

## **LSLA NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2021**

Welcome to this month's newsletter which contains details of our recent and future activities. As we begin to meet in person and socialise again there is plenty to report and an added book review of the Law Society's Litigation Handbook.

### **BREAKING NEWS Lecture Series**

Our Autumn/Winter Lecture Series has just been announced. Details of the lectures are attached.

If you missed our last lectures or should like a refresher, you can see all the available recordings of the webinars on our website at <https://www.lsla.co.uk/events>. Just scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on "Previous Events".

## **EVENTS and INITIATIVES**

### **Future Events**

The anticipated judgment of the Supreme Court in **Lloyd v. Google LLC [2021] UKSC 50** was handed down on **10 November 2021**. David Green, LSLA committee member, will provide comment on the long-awaited judgment.

### **Climate Litigation Summit – 23 November 2021**

John McElroy will be representing the LSLA at this timely summit. Further details may be found at <https://www.cityandfinancialconferences.com/event/098020e4-8503-4d31-923f-f8c5b6a7b8fb/summary>

### **Annual Dinner – 25 November 2021**

Our flagship black-tie event will once again be held at the Law Society Hall in Chancery Lane, WC2.

We are delighted that Sir David Green CB QC, formerly Director of the Serious Fraud Office, has agreed to speak at the dinner.

Tickets cost £95 per head and include a champagne reception and wine during the meal. There will also be a bar after the dinner for those who wish to stay on, with carriages at 11.30pm.

**To apply for tickets please go to our website at:** <https://www.lsla.co.uk/events>. Please send any special dietary requirements to [Isla@lsla.co.uk](mailto:Isla@lsla.co.uk)

### **Past Events**

#### **Summer Party – 7 September 2021**

Our last summer party attracted a large number of people and heralded a return to (almost) normal events. Held at Radio Rooftop, ME London, 336-337 Strand, London WC2R 1HA, LSLA members and their guests enjoyed a super selection of drinks and canapés and were able to catch up with friend and colleagues old and new. It was invited great to be able to catch up after so long.

The event was kindly sponsored by [Augusta](#), [Alaco](#), [Assurety](#) and [Consilio](#).

### **Dinner to Celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Commercial Court – 6 October 2021**

Many presidents and committee members of the LSLA past and present attended the dinner held at the Guildhall by the City of London Corporation to (belatedly) celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Commercial Court.

The speeches recognised the history and global importance of the Commercial Court whilst looking forward to how the Court may respond to new challenges to maintain its pre-eminence. A copy of the speech given by the Lord Chief Justice can be found at <https://www.judiciary.uk/announcements/speech-by-the-lord-chief-justice-on-the-125th-anniversary-of-the-commercial-court/>.

### **JLSLA Webinar – Career Progression - 5 October 2021**

The webinar looked at the challenges which more experienced junior lawyers may face as they progress towards Senior Associate roles and Partnership. Practical tips and personal experiences were shared by panellists: Charlotte Hill (Senior Associate, Penningtons Manches Cooper and President of the JLSLA), Lewis Brooke (VP Litigation and Privacy, Live Nation Entertainment) and Natalie Osafo (Senior Associate, Stewarts and former President of the JLSLA).

### **London Legal Walk – 18 October 2021**

This year the LSLA's Pro Bono Subcommittee organised a team to take place in the London Legal Walk in support of the London Legal Support Trust. The 10km after-work walk which set off from Carey Street behind the Royal Courts of Justice provided an opportunity to get together with colleagues enjoy a stroll around London and support an important organisation.



### **Law Society Disputes Conference – 19 October 2021**

Representatives of the LSLA attended and presented at the Law Society's Autumn Disputes Conference: Chris Bushell, President of the LSLA, presented on a panel about the new

Practice Direction for Witness Statements; and Ed Crosse, former President of the LSLA and LSLA committee member, and Natalie Osafo, former President of the JLSLA and LSLA committee member, presented on a panel about the Disclosure Pilot.

### **Pro-Bono Week JLSLA Event - 3 November 2021**

The event was held together with the Middle Temple Young Barristers' Association and London Young Lawyers Group in celebration of Pro Bono Week and Junior Lawyers Day. Hosted by Middle Temple in Parliament Chamber and introduced by the Solicitor General, Alex Chalk QC MP, the panellists reflected on past and current personal experiences and looked to what the future holds for pro bono work and why it is crucial for junior lawyers to get involved.

### **JLSLA Autumn Splendour Party – 11 November 2021**

The sold out event took place at The Crypt (Bleeding Heart), 14 Ely Place, London EC1N 6RY and was kindly sponsored by [Legility](https://www.legility.com/en-gb/) (see <https://www.legility.com/en-gb/>) and [Wilberforce Chambers](https://www.wilberforce.co.uk/) (see <https://www.wilberforce.co.uk/>).

As ever, the event was a tremendous success. It provided a great networking opportunity for junior litigators and a chance to catch up with contacts that they have made at previous events.

### **ACEDS UK – Navigating the Turbulence Experienced by the Disclosure– 15 November 2021**

Ed Crosse, Former President of the LSLA and LSLA committee member, and Charlotte Hill, President of the JLSLA, are speaking at a panel event to discuss the recent changes made to the Disclosure Pilot (which came into force on 1 November), with a live Q&A being held to discuss the improvements.

Further details may be found at: <https://aceds.org/events/category/live-events/>

## **INITIATIVES**

### **Mentoring Programme**

Thank you to everyone who has contacted us to take part in the proposed mentoring programme. We are working on developing this to begin later this year and to provide our members with an opportunity to connect and learn from the expertise and experiences of someone outside their firm.

If you would be liked to be involved in the programme, either as a mentor, a mentee or both, please email [Isla@Isla.co.uk](mailto:Isla@Isla.co.uk) to register your interest.

### **Pro Bono Initiative**

Over the years the LSLA has made donations to many charitable organisations including those providing pro bono advice and assistance so we may seek to give back to the profession and encourage engagement.

We are seeking to increase our involvement in this area and promoting opportunities to all our members such as by providing solicitor support for advocates offering pro bono representation, offering legal advice on matters involving human rights, assisting litigants in person and providing advisory work in fields such as corporate governance, intellectual property and employment. To facilitate members' involvement we have published a list of organisations with which we already have links and which offer pro bono advice and assistance so members may contact them, if they wish, to assist with their work. The list and further details on our pro bono initiative are available on our website [Isla.co.uk](http://Isla.co.uk).

The list is not exhaustive. If you have any suggestions for organisations you think should be included on the list please email [lsla@lsla.co.uk](mailto:lsla@lsla.co.uk) so our committee may consider including it.

To mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of National Pro Bono Week in the UK the LSLA has published details on the National Pro Bono initiatives and its portal of opportunities on the LSLA LinkedIn page. The National Pro Bono Centre Portal can be accessed using the link below and includes opportunities seeking solicitors with commercial / civil litigation experience in particular, as well as remote assignments.

<http://www.nationalprobonocentre.org.uk/pro-bono-week/volunteer-opportunities/>

### **Disclosure Working Pilot Scheme**

The DWP has been extended until 31 December 2022 and amendments are planned to take into consideration the feedback which has been received. We shall keep you apprised.

### **Witness Statements**

As many of our members shall be aware the new Practice Direction on the preparation of witness statements for use at trials in the Business and Property Courts, came into effect earlier this year. Our President Chris Bushell sat on the working group which spent nigh on 3 years reviewing the old rules and seeking to put in place and foster a culture of best practice to the benefit of witnesses and judges alike.

If you have any feedback to share on the new rules please contact Chris at [Chris.Bushell@hsf.com](mailto:Chris.Bushell@hsf.com).

### **Feedback for Court User Groups**

The LSLA sends representatives to both the Chancery and Commercial Court User Groups. Both groups are keen to receive feedback on all aspects of the operation of the relevant courts. If members have comments or concerns they are encouraged to pass them on to the LSLA representatives so that they can be raised at the next user group meeting. This is an opportunity to raise issues directly with the judiciary and court administrator.

For feedback on:

- the Chancery Division Courts please contact: [nicholas.heaton@hoganlovells.com](mailto:nicholas.heaton@hoganlovells.com) or [patrick.wheeler@collyerbristow.com](mailto:patrick.wheeler@collyerbristow.com)
- the Commercial Court please contact: [Ed.crosse@simmons-simmons.com](mailto:Ed.crosse@simmons-simmons.com)
- the Financial List contact [Chris.Bushell@hsf.com](mailto:Chris.Bushell@hsf.com)

### **LAW SOCIETY LITIGATION HANDBOOK**

The Law society has published its litigation handbook which is a helpful and practical guide to practice and procedure in the Business and Property Courts.

The handbook sets out the litigation process in an accessible form and explains the stages of litigation from pre-action conduct through to trial. It also covers interim applications and is a comprehensive guide to bringing a claim in the Business and Property Courts.

The handbook is a useful single source to update both newly qualified and seasoned practitioners. It is easy to read and should supplement both the CPR on-line and other authorities.

### **JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS COMMISSIONS**

If you are considering applying for a judicial appointment, the JAC has published some useful guidelines on the process which can be found at: [Prepare before you apply – Judicial Appointments Commission](#)

## **PRESS AND PUBLICITY**

Some of the LSLA and JSLSA committee members' recent publicity includes:

- 26 August 2021, Practical Law “Restraint of trade: what is reasonable?” by David Greene (see [https://uk.practicallaw.thomsonreuters.com/Document/Idf5cbbbb01fe11ecbea4f0dc9fb69570/View/FullText.html?transitionType=SearchItem&contextData=\(sc.Search\)\)](https://uk.practicallaw.thomsonreuters.com/Document/Idf5cbbbb01fe11ecbea4f0dc9fb69570/View/FullText.html?transitionType=SearchItem&contextData=(sc.Search))))
- 26 August 2021, Practical Law, “Litigation risk in the post-Covid world: steering the ship on stormy seas” by Natalie Todd and Clara Browne (see [https://uk.practicallaw.thomsonreuters.com/w-032-1945?navId=D741F4E4D635FE8D3EF19FCD12FE25AA&comp=pluk&transitionType=Default&contextData=\(sc.Default\)&firstPage=true](https://uk.practicallaw.thomsonreuters.com/w-032-1945?navId=D741F4E4D635FE8D3EF19FCD12FE25AA&comp=pluk&transitionType=Default&contextData=(sc.Default)&firstPage=true))
- 6 September 2021, Law Society Gazette “‘De-risking’ and financial exclusion” by Mary Young and Rebecca Niblock (see <https://www.lawgazette.co.uk/practice-points/de-risking-and-financial-exclusion/5109657.article>)
- 10 September 2021, New Law Journal, “Dishonest directors: no more easy escapes?” by Sophia Purkis and Judith Davidge (see <https://www.newlawjournal.co.uk/content/dishonest-directors-no-more-easy-escapes->)
- 28 September 2021, BBC Radio London, Potential litigation arising from fuel crisis - Interview with David Greene (live broadcast)
- 30 September 2021, Financial Times, “Climate change activism heads to the courtroom” featured comments from David Greene (see <https://www.ft.com/content/b18ff95a-413b-4b2d-9f6f-8360648512db>)
- 11 October 2021, Law Society Gazette, “Making the most of Part 36” by Caroline Field (see <https://www.lawgazette.co.uk/practice-points/making-the-most-of-part-36/5110077.article>)
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- 25 October 2021, Legal Week, “Litigation funding: risks and potential for regulation” by Jason Woodland (see <https://www.law.com/international-edition/2021/10/25/a-wild-west-or-school-playground-is-regulation-needed-for-litigation-funders/?region=/international-edition/region/uk-legal-week/>)
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- November 2021 edition, Petroleum Review, “Climate change litigation” by John McElroy (see <https://www.energyinst.org/>)

Please remember to respect the publisher’s and writer’s copyright in the above articles.

## **LINKEDIN AND WEBSITE**

You can find out more about the association on our website at <https://www.lsla.co.uk/> and our LinkedIn page at <https://www.linkedin.com/company/london-solicitors-litigation-association/>

## **THE JUNIOR LSLA**

**\*The JLSLA are seeking two new committee members to join the existing members. More information will be released later this month, so keep your eyes peeled.\***

The JLSLA provides:

- Webinars/Seminars designed to offer practical tips on procedural and substantive legal issues commonly faced by junior civil litigators in an interactive and relaxed atmosphere;
- Networking events for members to meet and form contacts in their peer group; and
- E-news on recent and future activity and key developments with the aim of ensuring that the junior perspective is reflected in the LSLA's responses to consultation papers.

The JLSLA is aimed at solicitors of 8 years' PQE and less. Members of the LSLA will automatically become members of the JLSLA if they qualify by year of admission and complete the relevant section of the membership form.

The JLSLA also has firm Champions, who act as the point of contact between the JLSLA committee and their firm.

If you are interested in joining the JLSLA or being the JLSLA Champion for your firm, please contact the JLSLA President, Charlotte Hill at [charlotte.hill@penningtonslaw.com](mailto:charlotte.hill@penningtonslaw.com).

Join the JLSLA LinkedIn page to receive updates on JLSLA events and initiatives: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/66587315/>

## **MEMBERSHIP**

The LSLA membership continues to grow and we now have over 3,500 members with in excess of 1,400 members of the JLSLA and 47 corporate members.

Corporate membership can offer a real saving to firms. Essentially, for £500 a firm with corporate membership can register an unlimited number of litigation solicitors working for it in London as members. Please contact Ceri Morgan at [ceri.morgan@hsf.com](mailto:ceri.morgan@hsf.com) if you would like further information or to take out corporate membership.

Otherwise, you can join the LSLA by visiting our website at <https://www.lsla.co.uk>. If you are 8 years PQE or less you will automatically become a member of the JLSLA if you input your year of admission when completing your online membership application.

## **EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS**

Some of our members say that they are, on occasion, not receiving email notifications for LSLA and Junior LSLA events. We have been advised that such notifications may sometimes be blocked by our members' firm's IT servers, which automatically quarantine emails received from, for example, "donotreply" email addresses.

Should you not be receiving our email notifications, we would advise you to contact your firm's IT team and request that they "whitelist" both donotreply@lsla.co.uk and lsla@lsla.co.uk.

### **ONLINE PAYMENTS FOR LSLA EVENTS**

When making payments for membership and our events we would kindly request that you quote the correct data to identify the matter to which the payment relates. Incorrect identification often occurs where a firm's accounts team makes a payment to the LSLA as an existing payee, using old order data rather than updating the payment instruction to include the new order number.

Updating payment data to correctly reference the event to which a payment relates would significantly ease the LSLA's administrative burden. Thank you for your continued support and assistance.

### **LSLA WEBSITE**

Our website at <https://www.lsla.co.uk/> includes: details of our forthcoming events, copies of the responses we have filed to recent consultations, recent articles and press citing members of the association, and past editions of the newsletter.

You can also join the LSLA via our website as well as sign up for future events on it.

We hope that our website will prove a source of information for members.

We are currently reviewing our website and plan to update it, so please let us know if you have any comments on it.

### **LIST OF SUPERVISING SOLICITORS**

The White Book refers to the LSLA maintaining details of individuals who might be able to act as supervising solicitors for the execution of Search Orders. Our list continues to grow and is updated quarterly. We invite those suitably qualified to provide us with their details, including relevant experience, for inclusion on the list.