THE ACADEMY EXPERTS

Volume 28 - Issue 2

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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 Termsof 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



Day 160 of lockdown (some days it does feel that way).

I must have put on 4 stone; I have adopted the full Wookie (anti)grooming look in the virtual world we now inhabit... how does a socially distanced barber work? I have nightmares of being approached by a cut-throat razor on a 2m pole; I have binge watched everything my not-so-smart tv has to offer in between sitting through, what feels like, endless video calls (oftentimes a 2 minute e-mail would probably have achieved the same thing); it does facilitate (the voyeuristic) peering into other people's lockdown boxes. Whilst we all continue to adapt, I hope you have fared better than the above.

The Academy has adapted admirably to the challenges we have faced over the last 3 months:

We have successfully organised 3 webinarbased Evening Meetings (some 'evenings' were even in the middle of the day) with over 660 people joining us to hear the thoughts of a range of eminent guest speakers. Details of additional evening meetings will be announced on a rolling basis. If there are topics that you would like to see discussed, please do let us know-they are your meetings.

- We have delivered the content of several full courses entirely online.
- Notwithstanding the huge amount of extra work involved, we have, so far, released 3 special 'lockdown' editions of TEDR electronically to members thanks to Michael Cohen's exceptional efforts.
- The President's Dinner has been rearranged for 4th November 2020 and we continue to keep this under review as things unfold.
- You still have time to participate in our research into Expert Evidence in a Virtual Era. The Academy of Experts and HKA seek your experience and opinions on the giving of expert evidence in 'virtual hearings', in any dispute forum. Even if you have not been directly involved in giving evidence virtually, we are still interested in your opinions. We hope to combine those experiences and observations with those received from lawyers, barristers, judges, arbitrators, adjudicators, and experts to

continued inside...





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Please follow & RT @tae experts

'At Home' with Lord Neuberger

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From the Chairman cont..

bring together a broader platform of insight that will be of interest to the dispute community. If you wish to participate in this research, please go to: https://tinyurl.com/y9zunta6

■ We continue to serve members (mostly) seamlessly thanks to the efforts and adaptability of the team.

Since my last note, Lord Saville has announced the appointment of Professor Sir Terence Stephenson DM, FRCPCH, FRCP, SFFMLM as a Vice President on 27th April and, on 18th May, the appointment of The Rt Hon Lord Neuberger of Abbotsbury as TAE Deputy President. Lord Neuberger will succeed Lord Saville as President of The Academy later in the year. Some 65 members joined Lord Neuberger 'at home' for an online meet and greet on 11th June. Both are a great addition to The Academy.

As different countries begin to relax restrictions there will be a raft of issues arising from the effective suspension of commercial contracts and other arrangements because of the various forms of lockdown imposed across different jurisdictions. The Academy's members are replete with the skills necessary to provide independent expert opinion, expert determination and mediation services focused on facilitating the restart, continuation, and completion of such projects alongside the disposal of issues arising. We are in the process of finalising The Academy's new website as a window on that capability and a portal to better serve and promote members interests.

Thank you for your support of The Academy and stay safe.

Derek Nelson Chairman June 2020

TAE COVID RESPONSE

The Academy's office is being run virtually with all services maintained as normal where possible.

The TAE Helpline for members is operating as normal. If you do need to contact us then wherever possible please email us first and we will come back to you as soon as we can.

Training & Meetings

The lockdown has meant that we are not currently able to run our regular meetings face to face. However we are not letting that stop us from holding regular member meetings. Our training courses are now taking place online and a number of 'Member Meetings' have already taken place with more planned for the next couple of months.

Court Guidance

A number of courts have now issued guidance on how they are proceeding. The list below is not exhaustive and will be updated as soon as we receive new information.

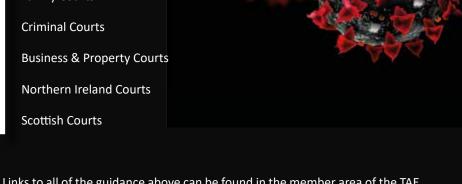
Latest Guidances include:

Civil & Family Proceedings - General

Family Courts

Links to all of the guidance above can be found in the member area of the TAE website:

https://www.academyofexperts.org/member-area/covid19-guidance-centre





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TAE Website Development

As part of our ongoing committment to improving member services TAE has been planning for some time a revamp of our website. This is now nearing completion and the new site will be going 'live' at the beginning of July.

With a modern look and being mobile friendly we anticipate the new site will help drive The Academy forward.

Full instructions for how to access the website, update your details and use the member resources will be sent to members before we go live to ensure we have the smoothest possible transition. A sample of the instruction manual is shown below.









academyofexperts.org

Steps for logging in



Log in

Top right of your screen sits a panel, click 'Member Login', a box will appear where you will need to input your username and password, once entered click the red Login button. You can also log in using the Member Login button below the 'Lady of Justice' image.



My Membership

Now you are logged in the red 'My Membership' button will appear and as long as you are logged in it will stay there to remind you are logged in.

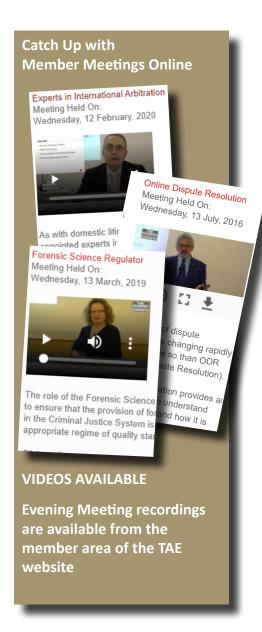


Membership Dashboard

After logging in you will go straight to your 'Member Dashboard', where you can edit your profile and submit changes, look at what events your are booked on through the 'My Events' panel.

See more overleaf





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DIARY, NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Online Surveys

A number of organisations are producing research on the ways that COVID has affected Dispute Resolution and Litigation.

Two surveys that we would encourage members to participate in are:

- ☐ Bristol Law Society https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/IGICN4/
- HKA https://tinyurl.com/y9zunta6

No need to mute!

Working from home has brought with it a number of challenges. Not the least of which is the prevalence of online meetings in the home rather than telephone calls from the office. Background noises, whilst understandable can be an unnecessary distraction but thankfully technology has a solution.

In addition to leading platforms such as Zoom and Microsoft Teams now using AI to filter out unwanted noise there are a couple of very useful apps that members might want to look at:

- krisp.ai available for most platforms
- RTX Voice requires a specific hardware

Both applications can filter out unwanted noise to a large extent and are either free or very inexpensive to use.

Internet Register Renewals

A reminder that next month (July) is when the subscription for your online entry is due for renewal. To ensure you are getting the most benefit from your subscription please do take a minute to check all your details are up to date.

If you are not showing in the online register this is the ideal time to apply to join as you will receive thirteen months for the price of twelve.

Electronic Signatures

The response to the Covid-19 pandemic has led forensic science providers to consider new ways of working. One issue that has been raised is whether reports/statements have to be physically signed with ink. This matter has been discussed with the Crown Prosecution Service.

The signature on a report/statement does not have to be created by physically signing the report/statement using ink. Electronic signatures are acceptable. Rule 5 of the Criminal Procedure Rules recognises this and section 7 of the Electronic Communications Act 2000 provides that such signatures are acceptable.

There are no specific requirements (technical or otherwise) for electronic signatures but the signature must be added to the report/statement by, or on the authority of, the person making the report/statement Electronic Signatures.

Member Meetings Online

Our next two member meetings are as follows:

Meetings of Experts

Jeremy Nicholson QC 1st July 10.00 BST

Wasted Costs

Professor Dominic Regan 27th July 10.00 BST

Meetings are recorded and posted online after the event. Lord Neuberger's 'At Home' will be available from the new website.

June

Wednesday 10 7 Council Meeting Wednesday 10 7 President's Dinner Wednesday - 17- 7 Foundation Course Thursday 18 (2 Davs) Wednesday 24 7 Law & Procedure Thursday 25 Into Court

30 7 Into Court

July

Tuesday

Wednesday 1 7 Member Meeting ONLINE

Wednesday 1 Website goes live

Wednesday - 15- 7 Expert Determination

16 Thursday (2 Days) Tuesday -21- 7 Foundation Course -Friday 24 **4 Afternoon Sessions**

Friday 24 7 Gray's Inn Treasurer's Reception -CANCELLED

Monday 27 Member Meeting -ONLINE

28- 7 Law & Procedure -Tuesday -Wednesday 29 2 Morning Sessions Thursday 30 7 Into Court

Gray's Inn Hall closes Friday

for Lunch

September

Wednesday 9 7 Member Meeting Tuesday -15- 7 Foundation Course Friday 18

Friday 25 7 Into Court

October

Wednesday 14 7 Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 14 7 Joint Member Meeting - CIArb East Anglia

November

Wednesday 4 **↗** TAE Council

Wednesday 4 7 President's Dinner -London TBC

2021 January

Friday

29 7 Chairman's Lunch -London

courses/meetings will be held online until

Calendar -

Key to events:

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