

Doncaster & District Law Society

Doncaster & District Law Society is a membership society for Doncaster & District Lawyers . Membership is open to any lawyer offering legal advice in Doncaster and District including Rotherham .

We Provide Training , Social Events and Information to our members .



The Newsletter for Doncaster & District Lawyers

Yorkshire Union Meeting 5th October 2016

The relaunch of the Yorkshire Union of Law Societies is set to take place on 5th October at 3.30pm @Leeds Law Society . In addition Jane Malcolm the Executive Director External Affairs and a member of the Solicitors Regulation Authority Senior Management Team will be in attendance to discuss the current issues for the SRA .

Members are invited to support the relaunch and confirm their attendance to our Secretary .

The union offers a fantastic networking opportunity for local solicitors to meet colleagues across the county .

TO BOOK FOR OUR AGM OR
YORKSHIRE UNION EMAIL
SECRETARY@DONCASTER
LAWSOCIETY.COM

Doncaster Law Society AGM - End of Year Report

30th September 2016 -
Danum Hotel 12 Noon -
FREE LUNCH

On the 30th September Doncaster Law Society will hold its annual AGM . This marks the culmination of a pivotal year which saw the Society rise from the ashes and become relevant and active once again .

This year as a result we have seen :

- A sell out Dinner Dance at the Crown Hotel , Bawtry

- The Presidents Raceday at Doncaster Racecourse

- Our First Interactive Quiz Night

- A range of well supported training events for our members

- Representing Doncaster at the Annual Service and Legal Procession

- Supporting Doncaster Schools Mock Trial Competition

- Engaging with our Local MPs

- Responding to Consultations on behalf of Doncaster Lawyers

- Engaging in the re-establishment of the Yorkshire Union

You are invited therefore to join the Society to hear how our incoming President Emma Beazley will be building upon those achievements in the year ahead .

Also in attendance will be Claire Quinn regional manager to engage with our members and inform us of forthcoming Law Society developments .

LUNCH IS FREE We look forward to seeing you . Just email our secretary to confirm numbers .

MOJ Major Policy Announcements



STOP PRESSThe MOJ has now announced a series of major changes to the Justice System . This includes a unified Criminal Court merging Magistrates and Crown Courts , full digital working in the magistrates , changes to the tribunal service and the family courts . The MOJ is also driving forward with an online court for all claims under £10000

Supporting our Members of Parliament

Would you like to support our MP's and help provide legal advice to constituents . Our PLO Officer Tony Rawlings is working on a new scheme which will see us provide advice either at MP's clinics or by specific request . Watch out for more details shortly .

National Representation Reminder

Members are reminded that Yorkshire is represented by 3 Members on the National Council of the Law Society - **Chris Cole, Mark Newby and Peter Wright** . Our National Members would be delighted to hear from Members

Justice System Changes what next ?

The MOJ has recently made some major policy statements . These statements are light on detail but the contents of the policies should cause practitioners to evaluate where they go with their practices next

The New Lord Chancellor has a large shopping list of reform to pursue some of which was left undone by her predecessor Michael Gove following the brexit fallout .

These include :

1 - An online Court starting with Claims under £10000.00 with limited Lawyer involvement

2 - a Unified Magistrates and Crown Court System

3 - the Full Digitisation of the Magistrates Court

4 - Modernisation and simplification of the Tribunal System

5 - Reform of Smalls Claim and Personal Injury Cases - Still awaiting consultation

6 - Simplification of Civil Procedure and changes to the costs allowable at various stages of proceedings .

7 - encouragement to make Court Judgments more accesible

8 - The development of unbundled services

9 - Rapid expansion of use of IT and new technology



The People who made it happen for 2015 / 16

President - Mark Newby

Senior Vice President - Emma Beazley

Junior Vice President - Sarah Naylor

Hon Secretary - Diane Parker

Hon Treasurer - Rosemarie Sharp

Social Officer - Kristen Craig

PRO/PLO - Tony Rawlings

Training Officer - Abigail Frudd

Membership Officer - Anne Robertson

Immed Past Pres - Mark Appleyard

Young Lawyers Rep : Rosamund Twamby

Committee : Andrew Pashley , Andrew Isaacs , Glyn Jones , Dan Carr , Janice

Oxley

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Members Benefits who would say no some discount ?

Members of our Society will shortly be receiving their membership cards which will give access to a range of benefits . This range will be constantly increased and represents another way in which the society is giving back to its members .



Governance Review *Whats Happening at Chancery Lane*

The Law Society has been undergoing a period of rapid change

The Governance Review currently being undertaken by the Law Society is just part of a series of changes at Chancery Lane being implemented by Chief Executive Catherine Dixon together with New President Robert Bourns .

The Governance review itself has been through a number of revisions following the appointment and report of an Independent Lead . The aim to to ensure that the Society establishes a modern responsive management structure which will allow it to respond to an ever more volatile market .

The proposals under consideration include the establishment of a management board , who should chair that board and how the roles of future councillors should be adapted including the question of tenure of service .

There is also the question of whether various boards and committees should be streamlined .

Overall the impression is Council wants change and to see that happen swiftly but everyone is currently working hard to make sure that the changes that are made are effective and bring long term benefits for our members .

Chancery Lane would still welcome your input into the future governance and this can be provided either directly or through one of the Yorkshire Councillors .



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Out Going Presidents Report

It has been a great honour to serve as the President of our Society and to do so in a year when we saved the society from closure . In fact not only did we do that but I hope we set it on a path to sustained growth making it a relevant society for our members future needs .



Personal Injury Conference

We went from a committee of 4 to a 15 + strong committee mostly of younger solicitors and between us we delivered :

– A sell out Dinner Dance at the Crown Hotel , Bawtry

– The Presidents Raceday at Doncaster Racecourse

– Our First Interactive Quiz Night

– A range of well supported training events for our members

– Representing Doncaster at the Annual Service and Legal Procession

– Supporting Doncaster Schools Mock Trial Competition

– Engaging with our Local MPs

– Responding to Consultations on behalf of Doncaster Lawyers

– Engaging in the restabishment of the Yorkshire Union

Of course I thank our dedicated Officers and Committee for all their efforts this year . I also put on record my thanks to a number of others including HHJ Robinson and our Local District Judges DJ Rodgers and DJ Thompson . Their support of the Society and continued help and guidance to our members is always appreciated .

On a personal note there have been several highlights for me . Firstly there was the excellent Annual Dinner Dance At the Crown in Bawtry .



Secondly of course it was a great Honour to represent the Society at Buckingham Palace with my wife Margie .

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Out Going Presidents Report Cont....



At Buckingham Palace in the rain

A final highlight was last autumn spending a weekend attending the Schools Mock Trial Competition at Doncaster Magistrates Court followed by attending the Annual Legal Church Service and Legal Procession .

We recently held our last social event of the year which was a very entertaining interactive quiz at the Glasshouse Pub in Doncaster with a pie and peas supper .

It was well supported and everyone had a great time . The President was pleased to note his own team Quality Quizzers rose from last place to secure second spot !

It is hoped that this event can be repeated next year .

We end this year at a time of tumultuous change for the profession and that pace of change seems unlikely to slow down .

We now have the criminal courts being unified , a move to greater online working and this is accompanied by substantial changes envisaged to the civil courts and tribunal service .

The very prospect of an online court is now upon us with a starting limit of £10,000.00 and limited lawyer engagement .

At the same time the whole of the markets regulation is currently being addressed with the prospect of moving to a single regulator .

Proposals for the new SRA handbook would see a two tier profession with limited regulation for non solicitor entities .

We have also seen substantial changes to training and other aspects of financial regulation . These changes are exposing both the profession and clients .

This makes our society ever more relevant and I hope that we can all ensure we support the society going forward under the leadership of our new President Emma Beazley .

AND Finally I can literally say that being president has been life changing not only am I now 8 Stone lighter than when I started but I now have the honour of serving the Society as a Yorkshire Member of the National Council and have also recently been appointed to the Criminal Law Committee and Scrutiny Performance and Review Committee .

I look forward to serving our members in these new roles and supporting our new team led by Emma .

Thanks ... The Outgoing President