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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](http://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



After more than 30 years since it was formed The Academy is still going strong and continues to support our Experts as it has in the past. This success is reflected by the increasing membership which includes experts from a diverse range of specialisms, reinforcing its position as the leading body representing experts in the UK.

### President's Dinner

As part of its ongoing activities Lord Saville, the President, hosted The Academy's Annual Dinner at the Pewterers' Hall on 13th June. The evening was very well attended by members and guests helping to make it an enjoyable event. We were fortunate that the weather enabled us to have an informal gathering in the garden before settling into the more formal dinner and the excellent food.

After the dinner The Academy was pleased to present a number of certificates to well deserving members. Frank Cleveland FAE was granted Honorary Fellowship of The Academy, Hanif Virji FAE was presented with his certificate of Fellowship and The Academy's newest member, Saul Greenstein was enrolled as an Associate by Lord Saville.

Many thanks to the Admin Team at Gray's Inn for their efforts to make this a successful evening.

### Consultations

One of the issues in our current climate is the ongoing revision and updating of both legislation and guidance. These are things that all practising experts must be aware of since some of these changes may have a significant influence on their work or reporting.



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It is good to note that as a widely recognised and highly regarded expert body The Academy is routinely asked to participate in these legislation and guidance forums. It is through the active participation on these committees that The Academy is able to keep abreast of developments enabling us to keep our members up to date. These consultation processes cover wide areas of practice and from time to time some members may be approached for more detailed responses when these matters lie within their particular area of expertise.

### Guidance

The Academy continues to offer support to Experts in many other ways, including the Model Report and the Model Terms and

*continued inside...*



The President and his guests lining up at the President's Dinner - Pewterers' Hall, 13th June 2018

## From the Chairman continued

Conditions which are widely used by our members. Also widely taken up are the regular training sessions held at The Academy and other locations, both in the UK and abroad. For experts who are still practising in their field continuing professional development, 'CPD' is an important requirement for most of the professional institutions. The Academy training can help with these CPD requirements as well as keeping up to date with expert requirements.

### Academy Fellows

In keeping with this personal development, the Fellows of The Academy are developing a mentoring scheme to assist some of our more junior members to develop their roles in the field of expert witness work.

### Evening Meetings

Many Experts find the evening seminars held at The Academy very helpful. This is both as a means of meeting other experts as well as the interesting seminars which are presented by some very eminent speakers, including high court judges and senior lawyers from the USA. Our most recent seminar was on 'Listening', clearly an important skill for Experts, presented by a hostage negotiator.

More recently there has been greater focus on an apparent need for 'registration or accreditation' of experts. Much of this appears to come from

training organisations and academia where the associated training is very expensive. In contrast the rigorous vetting procedure for Academy membership continues to ensure that high standards of professionalism are maintained by its members. This high standard of vetting is widely recognised and is one of the reasons why The Academy continues to attract more members in a wide range of disciplines.

Since taking over as Chairman at the start of the year it is good to note that The Academy maintains a healthy financial position and hopefully this will continue. This is clearly a benefit for all of its members. However, one of the challenges facing The Academy is the administration and development which requires active participation at both Council and Executive levels.

### Council

In what appears to be an increasing pressure from work some of our Council and Executive members are finding it more difficult to spare time for The Academy. For this reason I would encourage volunteers who are interested in developing The Academy for the future to apply for the positions on Council and/ or the Executive when we have our next round of elections later in the year. If you have any questions in this regard please feel free to contact myself or the Admin Team at Gray's Inn.

### Web & Social Media

One of our challenges for the future is the need to consider how we present ourselves to the outside world. In this respect The Academy is looking at updating the web site and this is underway. However, our presence on social media is weak. This is probably reflected by many of our members, myself included, who are not routine 'Tweeters' or Facebook users. For those members who are more familiar with such things posting issues relating to The Academy could help to create a stronger presence in these areas.

In the past The Academy has tried different marketing initiatives with varying degrees of success. However, a softer, simpler approach to promote The Academy and something which would also be of benefit to members, would be to widen the use of The Academy logo. This could be by including it in the signature block for emails, including it in CVs as well as on stationery. Equally as many of us regularly attend training or functions at other institutes registering as an Academy member can provide a further means of enhancing peoples' awareness of us.

**Eur Ing Simon Clarke MAE**  
**Chairman**  
**June 2018**

## TAE Training - Can you help?

The Academy of Experts is well known as a provider of training for Expert Witnesses. One of its unique selling points and something it prides itself on is that is delivered to Experts and by Experts.

We deliver a range of courses from the practicalities of writing the expert report to giving experts an understanding of the basic law in various jurisdictions.

Most training takes place at The Academy in Gray's Inn but we also offer opportunities around the UK and abroad.

If you would be interested in joining the team please contact Dominic Stanton by email - [dominic@academy-experts.org](mailto:dominic@academy-experts.org) giving details of both your expert witness experience, your profession and any teaching experience you have.

**DO YOU HAVE  
 WHAT IT TAKES  
 TO JOIN THE  
 TRAINING  
 TEAM?**

## Calling all Mediators!!

Sue Bayram  
Immediate Past Chairman

The National Mediation Awareness Week takes place from 6th - 12th October 2018.

Here at The Academy we would encourage you all to make the most of this week, including before and after to highlight all the benefits of using mediation (in whatever field you work) and where at all possible arrange or take part in the many activities that are planned or could be planned.

It is only a couple of years since these weeks were revived (having ceased in 2006). I have personal experience having taken part in previous years, of my workload in respect of mediation increasing enormously as a result of taking part in the various activities that were arranged.

Examples of how you could raise the profile of mediation are:

- 1 Write an article for your local press/local magazine or professional journal
- 2 Arrange to be a guest speaker for local charity/hobby meetings e.g. Rotary, Lions, MS Society, Mind, Carers Association, Citizen Advice Bureau (speaking to staff), Ladies Luncheon clubs
- 3 Contact your local court(s) and ask if you would be able to attend the next Court User Meeting (or similar). Also ask if you could be available in your local court(s) to promote the use of mediation rather than litigation
- 4 Contact local SME's and ask if they would be interested



in discussing the benefits of mediation in any customer/contractual/work place disputes they may have

- 5 There are many local business networking groups where you can attend for the first time free/small charge
- 6 Contact local housing associations re using mediation for Landlord/Tenant disputes
- 7 Check your details are up to date and available for anyone who is accessing the internet, basic entries on various sites including Yellow Pages is free
- 8 Follow The Academy on Twitter. Tweet any news/ideas and retweet The Academy's tweets.
- 9 Use The Academy's logo on your correspondence

It would be great if you could let us know your ideas and what is planned for your area, across all types of mediation, we would be delighted to publish them in 'update' and on the website.

Please forward any information to Dominic Stanton.

I currently run the ADR sub group for The Academy and would be very interested in hearing from anyone who is interested in joining. There is no requirement to attend meetings in London, much of the work can be done by email and phone. Please contact the office if you are interested and I will contact you to discuss how you could be involved.



# DIARY, NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Congratulations

In the Birthday Honours List which was published a few weeks ago TAE member John Carter was appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE).

The citation read "Lately Hon. Chief Executive Bath Cancer Unit Support Group. For charitable services to Healthcare and the community in Bath."

## Small Claims revamped

The government's attempt to continue modernising the courts system has seen the introduction of a new "quick and easy" service that will be able to handle claims worth up to £10,000.

Before the new service went live, claimants had to fill in and post a paper form, or file the claim using an old, outdated online system that had been around since 2002. This old system will be phased out, while the new system will enable people to submit their claim in the county court for claims worth up to £10,000, settle disputes online as well as recommend mediation services.

The new system was piloted last year and was tested by more than 1,400 people, including small businesses. According to the ministry, 8 in 10 people found the new system to be "very good and easy to use".

## Family Court

Her Majesty The Queen has been pleased to approve the appointment of The Rt Hon Sir Andrew McFarlane as the President of the Family Division from 28th July 2018.



This appointment follows the retirement of Sir James Munby on 27th July 2018.

## Mediation Audit

If you have not yet taken part in the CEDR biennial Mediation Audit (run in partnership with the Civil Mediation Council and this year the CPR Institute in New York) there is still time.

The audit seeks to reach as many individuals as possible with a view to getting the best possible understanding of how the mediation market and attitudes towards mediation have changed over the past two years. It also helps inform the ADR community about trends, developments and challenges we all face. The audit is conducted anonymously.

The audit is part of CEDR's not-for-profit Foundation activity, the results of which will be published in full on the CEDR and CMC website.

# Diary Dates

<b>July</b>		
Wednesday -	4-5	➤ Foundation Course (2 days)
Thursday		
Friday	20	➤ Treasurer's Reception - Gray's Inn
Friday	27	Gray's Inn Hall Closes
<b>August</b>		
Monday	6	Bank Holiday
Monday	27	Bank Holiday
<b>September</b>		
Tuesday	11	Gray's Inn Hall Reopens
Wednesday	12	➤ Evening Meeting
Wednesday-Thursday	12-13	➤ Foundation Course - 2 Days
Monday	17	➤ Into Court
Tuesday	25	➤ Law & Procedure for Experts
<b>October</b>		
Wednesday-Thursday	3-4	➤ Expert Determination Training
Wednesday	10	➤ Evening Meeting
Monday	15	➤ Advanced Report Writing
Tuesday	16	➤ Essential Update for Experts
<b>November</b>		
Monday-Tuesday	5-6	➤ Foundation Course
Wednesday	7	➤ Council Meeting
Thursday	8	➤ ICAEW Forensic Conference

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

**Key to events:**  
 ➤ Academy Courses  
 ➤ Academy Events & Meetings  
 ➤ External/Joint/Supported Events



## JOIN THE CHAIRMAN FOR LUNCH 25th January 2019