



The Dorset Law Society

Est. 1835

Winter 2023 President's Update

An Introduction from the President

My excitement at the announcement of the Society's reintroduction of the Annual Dinner this year, was tinged with sadness at the recent news of the passing of David McCreath. David was a stalwart organiser of the legendary Dorset Law Society (DLS) Annual Dinners for many years and I hope that this year's Dinner will serve as a fitting tribute to the fine work that he did. I hope to see as many of you as possible there, in May 2023.

I attended my first Southern Area Association of Law Societies conference in January 2023, as DLS President. Various topics were discussed amongst representatives of the Southern Law Societies, including SIF, SQE and PII. The Society has also engaged in two recent consultations, over the last couple of months, one on the future of SIF and the other regarding amendments to SRA Standards and Regulations. Both resulted in support being provided to The Law Society's position. I am pleased to be able to confirm (if you have not already seen) that following the SIF consultation, the SRA have secured SIF's future (you can read more here [SRA Board decides to secure SIF's future | The Law Society](#)).

The next few months promise to be exciting as we see a return of the DLS Annual Dinner, together with various other events and initiatives.

James Braund – President, Dorset Law Society



COME AND JOIN THE DORSET LAW SOCIETY COMMITTEE

The DLS is still on the look-out for new Committee members. If you or anyone you know are interested in joining the Committee, please get in touch. We currently have 12 members, from 7 different law firms, ranging from sole practitioners to regional law firms. We welcome people no matter level of qualification and hold hybrid meetings every other month.

Dorset Law Society Committee

James Braund – President
Lisa Pharaoh – Vice President
Owen Thomas – Deputy Vice President
Martin Varley – Secretary
Paul Dunlop – Treasurer
Peter Watson-Lee – The Law Society Council Member
Simon Lacey, David Ankcorn, Katharine Jones, David Ross, Hayley Stack, Marnie Thomas, Laura Martin – Committee Members

Informal Networking Drinks

The DLS held its informal Autumn networking drinks on 10 November 2022 in Blandford and on 24 November 2022 in Dorchester.

Both evenings were a roaring success with over 25 lawyers attending from 6 firms in total.

It was great to see everyone catching up and engaging face-to-face, after the difficulties the last few years have brought.

If you missed out, don't worry – there will be plenty more events taking place throughout the year.



2023 Annual Dinner

Hopefully members will have seen the Save The Date which went round last month confirming that the DLS Annual Dinner will be held on 12 May 2023 at the Dorset County Museum in Dorchester.

Hayley Stack has been working very hard to finalise arrangements for the Annual Dinner and full invitations with details will be sent out imminently.

We hope to see as many people as possible at the Dinner, which will, no doubt, be a fantastic event, as ever.

A Window into the Legal Profession

The week commencing 17 April 2023 has now been set for the DLS's "A Window into the Legal Profession" initiative. Through social media and other articles, the Society hopes to give lawyers outside of the area an insight into working for Dorset law firms, as well as educating the public as to the pressures within the legal profession and the regulation in place to safeguard clients' best interests.

We would like to invite all member law firms to participate in this initiative and to share their experiences. If you have an idea about an article or something you would like to say as part of this initiative please get in contact with us via email – enquiries@dorsetlawsociety.co.uk.

Women in Law – 100 Years

18 December 2022 marked 100 years since Carrie Morrison became the first woman to be admitted to the Law Society as a solicitor. She was 34 when she completed her articles. Maud Crofts, Mary Pickup and Mary Sykes followed close behind her

In recent years, more women than ever have entered the legal profession. Of all current practising solicitors over half, 53%, are women

The Society's Vice President, Lisa Pharoah, marked the occasion by penning an insightful article, located on the Society's website, which can be found here: [Women in Law - 100 Years - Dorset Law Society](#).

Society Sponsors for 2023

The DLS is incredibly grateful to be supported by a number of key organisations and companies throughout 2023, each a leader in their respective field. We would encourage members to make contact with each of our sponsorship partners and see what they can do to assist you. We will be sending out further details regarding the sponsors in the near future and each sponsor will be contributing to future newsletters with insight articles from their sector.

The logo for Chadwick Nott, featuring the name in a light blue, cursive script font.The logo for access, featuring a red speech mark icon followed by the word "access" in a grey, sans-serif font.The logo for Paragon Professional Indemnity, featuring a purple circle with a white dot inside, followed by the word "Paragon" in a bold, purple, sans-serif font and "PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY" in a smaller, purple, sans-serif font below it.The logo for 3PB Barristers, featuring the letters "3PB" in a large, teal, serif font, with "BARRISTERS" in a smaller, teal, sans-serif font below it.The logo for index i Property Information, featuring the word "index" in a bold, black, sans-serif font, a green "i" with a leaf-like shape, and "PROPERTY INFORMATION" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font below it.The logo for safelink, featuring a stylized icon of three interlocking blocks in blue, green, and orange, followed by the word "safelink" in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Training

Following on from the DLS's successful training on *Guest v Guest* and proprietary estoppel, the Society are in the process of organising a number of further training events. Details will be emailed to members in the near future – so watch this space! If there is any training you would like us to provide – please get in contact!

Walk and Talk – June 2023

The DLS plan to hold their first “Walk and Talk” event in June 2023. This will be an opportunity for members to walk around the local area, while networking and chatting with peers. Details will be sent out in the near future.

2023 Legal Heroes

Do you know a Legal Hero? Throughout March and April The Law Society are encouraging lawyers to nominate inspiring Legal Heroes. To find out more, please see [Legal Heroes | The Law Society](#).

Transfers from CCMCC

The Law Society have requested that we make members aware of further developments relating to additional work which is now being transferred from CCMCC. Details can be found here - [Civil Reform update – transfer of work from County Court Money Claims Centre](#)