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Members Information

All of The Academy's information is available for Members from the Member Resources page of the website.

This includes:

- Guidance
- Publications
- Reports
- Model Terms of Engagement

This and past editions of 'update' are available from:
www.academyofexperts.org

Further information about anything contained in this publication may be obtained from The Academy of Experts

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'update'

From the Chairman



#ThankYou #SocialMediaPromotion

Firstly can I say a big 'thank you' to Fiona Hotston Moore who has been assisting Dominic Stanton in raising our profile on Social Media and Twitter in particular.

For those of you who do follow @tae_experts on Twitter you will have seen an increased number of tweets coming through. Please like and/or retweet them if you feel that they are relevant to your own followers.

We are always looking for interesting facts and links to tweet including information about ADR, if you would like to be involved in raising our Social Media presence do please contact Dominic with your suggestions.

Introducing Fixed Recoverable Costs in Lower Value Clinical Negligence Claims

The Consultation has now closed regarding Fixed Costs for clinical negligence cases worth up to £25,000. A big thank you to all who responded. Nicola and Michael Cohen put together the response on behalf of The

Academy based on the responses received.

The Civil Justice Council (CJC), in their response to the consultation, felt particularly strongly that the use of a single joint expert at the pre-action stage was 'highly undesirable'. This was because they felt that this would give the claimant a material disadvantage. The reason being that in clinical negligence cases an expert opinion is more generally needed before a letter of claim is actually issued since the solicitor is unlikely to be able to advise as to breach without the advice of the expert.



Please follow & RT
[@tae_experts](https://twitter.com/tae_experts)

The CJC also felt that experts may refuse to take instructions on cases with a value of under £25,000, restricting their work to higher value cases. This clearly has implications for both the process in terms of finding experts to take on

continued inside...



Lord Saville and his guests line up prior to the start of the President's Dinner
(l-r) Joe Egan, Ben Johnson, Andrew Langdon QC, Dr Paul England, Dame Heather Hallett, Lord Saville, Sir Rupert Jackson, Sue Bayram, Matthew Bastone, Tim Milward, William Gard

From the Chairman continued

the work and the standard of the experts who may be tempted to take on work at any cost...

Mission creep....

All experts should be paying close attention to this consultation. As I mentioned in the last 'update', where we see proposed changes in one area of the judicial world we often see it rolled out into other areas. So do please be mindful to keep an eye on changes coming through even if not relevant to you at the time just in case it might be in the future!

Statements of truth

Still on the subject of experts - we have often cautioned members as to the importance of the statement of truth and the possible pitfalls and consequences of failing to follow the highest standards in their reports.

In a recent case 7 Expert Witnesses have paid what might be considered the ultimate penalty. In a case that has been ongoing for some years they have now been jailed for between 6 and 13 months for giving inaccurate costs for hire cars provided following road traffic accidents/collisions.

Clearly they were not working to anything like an acceptable standard!

Accreditation

We hope that, by being a member of such an organisation as The Academy, it will be recognised that you will have gone

through a rigorous vetting procedure. By choosing an expert who is a TAE member Solicitors and other users should be reassured that their expert (you) will be working to the highest standards.

We were discussing at our last Council meeting what we feel sets us apart from other 'Database' organisations. These are typically organisations where it is simple to get your name on a list that can be accessed by those looking for experts but with no guarantee that the expert has been checked and verified as meeting any particular standard.

We considered that it was certainly our vetting procedure but also the support that we are able to give to our members that we felt made us different. This included amongst other considerations:

- ❑ a helpline
- ❑ events
- ❑ our involvement with other related organisations.

It is likely that you have had an email from Sweet & Maxwell to say that they are closing their website later this year. If you or your colleagues are now looking for another way to promote your business, do please consider using The Academy website or upgrading your entry if you use this facility already. You will find it a cost effective way of promoting your business and ensuring that you do not lose market presence.

ADR Working Group

For those of you who are involved in ADR, we are forming a working group to look at how we can offer more support to our ADR members. If anyone is interested in joining this group do please let Nicola or myself know as soon as possible. It may not be necessary for the group to meet in London if travel is difficult - we can be very flexible with how we work together.

President's Dinner

The President's Dinner on the 14th of June was extremely enjoyable and, as ever, very well attended by members and their guests.

We were made to feel very welcome, once again, at Pewterer's Hall where we were greeted with drinks and canapés outside on the lawn prior to a delightful evening with excellent food and company.

Dame Heather Hallett and Sir Rupert Jackson were presented by our President with Honorary Fellowships in recognition of the work they have done with The Academy over many years.

30th Anniversary

We are now in the process of planning The Academy's 30th year celebrations so if you have any suggestions do please let us know. We want to ensure that our events are as inclusive as possible and so are looking to arrange regional events where possible - if you have a venue or know someone that might be able to host us we would be particularly keen to hear from you.

We are delighted to be holding the EuroExpert Presidency next year from January to July 2018.

That just leaves me to say I hope that you have all had some spare time to enjoy the recent hot weather and that you manage over the summer months to get a good work/life balance!

Sue Bayram
Chairman
July 2017



Members sit down to enjoy dinner at Pewterer's Hall

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting will be held on 11th October 2017, 3 Gray's Inn Square, London, WC1R 5AH.

Agenda

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 To approve the minutes of the AGM held on 13th October 2016 (*published below*)
- 3 Matters arising
- 4 Chairman's Report
- 5 Treasurer's Report including adoption of accounts for the year ending February 2017
- 6 To appoint the Auditors for the year 2017-2018
- 7 Election of Officers
 - Chairman
 - Deputy Chairman
 - Vice Chairmen
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
- 8 Election of Council Members
- 9 To approve 2018-2019 subscription levels
- 10 Any other business

AGM Minutes

Minutes of The Annual General Meeting held at 3 Gray's Inn Square, Gray's Inn, London, WC1 on Thursday 13th October 2016

Present: S Bayram – Chairman, in the Chair and Members

Apologies: The President, Vice Presidents, Messrs Allen, Arthurs, Britten, Clarke, Ineson, Johnson, McArdle, Makin, Rowe, Thomas, Ullstein.

The Chairman welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

1 Minutes of AGM held on Wednesday 28th October 2015

The minutes of the AGM were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

2 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3 Chairman's Report

The Chairman stated that her report for the year had been published in 'update' Volume 24 Issue No 4. The meeting took the report as having been read. There being no questions, report was adopted. This was carried unanimously.

4 Treasurer's Report

In the absence of the Treasurer, the Chief Executive presented the annual accounts.

The adoption of the annual accounts was proposed and they were adopted by the meeting nem con.

5 To appoint the Auditors for the year 2016-2017

The Chief Executive on behalf of the Treasurer stated that the Executive would like to propose Greenaways as the auditors for the coming year. They had completed the last few audits for the Academy. The meeting agreed nem con

that Greenaways be reappointed as auditors.

6 Election of Officers

The Secretary stated that nominations had been received as follows:

<input type="checkbox"/> Chairman	Sue Bayram
<input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Chairman	Simon Clarke
<input type="checkbox"/> Vice Chairman	Michael Allen
<input type="checkbox"/> Secretary	Paul England
<input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer	Ben Johnson

They were declared elected unopposed.

7 Election of Council Members

The Secretary stated that there were 4 vacancies for Council. 3 nominations had been received. The following were duly elected.

- Jon Chick
- Michael Rocks
- Tony Sykes

8 Subscriptions

Council had considered the matter of subscriptions. It was Council's recommendation that the annual subscription should be increased by not more than 10% rounded. This was agreed.

9 Any Other Business

The Chairman then thanked all members of the Council for their contribution over the last year.

The meeting closed.

DIARY, NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Business & Property Courts Launch

This week the new Business and Property Courts were formally launched (see 'update' 2501). As part of the change and following the example set by CPR the new measures will see "arcane" words such as "mercantile" and "chancery" dropped from the legal language and instead replaced by words more familiar to the public.

The Lord Chancellor David Lidington said that while words such as chancery were well known to those who had been in law for decades, even author Charles Dickens treated it with "scathing criticism".

"Today's launch demonstrates without any doubt that our bench is responsive, forward thinking and clear in purpose – not least in recognising that while our historic courts continue to flourish, some of the arcane names such as Chancery itself (...) are perhaps still beloved of many lawyers, rather less understood by the 21st century business community outside of the City of London," he said.

"At a stroke, that problem is remedied by the new name of Business and Property Courts which fits squarely in the British tradition in that it says exactly what it says on the tin – it is a user friendly choice and is easy to understand whatever part of the world you come from."

CE-Filing

For nearly two years TCC users have been able to file documents online rather than submitting bulky sets of documents. Since the end of April this has become compulsory rather than voluntary for all users of the Rolls Building courts and all submissions must now be made as a CE-File.

Whilst it is the responsibility for Solicitors to produce and submit 'the bundle' experts should be aware of this change and confirm with their instructing Solicitors whether any changes to their report presentation might be required.

As ever, where one court goes others are sure to follow. Expect to see this rolled out across more and more courts in future.

Gin tasting in the City

1st November

City Distillery Company

Definitely a date to save for lovers of gin!

Join the team for a gin tasting in the city at the City Distillery Company.

We are still finalising details but expect the price to be in the approximate range of £30-£50 for the evening. If you are interested can you please let us know to help us with our planning.

Diary Dates

July

- Wednesday 5 Evening Meeting - Social Media
- Friday 21 Gray's Inn Garden Party
- Wednesday 26 Into Court
- Thursday 27 Gray's Inn Hall closes

August

- Wednesday 23 Nominations for Council Open
- Monday 28 Bank Holiday
- Thursday 31 Nominations for Council Close

September

- Monday 11 Grays Inn Hall reopens
- Wednesday 13 Evening Meeting
- Monday - Tuesday 18-19 Foundation Course
- Wednesday 20 Law & Court Procedure for Experts
- Tuesday 26 Into Court

October

- Thursday 5 Report Writing Masterclass
- Friday 6 Expert Witness Update
- Wednesday 11 Annual General Meeting
- Wednesday 11 Evening Meeting

November

- Wednesday 1 Council Meeting
- Wednesday 1 Gin Tasting Evening

Unless otherwise shown all courses/meetings will be held in London
TAE dates are published in the **Events Calendar** - www.academyofexperts.org

Key to events:

- Academy Courses
- Academy Events & Meetings
- External/Joint/Supported Events

JOIN US FOR DRINKS!

Save the Date - 1st November

