>th</sup> October 1pm - 2pm** – **‘Fundamental Dishonesty: A Brief overview of the current test & practical examples’** – Free webinar. For more details and to register click [here](#).
- **24<sup>th</sup> 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](#).
- Sherrards Employment Law Solicitors are pleased to announce the release of this year’s **Employment Law Latest and Employment Headaches programme**. Essential for HR and people managers, join the team in Sussex on Thursday 10th November, London on Thursday 17th November and in Surrey on Tuesday 22nd November to run through critical employment law updates and practical workplace scenarios. The cost for one delegate is £170 + VAT. All of the sessions will run from 9:00 – 13:00 and include all training materials, refreshments and a buffet lunch. To book and pay for your place online at any of the 3 events, please see [here](#).
- **‘Lead magnets for lawyers to attract more clients’** read the article by Orion Legal Marketing [here](#).
- **‘Company Law – Unfair Prejudice Petitions, Derivative Claims & Res Judicata’** read the article from Clerksroom [here](#).

### 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](http://www.lawcare.org.uk/conference)

## 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.

- **Banking Solicitor (1-3 PQE)** - DMH Stallard are currently looking for someone to join their busy team in the Gatwick office. This is an excellent opportunity to join a multi-disciplinary banking practice. you will have opportunity to work with great clients on a range of finance transactions – in particular, property finance, ABL finance and acquisition finance deals. Your workload will also include re-financings and restructurings. Please contact [Jodie.cashman@dmhstallard.com](mailto:Jodie.cashman@dmhstallard.com)
- **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.
- **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 to become an integral part of the Commercial Property & Development team 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 Solicitor (0-4 PQE)** - DMH Stallard are currently looking for someone to join their busy team in the Guildford office. You will work on a variety of Commercial property transactions with a focus on landlord and tenant work, sales and purchases. Experience should include freehold and leasehold acquisitions and disposals and property investment portfolio management for predominantly office premises. Please contact [jodie.cashman@dmhstallard.com](mailto:jodie.cashman@dmhstallard.com)

- **Commercial Property Solicitor (3-6 PQE)** - DMH Stallard are looking for someone to join their busy team in the Gatwick office. You will work on a wide range of commercial property matters albeit with a focus on secured lending transactions on behalf of lenders (where the firm is appointed to their panel) and also on land transactions for a registered charity with a large property portfolio. Please contact [Jodie.cashman@dmhstallard.com](mailto:Jodie.cashman@dmhstallard.com) if you are interested.
- **Conveyancing Executive/Solicitor** – Dean Wilson are looking for an experienced Conveyancing Executive / Solicitor to join our Residential Conveyancing team. You will be responsible for running your own case load and to provide assistance to senior colleagues. Previous experience of Residential Conveyancing is essential. More details can be found [here](#).
- **Construction Solicitor (0-2 PQE)** - DMH Stallard are looking for an NQ to join the London Real Estate group, specialising in Construction. They need a solicitor who will undertake a wide variety of non-contentious construction work and to support the continued development of the practice. Please contact [Jodie.cashman@dmhstallard.com](mailto:Jodie.cashman@dmhstallard.com) if you are interested in applying for this role.
- **Dispute Resolution Litigation Solicitor (1-2 PQE)** - DMH Stallard are currently looking for someone to join their busy team in the London office. You will work on a variety of dispute resolution cases, including commercial litigation, arbitration, real estate litigation, professional negligence and Insolvency related claims. Please contact [Jodie.cashman@dmhstallard.com](mailto:Jodie.cashman@dmhstallard.com) if you are interested in applying for this role.
- **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** – Brighton & Hove City Council are looking for an Employment Lawyer to join our friendly and experienced team. See [here](#) for more details and how to apply. Closing date for applications is 25<sup>th</sup> September 2022.
- **Housing & Litigation Lawyer** – Brighton & Hove City Council are looking for a confident litigation lawyer to join our friendly and experienced Litigation & Housing Team. See [here](#) for more details and how to apply. Closing date for applications is 25<sup>th</sup> September 2022.
- **Landlord & Tenant** – Dean Wilson are looking for a solicitor with experience within Landlord and Tenant to become an integral part of our Landlord and Tenant property litigation team in our Hove office acting for our national client base.. For more details and how to apply see [here](#)
- **Legal Support Officer (Contracts & Procurement)** - Brighton & Hove City Council are recruiting for an LSO in their legal services team. To find out more about this vacancy click on the link [Job Details | Brighton & Hove City Council \(brighton-hove.gov.uk\)](https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/jobs/job-details). Closing date 8th September, interviews week commencing 19th September.
- **Litigation/Contentious Probate Solicitor or Legal Executive** - Based at our Littlehampton office, full time hours, competitive salary and benefits. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Linda Robinson [lrobinson@moyle.co.uk](mailto:lrobinson@moyle.co.uk)

- **Private Client Solicitor or Legal Executive (5-10 PQE)** - Goodlaw Solicitors has an exciting opportunity for someone ideally with 5-10 years PQE, to run a team within one of our Sussex offices. This is a unique opportunity to be part of a fresh, modern firm, and to grow your department with a high level of autonomy. Please contact Helen Davis to express your interest – [hdavis@goodlawsolicitors.co.uk](mailto:hdavis@goodlawsolicitors.co.uk)
- **Private Client Solicitor or Legal Executive (1-3 PQE)** – Goodlaw Solicitors has an exciting opportunity for a Private Client Solicitor or Legal Executive, ideally with 1-3 years PQE, to join the Private Client team within one of our Sussex offices. This is a unique opportunity to be part of a fresh, modern firm and be supported in the next stage of your career. Please contact Helen Davis to express your interest – [hdavis@goodlawsolicitors.co.uk](mailto:hdavis@goodlawsolicitors.co.uk)
- **Property Litigation** - A fantastic opportunity has arisen for a Solicitor with experience to join Dean Wilson's Property Litigation team. For more information and how 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:robin-bates@sky.com)
- Elin Dukes - private client/court of protection - contact: [elindukeslaw@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:patrichards27@hotmail.com) 07715928563.

## LOST & MISSING WILLS

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

Patrick DOWNER (RIP) D.O.B. 17/03/1938 He lived in Hassocks from the mid-1960s and it is thought made a will between 1999 and 2001 (approx). Any information please contact his son, Matthew Downer ([matthew-downer@sky.com](mailto:matthew-downer@sky.com))

Charles Richard CROUCH (RIP 11/8/22) D.O.B 7/10/1950. 10 Lansdowne Place, Hove, BN3 1HG. Any information to Julia Kinsey, Bereavement Officer, Sussex NHS Foundation Trust ([julia.kinsey1@nhs.net](mailto:julia.kinsey1@nhs.net))

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](mailto: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 for members)

## 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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.