

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is a warm, though thoroughly wet, welcome to 2023 and the Ides of January. Mid-way through the first month of the year and the welcome seasonal break over the festive period is, more than likely, a distant memory to many of you reading this. With thanks to our 'editor in chief', Jeanette Lacy Scott, this newsletter is packed full of information, jobs listings and forthcoming Society events. For one, our popular Quiz Night is back in March, kindly sponsored again by Paul Addison &



You can book [here](#). Further ahead, the Society's Annual Charity Ball will, this year, be on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> June and you can get an 'early bird rate' by booking your tickets before the end of March and details of that are later in this newsletter .

Nonetheless, there is always room for more. One of the benefits that membership of this Society gives you is that it is free to contribute and to be featured our monthly newsletters which many members already take advantage of. As a rule, this newsletter is sent out to excess of 1000 readers and I am sure its reach is even further than that. So, please, put pen to paper or fingers to keys and contact [Jeanette](#) with any items of news you would like to share. We are always keen to hear from you.

*Oliver Maxwell-Jones*

## LOCAL NEWS

- **Renaissance Legal** has further strengthened its specialist team with the arrival of [Stuart Price](#), who joined on 3rd January 2023 as a Senior Associate from DMH Stallard. Stuart, who is recognised as a key lawyer in Legal 500 and is a member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners, joins at an exciting time in the firm's ongoing growth.
- **The Resolution Pod** is a group of four experienced mediators in Sussex who have a mix of legal and business backgrounds. They specialise in workplace and business disputes. If you are interested in finding out more, get in touch [here](#) or [contact@theresolutionpod.com](mailto:contact@theresolutionpod.com)

## BOOK NOW AND GET YOUR 'EARLY BIRD' DISCOUNT FOR THE ANNUAL CHARITY BALL

We have started planning our Annual Charity Ball which will be held on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> June at the Grand Hotel in Brighton. 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 the President's charity – [The Clocktower Sanctuary](#). 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. With great food, wine and music it is always such a great evening so, if you have never been before, come along!

Tickets for the Ball can be bought at the 'early bird' rate of £70 + vat (£70 including vat for trainees and members of the Sussex JLD and individual members who are not VAT registered) if you purchase before 31<sup>st</sup> March. After that tickets will be the full price of £75 + VAT (£75 including vat for trainees and members of the Sussex JLD and individual members who are not VAT registered). An application form can be downloaded from the website [here](#).

### CRIMINAL LAWYERS ENCOURAGED BY SUPPORT FROM THE LAW SOCIETY

The Law Society has issued a Letter Before Action threatening Judicial Review if the Government does not implement in full Lord Bellamy's recommendations. The 2021 Bellamy review recommended an immediate 15% uplift in criminal legal aid rates for solicitors. However, the planned increase of 11% by 2024 is well below that recommended and amounts to real terms pay cuts for criminal legal aid solicitors. The Law Society has been having conversations with the Government about this issue and, on 11 January 2023, confirmed that it had sent a pre-action letter to the Government.

Read the Press Release issued by the Law Society on 16<sup>th</sup> January [here](#) for more details.

### AMENDMENTS TO PRACTICE DIRECTIONS SUPPLEMENTING THE COURT OF PROTECTION RULES 2017

A number of new and amended Court of Protection practice directions and forms have effect from 1 January 2023, including a new practice direction 9H dealing with the revised process for property and financial affairs deputyship applications. Other changes include extending contempt of court provisions to those who make false statements in a document verified by a statement of truth.

See [here](#) for more information.

### REMINDERS FOR FAMILY LAWYERS

- Financial remedy contested applications must be submitted on MyHMCTS from 31 January 2023. Documents and orders must be uploaded to the online service and will no longer be accepted at local courts. Read [this note from HMCTS](#) for more details.
- Family Mediation week runs from 17-21 January – Find out what's going on [here](#).

### MARCH QUIZ NIGHT

Book now by [clicking here](#) for the next Sussex Law Society Quiz Night which will be held at 7pm on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 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 charity for the year – [The Clocktower Sanctuary](#). If you would like to donate a raffle prize please let [Jeanette Lacy Scott](#) know.

This event is being kindly sponsored by  DEVASSIST

### COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT

Council Meeting, 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022

The Law Society Council met on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022. This was virtual because of the rail strikes. Whilst there is undoubtedly a place for virtual meetings, it is never quite the same as in person. The

meeting was presided over by the President, Lubna Shuja. It is probably easier for her to use her 3-minute Countdown clock for member contributions in a virtual setting – she controls the mute button. Council business is divided into Part 1 matters that can be shared with constituents and Part 2 matters where the detail is confidential. The significant Part 1 matter at this meeting was the President's report.

#### President's report (Highlights)

1. The Government's response to the Criminal Legal Aid Review would have a huge impact on the ability of the public to access justice. The planned 11% increase in criminal legal aid rates for solicitors by 2024 was well below what Lord Bellamy had recommended and amounted to real terms pay cuts for criminal legal aid solicitors. The Law Society was continuing to have conversations with the Government on this: its Head of Justice, Richard Miller, had recently given evidence to the Justice Select Committee, and Ms Shuja had also raised these issues directly with the Lord Chancellor and other Cabinet Members. The Society, she said, wanted to protect members' livelihoods and businesses. While conversations continue with Government, law firms also needed to take the steps necessary to protect themselves.

**\*\*Stop press** – since the meeting, the Law Society has issued a Letter Before Action threatening Judicial Review if the Government does not implement in full Lord Bellamy's recommendations. I know all Criminal Lawyers will be encouraged by this support from the Law Society.

2. The President attended the inaugural meeting of the Law Society's National Board for Wales (Bwrdd Cenedlaethol Cymru). The main Law Society Board is, in effect, the governing body of the Society and this new body will be the governing body for the Law Society in Wales.
3. The Law Society believed that the Government's proposed Bill of Rights Bill would undermine the rule of law, damage Britain's international standing, and paint the UK as a nation that did not respect international agreements or human rights. It was unclear whether the Bill would be brought back to the House of Commons for its second reading as the media had reported it had been withdrawn. The Law Society would continue to monitor developments in this area and seek to persuade members of both Houses that this was not a Bill they should be voting for.
4. Last week the Society had commemorated 100 years of women entering the legal profession. It had been a huge pleasure to celebrate the remarkable achievements of the first four women solicitors, Carrie Morrison, Maud Crofts, Mary Pickup and Mary Sykes. However, we should all reflect on how we can continue to promote inclusion in the legal profession and ensure it reflects the diversity of our society.

Part 1 minutes are available if anyone wants them. Please email me at [andrew.bishop@bishopandlight.co.uk](mailto:andrew.bishop@bishopandlight.co.uk).

If you are interested in how the Law Society works and its management then the Corporate Strategy and Business Review and annual report are both available from the home page of the website [www.lawsociety.org.uk](http://www.lawsociety.org.uk). As your representative, if there is anything that I might be able to raise at Council meetings on your behalf then [do e-mail me](#).

*Andrew Bishop, Law Society Council Member for Sussex*

### HM LAND REGISTRY PLANNED STRIKE ACTION

Conveyancers should be aware that HM Land Registry (HMLR) is amongst 124 government departments that will strike on 1st February amidst ongoing disputes over pay, pensions, jobs, and redundancy terms, the Public and Commercial Services (PCS) Union announced last week.

### DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR OLD LAW BOOKS, LAW REPORTS, ENCYCLOPAEDIAS?

[Law Reports Buyer](#) are currently in search of the following titles; • All England law reports; • Halsbury Laws of England; • Times law reports; • Lloyds Law Reports; • Current Law; • Common Law Library - Chitty on contracts, Bowstead, Reynolds on agency etc; • Atkins court forms; • English Reports; • Law reports - Chancery, Appeals, Queens bench etc; • Weekly Law Reports; • Fleet Street law reports; • Criminal law review; • Parliamentary papers; • Other titles not listed will also be considered.

They offer to collect nationwide and you have the satisfaction of knowing your old law books are not going to waste; they can be reused by someone who needs them. Please email [harris@lawreportsbuyer.com](mailto:harris@lawreportsbuyer.com) the quantity of books and send a list or pictures of the books you have available and they will make the arrangements. For large sets please mention the start and end date, also if there are any missing volumes. Payments are made using faster payments. You can call (020) 8058 4786 if you have any queries.

### PUPILLAGES AT WESTGATE CHAMBERS

Westgate Chambers are accepting applications for pupillage for October 2023, and April 2024. Chambers are looking to recruit two pupils for each.

Wednesday 04 January 2023, 10:00(am) Applications open.  
Wednesday 08 February 2023, 11:59(pm) Applications close.

Successful candidates will be invited for interview on a date to be confirmed between 09 February and 05 May 2023. For further information on how to apply please visit [the Pupillage Gateway](#) or visit the [Pupillages page on our website](#).

### WHY NOT KICKSTART 2023 WITH A CHALLENGE

Whether you have a head for heights, or testing your strength or stamina is your thing, The London Legal Support Trust have something that can help you go the extra mile and raise funds for this worthwhile charity. With your support, they can continue to help frontline free legal advice agencies in London and the Southeast. They are bringing back some of their 2022 challenges along with some new and exciting ones... [Take a look](#).

### IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER FOR THE MANAGING PARTNERS' NETWORKING GROUP WEBINAR ON 19<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

Remote and hybrid-working is here to stay for the time being and there are no doubt pros and cons. Pam Loch, Managing Director of Loch Associates Group, will be presenting a lunchtime webinar on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023 from 12.00 – 13.30 pm and will be talking about the emerging trends in the employment law and HR world and the challenges firms face in our ever evolving workplaces, especially around mental ill health and remote/hybrid

working and the menopause. If this is something you would like to join then please let [Jeanette Lacy Scott](#) know. There will be time for questions and a confidential discussion.

### THE RENTING HOMES (WALES) ACT 2016

The Renting Homes Act is the biggest change to housing law in Wales for decades. On 1 December 2022 the Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016 changed the way all landlords in Wales rent their properties. All social and private tenants, including those who rent their properties through management companies or agents, are affected by the new law and will see some changes and will need to comply with the new law and make the necessary updates to their properties and paperwork. Here are some key dates:

- 1 December 2022 – Implementation date
  - Tenancies / Licences convert over to become Occupation Contracts
  - Smoke alarms to be present from start of any new contract
  - EICR in place for all new occupation contracts
  - All dwellings to have Carbon Monoxide detectors (including those already living at the dwelling)
- 31 May 2023 - Last day to provide written statement of contract for converting tenants
- 1 June 2023 – Deadline for providing smoke alarms for all converting tenancies
- 1 June 2023 – Deadline for EICR for all converting tenancies

Prescribed Documents: There are a number of prescribed Forms (RHW1, RHW2 etc) which can be found [here](#).

### 'TRS & TAX PLANNING UPDATE' WEBINAR

John Bunker will be presenting this live webinar from **1pm- 4.14pm on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2023** and will focus on some big changes and what they mean for practice & advice to clients: He will be looking at issues around;

- Trust Register: the scope of exclusions from the need to register trusts on TRS, penalties and discrepancy reporting.
- Tax & estate planning after the big tax squeeze in the Nov 2022 Autumn Statement.
- Tax planning in estates: how to mitigate tax liabilities with gains and losses on shares and properties post death.

You can find full details and download an application form [here](#)

### SUSSEX LAW SOCIETY WEBINARS

Click on the links below for full details of each course and application forms. Check the website regularly as new webinars are being added all the time.

- **25<sup>th</sup> January, 2023** – [‘Exercising Break Clauses Exercising Break Clauses and Other Methods of Terminating Commercial Leases’](#). Speaker: Richard Snape. LIVE Webinar. 9.30am – 12.30pm. £100 + VAT (members), £120+ VAT (non members)
- **9<sup>th</sup> February, 2023** – [‘TRS & Tax Planning Update’](#). Speaker: John Bunker. LIVE Webinar. 1pm – 4.15pm. £100 + VAT (members), £120 + VAT (non members)

- **14<sup>th</sup> March, 2023** – '[Civil Litigation Update: Latest on CPR Reforms and New Cases](#)'. Speaker: Dominic Regan. LIVE Webinar. 9.30am – 12.30pm. £110 + VAT (members), £130+VAT (non members)

#### OTHER COURSES/WEBINARS/ARTICLES/RESOURCES

**'How to accelerate your law firm marketing'** – This article by Orion Legal Marketing takes a closer look at some of the most effective marketing strategies and can be found [here](#).

**Pregnancy & Maternity Discrimination – A Guide for HR Managers & Employment Lawyers** – Sarah Henderson at Martin Searle Solicitors is running a live webinar, in partnership with MBL Seminars, which offers best practice employment law advice to avoid discriminating against pregnant women and those on maternity leave. This interactive session includes practical case studies and runs from **10.30am – 12pm on 31 January**. For more information/ to book, [click here](#).

**Throughout January 2023, Martin Searle Solicitors** are running their 19<sup>th</sup> annual campaign, **Mind the Bump** to stamp out pregnancy and maternity discrimination in the workplace. They are offering a free 30-minute telephone advice line for employers and employees concerned about pregnancy and maternity rights and their employer's duties. They are running a free virtual workshop for employee advisers and trade union representatives - '**Pregnancy and Maternity Discrimination – A Guide for Advisers**' at **1pm on 26 January 2023**. They are running a virtual seminar on '**Pregnancy & Maternity Discrimination - A Guide for HR Managers & Employment Lawyers**' at 10.30am on 31 January 2023. For more details [click here](#).

**GoodLaw Solicitors LLP** Family Department are hosting a Private Children and Domestic Abuse training event on **1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 from 6pm-10pm** at The Old Court House in Brighton. The evening will include talks from: Jack Horlock, Weightmans Solicitors; Support Through Court; Jodie Cudworth, Westgate Chambers; Our Family Law Wizard; Jane Wells, GoodLaw Solicitors. The Key Note presentation will be given by Dr Emma Katz, Senior Lecturer in Childhood and Youth, who is a specialist in coercive control and the impact on children. There will also be complimentary drinks and nibbles! To register your interest in the event, please email [emma@goodlawsolicitors.co.uk](mailto:emma@goodlawsolicitors.co.uk) as numbers are limited.

#### 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.

- **Childcare Lawyer** - Brighton and Hove City Council will shortly be advertising in Jobs Go Public for both a Lawyer and Senior Lawyer to join their well-respected childcare team. Please contact [natasha.watson@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:natasha.watson@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or ring 01273 291550 for an informal discussion.
- **Civil Litigation Legal Adviser** - This is an exceptional opportunity for an accomplished Civil Litigation Legal Adviser. Mayo Wynne Baxter are looking for someone with ambition and drive to join their team. You are likely to have around 1 – 3 years PQE and enthusiasm to take on a real career opportunity. It is envisaged that this will be a full-time role, but they are always willing to consider different working patterns. More details and how to apply can be found [here](#).

- **Contract & Procurement Lawyer** - This is an exciting time to be working within the field of procurement law with significant reforms in the pipeline. Brighton & Hove City Council are looking for two lawyers to join our friendly and supportive team. You will be confident and articulate, with good drafting skills and a client focused approach. A positive attitude and a willingness to develop in the role are essential. Experience of contracts and procurement law is desirable but not essential. We welcome applications from lawyers who are looking to change specialism and who may not have previously worked in local government. See [here](#) for more details and how to apply. Closing date 22/01/2023.
- **Commercial Property** - This is an exceptional opportunity for an accomplished Commercial Property Solicitor. We are looking for someone with ambition and drive to join our team at Mayo Wynne Baxter. You are likely to have around 8+ years PQE and enthusiasm to take on a real career opportunity. It is envisaged that this will be a full-time role, but we are always willing to consider different working patterns. For more details and how to apply see [here](#).
- **Commercial Property & Development** - A fantastic opportunity has arisen for a NQ Solicitor or a Legal Executive to join Dean Wilson in Hove. This is an excellent opportunity to become an integral part of the team. You will be responsible for running your own case load and reporting to the partners in the team. See [here](#) for more details.
- **Commercial Property & Development** – A fantastic opportunity has arisen for a 1-3 PQE Solicitor or a Legal Executive to join Dean Wilson in Hove. This is an excellent opportunity to become an integral part of the team. You will be responsible for running your own case load and reporting to the partners in the team. See [here](#) for more details.
- **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** - 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 & 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](#).
- **Conveyancing Paralegal** – GWCA Solicitors are looking for someone with drive and enthusiasm who will work hard. You must be able to interact well with our clients, and with the rest of the team. You must also be able to work alone. More details and how to apply can be found [here](#).



- **Conveyancing Paralegal** - This is an exceptional opportunity for a Residential Property Paralegal to join our team at Mayo Wynne Baxter. Ideally you will have the ability to work independently and proven experience of working towards financial targets. You will have previous Paralegal experience and a high standard of interpersonal and communication skills. It is envisaged that this will be a full-time role but we are always willing to consider different working patterns. See [here](#) for more details and how to apply.
- **Family Law Legal Assistant** - Spearpoint Franks Solicitors currently have a vacancy for a Legal Assistant to provide administrative support to three fee earners. Experience within a legal environment is desirable but not essential as training will be provided. To apply please send a covering letter and your CV to [Emma Rhodie](#).
- **Family Law Paralegal** - Family Law Partners are recruiting for a Paralegal to join their growing Brighton team. Applicants are to apply using [this link](#).
- **Family Solicitor/FILEX** - GoodLaw Solicitors LLP are looking for an experienced lawyer to join their family team. This is an opportunity for an ambitious Family Solicitor/FCILEX specialising in care proceedings to join a hugely successful law firm and take the business along with their career to the next level. You must be a self-starter, have excellent technical ability and have experience in handling care proceedings. A minimum of 3 years of experience is required. Those not on the Children Panel but with an interest to join the Panel will be considered, provided they have existing advocacy experience and support and funding for training can be provided. Salary DOE + generous bonus scheme. Candidates should apply with CV and cover letter to [emma@goodlawsolicitors.co.uk](mailto:emma@goodlawsolicitors.co.uk)
- **IT Application and Training Specialist** - an exciting opportunity has arisen at Mayo Wynne Baxter to join our IT team to provide legal application support. It does not include IT infrastructure work. The position will be based in Lewes with travel to other offices when required. For more details and to apply see [here](#).
- **Landlord & Tenant** – A fantastic opportunity has arisen for a Solicitor /Legal Executive with minimum 3 years PQE experience to join our Property Litigation team at Dean Wilson in Hove. See [here](#) for more details.
- **Legal Cashier** – Waugh & Co Solicitors are looking for an experienced part time Legal Cashier to join their team in Haywards Heath. The position is permanent and 3 full days a week. For more details and how to apply see [here](#).
- **Legal Support Assistant** – Mayo Wynne Baxter have an exceptional opportunity for a Legal Support Assistant to join our team, mainly based in our Storrington office and other offices on occasion. You are likely to have previous administrative knowledge and good client care experience. Full details can be found [here](#)
- **Litigation Paralegals/Trainees** - Helix Law are seeking applications for two positions starting as a paralegal with a view to training and qualification as specialist litigation solicitors. See here for more details and how to apply.
- **Private Client Lawyer** - Renaissance Legal is looking for a looking for a flexible, adaptable and client focused 3 year PQE+ Solicitor or FCILEx, to join its team of legal advisers. The right lawyer will be supporting clients relating to Wills, Trusts, Administration of Estates, Powers



of Attorney, Court of Protection and Inheritance Tax Planning. Find out more, and how to apply, [here](#).

- **Probate Secretary** - GWCA Solicitors based in West Sussex are looking for a Legal Secretary for a Solicitor dealing with Probate cases. See [here](#) for more details and how to apply.
- **Probate Solicitor** – GWCA Solicitors are seeking an experienced solicitor for a very busy but friendly Private Client department. See [here](#) for more details and how to apply.
- **Property Litigation** - Helix Law are seeking applications from a newly qualified – 3 years PQE solicitor with proven interest and experience in property litigation, in particular. 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](mailto:mgtdles@gmail.com) 07947-771593. Charges realistic rates.
- 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

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 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.