

## **LSLA NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2019**

Season's greetings to all our members.

This month's newsletter reports on our recent activities and looks forward to the events we have planned for 2020.

As a mark of how the association is growing from strength to strength, we are also pleased to announce that for the first time our membership has exceeded 3,000 people.

### **JLSLA Committee**

Kieran Anderson and Jonathan Fozard have retired from the JLSLA Committee. We thank them for their commitment and contributions to the growth and development of the JLSLA. In their place, Siân Akerman, Susanne Buergi and David Jones have been elected to the JLSLA Committee.

### **RECENT EVENTS**

#### **Annual Dinner – 20 November 2019**

Our flagship event celebrating another successful year for the Association took place, as usual, at the Law Society Hall in Chancery Lane, WC2.

Simon Davis, President of the Law Society, and past president of the LSLA spoke eloquently on the rule of law and its importance within a democratic society.

#### **LSLA Summer/Autumn Lecture Series**

Our final lecture took place at the end of last month when David Quest QC and Ian Wilson QC of 3 Verulam Buildings gave a lecture on the topic of "*Good faith - how good do commercial parties have to be?*" at Hogan Lovells LLP. The lecture was well received and rounds off another informative series.

Details of the next lecture series shall be published shortly.

#### **Junior Lawyers' National Pro Bono Week Event – 6 November 2019**

In recognition of this year's National Pro Bono Week, on 6 November 2019, the JLSLA hosted a panel discussion on the importance of pro bono work for junior lawyers' practices and professional development in the Parliament Chamber in Middle Temple. The event was run in collaboration with the London Young Lawyers' Group, the Middle Temple Young Barristers' Association and the charity Advocate.

Further details of our Pro Bono Initiative are below.

#### **JLSLA Autumn Bash 2019 – 13 November 2019**

JLSLA members and their guests celebrated another fruitful year at the JLSLA 'Secret Garden Party' Autumn Bash held in South Place Hotel in the City. We are grateful to Wilberforce Chambers and FTI Consulting for sponsoring the event which included a drinks reception and dinner.

### **PRO BONO INITIATIVE**

Last month and to coincide with National Pro Bono Week, we announced our own increased pro bono initiative.

Over the years the LSLA has made donations to many charitable organisations including those providing pro bono advice and assistance so we may seek to give back to the profession and encourage engagement.

Our pro bono sub-committee has been tasked with increasing our involvement in this area and promoting opportunities to all our members such as by providing solicitor support for advocates offering pro bono representation, offering legal advice on matters involving human rights, assisting litigants in person and providing advisory work in fields such as corporate governance, intellectual property and employment. To facilitate members' involvement we have published a list of organisations with which we already have links and which offer pro bono advice and assistance so members may contact them, if they wish, to assist with their work. The list and further details on our pro bono initiative are available on our website [Isla.co.uk](http://Isla.co.uk).

The list is not exhaustive. If you have any suggestions for organisations you think should be included on the list please email [isla@Isla.co.uk](mailto:isla@Isla.co.uk) so our committee may consider including it.

### **FEEDBACK FOR COURT USER GROUPS**

The LSLA sends representatives to both the Chancery and Commercial Court User Groups. Both groups are keen to receive feedback on all aspects of the operation of the relevant courts. If members have comments or concerns they are encouraged to pass them on to the LSLA representatives so that they can be raised at the next user group meeting. This is an opportunity to raise issues directly with the judiciary and court administrator.

For feedback on the Chancery Division Courts please contact:

[nicholas.heaton@hoganlovells.com](mailto:nicholas.heaton@hoganlovells.com) or [patrick.wheeler@collyerbristow.com](mailto:patrick.wheeler@collyerbristow.com)

For feedback on the Commercial Court please contact: [Ed.crosse@simmons-simmons.com](mailto:Ed.crosse@simmons-simmons.com)

### **RECENT PRESS AND PUBLICITY**

Some of the LSLA and JLSA committee members' recent publicity includes:

- 31 October, BCL Legal's The Brief interviewed our President, Julian Acratopulo (see <https://www.bcllegal.com/the-brief/the-brief-talks-to/julian-acratopulo-head-of-the-international-commercial-litigation-group-at-clifford-chance-and-president-of-the-london-solicitors-litigation-association>)
- 4 November, Law Society Gazette, "CPR Part 36 Offers" by Patrick Wheeler and Nadia Asfour (see <https://www.lawgazette.co.uk/practice-points/cpr-part-36-offers/5102002.article>)
- 11 November, Ed Crosse and Natalie Osafo were panellists at the LCLCBA seminar on the Disclosure Pilot Scheme hosted at The Law Society, with Sir Robin Knowles (Commercial Court London) and Matthew Marsh (Chief Master of the Chancery Division). The seminar was chaired by Michael Collett QC of 20 Essex Street.
- 15 November, New Law Journal, "Pride and the Without Prejudice Doctrine" by Nadya Rouben (see <https://www.newlawjournal.co.uk/content/pride-the-without-prejudice-doctrine>)
- 21 November, New Law Journal, featured a report on our Annual Dinner and the comments made by Julian Acratopulo in its article "Diversity & inclusion: Capital clients demand change" (see [https://www.newLawjournal.co.uk/content/diversity-inclusion-capital-clients-demand-change](https://www.newlawjournal.co.uk/content/diversity-inclusion-capital-clients-demand-change))
- 25 November, Law Society Gazette, "Where are we now?" by Caroline Field (see <https://www.lawgazette.co.uk/practice-points/where-are-we-now/5102248.article>)

Please remember to respect the publisher's and writer's copyright in the above articles.

## **THE JUNIOR LSLA**

The JLSLA provides:

- Seminars designed to offer practical tips on procedural and substantive legal issues commonly faced by junior civil litigators in an interactive and relaxed atmosphere;
- Networking events for members to meet and form contacts in their peer group; and
- E-news on recent and future activity and key developments with the aim of ensuring that the junior perspective is reflected in the LSLA's responses to consultation papers.

The JLSLA is aimed at solicitors of 8 years' PQE and less. Members of the LSLA will automatically become members of the JLSLA if they qualify by year of admission and complete the relevant section of the membership form.

The JLSLA also has firm Champions, who act as the point of contact between the JLSLA committee and their firm.

If you are interested in joining the JLSLA or being the JLSLA Champion for your firm, please contact the JLSLA President, Natalie Osafo at [Natalie.Osafo@SlaughterandMay.com](mailto:Natalie.Osafo@SlaughterandMay.com).

Join the JLSLA LinkedIn page to receive updates on JLSLA events and initiatives:

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4438638/>

## **MEMBERSHIP**

The LSLA is delighted to announce that the Association's membership has passed 3,000 members with well over 1,250 members of the JLSLA and 40 corporate members.

Corporate membership can offer a real saving to firms. Essentially, for £500 a firm with corporate membership can register an unlimited number of litigation solicitors working for it in London as members. Please contact Chris Bushell at [Chris.Bushell@hsf.com](mailto:Chris.Bushell@hsf.com) if you would like further information or to take out corporate membership.

Otherwise, you can join the LSLA by visiting our website at <https://www.lsla.co.uk>. If you are 8 years PQE or less you will automatically become a member of the JLSLA if you input your year of admission when completing your online membership application.

Members are also welcome to join the LSLA LinkedIn group at

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4545696>.

## **EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS**

Some of our members say that they are, on occasion, not receiving email notifications for LSLA and Junior LSLA events. We have been advised that such notifications may sometimes be blocked by our members' firm's IT servers, which automatically quarantine emails received from, for example, "donotreply" email addresses.

Should you not be receiving our email notifications, we would advise you to contact your firm's IT team and request that they "whitelist" both [donotreply@lsla.co.uk](mailto:donotreply@lsla.co.uk) and [lsla@lsla.co.uk](mailto:lsla@lsla.co.uk).

## **ONLINE PAYMENTS FOR LSLA EVENTS**

When making payments for membership and our events we would kindly request that you quote the correct data to identify the matter to which the payment relates. Incorrect identification often

occurs where a firm's accounts team makes a payment to the LSLA as an existing payee, using old order data rather than updating the payment instruction to include the new order number.

Updating payment data to correctly reference the event to which a payment relates would significantly ease the LSLA's administrative burden. Thank you for your continued support and assistance.

### **LSLA WEBSITE**

Our website at <https://www.lsla.co.uk/> includes: details of our forthcoming events, copies of the responses we have filed to recent consultations, recent articles and press citing members of the association, and past editions of the newsletter.

You can also join the LSLA via our website as well as sign up for future events on it.

We hope that our website will prove a source of information for members. Please let us know if you have any comments on it.

### **LIST OF SUPERVISING SOLICITORS**

The White Book refers to the LSLA maintaining details of individuals who might be able to act as supervising solicitors for the execution of Search Orders. Our list continues to grow and is updated quarterly. We invite those suitably qualified to provide us with their details, including relevant experience, for inclusion on the list.