

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I'm sure that you are all aware of this Society's purpose and the benefits it endeavours to deliver to you, its members. This is all done by a committee of volunteers who give their own time in the interests of our worthy profession. For my part, I have always felt most ably supported by the committee members, for which I am eternally grateful and appreciative. All that this Society does would not be delivered if it were not for them and the many of you – reading this – who attend our events and support the Society in other ways.

Not wanting to wish the Summer away, the Society's AGM will be held later in the Autumn and if any of you reading this would want to participate more in what this Society does, please get in touch with myself, [Jeanette Lacy Scott](#) or any of the committee members (contact details are on the Society's website [here](#)). If you are a member of the Society and would like to join the committee itself, all interest is warmly welcomed. Your Society needs you, for without it cannot continue to deliver on the benefits for its membership that are at its core.

As our regular readers will know, Jeanette will be retiring at the end of the year and the hunt is on for her replacement. Should you know of anyone who might be interested, further details are available [here](#) on the Society's website.

Oliver Maxwell-Jones

NEWS

- **Jo O'Sullivan** came Highly Commended (first runner up) in the Family Lawyer of the Year at the Private Client Modern Law Awards 2023. This is for her work helping clients avoid court as an accredited mediator, pioneer of the one lawyer per couple (solicitor neutral) process and her book '(Almost) Anything But Family Court' published in 2022.
- **Mayo Wynne Baxter** took part in the [Social Mobility Business Partnership](#) event on Tuesday 25th July. SMBP is a volunteer led charity which brings together over 170 professional services firms, commercial organisations and professional sports teams committed to supporting students from low-income backgrounds in their pursuit of a career, in particular, as a legal or finance professional. The students participate in a week-long work insight and skills experience in which they are given the opportunity to spend a day at four different businesses; in addition, they attend a day run by a professional sports club to learn about the psychology of resilience and goal achievement models. MWB ran the morning session, followed by Southern Water in the afternoon. We are looking forward to the future partnership and events with the SMBP.

AUTUMN QUIZ NIGHT

Our extremely popular Quiz Night will be held in the Palm Court Restaurant on Brighton Pier at 7pm on Thursday, 12th October so why not come along and join us (we promise no legal questions!). Both members and non-members are welcome to enter a team of up to 6 people at a cost of £25 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](#).

Please complete and return the application form to secure a place. You can download it [here](#).

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

If you are interested in sponsoring the Society's Quiz night on 12th October please contact [Jeanette Lacy Scott](#) for more details. The quiz typically attracts around 120 people (which is near capacity) from our local legal community. Sponsorship will include entry for a team of 6 and your logo will be included on all marketing for the event. Additionally, sponsors will be able to have display stands in the room, distribute their literature and present the raffle prizes.

LITIGATORS – WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE NEW INTERMEDIATE TRACK

On 1st October 2023 sweeping new measures take effect. Many matters worth between £25,000 and £100,000 will be captured by a fixed costs regime. Professor Dominic Regan, who advised Sir Rupert Jackson on the changes, is presenting a webinar for the Sussex Law Society from **9.30 – 12.30 on Tuesday, 19th September** to explain how they will operate and will be looking at:

- Which cases are excluded?
- How are costs determined?
- The 4 bands
- When additional costs may be recovered
- The position of Counsel
- Changing your retainer
- Can I take some of my client's damages to make ends meet?

Email [Jeanette Lacy Scott](#) to reserve a place. You can find all the details and the application form [here](#).

POLICING ON HAND TO HELP BUSINESSES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CYBERCRIME

[The South East Cyber Resilience Centre](#) (SECRC) is a police-led and not-for-profit partnership aimed at improving cyber resilience in businesses in the South East of England. The SECRC is part of a nationwide network of centres which have been established across the country. With cybercrime now accounting for over 50% of all recorded crime, the Home Office partnered with policing to set up the SECRC and 9 other Cyber Resilience Centres covering the whole of England and Wales. The South East Cyber Resilience Centre's aim is to give every business in the region access to skills and knowledge to help protect themselves from online attacks, helping to make the South East one of the safest places to live, work and do business. It is worth noting that [The National Cyber Security Centre](#) recently published a [legal sector alert](#) as lawyers, legal practices and law firms play an essential role in the UK's economy and society.

Joining the SECRC is **entirely FREE** and straightforward. Upon registration, businesses receive a comprehensive welcome pack with an array of free cybersecurity services and products. Moreover, they invite and offer an initial consultation to gauge and improve your cyber security posture, all at ZERO COST. Click [here](#) to sign up.

You can access a useful Article [here](#) by Chris White, Detective Inspector and Head of Cyber and Innovation at SECRC which includes 9 simple steps you and everyone involved in your business should take to protect your business.

WESTGATE CHAMBERS PUBLIC LAW CHILDREN EVENT

Westgate Chambers will again host its annual drinks reception for lawyers that specialise in Public Law Children cases. The exclusive, invite only event, will take place at [EnterGallery](#) in Brighton, on 20 September.

If you are yet to receive your invite, please do not hesitate to contact Family@westgate-chambers.co.uk

COMPLIANCE & REGULATORY AFFAIRS STANDING COMMITTEE

As with AML legislative and regulatory obligations, consumer protection is very much at the fore and the very recent investigation launched by the Competition and Markets Authority is worthy of note. It is concerned with complaints and concerns which have been specifically identified as arising from services provided by certain unregulated will writers, online divorce services and pre-paid probate packagers. By way of background and insofar as England and Wales are concerned, only “certain reserved legal activities” (as defined in the Legal Services Act, 2007)) are restricted to regulated legal service providers such as Solicitors and Chartered Legal Executives. The overriding concern is that not all such providers of unregulated services are complying with consumer protection Law and that money or vital documentation might be lost where such firms fail. In addition to now writing to such firms to seek further information about their practice, the CMA is inviting reports and experiences from consumers, their advocates and other interested parties. These specifically include Solicitors. There is only a narrow window to 4th September within which to respond unregulatedlegalservicesteam@cma.gov.uk.

Patrick Richards, Compliance & Regulation Standing Committee

COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT

Firstly, I am pleased to report that I shall be serving as the Law Society Council member for Sussex for the next three years, having been re-appointed in July.

I have enjoyed my first year and will endeavour to make a contribution on Council and take any issues raised by Sussex constituents through the appropriate channels.

There are a number of committees within the Society. Council members are encouraged to play their part and I am a member of the Scrutiny, Performance and Review Committee. Our role is to monitor the meetings of some of the more important Law Society committees, including the main board and the finance committee, to ensure that their meetings are conducted fairly and ensure that anything that needs to be brought to the attention of the full Council (about 90 elected representatives) is added to a future council agenda. In July I monitored the Membership and Communications Committee and was pleased to report that it was a fair and very well-run meeting. Non-stop excitement in this role...

There was a full Council meeting on 4th July at Chancery Lane. I was not able to attend as I was in Norway at the time but have familiarised myself with the agenda and will review the minutes in due course. I also missed election hustings and the Council dinner – bad timing on my part.

After the meeting there were the Deputy Vice President hustings. Succession in the Law Society is not as brutal as the tv series of that name. The DVP becomes VP and then President, so this is an election for a future President of the Law Society in 2025, the 200-year anniversary of the founding of the Society.

There are four candidates (sadly not called Roman, Kendall, Shiv and Tom, if you know, you know). The hustings are video recorded and in advance each candidate puts out their written pitch for the role. I have watched the recording, considered the written statements, been canvassed, not enjoyed lavish hospitality on private jets and cast my vote – watch this space for the election result.

Nothing further to report this month.

Andrew Bishop, Law Society Council Member for Sussex

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR 2024 SUMMER BALL

We are booking the Grand in Brighton for Friday, 7th June, 2024 so put the date in your diary now. More details to follow soon.

OPERATIONS MANAGER FOR THE SUSSEX LAW SOCIETY

Our COO, Jeanette Lacy Scott will be retiring at the end of the year and we are searching for a self-employed consultant (outside IR35) to work part-time as our Operations Manager (a maximum of 15 hours per week which could be spread over the month)

The Operations Manager will be responsible for providing administrative services to the Society's office holders and General Committee; carrying out day-to-day administrative tasks relating to the functioning of the Society and services to its members. We are looking for someone who is organised, self-motivated, flexible, patient and diplomatic with strong interpersonal skills and who is comfortable working with Word and Excel. A knowledge of WordPress, Xero and Mailchimp is preferable but not essential as training can be arranged. The ability to write and edit copy, a knowledge of the local legal landscape or experience of working in a law firm would be an advantage.

The role is remote and flexible and the successful candidate will be using their own IT equipment [with access to Zoom and/or MS Teams].

Applications are invited by 22nd September and a short list will be drawn up by the end of that month, inviting shortlisted candidates for interview in October. The successful candidate would start at the beginning of January 2024 with some training and then with Jeanette, initially, having a small supervisory role.

You can find the description of services and how to apply [here](#). If you have any queries, please contact [Jeanette](#) direct.

AN EASY WAY TO ENSURE YOU AND YOUR FIRM ARE UP TO DATE WITH CURRENT COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS!

Headline News! SRA fine employee £3500 for not following the firm's policies and procedures – no source of funds checks on two conveyancing matters. SRA fine firm £4000 for not having a practice-wide risk assessment for four years.

These are just two of the recent fines being issued by the SRA with no doubt plenty more to follow! We don't want this to be you! Put that together with the SRA releasing the new SRA

AML Sectoral Risk Assessment and the SRA Risk Outlook in one week and there is a lot to keep up with.

This Autumn we are putting together a series of one-hour webinars every two weeks on Tuesday 12pm – 1pm on some of the most important areas of compliance for law firms. These sessions will keep you up to date with any new updates being released by the SRA and others. The webinars are being presented by Joanna Morris and the timetable is as follows:

- 12th September – Preparing for an SRA AML visit – would you get a clean bill of health?
- 26th September – The new SRA AML Sectoral Risk Assessment – emerging risks to consider for your PWRA
- 10th October – Cybercrime in law firms – what’s the risk in law firms?
- 24th October – The practice-wide risk assessment (PWRA) – is your house in order?
- 7th November – Client and matter risk assessments – why we need them and are they being used correctly?
- 21 November – SRA Accounts Rules update – key amendments to the 2019 rules
- 5th December – SRA AML Annual Report – facts, figures and the future
- 19th December – CDD and identifying documents – is it real or fake?

You can attend individual sessions at £30 + VAT or buy as a package of 8 sessions at £200 + VAT. Details will be sent to members soon and posted on the website but if you are interested in booking one or more of these sessions please email [Jeanette Lacy Scott](mailto:Jeanette.Lacy.Scott@sussexlaw.com)

FOR SALE: KONICA MINOLTA BIZHUB C258 PRINTER PHOTOCOPIER SCANNER FAX

Following on from the sale of office furniture at Lawson Lewis Blakers, they are left with 2 photocopiers – details as follows:

- Meter Counter: 345169 (taken 20.3.23)
- 25/25 ppm in colour and black & white
- 9-inch colour touch panel
- Reduced environmental impact thanks to state-of-the-art technology ensuring competitively low energy consumption – which saves both energy and money
- Highest data security thanks to various security functionalities to reduce the risk of data loss and keep confidential data safe
- 25ppm
- 2 x 500 sheet paper trays
- 100 sheet bypass tray
- 250gb hard drive

Offers over £400. Contact Liz Grace lgrace@mayowynnebaxter.co.uk

SUSSEX LAW SOCIETY WEBINARS

Click on the links below for more details about these webinars and the application forms:

[Lunchtime Compliance Update webinars](#) every 2 weeks throughout the Autumn – see [here](#) for details.

18th September, 2023 – [‘Conveyancing & the Family Home’](#). 1.30 – 4.30. Live Webinar by Richard Snape.

19th September, 2023 – [‘Litigators – what you need to know about the new Intermediate Track’](#) . 9.30 – 12.30. Live Webinar by Professor Dominic Regan

19th October, 2023 – [‘Performance Management – the good, the bad & the ugly’](#). 10am – 11.30 am. Live Webinar by Pam Loch.

24th October, 2023 – [‘Overage Clauses and Clawback’](#). 11am – 12pm. Live Webinar by Richard Snape.

OTHER COURSES/WEBINARS/ARTICLES/RESOURCES

August - Searches UK are hosting a **variety of free CPD conveyancing webinars**. August includes [‘The Truth about AI in the Legal Sector’](#) and [‘The CON29DW Water Search in Detail’](#) . View all upcoming webinars [here](#). Can’t make the live webinars? Sign up for a free copy of the recording and slides following the event.

Wednesday 30 August, 1pm – 3pm – ‘ Multi-Generational Living – From a Paying for Care Perspective’ - Victoria Crick at **Martin Searle Solicitors** is running a virtual live webinar which is suitable for people who are already advising clients about the paying for care rules and have some background knowledge of multi-generational living, as well as professional attorneys and deputies who might need to consider the implications where their clients are involved in multi-generational living. This live and interactive session runs from . For more information and to book your place, [click here](#)

From September – ‘Mental Health First Aid on line training course’ - Loch Training & Wellbeing are holding a series of webinars and training sessions over the next few months. They are offering a fully accredited **Mental Health First Aid training course** online in September to train mental health first aiders and a **free webinar on the effects of Invisible Illnesses in the Workplace**. To book onto these sessions or to find out more about other Loch Training events, go to Eventbrite page. You can also contact Amy White at amy.white@lochassociates.co.uk to find out more about what Loch Training and Wellbeing can do to help your firm.

November - Sherrards Employment Law Solicitors are pleased to announce the release of this year’s **Employment Law Latest programme**. Essential for HR and people managers, join the team in Sussex on Thursday 16th November, London on Monday 20th November and in Surrey on Thursday 30th November to run through critical employment law updates. All of the sessions will run from 9:00 – 13:00 and the cost per delegate is £170 + VAT. To book please visit: <https://www.sherrardsacademy.com/collections/open-courses>

‘Critical Elements every Legal Website Homepage must have’ – you can find this useful article from Orion Legal Marketing [here](#).

SUSSEX LAW SOCIETY GOLF SOCIETY

The Sussex Law Society Golf Society is open to anyone with connections with the legal profession, whether you are in practice or retired, whatever your standard of play. There is no joining fee. If you wish to join our Society all you have to do is contact me by email or telephone. Email: Paul Sagoo rps.sagoo@googlemail.com

Paul Sagoo - Secretary, SLSGS

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 £100 + 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.

- **Commercial Property Solicitor** – Bennett Griffin are seeking someone with a high level of knowledge and experience in all aspects of Commercial Property Law together with a following of clients / referrers / contacts to generate own workloads and the ability to further any relationships for the Firm and undertake all required Business Development to help grow the teams' workloads. See [here](#) for more details.
- **Corporate Solicitor/Legal Adviser** - This is an exceptional opportunity for a Corporate Solicitor/Legal Adviser. We are looking for someone with ambition and drive to join our team at Mayo Wynne Baxter. We are flexible on the number of years PQE and would consider NQ up to 5 years PQE and will have a real enthusiasm to take on this career opportunity. For more details see [here](#).
- **Court of Protection Health & Welfare / Mental Capacity Lawyer** - Martin Searle Solicitors are looking for an experienced person to join their Community Care Law team. For a full job description and to apply, please [click here](#).
- **Dispute Resolution TMT Solicitor x 2** – DMH Stallard are looking for 2 Solicitors to join our busy Dispute resolution TMT team based in Brighton. We are ideally looking for 1-3pqe and 3-7pqe. For more details and how to apply click [here](#).
- **Employment Lawyer, Legal Executive or Case Worker** - Martin Searle Solicitors are looking to recruit an experienced person to join their Employment Law team. For a full job description and to apply, please [click here](#).
- **Employment Solicitor/Legal Adviser** – Mayo Wynne Baxter have an exciting opportunity for an experienced legal adviser (1-3 PQE) to join their busy Employment legal team. The role is based at the Brighton office and at home. For more details and how to apply see [here](#).
- **Enfranchisement Solicitor/Legal Adviser** – Mayo Wynne Baxter are seeking a Solicitor/Legal Adviser (NQ – 3 years' PQE) to join our Enfranchisement Team which sits within our well respected Commercial Team operating from the Lewes office. Working closely with and supporting the Head of Enfranchisement in the Lewes office, you will be managing a range of leasehold enfranchisement work for our valued clients. Please see [here](#) for more details.
- **Family Law Solicitor** – Bennett Griffin in Worthing are currently seeking a technically strong individual, with particular experience in Family Law, to become a key part of our Dispute Resolution Team and develop this important area for the Firm. See [here](#) for more details.
- **Family Solicitor/Legal Executive** - Tisshaws Family Law Solicitors are looking to recruit a family solicitor/legal executive to join our award-winning dispute resolution focused firm. For more details and how to apply see [here](#).

- **Family Paralegal** – Lewis Denley in Horsham are looking for someone to play an important role supporting two solicitors in the family department. This role is a mixture of administrative and paralegal work. For more details and how to apply see [here](#).
- **In-house locum Property Solicitor/Legal Adviser** - This is an exceptional opportunity for an accomplished Residential Property Solicitor or Legal Adviser to provide cover across Mayo Wynne Baxter's offices for a range of residential property matters from initial instruction through to matter conclusion in the absence of the legal adviser(s). We are looking for someone with ambition and drive to join our team with ideally around 8+ years PQE. For more details see [here](#).
- **Opportunities at Dean Wilson** - We currently have a range of opportunities for Solicitors/Legal Executives across the full range of 1-7 years PQE to join our leading legal law firm located in Brighton and Hove. See [here](#) more details.
- **Private Client, COP Solicitor/Legal Adviser** – Mayo Wynne Baxter are seeking someone with particular court of protection experience to assist 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' post qualification advising in this area and will have some experience of responding to telephone enquiries from clients, supporting daily financial administration, making deputyship applications, preparing annual deputyship reports as well as producing financial reports and budgets. See [here](#) for more details.
- **Private Client Lawyer** – Bennett Griffin are recruiting for a technically strong Lawyer to be a part of the growth of our Private Client Department, covering all areas of Private Client work. We require someone who wants to be part of a progressive, commercially successful, but also friendly firm. See [here](#) for more details.
- **Private Client Solicitor/Legal Adviser** - An exciting opportunity has arisen for an experienced Solicitor/Legal Adviser (1-3 PQE) to join the busy Private Client Department at Mayo Wynne Baxter. The ideal candidate will be self-motivated, able to work independently and proven experience working towards financial targets. You will have a relevant professional qualification and/or equivalent expertise, skills and experience in Wills, Probate, Agriculture and Estates, Powers of Attorney, Trusts and tax. For more details see [here](#).
- **Property Litigation Solicitor** – Bennett Griffin in Worthing are recruiting for a technically strong individual as part of our growing Dispute Resolution Department. We require someone who wants to be part of a progressive, ambitious and commercially successful, but also friendly, firm. See [here](#) for more details.

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 07947-771593. Charges realistic rates.

- 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

Do you hold a will for the following:

Mr Oliver James CHARMAK DOB: 26.06.1979 Last address is Flat 5, 45 Brunswick Square, BN3 1EE. Any information to Justin Thompson at Thompson Allen Justin Thompson justin.thompson@thompsonallen.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 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 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](#)